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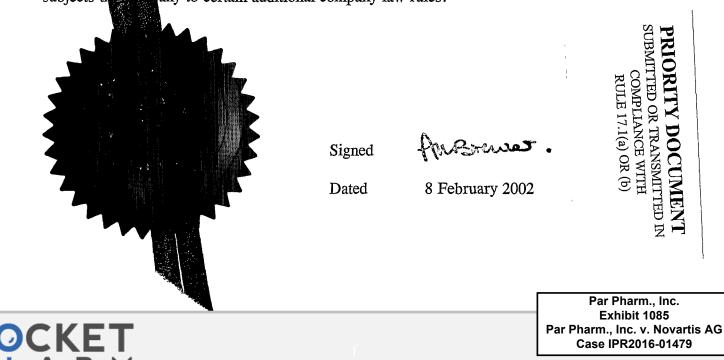
| REC'D | 1,5 | MAY | 2002 |
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| 3. | Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames) | NOVARTIS AG LICHTSTRASSE 35 4056 BASEL SWITZERLAND | | |
| | Patent ADP number (if you know it) | | turne a financia | |
| | If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation | SWITZERLAND | 712 548700 | |
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| | | B.A. Corke + Co |
| | | B.A. Yorke & Co. 17 October 2001 |
| 12. | Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom | Mrs. E. Cheetham 020 8560 5847 |
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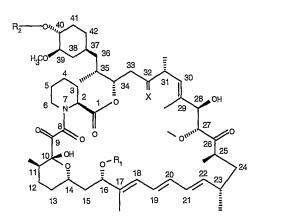
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Organic Compounds

The present invention relates to a new use, in particular a new use for a compound group comprising derivatives of rapamycin.

Suitable derivatives of rapamycin include e.g. compounds of formula I



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wherein

 R_1 is CH₃ or C₃₋₆alkynyl, R_2 is H or -CH₂-CH₂-OH,

X is =0 or (H,OH)

provided that R_2 is -CH₂-CH₂-OH when R_1 is CH₃ and X is =O.

Most of the compounds of formula I are either generically or specifically disclosed in WO 94/09010, WO 95/16691 or WO 96/41807, which are incorporated herein by reference, the compound of formula I wherein X is =O, R_1 is 2-pentynyl and R_2 is -CH₂-CH₂-OH being novel and forming part of the invention.

A preferred compound is 40-0-(2-hydroxyethyl)-rapamycin (referred thereafter as Compound A), disclosed as Example 8 in WO 94/09010.

Certain compounds of formula I have, on the basis of observed activity, e.g. binding to macrophilin-12 (also known as FK-506 binding protein or FKBP-12), e.g. as described in WO 94/09010, WO 95/16691 or WO 96/41807, been found to be useful e.g. as immunosuppressant, e.g. in the treatment of acute allograft rejection. It has now been found that Compounds of formula I have potent antiproliferative properties which make them

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