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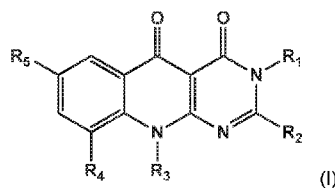
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(54) **Title:** PYRIMIDO[4,5-b]QUINOLINE-4,5(3H,10H)-DIONE DERIVATIVES



(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to compound of the formula (I) or a salt thereof, wherein the substituents are as defined in the specification; to its preparation, to its use as medicament and to medicaments comprising it.

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Pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione derivatives

The invention relates to pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-diones, to their preparation, to their use as medicaments and to medicaments comprising them.

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Many human genetic diseases are caused by nonsense mutations (see Keeling et al, WIREs RNA, 2011, 2, 837-852; Linde et al, Trends in Genetics, 2008, 24(11), 552-563; and Rose et al, Pharmacology & Therapeutics, 2012 136(2), 227-266).

A nonsense mutation is a genetic mutation leading to the transformation of a sense codon into a premature termination codon (hereinafter PTC) upstream from the normal termination codon.

Eukaryotic termination codons are UAA, UAG or UGA.

The normal termination codon stops gene translation and enables full-length, wild type protein synthesis. A PTC prevents such wild type protein synthesis and leads to truncated, in many cases inactive, proteins. The resulting partial/total lack of protein leads to the pathology of the disease caused by such a nonsense mutation.

Nonsense mutations can be in-frame mutations, e.g. single nucleic acid exchanges transforming a single codon into a PTC, or frameshift mutations, e.g. a single nucleic acid insertion/deletion transforming the affected codon into a PTC.

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A compound being able to suppress the effect of a nonsense mutation is herein called a "nonsense mutation suppressor".

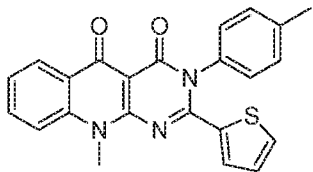
One mechanism to suppress the effect of nonsense mutations is to increase the rate of readthrough events during translation. A compound having this mechanism of action is herein called a "readthrough activator". In a readthrough event, an aminoacyl tRNA being near-cognate is used to recode a termination codon into a sense codon. Under basal conditions, the recoding of a PTC into a sense codon occurs in less than 1% of translation events, while suppression of a normal stop codon occurs at a frequency of <0.1%. Amino acids inserted by recoding will not necessarily be identical to the corresponding amino acids of the wild-type protein; however many amino acid substitutions are functionally tolerated. Thus, a protein produced by readthrough activation may possess activity strongly similar to the wild-type protein. Consequently, by increasing the rate of PTC-recoding enough functional protein may be restored to provide a therapeutic benefit to patients carrying a nonsense mutation.

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Another mechanism to suppress the effect of nonsense mutations is to inhibit nonsense-mediated mRNA decay (NMD). A compound having this mechanism of action is herein called a "NMD inhibitor". NMD regulates the total level of PTC-bearing transcripts: it detects and
 5 degrades such transcripts to prevent synthesis of truncated proteins which might be nonfunctional or deleterious owing to dominant-negative or gain-of-function effects. Inhibition of NMD increases the number of transcripts available which could also be a mechanism to restore enough functional protein for a therapeutic benefit.

10 Compounds described as nonsense mutation suppressors are certain aminoglycoside antibiotics, e.g. in WO2007113841, and certain 1,2,4-oxadiazole benzoic acids, e.g. in WO2004091502 and a compound commonly called amlexanox (WO2012016930). WO2009086303 describes agents for increasing lifespan. WO96/28444 describes dihydropyrimidoquinolinone compounds as tyrosine kinase inhibitors. A number of
 15 pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-diones which have been published in catalogues of suppliers of chemical compounds without indicating usefulness of compounds are mentioned in patent application PCT/IB2013/060859. In addition, the following compound has been published without indicating usefulness of the compound:

Structure	Name	CAS number
	10-methyl-2-(thiophen-2-yl)-3-(p-tolyl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione	898919-81-8

20 Nonsense mutation suppressors are considered to be useful in the treatment of a wide range of diseases caused by nonsense mutations. Prominent examples of diseases caused by nonsense mutations are diseases caused by nonsense mutations in lysosomal enzymes, e.g. mucopolysaccharidosis I (Hurler syndrome) caused by nonsense mutations in α -L-iduronidase; hemophilia A or hemophilia B caused by nonsense mutations in coagulation
 25 factors 7, 8 or 9; cystic fibrosis caused by nonsense mutations in the chloride channel CFTR; diseases caused by nonsense mutations in structural proteins, e.g. Duchenne or Becker Muscle Dystrophy caused by nonsense mutations in dystrophin; or cancer caused by nonsense mutations in APC or p53.

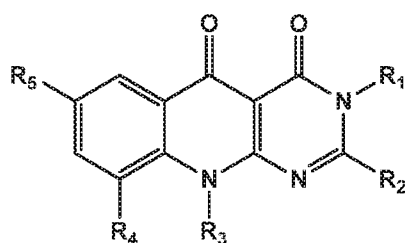
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There is a need to provide new nonsense mutation suppressors that are good drug candidates. In particular, preferred compounds should be potent nonsense mutation suppressors whilst showing little potency in other drug target assays, e.g. GPCR or ion channel assays. They should exhibit a low binding to plasma proteins. They should be well absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract, be sufficiently metabolically stable and possess favorable pharmacokinetic properties. They should be non-toxic and demonstrate few side-effects. Furthermore, the ideal drug candidate will be able to exist in a physical form that is stable, non-hygroscopic and easily formulated.

- 10 The compounds of the invention are nonsense mutation suppressors and are therefore potentially useful in the treatment of a wide range of diseases caused by nonsense mutations, particularly wherein the disease is selected from hemophilia A, hemophilia B, cystic fibrosis, mucopolysaccharidosis I, Duchenne Muscle Dystrophy, Becker Muscle Dystrophy, loss of APC caused cancer and loss of p53 caused cancer.

15

In a first aspect, the invention relates to a compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form



(I);

- 20 wherein

R₁ is a ring selected from pyrazolyl, thiophenyl or pyridin-2-yl, which ring may be substituted by C₁₋₃alkyl;

R₂ is C₂₋₇alkyl which may be substituted once or more than once by R₆;

- 25 or R
- ₂
- is -X
- ₁
- R
- ₇
- ; -X
- ₁
- is -O-, -S- or -N(R
- ₈
-)-; R
- ₈
- is hydrogen or C
- ₁₋₄
- alkyl; and R
- ₇
- is C
- ₁₋₆
- alkyl which may be substituted once or more than once by R
- ₉
- ;

or R₂ is a three- to seven-membered monocyclic saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic ring system, wherein said ring system may contain from 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and wherein said ring system may be substituted once or more

- 30 than once by R
- ₁₀
- ;

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R₃ is hydrogen or -CH₂R₁₂;

R₁₂ is hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, C₁₋₃alkoxyC₁₋₃alkyl, hydroxyC₁₋₃alkyl or aminoC₁₋₃alkyl;

R₄ is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄halogenalkyl, C₁₋

- 5 4hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy-C₁₋₄alkyl, amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄halogenalkoxy, C₁₋₄alkylamino or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino;
or a three- to seven-membered monocyclic aromatic, saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic ring system, wherein said ring system may contain from 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, wherein said ring system may be attached directly or via a C₁₋
10 2alkylene, and wherein said ring system may be substituted once or more than once by R₁₁;

or

R₃ and R₄ taken together are -CH₂-CH₂-;

15

R₅ is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄halogenalkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋
4alkoxy-C₁₋₄alkyl, amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋
4alkenyl, C₂₋₄alkinyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy or C₁₋₄halogenalkoxy; or C₃₋₄cycloalkyl, wherein one carbon
atom may be replaced by an oxygen atom, wherein the C₃₋₄cycloalkyl may be attached
20 directly or via a C₁₋₂alkylene, and wherein the C₃₋₄cycloalkyl may be substituted once or more
than once by halogen;

R₆ and R₉ each independently is halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋
4halogenalkoxy, C₁₋₄alkylamino or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino;

- or C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, wherein one carbon atom may be replaced by an oxygen atom, wherein the
25 C₃₋₆cycloalkyl may be attached directly or via a C₁₋₂alkylene, and wherein the C₃₋₆cycloalkyl
may be substituted once or more than once by halogen;
or two R₆ or R₉ at the same carbon atom together are oxo;
or two R₆ or R₉ at the same carbon atom together with said carbon atom form a C₃₋
6cycloalkyl;

- 30 R₁₀ and R₁₁ each independently is halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋
4halogenalkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy-C₁₋₄alkyl, amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl-amino-C₁₋
4alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄halogenalkoxy, C₁₋₄alkylamino or di(C₁₋
4alkyl)amino;

- 5 -

or C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, wherein one carbon atom may be replaced by an oxygen atom, wherein the C₃₋₆cycloalkyl may be attached directly or via a C₁₋₂alkylene, and wherein the C₃₋₆cycloalkyl may be substituted once or more than once by halogen;

or two R₁₀ or R₁₁ at the same ring atom together are oxo;

5 or two R₁₀ or R₁₁ at the same ring carbon atom together with said carbon atom form a C₃₋₆cycloalkyl.

Unless specified otherwise, the term "compounds of the invention" refers to compounds of formula (I) and subformulae thereof; salts of the compounds; hydrates or solvates of the
10 compounds and/or salts; as well as all stereoisomers (including diastereoisomers), tautomers and isotopically labeled compounds (including deuterium substitutions); as well as inherently formed moieties (e.g. polymorphs, solvates and/or hydrates).

Unless indicated otherwise, the expressions used in this invention have the following
15 meaning:

"Alkyl" represents a straight-chain or branched-chain alkyl group and, for example, may be methyl, ethyl, n- or iso-propyl or n-, iso-, sec- or tert-butyl; C₂₋₇alkyl preferably represents a straight-chain or branched-chain C₂₋₄alkyl with particular preference given to ethyl, n-propyl,
20 iso-propyl and tert-butyl. C₁₋₄alkyl preferably represents a straight-chain or branched-chain C₁₋₃alkyl with particular preference given to methyl, ethyl, n-propyl and iso-propyl.

Each alkyl part of "alkoxy", "halogenalkyl", "hydroxyalkyl", "aminoalkyl", "alkoxyalkyl" and so on shall have the same meaning as described in the above-mentioned definition of "alkyl",
25 especially regarding linearity and preferential size, unless the size is further specified.

"C₃₋₆cycloalkyl" represents a saturated alicyclic moiety having from three to six carbon atoms. This term refers to groups such as cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl.

30 A substituent being substituted "once or more than once", e.g. as defined in connection with R₂, R₄ or R₅, is preferably substituted by one to three substituents. Thus, "once or more than once" includes but is not limited to one, two or three substituents.

Halogen is generally fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine; preferably fluorine, chlorine or
35 bromine. Halogenalkyl groups preferably have a chain length of 1 to 4 carbon atoms and are,

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for example, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2-fluoroethyl, 2-chloroethyl, pentafluoroethyl, 1,1-difluoro-2,2,2-trichloroethyl, 2,2,2-trichloroethyl, 1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroethyl, 2,2,3,3-tetrafluoropropyl, 2,2,3,3,3-pentafluoropropyl or 2,2,3,4,4,4-hexafluorobutyl.

5

In the context of the invention, the definition of R₂ or R₄ as a “three- to seven-membered monocyclic aromatic, saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic ring system, wherein said ring system may contain from 1 to 4 hetero atoms” encompasses three- to seven-membered
10 monocyclic aromatic or non-aromatic hydrocarbon groups and aromatic or non-aromatic heterocyclic ring systems of the same sizes.

Examples of heterocyclic ring systems are: pyrrole, pyrroline, pyrrolidine, pyrazole, pyrazoline, pyrazolidine, imidazole, imidazoline, imidazolidine, triazole, triazoline, triazolidine,
15 tetrazole, furane, dihydrofurane, tetrahydrofurane, oxadiazole, dioxolane, thiophene, dihydrothiophene, tetrahydrothiophene, oxazole, oxazoline, oxazolidine, isoxazole, isoxazoline, isoxazolidine, thiazole, thiazoline, thiazolidine, isothiazole, isothiazoline, isothiazolidine, thiadiazole, thiadiazoline, thiadiazolidine, pyridine, piperidine, pyridazine, pyrazine, pyrimidine, piperazine, triazine, pyrane, tetrahydropyrane, thiopyrane,
20 tetrahydrothiopyrane, oxazine, thiazine, morpholine.

Compounds of formula (I) may exist in optically active form or in form of mixtures of optical isomers, e.g. in form of racemic mixtures or diastereomeric mixtures. In particular, asymmetrical carbon atom(s) may be present in the compounds of formula (I) and their salts.
25 Unless otherwise provided herein, all optical isomers and their mixtures, including the racemic mixtures, are embraced by the invention.

As used herein, the term “isomers” refers to different compounds that have the same molecular formula but differ in arrangement and configuration of the atoms. Also as used
30 herein, the term “an optical isomer” or “a stereoisomer” refers to any of the various stereo isomeric configurations which may exist for a given compound of the invention and includes geometric isomers. It is understood that a substituent may be attached at a chiral center of a carbon atom. The term “chiral” refers to molecules which have the property of non-superimposability on their mirror image partner, while the term “achiral” refers to molecules
35 which are superimposable on their mirror image partner. Therefore, the invention includes

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enantiomers, diastereomers or racemates of the compound. "Enantiomers" are a pair of stereoisomers that are non- superimposable mirror images of each other. A 1:1 mixture of a pair of enantiomers is a "racemic" mixture. The term is used to designate a racemic mixture where appropriate. "Diastereoisomers" are stereoisomers that have at least two asymmetric atoms, but which are not mirror-images of each other. The absolute stereochemistry is specified according to the Cahn- Ingold- Prelog R-S system. When a compound is a pure enantiomer the stereochemistry at each chiral carbon may be specified by either *R* or *S*. Resolved compounds whose absolute configuration is unknown can be designated (+) or (-) depending on the direction (dextro- or levorotatory) which they rotate plane polarized light at the wavelength of the sodium D line. The compounds described herein may contain one or more asymmetric centers and may thus give rise to enantiomers, diastereomers, and other stereoisomeric forms that may be defined, in terms of absolute stereochemistry, as (*R*)- or (*S*)-. Unless otherwise provided herein, the invention is meant to include all such possible isomers, including racemic mixtures, optically pure forms and intermediate mixtures. Optically active (*R*)- and (*S*)- isomers may be prepared using chiral synthons or chiral reagents, or resolved using conventional techniques.

If the compound contains a double bond, the substituent may be *E* or *Z* configuration.

If the compound contains a disubstituted cycloalkyl, the cycloalkyl substituent may have a *cis*- or *trans*-configuration.

Any asymmetric atom (e.g. carbon or the like) of the compound(s) of the invention can be present in racemic or enantiomerically enriched, for example the (*R*)-, (*S*)- or (*R,S*)- configuration. In certain embodiments, each asymmetric atom has at least 50 % enantiomeric excess, at least 60 % enantiomeric excess, at least 70 % enantiomeric excess, at least 80 % enantiomeric excess, at least 90 % enantiomeric excess, at least 95 % enantiomeric excess, or at least 99 % enantiomeric excess in the (*R*)- or (*S*)- configuration. Substituents at atoms with unsaturated bonds may, if possible, be present in *cis*- (*Z*)- or *trans*- (*E*)- form.

Accordingly, as used herein, a compound of the invention can be in the form of one of the possible isomers, rotamers, atropisomers, tautomers or mixtures thereof, for example, as substantially pure geometric (*cis* or *trans*) isomers, diastereomers, optical isomers (antipodes), racemates or mixtures thereof.

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The pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the invention can be synthesized from a basic or acidic moiety, by conventional chemical methods. Generally, such salts can be prepared by reacting free acid forms of these compounds with a stoichiometric amount of the appropriate base, or by reacting free base forms of these compounds with a stoichiometric amount of the appropriate acid. Such reactions are typically carried out in water or in an organic solvent, or in a mixture of the two. Generally, use of non-aqueous media like ether, ethyl acetate, ethanol, isopropanol, or acetonitrile is desirable, where practicable. Lists of additional suitable salts can be found, e.g., in "Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences", 20th ed., Mack Publishing Company, Easton, Pa., (1985); and in "Handbook of Pharmaceutical Salts: Properties, Selection, and Use" by Stahl and Wermuth (Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, Germany, 2002).

When both a basic group and an acid group are present in the same molecule, the compounds of the invention may also form internal salts, e.g., zwitterionic molecules.

Any formula given herein is also intended to represent unlabeled forms as well as isotopically labeled forms of the compounds. Isotopically labeled compounds have structures depicted by the formulas given herein except that one or more atoms are replaced by an atom having a selected atomic mass or mass number. Examples of isotopes that can be incorporated into compounds of the invention include isotopes of hydrogen, carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, phosphorous, fluorine, and chlorine, such as ^2H , ^3H , ^{11}C , ^{13}C , ^{14}C , ^{15}N , ^{18}F , ^{31}P , ^{32}P , ^{35}S , ^{36}Cl , ^{125}I respectively. The invention includes various isotopically labeled compounds as defined herein, for example those into which radioactive isotopes, such as ^3H and ^{14}C , or those into which non-radioactive isotopes, such as ^2H and ^{13}C are present. Such isotopically labeled compounds are useful in metabolic studies (with ^{14}C), reaction kinetic studies (with, for example ^2H or ^3H), detection or imaging techniques, such as positron emission tomography (PET) or single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) including drug or substrate tissue distribution assays, or in radioactive treatment of patients. In particular, an ^{18}F labeled compound may be particularly desirable for PET or SPECT studies. Isotopically-labeled compounds of formula (I) can generally be prepared by conventional techniques known to those skilled in the art or by processes analogous to those described in the accompanying Examples and Preparations using an appropriate isotopically-labeled reagents in place of the non-labeled reagent previously employed.

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Further, substitution with heavier isotopes, particularly deuterium (i.e., ^2H or D) may afford certain therapeutic advantages resulting from greater metabolic stability, for example increased in vivo half-life or reduced dosage requirements or an improvement in therapeutic index. It is understood that deuterium in this context is regarded as a substituent of a compound of the formula (I). The concentration of such a heavier isotope, specifically deuterium, may be defined by the isotopic enrichment factor. The term "isotopic enrichment factor" as used herein means the ratio between the isotopic abundance and the natural abundance of a specified isotope. If a substituent in a compound of this invention is denoted deuterium, such compound has an isotopic enrichment factor for each designated deuterium atom of at least 3500 (52.5% deuterium incorporation at each designated deuterium atom), at least 4000 (60% deuterium incorporation), at least 4500 (67.5% deuterium incorporation), at least 5000 (75% deuterium incorporation), at least 5500 (82.5% deuterium incorporation), at least 6000 (90% deuterium incorporation), at least 6333.3 (95% deuterium incorporation), at least 6466.7 (97% deuterium incorporation), at least 6600 (99% deuterium incorporation), or at least 6633.3 (99.5% deuterium incorporation).

Pharmaceutically acceptable solvates in accordance with the invention include those wherein the solvent of crystallization may be isotopically substituted, e.g. D_2O , d_6 -acetone, d_6 -DMSO.

Compounds of the invention that contain groups capable of acting as donors and/or acceptors for hydrogen bonds may be capable of forming co-crystals with suitable co-crystal formers. These co-crystals may be prepared from compounds of formula (I) by known co-crystal forming procedures. Such procedures include grinding, heating, co-subliming, co-melting, or contacting in solution compounds of formula I with the co-crystal former under crystallization conditions and isolating co-crystals thereby formed. Suitable co-crystal formers include those described in WO 2004/078163. Hence the invention further provides co-crystals comprising a compound of formula (I).

The invention also envisages the use of pro-drugs of the compounds of the invention that convert in vivo to the compounds of the invention. A pro-drug is an active or inactive compound that is modified chemically through in vivo physiological action, such as hydrolysis, metabolism and the like, into a compound of the invention following administration of the prodrug to a subject. The suitability and techniques involved in making and using pro-drugs are well known by those skilled in the art. Prodrugs can be conceptually divided into

two non-exclusive categories, bioprecursor prodrugs and carrier prodrugs. See The Practice of Medicinal Chemistry, Ch. 31-32 (Ed. Wermuth, Academic Press, San Diego, Calif., 2001).

Furthermore, the compounds of the invention, including their salts, can also be obtained in the form of their hydrates, or include other solvents used for their crystallization. The compounds of the invention may inherently or by design form solvates with pharmaceutically acceptable solvents (including water); therefore, it is intended that the invention embrace both solvated and unsolvated forms. The term "solvate" refers to a molecular complex of a compound of the invention (including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof) with one or more solvent molecules. Such solvent molecules are those commonly used in the pharmaceutical art, which are known to be innocuous to the recipient, e.g., water, ethanol, and the like. The term "hydrate" refers to the complex where the solvent molecule is water. The compounds of the invention, including salts, hydrates and solvates thereof, may inherently or by design form polymorphs.

The definition of the substituents applies to the end-products as well as to the corresponding intermediates.

Various embodiments of the invention are described herein. It will be recognized that features specified in each embodiment may be combined with other specified features to provide further embodiments of the present invention.

Embodiment 1. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form as defined herein.

Embodiment 2. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form, wherein R_1 is a ring selected from pyrazolyl, thiophenyl or pyridin-2-yl, which ring may be substituted by C_1 - C_3 alkyl;

and

R_2 is C_{2-7} alkyl which may be substituted once or more than once by R_6 ;
or R_2 is $-X_1-R_7$; $-X_1-$ is $-O-$, $-S-$ or $-N(R_8)-$; R_8 is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl; and R_7 is C_{1-6} alkyl which may be substituted once or more than once by R_9 ;
or R_2 is a three- to five-membered monocyclic saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic ring system, wherein said ring system may contain from 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from

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nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and wherein said ring system may be substituted once or more than once by R₁₀;

R₃ is hydrogen or -CH₂R₁₂;

R₁₂ is hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, C₁₋₃alkoxyC₁₋₃alkyl, hydroxyC₁₋₃alkyl, or aminoC₁₋₃alkyl;

and

R₄ is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄halogenalkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy-C₁₋₄alkyl, amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄halogenalkoxy, C₁₋₄alkylamino or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino;

or a three- to seven-membered monocyclic aromatic, saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic ring system, wherein said ring system may contain from 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, wherein said ring system may be attached directly or via a C₁₋₂alkylene, and wherein said ring system may be substituted once or more than once by R₁₁;

or

R₃ and R₄ taken together are -CH₂-CH₂-;

R₅ is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₄alkenyl, C₂₋₄alkinyl or C₁₋₄alkoxy; or C₃₋₄cycloalkyl, wherein one carbon atom may be replaced by an oxygen atom, wherein the C₃₋₄cycloalkyl may be attached directly or via a C₁₋₂alkylene;

R₆ and R₉ each independently is halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋

4halogenalkoxy, C₁₋₄alkylamino or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino;

or C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, wherein one carbon atom may be replaced by an oxygen atom, wherein the C₃₋₆cycloalkyl may be attached directly or via a C₁₋₂alkylene, and wherein the C₃₋₆cycloalkyl may be substituted once or more than once by halogen;

or two R₆ or R₉ at the same carbon atom together are oxo;

or two R₆ or R₉ at the same carbon atom together with said carbon atom form a C₃₋₆cycloalkyl

R₁₀ and R₁₁ each independently is halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄halogenalkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy-C₁₋₄alkyl, amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄halogenalkoxy, C₁₋₄alkylamino or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino;

or C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, wherein one carbon atom may be replaced by an oxygen atom, wherein the C₃₋₆cycloalkyl may be attached directly or via a C₁₋₂alkylene, and wherein the C₃₋₆cycloalkyl may be substituted once or more than once by halogen;

or two R₁₀ or R₁₁ at the same ring atom together are oxo;

or two R₁₀ or R₁₁ at the same ring carbon atom together with said carbon atom form a C₃₋

6cycloalkyl.

Embodiment 3. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 1 or 2, wherein R₁ is pyridin-2-yl which may be substituted by C₁-C₃alkyl.

5

Embodiment 4. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 1 or 2, wherein R₁ is thiophenyl which may be substituted by C₁-C₃alkyl.

10 Embodiment 5. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 4, wherein R₁ is thiophen-3-yl.

Embodiment 6. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 1 or 2, wherein R₁ is pyrazolyl which may be substituted by C₁-C₃alkyl

15

Embodiment 7. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 6, wherein R₁ is a pyrazol-3-yl.

20 Embodiment 8. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 6 or 7, wherein R₁ is substituted with methyl.

Embodiment 9. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 6, wherein R₁ is a pyrazol-5-yl.

25

Embodiment 10. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 9, wherein R₁ is pyrazol-5-yl which is unsubstituted.

Embodiment 11. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to any of embodiments 1 to 10, wherein R₂ is C₂-C₇alkyl.

30

Embodiment 12. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 11, wherein R₂ is C₂-C₃alkyl.

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Embodiment 13. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 12, wherein R₂ is *n*-propyl.

5 Embodiment 14. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 12, wherein R₂ is isopropyl.

10 Embodiment 15. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to any of embodiments 1 to 10, wherein R₂ is three- to seven-membered monocyclic saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic ring system, wherein said ring system may contain from 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur.

15 Embodiment 16. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 15, wherein R₂ is a four- to six- membered monocyclic saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic ring system wherein said ring system may contain from 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur.

20 Embodiment 17. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 16, wherein R₂ is cyclobutyl.

Embodiment 18. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to any of embodiments 1 to 17, wherein R₃ is hydrogen or -CH₂R₁₂; and R₁₂ is hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl or C₃₋₆cycloalkyl.

25 Embodiment 19. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 18, wherein R₃ is hydrogen.

30 Embodiment 20. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 18, wherein R₃ is methyl.

Embodiment 21. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to any of embodiments 1 to 17, wherein R₃ and R₄ taken together are -CH₂-CH₂-.

- 15 -

Embodiment 22. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to any of embodiments 1 to 20, wherein R₄ is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄halogenalkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy-C₁₋₄alkyl, amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄halogenalkoxy, C₁₋₄alkylamino or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino.

Embodiment 23. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 22, wherein R₄ is hydrogen.

Embodiment 24. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 22, wherein R₄ is a three- to seven-membered monocyclic aromatic, saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic ring system, wherein said ring system may contain from 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, wherein said ring system may be attached directly or via a C₁₋₂alkylene.

Embodiment 25. A compound of formula (I) according to any of embodiments 1 to 24, in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form wherein R₅ is hydrogen.

Embodiment 26. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form according to embodiment 1 which is selected from
2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione;
10-methyl-2-propyl-3-(pyridin-2-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione;
10-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-propylpyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione;
2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione;
2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(thiophen-3-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione;
2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(pyridin-4-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione;
2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(pyridin-2-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione; and
2-cyclobutyl-10-methyl-3-(pyridin-2-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione.

Embodiment 27. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any of embodiments 1 to 26 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

35

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Embodiment 28. A combination comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound according to any of embodiments 1 to 26 and one or more therapeutically active agents.

5 Embodiment 29. A compound according to any of embodiments 1 to 26 in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form for use as a medicament.

Embodiment 30. A pharmaceutical composition according to embodiment 27 for use as a medicament.

10

Embodiment 31. A combination according to embodiment 28 for use as a medicament.

Embodiment 32. A compound according to any of embodiments 1 to 26 in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form for use in the treatment of a disease caused by a
15 nonsense mutation.

Embodiment 33. A pharmaceutical composition according to embodiment 27 for use in the treatment of a disease caused by a nonsense mutation.

20 Embodiment 34. A combination according to embodiment 28 for use in the treatment of a disease caused by a nonsense mutation.

Embodiment 35. A compound for use according to embodiment 32, wherein the disease is selected from hemophilia A, hemophilia B, cystic fibrosis, mucopolysaccharidosis I,
25 Duchenne Muscle Dystrophy, Becker Muscle Dystrophy, loss of APC caused cancer and loss of p53 caused cancer.

Embodiment 36. A pharmaceutical composition for use according to embodiment 33,
30 wherein the disease is selected from hemophilia A, hemophilia B, cystic fibrosis, mucopolysaccharidosis I, Duchenne Muscle Dystrophy, Becker Muscle Dystrophy, loss of APC caused cancer and loss of p53 caused cancer.

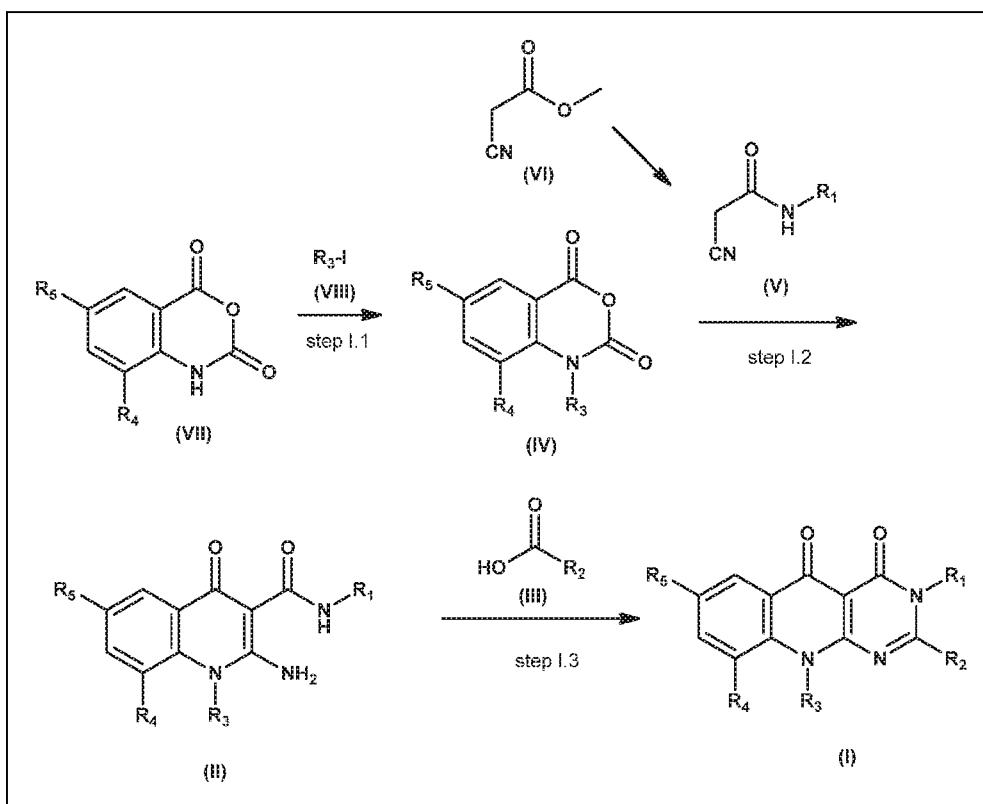
Embodiment 37. A combination for use according to embodiment 34, wherein the disease is selected from hemophilia A, hemophilia B, cystic fibrosis, mucopolysaccharidosis I,

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Duchenne Muscle Dystrophy, Becker Muscle Dystrophy, loss of APC caused cancer and loss of p53 caused cancer.

5 Compounds of the formula (I) can be prepared by conventional processes, e.g. as described in the Examples, which processes are further aspects of the invention.

Typically, the compounds of formula (I) can be prepared according to the Schemes I and II provided *infra*.



10

Scheme I

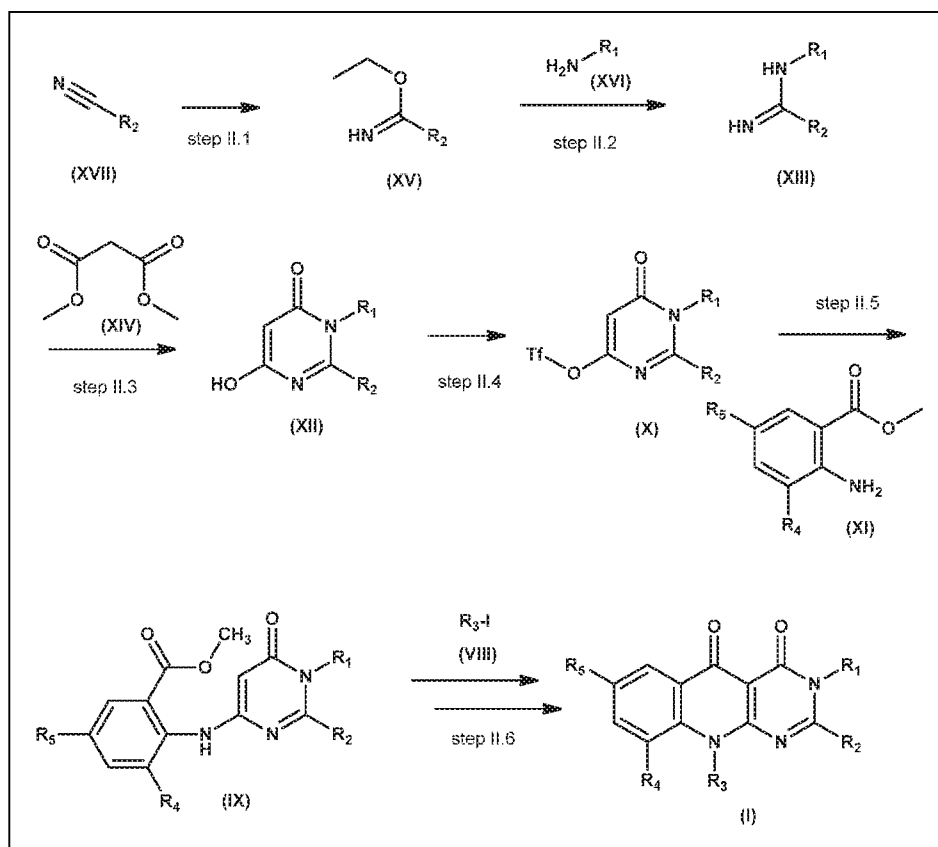
The process steps are described in more details below:

15 **Step I.1:** A compound of formula (IV) in which R_3 , R_4 and R_5 are as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (VII) wherein R_4 and R_5 are as defined in relation to a compound of formula (I) with a compound of formula (VIII) in a suitable solvent, such as DMF.

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Step I.2: A compound of formula (II) in which R_1 , R_3 , R_4 and R_5 are as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (V) wherein R_1 is as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) in a suitable solvent such as NMP. A compound of formula (V) wherein R_1 is as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (VI) with a compound being R_1-NH_2 wherein R_1 is as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) either by neat reaction or in a suitable solvent such as NMP.

Step I.3: A compound of formula (I) in which R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 and R_5 are as defined herein may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (II) wherein R_1 , R_3 , R_4 and R_5 are as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) with a compound of formula (III) wherein R_2 is as defined in relation to a compound of formula (I) in a suitable solvent such as DMF.



Scheme II

15

The process steps are described in more details below:

Step II.1: A compound of formula (XV) wherein R_2 is as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) may be obtained by reaction of a compound of formula (XVII)

- 19 -

wherein R₂ is as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) with ethanol in the presence of acetylchloride neat.

Step II.2: A compound of formula (XIII) in which R₁ and R₂ are as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (XV) in which
5 R₂ is as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) with a compound of formula (XVI) wherein R₁ is as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) in a suitable solvent such as acetonitrile.

Step II.3: A compound of formula (XII) wherein R₁ and R₂ are as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (XIII) wherein
10 R₁ and R₂ are as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) with a compound of formula (XIV) in a suitable solvent such as methoxyethanol.

Step II.4: A compound of formula (X) wherein R₁ and R₂ are as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (XII) wherein
15 R₁ and R₂ are as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) with a reagent such as trilate anhydride in a suitable solvent such as DCM.

Step II.5: A compound of formula (IX) wherein R₁, R₂, R₄ and R₅ are as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (X) wherein R₁ and R₂ are as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) with a
20 compound of formula (XI) wherein R₄ and R₅ are as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) in a suitable solvent such as dioxane.

Step II.6: A compound of formula (I) in which R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are as defined herein may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (IX) wherein R₁, R₂, R₄ and R₅ are as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) with a compound of formula (VIII) wherein R₃
25 is as defined herein in relation to a compound of formula (I) and cyclisation in a suitable solvent such as polyphosphoric acid.

In a further aspect, the invention relates to a process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I), in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form, comprising the steps of:

- 30
- a) Reacting a compound of formula (II) with a compound of formula (III) to give a compound of formula (I)
 - b) Recovering the so obtainable compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form.

- 20 -

In a further aspect, the invention relates to a process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I), in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form, comprising the steps of:

- 5 a) Reacting a compound of formula (IX) with a compound of formula (VIII) and cyclizing to give a compound of formula (I)
- b) Recovering the so obtainable compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form.

10 Furthermore, compounds of formula (I) or their precursors may be obtainable from compounds which are described in the Examples, e.g. by reduction, oxidation and/or other functionalization of resulting compounds and/or by cleavage of any protecting group(s) optionally present, and of recovering the so obtainable compound of the formula (I) or the intended precursor. The reactions can be effected according to conventional methods, for example as described in the Examples. The work-up of the reaction mixtures and the
15 purification of the compounds thus obtainable may be carried out in accordance with known procedures. Acid addition salts may be produced from the free bases in known manner, and vice-versa. Starting materials, e.g. starting materials as described in the Examples, may be known or prepared according to conventional procedures starting from known compounds.

20 The invention also contemplates that compounds of formula (I) may be formed by in vivo biotransformation from pro-drugs.

In another aspect, the invention provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of the invention and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. The pharmaceutical
25 composition can be formulated for particular routes of administration such as oral administration, parenteral administration, and rectal administration, etc. In addition, the pharmaceutical compositions of the invention can be made up in a solid form including capsules, tablets, pills, granules, powders or suppositories, or in a liquid form including solutions, suspensions or emulsions. The pharmaceutical compositions can be subjected to
30 conventional pharmaceutical operations such as sterilization and/or can contain conventional inert diluents, lubricating agents, or buffering agents, as well as adjuvants, such as preservatives, stabilizers, wetting agents, emulsifiers and buffers etc.

Typically, the pharmaceutical compositions are tablets and gelatin capsules comprising the
35 active ingredient together with

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- a) diluents, *e.g.*, lactose, dextrose, sucrose, mannitol, sorbitol, cellulose and/or glycine;
- b) lubricants, *e.g.*, silica, talcum, stearic acid, its magnesium or calcium salt and/or polyethyleneglycol; for tablets also
- 5 c) binders, *e.g.*, magnesium aluminum silicate, starch paste, gelatin, tragacanth, methylcellulose, sodium carboxymethylcellulose and/or polyvinylpyrrolidone; if desired
- d) disintegrants, *e.g.*, starches, agar, alginic acid or its sodium salt, or effervescent mixtures; and/or
- 10 e) absorbents, colorants, flavors and sweeteners.

Tablets may be either film coated or enteric coated according to methods known in the art.

Suitable compositions for oral administration include an effective amount of a compound of the invention in the form of tablets, lozenges, aqueous or oily suspensions, dispersible
15 powders or granules, emulsion, hard or soft capsules, or syrups or elixirs. Compositions intended for oral use are prepared according to any method known in the art for the manufacture of pharmaceutical compositions and such compositions can contain one or more agents selected from the group consisting of sweetening agents, flavoring agents,
20 coloring agents and preserving agents in order to provide pharmaceutically elegant and palatable preparations. Tablets contain the active ingredient in admixture with nontoxic pharmaceutically acceptable excipients which are suitable for the manufacture of tablets. These excipients are, for example, inert diluents, such as calcium carbonate, sodium carbonate, lactose, calcium phosphate or sodium phosphate; granulating and disintegrating
25 agents, for example, corn starch, or alginic acid; binding agents, for example, starch, gelatin or acacia; and lubricating agents, for example magnesium stearate, stearic acid or talc. The tablets are uncoated or coated by known techniques to delay disintegration and absorption in the gastrointestinal tract and thereby provide a sustained action over a longer period. For example, a time delay material such as glyceryl monostearate or glyceryl distearate can be
30 employed. Formulations for oral use can be presented as hard gelatin capsules wherein the active ingredient is mixed with an inert solid diluent, for example, calcium carbonate, calcium phosphate or kaolin, or as soft gelatin capsules wherein the active ingredient is mixed with water or an oil medium, for example, peanut oil, liquid paraffin or olive oil.

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Certain injectable compositions are aqueous isotonic solutions or suspensions, and suppositories are advantageously prepared from fatty emulsions or suspensions. Said compositions may be sterilized and/or contain adjuvants, such as preserving, stabilizing, wetting or emulsifying agents, solution promoters, salts for regulating the osmotic pressure and/or buffers. In addition, they may also contain other therapeutically valuable substances. Said compositions are prepared according to conventional mixing, granulating or coating methods, respectively, and contain about 0.1-75%, or contain about 1-50%, of the active ingredient.

10 Suitable compositions for transdermal application include an effective amount of a compound of the invention with carrier. Carriers include absorbable pharmacologically acceptable solvents to assist passage through the skin of the host. For example, transdermal devices are in the form of a bandage comprising a backing member, a reservoir containing the compound optionally with carriers, optionally a rate controlling barrier to deliver the
15 compound of the skin of the host at a controlled and predetermined rate over a prolonged period of time, and means to secure the device to the skin.

Suitable compositions for topical application, *e.g.*, to the skin and eyes, include aqueous solutions, suspensions, ointments, creams, gels or sprayable formulations, *e.g.*, for delivery
20 by aerosol or the like. Such topical delivery systems will in particular be appropriate for dermal application, *e.g.*, for the treatment of skin cancer, *e.g.*, for prophylactic use in sun creams, lotions, sprays and the like. They are thus particularly suited for use in topical, including cosmetic, formulations well-known in the art. Such may contain solubilizers, stabilizers, tonicity enhancing agents, buffers and preservatives.

25 As used herein a topical application may also pertain to an inhalation or to an intranasal application. They are conveniently delivered in the form of a dry powder (either alone, as a mixture, for example a dry blend with lactose, or a mixed component particle, for example with phospholipids) from a dry powder inhaler or an aerosol spray presentation from a
30 pressurised container, pump, spray, atomizer or nebuliser, with or without the use of a suitable propellant.

The invention further provides anhydrous pharmaceutical compositions and dosage forms comprising the compounds of the invention as active ingredients, since water may facilitate
35 the degradation of certain compounds.

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Anhydrous pharmaceutical compositions and dosage forms of the invention can be prepared using anhydrous or low moisture containing ingredients and low moisture or low humidity conditions. An anhydrous pharmaceutical composition may be prepared and stored such
5 that its anhydrous nature is maintained. Accordingly, anhydrous compositions are preferably packaged using materials known to prevent exposure to water such that they can be included in suitable formulary kits. Examples of suitable packaging include, but are not limited to, hermetically sealed foils, plastics, unit dose containers (e. g., vials), blister packs, and strip packs.

10

The invention further provides pharmaceutical compositions and dosage forms that comprise one or more agents that reduce the rate by which the compound of the invention as an active ingredient will decompose. Such agents, which are referred to herein as "stabilizers," include, but are not limited to, antioxidants such as ascorbic acid, pH buffers, or salt buffers, etc.

15

As used herein, the term "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" includes any and all solvents, dispersion media, coatings, surfactants, antioxidants, preservatives (e.g., antibacterial agents, antifungal agents), isotonic agents, absorption delaying agents, salts, preservatives, drugs, drug stabilizers, binders, excipients, disintegration agents, lubricants, sweetening
20 agents, flavoring agents, dyes, such like materials and combinations thereof, as would be known to one of ordinary skill in the art (see, for example, Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences, 18th Ed. Mack Printing Company, 1990, pp. 1289- 1329). Except insofar as any conventional carrier is incompatible with the active ingredient, its use in the therapeutic or pharmaceutical compositions is contemplated.

25

The compounds of formula (I) or pharmaceutical acceptable salts thereof exhibit valuable pharmacological properties and are therefore useful as pharmaceuticals.

Furthermore, compounds of formula (I) may be useful for research on diseases caused by
30 nonsense mutations, e.g. as tool compounds.

In particular, compounds of formula (I) act as nonsense mutation suppressors on frequent PTCs, e.g. on Y122X in the mRNA of the cystic fibrosis conductance regulator protein (CFTR). This can be determined *in vitro*, for example, using cell lines expressing GFP-CFTR-
35 Y122X-Renilla constructs as described herein.

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The compounds of the invention may be therefore useful in the prevention, treatment or delay of progression of diseases caused by nonsense mutations

5 The term "disease caused by nonsense mutation" is known in the field. It relates to a disease being present in patients carrying a nonsense mutation in a disease-relevant gene wherein the nonsense mutation causes a partial/total lack of protein which then causes the pathology of the disease.

10 In one embodiment, the disease is selected from hemophilia A, hemophilia B, cystic fibrosis, mucopolysaccharidosis I, Duchenne Muscle Dystrophy, Becker Muscle Dystrophy, loss of APC caused cancer and loss of p53 caused cancer.

For the above-mentioned indications (the conditions and disorders) the appropriate dosage will vary depending upon, for example, the compound employed, the host, the mode of administration and the nature and severity of the condition being treated. However, in
15 general, satisfactory results in animals are indicated to be obtained at a daily dosage of from about 0.01 to about 100 mg/kg body weight, preferably from about 0.1 to about 10 mg/kg body weight, e.g. 1 mg/kg. In larger mammals, for example humans, an indicated daily dosage is in the range from about 0.1 to about 1000 mg, preferably from about 1 to about 400 mg, most preferably from about 10 to about 100 mg of the compound of the invention
20 conveniently administered, for example, in divided doses up to four times a day.

For use according to the invention, a compound of the invention may be administered as single active agent or in combination with other active agents, in any usual manner, e.g. orally, for example in the form of tablets or capsules, or parenterally, for example in the form
25 of injection solutions or suspensions. A combination comprising a compound of the invention and another active agent will be referred to as "combination of the invention".

A compound of the invention may be combined with a readthrough activator, e.g. negamycin, RT13, RT14, ataluren or an aminoglycoside readthrough activator, e.g. paromomycin,
30 amikacin, G418, NB30, NB54 or NB84.

A compound of the invention may be combined with a nonsense-mediated mRNA decay inhibitor, e.g. NMDI-1.

35 Negamycin, RT13, RT14, ataluren, aminoglycoside readthrough activators and NMDI-1 are described e.g. in Keeling et al, WIREs RNA, 2011, 2, 837-852.

- 25 -

The compounds of the invention may be useful for the prevention of diseases caused by nonsense mutations.

5 The compounds of the invention may be useful for the treatment of diseases caused by nonsense mutations.

The compounds of the invention may be useful for the delay of progression of diseases caused by nonsense mutations.

10 In another embodiment, the invention provides a method of treating a disease caused by a nonsense mutation comprising administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In a further embodiment, the invention provides a method of treating a disease caused by a nonsense mutation comprising administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the disease is selected
15 from the afore-mentioned list, suitably hemophilia A, hemophilia B, cystic fibrosis and mucopolysaccharidosis I (Hurler syndrome).

The term "a therapeutically effective amount" of a compound of the invention refers to an amount of the compound of the invention that will elicit the biological or medical response of
20 a subject, for example, ameliorate symptoms, alleviate conditions, slow or delay disease progression, or prevent a disease, etc. In one non-limiting embodiment, the term "a therapeutically effective amount" refers to the amount of the compound of the invention that, when administered to a subject, is effective to at least partially alleviating, inhibiting, preventing and/or ameliorating a disease caused by nonsense mutations. In another non-
25 limiting embodiment, the term "a therapeutically effective amount" refers to the amount of the compound of the invention that, when administered to a cell, or a tissue, or a non-cellular biological material, or a medium, is effective to at least partially suppress the effect of nonsense mutations.

30 As used herein, the term "subject" refers to an animal. Preferably, the animal is a mammal. A subject also refers to for example, primates (*e.g.*, humans), cows, sheep, goats, horses, dogs, cats, rabbits, rats, mice, fish, birds and the like. In a preferred embodiment, the subject is a human.

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As used herein, the term "inhibition" or "inhibiting" refers to the reduction or suppression of a given condition, symptom, or disorder, or disease, or a significant decrease in the baseline activity of a biological activity or process.

5 As used herein, the term "treating" or "treatment" of any disease or disorder refers in one embodiment, to ameliorating the disease or disorder (i.e., slowing or arresting or reducing the development of the disease or at least one of the clinical symptoms thereof). In another embodiment "treating" or "treatment" refers to alleviating or ameliorating at least one physical parameter including those which may not be discernible by the patient. In yet another
10 embodiment, "treating" or "treatment" refers to modulating the disease or disorder, either physically, (e.g., stabilization of a discernible symptom), physiologically, (e.g., stabilization of a physical parameter), or both. In yet another embodiment, "treating" or "treatment" refers to preventing or delaying the onset or development or progression of the disease or disorder.

15 The pharmaceutical composition or combination of the invention can be in unit dosage of about 1-1000 mg of active ingredient(s) for a subject of about 50-70 kg, or about 1-500 mg or about 1-250 mg or about 1-150 mg or about 0.5-100 mg, or about 1-50 mg of active ingredients. The therapeutically effective dosage of a compound, the pharmaceutical composition, or the combinations thereof, is dependent on the species of the subject, the
20 body weight, age and individual condition, the disorder or disease or the severity thereof being treated. A physician, clinician or veterinarian of ordinary skill can readily determine the effective amount of each of the active ingredients necessary to prevent, treat or inhibit the progress of the disorder or disease.

25 The above-cited dosage properties are demonstrable *in vitro* and *in vivo* tests using advantageously mammals, e.g., mice, rats, dogs, monkeys or isolated organs, tissues and preparations thereof. The compounds of the invention can be applied *in vitro* in the form of solutions, e.g., preferably aqueous solutions, and *in vivo* either enterally, parenterally, advantageously intravenously, e.g., as a suspension or in aqueous solution. The dosage *in*
30 *vitro* may range between about 10^{-3} molar and 10^{-9} molar concentrations. A therapeutically effective amount *in vivo* may range depending on the route of administration, between about 0.1-500 mg/kg, or between about 1-100 mg/kg.

The activity of a compound of the invention can be assessed by *in vitro* & *in vivo* methods
35 described herein.

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The compound of the invention may be administered either simultaneously with, or before or after, at least one other therapeutic agent. The compound of the invention may be administered separately, by the same or different route of administration, or together in the same pharmaceutical composition.

The following Examples illustrate the invention, but do not limit it.

Examples:

10

Experimental part:

Abbreviations:

NMP	1-methylpyrrolidin-2-one
HOAt	3H-[1,2,3]triazolo[4,5-b]pyridin-3-ol
15 HATU	2-(3H-[1,2,3]triazolo[4,5-b]pyridin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethylisouronium hexafluorophosphate(V)
DMF	dimethylformamide
DCM	dichloromethane
r.t.	room temperature
20 ACN	acetonitrile
TFA	trifluoroacetic acid

LC-MS Method:

Waters Acquity UPLC-SQD system; mobile phase: A: water (0.05% formic acid) B: methanol (0.04% formic acid); gradient: from 2% B to 8% B in 0.1 min, from 8% B to 98% B in 0.5 min, 98% B for 0.1 min; flow rate 1 mL / min; column Waters Acquity UPLC BEH C18, 30x2.1 mm, 1.7 mM; oven temperature 60 °C.

NMR device :

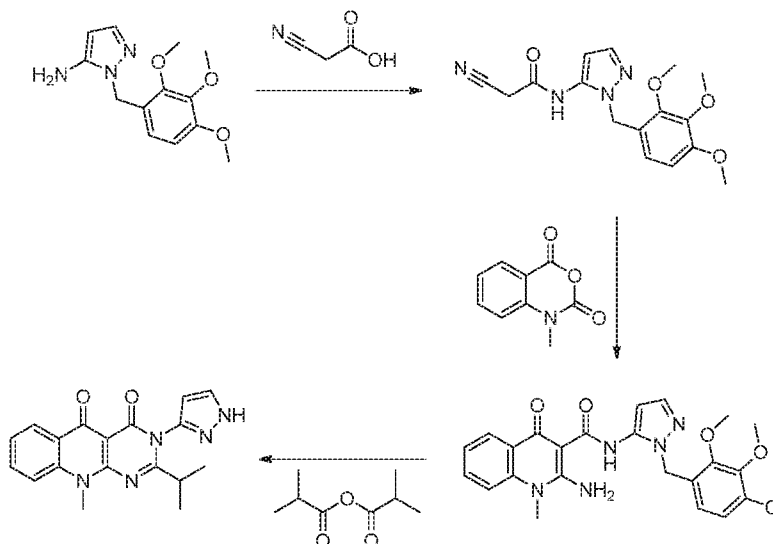
Bruker Avance 400MHz Ultrashield and Avance 600MHz

30

Examples:

Example 1.1: 2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione

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a) 2-cyano-N-(1-(2,3,4-trimethoxybenzyl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)acetamide

Under argon 272 mg 2-cyanoacetic acid (3.2 mmol) were suspended in 8.5 mL NMP and 842 mg 1-(2,3,4-trimethoxybenzyl)-1H-pyrazol-5-amine (3.2 mmol), 435 mg HOAt (3.2 mmol),
 5 1.69 mL 2,4,6-trimethylpyridine (12.8 mmol), and 3.04 g HATU (8 mmol) were added subsequently. The resulting solution was stirred at r.t. for 2 h, added to 8 mL ethyl acetate and 5 mL 1M aqueous sodium carbonate, extracted with ethyl acetate, dried, and evaporated. The resulting oil was purified by liquid chromatography over silica gel with ethyl acetate as eluent. Target fractions were combined, evaporated and the resulting oil was
 10 treated with 4 mL diethyl ether / ethyl acetate (3:1, v/v), filtered, washed with diethyl ether, and dried to yield 370 mg 2-cyano-N-(1-(2,3,4-trimethoxybenzyl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)acetamide (1.1 mmol, 34%) as a white powder.

ESI-MS $[M+H]^+$ 331.3

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, $\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$): δ (ppm) = 10.35 (s, 1H), 7.40 (d, 1H, $J = 1.9$ Hz), 6.73 (d, 1H, $J = 8.6$ Hz), 6.52 (d, 1H, $J = 8.6$ Hz), 6.27 (d, 1H, $J = 1.9$ Hz), 5.14 (s, 2H), 3.96 (s, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H).

b) 2-amino-1-methyl-4-oxo-N-(1-(2,3,4-trimethoxybenzyl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)-1,4-dihydroquinoline-3-carboxamide

Under argon 117 mg NaH (2.9 mmol) was added to 6 mL DMF and cooled to 0 °C. To this suspension 305 mg 2-cyano-N-(1-(2,3,4-trimethoxybenzyl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)acetamide (9.2 mmol) was added in portions with stirring to yield an orange solution. After 20 minutes 165 mg 1-methyl-1H-benzo[d][1,3]oxazine-2,4-dione (0.84 mmol) were added in portions within
 20 10 minutes and stirred at r.t. for 1.5 hours. To this solution 1.7 mL aqueous 2N HCl (3.4

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mmol) was slowly added under cooling to reach pH 0-1 and stirred at r.t. for 30 minutes then heated to 35 °C for 2.5 hours. The resulting yellow suspension was carefully poured on 10 mL aqueous potassium hydrogen carbonate solution (15%, s/v) and stirred for 15 minutes. The solid was filtered, washed twice with water, twice with 1.5 mL diethyl ether / heptane
5 (1:1, v/v) and dried to yield 210 mg 2-amino-1-methyl-4-oxo-N-(1-(2,3,4-trimethoxybenzyl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)-1,4-dihydroquinoline-3-carboxamide (0.44 mmol, 53%) as an off-white powder.

ESI-MS [M+H]⁺ 464.4

¹H-NMR (400 MHz, D₆-DMSO): δ(ppm) = 14.67 (s, 1H), 8.19 (dd, 1H, J = 1.4 Hz), 7.77-7.65
10 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.31 (m, 2H), 6.71 (d, 1H, J = 8.7 Hz), 6.52 (d, 1H, J = 1.9 Hz), 6.45 (d, 1H, J = 8.6 Hz), 5.26 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 3H).

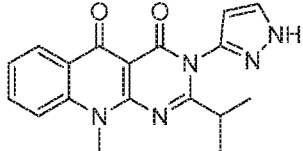
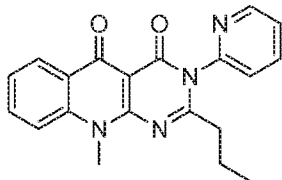
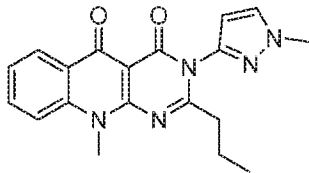
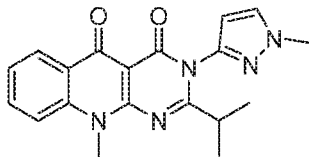
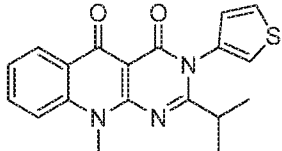
c) 2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione

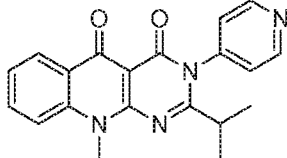
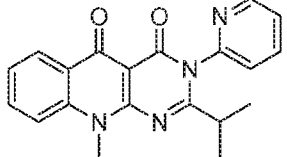
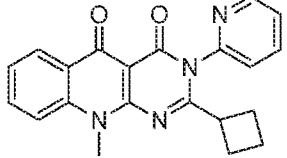
Under argon 50 mg 2-amino-1-methyl-4-oxo-N-(1-(2,3,4-trimethoxybenzyl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)-1,4-dihydroquinoline-3-carboxamide (0.11 mmol) were added to 0.4 mL isobutyric acid (4.3
15 mmol), followed by addition of 0.07 mL isobutyric acid anhydride (0.42 mmol) and 0.03 mL propane phosphonic acid anhydride solution (50% in DMF, 0.05 mmol). The mixture was heated to 155 °C and stirred for 1h. The solution was cooled to 70 °C, 0.5 mL MeOH added and stirred for 20 minutes. The mixture was diluted with 10 mL DCM and added to 6 mL aqueous 2M sodium carbonate, the organic phase three times extracted with water, the
20 aqueous phases extracted twice with 10 mL DCM, combined organic phases dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated. The residue was dissolved in 1 mL ethanol, 0.03 mL aqueous hydrochloric acid (1.1 mmol) added and heated to 110 °C for 1.5 hours. The mixture was filtered and purified by RP-HPLC (C18, water/ACN with 0.1% TFA), target fractions were concentrated under reduces pressure and freeze dried to yield 5 mg 2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-
25 (1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione (0.014 mmol, 14%) as a colourless solid.

ESI-MS [M+H]⁺ 336.1

¹H-NMR (600 MHz, D₆-DMSO): δ(ppm) = 13.22 (s, 1H), 8.21 (d, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.95 (d, 1H, J = 1.9 Hz), 7.86-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.43 (t, 1H, J = 7.1 Hz), 6.44 (d, 1H, J = 2.1 Hz), 4.05 (s, 3H),
30 2.68-2.56 (m, 1H), 1.21 (d, 6H, J = 6.6 Hz).

Example 1.2 to 1.8 were made in analogy to example 1.1 described above.

Ex	Structure	Name	LCMS Rt [min], meth. A	[M+H] ⁺
1.1		2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione	0.59	336.1
1.2		10-methyl-2-propyl-3-(pyridin-2-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione	0.60	347.0
1.3		10-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-propylpyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione	0.60	350.0
1.4		2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione	0.60	350.0
1.5		2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(thiophen-3-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione	0.63	352.0

Ex	Structure	Name	LCMS Rt [min], meth. A	[M+H] ⁺
1.6		2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(pyridin-4-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione	0.58	347.1
1.7		2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(pyridin-2-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione	0.59	347.1
1.8		2-cyclobutyl-10-methyl-3-(pyridin-2-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione	0.61	359.1

Biological Testing

In-vitro Testing: CFTR-Y122X assay

- 5 Activity of compounds of the present invention was examined in recombinant, dual reporter isogenic Hek293 cell lines ("CFTR-Y122X assay"). The engineered reporter constructs contained the 18 bp sequence stretch corresponding to a common Y122X PTC mutation in CFTR class I mutant patients (see Sermet-Gaudelus, BMC Medicine, 2007, 5(5)). Instead of a tyrosine (Y) in position 122 of the CFTR protein a TGA stop codon interrupts the open
- 10 reading frame (Y122X) of the corresponding mRNA. This TGA stop codon triplet (followed by the pyrimidine base cytosine) is permissive to aminoglycoside mediated translational readthrough which served as positive control for high throughput screening. A corresponding TAA stop codon variant and a wildtype non mutated construct was used for confirmation and counter screening. The CFTR sequence was sandwiched between an eGFP reporter, and a

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triple myc tag sequence fused to a full length Renilla reporter. All sequences, including an intron containing one positioned pre-eGFP (b-globin intron) were cloned in frame. The corresponding expression constructs were stably expressed in the isogenic HEK-R4 cell host (Invitrogen Incorp.) and selected by blasticidin resistance. The isogenic integration of the construct minimizes gene dose effects and improves assay reproducibility. Stably integrated single cell derived clones were selected and characterized for aminoglycoside mediated readthrough. A clone with optimal growth characteristics and strong response (EC_{50} of 1.5 mM) to paromomycin was pursued for HTS assay development. Readthrough of Y122X accumulates an intracellular localized fusion protein approximately 65.5 kDa in size as controlled by western blot analysis and immunofluorescence using an anti-renilla antibody. The eGFP reporter pre-PTC mutation serves as visual control for genetic stability of the screening clones and minimizes protein degradation of small fusion protein amounts. In the assay, compound concentration was 10 μ M. In miniaturized 1536 well format 2000 cells were dispensed in 4 μ l/well and incubated for 24 h at 37°C, 5% CO₂. 40 nl compounds were placed on the cells with control wells containing 1 ul Paramomycin and 14.4 mM final concentration. Compounds were incubated for 24h. Renilla Glo substrate (2.5 ul) was added and plates were centrifuged and processed for luminescence measurement using various readers. Activity calculation was done using the equation: $A1 (\%) = 100 \cdot (S-NC) / (AC-NC)$ where AC, NC and S correspond to active controls (injection of Stimulation buffer = 100% stimulation), neutral controls (buffer injection which Iloprost EC10) and screening samples (S). NC corresponds to 0% activity whereas AC is 100% activity (14 mM paromomycin). False positive artefacts were removed in confirmation and validation screening using the same assay format followed by counterscreening using the respective wildtype construct (w/o PTC mutation) cell model. Compounds were tested up to 100 μ M compound concentration.

Table 2: In-vitro activity in CFTR-Y122X assay:

Table 2 represents AC_{50} values for nonsense mutation suppression in the CFTR-Y122X assay.

Ex	A_{max} [%]	AC_{50} [μ M]
1.1	14.8	6.7
1.2	235	18
1.3	202	31.8
1.4	132.9	13.6
1.5	127.8	12.3

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Ex	A _{max} [%]	AC ₅₀ [μM]
1.6	14.9	2.9
1.7	163.7	11.7
1.8	271	4.8

The following compound of formula (I) was tested in the above described CFTR-Y122X assay at the above dose ranges; suppression reaching only less than 5% of paromomycin reference activity was seen:

- 5 2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione.

Table 2 above shows that the compounds of the invention show activity in a functional assay indicating they promote translational readthrough.

10 **In-vitro testing: Hurler patient derived fibroblast cell cultures**

- Activity of compounds of the present invention was examined in patient derived fibroblast cells. The genotyped cells were derived from the Coriell Institute (# GM00798) and contain an in frame homozygous TGG to TAG change at nucleotide 1293 of exon 9 which results in a W402X mutation. The W402X mutation is one of the most common Hurler syndromes
- 15 causing loss of function mutation. Between 60-70 % of genotyped patients contain either the Q70X and/or the W402X in mutation and are classified as severe MPSI patients. This TAG stop codon triplet is permissive to aminoglycoside mediated translational readthrough which served as activity control for compound testing. Readthrough of W402X restores alpha-L-
- 20 Iduronidase activity which results in removal of lysosomal accumulated Glycosaminoglycan's. Iduronidase expression could neither be detected by Taqman PCR© nor by enzyme activity or ELISA methods without compound stimulation. Compounds were tested in concentration response mode. Therefore 5000 patient cells/40ul/well in 384 well plates were used. Compound dilutions were derived from freshly prepared 10 mM compound stock solutions. Highest concentration was 20 uM and subsequently diluted 1: 3.16 (8 point
- 25 dilutions, n=4). Final DMSO concentration was below 0.5 % and tested to be without effect on cell viability, growth and readthrough. Cells were incubated for 8 days with one cell media and compound exchange at day 3. Thereafter cell media was removed and cells were lysed (0.4 M Sodiumformate, 0.1 % NaN₃, 0.9 % NaCl, 0.2 % Triton, pH 3.5). Restored alpha-L-iduronidase activity in cell lysates was measured with the fluorescent 4-MU iduronide
- 30 substrate (5 ul of 0.4 mM 4 Methylumbelliferyl alpha-L-iduronide/well) after 48h incubation.

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Paromomycin was used as reference control (14 mM=100% control). The results are shown in Table 3 below and suggest that the compounds could be used in the treatment of Hurler syndrome.

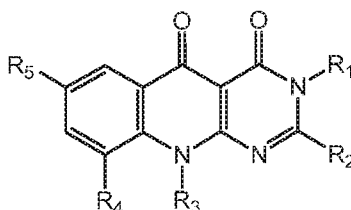
Table 3

Ex	A_{\max} [%]	AC_{50} [μ M]
1.1	7	-
1.2	1	-
1.3	8	-
1.4	21	-
1.5	5	-
1.6	5	-
1.7	11	-
1.8	184	9.9

5

Claims

1. A compound of formula (I) in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form



(I)

5

wherein

R₁ is a ring selected from pyrazolyl, thiophenyl or pyridin-2-yl, which ring may be substituted by C₁₋₃alkyl;

R₂ is C₂₋₇alkyl which may be substituted once or more than once by R₆;

10 or R₂ is -X₁-R₇; -X₁- is -O-, -S- or -N(R₈)-; R₈ is hydrogen or C₁₋₄alkyl; and R₇ is C₁₋₆alkyl which may be substituted once or more than once by R₉;

or R₂ is a three- to seven-membered monocyclic saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic ring system, wherein said ring system may contain from 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and wherein said ring system may be substituted once or more
15 than once by R₁₀;

R₃ is hydrogen or -CH₂R₁₂;

R₁₂ is hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, C₁₋₃alkoxyC₁₋₃alkyl, hydroxyC₁₋₃alkyl or aminoC₁₋₃alkyl;

R₄ is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄halogenalkyl, C₁₋

20 ₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy-C₁₋₄alkyl, amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄halogenalkoxy, C₁₋₄alkylamino or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino;

or a three- to seven-membered monocyclic aromatic, saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic ring system, wherein said ring system may contain from 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, wherein said ring system may be attached directly or via a C₁₋

25 ₂alkylene, and wherein said ring system may be substituted once or more than once by R₁₁;

or
R₃ and R₄ taken together are -CH₂-CH₂-;

R₅ is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄halogenalkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋

30 ₄alkoxy-C₁₋₄alkyl, amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋

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- 4alkenyl, C₂₋₄alkinyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy or C₁₋₄halogenalkoxy; or C₃₋₄cycloalkyl, wherein one carbon atom may be replaced by an oxygen atom, wherein the C₃₋₄cycloalkyl may be attached directly or via a C₁₋₂alkylene, and wherein the C₃₋₄cycloalkyl may be substituted once or more than once by halogen;
- 5 R₆ and R₉ each independently is halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄halogenalkoxy, C₁₋₄alkylamino or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino;
- or C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, wherein one carbon atom may be replaced by an oxygen atom, wherein the C₃₋₆cycloalkyl may be attached directly or via a C₁₋₂alkylene, and wherein the C₃₋₆cycloalkyl may be substituted once or more than once by halogen;
- 10 or two R₆ or R₉ at the same carbon atom together are oxo;
- or two R₆ or R₉ at the same carbon atom together with said carbon atom form a C₃₋₆cycloalkyl;
- R₁₀ and R₁₁ each independently is halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄halogenalkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy-C₁₋₄alkyl, amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)-amino-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄halogenalkoxy, C₁₋₄alkylamino or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino;
- 15 or C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, wherein one carbon atom may be replaced by an oxygen atom, wherein the C₃₋₆cycloalkyl may be attached directly or via a C₁₋₂alkylene, and wherein the C₃₋₆cycloalkyl may be substituted once or more than once by halogen;
- 20 or two R₁₀ or R₁₁ at the same ring atom together are oxo;
- or two R₁₀ or R₁₁ at the same ring carbon atom together with said carbon atom form a C₃₋₆cycloalkyl.
2. A compound according to claim 1 in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form, wherein R₁ is thiophenyl.
- 25 3. A compound according to claim 1 in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form, wherein R₁ is pyridin-2-yl.
- 30 4. A compound according to claim 1 in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form, wherein R₁ is pyrazolyl.
5. A compound according to any of the preceding claims in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form wherein
- 35 R₂ is C₂₋₃alkyl

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or R₂ is a four- to six- membered monocyclic saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic ring system wherein said ring system may contain from 1 to 4 hetero atoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and wherein said ring system may be substituted once or more than once by R₁₀.

5

6. A compound according to any of the preceding claims in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form wherein

R₃ is hydrogen or -CH₂R₁₂;

R₁₂ is hydrogen or C₁₋₄alkyl.

10

7. A compound according to any of the preceding claims in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form wherein

R₄ is hydrogen and R₅ is hydrogen.

15

8. A compound according to claim 1 in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form which is selected from

2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione;

10-methyl-2-propyl-3-(pyridin-2-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione;

10-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-propylpyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-

20

dione;

2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione;

2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(thiophen-3-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione;

2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(pyridin-4-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione;

25

2-isopropyl-10-methyl-3-(pyridin-2-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione; and

2-cyclobutyl-10-methyl-3-(pyridin-2-yl)pyrimido[4,5-b]quinoline-4,5(3H,10H)-dione.

30

9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1 to 8 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

10. A combination comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound according to any of claims 1 to 8 and one or more therapeutically active agents.

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11. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 8 in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form for use as a medicament.
12. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 8 in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form for use in the treatment of a disease caused by a nonsense mutation.
13. A method of suppressing the effect of nonsense mutations in a subject, wherein the method comprises administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of the compound according to any of claims 1 to 8 in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form.
14. A method of treating a disease caused by nonsense mutations in a subject, wherein the method comprises administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1 to 8 in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form.
15. A method according to claim 14, wherein the disease is selected from hemophilia A, hemophilia B, cystic fibrosis, mucopolysaccharidosis I, Duchenne Muscle Dystrophy, Becker Muscle Dystrophy, loss of APC caused cancer and loss of p53 caused cancer.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/IB2015/054173

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 INV. C07D471/04 A61K31/519
 ADD.

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)
 C07D A61K

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 practicable, search terms used)
 EPO-Internal, WPI Data, CHEM ABS 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 2012/016930 A1 (UNIV DROIT ET SANTE DE LILLE [FR]; INST NAT SANTE RECH MED [FR]; PASTE) 9 February 2012 (2012-02-09) cited in the application claims 1-21	1-7,9-15
X,P	WO 2014/091446 A1 (NOVARTIS AG [CH]; JACOBY EDGAR [CH]; REINHARDT JUERGEN [CH]; SCHMIEDEB) 19 June 2014 (2014-06-19) claim 1	1-15

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"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
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 16 July 2015	Date of mailing of the international search report 28/07/2015
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