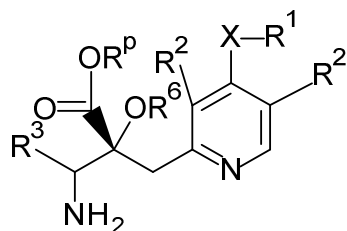


CLAIM

1. A compound represented by Formula (I) or a salt thereof:

[Formula 19]



(I)

wherein, X is O, S or NR⁴;

R⁴ is H, lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G¹, C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G², -(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G²), -C(O)-(lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G¹), -C(O)-(C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G²), or -C(O)-(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G²), or R⁴ forms together with neighboring -NR¹, as -NR¹R⁴, a 4- to 8-membered nitrogen-containing saturated heterocyclic group, wherein the nitrogen-containing saturated heterocyclic group may be condensed with a benzene ring and optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G⁴;

R¹ is H, C₁₋₁₀ alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G¹, -(lower alkylene)-X¹¹-(lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G¹), R¹¹, -(lower alkylene)-R¹¹, -(lower alkylene)-X¹¹-R¹¹, or -(lower alkylene)-X¹¹-(lower alkylene)-R¹¹;

R²'s are the same or different from each other, and are H, lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G¹, halogen, OH, SH, -O-(lower alkyl), -O-(lower alkylene)-aryl, -O-aryl, -S-(lower alkyl), -S-(lower alkylene)-aryl, -S-aryl, -O-(lower halogenoalkyl), -C(O)-(lower alkyl), -S(O)₂-(lower alkyl), -S(O)-

(lower alkyl), NO₂, -NH₂, -NH-(lower alkyl), -N(lower alkyl)₂, -NH-aryl, -N(lower alkyl)-aryl, -C(O)OH, -C(O)O-(lower alkyl), -CHO, -C(O)NH₂, -C(O)NH-(lower alkyl), -C(O)N(lower alkyl)₂, CN, -(lower alkylene)-X²¹-(lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G¹), C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G², C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkenyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G² and which may be condensed with a benzene ring optionally having one to four substituents selected from the Group G³, aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G⁵, -(lower alkylene)-R²¹, -(lower alkylene)-X²¹-R²¹, or -(lower alkylene)-X²¹-(lower alkylene)-R²¹;

R³ is R³², -(lower alkylene)-X³¹-R³², -(lower alkenylene)-X³¹-R³², R³¹, -(lower alkylene)-R³¹, -(lower alkylene)-X³¹-R³¹, -(lower alkylene)-X³¹-(lower alkylene)-R³¹, -(lower alkenylene)-R³¹, -(lower alkynylene)-R³¹ or -CH=(saturated monocyclic heterocycle);

X¹¹, X²¹ and X³¹ are the same or different from each other, and are O or S(O)_n, wherein n is 0, 1, or 2;

R¹¹, R²¹, and R³¹ are the same or different from each other, and are C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G², C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkenyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G² and which may be condensed with a benzene ring optionally having one to four substituents selected from the Group G³, aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G⁵, or mono- or bi-cyclic heterocyclic group which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G⁵;

R³² is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G¹, lower alkenyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G¹, or lower alkynyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G¹;

R^p is H or an ester group and R⁶ is H; or R^p and R⁶ are linked to each other to form, together with -O-C(=O)-C-O- to which they are attached, 2,2-di(lower alkyl)-4-oxo-1,3-dioxolane-5,5-diyl;

if R^3 is C_{1-10} alkyl which is optionally substituted by one to five halogens, $-X-R^1$ is optionally linked to any one of R^2 's attached to a pyridine ring to which $-X-R^1$ is also attached, to constitute a group represented by any one of formulae $-X^b-(CH_2)_m-Y-$, $-X^b-CH=CH-$, $-X^b-CH=N-$, and $-X^b-N=CH-$, and form a heterocycle condensed with the pyridine ring, wherein m is an integer of 1 to 3, X^b is O, S or NH, Y is CH_2 , O, S or NH, and the heterocycle optionally has one to four substituents selected from the group consisting of: C_{3-12} cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^2 ; $-(lower\ alkylene)-(C_{3-12}\ cycloalkyl\ which\ optionally\ has\ one\ to\ five\ substituents\ selected\ from\ the\ Group\ G^2)$; and the substituents defined in the Group G^3 ; in replacement of one or more H atoms attached to the ring atom(s) of the heterocycle;

$-X-R^1$ is optionally linked to R^3 to form a group represented by formula $-X-(C_{5-15}\ carbon\ chain)-$, wherein the C_{5-15} carbon chain optionally has one to two O or S atoms in replacement of C atom(s), optionally has one to five unsaturated bonds, and optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^4 ;

Group G^1 consists of halogen, OH, SH, $-O-(lower\ alkyl)$, $-O-(lower\ alkylene)-aryl$, $-O-aryl$, $-S-(lower\ alkyl)$, $-S-(lower\ alkylene)-aryl$, $-S-aryl$, $-O-(lower\ halogenoalkyl)$, $-C(O)-(lower\ alkyl)$, $-C(O)-aryl$, $-S(O)_2-(lower\ alkyl)$, $-S(O)-(lower\ alkyl)$, NO_2 , $-NH_2$, $-NH-(lower\ alkyl)$, $-N(lower\ alkyl)_2$, $-NH-aryl$, $-N(lower\ alkyl)-aryl$, $-C(O)OH$, $-C(O)O-(lower\ alkyl)$, $-CHO$, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(O)NH-(lower\ alkyl)$, $-C(O)N(lower\ alkyl)_2$, $-C(O)NH-aryl$, and CN;

Groups G^2 and G^4 consist of the substituents in the Group G^1 , lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^1 , $-O-(C_{2-3}\ alkylene)-O-$, and $-O-(C_{3-4}\ alkylene)-$;

Group G^3 consists of the substituents in the Group G^1 and lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^1 ; and

Group G^5 consists of: i) the substituents in the Group G^1 ; ii) lower alkyl, lower alkenyl and lower alkynyl, each of which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^1 ; iii) $-(lower\ alkylene)-O-(lower\ alkyl, lower\ alkenyl\ or\ lower\ alkynyl, which$

optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^1); iv) C_{3-12} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-12} cycloalkenyl which may be condensed with a benzene ring optionally having one to four substituents selected from the Group G^3 , the C_{3-12} cycloalkyl and the C_{3-12} cycloalkenyl optionally have one to five substituents selected from the Group G^2 ; v) aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^3 ; vi) mono- or bi-cyclic heterocyclic group which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^3 ; vii) -(lower alkylene)- R^G ; viii) -(lower alkylene)-O- R^G ; ix) -C(O)- R^G ; x) -C(O)-O- R^G ; xi) -C(O)-O-(lower alkylene)- R^G ; and xii) -S(O)₂- R^G , wherein R^G 's are the same or different from each other, and are C_{3-12} cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^2 , C_{3-12} cycloalkenyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^2 and which may be condensed with a benzene ring optionally having one to four substituents selected from the Group G^3 , aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^3 , or a mono- or bi-cyclic heterocyclic group which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^3 .

2. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein:

X is O, S or NR^4 ;

R^4 is H; lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, OH and -O-(lower alkyl); C_{3-12} cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, OH and -O-(lower alkyl); -(lower alkylene)-{ C_{3-12} cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, OH and -O-(lower alkyl)}; -C(O)-{lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, OH and -O-(lower alkyl)}; -C(O)-{ C_{3-12} cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, OH and -O-(lower alkyl)}; or -C(O)-(lower alkylene)-{ C_{3-12} cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, OH and -O-(lower alkyl)}; or R^4 forms together with neighboring - NR^1 , as - NR^1R^4 , a 4- to 8-membered nitrogen-containing saturated heterocyclic group, wherein the nitrogen-

containing saturated heterocyclic group may be condensed with a benzene ring and optionally has one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, OH and -O-(lower alkyl);

R^1 is H; C_{1-10} alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen and OH; -(lower alkylene)- X^{11} -{lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, OH, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl)}; C_{3-12} cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, OH, -O-(lower alkyl), -O-(lower halogenoalkyl), -O-(C_{2-3} alkylene)-O- and -O-(C_{3-4} alkylene)-; C_{3-12} cycloalkenyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, OH, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl), and which may be condensed with a benzene ring; aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, OH, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl); mono- or bi-cyclic heterocyclic group which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, OH, -O-(lower alkyl), -O-(lower halogenoalkyl), -C(O)-(lower alkyl) and -C(O)-O-(lower alkylene)-aryl; -(lower alkylene)- R^{11} ; -(lower alkylene)- X^{11} - R^{11} ; or -(lower alkylene)- X^{11} -(lower alkylene)- R^{11} ;

R^{11} is C_{3-12} cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, OH, -O-(lower alkyl), -O-(lower halogenoalkyl), -O-(C_{2-3} alkylene)-O- and -O-(C_{3-4} alkylene)-; C_{3-12} cycloalkenyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, OH, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl), and which may be condensed with a benzene ring; aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, OH, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl); or mono- or bi-cyclic heterocyclic group which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, OH, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl); and

X^{11} is O or S;

R^2 's are the same or different from each other, and are H, lower alkyl, lower halogenoalkyl, halogen, OH, -O-(lower alkyl), -O-(lower alkylene)-aryl, -O-aryl, -S-(lower alkyl), -O-(lower halogenoalkyl), -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl), C_{3-12} cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, lower halogenoalkyl and halogen, -(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, lower halogenoalkyl, and halogen), -(lower alkylene)-O-(C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, lower halogenoalkyl and halogen), -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, lower halogenoalkyl and halogen), -(lower alkylene)-(aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, lower halogenoalkyl and halogen), -(lower alkylene)-O-(aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, lower halogenoalkyl and halogen), or -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkylene)-(aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, lower halogenoalkyl and halogen);

R^3 is C_{1-10} alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen and OH, lower alkenyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen and OH, lower alkynyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen and OH, -(lower alkylene)- X^{31} -{lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, OH, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl)}, -(lower alkylene)- X^{31} -{lower alkenyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, OH, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl)}, -(lower alkylene)-O-{lower alkynyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, OH, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl)}, -(lower alkenylene)-O-{lower alkenyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the

group consisting of halogen, OH, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl)}, -(lower alkenylene)-O-{lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, OH, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl)}, R^{31} , -(lower alkylene)- R^{31} , -(lower alkylene)- X^{31} - R^{31} , -(lower alkylene)- X^{31} -(lower alkylene)- R^{31} , -(lower alkenylene)- R^{31} , or -CH=(saturated monocyclic heterocycle);

R^{31} is C_{3-12} cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^2 , C_{3-12} cycloalkenyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^2 and which may be condensed with a benzene ring optionally having one to four substituents selected from the Group G^3 , aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^5 , or mono- or bi-cyclic heterocyclic group which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^5 ;

X^{31} is O or $S(O)_n$; n is 0, 1, or 2;

Group G^2 consists of lower alkyl, halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, OH, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl);

Group G^5 consists of i) halogen, OH, SH, -O-(lower alkyl), -O-(lower alkylene)-aryl, -O-aryl, -S-(lower alkyl), -O-(lower halogenoalkyl), -C(O)-(lower alkyl), -S(O)₂-(lower alkyl) and CN; ii) lower alkyl, lower halogenoalkyl, lower alkenyl, and lower alkynyl; iii) -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl), -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower halogenoalkyl), and -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl substituted by one or more hydroxy groups); iv) C_{3-12} cycloalkyl which optionally have one to five substituents selected from the Group G^2 , and C_{3-12} cycloalkenyl which may be condensed with a benzene ring; v) aryl which optionally have one to five substituents selected from the Group G^3 ; vi) mono- or bi-cyclic heterocyclic groups which optionally have one to five substituents selected from the Group G^3 ; vii) -(lower alkylene)- R^G ; viii) -(lower alkylene)-O- R^G ; ix) -C(O)- R^G ; and x) -S(O)₂- R^G , wherein R^G 's are the same or different from each other, and are C_{3-12} cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^2 , C_{3-12} cycloalkenyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^2 and may be condensed with a benzene ring optionally having one to four substituents selected from the Group G^3 ,

aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^3 , or a mono- or bi-cyclic heterocyclic group which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the Group G^3 ;

Group G^3 consists of lower alkyl, halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, OH, -O-(lower alkyl), -O-(lower halogenoalkyl), -C(O)-(lower alkyl) and -S(O)₂-(lower alkyl); and

R^p is H, or an ester group selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower halogenoalkyl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl, (lower alkyl)-O-benzyl, nitrobenzyl, (lower alkyl)-O-benzhydryl, benzhydryl, -(lower alkylene)-O-C(O)-(lower alkyl), -(lower alkylene)-C(O)-(lower alkenyl), -(lower alkylene)-O-C(O)-O-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl), -(lower alkylene)-O-C(O)-(lower alkenyl), -(lower alkylene)-O-C(O)-(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl), -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl), -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl), -(lower alkylene)-O-C(O)-O-(lower alkyl), -(lower alkylene)-O-C(O)-O-(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl), -(lower alkylene)-O-benzoyl, -(lower alkylene)-N(lower alkyl)₂, 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-5-yl, 2-oxo-5-alkyl-1,3-dioxolen-4-ylmethyl, tetrahydrofuranylcabonyloxymethyl and 3-phthalidyl, and R^6 is H; or R^p and R^6 are linked to each other to form, together with -O-C(=O)-C-O- to which they are attached, 2,2-di(lower alkyl)-4-oxo-1,3-dioxolane-5,5-diyl;

if R^3 is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl which is optionally substituted by one to five halogens, -X- R^1 is optionally linked to any one of R^2 's attached to a pyridine ring to which -X- R^1 is also attached, to constitute a group represented by any one of formulae -X^b-(CH₂)_m-Y-, -X^b-CH=CH-, -X^b-CH=N- and -X^b-N=CH-, and form a heterocycle condensed with the pyridine ring, wherein m is an integer of 1 to 2; X^b is O, S or NH; Y is CH₂, O, S or NH; and the heterocycle optionally has one to four substituents selected from the group consisting of: C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, OH, -O-(lower alkyl), -O-(lower halogenoalkyl), -O-(C₂₋₃ alkylene)-O- and -O-(C₃₋₄ alkylene)-; -(lower alkylene)-{C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, OH, -O-(lower alkyl), -O-(lower

halogenoalkyl), -O-(C₂₋₃ alkylene)-O- and -O-(C₃₋₄ alkylene)-}; lower alkyl; halogen; lower halogenoalkyl; OH; -O-(lower alkyl); -O-(lower alkylene)-aryl; -O-aryl; -S-(lower alkyl); and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl); in replacement of one or more H atoms attached to the ring atom(s) of the heterocycle; and

-X-R¹ is optionally linked to R³ to form -X-(C₅₋₁₁ alkylene)-O-(C₁₋₃ alkylene)- or -X-(C₅₋₁₁ alkenylene)-O-(C₁₋₃ alkylene)-.

3. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 2, wherein:

X is O, S or NR⁴;

R⁴ is H, lower alkyl which is optionally substituted by one to five halogens, C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl, or -C(O)-(C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which is optionally substituted by one to five lower alkyls); or R⁴ forms together with neighboring -NR¹, as -NR¹R⁴, a 4- to 8-membered nitrogen-containing saturated heterocyclic group, wherein the nitrogen-containing saturated heterocyclic group may be condensed with a benzene ring and is optionally substituted by one to five lower alkyls;

R¹ is H; C₁₋₁₀ alkyl; -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl); C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen and -O-(C₃₋₄ alkylene)-; C₅₋₆ cycloalkenyl condensed with a benzene ring, aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen and -O-(lower alkyl); 5- to 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic group which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, -C(O)-(lower alkyl) and -C(O)-O-(lower alkylene)-aryl; -(lower alkylene)-R¹¹; -(lower alkylene)-O-(C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl); -(lower alkylene)-O-aryl or -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkylene)-aryl;

R¹¹ is C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which is optionally substituted by one to five lower alkyls, aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl), or 5- to 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic group which is optionally substituted by one to five lower alkyls;

R²'s are the same or different from each other, and are H, lower alkyl, halogen, -(lower alkylene)-aryl, or -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkylene)-aryl;

R^3 is C_{1-10} alkyl which is optionally substituted by one to five halogens; -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen and OH); -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkenyl); aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl), C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, aryl which is optionally substituted by $-S(O)_2$ -(lower alkyl), 5- to 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic group, and $-S(O)_2$ -(C_{3-8} cycloalkyl); -(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl); -(lower alkylene)-(5- to 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic group); -(lower alkylene)-O-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl); -(lower alkylene)-O-{aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, -O-(lower alkyl), CN and -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl)}; -(lower alkylene)-O-(5- to 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic group which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, lower alkyl and lower halogenoalkyl); -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkylene)-aryl; -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl); -(lower alkylene)- $S(O)_n$ -(lower alkyl), wherein n is 0, 1, or 2; -(lower alkylene)-S-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl); -(lower alkylene)-S-(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl); -(lower alkenylene)-aryl; or -CH=(saturated monocyclic heterocycle); and

R^p is H or a lower alkyl, and R^6 is H; or R^p and R^6 are linked to each other to form, together with -O-C(=O)-C-O- to which they are attached, 2,2-dimethyl-4-oxo-1,3-dioxolane-5,5-diyl.

4. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 3, wherein X is O or S; R^1 is C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl which is optionally substituted by one to three lower alkyls, -(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₁₀ cycloalkyl which is optionally substituted by one to three lower alkyls), or -(lower alkylene)-aryl; R^2 's represent H; R^3 is C_{1-10} alkyl, -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkenyl), -(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl), -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl), -(lower alkylene)-S-(lower alkyl), -(lower alkylene)-S-(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl), or -(lower alkylene)-O-(pyridyl optionally substituted by one to five halogens); R^p is H; and R^6 is H.

5. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 4, wherein X is O; R^1 is C_{1-10} alkyl,

C₃₋₁₀ cycloalkyl which is optionally substituted by lower alkyl, or -(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₁₀ cycloalkyl which is optionally substituted by lower alkyl); and R³ is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, -(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl), -(lower alkylene)-S-(lower alkyl), or -(lower alkylene)-S-(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl).

6. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 2, wherein:

X is O or S;

R¹ is H; C₁₋₁₀ alkyl; -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl); C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen and -O-(C₃₋₄ alkylene)-; C₅₋₆ cycloalkenyl condensed with a benzene ring; aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen and -O-(lower alkyl); 5- to 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic group which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, -C(O)-(lower alkyl) and -C(O)-O-(lower alkylene)-aryl; -(lower alkylene)-R¹¹; -(lower alkylene)-O-(C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl); -(lower alkylene)-O-aryl or -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkylene)-aryl;

wherein R¹¹ is C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl which is optionally substituted by one to five lower alkyls; aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, lower halogenoalkyl, -O-(lower alkyl) and -O-(lower halogenoalkyl); or 5- to 6-membered monocyclic heterocyclic group which is optionally substituted by to five lower alkyls;

R²'s are the same or different from each other, and are H or lower alkyl;

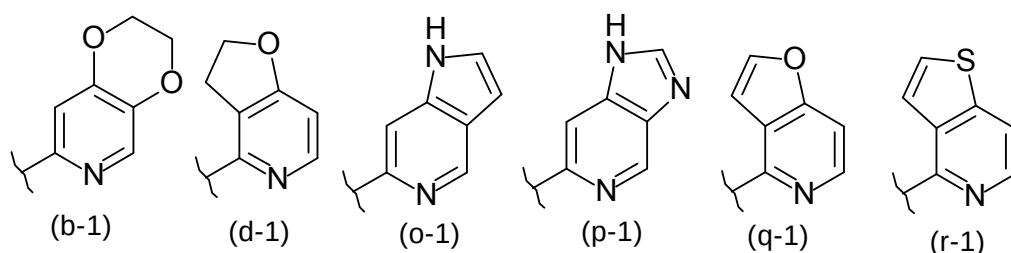
R³ is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl which is optionally substituted by one to five halogens; -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen and OH); -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkenyl); -(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl); -(lower alkylene)-O-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl); -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl); -(lower alkylene)-S-(lower alkyl); -(lower alkylene)-S-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl); -(lower alkylene)-S-(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl); -(lower alkylene)-O-{aryl which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, -O-(lower alkyl), CN and -(lower alkylene)-O-(lower alkyl)}; or -(lower alkylene)-O-(5- to 6-

membered monocyclic heterocyclic group which optionally has one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, lower alkyl and lower halogenoalkyl);

R^p is H or lower alkyl and R^6 is H;

if R^3 is C_{1-10} alkyl which is optionally substituted by one to five halogens, $-X-R^1$ is linked to any one of R^2 's attached to a pyridine ring to which $-X-R^1$ is also attached, to constitute a group represented by any one of formulae $-O-CH_2-CH_2-O-$, $-O-CH_2-CH_2-$, $-NH-CH=CH-$, $-NH-CH=N-$, $-O-CH=CH-$ and $-S-CH=CH-$, and form a heterocycle condensed with the pyridine ring, wherein the heterocycle condensed with the pyridine ring is selected from the group consisting of rings represented by Formulae (b-1), (d-1), (o-1), (p-1), (q-1) and (r-1):

[Formula 20]

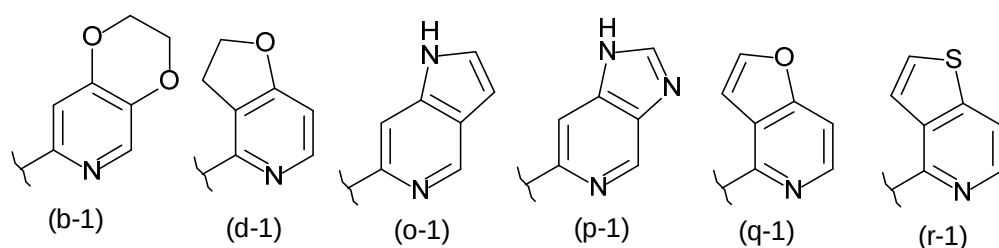


wherein the heterocycle has one to two substituents selected from the group consisting of $-(\text{lower alkylene})-(C_{3-12} \text{ cycloalkyl})$ and lower alkyl, in replacement of one or more H atoms attached to the ring atom(s) of the heterocycle; and the other R^2 is H.

7. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 2, wherein:

R^3 is C_{1-10} alkyl which is optionally substituted by one to five halogens; $-X-R^1$ is linked to any one of R^2 's attached to a pyridine ring to which $-X-R^1$ is also attached, to constitute a group represented by any one of formulae $-O-CH_2-CH_2-O-$, $-O-CH_2-CH_2-$, $-NH-CH=CH-$, $-NH-CH=N-$, $-O-CH=CH-$ and $-S-CH=CH-$, and form a heterocycle condensed with the pyridine ring, wherein the heterocycle condensed with the pyridine ring is selected from the group consisting of rings represented by Formulae (b-1), (d-1), (o-1), (p-1), (q-1) and (r-1):

[Formula 21]



wherein the heterocycle has one to two substituents selected from the group consisting of -(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl) and lower alkyl, in replacement of one or more H atoms attached to the ring atom(s) of the heterocycle; the other R² is H; R^p is H; and R⁶ is H.

8. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 7, wherein R³ is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl; -X-R¹ is linked to any one of R²'s attached to a pyridine ring to which -X-R¹ is also attached, to constitute a group represented by any one of formulae -O-CH₂-CH₂- and -O-CH=CH-, and form a heterocycle condensed with the pyridine ring as represented by Formula (d-1) or (q-1), and the heterocycle has -(lower alkylene)-(C₃₋₁₀ cycloalkyl) in replacement of H atom attached to the ring atom of the heterocycle.

9. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 1, which is a compound selected from the group consisting of the following compounds, or a salt thereof:

(2R,3S)-3-amino-2-{{4-(2-cyclopropylethoxy)pyridin-2-yl}methyl}-2-hydroxy-5-methylhexanoic acid;

(2R,3S)-3-amino-2-{{4-(cyclohexyloxy)pyridin-2-yl}methyl}-2-hydroxy-5-methylhexanoic acid;

(2R,3S)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-methyl-2-{{4-(spiro[2.5]oct-6-yloxy)pyridin-2-yl}methyl}hexanoic acid;

(2R,3R)-3-amino-4-[(cyclopropylmethyl)sulfanyl]-2-hydroxy-2-({4-[(trans-4-methylcyclohexyl)oxy]pyridin-2-yl}methyl)butanoic acid;

(2R,3S)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-methyl-2-({4-[(trans-4-methylcyclohexyl)oxy]pyridin-2-yl}methyl)hexanoic acid;

(2R,3S)-3-amino-5-cyclobutyl-2-{{4-(2-cyclopropylethoxy)pyridin-2-yl}methyl}-2-hydroxypentanoic acid;

(2R,3S)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-methyl-2-({4-[2-(1-methylcyclopropyl)ethoxy]pyridin-2-

yl)methyl)hexanoic acid;

(2R,3S)-3-amino-2-{{4-(3-cyclopropylpropoxy)pyridin-2-yl}methyl}-2-hydroxy-5-methylhexanoic acid;

(2R,3S)-3-amino-2-{{4-(cycloheptyloxy)pyridin-2-yl}methyl}-2-hydroxy-5-methylhexanoic acid;

(2R,3S)-3-amino-2-({4-[(2R)-hexan-2-yloxy]pyridin-2-yl}methyl)-2-hydroxy-5-methylhexanoic acid;

(2R,3R)-3-amino-4-(ethylsulfanyl)-2-hydroxy-2-({4-[(trans-4-methylcyclohexyl)oxy]pyridin-2-yl}methyl)butanoic acid; and

(2R,3R)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-2-({4-[(trans-4-methylcyclohexyl)oxy]pyridin-2-yl}methyl)-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoic acid.

10. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 1, which is (2R,3S)-3-amino-2-{{2-(2-cyclopropylethyl)furo [3,2-c]pyridin-4-yl}methyl}-2-hydroxy-5-methylhexanoic acid or a salt thereof.

11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound or a salt thereof according to claim 1.

12. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11 for use in the treatment of nocturia.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound or a salt thereof according to claim 1 and an excipient.

14. The use of the compound or a salt thereof according to claim 1 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of nocturia.

15. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 1 for use in the treatment of nocturia.

16. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 9, which is (2R,3S)-3-amino-2-{{4-(2-cyclopropylethoxy)pyridin-2-yl}methyl}-2-hydroxy-5-methylhexanoic acid or a salt thereof.

17. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 9, which is (2R,3S)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-methyl-2-({4-[(trans-4-methylcyclohexyl)oxy]pyridin-2-yl}methyl)hexanoic acid

or a salt thereof.

18. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 9, which is (2R,3S)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-methyl-2-({4-[2-(1-methylcyclopropyl)ethoxy]pyridin-2-yl}methyl)hexanoic acid or a salt thereof.

19. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 9, which is (2R,3S)-3-amino-2-({4-[(2R)-hexan-2-yloxy]pyridin-2-yl}methyl)-2-hydroxy-5-methylhexanoic acid or a salt thereof.

20. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 9, which is (2R,3R)-3-amino-4-(ethylsulfanyl)-2-hydroxy-2-({4-[(trans-4-methylcyclohexyl)oxy]pyridin-2-yl}methyl)butanoic acid or a salt thereof.

21. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 9, which is (2R,3S)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-methyl-2-({4-[(trans-4-methylcyclohexyl)oxy]pyridin-2-yl}methyl)hexanoic acid dihydrochloride.

22. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, comprising the compound or a salt thereof according to claim 9.

23. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12, comprising the compound or a salt thereof according to claim 9.

24. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, comprising the compound or a salt thereof according to claim 9.

25. The use according to claim 14, wherein the compound or a salt thereof is the compound or a salt thereof according to claim 9.

26. The compound or a salt thereof according to claim 9, for use in the treatment of nocturia.