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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: SMITHKLINE BEECHAM CORPORATION [US/US]; Corporate Intellectual Property, UW2220, 709 Swedeland Road, P.O. Box 1539, King of Prussia, PA 19406-0939 (US).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: CARR, Thomas, Joseph [US/US]; 27 Jonathan Drive, Phoenixville, PA 19460 (US). DESJARLAIS, Renee, Louise [US/US]; 11 Cornwall Circle, St. Davids, PA 19087 (US). GALLAGHER, Timothy, Francis [US/US]; 255 Manor Road, Harleysville, PA 19438 (US). HALBERT, Stacie, Marie [US/US]; 149 Montgomery Drive, Harleysville, PA 19438 (US). OH, Hye-Ja [US/US]; 326 Long Ridge Lane, Exton, PA 19341 (US). THOMPSON, Scott, Kevin [US/US]; 75 Guilford Circle, Phoenixville, PA 19460 (US). VEBER, Daniel, Frank [US/US]; 290 Batleson Road, Ambler, PA 19002 (US). YAMASHITA, Dennis, Shinji [US/US]; 703 Edgewood Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406 (US). YEN, Jack, Hwekwo [US/US]; 273 Phoenixville Pike, Malvern, PA 19355 (US).

(74) Agents: STERCHO, Yuriy, P. et al.; SmithKline Beecham Corporation, Corporate Intellectual Property, UW2220, 709 Swedeland Road, P.O. Box 1539, King of Prussia, PA 19406-0939 (US).

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(54) Title: PROTEASE INHIBITORS

(57) Abstract

The present invention provides compounds which inhibit proteases, including cathepsin K, pharmaceutical compositions of such compounds, and methods for treating diseases of excessive bone loss or cartilage or matrix degradation, including osteoporosis; gingival disease including gingivitis and periodontitis; arthritis, more specifically, osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis; Paget's disease; hypercalcemia of malignancy; and metabolic bone disease, comprising inhibiting said bone loss or excessive cartilage or matrix degradation by administering to a patient in need thereof a compound of the present invention.