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61/446,551 25 February 2011 (25.02.2011) US(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **MERCK SHARP & DOHME CORP.** [US/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US).

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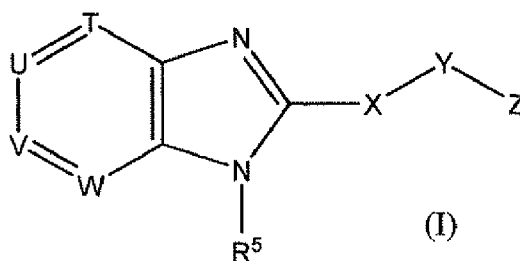
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(54) Title: NOVEL CYCLIC AZABENZIMIDAZOLE DERIVATIVES USEFUL AS ANTI-DIABETIC AGENTS



(57) Abstract: Novel compounds of structural formula (I) are activators of AMP-protein kinase and are useful in the treatment, prevention and suppression of diseases mediated by the AMPK-activated protein kinase. The compounds of the present invention are useful in the treatment of Type 2 diabetes, hyperglycemia, metabolic syndrome, obesity, hypercholesterolemia, and hypertension.



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- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

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