

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



G00002

(43) International Publication Date
14 March 2002 (14.03.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/20525 A3

(51) International Patent Classification: C07D 487/04,
A61K 31/53, A61P 35/00, 3/10, C07D 487/253, 487/00,
487/239, 487/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/CA01/01285

(22) International Filing Date:
7 September 2001 (07.09.2001)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0022079.8 8 September 2000 (08.09.2000) GB

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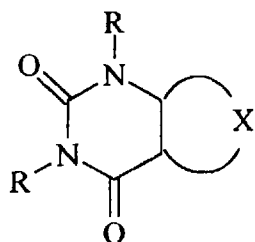
(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU,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

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

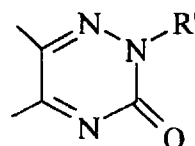
Published:
with international search report

[Continued on next page]

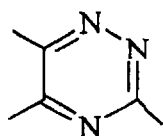
(54) Title: PROTEIN TYROSINE PHOSPHATASE INHIBITOR



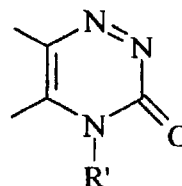
(I)



(II)



(III)



(IV)

(57) Abstract: Use of a compound of formula (I), wherein each R, which are the same or different, is H or C₁-C₆ alkyl, and X completes a ring which is a substituted triazine having one of the following formulae (II) to (IV), wherein R' is H or C₁-C₆ alkyl; or an enol tautomer of a compound of formula (I) in which any of the groups R or R' is hydrogen; in the manufacture of a medicament for use as a protein tyrosine phosphatase (PTP) inhibitor. Formula (I) embraces 2-methylfervenulone, which can be produced by fermentation of a novel microbial strain. Fermentation of the said strain also produces novel precursors to 2-methylfervenulone having utility as prodrugs.