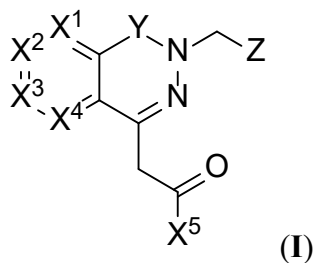


Claims:

1. A compound of Formula (I)



wherein,

X^1 is N or CR^1 ;

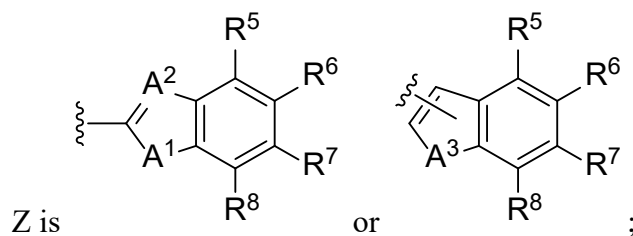
X^2 is N, CR^2 , or S;

X^3 is N, CR^3 , or a bond;

X^4 is N or CR^4 ; with the proviso that when X^2 is S, then X^1 is CR^1 , X^4 is CR^4 , and

X^3 is a single bond; or with the proviso that two or three of X^1 , X^2 , X^3 , and X^4 are N;

Y is a bond, C=O, C=S, C=NH, or C=N(C_1 - C_4)-alkyl;



A^1 is NR^9 , O, S, or CH_2 ;

A^2 is N or CH;

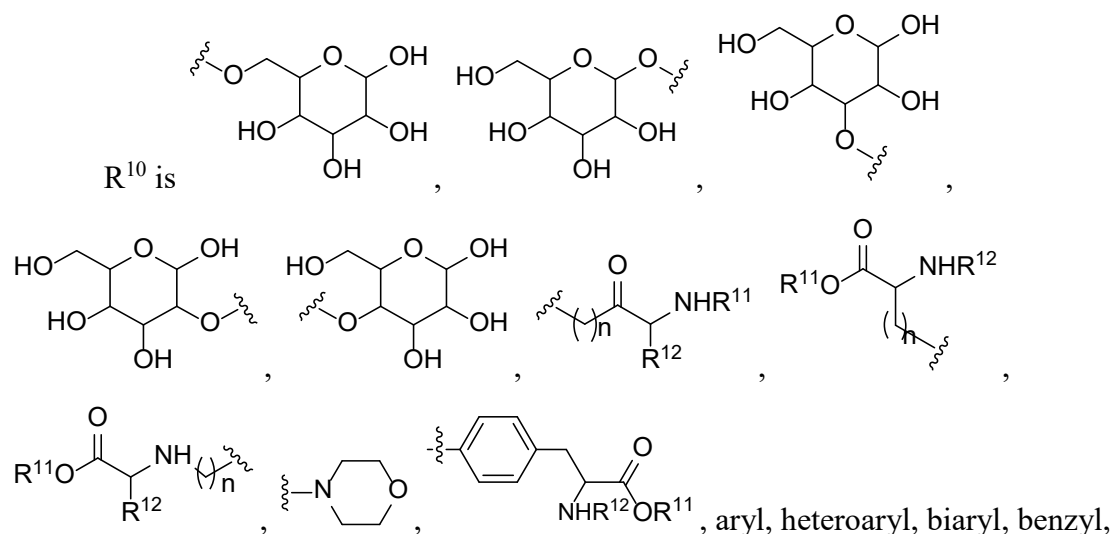
A^3 is NR^9 , O, or S;

R^1 through R^8 are independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano, acyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, haloalkylthio, trifluoroacetyl, (C_1 - C_4)-alkyl, (C_1 - C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1 - C_4)-alkylthio, (C_1 - C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, or (C_1 - C_4)-alkylsulfonyl; or two of R^1 through R^4 or two of R^5 through R^8 taken together are (C_1 - C_4)-alkylenedioxy;

R^9 is hydrogen, (C_1 - C_4)-alkyl, or C(O)O-(C_1 - C_4)-alkyl;

X^5 is Q- R^{10} ;

Q is O, NH, O-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl, O-(C₁-C₆)-hydroxyalkyl, O-(C₁-C₆)-aminoalkyl, O-aryl, O-heteroaryl, O-biaryl, O-benzyl, NH-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl, NH-(C₁-C₆)-hydroxyalkyl, NH-(C₁-C₆)-aminoalkyl, NH-aryl, NH-heteroaryl, NH-biaryl, NH-benzyl, or a bond;



heterocycle, or C(O)OR¹¹, with the proviso that when Q is not a bond R¹⁰ can be bonded to any substitutable atom in Q, and when Q is NH R¹⁰ can also be H or OH; and

R¹¹ and R¹² are independently H or (C₁-C₆)-alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of OR¹³, NHR¹³, SR¹³, CO₂R¹³, CONHR¹³, aryl, hydroxyaryl, indolyl, imidazolyl, and NH(CNH)NH₂;

or R¹¹ and R¹², taken together with the atoms to which they are attached, form a 3-7 membered heterocyclic ring;

R¹³ is H or (C₁-C₆)-alkyl; and

n is 0, 1, or 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein

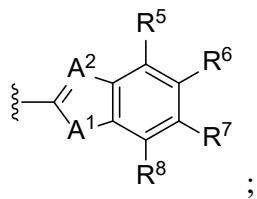
X^1 is $\mathbf{CR}^1$;

X^2 is S ;

X³ is a single bond;

X^4 is $\mathbf{CR}^4$;

Y is C=O;



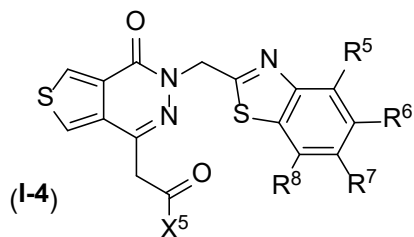
Z is

;

A¹ is S; and

A² is N.

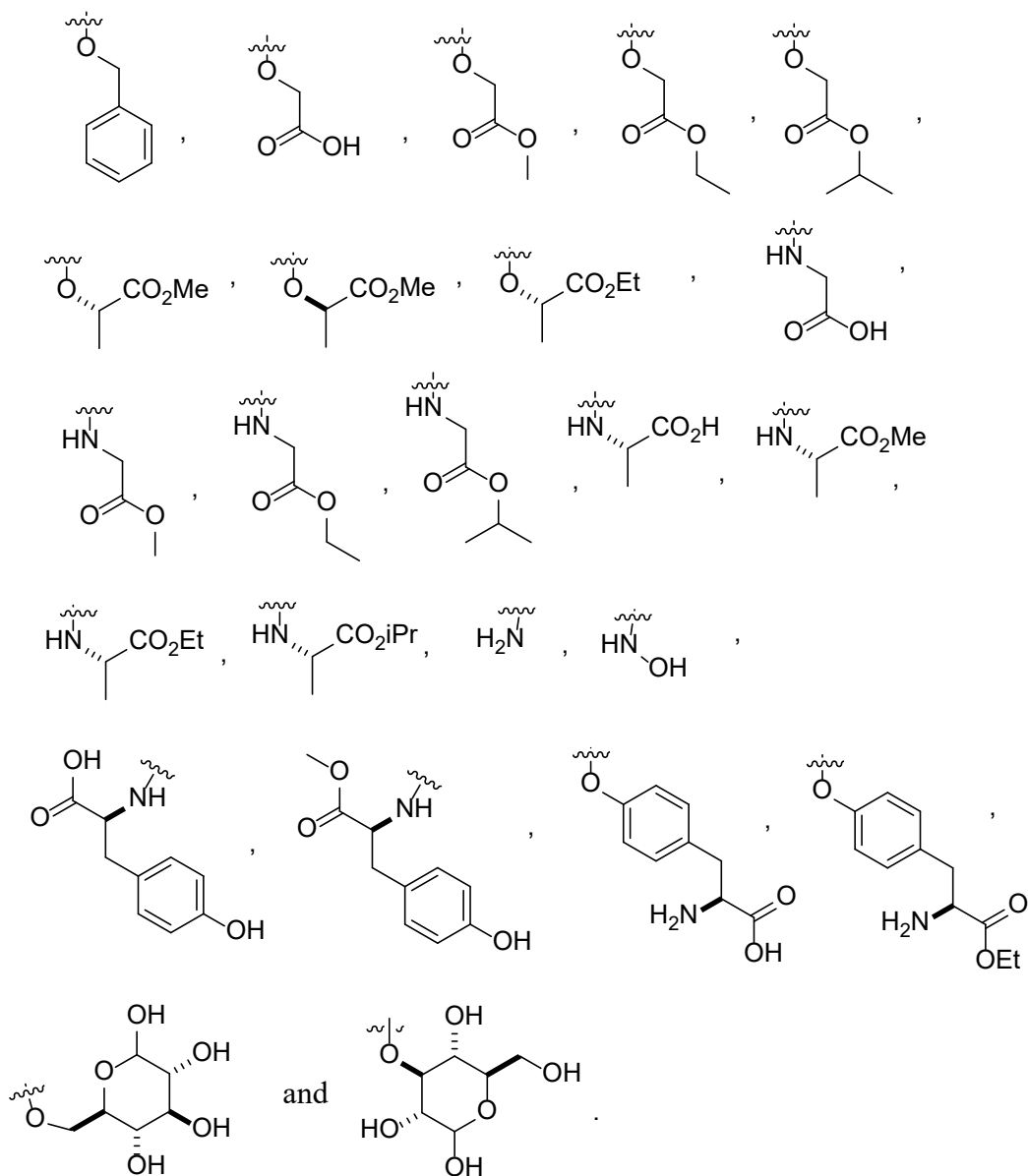
3. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound is of Formula (I-4)



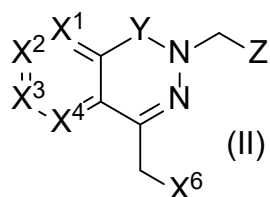
wherein

R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, R⁸ and X⁵ are as defined in Formula (I).

4. The compound of claim 1, wherein X⁵ is selected from a group consisting of



5. A compound of Formula (II)



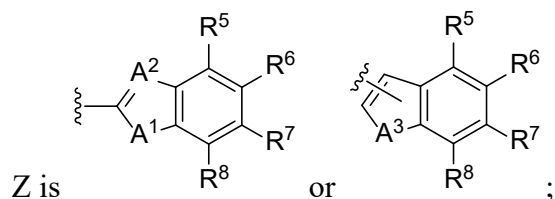
wherein,

 X^1 is $\mathbb{N}$ or $\mathbb{C}R^1$; X^2 is $\mathbb{N}$, $\mathbb{C}R^2$, or S ;

X^3 is N, CR^3 , or a bond;

X^4 is N or CR^4 ; with the proviso that when X^2 is S, then X^1 is CR^1 , X^4 is CR^4 , and X^3 is a single bond; or with the proviso that two or three of X^1 , X^2 , X^3 , and X^4 are N;

Y is a bond, C=O, C=S, C=NH, or C=N(C₁-C₄)-alkyl;



A^1 is NR^9 , O, S, or CH_2 ;

A^2 is N or CH;

A^3 is NR^9 , O, or S;

R^1 through R^8 are independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano, acyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, haloalkylthio, trifluoroacetyl, (C₁-C₄)-alkyl, (C₁-C₄)-alkoxy, (C₁-C₄)-alkylthio, (C₁-C₄)-alkylsulfinyl, or (C₁-C₄)-alkylsulfonyl; or two of R^1 through R^4 or two of R^5 through R^8 taken together are (C₁-C₄)-alkylenedioxy;

R^9 is hydrogen, (C₁-C₄)-alkyl, or C(O)O-(C₁-C₄)-alkyl;

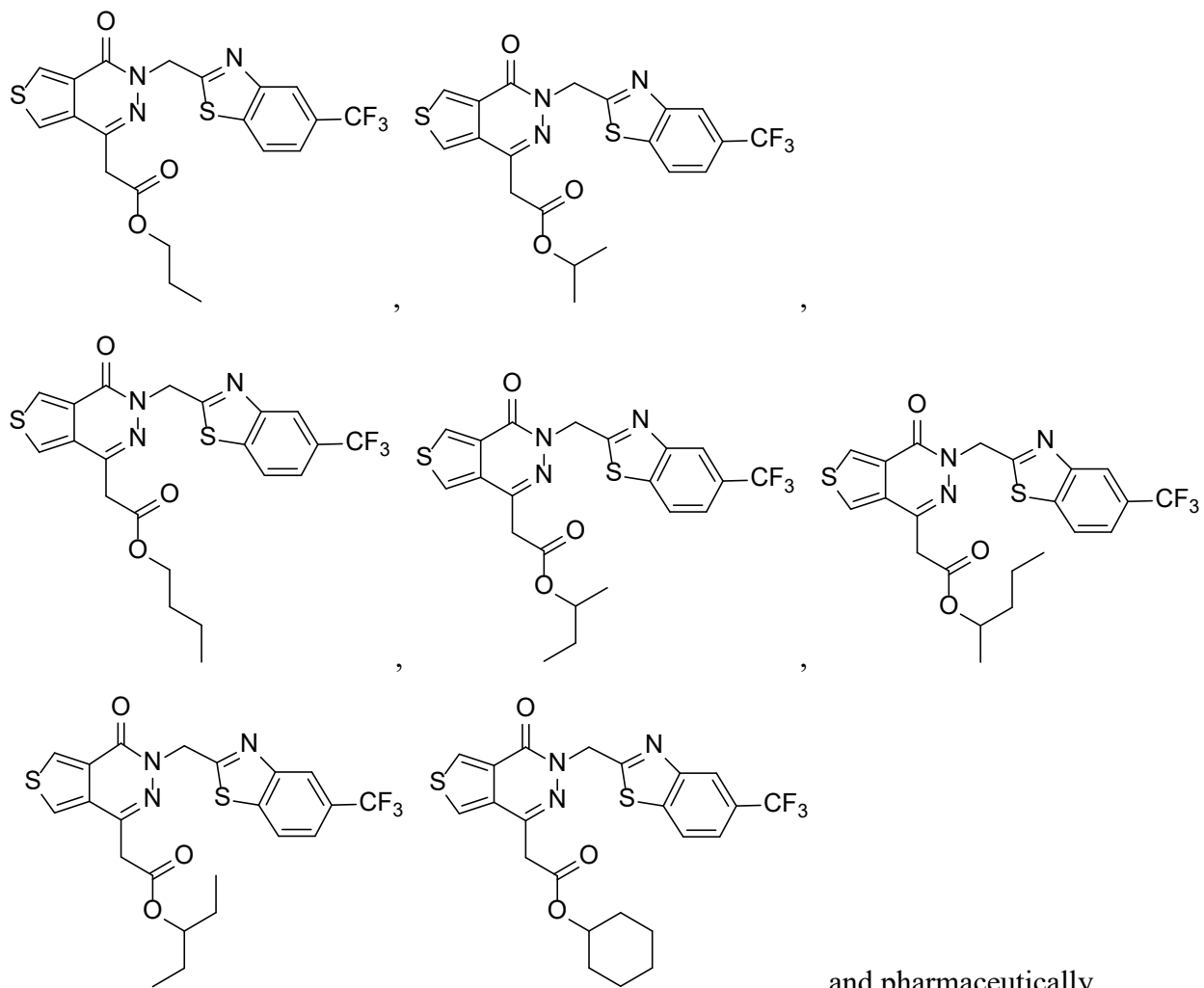
X^6 is $S(O)_2-OR^{13}$ or $S(O)_2-NHR^{13}$; and

R^{13} is H or (C₁-C₆)-alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

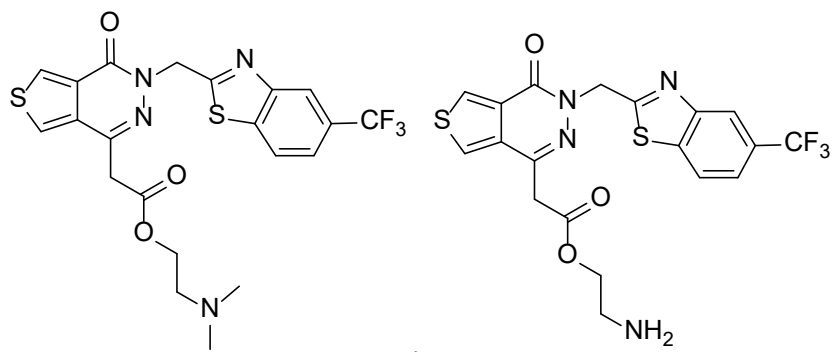
6. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^5 , R^7 , and R^8 are each H; and R^6 is halogen or haloalkyl.
7. The compound of claim 5, wherein R^5 , R^7 , and R^8 are each H; and R^6 is halogen or haloalkyl.
8. The compound of any one of claims 1-7, wherein R^6 is haloalkyl.
9. The compound of any one of claims 1-8, wherein R^6 is trifluoromethyl.

10. A compound selected from a group consisting of



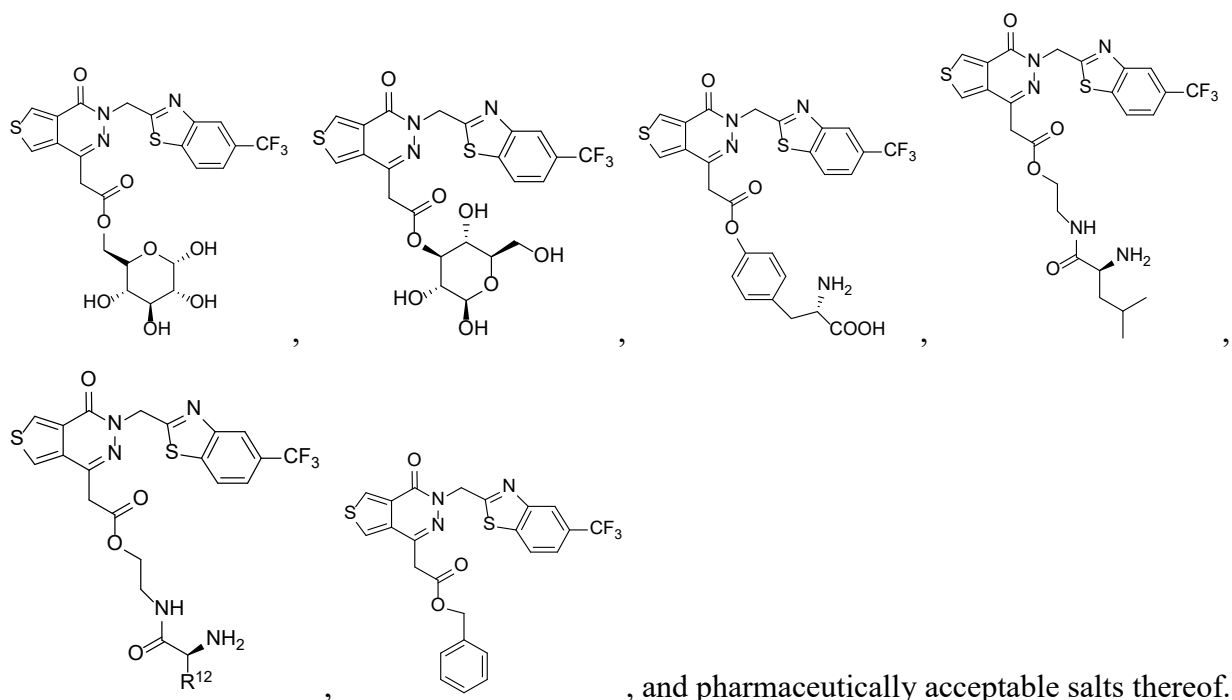
, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

11. A compound selected from a group consisting of



, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

12. A compound selected from the group consisting of:



, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

13. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

14. The compound of any one of claims 11-13, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is a hydrochloride salt.
15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of any one of claims 1-14 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
16. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 14 for use as a medicament.
17. The compound of any one of claims 1-14 for use in inhibiting aldose reductase activity in a subject.
18. The compound for use of claim 17, wherein the subject is a human subject.
19. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1-14 for the production of a medicament effective for treating stroke.

20. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1-14 for the production of a medicament effective for treating ischemic stroke.
21. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1-14 for the production of a medicament effective for treating tissue damage.
22. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1-14 for the production of a medicament effective for treating brain damage.
23. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1-14 for the production of a medicament effective for treating neural damage.
24. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1-14 for the production of a medicament effective for treating an autoimmune disease.
25. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1-14 for the production of a medicament effective for treating galactosemia.
26. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1-14 for the production of a medicament effective for treating phosphomannomutase 2-congenital disorder of glycosylation (PMM2-CDG).
27. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1-14 for the production of a medicament effective for treating a complication of diabetes.
28. The use of claim 27, wherein the complication of diabetes is diabetic cardiomyopathy, diabetic retinopathy, diabetic neuropathy, or diabetic nephropathy.
29. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1-14 for the production of a medicament effective for treating neuropathy, retinopathy, or nephropathy.

30. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1-14 for the production of a medicament effective for treating a cardiovascular disorder.
31. The use of claim 30, wherein the cardiovascular disorder is cardiomyopathy.
32. A method for treating cutaneous aging, comprising administering to a subject a compound of any one of claims 1-14.
33. The method of claim 32, wherein the compound is administered topically to the skin.