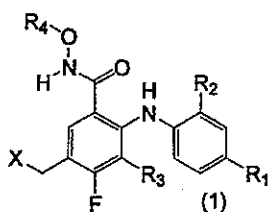


ABSTRACT

An objective of the present invention is to provide compounds that exhibit strong MEK-inhibiting activity and are stable in vivo and soluble in water, which can be used as preventive or therapeutic agents for proliferative diseases.

The compounds of the present invention and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof are represented by the following formula (1):



[where R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, and X are the same as defined in the present patent application].