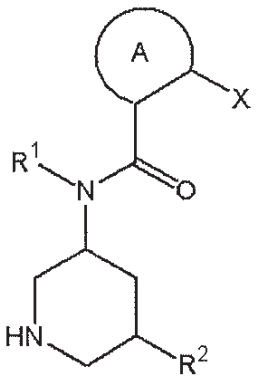
CLAIMS

1. A compound represented by the formula (I):



(I)

wherein

R^1 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkenyl group optionally having substituent(s) or a cycloalkyl group optionally having substituent(s);

R^2 is a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a cyano (nitrile) group, an amino group optionally having substituent(s), a mercapto group optionally having a substituent (the mercapto group is optionally oxidized), an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s) other than a substituted amino group, an alkoxy group optionally having substituent(s), a 3- to 10-membered cyclic hydrocarbon group optionally having substituent(s), a 3- to 10-membered heterocyclic group optionally having substituent(s) or an acyl group (wherein when the acyl group is -CONR'R", then R' and R" are both hydrogen atoms or form, together with the nitrogen atom bonded thereto, a nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having substituent(s));

X is absent, or a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group optionally substituted by group(s) other than a heterospiro ring optionally having substituent(s) or a cycloalkyl group optionally having substituent(s); and

ring A is

a monocyclic heterocycle, optionally having substituent(s),

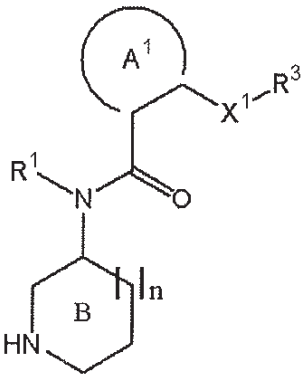
selected from pyrimidine, pyrrole, imidazole, pyrazole or triazole,

a fused heterocycle, optionally having substituent(s), selected from 1H-pyrrolo[1,2-b]pyridine, 3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine, imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine, 5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyridine, 4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole, 4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-benzimidazole, 1,4-dihydrocyclopenta[b]pyrrole, 1,4-dihydropyrrolo[3,2-b]pyrrole, 4H-furo[3,2-b]pyrrole, 4H-thieno[3,2-b]pyrrole, 1,4-dihydrocyclopentaimidazole, 1,4-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-d]imidazole, 1H-furo[2,3-d]imidazole, 1H-thieno[2,3-d]imidazole, imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidine, imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazine, imidazo[1,2-c]pyrimidine, imidazo[1,2-b]pyridazine, benzofuran, benzothiophene, or benzothiazole, or

benzimidazole having substituent(s),

or a salt thereof.

2. A compound represented by the formula (II):



(II)

wherein

R^1 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkenyl group optionally having substituent(s) or a cycloalkyl group optionally having substituent(s);

R^3 is an alkyl group optionally substituted by group(s) other than a heterospiro ring optionally having substituent(s), an alkenyl group optionally having substituent(s), a cycloalkyl

group optionally having substituent(s), an alkylthio group optionally having substituent(s), an alkylsulfinyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkylsulfonyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkoxy group optionally having substituent(s), an aryl group optionally having substituent(s) or a heteroaryl group optionally having substituent(s);

X^1 is a C_{1-6} alkylene group optionally substituted by group(s) other than a heterospiro ring optionally having substituent(s);

ring A^1 is

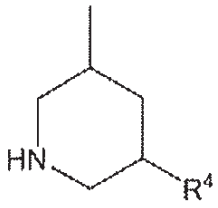
a fused heterocycle optionally having substituent(s);

ring B is a 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having substituent(s); and

n is 0, 1 or 2,

or a salt thereof.

3. The compound of claim 2, wherein ring B is a ring represented by



wherein R^4 is

(1) a cyano (nitrile) group,

(2) a C_{1-6} alkyl group optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from

(a) a hydroxy group,

(b) a C_{1-6} alkoxy group,

(c) a C_{1-6} alkyl-carbonyloxy group,

(d) an aromatic heterocyclic group optionally having 1 to 3 halogen atoms,

(e) a C_{3-10} cycloalkyl group, and

(f) a cyclic amino group optionally having an oxo group,

(3) a 3- to 10-membered heterocyclic group optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from a C_{1-6} alkyl group and an oxo group,

(4) a carboxy group,

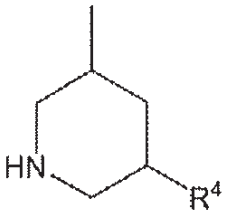
(5) a C_{1-6} alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from a nonaromatic heterocyclic group optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from a C_{1-6} alkyl group and an oxo group or

(6) a group represented by the formula: -CO-NR'R"

wherein R' and R" are each a hydrogen atom, or

R' and R" form, together with the nitrogen atom bonded thereto, a nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atom(s).

4. The compound of claim 2, wherein ring B is a ring represented by



wherein R^4 is -CO-NR'R" wherein R' and R" are each a hydrogen atom, or R' and R" form, together with the nitrogen atom bonded thereto, a nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atom(s).

5. The compound of claim 1 or 2, wherein R^1 is a C_{1-6} alkyl group optionally having substituent(s).

6. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^2 is an acyl group (wherein when the acyl group is -CONR'R", then R' and R" are both hydrogen atoms or form, together with the nitrogen atom bonded thereto, a nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having substituent(s)).

7. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is a C_{1-6} alkyl group optionally substituted by a C_{1-6} alkoxy group.

8. The compound of claim 2, wherein X^1 is a C_{1-6} alkylene group optionally substituted by group(s) other than a heterospiro ring optionally having substituent(s) and an oxo group.

9. The compound of claim 2, wherein X^1 is a C_{1-6} alkylene group.

10. The compound of claim 2, wherein R^3 is a C_{1-6} alkoxy group optionally having substituent(s).

11. 1-(2-Fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methoxybutyl)-N-(2-methylpropyl)-N-[(3S,5R)-5-(morpholin-4-ylcarbonyl)piperidin-3-yl]-1H-1,2,3-triazole-4-carboxamide or a salt thereof.

12. A medicament comprising the compound of claim 1 or 2, or a salt thereof as an active ingredient.

13. The medicament of claim 12, which is a renin inhibitor.

14. The medicament of claim 12, which is a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of a circulatory disease.

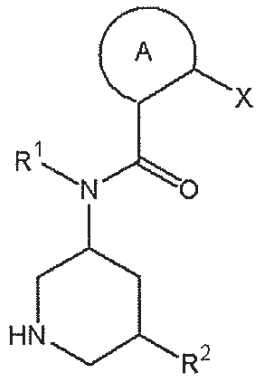
15. The medicament of claim 12, which is a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of hypertension and/or various organ damages attributable to hypertension.

16. Use of the compound of claim 1 or 2 or a salt thereof for the production of a prophylactic or therapeutic agent for a circulatory disease.

17. Use of the compound of claim 1 or 2 or a salt thereof for the production of a prophylactic or therapeutic agent for

hypertension and/or various organ damages attributable to hypertension.

18. Use of the compound represented by the formula (I):



(I)

wherein

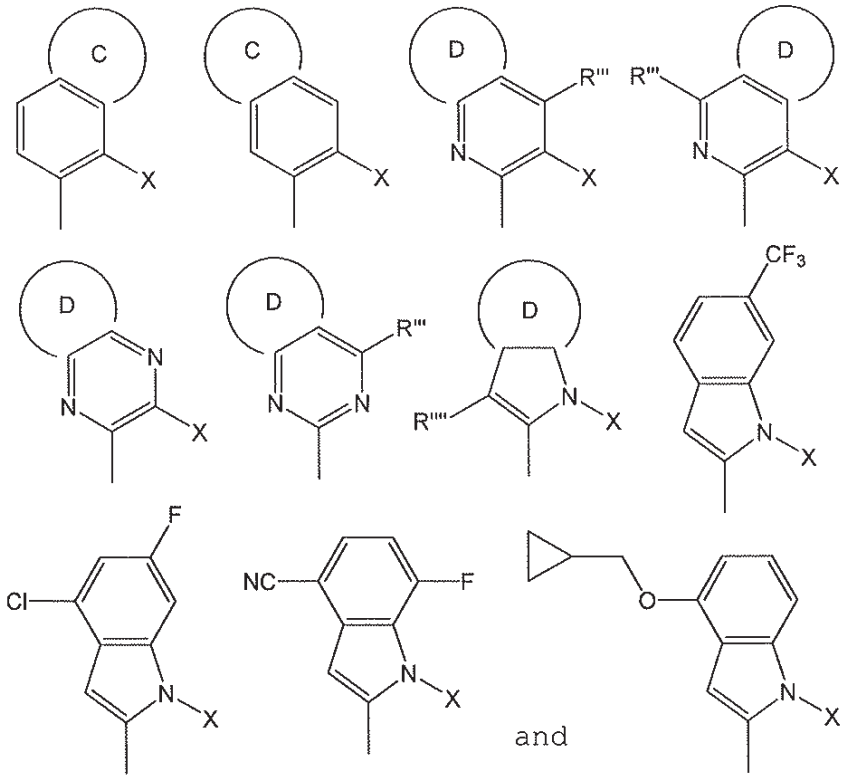
R^1 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkenyl group optionally having substituent(s) or a cycloalkyl group optionally having substituent(s);

R^2 is a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a cyano (nitrile) group, an amino group optionally having substituent(s), a mercapto group optionally having a substituent (the mercapto group is optionally oxidized), an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s) other than a substituted amino group, an alkoxy group optionally having substituent(s), a 3- to 10-membered cyclic hydrocarbon group optionally having substituent(s), a 3- to 10-membered heterocyclic group optionally having substituent(s) or an acyl group (wherein when the acyl group is -CONR'R", then R' and R" are both hydrogen atoms or form, together with the nitrogen atom bonded thereto, a nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having substituent(s));

X is absent, or a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group optionally substituted by group(s) other than a heterospiro ring optionally having substituent(s) or a cycloalkyl group optionally having substituent(s); and

ring A is a heterocycle optionally having substituent(s),

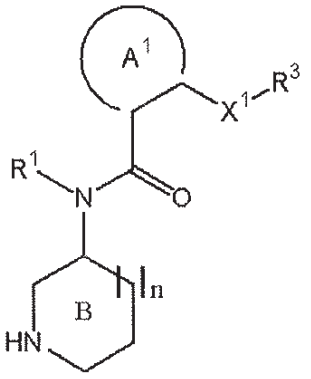
which is other than



and

wherein ring C is a heterocycle optionally having substituent(s), ring D is a benzene ring optionally having substituent(s), R''' is a substituted alkyl group or a substituted alkoxy group, R'''' is a substituent, and X is as defined above), or

represented by the formula (II):



(II)

wherein

R^1 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkenyl group optionally having

substituent(s) or a cycloalkyl group optionally having substituent(s);

R^3 is an alkyl group optionally substituted by group(s) other than a heterospiro ring optionally having substituent(s), an alkenyl group optionally having substituent(s), a cycloalkyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkylthio group optionally having substituent(s), an alkylsulfinyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkylsulfonyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkoxy group optionally having substituent(s), an aryl group optionally having substituent(s) or a heteroaryl group optionally having substituent(s);

X^1 is a C_{1-6} alkylene group optionally substituted by group(s) other than a heterospiro ring optionally having substituent(s);

ring A^1 is a fused heterocycle optionally having substituent(s);

ring B is a 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having substituent(s); and

n is 0, 1 or 2,

or a salt thereof,

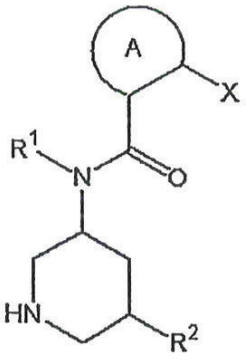
for the production of a prophylactic or therapeutic agent for blood pressure circadian rhythm abnormality, heart disease, progression of cardiac insufficiency after myocardial infarction, or renal disease in medicine.

19. Use of the compound of claim 18, wherein the heart disease is acute heart failure.

20. Use of the compound of claim 18, wherein the renal disease is renal failure.

CLAIMS

1. A compound represented by the formula (I):



(I)

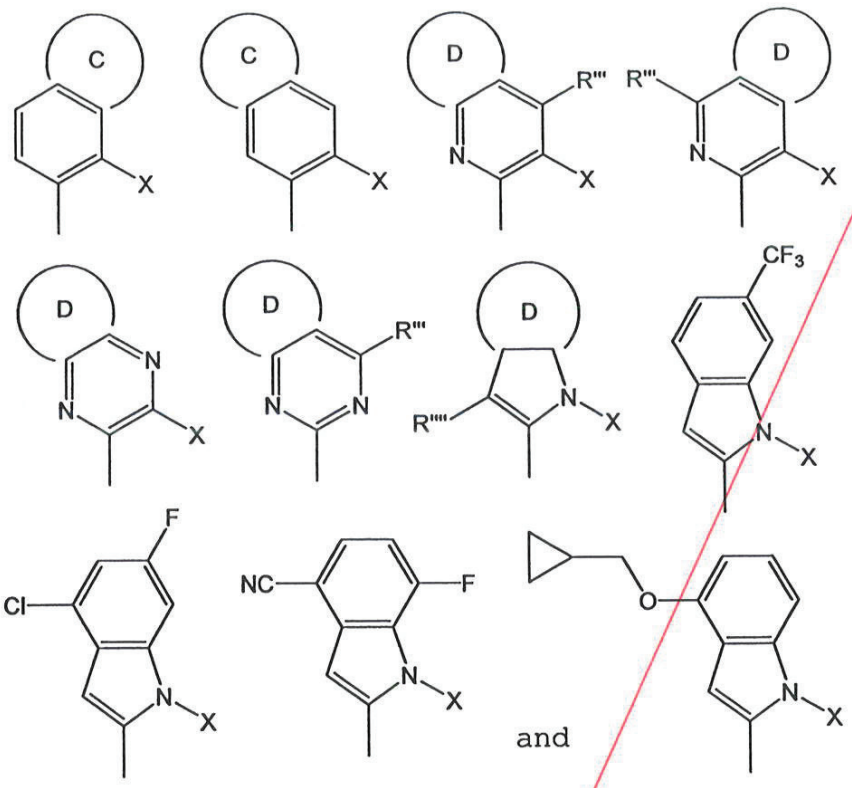
wherein

R^1 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkenyl group optionally having substituent(s) or a cycloalkyl group optionally having substituent(s);

R^2 is a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a cyano (nitrile) group, an amino group optionally having substituent(s), a mercapto group optionally having a substituent (the mercapto group is optionally oxidized), an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s) other than a substituted amino group, an alkoxy group optionally having substituent(s), a 3- to 10-membered cyclic hydrocarbon group optionally having substituent(s), a 3- to 10-membered heterocyclic group optionally having substituent(s) or an acyl group (wherein when the acyl group is -CONR'R", then R' and R" are both hydrogen atoms or form, together with the nitrogen atom bonded thereto, a nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having substituent(s));

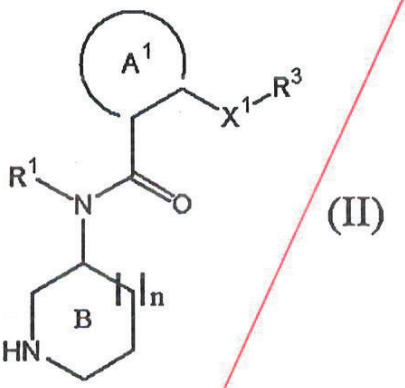
X is absent, or a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group optionally substituted by group(s) other than a heterospiro ring optionally having substituent(s) or a cycloalkyl group optionally having substituent(s); and

ring A is a heterocycle optionally having substituent(s), which is other than



wherein ring C is a heterocycle optionally having substituent(s), ring D is a benzene ring optionally having substituent(s), R''' is a substituted alkyl group or a substituted alkoxy group, R'''' is a substituent, and X is as defined above,
or a salt thereof.

2. A compound represented by the formula (II):



(II)

wherein
R^1 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkenyl group optionally having

substituent(s) or a cycloalkyl group optionally having substituent(s);

R^3 is an alkyl group optionally substituted by group(s) other than a heterospiro ring optionally having substituent(s), an alkenyl group optionally having substituent(s), a cycloalkyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkylthio group optionally having substituent(s), an alkylsulfinyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkylsulfonyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkoxy group optionally having substituent(s), an aryl group optionally having substituent(s) or a heteroaryl group optionally having substituent(s);

X^1 is a C_{1-6} alkylene group optionally substituted by group(s) other than a heterospiro ring optionally having substituent(s);

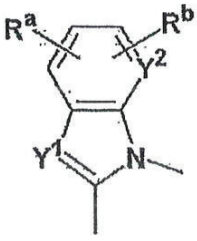
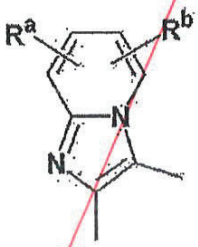
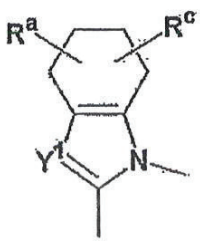
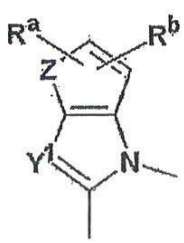
ring A^1 is a fused heterocycle optionally having substituent(s);

ring B is a 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having substituent(s); and

n is 0, 1 or 2,

or a salt thereof.

3. The compound of claim 1 or 2, wherein ring A and ring A^1 are each a ring represented by the formula




or


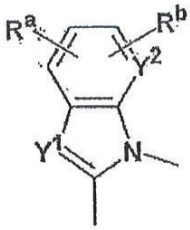
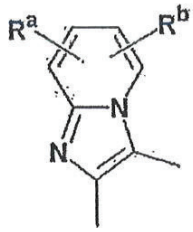
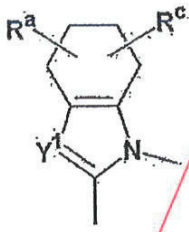
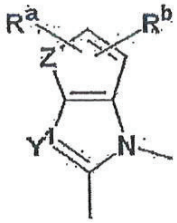
wherein

R^a and R^b are each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkoxy group optionally having substituent(s) or an acyl group;

R^c is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, =O, =S, an alkyl group

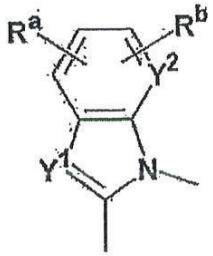
optionally having substituent(s), an alkoxy group optionally having substituent(s) or an acyl group;
Y^1 and Y^2 are each independently CH or N; and
Z is CH_2, NH, O or S.

4. The compound of claim 1 or 2, wherein ring A and ring A^1 are each a ring represented by the formula




or


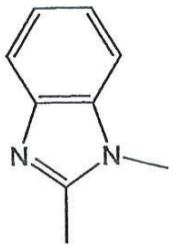
wherein
R^a and R^b are each a hydrogen atom;
R^c is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, =O, =S, an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkoxy group optionally having substituent(s) or an acyl group;
Y^1 and Y^2 are each independently CH or N; and
Z is CH_2, NH, O or S.

5. The compound of claim 1 or 2, wherein ring A or ring A^1 is a ring represented by the formula

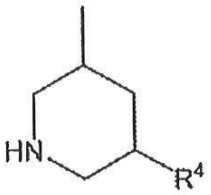


wherein Y^1, Y^2, R^a and R^b are as defined in claim 4.

6. The compound of claim 1 or 2, wherein ring A or ring A^1 is a ring represented by the formula



7. The compound of claim 2, wherein ring B is a ring represented by



wherein R^4 is

(1) a cyano (nitrile) group,

(2) a C_{1-6} alkyl group optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from

(a) a hydroxy group,

(b) a C_{1-6} alkoxy group,

(c) a C_{1-6} alkyl-carbonyloxy group,

(d) an aromatic heterocyclic group optionally having 1 to 3 halogen atoms,

(e) a C_{3-10} cycloalkyl group, and

(f) a cyclic amino group optionally having an oxo group,

(3) a 3- to 10-membered heterocyclic group optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from a C_{1-6} alkyl group and an oxo group,

(4) a carboxy group,

(5) a C_{1-6} alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from a nonaromatic heterocyclic group optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from a C_{1-6} alkyl group and an oxo group or

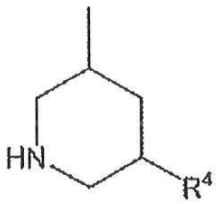
(6) a group represented by the formula: -CO-NR'R"

wherein R' and R" are each a hydrogen atom, or

R' and R" form, together with the nitrogen atom bonded thereto,

a nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atom(s).

8. The compound of claim 2, wherein ring B is a ring represented by



wherein R^4 is -CO-NR'R" wherein R' and R" are each a hydrogen atom, or R' and R" form, together with the nitrogen atom bonded thereto, a nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atom(s).

9. The compound of claim 1 or 2, wherein R^1 is a C_{1-6} alkyl group optionally having substituent(s).

10. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^2 is an acyl group (wherein when the acyl group is -CONR'R", then R' and R" are both hydrogen atoms or form, together with the nitrogen atom bonded thereto, a nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having substituent(s)).

11. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is a C_{1-6} alkyl group optionally substituted by a C_{1-6} alkoxy group.

12. The compound of claim 2, wherein X^1 is a C_{1-6} alkylene group optionally substituted by group(s) other than a heterospiro ring optionally having substituent(s) and an oxo group.

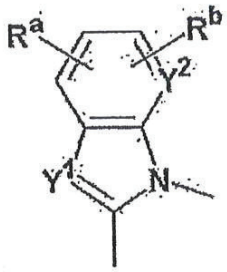
13. The compound of claim 2, wherein X^1 is a C_{1-6} alkylene group.

14. The compound of claim 2, wherein R^3 is a C_{1-6} alkoxy group optionally having substituent(s).

15. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 is a C_{1-6} alkyl group optionally having substituent(s),

R^2 is an acyl group (wherein when the acyl group is -CONR'R", then R' and R" are both hydrogen atoms or form, together with the nitrogen atom bonded thereto, a nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having substituent(s)),

ring A is a ring represented by the formula



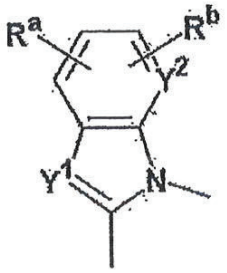
wherein Y^1, Y^2, R^a and R^b are as defined in claim 4, and

X is a C_{1-6} alkyl group optionally substituted by a C_{1-6} alkoxy group.

16. The compound of claim 2, wherein R^1 is a C_{1-6} alkyl group optionally having substituent(s),

R^3 is a C_{1-6} alkoxy group optionally having substituent(s),

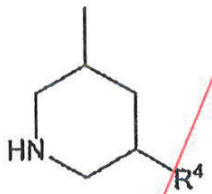
ring A^1 is a ring represented by the formula



wherein Y^1, Y^2, R^a and R^b are as defined in claim 4,

X^1 is a C_{1-6} alkylene group, and

ring B is a ring represented by the formula



wherein R^4 is -CO-NR'R" wherein R' and R" are each a hydrogen atom, or R' and R" form, together with the nitrogen atom bonded thereto, a nitrogen-containing heterocycle optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atom(s).

17. N-[(3S,5R)-5-carbamoylpiperidin-3-yl]-1-(4-methoxybutyl)-N-(2-methylpropyl)-1H-benzimidazole-2-carboxamide or a salt thereof.

18. N-{(3S,5R)-5-[1-hydroxyethyl]piperidin-3-yl}-1-(4-methoxybutyl)-N-(2-methylpropyl)-1H-benzimidazole-2-carboxamide or a salt thereof.

19. 1-(4-Methoxybutyl)-N-(2-methylpropyl)-N-[(3S,5R)-5-(morpholin-4-ylcarbonyl)piperidin-3-yl]-1H-benzimidazole-2-carboxamide or a salt thereof.

20. 1-(4-Hydroxybutyl)-N-(2-methylpropyl)-N-[(3S,5R)-5-(morpholin-4-ylcarbonyl)piperidin-3-yl]-1H-benzimidazole-2-carboxamide or a salt thereof.

21. 1-(2-Fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methoxybutyl)-N-(2-methylpropyl)-N-[(3S,5R)-5-(morpholin-4-ylcarbonyl)piperidin-3-yl]-1H-1,2,3-triazole-4-carboxamide or a salt thereof.

22. 1-(4-Methoxybutyl)-N-[(3S,5R)-5-(morpholin-4-ylcarbonyl)piperidin-3-yl]-N-propyl-1H-benzimidazole-2-carboxamide or a salt thereof.

23. A prodrug of the compound of claim 1 or 2.

24. A medicament comprising the compound of claim 1 or 2, or a prodrug thereof as an active ingredient.

25. The medicament of claim 24, which is a renin inhibitor.

26. The medicament of claim 24, which is a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of a circulatory disease.

27. The medicament of claim 24, which is a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of hypertension and/or various organ damages attributable to hypertension.

28. A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of a circulatory disease in a mammal comprising administering the compound of claim 1 or 2 or a prodrug thereof to the mammal.

29. A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of hypertension and/or various organ damages attributable to hypertension in a mammal comprising administering the compound of claim 1 or 2 or a prodrug thereof to the mammal.

30. Use of the compound of claim 1 or 2 or a prodrug thereof for the production of a prophylactic or therapeutic agent for a circulatory disease.

31. Use of the compound of claim 1 or 2 or a prodrug thereof for the production of a prophylactic or therapeutic agent for hypertension and/or various organ damages attributable to hypertension, and the like.