

NEW COMPOUNDS

Field of the Invention

This invention relates to novel compounds, which are inhibitors of the microsomal prostaglandin E₂ synthase-1 (mPGES-1), pharmaceutical compositions containing them, and their use as medicaments for the treatment and/or prevention of inflammatory diseases and associated conditions such as inflammatory/nociceptive pain.

Background of the Invention

There are many acute and chronic diseases/disorders that are inflammatory in their nature including but not limited to rheumatoid diseases e.g. rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, diseases of the visceral system e.g. inflammatory bowel syndrome, autoimmune diseases, e.g. lupus erythematoses, lung diseases like asthma and COPD. Current treatment with non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) and cyclooxygenase (COX)-2 inhibitors are efficacious, but show a prevalence for gastrointestinal and cardiovascular side effects. There is a high need for new treatment options showing equivalent efficacy with an improved side effect profile.

mPGES inhibitors may show such an improved side effect profile because they block the generation of PGE₂ in a more specific manner as described below.

NSAIDs and COX-2 inhibitors reduce inflammation and pain through inhibition of one or both isoforms of COX enzymes. The cyclooxygenase (COX) enzyme exists in two forms, one that is constitutively expressed in many cells and tissues (COX-1), and one that in most cells and tissues is induced by pro-inflammatory stimuli, such as cytokines, during an inflammatory response (COX-2). COXs metabolise arachidonic acid to the unstable intermediate prostaglandin H₂ (PGH₂). PGH₂ is further metabolized to other prostaglandins including PGE₂, PGF_{2α}, PGD₂, prostacyclin and thromboxane A₂. These arachidonic acid metabolites are known to have pronounced physiological and pathophysiological activity including pro-inflammatory effects. PGE₂ in particular is known to be a strong pro-inflammatory mediator, and is also known to induce fever, inflammation and pain. Consequently, numerous drugs were developed with a view to inhibiting the formation of PGE₂, including "NSAIDs" (non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs) and "coxibs" (selective COX-2 inhibitors). These drugs act predominantly by inhibition of COX-1 and/or COX-2, thereby reducing the formation of PGE₂.

However, the inhibition of COXs has the disadvantage that it results in the reduction of the formation of all metabolites downstream of PGH₂, some of which are known to have beneficial properties. In view of this, drugs which act by inhibition of COXs are therefore known/suspected to cause adverse biological effects.

For example, the non-selective inhibition of COXs by NSAIDs may give rise to gastrointestinal side-effects and affect platelet and renal function. Even the selective inhibition of COX-2 by coxibs, whilst reducing such gastrointestinal side-effects, is believed to give rise to cardiovascular problems.

- 5 An alternative treatment of inflammatory diseases that does not give rise to the above-mentioned side effects would thus be of real benefit in the clinic. In particular, a drug that preferably inhibits the transformation of PGH_2 to the pro-inflammatory mediator PGE_2 selectively might be expected to reduce the inflammatory response in the absence of a corresponding reduction of the formation of other, beneficial arachidonic acid metabolites.
- 10 Such inhibition would accordingly be expected to alleviate the undesirable side-effects mentioned above.

PGH_2 may be transformed to PGE_2 by prostaglandin E synthases (PGES). Two microsomal prostaglandin E synthases (mPGES-1 and mPGES-2), and one cytosolic prostaglandin E synthase (cPGES) have been described. mPGES-1 is proposed to be closely linked to COX-

15 2 and both enzyme's are upregulated during e.g. inflammation. Thus agents that are capable of inhibiting the action of mPGES-1 and thereby reducing the formation of PGE_2 are likely to be of benefit for the treatment of inflammation and more general acute and chronic pain conditions

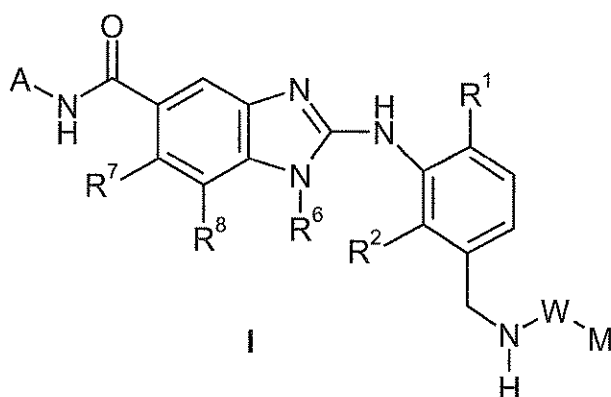
Benzimidazole and imidazopyridine derivatives with mPGES-1 inhibitory activity are disclosed

20 in WO 2010/034796, WO 2010/034797, WO 2010/034798, WO 2010/034799.

PCT/EP2010/052799 describes a broad class of different 2-arylamino benzimidazoles in which the aryl group bears a particular side chain.

SUMMARY

- 25 In a first aspect, there is provided a compound of formula I



in which

R¹ and R²	independently represent halo, -C ₁₋₃ alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
W	represents -C(O)-, -C(O)O-, which groups are bound to the nitrogen of the –NH- moiety via the carbon atom;
M	represents -C₁₋₆alkyl, -C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, both of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from -F, -OH, -CN, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₂alkyl), -N (C₁₋₂alkyl)₂, -OC₁₋₃alkyl, -C₁₋₅alkyl, -C₃₋₄cycloalkyl, in which latter three groups the alkyl or cycloalkyl groups are optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms; or oxetanyl-, tetrahydrofuranyl-, tetrahydropyranyl-, azetidiny-, pyrrolidiny-, piperidiny-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from fluoro, -CN, -C₁₋₃ alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms; or phenyl-, pyridyl-, thienyl-, pyrrolyl-, pyrazolyl-, imidazolyl-, thiazolyl-, oxazolyl-, or isoxazolyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, -CN or -C₁₋₃alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally further substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
R⁸	represents –H, halogen, -C ₁₋₃ alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
R⁶	represents –H, -C ₁₋₅ alkyl, -C ₃₋₅ cycloalkyl-C ₀₋₂ alkyl, in which latter three groups the alkyl or cycloalkyl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
R⁷	represents halo, C₁₋₅alkyl-O-, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl-C₀₋₂alkyl-O-, 4-7-membered heterocycloalkyl-C₀₋₂alkyl-O-, in which latter three groups the alkyl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F and -OC₁₋₃alkyl which latter alkyl group is optionally further substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

A represents C₁₋₈ alkyl-, phenyl-, indanyl-, naphthyl-, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthyl-, pyridyl-, thienyl-, benzothienyl-, pyrrolyl-, indolyl-pyrazolyl-, indazolyl-, thiazolyl-, benzothiazolyl-, oxazolyl-, benzooxazolyl-, isoxazolyl-, benzisoxazolyl-, phenyl-C₁₋₃alkyl-, thienyl-C₁₋₃alkyl-,
 5 pyridyl-C₁₋₃alkyl-, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl-C₀₋₃alkyl-, oxetanyl-C₀₋₃alkyl-, tetrahydrofuranyl-C₀₋₃alkyl, tetrahydropyranyl-C₀₋₃alkyl, in which groups the alkyl-, cycloalkyl- and heterocycloalkyl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from **R^{9a}** and the aryl and heteroaryl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected
 10 from **R^{9b}**;

each **R^{9a}** independently represents -F, -Cl, -C₁₋₃alkyl which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -OC₁₋₃ alkyl;

15 each **R^{9b}** represents independently -halo, -CN; -C₁₋₃ alkyl which is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

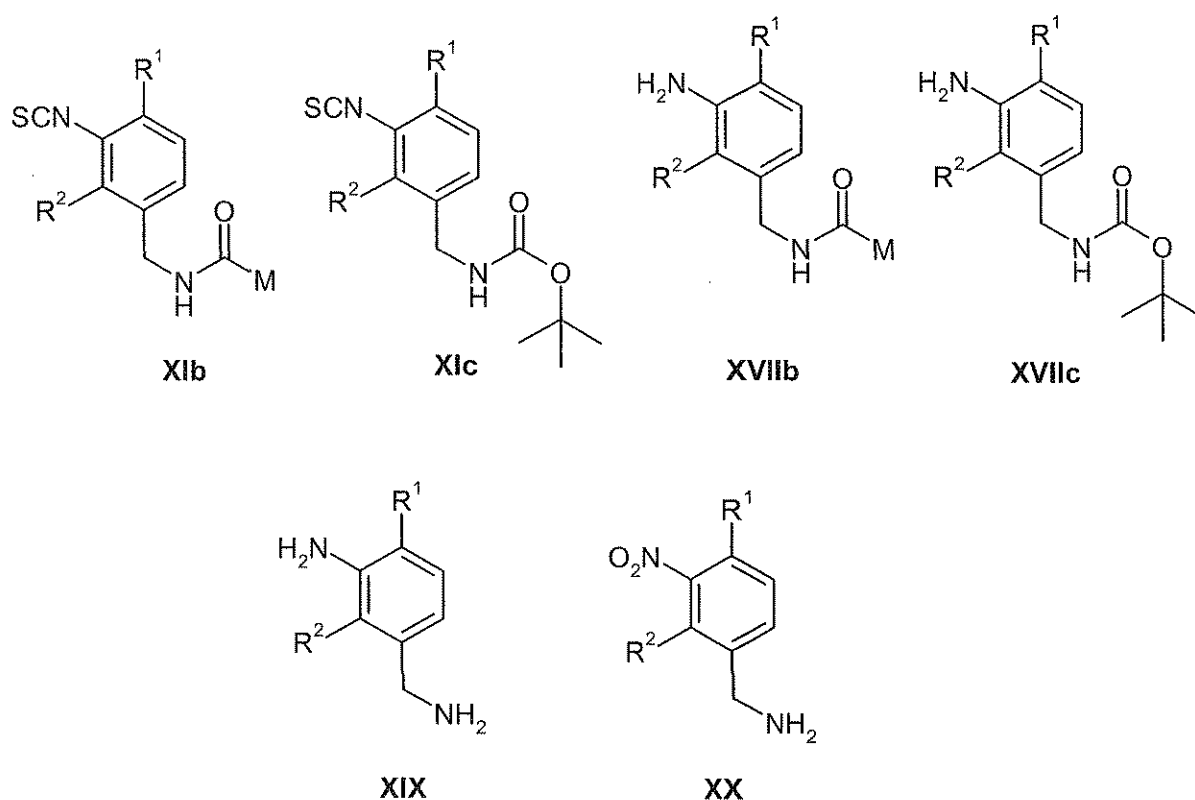
or a salt thereof.

20 In a second aspect, there is provided a compound as defined above for use as a medicament.

In a third aspect, there is provided a pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound as defined above or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in admixture with a
 25 pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent and/or carrier.

In a fourth aspect, there is provided a compound as defined above or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for use in the treatment and/or prevention of inflammatory diseases and/or associated conditions, in particular pain.

30 In a fifth aspect, there is provided an intermediate of formula **XIb**, **XIc**, **XVIIb**, **XVIIc**, **XIX** or **XX**



in which

R¹ and R²

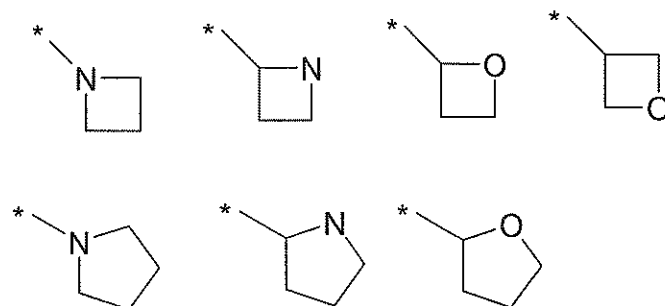
M

independently represent –chloro, fluoro or –CH₃;

M represents

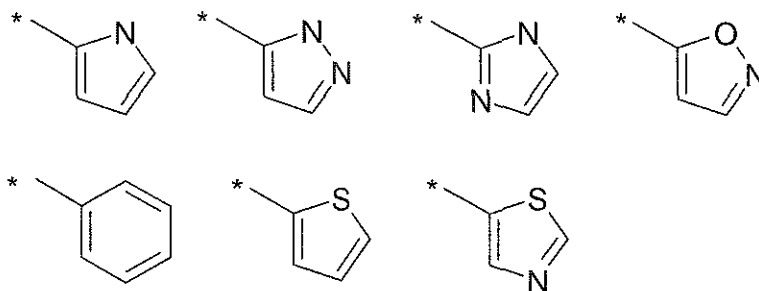
methyl, ethyl, propyl, *i*-propyl, *n*-butyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, cyclopropyl, –CH₂-cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from –F, –OH, –CN, –NH₂, –OCH₃, –CH₃, –CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups



all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from –F, –CH₃, or –CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups



all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -Cl, -CH₃, or -CF₃.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is a selection from the general formula of PCT/EP2010/052799 providing compounds that unexpectedly show improved activity in a cell based pharmacological assay.

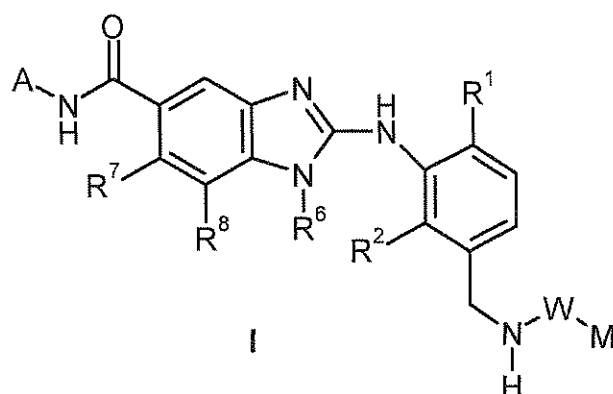
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Compounds with a similar affinity for the mPGES-1 enzyme as measured in the enzyme assay may have different potencies in the cell-based assay.

Data from a cell based pharmacological assay when compared with data from an enzyme assay are considered to allow for a better predictability and estimation of therapeutic effective concentrations/doses. Compounds of the present invention show high potency in both assays. Consequently, they are likely to be more suitable for the in-vivo use.

15

The present invention provides a compound of formula I,



- 5 in which
 R¹ and R² independently represent halo, -C₁₋₃alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
- 10 W represents -C(O)-, -C(O)O-, which groups are bound to the nitrogen of the -NH- moiety via the carbon atom;
- M represents
 -C₁₋₆alkyl, -C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, both of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from -F, -OH, -CN, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₂alkyl),
 15 -N (C₁₋₂alkyl)₂, -OC₁₋₃alkyl, -C₁₋₅alkyl, -C₃₋₄cycloalkyl, in which latter three groups the alkyl or cycloalkyl groups are optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
 or
 oxetanyl-, tetrahydrofuranyl-, tetrahydropyranyl-, azetidiny-, pyrrolidinyl-,
 20 piperidinyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from fluoro, -CN, -C₁₋₃alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
 or
 phenyl-, pyridyl-, thienyl-, pyrrolyl-, pyrazolyl-, imidazolyl-, thiazolyl-,
 25 oxazolyl-, or isoxazolyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, -CN or -C₁₋₃alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally further substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
- 30 R⁸ represents -H, halogen, -C₁₋₃alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

R^6 represents $-H$, $-C_{1-5}alkyl$, $-C_{3-5}cycloalkyl-C_{0-2}alkyl$, in which latter three groups the alkyl or cycloalkyl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

R^7 represents halo, $C_{1-5}alkyl-O-$, $C_{3-7}cycloalkyl-C_{0-2}alkyl-O-$, 4-7-membered heterocycloalkyl- $C_{0-2}alkyl-O-$, in which latter three groups the alkyl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from $-F$ and $-OC_{1-3}alkyl$ which latter alkyl group is optionally further substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

A represents $C_{1-8}alkyl-$, phenyl-, indanyl-, naphthyl-, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthyl-, pyridyl-, thienyl-, benzothienyl-, pyrrolyl-, indolyl-, pyrazolyl-, indazolyl-, thiazolyl-, benzothiazolyl-, oxazolyl-, benzoxazolyl-, isoxazolyl-, benzisoxazolyl-, phenyl- $C_{1-3}alkyl-$, thienyl- $C_{1-3}alkyl-$, pyridyl- $C_{1-3}alkyl-$, $C_{3-7}cycloalkyl-C_{0-3}alkyl-$, oxetanyl- $C_{0-3}alkyl-$, tetrahydrofuranyl- $C_{0-3}alkyl-$, tetrahydropyranyl- $C_{0-3}alkyl-$, in which groups the alkyl-, cycloalkyl- and heterocycloalkyl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from R^{9a} and the aryl and heteroaryl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from R^{9b} ;

each R^{9a} independently represents $-F$, $-Cl$, $-C_{1-3}alkyl$ which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from $-F$, $-OC_{1-3}alkyl$;

each R^{9b} represents independently $-halo$, $-CN$; $-C_{1-3}alkyl$ which is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

or a salt thereof, particularly a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.

In second embodiment, in the general formula I, A , M , W , R^1 , R^2 , R^6 , R^7 have the same meaning as defined in any of the preceding embodiments, and

R^8 represents $-H$ or fluoro.

In another embodiment, in the general formula I, A, M, W, R¹, R², R⁷, R⁸ have the same meaning as defined in any of the preceding embodiments, and R⁶ represents -H, -CH₃, cyclopropyl.

5 In another embodiment, in the general formula I, A, M, W, R⁶, R⁷, R⁸ have the same meaning as defined in any of the preceding embodiments, and R¹ and R² independently represent chloro, fluoro, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃.

10 In another embodiment, in the general formula I, A, M, W, R¹, R², R⁶, R⁸ have the same meaning as defined in any of the preceding embodiments, and R⁷ represents fluoro, -OCHF₂, -OCF₃, -OCH₂CH₂F, -OCH₂CHF₂, -OCH₂CF₃, -O-tetrahydrofuran-3-yl, -O-CH₂-cyclopropyl.

15 In another embodiment, in the general formula I, M, W, R¹, R², R⁶, R⁷, R⁸ have the same meaning as defined in any of the preceding embodiments, and A represents C₁₋₄ alkyl-, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl-C₀₋₂alkyl-, tetrahydrofuranyl-methyl-, phenyl-C₁₋₂ alkyl-, pyridyl-methyl-, phenyl-, indanyl-, pyridyl-, thienyl-, thiazolyl-, benzothiazolyl-, in which groups the alkyl-, cycloalkyl- and heterocycloalkyl-fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃, and the aryl and heteroaryl fragments are optionally substituted by -F, -Cl, -Br, -CN, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃.

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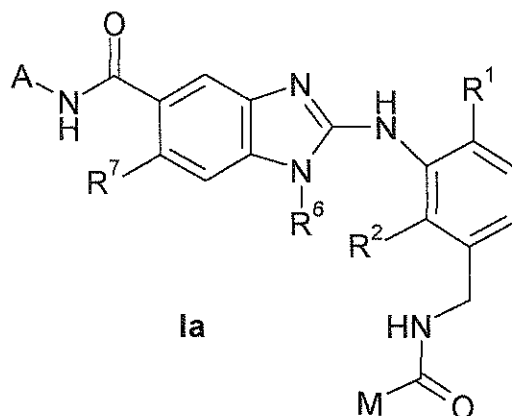
25 In another embodiment, in the general formula I, A, W, R¹, R², R⁶, R⁷, R⁸ have the same meaning as defined in any of the preceding embodiments, and

M represents -C₁₋₄ alkyl, -C₃₋₅ cycloalkyl, both of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from -F, -OH, -CN, -NH₂, -OCH₃, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃, cyclopropyl;

30 or oxetanyl-, tetrahydrofuranyl-, azetidiny- or pyrrolidinyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃;

or
35 phenyl-, indanyl-, thienyl-, pyrrolyl-, pyrazolyl-, imidazolyl-, thiazolyl-, or isoxazolyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -Cl, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃.

Another embodiment of the present invention comprises compounds of formula Ia

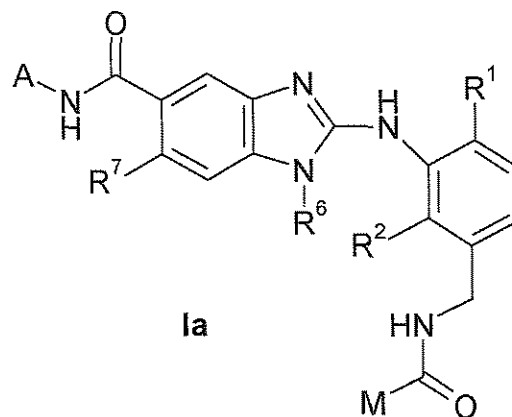


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in which

A, M, R¹, R², R⁶, R⁷ have the same meaning as defined in any of the preceding embodiments.

10 A further embodiment of the present invention comprises compounds of formula Ia



in which

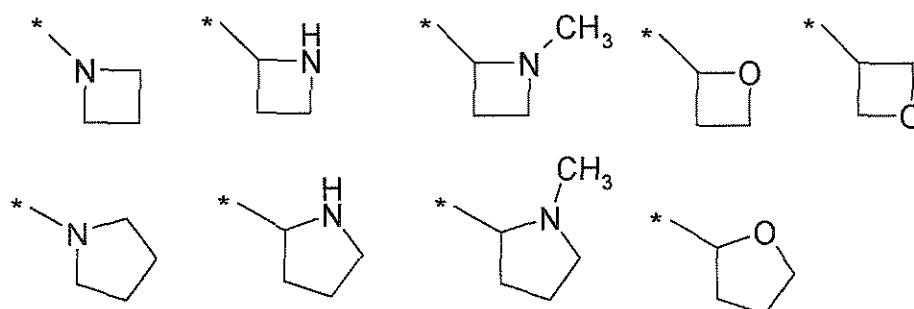
M

represents

methyl, ethyl, propyl, *i*-propyl, *n*-butyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, -CH₂-cyclopropyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from -F, -OH, -CN, -NH₂, -OCH₃, -CH₃, -CF₃;

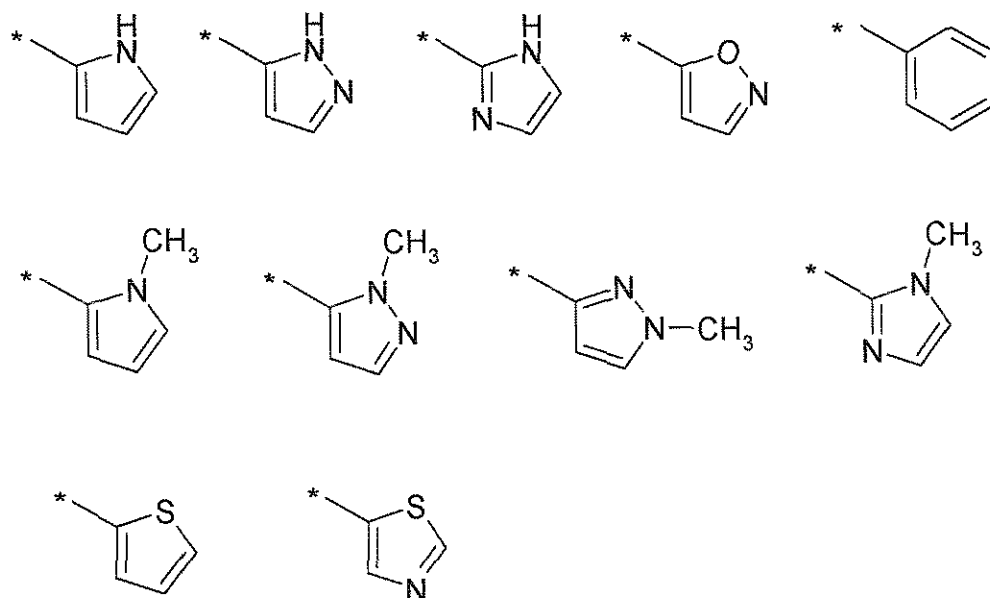
15

or is selected from the following groups



which latter nine groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups



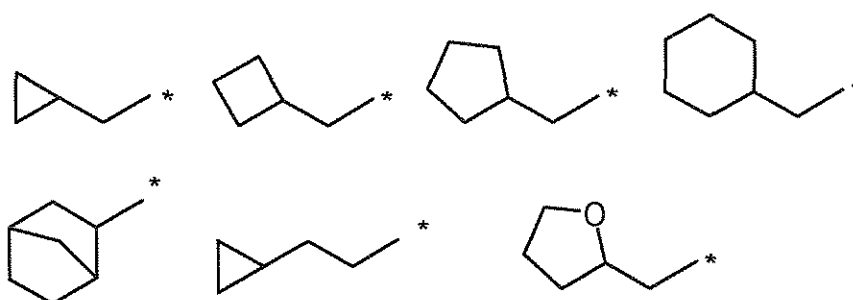
which latter eleven groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -Cl, -CH₃, -CF₃;

and

A, R¹, R², R⁶, R⁷ have the same meaning as defined in any of the preceding embodiments.

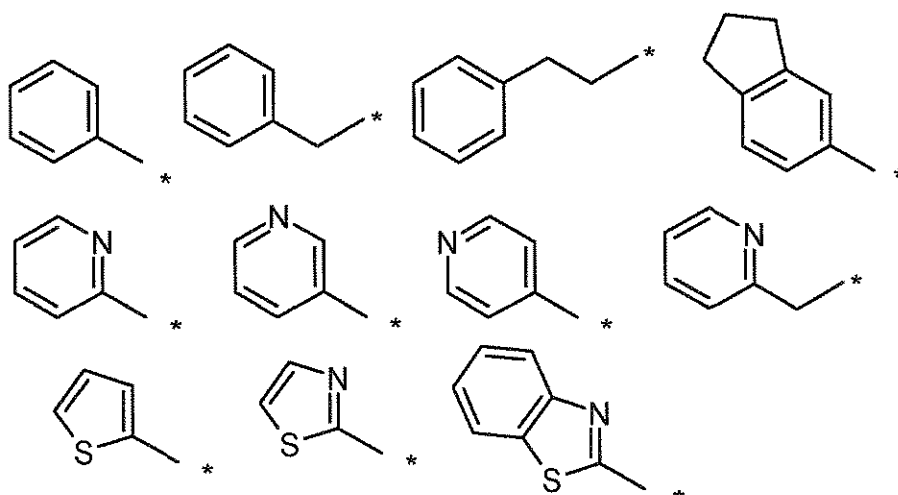
A further embodiment of the present invention comprises compounds of formula Ia in which

A represents methyl, ethyl, propyl, *i*-propyl, *n*-butyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, which latter seven groups are optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms,
or cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, which latter four groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CHF₂, -CF₃;
or is selected from the following groups:



which latter seven groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CHF₂, -CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups:

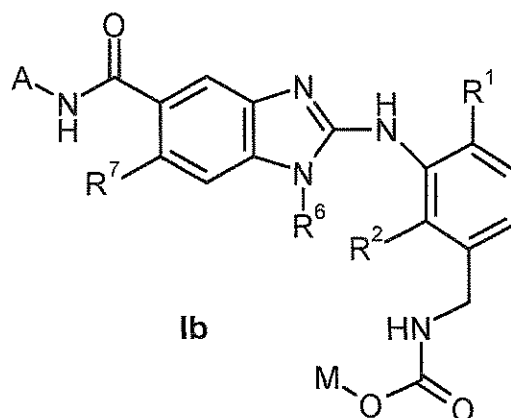


in which latter eleven groups the aryl and heteroaryl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -Cl, -Br, -CN, -CH₃, -CF₃;

and

M, R¹, R², R⁶, R⁷ have the same meaning as defined in any of the preceding embodiments.

A further embodiment of the present invention comprises compounds of formula **1b**



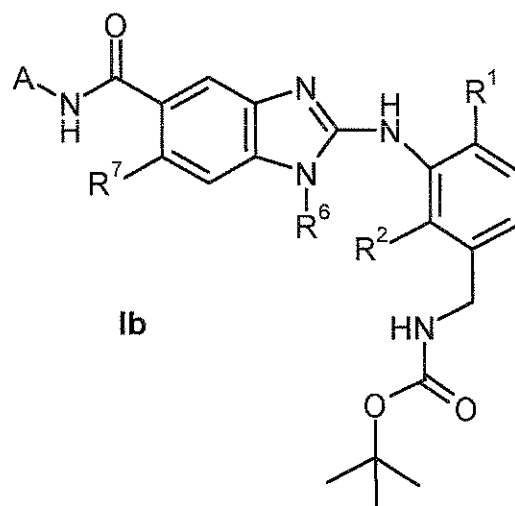
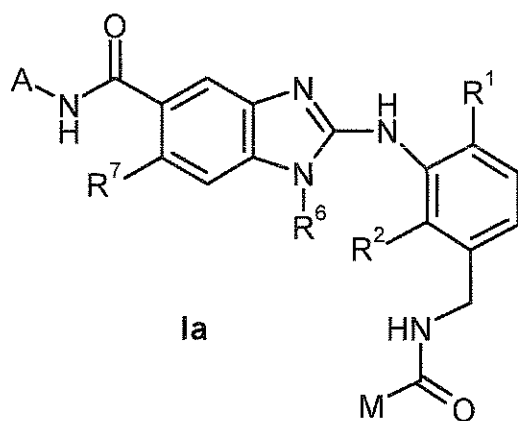
in which

M is tert-butyl;

and

A, R¹, R², R⁶, R⁷ have the same meaning as defined in any of the preceding embodiments.

A further embodiment of the present invention comprises compounds of formula **1a or 1b**



in which

R¹ and R² independently represent chloro, fluoro, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃;

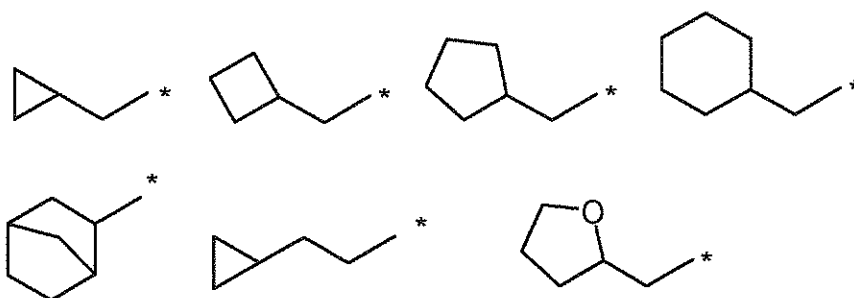
R⁶ represents -H, -CH₃, cyclopropyl;

R⁷ represents fluoro, -OCHF₂, -OCF₃, -OCH₂CH₂F, -OCH₂CHF₂, -OCH₂CF₃, tetrahydrofuran-3-yl-O-, -O-CH₂-cyclopropyl;

A represents methyl, ethyl, propyl, *i*-propyl, *n*-butyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, which latter seven groups are optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms,

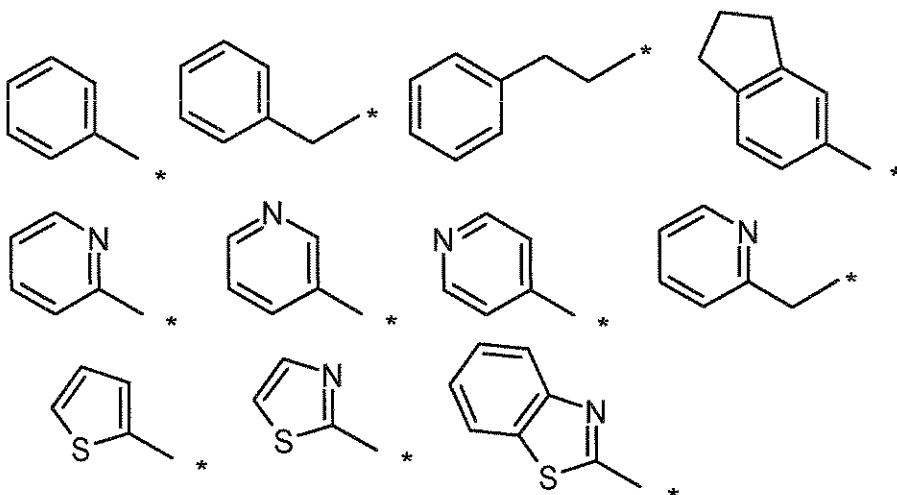
5 or cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, which latter four groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CHF₂, -CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups:



10 which latter seven groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CHF₂, -CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups:



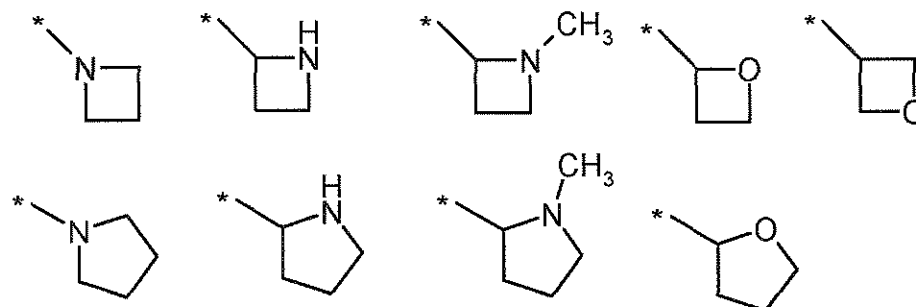
15 in which latter eleven groups the aryl and heteroaryl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -Cl, -Br, -CN, -CH₃, -CF₃;

M

represents

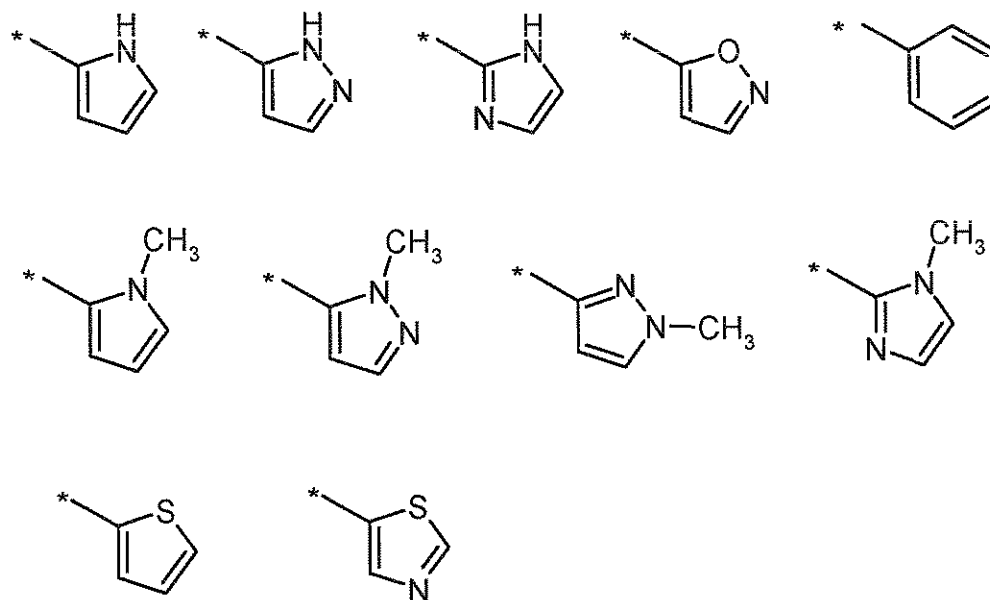
methyl, ethyl, propyl, *i*-propyl, *n*-butyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, cyclopropyl, -CH₂-cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from -F, -OH, -CN, -NH₂, -OCH₃, -CH₃, -CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups



which latter nine groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups



which latter eleven groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -Cl, -CH₃, -CF₃;

or salts thereof, particularly physiologically acceptable salts thereof.

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS USED

General definitions:

- 5 Terms not specifically defined herein should be given the meanings that would be given to them by one of skill in the art in light of the disclosure and the context. As used in the specification, however, unless specified to the contrary, the following terms have the meaning indicated and the following conventions are adhered to.

10 In the groups, radicals, or moieties defined below, the number of carbon atoms is often specified preceding the group, for example, C₁₋₆-alkyl means an alkyl group or radical having 1 to 6 carbon atoms. In general, for groups comprising two or more subgroups, the last named subgroup is the radical attachment point, for example, the substituent "aryl-C₁₋₃-alkyl-" means an aryl group which is bound to a C₁₋₃-alkyl-group, the latter of which is bound to the core or to the group to which the substituent is attached.

- 15 In case a compound of the present invention is depicted in form of a chemical name and as a formula in case of any discrepancy the formula shall prevail.

An asterisk is may be used in sub-formulas to indicate the bond which is connected to the core molecule as defined, for example a cyclopropylmethyl- group would be represented by the following drawing:



Stereochemistry/solvates/hydrates:

- Unless specifically indicated, throughout the specification and the appended claims, a given chemical formula or name shall encompass tautomers (e.g. 1*H*-benzimidazole may be
25 considered to be identical to a corresponding compound containing a 3*H*-benzimidazole) and all stereo, optical and geometrical isomers (e.g. enantiomers, diastereomers, E/Z isomers etc...) and racemates thereof as well as mixtures in different proportions of the separate enantiomers, mixtures of diastereomers, or mixtures of any of the foregoing forms where such isomers and enantiomers exist, as well as salts, including pharmaceutically acceptable
30 salts thereof and solvates thereof such as for instance hydrates including solvates of the free compounds or solvates of a salt of the compound.

Salts:

The phrase "pharmaceutically acceptable" is employed herein to refer to those compounds, materials, compositions, and/or dosage forms which are, within the scope of sound medical judgment, suitable for use in contact with the tissues of human beings and animals without
5 excessive toxicity, irritation, allergic response, or other problem or complication, and commensurate with a reasonable benefit/risk ratio.

As used herein, "pharmaceutically acceptable salts" refer to derivatives of the disclosed compounds wherein the parent compound is modified by making acid or base salts thereof.

Examples of pharmaceutically acceptable salts include, but are not limited to, mineral or

10 organic acid salts of basic residues such as amines; alkali or organic salts of acidic residues such as carboxylic acids; and the like. For example, such salts include salts from ammonia, L-arginine, betaine, benethamine, benzathine, calcium hydroxide, choline, deanol, diethanol-amine (2,2'-iminobis(ethanol)), diethylamine, 2-(diethylamino)-ethanol, 2-aminoethanol, ethylenediamine, N-ethyl-glucamine, hydrabamine, 1H-imidazole, lysine, magnesium

15 hydroxide, 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-morpholine, piperazine, potassium hydroxide, 1-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-pyrrolidine, sodium hydroxide, triethanolamine (2,2',2"-nitrilotris(ethanol)), trometh-amine, zinc hydroxide, acetic acid, 2,2-dichloro-acetic acid, adipic acid, alginic acid, ascorbic acid, L-aspartic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, benzoic acid, 2,5-dihydroxybenzoic acid, 4-acet-amido-benzoic acid, (+)-camphoric acid, (+)-camphor-10-sulfonic acid, carbonic acid, cinna-
20 mic acid, citric acid, cyclamic acid, decanoic acid, dodecylsulfuric acid, ethane-1,2-disulfonic acid, ethanesulfonic acid, 2-hydroxy-ethanesulfonic acid, ethylenediamonotetraacetic acid, formic acid, fumaric acid, galacaric acid, gentisic acid, D-glucoheptonic acid, D-gluconic acid, D-glucuronic acid, glutamic acid, glutantic acid, glutaric acid, 2-oxo-glutaric acid, glycerophosphoric acid, glycine, glycolic acid, hexanoic acid, hippuric acid, hydrobromic acid,
25 hydrochloric acid isobutyric acid, DL-lactic acid, lactobionic acid, lauric acid, lysine, maleic acid, (-)-L-malic acid, malonic acid, DL-mandelic acid, methanesulfonic acid, galactaric acid, naphthalene-1,5-disulfonic acid, naphthalene-2-sulfonic acid, 1-hydroxy-2-naphthoic acid, nicotinic acid, nitric acid, octanoic acid, oleic acid, orotic acid, oxalic acid, palmitic acid, pamoic acid (embonic acid), phosphoric acid, propionic acid, (-)-L-pyroglutamic acid, salicylic
30 acid, 4-amino-salicylic acid, sebacic acid, stearic acid, succinic acid, sulfuric acid, tannic acid, (+)-L-tartaric acid, thiocyanic acid, p-toluenesulfonic acid and undecylenic acid. Further pharmaceutically acceptable salts can be formed with cations from metals like aluminium, calcium, lithium, magnesium, potassium, sodium, zinc and the like. (also see Pharmaceutical salts, Berge, S.M. et al., J. Pharm. Sci., (1977), 66, 1-19).

35 The pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the present invention can be synthesized from the parent compound which contains a basic or acidic moiety by conventional chemical methods. Generally, such salts can be prepared by reacting the free acid or base forms of these

compounds with a sufficient amount of the appropriate base or acid in water or in an organic diluent like ether, ethyl acetate, ethanol, isopropanol, or acetonitrile, or a mixture thereof.

Salts of other acids than those mentioned above which for example are useful for purifying or isolating the compounds of the present invention (e.g. trifluoro acetate salts) also comprise a part of the invention.

Halogen:

The term halogen generally denotes fluorine, chlorine, bromine and iodine.

Alkyl:

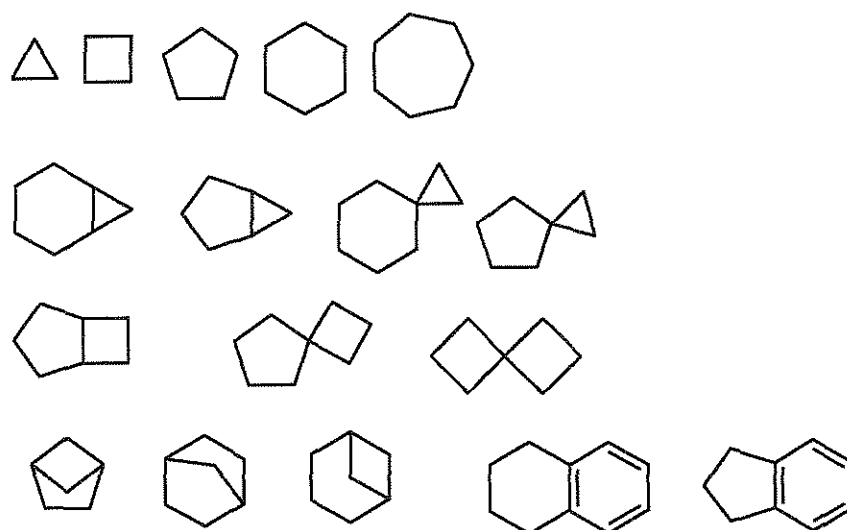
The term "C_{1-n}-alkyl", wherein n is an integer from 2 to n, either alone or in combination with another radical denotes an acyclic, saturated, branched or linear hydrocarbon radical with 1 to n C atoms. For example the term C₁₋₅-alkyl embraces the radicals H₃C-, H₃C-CH₂-, H₃C-CH₂-CH₂-, H₃C-CH(CH₃)-, H₃C-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-, H₃C-CH₂-CH(CH₃)-, H₃C-CH(CH₃)-CH₂-, H₃C-C(CH₃)₂-, H₃C-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-, H₃C-CH₂-CH₂-CH(CH₃)-, H₃C-CH₂-CH(CH₃)-CH₂-, H₃C-CH(CH₃)-CH₂-CH₂-, H₃C-CH₂-C(CH₃)₂-, H₃C-C(CH₃)₂-CH₂-, H₃C-CH(CH₃)-CH(CH₃)- and H₃C-CH₂-CH(CH₂CH₃)-.

Cycloalkyl:

The term "C_{3-n}-cycloalkyl", wherein n is an integer > 3, either alone or in combination with another radical denotes a cyclic, saturated, hydrocarbon radical with 3 to n C atoms. For example the term C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl includes cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and cycloheptyl.

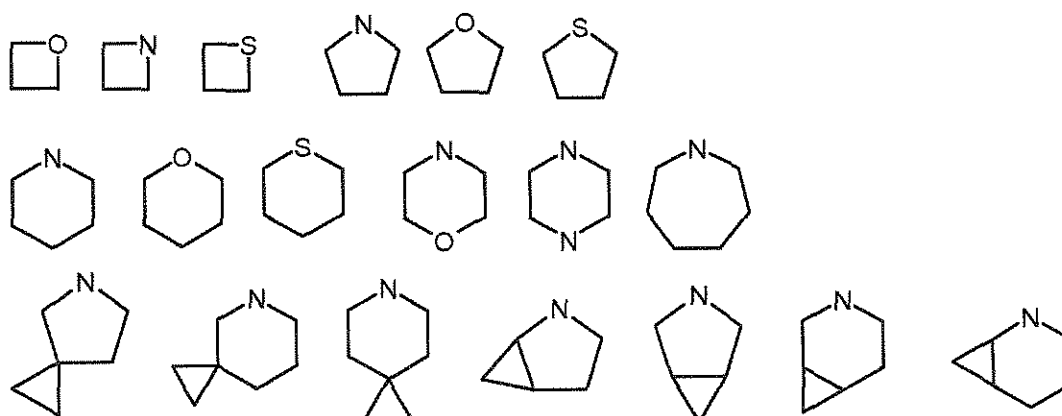
The term "cycloalkyl" also includes bi-, tri- or tetra-cyclic ring structures consisting only of carbon and containing between one and four rings wherein such rings may be attached together in a pendent manner or may be fused. The term "cycloalkyl" additionally encompasses spiro systems, and bridged systems. The cyclic hydrocarbon radical may also be fused to an phenyl ring.

Thus, the term "cycloalkyl" includes the following exemplary structures which are not depicted as radicals as each form may be attached through a covalent bond to any atom of the cycloalkyl ring fragment as long as appropriate valencies are maintained:



Heterocycloalkyl:

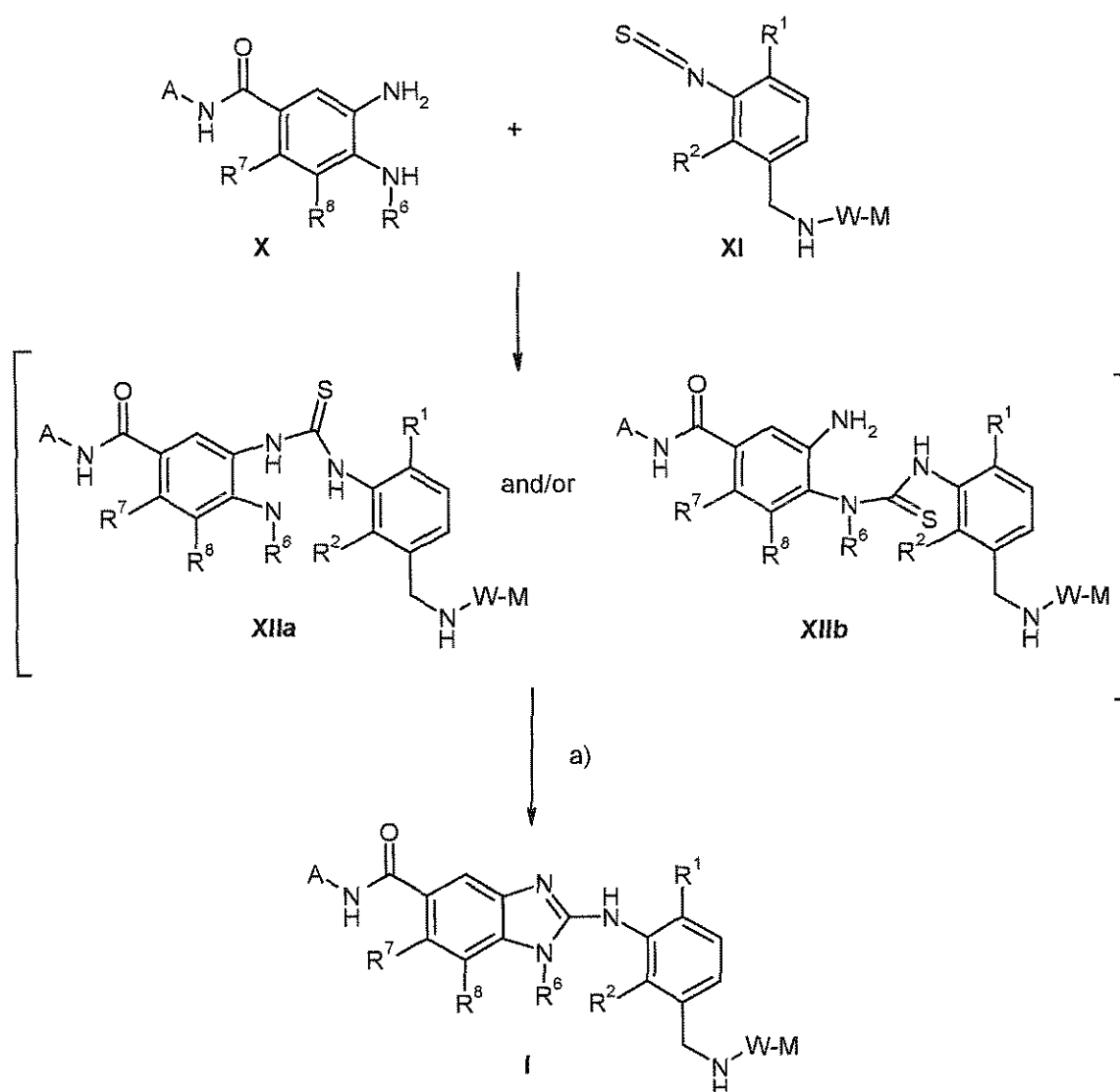
- The term "C_{3-n}-heterocycloalkyl", wherein n is an integer > 3, either alone or in combination
- 5 with another radical denotes a cyclic non-aromatic mono-, bi-, tri- or spirocyclic radical with 3 to n ring atoms wherein at least one ring atom is selected from N, O or S and wherein n is the upper limit of ring atoms. The cyclic hydrocarbon radical may also be fused to an phenyl ring. Substituents on heterocycloalkyl groups may, where appropriate, be located on any atom in the ring system including a heteroatom.
- 10 The point of attachment of heterocycloalkyl radicals may be *via* any atom in the non-aromatic ring system including (where appropriate) a heteroatom (such as a nitrogen atom) and also including an atom on any fused non-aromatic *carbocyclic* ring fragment that may be present as part of the ring system.
- Thus, the term "heterocycloalkyl" includes the following exemplary structures which are not
- 15 depicted as radicals as each form may be attached through a covalent bond to any atom as long as appropriate valencies are maintained:



METHODS OF PREPARATION

Compounds of the present invention can be prepared in accordance with techniques that are well known to those skilled in the art, for example as described hereinafter and in the experimental section or in analogy to methods described in WO2010/034796 and WO2010/034797. According to a further aspect of the invention there is provided a process for the preparation of a compound of formula I, which process can be performed for example according to the following schemes A-C.

Scheme A (all variable groups are as defined in claim 1):

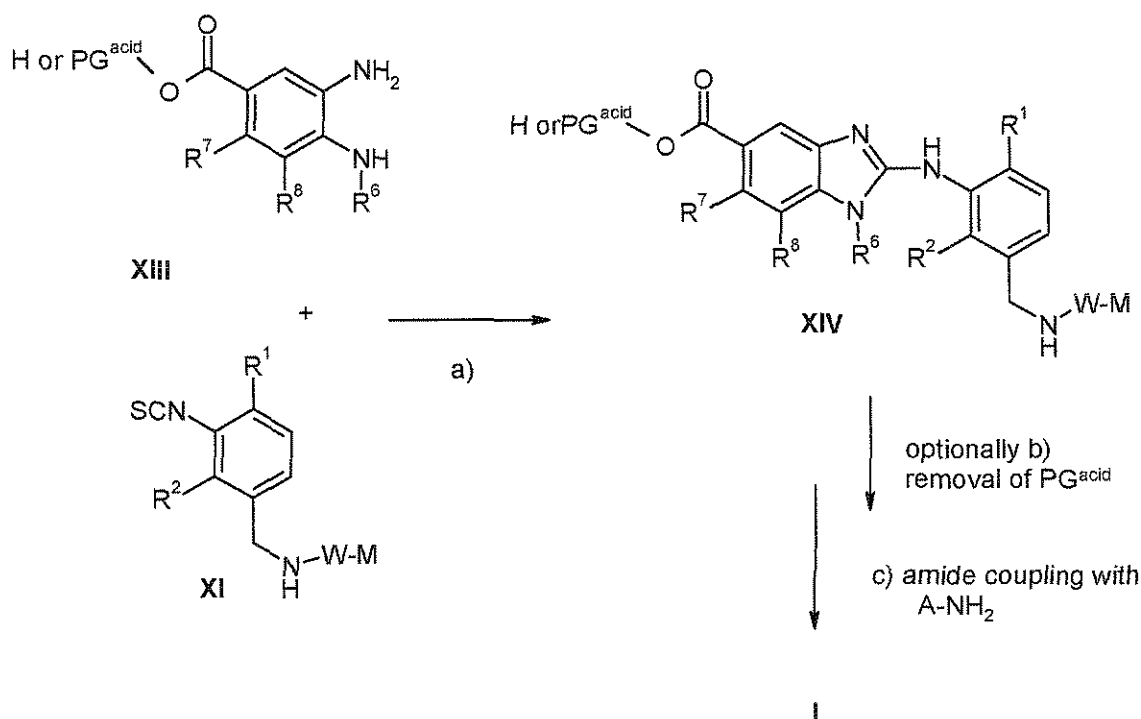


The reaction between phenylenediamine **X** and the thioisocyanate **XI** (Step a) can be performed under standard conditions known to those skilled in the art - for example in analogy to the process described in WO2010/034796 - in presence of a suitable solvent such

as diethyl ether (Et₂O), dimethylformamide (DMF), dichloromethane (DCM), acetonitrile (MeCN) and/or tetrahydrofuran (THF). The reaction is preferably performed in the presence of a suitable reagent which enhances the cyclisation step as for instance CH₃-I or a carbodiimide based compound such as N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC), 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl) carbodiimide (EDCI, or its salt, e.g. hydrochloride) or N,N'-diisopropylcarbodiimide (DIC). The reaction may proceed at any suitable temperature between 0°C to 200°C, preferably between room temperature and 100°C. **Step a** can be performed in a step-wise reaction under isolation of the thiourea intermediates **XIIa** and/or **XIIb** or in a one-pot procedure.

Alternatively the compounds of formula I can be synthesized according to scheme B.

Scheme B (all variable groups are as defined in claim 1 and PG^{acid} is a protecting group of a carboxylic acid function):



The protecting group PG^{acid} is a literature known protecting group of a carboxylic acid, well known to those skilled in the art as for example described in "Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis", 3rd edition, T.W. Greene & P.G.M. Wutz, Wiley-Interscience (1999), for example a C₁₋₅-alkyl-, allyl- or a benzyl-group.

Step a) can be performed as described in **scheme A**, but may also be performed in the presence of an additive (such as 2,2,2-trifluoro-N,O-bis-(trimethylsilyl)-acetamide) when an unprotected carboxylic acid moiety is present in **XIII**.

Step b) can be performed under known saponification conditions, for example with aqueous LiOH, NaOH or KOH in ethanol (EtOH), methanol (MeOH), DMF, MeCN, THF or dioxane or with Pd/C in MeOH.

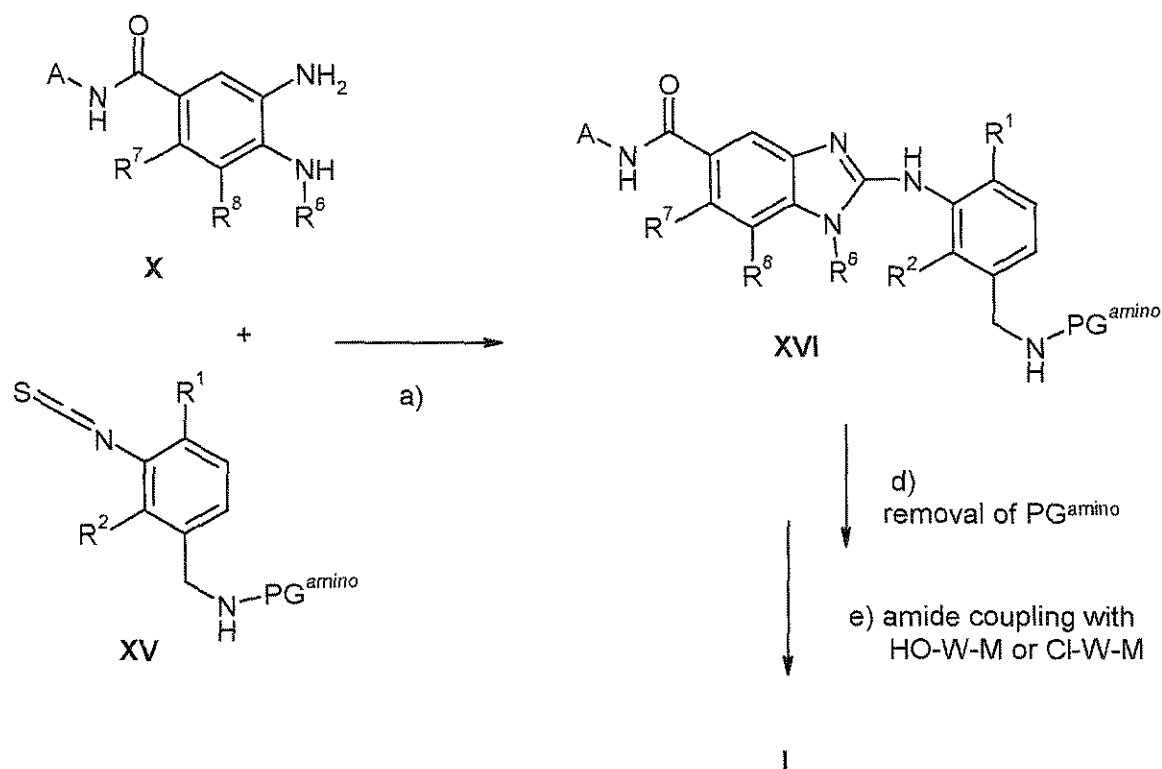
- 5 The amide formation in **step c)** can be performed with an additional *in-situ* activating agent like 1-propylphosphonic acid cyclic anhydride (PPA), O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyl-uronium tetrafluoroborate (TBTU), O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyl-uronium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU), O-(7-azabenzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyluronium-hexafluorophosphate (HATU), DCC, EDCI, carbonyldiimidazole (CDI), carbonylditriazole (CDT), 1-chloro-2-methyl-propenyl-dimethylamine, oxalyl chloride or other activating agents
10 of the state of the art.

The coupling reaction is preferably performed in the presence of a base such as NaOH, KOH, NaHCO₃, triethylamine (TEA), N-ethyldiisopropylamine (DIPEA), pyridine, N,N,-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP) or other appropriate bases of the state of the art and for
15 example described in Houben-Weyl, "Methods in Organic Synthesis", Vol. E22a, p 425ff. The coupling reactions are performed in an appropriate solvent for example DCM, dioxane, THF, MeCN, DMF, dimethylacetamide (DMA), N-methylpyrrolidone (NMP) or in mixtures of the above mentioned solvents at any suitable temperature between 0°C to 100°C.

When PG^{acid} is a methyl or ethyl group the conversion of XIV to I can also be carried out in a
20 one-pot procedure for example with trimethylaluminium or triethylaluminium in hexane, dioxane, THF at 20-80°C.

Alternatively the compounds of formula I can be synthesized according to scheme C.

Scheme C (all variable groups are as defined in claim 1 and PG^{amino} is a protecting group of the benzylic amino group):



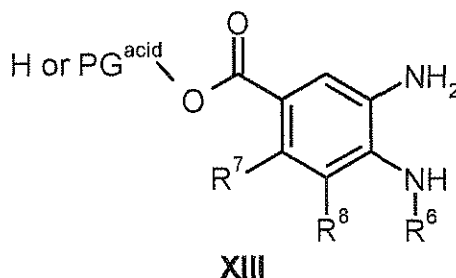
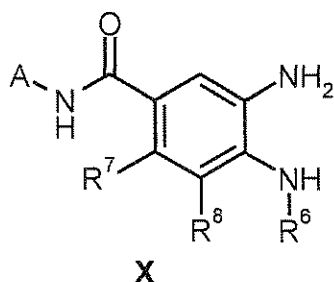
The protecting group PG^{amino} in XV is a literature known protecting group of an amino group well known to those skilled in the art as for example described in "Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis", 3rd edition, T.W. Greene & P.G.M. Wutz, Wiley-Interscience (1999), for example a tert-butoxycarbonyl-, benzyloxycarbonyl-, ethoxycarbonyl-, methoxycarbonyl-, allyloxycarbonyl- or trifluormethylcarbonyl group.

Step a) can be performed as described in Scheme 1..

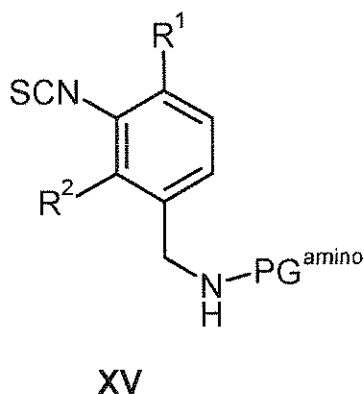
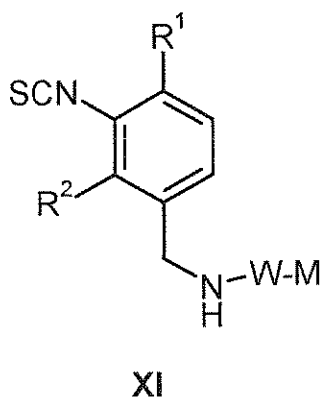
Step d) PG^{amino} in XVI can be removed in accordance with techniques that are well known to those skilled in the art and which are exemplified hereinafter. For example XVI can be deprotected using an appropriate agent (depending on the protecting group) such as for example trifluoro acetic acid, HCl or H₂SO₄ solutions, KOH; Ba(OH)₂, Pd on carbon (Pd/C), trimethylsilyl iodide or other conditions as described in "Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis", 3rd edition, T.W. Greene & P.G.M. Wutz, Wiley-Interscience (1999). Appropriate co-solvent for this step is for example DCM, THF, MeCN, DMF, DMA, NMP or mixtures of the above mentioned solvents at any suitable temperature between 0°C to 100°C.

The amide formation in step e) can be performed with the acids HO-W-M and an additional *in-situ* activating agent like PPA, TBTU, HBTU, HATU, DCC, EDCI, CDI, CTI, 1-chloro-2-methyl-propenyl-dimethylamine, oxalyl chloride or other activating agents of the state of the art in analogy to Scheme B, step c; or directly with the corresponding acid chloride Cl-W-M under analogous conditions without an additional *in situ* activating agent.

The coupling reaction is preferably performed in the presence of a base such as NaOH, KOH, NaHCO₃, TEA, DIPEA, pyridine, DMAP or other appropriate bases of the state of the art and for example described in Houben-Weyl, "Methods in Organic Synthesis", Vol. E22a, p 425ff. The coupling reactions are performed in an appropriate solvent for example DCM, dioxane, THF, MeCN, DMF, DMA, NMP or in mixtures of the above mentioned solvents.

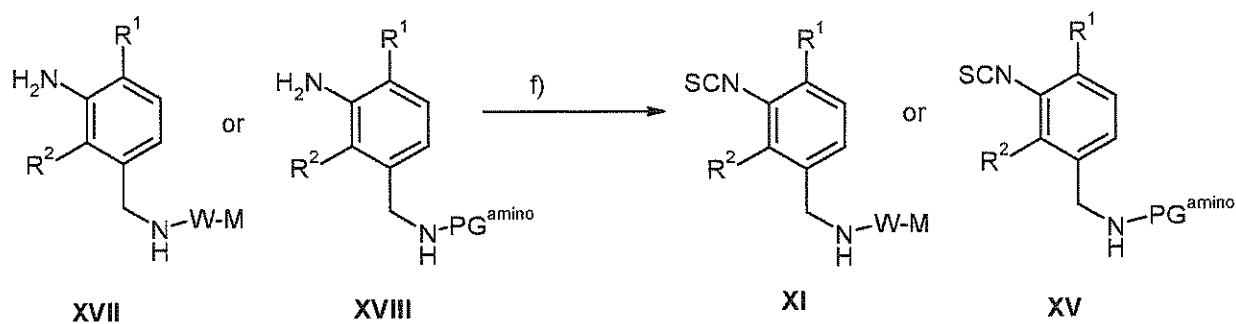


- 10 The synthesis of building blocks **X** and **XIII** wherein **A**, **R⁶-R⁸** have the meaning as defined in claim 1 and PG^{acid} is a literature known carboxylic acid protecting group as described above, can be performed in analogy to literature procedures which are well known to those skilled in the art, as for example in analogy to methods described in WO2010/034796 and WO2010/034797.



15 The synthesis of the building blocks **XI** and **XV** - wherein all variable groups are as defined in claim 1 and PG^{amino} is a protecting group of the benzylic amino group - is employing standard reaction conditions according to scheme D known to those skilled in the art which are exemplified in the experimental part in detail.

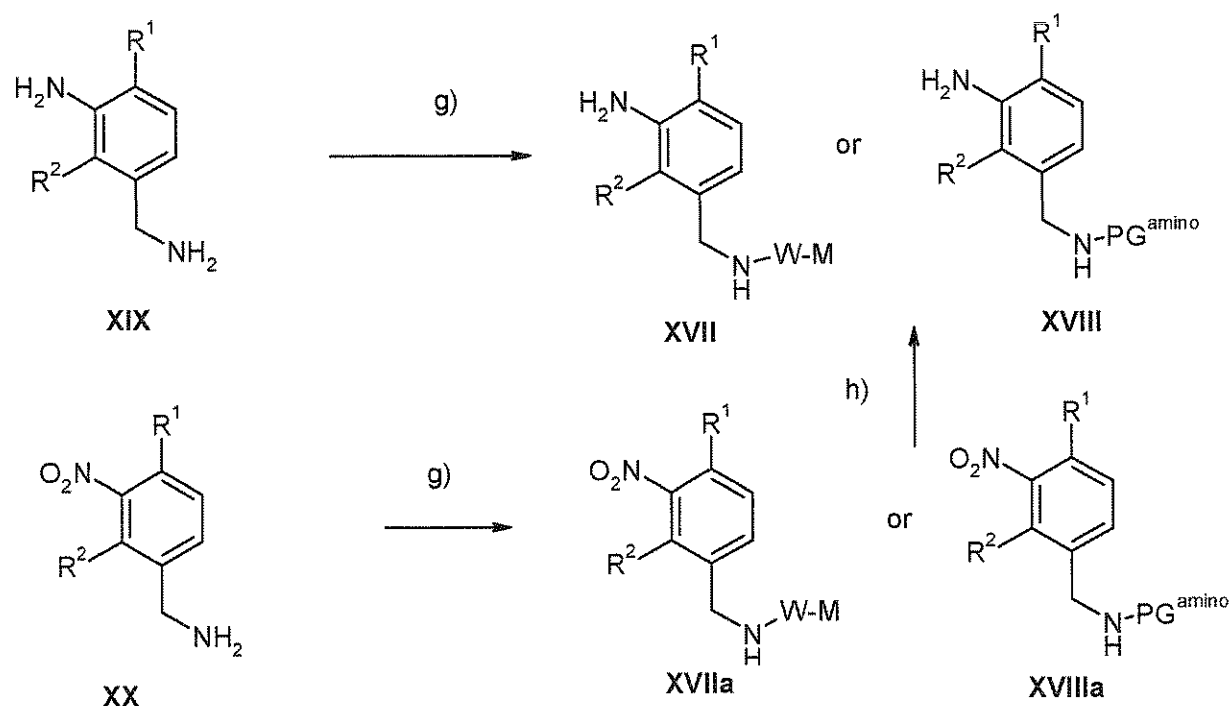
Scheme D (all variable groups are as defined in claim 1 and PG^{amino} is a protecting group of the benzylic amino group):



Step f) can be performed according to standard literature procedures for example with reagents such as 1,1'-thiocarbonyldi-2-pyridone, O,O'-di-2-pyridylthiocarbonate, 1,1'-thiocarbonyldiimidazole or with thiophosgene in a solvent as for example DCM, dioxane or DMF at temperatures between 0-150°C and optionally under addition of a base like DMAP or TEA.

The building blocks **XVII** and **XVIII** can be prepared according to scheme E:

Scheme E (all variable groups are as defined in claim 1 and PG^{amino} is a protecting group of the benzylic amino group):

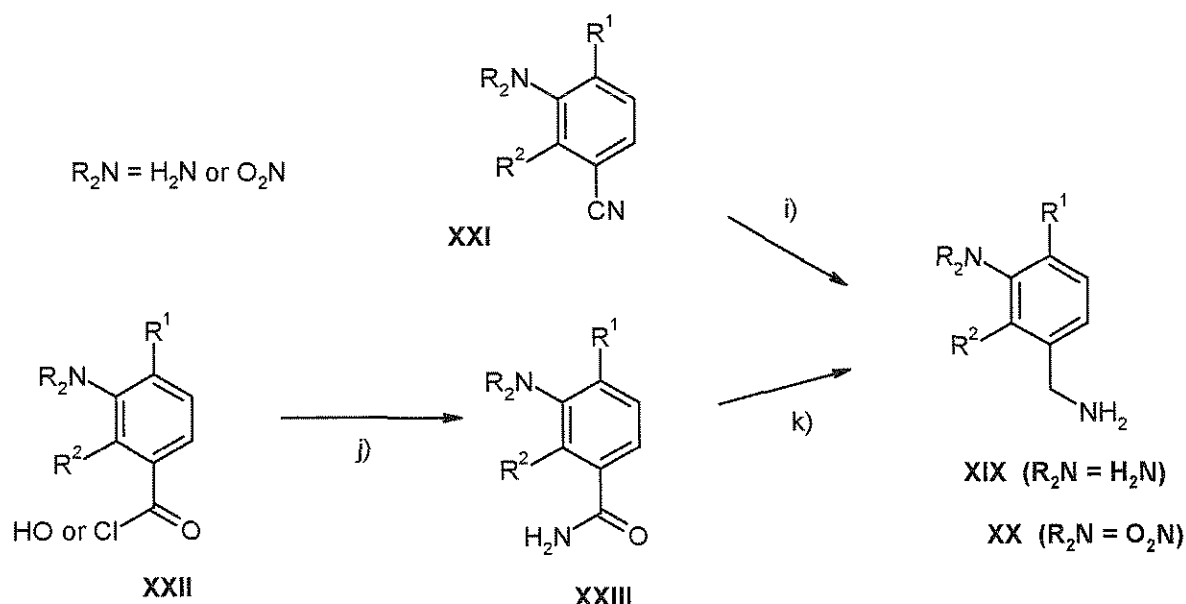


The amide formation in **step g)** can be performed in analogy to **step c)** or **step e)** to synthesize compound **XVII** or by using common reagents for amino group protection for example di-tert-butyl-dicarbonate, methyl-, ethyl-, benzyl or allyl-chloroformate under standard reaction conditions as described in "*Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis*", 3rd edition, T.W. Greene & P.G.M. Wutz, Wiley-Interscience (1999) to synthesize compounds **XVIII**.

The nitro group in precursor **XVIIa** or **XVIIIa** can be reduced to the amino group in **step h)** under literature known reduction conditions for example via hydrogenation (preferably at 1-5 bar) in presence of Pd/C or RaNi in MeOH, EtOH or THF optionally under acidic conditions in presence of HCl, or by using SnCl₂/HCl, Na₂S₂O₄, Zn/HCl, Fe/HCl, Fe-powder/aqueous NH₄Cl solution or according to procedures described in the literature for example R. Larock, *Comprehensive Organic Transformations*, VCH Verlagsgemeinschaft, Weinheim (1989). Appropriate solvent for this step is for example DCM, THF, MeCN, DMF, DMA, NMP, EtOH, MeOH or mixtures of the above mentioned solvents at any suitable temperature between 0°C to 100°C.

The building blocks **XIX** and **XX** can be prepared according to scheme F-G:

Scheme F (all variable groups are as defined in claim 1):



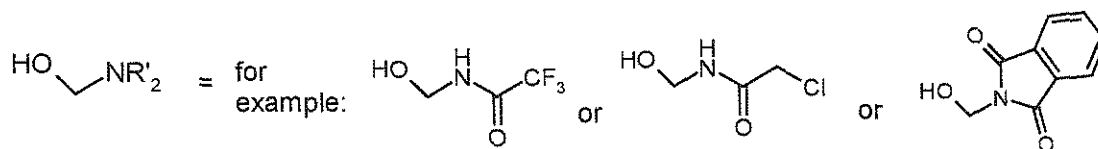
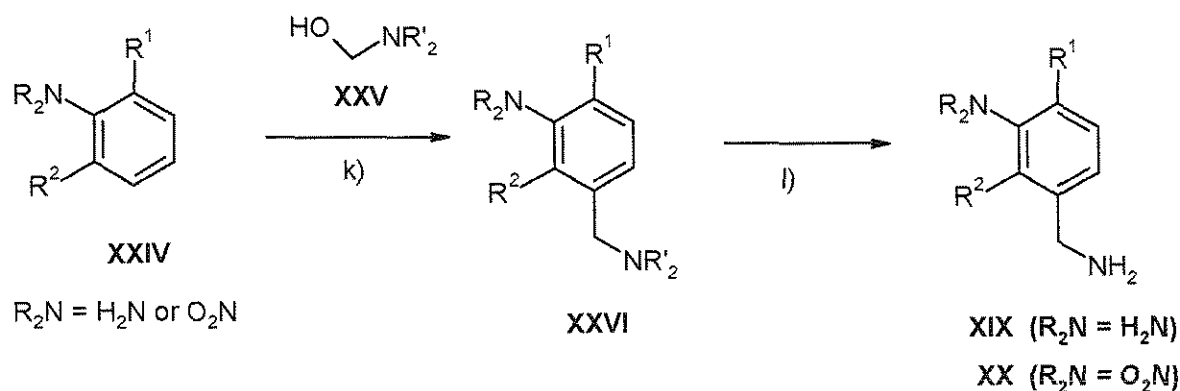
Step i) can be performed via hydrogenation (1-5 bar) with a catalyst like Pd/C, PtO₂ or RaNi in a suitable solvent like MeOH or EtOH optionally using HCl or NH₃ as additive at temperatures between 0-60°C or via reduction with LiAlH₄ or BH₃-containing reagents under literature-known conditions.

Step j) can be performed under the amide coupling conditions described for step e) and using NH_3 as coupling partner, for example 1-chloro-2-methyl-propenyl-dimethylamine in THF can be used as activating agent.

- 5 **Step k)** can be performed using LiAlH_4 or BH_3 -containing reagents under literature known conditions as for example compiled in R.C.Larock, Comprehensive Organic Transformations, VCH, 1989, p.432-433, preferably with LiAlH_4 in THF at 0-80°C.

Alternatively compounds **XIX** and **XX** can be prepared according to scheme G

- 10 **Scheme G** (all variable groups are as defined in claim 1):

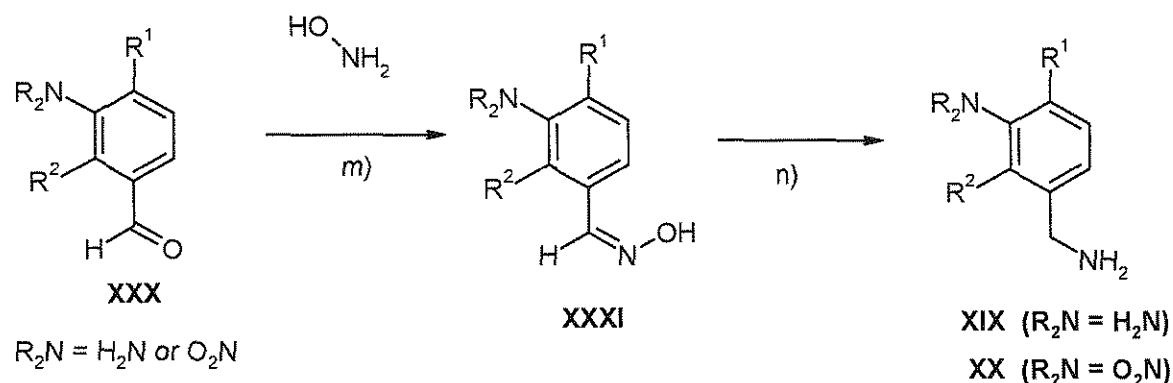


- 15 **Step k)** can be performed mixing **XXIV** with reagent **XXV** in concentrated H_2SO_4 or $\text{F}_3\text{C-SO}_3\text{H}$ at temperatures between 0-150°C, preferably between 20-80°C.

- Step l)** can be performed using literature known deprotection procedures for the corresponding nitrogen protecting groups for example treatment of the phthalimide with hydrazine or cleavage of the amide bond using bases like NaOH in MeOH or EtOH at temperatures between 20-80°C or under acidic conditions using aqueous HCl solution or HCl in dioxane at temperatures between 20-80°C
- 20

Alternatively compounds **XIX** and **XX** can be prepared according to scheme H

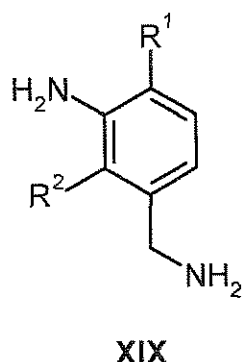
Scheme H (all variable groups are as defined in claim 1):



- 5 **Step m)** can be performed mixing **XXX** with HO-NH_2 in an appropriate solvent for example MeCN, DCM, THF, optionally using HCl as additive at temperatures between 0-60°C.
- Step n)** can be performed applying literature known reduction conditions for example via hydrogenation preferably at 1-5 bar H_2 pressure in presence of Pd/C or Ra-Ni in MeOH, EtOH or THF optionally using HCl or HOAc as catalyst, or by using SnCl_2/HCl , Zn/HCl,
- 10 Fe/HCl, Fe-powder/aqueous NH_4Cl solution or according to procedures described in the literature for example R. Larock, *Comprehensive Organic Transformations*, VCH Verlagsgemeinschaft, Weinheim (1989).

- Therefore, a further aspect of the present invention is a process for preparing compounds of
- 15 formula I comprising the following steps:

(1) reacting a compound of formula **XIX**



in which

- 20 R^1 and R^2 independently represent halo, $-\text{C}_{1-3}\text{alkyl}$, which latter alkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

with an acid chloride of formula **CI-W-M**

in which

W represents -C(O)-, -C(O)O-, which groups are bound to the nitrogen of the -NH- moiety via the carbon atom;

5 M represents
 -C₁₋₆alkyl, -C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, both of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from -F, -OH, -CN, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₂alkyl),
 -N(C₁₋₂alkyl)₂, -OC₁₋₃alkyl, -C₁₋₅alkyl, -C₃₋₄cycloalkyl, in which latter three
 10 groups the alkyl or cycloalkyl groups are optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
 or
 oxetanyl-, tetrahydrofuranyl-, tetrahydropyranyl-, azetidiny-, pyrrolidinyl-,
 piperidinyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more
 substituents selected from fluoro, -CN, -C₁₋₃alkyl, which latter alkyl group is
 15 optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
 or
 phenyl-, pyridyl-, thienyl-, pyrrolyl-, pyrazolyl-, imidazolyl-, thiazolyl-,
 oxazolyl-, or isoxazolyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by
 one or more substituents selected from halo, -CN or -C₁₋₃alkyl, which latter
 20 alkyl group is optionally further substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

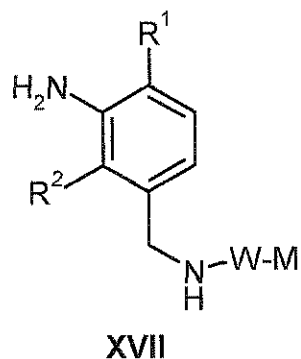
or

with an acid of formula HO-W-M in the presence of a *in situ* activating agent selected from
 the group of 1-propylphosphonic acid cyclic anhydride (PPA), O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-
 25 tetramethyl-uronium tetrafluoroborate (TBTU), O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyl-
 uronium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU), O-(7-azabenzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyluro-
 nium-hexafluorophosphate (HATU), DCC, EDCI, carbonyldiimidazole (CDI), carbonylditri-
 azole (CDT), 1-chloro-2-methyl-propenyl-dimethylamine and oxalyl chloride;

30 and

in the presence of a base selected from the group of NaOH, KOH, NaHCO₃, triethylamine (TEA), N-ethyl-diisopropylamine (DIPEA), pyridine, N,N-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP)
 in a solvent selected from the group of dichloromethane, dioxane, THF, MeCN, dimethyl-
 formamide, dimethylacetamide (DMA), N-methylpyrrolidone (NMP) or in mixtures thereof;
 35 at a temperature between 0°C to 100°C

to obtain a compound of formula XVII



5

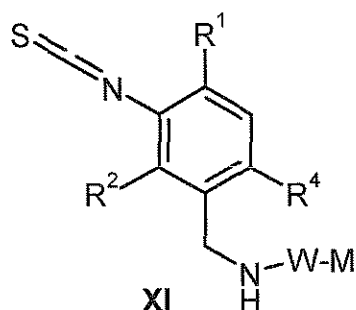
(2) reacting the compound of formula XVII

with a reagent selected from the group of 1,1'-thiocarbonyldi-2-pyridone, O,O'-di-2-pyridylthiocarbonate, 1,1'-thiocarbonyldiimidazole and thiophosgene

in a solvent selected from the group of dichloromethane, dioxane and DMF

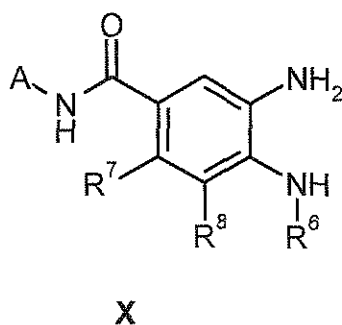
10 at temperatures between 0-150°C and optionally in the presence of a base which is preferably DMAP or TEA

to obtain a compound of formula XI



15 (3) reacting the compound of formula XI

with a compound of formula XIII



in the presence of a reagent selected from the group of $\text{CH}_3\text{-I}$, N,N' -dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC), 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl) carbodiimide (EDCI, or its hydrochloride) and N,N' -diisopropylcarbodiimide (DIC);

in a solvent selected from the group of diethyl ether (Et_2O), dimethylformamide (DMF),

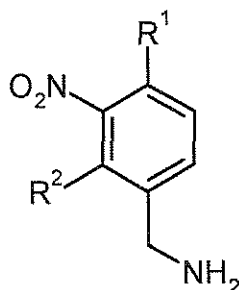
5 dichloromethane (DCM), acetonitrile (MeCN) and tetrahydrofuran (THF)

preferably at a temperature between 0°C and 100°C .

An alternative process for preparing compounds of formula I comprises the following steps:

10

(1) reacting a compound of formula XX



XX

in which

R^1 and R^2 independently represent halo, $-\text{C}_{1-3}\text{alkyl}$, which latter alkyl group is
15 optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

with an acid chloride of formula CI-W-M

in which

20 W represents $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{O}-$, which groups are bound to the nitrogen of the $-\text{NH}-$ moiety via the carbon atom;

M represents
 $-\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, $-\text{C}_{3-7}\text{cycloalkyl}$, both of which groups are optionally substituted by
 25 one or more groups selected from $-\text{F}$, $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{NH}(\text{C}_{1-2}\text{alkyl})$,
 $-\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-2}\text{alkyl})_2$, $-\text{OC}_{1-3}\text{alkyl}$, $-\text{C}_{1-5}\text{alkyl}$, $-\text{C}_{3-4}\text{cycloalkyl}$, in which latter three
 groups the alkyl or cycloalkyl groups are optionally substituted by one or
 more fluorine atoms;

or

30

oxetanyl-, tetrahydrofuranyl-, tetrahydropyranyl-, azetidiny-, pyrrolidinyl-,
piperidinyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more
substituents selected from fluoro, -CN, -C₁₋₃ alkyl, which latter alkyl group is
optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

or

phenyl-, pyridyl-, thienyl-, pyrrolyl-, pyrazolyl-, imidazolyl-, thiazolyl-,
oxazolyl-, or isoxazolyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by
one or more substituents selected from halo, -CN or -C₁₋₃alkyl, which latter
alkyl group is optionally further substituted by one or more fluorine atoms.

or

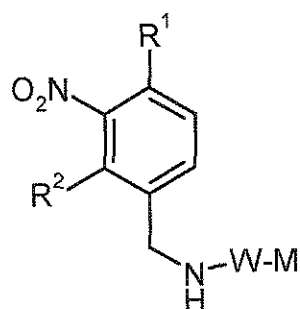
with an acid of formula **HO-W-M** in the presence of a *in situ* activating agent selected from
the group of 1-propylphosphonic acid cyclic anhydride (PPA), O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-
tetramethyl-uronium tetrafluoroborate (TBTU), O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyl-
uronium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU), O-(7-azabenzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-
tetramethyluronium-hexafluorophosphate (HATU), DCC, EDCI, carbonyldiimidazole (CDI),
carbonylditriazole (CDT), 1-chloro-2-methyl-propenyl-dimethylamine and oxalyl chloride;

and

in the presence of a base selected from the group of NaOH, KOH, NaHCO₃, triethylamine
(TEA), N-ethyl-diisopropylamine (DIPEA), pyridine, N,N,-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP)
in a solvent selected from the group of dichloromethane, dioxane, THF, MeCN,
dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide (DMA), N-methylpyrrolidone (NMP) or in mixtures
thereof;

at a temperature between 0°C to 100°C

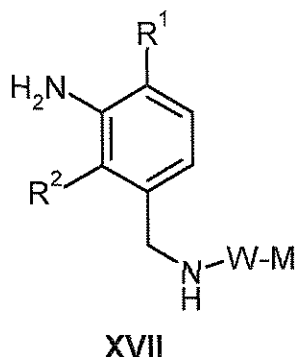
to obtain a compound of formula **XVIIa**



XVIIa

;

(2) converting the compound of formula **XVIIa** into a compound of formula **XVII**



5

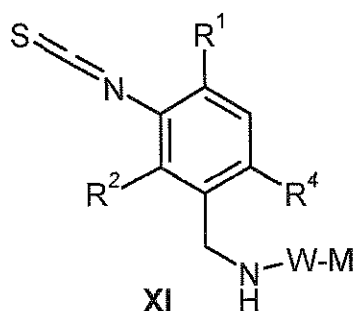
by catalytic hydrogenation (preferably at 1-5 bar) in presence of Pd/C or RaNi in MeOH, EtOH or THF, optionally under acidic conditions in presence of HCl,
or

by reduction with a reagent selected from the group of SnCl₂/HCl, Na₂S₂O₄, Zn/HCl, Fe/HCl,
10 Fe-powder/aqueous NH₄Cl solution in a solvent selected from the group of DCM, THF, MeCN, DMF, DMA, NMP, EtOH, MeOH or mixtures thereof at a temperature between 0°C to 100°C;

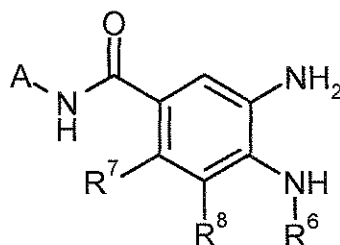
(3) reacting the compound of formula **XVII**

15 with a reagent selected from the group of 1,1'-thiocarbonyldi-2-pyridone, O,O'-di-2-pyridylthiocarbonate, 1,1'-thiocarbonyldiimidazole and thiophosgene in a solvent selected from the group of dichloromethane, dioxane and DMF at temperatures between 0-150°C and optionally in the presence of a base which is preferably DMAP or TEA

20 to obtain a compound of formula **XI**

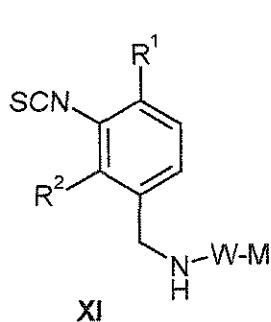
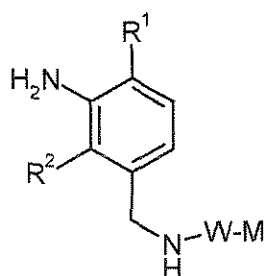
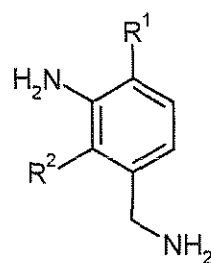
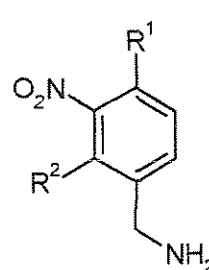


(4) reacting the compound of formula XI
with a compound of formula XIII

**X**

- 5 in the presence of a reagent selected from the group of CH₃-I, N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC), 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl) carbodiimide (EDCI, or its hydrochloride) and N,N'-diisopropylcarbodiimide (DIC);
in a solvent selected from the group of diethyl ether (Et₂O), dimethylformamide (DMF),
dichloromethane (DCM), acetonitrile (MeCN) and tetrahydrofuran (THF)
10 preferably at a temperature between 0°C and 100°C.

A further aspect of the present invention is the intermediates of the formulae **XI**, **XVII**, **XIX**
and **XX**

**XI****XVII****XIX****XX**

- 15 in which

R¹ and **R²** independently represent halo, -C₁₋₃alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

- 20 **W** represents -C(O)-, -C(O)O-, which groups are bound to the nitrogen of the -NH- moiety via the carbon atom;

M represents

-C₁₋₆alkyl, -C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, both of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from -F, -OH, -CN, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₂alkyl),
 5 -N (C₁₋₂alkyl)₂, -OC₁₋₃alkyl, -C₁₋₅alkyl, -C₃₋₄cycloalkyl, in which latter three groups the alkyl or cycloalkyl groups are optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

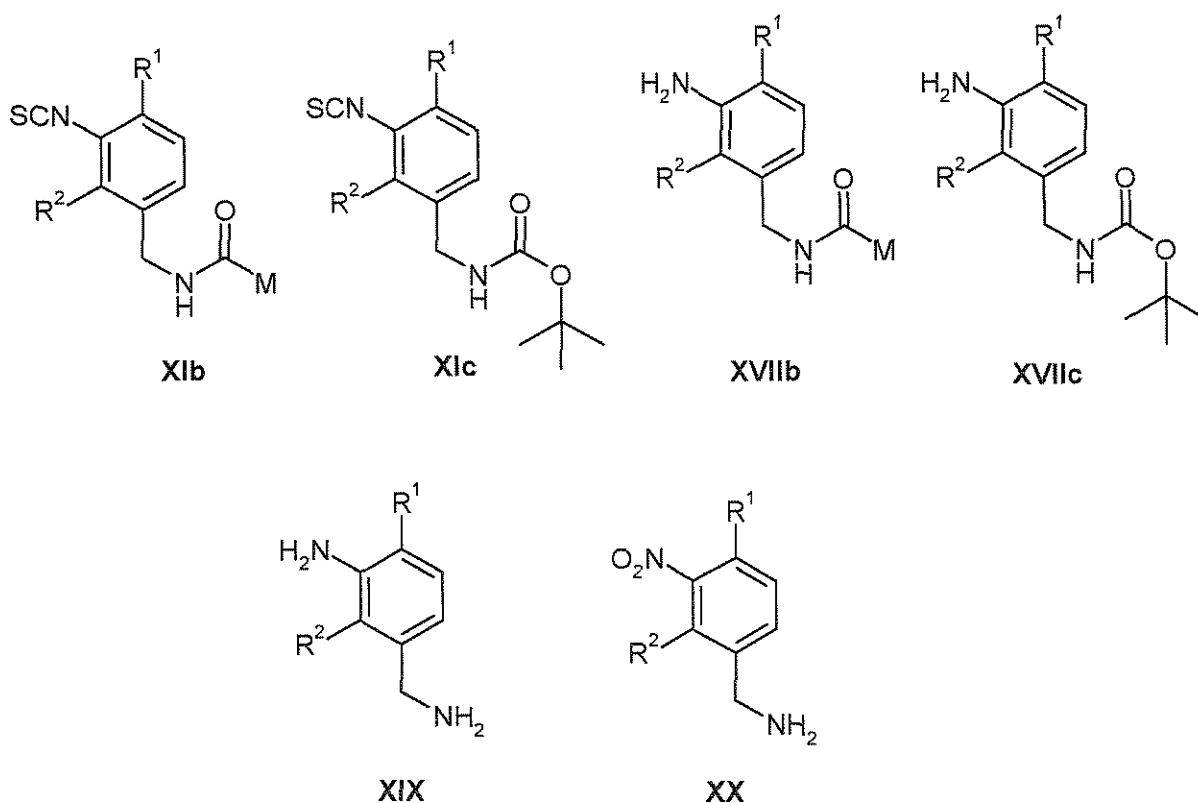
or

oxetanyl-, tetrahydrofuranyl-, tetrahydropyranyl-, azetidiny-, pyrrolidinyl-,
 10 piperidinyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from fluoro, -CN, -C₁₋₃alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

or

phenyl-, pyridyl-, thienyl-, pyrrolyl-, pyrazolyl-, imidazolyl-, thiazolyl-,
 15 oxazolyl-, or isoxazolyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, -CN or -C₁₋₃alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally further substituted by one or more fluorine atoms.

A second embodiment comprises as preferred intermediates compounds of formulae **XIb**,
 20 **XIc**, **XVIIb**, **XVIIc**, **XIX** and **XX**



in which

R¹ and R²

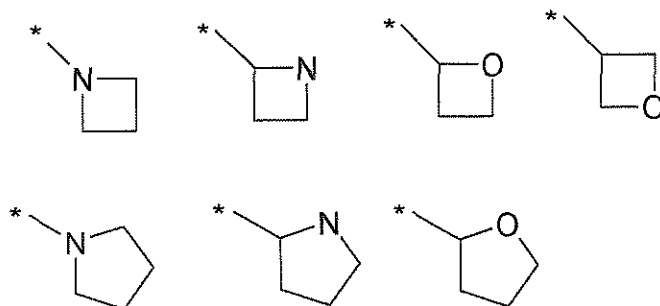
M

independently represent -chloro, fluoro or -CH₃;

represents

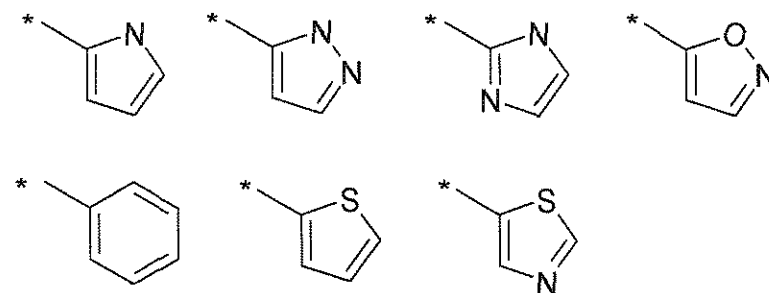
methyl, ethyl, propyl, *i*-propyl, *n*-butyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, cyclopropyl, -CH₂-cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from -F, -OH, -CN, -NH₂, -OCH₃, -CH₃, -CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups



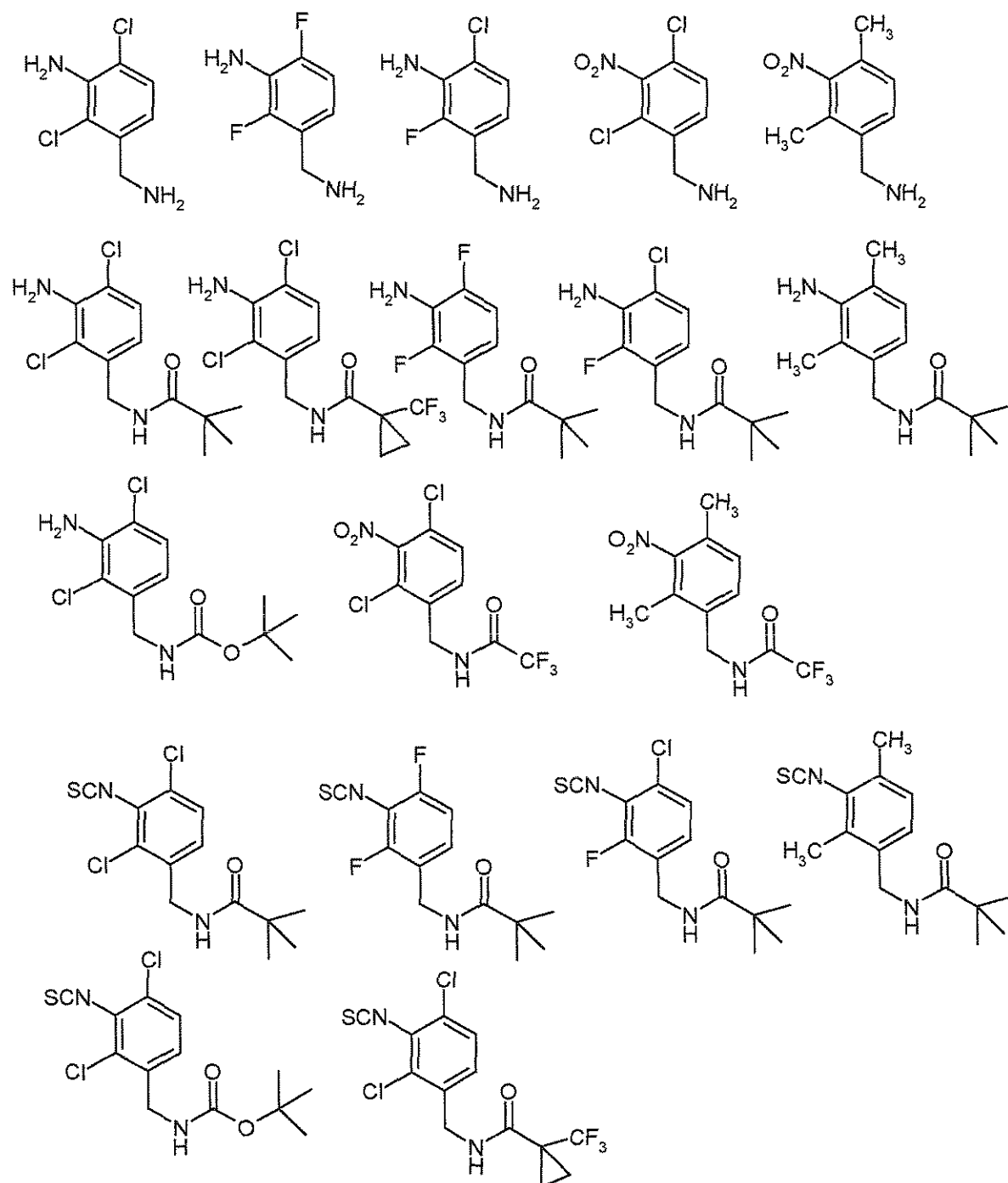
all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, or -CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups



all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -Cl, -CH₃, or -CF₃.

A further embodiment comprises, as more preferred intermediates, compounds of formulae XIb, XIc, XVIIb, XVIIc, XIX and XX, namely



Biological Assays

mPGES protein production

- 5 Microsomes from Rosetta E.coli bacteria expressing recombinant human mPGES-1 can be derived as described below:
- Inoculate 5ml LB with Ampicilin (50 µg/ml) and Chloramphenicol (34 µg/ml) with bacteria from freeze culture. Incubate 8h at 37 °C with 200rpm. Thereafter, inoculate 500-1000 ml LB containing Amp and Chloro with the 5 ml on culture and grow to OD640 of 0.8-1.0. Chill the
- 10 culture to +4°C before induction. Induce the culture with IPTG at a final concentration of 400µM. Express the protein at room temp 18-23 °C with 200 rpm shaking over night.
- The following steps can be performed on the following day:
1. Spin down the cells in 250ml centrifuge flasks for 15min at 7000rpm (Beckmann Coulte Avanti J-E centrifuge)
 - 15 2. Dissolve the pellet from 250ml culture in 12.5 ml homogenization buffer
 3. (15mM Tris-HCL pH8, 1mM EDTA pH8, 0.25mM Sucrose, 2.5mM GSH, 1Tablet Protease inhibitor per 50ml buffer)
 4. Disintegrate the cells by sonication, 5X10 seconds at 48% amplitude of a 750W sonifier
 - 20 5. Add 2.5ml MgCl₂ (100mM) and DNase 12.5µl (0.8mg/ml) and incubate on ice for 30 min
 6. Spin down the bacteria debris and save the supernatant, 7000 rpm for 15 min
 7. Isolate the protein containing membranes in the supernatant by ultracentrifugation 120000 x g for 2hour at 4°C (Sorvall T880 rotor).
 - 25 8. Discard the supernatant and dissolve the pellet in 20mM Potassium phosphate buffer pH7.4 (KH₂PO₄ and K₂HPO₄) buffer by sonication (5x10s, 30% of a 50W sonifier) and aliquot the enzyme and store aliquots at -80°C.
- Before each experiment is performed an aliquot of the enzyme is thawed and it can then be
- 30 dissolved in 0.1 M Potassium phosphate buffer pH7.4 (KH₂PO₄ and K₂HPO₄) buffer containing 2,5 mM GSH.

mPGES-1 enzyme assay

The aim of this assay is to determine the affinity of a test compound for the mPGES-1 enzyme.

47µl of recombinant human mPGES-1 (~ 0.5 µg protein/well) containing microsomal suspension in a buffer containing GSH, (2.5 mmol/L L-Glutathione reduced, dissolved in 0.1mol/L Phosphat Buffer pH 7.4) is dispensed in a 384-well plate and thereafter 1 µl of the test compound(s) is/are added and incubated for 25 minutes at room temperature. The enzyme reaction is started by the addition of 2µl PGH₂ (final conc. 2 µM) dissolved in water-free Diglyme. After 60 seconds the reaction is terminated by addition of a stop solution containing FeCl₂ (10µL 0.074mol/l FeCl₂). The samples are diluted between 1:25 in PBS (Phosphate Buffered Saline). 10µl of the diluted samples are transferred to 384-well low volume plate. In order to quantify the amount of PGE₂ that has been formed, a homogenous time resolved fluorescent (HTRF) detecting of PGE₂ has been performed using a commercially available kit from Cisbio according to the manufactures recommendation. This HTRF –based assay has been described in detail (see: Goedken et al., J Biomol Screen, 2008, 13(7), 619-625). Briefly, the diluted samples are mixed with 5µl PGE₂-d2 conjugate and 5µl anti-PGE₂ cryptate conjugate. After an incubation period of the plates over night, the fluorescence is measured by the use of an appropriate microplate reader. The fluorescence of Europium cryptate (maxex = 307 nm, maxem = 620 nm) and d2-PGE₂ (maxex = 620 nm, maxem = 665 nm) are measured. The extent of the specific HTRF is measured as a ratio of the emission intensity at 665 nm vs. that at 620 nm at an excitation puls of 320 nm. The quantification plate contains also wells with different concentrations of PGE₂ as calibration curve for the calculation of the PGE₂ concentrations from the HTRF ratio values.

From all mPGES enzyme assay the background is subtracted and the IC₅₀ is calculated over a nonlinear regression with conventional software.

Table A. mPGES-1 inhibitory effect (IC₅₀ values in nM) of compounds in the enzyme assay

example	IC50 [nM]	example	IC50 [nM]	example	IC50 [nM]	example	IC50 [nM]
1	2	26	2	51	3	76	3
2	2	27	4	52	4	77	2
3	4	28	3	53	4	78	2
4	4	29	4	54	3	79	2
5	2	30	4	55	4	80	1
6	2	31	3	56	4	81	3
7	2	32	3	57	4	82	1
8	3	33	4	58	3		
9	4	34	4	59	4		
10	7	35	4	60	3	85	1
11	4	36	4	61	4	177	1
12	4	37	5	62	2	178	1
13	3	38	3	63	3	179	1
14	1	39	4	64	2	180	2
15	3	40	4	65	4		
16	5	41	4	66	4		
17	1	42	4	67	2		
18	1	43	4	68	2		
19	1	44	3	69	2		
20	3	45	4	70	4		
21	3	46	3	71	2		
22	2	47	3	72	1		
23	1	48	3	73	2		
24	3	49	4	74	9		
25	2	50	4	75	2		

A549 cell-based assay

Although the enzymatic assay is a high throughput assay the disadvantage is that it uses a recombinant protein which is not in its natural environment. Accordingly a cellular assay was established in which a cell line of human origin (A549) expressing the mPGES-1 protein was used. In addition in order to mimic the situation in humans in which compounds can be bound to plasma proteins 50% human serum is added in the assay. By having the combination of testing mPGES-1 in a cellular environment and the presence of 50% human serum this assay has a higher relevance to judge the therapeutic potential of a mPGES-inhibitor than the pure enzyme assay.

A549 cells (ATCC: CCL-185) are grown to about 90% confluence in F-12K Nutrient Mixture (Kaighn's Mod. Gibco) containing 10% FBS in a humidified incubator at 37°C and 5% CO₂. Cells were detached using Trypsin-EDTA. A549 cells were seeded in a 384-well collagen plate at a density of 7000 cells/well (50 µl) in F-12 medium containing 1% Penicillin-Streptomycin and 50% human serum. The cells were allowed to attach for 3-4h. After that the cells were incubated for 20-24h in F-12k medium supplemented with 50 % human serum, 1% Penicillin-Streptomycin and containing IL-1β at a final concentration of 5 ng/ml as well as 10 nM arachidonic acid in the presence of a vehicle or a test compound. The total volume is 100 µl.

Concentrations of PGE₂ in the cell free medium (10 µl) were measured using a commercially available HTRF kit from Cisbio (as described above). The PGE₂ formation in the absence of test compound was taken as 100%.

IC₅₀ values were derived from at 6-8 point titrations using conventional software.

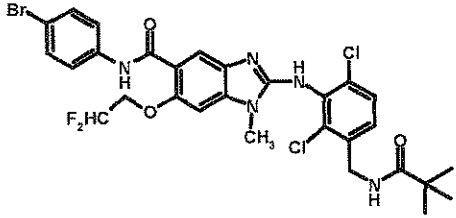
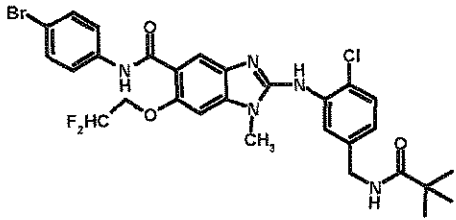
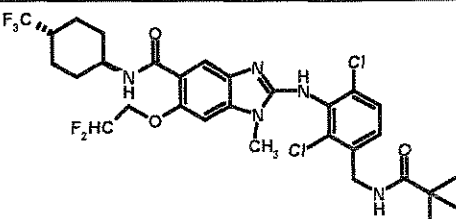
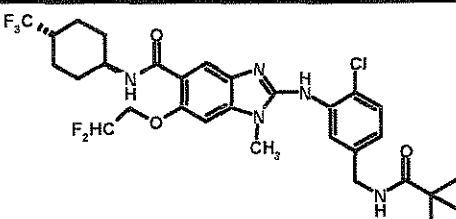
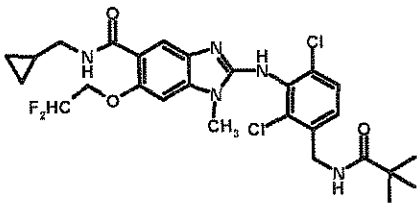
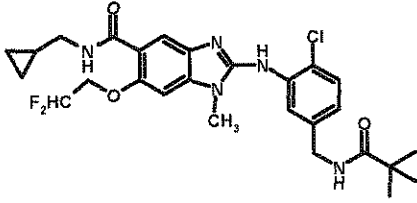
The compounds listed in table B are efficacious to block the generation of PGE₂. Compounds of formula I may therefore be expected to have therapeutic potential to treat inflammatory diseases and associated conditions such as inflammatory/nociceptive pain.

Table B. mPGES-1 inhibitory effect (IC₅₀ values in nM) of compounds in the cell assay

example	IC50 [nM]	example	IC50 [nM]	example	IC50 [nM]	example	IC50 [nM]
1	<1	26	11	51	<1	76	2
2	3	27	124	52	<1	77	12
3	1	28	1	53	1	78	8
4	2	29	<1	54	<1	79	1
5	<1	30	<1	55	<1	80	7
6	2	31	1	56	3	81	50
7	1	32	1	57	<1	82	43
8	<1	33	<1	58	2		
9	79	34	1	59	<1	84	<1
10	4	35	<1	60	<1	85	4
11	4	36	<1	61	<1	86	<1
12	7	37	9	62	1	87	221
13	28	38	<1	63	1	88	68
14	5	39	<1	64	<1		
15	11	40	<1	65	6	90	36
16	106	41	1	66	<1	91	10
17	1	42	<1	67	1	92	9
18	4	43	4	68	1	93	66
19	2	44	1	69	3		
20	14	45	<1	70	16	95	13
21	36	46	1	71	16	96	14
22	1	47	<1	72	9		
23	<1	48	1	73	1	98	2
		49	1	74	1		
25	9	50	1	75	<1	100	52

example	IC50 [nM]	example	IC50 [nM]	example	IC50 [nM]	example	IC50 [nM]
101	11	126	72	151	1	176	<1
102	15	127	85	152	<1	177	<1
103	18	128	26	153	3	178	<1
				154	36	179	<1
		130	3	155	2	180	93
		131	1	156	10		
107	106	132	2				
108	59	133	1	158	<1		
109	57	134	8	159	1		
110	8	135	<1	160	<1		
111	7	136	17	161	2		
112	19	137	4	162	<1		
113	25	138	49	163	5		
		139	27	164	15		
115	300			165	<1		
16	3	141	<1	166	7		
17	20	142	2.5	167	6		
18	11			168	<1		
		144	2	169	1		
20	9	145	7	170	<1		
21	119	146	2	171	4		
22	4	147	4	172	2		
23	3	148	2				
24	28	149	1	174	<1		
25	220	150	1				

Table C. Comparison of enzyme and cell IC₅₀ (nM) of selected benzimidazoles

Structure	Enzym IC ₅₀	Cell IC ₅₀
	2	<1
 of PCT/EP2010/052799	3	10
	2	<1
 of PCT/EP2010/052799	3	17
	4	1
 of PCT/EP2010/052799	2	>200

Tables A, B and C demonstrate that compounds with a similar affinity for the mPGES-1 enzyme as measured in the enzyme assay may have different potencies in the cell based assay.

- 5 Data from a cell based pharmacological assay when compared with data from an enzyme assay are considered to allow for a better predictability and estimation of therapeutic effective concentrations/doses. Compounds of the present invention show high potency in both assays. Consequently, they are likely to be more suitable for the in-vivo use.

10

METHOD OF TREATMENT

- The present invention relates to compounds of formula I which are useful in the prevention and/or treatment of a disease and/or condition in which the inhibition of prostaglandin E synthases, in particular that of the microsomal prostaglandin E₂ synthase-1 (mPGES-1) is of therapeutic benefit, including but not limited to the treatment and/or prevention of inflammatory diseases and/or associated conditions.

- The term "inflammation" will be understood to include any inflammatory disease, disorder or condition *per se*, any condition that has an inflammatory component associated with it, and/or any condition characterised by inflammation as a symptom, including *inter alia* acute, chronic, ulcerative, specific, allergic and necrotic inflammation, and other forms of inflammation known to those skilled in the art. The term thus also includes, for the purposes of this invention, inflammatory pain, pain generally and/or fever.

- Where a condition has an inflammatory component associated with it, or a condition characterised by inflammation as a symptom, the skilled person will appreciate that compounds of the invention may be useful in the treatment of the inflammatory symptoms and/or the inflammation associated with the condition.

- Compounds of the invention may also have effects that are not linked to inflammatory mechanisms, such as in the reduction of bone loss in a subject. Such conditions include osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, Paget's disease and/or periodontal diseases.

- A further aspect of the present invention relates to a compound of formula I as a medicament. Another aspect of the present invention is the use of compounds of formula I for the treatment and/or prevention of a disease and/or condition in which the inhibition of the mPGES-1 is of therapeutic benefit.

A further aspect of the present invention is the use of a compound of formula I for the treatment and/or prevention of inflammatory diseases and/or associated conditions.

The present invention also relates to the use of compounds of formula I for the treatment and/or prevention of the following diseases and conditions:

- 5 1. Rheumatic diseases or autoimmune diseases or musculoskeletal diseases: all forms of rheumatic diseases including e.g. soft tissue rheumatism, rheumatoid arthritis, polymyalgia rheumatica, reactive arthritis, tenosynovitis, gout or metabolic arthritis, bursitis, tendonitis, juvenile arthritis, spondyloarthropathies like e.g. spondylitis, ankylosing spondylitis, psoriatic arthropathy; sarcoidosis, fibromyalgia, myositis, polymyositis, osteoarthritis, traumatic arthritis, collagenoses of any origin e.g. systemic lupus erythematosus, scleroderma,
10 dermatomyositis, Still's Disease, Sjögren syndrome, Felty syndrome; rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease, diseases of blood vessels like vasculitis, polyarthritis nodosa, Behcet's syndrome, giant cell arthritis, Wegener's granulomatosis, Henoch-Schönlein purpura; psoriatic arthritis, fungal arthritis, in particular including pain associated with any of the aforementioned conditions;
- 15 2. Headaches such as migraines with and without aura, tension-type headaches, cluster headaches and headaches with different origins;
3. Sympathetically maintained pain like complex regional pain syndrome Type I and II;
4. Neuropathic pain such as low back pain, hip pain, leg pain, non-herpetic neuralgia, post herpetic neuralgia, diabetic neuropathy, nerve injury-induced pain, acquired immune
20 deficiency syndrome (AIDS) related neuropathic pain, head trauma, toxin and chemotherapy caused nerve injuries, phantom limb pain, multiple sclerosis, root avulsions, painful traumatic mononeuropathy, painful polyneuropathy, thalamic pain syndrome, post-stroke pain, central nervous system injury, post surgical pain, carpal tunnel syndrome, trigeminal neuralgia, post mastectomy syndrome, postthoracotomy syndrome, stump pain, repetitive motion pain,
25 neuropathic pain associated hyperalgesia and allodynia, alcoholism and other drug-induced pain;
5. Cancer pain induced by or associated with tumors such as bone tumors, lymphatic leukemia; Hodgkin's disease, malignant lymphoma; lymphogranulomatoses; lymphosarcoma; solid malignant tumors; extensive metastases;
- 30 6. Visceral disorders such as chronic pelvic pain, pancreatitis, peptic ulcer, interstitial cystitis, cystitis, renal colic, angina, dysmenorrhoea, menstruation, gynaecological pain, irritable bowel disease (IBS), inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, nephritis, prostatitis, vulvodynia, non-ulcer dyspepsia, non-cardiac chest pain, myocardial ischemia;
- 35 7. Inflammation associated diseases of ear, nose, mouth and throat like influenza and viral/bacterial infections such as the common cold, allergic rhinitis (seasonal and perennial),

pharyngitis, tonsillitis, gingivitis, laryngitis, sinusitis, and vasomotor rhinitis, fever, hay fever, thyroiditis, otitis, dental conditions like toothache, perioperative and post-operative conditions, trigeminal neuralgia, uveitis; iritis, allergic keratitis, conjunctivitis, blepharitis, neuritis nervi optici, choroiditis, glaucoma and sympathetic ophthalmia, as well as pain thereof;

- 5 8. Neurological diseases such as cerebral oedema and angioedema, cerebral dementia like e.g. Parkinson's and Alzheimers disease, senile dementia; multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, drug resistant epilepsy, stroke, myasthenia gravis, brain and meningeal infections like encephalomyelitis, meningitis, including HIV as well as schizophrenia, delusional disorders, autism, affective disorders and tic disorders;
- 10 9. Work-related diseases like pneumoconiosis, including aluminosis, anthracosis, asbestosis, chalicosis, ptilosis, siderosis, silicosis, tabacosis and byssinosis;
10. Lung diseases such as asthma including allergic asthma (atopic or non-atopic) as well as exercise-induced bronchoconstriction, occupational asthma, viral- or bacterial exacerbation of asthma, other non-allergic asthmas and "wheezy-infant syndrome", Chronic obstructive
- 15 pulmonary disease (COPD) including emphysema, adult respiratory distress syndrome, bronchitis, pneumonia, adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), pigeon fancier's disease, farmers lung;
11. Skin diseases such as psoriasis and eczema, dermatitis, sunburn, burns as well as aprains and strains and tissue trauma;
- 20 12. Vascular and heart diseases which are inflammation- related like arteriosclerosis including cardiac transplant atherosclerosis, panarteritis nodosa, periarteritis nodosa, arteritis temporalis, Wegner granulomatosis, giant cell arthritis, reperfusion injury and erythema nodosum, thrombosis (e.g. deep vein thrombosis, renal, hepatic, portal vein thrombosis); coronary artery disease, aneurysm, vascular rejection, myocardial infarction, embolism,
- 25 stroke, thrombosis including venous thrombosis, angina including unstable angina, coronary plaque inflammation, bacterial-induced inflammation including Chlamydia-induced inflammation, viral induced inflammation, and inflammation associated with surgical procedures such as vascular grafting including coronary artery bypass surgery, revascularization procedures including angioplasty, stent placement, endarterectomy, or
- 30 other invasive procedures involving arteries, veins and capillaries, artery restenosis;
13. Diabetes-associated symptoms such as diabetic vasculopathy, diabetic neuropathy, diabetic retinopathy, post capillary resistance or diabetic symptoms associated with insulinitis (e.g. hyperglycemia, diuresis, proteinuria and increased nitrite and kallikrein urinary excretion);

14. Benign and malignant tumors and neoplasia including cancer, such as colorectal cancer, brain cancer, bone cancer, epithelial cell-derived neoplasia (epithelial carcinoma) such as basal cell carcinoma, adenocarcinoma, gastrointestinal cancer such as lip cancer, mouth cancer, esophageal cancer, small bowel cancer, stomach cancer, colon cancer, liver cancer, 5 bladder cancer, pancreas cancer, ovary cancer, cervical cancer, lung cancer, breast cancer, skin cancer such as squamous cell and basal cell cancers, prostate cancer, renal cell carcinoma, and other known cancers effecting epithelial cells throughout the body; neoplasias like gastrointestinal cancer, Barrett's esophagus, liver cancer, bladder cancer, pancreatic cancer, ovarian cancer, prostate cancer, cervical cancer, lung cancer, breast 10 cancer and skin cancer; adenomatous polyps, including familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) as well preventing polyps from forming in patients at risk of FAP.

15. Various other disease states and conditions like epilepsy, septic shock e.g. as antihypovolemic and/or antihypotensive agents, sepsis, osteoporosis, benign prostatic hyperplasia and hyperactive bladder, nephritis, pruritis, vitiligo, disturbances of visceral 15 motility at respiratory, genitourinary, gastrointestinal or vascular regions, wounds, allergic skin reactions, mixed-vascular and non-vascular syndromes, septic shock associated with bacterial infections or with trauma, central nervous system injury, tissue damage and postoperative fever, syndromes associated with itching.

Preferred according to the present invention is the use of a compound of formula I for the 20 treatment and/or prevention of pain; in particular pain that is associated with any one of the diseases or conditions listed above.

Another aspect of the present invention is a method for the treatment and/or prevention of above mentioned diseases and conditions, which method comprises the administration of an effective amount of a compound of formula I to a human being.

25

DOSAGE

The dose range of the compounds of formula I applicable per day is usually from 0.01 to 5000 mg, preferably from 1 to 2000 mg, more preferably from 5 to 500 mg, most preferably 30 10 to 250 mg. Each dosage unit may conveniently contain from 2 to 500 mg, preferably 5 to 250 mg.

The actual pharmaceutically effective amount or therapeutic dosage will of course depend on factors known by those skilled in the art such as age and weight of the patient, route of administration and severity of disease. In any case the combination will be administered at 35 dosages and in a manner which allows a pharmaceutically effective amount to be delivered based upon patient's unique condition.

PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULATIONS

Suitable preparations for administering the compounds of formula I will be apparent to those with ordinary skill in the art and include for example tablets, pills, capsules, suppositories, lozenges, troches, solutions, syrups, elixirs, sachets, injectables, inhalatives and powders etc. The content of the pharmaceutically active compound(s) should be in the range from 1 to 99 wt.-%, preferably 10 to 90 wt.-%, more preferably 20 to 70 wt.-%, of the composition as a whole.

Suitable tablets may be obtained, for example, by mixing one or more compounds according to formula I with known excipients, for example inert diluents, carriers, disintegrants, adjuvants, surfactants, binders and/or lubricants. The tablets may also consist of several layers. A further aspect of the invention is a pharmaceutical formulation including a compound of formula I in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

COMBINATION THERAPY

The compounds according to the present invention can be combined with other treatment options known to be used in the art in connection with a treatment of any of the indications the treatment of which is in the focus of the present invention.

Among such treatment options that are considered suitable for combination with the treatment according to the present inventions are:

- non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) including COX-2 inhibitors;
- opiate receptor agonists;
- Cannabionoid agonists or inhibitors of the endocannabinoid pathway
- Sodium channel blockers;
- N-type calcium channel blockers;
- serotonergic and noradrenergic modulators;
- corticosteroids;
- histamine H1 receptor antagonists;
- histamine H2 receptor antagonists;
- proton pump inhibitors;
- leukotriene antagonists and 5-lipoxygenase inhibitors;
- local anesthetics;
- VR1 agonists and antagonists;
- Nicotinic acetylcholine receptor agonists;

- P2X3 receptor antagonists;
 - NGF agonists and antagonists or anti-NGF antibodies;
 - NK1 and NK2 antagonists;
 - 5 - Bradykinin B1 antagonists
 - CCR2 antagonists
 - iNOS or nNOS or eNOS inhibitors
 - NMDA antagonist;
 - potassium channel modulators;
 - 10 - GABA modulators;
 - serotonergic and noradrenergic modulators;
 - anti-migraine drugs;
 - neuropathic pain drugs such as pregabalin or duloxetine.
- Said list is not considered to have a limiting character.

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In the following representative examples of such treatment options shall be given.

- Non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) including COX-2 inhibitors: propionic acid derivatives (alminoprofen, benoxaprofen, bucloxic acid, carprofen, fenbufen, fenoprofen, flubiprofen, ibuprofen, indoprofen, ketoprofen, miroprofen, naproxen, 20 oxaprozin, piroprofen, pranoprofen, suprofen, tiaprofenic acid, and tiroxaprofen), acetic acid derivatives (indomethacin, acetaminophen, alclometacin, clidametacin, diclofenac, fenclofenac, fenclozic acid, fentiazac, furofenac, ibufenac, isoxepac, oxiprinac, sulindac, tiopinac, tolmetin, zidometacin, and zomepirac), fenamic acid derivatives (mefenamic acid, mefenamic acid, and tolfenamic acid), biphenyl-carboxylic acid 25 derivatives, oxicams (isoxicam, meloxicam, piroxicam, sudoxicam and tenoxicam), salicylates (acetyl salicylic acid, sulfasalazine) and the pyrazolones (apazone, bezpiperylon, feprazone, mofebutazone, oxyphenbutazone, phenylbutazone), and the coxibs (celecoxib, valecoxib, rofecoxib and etoricoxib) and the like;
- Antiviral drugs like acyclovir, tenofovir, pleconaril, peramivir, pifosanol and the like.
- 30 • Antibiotic drugs like gentamicin, streptomycin, geldanamycin, doripenem, cephalexin, cefaclor, ceftazidime, cefepime, erythromycin, vancomycin, aztreonam, amoxicillin, bacitracin, enoxacin, mafenide, doxycycline, chloramphenicol and the like;
- Opiate receptor agonists: morphine, propoxyphene (Darvon), tramadol, buprenorphin and the like;

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- Glucocorticosteroids such as bethamethasone, budesonide, dexamethasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, prednisolone, prednisone, triamcinolone and deflazacort; immunosuppressive, immunomodulatory, or cytostatic drugs including but not limited to hydroxychlorquine, D-penicillamine, sulfasalazine, auranofin, gold mercaptopurine, tacrolimus, sirolimus, mycophenolate mofetil, cyclosporine, leflunomide, methotrexate, azathioprine, cyclophosphamide and glatiramer acetate and novantrone, fingolimod (FTY720), minocycline and thalidomide and the like;
- anti-TNF antibodies or TNF-receptor antagonists such as but not limited to Etanercept, Infliximab, Adalimumab (D2E7), CDP 571, and Ro 45-2081 (Lenercept), or biologic agents directed against targets such as but not limited to CD-4, CTLA-4, LFA-1, IL-6, ICAM-1, C5 and Natalizumab and the like;
- IL-1 receptor antagonists such as but not limited to Kineret;
- Sodium channel blockers: carbamazepine, mexiletine, lamotrigine, tectin, lacosamide and the like.
- N-type calcium channel blockers: Ziconotide and the like.
- Serotonergic and noradrenergic modulators: paroxetine, duloxetine, clonidine, amitriptyline, citalopram;
- Histamine H1 receptor antagonists: bromopheniramine, chlorpheniramine, dexchlorpheniramine, triprolidine, clemastine, diphenhydramine, diphenylpyraline, tripelemine, hydroxyzine, methdilazine, promethazine, trimeprazine, azatadine, cyproheptadine, antazoline, pheniramine pyrilamine, astemizole, terfenadine, loratadine, cetirizine, desloratadine, fexofenadine and levocetirizine and the like;
- Histamine H2 receptor antagonists: cimetidine, famotidine and ranitidine and the like;
- Proton pump inhibitors: omeprazole, pantoprazole and esomeprazole and the like;
- Leukotriene antagonists and 5-lipoxygenase inhibitors: zafirlukast, montelukast, pranlukast and zileuton and the like;
- Local anesthetics such as ambroxol, lidocaine and the like;
- Potassium channel modulators: like retigabine;
- GABA modulators: lacosamide, pregabalin, gabapentin and the like;
- Anti-migraine drugs: sumatriptan, zolmitriptan, naratriptan, eletriptan, telcegepant and the like;
- NGF antibodies such as RI-724 and the like.

Combination therapy is also possible with new principles for the treatment of pain e.g. P2X3 antagonists, VR1 antagonists, NK1 and NK2 antagonists, NMDA antagonists, mGluR antagonists and the like.

- 5 The combination of compounds is preferably a synergistic combination. Synergy, as described for example by Chou and Talalay, Adv. Enzyme Regul. 22:27-55 (1984), occurs when the effect of the compounds when administered in combination is greater than the additive effect of the compounds when administered alone as a single agent. In general, a synergistic effect is most clearly demonstrated at suboptimal concentrations of the
- 10 compounds. Synergy can be in terms of lower cytotoxicity, increased pharmacological effect, or some other beneficial effect of the combination compared with the individual components.

15 EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Preparation of examples for compounds of the general formula I

- Unless otherwise stated, one or more tautomeric forms of compounds of the examples described hereinafter may be prepared in *situ* and/or isolated. All tautomeric forms of
- 20 compounds of the examples described hereinafter should be considered to be disclosed.

The invention is illustrated by way of the following examples, in which the following abbreviations may be employed:

25 Abbreviations:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| AcOH | acetic acid |
| aq | aqueous |
| BSTFA | N,O-bis (trimethylsilyl) trifluoroacetamide |
| Boc | tert-butoxycarbonyl |
| 30 Boc ₂ O | di-tert-butyl-dicarbonate |
| CDT | carbonylditriazole |
| CE | chromatography equipment |
| CH | cyclohexane |
| conc | concentrated |
| 35 DCM | dichloromethane |
| DIC | N,N-diisopropylcarbodiimide |
| DIPEA | N-ethyldiisopropylamine |

	DMAP	<i>N,N</i> -dimethylaminopyridine
	DMSO	dimethylsulphoxide
	DMF	<i>N,N</i> -dimethylformamide
	EDC	1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride
5	EtOAc	ethyl acetate
	Et ₂ O	diethyl ether
	EtOH	ethanol
	HBTU	<i>O</i> -(benzotriazol-1-yl)- <i>N,N,N',N'</i> -tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate
	HPLC	high performance liquid chromatography
10	i-PrOH	isopropanol
	KHMDS	Potassium hexamethyldisilazane
	MeCN	acetonitrile
	MeOH	methanol
	MS	mass spectrometry
15	MTBE	methyl- <i>tert</i> -butyl ether
	PE	petrol ether
	PPA	1-propylphosphonic-acid cyclic anhydride
	Pd/C	10% Palladium on carbon
	RP	reversed phase
20	rt	room temperature
	R _f	retention factor
	R _t	retention time
	sat	saturated
	TBTU	<i>O</i> -(benzotriazol-1-yl)- <i>N,N,N',N'</i> -tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate
25	TCDI	thiocarbonyl diimidazole
	TEA	triethylamine
	THF	tetrahydrofuran
	TFA	trifluoroacetic acid
	TLC	thin layer chromatography

Analytical methods

All compounds specified in the examples below gave the correct mass spectra matching the theoretical isotope pattern. For practical reasons, only one of the major isotope peaks is given as representative data for the mass spectrum.

The TLC data is obtained by using the following tlc plates

- a) Silica gel plates 60 F254 Merck No 1.05714.0001 abbreviated in the experimental part as "silica gel"
- b) Reversed phase plates: RP-8 F 254s Merck No: 1.15684.0001 abbreviated in the experimental part as "RP-8".
- c) Aluminiumoxide plates 60 F254 Merck 1.05713.0001 abbreviated in the experimental part as "Alox"

The R_f values given are determined without chamber saturation.

Flash chromatography purifications are performed using silica gel from Millipore (MATREXTM, 35 bis 70 μ m) or Alox (E. Merck, Darmstadt, Aluminiumoxid 90 standardisiert, 63 bis 200 μ m, Artikel-Nr: 1.01097.9050).

The HPLC/MS data, where specified, are obtained under the following conditions:

CE 1:

Agilent HP 1200 with binary pump, Agilent MS 6140, HiPALS1367C

The diode array detection is measured in a wavelength range of 190-400 nm.

Range of mass-spectrometric detection: m/z 100 to m/z 1000.

CE 2:

Waters SQD MS, Acquity UPLC.

The diode array detection is measured in a wavelength range from 210-500 nm

Range of mass-spectrometric detection: m/z 120 to m/z 820

CE 3:

Agilent LC/MSD SL 61956B; Agilent 1100; quaternary. pump;.

The diode array detection is measured in a wavelength range from 190-400 nm

Range of mass-spectrometric detection: m/z 100 to m/z 1000

CE 4:

Agilent HP 100 with binary pump, Waters ZQ2000,

The diode array detection is measured in a wavelength of 210-500 nm.

5 Range of mass-spectrometric detection: m/z 120 to m/z 820.

CE 5:

Acquity UPLC, Waters SQD MS,

The diode array detection is measured in a wavelength of 210-500 nm.

10 Range of mass-spectrometric detection: m/z 120 to m/z 820.

The following methods are used (if not stated otherwise the column temperature is 25°C):

Method A (CE 2):

15 Stationary phase (column temperature: constant at 60°C): Sunfire C18, 2.5. µm, 2.1x50 mm

Mobile phase: E1: water with 0.1% HCOOH, E2: MeCN with 0.1% HCOOH

Eluent gradient:

	time in min	%E1	%E2	flow rate in mL/min
	0.0	95	5	1.5
20	1.20	70	30	1.5
	2.40	0	100	1.5
	2.60	0	100	1.5
	2.70	95	5	1.5

25 Method B (CE 1):

Stationary phase: Zorbax Stable Bond C18, 1.8 µm, 3.0x30 mm

Mobile phase: E1: water with 0.15% HCOOH, E2: MeCN

Eluent gradient:

	time in min	%E1	%E2	flow rate in mL/min
30	0.00	95	5	1.6
	1.00	10	90	1.6
	2.50	10	90	1.6
	2.75	95	5	1.6

Method C (CE 1):

Stationary phase:: As described in method B.

Eluent gradient:

	time in min	%E1	%E2	flow rate in mL/min
5	0.00	95	5	1.6
	2.25	10	90	1.6
	2.50	10	90	1.6
	2.75	95	5	1.6

10 Method D (CE 4):

Stationary phase (column temperature: constant at 40°C): XBridge C18, 3.5 µm, 4.6x50 mm

Mobile phase: E1: water with 0.032% NH₄OH, E2: MeOH

Eluent gradient:

	time in min	%E1	%E2	flow rate in mL/min
15	0.00	95	5	1.5
	2.00	0	100	1.5

Method E (CE 1):

Stationary phase (column temperature: constant at 40°C): Waters XBridge C18, 2.5 µm,
20 3.0x30 mm

Mobile phase: E1: water with 0.15% HCOOH, E2: MeCN

	time in min	%E1	%E2	flow rate in mL/min
	0.00	95	5	1.6
	2.25	10	90	1.6
25	2.50	10	90	1.6
	2.75	95	5	1.6

Method F (CE 3):

Stationary phase (column temperature: constant at 40°C): Zorbax Stable bond C18, 5 µm,
30 30x100 mm; Mobile phase: E1: water with 0.15% HCOOH, E2: MeCN

Eluent gradient:

	time in min	%E1	%E2	flow rate in mL/min
	0.00	95	5	50
	2.00	95	5	50
35	11.00	10	90	50
	12.00	10	90	50
	13.00	90	10	50

Method G (CE 3):

Stationary phase: Zorbax Stable Bond C18, 3.5 μ m, 4.6x75 mm

Mobile phase: E1: water with 0.15% HCOOH, E2: MeCN

5 Eluent gradient:

time in min	%E1	%E2	flow rate in mL/min
0.00	95	5	1.6
2.00	10	90	1.6
5.00	10	90	1.6
10 5.50	95	5	1.6

Method H (CE 5)

Stationary phase (column temperature: constant at 60°C): XBridge C18, 1.7 μ m, 2.1x50 mm

Mobile phase: E1: water with 0.1% NH₄OH, E2: MeCN

15 Eluent gradient:

time in min	%E1	%E2	flow rate in mL/min
0.0	95	5	1.5
0.70	0	100	1.5
0.80	0	100	1.5
20 0.81	95	5	1.5
1.90	95	5	0.2
2.00	0	100	0.2
3.00	0	5	0.2

25 Method I (CE 4):

Stationary phase (column temperature: constant at 60°C): Sunfire C18, 3.5 μ m, 4.6x50 mm

Mobile phase: E1: water with 0.1% TFA, E2: MeCN with 0.1% TFA

Eluent gradient:

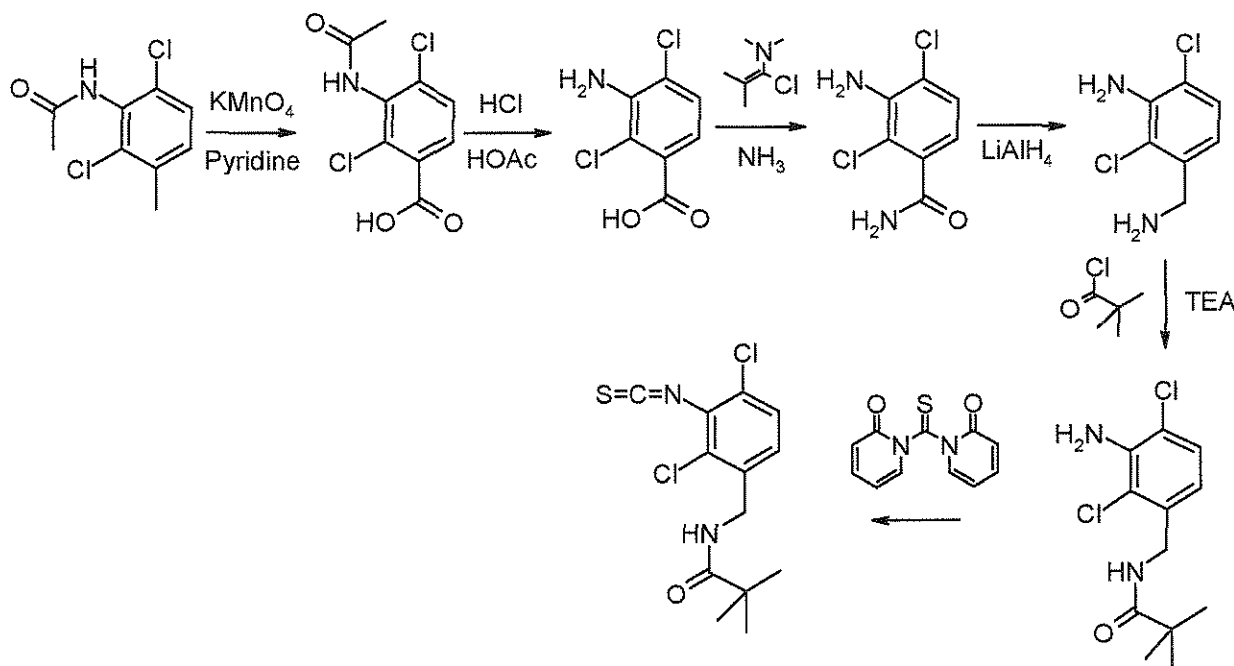
time in min	%E1	%E2	flow rate in mL/min
30 0.0	95	5	1.5
2.00	0	100	1.5
2.50	0	100	1.5
2.60	95	5	1.5

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Synthesis of building blocks of the 2,3,4-trisubstituted benzylamine-type:

Building block A:

5 N-(2,4-Dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide



(a) 3-Acetylamino-2,4-dichloro-benzoic acid

Water (110 mL) is added to *N*-(2,6-dichloro-3-methyl-phenyl)-acetamide (13 g, 59 mmol) in pyridine (30 mL). The mixture is heated to 70°C and KMnO_4 (47 g, 298 mmol) is cautiously added portionwise. After 6 h at reflux the reaction mixture is filtered through a pad of celite and washed with hot water. The filtrate is cooled to rt, concentrated and slowly acidified with 6 M aq. HCl solution. The mixture is cooled in an ice bath, filtered and the filtercake is washed with cold water and dried to give the sub-title compound.

15 Yield: 11.6 g (78%). $R_f = 0.1$ (silica gel, $\text{DCM}:\text{EtOH}$ 9:1). MS m/z : 248 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

(b) 3-Amino-2,4-dichloro-benzoic acid

3-Acetylamino-2,4-dichloro-benzoic acid (21.0 g, 84.6 mmol) is stirred in 6 M aq. HCl -solution (120 mL) and acetic acid (250 mL) at reflux for 24 h. The reaction mixture is cooled, concentrated, diluted with water and concentrated again. The residue is diluted with water, stirred under cooling and filtered. The filtercake is washed and dried to give the sub-title compound.

20 Yield: 16.8 g (96%). MS m/z : 204 $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$. HPLC-method C: $R_t = 1.46$ min.

(c) 3-Amino-2,4-dichloro-benzamide

(1-Chloro-2-methyl-propenyl)-dimethyl-amine (16.1 mL, 116 mmol) is added to 3-amino-2,4-dichloro-benzoic acid (20.0 g, 97.1 mmol) in THF (320 mL). After 4 h at rt the mixture is added dropwise to conc. NH_3 (320 mL) and stirred at rt overnight. The reaction mixture is concentrated, cooled and filtered. The filtercake is dried to give the sub-title compound. Yield: 17.4 g (87%). MS m/z : 205 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$. HPLC-method C: R_t = 1.19 min.

(d) 3-Amino-2,4-dichloro-benzylamine

3-Amino-2,4-dichloro-benzamide (2.00 g, 9.8 mmol) in THF (45 mL) is added dropwise to LiAlH_4 (1 M in THF, 24.4 mL) in THF (45 mL). The reaction mixture is stirred for 1 h at rt and 10 h at reflux. Excess LiAlH_4 is destroyed under cooling as described by L.F.Fieser & M. Fieser Vol 1, p 584 Wiley 1967. After 30 min the mixture is filtered and the filtrate is concentrated to give the sub-title compound.

Yield: 1.85 g (99%). R_f = 0.12 (silica gel, DCM:EtOH 95:5). MS m/z : 191 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

(e) *N*-(3-Amino-2,4-dichloro-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

3-Amino-2,4-dichloro-benzylamine (2.28 g, 11.9 mmol) is added to a mixture of 2,2-dimethyl-propionic acid chloride (1.47 mL, 11.9 mmol) and TEA (4.14 mL, 29.8 mmol) in THF (90 mL) and it is stirred for 3 h. The reaction mixture is concentrated, diluted with EtOAc, washed with 5% aq. NaHCO_3 solution and water, dried with Na_2SO_4 filtered and concentrated to give the sub-title compound.

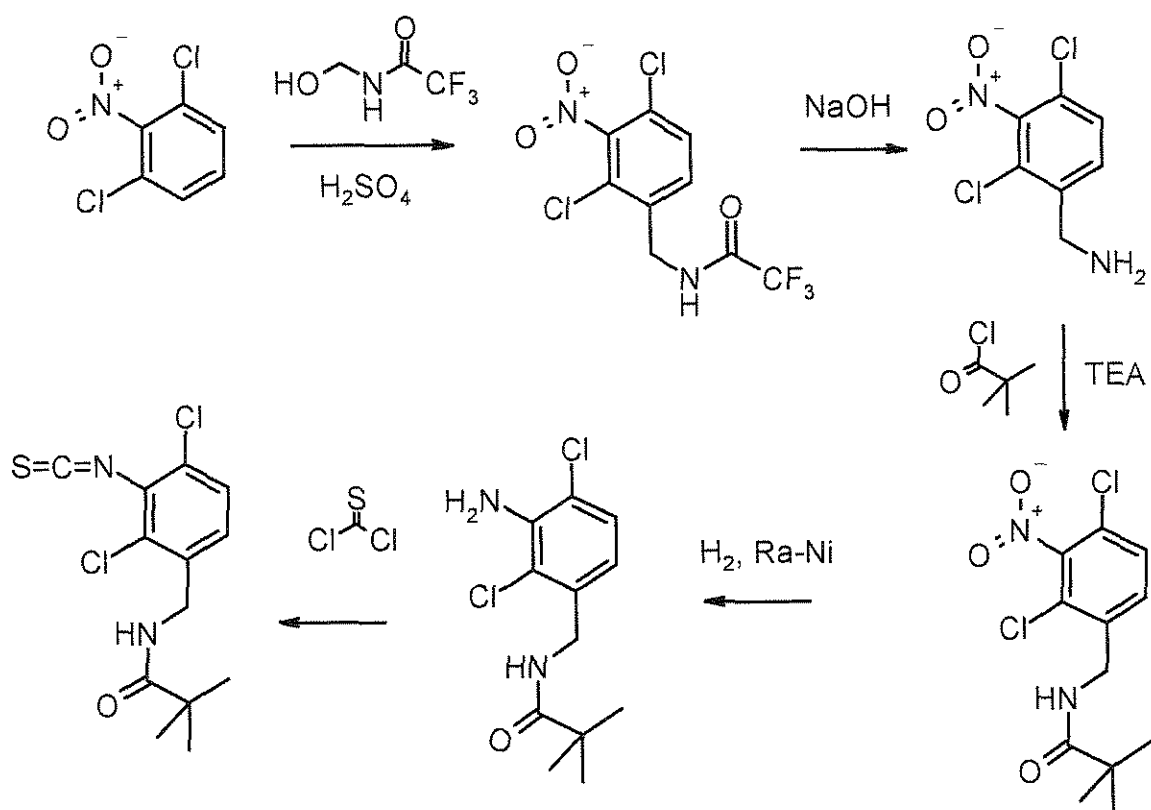
Yield: 3.1 g (94%). R_f = 0.61 (silica gel, DCM:EtOH 95:5).

(f) *N*-(2,4-Dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

1,1'-Thiocarbonyldi-2-pyridone (4.87 g, 21 mmol) is added to a mixture of *N*-(3-amino-2,4-dichloro-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide (5.50 g, 20 mmol) and dioxane (200 mL) and stirred at rt for 2 h and at reflux for 8 h. The mixture is concentrated, diluted with DCM and filtered over silica gel. The filtrate is concentrated to give the sub-title compound.

Yield: 6.00 g (95%). HPLC-method B: R_t = 1.58 min. MS m/z : 318 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

Alternatively, building block A can also be prepared according to the following scheme:



5 (g) *N*-(3-Nitro-2,4-dichloro-benzyl)- 2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide

N-(Hydroxymethyl)trifluoroacetamide (6.6 mmol; 0.946 g) is added to a mixture of 2,6-dichloro-nitrobenzene (0.899 mL; 6.6 mmol) and conc. H₂SO₄ (15 mL) at 75°C. The mixture is stirred at 75°C overnight, poured into ice water and stirred for 1 h. The precipitate is collected by filtration and dried. Yield 0.32 g (15%). MS [M-H]⁻ = 315, HPLC-method B: R_t = 1.43 min.

10

(h) 3-Nitro-2,4-dichloro-benzylamine

A mixture of *N*-(3-nitro-2,4-dichloro-benzyl)- 2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide (0.66 g, impure, content ~50%), 4M NaOH-solution (1.3 mL, 5.2 mmol) and MeOH (15 mL) is refluxed for 4 h. Then the mixture is concentrated, diluted with water, acidified with 4M HCl, filtered, 4M NaOH-solution is added and it is extracted with EtOAc. The organic phase is dried with Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. Yield 0.17 g
MS m/z: 221 [M+H]⁺. HPLC-method B: R_t = 1.02 min.

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(i) *N*-(3-Nitro-2,4-dichloro-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

20 2,2-Dimethyl-propionic acid chloride (0.124 mL, 1.01 mmol) is added to a mixture of 3-nitro-2,4-dichloro-benzylamine (0.28 g, 1.01 mmol) and TEA (0.35 mL, 2.52 mmol) in THF (10 mL) and it is stirred overnight. The reaction mixture is concentrated, diluted with EtOAc, washed

successively with 5% aq. NaHCO_3 solution and brine, dried with Na_2SO_4 filtered and concentrated.

Yield: 0.29 g. MS m/z: 306 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$. HPLC-method B: $R_f = 1.42$ min.

5 (g) *N*-(3-Amino-2,4-dichloro-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

A mixture of 3-nitro-2,4-dichloro-benzylamine (290 mg, 0.95 mmol), Ra-Ni (50 mg) and THF (15 mL) is stirred for 7 h under a hydrogen atmosphere (50 psi). The catalyst is removed by filtration and the filtrate is concentrated.

Yield: 0.26 g. MS m/z: 276 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$. HPLC-method B: $R_f = 1.32$ min.

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(h) *N*-(2,4-Dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

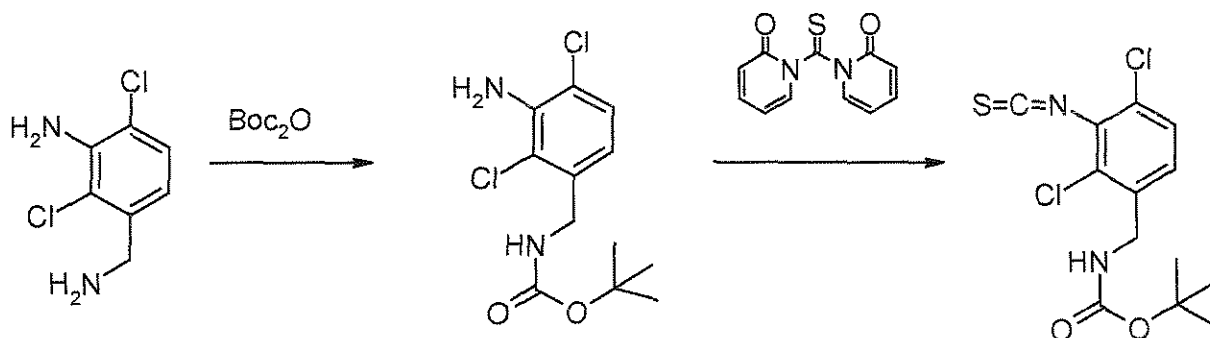
A mixture of *N*-(3-amino-2,4-dichloro-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide (0.95 g, 3.4 mmol) in 4.0 mL dioxane is added to thiophosgene (0.45 mL, 5.8 mmol) in 2.5 mL water. The mixture is stirred overnight, extracted with DCM and the organic phase is washed with 5% aq NaHCO_3 solution and water and dried with Na_2SO_4 . After filtration and concentration, the crude product is diluted with DCM, filtered through a pad of silica gel and concentrated.

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Building block B:

(2,4-Dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester

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(a) (3-Amino-2,4-dichloro-benzyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester

Boc_2O (1.48 g, 6.68 mmol) in 3.3 mL DCM is added at 0°C to a mixture of 3-amino-2,4-dichloro-benzylamine (1.16 g, 6.07 mmol), 6.7 mL DCM and 12.1 mL 1 N NaOH -solution. The mixture is stirred vigorously for 2d and diluted with 5% aq NH_3 -solution. The organic phase is separated and the aq. phase is washed 2 x with DCM. The combined organic phase is washed with brine, dried with Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated to give the sub-title compound.

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30 Yield: 1.71 g (97%). $R_f = 0.65$ (silica gel, DCM:EtOH 95:5). MS m/z: 291 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

(b) (2,4-Dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester

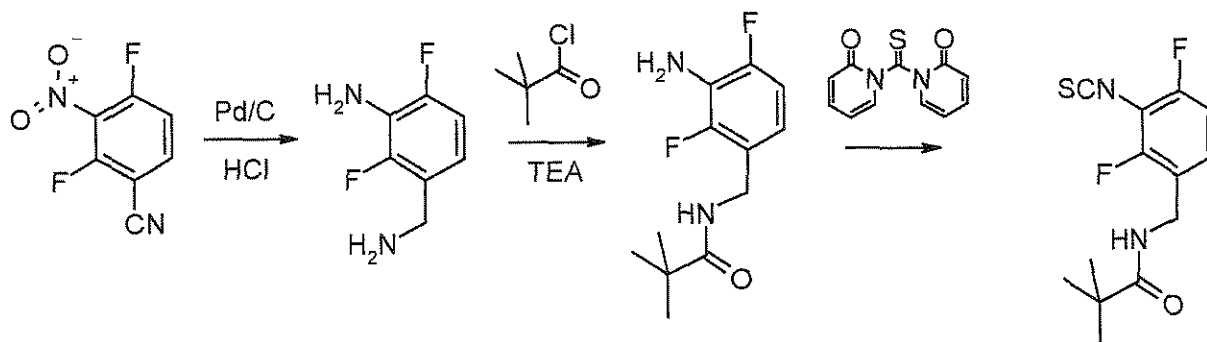
1,1'-Thiocarbonyldi-2-pyridone (0.42 g, 1.8 mmol) is added to a mixture of (3-amino-2,4-dichloro-benzyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester (0.50 g, 1.7 mmol) and dioxane (25 mL) and stirred at rt for 2 h and at reflux for 2 d. The mixture is concentrated, diluted with DCM and

5 filtered over silica gel. The filtrate is concentrated to give the title compound.

Yield: 0.49 g (86%). $R_f = 0.83$ (silica gel, DCM:EtOH 95:5).

Building block C:

N-(2,4-Difluoro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide



10

(a) 3-Aminomethyl-2,6-difluoro-aniline

A mixture of 3-nitro-2,4-difluorobenzonitrile (500 mg, 2.72 mmol), Pd/C (200 mg), conc. HCl (1.50 mL, 18.0 mmol) and MeOH (25 mL) is stirred at rt overnight under a hydrogen

15 atmosphere (3.2 bar). The catalyst is removed by filtration, the filtrate is concentrated and evaporated twice from EtOH to give the sub-title compound as HCl salt.

Yield: 580 mg. MS m/z : 159 $[M+H]^+$.

(b) *N*-(3-Amino-2,4-difluoro-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

20 TEA (400 μ L, 2.86 mmol) followed by pivaloyl chloride (60 μ L, 0.52 mmol) are added to 3-aminomethyl-2,6-difluoro-aniline (120 mg as HCl salt) in THF (10 mL) and stirred at rt overnight. The reaction mixture is diluted with EtOAc and sat. NaHCO_3 -solution, the organic layer is washed with water and brine, dried and concentrated to give the sub-title compound.

Yield: 110 mg. HPLC-method B: $R_t = 1.19$ min. MS m/z : 243 $[M+H]^+$. $R_f = 0.45$ (silica gel,

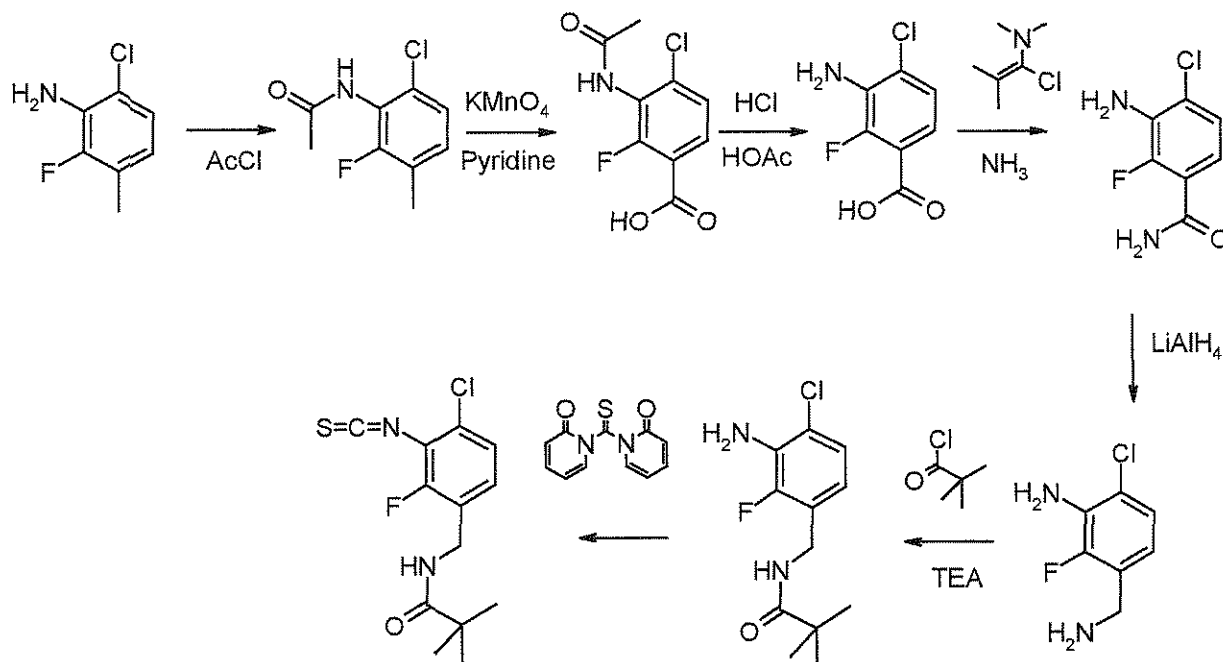
25 DCM:EtOH 95:5).

(c) *N*-(2,4-Difluoro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

A mixture of *N*-(3-amino-2,4-difluoro-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide (570 mg, 2.35 mmol), 1,1'-thiocarbonyldi-2(1H)-pyridone (550 mg, 2.35 mmol) and dioxane (20 mL) is

30 stirred at reflux overnight. The reaction mixture is concentrated, diluted with DCM, filtered through a pad of silica gel and the filtrate is concentrated to give the title compound.

Yield: 440 mg (65%). $R_f = 0.80$ (silica gel, DCM:EtOH 95:5).

Building block D:N-(4-Chloro-fluoro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

5

(a) *N*-(6-Chloro-2-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-acetamide

Acetylchloride (2.56 mL, 36.0 mmol) is added to a mixture of 6-chloro-2-fluoro-3-methylaniline (5.00 g, 31.3 mmol) and toluene (200 mL), additional toluene (50 mL) is added and the mixture is heated to reflux for 3 h. Then it is cooled with an ice bath and the formed precipitate is filtered off, washed with cold toluene and dried.

10

Yield: 4.75 g (75%). HPLC-method B: $R_t = 1.12$ min. MS m/z : 202 $[M+H]^+$.

(b) 3-Acetylamino-4-chloro-2-fluoro-benzoic acid

The sub-title compound is prepared from *N*-(6-chloro-2-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-acetamide and $KMnO_4$ in pyridine in analogy to step Aa.

15

Yield: 49%. $R_t = 0.2$ (silica gel, DCM/EtOH 4:1). HPLC $R_t = 0.93$ min (method B). MS m/z : 232 $[M+H]^+$.

(c) 3-Amino-4-chloro-2-fluoro-benzoic acid

The sub-title compound is prepared from 3-acetylamino-4-chloro-2-fluoro-benzoic acid and 6 M HCl-solution in analogy to step Ab.

20

Yield: 96%. HPLC $R_t = 1.10$ min (method B). MS m/z : 190 $[M+H]^+$.

(d) 3-Amino-4-chloro-2-fluoro-benzamide

The sub-title compound is prepared from 3-amino-4-chloro-2-fluoro-benzoic acid, (1-chloro-2-methyl-propenyl)-dimethyl-amine and conc. NH_3 in analogy to step Ac.

5 Yield: 69%. $R_f = 0.3$ (silica gel, PE:EtOAc 4:6). HPLC-method B: $R_t = 0.97$ min. MS m/z : 189 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

(e) 3-Amino-4-chloro-2-fluoro-benzylamine

The crude sub-title compound is prepared from 3-amino-4-chloro-2-fluoro-benzamide and
10 LiAlH_4 in analogy to step Ad.

HPLC-method B: $R_t = 0.37$ min. MS m/z : 175 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

(f) *N*-(3-Amino-4-chloro-2-fluoro-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

The sub-title compound is prepared from crude 3-amino-4-chloro-2-fluoro-benzylamine, 2,2-
15 dimethyl-propionic acid chloride and TEA in analogy to example Ae.

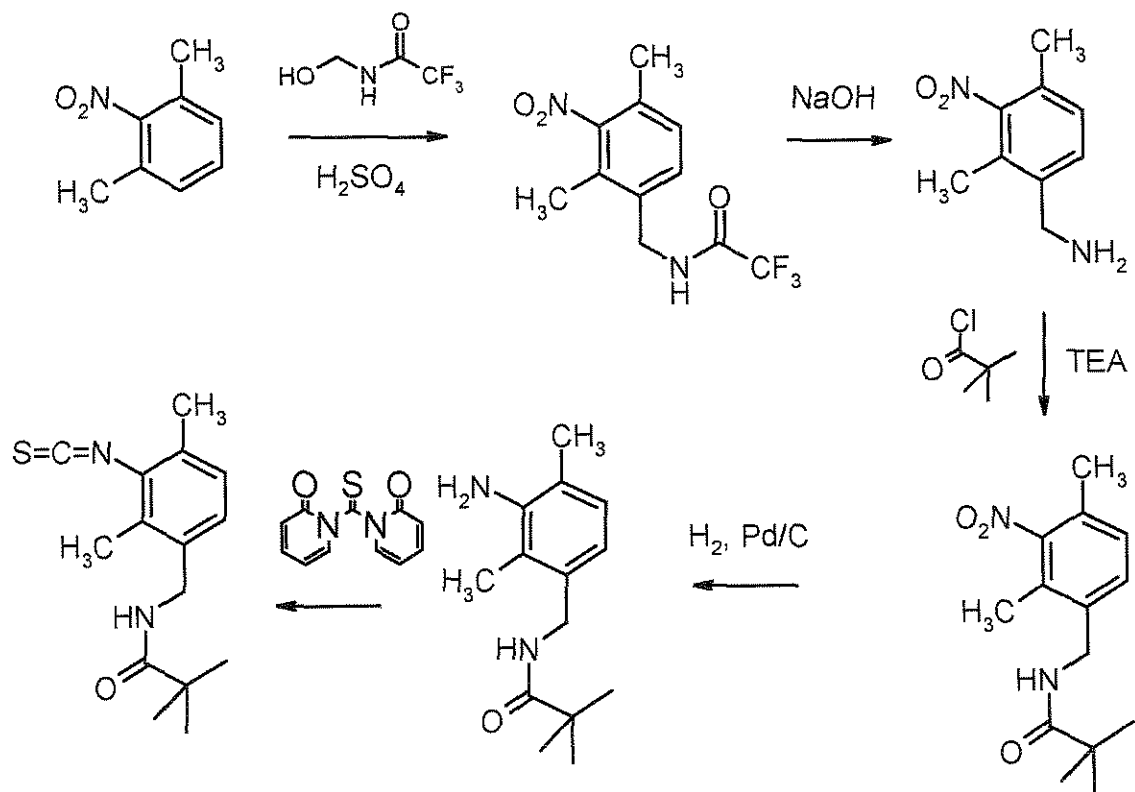
Yield: 36% (side product in 29%: *N*-(3-Amino-4-chloro-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide).
 $R_f = 0.6$ (silica gel, PE:EtOAc 6:4). HPLC-method B: $R_t = 1.27$ min. MS m/z : 259 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

(g) *N*-(4-Chloro-2-fluoro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

20 The title compound is prepared from *N*-(3-amino-4-chloro-2-fluoro-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide, 1,1'-thiocarbonyldi-2-pyridone in analogy to step Af.

Yield: 65%. $R_f = 0.9$ (silica gel, DCM:EtOH 95:5).

Building block E:

N-(2,4-Dimethyl-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide5 (a) *N*-(3-Nitro-2,4-dimethyl-benzyl)- 2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide

N-(Hydroxymethyl)trifluoroacetamide (6.6 mmol; 0.946 g) is added to a mixture of 2,6-dimethyl-nitrobenzene (0.899 mL; 6.6 mmol) and conc. H_2SO_4 (15 mL). The mixture is stirred at rt overnight, poured into ice water and stirred for 2 h. The precipitate is collected by filtration and dried. Yield 1.5 g (84%). MS $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^- = 275$, TLC: $R_f = 0.67$ (silica gel, DCM:EtOH 95:5)).

15 (b) 3-Nitro-2,4-dimethyl-benzylamine

A mixture of *N*-(3-nitro-2,4-dimethyl-benzyl)- 2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide (1.53 g, 5.54 mmol), 4M NaOH-solution (6.9 mL, 28 mmol) and MeOH (30 mL) is refluxed for 2 h. Then the mixture is concentrated, diluted with water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic phase is dried with Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated.

MS m/z : 181 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$. HPLC-method C: $R_t = 1.13$ min.

20 (c) *N*-(3-Nitro-2,4-dimethyl-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

3-Nitro-2,4-dimethyl-benzylamine (1.40 g, crude) is added to a mixture of 2,2-dimethyl-propionic acid chloride (0.682 mL, 5.5 mmol) and TEA (1.92 mL, 13.8 mmol) in THF (30 mL) and it is stirred overnight. The reaction mixture is concentrated, diluted with EtOAc, washed

successively with 2 M aq. HCl-solution, 5% aq. NaHCO₃ solution and water, dried with Na₂SO₄ filtered and concentrated.

Yield: 1.41 g. MS m/z: 265 [M+H]⁺. HPLC-method B: R_t = 1.37 min.

5 (d) *N*-(3-Amino-2,4-dimethyl-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

A mixture of *N*-(3-nitro-2,4-dimethyl-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide (500 mg, 1.89 mmol), Pd/C (50 mg) and MeOH (20 mL) is stirred for 9 h under a hydrogen atmosphere (50 psi). The catalyst is removed by filtration and the filtrate is concentrated.

Yield: 0.42 g. MS m/z: 235 [M+H]⁺. HPLC-method B: R_t = 1.32 min.

10

(e) *N*-(2,4-Dimethyl-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide

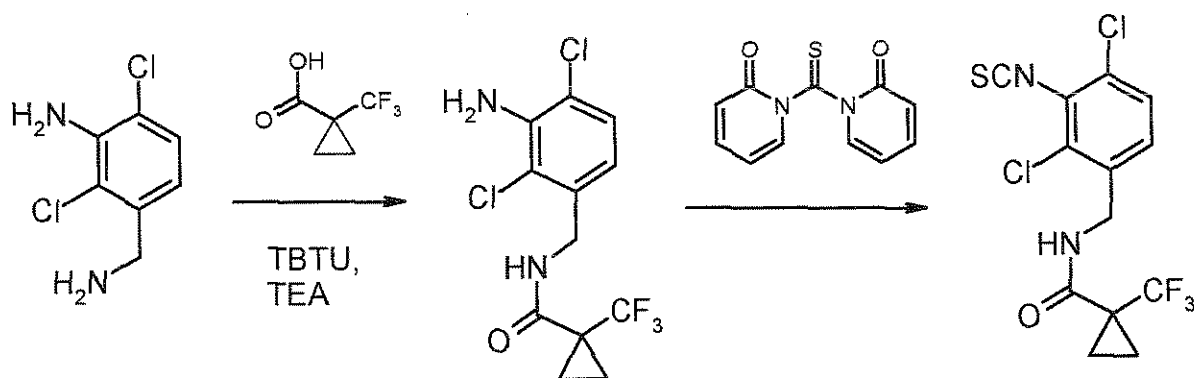
The title compound is prepared from *N*-(3-amino-2,4-dimethyl-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide, 1,1'-thiocarbonyldi-2-pyridone in analogy to step Af.

Yield: 65%. R_f = 0.81 (silica gel, DCM:EtOH 95:5).

15

Building block F:

N-(2,4-Dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-1-trifluoromethyl-cyclopropane carboxamide



(a) *N*-(2,4-Dichloro-3-amino-benzyl)-1-trifluoromethyl-cyclopropane carboxamide

20 The sub-title compound is prepared from 3-amino-2,4-dichloro-benzylamine (0.310 g, 1.01 mmol), 1-trifluoromethyl-cyclopropane carboxylic acid (0.17 g, 1.1 mmol), TBTU (0.39 g, 1.2 mmol) and TEA (0.71 mL) in DMF in analogy to step 1d.

Yield: 289 mg (83%). MS m/z: 327 [M+H]⁺.

25 (b) *N*-(2,4-Dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-1-trifluoromethyl-cyclopropane carboxamide

The title compound is prepared from *N*-(2,4-dichloro-3-amino-benzyl)-1-trifluoromethyl-cyclopropane carboxamide (150 mg, 0.45 mmol) and 1,1'-thiocarbonyldi-2-pyridone (89 mg, 0.38 mmol) in analogy to step Af.

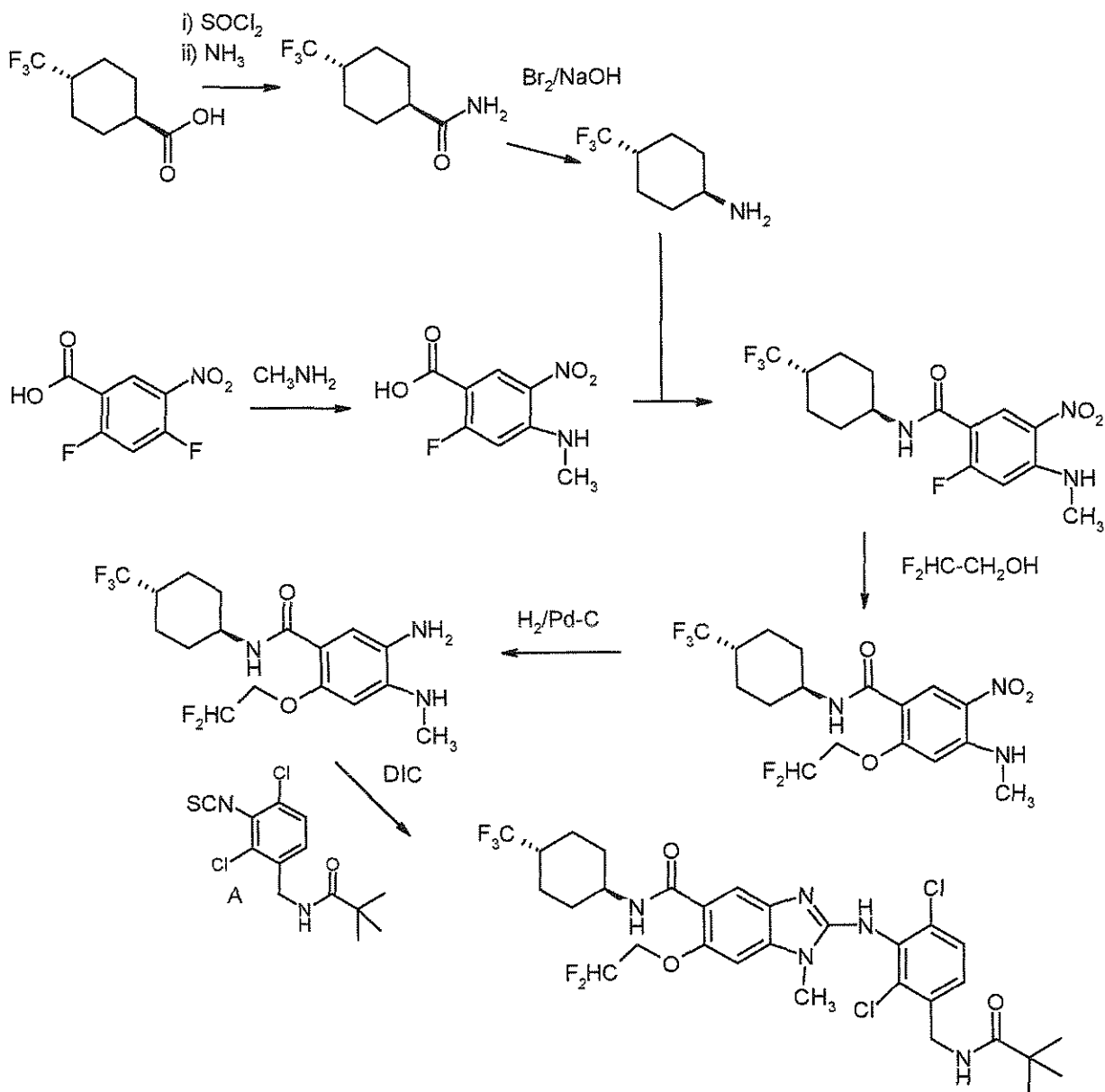
Yield: 92 mg (crude).

30

Example 1

N-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-[2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

5



(a) *trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohexyl-carboxylic acid amide

10 A mixture of *trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohexane-carboxylic acid (10.4 g, 53.1 mmol), SOCl_2 (10 mL, 137 mmol), DCM (100 mL) and DMF (200 μl) is heated to reflux for 1.5 h and concentrated. The crude acid chloride is diluted with 100 mL THF and conc. NH_3 (350 mL) is slowly added. It is stirred for 5 min and the mixture is concentrated and dried at 40°. Yield: 9.7 g.

(b) *trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohexyl-amine

Bromine (2.85 mL, 55 mmol) is stirred for 10 min in 1N aq. NaOH-solution (200 mL), then *trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohexyl-carboxylic acid amide is added and it is stirred for 45 min at rt and for 3 h at reflux. After cooling to rt the mixture is extracted with Et₂O, the organic phase
5 is dried with MgSO₄, filtered, treated with 2N HCl in Et₂O and concentrated to give the sub-
title compound as HCl-salt.

Yield: 8.5 g MS *m/z*: 168 [M+H]⁺.

(c) 2-Fluoro-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzoic acid

10 Methylamine (13.5 mL, 40% in water) is added to an ice-cooled mixture of 2,4-difluoro-5-
nitro-benzoic acid (10.0 g, 49 mmol) in water (100 mL) and it is stirred for 30 min at rt. The
mixture is acidified with 6N aq. HCl-solution and the precipitate is filtered, washed with water
and dried at 60°C. The crude material was recrystallized from MeOH. The final product was
slightly contaminated by its regioisomer 4-fluoro-2-methylamino-5-nitro-benzoic acid.

(d) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzoic acid
amide

A mixture of crude 2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzoic acid (4.88 g containing traces of
regioisomer), DIPEA (11.7 mL, 68.3 mmol), TBTU (8.05 g, 25.1 mmol) and THF (100 mL) is
20 stirred for 15 min, then *trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohexyl-amine (4.64 g, HCl salt) is added and
it is stirred overnight. The mixture is concentrated, aq NaHCO₃ is added and the resulting
precipitate is filtered, washed and dried.

Yield: 8.14 g. *R*_f = 0.3 (silica gel, DCM:EtOH 98:2). HPLC *R*_t = 1.44 min (method B). MS *m/z*:
364 [M+H]⁺.

(e) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-
nitro-benzoic acid amide

A mixture of 2,2-difluoroethanol (2.12 mL, 33.6 mmol), KOtBu (3.84 g, 32.4 mmol) and THF
(100 mL) is stirred for 15 min, then *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-fluoro-4-
30 methylamino-5-nitro-benzoic acid amide (8.14 g, 22.4 mmol) is added and it is stirred for 1.5
h. Water is added to the mixture and THF is distilled off. The resulting precipitate is filtered,
washed with water and dried.

Yield: 8.60 g. *R*_f = 0.35 (silica gel, PE:Et₂O 1:1). HPLC *R*_t = 1.47 min (method B). MS *m/z*:
426 [M+H]⁺.

(f) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzoic acid amide

A mixture of *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzoic acid amide (6.38 g, 15.0 mmol), Pd/C (0.50 g) and MeOH (100 mL) is stirred under 50 psi H₂-atmosphere for 4 h. The mixture is filtered, the catalyst is washed with THF and the combined filtrate is concentrated. The crude mixture is purified by flash chromatography (silica gel; DCM/EtOH 97/3).

Yield: 5.38 g (91%). *R*_f = 0.3 (DCM/EtOH 95:5). HPLC *R*_t = 1.25 min (method B). MS *m/z*: 396 [M+H]⁺.

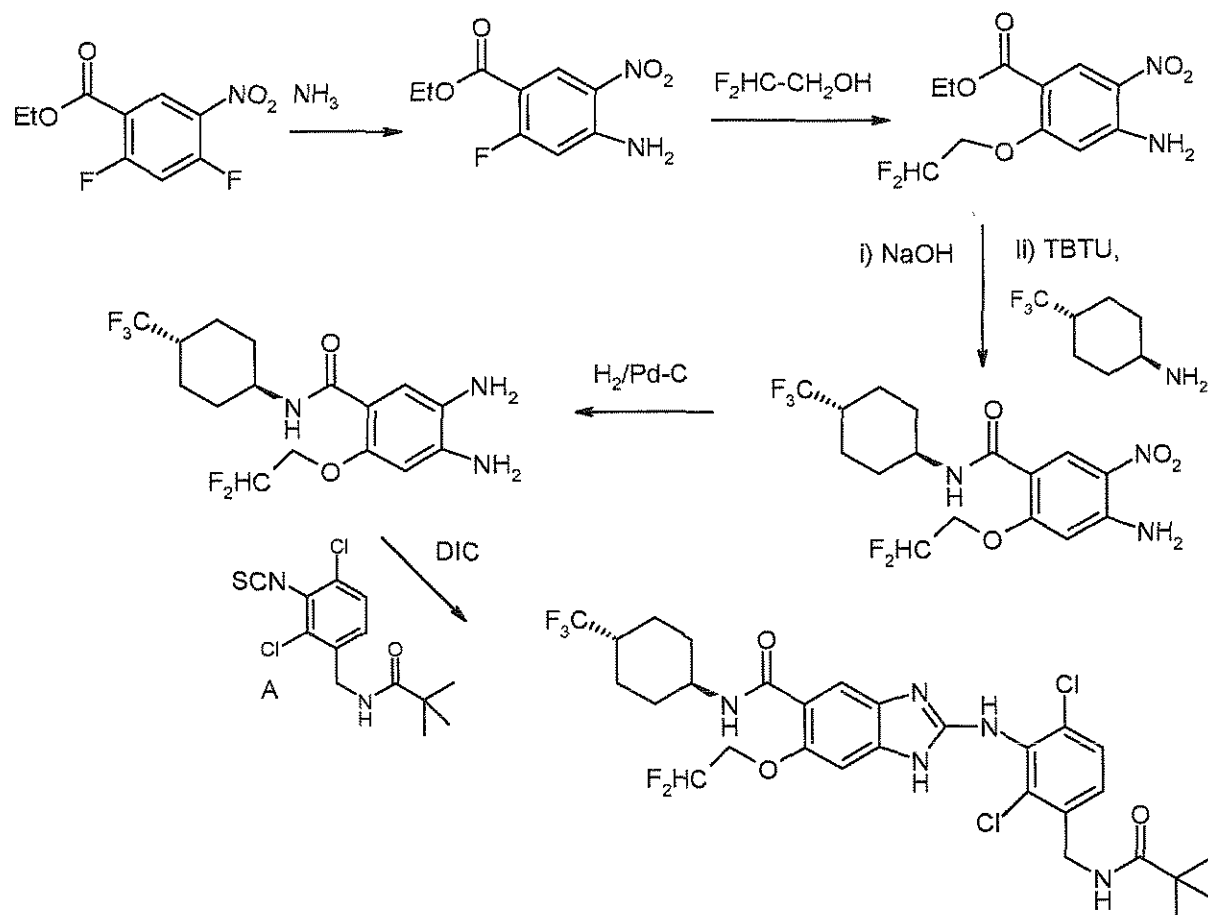
(g) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

A mixture of *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzoic acid amide (200 mg, 0.506 mmol), *N*-(2,4-dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide (160 mg, 0.505 mmol) and DMF (2.0 mL) is stirred for 3h, then DIC (102 µl, 0.658 mmol) is added and it is stirred at 80°C for 2 h. The crude mixture is concentrated and purified by flash chromatography (silica gel; DCM/EtOH 98:2 -> 97:3).

Yield: 0.320 g (93%). *R*_f = 0.35 (DCM/EtOH 95:5). HPLC *R*_t = 1.42 min (method B). MS *m/z*: 678 [M+H]⁺.

Example 2

N-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1*H*-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



5

(a) Ethyl 2-fluoro-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoate

A mixture of ethyl 2,4-difluoro-5-nitro-benzoate (5.0 g, 21 mmol), 5.2 mL conc. NH_3 and THF (25 mL) is stirred for 30 min in an ice bath and overnight at rt. The mixture is concentrated and diluted with water. The precipitate is filtered, washed with water and dried at 55°C to furnish the crude sub-title compound.

Yield: 4.58 g. $R_f = 0.57$ (silica gel, PE/EtOAc 3:2). MS m/z : 227 $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$.

(b) Ethyl 2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoate

A mixture of 2,2-difluoroethanol (0.062 mL, 0.97 mmol), KOtBu (0.108 g, 0.964 mmol) and THF (5 mL) is stirred for 15 min, then ethyl 2-fluoro-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoate (0.200 g) is added and it is stirred for 15 h. Water is added to the mixture and it is extracted with EtOAc. The organic phase is washed with water and brine, dried with Na_2SO_4 and concentrated. Yield: 0.24 g. $R_f = 0.7$ (silica gel, DCM/EtOH 95:5). HPLC $R_t = 1.34$ min (method B). MS m/z : 291 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

20

(c) 2-(2,2-Difluoro-ethoxy)-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoic acid

A mixture of ethyl 2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoate (0.24 g, 0.827 mmol), 4 N aq. NaOH-solution (0.845 mL) and MeOH (10 mL) is stirred for 1.5 h at 70°C. The mixture is concentrated and the residue is diluted with water and acidified with 4N aq. HCl-solution. The precipitate is filtered off, washed with water and dried at 50°C.

Yield: 0.17 g (78%). R_f = 0.4 (silica gel, DCM/EtOH 9:1). HPLC R_t = 1.14 min (method B).

MS m/z : 263 $[M+H]^+$.

(d) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoic acid amide

The subtitle compound is prepared from 2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoic acid and *trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohexyl-amine with TBTU and DIPEA in analogy to example 1d.

Yield: 100%. R_f = 0.7 (silica gel, DCM:EtOH 9:1). HPLC R_t = 1.43 min (method B). MS m/z : 412 $[M+H]^+$.

(e) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4,5-diamino-benzoic acid amide

The subtitle compound is prepared from *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoic acid amide with Pd/C and H₂ in analogy to example 1f.

Yield: quantitative. R_f = 0.4 (DCM/EtOH 9:1). HPLC R_t = 1.19 min (method B). MS m/z : 382 $[M+H]^+$.

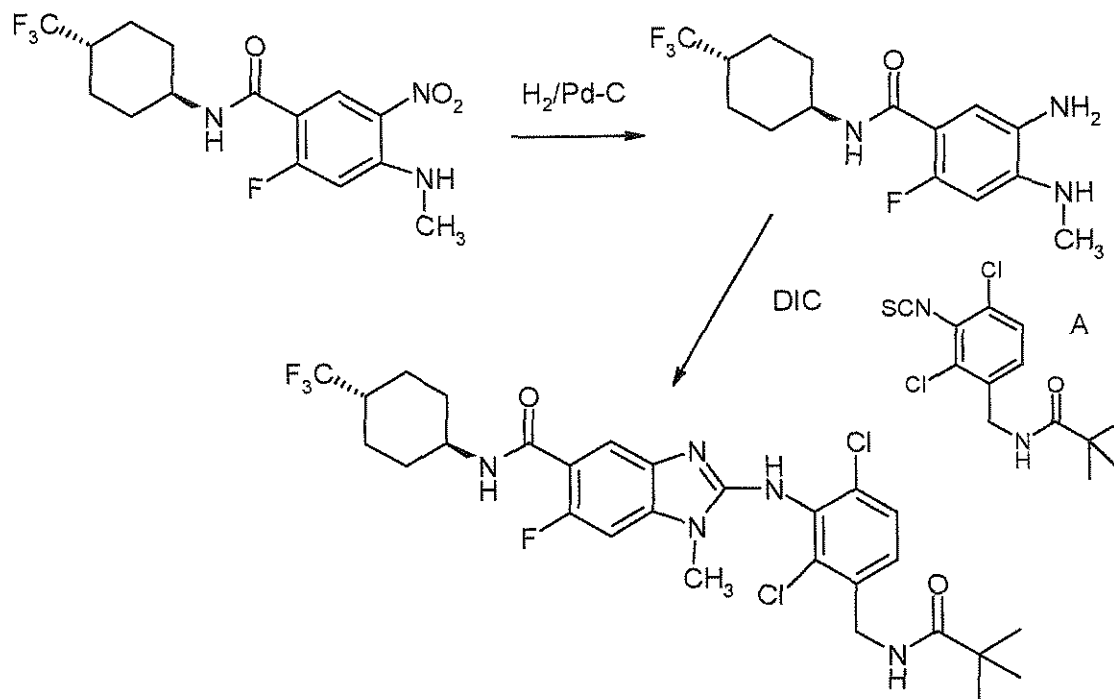
(f) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

The title compound is prepared from *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4,5-diamino-benzoic acid amide and *N*-(2,4-dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide with DIC in analogy to example 1g.

Yield: 43%. R_f = 0.2 (DCM/EtOH 95:5). HPLC R_t = 1.34 min (method B). MS m/z : 664 $[M+H]^+$.

Example 3

N-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-fluoro-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



5

(a) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzoic acid amide

The subtitle compound is prepared from *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzoic acid amide with Pd/C and H₂ in analogy to example 1f.

10 Yield: 98%. *R*_f = 0.25 (DCM/EtOH 95:5). HPLC *R*_t = 1.32 min (method B). MS *m/z*: 334 [M+H]⁺.

(b) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-fluoro-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

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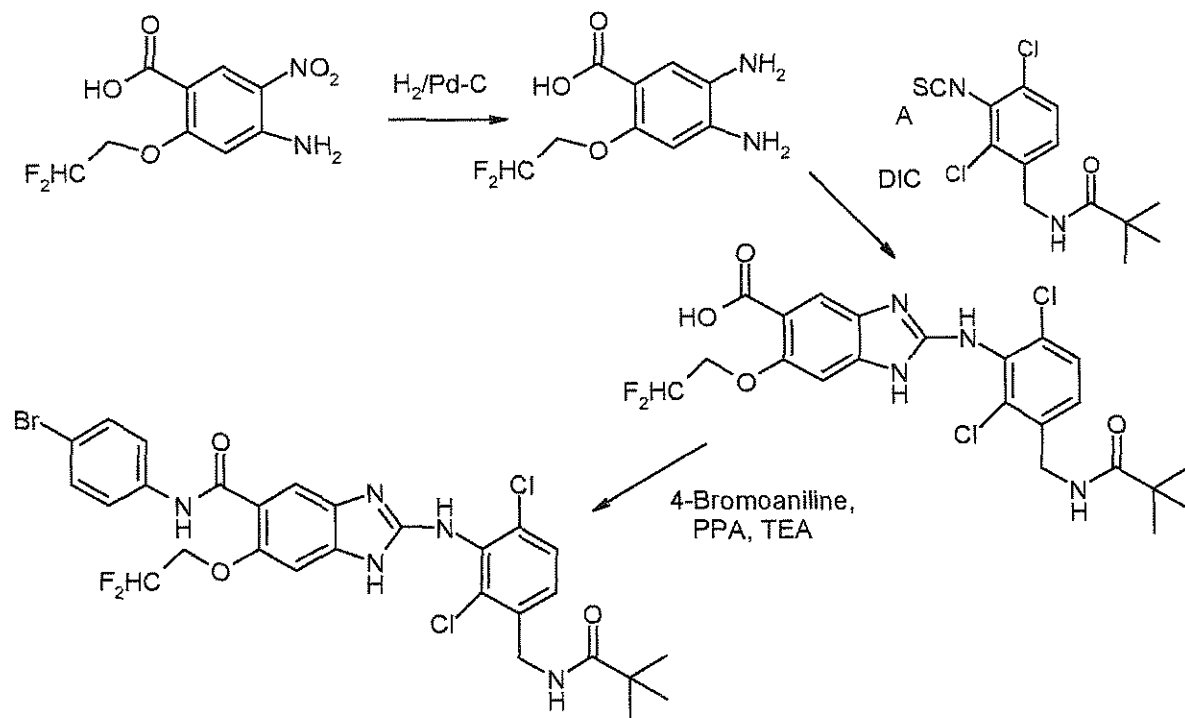
The title compound is prepared from *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzoic acid amide and *N*-(2,4-dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide with DIC in analogy to example 1g.

Yield: 60%. *R*_f = 0.4 (DCM/EtOH 95:5). HPLC *R*_t = 1.36 min (method B). MS *m/z*: 616 [M+H]⁺

20

Example 4

N-(4-Bromo-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



5

(a) 2-(2,2-Difluoro-ethoxy)-4,5-diamino-benzoic acid

The subtitle compound is prepared from 2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoic acid (example 2c) with Pd/C and H₂ in analogy to example 1f.

Yield: 99%. *R*_f = 0.3 (DCM/EtOH 9:1).

10

(b) 2-{2,6-Dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid

A mixture of 2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4,5-diamino-benzoic acid (732 mg, 3.15 mmol), *N*-(2,4-dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide (1.00 g, 3.15 mmol) and MeCN (15 mL) is stirred for 48h, then BSTFA (1.03 mL, 3.15 mmol) is added and it is stirred at reflux for 10 min. Then DIC (0.494 mL, 3.15 mmol) is added and it is stirred for another 4 h. The mixture is cooled to rt, diluted with HOAc and concentrated. The residue is stirred with 1N NaOH, filtered and the filtrate is acidified with 4N HCl, extracted with EtOAc and purified via chromatography [DCM -> DCM + 10% EtOH/HOAc (95:5)] to give the subtitle compound.

Yield: 0.720 g (44%). *R*_f = 0.13 (DCM/EtOH 95:5 + few drops HOAc). MS *m/z*: 515 [M+H]⁺.

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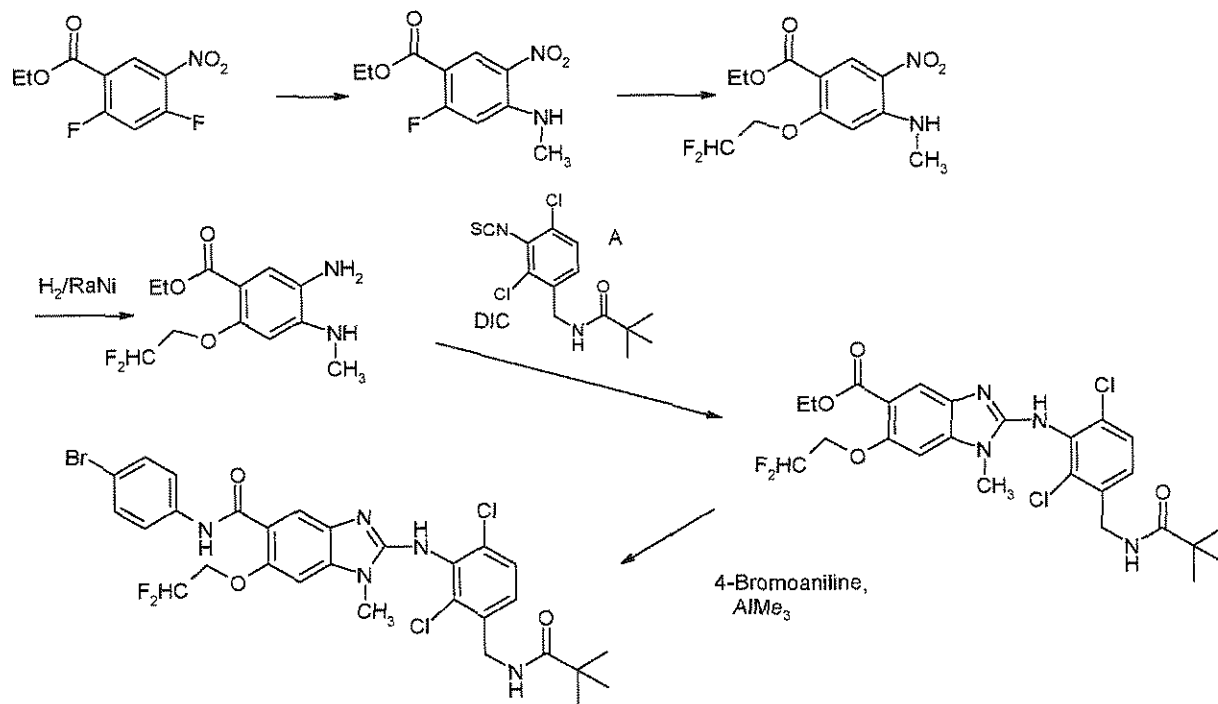
(c) *N*-(4-Bromo-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

PPA (0.223 mL, 50% in EtOAc, ~0.38 mmol) is slowly added to a mixture of 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid (0.150 g, 0.291 mmol), 4-bromoaniline (50 mg, 0.291 mmol), TEA (0.101 mL, 0.728 mmol) and THF (10 mL). The mixture is refluxed for 3 d, concentrated and purified via prep. HPLC (column: Zorbax stable bond C18, 5 μ m, 30x100mm, gradient: water +0.15% HCOOH/MeOH 95:5 -> 10:90) to furnish the title compound.

Yield: 0.043 g (22%). HPLC R_t = 1.67 min (method B). MS m/z : 668 $[M+H]^+$.

Example 5

N-(4-Bromo-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



(a) Ethyl 2-fluoro-4-(methylamino)-5-nitrobenzoate

A 2M solution of MeNH_2 in THF (21.6 mL; 43.3 mmol) is added dropwise to a solution of ethyl 2,4-difluoro-5-nitrobenzoate (5.0 g; 21.6 mmol) in THF (70 mL) at -5°C . The mixture is left overnight at rt whereafter an additional portion of 2M MeNH_2 in THF (10.0 mL; 2 M; 21.6 mmol) is added at 0°C . After 3 h at rt, water is added and the mixture is concentrated. The resulting precipitate is filtered off and dried to give the sub-title compound. Yield: 5.0 g (96%).

(b) Ethyl 2-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-4-(methylamino)-5-nitrobenzoate

A solution of 2,2-difluoroethanol (1.7 g; 20.6 mmol) in THF (50 mL) is added to a solution of ethyl 2-fluoro-4-(methylamino)-5-nitrobenzoate (5.0 g; 20.6 mmol) in DMF (100 mL). Sodium hydride (0.824 g; 60%; 20.6 mmol) is added in portions and the mixture is stirred overnight at rt. A solution of TFA (30 mL; 0.45 M aq) is added and the mixture is concentrated. The resulting precipitate is filtered off, washed with water, dried and recrystallized from EtOH/water to give the sub-title compound. Yield: 4.8 g (76%).

(c) Ethyl 5-amino-2-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-4-(methylamino)benzoate

A mixture of ethyl 2-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-4-(methylamino)-5-nitrobenzoate (2.0 g; 6.57 mmol), Ra-Ni (1.0 g) and THF (100 mL) is stirred under H₂-atmosphere (8 atm) overnight at rt. Na₂SO₄ is added and the mixture is stirred another 30 min under H₂-atmosphere. The mixture is filtered through celite and concentrated and the sub-title compound is used in the next step without further purification.

(d) Ethyl 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid ester

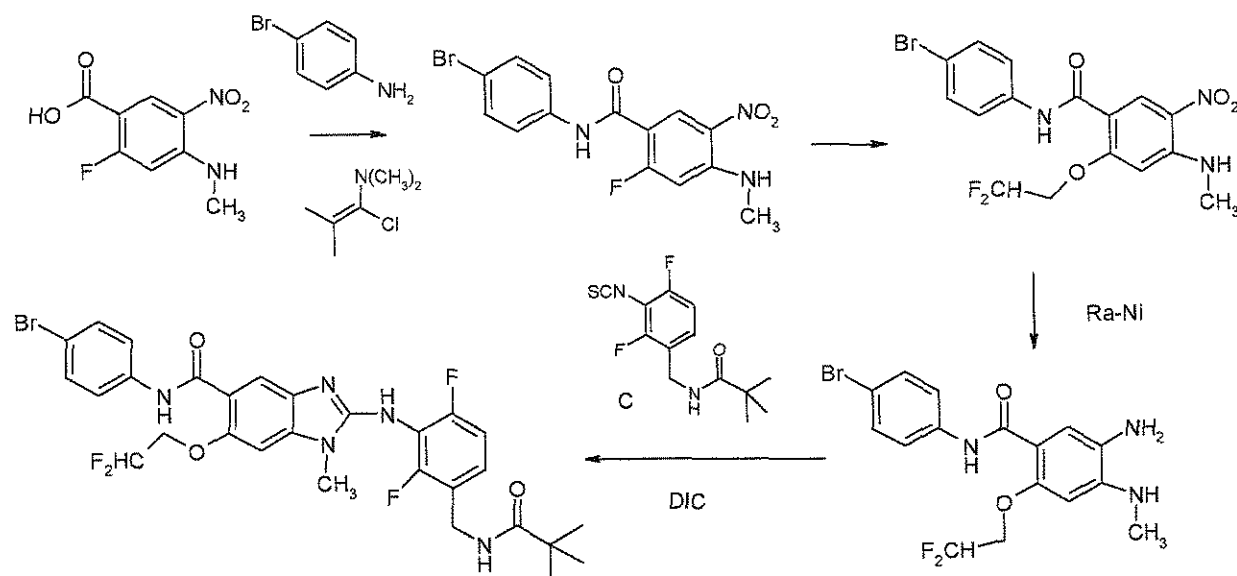
A mixture of ethyl 5-amino-2-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-4-(methylamino)benzoate (0.942 g; 3.44 mmol), *N*-(2,4-dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide (1.09 g, 3.44 mmol) and DMF (5 mL) is stirred overnight at rt. Then DIC (0.695 mL, 4.44 mmol) is added and the mixture is heated for 6 h to 80°C. The mixture is concentrated, diluted with EtOAc, washed with water and the resulting organic phase is dried with Na₂SO₄. After concentration and purification via column chromatography (silica gel, DCM -> DCM/EtOH 97:3) the sub-title compound is obtained

Yield: 1.35 g (71%). R_f = 0.42 (DCM/EtOH 95:5). MS m/z: 557 [M+H]⁺.

(e) *N*-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

Me₃Al in heptane (1.08 mL; 1 M; 1.08 mmol) is added to a solution of 4-bromoaniline (0.139 g; 0.807 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (5 mL) and the mixture is stirred for 30 min at rt. Then ethyl 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid ester in 5 mL 1,4-dioxane is added slowly and the mixture is stirred for 10 h at 60°C, cooled and MeOH is added carefully. The crude mixture is acidified with HOAc, concentrated and purified via chromatography (silica gel, DCM -> DCM/EtOH 95:5).

Yield: 85 mg (46%). HPLC R_t = 2.80 min (method G). MS m/z: 682 [M+H]⁺.

Example 6*N*-(4-Bromo-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-difluoro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide(a) *N*-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzamide

A mixture of 2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzoic acid (0.500 g, 2.34 mmol), (1-chloro-2-methyl-propenyl)-dimethylamine (0.371 mL, 2.80 mmol) and DCM (50 mL) is stirred for 30 min, then 4-bromoaniline (0.402 mg, 2.34 mmol) and DIPEA (0.549 mL, 3.15 mmol) are added and it is stirred for 2 h. The mixture is concentrated, water is added and the precipitate is filtered, washed with water and dried to give the subtitle compound.

Yield: 0.820 g (95%). HPLC R_f = 1.47 min (method B). MS m/z : 368 $[M+H]^+$.

(b) *N*-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzamide

The subtitle compound is prepared from *N*-(4-bromophenyl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzamide, 2,2-difluoroethanol and KOtBu in analogy to example 1e.

Yield: 0.94 g (98%). HPLC R_f = 1.54 min (method B). MS m/z : 430 $[M+H]^+$.

(c) *N*-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzamide

The subtitle compound is prepared from *N*-(4-bromophenyl)-2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzamide, Ra-Ni and H₂ in analogy to example 5c.

Yield: 0.86 g (98%). R_f = 0.40 (DCM/EtOH 95:5). MS m/z : 400 $[M+H]^+$.

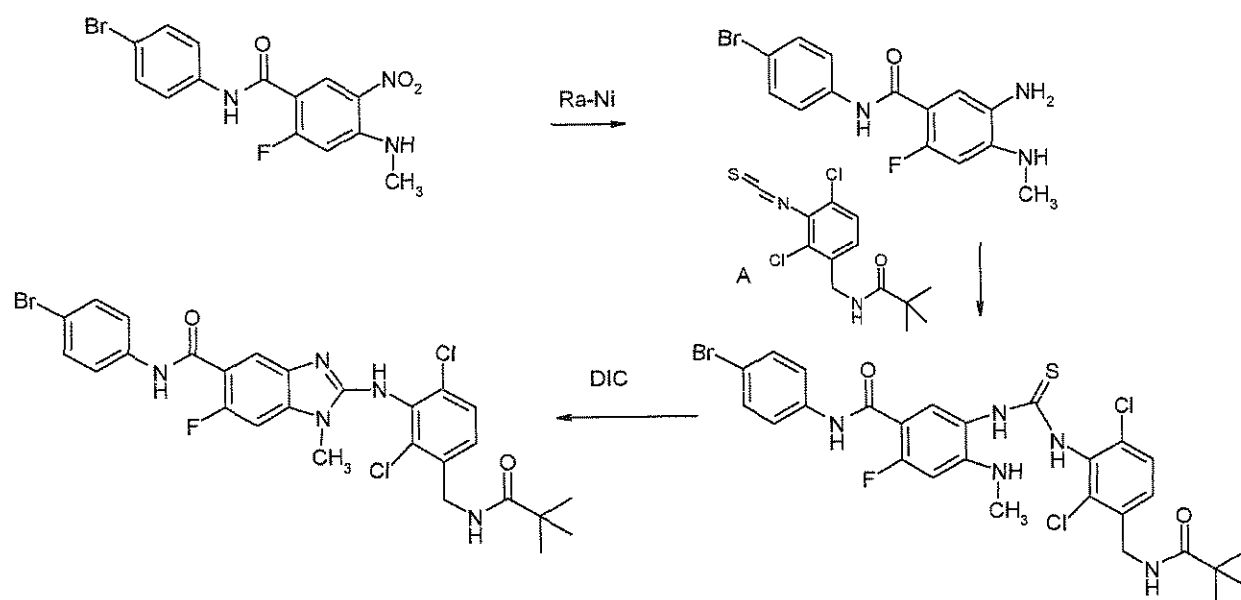
(d) *N*-(4-Bromo-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-difluoro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

The title compound is prepared from *N*-(4-bromophenyl)-2-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzamide and *N*-(2,4-difluoro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide with DIC in analogy to example 1g.

Yield: 0.12 g (52%). $R_f = 0.35$ (DCM/EtOH 95:5). HPLC $R_t = 1.52$ min (method B). MS m/z : 650 $[M+H]^+$.

Example 7

10 *N*-(4-Bromo-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-fluoro-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



(a) *N*-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzamide

15 The subtitle compound is prepared from *N*-(4-bromophenyl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzamide, Ra-Ni and H_2 in analogy to example 5c.

Yield: quantitative. HPLC $R_t = 1.34$ min (method B). MS m/z : 339 $[M+H]^+$.

(b) *N*-(4-Bromophenyl)-5-(3-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenyl}-thioureido)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-benzamide

20 A mixture of *N*-(4-bromophenyl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzamide (220 mg, 0.543 mmol), *N*-(2,4-Dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide (0.172 mg, 0.543 mmol) and DMF (5 mL) is stirred for 3 d, diluted with water, and extracted with EtOAc. The organic phase is washed with water, dried with Na_2SO_4 and concentrated to give the crude product.

25 HPLC $R_t = 1.48$ min (method B). MS m/z : 656 $[M+H]^+$.

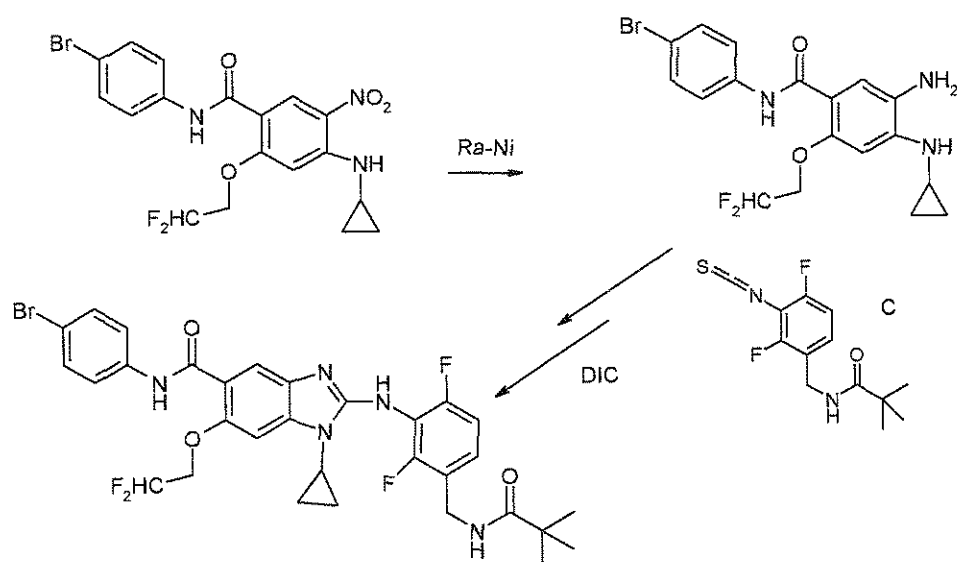
(c) *N*-(4-Bromo-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-fluoro-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

A mixture of crude *N*-(4-Bromophenyl)-5-(3-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenyl}-thioureido)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-benzamide (400 mg), DIC (111 μ l, 0.700 mmol) and DMF (5 mL) is stirred at 80°C for 8 h. The crude mixture is concentrated and purified by flash chromatography (silica gel; DCM $\rightarrow$ DCM/EtOH 97:3) to give the title compound.

Yield: 0.230 g (68%). R_f = 0.34 (DCM/EtOH 95:5). MS m/z : 620 $[M+H]^+$.

Example 11

N-(4-Bromo-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-difluoro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy-1-cyclopropyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



(a) *N*-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-4-cyclopropylamino-5-amino-benzamide

The subtitle compound is prepared from *N*-(4-bromophenyl)-2-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-4-cyclopropylamino-5-nitro-benzamide (prepared from 2,4-difluoro-5-nitrobenzoic acid, cyclopropylamine, 4-bromoaniline and 2,2-difluoroethanol in analogy to the examples 1c, 6a, 1e) and Ra-Ni/H₂ in analogy to example 5c.

HPLC R_t = 1.4 min (method B). MS m/z : 427 $[M+H]^+$.

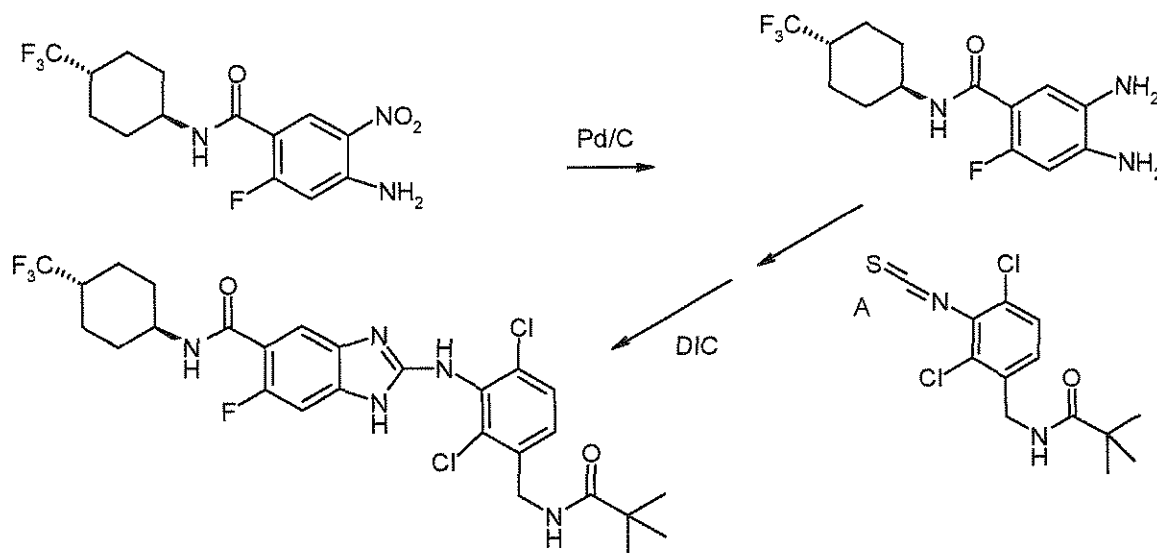
(b) *N*-(4-Bromo-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-difluoro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy-1-cyclopropyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

The title compound is prepared from *N*-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-4-cyclopropylamino-5-amino-benzamide and *N*-(2,4-difluoro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide with DIC in analogy to the examples 7b/7c.

R_f = 0.36 (DCM/EtOH 95:5). MS m/z : 676 $[M+H]^+$.

Example 12

N-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-fluoro-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



5

(a) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-fluoro-4,5-diamino-benzoic acid amide

The subtitle compound is prepared from *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-fluoro-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoic acid amide (prepared from 2-fluoro-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoic acid, *trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohexylamine in analogy to the example 2d) with Pd/C and H₂ in analogy to example 1f.

10

HPLC R_t = 1.58 min (method B). MS m/z: 320 [M+H]⁺.

(b) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-fluoro-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

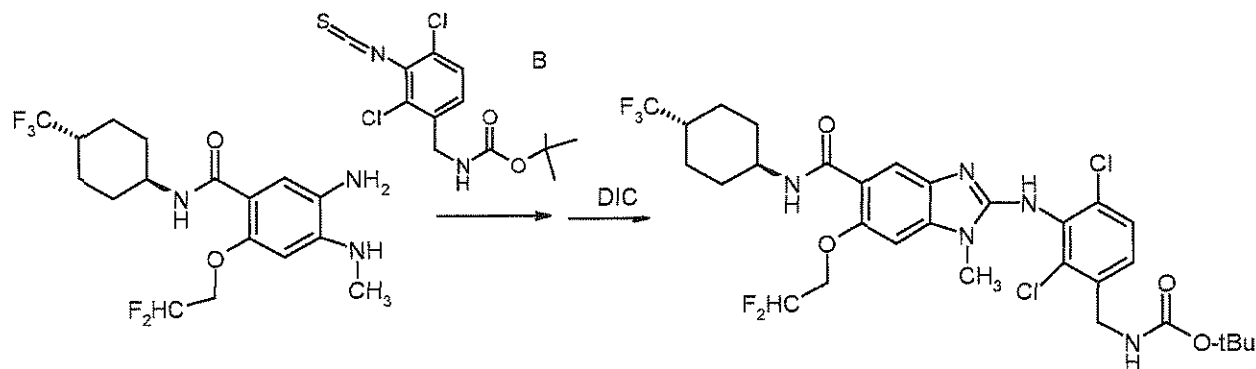
The title compound is prepared from *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-fluoro-4,5-diamino-benzoic acid amide and *N*-(2,4-dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide with DIC in analogy to examples 7b/7c.

15

HPLC R_t = 2.52 min (method G). MS m/z: 602 [M+H]⁺.

Example 13

N-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(*tert*-butoxy-carbonylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

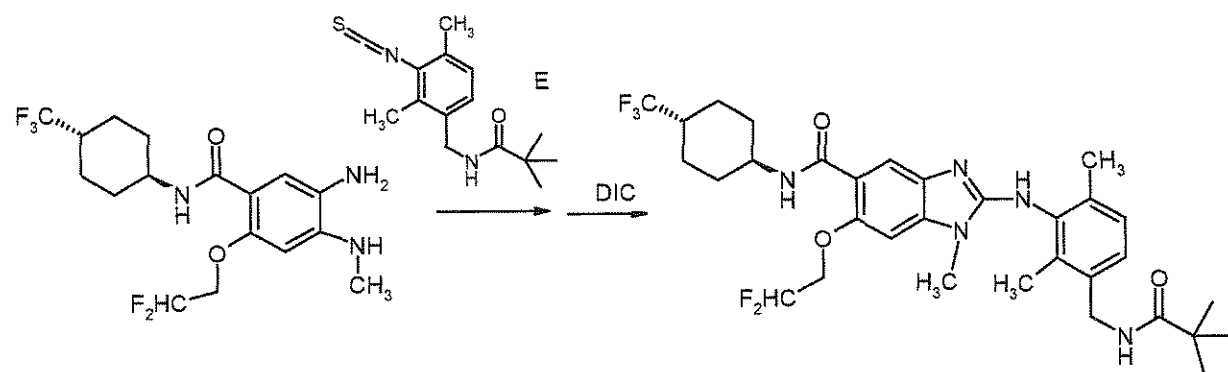


The title compound is prepared from *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzoic acid amide and (2,4-dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-carbamic acid tert-butyl ester with DIC in analogy to examples 7b/7c.

$R_f = 0.25$ (DCM/EtOH 95:5). MS m/z : 694 $[M+H]^+$.

Example 14

N-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-{2,6-dimethyl-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

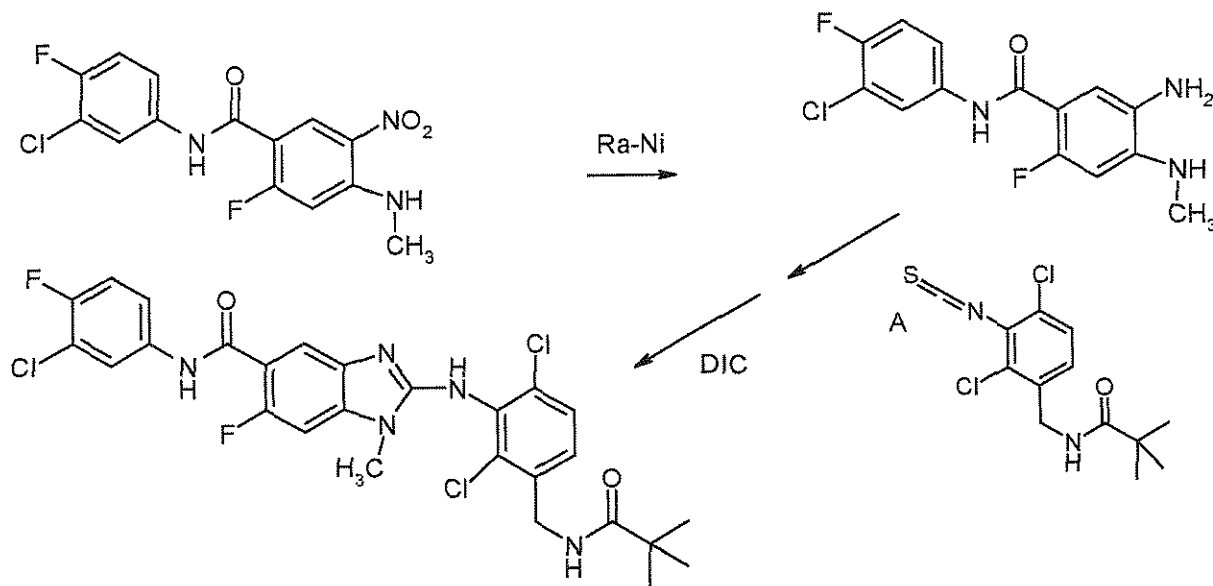


The title compound is prepared from *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzoic acid amide and *N*-(2,4-dimethyl-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide with DIC in analogy to examples 7b/7c.

$R_f = 0.15$ (DCM/EtOH 95:5). MS m/z : 638 $[M+H]^+$.

Example 17

N-(4-Fluoro-3-chloro-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-fluoro-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



5

(a) *N*-(4-Fluoro-3-chloro-phenyl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzoic acid amide

The subtitle compound is prepared from *N*-(4-fluoro-3-chloro-phenyl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzoic acid amide (prepared from 2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzoic acid, 4-fluoro-3-chloro-aniline in analogy to the step 6a) with Ra-Ni and H_2 in analogy to example 5c.
MS m/z : 312 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

10

(b) *N*-(4-Fluoro-3-chloro-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-fluoro-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

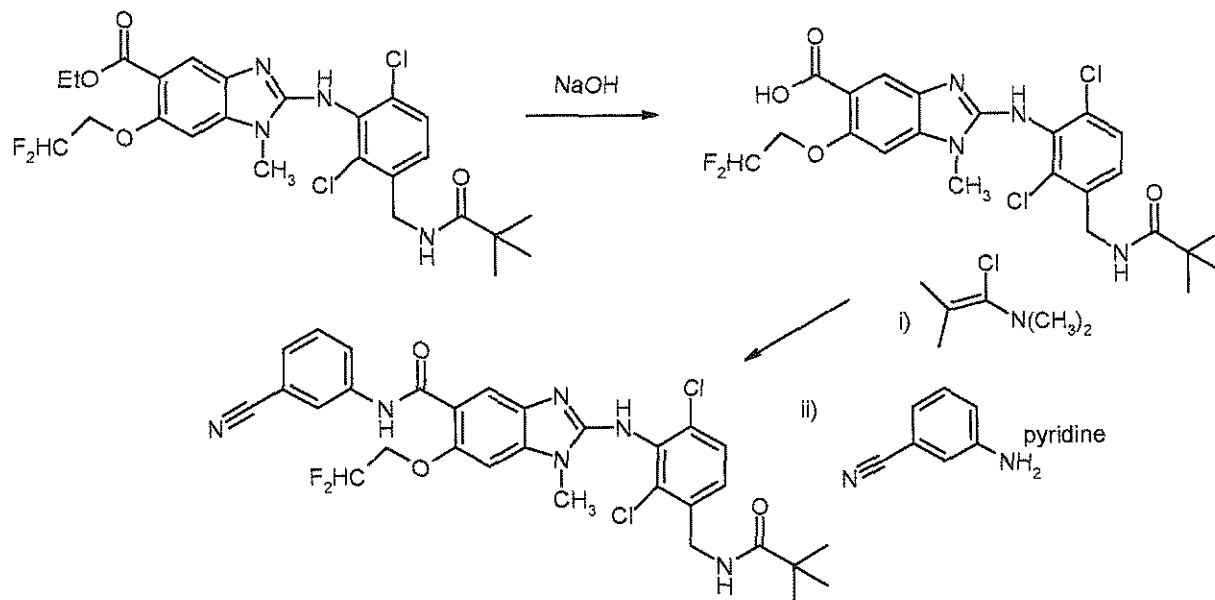
The title compound is prepared from *N*-(4-fluoro-3-chloro-phenyl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzoic acid amide and *N*-(2,4-dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide with DIC in analogy to examples 7b/7c.

15

HPLC R_t = 2.52 min (method G). MS m/z : 594 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

Example 28

N-(3-Cyano-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



(a) 2-{2,6-Dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid

A mixture of ethyl 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid ester (1.170 g; 2.10 mmol), 4 N aq. NaOH-solution (2.10 mL, 8.4 mmol) and EtOH (30 mL) is stirred for 4 d. Then, the mixture is concentrated, diluted with water and acidified with 4 N aq. HCl-solution. The precipitate is filtered, washed with water and dried to give 0.60 g of the product. The filtrate is extracted with EtOAc, the organic phase is dried with Na₂SO₄, and concentrated to give additional 0.23 g of the sub-title compound.

Yield: 0.83 g (75%). HPLC *R*_t = 1.16 min (method C). MS *m/z*: 529 [M+H]⁺.

(b) *N*-(3-Cyano-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

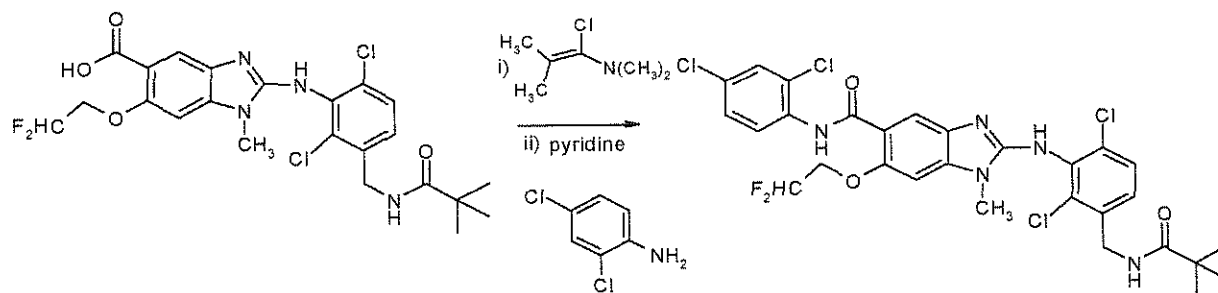
(1-Chloro-2-methyl-propenyl)-dimethylamine (20 µl) is added to a mixture of 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid (53 mg, 0.10 mmol) in 2.0 mL acetonitrile and it is stirred 10 min at rt. Additional (1-chloro-2-methyl-propenyl)-dimethylamine (20 µl) is added and the mixture is stirred for additional 20 min at rt. The crude acid chloride solution is added to a mixture of 3-aminobenzonitrile (12 mg, 0.10 mmol), pyridine (24 µL, 0.30 mmol) and acetonitrile (1.0 mL) and it is stirred for 15 min at rt and additional 5 h at 55°C. The solvent is

removed *in vacuo* and the residue is dissolved in 2 mL of a 19:1 DMF/water-solution and is purified *via* preparative HPLC to furnish the title compound.

Yield: 26 mg (42%). HPLC R_t = 1.65 min (method A). MS m/z : 629 $[M+H]^+$.

5 Example 60

N-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

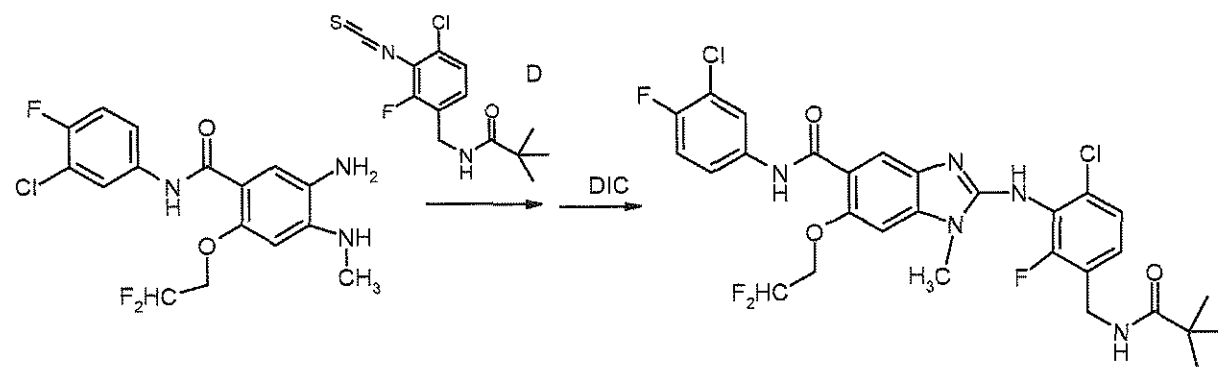


(1-Chloro-2-methyl-propenyl)-dimethylamine (20 μ l) is added to a mixture of 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid (53 mg, 0.10 mmol) in 1.0 mL acetonitrile and it is stirred 15 min at rt. The crude acid chloride solution is added to a mixture of 2,4-dichloroaniline (16 mg, 0.10 mmol), pyridine (24 μ L, 0.30 mmol) and acetonitrile (1.0 mL) and it is stirred over the weekend at 60°C. The solvent is removed *in vacuo* and the residue is dissolved in 2 mL of a 9:1 DMF/water-solution and is purified *via* preparative HPLC.

Yield: 53 mg (79%). HPLC R_t = 2.83 min (method D). MS m/z : 672 $[M+H]^+$.

Example 75

N-(3-Chloro-4-fluoro-phenyl)- 2-{6-chloro-2-fluoro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

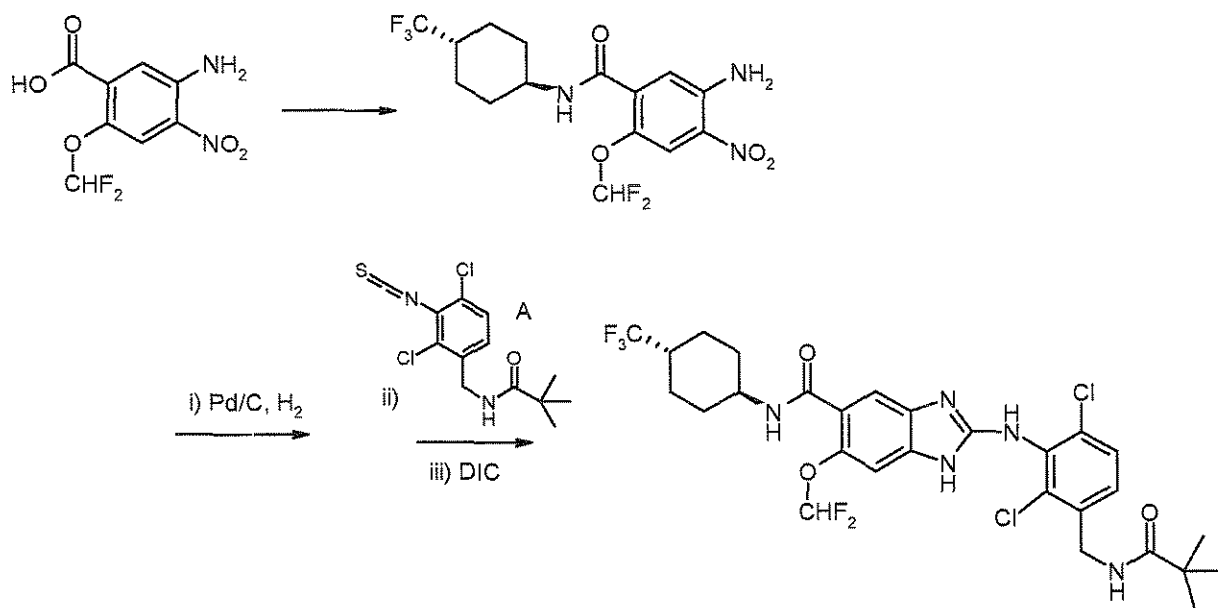


A mixture of *N*-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-2-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzamide (60 mg, 0.161 mmol, prepared from 3-chloro-4-fluoro-aniline, 2,2-difluoroethanol and 2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-nitro benzoic acid according to the sequence 1d-1f), *N*-(4-chloro-2-fluoro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide (0.48 mg, 0.161 mmol) and DMF (2 mL) is stirred for 3 h. Then DIC (25 μ L, 0.16 mmol) is added and it is stirred at 80°C overnight. The crude mixture is concentrated and purified by flash chromatography (silica gel; DCM $\rightarrow$ DCM/EtOH 98:2).

Yield: 80 mg (78%). R_f = 0.45 (DCM/EtOH 95:5). HPLC R_t = 1.48 min (method B). MS m/z : 640 $[M+H]^+$.

Example 78

N-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]- phenylamino}-6-(difluoromethoxy)-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



a) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-(difluoromethoxy)-5-amino-4-nitro-benzoic acid amide

(1-Chloro-2-methyl-propenyl)-dimethylamine (102 μ L) is added to a mixture of 2-(difluoromethoxy)-5-amino-4-nitro-benzoic acid (175 mg, 0.705 mmol, prepared in analogy to WO2010/034797), 5 mL THF and 10 mL DCM and it is stirred for 5 h. Then *trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohexylamine (158 mg, 0.776 mmol) and pyridine (139 μ L, 1.77 mmol) are added and it is stirred overnight. The solvent is removed *i. vac.*, half-saturated aq. NaHCO₃ – solution is added and it is extracted with DCM. The organic layers are dried with Na₂SO₄, filtered, concentrated and purified *via* preparative HPLC (Method F).

Yield: 70 mg (25%). HPLC R_t = 2.06 min (method E). MS m/z : 398 $[M+H]^+$.

b) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]- phenylamino}-6-(difluoromethoxy)-1*H*-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

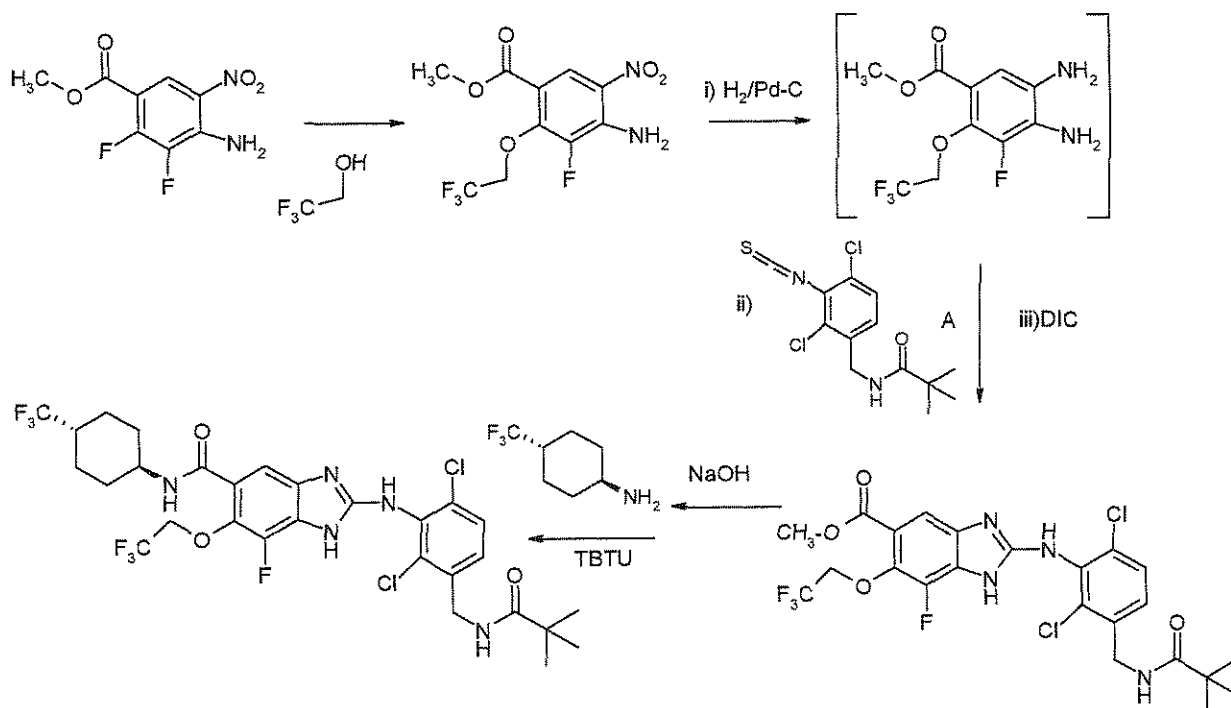
- 5 A mixture of *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)-2-(difluoromethoxy)-5-amino-4-nitro-benzoic acid amide (70 mg, 0.176 mmol), Pd/C (15 mg) and 10 mL THF is stirred under a H₂-atmosphere (3 bar) for 2h. The crude mixture is filtered into a flask charged with *N*-(2,4-dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide (59 mg, 0.185 mmol) and the filter cake is washed with 40 mL THF. The mixture is stirred for 4 h at rt and overnight at
- 10 60°C. Then the reaction mixture is concentrated to ~10 mL and stirred for additional 8 h at 60°C. Then it is concentrated i.vac., diluted with MeCN (2.0 mL) and DIC (29 µl, 0.186 mmol) is added and it is stirred for 4 d. Then the mixture is concentrated, diluted with DMF and THF and purified via HPLC.

Yield: 34 mg (30%). HPLC R_t = 2.00 min (method E). MS m/z: 650 [M+H]⁺.

15

Example 79

N-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]- phenylamino}-6-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)-7-fluoro-1*H*-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



20

(a) 2-(2,2,3-Trifluoro-ethoxy)-3-fluoro-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoic acid methyl ester

A mixture of 2,2,2-trifluoroethanol (0.377 mL, 5.2 mmol), KOtBu (0.580 g, 0.5.2 mmol) and THF (20 mL) is stirred for 15 min at 0°C, then methyl 2,3-difluoro-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoate
5 (1.00 g) in THF (20 mL) is added and it is stirred for 15 h at rt. Water is added to the mixture and the mixture is concentrated. The resulting precipitate is filtered, washed with water and dried at 50°C.

Yield: 1.15 g (86%). HPLC R_t = 1.95 min (method E). MS m/z : 313 $[M+H]^+$.

10 (b) 2-{2,6-Dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]- phenylamino}-6-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)-7-fluoro-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid methyl ester

The subtitle compound is prepared from 2-(2,2,3-trifluoro-ethoxy)-3-fluoro-4-amino-5-nitro-benzoic acid methyl ester in analogy to 78b using i) Pd/C and H_2 ; ii) *N*-(2,4-dichloro-3-isothiocyanato-benzyl)- 2,2-dimethyl-propionamide and iii) DIC.

15 Yield: 90 mg (45%). HPLC R_t = 2.01 min (method E). MS m/z : 565 $[M+H]^+$.

(c) 2-{2,6-Dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]- phenylamino}-6-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)-7-fluoro-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid

The subtitle compound is prepared from 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-

20 methyl]- phenylamino}-6-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)-7-fluoro-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid methyl ester and NaOH in analogy to example 28a.

Yield: 60 mg (62%). HPLC R_t = 1.81 min (method E). MS m/z : 551 $[M+H]^+$.

(d) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-

25 propionylamino)-methyl]- phenylamino}-6-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)-7-fluoro-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

A mixture of 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]- phenylamino}-6-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)-7-fluoro-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid (60 mg, 0.109 mmol), TBTU

(36.7 mg, 0.114 mmol), DIPEA (66 μ L, 0.38 mmol) and DMF (1 mL) is stirred for 30 min, then

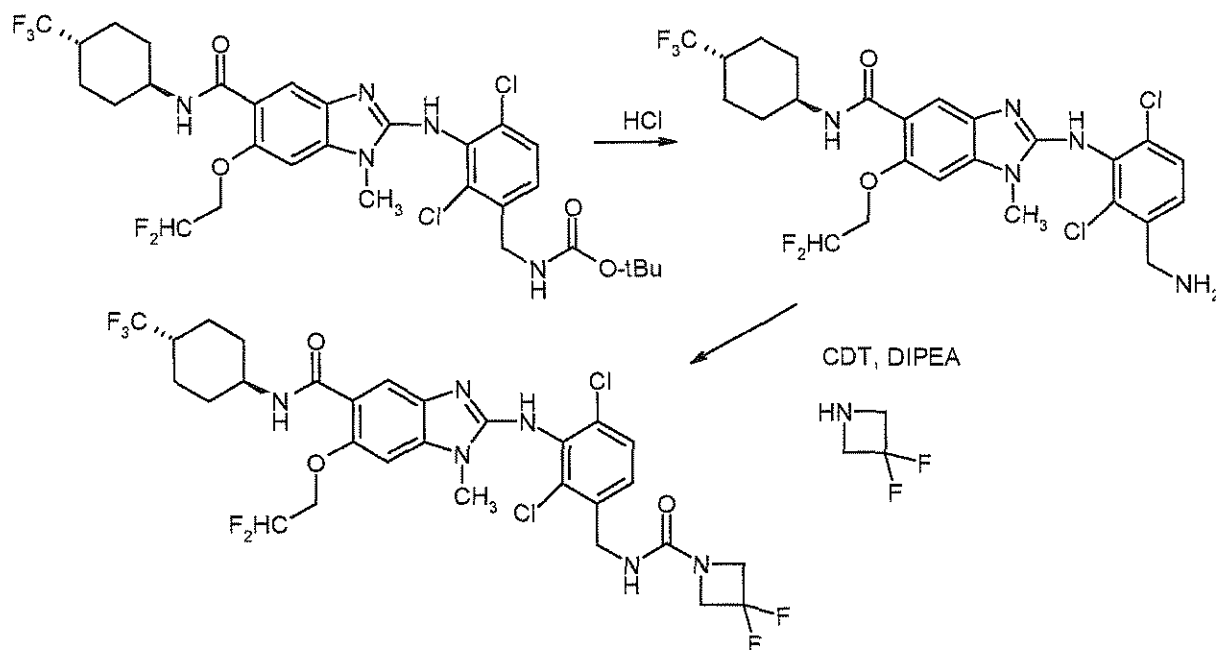
30 *trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohexylamine (24 mg, HCl salt) is added and it is stirred for 1 h.

The mixture is diluted with EtOAc, washed with satd. aq. $NaHCO_3$ -solution, dried with Na_2SO_4 and concentrated to give the title compound.

Yield: 76 mg (100%). HPLC R_t = 2.24 min (method E). MS m/z : 700 $[M+H]^+$.

Example 80

N-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(3,3-difluoro-azetidine-1-carboxylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



(a) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-(2,6-dichloro-3-aminomethyl-phenylamino)-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

A mixture of *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(*tert*-butoxycarbonylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide (350 mg, 0.504 mmol), 6 M aq. HCl-solution (15 mL) and THF (15 mL) is stirred overnight, the mixture is concentrated and directly used in the next step.

Yield: 320 mg (quantitative). HPLC $R_t = 1.23$ min (method B). MS m/z : 594 $[M+H]^+$.

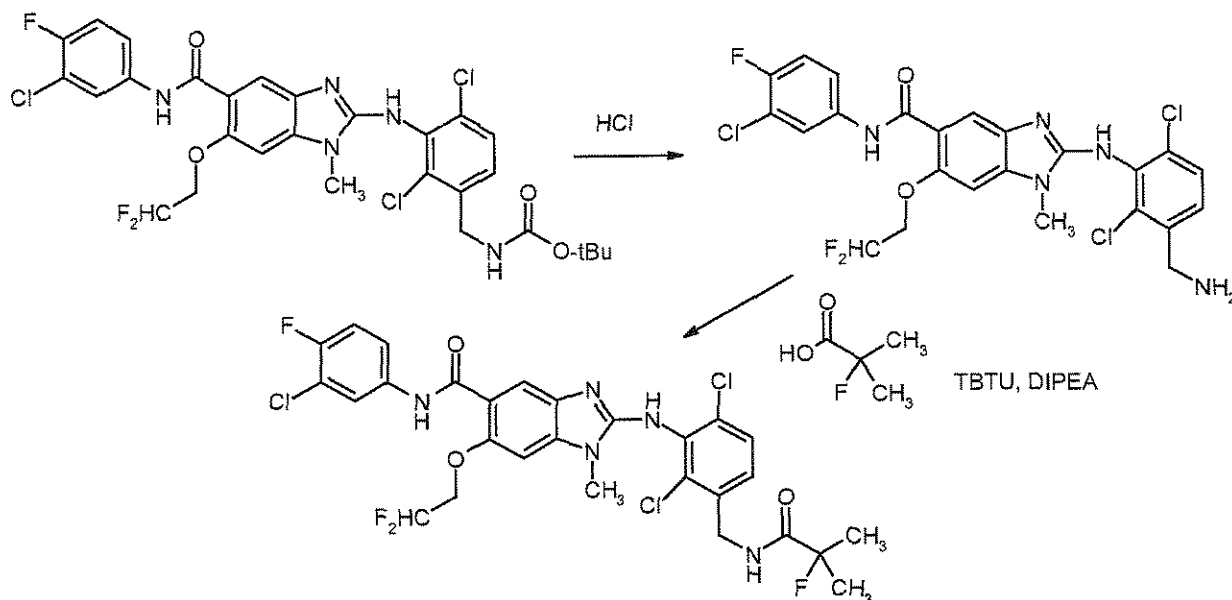
(b) *N*-(*trans*-4-Trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(3,3-difluoro-azetidine-1-carboxylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

CDT (45 mg, 90%) is added to an ice-cooled mixture of crude *N*-(*trans*-4-trifluoromethyl-cyclohex-1-yl)- 2-(2,6-dichloro-3-aminomethyl-phenylamino)-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide (140 mg), DIPEA (0.12 mL, 0.68 mmol) and THF (5.0 mL) and it is stirred for 30 min. Then 3,3-difluoroazetidine x HCl (30 mg, 0.22 mmol) is added and the mixture is heated to 60°C for 4 d (every day another 30 mg of the azetidine is added). The reaction mixture is concentrated and purified via chromatography (silica gel, DCM->DCM/EtOH 95:5).

Yield: 60 mg (38%). R_f (TLC): 0.26 (DCM/EtOH 95:5). MS m/z : 713 $[M+H]^+$.

Example 84

N-(3-Chloro-4-fluoro-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2-fluoro-2-methyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



5

(a) *N*-(3-Chloro-4-fluoro-phenyl)-2-(2,6-dichloro-3-aminomethyl-phenylamino)-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

A mixture of *N*-(3-chloro-4-fluoro-phenyl)-2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(tert-butoxy-carbonylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide (4.0 g, 5.9 mmol, prepared in analogy to example 75 from *N*-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-2-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-amino-benzamide with building block B), 4 M HCl in dioxane (50 mL) and dioxane (200 mL) is stirred for 2 h. The precipitate is filtered off, washed with water and diluted with 10 mL conc. aq. NH₃. The mixture is extracted with EtOAc, the organic phase is dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated.

Yield: 2.62 g (77%). MS m/z: 572 [M+H]⁺.

(b) *N*-(3-Chloro-4-fluoro-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2-fluoro-2-methyl-propionylamino)-methyl]- phenylamino}-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide

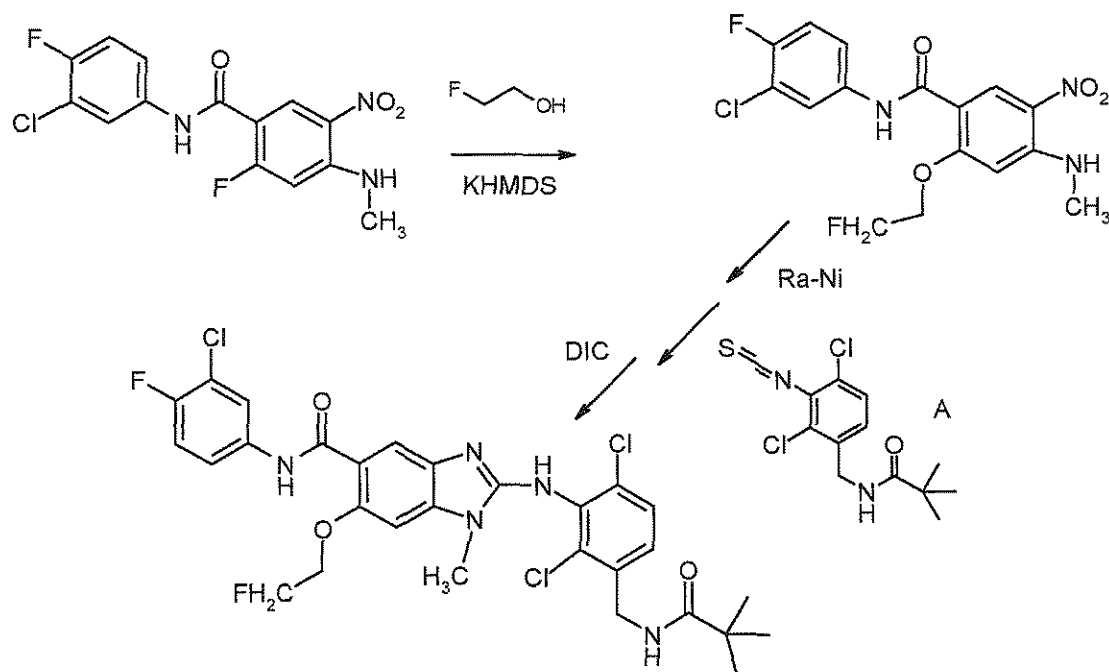
TBTU (1.0 mL of a 0.11 M solution in DMF) was added to a mixture of *N*-(3-chloro-4-fluoro-phenyl)-2-(2,6-dichloro-3-aminomethyl-phenylamino)-6-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide (1.0 mL of a 0.10 M solution in DMF), DIPEA (52 µL, 0.3 mmol) and 2-fluoro-2-methylpropionic acid (1.0 mL of a 0.13 M solution in DMF) and it was stirred for 3 d and the mixture was purified by prep. HPLC.

Yield: 38 mg (57%). HPLC R_t = 1.69 min (method I). MS m/z: 661 [M+H]⁺.

25

Example 177

N-(3-Chloro-4-fluoro-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]-phenylamino}-6-(2-fluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide



- 5 a) *N*-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-2-(2-fluoroethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzamide
KHMDS (0.320 g, 1.60 mmol) is added to an ice-cooled mixture of *N*-(4-fluoro-3-chloro-phenyl)-2-fluoro-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzoic acid amide (500 mg, 1.46 mmol), 2-
10 fluoroethanol (0.129 ml, 2.19 mmol) and 30 ml THF. After 30 min the temperature is raised to 60°C for 4.5 h, then it is stirred at rt overnight. Additional 2-fluoroethanol (0.129 ml, 2.19
mmol) and KHMDS (0.160 g, 0.80 mmol) are added and it is stirred for 4.5 h at 60°C. Then
the mixture is diluted with satd. aq. NaHCO₃-solution and the precipitate is filtered off,
washed with water and dried.
Yield: 360 mg (64%). HPLC *R*_t = 2.28 min (method E). MS *m/z*: 386 [M+H]⁺.
- 15 b) *N*-(3-Chloro-4-fluoro-phenyl)- 2-{2,6-dichloro-3-[(2,2-dimethyl-propionylamino)-methyl]- phenylamino}-6-(2-fluoroethoxy)-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide
A mixture of *N*-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-2-(2-fluoroethoxy)-4-methylamino-5-nitro-benzamide
(67.9 mg, 0.176 mmol), Pd/C (15 mg) and 10 mL THF is stirred under a H₂-atmosphere (3
bar) for 8h. The crude mixture is filtered into a flask charged with *N*-(2,4-dichloro-3-
20 isothiocyanato-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-propionamide (59 mg, 0.185 mmol) and concentrated to
~5 mL. The mixture is stirred for 2 h at rt and concentrated i.vac.. The mixture is diluted with
MeCN (2.0 mL), DIC (29 µl, 0.186 mmol) is added and it is stirred overnight at rt and 2 h at
60°C. The mixture is cooled to rt and the resulting precipitate is filtered off, washed with
MeCN, redissolved in dioxane/MeCN and a few drops of HCOOH and lyophilized.
25 Yield: 29 mg (26%). HPLC *R*_t = 2.09 min (method E). MS *m/z*: 638 [M+H]⁺.

The following examples in Table 1 are prepared in analogy to the methods described above.

Table 1

Ex.	Structure	Formula/ Mw.	MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺	R _f (TLC, silica gel) or R _t [min] (HPLC- method)	Prepared in analogy to example
8		C ₂₉ H ₂₈ BrCl F ₃ N ₅ O ₃ 666.916	666	R _f = 1.44 (method B)	6
9		C ₂₇ H ₂₅ Br F ₃ N ₅ O ₂ 588.419	589	R _f = 1.39 (method B)	7
10		C ₂₈ H ₃₁ F ₆ N ₅ O ₂ 583.569	584	R _f = 0.25 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	3
15		C ₂₉ H ₃₇ Cl ₃ F ₃ N ₅ O ₄ 672.909	672	R _f = 2.21 (method E)	13
16		C ₂₅ H ₂₆ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₅ O ₄ 626.403	626	R _f = 0.36 (PE/EtOAc 1:1)	13
18		C ₂₇ H ₂₅ Cl ₃ FN ₅ O ₂ 576.876	576	R _f = 0.35 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	17

Ex.	Structure	Formula/ Mw.	MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺	R _f (TLC, silica gel) or R _t [min] (HPLC- method)	Prepared in analogy to example
19		C ₂₇ H ₂₄ Cl ₃ F ₂ N ₅ O ₂ 594.867	594	R _f = 0.27 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	17
20		C ₂₅ H ₂₆ Cl ₂ F ₃ N ₅ O ₂ 556.407	556	R _f = 0.22 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	17
21		C ₂₃ H ₂₃ Cl ₂ F ₄ N ₅ O ₂ 548.360	548	R _f = 0.24 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	17
22		C ₂₇ H ₂₄ Cl ₄ FN ₅ O ₂ 611.321	610	R _f = 0.35 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	17
23		C ₂₇ H ₂₄ Cl ₃ F ₂ N ₅ O ₂ 594.867	594	R _f = 0.29 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	17
24		C ₂₆ H ₂₂ Cl ₃ F ₂ N ₅ O ₂ 547.932	548	R _f = 0.19 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	17

Ex.	Structure	Formula/ Mw.	MS* <i>m/z</i> [M+H] ⁺	R _f (TLC, silica gel) or R _t [min] (HPLC- method)	Prepared in analogy to example
25		C ₃₀ H ₃₄ F ₇ N ₅ O ₃ 645.612	646	R _f = 0.22 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	1
26		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl F ₅ N ₅ O ₃ 624.001	624	R _f = 0.27 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	11
27		C ₂₅ H ₂₆ F ₇ N ₅ O ₃ 577.495	578	R _f = 0.19 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	11
29		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl ₃ F ₃ N ₅ O ₃ 656.917	656	R _t = 1.78 (method A)	28
30		C ₂₉ H ₂₆ Cl ₃ F ₂ N ₅ O ₃ 638.927	638	R _t = 1.76 (method A)	28
31		C ₂₉ H ₂₈ Cl ₂ F ₃ N ₅ O ₃ 622.472	622	R _t = 1.69 (method A)	28
32		C ₂₇ H ₃₁ Cl ₂ F ₂ N ₅ O ₃ 582.476	582	R _t = 1.51 (method A)	28

Ex.	Structure	Formula/ Mw.	MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺	R _f (TLC, silica gel) or R _t [min] (HPLC- method)	Prepared in analogy to example
33		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl ₃ F ₃ N ₅ O ₃ 656.917	656	R _t = 1.82 (method A)	28
34		C ₃₀ H ₂₇ Cl ₃ F ₃ N ₆ O ₃ S 696.003	695	R _t = 1.93 (method A)	28
35		C ₃₁ H ₃₀ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₅ O ₃ 686.506	686	R _t = 1.70 (method A)	28
36		C ₃₁ H ₂₉ Cl ₂ F ₆ N ₅ O ₃ 704.496	704	R _t = 1.72 (method A)	28
37		C ₂₈ H ₃₃ Cl ₂ F ₂ N ₅ O ₄ 612.502	612	R _t = 1.42 (method A)	28
38		C ₂₆ H ₂₆ Cl ₂ F ₇ N ₅ O ₃ 660.415	660	R _t = 1.65 (method A)	28
39		C ₂₆ H ₂₈ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₅ O ₃ 624.435	624	R _t = 1.60 (method A)	28

Ex.	Structure	Formula/ Mw.	MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺	R _f (TLC, silica gel) or R _t [min] (HPLC- method)	Prepared in analogy to example
40		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl ₃ F ₃ N ₅ O ₃ 656.917	656	R _t = 1.83 (method A)	28
41		C ₂₆ H ₂₅ Cl ₃ F ₂ N ₆ O ₃ S 645.943	645	R _t = 1.79 (method A)	28
42		C ₃₀ H ₂₉ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₆ O ₃ 687.494	687	R _t = 1.62 (method A)	28
43		C ₂₅ H ₂₇ Cl ₂ F ₄ N ₅ O ₃ 592.418	592	R _t = 1.44 (method A)	28
44		C ₂₇ H ₂₉ Cl ₄ F ₂ N ₅ O ₃ 651.366	650	R _t = 1.62 (method A)	28
45		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl ₃ F ₃ N ₅ O ₃ 656.917	656	R _t = 1.81 (method A)	28

Ex.	Structure	Formula/ Mw.	MS* <i>m/z</i> [M+H] ⁺	R _f (TLC, silica gel) or R _t [min] (HPLC- method)	Prepared in analogy to example
46		C ₂₈ H ₃₃ Cl ₂ F ₂ N 5O ₃ 596.503	596	R _t = 1.58 (method A)	28
47		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₆ O ₃ 673.467	673	R _t = 1.74 (method A)	28
48		C ₂₆ H ₂₈ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₅ O ₃ 624.435	624	R _t = 1.54 (method A)	28
49		C ₃₁ H ₃₉ Cl ₂ F ₂ N ₅ O ₄ 654.582	654	R _t = 1.66 (method A)	28
50		C ₂₉ H ₂₉ Cl ₂ F ₂ N ₅ O ₅ S 668.546	668	R _t = 1.70 (method A)	28
51		C ₂₈ H ₃₃ Cl ₂ F ₂ N ₅ O ₃ 596.503	596	R _t = 1.56 (method A)	28
52		C ₃₀ H ₃₇ Cl ₂ F ₂ N ₅ O ₃ 624.556	624	R _t = 1.69 (method A)	28

Ex.	Structure	Formula/ Mw.	MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺	R _f (TLC, silica gel) or R _t [min] (HPLC- method)	Prepared in analogy to example
53		C ₂₇ H ₃₁ Cl ₂ F ₂ N ₅ O ₃ 582.476	582	R _t = 1.50 (method A)	28
54		C ₃₀ H ₃₀ Cl ₃ F ₂ N ₅ O ₃ 652.954	652	R _t = 1.77 (method A)	28
55		C ₃₀ H ₃₅ Cl ₂ F ₂ N ₅ O ₃ 622.541	622	R _t = 1.65 (method A)	28
56		C ₂₅ H ₂₉ Cl ₂ F ₂ N ₅ O ₃ 556.438	556	R _t = 1.36 (method A)	28
57		C ₃₁ H ₃₃ Cl ₂ F ₂ N ₅ O ₃ 632.536	632	R _t = 1.62 (method A)	28
58		C ₂₅ H ₂₆ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₅ O ₃ 610.408	610	R _t = 1.54 (method A)	28
59		C ₃₂ H ₃₃ Cl ₂ F ₂ N ₅ O ₃ 644.647	644	R _t = 1.77 (method A)	28

Ex.	Structure	Formula/ Mw.	MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺	R _f (TLC, silica gel) or R _t [min] (HPLC- method)	Prepared in analogy to example
61		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₆ O ₃ 673.461	673	R _t = 2.74 (method D)	60
62		C ₂₉ H ₂₈ Cl ₂ F ₂ N ₆ O ₃ S 649.539	649	R _t = 2.73 (method D)	60
63		C ₂₉ H ₂₉ Cl ₃ F ₅ N ₆ O ₃ 653.934	653	R _t = 2.63 (method D)	60
64		C ₂₉ H ₃₃ Cl ₂ F ₄ N ₅ O ₃ 646.503	646	R _t = 2.61 (method D)	60
65		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl ₃ F ₂ N ₆ O ₃ 639.908	639	R _t = 2.65 (method D)	60
66		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₆ O ₃ 673.461	673	R _t = 2.70 (method D)	60

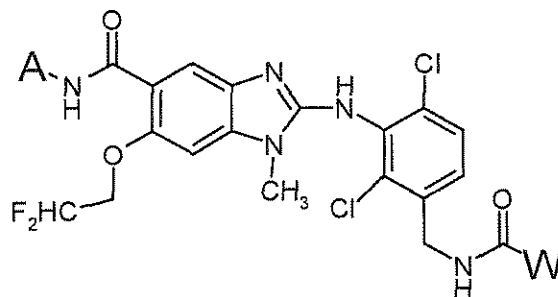
Ex.	Structure	Formula/ Mw.	MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺	R _f (TLC, silica gel) or R _t [min] (HPLC- method)	Prepared in analogy to example
67		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₆ O ₃ 673.461	673	R _f = 2.72 (method D)	60
68		C ₃₀ H ₃₅ Cl ₂ F ₄ N ₅ O ₃ 660.530	660	R _f = 2.64 (method D)	60
69		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl F ₅ N ₅ O ₃ 624.001	624	R _f = 0.26 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	11
70		C ₂₅ H ₂₂ Cl ₂ F ₄ N ₆ O ₂ S 617.446	617	R _f = 0.26 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	17
71		C ₃₁ H ₃₃ Cl F ₃ N ₅ O ₃ 616.074	616	R _f = 0.19 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	14
72		C ₂₉ H ₂₈ F ₅ N ₅ O ₃ 589.557	590	R _f = 0.27 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	6

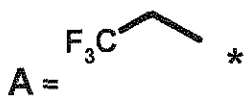
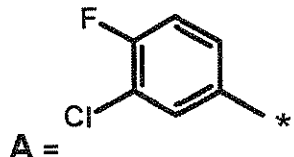
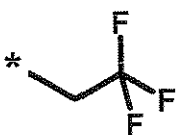
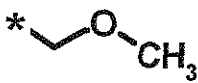
Ex.	Structure	Formula/ Mw.	MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺	R _f (TLC, silica gel) or R _t [min] (HPLC- method)	Prepared in analogy to example
73		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl ₃ F ₃ N ₅ O ₃ 656.910	656	R _f = 0.28 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	7
74		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl ₂ F ₄ N ₅ O ₃ 640.456	640	R _t = 1.45 (method B)	7
76		C ₃₀ H ₃₄ Cl F ₆ N ₅ O ₃ 662.066	662	R _t = 1.42 (method B)	75
77		C ₂₅ H ₂₆ Cl F ₆ N ₅ O ₃ 593.949	594	R _t = 1.31 (method B)	75
81		C ₃₀ H ₃₁ Cl ₂ F ₇ N ₆ O ₃ 727.500	727	R _f = 0.28 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	80
82		C ₃₀ H ₃₁ Cl ₂ F ₇ N ₆ O ₃ 705.546	705	R _f = 0.23 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	80

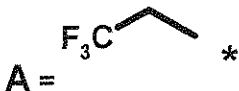
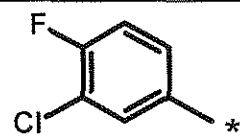
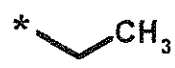
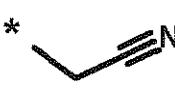
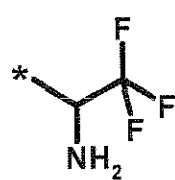
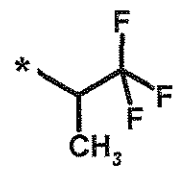
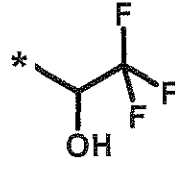
Ex.	Structure	Formula/ Mw.	MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺	R _f (TLC, silica gel) or R _t [min] (HPLC- method)	Prepared in analogy to example
83		C ₂₉ H ₂₇ Cl ₂ F ₄ N ₅ O ₃ 640.456	640	R _f = 0.28 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	7
85		C ₂₉ H ₂₆ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₅ O ₃ 658.446	658	R _f = 0.25 (DCM/EtOH 95:5)	7
178		C ₃₀ H ₃₁ Cl ₃ FN ₅ O ₄ 650.955	650	R _f = 2.08 (method E)	177
179		C ₃₁ H ₃₁ Cl ₃ FN ₅ O ₄ 662.966	662	R _f = 2.01 (method E)	177
180		C ₂₇ H ₂₈ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₅ O ₂ 620.441	620	R _f = 2.10 (method E)	79
181		C ₂₉ H ₂₆ Cl ₃ F ₄ N ₅ O ₃ 674.900	674	R _f = 2.18 (method E)	177
182		C ₃₁ H ₃₁ Cl ₃ FN ₅ O ₃ 646.966	646	R _t = 2.23 (method E)	177

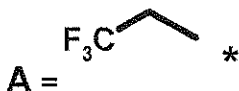
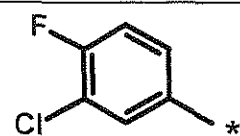
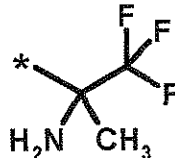
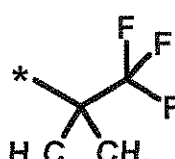
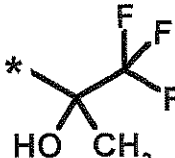
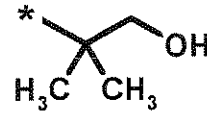
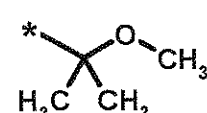
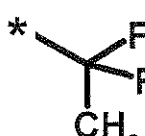
The following examples in Table 2 are prepared in analogy to example 84 (A and W are as defined in the table).

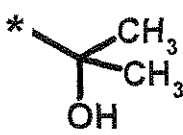
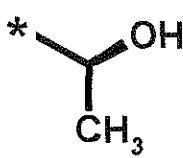
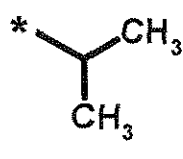
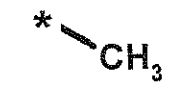
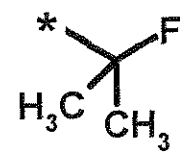
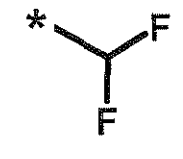
5 Table 2

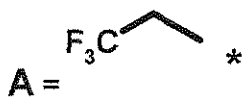
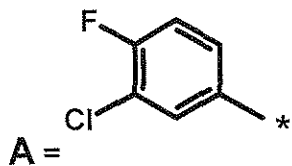
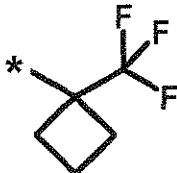
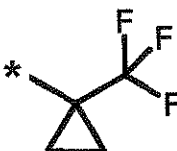
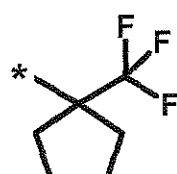


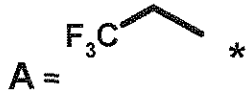
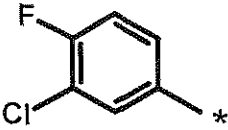
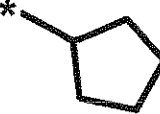
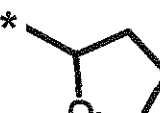
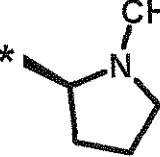
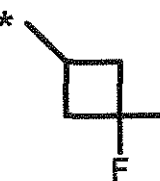
Ex.	A = 	Ex.	A = 	W =
128	C ₂₃ H ₁₉ Cl ₂ F ₈ N ₅ O ₃ MW: 636,325 MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺ = 636 R _t = 1,5 (method I)	131	C ₂₇ H ₂₀ Cl ₃ F ₆ N ₅ O ₃ MW: 682,834 MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺ = 682 R _t = 1,70 (method I)	
101	C ₂₃ H ₂₂ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₅ O ₄ MW: 598,354 MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺ = 598 R _t = 1,40 (method I)	163	C ₂₇ H ₂₃ Cl ₃ F ₃ N ₅ O ₄ MW: 644,863 MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺ = 644 R _t = 1,61 (method I)	
104	C ₂₂ H ₂₀ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₅ O ₄ MW: 584,33 MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺ = 584 R _t = 1,34 (method I)	139	C ₂₆ H ₂₁ Cl ₃ F ₃ N ₅ O ₄ MW: 630,836 MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺ = 630 R _t = 1,54 (method I)	
106	C ₂₄ H ₂₄ Cl ₂ F ₅ N ₅ O ₃ MW: 596,382 MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺ = 596 R _t = 0,47 (method H)	132	C ₂₈ H ₂₅ Cl ₃ F ₃ N ₅ O ₃ MW: 642,89 MS* m/z [M+H] ⁺ = 642 R _t = 1,67 (method I)	

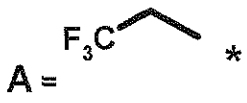
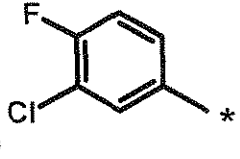
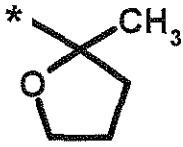
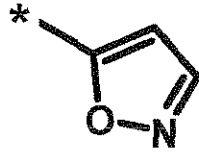
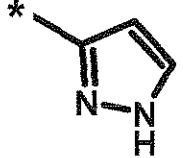
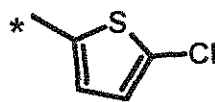
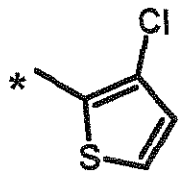
Ex.	$A =$ 	Ex.	$A =$ 	$W =$
111	$C_{23}H_{22}Cl_2F_5N_5O_3$ MW: 582,355 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 582$ Rt = 1,42 (method I)	146	$C_{27}H_{23}Cl_3F_3N_5O_3$ MW: 628,864 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 528$ Rt = 1,63 (method I)	
112	$C_{23}H_{19}Cl_2F_5N_6O_3$ MW: 593,338 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 593$ Rt = 1,41 (method I)	154	$C_{27}H_{20}Cl_3F_3N_6O_3$ MW: 639,847 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 639$ Rt = 0,52 (method H)	
88	$C_{25}H_{24}Cl_2F_5N_5O_3$ MW: 608,393 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 608$ Rt = 1,48 (method I)	144	$C_{29}H_{25}Cl_3F_3N_5O_3$ MW: 654,902 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 654$ Rt = 1,68 (method I)	
87	$C_{23}H_{20}Cl_2F_8N_6O_3$ MW: 651,34 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 651$ Rt = 0,46 (method H)	164	$C_{27}H_{21}Cl_3F_6N_6O_3$ MW: 697,849 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 697$ Rt = 0,54 (method H)	
89	$C_{24}H_{21}Cl_2F_8N_5O_3$ MW: 650,352 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 650$ Rt = 0,50 (method H)	141	$C_{28}H_{22}Cl_3F_6N_5O_3$ MW: 696,861 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 696$ Rt = 0,58 (method H)	
96	$C_{23}H_{19}Cl_2F_8N_5O_4$ MW: 652,324 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 652$ Rt = 1,47 (method I)	161	$C_{27}H_{20}Cl_3F_6N_5O_4$ MW: 698,833 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 698$ Rt = 1,66 (method I)	

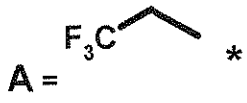
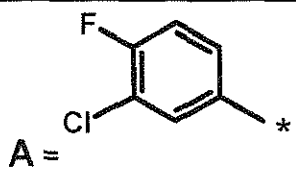
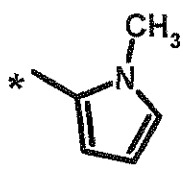
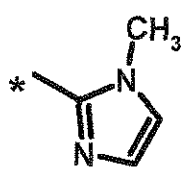
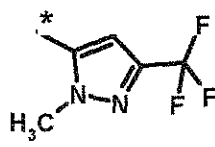
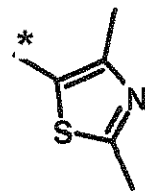
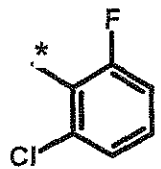
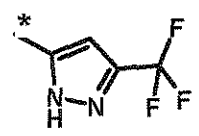
Ex.	$A =$ 	Ex.	$A =$ 	$W =$
98	$C_{24}H_{22}Cl_2F_8N_6O_3$ MW: 665,367 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 665$ Rt = 0,48 (method H)	152	$C_{28}H_{23}Cl_3F_6N_6O_3$ MW: 711,876 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 711$ Rt = 0,56 (method H)	
116	$C_{25}H_{23}Cl_2F_8N_5O_3$ MW: 664,379 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 664$ Rt = 0,52 (method H)	176	$C_{29}H_{24}Cl_3F_6N_5O_3$ MW: 710,88 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 710$ Rt = 1,78 (method I)	
123	$C_{24}H_{21}Cl_2F_8N_5O_4$ MW: 666,351 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 666$ Rt = 1,49 (method I)	149	$C_{28}H_{22}Cl_3F_6N_5O_4$ MW: 712,86 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 712$ Rt = 0,56 (method H)	
126	$C_{25}H_{26}Cl_2F_5N_5O_4$ MW: 626,407 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 626$ Rt = 1,41 (method I)	155	$C_{29}H_{27}Cl_3F_3N_5O_4$ MW: 672,916 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 672$ Rt = 0,53 (method H)	
130	$C_{25}H_{26}Cl_2F_5N_5O_4$ MW: 626,407 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 626$ Rt = 1,48 (method I)	135	$C_{29}H_{27}Cl_3F_3N_5O_4$ MW: 672,916 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 672$ Rt = 1,68 (method I)	
95	$C_{23}H_{20}Cl_2F_7N_5O_3$ MW: 618,335 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 618$ Rt = 0,48 (method H)	162	$C_{27}H_{21}Cl_3F_3N_5O_3$ MW: 664,844 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 664$ Rt = 1,70 (method I)	

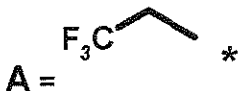
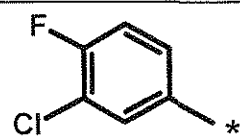
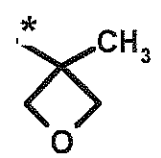
Ex.	$A = \text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{*}$	Ex.	$A = \text{Cl}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{F})-\text{*}$	W =
108	$\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{24}\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_5\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$ MW: 612,381 MS* m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 612$ Rt = 0,44 (method H)	175	$\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{25}\text{Cl}_3\text{F}_3\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$ MW: 658,89 MS* m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 658$ Rt = 1,60 (method I)	
109	$\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{22}\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_5\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$ MW: 598,354 MS* m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 598$ Rt = 1,36 (method I)	147	$\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{23}\text{Cl}_3\text{F}_3\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$ MW: 644,863 MS* m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 644$ Rt = 0,51 (method H)	
110	$\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{24}\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_5\text{N}_5\text{O}_3$ MW: 596,382 MS* m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 596$ Rt = 1,47 (method I)	151	$\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{25}\text{Cl}_3\text{F}_3\text{N}_5\text{O}_3$ MW: 642,89 MS* m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 642$ Rt = 0,55 (method H)	
115	$\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{20}\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_5\text{N}_5\text{O}_3$ MW: 568,328 MS* m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 568$ Rt = 1,37 (method I)	173	$\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{21}\text{Cl}_3\text{F}_3\text{N}_5\text{O}_3$ MW: 614,837 MS* m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 614$ Rt = 1,58 (method I)	
118	$\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{23}\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_6\text{N}_5\text{O}_3$ MW: 614,372 MS* m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 614$ Rt = 0,49 (method H)			
124	$\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{18}\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_7\text{N}_5\text{O}_3$ MW: 604,308 MS* m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 604$ Rt = 1,45 (method I)	159	$\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{19}\text{Cl}_3\text{F}_5\text{N}_5\text{O}_3$ MW: 650,817 MS* m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 650$ Rt = 0,55 (method H)	

Ex.		Ex.		W =
86	$C_{26}H_{23}Cl_2F_8N_5O_3$ MW: 676,39 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 676$ Rt = 0,53 (method H)	157	$C_{30}H_{24}Cl_3F_6N_5O_3$ MW: 722,899 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 722$ Rt = 1,78 (method I)	
99	$C_{25}H_{21}Cl_2F_8N_5O_3$ MW: 662,363 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 662$ Rt = 0,52 (method H)	174	$C_{29}H_{22}Cl_3F_6N_5O_3$ MW: 708,872 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 708$ Rt = 1,76 (method I)	
103	$C_{25}H_{24}Cl_2F_5N_5O_3$ MW: 608,393 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 608$ Rt = 1,50 (method I)	133	$C_{29}H_{25}Cl_3F_3N_5O_3$ MW: 654,902 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 654$ Rt = 0,57 (method H)	
93	$C_{24}H_{22}Cl_2F_5N_5O_4$ MW: 610,365 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 610$ Rt = 0,43 (method H)	171	$C_{28}H_{23}Cl_3F_3N_5O_4$ MW: 656,874 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 656$ Rt = 1,60 (method I)	
97	$C_{27}H_{25}Cl_2F_8N_5O_3$ MW: 690,417 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 690$ Rt = 0,55 (method H)	165	$C_{31}H_{26}Cl_3F_6N_5O_3$ MW: 736,925 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 736$ Rt = 1,84 (method I)	
113	$C_{25}H_{21}Cl_2F_5N_6O_3$ MW: 619,378 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 619$ Rt = 0,47 (method H)	145	$C_{29}H_{22}Cl_3F_3N_6O_3$ MW: 665,885 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 665$ Rt = 0,56 (method H)	

Ex.	$A =$ 	Ex.	$A =$ 	W =
100	$C_{24}H_{22}Cl_2F_5N_5O_3$ MW: 594,366 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 594$ Rt = 1,45 (method I)	148	$C_{28}H_{23}Cl_3F_3N_5O_3$ MW: 640,875 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 640$ Rt = 0,55 (method H)	
91	$C_{25}H_{24}Cl_2F_5N_5O_3$ MW: 608,393 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 608$ Rt = 1,49 (method I)	172	$C_{29}H_{25}Cl_3F_3N_5O_3$ MW: 654,902 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 654$ Rt = 0,56 (method H)	
120	$C_{26}H_{26}Cl_2F_5N_5O_3$ MW: 622,419 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 622$ Rt = 1,54 (method I)	160	$C_{30}H_{27}Cl_3F_3N_5O_3$ MW: 668,928 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 668$ Rt = 1,74 (method I)	
90	$C_{25}H_{24}Cl_2F_5N_5O_4$ MW: 624,392 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 624$ Rt = 0,46 (method H)	137	$C_{29}H_{25}Cl_3F_3N_5O_4$ MW: 670,9 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 670$ Rt = 0,54 (method H)	
94	$C_{26}H_{27}Cl_2F_5N_6O_3$ MW: 637,434 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 637$ Rt = 0,49 (method H)	169	$C_{30}H_{28}Cl_3F_3N_6O_3$ MW: 683,943 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 683$ Rt = 0,57 (method H)	
102	$C_{25}H_{22}Cl_2F_7N_5O_3$ MW: 644,373 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 644$ Rt = 0,49 (method H)	167	$C_{29}H_{23}Cl_3F_5N_5O_3$ MW: 690,882 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 690$ Rt = 0,57 (method H)	

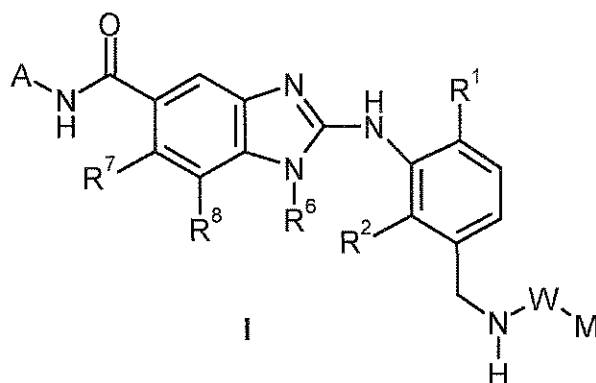
Ex.	$A =$ 	Ex.	$A =$ 	$W =$
119	$C_{24}H_{20}Cl_2F_7N_5O_3$ MW: 630,346 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 630$ Rt = 0,48 (method H)	153	$C_{28}H_{21}Cl_3F_5N_5O_3$ MW: 676,855 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 676$ Rt = 1,69 (method I)	
122	$C_{26}H_{26}Cl_2F_5N_5O_4$ MW: 638,418 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 638$ Rt = 1,48 (method I)	170	$C_{30}H_{27}Cl_3F_3N_5O_4$ MW: 684,927 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 684$ Rt = 0,56 (method H)	
107	$C_{24}H_{19}Cl_2F_5N_6O_4$ MW: 621,348 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 621$ Rt = 1,44 (method I)	166	$C_{28}H_{20}Cl_3F_3N_6O_4$ MW: 667,857 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 667$ Rt = 0,54 (method H)	
127	$C_{24}H_{20}Cl_2F_5N_7O_3$ MW: 620,364 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 620$ Rt = 0,44 (method H)	134	$C_{28}H_{21}Cl_3F_3N_7O_3$ MW: 666,873 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 666$ Rt = 0,54 (method H)	
92	$C_{25}H_{19}Cl_3F_5N_5O_3S$ MW: 670,872 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 670$ Rt = 0,54 (method H)	140	$C_{29}H_{20}Cl_4F_3N_5O_3S$ MW: 717,381 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 717$ Rt = 1,82 (method I)	
117	$C_{25}H_{19}Cl_3F_5N_5O_3S$ MW: 670,872 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 670$ Rt = 0,53 (method H)	168	$C_{29}H_{20}Cl_4F_3N_5O_3S$ MW: 717,381 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 717$ Rt = 1,76 (method I)	

Ex.	$A =$ 	Ex.	$A =$ 	$W =$
114	$C_{26}H_{23}Cl_2F_5N_6O_3$ MW: 633,403 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 633$ Rt = 1,53 (method I)	142	$C_{30}H_{24}Cl_3F_3N_6O_3$ MW: 679,912 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 679$ Rt = 0,54 (method H)	
121	$C_{25}H_{22}Cl_2F_5N_7O_3$ MW: 634,391 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 634$ Rt = 1,35 (method I)	156	$C_{29}H_{23}Cl_3F_3N_7O_3$ MW: 680,9 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 680$ Rt = 0,55 (method H)	
125	$C_{26}H_{21}Cl_2F_8N_7O_3$ MW: 702,388 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 702$ Rt = 0,54 (method H)	143	$C_{30}H_{22}Cl_3F_6N_7O_3$ MW: 748,897 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 748$ Rt = 1,81 (method I)	
129	$C_{26}H_{23}Cl_2F_5N_6O_3S$ MW: 665,469 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 665$ Rt = 0,47 (method H)	138	$C_{30}H_{24}Cl_3F_3N_6O_3S$ MW: 711,978 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 711$ Rt = 1,64 (method I)	
105	$C_{27}H_{20}Cl_3F_8N_5O_3$ MW: 682,834 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 682$ Rt = 0,47 (method H)	158	$C_{31}H_{21}Cl_4F_4N_5O_3$ MW: 729,343 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 729$ Rt = 1,74 (method I)	
		136	$C_{29}H_{20}Cl_3F_6N_7O_3$ MW: 734,87 MS* m/z $[M+H]^+ = 734$ Rt = 1,74 (method I)	

Ex.	 A =	Ex.	 A =	W =
		150	C₂₉H₂₅Cl₃F₃N₅O₄ MW: 670,9 MS* <i>m/z</i> [M+H]⁺ = 670 Rt = 1,60 (method I)	

Claims

1. A compound of formula I



in which

R^1 and R^2

independently represent halo, $-C_{1-3}$ alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

W

represents $-C(O)-$, $-C(O)O-$, which groups are bound to the nitrogen of the $-NH-$ moiety via the carbon atom;

M

represents

$-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $-C_{3-7}$ cycloalkyl, both of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from $-F$, $-OH$, $-CN$, $-NH_2$, $-NH(C_{1-2}$ alkyl), $-N(C_{1-2}$ alkyl) $_2$, $-OC_{1-3}$ alkyl, $-C_{1-5}$ alkyl, $-C_{3-4}$ cycloalkyl, in which latter three groups the alkyl or cycloalkyl groups are optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

or

oxetanyl-, tetrahydrofuranyl-, tetrahydropyranyl-, azetidiny-, pyrrolidinyl-, piperidinyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from fluoro, $-CN$, $-C_{1-3}$ alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

or

phenyl-, pyridyl-, thienyl-, pyrrolyl-, pyrazolyl-, imidazolyl-, thiazolyl-, oxazolyl-, or isoxazolyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, $-CN$ or $-C_{1-3}$ alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally further substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

R^8 represents -H, halogen, -C₁₋₃alkyl, which latter alkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

5 R^6 represents -H, -C₁₋₅alkyl, -C₃₋₅cycloalkyl-C₀₋₂alkyl, in which latter three groups the alkyl or cycloalkyl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

10 R^7 represents halo, C₁₋₅alkyl-O-, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl-C₀₋₂alkyl-O-, 4-7-membered heterocycloalkyl-C₀₋₂alkyl-O-, in which latter three groups the alkyl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F and -OC₁₋₃alkyl which latter alkyl group is optionally further substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

15 A represents C₁₋₆ alkyl-, phenyl-, indanyl-, naphthyl-, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthyl-, pyridyl-, thienyl-, benzothienyl-, pyrrolyl-, indolyl-, pyrazolyl-, indazolyl-, thiazolyl-, benzothiazolyl-, oxazolyl-, benzooxazolyl-, isoxazolyl-, benzisoxazolyl-, phenyl-C₁₋₃alkyl-, thienyl-C₁₋₃alkyl-,
20 pyridyl-C₁₋₃alkyl-, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl-C₀₋₃alkyl-, oxetanyl-C₀₋₃alkyl-, tetrahydrofuranlyl-C₀₋₃alkyl, tetrahydropyranyl-C₀₋₃alkyl, in which groups the alkyl-, cycloalkyl- and heterocycloalkyl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from R^{9a} and the aryl and heteroaryl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from R^{9b} ;

25 each R^{9a} independently represents -F, -Cl, -C₁₋₃alkyl which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -OC₁₋₃alkyl;

30 each R^{9b} represents independently -halo, -CN; -C₁₋₃alkyl which is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

or a salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein

R^8 represents -H or fluoro.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2, wherein

R^6 represents -H, -CH₃, cyclopropyl.

4. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein

R^1 and R^2 independently represent chloro, fluoro, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃.

5. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein

R^7 represents fluoro, -OCHF₂, -OCF₃, -OCH₂CH₂F, -OCH₂CHF₂, -OCH₂CF₃, -O-tetrahydrofuran-3-yl, -O-CH₂-cyclopropyl.

6. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein

A represents C₁₋₄ alkyl-, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl-C₀₋₂alkyl-, tetrahydrofuranyl-methyl-, phenyl-C₁₋₂ alkyl-, pyridyl-methyl-, phenyl-, indanyl-, pyridyl-, thienyl-, thiazolyl-, benzothiazolyl-, in which groups the alkyl-, cycloalkyl- and heterocycloalkyl-fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃, and the aryl and heteroaryl fragments are optionally substituted by -F, -Cl, -Br, -CN, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃.

7. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein

M represents

-C₁₋₄ alkyl, -C₃₋₅ cycloalkyl, both of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from -F, -OH, -CN, -NH₂, -OCH₃, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃, cyclopropyl;

or

oxetanyl-, tetrahydrofuranyl-, azetidiny- or pyrrolidinyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -

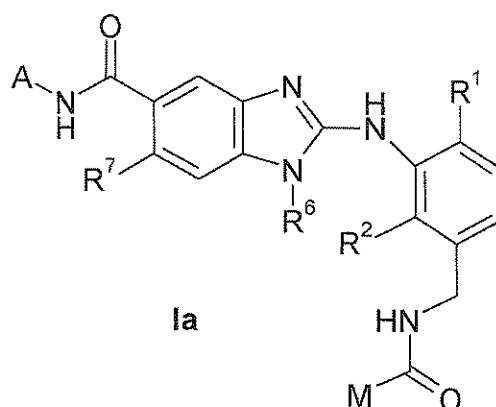
CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃;

or

phenyl-, indanyl-, thienyl-, pyrrolyl-, pyrazolyl-, imidazolyl-, thiazolyl-, or isoxazolyl-, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -Cl, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃.

5

8. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, namely a compound of formula Ia



in which

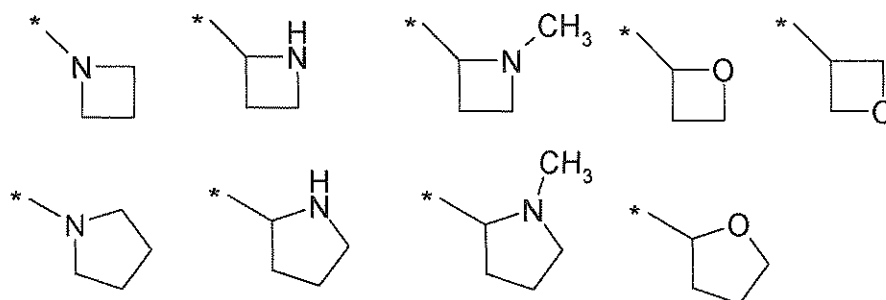
10 M

represents

methyl, ethyl, propyl, *i*-propyl, *n*-butyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, cyclopropyl, -CH₂-cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from -F, -OH, -CN, -NH₂, -OCH₃, -CH₃, -CF₃;

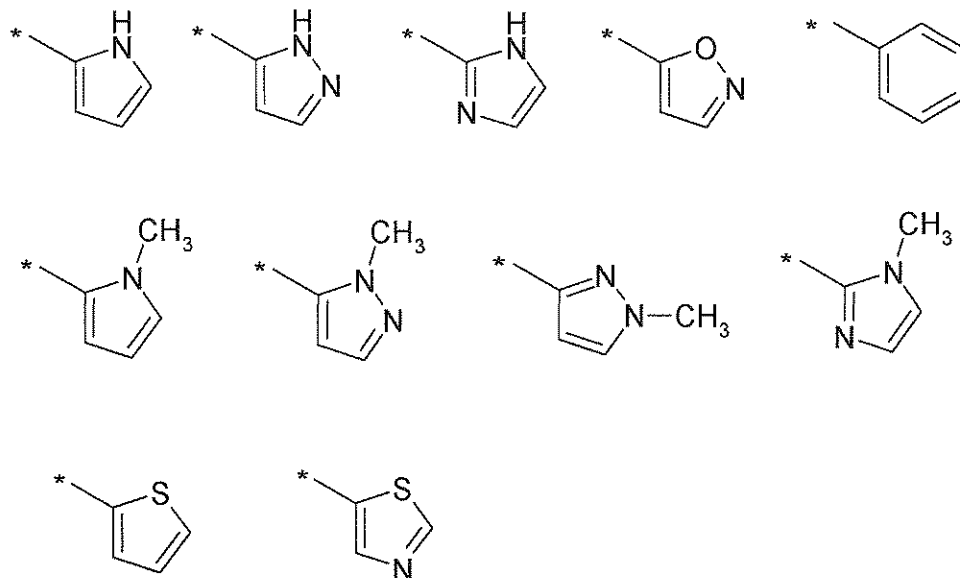
15

or is selected from the following groups



which latter nine groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups



5

which latter eleven groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -Cl, -CH₃, -CF₃;

and

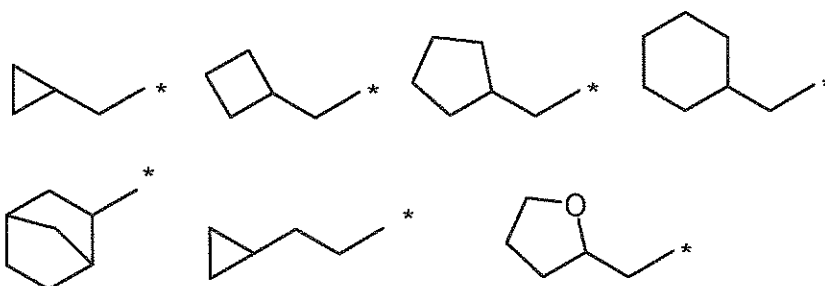
A, R¹, R², R⁶, R⁷ have the same meaning as defined in any of the preceding claims.

10

9. A compound according to claim 8, wherein

A represents methyl, ethyl, propyl, *i*-propyl, *n*-butyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, which latter seven groups are optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms,
or cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, which latter four groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CHF₂, -CF₃;
or is selected from the following groups:

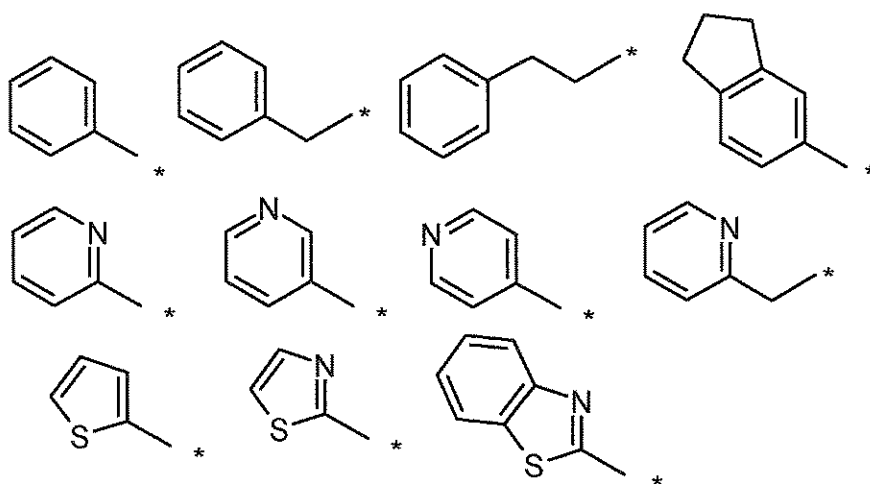
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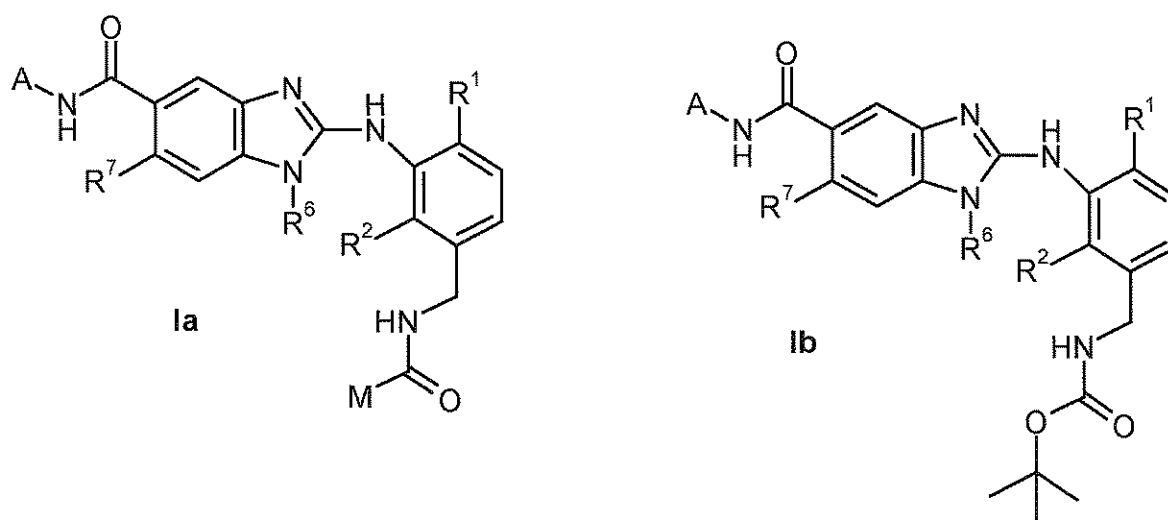
which latter seven groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CHF₂, -CF₃;

5 or is selected from the following groups:



in which latter eleven groups the aryl and heteroaryl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -Cl, -Br, -CN, -CH₃, -CF₃.

10. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, namely a compound of formula Ia or Ib

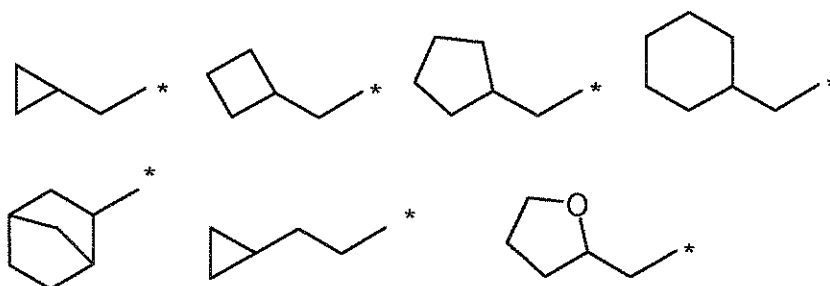


in which

R¹ and R² independently represent -chloro, fluoro, -CH₃, -CH₂F, -CHF₂, -CF₃;
R⁶ represents -H, -CH₃, cyclopropyl;

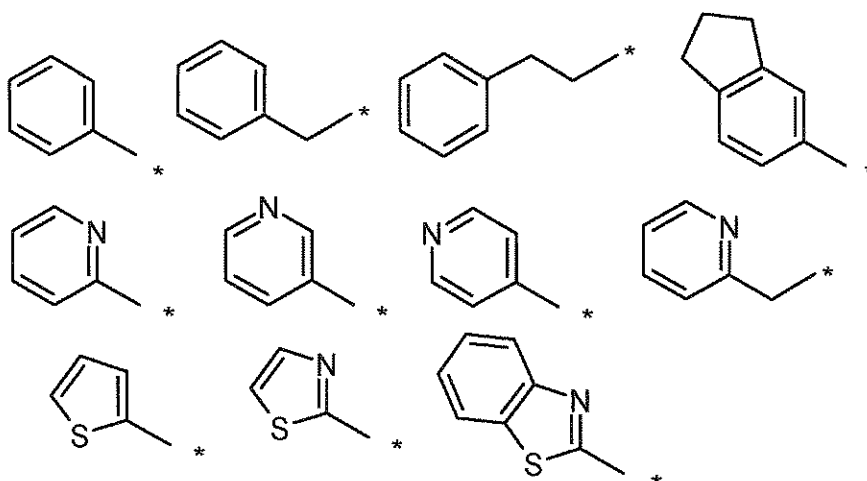
R^7 represents fluoro, $-OCHF_2$, $-OCF_3$, $-OCH_2CH_2F$, $-OCH_2CHF_2$, $-OCH_2CF_3$, tetrahydrofuran-3-yl-O-, $-O-CH_2$ -cyclopropyl;

5 A represents methyl, ethyl, propyl, *i*-propyl, *n*-butyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, which latter seven groups are optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms,
or cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, which latter four groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from $-F$, $-CH_3$, $-CHF_2$, $-CF_3$;
10 or is selected from the following groups:



which latter seven groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from $-F$, $-CH_3$, $-CHF_2$, $-CF_3$;

15 or is selected from the following groups:



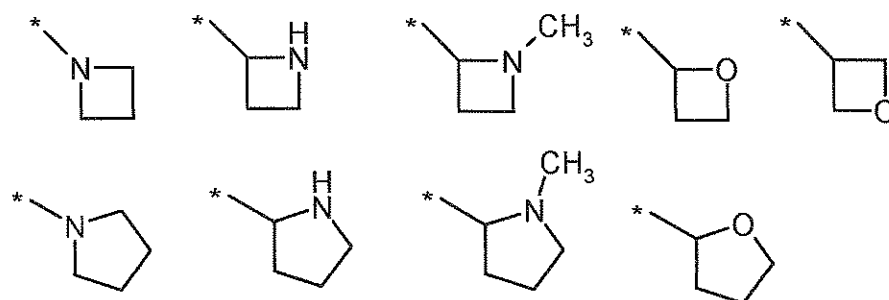
20 in which latter eleven groups the aryl and heteroaryl fragments are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from $-F$, $-Cl$, $-Br$, $-CN$, $-CH_3$, $-CF_3$;

M

represents

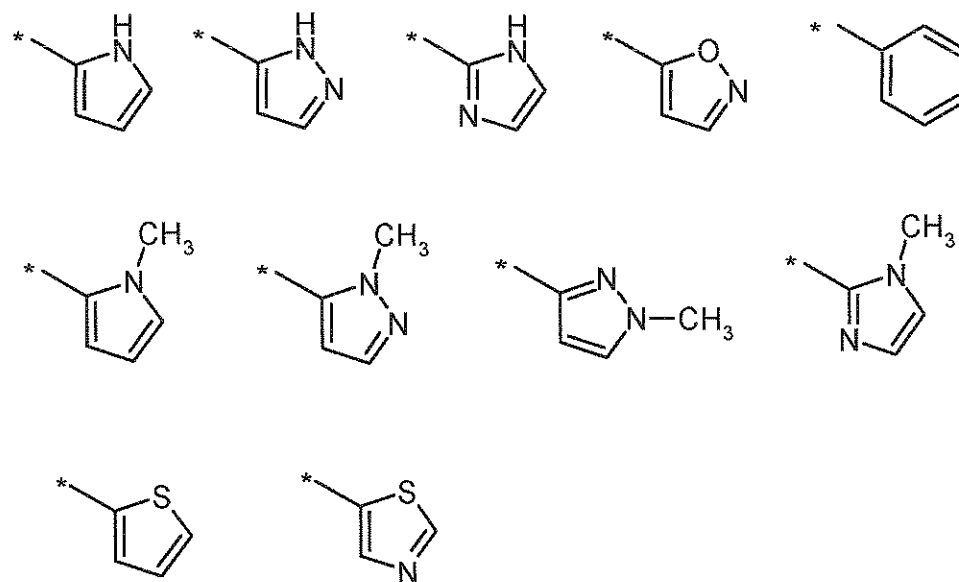
methyl, ethyl, propyl, *i*-propyl, *n*-butyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, cyclopropyl, -CH₂-cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from -F, -OH, -CN, -NH₂, -OCH₃, -CH₃, -CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups



which latter nine groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, -CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups



which latter eleven groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -Cl, -CH₃, -CF₃;

or a salt thereof.

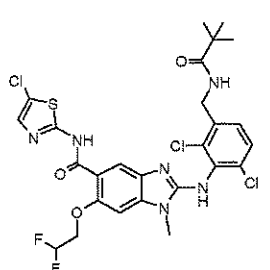
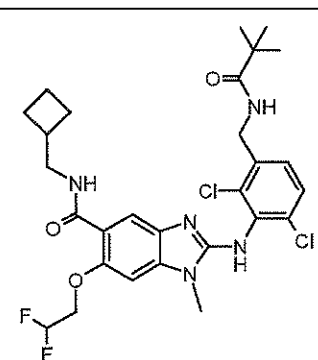
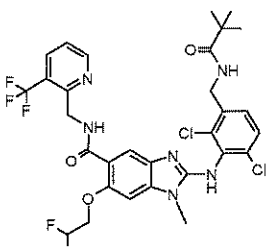
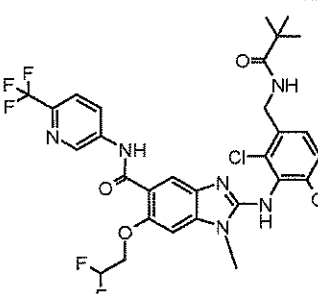
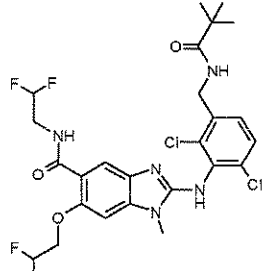
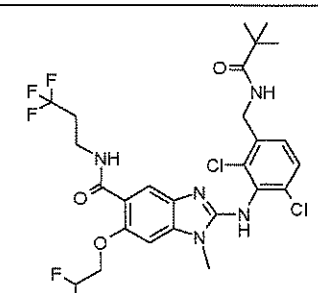
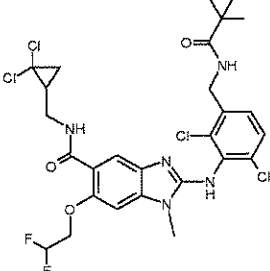
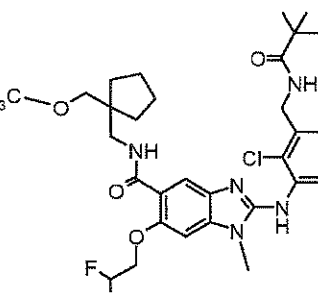
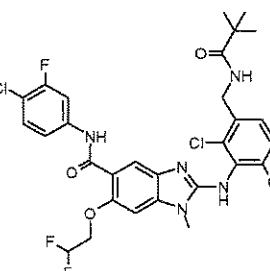
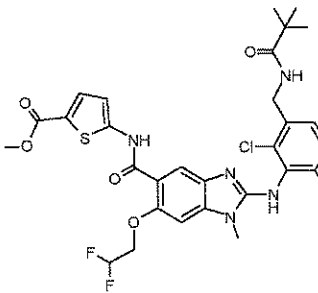
11. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims selected from the group comprising

	Structure		Structure
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3		8	
4		9	
5		10	

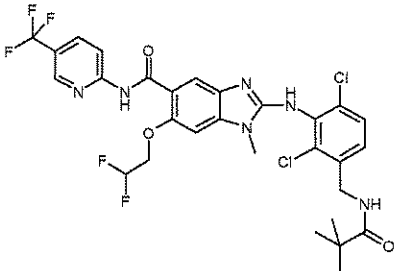
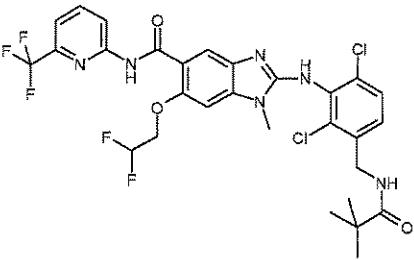
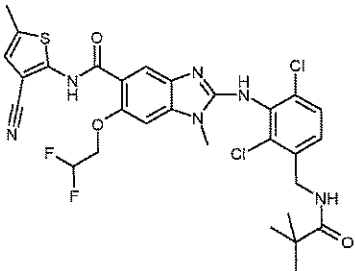
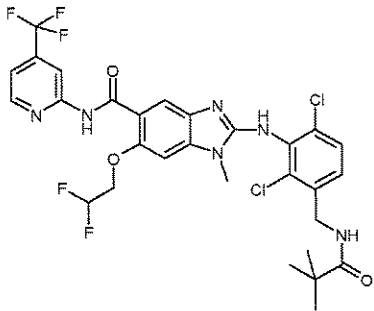
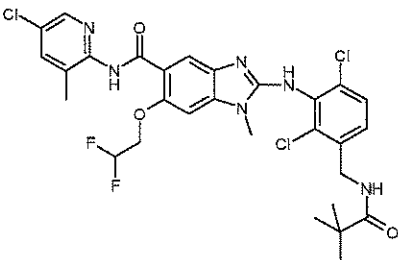
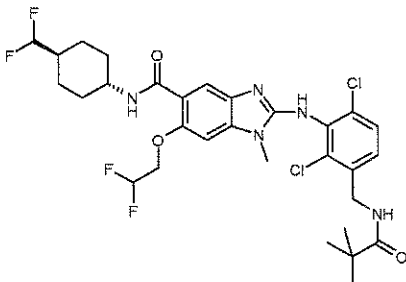
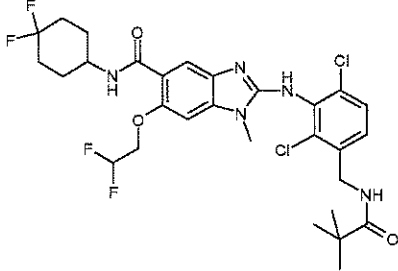
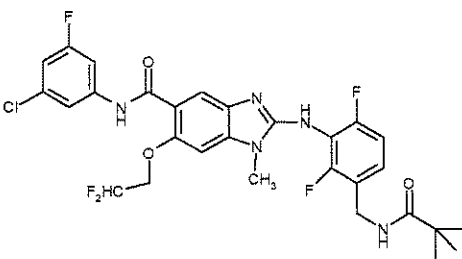
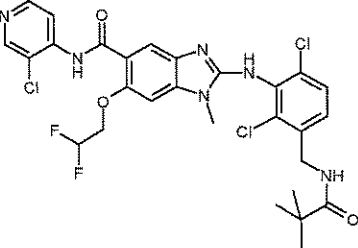
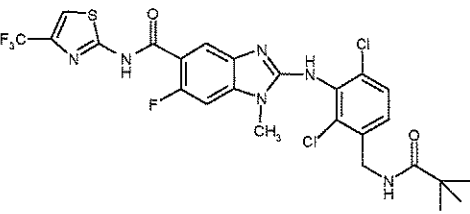
	Structure		Structure
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	Structure		Structure
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25		30	

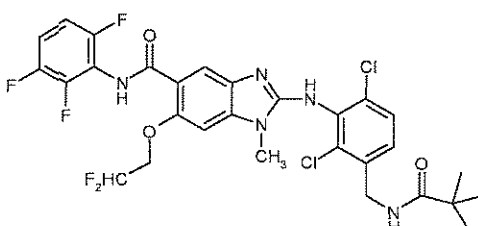
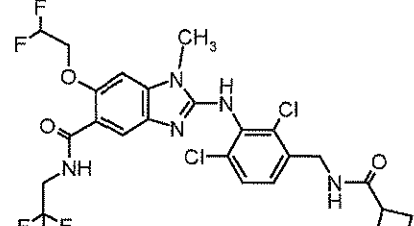
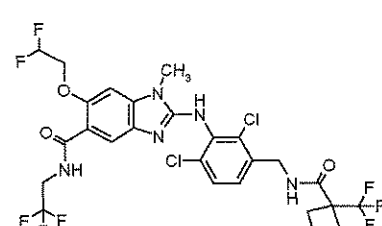
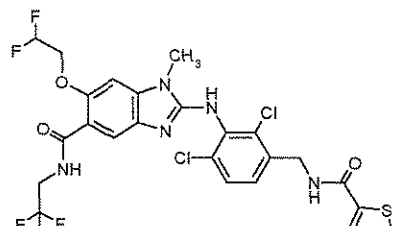
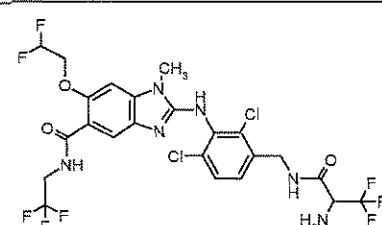
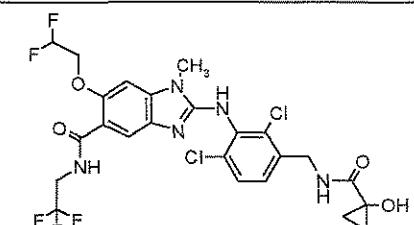
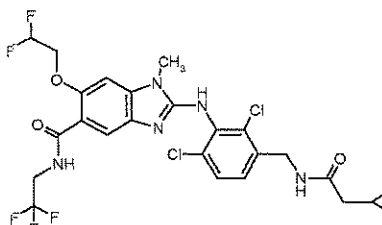
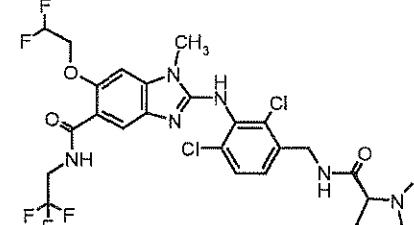
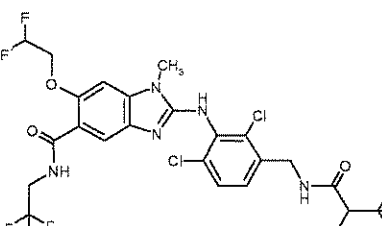
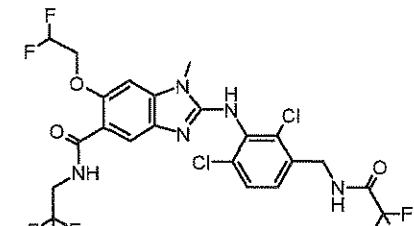
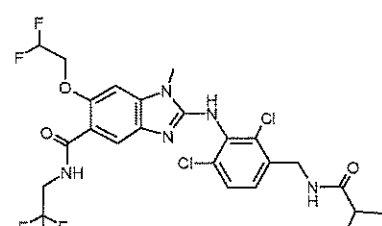
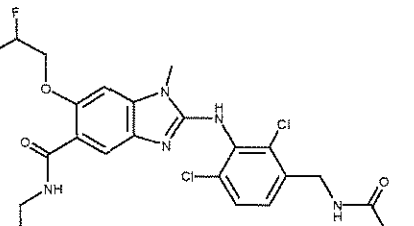
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	Structure		Structure
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	Structure		Structure
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	Structure		Structure
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	Structure		Structure
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	Structure		Structure
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	Structure		Structure
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101		107	
102		108	

	Structure		Structure
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111		117	
112		118	
113		119	
114		120	

	Structure		Structure
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122		128	
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	Structure		Structure
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134		140	
135		141	
136		142	
137		143	
138		144	

	Structure		Structure
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146		153	
147		154	
148		155	
149		156	
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	Structure		Structure
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165		172	

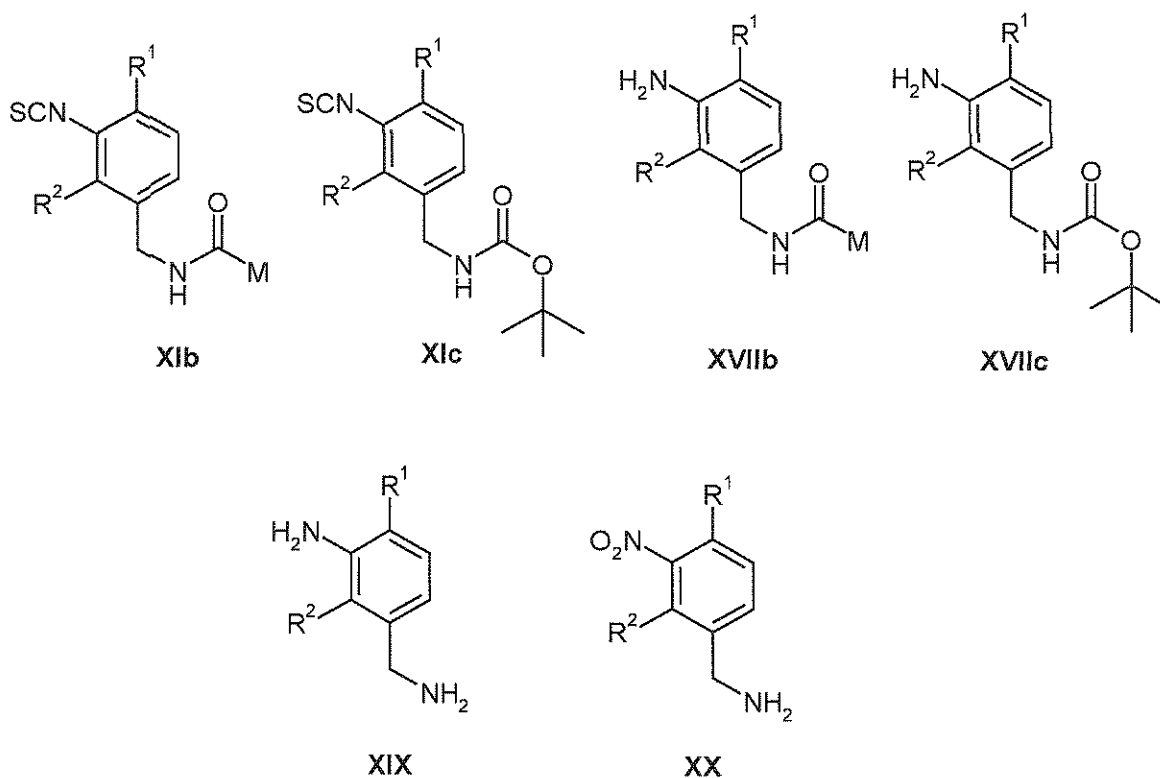
	Structure		Structure
173		180	
174		181	
175		182	
176			
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179			

12. A compound according to any of the preceding claims for use as a medicament.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound according to any of
5 claims 1 to 11 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in admixture with a
pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent and/or carrier.

14. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 11 or a pharmaceutically acceptable
salt thereof for use in the treatment and/or prevention of inflammatory diseases and/or
10 associated conditions, in particular pain.

15. An intermediate of formula **XIb**, **XIc**, **XVIIb**, **XVIIc**, **XIX** or **XX**



in which

R^1 and R^2

M

independently represent -chloro, fluoro or $-CH_3$;

represents

methyl, ethyl, propyl, *i*-propyl, *n*-butyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, cyclopropyl,

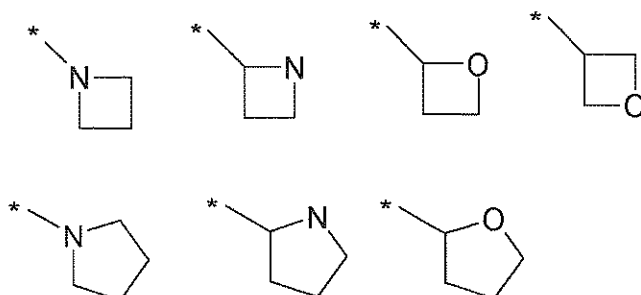
$-CH_2$ -cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, all of which groups are

optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from -F, -OH, -

CN, $-NH_2$, $-OCH_3$, $-CH_3$,

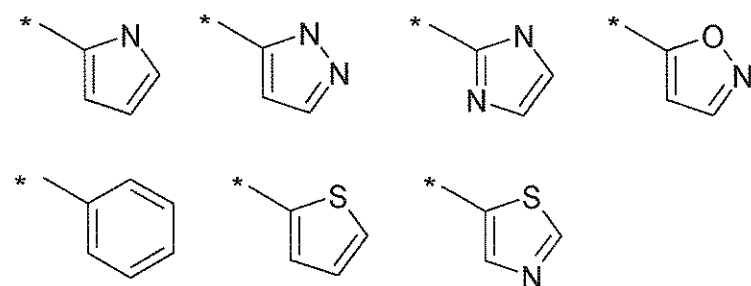
$-CF_3$;

or is selected from the following groups



all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -CH₃, or -CF₃;

or is selected from the following groups



all of which groups are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -F, -Cl, -CH₃, or -CF₃.

16. An intermediate according to claim 15, selected from the group of compounds comprising

