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(54) **4-IMIDAZOPYRIDAZIN-1-YL-BENZAMIDES AS BTK INHIBITORS**

(71) Applicant: **Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.**, Haarlem (NL)

(72) Inventors: **Tjeerd A. Barf**, Ravenstein (NL); **Christiaan Gerardus Johannes Maria Jans**, Cuijk (NL); **Adrianus Petrus Antonius de Man**, Hurwenen (NL); **Arthur A. Oubrie**, Wijchen (NL); **Hans C. A. Raaijmakers**, Eindhoven (NL); **Johannes Bernardus Maria Rewinkel**, Berghem (NL); **Jan Gerard Sterrenburg**, Renkum (NL); **Jacobus C. H. M. Wijkmans**, Oss (NL)

(73) Assignee: **Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.**, Haarlem (NL)

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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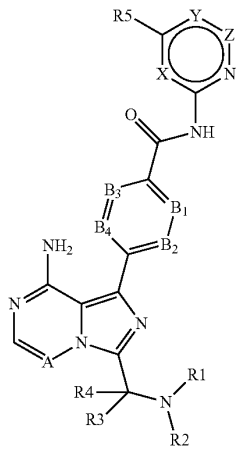
Primary Examiner — Golam M M Shameem
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Covington & Burling LLP; Einar Stole; Melody Wu

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to 6-5 membered fused pyridine ring compounds according to Formula (I)

Formula (I)



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or to pharmaceutical compositions comprising these compounds and to their use in therapy. In particular, the present invention relates to the use of 6-5 membered fused pyridine ring compounds according to Formula (I) in the treatment of Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase (Btk) mediated disorders.

14 Claims, No Drawings

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4-IMIDAZOPYRIDAZIN-1-YL-BENZAMIDES AS BTK INHIBITORS

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 14/233,418, which is the U.S. national stage of International Patent Application No. PCT/EP2012/063552 filed Jul. 11, 2012, which claims priority to U.S. Patent Application No. 61/509,397 filed Jul. 19, 2011, and to EP Patent Application No. 11174578.2 filed Jul. 19, 2011, each of which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety herein.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to 6-5 membered fused pyridine ring compounds, to pharmaceutical compositions comprising these compounds and to their use in therapy. In particular, the present invention relates to the use of 6-5 membered fused pyridine ring compounds in the treatment of Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase (Btk) mediated disorders.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

B lymphocyte activation is key in the generation of adaptive immune responses. Derailed B lymphocyte activation is a hallmark of many autoimmune diseases and modulation of this immune response is therefore of therapeutic interest. Recently the success of B cell therapies in autoimmune diseases has been established. Treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients with Rituximab (anti-CD20 therapy) is an accepted clinical therapy by now. More recent clinical trial studies show that treatment with Rituximab also ameliorates disease symptoms in relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS) and systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) patients. This success supports the potential for future therapies in autoimmune diseases targeting B cell immunity.

Bruton's tyrosine kinase (Btk) is a Tec family non-receptor protein kinase, expressed in B cells and myeloid cells. The function of Btk in signaling pathways activated by the engagement of the B cell receptor (BCR) and FcεR1 on mast cells is well established. In addition, a function for Btk as a downstream target in Toll like receptor signaling was suggested. Functional mutations in Btk in humans results in the primary immunodeficiency disease called XLA which is characterized by a defect in B cell development with a block between pro- and pre-B cell stage. This results in an almost complete absence of B lymphocytes in human causing a pronounced reduction of serum immunoglobulin of all classes. These findings support the key role for Btk in the regulation of the production of auto-antibodies in autoimmune diseases. In addition, regulation of Btk may affect BCR-induced production of pro-inflammatory cytokines and chemokines by B cells, indicating a broad potential for Btk in the treatment of autoimmune diseases.

With the regulatory role reported for Btk in FcεR-mediated mast cell activation, Btk inhibitors may also show potential in the treatment of allergic responses [Gilfillan et al, Immunological Reviews 288 (2009) pp 149-169].

Furthermore, Btk is also reported to be implicated in RANKL-induced osteoclast differentiation [Shinohara et al, Cell 132 (2008) pp 794-806] and therefore may also be of interest for the treatment of bone resorption disorders.

Other diseases with an important role for dysfunctional B cells are B cell malignancies. Indeed anti-CD20 therapy is used effectively in the clinic for the treatment of follicular lymphoma, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma and chronic lymphocytic leukemia [Lim et al, Haematologica, 95 (2010) pp 135-143]. The reported role for Btk in the regulation of proliferation and apoptosis of B cells indicates there is potential for Btk inhibitors in the treatment of B cell lymphomas as well. Inhibition of Btk seems to be relevant in particular for B cell lymphomas due to chronic active BCR signaling [Davis et al, Nature, 463 (2010) pp 88-92].

Some classes of 6-5 membered fused pyridine ring compounds have been described as kinase inhibitors e.g. Imidazo[1,5-f][1,2,4]triazine compounds have been described in WO2005097800 and WO2007064993. Imidazo[1,5-a] pyrazine compounds have been described in WO2005037836 and WO2001019828 as IGF-1R enzyme inhibitors.

Some of the Btk inhibitors reported are not selective over Src-family kinases. With dramatic adverse effects reported for knockouts of Src-family kinases, especially for double and triple knockouts, this is seen as prohibitive for the development of Btk inhibitors that are not selective over the Src-family kinases. Both Lyn-deficient and Fyn-deficient mice exhibit autoimmunity mimicking the phenotype of human lupus nephritis. In addition, Fyn-deficient mice also show pronounced neurological defects. Lyn knockout mice also show an allergic-like phenotype, indicating Lyn as a broad negative regulator of the IgE-mediated allergic response by controlling mast cell responsiveness and allergy-associated traits [Odom et al, J. Exp. Med., 199 (2004) pp 1491-1502]. Furthermore, aged Lyn knock-out mice develop severe splenomegaly (myeloid expansion) and disseminated monocyte/macrophage tumors [Harder et al, Immunity, 15 (2001) pp 603-615]. These observations are in line with hyperresponsive B cells, mast cells and myeloid cells, and increased Ig levels observed in Lyn-deficient mice.

Female Src knockout mice are infertile due to reduced follicle development and ovulation [Roby et al, Endocrine, 26 (2005) pp 169-176].

The double knockouts $Src^{-/-}Fyn^{-/-}$ and $Src^{-/-}Yes^{-/-}$ show a severe phenotype with effects on movement and breathing. The triple knockouts $Src^{-/-}Fyn^{-/-}Yes^{-/-}$ die at day 9.5 [Klinghoffer et al, EMBO J., 18 (1999) pp 2459-2471]. For the double knockout $Src^{-/-}Hck^{-/-}$, two thirds of the mice die at birth, with surviving mice developing osteopetrosis, extramedullary hematopoiesis, anemia, and leukopenia [Lowell et al, Blood, 87 (1996) pp 1780-1792].

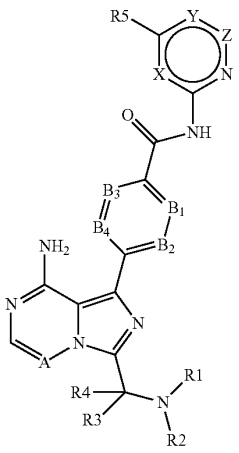
Hence, an inhibitor that inhibits multiple or all kinases of the Src-family kinases simultaneously may cause serious adverse effects.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The object of the present invention is to provide 6-5 membered fused pyridine ring compounds, to pharmaceutical compositions comprising these compounds and to their use in therapy. In particular, the present invention relates to the use of 6-5 membered fused pyridine ring compounds in the treatment of Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase (Btk) mediated disorders.

More specifically, the present invention provides 6-5 membered fused pyridine ring compounds according to Formula (I) or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Formula (I)



In this formula the substituents are defined as

X is CH, N, O or S;

Y is C(R6), N, O or S;

Z is CH, N or a bond;

A is CH or N;

B1 is N or C(R7);

B2 is N or C(R8);

B3 is N or C(R9);

B4 is N or C(R10);

R1 is R11C(O), R12S(O), R13SO_2 or (1-6C)alkyl optionally substituted with R14;

R2 is H, (1-3C)alkyl or (3-7C)cycloalkyl;

R3 is H, (1-6C)alkyl or (3-7C)cycloalkyl); or

R2 and R3 form, together with the N and C atom they are attached to, a (3-7C)heterocycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more fluorine, hydroxyl, (1-3C)alkyl, (1-3C) alkoxy or oxo;

R4 is H or (1-3C)alkyl;

R5 is H, halogen, cyano, (1-4C)alkyl, (1-3C)alkoxy, (3-6C) cycloalkyl; all alkyl groups of R5 are optionally substituted with one or more halogen; or R5 is (6-10C)aryl or (2-6C) heterocycloalkyl;

R6 is H or (1-3C)alkyl; or

R5 and R6 together may form a (3-7C)cycloalkenyl, or (2-6C)heterocycloalkenyl; each optionally substituted with (1-3C)alkyl, or one or more halogen;

R7 is H, halogen or (1-3C)alkoxy;

R8 is H or (1-3C)alkyl; or

R7 and R8 form, together with the carbon atom they are attached to, a (6-10C)aryl or (1-9C)heteroaryl;

R9 is H, halogen or (1-3C)alkoxy;

R10 is H, halogen, or (1-3C)alkoxy;

R11 is independently selected from a group consisting of (1-6C)alkyl, (2-6C)alkenyl and (2-6C)alkynyl each alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxyl, (1-4C)alkyl, (3-7C)cycloalkyl, [(1-4C)alkyl]amino, di[(1-4C)alkyl]amino, (1-3C) alkoxy, (3-7C)cycloalkoxy, (6-10C)aryl or (3-7C)heterocycloalkyl; or

R11 is (1-3C)alkyl-C(O)—S-(1-3C)alkyl; or

R11 is (1-5C)heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from halogen or cyano.

R12 and R13 are independently selected from a group consisting of (2-6C)alkenyl or (2-6C)alkynyl both optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxyl, (1-4C)alkyl, (3-7C)cycloalkyl, [(1-4C)alkyl] amino, di[(1-4C)alkyl]amino, (1-3C)alkoxy, (3-7C)cycloalkoxy, (6-10C)aryl, or (3-7C)heterocycloalkyl; or

(1-5C)heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from halogen or cyano;

R14 is independently selected from a group consisting of halogen, cyano or (2-6C)alkenyl or (2-6C)alkynyl both optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxyl, (1-4C)alkyl, (3-7C)cycloalkyl, [(1-4C)alkyl] amino, di[(1-4C)alkyl]amino, (1-3C)alkoxy, (3-7C)cycloalkoxy, (6-10C)aryl, (1-5C)heteroaryl or (3-7C)heterocycloalkyl.

With the proviso that:

0 to 2 atoms of X, Y, Z can simultaneously be a heteroatom;

when one atom selected from X, Y is O or S, then Z is a bond and the other atom selected from X, Y cannot be 0 or S;

when Z is CH or N then Y is C(R6) or N and X is CH or N;

0 to 2 atoms of B1, B2, B3 and B4 are N.

The terms as used herein refer to the following:

(1-2C)Alkyl means an alkyl group having 1 to 2 carbon atoms, being methyl or ethyl.

(1-3C)Alkyl means a branched or unbranched alkyl group having 1-3 carbon atoms, being methyl, ethyl, propyl or isopropyl.

(1-4C)Alkyl means a branched or unbranched alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms, being methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl and tert-butyl, (1-3C)alkyl groups being preferred.

(1-5C)Alkyl means a branched or unbranched alkyl group having 1-5 carbon atoms, for example methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, pentyl and isopentyl, (1-4C)alkyl groups being preferred.

(1-6C)Alkyl means a branched or unbranched alkyl group having 1-6 carbon atoms, for example methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl and n-hexyl. (1-5C) alkyl groups are preferred, (1-4C)alkyl being most preferred.

(1-2C)Alkoxy means an alkoxy group having 1-2 carbon atoms, the alkyl moiety having the same meaning as previously defined.

(1-3C)Alkoxy means an alkoxy group having 1-3 carbon atoms, the alkyl moiety having the same meaning as previously defined. (1-2C)alkoxy groups are preferred.

(1-4C)Alkoxy means an alkoxy group having 1-4 carbon atoms, the alkyl moiety having the same meaning as previously defined. (1-3C)alkoxy groups are preferred, (1-2C) alkoxy groups being most preferred.

(2-4C)Alkenyl means a branched or unbranched alkenyl group having 2-4 carbon atoms, such as ethenyl, 2-propenyl, isobutenyl or 2-butenyl.

(2-6C)Alkenyl means a branched or unbranched alkenyl group having 2-6 carbon atoms, such as ethenyl, 2-butenyl, and n-pentenyl. (2-4C)alkenyl groups are preferred.

(2-4C)Alkynyl means a branched or unbranched alkynyl group having 2-4 carbon atoms, such as ethynyl, 2-propynyl or 2-butynyl.

(2-6C)Alkynyl means a branched or unbranched alkynyl group having 2-6 carbon atoms, such as ethynyl, propynyl, n-butynyl, n-pentynyl, isopentynyl, isohexynyl or n-hexynyl. (2-4C)alkynyl groups are preferred.

(3-6C)Cycloalkyl means a cycloalkyl group having 3-6 carbon atoms, being cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl.

(3-7C)Cycloalkyl means a cycloalkyl group having 3-7 carbon atoms, being cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl or cycloheptyl.

(2-6C)Heterocycloalkyl means a heterocycloalkyl group having 2-6 carbon atoms, preferably 3-5 carbon atoms, and one or two heteroatoms selected from N, O and/or S, which may be attached via a heteroatom if feasible, or a carbon atom. Preferred heteroatoms are N or O. Preferred are piperidine, morpholine, pyrrolidine and piperazine. Most preferred (2-6C)heterocycloalkyl is pyrrolidine. The heterocycloalkyl group may be attached via a heteroatom if feasible.

(3-7C)Heterocycloalkyl means a heterocycloalkyl group having 3-7 carbon atoms, preferably 3-5 carbon atoms, and one or two heteroatoms selected from N, O and/or S. Preferred heteroatoms are N or O. Preferred (3-7C) heterocycloalkyl groups are azetidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl. More preferred (3-7C) heterocycloalkyl groups are piperidine, morpholine and pyrrolidine. The heterocycloalkyl group may be attached via a heteroatom if feasible.

(3-7C)Cycloalkoxy means a cycloalkyl group having 3-7 carbon atoms, with the same meaning as previously defined, attached via a ring carbon atom to an exocyclic oxygen atom.

(6-10C)Aryl means an aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6-10 carbon atoms, such as phenyl, naphthyl, tetrahydronaphthyl or indenyl. The preferred (6-10C)aryl group is phenyl.

(1-5C)Heteroaryl means a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic group having 1-5 carbon atoms and 1-4 heteroatoms selected from N, O and/or S. The (1-5C)heteroaryl may optionally be substituted. Preferred (1-5C)heteroaryl groups are tetrazolyl, imidazolyl, thiadiazolyl, pyridyl, pyrimidyl, triazinyl, thienyl or furyl, more preferred (1-5C)heteroaryl is pyrimidyl.

(1-9C)Heteroaryl means a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic group having 1-9 carbon atoms and 1-4 heteroatoms selected from N, O and/or S. The (1-9C)heteroaryl may optionally be substituted. Preferred (1-9C)heteroaryl groups are quinoline, isoquinoline and indole.

[(1-4C)Alkyl]amino means an amino group, monosubstituted with an alkyl group containing 1-4 carbon atoms having the same meaning as previously defined. Preferred [(1-4C)alkyl]amino group is methylamino.

Di[(1-4C)alkyl]amino means an amino group, disubstituted with alkyl group(s), each containing 1-4 carbon atoms and having the same meaning as previously defined. Preferred di[(1-4C)alkyl]amino group is dimethylamino.

Halogen means fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine.

(1-3C)Alkyl-C(O)—S-(1-3C)alkyl means an alkyl-carbonyl-thio-alkyl group, each of the alkyl groups having 1 to 3 carbon atoms with the same meaning as previously defined.

(3-7C)Cycloalkenyl means a cycloalkenyl group having 3-7 carbon atoms, preferably 5-7 carbon atoms. Preferred (3-7C)cycloalkenyl groups are cyclopentenyl or cyclohexenyl. Cyclohexenyl groups are most preferred.

(2-6C)Heterocycloalkenyl means a heterocycloalkenyl group having 2-6 carbon atoms, preferably 3-5 carbon atoms; and 1 heteroatom selected from N, O and/or S. Preferred (2-6C)heterocycloalkenyl groups are oxycyclohexenyl and azacyclohexenyl groups.

In the above definitions with multifunctional groups, the attachment point is at the last group.

When, in the definition of a substituent, it is indicated that "all of the alkyl groups" of said substituent are optionally substituted, this also includes the alkyl moiety of an alkoxy group.

A circle in a ring of Formula (I) indicates that the ring is aromatic.

Depending on the ring formed, the nitrogen, if present in X or Y, may carry a hydrogen.

The term "substituted" means that one or more hydrogens on the designated atom/atoms is/are replaced with a selection from the indicated group, provided that the designated atom's normal valency under the existing circumstances is not exceeded, and that the substitution results in a stable compound.

Combinations of substituents and/or variables are permissible only if such combinations result in stable compounds. "Stable compound" or "stable structure" is defined as a compound or structure that is sufficiently robust to survive isolation to a useful degree of purity from a reaction mixture, and formulation into an efficacious therapeutic agent.

The term "optionally substituted" means optional substitution with the specified groups, radicals or moieties.

Aspects of the Invention

In one aspect the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein B1 is C(R7); B2 is C(R8); B3 is C(R9) and B4 is C(R10).

In another aspect the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein B1 is C(R7); B2 is C(R8); B3 is C(R9); B4 is C(R10); R7, R9, and R10 each are H; and R8 is selected from a group consisting of hydrogen and methyl.

In one aspect the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein R8 is hydrogen or methyl, in particular R8 is hydrogen.

In another aspect the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein R7 is hydrogen, fluorine or (1-3C)alkoxy. In particular, R7 is hydrogen, fluorine or methoxy. Even more particularly, an aspect of the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein R7 is hydrogen.

In yet another aspect the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein R9 is hydrogen, fluorine or (1-3C)alkoxy. In particular, R9 is hydrogen, fluorine or methoxy. Even more particularly, an aspect of the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein R9 is hydrogen.

In another aspect the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein R10 is hydrogen fluorine or (1-3C)alkoxy. In particular, R10 is hydrogen, fluorine or methoxy. Even more particularly, an aspect of the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein R10 is hydrogen.

In still another aspect the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein R7 and R8 form, together with the carbon atom they are attached to, an indole or quinoline or naphthyl.

In another aspect the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein B1 is C(R7); B2 is C(R8); B3 is C(R9); B4 is C(R10) and R7, R8, R9, and R10 each are H;

In yet another aspect the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein R4 is hydrogen or methyl. In particular, R4 is hydrogen.

In still another aspect the invention relates to a compound according to Formula (I) wherein A is N.

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