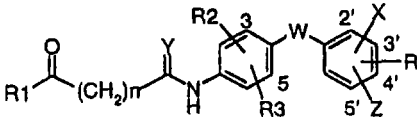




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(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/02683 (22) International Filing Date: 27 March 2000 (27.03.00) (30) Priority Data: 09/280,105 29 March 1999 (29.03.99) US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except AT US): NOVAR-TIS AG [CH/CH]; Schwarzwaldallee 215, CH-4058 Basel (CH). (71) Applicant (for AT only): NOVARTIS-ERFINDUNGEN [AT/AT]; Verwaltungsgesellschaft m.b.H., Brunner Strasse 59, A-1230 Vienna (AT). (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): KUKKOLA, Paivi, Jaana [FI/US]; 6 Bouwrey Place, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889 (US). (74) Agent: BECKER, Konrad; Novartis AG, Corporate Intellectual Property, Patent & Trademark Dept., CH-4002 Basel (CH).		(81) Designated States: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: DIARYL DERIVATIVES AND THEIR USE AS MEDICAMENTS  (I)		
(57) Abstract Compounds of formula (I) in which W is O, S, S(O) or S(O)₂; X is -SR₄, -S(O)R₄, or -S(O)₂R₄, -S(O)₂NR₅R₆; or X is -C(O)NR₅R₆ provided that -C(O)NR₅R₆ is located at the 3', 4' or 5' position; Y is O or H₂; Z is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, optionally substituted alkoxy, aralkoxy, acyloxy or alkoxy-carbonyloxy; R is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl or cycloalkyl; R₁ is hydroxy, optionally substituted alkoxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, aralkyloxy, cycloalkoxy, heteroaralkoxy or -NR₅R₆; R₂ is hydrogen, halogen or alkyl; R₃ is halogen or alkyl; R₄ is optionally substituted alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaralkyl or heteroaryl; R₅, R₆ and R₇ are independently hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl, or heteroaralkyl; or R₅ and R₆ combined are alkylene optionally interrupted by O, S, S(O), S(O)₂ or NR₇ which together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- to 7- membered ring; n represents zero or an integer from 1 to 4; pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof; pharmaceutical compositions comprising said compounds; a method to prevent and treat diseases associated with an imbalance of thyroid hormones, such as hypo- and hyperthyroidism, obesity, osteoporosis and depression; and, a method of lowering LDL cholesterol and Lp(a) levels in mammals using such compounds.		