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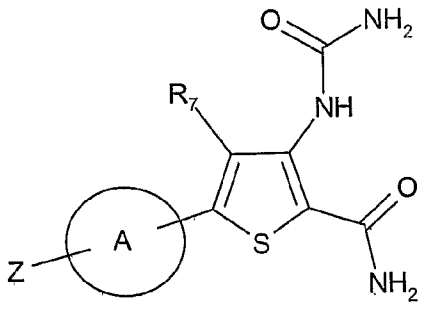
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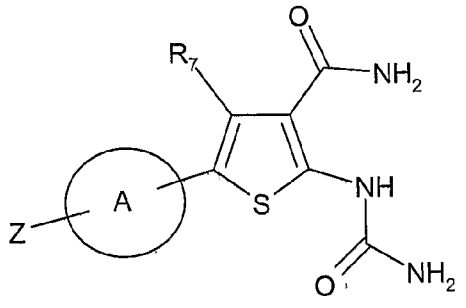
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(54) Title: IKK-β SERINE-THREONINE PROTEIN KINASE INHIBITORS



(IA)



(IB)

(57) Abstract: Compounds of formula (IA) or (IB) are inhibitors of IkB kinase (IKK) activity, and are useful in the treatment of autoimmune and inflammatory diseases: Formula (A) and (B) wherein R_7 is hydrogen or optionally substituted (C_1-C_6)alkyl; ring A is an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl ring of 5-13 ring atoms; Z is (a) a radical of formula R_1R_2CHNH-Y-L^1-X^1-$(CH_2)_Z$- wherein: z is 0 or 1; R1 is a carboxylic acid group (-COOH), or an ester group which is hydrolysable by one or more intracellular esterase enzymes to a carboxylic acid group; R2 is the side chain of a natural or non- natural alpha amino acid; Y is a bond, -C(=O)-, -S(=O)2-, -C(=O)O-, -C(=O)NR3-, - C(=S)-NR_3, -C(=NH)-NR_3 or -$S(=O)_2NR_3$- wherein R_3 is hydrogen or optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl; L^1 is a divalent linker radical of formula -$(Alk^1)_m(Q)_n(Alk^2)_p$- wherein m, n, p, Q, AIk^1 and AIk^2 are as defined in the claims.

WO 2008/053182 A1