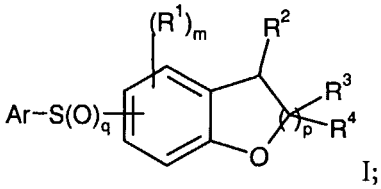
Case 22962

CHROMAN DERIVATIVES AND USES THEREOF IN THE TREATMENT OF CNS DISORDERS

This invention relates to the following substituted chroman compounds of formula I, and associated compositions, uses thereof for the preparation of medicaments useful as therapeutic agents, and methods of preparation thereof:



I;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein:

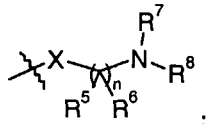
m is from 0 to 3;

p is from 1 to 3;

q is 0, 1 or 2;

Ar is optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered heteroaryl;

each R^1 is independently halo, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-haloalkyl, C_{1-12}-heteroalkyl, cyano, $-S(O)_t-R^a$, $-C(=O)-NR^bR^c$, $-SO_2-NR^bR^c$, $-N(R^d)-C(=O)-R^e$, $-C(=O)N(R^d)-$, or $-C(=O)-R^e$, where t is from 0 to 2; R^a, R^b, R^c, R^d and R^e each independently is hydrogen, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-alkoxy or hydroxy;

R^2 is  ;

X is -O- or $-NR^9-$;

n is 2 or 3;

R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 each independently is hydrogen or C_{1-12}-alkyl;

R^7 and R^8 each independently is hydrogen or C_{1-12}-alkyl, or R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached may form a 4-to 6-membered ring that optionally includes an additional heteroatom selected from O, N and S, or one of R^7 and R^8 and one of R^5 and R^6 together with the atoms to which they are attached may form a 4-to 6-membered ring that optionally includes an additional heteroatom selected from O, N and S; and

R^9 is hydrogen or C_{1-12}-alkyl, or when R^7 is hydrogen or methyl, R^9 together with R^8 and the atoms to which they are attached may form a 6-membered ring.

The compounds of the invention have selective affinity for 5-HT receptors, including the 5-HT_6 the 5-HT_{2A} receptor, or both, and as such are expected to be useful in the treatment of certain CNS disorders such as Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, anxiety, depression, manic depression, psychosis, epilepsy, obsessive compulsive disorders, mood disorders, migraine, Alzheimer's disease (enhancement of cognitive memory), sleep disorders, feeding disorders such as anorexia, bulimia, and obesity, panic attacks, akathisia, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), attention deficit disorder (ADD), withdrawal from drug abuse such as cocaine, ethanol, nicotine and benzodiazepines, schizophrenia, and also disorders associated with spinal trauma and/or head injury such as hydrocephalus. Such compounds are also expected to be of use in the treatment of certain GI (gastrointestinal) disorders such functional bowel disorder and irritable bowel syndrome.

The actions of 5-hydroxytryptamine (5-HT) as a major modulatory neurotransmitter in the brain are mediated through a number of receptor families termed 5-HT1, 5-HT2, 5- HT3, 5-HT4, 5-HT5, 5-HT6, and 5-HT7. Based on a high level of 5-HT6 receptor mRNA in the brain, it has been stated that the 5-HT6 receptor may play a role in the pathology and treatment of central nerve system disorders. In particular, 5-HT2-selective and 5-HT6 selective ligands have been identified as potentially useful in the treatment of certain CNS disorders such as Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, anxiety, depression, manic depression, psychoses, epilepsy, obsessive compulsive disorders, mood disorders, migraine, Alzheimer's disease (enhancement of cognitive memory), sleep disorders, feeding disorders such as anorexia, bulimia and obesity, panic attacks, akathisia, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), attention deficit disorder (ADD), withdrawal from drug abuse such as cocaine, ethanol, nicotine and benzodiazepines, schizophrenia, and also disorders associated with spinal trauma and/or head injury such as hydrocephalus. Such compounds are also expected to be of use in the treatment of certain gastrointestinal (GI) disorders such as functional bowel disorder. See for example, B.L. Roth et al., J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther., 1994, 268, pages 1403-14120, D. R. Sibley et al., Mol. Pharmacol., 1993, 43, 320-327, A.J. Sleight et al., Neurotransmission, 1995, 11, 1-5, and A. J. Sleight et al., Serotonin ID Research Alert, 1997, 2(3), 115-8.

While some 5-HT6 and 5-HT2A modulators have been disclosed, there continues to be a need for compounds that are useful for modulating the 5-HT6 receptor, the 5-HT2A receptor, or both.

The invention provides substituted quinolinone compounds, associated compositions, uses thereof in the preparation of a medicament useful for a use thereof as therapeutic agents, and methods of preparation thereof. In specific embodiments the invention provides piperazinyl- substituted quinolinone compounds and associated pharmaceutical compositions, and uses thereof in the preparation of a medicament useful in the treatment of central nervous system (CNS) diseases and gastrointestinal tract disorders.

All publications cited in this disclosure are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

Unless otherwise stated, the following terms used in this Application, including the specification and claims, have the definitions given below. It must be noted that, as used in the specification and the appended claims, the singular forms "a", "an," and "the" include plural referents unless the context clearly dictates otherwise.

"Agonist" refers to a compound that enhances the activity of another compound or receptor site.

"Alkyl" means the monovalent linear or branched saturated hydrocarbon moiety, consisting solely of carbon and hydrogen atoms, having from one to twelve carbon atoms. "Lower alkyl" refers to an alkyl group of one to six carbon atoms (i.e., "C_{1-6}-alkyl"). Examples of alkyl groups include, but are not limited to, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, pentyl, n-hexyl, octyl, dodecyl, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter.

"Alkylene" means a linear saturated divalent hydrocarbon radical of one to six carbon atoms or a branched saturated divalent hydrocarbon radical of three to six carbon atoms, e.g., methylene, ethylene, 2,2-dimethylethylene, propylene, 2-methylpropylene, butylene, pentylene, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter.

"Alkenylene" means a linear unsaturated divalent hydrocarbon radical of two to six carbon atoms or a branched saturated divalent hydrocarbon radical of three to six carbon atoms, e.g., ethenylene (-CH=CH-), 2,2-dimethylethenylene, propenylene, 2-methylpropenylene, butenylene, pentenylene, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter.

"Alkoxy" means a group –OR, wherein R is alkyl as defined herein. Examples of alkoxy moieties include, but are not limited to, methoxy, ethoxy, isopropoxy, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter.

each R independently is hydrogen or alkyl as defined herein.

"Aminoalkyl" means a group -R-R' wherein R' is amino and R is alkylene as defined herein. "Aminoalkyl" includes aminomethyl, aminoethyl, 1-aminopropyl, 2-aminopropyl, and the like. The amino moiety of "aminoalkyl" may be substituted once or twice with alkyl to provide "alkylaminoalkyl" and "dialkylaminoalkyl" respectively. "Alkylaminoalkyl" includes methylaminomethyl, methylaminoethyl, methylaminopropyl, ethylaminoethyl and the like. "Dialkylaminoalkyl" includes dimethylaminomethyl, dimethylaminoethyl, dimethylaminopropyl, N-methyl-N-ethylaminoethyl, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter.

"Antagonist" refers to a compound that diminishes or prevents the action of another compound or receptor site.

"Aryl" means a monovalent cyclic aromatic hydrocarbon moiety consisting of a mono-, bi- or tricyclic aromatic ring. The aryl group can be optionally substituted as defined herein. Examples of aryl moieties include, but are not limited to, phenyl, naphthyl, naphthalenyl, phenanthryl, fluorenyl, indenyl, pentalenyl, azulenyl, oxydiphenyl, biphenyl, methylenediphenyl, aminodiphenyl, diphenylsulfidyl, diphenylsulfonyl, diphenylisopropylidenyl, benzodioxanyl, benzofuranyl, benzodioxylyl, benzopyranyl, benzoxazinyl, benzoxazinonyl, benzopiperadinyl, benzopiperazinyl, benzopyrrolidinyl, benzomorpholinyl, methylenedioxyphenyl, ethylenedioxyphenyl, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter, including partially hydrogenated derivatives thereof.

"Arylene" means a divalent aryl radical wherein aryl is as defined herein. "Arylene" includes, for example, ortho-, meta- and para- phenylene (1,2-phenylene, 1,3-phenylene and 1,4-phenylene respectively), which may be optionally substituted as defined herein.

"Arylalkyl" and "Aralkyl", which may be used interchangeably, mean a radical -R-R' where R is an alkylene group and R' is an aryl group as defined herein; e.g., benzyl, phenylethyl, 3-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-methylpentyl, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter are examples of arylalkyl.

"Cycloalkyl" means a saturated carbocyclic moiety consisting of mono- or bicyclic rings. Cycloalkyl can optionally be substituted with one or more substituents, wherein each substituent is independently hydroxy, alkyl, alkoxy, halo, haloalkyl, amino, monoalkylamino, or dialkylamino, unless otherwise specifically indicated. Examples of cycloalkyl moieties include, but are not limited to, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, and the like, including partially unsaturated derivatives thereof such as cyclohexenyl, cyclopentenyl, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter.

"Cycloalkylalkyl" means a moiety of the formula –R–R', where R is alkylene and R' is cycloalkyl as defined herein.

"Heteroalkyl" means an alkyl radical as defined herein wherein one, two or three hydrogen atoms have been replaced with a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of $-OR^a$, $-NR^bR^c$, and $-S(O)_nR^d$ (where n is an integer from 0 to 2), with the understanding that the point of attachment of the heteroalkyl radical is through a carbon atom, wherein R^a is hydrogen, acyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, or cycloalkylalkyl; R^b and R^c are independently of each other hydrogen, acyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, or cycloalkylalkyl; and when n is 0, R^d is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, or cycloalkylalkyl, and when n is 1 or 2, R^d is alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, amino, acylamino, monoalkylamino, or dialkylamino. Representative examples include, but are not limited to, methoxy, ethoxy, 2-hydroxyethyl, 3-hydroxypropyl, 2-methoxyethyl, 3-methoxypropyl, 2-hydroxy-1-hydroxymethylethyl, 2,3-dihydroxypropyl, 1-hydroxymethylethyl, 3-hydroxybutyl, 2,3-dihydroxybutyl, 2-hydroxy-1-methylpropyl, 2-aminoethyl, 3-aminopropyl, 2-methylsulfonylethyl, aminosulfonylmethyl, aminosulfonylethyl, aminosulfonylpropyl, methylaminosulfonylmethyl, methylaminosulfonylethyl, methylaminosulfonylpropyl, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter.

"Heteroaryl" means a monocyclic or bicyclic monovalent radical of 5 to 12 ring atoms having at least one aromatic ring containing one, two, or three ring heteroatoms selected from N, O, or S, the remaining ring atoms being C, with the understanding that the attachment point of the heteroaryl radical will be on an aromatic ring. The heteroaryl ring may be optionally substituted as defined herein. Examples of heteroaryl moieties include, but are not limited to, imidazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, pyrazinyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, thiophenyl, furanyl, pyranyl, pyridyl, pyridinyl, pyridazyl, pyrrolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrimidyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, benzofuryl, benzothiophenyl, benzothiopyranyl, benzimidazolyl, benzooxazolyl, benzooxadiazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzothiadiazolyl, benzopyranyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, triazolyl, triazinyl, quinoxalinyl, purinyl, quinazolinyl, quinolizinyl, naphthyridinyl, pteridinyl, carbazolyl, azepinyl, diazepinyl, acridinyl and the like, including partially hydrogenated derivatives thereof. The aforementioned heteroaryl moieties may be partially saturated. Thus, "heteroaryl" includes "imidazolinyl", tetrahydropyrimidinyl" as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter.

"Heteroarylene" means a divalent heteroaryl radical wherein heteroaryl is as defined herein. "Heteroarylene" may be optionally substituted as defined herein.

"Heteroarylene" includes, for example, indolylene, pyrimidinylene, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter.

The terms "halo" and "halogen", which may be used interchangeably, refer to a substituent fluoro, chloro, bromo, or iodo.

"Haloalkyl" means alkyl as defined herein in which one or more hydrogen has been replaced with same or different halogen. Exemplary haloalkyls include $-CH_2Cl$, $-CH_2CF_3$, $-CH_2CCl_3$, perfluoroalkyl (e.g., $-CF_3$), as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter.

"Heterocycloamino" means a saturated ring wherein at least one ring atom is N, NH or N-alkyl and the remaining ring atoms form an alkylene group.

"Heterocyclyl" means a monovalent saturated moiety, consisting of one to three rings, incorporating one, two, or three or four heteroatoms (chosen from nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur). The heterocyclyl ring may be optionally substituted as defined herein. Examples of heterocyclyl moieties include, but are not limited to, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, homopiperazinyl, azepinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrazolidinyl, imidazolinyl, imidazolidinyl, pyridinyl, pyridazinyl, oxazolidinyl, isoxazolidinyl, morpholinyl, thiazolidinyl, isothiazolidinyl, quinuclidinyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, benzimidazolyl, thiadiazolylidinyl, benzothiazolidinyl, benzoazolylidinyl, dihydrofuryl, tetrahydrofuryl, dihydropyranyl, tetrahydropyranyl, thiamorpholinyl, thiamorpholinylsulfoxide, thiamorpholinylsulfone, dihydroquinolinyl, dihydrisoquinolinyl, tetrahydroquinolinyl, tetrahydrisoquinolinyl, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter, including partially unsaturated derivatives thereof.

"Optionally substituted", when used in association with "aryl", phenyl", "heteroaryl", cycloalkyl or "heterocyclyl", means an aryl, phenyl, heteroaryl, or heterocyclyl which is optionally substituted independently with one to four substituents, preferably one or two substituents selected from alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heteroalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, acylamino, mono-alkylamino, di-alkylamino, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, heteroalkyl, -COR (where R is hydrogen, alkyl, phenyl or phenylalkyl), $-(CR'R")_n$-COOR (where n is an integer from 0 to 5, R' and R" are independently hydrogen or alkyl, and R is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or phenylalkyl), or $-(CR'R")_n$-$CONR^aR^b$ (where n is an integer from 0 to 5, R' and R" are independently hydrogen or alkyl, and R^a and R^b are, independently of each other, hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or phenylalkyl.

"Leaving group" means the group with the meaning conventionally associated with it in synthetic organic chemistry, i.e., an atom or group displaceable under substitution reaction conditions. Examples of leaving groups include, but are not limited to, halogen, alkane- or arylenesulfonyloxy, such as methanesulfonyloxy, ethanesulfonyloxy, thiomethyl, benzenesulfonyloxy, tosyloxy, and thienyloxy, dihalophosphinoyloxy, optionally substituted benzyloxy, isopropyloxy, acyloxy, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter.

"Modulator" means a molecule that interacts with a target. The interactions include, but are not limited to, agonist, antagonist, and the like, as defined herein.

"Optional" or "optionally" means that the subsequently described event or circumstance may but need not occur, and that the description includes instances where the event or circumstance occurs and instances in which it does not.

"Disease state" means any disease, condition, symptom, or indication.

"Inert organic solvent" or "inert solvent" means the solvent is inert under the conditions of the reaction being described in conjunction therewith, including for example, benzene, toluene, acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran, N,N-dimethylformamide, chloroform, methylene chloride or dichloromethane, dichloroethane, diethyl ether, ethyl acetate, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methanol, ethanol, propanol, isopropanol, tert-butanol, dioxane, pyridine, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter. Unless specified to the contrary, the solvents used in the reactions of the present invention are inert solvents.

"Pharmaceutically acceptable" means that which is useful in preparing a pharmaceutical composition that is generally safe, non-toxic, and neither biologically nor otherwise undesirable and includes that which is acceptable for veterinary as well as human pharmaceutical use.

"Pharmaceutically acceptable salts" of a compound means salts that are pharmaceutically acceptable, as defined herein, and that possess the desired pharmacological activity of the parent compound. Such salts include:

acid addition salts formed with inorganic acids such as hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, sulfuric acid, nitric acid, phosphoric acid, and the like; or formed with organic acids such as acetic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, benzoic, camphorsulfonic acid, citric acid, ethanesulfonic acid, fumaric acid, glucoheptonic acid, gluconic acid, glutamic acid, glycolic acid, hydroxynaphtoic acid, 2-hydroxyethanesulfonic acid, lactic acid, maleic acid, malic acid, malonic acid, mandelic acid, methanesulfonic acid, muconic acid, 2-naphthalenesulfonic acid, propionic acid, salicylic acid, succinic acid, tartaric acid, p-toluenesulfonic acid, trimethylacetic

acid, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter; or

salts formed when an acidic proton present in the parent compound either is replaced by a metal ion, e.g., an alkali metal ion, an alkaline earth ion, or an aluminum ion; or coordinates with an organic or inorganic base. Acceptable organic bases include diethanolamine, ethanolamine, N-methylglucamine, triethanolamine, tromethamine, as well as those groups which are illustrated in the examples of compounds of the invention hereinafter. Acceptable inorganic bases include aluminum hydroxide, calcium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, sodium carbonate and sodium hydroxide.

The preferred pharmaceutically acceptable salts are the salts formed from acetic acid, hydrochloric acid, sulphuric acid, methanesulfonic acid, maleic acid, phosphoric acid, tartaric acid, citric acid, sodium, potassium, calcium, zinc, and magnesium.

It should be understood that all references to pharmaceutically acceptable salts include solvent addition forms (solvates) or crystal forms (polymorphs) as defined herein, of the same acid addition salt.

The terms "pro-drug" and "prodrug", which may be used interchangeably herein, refer to any compound which releases an active parent drug according to formula I in vivo when such prodrug is administered to a mammalian subject. Prodrugs of a compound of formula I are prepared by modifying one or more functional group(s) present in the compound of formula I in such a way that the modification(s) may be cleaved in vivo to release the parent compound. Prodrugs include compounds of formula I wherein a hydroxy, amino, or sulfhydryl group in a compound of Formula I is bonded to any group that may be cleaved in vivo to regenerate the free hydroxyl, amino, or sulfhydryl group, respectively. Examples of prodrugs include, but are not limited to, esters (e.g., acetate, formate, and benzoate derivatives), carbamates (e.g., N,N-dimethylaminocarbonyl) of hydroxy functional groups in compounds of formula I, N-acyl derivatives (e.g. N-acetyl) N-Mannich bases, Schiff bases and enaminones of amino functional groups, oximes, acetals, ketals and enol esters of ketone and aldehyde functional groups in compounds of Formula I, and the like, see Bundegaard, H. "Design of Prodrugs" p1-92, Elesevier, New York-Oxford (1985), and the like.

"Protective group" or "protecting group" means the group which selectively blocks one reactive site in a multifunctional compound such that a chemical reaction can be carried out selectively at another unprotected reactive site in the meaning conventionally associated with it in synthetic chemistry. Certain processes of this invention rely upon the protective groups to block reactive nitrogen and/or oxygen atoms present in the

reactants. For example, the terms "amino-protecting group" and "nitrogen protecting group" are used interchangeably herein and refer to those organic groups intended to protect the nitrogen atom against undesirable reactions during synthetic procedures. Exemplary nitrogen protecting groups include, but are not limited to, trifluoroacetyl, acetamido, benzyl (Bn), benzyloxycarbonyl (carbobenzyloxy, CBZ), p-methoxybenzyloxycarbonyl, p-nitrobenzyloxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl (BOC), and the like. Those skilled in the art know how to choose a group for the ease of removal and for the ability to withstand the following reactions.

"Solvates" means solvent addition forms that contain either stoichiometric or non stoichiometric amounts of solvent. Some compounds have a tendency to trap a fixed molar ratio of solvent molecules in the crystalline solid state, thus forming a solvate. If the solvent is water the solvate formed is a hydrate, when the solvent is alcohol, the solvate formed is an alcoholate. Hydrates are formed by the combination of one or more molecules of water with one of the substances in which the water retains its molecular state as H_2O, such combination being able to form one or more hydrate.

"Subject" means mammals and non-mammals. Mammals means any member of the mammalia class including, but not limited to, humans; non-human primates such as chimpanzees and other apes and monkey species; farm animals such as cattle, horses, sheep, goats, and swine; domestic animals such as rabbits, dogs, and cats; laboratory animals including rodents, such as rats, mice, and guinea pigs; and the like. Examples of non-mammals include, but are not limited to, birds, and the like. The term "subject" does not denote a particular age or sex.

"Therapeutically effective amount" means an amount of a compound that, when administered to a subject for treating a disease state, is sufficient to effect such treatment for the disease state. The "therapeutically effective amount" will vary depending on the compound, disease state being treated, the severity or the disease treated, the age and relative health of the subject, the route and form of administration, the judgement of the attending medical or veterinary practitioner, and other factors.

The terms "those defined above" and "those defined herein" when referring to a variable incorporates by reference the broad definition of the variable as well as preferred, more preferred and most preferred definitions, if any.

"Treating" or "treatment" of a disease state includes:

(i) preventing the disease state, i.e. causing the clinical symptoms of the disease state not to develop in a subject that may be exposed to or predisposed to the disease state, but does not yet experience or display symptoms of the disease state.

(ii) inhibiting the disease state, i.e., arresting the development of the disease state or its clinical symptoms, or

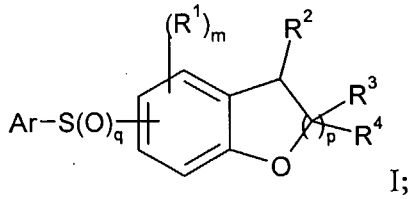
(iii) relieving the disease state , i.e., causing temporary or permanent regression of the disease state or its clinical symptoms.

The terms "treating", "contacting" and "reacting" when referring to a chemical reaction means adding or mixing two or more reagents under appropriate conditions to produce the indicated and/or the desired product. It should be appreciated that the reaction which produces the indicated and/or the desired product may not necessarily result directly from the combination of two reagents which were initially added, i.e., there may be one or more intermediates which are produced in the mixture which ultimately leads to the formation of the indicated and/or the desired product.

In general, the nomenclature used in this Application is based on AUTONOM™ v.4.0, a Beilstein Institute computerized system for the generation of IUPAC systematic nomenclature.

Chemical structures shown herein were prepared using ISIS® version 2.2. Any open valency appearing on a carbon, oxygen or nitrogen atom in the structures herein indicates the presence of a hydrogen.

It should be understood that the scope of this invention encompasses not only the various isomers which may exist but also the various mixture of isomers which may be formed. Furthermore, the scope of the present invention also encompasses solvates and salts of compounds of formula I:



I;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein:

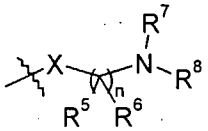
m is from 0 to 3;

p is from 1 to 3;

q is 0, 1 or 2;

Ar is optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted heteroaryl;

each R^1 is independently halo, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-haloalkyl, C_{1-12}-heteroalkyl, cyano, $-S(O)_t-R^a$, $-C(=O)-NR^bR^c$, $-SO_2-NR^bR^c$, $-N(R^d)-C(=O)-R^e$, $-C(=O)N(R^d)-$, or $-C(=O)-R^e$, where t is from 0 to 2, R^a, R^b, R^c, R^d and R^e each independently is hydrogen, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-alkoxy or hydroxy;



R^2 is ;

X is -O- or $-NR^9$-;

n is 2 or 3;

R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 each independently is hydrogen or C_{1-12}-alkyl;

R^7 and R^8 each independently is hydrogen or C_{1-12}-alkyl, or R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached may form a 4-to 6-membered ring that optionally includes an additional heteroatom selected from O, N and S, or one of R^7 and R^8 and one of R^5 and R^6 together with the atoms to which they are attached may form a 4-to 6-membered ring that optionally includes an additional heteroatom selected from O, N and S; and

R^9 is hydrogen or C_{1-12}-alkyl, or when R^7 is hydrogen or methyl, R^9 together with R^8 and the atoms to which they are attached may form a 6-membered ring.

In certain embodiments of formula I, p is 2. In many such embodiments q is 2.

In certain embodiments of formula I, Ar is optionally substituted phenyl.

Preferably, m is 0 or 1 in embodiments of formula I.

In many embodiments of formula I, X is $-NR^9$-.

In certain embodiments, R^3 and R^4 may both be hydrogen. In other such embodiments, both R^3 and R^4 may be alkyl, preferably methyl.

In certain embodiments of formula I, n is 2.

In certain embodiments of formula I, n is 3

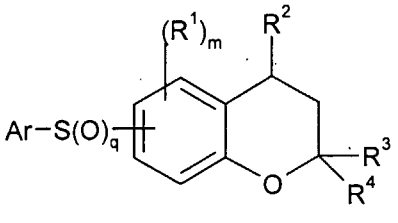
In certain embodiments, of formula I, R^5 and R^6 may both be hydrogen. In other embodiments R^7 and R^8 is hydrogen and the other is C_{1-12}-alkyl, preferably methyl. In still other embodiments, R^7 and R^8 are both C_{1-12}-alkyl, preferably methyl.

In certain embodiments of formula I, R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached may form 6-membered ring.

In certain embodiments of formula I, R^9 is hydrogen.

In certain embodiments of formula I, R^7 is hydrogen or methyl, and R^8 and R^9 together with the atoms to which they are attached form a 6-membered ring.

In many embodiments of the invention the subject compounds are of the formula II:



II;

wherein m, q, Ar, R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are as defined herein.

In certain embodiments of formula II, q is 2.

In certain embodiments of formula II, Ar is optionally substituted phenyl.

Preferably, m is 0 or 1 in embodiments of formula I.

In many embodiments of formula II, X is $-NR^9-$.

In certain embodiments of formula II, R^3 and R^4 may both be hydrogen. In other such embodiments, both R^3 and R^4 may be C_{1-12}-alkyl, preferably methyl.

In certain embodiments of formula II, n is 2.

In certain embodiments of formula II, n is 3

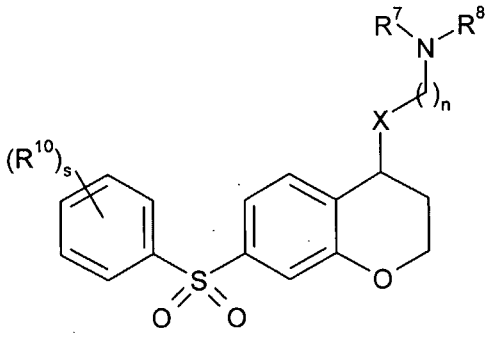
In certain embodiments, of formula II, R^5 and R^6 may both be hydrogen. In other embodiments R^7 and R^8 is hydrogen and the other is C_{1-12}-alkyl, preferably methyl. In still other embodiments, R^7 and R^8 are both C_{1-12}-alkyl, preferably methyl.

In certain embodiments of formula I, R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached may form 6-membered ring.

In certain embodiments of formula II, R^9 is hydrogen.

In certain embodiments of formula II, R^7 is hydrogen or methyl, and R^8 and R^9 together with the atoms to which they are attached form a 6-membered ring.

In certain embodiments of the invention the subject compounds are more specifically of the formula III:



III;

wherein:

s is from 0 to 4;

each R^{10} is independently halo, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-haloalkyl, C_{1-12}-heteroalkyl, cyano, $-S(O)_t-R^a$, $-C(=O)-NR^bR^c$, $-SO_2-NR^bR^c$, $-N(R^d)-C(=O)-R^e$, $-C(=O)N(R^d)-$, or $-C(=O)-R^e$, where t is from 0 to 2, R^a, R^b, R^c, R^d and R^e each independently is hydrogen, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-alkoxy or hydroxy; and

X, R^7 and R^8 are as defined herein.

Preferably, s is from 0 to 2 and R^{10} is halo, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-alkoxy or C_{1-12}-haloalkyl. More preferably, s is 0 or 1 and R^{10} is fluoro or chloro.

In many embodiments of formula III, X is $-NR^9-$.

In certain embodiments of formula III, n is 2.

In certain embodiments of formula III, n is 3

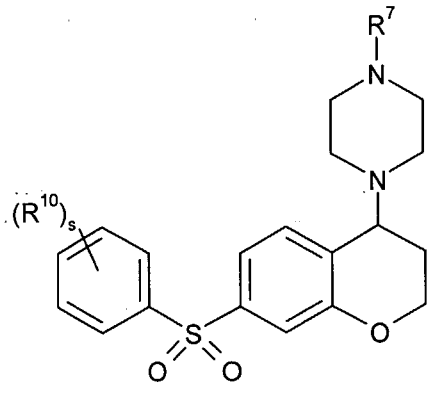
In certain embodiments, of formula III, R^5 and R^6 may both be hydrogen. In other embodiments R^7 and R^8 is hydrogen and the other is C_{1-12}-alkyl, preferably methyl. In still other embodiments, R^7 and R^8 are both C_{1-12}-alkyl, preferably methyl.

In certain embodiments of formula III, R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached may form 6-membered ring.

In certain embodiments of formula III, R^9 is hydrogen.

In certain embodiments of formula III, R^7 is hydrogen or methyl, and R^8 and R^9 together with the atoms to which they are attached form a 6-membered ring.

In certain embodiments of the invention the subject compounds are more specifically of the formula IV:



IV;

wherein:

s is from 0 to 4;

each R^{10} is independently halo, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-haloalkyl, C_{1-12}-heteroalkyl, cyano, $-S(O)_t-R^a$, $-C(=O)-NR^bR^c$, $-SO_2-NR^bR^c$, $-N(R^d)-C(=O)-R^e$, $-C(=O)N(R^d)$-, or $-C(=O)$-R^e, where t is from 0 to 2, R^a, R^b, R^c, R^d and R^e each independently is hydrogen, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-alkoxy or hydroxy; and

R^7 is hydrogen or methyl.

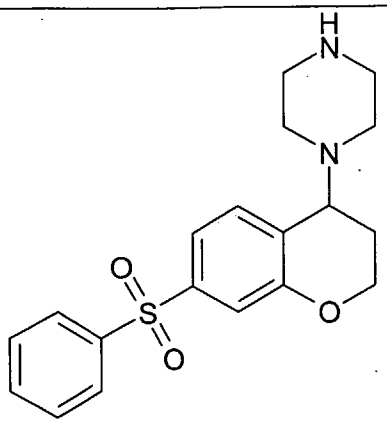
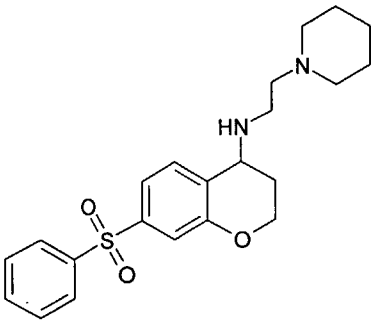
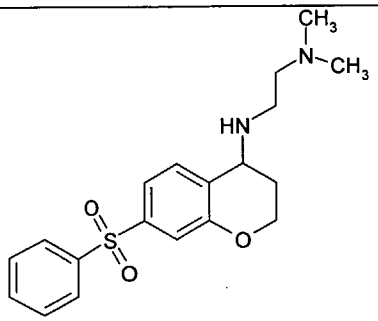
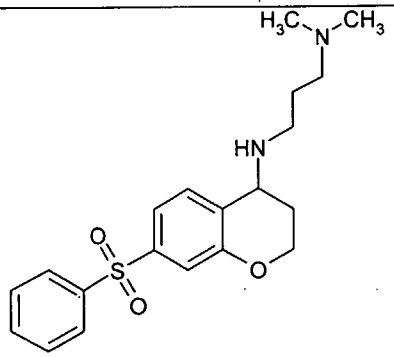
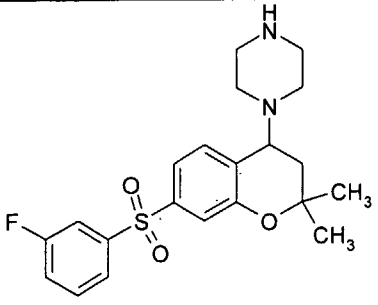
Preferably, s is from 0 to 2 and R^{10} is halo, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-alkoxy or C_{1-12}-haloalkyl. More preferably, s is 0 or 1 and R^{10} is fluoro or chloro.

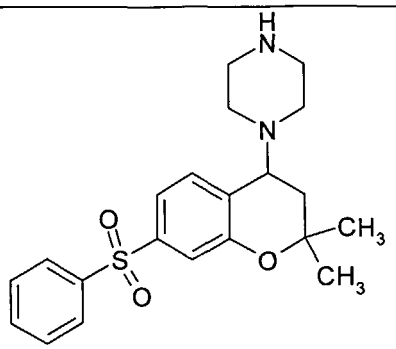
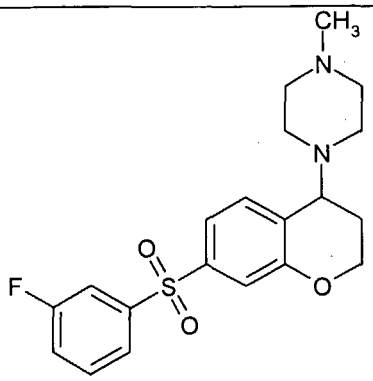
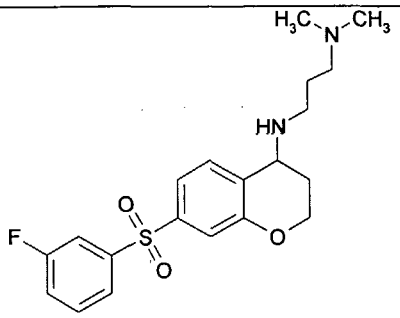
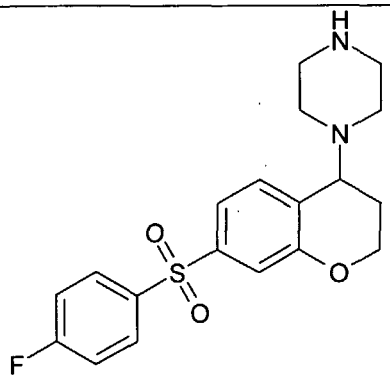
Where any of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^a, R^b, R^c, R^d, and R^e herein are alkyl or contain an alkyl moiety, such C_{1-12}-alkyl is preferably lower alkyl, i.e. C_{1-6}-alkyl, and more preferably C_{1-4}-alkyl.

Representative compounds in accordance with the invention are shown in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1

#	Structure	Name	MP, °C or (M+H)

1		1-(7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-piperazine	243.0-249.0 °C (HCl Salt)
2		(7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethyl)-amine	154.1-153.2 °C (HCl Salt)
3		N'-(7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-N,N-dimethyl-ethane-1,2-diamine	361
4		N'-(7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-N,N-dimethyl-propane-1,3-diamine	376
5		1-[7-(3-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-2,2-dimethyl-chroman-4-yl]-piperazine	406

6		1-(7-Benzenesulfonyl-2,2-dimethyl-chroman-4-yl)-piperazine	388
7		1-[7-(3-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-chroman-4-yl]-4-methyl-piperazine	391
8		N'-[7-(3-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-chroman-4-yl]-N,N-dimethyl-propane-1,3-diamine	393
9		1-[7-(4-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-chroman-4-yl]-piperazine	377

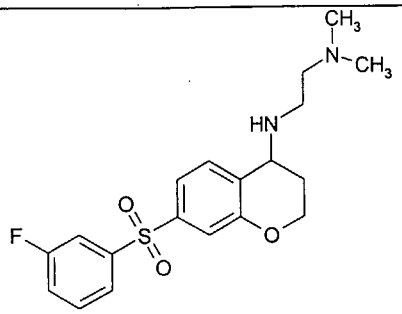
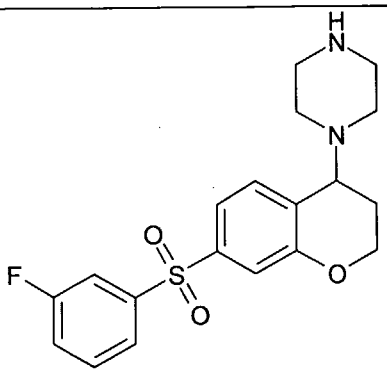
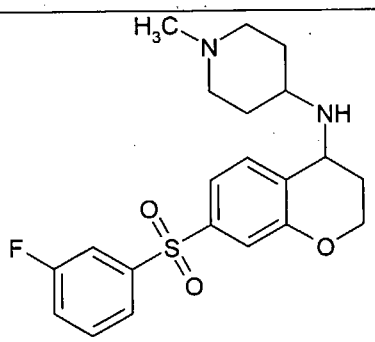
10		N'-[7-(3-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-chroman-4-yl]-N,N-dimethyl-ethane-1,2-diamine	379
11		1-[7-(3-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-chroman-4-yl]-piperazine	377
12		[7-(3-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-chroman-4-yl]-(1-methyl-piperidin-4-yl)-amine	405

TABLE 1

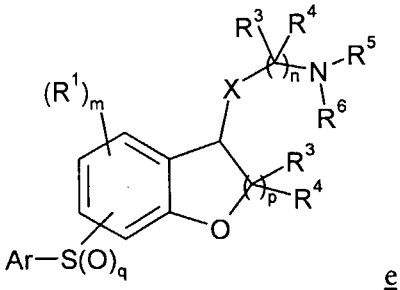
Another aspect of the invention provides a composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound of formula (I) and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Yet another aspect of the invention provides uses of the compound of the invention in the preparation of a medicament useful for treating a central nervous system (CNS) disease state in a subject. The disease state may comprise, for example, psychoses, schizophrenia, manic depressions, neurological disorders, memory disorders, attention deficit disorder, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease or Huntington's disease.

Still another aspect of the present invention provides uses of the compound of the invention in the preparation of a medicament useful for treating a disorder of the gastrointestinal tract in a subject comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I).

Another aspect of the present invention provides a method for producing a compound of formula (I).

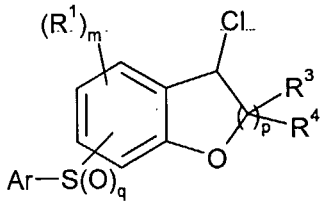
As mentioned hereinabove, the invention also provides methods for preparing, methods of using, and pharmaceutical compositions comprising the aforementioned compounds. One such method is for producing a compound of formula e;



e

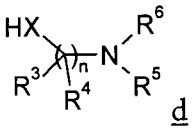
wherein m, p, q, Ar, X, R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are as defined herein, the method comprising:

reacting a compound of formula c:



c

with an alkylating agent of formula d



d

to the compound of formula e.

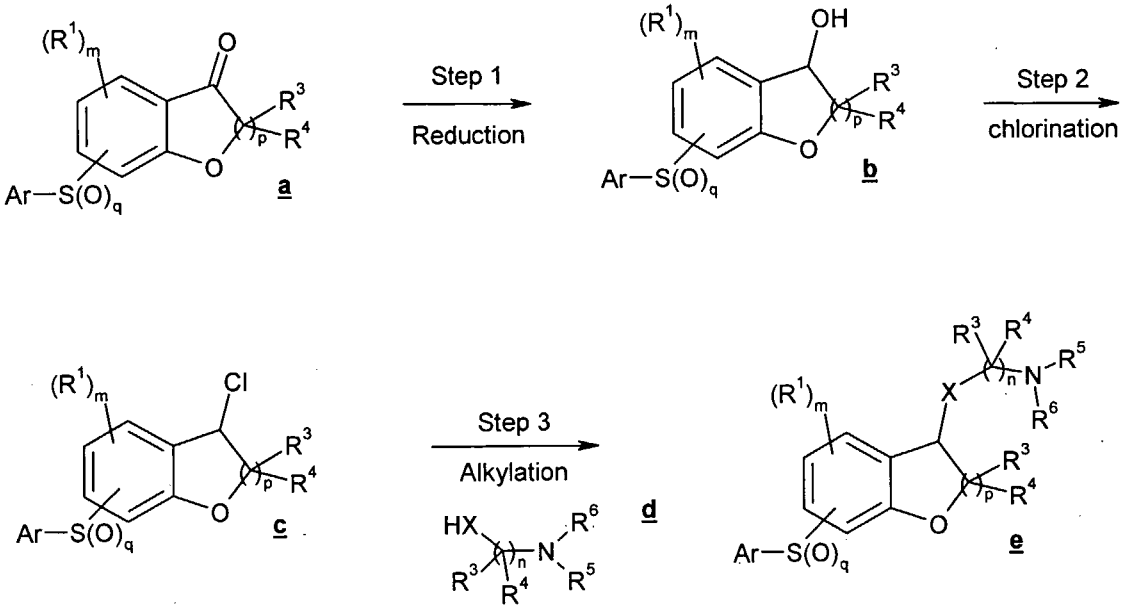
Compounds of the present invention can also be made by a variety of methods depicted in the illustrative synthetic reaction schemes shown and described below.

The starting materials and reagents used in preparing these compounds generally are either available from commercial suppliers, such as Aldrich Chemical Co., or are prepared by methods known to those skilled in the art following procedures set forth in references such as Fieser and Fieser's Reagents for Organic Synthesis; Wiley & Sons: New York, 1991, Volumes 1-15; Rodd's Chemistry of Carbon Compounds, Elsevier Science Publishers, 1989, Volumes 1-5 and Supplementals; and Organic Reactions, Wiley & Sons: New York, 2004, Volumes 1-56. The following synthetic reaction schemes are merely illustrative of some methods by which the compounds of the present invention can be synthesized, and various modifications to these synthetic reaction schemes can be made and will be suggested to one skilled in the art having referred to the disclosure contained in this Application.

The starting materials and the intermediates of the synthetic reaction schemes can be isolated and purified if desired using conventional techniques, including but not limited to, filtration, distillation, crystallization, chromatography, and the like. Such materials can be characterized using conventional means, including physical constants and spectral data.

Unless specified to the contrary, the reactions described herein preferably are conducted under an inert atmosphere at atmospheric pressure at a reaction temperature range of from about -78 °C to about 150 °C, more preferably from about 0 °C to about 125 °C, and most preferably and conveniently at about room (or ambient) temperature, e.g., about 20 °C.

Scheme A below illustrates one synthetic procedure usable to prepare compounds of the invention, wherein X, Ar, m, p, q, R^1, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are as defined herein. Numerous synthetic routes to indanes and tetralins are known and may be used in preparation of the subject compounds, and the procedure of Scheme A is only exemplary. Specific examples of the procedure of Scheme A are provided in the following Experimental section.



SCHEME A

In step 1 of Scheme A, ketone compound a is reduced to give alcohol compound b. Ketone compound may comprise, for example, an arylsulfonyl dihydrobenzofuranone where q is 2 and p 1, an arylsulfonyl chroman where q is 2 and p is 2, or like ketone in accordance with the invention. Corresponding, arylsulfanyl (q = 0) and arylsulfinyl (q = 1) ketone compounds may be used in this step. Ketone compounds a may be prepared by

a variety of techniques known in the art, and specific examples of preparing such compounds are provided below in the Experimental section of this disclosure. The reduction reaction of step 1 may be achieved by treatment of ketone compound a with sodium borohydride under mild protic solvent conditions.

In step 2, alcohol compound b is subject to chlorination to provide nitrile chloro compound c. This reaction may be achieved using thionyl chloride under non-polar solvent conditions.

An alkylation reaction is carried out in step 3 by reaction of compound d with chlorine compound c to yield compound e, which is a compound of formula I in accordance with the invention. In compound d X may be -O- or -NR^9- where R^9 is as defined above. Where one or both of R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen, suitable protection and deprotection strategies may be employed in this step.

Many variations on the procedure of Scheme A are possible and will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art. In certain embodiments where X is O, steps 2 and 3 may be replaced with an O-alkylation reaction by treatment of compound b with a suitable aminoalkyl halide, or a heteroalkyl halide that may subsequently be modified to introduce an amine functionality. In certain instances, ketone a may be treated directly with a secondary amine under reducing conditions to directly provide compound e.

Specific details for producing compounds of formula I are described in the Examples section below.

The compounds of the invention have selective affinity for 5-HT receptors, including the 5-HT_6 the 5-HT_{2A} receptor, or both, and as such are expected to be useful in the treatment of certain CNS disorders such as Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, anxiety, depression, manic depression, psychosis, epilepsy, obsessive compulsive disorders, mood disorders, migraine, Alzheimer's disease (enhancement of cognitive memory), sleep disorders, feeding disorders such as anorexia, bulimia, and obesity, panic attacks, akathisia, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), attention deficit disorder (ADD), withdrawal from drug abuse such as cocaine, ethanol, nicotine and benzodiazepines, schizophrenia, and also disorders associated with spinal trauma and/or head injury such as hydrocephalus. Such compounds are also expected to be of use in the treatment of certain GI (gastrointestinal) disorders such functional bowel disorder and irritable bowel syndrome.

The pharmacology of the compounds of this invention was determined by art recognized procedures. The in vitro techniques for determining the affinities of test compounds at the 5-HT6 receptor and the 5-HT2A receptor in radioligand binding, FLIPR and functional assays are described below.

The present invention includes pharmaceutical compositions comprising at least one compound of the present invention, or an individual isomer, racemic or non-racemic mixture of isomers or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, together with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and optionally other therapeutic and/or prophylactic ingredients.

In general, the compounds of the present invention will be administered in a therapeutically effective amount by any of the accepted modes of administration for agents that serve similar utilities. Suitable dosage ranges are typically 1-500 mg daily, preferably 1-100 mg daily, and most preferably 1-30 mg daily, depending upon numerous factors such as the severity of the disease to be treated, the age and relative health of the subject, the potency of the compound used, the route and form of administration, the indication towards which the administration is directed, and the preferences and experience of the medical practitioner involved. One of ordinary skill in the art of treating such diseases will be able, without undue experimentation and in reliance upon personal knowledge and the disclosure of this Application, to ascertain a therapeutically effective amount of the compounds of the present invention for a given disease.

In general, compounds of the present invention will be administered as pharmaceutical formulations including those suitable for oral (including buccal and sub-lingual), rectal, nasal, topical, pulmonary, vaginal, or parenteral (including intramuscular, intraarterial, intrathecal, subcutaneous and intravenous) administration or in a form suitable for administration by inhalation or insufflation. The preferred manner of administration is generally oral using a convenient daily dosage regimen which can be adjusted according to the degree of affliction.

A compound or compounds of the present invention, together with one or more conventional adjuvants, carriers, or diluents, may be placed into the form of pharmaceutical compositions and unit dosages. The pharmaceutical compositions and unit dosage forms may be comprised of conventional ingredients in conventional proportions, with or without additional active compounds or principles, and the unit dosage forms may contain any suitable effective amount of the active ingredient commensurate with the intended daily dosage range to be employed. The pharmaceutical compositions may be employed as solids, such as tablets or filled capsules, semisolids, powders, sustained release formulations, or liquids such as solutions, suspensions, emulsions, elixirs, or filled capsules for oral use; or in the form of suppositories for rectal or vaginal administration; or in the form of sterile injectable solutions for parenteral use. Formulations containing about one (1) milligram of active ingredient or, more broadly, about 0.01 to about one hundred (100) milligrams, per tablet, are accordingly suitable representative unit dosage forms.

The compounds of the present invention may be formulated in a wide variety of oral administration dosage forms. The pharmaceutical compositions and dosage forms may comprise a compound or compounds of the present invention or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof as the active component. The pharmaceutically acceptable carriers may be either solid or liquid. Solid form preparations include powders, tablets, pills, capsules, cachets, suppositories, and dispersible granules. A solid carrier may be one or more substances which may also act as diluents, flavouring agents, solubilizers, lubricants, suspending agents, binders, preservatives, tablet disintegrating agents, or an encapsulating material. In powders, the carrier generally is a finely divided solid which is a mixture with the finely divided active component. In tablets, the active component generally is mixed with the carrier having the necessary binding capacity in suitable proportions and compacted in the shape and size desired. The powders and tablets preferably contain from about one (1) to about seventy (70) percent of the active compound. Suitable carriers include but are not limited to magnesium carbonate, magnesium stearate, talc, sugar, lactose, pectin, dextrin, starch, gelatine, tragacanth, methylcellulose, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, a low melting wax, cocoa butter, and the like. The term "preparation" is intended to include the formulation of the active compound with encapsulating material as carrier, providing a capsule in which the active component, with or without carriers, is surrounded by a carrier, which is in association with it. Similarly, cachets and lozenges are included. Tablets, powders, capsules, pills, cachets, and lozenges may be as solid forms suitable for oral administration.

Other forms suitable for oral administration include liquid form preparations including emulsions, syrups, elixirs, aqueous solutions, aqueous suspensions, or solid form preparations which are intended to be converted shortly before use to liquid form preparations. Emulsions may be prepared in solutions, for example, in aqueous propylene glycol solutions or may contain emulsifying agents, for example, such as lecithin, sorbitan monooleate, or acacia. Aqueous solutions can be prepared by dissolving the active component in water and adding suitable colorants, flavors, stabilizers, and thickening agents. Aqueous suspensions can be prepared by dispersing the finely divided active component in water with viscous material, such as natural or synthetic gums, resins, methylcellulose, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, and other well known suspending agents. Solid form preparations include solutions, suspensions, and emulsions, and may contain, in addition to the active component, colorants, flavors, stabilizers, buffers, artificial and natural sweeteners, dispersants, thickeners, solubilizing agents, and the like.

The compounds of the present invention may be formulated for parenteral administration (e.g., by injection, for example bolus injection or continuous infusion)

and may be presented in unit dose form in ampoules, pre-filled syringes, small volume infusion or in multi-dose containers with an added preservative. The compositions may take such forms as suspensions, solutions, or emulsions in oily or aqueous vehicles, for example solutions in aqueous polyethylene glycol. Examples of oily or non-aqueous carriers, diluents, solvents or vehicles include propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, vegetable oils (e.g., olive oil), and injectable organic esters (e.g., ethyl oleate), and may contain formulatory agents such as preserving, wetting, emulsifying or suspending, stabilizing and/or dispersing agents. Alternatively, the active ingredient may be in powder form, obtained by aseptic isolation of sterile solid or by lyophilization from solution for constitution before use with a suitable vehicle, e.g., sterile, pyrogen-free water.

The compounds of the present invention may be formulated for topical administration to the epidermis as ointments, creams or lotions, or as a transdermal patch. Ointments and creams may, for example, be formulated with an aqueous or oily base with the addition of suitable thickening and/or gelling agents. Lotions may be formulated with an aqueous or oily base and will in general also containing one or more emulsifying agents, stabilizing agents, dispersing agents, suspending agents, thickening agents, or coloring agents. Formulations suitable for topical administration in the mouth include lozenges comprising active agents in a flavored base, usually sucrose and acacia or tragacanth; pastilles comprising the active ingredient in an inert base such as gelatine and glycerine or sucrose and acacia; and mouthwashes comprising the active ingredient in a suitable liquid carrier.

The compounds of the present invention may be formulated for administration as suppositories. A low melting wax, such as a mixture of fatty acid glycerides or cocoa butter is first melted and the active component is dispersed homogeneously, for example, by stirring. The molten homogeneous mixture is then poured into convenient sized molds, allowed to cool, and to solidify.

The compounds of the present invention may be formulated for vaginal administration. Pessaries, tampons, creams, gels, pastes, foams or sprays containing in addition to the active ingredient such carriers as are known in the art to be appropriate.

The compounds of the present invention may be formulated for nasal administration. The solutions or suspensions are applied directly to the nasal cavity by conventional means, for example, with a dropper, pipette or spray. The formulations may be provided in a single or multidose form. In the latter case of a dropper or pipette, this may be achieved by the patient administering an appropriate, predetermined volume of the solution or suspension. In the case of a spray, this may be achieved for example by means of a metering atomizing spray pump.

The compounds of the present invention may be formulated for aerosol administration, particularly to the respiratory tract and including intranasal administration. The compound will generally have a small particle size for example of the order of five (5) microns or less. Such a particle size may be obtained by means known in the art, for example by micronization. The active ingredient is provided in a pressurized pack with a suitable propellant such as a chlorofluorocarbon (CFC), for example, dichlorodifluoromethane, trichlorofluoromethane, or dichlorotetrafluoroethane, or carbon dioxide or other suitable gas. The aerosol may conveniently also contain a surfactant such as lecithin. The dose of drug may be controlled by a metered valve. Alternatively the active ingredients may be provided in a form of a dry powder, for example a powder mix of the compound in a suitable powder base such as lactose, starch, starch derivatives such as hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose and polyvinylpyrrolidine (PVP). The powder carrier will form a gel in the nasal cavity. The powder composition may be presented in unit dose form for example in capsules or cartridges of e.g., gelatine or blister packs from which the powder may be administered by means of an inhaler.

When desired, formulations can be prepared with enteric coatings adapted for sustained or controlled release administration of the active ingredient. For example, the compounds of the present invention can be formulated in transdermal or subcutaneous drug delivery devices. These delivery systems are advantageous when sustained release of the compound is necessary and when patient compliance with a treatment regimen is crucial. Compounds in transdermal delivery systems are frequently attached to an skin-adhesive solid support. The compound of interest can also be combined with a penetration enhancer, e.g., Azone (1-dodecylazacycloheptan-2-one). Sustained release delivery systems are inserted subcutaneously into the subdermal layer by surgery or injection. The subdermal implants encapsulate the compound in a lipid soluble membrane, e.g., silicone rubber, or a biodegradable polymer, e.g., polylactic acid.

The pharmaceutical preparations are preferably in unit dosage forms. In such form, the preparation is subdivided into unit doses containing appropriate quantities of the active component. The unit dosage form can be a packaged preparation, the package containing discrete quantities of preparation, such as packeted tablets, capsules, and powders in vials or ampoules. Also, the unit dosage form can be a capsule, tablet, cachet, or lozenge itself, or it can be the appropriate number of any of these in packaged form.

Other suitable pharmaceutical carriers and their formulations are described in Remington: The Science and Practice of Pharmacy 1995, edited by E. W. Martin, Mack Publishing Company, 19th edition, Easton, Pennsylvania. Representative pharmaceutical formulations containing a compound of the present invention are described in the Examples below.

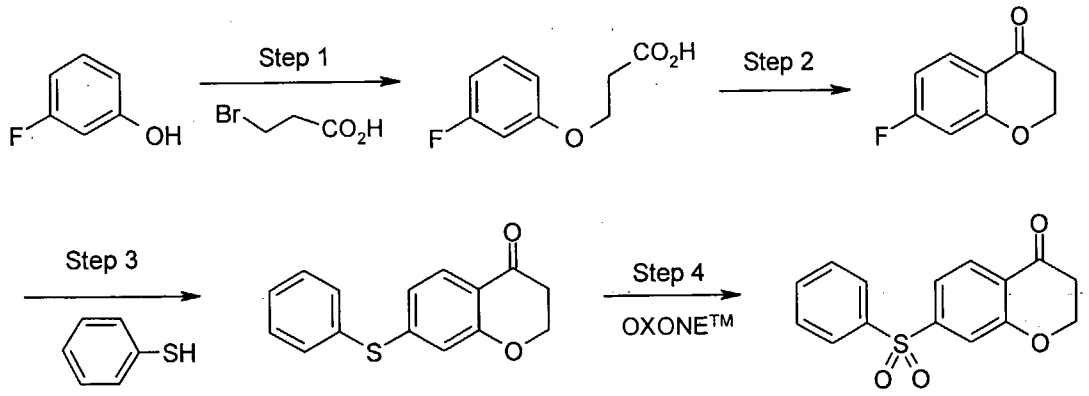
EXAMPLES

The following preparations and examples are given to enable those skilled in the art to more clearly understand and to practice the present invention. They should not be considered as limiting the scope of the invention, but merely as being illustrative and representative thereof.

Preparation 1

7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-one

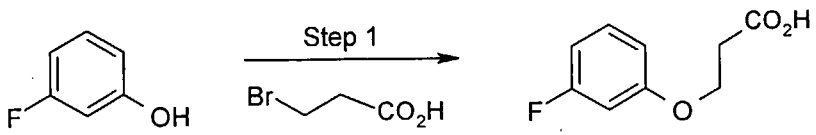
The synthetic procedure described in this Preparation was carried out according to the process shown in Scheme D.



SCHEME D

Step 1

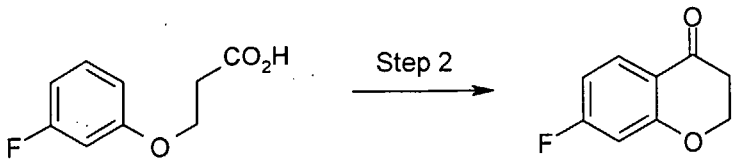
3-(3-Fluoro-phenoxy)-propionic acid



3-Fluorophenol (8.9 g, 79.5 mmol) and 3-bromopropionic acid (12.24 g, 80.0 mmol) were placed in a flask. A solution of NaOH (6.7 g, 167 mmol) in 20 mL water was added slowly to the flask. The reaction mixture was heated to reflux for two hours and then cooled to room temperature and partitioned between ethyl acetate and water. The organic layer was dried over $MgSO_4$, and solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to give 4.57 g (25 mmol, 31.4 %) of 3-(3-fluoro-phenoxy)-propionic acid. MS: 185 $(M+H)^+$.

Step 2

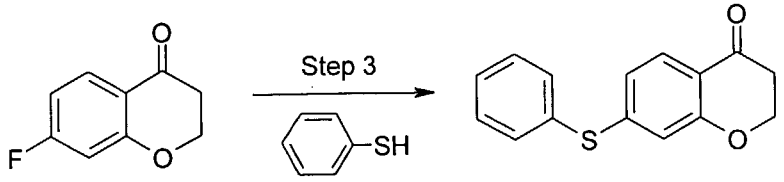
7-Fluoro-chroman-4-one



3-(3-Fluoro-phenoxy)-propionic acid (3.37 g, 18.3 mmol), was dissolved in a mixture of 25 mL trifluoroacetic acid and 9 mL methanesulfonic acid. The reaction mixture was hteated to 90 °C and was stirred at 90 °C for one hour. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and partitioned between ethyl acetate and water. The organic layer was dried over $MgSO_4$, and solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was eluted through silica gel (15%EtOAc in hexanes), and solvent was removed under reduced pressure to yield 1.24 g (7.5 mmol, 41%) of 7-fluoroo-chroman-4-one (MS: 167 $(M+H)^+$.

Step 3

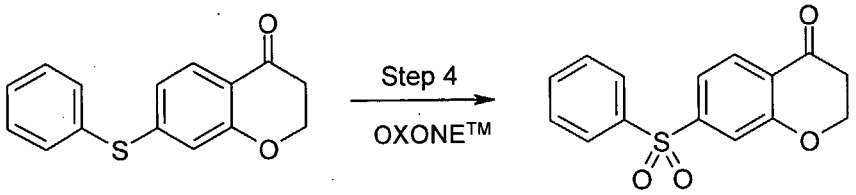
7-Phenylsulfanyl-chroman-4-one



A solution of 7-fluoroo-chroman-4-one (1.87 g, 11.27 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (9.28 g, 67.12 mmol) was added to 20 mL of dimethylformamide (DMF). Benzenethiol (1.37 mL, 13.52 mmol) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for two hours, and then partitioned between ethyl acetate and water. The organic layer was dried over $MgSO_4$, and solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to yield an oil that was eluted through silica gel using hexanes/EtOAc (9:1). Removal of solvent under reduced pressure provided 2.21 g (8.62 mmol, 77%) of 7-phenylsulfanyl-chroman-4-one. MS: 257 $(M+H)^+$.

Step 4

7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-one



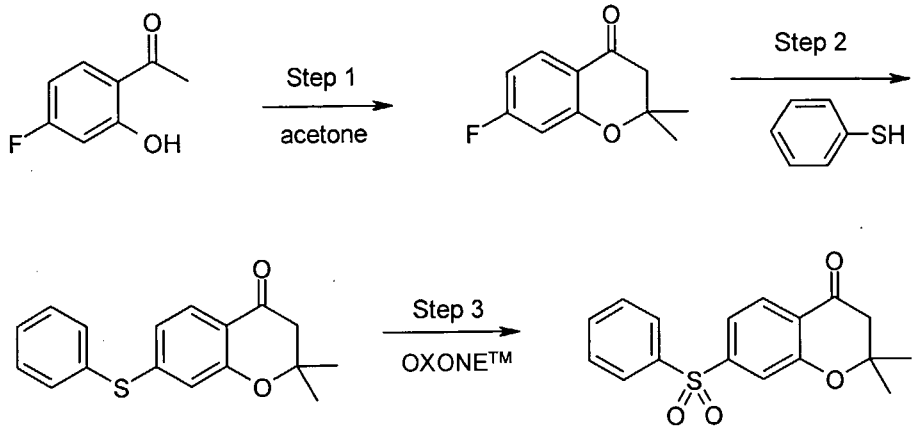
A solution of 7-phenylsulfanyl-chroman-4-one (2.21 g, 8.62 mmol) in 20 mL o MeOH and 2 mL water was stirred at room temperature. OXONE™ (potassium peroxymonosulfate, 6.35 g, 10.35 mmol) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 3 hours at room temperature. The reaction mixture was partitioned between ethyl acetate and water. The organic layer was dried over $MgSO_4$, and solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was eluted through silica gel with 35% EtOAc in hexanes. Removal of solvent under reduced pressure afforded 1.56 g (5.41 mmol, 63%) of 7-benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-one. MS: 289 $(M+H)^+$.

Using the same procedure but replacing benzenethiol in step 3 with 3-fluorobenzenethiol, 7-(3-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-chroman-4-one was prepared.

Preparation 2

7-Benzenesulfonyl-2,2-dimethyl-chroman-4-one

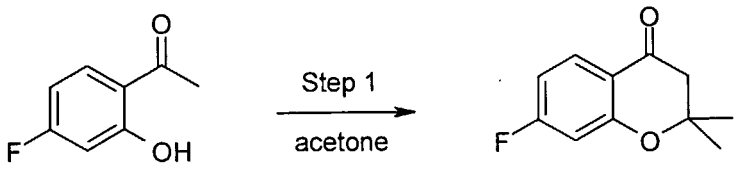
The synthetic procedure described in this Preparation was carried out according to the process shown in Scheme E.



SCHEME E

Step 1

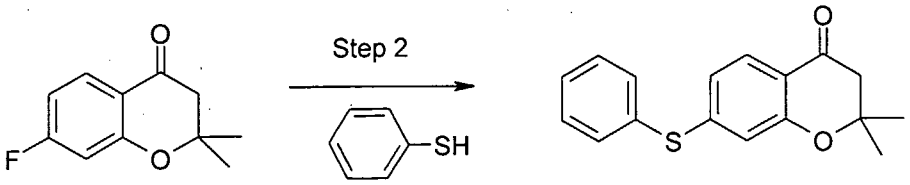
7-Fluoro-2,2-dimethyl-chroman-4-one



1-(4-Fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenyl)-ethanone (5.0 g, 32.44 mmol), acetone (11.92 mL, 162.2 mmol) and pyrrolidine (2.7 mL, 32.44 mmol) were dissolved in 20 mL benzene, and the reaction mixture was refluxed for four hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and partitioned between ethyl acetate and 1 N HCl. The organic layer was dried over $MgSO_4$, and solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was chromatographed (15% ethyl acetate in hexanes eluting through silica) and solvent was removed to yield 3.33 g (17.16 mg, 53%) of 7-fluoro-2,2-dimethyl-chroman-4-one as an oil. MS: 195 $(M+H)^+$.

Step 2

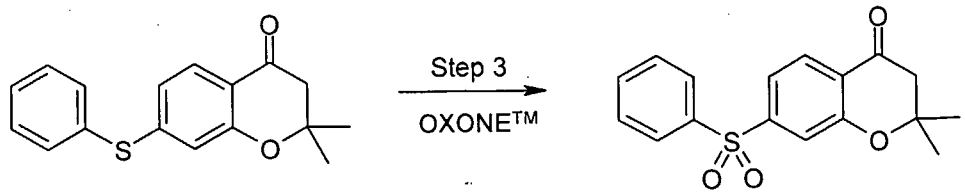
7-Benzenesulfanyl-2,2-dimethyl-chroman-4-one



The procedure of step 3 of preparation 1 was used to provide 1.49 g of 7-Benzenesulfanyl-2,2-dimethyl-chroman-4-one. MS: 285 $(M+H)^+$.

Step 3

7-Benzenesulfonyl-2,2-dimethyl-chroman-4-one



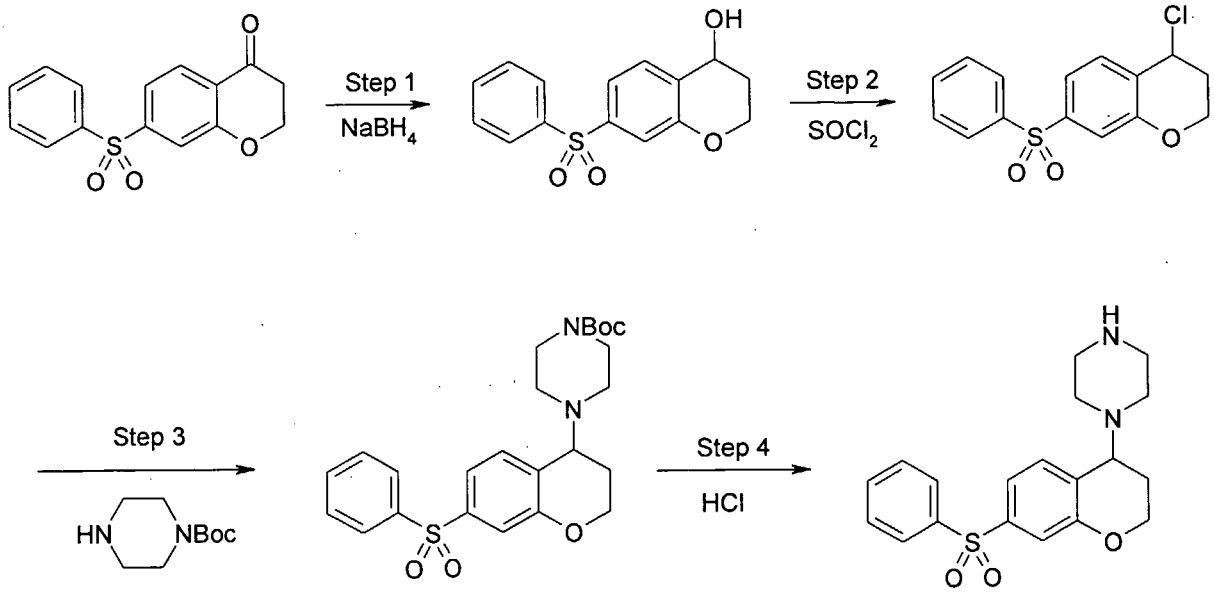
The procedure of step 4 of preparation 1 was used to provide 1.10 g of 7-Benzenesulfonyl-2,2-dimethyl-chroman-4-one. MS: 317 $(M+H)^+$.

Using the procedure of Preparation 2 but replacing benzenethiol in step 3 with 3-fluorobenzenethiol, 7-(3-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-2,2-dimethyl-chroman-4-one was prepared.

Example 1

1-(7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-piperazine

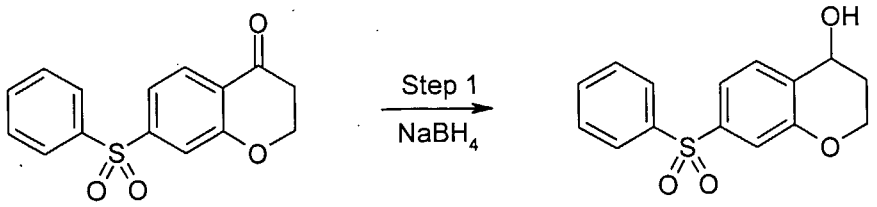
The synthetic procedure described in this Example was carried out according to the process shown in Scheme D.



SCHEME D

Step 1

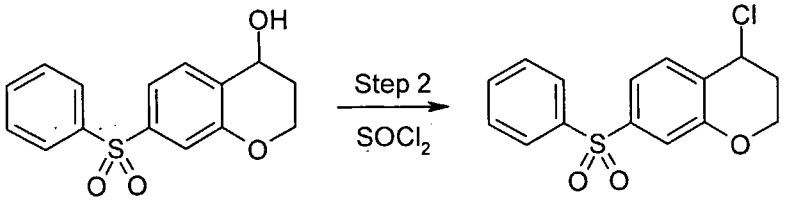
7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-ol



7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-one (500 mg, 1.73 mmol) was dissolved in 15 mL MeOH, and sodium borohidride (72 mg, 1.9 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for one hour, and was then partitioned between water and ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were dried over $MgSO_4$, and solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give 483 mg of crude 7-benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-ol. MS: 291 $(M+H)^+$.

Step 2

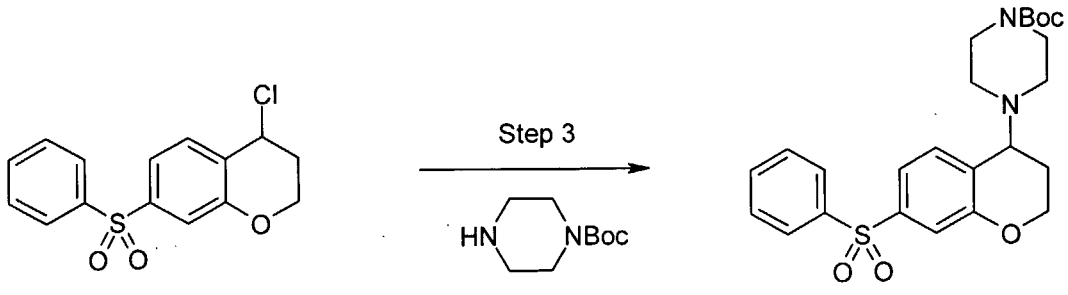
7-Benzenesulfonyl-4-chloro-chroman



7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-ol (483 mg, 1.66 mmol) was dissoved in 10 mL toluene, and 182 uL (02.49 mmol) of thionyl chloride was added. The reaction was refluxed for two hours, and then cooled to room temperature. Solvent was removed under reduced pressure to yield 7-benzenesulfonyl-4-chloro-chroman (512 mg) as a crude oil. MS: 308 $(M+H)^+$.

Step 3

4-(7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester

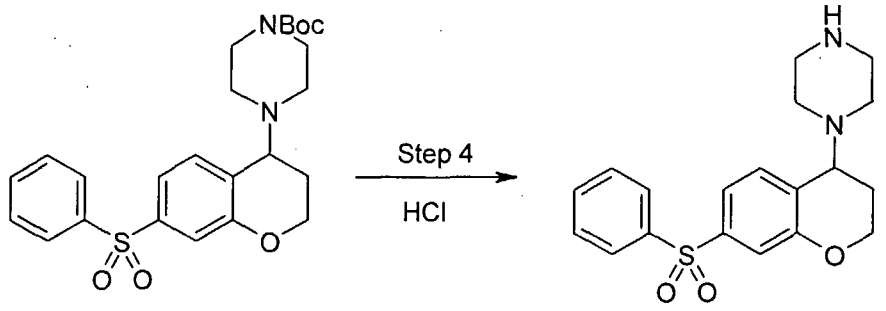


7-Benzenesulfonyl-4-chloro-chroman (512 mg, 1.65 mmol), Boc-piperazine (piperazine-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester, 371 mg, 1.92 mmol), sodium iodide (50 mg) and potassium carbonate (275 mg) were added to 5 mL of DMF, and the reaction mixture was heated to 70 °C overnight. The reaction mixture was cooled and partitioned between ethyl acetate and water, and the combined organic layers were dried over $MgSO_4$. Solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was

chromatographed (silica gel, using 30% ethyl acetate in hexanes) to yield 400 mg of 4-(7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester.

Step 4

1-(7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-piperazine



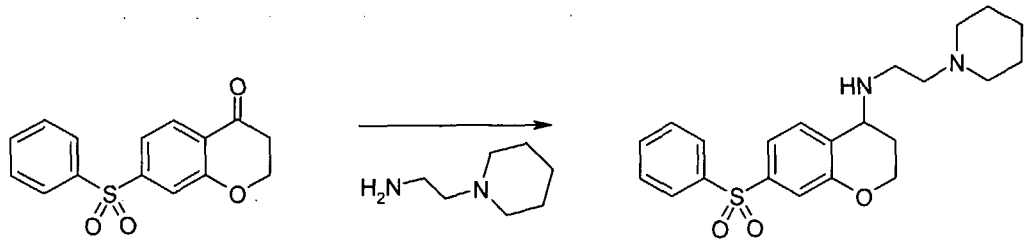
[4-(7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester (400 mg) was dissolved in 5 mL of 2N HCl/EtOH. The reaction mixture was refluxed for one hour, cooled to room temperature, and Et_2O was added. 1-(7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-piperazine hydrochloride (152 mg) was collected by filtration. Mp: 243.0-249.0 °C. MS: 357-$(M+H)^+$.

Additional compounds prepared by the procedure of Example 1, using 7-benzenesulfonyl-dimethyl-chroman-4-one or 7-benzenesulfonyl-2,2-dimethyl-chroman-4-one with the appropriate amines, are shown in Table 1.

Example 2

(7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethyl)-amine

The synthetic procedure described in this Example was carried out according to the process shown in Scheme E.



SCHEME E

7-Benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-one (100 mg, 0.347 mmol) and 2-piperidin-1-yl-ethylamine (45 mg, 0.347 mg) were dissolved in 5 mL of methylene chloride, and the reaction mixture was refluxed for two hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, and 110 mg (0.52 mmol) of $NaBH(OAc)_3$ was added. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 1 hour, cooled to room temperature, and partitioned between water and ethyl acetate.l The combined organic layers were dried over $MgSO_4$, and solvent was removed under reduced pressure to yield 60 mg of 7-benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-(2-

piperidin-1-yl-ethyl)-amine MS: 402 $(M+H)^+$. This crude product was dissolved in 2 mL of 2N HCl/EtOH, and recrystallized by addition of Et_2O to provide 40 mg of 7-benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethyl)-amine hydrochloride. Mp: 151.4-153.2 °C.

Using 7-benzenesulfonyl-dimethyl-chroman-4-one or 7-benzenesulfonyl-2,2-dimethyl-chroman-4-one with the appropriate amines, were prepared and are shown in Table 1.

Example 3

Formulations

Pharmaceutical preparations for delivery by various routes are formulated as shown in the following Tables. "Active ingredient" or "Active compound" as used in the Tables means one or more of the Compounds of Formula I.

Composition for Oral Administration

Ingredient	% wt./wt.
Active ingredient	20.0%
Lactose	79.5%
Magnesium stearate	0.5%

The ingredients are mixed and dispensed into capsules containing about 100 mg each; one capsule would approximate a total daily dosage.

Composition for Oral Administration

Ingredient	% wt./wt.
Active ingredient	20.0%
Magnesium stearate	0.5%
Crosscarmellose sodium	2.0%
Lactose	76.5%
PVP (polyvinylpyrrolidine)	1.0%

The ingredients are combined and granulated using a solvent such as methanol. The formulation is then dried and formed into tablets (containing about 20 mg of active compound) with an appropriate tablet machine.

Composition for Oral Administration

Ingredient	Amount

Active compound	1.0 g
Fumaric acid	0.5 g
Sodium chloride	2.0 g
Methyl paraben	0.15 g
Propyl paraben	0.05 g
Granulated sugar	25.5 g
Sorbitol (70% solution)	12.85 g
Veegum K (Vanderbilt Co.)	1.0 g
Flavoring	0.035 ml
Colorings	0.5 mg
Distilled water	q.s. to 100 ml

The ingredients are mixed to form a suspension for oral administration.

Parenteral Formulation

Ingredient	% wt./wt.
Active ingredient	0.25 g
Sodium Chloride	qs to make isotonic
Water for injection	100 ml

The active ingredient is dissolved in a portion of the water for injection. A sufficient quantity of sodium chloride is then added with stirring to make the solution isotonic. The solution is made up to weight with the remainder of the water for injection, filtered through a 0.2 micron membrane filter and packaged under sterile conditions.

Suppository Formulation

Ingredient	% wt./wt.
Active ingredient	1.0%
Polyethylene glycol 1000	74.5%
Polyethylene glycol 4000	24.5%

The ingredients are melted together and mixed on a steam bath, and poured into molds containing 2.5 g total weight.

Topical Formulation

Ingredients	grams
Active compound	0.2-2

Span 60	2
Tween 60	2
Mineral oil	5
Petrolatum	10
Methyl paraben	0.15
Propyl paraben	0.05
BHA (butylated hydroxy anisole)	0.01
Water	q.s. 100

All of the ingredients, except water, are combined and heated to about 60°C with stirring. A sufficient quantity of water at about 60°C is then added with vigorous stirring to emulsify the ingredients, and water then added q.s. about 100 g.

Nasal Spray Formulations

Several aqueous suspensions containing from about 0.025-0.5 percent active compound are prepared as nasal spray formulations. The formulations optionally contain inactive ingredients such as, for example, microcrystalline cellulose, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, dextrose, and the like. Hydrochloric acid may be added to adjust pH. The nasal spray formulations may be delivered via a nasal spray metered pump typically delivering about 50-100 microliters of formulation per actuation. A typical dosing schedule is 2-4 sprays every 4-12 hours.

Example 4

Radioligand binding studies

This example illustrates in vitro radioligand binding studies of compound of formula I.

The binding activity of compounds of this invention in vitro was determined as follows. Duplicate determinations of 5-HT_6 ligand affinity were made by competing for binding of [^{3}H]LSD in cell membranes derived from HEK293 cells stably expressing recombinant human 5-HT_6 receptor. Duplicate determinations of 5-HT_{2A} ligand affinity were made by competing for binding of [^{3}H]Ketanserin (3-(2-(4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidinol)ethyl)-2,4(1H,3H)-quinazolinedione) in cell membranes derived from CHO-K1 cells stably expressing recombinant human 5-HT_{2A} receptor. Membranes were prepared from HEK 293 cell lines by the method described by Monsma et al., Molecular Pharmacology, Vol. 43 pp. 320-327 (1993), and from CHO-K1 cell lines as described by Bonhaus et al., Br J Pharmacol. Jun;115(4):622-8 (1995).

For estimation of affinity at the 5-HT_6 receptor, all determinations were made in assay buffer containing 50 mM Tris-HCl, 10 mM $MgSO_4$, 0.5 mM EDTA, 1 mM ascorbic

acid, pH 7.4 at 37 °C, in a 250 microliter reaction volume. For estimation of affinity at the 5-HT_{2A} receptor all determinations were made in assay buffer containing 50 mM Tris-HCl, 5 mM ascorbic acid, 4 mM CaCl2, pH 7.4 at 32 °C, in a 250 microliter reaction volume.

Assay tubes containing [^{3}H] LSD or [^{3}H]Ketanserin (5 nM), competing ligand, and membrane were incubated in a shaking water bath for 75 min. at 37 °C (for 5-HT_6) or 60 min. at 32°C (for 5-HT_{2A}), filtered onto Packard GF-B plates (pre-soaked with 0.3% PEI) using a Packard 96 well cell harvester and washed 3 times in ice cold 50 mM Tris-HCl. Bound [^{3}H] LSD or [^{3}H]Ketanserin were determined as radioactive counts per minute using Packard TopCount.

Displacement of [^{3}H]LSD or [^{3}H]Ketanserin from the binding sites was quantified by fitting concentration-binding data to a 4-parameter logistic equation:

$$\text{binding} = \text{basal} + \left(\frac{\text{Bmax - basal}}{1+10^{-Hill(\log[ligand]-\log IC_{50}}} \right)$$

where Hill is the Hill slope, [ligand] is the concentration of competing radioligand and IC_{50} is the concentration of radioligand producing half-maximal specific binding of radioligand. The specific binding window is the difference between the Bmax and the basal parameters.

Using the procedures of this Example, compounds of Formula I were tested and found to be selective 5-HT_6 antagonists, selective 5-HT_{2A} antagonists, or both. For example, the compound 1-(7-benzenesulfonyl-chroman-4-yl)-piperazine exhibted a pKi of approximately 9.38 for 5-HT_6, and a pKi of approximately 7.33 for 5-HT_{2A}.

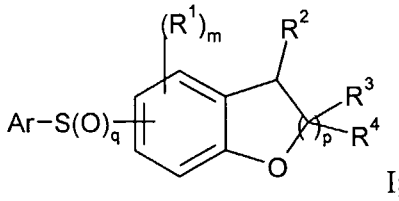
Example 5

Cognition Enhancement

The cognition-enhancing properties of compounds of the invention may be in a model of animal cognition: the object recognition task model. 4-month-old male Wistar rats (Charles River, The Netherlands) were used. Compounds were prepared daily and dissolved in physiological saline and tested at three doses. Administration was always given i.p. (injection volume 1 ml/kg) 60 minutes before T1. Scopolamine hydrobromide was injected 30 minutes after compound injection. Two equal testing groups were made of 24 rats and were tested by two experimenters. The testing order of doses was determined randomly. The experiments were performed using a double blind protocol. All rats were treated once with each dose condition. The object recognition test was performed as described by Ennaceur, A., Delacour, J., 1988, A new one-trial test for neurobiological studies of memory in rats. 1: Behavioral data. Behav. Brain Res. 31, 47-59.

CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula I:



I;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein:

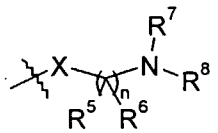
m is from 0 to 3;

p is from 1 to 3;

q is 0, 1 or 2;

Ar is optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl;

each R^1 is independently halo, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-haloalkyl, C_{1-12}-heteroalkyl, cyano, $-S(O)_t-R^a$, $-C(=O)-NR^bR^c$, $-SO_2-NR^bR^c$, $-N(R^d)-C(=O)-R^e$, $-C(=O)N(R^d)$-, or $-C(=O)$-R^e, where t is from 0 to 2, R^a, R^b, R^c, R^d and R^e each independently is hydrogen, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-alkoxy or hydroxy;

R^2 is  ;

X is -O- or $-NR^9$-;

n is 2 or 3;

R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 each independently is hydrogen or C_{1-12}-alkyl;

R^7 and R^8 each independently is hydrogen or C_{1-12}-alkyl, or R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached may form a 4-to- 6-membered ring that optionally includes an additional heteroatom selected from O, N and S, or one of R^7 and R^8 and one of R^5 and R^6 together with the atoms to which they are attached may form a 4-to 6-membered ring that optionally includes an additional heteroatom selected from O, N and S; and

R^9 is hydrogen or C_{1-12}-alkyl, or when R^7 is hydrogen or methyl, R^9 together with R^8 and the atoms to which they are attached may form a 6-membered ring.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein p is 2.

3. The compound of claim 2, wherein q is 2.

4. The compound of claim 3, wherein Ar is optionally substituted phenyl.

5. The compound of claim 4, wherein m is 0 or 1.

6. The compound of claim 5, wherein X is $-NR^9-$.

7. The compound of claim 5, wherein R^3 and R^4 are hydrogen.

8. The compound of claim 6, wherein n is 2.

9. The compound of claim 8, wherein R^5 and R^6 are hydrogen.

10. The compound of claim 9, wherein R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen.

11. The compound of claim 9, wherein one of R^7 and R^8 is hydrogen and the other is C_{1-12}-alkyl.

12. The compound of claim 9, wherein R^7 and R^8 are C_{1-12}-alkyl.

13. The compound of claim 9, wherein R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form 6-membered ring.

14. The compound of claim 9, wherein R^9 is hydrogen.

15. The compound of claim 9, wherein R^7 is hydrogen or methyl and R^8 and R^9 together with the atoms to which they are attached form a 6-membered ring.

16. The compound of claim 6, wherein n is 3.

17. The compound of claim 16, wherein R^5 and R^6 are hydrogen.

18. The compound of claim 17, wherein R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen.

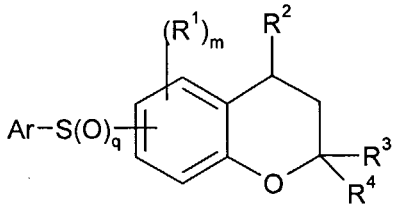
19. The compound of claim 17, wherein one of R^7 and R^8 is hydrogen and the other is C_{1-12}-alkyl.

20. The compound of claim 17, wherein R^7 and R^8 are C_{1-12}-alkyl.

21. The compound of claim 17, wherein R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form 6-membered ring.

22. The compound of claim 17, wherein R^9 is hydrogen.

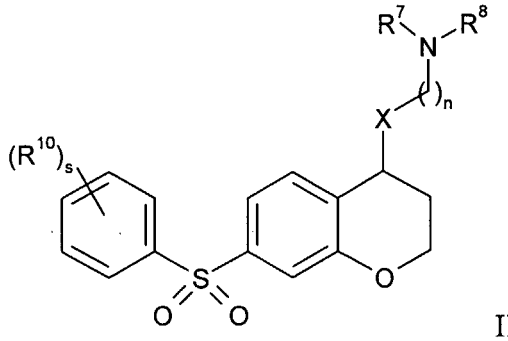
23. The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is of the formula II:



II;

and wherein m, q, Ar, R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are as recited in claim 1.

24. The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is of the formula III:



III;

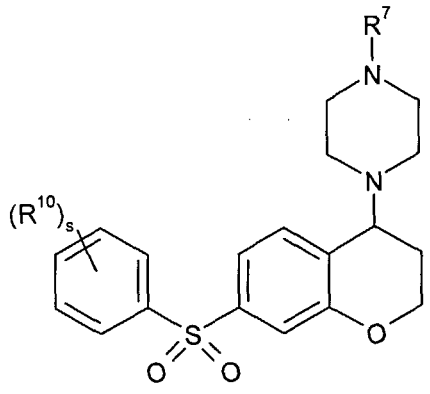
wherein:

s is from 0 to 4;

each R^{10} is independently halo, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-haloalkyl, C_{1-12}-heteroalkyl, cyano, $-S(O)_t-R^a$, $-C(=O)-NR^bR^c$, $-SO_2-NR^bR^c$, $-N(R^d)-C(=O)-R^e$, $-C(=O)N(R^d)$-, or $-C(=O)-R^e$, where t is from 0 to 2, R^a, R^b, R^c, R^d and R^e each independently is hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy or hydroxy; and

X, R^7 and R^8 and are as recited in claim 1.

25. The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is of the formula IV:



IV;

wherein:

s is from 0 to 4;

each R^{10} is independently halo, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-haloalkyl, C_{1-12}-heteroalkyl, cyano, $-S(O)_t-R^a$, $-C(=O)-NR^bR^c$, $-SO_2-NR^bR^c$, $-N(R^d)-C(=O)-R^e$, $-C(=O)N(R^d)$-, or $-C(=O)$-R^e, where t is from 0 to 2, R^a, R^b, R^c, R^d and R^e each independently is hydrogen, C_{1-12}-alkyl, C_{1-12}-alkoxy or hydroxy; and

R^7 is hydrogen or methyl.

26. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

27. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 25 in the preparation of a medicament useful for treating a central nervous system disease state selected from psychoses, schizophrenia, manic depressions, neurological disorders, memory disorders, attention deficit disorder, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, food uptake disorders, and Huntington's disease.

28. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 25 in the preparation of a medicament useful for treating gastrointestinal disorders.

29. The invention as described hereinabove.