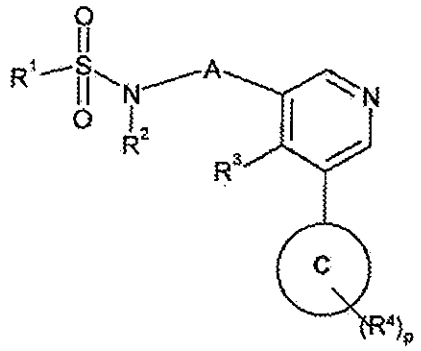
CLAIMS

1. A Compound of Formula I':



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

A is a bond, -CH_2-, -CHR^5-, -CR^5R^6- or -$CR^{5a}R^{6a}$-$CR^{5b}R^{6b}$-;

Ring C is a phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl;

R^1 is C_{1-7}alkyl, haloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryloxy-C_{1-7}alkyl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl in which alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl are optionally substituted with 1 to 5 R^7;

R^2 is H, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl-C_{1-7}alkyl, hydroxy-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkyl-OC(O)C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy-C_{1-7}alkyl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, or C_{6-10}aryl; wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with hydroxy, C_{1-7}alkoxy, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, halo, CN or C_{3-7}cycloalkyl;

R^3 is H, halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, cyano, C_{1-7}alkoxy, hydroxy, nitro, -NH_2, -NH(C_{1-7}alkyl) or -N(C_{1-7}alkyl)$_2$;

each R^4 is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, cyano, -NH_2, -NH(C_{1-7}alkyl), -N(C_{1-7}alkyl)$_2$, C_{1-7}alkoxy, halo-C_{1-7}alkoxy, hydroxy, carboxy, nitro, sulfonyl, sulfamoyl, sulfonamido, C_{6-10}aryl, heterocyclyl, C_{6-10}aryloxy, heterocyclyloxy, -SH, -S-C_{1-7}alkyl, -C(O)O- C_{6-10}aryl, -C(O)O-heterocyclyl, -C(O)O-heteroaryl, -C(O)NR^2- C_{1-7}alkyl, -C(O)NR^2- C_{6-10}aryl, -C(O)NR^2-heteroaryl, -C(O)NR^2-heterocyclyl, -NR^2C(O)- C_{1-7}alkyl, -NR^2C(O)- C_{6-10}aryl, -NR^2C(O)-heteroaryl, -NR^2C(O)-heterocyclyl, -OC(O)- C_{1-7}alkyl, -OC(O)- C_{6-10}aryl, -OC(O)-heteroaryl and -OC(O)-heterocyclyl; wherein R^4 is optionally substituted with 1 to 5 R^7; or

two adjacent R^4 groups can form with the atoms to which they are attached a phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered ring heteroaryl, in which said phenyl or heteroaryl ring is optionally substituted with 1 to 4 R^8;

R^5 and R^6 are independently C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl or C_{6-10}aryl; or R^5 and R^6 form together with the atom to which they are attached a C_{3-7}cycloalkyl;

R^{5a}, R^{6a}, R^{5b} and R^{6b} are independently H, C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl or C_{6-10}aryl; or any two of R^{5a}, R^{6a}, R^{5b} and R^{6b} form together with the atom(s) to which they are attached a C_{3-7}cycloalkyl;

each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, C_{6-10}aryloxy, heterocyclyl, C_{6-10}aryl, heteroaryl, CN and halo-C_{1-7}alkyl;

each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, CN and halo-C_{1-7}alkoxy; or

R^2 and R^3; R^1 and R^2; R^1 and R^5; R^1 and R^{5a}; R^1 and R^{5b}; R^2 and R^{5a}; R^2 and R^{5b}; R^1 and R^3; or R^2 and R^5 can form with the atoms to which they are attached a 4- to 7- membered heterocyclyl; or

R^3 and R^5; R^3 and R^{5b}; or R^3 and R^{5a} can form together with the atoms to which they are attached a C_{5-7}cycloalkyl; and

wherein each heteroaryl is a monocyclic aromatic ring comprising 5 or 6 ring atoms selected from carbon atoms and 1 to 5 heteroatoms, and

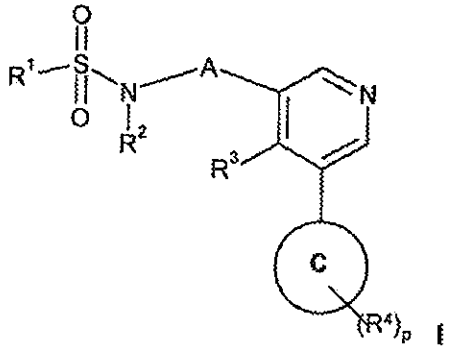
each heterocyclyl is a monocyclic saturated or partially saturated but non-aromatic moiety comprising 4-7 ring atoms selected from carbon atoms and 1 to 3 heteroatoms; and each heteroatoms being O, N or S;

p is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, with the proviso that Ring C together with two adjacent R^4 groups do not form a 2-indole; and

when Ring C is pyridine, thiazole, imidazole or pyrazole and two adjacent R^4 groups do not form with the atoms to which they are attached a phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered ring heteroaryl, than A is not a bond; and

when Ring C together with two adjacent R^4 groups form oxazolo[4,5-b]pyiridine, than A is not a bond; and the compound of Formula I' is not 2-methyl-*N*-(6-(5-(phenylsulfonamido)pyridin-3-yl)-1*H*-indazol-4-yl)thiazole-4-carboxamide, 2-chloro-*N*-isobutyl-*N*-((5-(3-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)benzenesulfonamide or 4-(5-(4-chloro-2,5-dimethylphenylsulfonamido)pyridin-3-yl)benzoic acid.

2. The compound of claim 1, having Formula I:



I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

A is a bond, -CH_2-, -CHR^5-, -CR^5R^6- or -$CR^{5a}R^{6a}$-$CR^{5b}R^{6b}$-;

Ring C is a phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl;

R^1 is C_{1-7}alkyl, haloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryloxy-C_{1-7}alkyl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl in which alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl are optionally substituted with 1 to 5 R^7;

R^2 is H, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, heterocycyl or C_{6-10}aryl;

R^3 is H, halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, cyano, C_{1-7}alkoxy, hydroxy, nitro, -NH_2, -$NH(C_{1-7}alkyl)$ or -$N(C_{1-7}alkyl)_2$;

each R^4 is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, cyano, -NH_2, -$NH(C_{1-7}alkyl)$, -$N(C_{1-7}alkyl)_2$, C_{1-7}alkoxy, halo-C_{1-7}alkoxy, hydroxy, carboxy, nitro, sulfonyl, sulfamoyl, sulfonamido, C_{6-10}aryl, heterocyclyl, C_{6-10}aryloxy, heterocyclyloxy, -SH, -S-C_{1-7}alkyl, -C(O)O- C_{6-10}aryl, -C(O)O-heterocyclyl, -C(O)O-heteroaryl, -$C(O)NR^2$- C_{1-7}alkyl, -$C(O)NR^2$- C_{6-10}aryl, -$C(O)NR^2$-heteroaryl, -$C(O)NR^2$-heterocyclyl, -$NR^2C(O)$- C_{1-7}alkyl, -$NR^2C(O)$- C_{6-10}aryl, -$NR^2C(O)$-heteroaryl, -$NR^2C(O)$-heterocyclyl, -OC(O)- C_{1-7}alkyl, -OC(O)- C_{6-10}aryl, -OC(O)-heteroaryl and -OC(O)-heterocyclyl; wherein R^4 is optionally substituted with 1 to 5 R^7; or

two adjacent R^4 groups can form with the atoms to which they are attached a phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered ring heteroaryl, in which said phenyl or heteroaryl ring is optionally substituted with 1 to 4 R^8;

R^5 and R^6 are independently C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl or C_{6-10}aryl; or R^5 and R^6 form together with the atom to which they are attached a C_{3-7}cycloalkyl;

R^{5a}, R^{6a}, R^{5b} and R^{6b} are independently H, C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl or C_{6-10}aryl; or any two of R^{5a}, R^{6a}, R^{5b} and R^{6b} form together with the atom(s) to which they are attached a C_{3-7}cycloalkyl;

each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, C_{6-10}aryloxy, heterocyclyl, C_{6-10}aryl, heteroaryl, CN and halo-C_{1-7}alkyl;

each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, CN and halo-C_{1-7}alkoxy; or

R^2 and R^3; R^1 and R^2; R^1 and R^5; R^1 and R^{5a}; R^1 and R^{5b}; R^2 and R^{5a}; R^2 and R^{5b}; or R^2 and R^5 can form with the atoms to which they are attached a 4- to 7- membered heterocyclyl; or

R^3 and R^5; R^3 and R^{5b}; or R^3 and R^{5a} can form together with the atoms to which they are attached a C_{5-7}cycloalkyl; and

wherein each heteroaryl is a monocyclic aromatic ring comprising 5 or 6 ring atoms selected from carbon atoms and 1 to 5 heteroatoms, and

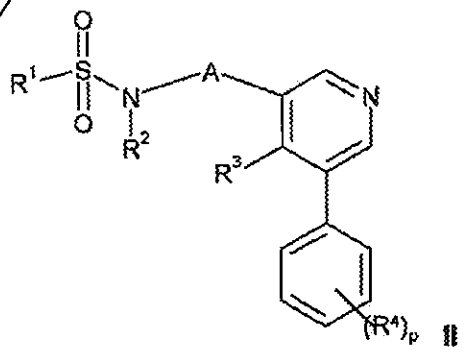
each heterocyclyl is a monocyclic saturated or partially saturated but non-aromatic moiety comprising 4-7 ring atoms selected from carbon atoms and 1 to 3 heteroatoms; and each heteroatoms being O, N or S;

p is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, with the proviso that Ring C together with two adjacent R^4 groups do not form a 2-indole; and

when Ring C is pyridine, thiazole, imidazole or pyrazole and two adjacent R^4 groups do not form with the atoms to which they are attached a phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered ring heteroaryl, than A is not a bond; and

when Ring C together with two adjacent R^4 groups form oxazolo[4,5-b]pyridine, than A is not a bond; and the compound of Formula I is not 2-methyl-*N*-(6-(5-(phenylsulfonamido)pyridin-3-yl)-1*H*-indazol-4-yl)thiazole-4-carboxamide, 2-chloro-*N*-isobutyl-*N*-((5-(3-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)benzenesulfonamide or 4-(5-(4-chloro-2,5-dimethylphenylsulfonamido)pyridin-3-yl)benzoic acid.

3. The compound of claim 1 having Formula II:



II

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

A is a bond, -CH_2-, -CHR^6- or -CR^5R^6-;

R^1 is C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryloxy-C_{1-7}alkyl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl in which alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl are optionally substituted with 1 to 5 R^7;

R^2 is H, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl or C_{3-7}cycloalkyl;

R^3 is H, halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, cyano, C_{1-7}alkoxy, hydroxy, nitro, -NH_2, -NH(C_{1-7}alkyl) or -N(C_{1-7}alkyl)$_2$;

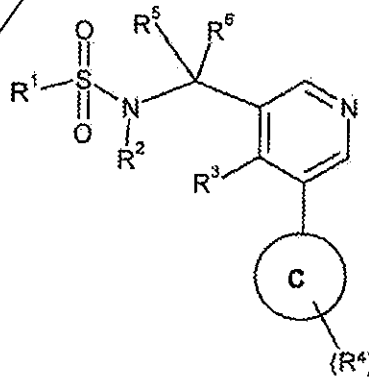
each R^4 is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, cyano, -NH_2, -NH(C_{1-7}alkyl), -N(C_{1-7}alkyl)$_2$, C_{1-7}alkoxy, halo-C_{1-7}alkoxy, hydroxy, carboxy, nitro, sulfonyl, sulfamoyl, sulfonamido, C_{6-10}aryl, heterocyclyl, C_{6-10}aryloxy, heterocyclyloxy, -SH, -S-C_{1-7}alkyl, -C(O)O-aryl, -C(O)O-heterocyclyl, -C(O)O-heteroaryl, -C(O)NR^2- C_{1-7}alkyl, -C(O)NR^2-C_{6-10}aryl, -C(O)NR^2-heteroaryl, -C(O)NR^2-heterocyclyl, -NR^2C(O)- C_{1-7}alkyl, -NR^2C(O)-C_{6-10}aryl, -NR^2C(O)-heteroaryl, -NR^2C(O)-heterocyclyl, -OC(O)-C_{1-7}alkyl, -OC(O)-C_{6-10}aryl, -OC(O)-heteroaryl and -OC(O)-heterocyclyl; wherein R^4 is optionally substituted with 1 to 5 R^7;

R^5 and R^6 are independently C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, heterocyclyl;

each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, C_{6-10}aryloxy, heterocyclyl, C_{6-10}aryl, heteroaryl, CN and halo-C_{1-7}alkyl;

p is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5; and the compound of Formula I is not 2-methyl-*N*-(6-(5-(phenylsulfonamido)pyridin-3-yl)-1*H*-indazol-4-yl)thiazole-4-carboxamide, 2-chloro-*N*-isobutyl-*N*-((5-(3-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)benzenesulfonamide or 4-(5-(4-chloro-2,5-dimethylphenylsulfonamido)pyridin-3-yl)benzoic acid.

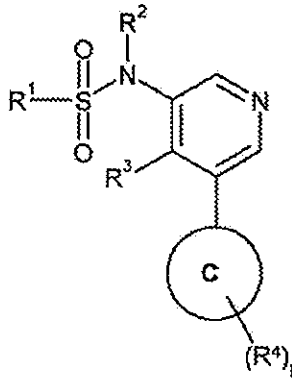
4. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 3 having Formula III:



III

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein C, R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6 and p are as defined in claim 1, 2 or 3.

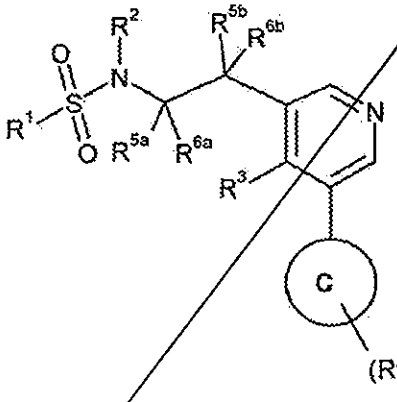
5. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 3 having formula IV:



IV

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein C, R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and p are as defined in claim 1, 2 or 3.

6. The compound of any one of claim 1 to 3 having Formula V:

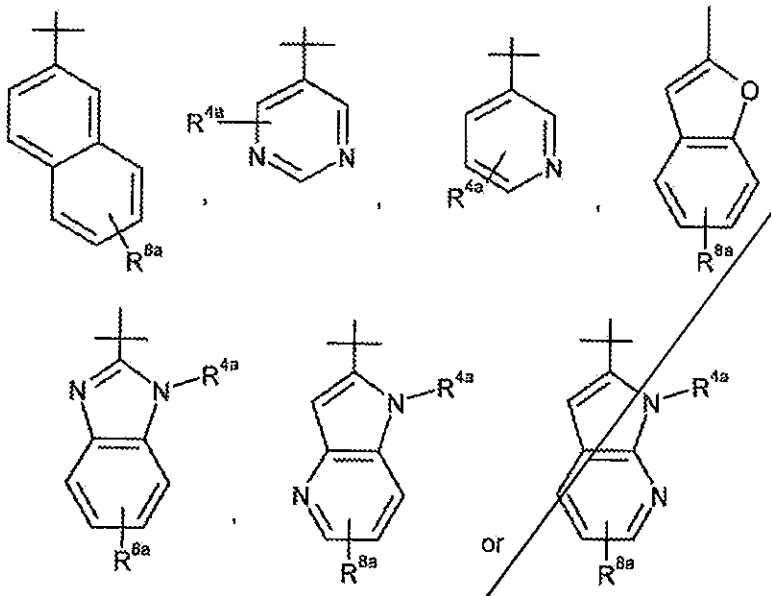


V

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein C, R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^{5a}, R^{6a}, R^{5b}, R^{6b} and p are as defined in claim 1, 2 or 3.

7. The compound of any of claims 1, 2, 4, 5 or 6, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein C is phenyl.

8. The compound of any one of claims 1, 4, 5 or 6, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ring C or Ring C together with 2 R^4 groups, is selected from:



wherein R^{8a} is R^8 or H and R^{4a} is R^4 or H.

9. The compound according to any of the preceding claims, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^4 is independently selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, CN, halo, halo-C_{1-4}alkyl or halo-C_{1-7}alkoxy.

10. The compound according to any of claims 1 to 3 or 7 to 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein A is CHR^5.

11. The compound of any of claims 1 to 3 or 7 to 10, or a pharmaceutically salt thereof wherein R^1 is C_{1-4}alkyl, R^2 is H, R^3 is H, A is CHR^5, R^5 is C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, p is 1 or 2; and each R^4 is independently C_{1-4}alkyl, halo-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, CN, halo or halo-C_{1-4}alkoxy.

12. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 11 selected from:
N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-methoxy-benzene-sulfonamide;
N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-fluoro-benzene-sulfonamide;
N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-ethyl-benzene-sulfonamide;
N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-cyano-benzene-sulfonamide;
N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-trifluoromethyl-benzenesulfonamide;
N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-fluoro-2-methyl-benzenesulfonamide;
N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethanesulfonamide; N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-1-phenyl-methanesulfonamide;

N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-2-phenoxyethanesulfonamide;
N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-methyl-benzenesulfonamide;
N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-1-(2-chlorophenyl)methanesulfonamide;
N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)methanesulfonamide;
Cyclopropanesulfonic acid [5-(3-chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-amide;
N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)propane-1-sulfonamide;
N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)butane-1-sulfonamide;
N-(5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethanesulfonamide;
N-(5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)ethanesulfonamide; N-(5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)cyclopropane-sulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)methane-sulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)-1,1,1-trifluoromethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyano-3-ethoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(1-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-2-methylpropyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(1-(5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)ethyl)ethanesulfonamide; N-(1-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)ethyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(1-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)butyl)ethanesulfonamide;
(R)-N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
(S)-N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)methanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
(S)-N-((5-(4-cyano-2-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
(R)-N-((5-(4-cyano-2-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide
(R)-N-((5-(4-cyano-3-fluorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
(S)-N-((5-(4-cyano-3-fluorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide
N-((5-(4-cyano-2-fluorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopentyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)propane-2-sulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(2-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(2-chlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(2-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-yl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(3-fluorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-ethoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;

N-((5-(3-chlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)-ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-fluorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(3,5-dichlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-chlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)-ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)-ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(6-chloro-1-methyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridin-3yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
Ethanesulfonic acid [5-(6-chloro-1-methyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-2-yl)-pyridin-3-ylmethyl]-amide;
Ethanesulfonic acid [5-(6-chloro-1-methyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,2-c]pyridin-2-yl)-pyridin-3-ylmethyl]-amide;
N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)-N-methylethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-ethylsulfanyl-phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(2,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-methylsulfanyl-phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-benzo-[1,3]-dioxol-5-yl-pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-yl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(1H-indol-5-yl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-benzo[b]thiophen-2-yl-pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-5-yl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-naphtalen-1-yl-pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
2-Chloro-4-[5-(1,1-dioxo-isothiazolidin-2-ylmethyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-benzonitrile;
Ethanesulfonic acid {[5-(3-chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-cyclopropyl-methyl}-ethyl-amide;
Ethanesulfonic acid {[5-(3-chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-cyclopropyl-methyl}-(3-methyl-butyl)-amide;
({[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-cyclopropyl-methyl}-ethanesulfonyl-amino)-acetic acid methyl ester;

Ethanesulfonic acid {[5-(3-chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-cyclopropyl-methyl}-isobutyl-amide;
Ethanesulfonic acid {[5-(3-chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-cyclopropyl-methyl}-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-amide;
N-(1-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)cyclopropyl)ethane-sulfonamide;
N-((4-chloro-5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)-*N*-methylmethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(6-cyanonaphthalen-2-yl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethane-sulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(quinolin-6-yl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
(R)-N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
(S)-N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(5-cyanobenzofuran-2-yl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(benzo[d]thiazol-5-yl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(benzofuran-5-yl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(4-fluorophenyl)methyl)ethane-sulfonamide;
N-(1-(5-(4-cyano-3-methylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)ethane-sulfonamide;
N-(2-(5-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)ethyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(2-(5-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)cyclopropyl)ethane-sulfonamide; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound according to any one of claims 1 to 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

14. A combination, in particular a pharmaceutical combination, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound according to any one of claims 1 to 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and one or more therapeutically active agents selected from an HMG-Co-A reductase inhibitor, an angiotensin II receptor antagonist, angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor, a calcium channel blocker (CCB), a dual angiotensin converting enzyme/neutral endopeptidase (ACE/NEP) inhibitor, an endothelin antagonist, a renin inhibitor, a diuretic, an ApoA-I mimic, an anti-diabetic agent, an obesity-reducing agent, an aldosterone receptor blocker, an endothelin receptor blocker, and a CETP inhibitor.

15. A method of inhibiting aldosterone synthase activity in a subject in need thereof, comprising: administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of the

compound according to any one of claims 1 to 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. A method of treating a disorder or a disease in a subject mediated by aldosterone synthase, comprising:

administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of the compound according to any one of claims 1 to 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. A method according to claim 16, wherein the disorder or the disease is selected from hypokalemia, hypertension, Conn's disease, renal failure, chronic renal failure, restenosis, atherosclerosis, syndrome X, obesity, nephropathy, post-myocardial infarction, coronary heart diseases, increased formation of collagen, fibrosis and remodeling following hypertension and endothelial dysfunction, cardiovascular diseases, renal dysfunction, liver diseases, cerebrovascular diseases, vascular diseases, retinopathy, neuropathy, insulinopathy, edema, endothelial dysfunction, baroreceptor dysfunction, migraine headaches, heart failure such as congestive heart failure, arrhythmia, diastolic dysfunction, left ventricular diastolic dysfunction, diastolic heart failure, impaired diastolic filling, systolic dysfunction, ischemia, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, sudden cardiac death, myocardial and vascular fibrosis, impaired arterial compliance, myocardial necrotic lesions, vascular damage, myocardial infarction, left ventricular hypertrophy, decreased ejection fraction, cardiac lesions, vascular wall hypertrophy, endothelial thickening, and fibrinoid necrosis of coronary arteries.

18. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use as a medicament.

19. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment of a disorder or disease in a subject mediated by aldosterone synthase.

20. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment of a disorder or disease in a subject characterized by an abnormal activity of aldosterone synthase.

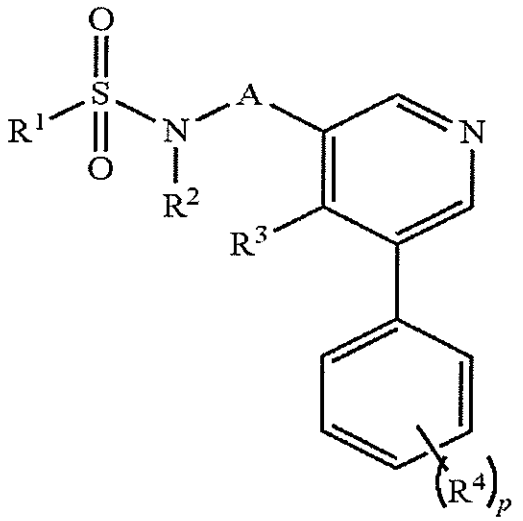
21. The use of claim 20, wherein the disorder or disease is selected from hypokalemia, hypertension, Conn's disease, renal failure, chronic renal failure, restenosis, atherosclerosis, syndrome X, obesity, nephropathy, post-myocardial infarction, coronary

heart diseases, increased formation of collagen, fibrosis and remodeling following hypertension and endothelial dysfunction, cardiovascular diseases, renal dysfunction, liver diseases, cerebrovascular diseases, vascular diseases, retinopathy, neuropathy, insulinopathy, edema, endothelial dysfunction, baroreceptor dysfunction, migraine headaches, heart failure such as congestive heart failure, arrhythmia, diastolic dysfunction, left ventricular diastolic dysfunction, diastolic heart failure, impaired diastolic filling, systolic dysfunction, ischemia, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, sudden cardiac death, myocardial and vascular fibrosis, impaired arterial compliance, myocardial necrotic lesions, vascular damage, myocardial infarction, left ventricular hypertrophy, decreased ejection fraction, cardiac lesions, vascular wall hypertrophy, endothelial thickening, and fibrinoid necrosis of coronary arteries.

The invention claimed is:

1. A compound of Formula (II):

(II)



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

A is a bond, —CH_2—, —CHR^5— or —CR^5R^6—;

R^1 is C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryloxy-C_{1-7}alkyl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl in which alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl are optionally substituted with 1 to 5 R^7;

R^2 is H, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl or C_{3-7}cycloalkyl;

R^3 is H, halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, cyano, C_{1-7}alkoxy, hydroxy, nitro, —NH_2, —NH(C_{1-7}alkyl) or —N(C_{1-7}alkyl)$_2$;

each R^4 is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, cyano, —NH_2, —NH(C_{1-7}alkyl), —N(C_{7-7}alkyl)$_2$, C_{1-7}alkoxy, halo-C_{1-7}alkoxy, hydroxy, carboxy, nitro, sulfonyl, sulfamoyl, sulfonamido, C_{6-10}aryl, heterocyclyl, C_{6-70}aryloxy, heterocyclyloxy, —SH, —S—C_{1-7}alkyl, —C(O)O-aryl, —C(O)O-heterocyclyl, —C(O)O-heteroaryl, —C(O)NR^2— C_{1-7}alkyl, —C(O)NR^2—C_{6-10}aryl, —C(O)NR^2-heteroaryl, —C(O)NR^2-heterocyclyl, —NR^2C(O)—C_{1-7}alkyl, —NR^2C(O)—C_{6-10}aryl, —NR^2C(O)-heteroaryl, —NR^2C(O)-heterocyclyl, —OC(O)—C_{1-7}alkyl, —OC(O)—C_{6-10}aryl, —OC(O)-heteroaryl and —OC(O)-heterocyclyl; wherein R^4 is optionally substituted with 1 to 5 R^7;

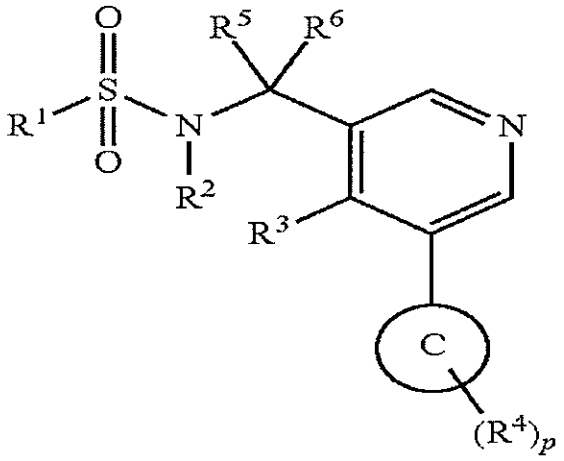
R^5 and R^6 are independently C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, halo-C_{1-7}alkyl, heterocyclyl;

each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, C_{6-10}aryloxy, heterocyclyl, C_{6-10}aryl, heteroaryl, CN and halo-C_{1-7}alkyl;

p is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5; and the compound of Formula I is not 2-methyl-N-(6-(5-(phenylsulfonamido)pyridin-3-yl)-1H-indazol-4-yl)thiazole-4-carboxamide, 2-chloro-N-isobutyl-N-((5-(3-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)benzenesulfonamide or 4-(5-(4-chloro-2,5-dimethylphenylsulfonamido)pyridin-3-yl)benzoic acid.

2. The compound of claim **1** having Formula (III):

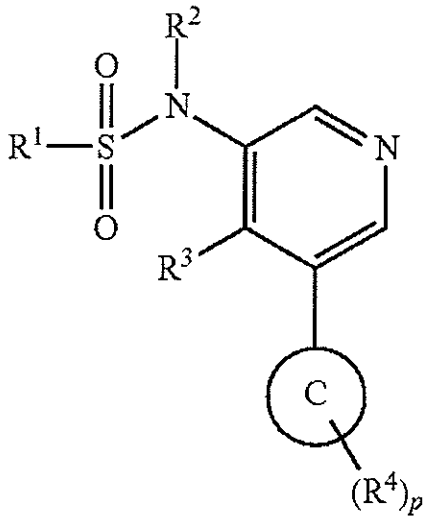
(III)



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein C is phenyl, and R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6 and p are as defined in claim **1**.

3. The compound of claim **1** having formula (IV):

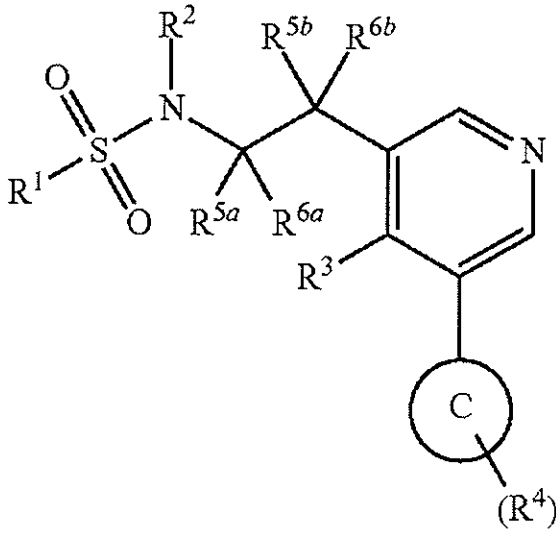
(IV)



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein C is phenyl, and R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and p are as defined in claim **1**.

4. The compound of claim **1** having Formula (V):

(V)



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein C is phenyl, and R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^{5a}, R^{6a}, R^{5b}, R^{6b} and p are as defined in claim **1**.

5. The compound according to claim **1**, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^4 is independently selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, CN, halo, halo-C_{1-4}alkyl or halo-C_{1-7}alkoxy.

6. The compound according to claim **1**, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein A is CHR^5.

7. The compound of claim **1**, or a pharmaceutically salt thereof wherein R^1 is C_{1-4}alkyl, R^2 is H, R^3 is H, A is CHR^5, R^5 is C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, p is 1 or 2; and each R^4 is independently C_{1-4}alkyl, halo-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, CN, halo or halo-C_{1-4}alkoxy.

8. The compound of claim **1** selected from the group consisting of:

N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)ethane-sulfonamide;

N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-methoxy-benzene-sulfonamide;

N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-fluoro-benzene-sulfonamide;

N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-ethyl-benzene-sulfonamide;

N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-cyano-benzene-sulfonamide;

N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-trifluoromethyl-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-fluoro-2-methyl-benzenesulfonamide;

N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoromethanesulfonamide;
N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-1-phenylmethanesulfonamide;
N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-2-phenoxyethanesulfonamide;
N-[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-1-(2-chlorophenyl)methanesulfonamide;
N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)methanesulfonamide;
Cyclopropanesulfonic acid [5-(3-chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]amide;
N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)propane-1-sulfonamide;
N-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)butane-1-sulfonamide;
N-(5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoromethanesulfonamide;
N-(5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)ethanesulfonamide; N-(5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)cyclopropane-sulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl) methane-sulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)ethyl) ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)-1,1,1-trifluoromethanesulfonamide; N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyano-3-ethoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl) ethanesulfonamide;
N-(1-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-2-methylpropyl)ethanesulfonamide;

N-(1-(5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)ethyl) ethanesulfonamide;
N-(1-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)ethyl) ethanesulfonamide;
N-(1-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)butyl) ethanesulfonamide;
(R)—N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
(S)—N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)methanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
(S)—N-((5-(4-cyano-2-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
(R)—N-((5-(4-cyano-2-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide
(R)—N-((5-(4-cyano-3-fluorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
(S)—N-((5-(4-cyano-3-fluorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide
N-((5-(4-cyano-2-fluorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopentyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)propane-2-sulfonamide; N-(cyclopropyl(5-(2-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(2-chlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl) ethanesulfonamide;

N-((5-(4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl) ethanesulfonamide;
N-(2-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-yl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(3-fluorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl) ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-ethoxyphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl) ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(3-chlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)-ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-fluorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl) ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(3,5-dichlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-chlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)-ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)-ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)-N-methylethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-ethylsulfanyl-phenyl)pyridin-3-yl) methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)pyridin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;

N-(cyclopropyl(5-(2,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)pyridin-3-yl) methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-(cyclopropyl(5-(4-methylsulfanyl-phenyl)pyridin-3-yl) methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
Ethanesulfonic acid {[5-(3-chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-cyclopropyl-methyl}-ethyl-amide;
Ethanesulfonic acid {[5-(3-chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-cyclopropyl-methyl}-(3-methyl-butyl)-amide;
({[5-(3-Chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]cyclopropyl-methyl}-ethanesulfonyl-amino)-acetic acid methyl ester;
Ethanesulfonic acid {[5-(3-chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-cyclopropyl-methyl}-isobutyl-amide;
Ethanesulfonic acid {[5-(3-chloro-4-cyano-phenyl)-pyridin-3-yl]-cyclopropyl-methyl}-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-amide;
N-(1-(5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)cyclopropyl)ethane-sulfonamide;
N-((4-chloro-5-(3-chloro-4-cyanophenyl)pyridin-3-yl) (cyclopropyl)methyl)-N-methylmethanesulfonamide;
(R)—N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
(S)—N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(cyclopropyl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide;
N-((5-(4-cyano-3-methylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)(4-fluorophenyl)methyl)ethane-sulfonamide;
N-(1-(5-(4-cyano-3-methylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)ethane-sulfonamide;
N-(2-(5-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)ethyl)ethanesulfonamide; and

N-(2-(5-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)pyridin-3-yl)cyclopropyl) ethane-sulfonamide; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound according to claim **1**, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

10. A pharmaceutical combination, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound according to claim **1**, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and one or more therapeutically active agents selected from the group consisting of an HMG-Co-A reductase inhibitor, an angiotensin II receptor antagonist, angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) Inhibitor, a calcium channel blocker (CCB), a dual angiotensin converting enzyme/neutral endopeptidase (ACE/NEP) inhibitor, an endothelin antagonist, a renin inhibitor, a diuretic, an ApoA-I mimic, an anti-diabetic agent, an obesity-reducing agent, an aldosterone receptor blocker, an endothelin receptor blocker, and a CETP inhibitor.

11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound according to claim **7**, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.