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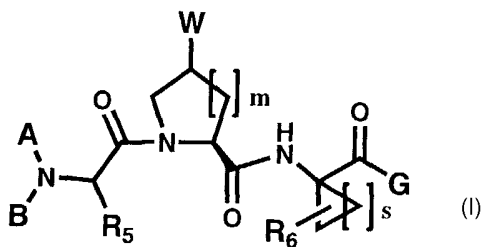
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **ENANTA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.** [US/US]; Patent Dept., 500 Arsenal Street, Watertown, MA 02472 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **MIAO, Zhenwei** [CN/US]; 6574 Robinea Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92009 (US). **SUN, Ying** [CN/US]; 220 School Street, ST 6, Waltham, MA 02451 (US). **NAKAJIMA, Suanne** [CA/US]; 225 Walden Street, Apt. E, Cambridge, MA 02140 (US). **TANG, Datong** [CN/US]; 11 Kneeland Street, Malden, MA 02148 (US). **WANG, Zhe** [CN/US]; 67 Westwoods Blvd., Hockessin, DE 19707 (US). **OR, Yat, Sun** [US/US]; 169 Fayette Street, Watertown, MA 02472 (US).
- (74) Agent: **FERRONE, Jason, D.**; Enanta Pharmaceuticals, Inc, 500 Arsenal Street, Watertown, MA 02472 (US).
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- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: HEPATITIS C SERINE PROTEASE TRI-PEPTIDE INHIBITORS



the present invention.

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to compounds of Formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug, thereof, which inhibit serine protease activity, particularly the activity of hepatitis c virus (HCV) NS3-NS4A protease. Consequently, the compounds of the present invention interfere with the life cycle of the hepatitis c virus and are also useful as antiviral agents. The present invention further relates to pharmaceutical compositions comprising the aforementioned compounds for administration to a subject suffering from HCV infection. The invention also relates to methods of treating an HCV infection in a subject by administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising the compounds of

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US2004/015803

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 C07K5/08 A61K38/06 A61P31/12

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C07K A61K A61P

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, CHEM ABS Data, WPI Data

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| X          | WO 00/09543 A (BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM CA LTD ; GOUDREAU NATHALIE (CA); GHIRO ELISE (CA)) 24 February 2000 (2000-02-24) cited in the application<br>p. 4, l. 2-12; p. 4, l. 14-p. 6, l. 9; p. 10, l. 23-p. 11, l. 9; compounds 304, 306, 307, 310, 403, 333, 106, 108-111, 203, 304, 306, 307, 310-334, Tables 4-10. | 1-12                  |
| E          | WO 2004/072243 A (MIAO ZENWEI ; XU GUOYOU (US); NAKAJIMA SUANNE (US); OR YAT SUN (US); S) 26 August 2004 (2004-08-26)<br>p. 4, l. 1-p. 5, l. 6; compounds XIIIId at p. 117; compound 4g at p. 132; compound 4h at p. 133,                                                                                         | 1-12                  |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"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)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"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

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"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.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 December 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Lopez García, F

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US2004/015803

## Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
  
Although claims 8-12 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
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:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

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

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ 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 claims Nos.:  
  
1-2, 7-12 (partially); 4-6 (completely)

Remark on Protest

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

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-2, 7-12 (partially); 4-6 (completely)

Compounds of formula I, wherein W is a heterocyclic or heteroaromatic.

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2. claims: 1-2, 7-12 (partially); 3 (completely)

Compounds of formula I, wherein W is O-Ms.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US2004/015803

| Patent document<br>cited in search report |   | Publication<br>date | Patent family<br>member(s) | Publication<br>date |
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