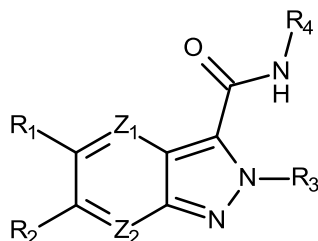


CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I), salts, *N*-oxides, solvates, hydrates, racemates, or enantiomers ~~or isomers~~ thereof:



(I)

Z_1 and Z_2 are each independently selected from $C\equiv H$, C -halo, $C\equiv C_{1-4}$ alkyl, $C\equiv C_{1-4}$ alkylhalo, $C\equiv C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, $C\equiv C_{1-4}$ alkoxyhalo and N ;

R_1 is selected from H , C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, halo, C_{1-4} alkylhalo, C_{1-4} alkoxyhalo, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkenyl, 5-6-membered heterocyclyl and 5-6 membered heteroaryl and wherein alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl and heteroaryl in each occurrence may be optionally substituted;

R_2 is selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, NO_2 , $N(R_5)_2$, NR_5R_6 , $NR_6(SO_2R_5)$, $SO_2N(R_8)_2$, SR_8 , $C(R_5)_2SO_2R_8$, and $NR_5C(\equiv O)R_8$, ~~optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aryl- R_7 , optionally substituted heterocyclyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyl- R_7 , optionally substituted heteroaryl and optionally substituted heteroaryl- R_7 ;~~

R_3 is selected from aryl, aryl- X -aryl, aryl- X -heteroaryl, heteroaryl, heteroaryl- X -heteroaryl, and heteroaryl- X -aryl wherein X is $[C(R_5)_2]_p$, O , S , $S(\equiv O)$, SO_2 , NR_5 , $C\equiv O$, CF_2 ,

$C(\equiv O)NR_5$ or $NR_5C(\equiv O)$ wherein p is 1, 2 or 3 and wherein aryl and heteroaryl in each occurrence may be optionally substituted ~~and further wherein aryl is preferably phenyl and heteroaryl is preferably 5-6-membered heteroaryl;~~

R_4 is H , C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl ~~preferably C_{1-4} alkyl;~~

R_5 in each occurrence is independently H or optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl;

R_6 is selected from H , C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylhalo, C_{1-6} alkoxyhalo, R_8 , C_{1-6} alkyl- R_8 , C_{1-6} alkyl- OR_8 , C_{1-6} alkyl- SR_8 , C_{1-6} alkyl- $S(\equiv O)R_8$, C_{1-6} alkyl- SO_2R_8 , C_{1-6} alkyl- $N(R_8)_2$, C_{1-6} alkyl- $C(\equiv O)-R_8$, C_{1-6} alkyl- $O(C\equiv O)-R_8$, C_{1-6} alkyl- $C(\equiv O)O-R_8$, C_{1-6} alkyl- $C(\equiv O)N(R_8)_2$, C_{1-6} alkyl- $NR_5C(\equiv O)-R_8$, C_{1-6} alkyl- $NR_5SO_2-R_8$, C_{1-6} alkyl- $SO_2NR_5-R_8$ and C_{1-6} alkyl- $C(\equiv O)NR_5SO_2R_8$ and wherein alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, aryl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl and heteroaryl in each occurrence of R_6 may be optionally substituted;

R_8 in each occurrence is independently H , an optionally ~~an optionally~~ substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, an optionally substituted C_{2-6} alkenyl, an optionally substituted $(C_{1-6}alkyl)_q$ -aryl, an optionally

substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, an optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-5-6-membered heterocyclyl or an optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-5-6-membered heteroaryl, ~~preferably~~ each R₈ is independently H or an optionally substituted C₁₋₆alkyl; and

q is 0 or 1; ~~and~~

~~R₇ is selected from optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-N(R₅)₂, optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-aryl, optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-5-6-membered heteroaryl, optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-NR₅C(=O)-(C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-aryl, optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-C(=O)NR₅-(C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-aryl, optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-C(=O)NR₅-(C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-5-6-membered heteroaryl and optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-NR₅C(=O)-(C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-5-6-membered heteroaryl.~~

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein Z₁ and Z₂ are each C_≡H.

3. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R₁ is H.

4. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R₁ is selected from optionally substituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally substituted C₂₋₃alkenyl, optionally substituted C₂₋₃alkynyl, optionally substituted C₁₋₃alkoxy, halo, C₁₋₃alkylhalo, C₁₋₃alkoxyhalo, optionally substituted 5-6-membered heterocyclyl, optionally substituted 5-6 membered heteroaryl, C₅₋₆cycloalkenyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl.

5. A compound according to claim ~~1, 2 or 4~~, wherein R₁ is cyclopropyl.

~~6. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein R₂ is optionally substituted and is selected from aryl, aryl-R₇, 5-6-membered heterocyclyl, 5-6-membered heteroaryl and 5-6-membered heteroaryl-R₇.~~

~~76. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 51, wherein R₂ is selected from NR₆(SO₂R₅), SO₂N(R₈)₂, C(R₅)₂SO₂R₈ and NR₅C(=O)R₈.~~

~~87. A compound according to claim 76, wherein R₂ is NR₆(SO₂R₅) and R₅ is C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₃alkyl substituted with halo.~~

~~98. A compound according to claim 76 wherein R₆ is optionally substituted C₁₋₆alkyl.~~

~~109. A compound according to claim 98, wherein R₆ is -(CH₂)_n-R₁₀ wherein n is an integer selected from 0, 1, 2 or 3 and R₁₀ is selected from H, C₁₋₃alkyl, C₂₋₃alkenyl, C₁₋₃alkoxy, halo, C₁₋₃haloalkyl, C₁₋₃haloalkoxy, OH, OR₁₁, C₁₋₃alkylOH, CH(C₁₋₃alkylOH)₂, CO₂H, CH(CO₂H)₂, CO₂R₁₁, CH(CO₂C₁₋₃alkyl)₂, OC(=O)H, OC(=O)R₁₁, SR₁₁, S(=O)R₁₁, SO₂R₁₁, SO₂NH₂, SO₂NHR₁₁, SO₂N(R₁₁)₂, NH₂SO₂R₁₁, NR₁₁SO₂R₁₁, CN, NH₂, NHR₁₁, N(R₁₁)₂, NHC(=O)H, NHC(=O)R₁₁, NR₁₁C(=O)R₁₁, C(=O)NH₂, C(=O)NHR₁₁, C(=O)N(R₁₁)₂, C(=O)NHSO₂R₁₁, C(=O)NR₁₁SO₂R₁₁, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl and heteroaryl; wherein each R₁₁ is independently selected from C₁₋₃alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkenyl, phenyl, C₁₋₃alkylphenyl, 5-6-membered heterocyclyl, 5-6 membered heteroaryl and C₁₋₃alkyl 5-6-~~

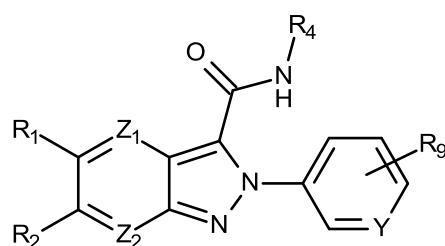
membered heteroaryl; and wherein each alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl or $-\text{CH}_2-$ moiety when present may be further optionally substituted.

~~11~~10. A compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~, wherein R_3 is optionally substituted and is selected from phenyl, phenyl-X-phenyl, phenyl-X-heteroaryl, heteroaryl, heteroaryl-X-heteroaryl, and heteroaryl-X-phenyl wherein heteroaryl is a 6-membered heteroaryl.

~~12~~11. A compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~, wherein X is O, S or NR_5 .

~~13~~12. A compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~, wherein R_4 is C_{1-3} alkyl.

~~14~~13. A compound according to claim 1, which is a compound of formula (Ia), salts, N-oxides, solvates, hydrates, racemates, or enantiomers ~~or isomers~~ thereof



(Ia)

wherein

Z_1 and Z_2 are each CH;

Y is CH or N;

R_1 is H, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo or C_{1-6} alkoxy;

R_2 is $\text{NR}_6(\text{SO}_2\text{R}_5)$, $\text{SO}_2\text{N}(\text{R}_8)_2$, $\text{C}(\text{R}_5)_2\text{SO}_2$, or $\text{NR}_5\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}_8$, ~~optionally substituted phenyl, optionally substituted 5-6 membered heterocyclyl or optionally substituted 5-6 membered heteroaryl;~~

R_6 is selected from H, optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl and optionally substituted 5-6-membered heterocyclyl;

R_5 is H or optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl;

R_8 is H or optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl;

R_9 is H or one or more substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{1-3} alkylhalo, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylamino, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl and X-optionally substituted phenyl; and

X is O or NR_5 .

~~15~~14. A compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

- 1) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;

- 2) 5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-*N*-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 3) 5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-6-[(2-hydroxyethyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 4) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(3-hydroxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 5) 5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-[(2-fluorophenyl)amino]phenyl]-6-[(3-hydroxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 6) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[2-(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-isoindol-2-yl)ethyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 7) 6-[(2-aminoethyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 8) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-*N*-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl){2-[(2*H*-tetrazol-5-ylacetyl)amino]ethyl}amino]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 9) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(2-[(4-fluorobenzyl)sulfonyl]amino)ethyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 10) 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methoxy-*N*-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 11) 6-[(2-[(*tert*-butyl)dimethyl)silyl]oxy)ethyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methoxy-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 12) 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[2-hydroxyethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-5-methoxy-*N*-methyl-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 13) 5-cyclopropyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-*N*-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 14) 5-cyclopropyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[(2-hydroxyethyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 15) 2-[(2-[(5-cyclopropyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2*H*-indazol-6-yl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]ethoxy)carbonyl]benzoic acid;
- ~~16) 6-(3-aminophenyl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;~~
- ~~17) 2-[(3-[5-cyclopropyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2*H*-indazol-6-yl]phenyl)carbamoyl]benzoic acid;~~
- 18) 5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-(2-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-6-[(2-hydroxyethyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;

- 36) 6-[2-acetamidoethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-*N*-methyl-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 37) 6-[2-acetamidoethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-*N*-methyl-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 38) 5-cyclopropyl-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-2-[4-(propan-2-ylamino)phenyl]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 39) 5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-*N*-methyl-6-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 40) 6-[(3-cyanopropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 41) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-methoxy-*N*-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 42) 5-bromo-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-*N*-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 43) 5-cyclopropyl-2-[6-(4-fluorophenoxy)pyridin-3-yl]-*N*-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 44) 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-*N*-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 45) 5-cyclopropyl-2-(3-fluoro-4-methylphenyl)-*N*-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 46) 2-(4-bromo-3-fluorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-*N*-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 47) 2-(4-Bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[difluoromethyl)sulfonyl]amino]-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide
- 48) 6-[acetyl(ethyl)amino]-2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 49) 5-cyclopropyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-iodo-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 50) 5-cyclopropyl-6-[(3-hydroxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-2-[4-(propan-2-yl)phenyl]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 51) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[2,3-dihydroxypropyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 52) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-*N*-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)[1-(methylsulfonyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl]amino]-2*H*-indazole-3-carboxamide;

- 53) 5-cyclopropyl-2-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-6-[(3-hydroxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 54) 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(3-hydroxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 55) 5-cyclopropyl-6-[(3-hydroxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 56) 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(3,3-difluoropropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 57) 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(3-fluoropropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 58) 4-[(3-{[5-cyclopropyl-2-{4-[(4-fluorophenyl)amino]phenyl}-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}propyl)amino]-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 59) 6-{[3-(acetylamino)propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino}-2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 60) 6-{[3-(acetylamino)propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino}-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-2-{4-[(2-methylpropyl)amino]phenyl}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 61) 6-{[3-(beta-alanyl)amino]propyl}(methylsulfonyl)amino}-2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 62) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-6-{[3-[(cyclobutylcarbonyl)amino]propyl}(methylsulfonyl)amino}-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 63) (1R,2S)-2-{[3-{[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}propyl]carbamoyl}cyclopentanecarboxylic acid;
- 64) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-{[3-{[4-methylmorpholin-3-yl]carbonyl}amino]propyl}(methylsulfonyl)amino}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 65) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-{[3-(dimethylamino)propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino}-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 66) methyl 4-{[3-{[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}propyl]amino}-4-oxobutanoate;
- 67) N-(3-{[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}propyl)-N'-(propan-2-yl)butanediamide;
- 68) 4-{[3-{[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}propyl]amino}-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 69) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-{[3-(2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-1-yl)propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino}-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;

- 70) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)[3-(2-oxoimidazolidin-1-yl)propyl]amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 71) 5-ethenyl-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 72) 5-ethyl-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 73) 5-(cyclopent-1-en-1-yl)-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 74) 5-cyclopentyl-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 75) 6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(3-hydroxyprop-1-yn-1-yl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 76) 6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[(1Z)-3-hydroxyprop-1-en-1-yl]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 77) 6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-5-ethynyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 78) 5-(difluoromethoxy)-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 79) 5-cyclopropyl-6-[(3-hydroxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2-{4-[(propan-2-yloxy)methyl]phenyl}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 80) ~~6-[4-acetyl-1-benzylpyrrolidin-3-yl]-2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;~~
- 81) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(2E)-4-hydroxybut-2-en-2-yl]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 82) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(2Z)-4-hydroxybut-2-en-2-yl]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 83) ~~5-cyclopropyl-6-(3,5-dimethyl-1,2-oxazol-4-yl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;~~
- 84) ~~5-cyclopropyl-6-(1-ethyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;~~
- 85) ethyl 5-[5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-methylphenyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl]-5-(methylsulfonyl)pentanoate;
- 86) 5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-2-(4-methylphenyl)-6-[1-(methylsulfonyl)propyl]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;

- 87) 5-cyclopropyl-6-(ethylsulfamoyl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 88) ethyl 4-{{2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl}(methylsulfonyl)amino}butanoate;
- 89) 4-{{2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl}(methylsulfonyl)amino}butanoic acid;
- 90) N-[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl]-N-(methylsulfonyl)-beta-alanine;
- 91) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-{{(methylsulfonyl)[3-oxo-3-(propan-2-ylamino)propyl]amino}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide};
- 92) butan-2-yl 4-{{2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl}(methylsulfonyl)amino}butanoate;
- 93) phenyl 4-{{2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl}(methylsulfonyl)amino}butanoate;
- 94) [(2,2-dimethylpropanoyl)oxy]methyl 4-{{2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl}(methylsulfonyl)amino}butanoate;
- 95) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-{{2-(2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxan-5-yl)ethyl}(methylsulfonyl)amino}-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 96) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-{{4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)butyl}(methylsulfonyl)amino}-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 97) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-{{(methylsulfonyl)[2-(2-oxo-1,3-dioxan-5-yl)ethyl]amino}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide};
- 98) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-{{(methylsulfonyl)(prop-2-en-1-yl)amino}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide};
- 99) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-{{3-(methylsulfonyl)propyl}(methylsulfonyl)amino}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 100) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-{{(methylsulfonyl)[3-(methylsulfonyl)propyl]amino}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide};
- 101) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-{{3-(methylsulfinyl)propyl}(methylsulfonyl)amino}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 102) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-{{(methylsulfonyl)(3-sulfamoylpropyl)amino}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide};
- 103) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-(1,1-dioxo-1,2,5-thiadiazolidin-2-yl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;

- 104) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-(5-methyl-1,1-dioxido-1,2,5-thiadiazolidin-2-yl)-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 105) 5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-2-{4-[(2-methylpropyl)amino]phenyl}-6-(2-oxopyrrolidin-1-yl)-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 106) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[2-hydroxypropyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 107) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)(piperidin-4-yl)amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 108) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)[1-(methylsulfonyl)piperidin-4-yl]amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 109) 2-(6-benzyloxy-3-pyridyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-(methanesulfonamido)-N-methyl-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 110) 5-cyclopropyl-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-[6-(isobutylamino)-3-pyridyl]-N-methyl-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 111) 5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)[3-(piperidin-1-yl)propyl]amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 112) 5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)[2-(morpholin-4-yl)ethyl]amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 113) 5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)(propyl)amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 114) 5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)[2-(piperidin-1-yl)ethyl]amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 115) 2-({3-[[5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino]propoxy}carbonyl)benzoic acid;
- 116) 3-{{5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-[(4-fluorophenyl)amino]phenyl]-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl}}(methylsulfonyl)amino}}propyl acetate;
- 117) 5-cyclopropyl-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2-{4-[(2-methylpropyl)amino]phenyl}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 118) 3-[[5-cyclopropyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino]propyl pyrazine-2-carboxylate;
- 119) 6-[[3-(acetylamino)propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-5-cyclopropyl-2-{4-[(4-fluorophenyl)amino]phenyl}-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 120) 5-cyclopropyl-2-{4-[(4-fluorophenyl)amino]phenyl}-6-[[3-[(furan-3-ylcarbonyl)amino]propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;

- 121) 5-cyclopropyl-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2-[4-(2-methylpropoxy)phenyl]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 122) 5-cyclopropyl-6-[(3-hydroxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2-{4-[(2-methylpropyl)amino]phenyl}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 123) 6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-{4-[(2-fluorophenyl)amino]phenyl}-5-methoxy-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 124) 6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-5-methoxy-N-methyl-2-{4-[(2-methylpropyl)amino]phenyl}-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 125) 6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-5-methoxy-N-methyl-2-phenyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 126) 2-{4-[(2-fluorophenyl)amino]phenyl}-6-[(3-hydroxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-5-methoxy-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 127) ~~5-cyclopropyl-2-{4-[(4-fluorophenyl)amino]phenyl}-N-methyl-6-(2-oxopiperidin-1-yl)-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;~~
- 128) ~~2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-(1,1-dioxido-1,2-thiazolidin-2-yl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;~~
- 129) 6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-5-(prop-1-en-2-yl)-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 130) 6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-5-(propan-2-yl)-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 131) ethyl N-[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl]-N-(methylsulfonyl)-beta-alaninate;
- 132) 5-bromo-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 133) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[3-(glycylamino)propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 134) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl){3-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]propyl}amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 135) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[[3-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 136) 5-cyclopropyl-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-[6-(4-fluorophenoxy)pyridin-3-yl]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 137) 6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;

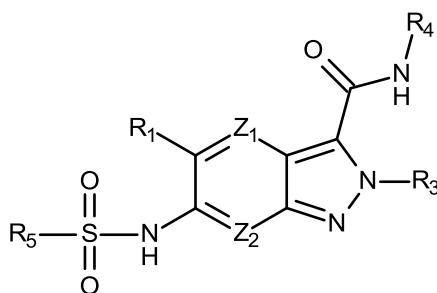
- 155) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[3-(dimethylamino)-3-oxopropyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 156) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[[3-[(2-methylpropanoyl)amino]propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 157) ~~5-cyclopropyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-6-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;~~
- 158) ~~5-cyclopropyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-6-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;~~
- 159) ~~5-cyclopropyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[5-(hydroxymethyl)-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;~~
- 160) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[3-[(furan-3-ylcarbonyl)amino]propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 161) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[3-[(3-methoxypropanoyl)amino]propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 162) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[3-(ethylamino)-3-oxopropyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 163) 6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-5-(2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 164) ethyl 4-[(3-[[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino]propyl)amino]-4-oxobutanoate;
- 165) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)[3-oxo-3-(propylamino)propyl]amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 166) 6-[[3-(benzoylamino)propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 167) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(3-[(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)carbonyl]amino]propyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 168) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl){3-[(1,2-oxazol-4-ylcarbonyl)amino]propyl}amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 169) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[3-(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 170) 5-(cyanomethoxy)-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;

- 202) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxan-5-yl)methyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 203) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[3-hydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 204) methyl (1R,2S)-2-[(3-{[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}propyl)carbamoyl]cyclopropanecarboxylate;
- 205) 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[[3-({[4-methylmorpholin-3-yl]carbonyl)amino}propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 206) 5-cyclopropyl-2-(3-fluoro-4-methylphenyl)-6-[(3-hydroxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 207) methyl 4-[[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino]butanoate;
- 208) 4-[[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino]butanoic acid;
- 209) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[3-[(3aR,7aS)-1,3-dioxooctahydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl]propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 210) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[[3-[(4-methoxybenzyl)amino]propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 211) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl){3-[(pyridin-3-ylmethyl)amino]propyl}amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 212) diethyl (3-{[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}propyl)propanedioate;
- 213) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(3-methoxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl) amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 214) 5-cyclopropyl-6-[(3-hydroxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2-(4-methylphenyl)-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 215) methyl (1R,2S)-2-[(3-{[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}propyl) carbamoyl]cyclopentanecarboxylate;
- 216) methyl (1S,2S)-2-[(3-{[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}propyl)carbamoyl]cyclopentanecarboxylate;
- 217) 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)(4-oxo-4-[[trifluoromethyl]sulfonyl]amino}butyl)amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;

- 218) (1R,2S)-2-[(3-{[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}propyl)carbamoyl] cyclopropanecarboxylic acid;
- 219) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(3-{[(1-methyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridin-4-yl)carbonyl]amino}propyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 220) propan-2-yl 4-{[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}butanoate;
- 221) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[ethyl(furan-2-ylcarbonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 222) 6-{[3-(acryloylamino)propyl](methylsulfonyl)amino}-2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 223) 2-(4-bromo-3-fluorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(3-hydroxypropyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide
- 224) (3-{[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}propyl)propanedioic acid;
- 225) ethyl 4-{[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](ethyl)amino}butanoate
- 226) ~~5-cyclopropyl-6-(3,5-dimethyl-1,2-oxazol-4-yl)-N-methyl-2-(4-methylphenyl)-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;~~
- 227) 5-cyclopropyl-6-[ethyl(methyl)sulfamoyl]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 228) 5-cyclopropyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[(2-hydroxyethyl)sulfamoyl]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 229) 4-{[5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-methylphenyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}butanoic acid;
- 230) ethyl 4-{[5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-methylphenyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino}butanoate;
- 231) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(cyclopropylmethyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide
- 232) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(2-methoxyethyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 233) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)(3,3,3-trifluoropropyl)amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;

- 251) (1R,2S)-2-[(3-[[2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-3-(methylcarbamoyl)-2H-indazol-6-yl](methylsulfonyl)amino]propyl)carbamoyl]cyclohexanecarboxylic acid;
- 252) 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)(tetrahydrofuran-3-ylmethyl)amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 253) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(2,2-difluoroethyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 254) 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(2,2-difluoroethyl)(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 255) 5-cyclopropyl-6-[ethyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-N-methyl-2-[6-(methylamino)-3-pyridyl]indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 256) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)[2-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)ethyl]amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 257) 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-6-[(methylsulfonyl)[2-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)ethyl]amino]-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 258) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[ethyl[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide;
- 259) 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[ethyl[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide; and
- 260) 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyclopropyl-6-[(difluoromethyl)sulfonyl](ethyl)amino]-N-methyl-2H-indazole-3-carboxamide.

~~16~~15. A method for making the compounds of formula (I) according to claim 1 wherein R_2 is $NR_6(SO_2R_5)$ comprising reacting a compound of formula (II) with a halogenated- R_6 reagent (provided that R_6 is not H):



(II)

wherein

Z_1 , Z_2 , R_1 , R_3 , R_4 and R_5 are as defined in claim 1.

~~17.~~ A method for making the compounds of formula (I) according to claim 1 wherein R_2 is optionally substituted aryl, aryl- R_7 , 5-6 membered heteroaryl or 5-6 membered heteroaryl- R_7 comprising reacting a compound of general formula (I) wherein R_2 is a H, halo, triflate,

~~boronic acid or boronic acid ester in a palladium (0) or palladium (II)-mediated coupling reaction with a suitably substituted coupling partner containing aryl, aryl-R₇, 5-6 membered heteroaryl or 5-6 membered heteroaryl-R₇.~~

~~18~~16. A pharmaceutical agent comprising the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 15~~ or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, N-oxides, solvates, hydrates, racemates, or enantiomers ~~or isomers~~ thereof.

~~19~~17. A HCV viral polymerase inhibitor comprising the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 15~~ or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, N-oxides, solvates, hydrates, racemates, or enantiomers ~~or isomers~~ thereof.

~~20~~18. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 15~~ or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, N-oxides, solvates, hydrates, racemates, or enantiomers ~~or isomers~~ thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and optionally one or more antiviral agents.

~~21~~19. A method for the treatment of a Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 15~~ or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, N-oxides, solvates, hydrates, racemates, or enantiomers ~~or isomers~~ thereof, ~~or the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20 to a subject suffering from HCV in need thereof.~~

~~22~~20. A method of inhibiting the RNA-dependent RNA polymerase activity of the enzyme NS5B, encoded by HCV, comprising exposing the enzyme NS5B to an effective amount of the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 15~~ or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, N-oxides, solvates, hydrates, racemates, or enantiomers ~~or isomers~~ thereof.

~~23~~21. A method of inhibiting HCV replication comprising exposing a cell infected with HCV to an effective amount of the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 15~~ or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, N-oxides, solvates, hydrates, racemates, or enantiomers ~~or isomers~~ thereof.

22. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 wherein the one or more antiviral agents is independently selected from an NS5b inhibitor; an NS3/4a protease inhibitor; an NS5a inhibitor; and Ribavarin optionally in combination with peg/IFN.

23. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 wherein the antiviral agent is an NS5b inhibitor.

24. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 23 wherein the NS5b inhibitor is a nucleoside inhibitor.

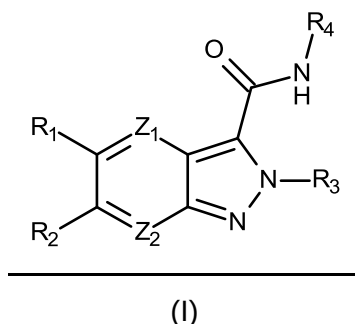
25. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 23 wherein the NS5b inhibitor is a non-nucleoside inhibitor.

26. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 wherein the antiviral agent is an NS3/4a protease inhibitor.

27. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 wherein the antiviral agent is an NS5a inhibitor.

28. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 formulated for oral delivery.

29. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, N-oxides, solvates, hydrates, racemates, or enantiomers thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and one or more other antiviral agents



wherein

Z₁ and Z₂ are each independently selected from C—H, C-halo, C—C₁₋₄alkyl, C—C₁₋₄alkylhalo, C—C₁₋₄alkoxy, C—C₁₋₄alkoxyhalo and N;

R₁ is selected from H, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, halo, C₁₋₄alkylhalo, C₁₋₄alkoxyhalo, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkenyl, 5-6-membered heterocyclyl and 5-6 membered heteroaryl and wherein alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl and heteroaryl in each occurrence may be optionally substituted;

R₂ is selected from halo, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, NO₂, N(R₅)₂, NR₅R₆, NR₆(SO₂R₅), SO₂N(R₈)₂, SR₈, C(R₅)₂SO₂R₈ and NR₅C(=O)R₈;

R₃ is selected from aryl, aryl-X-aryl, aryl-X-heteroaryl, heteroaryl, heteroaryl-X-heteroaryl, and heteroaryl-X-aryl wherein X is [C(R₅)₂]_p, O, S, S(=O), SO₂, NR₅, C=O, CF₂, C(=O)NR₅ or NR₅C(=O) wherein p is 1, 2 or 3 and wherein aryl and heteroaryl in each occurrence may be optionally substituted;

R₄ is H, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₄alkenyl, C₂₋₄alkynyl, or C₃₋₇cycloalkyl;

R₅ in each occurrence is independently H or optionally substituted C₁₋₆alkyl;

R₆ is selected from H, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆alkylhalo, C₁₋₆alkoxyhalo, R₈, C₁₋₆alkyl-R₈, C₁₋₆alkyl-OR₈, C₁₋₆alkyl-SR₈, C₁₋₆alkyl-S(=O)R₈, C₁₋₆alkyl-SO₂R₈, C₁₋₆alkyl-N(R₈)₂, C₁₋₆alkyl-C(=O)—R₈, C₁₋₆alkyl-C(=O)O—R₈, C₁₋₆alkyl-C(=O)N(R₈)₂, C₁₋₆alkyl-NR₅C(=O)—R₈, C₁₋₆alkyl-NR₅SO₂—R₈, C₁₋₆alkyl-SO₂NR₅—R₈ and C₁₋₆alkyl-C(=O)NR₅SO₂R₈ and wherein alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, aryl, cycloalkyl,

heterocyclyl and heteroaryl in each occurrence of R₆ may be optionally substituted;
R₈ in each occurrence is independently H, an optionally substituted C₁₋₆alkyl, an optionally substituted C₂₋₆alkenyl, an optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-aryl, an optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, an optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-5-6-membered heterocyclyl or an optionally substituted (C₁₋₆alkyl)_q-5-6-membered heteroaryl; and
q is 0 or 1.

30. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 29 wherein the one or more other antiviral agents is independently selected from an NS5b inhibitor; an NS3/4a protease inhibitor; an NS5a inhibitor; and Ribavirin optionally in combination with peg/IFN.

31. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 29 wherein the other antiviral agent is an NS5b inhibitor.

32. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 31 wherein the NS5b inhibitor is a nucleoside inhibitor.

33. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 31 wherein the NS5b inhibitor is a non-nucleoside inhibitor.

34. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 29 wherein the other antiviral agent is an NS3/4a protease inhibitor.

35. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 29 wherein the other antiviral agent is an NS5a inhibitor.

36. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 29 formulated for oral delivery.

37. A method for the treatment of a Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection, which comprises administering an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 to a subject suffering from HCV.