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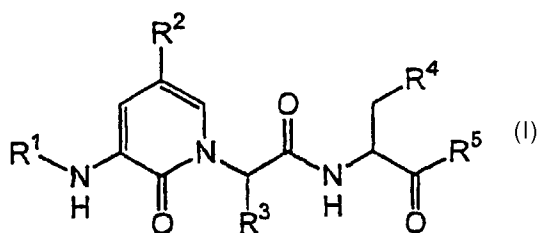
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(54) Title: 3 - [2- (3-AMINO-2-OXO-2H-PYRIDIN-1-YL) - ACETYLAMINO] - 4- OXO-PENTANOIC ACID DERIVATIVES AND THEIR USE AS CASPASE INHIBITORS



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a compound of formula (I), wherein R¹, R⁶C(O)-, HC(O)-, R⁶SO₂-, R⁶OC(O)-, (R⁶)₂NC(O)-, (R⁶) (H) NC (O)-, R⁶C (O) C (O)-, R⁶-, (R⁶)₂NC (O) C (O)-, R⁶ (H) NC (O) C (O)-, or R⁶OC (O) C (O)-; R² is hydrogen, CF₃, -halo, -OR⁷, -NO₂, -OCF₃, -CN, or R⁸; R³ is hydrogen or (C1-C4) -aliphatic-; R⁴ is -COOH or -COOR⁸; R⁵ is -CH₂F or -CH₂O-2, 3, 5, 6-tetrafluorophenyl. The present invention also provides pharmaceutical compositions and methods using such compositions for treating a caspase-mediated diseases and processes for preparing the compounds of the invention.