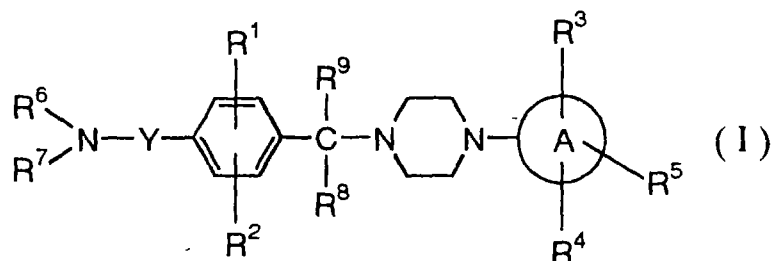


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to a piperazine compound of the formula



- 5 wherein R^1 and R^2 are each hydrogen, halogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, substituted amino, nitro, hydroxy or cyano, R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are each hydrogen, halogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, nitro, amino, substituted amino or hydroxy, R^6 and R^7 are each hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkyl substituted by halogen, aralkyl, acyl or lower acyl substituted by
- 10 halogen, R^8 and R^9 are each hydrogen or lower alkyl, Y is lower alkylene and the like, and ring A is phenyl, pyrimidyl, thiazolyl, pyridyl, pyrazyl or imidazolyl, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and pharmaceutical agents containing these compounds. The compound of the present invention has superior TNF- α production inhibitory effect
- 15 and/or IL-10 production promoting effect, and, since it is free of or shows only strikingly reduced expression of an effect on the central nervous system, the compound is useful as a highly safe and superior TNF- α production inhibitor and/or IL-10 production promoter and is useful as an agent for the prophylaxis or treatment of various diseases caused
- 20 by abnormal TNF- α production, diseases curable with IL-10, such as chronic inflammatory diseases, acute inflammatory diseases, inflammatory diseases due to infection, autoimmune diseases, allergic diseases, and TNF- α mediated diseases.



G00002



I62162