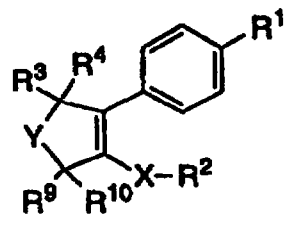


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(21) International Application Number: PCT/CA96/00682 (22) International Filing Date: 9 October 1996 (09.10.96) (30) Priority Data: <table border="0"> <tr> <td>60/005,371</td> <td>13 October 1995 (13.10.95)</td> <td>US</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9602939.2</td> <td>13 February 1996 (13.02.96)</td> <td>GB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60/011,637</td> <td>14 February 1996 (14.02.96)</td> <td>US</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9605645.2</td> <td>18 March 1996 (18.03.96)</td> <td>GB</td> </tr> </table> (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MERCK FROSST CANADA INC. [CA/CA]; 16711 Trans Canada Highway, Kirkland, Quebec H9H 3L1 (CA). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BELLEY, Michel [CA/CA]; (CA). GAUTHIER, Jacques, Y. [CA/CA]; (CA). GRIMM, Erich [CA/CA]; (CA). LEBLANC,	60/005,371	13 October 1995 (13.10.95)	US	9602939.2	13 February 1996 (13.02.96)	GB	60/011,637	14 February 1996 (14.02.96)	US	9605645.2	18 March 1996 (18.03.96)	GB	Yves [CA/CA]; (CA). LI, Chung-Sing [CA/CA]; (CA). THERIEN, Michel [CA/CA]; (CA). BLACK, Cameron [CA/CA]; (CA). LAU, Cheuk-Kun [CA/CA]; (CA). PRASIT, Petpiboon [CA/CA]; (CA). ROY, Patrick [CA/CA]; 16711 Trans Canada Highway, Kirkland, Quebec H9H 3L1 (CA). (74) Agents: MURPHY, Kevin, P. et al.; Swabey Ogilvy Renault, Suite 1600, 1981 McGill College, Montreal, Quebec H3A 2Y3 (CA). (81) Designated States: AL, AM, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CN, CU, CZ, EE, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KG, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LT, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, RU, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, 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 international search report.
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(54) Title: (METHYLSULFONYL)PHENYL-2-(5H)-FURANONES AS COX-2 INHIBITORS (57) Abstract The invention encompasses the novel compound of formula (I) useful in the treatment of cyclooxygenase-2 mediated diseases. The invention also encompasses certain pharmaceutical compositions for treatment of cyclooxygenase-2 mediated diseases comprising compounds of formula (I).  (I)													