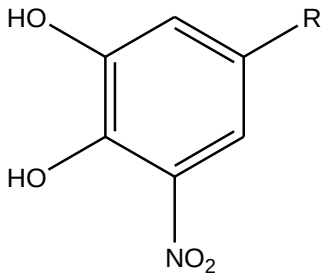
CLAIMS

1. Use of a catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitor for the preparation of a medicament for the prevention and/or treatment of transthyretin-associated amyloidosis, wherein said COMT inhibitor is a nitrocatechol compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof



(Formula I)

wherein R is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-PhCH$_3$, -CH=C(CN)-C(O)-NEt$_2$ and -CH=C(C(O)CH$_3$)$_2$.

2. Use of a catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein the COMT inhibitor is tolcapone or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

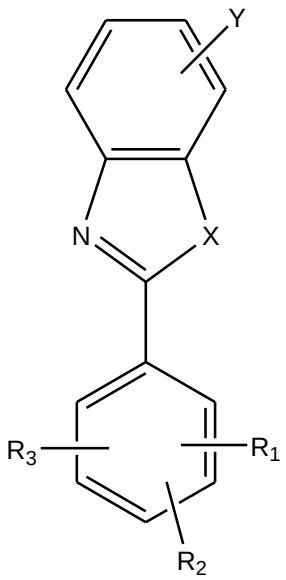
3. Use of a catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitor according to any one of claims 1 or 2, wherein the transthyretin-associated amyloidosis is familial amyloid polyneuropathy.

4. Use of a catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitor according to any one of claims 1 or 2, wherein the transthyretin-associated amyloidosis is senile systemic amyloidosis.

5. Use of a catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitor according to any one of claims 1 or 2, wherein the transthyretin-associated amyloidosis is leptomeningeal amyloidosis.

6. Use of a catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitor according to any one of claims 1 or 2, wherein the transthyretin-associated amyloidosis is familial amyloid cardiomyopathy.

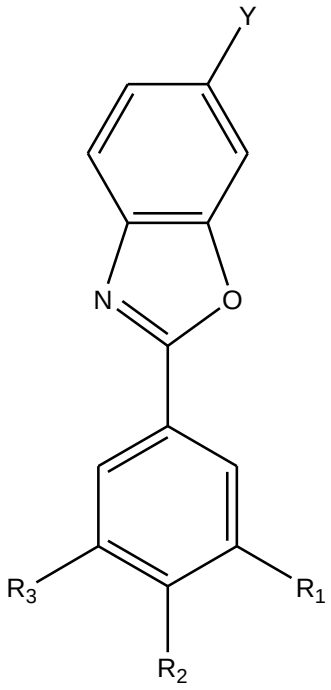
7. Use of a catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitor as defined in claim 1 for the preparation of a medicament for the prevention and/or treatment of transthyretin-associated amyloidosis in combination therapy with an additional therapeutic agent selected from the group consisting of another COMT inhibitor as defined in claim 1, a benzoxazole derivative, iododiflunisal, diflunisal, resveratrol, tauroursodeoxycholic acid, doxocycline and epigallocatechin-3-gallate, wherein the benzoxazole derivative is a compound of formula V



(formula V)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:
Y is selected from the group consisting of COOR, tetrazolyl, CONHOR, $B(OH)_2$ and OR;
X is O; and
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, OR, $B(OH)_2$ and CF_3, and wherein
R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkenyl, C_1-C_6 alkynyl, C_1-C_6 cycloalkyl, C_1-C_6 heterocyclyl, phenyl, xylyl, naphthyl, thienyl, indolyl and pyridyl;
wherein the COMT inhibitor is to be administered simultaneously, sequentially or separately with the additional therapeutic agent.

8. Use of a catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitor according to claim 7, wherein the benzoxazole derivative is a compound of formula VI



Formula VI

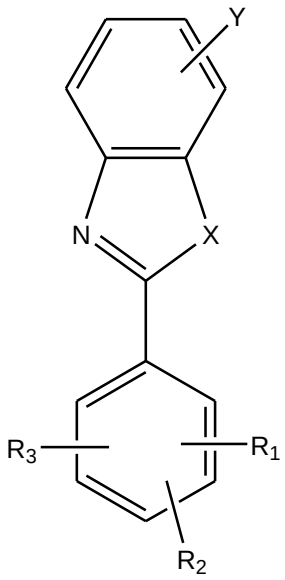
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:
Y is selected from the group consisting of COOH, and OH; and
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, OH, $B(OH)_2$ and CF_3.

9. Use of a catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitor according to any one of claims 7 or 8, wherein the benzoxazole derivative is tafamidis.

10. Use of a catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitor according to any of claims 1-9, wherein the COMT inhibitor is to be administered as an injectable dosage form, as an oral dosage form or as a controlled release dosage form.

11. Use of a catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitor as defined in claim 1 and an additional therapeutic agent selected from the group consisting

of another COMT inhibitor as defined in claim 1, a benzoxazole derivative, iododiflunisal, diflunisal, resveratrol, tauroursodeoxycholic acid, doxocycline and epigallocatechin-3-gallate, for the preparation of a medicament for combination therapy in the prevention and/or treatment of transthyretin-associated amyloidosis, wherein the benzoxazole derivative is a compound of formula V

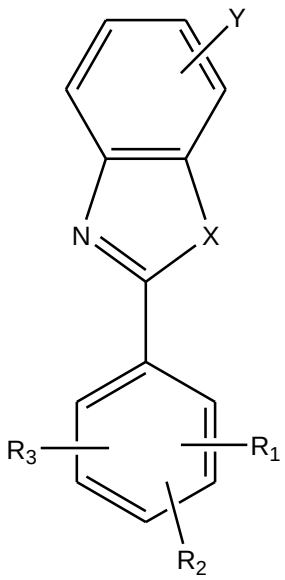


(formula V)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:
Y is selected from the group consisting of COOR, tetrazolyl, CONHOR, $B(OH)_2$ and OR;
X is O; and
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, OR, $B(OH)_2$ and CF_3, and wherein
R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkenyl, C_1-C_6 alkynyl, C_1-C_6 cycloalkyl, C_1-C_6 heterocyclyl, phenyl, xylyl, naphthyl, thienyl, indolyl and pyridyl.

12. Use of a therapeutic agent selected from the group consisting of a benzoxazole derivative, iododiflunisal, diflunisal, resveratrol, tauroursodeoxycholic acid, doxocycline and epigallocatechin-3-gallate, for the preaparation of a medicament for the prevention and/or treatment of transthyretin-associated amyloidosis in combination therapy with a catechol-

O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitor as defined in claim 1, wherein the benzoxazole derivative is a compound of formula V



(formula V)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:
Y is selected from the group consisting of COOR, tetrazolyl, CONHOR, $B(OH)_2$ and OR;
X is O; and
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, OR, $B(OH)_2$ and CF_3, and wherein
R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkenyl, C_1-C_6 alkynyl, C_1-C_6 cycloalkyl, C_1-C_6 heterocyclyl, phenyl, xylyl, naphthyl, thienyl, indolyl and pyridyl;
wherein the therapeutic agent is to be administered simultaneously, sequentially or separately with the COMT inhibitor.