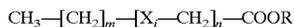


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with the proviso that at least one of the X_i is not CH_2 , and that if there is only 1 X_i that is not $\text{—CH}_2\text{—}$, then $X_{i=3}$ is CH_2 ,

or a salt, prodrug, or complex thereof.

67. A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention and treatment of obesity in animals comprising a fatty acid analogue of the general formula (I)



wherein

n is an integer from 1 to 12, and

m is an integer from 0 to 23, and

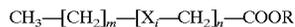
i is an odd number which indicates the position relative to COOR, and each X_i is independently selected from the group consisting of O, S, SO, SO_2 , Se, and CH_2 , and R represents hydrogen or $\text{C}_1\text{—C}_4$ alkyl,

with the proviso that at least one of the X_i is not CH_2 , and that if there is only 1 X_i that is not $\text{—CH}_2\text{—}$, then $X_{i=3}$ is CH_2 ,

or a salt, prodrug, or complex thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

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68. A nutritional composition comprising an amount of fatty acid analogue of the general formula (I)



wherein

n is an integer from 1 to 12, and

m is an integer from 0 to 23, and

i is an odd number which indicates the position relative to COOR, and

each X_i is independently selected from the group consisting of O, S, SO, SO_2 , Se, and CH_2 , and

R represents hydrogen or $\text{C}_1\text{—C}_4$ alkyl, or a salt, prodrug, or complex thereof,

with the proviso that at least one of the X_i is not CH_2 , and that if there is only 1 X_i that is not $\text{—CH}_2\text{—}$, then $X_{i=3}$ is CH_2 ,

and the amount of the fatty acid analogue is effective to reduce or maintain the total body weight or total body fat mass in an animal.

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