The present invention concerns novel azoline compounds of Formula (I) wherein X denotes S, NH, CH2 or O, Y and W denote each independently S or O, Q denotes CH or N, and m and n are an integer from 0 to 2, and R1 and R2 denote independently from each other hydrogen, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heterocycl, or an optionally substituted (C1-10) aliphatic group. R3 denotes hydrogen, lower alkyl, halogen, lower alkoxy, nitro, and R4 and R5 denote independently from each other hydrogen, halogen or alkyl, with the proviso that if one of R1 and R2 is hydrogen then the respective other one of R1 and R2 does not denote substituted or unsubstituted 2-furylthiol, that are useful as pharmaceutical agents, e.g. as antibacterial agents, and to pharmaceutical compositions comprising such compounds.
AMENDED CLAIMS
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1. A compound of formula

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>X</th>
<th></th>
<th>Y</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>R2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

wherein

- X denotes S,
- Y denotes S,
- W denotes O,
- R1 is hydrogen and R2 is a group of formula

![Diagram of formula Ia]

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of a compound of formula Ia.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R6 is methylamino, ((tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)-methyl)amino, (hydroxyalkyl)amino, (hydroxyalkyl)amino, (heterocyclylalkyl)amino, (hydroxyalkoxyalkyl)amino or di(hydroxyalkoxyalkyl)amino.

3. A compound according to any of the preceding claims wherein R6 is ((tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)-methyl)amino.
4. A compound according any of the preceding claims as a pharmaceutical.

5. The compound according to claim 4 wherein the pharmaceutical is an antibiotic.

6. Use of a compound of formula I\textsubscript{a} as defined in claim 1 in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of bacterial diseases.

7. The use according to claim 6 wherein the bacterial disease is caused by a bacterium strain exhibiting MurD and/or MurD ligase activity.

8. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I\textsubscript{a} as defined in claim 1 comprising the steps of

\begin{align*}
\text{a)} \quad & \text{reacting a compound of formula} \\
\text{wherein} \\
& \text{- } X \text{ denotes } S, \\
& \text{- } Y \text{ denotes } S, \\
& \text{- } W \text{ denotes } O, \\
& \text{- } Q \text{ denotes } CH, \\
& \text{- } n \text{ is } 0, \\
& \text{- } m \text{ is } 0, \\
& \text{- } R_3 \text{ denotes hydrogen, and} \\
& \text{- } R_4 \text{ and } R_5 \text{ denote independently from each other hydrogen,}
\end{align*}

\text{with an aldehyde or ketone of formula}

\begin{align*}
\text{Vl} \\
\text{R}_1 \text{ R}_2 \text{ Vl} \\
\text{R}_4 \text{ R}_5
\end{align*}
wherein R1 and R2 are defined as in formula Ia in claim 1
to obtain a compound of formula Ia, and optionally
c) isolating a compound of formula Ia.

9. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula Ia as defined in claim 1
comprising the steps of
t) reacting a compound of formula

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{III} & \quad \text{wherein} \\
& - Q \text{ denotes } \text{CH}, \\
& - n \text{ is } 0, \\
& - m \text{ is } 0, \\
& - R3 \text{ denotes hydrogen, and} \\
& - R4 \text{ and } R5 \text{ denote independently from each other hydrogen,}
\end{align*}
\]

with a compound of formula

\[
\text{HS} \quad \text{COOR}_7 \quad \text{iv}
\]

wherein R7 denotes alkyl,
to obtain a compound of formula
wherein
- X denotes S,
- Y denotes S,
- W denotes O,
- Q denotes CH,
- n is 0,
- m is 0,
- R3 denotes hydrogen, and
- R4 and R5 denote independently from each other hydrogen,

b) reacting a compound of formula V as defined in step t) with an aldehyde or ketone of formula

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{V} & \\
R_1 & \\
R_2 & \\
\end{align*} \]

wherein R1 and R2 are defined as in formula Ia of claim 1,

to obtain a compound of formula Ia, and optionally
c) isolating a compound of formula Ia.

10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula Ia as defined in claim 1 or a salt thereof and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipient(s).