23. The compound of formula I according to any of the preceding claims for use as a medicament.

24. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 22 optionally in combination with one or more therapeutically acceptable diluents or carriers.

25. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, which comprises additionally at least one compound, selected from the group consisting of neuroprotectants, antiparkinsonian drugs, amyloid protein deposition inhibitors, beta amyloid synthesis inhibitors, antidepressants, anxiolytic drugs, antipsychotic drugs and anti-multiple sclerosis drugs.

26. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24 or 25, which comprises additionally at least one compound, selected from the group consisting of PEP-inhibitors, LiCl, inhibitors of inhibitors of DP IV or DP IV-like enzymes, acetylcholinesterase (ACE) inhibitors, PIMT enhancers, inhibitors of beta secretases, inhibitors of gamma secretases, inhibitors of neutral endopeptidase, inhibitors of Phosphodiesterase-4 (PDE-4), TNFalpha inhibitors, muscarinic M1 receptor antagonists, NMDA receptor antagonists, sigma-1 receptor inhibitors, histamine H3 antagonists, immunomodulatory agents, immunosuppressive agents or an agent selected from the group consisting of antegren (natalizumab), Neurelan (fampridine-SR), campath (alemtuzumab), IR 208, NBI 5788/MSP 771 (tiplimotide), paclitaxel, Anergix.MS (AG 284), SH636, Differin (CD 271, adapalene), BAY 361677 (interleukin-4), matrix-metalloproteinase-inhibitors, interferon-tau (trophoblastin) and SAIK-MS.

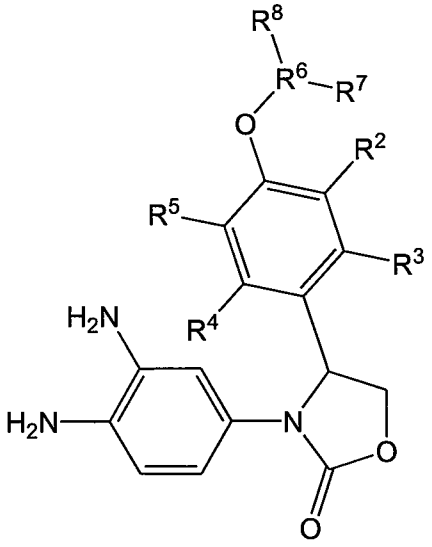
27. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 22 in the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for use in the treatment of a disease selected from the group consisting of duodenal cancer with or without Helicobacter pylori infections, colorectal cancer, gastric cancer with or without Helicobacter pylori infections, pathogenic psychotic conditions, schizophrenia, neoplasia, inflammatory host responses, cancer, malign metastasis, melanoma, psoriasis, impaired humoral and cell-mediated immune responses, leukocyte adhesion and migration processes in the endothelium, multiple sclerosis, the Guillain-Barré syndrome and chronic inflammatory demyelinizing polyradiculoneuropathy, wherein treatment is effected by glutaminyl cyclase inhibition.

28. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 22 in the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for use in the treatment of a disease selected from the group consisting of mild cognitive impairment, Alzheimer's disease, Familial British Dementia, Familial Danish Dementia, neurodegeneration in Down Syndrome and Huntington's disease.

29. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 22 in the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for use in the treatment of a disease selected from the group consisiting of rheumatoid arthritis, atherosclerosis, pancreatitis and restenosis.

30. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) according to any one of claims 1 to 22, which comprises:

(a) preparing a compound of formula (I) from a compound of formula (II):



(II)

by reacting a compound of formula (II) with formamidine acetate in the presence of a suitable solvent such as acetonitrile,

wherein

R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^5 and are as defined above for compounds of formula (I); R^6 is alkyl and R^7 and R^8 are halogen, such as fluorine;