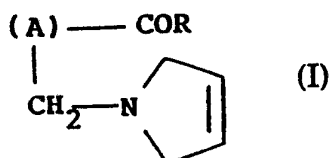
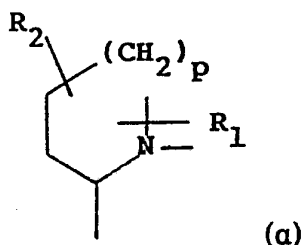
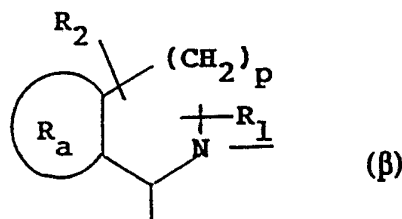




## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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| <b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/EP90/01961<br><b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 14 November 1990 (14.11.90)<br><b>(30) Priority data:</b><br>8926560.7 24 November 1989 (24.11.89) GB<br><b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> DR. LO ZAMBELETTI S.P.A. [IT/IT]; Via Zambelletti, I-20021 Baranzate (IT).<br><b>(72) Inventors; and</b><br><b>(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only) :</b> VECCHIETTI, Vittorio [IT/IT]; COLLE, Roberto [IT/IT]; Via Zambelletti, I-20021 Baranzate (IT).<br><b>(74) Agents:</b> RUSSELL, Brian, John; SmithKline Beecham, Corporate Patents, Great Burgh, Yew Tree Bottom Road, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5XQ (GB) et al. | <b>(81) Designated States:</b> AT (European patent), BE (European patent), CH (European patent), DE (European patent), DK (European patent), ES (European patent), FR (European patent), GB (European patent), GR (European patent), IT (European patent), JP, LU (European patent), NL (European patent), SE (European patent), US.<br><br><b>Published</b><br><i>With international search report.</i> |                                                                                                                                         |

**(54) Title:** N-ACYL-SUBSTITUTED AZACYCLIC COMPOUNDS, PROCESSES FOR THEIR PREPARATION, AND THEIR USE AS PHARMACEUTICALS

**(57) Abstract**

A compound, or a solvate or salt thereof, of formula (I), in which: (A) is (a) or (b); p is 1, 2 or 3; ROC- is an acyl group linked to the nitrogen atom of group (A) in which the group R contains a substituted or unsubstituted carbocyclic aromatic or heterocyclic aromatic ring; R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are substituents on the same or different carbon atoms and are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl; and R<sub>a</sub> is a fused substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic or carbocyclic aromatic ring, is useful for the treatment of pain, hyponatraemic disease states or cerebral ischaemia.

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N-Acyl-substituted azacyclic compounds, processes for their  
preparation, and their use as pharmaceuticals

This invention is concerned with novel substituted azacyclic  
compounds, processes for their preparation, and their use in  
5 medicine, particularly as analgesics.

Compounds which are kappa-receptor agonists act as  
analgesics through interaction with kappa opioid receptors.  
The advantage of kappa-receptor agonists over the classical  
10  $\mu$ -receptor agonists, such as morphine, lies in their ability  
to cause analgesia while being devoid of morphine-like  
behavioural effects and addiction liability.

European Published Patent Applications No. 0232612,  
15 discloses a group of azacyclic derivatives which exhibit  
kappa-receptor agonism without some of the behavioural  
effects of morphine and morphine analogues, and which are  
thus of potential therapeutic utility as analgesics.

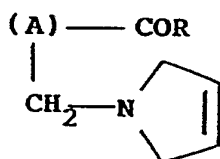
20 A novel class of substituted azacyclic compounds has now  
been discovered which also exhibit potent kappa-receptor  
agonism without the aforementioned undesirable behavioural  
effects.

25 The novel class of compounds also possess diuretic activity  
which indicates that they are of potential use in the  
treatment of hyponatraemic disease states in mammals. The  
compounds are also of potential use in the treatment of  
cerebral ischaemia.

30

According to the present invention there is provided a  
compound, or a solvate or salt thereof, of formula (I):

5



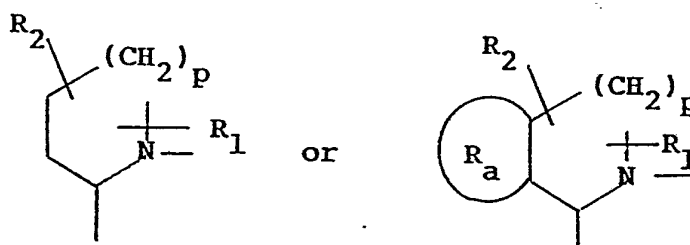
(I)

10

in which:

(A) is

15



p is 1, 2 or 3;

20 ROC- is an acyl group linked to the nitrogen atom of group (A) in which the group R contains a substituted or unsubstituted carbocyclic aromatic or heterocyclic aromatic ring;

25  $\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_2$  are substituents on the same or different carbon atoms and are independently hydrogen or  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl;

$\text{R}_a$  is a fused substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic or carbocyclic aromatic ring.

30

The  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl groups of  $\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_2$  may be either straight or branched chain and examples are methyl, ethyl, propyl, n-butyl, n-pentyl or n-hexyl.  $\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_2$  are preferably

hydrogen or methyl, especially gem-dimethyl.

In (A), p is preferably 2 so that (A) has the character of a piperidine ring.

5

In the definition of ROC- the term "carbocyclic aromatic" includes single or fused rings, having 6 to 12 ring carbon atoms, and the term "heterocyclic aromatic" includes single or fused rings having 5 to 12 ring atoms, comprising up to 10 four hetero-atoms in the or each ring, selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulphur. When the carbocyclic or heterocyclic group is a fused two ring system, one or both rings may be aromatic in character. Suitably, one of the rings is aromatic and the other is non-aromatic.

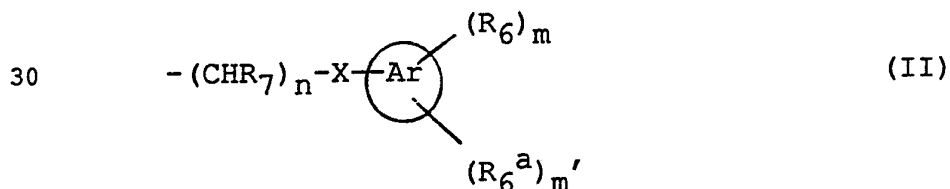
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When  $R_a$  forms a heterocyclic group, it may be a single ring having aromatic character, containing up to 6 ring atoms and comprising up to 2 hetero-atoms in the ring selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulphur.

20

When  $R_a$  forms an optionally substituted phenyl ring, examples of substituents are one or more of  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, preferably methyl, halogen,, hydroxy,  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy, thiol or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl thio. Suitably  $R_x$  represents thienyl, imidazolyl 25 and unsubstituted phenyl.

The group R preferably has the formula (II):



in which  $n$  is 0, 1 or 2;  
 $m$  is 0, 1 or 2;  
 $m'$  is 0, 1 or 2, provided  $m + m' \leq 2$   
 $X$  is a direct bond, or O, S or  $\text{NR}_8$  in which  $R_8$  is  
5 hydrogen or  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl,  
(Ar) is a substituted or unsubstituted carbocyclic or  
heterocyclic group,

each of  $R_6$  and  $R_6^a$  is  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkenyl,  $\text{C}_{2-6}$   
10 alkynyl,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  haloalkyl,  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  haloalkenyl,  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  haloalkynyl,  
optionally substituted phenyl, optionally substituted phenyl  
 $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl, hydroxy,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkoxy, thiol,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$   
alkylthio,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  haloalkoxy,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  haloalkylthio,  
halogen,  $\text{NO}_2$ , CN,  $\text{CF}_3$ ,  $-\text{OCF}_3$ ,  $-\text{OCHF}_2$ ,  $-\text{OCF}_2\text{CF}_2\text{H}$ ,  
15  $-\text{OCCl}_2\text{CF}_3$ ,  $-\text{COOR}_9$ ,  $-\text{CONR}_{10}\text{R}_{11}$ ,  $-\text{SO}_3\text{R}_{12}$ ,  $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}_{13}\text{R}_{14}$  and  
 $-\text{COR}_{15}$  in which each of  $R_9$  to  $R_{15}$  is independently  
hydrogen,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl, optionally substituted phenyl or  
optionally substituted phenyl  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl;  
or, when  $m$  is 2 and  $m'$  is 0, two  $R_6$ 's form a  $\text{C}_{3-6}$   
20 polymethylene group,  
and  $R_7$  is hydrogen or  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl, such as methyl or ethyl.

Preferred halogens are F, Cl and Br.

25 When two  $R_6$ 's are linked they preferably form a fused  
cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl ring.

Preferably Ar is phenyl and  $R_6$  or  $R_6^a$  is preferably in the  
meta and/or para position.

30

Preferably  $R_6$  or  $R_6^a$  is bromine, chlorine, or  $\text{CF}_3$ ,  
particularly in the meta- or para- position.

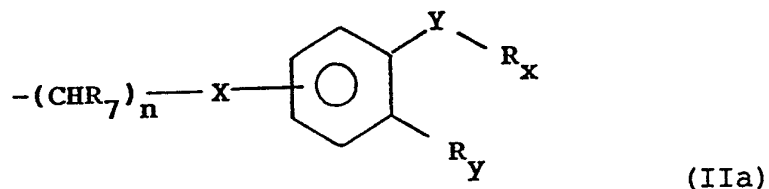
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-5-

X is typically oxygen or a direct bond, and n is typically 0 or 1.

A further preferred group R has the formula (IIa)

5



10

in which the group  $-(CHR_7)_n-X-$ , which is as defined in formula II, is in the meta- or para- position with respect to  $YR_x$  or  $R_y$ ,

15 Y is  $>C=O$ ,  $>CHOH$ ,  $>S=O$  or  $>SO_2$ ;

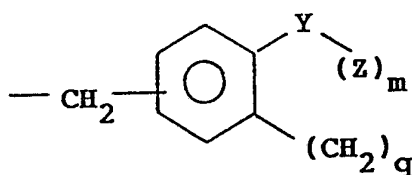
each of  $R_x$  and  $R_y$  is  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, or

$R_x$  and  $R_y$  are linked together and  $R_x$  represents  $-(Z)_m-$  where m is 0 or 1 and Z is O, S or  $NR_z$  where  $R_z$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl,

20 and  $R_y$  represents  $-(CH_2)_q-$  where q is an integer of from 1 to 4, preferably 2 or 3.

A preferred sub-group of formula (IIa) is a group of formula (IIb)

25



30

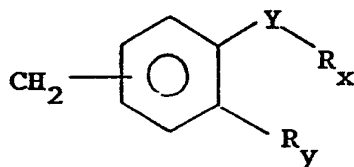
(IIb)

in which Y, Z, m, q and the position of  $-CH_2-$  are as defined in formula (IIa).

35 Preferably, q is 2 when Z is oxygen and m is 1, and q is 3 when m is 0.

A further preferred sub-group of formula (IIa) is the group of formula (IIc)

5

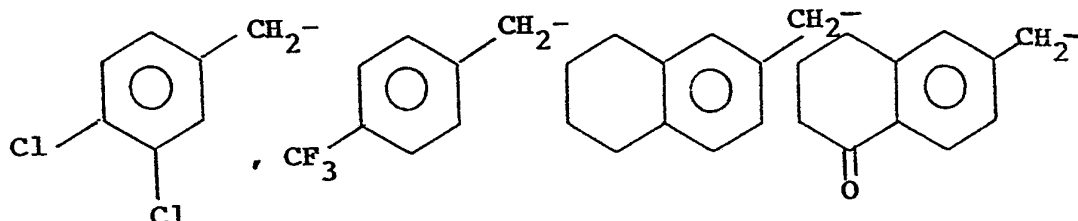


(IIc)

in which Y is  $>C=O$  or  $CHOH$ , each of  $R_x$  and  $R_y$  is  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, preferably methyl, and the position of  $-CH_2-$  is as defined in formula (IIa)

Some typical examples of suitable R substituents are

15



The compounds of formula I or their salts or solvates are preferably in pharmaceutically acceptable or substantially pure form. By pharmaceutically acceptable form is meant, inter alia, of a pharmaceutically acceptable level of purity excluding normal pharmaceutical additives such as diluents and carriers, and including no material considered toxic at normal dosage levels.

A substantially pure form will generally contain at least 50% (excluding normal pharmaceutical additives), preferably 75%, more preferably 90% and still more preferably 95% of the compound of formula I or its salt or solvate.

One preferred pharmaceutically acceptable form is the crystalline form, including such form in a pharmaceutical composition. In the case of salts and solvates the

additional ionic and solvent moieties must also be non-toxic.

Examples of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of a compound of formula I include the acid addition salts with the conventional pharmaceutical acids, for example, maleic, hydrochloric, hydrobromic, phosphoric, acetic, fumaric, salicylic, citric, lactic, mandelic, tartaric, succinic, benzoic, ascorbic and methanesulphonic.

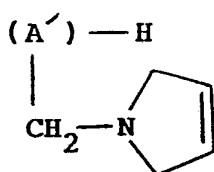
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Examples of a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate of a compound of formula I include the hydrate.

The compounds of formula I have at least one asymmetric centre and therefore exist in more than one stereoisomeric form. The invention extends to all such forms and to mixtures thereof, including racemates.

The present invention also provides a process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) which comprises reacting a compound of formula (III):

25

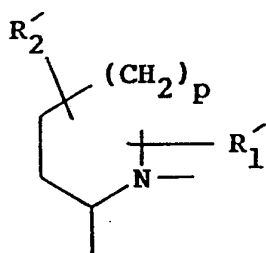


(III)

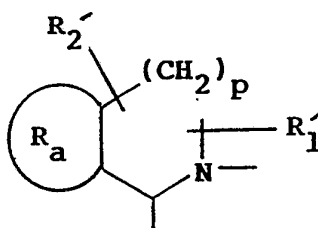
in which

30 (A') is

35



or



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in which  $R_1'$  and  $R_2'$  are  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  respectively as defined for formula (I), or each is a group or atom convertible to  $R_1$  or  $R_2$  respectively, and  $p$  is 1, 2 or 3.

5 with a compound of formula  $R'CO.OH$  or an active derivative thereof,

in which  $R'$  is  $R$  as defined for formula (I), or a group convertible to  $R$ ,

10

to form a compound of formula (I'):



(I')

20

and then optionally performing one of the following steps:

- a) where  $R'$ ,  $R_1'$  and  $R_2'$  are other than  $R$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , converting  $R'$ ,  $R_1'$  and  $R_2'$  to  $R$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  to obtain a  
25 compound of formula (I),
- b) where  $R'$ ,  $R_1'$  and  $R_2'$  are  $R$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  converting one  $R$ ,  $R_1$  or  $R_2$  to another  $R$ ,  $R_1$  or  $R_2$  to obtain a compound of formula (I),
- 30 c) forming a salt and/or solvate of the obtained compound of formula (I).

Suitable active derivatives of  $R'CO.OH$  are acid chlorides or  
35 acid anhydrides. Another suitable derivative is a mixed

anhydride formed between the acid and an alkyl chloroformate.

For example, in standard methods well known to those skilled in the art, the compound of formula (III) may be coupled:

- a) with an acid chloride in the presence of an inorganic or organic base,
- 10 b) with the acid in the presence of dicyclohexyl carbodiimide, N-dimethylaminopropyl-N'-ethyl carbodiimide or carbonyl diimidazole,
- c) with a mixed anhydride generated in situ from the acid  
15 and an alkyl (for example ethyl) chloroformate.

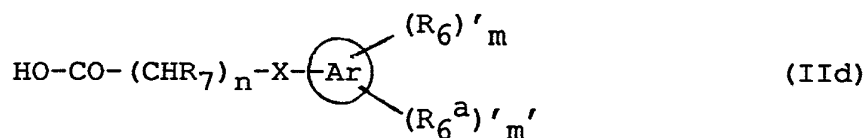
It will be appreciated that a compound of formula (I') may be converted to a compound of formula (I), or one compound of formula (I) may be converted to another compound of  
20 formula (I), by interconversion of suitable substituents. Thus certain compounds of formula (I) and (I') are useful intermediates in forming other compounds of the present invention.

25  $R_1'$  and  $R_2'$  are preferably  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  respectively.

The above described process can provide a diastereoisomeric mixture which can be subsequently separated into isomers by column chromatography.

30

The compound  $R'CO.OH$  is typically of the formula (IIId):



5

in which  $\text{R}_6'$  is  $\text{R}_6$  and  $(\text{R}_6^a)'$  is  $\text{R}_6^a$  are as defined for formula (II), or a group or atom convertible to  $\text{R}_6$  or  $\text{R}_6^a$ , the other variables being as defined for formula (II).

10 Conversions of substituents  $\text{R}_6'$  or  $(\text{R}_6^a)'$  on the aromatic group (Ar) to obtain  $\text{R}_6$  or  $\text{R}_6^a$  are generally known in the art of aromatic chemistry.

$\text{R}_6'$  is preferably  $\text{R}_6$  and  $(\text{R}_6^a)'$  is preferably  $\text{R}_6^a$ .

15 A preferred reagent is the equivalent acid halide of formula (IIId) in which the halide is typically chlorine or bromine.

The compounds of formula (I) may be converted into their pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts by reaction  
20 with the appropriate organic or mineral acids.

Solvates of the compounds of formula (I) may be formed by crystallization or recrystallization from the appropriate solvent. For example hydrates may be formed by  
25 crystallization or recrystallization from aqueous solutions, or solutions in organic solvents containing water.

Also salts or solvates of the compounds of formula (I) which are not pharmaceutically acceptable may be useful as  
30 intermediates in the production of pharmaceutically acceptable salts or solvates. Accordingly such salts or solvates also form part of this invention.

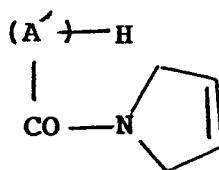
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The compounds of formula (I) and their intermediates exist in more than one stereoisomeric form and the processes of the invention produces mixtures thereof. The individual enantiomers may be obtained by resolution of the compounds of formula (I) using an optically active acid such as tartaric acid or by resolution of the intermediate diamines of formula (III), for example by first protecting the NH group with an alkyl or benzyl chloroformate, resolving the compound thus formed using an active acid, such as O,O'-di-p-toluoyl tartaric acid, and subsequently deprotecting the optically active alkyl or benzyl carbamates in accordance with standard methods.

Alternatively, compounds of formula (III) may be treated with an optically active acid chloride, such as S(-)-camphanic chloride, and the pure enantiomers can be obtained by hydrolysis of the separated diastereomeric amides.

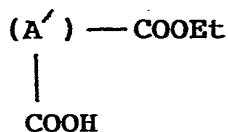
Alternatively, an asymmetric synthesis would offer a route to individual enantiomers.

The compounds of formula (III) may be conveniently prepared by reduction of a compound of formula (IV):



30 (IV)

The compounds of formula (IV) may be obtained by reaction of an N-carbethoxy-protected amino acid of formula (V):

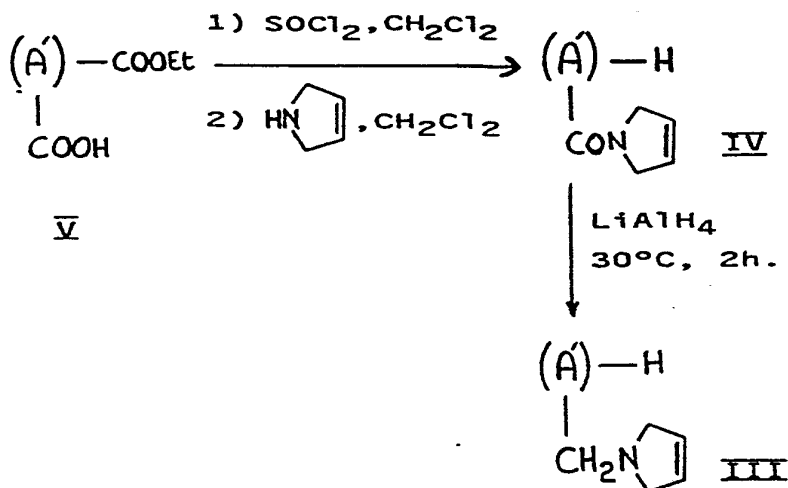


(V)

firstly with thionyl chloride, then with 3-pyrroline.

The overall reaction from (V) to (III) is illustrated in the following reaction scheme I:

SCHEME I



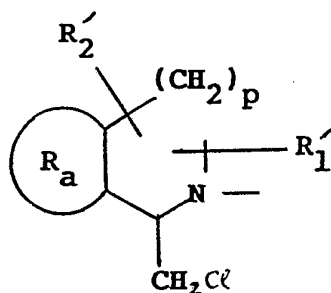
The reactions with thionyl chloride and 3-pyrroline both conveniently take place in dichloromethane as solvent. A

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low temperature of about  $-5^{\circ}\text{C}$  is preferably used. The subsequent reduction preferably uses a mixed hydride such as  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  in an inert solvent, preferably THF. A temperature of about  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$  and reaction time of about 2 hours, have been found to give good results.

The compounds of formula (III) in which (A) includes the fused ring system  $\text{R}_a$  may also be obtained by reacting pyrroline with a compound of formula (VI):

10

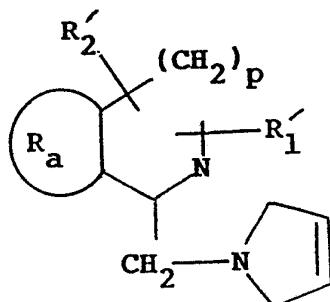


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(VI)

The resultant compound of formula (VII):

20

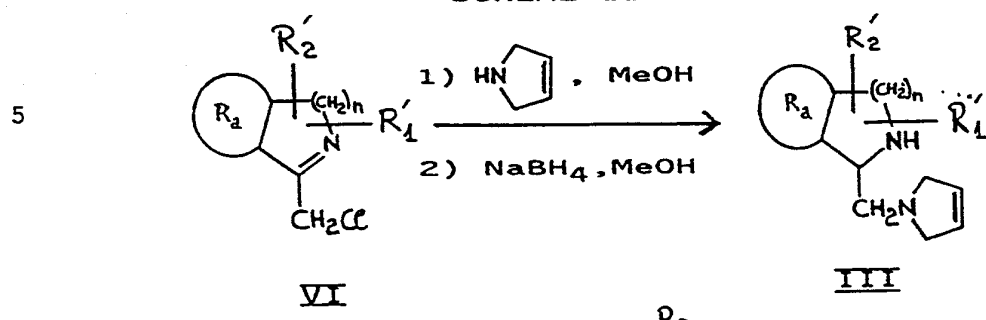


(VII)

25 is then reduced to a compound of formula (III).

This route is summarised in the following reaction scheme II:

SCHEME II



10

In this scheme, the reaction with pyrroline may take place in a suitable solvent, such as methanol, typically at 0 to 50°C. The reduction of the resulting intermediate may be carried out with a mixed hydride such as  $\text{NaBH}_4$  or  $\text{NaCNBH}_3$ , preferably in a protic solvent, again conveniently methanol.

The compounds of formulae (V) and (VI) are known compounds or can be prepared by routine methods from known compounds. Reference is directed to European Published Patent Application No. 0232989 previously cited.

The intermediate compounds of formula (III) above are novel compounds and, as such, they form a further aspect of this invention.

The activity of the compounds of formula (I) in standard tests indicates that they are of potential therapeutic utility in the treatment of pain, hyponatraemic disease states, and cerebral ischaemia.

Accordingly the present invention also provides a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, for use as an active therapeutic substance.

The present invention further provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

The present invention also provides the use of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of pain, hyponatraemic diseases states, or cerebral ischaemia.

Such a medicament, and a composition of this invention, may be prepared by admixture of a compound of the invention with an appropriate carrier. It may contain a diluent, binder, filler, disintegrant, flavouring agent, colouring agent, lubricant or preservative in conventional manner.

These conventional excipients may be employed for example as in the preparation of compositions of known analgesic agents diuretics, or agents for treating cerebral ischaemia.

Preferably, a pharmaceutical composition of the invention is in unit dosage form and in a form adapted for use in the medical or veterinarial fields. For example, such preparations may be in a pack form accompanied by written or printed instructions for use as an agent in the treatment of pain or as a diuretic, or for treatment of cerebral ischaemia.

30

The suitable dosage range for the compounds of the invention depends on the compound to be employed and on the condition of the patient. It will also depend, inter alia, upon the relation of potency to absorbability and the frequency and

route of administration.

The compound or composition of the invention may be formulated for administration by any route, and is preferably in unit dosage form or in a form that a human patient may administer to himself in a single dosage. Advantageously, the composition is suitable for oral, rectal, topical, parenteral, intravenous or intramuscular administration. Preparations may be designed to give slow release of the active ingredient.

Compositions may, for example, be in the form of tablets, capsules, sachets, vials, powders, granules, lozenges, reconstitutable powders, or liquid preparations, for example solutions or suspensions, or suppositories.

The compositions, for example those suitable for oral administration, may contain conventional excipients such as binding agents, for example syrup, acacia, gelatin, sorbitol, tragacanth, or polyvinylpyrrolidone; fillers, for example lactose, sugar, maize-starch, calcium phosphate, sorbitol or glycine; tableting lubricants, for example magnesium stearate; disintegrants, for example starch, polyvinyl-pyrrolidone, sodium starch glycollate or microcrystalline cellulose; or pharmaceutically acceptable setting agents such as sodium lauryl sulphate.

Solid compositions may be obtained by conventional methods of blending, filling, tableting or the like. Repeated blending operations may be used to distribute the active agent throughout those compositions employing large quantities of fillers. When the composition is in the form of a tablet, powder, or lozenge, any carrier suitable for formulating solid pharmaceutical compositions may be used, examples being magnesium stearate, starch, glucose, lactose,

sucrose, rice flour and chalk. Tablets may be coated according to methods well known in normal pharmaceutical practice, in particular with an enteric coating. The composition may also be in the form of an ingestible capsule, for example of gelatin containing the compound, if desired with a carrier or other excipients.

Compositions for oral administration as liquids may be in the form of, for example, emulsions, syrups, or elixirs, or may be presented as a dry product for reconstitution with water or other suitable vehicle before use. Such liquid compositions may contain conventional additives such as suspending agents, for example sorbitol, syrup, methyl cellulose, gelatin, hydroxyethylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, aluminium stearate gel, hydrogenated edible fats; emulsifying agents, for example lecithin, sorbitan monooleate, or acacia; aqueous or non-aqueous vehicles, which include edible oils, for example almond oil, fractionated coconut oil, oily esters, for example esters of glycerine, or propylene glycol, or ethyl alcohol, glycerine, water or normal saline; preservatives, for example methyl or propyl p-hydroxybenzoate or sorbic acid; and if desired conventional flavouring or colouring agents.

The compounds of this invention may also be administered by a non-oral route. In accordance with routine pharmaceutical procedure, the compositions may be formulated, for example for rectal administration as a suppository. They may also be formulated for presentation in an injectable form in an aqueous or non-aqueous solution, suspension or emulsion in a pharmaceutically acceptable liquid, e.g. sterile pyrogen-free water or a parenterally acceptable oil or a mixture of liquids. The liquid may contain bacteriostatic agents, anti-oxidants or other preservatives, buffers or solutes to render the solution isotonic with the blood, thickening agents, suspending agents or other

pharmaceutically acceptable additives. Such forms will be presented in unit dose form such as ampoules or disposable injection devices or in multi- dose forms such as a bottle from which the appropriate dose may be withdrawn or a solid  
5 form or concentrate which can be used to prepare an injectable formulation.

As mentioned earlier, the effective dose of compound depends on the particular compound employed, the condition of the  
10 patient and on the frequency and route of administration. A unit dose will generally contain from 20 to 1000 mg and preferably will contain from 30 to 500 mg, in particular 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, or 500 mg. The composition may be administered once or more times a day for  
15 example 2, 3 or 4 times daily, and the total daily dose for a 70 kg adult will normally be in the range 100 to 3000 mg. Alternatively the unit dose will contain from 2 to 20 mg of active ingredient and be administered in multiples, if desired, to give the preceding daily dose.

20

Within the above indicated dosage range, no adverse toxicological effects have been observed with compounds of the invention.

25 The present invention also provides a method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of pain and/or hyponatraemic disease states and/or cerebral ischaemia in mammals, particularly humans, which comprises administering to the mammal in need of such treatment and/or prophylaxis an  
30 effective amount of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

Compounds of this invention and their preparation are illustrated in the following Examples, while the  
35 Descriptions illustrate the preparation of intermediates.

Table I provides a summary of the intermediates and their preparation; Table 2 summarizes the structure of the products of the Examples.

5 The pharmacological activity of the compounds of this invention is illustrated using the following test procedures. The results are summarised in Table (III).

- 20 -

Description 1

## 1-ethoxycarbonyl pipecolic acid

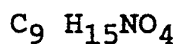
15.0 g (0.116 moles) of (+) pipecolic acid were dissolved in 180 ml of water.

25.5 g (0.185 moles) of potassium carbonate were added and the solution cooled to +5°C.

19.83 g (0.183 moles) of ethyl chloroformate were added dropwise under mechanical stirring, maintaining the temperature below +10°C.

After 4 hours the reaction mixture was extracted with methylene chloride; the aqueous layer were treated with conc. HCl to acidic pH, extracted with methylene chloride (400 ml) which was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent evaporated to dryness to afford 23.8 g of the crude product.

Crystallization from isopropyl ether/n-hexane gave 21.7 g (93% of the theoretical) of the title compound.



M.W. = 201.22

M.P. = 82-84°C

I.R. (KBr) : 3100; 1760; 1650; 1445; 1275; 1195 cm<sup>-1</sup>

N.M.R. (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.2 (s, 1H); 4.9 (m, 1H); 4.2 (q, 2H); 4.0 (m, 1H); 3.2-2.8 (m, 1H); 2.4-1.1 (m, 6H); 1.2 (t, 3H).  
80 MHz

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Description 1a

## (2S)-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)carbonyl piperidine

4.5 ml (0.062 moles) of thionyl chloride were added dropwise to a stirred solution of 4.5 g (0.022 moles) of 1-ethoxycarbonyl-(S)-pipecolic acid in 60 ml of dry methylene chloride, cooled below -5°C.

The stirring was continued 24 hours at room temperature and the solvent evaporated in vacuo to afford a residue which was dissolved in 30 ml of dry methylene chloride and added dropwise to a stirred solution of 3.3 g (0.048 moles) of 3-pyrroline in 40 ml of methylene chloride, cooled below -5°C.

The stirring was continued 24 hours at room temperature; the reaction mixture was diluted with 50 ml of methylene chloride and washed twice with a saturated solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The solvent was evaporated in vacuo to dryness to yield 3.0 g of the title compound, which was sufficiently pure for the following step.

Description 1b

## (2S)-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl piperidine

3.0 g (0.017 moles) of (2S)-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)carbonyl piperidine were added dropwise, under nitrogen atmosphere, to a suspension of 1.2 g (0.031 moles) of lithium aluminium hydride in 60 ml of dry THF, at room temperature.

After the addition was completed the slurry was heated 4 hours at 40°C.

The alkaline work-up afforded 2.0 g of the title compound.

Description 2

## 1-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

3.33 g (0.032 moles) of 3-pyrroline hydrochloride were added, portionwise, at 0°C, to a solution of 1.64 g (0.041 moles) of NaOH in 30 ml of methanol.

After 15' 2.2 g (0.01 moles) of 1-chloromethyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline hydrochloride [J. Am. Chem. Soc. 59, 2555 (1933)] were added portionwise, under nitrogen, to the above stirred solution, cooled below -5°C.

The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature, heated 3 hours at 40°C and then cooled to 0°C; 1 g (0.026 moles) of sodium borohydride was added.

After three hours 2 ml of conc. NaOH solution were added and the inorganic salts filtered off.

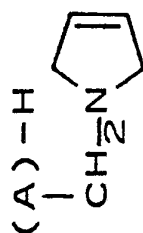
The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to afford a residue which was treated with conc. NaOH solution and exhaustively extracted with diethyl ether.

The ethereal solution was filtered over celite, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and the solvent evaporated in vacuo to dryness. The crude product was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography, eluting with a mixture of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}/32\% \text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ , 94:5:0.5, to yield 1.4 g of the title compound.

In table I are summarized the structures, synthetic descriptions and analytical data of the intermediate diamines.

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TABLE I



| (A)-<br> | MOLECULAR<br>FORMULA                             | SYNTHETIC<br>DESCRIPTION | N.M.R. (CDCl <sub>3</sub> )<br>80 Mhz. *                                                                                      |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|          | C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub>   | 1a, 1b                   | 5.8 (s, 2H); 3.5 (m, 4H); 2.9-3.2 (m, 1H);<br>2.5-2.7 (m, 2H); 2.2-2.4 (m, 3H); 0.9-1.7 (m, 6H)                               |
|          | C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>22</sub> N <sub>2</sub>   | 1a, 1b                   | 5.8 (s, 2H); 3.4 (m, 4H); 2.9-3.2 (m, 1H);<br>2.5-2.7 (m, 2H); 2.2-2.4 (m, 2H); 2.2 (s, 1H);<br>0.9-1.7 (m, 4H); 0.8 (2d, 6H) |
|          | C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub>   | 2                        | 7.0-7.2 (m, 4H); 5.8 (s, 2H); 4.0 (dd, 1H);<br>3.5 (s, 4H); 2.8-3.2 (m, 6H); 2.7 (s, 1H)                                      |
|          | C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>22</sub> N <sub>2</sub>   | 2                        | 7.0-7.2 (m, 4H); 5.8 (s, 2H); 4.0 (dd, 1H);<br>3.5 (s, 4H); 2.9-3.1 (m, 4H); 2.6 (s, 1H); 1.3 (2d, 6H)                        |
|          | C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>2</sub> S | 2                        | 6.9 (AB system, J=5 Hz, 2H); 5.8 (s, 2H);<br>3.9 (dd, 1H); 3.5 (s, 4H); 2.7-3.2 (s, 6H); 2.4 (s, 1H)                          |
|          | C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>2</sub> S | 2                        | 7.0 (AB system, J=5 Hz, 2H); 5.8 (s, 2H); 3.9 (dd, 1H);<br>3.5 (s, 4H); 2.8-3.1 (m, 4H); 2.5 (s, 1H); 1.4 (2d, 6H)            |

\* Data are given for the crude products, which were sufficiently pure for the subsequent reaction.

Example 1

(2S)-1-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)acetyl-2-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl piperidine hydrochloride

1.6 g (7.15 mmoles) of 3,4-dichlorophenylacetyl chloride, dissolved in 10 ml of dry chloroform, were added dropwise to a stirred solution of 1.0 g (6.02 mmoles) of 2(S)-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl piperidine dissolved in 30 ml of dry chloroform in the presence of 0.83 g (6.02 mmoles) of anhydrous potassium carbonate, kept at 0°C.

The reaction mixture was stirred three hours at room temperature, washed with water, 5% NaOH solution and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>; the solvent was evaporated in vacuo to dryness to afford 1.6 g of the crude product which was dissolved in 40 ml of ethyl acetate and the solution brought to acidic pH with HCl/diethyl ether.

The precipitate was filtered, washed and dried, to yield 1.1 g of the title compound.

C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O . HCl

M.P. = 211-213°C

M.W. = 389.751

I.R. (KBr) : 3450; 2520; 1630 cm<sup>-1</sup>

$[\alpha]_D^{20} = -43.8$  (C=1, MeOH)

Example 2

1-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)acetyl-2-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-3,3-dimethyl piperidine hydrochloride

Prepared as Example No. 1 from 0.50 g (2.77 mmoles) of 2-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-3,3-dimethyl piperidine, 0.28 g (2.9 mmoles) of anhydrous potassium carbonate and 0.64 g (2.9 mmoles) of 3,4-dichlorophenylacetyl chloride in 25 ml of dry chloroform.

The work-up afforded 0.65 g of a brown oil which was dissolved in 20 ml of ethyl acetate and the solution brought to acidic pH with HCl/diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered, washed and dried, to yield 0.20 g of the title compound.

C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>26</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O . HCl

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M.P. = 223-224°C

M.W. = 417.803

Elemental analysis: Calcd. C, 57.49; H, 6.11; N, 6.70; Cl, 25.45;  
Found C, 57.39; H, 6.08; N, 6.68; Cl, 25.51.

I.R. (KBr): 3450; 2950; 2520; 1630; 1470; 1430  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

N.M.R. ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  12.0-12.6 (s, broad, 1H); 7.3-7.55 (m, 3H);  
(80 MHz) 5.85 (s, 2H); 4.7-5.1 (m, 2H); 2.8-4.7  
(m, 9H); 1.2-1.7 (m, 4H); 0.9 (ds, 6H).

### Example 3

1-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)acetyl-2-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-  
3,3-dimethyl piperidine hydrochloride

Prepared as Example No. 1 from 0.50 g (2.77 mmoles) of  
2-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-3,3-dimethyl piperidine, 0.28 g (2.9  
mmoles) of anhydrous potassium carbonate and 0.65 g (2.9  
mmoles) of 4-trifluoromethylphenylacetyl chloride in 25 ml of  
dry chloroform.

The work-up afforded 0.7 g of a brown oil which was dissolved  
in 20 ml of ethyl acetate and the solution brought to acidic pH  
with HCl/diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered, washed  
and dried, to yield 0.30 g of the title compound.

$\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{27}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{HCl}$

M.P. = 250-252°C

M.W. = 416.907

Elemental analysis: Calcd. C, 60.49; H, 6.76; N, 6.71; Cl, 8.50;  
Found C, 60.10; H, 6.70; N, 6.65; Cl, 8.46.

I.R. (KBr): 3440; 2955; 2560; 1625; 1430; 1340  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

N.M.R. ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  12.1-12.7 (s, broad, 1H); 7.4-7.7 (m, 4H);  
(80 MHz) 5.8 (s, 2H); 4.7-5.1 (m, 2H); 2.8-4.6  
(m, 9H); 1.2-1.7 (m, 4H); 0.9 (ds, 6H).

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Example 4

1-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydronapht-2-yl)acetyl-2-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)  
methyl-3,3-dimethyl piperidine hydrochloride

1.43 g (6.97 mmoles) of dicyclohexylcarbodiimide, dissolved in 10 ml of dry chloroform, were added dropwise to a stirred solution of 0.6 g (3.3 mmoles) of 2-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-3,3-dimethyl piperidine and 0.76 g (3.9 mmoles) of 5,6,7,8-tetrahydronapht-2-yl acetic acid in 20 ml of dry chloroform at -10°C.

After the addition, the solution was allowed to reach room temperature and stirring continued overnight.

The precipitate was filtered off and the filtrate was evaporated in vacuo to dryness.

The residue was dissolved in 30 ml of ethyl acetate and washed with 10% NaOH.

The organic layer was dried over sodium sulphate and evaporated in vacuo to dryness. The oily residue was taken up in 30 ml of ethyl acetate and brought to acidic pH with HCl/diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered, washed and dried, to yield 0.35 g of the title compound.

$C_{24}H_{34}N_2O \cdot HCl$

M.P. = 194-196°C

M.W. = 402.993

Elemental analysis: Calcd. C, 71.52; H, 8.75; N, 6.95;  
Found C, 71.40; H, 8.71; N, 6.88.

I.R. (KBr): 3420; 2920; 2680; 1625; 1420  $cm^{-1}$

N.M.R. ( $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  11.9-12.5 (s, broad, 1H); 6.9-7.1 (m, 3H);  
(80 MHz) 5.8 (s, 2H); 4.2-5.2 (m, 3H); 2.5-4.1  
(m, 8H); 1.5-2.0 (m, 6H); 1.0-1.5 (m, 6H);  
0.9 (ds, 6H).

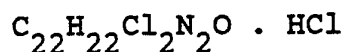
Example 5

1-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)acetyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline hydrochloride

Prepared as Example No. 1 from 1.44 g (6.73 mmoles) of 1-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline, 1.8 g

(13.05 mmoles) of anhydrous potassium carbonate and 1.8 g (8.05 mmoles) of 3,4-dichlorophenylacetyl chloride in 50 ml of dry chloroform.

The work-up of the reaction mixture afforded 1.9 g of the crude product which was dissolved in 60 ml of ethyl acetate and the solution brought to acidic pH with HCl/diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered, washed and dried, to yield 1.5 g of the title compound.



M.P. = 256-258°C

M.W. = 437.791

Elemental analysis: Calcd. C, 60.35; H, 5.30; N, 6.40; Cl, 24.30;  
Found C, 60.17; H, 5.33; N, 6.38; Cl, 24.26.

I.R. (KBr): 3450; 2550; 1625; 1450  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

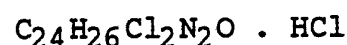
N.M.R. ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  12.5 (s, broad, 1H); 7.0-7.4 (m, 7H);  
(80 MHz) 6.1 (dd, 1H); 5.8 (s, 2H); 3.0-5.1 (m, 10H);  
2.7-2.9 (m, 2H).

#### Example 6

1-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)acetyl-4,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline hydrochloride

Prepared as Example No. 1 from 1.4 g (5.78 mmoles) of 1-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-4,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline, 1.6 g (11.59 mmoles) of anhydrous potassium carbonate and 1.5 g (6.71 mmoles) of 3,4-dichlorophenylacetyl chloride in 50 ml of dry chloroform.

The work-up of the reaction mixture afforded 1.9 g of the crude product which was dissolved in 60 ml of ethyl acetate and the solution brought to acidic pH with HCl/diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered, washed and dried, to yield 1.6 g of the title compound.



M.P. = 254-257°C

M.W. = 465.843

Elemental analysis: Calcd. C, 61.87; H, 5.84; N, 6.01; Cl, 22.83;  
Found C, 61.94; H, 5.88; N, 5.99; Cl, 22.75.

I.R. (KBr): 3450; 2960; 2540; 1630; 1440  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

N.M.R. ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  12.5 (s, broad, 1H); 6.9-7.5 (m, 7H);  
(80 MHz) 6.1 (dd, 1H); 5.8 (s, 2H); 3.9-5.1 (m, 4H);  
3.0-3.9 (m, 6H); 1.4 (s, 3H); 1.2 (s, 3H).

### Example 7

4-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-5-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)acetyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrothieno[3,2-c]pyridine hydrochloride hemihydrate

Prepared as Example No. 1 from 0.38 g (1.72 mmoles) of 4-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrothieno[3,2-c]pyridine, 0.47 g (3.40 mmoles) of anhydrous potassium carbonate and 0.46 g (2.05 mmoles) of 3,4-dichlorophenylacetyl chloride in 20 ml of dry chloroform.

The work-up of the reaction mixture afforded 0.51 g of the crude product which was purified by flash column chromatography eluting with ethyl acetate containing 0.2% of 32%  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  solution to give 0.40 g of the pure product.

This was dissolved in 20 ml of ethyl acetate and the solution brought to acidic pH with HCl/diethyl ether.

The precipitate was filtered, washed and dried, to yield 0.35 g of the title compound.

$\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_2\text{OS} \cdot \text{HCl} \cdot 1/2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$

M.P. = 238-240°C

M.W. = 452.829

Elemental analysis: Calcd. C, 53.04; H, 4.89; N, 6.18;  
Cl, 23.49; S, 7.08;  
Found C, 52.44; H, 4.79; N, 6.06;  
Cl, 23.21; S, 7.02;

I.R. (KBr): 3450; 2520; 1640; 1440  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

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Example 8

4-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-5-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)acetyl-7,7-dimethyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrothieno[3,2-c]pyridine hydrochloride

Prepared as Example No. 1 from 1.18 g (4.76 mmols) of 4-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-7,7-dimethyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrothieno[3,2-c]pyridine, 1.30 g (9.42 mmols) of anhydrous potassium carbonate and 1.16 g (5.19 mmols) of 3,4-dichlorophenylacetyl chloride in 50 ml of dry chloroform.

The work-up of the reaction mixture afforded 2.2 g of the crude product which was purified by flash column chromatography eluting with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane/32%  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ , 70:30:0.2 to give 1.1 g of the pure product.

This was dissolved in 40 ml of ethyl acetate and the solution brought to acidic pH with HCl/diethyl ether.

The precipitate was filtered, washed and dried, to yield 0.70 g of the title compound.

$\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_2\text{OS} \cdot \text{HCl}$

M.P. = 174-175°C

M.W. = 471.873

I.R. (KBr): 3420; 2520; 1645; 1435; 1410  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

N.M.R. ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  12.50 (s broad, 1H); 7.25-7.45 (m, 3H);  
(80 MHz) 6.95 (AB system,  $J=5.27$  Hz, 2H); 6.12  
(dd,  $J_1=10.83$  Hz,  $J_2=3.51$  Hz, 1H); 5.82  
(s, 2H); 4.32-5.06 (m, 3H); 2.98-4.23  
(m, 7H); 1.42 (s, 3H); 1.28 (s, 3H).

Example 9

(2S)-1-[1-oxo-3,4-dihydro-(2H)-napht-6-yl]acetyl-2-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl piperidine hydrochloride

Prepared as Example No. 1 from 1.8 g (10.8 mmoles) of (2S)-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl piperidine, 3.0 g (21.74 mmoles) of anhydrous potassium carbonate and 2.6 g (11.68 mmoles) of 1-oxo-3,4-dihydro-(2H)-napht-6-yl acetyl chloride in 50 ml of dry chloroform.

The work-up of the reaction mixture afforded 3.8 g of the crude product which was purified by flash column chromatography eluting with a mixture of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}/32\% \text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  94:5:0.5 to give 1.6 g of the pure product.

This was dissolved in 40 ml of acetone and the solution brought to acidic pH with HCl/diethyl ether.

The precipitate was filtered, washed and dried, to yield 1.2 g of the title compound.

$\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2 \cdot \text{HCl}$

M.P. = 199-201°C

M.W. = 388.925

Elemental analysis: Calcd. C, 67.94; H, 7.52; N, 7.20; Cl, 9.12;  
Found C, 67.55; H, 7.60; N, 7.09; Cl, 9.06;

I.R. (KBr): 3450; 2940; 2520; 1680; 1635; 1607; 1435  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

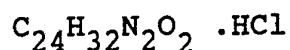
$[\alpha]_D^{20} = -40.2$  (C=1, MeOH)

Example 10

1-[1-oxo-3,4-dihydro-(2H)-napht-6-yl]acetyl-2-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-3,3-dimethyl piperidine hydrochloride.

Prepared as described in Example No. 1, from 1.50 g (5.6 mmols) of 2-(3-pyrrolin-1-yl)methyl-3,3-dimethyl piperidine dihydrochloride, 1.54 g (11.2 mmols) of anhydrous potassium carbonate and 1.37 g (6.16 mmols) of [1-oxo-3,4-dihydro-(2H)-napht-6-yl]acetyl chloride in 40 ml of dry chloroform.

The work-up of the reaction mixture afforded 1.10 g of the crude product which was purified by flash column chromatography eluting with a mixture of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH/32% NH<sub>4</sub>OH 94:5:0.5 to give 250 mg of the pure product. This was dissolved in 20 ml of acetone and the solution brought to acidic pH with HCl/diethyl ether. The precipitate was filtered, washed and dried, to yield 120 mg of the title compound.



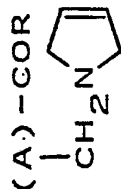
M.P. = 221-224°C

M.W. = 416.977

Elemental analysis: Calcd. C, 69.13; H, 7.98; N, 6.72; Cl, 8.50;  
Found C, 69.00; H, 7.87; N, 6.70; Cl, 8.45.

I.R. (KBr): 3450; 2950; 1680; 1625; 1610; 1425 cm<sup>-1</sup>

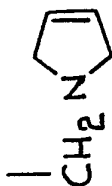
TABLE II



| Example | (A)- | R | MOLECULAR FORMULA                                | MELTING POINT (°C) |
|---------|------|---|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1       |      |   | $C_{18}H_{22}Cl_2N_2O \cdot HCl$                 | 211-213            |
| 2       |      |   | $C_{20}H_{26}Cl_2N_2O \cdot HCl$                 | 223-224            |
| 3       |      |   | $C_{21}H_{27}F_3N_2O \cdot HCl$                  | 250-252            |
| 4       |      |   | $C_{24}H_{34}N_2O \cdot HCl$                     | 194-196            |
| 5       |      |   | $C_{22}H_{22}Cl_2N_2O \cdot HCl$                 | 256-258            |
| 6       |      |   | $C_{24}H_{26}Cl_2N_2O \cdot HCl$                 | 254-257            |
| 7       |      |   | $C_{20}H_{20}Cl_2N_2OS \cdot HCl \cdot 1/2 H_2O$ | 238-240            |
| 8       |      |   | $C_{22}H_{24}Cl_2N_2OS \cdot HCl$                | 174-175            |
| 9       |      |   | $C_{22}H_{28}N_2O_2 \cdot HCl$                   | 199-201            |

TABLE II (continued)

(A) — COR



| Example | (A) —<br> | R | MOLECULAR<br>FORMULA           | MELTING POINT<br>(°C) |
|---------|-----------|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 10      |           |   | $C_{24}H_{32}N_2O_2 \cdot HCl$ | 221-224               |

PHARMACOLOGICAL TESTSA) P-phenylquinone-induced abdominal writhing test in mice

- 5 The methodology employed is based on that described by Sigmund et al, Proc. Soc. Exptl. Biol. 95, 729/1957, modified by Milne and Twomey, Agents and Actions, 10, 31/1980.
- 10 Male Charles River mice (Swiss Strain), 25-36g body weight, were used. Animals were allowed food and water ad libitum and were randomized into groups of 10 prior to experimentation. Test compounds were dissolved in either distilled water or distilled water plus 0.1 M AMS, and
- 15 administered by the subcutaneous route in a final volume of 10 ml/Kg. Control animals received 10 ml/Kg of the appropriate vehicle alone. Following a pretreatment period of 20 min., mice were injected intraperitoneally with p-phenylquinone, 2 mg/Kg at 37°C in a final volume of 10
- 20 mg/Kg. Next, the mice were placed, in groups of 3, in a compartmented perspex box maintained at room temperature and were observed for a period of 8 min. During this period the number of abdominal writhing responses per animal were recorded where writhing consists of an intermittent
- 25 contraction of the abdomen associated with hind leg extension.

The degree of antinociceptive protection afforded by the test compound was determined as the mean number of writhing

30 responses observed in the treated group (T) expressed as a percentage of the mean number of writhing responses in the control group (C) according to the following formula:

$$[1 - (T/C)] \times 100\% = \% \text{ graded protection}$$

B) Tail-flick test in mice

The methodology employed is based on that described by D'Amour and Smith, J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther. 72, 74/1941.

5

Male Charles River mice (Swiss Strain), 22-34g body weight were used. Animals were allowed food and water ad libitum and were randomized into groups of 10 prior to experimentation. Before administration of the test compound, the reaction time of each animal was determined by focusing a beam of light onto the tail, eliciting a reflex withdrawal after a certain latency; only mice exhibiting a latency between 3-8 sec. were used subsequently in the evaluation of drug effects.

15

Test compounds were dissolved in either distilled water or distilled water plus 0.1 M AMS and administered by the subcutaneous route in a final volume of 10 ml/Kg. Control animals received 10 ml/kg of the appropriate vehicle alone. Following a pretreatment period of 30 min., the mice were again placed under the heat source and the reaction time re-determined.

Percentage quantal protection was determined as the number of mice in which the reaction time was doubled compared to pretreatment values, expressed as a percentage of the total number of mice in the group.

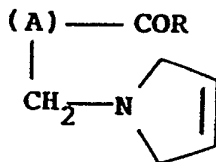
Table

| Example No | ANALGESIA                         |                                     |
|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|            | MOUSE WRITHING<br>ED50 mg/kg s.c. | MOUSE TAIL-FLICK<br>ED50 mg/kg s.c. |
| 1          | 0.005                             | 0.045                               |
| 2          | 0.006                             | 0.021                               |
| 3          | 0.006                             | 0.015                               |
| 4          | 0.025                             | 0.193                               |
| 5          | 0.005                             | 0.015                               |
| 6          | 0.047                             | 0.275                               |
| 7          | 0.002                             | 0.008                               |
| 8          | 0.040                             | 0.550                               |
| 9          | 0.023                             | 0.316                               |
| 10         | 0.053                             | 0.594                               |

Claims

1. A compound, or a solvate or salt thereof, of formula (I):

5



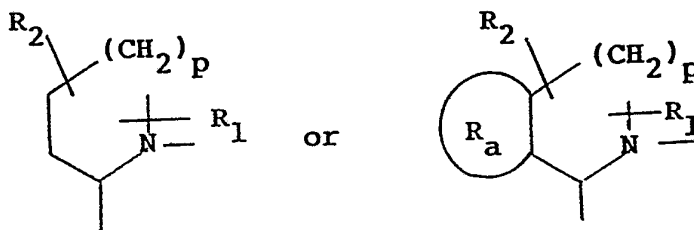
10

(I)

15 in which:

(A) is

20



p is 1, 2 or 3;

ROC- is an acyl group linked to the nitrogen atom of group

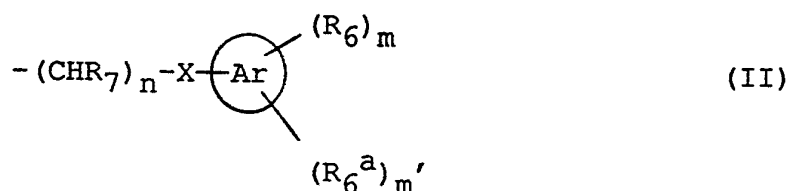
25 (A) in which the group R contains a substituted or unsubstituted carbocyclic aromatic or heterocyclic aromatic ring;

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are substituents on the same or different carbon  
30 atoms and are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl; and

R<sub>a</sub> is a fused substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic or carbocyclic aromatic ring.

2. A compound according to claim 1 in which  $R_1$  or  $R_2$  is methyl, ethyl, propyl, n-butyl, n-pentyl or n-hexyl.

5 3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2 in which R the formula (II):



10 in which  $n$  is 0, 1 or 2;

$m$  is 0, 1 or 2;

$m'$  is 0, 1 or 2, provided  $m + m' \leq 2$

15  $X$  is a direct bond, or O, S or  $NR_8$  in which  $R_8$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl,

$\text{Ar}$  is a substituted or unsubstituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic group,

20 each of  $R_6$  and  $R_6^a$  is  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl,  $C_{2-6}$  alkenyl,  $C_{2-6}$  alkynyl,  $C_{1-6}$  haloalkyl,  $C_{2-6}$  haloalkenyl,  $C_{2-6}$  haloalkynyl, optionally substituted phenyl, optionally substituted phenyl  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, hydroxy,  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy, thiol,  $C_{1-6}$  alkylthio,  $C_{1-6}$  haloalkoxy,  $C_{1-6}$  haloalkylthio, halogen,  $NO_2$ , CN,  $CF_3$ ,  $-OCF_3$ ,  $-OCHF_2$ ,  $-OCF_2CF_2H$ ,  $-OCCl_2CF_3$ ,  $-COOR_9$ ,  $-CONR_{10}R_{11}$ ,  $-SO_3R_{12}$ ,  $-SO_2NR_{13}R_{14}$  and  $-COR_{15}$  in which each of  $R_9$  to  $R_{15}$  is independently hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, optionally substituted phenyl or optionally substituted phenyl  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl;

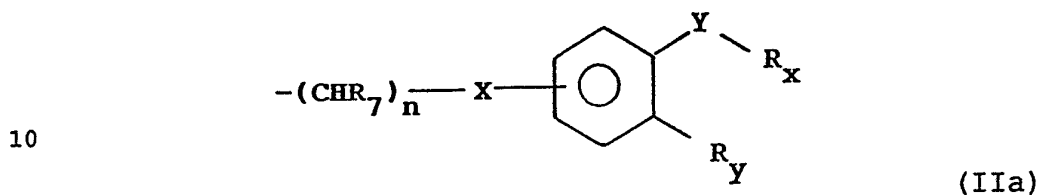
30 or, when  $m$  is 2 and  $m'$  is 0, two  $R_6$ 's form a  $C_{3-6}$  polymethylene group,

-39-

and  $R_7$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, such as methyl or ethyl.

4. A compound according to claim 3 in which Ar is phenyl.

5 5. A compound according to claim 1 in which R has the formula (IIa)



in which the group  $-(CHR_7)_n-X-$ , which is as defined in formula II, is in the meta- or para- position with respect  
15 to  $YR_x$  or  $R_y$ ,

Y is  $>C=O$ ,  $>CHOH$ ,  $>S=O$  or  $>O_2$ ;

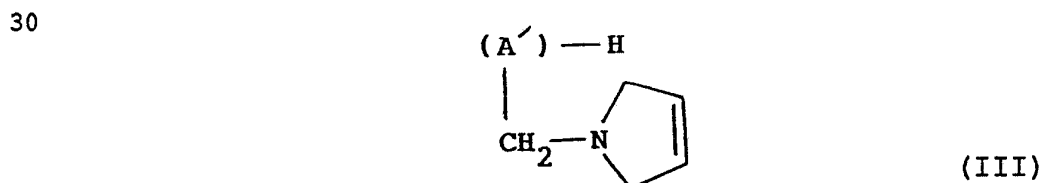
each of  $R_x$  and  $R_y$  is  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, or

$R_x$  and  $R_y$  are linked together and  $R_x$  represents  $-(Z)_m-$

20 where m is 0 or 1 and Z is O, S or  $NR_z$  where  $R_z$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl,

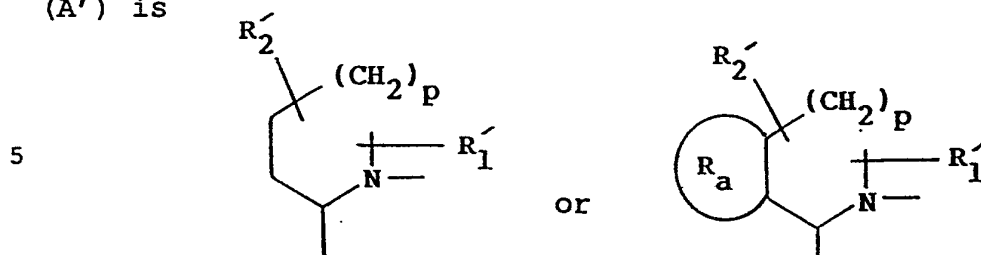
and  $R_y$  represents  $-(CH_2)_q-$  where q is an integer of from 1 to 4.

25 6. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, which comprises reacting a compound of formula (III):



in which

(A') is



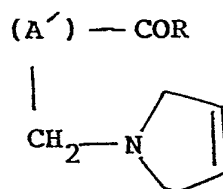
in which  $R_1'$  and  $R_2'$  are  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  respectively as defined for formula (I), or each is a group or atom convertible to  $R_1$  or  $R_2$  respectively, and  $p$  is 1, 2 or 3,

with a compound of formula  $R'CO.OH$  or an active derivative thereof,

15 in which  $R'$  is  $R$  as defined for formula (I), or a group convertible to  $R$ ,

to form a compound of formula (I'):

20



25

(I')

and then optionally performing one of the following steps:

30 a) where  $R'$ ,  $R_1'$  and  $R_2'$  are other than  $R$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , converting  $R'$ ,  $R_1'$  and  $R_2'$  to  $R$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  to obtain a compound of formula (I),

-41-

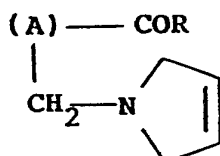
- b) where  $R'$ ,  $R_1'$  and  $R_2'$  are  $R$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  converting one  $R$ ,  $R_1$  or  $R_2$  to another  $R$ ,  $R_1$  or  $R_2$  to obtain a compound of formula (I),
- 5 c) forming a salt and/or solvate of the obtained compound of formula (I).
7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable  
10 carrier.
8. A compound according to claim 1 for use as an active therapeutic substance.
- 15 9. A compound according to claim 1 for use in the treatment of pain, hyponatraemic disease states or cerebral ischaemia.
10. The use of a compound according to claims 1 in the  
20 manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of pain, hyponatraemic disease states or cerebral ischaemia.
11. A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of of pain and/or hyponatraemic disease states and/or cerebral  
25 ischaemia in mammals, which comprises administering to the mammal in need of such treatment and/or prophylaxis an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

Abstract

A compound, or a solvate or salt thereof, of formula (I):

5

10

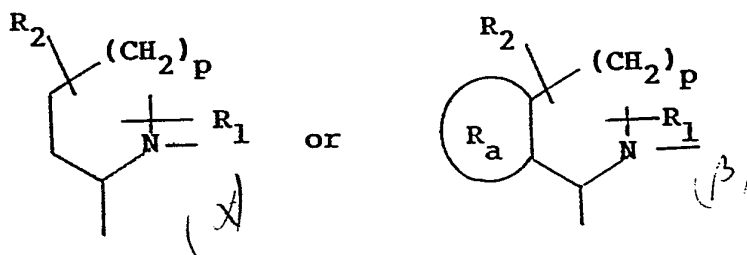


(I)

in which:

15 (A) is

20



p is 1, 2 or 3;

ROC- is an acyl group linked to the nitrogen atom of group (A) in which the group R contains a substituted or unsubstituted carbocyclic aromatic or heterocyclic aromatic ring;

-43-

$R_1$  and  $R_2$  are substituents on the same or different carbon atoms and are independently hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl; and

$R_a$  is a fused substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic or 5 carbocyclic aromatic ring,  
is useful for the treatment of pain, hyponatraemic disease states or cerebral ischaemia.

**SUBSTITUTE SHEET**

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/EP 90/01961

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all) <sup>6</sup><br>According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC<br><b>IPC5: C 07 D 401/06, 495/04, A 61 K 31/445, 31/47</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>II. FIELDS SEARCHED</b><br><div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 100px;">Minimum Documentation Searched<sup>7</sup></div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                  |
| Classification System<br><br><b>IPC5</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Classification Symbols<br><br><b>C 07 D; A 61 K</b>                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                  |
| Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in Fields Searched <sup>8</sup><br><br>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT<sup>9</sup></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                  |
| Category *                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Citation of Document, <sup>11</sup> with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages <sup>12</sup>       | Relevant to Claim No. <sup>13</sup>                                                                                                              |
| X                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | EP, A1, 0232612 (DR. LO. ZAMBELETTI S.P.A.)<br>19 August 1987,<br>see especially page 2 lines 12-13<br><br>--        | 1-10                                                                                                                                             |
| X                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | EP, A1, 0330360 (DR. LO. ZAMBELETTI S.P.A.)<br>30 August 1989,<br>see especially page 4 lines 3-4<br><br>--<br>----- | 1-10                                                                                                                                             |
| <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><b>* Special categories of cited documents:</b> <sup>10</sup></p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div> |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>IV. CERTIFICATION</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                  |
| Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search<br><b>28th January 1991</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                      | Date of Mailing of this International Search Report<br><br><div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">15.02.91</div>                     |
| International Searching Authority<br><br><div style="text-align: center;">EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                      | Signature of Authorized Officer<br><br><div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 20px;">F.W. HECK</div> </div> |

## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET

V. ☒ OBSERVATIONS WHERE CERTAIN CLAIMS WERE FOUND UNSEARCHABLE <sup>1</sup>

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2) (a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claim numbers 11, because <sup>it</sup>~~they~~ relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

A method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy, see rule 39.

2. ☒ Claim numbers 1-3, because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

The scope of the claims 1-3 is so broadly formulated that many compounds of a very wide range of structures are included. The search has thus been limited to the compounds considered to be most relevant.

3. ☐ Claim numbers....., because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of PCT Rule 6.4(a).

VI. ☐ OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING <sup>2</sup>

This international Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims of the international application.
2. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims of the international application for which fees were paid, specifically claims:
3. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claim numbers:
4. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the International Searching Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

## Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT  
ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO.PCT/EP 90/01961**

SA 41667

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report.  
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on 28/12/90  
The European Patent office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

| Patent document<br>cited in search report | Publication<br>date | Patent family<br>member(s) |          | Publication<br>date |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------|---------------------|
| EP-A1- 0232612                            | 19/08/87            | AU-B-                      | 591210   | 30/11/89            |
|                                           |                     | AU-D-                      | 6682486  | 25/06/87            |
|                                           |                     | JP-A-                      | 62167759 | 24/07/87            |
|                                           |                     | US-A-                      | 4801585  | 31/01/89            |
| -----                                     |                     |                            |          |                     |
| EP-A1- 0330360                            | 30/08/89            | AU-D-                      | 3007089  | 24/08/89            |
|                                           |                     | US-A-                      | 4954509  | 04/09/90            |

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European patent Office, No. 12/82