

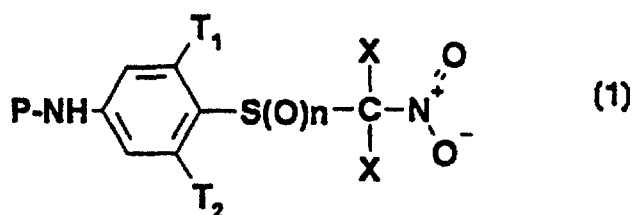
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(21) International application number: PCT/EP97/06981 (22) International filing date: 12 December 1997 (12.12.97) (30) Data relating to the priority: 96/15,887 23 December 1996 (23.12.96) FR (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MERCK PATENT GMBH [DE/DE]; Frankfurter Strasse 250, D-64293 Darmstadt (DE). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (US only): François COLLONGES [FR/FR]; Le Grand Champ, Chemin de Halage, F-01700 Beynost (FR). Hervé DUMAS [FR/FR]; 27, chemin de l'Etang, F-38090 Vaulx- Milieu (FR). Claude LARDY [FR/FR]; 84, boulevard Ambroise Paré, F-69008 Lyon (FR). Philippe DURBIN [FR/FR]; 83, rue Paul Verlaine, F-69100 Villeurbanne (FR). (74) Representative: MERCK PATENT GMBH; P.O. Box, D-64271 Darmstadt (DE).	(81) Designated states: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO Patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian Patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European Patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI Patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With the International Search Report. Before expiry of the period provided for amending the claims, will be republished if such amendments are received.	

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(54) Title: NITROMETHYLTHIOBENZENE DERIVATIVES AS INHIBITORS OF ALDOSE REDUCTASE**(54) Titre:** DERIVES DU NITROMETHYLTHIOBENZENE COMME INHIBITEURS DE L'ALDOSE REDUCTASE**(57) Abstract**

The invention concerns novel compounds of general formula (1) in which: P, T₁, T₂, X and n are as defined in claim 1, their tautomeric forms, and their additive salts with pharmaceutically acceptable bases. The invention also concerns methods for preparing these compounds and their applications as medicines. These compounds inhibit the aldose reductase enzyme and can be used in the treatment or prevention of peripheral and autonomous neurological diabetic complications, renal and ocular disorders such as cataract and retinopathy.

**(57) Abrégé**

La présente invention concerne de nouveaux composés répondant à la formule générale (1) dans laquelle: P, T₁, T₂, X et n sont tels que définis à la revendication 1, leurs formes tautomères, et leurs sels d'addition avec des bases pharmaceutiquement acceptables. L'invention concerne aussi des procédés de préparation de ces composés ainsi que les applications de ces composés comme médicaments. Ces composés inhibent l'enzyme aldose réductase et peuvent être utilisés dans le traitement ou la prévention des complications diabétiques neurologiques périphériques et autonomes, rénales et oculaires telles que la cataracte et la rétinopathie.

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