

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
21 February 2008 (21.02.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/019477 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:

C07D 213/62 (2006.01) *C07D 231/18* (2006.01)
A61K 31/351 (2006.01) *C07D 235/12* (2006.01)
A61K 31/381 (2006.01) *C07D 309/12* (2006.01)
A61K 31/415 (2006.01) *C07D 333/32* (2006.01)
A61K 31/4184 (2006.01) *C07D 401/06* (2006.01)
A61K 31/44 (2006.01) *C07D 401/12* (2006.01)
A61K 31/4439 (2006.01) *C07D 413/04* (2006.01)
A61K 31/497 (2006.01) *C07D 413/06* (2006.01)
A61K 31/5377 (2006.01) *C07D 417/06* (2006.01)
A61P 31/14 (2006.01)

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(21) International Application Number:

PCT/CA2007/001363

(22) International Filing Date: 6 August 2007 (06.08.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/822,711 17 August 2006 (17.08.2006) US

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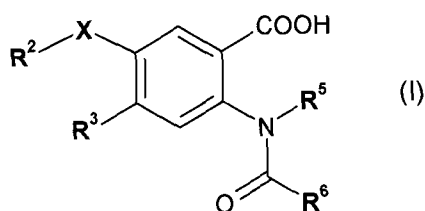
(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN,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

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- with sequence listing part of description published separately in electronic form and available upon request from the International Bureau

(54) Title: VIRAL POLYMERASE INHIBITORS



(57) Abstract: Compounds of formula (I) : wherein X, R², R³, R⁵ and R⁶ are defined herein, are useful as inhibitors of the hepatitis C virus NS5B polymerase.

VIRAL POLYMERASE INHIBITORS

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims benefit of U.S. Serial No. 60/822711, filed August 17, 2006,
5 which is herein incorporated by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to compounds, compositions and methods for the treatment of hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection. In particular, the present invention
10 provides novel inhibitors of the hepatitis C virus NS5B polymerase, pharmaceutical compositions containing such compounds and methods for using these compounds in the treatment of HCV infection.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

15 It is estimated that at least 130 million persons worldwide are infected with the hepatitis C virus (HCV). Acute HCV infection progresses to chronic infection in a high number of cases, and, in some infected individuals, chronic infection leads to serious liver diseases such as cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma.

20 Currently, standard treatment of chronic hepatitis C infection involves administration of pegylated interferon-alpha in combination with ribavirin. However, this therapy is not effective in reducing HCV RNA to undetectable levels in many infected patients and is associated with often intolerable side effects such as fever and other influenza-like symptoms, depression, thrombocytopenia and hemolytic anemia.

25 Furthermore, some HCV-infected patients have co-existing conditions which contraindicate this treatment.

Therefore, a need exists for alternative treatments for hepatitis C viral infection. One possible strategy to address this need is the development of effective antiviral
30 agents which inactivate viral or host cell factors which are essential for viral replication.

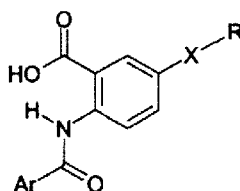
HCV is an enveloped positive strand RNA virus in the genus *Hepacivirus* in the Flaviviridae family. The single strand HCV RNA genome is approximately 9500
35 nucleotides in length and has a single open reading frame (ORF), flanked by 5' and

3' non-translated regions. The HCV 5' non-translated region is 341 nucleotides in length and functions as an internal ribosome entry site for cap-independent translation initiation. The open reading frame encodes a single large polyprotein of about 3000 amino acids which is cleaved at multiple sites by cellular and viral
5 proteases to produce the mature structural and non-structural (NS2, NS3, NS4A, NS4B, NS5A, and NS5B) proteins. The viral NS2/3 protease cleaves at the NS2-NS3 junction; while the viral NS3 protease mediates the cleavages downstream of NS3, at the NS3-NS4A, NS4A-NS4B, NS4B-NS5A and NS5A-NS5B cleavage sites. The NS3 protein also exhibits nucleoside triphosphatase and RNA helicase
10 activities. The NS4A protein acts as a cofactor for the NS3 protease and may also assist in the membrane localization of NS3 and other viral replicase components. Although NS4B and the NS5A phosphoprotein are also likely components of the replicase, their specific roles are unknown. The NS5B protein is the elongation subunit of the HCV replicase possessing RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp)
15 activity.

The development of new and specific anti-HCV treatments is a high priority, and virus-specific functions essential for replication are the most attractive targets for drug development. The absence of RNA dependent RNA polymerases in mammals,
20 and the fact that this enzyme appears to be essential to viral replication, would suggest that the NS5B polymerase is an ideal target for anti-HCV therapeutics. It has been recently demonstrated that mutations destroying NS5B activity abolish infectivity of RNA in a chimp model (Kolykhalov, A.A.; Mihalik, K.; Feinstone, S.M.; Rice, C.M.; 2000; *J. Virol.* **74**: 2046-2051).

25

WO 03/004458 describes compounds of the general formula:



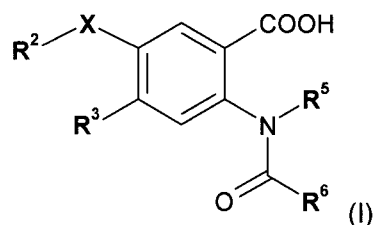
which modulate the activity of peroxisome proliferator-activated receptors α and/or γ . Similar compounds are described in Thor, M., et al, *Bioorganic & Medicinal
30 Chemistry Letters* (2002) **12**: 3565-3567; Östberg, T., et al, *Journal of Biological Chemistry* (2004) **279**(39): 41124-41130; and Hemalatha, R., et al, *E-Journal of*

Chemistry (2004) 1(5): 243-250 (abstracted in *Chemical Abstracts* 142: 190216).

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a novel series of compounds having inhibitory activity
 5 against HCV polymerase. In particular compounds according to this invention inhibit
 RNA synthesis by the RNA dependent RNA polymerase of HCV, especially the
 enzyme NS5B encoded by HCV. A further advantage of compounds provided by this
 invention is their low to very low or even non-significant activity against other
 polymerases. Further objects of this invention arise for the one skilled in the art from
 10 the following description and the examples.

One aspect of the invention provides compounds of formula (I):



wherein:

15 **X** is selected from O and S;

R² is **Het**, optionally substituted with 1 to 5 **R²⁰** substituents, wherein **R²⁰** in each case is independently selected from:

a) halo, cyano or nitro;

b) **R⁷**, -C(=O)-**R⁷**, -C(=O)-O-**R⁷**, -O-**R⁷**, -S-**R⁷**, -SO-**R⁷**, -SO₂-**R⁷**,
 20 -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-**R⁷**, -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-C(=O)-**R⁷**,
 -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-C(=O)-O-**R⁷**, -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-O-**R⁷**, -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-S-**R⁷**,
 -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-SO-**R⁷** or -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-SO₂-**R⁷**;

wherein **R⁷** is in each instance independently selected from H,
 (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₂₋₆)alkenyl, (C₂₋₆)alkynyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl,
 25 aryl and **Het**;

wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents
 each independently selected from -OH, -O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, cyano, COOH,
 -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl
 and -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)₂; and

30 wherein each of the aryl and **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3
 substituents each independently selected from:

- 5 i) halo, cyano, oxo, thioxo, imino, -OH, -O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -O-(C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, -C(=O)-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -SO₂(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -C(=O)-NH₂, -C(=O)-NH(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -C(=O)-N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)₂, -C(=O)-NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -C(=O)-N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)₂, -NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl or -NH-C(=O)(C₁₋₄)alkyl;
- 10 ii) (C₁₋₆)alkyl optionally substituted with -OH, -O-(C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, or -O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl; and
- iii) aryl or **Het**, wherein each of the aryl and **Het** is optionally substituted with halo or (C₁₋₆)alkyl; and
- 15 c) -N(R⁸)R⁹, -C(=O)-N(R⁸)R⁹, -O-C(=O)-N(R⁸)R⁹, -SO₂-N(R⁸)R⁹, -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-N(R⁸)R⁹, -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-C(=O)-N(R⁸)R⁹, -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-O-C(=O)-N(R⁸)R⁹, or -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-SO₂-N(R⁸)R⁹ wherein
- R⁸ is in each instance independently selected from H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl and (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl; and
- 20 R⁹ is in each instance independently selected from R⁷, -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-R⁷, -SO₂-R⁷, -C(=O)-R⁷, -C(=O)OR⁷ and -C(=O)N(R⁸)R⁷; wherein R⁷ and R⁸ are as defined above;
- R³ is selected from H, halo, (C₁₋₄)alkyl, -O-(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -S-(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl and -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)₂;
- 25 R⁵ is H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl or **Het**; the (C₁₋₆)alkyl and **Het** each being optionally substituted with 1 to 4 substituents each independently selected from (C₁₋₆)alkyl, **Het**, -OH, -COOH, -C(=O)-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -C(=O)-O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -SO₂(C₁₋₆)alkyl and -C(=O)-N(R⁵¹)R⁵²;
- wherein R⁵¹ is H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl or (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl; and
- 30 R⁵² is H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, aryl, **Het**, aryl-(C₁₋₃)alkyl- or **Het**-(C₁₋₃)alkyl-;
- wherein each of the (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, aryl, **Het**, aryl-(C₁₋₃)alkyl- and **Het**-(C₁₋₃)alkyl- are optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from (C₁₋₆)alkyl,

(C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, halo, oxo, -OH, -O(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -N((C₁₋₆)alkyl)₂, -NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -C(=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl and -NHC(=O)-(C₁₋₆)alkyl;

wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with OH;

5 or R⁵¹ and R⁵², together with the N to which they are attached, are linked to form a 4- to 7-membered heterocycle optionally further containing 1 to 3 heteroatoms each independently selected from N, O and S, wherein each S heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to one or two oxygen atoms to form the groups SO or SO₂;

wherein the heterocycle is optionally substituted with 1 to 3

substituents each independently selected from (C₁₋₆)alkyl,

(C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, halo, oxo, -OH, -O(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₆)alkyl,

-N((C₁₋₆)alkyl)₂, -NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl,

15 -C(=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl and -NHC(=O)-(C₁₋₆)alkyl;

wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with OH;

R⁶ is (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl or aryl;

the (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl and aryl each being optionally substituted with 1 to 5

substituents each independently selected from halo, (C₁₋₆)alkyl,

20 (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -OH, -SH, -O-(C₁₋₄)alkyl and -S-(C₁₋₄)alkyl; and

Het is a 4- to 7-membered saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heterocycle having 1

to 4 heteroatoms each independently selected from O, N and S, or a 7- to

14-membered saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heteropolycycle having

wherever possible 1 to 5 heteroatoms, each independently selected from O,

25 N and S; wherein each N heteroatom may, independently and where

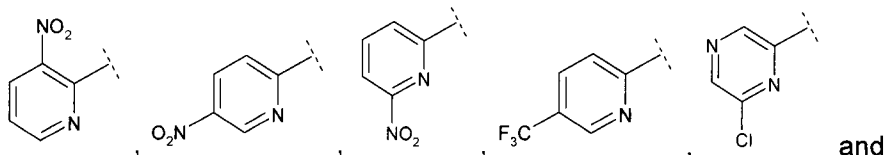
possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to an oxygen

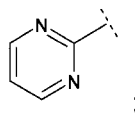
atom to form an N-oxide group and wherein each S heteroatom may,

independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is

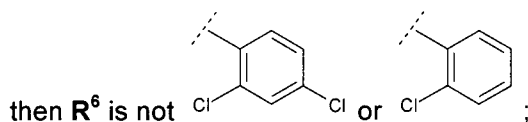
further bonded to one or two oxygen atoms to form the groups SO or SO₂;

30 provided that when R² is selected from:





X is O; R^3 is H; and R^5 is H;



or a salt or ester thereof.

5

Another aspect of this invention provides a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, as a medicament.

Still another aspect of this invention provides a pharmaceutical composition
 10 comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof; and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

According to an embodiment of this aspect, the pharmaceutical composition
 15 according to this invention additionally comprises at least one other antiviral agent.

The invention also provides the use of a pharmaceutical composition as described hereinabove for the treatment of a hepatitis C viral infection in a mammal having or at risk of having the infection.

20

A further aspect of the invention involves a method of treating a hepatitis C viral infection in a mammal having or at risk of having the infection, the method comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, or a
 25 composition thereof as described hereinabove.

Another aspect of the invention involves a method of treating a hepatitis C viral infection in a mammal having or at risk of having the infection, the method comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a
 30 combination of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, and at least one other antiviral agent; or a composition thereof.

Also within the scope of this invention is the use of a compound of formula (I) as described herein, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, for the treatment of a hepatitis C viral infection in a mammal having or at risk of having the
5 infection.

Another aspect of this invention provides the use of a compound of formula (I) as described herein, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a hepatitis C viral infection in a
10 mammal having or at risk of having the infection.

An additional aspect of this invention refers to an article of manufacture comprising a composition effective to treat a hepatitis C viral infection; and packaging material comprising a label which indicates that the composition can be used to treat infection
15 by the hepatitis C virus; wherein the composition comprises a compound of formula (I) according to this invention or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof.

Still another aspect of this invention relates to a method of inhibiting the replication of hepatitis C virus comprising exposing the virus to an effective amount of the
20 compound of formula (I), or a salt or ester thereof, under conditions where replication of hepatitis C virus is inhibited.

Further included in the scope of the invention is the use of a compound of formula (I), or a salt or ester thereof, to inhibit the replication of hepatitis C virus.
25

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Definitions

As used herein, the following definitions apply unless otherwise noted:

30 The term "substituent", as used herein and unless specified otherwise, is intended to mean an atom, radical or group which may be bonded to a carbon atom, a heteroatom or any other atom which may form part of a molecule or fragment thereof, which would otherwise be bonded to at least one hydrogen atom.
Substituents contemplated in the context of a specific molecule or fragment thereof
35 are those which give rise to chemically stable compounds, such as are recognized

by those skilled in the art.

The term "(C_{1-n})alkyl" as used herein, wherein n is an integer, either alone or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean acyclic, straight or branched chain alkyl radicals containing from 1 to n carbon atoms. "(C₁₋₆)alkyl" includes, but is not limited to, methyl, ethyl, propyl (*n*-propyl), butyl (*n*-butyl), 1-methylethyl (*iso*-propyl), 1-methylpropyl (*sec*-butyl), 2-methylpropyl (*iso*-butyl), 1,1-dimethylethyl (*tert*-butyl), pentyl and hexyl. The abbreviation Me denotes a methyl group; Et denotes an ethyl group, Pr denotes a propyl group, iPr denotes a 1-methylethyl group, Bu denotes a butyl group and tBu denotes a 1,1-dimethylethyl group.

The term "(C_{1-n})alkylene" as used herein, wherein n is an integer, either alone or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean acyclic, straight or branched chain divalent alkyl radicals containing from 1 to n carbon atoms. "(C₁₋₆)alkylene"

includes, but is not limited to, -CH₂-, -CH₂CH₂-, $\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_3 \\ | \\ \text{---C---} \\ | \\ \text{H} \end{array}$, $\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_3 \\ | \\ \text{---CH---CH}_2\text{---} \end{array}$ and $\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_3 \\ | \\ \text{---C---} \\ | \\ \text{CH}_3 \end{array}$.

The term "(C_{2-n})alkenyl", as used herein, wherein n is an integer, either alone or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean an unsaturated, acyclic straight or branched chain radical containing two to n carbon atoms, at least two of which are bonded to each other by a double bond. Examples of such radicals include, but are not limited to, ethenyl (vinyl), 1-propenyl, 2-propenyl, and 1-butenyl. Unless specified otherwise, the term "(C_{2-n})alkenyl" is understood to encompass individual stereoisomers where possible, including but not limited to (*E*) and (*Z*) isomers, and mixtures thereof. When a (C_{2-n}) alkenyl group is substituted, it is understood to be substituted on any carbon atom thereof which would otherwise bear a hydrogen atom, unless specified otherwise, such that the substitution would give rise to a chemically stable compound, such as are recognized by those skilled in the art.

30

The term "(C_{2-n})alkynyl", as used herein, wherein n is an integer, either alone or in

- combination with another radical, is intended to mean an unsaturated, acyclic straight or branched chain radical containing two to n carbon atoms, at least two of which are bonded to each other by a triple bond. Examples of such radicals include, but are not limited to, ethynyl, 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, and 1-butylnyl. When a
- 5 (C_{2-n})alkynyl group is substituted, it is understood to be substituted on any carbon atom thereof which would otherwise bear a hydrogen atom, unless specified otherwise, such that the substitution would give rise to a chemically stable compound, such as are recognized by those skilled in the art.
- 10 The term "(C_{3-m})cycloalkyl" as used herein, wherein m is an integer, either alone or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean a cycloalkyl substituent containing from 3 to m carbon atoms and includes, but is not limited to, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and cycloheptyl.
- 15 The term "(C_{3-m})cycloalkyl-(C_{1-n})alkyl-" as used herein, wherein n and m are both integers, either alone or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean an alkyl radical having 1 to n carbon atoms as defined above which is itself substituted with a cycloalkyl radical containing from 3 to m carbon atoms as defined above. Examples of (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl-(C₁₋₆)alkyl- include, but are not limited to,
- 20 cyclopropylmethyl, cyclobutylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexylmethyl, 1-cyclopropylethyl, 2-cyclopropylethyl, 1-cyclobutylethyl, 2-cyclobutylethyl, 1-cyclopentylethyl, 2-cyclopentylethyl, 1-cyclohexylethyl and 2-cyclohexylethyl. When a (C_{3-m})cycloalkyl-(C_{1-n})alkyl- group is substituted, it is understood that substituents may be attached to either the cycloalkyl or the alkyl portion thereof or both, unless
- 25 specified otherwise.

The term "aryl" as used herein, either alone or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean a carbocyclic aromatic monocyclic group containing 6 carbon atoms which may be further fused to a second 5- or 6-membered carbocyclic group

30 which may be aromatic, saturated or unsaturated. Aryl includes, but is not limited to, phenyl, indanyl, indenyl, 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, tetrahydronaphthyl and dihydronaphthyl.

The term "aryl-(C_{1-n})alkyl-" as used herein, wherein n is an integer, either alone or in

35 combination with another radical, is intended to mean an alkyl radical having 1 to n

carbon atoms as defined above which is itself substituted with an aryl radical as defined above. Examples of aryl-(C_{1-n})alkyl- include, but are not limited to, phenylmethyl (benzyl), 1-phenylethyl, 2-phenylethyl and phenylpropyl. When an aryl-(C_{1-n})alkyl- group is substituted, it is understood that substituents may be
5 attached to either the aryl or the alkyl portion thereof or both, unless specified otherwise.

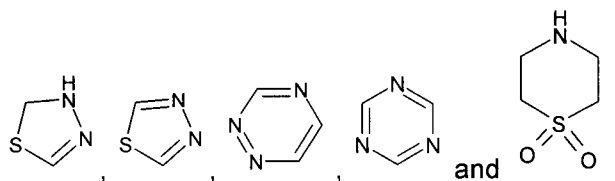
The term "**Het**" as used herein, either alone or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean a 4- to 7-membered saturated, unsaturated or aromatic
10 heterocycle having 1 to 4 heteroatoms each independently selected from O, N and S, or a 7- to 14-membered saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heteropolycycle having wherever possible 1 to 5 heteroatoms, each independently selected from O, N and S; wherein each N heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to an oxygen atom to form an N-
15 oxide group and wherein each S heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to one or two oxygen atoms to form the groups SO or SO₂, unless specified otherwise. When a **Het** group is substituted, it is understood that substituents may be attached to any carbon atom or heteroatom thereof which would otherwise bear a hydrogen atom, unless
20 specified otherwise.

The term "**Het**-(C_{1-n})alkyl-" as used herein and unless specified otherwise, wherein n is an integer, either alone or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean an alkyl radical having 1 to n carbon atoms as defined above which is itself
25 substituted with a **Het** substituent as defined above. Examples of **Het**-(C_{1-n})alkyl- include, but are not limited to, thienylmethyl, furylmethyl, piperidinylethyl, 2-pyridinylmethyl, 3-pyridinylmethyl, 4-pyridinylmethyl, quinolinypropyl, and the like. When a **Het**-(C_{1-n})alkyl- group is substituted, it is understood that substituents may be attached to either the **Het** or the alkyl portion thereof or both, unless specified
30 otherwise.

The term "heteroatom" as used herein is intended to mean O, S or N.

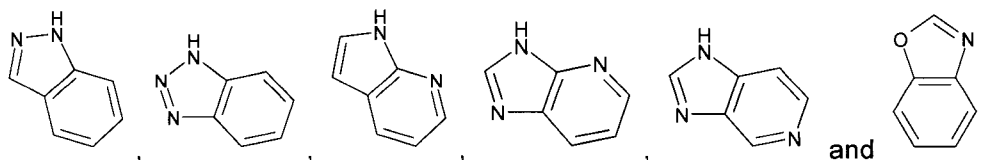
The term "heterocycle" as used herein and unless specified otherwise, either alone
35 or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean a 4- to 7-membered

saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heterocycle containing from 1 to 4 heteroatoms each independently selected from O, N and S; or a monovalent radical derived by removal of a hydrogen atom therefrom. Examples of such heterocycles include, but are not limited to, azetidine, pyrrolidine, tetrahydrofuran, tetrahydrothiophene, 5 thiazolidine, oxazolidine, pyrrole, thiophene, furan, pyrazole, imidazole, isoxazole, oxazole, isothiazole, thiazole, triazole, tetrazole, piperidine, piperazine, azepine, diazepine, pyran, 1,4-dioxane, 4-morpholine, 4-thiomorpholine, pyridine, pyridine-N-oxide, pyridazine, pyrazine, pyrimidine, and the following heterocycles:



10 and saturated, unsaturated and aromatic derivatives thereof.

The term "heteropolycycle" as used herein and unless specified otherwise, either alone or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean a heterocycle as defined above fused to one or more other cycle, including a carbocycle, a 15 heterocycle or any other cycle; or a monovalent radical derived by removal of a hydrogen atom therefrom. Examples of such heteropolycycles include, but are not limited to, indole, isoindole, benzimidazole, benzothiophene, benzofuran, benzodioxole, benzothiazole, quinoline, isoquinoline, naphthyridine, and the following heteropolycycles:



20 and saturated, unsaturated and aromatic derivatives thereof.

The term "halo" as used herein is intended to mean a halogen substituent selected from fluoro, chloro, bromo or iodo.

25

The term "(C_{1-n})haloalkyl" as used herein, wherein n is an integer, either alone or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean an alkyl radical having 1 to n carbon atoms as defined above wherein one or more hydrogen atoms are each replaced by a halo substituent. Examples of (C_{1-n})haloalkyl include but are not limited

to chloromethyl, chloroethyl, dichloroethyl, bromomethyl, bromoethyl, dibromoethyl, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, fluoroethyl and difluoroethyl.

The terms “-O-(C_{1-n})alkyl” or “(C_{1-n})alkoxy” as used herein interchangeably, wherein n is an integer, either alone or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean an oxygen atom further bonded to an alkyl radical having 1 to n carbon atoms as defined above. Examples of -O-(C_{1-n})alkyl include but are not limited to methoxy (CH₃O-), ethoxy (CH₃CH₂O-), propoxy (CH₃CH₂CH₂O-), 1-methylethoxy (*iso*-propoxy; (CH₃)₂CH-O-) and 1,1-dimethylethoxy (*tert*-butoxy; (CH₃)₃C-O-). When an -O-(C_{1-n})alkyl radical is substituted, it is understood to be substituted on the (C_{1-n})alkyl portion thereof.

The terms “-S-(C_{1-n})alkyl” or “(C_{1-n})alkylthio” as used herein interchangeably, wherein n is an integer, either alone or in combination with another radical, is intended to mean an sulfur atom further bonded to an alkyl radical having 1 to n carbon atoms as defined above. Examples of -S-(C_{1-n})alkyl include but are not limited to methylthio (CH₃S-), ethylthio (CH₃CH₂S-), propylthio (CH₃CH₂CH₂S-), 1-methylethylthio (*isopropyl*thio; (CH₃)₂CH-S-) and 1,1-dimethylethylthio (*tert*-butylthio; (CH₃)₃C-S-). When -S-(C_{1-n})alkyl radical, or an oxidized derivative thereof, such as an -SO-(C_{1-n})alkyl radical or an -SO₂-(C_{1-n})alkyl radical, is substituted, each is understood to be substituted on the (C_{1-n})alkyl portion thereof.

The term “oxo” as used herein is intended to mean an oxygen atom attached to a carbon atom as a substituent by a double bond (=O).

The term “thioxo” as used herein is intended to mean a sulfur atom attached to a carbon atom as a substituent by a double bond (=S).


The term “imino” as used herein is intended to mean a NH group attached to a carbon atom as a substituent by a double bond (=NH).

The term “COOH” as used herein is intended to mean a carboxyl group (-C(=O)-OH). It is well known to one skilled in the art that carboxyl groups may be substituted by functional group equivalents. Examples of such functional group equivalents contemplated in this invention include, but are not limited to, esters, amides, imides,

boronic acids, phosphonic acids, phosphoric acids, tetrazoles, triazoles,
N-acylsulfamides ($\text{RCONHSO}_2\text{NR}_2$), and N-acylsulfonamides ($\text{RCONHSO}_2\text{R}$).

5 The term "functional group equivalent" as used herein is intended to mean an atom
or group that may replace another atom or group which has similar electronic,
hybridization or bonding properties.

10 The term "protecting group" as used herein is intended to mean protecting groups
that can be used during synthetic transformation, including but not limited to
examples which are listed in Greene, "Protective Groups in Organic Chemistry",
John Wiley & Sons, New York (1981), and more recent editions thereof, herein
incorporated by reference.

15 The following designation  is used in sub-formulas to indicate the bond which
is connected to the rest of the molecule as defined.

20 The term "salt thereof" as used herein is intended to mean any acid and/or base
addition salt of a compound according to the invention, including but not limited to a
pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25 The term "pharmaceutically acceptable salt" as used herein is intended to mean a
salt of a compound according to the invention which is, within the scope of sound
medical judgment, suitable for use in contact with the tissues of humans and lower
animals without undue toxicity, irritation, allergic response, and the like,
commensurate with a reasonable benefit/risk ratio, generally water or oil-soluble or
dispersible, and effective for their intended use. The term includes pharmaceutically-
acceptable acid addition salts and pharmaceutically-acceptable base addition salts.
Lists of suitable salts are found in, for example, S.M. Birge et al., J. Pharm. Sci.,
1977, 66, pp. 1-19, herein incorporated by reference.

30 The term "pharmaceutically-acceptable acid addition salt" as used herein is intended
to mean those salts which retain the biological effectiveness and properties of the
free bases and which are not biologically or otherwise undesirable, formed with
inorganic acids including but not limited to hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid,

sulfuric acid, sulfamic acid, nitric acid, phosphoric acid and the like, and organic acids including but not limited to acetic acid, trifluoroacetic acid, adipic acid, ascorbic acid, aspartic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, benzoic acid, butyric acid, camphoric acid, camphorsulfonic acid, cinnamic acid, citric acid, digluconic acid, ethanesulfonic acid, glutamic acid, glycolic acid, glycerophosphoric acid, hemisulfic acid, hexanoic acid, formic acid, fumaric acid, 2-hydroxyethanesulfonic acid (isethionic acid), lactic acid, hydroxymaleic acid, malic acid, malonic acid, mandelic acid, mesitylenesulfonic acid, methanesulfonic acid, naphthalenesulfonic acid, nicotinic acid, 2-naphthalenesulfonic acid, oxalic acid, pamoic acid, pectinic acid, phenylacetic acid, 3-phenylpropionic acid, pivalic acid, propionic acid, pyruvic acid, salicylic acid, stearic acid, succinic acid, sulfanilic acid, tartaric acid, p-toluenesulfonic acid, undecanoic acid and the like.

The term "pharmaceutically-acceptable base addition salt" as used herein is intended to mean those salts which retain the biological effectiveness and properties of the free acids and which are not biologically or otherwise undesirable, formed with inorganic bases including but not limited to ammonia or the hydroxide, carbonate, or bicarbonate of ammonium or a metal cation such as sodium, potassium, lithium, calcium, magnesium, iron, zinc, copper, manganese, aluminum and the like. Particularly preferred are the ammonium, potassium, sodium, calcium, and magnesium salts. Salts derived from pharmaceutically-acceptable organic nontoxic bases include but are not limited to salts of primary, secondary, and tertiary amines, quaternary amine compounds, substituted amines including naturally occurring substituted amines, cyclic amines and basic ion-exchange resins, such as methylamine, dimethylamine, trimethylamine, ethylamine, diethylamine, triethylamine, isopropylamine, tripropylamine, tributylamine, ethanolamine, diethanolamine, 2-dimethylaminoethanol, 2-diethylaminoethanol, dicyclohexylamine, lysine, arginine, histidine, caffeine, hydrabamine, choline, betaine, ethylenediamine, glucosamine, methylglucamine, theobromine, purines, piperazine, piperidine, N-ethylpiperidine, tetramethylammonium compounds, tetraethylammonium compounds, pyridine, N,N-dimethylaniline, N-methylpiperidine, N-methylmorpholine, dicyclohexylamine, dibenzylamine, N,N-dibenzylphenethylamine, 1-ephedrine, N,N'-dibenzylethylenediamine, polyamine resins and the like. Particularly preferred organic nontoxic bases are isopropylamine, diethylamine, ethanolamine, trimethylamine, dicyclohexylamine, choline, and caffeine.

- The term "ester thereof" as used herein is intended to mean any ester of a compound according to the invention in which any of the -COOH substituents of the molecule is replaced by a -COOR substituent, in which the **R** moiety of the ester is any carbon-containing group which forms a stable ester moiety, including but not limited to alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, each of which being optionally further substituted. The term "ester thereof" includes but is not limited to pharmaceutically acceptable esters thereof.
- 10 The term "pharmaceutically acceptable ester" as used herein is intended to mean esters of the compound according to the invention in which any of the COOH substituents of the molecule are replaced by a -COOR substituent, in which the **R** moiety of the ester is selected from alkyl (including, but not limited to, methyl, ethyl, propyl, 1-methylethyl, 1,1-dimethylethyl, butyl); alkoxyalkyl (including, but not limited to methoxymethyl); acyloxyalkyl (including, but not limited to acetoxymethyl); arylalkyl (including, but not limited to, benzyl); aryloxyalkyl (including, but not limited to, phenoxymethyl); and aryl (including, but not limited to phenyl) optionally substituted with halogen, (C₁₋₄)alkyl or (C₁₋₄)alkoxy. Other suitable esters can be found in Design of Prodrugs, Bundgaard, H. Ed. Elsevier (1985), herein incorporated by reference.
- 15 Such pharmaceutically acceptable esters are usually hydrolyzed *in vivo* when injected into a mammal and transformed into the acid form of the compound according to the invention. With regard to the esters described above, unless otherwise specified, any alkyl moiety present preferably contains 1 to 16 carbon atoms, more preferably 1 to 6 carbon atoms. Any aryl moiety present in such esters preferably comprises a phenyl group. In particular the esters may be a (C₁₋₁₆)alkyl ester, an unsubstituted benzyl ester or a benzyl ester substituted with at least one halogen, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)alkoxy, nitro or trifluoromethyl.

- The term "mammal" as used herein is intended to encompass humans, as well as non-human mammals which are susceptible to infection by hepatitis C virus. Non-human mammals include but are not limited to domestic animals, such as cows, pigs, horses, dogs, cats, rabbits, rats and mice, and non-domestic animals.

- The term "treatment" as used herein is intended to mean the administration of a compound or composition according to the present invention to alleviate or eliminate

symptoms of the hepatitis C disease and/or to reduce viral load in a patient. The term "treatment" also encompasses the administration of a compound or composition according to the present invention post-exposure of the individual to the virus but before the appearance of symptoms of the disease, and/or prior to the
5 detection of the virus in the blood, to prevent the appearance of symptoms of the disease and/or to prevent the virus from reaching detectable levels in the blood.

The term "therapeutically effective amount" means an amount of a compound according to the invention, which when administered to a patient in need thereof, is
10 sufficient to effect treatment for disease-states, conditions, or disorders for which the compounds have utility. Such an amount would be sufficient to elicit the biological or medical response of a tissue system, or patient that is sought by a researcher or clinician. The amount of a compound according to the invention which constitutes a therapeutically effective amount will vary depending on such factors as the
15 compound and its biological activity, the composition used for administration, the time of administration, the route of administration, the rate of excretion of the compound, the duration of the treatment, the type of disease-state or disorder being treated and its severity, drugs used in combination with or coincidentally with the compounds of the invention, and the age, body weight, general health, sex and diet
20 of the patient. Such a therapeutically effective amount can be determined routinely by one of ordinary skill in the art having regard to their own knowledge, the state of the art, and this disclosure.

The term "antiviral agent" as used herein is intended to mean an agent that is
25 effective to inhibit the formation and/or replication of a virus in a mammal, including but not limited to agents that interfere with either host or viral mechanisms necessary for the formation and/or replication of a virus in a mammal.

Preferred embodiments

30 In the following preferred embodiments, groups and substituents of the compounds according to this invention are described in detail.

X:

X-A: In one embodiment, **X** is O.

35 **X-B:** In another embodiment, **X** is S.

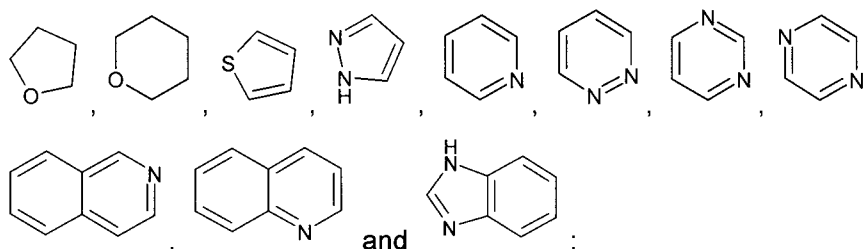
Any and each individual definition of **X** as set out herein may be combined with any and each individual definition of **R²**, **R³**, **R⁵** and **R⁶** as set out herein.

5 **R²:**

Het-A: In one embodiment, **R²** is **Het** wherein **Het** is a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing 1 to 3 heteroatoms each independently selected from O, N and S, or a 9- or 10-membered bicyclic heteropolycycle containing 1 to 3 heteroatoms each independently selected from O, N and S; wherein **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 5 **R²⁰** substituents, wherein **R²⁰** is as defined herein.

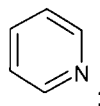
Het-B: In another embodiment, **R²** is **Het** wherein **Het** is a 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocycle containing 1 or 2 N heteroatoms, or a 9- or 10-membered bicyclic heteropolycycle containing 1 or 2 N heteroatoms; wherein **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 **R²⁰** substituents, wherein **R²⁰** is as defined herein.

Het-C: In another embodiment, **R²** is **Het** selected from the following formulas:



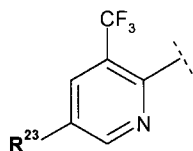
20 wherein **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 **R²⁰** substituents, wherein **R²⁰** is as defined herein.

Het-D: In another embodiment, **R²** is **Het** of the formula:



25 wherein **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 **R²⁰** substituents, wherein **R²⁰** is as defined herein.

Het-E: In another embodiment, **R²** is a group of the formula:



wherein R^{23} is R^{20} as defined herein.

R^{20} -A: In one embodiment, R^{20} is selected from:

- 5 a) halo, cyano or nitro;
- b) R^7 , $-(C_{1-6})$ alkylene- R^7 , $-C(=O)-R^7$, $-O-R^7$, $-C(=O)-O-R^7$,
 $-(C_{1-6})$ alkylene- $O-R^7$, $-S-R^7$, $-SO_2-R^7$, $-(C_{1-6})$ alkylene- $S-R^7$ or
 $-(C_{1-6})$ alkylene- SO_2-R^7 ;
 wherein R^7 is in each instance independently selected from H,
 10 (C_{1-6}) alkyl, (C_{2-6}) alkenyl, (C_{1-6}) haloalkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl, aryl and **Het**;
 wherein the **Het** is a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing 1 to 4
 heteroatoms, each independently selected from N, O and S, or **Het** is
 a 9- or 10-membered heteropolycycle containing 1 to 4 heteroatoms,
 each independently selected from N, O and S; wherein each N
 15 heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an
 oxidized state such that it is further bonded to an oxygen atom to form
 an N-oxide group and wherein each S heteroatom may,
 independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that
 it is further bonded to one or two oxygen atoms to form the groups SO
 20 or SO_2 ; and
 wherein the (C_{1-6}) alkyl is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents
 each independently selected from $-OH$, $-O-(C_{1-6})$ alkyl and $COOH$;
 and
 wherein each of the aryl and **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3
 25 substituents each independently selected from halo, cyano, oxo,
 imino, $-OH$, $-O-(C_{1-6})$ alkyl, $-NH_2$, $-NH(C_{1-4})$ alkyl, $-N((C_{1-4})alkyl)_2$,
 $-NH-C(=O)(C_{1-4})$ alkyl, (C_{1-6}) alkyl and **Het**, wherein the **Het** is a 5- or 6-
 membered heterocycle containing 1 to 4 heteroatoms, each
 independently selected from N, O and S; and
 30 c) $-N(R^8)R^9$, $-(C_{1-6})$ alkylene- $N(R^8)R^9$ or $-(C_{1-6})$ alkylene- $C(=O)-N(R^8)R^9$
 wherein
 R^8 is in each instance independently selected from H and (C_{1-6}) alkyl;

and

R^9 is in each instance independently selected from R^7 , $-SO_2-R^7$, $-C(=O)-R^7$, $-C(=O)OR^7$ and $-C(=O)N(R^8)R^7$; wherein R^7 and R^8 are as defined above.

5

R^{20} -B: In another embodiment, R^{20} is selected from:

- a) halo or cyano;
- b) R^7 , $-(C_{1-6})alkylene-R^7$, $-C(=O)-R^7$, $-(C_{1-6})alkylene-O-R^7$, $-SO_2-R^7$, $-(C_{1-6})alkylene-S-R^7$ or $-(C_{1-6})alkylene-SO_2-R^7$;

10

wherein R^7 is in each instance independently selected from H, $(C_{1-6})alkyl$, $(C_{2-6})alkenyl$, $(C_{1-6})haloalkyl$, $(C_{3-7})cycloalkyl$, aryl and **Het**; wherein the **Het** is a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing 1 to 4 heteroatoms, each independently selected from N, O and S, or **Het** is a 9- or 10-membered heteropolycycle containing 1 to 4 heteroatoms, each independently selected from N, O and S; wherein each N heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to an oxygen atom to form an N-oxide group and wherein each S heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to one or two oxygen atoms to form the groups SO or SO_2 ; and

15

20

wherein the $(C_{1-6})alkyl$ is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents each independently selected from $-OH$, $-O-(C_{1-6})alkyl$ and $COOH$; and

25

wherein each of the aryl and **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, cyano, oxo, imino, $-OH$, $-O-(C_{1-6})alkyl$, $-NH_2$, $-NH(C_{1-4})alkyl$, $-N((C_{1-4})alkyl)_2$, $-NH-C(=O)(C_{1-4})alkyl$, $(C_{1-6})alkyl$ and **Het**, wherein the **Het** is a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing 1 to 4 heteroatoms, each independently selected from N, O and S; and

30

- c) $-(C_{1-6})alkylene-N(R^8)R^9$ or $-(C_{1-6})alkylene-C(=O)-N(R^8)R^9$ wherein R^8 is in each instance independently selected from H and $(C_{1-6})alkyl$; and

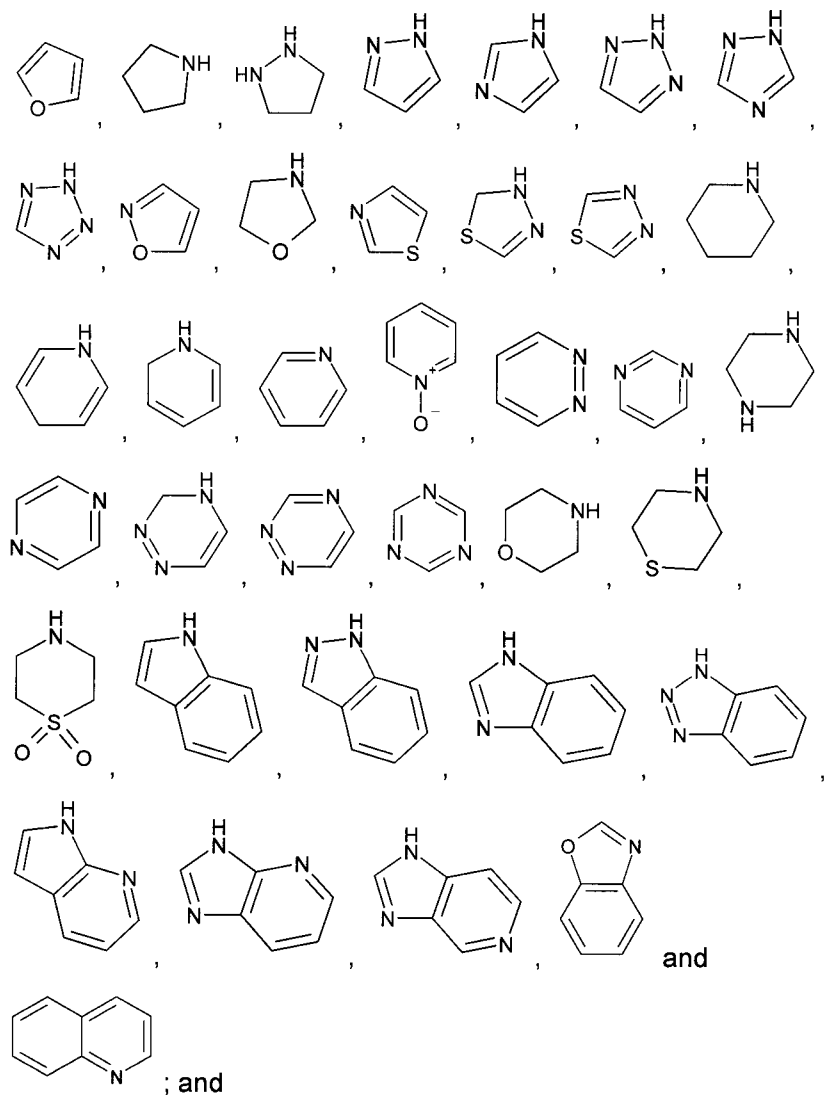
R^9 is in each instance independently selected from R^7 , $-SO_2-R^7$,

-C(=O)-R⁷, -C(=O)OR⁷ and -C(=O)N(R⁸)R⁷; wherein R⁷ and R⁸ are as defined above.

R²⁰-C: In another embodiment, R²⁰ is selected from:

- 5 a) halo or cyano;
b) R^7 , $-CH_2-R^7$, $-C(=O)-R^7$, $-CH_2-O-R^7$, $-SO_2-R^7$, $-CH_2-S-R^7$ or $-CH_2-SO_2-R^7$;

wherein **R**⁷ is in each instance independently selected from H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₂₋₆)alkenyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, phenyl and **Het**; wherein the **Het** is selected from:

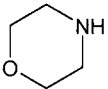


wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents

each independently selected from $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{O}-(\text{C}_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$ and COOH ;
and

wherein each of the phenyl and **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to
3 substituents each independently selected from halo, cyano, oxo,
imino, $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{O}-(\text{C}_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{NH}(\text{C}_{1-4})\text{alkyl}$, $-\text{N}((\text{C}_{1-4})\text{alkyl})_2$,

5

$-\text{NH}-\text{C}(=\text{O})(\text{C}_{1-4})\text{alkyl}$, $(\text{C}_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$ and ; and

c) $-\text{CH}_2-\text{N}(\text{R}^8)\text{R}^9$ or $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{N}(\text{R}^8)\text{R}^9$ wherein

R^8 is in each instance independently selected from H and $(\text{C}_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$;
and

10

R^9 is in each instance independently selected from R^7 , $-\text{SO}_2-\text{R}^7$,
 $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{OR}^7$ and $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{N}(\text{R}^8)\text{R}^7$; wherein R^7 and R^8 are as
defined above.

R²⁰-D: In another embodiment, R^{20} is selected from:

15

b) $-(\text{C}_{1-3})\text{alkylene}-\text{R}^7$, $-(\text{C}_{1-3})\text{alkylene}-\text{O}-\text{R}^7$, $-(\text{C}_{1-3})\text{alkylene}-\text{S}-\text{R}^7$ or
 $-(\text{C}_{1-3})\text{alkylene}-\text{SO}_2-\text{R}^7$;

wherein R^7 is **Het**; wherein the **Het** is a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle
containing 1 to 4 heteroatoms, each independently selected from N,
O and S, or **Het** is a 9- or 10-membered heteropolycycle containing 1
to 4 heteroatoms, each independently selected from N, O and S;

20

wherein each N heteroatom may, independently and where possible,
exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to an oxygen
atom to form an N-oxide group and wherein each S heteroatom may,
independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that
it is further bonded to one or two oxygen atoms to form the groups SO
or SO_2 ;

25

wherein the **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each
independently selected from halo, cyano, oxo, imino, $-\text{OH}$,

$-\text{O}-(\text{C}_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$, $-\text{O}-(\text{C}_{1-6})\text{haloalkyl}$, $(\text{C}_{3-7})\text{cycloalkyl}$, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{NH}(\text{C}_{1-4})\text{alkyl}$,
 $-\text{NH}(\text{C}_{3-7})\text{cycloalkyl}$, $-\text{N}((\text{C}_{1-4})\text{alkyl})(\text{C}_{3-7})\text{cycloalkyl}$, $-\text{N}((\text{C}_{1-4})\text{alkyl})_2$,

30

$-\text{NH}-\text{C}(=\text{O})(\text{C}_{1-4})\text{alkyl}$, $(\text{C}_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$ and **Het**, wherein the **Het** is a 5- or 6-
membered heterocycle containing 1 to 4 heteroatoms, each
independently selected from N, O and S; and

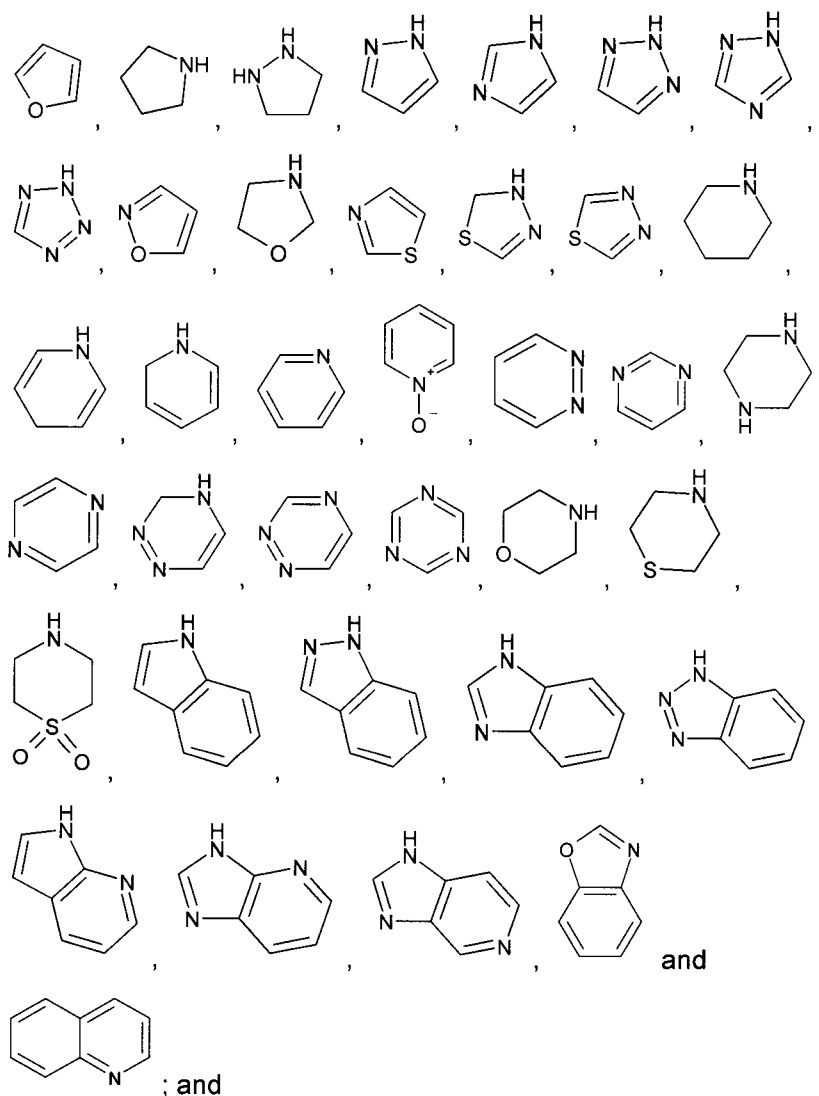
- c) $-(C_{1-3})\text{alkylene}-N(R^8)R^9$ wherein
 R^8 is in each instance independently selected from H, (C_{1-6}) alkyl and
 (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl; and
 R^9 is R^7 wherein R^7 is as defined above.

5

R²⁰-E: In another embodiment, R^{20} is selected from:

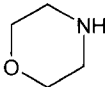
- b) $-\text{CH}_2-R^7$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-R^7$, $-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-R^7$, $-\text{CH}_2-\text{S}-R^7$ or $-\text{CH}_2-\text{SO}_2-R^7$;
 wherein R^7 is **Het**; wherein the **Het** is selected from:

10



15

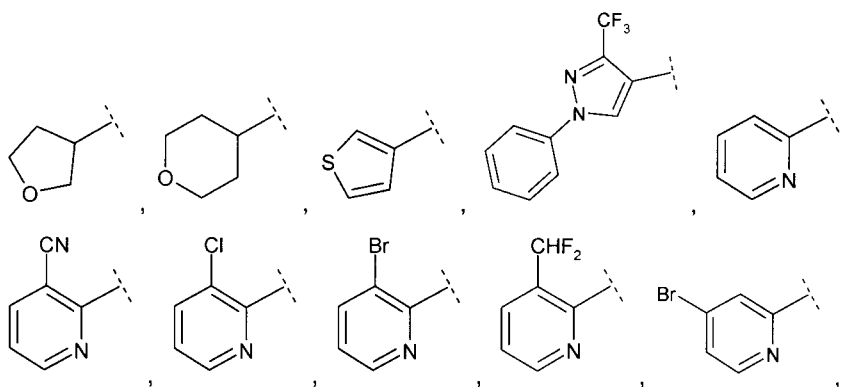
wherein the **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each
 independently selected from halo, cyano, oxo, imino, -OH,
 $-\text{O}-(C_{1-6})$ alkyl, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{NH}(C_{1-4})$ alkyl, $-\text{N}((C_{1-4})\text{alkyl})_2$,

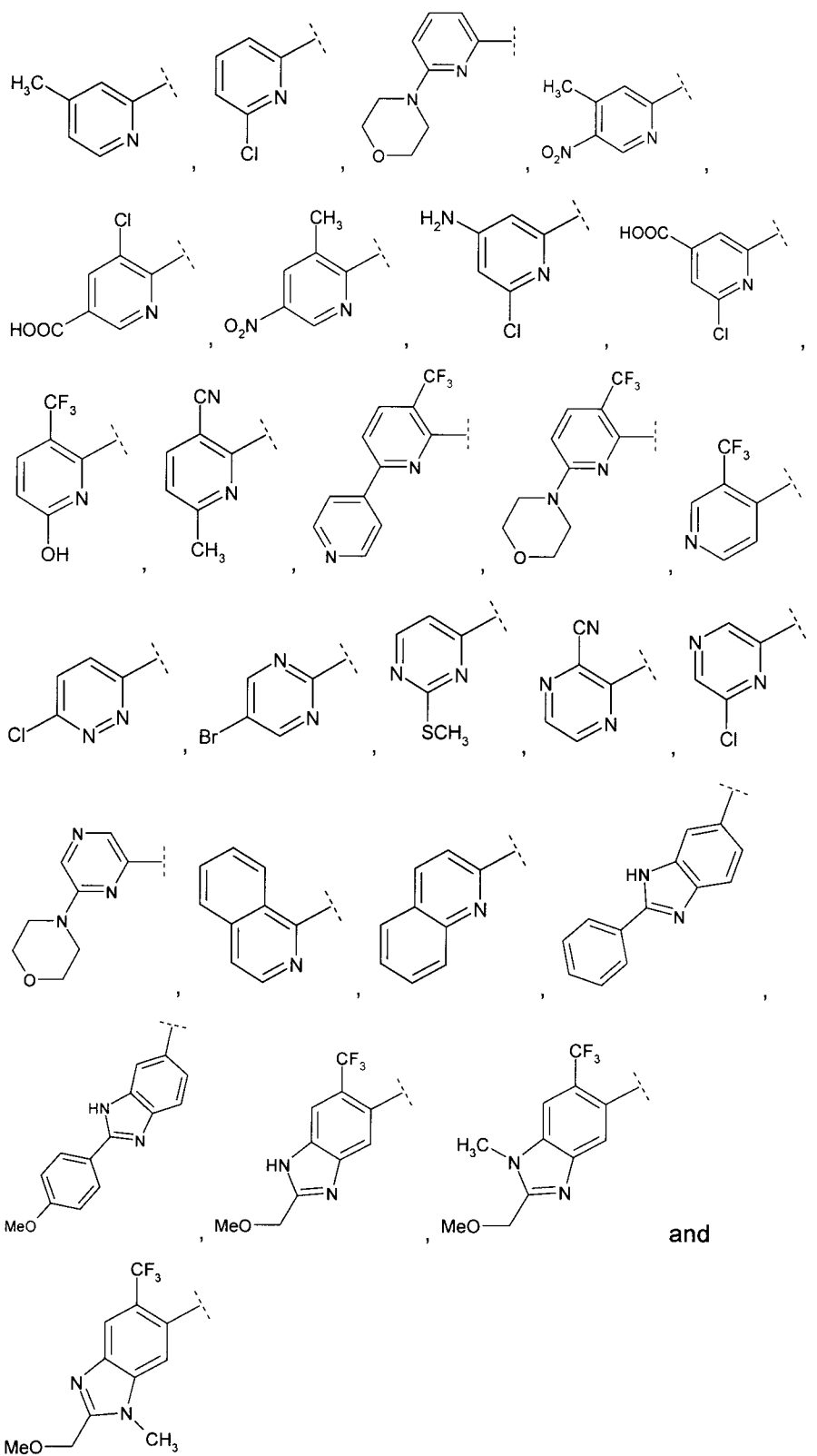
- NH-C(=O)(C₁₋₄)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)alkyl and  ; and
- c) -CH₂-N(R⁸)R⁹ wherein
- R⁸ is in each instance independently selected from H and (C₁₋₆)alkyl;
- and
- 5 R⁹ is R⁷ wherein R⁷ is as defined above.

Therefore, examples of embodiments of R² are set forth in the following table, wherein each substituent group is defined according to the definitions set forth above:

Embodiment	Het	R ²⁰
R ² -A	Het-A	R ²⁰ -A
R ² -B	Het-B	R ²⁰ -A
R ² -C	Het-C	R ²⁰ -A
R ² -D	Het-D	R ²⁰ -A
R ² -E	Het-E	R ²⁰ -A
R ² -F	Het-E	R ²⁰ -B
R ² -G	Het-E	R ²⁰ -C
R ² -H	Het-E	R ²⁰ -D
R ² -I	Het-E	R ²⁰ -E

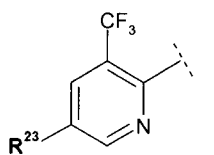
10 R²-J: In another embodiment, R² is selected from:



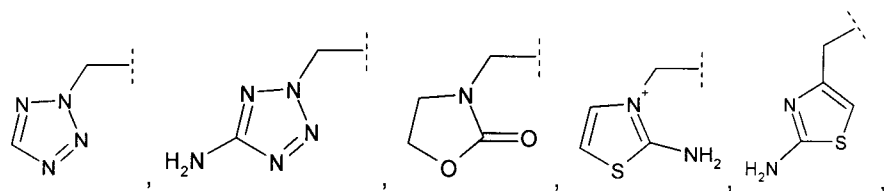
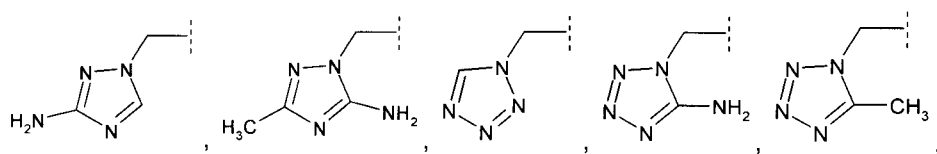
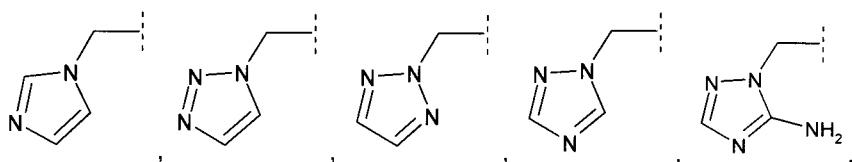
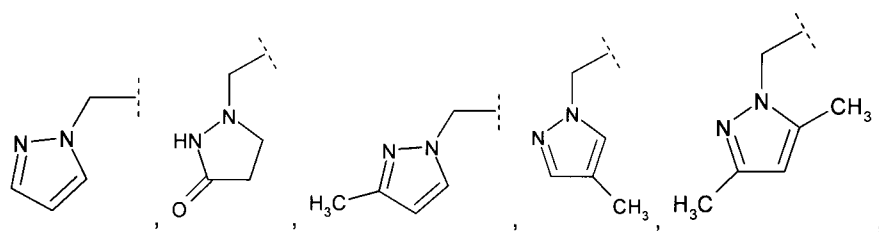
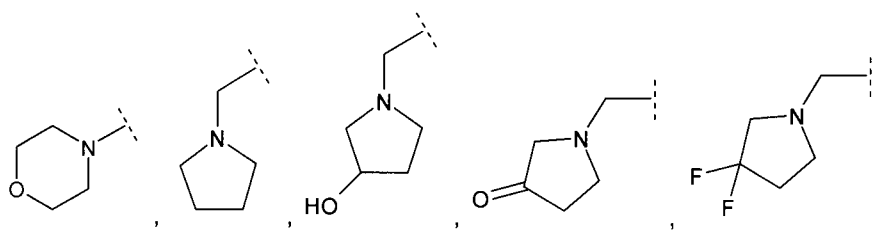
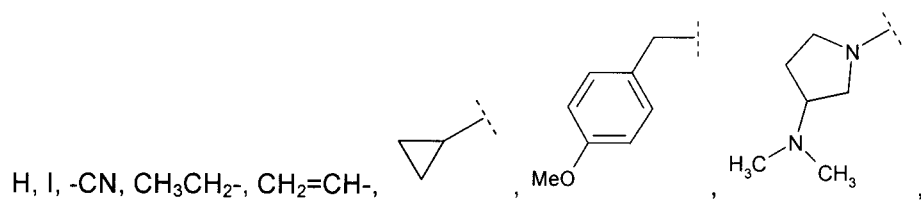


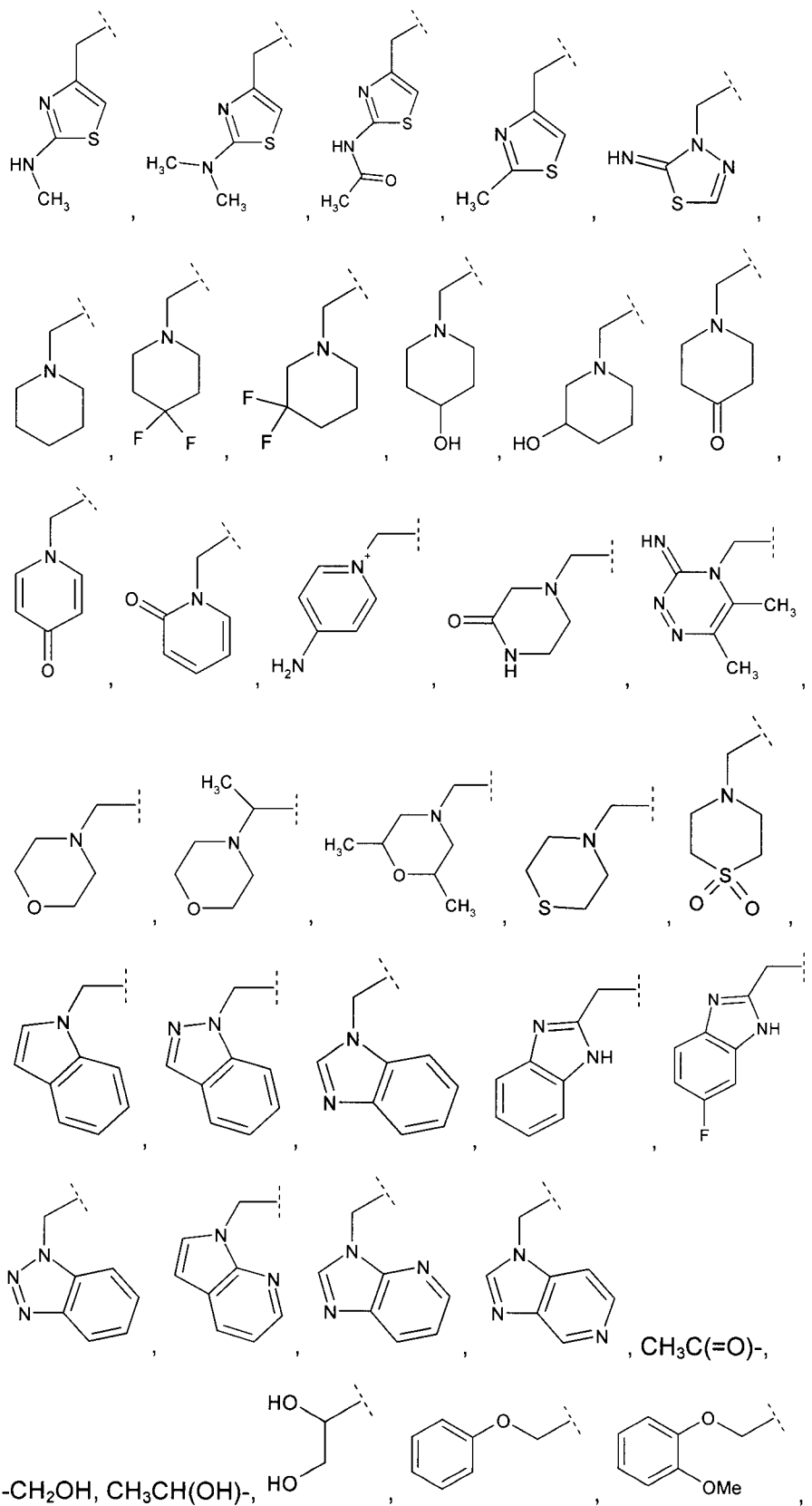
and

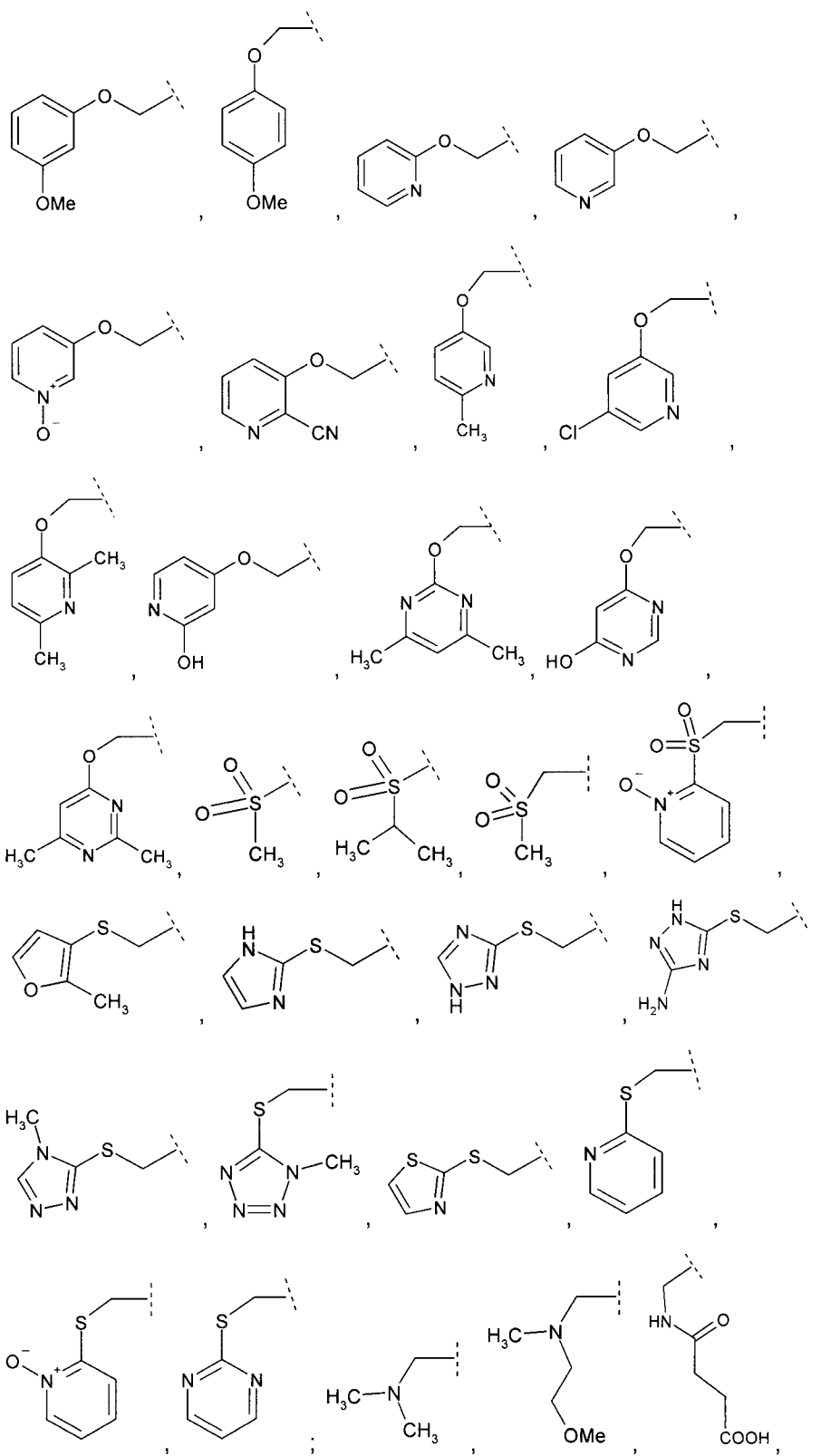
or R^2 is a group of the formula:

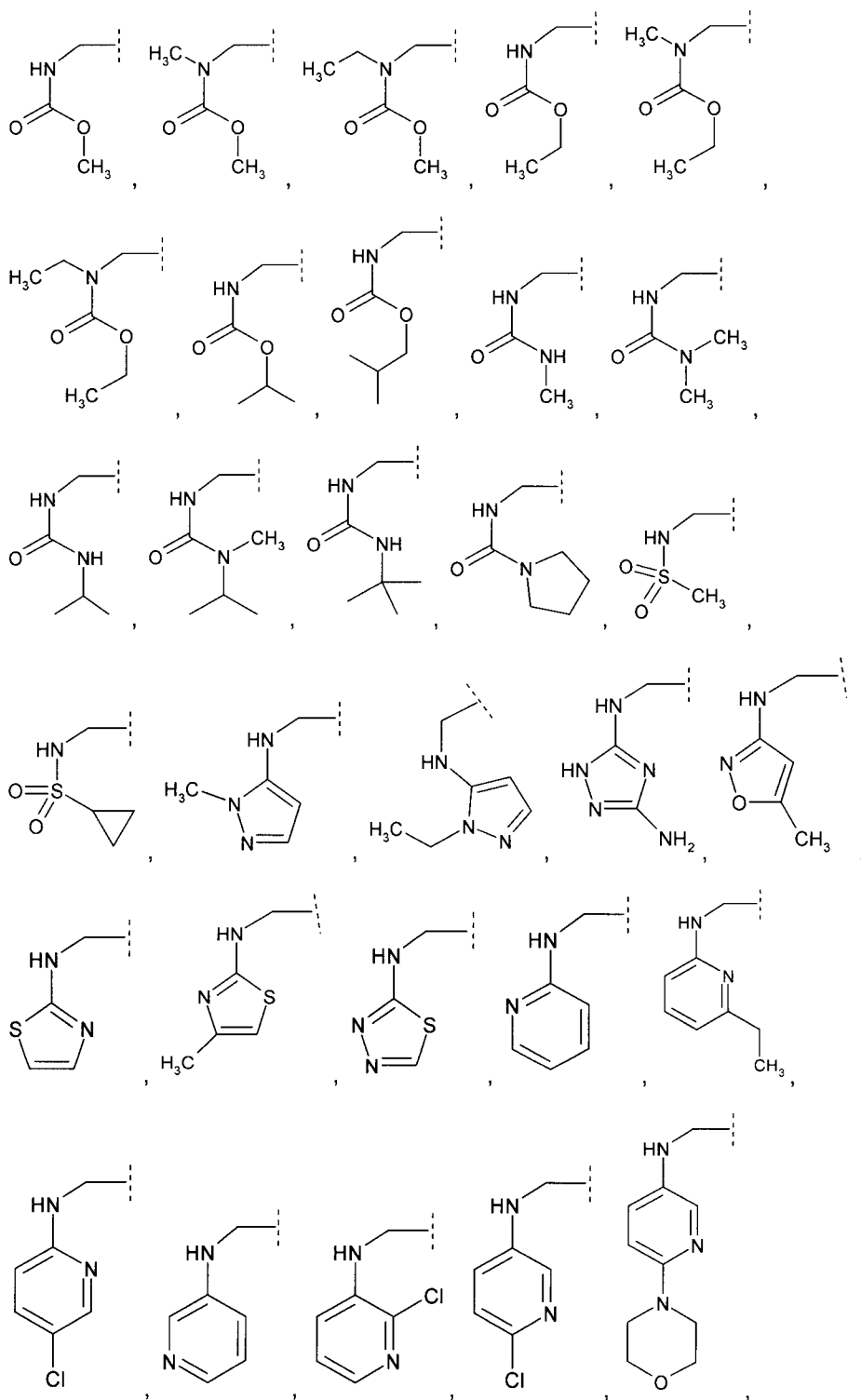


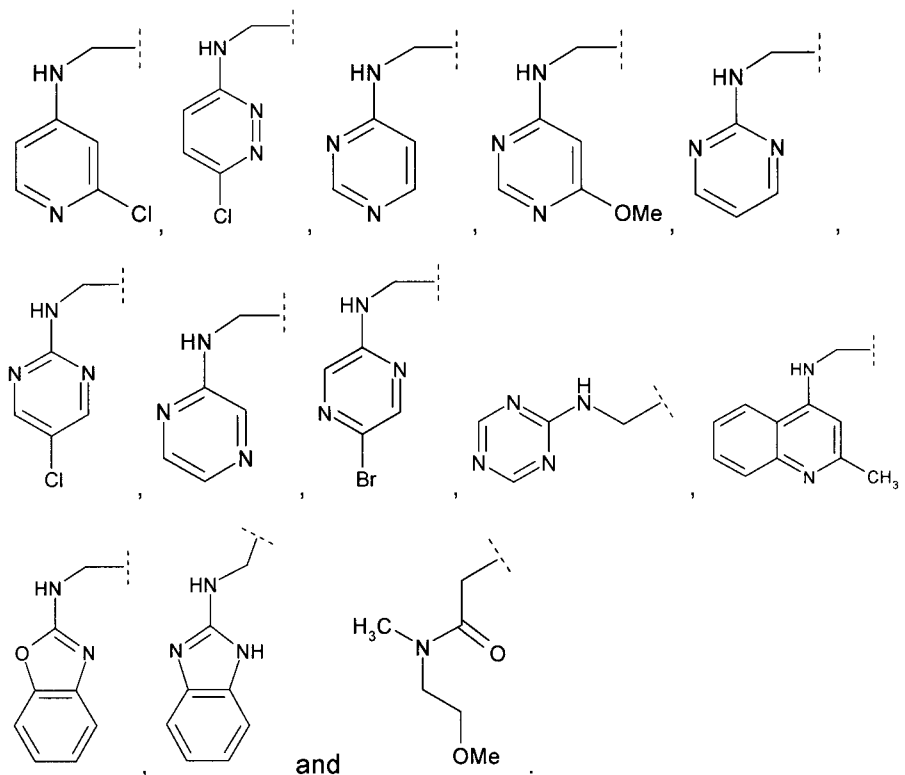
wherein R^{23} is selected from:











- 5 Any and each individual definition of R^2 as set out herein may be combined with any and each individual definition of X , R^3 , R^5 and R^6 as set out herein.

R^3 :

- R^3 -A: In one embodiment, R^3 is selected from H, halo, (C_{1-4}) alkyl, $-O-(C_{1-4})$ alkyl and
 10 $-N((C_{1-4})alkyl)_2$.
 R^3 -B: In another embodiment, R^3 is selected from H and halo.
 R^3 -C: In another embodiment, R^3 is H or F.
 R^3 -D: In another embodiment, R^3 is H.

- 15 Any and each individual definition of R^3 as set out herein may be combined with any and each individual definition of X , R^2 , R^5 and R^6 as set out herein.

R^5 :

- R^5 -A: In one embodiment, R^5 is (C_{1-6}) alkyl.
 20 R^5 -B: In another embodiment, R^5 is methyl or 1-methylethyl.
 R^5 -C: In another embodiment, R^5 is 1-methylethyl.

R⁵-D: In another embodiment, **R⁵** is (C₁₋₄)alkyl substituted with **Het**, -COOH or -C(=O)-N(**R⁵¹**)**R⁵²**, wherein the **Het** is a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing from 1 to 4 N heteroatoms or **Het** is a 9- or 10-membered bicyclic heteropolycycle containing from 1 to 4 N heteroatoms;
 5 and wherein **R⁵¹** is H or (C₁₋₆)alkyl and **R⁵²** is selected from H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, **Het** and **Het**-(C₁₋₃)alkyl-;

wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents each independently selected from -O(C₁₋₆)alkyl and -N((C₁₋₆)alkyl)₂; and wherein the **Het** and the **Het** portion of **Het**-(C₁₋₃)alkyl- are each
 10 independently a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing 1 to 3 heteroatoms each independently selected from N, O and S, wherein the **Het** and the **Het**-(C₁₋₃)alkyl- are each optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, oxo, -OH, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, -C(=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -N((C₁₋₆)alkyl)₂ and
 15 -NH(C=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl,

wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with OH; or **R⁵¹** and **R⁵²**, together with the N to which they are attached, are linked to form a 4- to 7-membered heterocycle optionally further containing 1 to 3
 20 heteroatoms each independently selected from N, O and S, wherein each S heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to one or two oxygen atoms to form the groups SO or SO₂;

wherein the heterocycle is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, oxo, -OH, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, -C(=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -N((C₁₋₆)alkyl)₂ and
 25 -NH(C=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl,

wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with OH.


R⁵-E: In another embodiment, **R⁵** is (C₁₋₂)alkyl substituted with **Het**, -COOH or

-C(=O)-N(**R⁵¹**)**R⁵²**, wherein the **Het** is selected from  and  ;

30 and wherein **R⁵¹** is H or (C₁₋₆)alkyl and **R⁵²** is selected from H, (C₁₋₄)alkyl, (C₃₋₆)cycloalkyl, **Het** and **Het**-(C₁₋₃)alkyl-;

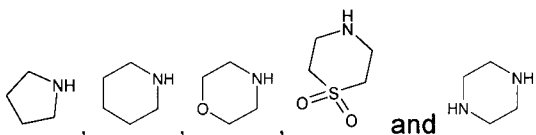
wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents

each independently selected from $-O(C_{1-4})\text{alkyl}$ and $-N((C_{1-4})\text{alkyl})_2$;
and wherein the **Het** and the **Het** portion of **Het**-(C_{1-3})alkyl- are each

independently selected from:  and 

wherein the **Het** and the **Het**-(C_{1-3})alkyl- are each optionally
substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from
halo, oxo, -OH, (C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{1-6})haloalkyl, $-(C=O)(C_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$,
 $-N((C_{1-6})\text{alkyl})_2$ and $-NH(C=O)(C_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$,

wherein the (C_{1-6})alkyl is optionally substituted with OH;
or R^{51} and R^{52} , together with the N to which they are attached, are linked to
form a heterocycle selected from:



wherein the heterocycle is optionally substituted with 1 to 3
substituents each independently selected from halo, oxo, -OH,
(C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{1-6})haloalkyl, $-(C=O)(C_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$, $-N((C_{1-6})\text{alkyl})_2$ and
 $-NH(C=O)(C_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$,

wherein the (C_{1-6})alkyl is optionally substituted with OH.

R^{5-F}: In another embodiment, R^5 is $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{N}(R^{51})R^{52}$;

wherein R^{51} is H or (C_{1-6})alkyl and R^{52} is selected from H, (C_{1-6})alkyl,
(C_{3-7})cycloalkyl, **Het** and **Het**-(C_{1-3})alkyl-;

wherein the (C_{1-6})alkyl is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents
each independently selected from $-O(C_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$ and $-N((C_{1-6})\text{alkyl})_2$;
and wherein the **Het** and the **Het** portion of **Het**-(C_{1-3})alkyl- are each
independently a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing 1 to 3
heteroatoms each independently selected from N, O and S, wherein
the **Het** and the **Het**-(C_{1-3})alkyl- are each optionally substituted with 1
to 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, oxo, -OH,
(C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{1-6})haloalkyl, $-(C=O)(C_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$, $-N((C_{1-6})\text{alkyl})_2$ and
 $-NH(C=O)(C_{1-6})\text{alkyl}$,

wherein the (C_{1-6})alkyl is optionally substituted with OH;

or R^{51} and R^{52} , together with the N to which they are attached, are linked to
form a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle optionally further containing 1 to 3

heteroatoms each independently selected from N, O and S, wherein each heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to one or two oxygen atoms to form the groups SO or SO₂;

5 wherein the heterocycle is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, oxo, -OH, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, -(C=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -N((C₁₋₆)alkyl)₂ and -NH(C=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl,

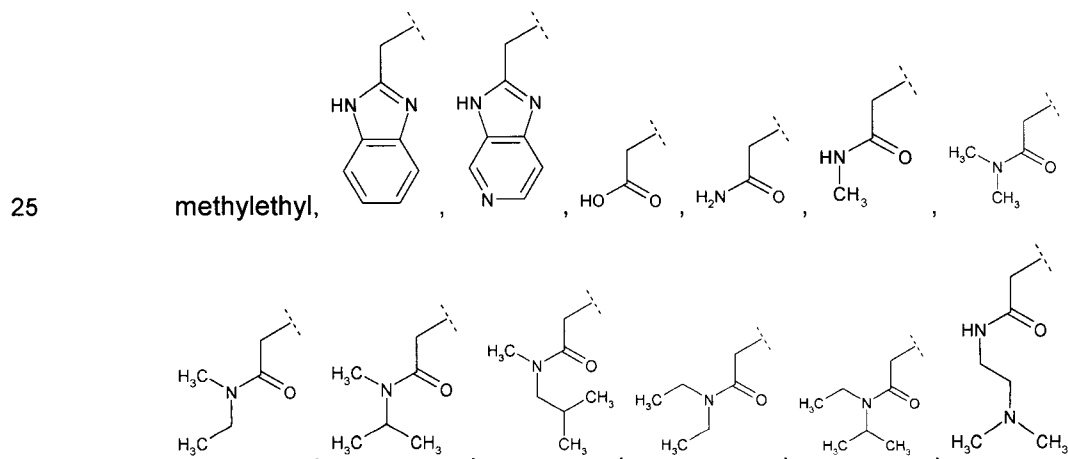
wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with OH.

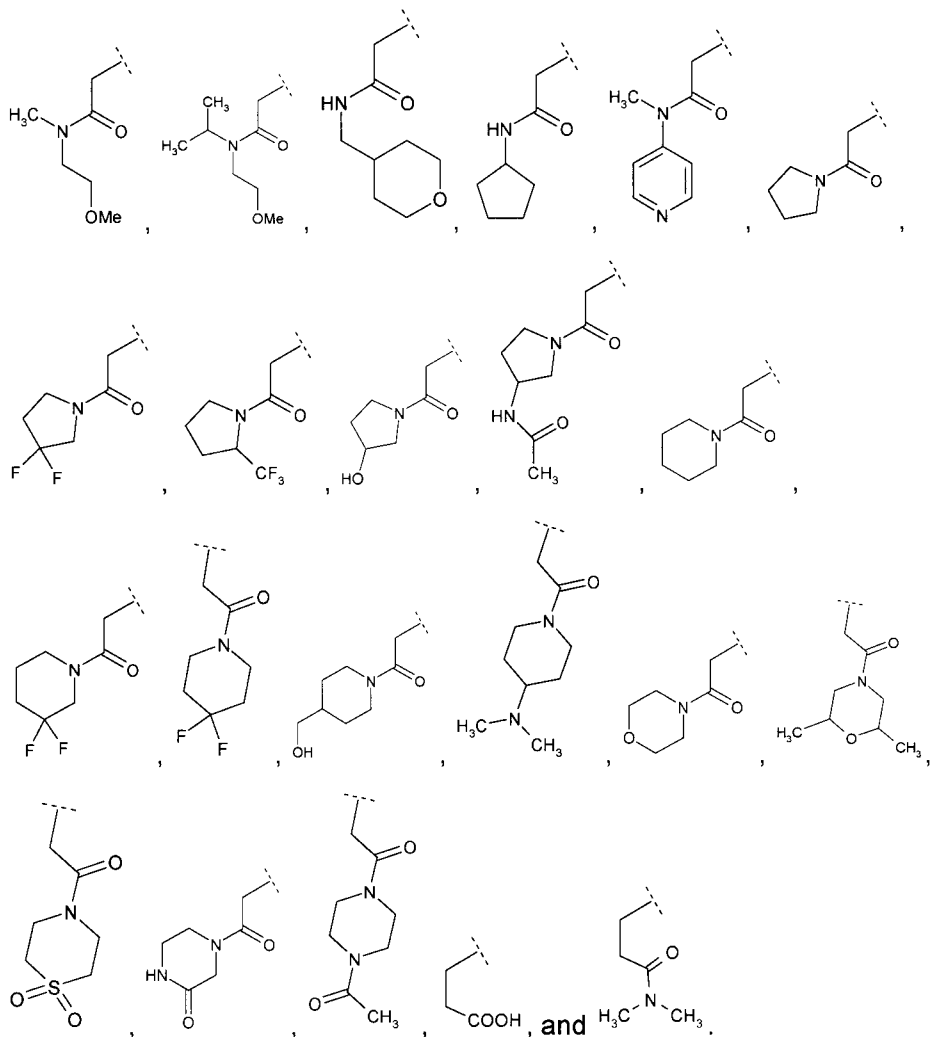
10 **R⁵-G:** In another embodiment, **R⁵** is -CH₂-C(=O)-N(**R⁵¹**)**R⁵²**, wherein **R⁵¹** is H or (C₁₋₆)alkyl and **R⁵²** is H or (C₁₋₆)alkyl.

R⁵-H: In another embodiment, **R⁵** is **Het** optionally substituted with 1 to 4 substituents each independently selected from (C₁₋₆)alkyl, -OH, -COOH, -C(=O)-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -C(=O)-O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -C(=O)-NH-(C₁₋₆)alkyl,
15 -C(=O)-N((C₁₋₆)alkyl)₂, -C(=O)-NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -C(=O)-N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl and -SO₂(C₁₋₆)alkyl.

R⁵-I: In another embodiment, **R⁵** is a 5- or 6-membered saturated heterocycle containing 1 to 3 heteroatoms each independently selected from O, N and S, the heterocycle being optionally substituted with 1 to 4 substituents each
20 independently selected from (C₁₋₄)alkyl, -C(=O)-(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -C(=O)-O-(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -C(=O)-NH-(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -C(=O)-N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)₂, -C(=O)-NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -C(=O)-N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl and -SO₂(C₁₋₄)alkyl.

R⁵-J: In another embodiment, **R⁵** is selected from H, methyl, ethyl, propyl, 1-



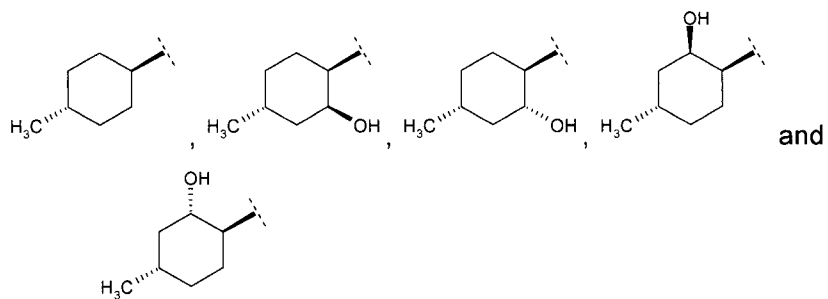


5

Any and each individual definition of R^5 as set out herein may be combined with any and each individual definition of X , R^2 , R^3 and R^6 as set out herein.

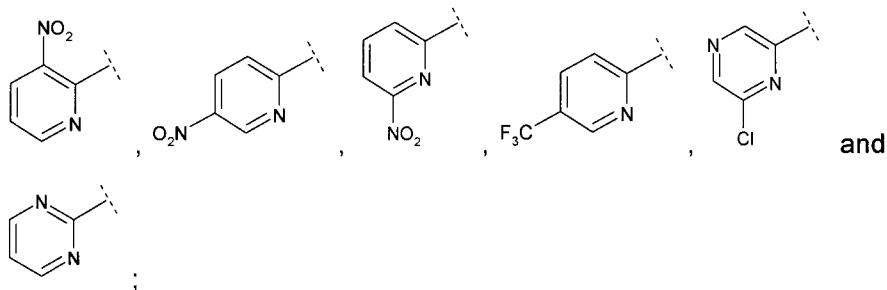
R^6 :

- 10 **R^6 -A:** In one embodiment, R^6 is (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 substituents each independently selected from halo, (C_{1-6}) alkyl, (C_{1-6}) haloalkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl, $-OH$, $-SH$, $-O-(C_{1-4})$ alkyl and $-S-(C_{1-4})$ alkyl.
- R^6 -B:** In another embodiment, R^6 is cyclohexyl optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from $-OH$ and (C_{1-4}) alkyl.
- 15 **R^6 -C:** In still another embodiment, R^6 is selected from:

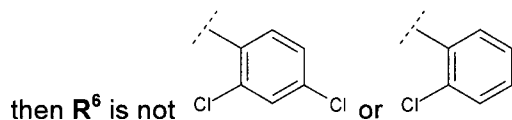


R^6 -D: In still another embodiment, R^6 is .

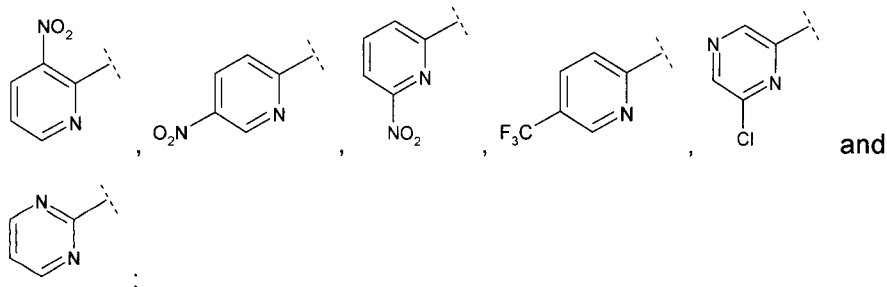
R^6 -E: In an alternative embodiment, R^6 is aryl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 substituents each independently selected from halo, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -OH, -SH, -O-(C₁₋₄)alkyl and -S-(C₁₋₄)alkyl; provided that when R^2 is selected from:



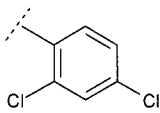
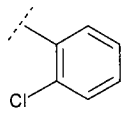
X is O; R^3 is H; and R^5 is H;



R^6 -F: In another alternative embodiment, R^6 is phenyl optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, (C₁₋₄)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl and -S-(C₁₋₄)alkyl; provided that when R^2 is selected from:



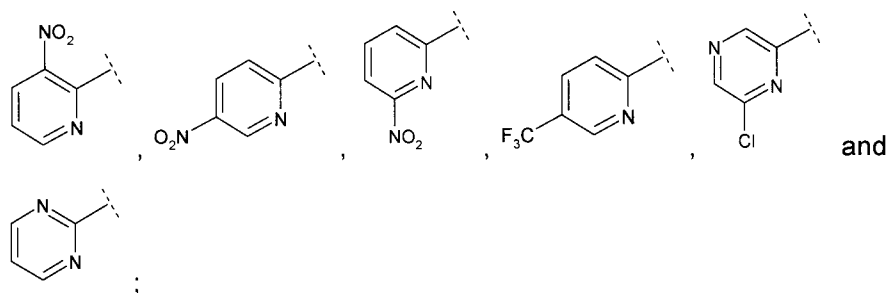
X is O; R³ is H; and R⁵ is H;

then R⁶ is not  or .

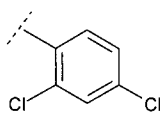
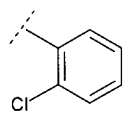
R⁶-G: In yet another alternative embodiment, R⁶ is phenyl optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from F, Cl, Br, methyl, ethyl, cyclopropyl and -S-CH₃;

5

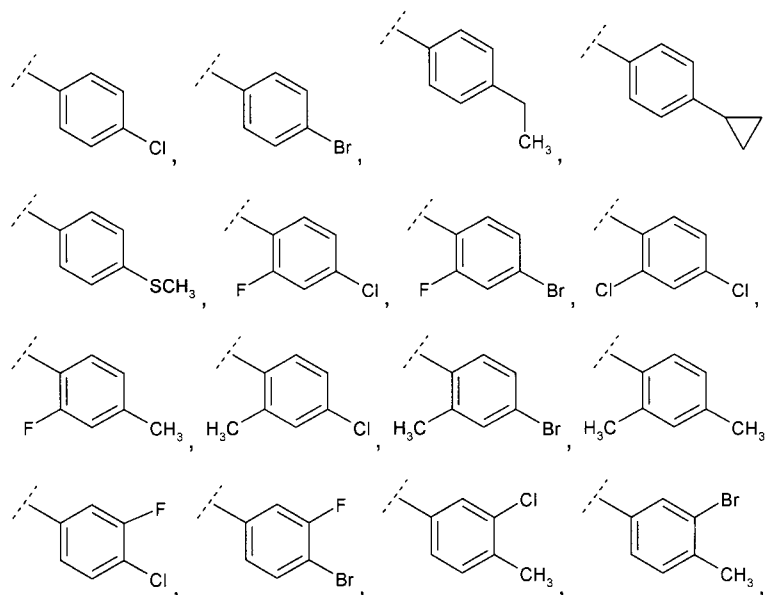
provided that when R² is selected from:



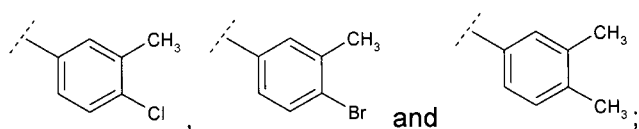
X is O; R³ is H; and R⁵ is H;

10 then R⁶ is not  or .

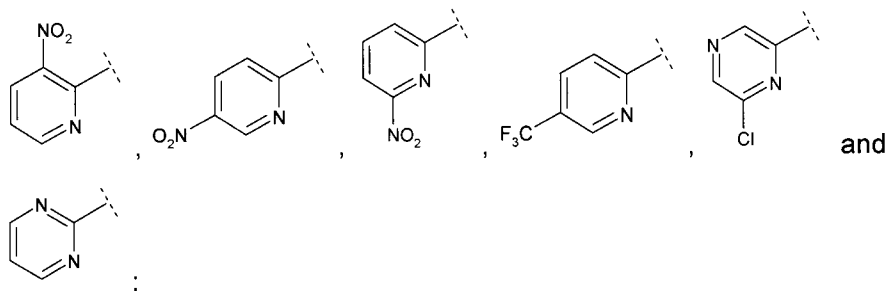
R⁶-H: In still another embodiment, R⁶ is selected from:



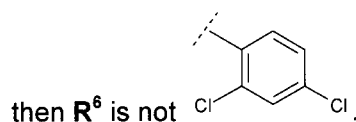
15



provided that when R^2 is selected from:



5 X is O; R^3 is H; and R^5 is H;



Any and each individual definition of R^6 as set out herein may be combined with any and each individual definition of X , R^2 , R^3 , and R^5 as set out herein.

10

Examples of preferred subgeneric embodiments of the present invention are set forth in the following table, wherein each substituent group of each embodiment is defined according to the definitions set forth above:

Embodiment	X	R^2	R^3	R^5	R^6
E-1	X-A	R^2 -A	R^3 -B	R^5 -A	R^6 -A
E-2	X-B	R^2 -A	R^3 -B	R^5 -A	R^6 -A
E-3	X-A	R^2 -A	R^3 -B	R^5 -D	R^6 -A
E-4	X-B	R^2 -A	R^3 -B	R^5 -D	R^6 -A
E-5	X-A	R^2 -A	R^3 -B	R^5 -H	R^6 -A
E-6	X-B	R^2 -A	R^3 -B	R^5 -H	R^6 -A
E-7	X-A	R^2 -A	R^3 -B	R^5 -A	R^6 -E
E-8	X-B	R^2 -A	R^3 -B	R^5 -A	R^6 -E
E-9	X-A	R^2 -A	R^3 -B	R^5 -D	R^6 -E
E-10	X-B	R^2 -A	R^3 -B	R^5 -D	R^6 -E

Embodiment	X	R ²	R ³	R ⁵	R ⁶
E-11	X-A	R ² -A	R ³ -B	R ⁵ -H	R ⁶ -E
E-12	X-B	R ² -A	R ³ -B	R ⁵ -H	R ⁶ -E
E-13	X-A	R ² -A	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -A	R ⁶ -A
E-14	X-B	R ² -A	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -A	R ⁶ -A
E-15	X-A	R ² -A	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -D	R ⁶ -A
E-16	X-B	R ² -A	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -D	R ⁶ -A
E-17	X-A	R ² -A	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -H	R ⁶ -A
E-18	X-B	R ² -A	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -H	R ⁶ -A
E-19	X-A	R ² -A	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -A	R ⁶ -E
E-20	X-B	R ² -A	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -A	R ⁶ -E
E-21	X-A	R ² -A	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -D	R ⁶ -E
E-22	X-B	R ² -A	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -D	R ⁶ -E
E-23	X-A	R ² -A	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -H	R ⁶ -E
E-24	X-B	R ² -A	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -H	R ⁶ -E
E-25	X-A	R ² -D	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -B	R ⁶ -B
E-26	X-A	R ² -D	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -F	R ⁶ -B
E-27	X-A	R ² -D	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -I	R ⁶ -B
E-28	X-A	R ² -D	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -B	R ⁶ -D
E-29	X-A	R ² -D	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -F	R ⁶ -D
E-30	X-A	R ² -D	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -I	R ⁶ -D
E-31	X-A	R ² -D	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -B	R ⁶ -F
E-32	X-A	R ² -D	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -F	R ⁶ -F
E-33	X-A	R ² -D	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -I	R ⁶ -F
E-34	X-A	R ² -F	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -B	R ⁶ -B
E-35	X-A	R ² -F	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -F	R ⁶ -B
E-36	X-A	R ² -F	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -I	R ⁶ -B
E-37	X-A	R ² -F	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -B	R ⁶ -D
E-38	X-A	R ² -F	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -F	R ⁶ -D
E-39	X-A	R ² -F	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -I	R ⁶ -D
E-40	X-A	R ² -F	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -B	R ⁶ -F
E-41	X-A	R ² -F	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -F	R ⁶ -F
E-42	X-A	R ² -F	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -I	R ⁶ -F
E-43	X-A	R ² -H	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -B	R ⁶ -B

Embodiment	X	R ²	R ³	R ⁵	R ⁶
E-44	X-A	R ² -H	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -F	R ⁶ -B
E-45	X-A	R ² -H	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -I	R ⁶ -B
E-46	X-A	R ² -H	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -B	R ⁶ -D
E-47	X-A	R ² -H	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -F	R ⁶ -D
E-48	X-A	R ² -H	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -I	R ⁶ -D
E-49	X-A	R ² -H	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -B	R ⁶ -F
E-50	X-A	R ² -H	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -F	R ⁶ -F
E-51	X-A	R ² -H	R ³ -D	R ⁵ -I	R ⁶ -F

Examples of most preferred compounds according to this invention are each single compound listed in the following Tables 1 and 2.

- 5 In general, all tautomeric and isomeric forms and mixtures thereof, for example, individual geometric isomers, stereoisomers, enantiomers, diastereomers, racemates, racemic or non-racemic mixtures of stereoisomers, mixtures of diastereomers, or mixtures of any of the foregoing forms of a chemical structure or compound is intended, unless the specific stereochemistry or isomeric form is
- 10 specifically indicated in the compound name or structure.

It is well-known in the art that the biological and pharmacological activity of a compound is sensitive to the stereochemistry of the compound. Thus, for example, enantiomers often exhibit strikingly different biological activity including differences in

15 pharmacokinetic properties, including metabolism, protein binding, and the like, and pharmacological properties, including the type of activity displayed, the degree of activity, toxicity, and the like. Thus, one skilled in the art will appreciate that one enantiomer may be more active or may exhibit beneficial effects when enriched relative to the other enantiomer or when separated from the other enantiomer.

20 Additionally, one skilled in the art would know how to separate, enrich, or selectively prepare the enantiomers of the compounds of the present invention from this disclosure and the knowledge in the art.

Preparation of pure stereoisomers, e.g. enantiomers and diastereomers, or mixtures

25 of desired enantiomeric excess (ee) or enantiomeric purity, are accomplished by one or more of the many methods of (a) separation or resolution of enantiomers, or (b)

enantioselective synthesis known to those of skill in the art, or a combination thereof. These resolution methods generally rely on chiral recognition and include, for example, chromatography using chiral stationary phases, enantioselective host-guest complexation, resolution or synthesis using chiral auxiliaries, enantioselective
5 synthesis, enzymatic and nonenzymatic kinetic resolution, or spontaneous enantioselective crystallization. Such methods are disclosed generally in Chiral Separation Techniques: A Practical Approach (2nd Ed.), G. Subramanian (ed.), Wiley-VCH, 2000; T.E. Beesley and R.P.W. Scott, Chiral Chromatography, John Wiley & Sons, 1999; and Satinder Ahuja, Chiral Separations by Chromatography,
10 Am. Chem. Soc., 2000, herein incorporated by reference. Furthermore, there are equally well-known methods for the quantitation of enantiomeric excess or purity, for example, GC, HPLC, CE, or NMR, and assignment of absolute configuration and conformation, for example, CD ORD, X-ray crystallography, or NMR.

15 The compounds according to the present invention are inhibitors of the hepatitis C virus NS5B RNA-dependent RNA polymerase and thus may be used to inhibit replication of hepatitis C viral RNA.

A compound according to the present invention may also be used as a laboratory
20 reagent or a research reagent. For example, a compound of the present invention may be used as positive control to validate assays, including but not limited to surrogate cell-based assays and *in vitro* or *in vivo* viral replication assays.

Compounds according to the present invention may also be used as probes to study
25 the hepatitis C virus NS5B polymerase, including but not limited to the mechanism of action of the polymerase, conformational changes undergone by the polymerase under various conditions and interactions with entities which bind to or otherwise interact with the polymerase.

30 Compounds of the invention used as probes may be labelled with a label which allows recognition either directly or indirectly of the compound such that it can be detected, measured and quantified. Labels contemplated for use with the compounds of the invention include, but are not limited to, fluorescent labels, chemiluminescent labels, colorimetric labels, enzymatic markers, radioactive
35 isotopes, affinity tags and photoreactive groups.

Compounds of the invention used as probes may also be labelled with an affinity tag whose strong affinity for a receptor can be used to extract from a solution the entity to which the ligand is attached. Affinity tags include but are not limited to biotin or a derivative thereof, a histidine polypeptide, a polyarginine, an amylose sugar moiety or a defined epitope recognizable by a specific antibody.

Furthermore, compounds of the invention used as probes may be labelled with a photoreactive group which is transformed, upon activation by light, from an inert group to a reactive species, such as a free radical. Photoreactive groups include but are not limited to photoaffinity labels such as benzophenone and azide groups.

Furthermore, a compound according to the present invention may be used to treat or prevent viral contamination of materials and therefore reduce the risk of viral infection of laboratory or medical personnel or patients who come in contact with such materials (e.g. blood, tissue, surgical instruments and garments, laboratory instruments and garments, and blood collection apparatuses and materials).

Pharmaceutical composition

Compounds of the present invention may be administered to a mammal in need of treatment for hepatitis C viral infection as a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to the invention or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof; and one or more conventional non-toxic pharmaceutically-acceptable carriers, adjuvants or vehicles. The specific formulation of the composition is determined by the solubility and chemical nature of the compound, the chosen route of administration and standard pharmaceutical practice. The pharmaceutical composition according to the present invention may be administered orally or systemically.

For oral administration, the compound, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, can be formulated in any orally acceptable dosage form including but not limited to aqueous suspensions and solutions, capsules or tablets. For systemic administration, including but not limited to administration by subcutaneous, intracutaneous, intravenous, intramuscular, intra-articular, intrasynovial, intrasternal, intrathecal, and intralesional injection or infusion techniques, it is preferred to use a

solution of the compound, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable sterile aqueous vehicle.

Pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, adjuvants, vehicles, excipients and additives
5 as well as methods of formulating pharmaceutical compositions for various modes of administration are well-known to those of skill in the art and are described in pharmaceutical texts such as Remington: The Science and Practice of Pharmacy, 21st Edition, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2005; and L.V. Allen, N.G. Popovich and H.C. Ansel, Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms and Drug Delivery Systems, 8th ed.,
10 Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2004, herein incorporated by reference.

The dosage administered will vary depending upon known factors, including but not limited to the activity and pharmacodynamic characteristics of the specific compound employed and its mode, time and route of administration; the age, diet, gender, body
15 weight and general health status of the recipient; the nature and extent of the symptoms; the severity and course of the infection; the kind of concurrent treatment; the frequency of treatment; the effect desired; and the judgment of the treating physician. In general, the compound is most desirably administered at a dosage level that will generally afford antivirally effective results without causing any harmful
20 or deleterious side effects.

A daily dosage of active ingredient can be expected to be about 0.01 to about 200 milligrams per kilogram of body weight, with the preferred dose being about 0.1 to about 50 mg/kg. Typically, the pharmaceutical composition of this invention will be
25 administered from about 1 to about 5 times per day or alternatively, as a continuous infusion. Such administration can be used as a chronic or acute therapy. The amount of active ingredient that may be combined with the carrier materials to produce a single dosage form will vary depending upon the host treated and the particular mode of administration. A typical preparation will contain from about 5% to
30 about 95% active compound (w/w). Preferably, such preparations contain from about 20% to about 80% active compound.

Combination therapy

Combination therapy is contemplated wherein a compound according to the
35 invention, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, is co-administered

with at least one additional antiviral agent. The additional agents may be combined with compounds of this invention to create a single dosage form. Alternatively these additional agents may be separately administered, concurrently or sequentially, as part of a multiple dosage form.

5

When the pharmaceutical composition of this invention comprises a combination of a compound according to the invention, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, and one or more additional antiviral agent, both the compound and the additional agent should be present at dosage levels of between about 10 to 100%,
10 and more preferably between about 10 and 80% of the dosage normally administered in a monotherapy regimen. In the case of a synergistic interaction between the compound of the invention and the additional antiviral agent or agents, the dosage of any or all of the active agents in the combination may be reduced compared to the dosage normally administered in a monotherapy regimen.

15

Antiviral agents contemplated for use in such combination therapy include agents (compounds or biologicals) that are effective to inhibit the formation and/or replication of a virus in a mammal, including but not limited to agents that interfere with either host or viral mechanisms necessary for the formation and/or replication of
20 a virus in a mammal. Such agents can be selected from another anti-HCV agent; an HIV inhibitor; an HAV inhibitor; and an HBV inhibitor.

Other anti-HCV agents include those agents that are effective for diminishing or preventing the progression of hepatitis C related symptoms or disease. Such agents
25 include but are not limited to immunomodulatory agents, inhibitors of HCV NS3 protease, other inhibitors of HCV polymerase, inhibitors of another target in the HCV life cycle and other anti-HCV agents, including but not limited to ribavirin, amantadine, levovirin and viramidine.

30 Immunomodulatory agents include those agents (compounds or biologicals) that are effective to enhance or potentiate the immune system response in a mammal. Immunomodulatory agents include, but are not limited to, inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase inhibitors such as VX-497 (merimepodib, Vertex Pharmaceuticals), class I interferons, class II interferons, consensus interferons, asialo-interferons
35 pegylated interferons and conjugated interferons, including but not limited to

interferons conjugated with other proteins including but not limited to human albumin. Class I interferons are a group of interferons that all bind to receptor type I, including both naturally and synthetically produced class I interferons, while class II interferons all bind to receptor type II. Examples of class I interferons include, but are not limited to, α -, β -, δ -, ω -, and τ -interferons, while examples of class II interferons include, but are not limited to, γ -interferons.

Inhibitors of HCV NS3 protease include agents (compounds or biologicals) that are effective to inhibit the function of HCV NS3 protease in a mammal. Inhibitors of HCV NS3 protease include, but are not limited to, those compounds described in WO 99/07733, WO 99/07734, WO 00/09558, WO 00/09543, WO 00/59929, WO 03/064416, WO 03/064455, WO 03/064456, WO 2004/030670, WO 2004/037855, WO 2004/039833, WO 2004/101602, WO 2004/101605, WO 2004/103996, WO 2005/028501, WO 2005/070955, WO 2006/000085, WO 2006/007700, WO 2006/007708 (all by Boehringer Ingelheim), WO 02/060926, WO 03/053349, WO 03/099274, WO 03/099316, WO 2004/032827, WO 2004/043339, WO 2004/094452, WO 2005/046712, WO 2005/051410, WO 2005/054430 (all by BMS), WO 2004/072243, WO 2004/093798, WO 2004/113365, WO 2005/010029 (all by Enanta), WO 2005/037214 (Intermune), WO 01/771113, WO 01/81325, WO 02/08187, WO 02/08198, WO 02/08244, WO 02/08256, WO 02/48172, WO 03/062228, WO 03/062265, WO 2005/021584, WO 2005/030796, WO 2005/058821, WO 2005/051980, WO 2005/085197, WO 2005/085242, WO 2005/085275, WO 2005/087721, WO 2005/087725, WO 2005/087730, WO 2005/087731, WO 2005/107745 and WO 2005/113581 (all by Schering); and the candidates VX-950, ITMN-191 and SCH-503034.

Inhibitors of HCV polymerase include agents (compounds or biologicals) that are effective to inhibit the function of an HCV polymerase. Such inhibitors include, but are not limited to, non-nucleoside and nucleoside inhibitors of HCV NS5B polymerase. Examples of inhibitors of HCV polymerase include but are not limited to those compounds described in: WO 02/04425, WO 03/007945, WO 03/010140, WO 03/010141, WO 2004/064925, WO 2004/065367, WO 2005/080388, WO 2006/007693 (all by Boehringer Ingelheim), WO 01/47883 (Japan Tobacco), WO 03/000254 (Japan Tobacco), WO 03/026587 (BMS), WO 03/101993 (Neogenesis), WO 2004/087714 (IRBM), WO 2005/012288 (Genelabs), WO 2005/014543 (Japan

Tobacco), WO 2005/049622 (Japan Tobacco), and WO 2005/121132 (Shionogi), and the candidates XTL-2125, HCV 796, R-1626, R-7128, NM 283, VCH-759, GSK625433 and PF868554.

- 5 Inhibitors of another target in the HCV life cycle include agents (compounds or biologicals) that are effective to inhibit the formation and/or replication of HCV other than by inhibiting the function of the HCV NS3 protease or HCV polymerase. Such agents may interfere with either host or HCV viral mechanisms necessary for the formation and/or replication of HCV. Inhibitors of another target in the HCV life cycle
- 10 include, but are not limited to, entry inhibitors, agents that inhibit a target selected from a helicase, a NS2/3 protease and an internal ribosome entry site (IRES) and agents that interfere with the function of other viral targets including but not limited to an NS5A protein and an NS4B protein.
- 15 It can occur that a patient may be co-infected with hepatitis C virus and one or more other viruses, including but not limited to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis A virus (HAV) and hepatitis B virus (HBV). Thus also contemplated is combination therapy to treat such co-infections by co-administering a compound according to the present invention with at least one of an HIV inhibitor, an HAV
- 20 inhibitor and an HBV inhibitor.

- HIV inhibitors include agents (compounds or biologicals) that are effective to inhibit the formation and/or replication of HIV. This includes but is not limited to agents that interfere with either host or viral mechanisms necessary for the formation and/or
- 25 replication of HIV in a mammal. HIV inhibitors include, but are not limited to:
- NRTIs (nucleoside or nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitors; including but not limited to zidovudine, didanosine, zalcitabine, stavudine, lamivudine, emtricitabine, abacavir, and tenofovir);
 - NNRTIs (non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors; including but not limited
 - 30 to nevirapine, delavirdine, efavirenz, etravirine, rilpivirine and BILR 355);
 - protease inhibitors (including but not limited to ritonavir, tipranavir, saquinavir, nelfinavir, indinavir, amprenavir, fosamprenavir, atazanavir, lopinavir, darunavir and brecanavir);
 - entry inhibitors including but not limited to
 - 35 • CCR5 antagonists (including but not limited to maraviroc (UK-427,857) and

TAK-652),

- CXCR4 antagonists (including but not limited to AMD-11070),
 - fusion inhibitors (including but not limited to enfuvirtide (T-20)) and
 - others (including but not limited to BMS-488043);
- 5 • integrase inhibitors (including but not limited to MK-0518, c-1605, BMS-538158 and GS 9137);
- TAT inhibitors;
 - maturation inhibitors (including but not limited to bevirimat (PA-457)); and
 - immunomodulating agents (including but not limited to levamisole).

10

HAV inhibitors include agents (compounds or biologicals) that are effective to inhibit the formation and/or replication of HAV. This includes but is not limited to agents that interfere with either host or viral mechanisms necessary for the formation and/or replication of HAV in a mammal. HAV inhibitors include but are not limited to

15 Hepatitis A vaccines.

HBV inhibitors include agents (compounds or biologicals) that are effective to inhibit the formation and/or replication of HBV in a mammal. This includes but is not limited to agents that interfere with either host or viral mechanisms necessary for the

20 formation and/or replication of HBV in a mammal. HBV inhibitors include, but are not limited to, agents that inhibit the HBV viral DNA polymerase and HBV vaccines.

Therefore, according to one embodiment, the pharmaceutical composition of this invention additionally comprises a therapeutically effective amount of one or more

25 antiviral agents.

A further embodiment provides the pharmaceutical composition of this invention wherein the one or more antiviral agent comprises at least one other anti-HCV agent.

30 According to a more specific embodiment of the pharmaceutical composition of this invention, the at least one other anti-HCV agent comprises at least one immunomodulatory agent.

According to another more specific embodiment of the pharmaceutical composition

35 of this invention, the at least one other anti-HCV agent comprises at least one other

inhibitor of HCV polymerase.

According to yet another more specific embodiment of the pharmaceutical composition of this invention, the at least one other anti-HCV agent comprises at
5 least one inhibitor of HCV NS3 protease.

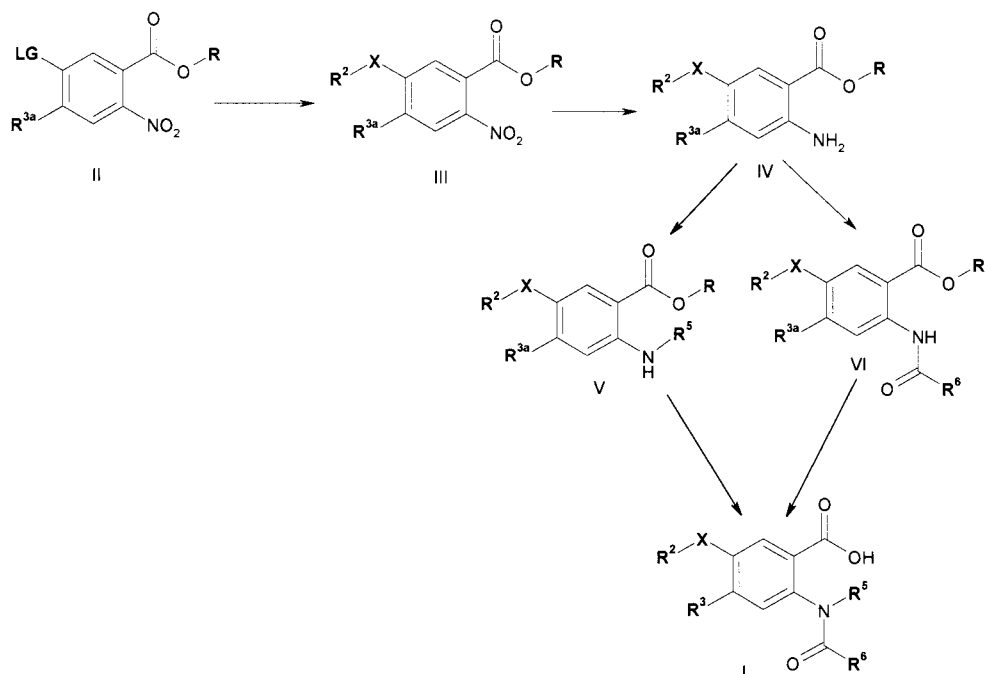
According to still another more specific embodiment of the pharmaceutical composition of this invention, the at least one other anti-HCV agent comprises at least one inhibitor of another target in the HCV life cycle.
10

All of the documents cited herein are incorporated in to the invention as a reference, as if each of them is individually incorporated. Further, it would be appreciated that, in the above teaching of invention, the skilled in the art could make certain changes or modifications to the invention, and these equivalents would still be within the
15 scope of the invention defined by the appended claims of the application.

METHODOLOGY AND SYNTHESIS

The synthesis of compounds of formula (I) according to this invention is conveniently accomplished following the general procedure outlined in Schemes 1 and 2 below
20 wherein R^2 , X , R^3 , R^5 and R^6 are as defined herein. Other procedures by which compounds of the invention may be prepared are well known in the art or are set forth in the examples below.

Scheme 1:



Intermediates of formula (II) wherein R^{3a} is R^3 as defined herein or is a precursor group transformable to R^3 as defined herein, R is an ester protecting group, such as methyl or ethyl, and LG is a leaving group such as F or Cl, are commercially available or may be prepared by procedures well known in the art or as set forth in the examples below. It will be apparent to one skilled in the art that when the group R^{3a} is a precursor group, it may be transformed to R^3 as defined herein at any chemically convenient intermediate stage in the scheme prior to formation of the compounds of formula (I), by procedures well known in the art or as set forth in the examples below.

Coupling of intermediates (II) with reactants of the formula R^2X-H , wherein R^2 and X are as defined herein, using reaction conditions well known in the art or as set forth in the examples below, provides intermediates of formula (III). Such reaction conditions include but are not limited to S_NAr reaction conditions and Ullman coupling conditions. One skilled in the art will appreciate that R^2 groups of the compounds according to the invention differ in their substitution patterns and that it is contemplated that one R^2 group may be transformed to another R^2 group by procedures well known in the art or as set forth in the examples below, at any chemically convenient intermediate stage in the scheme.

The nitro group of intermediates (III) is reduced to an amino group under well-known conditions to provide intermediates of formula (IV), or their salts with acids such as hydrochloric acid. The R^5 group may be added to the amino group of intermediates of formula (IV) by any suitable reaction known to the skilled in the art, including but not limited to alkylation and reductive amination, to provide intermediates of formula (V). The reductive amination reaction is conveniently carried out by allowing the intermediate of formula (IV) to react with an appropriately substituted aldehyde or ketone or suitable derivative thereof, followed by treatment with sodium triacetoxyborohydride, according to Abdel-Magid, A. F.; Carson, K. G.; Harris, B. D.; Maryanoff, C. A.; Shah, R. D. *J. Org. Chem.* **1996**, *61*, 3849. Suitable derivatives of aldehydes and ketones are well known in the art and include, but are not limited to, enol ethers and the like. The aldehydes, ketones, or suitable derivatives thereof are commercially available or obtainable by procedures well known in the art or as set forth in the examples below. Intermediates (V) are acylated with appropriate acylating agents, which are commercially available or obtainable by procedures well known in the art or as set forth in the examples below. The ester protecting group R is then hydrolysed, by procedures well known in the art or as set forth in the examples below, to provide compounds of formula (I).

20

Alternatively, the amino group of intermediates of formula (IV) may be acylated as previously described to provide intermediates of formula (VI). Alkylation of the amide nitrogen atom of intermediates of formula (VI), by procedures well known in the art or as set forth in the examples below, followed by hydrolysis of the ester protecting group as previously described, provides compounds of formula (I).

25

One skilled in the art will appreciate that R^5 and R^6 groups of the compounds according to the invention differ in their substitution patterns and that it is contemplated that one R^5 group may be transformed to another R^5 group, or that one R^6 group may be transformed to another R^6 group, by procedures well known in the art or as set forth in the examples below, at any chemically convenient intermediate stage in the scheme.

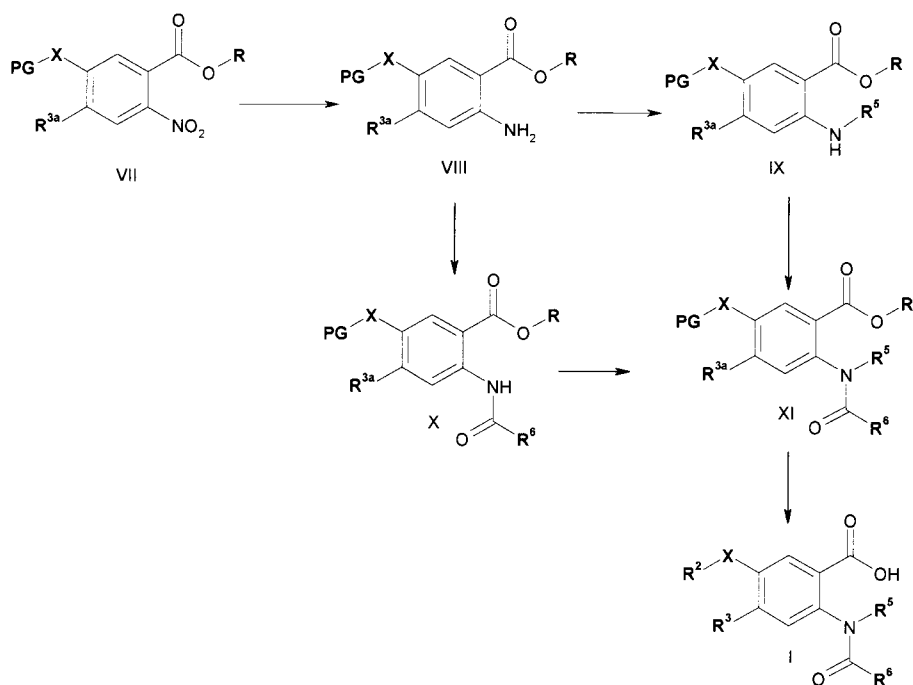
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Alternatively, the preparation of compounds of formula (I) may be accomplished by the procedure outlined in Scheme 2 below, wherein R^2 , X , R^3 , R^5 and R^6 are as

35

defined herein, **R** is an ester protecting group such as methyl or ethyl and **PG** is a suitable protecting group for the **XH** functionality, well known to one skilled in the art, including but not limited to a benzyl group.

5 **Scheme 2:**



Intermediates of formula VII are commercially available or may be prepared by procedures well known in the art or as set forth in the examples below. Reduction of the nitro group to the amino group and introduction of the **R⁵** and **-C(=O)R⁶** groups is achieved as described above to give intermediates of formula (XI). The intermediates of formula (XI) are transformed to compounds of formula (I) by deprotecting the **XH** group by procedures well known in the art or as set forth in the examples below and coupling the resulting free phenol or thiol to a reactant of formula **R²-LG** wherein **LG** is a leaving group such as F or Cl, using procedures well known in the art or as set forth in the examples below. Such procedures include but are not limited to **S_NAr** reactions and Ullman coupling reactions. Finally, the ester is deprotected by hydrolysis as previously described.

EXAMPLES

Other features of the present invention will become apparent from the following non-limiting examples which illustrate, by way of example, the principles of the invention.

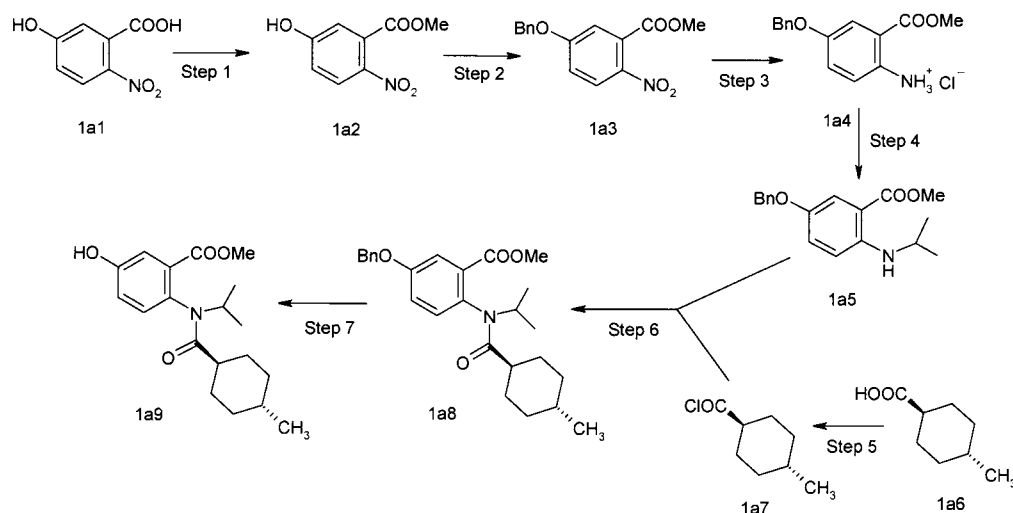
As is well known to a person skilled in the art, reactions are performed in an inert atmosphere (including but not limited to nitrogen or argon) where necessary to protect reaction components from air or moisture. Temperatures are given in degrees Celsius (°C). Solution percentages and ratios express a volume to volume relationship, unless stated otherwise. Flash chromatography is carried out on silica gel (SiO₂) according to the procedure of W.C. Still *et al.*, J. Org. Chem., (1978), 43, 2923. Mass spectral analyses are recorded using electrospray mass spectrometry. Analytical HPLC is carried out under standard conditions using a Combiscreen™ ODS-AQ C18 reverse phase column, YMC, 50 x 4.6 mm i.d., 5 µM, 120 Å at 220 nM, elution with a linear gradient as described in the following table (Solvent A is 0.06% TFA in H₂O; solvent B is 0.06% TFA in CH₃CN):

Time (min)	Flow (mL/min)	Solvent A (%)	Solvent B (%)
0	3.0	95	5
0.5	3.0	95	5
6.0	3.0	50	50
10.5	3.5	0	100

Abbreviations or symbols used herein include:

- 15 Ac: acetyl;
- AcCl: acetyl chloride;
- AcOH: acetic acid;
- Ac₂O: acetic anhydride;
- BINAP: 2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-binaphthyl;
- 20 Bn: benzyl (phenylmethyl);
- BnBr: benzyl bromide;
- BOC or Boc: *tert*-butoxycarbonyl;
- Bu: butyl;
- n-BuOAc: *n*-butyl acetate
- 25 DBU: 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene;
- DCE: dichloroethane;
- DCM: dichloromethane;
- DIEA: diisopropylethylamine;
- DMAP: 4-dimethylaminopyridine;
- 30 DME: dimethoxyethane;

- DMF: *N,N*-dimethylformamide;
DMSO: dimethylsulfoxide;
EC₅₀: 50% effective concentration;
EEDQ: 2-ethoxy-1-ethoxycarbonyl-1,2-dihydroquinoline;
5 eq.: molar equivalent;
Et: ethyl;
Et₃N: triethylamine;
Et₂O: diethyl ether;
EtOAc: ethyl acetate;
10 EtOH: ethanol;
HPLC: high performance liquid chromatography;
IC₅₀: 50% inhibitory concentration;
*i*Pr or *i*-Pr: 1-methylethyl (*iso*-propyl);
Me: methyl;
15 MeCN: acetonitrile;
MeI: iodomethane;
MeOH: methanol;
MS: mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF: Matrix Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization-
Time of Flight, FAB: Fast Atom Bombardment);
20 NIS: *N*-iodosuccinamide;
NMP: *N*-methylpyrrolidone;
NMR: nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy;
Ph: phenyl;
PG: protecting group;
25 Pr: propyl;
RT: room temperature (approximately 18°C to 25°C);
TBTU: *O*-benzotriazol-1-yl-*N,N,N',N'*-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate;
tert-butyl or *t*-butyl: 1,1-dimethylethyl;
TFA: trifluoroacetic acid;
30 THF: tetrahydrofuran;
TLC: thin layer chromatography.

EXAMPLE 1A**Preparation of intermediate 1a9****Step 1:**

- 5 To a mixture of 5-hydroxy-2-nitrobenzoic acid **1a1** (50 g, 0.273 mol) in MeOH (500 mL), is added SOCl_2 (40 mL, 65.2 g, 0.55 mol) dropwise over about 30 minutes and the mixture is heated at reflux for 2 hours. Excess SOCl_2 (20 mL, 32.6 g, 0.27 mol) is carefully added and heating at reflux is continued overnight. Further SOCl_2 (20 mL, 32.6 g, 0.27 mol) is added and heating at reflux is continued for 1 hour. The reaction
- 10 mixture is cooled to room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is diluted with EtOAc (600 mL), washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 and brine, dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated to dryness. The methyl ester **1a2** is recovered as a solid from CH_2Cl_2 and hexane.

Step 2:

- 15 A mixture of compound **1a2** (51.2 g, 0.26 mol), anhydrous K_2CO_3 (150 g, 1.09 mol) and PhCH_2Br (39 mL, 56 g, 0.33 mol) in acetone (500 mL) is stirred overnight at room temperature. The mixture is filtered and the filtrate is concentrated, diluted with EtOAc (1.5 L), washed with water and brine, dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated to dryness. Compound **1a3** is recovered from EtOAc and hexane.

Step 3:

- 20 To a stirred mixture of compound **1a3** (68.4 g, 0.24 mol) in ethanol (1.2 L) is added Fe powder (150 g, 2.7 mol) followed by AcOH (65 mL). The mixture is heated under reflux for 4 hours, then further Fe powder (75 g, 1.3 mol) and AcOH (30 mL) are added and heating at reflux is continued for 1.5 hours. The mixture is filtered and the
- 25 solid and filtrate are treated separately.

The solid is mixed with saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 and EtOAc, and solid NaHCO_3 is added until a basic pH is attained. The mixture is filtered through Celite™ and rinsed with EtOAc. The aqueous layer is extracted twice with EtOAc (2 x 1 L) and the organic layers are combined.

- 5 The filtrate is concentrated under reduced pressure, the residue is diluted with EtOAc (1 L) and saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 is added. Solid NaHCO_3 is added to the mixture until the pH is basic. The mixture is filtered through Celite™ and rinsed with EtOAc.

The organic phases obtained from treatment of the solid and filtrate portions above
10 are combined, then washed with brine, dried over MgSO_4 and concentrated to dryness and the residue is recovered from CH_2Cl_2 and hexane. To a stirred mixture of the recovered residue (46.7 g, 0.18 mol) in Et_2O (400 mL) is added 2M HCl in Et_2O (180 mL, 0.38 mol). The mixture is stirred at room temperature for 2 hours and compound **1a4** is collected by filtration.

15 Step 4:

The procedure used is adapted from: Abdel-Magid, A. F.; Carson, K. G.; Harris, B. D.; Maryanoff, C. A.; Shah, R. D. *J. Org. Chem.* **1996**, 61, 3849. To a mixture of compound **1a4** (30 g, 0.1 mol) and CH_2Cl_2 (600 mL) is added 2-methoxypropene (36 mL, 27 g, 0.38mol), followed by $\text{NaBH}(\text{OAc})_3$ (43.2 g, 0.2 mol). The mixture is stirred
20 at RT for 7 hours, diluted with EtOAc, washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 and brine, dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated to dryness. Compound **1a5** is recovered from EtOAc and hexane.

Step 5:

To a mixture of compound **1a6** (43.4 g, 305 mmol) and anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 (400 mL)
25 under Ar atmosphere at room temperature is added $(\text{COCl})_2$ (53.2 mL, 610 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (305 mL) dropwise over 1 hour at room temperature. The mixture is stirred for 1 hour at room temperature and anhydrous DMF (1 mL) is added dropwise. The mixture is stirred overnight at RT and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is diluted with pentane and filtered. The filtrate is twice concentrated under
30 reduced pressure, diluted with pentane and filtered, then concentrated under reduced pressure to provide acid chloride **1a7**.

Step 6:

To a mixture of compound **1a5** (99.6 g, 0.32 mol) in anhydrous pyridine (1.5 L) is added compound **1a7** (100 mL, 100 g, 0.62 mol) and DMAP (3.8 g, 0.03 mol). The
35 mixture is stirred at 60°C overnight and concentrated under reduced pressure. The

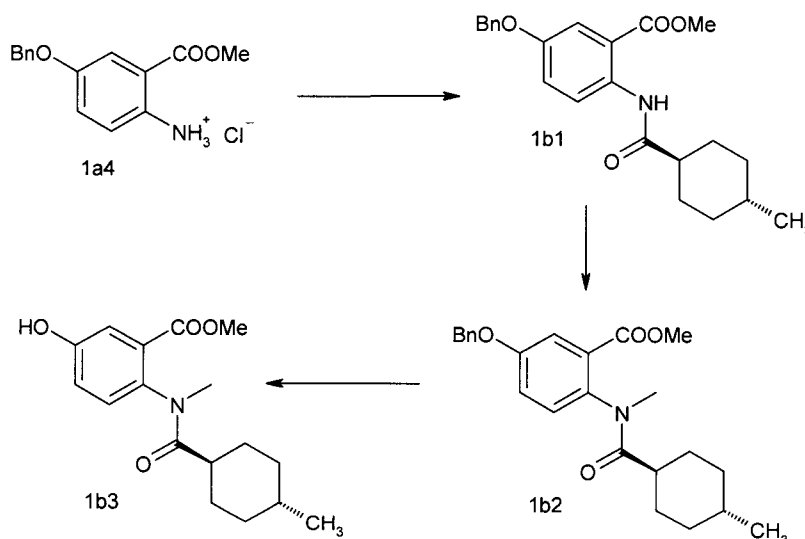
residue is diluted with EtOAc (3 L), washed with 2M HCl aqueous solution (4 x 1 L), saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (6 x 500 mL) and brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated to dryness to give compound **1a8**.

Step 7:

- 5 A mixture of compound **1a8** (130 g, 0.3 mol), MeOH (0.6 L) and EtOAc (1.5 L) is carefully added to 10% Pd/C (15 g) under Ar. Argon is bubbled through the mixture for 10 minutes with stirring then H₂ is bubbled into the mixture and stirring is continued at room temperature for 8 hours. The mixture is filtered through Celite™ and the filtrate is concentrated under reduced pressure. Compound **1a9** is collected
- 10 from Hexanes.

EXAMPLE 1B

Preparation of intermediate 1b3



15 Step 1:

- To a mixture of compound **1a4** (Example 1A) (2.0 g, 6.8 mmol) in anhydrous pyridine (35 mL) is added compound **1a7** (Example 1A) (1.65 mL, 10.2 mmol) and DMAP (82 mg, 0.67 mmol). The mixture is stirred at 50°C for 1 hour and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is diluted with EtOAc (300 mL), washed with 2M HCl aqueous solution (5 x 200 mL), saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution (6 x 200 mL) and brine (200 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated. Compound **1b1** is recovered from DCM/Hexanes.
- 20

Step 2:

To a mixture of compound **1b1** (2.0 g, 5.24 mmol) and anhydrous DMF (30 mL)

cooled in an ice-water bath is added NaH (60%, 0.25 g, 10.5 mmol) and the mixture is stirred for 40 minutes. CH₃I (0.9 mL, 14.5 mmol, 2.8 eq) is added and the mixture is allowed to stir at room temperature overnight. The mixture is diluted with EtOAc (600 mL), washed with saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (3 x 300 mL), saturated aqueous
5 NaHCO₃ (300 mL) and brine (300 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated. The crude product is purified by ISCO CombiFlash column (SiO₂, Hexane/EtOAc: 10/0 to 5/5) to afford compound **1b2**.

Step 3:

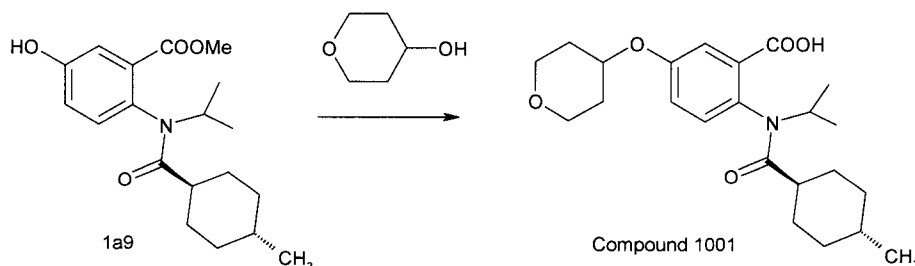
A mixture of compound **1b2** (2.07 g, 5.24 mmol) in anhydrous MeOH (33 mL) and
10 anhydrous EtOAc (83 mL) is carefully added to Pd/C (10%, 0.23 g) under Ar atmosphere. Ar is bubbled through the mixture for 2 minutes and H₂ is then bubbled through the mixture with stirring at room temperature for 2.5 hours. The mixture is filtered through Celite™ and the filtrate is concentrated. Solid phenol **1b3** is obtained from a diethylether/hexanes mixture (1/9, 100 mL).

15

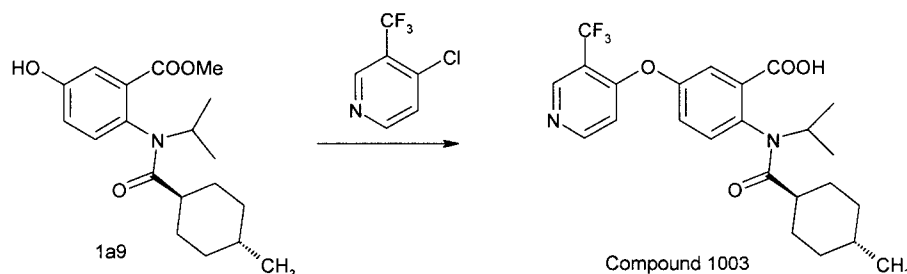
Intermediate **1b3** can be converted to compounds of formula (I) using the methods of the following examples.

EXAMPLE 2A

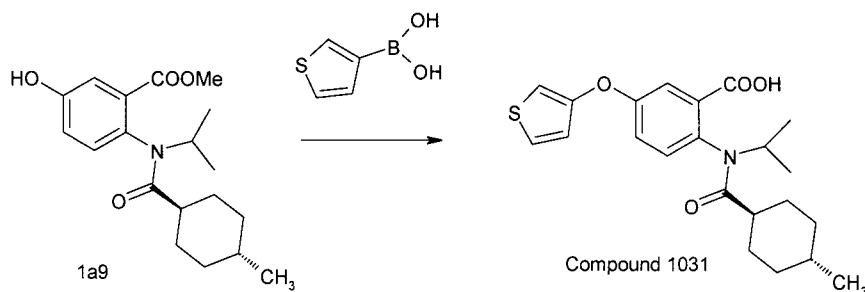
20 **Preparation of compound 1001, Table 1**



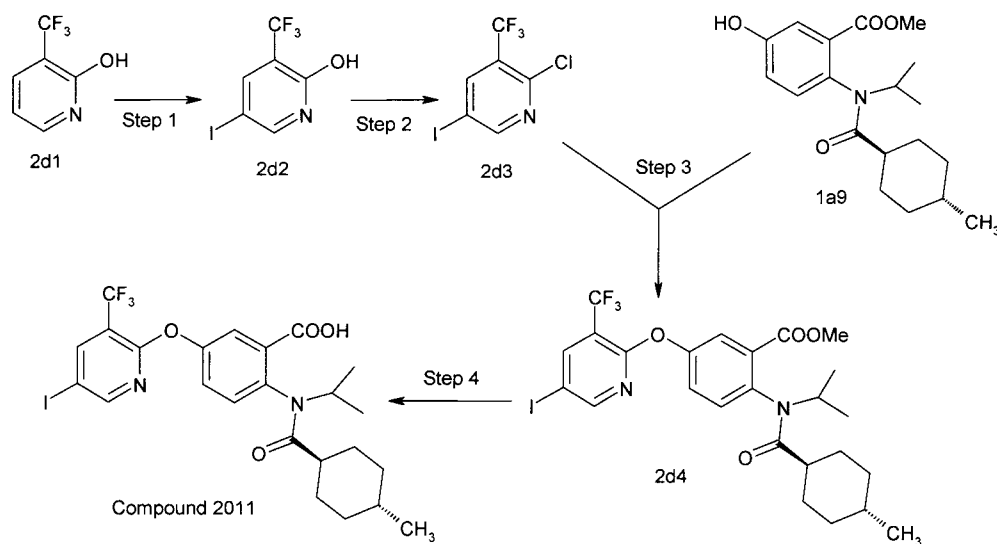
Phenol **1a9** (Example 1A) (20 mg, 0.06 mmol) is combined with 4-hydroxytetrahydropyran (0.08 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (20 mg, 0.08 mmol) in THF (1 mL). Diisopropylazodicarboxylate (0.02 mL, 0.10 mmol) is added and the
25 mixture is allowed to stir overnight at ambient temperature. Aqueous NaOH (10N, 0.06 mL, 0.6 mmol), water (0.06 mL) and methanol (0.4 mL) are added and the mixture is warmed to 50°C and allowed to stir for 2.5 hours. Purification by preparative HPLC affords compound **1001** (Table 1).

EXAMPLE 2B**Preparation of compound 1003, Table 1**

Phenol **1a9** (Example 1A) (20 mg, 0.06 mmol) is combined with 3-trifluoromethyl-4-chloropyridine (16 mg, 0.07 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (31 mg, 0.22 mmol) in DMSO (0.5 mL). The mixture is heated to 100°C and allowed to stir for 24 hours. Aqueous NaOH (5N, 0.12 mL, 0.6 mmol) is added and the mixture is warmed to 55°C and allowed to stir for 1 hour. The mixture is acidified with AcOH and purified by preparative HPLC to afford compound **1003** (Table 1).

EXAMPLE 2C**Preparation of compound 1031, Table 1**

A mixture of phenol **1a9** (Example 1A) (60 mg, 0.18 mmol), 3-thiopheneboronic acid (46 mg, 0.36 mmol), $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$ (33 mg, 0.18 mmol), Et_3N (0.13 mL, 0.90 mmol) and 4Å molecular sieves (50 mg) in DCM is stirred for 20 h open to the atmosphere. The mixture is diluted with EtOAc and washed with aqueous 0.2 N HCl, saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated. The residue is dissolved in DMSO (4 mL) and aqueous NaOH (2.5 N, 1.0 mL, 2.5 mmol) is added. The mixture is allowed to stir 2 hours at ambient temperature, then is acidified with AcOH and purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **1031** (Table 1).

EXAMPLE 2D**Preparation of compound 2011, Table 2****Step 1:**

- 5 To a mixture of compound **2d1** (39.01 g, 239 mmol) and anhydrous DMF (800 mL) under Ar is added *N*-iodosuccinimide (4.89 g, 244 mmol) and anhydrous K_2CO_3 (33.72 g, 244 mmol) and the mixture is allowed to stir at 60°C for 3 hours. The mixture is cooled to ambient temperature, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is dissolved in DCM (1 L) and the organic phase is washed
- 10 with brine. The aqueous phase is adjusted to pH 4 by the addition of 2M HCl then extracted with DCM (1 L). The combined organic extracts are washed with brine (2 L) and dried over Na_2SO_4 . The mixture is concentrated to approx 300 mL and cooled overnight in a fridge. The precipitated solid is removed by filtration and dried to provide aryl iodide **2d2**.

Step 2:

- 15 A mixture of compound **2d2** (115.7 g, 400 mmol) and $PhPOCl_2$ (668.6 g, 343 mmol) under N_2 is stirred at 136°C overnight, then cooled to room temperature and added slowly to 3 L of crushed ice. The aqueous mixture is adjusted to pH 6 and filtered. The aqueous filtrate is extracted with DCM (3 L) then the organic phase is washed
- 20 with saturated $NaHCO_3$ and brine, dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated to provide compound **2d3**.

Step 3:

A mixture of compound **1a9** (Example 1A) (62.7 g, 0.19 mol), compound **2d3** (66.7 g, 0.22 mol), anhydrous K_2CO_3 (65 g, 0.47 mol) and anhydrous DMSO (250 mL) is

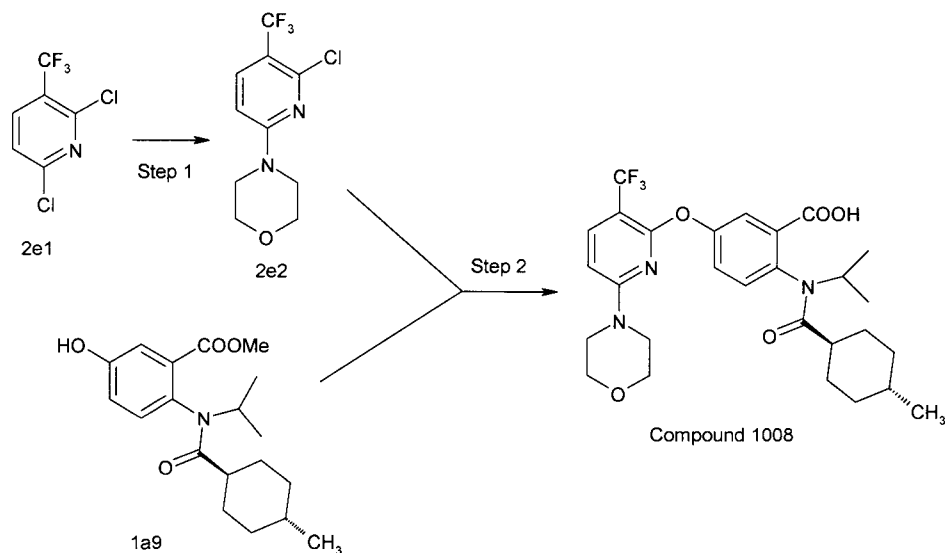
heated at 100°C for 2 hr. The mixture is cooled to RT, filtered and the solid is washed with EtOAc. The filtrate is diluted with EtOAc (4 L), washed with saturated NH₄Cl and brine, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated. The residue is purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (95:5 hexane/EtOAc to 7:3 Hexane/EtOAc) to afford biarylether **2d4**.

Step 4:

To a mixture of compound **2d4** (125 mg, 0.21 mmol), THF (6.0 mL), MeOH (3.0 mL) and H₂O (1.0 mL) is added LiOH (5N, 300 µL, 1.5 mmol) at 0°C. The mixture is allowed to react at 0°C for 15 minutes, then allowed to stir at room temperature overnight. The mixture is diluted with EtOAc and acidified with 1N HCl, and the organic extract is washed with water and brine, dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated to provide compound **2011**.

EXAMPLE 2E

Preparation of compound 1008, Table 1



Step 1:

A mixture of compound **2e1** (64 mg, 0.30 mmol), morpholine (0.027 mL, 0.31 mmol) and triethylamine (0.050 mL, 0.36 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) is stirred overnight at ambient temperature. The mixture is then diluted with EtOAc and successively washed with water (4X) and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated to afford intermediate **2e2**.

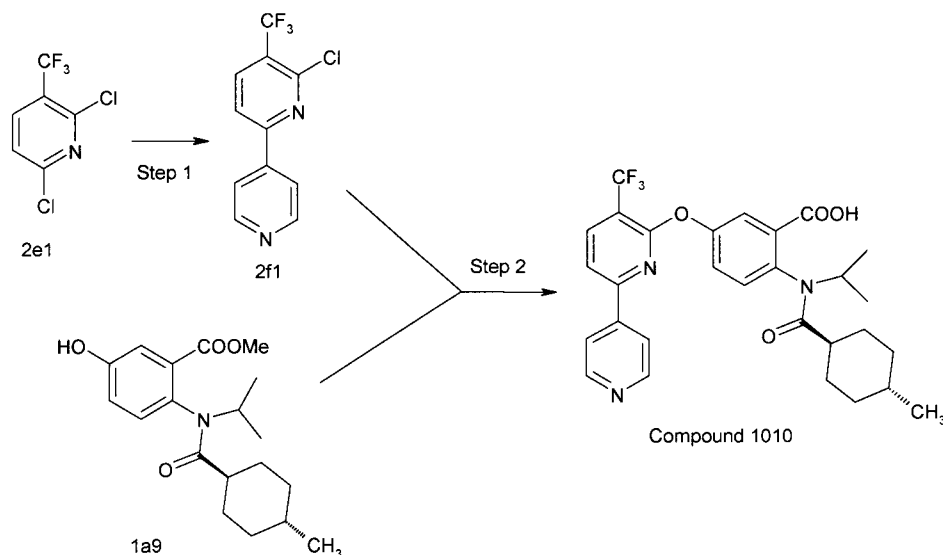
Step 2:

Intermediate **2e2** and phenol **1a9** (Example 1A) are coupled to synthesize

compound **1008** (Table 1) using the procedure of Example 2B.

EXAMPLE 2F

Preparation of compound **1010**, Table 1



5

Step 1:

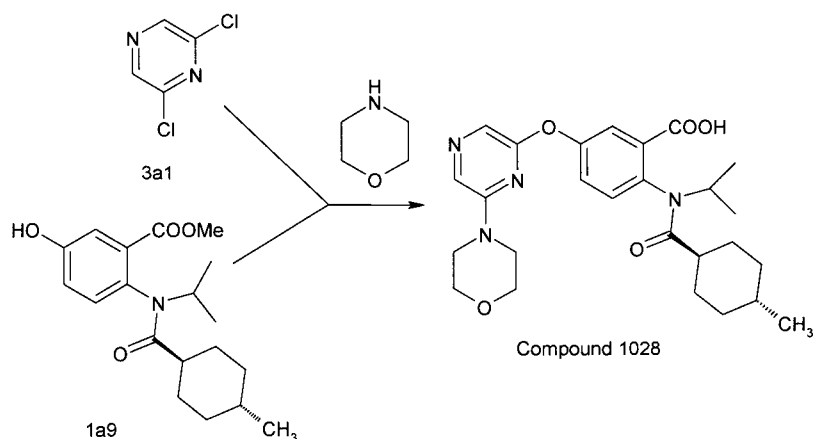
A mixture of compound **2e1** (Example 2E) (32 mg, 0.15 mmol), 4-pyridylboronic acid (18 mg, 0.15 mmol), Cs_2CO_3 (72 mg, 0.22 mmol) and $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (9 mg, 0.01 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) is degassed and heated at 100°C overnight. The mixture is poured into water and extracted three times with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts are washed with water (4X) and brine, dried with MgSO_4 , then passed through a short pad of silica gel, eluting with excess EtOAc. After concentration, the crude product is purified by flash chromatography (15 to 50% EtOAc-hexane) to afford compound **2f1**.

10

Step 2:

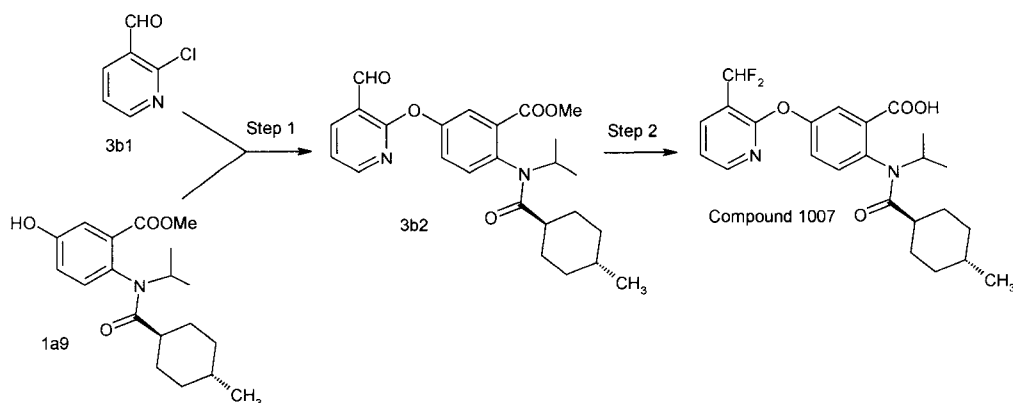
Intermediate **2f1** and phenol **1a9** (Example 1A) are coupled to synthesize compound **1010** (Table 1) using the procedure of Example 2B.

15

EXAMPLE 3A**Preparation of compound 1028, Table 1**

A mixture of phenol **1a9** (Example 1A) (60 mg, 0.18 mmol), compound **3a1** (22 mg, 0.15 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (50 mg, 0.36 mmol) in DMSO (1 mL) is allowed to stir at 100°C for 20 h. Morpholine (0.031 mL, 0.36 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred at 100°C for an additional 20 h. This mixture is allowed to cool to 50°C and aqueous NaOH (2.5 N, 0.72 mL, 1.8 mmol) is added. After 1 hour, the mixture is acidified with TFA and purified by preparative HPLC to afford compound **1028** (Table 1).

10

EXAMPLE 3B**Preparation of compound 1007, Table 1****Step 1:**

Phenol **1a9** (Example 1A) (200 mg, 0.60 mmol) and compound **3b1** (90 mg, 0.72 mmol) are combined in DMSO (2 mL). Anhydrous K_2CO_3 (200 mg, 1.5 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred at 100°C for 1 hour. Further compound **3b1** (50 mg, 0.4 mmol) is added and stirring is continued at 100°C for 45 minutes. The mixture is

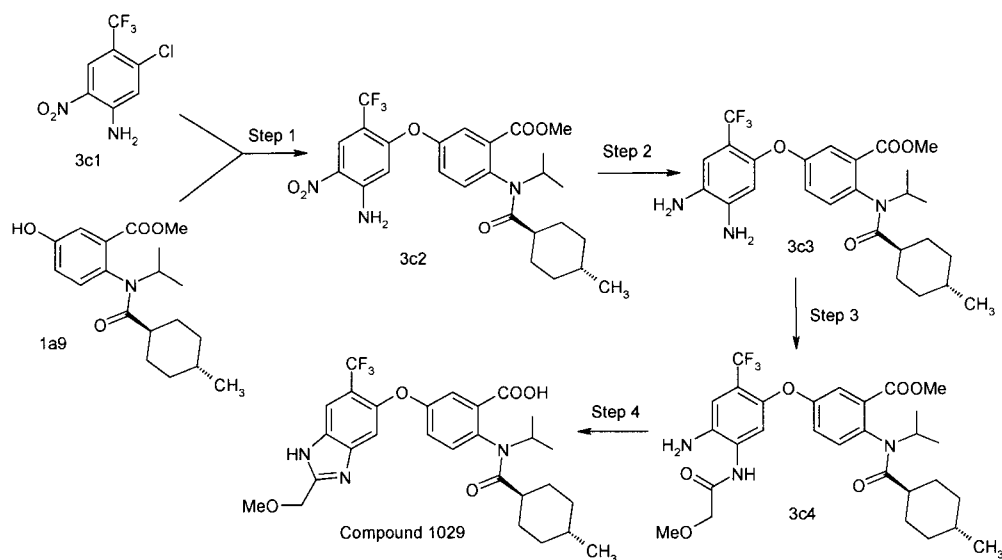
cooled to ambient temperature, diluted with EtOAc, and washed with water (x2) and brine (x2). The organic phase is dried over NaCl and Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by flash chromatography (2:3 EtOAc/hexanes) affords intermediate **3b2**.

5 **Step 2:**

To a mixture of aldehyde **3b2** (160 mg, 0.36 mmol), Deoxofluor™ (0.12 mL, 0.65 mmol) and anhydrous DCM (1 mL) is added anhydrous MeOH (3 µL, 0.07 mmol, 0.2 eq.) and the mixture is stirred 30 h at ambient temperature. The mixture is diluted with DCM and carefully washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃. The organic layer
 10 is dried over NaCl/Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue is purified by flash chromatography (2:3 EtOAc/hexane) and a portion of the purified residue (60 mg, 0.1 mmol) is combined with aqueous NaOH (2.5 M, 0.28 mL, 0.7 mmol) in DMSO (1 mL). The mixture is stirred at ambient temperature for 1 hour, then diluted with water (5 mL) and added to rapidly stirred 1N aqueous HCl (100
 15 mL). The resulting solid is collected by suction filtration through a 45 µm filter membrane and dried *in vacuo* to afford inhibitor **1007** (Table 1).

EXAMPLE 3C

Preparation of compound 1029, Table 1



20

Step 1:

To a mixture of compound **3c1** (38 mg, 0.16 mmol) and dry DMSO (1 mL) is successively added K₂CO₃ (55 mg, 0.4 mmol) and phenol **1a9** (Example 1A) (53 mg,

0.16 mmol). The reaction mixture is stirred at 55°C for 1h15 min and then at 70°C for 16 h. The reaction mixture is poured into water and extracted with EtOAc (3X). The combined organic extract is successively washed with water (4X) and brine, dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated to afford intermediate **3c2**.

5 Step 2:

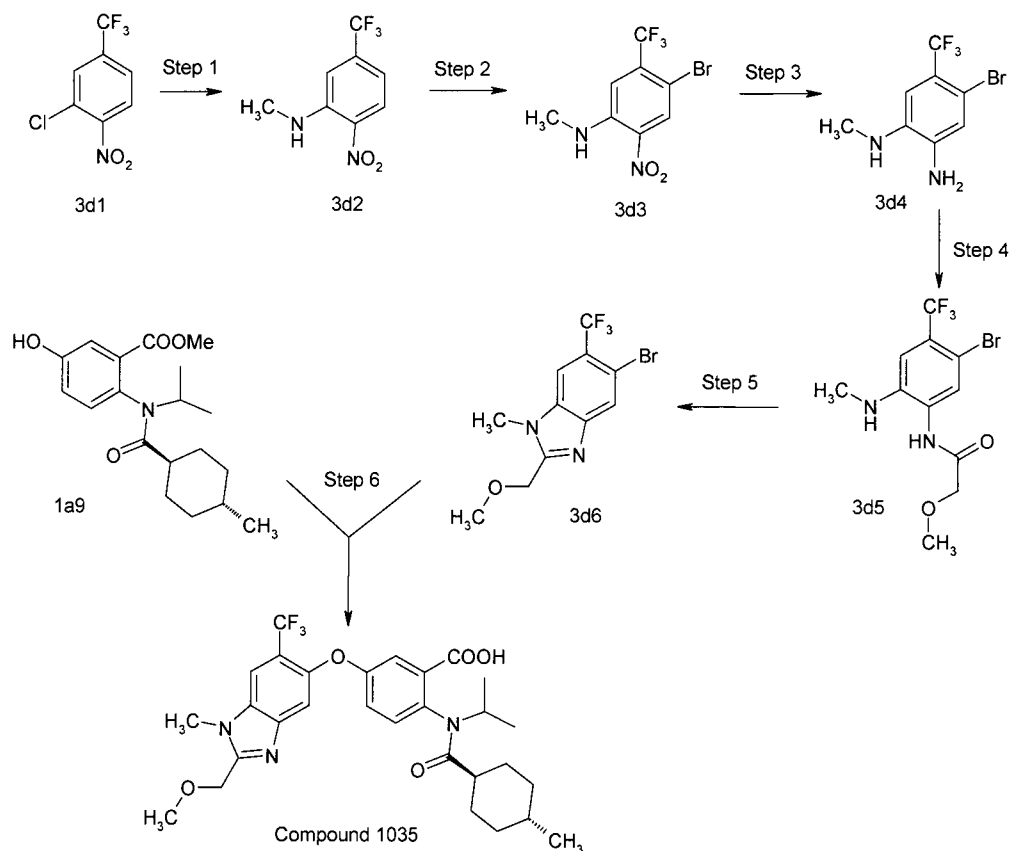
A mixture of compound **3c2** (83 mg, 0.15 mmol) and 10% palladium on carbon (25 mg) in EtOAc (4 mL) is allowed to stir overnight at ambient temperature under 1 atm of H₂. The mixture is filtered and concentrated to provide compound **3c3**.

Step 3:

- 10 To a mixture of dianiline **3c3** (39 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMF (1 mL) is successively added DIPEA (0.040 mL, 0.23 mmol), 2-methoxyacetic acid (0.006 mL, 0.08 mmol) and HATU (35 mg, 0.09 mmol). The mixture is allowed to stir overnight at ambient temperature, then is diluted with EtOAc and successively washed with 10 % aq. citric acid, water, saturated aq. NaHCO₃, water and brine. The organic phase is dried with
- 15 MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated to afford intermediate **3c4**.

Step 4:

- A mixture of compound **3c4** (45 mg, 0.08 mol), methanol (1 mL) and 4 N HCl/dioxane (1 mL) is heated at 75°C for 1h. The mixture is concentrated and the residue dissolved in DMSO. Aqueous NaOH (5 N, 0.16 mL, 0.78 mmol) is added and
- 20 the mixture is stirred for 30 min. at 55°C then AcOH (300 µL) is added. The mixture is purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **1029** (Table 1).

EXAMPLE 3D**Preparation of compound 1035, Table 1****Step 1:**

- 5 To a mixture of compound **3d1** (508 mg, 2.3 mmol) and dry DMSO (3 mL) are successively added $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_2 \cdot \text{HCl}$ (305 mg, 4.5 mmol) and Et_3N (0.79 mL, 5.6 mmol). The reaction mixture is stirred at ambient temperature for 3.5 h and then at 70°C overnight. The mixture is poured into water and extracted with EtOAc (3X). The combined organic layers are washed with water (4X) and brine, dried with MgSO_4 ,
 10 filtered and concentrated. Purification by flash chromatography (2 % EtOAc-hexanes) affords compound **3d2**.

Step 2:

- Bromine (0.012 mL, 0.24 mmol) is added to a mixture of aniline **3d2** (53 mg, 0.24 mmol) and glacial AcOH (0.5 mL). The mixture is heated to 70°C and allowed to stir
 15 5 hours. Excess Br_2 (5 μL , 0.1 mmol) is added and stirring is continued for an additional hour at 70°C. Concentration of the mixture provides compound **3d3**.

Step 3:

To a mixture of compound **3d3** (72 mg, 0.24 mmol) and absolute MeOH is added SnCl₂·2H₂O (540 mg, 2.4 mmol) and the mixture is heated at reflux for 3 hours, then concentrated. The residue is taken up in EtOAc and poured into saturated aqueous
5 NH₄Cl. The aqueous layer is extracted twice more with EtOAc and the combined organic extracts are filtered through a short pad of Celite™. The organic phase is washed with water and brine, dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated to afford compound **3d4**.

Step 4:

10 To a mixture of compound **3d4** (60 mg, 0.22 mmol) and DMF (1 mL), are successively added DIPEA (0.12 mL, 0.67 mmol), 2-methoxyacetic acid (0.021 mL, 0.27 mmol) and HATU (100 mg, 0.27 mmol). The reaction mixture is stirred for 6 hours at ambient temperature then diluted with EtOAc and successively washed with 10 % aq. citric acid, water, saturated aq. NaHCO₃, water and brine. The organic
15 phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated to provide compound **3d5**.

Step 5:

A mixture of compound **3d5** (76 mg, 0.22 mmol) and glacial AcOH (2 mL) is heated at 60°C for 6 hours on a J-Kem® orbital shaker (set at 250 rpm). The mixture is concentrated and the residue is purified by flash chromatography (1:1 to 2:1
20 EtOAc/Hex) to afford benzimidazole **3d6**.

Step 6:

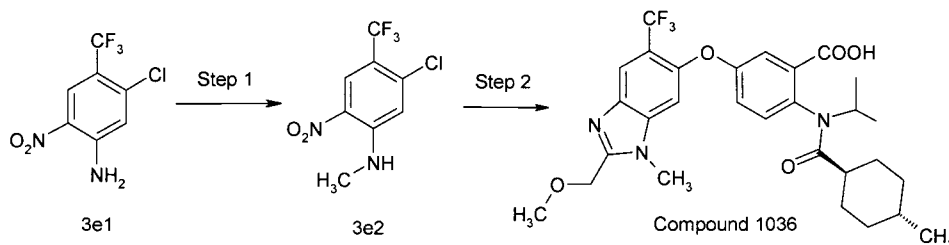
The following procedure was adapted from: Elizabeth Buck, E.; Song, Z. J. *Organic Syntheses* **82**, 2005, 69.

In a screw cap reaction vessel purged with N₂, a mixture of bromobenzimidazole **3d6**
25 (41 mg, 0.13 mmol), phenol **1a9** (Example 1A) (42 mg, 0.13 mmol), CuCl (3 mg, 0.03 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (83 mg, 0.25 mmol) and 2,2,6,6-tetramethylheptane-3,5-dione (0.003 mL, 0.01 mmol) in anhydrous NMP (1 mL) is agitated with a J-Kem® orbital shaker (270 rpm) at 120°C for a total of 20 hours. The mixture is acidified with AcOH and purified by preparative HPLC to afford compound **1035** (Table 1).

30

EXAMPLE 3E

Preparation of compound 1036, Table 1

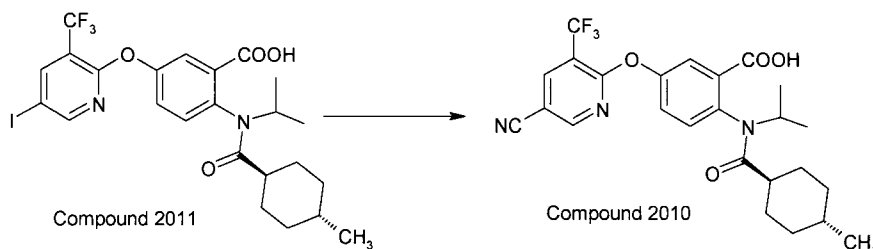


Step 1:

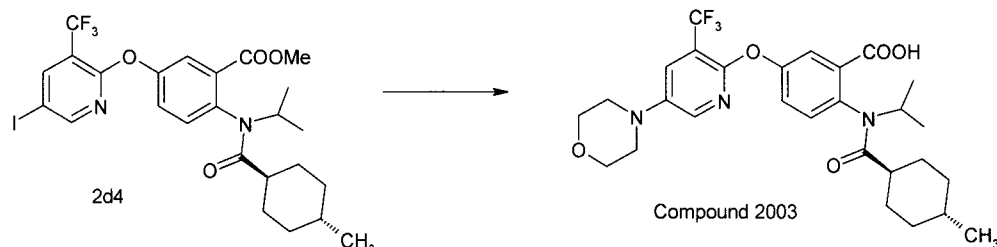
- 5 To a mixture of compound **3e1** (100 mg, 0.45 mmol) and dry DMF (2 mL) are successively added Cs_2CO_3 (218 mg, 0.67 mol) and CH_3I (0.042 mL, 0.67 mmol). The mixture is stirred for 1 hour at ambient temperature, poured into water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic extract is washed with water (4X) and brine, dried with MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated to afford compound **3e2**.
- 10 Step 2:
- Compound **3e2** is converted to compound **1036** (Table 1) using the procedures of Example 3D, steps 3-6.

EXAMPLE 4A

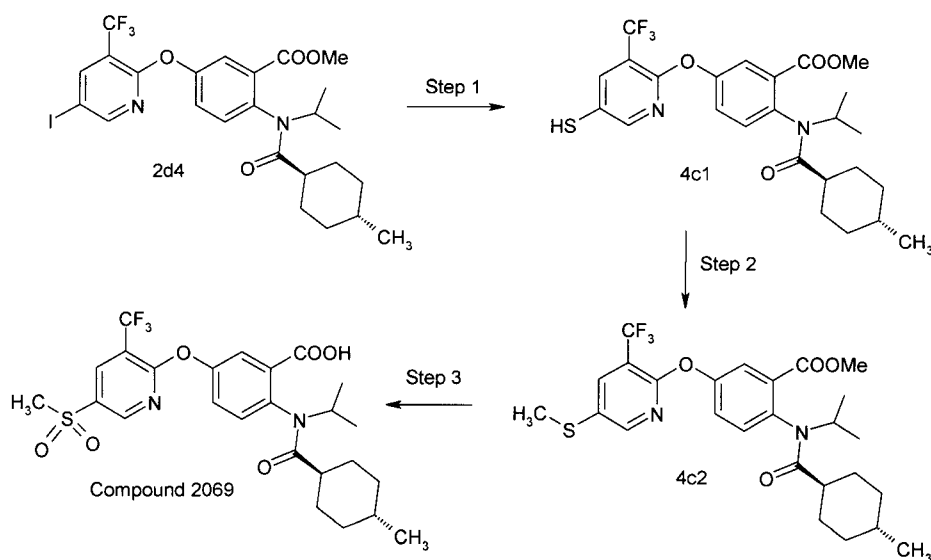
15 Preparation of compound 2010, Table 2



- To a mixture of compound **2011** (Example 2D) (40 mg, 0.07 mmol) and anhydrous DMF (2 mL), are added Zn(CN)₂ (16 mg, 0.14 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (8.1 mg, 0.01 mmol). The mixture is degassed with Ar and allowed to stir at 110°C overnight. The mixture is acidified with TFA and purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **2010** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 4B**Preparation of compound 2003, Table 2**

A mixture of racemic BINAP (7.5 mg, 0.012 mmol) and $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (2.7 mg, 0.012 mmol) is sonicated for 10 minutes in dry toluene (1.5 mL). This mixture is combined with a mixture of compound **2d4** (Example 2D) (75 mg, 0.12 mmol), morpholine (13.9 mg, 0.16 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (0.20 g, 0.62 mmol) in dry toluene (2 mL) and the resulting mixture is stirred at 105°C for 3.5 h. The mixture is allowed to cool to ambient temperature, diluted with EtOAc, washed with water, saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 and brine, dried (MgSO_4) and filtered. The filtrate is concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue mixed with THF (3.0 mL), MeOH (1.5 mL) and H_2O (0.5 mL). Aqueous LiOH (5N, 0.40 mL, 2.0 mmol) is added at 0°C and the mixture is allowed to stir at ambient temperature overnight. The mixture is acidified with TFA and purified by preparative HPLC to provide compound **2003** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 4C**Preparation of compound 2069, Table 2**

Step 1:

The following procedure is adapted from reference: Takagi, K. *Chem. Lett.* **1985**, 1307.

- To a mixture of iodoarene **2d4** (Example 2D) (270 mg, 0.45 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (2 mL) are added thiourea (54 mg, 0.71 mmol), NiBr₂ (11 mg, 0.05 mmol) and NaBH₃CN (4.5 mg, 0.07 mmol). The mixture is heated to 120°C in a microwave for 15 minutes and cooled to ambient temperature and diluted with DMF (3 ml). Aqueous NaOH (0.5 N, 3 mL) is added slowly and the mixture is stirred vigorously for 15 minutes and partitioned between aqueous 1 N HCl and EtOAc. The organic phase is washed with water and brine, dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to provide compound **4c1**.

Step 2:

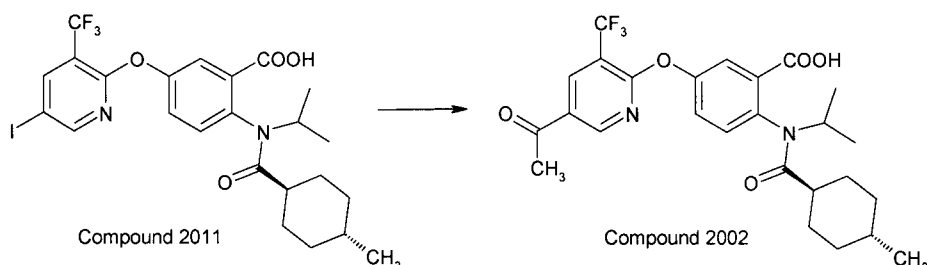
- A mixture of compound **4c1** (205 mg, 0.4 mmol), DBU (0.090 mL, 0.6 mmol) and MeI (0.038 mL, 0.6 mmol) in MeCN (4 mL) is stirred overnight at ambient temperature. The mixture is diluted with EtOAc (50 mL) and washed with 1 N aqueous HCl, water, 1 N aqueous NaOH, water, aqueous thiosulphate and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to provide compound **4c2**.

Step 3:

- Aqueous LiOH (5 N, 0.18 mL, 0.9 mmol) is added to a mixture of methylthioether **4c2** (95 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (4 mL), MeOH (2 mL) and water (0.1 mL). The mixture is stirred at ambient temperature for 4 hours then heated to 50°C for 5 hours and allowed to cool to ambient temperature. The mixture is acidified with 1N HCl, diluted with EtOAc and washed with water and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is taken up in a mixture of acetone and water (5:2; 7 mL), Oxone™ (572 mg, 0.93 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred at ambient temperature for 2.5 days. The mixture is then diluted with EtOAc and ether (3:2) and washed with 1 N aqueous HCl, water and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is taken up in DMSO and purified by preparative HPLC to afford compound **2069** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 5A

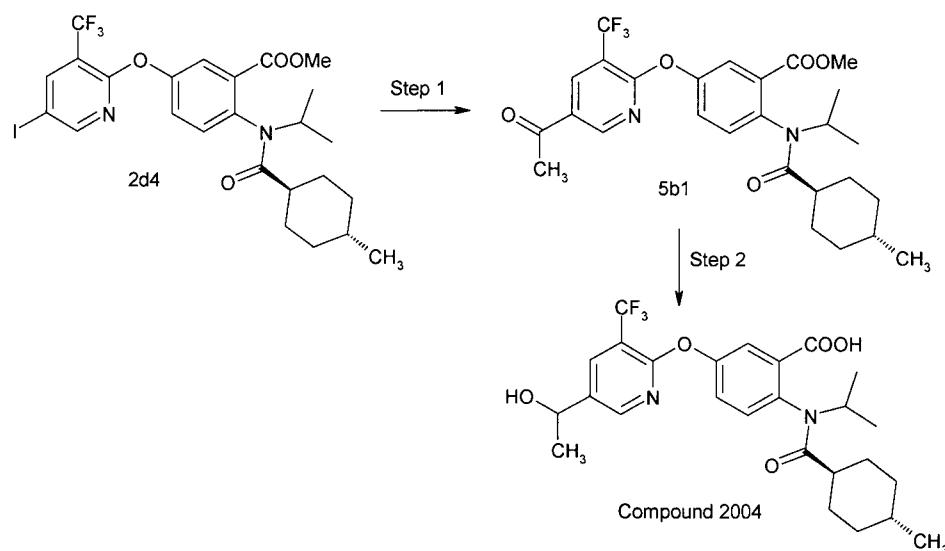
Preparation of compound 2002, Table 2



To a mixture of compound **2011** (Example 2D) (110 mg, 0.19 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (3 mL), is added 1-ethoxyvinyltri-*n*-butyltin (0.085 mL, 0.25 mmol) and bis(*tert*-butylphosphino)palladium(0) (9.7 mg, 0.02 mmol). The mixture is degassed with Ar and allowed to stir at 100°C for 45 minutes. The mixture is allowed to cool to ambient temperature, MeCN (4 mL) and 1N HCl (4 mL) are added and stirring is continued at ambient temperature for 15 minutes. The mixture is concentrated under reduced pressure and DMSO (4 mL) is added to the resulting residue. The mixture is filtered and purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **2002** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 5B

Preparation of compound 2004, Table 2



15

Step 1:

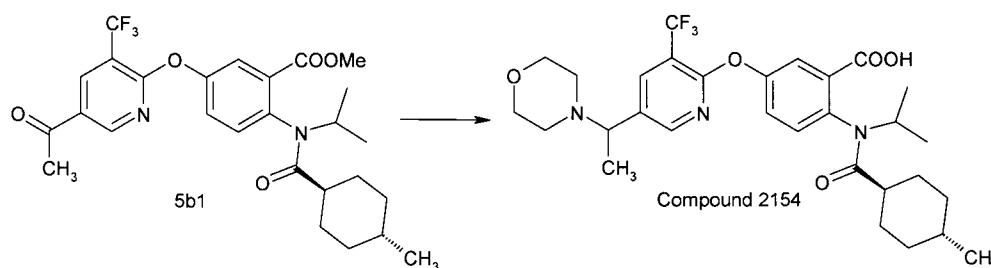
Intermediate **5b1** was prepared from compound **2d4** (Example 2D) utilizing the procedure described in Example 5A.

Step 2:

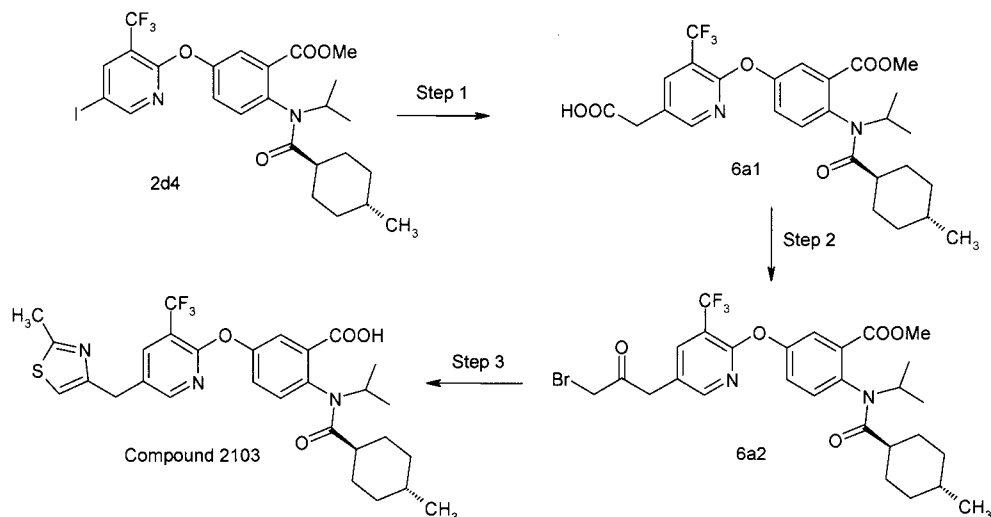
NaBH₄ (9.1 mg, 0.24 mmol) is slowly added to a mixture of compound **5b1** (50 mg, 0.10 mmol) and MeOH (6 mL), and the mixture is stirred at ambient temperature overnight. The mixture is diluted with EtOAc and washed with 1N HCl, water, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and brine, dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is mixed with THF (2 mL), MeOH (1 mL) and water (0.5 mL), and aqueous LiOH (5 N, 0.20 mL, 1.0 mmol) is added. The mixture is allowed to stir overnight at ambient temperature, then is acidified with TFA and concentrated. DMSO (2 ml) is added to the residue and purification of the mixture by preparative HPLC affords compound **2004** (table 2).

EXAMPLE 5C

Preparation of compound 2154, Table 2



A mixture of compound **5b1** (Example 5B) (48 mg, 0.09 mmol), NaBH₄ (5.3 mg, 0.14 mmol), AcOH (0.050 mL, 0.88 mmol) and morpholine (0.010 mL, 0.11 mmol) in EtOH (1 mL) is heated for 20 hours at 60°C. Excess NaBH₄ (2 mg, 0.05 mmol) and morpholine (0.017 mL, 0.18 mmol) are added and stirring is continued for an additional 20 hours at 60°C. Aqueous NaOH (2.5 N, 0.60 mL, 1.5 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred for 1 hour at 50°C. After acidification with AcOH, the mixture is purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **2154** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 6A**Preparation of compound 2103, Table 2****Step 1:**

- 5 The procedure is adapted from a protocol described in: Hennessy, E. J.; Buchwald, S. L. *Org. Lett.* **2002**, 4, 269.
- A mixture of compound **2d4** (Example 2D) (2.0 g, 3.3 mmol), dibenzyl malonate (2.5 g, 9.9 mmol), CuI (76 mg, 0.4 mmol), 2-phenylphenol (68 mg, 0.4 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (4.1 g, 12.5 mmol) in anhydrous THF (30 mL) is degassed with Ar 15 minutes, then
- 10 stirred at 70°C for 16 hours. Excess CuI (76 mg, 0.4 mmol) and 2-phenylphenol (68 mg, 0.4 mmol) are added and stirring is continued at 70°C for an additional 20 hours. The mixture is diluted in EtOAc, washed with saturated aqueous NH₄Cl and brine, and concentrated. The residue is taken up in EtOH (20 mL) and 10% Pd/C (0.4 g) is added. The mixture is stirred under 1 atm of H₂ for 2 hours at ambient temperature
- 15 and filtered through a pad of Celite™. The filtrate is stirred at 80°C for 1 hour, allowed to cool to ambient temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is purified by flash chromatography (1:1 EtOAc/Hex) to afford compound **6a1**.

Step 2:

- 20 To a mixture of compound **6a1** (900 mg, 1.7 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (24 mL) is added oxalyl chloride (0.21 mL, 2.4 mmol) and DMF (0.060 mL, 0.8 mmol) and the mixture is allowed to stir for 1 hour at room temperature. The mixture is concentrated and the residue is taken up in CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL). CH₂N₂ (0.35 M in Et₂O, 46 mL, 16 mmol) is added dropwise with stirring and stirring is continued for 30 minutes. The mixture is

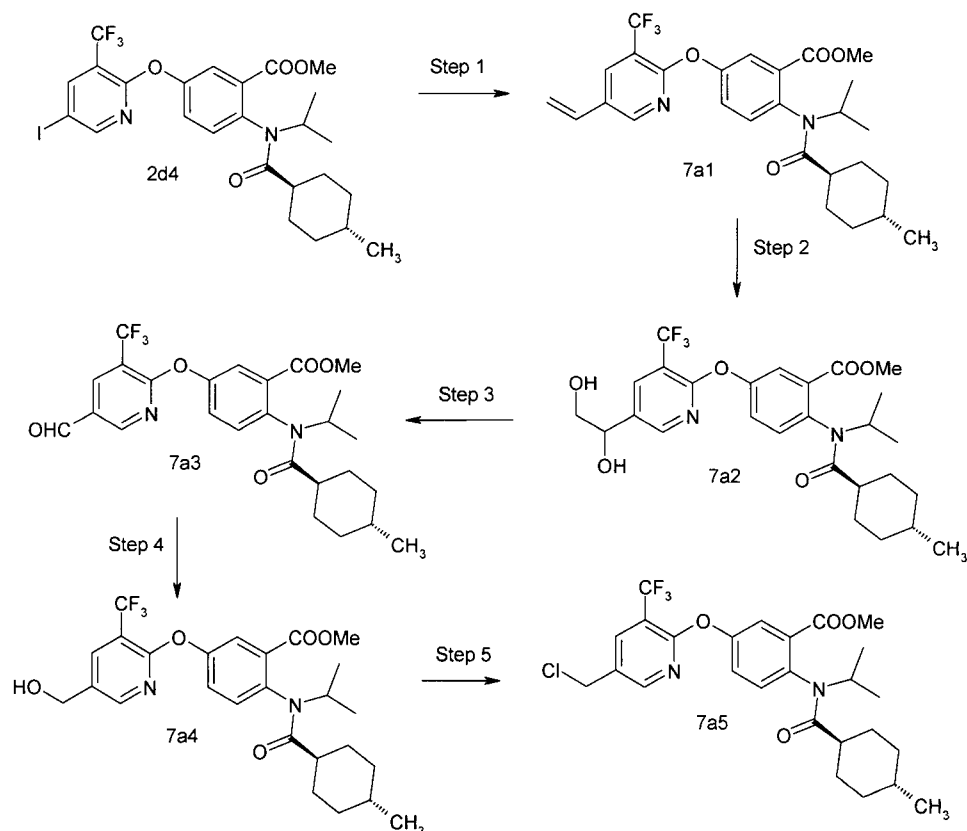
concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue is taken up in THF (24 mL). 48% aqueous HBr (1.8 mL, 16 mmol) is added and the mixture is allowed to stir for 20 minutes. The mixture is concentrated under reduced pressure and diluted with EtOAc. The organic phase is washed with water, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and
5 brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to provide compound **6a2**.

Step 3:

A mixture of bromoketone **6a2** (60 mg, 0.1 mmol) and thioacetamide (14 mg, 0.19 mmol) in *i*-PrOH is allowed to stir at 70°C for 1 hour. The mixture is allowed to cool to
10 ambient temperature and NaOH (2.5 N, 0.18 mL, 0.44 mmol) is added. The mixture is stirred at 40°C for 5 hours, then diluted with water and acidified with HCl. The solid is collected by filtration and washed with excess water, then taken up in DMSO and purified by preparative HPLC to afford compound **2103** (Table 2).

15 **EXAMPLE 7A**

Preparation of intermediate 7a5



Step 1:

To a mixture of compound **2d4** (Example 2D) (40 g, 66.2 mmol) in anhydrous THF (280 mL) are added vinyltributyltin (23 mL, 25 g, 78.8 mmol) and PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (4.8 g, 6.8 mmol). The mixture is degassed with Ar for 5 minutes, then heated at reflux for 4-6 hours. The solvent is removed under reduced pressure and the residue is purified by flash chromatography (gradient from 19:1 to 3:2 Hexane/EtOAc) to afford intermediate **7a1**.

Step 2:

To a solution of the alkene **7a1** (40.3 g, 79.9 mmol) in acetone (710 mL) are added *tert*-BuOH (176 mL), water (88 mL), 4-*N*-methylmorpholineoxide monohydrate (60% solution in water, 21 mL, 120 mmol) and OsO₄ (2.5 wt % in *t*-BuOH, 13.3 mL, 1.06 mmol). The mixture is stirred overnight at ambient temperature, then is concentrated and taken up in EtOAc (4 L). The organic phase is washed with 2M HCl (2 x 1 L), water, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (1L) and brine. Activated carbon and Na₂SO₄ are added to the organic phase and the mixture is stirred for 10 minutes. The mixture is filtered through a pad of Celite™ then concentrated to afford intermediate **7a2**.

Step 3:

Sodium periodate (25 g, 116.9 mmol) is added to a chilled (0°C) mixture of the diol **7a2** (40.6 g, 75.4 mmol) in THF (710 mL) and water (270 mL). The mixture is left 5 minutes at 0°C, then stirring is continued at room temperature for 4 h. Additional sodium periodate (3.3 g, 15.4 mmol, 0.2 eq) is added and stirring is continued for 2 hours. The mixture is diluted with ether/EtOAc (1.8L/3.6 L) then washed with water and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is purified by flash chromatography to afford intermediate **7a3**.

Step 4:

Sodium borohydride (4.4 g, 116 mmol, 2 eq) is added slowly to a mixture of aldehyde **7a3** (30.7 g, 60.6 mmol) and MeOH (300 mL). The mixture is stirred for 2 hours at ambient temperature, then diluted with EtOAc and carefully washed with 1N HCl, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and brine. The organic phase is dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford intermediate **7a4**.

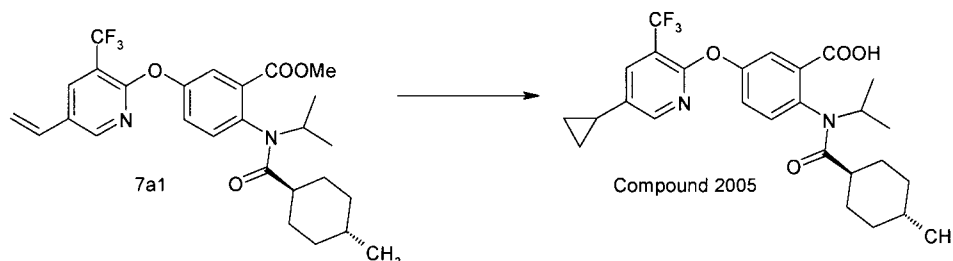
Step 5:

Thionyl chloride (5.5 mL, 8.1 mmol) is added slowly to a mixture of alcohol **7a4** (19 g, 37.4 mmol), anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (450 mL) and DMF (9 mL). The mixture is stirred 30 minutes at ambient temperature, then diluted with EtOAc (1.5 L) and washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and brine. The organic phase is dried with Na₂SO₄,

filtered and concentrated to give intermediate **7a5**.

EXAMPLE 8A

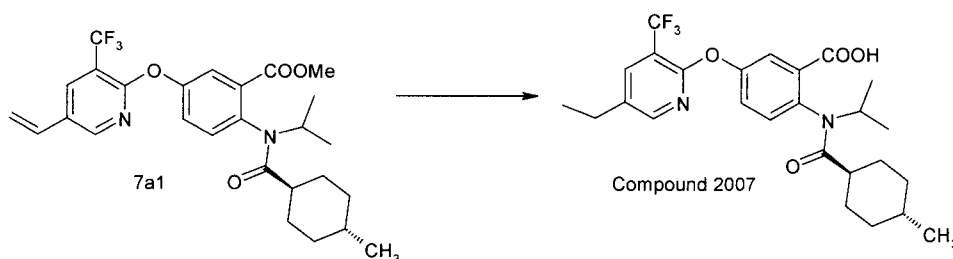
Preparation of compound 2005, Table 2



5 Diazomethane in ether (4 mL) is slowly added to a chilled (0°C) mixture of alkene **7a1** (Example 7A) (26 mg, 0.05 mmol) in ether (2 mL). Pd(OAc)₂ (2 mg, 0.01 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred at ambient temperature for 1.5 hours. The mixture is concentrated under reduced pressure, and THF (2 mL), MeOH (1 mL) and water
10 (0.2 mL) are added to the residue followed by aqueous LiOH (5 N, 0.6 mL, 3.0 mmol). The mixture is stirred at ambient temperature for 2.5 days. DMSO (1.5 mL) and excess aqueous LiOH (5 N, 0.3 mL, 1.5 mmol) are added and stirring is continued at ambient temperature overnight. The mixture is acidified with TFA and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is purified by preparative HPLC
15 to isolate compound **2005** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 8B

Preparation of compound 2007, Table 2

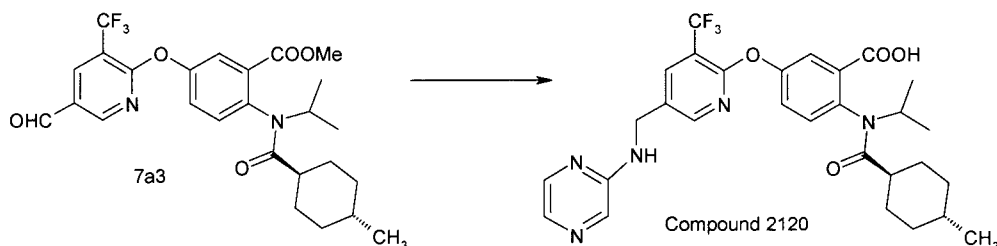


20 To a mixture of alkene **7a1** (Example 7A) (23 mg, 0.05 mmol) in MeOH (2 mL) and EtOAc (4 mL) is added 10% palladium on carbon (2 mg). The mixture is stirred for 2.5 days under H₂ (~1 atm), then filtered and concentrated to dryness. The residue is taken up in THF (2 mL), MeOH (1 mL) and water (0.2 mL). Aqueous LiOH (5 N, 0.4 mL, 2.0 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred at ambient temperature overnight.
25 DMSO (1.0 mL) and excess aqueous LiOH (5 N, 0.2 mL, 1.0 mmol) are added and

stirring is continued at 50°C for 3 hours. The mixture is acidified with TFA and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **2007** (Table 2).

5 EXAMPLE 9A

Preparation of compound 2120, Table 2

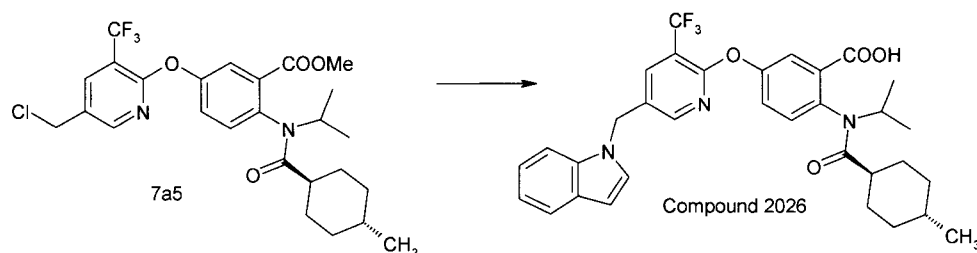


A mixture of aldehyde **7a3** (Example 7A) (50 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-aminopyrazine (38 mg, 0.4 mmol) in AcOH (0.5 mL) is stirred at 80°C for 2 hours. The mixture is allowed to cool to ambient temperature, NaCNBH₃ (7.9 mg, 0.13 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred for 15 minutes, then concentrated under a stream of N₂. Aqueous NaOH (2.5N, 0.60 mL, 1.5 mmol) is added to the residue and the mixture is allowed to stir at 50°C for 2 hours, then purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **2120** (Table 2).

15

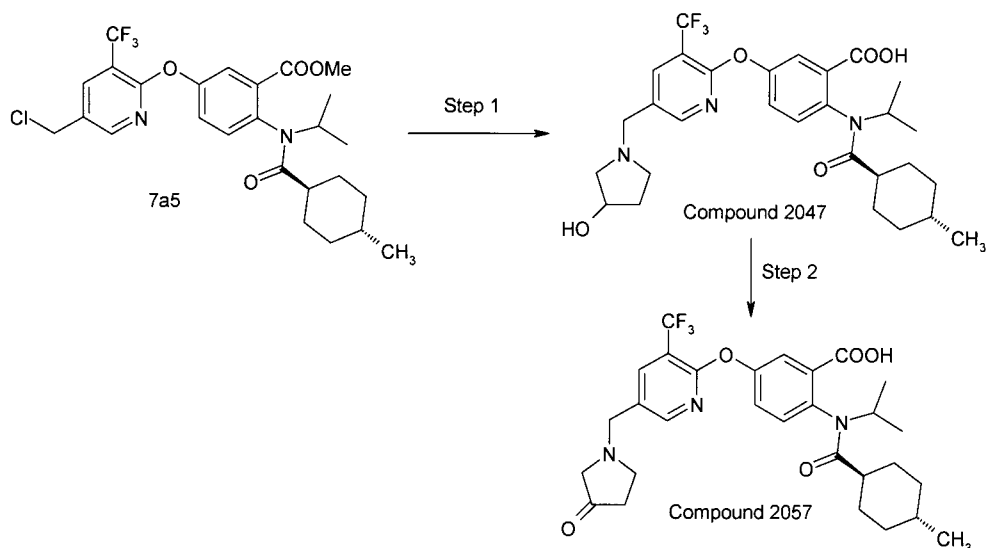
EXAMPLE 10A

Preparation of compound 2026, Table 2



A mixture of intermediate **7a5** (Example 7A) (25 mg, 0.05 mmol), indole (8.2 mg, 0.07 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (23 mg, 0.07 mmol) and KI (3 mg, 0.02 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) is agitated on a J-Kem® orbital shaker (250 rpm) at 70°C overnight. DMSO (0.5 mL) is added followed by aqueous NaOH (5 N, 0.10 mL, 0.5 mmol) and the mixture is stirred at 55°C for 1 hour. The mixture is acidified with AcOH, then purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **2026** (Table 2).

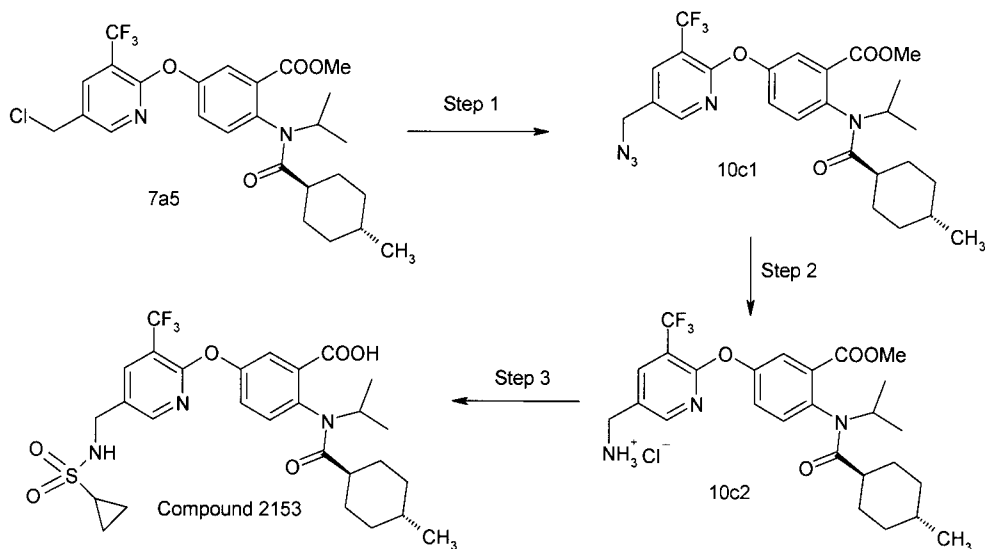
25

EXAMPLE 10B**Preparation of compounds 2047 and 2057, Table 2****Step 1:**

- 5 A mixture of compound **7a5** (Example 7A) (25 mg, 0.05 mmol), 3-pyrrolidinol (0.006 mL, 0.07 mmol) and Et₃N (0.010 mL, 0.07 mmol) in THF (1 mL) is agitated on a J-Kem® orbital shaker (250 rpm) at 70°C overnight. The mixture is concentrated under a stream of N₂ then taken up in DMSO (0.5 mL). Aqueous NaOH (5 N, 0.10 mL, 0.5 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred at 55°C for 1 hour. The mixture is acidified with AcOH and purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **2047** (Table 2).

Step 2:

- A mixture of compound **2047** (12 mg, 0.02 mmol) and Dess-Martin periodinane (7.6 mg, 0.02 mmol) in DCM/CH₃CN (1:1, 1 mL) is stirred at ambient temperature for 20 hours. An additional portion of Dess-Martin periodinane (7.6 mg, 0.02 mmol) is added and is stirring is continued for a further 20 hours. The mixture is concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue is purified by preparative HPLC to afford compound **2057** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 10C**Preparation of compound 2153 (Table 2)****Step 1:**

- 5 A mixture of compound **7a5** (Example 7A) (9.5 g, 18.05 mmol), NaN₃ (2.16 g, 33.4 mmol) and 60% (v/v) acetone-water (90 mL) is stirred at reflux under Ar overnight. The mixture is concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue is extracted with EtOAc (1 L) and washed with water (4 x). The organic phase is dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to provide compound
- 10 **10c1**.

Step 2:

- Argon is bubbled through a mixture of compound **10c1** (9.68 g, 18.14 mmol) in methanol (100 mL) for 10 minutes and the mixture is added to Pd/C (10%, 1 g) under Ar. H₂ is bubbled through the stirred mixture for 2.5 hours. The mixture is
- 15 filtered through Celite™ and rinsed with MeOH. The filtrate is concentrated to dryness and the residue is purified by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, MeOH/DCM: 5/95) to isolate the free amine. A mixture of the amine and 2M HCl solution in Et₂O (30 mL) is stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. The hydrochloride salt **10c2** is collected by filtration, rinsed with diethyl ether and air dried.

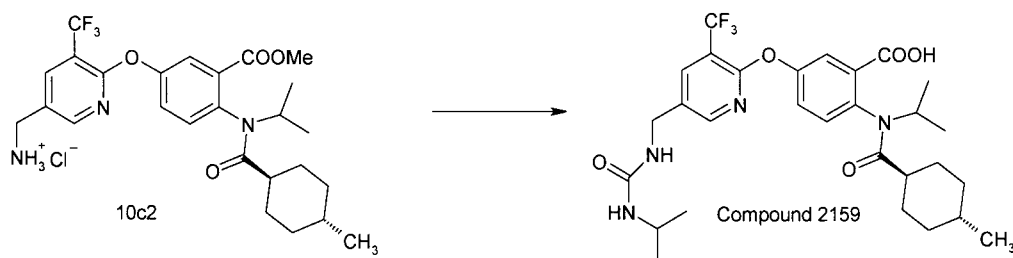
Step 3:

20 To a mixture of compound **10c2** (25 mg, 0.049 mmol) and DMF (0.50 mL) is added cyclopropanesulfonyl chloride (6.3 μL, 0.058 mmol) and Et₃N (16.9 μL, 0.121 mmol). The mixture is agitated on an orbital shaker (350 rpm) overnight at room temperature. NaOH (5N, 100 μL, 0.50 mmol) is added, the mixture is heated at 50°C

for 1 h, then acidified with AcOH and purified by preparative HPLC to give compound **2153** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 10D

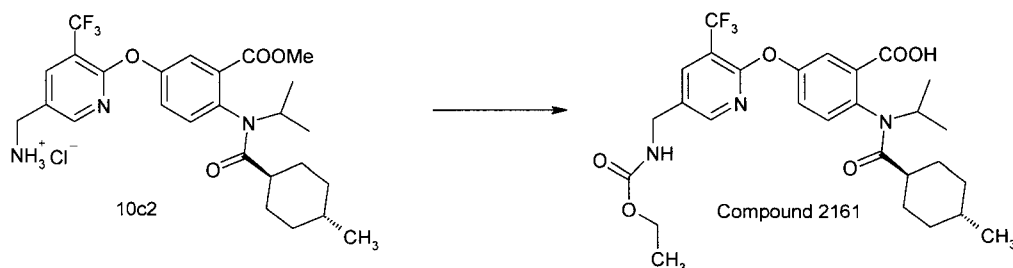
5 Preparation of compound 2159 (Table 2)



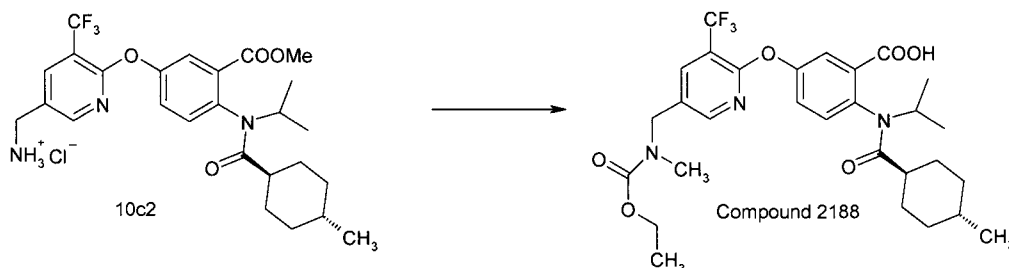
To a mixture of compound **10c2** (Example 10C) (25 mg, 0.046 mmol, 1 equivalent) in DMF (0.5 mL) is added (CH₃)₂CH-NCO (1.3 equivalents). The mixture is stirred at room temperature until complete as determined by HPLC analysis. 5N NaOH (0.1 mL, 10 equivalents) is added and the mixture is heated to 50°C for 1 h, then acidified with AcOH. Purification by reversed-phase HPLC provides compound **2159** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 10E

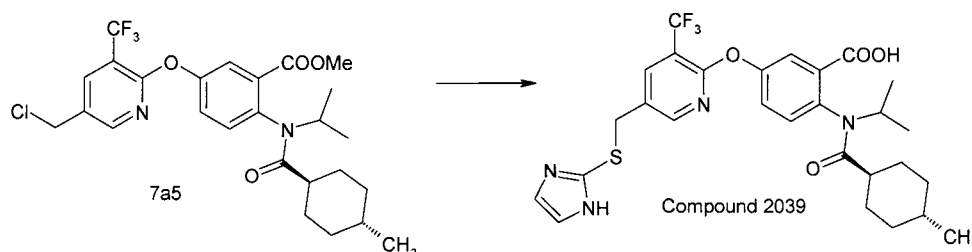
15 Preparation of compound 2161 (Table 2)



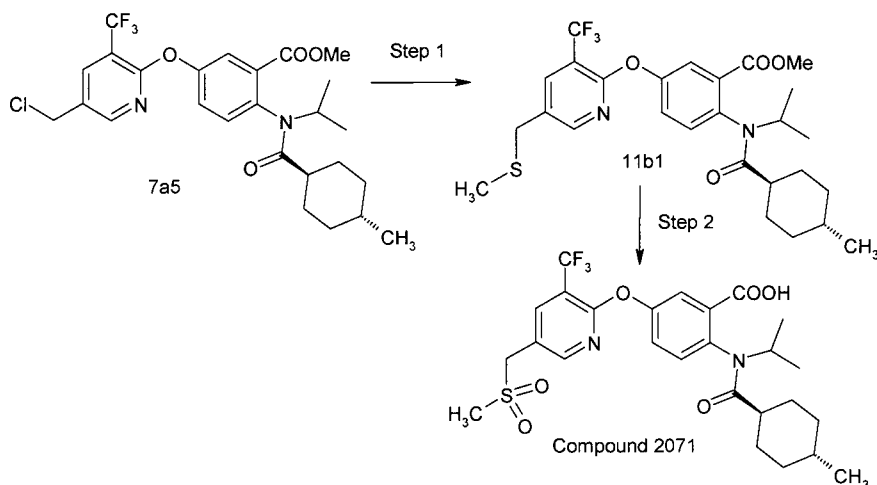
To a mixture of compound **10c2** (Example 10C) (25 mg, 0.046 mmol, 1 equivalent) in THF (0.5 mL) is added DIEA (12 μ L, 1.5 equivalents) followed by ethyl chloroformate (5.3 μ L, 1.2 equiv.). The mixture is stirred at room temperature overnight, then concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is mixed with DMSO (0.5 mL), 5N NaOH (0.1 mL, 11 equivalents) is added and the mixture is heated at 50°C for 45 min. The mixture is acidified using AcOH and purified by reversed-phase HPLC to provide compound **2161** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 10F**Preparation of compound 2188 (Table 2)**

To a mixture of compound **10c2** (Example 10C) (50 mg, 0.091 mmol) and DCM (1 mL) is added ethyl chloroformate (12 μ L, 0.126 mmol) followed by Et₃N (40 μ L, 0.287 mmol). The reaction mixture is stirred at room temperature overnight and concentrated under a stream of argon, and the residue is mixed with DMF (1 mL). Half of the mixture is added to a vial containing NaH (60% oil dispersion, 6 mg, 3.3 equiv.) and the mixture is stirred for 5 min at room temperature. Iodomethane (10 μ L, 3.5 equiv.) is added and stirring is continued at room temperature for 5 h. 5N NaOH (10 equiv.) is added and the mixture stirred an additional 14 h at room temperature and purified by preparative HPLC to provide compound **2188** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 11A**Preparation of compound 2039, Table 2**

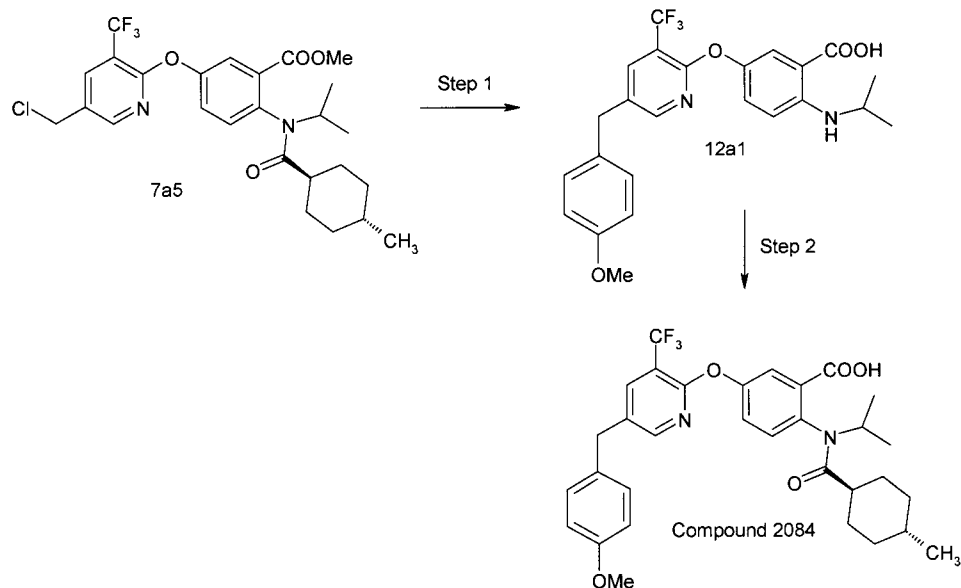
A mixture of intermediate **7a5** (Example 7A) (25 mg, 0.05 mmol), 2-mercaptoimidazole (7.0 mg, 0.07 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (23 mg, 0.07 mmol) and DMF (1 mL) is agitated on a J-Kem® orbital shaker (250 rpm) at 70°C overnight. DMSO (0.5 mL) is added followed by aqueous NaOH (5 N, 0.10 mL, 0.5 mmol) and the mixture is stirred at 55°C for 1 hour. The mixture is acidified with AcOH, then purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **2039** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 11B**Preparation of compound 2071, Table 2****Step 1:**

- 5 A mixture of intermediate **7a5** (Example 7A) (55 mg, 0.1 mmol), KI (3 mg, 0.02 mmol), NaSMe (11 mg, 0.16 mmol) and Et_3N (0.031 mL, 0.23 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (1.5 mL) is stirred at 70°C for 1.5 hours, then cooled to ambient temperature. The mixture is diluted with EtOAc and washed with 1 N aqueous HCl, water, saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 and brine, dried with MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to provide compound **11b1**.
- 10

Step 2:

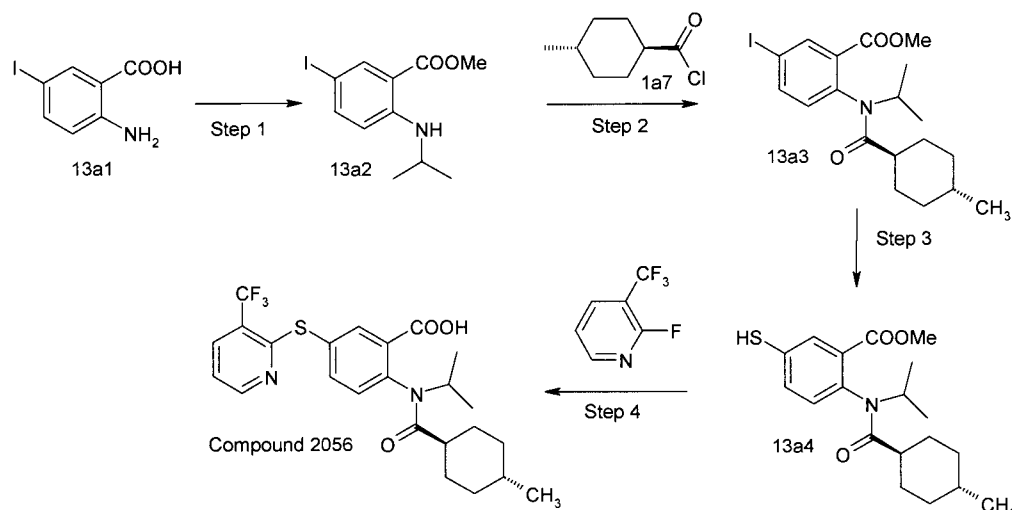
- OxoneTM (298 mg, 0.49 mmol) is added to a mixture of compound **11b1** (52 mg, 0.1 mmol) in acetone/water (3:1; 8 mL). The mixture is stirred at ambient temperature for 2 hours, then diluted with EtOAc and washed with water and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is taken up in mixture of DMSO (2 mL), MeOH (1 mL) and water (0.2 mL). Aqueous LiOH (5 N, 0.20 mL, 1.0 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred at ambient temperature overnight followed by 4 hours at 50°C. The mixture is allowed to cool to ambient temperature then is acidified with TFA, concentrated and purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **2071** (Table 2).
- 15
- 20

EXAMPLE 12A**Preparation of compound 2084, Table 2**Step 1:

- 5 A mixture of compound **7a5** (Example 7A) (30 mg, 0.06 mmol), FeCl_3 (9.7 mg, 0.06 mmol) and anisole (6.1 mg, 0.06 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) is heated at 100°C for 15 minutes in a microwave. The mixture is concentrated, then taken up in DMSO and purified by preparative HPLC to isolate intermediate **12a1**.

Step 2:

- 10 A mixture of compound **12a1** (6 mg, 0.01 mmol), compound **1a7** (Example 1A) (13 mg, 0.08 mmol) and pyridine (0.3 mL) is heated to 180°C for 12 minutes in a microwave. The mixture is purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **2084** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 13A**Preparation of compound 2056, Table 2****Step 1:**

- 5 The procedure used is adapted from: Abdel-Magid, A. F.; Carson, K. G.; Harris, B. D.; Maryanoff, C. A.; Shah, R. D. *J. Org. Chem.* **1996**, 61, 3849. To a mixture of compound **13a1** (10.0 g, 36 mmol) and CH₂Cl₂ (212 mL) is added 2-methoxypropene (13.8 mL, 144 mmol) followed by NaBH(OAc)₃ (15.3 g, 72 mmol) and AcOH (8.2 mL, 144 mmol). The mixture is stirred overnight at ambient temperature, then diluted with
- 10 EtOAc and washed with NaHCO₃ and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is subjected to flash chromatography (1: 9 EtOAc/Hex) to isolate compound **13a2**.

Step 2:

- To a mixture of compound **13a2** (10.2 g, 32 mmol) in anhydrous pyridine (160 mL) is added compound **1a7** (Example 1A) (11.3 g, 70 mmol) and DMAP (~ 0.44 g). The mixture is stirred at 80°C for 2 days, then is diluted with EtOAc (250 mL), and
- 15 washed with 1N HCl, water, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product is purified by flash chromatography (1: 4 EtOAc/Hex) to afford amide
- 20 **13a3**.

Step 3:

The procedure used is adapted from: Takagi, K. *Chem. Lett.* (1985), **14**: 1307. A mixture of compound **13a3** (100 mg, 0.23 mmol), NiBr₂ (5.7 mg, 0.03 mmol), thiourea (27 mg, 0.35 mmol) and NaCNBH₃ (2.2 mg, 0.04 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) is

heated at 120°C for 15 minutes in a microwave. Aqueous NaOH (2.5 N, 2.0 mL, 1.0 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred for 15 minutes. The mixture is diluted with EtOAc and washed with aqueous 1 N HCl and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to provide compound

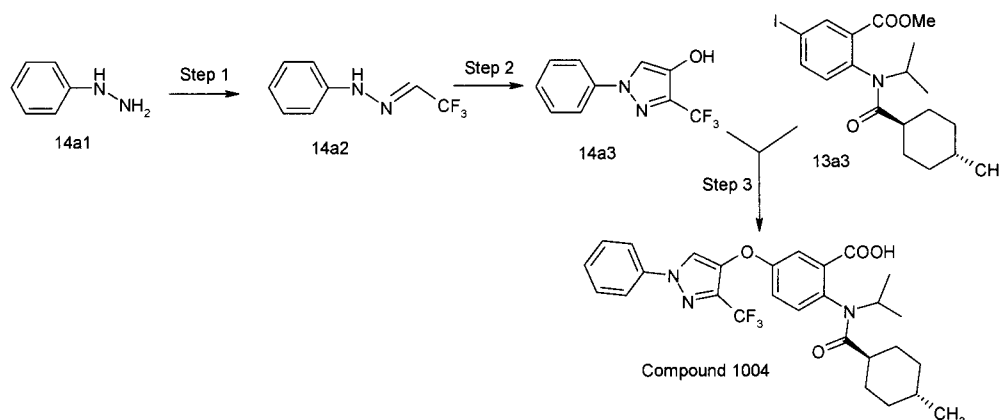
5 **13a4**.

Step 4:

A mixture of compound **13a4** (40 mg, 0.11 mmol), 2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethylpyridine (21 mg, 0.13 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (55 mg, 0.40 mmol) in DMSO (1.0 mL) is stirred at 100°C for 20 h. The mixture is cooled to room temperature and NaOH (2.5N, 300 µL, 0.75 mmol) is added. The mixture is stirred at 40°C for 1 h, acidified with AcOH and purified by preparative HPLC to provide compound **2056** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 14A

Preparation of compound 1004, Table 1



15

Reference: Tanaka, K.; Suzuki, T.; Maeno, S.; Mitsuhashi, K. *J. Heterocycl. Chem.* **1986**, 23, 1537.

Step 1:

A mixture of compound **14a1** (500 mg, 4.62 mmol) and 1-ethoxy-2,2,2-trifluoroethanol (667 mg, 4.63 mmol) is heated at 80°C for 2 h, then cooled and diluted with Et₂O. The mixture is washed with 1N HCl, water and brine, and the organic extract is dried (MgSO₄), filtered and concentrated to give compound **14a2**.

Step 2:

A mixture of aqueous glyoxal (40%, 2.0 g, 13.8 mmol) and n-BuOAc (10 mL) is dried over MgSO₄ and filtered. To the filtrate is added compound **14a2** (853 mg, 4.5 mmol), AcOH (50 µL) and MgSO₄ (462 mg, 3.8 mmol), and the mixture is heated at

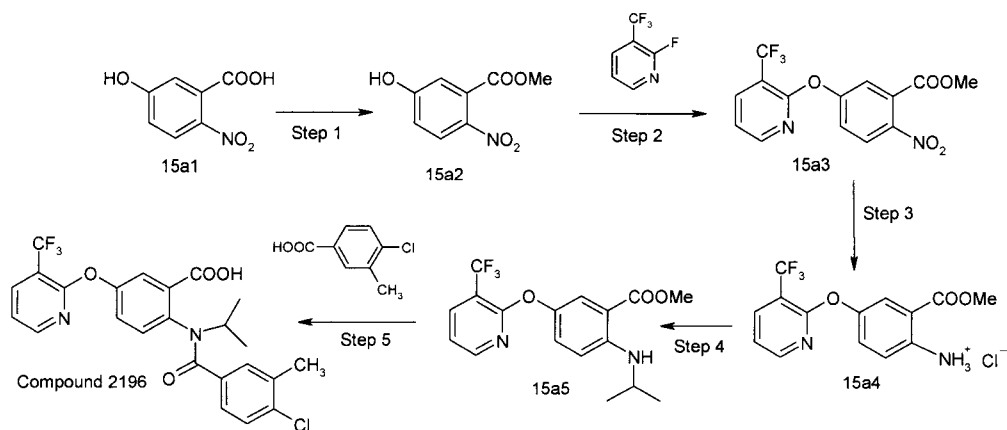
120°C for 6 h. Further glyoxal is added (prepared by extracting aqueous glyoxal (40%, 27 g, 186 mmol) with EtOAc, drying the EtOAc extract over MgSO₄, adding n-BuOAc (10 mL) and concentrating the solution under reduced pressure) and heating at 120°C is continued for a further 3.5 h. The mixture is filtered and concentrated, and the residue is mixed with 1N NaOH and washed with CH₂Cl₂. The aqueous phase is acidified to pH 2 with conc. HCl and extracted three times with CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic extracts are washed with water and brine, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and concentrated. The residue is purified by flash chromatography to provide compound **14a3**.

Step 3:

A mixture of compound **13a3** (Example 13A) (39 mg, 0.088 mmol), compound **14a3** (20 mg, 0.088 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (57 mg, 0.18 mmol), 2,2,6,6-tetramethylheptane-3,5-dione (2.0 µL, 0.01 mmol) and CuCl (4.4 mg, 0.044 mmol) in NMP (1.0 mL) under N₂ atmosphere is heated at 120°C for 7 h on a J-Kem® orbital shaker (275 rpm). Aqueous NaOH (5N, 176 µL, 0.88 mmol) is added and the mixture is heated at 50°C for 30 minutes. AcOH is added to a total volume of 1.5 mL and the mixture is filtered and purified by preparative HPLC to provide compound **1004** (Table 1).

EXAMPLE 15A

Preparation of compound 2196, Table 2



Step 1:

A mixture of carboxylic acid **15a1** (5.0 g, 27 mmol) and concentrated H₂SO₄ (4 mL) in MeOH (80 mL) is stirred at reflux for 12 hours. The mixture is concentrated under reduced pressure and poured onto a mixture of ice and saturated aqueous NaHCO₃. The aqueous mixture is acidified with citric acid and extracted twice with EtOAc. The

combined organic extracts are washed with water and brine, dried with MgSO_4 , filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by flash chromatography (3:7 EtOAc/Hexane) affords ester **15a2**.

Step 2:

- 5 Compound **15a2** (10 g, 51 mmol), 2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethylpyridine (10 g, 61 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (8.4 g, 61 mmol) are mixed in anhydrous DMSO (150 mL) at room temperature under an argon atmosphere. The mixture is stirred at 100°C overnight, cooled to room temperature and diluted with EtOAc (3 L). The organic phase is washed with saturated NH_4Cl solution and brine, dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and
- 10 concentrated under reduced pressure. Addition of Et_2O and hexanes to the residue provides compound **15a3**; further compound **15a3** is obtained by concentrating the filtrate and purifying the residue by flash chromatography.

Step 3:

- A mixture of compound **15a3** (12.5 g, 37 mmol), MeOH (600 mL) and Pd/C (1.4 g) is
- 15 stirred at room temperature for 3.5 hours under H_2 (1 atm). The mixture is filtered through CeliteTM and rinsed with MeOH. The filtrate is concentrated and the residue is purified by flash chromatography (gradient; 1/4 to 2/3 EtOAc/Hexanes). A mixture of the free aniline obtained and CH_2Cl_2 (250 mL) is cooled to 0°C and 2M HCl in Et_2O (50 mL) is added. The mixture is stirred at room temperature for 1h and the
- 20 hydrochloride salt **15a4** is collected by filtration, rinsed with Et_2O and air dried.

Step 4:

- To a mixture of compound **15a4** (2.1 g, 5.9 mmol) and 2-methoxypropene (2.3 mL, 24 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 is added $\text{NaBH}(\text{OAc})_3$ (2.5 g, 12 mmol) portionwise. The mixture is stirred at ambient temperature for 30 minutes, then diluted with EtOAc and
- 25 washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Trituration of the residue in hexanes/ether followed by filtration, washing (hexanes) and drying affords compound **15a5**.

Step 5:

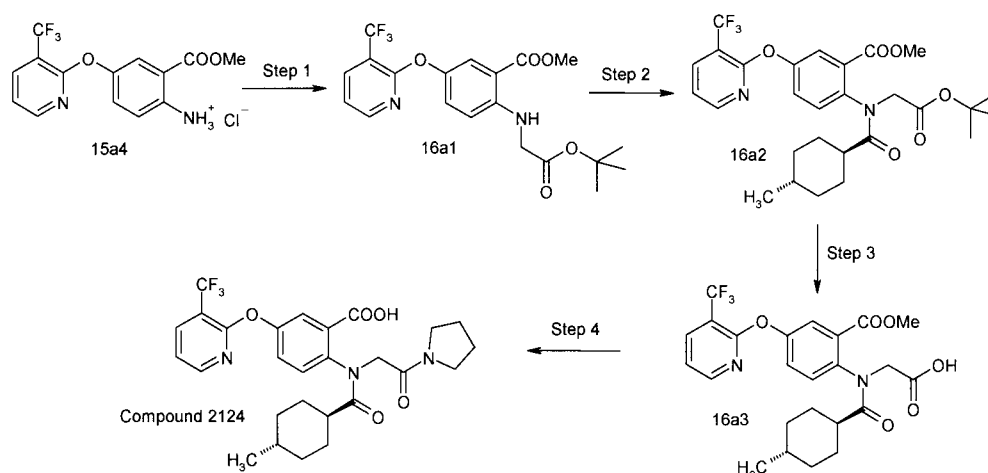
- 30 Oxalyl chloride (2 M in DCM, 0.16 mL, 0.32 mmol) is added slowly to a mixture of 4-chloro-3-methylbenzoic acid (27 mg, 0.16 mmol) in DCM (1 mL). DMF (1 drop) is added and the mixture is stirred 30 minutes at ambient temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is mixed with pyridine (0.5 mL), compound **15a5** (30 mg, 0.08 mmol) is added, and the mixture is stirred at 60°C
- 35 overnight. Aqueous NaOH (10 N, 0.096 mL, 0.96 mmol) and water (0.2 mL) are

added and the mixture is stirred overnight at ambient temperature, then diluted with EtOAc and washed with 1N HCl and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by preparative HPLC affords compound **2196** (Table 2).

5

EXAMPLE 16A

Preparation of compound **2124**, Table 2



Step 1:

- 10 A mixture of compound **15a4** (Example 15A) (2.0 g, 5.8 mmol), *tert*-butyl bromoacetate (4.3 mL, 29 mmol) and DIPEA (3.0 mL, 17 mmol) in DMF (20 mL) is stirred at 80°C overnight. The mixture is diluted with EtOAc and washed with 0.5 N aqueous KHSO₄, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is
- 15 purified by flash chromatography (gradient; 1:9 to 1:1 EtOAc/Hex) to give compound **16a1**.

Step 2:

- To a mixture of **16a1** (1.6 g, 3.7 mmol) and DMAP (0.45 g, 3.7 mmol) in anhydrous pyridine (20 mL) is added compound **1a7** (Example 1A) (0.90 g, 5.6 mmol). The
- 20 mixture is stirred at 70°C overnight, then is diluted with EtOAc and washed with 1 N HCl, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Trituration with 1:9 EtOAc/Hex affords amide **16a2**.

Step 3:

- 25 Trifluoroacetic acid (5 mL) is slowly added to a mixture of compound **16a2** (1.5 g, 2.8

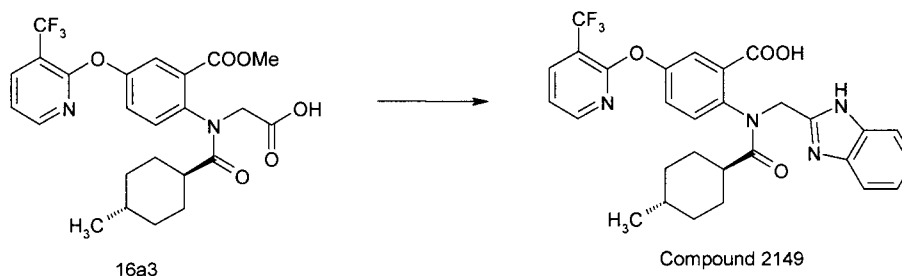
mmol) and DCM (20 mL) at 0°C. The mixture is allowed to warm to ambient temperature and stir overnight, then is concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is mixed with DCM and concentrated twice, then lyophilized from water and acetonitrile to afford acid **16a3**.

5 **Step 4:**

To a mixture of compound **16a3** (25 mg, 0.05 mmol) and HATU (23 mg, 0.06 mmol) in DMF (0.5 mL) is added pyrrolidine (0.005 mL, 0.06 mmol), followed by Et₃N (0.030 mL, 0.22 mmol). The mixture is agitated in a J-Kem® orbital shaker (250 rpm) for 1 hour at ambient temperature. Aqueous NaOH (5 N, 0.10 mL, 0.5 mmol) is added and
10 agitation is continued overnight at ambient temperature. The mixture is acidified with AcOH (0.1 mL), diluted with DMSO (1 mL) and purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **2124** (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 16B

15 **Preparation of compound 2149, Table 2**



To a mixture of acid **16a3** (Example 16A) (50 mg, 0.1 mmol) in DMF is added HATU (51 mg, 0.14 mmol), phenylenediamine (11 mg, 0.11 mmol) and Et₃N (0.063 mL, 0.45 mmol). The mixture is stirred overnight at ambient temperature, then diluted
20 with EtOAc and washed with 10% aqueous citric acid, water, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and brine. The organic phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue is then mixed with AcOH (1 mL) and stirred at 100°C for 1 hour. After cooling to ambient temperature, the mixture is diluted with EtOAc and washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, water and brine.
25 The organic phase is dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue (55 mg, 0.1 mmol) is combined with DMSO (2 mL), MeOH (1 mL) and water (0.15 mL). Aqueous NaOH (10 N, 0.097 mL, 0.10 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred overnight at ambient temperature. The mixture is acidified with TFA and purified by preparative HPLC to isolate compound **2149** (Table 2).

30

EXAMPLE 17**Inhibition of NS5B RNA dependent RNA polymerase activity**

Representative compounds of the invention are tested for inhibitory activity against the hepatitis C virus RNA dependent polymerase (NS5B), according to the protocol described below.

The HCV His-NS5B Δ 21 polymerase [SEQ ID NO.1] lacks the C-terminal 21 amino acids and is expressed with an N-terminal hexa-histidine tag from a pET-based vector in *E. coli* strain JM109(DE3) and purified as described in McKercher et al., (2004) Nucleic Acids Res. **32**: 422-431. The homogeneous enzyme preparation is stored at -20°C in storage buffer (25 mM Tris/HCl pH 7.5, 300 mM NaCl, 5 mM DTT, 1 M EDTA and 30%(v/v) glycerol).

The purified His-NS5B Δ 21 polymerase is reconstituted in an assay that measures the incorporation of ³H-UTP during the elongation of a biotin-oligo-(U)₁₂ RNA primer annealed to a homopolymeric poly(A) template. The test compound is added first, followed by the substrate, then the enzyme. At the end of the reaction, streptavidin scintillation proximity assay (SPA) beads are added and the radioactivity from the captured double-stranded RNA product is quantified on TopCount instrument (Packard).

The components of the assay reaction are: 20 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 1 mM TCEP, 1 mM EDTA, 5 mM MgCl₂, 0.01% w/v BSA, 5% v/v DMSO, 10 µg/mL Poly(A), 1 µg/mL Biotin-oligo-(U)₁₂, 333 nM UTP, 0.01 mCi/mL, (300 nM) ³H-UTP, 80 units/mL Rnasin, 12.5 nM His-NS5B Δ 21 polymerase and test inhibitor compound that is serially diluted over a large concentration range. The assay is performed in 384-well plates with a 1.5 hour incubation at 22°C, and then stopped with a solution of 0.5 M EDTA and the products captured with Streptavidin-coated beads. Following the addition of 6 M CsCl to the bottom of each well, the plate is left at room temperature for 90 minutes before counting for 60 seconds on a TopCount. The calculated % inhibition values are then used to determine IC₅₀, slope factor (n) and maximum inhibition (I_{max}) by the non-linear regression routine NLIN procedure of SAS.

EXAMPLE 18**Specificity of NS5B RNA dependent RNA polymerase inhibition**

Representative compounds of the invention are tested for inhibitory activity against polio virus RNA dependent RNA polymerase and calf thymus DNA dependent RNA polymerase II as described in McKercher et al., (2004) Nucleic Acids Res. **32**: 422-

431.

EXAMPLE 19**Cell-based luciferase reporter HCV RNA Replication Assay**

- 5 Representative compounds of the invention are tested for activity as inhibitors of hepatitis C virus RNA replication in cells expressing a stable subgenomic HCV replicon, using the assay described in WO 2005/028501.

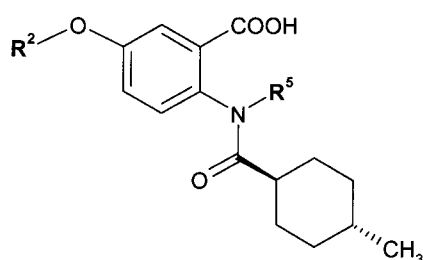
TABLES OF COMPOUNDS

- 10 The following tables list compounds representative of the invention. Representative compounds listed in Tables 1 and 2 below are tested in the NS5B polymerase activity inhibition assay of Example 33, and are found to have IC₅₀ values below 30 μM.

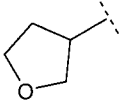

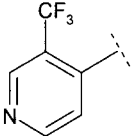

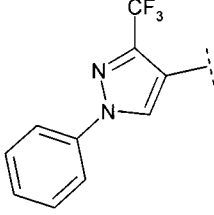

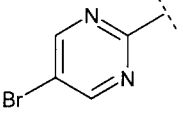

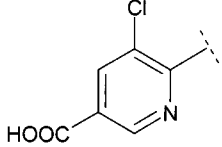

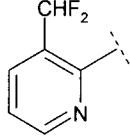

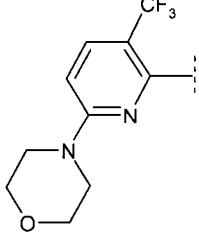

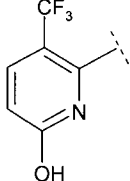

Retention times (t_R) for each compound are measured using the standard analytical

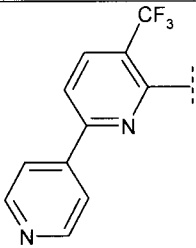

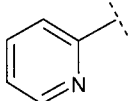

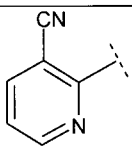

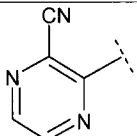

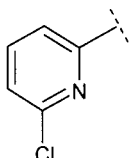

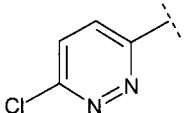

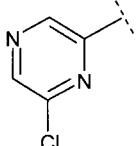

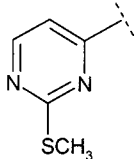

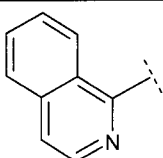

- 15 HPLC conditions described in the Examples. As is well known to one skilled in the art, retention time values are sensitive to the specific measurement conditions. Therefore, even if identical conditions of solvent, flow rate, linear gradient, and the like are used, the retention time values may vary when measured, for example, on different HPLC instruments. Even when measured on the same instrument, the
- 20 values may vary when measured, for example, using different individual HPLC columns, or, when measured on the same instrument and the same individual column, the values may vary, for example, between individual measurements taken on different occasions.

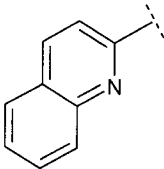

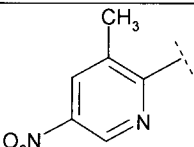

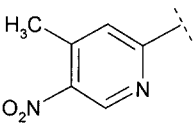

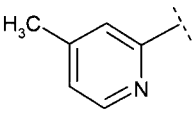

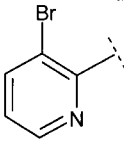

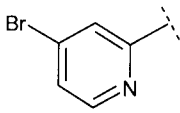

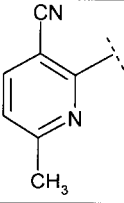

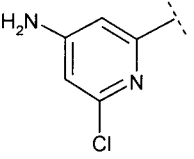

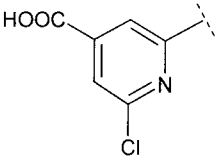

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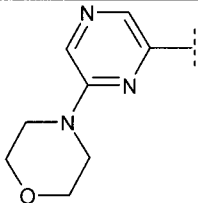

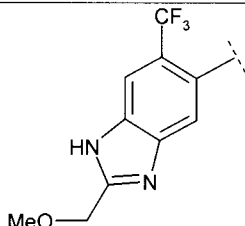

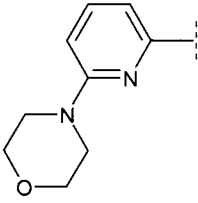

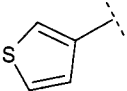

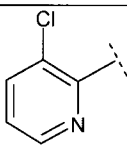

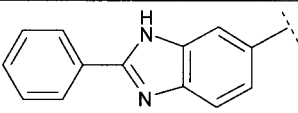

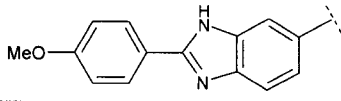

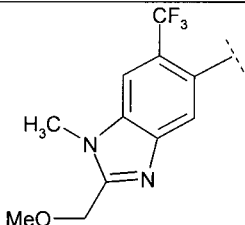

TABLE 1

Cpd	R ²	R ⁵	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
1001			5.8	404.2

Cpd	R ²	R ⁵	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
1002			5.2	390.2
1003			6.1	465.1
1004			7.7	530
1005			5.7	476.0
1006			5.8	475.2
1007			6.0	447.2
1008			7.5	550
1009			6.6	481

Cpd	R ²	R ⁵	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
1010			5.6	542
1011			5.5	397.2
1012			5.5	422.2
1013			5.5	423.2
1014			6.2	431.2
1015			5.3	432.2
1016			5.8	432.2
1017			5.8	444.2
1018			6.7	447.2

Cpd	R ²	R ⁵	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
1019			6.6	447.2
1020			6.3	456.2
1021			6.2	456.2
1022			5.6	411.3
1023			6.3	475.1
1024			6.4	475.1
1025			5.8	436.2
1026			5.4	446.2
1027			5.6	475.1

Cpd	R ²	R ⁵	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
1028			5.5	483.3
1029			5.4	548
1030			6.3	482.2
1031			6.3	402.1
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1033			5.1	512.2
1034			5.3	542.2
1035			5.7	562.2

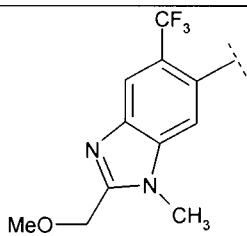

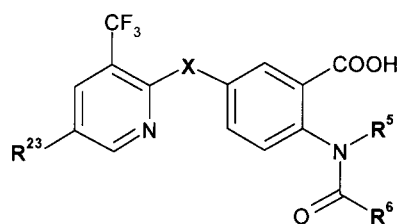

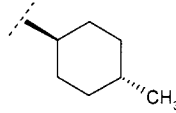
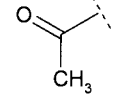

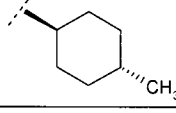
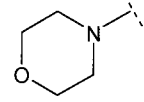

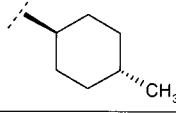
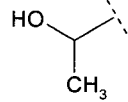

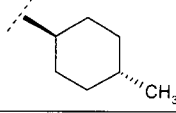
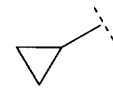

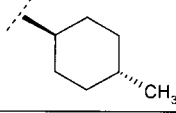


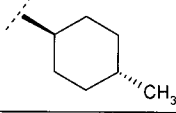
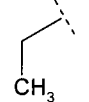

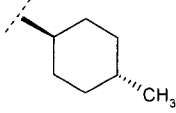
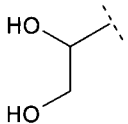

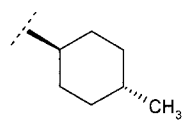
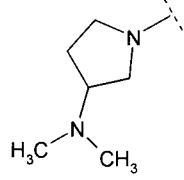

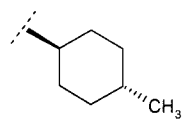

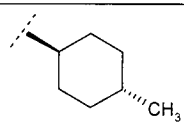

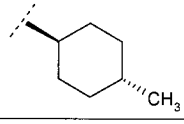
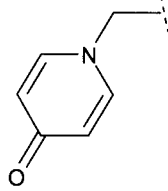

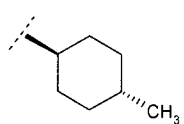
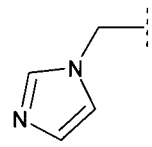

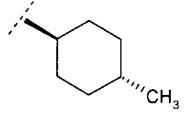
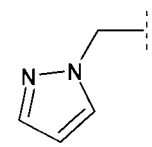

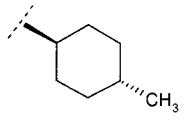
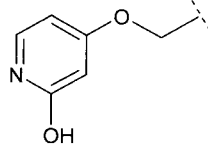

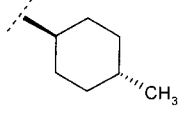
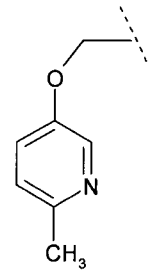

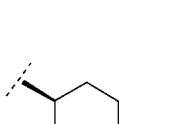
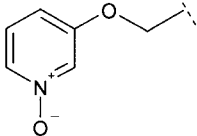

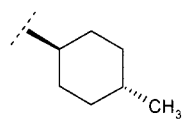
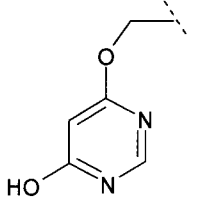

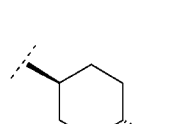
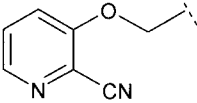

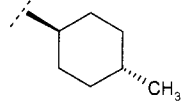
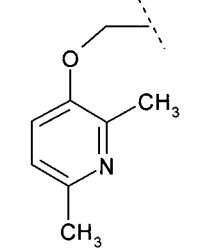

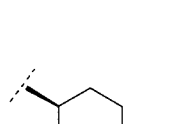
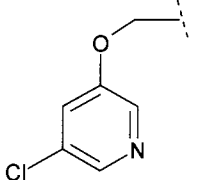

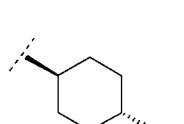

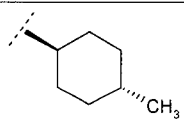
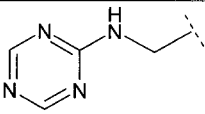

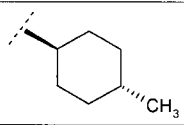
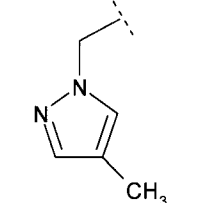

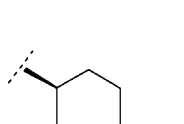
Cpd	R ²	R ⁵	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
1036			5.8	562

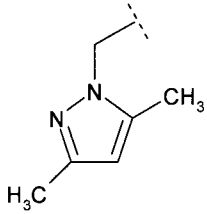

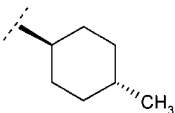
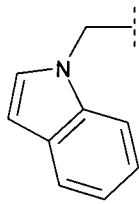

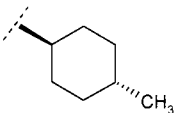
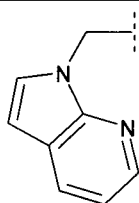

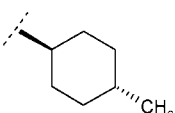
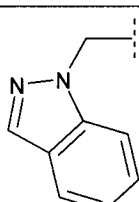

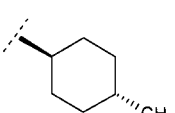
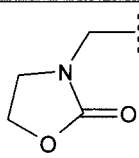

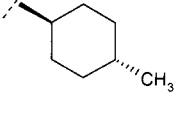
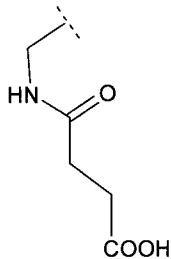

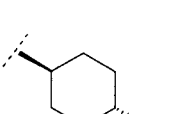
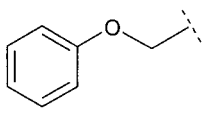

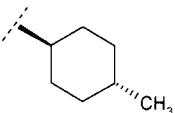
TABLE 2

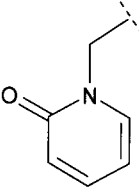

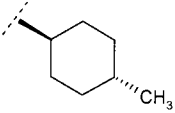
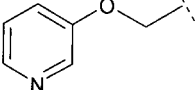

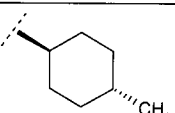
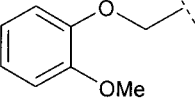

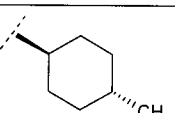
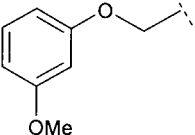

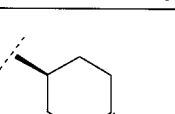
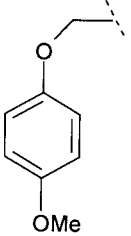

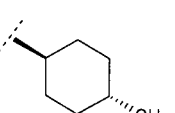
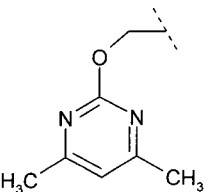

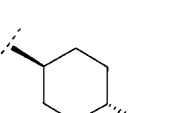
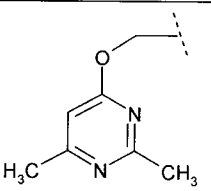

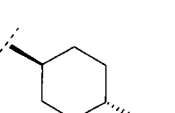
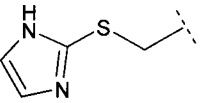

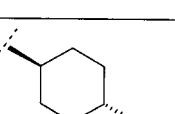
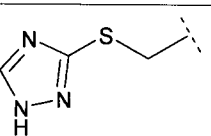

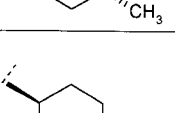


Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2001	H	O			7.0	465.1
2002		O			6.4	507.1
2003		O			6.5	550.1
2004		O			5.9	509.1
2005		O			7.0	505.1
2006		O			6.9	491.1
2007		O			7.0	493.1

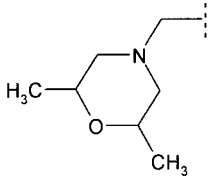

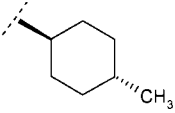
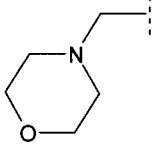

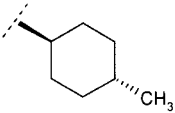
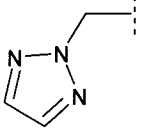

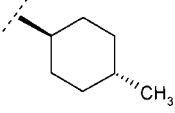
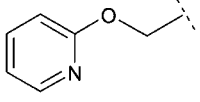

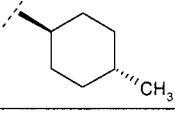
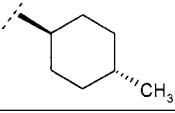

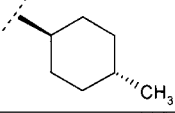
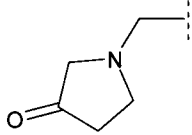

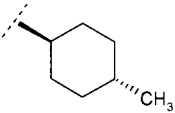
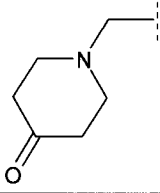

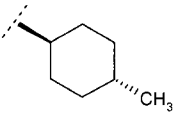

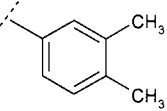
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2008		O			5.4	525.1
2009		O			5.4	577.3
2010	-CN	O			6.4	490.2
2011	-I	O			7.1	591.1
2012		O			5.3	572.2
2013		O			5.2	545.2
2014		O			6.2	545.2
2015		O			6.0	588.2
2016		O			5.5	586.3

Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2017		O			6.0	588.2
2018		O			5.8	589.2
2019		O			6.6	597.2
2020		O			5.6	600.3
2021		O			7.0	606.2
2022	-CH ₂ OH	O			5.7	495.2
2023		O			5.6	573.2
2024		O			7.1	559.2

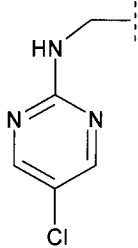

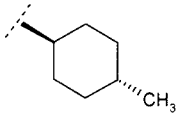
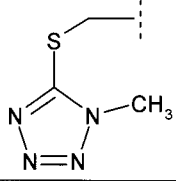

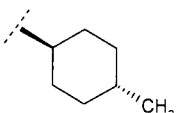
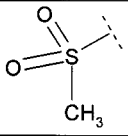

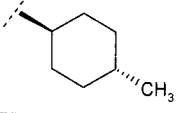
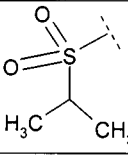

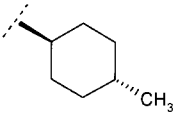
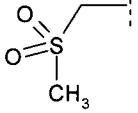

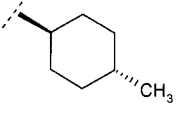
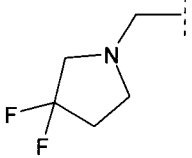

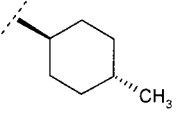
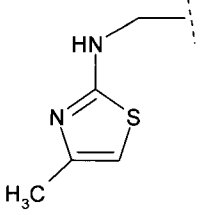

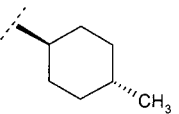

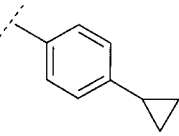
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2025		O			6.9	573.2
2026		O			7.9	594.2
2027		O			7.2	595.2
2028		O			7.5	595.2
2029		O			6.4	564.2
2030		O			5.7	594.2
2031		O			7.9	571.2

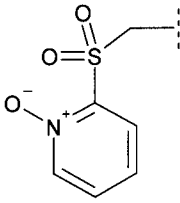

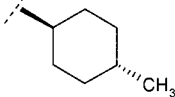
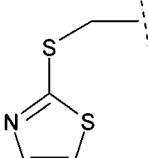
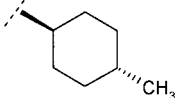
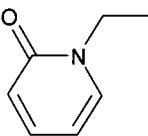
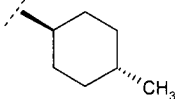
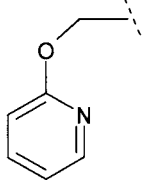
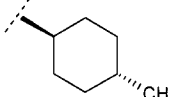
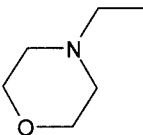
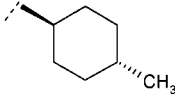
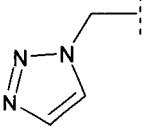
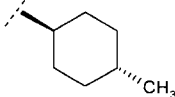
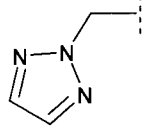
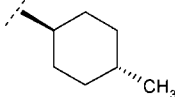

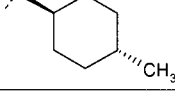
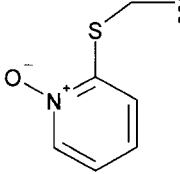

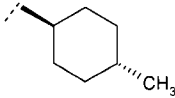
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2032		O			6.2	572.2
2033		O			5.3	572.2
2034		O			7.7	601.2
2035		O			7.8	601.2
2036		O			7.8	601.2
2037		O			7.2	601.3
2038		O			5.6	601.3
2039		O			4.9	577.2
2040		O			6.2	578.2

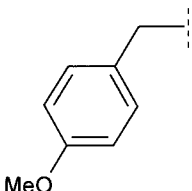

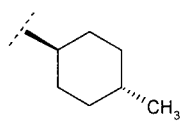
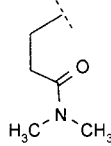
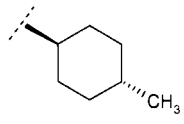

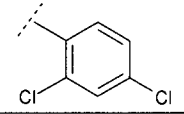

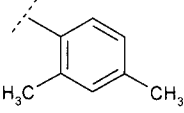

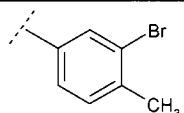

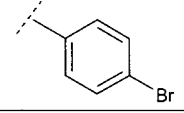

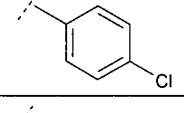

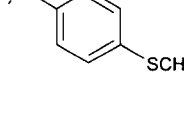

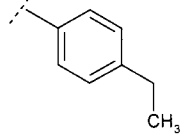

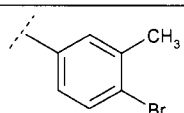

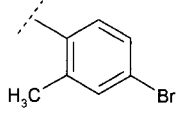
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2041		O			5.4	593.2
2042		O			5.9	592.2
2043		O			7.8	591.2
2044		O			7.5	594.2
2045		O			4.9	548.3
2046		O			4.8	522.2
2047		O			4.8	
2048		O			4.9	566.3
2049		O			4.7	578.3
2050		O			4.8	578.3


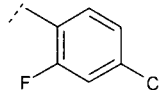

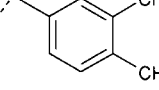

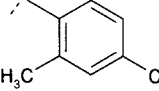

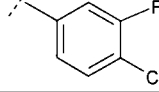

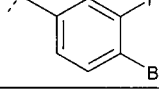

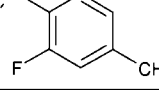
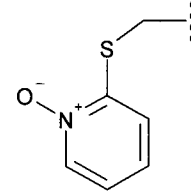
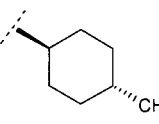
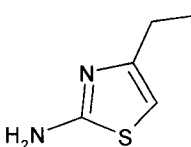

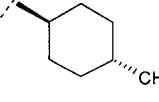
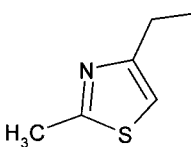

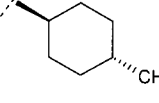
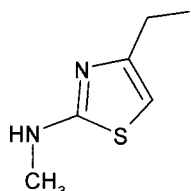

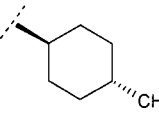
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2051		O			5.1	592.3
2052		O			4.8	564.3
2053		O			7.0	546.2
2054		O			7.5	572.2
2055	H	O	CH ₃		6.0	437.2
2056	H	S			6.7	481.2
2057		O			5.0	562.2
2058		O			4.9	576.2
2059	H	O			6.0	473.1

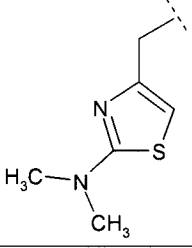

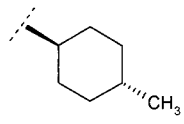
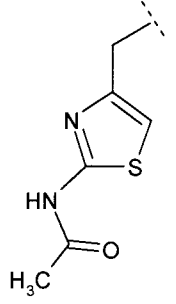

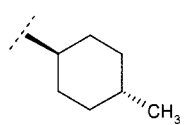
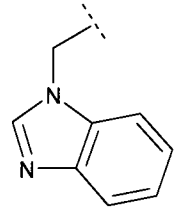

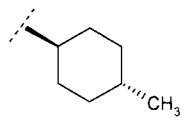
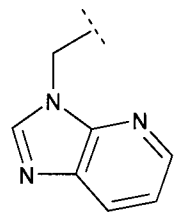

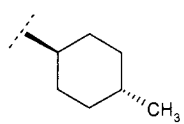
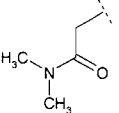
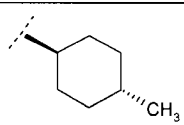
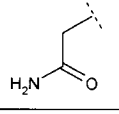
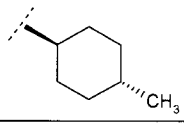
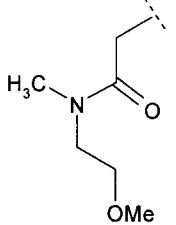

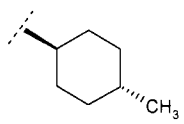
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2060		O			6.9	575.2
2061		O			5.9	562.2
2062		O			6.2	562.2
2063		O			5.5	610.2
2064		O			7.3	589.2
2065		O			7.6	588.2
2066		O			5.1	571.2


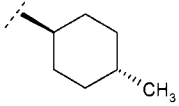
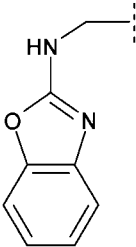

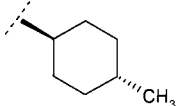
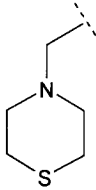

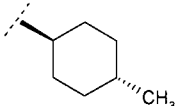
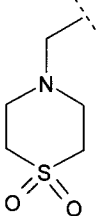

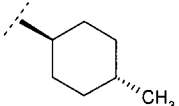
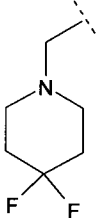

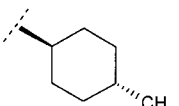
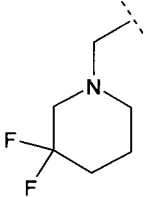

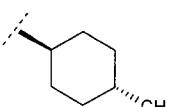
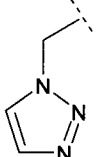

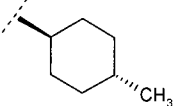
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2067		O			7.5	606.2
2068		O			6.9	593.2
2069		O			6.1	543.1
2070		O			6.4	571.1
2071		O			5.8	557.1
2072		O			5.2	584.1
2073		O			5.4	591.2
2074	H	O			6.0	485.1

Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2075		O			5.8	636.1
2076		O	CH ₃		6.5	566.0
2077		O	CH ₃		5.6	544.1
2078		O	CH ₃		6.4	544.1
2079		O	CH ₃		4.8	536.1
2080		O	CH ₃		5.5	518.1
2081		O	CH ₃		5.9	518.1
2082	H	O			5.6	495.1
2083		O			5.9	604.1

Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2084		O			7.3	585.2
2085	H	O			5.8	522.1
2086	H	O			7.0	512.9
2087	H	O			6.7	473.1
2088	H	O			6.9	537
2089	H	O			6.7	522.9
2090	H	O			6.6	479
2091	H	O			6.5	491
2092	H	O			6.8	473.1
2093	H	O			7.0	537
2094	H	O			6.9	537

Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2095	H	O			6.8	497
2096	H	O			6.9	493
2097	H	O			6.8	493
2098	H	O			6.8	497
2099	H	O			6.8	540.9
2100	H	O			6.6	477.1
2101		O	CH ₃		5.6	576.1
2102		O			5.2	577.1
2103		O			6.2	576.1
2104		O			5.4	591.1

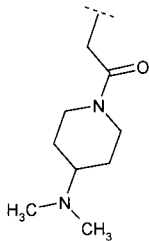
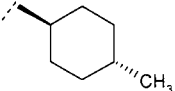
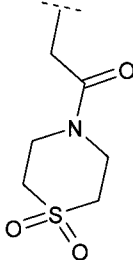
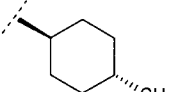
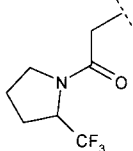
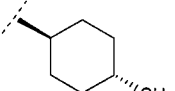
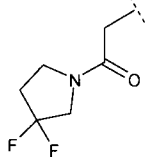
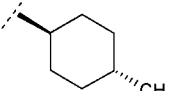
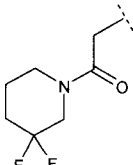
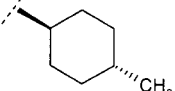
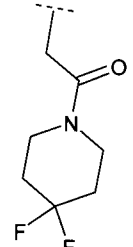
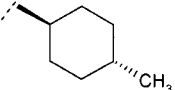
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2105		O			5.5	605.1
2106		O			6.2	619.1
2107		O			5.5	595.1
2108		O			5.6	596.1
2109	H	O			5.6	508.1
2110	H	O			5.4	480.1
2111		O			5.9	594.2

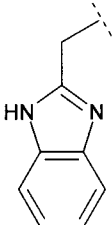
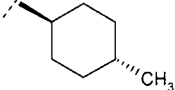
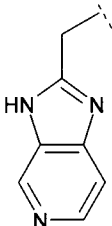
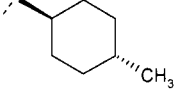
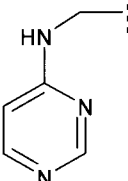

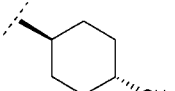
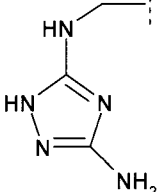

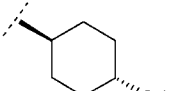
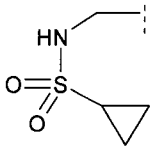

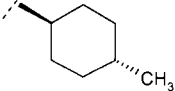
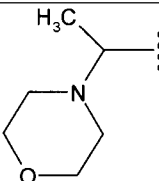

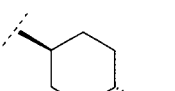
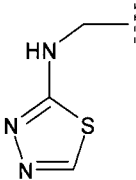

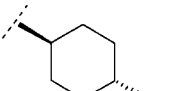
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2112	H	O			5.5	481.1
2113		O			6.9	611.2
2114		O			5.1	580.2
2115		O			6.2	612.2
2116		O			5.3	598.2
2117		O			7.0	598.3
2118		O			5.7	546.2

Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2119		O			5.2	577.2
2120		O			5.8	572.3
2121		O			5.3	574.3
2122	H	O			6.0	494.2
2123	H	O			6.6	522.2
2124	H	O			6.6	534.2
2125	H	O			6.9	536.2
2126	H	O			6.9	536.2
2127	H	O			7.0	548.2

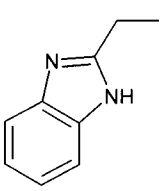

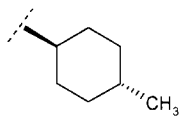
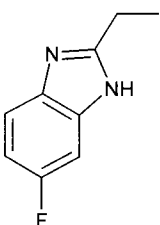

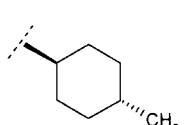
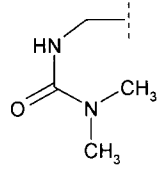

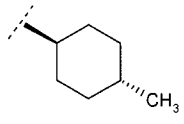
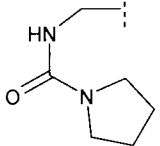

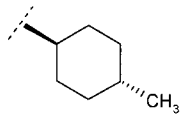
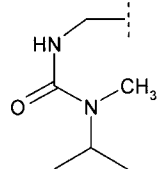

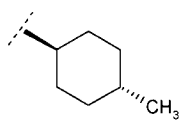
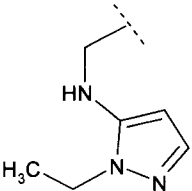

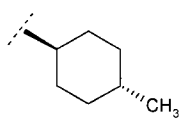
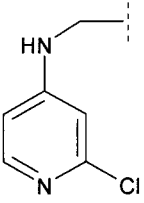

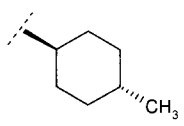
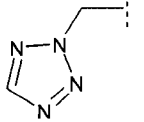

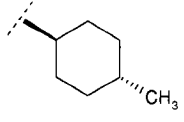
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2128	H	O			7.0	548.2
2129	H	O			6.2	550.2
2130	H	O			5.7	550.3
2131	H	O			7.2	550.3
2132	H	O			7.1	550.3
2133	H	O			5.0	551.3
2134	H	O			6.5	552.2
2135	H	O			5.6	563.2

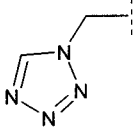

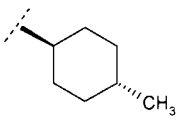
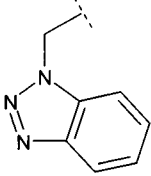

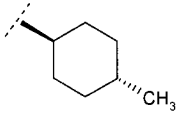
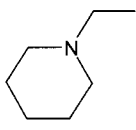

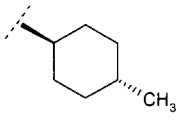
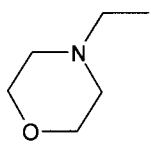

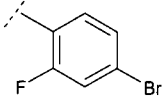
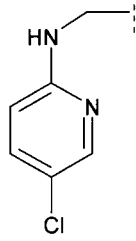

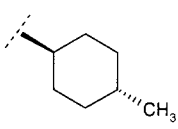
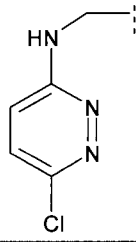

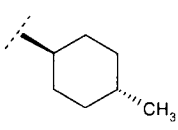
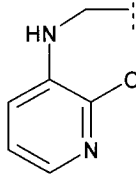

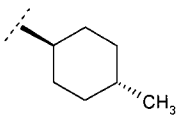
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2136	H	O			5.2	571.2
2137	H	O			6.0	578.3
2138	H	O			6.2	578.3
2139	H	O			6.8	578.3
2140	H	O			7.0	580.3
2141	H	O			5.9	591.3
2142	H	O			5.7	591.3

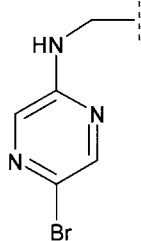

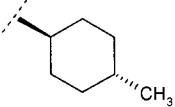
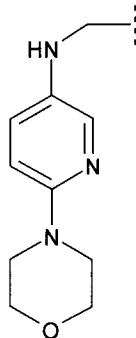

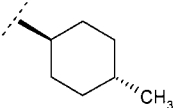
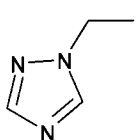

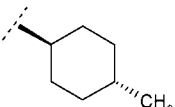
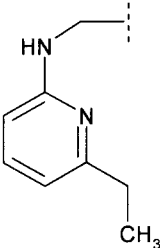

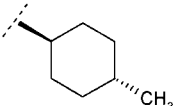
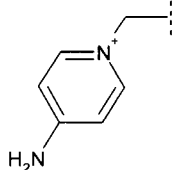

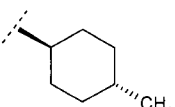
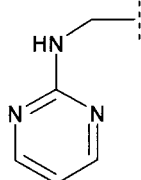

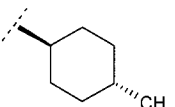
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2143	H	O			5.0	591.3
2144	H	O			6.3	598.2
2145	H	O			7.2	602.2
2146	H	O			6.8	570.2
2147	H	O			7.0	584.2
2148	H	O			7.0	584.2

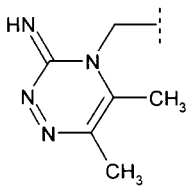

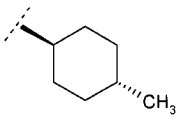
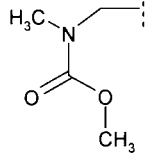

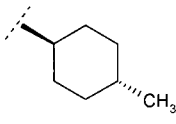
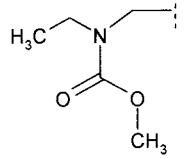

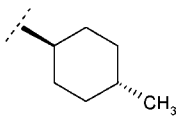
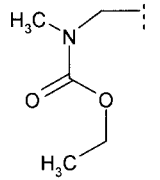

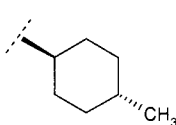
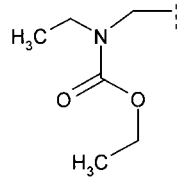

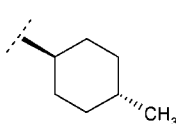
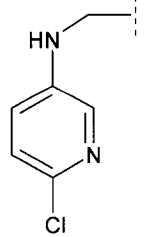

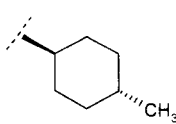
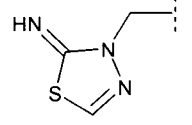

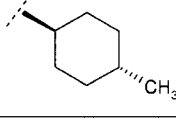
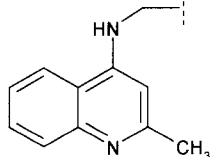

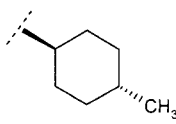
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2149	H	O			5.5	553.3
2150	H	O			5.2	554.3
2151		O			5.2	572.3
2152		O			5.0	576.3
2153		O			6.7	598.3
2154		O			5.0	578.3
2155		O			5.5	578.2

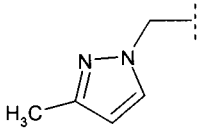
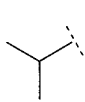
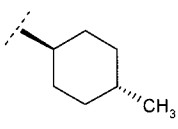
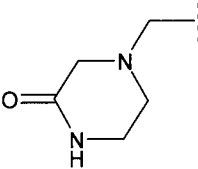
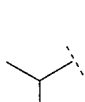
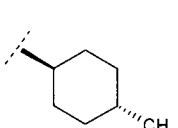

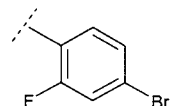

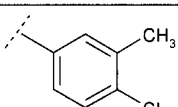
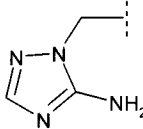
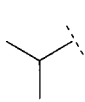
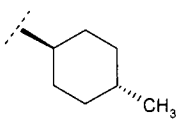
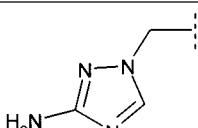
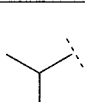
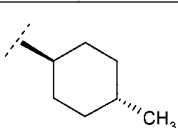
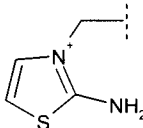
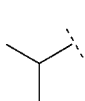
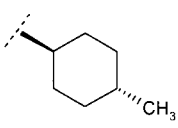
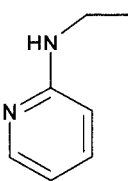
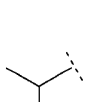
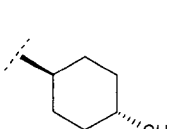
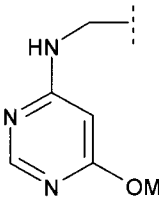
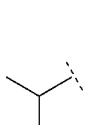
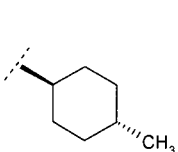
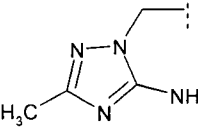
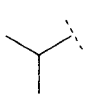
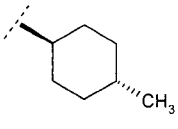
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2156		O			5.8	551.3
2157		O			6.3	572.2
2158		O			6.9	593.3
2159		O			6.4	579.3
2160		O			7.4	594.3
2161		O			6.9	588.3
2162		O			7.1	580.3
2163		O			6.6	552.3

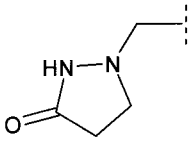
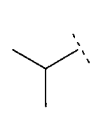
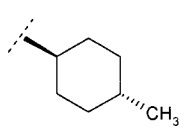
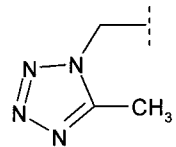
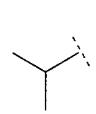
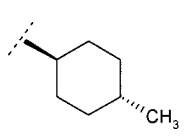
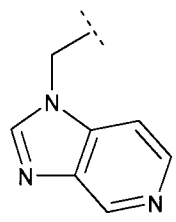
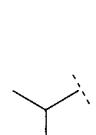
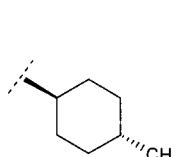
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2164		O			5.4	595.3
2165		O			5.4	613.3
2166		O			6.1	565.3
2167		O			6.4	591.3
2168		O			6.7	593.3
2169		O			6.0	588.3
2170		O			5.9	605.3
2171		O			6.0	547.2

Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2172		O			5.7	547.2
2173		O			6.4	596.3
2174		O			5.0	562.3
2175		O			4.8	640.1
2176		O			6.8	605.2
2177		O			6.7	606.2
2178		O			7.6	605.2

Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2179		O			7.9	650.2
2180		O			5.9	656.3
2181		O			5.6	546.3
2182		O			6.2	599.3
2183		O			5.7	571.3
2184		O			6.2	572.3

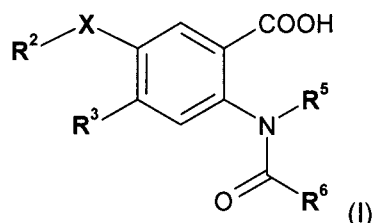
Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2185		O			5.8	601.3
2186		O			7.2	565.2
2187		O			7.5	579.3
2188		O			7.5	579.3
2189		O			7.8	593.3
2190		O			7.5	605.2
2191		O			5.6	578.2
2192		O			6.3	635.2

Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2193		O			7.0	559.2
2194		O			4.8	577.3
2195	H	O			6.1	543.0
2196	H	O			6.1	493.1
2197		O			5.0	561.2
2198		O			5.3	561.2
2199		O			5.0	577.2
2200		O			5.0	571.2
2201		O			5.6	602.2
2202		O			5.1	575.2

Cpd	R ²³	X	R ⁵	R ⁶	t _R (min)	MS (M+H) ⁺
2203		O			5.6	563.2
2204		O			6.1	561.1
2205		O			5.1	596.2

Claims

1. A compound of formula (I):



- 5 wherein:

X is selected from O and S;

R² is **Het**, optionally substituted with 1 to 5 **R²⁰** substituents, wherein **R²⁰** in each case is independently selected from:

- a) halo, cyano or nitro;
- 10 b) **R⁷**, -C(=O)-**R⁷**, -C(=O)-O-**R⁷**, -O-**R⁷**, -S-**R⁷**, -SO-**R⁷**, -SO₂-**R⁷**,
 -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-**R⁷**, -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-C(=O)-**R⁷**,
 -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-C(=O)-O-**R⁷**, -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-O-**R⁷**, -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-S-**R⁷**,
 -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-SO-**R⁷** or -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-SO₂-**R⁷**;
 wherein **R⁷** is in each instance independently selected from H,
 15 (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₂₋₆)alkenyl, (C₂₋₆)alkynyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl,
 aryl and **Het**;
 wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents
 each independently selected from -OH, -O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, cyano, COOH,
 -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl
 20 and -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)₂; and
 wherein each of the aryl and **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3
 substituents each independently selected from:
- i) halo, cyano, oxo, thioxo, imino, -OH, -O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl,
 -O-(C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl,
 25 -C(=O)-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -SO₂(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -C(=O)-NH₂,
 -C(=O)-NH(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -C(=O)-N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)₂,
 -C(=O)-NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl,
 -C(=O)-N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₄)alkyl,
 -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)₂, -NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl,
 30 -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl or -NH-C(=O)(C₁₋₄)alkyl;
- ii) (C₁₋₆)alkyl optionally substituted with -OH, -O-(C₁₋₆)haloalkyl,

- or -O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl; and
- iii) aryl or **Het**, wherein each of the aryl and **Het** is optionally substituted with halo or (C₁₋₆)alkyl; and
- c) -N(R⁸)R⁹, -C(=O)-N(R⁸)R⁹, -O-C(=O)-N(R⁸)R⁹, -SO₂-N(R⁸)R⁹,
 5 -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-N(R⁸)R⁹, -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-C(=O)-N(R⁸)R⁹,
 -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-O-C(=O)-N(R⁸)R⁹, or -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-SO₂-N(R⁸)R⁹
 wherein
 R⁸ is in each instance independently selected from H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl and
 (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl; and
 10 R⁹ is in each instance independently selected from R⁷,
 -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-R⁷, -SO₂-R⁷, -C(=O)-R⁷, -C(=O)OR⁷ and
 -C(=O)N(R⁸)R⁷; wherein R⁷ and R⁸ are as defined above;
 R³ is selected from H, halo, (C₁₋₄)alkyl, -O-(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -S-(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -NH₂,
 -NH(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl and
 15 -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)₂;
 R⁵ is H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl or **Het**; the (C₁₋₆)alkyl and **Het** each being
 optionally substituted with 1 to 4 substituents each independently selected
 from (C₁₋₆)alkyl, **Het**, -OH, -COOH, -C(=O)-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -C(=O)-O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl,
 -SO₂(C₁₋₆)alkyl and -C(=O)-N(R⁵¹)R⁵²;
 20 wherein R⁵¹ is H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl or (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl; and
 R⁵² is H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, aryl, **Het**, aryl-(C₁₋₃)alkyl- or
Het-(C₁₋₃)alkyl-;
 wherein each of the (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, aryl, **Het**,
 aryl-(C₁₋₃)alkyl- and **Het**-(C₁₋₃)alkyl- are optionally substituted with 1 to
 25 3 substituents each independently selected from (C₁₋₆)alkyl,
 (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, halo, oxo, -OH, -O(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₆)alkyl,
 -N((C₁₋₆)alkyl)₂, -NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl,
 -C(=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl and -NHC(=O)-(C₁₋₆)alkyl;
 wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with OH;
 30 or R⁵¹ and R⁵², together with the N to which they are attached, are linked to
 form a 4- to 7-membered heterocycle optionally further containing 1 to 3
 heteroatoms each independently selected from N, O and S, wherein each S
 heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized
 state such that it is further bonded to one or two oxygen atoms to form the

groups SO or SO₂;

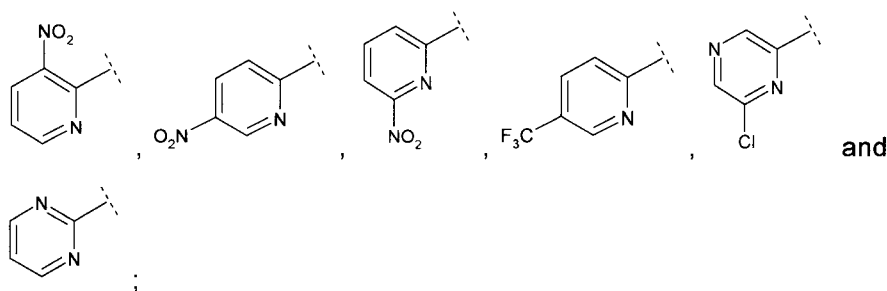
wherein the heterocycle is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, halo, oxo, -OH, -O(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -N((C₁₋₆)alkyl)₂, -NH(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)(C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -C(=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl and -NHC(=O)-(C₁₋₆)alkyl;

wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with OH;

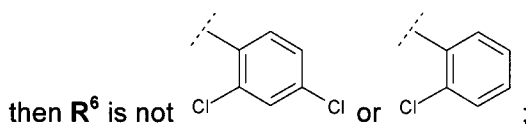
R⁶ is (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl or aryl;

the (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl and aryl each being optionally substituted with 1 to 5 substituents each independently selected from halo, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -OH, -SH, -O-(C₁₋₄)alkyl and -S-(C₁₋₄)alkyl; and

Het is a 4- to 7-membered saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heterocycle having 1 to 4 heteroatoms each independently selected from O, N and S, or a 7- to 14-membered saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heteropolycycle having wherever possible 1 to 5 heteroatoms, each independently selected from O, N and S; wherein each N heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to an oxygen atom to form an N-oxide group and wherein each S heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to one or two oxygen atoms to form the groups SO or SO₂; provided that when **R²** is selected from:



X is O; **R³** is H; and **R⁵** is H;



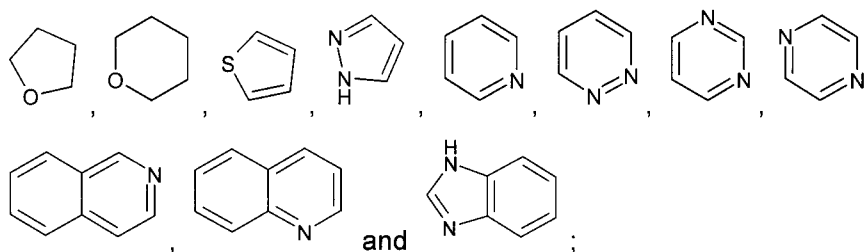
then **R⁶** is not or a salt or ester thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein **X** is O.

3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein **X** is S.

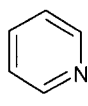
5 4. A compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 3 wherein **R**² is **Het** wherein **Het** is a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing 1 to 3 heteroatoms each independently selected from O, N and S, or a 9- or 10-membered bicyclic heteropolycycle containing 1 to 3 heteroatoms each independently selected from O, N and S; wherein **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 5 **R**²⁰ substituents, wherein **R**²⁰ is as defined in claim 1.

5. A compound according to claim 4 wherein **R**² is **Het** selected from the following formulas:



wherein **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 **R**²⁰ substituents, wherein **R**²⁰ is as defined in claim 1.

6. A compound according to claim 5 wherein **R**² is **Het** of the formula:



wherein **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 **R**²⁰ substituents;

wherein **R**²⁰ is selected from:

a) halo or cyano;

b) **R**⁷, $-(C_{1-6})alkylene-R^7$, $-C(=O)-R^7$, $-(C_{1-6})alkylene-O-R^7$, $-SO_2-R^7$, $-(C_{1-6})alkylene-S-R^7$ or $-(C_{1-6})alkylene-SO_2-R^7$;

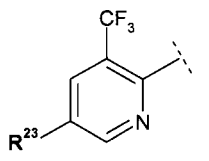
wherein **R**⁷ is in each instance independently selected from H,

$(C_{1-6})alkyl$, $(C_{2-6})alkenyl$, $(C_{1-6})haloalkyl$, $(C_{3-7})cycloalkyl$, aryl and **Het**;

wherein the **Het** is a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing 1 to 4 heteroatoms, each independently selected from N, O and S, or **Het** is

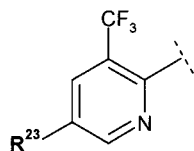
- a 9- or 10-membered heteropolycycle containing 1 to 4 heteroatoms, each independently selected from N, O and S; wherein each N heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to an oxygen atom to form an N-oxide group and wherein each S heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to one or two oxygen atoms to form the groups SO or SO₂; and
- wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents each independently selected from -OH, -O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl and COOH; and
- wherein each of the aryl and **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, cyano, oxo, imino, -OH, -O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)₂, -NH-C(=O)(C₁₋₄)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)alkyl and **Het**, wherein the **Het** is a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing 1 to 4 heteroatoms, each independently selected from N, O and S; and
- c) -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-N(R⁸)R⁹ or -(C₁₋₆)alkylene-C(=O)-N(R⁸)R⁹ wherein R⁸ is in each instance independently selected from H and (C₁₋₆)alkyl; and
- R⁹ is in each instance independently selected from R⁷, -SO₂-R⁷, -C(=O)-R⁷, -C(=O)OR⁷ and -C(=O)N(R⁸)R⁷; wherein R⁷ and R⁸ are as defined above

- 25 7. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R² is a group of the formula:



wherein R²³ is R²⁰; and
R²⁰ is as defined in claim 1.

- 30 8. A compound according to claim 6 wherein R² is a group of the formula:



wherein R^{23} is R^{20} ; and

R^{20} is selected from:

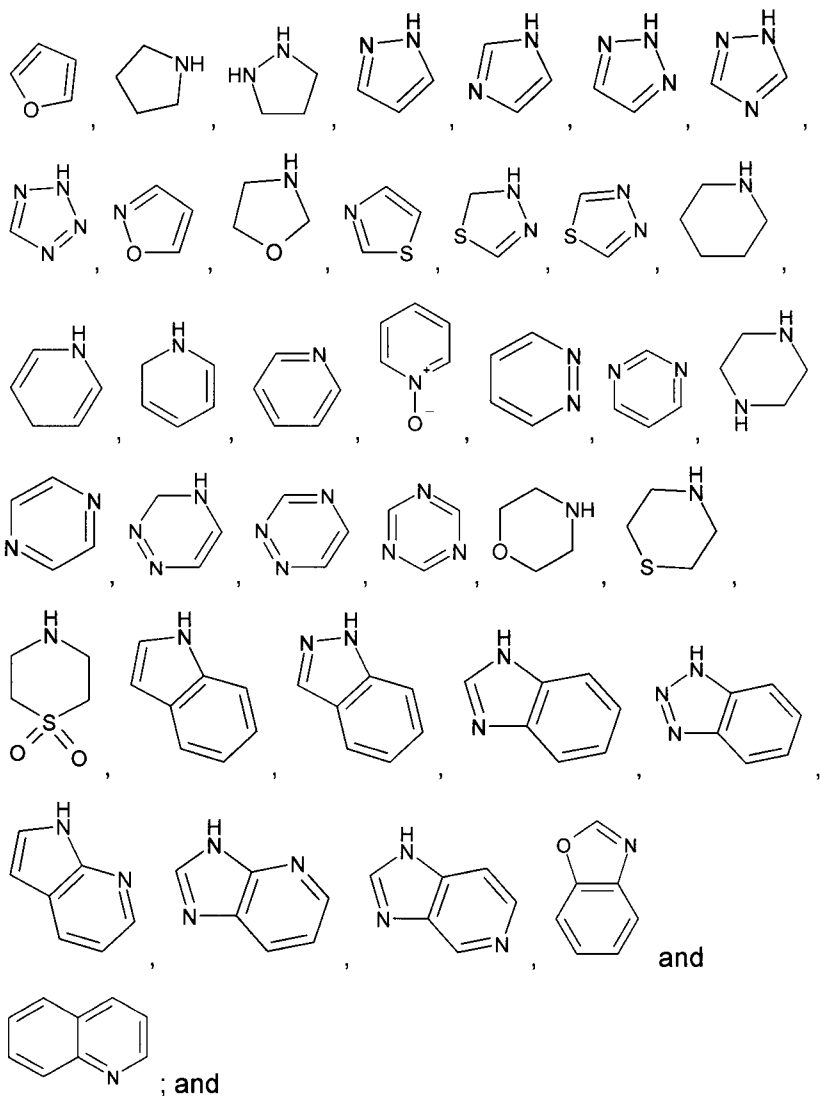
- 5 a) halo or cyano;
 b) R^7 , $-\text{CH}_2-R^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-R^7$, $-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-R^7$, $-\text{SO}_2-R^7$, $-\text{CH}_2-\text{S}-R^7$ or $-\text{CH}_2-\text{SO}_2-R^7$;

wherein R^7 is in each instance independently selected from H,

(C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{2-6})alkenyl, (C_{1-6})haloalkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl, phenyl and

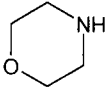
Het; wherein the Het is selected from:

10



wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents each independently selected from -OH, -O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl and COOH; and

wherein each of the phenyl and Het is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, cyano, oxo, imino, -OH, -O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)₂,

-NH-C(=O)(C₁₋₄)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)alkyl and ; and

c) -CH₂-N(R⁸)R⁹ or -CH₂-C(=O)-N(R⁸)R⁹ wherein

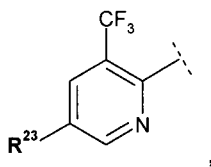
R⁸ is in each instance independently selected from H and (C₁₋₆)alkyl;

and

R⁹ is in each instance independently selected from R⁷, -SO₂-R⁷,

-C(=O)-R⁷, -C(=O)OR⁷ and -C(=O)N(R⁸)R⁷; wherein R⁷ and R⁸ are as defined above.

9. A compound according to claim 6 wherein R² is a group of the formula:

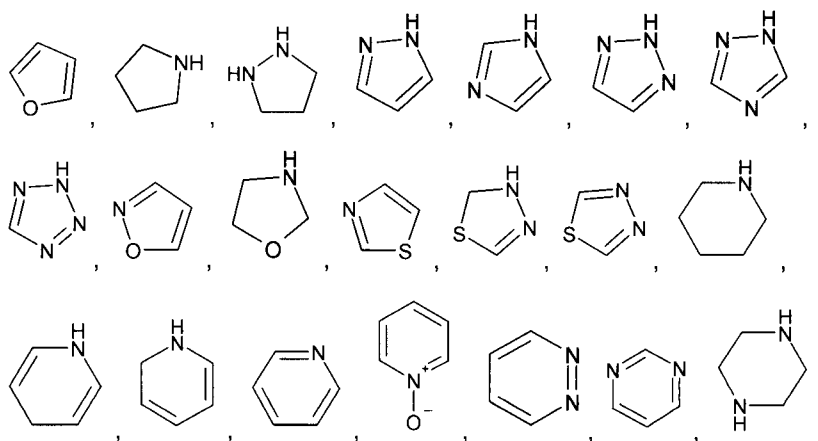


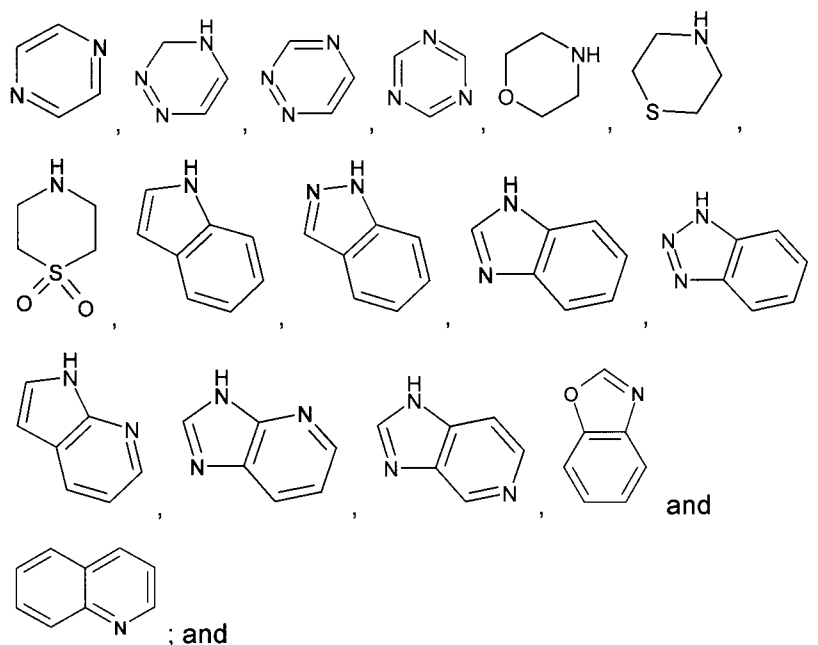
wherein R²³ is R²⁰; and

R²⁰ is selected from:

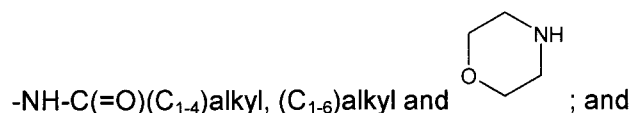
b) -CH₂-R⁷, -CH₂CH₂-R⁷, -CH₂-O-R⁷, -CH₂-S-R⁷ or -CH₂-SO₂-R⁷;

wherein R⁷ is Het; wherein the Het is selected from:





- 5 wherein the **Het** is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, cyano, oxo, imino, -OH, -O-(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -NH₂, -NH(C₁₋₄)alkyl, -N((C₁₋₄)alkyl)₂,

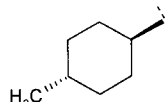


- c) -CH₂-N(R⁸)R⁹ wherein
 10 R⁸ is in each instance independently selected from H and (C₁₋₆)alkyl;
 and
 R⁹ is R⁷ wherein R⁷ is as defined above.

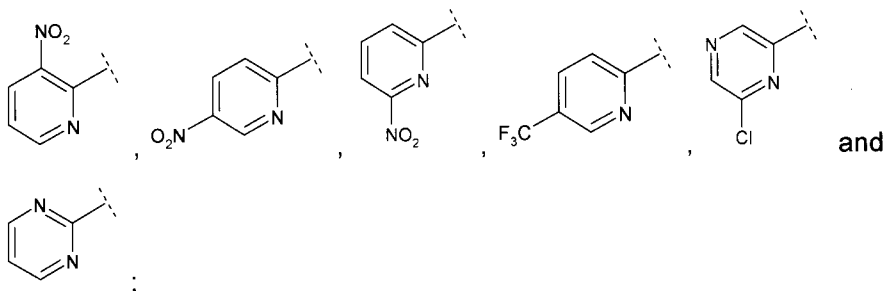
10. A compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 9 wherein R³ is selected
 15 from H and halo.
11. A compound according to claim 10 wherein R³ is H.
12. A compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 11 wherein R⁵ is (C<sub>1-
 20 6</sub>)alkyl.
13. A compound according to claim 12 wherein R⁵ is 1-methylethyl.

14. A compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 11 wherein R^5 is (C₁₋₄)alkyl substituted with **Het**, -COOH or -C(=O)-N(R^{51}) R^{52} , wherein the **Het** is a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing from 1 to 4 N heteroatoms or **Het** is a 9- or 10-membered bicyclic heteropolycycle containing from 1 to 4 N heteroatoms;
 5 and wherein R^{51} is H or (C₁₋₆)alkyl and R^{52} is selected from H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, **Het** and **Het**-(C₁₋₃)alkyl-;
 wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents each independently selected from -O(C₁₋₆)alkyl and -N((C₁₋₆)alkyl)₂;
 10 and wherein the **Het** and the **Het** portion of **Het**-(C₁₋₃)alkyl- are each independently a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing 1 to 3 heteroatoms each independently selected from N, O and S, wherein the **Het** and the **Het**-(C₁₋₃)alkyl- are each optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, oxo, -OH, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, -(C=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -N((C₁₋₆)alkyl)₂ and
 15 -NH(C=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl,
 wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with OH;
 or R^{51} and R^{52} , together with the N to which they are attached, are linked to form a 4- to 7-membered heterocycle optionally further containing 1 to 3
 20 heteroatoms each independently selected from N, O and S, wherein each S heteroatom may, independently and where possible, exist in an oxidized state such that it is further bonded to one or two oxygen atoms to form the groups SO or SO₂;
 wherein the heterocycle is optionally substituted with 1 to 3
 25 substituents each independently selected from halo, oxo, -OH, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, -(C=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl, -N((C₁₋₆)alkyl)₂ and -NH(C=O)(C₁₋₆)alkyl,
 wherein the (C₁₋₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with OH.
- 30 15. A compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 14 wherein R^6 is (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 substituents each independently selected from halo, (C₁₋₆)alkyl, (C₁₋₆)haloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, -OH, -SH, -O-(C₁₋₄)alkyl and -S-(C₁₋₄)alkyl.

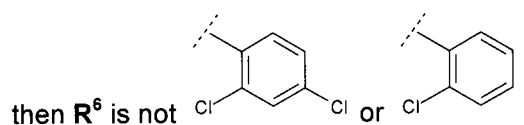
16. A compound according to claim 15 wherein R^6 is



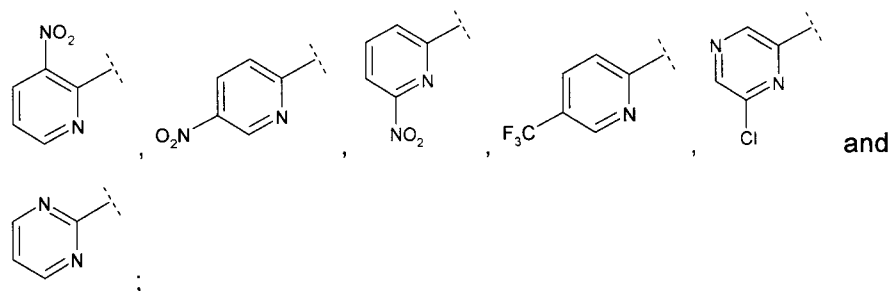
17. A compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 14 wherein R^6 is aryl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 substituents each independently selected from halo, (C_{1-6}) alkyl, (C_{1-6}) haloalkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl, -OH, -SH, -O- (C_{1-4}) alkyl and -S- (C_{1-4}) alkyl; provided that when R^2 is selected from:



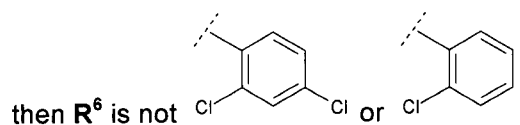
X is O; R^3 is H; and R^5 is H;



18. A compound according to claim 17 wherein R^6 is phenyl optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents each independently selected from halo, (C_{1-4}) alkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl and -S- (C_{1-4}) alkyl; provided that when R^2 is selected from:



X is O; R^3 is H; and R^5 is H;



19. A compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 18, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof; as a medicament.
- 5 20. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 18, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof; and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.
- 10 21. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20 additionally comprising at least one other antiviral agent.
22. Use of a composition according to one or more of claims 20 or 21 for the treatment of a hepatitis C viral infection in a mammal having or at risk of
15 having the infection.
23. A method of treating a hepatitis C viral infection in a mammal having or at risk of having the infection, the method comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to one or more
20 of claims 1 to 18, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, or a composition thereof.
24. A method of treating a hepatitis C viral infection in a mammal having or at risk of having the infection, the method comprising administering to the mammal
25 a therapeutically effective amount of a combination of a compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 18 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, and at least one other antiviral agent; or a composition thereof.
25. Use of a compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 18, or a
30 pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, for the treatment of a hepatitis C viral infection in a mammal having or at risk of having the infection.
26. Use of a compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 18, or a
35 pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, for the manufacture of a

medicament for the treatment of a hepatitis C viral infection in a mammal having or at risk of having the infection.

- 5 **27.** An article of manufacture comprising a composition effective to treat a hepatitis C viral infection; and packaging material comprising a label which indicates that the composition can be used to treat infection by the hepatitis C virus; wherein the composition comprises a compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 18 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof.
- 10 **28.** A method of inhibiting the replication of hepatitis C virus comprising exposing the virus to an effective amount of the compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 18, or a salt or ester thereof, under conditions where replication of hepatitis C virus is inhibited
- 15 **29.** Use of a compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 18, or a salt or ester thereof, to inhibit the replication of hepatitis C virus.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA2007/001363

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: **C07D 213/62** (2006.01) , **A61K 31/351** (2006.01) , **A61K 31/381** (2006.01) , **A61K 31/415** (2006.01) , **A61K 31/4184** (2006.01) , **A61K 31/44** (2006.01) (more IPCs on the last page)
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

C07D 213/62 (2006.01) , **A61K 31/351** (2006.01) , **A61K 31/381** (2006.01) , **A61K 31/415** (2006.01) , **A61K 31/4184** (2006.01) , **A61K 31/44** (2006.01)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic database(s) consulted during the international search (name of database(s) and, where practicable, search terms used)

STN structure search, Canadian Patents Database, Esp@cenet, Google Scholar
keywords: viral polymerase inhibitor, HCV, antiviral

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	STN International, file CAPLUS, CAPLUS accession no. 2004:1023784, document no. 142:190216, Hemalatha, R et al. " <i>QSAR analysis of 5-substituted-2-benzoylaminobenzoic acids as PPAR modulator</i> " E-journal of Chemistry (2004), 1(5), 243-250, see CAS Registry no. 836605-08-5 cited in the application	1,2,4,5,10,11,17-20
A	WO 03/004458 (BIOVITRUM AB) 16 January 2003 (16-01-2003) (see claims, examples 33-37, 81) cited in the application	1-20
A	THOR ET AL. " <i>Synthesis and pharmacological evaluation of a new class of peroxisome proliferator -activated receptor modulators</i> " Biorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters (2002) vol. 12, no.24, p.3565-3567 (see compounds 10a-10d , Table 1, p.3567) cited in the application	1-20

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 October 2007 (29-10-2007)

Date of mailing of the international search report

29 October 2007 (29-10-2007)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/CA
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Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0C9
Facsimile No.: 001-819-953-2476

Authorized officer

Ursula Wronska 819- 997-6666

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of the first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons :

1. ☒ Claim Nos. : 23, 24, 28

because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely :

Although claims 23, 24, 28 are directed to methods of medical treatment of human/animal body, the search has been carried out based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.

2. ☐ Claim Nos. :

because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically :

3. ☐ Claim Nos. :

because they are dependant claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows :

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claim Nos. :

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claim Nos. :

Remark on Protest ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.

☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/CA2007/001363

Patent Document Cited in Search Report	Publication Date	Patent Family Member(s)	Publication Date
WO 03004458A1	16-01-2003	SE 0102384D0	03-07-2001
		US 2003073862A1	17-04-2003
		US 2003082631A1	01-05-2003
		WO 03005025A1	16-01-2003

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA2007/001363

A61K 31/4439 (2006.01) , *A61K 31/497* (2006.01) , *A61K 31/5377* (2006.01) , *A61P 31/14* (2006.01) ,
C07D 231/18 (2006.01) , *C07D 235/12* (2006.01) , *C07D 309/12* (2006.01) , *C07D 333/32* (2006.01) ,
C07D 401/06 (2006.01) , *C07D 401/12* (2006.01) , *C07D 413/04* (2006.01) , *C07D 413/06* (2006.01) ,
C07D 417/06 (2006.01)