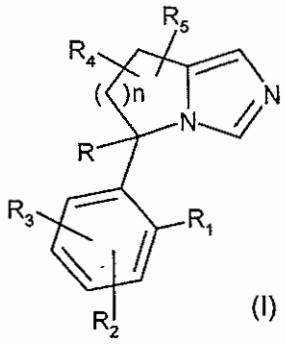
Claims:

1. A method of treating a disease or disorder characterised by increased stress hormone levels and/or decreased androgen hormone levels in a subject, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by formula (I):



(I)

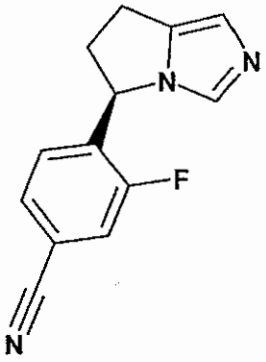
wherein n is 1 or 3;

R is hydrogen or --C(O)N(R_a)(R_b) wherein R_a and R_b are independently --(C_1-C_4) alkyl, or --(C_1-C_4) alkyl-(C_5-C_7) aryl, wherein each of R_a and R_b is optionally substituted by --(C_1-C_4) alkoxy;

R_1, R_2, and R_3, are independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano or --(C_6-C_{10}) aryl, wherein said --(C_6-C_{10}) aryl is optionally substituted by halogen, with the proviso that no more than one of R_1, R_2, and R_3 is hydrogen; and

R_4 and R_5 are hydrogen; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein wherein compound is 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-flurorbenzonitrile having formula

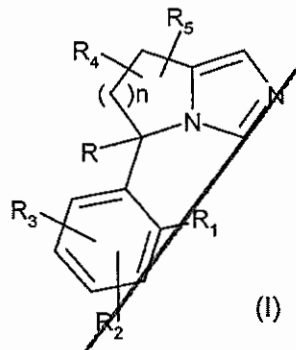


3. The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein wherein compound is 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-flurorbenzonitrile dihydrogen phosphate.

4. The method according to any of the claims 1 to 3, wherein the disease or disorder is heart failure, cachexia, acute coronary syndrome, chronic stress syndrome, cushing's syndrome, metabolic syndrome or hypercortisolemia.

5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the disease or disorder is selected from: acute heart failure, acute decompensated heart failure, chronic heart failure, chronic heart failure with impaired exercise tolerance, chronic heart failure with muscle weakness, cardiac cachexia, COPD-induced cachexia, cirrhosis-induced cachexia, tumor-induced cachexia, or viral (HIV)-induced cachexia.

6. A method of treating heart failure, cachexia, acute coronary syndrome, chronic stress cushing's syndrome, metabolic syndrome or hypercortisolemia, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by formula (I):



(I)

wherein n is 1 or 3;

R is hydrogen or --C(O)N(R_a)(R_b) wherein R_a and R_b are independently --(C_1-C_4) alkyl, or --(C_1-C_4) alkyl-(C_5-C_7) aryl, wherein each of R_a and R_b is optionally substituted by --(C_1-C_4) alkoxy;

R_1, R_2, and R_3, are independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano or --(C_6-C_{10}) aryl, wherein said --(C_6-C_{10}) aryl is optionally substituted by halogen, with the proviso that no more than one of R_1, R_2, and R_3 is hydrogen; and

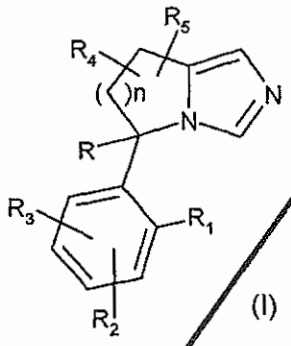
R_4 and R_5 are hydrogen; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the compound is 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-flurorbenzonitrile.

8. The method according to claim 6 or 7, wherein the compound is 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-flurorbenzonitrile dihydrogen phosphate.

9. The method according to any of the claims 6 to 8, wherein the disease or disorder is selected from: acute heart failure, acute decompensated heart failure, chronic heart failure, chronic heart failure with impaired exercise tolerance, chronic heart failure with muscle weakness, cardiac cachexia, COPD-induced cachexia, cirrhosis-induced cachexia, tumor-induced cachexia, or viral (HIV)-induced cachexia.

10. Use of a compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein n is 1 or 3;

R is hydrogen or --C(O)N(R_a)(R_b) wherein R_a and R_b are independently --(C_1-C_4) alkyl, --(C_1-C_4) alkyl-(C_5-C_7) aryl, each of R_a and R_b is optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from --(C_1-C_4) alkoxy;

R_1, R_2, and R_3, are selected independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano and --(C_6-C_{10}) aryl, said --(C_6-C_{10}) aryl is optionally substituted one or two substituents selected from halogen, with the proviso that no more than one of R_1, R_2, and R_3 is hydrogen; and

R_4 and R_5 are hydrogen; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

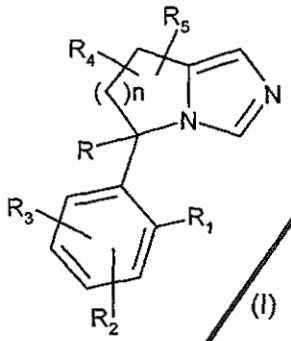
for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disorder or disease characterised by increased stress hormone levels and/or decreased androgen hormone levels in a subject

11. Use according to claim 10, wherein the compound is 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-flurorbenzonitrile.

12. Use according to claim 10 or 11, wherein the compound is 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-flurorbenzonitrile dihydrogen phosphate.

13. Use according to any of the claims 10 to 12, wherein the disease or disorder is heart failure, cachexia, acute coronary syndrome, chronic stress syndrome, cushing's syndrome, metabolic syndrome or hypercortisolemia.

14. A compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein n is 1 or 3;

R is hydrogen or --C(O)N(R_a)(R_b) wherein R_a and R_b are independently --(C_1-C_4) alkyl, or --(C_1-C_4) alkyl-(C_5-C_7) aryl, wherein each of R_a and R_b is optionally substituted by --(C_1-C_4) alkoxy;

R_1, R_2, and R_3, are independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano or --(C_6-C_{10}) aryl, wherein said --(C_6-C_{10}) aryl is optionally substituted by halogen, with the proviso that no more than one of R_1, R_2, and R_3 is hydrogen; and

R_4 and R_5 are hydrogen; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use in the treatment of a disorder or disease characterised by increased stress hormone levels and/or decreased androgen hormone levels in a subject.

15. A compound according to claim 14, wherein the compound of formula (I) is 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-flurorbenzonitrile.

16. A compound according to claim 14 or 15, wherein the compound of formula (I) is 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-flurorbenzonitrile dihydrogen phosphate.

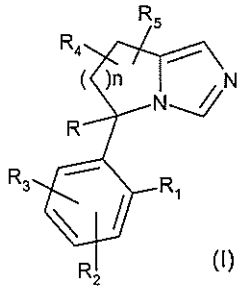
17. A compound according to any of the claims 14 to 16, wherein the disease or disorder is heart failure, cachexia, acute coronary syndrome, chronic stress syndrome, cushing's syndrome, metabolic syndrome or hypercortisolemia.

18. A compound according to claim 16, wherein the disease or disorder is cushing's syndrome.

19. A compound according to claim 13 or 17, wherein the disease or disorder is selected from: acute heart failure, acute decompensated heart failure, chronic heart failure, chronic heart failure with impaired exercise tolerance, chronic heart failure with muscle weakness, cardiac cachexia, COPD-induced cachexia, cirrhosis-induced cachexia, tumor-induced cachexia, or viral (HIV)-induced cachexia.

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Use of a compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein n is 1 or 3;

R is hydrogen or --C(O)N(R_a)(R_b) wherein R_a and R_b are independently --(C_1-C_4) alkyl, --(C_1-C_4) alkyl-(C_5-C_7) aryl, each of R_a and R_b is optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from --(C_1-C_4) alkoxy;

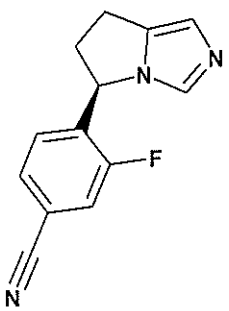
R_1, R_2, and R_3, are selected independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano and --(C_6-C_{10}) aryl, said --(C_6-C_{10}) aryl is optionally substituted one or two substituents selected from halogen, with the proviso that no more than one of R_1, R_2, and R_3 is hydrogen; and

R_4 and R_5 are hydrogen; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disorder or disease characterised by increased stress hormone levels in a subject; wherein said stress hormone is cortisol.

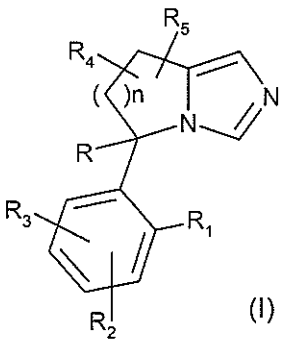
2. Use according to claim 1, wherein the compound is 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-fluorobenzonitrile having formula .

3. Use according to claim 2, wherein the compound is 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-fluorobenzonitrile dihydrogen phosphate.



4. Use according to any one of the claims 1 to 3, wherein the disease or disorder is chronic stress syndrome, Cushing's syndrome, Cushing's diseaseor hypercortisolemia.

5. A compound of formula (I)



(I)

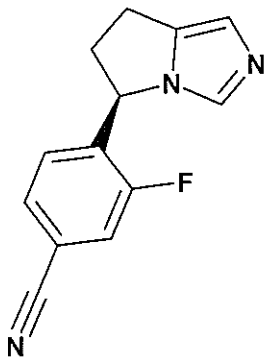
wherein n is 1 or 3;

R is hydrogen or --C(O)N(R_a)(R_b) wherein R_a and R_b are independently --(C_1-C_4) alkyl, or --(C_1-C_4) alkyl-(C_5-C_7) aryl, wherein each of R_a and R_b is optionally substituted by --(C_1-C_4) alkoxy;

R_1, R_2, and R_3, are independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano or --(C_6-C_{10}) aryl, wherein said --(C_6-C_{10}) aryl is optionally substituted by halogen, with the proviso that no more than one of R_1, R_2, and R_3 is hydrogen; and

R_4 and R_5 are hydrogen; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use in the treatment of a disorder or disease characterised by increased stress hormone levels in a subject; wherein said stress hormone is cortisol.

6. A compound according to claim 5, wherein the compound of formula (I) is 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-fluorobenzonitrile having formula



7. A compound according to claim 6, wherein the compound is 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-fluorobenzonitrile dihydrogen phosphate.

8. A compound according to any one of the claims 5 to 7, wherein the disease or disorder is Cushing's disease, chronic stress syndrome, Cushing's syndrome or hypercortisolemia.

9. A compound according to any one of the claims 5 to 8, wherein the disease or disorder is Cushing's disease..

10. The compound 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-fluorobenzonitrile dihydrogen phosphate.

11. 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-fluorobenzonitrile dihydrogen phosphate for use in the treatment of a disorder or disease characterised by increased stress hormone levels in a subject; wherein said stress hormone is cortisol.

12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-fluorobenzonitrile dihydrogen phosphate and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising 4-[(5R)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazol-5-yl]-3-fluorobenzonitrile dihydrogen phosphate and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for use in the treatment of a disorder or disease characterised by increased stress hormone levels in a subject; wherein said stress hormone is cortisol.