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(54) Title: RADIOLABELED COMPOUNDS AND USES THEREOF

(57) Abstract: Radiolabeled compounds of Formula I are described. Processes for radiolabeling the compounds are described. Methods for radioactive imaging using the compounds are also described.



RADIOLABELED COMPOUNDS AND USES THEREOF

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/864,339, filed June 20, 2019, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

[0002] All patents, patent applications, and publications cited herein are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety in order to more fully describe the state of the art as known to those skilled therein as of the date of the invention described herein.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0003] The present disclosure relates generally to the field of radiolabeled compounds. More particularly, the present disclosure relates to radiolabeled arylpyrimidine and isoxazole compounds.

BACKGROUND

[0004] Cyclooxygenase (“COX”) enzymes, also called prostaglandin endoperoxidase synthases, are essential enzymes in prostaglandin biosynthesis. COX enzymes catalyze the oxidative conversion of arachidonic acid substrates to prostaglandins, prostacyclins, and thromboxane. There are three known isoforms of COX: COX-1, COX-2, and COX-3. Among these isoforms, COX-1 is predominantly constitutive. COX-2 is predominantly inducible, though it can also be constitutive in, for example, kidney, brain, heart, liver, testicles, and tracheal epithelia. While the structures of COX-1 and COX-2 are similar, COX-2 is more rapidly degraded, has a shorter half-life, and possesses a larger binding site due to a secondary internal pocket. The third isoform, COX-3, may be responsible for the antipyretic and analgesic activities of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (“NSAIDs”). COX-1 shares 63% homology with COX-2. COX-3 shares 90% homology with COX-1 and about 60% homology with COX-2.

[0005] COX-2 can be induced by inflammatory stimuli and catalyze prostanoid formation associated with inflammation and proliferative diseases. In the central nervous system (“CNS”), COX-2 is modestly expressed under normal physiologic conditions and has a role in, for example, brain, cardiac, and kidney functions. However, during inflammation, COX-2

is significantly upregulated. Neuroinflammation and COX-2 induction are protective under some circumstances, but excessive inflammation and COX-2 induction may be involved in the pathogenesis of disease. These include, for example, inflammation, pain, fever, major depressive disorder (“MDD”), schizophrenia, arthritis (*e.g.*, rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis), neurodegenerative diseases (*e.g.*, Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (“ALS”)), brain tumors (*see, e.g.*, Patti et al. *Cancer Letters* 2002, 180:13-21; hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety), angiogenesis, cancer, stroke, myocardial infarction (*see, e.g.*, Yasojima et al. *Brain Research* 1999, 830:226-36; hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety), atherosclerosis, diabetes, allograft rejection (*see, e.g.*, Yang et al. *Circulation* 2000, 101:430-8; hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety), urogenital disease, renal function, tissue repair, bone metabolism, ovulation, pregnancy, child birth, and traumatic brain injury (“TBI”).

[0006] Inhibition of COX-2 may be a potential protective treatment strategy by slowing or halting the progression of disease. Monitoring *in vivo* changes in COX-2 expression could be useful for quantifying disease pathogenesis, such as detecting organ rejection and joints affected by arthritis, and assessing target occupancy and biological effects of COX-2-selective inhibitors (“COXIBs”). Availability of noninvasive diagnostic methods, such as positron emission tomography (“PET”) imaging, is particularly crucial for CNS diseases, given the difficulty of accessing the brain, and presents a direct way of imaging changes in COX-2 *in vivo* during disease progression and therapy.

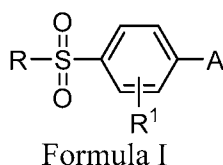
[0007] Noninvasive PET imaging of COX-2 protein can be a powerful molecular imaging method for quantifying inflammation. A specific COX-2 PET tracer could also serve as a biological marker of COX-2 induction, and as an index of the effect of COXIBs. However, existing radioligands for PET are not effective for imaging COX-2 induction *in vivo*, possibly due to their suboptimal pharmacology and physiological properties, and other issues in translating to the clinic. For example, [¹¹C]-6-methoxy-2-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-N-(thiophen-2-ylmethyl)pyrimidin-4-amine (“[¹¹C]MC1”), a COXIB, showed increased binding to COX-2 during neuroinflammation. However, due to its 20-minute half-life, [¹¹C]MC1 is not practical for multicenter trials, commercial use, or clinical applications, because this half-life is too short to allow the tracer to be shipped beyond the confines of a single medical center. Other ¹¹C-labeled COXIBs (*e.g.*, [¹¹C]celecoxib, [¹¹C]etoricoxib, [¹¹C]rofecoxib, [¹¹C]-3-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-4-phenyl-5-trifluoromethyl isoxazole (“[¹¹C]-TMI”), and [¹¹C]-4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-

(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (“[¹¹C]MOV”)) have been imaged in, for example, mouse, monkey, and baboon, but with issues similar to [¹¹C]MC1. *See, e.g., Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2018, 28:3592-5; *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2018, 28:2432-5; *Molecules* 2018, 23:E1929; *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* 2007, 15:1802-7; *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2005, 15:4699-702; *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2005, 15:4268-71; and *J. Labeled Comp. Radiopharm.* 2005, 48:887-95; each of which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0008] Thus, there remains a need for COX-2-selective PET tracers, including those useful for imaging COX-2 expression.

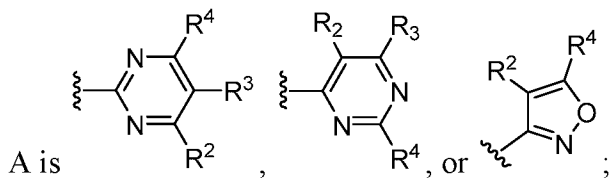
SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0009] In one aspect, a compound of Formula I:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is described,

wherein:



R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-

C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵;

R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, and NHCOR⁵;

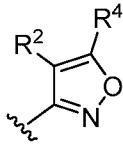
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵; and

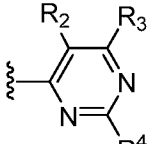
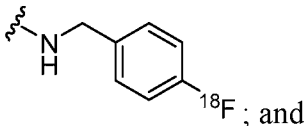
each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

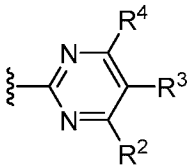
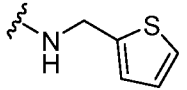
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl,

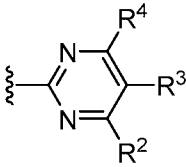
heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

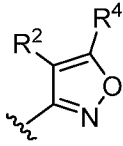
wherein at least one of R, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, or R⁵ comprises at least one of ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

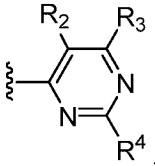
wherein when A is , R is ¹¹CH₃, R¹ is hydrogen, and R² is phenyl, R⁴ is not CF₃;

wherein when A is , R is CH₃, R¹ and R² are hydrogen, and R³ is CF₃, R⁴ is not ; and

wherein when A is , R is CH₃, R¹ and R³ are hydrogen, and R⁴ is O¹¹CH₃, R² is not .

[0010] In any one of the embodiments described herein, A is .

[0011] In any one of the embodiments described herein, A is .

[0012] In any one of the embodiments described herein, A is .

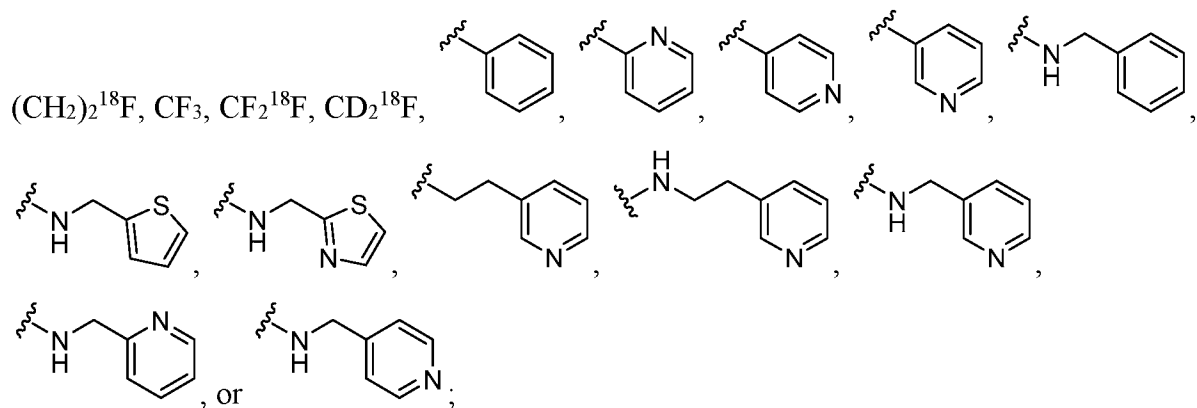
[0013] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

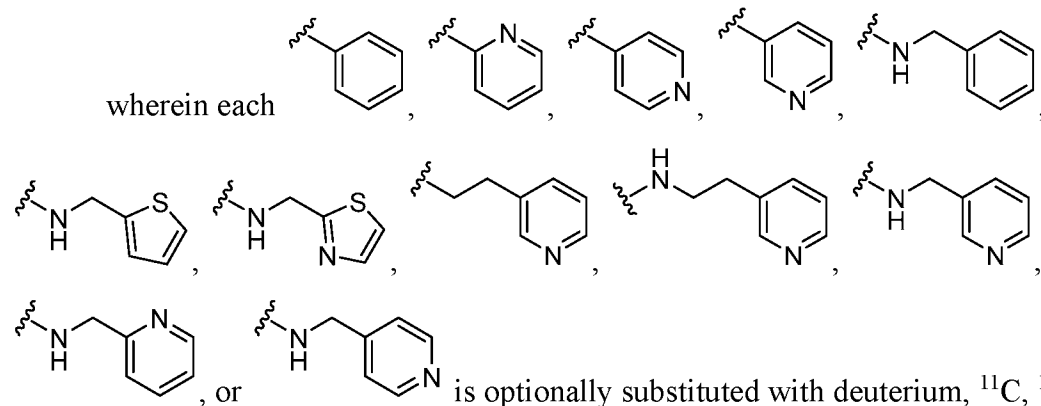
[0014] In any one of the embodiments described herein, each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

[0015] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R is CH₃, ¹¹CH₃, CH₂¹⁸F,



wherein each



or , or  is optionally substituted with deuterium, ^{11}C , ^{18}F , or ^{123}I .

[0016] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R is CH₃, ¹¹CH₃, or (CH₂)₂¹⁸F.

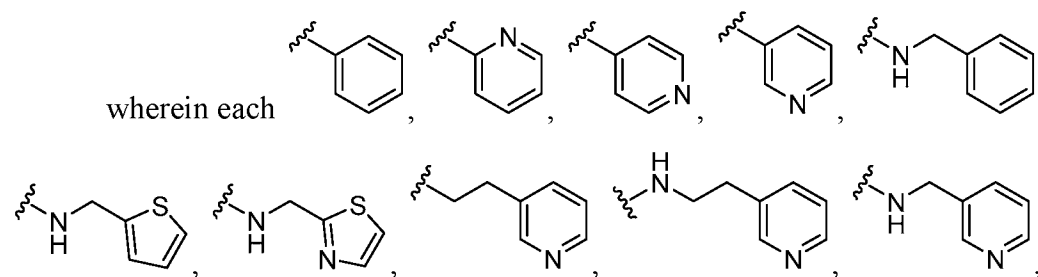
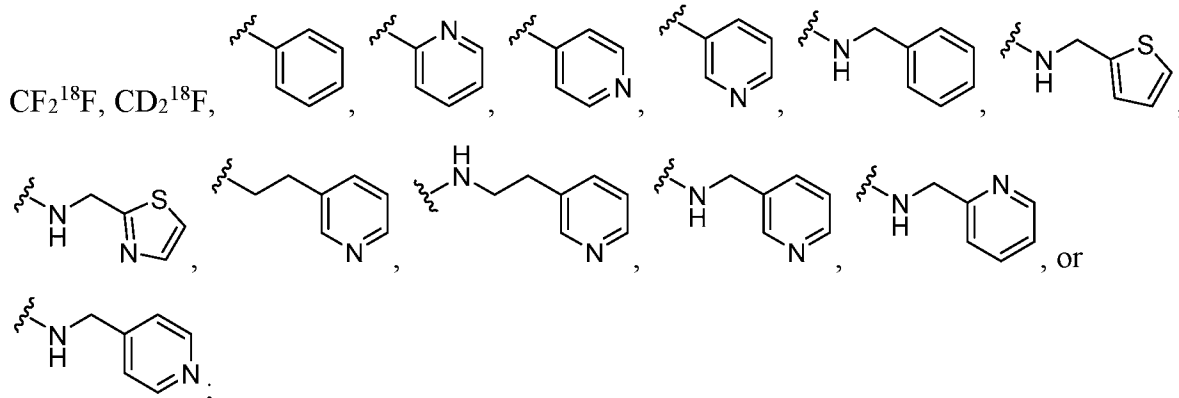
[0017] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

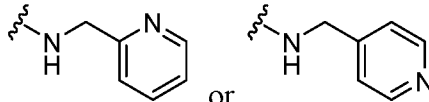
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

[0018] In any one of the embodiments described herein, each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

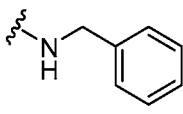
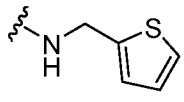
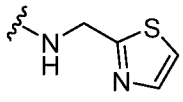
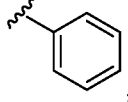
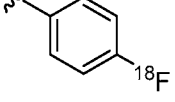
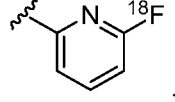
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

[0019] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, CH₃, ¹¹CH₃, CH₂¹⁸F, (CH₂)₂¹⁸F, CF₃,



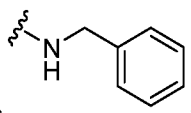
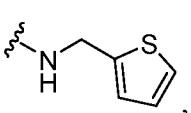
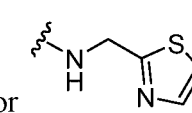
 is optionally substituted with deuterium, ^{11}C , ^{18}F , or ^{123}I .

[0020] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R^1 is hydrogen or ^{18}F .

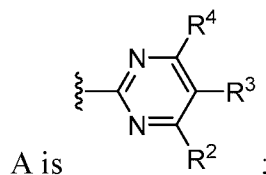
[0021] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R^2 is hydrogen, , , , , , or .

[0022] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R^3 is hydrogen or ^{18}F .

[0023] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R^4 is halogen, ^{18}F , CF_2^{18}F ,

CH_2^{18}F , CD_2^{18}F , CF_3 , , , or .

[0024] In any one of the embodiments described herein,



R is CH_3 or $^{11}\text{CH}_3$;

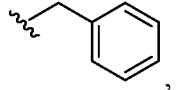
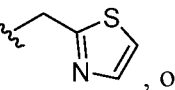
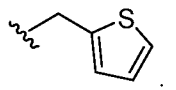
R^1 and R^3 are hydrogen;

R^2 is $\text{N}(\text{R}^5)_2$;

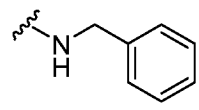
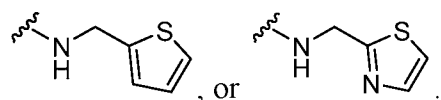
R^4 is F , Cl , CF_3 , or ^{18}F ; and

each occurrence of R^5 is independently hydrogen, $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl-aryl}$, or $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl-heteroaryl}$.

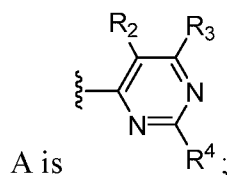
[0025] In any one of the embodiments described herein, each occurrence of R^5 is

independently hydrogen, , , or .

[0026] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R² is



[0027] In any one of the embodiments described herein,



R is CH₃;

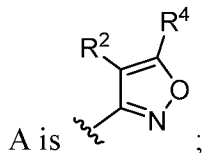
R¹ and R² are hydrogen;

R² is ¹⁸F;

R⁴ is (NR⁵)₂; and

each occurrence of R⁵ is independently hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl.

[0028] In any one of the embodiments described herein,



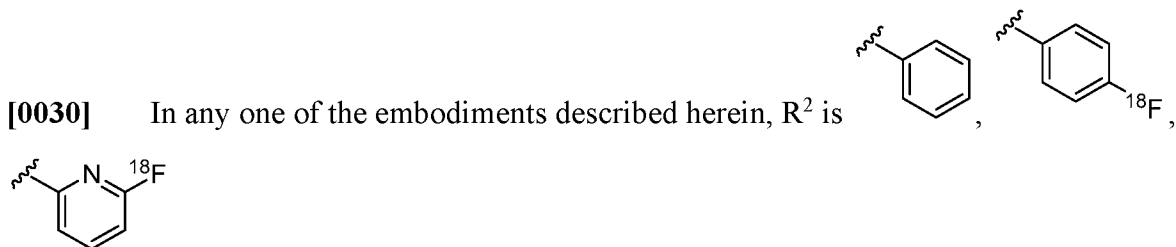
R and R⁴ are (C₁-C₆)alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ¹⁸F, or halogen;

R¹ is hydrogen or ¹⁸F; and

R² is aryl, optionally substituted with ¹⁸F, or heteroaryl, optionally substituted with ¹⁸F.

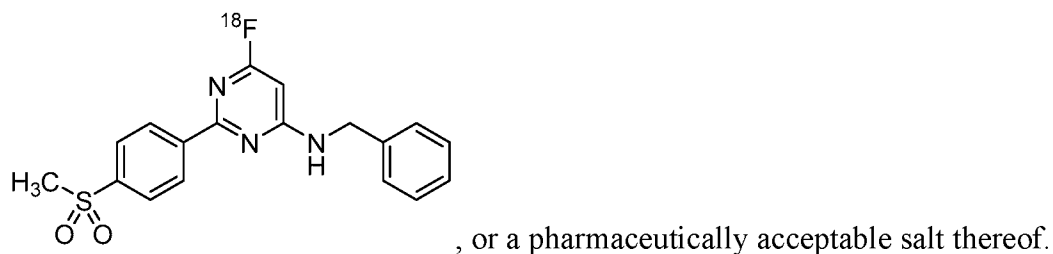
[0029] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R is CH₃ or (CH₂)₂¹⁸F.

[0030] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R^2 is

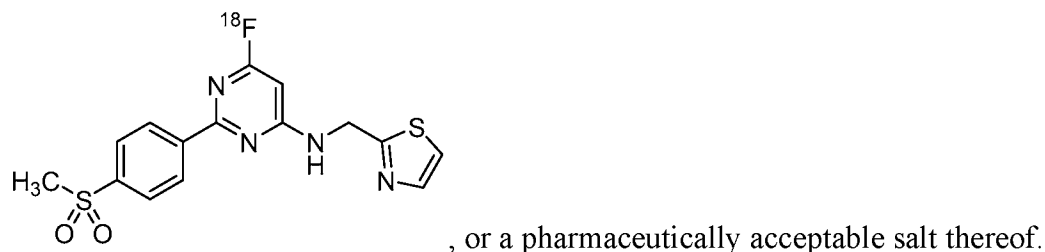


[0031] In any one of the embodiments described herein, R^4 is CF_3 , $CF_2^{18}F$, $CH_2^{18}F$, or $CD_2^{18}F$.

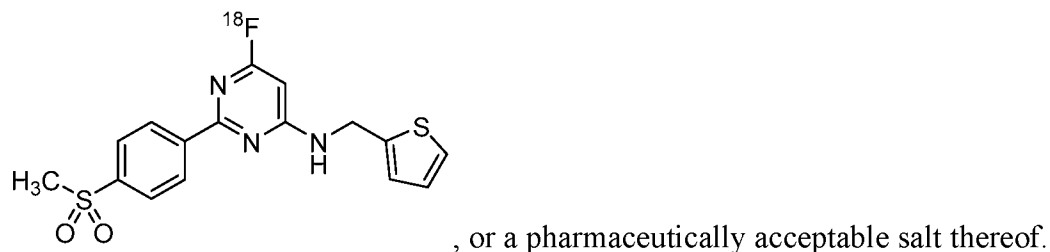
[0032] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



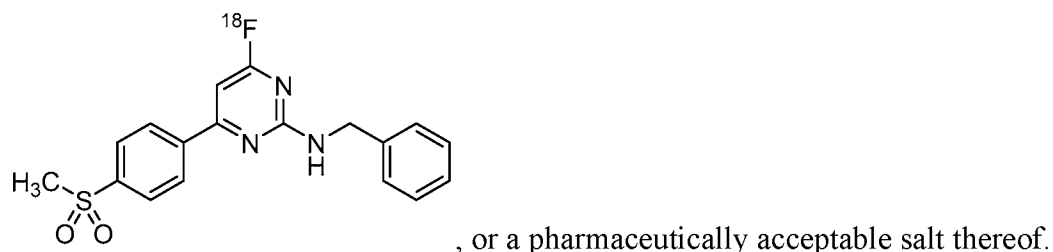
[0033] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



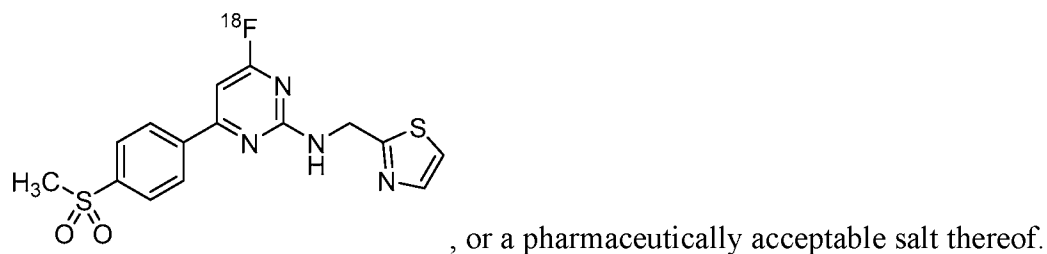
[0034] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



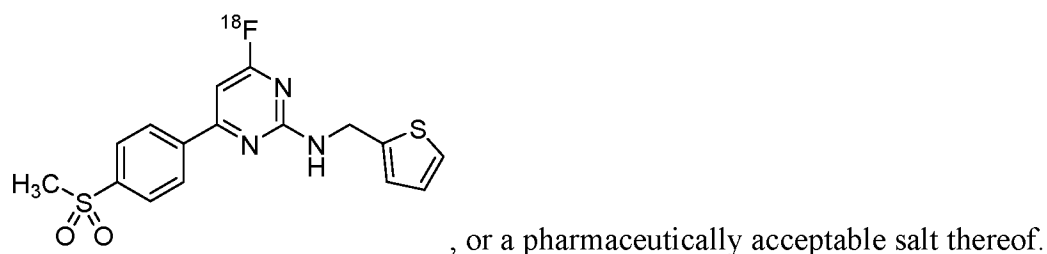
[0035] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



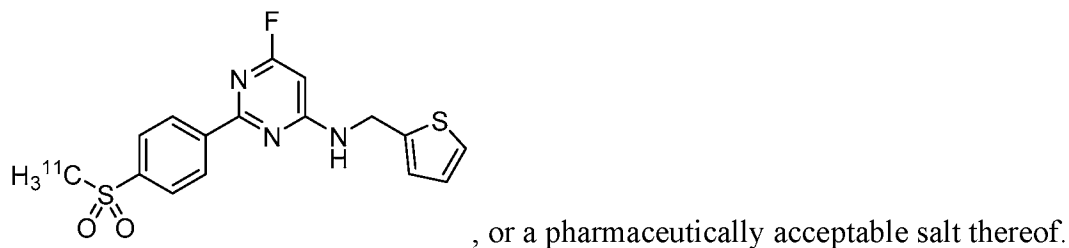
[0036] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



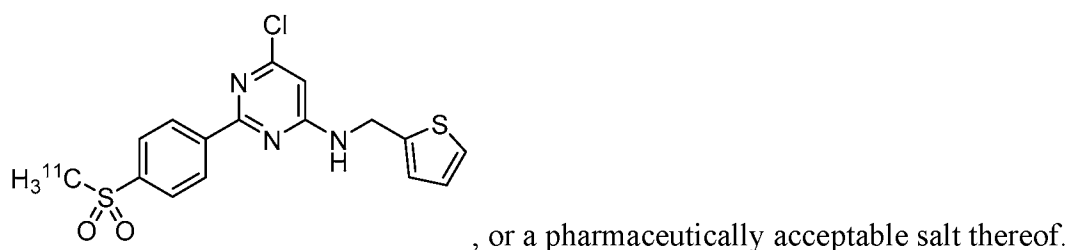
[0037] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



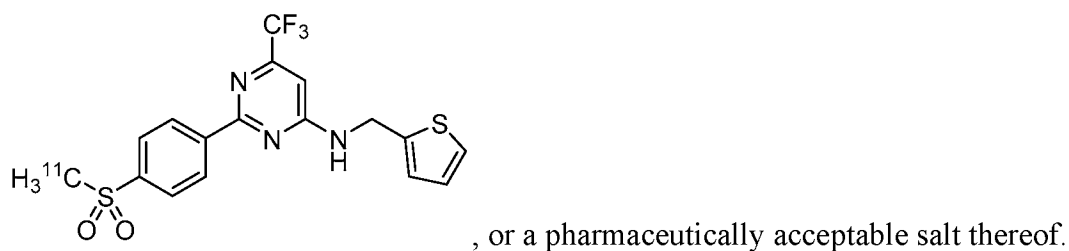
[0038] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



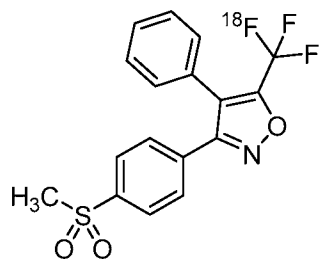
[0039] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



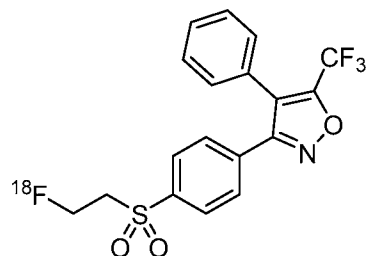
[0040] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



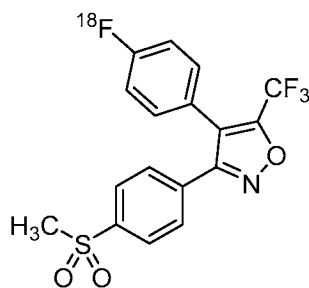
[0041] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



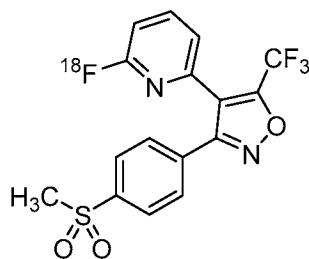
[0042] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



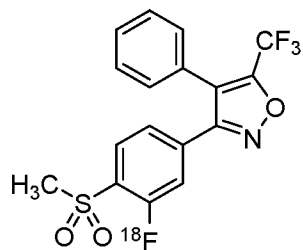
[0043] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



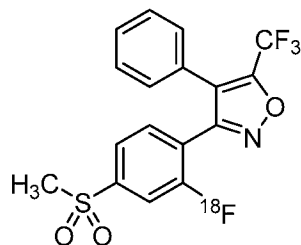
[0044] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



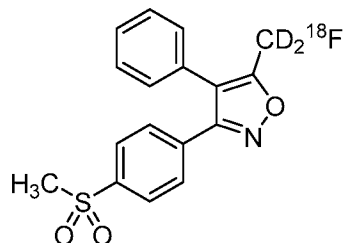
[0045] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



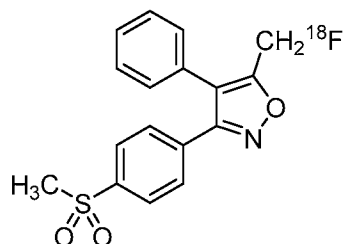
[0046] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



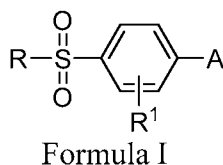
[0047] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



[0048] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



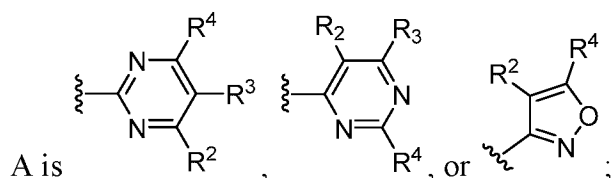
[0049] In another aspect, a process for synthesizing a compound of Formula I:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is described,

comprising reacting one or more halogen atom(s) or thioester(s) in the compound with one or more radionuclide source(s) independently selected from the group consisting of deuterium, ^3H , ^{11}C , ^{18}F , ^{75}Br , ^{76}Br , ^{120}I , ^{123}I , ^{124}I , ^{125}I , and ^{131}I ;

wherein:



R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵;

R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, and NHCOR⁵;

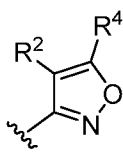
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵; and

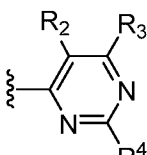
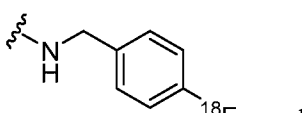
each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl,

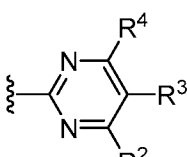
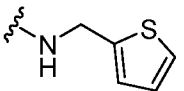
(C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

wherein at least one of R, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, or R⁵ comprises at least one of ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

wherein when A is , R is ¹¹CH₃, R¹ is hydrogen, and R² is phenyl, R⁴ is not CF₃;

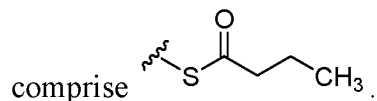
wherein when A is , R is CH₃, R¹ and R² are hydrogen, and R³ is CF₃, R⁴ is not ; and

wherein when A is , R is CH₃, R¹ and R³ are hydrogen, and R⁴ is . O¹¹CH₃, R² is not

[0050] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the one or more halogen atom(s) are independently chlorine or bromine.

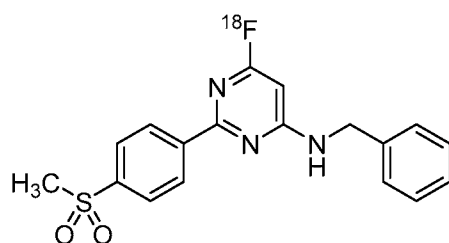
[0051] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the radionuclide source is a ^{18}F source.

[0052] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the one or more thioester(s)

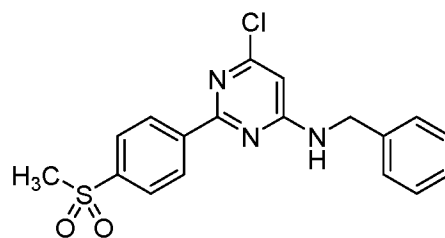


[0053] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the radionuclide source is a ^{11}C source and wherein the process further comprises an oxidant.

[0054] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is

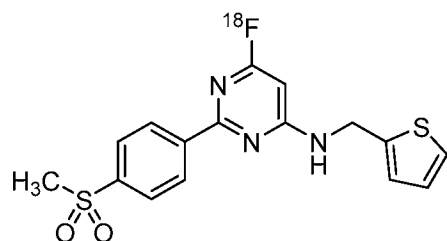


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

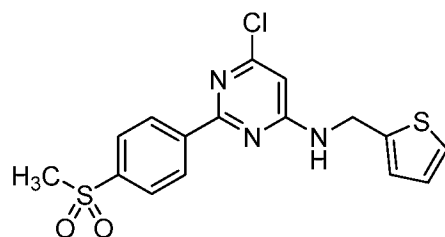


comprising reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source.

[0055] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is

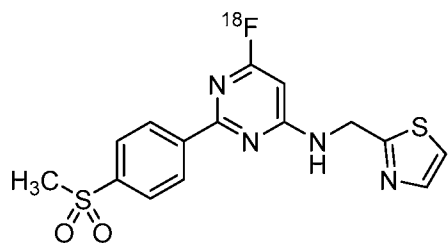


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

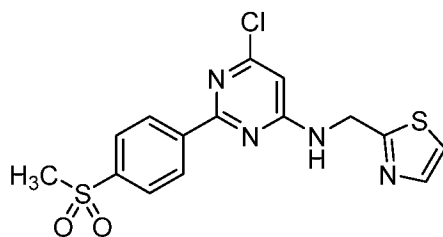


comprising reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source.

[0056] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is

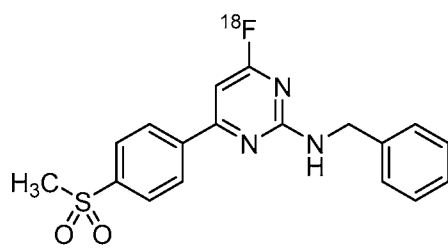


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

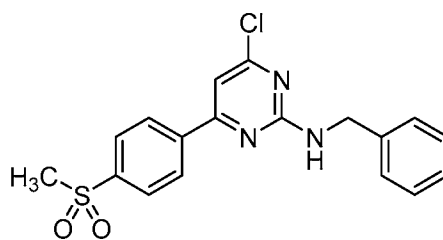


comprising reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source.

[0057] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is

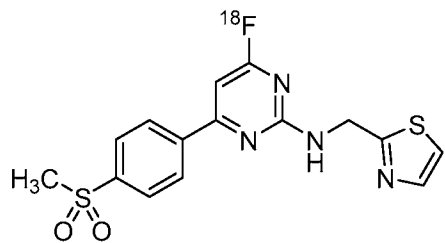


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

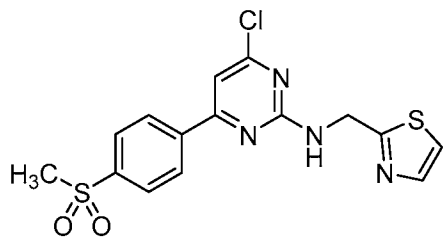


comprising reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source.

[0058] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is

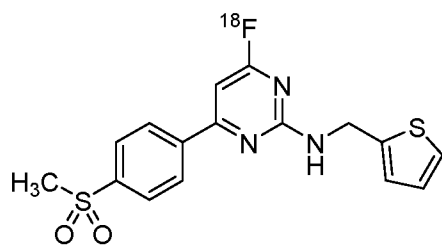


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

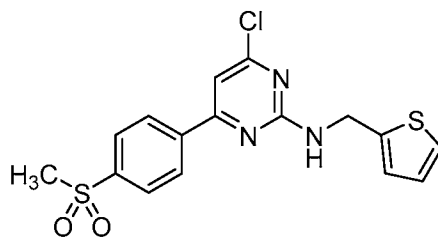


comprising reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source.

[0059] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is

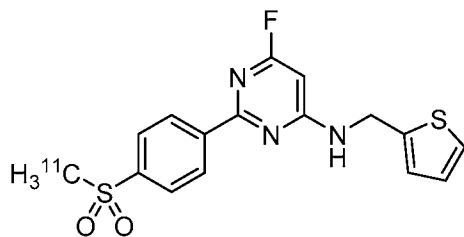


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;



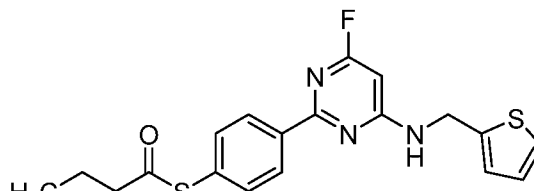
comprising reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source.

[0060] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is

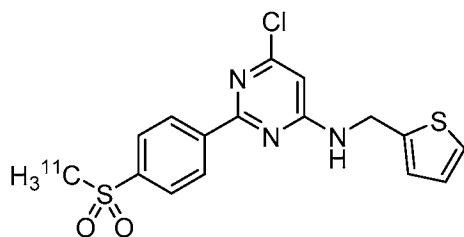


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

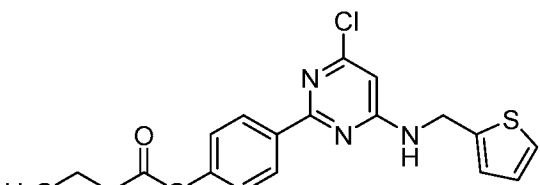
comprising reacting the compound with a ^{11}C source and an oxidant.



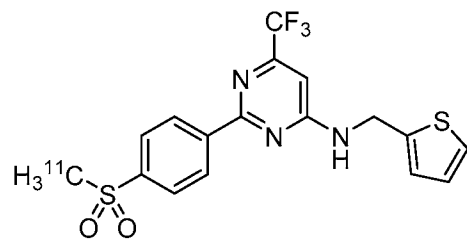
[0061] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



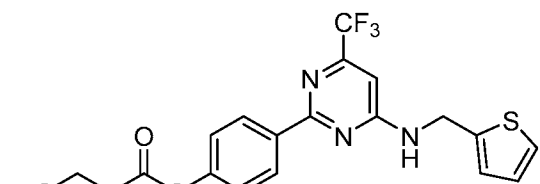
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

comprising reacting the compound  with a ^{11}C source and an oxidant.

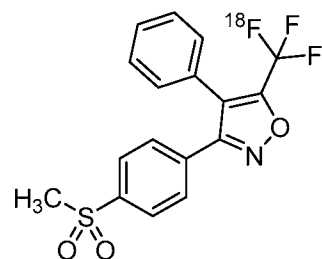
[0062] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



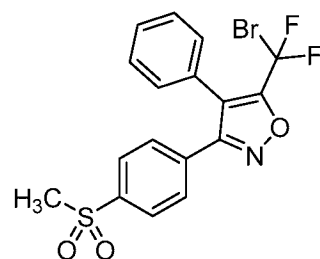
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

comprising reacting the compound  with a ^{11}C source and an oxidant.

[0063] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



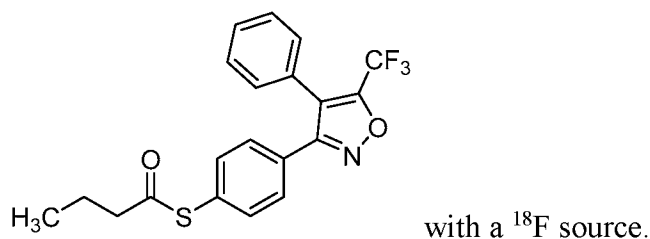
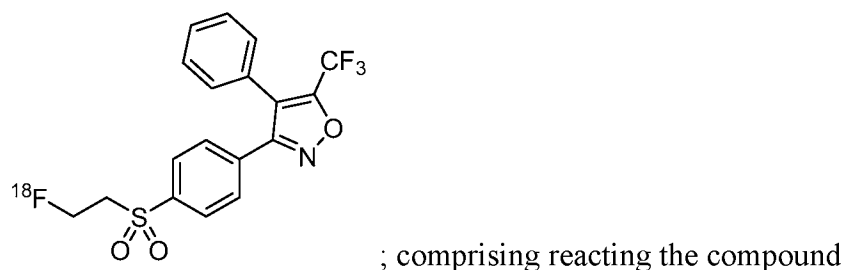
; comprising reacting the compound



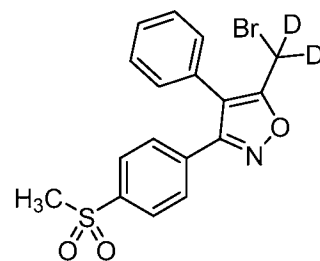
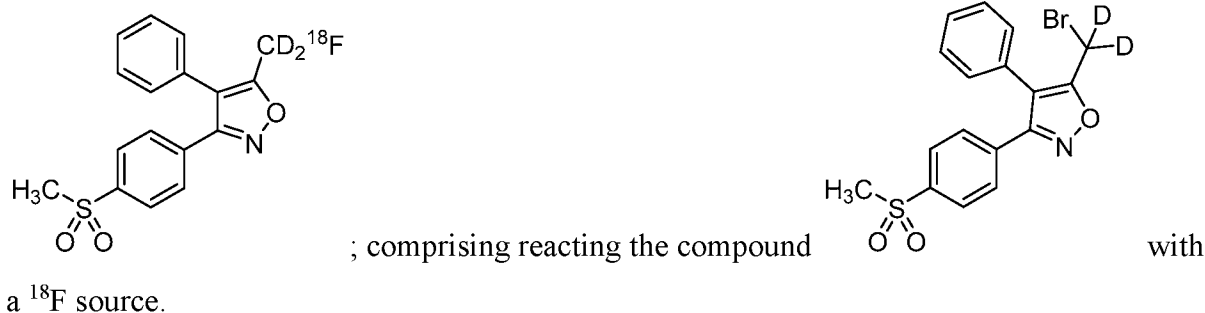
with a

^{18}F source.

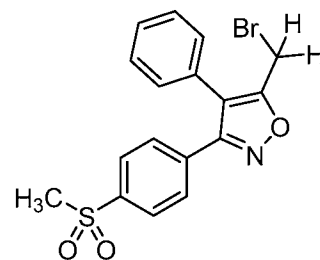
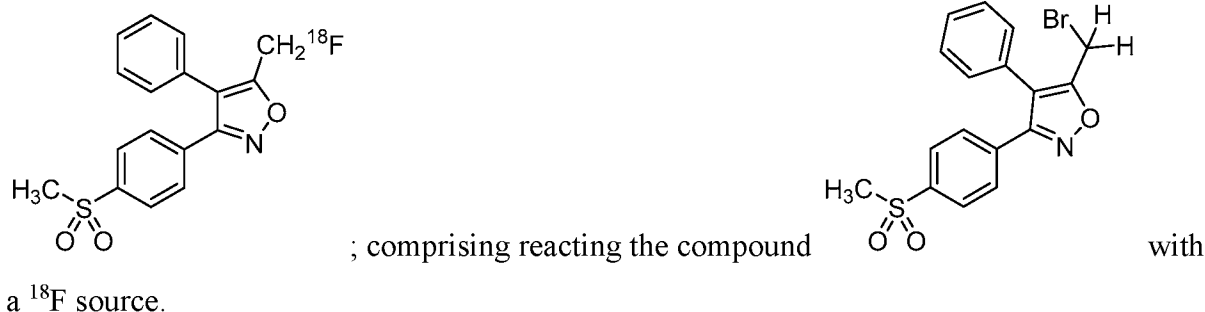
[0064] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



[0065] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



[0066] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound of Formula I is



[0067] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the ^{18}F source comprises $^{18}\text{F}^-$ or [^{18}F]fluoroalkyl tosylate.

[0068] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the ^{18}F source comprises K^{18}F or a tetraalkylammonium [^{18}F]fluoride.

[0069] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the tetraalkylammonium [^{18}F]fluoride is tetrabutylammonium [^{18}F]fluoride or tetraethylammonium [^{18}F]fluoride.

[0070] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the [^{18}F]fluoroalkyl tosylate is 2- ^{18}F fluoroethyl tosylate.

[0071] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the process further comprises a chelating agent, a base, and/or a polar aprotic solvent.

[0072] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the chelating agent is a crown ether or a cryptand.

[0073] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the cryptand is K_{222} .

[0074] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the base is potassium carbonate, tetrabutylammonium hydroxide, pyrrolidine, or 2,6-lutidine.

[0075] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the polar aprotic solvent is dimethyl sulfoxide, *N,N*-dimethylformamide, tetrahydrofuran, or combinations thereof.

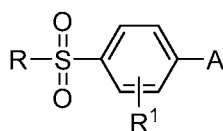
[0076] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the ^{11}C source comprises a ^{11}C alkyl halide and a ^{11}C alkyl triflate.

[0077] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the ^{11}C alkyl halide is $^{11}\text{CH}_3\text{I}$ and the ^{11}C alkyl triflate is $^{11}\text{CH}_3\text{OTf}$.

[0078] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the oxidant is Oxone[®].

[0079] In yet another aspect, a method for imaging a sample or organism comprises:

(a) administering to the sample or organism a compound of Formula I:

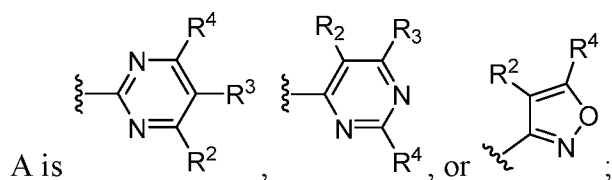


Formula I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount effective to detect emission of deuterium, ^3H , ^{11}C , ^{18}F , ^{75}Br , ^{76}Br , ^{120}I , ^{123}I , ^{124}I , ^{125}I , ^{131}I , or a combination thereof; and

(b) measuring the emission of the one or more radionuclide(s) in the compound;

wherein:



R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵;

R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, and NHCOR⁵;

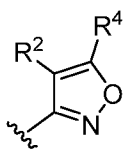
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵; and

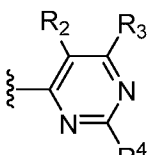
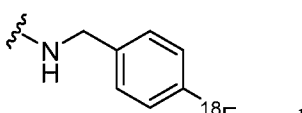
each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl,

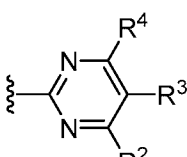
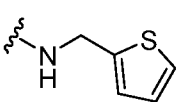
(C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

wherein at least one of R, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, or R⁵ comprises at least one of ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

wherein when A is , R is ¹¹CH₃, R¹ is hydrogen, and R² is phenyl, R⁴ is not CF₃;

wherein when A is , R is CH₃, R¹ and R² are hydrogen, and R³ is CF₃, R⁴ is not ; and

wherein when A is , R is CH₃, R¹ and R³ are hydrogen, and R⁴ is . O¹¹CH₃, R² is not

[0080] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the emission is measured using positron emission tomography.

[0081] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the sample is a cell culture.

[0082] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the organism is a mammal.

[0083] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the mammal is a mouse, rat, pig, dog, monkey, baboon, or human.

[0084] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the compound interacts with a protein and measuring the emission allows determination of the expression level or distribution of the protein in the sample or organism.

[0085] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the protein is involved in inflammation and measuring the emission allows determination of the amount or distribution of inflammation in the sample or organism.

[0086] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the protein is cyclooxygenase-2.

[0087] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the mammal is known or suspected to have a condition or state selected from the group consisting of arthritis, cardiovascular disease, central nervous system damage, central nervous system disorders, gastrointestinal disorder, hypersensitivity, swelling, inflammatory disease, metabolic disorder, neoplastic disease, neurodegenerative disease, neuromuscular junction disease, ophthalmic disease, post-operative inflammation, psychiatric condition, reproductive event, respiratory disease, skin disorder, tissue repair, urogenital disease, white matter disease, and a combination thereof.

[0088] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the neurodegenerative disease is Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, cortical dementias, or multiple sclerosis.

[0089] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the arthritis is rheumatoid or osteoarthritis.

[0090] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the neoplastic disease comprises a cancer selected from the group consisting of colorectal cancer, breast cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer, bladder cancer, cervical cancer, skin cancer, lymphoma, and a combination thereof.

[0091] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the central nervous system damage or disorder comprises traumatic brain injury.

[0092] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the inflammatory disease is asthma, Bechet's disease, bronchitis, bursitis, Crohn's disease, endotoxin shock syndrome, gastritis, gingivitis, inflammatory bowel disease, polymyositis, pulmonary inflammation, cystic fibrosis, rheumatic fever, sarcoidosis, tendinitis, thyroiditis, or ulcerative colitis.

[0093] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the pulmonary inflammation is an acute respiratory disease syndrome resulting from viral and/or bacterial infection.

[0094] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the viral infection comprises COVID-19.

[0095] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the cardiovascular disease comprises myocardial infarction.

[0096] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the urogenital disease comprises renal disease.

[0097] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the reproductive event comprises ovulation, pregnancy, childbirth, and a combination thereof.

[0098] In any one of the embodiments described herein, the mammal is known or suspected to be experiencing pain.

[0099] Any aspect or embodiment disclosed herein may be combined with another aspect or embodiment disclosed herein. The combination of one or more embodiments described herein with other one or more embodiments described herein is expressly contemplated.

[0100] Unless otherwise defined, used, or characterized herein, terms that are used herein (including technical and scientific terms) are to be interpreted as having a meaning that is consistent with their accepted meaning in the context of the relevant art and are not to be interpreted in an idealized or overly formal sense unless expressly so defined herein. The terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing particular embodiments and is not intended to be limiting of exemplary embodiments. As used herein, singular forms, such as "a" and "an," are intended to include the plural forms as well, unless the context indicates otherwise. The term "about" as used herein can describe a range of a recited value, including $\pm 10\%$, $\pm 5\%$, or $\pm 2\%$ of the value. Additionally, the terms "includes," "including," "comprises," and "comprising" specify the presence of the stated elements or steps but do not preclude the presence or addition of one or more other elements or steps.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

[0101] The invention is described with reference to the following figures, which are presented for the purpose of illustration only and are not intended to be limiting. The patent or application file contains at least one drawing executed in color. Copies of this patent or patent application publication with color drawing(s) will be provided by the United States Patent and Trademark Office upon request and payment of the necessary fee.

[0102] FIG. 1 shows chemical structures of [^{11}C]MC1, [^{18}F]pyricoxib, [^{18}F]triacoxib, and [^{18}F]-6-fluoro-2-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-*N*-(thiazol-2-ylmethyl)pyrimidin-4-amine (“[^{18}F]FMTP”), according to one or more embodiments.

[0103] FIG. 2 shows binding of [^{18}F]FMTP in BxPC3 and PANC-1 cells, according to one or more embodiments.

[0104] FIG. 3A shows microPET images of [^{18}F]FMTP in mice at 0-10 minutes, summed transaxial, with the relative intensity of ^{18}F emission indicated by a red (highest)-orange-yellow-green-blue-black (lowest) color gradient, according to one or more embodiments.

[0105] FIG. 3B shows microPET images of [^{18}F]FMTP in mice at 0-10 minutes, summed sagittal, with the relative intensity of ^{18}F emission indicated by a red (highest)-orange-yellow-green-blue-black (lowest) color gradient, according to one or more embodiments.

[0106] FIG. 3C shows microPET images of [^{18}F]FMTP in mice at 0-40 minutes, summed transaxial, with the relative intensity of ^{18}F emission indicated by a red (highest)-orange-yellow-green-blue-black (lowest) color gradient, according to one or more embodiments.

[0107] FIG. 3D shows microPET images of [^{18}F]FMTP in mice at 0-40 minutes, summed sagittal, with the relative intensity of ^{18}F emission indicated by a red (highest)-orange-yellow-green-blue-black (lowest) color gradient, according to one or more embodiments.

[0108] FIG. 4 shows time activity curves of [^{18}F]FMTP in mice, according to one or more embodiments.

[0109] FIG. 5 shows microPET images of [^{18}F]FMTP in phosphate buffered saline (“PBS”)- and lipopolysaccharide (“LPS”)-treated mice, with the relative intensity of ^{18}F emission indicated by a red (highest)-orange-yellow-green-blue-black (lowest) color gradient, according to one or more embodiments.

[0110] FIG. 6 shows time activity curves of [^{18}F]FMTP in PBS- and LPS-treated mice, according to one or more embodiments.

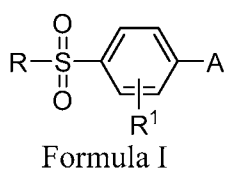
[0111] FIG. 7 shows autoradiography evaluation of [^{18}F]FMTP in brain sections of LPS- and PBS-treated mice, according to one or more embodiments.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0112] Radiolabeled compounds that interact with biomarkers (*e.g.*, proteins) for disease are useful for assaying the presence, amount, activity, or other properties of the biomarker using radioactive imaging (*e.g.*, PET). Such imaging can be used to diagnose disease, monitor disease progression and treatment, and determine the lowest effective dose of therapeutics, and evaluate the effectiveness of therapeutics. For example, the COX-2 protein, which is a biomarker for various diseases described herein, can be assayed using PET imaging of a radiolabeled compound that binds or otherwise interacts with COX-2. However, many existing radiolabeled compounds have a half-life that is impractical for medical use. For example, some radiolabeled COX-2-interacting compounds incorporate an ^{11}C label, which has a half-life of about 20 minutes. It is not practical for such compounds to be sold commercially, used in long-term imaging applications, or transported between medical centers.

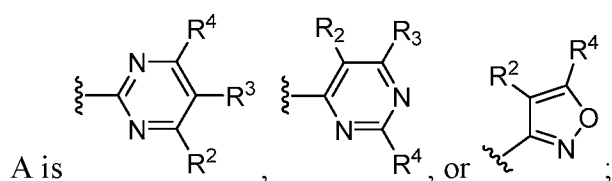
[0113] Compounds

[0114] In one aspect, a compound of Formula I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is described,

wherein



R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-

(C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵;

R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, and NHCOR⁵;

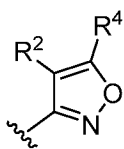
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵; and

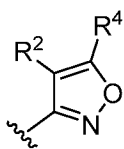
each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-

(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

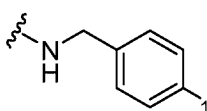
wherein at least one of R, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, or R⁵ comprises at least one of ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

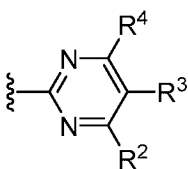


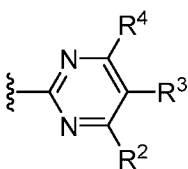
wherein when A is , R is ¹¹CH₃, R¹ is hydrogen, and R² is phenyl, R⁴ is not CF₃;

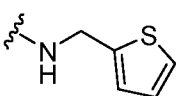


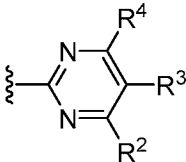
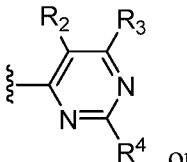
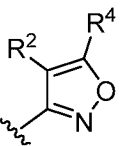
wherein when A is , R is CH₃, R¹ and R² are hydrogen, and R³ is CF₃, R⁴

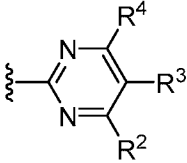
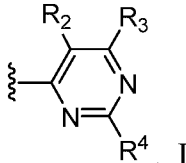
is not ; and

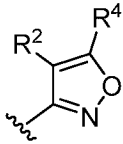


wherein when A is , R is CH₃, R¹ and R³ are hydrogen, and R⁴ is

O¹¹CH₃, R² is not .

[0115] In some embodiments, A is , , or . In some

embodiments, A is . In some embodiments, A is . In some

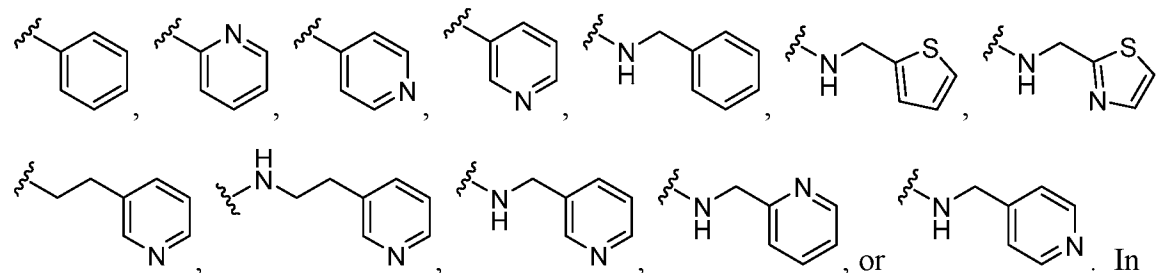
embodiments, A is .

[0116] In some embodiments, R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂. In some embodiments, R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂. In some embodiments, R is (C₁-C₆)alkyl. In some embodiments, R is aryl. In some embodiments, R is heteroaryl. In some embodiments, R is (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl. In some embodiments, R is (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl.

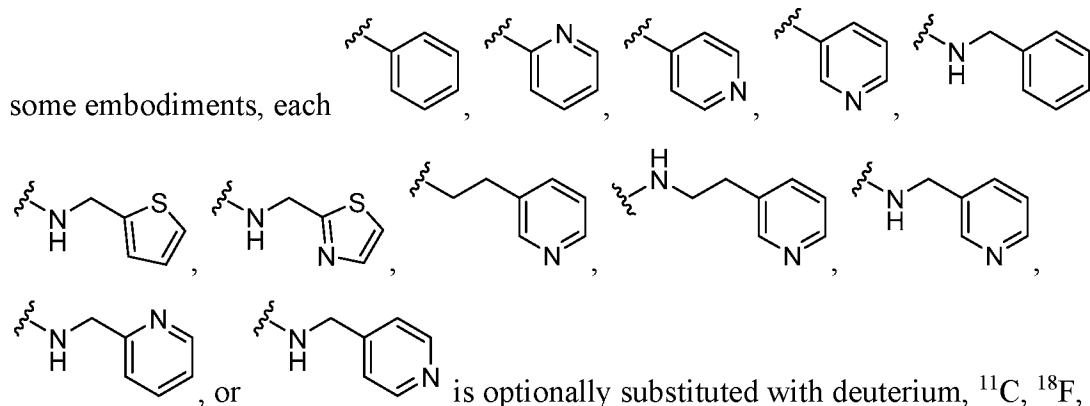
[0117] In some embodiments, each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl comprising R is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵. In some embodiments, each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-

C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl comprising R is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

[0118] In some embodiments, R is CH₃, ¹¹CH₃, CH₂¹⁸F, (CH₂)₂¹⁸F, CF₃, CF₂¹⁸F, CD₂¹⁸F,



some embodiments, each



is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

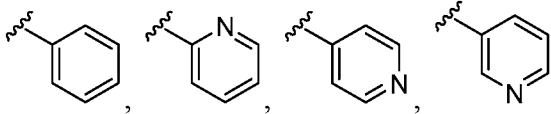
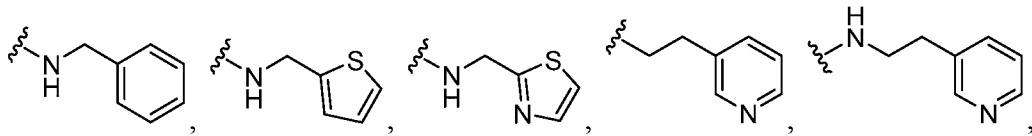
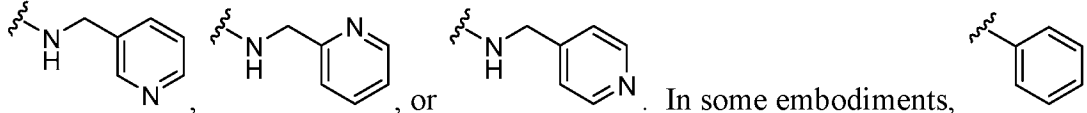
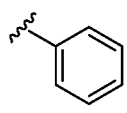
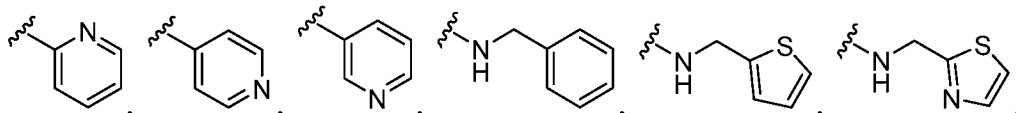
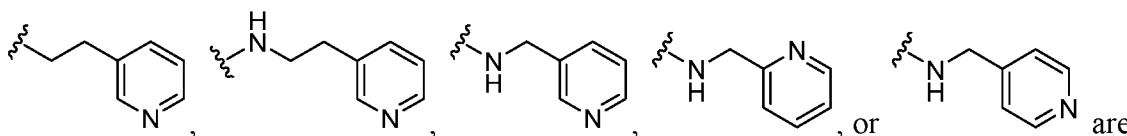
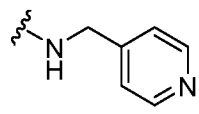
In some embodiments, R is CH₃, ¹¹CH₃, or (CH₂)₂¹⁸F. In some embodiments, R is CH₃. In some embodiments, R is ¹CH₃. In some embodiments, R is (CH₂)₂¹⁸F.

[0119] In some embodiments, R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, and NHCOR⁵. In some embodiments, R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂. In some embodiments, R¹ is hydrogen, deuterium, ¹⁸F, ¹¹C, ¹²³I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, or N(R⁵)₂. In some embodiments, R¹ is hydrogen. In some embodiments, R¹ is

(C₁-C₆)alkyl. In some embodiments, R¹ is aryl. In some embodiments, R¹ is heteroaryl. In some embodiments, R¹ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl. In some embodiments, R¹ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl. In some embodiments, R¹ is N(R⁵)₂. In some embodiments, R¹ is ¹⁸F.

[0120] In some embodiments, each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl of R¹ is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵. In some embodiments, each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl comprising R¹ is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

[0121] In some embodiments, R¹ is hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, CH₃, ¹¹CH₃,

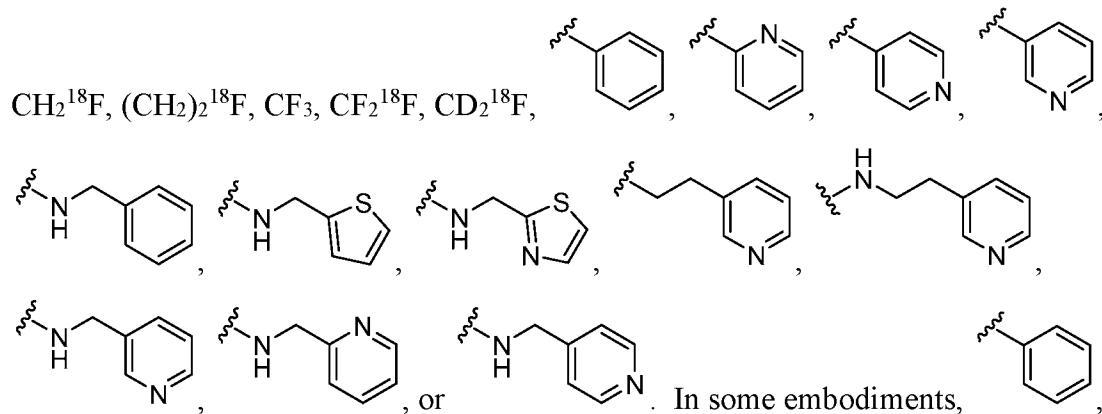
CH₂¹⁸F, (CH₂)₂¹⁸F, CF₃, CF₂¹⁸F, CD₂¹⁸F, , , , or , , , or  are optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

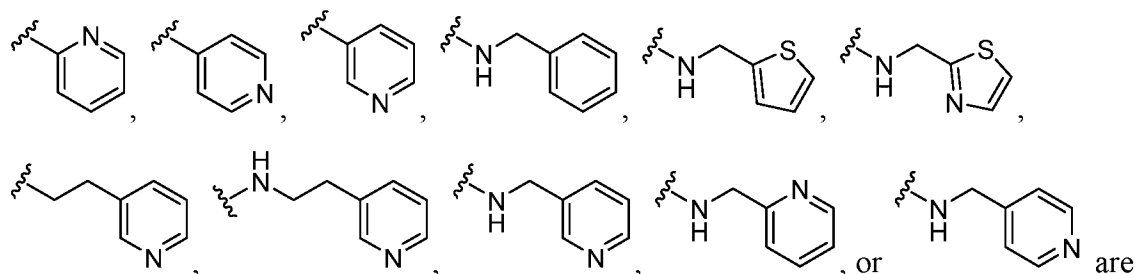
[0122] In some embodiments, R² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, halogen, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl,

(C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, and NHCOR⁵. In some embodiments, R² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂. In some embodiments, R² is hydrogen, deuterium, ¹⁸F, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, or N(R⁵)₂. In some embodiments, R² is hydrogen. In some embodiments, R² is (C₁-C₆)alkyl. In some embodiments, R² is aryl. In some embodiments, R² is phenyl. In some embodiments, R² is heteroaryl. In some embodiments, R² is (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl. In some embodiments, R² is (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl. In some embodiments, R² is N(R⁵)₂.

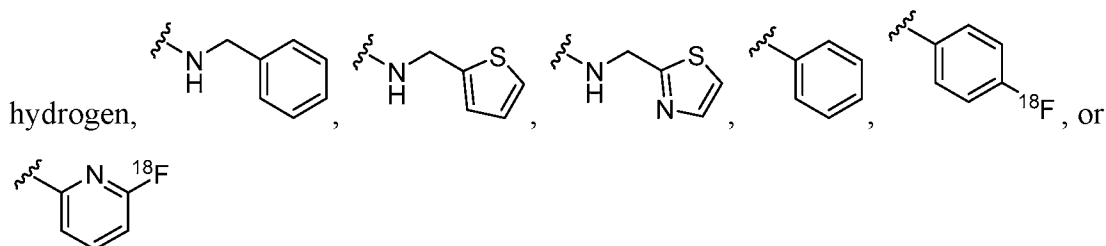
[0123] In some embodiments, each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl of R² is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ¹¹C, ³H, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵. In some embodiments, each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl of R² is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

[0124] In some embodiments, R² is hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, CH₃, ¹¹CH₃,





optionally substituted with deuterium, ^{11}C , ^{18}F , or ^{123}I . In some embodiments, R^2 is

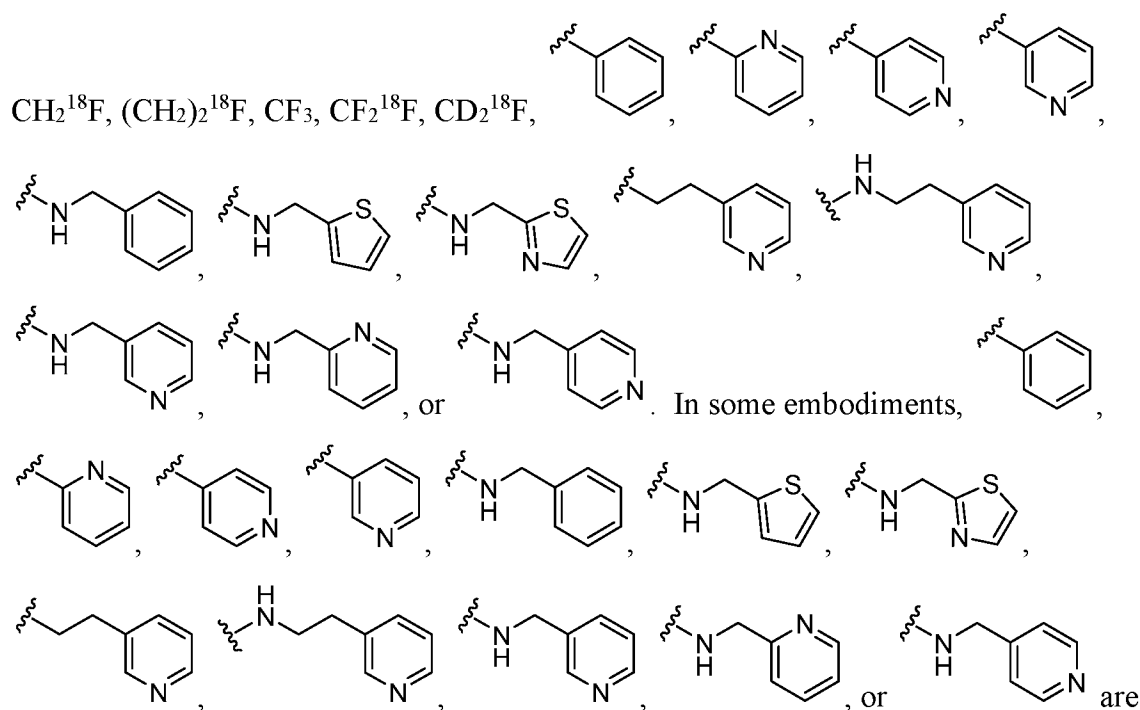


[0125] In some embodiments, R^3 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ^3H , ^{11}C , halogen, ^{18}F , ^{75}Br , ^{76}Br , ^{120}I , ^{123}I , ^{124}I , ^{125}I , ^{131}I , (C1-C6)alkyl, (C1-C6)alkenyl, (C1-C6)alkynyl, (C1-C6)heteroalkyl, (C1-C6)heteroalkenyl, (C1-C6)heteroalkynyl, (C3-C7)cycloalkyl, (C3-C7)heterocycloalkyl, (C3-C7)cycloalkenyl, (C3-C7)heterocycloalkenyl, (C1-C6)alkyl-(C3-C7)cycloalkyl, (C1-C6)alkyl-(C3-C7)heterocycloalkyl, (C1-C6)alkyl-(C3-C7)cycloalkenyl, (C1-C6)alkyl-(C3-C7)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C1-C6)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C1-C6)alkyl-heteroaryl, $\text{N}(\text{R}^5)_2$, CN , OR^5 , SR^5 , SOR^5 , SO_2R^5 , SO_2NHR^5 , SO_3R^5 , NHSO_2R^5 , COR^5 , and NHCOR^5 . In some embodiments, R^3 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ^{11}C , ^{18}F , ^{123}I , (C1-C6)alkyl, (C1-C6)alkynyl, (C1-C6)heteroalkyl, (C1-C6)heteroalkynyl, (C3-C7)cycloalkyl, (C3-C7)heterocycloalkyl, (C1-C6)alkyl-(C3-C7)cycloalkyl, (C1-C6)alkyl-(C3-C7)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C1-C6)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C1-C6)alkyl-heteroaryl, and $\text{N}(\text{R}^5)_2$. In some embodiments, R^3 is hydrogen, deuterium, ^{11}C , ^{18}F , ^{123}I , (C1-C6)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (C1-C6)alkyl-aryl, (C1-C6)alkyl-heteroaryl, or $\text{N}(\text{R}^5)_2$. In some embodiments, R^3 is hydrogen. In some embodiments, R^3 is (C1-C6)alkyl. In some embodiments, R^3 is aryl. In some embodiments, R^3 is heteroaryl. In some embodiments, R^3 is (C1-C6)alkyl-aryl. In some embodiments, R^3 is (C1-C6)alkyl-heteroaryl. In some embodiments, R^3 is $\text{N}(\text{R}^5)_2$.

[0126] In some embodiments, each (C1-C6)alkyl, (C1-C6)alkenyl, (C1-C6)alkynyl, (C1-C6)heteroalkyl, (C1-C6)heteroalkenyl, (C1-C6)heteroalkynyl, (C3-C7)cycloalkyl, (C3-C7)heterocycloalkyl, (C3-C7)cycloalkenyl, (C3-C7)heterocycloalkenyl, (C1-C6)alkyl-(C3-C7)cycloalkyl, (C1-C6)alkyl-(C3-C7)heterocycloalkyl, (C1-C6)alkyl-(C3-C7)cycloalkenyl, (C1-

C₆alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl of R³ is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵. In some embodiments, each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl of R³ is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

[0127] In some embodiments, R³ is hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, CH₃, ¹¹CH₃,



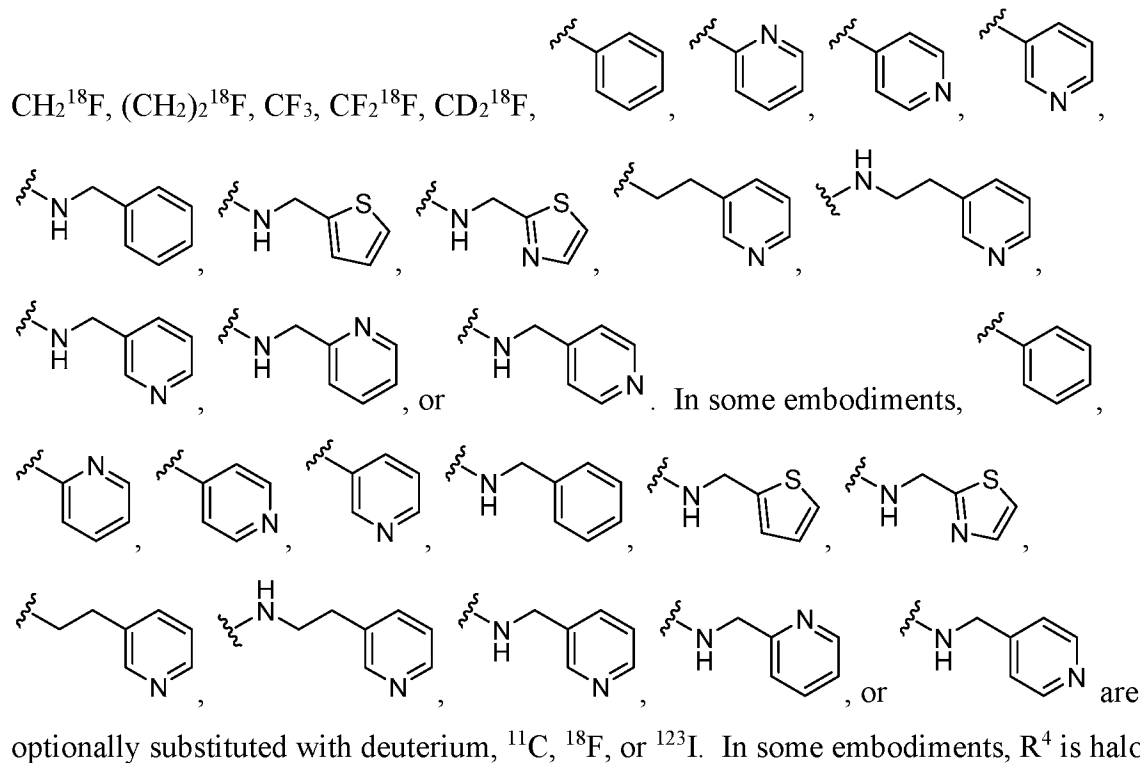
optionally substituted with deuterium, ^{11}C , ^{18}F , or ^{123}I . In some embodiments, R^3 is hydrogen or ^{18}F . In some embodiments, R^3 is hydrogen. In some embodiments, R^3 is ^{18}F .

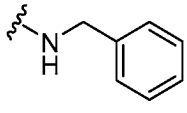
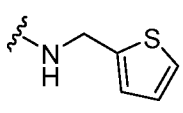
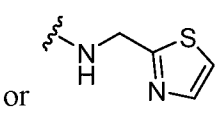
[0128] In some embodiments, R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, and NHCOR⁵. In some embodiments, R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl,

heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂. In some embodiments, R⁴ is hydrogen, deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, or N(R⁵)₂. In some embodiments, R⁴ is hydrogen. In some embodiments, R⁴ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl. In some embodiments, R⁴ is aryl. In some embodiments, R⁴ is heteroaryl. In some embodiments, R⁴ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl. In some embodiments, R⁴ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl. In some embodiments, R⁴ is N(R⁵)₂.

[0129] In some embodiments, each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl of R⁴ is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵. In some embodiments, each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl of R⁴ is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

[0130] In some embodiments, R⁴ is hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, CH₃, ¹¹CH₃,

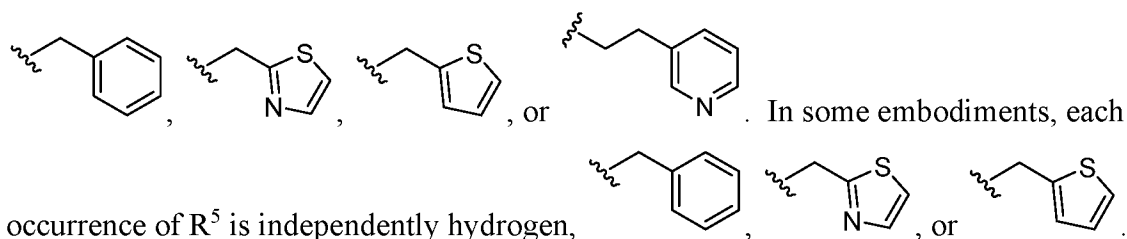


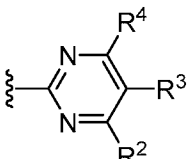
^{18}F , CF_2^{18}F , CF_3 , , , or . In some embodiments, R^4 is CF_3 , CH_2^{18}F , CD_2^{18}F , or CF_2^{18}F . In some embodiments, R^4 is CF_3 . In some embodiments, R^4 is CH_2^{18}F . In some embodiments, R^4 is CD_2^{18}F . In some embodiments, R^4 is CF_2^{18}F .

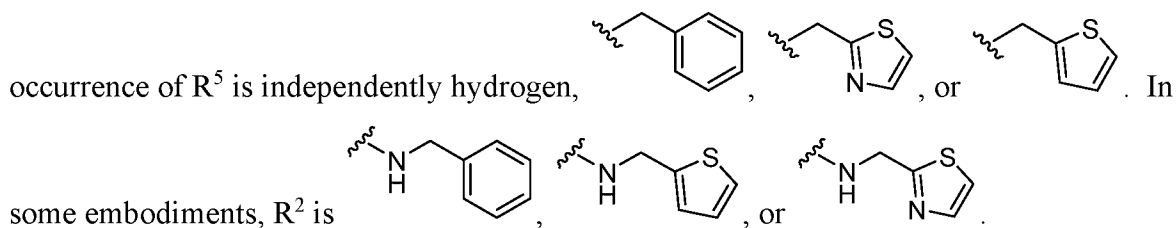
[0131] In some embodiments, each occurrence of R^5 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ^3H , (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl. In some embodiments, each occurrence of R^5 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl. In some embodiments, each occurrence of R^5 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl. In some embodiments, R^5 is hydrogen. In some embodiments, R^5 is (C₁-C₆)alkyl. In some embodiments, R^5 is aryl. In some embodiments, R^5 is heteroaryl. In some embodiments, R^5 is (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl.

[0132] In some embodiments, each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl of R^5 is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ^3H , ^{11}C , ^{18}F , ^{75}Br , ^{76}Br , ^{120}I , ^{123}I , ^{124}I , ^{125}I , or ^{131}I . In some embodiments, each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl of R^5 is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ^{11}C , ^{18}F , or ^{123}I .

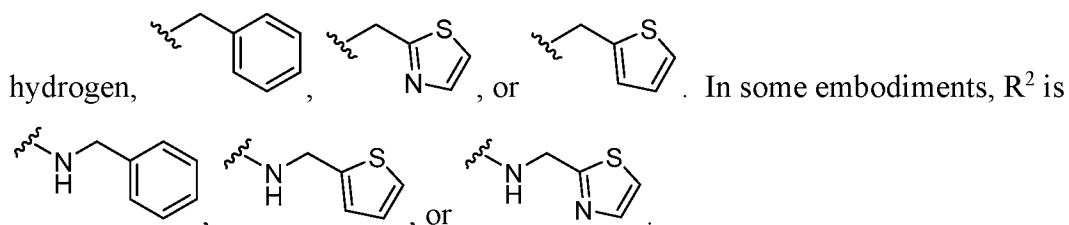
[0133] In some embodiments, each occurrence of R^5 is independently hydrogen,

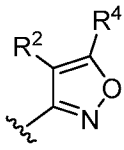


[0134] In some embodiments, A is ; R is CH_3 or $^{11}CH_3$; R^1 and R^3 are hydrogen; R^2 is $N(R^5)_2$; R^4 is F, Cl, CF_3 , or ^{18}F ; and each occurrence of R^5 is independently hydrogen, (C1-C6)alkyl-aryl, or (C1-C6)alkyl-heteroaryl. In some embodiments, each

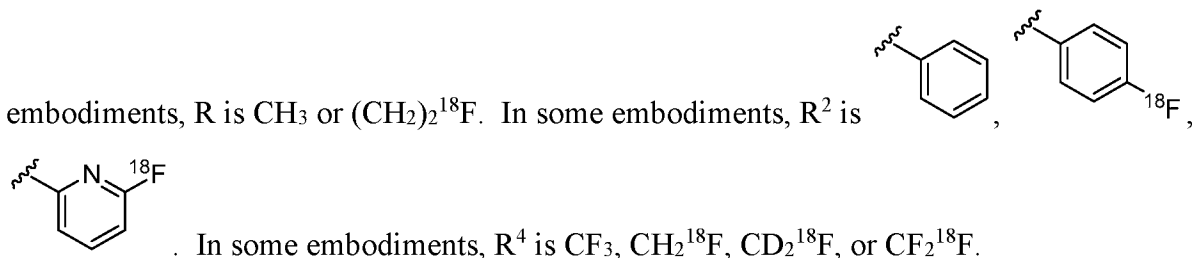


[0135] In some embodiments, A is ; R is CH_3 ; R^1 and R^2 are hydrogen; R^2 is ^{18}F ; R^4 is $(NR^5)_2$; and each occurrence of R^5 is independently hydrogen, (C1-C6)alkyl-aryl, or (C1-C6)alkyl-heteroaryl. In some embodiments, each occurrence of R^5 is independently

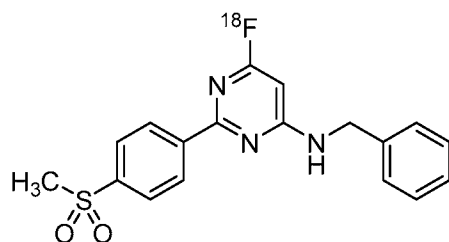


[0136] In some embodiments, A is ; R and R^4 are (C1-C6)alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more halogen, deuterium, or ^{18}F ; R^1 is hydrogen or ^{18}F ; and R^2 is aryl, optionally substituted with ^{18}F , or heteroaryl, optionally substituted with ^{18}F . In some

embodiments, R is CH₃ or (CH₂)₂¹⁸F. In some embodiments, R² is

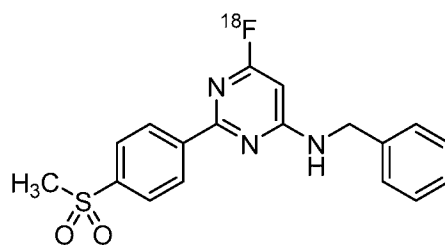


[0137] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

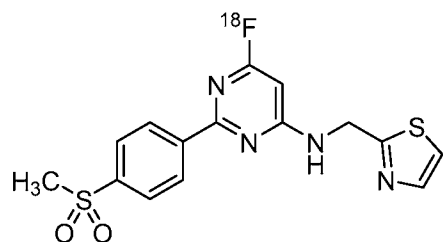


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some

embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

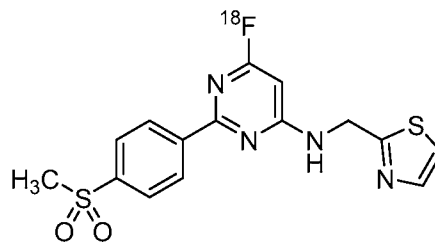


[0138] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

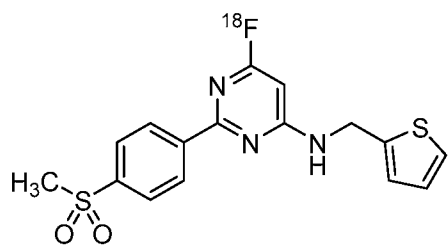


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some

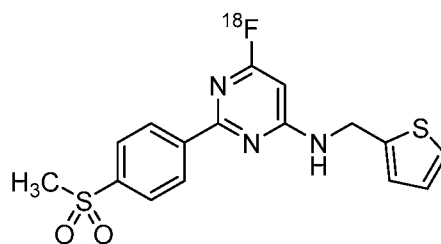
embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



[0139] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

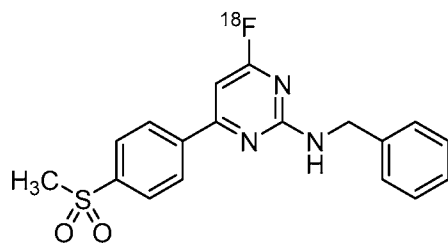


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some

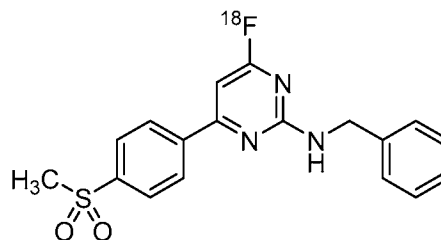


embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

[0140] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

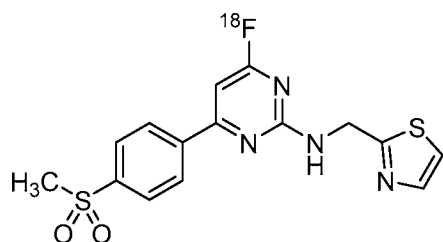


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some

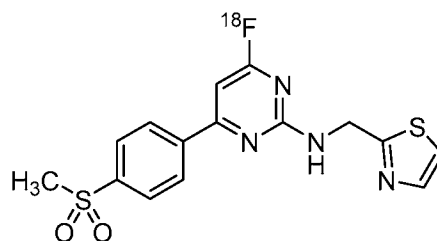


embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

[0141] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

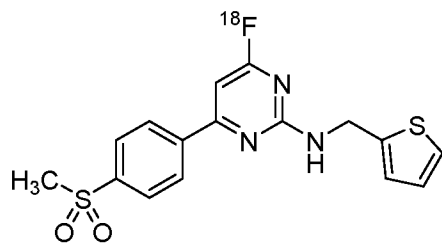


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some

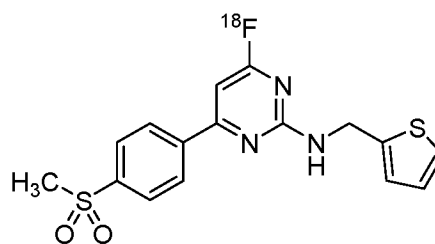


embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

[0142] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

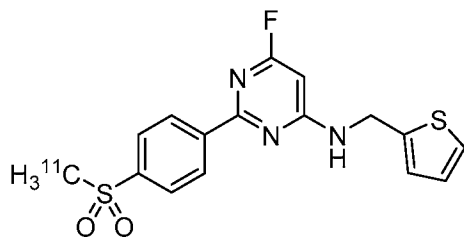


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some

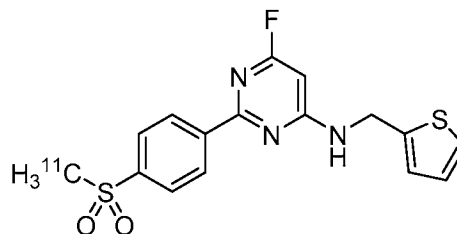


embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

[0143] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

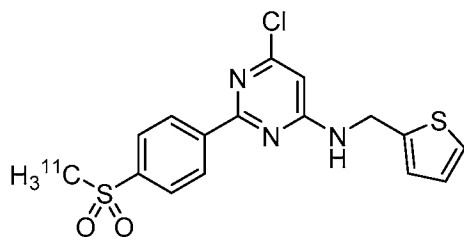


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some

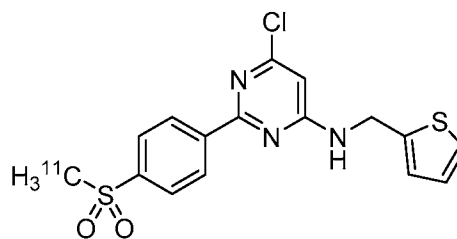


embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

[0144] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

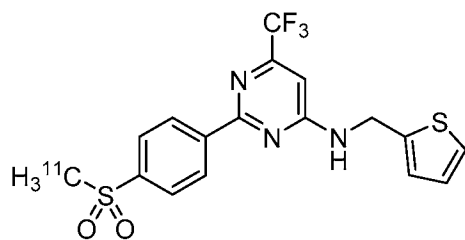


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some



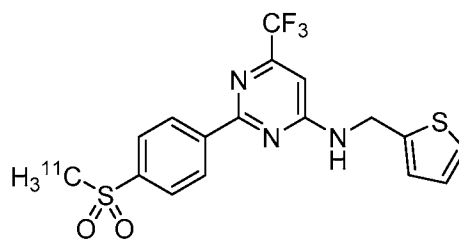
embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

[0145] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

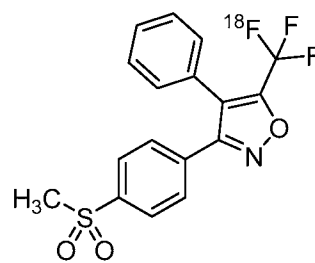


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some

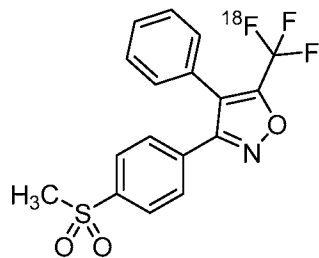
embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



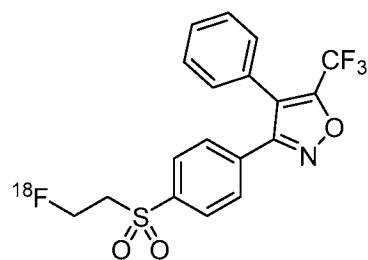
[0146] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is , or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some embodiments, the compound of Formula



I is

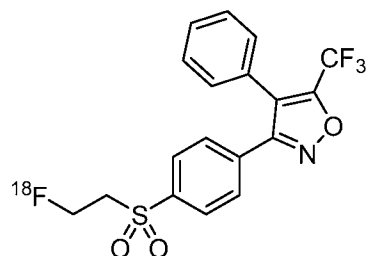


[0147] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

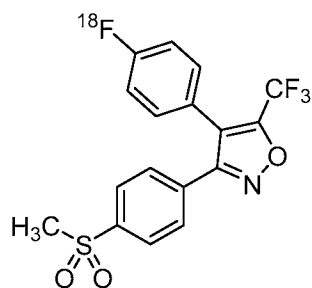


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some

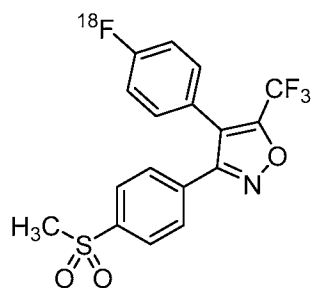
embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



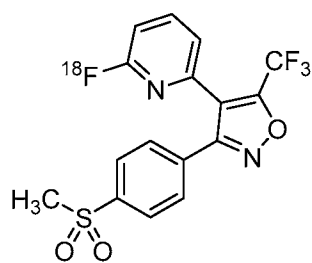
[0148] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



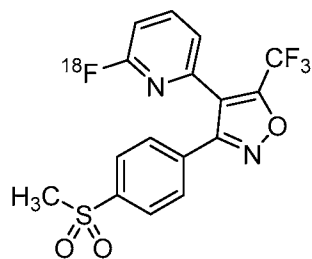
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

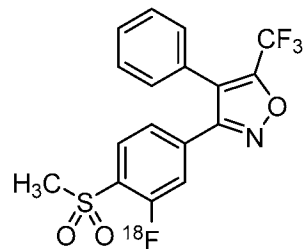


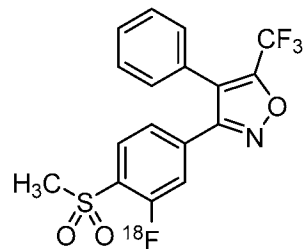
[0149] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

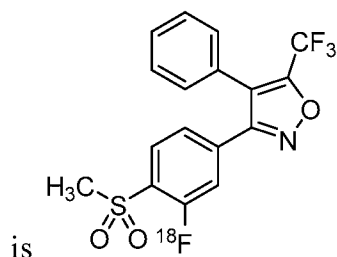


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

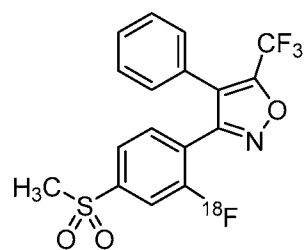


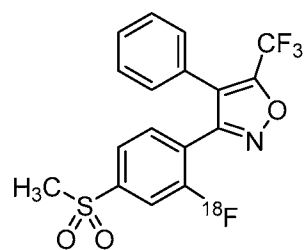


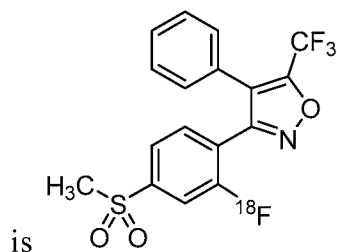
[0150] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is , or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I



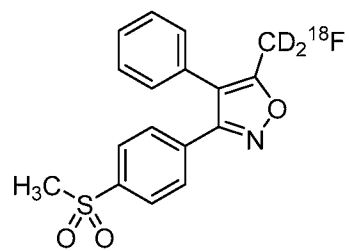
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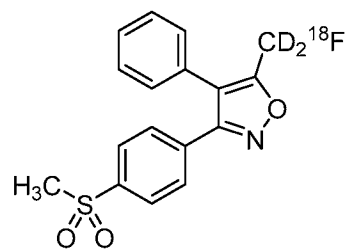


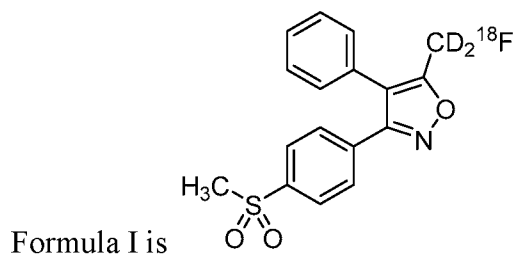
[0151] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is , or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I



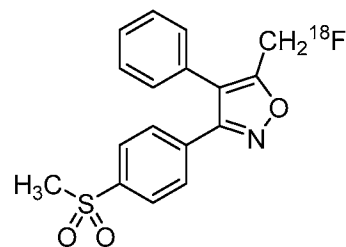
is



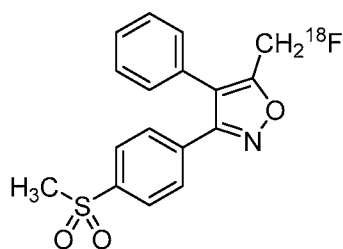
[0152] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is , or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some embodiments, the compound of



Formula I is



[0153] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is , or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In some embodiments, the compound of



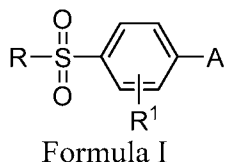
Formula I is .

[0154] In some embodiments, the specific activity of the ^{18}F -labelled compounds of Formula I is about 1 to about 5 Ci/ μmol . In some embodiments, the molar activity of the ^{18}F -labelled compounds of Formula I is about 0.5 Ci/ μmol or greater. In some embodiments, the molar activity of the ^{18}F -labelled compounds of Formula I is about 0.5 to about 2.5 Ci/ μmol .

[0155] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I can exist as a salt form. In some embodiments, the salt form is pharmaceutically acceptable. Non-limiting examples of salts, including pharmaceutically acceptable salts, are those derived from inorganic or organic acids (*e.g.*, hydrochloric, hydrobromic, sulfuric, nitric, perchloric, phosphoric, formic, acetic, lactic, maleic, fumaric, succinic, tartaric, glycolic, salicylic, citric, methanesulfonic, benzenesulfonic, benzoic, malonic, trifluoroacetic, trichloroacetic, and naphthalene-2 sulfonic acids); salts derived from inorganic or organic bases (*e.g.*, sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, zinc, ammonia, lysine, arginine, histidine, polyhydroxylated amines, and tetrafluoroborates); and hemi-salts, such as those derived from acids comprising two carboxylic acid groups (*e.g.*, malic acid, fumaric acid, maleic acid, succinic acid, tartaric acid, glutaric acid, oxalic acid, adipic acid, and citric acid) or diprotic mineral acids (*e.g.*, sulfuric acid). Other exemplary salts are found, for example, in Berge, et al. (*J. Pharm. Sci.* 1977, 66(1):1 (incorporated by reference herein in its entirety)).

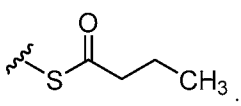
[0156] Processes for Compound Synthesis

[0157] In yet another aspect, a process for synthesizing a compound of Formula I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, comprises reacting one or more halogen atom(s) or thioester(s) in the compound with one or more radionuclide source(s) independently selected from the group consisting of deuterium, ^3H , ^{11}C , ^{18}F , ^{75}Br , ^{76}Br , ^{120}I , ^{123}I , ^{124}I , ^{125}I , and ^{131}I .

[0158] In some embodiments, the one or more halogen atom(s) are independently chlorine or bromine. In some embodiments, the one or more halogen atom(s) are chlorine. In some embodiments, the one or more halogen atom(s) are bromine.

[0159] In some embodiments, the one or more thioester(s) comprise .

[0160] In some embodiments, the radionuclide source is a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the a ^{18}F source comprises a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source. Non-limiting examples of $^{18}\text{F}^-$ sources include K^{18}F and a tetraalkylammonium [^{18}F]fluoride (*e.g.*, tetrabutylammonium [^{18}F]fluoride and tetraethylammonium [^{18}F]fluoride). In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is K^{18}F . In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source comprises a [^{18}F]fluoroalkyl tosylate. A non-limiting example of a [^{18}F]fluoroalkyl tosylate is 2-[^{18}F]fluoroethyl tosylate.

[0161] In some embodiments, the process further comprises a chelating agent. In some embodiments, the chelating agent is capable of chelating a cationic metal, such as potassium ion, sodium ion, calcium ion, lithium ion, and the like. In some embodiments, the chelating agent is capable of chelating potassium ion. Non-limiting examples of potassium chelating agents include crown ethers (*e.g.*, 12-crown-4, 15-crown-5, 18-crown-6, dibenzo-18-crown-6, and diaza-18-crown-6) and cryptands. In some embodiments, the cryptand is a [2.2.2]cryptand. In some embodiments, the cryptand is Kryptofix[®] 222 (“K₂₂₂”).

[0162] In some embodiments, the process further comprises a base. Non-limiting examples of bases include organic bases, such as tetrabutylammonium hydroxide, pyrrolidine, lithium diisopropylamide, 2,6-lutidine, lithium diethylamide, sodium methoxide, *n*-butyllithium, lithium hexamethyldisilazide, sodium hexamethyldisilazide, potassium hexamethyl disilazide, potassium *tert*-butoxide, piperidine, piperazine, sodium acetate, morpholine, diethylamine, tetramethylpiperidine, diisopropylamine, and triethylamine; and

inorganic bases, such as sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, calcium hydroxide, potassium carbonate, sodium carbonate, cesium carbonate, potassium bicarbonate, sodium hydride, and potassium hydride. In some embodiments, the base is a carbonate. In some embodiments, the base is potassium carbonate. In some embodiments, the base is tetrabutylammonium hydroxide. In some embodiments, the base is pyrrolidine. In some embodiments, the base is 2,6-lutidine.

[0163] In some embodiments, the process further comprises a polar aprotic solvent. Non-limiting examples of polar aprotic solvents include *N,N*-dimethylformamide (“DMF”), hexamethylphosphoramide (“HMPA”), dimethyl sulfoxide (“DMSO”), tetramethylene sulfone, 1,4-dioxane, acetone, ether (*e.g.*, diethyl ether, diphenyl ether, and tetrahydrofuran (“THF”)) acetonitrile, methyl ethyl ketone, ethyl acetate, and combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the polar aprotic solvent is THF, DMF, DMSO, or combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the polar aprotic solvent is THF. In some embodiments, the polar aprotic solvent is DMF. In some embodiments, the polar aprotic solvent is DMSO. In some embodiments, the solvent is anhydrous (*i.e.*, comprises less than about 1% water).

[0164] In some embodiments, the radionuclide source is a ^{11}C source. In some embodiments, the ^{11}C source comprises a $[^{11}\text{C}]$ alkyl halide and a $[^{11}\text{C}]$ alkyl triflate. A non-limiting example of a $[^{11}\text{C}]$ alkyl halide is $^{11}\text{CH}_3\text{I}$. A non-limiting example of a $[^{11}\text{C}]$ alkyl triflate is $^{11}\text{CH}_3\text{OTf}$. In some embodiments, the ^{11}C source is $^{11}\text{CH}_3\text{I}$. In some embodiments, the ^{11}C source is $^{11}\text{CH}_3\text{OTf}$.

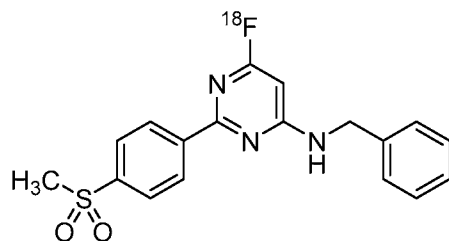
[0165] In some embodiments, the process further comprises an oxidant. In some embodiments, the process further comprises an oxidant when the radionuclide source is a ^{11}C source. Non-limiting examples of oxidants include Oxone[®], optionally with a water/THF solvent, a peroxyacid (*e.g.*, *meta*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid), potassium peroxymonosulfate, H_2O_2 , NaIO_4 , *t*-BuOCl, $\text{Ca}(\text{OCl})_2$, NaClO_2 , NaOCl , a dioxirane, and KMnO_4 . In some embodiments, the oxidant is Oxone[®] or potassium peroxymonosulfate. In some embodiments, the oxidant is Oxone[®].

[0166] In some embodiments, the process comprises reacting one or more chlorine or bromine atom(s) in a compound of Formula I with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is K^{18}F . In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is 2- $[^{18}\text{F}]$ fluoroethyl tosylate.

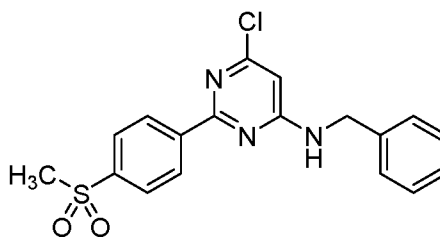
[0167] In some embodiments, the process comprises reacting one or more thioester(s) in a compound of Formula I with a ^{11}C source in the presence of an oxidant. In some

embodiments, the ^{11}C source is $^{11}\text{CH}_3\text{I}$. In some embodiments, the ^{11}C source is $^{11}\text{CH}_3\text{OTf}$. In some embodiments, the oxidant is Oxone[®].

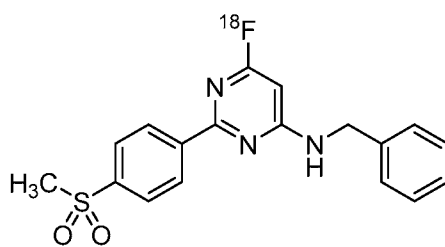
[0168] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



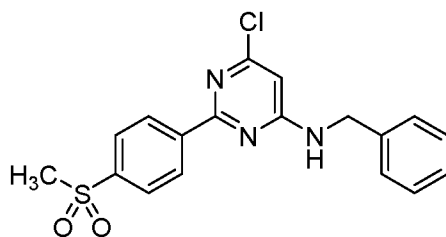
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the



process comprises reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source. In some embodiments, the

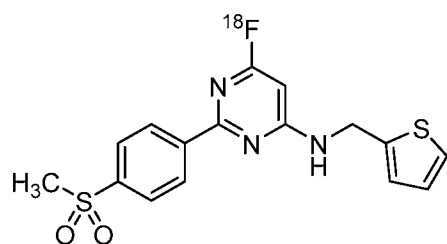


compound of Formula I is ; and the process comprises

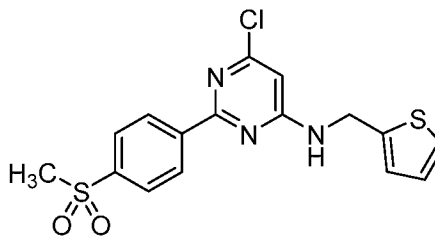


reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source.

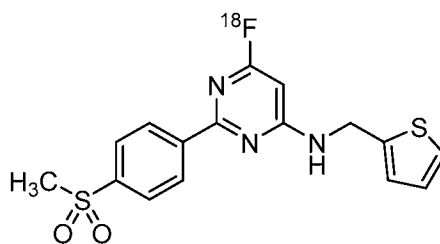
[0169] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



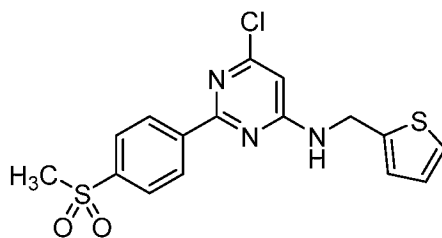
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the



process comprises reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source. In some embodiments, the

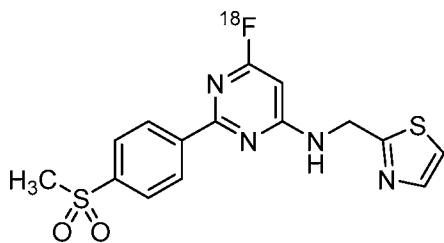


compound of Formula I is ; and the process comprises

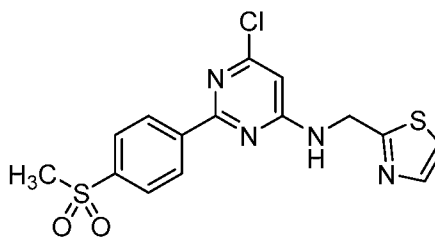


reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source.

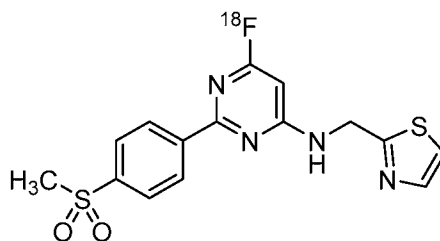
[0170] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



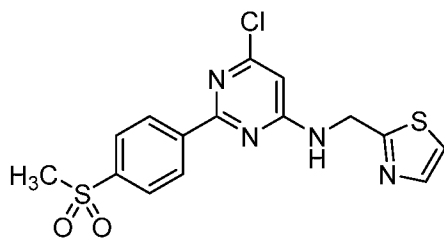
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the



process comprises reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source. In some embodiments, the

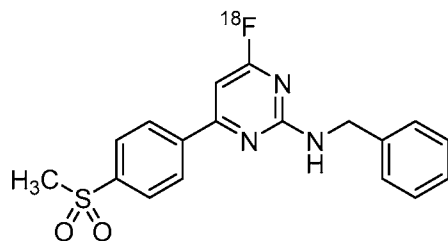


compound of Formula I is ; and the process comprises

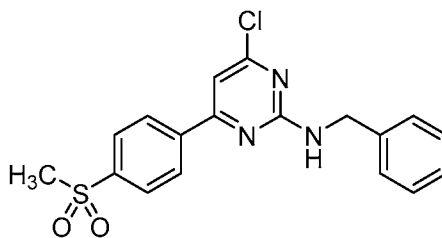


reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source.

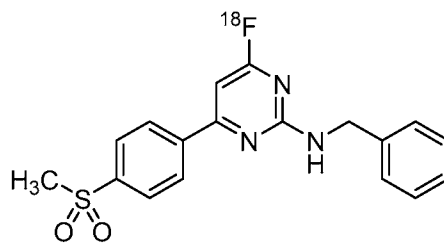
[0171] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



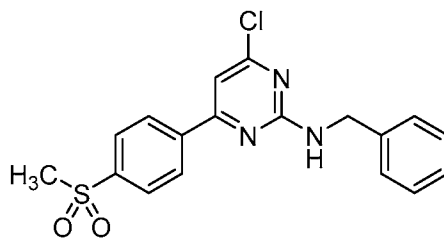
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the



process comprises reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source. In some embodiments, the

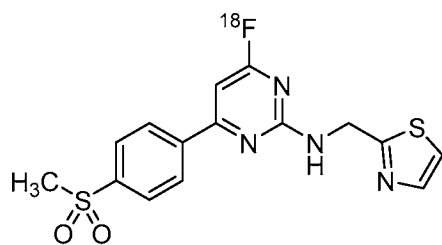


compound of Formula I is ; and the process comprises

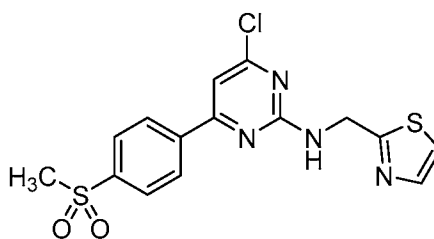


reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source.

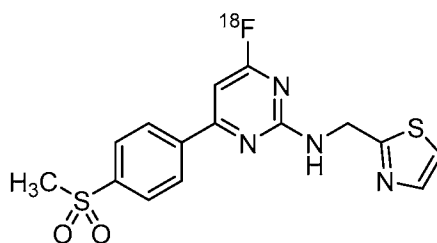
[0172] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



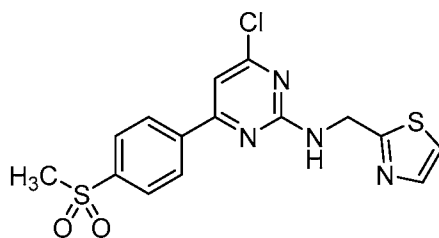
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the



process comprises reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source. In some embodiments, the

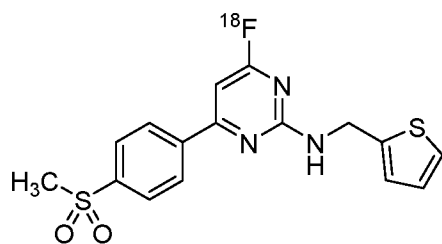


compound of Formula I is ; and the process comprises

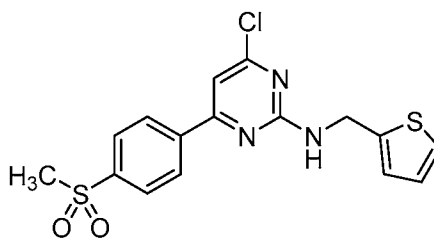


reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source.

[0173] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

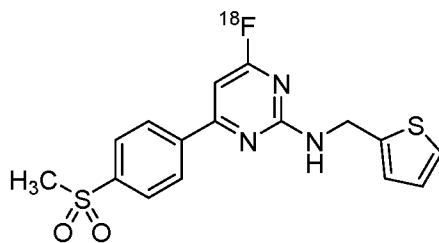


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the

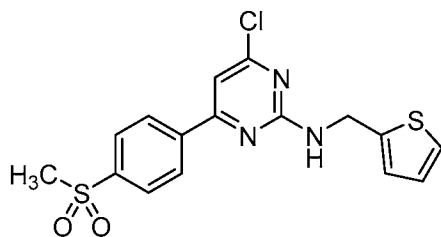


process comprises reacting the compound with a ^{18}F

source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source. In some embodiments, the

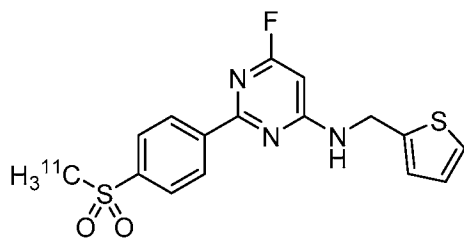


compound of Formula I is ; and the process comprises

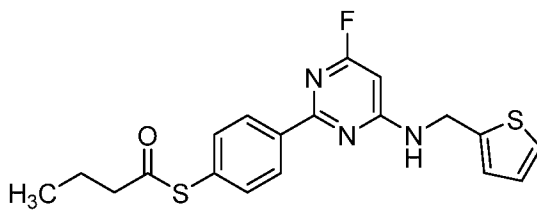


reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source.

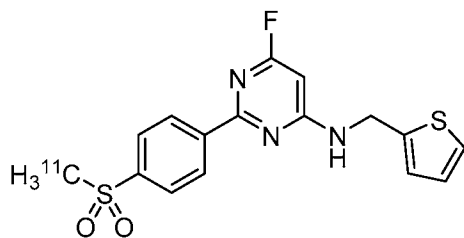
[0174] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



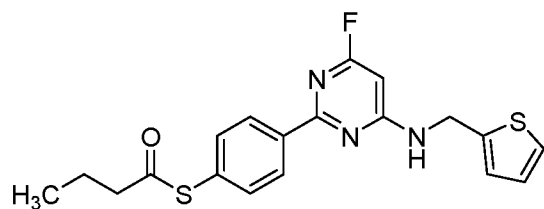
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the



process comprises reacting the compound with a ^{11}C source and an oxidant. In some embodiments, the ^{11}C source is $^{11}\text{CH}_3\text{I}$ and/or $^{11}\text{CH}_3\text{OTf}$ and the oxidant is Oxone[®]. In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

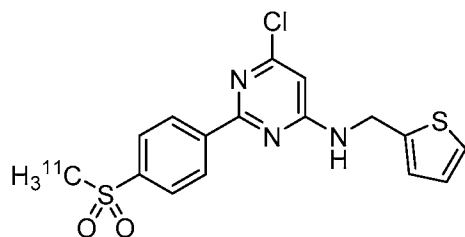


; and the process comprises reacting the compound

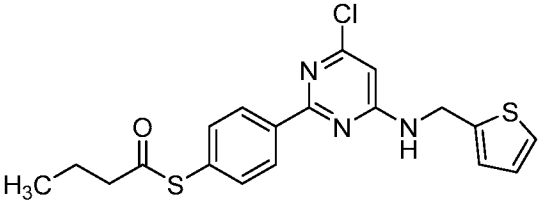


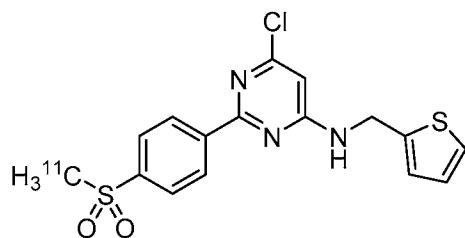
with a ¹¹C source and an oxidant. In some embodiments, the ¹¹C source is ¹¹CH₃I and/or ¹¹CH₃OTf and the oxidant is Oxone[®].

[0175] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

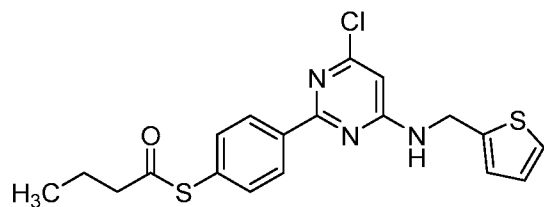


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the

process comprises reacting the compound  with a ¹¹C source and an oxidant. In some embodiments, the ¹¹C source is ¹¹CH₃I and/or ¹¹CH₃OTf and the oxidant is Oxone[®]. In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is

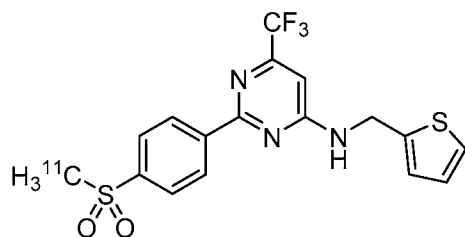


; and the process comprises reacting the compound

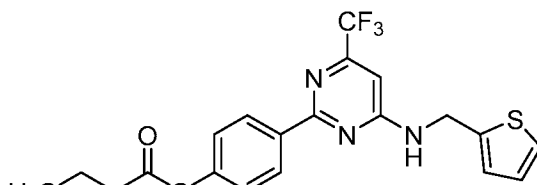


with a ¹¹C source and an oxidant. In some embodiments, the ¹¹C source is ¹¹CH₃I and/or ¹¹CH₃OTf and the oxidant is Oxone[®].

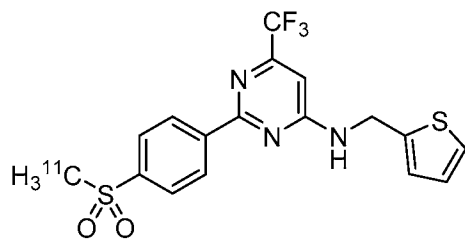
[0176] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



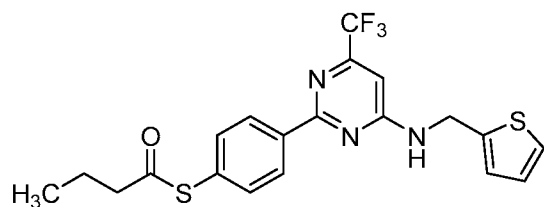
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the



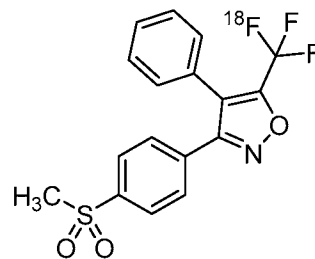
process comprises reacting the compound  with a ¹¹C source and an oxidant. In some embodiments, the ¹¹C source is ¹¹CH₃I and/or ¹¹CH₃OTf and the oxidant is Oxone[®]. In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



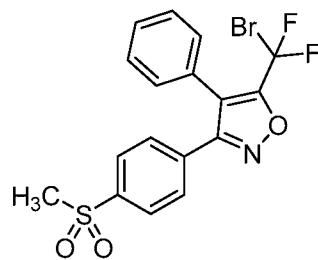
; and the process comprises reacting the compound



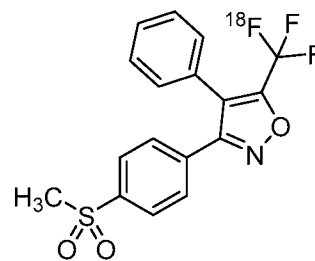
H₃C-CH₂-CH₂-S-CH=CH-CH₃ with a ¹¹C source and an oxidant. In some embodiments, the ¹¹C source is ¹¹CH₃I and/or ¹¹CH₃OTf and the oxidant is Oxone®.



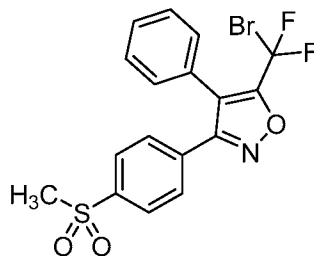
[0177] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is  or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the process comprises reacting the compound



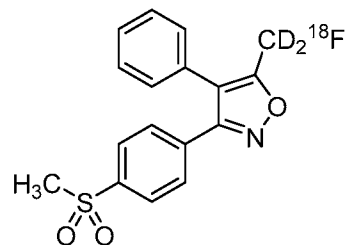
with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a ^{18}F -



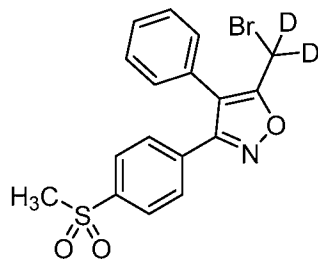
source. In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is ; and



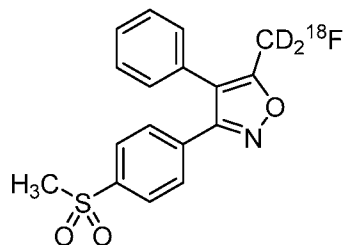
the process comprises reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source.



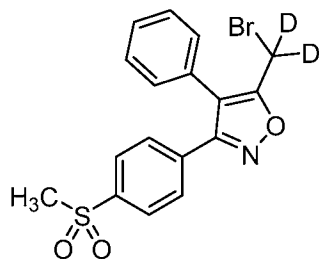
[0178] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the process comprises reacting the



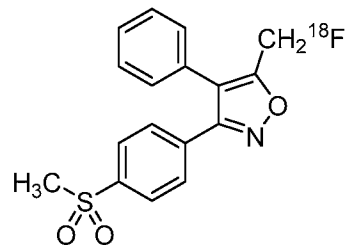
compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source. In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



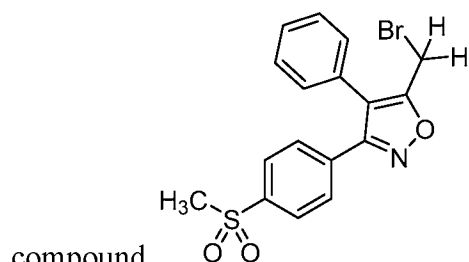
; and the process comprises reacting the compound



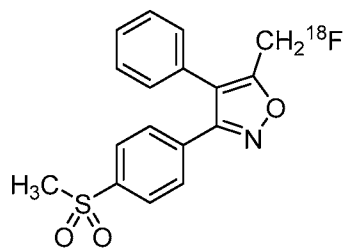
with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source.



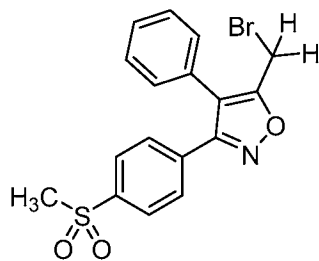
[0179] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the process comprises reacting the



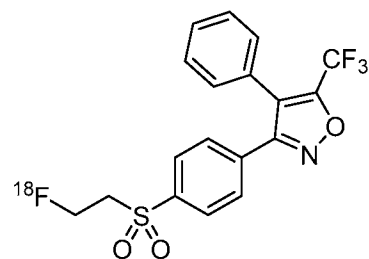
compound with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source. In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



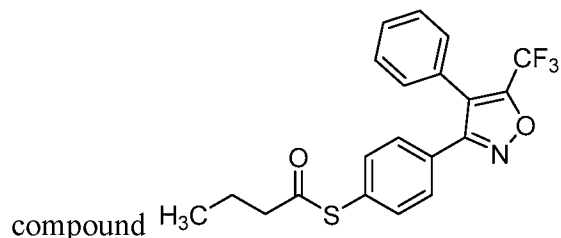
; and the process comprises reacting the compound



with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is a $^{18}\text{F}^-$ source.

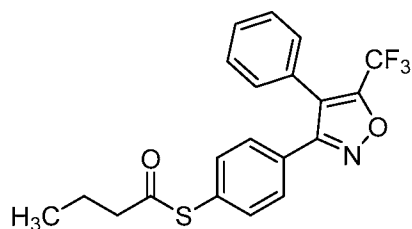
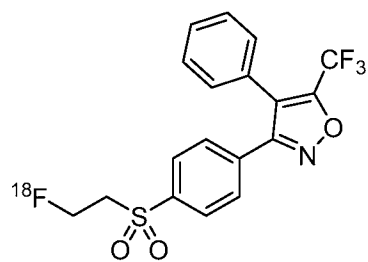


[0180] In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and the process comprises reacting the



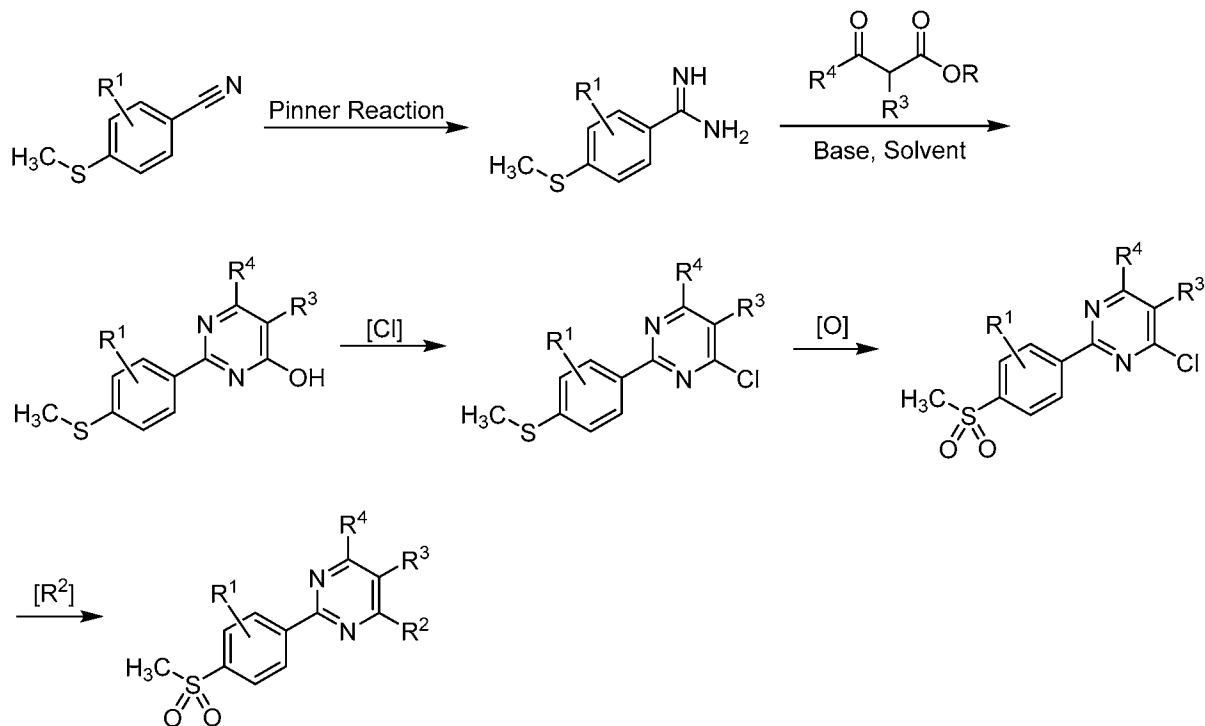
with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F

source is 2-[¹⁸F]fluoroethyl tosylate. In some embodiments, the compound of Formula I is



CCSC=C with a ^{18}F source. In some embodiments, the ^{18}F source is 2- ^{18}F fluoroethyl tosylate.

[0181] In some embodiments, compounds of Formula I may be synthesized according to Scheme 1.



In some embodiments, the base is an alkoxide (*e.g.*, NaOCH₃). In some embodiments, the solvent is a polar protic solvent (*e.g.*, water, methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, and *t*-butanol). In some embodiments, [Cl] is a chlorinating agent (*e.g.*, POCl₃). In some embodiments, [O] is an oxidizing agent. Non-limiting examples of oxidizing agents include Oxone[®], optionally with a water/THF solvent, a peroxyacid (*e.g.*, *meta*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid), potassium peroxymonosulfate, H₂O₂, NaIO₄, *t*-BuOCl, Ca(OCl)₂, NaClO₂, NaOCl, a dioxirane, and KMnO₄. In some embodiments, the oxidizing agent is Oxone[®] or potassium peroxymonosulfate. In some embodiments, the chloride is displaced with R² using, for example, a cross-coupling reaction (*e.g.*, a palladium-mediated cross-coupling reaction) or a substitution reaction (*e.g.*, a nucleophilic aromatic substitution reaction).

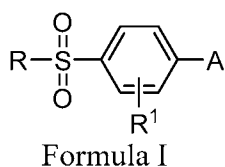
[0182] Additional processes, reagents, and conditions for synthesis of compounds of Formula I can be found in U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2008/0138282 A1 (incorporated herein by reference in its entirety).

[0183] In some embodiments, the radiochemical yield of the reaction to install the ¹⁸F radioisotope in compounds of Formula I is about 10 to about 50%. In some embodiments, the radiochemical yield of the reaction to install the ¹⁸F radioisotope in compounds of Formula I is about 15 to about 35%. In some embodiments, the radiochemical yield of the reaction to install the ¹⁸F radioisotope in compounds of Formula I is about 20 to about 30%.

[0184] Methods of Radio Imaging

[0185] In yet another aspect, a method for imaging a sample or organism comprises:

(a) administering to the sample or organism a compound of Formula I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount effective to detect emission of deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, or a combination thereof; and

(b) measuring the emission of the one or more radionuclide(s) in the compound.

[0186] In some embodiments, the amount effective to detect emission is the weight, concentration, or molar activity of the compound, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or

dosage form thereof, that, when dosed to the sample or organism, permits detection of the radioactive emission of the radioisotope(s). In some embodiments, this is an amount that permits detection of the radioactive emission of the radioisotope(s) via PET. In some embodiments, this is an amount that permits detection of the radioactive emission of ^{18}F . A non-limiting example of an imaging-effective dosage amount ranges from about 0.001 mCi to about 30 mCi.

[0187] In some embodiments, the emission is measured using PET.

[0188] In some embodiments, the sample is a cell culture. Non-limiting examples of cell cultures include BxPC3 (COX-2-positive) and PANC-1 (COX-2-negative).

[0189] In some embodiments, the organism is an animal. In some embodiments, the organism is a mammal. In some embodiments, the mammal is a mouse, rat, pig, dog, monkey, baboon, or human. In some embodiments, the mammal is a mouse. In some embodiments, the mammal is a rat. In some embodiments, the mammal is a pig. In some embodiments, the mammal is a dog. In some embodiments, the mammal is a monkey. In some embodiments, the monkey is a rhesus macaque. In some embodiments, the mammal is a baboon. In some embodiments, the mammal is a human.

[0190] In some embodiments, the compound can be administered to the sample or organism *per se* (neat) or in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solution. For example the salt or solution may be administered by intravenous, intramuscular, or other parenteral means. The compound, salt, or solution can also be administered by intranasal application, inhalation, topically, orally, rectally, vaginally, or as implants. Suitable liquid or solid forms include, for example, aqueous or saline solutions for injection or inhalation, microencapsulated, encochleated, coated onto microscopic gold particles, contained in liposomes or other vesicles, nebulized, aerosols, pellets for implantation into the skin, or dried onto a sharp object to be scratched into the skin, granules, powders, tablets, coated tablets, (micro)capsules, suppositories, syrups, emulsions, suspensions, creams, drops, or preparations with protracted release of active compounds in whose preparation excipients and additives and/or auxiliaries include, for example, disintegrants, binders, coating agents, swelling agents, lubricants, flavorings, sweeteners or solubilizers are customarily used as described above. In some embodiments, the compound can be administered as a controlled- or sustained-release form. In some embodiments, the compound can be administered in pro-drug form. Additional administration forms and modes of administration are known in the art

of pharmacy. *See generally*, Remington, *The Science and Practice of Pharmacy*, Vols. 1 and 2, Pharmaceutical Press 2013 (incorporated herein by reference in its entirety). *See also* U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2008/0138282 A1 (incorporated herein by reference in its entirety).

[0191] In some embodiments, the compound interacts with a biological target and measuring the emission allows determination of the expression level or distribution of the biological target in the sample or organism. In some embodiments, the biological target (*e.g.*, protein) is implicated in a disease (*e.g.*, is downregulated or upregulated, is under-expressed or overexpressed, etc.) and measuring the emission allows diagnosis, progression, and treatment of the disease to be assessed. In some embodiments, the compound interacts with a protein and measuring the emission allows determination of the expression level or distribution of the protein in the sample or organism. In some embodiments, the protein is involved in inflammation and measuring the emission allows determination of the amount or distribution of inflammation, inflection, and/or injury in the sample or organism. In some embodiments, the protein is COX-2. In some embodiments, the compound interacts with (*e.g.*, binds) and/or inhibits COX-2. In some embodiments, this binding or inhibition, in combination with the imaging method, is used to determine COX-2 expression level or activity, or diagnose or monitor a disease or treatment involving COX-2.

[0192] In some embodiments, the animal is known or suspected to have a condition or state selected from the group consisting of arthritis (*e.g.*, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, and spondyloarthropathies), cardiovascular disease (*e.g.*, atherosclerosis, myocardial infarction, myocardial ischemia, periarteritis nodosa, and vascular disease), central nervous system damage (*e.g.*, from stroke, ischemia, and trauma), central nervous system disorder (*e.g.*, multiple sclerosis, a seizure disorder, such as epilepsy, headache, including but not limited to migraine headache, and brain injury, including but not limited to traumatic brain injury), gastrointestinal disorder (*e.g.*, irritable bowel syndrome), hypersensitivity (*e.g.*, autoimmune disease, including but not limited to aplastic anemia, graft rejection, lupus, scleroderma, and allergy, including but not limited to allergic rhinitis), inflammatory disease (*e.g.*, asthma, Bechet's disease, bronchitis, bursitis, Crohn's disease, endotoxin shock syndrome, gastritis, gingivitis, inflammatory bowel disease, polymyositis, pulmonary inflammation, such as acute respiratory disease syndrome and severe acute respiratory syndrome from viral (*e.g.*, COVID-19) and bacterial infections, Lyme disease, meningitis, and from cystic fibrosis, rheumatic fever, sarcoidosis, tendinitis, thyroiditis, and ulcerative

colitis), metabolic disorder (*e.g.*, affecting bone metabolism, type 1 diabetes, and type 2 diabetes), neoplastic disease (*e.g.*, cancer, including but not limited to colorectal cancer, breast cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer, bladder cancer, cervical cancer, skin cancer, and lymphoma, including but not limited to Hodgkin lymphoma and non-Hodgkin lymphoma), neurodegenerative disease (*e.g.*, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, cortical dementias, Huntington's disease, and Parkinson's disease), neuromuscular junction disease (*e.g.*, myasthenia gravis), ophthalmic disease (*e.g.*, retinitis, retinopathies, uveitis, ocular photophobia, conjunctivitis, and acute injury to the eye tissue), post-operative inflammation (*e.g.*, from ophthalmic surgery, cataract surgery, and refractive surgery), psychiatric condition (*e.g.*, depressive disorder, schizophrenia, and an alcohol use disorder), reproductive event (*e.g.*, ovulation, pregnancy, and child birth), respiratory disease (*e.g.*, respiratory distress syndrome), skin disorder (*e.g.*, psoriasis, eczema, burns, and dermatitis), tissue repair, urogenital disease (*e.g.*, renal disease, including but not limited to nephritis and nephrotic syndrome), white matter disease, and a combination thereof.

[0193] In some embodiments, the condition is Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, myocardial infarction, traumatic brain injury, inflammatory disease, cancer, renal disease, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

[0194] In some embodiments, the animal is known or suspected to be experiencing pain. In some embodiments, the animal is known or suspected to be experiencing pain as a result of the conditions listed above.

[0195] In some embodiments, COX-2 is induced by inflammatory stimuli. In some embodiments, COX-2 catalyzes prostanoid formation associated with, for example, inflammation and proliferative diseases. In some embodiments, COX-2 is modestly expressed under normal physiologic conditions and plays a role in, for example, brain, cardiac, and kidney function, but is upregulated or overexpressed during inflammation. In some embodiments, excessive inflammation and associated COX-2 induction may be part of the pathogenesis of neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, as well as in traumatic brain injury. In some embodiments, COX-2 induction is involved in pain, major depressive disorder, schizophrenia, arthritis, cancer, and acute allograft rejection. In some embodiments, inhibition of COX-2 may be a protective treatment strategy by slowing or halting the progression of disease. In some embodiments, monitoring *in vivo* changes in COX-2

expression can be used for quantifying disease pathogenesis, such as detecting organ rejection, detecting arthritic joints, and assessing target occupancy and biological effects of COX-2 inhibitors. In some embodiments, noninvasive radio imaging, such as PET, is useful for assessing brain diseases due to the difficulty of accessing the brain.

[0196] In some embodiments, the method can be used to measure and/or detect COX-2 protein in COX-2 associated diseases, conditions, and disorders. Non-limiting examples of COX-2-associated diseases, conditions, and disorders include a condition or state selected from the group consisting of arthritis (*e.g.*, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, and spondyloarthropathies), cardiovascular disease (*e.g.*, atherosclerosis, myocardial infarction, myocardial ischemia, periarteritis nodosa, and vascular disease), central nervous system damage (*e.g.*, from stroke, ischemia, and trauma), central nervous system disorder (*e.g.*, multiple sclerosis, a seizure disorder, such as epilepsy, headache, including but not limited to migraine headache, and brain injury, including but not limited to traumatic brain injury), gastrointestinal disorder (*e.g.*, irritable bowel syndrome), hypersensitivity (*e.g.*, autoimmune disease, including but not limited to aplastic anemia, graft rejection, lupus, scleroderma, and allergy, including but not limited to allergic rhinitis), inflammatory disease (*e.g.*, asthma, Bechet's disease, bronchitis, bursitis, Crohn's disease, endotoxin shock syndrome, gastritis, gingivitis, inflammatory bowel disease, polymyositis, pulmonary inflammation, such as acute respiratory disease syndrome and severe acute respiratory syndrome from viral (*e.g.*, COVID-19) and bacterial infections, Lyme disease, meningitis, and from cystic fibrosis, rheumatic fever, sarcoidosis, tendinitis, thyroiditis, and ulcerative colitis), metabolic disorder (*e.g.*, affecting bone metabolism, type 1 diabetes, and type 2 diabetes), neoplastic disease (*e.g.*, cancer, including but not limited to colorectal cancer, breast cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer, bladder cancer, cervical cancer, skin cancer, and lymphoma, including but not limited to Hodgkin lymphoma and non-Hodgkin lymphoma), neurodegenerative disease (*e.g.*, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, cortical dementias, Huntington's disease, and Parkinson's disease), neuromuscular junction disease (*e.g.*, myasthenia gravis), ophthalmic disease (*e.g.*, retinitis, retinopathies, uveitis, ocular photophobia, conjunctivitis, and acute injury to the eye tissue), post-operative inflammation (*e.g.*, from ophthalmic surgery, cataract surgery, and refractive surgery), psychiatric condition (*e.g.*, depressive disorder, alcohol use disorder, and schizophrenia), reproductive event (*e.g.*, ovulation, pregnancy, and child birth), respiratory disease (*e.g.*, respiratory distress syndrome), skin disorder (*e.g.*, psoriasis, eczema, burns, and dermatitis), tissue repair,

urogenital disease (*e.g.*, renal disease, including but not limited to nephritis and nephrotic syndrome), white matter disease, or a combination thereof. In some embodiments, the condition is Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, myocardial infarction, traumatic brain injury, inflammatory disease, cancer, renal disease, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

[0197] In some embodiments, the method can be used to detect or monitor processes, diseases, or disorders that may involve the upregulation of COX-2 protein expression including, but not limited to upregulation and/or overexpression of COX-2 is associated with inflammation, pain, fever, arthritis (*e.g.*, rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis), neurodegenerative disease (*e.g.*, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), angiogenesis, cancer, stroke, cardiac condition (*e.g.*, myocardial infarction and atherosclerosis), diabetes, allograft rejection, urogenital disease, renal function, tissue repair, bone metabolism, ovulation, pregnancy, and child birth.

[0198] In some embodiments, the method can be used to screen a sample or organism for diseases, disorders, states, or conditions that are related to COX-2 expression or activity. Non-limiting examples include inflammation, pain, fever, arthritis (*e.g.*, rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis), neurodegenerative disease (*e.g.*, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), vascular condition (*e.g.*, angiogenesis), cancer, reproduction (*e.g.*, ovulation, pregnancy, and child birth), renal function, tissue repair, bone metabolism, stroke, cardiac condition (*e.g.*, myocardial infarction, atherosclerosis), diabetes, allograft rejection, and urogenital disease.

[0199] In some embodiments, the method can be used to screen for organisms that are more susceptible to side effects of COX-2 inhibitors, as manifested by an increased detection of the compounds of Formula I in specified tissue compartments.

[0200] In some embodiments, the method can be used to determine the efficacy of COX-2 inhibitors administered to an organism to treat a disorder that involves the upregulation of COX-2 protein expression.

[0201] In some embodiments, the method can be used to monitor the course of inflammation in an organism. For example, whether a particular COX-2 inhibitor therapeutic regimen aimed at ameliorating the cause of the inflammatory process, or the inflammatory process itself, is effective, can be determined by measuring the decrease of COX-2 protein expression at suspected sites of inflammation.

[0202] Additional uses for the methods described herein can be found in U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2008/0138282 A1 (incorporated herein by reference in its entirety).

[0203] The representative examples which follow are intended to help illustrate the invention, and are not intended to, nor should they be construed to, limit the scope of the invention. Indeed, various modifications of the invention and many further embodiments thereof, in addition to those shown and described herein, will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the full contents of this document, including the examples which follow and the references to the scientific and patent literature cited herein. It should further be appreciated that the contents of those cited references are incorporated herein by reference to help illustrate the state of the art. The following examples contain important additional information, exemplification, and guidance which can be adapted to the practice of this invention in its various embodiments and equivalents thereof.

EXAMPLES

[0204] **Example 1: Radiosynthesis and Evaluation of [¹⁸F]FMTP and [¹⁸F]FMPP**

[0205] COX, or prostaglandin endoperoxidase synthase, is an enzyme involved in the biosynthesis of prostaglandins, prostacyclins, and thromboxanes from arachidonic acid. Among the three known isoforms of COX (COX-1, COX-2, and COX-3), COX-1 has predominantly constitutive activity and is involved in many normal physiological functions. In contrast, COX-2 is inducible under normal physiologic conditions, with relatively low constitutive activity and mostly found in kidney, brain, and heart. The third isoform, COX-3, may be responsible for febrile response and mediates the antipyretic effects of aspirin and acetaminophen. COX-2 inhibition mediates the analgesic activities of NSAIDs. COX-2, induced by inflammatory stimuli, catalyzes prostanoid formation associated with inflammation and proliferative diseases, including those in the CNS. Neuroinflammation and COX-2 induction are implicated in the pathogenesis of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and ALS, as well as psychiatric disorders, smoking, seizure disorders, and brain injuries (*e.g.*, TBI). COX-2 induction is also involved in for example, pain, arthritis, cancers, myocardial infarction, and acute allograft rejection. COXIBs can have anti-inflammatory effects.

[0206] Upregulation/overexpression of COX-2 is involved in neuroinflammation associated with many neurological diseases and malignancies of the brain. Outside the brain,

inflammation and COX-2 induction contribute to the pathogenesis of, for example, pain, arthritis, and acute allograft rejection, and to responses to, for example, infections, tumors, autoimmune disorders, and injuries. Therefore, targeting COX-2 may be a potential neuroprotective treatment strategy aiming to reduce the progression of neurodegenerative and other diseases.

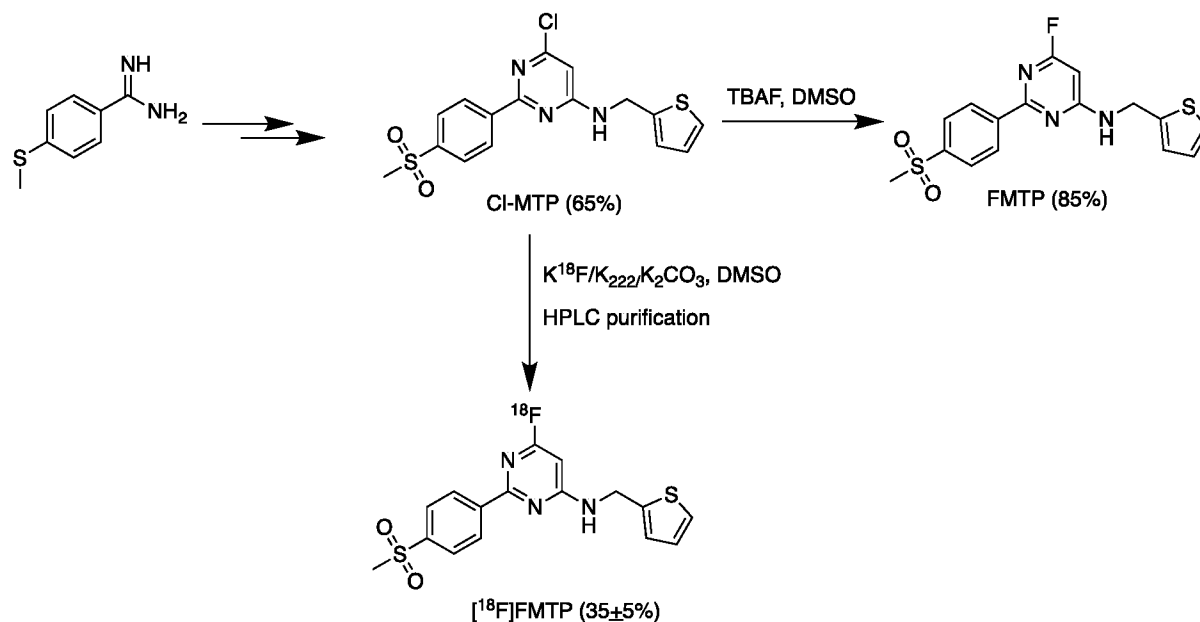
[0207] Monitoring *in vivo* changes in COX-2 expression allows, for example, quantification of inflammation, tracking of disease course, assessing target occupancy of NSAIDs, and or monitoring clinical use of FDA-approved COXIB medications. Prior methods of COX-2 quantification include *ex vivo* assays of tissue samples, invasively obtained from biopsies. PET imaging would allow noninvasive and *in vivo* visualization of COX-2 throughout the body. Prior COX-2 PET ligands were not successful for *in vivo* quantification of COX-2 due to limitations, such as suboptimal COX-2 affinity, high nonspecific binding, de[¹⁸F]fluorination, skeletal uptake, poor brain or organ uptake, inability to detect basal or low level of COX-2, and poor signal-to-noise ratio due to lipophilicity. [¹¹C]TMI, a potent COX-2 inhibitor, was the only prior radiotracer exhibiting partial blocking of constitutive COX-2 level in baboon brain, however, its ability to image inflammation in animal disease models was yet to be proven. [¹⁸F]Pyr Coxib, another prior COX-2 inhibitor belonging to the class of 2-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)pyrimidines, and the prior triazole analogue [¹⁸F]triacoxib, showed a higher binding in COX-2 positive cells (HCA-7) compared with COX-2 negative cells (HCT-116). However, both tracers demonstrated only modest binding in xenografts *in vivo* and did not show significant uptake in brain. *See* FIG. 1. Similarly, [¹¹C]MC1, another member of the class of arylpyrimidines, showed increased binding to COX-2 in animal models of neuroinflammation. *See* FIG. 1. Despite promising uptake in neuroinflammation, [¹¹C]MC1 failed to detect constitutive or low level of COX-2 in brain under conditions without inflammation, and cold (*i.e.*, non-radiolabeled) MC1 showed no specific binding in CNS and periphery organs. COXIBs with sub-nanomolar affinity and radiolabeled with long-lived isotopes, such as ¹⁸F (decay half-life 110 min), may overcome the limitations of these prior tracers. In Example 1, the radiosynthesis and evaluation of [¹⁸F]FMTP; COX-2 IC₅₀ = 2.5 nM) as potential PET ligand for COX-2 imaging in brain and periphery (*see* FIG. 1) was conducted. [¹⁸F]FMTP, belonging to the pyrimidine class of COXIBs, was evaluated as a PET tracer for COX-2 imaging owing to the presence of a chemically and metabolically stable radiolabeling position on the aromatic ring, level of lipophilicity for passive brain entry, and high COX-2 affinity.

[0208] *Materials and Methods*

[0209] The radiochemical synthesis of [^{18}F]FMTP and [^{18}F]FMPP were optimized using a chlorine-to-fluorine displacement method, by reacting ^{18}F -fluoride/ $\text{K}_{222}/\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ with the corresponding chlorine precursor molecules. Cellular uptake studies of [^{18}F]FMTP were performed in COX-2-positive BxPC3 and COX-2-negative PANC-1 cell lines with unlabeled FMTP as well as celecoxib (5 μM) to define specific binding agents. Dynamic microPET image acquisition was performed in anesthetized nude mice, LPS-induced neuroinflammation mice, and PBS-administered control mice using a Trifoil mPET/CT for a scan period of 50 or 60 minutes.

[0210] *Materials*

[0211] ^{18}F was produced using Eclipse cyclotron (Siemens, Knoxville, TN). Gamma-ray detector (Bioscan Flow-Count fitted with NaI detector) coupled in series with a UV detector (Waters Model 996 set at 254 nm) were used for detection of radiolabeled products. Data acquisition for both the analytical and preparative systems was accomplished using a Waters Empower Chromatography System. Dynamic microPET image acquisitions were performed with Trifoil mPET/CT scanner.

[0212] *Synthesis of [^{18}F]FMTP and [^{18}F]FMPP*

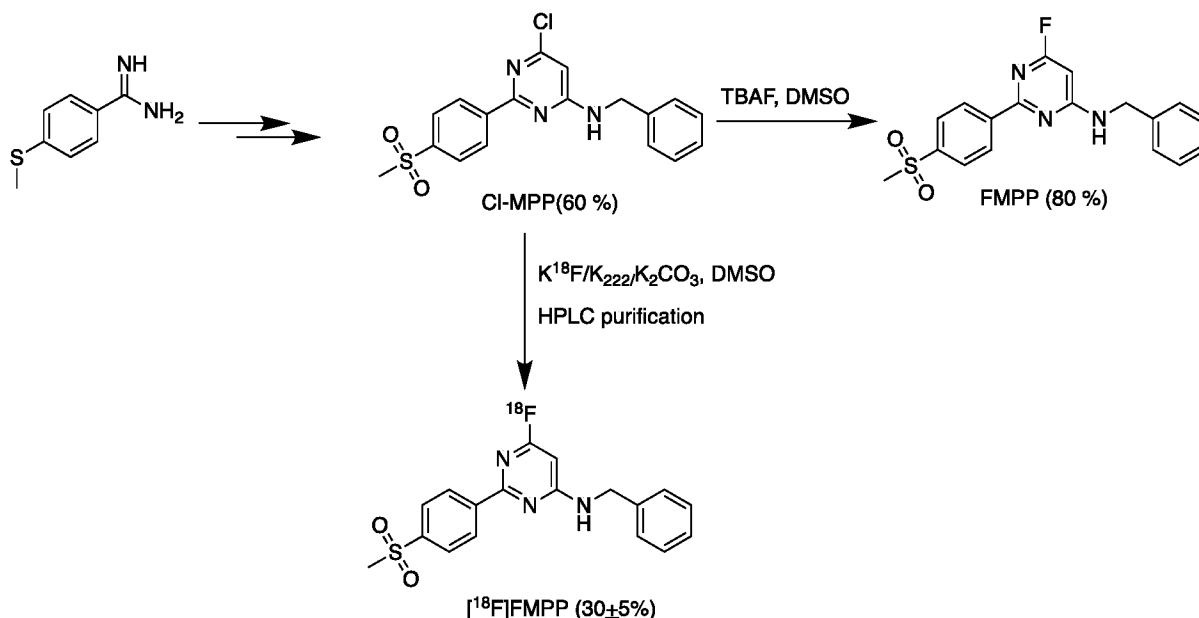
Scheme 2: Synthesis of [^{18}F]FMTP.

[0213] Synthesis of the starting 4-(methylthio)benzimidamide was conducted as reported in Orjales et al. "Novel 2-(4-Methylsulfonylphenyl)pyrimidine Derivatives as Highly Potent

and Specific COX-2 Inhibitors. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* 2008, 16:2183-99 (incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. *See also* Scheme 1.

[0214] Thiophene-2-ylmethanamine (68 mg, 0.6 mmol) was added to a solution of 4,6-dichloro-2-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyrimidine (0.3 mmol, 90 mg) in 4 mL dry dichloromethane and 0.1 mL triethylamine. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 hour and, at this time, HPLC analyses showed > 95% consumption of the chloro-substrate. The reaction mixture was evaporated and chromatographed over silica gel using 40:60 ethyl acetate-hexane to afford 75 mg (65%) of Cl-MTP as pale-yellow solid. Cl-MTP: melting point: 169-171 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.0 (3H, s, CH₃), 4.85 (2H, bs, CH₂), 5.3 (1H, bs, NH), 6.3 (1H, s), 6.9 (1H, m), 7.0 (1H, d, J = 2.81 Hz), 7.2 (2H, d, overlapped with CDCl₃), 7.9 (2H, d, J = 8.53 Hz), and 8.5 (2H, d, J = 8.56 Hz).

[0215] Tetra-*n*-butylammonium fluoride ("TBAF") (0.1 mL, 1 M solution in THF) was added to a solution of Cl-MTP (20 mg, 0.05 mmol) in DMF (2 mL). The resulting solution was heated at 140 °C for 1 hour, at which time point, HPLC analyses showed > 95% consumption of Cl-MTP. The reaction mixture was then allowed to cool, diluted with water (20 mL), and extracted with ethyl acetate (3x10 mL). The combined ethyl acetate fractions were further washed with saturated brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, and chromatographed over silica gel (20% ethyl acetate-hexane) to afford 15 mg (85%) of FMTP as pale-yellow solid. FMTP: melting point: 131.5 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.0 (3H, s, CH₃), 4.8 (2H, bs, CH₂), 5.9 (1H, bs, NH), 6.4 (1H, s), 6.9-7 (1H, m), 7.05 (1H, d, J = 2.82 Hz), 7.2 (2H, d, overlapped with CDCl₃), 8.0 (2H, d, J = 8.51), 8.6 (2H, d, J = 8.54); HRMS (MH⁺) calculated for: C₁₆H₁₅FN₃O₂S₂: 364.0512; Found: 364.0533.

Scheme 3: Synthesis of $[^{18}\text{F}]$ FMPP.

[0216] Benzylamine (64 mg, 0.6 mmol) was added to a solution of 4,6-dichloro-2-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyrimidine (0.3 mmol, 90 mg) in 4 mL dry dichloromethane and 0.1 mL triethylamine. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 hour and, at this time, HPLC analyses showed > 95% consumption of the chloro-substrate. The reaction mixture was evaporated and chromatographed over silica gel using 40:60 ethyl acetate-hexane to afford 65 mg (60%) of Cl-MPP as pale-yellow solid.

[0217] TBAF (0.1 mL, 1 M solution in THF) was added to a solution of Cl-MPP (20 mg, 0.05 mmol) in DMF (2 mL). The resulting solution was heated at 140 °C for 1 hour, at which time point, HPLC analyses showed > 95% consumption of Cl-MTP. The reaction mixture was then allowed to cool, diluted with water (20 mL), and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL). The combined ethyl acetate fractions were further washed with saturated brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO_4 , and chromatographed over silica gel (20% ethyl acetate-hexane) to afford 13 mg (80%) of FMPP as pale-yellow solid. FMPP: melting point: 125.5 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.0 (3H, s, CH_3), 4.9 (2H, bs, CH_2), 6.1 (1H, bs, NH), 6.5 (1H, s), 7.3 (5H, m), 8.0 (2H, d, $J = 8.51$), 8.6 (2H, d, $J = 8.54$); HRMS (MH^+) calculated for: $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{FN}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}$: 357.0942; Found: 357.0926.

[0218] ^{18}F (Eclipse cyclotron, Siemens) trapped from QMA was eluted with 1 mL of 10:1 acetonitrile:water, containing K_{222} (36 mg) and potassium carbonate (2 mg). The reaction mixture was azeotropically heated and dried at 98 °C under a stream of argon by the repeated addition of acetonitrile (4 x 0.5 mL). A solution of approximately 2 mg of Cl-MTP or Cl-

MPP in 500 μ L of DMSO was then added to the reaction vial, sealed, and heated for 20 minutes at 140 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature, diluted with 20 mL water, and passed through a classic C-18 Sep-Pak cartridge and eluted with 1 mL acetonitrile. The crude product in acetonitrile was injected onto a semipreparative HPLC column (Phenomenex, Prodigy ODS-Prep 10 x 250 mm, 10 μ m; and eluted with 50:50 acetonitrile:0.1 M ammonium formate with a flow rate of 8 mL/min). [^{18} F]FMTP eluted at 9-10 minutes and [^{18} F]FMPP eluted at 12 minutes, and were collected based on the γ -detector reading, diluted with 50 mL of deionized water and passed through a classic C-18 Sep-Pak cartridge, washed with 10 mL of deionized water, and eluted with 1 mL of ethanol. Reconstruction of the product in 1 mL of absolute ethanol afforded [^{18} F]FMTP in $35 \pm 5\%$ yield and [^{18} F]FMPP at $30 \pm 5\%$ at the end of synthesis (“EOS”). A portion of the ethanol solution was analyzed by analytical HPLC (Phenomenex, Prodigy ODS(3) 4.6 x 250 mm, 5 μ m; mobile phase; 60:40 acetonitrile:0.1 M AMF, flow rate 2 mL/min, t_R = ~5-6 minutes) to determine the molar activity, chemical, and radiochemical purities. The ethanol solution was then diluted to a volume of 10 mL with saline and filtered through a sterile environment, and a portion of this solution was formulated for injection.

[0219] *In Vitro and In Vivo Evaluation of [^{18} F]FMTP*

[0220] *Cell Uptake of [^{18} F]FMTP*

[0221] BxPC3 and PANC-1 human pancreas carcinoma cell lines were plated on a 24-well plate at 2×10^5 cells/well. After 48 hours, [^{18} F]FMTP was added (2.0 μ Ci/mL) to the cell medium for 30 minutes. For blocking experiments, non-labelled FMTP or celecoxib (5 μ M) was added to cells 30 minutes before [^{18} F]FMTP. After incubation with [^{18} F]FMTP, cells were washed 4 times with cold PBS, lysed with 0.1 N NaOH, and counted in a gamma counter (Hidex AMG, LabLogic, Tampa, FL).

[0222] Proof-of-concept and selectivity of [^{18} F]FMTP binding to COX-2 was examined by evaluating the tracer uptake in COX-2-positive BxPC3 and a control COX-2-negative PANC1 human pancreatic carcinoma cell lines. FIG. 2 illustrates a > 2 -fold uptake of [^{18} F]FMTP in BxPC3 cells compared with PANC1 cells. Values shown in FIG. 2 are the mean $\pm$ standard deviation (“SD”) from four independent experiments. This binding was substantially blocked with unlabeled FMTP. Blocking with celecoxib, an FDA-approved COXIB, produced less proportional blocking compared with cold FMTP. [^{18} F]FMTP

showed negligible binding to PANC1 cells and no specific binding with FMTP or celecoxib block.

[0223] *MicroPET Imaging of [¹⁸F]FMTP*

[0224] Animals (male white mice) were anesthetized with isoflurane (1%-2% isoflurane in 100% oxygen) using a nose cone, and a 29-gauge needle connected to a catheter was placed into the lateral tail vein. For neuroinflammation, mice were stereotactically injected with 5 µg of LPS or PBS (controls) in the brain and imaging experiments conducted 24 hours later. The animal was placed in prone position on the platform of the scanner and moved into the center of the field of view guided by laser beam calibration. Immediately after scan start, [¹⁸F]FMTP (~2.5 MBq 25 mL in 20% ethanol-saline solution) was injected through the tail-vein catheter manually. The error caused by the injector and catheter was corrected by subtracting the remaining dose. 40-minute dynamic imaging was acquired on a microPET scanner (Siemens Inveon). The acquired list-mode data were reconstructed with 3D ordered subset expectation maximization (OSEM) algorithm using the software of Siemens Inveon Acquisition Workplace with a framing protocol of 2 x 30 seconds, 4 x 60 seconds, 3 x 120 seconds, 3 x 180 seconds, and 4 x 300 seconds. Using PMOD software (version 4.0, Switzerland), three-dimensional ellipsoid volume of interests ("VOIs") ranging from 2-to-6 mm were placed manually at the center of the brain, heart (blood-pool), liver, proximal humerus (bone), and posterior cervical muscle. The standardized uptake values ("SUVs") were estimated using a calibration factor calculated from the phantom study and time activity curves ("TACs") were derived from VOIs in the series of reconstructed images.

[0225] FIGS. 3A-3D show the summed early frames (0-10 minute) and total frames (0-40 minute) of microPET images. Crosses in FIGS. 3A-3D represent the region with brain. As evident from the images, the tracer penetrated the BBB and subsequently showed a fast washout of activity from brain. TACs also indicated an initial rapid influx of radioactivity followed by rapid washout (FIG. 4). The uptake of [¹⁸F]FMTP peaked around 1 minute in heart and brain, and then decreased rapidly. The absence of retention of [¹⁸F]FMTP activity in these organs was predicted due to low COX-2 expression in normal mouse brain. Highest radioactivity outside the heart was found in liver, and the delay to peak at 5-10 minutes was probably due to the accumulation of radioactive metabolite(s). The tracer did not show uptake in spine and skeleton, which indicated lack of de[¹⁸F]fluorination, an advantage of [¹⁸F]FMTP for use in *in vivo* PET imaging. The binding of [¹⁸F]FMTP in LPS-induced

neuroinflammation in mice was studied in comparison to vehicle (PBS)-treated-mice. Intracranial injection of LPS in mice is known to generate COX-2 induction and neuroinflammation after around 24 hours. Therefore, PET imaging of LPS treated mice was performed after 24 hours with [^{18}F]FMTP, and an approximately 2-fold increase of tracer binding was found in brain compared with PBS-treated mice (FIG. 5). TACs in whole brain showed higher binding of [^{18}F]FMTP in LPS-treated mice compared with PBS-treated controls (FIG. 6). MicroPET data correlated with autoradiography performed in brain sections of microPET imaged animals using [^{18}F]FMTP. See FIG. 7.

[0226] A new method for radiosynthesis of [^{18}F]FMTP and [^{18}F]FMPP included a chlorine-to- ^{18}F displacement reaction of aryl[1,3]pyrimidine core molecule. Advantages of the radiosynthesis described in one or more embodiments herein include, but are not limited to, accessibility of precursor, one step, no prosthetic group required, facile separation and purification, and no de[^{18}F]fluorination. Proof-of-concept of the use of [^{18}F]FMTP for quantifying COX-2 was demonstrated first, *in vitro*, in COX-2-positive BxPC3 cells. MicroPET imaging of normal mice demonstrated BBB penetration and a fast washout of radioactivity from brain, possibly due to low concentration of COX-2 in normal brain. [^{18}F]FMTP showed a higher binding in LPS-induced neuroinflammation compared to binding in the brain of control mice. Specific binding to COX-2 in cell lines, lack of *in vivo* de[^{18}F]fluorination and skeletal uptake, BBB permeability, and higher brain binding in neuroinflammation demonstrated the potential of [^{18}F]FMTP as a PET tracer for imaging inflammation where COX-2 overexpression is reported. [^{18}F]FMTP may be useful for rapid determination of the lowest effective dose of, *e.g.*, a COXIB.

[0227] References

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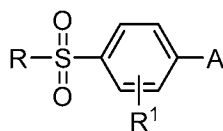
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CLAIMS

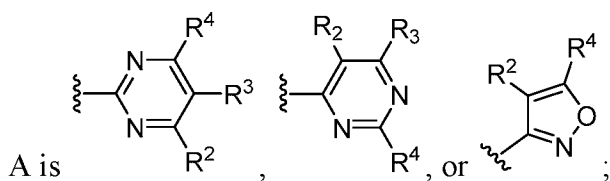
1. A compound of Formula I:



Formula I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein:



R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵;

R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl.

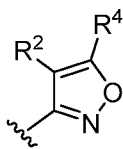
C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, and NHCOR⁵;

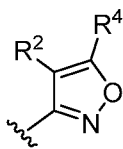
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵; and

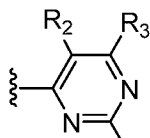
each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

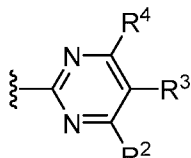
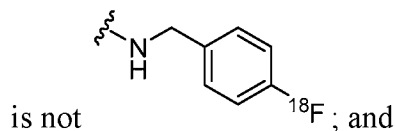
wherein at least one of R, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, or R⁵ comprises at least one of ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;



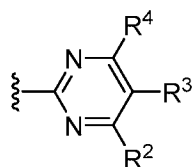
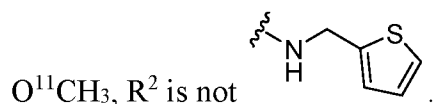
wherein when A is , R is ¹¹CH₃, R¹ is hydrogen, and R² is phenyl, R⁴ is not CF₃;



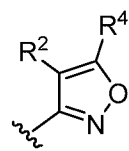
wherein when A is



wherein when A is



2. The compound of claim 1, wherein A is



3. The compound of claim 1, wherein A is



4. The compound of claim 1, wherein A is

5. The compound of any one of claims 1-4, wherein R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

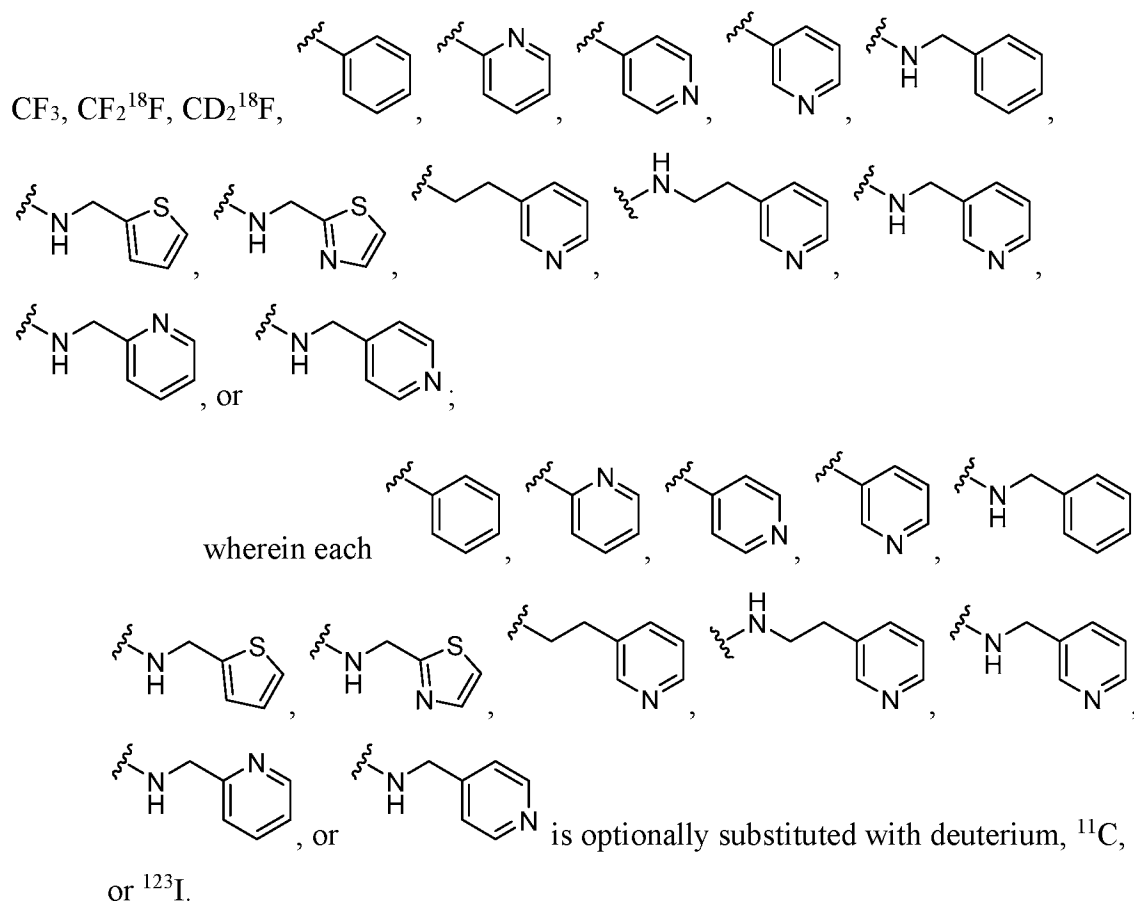
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl,

heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

6. The compound of any one of claims 1-5, wherein each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

7. The compound of any one of claims 1-6, wherein R is CH₃, ¹¹CH₃, CH₂¹⁸F, (CH₂)₂¹⁸F,



8. The compound of any one of claims 1-7, wherein R is CH₃, ¹¹CH₃, or (CH₂)₂¹⁸F.

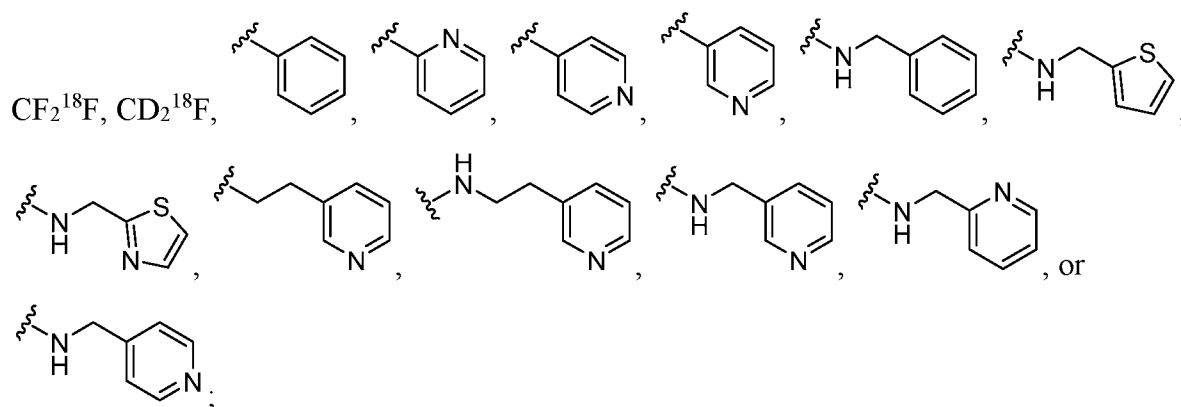
9. The compound of claim 1, wherein R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

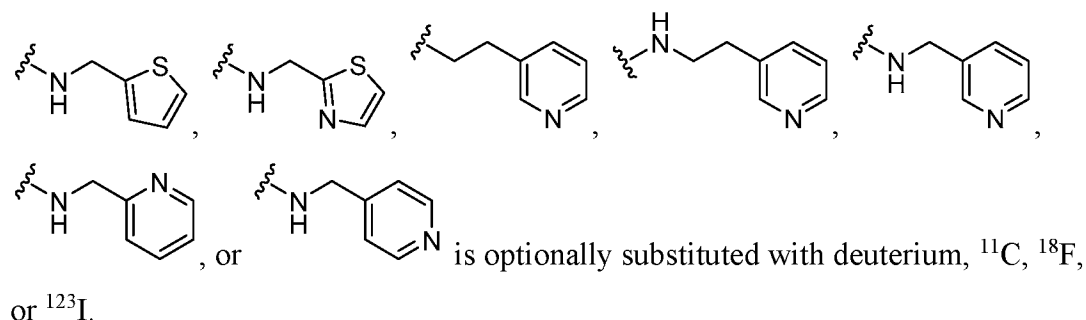
10. The compound of claim 1 or 9, wherein each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

11. The compound of any one of claims 1, 9, or 10, wherein R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, CH₃, ¹¹CH₃, CH₂¹⁸F, (CH₂)₂¹⁸F, CF₃,

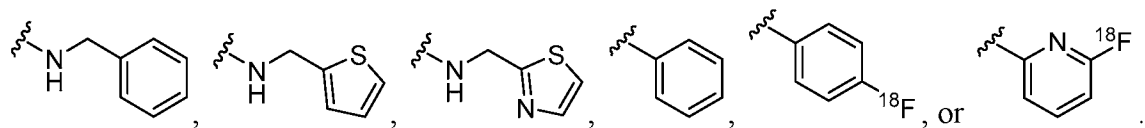


wherein each



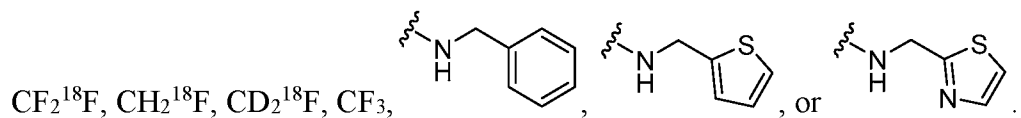
12. The compound of any one of claims 1, 9, or 10-11, wherein R¹ is hydrogen or ¹⁸F.

13. The compound of any one of claims 1, 9, or 10-11, wherein R^2 is hydrogen,

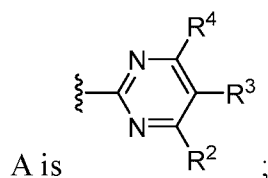


14. The compound of any one of claims 1, 9, or 10-11, wherein R^3 is hydrogen or ^{18}F .

15. The compound of any one of claims 1, 9, or 10-11, wherein R^4 is halogen, ^{18}F ,



16. The compound of claim 1, wherein:



R is CH_3 or $^{11}\text{CH}_3$;

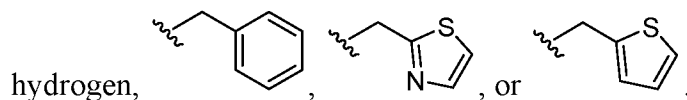
R^1 and R^3 are hydrogen;

R^2 is $\text{N}(\text{R}^5)_2$;

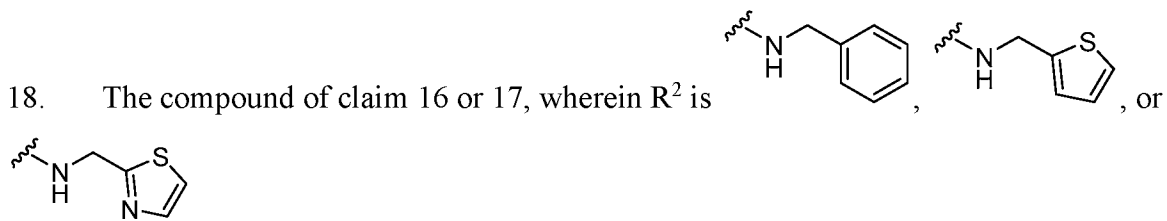
R^4 is F , Cl , CF_3 , or ^{18}F ; and

each occurrence of R^5 is independently hydrogen, $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl-aryl}$, or $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl-heteroaryl}$.

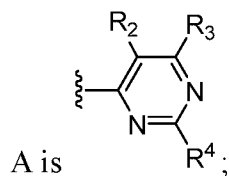
17. The compound of claim 16, wherein each occurrence of R^5 is independently



18. The compound of claim 16 or 17, wherein R^2 is



19. The compound of claim 1, wherein:



R is CH₃;

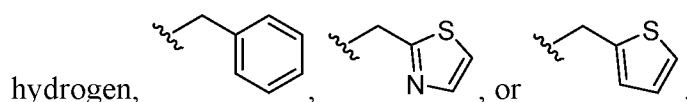
R¹ and R² are hydrogen;

R² is ¹⁸F;

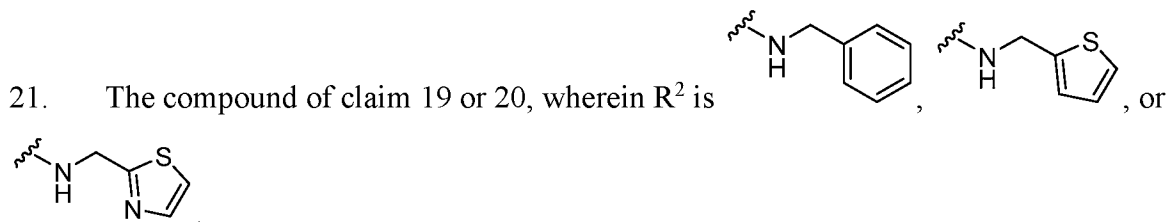
R⁴ is (NR⁵)₂; and

each occurrence of R⁵ is independently hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl.

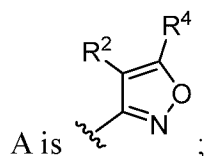
20. The compound of claim 19, wherein each occurrence of R⁵ is independently



21. The compound of claim 19 or 20, wherein R² is



22. The compound of claim 1, wherein:

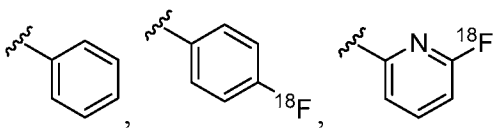


R and R⁴ are (C₁-C₆)alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ¹⁸F, or halogen;

R¹ is hydrogen or ¹⁸F;

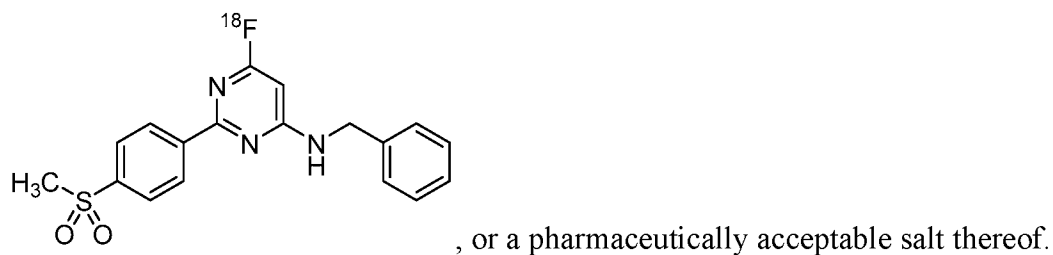
R² is aryl, optionally substituted with ¹⁸F, or heteroaryl, optionally substituted with ¹⁸F.

23. The compound of claim 22, wherein R is CH₃ or (CH₂)₂¹⁸F.

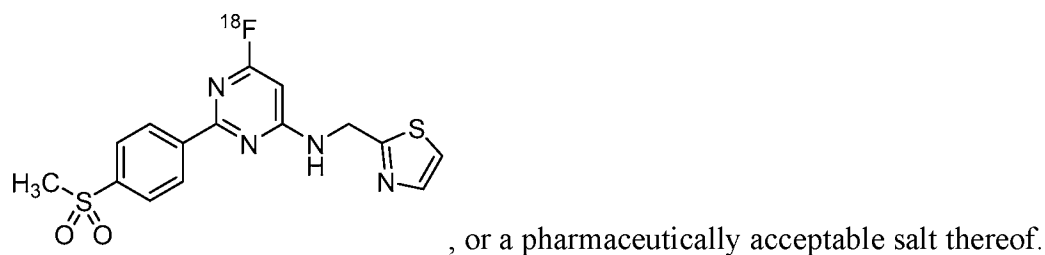
24. The compound of claim 22, wherein R^2 is .

25. The compound of claim 22, wherein R^4 is CF_3 , $CF_2^{18}F$, $CH_2^{18}F$, or $CD_2^{18}F$.

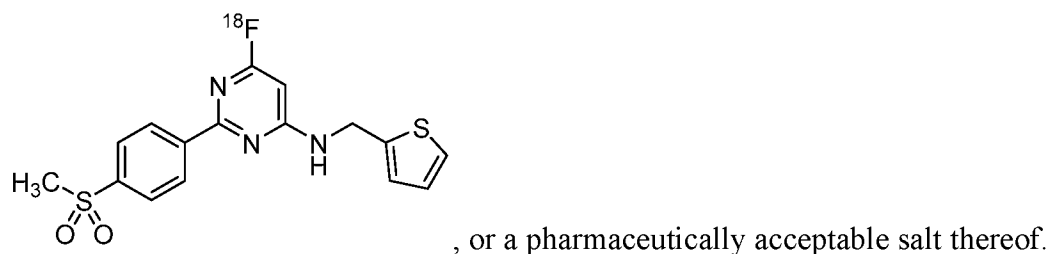
26. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



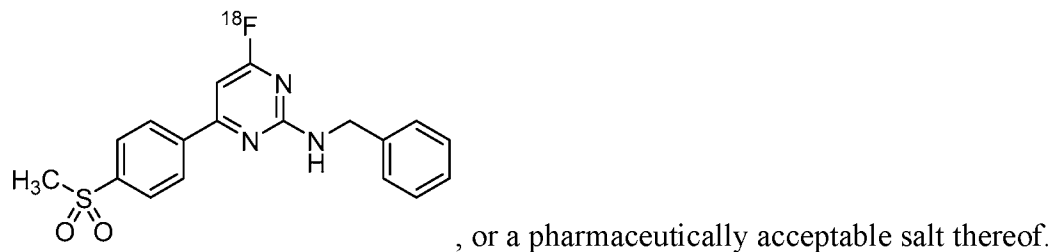
27. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



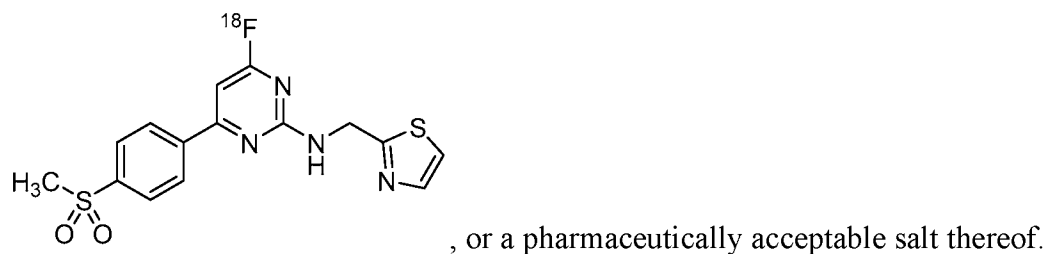
28. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



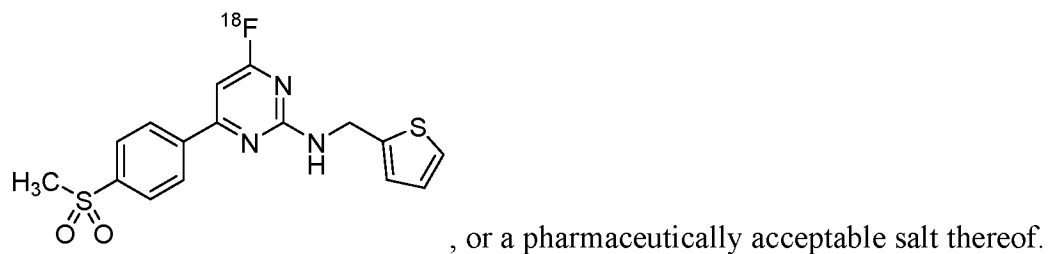
29. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



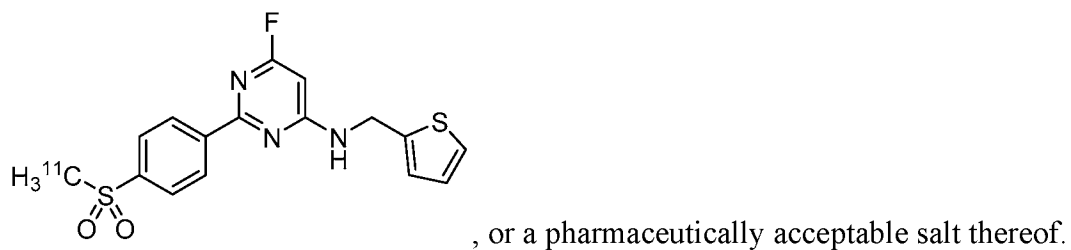
30. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



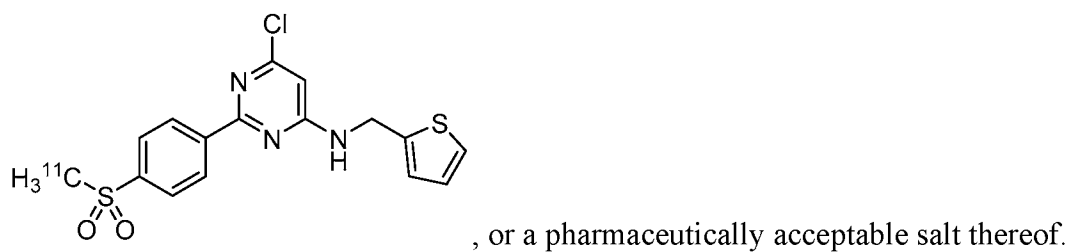
31. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



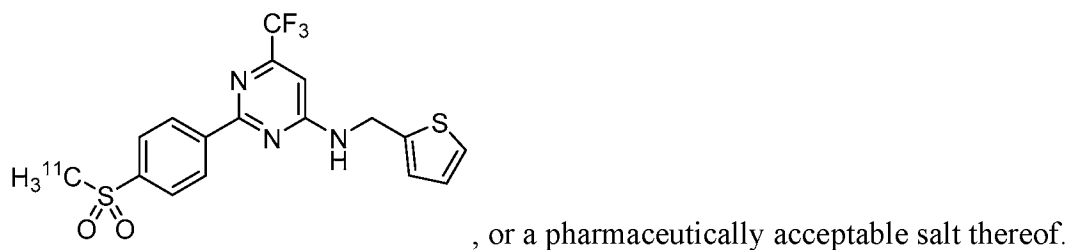
32. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



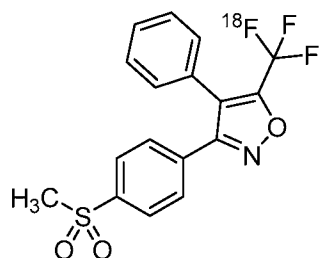
33. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



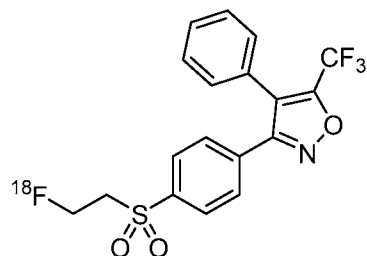
34. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



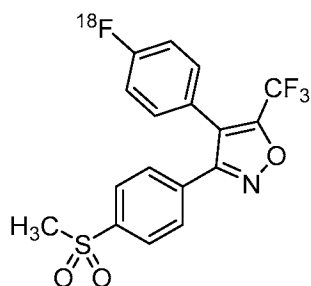
35. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



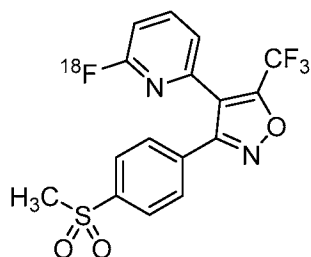
36. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



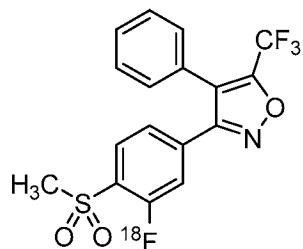
37. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



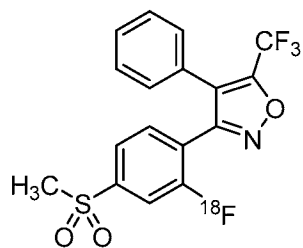
38. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



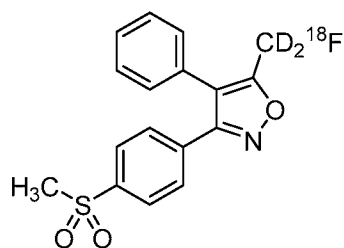
39. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



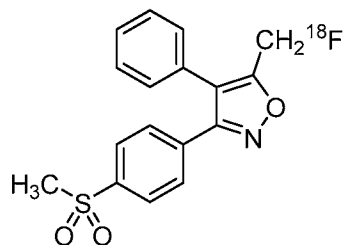
40. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



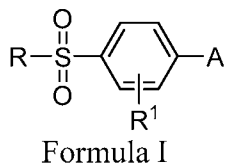
41. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



42. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of Formula I is



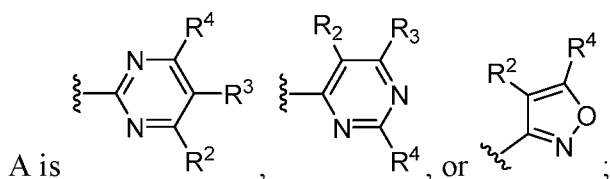
43. A process for synthesizing a compound of Formula I:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

comprising reacting one or more halogen atom(s) or thioester(s) in the compound with one or more radionuclide source(s) independently selected from the group consisting of deuterium, ^3H , ^{11}C , ^{18}F , ^{75}Br , ^{76}Br , ^{120}I , ^{123}I , ^{124}I , ^{125}I , and ^{131}I ;

wherein:



R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ^3H , ^{11}C , halogen, ^{18}F , ^{75}Br , ^{76}Br , ^{120}I , ^{123}I , ^{124}I , ^{125}I , ^{131}I , N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵;

R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ^3H , ^{11}C , halogen, ^{18}F , ^{75}Br , ^{76}Br , ^{120}I , ^{123}I , ^{124}I , ^{125}I , ^{131}I , (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, and NHCOR⁵;

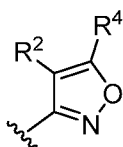
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-

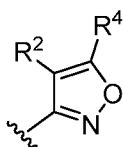
(C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵; and

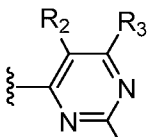
each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

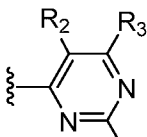
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

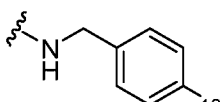
wherein at least one of R, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, or R⁵ comprises at least one of ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

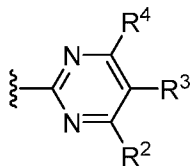


wherein when A is , R is ¹¹CH₃, R¹ is hydrogen, and R² is phenyl, R⁴ is not CF₃;

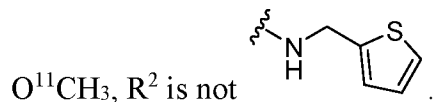


wherein when A is , R is CH₃, R¹ and R² are hydrogen, and R³ is CF₃, R⁴

is not ; and



wherein when A is



44. The process of claim 43, wherein A is
-

45. The process of claim 43, wherein A is
-

46. The process of claim 43, wherein A is
-

47. The process of any one of claims 43-46, wherein R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

48. The process of claim 43, wherein R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

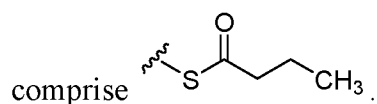
49. The process of any one of claims 43, 47, or 48, wherein each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

50. The process of any one of claims 43-49 wherein the one or more halogen atom(s) are independently chlorine or bromine.

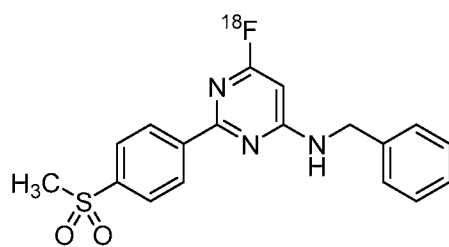
51. The process of claim 50, wherein the radionuclide source is a ¹⁸F source.

52. The process of any one of claims 43-49, wherein the one or more thioester(s)

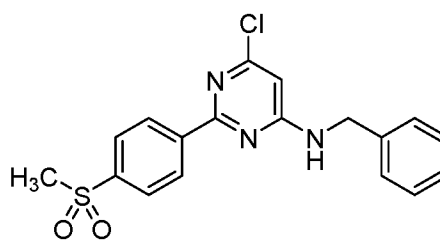


53. The process of claim 52, wherein the radionuclide source is a ¹¹C source and wherein the process further comprises an oxidant.

54. The process of any one of claims 43 or 50-51, wherein the compound of Formula I is

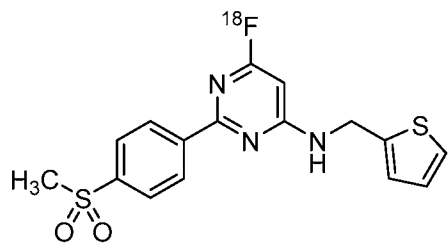


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

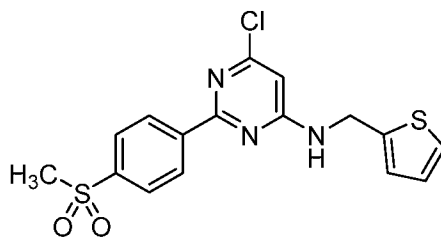


comprising reacting the compound with a ¹⁸F source.

55. The process of any one of claims 43 or 50-51, wherein the compound of Formula I is

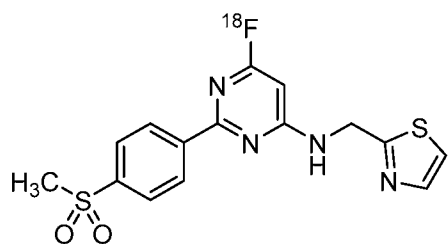


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

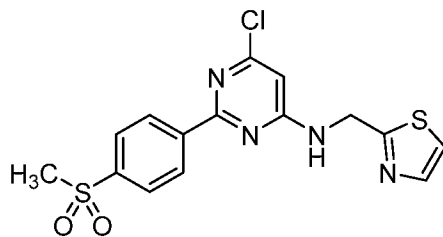


comprising reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source.

56. The process of any one of claims 43 or 50-51, wherein the compound of Formula I is

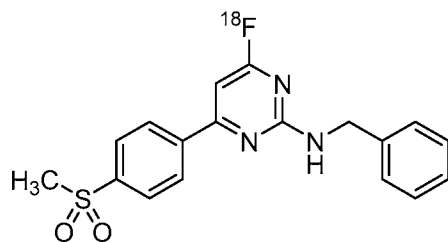


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

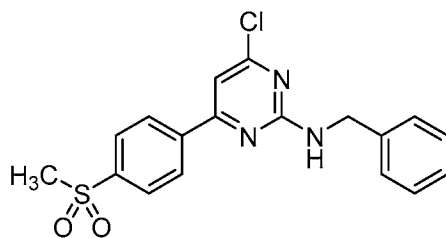


comprising reacting the compound with a ^{18}F source.

57. The process of any one of claims 43 or 50-51, wherein the compound of Formula I is



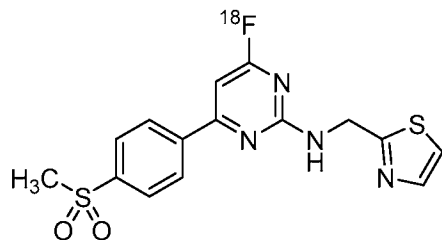
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;



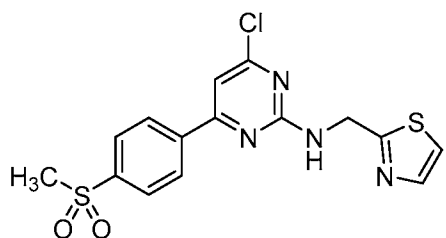
comprising reacting the compound

with a ^{18}F source.

58. The process of any one of claims 43 or 50-51, wherein the compound of Formula I is



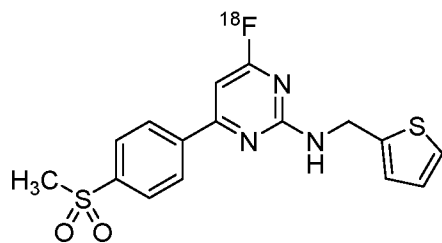
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;



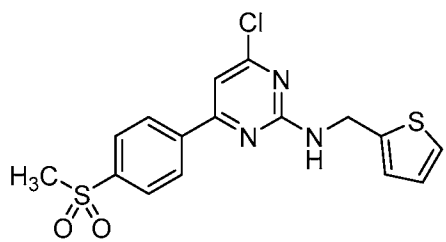
comprising reacting the compound

with a ^{18}F source.

59. The process of any one of claims 43 or 50-51, wherein the compound of Formula I is



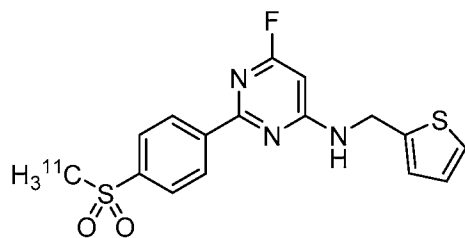
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;



comprising reacting the compound

with a ^{18}F source.

60. The process of any one of claims 43 or 52-53, wherein the compound of Formula I is

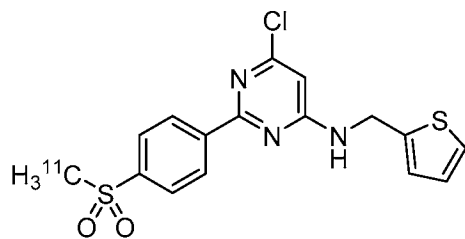


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

comprising reacting the compound with a ^{11}C source and an oxidant.

The structure shows a pyrimidine ring with a fluorine atom at position 6. At position 2, there is a butyrylthio group ($\text{H}_3\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{S}-$) attached to a phenyl ring. At position 4, there is a thienylmethyl group ($-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}_4\text{H}_4\text{S}$).

61. The process of any one of claims 43 or 52-53, wherein the compound of Formula I is

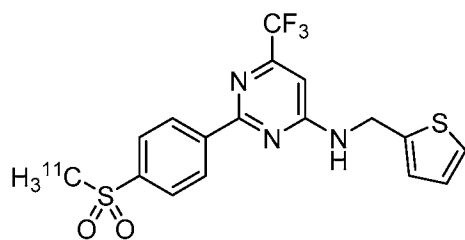


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

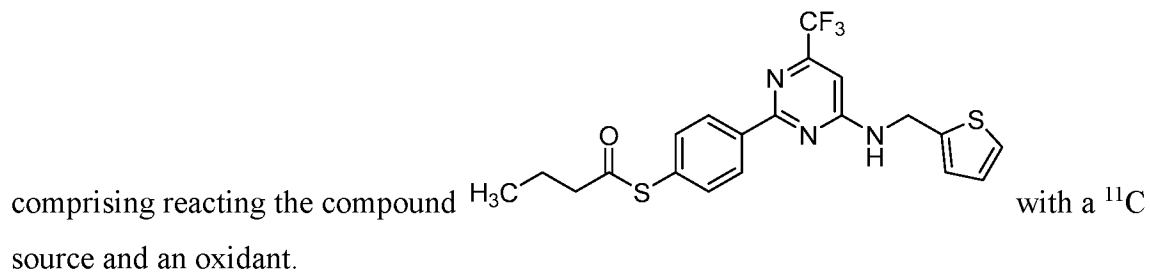
comprising reacting the compound with a ^{11}C source and an oxidant.

The structure shows a pyrimidine ring with a chlorine atom at position 6. At position 2, there is a butyrylthio group ($\text{H}_3\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{S}-$) attached to a phenyl ring. At position 4, there is a thienylmethyl group ($-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}_4\text{H}_4\text{S}$).

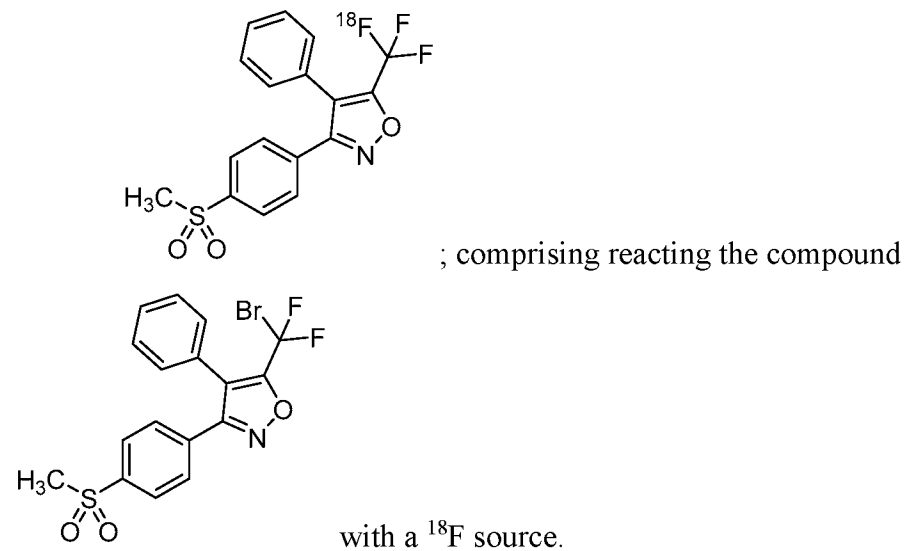
62. The process of any one of claims 43 or 52-53, wherein the compound of Formula I is



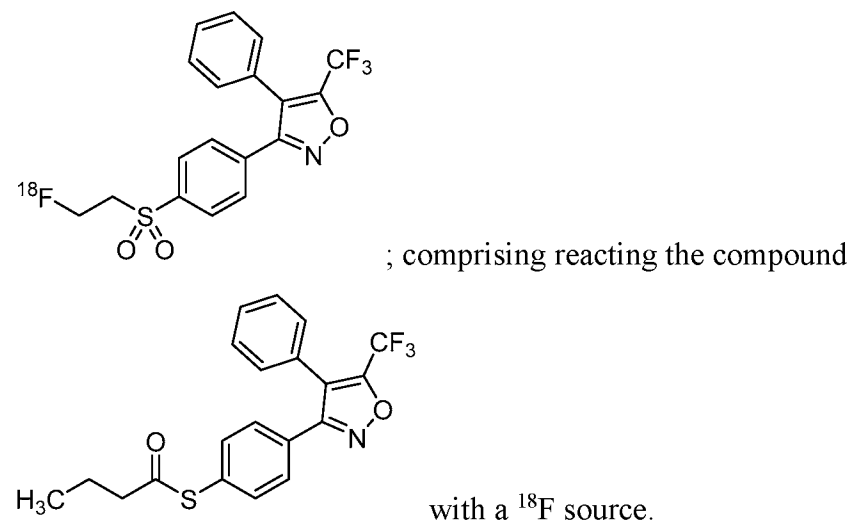
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;



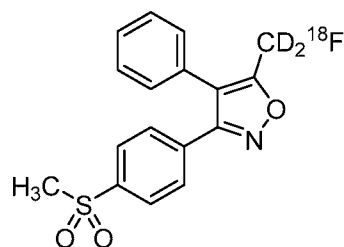
63. The process of any one of claims 43 or 50-51, wherein the compound of Formula I is



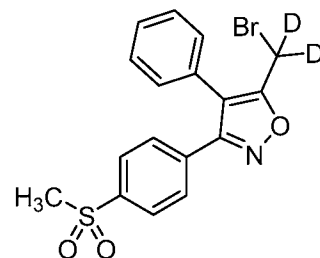
64. The process of any one of claims 43 or 52-53, wherein the compound of Formula I is



65. The process of any one of claims 43 or 50-51, wherein the compound of Formula I is



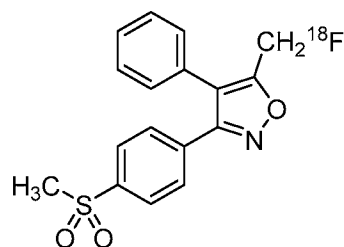
; comprising reacting the compound



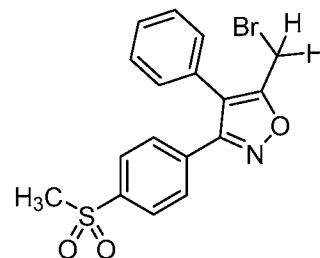
with

a ^{18}F source.

66. The process of any one of claims 43 or 50-51, wherein the compound of Formula I is



; comprising reacting the compound



with

a ^{18}F source.

67. The process of any one of claims 43, 50-51, 54-59, or 63, wherein the ^{18}F source comprises $^{18}\text{F}^-$ or $[^{18}\text{F}]$ fluoroalkyl tosylate.

68. The process of any one of claims 43, 50-51, 54-59, or 63-67, wherein the ^{18}F source comprises K^{18}F or a tetraalkylammonium $[^{18}\text{F}]$ fluoride.

69. The process of claim 68, wherein the tetraalkylammonium $[^{18}\text{F}]$ fluoride is tetrabutylammonium $[^{18}\text{F}]$ fluoride or tetraethylammonium $[^{18}\text{F}]$ fluoride.

70. The process of claim 67, wherein the $[^{18}\text{F}]$ fluoroalkyl tosylate is 2- $[^{18}\text{F}]$ fluoroethyl tosylate.

71. The process of any one of claims 43, 50-51, 54-59, or 63-70, further comprising a chelating agent, a base, and/or a polar aprotic solvent.

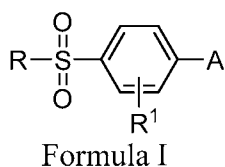
72. The process of claim 71, wherein the chelating agent is a crown ether or a cryptand.

73. The process of claim 72, wherein the cryptand is K_{222} .

74. The process of claim 71, wherein the base is potassium carbonate, tetrabutylammonium hydroxide, pyrrolidine, or 2,6-lutidine.

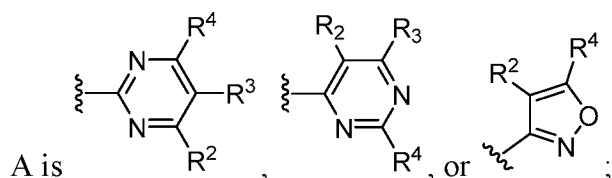
75. The process of claim 71, wherein the polar aprotic solvent is dimethyl sulfoxide, *N,N*-dimethylformamide, tetrahydrofuran, or combinations thereof.
76. The process of any one of claims 43, 52-53, and 60-62, wherein the ^{11}C source comprises a $[^{11}\text{C}]$ alkyl halide and a $[^{11}\text{C}]$ alkyl triflate.
77. The process of claim 76, wherein the $[^{11}\text{C}]$ alkyl halide is $^{11}\text{CH}_3\text{I}$ and the $[^{11}\text{C}]$ alkyl triflate is $^{11}\text{CH}_3\text{OTf}$.
78. The process of any one of claims 43, 52-53, 60-62, or 76-77, wherein the oxidant is Oxone[®].
79. A method for imaging a sample or organism comprising:

(a) administering to the sample or organism a compound of Formula I:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount effective to detect emission of deuterium, ^3H , ^{11}C , ^{18}F , ^{75}Br , ^{76}Br , ^{120}I , ^{123}I , ^{124}I , ^{125}I , ^{131}I , or a combination thereof; and

(b) measuring the emission of the one or more radionuclide(s) in the compound;
wherein:



R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵;

R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, and NHCOR⁵;

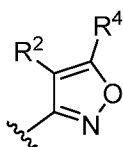
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, halogen, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, N(R⁵)₂, CN, OR⁵, SR⁵, SOR⁵, SO₂R⁵, SO₂NHR⁵, SO₃R⁵, NHSO₂R⁵, COR⁵, or NHCOR⁵; and

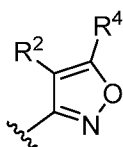
each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, ³H, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

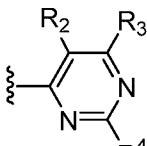
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-

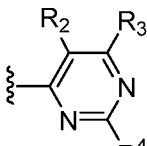
C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more deuterium, ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

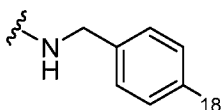
wherein at least one of R, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, or R⁵ comprises at least one of ³H, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ⁷⁵Br, ⁷⁶Br, ¹²⁰I, ¹²³I, ¹²⁴I, ¹²⁵I, or ¹³¹I;

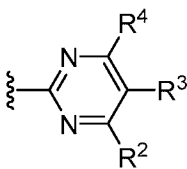


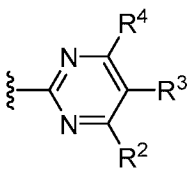
wherein when A is , R is ¹¹CH₃, R¹ is hydrogen, and R² is phenyl, R⁴ is not CF₃;

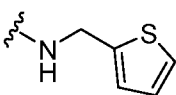


wherein when A is , R is CH₃, R¹ and R² are hydrogen, and R³ is CF₃, R⁴

is not ; and



wherein when A is , R is CH₃, R¹ and R³ are hydrogen, and R⁴ is

O¹¹CH₃, R² is not .

80. The method of claim 79, wherein the emission is measured using positron emission tomography.

81. The method of claim 79 or 80, wherein the sample is a cell culture.

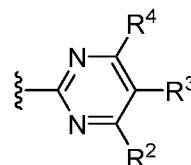
82. The method of claim 79 or 80, wherein the organism is a mammal.

83. The method of claim 82, wherein the mammal is a mouse, rat, pig, dog, monkey, baboon, or human.

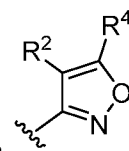
84. The method of claim 79, wherein the compound interacts with a protein and measuring the emission allows determination of the expression level or distribution of the protein in the sample or organism.
85. The method of claim 84, wherein the protein is involved in inflammation and measuring the emission allows determination of the amount or distribution of inflammation in the sample or organism.
86. The method of claim 84 or 85, wherein the protein is cyclooxygenase-2.
87. The method of claim 82 or 83, wherein the mammal is known or suspected to have a condition or state selected from the group consisting of arthritis, cardiovascular disease, central nervous system damage, central nervous system disorders, gastrointestinal disorder, hypersensitivity, swelling, inflammatory disease, metabolic disorder, neoplastic disease, neurodegenerative disease, neuromuscular junction disease, ophthalmic disease, post-operative inflammation, psychiatric condition, reproductive event, respiratory disease, skin disorder, tissue repair, urogenital disease, white matter disease, and a combination thereof.
88. The method of claim 87, wherein the neurodegenerative disease is Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, cortical dementias, or multiple sclerosis.
89. The method of claim 87, wherein the arthritis is rheumatoid or osteoarthritis.
90. The method of claim 87, wherein the neoplastic disease comprises a cancer selected from the group consisting of colorectal cancer, breast cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer, bladder cancer, cervical cancer, skin cancer, lymphoma, and a combination thereof.
91. The method of claim 87, wherein the central nervous system damage or disorder comprises traumatic brain injury.
92. The method of claim 87, wherein the inflammatory disease is asthma, Bechet's disease, bronchitis, bursitis, Crohn's disease, endotoxin shock syndrome, gastritis, gingivitis, inflammatory bowel disease, polymyositis, pulmonary inflammation, cystic fibrosis, rheumatic fever, sarcoidosis, tendinitis, thyroiditis, or ulcerative colitis.

93. The method of claim 92, wherein the pulmonary inflammation is an acute respiratory disease syndrome resulting from viral and/or bacterial infection.
94. The method of claim 93, wherein the viral infection comprises COVID-19.
95. The method of claim 87, wherein the cardiovascular disease comprises myocardial infarction.
96. The method of claim 87, wherein the urogenital disease comprises renal disease.
97. The method of claim 87, wherein the reproductive event comprises ovulation, pregnancy, childbirth, and a combination thereof.
98. The method of any one of claims 87-97, wherein the mammal is known or suspected to be experiencing pain.

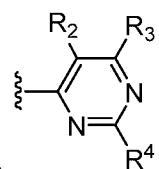
99. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein A is



100. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein A is



101. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein A is



102. The method of any one of claims 79-101, wherein R is selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

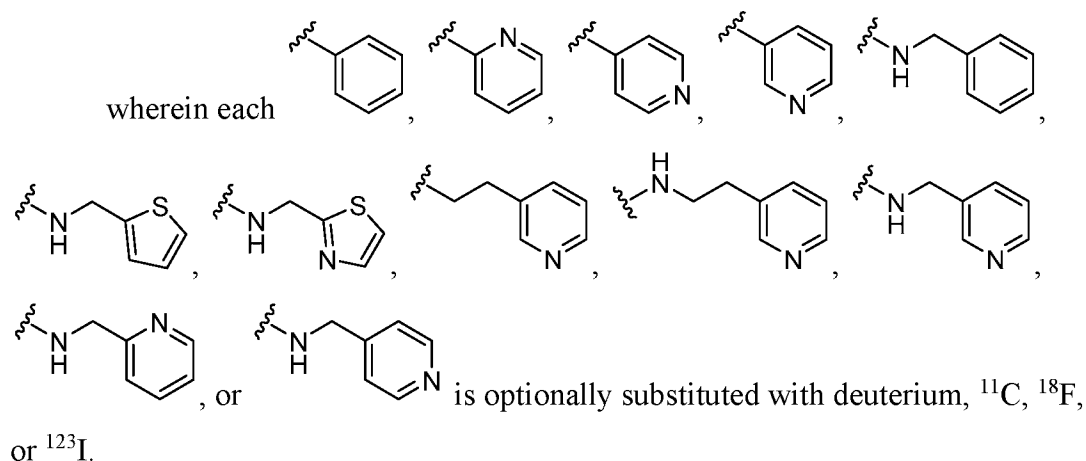
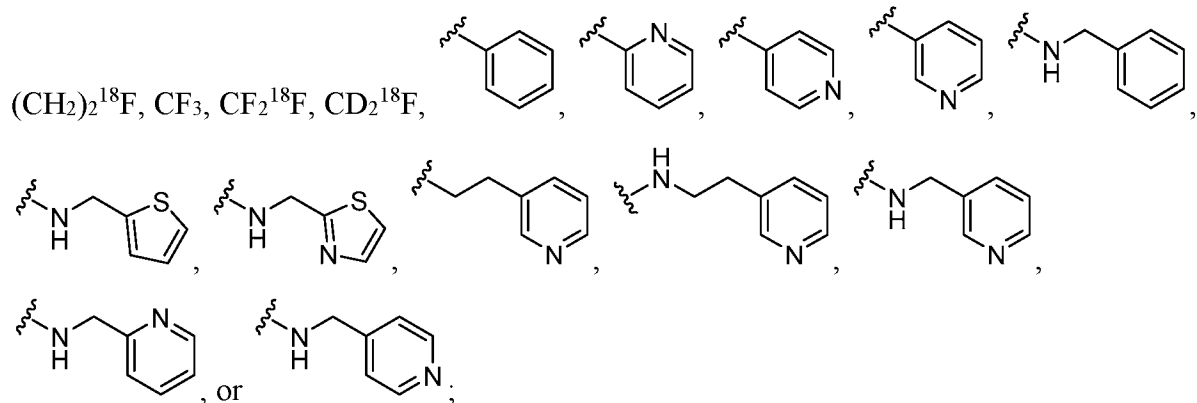
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl,

heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

103. The method of any one of claims 79-102, wherein each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

104. The method of any one of claims 79-103, wherein R is CH₃, ¹¹CH₃, CH₂¹⁸F,



105. The method of any one of claims 79-104, wherein R is CH₃, ¹¹CH₃, or (CH₂)₂¹⁸F.

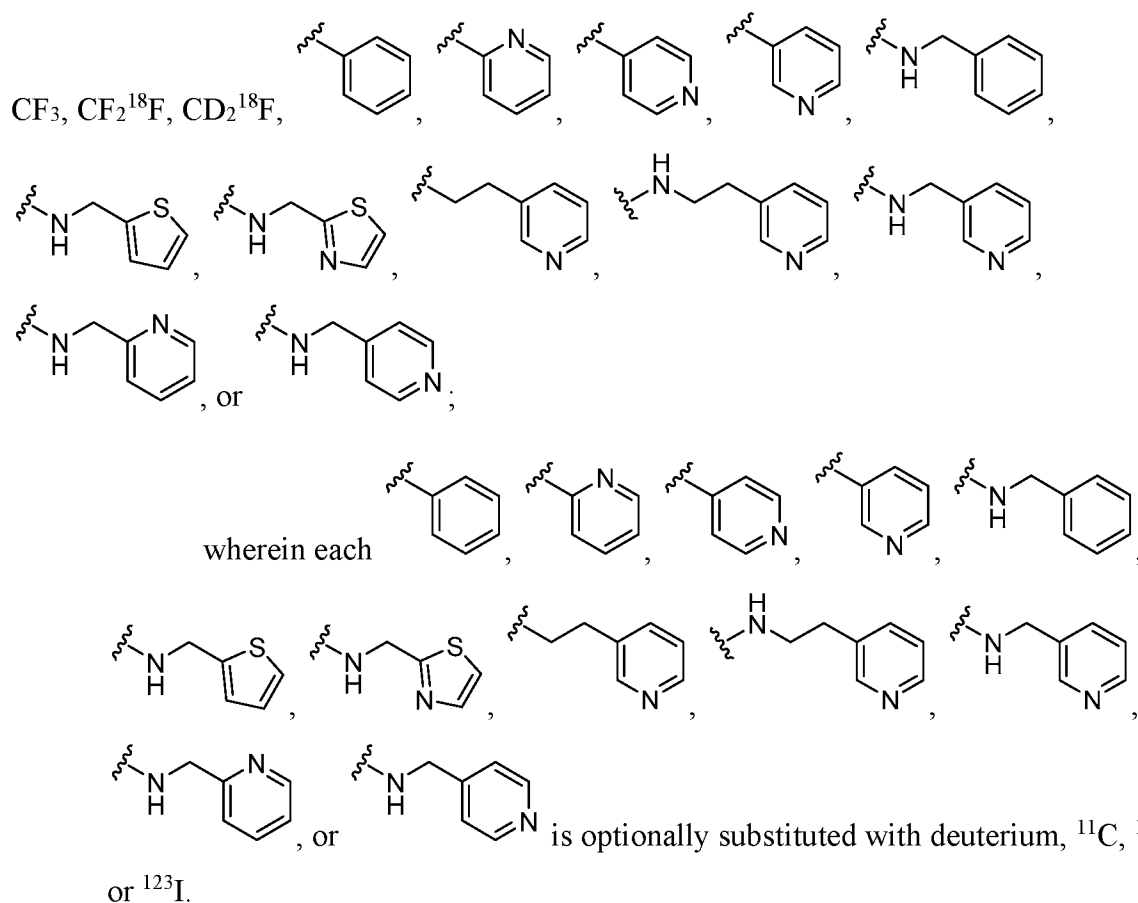
106. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl, and N(R⁵)₂;

wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkyl, (C₁-C₆)heteroalkynyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C₃-C₇)heterocycloalkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

107. The method of any one of claims 79-98 or 106, wherein each occurrence of R⁵ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, deuterium, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl;

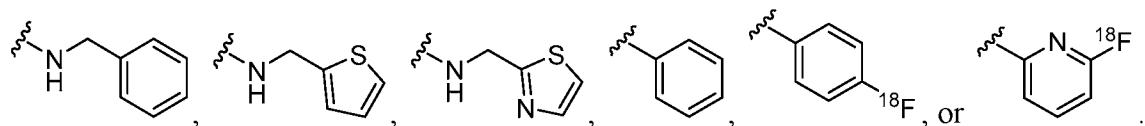
wherein each (C₁-C₆)alkyl, aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, heteroaryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl is optionally substituted with deuterium, ¹¹C, ¹⁸F, or ¹²³I.

108. The method of any one of claims 79-98 or 106-107, wherein R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently hydrogen, deuterium, halogen, ¹⁸F, ¹²³I, CH₃, ¹¹CH₃, CH₂¹⁸F, (CH₂)₂¹⁸F,



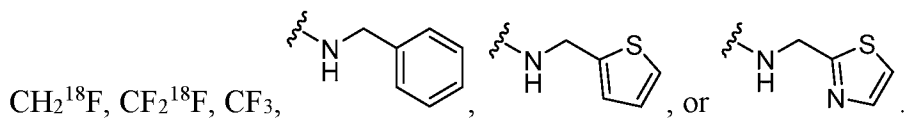
109. The method of any one of claims 79-98 or 106-108, wherein R¹ is hydrogen or ¹⁸F.

110. The method of any one of claims 79-98 or 106-108, wherein R^2 is hydrogen,

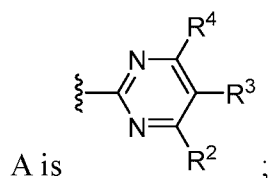


111. The method of any one of claims 79-98 or 106-108, wherein R^3 is hydrogen or ^{18}F .

112. The method of any one of claims 79-98 or 106-108, wherein R^4 is ^{18}F , CD_2^{18}F ,



113. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein:



R is CH_3 or $^{11}\text{CH}_3$;

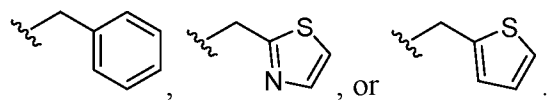
R^1 and R^3 are hydrogen;

R^2 is $\text{N}(\text{R}^5)_2$;

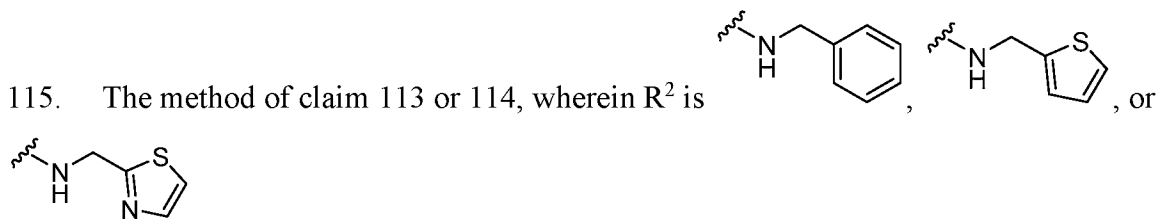
R^4 is F , Cl , CF_3 , or ^{18}F ; and

each occurrence of R^5 is independently hydrogen, $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl-aryl}$, or $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl-heteroaryl}$.

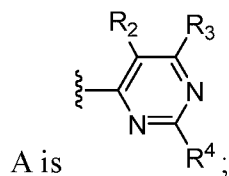
114. The method of claim 113, wherein each occurrence of R^5 is independently hydrogen,



115. The method of claim 113 or 114, wherein R^2 is



116. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein:



R is CH₃;

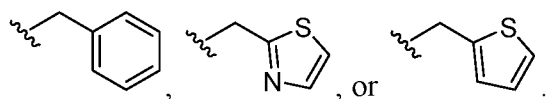
R¹ and R² are hydrogen;

R³ is ¹⁸F;

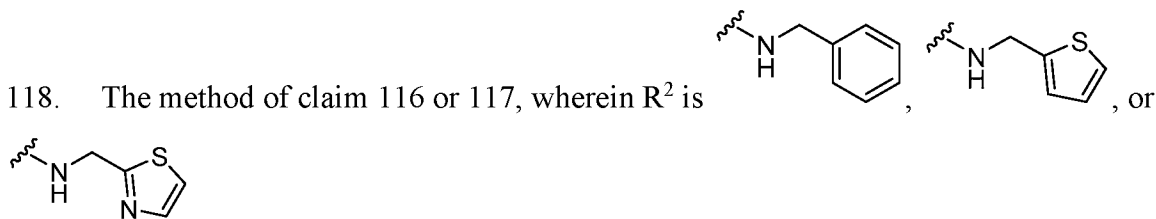
R⁴ is (NR⁵)₂; and

each occurrence of R⁵ is independently hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-aryl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-heteroaryl.

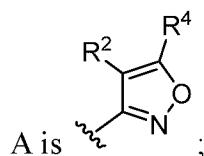
117. The method of claim 116, wherein each occurrence of R⁵ is independently hydrogen,



118. The method of claim 116 or 117, wherein R² is



119. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein:

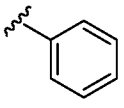
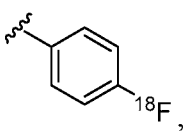
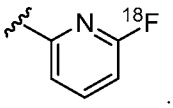


R and R⁴ are (C₁-C₆)alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more ¹⁸F, halogen, or deuterium;

R¹ is hydrogen or ¹⁸F;

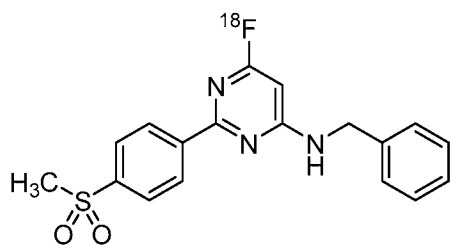
R² is aryl, optionally substituted with ¹⁸F, or heteroaryl, optionally substituted with ¹⁸F.

120. The method of claim 119, wherein R is CH₃ or (CH₂)₂¹⁸F.

121. The method of claim 119, wherein R^2 is , , .

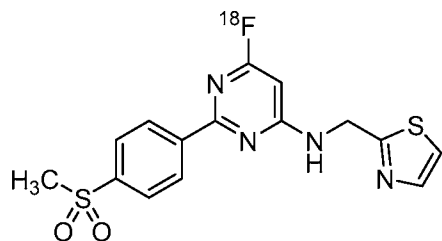
122. The method of claim 119, wherein R^4 is CF_3 , $CH_2^{18}F$, $CD_2^{18}F$, or $CF_2^{18}F$.

123. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



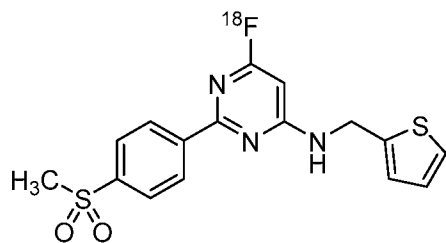
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

124. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



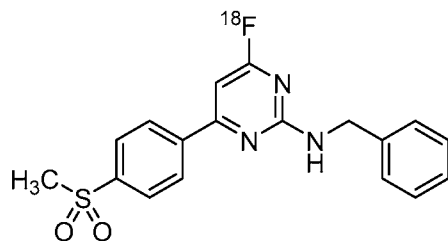
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

125. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



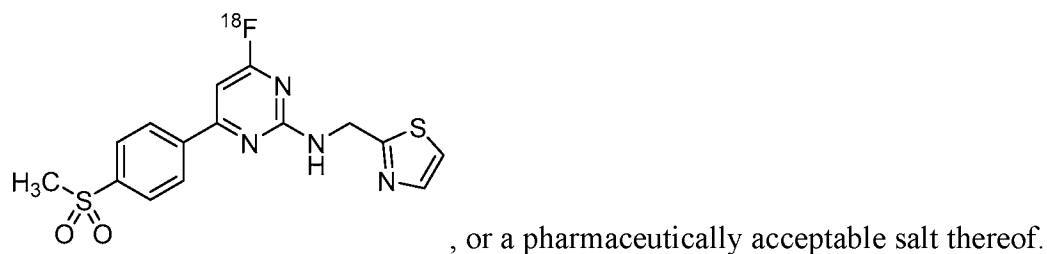
, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

126. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is

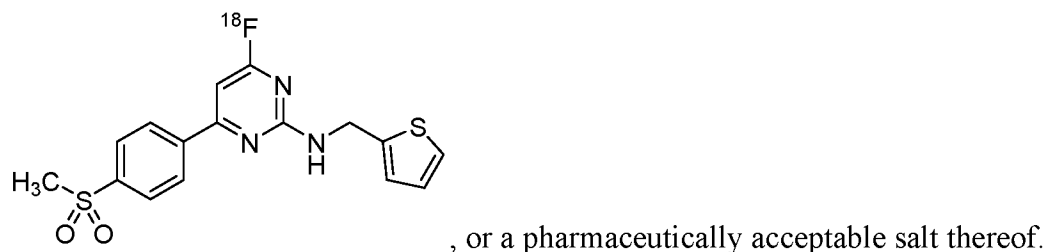


, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

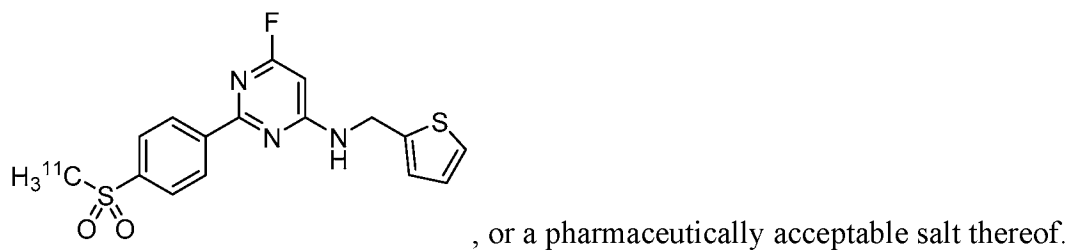
127. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



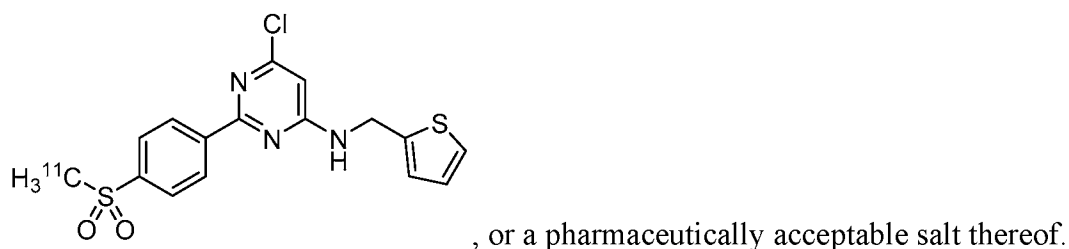
128. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



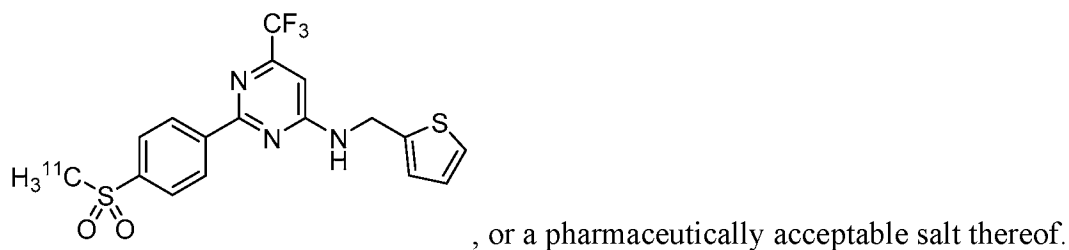
129. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



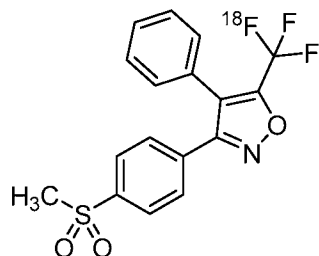
130. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



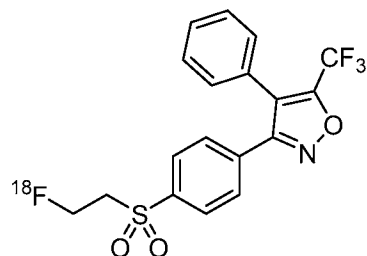
131. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



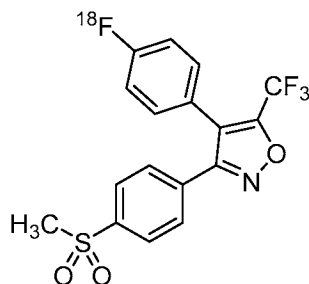
132. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



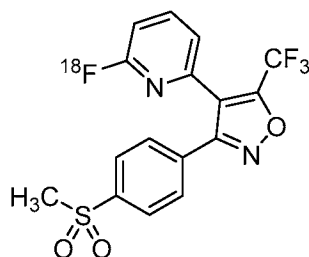
133. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



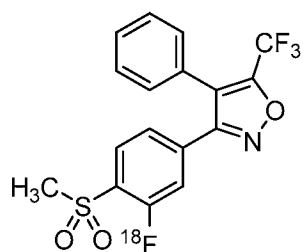
134. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



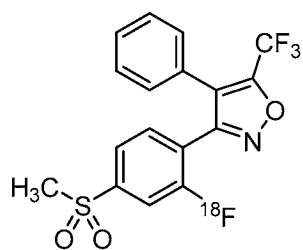
135. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



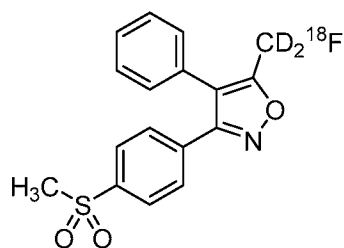
136. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



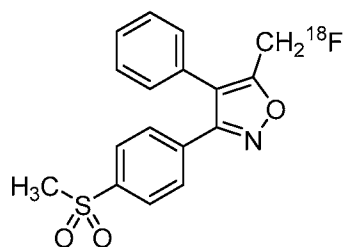
137. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



138. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



139. The method of any one of claims 79-98, wherein the compound of Formula I is



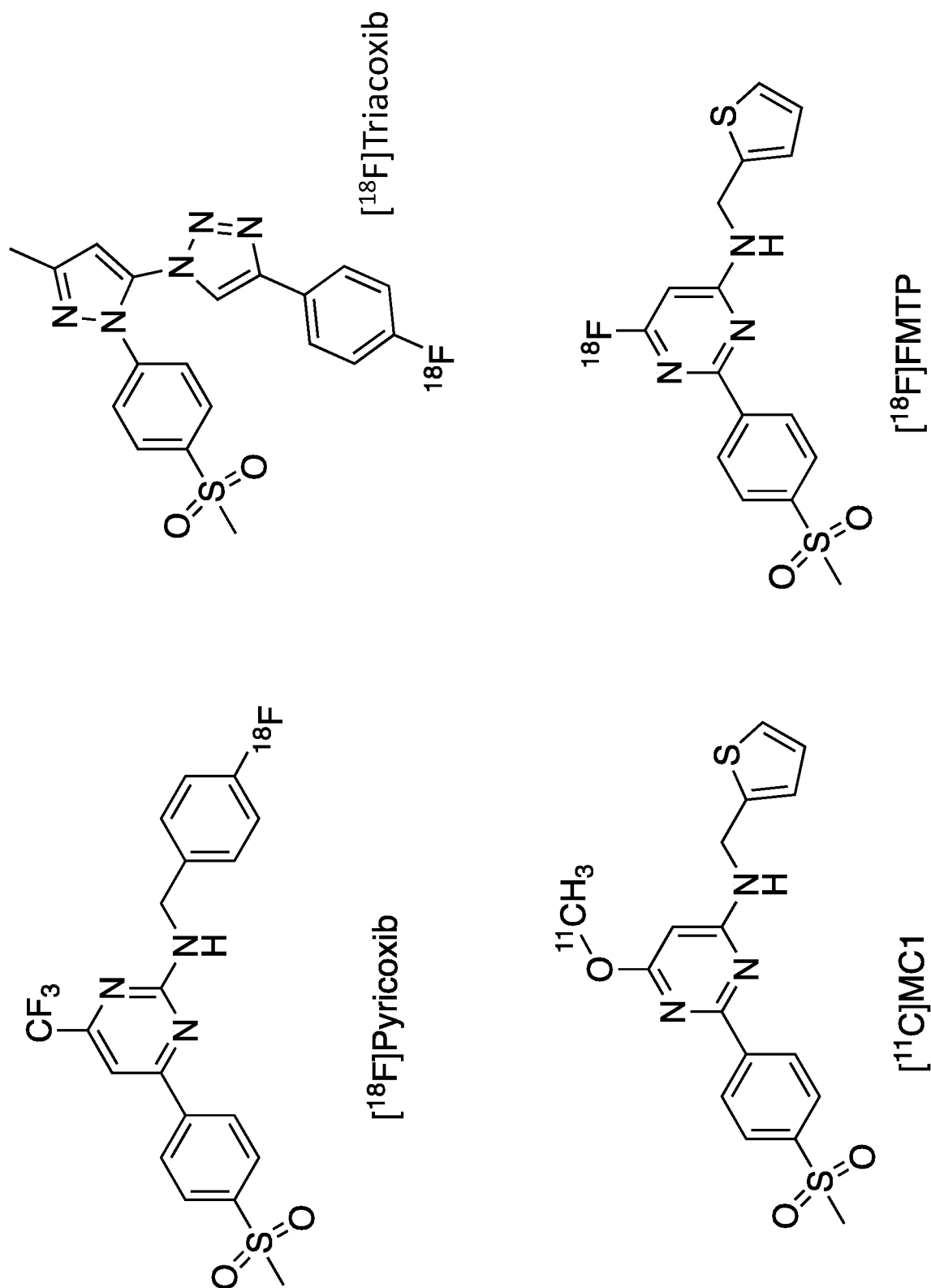


FIG. 1

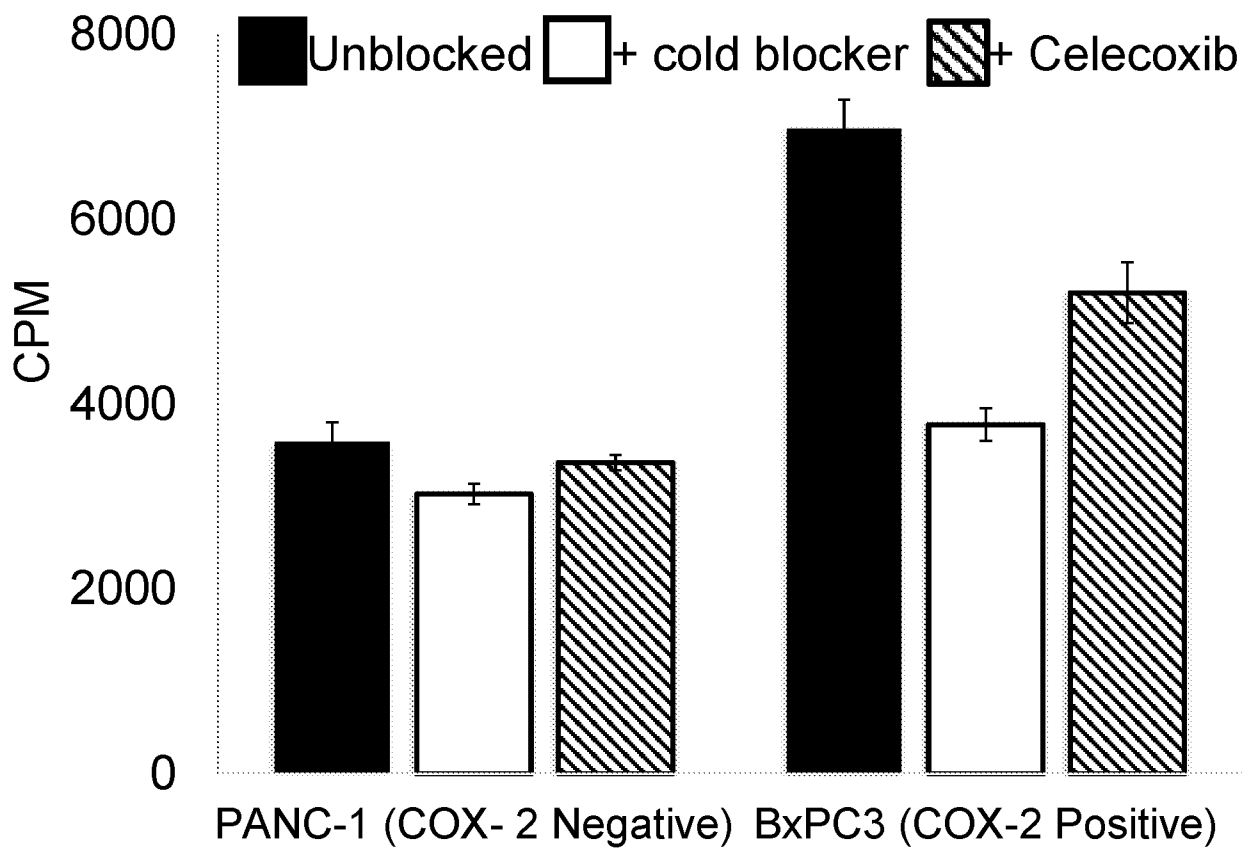


FIG. 2

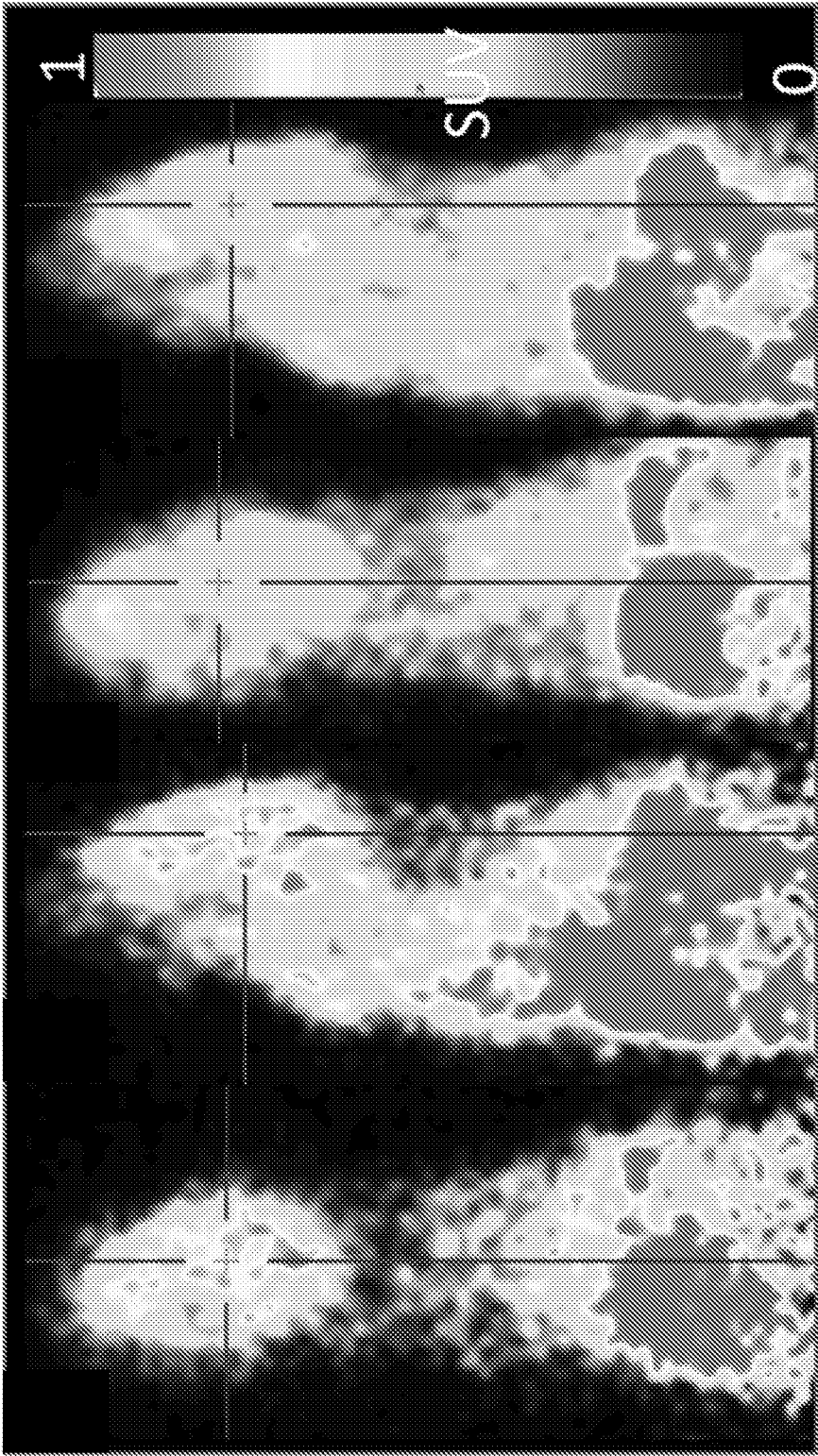


FIG. 3A FIG. 3B FIG. 3C FIG. 3D

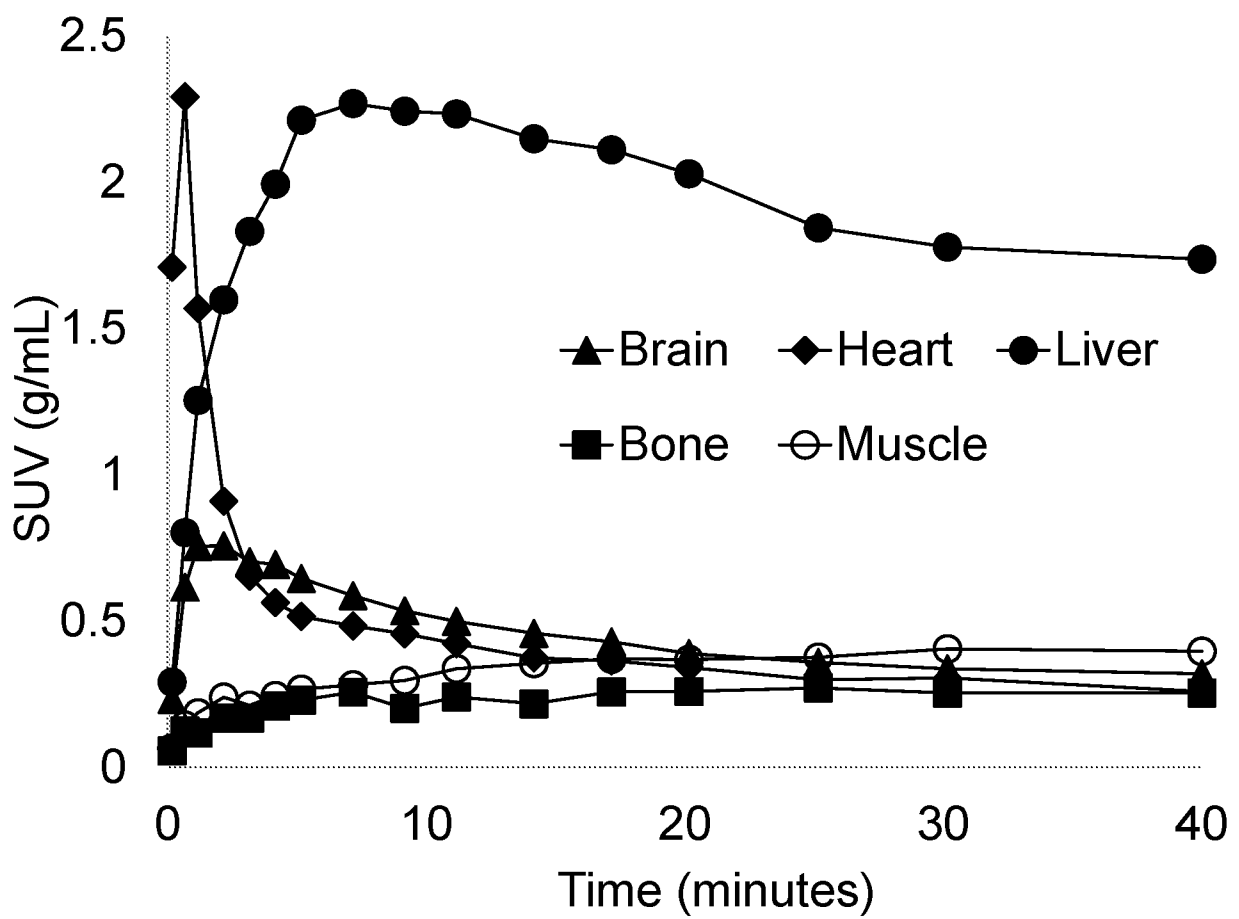


FIG. 4

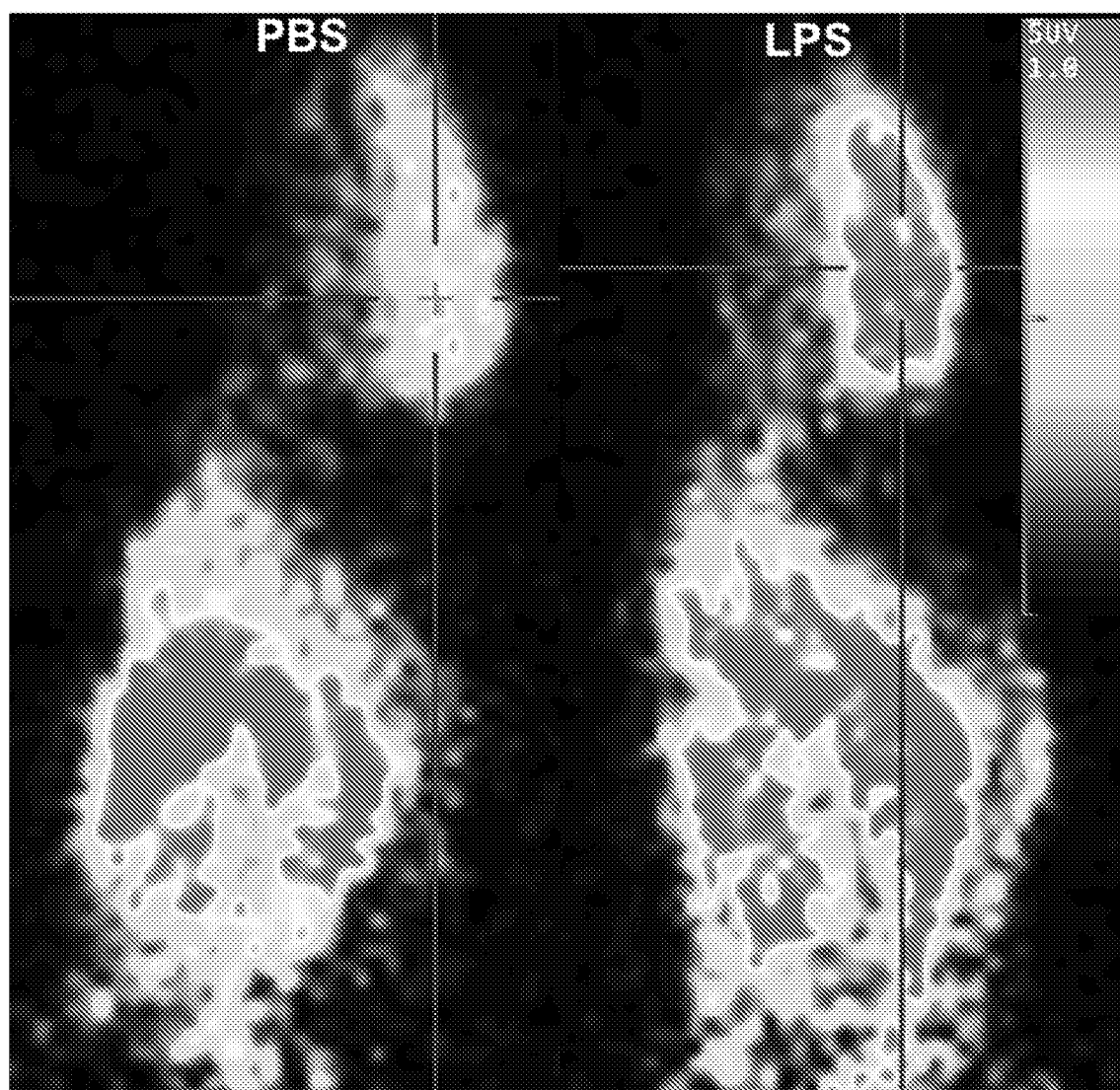


FIG. 5

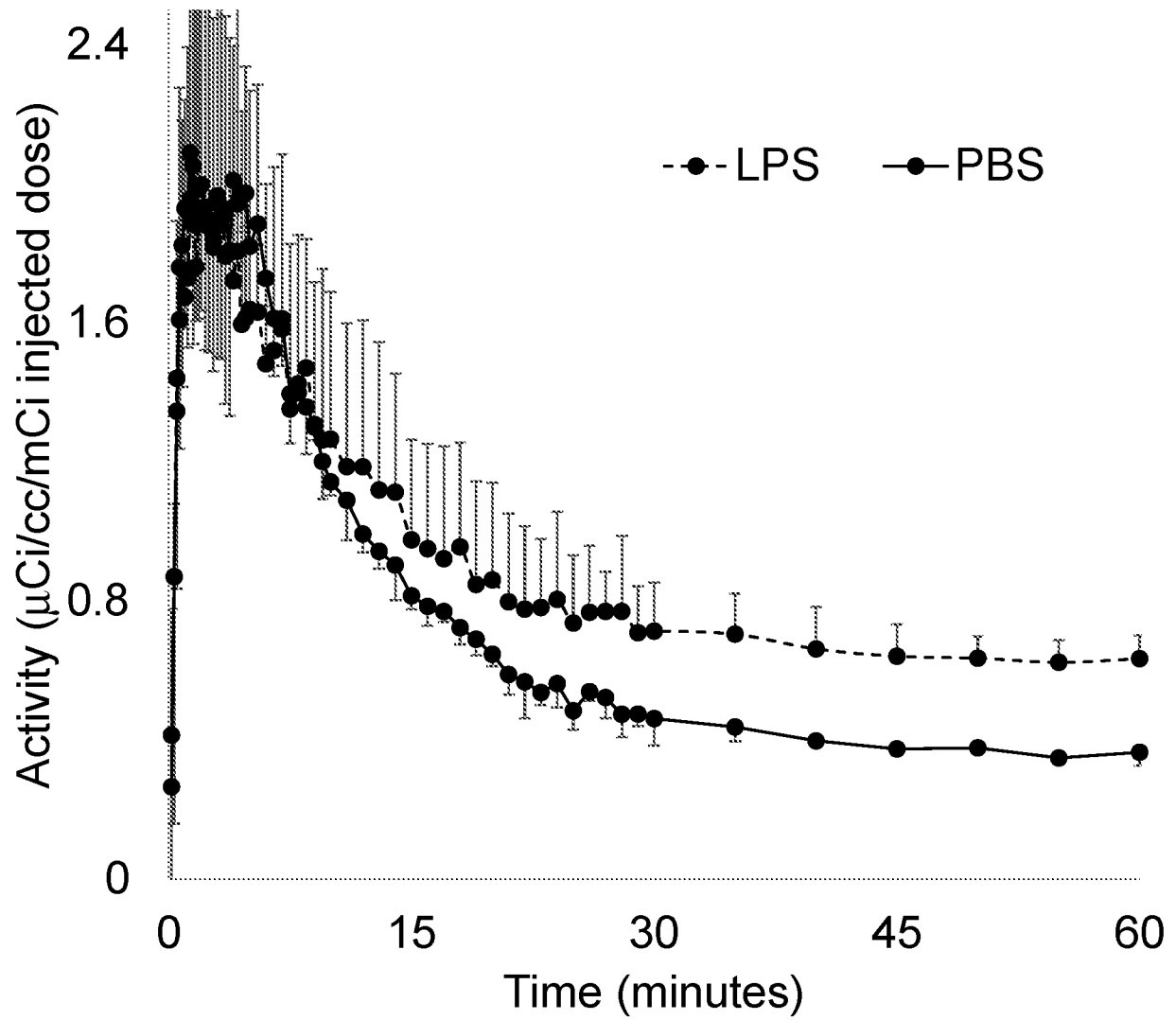


FIG. 6

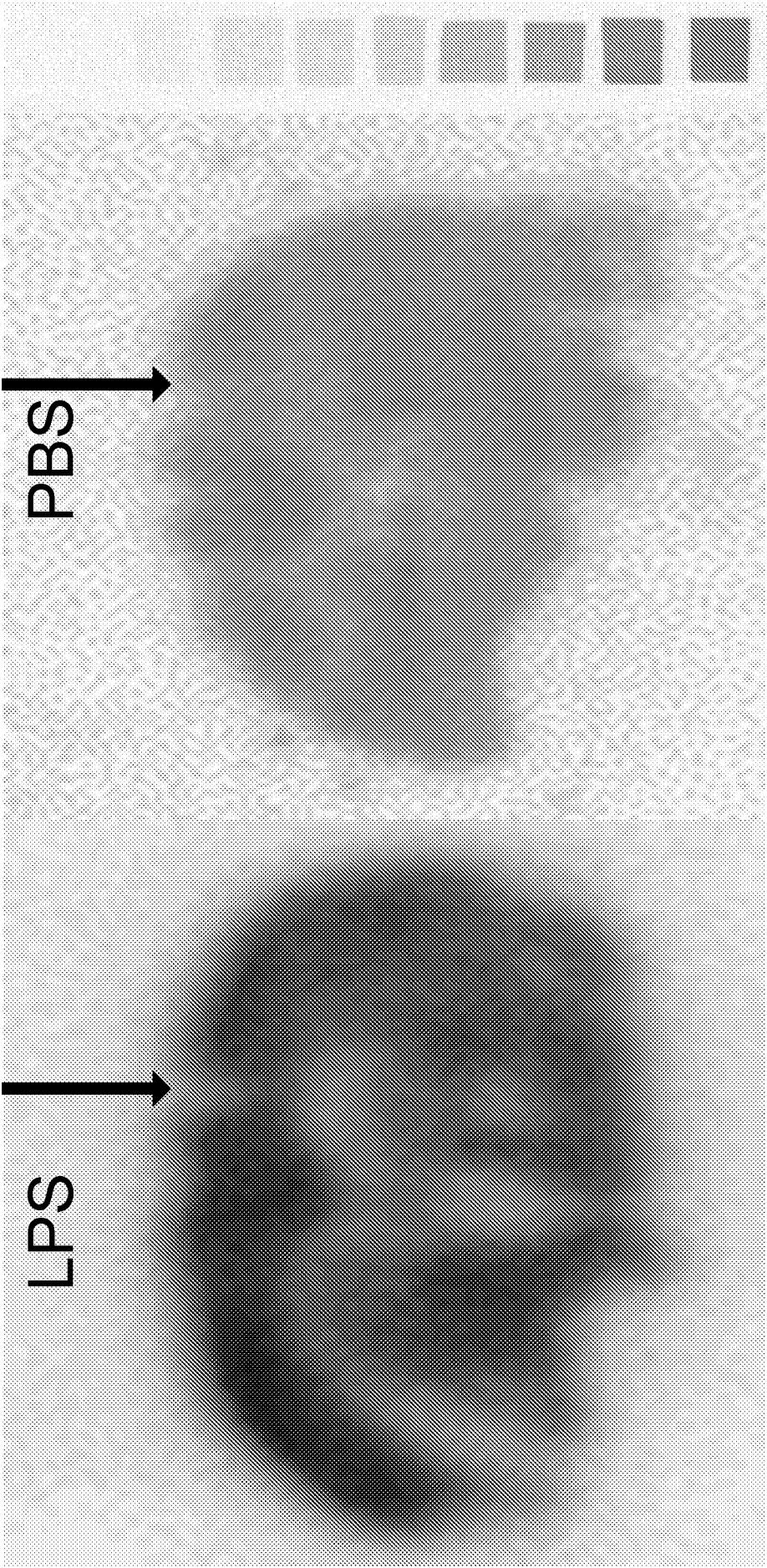


FIG. 7

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 20/38739

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC - C07D 207/48; C07D 401/12 (2020.01)

CPC - A61K 31/4025; A61K 31/41; A61K 31/506; A61P 1/00

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)

See Search History document

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

See Search History document

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

See Search History document

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	PubChem-CID-91500721, Create Date: 17 March 2015 (17.03.2015), pg 2, Fig	1-2,5,9
Y	MAJO et al. "A general method for the synthesis of aryl [11C]methylsulfones: Potential PET probes for imaging cyclooxygenase-2 expression", Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters. 2005. Vol. 15, pp 4268-4271, entire document, especially: pg 4268, col 1, para 1; pg 4268, col 2, para 2; pg 4269, Figure 1; pg 4269, col 1 to pg 4270, col 1, Schemes 1-3.	1-2,5,9
A	TIETZ et al. "Synthesis of three 18F-labelled cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) inhibitors based on a pyrimidine scaffold", Org. Biomol. Chem. 2013. Vol. 11, pp 8052-8064, entire document, especially: pg 8053, Fig. 1.	1-2,5,9
A	DE VRIES et al. "Evaluation of [11C]rofecoxib as PET tracer for cyclooxygenase 2 overexpression in rat models of inflammation", Nuclear Medicine and Biology. 2008. Vol. 35, pp 35-42, entire document.	1-2,5,9

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

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"D" document cited by the applicant in the international application

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"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)

"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

"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

"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

"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

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

20 October 2020

Date of mailing of the international search report

05 NOV 2020

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. 571-273-8300

Authorized officer

Lee Young

Telephone No. PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 20/38739

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of 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. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims 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. ☒ Claims Nos.: 6-8, 11-15, 49-78 and 87-139
because they are dependent 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:
--see attached extra sheet--

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 claims 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 claims Nos.:
1-2, 5 and 9

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.

--BOX III - LACK OF UNITY--

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be searched, the appropriate additional search fees must be paid.

Group I+: Claims 1-5, 9-10 and 16-42, directed to a compound of Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. The compound of Formula I will be searched to the extent that it encompasses the first species of claim 1, wherein A is the first formula; R is C1alkyl, which is 11C; R1 is hydrogen; R2 is hydrogen; R3 is hydrogen and R4 is hydrogen; wherein at least one of R, R1, R2, R3, R4, or R5 comprises at least one of 3H, 11C, 18F, 75Br, 76Br 120I 123I 124I 125I, or 131I; and wherein when A is the first formula, R is CH3, R1 and R3 are hydrogen, and R4 is O11CH3, R2 is not the indicated formula. It is believed that claims 1-2, 5 and 9 encompass this first named invention, and thus these claims will be searched without fee to the extent that they encompass the first species of claim 1.

Applicant is invited to elect additional compounds of Formula I, wherein each additional compound elected will require one additional invention fee. Applicants must specify the claims that encompass any additionally elected compound. Applicants must further indicate, if applicable, the claims which encompass the first named invention, if different than what was indicated above for this group. Failure to clearly identify how any paid additional invention fees are to be applied to the "+" group(s) will result in only the first claimed invention to be searched. Additionally, an exemplary election wherein different actual variables are selected is suggested. An exemplary election would be a compound of claim 1, wherein A is the second formula; R is C1alkyl, which is 11C; R1 is hydrogen; R2 is hydrogen; R3 is hydrogen and R4 is hydrogen; wherein at least one of R, R1, R2, R3, R4, or R5 comprises at least one of 3H, 11C, 18F, 75Br, 76Br 120I 123I 124I 125I, or 131I; and wherein when A is the second formula, R is CH3, R1 and R2 are hydrogen, R3 is CF3, R4 is not the indicated formula (i.e. claims 1, 4-5 and 9).

Group II: Claims 43-48, directed to a process for synthesizing a compound of Formula I.

Group III: Claims 79-86, directed to a method for imaging a sample or organism.

The groups of inventions listed above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Special Technical Features:

Group I+ includes the technical feature of a unique compound of Formula I, which is not required by any other invention of Group I+.

Group II requires a process for synthesizing a compound of Formula I, which is not required by Group I+ or Group III.

Group III requires a method for imaging a sample or organism, which is not required by Group I+ or Group II.

Common technical features:

The inventions of Groups I+ share the technical feature of a compound having the structure of Formula I.

The inventions of Group I+, Group II and Group III share the technical feature of a compound having the structure of Formula I.

These shared technical features, however, do not provide a contribution over the prior art, as being anticipated by the article entitled "Synthesis of three 18F-labelled cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) inhibitors based on a pyrimidine scaffold" by Tietz et al. (hereinafter 'TIETZ').

Tietz discloses a compound of formula I wherein A is the second formula; R is C2heteroalkyl (C2 heteroalkyl wherein one atom is replaced by an oxygen); R1 is hydrogen; R2 is hydrogen; R3 is hydrogen and R4 is hydrogen; wherein at least one of R, R1, R2, R3, R4, or R5 comprises at least one of 3H, 11C, 18F, 75Br, 76Br 120I 123I 124I 125I, or 131I; and wherein when A is the second formula, R is CH3, R1 and R2 are hydrogen, R3 is CF3, R4 is not the indicated formula.

As said compound was known in the art at the time of the invention, this cannot be considered a special technical feature that would otherwise unify the inventions of Group I+.

The inventions of Group I+, II and III thus lack unity under PCT Rule 13.

Note reg. item 4: Claims 6-8, 11-15, 49-78 and 87-139 are unsearchable because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).