



(43) International Publication Date  
18 September 2014 (18.09.2014)

(51) International Patent Classification:

C07D 409/06 (2006.01) A61P 33/06 (2006.01)  
C07D 211/70 (2006.01) A61K 31/44 (2006.01)  
C07D 211/98 (2006.01) A61K 31/551 (2006.01)  
A61P 33/02 (2006.01) A61P 31/18 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/IB2014/059803

(22) International Filing Date:

14 March 2014 (14.03.2014)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

PCT/IB2013/000982 15 March 2013 (15.03.2013) IB

(71) Applicant: INSTITUT DE RECHERCHE POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT [FR/FR]; Le Sextant, 44 bd de Dunkerque, CS 90009, F-13572 Marseille cedex 02 (FR).

(72) Inventors: ALDANA MORAZA, Ignacio; García de Nájera nº1 6ºB, E-31008 Pamplona (ES). BLAIR TRUJILLO, Silvia Victoria; Carrera 28#37B Sur 51, Apartamento 401, Torre San Miguel Envigado, Antioquia, Medellin, 055420 (CO). DEHARO, Eric; 9, rue François Chancel, F-31190 Auterive (FR). GARAVITO, Giovanni; Av CII 26 N°40-31, AP, Bogota, 1302 (CO). MENDOZA LIZALDEZ, Adela; Irunlarrea nº1, E-31008 Pamplona (ES). PEREZ-SILANES, Silvia; Irunlarrea nº1, E-31008 Pamplona (ES).

(74) Agents: MENA, Sandra et al.; CABINET ORES, 36 rue de Saint Petersburg, F-75008 Paris (FR).

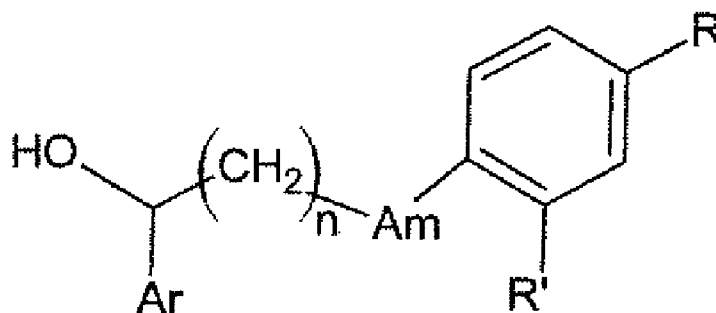
(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JP, KE, KG, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

(54) Title: NEW ARYLAMINOALCOHOL DERIVATIVES WITH ANTIPLASMODIAL ACTIVITY



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to new arylaminoalcohol derivatives of formula (I), and to a method for the preparation of such compounds: I The invention also relates to the use of these compounds as medicaments, and in particular for the prevention and/or the treatment of parasitic diseases caused by apicomplexan parasites such as malaria and toxoplasmosis. Finally, the invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions containing such compounds of formula (I) as active principles.

WO 2014/141177 A1

## NEW ARYLAMINOALCOHOL DERIVATIVES WITH ANTIPLASMODIAL ACTIVITY

The present invention relates to new arylaminoalcohol derivatives of formula (I) and to a method for the preparation of such compounds. The invention also relates to the use of these compounds as medicaments, and in particular for the prevention and/or the treatment of parasitic diseases caused by apicomplexan parasites such as malaria and toxoplasmosis. Finally, the invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions containing such compounds of formula (I) as active principles.

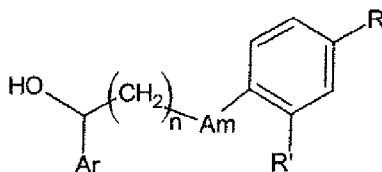
According to the World Health Organization (World malaria report 2011, [http://www.who.int/malaria/world\\_malaria\\_report\\_2011/es/index.html](http://www.who.int/malaria/world_malaria_report_2011/es/index.html)), malaria is endemic in 106 countries, affecting more than 200 million people and killing approximately 600.000 people every year, 90% of which are children. Malaria control programs relying on disease prevention and artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACT) have been extremely effective in reducing the disease burden, resulting in a 25% decline in malaria death rates in the last decade, with the highest impact in European countries (99%) while traditionally highly endemic countries of African and American regions report decrease of 33 and 42% respectively. Unfortunately, the emergence of resistance to current treatments and today's global economic situation require a search for new, effective and inexpensive molecules.

Arylaminoalcohols are an important group of compounds with known antimalarial activity and they have been used as antimalarial agents since the 70's. Hydroxylpropyl-piperazine derivatives, belonging to this chemical family, have shown outstanding activity against of *Plasmodium falciparum* chloroquine-resistant strains (A. Mendoza *et al.*, Exp. Parasit. 128(2) (2011) 97-103). According to recent publications (W. Cunico *et al.*, Eur. J. Med. Chem 44 (2009) 1363-1368 ; W. Cunico *et al.*, Eur. J. Med. Chem 44 (2009) 3816-3820), piperazine derivatives could target *Plasmodium* plasmepsin II enzyme. This enzyme, that recently caused much interest, is involved in the initial steps of the hemoglobin degradation (R. Bruckner, Advanced organic chemistry: reaction mechanisms, Harcourt/Academic Press: San Diego, (2002), pp. 636), which is a critical issue in the intra-erythrocytic cycle of the parasite, taking place inside the food vacuole.

Given the small number of available medicaments and the resistance they have already induced, discovery of new targets and of new medicaments remains a key priority. In an effort to discover such new compounds, the Inventors have surprisingly discovered a new class of arylaminoalcohol derivatives of formula (I) showing greater antiplasmodial activity than known arylaminoalcohols. Some of the arylaminoalcohols of the

invention inhibit up to 50% of the growth of *Plasmodium falciparum* chloroquine-resistant FCR-3 strain in culture at dose < 0.5  $\mu\text{M}$ . Moreover, the arylaminoalcohol derivatives of the invention are active *in vivo* in murine model.

The invention describes a compound of formula (I) below:



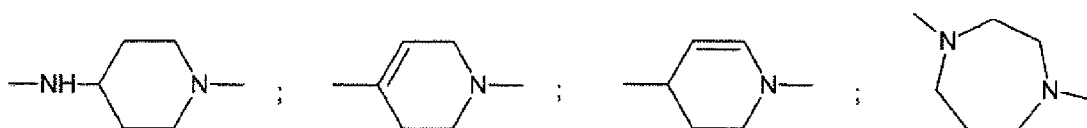
5

(I)

wherein:

- Ar is an optionally substituted aromatic group selected from the phenyl, naphthyl and benzo[b]thiophenyl groups,
- n is an integer from 0 to 6, and preferably n = 2,
- Am is an optionally substituted amino entity selected from:

10

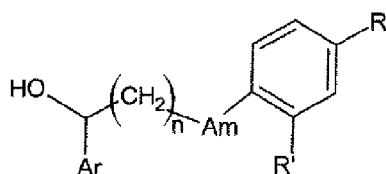


and preferably Am is a tetrahydropyridine entity,

- R and R', identical or different, are selected from hydrogen or halogen atoms,  $-\text{NO}_2$ ,  $-\text{CF}_3$ .

15

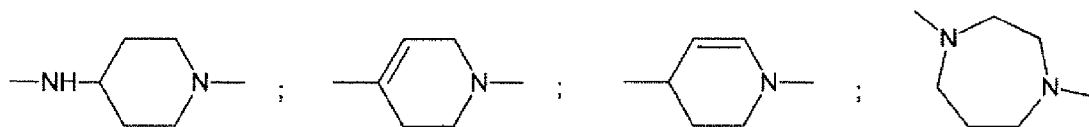
A first subject of the invention is a compound of formula (I) below:



(I)

20 wherein:

- Ar is an optionally substituted aromatic group selected from phenyl and naphthyl groups,
- n is an integer from 0 to 6, and preferably n = 2,
- Am is an optionally substituted amino entity selected from:



and preferably Am is a tetrahydropyridine entity,

- R and R', identical or different, are selected from hydrogen or halogen atoms, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -CF<sub>3</sub>.

In the sense of the present invention an aromatic group is either an aryl or a heteroaryl group defined as follows:

- Aryl group means any functional group or substituent derived from at least one simple aromatic ring; an aromatic ring corresponding to any planar cyclic compound having a delocalized  $\pi$  system in which each atom of the ring comprises a p-orbital, said p-orbitals overlapping themselves. More specifically, the term aryl includes, but is not limited to, phenyl, biphenyl, 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, anthracyl, pyrenyl, and the substituted forms thereof;

- Heteroaryl group means any functional group or substituent derived from at least one aromatic ring as defined above and containing at least one heteroatom selected from P, S, O and N. The term heteroaryl includes, but is not limited to, furan, pyridine, pyrrole, thiophene, imidazole, pyrazole, oxazole, isoxazole, thiazole, isothiazole, tetrazole, pyridazole, pyridine, pyrazine, pyrimidine, pyridazine, benzofurane, isobenzofurane, indole, isoindole, benzothiophene, benzo[c]thiophene, benzimidazole, indazole, benzoxazole, benzisoxazole, benzothiazole, quinoline, isoquinoline, quinoxaline, quinazoline, cinnoline, purine and acridine. The aryl and heteroaryl groups of the invention comprise preferably 1 to 12 carbon atoms, and more preferably 5 or 6 carbon atoms.

According to the invention, halogen atoms are chosen among bromine, chlorine, fluorine and iodine, preferably bromine, chlorine and fluorine atoms, and more preferably fluorine atom.

When the groups or entities of the invention are optionally substituted, the substituents may be selected for example from halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, nitro, carboxylate, carboxyester, amino, ketone, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkyl, heteroalkyl or alkoxy groups, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkyl group, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> aryl or heteroalkyl groups.

According to a preferred embodiment, the aromatic group Ar is substituted by a halogen atom, preferably a fluorine atom.

The aromatic group Ar is preferably selected from the 4-fluoro-1-phenyl and 4-fluoro-1-naphthyl groups, and more preferably Ar is a 4-fluoro-1-phenyl group.

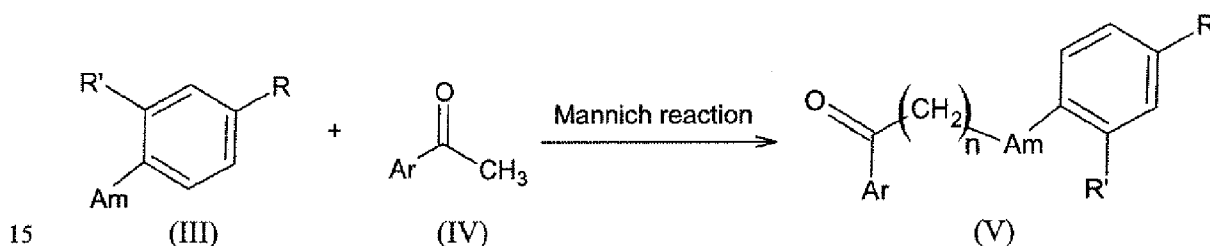
According to an advantageous embodiment of the invention: R is  $-\text{NO}_2$  or  $-\text{F}$ .

5 According to another advantageous embodiment of the invention: R' is  $-\text{H}$  or  $-\text{CF}_3$ .

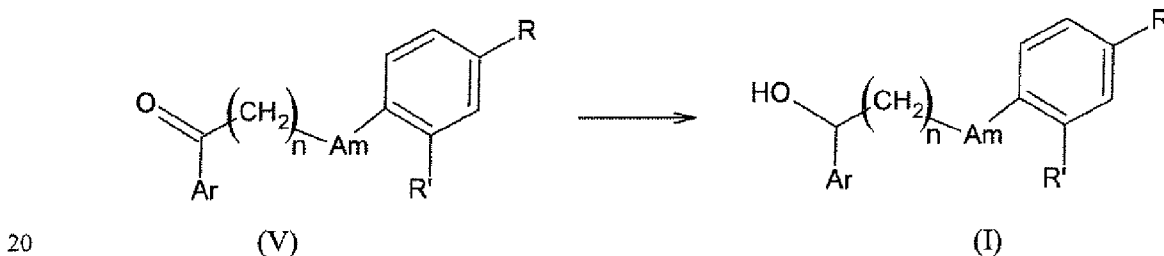
According to a more particularly preferred embodiment: R =  $-\text{NO}_2$  and R' =  $-\text{CF}_3$ .

Another subject matter of the invention is a method for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) according to the invention, comprising the following steps:

(i) a condensation step of a methyl-ketone of formula (IV) with an aryl amine of formula (V) via a Mannich reaction, preferably in presence of dioxolan/ $\text{H}^+$  and during 1 to 3 hours under reflux:



(ii) a reduction step of the ketone intermediate (V) of step (i) to obtain a compound of formula (I), preferably with  $\text{NaBH}_4$  in methanol and during 0,5 to 2 hours at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ :



Another subject matter of the invention is a compound of formula (I), or one of its tautomeric, racemic, enantiomeric or polymorphic forms or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, for its use as a medicament, preferably for the prevention and/or the treatment in human and other mammals of parasitic diseases involving apicomplexan parasites, such as *Plasmodium*, *Babesia*, *Toxoplasma*, *Neospora*, *Cryptosporidium*, *Theileria*, *Sarcosystis* and *Eimeria*, and more preferably for the prevention and/or the treatment in human and other mammals of malaria or toxoplasmosis.

The active site of parasitic plasmepsin is similar to HIV protease. This viral protein allows the cleavage of essential proteins for virus replication. A protease inhibitor leads to the inactivation of the protein and stop viral replication. However, and because of the development of a resistance faced to protease inhibitors, an HIV infection can persist despite the presence of a protease inhibitor in the body. Compounds of formula (I) of the invention appear to be useful for the prevention and/or the treatment of AIDS virus.

Another subject matter of the invention is a pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound of formula (I) as an active principle, and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

The expression "pharmaceutically acceptable excipient" refers to any diluents, adjuvants or vehicles, such as preserving agents, fillers, disintegrating agents, wetting agents, emulsifying agents, suspending agents, solvents, dispersion media, coatings, antibacterial and antifungal agents, isotonic and absorption delaying agents and the like.

The pharmaceutical composition of the present invention may be administered by any suitable route, for example, by oral, buccal, inhalation, sublingual, nasal, percutaneous, *i.e.* transdermal or parenteral (including intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous and intracoronary) administration. Therefore, the pharmaceutical composition of the invention can be provided in various forms, such as in the form of hard gelatin capsules, of capsules, of compressed tablets, of suspensions to be taken orally, of lozenges or of injectable solutions or in any other form appropriate to the method of administration.

The pharmaceutical composition according to the invention includes those wherein a compound of formula (I) is administered in an effective amount to achieve its intended purpose. Determination of the effective amounts is well within the capability of those skilled in the art.

A "therapeutically effective dose" refers to that amount of compound of formula (I) which results in achieving the desired effect. Toxicity and therapeutic efficacy of compound of formula (I) can be easily determined by standard pharmaceutical procedures in cell cultures or experimental animals, *i.e.* for determining the LD<sub>50</sub> (the dose lethal to 50% of the population) and the ED<sub>50</sub> (the dose therapeutically effective in 50% of the population). The dose ratio between toxic and therapeutic effects is the therapeutic index, which is expressed as the ratio between LD<sub>50</sub> and ED<sub>50</sub>. The data obtained from such data can be used in formulating range of dosage for use in humans. The dosage of compound of formula (I) preferably lies within a range of circulating concentrations that include the ED<sub>50</sub> with little or no toxicity. The dosage can vary within this range depending upon the dosage form

employed, and the route of administration.

The exact formulation, route of administration, and dosage can be chosen by the individual physician in view of the patient's conditions. Dosage amount and interval of administration can be adjusted individually to provide plasma levels of compound of formula (I) which are sufficient to maintain the preventive or therapeutic effects.

The amount of pharmaceutical composition administered will therefore depend on the subject being treated, on the subject's weight, the severity of the affliction and the way of administration.

For human and other mammal use, the compounds of formula (I) can be administered alone, but they are preferably administered in admixture with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, the nature of which will depend on the intended route of administration and the presentation form. Pharmaceutical composition for use according to the present invention thus can be formulated in a conventional manner using one or more physiologically acceptable carriers comprising one or more excipient(s) and/or auxiliary(ies) that facilitate processing of the compounds of formula (I) into preparations which can be used pharmaceutically. Amongst the excipients and auxiliaries which can be used in the pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, one can mention anti-agglomerating agents, preservatives agents, dyes, vitamins, inorganic salts, taste-modifying agents, smoothing agents, coating agents, isolating agents, stabilizing agents, wetting agents, anti-caking agents, dispersing agents, emulsifying agents, aromas, penetrating agents, solubilizing agents, etc., mixtures thereof and generally any excipient conventionally used in the pharmaceutical industry.

By way of example, when the pharmaceutical composition is administered orally, the carrier may comprise one or several excipients such as talc, lactose, starch or modified starches, cellulose or cellulose derivatives, polyethylene glycols, acrylic acid polymers, gelatin, magnesium stearate, animal or vegetal fats of natural or synthetic origin, paraffin derivatives, glycols, etc.

In addition to the at least one compound of formula (I), the pharmaceutical composition may also comprises one or more additional antiparasitic active principles, for example anti-malarial drugs such as for example chloroquine, quinacrine, primaquine, artemisinin, atovaquone and pyrimethamine.

For general information about the formulation and administration of pharmaceutical compositions, one can obviously refer to the book "Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences", last edition. Of course, a person skilled in the art will take care on

this occasion that the excipient(s) and/or auxiliary(ies) optionally used are compatible with the intrinsic properties attached to the pharmaceutical composition in accordance with the invention.

These pharmaceutical compositions can be manufactured in a conventional manner, *i.e.* by conventional mixing, dissolving, granulating, dragee-making, emulsifying, encapsulating, entrapping or lyophilizing processes. Proper formulation is dependent upon the route of administration chosen.

In addition to the above provisions, the invention also comprises other provisions which will become clear from the description which follows, which refers to examples illustrating the *in vitro* and *in vivo* antimalarial activity of compounds of formula (I), and also to the attached drawings in which:

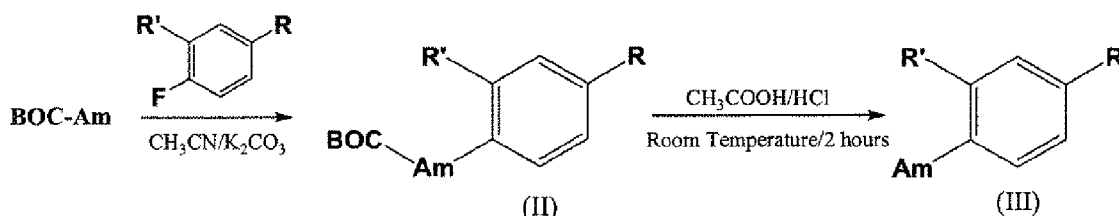
- **Figure 1** shows the antimalarial activity of Compound 7 tested *in vivo* in a murine model,
- **Figure 2** represents the dockings and binding site alignments of arylaminoalcohols to plasmepsin II. (a) Docking of the most active compound previously reported (A. Mendoza *et al.*, Exp. Parasit. 128(2) (2011) 97-103), and the best conformations found for Compounds 5, 7 and 8 to the active site of plasmepsin II. In white ribbon, the secondary structure of plasmepsin II is shown. (b) Involving the hydroxyl group of each arylaminoalcohol and the residue Asp214, hydrogen bond interactions are coded by dashed lines. In white sticks, catalytic residues Asp214 and Asp34 of plasmepsin II are shown.

### EXAMPLES:

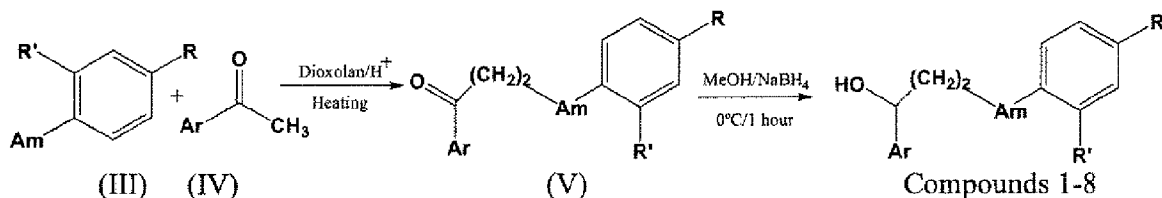
#### I/ Chemistry of the synthesis of compounds of formula (I)

The methods used for synthesizing the compounds (1-8) are presented in Schemes 1 and 2. The synthetic method has been published previously (A. Mendoza *et al.*, Exp. Parasit. 128(2) (2011) 97-103).

**Scheme 1:** Synthesis of not commercially available arylamines



Scheme 2: General synthesis



5

A group of 4-nitro-2-trifluoromethyl phenyl amines were synthesized using the corresponding BOC-amines and 4-nitro-2-trifluoromethylphenyl as aryl fluoride by an Ar-S<sub>N</sub> reaction via Meisenheimer complex (K. Ersmark *et al.*, Med. Res. Rev. 26 (2006) 626-666) and subsequent removal of the BOC-group with HCl and acetic acid. The products 2-nitro-4-trifluoromethyl phenyl piperazine, 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine and 4-trifluoromethyl phenyl piperazine were commercially available.

All methyl-ketone precursors (IV) were commercially available. The ketone intermediates (V) were prepared by condensation of the corresponding methyl-ketone (IV) with the different aryl amines via Mannich reaction.

The hydroxyl derivatives (1-8) were obtained by reduction of the corresponding carbonyl group with NaBH<sub>4</sub> in methanol.

## II/ Experimental protocol for the synthesis of compounds of formula

### (I)

#### II/1- General methods

Chemicals reagents were purchased from E. Merck (Darmstadt, Germany), Scharlau (F.E.R.O.S.A., Barcelona, Spain), Panreac Química S.A. (Montcada i Reixac, Barcelona, Spain), Sigma-Aldrich Química S.A. (Alcobendas, Madrid), Acros Organics (Janssen Pharmaceuticals 3a, 2440 Geel, Belgie) and Lancaster (Bischheim-Strasbourg, France).

All of the synthesized compounds were chemically characterized by thin layer chromatography (TLC), melting point (M.P.), infrared (IR) and nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR) spectra as well as by elemental microanalysis.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 Ultrashield (400 MHz) (Rheinstetten, Germany) using TMS as the internal standard and chloroform (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) or dimethyl sulfoxide- *d*<sub>6</sub> (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) as solvents. The chemical shifts are reported in ppm (δ) and coupling constant (*J*) values are given in Hertz (Hz). Signal multiplicities are represented by: s (singlet), bs (broad singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quadruplet), dd (doublet of

30

doublets), ddd (doublet of doublet of doublets) and m (multiplet). The IR spectra were performed on Thermo Nicolet FT-IR Nexus Euro (Madison, USA) using KBr pellets; the frequencies are expressed in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Elemental microanalyses were obtained on an Elemental Analyzer (LECO CHN-900, Michigan, USA) from vacuum-dried samples. The analytical results for C, H, and N were within  $\pm 0.4$  of the theoretical values. Alugram SIL G/UV254 (Layer: 0.2 mm) (Macherey-Nagel, Germany) was used for thin layer chromatography and silica gel 60 (0.040-0.063 mm and 0.063-0.200 mm) was used for column flash chromatography (Merck).

Some ketones and hydroxyls were purified by flash chromatography with binary gradient of dichloromethane (synthesis grade SDS- Carlo Erba Reactifs, France) with methanol (Panreac Química S.A.) until 99:1 and a UV variable dual – wavelength detection. The chromatography was developed in the CombiFlash<sup>®</sup> Rf (Teledyne Isco, Lincoln, USA), with dichloromethane - methanol as solvents and a normal phase of 12 gram Flash Column (RediSep<sup>®</sup> Rf Columns by Teledyne Isco, Inc., USA).

#### **II/2- General method for the synthesis of protected aryl amines (II)**

A mixture of the 2-fluoro-4-nitrobenzo-trifluoride (1 eq), the corresponding BOC-amine (1.2 eq),  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (1.5 eq) and  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (30 mL) was heated at reflux for 24 hours. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (50 mL) and washed with water (3x30 mL). The organic phase was dried with anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and filtered. After evaporating to dryness under reduced pressure, the residue was precipitated and washed by adding diethyl ether or petroleum ether, affording the desired protected aryl amine (II).

#### **II/3- General synthesis of noncommercial aryl amines (III)**

The protected amine (II) was dissolved in 40 mL of a solution of HCl/AcH (1:1) with stirring for 2 hours at room temperature. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the compound was dissolved in water. The aqueous solution was basified with NaOH 2M and stirred for 1 hour. Then the product was extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The organic phase was dried with anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and filtered. After evaporating to dryness under reduced pressure, the crude was purified by column chromatography (SP: silica gel), eluting with dichloromethane ( $\text{NH}_3$ )/methanol 99:1 (v/v), affording the desired aryl amine (III).

#### **II/4- General method for the synthesis of ketone derivatives (V)**

A mixture of the appropriately substituted aryl methyl ketone (IV) (1 eq), the aryl amine (III) (1 eq), dioxolane (1.4 %) and concentrated HCl (1 mL) was heated at reflux. Then water was added (50 mL) and the product was extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The

organic phase was dried with anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporating to dryness under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography (SP: silica gel), eluting with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/methanol 95:5 (v/v) or Flash Chromatography eluting with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/methanol 99:1 (v/v). In other cases the hydrochloride salt was prepared by adding a  
5 hydrochloride ethereal solution to the stirred compounds.

#### II/5- General method for preparing of hydroxyl derivatives (1-8)

Sodium borohydride (3 eq) was added little by little to a pre-cooled suspension (0°C) of the corresponding ketone (V) (1 eq) in methanol over a period of 30-60 minutes. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was dissolved in  
10 dichloromethane (40 mL) and then washed with water (3x30 mL). The organic phase was dried with anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. After evaporating the solvent to dryness under reduced pressure, the compound was purified by column chromatography (SP: silica gel), eluting with dichloromethane/methanol 99:1 (v/v), by preparative chromatography (SP: silica gel), eluting with dichloromethane/methanol 97:3 (v/v), flash chromatography eluting with  
15 dichloromethane/methanol 99:1 (v/v) or preparing the hydrochloride by adding a hydrogen chloride ethereal solution to the stirred compounds.

#### II/5-1. 3-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]-1-(naphthalen-2-yl)propan-1-ol (3)

(23% Yield), Mp 127-129°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.99- 2.12 (m, 2H, CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>); 2.64 (s, 2H, H<sub>6</sub> tetrahydropyridine); 2.72-2.96 (m, 4H, H<sub>3</sub>+H<sub>5</sub> tetrahydropyridine); 3.31 (d, 2H, CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>, J<sub>CH-CH<sub>2</sub></sub>= 16.7 Hz); 5.17 (bs, 1H, CH-OH); 6.02 (s, 1H, H<sub>3</sub> tetrahydropyridine); 7.04 (t, 2H, H<sub>3</sub>+H<sub>5</sub> phenyl, J<sub>3',2</sub>= J<sub>5',6</sub>= 8.7 Hz); 7.37 (dd, 2H, H<sub>2</sub>+H<sub>6</sub> phenyl, J<sub>2',3</sub>= J<sub>6',5</sub>= 8.7 Hz, J<sub>2',F</sub>= J<sub>6',F</sub>= 5.4 Hz); 7.45-7.50 (m, 2H, H<sub>6</sub>+H<sub>7</sub> naphthyl); 7.51 (dd, 1H, H<sub>8</sub> naphthyl, J<sub>8,7</sub>= 7.4 Hz, J<sub>8,6</sub>=1.6 Hz); 7.85 (d, 2H, H<sub>3</sub>+H<sub>4</sub> naphthyl, J<sub>3,4</sub>= J<sub>4,3</sub>=8.3 Hz); 7.87 (dd, 1H, H<sub>5</sub> naphthyl, J<sub>5,6</sub>= 7.8 Hz, J<sub>5,7</sub>=2.3 Hz); 7.91 (s, 1H, H<sub>1</sub> naphthyl) ppm. Anal (C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NFO) C, 77.83; H, 6.62; N, 3.78; Found: C, 77.87; H, 6.82; N, 3.40.

#### II/5-2. 3-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]-1-(4-(trifluoromethyl phenyl)propan-1-ol) (4)

(40% Yield), Mp 116-117°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO): δ 1.81 (dd, 2H, CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>, J<sub>CH-CH<sub>2</sub></sub>= 13.7 Hz, J<sub>CH-CHOH</sub>= 7.3 HZ); 2.45-2.50 (m, 4H, CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>+H<sub>5</sub> tetrahydropyridine); 2.62 (t, 2H, H<sub>6</sub> tetrahydropyridine, J<sub>CH-CH</sub>= J<sub>CH-CH<sub>2</sub></sub>=5.5 Hz); 3.08 (s, 2H, H<sub>2</sub> tetrahydropyridine); 4.75-4.80 (m, 1H, CHOH); 5.70 (bs, 1H, OH); 6.12 (s, 1H, H<sub>3</sub>

tetrahydropyridine); 7.15 (t, 2H, **H**<sub>5</sub>+**H**<sub>3'</sub> phenyl,  $J_{5',F}=J_{3',F}=8.8$  Hz,  $J_{5',6}=J_{3',2'}=8.8$  Hz); 7.47 (dd, 2H, **H**<sub>6'</sub>+**H**<sub>2'</sub> phenyl,  $J_{6',5'}=J_{2',3'}=8.4$  Hz,  $J_{6',F}=J_{2',F}=5.6$  Hz); 7.57 (d, 2H, **H**<sub>2</sub>+**H**<sub>6</sub> CF<sub>3</sub>-phenyl,  $J_{2,3}=J_{6,5}=7.9$  Hz); 7.68 (d, 2H, **H**<sub>3</sub>+**H**<sub>5</sub> CF<sub>3</sub>-phenyl,  $J_{3,2}=J_{5,6}=8.1$ Hz) ppm. Anal (C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NF<sub>4</sub>O) C, 66.49; H, 5.54; N, 3.70; Found: C, 66.11; H, 5.67; N, 3.81.

5 *II/5-3. 1-(4-fluoronaphthalen-1-yl)-3-((1-(4-nitro-2-(trifluoromethyl) phenyl) piperidin-4-yl)amino)propan-1-ol (5)*

(90 % Yield), Mp 93-95°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.68-1.83 (m, 2H, **H**<sub>3ax</sub>+**H**<sub>5ax</sub> piperidine); 1.86-2.01 (m, 1H, CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>); 2.15-2.23 (m, 2H, **H**<sub>3ec</sub>+**H**<sub>5ec</sub> piperidine); 2.12 (d, 1H, CH-OH.  $J_{CH-CH_2}=12.7$  Hz); 2.75-2.84 (m, 1H, **H**<sub>4</sub> piperidine); 2.98  
10 (t, 2H, **H**<sub>2ax</sub>+**H**<sub>6ax</sub> piperidine,  $J_{2ax,2ec}=J_{6ax,6ec}=11.5$  Hz); 3.00-3.03 (m, 1H, CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>); 3.08-3.15 (m, 1H, CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>); 3.42 (d, 2H, **H**<sub>2ec</sub>+**H**<sub>6ec</sub> piperidine); 5.71 (dd, 1H, CHOH,  $J_{CH,CH_2}=8.2$  Hz,  $J_{CH-CH_2}=2.3$  Hz); 7.17 (dd, 1H, **H**<sub>3</sub> naphthyl,  $J_{3,F}=10.2$  Hz,  $J_{3,2}=8.1$  Hz); 7.27-7.30 (m, 1H, **H**<sub>6'</sub> phenyl); 7.53-7.61 (m, 2H, **H**<sub>6</sub>+**H**<sub>7</sub> naphthyl); 7.67-7.72 (m, 1H, **H**<sub>2</sub> naphthyl); 8.04 (d, 1H, **H**<sub>8</sub> naphthyl,  $J_{8,7}=7.8$  Hz); 8.16 (dd, 1H, **H**<sub>5</sub> naphthyl  $J_{5,6}=7.2$  Hz,  $J_{5,F}=3.3$  Hz ); 8.33 (dd, 1H, **H**<sub>5'</sub> phenyl,  $J_{5',6'}=9.0$  Hz,  $J_{5',3'}=2.7$  Hz ); 8.53 (d, 1H, **H**<sub>3'</sub> phenyl,  $J_{3',5'}=2.7$  Hz). ppm. Anal (C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>3</sub>F<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) C, 61.11; H, 5.43; N, 8.55; Found: C, 60.77; H, 5.43; N, 8.30.

*II/5-4. 1-(4-fluoronaphthalen-1-yl)-3-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]propan-1-ol (6)*

20 (82% Yield), Mp 162-163°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO): δ 2.14-2.20 (m, 2H, CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>); 2.73 (bs, 2H, **H**<sub>6</sub> tetrahydropyridine); 2.84-3.12 (m, 4H, CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>+**H**<sub>5</sub> tetrahydropyridine); 3.41 (d, 1H, **H**<sub>2ax</sub> tetrahydropyridine,  $J_{2ax,2ec}=11.2$  Hz); 3.47 (d, 1H, **H**<sub>2ec</sub> tetrahydropyridine,  $J_{2ec,2ax}=11.3$  Hz); 5.74 (bs, 1H, CHOH); 6.00-6.05 (m, 1H, **H**<sub>3</sub> tetrahydropyridine); 7.00-7.08 (m, 2H, **H**<sub>2</sub>+**H**<sub>6'</sub> phenyl); 7.18 (dd, 1H, **H**<sub>3</sub> naphthyl,  $J_{3,F}=10.2$  Hz,  $J_{3,2}=8.1$  Hz); 7.35-7.40 (m, 2H, **H**<sub>6</sub>+**H**<sub>7</sub> naphthyl); 7.54-7.61 (m, 2H, **H**<sub>5</sub>+**H**<sub>3'</sub> phenyl); 7.70 (dd, 1H, **H**<sub>2</sub> naphthyl,  $J_{2,3}=8.0$  Hz,  $J_{2,F}=5.6$  Hz); 8.07 (d, 1H, **H**<sub>5</sub> naphthyl,  $J_{5,6}=8.2$  Hz); 8.2 (dd, 1H, **H**<sub>8</sub> naphthyl,  $J_{8,7}=7.0$  Hz,  $J_{8,6}=2.5$  Hz) ppm. Anal (C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NF<sub>2</sub>O) C, 75.95; H, 6.06; N, 3.69; Found: C, 75.45; H, 6.45; N, 3.50.

30 *II/5-5. Hydrochloride of 1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[1-(4-nitro-2-trifluoromethylphenyl) piperidin-4-yl]amino]propan-1-ol (7)*

(11% Yield), Mp 185-187°C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO): δ 1.38 (bs, 2H, **H**<sub>3ax</sub>+**H**<sub>5ax</sub> piperidine); 1.70 (bs, 2H, **H**<sub>3ec</sub>+**H**<sub>5ec</sub> piperidine); 1.90 (d, 2H, CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>,  $J_{CH-CH_2}=J_{CH-CH_2}=11.0$  Hz); 2.58 (bs, 1H, **H**<sub>4</sub> piperidine); 2.63-2.64 (m, 2H, **H**<sub>2ax</sub>+**H**<sub>6ax</sub> piperidine); 2.95 (t, 2H, **H**<sub>2ec</sub>+**H**<sub>6ec</sub> piperidine,  $J_{2ec,2ax}=J_{6ec,6ax}=12.1$  Hz); 3.2-3.3 (m, 2H, CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>);

4.69 (t, 1H, **CHOH**,  $J_{\text{CHOH-CHCH}} = 9.0$  Hz); 7.13 (t, 2H, **H<sub>3</sub>+H<sub>5</sub>** fluorophenyl,  $J_{3,2} = J_{5,6} = 8.1$  Hz); 7.36 (bs, 2H, **H<sub>2</sub>+H<sub>6</sub>** fluorophenyl); 7.50 (d, 1H, **H<sub>6'</sub>** phenyl,  $J_{6',5'} = 8.0$  Hz); 8.37 (bs, 2H, **H<sub>3</sub>+H<sub>5'</sub>** phenyl) ppm. Anal (C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>3</sub>ClF<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) C, 52.51; H, 5.03; N, 8.80; Found: C, 52.13; H, 4.91; N, 8.49.

5 *II/5-6. 1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]propan-1-ol (8)*

(12% Yield), Mp 199-201°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO): δ 1.76-1.80 (m, 2H, **CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>**); 2.45 (bs, 4H, **CHOH-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>+H<sub>5</sub>** tetrahydropyridine); 2.57-2.62 (m, 2H, **H<sub>6</sub>** tetrahydropyridine); 3.06 (bs, 2H, **H<sub>2</sub>** tetrahydropyridine); 4.66 (t, 1H, **CHOH**,  $J_{\text{CH-OH}} = 6.3$  Hz); 5.49 (bs, 1H, **OH**); 6.12 (bs, 1H, **H<sub>3</sub>** tetrahydropyridine); 7.14 (dd, 4H, **H<sub>3</sub>+H<sub>5'</sub>** phenyl+**H<sub>3</sub>+H<sub>5</sub>** fluorophenyl,  $J_{3',F} = J_{5',F} = J_{3,F} = J_{5,F} = 12.6$  Hz,  $J_{3',2} = J_{5',6} = J_{3,2} = J_{5,6} = 8.0$  Hz); 7.37 (dd, 2H, **H<sub>2</sub>+H<sub>6</sub>** fluorophenyl,  $J_{2,3} = J_{6,5} = 7.9$  Hz,  $J_{2,F} = J_{6,F} = 6.0$  Hz); 7.46 (dd, 2H, **H<sub>2</sub>+H<sub>6'</sub>** phenyl,  $J_{2',3} = J_{6',5} = 7.7$  Hz,  $J_{2',F} = J_{6',F} = 5.5$  Hz) ppm. Anal (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NF<sub>2</sub>O) C, 72.42; H, 6.34; N, 4.22; Found: C, 72.06; H, 6.33; N, 4.03.

15

### **III/ Biological tests**

#### **III/1- In vitro antiplasmodial drug assay**

Culture of chloroquine-resistant FCR-3 strain of *Plasmodium falciparum* was carried out at 37°C in a 5% CO<sub>2</sub> environment on RPMI 1640 medium supplemented with 25mM Hepes, 5% (w/v) NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, gentamicin 0.1 mg/ml and 10% heat-inactivated human serum A<sup>+</sup> (hematocrit 5%), as previously described (W. Trager et al., Science, 193 (1976) 673-675). The drugs dissolved in dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) were added at final concentrations ranging from 200 to 0.1 μM. All experiments were performed in triplicate. The final DMSO concentration was never greater than 0.1%. *In vitro* antimalarial activity was measured using [<sup>3</sup>H]-hypoxanthine (MP Biomedicals, USA) incorporation assay (R. E. Desjardins *et al.*, Antimicrob. Agents Chemother. 16 (1979) 710-718). All experiments were performed in triplicate. Results were expressed as the concentration resulting in 50% inhibition (IC<sub>50</sub>) which was calculated by linear interpolation (W. Huber *et al.*, Acta Trop. 55 (1993) 257-261) as follows:

30 
$$\text{Log (IC}_{50}\text{)} = \text{log (X1)} + (50 - \text{Y1}) / (\text{Y2} - \text{Y1}) [\text{Log (X2)} - \text{log (X1)}]$$

X1: concentration of the drug that gives a % inhibition of the parasitemia  
Y1 > 50%,

X2: concentration of the drug that gives a % inhibition of the parasitemia  
Y2 < 50%,







% Inhibition of the incorporation of labeled hypoxanthine =  $100 - (P/T * 100)$ ,

P: c.p.m. for every concentration, and

T: negative control (red blood cells without drug).

The results are presented in **Table 1**:

5 **Table 1:** *In vitro* antimalarial activity against *Plasmodium falciparum* FCR-3 and VERO cytotoxicity of tested compounds

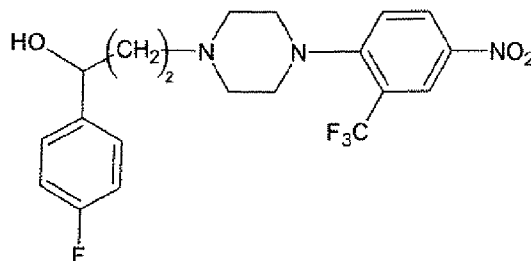
Compounds	Ar	Amine	R	R'	IC <sub>50</sub>	TC <sub>50</sub>
3	2-naphthyl		F	H	36.15	>100
4	4-trifluoromethyl phenyl		F	H	5.60	>100
5	4-fluoro-1-naphthyl		NO <sub>2</sub>	CF <sub>3</sub>	0.15	5.5
6	4-fluoro-1-naphthyl		F	H	0.40	>50
7	4-fluoro-1-phenyl		NO <sub>2</sub>	CF <sub>3</sub>	0.48	30.2
8	4-fluoro-1-phenyl		F	H	0.66	>100
<b>CQ</b>					0.13	>50

CQ: chloroquine; IC<sub>50</sub> and TC<sub>50</sub> values represent of 50% of *Plasmodium falciparum* growth or VERO cells survival. Data represents the average of three independent determinations and are expressed in  $\mu$ M. Errors for individual measurements differed by less than 50%.

10

### III/2- *In vivo* antiplasmodial drug assay

The antiplasmodial activity of Compound 7 was tested *in vivo* in a murine model. The antiplasmodial activity of a Compound A representative of the prior art was also tested:



15

### Compound A

Studies were conducted according to the French and Colombian guidelines on laboratory animal use and care (N°2001-464 and N° 008430, respectively). The classical 4-day suppressive test was carried out (W. Peters, Chemotherapy and drug resistance in malaria, Academic Press: London, 1970). Swiss male mice weighing  $20 \pm 2$  g, were infected with  $10^7$  *P. berghei* ANKA parasitized cells (day 0). Two hours after infection and at the same time during 4 consecutive days, batches of three mice were orally treated at dose of 50 mg/kg/day, (drugs were dissolved in vehicle water dimethylsulfoxide 9:1). A control group received the vehicle while a reference group was administered chloroquine diphosphate (CQ) at 3 mg/kg/day (oral route). Survival of the mice was checked daily and the percentage of parasitized erythrocytes was determined on day 4, by Giemsa-stained thin blood smears made from peripheral blood. The percentage of inhibition of parasitaemia was calculated.

The results are presented on **Figure 1**.

Compound 7 shows, at 50 mg/kg/day, 76% of inhibition while chloroquine reference dosed at 3 mg/kg/day shows 65% of inhibition and Compound A shows, at 50 mg/kg/day, 17% of inhibition.

### III/3- Toxicity assay

VERO cells (African Green Monkey kidney epithelial cells) were seeded ( $5 \times 10^5$  cells/ml, 100  $\mu$ l/well) in a 96-well flat-bottom plate at 37°C and with 5% CO<sub>2</sub> in RPMI 1640 without phenol red (Sigma), supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum. Drugs were added at different concentrations and the cells were cultured for 48 hours. The effect was determined using the 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT) viability assay. Four hours after the addition of MTT, 100  $\mu$ l of lysis buffer (50% isopropanol, 30% water, 20% SDS) were added and the cells were incubated at room temperature for 15 min under agitation. Finally, optical density was read at 590 nm with a 96-well scanner (Bio-Rad). All experiments were performed in triplicate. The TC<sub>50</sub> determined by linear regression analysis was defined as the concentration of test sample resulting in a 50% reduction of absorbance when compared with controls.

The results are presented in **Table 1**.

### III/4- Cytotoxicity

The cytotoxicity of Compound 7 was compared to the cytotoxicity of Compound 31 of the publication of Silvia Pérez-Silanes *et al.*, *Molecules* 2009, 14, 4120-4135, the compounds only differentiated by the nature of the Ar group (4-fluoro-1-phenyl group vs benzo[b]thiophenyl).

5 Both compounds were administered at 50 mg.kg<sup>-1</sup> in a malaria murine model. No cytotoxicity was detected after administration of Compound 7, while more than half of the treated mice died when exposed to Compound 31 of Silvia Pérez-Silanes *et al.*

The too high cytotoxicity of Compound 31 of Silvia Pérez-Silanes *et al.* indicates that this compound cannot be administered in human or animal, whereas the lowest  
10 cytotoxicity of Compound 7 allows a safe administration in mouse.

#### IV/ Physicochemical Parameters

Virtual Computational Chemistry Laboratory (<http://www.vcclab.org/>) (I. V. Tetko *et al.*, *J. Comput.-Aided Mol. Des.* 19 (2005) 453-463) and Molispiration online  
15 property calculation toolkit (<http://www.molispiration.com/services/properties.html>) were used to calculate Topological Polar Surface Area (P. Ertl *et al.*, *J. Med. Chem.* 43 (2000) 3714-3717) mi LogP, AlogPS2.1, KOWLogP, LogP (AB/LogP), number of rotatable bonds and violations of Lipinski's rule of five (C. A. Lipinski *et al.*, *Adv. Drug Deliv. Rev.* 23 (1997) 3-25).

20 Absorption (%ABS) was calculated by: %ABS = 109-(0.345xTPSA) (Y. Zhao *et al.*, *Pharmaceutical Research*, 19 (2002) 1446-1457).

The results are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2:** Physical chemical properties of tested compounds

Com- pounds	%ABS	TPSA ( <sup>3</sup> )	n- ROTB	Molecular weight	miLogP	KOW LogP	ALog PS 2.1	MLogP	n- OHNH donors	n-ON acceptors	Lipinski's violations
<b>Rule</b>				>500	<5	<5	<5	<4.15	<5	<10	≤1
3	100.00	23.47	5	361.46	4.76	5.48	4.66	4.57	1	2	0
4	100.00	23.47	6	379.74	4.47	5.26	4.69	4.68	1	2	0
5	80.95	81.32	8	491.47	5.36	5.76	4.65	4.86	2	6	1

6	100.00	23.47	5	379.45	4.85	5.68	4.88	4.95	1	2	0
7	80.95	81.32	8	443.44	4.24	4.59	3.74	4.19	2	6	0
8	100.00	23.47	5	329.39	3.74	4.50	3.95	4.25	1	2	0
CQ	99.30	28.20	8	319.90	5.01	4.50	5.28	3.52	1	3	1

%ABS: percentage of absorption, calculated by:  $\%ABS=109-(0.345 \times TPSA)$ ; TPSA: topological polar surface area; n-ROTB: number of rotatable bonds; LogP: logarithm of compound partition coefficient between n-octanol and water; n-OHND: number of hydrogen bond donors; n-ON: number of hydrogen bond acceptors. CQ: chloroquine

5

It appears that all the compounds respected Lipinski's rules (Log P < 5, under 5 H-bond donors and 10H-bond acceptors) (C. A. Lipinski *et al.*, Adv. Drug Deliv. Rev. 23 (1997) 3-25). All the structures have a molecular weight under 500 Daltons with limited lipophilicity. Calculated absorption (%ABS) suggests good aptitudes for oral

10

treatment.

### V/ Computational Docking Studies

In previous studies using computational molecular binding tools, the enzyme *Plasmodium* plasmepsin II was proposed as a potential target for arylaminoalcohols (A. Mendoza *et al.*, Exp. Parasit. 128(2) (2011) 97-103). This study suggested that the activity of arylaminoalcohol derivatives could be due to the formation of a hydrogen bond with one of the catalytic aspartates from the active site (Asp214 and Asp34). This interaction involves the unique hydroxyl group present in the most active compounds and Asp 214 residue.

The molecular docking program ICM (ICM. Version 3.4-8. La Jolla. CA. Molsoft LLC. 2006) was used to determine the potential binding mode between the most active synthesized compounds and the selected *Plasmodium* plasmepsin II enzyme target candidate. In order to validate our methodology and check the ability of the program ICM to investigate the binding mode of inhibitors into the binding site of the enzyme, the complex *Plasmodium* plasmepsin II with EH58 (O. A. Asojo *et al.*, J. Mol. Biol. 327 (2003) 173-181) was computationally re-docked (PDB code 1LF3). As previously reported (W. Cunico *et al.*, Eur. J. Med. Chem. 44 (2009) 1363-1368; W. Cunico *et al.*, Eur. J. Med. Chem. 44 (2009)

25

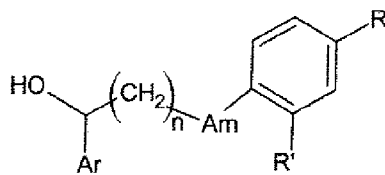
3816-3820), RMSD values up to 3.0 Å were considered correctly docked structures for preparing the input structures for ICM methodology (R. Abagyan *et al.*, *J. Comput. Chem.*, 15(5) (1994) 488-506). The structures of the compounds were sketched by using the ICM software, Molecular Editor (Molecular Editor, Version 2.5, La Jolla, CA, Molsoft LLC, 2006). Protein and compound structures were converted into ICM objects. During the protein conversion process, hydrogens were added and the modified structure was optimized. Meanwhile, during ligand conversions, two-dimensional (2D) representations were converted into three-dimensional (3D) ones, partial charges were assigned, and rotatable bonds were identified. According to previous studies (A. Mendoza *et al.*, *Exp. Parasit.* 128(2) (2011) 97-103; W. Cunico *et al.*, *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 44 (2009) 1363-1368; W. Cunico *et al.*, *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 44 (2009) 3816-3820), the residues involved in the active site were Asp34 and Asp214. IcmPocketFinder (J. An *et al.*, *Mol. Cell. Prot.* 4(6) (2005) 752-761) was used to identify the active site pocket with a tolerance value of 4.6 Å. Initial ligand position and orientation and box position and size were maintained in accordance with the values suggested by the program. The most representative binding modes calculated with at least one hydrogen bond with one of the catalytic aspartates were chosen for analysis (V. Kasam *et al.*, *J. Chem. Inf. Model.* 47(5) (2007) 1818-1828; J. Åqvist *et al.*, *Prot. Eng.* 7 (1994) 385-391). The docking poses for each ligand were analyzed by examining their relative total energy score. The more energetically favorable conformation was selected as the best pose.

The comparison of the different docking results between Compounds **5**, **7** and **8** and the most active compound previously reported, *i.e.* the 1-(4-fluoronaphthalen-1-yl)-3-[4-(4-nitro-2-trifluoromethylphenyl)piperazin-1-yl]propan-1-ol (Compound 13 of A. Mendoza *et al.*, *Exp. Parasit.* 128(2) (2011) 97-103), revealed that presumably all compounds adopt the same binding mode (**Figure 2a**) and establish a hydrogen bond between the hydroxyl group and Asp214 (**Figure 2b**).

This similar binding mode is not surprising since all of the tested compounds contain related scaffolds. In general, all these compounds are situated near the S1', S1 and S3 pockets of the protein. 4-nitro-2-trifluoromethyl phenyl and 4-trifluoromethyl phenyl groups of these conformations were set near S1 and S3 pocket, and 4-fluoro-1-phenyl and 4-fluoro-1-naphthyl were located in the vicinity of the S2 pocket.

CLAIMS

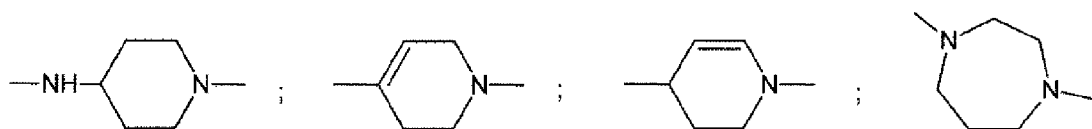
1. Compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

- Ar is an optionally substituted aromatic group selected from phenyl and naphthyl groups,
- n is an integer from 0 to 6, and preferably n = 2,
- Am is an optionally substituted amino entity selected from:



- R and R', identical or different, are selected from hydrogen or halogen atoms,  $-\text{NO}_2$ ,  $-\text{CF}_3$ .

2. Compound according to Claim 1, wherein the aromatic group Ar is substituted by an halogen atom, and preferably by a fluorine atom.

3. Compound according to Claim 2, wherein the aromatic group Ar is selected from the 4-fluoro-1-phenyl and 4-fluoro-1-naphthyl groups, and preferably Ar is the 4-fluoro-1-phenyl group.

4. Compound according to Claims 1 to 3, wherein the amino entity Am is a tetrahydropyridine entity.

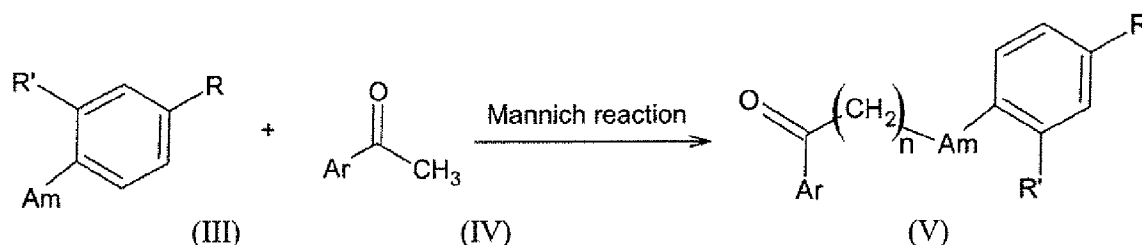
5. Compound according to Claims 1 to 4, wherein R is  $-\text{NO}_2$  or  $-\text{F}$ .

6. Compound according to Claims 1 to 5, wherein R' is  $-\text{H}$  or  $-\text{CF}_3$ .

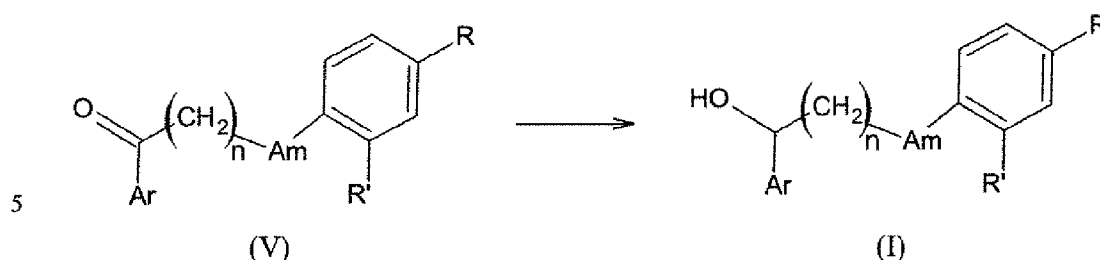
7. Compound according to Claim 5 or Claim 6, wherein R =  $-\text{NO}_2$  and R' =  $-\text{CF}_3$ .

8. Method for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) as defined according to Claims 1 to 7, comprising the following steps:

(i) a condensation step of a methyl-ketone of formula (IV) with an aryl amine of formula (V) via a Mannich reaction:



(ii) a reduction step of the ketone intermediate (V) of step (i) to obtain a compound of formula (I):



9. Compound of formula (I) according to Claims 1 to 7, or one of its tautomeric, racemic, enantiomeric or polymorphic forms or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, for its use as a medicament.

10. Compound of formula (I) for its use according to Claim 9, for the prevention and/or the treatment of parasitic diseases involving apicomplexan parasites.

11. Compound of formula (I) for its use according to Claim 10, wherein said apicomplexan parasites are selected from *Plasmodium*, *Babesia*, *Toxoplasma*, *Neospora*, *Cryptosporidium*, *Theileria*, *Sarcosystis* and *Eimeria*.

12. Compound of formula (I) for its use according to Claims 9 to 11 for the prevention and/or the treatment of malaria.

13. Compound of formula (I) for its use according to Claims 9 to 11 for the prevention and/or the treatment of toxoplasmosis.

14. Compound of formula (I) for its use according to Claim 9 for the prevention and/or the treatment of AIDS virus.

15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound of formula (I) as defined according to Claims 1 to 7 as an active principle, and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

16. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 15, wherein it further comprises at least one additional antiparasitic active principle.

17. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 16, wherein said additional antiparasitic active principle is selected from chloroquine, quinacrine, primaquine, artemisinin, atovaquone and pyrimethamine.

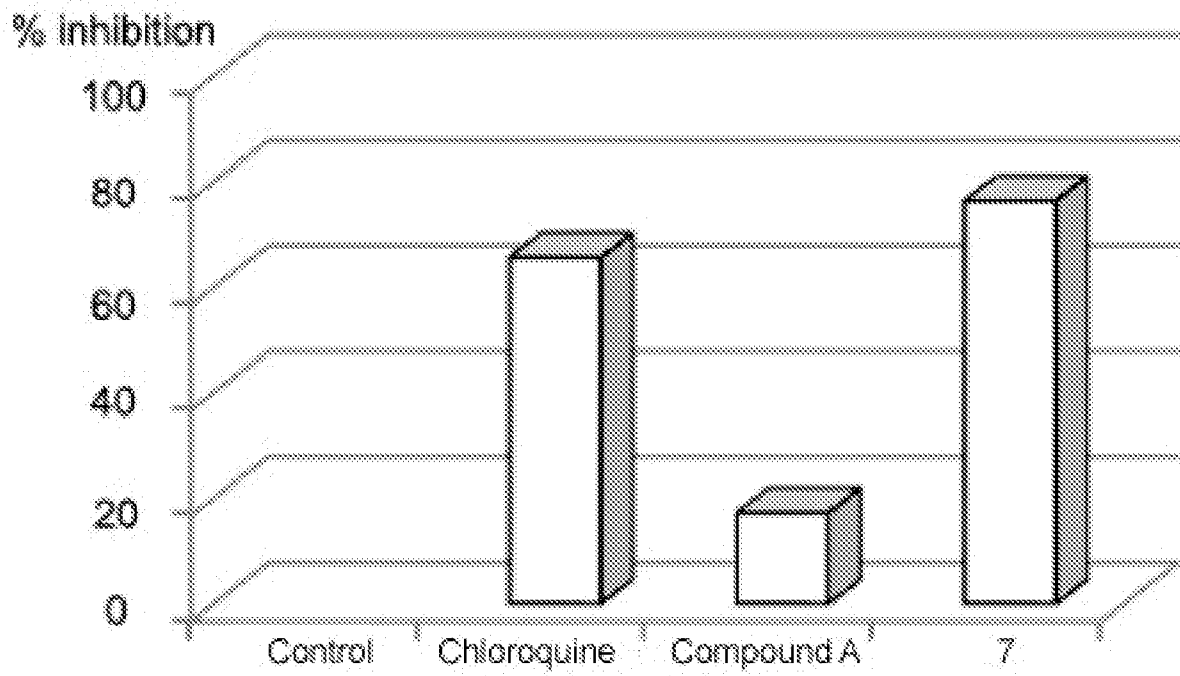


FIGURE 1

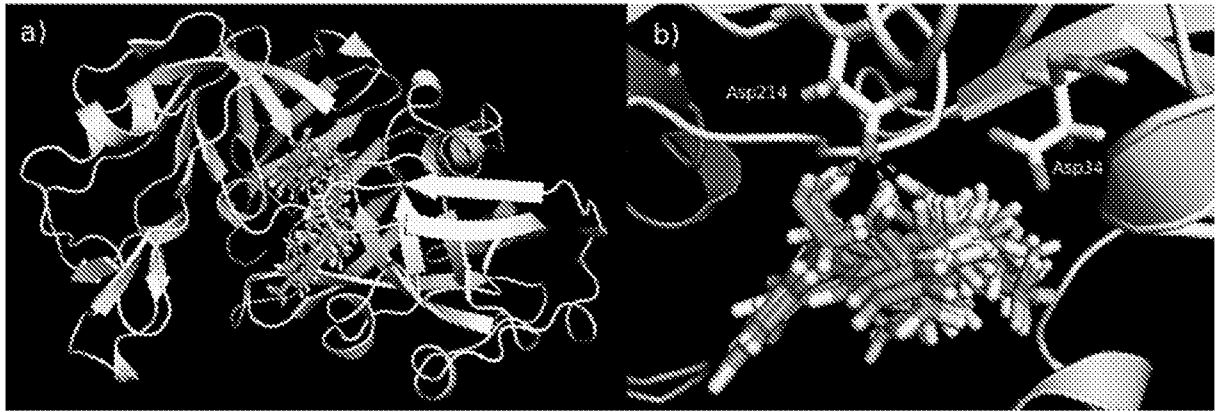


FIGURE 2

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No PCT/IB2014/059803
---

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 INV. C07D409/06 C07D211/70 C07D211/98 A61K31/44 A61K31/551  
 A61P31/18 A61P33/02 A61P33/06  
 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 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 practicable, 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	SILVIA PÉREZ-SILANES ET AL: "New 1-Aryl-3-Substituted Propanol Derivatives as Antimalarial Agents", MOLECULES, vol. 14, no. 10, 14 October 2009 (2009-10-14), pages 4120-4135, XP055069705, DOI: 10.3390/molecules14104120 Scheme 2; tables 1, 2; compounds 31-34, 45, 46 ----- -/--	1-17

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  4 July 2014	Date of mailing of the international search report  21/07/2014
--	--

Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  Sotoca Usina, E
--	---

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2014/059803

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>LUIS BERRADE ET AL: "Novel Benzo[ b ]thiophene Derivatives as New Potential Antidepressants with Rapid Onset of Action",            JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY,            vol. 54, no. 8, 28 April 2011 (2011-04-28)            , pages 3086-3090, XP055069736,            ISSN: 0022-2623, DOI: 10.1021/jm2000773            compound 9b</p>	1-17
X	<p>-----</p> <p>GIZUR T ET AL: "Novel 1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine derivatives with potent antihypoxic activity",            EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY,            EDITIONS SCIENTIFIQUE ELSEVIER, PARIS, FR,            vol. 29, no. 5,            1 January 1994 (1994-01-01), pages            349-355, XP023870425,            ISSN: 0223-5234, DOI:            10.1016/0223-5234(94)90059-0            [retrieved on 1994-01-01]            Schemes 1 and 2;            paragraph [Introduction]; compounds 2a-u</p>	1-6,8,9
X	<p>-----</p> <p>EMESE CSUZDI ET AL: "Benzyl Cation Initiated Intramolecular Cyclizations. Synthesis of 1-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octene derivatives",            JOURNAL F&amp;#XFFFD;R PRAKTISCHE            CHEMIE/CHEMIKER-ZEITUNG,            vol. 340, no. 5,            1 January 1998 (1998-01-01), pages            472-475, XP055115778,            ISSN: 0941-1216, DOI:            10.1002/prac.19983400511            Scheme 2;            compounds 1a-q</p>	1-6,8
X	<p>-----</p> <p>WO 93/11107 A1 (RICHTER GEDEON VEGYESZET [HU]) 10 June 1993 (1993-06-10)            claims 1-15; examples 1, 2; compounds 1-38</p>	1-5,9
X	<p>-----</p> <p>US 5 296 485 A (LUBISCH WILFRIED [DE] ET AL) 22 March 1994 (1994-03-22)            examples 12, 13, 15</p>	1-6,9
X	<p>-----</p> <p>EP 0 490 560 A1 (RICHTER GEDEON VEGYESZET [HU]) 17 June 1992 (1992-06-17)            claims 1-32</p>	1,4-6,9
X	<p>-----</p> <p>US 3 171 838 A (JANSSEN PAUL A J) 2 March 1965 (1965-03-02)            examples 1-21</p> <p>-----</p>	1,6
	-/--	

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/IB2014/059803

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	BRINE G A ET AL: "Synthesis of 4,4-disubstituted piperidine analogs of (.+-.)-cis-N-[1-(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-3-methyl-4-piperidyl]-N-phenylpropanamide", JOURNAL OF HETEROCYCLIC CHEMISTRY, WILEY-BLACKWELL PUBLISHING, INC, US, vol. 31, no. 2, 1 January 1994 (1994-01-01), pages 513-520, XP008118826, ISSN: 0022-152X page 515; compounds 11a, 11b, 12a, 13a -----	1,6
X	GEORGE A. BRINE ET AL: "Enantiomers of Diastereomeric cis-N-[1-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-3-methyl-4-piperidyl]-N-phenylpropanamides: Synthesis, X-ray Analysis, and Biological Activities", JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY, vol. 38, no. 9, 1 April 1995 (1995-04-01), pages 1547-1557, XP055115780, ISSN: 0022-2623, DOI: 10.1021/jm00009a015 table 4; compounds 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d -----	1,6
X	ZHI-XIAN WANG ET AL: "Stereoisomers of N-[1-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-3-methyl-4-piperidyl]-N-phenylpropanamide: Synthesis, Stereochemistry, Analgesic Activity, and Opioid Receptor Binding Characteristics", JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY, vol. 38, no. 18, 1 September 1995 (1995-09-01), pages 3652-3659, XP055115783, ISSN: 0022-2623, DOI: 10.1021/jm00018a026 tables 1-3; compounds 1a-h, 6a-h, 7a-h -----	1,6,9
X	ADELA MENDOZA ET AL: "Aryl piperazine and pyrrolidine as antimalarial agents. Synthesis and investigation of structureactivity relationships", EXPERIMENTAL PARASITOLOGY, NEW YORK, NY, US, vol. 128, no. 2, 21 February 2011 (2011-02-21), pages 97-103, XP028189447, ISSN: 0014-4894, DOI: 10.1016/J.EXPPARA.2011.02.025 [retrieved on 2011-02-24] figure 1; table 1; compounds 9-13 ----- -/--	1-15

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2014/059803

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>DATABASE REGISTRY [Online]            CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE, COLUMBUS,            OHIO, US;            25 March 2010 (2010-03-25),            "1(2H)-pyridineethanol,            .alpha.-(2,3-dihydro-5-benzofuranyl)-4-(4-            fluorophenyl)-3,6-dihydro-",            XP002726636,            Database accession no. 1214615-13-0            Compounds with Registry Number:            1214615-13-0;            1214510-82-3;            1214487-38-3;            1214466-89-3;            1214403-20-9;</p>	1,4-6
X	<p>-----            DATABASE REGISTRY [Online]            CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE, COLUMBUS,            OHIO, US;            19 December 2007 (2007-12-19),            XP002726637,            Database accession no. 958717-95-8            Compounds with Registry Number:            958717-95-8;            958708-41-3;            958701-94-5;</p>	1,4-6
X	<p>-----            DATABASE REGISTRY [Online]            CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE, COLUMBUS,            OHIO, US;            19 November 2004 (2004-11-19),            XP002726638,            Database accession no. 784117-96-0            Compound with Registry Number:            784117-96-0</p>	1,5,6
X	<p>-----            DATABASE REGISTRY [Online]            CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE, COLUMBUS,            OHIO, US;            22 October 2004 (2004-10-22),            XP002726639,            Database accession no. 767245-63-6            Compound with Registry Number:            767245-63-6</p>	1-3,5,6
X	<p>-----            DATABASE REGISTRY [Online]            CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE, COLUMBUS,            OHIO, US;            30 July 1996 (1996-07-30),            XP002726640,            Database accession no. 178896-99-6            Compound with Registry Number:            178896-99-6</p> <p>-----            -/--</p>	1,4-6

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/IB2014/059803

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	SARGES R ET AL: "NEUROLEPTIC ACTIVITY OF CHIRAL TRANS-HEXAHYDRO-GAMMA-CARBOLINES", JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY, AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY, US, vol. 29, 1 January 1986 (1986-01-01), pages 8-19, XP001037412, ISSN: 0022-2623, DOI: 10.1021/JM00151A002 pages 10, 13; compound 34c -----	1-6
X	EP 0 503 411 A1 (BASF AG [DE]) 16 September 1992 (1992-09-16) pages 15, 16; examples 12, 13 -----	1-3,5,6
A	US 5 618 822 A (GUZZI UMBERTO [IT] ET AL) 8 April 1997 (1997-04-08) example 2 -----	1-15

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/IB2014/059803

## Box No. 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:
  
2.  Claims Nos.: 1-4, 6, 8-17(all partially)  
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:  
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
  
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 No. 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:

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 fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
  
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.:

### Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 1-4, 6, 8-17(all partially)

Present claims 1-4, 6 and 8 relate to an extremely large number of possible compounds. Support and disclosure in the sense of Article 6 and 5 PCT is to be found however for only a very small proportion of the compounds claimed, see the examples where Ar is only exemplified as 2-naphthyl, 4-fluoro-1-naphthyl and 4-fluoro-1-phenyl, R is F or NO<sub>2</sub>, R' is H or CF<sub>3</sub> and n is always 2.

The initial phase of the search revealed a very large number of documents relevant to the issue of novelty. So many documents were retrieved that it is impossible to determine which parts of the claims 1-4 and 6 and 8-17 may be said to define subject-matter for which protection might legitimately be sought (Article 6 PCT).

If the applicant files no plausible alternative scope of the application to be searched, for these reasons, the search will be performed taking into consideration the non-compliance in determining the extent of the search of claim 5.

The non-compliance with the substantive provisions is to such an extent, that in the absence of the filing of a plausible alternative scope of the application to be searched, the search will be performed taking into consideration the non-compliance in determining the extent of the search of claims 1-4, 6 and 8-17 (PCT Guidelines 9.19 and 9.23), being restricted to those claimed compounds which appear to be supported and a generalisation of their structural formulae, that is claim 5 where R is NO<sub>2</sub> or F.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guidelines C-IV, 7.2), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No PCT/IB2014/059803
---

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date			
WO 9311107	A1	10-06-1993	CA 2123216 A1 10-06-1993			
			CN 1072927 A 09-06-1993			
			EP 0642497 A1 15-03-1995			
			HU 211019 B 28-09-1995			
			JP H07501338 A 09-02-1995			
			US 5589486 A 31-12-1996			
			WO 9311107 A1 10-06-1993			
			ZA 9209011 A 17-05-1993			
US 5296485	A	22-03-1994	DE 4117904 A1 03-12-1992			
			US 5296485 A 22-03-1994			
EP 0490560	A1	17-06-1992	AT 135689 T 15-04-1996			
			AU 647704 B2 24-03-1994			
			AU 8962091 A 18-06-1992			
			CA 2056582 A1 14-06-1992			
			DE 69118129 D1 25-04-1996			
			EP 0490560 A1 17-06-1992			
			HU 209573 B 29-08-1994			
			IL 100098 A 31-07-1995			
			JP H04275272 A 30-09-1992			
			US 5225416 A 06-07-1993			
			ZA 9109338 A 30-09-1992			
			US 3171838	A	02-03-1965	FR 2429 M 04-07-2014
US 3171838 A 02-03-1965						
EP 0503411	A1	16-09-1992	AT 130851 T 15-12-1995			
			CA 2063030 A1 15-09-1992			
			EP 0503411 A1 16-09-1992			
			JP 3058746 B2 04-07-2000			
			JP H0578316 A 30-03-1993			
US 5618822	A	08-04-1997	NONE			