

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
15 April 2004 (15.04.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/031116 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **C07C 59/90**,
59/64, A61K 31/201, 31/22, A61P 9/10, 3/10, 3/04, C07C
69/738, 51/373

(74) Common Representative: **MERCK PATENT GMBH**;
Frankfurter Strasse 250, 64293 Darmstadt (DE).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2003/008887

(22) International Filing Date: 11 August 2003 (11.08.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0212135 1 October 2002 (01.10.2002) FR

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **MERCK
PATENT GMBH** [DE/DE]; Frankfurter Strasse 250,
64293 Darmstadt (DE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BRUNET, Michel**
[FR/FR]; 17, Allée des Bleuets, F-69780 Toussieu (FR).
ZEILLER, Jean-Jacques [FR/FR]; 25, Rue Laurent
Carle, F-69008 Lyon (FR). **FERRAND, Gérard** [FR/FR];
62, Rue des Aqueducs, F-69005 Lyon (FR). **BON-
HOMME, Yves** [FR/FR]; 21, avenue de la Paix, Le
Buclay, F-69260 Charbonnières les Bains (FR).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,
CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH,
GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC,
LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,
MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC,
SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA,
UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

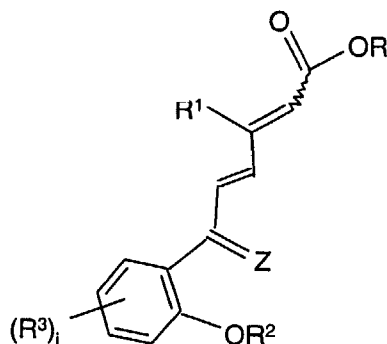
(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,
GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: NOVEL SUBSTITUTED ARYLHEXADIENOIC ACIDS AND ESTERS THEREOF WHICH CAN BE USED FOR THE TREATMENT AND PREVENTION OF DIABETES, DYSLIPIDAEMIA AND ATHEROSCLEROSIS, PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING THEM AND PROCESSES FOR THE PREPARATION OF THEM



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to compounds of the formula (I), and to the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, to processes for the preparation of them and to pharmaceutical compositions comprising them, which are useful especially for the treatment and prevention of dyslipidaemia, atherosclerosis and diabetes.