



(11) **EP 1 534 707 B9**

(12) **CORRECTED EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION**

(15) Correction information:
Corrected version no 1 (W1 B1)
Corrections, see
Description Paragraph(s) 13, 16, 17

(48) Corrigendum issued on:
26.11.2008 Bulletin 2008/48

(45) Date of publication and mention
of the grant of the patent:
21.11.2007 Bulletin 2007/47

(21) Application number: **03761110.0**

(22) Date of filing: **17.06.2003**

(51) Int Cl.:
C07D 471/04^(2006.01) C07D 491/18^(2006.01)
A61K 31/4745^(2006.01) A61P 15/10^(2006.01)

(86) International application number:
PCT/US2003/019262

(87) International publication number:
WO 2004/000842 (31.12.2003 Gazette 2004/01)

(54) **SUBSTITUTED 2,4-DIHYDRO-PYRROLO (3, 4-B) -QUINOLIN-9-ONE DERIVATIVES USEFUL AS PHOSPHODIESTERASE INHIBITORS**

SUBSTITUIERTE 2,4-DIHYDROPYRROLO[3,4B]CHINOLIN-9-ONDERIVATE, DIE SICH ALS PHOSPHODIESTERASEINHIBITOREN EIGNEN

DERIVES SUBSTITUES DE 2,4-DIHYDRO-PYRROLO (3, 4-B) -QUINOLIN-9-ONE UTILISES COMME INHIBITEURS DE LA PHOSPHODIESTERASE

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IT LI LU MC NL PT RO SE SI SK TR

(30) Priority: **19.06.2002 US 389904 P**

(43) Date of publication of application:
01.06.2005 Bulletin 2005/22

(73) Proprietor: **Janssen Pharmaceutica NV**
2340 Beerse (BE)

(72) Inventors:
• **JIANG, Weiqin,**
Johnson & Johnson Ph. Res. & Dev.
Raritan, NJ 08869 (US)

• **SUI, Zhihua,**
Johnson & Johnson Ph. Res. & Dev.
Raritan, NJ 08869 (US)

(74) Representative: **Mercer, Christopher Paul et al**
Carpmaels & Ransford
43-45 Bloomsbury Square
London WC1A 2RA (GB)

(56) References cited:
WO-A-01/87882

• **J-F CARNIAUX ET. AL.: "Synthesis of Novel Fused Tricyclic Quinolone System via Oxidation of 1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-beta-Carbolines" TETRAHEDRON LETTERS, vol. 38, no. 17, 1997, pages 2997-3000, XP004059081**

EP 1 534 707 B9

DescriptionFIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 [0001] The invention relates to novel 2,4-dihydro-pyrrolo[3,4-b]quinolin-9-one derivatives, intermediates used in the preparation of, synthesis of and pharmaceutical compositions containing the derivatives and their use for the treatment of sexual dysfunction. The compounds of the present invention are phosphodiesterase inhibitors useful for the treatment of sexual dysfunction, more particularly male erectile dysfunction.

10 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] Erectile dysfunction (ED) is defined as the inability to achieve or maintain an erection sufficiently rigid for satisfactory sexual intercourse. Currently it is estimated that approximately 7-8% of the male population suffer from some degree of ED, the equivalent of at least 20 million men in the United States alone. Since the likelihood of ED increases with age, it is projected that the incidence of this condition will rise in the future as the average age of the population increases.

15 [0003] Male erectile dysfunction may be the consequence of psychogenic and/or organic factors. Although ED is multifactorial, certain sub-groups within the male population are more likely to present with the symptoms of the disorder. In particular, patients with diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and multiple sclerosis have a particularly high prevalence of ED. In addition, patients who take certain classes of drugs such as antihypertensives, antidepressants, sedatives and anxiolytics are more prone to suffer from ED.

20 [0004] Treatments for ED include a variety of pharmacologic agents, vacuum devices and penile prostheses. Among the pharmacologic agents, papaverine, phentolamine, and alprostadil are currently used in practice. These agents are only effective after direct intracavernosal or intraurethral injection, and are associated with side effects such as priapism, fibrosis, penile pain and hematoma at the injection site. Vacuum devices are a noninvasive alternative treatment for ED. These devices produce an erection by creating a negative pressure around the shaft of the penis resulting in an increased blood flow into the corpus cavernosum via passive arterial dilation. Although this form of therapy is frequently successful in ED of organic origin, complaints include the lack of spontaneity and the time involved in using a mechanical device, and the difficulty and discomfort with ejaculation. A variety of semi-rigid or inflatable penile prostheses have been used with some success, particularly in diabetic men. These devices are generally considered when other treatment options have failed, and are associated with an increased risk of infection and ischemia.

25 [0005] Recently, the phosphodiesterase V (PDEV) inhibitor, sildenafil (Viagra®) was approved by the FDA as an orally effective medication for the treatment of ED. Sildenafil, 5-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-methylpiperazin-1-ylsulphonyl)phenyl]-1-methyl-3-n-propyl-6,7-dihydro-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one and a number of related analogs and their use as antianginal agents are described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,250,534 and 5,346,901. The use of sildenafil and related analogs for treating male erectile dysfunction is described in PCT International Application Publication No. WO 94/28902, published December 22, 1994. In clinical studies, the drug improved sexual function in about 70% of the men who suffer from ED of psychogenic or organic etiology. However, the drug showed less dramatic efficacy in patients who had undergone a radical prostatectomy, with improved erections in 43% of patients who took sildenafil versus 15% on placebo. In addition, the use of sildenafil is associated with several undesirable side effects including headache, flushing and disrupted color vision which result from non-selective effects on a variety of tissues. In spite of these shortcomings, the drug is viewed by patients as preferable to other treatments which involve the introduction of medication directly into the penis via injection, the use of an external device or a surgical procedure.

30 [0006] Sexually stimulated penile erection results from a complex interplay of physiological processes involving the central nervous system, the peripheral nervous system and the smooth muscle. Specifically, release of nitric oxide from the non-adrenergic, non-cholinergic nerves and endothelium activates guanylyl cyclase and increases intracellular cGMP levels within the corpus cavernosum. The increase in intracellular cGMP reduces intracellular calcium levels, resulting in trabecular smooth muscle relaxation, which in turn, results in corporal volume expansion and compression of the sub-tunical venules leading to penile erection.

35 [0007] PDEV has been found in human platelets and vascular smooth muscle, suggesting a role for this enzyme in the regulation of intracellular concentrations of cGMP in cardiovascular tissue. In fact, inhibitors of PDEV have been shown to produce endothelial-dependent vasorelaxation by potentiating the increases in intracellular cGMP induced by nitric oxide. Moreover, PDEV inhibitors selectively lower the pulmonary arterial pressure in animal models of congestive heart failure and pulmonary hypertension. Hence in addition to their utility in ED, PDEV inhibitors would likely be of therapeutic benefit in conditions like heart failure, pulmonary hypertension and angina.

40 [0008] Agents that increase the concentration of cGMP in penile tissue, either through enhanced release or reduced breakdown of cGMP, are expected to be effective treatments for ED. The intracellular levels of cGMP are regulated by the enzymes involved in its formation and degradation, namely the guanylate cyclases and the cyclic nucleotide phos-

phodiesterases (PDEs). To date, at least nine families of mammalian PDEs have been described, five of which are capable of hydrolyzing the active, cGMP, to the inactive, GMP, under physiological conditions (PDEs I, II, V, VI, and IX). PDE V is the predominant isoform in human corpus cavernosum. Inhibitors of PDEV, therefore, would be expected to increase the concentration of cGMP in the corpus cavernosum and enhance the duration and frequency of penile erection.

[0009] Additionally, selective PDE inhibitors are known to be useful in the treatment of various disorders and conditions including male erectile dysfunction (ED), female sexual arousal dysfunction, female sexual dysfunction related to blood flow and nitric oxide production in the tissues of the vagina and clitoris, premature labor, dysmenorrhea, cardiovascular disorders, atherosclerosis, arterial occlusive disorders, thrombosis, coronary rest stenosis, angina pectoris, myocardial infarction, heart failure, ischemic heart disorders, hypertension, pulmonary hypertension, asthma, intermittent claudication and diabetic complications.

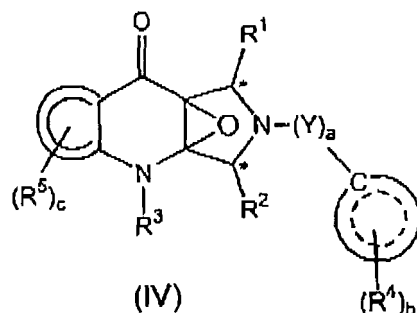
[0010] Accordingly, it is an object of the invention to identify compounds which increase the concentration of cGMP in penile tissue through the inhibition of phosphodiesterases, specifically PDEV. It is another object of the invention to identify compounds which are useful for the treatment of sexual dysfunction, particularly erectile dysfunction and/or impotence in male animals and sexual dysfunction in female animals. Still another object of the invention is to identify methods for treating sexual dysfunction, especially erectile dysfunction, using the compounds of the present invention.

[0011] It is another object of the invention to identify compounds which are useful for the treatment of conditions of disorders mediated by PDEV, such as male erectile dysfunction, female sexual dysfunction, cardiovascular disorders, atherosclerosis, arterial occlusive disorders, thrombosis, coronary reststenosis, angina pectoris, myocardial infarction, heart failure, ischemic heart disorders, hypertension, pulmonary hypertension, asthma, intermittent claudication or diabetic complications.

[0012] We now describe a series of 2,4-dihydro-pyrrolo[3,4-b]quinolin-9-one derivatives with the ability to inhibit phosphodiesterase type V in enzyme assays.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0013] The present invention is directed to compounds of the general formula (IV)



wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, carboxy, -C(O)-C₁-C₆alkyl, -C(O)-C₁-C₆alkoxy, -C(O)-NH-C₁-C₆alkyl-NH₂, -C(O)-NH-C₁-C₆alkyl-NHR^A, -C(O)-NH-C₁-C₆alkyl-N(R^A)₂, -C(O)-NH₂, -C(O)-NHR^A, -C(O)-N(R^A)₂, -C₁-C₆alkyl-NH₂, -C₁-C₆alkyl-NHR^A, -C₁-C₆alkyl-N(R^A)₂, -NH-C₁-C₆alkyl-N(R^A)₂;

where each R^A is independently selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₆alkyl, aryl and C₁-C₆aralkyl where the aryl or aralkyl may be optionally substituted with one to three R^B;

where each R^B is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, cyano, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, carboxyC₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkylsulfonyl, trifluoromethyl, amino, di(C₁-C₆alkyl)amino, acetylamino, carboxyC₁-C₆alkylcarbonylamino, hydroxyC₁-C₆alkylamino, NHR^A and N(R^A)₂;

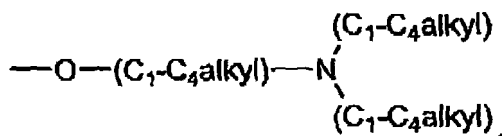
R² is selected from the group consisting of C₅-C₁₀alkyl (optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, nitro, amino, NHR^A or N(R^A)₂), aryl (optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^C), cycloalkyl (optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^A), and 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl;

where R^C is selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, cyano, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, NH₂, NH(C₁-C₆alkyl) and N(C₁-C₆alkyl)₂;

R³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₂-C₆alkenylcarbonyl and C₂-C₆alkynylcarbonyl-;

b is an integer from 0 to 4:

R⁴ is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, nitro, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆alkoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl, phenyl (wherein the phenyl group may be optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^D), phenylsulfonyl, naphthyl, C₁-C₆aralkyl, -O-aralkyl, (wherein the aralkyl group may be optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^D), NH₂, NHR^A, N(R^A)₂ and



where each R^D is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, C₁-C₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylthio, hydroxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy, C₁-C₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁-C₄alkylcarbonyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, NH₂, NHR^A, N(R^A)₂, C(O)N(R^A)₂, acetylamino, nitro, cyano, formyl, C₁-C₆alkylsulfonyl, carboxyC₁-C₆alkyl and aralkyl;

c is an integer from 0 to 4;

R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, hydroxy, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, -NH₂, -NHR^A, -N(R^A)₂, -OR^A, -C(O)NH₂, -C(O)NHR^A, -C(O)N(R^A)₂, -NHC(O)R^A, -SO₂NHR^A, -SO₂N(R^A)₂, where R^A is as defined above, phenyl (optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^B),

a is an integer from 0 to 1 ;

Y selected from the group consisting of -C₁-C₆alkyl-, -C(O)-, -(C₁-C₆alkyl)carbonyl-, -(C₂-C₆alkenyl)carbonyl-, -(C₂-C₆alkynyl)carbonyl-, -carbonyl(C₁-C₆alkyl)-, -carbonyl(C₂-C₆alkenyl)-, -C(O)O-(C₁-C₆alkyl)-, -C(S)-, -SO₂-, -(C₁-C₆alkyl)sulfonyl-, -sulfonyl(C₁-C₆alkyl)-, -C(O)NH-, -C(O)NH-(C₁-C₆alkyl)-, -C(O)(C₃-C₇cycloalkyl)- and -(C₃-C₇cycloalkyl)-C(O)-;



is selected from the group consisting phenyl, furyl, thienyl and pyrrolyl;



is selected from the group consisting of aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl and heterocycloalkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

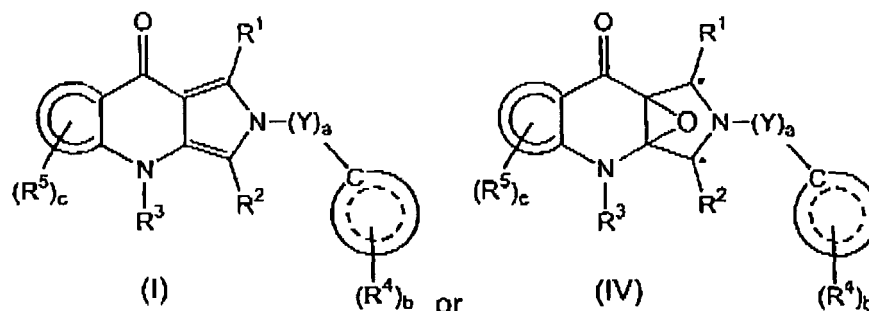
[0014] Illustrative of the invention is a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and any of the compounds described above. An illustration of the invention is a pharmaceutical composition made by mixing any of the compounds described above and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. Illustrating the invention is a process for making a pharmaceutical composition comprising mixing any of the compounds described above and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

[0015] An example of the invention is the use of any of the compounds described above in the preparation of a medicament for: (a) treating sexual dysfunction, such as male sexual dysfunction especially male erectile dysfunction, (b) treating impotence, female sexual dysfunction, female sexual and arousal dysfunction or female sexual dysfunction related to blood flow and nitric oxide production in the tissues of the vagina and clitoris (c) increasing the concentration of cGMP in penile tissue through inhibition of phosphodiesterase, especially PDEV and/or (d) treating a condition selected from the group consisting of premature labor, dysmenorrhea, cardiovascular disorders, atherosclerosis, arterial occlusive disorders, thrombosis, coronary reststenosis, angina pectoris, myocardial infarction, heart failure, ischemic heart disorders, hypertension, pulmonary hypertension, asthma, intermittent claudication and diabetic complications in a subject in need thereof.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0016] The present invention provides novel 2,4-dihydro-pyrrolo[3,4-b]quinolin-9-one derivatives useful for the treatment of sexual dysfunction, particularly male erectile dysfunction (ED). Although the compounds of the present invention are useful primarily for the treatment of male sexual dysfunction or erectile dysfunction, they may also be useful for the treatment of female sexual dysfunction, for example female sexual arousal dysfunction, female sexual dysfunction related to blood flow and nitric oxide production in the tissue of the vagina and clitoris, and for the treatment of premature labor and dysmenorrhea.

[0017] More particularly, the compounds of the present invention are of formula (IV)



wherein all variables are as defined above, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. The compounds of formula (1) are useful for the treatment of disorders mediated by the PDEV receptor, including, but not limited to, sexual dysfunction. The compounds of formula (IV) are useful as intermediates in the preparation of compounds of formula (1), wherein the variables are as defined in claim 10.

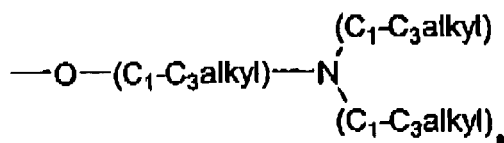
[0018] Preferably, R¹ is hydrogen.

[0019] In an embodiment of the present invention R² is selected from the group consisting of phenyl (optionally substituted with one to two substituents selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₃alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, NH₂, NH(C₁-C₃alkyl) or N(C₁-C₃alkyl)₂), methylenedioxyphenyl and 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl. Preferably, R² is methylenedioxyphenyl.

[0020] Preferably, R³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁-C₄alkyl. More preferably, R³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and methyl. Most preferably, R³ is hydrogen.

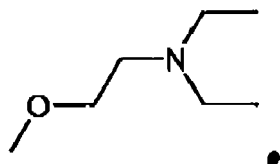
[0021] Preferably, b is an integer from 0 to 4. More preferably b is an integer from 0 to 1.

[0022] in an embodiment of the present invention, R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, C₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₃alkoxy, C₁-C₃alkoxycarbonyl phenyl (wherein the phenyl may be optionally substituted with one to two substituents selected from hydroxy, carboxy, C₁-C₄alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkylthio, hydroxyc₁₋₄alkyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy, C₁-C₄alkoxycarbonyl, C(O)N(R^A)₂, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy amino, (C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano or formyl), O-alkyl and



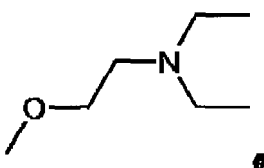
[0023] Preferably, R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of bromo, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, methyl, phenyl, 4-hydroxyphenyl, 3-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-carboxyphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 4-methoxycarbonyl, 4-methoxycarbonylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-aminophenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 4-formylphenyl, 4-methylthiophenyl, benzyloxy and

5



10 **[0024]** More preferably, R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of 5-bromo, 2-hydroxy, 6-hydroxy, 4-carboxy, phenyl, 4-hydroxyphenyl, 3-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-carboxyphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-methylthiophenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 4-methoxycarbonyl, 4-methoxycarbonylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-aminophenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-formylphenyl, benzyloxy and

15



20

25 **[0025]** More preferably still, R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of 5-bromo, 2-hydroxy, 6-hydroxy, 4-carboxy, phenyl, 4-hydroxyphenyl, 3-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-carboxyphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-methylthiophenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 4-methoxycarbonyl, 4-methoxycarbonylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-aminophenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-formylphenyl and benzyloxy.

30 **[0026]** More preferably still, R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of 6-hydroxy, 4-carboxy, phenyl, 4-hydroxyphenyl, 3-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-methylthiophenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 4-methoxycarbonyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-nitrophenyl and 4-nitrophenyl.

[0027] Most preferably, R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, 4-methylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 4-methoxycarbonyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl and 4-nitrophenyl.

[0028] In a preferred embodiment c is 0.

35 **[0029]** In an embodiment of the present invention. Y is selected from the group consisting of -C₁-C₄alkyl-, -C(S)-, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-(C₁-C₄alkyl)-, -C(O)-(C₁-C₄alkyl)-, -C(O)-(C₂-C₄alkenyl)-, C(O)-(C₃-C₇cycloalkyl)- and -C(O)NH-(C₁-C₃alkyl)-. Preferably, Y is selected from the group consisting of -CH₂-, -C(S)-, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-CH₂-, -C(O)-CH₂CH₂-, -C(O)-CH=CH-, -C(O)NH-CH₂-, -C(O)-cyclopropyl and -C(O)CH₂-. More preferably, Y is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-, -C(O)O-CH₂-, -C(O)-CH₂CH₂-, -C(O)-CH=CH-, and -C(O)-cyclopropyl. More preferably still, Y is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-, -C(O)O-CH₂- and -C(O)-CH=CH-. Most preferably, Y is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- and -C(O)O-CH₂-;

40

[0030] Preferably,

45



is phenyl;

50

[0031] In an embodiment of the present invention,



55

is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, heteroaryl and heterocycloalkyl. Preferably,



5 is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 2-furyl, 2-benzo(b)furyl, 2-pyrimidinyl, 2-pyridinyl, 3-pyridinyl, 4-pyridinyl, 1-imidazolyl, 2-imidazolyl, 2-thiazolyl, and 2-oxa-bicyclo[2.2.1]heptanyl. More preferably,



10 is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 2-furyl, 2-benzo(b)furyl, 2-pyrimidinyl, 2-pyridinyl, 3-pyridinyl, 4-pyridinyl and 2-thiazolyl. Most preferably,



20 is selected from the group consisting of 2-furyl, 2-benzo(b)furyl, 4-pyridinyl, 2-pyrimidinyl and 2-thiazolyl.

25 **[0032]** The term "halogen" shall include iodine, bromine, chlorine and fluorine.

[0033] The term "alkyl", whether used alone or as part of a substituent group, shall mean straight or branched chain alkanes of one to ten carbon atoms, or any number within this range. For example, alkyl radicals include, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, t-butyl, n-pentyl, 3-(2-methyl)butyl, 2-pentyl, 2-methylbutyl, neopentyl, n-hexyl and 2-methylpentyl. Similarly, alkenyl and alkynyl groups include straight and branched chain alkenes and alkynes having two to ten carbon atoms, or any number within this range.

[0034] The term "alkoxy" shall denote an oxygen ether radical of the above described straight or branched chain alkyl group. For example, alkoxy radicals include methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, n-butoxy, sec-butoxy, tert-butoxy, and the like.

[0035] The term "aryl" indicates an aromatic group such as phenyl, naphthyl, and the like.

[0036] The term "aralkyl" denotes an alkyl group substituted with an aryl group For example, benzyl, phenylethyl, and the like. Similarly, the term "aralkenyl" denotes an alkenyl group substituted with an aryl group, for example phenylethylenyl, and the like.

[0037] The term "heteroaryl" as used herein represents a stable five or six membered monocyclic aromatic ring system containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from N, O or S; and any nine or ten membered bicyclic aromatic ring system containing carbon atoms and one to four heteroatoms independently selected from N, O or S. The heteroaryl group may be attached at any heteroatom or carbon atom which results in the creation of a stable structure. Examples of heteroaryl groups include, but are not limited to pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, thienyl, furyl, imidazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrrolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, triazolyl, benzimidazolyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzoxazolyl, indazolyl, indolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzothiadiazolyl, benzotriazolyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, purinyl. Preferred heteroaryl groups include pyrimidinyl, pyridinyl, furyl, imidazolyl, benzofuryl and thiazolyl.

[0038] The term "cycloalkyl" as used herein represents a stable three to eight membered monocyclic ring structure consisting of saturated carbon atoms. Suitable examples include cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl and cyclooctyl.

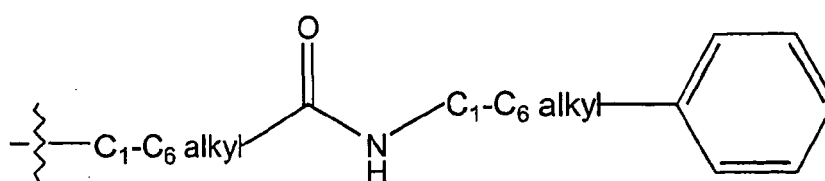
[0039] The term "heterocycloalkyl" represents a stable saturated or partially unsaturated, three to eight membered monocyclic ring structure containing carbon atoms and one to four, preferably one to two, heteroatoms independently selected from N, O or S; and any stable saturated, partially unsaturated or partially aromatic, nine to ten membered bicyclic ring system containing carbon atoms and one to four heteroatoms independently selected from N, O or S. The heterocycloalkyl may be attached at any carbon atom or heteroatom which results in the creation of a stable structure. Suitable examples of heterocycloalkyl groups include pyrrolidinyl, pyrazolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, dithianyl, trithianyl, dioxolanyl, dioxanyl, thiomorpholinyl, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuryl, 2,3-dihydrobenzo-[1,4]-dioxin-6-yl, 2,3-dihydro-furo[2,3-b]pyridinyl, 1,2-(methylenedioxy)cyclohexane, indanyl, 2-oxa-bicyclo[2.2.1]heptanyl, and the like. Preferred heterocycloalkyl groups include piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, morpholinyl, indanyl, 2-oxa-bicyclo[2.2.1]heptanyl, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuryl and 2,3-dihydrobenzo-[1,4]-dioxin-6-yl.

[0040] As used herein, the notation "*" shall denote the presence of a stereogenic center.

[0041] It is intended that the definition of any substituent or variable at a particular location in a molecule be independent of its definitions elsewhere in that molecule. It is understood that substituents and substitution patterns on the compounds of this invention can be selected by one of ordinary skill in the art to provide compounds that are chemically stable and that can be readily synthesized by techniques known in the art as well as those methods set forth herein. It is further intended that when b or c is >1, the corresponding R⁴ or R⁵ substituents may be the same or different.

[0042] Where the compounds according to this invention have at least one chiral center, they may accordingly exist as enantiomers. Where the compounds possess two or more chiral centers, they may additionally exist as diastereomers. It is to be understood that all such isomers and mixtures thereof are encompassed within the scope of the present invention. Furthermore, some of the crystalline forms for the compounds may exist as polymorphs and as such are intended to be included in the present invention. In addition, some of the compounds may form solvates with water (i.e., hydrates) or common organic solvents, and such solvates are also intended to be encompassed within the scope of this invention.

[0043] Under standard nomenclature used throughout this disclosure, the terminal portion of the designated side chain is described first, followed by the adjacent functionality toward the point of attachment. Thus, for example, a "phenylC₁-C₆ alkylaminocarbonylC₁-C₆alkyl" substituent refers to a group of the formula



[0044] The term "sexual dysfunction" as used herein, includes male sexual dysfunction, male erectile dysfunction, impotence, female sexual dysfunction, female sexual arousal dysfunction and female sexual dysfunction related to blood flow and nitric oxide production in the tissues of the vagina and clitoris.

[0045] The term "subject" as used herein, refers to an animal, preferably a mammal, most preferably a human, who has been the object of treatment, observation or experiment.

[0046] The term "therapeutically effective amount" as used herein, means that amount of active compound or pharmaceutical agent that elicits the biological or medicinal response in a tissue system, animal or human that is being sought by a researcher, veterinarian, medical doctor or other clinician, which includes alleviation of the symptoms of the disease or disorder being treated.

[0047] As used herein, the term "composition" is intended to encompass a product comprising the specified ingredients in the specified amounts, as well as any product which results, directly or indirectly, from combinations of the specified ingredients in the specified amounts.

[0048] For use in medicine, the salts of the compounds of this invention refer to non-toxic "pharmaceutically acceptable salts." Other salts may, however, be useful in the preparation of compounds according to this invention or of their pharmaceutically acceptable salts. Suitable pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the compounds include acid addition salts which may, for example, be formed by mixing a solution of the compound with a solution of a pharmaceutically acceptable acid such as hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, fumaric acid, maleic acid, succinic acid, acetic acid, benzoic acid, citric acid, tartaric acid, carbonic acid or phosphoric acid. Furthermore, where the compounds of the invention carry an acidic moiety, suitable pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof may include alkali metal salts, e.g., sodium or potassium salts; alkaline earth metal salts, e.g., calcium or magnesium salts; and salts formed with suitable organic ligands, e.g., quaternary ammonium salts. Thus, representative pharmaceutically acceptable salts include the following:

acetate, benzenesulfonate, benzoate, bicarbonate, bisulfate, bitartrate, borate, bromide, calcium edetate, camsylate, carbonate, chloride, clavulanate, citrate, dihydrochloride, edetate, edisylate, estolate, esylate, fumarate, gluceptate, gluconate, glutamate, glycollylarsanilate, hexylresorcinolate, hydrabamine, hydrobromide, hydrochloride, hydroxynaphthoate, iodide, isethionate, lactate, lactobionate, laurate, malate, maleate, mandelate, mesylate, methylbromide, methylnitrate, methylsulfate, mucate, napsylate, nitrate, N-methylglucamine ammonium salt, oleate, pamoate (embonate), palmitate, pantothenate, phosphate/diphosphate, polygalacturonate, salicylate, stearate, sulfate, subacetate, succinate, tannate, tartrate, teoclate, tosylate, triethiodide and valerate.

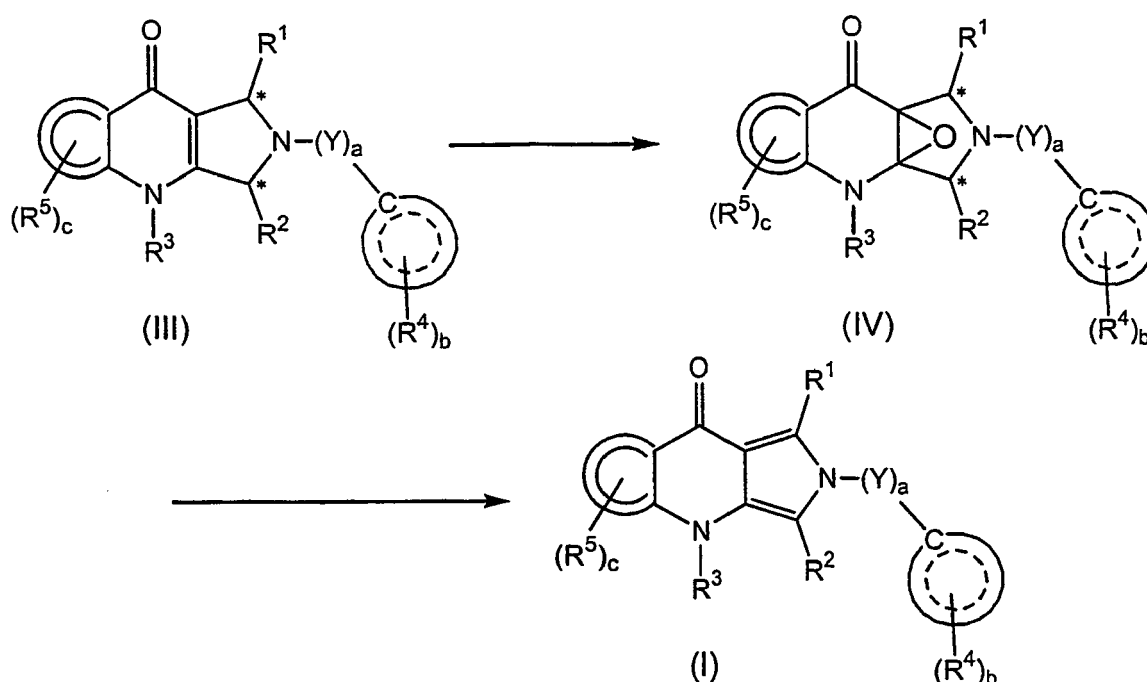
[0049] The present invention includes within its scope prodrugs of the compounds of this invention. In general, such prodrugs will be functional derivatives of the compounds which are readily convertible *in vivo* into the required compound.

Thus, in the methods of treatment of the present invention, the term "administering" shall encompass the treatment of the various disorders described with the compound specifically disclosed or with a compound which may not be specifically disclosed, but which converts to the specified compound *in vivo* after administration to the patient. Conventional procedures for the selection and preparation of suitable prodrug derivatives are described, for example, in "Design of Prodrugs", ed. H. Bundgaard, Elsevier, 1985.

[0050] Abbreviations used in the specification, particularly the Schemes and Examples, are as follows:

Cmpd # =	Compound Number
DCM =	Dichloromethane
DMF =	N,N'-Dimethylformamide
DMSO =	Dimethyl sulfoxide
EDTA =	Ethylenedinitrilotetracetic acid
HEPES =	2-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-piperazinyl]-ethanesulfonic acid
HPLC =	High Pressure Liquid Chromatography
LCMS =	Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectroscopy
MeOH =	Methanol
mCPBA =	3-Chloroperoxybenzoic Acid
PDE =	Phosphodiesterase
PDEV =	Phosphodiesterase Type V
PMSF =	Phenylmethanesulfonyl fluoride
t-BuOOH =	tert-Butyl hydroperoxide
THF =	Tetrahydrofuran
TLC =	Thin Layer Chromatography
Tris HCl =	Tris[hydroxymethyl]aminomethyl hydrochloride

[0051] Compounds of formula (I) may be prepared from the corresponding pyrrolopyridinones according to the process outlined in Scheme 1.



Scheme 1

[0052] Accordingly, a suitably substituted compound of formula (III), a known compound or compound prepared by known methods, is reacted with an oxidizer such as mCPBA, H_2O_2 , t-BuOOH, and the like, in an organic solvent such as dichloromethane, DMF, THF, MeOH, and the like, to yield the corresponding compound of formula (IV).

[0053] The compound of formula (IV) is reacted with an acid such as acetic acid, hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid,

phosphoric acid, and the like, to yield the corresponding compound of formula (I).

[0054] One skilled in the art will recognize that during the first step of the process outlined in Scheme 1 above, the oxidizer mCPBA will convert to 3-chloro-benzoic acid which will act like acetic acid during the second step of the process outlined in Scheme 1. The 3-chloro-benzoic acid will therefore convert the compound of formula (IV) into the compound of formula (I), thereby allowing for a one pot synthesis of the compound of formula (I). Further, one skilled in the art will recognize that when the compound of formula (IV) is desired and mCPBA is used as the oxidizer, the process in Scheme 1 is monitored for the formation of the compound of formula (IV) and the compound of formula (I) by known methods, for example, by thin layer chromatography, HPLC or LCMS, and the reaction is quenched with a weak base such as NaHCO₃, KH₂PO₄, pyridine, and the like, to stop the reaction at an appropriate time (i.e. at a time when the amount of the compound of formula (IV) is maximized and when conversion of the compound of formula (IV) to the compound of formula (I) is minimized).

[0055] Compounds of formula (III) are known compounds or compounds which may be prepared by known methods, for example, as disclosed by Sui et al in WIPO publication WO 01/87882 published November 22, 2001.

[0056] Where the processes for the preparation of the compounds according to the invention give rise to a mixture of stereoisomers, these isomers may be separated by conventional techniques such as preparative chromatography. The compounds may be prepared in racemic form, or individual enantiomers may be prepared by enantioselective synthesis, by resolution or from enantiomerically enriched reagents. The compounds may, for example, be resolved into their component enantiomers by standard techniques, such as the formation of diastereomeric pairs by salt formation with an optically active acid, such as (-)-di-p-toluoyl-d-tartaric acid and/or (+)-di-p-toluoyl-l-tartaric acid followed by fractional crystallization and regeneration of the free base. The compounds may also be resolved by formation of diastereomeric esters, amides or amines, followed by chromatographic separation and removal of the chiral auxiliary. Alternatively, the compounds may be resolved using a chiral HPLC column.

[0057] During any of the processes for preparation of the compounds of the present invention, it may be necessary and/or desirable to protect sensitive or reactive groups on any of the molecules concerned. This may be achieved by means of conventional protecting groups, such as those described in Protective Groups in Organic Chemistry, ed. J.F.W. McOmie, Plenum Press, 1973; and T.W. Greene & P.G.M. Wuts, Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis, John Wiley & Sons, 1991. The protecting groups may be removed at a convenient subsequent stage using methods known from the art.

[0058] The utility of the compounds to treat sexual dysfunction can be determined according to the procedures described in Example 5, 6 and 7 herein.

[0059] A method of treating sexual dysfunction, more particularly male erectile dysfunction in a subject in need thereof comprises administering any of the compounds as defined herein in a quantity effective to treat ED. The compound may be administered to a patient by any conventional route of administration, including, but not limited to, intravenous, oral, subcutaneous, intramuscular, intradermal and parenteral. The quantity of the compound which is effective for treating ED is between 0.01 mg per kg and 20 mg per kg of subject body weight

[0060] The present invention also provides pharmaceutical compositions comprising one or more compounds of this invention in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. Preferably these compositions are in unit dosage forms such as tablets, pills, capsules, powders, granules, sterile parenteral solutions or suspensions, metered aerosol or liquid sprays, drops, ampoules, autoinjector devices or suppositories; for oral parenteral, intranasal, sublingual or rectal administration, or for administration by inhalation or insufflation. Alternatively, the composition may be presented in a form suitable for once-weekly or once-monthly administration; for example, an insoluble salt of the active compound, such as the decanoate salt, may be adapted to provide a depot preparation for intramuscular injection. For preparing solid compositions such as tablets, the principal active ingredient is mixed with a pharmaceutical carrier, e.g. conventional tableting ingredients such as corn starch, lactose, sucrose, sorbitol, talc, stearic acid, magnesium stearate, dicalcium phosphate or gums, and other pharmaceutical diluents, e.g. water, to form a solid preformulation composition containing a homogeneous mixture of a compound of the present invention, or a pharmaceutical acceptable salt thereof. When referring to these preformulation compositions as homogeneous, it is meant that the active ingredient is dispersed evenly throughout the composition so that the composition may be readily subdivided into equally effective dosage forms such as tablets, pills and capsules. This solid preformulation composition is then subdivided into unit dosage forms of the type described above containing from 1 to about 1000 mg of the active ingredient of the present invention. The tablets or pills of the novel composition can be coated or otherwise compounded to provide a dosage form affording the advantage of prolonged action. For example, the tablet or pill can comprise an inner dosage and an outer dosage component, the latter being in the form of an envelope over the former. The two components can be separated by an enteric layer which serves to resist disintegration in the stomach and permits the inner component to pass intact into the duodenum or to be delayed in release. A variety of material can be used for such enteric layers or coatings, such materials including a number of polymeric acids with such materials as shellac, cetyl alcohol and cellulose acetate.

[0061] The liquid forms in which the novel compositions of the present invention may be incorporated for administration orally or by injection include, aqueous solutions, suitably flavoured syrups, aqueous or oil suspensions, and flavoured

emulsions with edible oils such as cottonseed oil, sesame oil, coconut oil or peanut oil, as well as elixirs and similar pharmaceutical vehicles. Suitable dispersing or suspending agents for aqueous suspensions, include synthetic and natural gums such as tragacanth, acacia, alginate, dextran, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, methylcellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone or gelatin.

5 **[0062]** The method of treating sexual dysfunction, more particularly male erectile dysfunction described may also be carried out using a pharmaceutical composition comprising any of the compounds as defined herein and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. The pharmaceutical composition may contain between about 1 mg and 1000 mg, preferably about 1 to 200 mg, of the compound, and may be constituted into any form suitable for the mode of administration selected. Carriers include necessary and inert pharmaceutical excipients, including, but not limited to, binders, suspending agents, lubricants, flavorants, sweeteners, preservatives, dyes, and coatings. Compositions suitable for oral administration include solid forms, such as pills, tablets, caplets, capsules (each including immediate release, timed release and sustained release formulations), granules, and powders, and liquid forms, such as solutions, syrups, elixers, emulsions, and suspensions. Forms useful for parenteral administration include sterile solutions, emulsions and suspensions.

10 **[0063]** Advantageously, compounds of the present invention may be administered in a single daily dose, or the total daily dosage may be administered in divided doses of two, three or four times daily. Furthermore, compounds for the present invention can be administered in intranasal form via topical use of suitable intranasal vehicles, or via transdermal skin patches well known to those of ordinary skill in that art. To be administered in the form of a transdermal delivery system, the dosage administration will, of course, be continuous rather than intermittent throughout the dosage regimen.

15 **[0064]** For instance, for oral administration in the form of a tablet or capsule, the active drug component can be combined with an oral, non-toxic pharmaceutically acceptable inert carrier such as ethanol, glycerol, water and the like. Moreover, when desired or necessary, suitable binders, lubricants, disintegrating agents and coloring agents can also be incorporated into the mixture. Suitable binders include, without limitation, starch, gelatin, natural sugars such as glucose or beta-lactose, corn sweeteners, natural and synthetic gums such as acacia, tragacanth or sodium oleate, sodium stearate, magnesium stearate, sodium benzoate, sodium acetate, sodium chloride and the like. Disintegrators include, without limitation, starch, methyl cellulose, agar, bentonite, xanthan gum and the like.

20 **[0065]** The liquid forms may include suitably flavored suspending or dispersing agents such as the synthetic and natural gums, for example, tragacanth, acacia, methyl-cellulose and the like. For parenteral administration, sterile suspensions and solutions are desired. Isotonic preparations which generally contain suitable preservatives are employed when intravenous administration is desired.

25 **[0066]** The compound of the present invention can also be administered in the form of liposome delivery systems, such as small unilamellar vesicles, large unilamellar vesicles, and multilamellar vesicles. Liposomes can be formed from a variety of phospholipids, such as cholesterol, stearylamine or phosphatidylcholines.

30 **[0067]** Compounds of the present invention may also be delivered by the use of monoclonal antibodies as individual carriers to which the compound molecules are coupled. The compounds of the present invention may also be coupled with soluble polymers as targetable drug carriers. Such polymers can include polyvinylpyrrolidone, pyran copolymer, polyhydroxypropylmethacrylamidephenol, polyhydroxyethylaspartamidephenol, or polyethyl-eneoxidepolylysine substituted with palmitoyl residue. Furthermore, the compounds of the present invention may be coupled to a class of biodegradable polymers useful in achieving controlled release of a drug, for example, polylactic acid, polyepsilon caprolactone, polyhydroxy butyric acid, polyorthoesters, polyacetals, polydihydropyrans, polycyanoacrylates and cross-linked or amphiphathic block copolymers of hydrogels.

35 **[0068]** Compounds of this invention may be administered in any of the foregoing compositions and according to dosage regimens established in the art whenever treatment of sexual dysfunction, more particularly male erectile dysfunction is required.

40 **[0069]** The daily dosage of the products may be varied over a wide range from 1 to 1,000 mg per adult human per day. For oral administration, the compositions are preferably provided in the form of tablets containing 1.0, 5.0, 10.0, 15.0, 25.0, 50.0, 100, 250 and 500 milligrams of the active ingredient for the symptomatic adjustment of the dosage to the patient to be treated. An effective amount of the drug is ordinarily supplied at a dosage level of from about 0.01 mg/kg to about 20 mg/kg of body weight per day. Preferably, the range is from about 0.1 mg/kg to about 10 mg/kg of body weight per day, and especially from about 0.1 mg/kg to about 3 mg/kg of body weight per day.

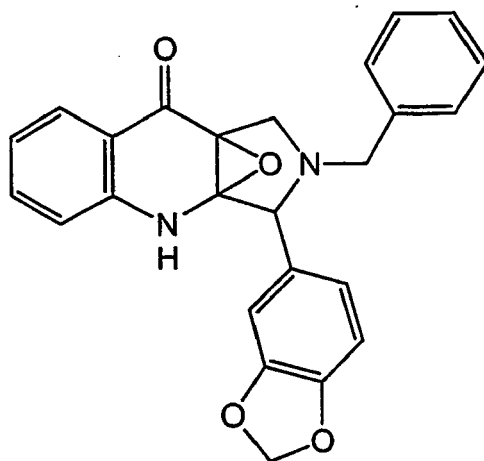
45 **[0070]** Optimal dosages to be administered may be readily determined by those skilled in the art, and will vary with the particular compound used, the mode of administration, the strength of the preparation, the mode of administration, and the advancement of the disease condition. In addition, factors associated with the particular patient being treated, including patient age, weight, diet and time of administration, will result in the need to adjust dosages.

50 **[0071]** The following Examples are set forth to aid in the understanding of the invention, and are not intended and should not be construed to limit in any way the invention set forth in the claims which follow thereafter. Unless otherwise indicated, ¹H NMRs were run on a Bruker instrument.

Example 1

3-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-2,3-dihydro-2-(phenylmethyl)-3a,9a-epoxy-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-b]quinolin-9(4H)-one (Compound #1)

[0072]



[0073] 3-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-2-benzyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-b]quinolin-9-one, prepared as in WO 01/87882, Example 3, page 45, (39.6 mg, 0.1 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) was added to a solution of *m*CPBA (19 mg, 0.11 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL). The reaction mixture was then stirred in at room temperature for 1 h. The product was isolated by preparative TLC (5% MeOH / CH_2Cl_2) to yield the title compound as a yellow solid.

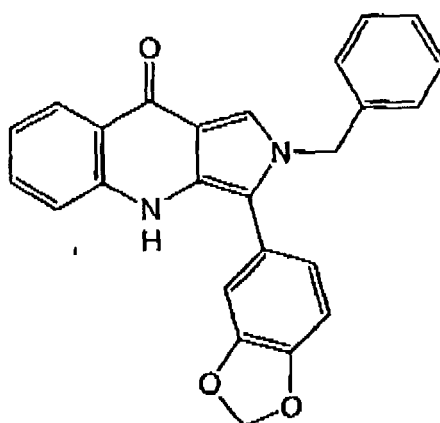
[0074] ^1H NMR 300 MHz (CD_3OD) δ 3.94 (m, 2H), 4.20 (m, 2H), 5.05 (s, 1H), 6.02 (d, 2H), 6.91 - 8.7 (m, 12H).

[0075] MS (*m/z*) MH^+ (413), MH^- (411).

Example 2

2-Benzyl-3-(2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-yl)-2,4-dihydro-pyrrolo[3,4-b]quinolin-9-one (Compound #2)

[0076]



[0077] The title compound was prepared by stirring 3-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-2,3-dihydro-2-(phenylmethyl)-3a,9a-epoxy-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-b]quinolin-9(4H)-one, prepared as in Example 1, with HCl (2 drops of 1N aqueous solution) in a mixture of CH_2Cl_2 and DMF (4:1) for 72 hours at room temperature.

Example 3IN VITRO TESTING5 Cyclic Nucleotide Phosphodiesterase (PDE) Assay

PDEV Isolation

10 **[0078]** PDEV was isolated from rabbit and human tissues according to the protocol described by Boolell et al. (Boolell, M., Allen, M. J., Ballard, S. A., Ge[o-Attee, S., Muirhead, G. J., Naylor, A. M., Osterloh, I. H., and Gingell, C) in International Journal of Impotence Research 1996 8, 47-52 with minor modifications.

15 **[0079]** Briefly, rabbit or human tissues were homogenized in an ice-cold buffer solution containing 20mM HEPES (pH 7-2), 0.25M sucrose, 1mM EDTA, and 1mM phenylmethylsulphonyl fluoride (PMSF). The homogenates were centrifuged at 100,000g for 60 minutes at 4°C. The supernatant was filtered through 0.2µM filter and loaded on a Pharmacia Mono Q anion exchange column (1 ml bed volume) that was equilibrated with 20mM HEPES, 1 mM EDTA and 0.5mM PMSF. After washing out unbound proteins, the enzymes were eluted with a linear gradient of 100-600 mM NaCl in the same buffer (35 to 50 ml total, depending on the tissue. Enzymes from the skeletal muscle, corpus cavernosum, retina, heart and platelet were eluted with 35, 40, 45, 50, and 50 ml respectively.) The column was run at a flow rate of 1ml/min and 1ml fractions were collected. The fractions comprising various PDE activities were pooled separately and used in later studies.

Measurement of Inhibition of PDEV

25 **[0080]** The PDE assay was carried out as described by Thompson and Appleman in Biochemistry 1971 10, 311-316 with minor modifications, as noted below.

30 **[0081]** The assays were adapted to a 96-well format. The enzyme was assayed in 5mM MgCl₂, 15mM Tris HCl (pH 7.4), 0.5 mg/ml bovine serum albumin, 1 µM cGMP or cAMP, 0.1 µCi [³H]-cGMP or [³H]-cAMP, and 2-10 µl of column elution. The total volume of the assay was 100 µl. The reaction mixture was incubated at 30°C for 30 minutes. The reaction was stopped by boiling for 1 minute and then cooled down on ice. The resulting [³H]5'-mononucleotides were further converted to uncharged [³H]-nucleosides by adding 25 µl 1 mg/ml snake venom (*Ophiophagus hannah*) and incubating at 30°C for 10 minute. The reaction was stopped by the addition of 1 ml Bio-Rad AG1-X2 resin slurry (1:3). All the charged nucleotides were bound by the resin and only uncharged [³H]-nucleosides remained in the supernatant after centrifuging. An aliquot of 200 µl was taken and counted by liquid scintillation. PDE activity was expressed as pmol cyclic nucleotide hydrolyzed/min/ml of enzyme preparation.

35 **[0082]** Inhibitor studies were carried out in assay buffer with a final concentration of 10% DMSO. Under these conditions, the hydrolysis of product increased with time and enzyme concentration in a linear fashion.

[0083] Representative compounds of the present invention were tested according to the procedure described above, with results as listed in Table 1.

Table 1

Cmpd #	IC ₅₀ (nM)
1	545.4
2	299.0

45 Example 4In Vitro Determination of K_i for Phosphodiesterase Inhibitors:

50 **[0084]** The assays are adapted to a 96-well format. Phosphodiesterase is assayed in 5mM MgCl₂, 15mM Tris HCl (pH 7.4), 0.5 mg/ml bovine serum albumin, 30 nM ³H-cGMP and test compound at various concentrations. The amount of enzyme used for each reaction is such that less than 15% of the initial substrate was converted during the assay period. For all measurements, the test compound is dissolved and diluted in 100% DMSO (2%DMSO in assay). The total volume of the assay is 100 µl. The reaction mixture is incubated at 30°C for 90 minutes. The reaction is stopped by boiling for 1 minute and then immediately cooled by transfer to an ice bath. To each well is then added 25 µl 1 mg/ml snake venom (*Ophiophagus hannah*) and the reaction mixture incubating at 30°C for 10 minute. The reaction is stopped by the addition of 1 ml Bio-Rad AG1-X2 resin slurry (1:3). An aliquot of 200 µl is taken and counted by liquid scintillation.

[0085] The % inhibition of the maximum substrate conversion (by the enzyme in the absence of inhibitor) is calculated for each test compound concentration. Using GraphPad Prism's nonlinear regression analysis (sigmoidal dose response), the % inhibition vs log of the test compound concentration is plotted to determine the IC_{50} . Under conditions where substrate concentration $\ll K_m$ of the enzyme (K_m = substrate concentration at which half of the maximal velocity of the enzyme is achieved), K_i is equivalent to the IC_{50} value.

Example 5

IN VIVO TESTING

[0086] Following the procedure disclosed by Carter et al., (Carter, A. J., Ballard, S. A., and Naylor, A. M.) in The Journal of Urology 1998, 160, 242-246, the compounds of the present invention are tested for in vivo efficacy.

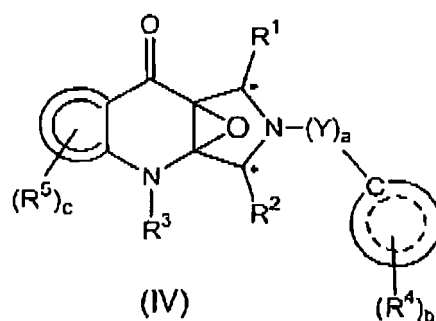
Example 6

[0087] As a specific embodiment of an oral composition, 100 mg of the compound of Example 2 is formulated with sufficient finely divided lactose to provide a total amount of 580 to 590 mg to fill a size O hard gel capsule.

[0088] While the foregoing specification teaches the principles of the present invention, with examples provided for the purpose of illustration, it will be understood that the practice of the invention encompasses all of the usual variations, adaptations and/or modifications as come within the scope of the following claims and their equivalents.

Claims

1. A compound of the formula (IV)



wherein

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, carboxy, $-C(O)-C_1-C_6$ alkyl, $-C(O)-C_1-C_6$ alkoxy, $-C(O)-NH-C_1-C_6$ alkyl- NH_2 , $-C(O)-NH-C_1-C_6$ alkyl- $NHRA$, $-C(O)-NH-C_1-C_6$ alkyl- $N(R^A)_2$, $-C(O)-NH_2$, $-C(O)-NHR^A$, $-C(O)-N(R^A)_2$, C_1-C_6 alkyl- NH_2 , $-C_1-C_6$ alkyl- $NHRA$, $-C_1-C_6$ alkyl- $N(R^A)_2$, $-NH-C_1-C_6$ alkyl- $N(R^A)_2$;

where each R^A is independently selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6 alkyl, aryl and C_1-C_6 aralkyl where the aryl or aralkyl may be optionally substituted with one to three R^B ;

where each R^B is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, cyano, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 alkylcarbonyl, carboxy- C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonyl, trifluoromethyl, amino, di(C_1-C_6 alkyl)amino, acetylamino, carboxy- C_1-C_6 alkylcarbonylamino, hydroxy- C_1-C_6 alkylamino, NHR^A and $N(R^A)_2$;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_5-C_{10} alkyl (optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, nitro, amino, NHR^A or $N(R^A)_2$), aryl (optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^C), cycloalkyl (optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^A) and 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl;

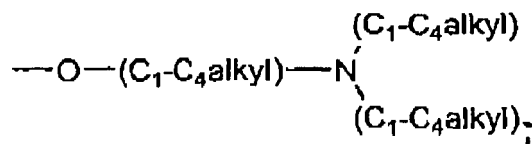
where R^C is selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, cyano, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, NH_2 , $NH(C_1-C_6$ alkyl) and $N(C_1-C_6$ alkyl) $_2$;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylcarbonyl, C_2-C_6 alkenylcarbonyl and C_2-C_6 alkynylcarbonyl;

b is an integer from 0 to 4;

R^4 is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, nitro, C_1-C_6 alkyl,

C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆alkoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl, phenyl (wherein the phenyl group may be optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^D), phenylsulfonyl, naphthyl, C₁-C₆alkyl, -O-aralkyl, (wherein the aralkyl group may be optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^D), NH₂,
 5 NHR^A, N(R^A)₂ and



15 where each R^D is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, C₁-C₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylthio, hydroxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy, C₁-C₄alkyloxycarbonyl, C₁-C₄alkylcarbonyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, NH₂, NHR^A, N(R^A)₂, C(O)N(R^A)₂, acetylamino, nitro, cyano, formyl, C₁-C₆alkylsulfonyl, carboxyC₁-C₆alkyl and aralkyl;

c is an integer from 0 to 4;

20 R^S is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, hydroxy, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, -NH₂, -NHR^A, -N(R^A)₂, -OR^A, -C(O)NH₂, -C(O)NHR^A, -C(O)N(R^A)₂, -NHC(O)R^A, -SO₂NHR^A, -SO₂N(R^A)₂, where R^A is as defined above and phenyl (optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^B); a is an integer from 0 to 1;

25 Y selected from the group consisting of -C₁-C₆alkyl-, -C(O)-, -(C₁-C₆alkyl)carbonyl-, -(C₂-C₆alkenyl)carbonyl-, -(C₂-C₆alkynyl)carbonyl-, -carbonyl(C₁-C₆alkyl)-, -carbonyl(C₂-C₆alkenyl)-, -C(O)O-(C₁-C₆alkyl)-, -C(S)-, -SO₂-, -(C₁-C₆alkyl)sulfonyl-, -sulfonyl(C₁-C₆alkyl)-, -C(O)NH-, -C(O)NH-(C₁-C₆alkyl)-, -C(O)(C₃-C₇cycloalkyl)- and -(C₃-C₇cycloalkyl)-C(O)-;



30 is selected from the group consisting phenyl, furyl, thienyl and pyrrolyl;



35 is selected from the group consisting of aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl and heterocycloalkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The compound of Claim 1 wherein

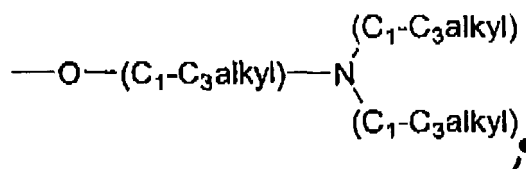
45 R¹ is hydrogen;

R² is selected from the group consisting of phenyl (optionally substituted with one to two substituent selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₃alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, NH₂, NH(C₁-C₃alkyl) or N(C₁-C₃alkyl)₂), and 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl;

R³ is selected from the group consisting of H and C₁-C₄alkyl;

50 b is an integer from 0 to 4;

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, C₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₃alkoxy, C₁-C₃alkoxycarbonyl, phenyl (wherein the phenyl may be optionally substituted with one to two substituents selected from hydroxy, carboxy, C₁-C₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylthio, hydroxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy, C₁-C₄alkyloxycarbonyl, C(O)N(R^A)₂, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, amino, (C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano or formyl), O-aralkyl
 55 and



5

c is 0;

10 a is an integer from 0 to 1;

Y is selected from the group consisting of -C₁-C₄alkyl-, -C(S)-, -C(O)-, C(O)O-(C₁-C₄alkyl)-, -C(O)-(C₁-C₄alkyl)-, -C(O)-(C₂-C₄alkenyl)-, C(O)-(C₃-C₇cycloalkyl)- and -C(O)NH-(C₁-C₃alkyl)-:

15



is phenyl;

20



25

is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, heteroaryl and heterocycloalkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

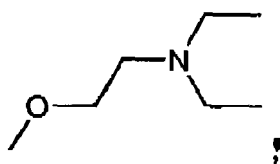
3. The compound of Claim 2 wherein

30 R² is selected from the group consisting of 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl and 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl;

R³ is selected from the group consisting of H and methyl;

35 R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of bromo, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, methyl, phenyl, 4-hydroxyphenyl, 3-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-carboxyphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 4-methoxycarbonyl, 4-methoxycarbonylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-aminophenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 4-formylphenyl, 4-methylthiophenyl, benzyloxy acid

40



45

Y is selected from the group consisting of -CH₂-, -C(S)-, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-CH₂-, -C(O)-CH₂CH₂-, -C(O)-CH=CH-, -C(O)NH-CH₂- (107), -C(O)-cyclopropyl and -C(O)CH₂;

50



55

is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 2-furyl, 2-benzo(b)furyl, 2-pyrimidinyl, 2-pyridinyl, 3-pyridinyl, 4-pyridinyl, 1-imidazolyl, 2-imidazolyl, 2-thiazolyl, and 2-oxa-bicyclo[2.2.1]heptanyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

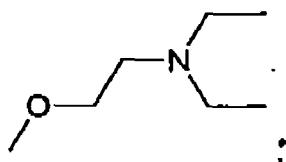
4. The compound of Claim 3 wherein

R² is 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl;

R³ is H;

b is in integer from 0 to 1;

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of 5-bromo, 2-hydroxy, 6-hydroxy, 4-carboxy, phenyl, 4-hydroxyphenyl, 3-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-carboxyphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-methylthiophenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 4-methoxycarbonyl, 4-methoxycarbonylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-aminophenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-formylphenyl, benzyloxy and



Y is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-, -C(O)O-CH₂-, -C(O)-CH₂CH₂-, -C(O)-CH=CH-, and -C(O)-cyclopropyl;



is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 2-furyl, 2-oxo(b)furyl, 2-pyrimidinyl, 2-pyridinyl, 3-pyridinyl, 4-pyridinyl and 2-thiazolyl;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. The compound of Claim 4 wherein

R² is 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl;

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of 5-bromo, 2-hydroxy, 6-hydroxy, 4-carboxy, phenyl, 4-hydroxyphenyl, 3-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-carboxyphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-methylthiophenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 4-methoxycarbonyl, 4-methoxycarbonylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-aminophenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-formylphenyl and benzyloxy;

Y is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-, -C(O)O-CH₂- and -C(O)-CH=CH-;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. The compound of Claim 5 wherein

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of 6-hydroxy, 4-carboxy, phenyl, 4-hydroxyphenyl, 3-hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-methylthiophenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 4-methoxycarbonyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-nitrophenyl and 4-nitrophenyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. The compound of Claim 6 wherein

R² is 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl;

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, 4-methylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 4-methoxycarbonyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl and 4-nitrophenyl;

Y is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- and -C(O)O-CH₂-;



is selected from the group consisting of 2-furyl, 2-benzo(b)furyl, 4-pyridinyl, 2-pyrimidinyl and 2-thiazolyl;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

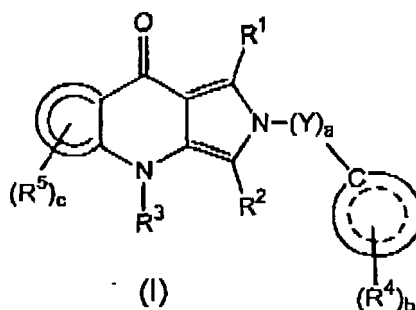
8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a compound of any one of Claims 1 to 7.

9. A compound of any one of Claims 1 to 7 or a composition of Claim 8 for use in treating:

sexual dysfunction, such as male sexual dysfunction, male erectile dysfunction, impotence, female sexual dysfunction, female sexual arousal dysfunction or female sexual dysfunction related to blood flow and nitric oxide production in the tissues of the vagina and clitoris; or
premature labor, dysmenorrhea, cardiovascular disorders, atherosclerosis, an arterial occlusive disorder, thrombosis, coronary rest stenosis, angina pectoris or myocardial infarction, heart failure, an ischemic heart disorder, hypertension, pulmonary hypertension, asthma, intermittent claudication or a diabetic complication, or for use in:

increasing the concentration of cGMP in penile tissue in a male subject.

10. The use of a compound of any one of Claims 1 to 7 as an intermediate in the preparation of a compound of the formula (1)



wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, carboxy, -C(O)-C₁-C₆alkyl, -C(O)-C₁-C₆alkoxy, -C(O)-NH-C₁-C₆alkyl-NH₂, -C(O)-NH-C₁-C₆alkyl-NHR^A, -C(O)-NH-C₁-C₆alkyl-N(R^A)₂, -C(O)-NH₂, -C(O)-NHR^A, -C(O)-N(R^A)₂, -C₁-C₆alkyl-NH₂, -C₁-C₆alkyl-NHR^A, -C₁-C₆alkyl-N(R^A)₂, -NH-C₁-C₆alkyl-N(R^A)₂;

where each R^A is independently selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₆alkyl, aryl and C₁-C₆aralkyl where the aryl or aralkyl may be optionally substituted with one to three R^B;

where each R^B is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, cyano, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, carboxyC₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkylsulfonyl, trifluoromethyl, amino, di(C₁-C₆alkyl)amino, acetylamino, carboxyC₁-C₆alkylcarbonylamino, hydroxyC₁-C₆alkylamino, NHR^A and N(R^A)₂;

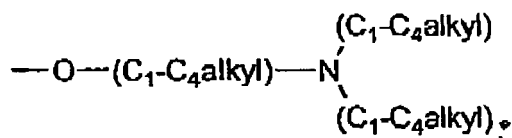
R² is selected from the group consisting of C₅-C₁₀alkyl (optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, nitro, amino, NHR^A or N(R^A)₂), aryl (optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^C), cycloalkyl (optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^A) and 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl;

where R^C is selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, cyano C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, NH₂, NH(C₁-C₆alkyl) and N(C₁-C₆alkyl)₂;

R³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₂-C₆alkenylcarbonyl and C₂-C₆alkynylcarbonyl;

b is an integer from 0 to 4;

R⁴ is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, nitro, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆alkoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl, phenyl (wherein the phenyl group may be optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^D), phenylsulfonyl, naphthyl, C₁-C₆aralkyl, -O-aralkyl, (wherein the aralkyl group may be optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^D), NHR^A, N(R^A)₂ and



5

where each R^D is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_4 alkylthio, hydroxy C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, C_1 - C_4 alkoxyoxycarbonyl, C_1 - C_4 alkylcarbonyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, NH_2 , $NHRA$, $N(R^A)_2$, $C(O)N(R^A)_2$, acetylamino, nitro, cyano, formyl, C_1 - C_6 alkylsulfonyl, carboxy C_1 - C_6 alkyl and aralkyl;

10

c is an integer from 0 to 4;

R^5 is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, hydroxy, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, $-NH_2$, $-NHR^A$, $-N(R^A)_2$, $-OR^A$, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(O)NHR^A$, $-C(O)N(R^A)_2$, $-NHC(O)R^A$, $-SO_2NHR^A$, $-SO_2N(R^A)_2$, where R^A is as defined above and phenyl (optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^B);

15

a is an integer from 0 to 1;

Y selected from the group consisting of $-C_1$ - C_6 alkyl-, $-C(O)-$, $-(C_1$ - C_6 alkyl)carbonyl-, $-(C_2$ - C_6 alkenyl)carbonyl-, $-(C_2$ - C_6 alkynyl)carbonyl-, $-carbonyl(C_1$ - C_6 alkyl)-, $-carbonyl(C_2$ - C_6 alkenyl)-, $-C(O)O-(C_1$ - C_6 alkyl)-, $-C(S)-$, $-SO_2-$, $-(C_1$ - C_6 alkyl)sulfonyl-, $-sulfonyl(C_1$ - C_6 alkyl)-, $-C(O)NH-$, $-C(O)NH-(C_1$ - C_6 alkyl)-, $-C(O)(C_3$ - C_7 cycloalkyl)- and $-(C_3$ - C_7 cycloalkyl)- $C(O)-$;

20



25

is selected from the group consisting phenyl, furyl, thienyl and pyrrolyl;

30



35

is selected from the group consisting of aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl and heterocycloalkyl; provided that when R^1 is hydrogen, R^3 is hydrogen, b is 0, c is 0, a is 1. Y is $-CH_2-$,

40



is phenyl and

45



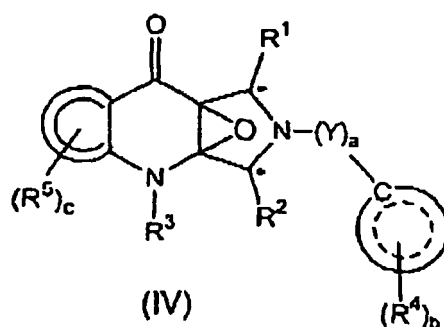
50

is phenyl, then R^2 is not trimethoxyphenyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Patentansprüche

55

1. Verbindung der Formel (IV)



15 worin

R¹ ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Wasserstoff, Carboxy, -C(O)-C₁-C₆-Alkyl, -C(O)-C₁-C₆-Alkoxy, -C(O)-NH-C₁-C₆-Alkyl-NH₂, -C(O)-NH-C₁-C₆-Alkyl-NHR^A, -C(O)-NH-C₁-C₆-Alkyl-N(R^A)₂, -C(O)-NH₂, -C(O)-NHR^A, -C(O)-N(R^A)₂, -C₁-C₆-Alkyl-NH₂, -C₁-C₆-Alkyl-NHR^A, -C₁-C₆-Alkyl-N(R^A)₂, -NH-C₁-C₆-Alkyl-N(R^A)₂;

wobei jedes R^A unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus C₁-C₆-Alkyl, Aryl und C₁-C₆-Aralkyl, wobei das Aryl oder Aralkyl fakultativ mit einem bis drei R^B substituiert sein kann;

wobei jedes R^B unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Halogen, Nitro, Cyano, C₁-C₆-Alkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkoxy, C₁-C₆-Alkylcarbonyl, Carboxy-C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkylsulfonyl, Trifluormethyl, Amino, Di-(C₁-C₆-alkyl)-amino, Acetylamino, Carboxy-C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonylamino, Hydroxy-C₁-C₆-alkylamino, NHR^A und N(R^A)₂;

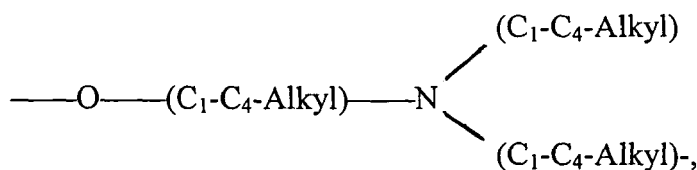
R² ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus C₅-C₁₀-Alkyl (fakultativ mit einem bis drei Substituenten substituiert, die unabhängig ausgewählt sind aus Halogen, Hydroxy, Nitro, Amino, NHR^A oder N(R^A)₂), Aryl (fakultativ mit einem bis drei Substituenten substituiert, die unabhängig ausgewählt sind aus R^C), Cycloalkyl (fakultativ mit einem bis drei Substituenten substituiert, die unabhängig ausgewählt sind aus R^A) und 3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl;

wobei R^C ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Halogen, Nitro, Cyano, C₁-C₆-Alkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkoxy, Trifluormethyl, Trifluormethoxy, NH₂, NH(C₁-C₆-Alkyl) und N(C₁-C₆-Alkyl)₂;

R³ ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Wasserstoff, C₁-C₆-Alkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkylcarbonyl, C₂-C₆-Alkenylcarbonyl und C₂-C₆-Alkinylcarbonyl;

b eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 4 ist;

R⁴ unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Halogen, Hydroxy, Carboxy, Oxo, Nitro, C₁-C₆-Alkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkoxy, C₁-C₆-Alkoxycarbonyl, Trifluormethyl, Phenyl (wobei die Phenylgruppe fakultativ mit einem bis drei Substituenten substituiert sein kann, die unabhängig ausgewählt sind aus R^D), Phenylsulfonyl, Naphthyl, C₁-C₆-Aralkyl, -O-Aralkyl (wobei die Aralkylgruppe fakultativ mit einem bis drei Substituenten substituiert sein kann, die unabhängig ausgewählt sind aus R^D), NH₂, NHR^A, N(R^A)₂ und



wobei jedes R^D unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Halogen, Hydroxy, Carboxy, Oxo, C₁-C₄-Alkyl, C₁₋₄-Alkylthio, Hydroxy-C₁₋₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-Alkoxy, C₁-C₄-Alkoxycarbonyl, C₁-C₄-Alkylcarbonyl, Trifluormethyl, Trifluormethoxy, NH₂, NHR^A, N(R^A)₂, C(O)N(R^A)₂, Acetylamino, Nitro, Cyano, Formyl, C₁-C₆-Alkylsulfonyl, Carboxy-C₁-C₆-alkyl und Aralkyl;

c eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 4 ist;

R⁵ unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Halogen, Nitro, Hydroxy, C₁-C₆-Alkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkoxy, -NH₂, -NHR^A, -N(R^A)₂, -OR^A, -C(O)NH₂, -C(O)NHR^A, -C(O)N(R^A)₂, -NHC(O)R^A, -SO₂NHR^A, -SO₂N(R^A)₂, wobei R^A ist, wie oben definiert, und Phenyl (fakultativ mit einem bis drei Substituenten substituiert, die unabhängig ausgewählt sind aus R^B);

a eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 1 ist;

Y ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus -C₁-C₆-Alkyl-, -C(O)-, -(C₁-C₆-Alkyl)-carbonyl-, -(C₂-C₆-Alke-

EP 1 534 707 B9

nyl)-carbonyl-, -(C₂-C₆-Alkynyl)-carbonyl-, -Carbonyl-(C₁-C₈-alkyl)-, -Carbonyl-(C₂-C₆-alkenyl)-, -C(O)O-(C₁-C₆-Alkyl)-, -C(S)-, -SO₂-, -(C₁-C₆-Alkyl)-sulfonyl-, -Sulfonyl-(C₁-C₆-alkyl)-, -C(O)NH-, -C(O)NH-(C₁-C₆-Alkyl)-, -C(O)(C₃-C₇-Cycloalkyl)- und -(C₃-C₇-Cycloalkyl)-C(O)-;

5



10

ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Phenyl, Furyl, Thienyl und Pyrrolyl;

15



ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Aryl, Heteroaryl, Cycloalkyl und Heterocycloalkyl; oder ein pharmazeutisch annehmbares Salz davon.

20

2. Verbindung nach Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass**

R¹ Wasserstoff ist;

R² ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Phenyl (fakultativ mit einem bis zwei Substituenten substituiert, die ausgewählt sind aus Halogen, Nitro, Cyano, C₁-C₃-Alkyl, C₁-C₃-Alkoxy, Trifluormethyl, Trifluormethoxy, NH₂, NH(C)-C₃-Alkyl) oder N(C₁-C₃-Alkyl)₂) und 3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl;

25

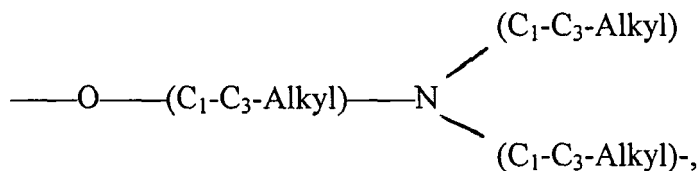
R³ ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus H und C₁-C₄-Alkyl,

b eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 4 ist;

R⁴ ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Halogen, Hydroxy, Carboxy, Oxo, C₁-C₃-Alkyl, C₁-C₃-Alkoxy, C₁-C₃-Alkoxy-carbonyl, Phenyl (wobei das Phenyl fakultativ mit einem bis zwei Substituenten substituiert sein kann, die ausgewählt sind aus Hydroxy, Carboxy, C₁-C₄-Alkyl, C₁₋₄-Alkylthio, Hydroxy-C₁₋₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-Alkoxy, C₁-C₄-Alkyloxy-carbonyl, C(O)N(R^A)₂, Trifluormethyl, Trifluormethoxy, Amino, (C₁-C₄-Alkyl)-amino, Di-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-amino, Nitro, Cyano oder Formyl), 0-Aralkyl und

30

35



40

c 0 ist;

a eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 1 ist;

45

Y ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus -C₁-C₄-Alkyl-, -C(S)-, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-(C₁-C₄-Alkyl)-, -C(O)-(C₁-C₄-Alkyl)-, -C(O)-(C₂-C₄-Alkenyl)-, C(O)-(C₃-C₇-Cycloalkyl)- und -C(O)NH-(C₁-C₃-Alkyl)-;

50



Phenyl ist;

55



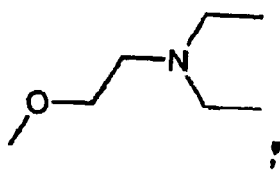
5

ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Phenyl, Heteroaryl und Heterocycloalkyl;
oder ein pharmazeutisch annehmbares Salz davon.

3. Verbindung nach Anspruch 2, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass**

- 10 R² ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus 3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl und 3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl;
R³ ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus H und Methyl;
R⁴ ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Brom, Hydroxy, Carboxy, Oxo, Methyl, Phenyl, 4-Hydroxyphenyl,
15 3-Hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-Hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-Carboxyphenyl, 4-Methylphenyl, 4-Methoxyphenyl, 3,4-Dime-
thoxyphenyl, 4-Methoxycarbonyl, 4-Methoxycarbonylphenyl, 3-Trifluormethylphenyl, 4-Cyanophenyl, 4-Aminophe-
nyl, 4-Dimethylaminophenyl, 3-Nitrophenyl, 4-Nitrophenyl, 4-Formylphenyl, 4-Methylthiophenyl, Benzyloxy und

20



- 25 Y ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus -CH₂-, -C(S)-, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-CH₂-, -C(O)-CH₂CH₂-, -C
(O)-CH=CH-, -C(O)NH-CH₂- (107), -C(O)-Cyclopropyl und -C(O)CH₂;

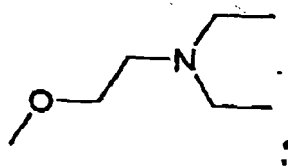
30



ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Phenyl, 2-Furyl, 2-Benzo(b)furyl, 2-Pyrimidinyl, 2-Pyridinyl, 3-Pyri-
35 dinyl, 4-Pyridinyl, 1-Imidazolyl, 2-Imidazolyl, 2-Thiazolyl und 2-Oxabicyclo[2.2.1]heptanyl;

35

40



oder ein pharmazeutisch annehmbares Salz davon.

45

4. Verbindung nach Anspruch 3, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass**

- R² 3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl ist;
R³ H ist;
b eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 1 ist;
50 R⁴ ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus 5-Brom, 2-Hydroxy, 6-Hydroxy, 4-Carboxy, Phenyl, 4-Hydroxy-
phenyl, 3-Hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-Hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-Carboxyphenyl, 4-Methylphenyl, 4-Methylthiophenyl,
4-Methoxyphenyl, 3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl, 4-Methoxycarbonyl, 4-Methoxycarbonylphenyl, 3-Trifluormethylphenyl, 4-
Aminophenyl, 4-Dimethylaminophenyl, 3-Nitrophenyl, 4-Nitrophenyl, 4-Cyanophenyl, 4-Formylphenyl, Benzyloxy
und
55 Y ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus -C(O)-, -C(O)O-CH₂-, -C(O)-CH₂CH₂-, -C(O)-CH=CH- und -C
(O)-Cyclopropyl;



5

ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Phenyl, 2-Furyl, 2-Benzo(b)furyl, 2-Pyrimidinyl, 2-Pyridinyl, 3-Pyridinyl, 4-Pyridinyl und 2-Thiazolyl;
oder ein pharmazeutisch annehmbares Salz davon.

10 **5.** Verbindung nach Anspruch 4, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass**

R² 3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl ist;

R⁴ ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus 5-Brom, 2-Hydroxy, 6-Hydroxy, 4-Carboxy, Phenyl, 4-Hydroxyphenyl, 3-Hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-Hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-Carboxyphenyl, 4-Methylphenyl, 4-Methylthiophenyl, 4-Methoxyphenyl, 3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl, 4-Methoxycarbonyl, 4-Methoxycarbonylphenyl, 3-Trifluormethylphenyl, 4-Aminophenyl, 4-Dimethylaminophenyl, 3-Nitrophenyl, 4-Nitrophenyl, 4-Cyanophenyl, 4-Formylphenyl und Benzyl-
loxy,

15

Y ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus -C(O)-, -C(O)O-CH₂- und -C(O)-CH=CH-;
oder ein pharmazeutisch annehmbares Salz davon.

20 **6.** Verbindung nach Anspruch 5, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass**

R⁴ ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus 6-Hydroxy, 4-Carboxy, Phenyl, 4-Hydroxyphenyl, 3-Hydroxymethylphenyl, 4-Methylphenyl, 4-Methylthiophenyl, 4-Methoxyphenyl, 3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl, 4-Methoxycarbonyl, 3-Trifluormethylphenyl, 3-Nitrophenyl und 4-Nitrophenyl;
oder ein pharmazeutisch annehmbares Salz davon.

25

7. Verbindung nach Anspruch 6, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass**

R² 3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl ist;

R⁴ ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Hydroxy, 4-Methylphenyl, 4-Methoxyphenyl, 3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl, 4-Methoxycarbonyl, 3-Trifluormethylphenyl und 4-Nitrophenyl;

30

Y ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus -C(O)- und -C(O)O-CH₂-;



35

ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus 2-Furyl, 2-Benzo(b)furyl, 4-Pyridinyl, 2-Pyrimidinyl und 2-Thiazolyl;
oder ein pharmazeutisch annehmbares Salz davon.

40 **8.** Pharmazeutische Zusammensetzung, die einen pharmazeutisch annehmbaren Trägerstoff und eine Verbindung nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7 umfaßt.

9. Verbindung nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7 oder Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 8 zur Verwendung bei der Behandlung von:

45

sexueller Dysfunktion, wie etwa männlicher sexueller Dysfunktion, männlicher erektiler Dysfunktion, Impotenz, weiblicher sexueller Dysfunktion, weiblicher sexueller Erregungsdysfunktion oder weiblicher sexueller Dysfunktion im Zusammenhang mit der Durchblutung und Stickoxidproduktion in den Geweben der Vagina und Klitoris;
oder

50

Frühgeburt, Dysmenorrhoe, kardiovaskulären Störungen, Atherosklerose, einer arteriellen okklusiven Störung, Thrombose, koronarer Ruhesthenose, Angina pectoris oder Myokardinfarkt, Herzversagen, einer ischämischen Herzstörung, Bluthochdruck, pulmonalem Hochdruck, Asthma, intermittierendem Hinken oder einer diabetischen Komplikation,
oder zur Verwendung bei:

55

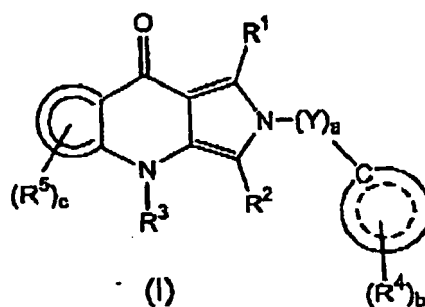
der Erhöhung der Konzentration von cGMP im Penisgewebe bei einem männlichen Patienten.

10. Verwendung einer Verbindung nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 7 als ein Zwischenprodukt bei der Herstellung einer

Verbindung der Formel (I)

5

10



15

worin

R¹ ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Wasserstoff, Carboxy, -C(O)-C₁-C₆-Alkyl, -C(O)-C₁-C₆-Alkoxy, -C(O)-NH-C₁-C₆-Alkyl-NH₂, -C(O)-NH-C₁-C₆-Alkyl-NHR^A, -C(O)-NH-C₁-C₆-Alkyl-N(R^A)₂, -C(O)-NH₂, -C(O)-NHR^A, -C(O)-N(R^A)₂, -C₁-C₆-Alkyl-NH₂, -C₁-C₆-Alkyl-NHR^A, -C₁-C₆-Alkyl-N(R^A)₂, -NH-C₁-C₆-Alkyl-N(R^A)₂;

wobei jedes R^A unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus C₁-C₆-Alkyl, Aryl und C₁-C₆-Aralkyl, wobei das Aryl oder Aralkyl fakultativ mit einem bis drei R^B substituiert sein kann;

wobei jedes R^B unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Halogen, Nitro, Cyano, C₁-C₆-Alkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkoxy, C₁-C₆-Alkylcarbonyl, Carboxy-C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkylsulfonyl, Trifluormethyl, Amino, Di-(C₁-C₆-alkyl)-amino, Acetylamino, Carboxy-C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonylamino, Hydroxy-C₁-C₆-alkylamino, NHR^A und N(R^A)₂;

R² ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus C₅-C₁₀-Alkyl (fakultativ mit einem bis drei Substituenten substituiert, die unabhängig ausgewählt sind aus Halogen, Hydroxy, Nitro, Amino, NHR^A oder N(R^A)₂), Aryl (fakultativ mit einem bis drei Substituenten substituiert, die unabhängig ausgewählt sind aus R^C), Cycloalkyl (fakultativ mit einem bis drei Substituenten substituiert, die unabhängig ausgewählt sind aus R^A) und 3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl;

wobei R^C ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Halogen, Nitro, Cyano, C₁-C₆-Alkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkoxy, Trifluormethyl, Trifluormethoxy, NH₂, NH(C₁-C₆-Alkyl) und N(C₁-C₆-Alkyl)₂;

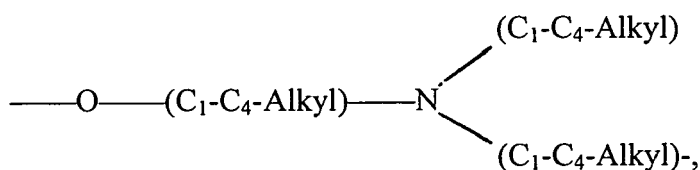
R³ ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Wasserstoff, C₁-C₆-Alkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkylcarbonyl, C₂-C₆-Alkenylcarbonyl und C₂-C₆-Alkinylcarbonyl;

b eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 4 ist;

R⁴ unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Halogen, Hydroxy, Carboxy, Oxo, Nitro, C₁-C₆-Alkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkoxy, C₁-C₆-Alkoxycarbonyl, Trifluormethyl, Phenyl (wobei die Phenylgruppe fakultativ mit einem bis drei Substituenten substituiert sein kann, die unabhängig ausgewählt sind aus R^D), Phenylsulfonyl, Naphthyl, C₁-C₆-Aralkyl, -O-Aralkyl (wobei die Aralkylgruppe fakultativ mit einem bis drei Substituenten substituiert sein kann, die unabhängig ausgewählt sind aus R^D), NH₂, NHR^A, N(R^A)₂ und

40

45



50

wobei jedes R^D unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Halogen, Hydroxy, Carboxy, Oxo, C₁-C₄-Alkyl, C₁₋₄-Alkylthio, Hydroxy-C₁₋₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-Alkoxy, C₁-C₄-Alkoxycarbonyl, C₁-C₄-Alkylcarbonyl, Trifluormethyl, Trifluormethoxy, NH₂, NHR^A, N(R^A)₂, C(O)N(R^A)₂, Acetylamino, Nitro, Cyano, Formyl, C₁-C₆-Alkylsulfonyl, Carboxy-C₁-C₆-alkyl und Aralkyl;

c eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 4 ist;

R⁵ unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Halogen, Nitro, Hydroxy, C₁-C₆-Alkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkoxy, -NH₂, -NHR^A, -N(R^A)₂, -OR^A, -C(O)NH₂, -C(O)NHR^A, -C(O)N(R^A)₂, -NHC(O)R^A, -SO₂NHR^A, -SO₂N(R^A)₂, wobei R^A ist, wie oben definiert, und Phenyl (fakultativ mit einem bis drei Substituenten substituiert, die unabhängig aus-

gewählt sind aus R^B ;

a eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 1 ist;

Y ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus $-C_1-C_6$ -Alkyl-, $-C(O)-$, $-(C_1-C_6$ -Alkyl)-carbonyl-, $-(C_2-C_6$ -Alkenyl)-carbonyl-, $-(C_2-C_6$ -Alkynyl)-carbonyl-, $-Carbonyl-(C_1-C_8$ -alkyl)-, $-Carbonyl-(C_2-C_6$ -alkenyl)-, $-C(O)O-(C_1-C_6$ -Alkyl)-, $-C(S)-$, $-SO_2-$, $-(C_1-C_6$ -Alkyl)-sulfonyl-, $-Sulfonyl-(C_1-C_6$ -alkyl)-, $-C(O)NH-$, $-C(O)NH-(C_1-C_6$ -Alkyl)-, $-C(O)$ $(C_3-C_7$ -Cycloalkyl)- und $-(C_3-C_7$ -Cycloalkyl)- $C(O)-$;



ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Phenyl, Furyl, Thienyl und Pyrrolyl;



ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Aryl, Heteroaryl, Cycloalkyl und Heterocycloalkyl; vorausgesetzt, dass wenn R^1 Wasserstoff ist, R^3 Wasserstoff ist, b 0 ist, c 0 ist, a 0 ist, Y $-CH_2-$ ist,



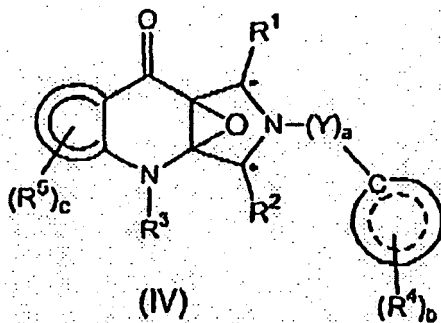
Phenyl ist und



Phenyl ist, dann R^2 nicht Trimethoxyphenyl ist; oder ein pharmazeutisch annehmbares Salz davon.

Revendications

1. Composé de la formule (IV)



où

R^1 est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en hydrogène, carboxy, $-C(O)-alkyleC_1-C_6$, $-C(O)-alcoxy-C_1-C_6$, $-C$

(O)-NH-alkylC₁-C₆-NH₂, -C(O)-NH-alkylC₁-C₆-NHR^A, -C(O)-NH-alkylC₁-C₆-N(R^A)₂, -C(O)-NH₂, -C(O)-NHR^A, -C(O)-N(R^A)₂, -alkylC₁-C₆-NH₂, alkylC₁-C₆-NHR^A, alkylC₁-C₆-N(R^A)₂, -NH-alkylC₁-C₆-N(R^A)₂;

où chaque R^A est indépendamment sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en alkyleC₁-C₆, aryle et aralkyleC₁-C₆ ou l'aryle ou aralkyle peut facultativement être substitué par un à trois R^B;

où chaque R^B est indépendamment sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en halogène, nitro, cyano, alkyleC₁-C₆, alcoxyC₁-C₆, alkylcarbonylC₁-C₆, carboxyalkyleC₁-C₆, alkylsulfonylC₁-C₆, trifluorométhyle, amino, di(alkylamino C₁-C₆), acétylamino, carboxyalkylcarbonylaminoC₁-C₆, hydroxyalkylaminoC₁-C₆, NHR^A et N(R^A)₂;

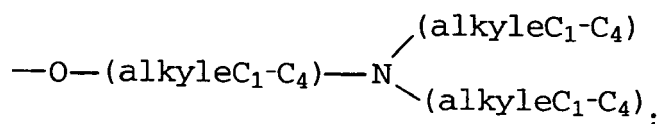
R² est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en alkyleC₅-C₁₀ (facultativement substitué par un à trois substituants indépendamment sélectionnés parmi halogène, hydroxy, nitro, amino, NHR^A ou N(R^A)₂), aryle (facultativement substitué par un à trois substituants indépendamment sélectionnés parmi R^C), cycloalkyle (facultativement substitué par un à trois substituants indépendamment sélectionnés parmi R) et 3,4-méthylènedioxyphényle;

où R^C est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en halogène, nitro, cyano, alkyleC₁-C₆, alcoxyC₁-C₆, trifluorométhyle, trifluorométhoxy, NH₂, NH(alkyleC₁-C₆) et N(alkyleC₁-C₆)₂;

R³ est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en hydrogène, alkyleC₁-C₆, alkylcarbonylC₁-C₆, alcénylcarbonylC₂-C₆ et alkynylcarbonylC₂-C₆;

b est un entier de 0 à 4;

R⁴ est indépendamment sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en halogène, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, nitro, alkyleC₁-C₆, alcoxyC₁-C₆, alcoxycarbonylC₁-C₆, trifluorométhyle, phényle (où le groupe phényle peut être facultativement substitué par un à trois substituants indépendamment sélectionnés parmi R^D), phénylsulfonyl, naphtyle, aralkyleC₁-C₆, -O-aralkyle, (où le groupe aralkyle peut être facultativement substitué par un à trois substituants indépendamment sélectionnés parmi R¹), NH₂, NHR^A, N(R^A)₂ et



où chaque R^D est indépendamment sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en halogène, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, alkyleC₁-C₄, alkylthioC₁-C₄, hydroxyalkyleC₁₋₄, alcoxyC₁₋₄, alkylloxycarbonylC₁₋₄, alkylcarbonylC₁-C₄, trifluorométhyle, trifluorométhoxy, NH₂, NHR^A, N(R^A)₂, C(O)N(R^A)₂, acétylamino, nitro, cyano, formyle, alkylsulfonylC₁-C₆, carboxyalkyleC₁-C₆ et aralkyle;

c est un entier de 0 à 4;

R⁵ est indépendamment sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en halogène, nitro, hydroxy, alkyleC₁-C₆, alcoxyC₁-C₆, -NH₂, -NHR^A, -N(R^A)₂, -OR^A, -C(O)NH₂, -C(O)NHR^A, -C(O)N(R^A)₂, -NHC(O)R^A, -SO₂NHR^A, -SO₂N(R^A)₂, où R^A est tel que défini ci-dessus et phényle (facultativement substitué par un à trois substituants indépendamment sélectionnés parmi R^B);

a est un entier de 0 à 1;

Y est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en -alkylC₁-C₆-, -C(O)-, -(alkylC₁-C₆)carbonyl-, -(alcénylC₂-C₆)carbonyl-, -(alkynylC₂-C₆)carbonyl-, carbonyl(alkylC₁-C₆)-, carbonyl(alcénylC₂-C₆)-, -C(O)O-(alkylC₁-C₆)-, -C(S)-, -SO₂-, (alkylC₁-C₆)sulfonyl-, -sulfonyl(alkylC₁-C₆)-, -C(O)NH-, -C(O)NH-(alkylC₁-C₆)-, -C(O)(cycloalkylC₃-C₇)- et -(cycloalkylC₃-C₇)-C(O)-;



est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en phényle, furyle, thiényle et pyrrolyle;



est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en aryle, hétéroaryle, cycloalkyle et hétérocycloalkyle; ou un sel pharmaceutiquement acceptable.

2. Composé de la revendication 1 où

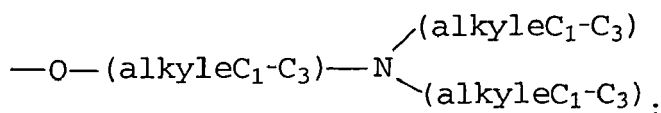
R¹ est hydrogène;

R² est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en phényle (facultativement substitué par un à deux substituants sélectionnés parmi halogène, nitro, cyano, alkylC₁-C₃, alcoxyC₁-C₃, trifluorométhyle, trifluorométhoxy, NH₂, NH (alkyleC₁-C₃) ou N(alkyleC₁-C₃)₂), et 3,4-méthylènedioxyphényle;

R³ est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en H et alkyleC₁-C₄;

b est un entier de 0 à 4;

R⁴ est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en halogène, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, alkyleC₁-C₃, alcoxyC₁-C₃, alcoxycarbonylC₁-C₃, phényle (où le phényle peut être facultativement substitué par un à deux substituants sélectionnés parmi hydroxy, carboxy, alkyleC₁-C₄, alkylthio C₁₋₄, hydroxyalkyleC₁₋₄, alcoxyC₁-C₄, alcoxycarbonylC₁-C₄, C(O)N(R^A)₂, trifluorométhyle, trifluorométhoxy, amino, (alkylC₁₋₄)amino, di(alkylC₁₋₄)amino, nitro, cyano ou formyle), O-aralkyle et



c est 0;

a est un entier de 0 à 1;

Y est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en -alkyl C₁-C₄-, -C(S)-, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-(alkylC₁-C₄)-, -C(O)-(alkylC₁-C₄)-, -C(O)-(alcénylC₂-C₄)-, C(O)-(cycloalkylC₃-C₇)- et -C(O)NH-(alkylC₁-C₃)-;



est phényle;



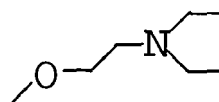
est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en phényle, hétéroaryle et hétérocycloalkyle; ou un sel pharmaceutiquement acceptable.

3. Composé de la revendication 2 où

R² est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en 3,4-méthylènedioxyphényle, et 3,4-diméthoxyphényle;

R³ est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en H et méthyle;

R⁴ est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en bromo, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, méthyle, phényle, 4-hydroxyphényle, 3-hydroxyméthylphényle, 4-hydroxyméthylphényle, 4-carboxyphényle, 4-méthylphényle, 4-méthoxyphényle, 3,4-diméthoxyphényle, 4-méthoxycarbonyl, 4-méthoxycarbonylphényle, 3-trifluorométhylphényle, 4-cyanophényle, 4-aminophényle, 4-diméthylaminophényle, 3-nitrophényle, 4-nitrophényle, 4-formylphényle, 4-méthylthiophényle, benzyloxy



Y est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en -CH₂-, -C(S)-, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-CH₂-, -C(O)-CH₂CH₂-, -C(O)-CH=CH-, -C(O)NH-CH₂-(107), -C(O)-cyclopropyle et -C(O)CH₂;



5

est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en phényle, 2-furyle, 2-benzo(b)furyle, 2-pyrimidinyle, 2-pyridinyle, 3-pyridinyle, 4-pyridinyle, 1-imidazolyle, 2-imidazolyle, 2-thiazolyle, et 2-oxa-bicyclo [2.2.1] heptanyle; ou un sel pharmaceutiquement acceptable.

10 **4.** Composé de la revendication 3 où

R² est 3,4-méthylènedioxyphényle;

R³ est H;

b est un entier de 0 à 1;

15 R⁴ est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en 5-bromo, 2-hydroxy, 6-hydroxy, 4-carboxy, phényle, 4-hydroxyphényle, 3-hydroxyméthylphényle, 4-hydroxyméthylphényle, 4-carboxyphényle, 4-méthylphényle, 4-méthylthiophényle, 4-méthoxyphényle, 3,4-diméthoxyphényle, 4-méthoxycarbonyle, 4-méthoxycarbonylphényle, 3-trifluorométhylphényle, 4-aminophényle, 4-diméthylaminophényle, 3-nitrophényle, 4-nitrophényle, 4-cyanophényle, 4-formylphényle, benzyloxy et

20 Y est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en -C(O)-, -C(O)O-CH₂-, -C(O)-CH₂CH₂-, -C(O)-CH=CH-, et -C(O)-cyclopropyle ;



25

est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en phényle, 2-furyle, 2-benzo(b)furyle, 2-pyrimidinyle, 2-pyridinyle, 3-pyridinyle, 4-pyridinyle et 2-thiazolyle; ou un sel pharmaceutiquement acceptable.

30

5. Composé de la revendication 4 où

R² est 3,4-méthylènedioxyphényle;

35 R⁴ est sélectionné comme consistant en 5-bromo, 2-hydroxy, 6-hydroxy, 4-carboxy, phényle, 4-hydroxyphényle, 3-hydroxyméthylphényle, 4-hydroxyméthylphényle, 4-carboxyphényle, 4-méthylphényle, 4-méthylthiophényle, 4-méthoxyphényle, 3,4-diméthoxyphényle, 4-méthoxycarbonyle, 4-méthoxycarbonylphényle, 3-trifluorométhylphényle, 4-aminophényle, 4-diméthylaminophényle, 3-nitrophényle, 4-nitrophényle, 4-cyanophényle, 4-formylphényle et benzyloxy;

Y est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en -C(O)-, -C(O)O-CH₂- et -C(O)-CH=CH-;

ou un sel pharmaceutiquement acceptable.

40

6. Composé de la revendication 5 où

R⁴ est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en 6-hydroxy, 4-carboxy, phényle, 4-hydroxyphényle, 3-hydroxyméthylphényle, 4-méthylphényle, 4-méthylthiophényle, 4-méthoxyphényle, 3,4-diméthoxyphényle, 4-méthoxycarbonyle, 3-trifluorométhylphényle, 3-nitrophényle et 4-nitrophényle;

45 ou un sel pharmaceutiquement acceptable.

7. Composé de la revendication 6 où

R² est 3,4-méthylènedioxyphényle;

50 R⁴ est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en hydroxy, 4-méthylphényle, 4-méthoxyphényle, 3,4-diméthoxyphényle, 4-méthoxycarbonyle, 3-trifluorométhylphényle et 4-nitrophényle.

Y est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en -C(O)- et -C(O)O-CH₂-;

55



est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en 2-furyle, 2-benzo(b)furyle, 4-pyridinyle, 2-pyrimidinyle et 2-thiazolyle;

ou un sel pharmaceutiquement acceptable.

8. Composition pharmaceutique comprenant un support pharmaceutiquement acceptable et un composé de l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7.

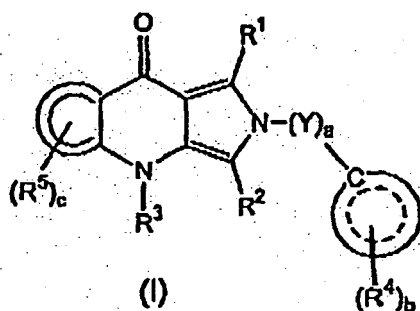
9. Composé de l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7 ou composition de la revendication 8 à utiliser dans le traitement de:

dysfonctionnement sexuel, comme un dysfonctionnement sexuel mâle, un dysfonctionnement érectile mâle, une impuissance, un dysfonctionnement sexuel femelle, un dysfonctionnement d'éveil sexuel femelle, ou un dysfonctionnement sexuel femelle en rapport avec la circulation sanguine et la production d'oxyde nitrique dans les tissus du vagin et du clitoris; ou

le travail prématuré, la dysménorrhée, des troubles cardiovasculaires, l'athérosclérose, un trouble occlusif artériel, la thrombose, la resténose coronarienne, l'angine de poitrine ou l'infarctus du myocarde, un dysfonctionnement du coeur, un trouble ischémique du coeur, l'hypertension, l'hypertension pulmonaire, l'asthme, la claudication intermittente ou une complication diabétique, ou pour une utilisation pour:

augmenter la concentration en cGMP dans le tissu pénien d'un sujet mâle.

10. Utilisation d'un composé de l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 7 comme intermédiaire dans la préparation d'un composé de formule (I)



où

R¹ est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en hydrogène, carboxy, -C(O)-alkyleC₁-C₆, -C(O)-alcoxyC₁-C₆, -C(O)-NH-alkylC₁-C₆-NH₂, -C(O)-NH-alkylC₁-C₆-NHR^A, -C(O)-NH-alkylC₁-C₆-N(R^A)₂, -C(O)-NH₂, -C(O)-NHR^A, -C(O)-N(R^A)₂, -alkylC₁-C₆-NH₂, -alkylC₁-C₆-NHR^A, -alkylC₁-C₆-N(R^A)₂, -NH-alkylC₁-C₆-N(R^A)₂;

où chaque R^A est indépendamment sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en alkyleC₁-C₆, aryle et aralkyleC₁-C₆, où l'aryle ou aralkyle peut facultativement être substitué par un à trois R^B;

où chaque R^B est indépendamment sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en halogène, nitro, cyano, alkyleC₁-C₆, alcoxyC₁-C₆, alkylcarbonyleC₁-C₆, carboxyalkyleC₁-C₆, alkylsulfonyleC₁-C₆, trifluorométhyle, amino, di(alkylC₁-C₆) amino, acétylamino, carboxyalkylcarbonylaminoC₁-C₆, hydroxyalkylaminoC₁-C₆, NHR^A et N(R^A)₂;

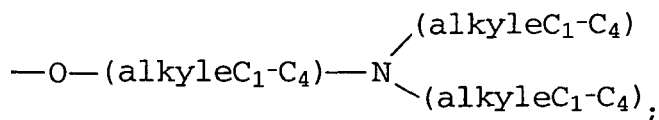
R² est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en alkyleC₅-C₁₀ (facultativement substitué par un à trois substituants indépendamment sélectionnés parmi halogène, hydroxy, nitro, amino, NHR^A ou N(R^A)₂), aryle (facultativement substitué par un à trois substituants indépendamment sélectionnés parmi R^C), cycloalkyle (facultativement substitué par un à trois substituants indépendamment sélectionnés parmi R^A) et 3,4-méthylènedioxyphényle;

où R^C est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en halogène, nitro, cyano, alkyleC₁-C₆, alcoxyC₁-C₆, trifluorométhyle, trifluorométhoxy, NH₂, NH(alkyleC₁-C₆) et N(alkyleC₁-C₆)₂;

R³ est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en hydrogène, alkyleC₁-C₆, alkylcarbonyleC₁-C₆, alcénylcarbonyleC₂-C₆ et alkynylcarbonyle C₂-C₆;

b est un entier de 0 à 4;

R⁴ est indépendamment sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en halogène, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, nitro, alkyleC₁-C₆, alcoxyC₁-C₆, alcoxycarbonyleC₁-C₆, trifluorométhyle, phényle(où le groupe phényle peut être facultativement substitué par un à trois substituants indépendamment sélectionnés parmi R^D), phénylsulfonyle, naphtyle, aralkyleC₁-C₆, -O-aralkyle, (où le groupe aralkyle peut être facultativement substitué par un à trois substituants indépendamment sélectionnés parmi R^D), NHR^A, N(R^A)₂ et



5

où chaque R^D est indépendamment sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en halogène, hydroxy, carboxy, oxo, alkyleC₁-C₄, alkylthioC₁₋₄, hydroxyalkyleC₁₋₄, alcoxyC₁-C₄, alcoxycarboneC₁-C₄, alkylcarboneC₁-C₄, trifluorométhyle, trifluorométhoxy, NH₂, NHR^A, N(R^A)₂, C(O)N(R^A)₂, acétylamino, nitro, cyano, formyle, alkylsulfonylC₁-C₆, carboxyalkyleC₁-C₆ et aralkyle;

10

c est un entier de 0 à 4;

15

R⁵ est indépendamment sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en halogène, nitro, hydroxy, alkyleC₁-C₆, alcoxyC₁-C₆, -NH₂, -NHR^A, -N(R^A)₂, -OR^A, -C(O)NH₂, -C(O)NHR^A, -C(O)N(R^A)₂, -NHC(O)R^A, -SO₂NHR^A, -SO₂N(R^A)₂, où R^A est tel que défini ci-dessus, et phényle (facultativement substitué par un à trois substituants indépendamment sélectionnés parmi R^B).

a est un entier de 0 à 1;

20

Y est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en -alkyleC₁-C₆-, -C(O)-, -(alkylC₁-C₆)carbonyl-, -(alcénylC₂-C₆)carbonyl-, -(alkynylC₂-C₆)carbonyl-, carbonyl(alkylC₁-C₆)-, -carbonyl(alcénylC₂-C₆)-, -C(O)(alkylC₁-C₆)-, -C(S);SO₂-, -(alkylC₁-C₆)sulfonyl-, -sulfonyl(alkylC₁-C₆)-, -C(O)NH-, -C(O)NH-(alkylC₁-C₆)-, -C(O)(cycloalkylC₃-C₇)- et -(cycloalkylC₃-C₇)-C(O)-;

25



est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en phényle, furyle, thiényle et pyrrolyle;

30



35

est sélectionné dans le groupe consistant en aryle, hétéroaryle, cycloalkyle et hétérocycloalkyle; à condition que quand R¹ est hydrogène, R³ est hydrogène, b est 0, c est 0, a est 1, Y est -CH₂-,

40



est phényle et

45



50

est phényle, alors R² est ne soit pas triméthoxyphényle; ou un sel pharmaceutiquement acceptable.

55

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

This list of references cited by the applicant is for the reader's convenience only. It does not form part of the European patent document. Even though great care has been taken in compiling the references, errors or omissions cannot be excluded and the EPO disclaims all liability in this regard.

Patent documents cited in the description

- US 5250534 A [0005]
- US 5346901 A [0005]
- WO 9428902 A [0005]
- WO 0187882 A [0055] [0073]

Non-patent literature cited in the description

- Design of Prodrugs. Elsevier, 1985 [0049]
- Protective Groups in Organic Chemistry. Plenum Press, 1973 [0057]
- **T.W. GREENE ; P.G.M. WUTS.** Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis. John Wiley & Sons, 1991 [0057]
- **BOOLELL, M. ; ALLEN, M. J. ; BALLARD, S. A. ; GE[O-ATTEE, S. ; MUIRHEAD, G. J. ; NAYLOR, A. M. ; OSTERLOH, I. H. ; GINGELL, C.** *International Journal of Impotence Research*, 1996, vol. 8, 47-52 [0078]
- **THOMPSON ; APPLEMAN.** *Biochemistry*, 1971, vol. 10, 311-316 [0080]
- **CARTER, A. J. ; BALLARD, S. A. ; NAYLOR, A. M.** *The Journal of Urology*. 1998, vol. 160, 242-246 [0086]