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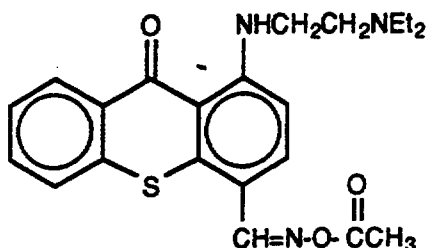
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THIOXANTHENE ANTITUMOR AGENTS

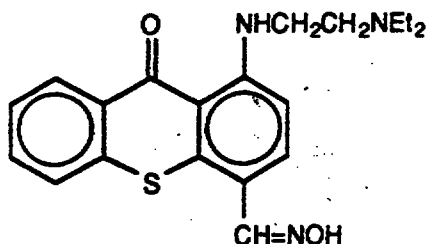
The present invention relates to novel
1-[[[(dialkylamino)-alkyl]amino]-4-substituted-
5 thioxanthene-9-ones, to pharmaceutical compositions
containing the thioxanthenones, to methods of treating
tumors with the thioxanthenones and to methods of
treating cancer in mammals with the compositions
containing the thioxanthenones.

10 Nabih and Elsheikh [J. Pharm. Sci. 54, 1672-1673
(1965)] disclose 1-[[2-(diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-4-
[(diethylamino)-methyl]thioxanthene-9-one. No utility
was demonstrated for the compound.

Collins and Rosi U.S. Patent 3,745,172 disclose as
15 an intermediate in the synthesis of antifungal and
antibacterial agents:



and as an anthelmintic and antibacterial agent:



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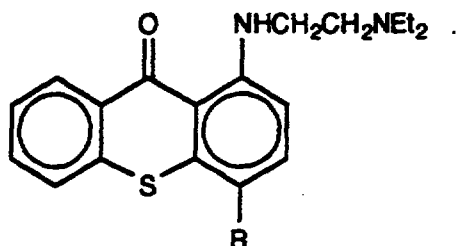
Rosi and Peruzotti U. S. Patent 3,312,598 disclose
1-[[2-(diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-9-oxo-9H-thioxanthene-
4-carboxylic acid as a by-product of fermentation having
25 no disclosed utility.

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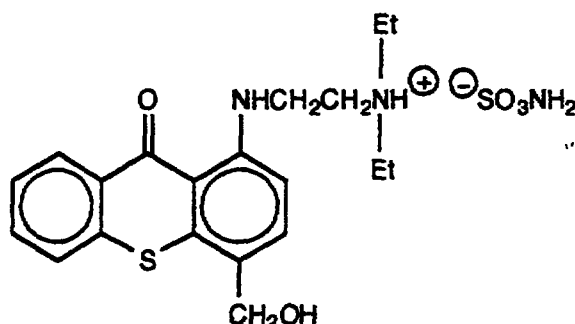
Blanz and French [J. Med. Chem. 6, 185-191 (1963)] disclose the synthesis of a series of thioxanthenones related to lucanthone and the results of the testing of the compounds against a leukaemia and two solid tumors.

5 Among the compounds disclosed are



wherein R is methyl, methoxyl, and ethoxyl.

Yarinsky and Freele [Journal of Tropical Medicine
10 and Hygiene 73, 23-27 (1970)] disclose

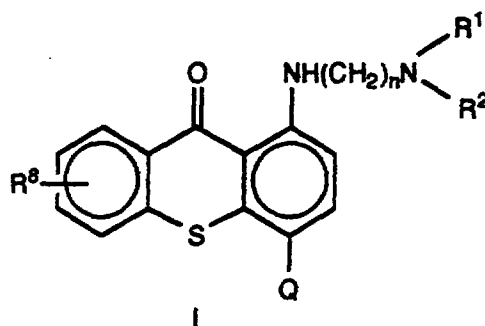


as an antischistosomal agent.

Palmer et al. [J. Med. Chem. 31, 707-712 (1988)]
15 disclose N-[2-(dimethylamino)ethyl]-9-oxo-9H-
thioxanthene-4-carboxamide monohydrochloride which was
tested in vitro versus murine leukaemia (L1210) and in
vivo versus P388 leukaemia cells and was found to be
"unlikely to be worth pursuing" as a potential antitumor
20 agent.



The present invention relates to compounds of the formula I



5 or acid addition salt or solvate thereof wherein n is two or three, preferably two; R¹ and R² are independently lower-alkyl, preferably both are ethyl; Q is a residue chosen from the group consisting of -CH₂NHR³, -CH₂N(R⁴)SO₂R⁷, -CH₂NHCHO, -CH=N-Ar, 10 -C(O)NR⁵R⁶, CH₂N(R⁴)C(O)R⁷, CH₂N(C₂H₅)CHO, and CH₂N(R⁴)P(O)(O-lower-alkyl)₂; R³ is hydrogen or lower-alkyl; R⁴ is hydrogen or lower-alkyl; R⁵ is hydrogen, lower-alkyl, or Ar, preferably hydrogen; R⁶ is hydrogen or lower-alkyl, preferably hydrogen; R⁷ is lower-alkyl, 15 preferably methyl, or Ar; R⁸ is hydrogen, lower-alkyl, lower-alkoxy or halogen; and Ar is phenyl or phenyl substituted with methyl, methoxyl, halogen or nitro. Ar is preferably phenyl. The compounds are useful for the treatment of tumors in mammals.

20 Lower-alkyl as used herein describes linear, branched or cyclic hydrocarbons containing four or fewer carbon atoms. Halogen describes bromine, chlorine or fluorine.

The invention further relates to compositions for 25 treating tumors and cancer in mammals which comprise compounds of formula I together with pharmaceutically acceptable excipients or diluents.



The invention further relates to a method of use of a compound of formula I for treating tumors in mammals which comprises administering to the mammal a compound of formula I.

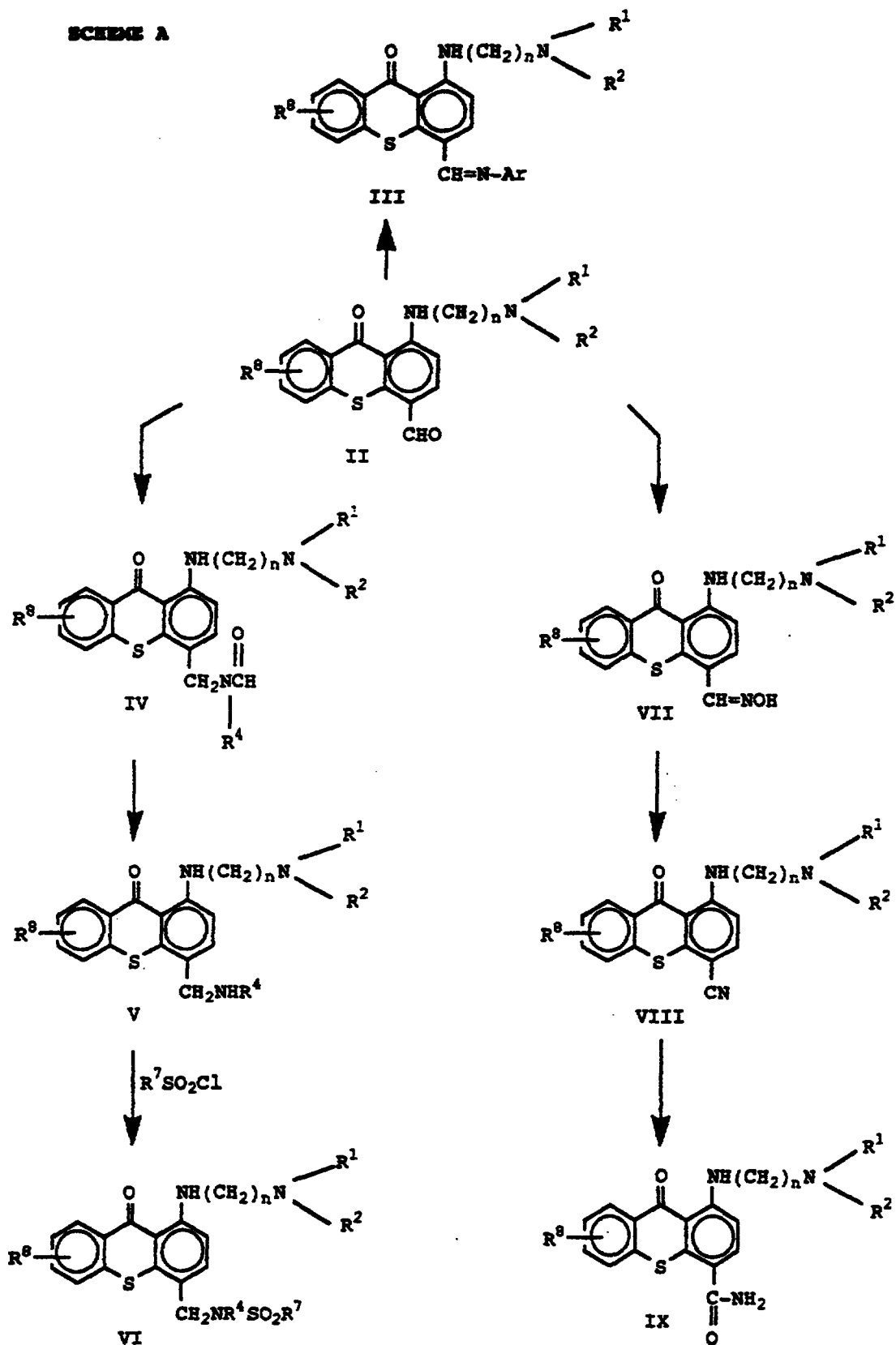
5 The invention further relates to a method of use of a compound of formula I for treating cancer in a mammal which comprises administering to the mammal a composition of a compound of formula I together with pharmaceutically acceptable excipients or diluents.

10 The synthesis of compounds of the invention may be outlined as shown in Schemes A and B:

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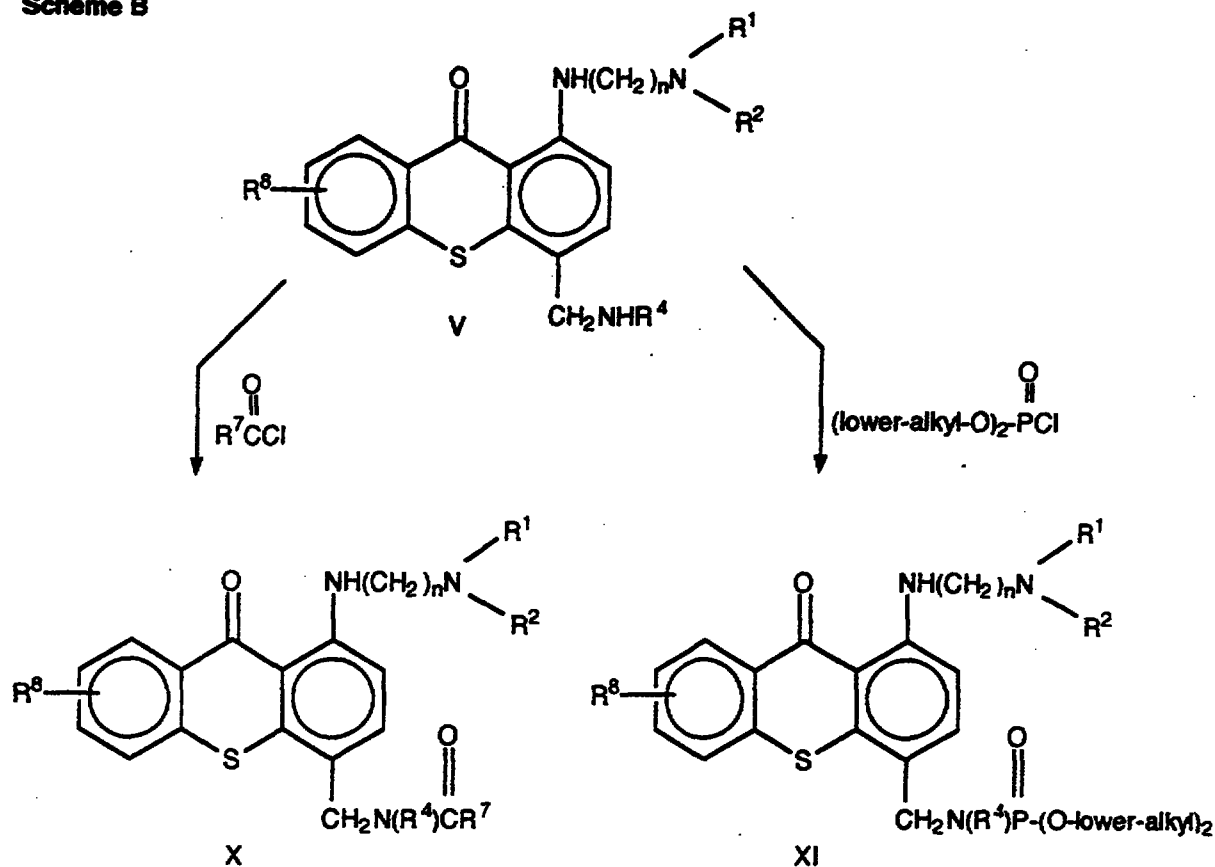
SCHEME A



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Scheme B



The compounds of formula III (formula I wherein Q is $-\text{CH}=\text{N}-\text{Ar}$) may be synthesized by heating an aldehyde of formula II together with about one equivalent of the appropriate aniline in an inert, azeotroping solvent, preferably xylene or toluene at reflux.

The compounds of formula IV may be prepared from an aldehyde of formula II by heating at 150° to 185°C in the presence of about 10 equivalents of formic acid in formamide or N-alkylformamide as a solvent. The conditions are well known in the art for the Leuckart reaction. The compounds of formula V are then obtained by acid hydrolysis of the formamide.

The compounds of formula VI (formula I wherein Q is $-\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{R}^4)\text{SO}_2\text{R}^7$) may be synthesized by sulfonylation of





precipitated with a second organic solvent, or can be obtained by concentration of the solution. Although medicinally acceptable salts of the basic compounds are preferred, all acid-addition salts are within the scope of the present invention. All acid-addition salts are useful as sources of the free base form even if the particular salt per se is desired only as an intermediate product, as, for example, when the salt is formed only for purposes of purification or identification, or when it is used as an intermediate in preparing a medicinally acceptable salt by ion exchange procedures.

The structures of the compounds of the invention were established by the mode of synthesis, elemental analysis, and infrared, ultraviolet and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy. The course of the reactions and the identity and homogeneity of the products were assessed by thin layer chromatography (TLC) or gas-liquid chromatography (GLC). The melting points are given in degrees C and are uncorrected. The starting materials are either commercially available or may be prepared by procedures well known in the art.

The invention will now be more particularly described with reference to the following examples which in no way limit the scope of the invention.

Example 1

1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-4-(N-phenylformimidoyl)thioxanthen-9-one

(I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CH=N-C_6H_5$; $R^6=H$; $n=2$) (III; Ar=Ph)

A mixture of 17.7 g (50 mmol) of 1-[[2-(diethylamino)-ethyl]amino]thioxanthen-4-carboxyaldehyde and 15.1 g (150 mmol) of aniline in 100 ml of toluene was refluxed for 8 hours with a Dean-Stark trap. TLC on alumina with chloroform/hexane/isopropylamine 10:10:2 indicated incomplete reaction. The toluene was distilled off, 25 ml of aniline was

added and the mixture refluxed for 4 hours. 50 ml of xylene was added and the reaction refluxed again for 3 hours. The solvent and excess aniline were removed *in vacuo* and the residue recrystallized from benzene to yield 19.9 g of crude product. This was recrystallized from approximately 1.5 l hexane to yield 15.8 g (86%) of product, m.p. 125-126°.

Example 2

10 N-[[1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-9-oxothioxanthen-4-yl]methyl]formamide

(I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CH_2NHCHO$; $R^8=H$; $n=2$) (IV; $R^4=H$)

A solution of 35.4 g (0.1 mol) of 1-[[2-(diethylamino)-ethyl]amino]thioxanthen-4-carboxyaldehyde, 420 ml of formamide and 50 ml (1 mol) of formic acid was heated at 160° for 1 hour. The reaction was cooled, poured into 2 l of water and made basic with about 50 ml of 35% sodium hydroxide solution. The gummy precipitate was filtered off and dried *in vacuo*. The dried precipitate was dissolved in about 1.5 l of hot ethyl acetate, treated with charcoal, and crystallized by cooling. The product was filtered off, washed with ethyl acetate and dried to provide 29.0 g (75%) of product, m.p. 154-155°.

Example 3

25 N-[[1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-9-oxothioxanthen-4-yl]methyl]-N-methylformamide

(IV: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $R^4=Me$; $R^8=H$; $n=2$)

By a procedure analogous to that of Example 2, 24.6 g of the N-methylformamide was prepared from 35.4 g (0.1 mol) of 1-[[2-(diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-thioxanthen-4-carboxyaldehyde, 394 g of N-methylformamide and 50 ml of formic acid. The product was recrystallized from 150 ml of acetone to a m.p. of 127-130°.





Example 4

4-(Aminomethyl)-1-[[2-(diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-
thioxanthen-9-one

5 (I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CH_2NH_2$; $R^8=H$; $n=2$)(V; $R^4=H$)

A solution of 24.4 g (64 mmol) of the formamide of
Example 2 in 240 ml of 2N hydrochloric acid was heated
on a steam bath for 1 hour. The reaction was cooled to
room temperature, made basic with 35% aqueous sodium
10 hydroxide, and the resulting yellow precipitate
collected by filtration. The product was dissolved in
benzene, treated with charcoal, dried with magnesium
sulfate, filtered and azeotroped to remove traces of
water. The dried residue was crystallized from methanol
15 and isopropanol by the addition of ethereal hydrogen
chloride. The resulting solid was recrystallized in
several crops from methanol to yield 10.6 g of product,
m.p. 270-272°, as the dihydrochloride salt.

Example 5

20 1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-4-[(methylamino)-
methyl]thioxanthen-9-one

(I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CH_2NHCH_3$; $R^8=H$; $n=2$)(V; $R^4=Me$)

By a process precisely analogous to that of
Example 4, 10.5 g of the methylamine was obtained as the
25 dihydrochloride hemihydrate from 14.6 g (37 mmol) of the
N-methylformamide of Example 3 and 150 ml of
2N hydrochloric acid. The product melted at 241-243°.

Example 6

30 N-[[1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-9-oxothioxanthen-
4-yl]methyl]methanesulfonamide

(I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CH_2NHSO_2CH_3$; $R^8=H$; $n=2$)(VI; $R^4=H$; $R^7=Me$)

A solution of 10.65 g (30 mmol) of the free base of
the amine of Example 4 in 100 ml of pyridine was cooled
in an ice bath and 4 g (35 mmol) of methanesulfonyl-
35 chloride was added in one portion. The mixture was
stirred for 2 hours at room temperature and poured into



750 ml of water containing 2 g of sodium hydroxide. The dark yellow precipitate was collected, washed with water and dried in vacuo overnight. A second crop was obtained by adding excess sodium hydroxide to the
5 filtrate and filtering the resulting solid. The combined precipitates after drying were recrystallized from benzene to yield 6.4 g of the methanesulfonamide, m.p. 169-170°.

Example 7

10 1-[[2'-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-9-oxothioxanthene-4-carboxamide

(I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CONH_2$; $R^8=H$; $n=2$)(IX)

A suspension of 74g (0.23 mol) of
1-[[2-(diethylamino)-ethyl]amino]thioxanthen-4-
15 carboxaldehyde and 74 g (1.06 mol) of hydroxylamine hydrochloride in 400 ml of pyridine and 400 ml of ethanol was refluxed 0.5 hour and 70 ml of water was added to provide a homogeneous solution. The solution was heated for a further 2 hours and allowed to sit at
20 room temperature 14 hours. The resulting crystalline oxime (VII) was filtered off to provide a quantitative yield, m.p. 215-218°.

One hundred twenty-three grams of the oxime was heated briefly on a steambath in 180 ml of acetic
25 anhydride to achieve solution. The solution was cooled, 100 ml of 1.8 M HCl in ether was added and the resulting suspension was diluted with 500 ml of ether. The suspension was allowed to sit 14 hours at 0° and filtered. The residue (123g, m.p. 109-112°) was
30 slurried in 250 mL of xylene and refluxed 20 min. The mixture was cooled and 71.3g of the nitrile (VIII) was filtered off, m.p. 265°.

Ten grams of the nitrile was stirred in 200 ml of conc. H_2SO_4 at room temperature for 3 days. The
35 reaction was neutralized with conc. NH_4OH and the residue filtered off. The residue was digested in warm

EtOAc/EtOH, filtered and the product crystallized from the chilled solution, m.p. 241-243°. It was dissolved in ethanol and one equivalent of HCl in ethanol was added. Six grams of the amide hydrochloride was
5 obtained, m.p. 271-272°.

Example 8

N-[[1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-9-oxothioxanthen-4-yl]methyl]N-methylmethanesulfonamide

(I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CH_2N(CH_3)SO_2CH_3$; $R^8=H$;

10 $n=2$)(VI; $R^4=Me$; $R^7=Me$)

A solution of 1.5 g (3.5 mmol) of the methanesulfonamide of Example 6 in THF (60 ml) was cooled to 0°C in an ice-bath and NaH 0.16 g (4.0 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was warmed to room
15 temperature, stirred for 10 minutes, then methyl iodide 0.25 mL (4.0 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours and the solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica eluting with chloroform
20 (100%) then 1% isopropylamine/chloroform to afford 1.15 g (74%) of the N-methylmethanesulfonamide as a yellow powder, m.p. 175-177°C.

Example 9

25 N-[[1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-9-oxothioxanthen-4-yl]methyl]phenylsulfonamide

(I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CH_2NHSO_2Ph$; $R^8=H$; $n=2$)(VI; $R^4=H$; $R^7=Ph$)

Following a procedure substantially similar to that described in Example 6, 2.4 g (57%) of the phenylsulfonamide was obtained as the methanesulfonic
30 acid salt from 2.54 g (7.15 mmol) of the free base of the amine of Example 4, pyridine (50 ml) and benzenesulfonyl chloride (1.1 ml, 8.62 mmol), followed by treatment of the residue thus obtained with methanesulfonic acid in methanol. The product was
35 recrystallized from ethanol.



Example 10

N-[[1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-9-oxo-
thioxanthen-4-yl]methyl]acetamide

(I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CH_2NHC(O)CH_3$; $R^8=H$; $n=2$)(X; $R^4=H$; $R^7=Me$)

5 Following a procedure substantially similar to that
described in Example 6, 2.3 g (52%) of the acetamide was
obtained as an orange solid from 4.15 g (11.7 mmol) of
the free base of the amine of Example 4, pyridine (60
ml) and acetyl chloride (0.82 ml, 11.53 mmol). The
10 product was recrystallized from acetone and melted at
182-183°C.

Example 11

N-[[1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-9-oxothioxanthen-
4-yl]methyl]benzamide

15 (I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CH_2NHC(O)Ph$; $R^8=H$; $n=2$)(X; $R^4=H$; $R^7=Ph$)

Following a procedure substantially similar to that
described in Example 6, 1.02 g (68%) of the benzamide
was obtained as a yellow powder from 1.17 g (3.29 mmol)
of the free base of the amine of Example 4, pyridine
20 (25 ml) and benzoyl chloride (0.42 ml, 3.62 mmol). The
product was purified by column chromatography on silica
eluting with chloroform (100%) to 1% isopropylamine/
chloroform, followed by recrystallization from ethyl
acetate. The product melted at 161-163°C.

25 Example 12

N-[[1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-9-oxothioxanthen-
4-yl]diethyl phosphoramidate

(I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CH_2NHP(O)(OEt)_2$; $R^8=H$; $n=2$)(XI; $R^4=H$)

A solution of 2.28 g (6.41 mmol) of the free base
30 of the amine of Example 4, CH_2Cl_2 (50 ml), and
triethylamine (2 ml) at 0°C was treated with diethyl
phosphorochloridate (1.0 ml, 6.9 mmol). The reaction
mixture was stirred at 0°C for 2 hours, then at room
temperature for 1 hour. The solvent was removed in
35 vacuo and the residue was purified by column
chromatography on silica eluting with ethyl



acetate (100%), then 5% methanol/ethyl acetate and finally methanol/isopropylamine/ethyl acetate (5/5/90) to afford 2.28 g (72%) of the diethyl phosphoramidate as a yellow solid, m.p. 108-110°C when recrystallized from ethyl acetate.

Example 13

N-[[1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-9-oxothioxanthen-4-yl]methyl]-N-ethylformamide

(I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CH_2NEtCHO$; $R^8=H$; $n=2$)(IV; $R^4=Et$)

10 A solution of 2.0 g (5.6 mmol) of 1-[[2-(diethylamino)ethyl]amino]thioxanthen-4-carboxaldehyde, N-ethylformamide (24.0 ml) and formic acid (3.0 ml, 79.5 mmol) was heated at 170°C for 4 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled, poured into 15 water and made basic with 10% sodium hydroxide. A solid was obtained which was collected by filtration and washed with water. The solid residue was taken up in chloroform/water, and the organic layer was separated and dried over Na_2SO_4 . The solvent was removed in vacuo 20 and the residue was purified by radial chromatography eluting with isopropylamine/methanol/ethyl acetate (0.5/1/98.5) to afford 1.32 g (57%) of the N-ethylformamide as an orange solid, m.p. 75-77°C.

Example 14

25 1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-4-[(ethylamino)-methyl]thioxanthen-9-one

(I: $R^1=R^2=Et$; $Q=CH_2NHC_2H_5$; $R^8=H$; $n=2$)(V; $R^4=Et$)

By a process substantially similar to that described in Example 4, 1.29 g (92%) of the ethylamine 30 was obtained as the dihydrochloride from 1.3 g (3.2 mmol) of the N-ethylformamide of Example 13 and 10.8 ml of 2N hydrochloric acid. The product was recrystallized from ethanol/tetrahydrofuran and melted at 160°C (dec.).



Other representative members of the genus I may be made in an analogous manner to that of Examples 1-14, substituting the appropriate 1-[[2-(dialkylamino)-ethyl]amino]- or 1-[[3-(dialkylamino)-propyl]amino]-thioxanthen-4-carboxaldehyde for 1-[[2-(diethylamino)-ethyl]amino]thioxanthen-4-carboxaldehyde. The aldehydes and their precursors are described in U.S. Patent 3,294,803, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Representative examples of the invention were tested for antitumor activity in mice according to the following procedure:

The animals were pooled, implanted subcutaneously with 30 to 60 mg tumor fragments by 12-gauge trocar, and again pooled before unselective distribution to the various treatment and control groups. For early-stage treatment, chemotherapy was started within 1 to 5 days after tumor implantation while the number of cells was relatively small (10^7 to 10^8 cells). For advanced-stage treatment, chemotherapy was delayed until the tumor became relatively large (200 to 300 mg in size). A 300 mg tumor contains approximately 3×10^8 total cells. Tumors within a given advanced-stage trial were within a 2.5-fold size range for 90% of the animals. Tumors were measured with a caliper weekly (or twice weekly for the more rapidly growing tumors). Mice were sacrificed when their tumors reached 1500 mg (i.e., before they could cause the animal discomfort). Tumor weights were estimated from two-dimensional measurements.

The treatment and control groups were measured when the control group tumors reached approximately 700 to 1200 mg in size (Median of Group). The median tumor weight of each group was determined (including zeros). The T/C value (weight of treated tumors over the weight of control tumors) in percent is an indication of



antitumor effectiveness: A T/C equal to or less than 42% is considered significant antitumor activity by the Drug Evaluation Branch of the Division of Cancer Treatment (NCI). A T/C value <10% is considered to indicate highly significant antitumor activity. A body weight loss nadir (mean of group) of greater than 20% or greater than 20% drug-deaths is considered to indicate an excessively toxic dosage.

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The results are shown in Table I for pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma #03 and in Table 2 for colon adenocarcinoma #38.

5

TABLE 1

<u>Example #</u>	<u>T/C (%)</u>	<u>Weight Loss (g)*</u>	<u>Drug Deaths</u>	<u>Total Dose (mg/kg) i.v.</u>
1	0	1.6	0	1739
2	0	2.0	0	576
2	7	1.6	0	144
4	0	0.4	0	570
5	0	1.6	0	222
6	0	1.6	0	124
7	0	3.2	1/5	400
8	0	0.8	0	304
9	8	1.6	0	1395
10	0	2.4	0	540
11	0	0.8	0	855
12	36	3.2	0	1298
13	0	2.4	0	431

*Average body weight was 25 g.

10

TABLE 2

<u>Example #</u>	<u>T/C (%)</u>	<u>Weight Loss (g)*</u>	<u>Drug Deaths</u>	<u>Total Dose (mg/kg) i.v.</u>
2	0	2.8	0	600
5	11	2.9	0	960
6	0	5.0	3/7	132
6	4	1.7	1/7	82
7	16	0.6	0	840

*Average body weight was 25 g.

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The compound of Example 5 was tested by intravenous infusion against a number of other tumors as shown in Table 3, and was active at 300 mg/kg p.o. against colon adenocarcinoma #38.

- 5 The compound of Example 6 was tested by bolus intravenous injection against a number of other tumors as shown in Table 4.

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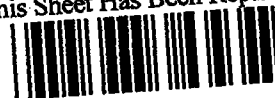
TABLE 3

Tumor	Total Dosage mg/kg	Schedule	Wt. Loss at Nadir g/mouse	T/C Value in %	Tumor Free	(Days of Observation)
Human Adeno Squamous Lung #125	960	16 hr infusion days 7,20	-0.4	16%	1/4	33
			-0.4	16%	0/4	132
	600		-0.4	15%	0/5	33
			-0.4	15%	0.5	132
Mammary 16/C	720	4 hr infusion days 1,4	-2.0	18%	0/7	13
	454		-1.2	16%	0/7	13
Mammary 16/C/Adr*	960	3 hr infusion days 1,4	-2.8	23%	0/7	27
Colon Adenocarcinoma #38	732	3-15 bolus	-2.0	0%	1/5	100
	477		-2.8	9%	0/5	100
Colon Adenocarcinoma #38	960	4 hr infusion days 6,13	-2.9	11%	2/7	20
			-2.9	11%	1/7	100
	600		-2.0	26%	0/7	20
			-2.0	26%	0/7	100
Colon #51	720	3 hr infusion days 3,7	-1.1	8%	0/5	50
	454		-2.8	12%	0/7	50
Panc 03	222	3 hr infusion	-1.6	0	1/4	108
*adriamycin resistant						

TABLE 4

<u>Tumor</u>	<u>Total Dosage mg/kg</u>	<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Wt. Loss at Nadir g/mouse</u>	<u>T/C Value in %</u>	<u>Tumor Free</u>	<u>(Days of Observation)</u>
Colon Adenocarcinoma #38	82	days 6-9 bolus	-1.7	1	2/7	132
	51		-1.2	18	1/7	132
Mammary 16/C	82	days 1-4 bolus	-3.0	6	0/5	23
	51		-1.2	13	0/5	23
Colon 51/A	96	days 3-6,9,11 bolus	-3.0	14	0/6	32
	66		-2.3	28	0/6	32
Panc 02	82	days 1-4 bolus	-2.0	23	0/5	28
	51		-1.2	42	0/5	28.
Panc 03	124	days 3-4, 6-14 bolus	-1.6	0	3/5	245
	79		-1.0	0	1/5	245





chloride and the like. Prolonged absorption of the injectable pharmaceutical form can be brought about by the use of agents delaying absorption, for example, aluminum monostearate and gelatin.

5 If desired, and for more effective distribution, the compounds can be incorporated into slow release or targeted delivery systems such as polymer matrices, liposomes, and microspheres. They may be sterilized, for example, by filtration through a bacteria-retaining
10 filter, or by incorporating sterilizing agents in the form of sterile solid compositions which can be dissolved in sterile water, or some other sterile injectable medium immediately before use.

Solid dosage forms for oral administration include
15 capsules, tablets, pills, powders and granules. In such solid dosage forms, the active compound is admixed with at least one inert customary excipient (or carrier) such as sodium citrate or dicalcium phosphate or (a) fillers or extenders, as for example, starches, lactose,
20 sucrose, glucose, mannitol and silicic acid, (b) binders, as for example, carboxymethylcellulose, alginates, gelatin, polyvinylpyrrolidone, sucrose and acacia, (c) humectants, as for example, glycerol, (d) disintegrating agents, as for example, agar-agar,
25 calcium carbonate, potato or tapioca starch, alginic acid, certain complex silicates and sodium carbonate, (e) solution retarders, as for example, paraffin, (f) absorption accelerators, as for example, quaternary ammonium compounds, (g) wetting agents, as for example,
30 cetyl alcohol and glycerol monostearate, (h) adsorbents, as for example, kaolin and bentonite, and (i) lubricants, as for example, talc, calcium stearate, magnesium stearate, solid polyethylene glycols, sodium lauryl sulfate or mixtures thereof. In the case of

capsules, tablets and pills, the dosage forms may also comprise buffering agents.

5 The percentage of active component in the composition and method for treating tumors or cancer can be varied so that a suitable dosage is obtained. The dosage administered to a particular patient is variable depending upon the clinician's judgement using as the criteria: the route of administration, the duration of treatment, the size and condition of the patient, the
10 potency of the active component, and the patient's response thereto. An effective dosage amount of active component can thus readily be determined by the clinician considering all criteria and utilizing his best judgement on the patient's behalf.

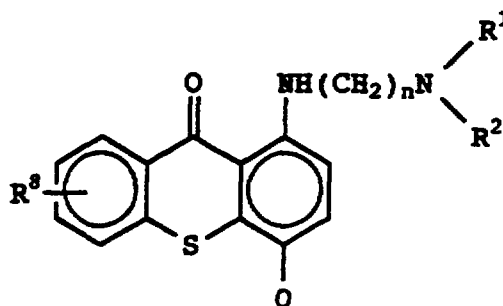
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CLAIMS:

1. A compound of formula



wherein n is 2 or 3;

- 5 R^1 and R^2 are independently lower-alkyl;
 Q is a residue chosen from the group consisting of
 CH_2NHR^3 , $CH_2N(R^4)SO_2R^7$, CH_2NHCHO , $CH=N-Ar$,
 $C(O)NR^5R^6$, $CH_2N(R^4)C(O)R^7$, $CH_2N(C_2H_5)CHO$, and
 $CH_2N(R^4)P(O)(O-lower-alkyl)_2$;
 10 R^3 is hydrogen or lower-alkyl;
 R^4 is hydrogen or lower-alkyl;
 R^5 is hydrogen, lower-alkyl or Ar;
 R^6 is hydrogen or lower-alkyl;
 R^7 is lower-alkyl, or Ar;
 15 R^8 is hydrogen, lower-alkyl, lower-alkoxy, or
 halogen; and
 Ar is phenyl or phenyl substituted with methyl,
 methoxyl, halogen or nitro;
 or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid-addition salt or
 20 solvate thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein:

Q is a residue chosen from the group consisting of
 CH_2NHR^3 , $CH_2N(R^4)SO_2R^7$, CH_2NHCHO , $CH=N-Ar$ and
 $C(O)NR^5R^6$;

- 5 R^3 is hydrogen or methyl; and
 R^7 is lower-alkyl.

3. A compound according to claim 2 wherein n is
 2 and both of R^1 and R^2 are ethyl, and R^8 is hydrogen.





4. A compound according to claim 3 wherein Q is a residue chosen from the group consisting of CH_2NHR^3 , $\text{CH}_2\text{N(R}^4\text{)SO}_2\text{R}^7$ and CH_2NHCHO .

5. A compound according to claim 4 wherein Q is CH_2NHR^3 .

6. 1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-4-[(methylamino)methyl]-thioxanthen-9-one.

7. A compound according to claim 1 wherein Q is a residue chosen from the group consisting of $\text{CH}_2\text{N(R}^4\text{)SO}_2\text{R}^7$, $\text{CH}_2\text{N(R}^4\text{)C(O)R}^7$, $\text{CH}_2\text{N(C}_2\text{H}_5\text{)CHO}$ and $\text{CH}_2\text{N(R}^4\text{)P(O)(O-lower-alkyl)}_2$.

8. A compound according to claim 7 wherein n is 2 and both of R^1 and R^2 are ethyl, and R^8 is hydrogen.

9. A compound according to claim 8 wherein Q is $\text{CH}_2\text{N(R}^4\text{)C(O)R}^7$.

10. A compound according to claim 8 wherein Q is $\text{CH}_2\text{N(R}^4\text{)SO}_2\text{R}^7$.

11. N-[[1-[[2-(Diethylamino)ethyl]amino]-9-oxothioxanthen-4-yl]methyl]methanesulfonamide.

12. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of claim 6 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

14. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of claim 11 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

15. The use of a compound of claim 1 for the preparation of a medicament for treating a tumor in a mammal.

16. The use of a compound of claim 6 for the preparation of a medicament for treating a tumor in a mammal.





17. The use of a compound of claim 11 for the preparation of a medicament for treating a tumor in a mammal.

18. The use of a composition of claim 12 for the preparation of a medicament for treating cancer in a mammal.

19. The use of a composition of claim 13 for the preparation of a medicament for treating cancer in a mammal.

20. The use of a composition of claim 14 for the preparation of a medicament for treating cancer in a mammal.

