

**DIHYDROBENZODIAZEPINES AND THEIR USE IN THE TREATMENT  
OF DYSLIPIDAEMIA**

The present invention relates to  
5 dihydrobenzodiazepines which may be used in the  
treatment of dyslipidaemia, atherosclerosis and  
diabetes and its complications.

In most countries, cardiovascular disease  
remains one of the major diseases and the main cause of  
10 death. About one third of men develop a major  
cardiovascular disease before the age of 60, women show  
a lower risk (ratio 1 to 10). With advancing years  
(after the age of 65, women become just as vulnerable  
to cardiovascular diseases as men), this disease  
15 increases even more in scale. Vascular diseases such as  
coronary disease, strokes, restenosis and peripheral  
vascular disease remain the first cause of death and  
handicap throughout the world.

Whereas diet and lifestyle can accelerate the  
20 development of cardiovascular diseases, a genetic  
predisposition leading to dyslipidaemia is a  
significant factor in cardiovascular accidents and  
death. The development of atherosclerosis appears to be  
linked mainly to dyslipidaemia, which means abnormal  
25 levels of lipoproteins in the blood plasma. This  
dysfunction is particularly evident in coronary  
disease, diabetes and obesity.

The concept intended to explain the development  
of atherosclerosis has mainly been focused on the  
30 metabolism of cholesterol and on the metabolism of  
triglycerides.

In man, hypertriglyceridaemia is a relatively  
common complaint, with 10% of men between 35 and 39  
years old showing plasmatic concentrations of greater  
35 than 250 mg/dl (LaRosa J.C., L.E. Chambless, M.H.  
Criqui, I.D. Frantz, C.J. Glueck, G. Heiss, and J.A.  
Morisson, 1986. Circulation 73: Suppl. 1.12-29.). In  
some individuals, the disruption is of genetic origin,

but for others secondary causes such as excessive consumption of alcohol, obesity, diabetes or hypothyroidism predominate.

The genetic causes of hypertriglyceridaemia that have been clearly identified are homozygosity for dysfunctional alleles of LPL or of apo CII [Fojo S.S., J.L. de Gennes, U. Beisiegel, G. Baggio, S.F. Stahlenhoef, J.D. Brunzell and H.B. Brewer, Jr 1991. Adv. Exp. Med. Biol. 285: 329-333; Brunzell, J.D. 1995. In the Metabolic Basis of Inherited Disease, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. C. Scriver, A. Sly and D. Valle, published by McGraw-Hill, Inc., New York. 1913-1932]. However, these conditions occur in only one case in a million and are considered as rare. Tests exist, derived from studies performed on man and on mice that are deficient in LPL [Brunzell, J.D. 1995. In the Metabolic Basis of Inherited Disease, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. C. Scriver, A. Sly and D. Valle, published by McGraw-Hill, Inc., New York. 1913-1932; Coleman T., et al. 1995. J. Biol. Chem. 270: 12518-12525; Aalto Setälä K., Weinstock P.H., Bisgaier C.L., Lin Wu, Smith J.D. and Breslow J.L., 1996. Journal of Lipid Research, 37, 1802-1811] showing that the heterozygosity for a dysfunctional allele of LPL can contribute towards hypertriglyceridaemia, but with a low rate of occurrence in the population. The plasmatic concentration of apolipoprotein CIII (apo CIII), regulated by the expression of the gene apo CIII, possibly associated with a secondary cause, may be a novel and more frequent cause of hypertriglyceridaemia in man [Weinstock P.H., C.L. Bisgaier, K. Aalto-Setälä, H. Radner, R. Ramakrishnan, S. Levak-Frank, A.D. Essenburg, R. Zechner, and J.L. Breslow, 1995. J. Clin. Invest. 96: 2555-2568].

Apo CIII is a component of very low density lipoproteins (VLDLs), chylomicrons and high density lipoproteins (HDLs).

Many studies show that apo CIII plays an important role in the metabolism of triglyceride-rich lipoproteins (TGRLs). Clinical studies show a strong

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correlation between plasmatic apo CIII and the concentration of triglycerides [Schonfeld. G., P.K. George, J. Miller, P. Reilly, and J. Witztum, 1979. 28: 1001-1010; Shoulders C.C., et al. 1991. *Atherosclerosis* 5 87: 239-247; Le N-A., J.C. Gibson and H.N. Ginsberg, 1988. *J. Lipid Res.* 29: 669-677]. Furthermore, epidemiological studies show an association between certain alleles of apo CIII and the concentration of triglycerides [Rees A., J. Stocks, C.R. Sharpe, M.A. 10 Vella, C.C. Shoulders, J. Katz, N.I. Jowett, F.E. Baralle, and D.J. Galton, 1985 *J. Clin. Invest.* 76: 1090-1095; Aalto-Setälä, et al. 1987. *Atherosclerosis* 66: 145-152; Tas, S. 1989. *Clin. Chem.* 35: 256-259; Ordovas J.M., et al. 1991. *Atherosclerosis* 87: 75-86; 15 Ahn, Y.I., et al. 1991. *Hum. Hered* 41: 281-289; Zeng Q., M. Dammerman, Y. Takada, A. Matsunage, J.I. Breslow and J. Sasaki, 1994. *Hum. Genet* 95: 371-375].

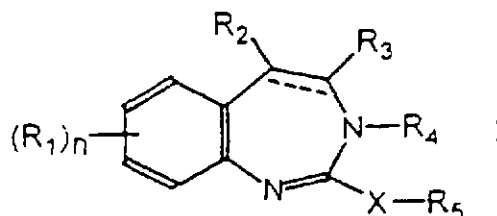
Apo CIII has the capacity to inhibit the activity of lipoprotein lipase (LPL) [C.S. Wang, W.J. 20 McConnathy, H.U. Kloer and P. Alaupovic, *J. Clin. Invest.*, 75, 384 (1984)] and to reduce the removal of "remnants" of the triglyceride-rich lipoproteins (TGRLs) via apolipoprotein E receptors [F. Shelburne, J. Hanks, W. Meyers and S. Quarfordt, *J. Clin. Invest.*, 25 65, 652 (1980); E. Windler and R.J. Havel, *J. Lipid Res.*, 26, 556, (1985)]. In apo CIII-deficient patients, the catabolism of TGRLs is accelerated [H.N. Ginsberg, N.A. Le, I.A. Goldberg, J.C. Gibson, A. Rubinstein, P. Wang-Iverson, R. Norum and W.V. Brown, *J. Clin.* 30 *Invest.*, 78, 1287 (1986)]. Conversely, the overexpression of human apo CIII in transgenic mice is associated with a severe hypertriglyceridaemia [Y. Ito, N. Azrolan, A. O'Connell, A. Walsh and J.L. Breslow, *Science*, 249, 790 (1990)].

35 Via these mechanisms, apo CIII brings about a reduction in the catabolism of TGRLs leading to an increase in the concentration of triglycerides. The reduction in the plasmatic concentration of apo CIII thus appears to be of certain value when a decrease in

triglyceridaemia is desired as a therapeutic objective in at-risk populations.

The compounds of the invention are dihydrobenzodiazepines that are capable of reducing the secretion of apo CIII.

The compounds of the invention are of formula I:



10

in which

the dashed lines indicate the possible presence of a double bond;

$R_1$  represents optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkoxy, halogen, nitro, hydroxyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl (optionally substituted with optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, halogen, nitro or hydroxyl);

$n$  represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

$R_2$  and  $R_3$  represent, independently of each other, hydrogen; optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkoxy; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; heteroaryl; heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryloxy; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy; heteroaryloxy; or heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy; in which heteroaryl represents a 5- to 7-membered aromatic heterocycle containing one, two or three endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S, and in which the aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals are optionally substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, nitro and hydroxyl;

$R_4$  represents hydrogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl, the said aryl group optionally being

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substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, nitro or hydroxyl;

X represents S, O or -NT in which T represents  
5 a hydrogen atom, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)arylcarbonyl;

R<sub>5</sub> represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl;  
hydroxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl;  
(C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)cycloalkyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)cycloalkenyl-  
10 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; isoxazolyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl optionally substituted with (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; a group -CH<sub>2</sub>-CR<sub>a</sub>=CR<sub>b</sub>R<sub>c</sub> in which R<sub>a</sub>, R<sub>b</sub> and R<sub>c</sub> are chosen independently from (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkenyl, hydrogen and (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl; a group -CH<sub>2</sub>-CO-Z in which Z represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl,  
15 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl optionally fused to a 5- to 7-membered aromatic or unsaturated heterocycle comprising one, two or three endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S; or 5- to 7-membered heteroaryl containing one, two  
20 or three endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S; the aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals optionally being substituted with halogen, hydroxyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, nitro, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy-phosphoryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl (optionally  
25 substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, nitro or hydroxyl);

or alternatively R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form a group  
30 -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>- in which CR<sub>6</sub> is linked to X and in which:

R<sub>6</sub> represents a hydrogen atom; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl;  
(C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)cycloalkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl; carboxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; heteroaryl;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; and heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; in  
35 which heteroaryl represents a 5- to 7-membered aromatic heterocycle containing one, two or three endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S and in which the aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals are optionally substituted with (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy,

hydroxyl, nitro, halogen or  $\text{di}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkoxy-phosphoryl}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ;

$\text{R}_7$  represents a hydrogen atom; hydroxyl;  $\text{di}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkylamino}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ;  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{18})\text{alkyl}$ ; carboxyl; 5  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkoxycarbonyl}$ ;  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10})\text{aryl}$ ; heteroaryl;  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10})\text{aryl}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ; or heteroaryl $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ; in which heteroaryl represents a 5- to 7-membered aromatic heterocycle containing one, two or three endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S and in which the 10 aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals are optionally substituted with halogen, hydroxyl, optionally halogenated  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ , optionally halogenated  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkoxy}$ , carboxyl,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkoxy-carbonyl}$ , nitro,  $\text{di}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkoxyphosphoryl}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ , 15  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10})\text{aryl}$  (this radical optionally being substituted with hydroxyl, nitro, optionally halogenated  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ , optionally halogenated  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkoxy}$  or halogen) or  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10})\text{aryl}$  fused to a 5- to 7-membered aromatic or unsaturated heterocycle comprising one, two 20 or three endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S;

or alternatively  $\text{R}_6$  and  $\text{R}_7$  together form a  $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_6$  alkylene chain optionally interrupted with a nitrogen atom which is optionally substituted with  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$  25 or  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10})\text{aryl}$  or  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10})\text{aryl}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ , (the aryl portions of these radicals optionally being substituted with halogen, nitro, hydroxyl, optionally halogenated  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$  or optionally halogenated  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkoxy}$ ).

It should be understood that the compounds of 30 formula I in which  $\text{X} = \text{S}$ ;  $n = 0$ ;  $\text{R}_2$  represents methyl and  $\text{R}_3$  represents a hydrogen atom;  $\text{R}_4$  and  $\text{R}_5$  together form a group  $-\text{CR}_6=\text{CR}_7-$  in which  $\text{CR}_6$  is linked to  $\text{X}$ ,  $\text{R}_6$  and  $\text{R}_7$  together form a  $-(\text{CH}_2)_3-$  or  $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-$  chain or alternatively  $\text{R}_6$  represents a hydrogen atom or a propyl 35 group and  $\text{R}_7$  is a phenyl group optionally substituted with  $-\text{OCH}_3$  or a hydroxyl group, are excluded from the context of the invention.

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The pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the compounds of formula I with acids or bases also form part of the invention.

J. Heterocycl. Chem. 1969, 6 (4), 491 describes  
5 benzodiazepine derivatives whose structure is similar to that of tetramisole (DL-2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-6-phenylimidazo[2,1-b]thiazole hydrochloride) which is a powerful anthelmintic agent. Among these compounds, those whose structure corresponds to formula I above  
10 have been excluded, by disclaimer, from the context of the invention.

The invention is directed not only towards the compounds of formula I but also to the salts thereof.

When the compound of formula I comprises an  
15 acid function, and for example a carboxylic function, it can form a salt with a mineral or organic base.

As examples of salts with organic or mineral bases, mention may be made of the salts formed with metals and especially with alkali metals, alkaline-  
20 earth metals and transition metals (such as sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium and aluminium) or with bases, for instance ammonia or secondary or tertiary amines (such as diethylamine, triethylamine, piperidine, piperazine or morpholine) or with basic  
25 amino acids, or with osamines (such as meglumine) or with amino alcohols (such as 3-aminobutanol and 2-aminoethanol).

When the compound of formula I comprises a basic function, and, for example, a nitrogen atom, it  
30 can form a salt with an organic or mineral acid.

The salts with organic or mineral acids are, for example, the hydrochloride, hydrobromide, sulphate, hydrogen sulphate, dihydrogen phosphate, citrate, maleate, fumarate, 2-naphthalenesulphonate and para-  
35 toluenesulphonate.

The invention also covers salts allowing a suitable separation or crystallization of the compounds of formula I, such as picric acid, oxalic acid or an optically active acid, for example tartaric acid,

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dibenzoyltartaric acid, mandelic acid or camphorsulphonic acid.

Formula I encompasses all the types of geometric isomers and stereoisomers of the compounds of  
5 formula I.

According to the invention, the term "alkyl" denotes a linear or branched hydrocarbon-based radical preferably containing from 1 to 18 carbon atoms, better still from 1 to 12 carbon atoms, for example from 1 to  
10 10 and especially from 1 to 6. Examples of these are especially methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl, isobutyl, pentyl, hexyl, heptyl, octyl, nonyl, decyl, undecyl, dodecyl, tridecyl, tetradecyl, pentadecyl, hexadecyl, heptadecyl and octadecyl groups.

15 The term "alkoxy" denotes an alkyl group as defined above linked to an oxygen atom. Examples of these are methoxy, ethoxy, isopropoxy, butoxy and hexyloxy radicals.

The expression "optionally halogenated" means  
20 optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms.

When the alkyl group is optionally halogenated, it preferably represents perfluoroalkyl and especially pentafluoroethyl or trifluoromethyl.

When the alkoxy group is halogenated, it  
25 preferably represents  $-O-CHF_2$  or is perfluorinated. Examples of perfluorinated radicals are  $-OCF_3$  and  $-O-CF_2-CF_3$ .

The expression "alkylene group" means linear or branched alkylene groups, that is to say divalent  
30 radicals which are linear or branched divalent alkyl chains.

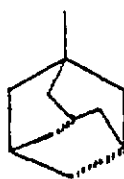
The term "cycloalkyl" denotes saturated hydrocarbon-based groups which may be mono- or polycyclic and preferably contain from 3 to 18 carbon  
35 atoms, better still from 3 to 12 carbon atoms, for example from 3 to 8.

The polycyclic cycloalkyl groups consist of monocycles fused in pairs (for example ortho-fused or

peri-fused), that is to say ring pairs containing at least two carbon atoms in common.

Monocyclic cycloalkyl groups such as cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl, cyclononyl, cyclodecyl, cycloundecyl and cyclododecyl are more particularly preferred.

Among the polycyclic cycloalkyls, mention may be made of adamantyl, norbornyl or the group of formula:



According to the invention, the term "cycloalkenyl" means a cycloalkyl group as defined above, containing one or more double bonds, preferably one double bond.

The term "halogen" means a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom.

The term "alkenyl" means a linear or branched hydrocarbon-based chain comprising one or more double bonds. Examples of alkenyl groups that are particularly preferred are alkenyl groups bearing only one double bond, such as  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}=\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ , vinyl or allyl.

The term "aryl" represents a mono- or polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon-based group preferably containing from 6 to 18 carbon atoms, for example from 6 to 14 carbon atoms and especially from 6 to 10 carbon atoms.

Each polycyclic aryl group comprises two or more monocyclic aromatic nuclei, fused in pairs, that is to say having ring pairs containing at least two carbon atoms in common.

Preferred examples of polycyclic aromatic groups are bicyclic, tricyclic and tetracyclic groups.

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Among these, mention may be made of phenyl, naphthyl, anthryl, phenanthryl, pyrenyl, chrysenyl and naphthacenyl groups.

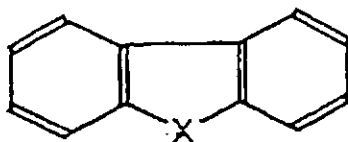
The term "heteroaryl" denotes a mono- or  
5 polycyclic aromatic radical comprising one or more hetero atoms chosen from O, N, S and P. Preferably, the heteroaryl comprises 1 to 3 hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S.

When the radical is a polycyclic aromatic  
10 radical, it consists of two or more aromatic monocyclic nuclei fused in pairs, each monocyclic nucleus possibly comprising one or more endocyclic hetero atoms.

Preferably, the polycyclic heteroaryl radical is bicyclic or tricyclic.

Advantageously, the monocyclic heteroaryl group  
15 and the monocyclic nuclei forming the polycyclic heteroaryl are 5- to 7-membered. Examples of monocyclic heteroaryls are furyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, triazolyl, thiadiazolyl,  
20 pyridyl, pyridazinyl, pyrazinyl and triazinyl groups.

Examples of polycyclic heteroaryls are indolizine, indole, isoindole, benzofuran, benzothiophene, indazole, benzimidazole, benzothiazole,  
25 purine, quinolizine, quinoline, isoquinoline, cinnoline, phthalazine, quinazoline, quinoxaline, naphthyridine, pteridine, pyrazolotriazine, thiazolopyrimidine, pyrazolopyrimidine, carbazole, acridine, phenazine, phenothiazine, phenoxazine or the  
30 group of formula:



in which X is O or S.

35 An example of heteroaryl is (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl fused to an aromatic heterocycle such as a 5- to 7-membered

aromatic heterocycle comprising 1, 2 or 3 endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S.

The expression "saturated or unsaturated heterocycle" means a mono- or polycyclic group comprising one or more hetero atoms chosen from O, N, S and P. The heterocycle preferably comprises one to three hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S. When the heterocycle is polycyclic, it comprises two or more saturated or unsaturated monocyclic nuclei that are preferably 5- to 7-membered, fused in pairs.

When the heterocycle is monocyclic, it is 5- to 7-membered.

Among the polycyclic heterocycles, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycles are preferred.

Examples of saturated heterocycles are tetrahydrofuran, tetrahydrothiophene, tetrahydropyrrole, tetrahydrooxazole, dioxolane, tetrahydrothiazole, tetrahydroimidazole, tetrahydropyrazole, tetrahydroisoxazole, tetrahydroisothiazole, tetrahydrooxadiazole, tetrahydrotriazole, tetrahydrothiadiazole, piperidine, dioxane, morpholine, dithiane, thiomorpholine, piperazine and trithiane.

Among the saturated heterocycles, mention may also be made of the saturated derivatives of the polycyclic heteroaryls listed above as preferred radicals.

Examples of unsaturated heterocycles are the unsaturated derivatives of the saturated heterocycles mentioned above and also the unsaturated derivatives of the heteroaryls mentioned above.

The expression "unsaturated heterocycle" means a non-aromatic heterocycle comprising one or more unsaturations of ethylenic type.

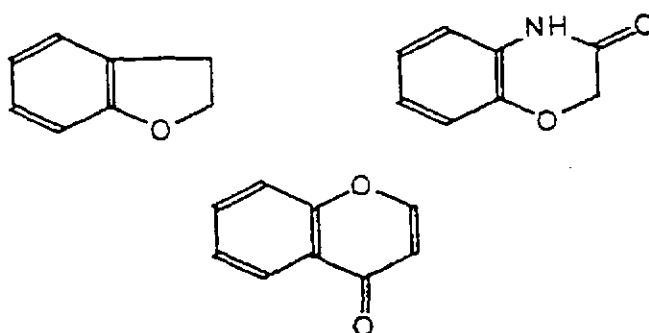
Preferably, the unsaturated heterocycle comprises only one double bond. Preferred examples of unsaturated heterocycles are dihydrofuryl, dihydrothienyl, dihydropyrrolyl, pyrrolinyl, oxazolinyl, thiazolinyl, imidazolinyl, pyrazolinyl, isoxazolinyl, isothiazolinyl, oxadiazolinyl, pyranyl

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and unsaturated mono-derivatives of piperidine, of dioxane, of piperazine, of trithiane, of morpholine, of dithiane and of thiomorpholine, and also tetrahydropyridazinyl, tetrahydropyrimidinyl and tetrahydrotriazinyl.

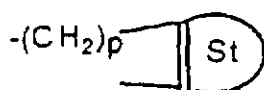
When Z or R<sub>7</sub> comprises or represents (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl optionally fused to an unsaturated heterocycle optionally substituted with oxo, the unsaturated heterocycle preferably contains at least one unsaturation in common with the aryl group.

Examples of such aryl groups fused to an unsaturated heterocycle are, especially:



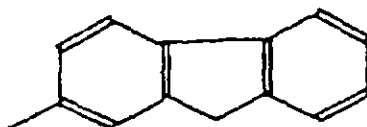
15

When Z or R<sub>7</sub> comprises a group of formula:

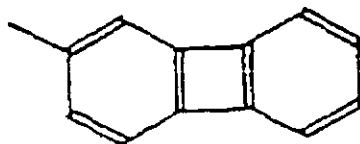


p preferably represents 0 or 1 and St preferably represents phenyl.

Preferably, the extremities 1 and 2 of this radical are attached to two adjacent carbon atoms of the said aryl, heterocycle, cycloalkyl or heteroaryl portion. Preferably, St represents phenyl. Examples which may be mentioned are the radical Z of formula:



of Example 133 below: and the radical  $R_7$  of formula:



5 of Example 119 below.

According to the invention, the expression "optionally substituted with" generally means "optionally substituted with one or more of the radicals mentioned".

10 By way of example, when  $R_1$  represents  $(C_6-C_{10})$ aryl, the aryl group is optionally substituted with one or more radicals chosen from:

- optionally halogenated  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl;
- $(C_1-C_6)$ alkoxy;
- 15 - halogen;
- nitro; and
- hydroxyl.

Nevertheless, the number of substituents is limited by the possible number of substitutions.

20 Thus, when  $R_6$  and  $R_7$  together form an alkylene chain interrupted with a nitrogen atom, this atom can be substituted with only one radical chosen from alkyl, aryl and arylalkyl.

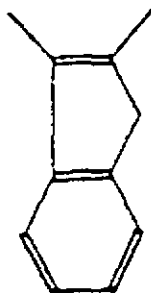
A first group of compounds of the invention consists of bicyclic derivatives in which  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  do not together form a group  $-CR_6=CR_7-$ .

A second group of compounds of the invention consists of ticyclic derivatives in which  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  together form a group  $-CR_6=CR_7-$ , it being understood  
30 that  $R_6$  and  $R_7$  do not together form an alkylene chain optionally interrupted with a nitrogen atom.

A third group of compounds of the invention consists of tetracyclic derivatives in which  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  together form a group  $-CR_6=CR_7-$  in which  $R_6$  and  $R_7$   
35 together form an alkylene chain optionally interrupted with a nitrogen atom.

When  $R_6$  and  $R_7$  together form an alkylene chain optionally interrupted with a nitrogen atom, the ring formed by  $CR_6=CR_7$  may be fused to a  $(C_6-C_{18})$ aryl group optionally substituted with one or more Su groups.

5 Preferably,  $CR_6=CR_7$  forms the group:



10 According to the invention, a first group of preferred compounds (group 1) consists of compounds of formula I in which X represents  $-NT$  in which T is as defined above and  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  together form  $-CR_6=CR_7-$ .

Among these compounds, the ones that are preferred are those in which  $R_6$  represents a hydrogen atom; and  $R_7$  represents hydroxyl; or  $(C_6-C_{10})$ aryl optionally substituted with halogen, nitro, hydroxyl, optionally halogenated  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl or  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkoxy.

Most particularly,  $R_7$  is chosen from hydroxyl and phenyl.

20 Preferred meanings of T are a hydrogen atom and  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl, for example methyl.

A second group of preferred compounds (group 2) consists of compounds of formula I in which X represents S;

25  $R_4$  represents a hydrogen atom;

$R_5$  represents  $-CH_2-CR_a=CR_bR_c$  in which  $R_a$  is a hydrogen atom,  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl or  $(C_6-C_{10})$ aryl,  $R_b$  is  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl or a hydrogen atom and  $R_c$  represents a hydrogen atom or  $(C_2-C_{10})$ alkenyl; a group  $-CH_2-CO-Z$  in which Z represents  $(C_1-C_{10})$ alkyl,  $(C_6-C_{10})$ aryl  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl, 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl or  $(C_6-C_{10})$ aryl optionally fused to a 5- to 7-membered aromatic or unsaturated heterocycle; the aryl and

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heteroaryl portions of these radicals optionally being substituted with halogen, hydroxyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, nitro or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl (optionally substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy or nitro); (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; hydroxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)cycloalkenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; or isoxazolyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl optionally substituted with one or more (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyls;

10 or alternatively R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form a group -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>- in which

R<sub>6</sub> represents a hydrogen atom, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl (optionally substituted with halogen, hydroxyl, nitro, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy),

15 carboxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy-carbonyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; and

R<sub>7</sub> represents a hydrogen atom; hydroxyl; di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkylamino(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl; heteroaryl;

20 (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; the aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals optionally being substituted with (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl, halogen, hydroxyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl, (this radical optionally being substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy or nitro) or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl

25 fused to a 5- to 7-membered aromatic or unsaturated heterocycle comprising one, two or three endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S); or alternatively R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> together form an alkylene chain interrupted

30 with a nitrogen atom optionally substituted with (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl in which the aryl portion is optionally substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, hydroxyl or nitro.

35 Among these compounds, the ones that are especially preferred are those in which one or more of the substituents R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are defined as follows:

•  $R_5$  represents  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CR}_a=\text{CR}_b\text{R}_c$  in which  $R_a$  is  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl, phenyl or a hydrogen atom,  $R_b$  is  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl or a hydrogen atom and  $R_c$  represents a hydrogen atom or a monounsaturated  $(\text{C}_2-\text{C}_{10})$ alkenyl; a

5 group  $-\text{CH}_2\text{COZ}$  in which Z represents  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ alkyl, benzyl,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkoxycarbonyl, phenyl (optionally substituted with phenyl or hydroxyl), naphthyl, phenyl fused to dihydrofuryl, to dihydrothienyl or to dihydropyrrolyl, 10 furyl, thienyl or pyrrolyl;  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl; hydroxy- $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl; benzyl;  $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_8)$ cycloalkenyl  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl; or isoxazolyl  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl optionally substituted with  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl;

•  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  together form  $-\text{CR}_6=\text{CR}_7-$  in which 15 either  $R_6$  or  $R_7$ , or both of them, are as defined below in (i), (ii) or (iii):

(i)  $R_6$  represents a hydrogen atom;  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl; phenyl optionally substituted with halogen,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkoxy, hydroxyl or nitro; carboxy- 20  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl; or  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkoxycarbonyl  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl;

(ii)  $R_7$  represents a hydrogen atom; hydroxyl; di  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkylamino  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl;  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ alkyl;  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkoxycarbonyl; naphthyl; phenyl optionally substituted with halogen,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkoxycarbonyl, 25 hydroxyl, phenyl (itself optionally substituted with halogen, hydroxyl, optionally halogenated  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkoxy,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkoxycarbonyl or nitro) or phenyl fused to dihydrofuryl, dihydrothienyl or dihydropyrrolyl; pyridyl; furyl; thienyl; pyrrolyl; or 30 benzyl;

(iii)  $R_6$  and  $R_7$  together form an alkylene chain interrupted with a nitrogen atom optionally substituted with phenyl  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)$ alkyl in which the alkyl portion is optionally substituted with halogen.

35 Among the preferred compounds of groups 1 and 2, it is preferable for at least one from among n,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  to be as defined below:

-  $R_3$  represents a hydrogen atom;

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- R<sub>2</sub> represents a hydrogen atom or a (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl group optionally substituted with halogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, nitro or hydroxyl;

5           - R<sub>1</sub> represents a halogen atom;

- n represents 0, 1 or 2, and better still n represents 0 or 1. More preferably, n is 0.

The compounds of Examples 1 to 67 below are preferred.

10           Among these compounds, ones most particularly preferred are:

3-(biphenyl-4-yl)-5,6-dihydrothiazolo[2,3-b]-1,3-benzodiazepine (Example 4);

15           3-(2-furyl)-5,6-dihydrothiazolo[2,3-b]-1,3-benzodiazepine (Example 43);

3-[4-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl]-5,6-dihydrothiazolo-[2,3-b]-1,3-benzodiazepine (Example 36);

1-(2-furyl)-2-(4,5-dihydro-3H-1,3-benzodiazepine-2-ylsulphamyl)ethanone (Example 14);

20           1-(biphenyl-4-yl)-2-(4,5-dihydro-3H-1,3-benzodiazepine-2-ylsulphamyl)ethanone (Example 5);

3-(biphenyl-3-yl)-5,6-dihydrothiazolo[2,3-b]-1,3-benzodiazepine (Example 38);

25           1-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-2-(4,5-dihydro-3H-1,3-benzodiazepine-2-ylsulphamyl)ethanone (Example 29);

3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-5,6-dihydrothiazolo[2,3-b]-1,3-benzodiazepine (Example 59); and

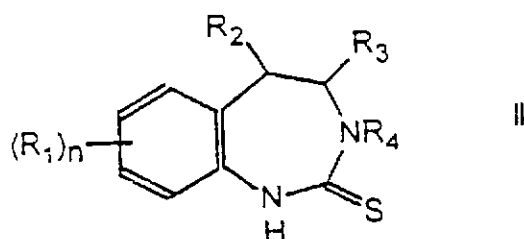
3-(biphenyl-4-yl)-7-chloro-5,6-dihydrothiazolo[2,3-b]-1,3-benzodiazepine (Example 66)..

30           The compounds of formula I may be prepared simply using one of the processes below.

A) In the case of the compounds of formula I in which X represents S, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> do not together form  
35   -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>- and dashed lines represent nothing.

These compounds may be prepared simply by reacting a thione of formula II:

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in which:

n, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are as defined above for  
 5 formula I, with a halo derivative of formula III:

Hal<sup>1</sup>-R<sub>5</sub>

III

in which Hal<sup>1</sup> represents a halogen atom,  
 10 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkylsulphonyl in which the alkyl portion is  
 optionally halogenated or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)arylsulphonyl in which  
 the aryl portion is optionally substituted with  
 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; and R<sub>5</sub> is as defined above for formula I.

Advantageously, Hal<sup>1</sup> represents halogen, tosyl  
 15 or mesyl. The reaction is preferably carried out in a  
 polar solvent which is inert towards the reagents.

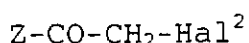
A suitable solvent is a linear or cyclic ether  
 such as dialkyl ethers (diethyl ether or diisopropyl  
 ether) or cyclic ethers (such as tetrahydrofuran or  
 20 dioxane) or alternatively polyethers of the type such  
 as dimethoxyethane or diethylene glycol dimethyl ether.

The temperature at which the reaction is  
 performed is generally between -20 and 70°C, preferably  
 between 0 and 50°C and better still between 15 and  
 25 35°C, for example at room temperature.

One particular case of application of this  
 process is illustrated below for the preparation of  
 compounds of formula I in which X represents S, R<sub>4</sub> is  
 as defined above and R<sub>5</sub> represents -CH<sub>2</sub>-CO-Z in which Z  
 30 is as defined above for formula I.

According to this process, a thione of formula  
 II is reacted, under the same conditions as above, with  
 an α-halo ketone of formula IVa:

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IVa

in which Z is as defined above and  $Hal^2$  represents a halogen atom. In the context of this particular embodiment, it is preferred to use mild reaction conditions such as, especially, a temperature of between 0 and 60°C and preferably between 15 and 35°C.

When the compounds of formula I obtained by carrying out process A above are such that  $R_4$  represents a hydrogen atom, the preparation of the corresponding compounds in which  $R_4$  represents  $(C_1-C_{18})$ alkyl is readily performed by alkylation using a suitable alkylating agent.

Thus, the compound in which  $R_4 = H$  may be reacted with a halo derivative of general formula  $R_4-X$  in which  $R_4$  represents  $(C_1-C_{18})$ alkyl and X represents halogen, in the presence of a base.

Examples of bases that are particularly suitable are triethylamine, N-methylmorpholine, 4-(N,N-dimethylamino)pyridine, N,N-diethylamine, mineral bases of the type such as alkali metal hydroxides (NaOH or KOH), alkali metal carbonates ( $NaHCO_3$  or  $K_2CO_3$ ) and alkali metal hydrides such as NaH.

**B) In the case of the compounds of formula I in which X represents S,  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  together form a group  $-CR_6=CR_7-$  and the dashed lines represent nothing.**

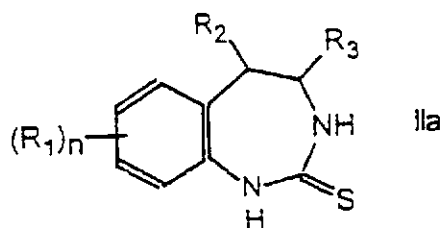
These compounds may be prepared according to the invention, by reacting an  $\alpha$ -halo ketone of formula IVb:



IVb

in which  $R_6$  and  $R_7$  are as defined above and  $Hal^3$  represents a halogen atom, with a thione of formula IIa:

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in which  $R_1$ ,  $n$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are as defined above for formula I, in a  $C_2$ - $C_6$  aliphatic carboxylic acid as solvent, at a temperature of between 90 and 130°C.

The exact implementation conditions will be determined by a person skilled in the art depending on the reactivity of the compounds present.

Examples of carboxylic acids which may be mentioned include acetic acid, propionic acid, butyric acid, pivalic acid and valeric acid.

It is possible, in the context of the invention, to perform the process in the presence of a mixture of solvents including one or more aliphatic carboxylic acids and optionally one or more other miscible polar solvents that are inert towards the compounds present.

Such additional solvents are, for example,  $C_2$ - $C_6$  monohydroxylated aliphatic alcohols such as ethanol, isopropanol and tert-butanol.

A preferred temperature range is from 100 to 125°C.

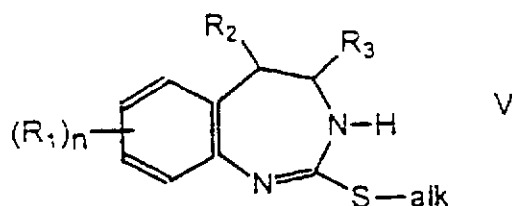
It may be convenient to perform the process at the reflux temperature of the solvent, and especially when the solvent used is acetic acid.

C) In the case of the compounds of formula I in which the dashed lines represent nothing, X represents NH,  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  together form  $-CR_6=CR_7-$  and  $R_7$  is not a hydroxyl group.

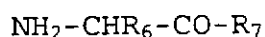
According to the invention, these compounds may be prepared simply in two steps by carrying out the following process.

In a first step, a sulphide of formula V:

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in which  $R_1$ ,  $n$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are as defined for  
 5 formula I above and alk represents  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl, is  
 reacted with a protected derivative of the acetone of  
 formula VI:



VI

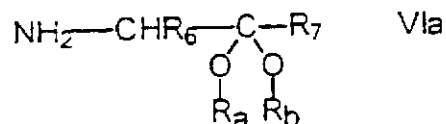
10

in which the carbonyl group of  $R_6$  is protected with a  
 protecting group that is labile in acidic medium,  $R_6$   
 and  $R_7$  being as defined above.

Examples of protecting groups for the carbonyl  
 15 function, that are labile in acidic medium, are given  
 in "Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis, Greene T.W.  
 and Wuts P.G.M., published by John Wiley and Sons,  
 1991, and in Protecting Groups, Kocienski P.J., 1994,  
 Georg Thieme Verlag.

20 In a particularly advantageous manner, the  
 carbonyl group may be protected in the form of cyclic  
 or non-cyclic ketal.

Thus, the protected derivative of the ketone of  
 formula VI reacting with the sulphide V is preferably  
 25 of formula VIa below:



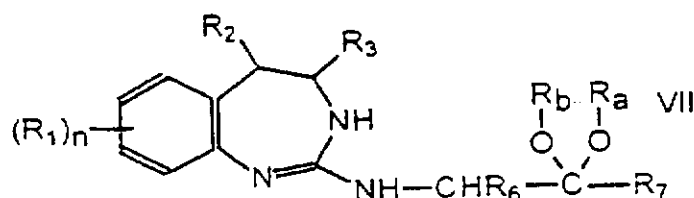
in which  $R_6$  and  $R_7$  are as defined above for formula I  
 30 and  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  are, independently,  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl or  
 together form a linear or branched  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkylene  
 chain, preferably a  $(C_2-C_3)$ alkylene chain.

The preferred ketals are especially 1,3-dioxolanes and methyl ketals.

Nevertheless, it may be envisaged to protect the carbonyl group with other protecting groups such as dithio and hemithio ketals or by formation of an enol ether, a thioenol ether, thiazolidines or imidazolidines.

The solvent used for this reaction is a polar solvent capable of dissolving the reagents present. A solvent which may thus be selected is a nitrile such as acetonitrile or isobutyronitrile.

When the reaction is carried out starting with the ketal VIa, the compound obtained after the first step is the compound of formula:



in which  $n$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_6$ ,  $R_7$ ,  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  are as defined above for formulae I and VIa. The compound resulting from the reaction II with the protected derivative of the ketone of formula VI, and, for example, compound VII above, is then treated in acidic medium so as to bring about the cyclization.

To this end, a Brønsted acid or a Lewis acid, a mineral acid or an organic acid may be used, without preference.

Examples of suitable acids are, especially, acetic acid, formic acid, oxalic acid, methanesulphonic acid, p-toluenesulphonic acid, trifluoroacetic acid, trifluoromethanesulphonic acid, Lewis acids such as boron trichloride, boron trifluoride, boron tribromide or hydrochloric acid.

The reaction is generally carried out at between 15 and 50°C, especially between 20 and 30°C.

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The solvent used for the reaction depends on the acid used. When the acid is hydrochloric acid, the reaction is advantageously performed in a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkanol such as ethanol.

5 The above process leads to the preparation of compounds of formula I in which T represents a hydrogen atom.

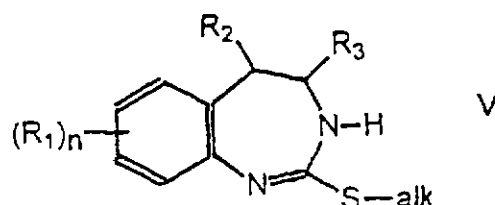
10 So as to synthesize the corresponding compound of formula I in which T represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, compound I obtained, for which T represents hydrogen, is reacted with a halo reagent of formula Hal-T in which T represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl and Hal represents a halogen atom, in the presence of a suitable base.

15 Examples of bases are, especially, organic bases such as N-methylmorpholine, triethylamine, tributylamine, diisopropylethylamine, dicyclohexylamine, N-methylpiperidine, pyridine, 4-(1-pyrrolidinyl)pyridine, picoline, 4-(N,N-dimethylamino)-pyridine, N,N-dimethylaniline and N,N-diethylaniline.

The conditions for carrying out this reaction are known to those skilled in the art.

25 D) In the case of the compounds of formula I in which the dashed lines represent nothing, X represents -NT in which T is other than a hydrogen atom, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form a group -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>- and R<sub>7</sub> represents hydroxyl.

30 These compounds may be prepared by reacting a sulphide of formula V:



in which  $n$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$  and alk are as defined above, with a derivative of formula VIII:



VIII

5

in which T and  $R_6$  are as defined above for formula I and Y is a leaving group, at a temperature of between 50 and 150°C, preferably at a temperature of between 60 and 100°C.

10

Leaving groups which may be mentioned include a halogen atom, a  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkoxy group, an imidazolyl group and a  $(C_6-C_{10})$ aryl $(C_1-C_6)$ alkoxy group.

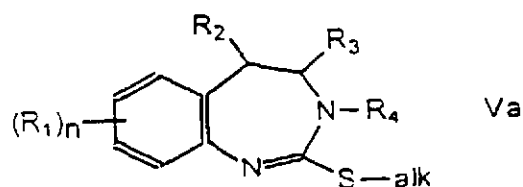
This reaction is generally performed in a polar solvent and especially a nitrile such as acetonitrile or isobutyronitrile. Acetonitrile is preferably used as solvent.

15

E) In the case of the compounds of formula I in which the dashed lines represent nothing, X represents -NT,  $R_4$  is not a hydrogen atom and  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  do not form - $\text{CR}_6=\text{CR}_7$ -.

20

These compounds may be prepared by reacting a sulphide Va:



Va

25

in which  $n$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$  and alk are as defined above for formulae I and V, with an amine of formula IX:

30



IX

in which T and  $R_5$  are as defined above for formula I. This reaction is preferably performed at a temperature of between 15 and 50°C, for example between

35

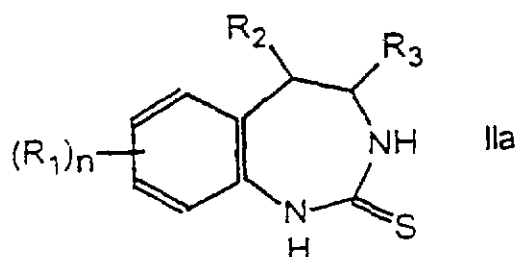
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20 and 30°C, in a solvent of the nitrile type such as acetonitrile or isobutyronitrile, acetonitrile being preferred.

5 F) In the case of the compounds of formula I in which the dashed lines represent nothing,  $X = S$ ,  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  together form  $-CR_6=CR_7-$  and  $R_7$  represents hydroxyl.

These compounds are readily prepared by reacting a thione of formula IIa:

10



in which  $n$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are as defined above for formula I, with a halo derivative of formula X:

15



in which  $\text{Hal}^4$  represents halogen and  $R_6$  and  $Y$  are as defined above for formula VIII.

20

This reaction is preferably performed in a  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$  aromatic hydrocarbon of the type such as toluene or benzene. The temperature at which the reaction is performed is generally between 80 and 130°C, for example between 100 and 120°C. Preferred conditions

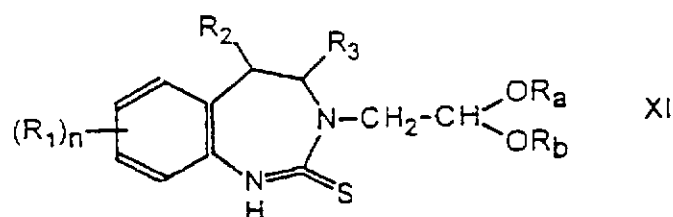
25

G) In the case of the compounds of formula I in which the dashed lines represent nothing,  $X = S$  and  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  together form  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ .

30

According to the invention, these compounds are prepared by reacting the thione below of formula XI:

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in which  $n$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  are as defined above for formulae I and VII, with a strong acid such as sulphuric acid or hydrochloric acid, or alternatively with one of the acids listed above in the case of variant C.

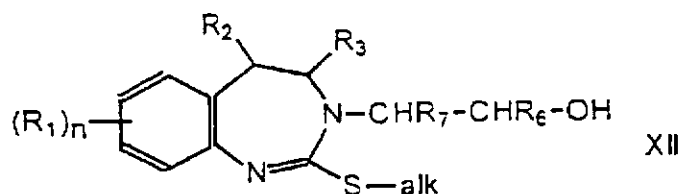
According to this process, the reaction temperature required depends on the strength of the acid used.

Generally, a temperature of between 10 and 40°C is sufficient, for example between 20 and 30°C.

This reaction may be performed in aqueous medium. In this case, the reaction medium obtained must be homogeneous.

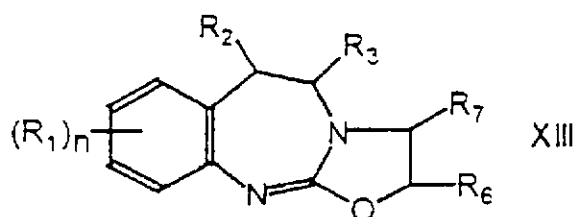
H) In the case of the compounds of formula I in which the dashed lines represent nothing, X represents O and  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  together form  $-\text{CR}_6=\text{CR}_7-$ .

These compounds are prepared by thermal cyclization of a compound of formula XII:



in which  $n$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_6$  and  $R_7$  are as defined above for formula I and alk represents  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ , followed by dehydrogenation of the resulting compound of formula XIII:

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according to the standard processes of organic chemistry, so as to obtain the expected compound of formula I. The thermal cyclization may be performed, for example, in a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> monohydroxylated aliphatic alcohol such as ethanol, isopropanol or tert-butanol as solvent, at a temperature of between 80 and 160°C.

**I) In the case of the compounds of formula I in which the dashed lines indicate the presence of a double bond.**

These compounds are prepared by dehydrogenation of the corresponding compounds of formula I in which the dashed lines represent nothing.

This dehydrogenation reaction is performed in a manner that is known per se, for example by the action of:

- sulphur (cf. Organic Synthesis, Vol. 2, published by John Wiley & Sons, 1988, page 423; Organic Synthesis, Vol. 3, published by John Wiley & Sons, 1988, page 729);
- 5% palladium-on-charcoal in a refluxing decalin (cf. Organic Synthesis, Vol. 4, published by John Wiley & Sons, 1988, page 536);
- 2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone or DDQ (cf. Organic Synthesis, Vol. 5, published by John Wiley & Sons, 1988, page 428; Synthesis, 1983, 310).

The thiones of formulae II and IIa are compounds that are readily prepared by organic synthesis from commercial products.

The thiones of formula IIa are thiones of formula II in which R<sub>4</sub> represents a hydrogen atom.

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These compounds may especially be prepared by following and optionally by adapting any one of the processes described in:

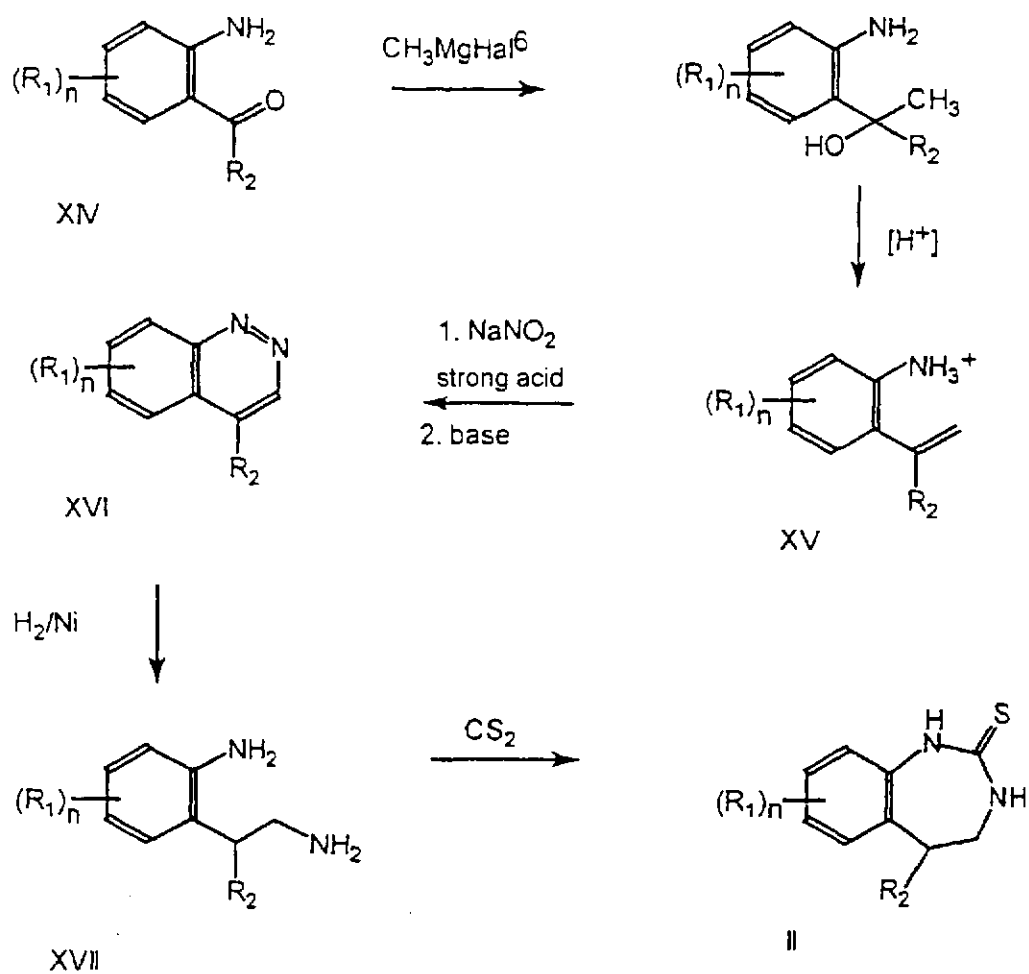
5       - Spindler Juergen; Kempter Gerhard; Z. Chem.;  
27; 1. 1987; 36-37  
or

      - Setescak Linda L.; Dekow Frederick W.; Kitzen  
Jan M.; Martin Lawrence L.; J. Med. Chem.; 27; 3; 1984;  
401-404.

10       These two publications more particularly  
describe the synthesis of 1,3,4,5-tetrahydro-(1H,3H)-  
1,3-benzodiazepine-2-thione,       1,3,4,5-tetrahydro-  
(1H,3H)-4-phenyl-1,3-benzodiazepine-2-thione       and  
1,3,4,5-tetrahydro-(1H,3H)-3-methyl-4-phenyl-1,3-  
15 benzodiazepine-2-thione.

      By way of example, when  $R_2$  represents  
optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl and  $R_3$   
represents H, one route for synthesizing the thione of  
formula II in which the dashed lines represent nothing  
20 is proposed in Scheme 1 below.

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SCHEME 1

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The ketone XIV is treated, under the usual conditions, with a Grignard reagent of formula  $\text{CH}_3\text{MgHal}^6$  in which  $\text{Hal}^6$  is a halogen atom. The process is performed, for example, in an ether, preferably an  
5 aliphatic ether such as diethyl ether or diisopropyl ether or tetrahydrofuran, at a temperature of between 20 and 50°C and preferably between 30 and 40°C.

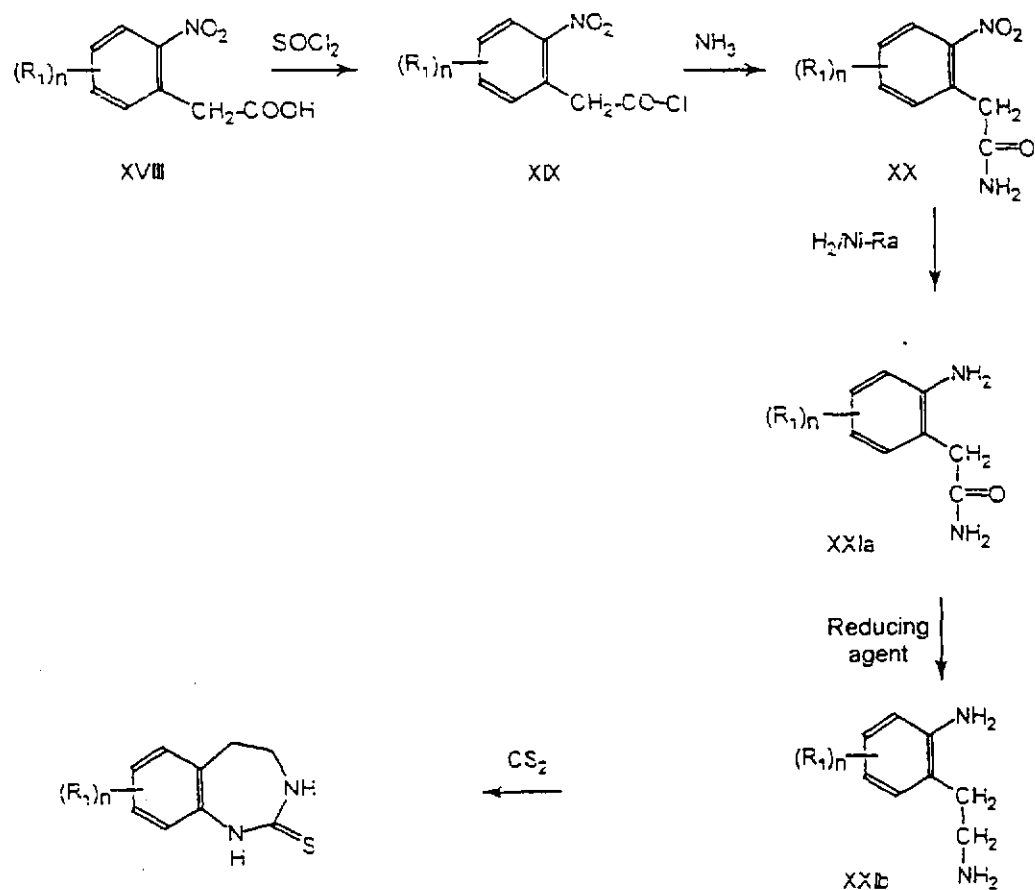
After dehydration of the intermediate alcohol (in acidic medium), compound XV is recovered in the  
10 form of a salt. The nature of the counterion in compound XV (which counterion is not represented in Scheme 1) depends on the acid used for the dehydration. In the next step, compound XV is treated with sodium nitrite in the presence of a strong acid such as  
15 hydrochloric acid, and the intermediate compound is then treated with a base and preferably with a hydroxide of the type such as an alkali metal hydroxide or ammonium hydroxide.

The diazo compound of formula XVI obtained is  
20 then subjected to a hydrogenation in the presence of nickel in a solvent of polar type such as a  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkanol or an amide of the type such as dimethylformamide, at a temperature of between 30 and 100°C and preferably at a temperature of from 50 to  
25 70°C.

The thione is finally prepared by reacting the hydrogenated compound XVII with carbon disulphide, under suitable conditions such as, for example, at  
30 reflux in a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  aliphatic alcohol, for example in refluxing ethanol.

Another process for preparing thiones of formula II in which  $\text{R}_2$  and  $\text{R}_3$  both represent a hydrogen atom and the dashed lines represent nothing is illustrated in Scheme 2 below.

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SCHEME 2

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The amine of formula XXIa is prepared in a conventional manner by the action of thionyl chloride, followed by ammonia, and finally by catalytic hydrogenation in the presence of Raney nickel.

5       Next, the carbonyl function of compound XXIa is reduced by the action of a suitable reducing agent. Examples of suitable reducing agents are hydrides (such as lithium aluminium hydride, sodium borohydride, sodium cyanoborohydride,  $\text{BH}_3/\text{BF}_3\text{-Et}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{Et}_3\text{SiH}$ ), zinc  
10 in hydrochloric acid medium, lithium in ammoniacal medium or Raney nickel in ethanolic medium.

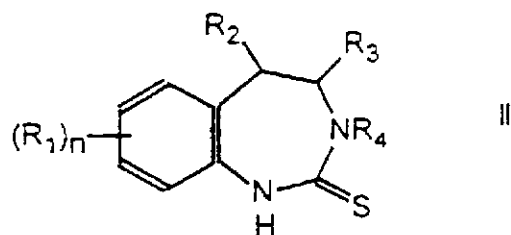
The reduction may also be performed by catalytic hydrogenation, for example in the presence of palladium-on-charcoal or platinum oxide.

15       The process is preferably performed in the presence of  $\text{LiAlH}_4$ . The reduction of compound XXIa gives compound XXIb.

The amine XXIb is then reacted with carbon disulphide, preferably in a polar solvent of  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkanol type (such as, for example, ethanol), at a  
20 temperature of between 80 and  $150^\circ\text{C}$  at the end of the reaction.

The sulphides of formula Va are readily obtained from the corresponding thiones of formula II.

25       One possible synthetic route consists in reacting the appropriate thione of formula II:



30       in which n,  $\text{R}_1$ ,  $\text{R}_2$ ,  $\text{R}_3$  and  $\text{R}_4$  are as defined above, with a halide  $\text{Hal}^5\text{-alk}$  in which  $\text{Hal}^5$  represents a halogen atom and alk represents  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ , in a polar protic solvent such as an aliphatic alcohol, for example a  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkanol}$ . It is strongly desirable that

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the alkyl chain of the alcohol used as solvent should correspond exactly to the alk chain of the halo derivative.

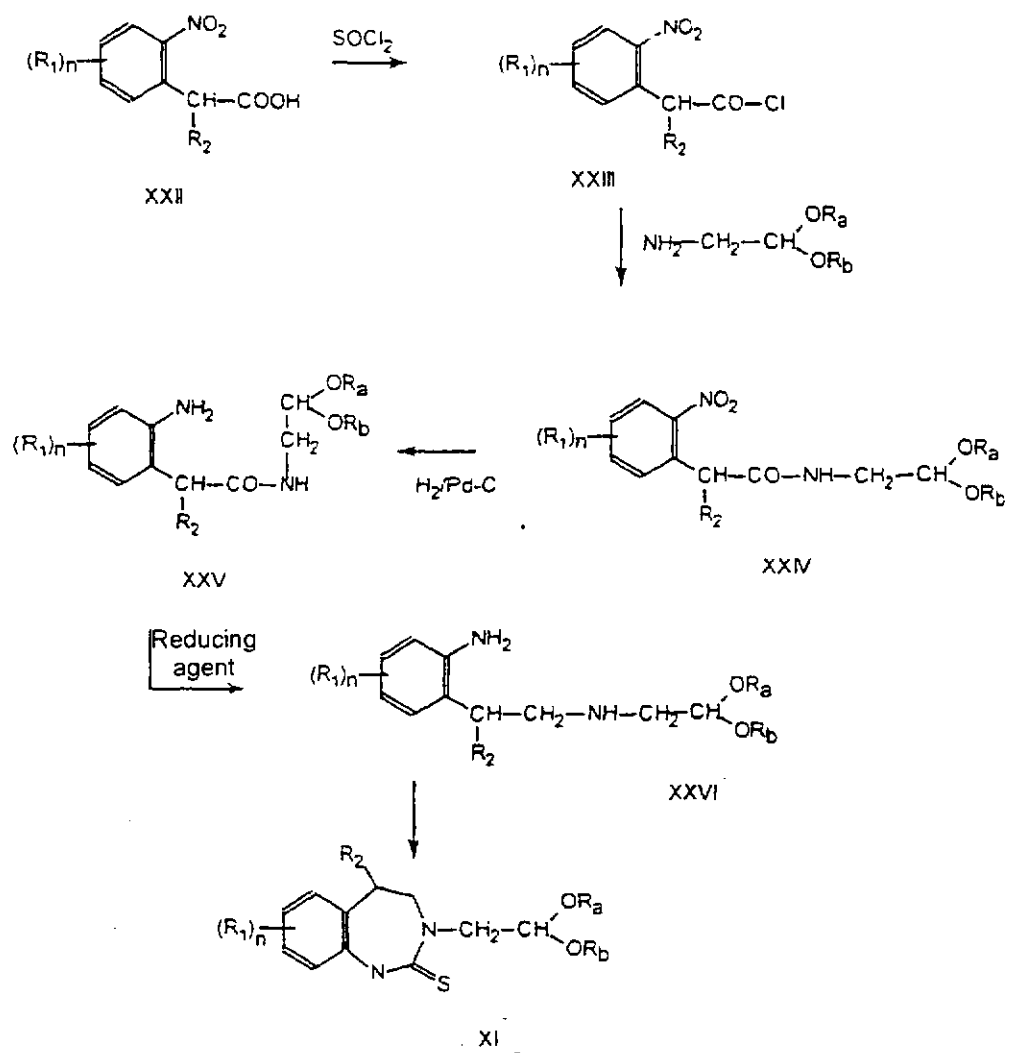
5 The reaction of the thione II with this halo derivative is preferably performed at a temperature of between 15 and 50°C and preferentially between 20 and 30°C, for example at room temperature.

10 This process is particularly advantageous for the preparation of compounds of formula Va in which alk represents methyl.

Preferably, Hal<sup>5</sup> represents an iodine atom.

The compounds of formula XI in which R<sub>3</sub> represents a hydrogen atom may be prepared using the process illustrated in Scheme 3 below.

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SCHEME 3

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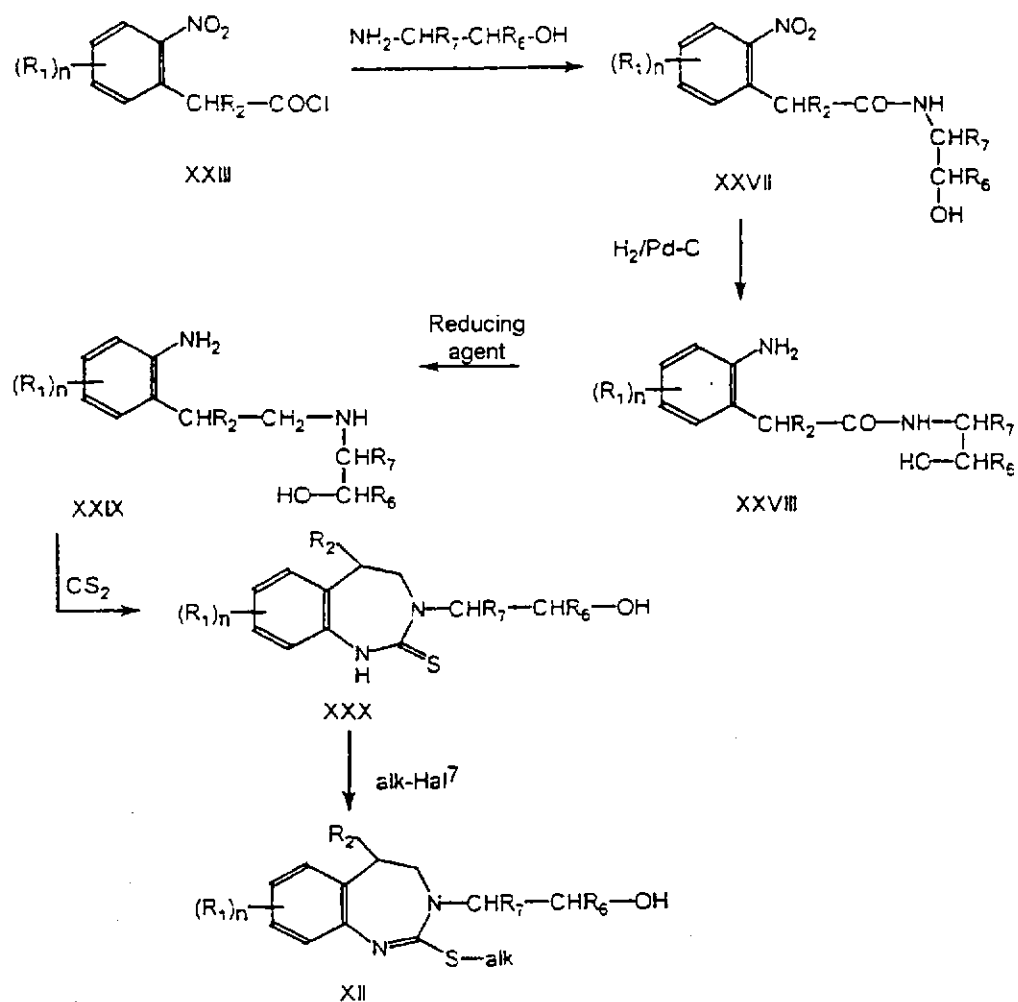
The amide of formula XXIV is prepared conventionally starting with the acid of formula XXII by the action of thionyl chloride and the appropriate amine of formula  $\text{NH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH(OR}_a\text{)(OR}_b\text{)}$  in which  $\text{R}_a$  and  $\text{R}_b$  are as defined above for formula XI.

Next, the amide XXIV is subjected to a hydrogenation reaction in the presence of palladium-on-charcoal so as to convert the nitro function into an amine function. This conversion is performed under the standard conditions of organic chemistry.

The carbonyl function of the resulting amine is then reduced by the action of a suitable hydride, for example lithium aluminium hydride, sodium borohydride, sodium cyanoborohydride or diisobutylaluminium hydride.

Next, the amine obtained, XXVI, is treated with carbon disulphide under the same conditions described above in the case of compound XVII (Scheme 1) or in the case of compound XXIb (Scheme 2).

The compounds of formula XII in which  $\text{R}_3$  represents hydrogen may be synthesized by carrying out the process illustrated in Scheme 4 below:



SCHEME 4

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The amine of formula XXVII is prepared simply by reacting an amine of formula  $\text{NH}_2\text{-CHR}_7\text{-CHR}_6\text{-OH}$ , in which  $\text{R}_6$  and  $\text{R}_7$  are as defined above for formula I, with the acid chloride of formula XXIII. This reaction is  
5 carried out under the standard conditions, preferentially in the presence of a base, and preferably of an organic base. The next three steps, which lead to the compound of formula XXX, are carried out under conditions comparable to the case of the  
10 conversion of compound XXIV into compound XI (Scheme 3). Next, compound XXX is reacted with  $\text{Hal}^7\text{-alk}$  in which  $\text{Hal}^7$  represents a halogen atom and alk is  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ . This reaction may be carried out under the conditions specified above for the conversion of the  
15 thione II into the sulphide of formula Va. This reaction is preferably performed in a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkanol whose alkyl chain corresponds exactly to the alk chain of  $\text{alk-Hal}^7$  and with a halide  $\text{alk-Hal}^7$  in which  $\text{Hal}^7$  represents an iodine atom.

20 The hypolipidaemiant activity of the compounds of the invention result from their ability to reduce the secretion of apo CIII. The biological test which follows was developed so as to demonstrate this activity. It reveals the capacity of the compounds of  
25 the invention to reduce the secretion of apo CIII by a line of human hepatocytes Hep G2 in culture.

The Hep G2 cell line is derived from a human hepatic carcinoma (ref. ECACC No. 85011430).

The cells are cultured at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ , 5%  $\text{CO}_2$  in  
30 96-well microtitration plates at a rate of 40 000 cells (200  $\mu\text{l}$ ) per well in a DMEM buffer, 10% foetal calf serum, 1% Glutamax + antibiotics, for 24 hours. The culture medium is then removed and replaced with the same medium containing the test substances at a  
35 concentration of 10  $\mu\text{M}$ . The cells are incubated for 24 hours at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ , 5%  $\text{CO}_2$  and the medium is then removed.

The amount of apolipoprotein CIII secreted into the medium is measured by means of an assay of ELISA type. Each sample of culture medium is diluted 5-fold

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in a 100 mM phosphate buffer, 1% BSA. 100  $\mu$ l of each dilution are placed in the wells of 96-well microtitration plates sensitized beforehand with an anti(human Apo CIII) polyclonal antibody for 18 hours and passivated at a rate of 1  $\mu$ g per well in 100 mM PBS and passivated with 200  $\mu$ l of 100 mM PBS per 1% BSA for 1 hour at 20°C.

Each dilution of medium is incubated for 2 hours at 37°C and the wells are then washed with 4 baths of 100 mM PBS, 0.3% Tween 20. 100  $\mu$ l of a solution diluted in 100 mM PBS, 1% BSA of anti(apo CIII) polyclonal antibody coupled to peroxidase are added to each well and incubated at 37°C for 2 hours. After a further washing identical to the previous washing, 100  $\mu$ l of a 50 mM phosphate buffer, 15 mM citrate, pH = 5.5 containing 1.5 mg/ml of ortho-phenylenediamine and 0.5  $\mu$ l/ml of hydrogen peroxide ( $H_2O_2$ ) are added to each well. The plate is incubated for 20 minutes in the dark and the reaction is then stopped by adding 100  $\mu$ l of 1N HCl.

The optical density is read directly using a spectrophotometer at 492 nm. The amount of Apo CIII is calculated relative to a calibration curve produced using an assayed human serum of Apo CIII and diluted under the same conditions as the Apo CIII contained in the culture medium.

In the absence of a chemical treatment, the response of the cells is 100% (0% inhibition). Under the conditions used, the effect of DMSO on the cells is negligible. The toxicity of the chemical substances on the cells is measured by the technique of staining with neutral red.

The active substances bring about a reduction in the secretion of Apo CIII into the medium by the adherent cells. The concentration of Apo CIII is measured for each treatment and compared with the control test (no treatment).

The percentage of inhibition is calculated according to:

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$$\frac{100 - (\text{Apo CIII concentration with treatment} \times 100)}{\text{Apo CIII concentration without treatment}}$$

The percentage of inhibition is calculated only  
5 for the substances that show no toxicity on the Hep G2  
cells.

By way of example, the percentage of inhibition  
measured for the compound of formula I in which  $X = S$ ;  
 $n = 0$ ;  $R_2 = R_3 = R_6 = H$ ;  $R_7 = 4\text{-biphenyl}$  and  $R_4$  and  $R_5$   
10 together form  $-CR_6=CR_7$  (Example 4 below) is 80-100  
micromolar%. The concentration of compound of Example 4  
which gives a 50% inhibition of the secretion of  
Apo CIII in this test is  $17.4 \mu M$ . No cell toxicity is  
observed with the compound of Example 4 for the  
15 concentrations studied.

The invention is illustrated hereinbelow with  
the aid of preparations and examples. It is not  
intended to be limited to the disclosure of these  
specific examples.

20

#### PREPARATION 1

Preparation of the thione of formula IIa in  
which  $n = 0$ ; and  $R_2 = R_3 = H$

The title compound is prepared by carrying out  
25 the process described in Spindler Juergen; Kempter  
Gerhard; Z. Chem.; 27; 1; 1987; 36-37. Its melting  
point is  $195^\circ C$ .

#### PREPARATION 2

30 Preparation of the thione of formula IIa in  
which  $n = 0$ ;  $R_2 = -C_6H_5$  and  $R_3 = H$

The title compound is prepared in accordance  
with the teaching of FR 2 528 838.

## PREPARATION 3

Preparation of the thione of formula XI in which  $n = 0$ ;  $R_2 = R_3 = H$ ;  $R_a = R_b = -CH_3$

(a) N-(2,2-Dimethoxyethyl)-2-(2-nitro-phenyl)acetamide

21.0 g (0.2 mol) of aminoacetaldehyde dimethyl acetal dissolved in 200 ml of chloroform are placed in a reactor together with 22.2 g (0.22 mol) of triethylamine. The reaction medium is brought to and maintained at 10°C. A solution of 0.2 mol of 2-nitrophenylacetyl chloride in 200 ml of chloroform is added to this solution. The reaction medium is allowed to return to room temperature and stirring is continued for 12 hours.

Aqueous sodium hydroxide solution is then added, after which the organic phase is allowed to separate by settling and is separated out and dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate. After evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure, a beige-coloured solid is obtained, which is recrystallized from a mixture of hexane and ethyl acetate. 35 g of a solid with a melting point of between 89 and 90°C are thus obtained.

(b) N-(2,2-Dimethoxyethyl)-2-(2-aminophenyl)-acetamide

40 g of the compound obtained in step (a) above dissolved in 750 ml of ethanol are hydrogenated in an autoclave in the presence of 5 g of 5% palladium-on-charcoal at a pressure of 120 bar of hydrogen.

After filtering off the catalyst and evaporating off the solvent, 35 g of an oil are obtained, which are used in crude form in the rest of the synthesis.

(c) N-(2,2-Dimethoxyethyl)-2-(2-aminophenyl)-ethylamine

28.1 g (0.74 mol) of lithium aluminium hydride suspended in 280 ml of anhydrous tetrahydrofuran are

placed in a 1-litre reactor maintained under an inert atmosphere.

The reaction medium is cooled to a temperature below 10°C and 35.3 g of the compound obtained in step  
5 (b) dissolved in 350 ml of anhydrous tetrahydrofuran are added to this solution, maintained at this temperature. The mixture is maintained at the reflux point of the solvent for 8 hours with stirring.

The reaction medium is again cooled to a  
10 temperature below 10°C and 100 ml of water are added slowly to this solution so as to destroy the excess hydride present. The aluminium hydroxides formed are drained and rinsed with chloroform.

The organic phases separated out are dried over  
15 anhydrous sodium sulphate and then evaporated under reduced pressure. 23 g of an oil are thus isolated, and are used in crude form in the next step.

(d) 3-(2,2-Dimethoxyethyl)-4,5-dihydro-(1H,3H)-  
20 1,3-benzodiazepine-2-thione

22.6 g (0.298 mol) of carbon sulphide dissolved in 180 ml of ethanol are placed in a 500 ml reactor.

0.149 mol of the compound obtained in the preceding step dissolved in 150 ml of ethanol is added  
25 to this solution, at room temperature. The temperature rises from 18 to 22°C. The reaction medium is left stirring for 12 hours at room temperature and the reaction medium is then maintained at the reflux point of the solvent for 6 hours. The mixture is then allowed  
30 to return to room temperature, after which the solvent is evaporated off under reduced pressure. A thick green oil is obtained, which is recrystallized from 100 ml of ethanol. 21 g of a solid with a melting point of 79 to 81°C are thus isolated.

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#### PREPARATION 4

Preparation of the thione of formula XXX in which  $n = 0$ ;  $R_2 = R_6 = H$ ;  $R_7 = -C_6H_5$

The title compound is prepared in accordance with the teaching of FR 2 518 544.

#### PREPARATION 5

Preparation of the compound of formula XIII in which  $n = 0$ ;  $R_2 = R_3 = R_6 = H$ ;  $R_7 = -C_6H_5$

11.6 g (0.039 mol) of 3-(2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl)-(1H,3H)-1,3-benzodiazepine-2-thione suspended in 120 ml of ethanol are placed in a 250 ml reactor.

11.0 g (0.078 mol) of methyl iodide are added to this solution and the reaction medium is then maintained at the reflux point of the solvent for 1 hour. A considerable evolution of methyl mercaptan is observed.

The mixture is allowed to return to room temperature and the solvent is then evaporated off under reduced pressure. The residue is taken up in diethyl ether and dilute aqueous ammonium hydroxide solution. A white precipitate forms, which is isolated by draining. 7.6 g of a product with a melting point of 137 to 139°C are obtained, and are recrystallized from a mixture of hexane and ethyl acetate. The product thus isolated has a melting point of 142 to 144°C.

The hydrochloride of the title compound recrystallizes from acetone and has a melting point of 132 to 135°C.

#### PREPARATION 6

Preparation of the sulphide of formula V in which  $n = 0$ ;  $R_2 = R_3 = H$  and  $alk = -CH_3$

33.2 g (0.1862 mol) of the thione obtained in Preparation 1 and 300 ml of methanol are placed in a 1 l reactor. The mixture is stirred until dissolution is complete. Next, 23.2 ml (0.3724 mol, 2 eq.) of  $CH_3I$

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dissolved in 50 ml of methanol are added dropwise to this mixture.

The reaction medium is maintained at reflux. After 1 hour, the solvent is evaporated off under reduced pressure and the residue is then taken up in 500 ml of diethyl ether. A precipitate forms, which is dissolved and washed three times with 50 ml of diethyl ether and then dried under reduced pressure. 59.3 g of a cream-coloured product (yield = 99.4%) with a melting point of 171-173°C are thus isolated.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  (ppm):

11.42 (1H, s); 10.10 (1H, s); 7.45-7.24 (4H, m); 3.80-3.77 (2H, m); 3.27-3.24 (2H, m); 2.85 (3H, s).

#### EXAMPLE 1

Preparation of the compound of formula I in which  $\text{X} = -\text{NCH}_3$ ;  $n = 0$ ;  $\text{R}_2 = \text{R}_3 = \text{R}_6 = \text{H}$ ;  $\text{R}_4 + \text{R}_5 = -\text{CR}_6=\text{CR}_7-$ ;  $\text{R}_7 = -\text{OH}$

8.5 g (0.0264 mol) of the sulphide of formula V obtained in Preparation 6, 125 ml of acetonitrile dried over molecular sieves (4 Å) and 6.8 g of ethyl sarcosinate are placed in a 250 ml reactor maintained under a nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture is stirred at room temperature for 15 hours, a further 2 g of ethyl sarcosinate are then added and the reaction medium is refluxed for 6 hours. Next, a further 2 g of ethyl sarcosinate are added to the reaction medium and the mixture is refluxed for a further 14 hours. After this reaction time, no further evolution of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SH}$  is observed.

The reaction medium is then concentrated by evaporation under reduced pressure, after which the beige-coloured solid obtained is taken up in 200 ml of water plus 30 ml of aqueous 7% sodium bicarbonate solution. The solution is extracted with dichloromethane and dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate, and the solvents are then evaporated off. The residue is then purified by chromatography on silica gel, using a 4/1 dichloromethane/ethyl acetate mixture.

3.4 g of a yellow solid with a melting point of 132-134°C are thus isolated. After recrystallization from a mixture of 30 ml of hexane and 40 ml of ethyl acetate, 2.7 g of a pale yellow solid (yield = 47.5%) with a melting point of 132-134°C are isolated.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  (ppm):

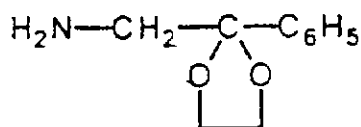
7.30-7.27 (1H, m); 7.22-7.16 (2H, m); 7.05-6.99 (1H, m); 4.18 (2H, s); 3.88 (2H, s); 3.14 (3H, s); 3.12-3.07 (2H, s).

## EXAMPLE 2

Preparation of the compound of formula I in which  $\text{X} = -\text{NH}$ ;  $n = 0$ ;  $\text{R}_2 = \text{R}_3 = \text{R}_6 = \text{H}$ ;  $\text{R}_4 + \text{R}_5 = -\text{CR}_6=\text{CR}_7-$ ;  $\text{R}_7 = -\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$

a) Preparation of the compound of formula VII in which  $\text{R}_6 = \text{R}_2 = \text{R}_3 = \text{H}$ ;  $n = 0$ ;  $\text{R}_7 = -\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ ;  $\text{R}_a$  and  $\text{R}_b$  together form  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-$

4.4 g (0.01381 mol) of the sulphide obtained in Preparation 6, 80 ml of acetonitrile and 5.2 g (0.029 mol; 2.1 eq.) of the following amine:



are placed in a 100 ml reactor maintained under a nitrogen atmosphere.

The reaction medium is maintained at 50°C for 12 hours and is then allowed to return to room temperature (20°C). 100 ml of diethyl ether are then added. The precipitate formed is filtered off at 20°C and washed 3 times with 15 ml of diethyl ether and then dried under reduced pressure. 5.5 g of a cream-coloured solid product with a melting point of 220°C are thus obtained. The residue is taken up in aqueous 7% sodium bicarbonate solution (100 ml) and left stirring for 30 minutes and then filtered, washed with water and dried under reduced pressure.

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4.5 g of a cream-coloured solid with a melting point of 217-219°C are thus obtained. After recrystallization from 100 ml of ethanol, 4.3 g of a white solid with a melting point of 217-219°C are isolated. This compound is the hydriodide salt of the title compound, as results from the elemental analysis of the product obtained (yield = 69%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO) δ (ppm):

9.39 (s, 1H); 8.36 (1H, s); 7.32-7.00 (7H, m); 6.87 (2H, t, J = 7 Hz); 3.9-3.88 (2H, m); 3.62-3.60 (2H, m); 3.48 (2H, s); 3.26 (2H, t, J = 4.5 Hz); 2.80 (2H, t, J = 4.6 Hz).

**b) Preparation of the compound of formula I in**

which  $X = NH$ ;  $n = 0$ ;  $R_2 = R_3 = R_6 = H$ ;  $R_4 + R_5 = -CR_6=CR_7-$ ;  $R_7 = -C_6H_5$

3 g of the compound obtained in step a) above (0.009277 mol), 200 ml of ethanol and 200 ml of 5N HCl are placed in a 500 ml reactor maintained under a nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture is refluxed for 5 hours and the solvent is then evaporated off under reduced pressure. 200 ml of water are added to the residue and the mixture is washed twice with 150 ml of diethyl ether. The solution is basified with aqueous 30% sodium hydroxide solution, while keeping the temperature below 20°C. The cream-coloured precipitate formed is filtered off and then washed with water and dried under reduced pressure at 80°C. 1.8 g (yield = 73.8%) of a cream-coloured solid with a melting point of 194-206°C are thus isolated.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO) δ (ppm):

9.18 (1H, s); 7.28-7.11 (8H, m); 6.67-6.65 (1H, m); 6.55 (1H, s); 3.94 (2H, t, J = 4.7 Hz); 2.91 (2H, t, J = 4.6 Hz).

## EXAMPLE 3

Preparation of the compound of formula I in which  $X = NCH_3$ ;  $n = 0$ ;  $R_2 = R_3 = R_6 = H$ ;  $R_4 + R_5 = -CR_6=CR_7$ ;  $R_7 = -C_6H_5$

5 1.4 g (0.00531 mol) of the compound obtained in Example 2 and 46 ml of dimethylformamide dried over molecular sieves (4 Å) are placed in a 100 ml reactor. The mixture is stirred until completely dissolved. 0.22 g of a 60% dispersion of sodium hydride in oil  
10 (0.005575; 1.05 eq.) is then added, at 20°C, and the mixture is left to react, with stirring, for 30 minutes. Next, 0.4 ml (0.006372; 1.2 eq.) of methyl iodide is added in a single portion. The reaction medium is stirred for 48 hours and is then poured into  
15 600 ml of water and the solution is extracted with dichloromethane. The combined extracts are washed with water and dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate, and the solvent is evaporated off under reduced pressure. 1.1 g of a yellow oil are obtained. The maleate salt of this  
20 compound is prepared by the action of one equivalent of maleic acid in methanol at room temperature. The solvent is evaporated off and the residue is recrystallized from methanol. 0.78 g (yield = 37.5%) of a white solid with a melting point of 173-175°C is thus  
25 isolated.

$^1H$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  (ppm):

7.51-7.23 (10H, m); 6.10 (2H, s); 4.11-4.08 (2H, m); 3.54 (3H, s); 3.19 (2H, t,  $J = 5.1$  Hz).

## 30 EXAMPLE 4

Preparation of a compound of formula I in which  $X = S$ ;  $n = 0$ ;  $R_2 = R_3 = R_6 = H$ ;  $R_7 = p$ -(phenyl)phenyl;  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  together form  $-CR_6=CR_7-$

35 16.5 g (92.5 mmol) of the thione obtained in Preparation 1, 390 ml of glacial acetic acid and 25.5 g (92.5 mmol) of bromomethyl para-phenylphenyl ketone are introduced into a 500 ml reactor equipped with a condenser. The mixture is gradually brought to reflux, with stirring, and maintained at reflux for 3 hours.

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The reaction medium is then cooled to 15°C. The precipitate (hydrobromide) is filtered off, rinsed with diethyl ether and dried. The residue is taken up in 200 ml of ice-cold water and the resulting solution is basified slowly by addition of aqueous 30% sodium hydroxide solution with vigorous stirring. The amount of sodium hydroxide required to observe the stability of alkaline pH is thus added. The solution is then extracted twice with methylene chloride. Next, the extracts are rinsed with water and dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate and the solvent is then evaporated off under reduced pressure. A pale yellow solid is thus isolated (yield = 85%) which is recrystallized from toluene so as to obtain the title compound, in pure form, which has a melting point of 199.5-200°C (Example 4).

The hydrochloride salt of this compound is prepared by adding a 33% solution of hydrogen chloride in ethanol. The melting point of this salt is 299.5-300°C (Example 44).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):

3.02 (2H, m); 3.97 (2H, m); 6.4 (1H, s); 6.8 (1H, m); 7 (2H, m); 7.1 (1H, m); 7.4-7.6 (5H, m); 7.7-7.9 (4H, m).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) of the hydrochloride:

3 (2H, m); 4 (2H, m); 6.8-7.7 (14H); 13 (1H, exchangeable s).

#### EXAMPLE 5

Preparation of a compound of formula I in which  
X = S;      n = 0;      R<sub>4</sub> = R<sub>2</sub> = R<sub>3</sub> = H;      R<sub>5</sub> = CH<sub>2</sub>-CO-(p-phenylphenyl)

2.7 g (15 mmol) of the thione obtained in Preparation 1 and 150 ml of tetrahydrofuran are placed in a 250 ml three-necked flask equipped with a condenser with CaCl<sub>2</sub> guard tube.

The reaction medium is heated gently until the thione has completely dissolved, followed by slow addition of 6.6 g (24 mmol; 1.6 equivalents) of

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bromomethyl para-phenylphenyl ketone in 50 ml of tetrahydrofuran. A product which precipitates is observed. The reaction medium is kept stirring for 1 hour 30 minutes. Next, the precipitate is filtered off and rinsed with diethyl ether. The precipitate is then suspended in 200 ml of ice-cold water and the suspension is then basified slowly by adding aqueous 33% sodium hydroxide solution with vigorous stirring. The amount of sodium hydroxide added is the amount required to obtain stability of the alkaline pH. The white solid is then filtered off and recrystallized from ethanol. The title compound, which has a melting point of 239.5-240°C (yield = 68%), is thus isolated.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 3 (2H, m); 3.2 (1H, m); 3.4 (1H, m); 3.5 (1H, d,  $J = 11.8$  Hz); 3.7 (1H, d,  $J = 11.8$  Hz); 6.9-7.9 (13 H, m).

#### EXAMPLE 6

Preparation of a compound of formula I in which

$X = S$ ;  $n = 0$ ;  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  together form  $-\text{CR}_6=\text{CR}_7-$ ;  $R_2 = -\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ ;  $R_3 = \text{H}$ ;  $R_6 = \text{H}$ ;  $R_7 = -\text{OH}$

10 g (0.039 mol) of the thione obtained in Preparation 2 are placed in a 250 ml reactor containing 125 ml of acetic acid. 7.9 g (0.047 mol) of ethyl bromoacetate are added dropwise to this solution and the reaction medium is refluxed for 9 hours. A white precipitate is formed. After cooling to room temperature, the hydrobromide formed is drained off. The product is dried and is suspended in water. 30% ammonium hydroxide solution is added to this suspension until the pH is basic. The product is drained and then dried, after which it is recrystallized from a mixture of hexane and ethyl acetate. 8.2 g of the title compound, which has a melting point of 156-158°C, are thus isolated.

**EXAMPLE 7**

Preparation of a compound of formula I in which  
X = S; n = 0; R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>-;  
R<sub>2</sub> = R<sub>3</sub> = R<sub>6</sub> = H; R<sub>7</sub> = OH

5           3.0 g (0.0168 mol) of 2-thione-4,5-dihydro-1,3-benzodiazepine and 3.75 ml (0.0336 mol) of ethyl bromoacetate in 50 ml of toluene are placed in a 250 ml three-necked flask.

The reaction mixture is then refluxed for 1  
10 hour with stirring. The mixture is allowed to return to room temperature, water and aqueous ammonium hydroxide solution are then added and the reaction medium is extracted with ethyl acetate. After drying the various organic extracts over anhydrous sodium sulphate, the  
15 reaction medium is evaporated. 1.4 g of an ochre-coloured solid which recrystallizes from ethanol are thus isolated. After recrystallization, the melting point of this solid is 111 to 112°C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 3.23-3.25 (2H,  
20 m); 4.18 (4H, s); 7.26-7.3 (2H, m); 7.43-7.5 (2H, m).

**EXAMPLE 8**

Preparation of a compound of formula I in which  
X = S; n = 0; R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>-;  
25 R<sub>2</sub> = R<sub>3</sub> = R<sub>6</sub> = R<sub>7</sub> = H

14.0 g of the compound obtained in Preparation 3 in 140 ml of aqueous 50% sulphuric acid solution are placed in a 250 ml reactor. The mixture is maintained for 2 hours at the reflux point of the solvent. The  
30 reaction medium is allowed to return to room temperature and is then poured onto a mixture of water and ice. After extraction with chloroform and drying of the extracts over anhydrous sodium sulphate, the solvent is evaporated off. 9 g of a thick oil are thus  
35 obtained. This oil is dissolved in 100 ml of acetone. 5.7 g of maleic acid are then added. The product obtained after concentrating the solution is the maleate of the title compound. This product is

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- 50 -

recrystallized from acetone. The product obtained has a melting point of between 121 and 123°C.

The compounds of Examples 9 to 192 below were obtained using the processes illustrated in Examples 1  
5 to 8 above.

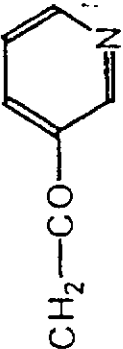
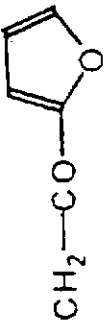
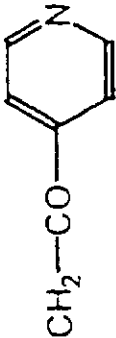
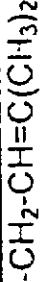
Tables 1 to 6 below report the characterization data obtained for each of these compounds.

m.p. denotes the melting point.

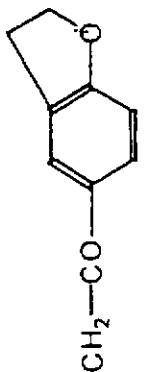
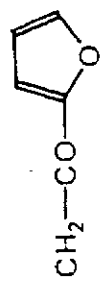
The NMR spectra were recorded at 300 MHz in  
10 solvent S.

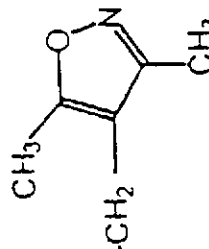
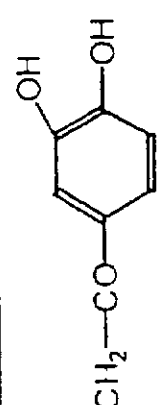
The abbreviations s, d, t and m have the following meanings:

s: singlet  
d: doublet  
15 t: triplet  
m: multiplet.

|    |                                                                                       |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 13 |    | 200-200.5       | S = DMSO-d6<br>2.9(2H,m); 3.1(1H,m); 3.3(1H,m); 3.4(1H,d,J=11.8Hz);<br>3.6(1H,d,J=11.8Hz); 6.8(1H,m); 6.9(2H,m); 7.1(1H,m);<br>7.4(1H exchangeable ,s) ; 7.5(1H,m); 7.9(1H,m);<br>8.6(1H,m); 8.8(1H,m). |
| 14 |    | 158-158.5       | S = DMSO-d6<br>3(2H,m); 3.3(2H,m); 3.5(1H,d,J=11.8Hz); 3.9(1H,d,J=11.8Hz); 6.6-6.8 (2H, 2m) ; 7 (1H, t, J = 1.5 Hz)<br>7.1(2H,d); 7.25(1H,t) ; 7.5(1H,s); 7.9(1H,s).                                    |
| 15 |    | 217.2-<br>217.4 | S = DMSO-d6<br>2.9(2H,m); 3.1(1H,m); 3.3(1H,m); 3.4(1H,d,J=12.1Hz); 3.5(1H,d,J=12.1Hz); 7.5(1H exchangeable ,s); 6.8-7.2(4H,m) ; 7.5(2H,d,J=6Hz) ; 8.6(2H,d,J=6Hz).                                     |
| 16 |    | 209.8-210       | S = DMSO-d6<br>3.1(2H,m); 3.6(2H,m); 4.5(2H,s); 5.5(1H,s); 5.6(1H,s); 7.2-7.5(9H,m); 10.5(1H exchangeable ,s);                                                                                          |
| 17 |   | 187.5-188       | S = DMSO-d6<br>4.8(2H,s); 3(2H,m); 3.6(2H,m); 7.1-7.5(m).                                                                                                                                               |
| 18 |  | 159.7-160       | S = DMSO-d6<br>1.5(6H); 3(2H); 3.5(2H); 3.9(2H); 5.1(1H); 7.4(4H); 10.8(1H exchangeable ); 11.5(1H).                                                                                                    |

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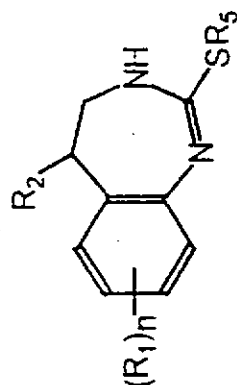
|    |                                                                                     |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 19 |  | 187-187.5 | S = DMSO-d6<br>2.7-3.4(8H,m); 4.4(2H,m); 6.6-7.3(7H,m)                                                                                                                                                 |
| 20 |  | 199-199.2 | S = DMSO-d6<br>3.8(1H,d,J=12.3Hz); 4.0(1H,d,J=12.3Hz); 3-3.7(4H,m); 6.5-7.8(7H,m); 8.7(1H exchangeable ,s) ; 13(1H exchangeable ,s).                                                                   |
| 21 | -CH <sub>2</sub> -CO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>                                  | 210°C     | S=DMSO-d6<br>2.7-2.8(2H,m); 2.8-2.9(1H,m); 3.1-3.2(1H,m) ; 3.3(1H,d,J=12Hz) ; 3.4(1H,d,J=12Hz) ; 6.7-7.0(5H,m) ; 7.2-7.4(4H,m).                                                                        |
| 22 | -CH <sub>2</sub> -CO-CH <sub>3</sub>                                                | 184-186   | S=DMSO-d6<br>1.4(3H,s); 2.9(2H,m); 3.2(1H,d,J=11Hz); 3.3(1H,d,J=11 Hz); 3.3-3.5(2H,m); 6.5(1H,s); 6.8-7.1(4H,m).                                                                                       |
| 23 | -CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>                                  | 152-154   | S=DMSO-d6<br>0.9(3H,t,J=7Hz); 1.5-1.6(2H,m); 3.0-3.1(2H,m) ; 3.3(2H,t,J=7Hz) ; 3.5-3.6(2H,m) ; 7.0-7.1(1H,m); 7.2-7.3(2H,m); 7.3-7.4(1H,m).                                                            |
| 24 | -CH <sub>2</sub> -CO-(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>7</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>               | 134-136   | S=CDCl <sub>3</sub><br>0.8(3H,t,J=7Hz); 1.2-1.4(12H,m); 1.7-1.8(2H,m); 2.8-3.0(3H,m); 3.3-3.4(2H,m); 3.6-3.7(1H,m); 4.0(1H,s,proton exchangeable with D <sub>2</sub> O); 6.8-6.9(2H,m); 7.0-7.1(2H,m). |
| 25 | -(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>7</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>                                   | 150-152   | S=DMSO-d6<br>0.7-0.9(3H,m); 1.1-1.3(10H,m); 1.4-1.6(2H,m); 2.5-2.6(2H,m); 3.1-3.2(2H,m); 4.2-4.3(2H,m); 6.8(1H,s); 7.0-7.1(1H,m); 7.1-7.4(3H,m).                                                       |

|    |                                                                                       |         |                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26 | $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CO}-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$                             | 185-187 | S=DMSO-d6<br>2.8-2.9(5H,m);3.2(1H,d,J=12Hz);3.3-3.4(1H,m);3.5-3.6(1H,m);6.5(1H,s, exchangeable with $\text{CF}_3\text{COOD}$ );6.7-6.9(4H,m);7.1-7.2(5H,m).          |
| 27 | $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)=\text{CH}_2$                                      | 170-172 | S=DMSO-d6<br>1.6(3H,s);2.8-2.9(2H,m);3.4-3.5(2H,m);3.9(2H,s);4.7(1H,s);4.8(1H,s);6.9-7.1(3H,m);7.3-7.4(1H,m).                                                        |
| 28 |    | 121-123 | S = DMSO-d6<br>2.5(3H,s);2.6(3H,s);3.2-3.3(2H,m);3.6(2H,s, exchangeable with $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}_2\text{D}$ );3.8-3.9(2H,m);4.8(2H,s);7.4-7.6(3H,m);7.7-7.8(1H,m). |
| 29 |    | 180-185 | S = DMSO-d6<br>2.85-3.66(6H,m);6.77-7.26(8H,m);9.06(2H,s,exchangeable $\text{CF}_3\text{COOD}$ ).                                                                    |
| 30 |  | 74-76   | S=CDCl3<br>1.6-1.4(4H,m);2.0-1.9(4H,m);3.0-2.9(2H,m);3.7-3.5(4H,m); 5.0(1H,s, exchangeable $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ );5.6(1H,s);7.1-6.8(4H,m).                           |

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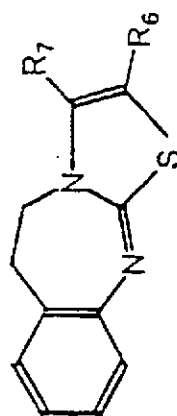
The following three compounds in Table 2 moreover illustrate the preparation of compounds of formula I in which  $X = S$ ,  $R_4 = H$ ,  $R_3 = H$ .

Table 2

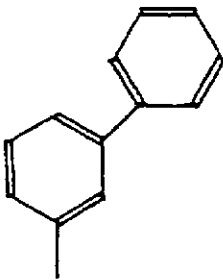
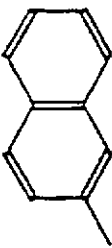
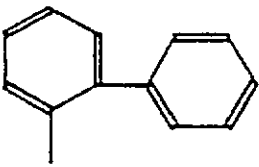
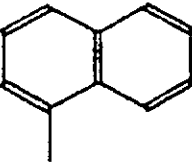


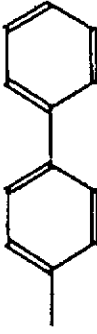
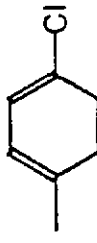
| Ex | n/R <sub>1</sub> | R <sub>2</sub>                | R <sub>5</sub>                       | m.p. (°C) | <sup>1</sup> H NMR δ(ppm)                                                                                                                                        |
|----|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 31 | 0/-              |                               |                                      | 202-204   | S = DMSO-d <sub>6</sub><br>3.4-3.2(4H,m) ; 4.4-4.3<br>(1H,m) ; 7.9-6.7 (17H, m)                                                                                  |
| 32 | 0/-              | C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> | CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -OH | 181-185   |                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 33 | 1/7-Cl           | H                             |                                      | 190-192   | S=DMSO-d <sub>6</sub><br>2.75(m,2H);2.9-<br>3.0(m,1H);3.1-<br>3.2(m,1H);3.3(d,J=12Hz,1H)<br>;3.4(d,J=12Hz,1H);6.9-<br>6.8(m,2H);7.1-<br>7.0(m,1H);7.6-7.2(m,9H). |

Table 3

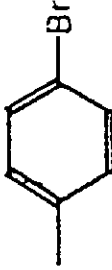
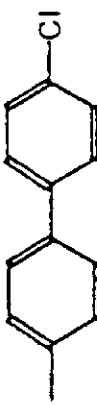
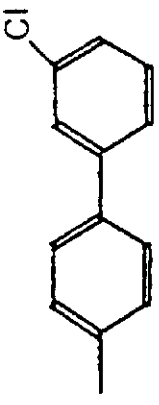


| Ex | R <sub>6</sub>   | R <sub>7</sub>                | m.p. (°C) | <sup>1</sup> HNMR: δ(ppm)                                                                                                                       |
|----|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 34 | -CH <sub>3</sub> | C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> | 112-113   | S = DMSO-d <sub>6</sub><br>2.1(3H,s); 3.1(2H,m); 3.9(2H,m); 7.3(4H,m); 7.6-7.7(5H,m).                                                           |
| 35 | -H               | -CO-Oet                       | 140-150   | S = DMSO-d <sub>6</sub><br>1.5(3H,t, J=7.1Hz); 3.5(2H,m); 4.5(2H,d, 7, 1Hz); 4.9(2H,m); 7.3-7.6(4H,m); 8.2(1H,s).                               |
| 36 | -H               |                               | 231-233   | S = DMSO-d <sub>6</sub><br>1.3(3H,t, J=7.1Hz); 4.3(2H,d, J=7.1Hz); 3.3(2H,m); 4.2(2H,m); 7.2-7.4(5H,m); 7.7(2H,d, J=8.2Hz); 8.1(2H,d, J=8.2Hz). |
| 37 | -H               | <sup>1</sup> Bu               | 112.3     | S = DMSO-d <sub>6</sub><br>1.26(9H,s); 3.1(2H,m); 4.1(2H,m); 1.95(1H,s); 6.7-7(4H,m).                                                           |

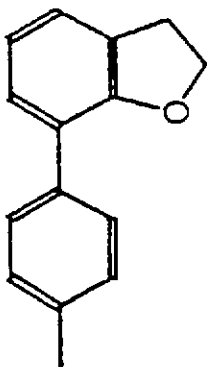
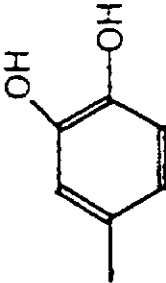
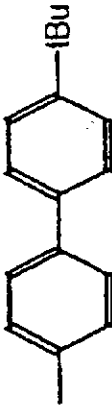
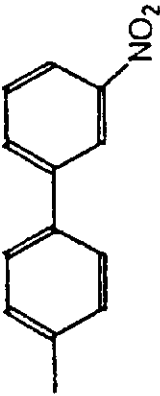
|    |       |                                                                                      |             |                                                                                                                                  |
|----|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 38 | -H    |   | 138-139     | S = DMSO-d6<br>3(2H,m) ; 4(2H,m) ;<br>6.5(1H,s);6.8(1H,t,J=7.3Hz);<br>6.9(2H,m) ; 7.1(1H,t,J=7.3Hz) ; 7.4-7.6(5H,m) ; 7.7(4H,m). |
| 39 | -H    |   | 188.5-189.5 | S = DMSO-d6<br>6.6(1H,s);6.9-7.3(4H,m) ; 7.7(3H,m) ;<br>8.1(4H,m) ; 3.1(2H,m) ; 4.1(2H,m).                                       |
| 40 | H     |   | 198.5-199   | S = CDCl3<br>2(1H,m);2.6(1H,m);3.4(2H,m);6(1H,s);<br>6.7(2H,m);7.1(2H,m);7.3-7.6(9H,m).                                          |
| 41 | -H    |  | 209.3       | S = DMSO-d6<br>2.9(2H,m);3.5(2H,m);6.4(1H,s);6.7(1H,m)<br>);6.8(1H,m);7(1H,m);7.1(1H,m);7.6(4H,m);7.7(1H,m);8(2H,m).             |
| 42 | -C6H5 | H                                                                                    | 199.5-200   | S = DMSO-d6<br>3(2H,m);4(2H,m);6.8-7.3(10H,m).                                                                                   |

|           |                        |                                                                                     |             |                                                                                                                            |
|-----------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 43        | -H                     |  | 157-158     | S = DMSO-d6<br>3.1(2H,m);4.2(2H,m);6.5(1H);6.8(1H,s);6.9-7.3(5H,m);7.7(4H,s);13.5(1H exchangeable,s).                      |
| 44<br>HCl | -H                     |  | 299.5-300   | ---                                                                                                                        |
| 45        | -CH <sub>2</sub> -COOH | -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>                                                      | 216         | ---                                                                                                                        |
| 46        | -H                     | -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>                                                      | 223-231     | S=DMSO-d6<br>3.4-3.5(2H,m);4.3-4.4(2H,m);7.3-7.5(4H,m);7.6-7.7(6H,m);<br>14 (1H,s,exchangeable with CF <sub>3</sub> COOD). |
| 47        | -H                     | 2-naphthyl                                                                          | 188.5-189.5 | -----                                                                                                                      |
| 48        | -CH <sub>3</sub>       | -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>                                                      | 112-113     |                                                                                                                            |
| 49        | -H                     |  | 154°C       | S = CDCl <sub>3</sub><br>3.04-3.08(2H,m); 3.9-3.93(2H,m);5.94(1H,s); 6.9-6.95(2H,m); 7.18-7.29(4H,m); 7.41-7.44(2H,m).     |
| 50        | -H                     | -CH <sub>3</sub>                                                                    | 194-196     | S=DMSO-d6<br>0.7(3H,s);3.3-3.4(2H,m);4.3-4.4(2H,m);7.0(1H,s); 7.1-7.2(1H,m);7.3-7.4(2H,m);7.50-7.55(1H,m).                 |
| 51        | -H                     | -CH <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>                                     | 130-132     | S=CDCl <sub>3</sub><br>2.8-2.9(2H,m);3.7(2H,s);3.7-3.5(2H,m);5.6(1H,s); 6.7-6.8(2H,m);7.0-7.3(7H,m).                       |

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|    |    |                                                                                       |         |                                                                                                                                          |
|----|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 52 | -H |    | 154°C   | S=CDCl <sub>3</sub><br>3.26-3.29(2H,m); 4.12-4.15(2H,m); 6.15(1H,s); 7.11-7.18(2H,m); 7.36-7.5(4H,m); 7.78-7.8 (2H, m)                   |
| 53 | -H |    | 189°C   | S=CDCl <sub>3</sub><br>3.04-3.07(2H,m); 3.85(3H,s); 3.96-4(2H,m); 5.92(1H,s); 6.86-7.6(12H,m).                                           |
| 54 | -H |    | 226-228 | S=DMSO-d6<br>3.0(2H,m); 3.9(2H,m); 6.4(1H,s); 6.8-7.0(4H,m); 7.5-7.6(4H,m); 7.7-7.8(4H,m).                                               |
| 55 | -H |    | 201°C   | S=CDCl <sub>3</sub><br>2.88-2.91(2H,m); 3.79-3.82(2H,m); 5.79(1H,s); 6.68-6.77(2H,m); 6.96-7.02(2H,m); 7.07-7.26(2H,m); 7.46-7.56(6H,m). |
| 56 | -H |    | 213     | S=CDCl <sub>3</sub><br>2.58(3H,s); 3.24(2H,t; J=4.6Hz); 4.16(2H,t; J=4.6Hz); 6.11(1H,s); 7.02-7.12(2H,m); 7.31-7.81(10H,m).              |
| 57 | -H |  | 174-175 | S=CDCl <sub>3</sub><br>3.23(2H,q; J=2.33Hz); 4.14(2H,q; J=2.33Hz); 6.14(1H,s); 7.07-7.09(2H,m); 7.34-7.79(10H,m).                        |

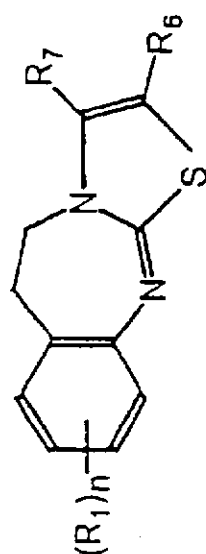
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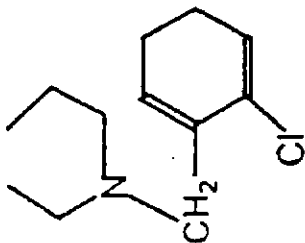
|    |    |                                                                                      |         |                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 58 | -H |   | 173     | S=CDCl <sub>3</sub><br>3.08(2H,t,J=4.6Hz); 3.32(2H,t,J=8.75Hz);<br>4.02(2H,t,J=4.6Hz); 4.67(2H,t,J=8.78Hz);<br>5.96(1H,s); 6.88-7.01(3H,m); 7.2-7.4(6H,m); 7.77-7.86(2H,m). |
| 59 | -H |   | 183-185 | S=DMSO-d <sub>6</sub><br>3.11-3.12(2H,m); 3.98-4.01(2H,m); 6.28(1H,s); 6.81-7.23(7H,m); 9.4(2H,s; exchangeable CF <sub>3</sub> COOD).                                       |
| 60 | -H |   | 176     | S=CDCl <sub>3</sub><br>1.52(9H,s); 3.21(2H,q,J=2.3Hz); 4.14(2H,q,J=2.3Hz); 6.09(1H,s); 7-7.07(2H,m); 7-32-7.8(10H,m).                                                       |
| 61 | -H |  | 120-123 | S = CDCl <sub>3</sub><br>3.15(2H,t,J=4.65Hz); 4.07(2H,t,J=4.65 Hz); 6.08(1H,s); 6.96-8.54(12H,m).                                                                           |

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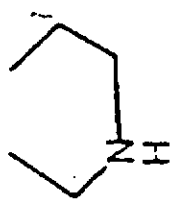
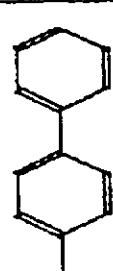
Table 4 below also illustrates the preparation of compounds corresponding to the following formula:

Table 4



| Ex | n/R <sub>1</sub> | R <sub>6</sub>                                                                       | R <sub>7</sub>                                      | m.p. (°C) | <sup>1</sup> HNMR:δ(ppm) |
|----|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| 62 | O/-              | CH <sub>2</sub> -CO-OEt                                                              | -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>                      | 192-193   | -                        |
| 63 | O/-              | -H                                                                                   | -CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -NEt <sub>2</sub> | 104-106   | -                        |
| 64 | O/-              |  |                                                     | 223-225   | -                        |

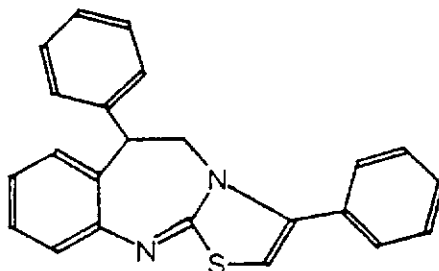
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|    |        |                                                                                     |         |                                                                                                                  |
|----|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 65 | 0/-    |  | 299-301 | -----                                                                                                            |
| 66 | 1/7-Cl |  | 190-192 | S=CDCl <sub>3</sub><br>3.0-2.9(2H,m);<br>3.9-3.8 (2H,m);<br>5.9(1H,s);6.8(1H,m);<br>7.1-6.9(2H,m);7.6-7.3(9H,m). |

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**EXAMPLE 66**

Using the processes illustrated in the preceding examples, the compound of formula:



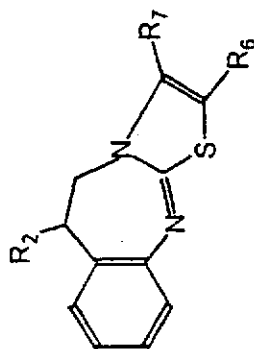
5

which has a melting point of 184-185°C, is prepared.

The invention also relates to pharmaceutical compositions containing an effective amount of at least  
10 one compound of formula I as defined above in combination with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

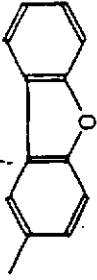
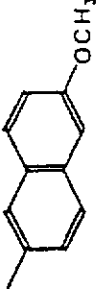
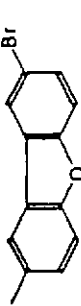
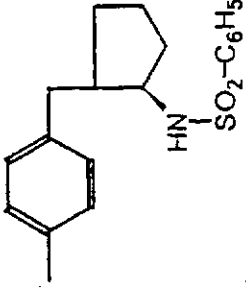
According to another of its aspects, the invention relates to the use of a compound of formula I  
15 as defined above for the preparation of a medicinal product for preventing or treating dyslipidaemia, atherosclerosis and diabetes or its complications.

TABLE 5

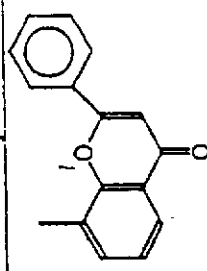
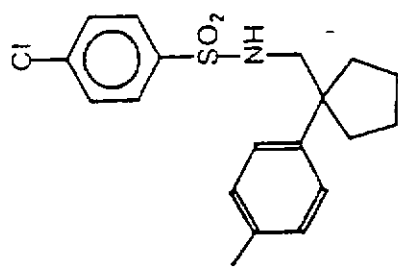
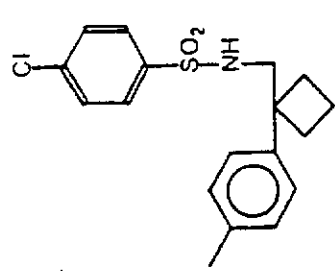


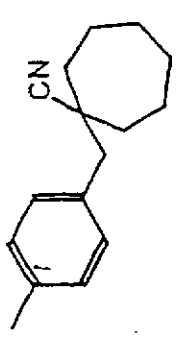
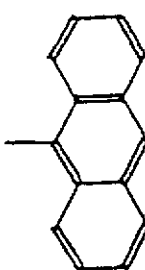
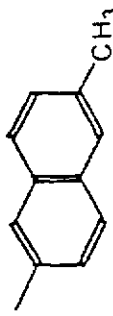
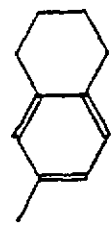
| Example | R <sub>2</sub> | R <sub>7</sub>            | R <sub>6</sub> | Characterization data                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|---------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 67      | H              | 4-phenoxyphenyl           | H              | m.p.: 204 - 205 °C<br>NMR 300 MHz (DMSO) : 3.2 (2 H, m) ; 4.1 (2 H, m) ; 6.3 (1 H, s) ; 6.8 - 6.9 (2 H, m) ; 6.9 - 7.0 (2 H, m) ; 7.1 - 7.2 (4 H, m) ; 7.2 - 7.3 (1 H, m) ; 7.4 - 7.5 (4 H, m)<br>MS : 371.3 (ES+)                              |
| 68, HCl | H              | 4-(p-chlorobenzoyl)phenyl | H              | m.p.: 253 - 255 °C<br>NMR 300 MHz (DMSO) : 3.2 (2 H, m) ; 4.2 (2 H, m) ; 7.1 - 7.5 (5 H, m) ; 7.68 (2 H, d, J = 8.7 Hz) ; 7.73 (2 H, d, J = 8.7 Hz) ; 7.81 (2 H, d, J = 8.7 Hz) ; 7.89 (2 H, d, J = 8.7 Hz) ; 12.9 (1 H, s)<br>MS : 417.3 (ES+) |
| 69, HCl | H              | 3,4-ethylenedioxyphenyl   | H              | NMR 300 MHz (DMSO) : 3.2 - 3.3 (2 H, m) ; 4.1 - 4.2 (2 H, m) ; 4.3 (4 H, s) ; 6.9 - 7.0 (3 H, m) ; 7.1 - 7.2 (2 H, m) ; 7.2 - 7.3 (1 H, m) ; 7.3 - 7.4 (2 H, m) ; 13.0 (1 H, s)<br>MS : 337.3 (ES+)                                             |

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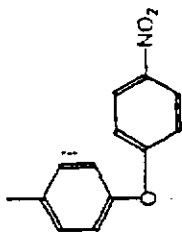
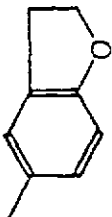
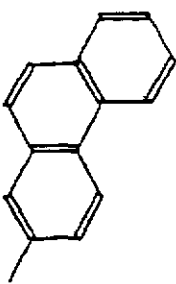
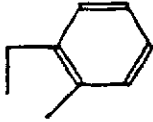
|         |   |                                                                                      |   |                        |
|---------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| 70, HCl | H | 4-cyanophenyl                                                                        | H | MS : 304 (ES+)         |
| 71, HCl | H | 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl                                                             | H | MS : 322.8 (ES+)       |
| 72, HCl | H |   | H | MS : 368.8 (ES+)       |
| 73, HCl | H |   | H | MS : 358.8 (ES+)       |
| 74, HCl | H | 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl                                                               | H | MS : 369 (ES+)         |
| 75, HCl | H |   | H | MS : 367 (ES+)         |
| 76, HCl | H |   | H | MS : 447 and 449 (ES+) |
| 77, HCl | H |  | H | MS : 516 (ES+)         |
| 78, HCl | H | 3-cyanophenyl                                                                        | H | MS : 304 (ES+)         |

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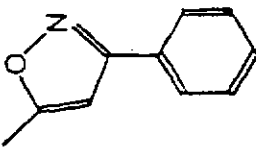
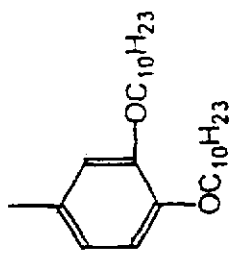
|         |   |                                                                                      |   |                                                                                          |
|---------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 79, HCl | H | benzothien-3-yl                                                                      | H | MS : 335 (ES+)<br>MS : 440.8 (ES+) (+H <sub>2</sub> O) ; 438.8 (ES-) (+H <sub>2</sub> O) |
| 80, HCl | H |   | H |                                                                                          |
| 81, HCl | H |   | H | MS : 550, 551, 552 and 553 (ES+)                                                         |
| 82, HCl | H |  | H | MS : 536, 537, 538 and 539 (ES+) ; 534, 535, 536 and 537 (ES-)                           |

|         |   |                                                                                       |   |                  |
|---------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------|
| 83, HCl | H |    | H | MS : 414 (ES+)   |
| 84, HCl | H | 4-carboxymethyl                                                                       | H | MS : 337 (ES+)   |
| 85, HCl | H |    | H | MS : 379 (ES+)   |
| 86, HCl | H |    | H | MS : 343.2 (ES+) |
| 87, HCl | H | 4-methylthiophenyl                                                                    | H | MS : 325.2 (ES+) |
| 88, HCl | H |  | H | MS : 333.2 (ES+) |
| 89, HCl | H | 3-(phenylsulphonyl)phenyl                                                             | H | MS : 419.2 (ES+) |
| 90, HCl | H | 2-trifluoromethoxyphenyl                                                              | H | MS : 363.1 (ES+) |

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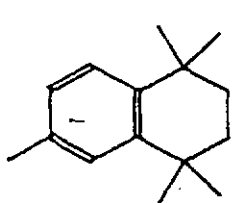
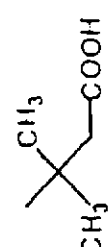
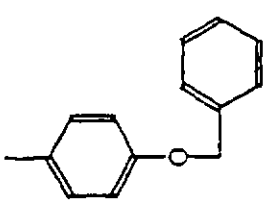
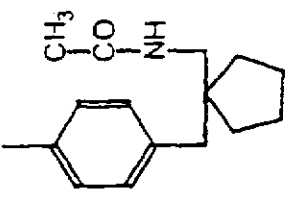
|         |   |                                                                                                                                                                                      |   |                  |
|---------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------|
| 91, HCl | H |                                                                                                   | H | MS : 416.2 (ES+) |
| 92, HCl | H |                                                                                                   | H | MS : 321.2 (ES+) |
| 93, HCl | H | 4-(hydroxyethoxy)phenyl                                                                                                                                                              | H | MS : 339.1 (ES+) |
| 94, HCl | H |                                                                                                   | H | MS : 379.2 (ES+) |
| 95, HCl | H | 3-nitro-4-phenylthiophenyl                                                                                                                                                           | H | MS : 432.1 (ES+) |
| 96, HCl | H | <p><math>R_6 + R_7 =</math></p>  <p>the <math>SP_3</math> carbon atom<br/>being linked to CS</p> |   | MS : 291.1 (ES+) |

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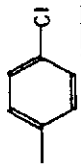
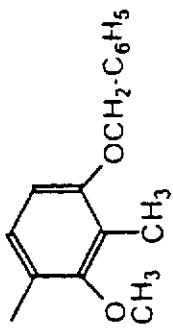
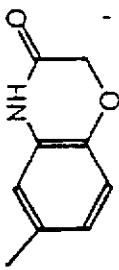
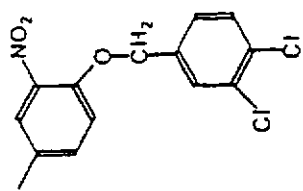
|          |   |                                                                                      |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 97, HCl  | H | 4-(difluoromethoxy)phenyl                                                            | H | F = 278.5 - 279 °C<br>NMR 300 MHz (CDCl <sub>3</sub> ) : 3.1 - 3.3 (2 H, m)<br>; 4.1 - 4.3 (2 H, m) ; 6.7 (1 H, t, J = 72.6 Hz)<br>; 7.1 - 7.6 (8 H, m) ; 8.1 (1 H, d, J = 8.7 Hz)<br>; 14.7 (1 H, s)<br>MS : 345.1 (ES+) |
| 98, HCl  | H | 3-methylbenzothien-2-yl                                                              | H | MS : 349.1 (ES+)                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 99, HCl  | H |   | H | MS : 346.1 (ES+)                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 100      | H |  | H | MS : 591.4 (ES+)                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 101, HCl | H | 4-phenylsulphonyl)phenyl                                                             | H | MS : 419.1 (ES+)                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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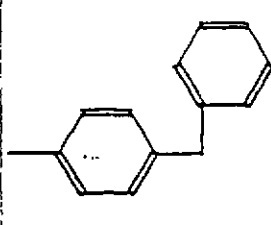
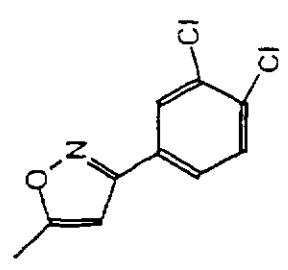
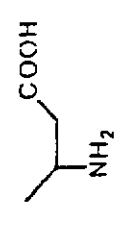
|          |    |                                                                                      |   |                  |  |
|----------|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------|--|
| 102      | H  |   | H | MS : 389.2 (ES+) |  |
| 103, HCl | H  |   | H | MS : 303.1 (ES+) |  |
| 104      | H  |   | H | MS : 383.4 (ES-) |  |
| 105      | 11 |  | H | MS : 432.5 (ES+) |  |

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|     |   |                                                                                      |                                                                                    |                               |
|-----|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 106 | H | 4-(diethylamino)phenyl                                                               | H                                                                                  | MS : 350.4 (ES+)              |
| 107 | H | phenyl                                                                               |  | MS : 389 (ES+)                |
| 108 | H | 4-morpholinophenyl                                                                   | H                                                                                  | MS : 364.4 (ES+)              |
| 109 | H |   | H                                                                                  | MS : 429.3 (ES+)              |
| 110 | H |   | H                                                                                  | MS : 350.3 (ES+), 348.3 (ES-) |
| 111 | H |  | H                                                                                  | MS : 498.1 et 500.1 (ES+)     |

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|     |   |   |                                                                                       |   |                                      |
|-----|---|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 112 | H | H |    | H | MS : 369.4 (ES+)                     |
| 113 | H | H |    | H | MS : 337.4 (ES+), 335.4 (ES-)        |
| 114 | H | H | 4-pyrrolidinophenyl                                                                   | H | MS : 348.2 (ES+)                     |
| 115 | H | H |   | H | MS : 432.1 (ES+) (+H <sub>2</sub> O) |
| 116 | H | H |  | H | MS : 290.2 (ES+), 288.3 (ES-)        |

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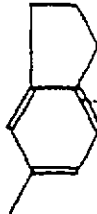
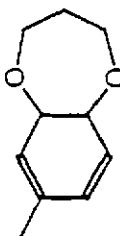
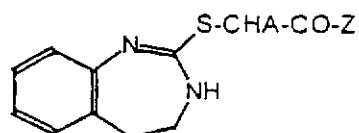
|          |   |                                                                                     |   |                               |  |
|----------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| 117      | H |  | H | MS : 319.2 (ES+), 317.3 (ES-) |  |
| 118, HCl | H |  | H | MS : 351.1 (ES+)              |  |
| 119      | H |  | H | MS : 353.3 (ES+)              |  |

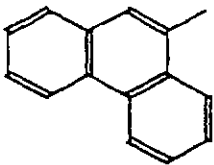
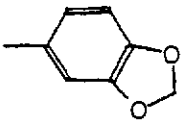
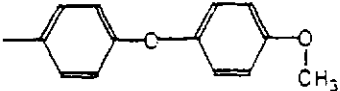
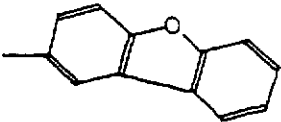
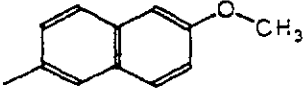
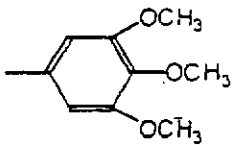
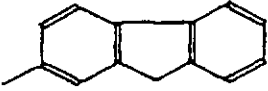
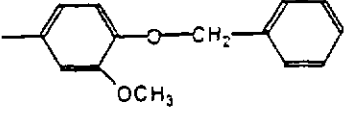
TABLE 6

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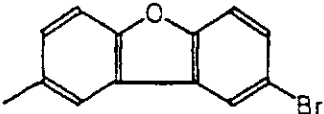
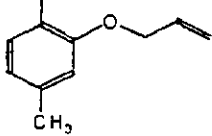
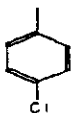
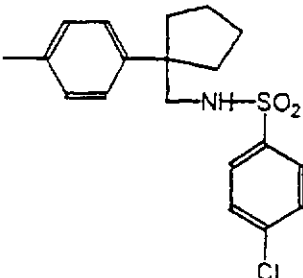
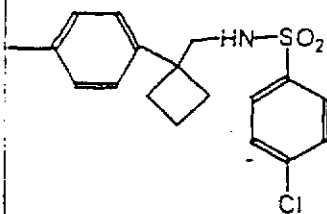
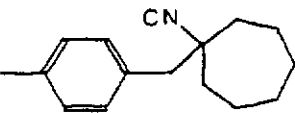


| Example | A                              | Z                              | Characterization data                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 120     | H                              |                                | m.p.= 198° C<br>NMR 300 MHz (DMSO) : 2.8-2.9(2H,m) ; 3.0-3.1(1H,m) ; 3.2-3.3(1H,m); 3.4-3.6(2H,m) ; 6.8-6.9(1H,m); 6.9-7.2(9H,m) ; 7.4-7.5(2H,m) ; 7.5-7.6(2H,m)<br>MS : 387.3 (ES-)                                                                        |
| 121     | H                              |                                | m.p.= 232 -233 °C<br>NMR 300 MHz (DMSO) : 2.5 (2 H, m) ; 2.8 (1 H, m) ; 3.1 (1 H, m) ; 3.2 - 3.4 (2 H, m) ; 6.8 - 6.9 (1 H, m) ; 6.9 - 7.0 (2 H, m) ; 7.0 - 7.2 (1 H, m) ; 7.3 - 7.4 (1 H, s) ; 7.6 - 7.7 (2 H, m) ; 7.7 - 7.8 (6 H, m)<br>MS : 435.4 (ES+) |
| 122     | H                              | 4-trifluoromethylphenyl        | MS : 365.2 (ES+)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 123     | H                              | 4-cyanophenyl                  | MS : 322.2 (ES+)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 124     | -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> | -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> | MS : 373.3 (ES+)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 125     | -CH <sub>3</sub>               | -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> | NMR 300 MHz (DMSO) : 1.1 (3 H, d, J = 7.2 Hz) ; 2.8 - 3.0 (2 H, m) ; 3.0 - 3.3 (2 H, m) ; 3.9 (1 H, q, J = 7.2 Hz) ; 6.8 - 7.2 (5 H, m) ; 7.3 - 7.6 (5 H, m)<br>MS : 311.3 (ES+)                                                                            |
| 126     | H                              |                                | MS : 440.8 (ES+)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

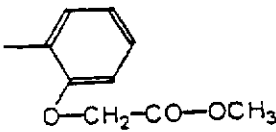
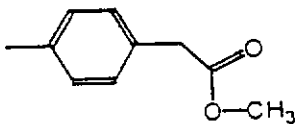
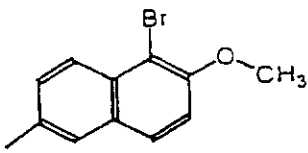
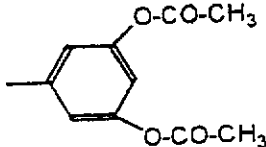
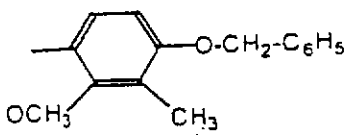
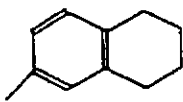
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|     |   |                                                                                     |                  |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 127 | H |    | MS : 394.8 (ES-) |
| 128 | H |    | MS : 340.7 (ES+) |
| 129 | H |    | MS : 416.9 (ES-) |
| 130 | H |    | MS : 386.8 (ES+) |
| 131 | H |  | MS : 376.8 (ES+) |
| 132 | H |  | MS : 387 (ES+)   |
| 133 | H |  | MS : 385 (ES+)   |
| 134 | H |  | MS : 433 (ES+)   |

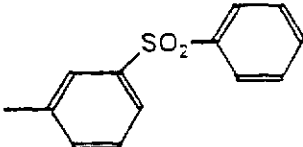
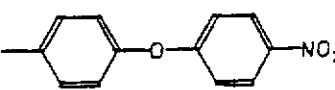
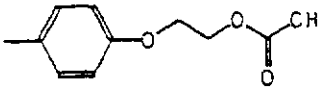
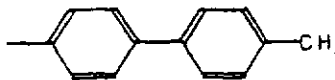
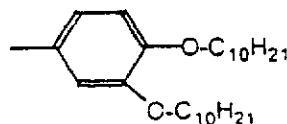
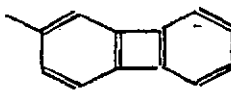
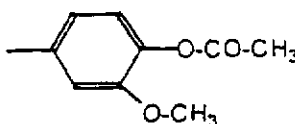
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|     |                                                                                   |                                                                                     |                                                                |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 135 | H                                                                                 | 4-carboxymethylphenyl                                                               | MS : 355 (ES+)                                                 |
| 136 | H                                                                                 |    | MS : 465 and 467 (ES+)                                         |
| 137 | H                                                                                 |    | MS : 367 (ES+)                                                 |
| 138 | H                                                                                 | 4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl                                                            | MS : 445 (ES+)                                                 |
| 139 |  | -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>                                                      | MS : 407 (ES+)                                                 |
| 140 | H                                                                                 | benzothien-3-yl                                                                     | MS : 353 (ES+)                                                 |
| 141 | H                                                                                 |   | MS : 568, 569, 570 and 571 (ES+)                               |
| 142 | H                                                                                 |  | MS : 554, 555, 556 and 557 (ES+) ; 552, 553, 554 and 555 (ES-) |
| 143 | H                                                                                 | 4-cyanomethylphenyl                                                                 | MS : 336 (ES+), 334 (ES-)                                      |
| 144 | H                                                                                 |  | MS : 432 (ES+)                                                 |

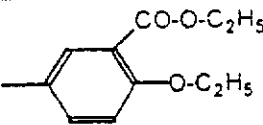
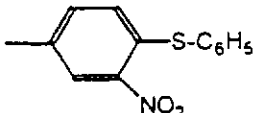
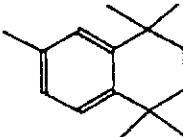
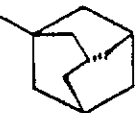
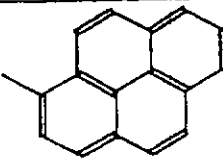
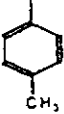
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|     |   |                                                                                     |                                             |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 145 | H |    | MS : 385 (ES+); 429 (+ HCOOH) and 383 (ES-) |
| 146 | H |    | MS : 369 (ES+), 367 (ES-)                   |
| 147 | H |    | MS : 455 and 457 (ES+)                      |
| 148 | H | 4-morpholinophenyl                                                                  | MS : 382 (ES+)                              |
| 149 | H |   | MS : 413.5 and 454.5 (+CH3CN) (ES+)         |
| 150 | H |  | MS : 447 (ES+)                              |
| 151 | H | 4-methylthiophenyl                                                                  | MS : 343.2 (ES+)                            |
| 152 | H | 2-chlorothiophenyl                                                                  | MS : 337.1 (ES+), 335.1 (ES-)               |
| 153 | H |  | MS : 351.2 (ES+), 349.2 (ES-)               |

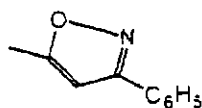
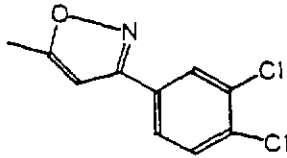
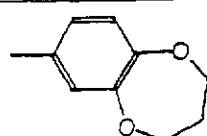
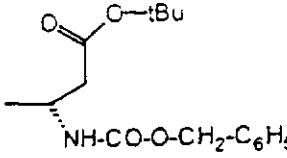
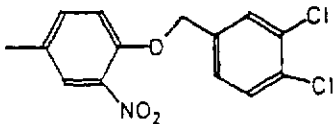
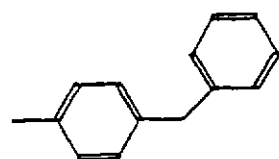
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|     |   |                                                                                     |                                                |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 154 | H |    | MS : 437.2 (ES+)                               |
| 155 | H | 2-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl                                                           | MS : 381.2 (ES+)                               |
| 156 | H |    | MS : 434.2 (ES+), 432.2 (ES-)                  |
| 157 | H |    | MS : 399.3 (ES+), 397.4 (ES-)                  |
| 158 | H |    | MS : 367.4 (ES+), 385.4 (ES-)                  |
| 159 | H |  | MS : 609.6 (ES+), 607.6 (ES-)                  |
| 160 | H |  | MS : 371.3, 372.3 and 373.3 (ES+); 369.4 (ES-) |
| 161 | H |  | MS : 385.3, 386.4 and 387.4 (ES+); 383.4 (ES-) |

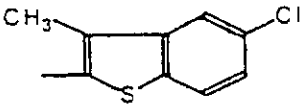
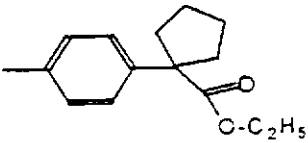
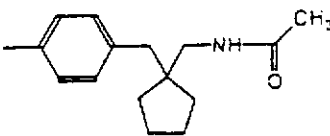
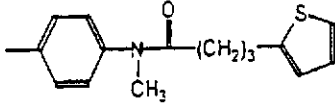
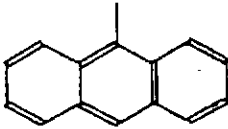
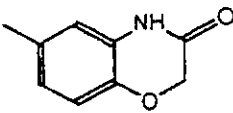
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|     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                    |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 162 | H                                                                                   |    | MS : 413.4 (ES+), 411.4 (ES-)                      |
| 163 | H                                                                                   |    | MS : 450.3 (ES+), 448.4 (ES-)                      |
| 164 | H                                                                                   |    | MS : 407.4 (ES+), 405.5 (ES-)                      |
| 165 | H                                                                                   |    | MS : 355.4 (ES+), 353.4 (ES-)                      |
| 166 | H                                                                                   | $\text{—C(CH}_3)_2\text{—CH}_2\text{—CO—O—C}_2\text{H}_5$                           | MS : 349.4, 350.4 and 351.4 (ES+), 347.4 (ES-)     |
| 167 | H                                                                                   |  | MS : 421.4 (ES+), 419.4 (ES-)                      |
| 168 | CH <sub>3</sub>                                                                     | 4-bromophenyl                                                                       | MS : 389.3 and 391.3 (ES+) ; 387.3 and 389.3 (ES-) |
| 169 | H                                                                                   | pentafluoroethyl                                                                    | MS : 339.3 (ES+), 337.3 (ES-)                      |
| 170 | H                                                                                   | 4-pyrrolidinophenyl                                                                 | MS : 366.4 (ES+), 364.4 (ES-)                      |
| 171 | H                                                                                   | 4-(difluoromethoxy)phenyl                                                           | MS : 363.3 (ES+), 361.3 (ES-)                      |
| 172 | -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>                                                      | 4-chlorophenyl                                                                      | MS : 407.3 (ES+), 405.3 (ES-)                      |
| 173 |  | 4-chlorophenyl                                                                      | MS : 421.3 (ES+) ; 419.4 (ES-)                     |
| 174 | -CH <sub>3</sub>                                                                    | 3-chloro-4-methylphenyl                                                             | MS : 359.3 (ES+), 357.3 (ES-)                      |

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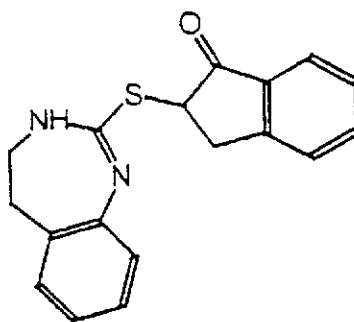
|     |   |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 175 | H | 3-methylbenzothien-2-yl                                                             | MS : 365.3 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 176 | H |    | MS : 364.3 (ES+), 362.3 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 177 | H |    | MS : 433.2 (ES+)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 178 | H |    | MS : 369.3 (ES+), 367.4 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 179 | H |    | MS : 498.4 (ES+)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 180 | H | 4-cyclohexylphenyl                                                                  | MS : 379.4 (ES+), 377.4 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 181 | H |  | NMR 300 MHz (DMSO) :<br>2.8 - 2.9 (2 H, m) ; 3.0 - 3.4 (2 H, m) ; 3.4 - 3.6 (2 H, m) ; 5.4 (2 H, s) ; 6.8 - 6.9 (1 H, m) ; 6.9 - 7.0 (2 H, m) ; 7.1 - 7.2 (1 H, m) ; 7.4 - 7.5 (3 H, m) ; 7.6 - 7.8 (3 H, m) ; 8.0 - 8.1 (1 H, m)<br>MS : 517.3 (ES+), 514.3 (ES-) |
| 182 | H | 4-trifluoromethylthiophenyl                                                         | MS : 397.3 (ES+), 395.3 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 183 | H |  | MS : 387.4 (ES+), 385.4 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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|     |                  |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 184 | -H               |    | NMR 300 MHz (DMSO) :<br>2.4 (3 H, s) ; 2.8 - 2.9 (2 H, m) ; 3.1 - 3.4 (2 H, m) ; 3.4 - 3.7 (2 H, m) ; 6.8 - 7.2 (4 H, m) ; 7.4 - 7.5 (1 H, m) ; 7.7 - 7.8 (2 H, m) ; 7.9 - 8.0 (1 H, m)<br>MS : 401.3 (ES+) ; 399.3 (ES-) |
| 185 | -CH <sub>3</sub> | 4-fluorophenyl                                                                      | MS : 329.3 (ES+) ; 327.3 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 186 | H                |    | MS : 437.5 (ES+), 435.5 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 187 | H                |    | MS : 450.5 (ES+), 448.5 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 188 | H                |  | MS : 478.4 (ES+), 476.4 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 189 | H                |  | MS : 397.1 (ES+), 395.0 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 190 | H                |  | MS : 368.2 (ES+), 366.2 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 191 | H                | 4-methylcarbonylaminophenyl                                                         | MS : 354.2 (ES+), 352.2 (ES-)                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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EXAMPLE 192

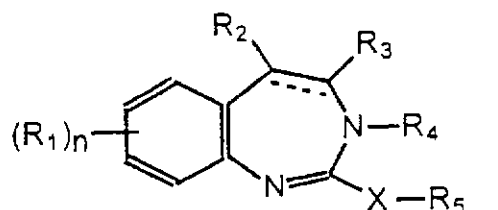


5 MS: 309.3, 310.3 and 311.3 (ES+), 307.3 (ES-)

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CLAIMS

1. Benzodiazepine derivative of formula I:



5

in which

the dashed lines indicate the possible presence of a double bond;

10  $R_1$  represents optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkoxy, halogen, nitro, hydroxyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl (optionally substituted with optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy, halogen, nitro or  
15 hydroxyl);

$n$  represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

$R_2$  and  $R_3$  represent, independently of each other, hydrogen; optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkoxy; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl;  
20 heteroaryl; heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryloxy; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy; heteroaryloxy; or heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy; in which the aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals are optionally substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated  
25 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl, nitro and hydroxyl;

$R_4$  represents hydrogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl, the said aryl group optionally being substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated  
30 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl, nitro or hydroxyl;

$X$  represents S, O or -NT in which T represents a hydrogen atom, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl,

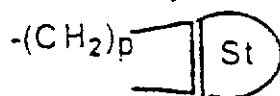
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(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)arylcarbonyl;  
R<sub>5</sub> represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl;  
hydroxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl;  
(C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)cycloalkyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)cycloalkenyl-  
5 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl optionally  
substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined  
below; (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)cycloalkyl optionally substituted with  
oxo and optionally fused to (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl, the assembly  
10 optionally being substituted with one or more  
substituents Su as defined below; a group -CH<sub>2</sub>-CR<sub>a</sub>=CR<sub>b</sub>R<sub>c</sub>  
(in which R<sub>a</sub>, R<sub>b</sub> and R<sub>c</sub> are chosen, independently, from  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkenyl, hydrogen and  
(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl); a group -CHA-CO-Z (in which Z represents  
optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; optionally  
15 halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkoxy; (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)cycloalkyl;  
(C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)cycloalkyl optionally substituted with oxo and  
optionally fused to (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl;  
(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy-  
carbonylamino(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl in which alkyl is optionally  
20 substituted with (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl-  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl fused to an  
unsaturated heterocycle optionally substituted with  
oxo; or heteroaryl;  
25 the aryl, heterocycle, cycloalkyl and heteroaryl  
portions of these radicals optionally being substituted  
with halogen; hydroxyl; optionally halogenated  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy;  
nitro; cyano; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkylenedioxy; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkylene;  
30 carboxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkenyloxy; optionally  
halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkylsulphonyloxy; cyano(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-  
alkyl; -Cy-alk-NH-SO<sub>2</sub>-Ar in which alk represents  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl, Cy represents (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)cycloalkyl  
optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su  
35 as defined below and Ar represents (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl  
optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su  
as defined below; -alk-Cy in which alk and Cy are as

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defined above; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; saturated hetero-  
cycle optionally substituted with one or more  
substituents Su as defined below;

- 5 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkylcarbonyloxy; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkylcarbonylamino;  
optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkylthio; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl-  
carbonyloxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy; a group of formula:



- 10 in which p = 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and in which St is  
(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl optionally substituted with one or more  
substituents Su as defined below;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)arylthio optionally  
substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined  
15 below; (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)cycloalkyl optionally substituted with  
one or more substituents Su as defined below;  
-Cy-CO-O-alk in which alk and Cy are as defined above;  
-alk-Cy-alk'-NH-CO-alk" in which alk and Cy are as  
defined above, alk' and alk" represent, independently  
20 of each other, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; -NR<sup>o</sup>-CO-alk'-Het in which  
alk' is as defined above, R<sup>o</sup> represents H or  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl and Het represents heteroaryl optionally  
substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined  
below; di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxyphosphoryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; or  
25 (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl optionally substituted with one or more  
substituents Su as defined below; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryloxy  
optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su  
as defined below; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl fused to an unsaturated  
heterocycle optionally substituted on the heterocycle  
30 portion with oxo, the assembly optionally being  
substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined  
below; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy optionally substituted  
with one or more substituents Su as defined below;  
(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)arylsulphonyl optionally substituted with one or  
35 more substituents Su as defined below;  
(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl in which aryl is optionally

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substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined below; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)arylcarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined below; and

5 A represents a hydrogen atom, a (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl group optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl};

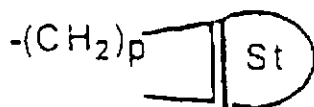
or alternatively R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form a group -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>- in which CR<sub>6</sub> is linked to X and in which:

10 R<sub>6</sub> represents a hydrogen atom; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)cycloalkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl; carboxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; heteroaryl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; and heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; in which the aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals are optionally substituted with (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl,  
15 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy, hydroxyl, nitro, halogen or di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxyphosphoryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl;

R<sub>7</sub> represents a hydrogen atom; hydroxyl; di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkylamino(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; carboxyl; carboxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl optionally  
20 substituted with amino; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl; heteroaryl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; or heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)aryl fused to an unsaturated heterocycle, optionally substituted on the heterocycle portion with oxo; (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)cycloalkyl;

25 in which the aryl, heterocycle, cycloalkyl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals are optionally substituted with halogen; hydroxyl; hydroxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy; optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl; optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy;  
30 carboxyl; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl; nitro; cyano; cyano(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkylcarbonyloxy; (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkylene; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkylenedioxy; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkylthio; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)arylthio optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined above;  
35 di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkylamino; a group of formula:

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in which  $p = 0, 1, 2, 3$  or  $4$  and in which St represents  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{18})\text{aryl}$ ;  $-\text{alk-Cy-NH-SO}_2\text{-Ar}$  in which alk represents  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12})\text{alkyl}$ , Cy represents  $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{12})\text{cycloalkyl}$  optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined below and Ar represents  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{18})\text{aryl}$  optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined below;  $-\text{Cy-alk-NH-SO}_2\text{-Ar}$  in which Cy, alk and Ar are as defined above;  $-\text{alk-Cy}$  in which alk and Cy are as defined above;  $-\text{alk-Cy-alk'-NH-CO-alk''}$  in which alk and Cy are as defined above and alk' and alk'' represent, independently,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12})\text{alkyl}$ ;  $\text{di}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12})\text{alkoxyphosphoryl}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12})\text{alkyl}$ ;  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{18})\text{aryl}$  optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined below;  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{18})\text{aryloxy}$  optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined below;  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{18})\text{arylcarbonyl}$  optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined below;  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{18})\text{arylsulphonyl}$  optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined below;  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{18})\text{aryl}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12})\text{alkoxy}$  in which the aryl portion is optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined below; saturated heterocycle optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined below;  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{18})\text{aryl}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12})\text{alkyl}$  optionally substituted with one or more substituents Su as defined below;

Su is chosen from hydroxyl, halogen, cyano, nitro, optionally halogenated  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12})\text{alkyl}$  and optionally halogenated  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12})\text{alkoxy}$ ;

or alternatively  $\text{R}_6$  and  $\text{R}_7$  together form a  $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{12}$  alkylene chain optionally interrupted with a nitrogen atom which is optionally substituted with  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12})\text{alkyl}$  or  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{18})\text{aryl}$  or  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{18})\text{aryl}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12})\text{alkyl}$ , the ring formed by  $\text{CR}_6=\text{CR}_7$  optionally being fused to  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{18})\text{aryl}$

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(the aryl portions of these radicals optionally being substituted with halogen, nitro, hydroxyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkyl or optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy);

5 and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with acids or bases,

it being understood that the compounds correspond to one of the definitions (a) to (e) below are excluded from the context of the invention:

10 (a) X = S; n = 0; R<sub>2</sub> represents methyl and R<sub>3</sub> represents a hydrogen atom; R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form a group -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>- in which CR<sub>6</sub> is linked to X, R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> together form a -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>- or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>- chain or alternatively R<sub>6</sub> represents a hydrogen atom or a  
15 propyl group and R<sub>7</sub> is a phenyl group optionally substituted with -OCH<sub>3</sub> or a hydroxyl group;

(b) n = 0 or 2; X = S; R<sub>2</sub> = R<sub>3</sub> = R<sub>4</sub> = H; R<sub>5</sub> = CH<sub>3</sub>;

(c) n = 0; R<sub>2</sub> = H; R<sub>3</sub> = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>; R<sub>4</sub> = H or CH<sub>3</sub>; X = S; R<sub>5</sub> = CH<sub>3</sub>;

20 (d) n = 0 or 1; R<sub>2</sub> = optionally substituted phenyl; R<sub>3</sub> = R<sub>4</sub> = H; X = NT; T = H or CH<sub>3</sub>; R<sub>5</sub> represents optionally substituted benzyl, CH<sub>3</sub> or phenethyl;

(e) n = 0; R<sub>2</sub> = R<sub>3</sub> = R<sub>4</sub> = H; X = NH; R<sub>5</sub> represents benzyl, phenethyl, hydroxyethyl or  
25 3,4-dimethoxyphenethyl.

2. Compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that X represents -NT in which T is as defined in Claim 1 and R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>.

3. Compound according to Claim 1 or Claim 2,  
30 characterized in that R<sub>3</sub> represents a hydrogen atom.

4. Compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that R<sub>2</sub> represents a hydrogen atom or a (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl group optionally substituted with halogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, optionally halogenated  
35 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, nitro and hydroxyl.

5. Compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that n is 0 or 1 and R<sub>1</sub> represents a

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halogen atom.

6. Compound according to any one of Claims 1 and 3 to 5, characterized in that X represents S;

R<sub>4</sub> represents a hydrogen atom;

5 R<sub>5</sub> represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; hydroxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)cycloalkenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; or isoxazolyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl optionally substituted with one or more (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyls; -CH<sub>2</sub>-CR<sub>a</sub>=CR<sub>b</sub>R<sub>c</sub> in which R<sub>a</sub> is a hydrogen atom, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl, R<sub>b</sub> is  
10 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or a hydrogen atom and R<sub>c</sub> represents a hydrogen atom or (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)alkenyl; a group -CH<sub>2</sub>-CO-Z in which Z represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl optionally fused to a 5- to 7-membered  
15 aromatic or unsaturated heterocycle; the aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals optionally being substituted with halogen, hydroxyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, nitro or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl (optionally substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated  
20 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy or nitro);

or alternatively R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form a group -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>- in which

R<sub>6</sub> represents a hydrogen atom, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl (optionally substituted with halogen, hydroxyl, nitro, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy),  
25 carboxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy-carbonyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; and

R<sub>7</sub> represents a hydrogen atom; hydroxyl; di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkylamino(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)alkyl;  
30 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl; heteroaryl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; the aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals optionally being substituted with (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl, halogen, hydroxyl,  
35 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl, (this radical optionally being substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy or nitro) or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl

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fused to a 5- to 7-membered aromatic or unsaturated heterocycle comprising one, two or three endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S; or alternatively R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> together form an alkylene chain interrupted with a nitrogen atom optionally substituted with (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl in which the aryl portion is optionally substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, hydroxyl or nitro.

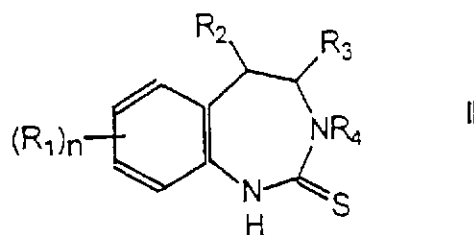
7. Compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that X represents -NT; and R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form a group -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>- in which R<sub>6</sub> represents a hydrogen atom and R<sub>7</sub> represents hydroxyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl optionally substituted with halogen, nitro, hydroxyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy.

8. Compound according to Claim 1, chosen from:  
 3-(biphenyl-4-yl)-5,6-dihydrothiazolo[2,3-b]-1,3-benzodiazepine;  
 3-(2-furyl)-5,6-dihydrothiazolo[2,3-b]-1,3-benzodiazepine;  
 3-[4-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl]-5,6-dihydrothiazolo-[2,3-b]-1,3-benzodiazepine;  
 1-(2-furyl)-2-(4,5-dihydro-3H-1,3-benzodiazepine-2-ylsulphamyl)ethanone;  
 1-(biphenyl-4-yl)-2-(4,5-dihydro-3H-1,3-benzodiazepine-2-ylsulphamyl)ethanone;  
 3-(biphenyl-3-yl)-5,6-dihydrothiazolo[2,3-b]-1,3-benzodiazepine;  
 1-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-2-(4,5-dihydro-3H-1,3-benzodiazepine-2-ylsulphamyl)ethanone;  
 3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-5,6-dihydrothiazolo[2,3-b]-1,3-benzodiazepine; and  
 3-(biphenyl-4-yl)-7-chloro-5,6-dihydrothiazolo[2,3-b]-1,3-benzodiazepine.

9. Process for preparing a compound of formula I according to Claim 1, in which X represents S; and R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> do not together form -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>-, comprising the

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reaction of a thione of formula II:



5 in which:

$R_1$ ,  $n$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  are as defined in Claim 1, with a halo derivative of formula III:



10

in which  $R_5$  is as defined in Claim 1 and  $\text{Hal}^1$  is a halogen atom, optionally halogenated  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkylsulphonyl or  $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10})$ arylsulphonyl optionally substituted in the aryl portion with  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl.

15 10. Process according to Claim 9, characterized in that the thione of formula II is reacted with an  $\alpha$ -halo ketone of formula IVa:



20

in which  $Z$  is as defined in Claim 1 and  $\text{Hal}^2$  is a halogen atom, so as to obtain the corresponding compounds of formula I in which  $R_5$  represents  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CO-Z}$ .

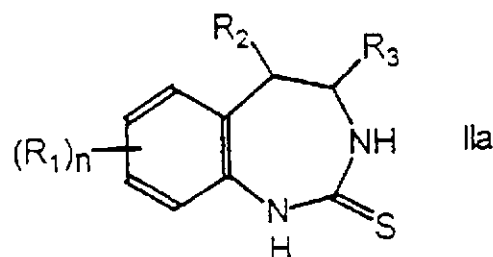
11. Process according to Claim 9 or Claim 10, also comprising the alkylation of a compound of formula I obtained according to the process of Claim 9 or Claim 10 in which  $R_4$  represents a hydrogen atom, using a suitable alkylating agent, so as to obtain the corresponding compound of formula I in which  $R_4$  represents  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{18})$ alkyl.

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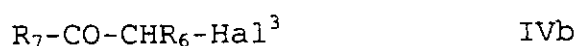
12. Process for preparing compounds of formula I according to Claim 1, in which  $X$  represents  $S$  and  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  together form a group  $-\text{CR}_6=\text{CR}_7-$ , comprising the

reaction of a thione of formula IIa:

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5 in which n, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are as defined in Claim 1, with an α-halo ketone of formula IVb:

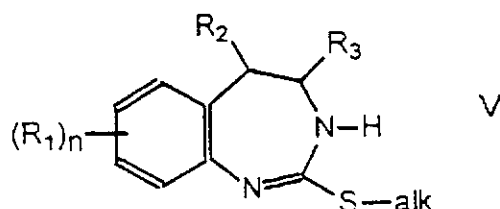


10 in which R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are as defined in Claim 1, and Hal<sup>3</sup> represents a halogen atom, in a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> aliphatic carboxylic acid, at a temperature of between 90 and 130°C.

13. Process according to Claim 12, characterized in that the aliphatic carboxylic acid is acetic acid.

14. Process according to either of Claims 12 and 13, characterized in that the temperature is maintained at between 100 and 125°C.

15. Process for preparing compounds of formula I according to Claim 1, in which X represents -NH, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form a group -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>- and R<sub>7</sub> is not hydroxyl, comprising the reaction of a sulphide of formula V:

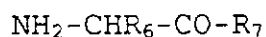


25

in which n, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are as defined in Claim 1, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form a -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>- group and alk

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represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, with a protected derivative of the ketone of formula VI:



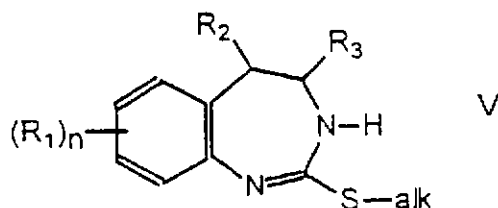
VI

5

in which the carbonyl group is protected with a protecting group that is labile in acidic medium, R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> being as defined in Claim 1, followed by treatment of the resulting compound with an acid.

10 16. Process for preparing compounds of formula I according to Claim 1, in which X represents -NT in which T is not a hydrogen atom, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form a group -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>, and R<sub>7</sub> represents hydroxyl, comprising the reaction of a sulphide of formula V:

15



in which n, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are as defined in Claim 1, and alk represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl,

20 with a derivative of formula VIII:



VIII

25 in which T and R<sub>6</sub> are as defined in Claim 1 and Y is a leaving group, at a temperature of between 50 and 150°C and preferably at a temperature of between 60 and 100°C.

17. Process according to Claim 15, also comprising the reaction of the compound obtained by carrying out the process of Claim 15, with a halogenated reagent of formula Hal-T in which T represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl and Hal is a halogen atom, in the presence of a base, so as to

30

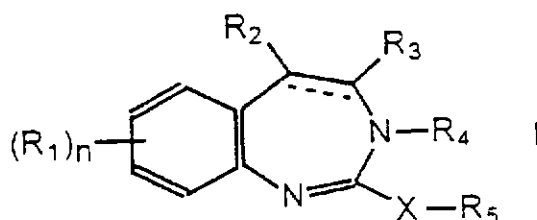
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synthesize the corresponding compound of formula I in which T represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl.

18. Pharmaceutical composition containing an effective amount of at least one compound of formula (I) according to any one of Claims 1 to 8, in combination with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

19. Use of a compound of formula I according to any one of Claims 1 to 8, for the preparation of a medicinal product for preventing or treating dyslipidaemia, atherosclerosis and diabetes and its complications.

20. Benzodiazepine derivative of formula I:



in which

the dashed lines indicate the possible presence of a double bond;

R<sub>1</sub> represents optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkoxy, halogen, nitro, hydroxyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl (optionally substituted with optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, halogen, nitro or hydroxyl);

n represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> represent, independently of each other, hydrogen; optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkoxy; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; heteroaryl; heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryloxy; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy; heteroaryloxy; or heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy; in which heteroaryl represents

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a 5- to 7-membered aromatic heterocycle containing one, two or three endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S, and in which the aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals are optionally substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, nitro and hydroxyl;

R<sub>4</sub> represents hydrogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl, the said aryl group optionally being substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, nitro or hydroxyl;

X represents S, O or -NT in which T represents a hydrogen atom, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)arylcarbonyl;

R<sub>5</sub> represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; hydroxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)cycloalkyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)cycloalkenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; isoxazolyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl optionally substituted with (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; a group -CH<sub>2</sub>-CR<sub>a</sub>=CR<sub>b</sub>R<sub>c</sub> in which R<sub>a</sub>, R<sub>b</sub> and R<sub>c</sub> are chosen independently from (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkenyl, hydrogen and (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl; a group -CH<sub>2</sub>-CO-Z in which Z represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl optionally fused to a 5- to 7-membered aromatic or unsaturated heterocycle comprising one, two or three endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S; or 5- to 7-membered heteroaryl containing one, two or three endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S; the aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals optionally being substituted with halogen, hydroxyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, nitro, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy-phosphoryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl (optionally substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, nitro or hydroxyl);

or alternatively R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form a group

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-CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>- in which CR<sub>6</sub> is linked to X and in which:

R<sub>6</sub> represents a hydrogen atom; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl;  
(C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)cycloalkyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl; carboxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; heteroaryl;  
5 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; and heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; in  
which heteroaryl represents a 5- to 7-membered aromatic  
heterocycle containing one, two or three endocyclic  
hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S and in which the  
aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals are  
10 optionally substituted with (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy,  
hydroxyl, nitro, halogen or di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy-  
phosphoryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl;

R<sub>7</sub> represents a hydrogen atom; hydroxyl;  
di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkylamino(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)alkyl; carboxyl;  
15 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl; heteroaryl;  
(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; or heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl; in  
which heteroaryl represents a 5- to 7-membered aromatic  
heterocycle containing one, two or three endocyclic  
hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S and in which the  
20 aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals are  
optionally substituted with halogen, hydroxyl,  
optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, optionally  
halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, carboxyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy-  
carbonyl, nitro, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxyphosphoryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl,  
25 or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl (this radical optionally being  
substituted with hydroxyl, nitro, optionally  
halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, optionally halogenated  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy or halogen) or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl fused to a 5-  
to 7-membered aromatic or unsaturated heterocycle  
30 comprising one, two or three endocyclic hetero atoms  
chosen from O, N and S;

or alternatively R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> together form a  
C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene chain optionally interrupted with a  
nitrogen atom which is optionally substituted with  
35 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl,  
(the aryl portions of these radicals optionally being  
substituted with halogen, nitro, hydroxyl, optionally

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halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or optionally halogenated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy);

with the exclusion of the compounds of formula I in which X = S; n = 0; R<sub>2</sub> represents methyl and R<sub>3</sub>

5 represents a hydrogen atom; R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> together form a group -CR<sub>6</sub>=CR<sub>7</sub>- in which CR<sub>6</sub> is linked to X, R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> together form a -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>- or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>- chain or alternatively R<sub>6</sub> represents a hydrogen atom or a propyl

10 group and R<sub>7</sub> is a phenyl group optionally substituted with -OCH<sub>3</sub> or a hydroxyl group;

and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with acids or bases.