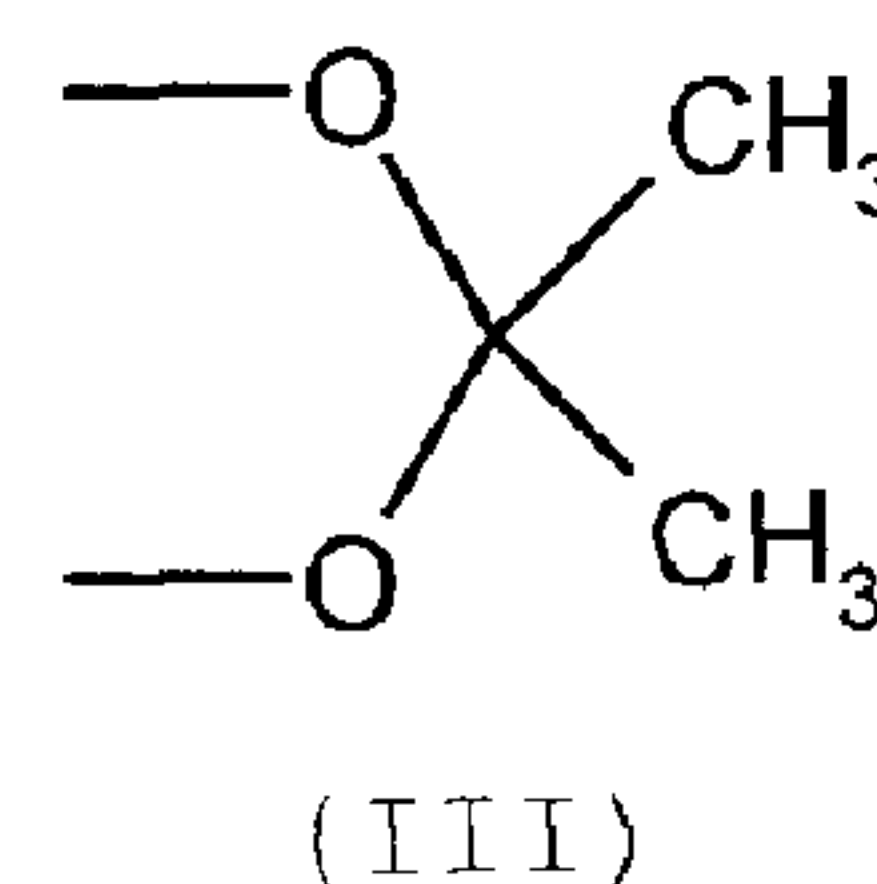
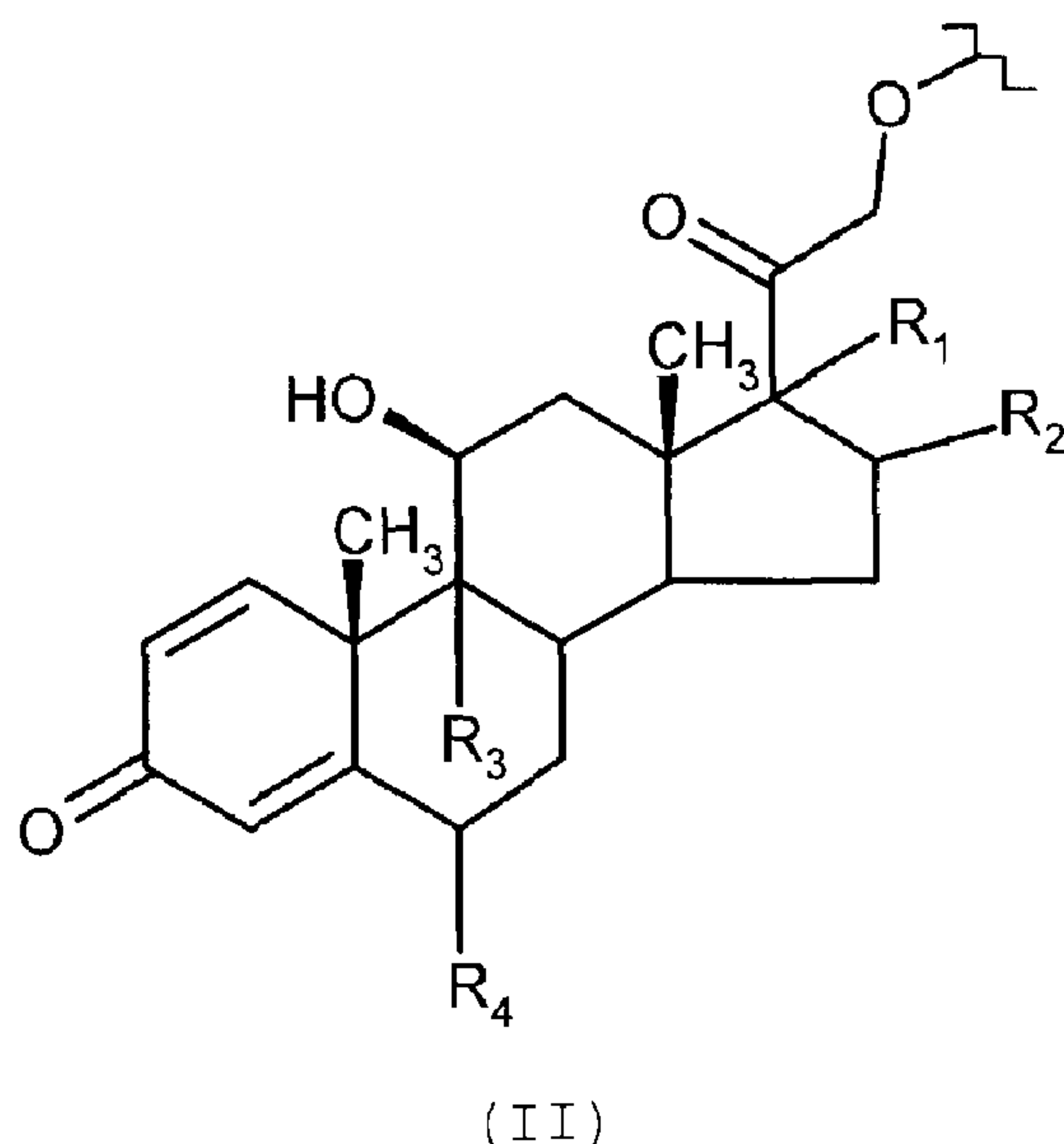




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(54) **Titre : STEROIDES LIBERANT DE L'OXYDE NITRIQUE**
(54) **Title: NITRIC OXIDE RELEASING STEROIDS**



(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

The invention relates to nitrooxyderivative of corticosteroids of general formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof wherein R is the corticosteroid residue of formula (II): wherein: R₁ is OH, R₂-CH₃, or R₁ and R₂ are taken together to form a group of formula (III) R₃ is C1 or F; R₄ is H or F; wherein R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ can be linked to the correspondent carbon atoms of the steroidal structure in position β or β; with the proviso that: when R₁ and R₂ are the group of formula (III) then R₃ is F and R₄ is H or F; The compounds are useful in the treatment of respiratory diseases, inflammatory diseases, dermatological diseases and ocular diseases.



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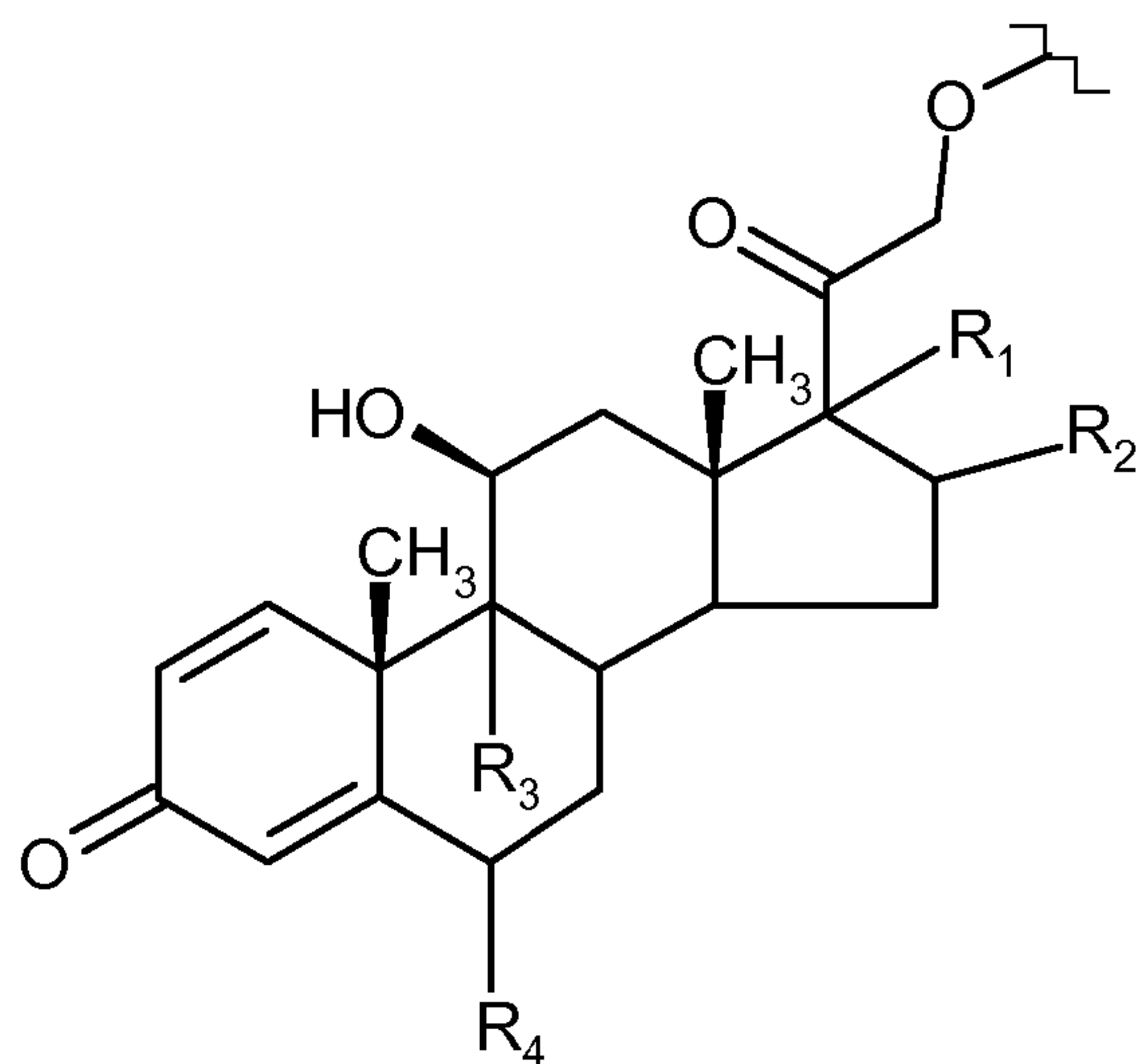
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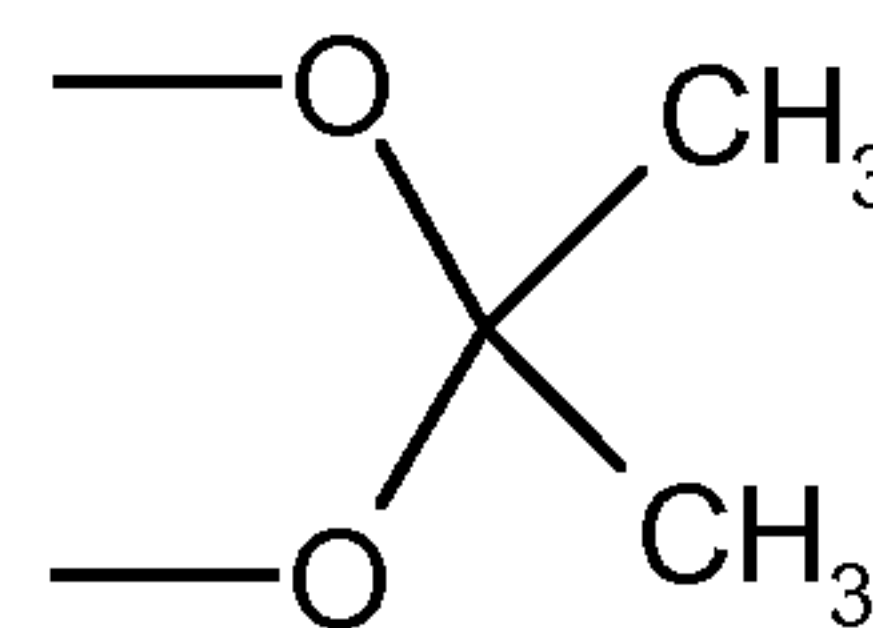
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(54) Title: NITRIC OXIDE RELEASING STEROIDS



(II)



(III)

(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to nitrooxyderivative of corticosteroids of general formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof wherein R is the corticosteroid residue of formula (II): wherein: R₁ is OH, R₂-CH₃, or R₁ and R₂ are taken together to form a group of formula (III) R₃ is C1 or F; R₄ is H or F; wherein R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ can be linked to the correspondent carbon atoms of the steroidal structure in position β or β; with the proviso that: when R₁ and R₂ are the group of formula (III) then R₃ is F and R₄ is H or F; The compounds are useful in the treatment of respiratory diseases, inflammatory diseases, dermatological diseases and ocular diseases.

WO 2008/095806 A1

(NP0062)

"Nitric oxide releasing steroids"**FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

5 The present invention relates to steroidal compounds having an improved pharmacological activity and lower side effects, to a process for their preparation and to pharmaceutical formulation containing them.

The compounds of the present invention may be used, as drugs
10 having antiinflammatory activity at peripheral level, for the therapy of respiratory diseases such as asthma and COPD, in ocular disease therapies such as ocular hypertension, age-related macular degeneration, diabetic macular edema, diabetic retinopathy, hypertensive retinopathy and retinal
15 vasculopathies, or in dermatological disease therapies such as dermatosis, atopic dermatitis, inflammation, eczema, erythema, papulation, scaling, erosion, oozing, crusting, pruritis, psoriasis, epidermalysis bullosa, erythema, hidradenitis suppurative, warts, diaper rash, jock itch.

20 In particular the compounds of the present invention are useful in ocular disease therapies.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In the prior art nitrooxy derivatives of steroids, which are
25 usable also as cardiovascular agents for the coronary insufficiency or angina pectoris therapy, are described.

For example, German patent DE 2,222,491 describes the preparation of pregnane derivatives having in position 21 the -CH₂-O-NO₂ group. In said patent it is stated that said
30 derivatives have a cardiotropic activity. This activity represents a drawback for said compounds, since they modify the cardiac frequency.

USP 3,494,941 describes steroid derivatives from 3-hydroxy-extrane or from extr-4 en-3 one, used as vasodilators in the

treatment of cardiac affections such as coronary insufficiency and angina pectoris. In the structure of said compounds a ONO₂ group is at the free end of the alkylene chain which is linked by an ether bond to the steroid in position 17. According to
5 said patent it is possible to have nitrate groups also in the positions 3 and 16 of the steroidal structure. The same drawbacks mentioned above as regards the effects on the cardiac frequency can be repeated for the compounds of this patent.

USP 3,183,252 describes derivatives of 16-nitrate-alkylpregnanes wherein the alkyl group is linked to the pregnane
10 structure by a carbon-carbon bond. The compounds according to said patent can be used as vasodilators. The same drawbacks reported for the above prior art can be repeated.

WO 98/15568 and WO 03/064443 in the name of the Applicant
15 describe nitrate esters of steroidal compounds, wherein between the steroidal structure and the nitrooxy group a bivalent linking group is inserted. Said compounds show a good efficacy and/or good tolerability with respect to the corresponding precursors.

Patent application WO 00/61604 in the name of the Applicant
20 describes nitrooxy derivatives of steroidal compounds with various linking groups having at one end a nitrooxy group, and covalently linked with the other end to a steroidal compound. In said application the uses concern the compounds usable in
25 the treatment of patients in oxidative stress. Said compounds contain in the molecule also a bivalent linking group which must be capable to prevent the free radicals production and is selected on the basis of the tests reported therein.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

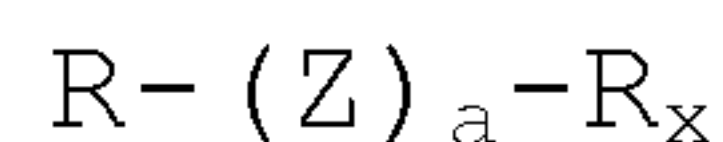
30 The Applicant has surprisingly and unexpectedly found a class of nitric oxide releasing compounds with a better bioavailability and/or a prolonged release of NO in comparison with the compounds known in prior art. In general the compounds

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of the present invention have a better drugability in comparison to the corresponding compounds of the prior art.

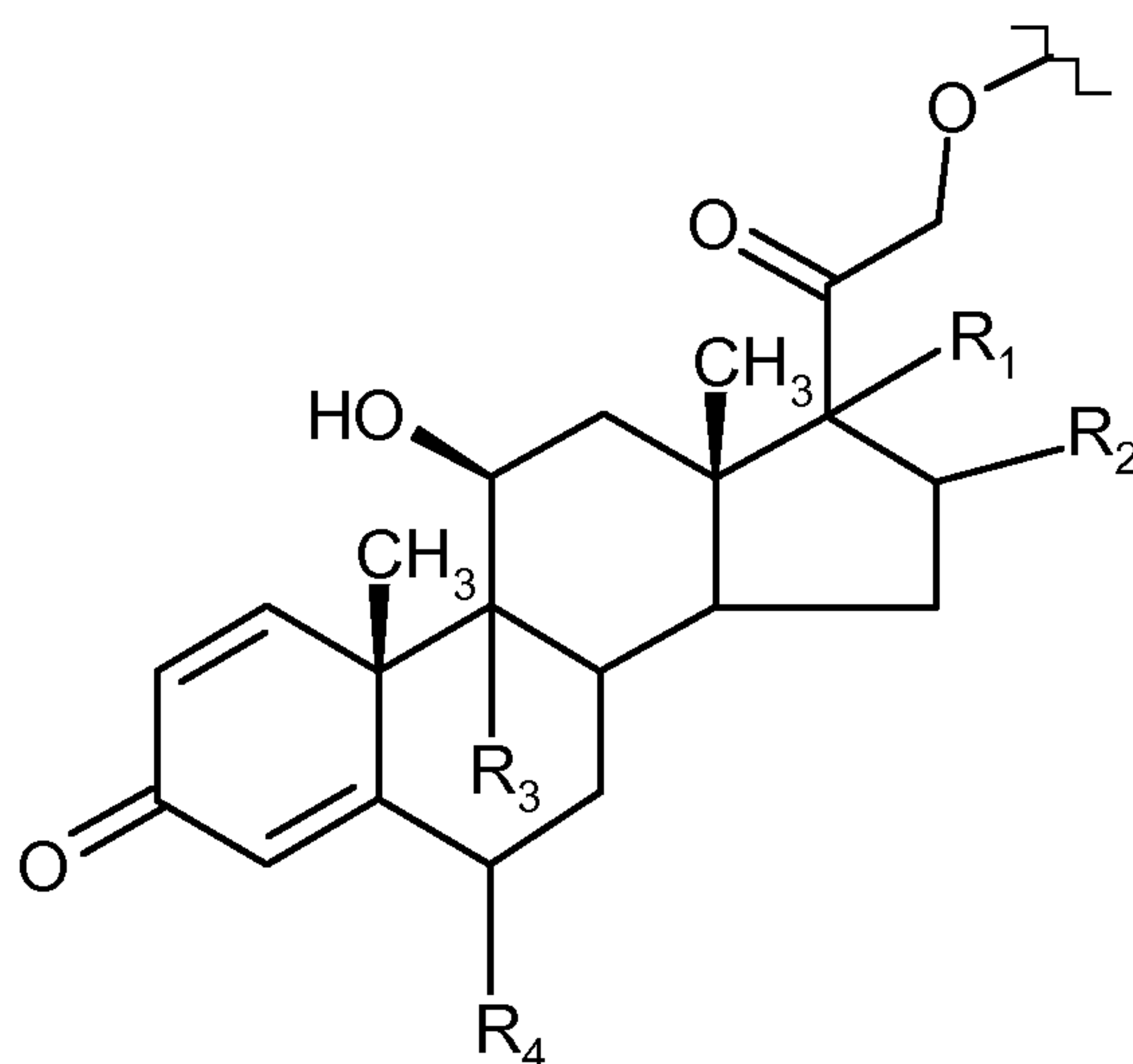
DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

5 Object of the present invention are compounds of general formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof



(I)

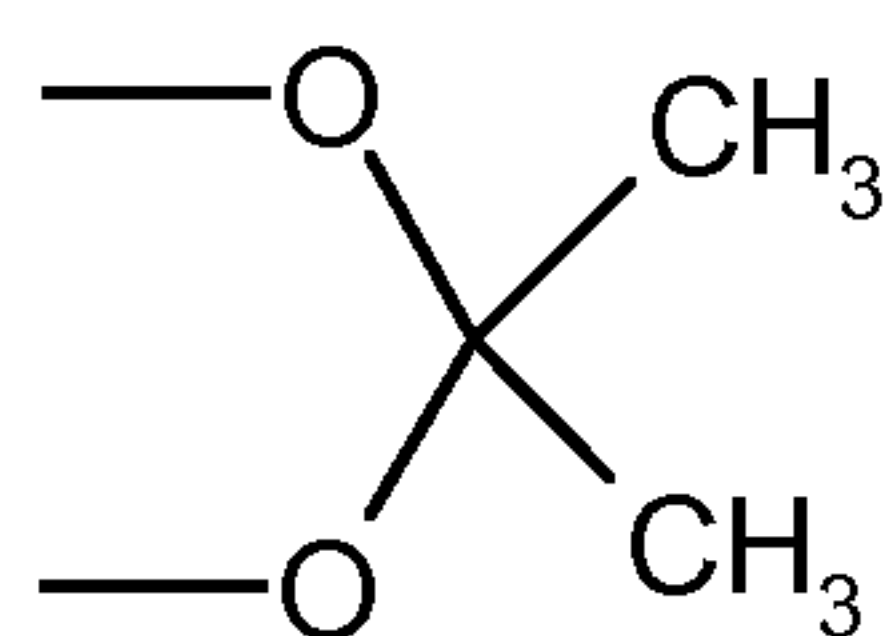
10 wherein R is a corticosteroid residue of formula (II):



(II)

wherein:

15 R_1 is OH, R_2 -CH₃, or R_1 and R_2 are taken together to form a group of formula (III)



(III)

R_3 is Cl or F;

20 R_4 is H or F;

wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 can be linked to the correspondent carbon atoms of the steroidal structure in position α or β ; with the proviso that:

4

when R_1 and R_2 are the group of formula (III) then R_3 is F and R_4 is H or F;

when R_1 is OH and R_2 -CH₃ then R_4 is H and R_3 is Cl or F;

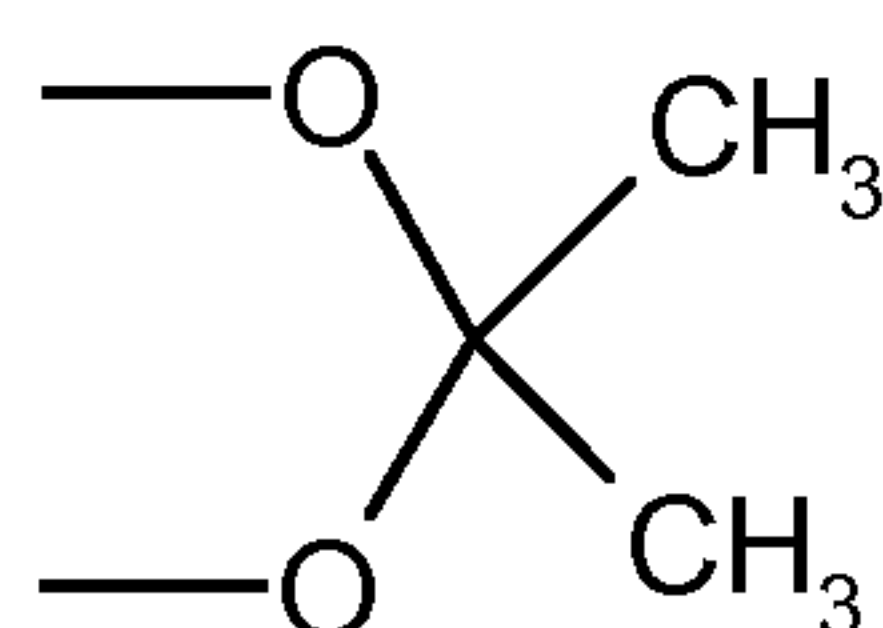
preferred corticosteroid radicals are R of formula (II)

5 wherein:

R_1 is OH in position α , R_2 -CH₃ in position β , R_3 is Cl in position α and R_4 is H; or

R_1 is OH in position α , R_2 -CH₃ in position β , R_3 is F in position α and R_4 is H; or

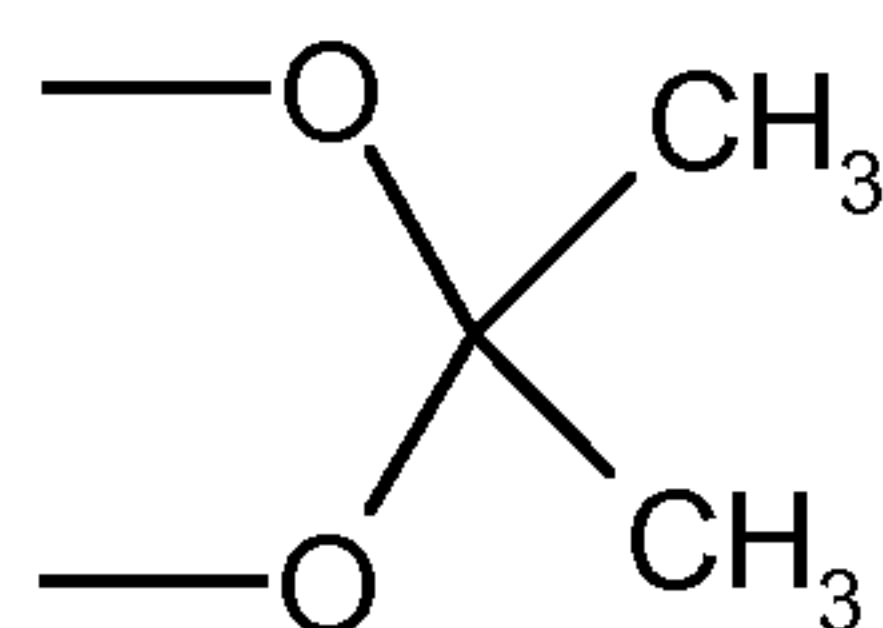
10 R_1 and R_2 are taken together to form a group of formula (III)



(III)

R_3 is F and R_4 is H, R_1 , R_2 and R_3 are in position α ; or

R_1 and R_2 are taken together to form a group of formula (III)



(III)

R_3 and R_4 are F, R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are in position α ;

a in formula (I) is equal to 0 or 1;

Z is a group capable of binding R_x and is selected from -C(O)-,

20 or -CH(R')-O- wherein R' is selected from H or a straight or branched C₁-C₄ alkyl, preferably R' is H or -CH₃;

R_x is a radical and is selected from the the following meanings:

A)

(a1) -HN-CH(R¹)-C(O)-(T-Y-ONO₂)

25 (a2) -C(O)-CH(R¹)-NH-(T'-Y-ONO₂)

(a3) -HN-CH(R^{1a}-T''-Y'-ONO₂)-COOR^{3a}

(a4) -C(O)-CH(R^{1a}-T''-Y'-ONO₂)-NHR^{4a}

(a5) -R^{1b}-CH(NHR^{4a})-C(O)-(T-Y-ONO₂)

(a6) -R^{1b}-CH(COOR^{3a})-NH-(T'-Y-ONO₂)

30 (a7) -HN-CH(R^{1a}-T''-Y'-ONO₂)-C(O)-(T-Y-ONO₂)

5

(a8) $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{1a}-\text{T}''-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)-\text{NH}-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$ (a9) $-\text{R}^{1b}-\text{CH}(\text{NH}-\text{T}'-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)-\text{C}(\text{O})-(\text{T}-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$ (a10) $-\text{R}^{1b}-\text{CH}(\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{T}-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)-\text{NH}-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

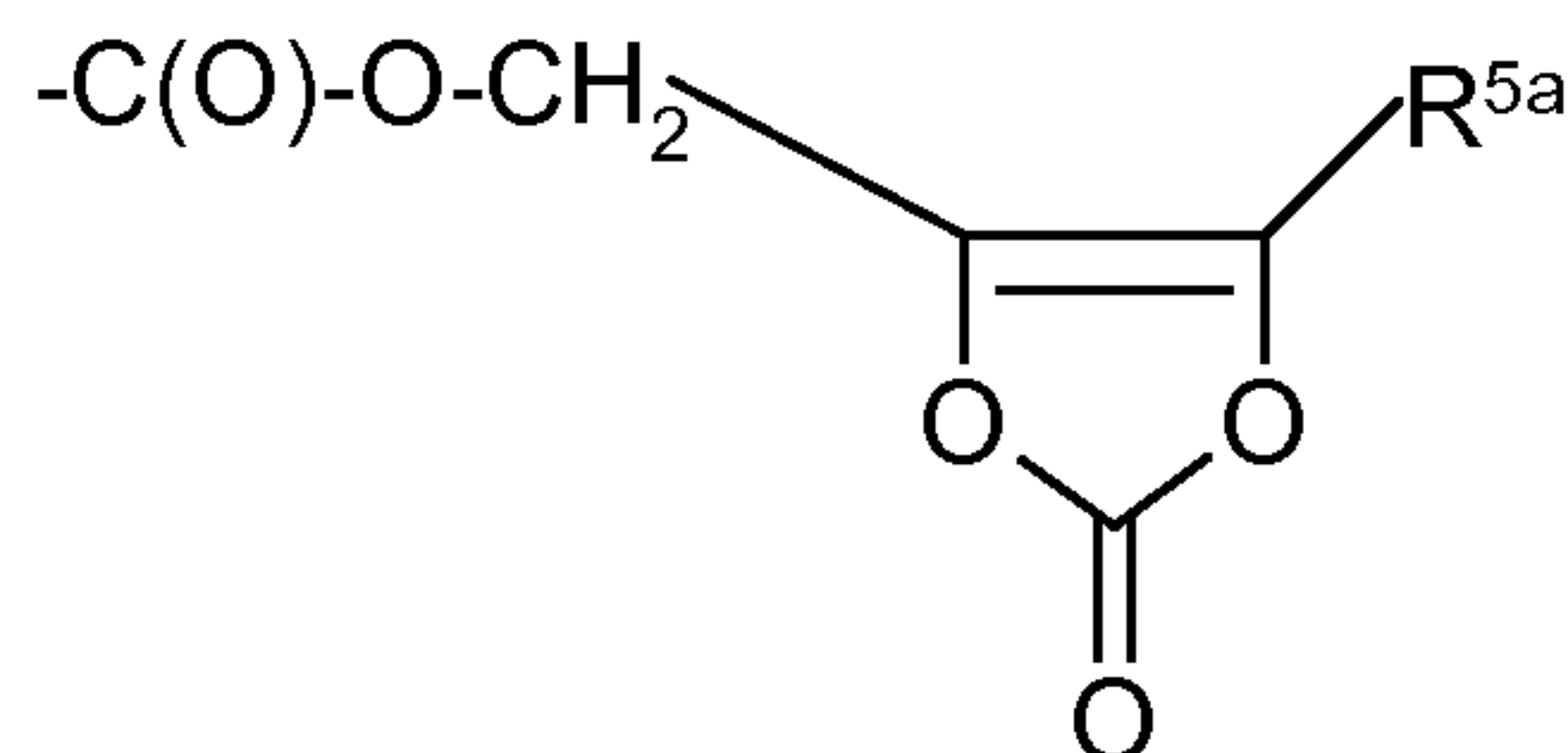
wherein:

5 R^1 is selected from:

A1) H, $-\text{CH}_3$, isopropyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, methylthio- $(\text{CH}_2)_2-$, phenyl, benzyl, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-$, 2-monosubstituted benzyl, or 3-monosubstituted benzyl or 4-monosubstituted benzyl wherein the substituent of the benzyl is selected from $-\text{F}$, $-\text{Cl}$, I, $-\text{NO}_2$, $-\text{CF}_3$, $-\text{CH}_3$, CN, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CO}-$; 2,4-dichlorobenzyl, 3,4-dichlorobenzyl, 3,4-difluorobenzyl, 2-pyrrolidyl, 3-triptophanyl- CH_2- , 3-benzothienyl- CH_2- , 4-imidazolyl- CH_2- , 9-anthranyl- CH_2- , cyclohexyl, cyclohexyl- CH_2- , 15 , cyclohexyl- $(\text{CH}_2)_2-$, cyclopentyl- CH_2- , $(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_2\text{CH}-$, 4-B(OH) $_2$ -benzyl, 4-quinolyl- CH_2- , 3-quinolyl- CH_2- , 2-quinolyl- CH_2- , 2-quinoxalyl- CH_2- , 2-furyl- CH_2- , 1-naphtyl- CH_2- , 2-naphtyl- CH_2- , 2-pyridyl- CH_2- , 3-pyridyl- CH_2- , 4-pyridyl- CH_2- , 2-thienyl- CH_2- , 3-thienyl- CH_2- , $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{CH}_2-$, $\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}-\text{CH}_2-$, 20 $\text{CH}\equiv\text{CH}-\text{CH}_2-$, $\text{NH}_2-\text{CO}-\text{CH}_2-$, $\text{NH}_2-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-$, $\text{NH}_2(=\text{NH})\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2)_3-$, $\text{P}(=\text{O})(\text{OCH}_3)_2$, I- CH_2- , preferably R^1 is H, $-\text{CH}_3$, isopropyl, benzyl;

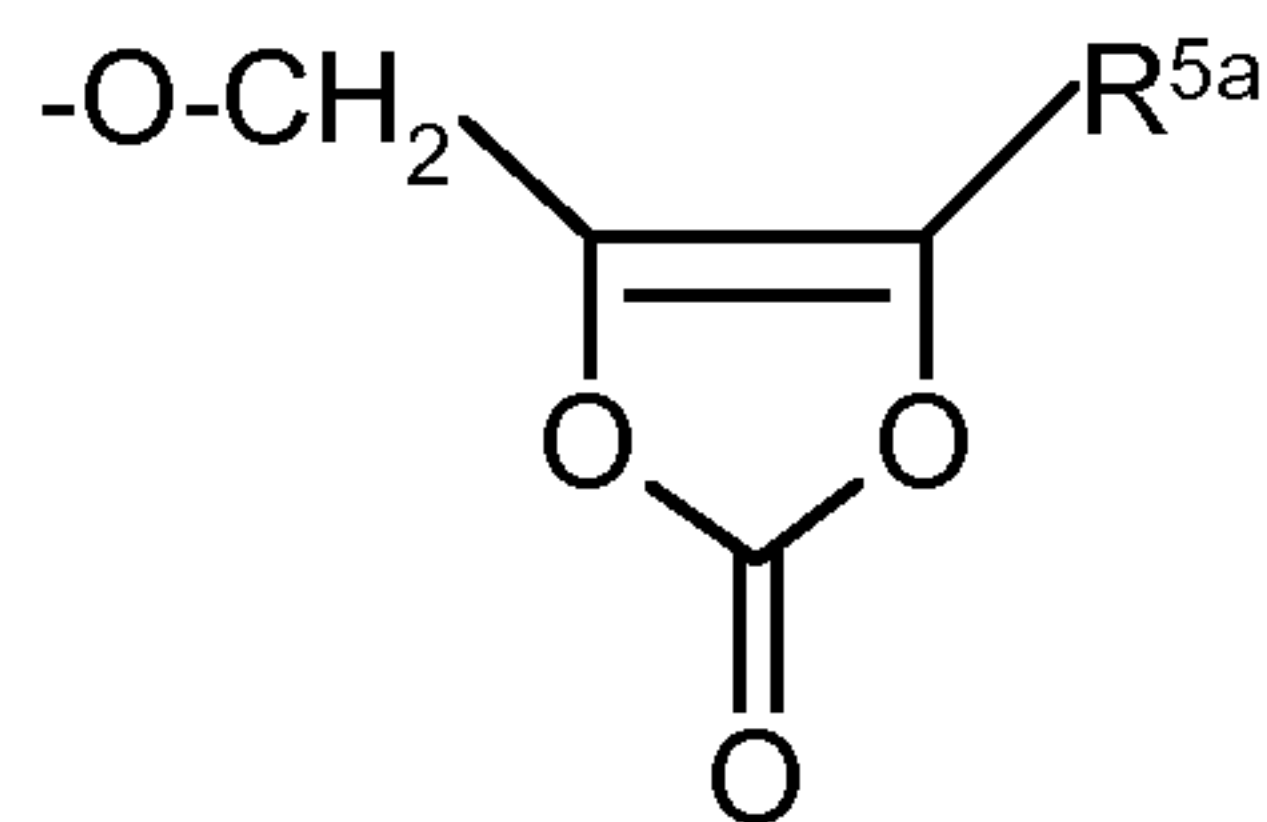
A2) $-\text{CH}_2-\text{SH}$, $-\text{CH}_2-\text{OH}$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{OH}$, $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)-(4-\text{OH})]$, $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_2)-(3,5\text{-diiodo})-(4-\text{OH})]$, $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)-(3\text{-nitro})-(4-\text{OH})]$, preferably R^1 is $-\text{CH}_2-\text{OH}$ or $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)-(4-\text{OH})]$; 25

A3) $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NHR}''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{NHR}''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NHR}''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NHR}''$, wherein R'' is H, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$ or



wherein R^{5a} is H or a linear or branched C_1 - C_{10} alkyl chain, preferably R^{5a} is H or a linear (C_1 - C_5) alkyl, preferably R^1 is $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NHR}''$, wherein R'' is as above defined; 30

A4) $-\text{CH}_2-\overset{6}{\text{C}}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$ wherein R''' is $-\text{OR}^{5a}$ or



wherein R^{5a} is as above defined, preferably R^1 is $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$,
 5 wherein R''' is as above defined;

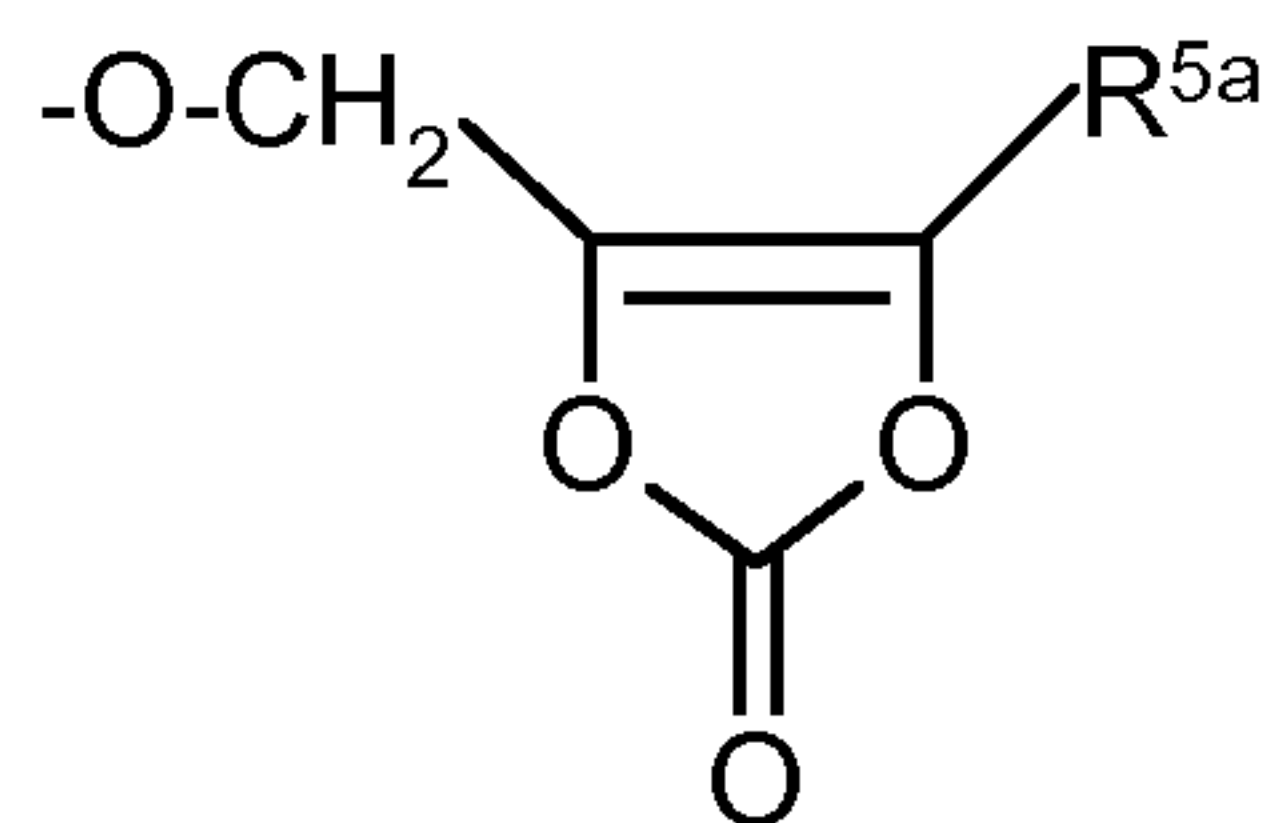
R^{1a} is selected from,

A5) $-\text{CH}_2-\text{S}-$, $-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{O}-$, $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)-(4-\text{O})-]$,
 $-\text{CH}_2-[(3,5\text{-diiodo})-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_2)-(4-\text{O})-]$, $-\text{CH}_2-[(3\text{-nitro})-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)-(4-\text{O})-]$,
 preferably R^{1a} is $-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-$;

10 A6) $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{NH}-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NH}-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NH}-$,
 preferably R^{1a} is $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NH}-$ or $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-$;

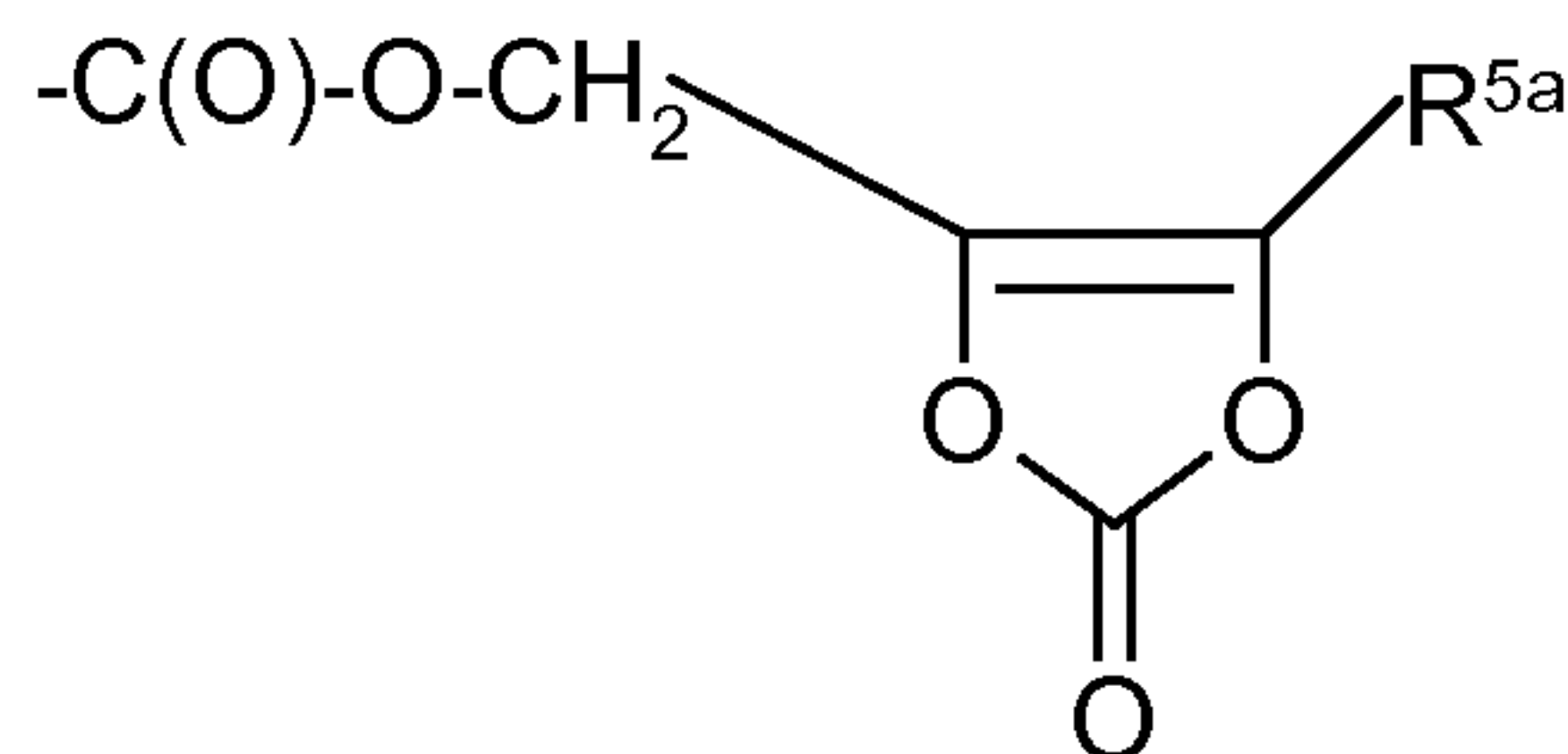
A7) $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, preferably R^{1a}
 is $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{O})-$;

R^{3a} is selected from H, $-\text{R}^{5a}$ or



15 wherein R^{5a} is as above defined;

R^{4a} is selected from H or $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$ or



wherein R^{5a} is as above defined;

20 R^{1b} is selected from

A8) $-\text{S}-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{O}-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-$, $-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-$, $[-(4-\text{O})-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)]-\text{CH}_2-$,
 $[-(4-\text{O})-(3,5\text{-diiodo})-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_2)]-\text{CH}_2-$, $[-(4-\text{O})-(3\text{-nitro})-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)]-\text{CH}_2-$,
 preferably R^{1b} is $-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-$ or $[-(4-\text{O})-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)]-\text{CH}_2-$;

A9) $-\text{HN}-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{HN}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-$, $-\text{HN}-(\text{CH}_2)_3-$, $-\text{HN}-(\text{CH}_2)_4-$, preferably
 25 R^{1b} is $-\text{HN}-(\text{CH}_2)_4-$ or $-\text{HN}-\text{CH}_2-$;

7

A10) $-C(O)-CH_2-$, $-C(O)-(CH_2)_2-$, $-C(O)-(CH_2)_4-$, preferably R^{1b} is $-C(O)-CH_2-$;

T is selected from $-O-$, $-S-$, $-NR'-$, $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ or $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O-$ wherein R' is as above defined;

5 T' is $-C(O)-$, $-C(O)-X''-$ wherein X'' is $-O-$ or $-S-$, or T' is $-C(O)-NR'-$ wherein R' is as above defined;

T'' is independently selected from $-C(O)-$, $-C(O)-X''-$, $-C(O)-NR'-$, $-O-$, $-S-$, $-NR'-$, $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$,

$-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O-$, wherein X'' and R' are as above defined,

10 with the proviso that T'' is $-C(O)-$, $-C(O)-X''-$ or $-C(O)-NR'-$ when T'' is linked to $-NH-$, $-O-$, or $-S-$; or

T'' is $-O-$, $-S-$, $-NR'-$, $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$, $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O-$ when T'' is linked to $-C(O)-$;

Y and Y' are as below defined;

15 B)

(b1) $-HN-CH(R^2)-CH_2C(O)-(T-Y-ONO_2)$

(b2) $-C(O)-CH_2-CH(R^2)-NH-(T'-Y-ONO_2)$

(b3) $-HN-CH(R^{2a}-T''-Y'-ONO_2)-CH_2COOR^{3a}$

(b4) $-C(O)-CH_2-CH(R^{2a}-T''-Y'-ONO_2)-NHR^{4a}$

20 (b5) $-R^{2b}-CH(NHR^{4a})-CH_2C(O)-(T-Y-ONO_2)$

(b6) $-R^{2b}-CH(CH_2COOR^{3a})NH-(T'-Y-ONO_2)$

(b7) $-HN-CH(R^{2a}-T''-Y'-ONO_2)-CH_2-C(O)-(T-Y-ONO_2)$

(b8) $-C(O)-CH_2-CH(R^{2a}-T''-Y'-ONO_2)-NH-(T'-Y-ONO_2)$

(b9) $-R^{2b}-CH(NH-T'-Y'-ONO_2)-CH_2C(O)-(T-Y-ONO_2)$

25 (b10) $-R^{2b}-CH(CH_2C(O)-T-Y'-ONO_2)-NH-(T'-Y-ONO_2)$

wherein

R^2 is selected from

B1) H, $-CH_3$, CF_3 , isopropyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, methylthio-
(CH_2)₂-, phenyl, benzyl, 3-triptophanyl- CH_2- , $NH_2-C(O)-CH_2-$, NH_2-
30 $C(O)-(CH_2)_2-$, $NH_2(=NH)NH-(CH_2)_3-$, tBuO- $CH(CH_3)-$, benzyl-O- CH_2- , 4-
terbutoxy-benzyl, 4-phenylbenzyl, preferably R^2 is H, $-CH_3$,
isopropyl, benzyl;

B2) $-CH_2-SH$, $-CH_2-OH$, $-CH(CH_3)-OH$, $-CH_2[(C_6H_4)-(4-OH)]$,

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-CH₂-[(C₆H₂)-(3,5-diiodo)-(4-OH)], -CH₂-[(C₆H₃)-(3-nitro)-(4-OH)];

B3) -CH₂-NHR'', -(CH₂)₂-NHR'', -(CH₂)₃-NHR'', -(CH₂)₄-NHR'', wherein R'' is as above defined, preferably R² is -(CH₂)₄-NHR'';

5 B4) -CH₂-C(O)-R''', -(CH₂)₂-C(O)-R''', -(CH₂)₄-C(O)-R''' wherein R''' is as above defined, preferably R² is -CH₂-C(O)-R''';

R^{2a} is selected from

B5) -CH₂-S-, -CH₂-O-, -CH(CH₃)-O- or -CH₂[(C₆H₄)-(4-O)-], -CH₂[(3,5-diiodo)-(C₆H₂)-(4-O)-], -CH₂[(3-nitro)-(C₆H₃)-(4-O)-]
10], preferably R^{2a} is -CH₂-O-;

B6) -CH₂-NH-, -(CH₂)₂-NH-, -(CH₂)₃-NH-, -(CH₂)₄-NH-, preferably R^{2a} is -(CH₂)₄-NH- or -CH₂-NH-;

B7) -CH₂-C(O)-, -(CH₂)₂-C(O)-, -(CH₂)₄-C(O)-, preferably R^{2a} is -CH₂-C(O)-;

15 R^{2b} is selected from

B8) -S-CH₂-, -O-CH(CH₃)-, -O-CH₂-, [-(4-O)-(C₆H₄)]-CH₂-, [-(4-O)-(3,5-diiodo)-(C₆H₂)]-CH₂-, [-(4-O)-(3-nitro)-(C₆H₃)]-CH₂-,
preferably R^{2b} is -O-CH₂- or [-(4-O)-(C₆H₄)]-CH₂-;

B9) -HN-CH₂-, -HN-(CH₂)₂-, -HN-(CH₂)₃-, -HN-(CH₂)₄-, preferably
20 R^{2b} is -HN-(CH₂)₄- or -HN-CH₂-;

B10) -C(O)-CH₂-, -C(O)-(CH₂)₂-, -C(O)-(CH₂)₄-, preferably R^{2b} is -C(O)-CH₂-;

R^{3a} and R^{4a} are as above defined;

T, T' and T'' are as above defined and Y and Y' are as below
25 defined;

C)

(c1) -HN-(CH₂)_b-C(O)-(T-Y-ONO₂);

(c2) -C(O)-(CH₂)_b-NH-(T'-Y-ONO₂);

wherein b is an integer from 3 to 6,

30 T and T' are as above defined and Y and Y' are as below defined;

D)

(d1) $-\text{HN}-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{12})-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-(\text{T}'''-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

(d2) $-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{12})-\text{NH}-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

(d3) $-\text{HN}-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{12a}-\text{T}''-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$

(d4) $-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{12a}-\text{T}''-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)-\text{NHR}^{4a}$

5 (d5) $-\text{R}^{12b}-\text{CH}(\text{NHR}^{4a})-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-(\text{T}'''-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

(d6) $-\text{R}^{12b}-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})-\text{NH}-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

(d7) $-\text{HN}-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{12a}-\text{T}''-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-(\text{T}'''-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

(d8) $-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{12a}-\text{T}''-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)-\text{NH}-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

(d9) $-\text{R}^{12b}-\text{CH}(\text{NH}-\text{T}'-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-(\text{T}'''-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

10 (d10) $-\text{R}^{12b}-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-\text{T}'''-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)-\text{NH}-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

wherein

T''' is independently selected from $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{X}''-$ wherein X'' is $-\text{O}-$ or $-\text{S}-$, or $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{NR}'-$ wherein R' is as above defined;

T' and T'' are as above defined;

15 Y and Y' are as below defined;

R^{12} is selected from:

D1) H , $-\text{CH}_3$, isopropyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, methylthio-
(CH_2)₂-, benzyl, 3-triptophanyl- CH_2 -, 4-imidazolyl- CH_2 -, $\text{NH}_2-\text{CO}-$
 CH_2 -, $\text{NH}_2-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2$ -, $\text{NH}_2(=\text{NH})\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2)_3$ -, preferably R^{12} is H ;

20 D2) $-\text{CH}_2-\text{OH}$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{OH}$, $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)-(4-\text{OH})]$, $-\text{CH}_2-[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)-($
 $(3,5\text{-diiodo})-(4-\text{OH})]$, $-\text{CH}_2-[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)-(3\text{-nitro})-(4-\text{OH})]$, preferably
 R^{12} is $-\text{CH}_2-\text{OH}$ or $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)-(4-\text{OH})]$;

D3) $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NHR}''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{NHR}''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NHR}''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NHR}''$, wherein
 R'' is as above defined, preferably R^{12} is $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NHR}''$;

25 D4) $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$ wherein R'''
is as above defined, preferably R^{12} is $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$;

R^{12a} is selected from

D5) $-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{O}-$ or $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)-(4-\text{O})-]$, $-\text{CH}_2-[3,5-$
 $\text{diiodo}-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_2)-(4-\text{O})-]$, $-\text{CH}_2-[3\text{-nitro}-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)-4-\text{O}-]$, preferably R^{12a}

30 is $\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-$ or $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)-(4-\text{O})-]$;

D6) $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{NH}-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NH}-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NH}-$, preferably R^{12a} is $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NH}-$ or $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-$;

D7) $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, preferably R^{12a} is $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{O})-$;

5 R^{12b} is selected from

D8) $-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{O}-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-$, $[-(4-\text{O})-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)]-\text{CH}_2-$, $[-(4-\text{O})-(3,5\text{-diiodo})-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_2)]-\text{CH}_2-$, $[-(4-\text{O})-(3\text{-nitro})-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)]-\text{CH}_2-$, preferably R^{12b} is $-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-$ or $[-(4-\text{O})-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)]-\text{CH}_2-$;

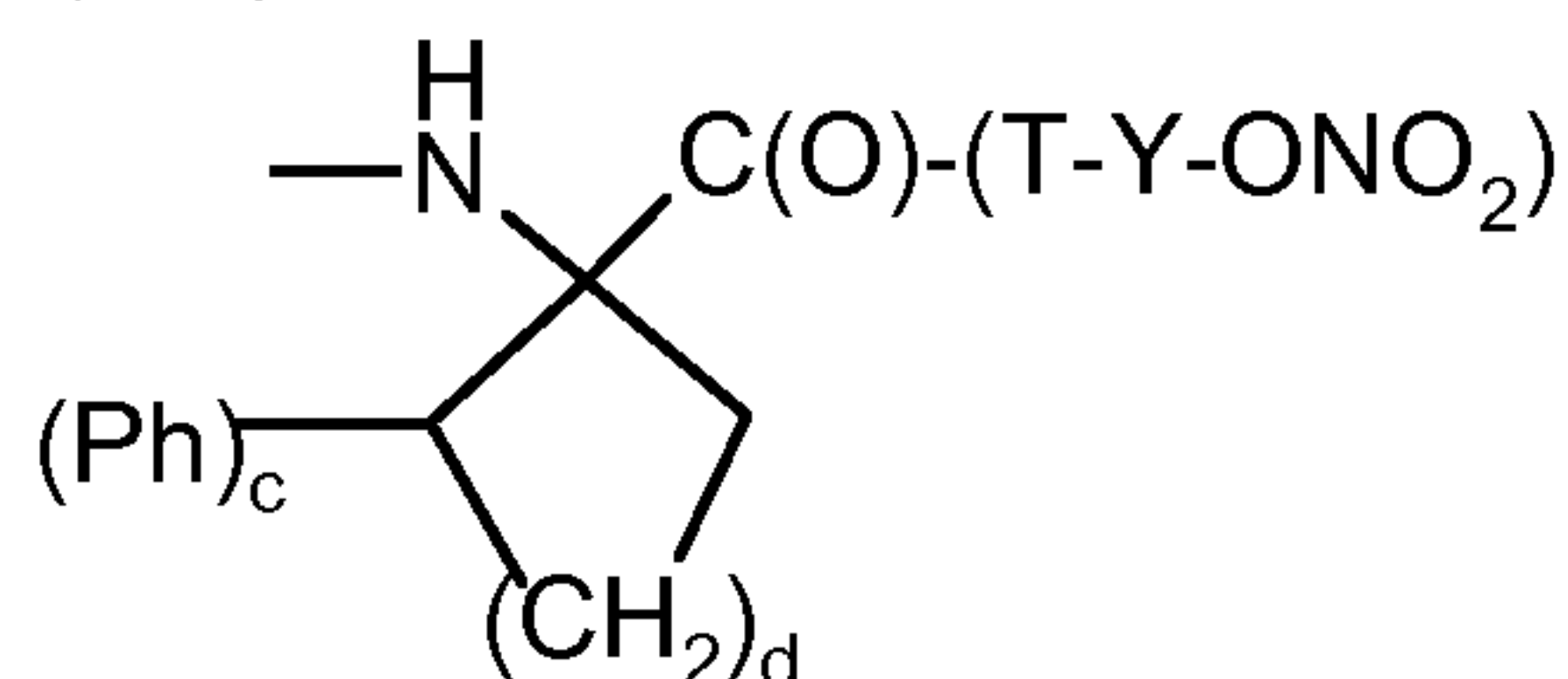
10 D9) $-\text{HN}-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{HN}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-$, $-\text{HN}-(\text{CH}_2)_3-$, $-\text{HN}-(\text{CH}_2)_4-$, preferably R^{12b} is $-\text{HN}-(\text{CH}_2)_4-$ or $-\text{HN}-\text{CH}_2-$;

D10) $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})-(\text{CH}_2)_2-$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})-(\text{CH}_2)_4-$, preferably R^{12b} is $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-$;

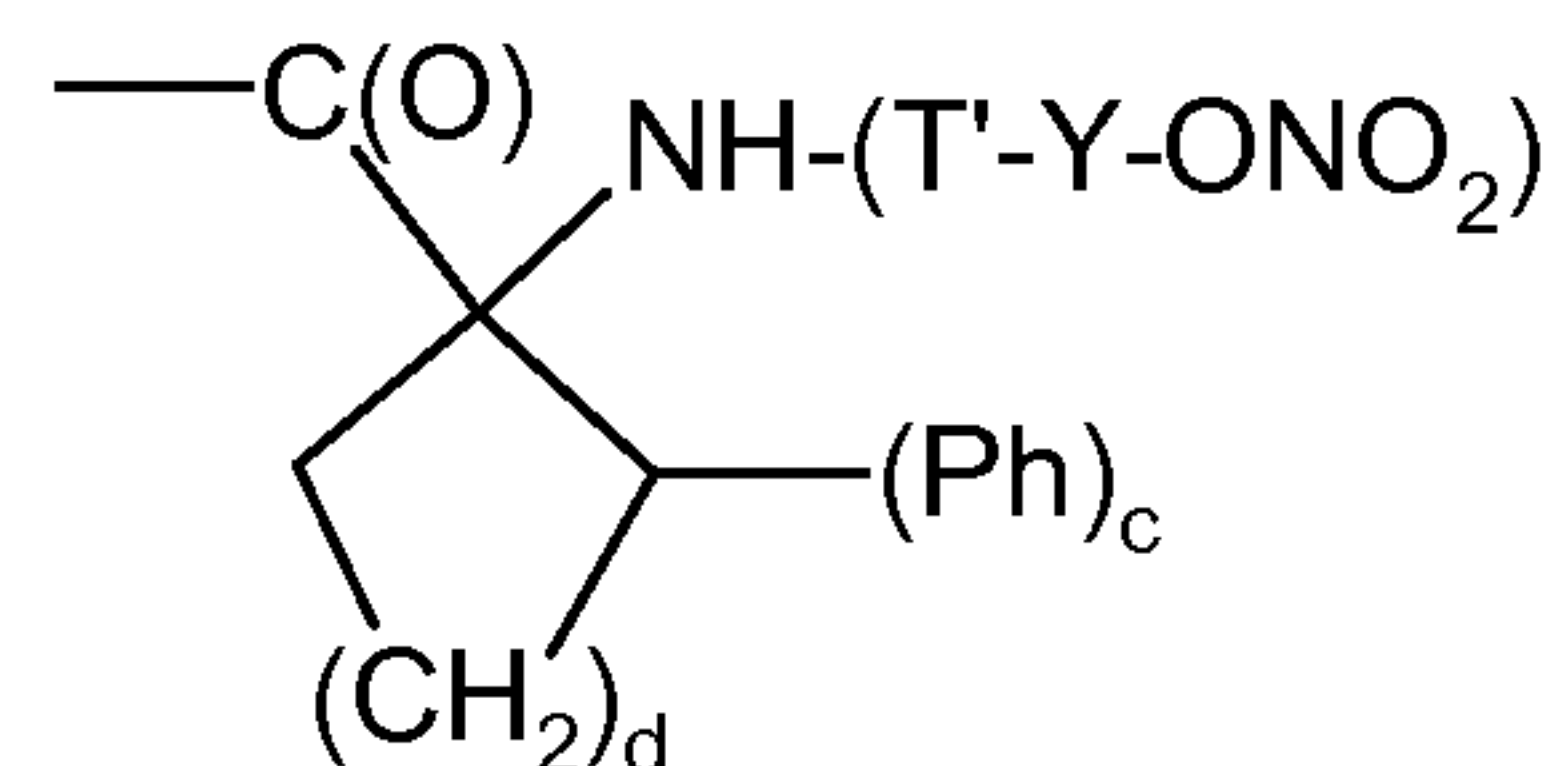
R^{4a} is as above defined;

E)

15 (e1)



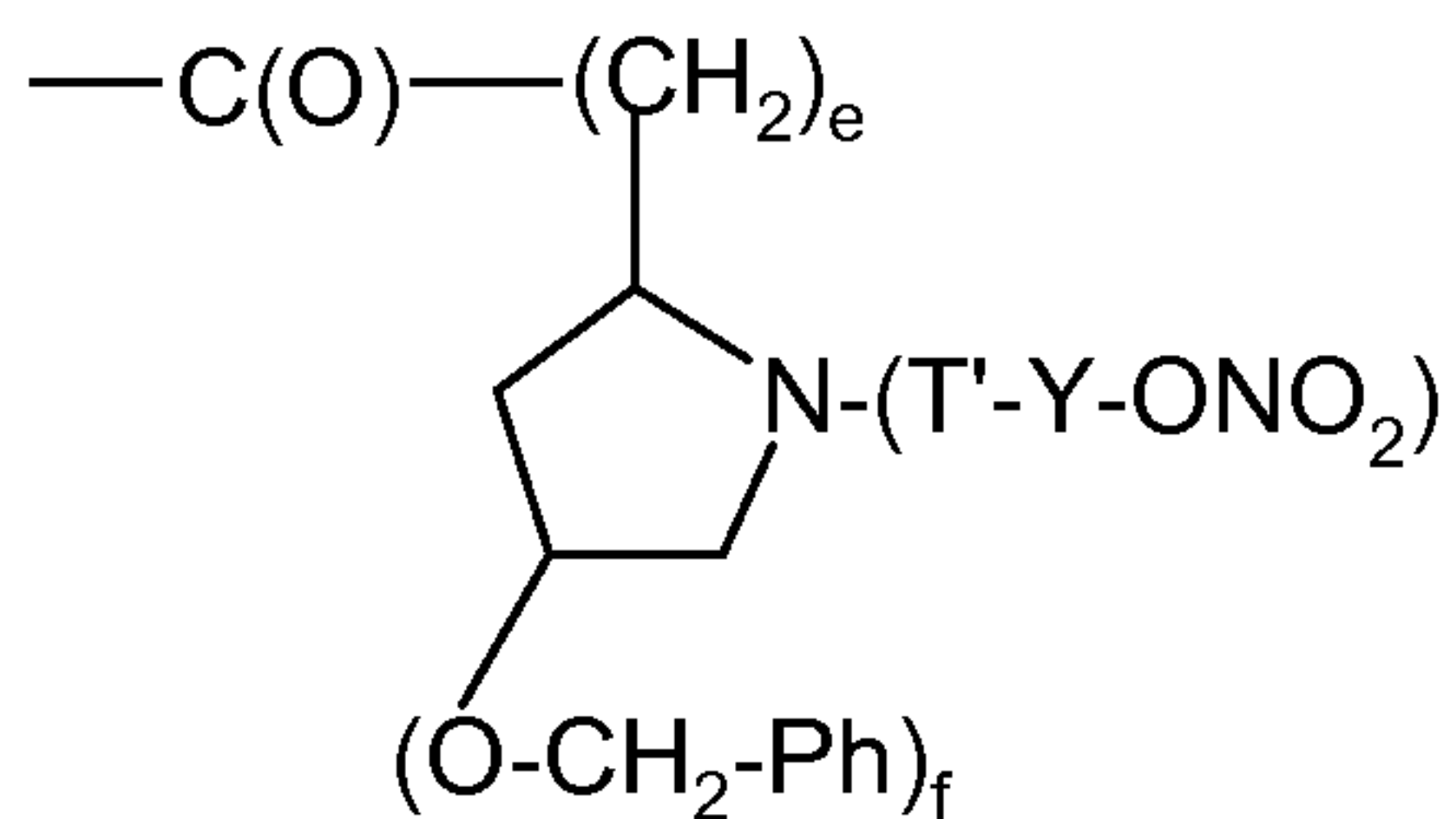
(e2)



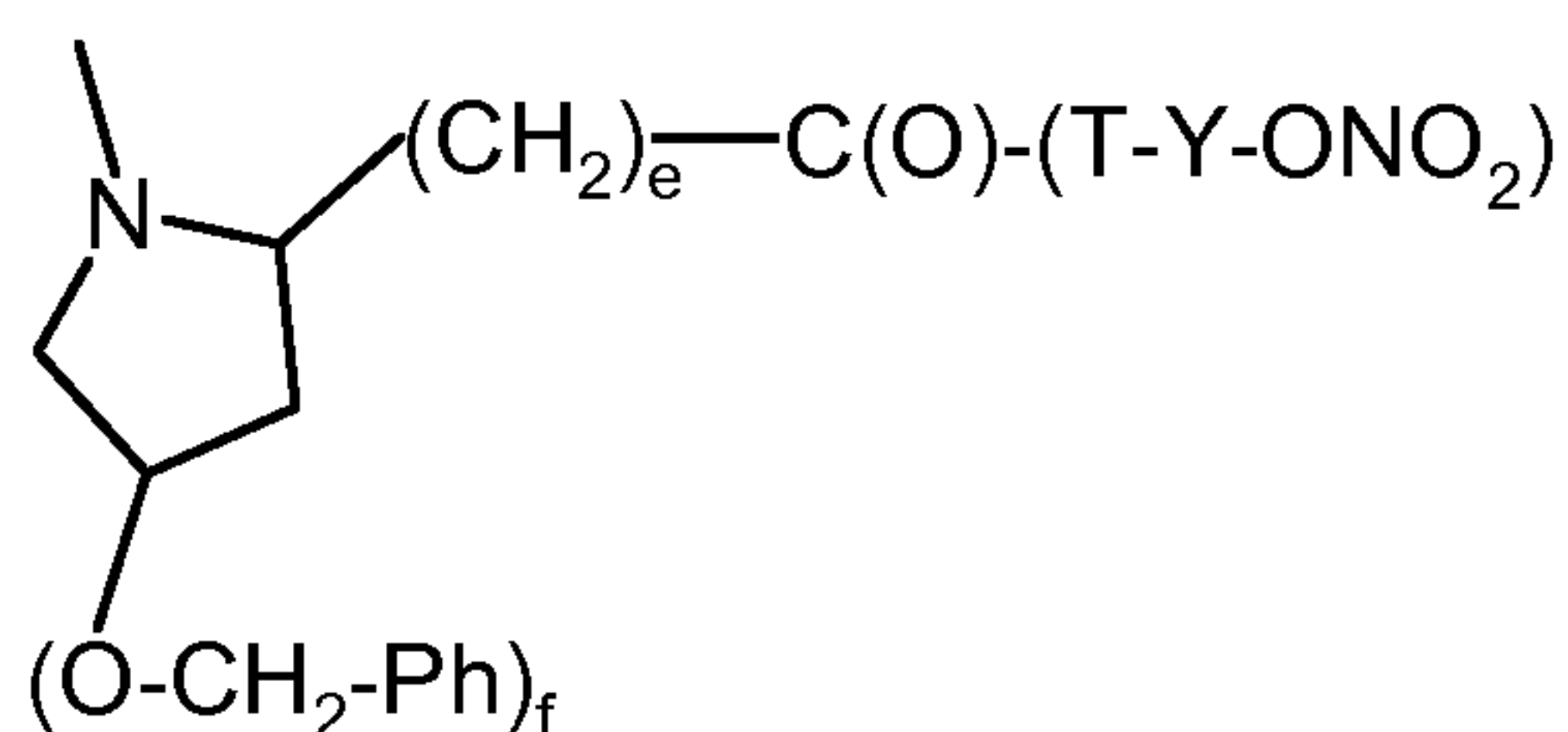
20 wherein c is equal to 0 or 1, d is an integer from 0 to 3 with the proviso that c is 0 or 1 when d is 0 and c is 0 when d is 1, 2 or 3, T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below defined;

F)

(f1)



(f2)



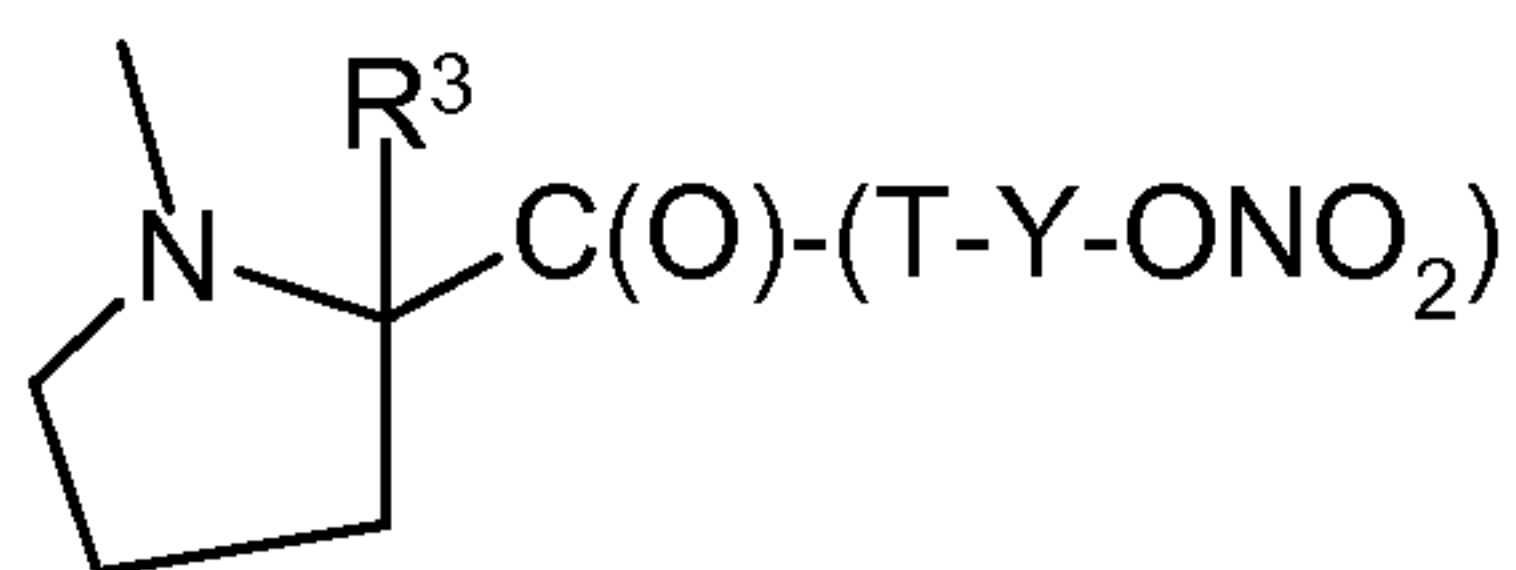
(XI)

5 wherein e and f are equal to 0 or 1, with the proviso that f is 0 when e is 0 and f is 0 or 1 when e is 1,

T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

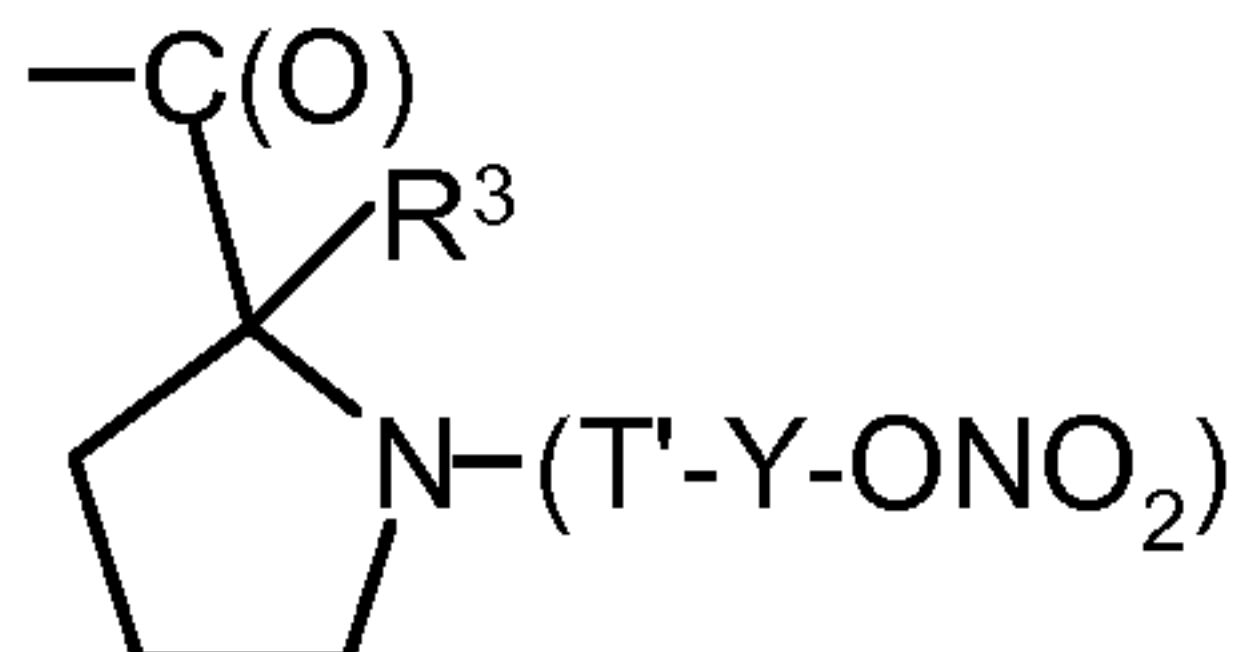
G)

(g1)



10

(g2)



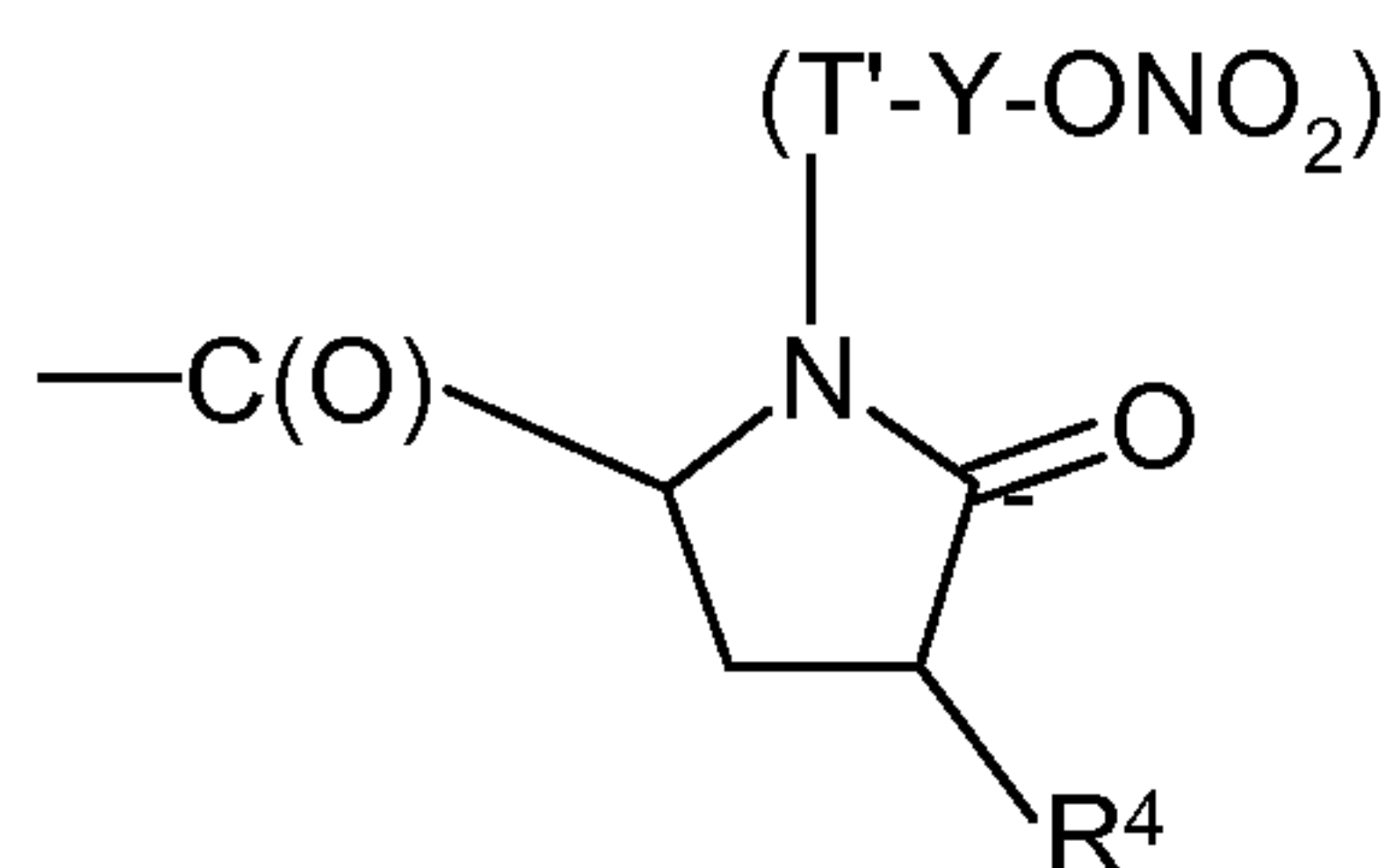
15 wherein R³ is H, CH₃, propyl, (C₆H₅)₂CH-, 1-naphtyl-CH₂-, benzyl, allyl, 2-bromobenzyl, 2-chlorobenzyl, 3-chlorobenzyl, 4-

T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below defined;

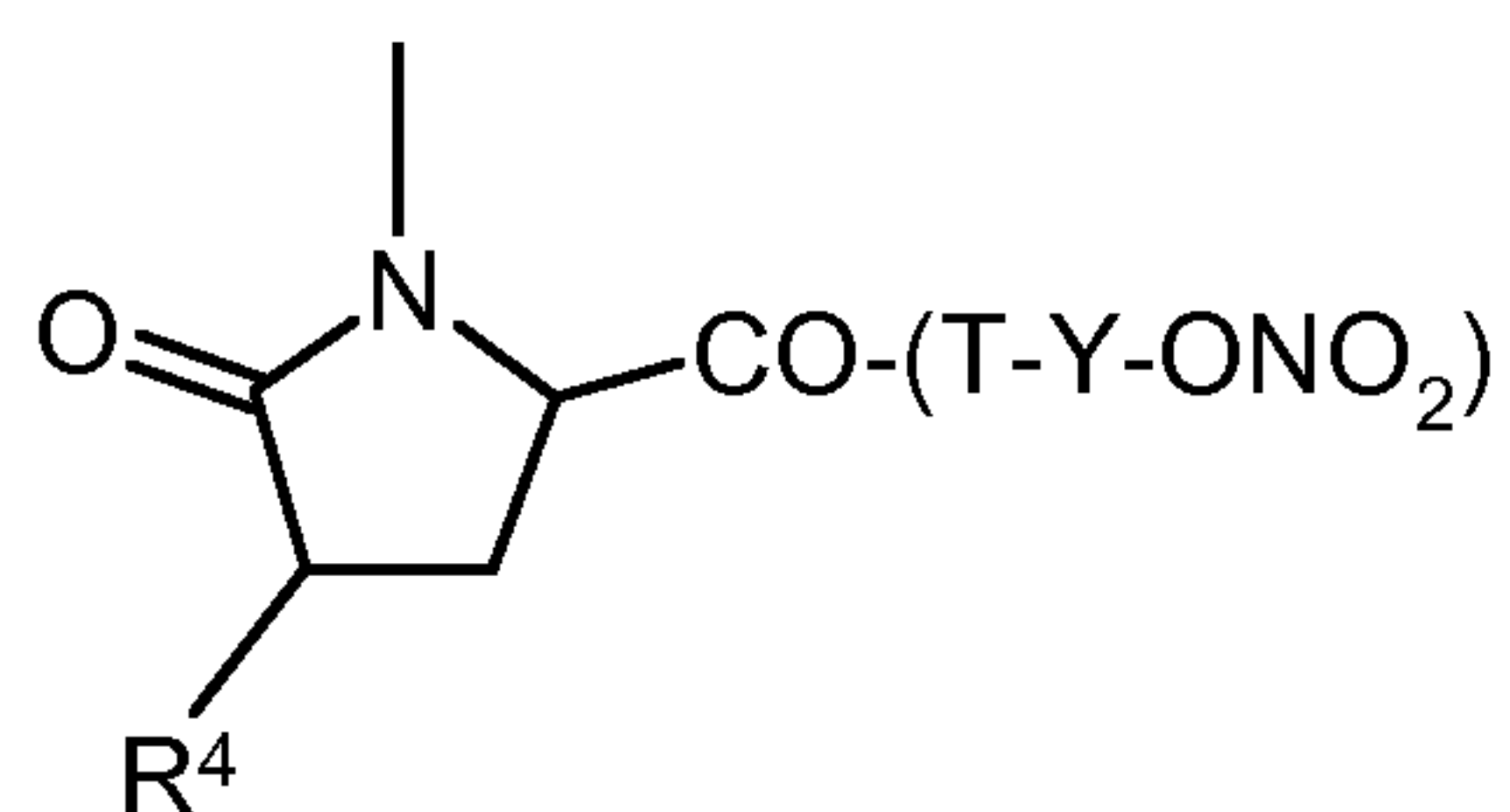
H)

(h1)

12



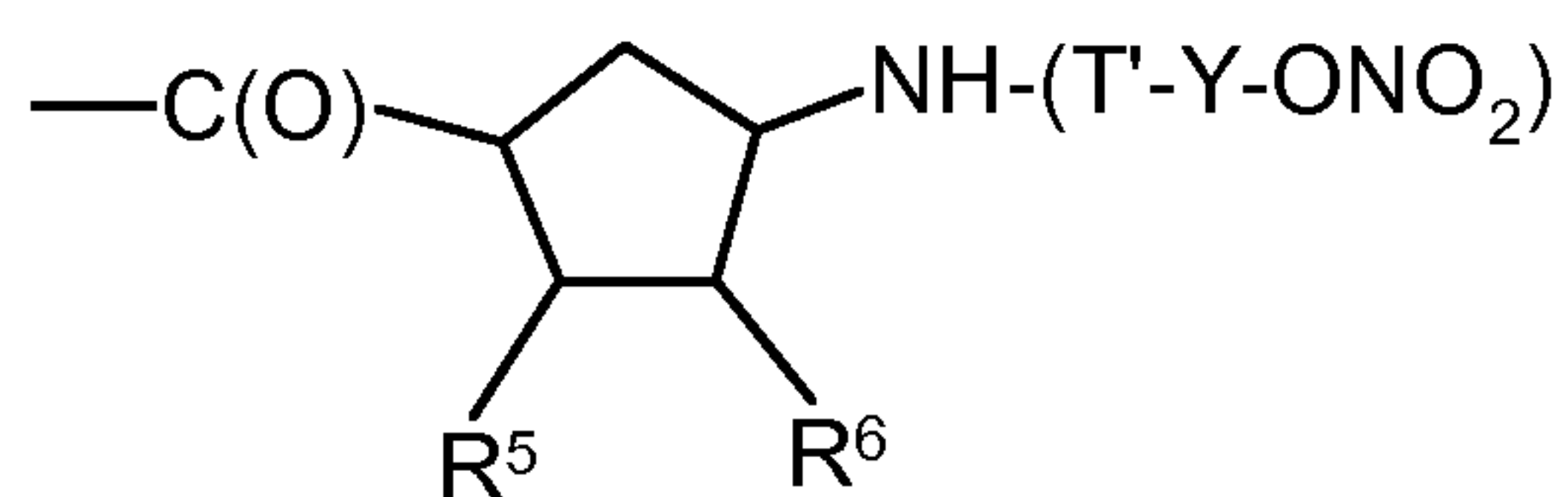
(h2)



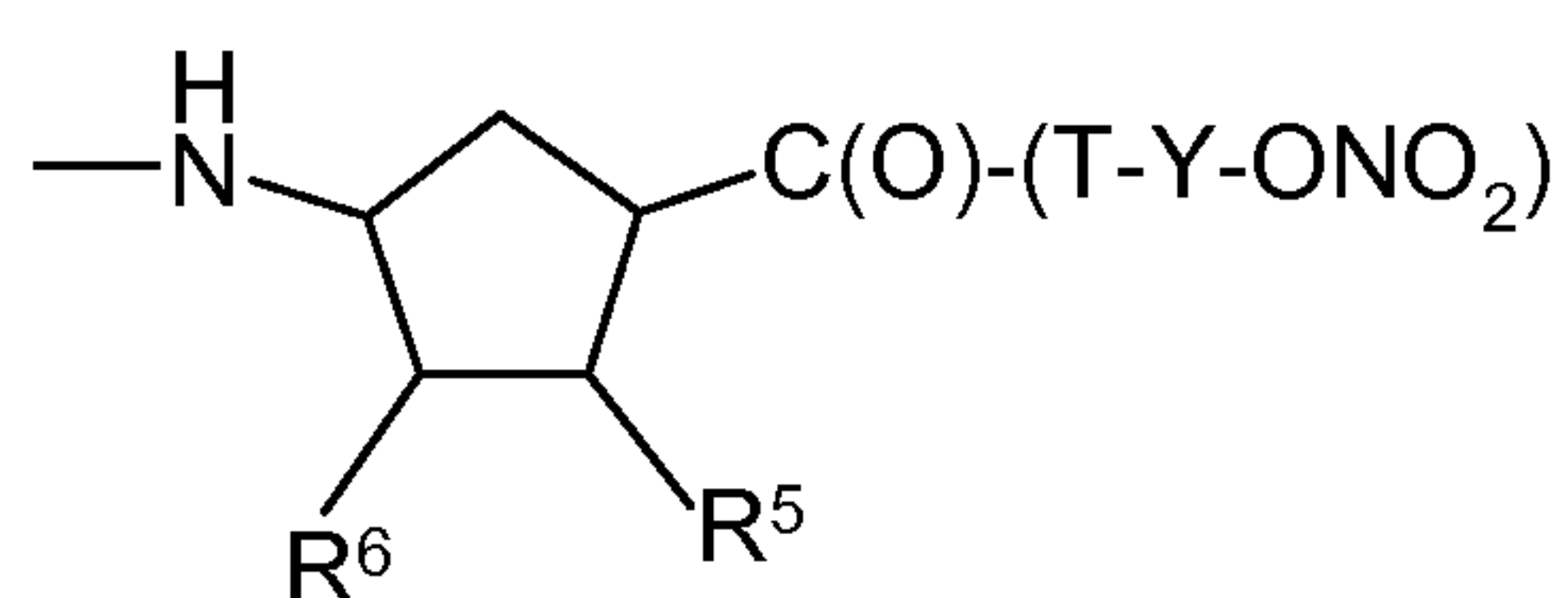
wherein R^4 is H, benzyl, 4-bromobenzyl, 2-bromobenzyl, T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below defined;

I)

(i1)



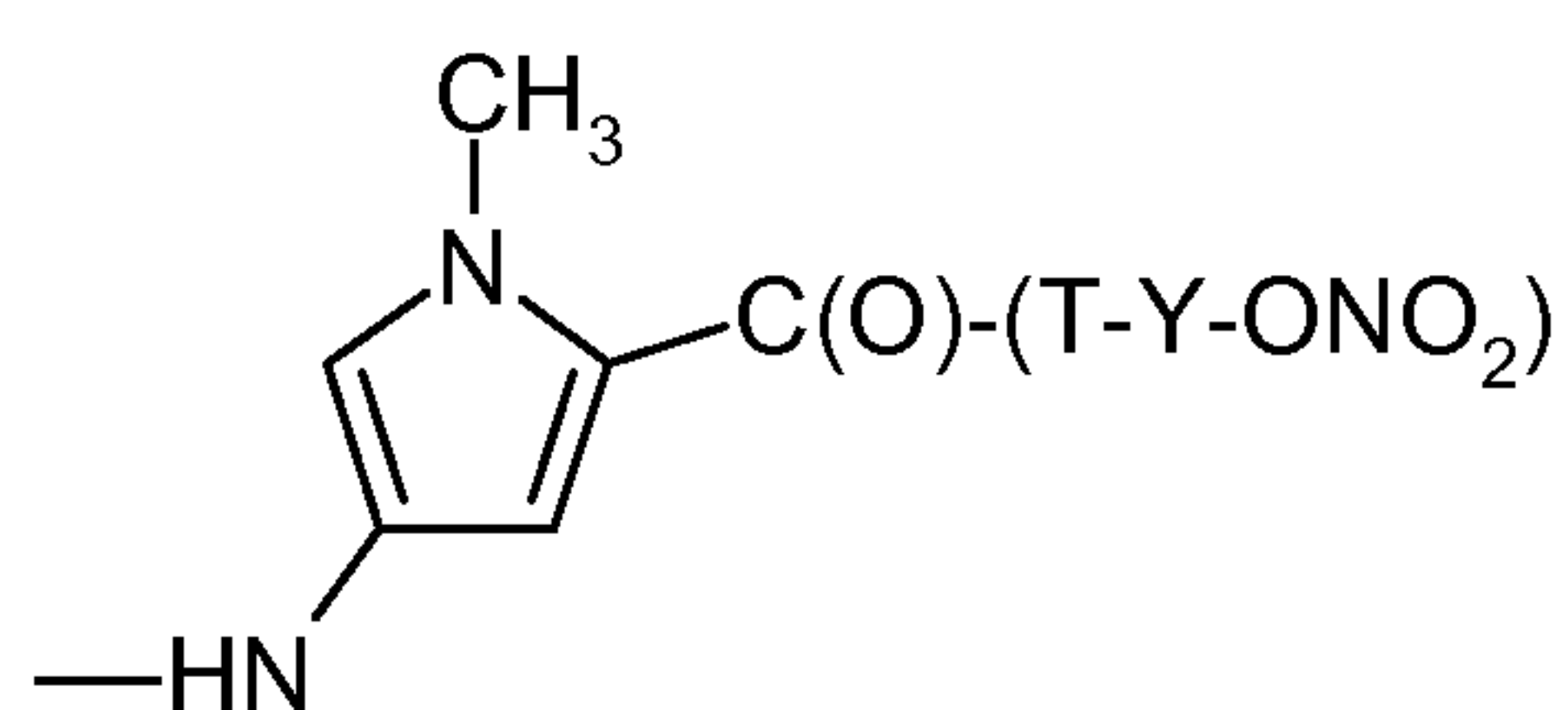
(i2)



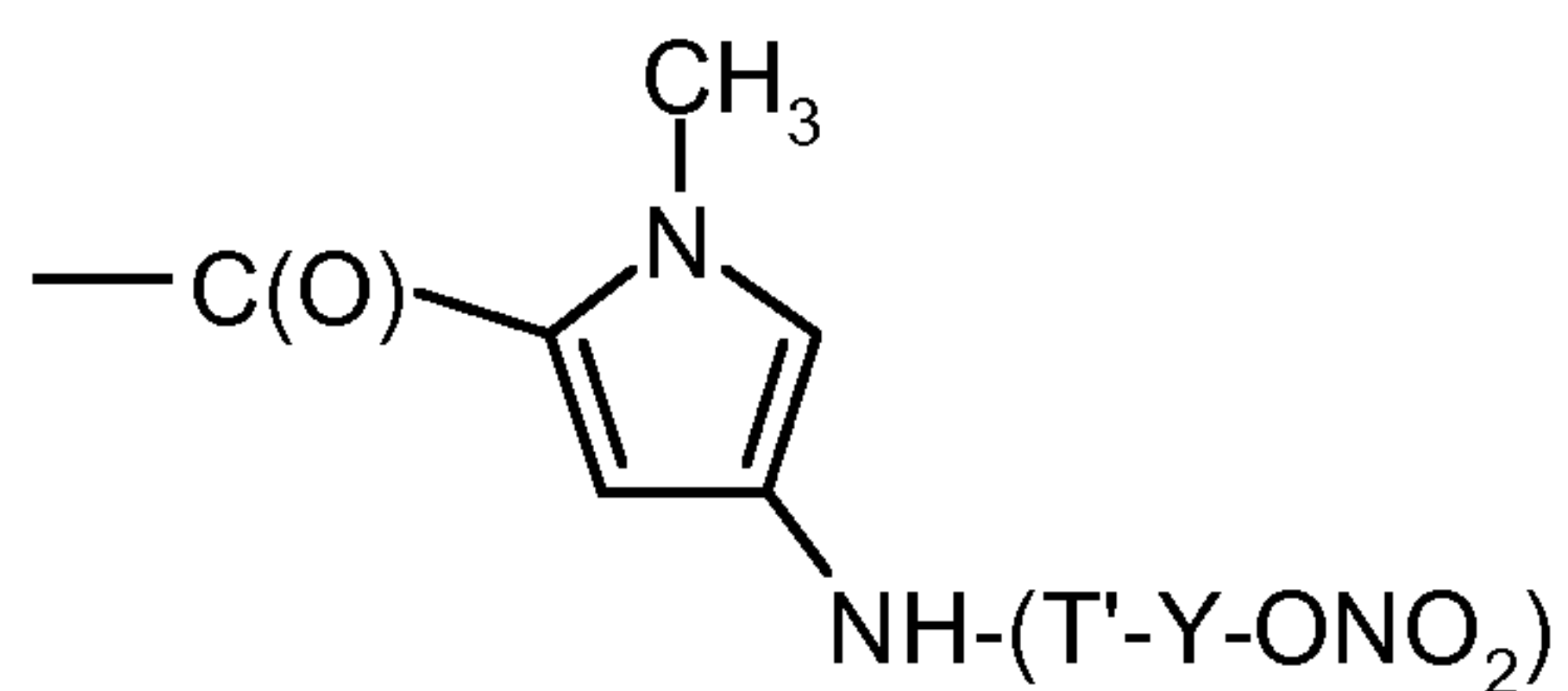
wherein R^5 is H, R^6 is H, or R^5 and R^6 when taken together are a double bond, T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

L)

(l1)



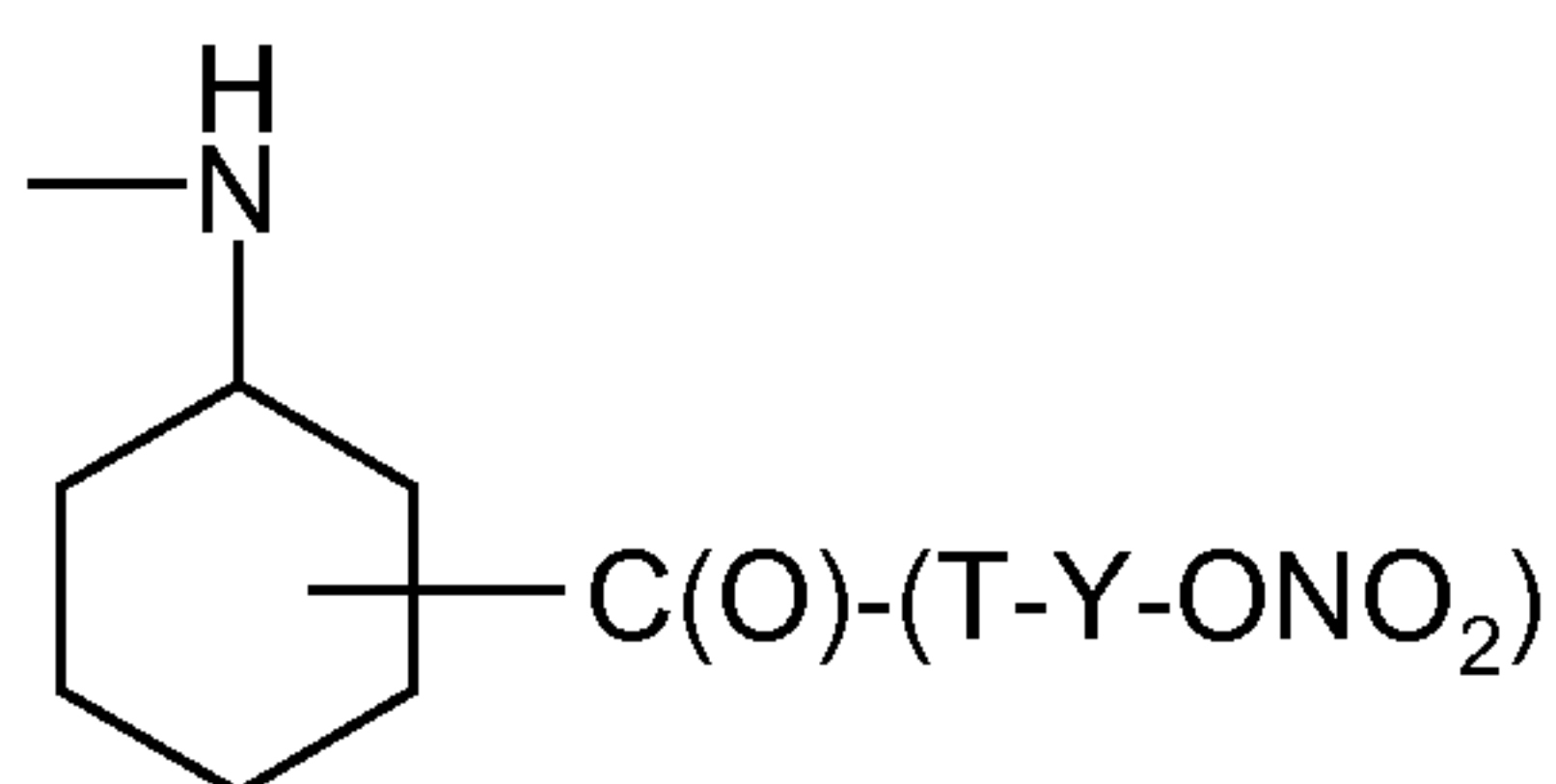
(12)



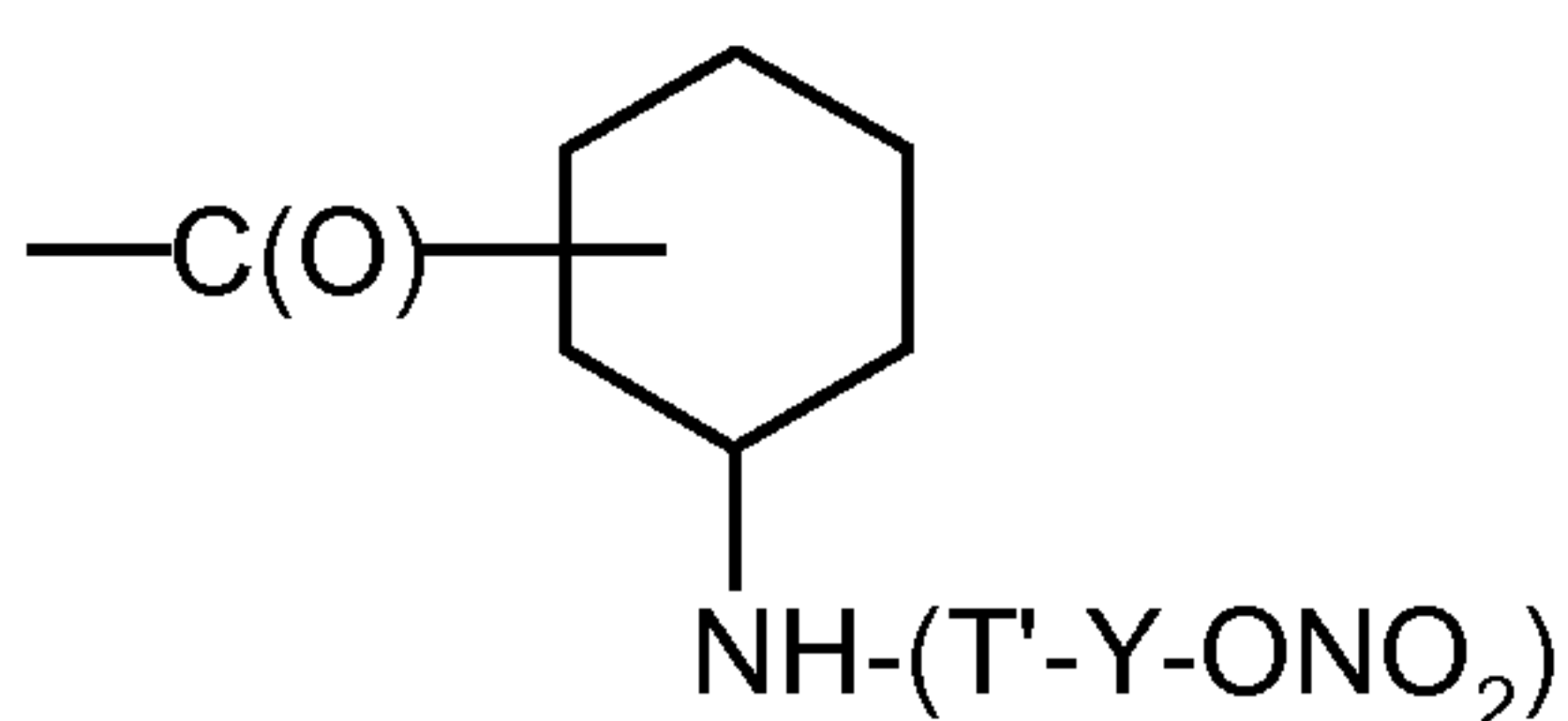
wherein T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

5 M)

(m1)



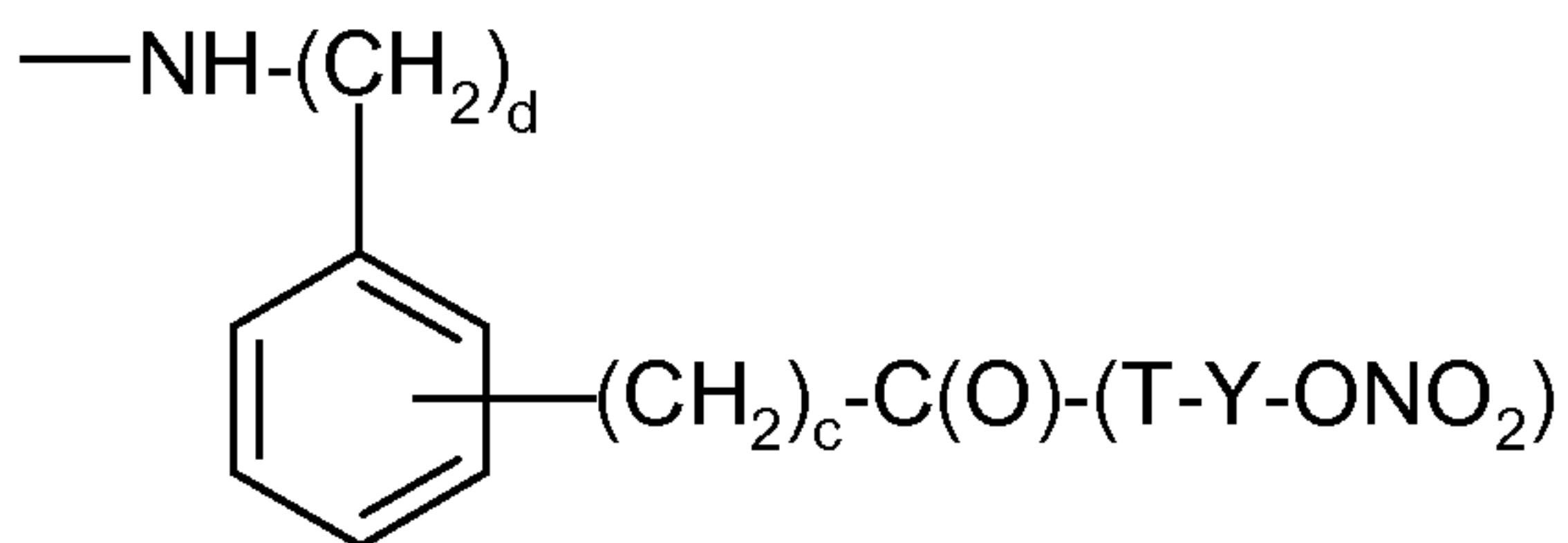
(m2)



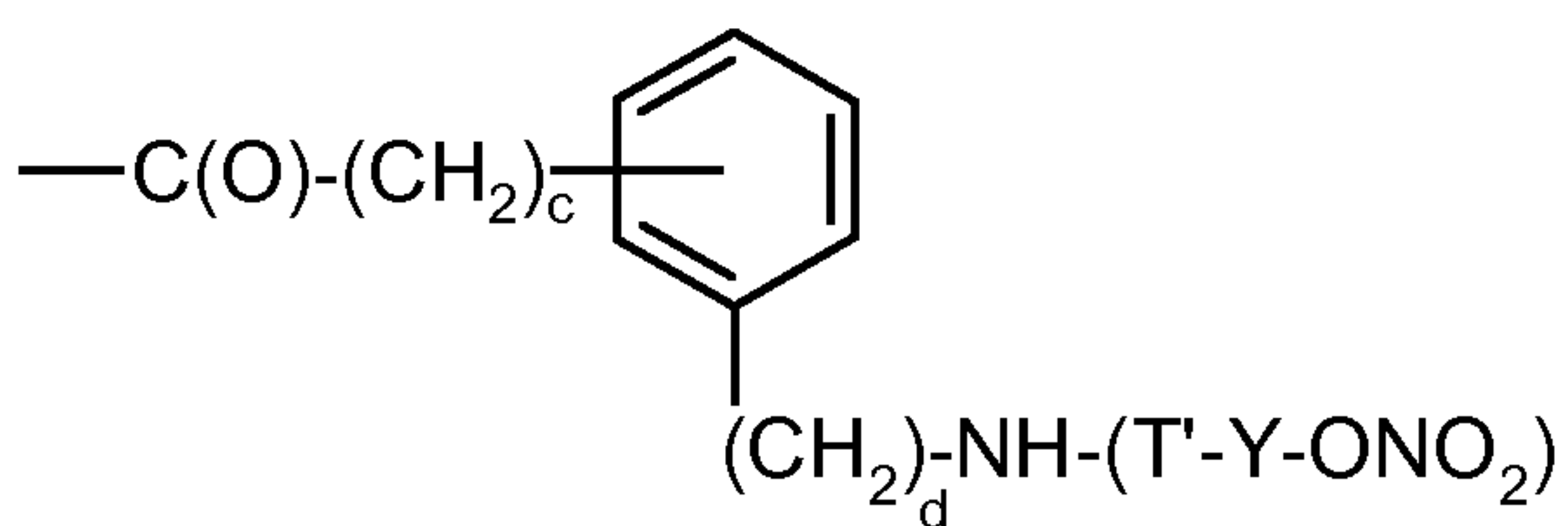
10 wherein T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

N)

(n1)



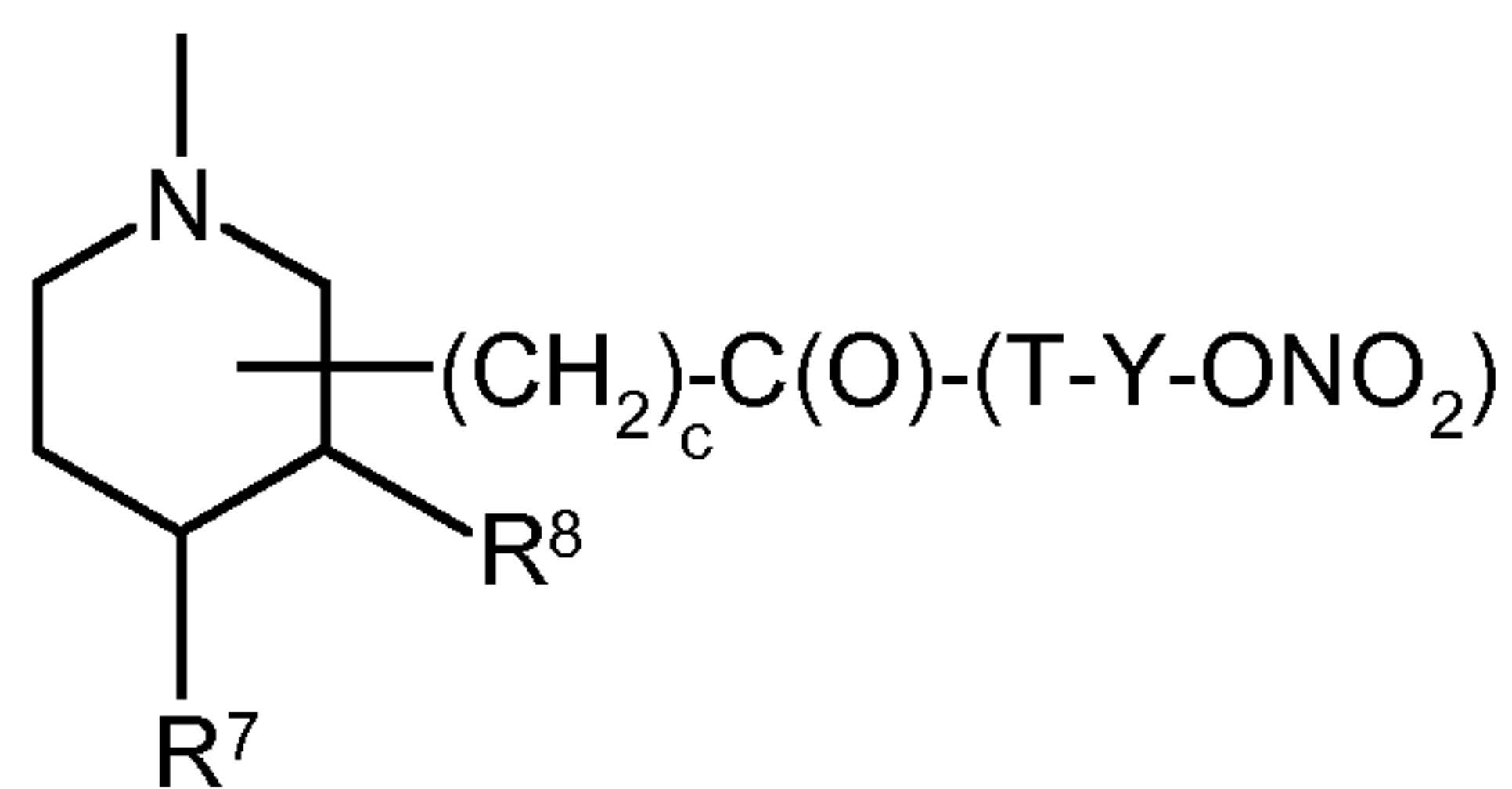
15 (n2)



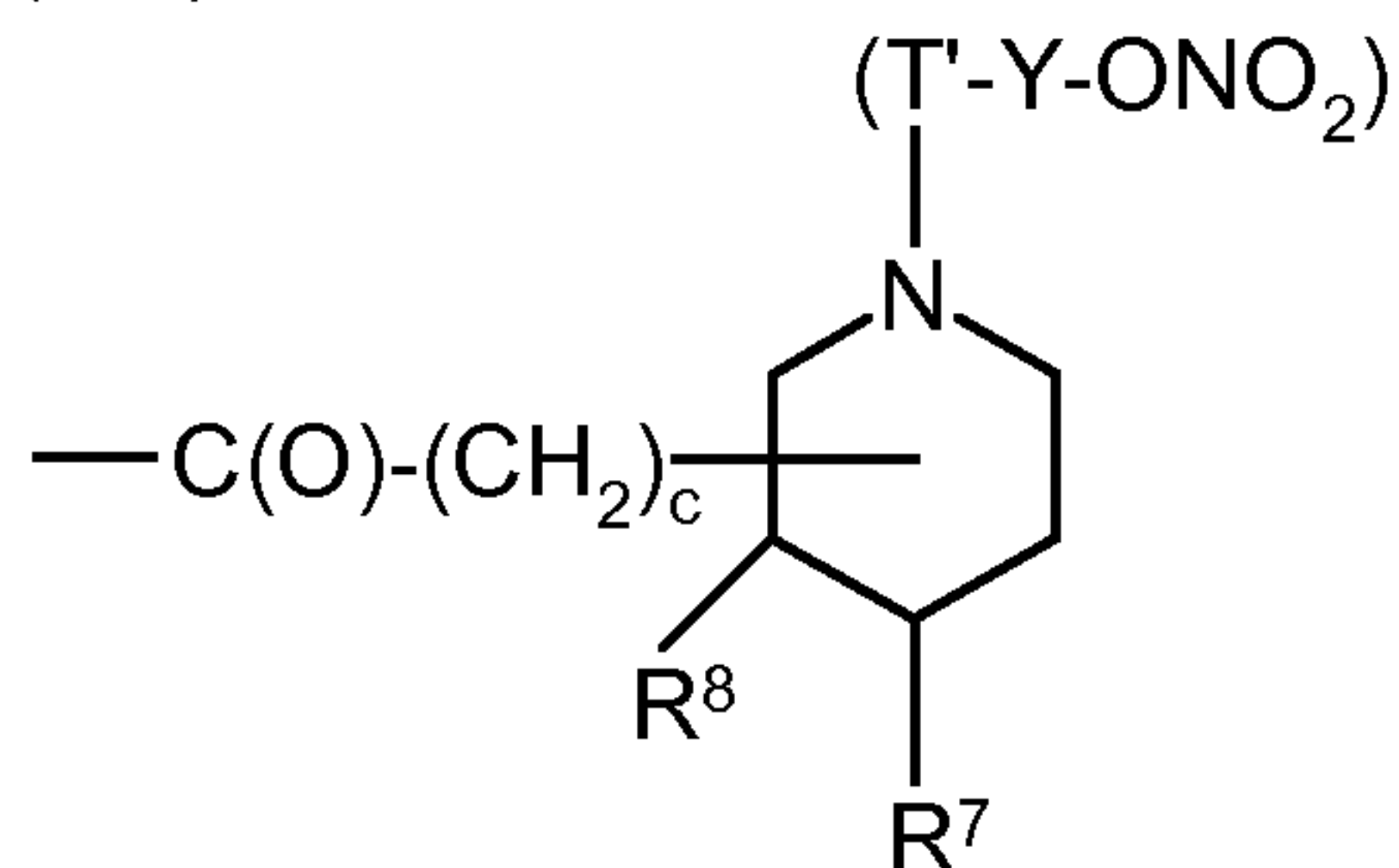
wherein c is as above defined, d is equal to 0 or 1, T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

O)

(o1)



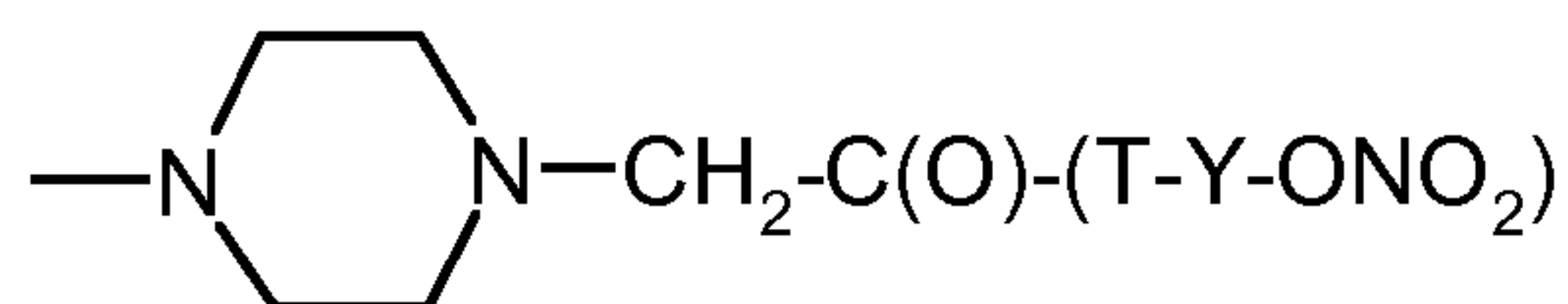
(o2)



5 wherein R^7 is H, R^8 is H, or R^7 and R^8 when taken together are a double bond, c is as above defined, T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

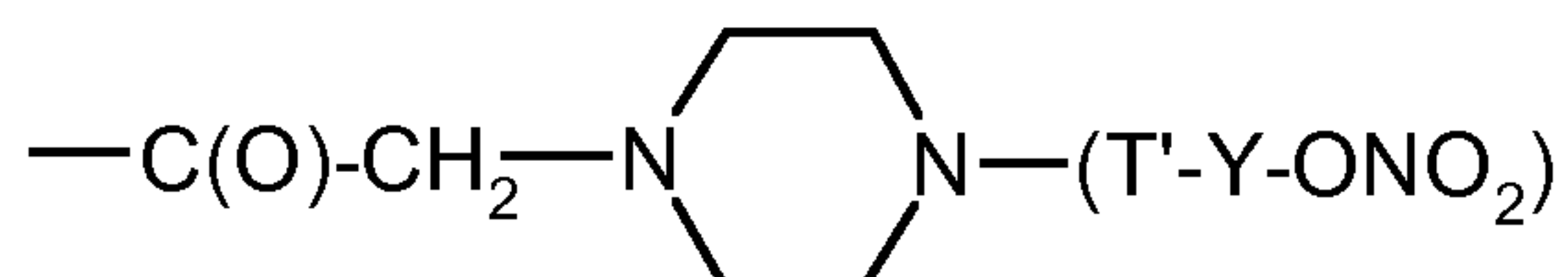
P)

(p1)



10

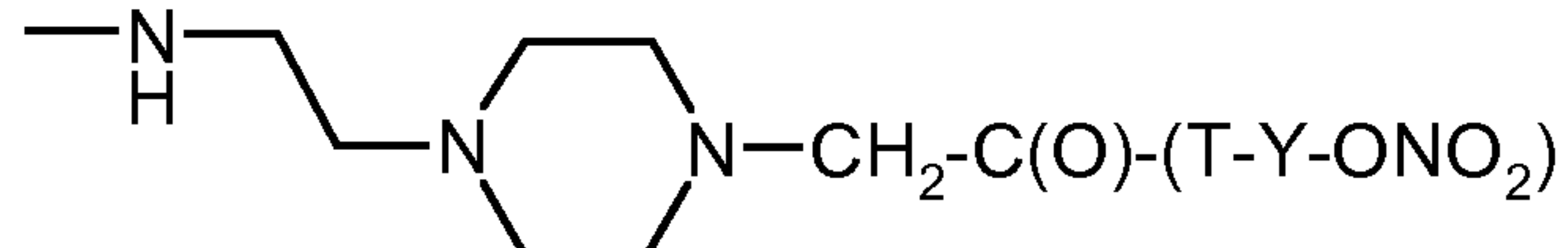
(p2)



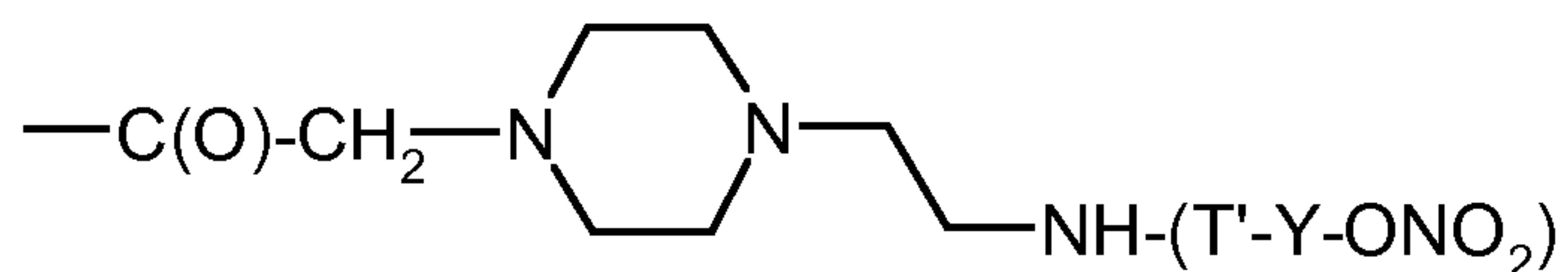
wherein T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

15 Q)

(q1)



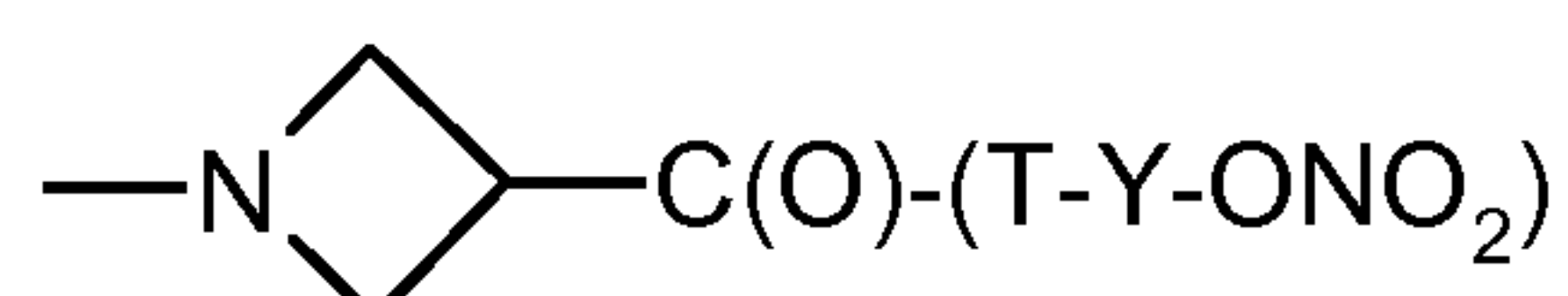
(q2)



wherein T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

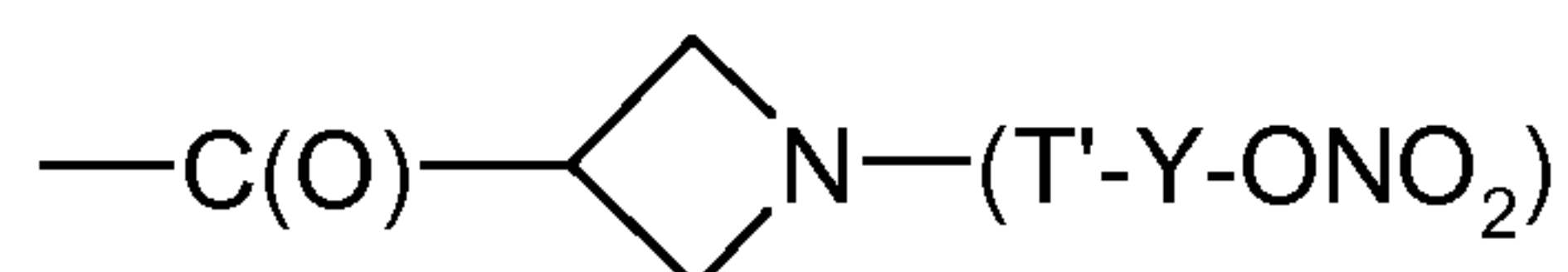
R)

(r1)



5

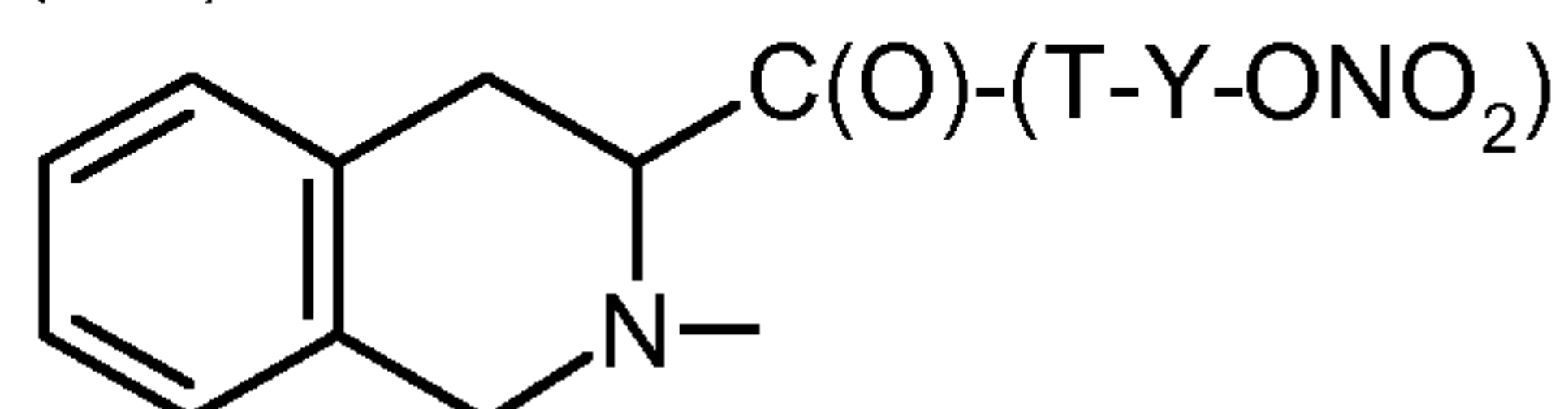
(r2)



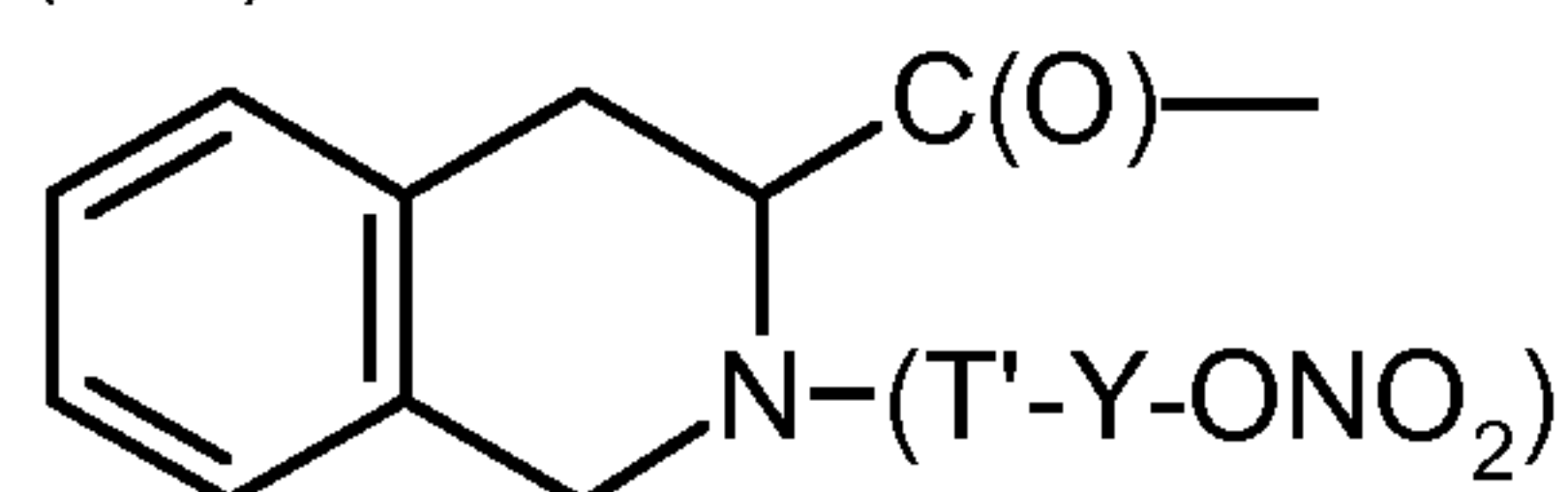
wherein T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

10 S)

(s1)



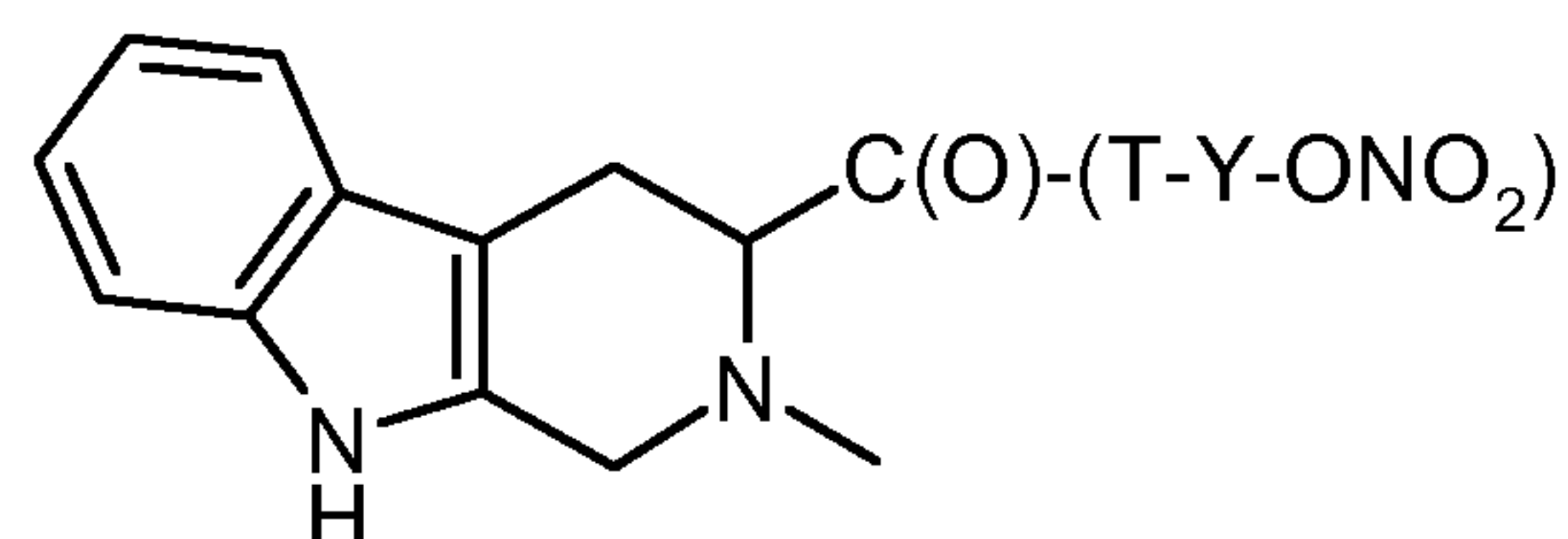
(s2)



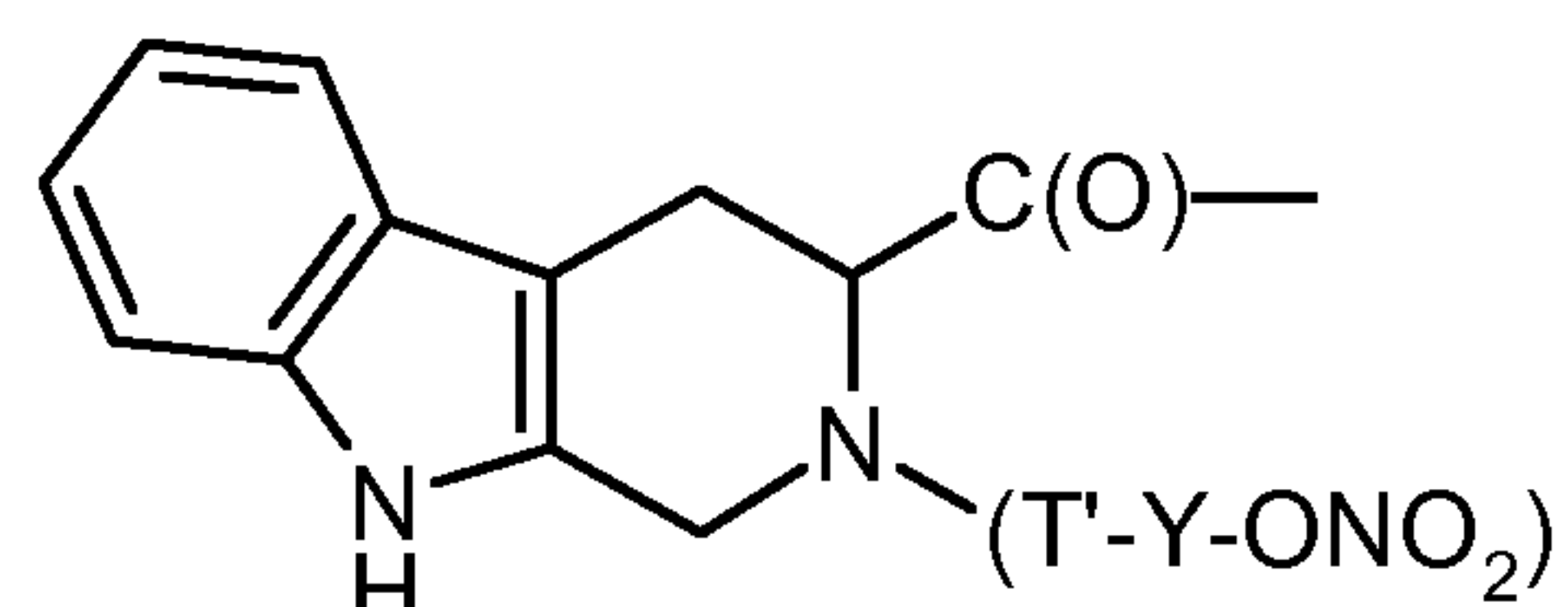
15 wherein T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

T)

(t1)



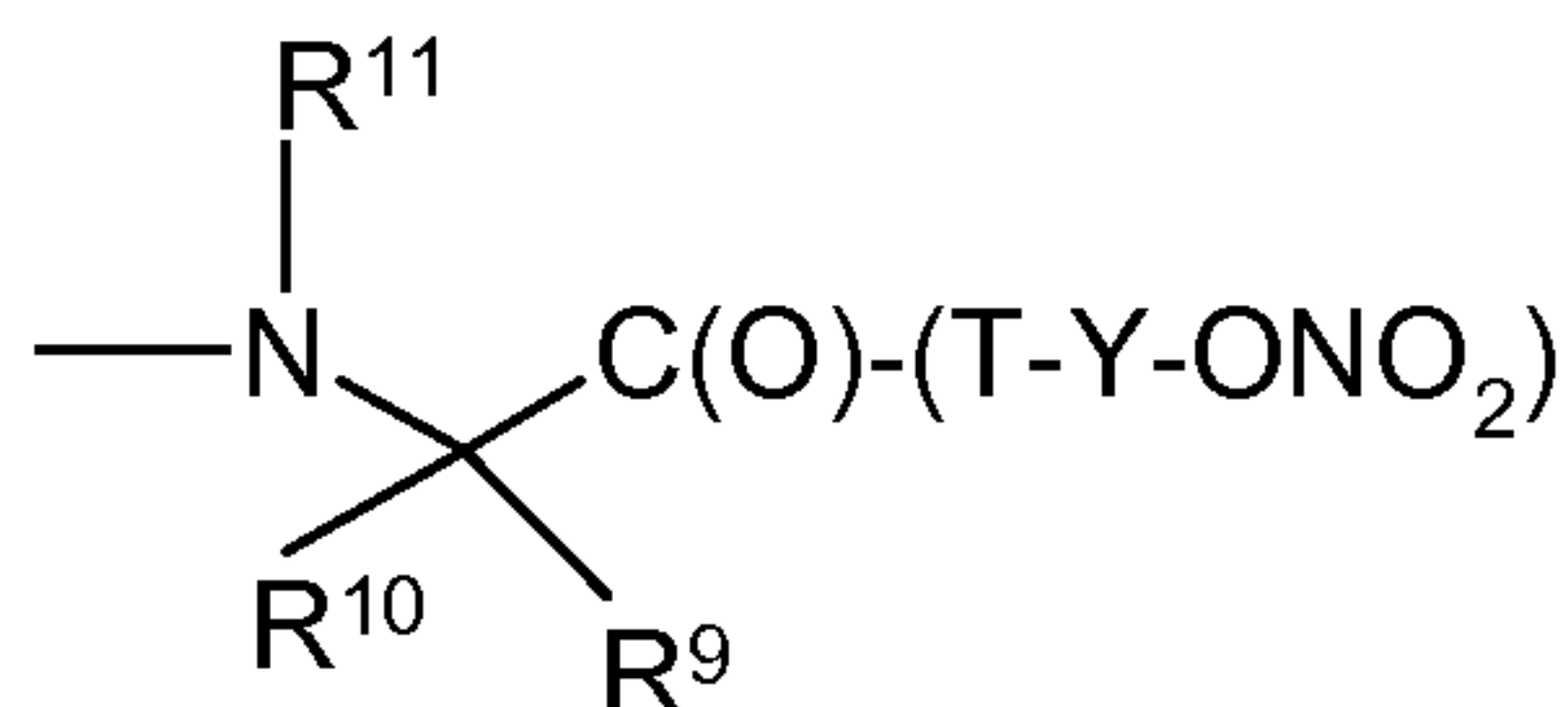
20 (t2)



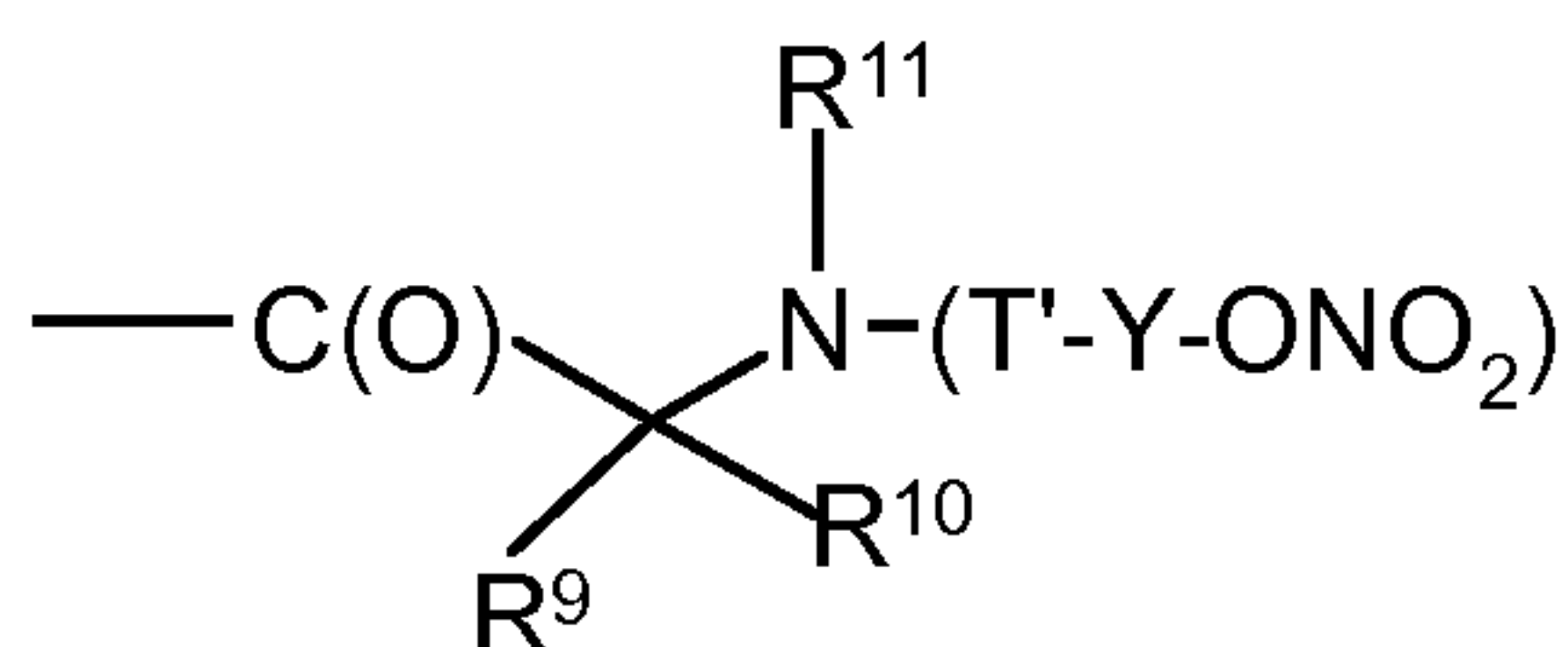
wherein T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

U)

(u1)



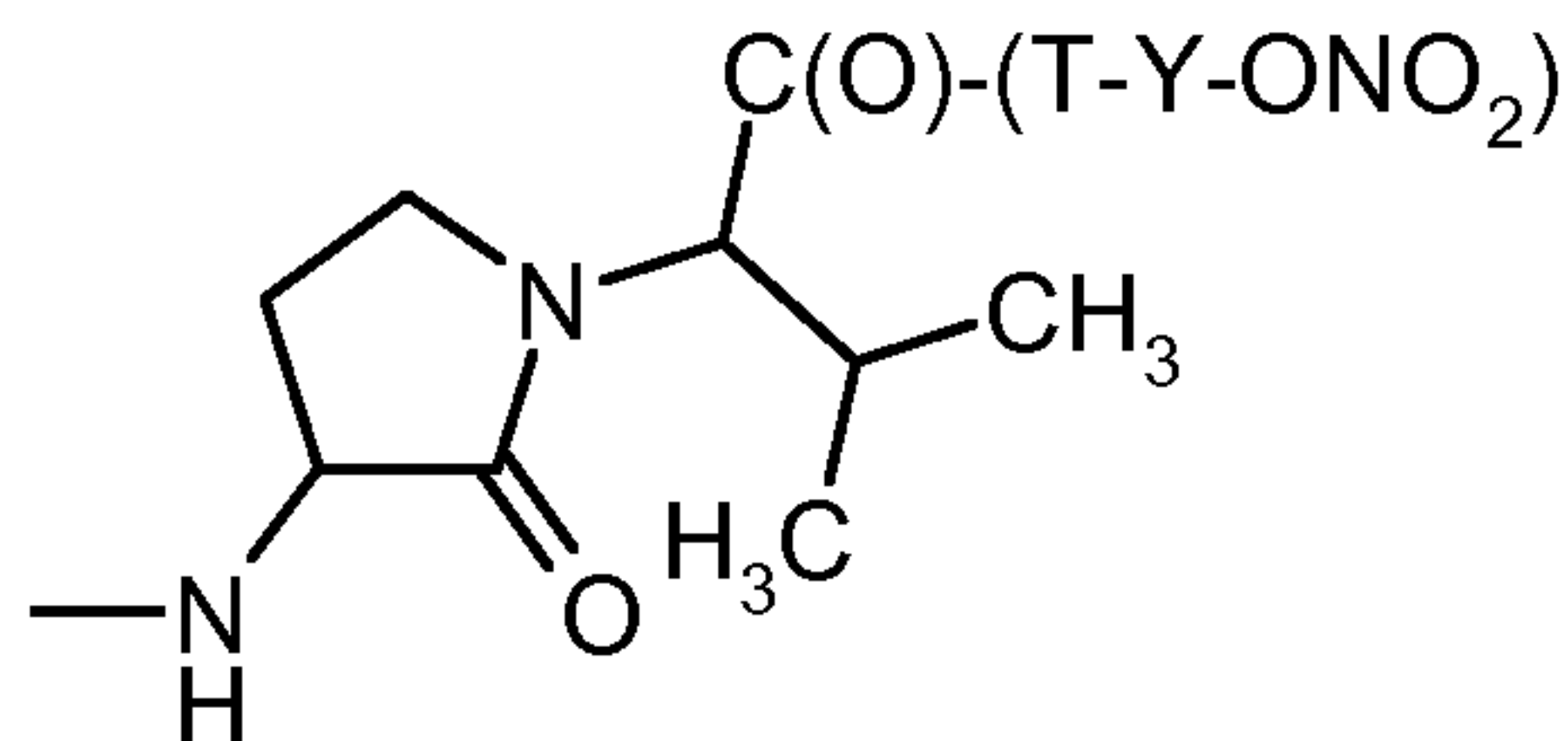
(u2)



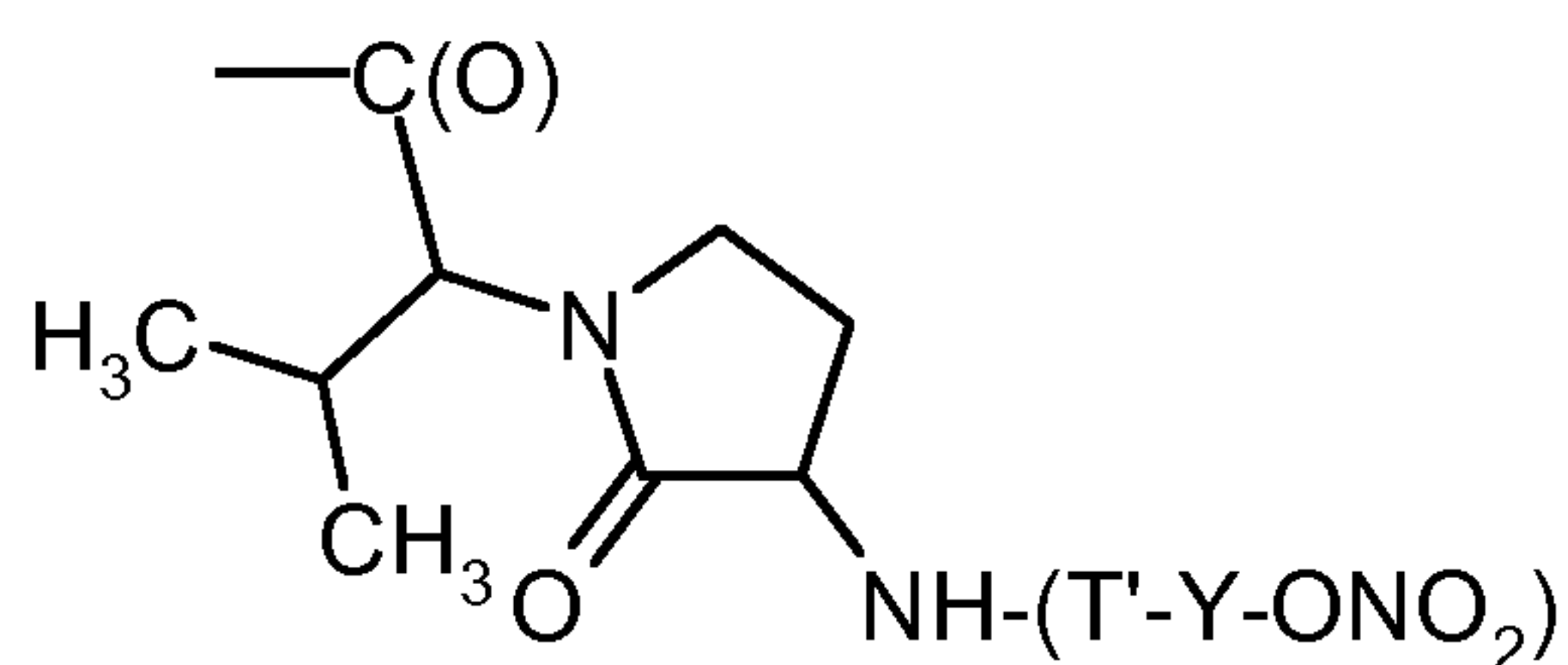
wherein R^9 and R^{10} are H, CH_3 , R^{11} is CH_3 or 4-piperidinyl with the proviso that R^9 and R^{10} are H when R^{11} is 4-piperidinyl and R^9 and R^{10} are CH_3 when R^{11} is CH_3 , T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

V)

(v1)



(v2)



wherein T and T' are as above defined and Y is as below reported;

with the proviso that in the formula (I):

a is 0 or a is 1 and Z is -CH(R')-O- wherein R' is as above defined, when R_x is:

– (a2), (a4) or (a8);

– (a5), (a6), (a9) or (a10) and R^{1b} is selected from the group A10);

- (b2), (b4) or (b8);
 - (b5), (b6), (b9) or (b10) and R^{2b} is selected from the group B10);

- (c2);

5 - (d5), (d6), (d9) or (d10) and R^{12b} is selected from the group D10);

- (e2), (f1), (g2), (h1), (i1), (l2), (m2), (n2), (o2), (p2), (q2), (r2), (s2), (t1) or (u2);

a is 1 and Z is -C(O)-, when R_x is:

10 - (a1), (a3) or (a7);

- (a5), (a6), (a9) or (a10) and R^{1b} is selected from the groups A8) and A9);

- (b1), (b3) or (b7);

- (b5), (b6), (b9) or (b10) and R^{2b} is selected from the groups
 15 B8) or B9);

- (c1);

- (d1), (d2), (d3), (d4), (d7) or (d8);

- (d5), (d6), (d9) or (d10) and R^{12b} is selected from the groups D8) or D9);

20 - (e1), (f2), (g1), (h2), (i2), (l1), (m1), (n1), (o1), (p1), (q1), (r1), (s1), (t2) or (u1).

Y and Y' are bivalent radicals each independently selected from the following meanings:

a)

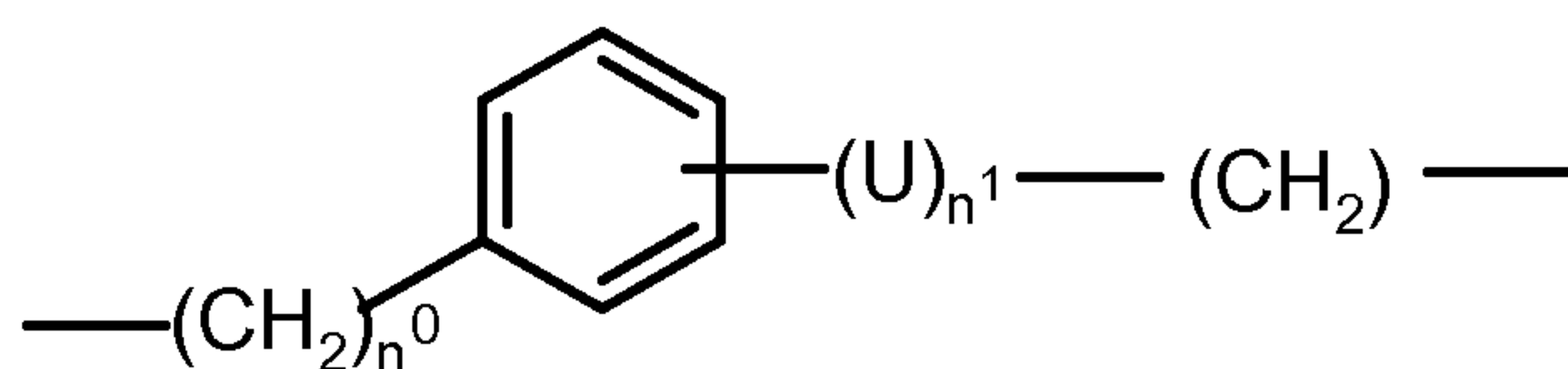
25 - straight or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkylene, preferably a straight or branched C_1 - C_{10} alkylene,

- straight or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkylene substituted with one or more of the substituents selected from the group consisting of: halogen atoms, hydroxy, -ONO₂ or T₂, wherein T₂ is -OC(O)(C_1 - C_{10}

30 alkyl)-ONO₂ or -O(C_1 - C_{10} alkyl)-ONO₂, preferably Y or Y' is a straight or branched C_1 - C_{10} alkylene substituted with a -ONO₂ group;

- cycloalkylene with 5 to 7 carbon atoms into cycloalkylene ring, the ring being optionally substituted with one or more straight or branched C₁-C₁₀ alkyl chains, preferably the ring being optionally substituted with CH₃;

5 b)



b)

wherein

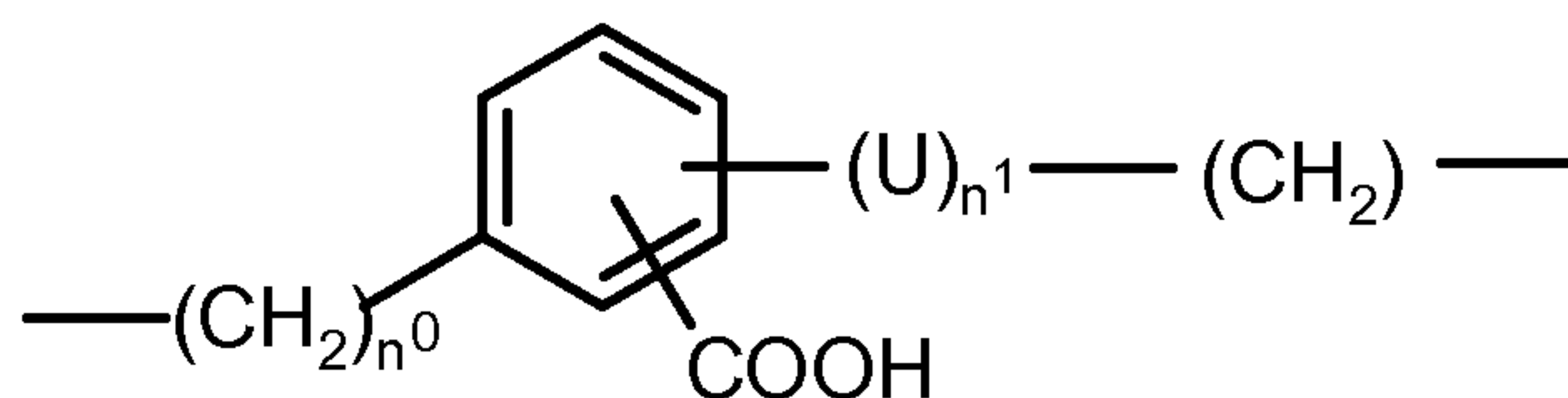
10 n^0 is an integer from 0 to 20, preferably n^0 is 0 or 1;

n^1 is 0 or 1, preferably n^1 is 1;

U is a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkylene optionally substituted with a -ONO₂ group, preferably U is a linear C₁-C₁₀ alkylene or U is a linear or branched C₁-C₁₀ alkylene substituted with a -ONO₂ group;

15

c)



c)

wherein

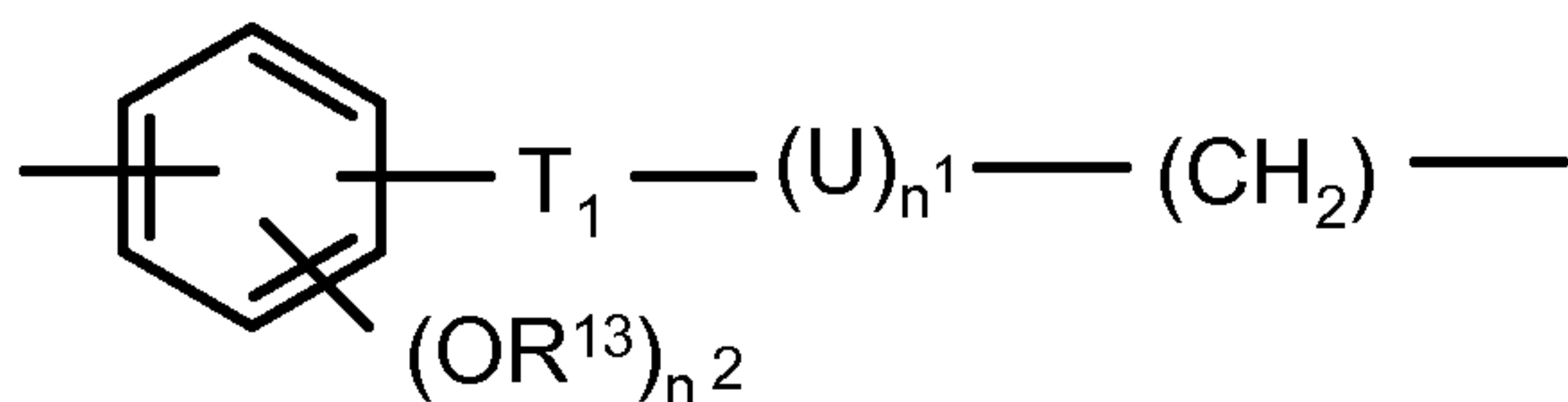
20 n^0 is an integer from 0 to 20, preferably n^0 is 0 or 1;

n^1 is 0 or 1, preferably n^1 is 1;

U is a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkylene optionally substituted with a -ONO₂ group, preferably U is a linear C₁-C₁₀ alkylene or U is a linear or branched C₁-C₁₀ alkylene substituted with a -ONO₂ group;

25

d)



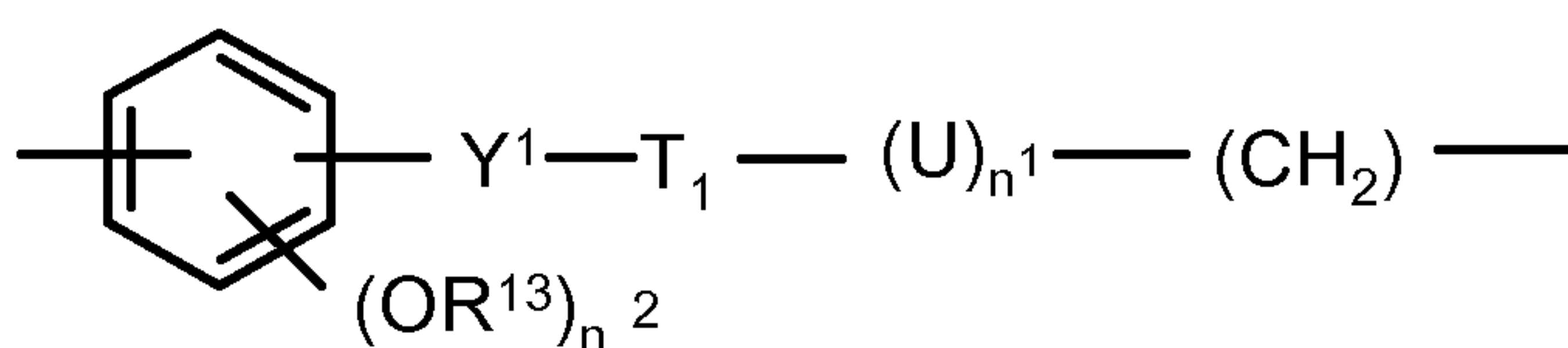
d)

wherein:

n² is an integer from 0 to 2, R¹³ is H or CH₃, T₁ is -O-C(O)- or
 5 -C(O)O-;

n¹ and U are as above defined;

e)



e)

10 n² is an integer from 0 to 2, preferably n² is 1;

R¹³ is H or CH₃, preferably R¹³ is CH₃;

Y¹ is -CH₂-CH₂- or -CH=CH-(CH₂)^{n^{2'}}-, wherein n^{2'} is 0 or 1,
 preferably Y¹ is -CH=CH-(CH₂)^{n^{2'}}- and n^{2'} is 0;

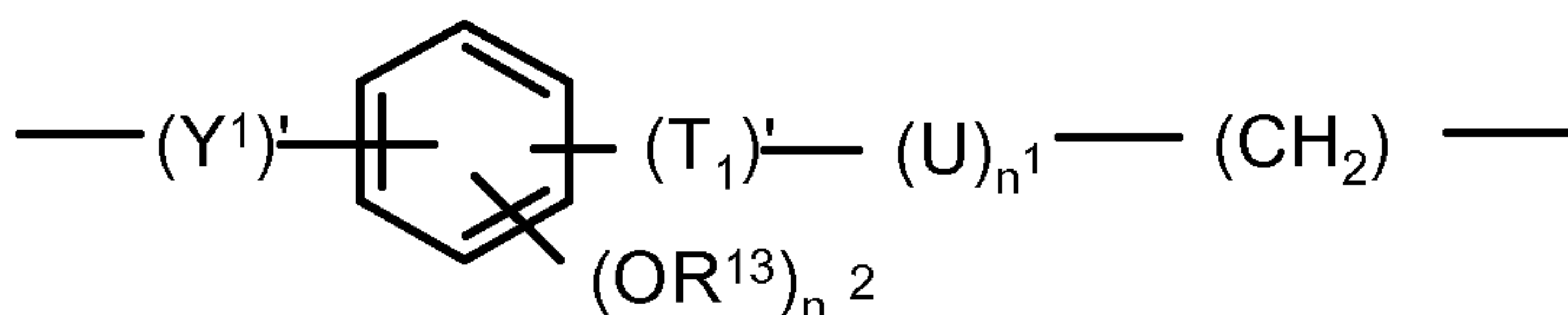
T₁ = -O-C(O)- or -C(O)O-, preferably T₁ is -C(O)O-;

15 n¹ is 0 or 1, preferably n¹ is 1;

U is a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkylene optionally substituted
 with a -ONO₂ group, preferably U is a linear C₁-C₁₀ alkylene or U
 is a linear or branched C₁-C₁₀ alkylene substituted with a -ONO₂
 group;

20 more preferably n² is 1, R¹³ is CH₃, Y¹ is -CH=CH-(CH₂)^{n^{2'}}- and n^{2'}
 is 0, T₁ is -C(O)O- and U is a linear C₁-C₁₀ alkylene;

e')



e')

25 wherein:

n² is an integer from 0 to 2, preferably n² is 1;

20

R^{13} is H or CH_3 , preferably R^{13} is CH_3 ;

Y^1 is $-CH_2-CH_2-$ or $-(CH_2)_{n^{2'}}-CH=CH-$, wherein $n^{2'}$ is 0 or 1, preferably Y^1 is $-(CH_2)_{n^{2'}}-CH=CH-$ and $n^{2'}$ is 0;

$(T_1)' = -O-C(O)-$;

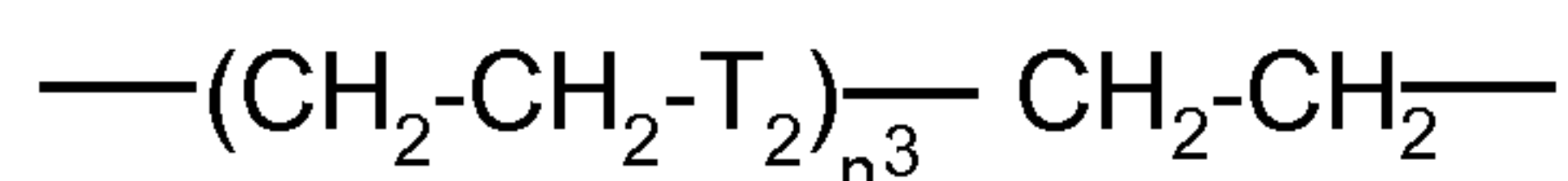
5 n^1 is 0 or 1, preferably n^1 is 1;

U is a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkylene optionally substituted with a $-ONO_2$ group, preferably U is a linear C_1-C_{10} alkylene or U is a linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene substituted with a $-ONO_2$ group;

10 more preferably n^2 is 1, R^{13} is CH_3 , Y^1 is $-CH=CH-(CH_2)_{n^{2'}}-$ and $n^{2'}$ is 0, T_1 is $-OC(O)-$ and U is a linear C_1-C_{10} alkylene;

when Y and Y' are selected from b), c), d), e) or e'), the $-ONO_2$ group of $-(T-Y-ONO_2)$, $-(T'-Y-ONO_2)$, $-(T''-Y'-ONO_2)$, $-(T'-Y'-ONO_2)$, $-(T'''-Y-ONO_2)$ and $-(T'''-Y'-ONO_2)$ is linked to the $-(CH_2)-$ group;

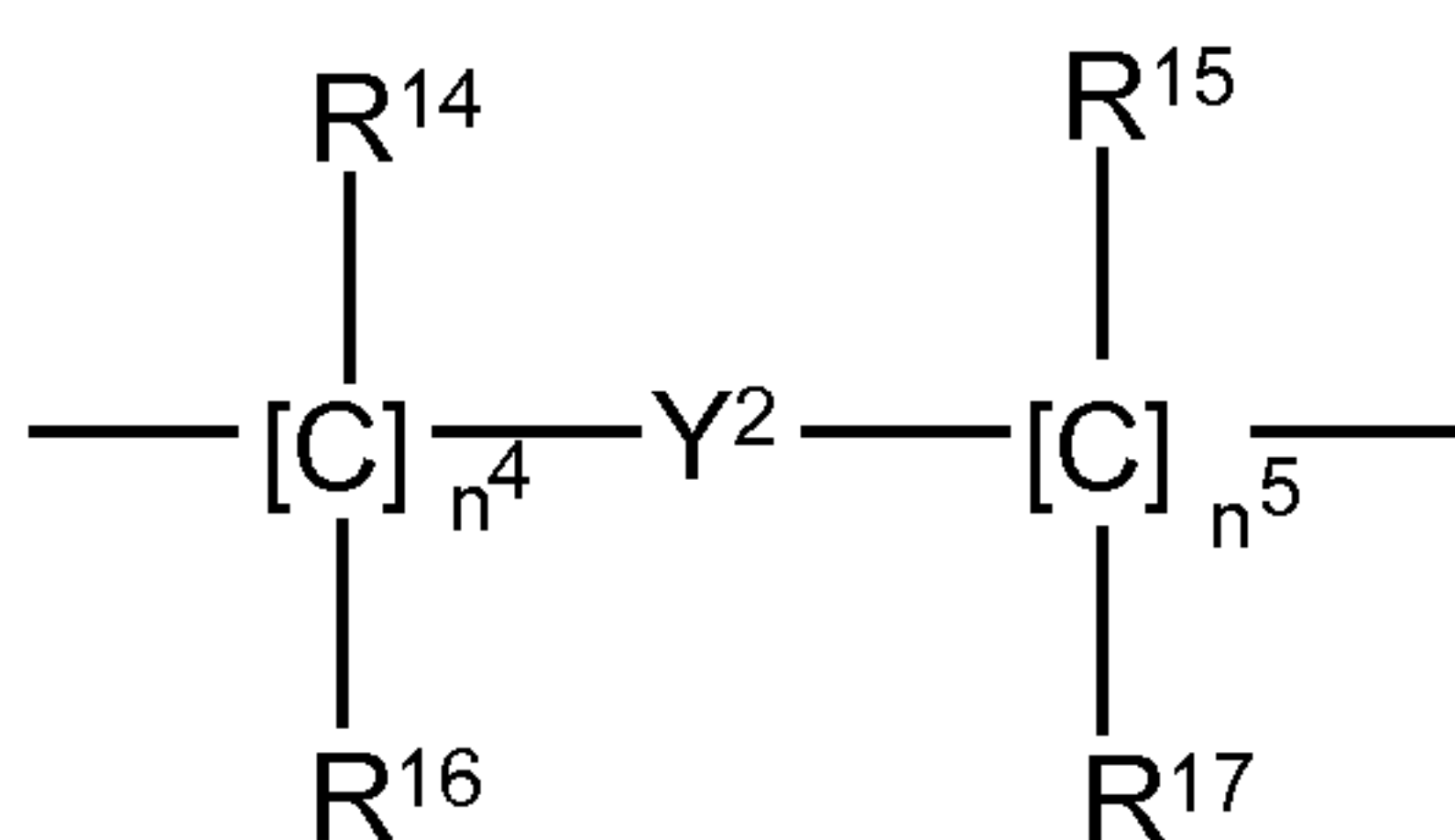
15 f)



wherein T_2 is $-O-$ or $-S-$, $-NH-$, preferably T_2 is $-O-$, n^3 is an integer from 1 to 6, preferably n^3 is 1;

g)

20



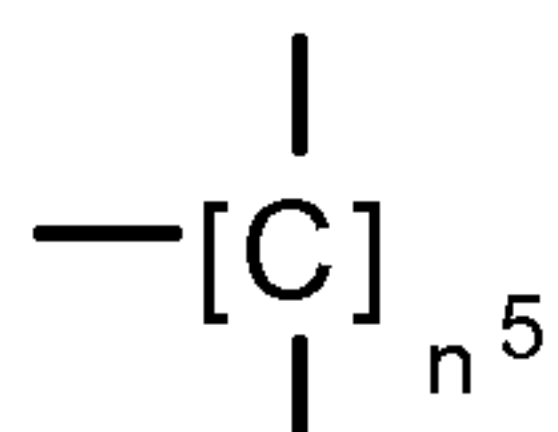
wherein:

n^4 is an integer from 0 to 10, preferably n^4 is 0 or 1;

n^5 is an integer from 1 to 10, preferably n^5 is 1;

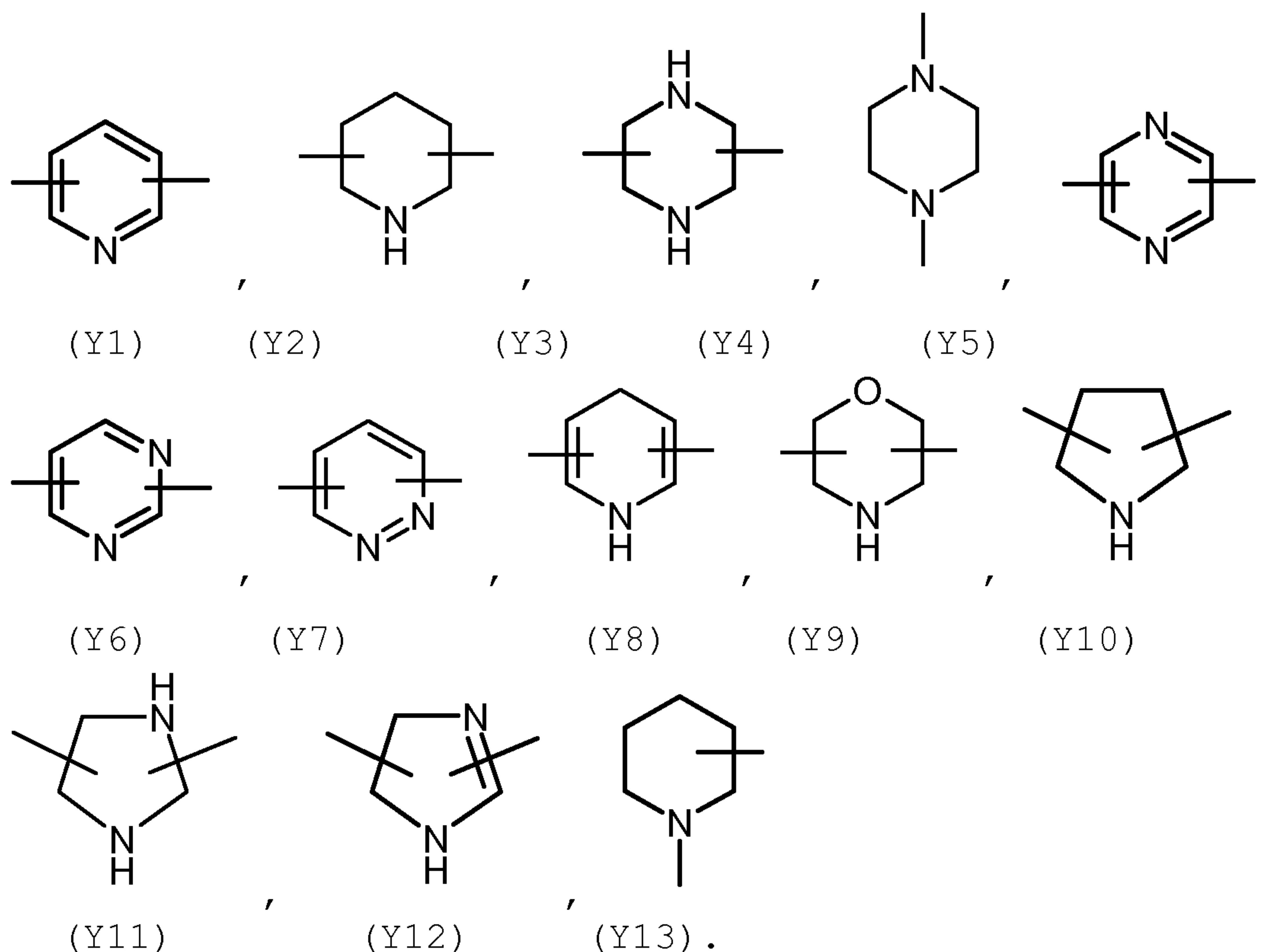
25 R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} are the same or different, and are H or straight or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl, preferably R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} and R^{17} are H;

wherein the $-ONO_2$ group is linked to



wherein n^5 is as defined above;

Y^2 is an heterocyclic saturated, unsaturated or aromatic 5 or 6 members ring, containing one or more heteroatoms selected from
 5 nitrogen, oxygen, sulphur,
 and is selected from the group consisting of:



The term "C₁-C₁₀ alkyl" as used herein refers to branched or straight alkyl groups including methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, t-butyl, pentyl, hexyl, octyl and
 15 the like.

The term "cycloalkylene" as used herein refers to ring having from 5 to 7 carbon atoms including, but not limited to, cyclopentylene, cyclohexylene optionally substituted with side
 20 chains such as straight or branched (C₁-C₁₀)-alkyl, preferably CH₃.

The term "heterocyclic" as used herein refers to saturated, unsaturated or aromatic 5 or 6 members ring, containing one or

more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen, sulphur, such as for example pyridine, pyrazine, pyrimidine, pyrrolidine, morpholine, imidazole and the like.

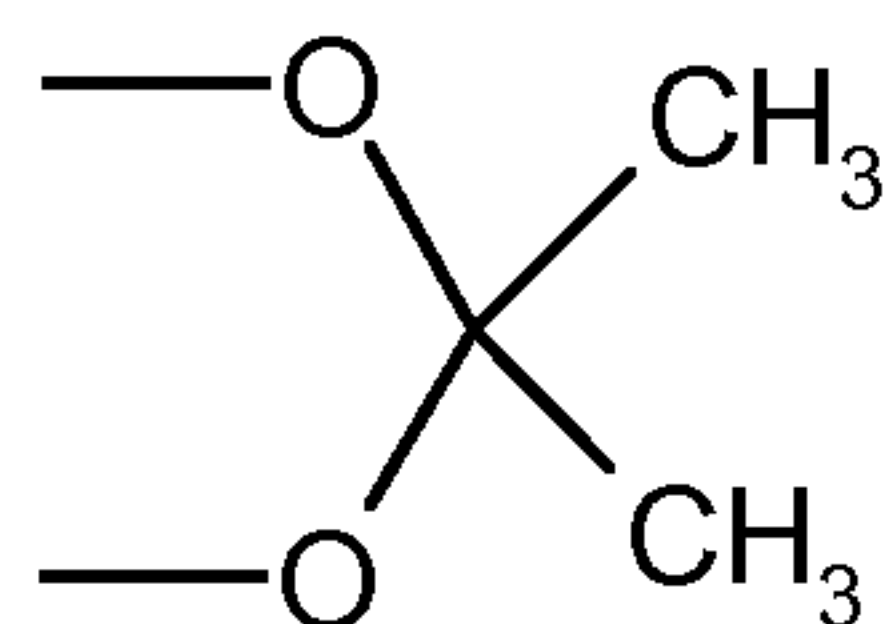
Preferred compounds of formula (I) for the treatment of ocular diseases, in particular ocular hypertension, age-related macular degeneration, diabetic macular edema, diabetic retinopathy, hypertensive retinopathy and retinal vasculopathies, are those wherein the corticosteroid residue R is selected from the group consisting of betamethasone, fluocinolone acetonide, triamcinolone acetonide.

Another embodiment of the invention relates to compounds of formula (I) wherein in the corticosteroid R of formula (II) R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 have the following meanings :

R_1 is OH in position α , R_2 -CH₃ in position β , R_3 is Cl in position α and R_4 is H; or

R_1 is OH in position α , R_2 -CH₃ in position β , R_3 is F in position α and R_4 is H; or

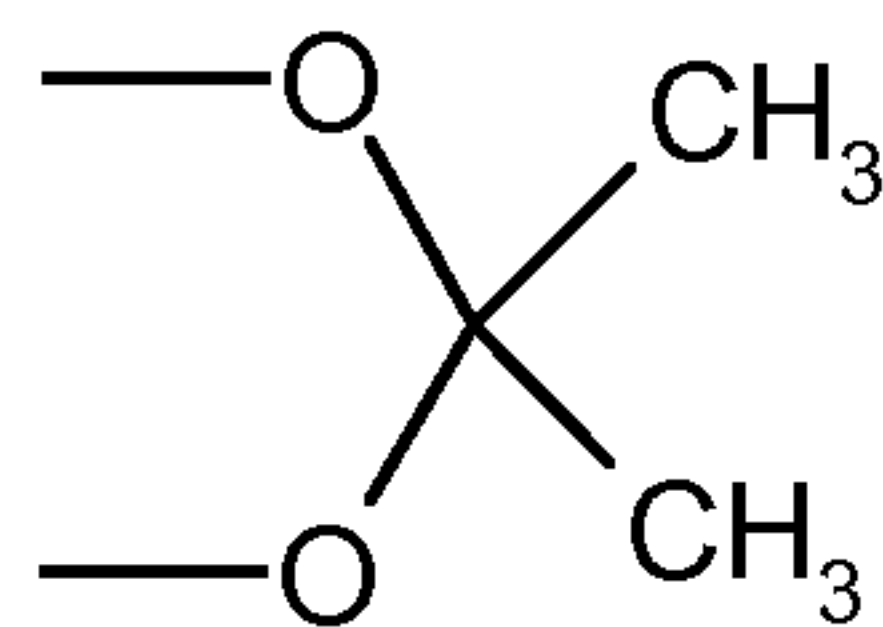
R_1 and R_2 are taken together to form a group of formula (III)



(III)

R_3 is F and R_4 is H, R_1 , R_2 and R_3 are in position α ; or

R_1 and R_2 are taken together to form a group of formula (III)



(III)

R_3 and R_4 are F, R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are in position α ; in formula (I):

a is 0 and

R_x is selected from:

(a2) -C(O)-CH(R^1)-NH-(T'-Y-ONO₂)

wherein

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R^1 of the group A1) is selected from H, isobutyl, benzyl, $C_6H_5-CH_2-CH_2-$, 2-monosubstituted benzyl, or 3-monosubstituted benzyl or 4-monosubstituted benzyl wherein the substituent of the benzyl is selected from -F, -Cl, I, $-NO_2$, $-CF_3$, $-CH_3$, CN, C_6H_5CO- ;
5 ;

R^1 of the group A2) is selected from $-CH_2-OH$, $-CH(CH_3)OH-$ or $-CH_2[(C_6H_4)-(4-OH)]$, or

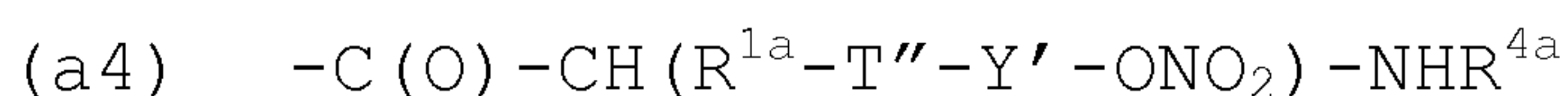
R^1 of the group A3) is selected from $-CH_2-NHR''$, $-(CH_2)_2-NHR''$, $-(CH_2)_3-NHR''$, $-(CH_2)_4-NHR''$, wherein R'' is H, or $-C(O)CH_3$;

10 R^1 of the group A4) is selected from $-CH_2-C(O)R'''$, $-(CH_2)_2-C(O)R'''$, $-(CH_2)_4-C(O)R'''$ wherein R''' is OR^{5a} wherein R^{5a} is H or a linear (C_1-C_5) alkyl;

T' is $-C(O)-$, $-C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is $-S-$ or $-O-$, preferably T' is $-C(O)-$;

15 Y is as below defined;

or R_x is



wherein R^{1a} of the group A5) is selected from $-CH_2-O-$, $-CH(CH_3)O-$ or $-CH_2[(C_6H_4)-(4-O)-]$, or

20 R^{1a} of the group A6) is selected from $-CH_2-NH-$, $-(CH_2)_2-NH-$, $-(CH_2)_3-NH-$, $-(CH_2)_4-NH-$, or

R^{1a} of the group A7) is selected from $-CH_2-C(O)-$, $-(CH_2)_2-C(O)-$, $-(CH_2)_4-C(O)-$;

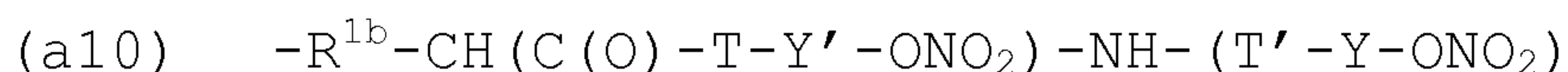
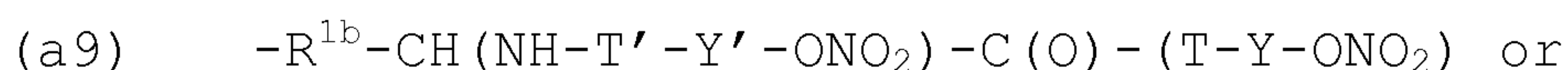
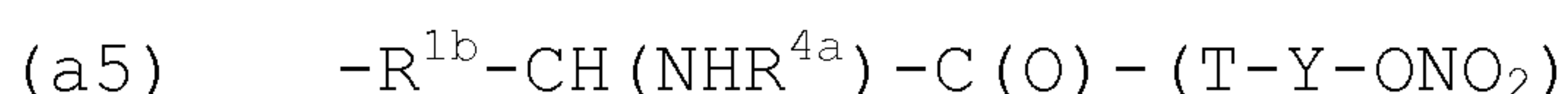
R^{4a} is H or $-C(O)CH_3$;

25 T'' is $-C(O)-$ or $-C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is $-S-$ or $-O-$, when R^{1a} is selected from the group A5) or A6), preferably T'' is $-C(O)-$;

T'' is $-O-$, $-S-$, $-NR'-$ or $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ wherein R' is H or $-CH_3$, when R^{1a} is selected from the group A7);

Y' is as below defined;

30 or R_x is selected from



wherein

R^{1b} of the group A10) is selected from $-C(O)-CH_2-$, $-C(O)-(CH_2)_2-$,
 $-C(O)-(CH_2)_4-$;

R^{3a} is H or a (C_1-C_5) alkyl;

5 R^{4a} is H or $-C(O)CH_3$;

T is $-O-$, $-S-$, $-NR'-$ or $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ wherein R' is H or $-CH_3$, preferably T is $-O-$;

T' is $-C(O)-$ or $-C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is $-S-$ or $-O-$, preferably T' is $-C(O)-$;

10 Y and Y' are as below defined;

or R_X is

(a8) $-C(O)-CH(R^{1a}-T''-Y'-ONO_2)-NH-(T'-Y-ONO_2)$

wherein

R^{1a} of the group A5) is selected from $-CH_2-O-$, $-CH(CH_3)-O-$ or
 15 $-CH_2[(C_6H_4)-(4-O)-]$, or

R^{1a} of the group A6) is selected from $-CH_2-NH-$, $-(CH_2)_2-NH-$, $-(CH_2)_3-NH-$, $-(CH_2)_4-NH-$, or

R^{1a} of the group A7) is selected from $-CH_2-C(O)-$, $-(CH_2)_2-C(O)-$,
 $-(CH_2)_4-C(O)-$;

20 T'' is $-C(O)-$ or $-C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is $-S-$ or $-O-$, when R^{1a} is selected from the group A5) or A6), preferably T'' is $-C(O)-$;

T'' is $-O-$, $-S-$, $-NR'-$ or $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ wherein R' is H or $-CH_3$, when R^{1a} is selected from the group A7);

T' is $-C(O)-$ or $-C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is $-S-$ or $-O-$, preferably T'
 25 is $-C(O)-$;

Y and Y' are as below defined;

or R_X is

(b2) $-C(O)-CH_2-CH(R^2)-NH-(T'-Y-ONO_2)$

wherein

30 R^2 of the group B1) is selected from H, CH_3 , isobutyl, isopropyl, benzyl;

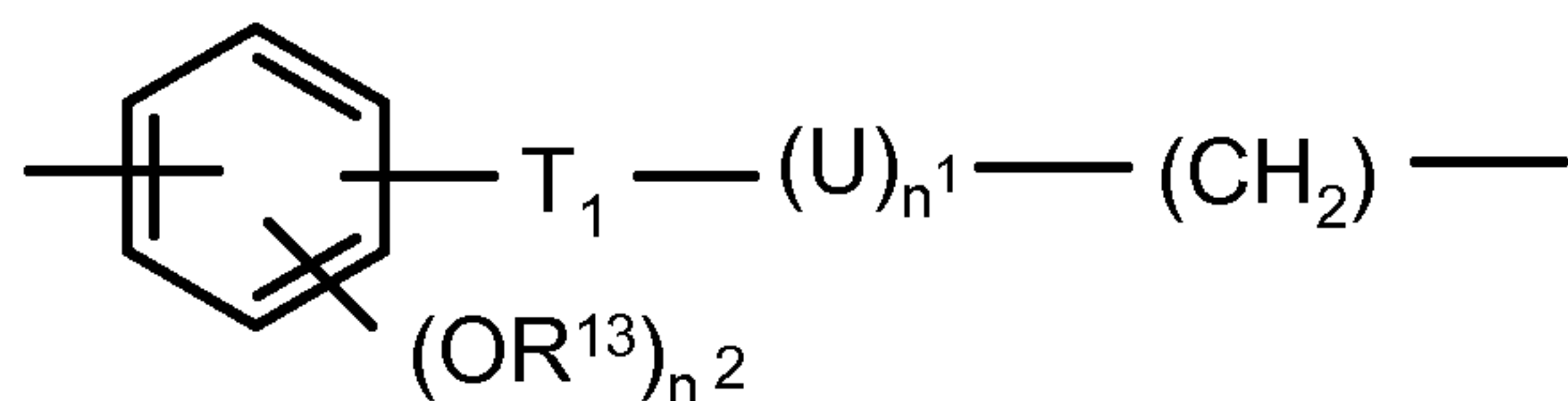
T' is $-C(O)-$, $-C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is $-S-$ or $-O-$, preferably T' is $-C(O)-$;

Y and Y' are each independently selected from

a)

- a straight or branched C₁-C₁₀ alkylene,
- a straight or branched C₁-C₁₀ alkylene substituted with a -ONO₂ group;

5 d)



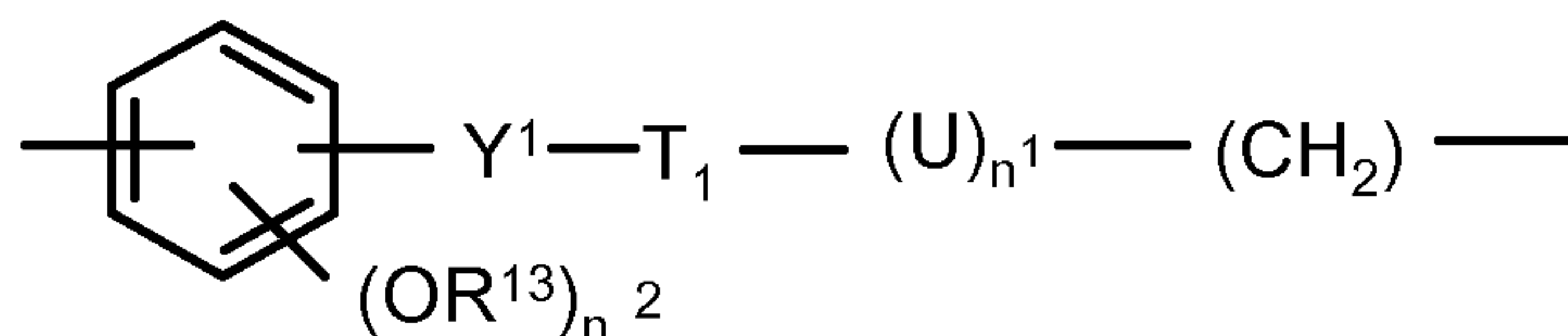
d)

wherein:

n² is an integer from 0 to 2, R¹³ is H or CH₃, T₁ is -O-C(O)- or
 10 -C(O)O-;

n¹ is 1 and U is a linear C₁-C₁₀ alkylene or U is a linear or
 branched C₁-C₁₀ alkylene substituted with a -ONO₂ group;

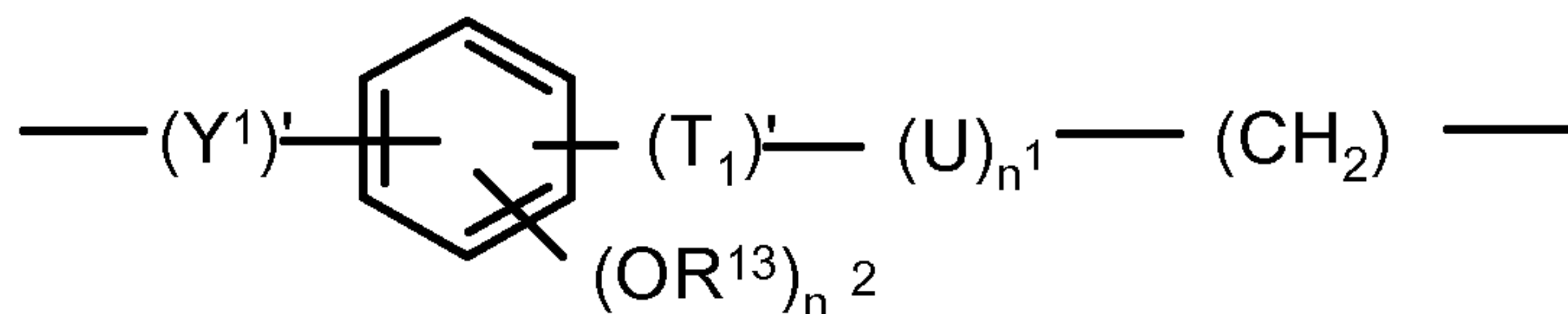
e)



15 e)

n² is 1, R¹³ is CH₃, Y¹ is -CH=CH-(CH₂)_{n^{2'}}- and n^{2'} is 0, T₁ is -
 C(O)O- and U is a linear C₁-C₁₀ alkylene;

e')



20 e')

wherein:

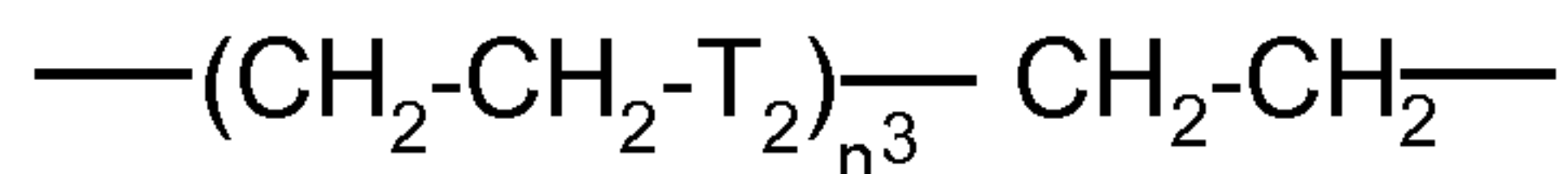
n² is 1, R¹³ is CH₃;

Y¹ is -(CH₂)_{n^{2'}}-CH=CH- and n^{2'} is 0;

(T₁)' = -O-C(O)-;

25 n¹ is 1 and U is a linear C₁-C₁₀ alkylene or U is a linear or
 branched C₁-C₁₀ alkylene substituted with a -ONO₂ group;

when Y and Y' are selected from d), e) or e'), the -ONO₂ group of -(T-Y-ONO₂), -(T'-Y-ONO₂), -(T''-Y'-ONO₂), -(T'-Y'-ONO₂), -(T'''-Y-ONO₂) and -(T'''-Y'-ONO₂) is linked to the -(CH₂)- group;
f)



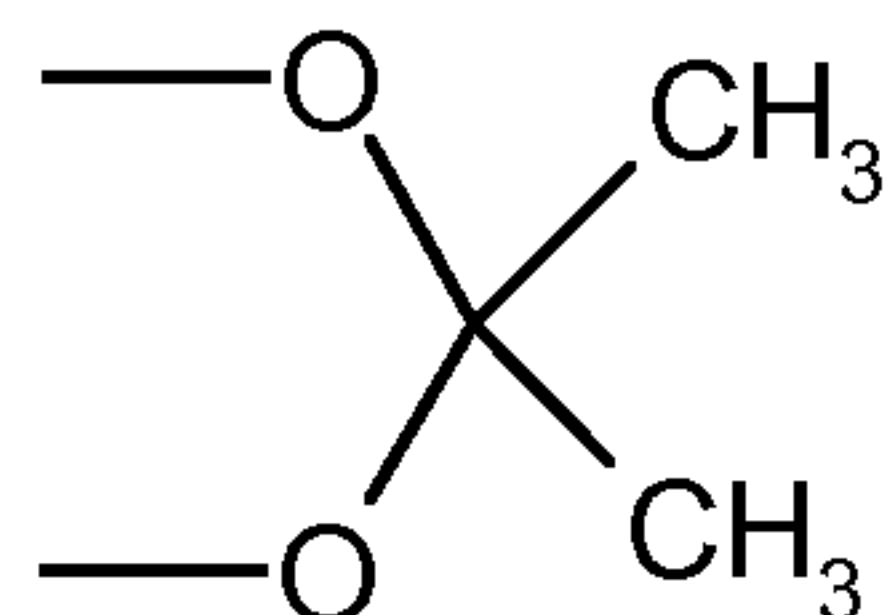
wherein T₂ is -O- or -S-, -NH-, preferably T₂ is -O-, n³ is 1 or 2;

Another embodiment of the invention relates to compounds of formula (I) wherein in the corticosteroid R of formula (II) R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ have the following meanings :

R₁ is OH in position α, R₂ -CH₃ in position β, R₃ is Cl in position α and R₄ is H; or

R₁ is OH in position α, R₂ -CH₃ in position β, R₃ is F in position α and R₄ is H; or

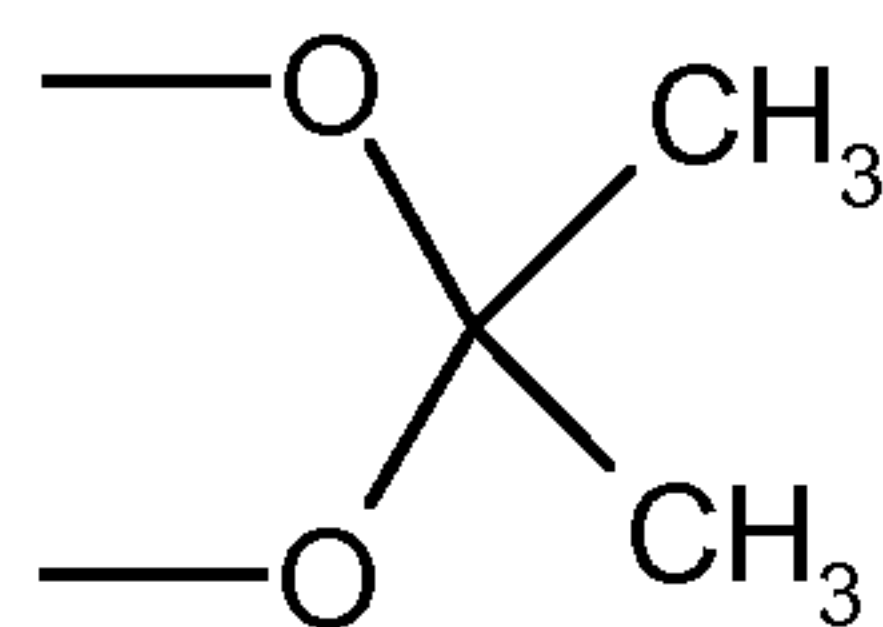
R₁ and R₂ are taken together to form a group of formula (III)



(III)

R₃ is F and R₄ is H, R₁, R₂ and R₃ are in position α; or

R₁ and R₂ are taken together to form a group of formula (III)



(III)

R₃ and R₄ are F, R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ are in position α;
in formula (I):

a is 1 and Z is -C(O)-;

R_x is

(a1) -HN-CH(R¹)-C(O)-(T-Y-ONO₂)

wherein

R¹ of the group A1) is selected from H, isobutyl, benzyl, C₆H₅-CH₂-CH₂-, 2-monosubstituted benzyl, or 3-monosubstituted benzyl

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or 4- monosubstituted benzyl wherein the substituent of the benzyl is selected from -F, -Cl, I, -NO₂, -CF₃, -CH₃, CN, C₆H₅CO- ;

or

5 R¹ of A2) is selected from -CH₂-OH, -CH(CH₃)-OH- or -CH₂[(C₆H₄)-(4-OH)], or

R¹ of the group A3) is selected from -CH₂-NHR'', -(CH₂)₂-NHR'', -(CH₂)₃-NHR'', -(CH₂)₄-NHR'', wherein R'' is H, or -C(O)CH₃,

10 R¹ of the group A4) is -CH₂-C(O)R''', -(CH₂)₂-C(O)R''', -(CH₂)₄-C(O)R''' wherein R''' is OR^{5a} wherein R^{5a} is H or a linear (C₁-C₅) alkyl;

T is -O-, -S-, -NR'-, -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)- wherein R' is H or a straight or branched C₁-C₄ alkyl, preferably T is -O-;

Y is as below defined;

15 or R_x is

(a3) -HN-CH(R^{1a}-T''-Y'-ONO₂)-COOR^{3a}

wherein

R^{1a} of the group A5) is selected from -CH₂-O-, -CH(CH₃)O- or -CH₂[(C₆H₄)O_p-], or

20 R^{1a} of the group A6) is selected from -CH₂-NH-, -(CH₂)₂-NH-, -(CH₂)₃-NH-, -(CH₂)₄-NH-, or

R^{1a} of the group A7) is -CH₂-C(O)-, -(CH₂)₂-C(O)-, -(CH₂)₄-C(O)-;

R^{3a} is H or a (C₁-C₅) alkyl;

25 T'' is -C(O)- or -C(O)-X'' wherein X'' is -S- or -O-, when R^{1a} is selected from the group A5) or A6), preferably T'' is -C(O)-;

T'' is -O-, -S-, -NR'-, -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)- wherein R' is H or a straight or branched C₁-C₄ alkyl, when R^{1a} is selected from the group A7);

Y' is as below defined;

30 or R_x is

(a5) -R^{1b}-CH(NHR^{4a})-C(O)-(T-Y-ONO₂)

(a6) -R^{1b}-CH(COOR^{3a})NH-(T'-Y-ONO₂)

(a9) -R^{1b}-CH(NH-T'-Y'-ONO₂)-C(O)-(T-Y-ONO₂) or

(a10) -R^{1b}-CH(C(O)-T-Y'-ONO₂)-NH-(T'-Y-ONO₂)

wherein

R^{1b} of the group A8) is selected from $-O-CH(CH_3)-$, $-O-CH_2-$, $[-4-O-(C_6H_4)]-CH_2-$, or

R^{1b} of the group A9) is selected from $-HN-CH_2-$, $-HN-(CH_2)_2-$, $-HN-$
 5 $(CH_2)_3-$, $-HN-(CH_2)_4-$;

R^{3a} is H or a (C_1-C_5) alkyl;

R^{4a} is H or $-C(O)CH_3$;

T is $-O-$, $-S-$, $-NR'-$, $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ wherein R' is H or a straight or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl, preferably T is $-O-$;

10 T' is $-C(O)-$ or $-C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is $-S-$ or $-O-$, preferably T' is $-C(O)-$;

Y and Y' are as below defined;

or R_X is

(a7) $-HN-CH(R^{1a}-T''-Y'-ONO_2)-C(O)-(T-Y-ONO_2)$

15 wherein

R^{1a} of the group A5) is selected from $-CH_2-O-$, $-CH(CH_3)-O-$ or $-CH_2[(C_6H_4)-(4-O)-]$, or

R^{1a} of the group A6) is selected from $-CH_2-NH-$, $-(CH_2)_2-NH-$, $-(CH_2)_3-NH-$, $-(CH_2)_4-NH-$, or

20 R^{1a} of the group A7) is $-CH_2-C(O)-$, $-(CH_2)_2-C(O)-$, $-(CH_2)_4-C(O)-$;

T'' is $-C(O)-$ or $-C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is $-S-$ or $-O-$, preferably T'' is $-C(O)-$ when R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6);

T'' is $-O-$, $-S-$, $-NR'-$, $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ wherein R' is H or a straight or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl, preferably T'' is $-O-$, when R^{1a}

25 is selected from A7);

T is $-O-$, $-S-$, $-NR'-$, $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ wherein R' is H or a straight or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl, preferably T is $-O-$;

Y and Y' are as below defined;

or R_X is

30 (b1) $-HN-CH(R^2)-CH_2C(O)-(T-Y-ONO_2)$

wherein

R^2 of the group B1) is selected from H, CH_3 , isobutyl, isopropyl, benzyl;

29

R^2 of the group B2) is selected from $-\text{CH}_2\text{-OH}$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{-OH-}$ or $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)(4\text{-OH})]$, or

R^2 of the group B3) is selected from $-\text{CH}_2\text{-NHR}''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{-NHR}''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{-NHR}''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{-NHR}''$, wherein R'' is H, or $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$,

5 R^2 of the group B4) is $-\text{CH}_2\text{-C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{-C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{-C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$ wherein R''' is OR^{5a} wherein R^{5a} is H or a linear $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_5)$ alkyl;;

T is $-\text{O-}$, $-\text{S-}$, $-\text{NR}'\text{-}$, $-\text{O-CH}(\text{R}')\text{-O-C}(\text{O})\text{-}$ wherein R' is H or a straight or branched $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ alkyl, preferably T is $-\text{O-}$;

10 Y is as below defined;

or R_x is selected from

(d1) $-\text{HN-CH}(\text{R}^{12})\text{-CH}_2\text{-O-}(\text{T}'''-\text{Y-ONO}_2)$

(d2) $-\text{O-CH}_2\text{-CH}(\text{R}^{12})\text{-NH-}(\text{T}'-\text{Y-ONO}_2)$

wherein

15 R^{12} of the group D1) is selected from H, CH_3 , isobutyl, isopropyl, benzyl, or

R^{12} of the group D2) is selected from $-\text{CH}_2\text{-OH}$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{OH-}$ or $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)-(4\text{-OH})]$, or

20 R^{12} of the group D3) is selected from $-\text{CH}_2\text{-NHR}''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{-NHR}''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{-NHR}''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{-NHR}''$ wherein R'' is H, or

R^{12} of the group D4) is $-\text{CH}_2\text{-C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{-C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{-C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$ wherein R''' is OR^{5a} wherein R^{5a} is H or a linear $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_5)$ alkyl;

25 T' and T''' are each independently selected from $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{-}$ or $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{-X}''$ wherein X'' is $-\text{S-}$ or $-\text{O-}$, preferably T' and T''' are $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{-}$;

Y is as below defined;

or R_x is selected from

(d3) $-\text{HN-CH}(\text{R}^{12a}\text{-T}''\text{-Y}'\text{-ONO}_2)\text{-CH}_2\text{OH}$

30 (d4) $-\text{O-CH}_2\text{-CH}(\text{R}^{12a}\text{-T}''\text{-Y}'\text{-ONO}_2)\text{-NHR}^{4a}$

(d7) $-\text{HN-CH}(\text{R}^{12a}\text{-T}''\text{-Y}'\text{-ONO}_2)\text{-CH}_2\text{-O-}(\text{T}'''-\text{Y-ONO}_2)$ or

(d8) $-\text{O-CH}_2\text{-CH}(\text{R}^{12a}\text{-T}''\text{-Y}'\text{-ONO}_2)\text{-NH-}(\text{T}'-\text{Y-ONO}_2)$

wherein

30

R^{12a} of the group D5) is selected from $-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{O}-$ or $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)-(4-\text{O})-]$, or

R^{12a} of the group D6) is selected from $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{NH}-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NH}-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NH}-$, or

5 R^{12a} of the group D7) is $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{C}(\text{O})-$; R^{4a} is H or $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$;

T'' is selected from $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$ or $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{X}''$ wherein X'' is $-\text{S}-$ or $-\text{O}-$, preferably T' and T''' are $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, when R^{12a} is selected from D5) or D6);

10 T'' is $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{S}-$, $-\text{NR}'-$, $-\text{O}-\text{CH}(\text{R}')-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-$ wherein R' is H or a straight or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl, preferably T is $-\text{O}-$, when R^{12a} is selected from D7);

T''' is selected from $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$ or $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{X}''$ wherein X'' is $-\text{S}-$ or $-\text{O}-$, preferably T''' is $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$,

15 Y and Y' are as below defined;

or R_x is selected from

(d5) $-\text{R}^{12b}-\text{CH}(\text{NHR}^{4a})-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-(T'''-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

(d6) $-\text{R}^{12b}-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})-\text{NH}-(T'-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

(d9) $-\text{R}^{12b}-\text{CH}(\text{NH}-T'-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-(T'''-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$ or

20 (d10) $-\text{R}^{12b}-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-T'''-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)-\text{NH}-(T'-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

wherein

R^{12b} of the group D8) is selected from $-\text{O}-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-$, $-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-$, $[-\text{O}_p(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)]-\text{CH}_2-$, or

R^{12b} of the group D9) is selected from $-\text{HN}-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{HN}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-$, $-\text{HN}-(\text{CH}_2)_3-$, $-\text{HN}-(\text{CH}_2)_4-$;

25 R^{4a} is H or $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_3$,

T' and T''' are each independently selected from $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{X}''$, wherein X'' is $-\text{S}-$ or $-\text{O}-$, preferably T' and T''' are $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$;

Y and Y' are each independently selected from

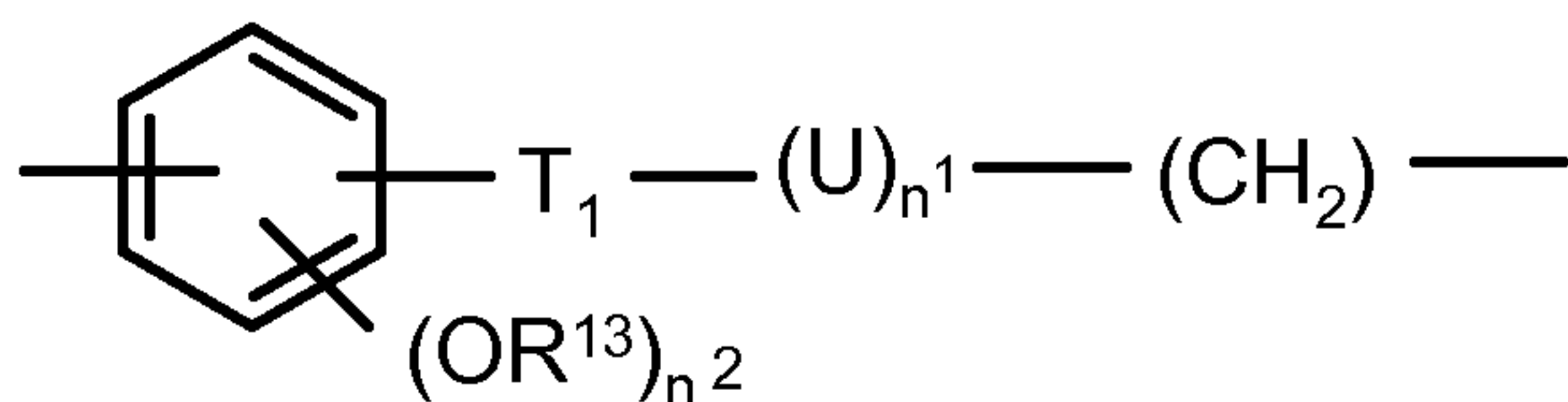
30 a)

- a straight or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene,

- a straight or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene substituted with a $-\text{ONO}_2$ group;

d)

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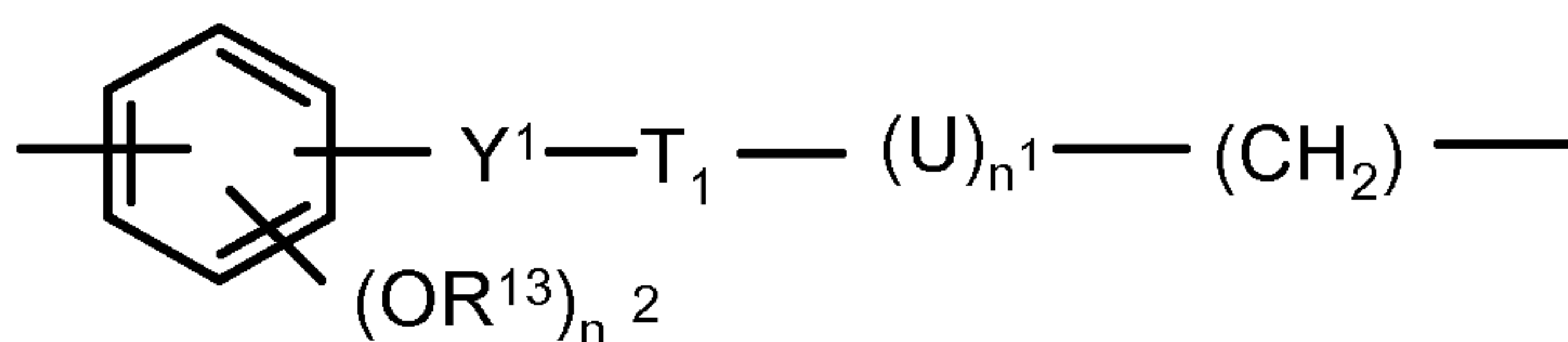
d)

wherein:

n^2 is an integer from 0 to 2, R^{13} is H or CH_3 , T_1 is $-O-C(O)-$ or $-C(O)O-$;

n^1 is 1 and U is a linear C_1-C_{10} alkylene or U is a linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene substituted with a $-ONO_2$ group;

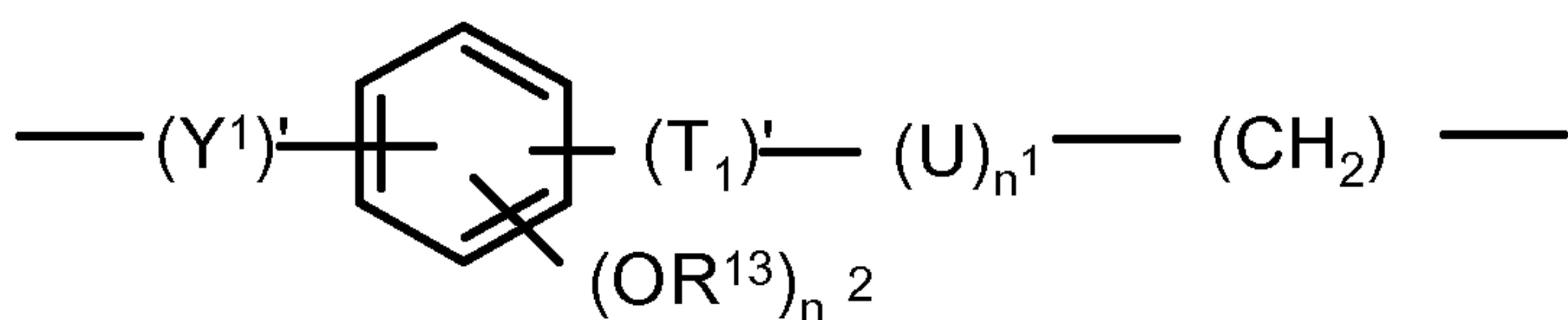
e)



e)

n^2 is 1, R^{13} is CH_3 , Y^1 is $-CH=CH-(CH_2)_{n^{2'}}-$ and $n^{2'}$ is 0, T_1 is $-C(O)O-$ and U is a linear C_1-C_{10} alkylene;

e')



e')

wherein:

n^2 is 1, R^{13} is CH_3 ;

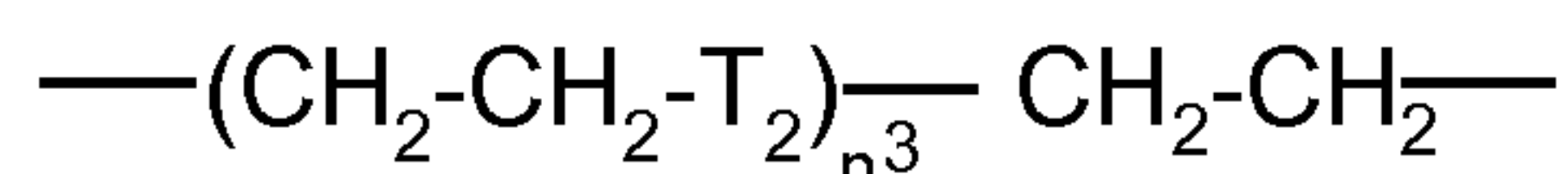
Y^1 is $-(CH_2)_{n^{2'}}-CH=CH-$ and $n^{2'}$ is 0;

$(T_1)' = -O-C(O)-$;

n^1 is 1 and U is a linear C_1-C_{10} alkylene or U is a linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene substituted with a $-ONO_2$ group;

when Y and Y' are selected from d), e) or e'), the $-ONO_2$ group of $-(T-Y-ONO_2)$, $-(T'-Y-ONO_2)$, $-(T''-Y'-ONO_2)$, $-(T'-Y'-ONO_2)$, $-(T'''-Y-ONO_2)$ and $-(T'''-Y'-ONO_2)$ is linked to the $-(CH_2)-$ group;

f)



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wherein T_2 is $-O-$ or $-S-$, $-NH-$, preferably T_2 is $-O-$, n^3 is 1 or 2;

Another embodiment of the present invention relates to compounds of formula (I) wherein

5 R is the corticosteroid of formula (II) as above defined;

a is 0,

R_x is

(a2) $-C(O)-CH(R^1)-NH-(T'-Y-ONO_2)$

wherein

10 R^1 of A1) is selected from H

T' is $-C(O)-$;

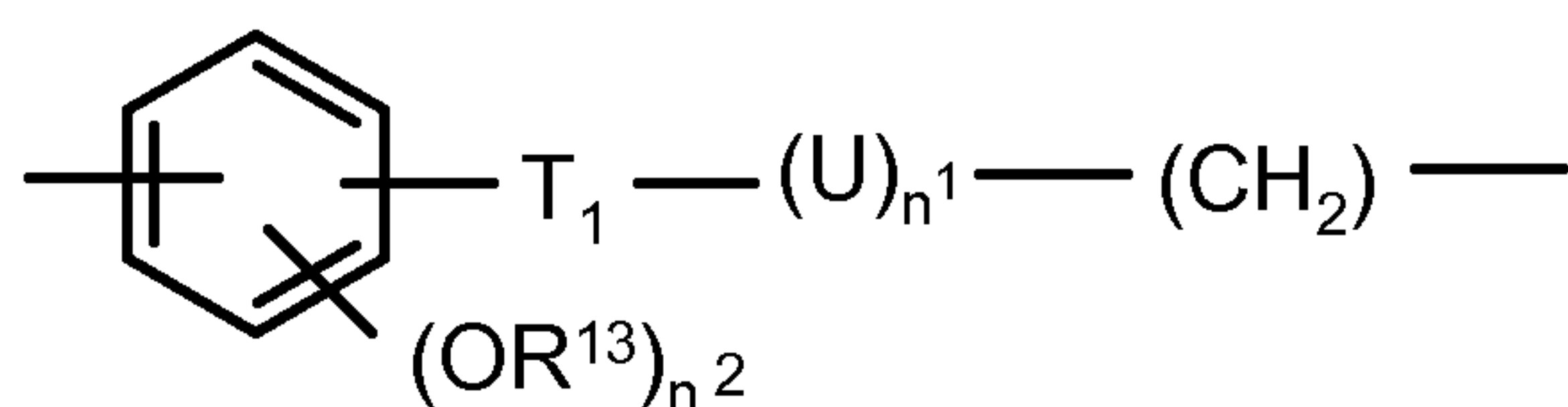
Y is selected from

a)

- a straight or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene,

15 - a straight or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene substituted with a $-ONO_2$ group;

d)



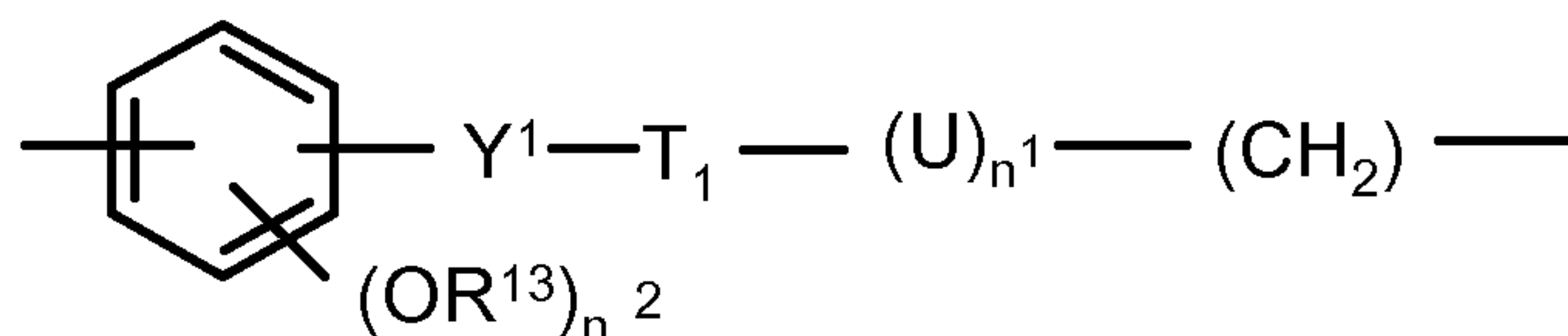
d)

20 wherein:

n^2 is an integer from 0 to 2, R^{13} is H or CH_3 , T_1 is $-O-C(O)-$ or $-C(O)O-$;

n^1 is 1 and U is a linear C_1-C_{10} alkylene or U is a linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene substituted with a $-ONO_2$ group;

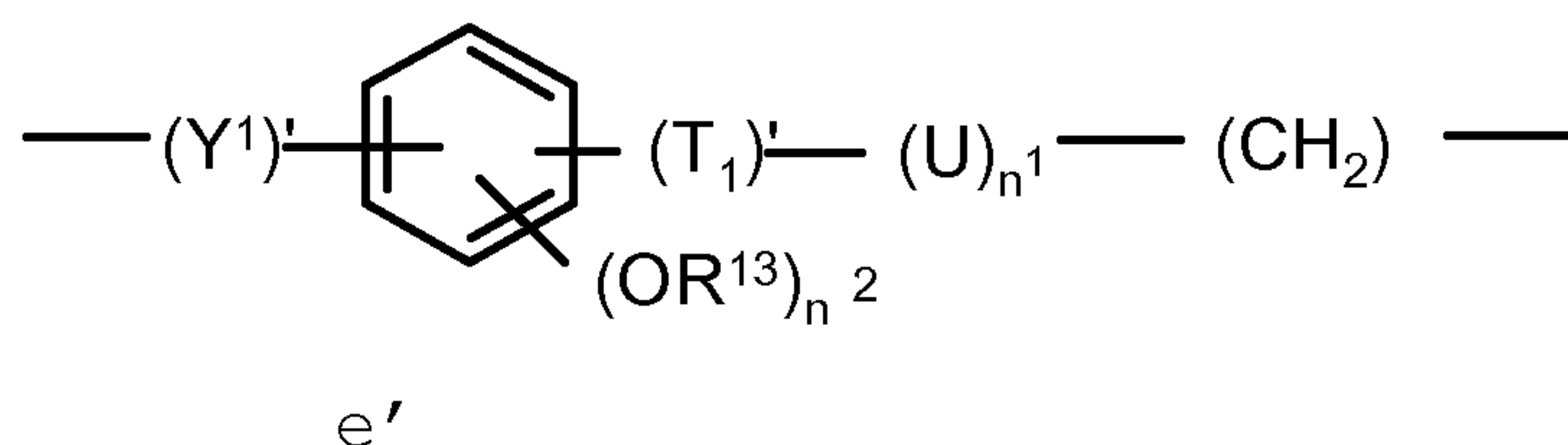
25 e)



e)

n^2 is 1, R^{13} is CH_3 , Y^1 is $-CH=CH-(CH_2)_{n^{2'}}-$ and $n^{2'}$ is 0, T_1 is $-C(O)O-$ and U is a linear C_1-C_{10} alkylene;

e')



wherein:

5 n^2 is 1, R^{13} is CH_3 ;

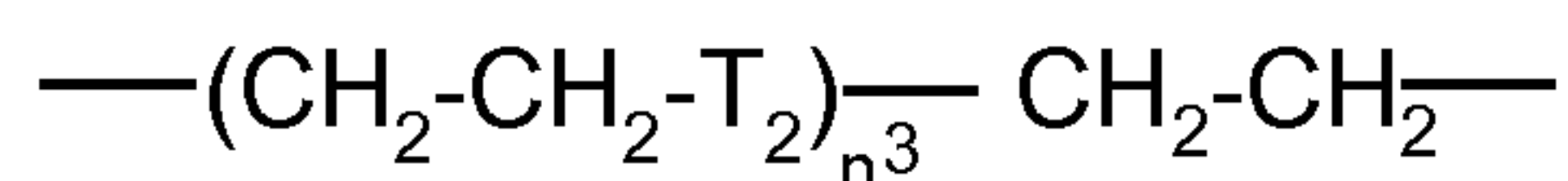
Y^1 is $-(\text{CH}_2)_{n^{2'}}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ and $n^{2'}$ is 0;

$(T_1)' = -\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-$;

n^1 is 1 and U is a linear $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene or U is a linear or branched $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene substituted with a $-\text{ONO}_2$ group;

10 when Y and Y' are selected from d), e) or e'), the $-\text{ONO}_2$ group of $-(T'-Y-\text{ONO}_2)$ is linked to the $-(\text{CH}_2)-$ group;

f)



wherein T_2 is $-\text{O}-$ or $-\text{S}-$, $-\text{NH}-$, preferably T_2 is $-\text{O}-$, n^3 is 1 or
 15 2;

Another embodiment relates to compounds of formula (I) wherein R is the corticosteroid of formula (II) as above defined;

a is 0, R_x is

(a5) $-\text{R}^{1b}-\text{CH}(\text{NHR}^{4a})-\text{C}(\text{O})-(\text{T}-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$ or

20 (a9) $-\text{R}^{1b}-\text{CH}(\text{NH-T}'-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)-\text{C}(\text{O})-(\text{T}-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

wherein

R^{1b} of A10) is $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-$,

R^{4a} is H or $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$;

T is selected from $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{S}-$, $-\text{NR}'-$ wherein R' is as above
 25 defined,

T' is $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$ and

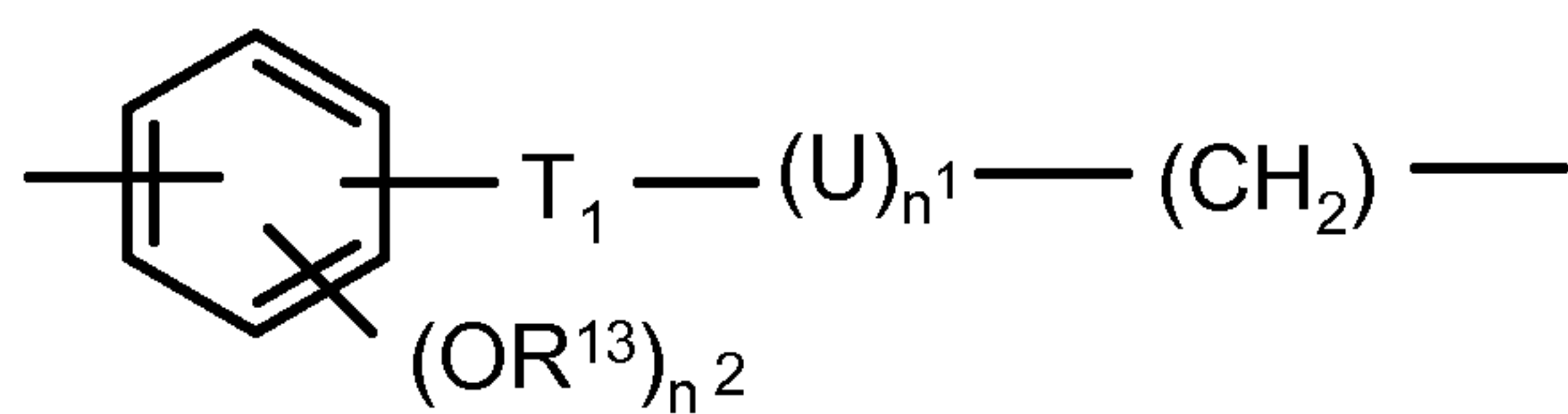
Y and Y' are each independently selected from

a)

- a straight or branched $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene,

30 - a straight or branched $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene substituted with a $-\text{ONO}_2$ group;

d)



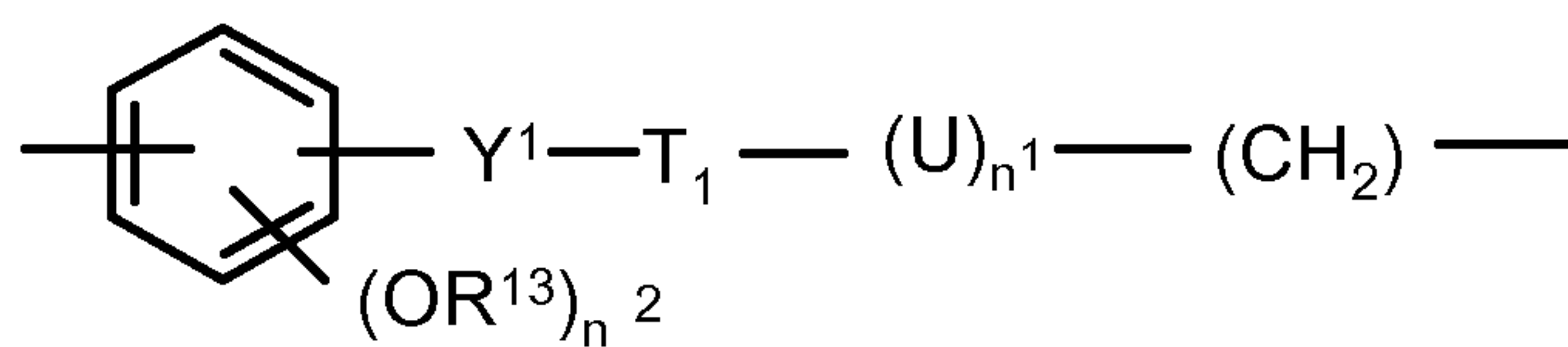
d)

wherein:

5 n^2 is an integer from 0 to 2, R^{13} is H or CH_3 , T_1 is $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-$ or $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{O}-$;

n^1 is 1 and U is a linear C_1 - C_{10} alkylene or U is a linear or branched C_1 - C_{10} alkylene substituted with a $-\text{ONO}_2$ group;

e)

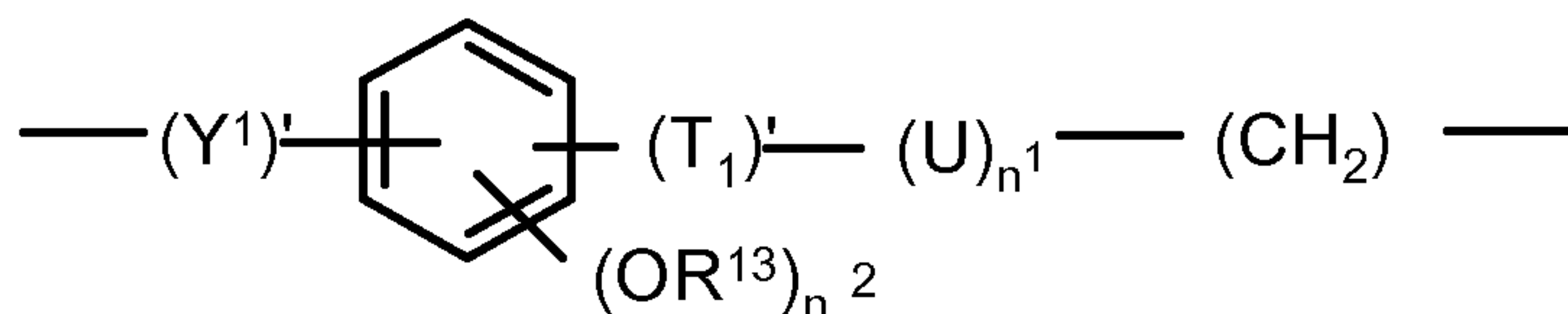


10

e)

n^2 is 1, R^{13} is CH_3 , Y^1 is $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-(\text{CH}_2)_{n^{2'}}-$ and $n^{2'}$ is 0, T_1 is $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{O}-$ and U is a linear C_1 - C_{10} alkylene;

e')



15

e')

wherein:

n^2 is 1, R^{13} is CH_3 ;

Y^1 is $-(\text{CH}_2)_{n^{2'}}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ and $n^{2'}$ is 0;

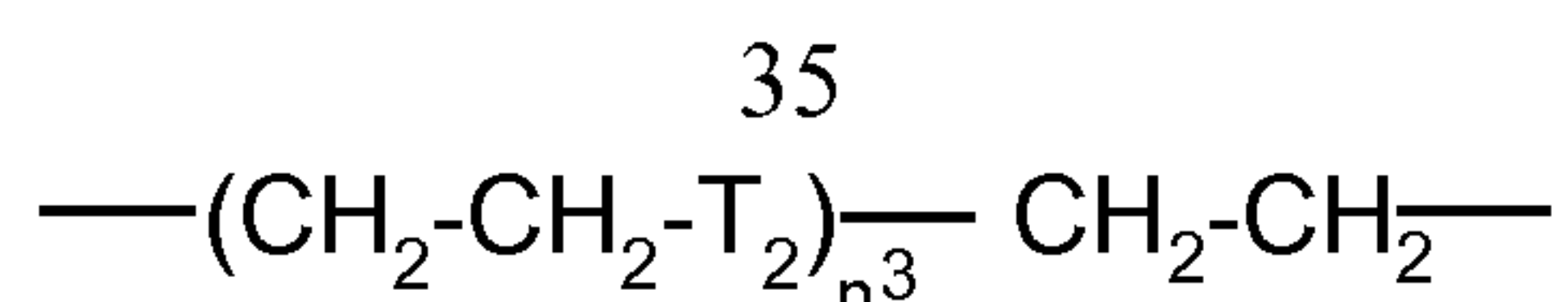
20 $(\text{T}_1)' = -\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-$;

n^1 is 1 and U is a linear C_1 - C_{10} alkylene or U is a linear or branched C_1 - C_{10} alkylene substituted with a $-\text{ONO}_2$ group;

when Y and Y' are selected from d), e) or e'), the $-\text{ONO}_2$ group of $-(\text{T}-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$, $-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$, $-(\text{T}''-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)$, $-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)$, $-(\text{T}'''-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$ and $-(\text{T}'''-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)$ is linked to the $-(\text{CH}_2)-$ group;

25

f)

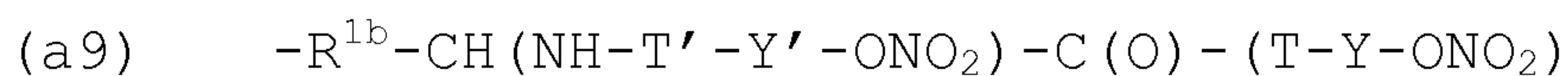
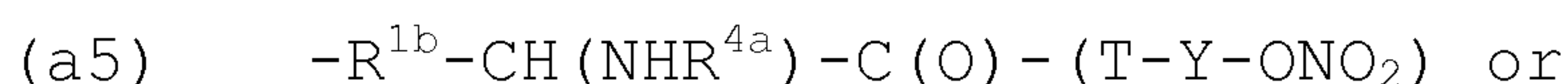


wherein T_2 is $-\text{O}-$ or $-\text{S}-$, $-\text{NH}-$, preferably T_2 is $-\text{O}-$, n^3 is 1 or 2;

Another embodiment relates to compounds of formula (I) wherein

5 R is the corticosteroid of formula (II) as above defined;

a is 1 and Z is $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, R_x is



wherein R^{1b} of A10) is $-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-$ or $[-\text{O}_p-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)]-\text{CH}_2-$,

10 R^{4a} is H or $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$,

T is selected from $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{S}-$, $-\text{NR}'-$ wherein R' is as above defined,

T' is $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$ and

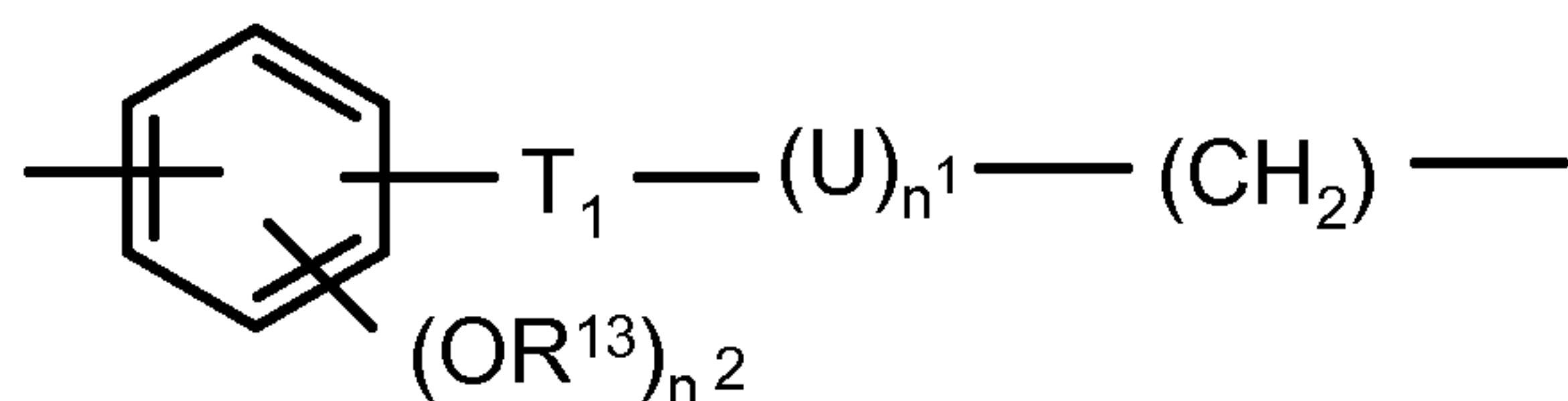
Y and Y' are each independently selected from

15 a)

- a straight or branched $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene,

- a straight or branched $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene substituted with a $-\text{ONO}_2$ group;

d)



20

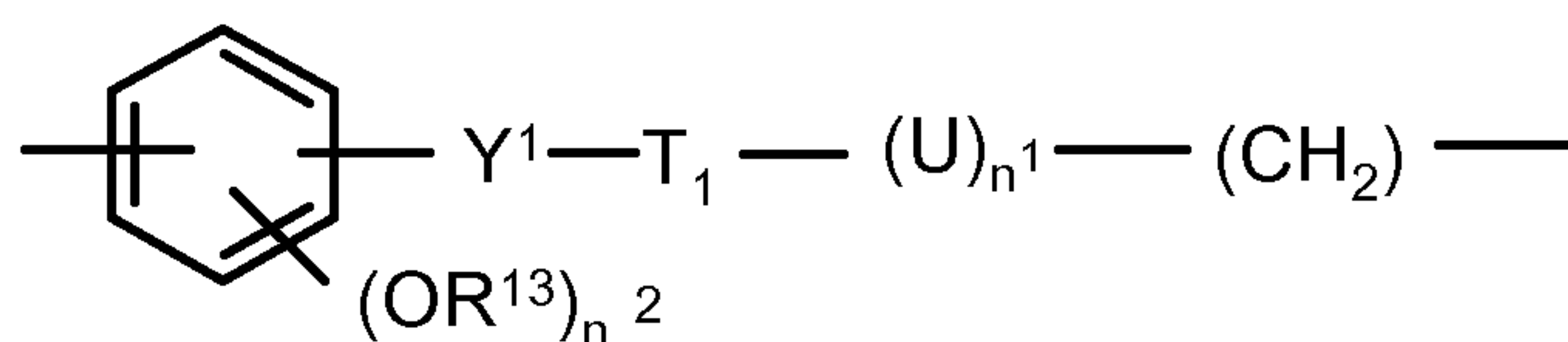
d)

wherein:

n^2 is an integer from 0 to 2, R^{13} is H or CH_3 , T_1 is $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-$ or $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{O}-$;

25 n^1 is 1 and U is a linear $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene or U is a linear or branched $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene substituted with a $-\text{ONO}_2$ group;

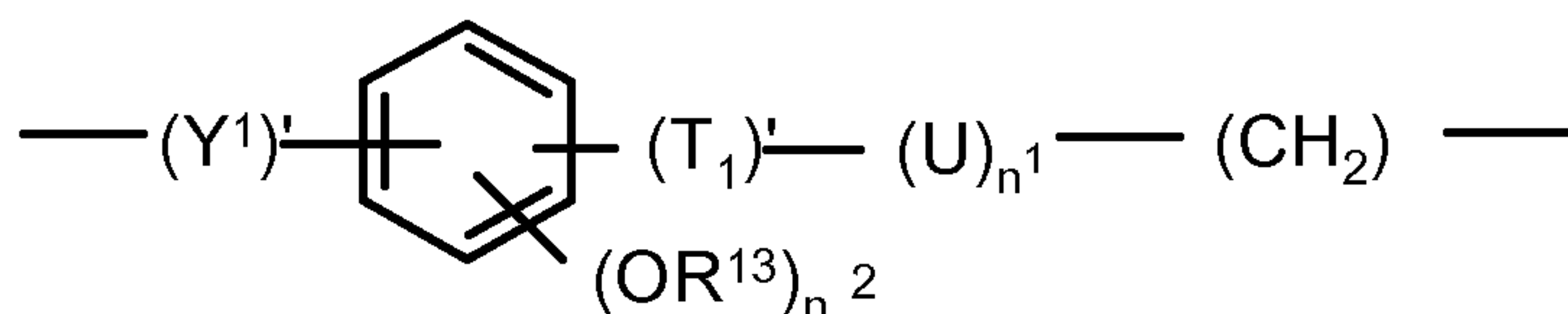
e)



e)

36

n^2 is 1, R^{13} is CH_3 , Y^1 is $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-(\text{CH}_2)_{n^{2'}}-$ and $n^{2'}$ is 0, T_1 is $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{O}-$ and U is a linear $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene;
e')



5 e')

wherein:

n^2 is 1, R^{13} is CH_3 ;

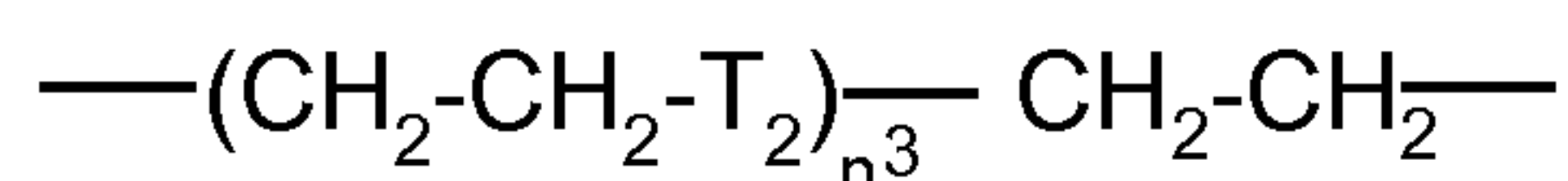
Y^1 is $-(\text{CH}_2)_{n^{2'}}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ and $n^{2'}$ is 0;

$(T_1)' = -\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-$;

10 n^1 is 1 and U is a linear $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene or U is a linear or branched $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene substituted with a $-\text{ONO}_2$ group;

when Y and Y' are selected from d), e) or e'), the $-\text{ONO}_2$ group of $-(\text{T}-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$, $-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$, $-(\text{T}''-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)$, $-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)$, $-(\text{T}'''-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$ and $-(\text{T}'''-\text{Y}'-\text{ONO}_2)$ is linked to the $-(\text{CH}_2)-$ group;

15 f)



wherein T_2 is $-\text{O}-$ or $-\text{S}-$, $-\text{NH}-$, preferably T_2 is $-\text{O}-$, n^3 is 1 or 2;

Another embodiment of the present invention relates to
20 compounds of formula (I) wherein

R is the corticosteroid of formula (II) as above defined;

a is 0,

R_x is

(b2) $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{R}^2)-\text{NH}-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{ONO}_2)$

25 wherein

R^2 of B1) is H ,

T' is $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$;

Y and Y' are each independently selected from

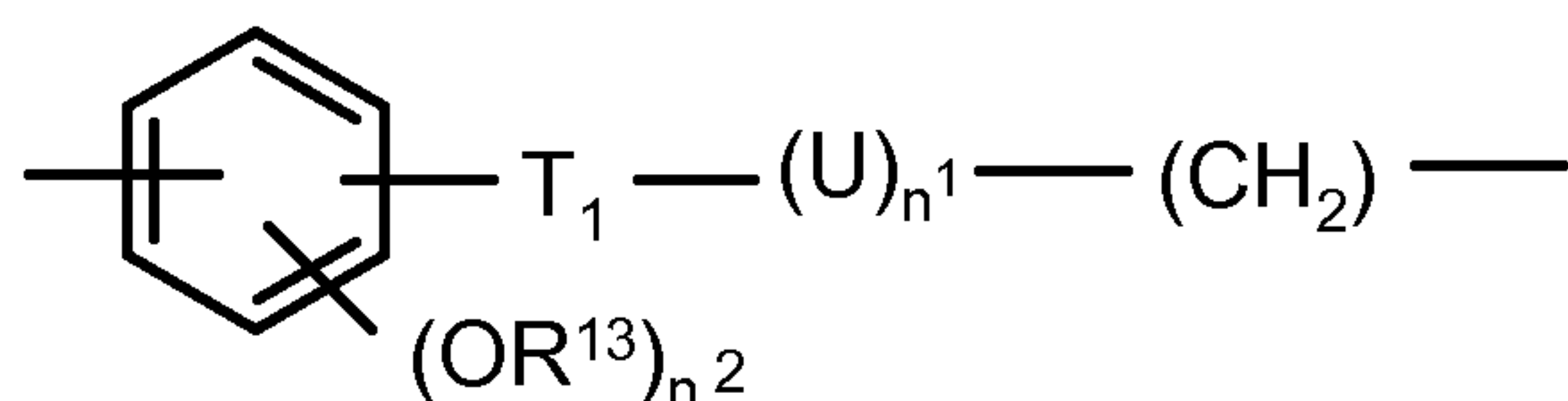
a)

30 - a straight or branched $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkylene,

37

- a straight or branched C₁-C₁₀ alkylene substituted with a -ONO₂ group;

d)



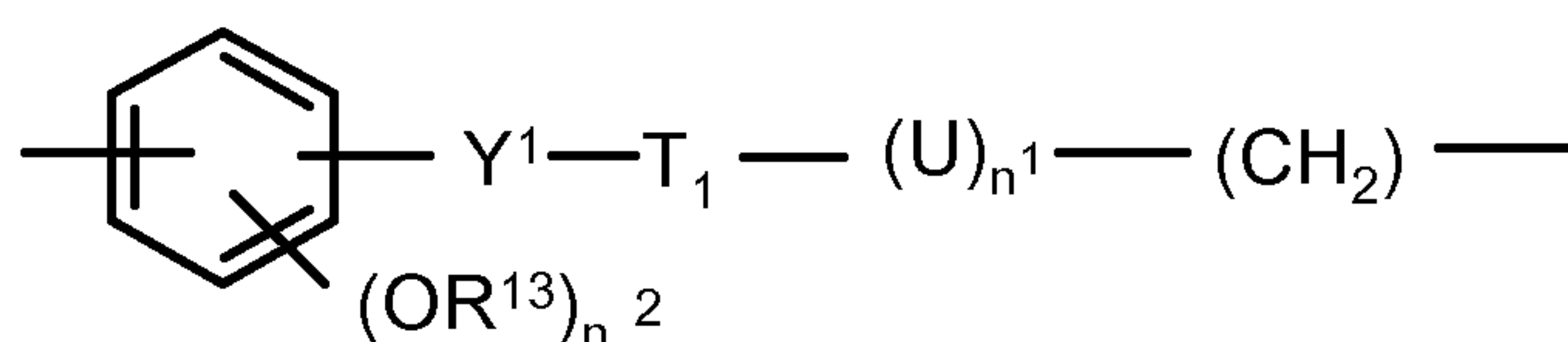
5 d)

wherein:

n^2 is an integer from 0 to 2, R^{13} is H or CH₃, T_1 is -O-C(O)- or -C(O)O-;

n^1 is 1 and U is a linear C₁-C₁₀ alkylene or U is a linear or
10 branched C₁-C₁₀ alkylene substituted with a -ONO₂ group;

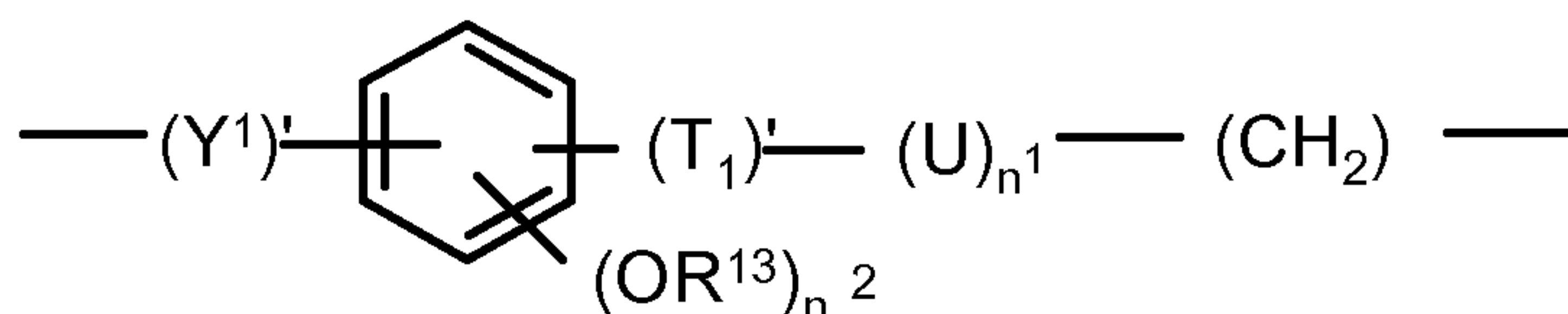
e)



e)

n^2 is 1, R^{13} is CH₃, Y^1 is -CH=CH-(CH₂) _{$n^{2'}$} - and $n^{2'}$ is 0, T_1 is -
15 C(O)O- and U is a linear C₁-C₁₀ alkylene;

e')



e')

wherein:

20 n^2 is 1, R^{13} is CH₃;

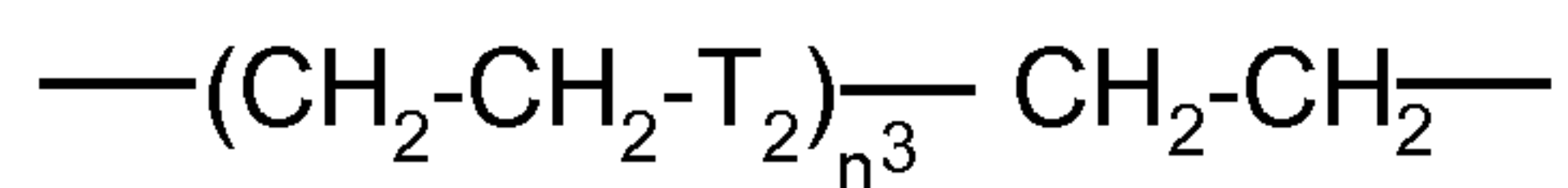
Y^1 is -(CH₂) _{$n^{2'}$} -CH=CH- and $n^{2'}$ is 0;

$(T_1)' = -O-C(O)-$;

n^1 is 1 and U is a linear C₁-C₁₀ alkylene or U is a linear or
branched C₁-C₁₀ alkylene substituted with a -ONO₂ group;

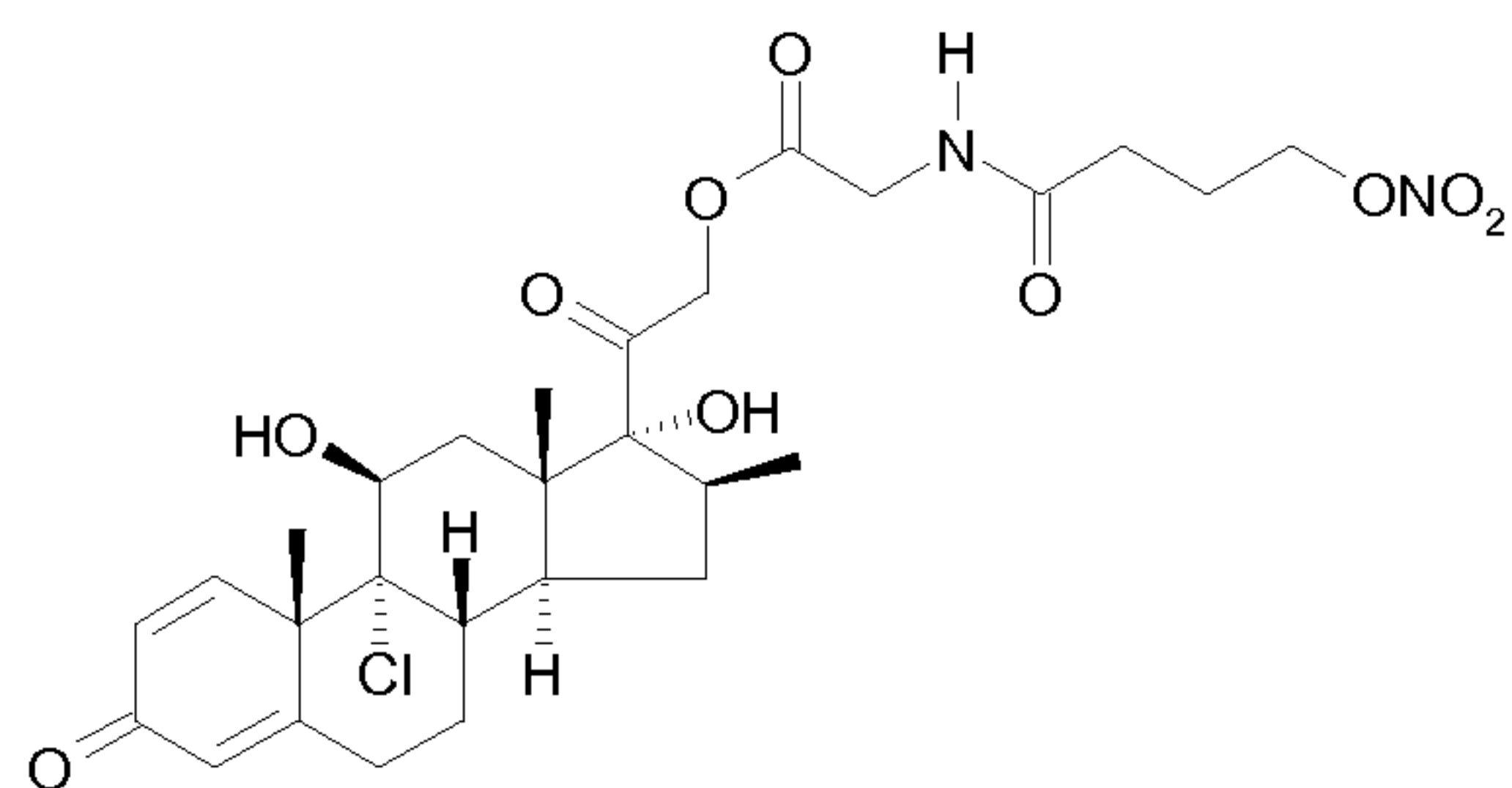
25 when Y and Y' are selected from d), e) or e'), the -ONO₂ group
of -(T-Y-ONO₂), -(T'-Y-ONO₂), -(T''-Y'-ONO₂), -(T'-Y'-ONO₂), -
(T'''-Y-ONO₂) and -(T'''-Y'-ONO₂) is linked to the -(CH₂)- group;

f)

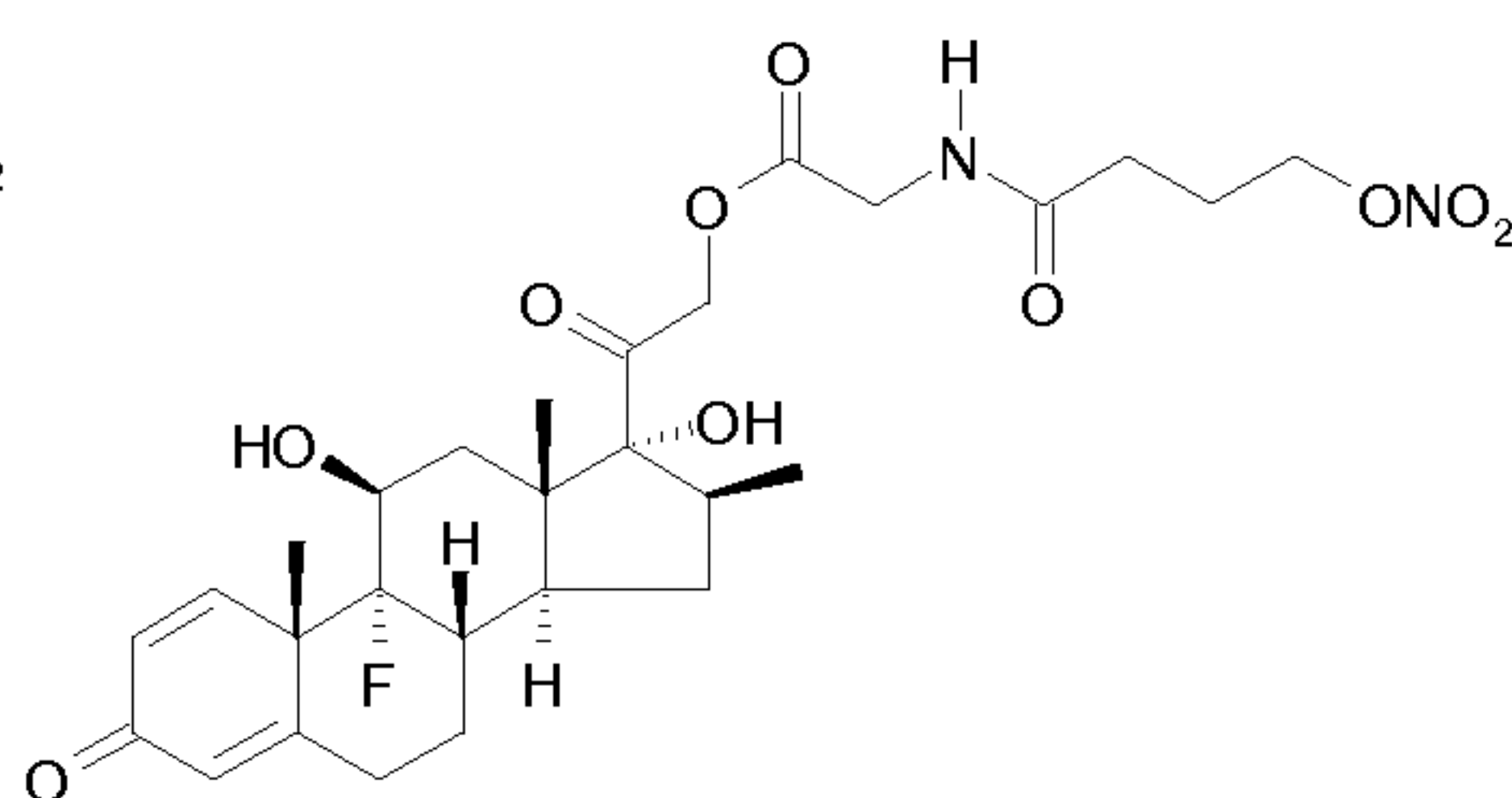


wherein T_2 is $-\text{O}-$ or $-\text{S}-$, $-\text{NH}-$, preferably T_2 is $-\text{O}-$, n^3 is 1 or 2;

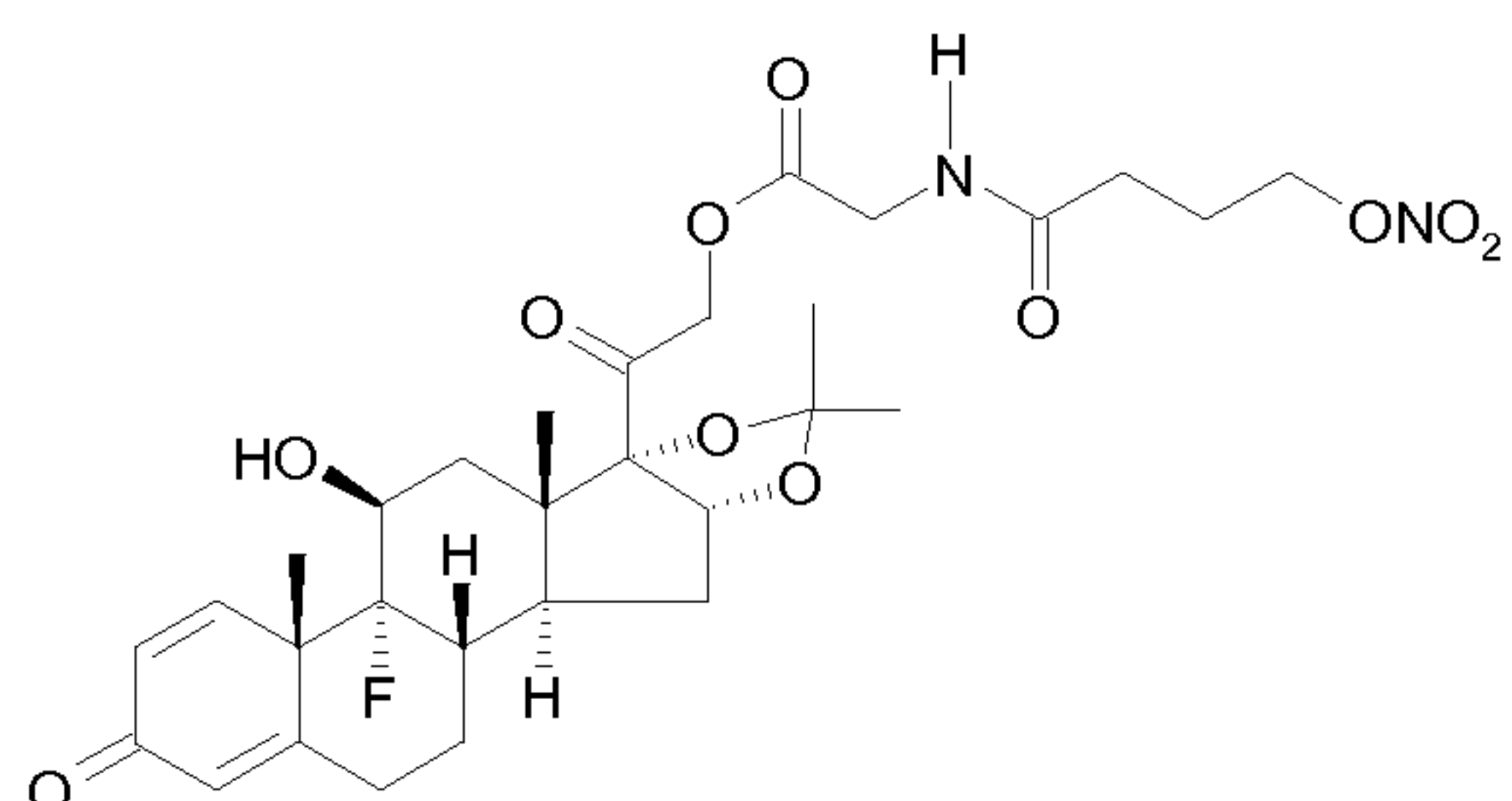
5 Preferred specific embodiments of the present invention are the selected compounds of formula below reported:



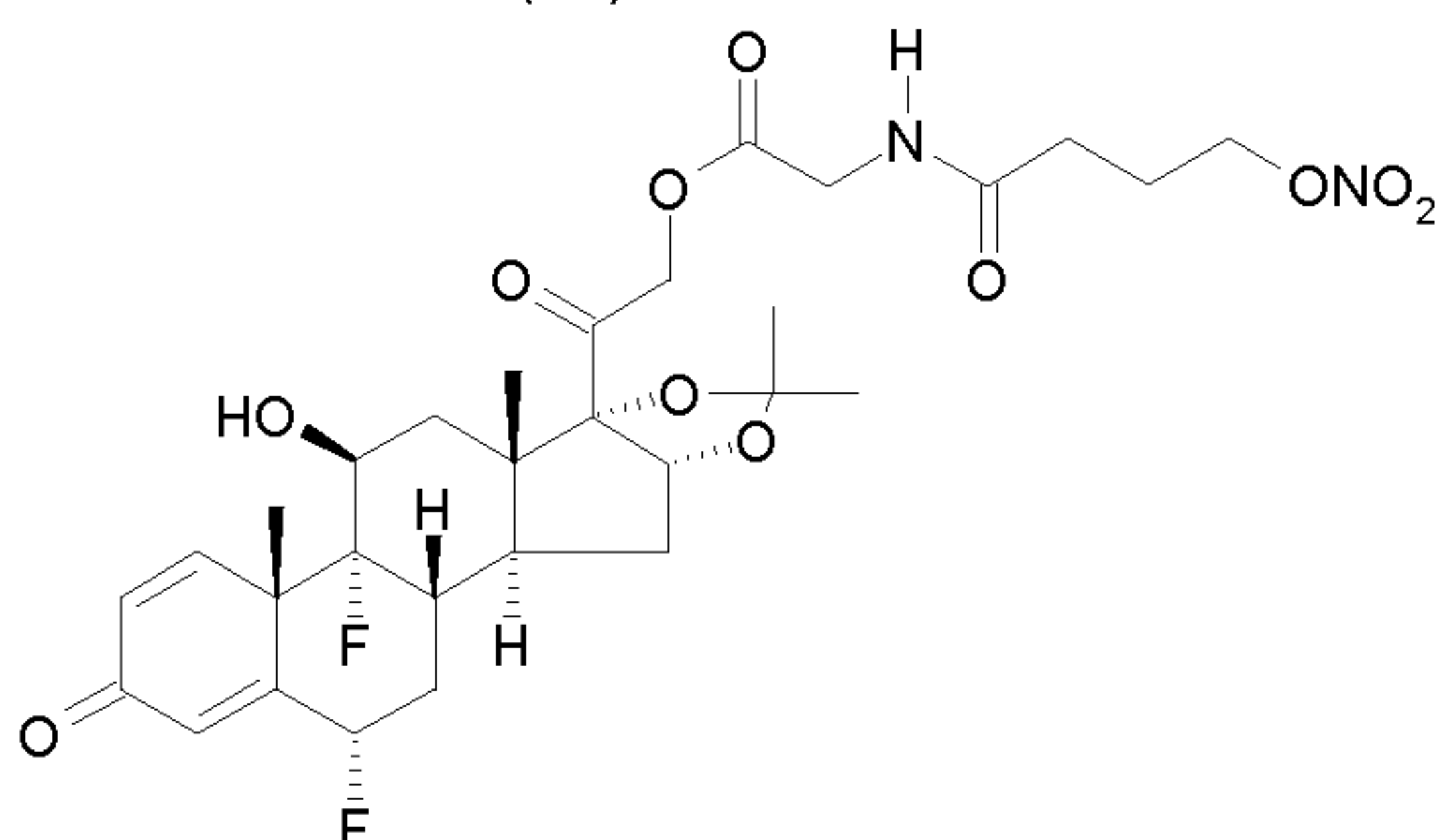
(1)



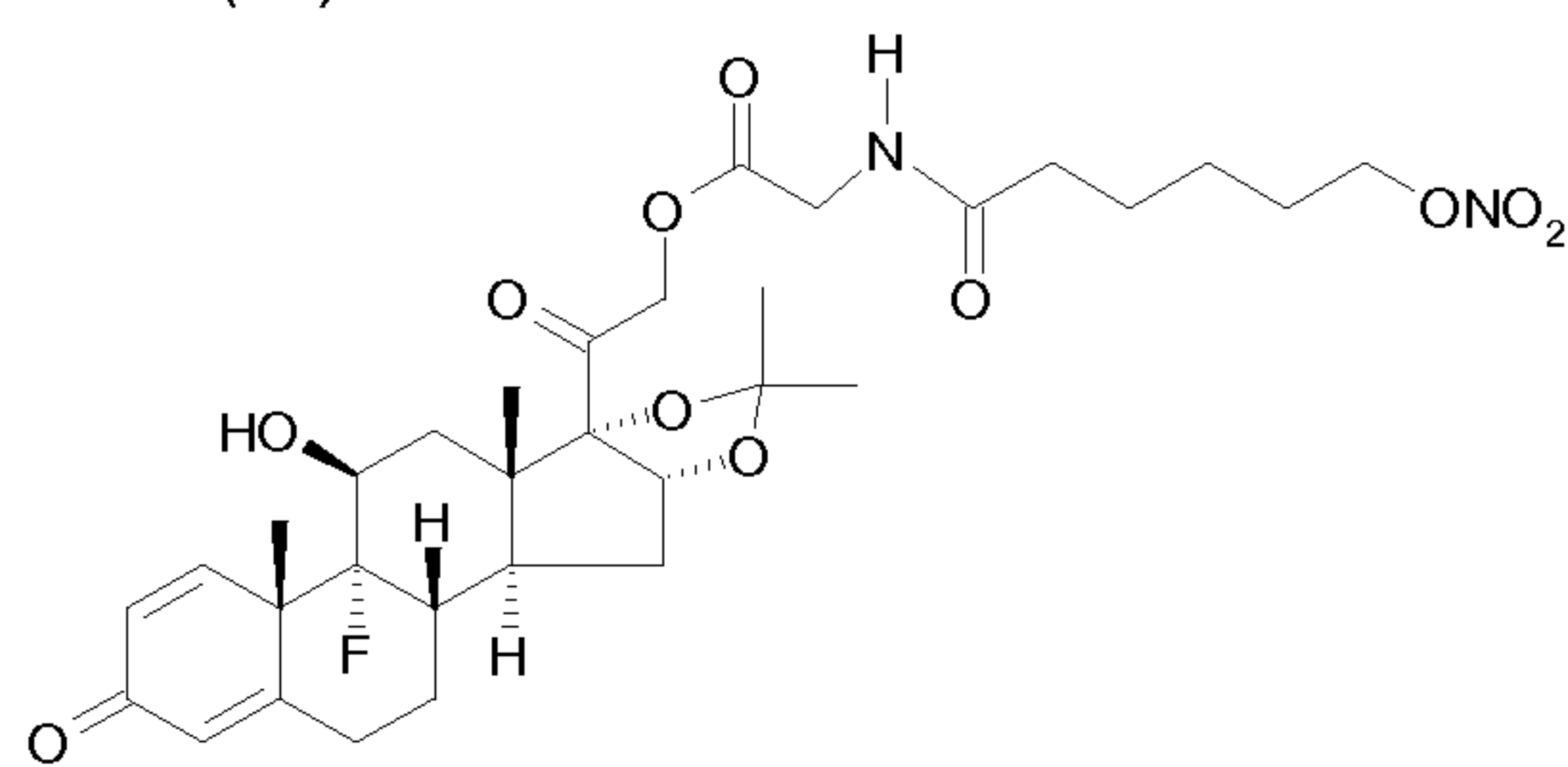
(2)



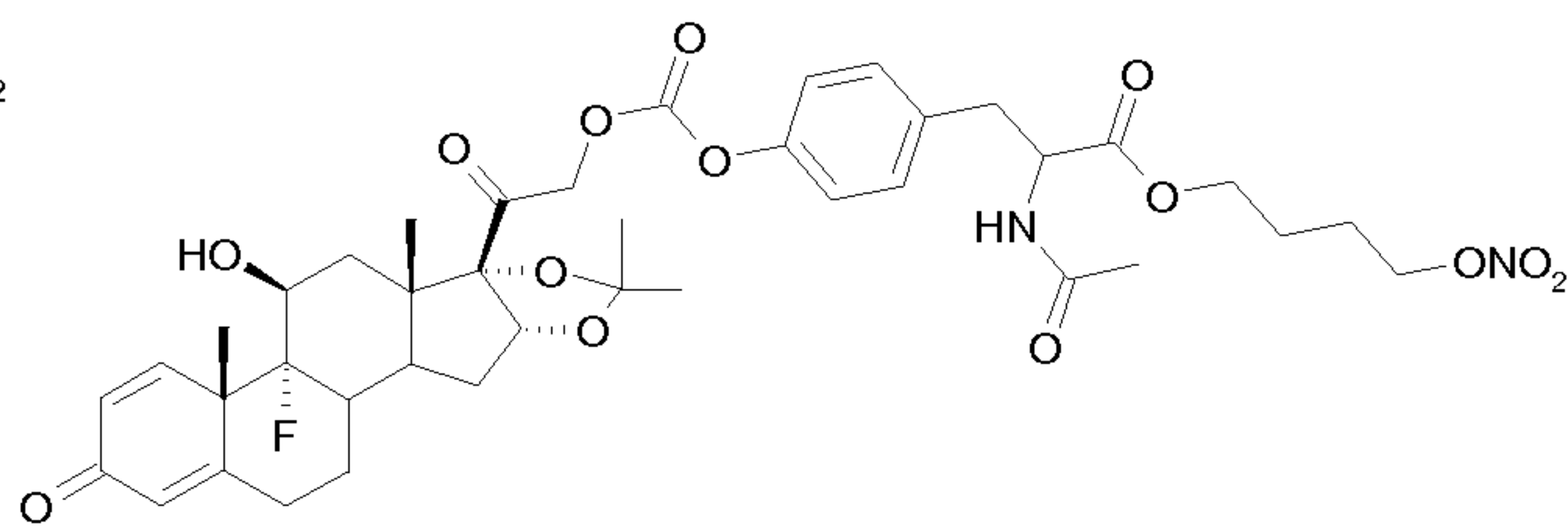
(3)



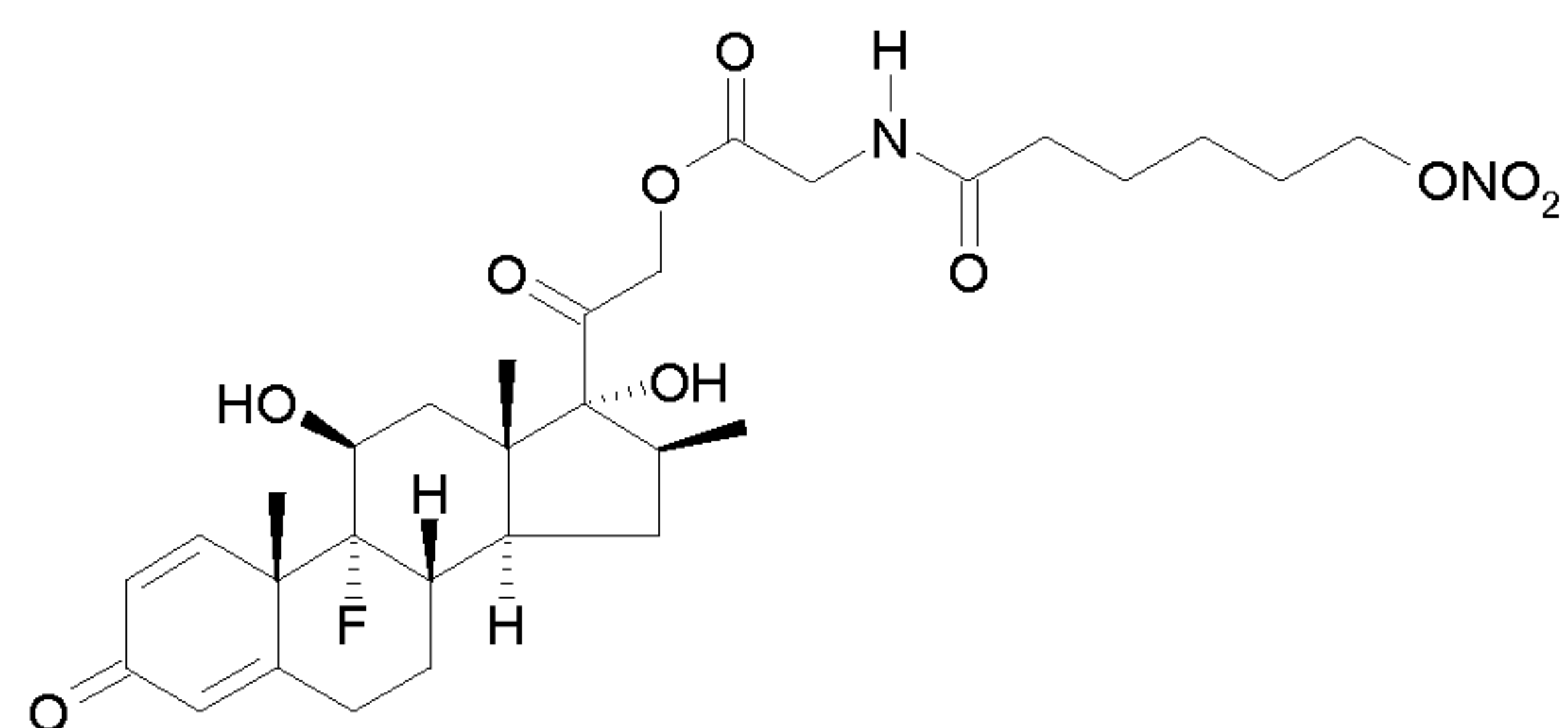
(4)



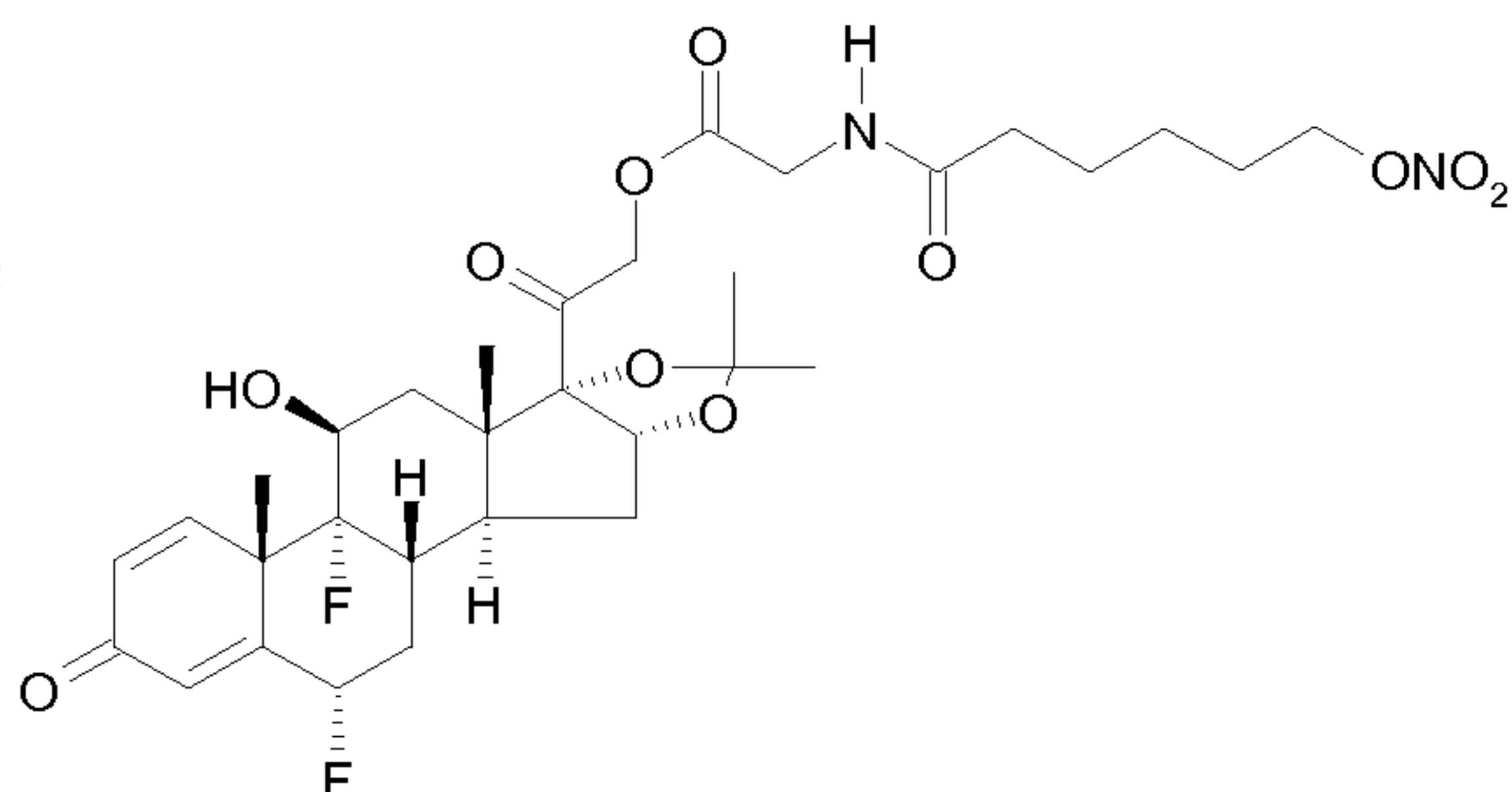
(5)



(6)



(7)

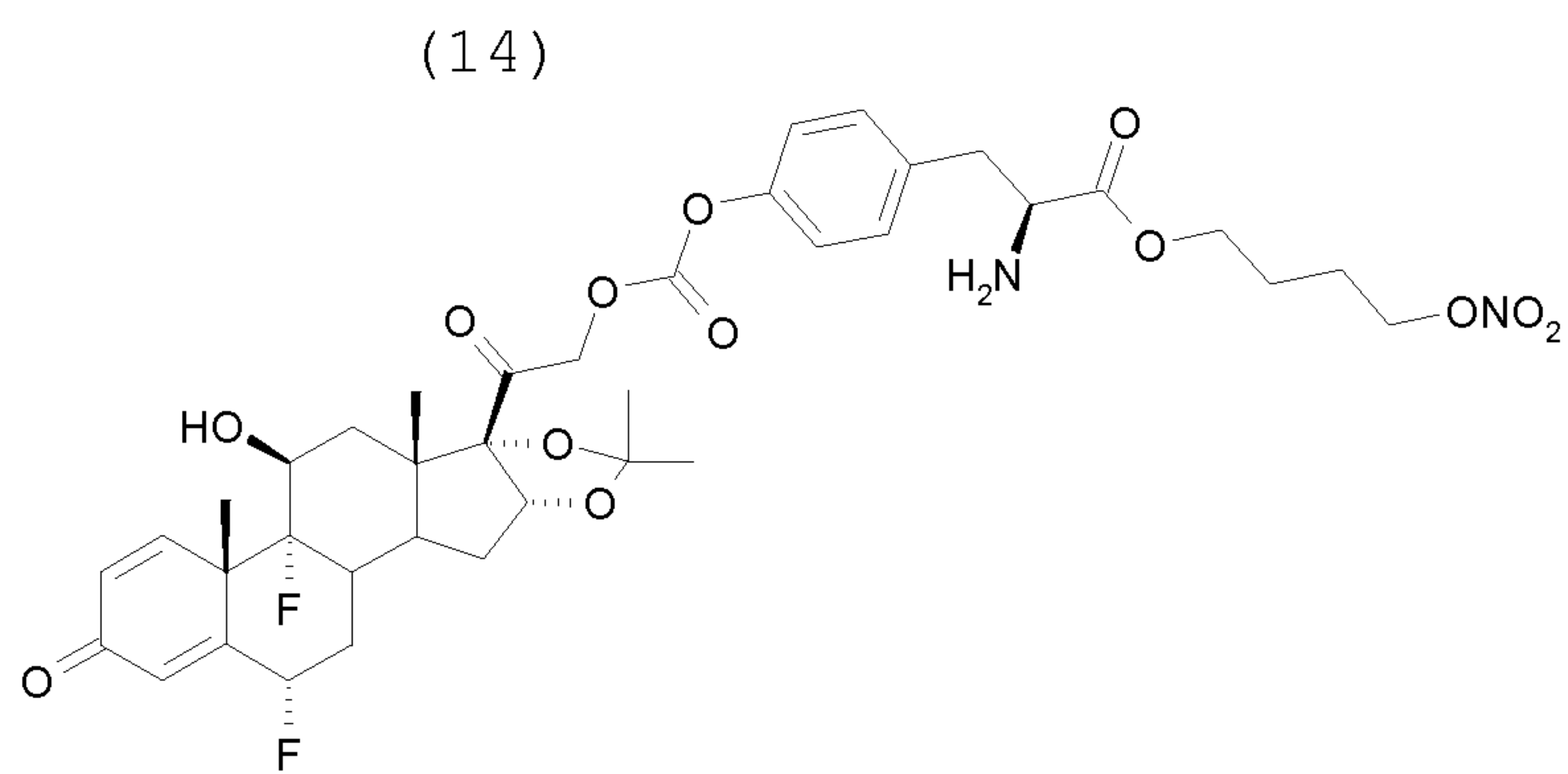
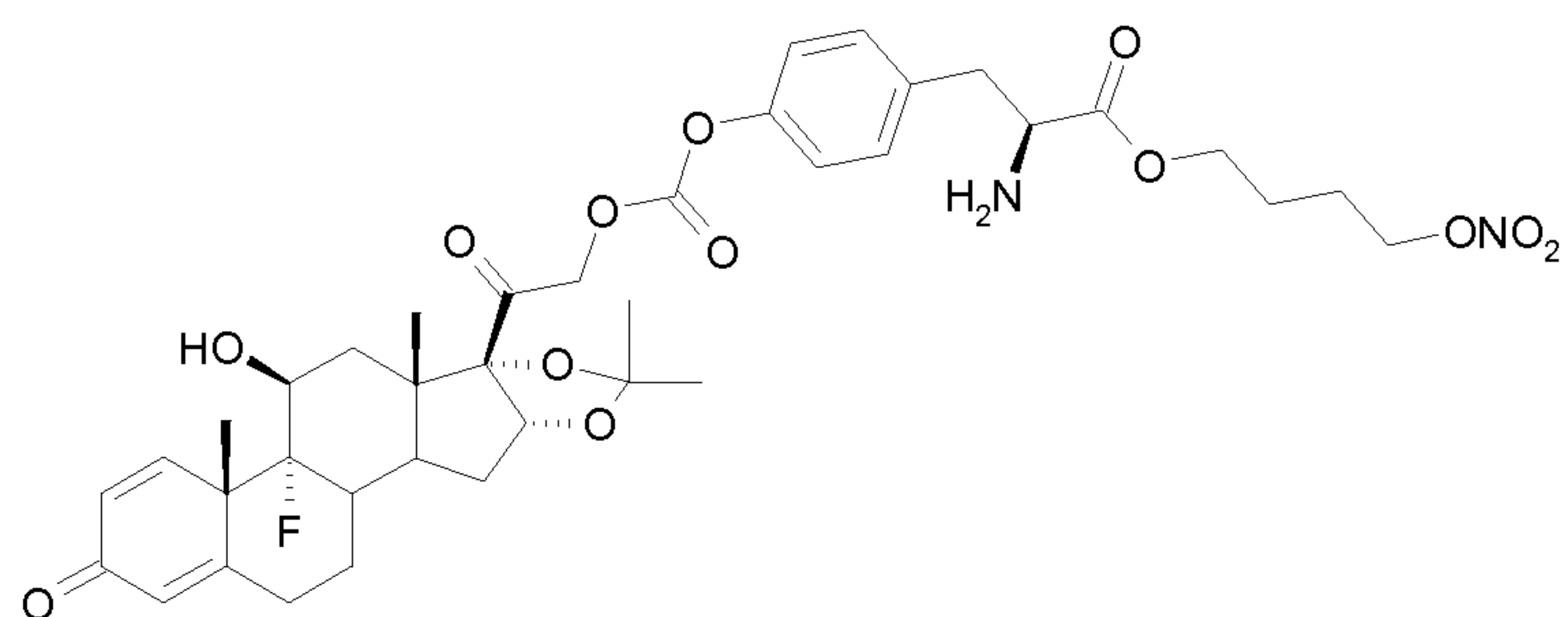
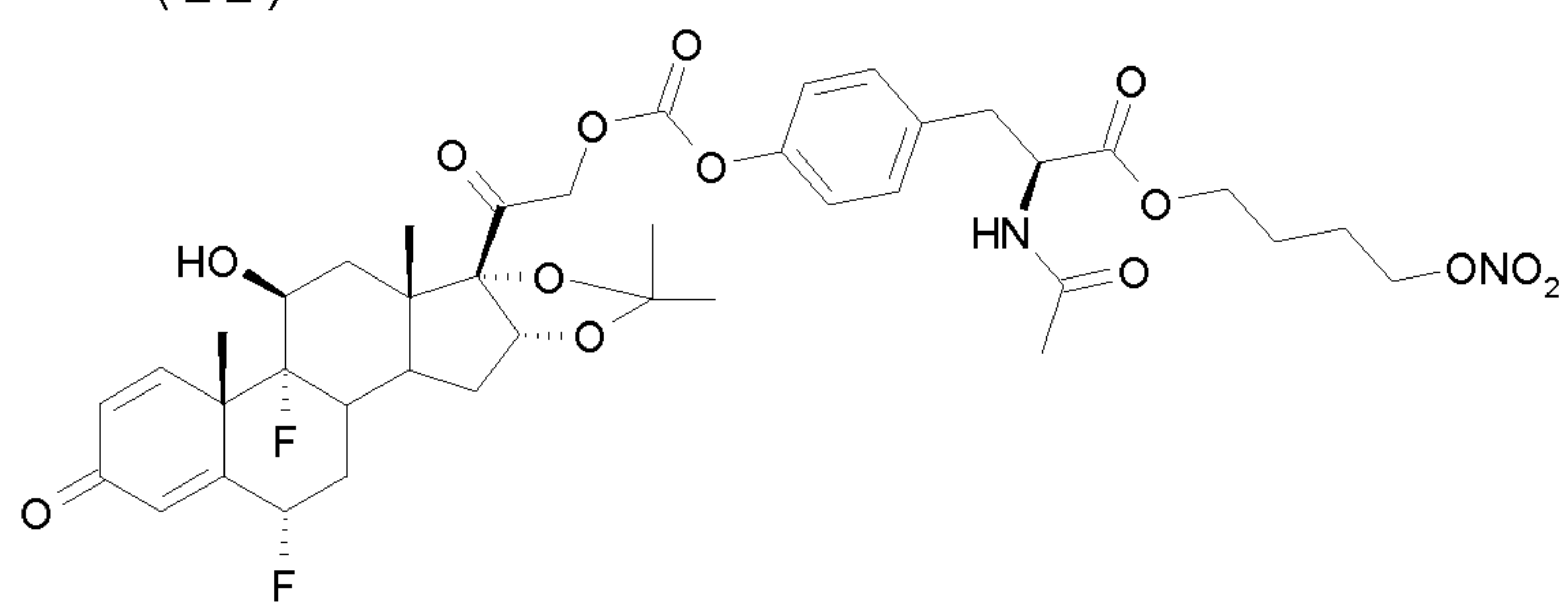
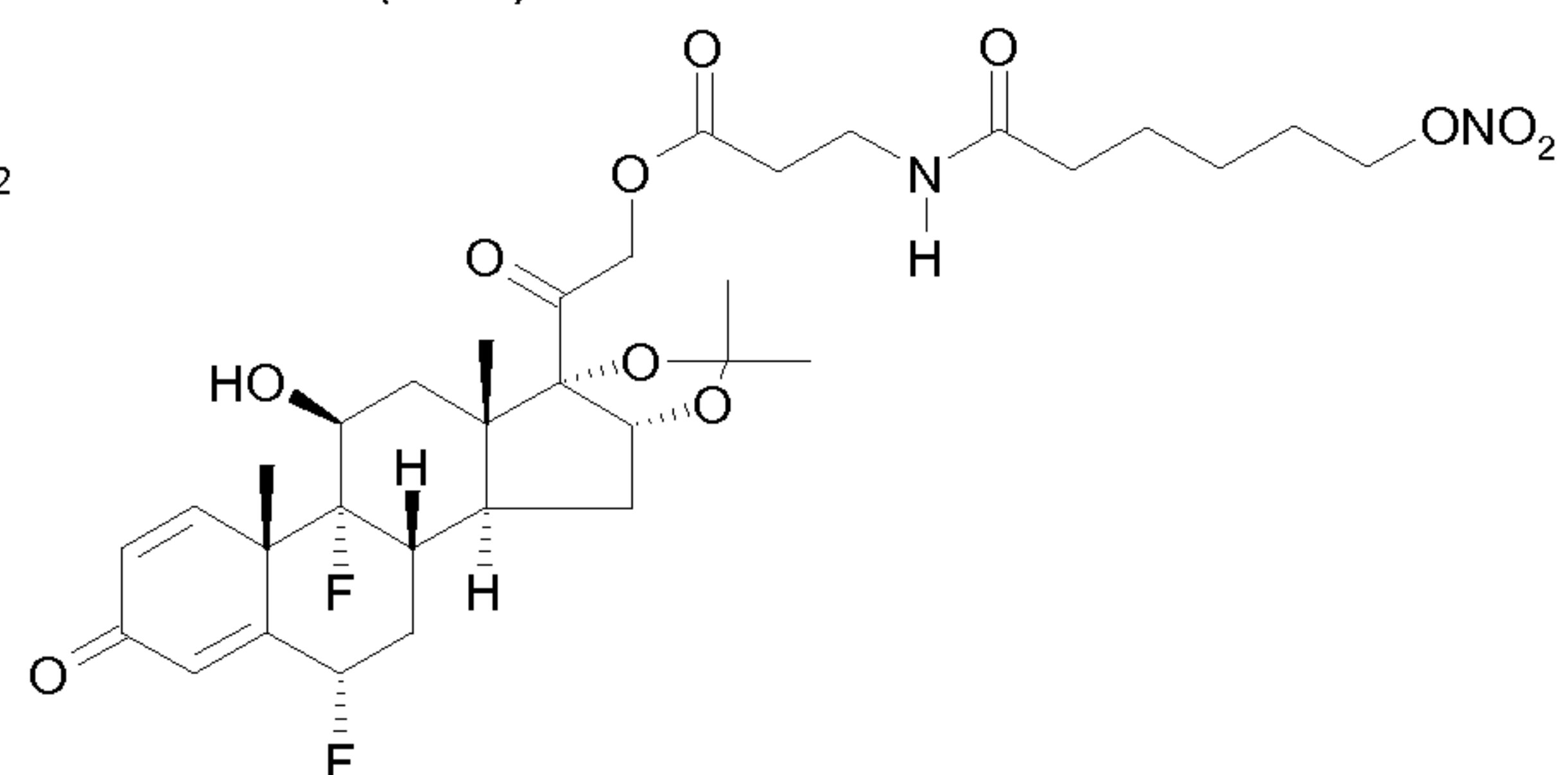
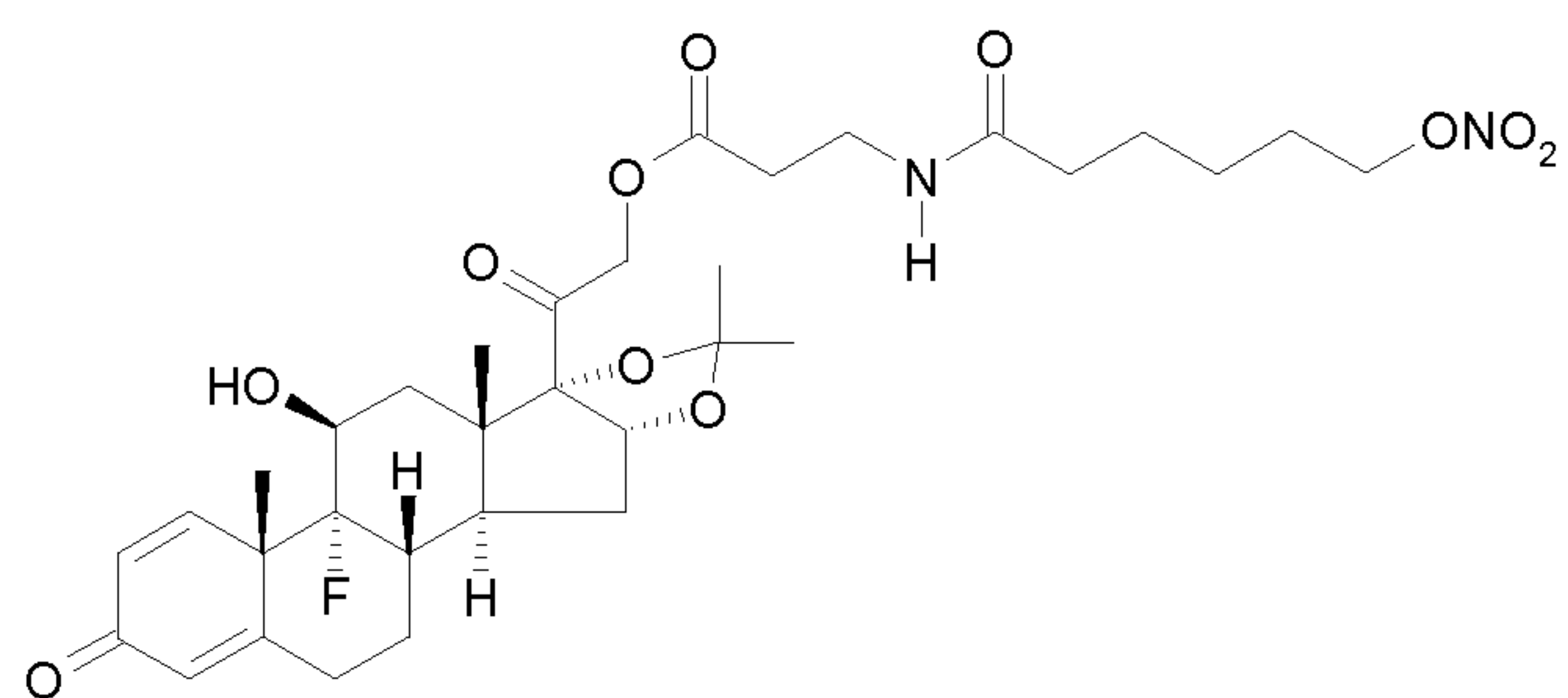
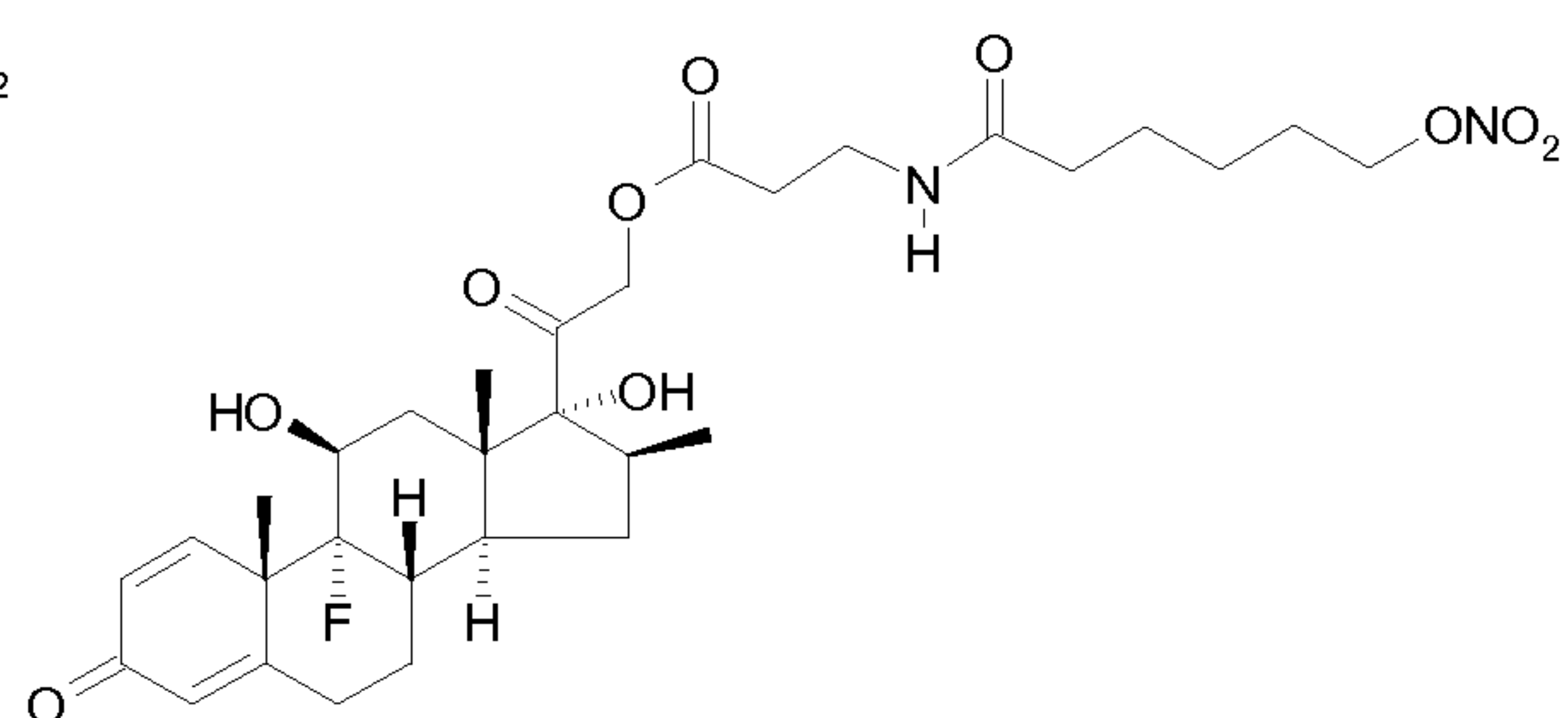
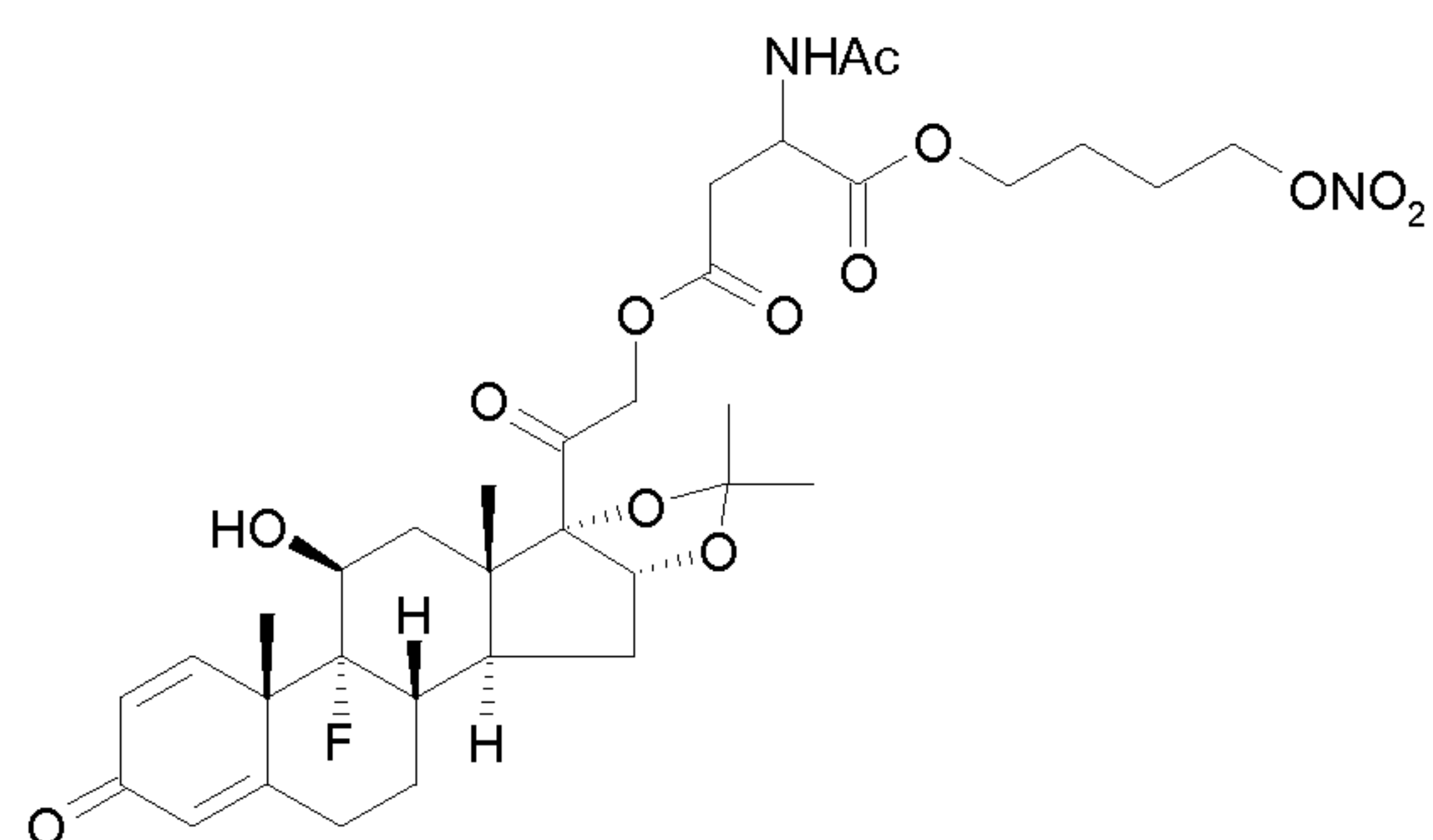


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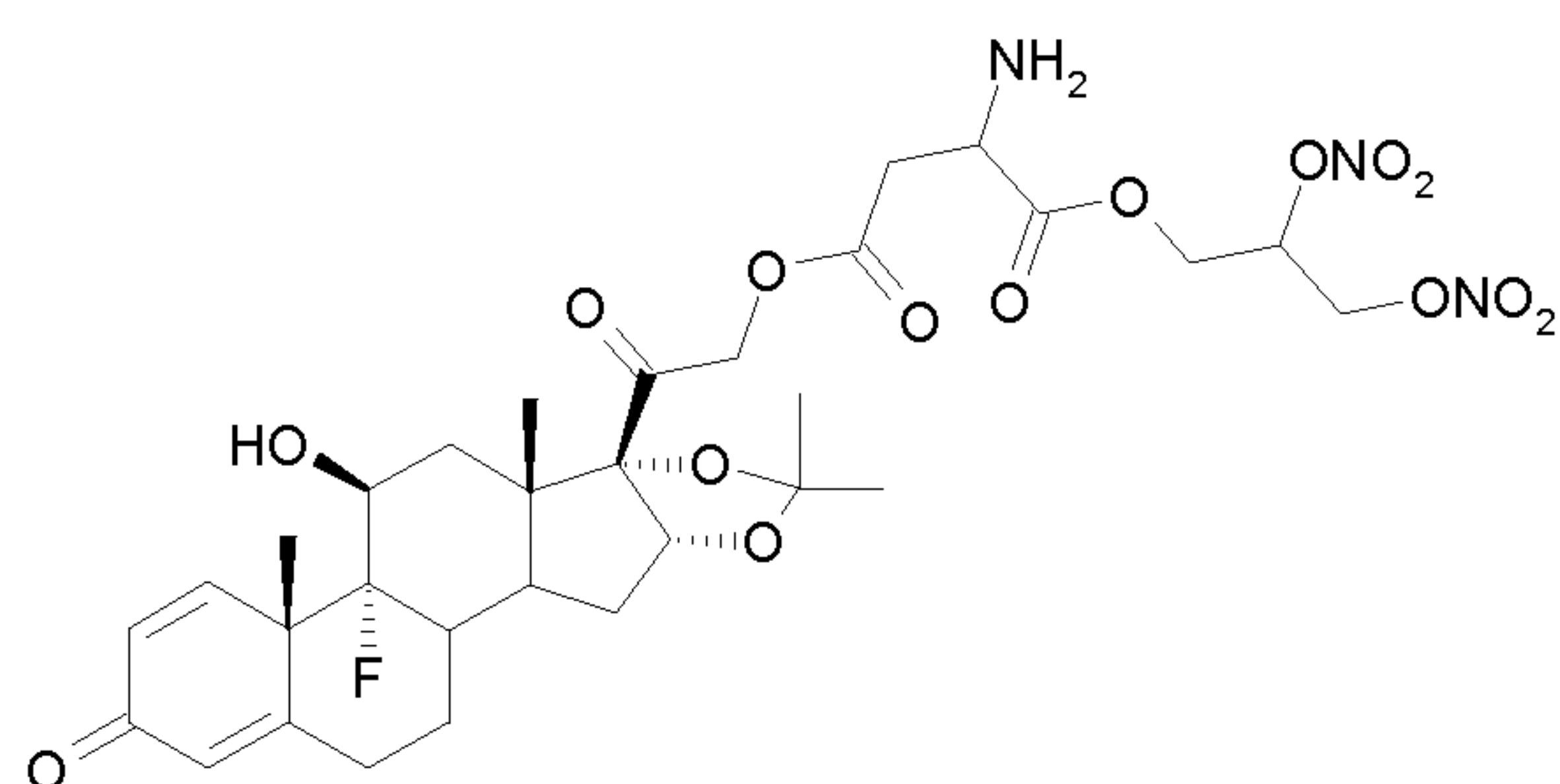
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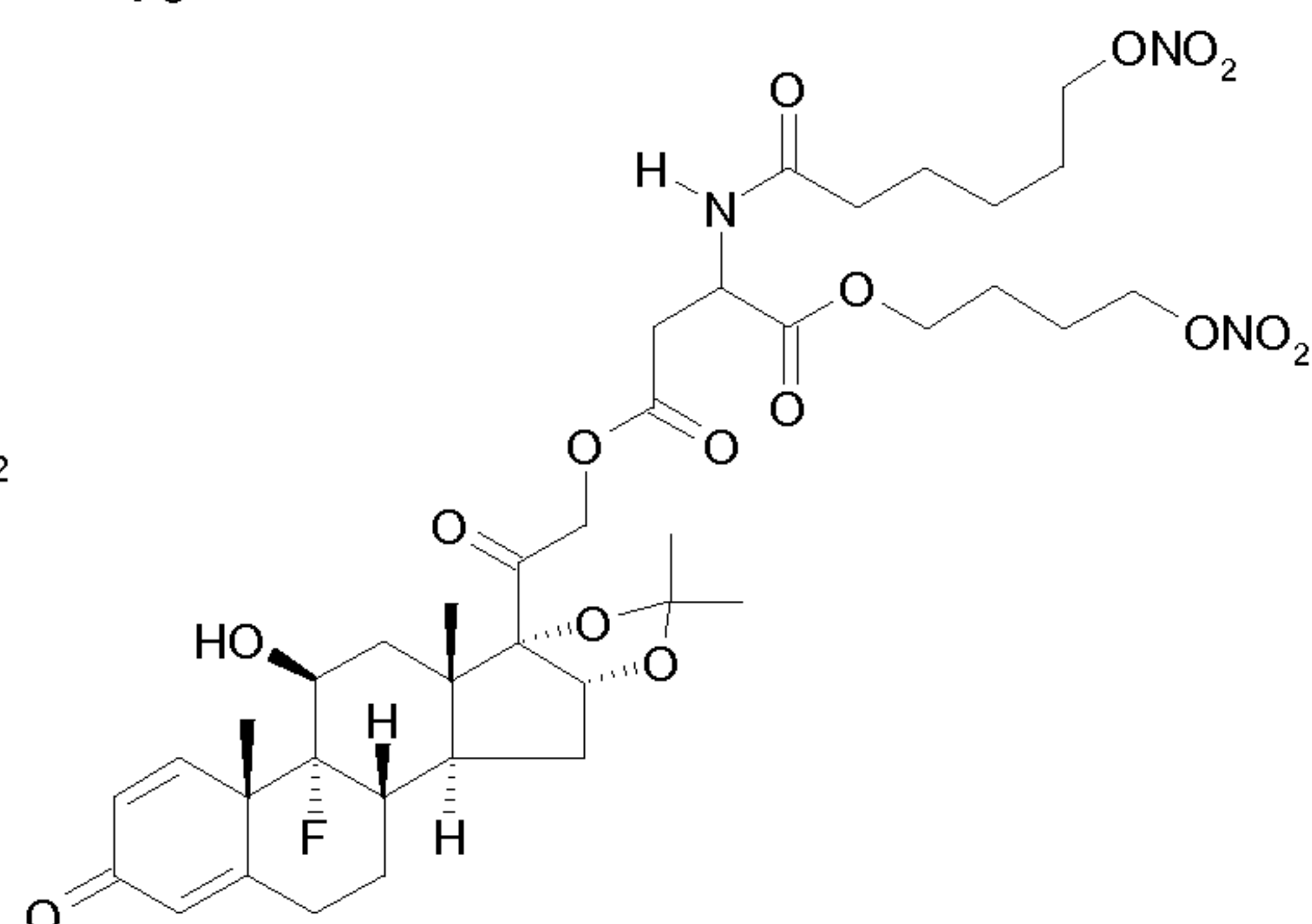
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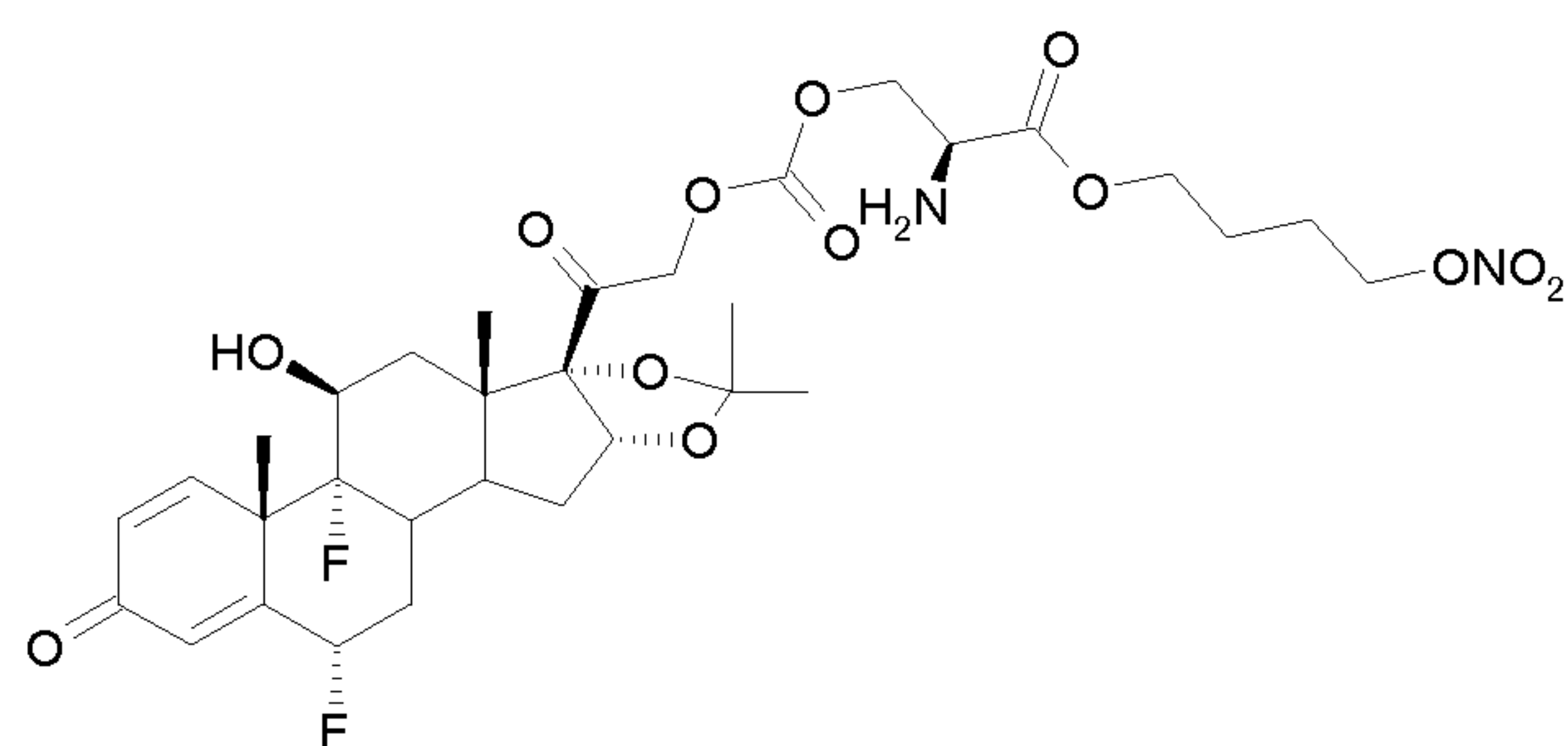
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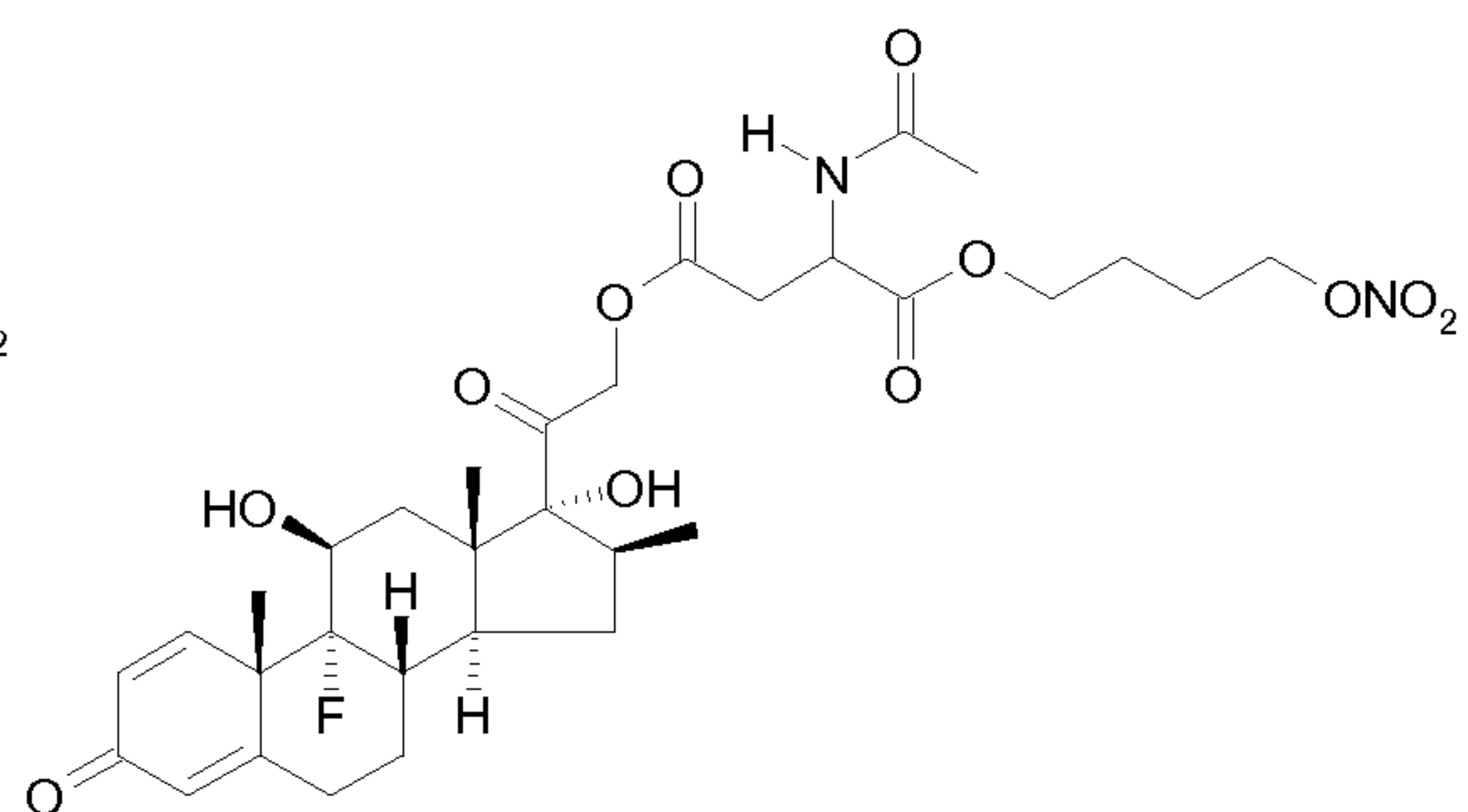
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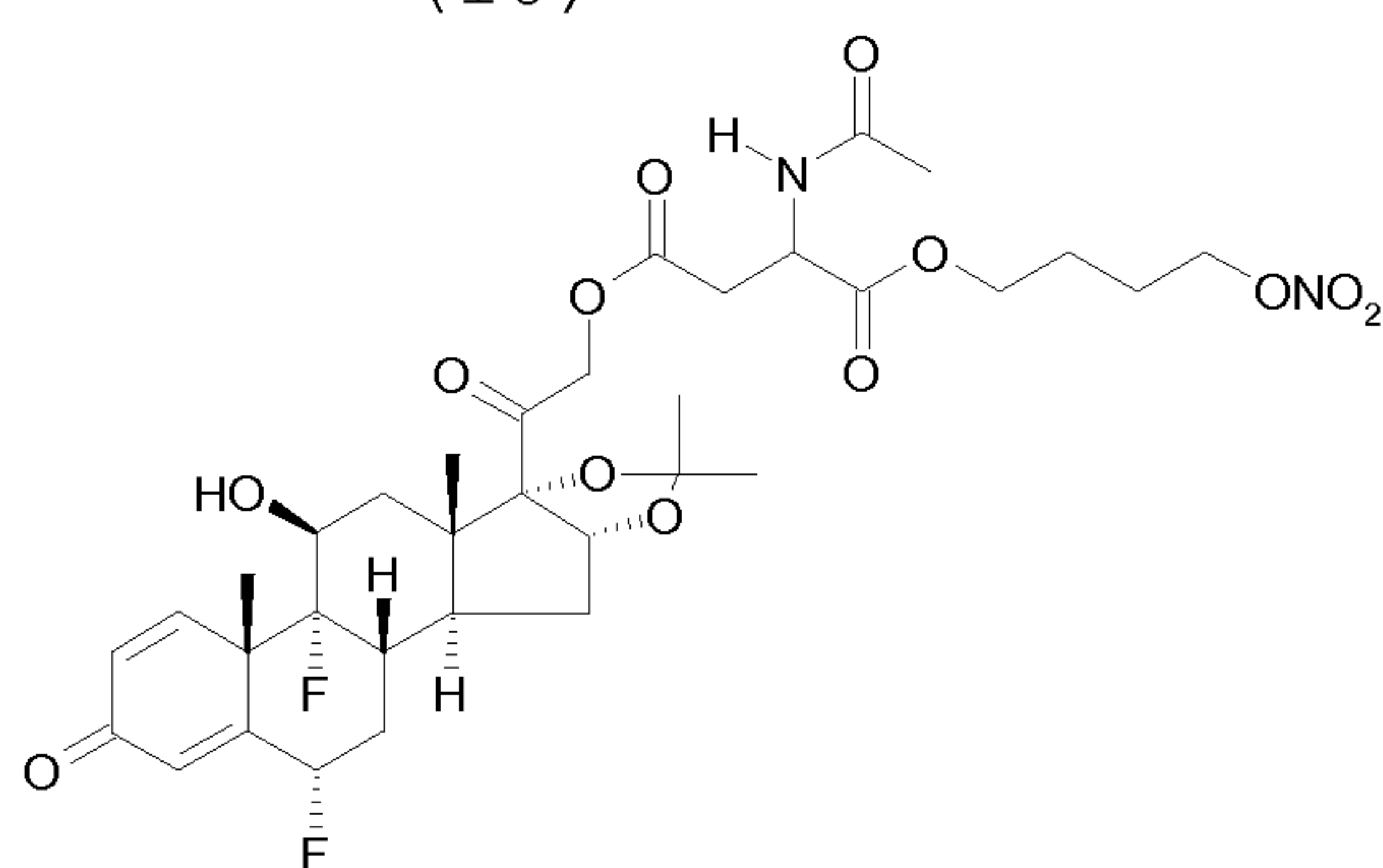
(17)



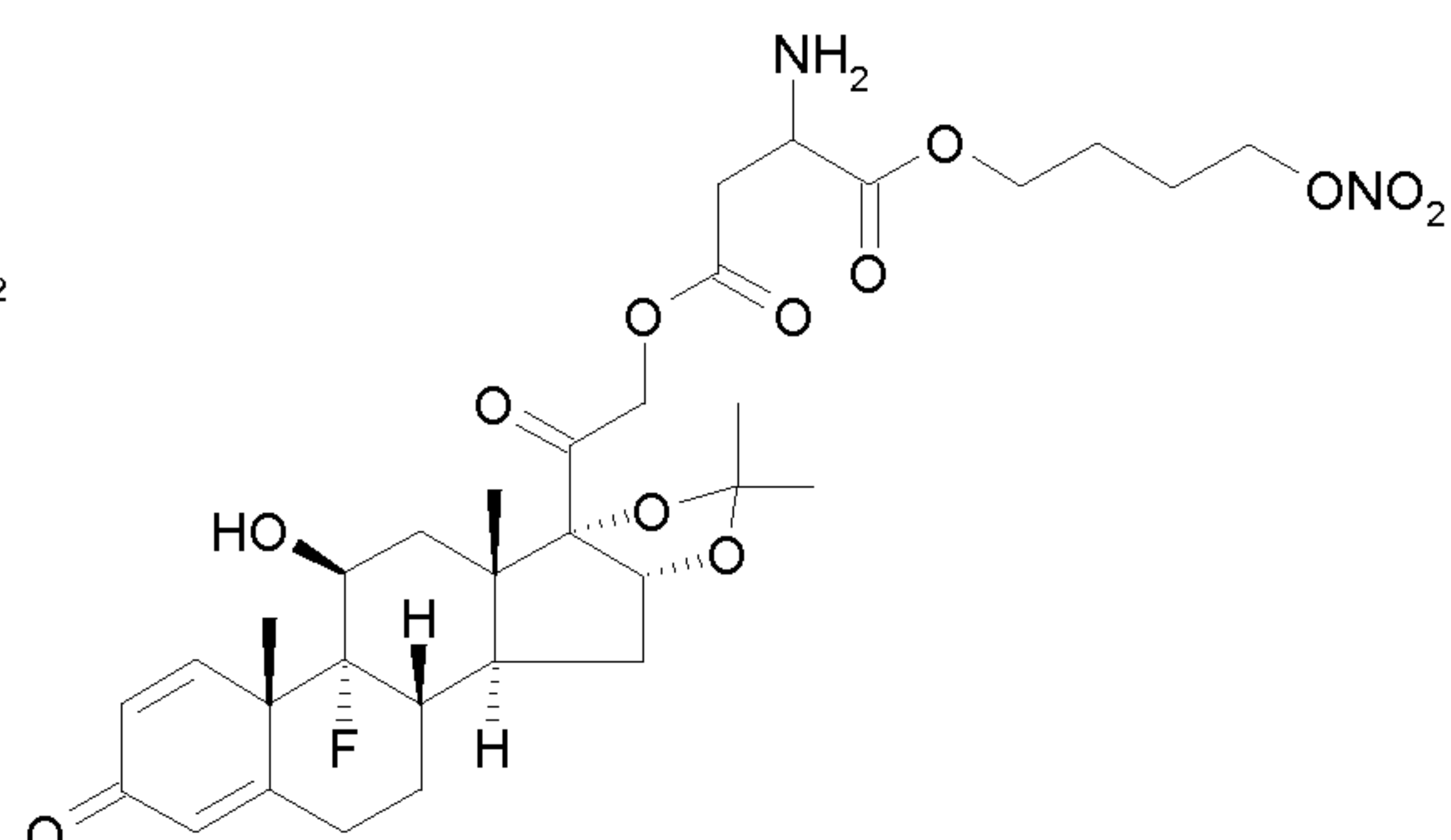
(18)



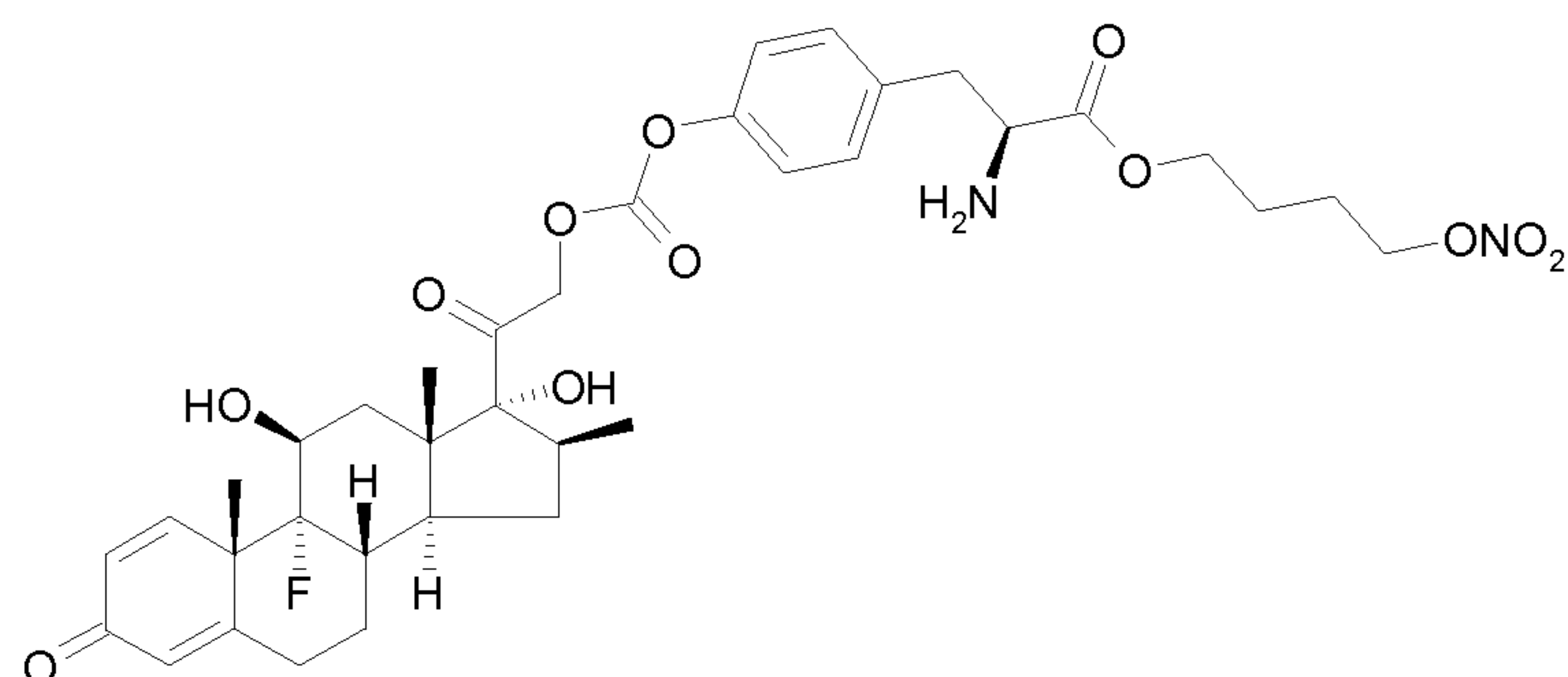
(19)



(20)

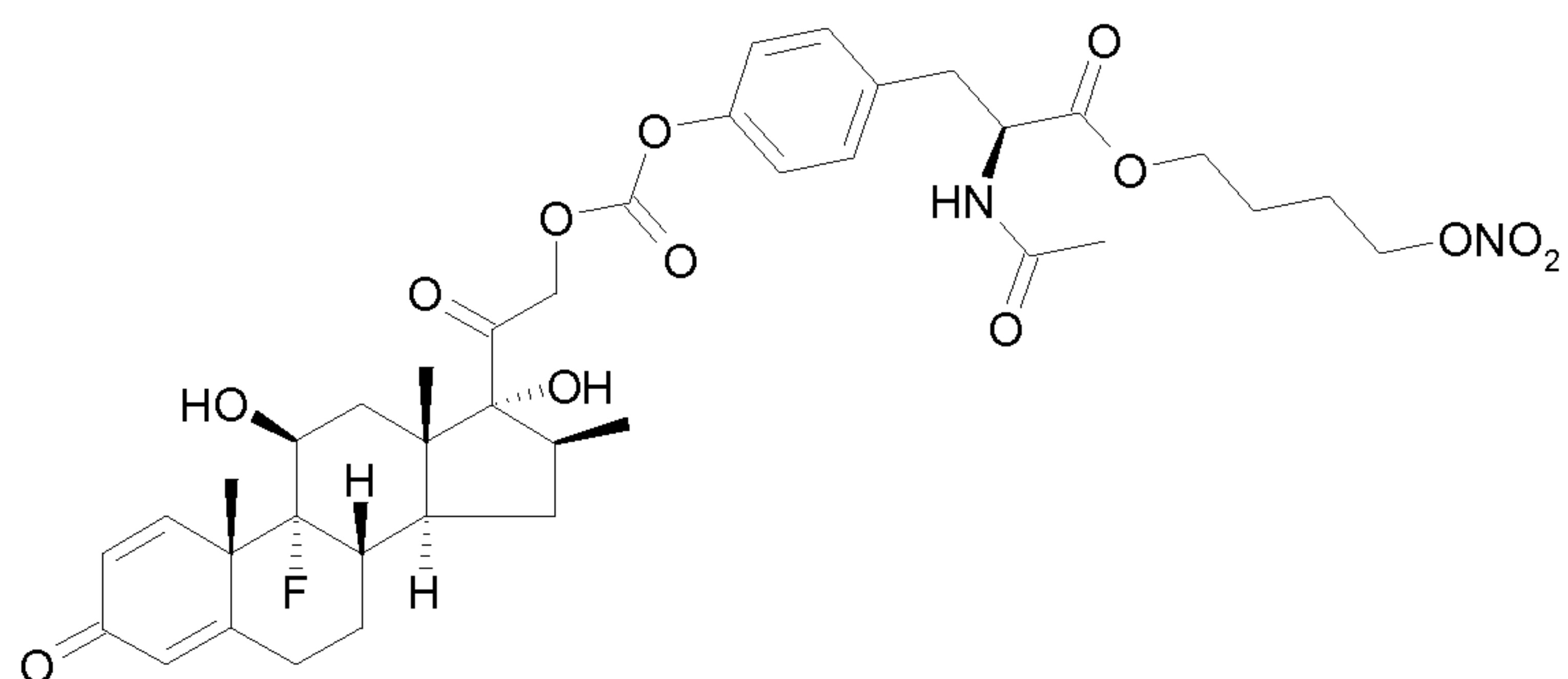


(21)

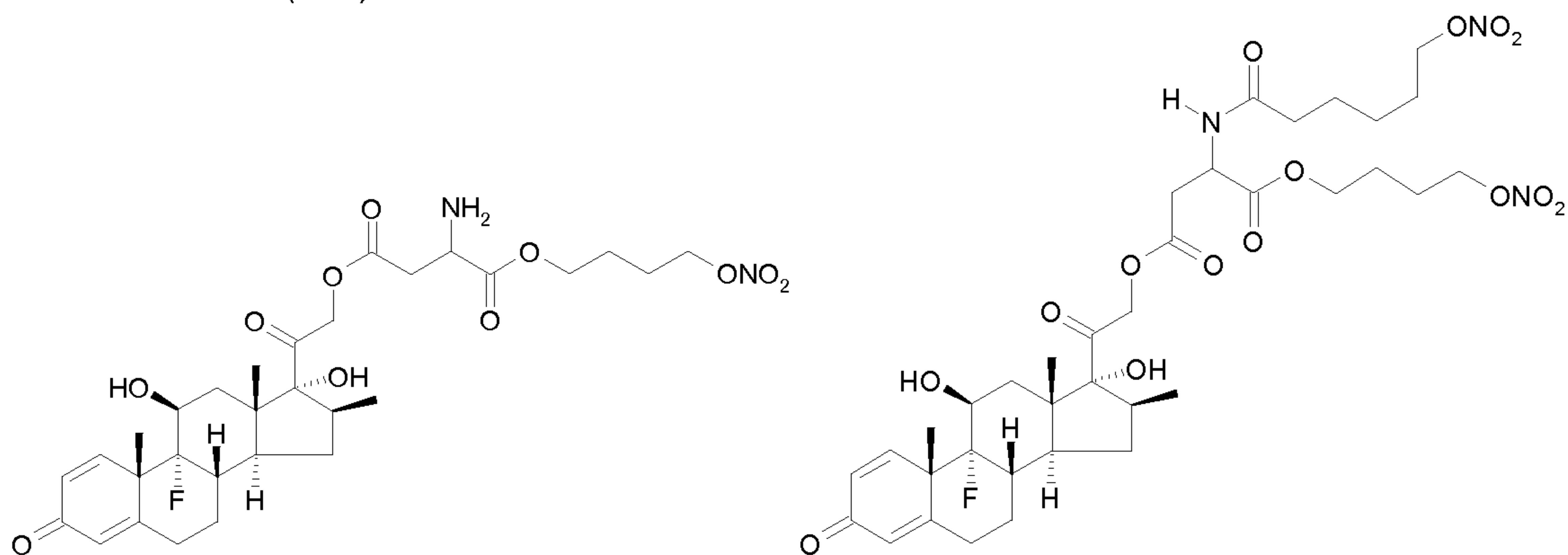


(22)

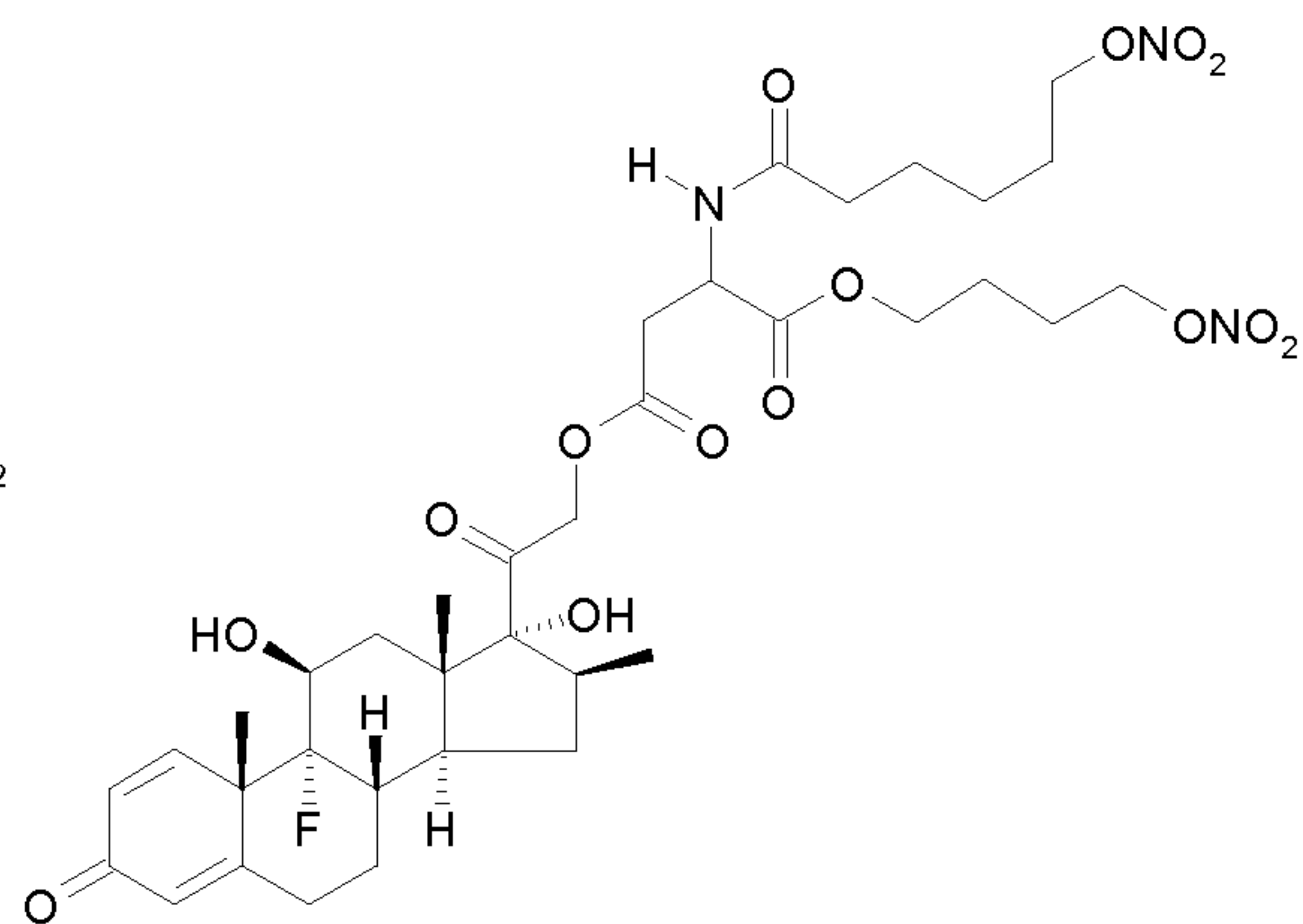
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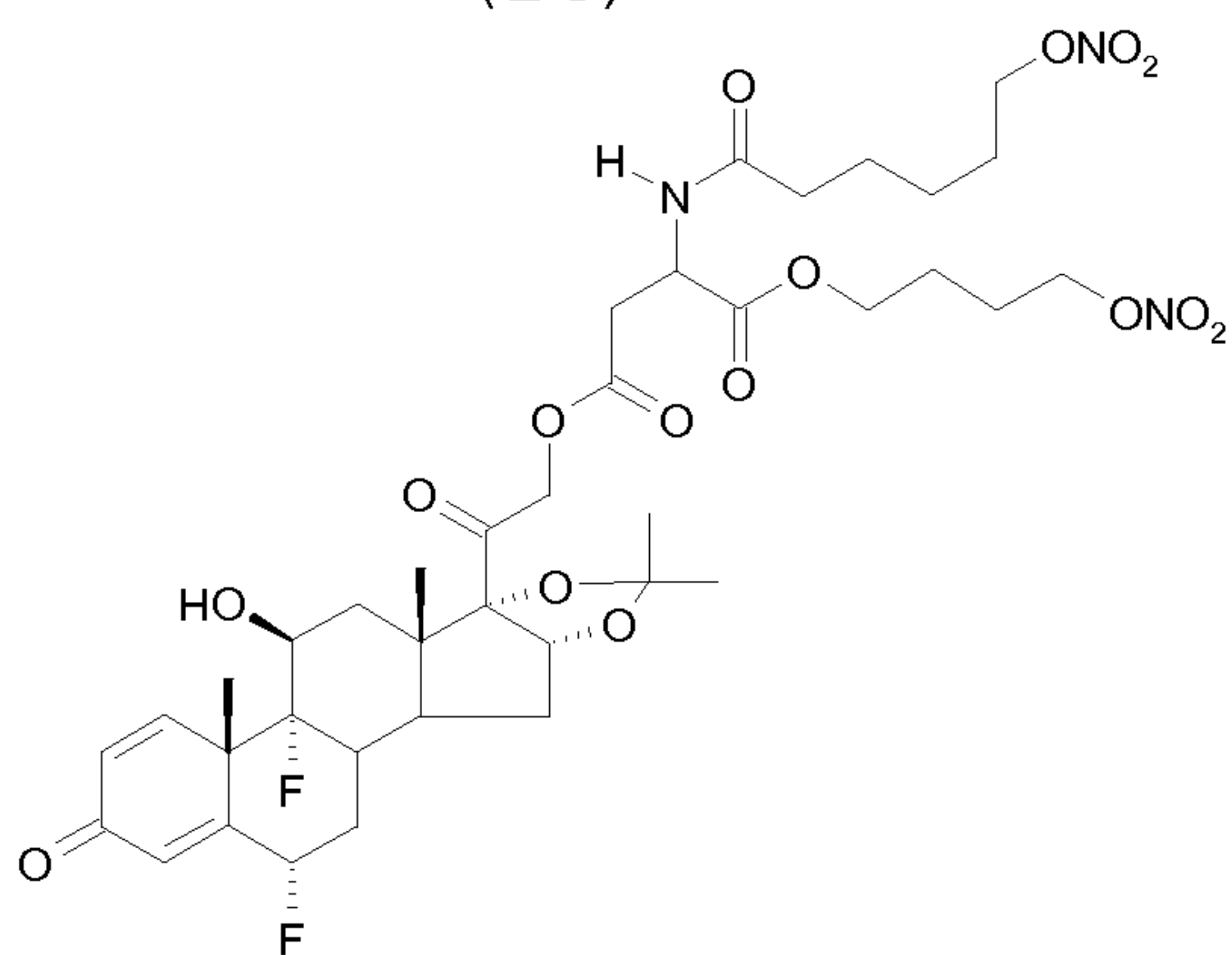
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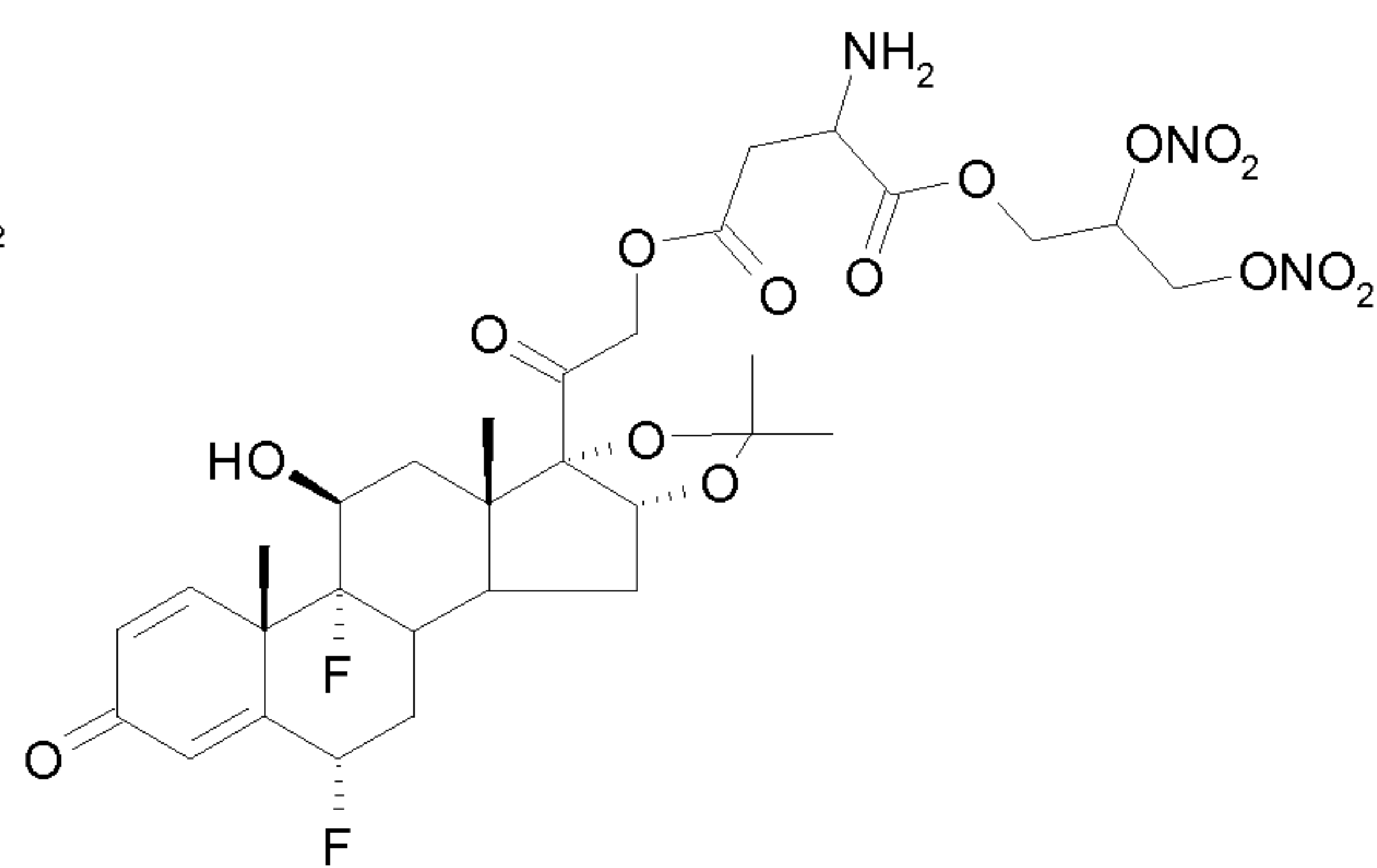
(24)



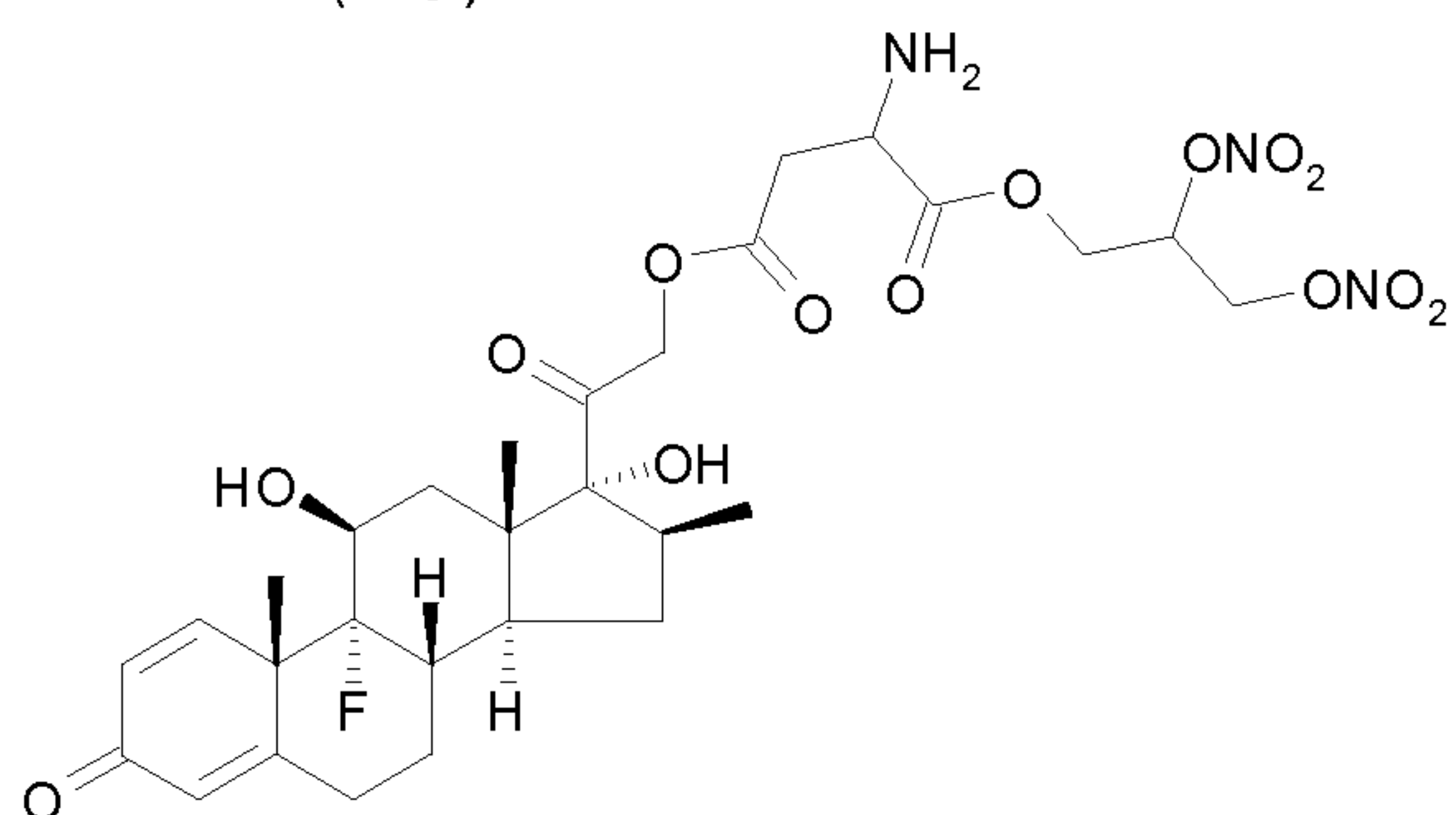
(25)



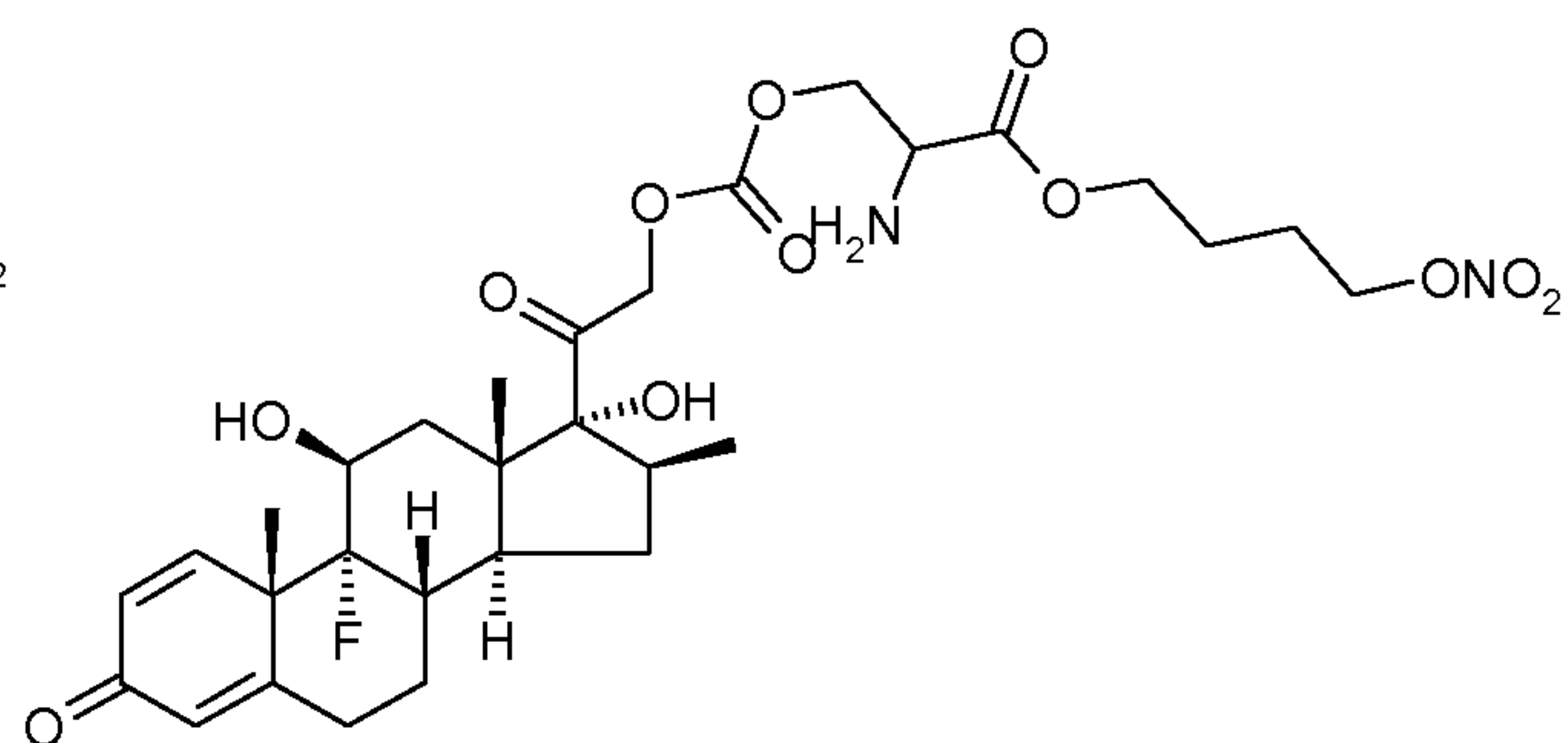
(26)



(27)

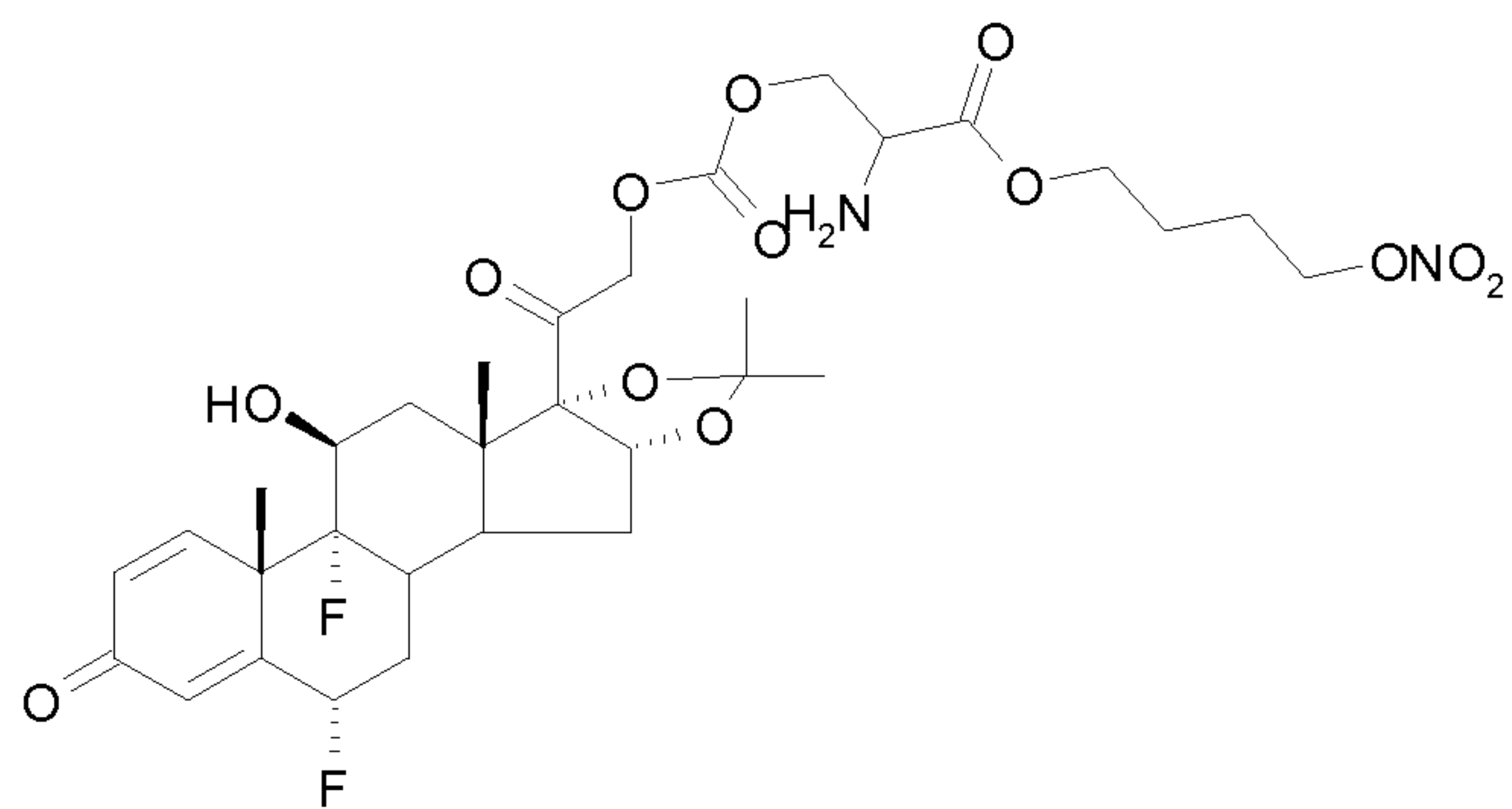


(28)

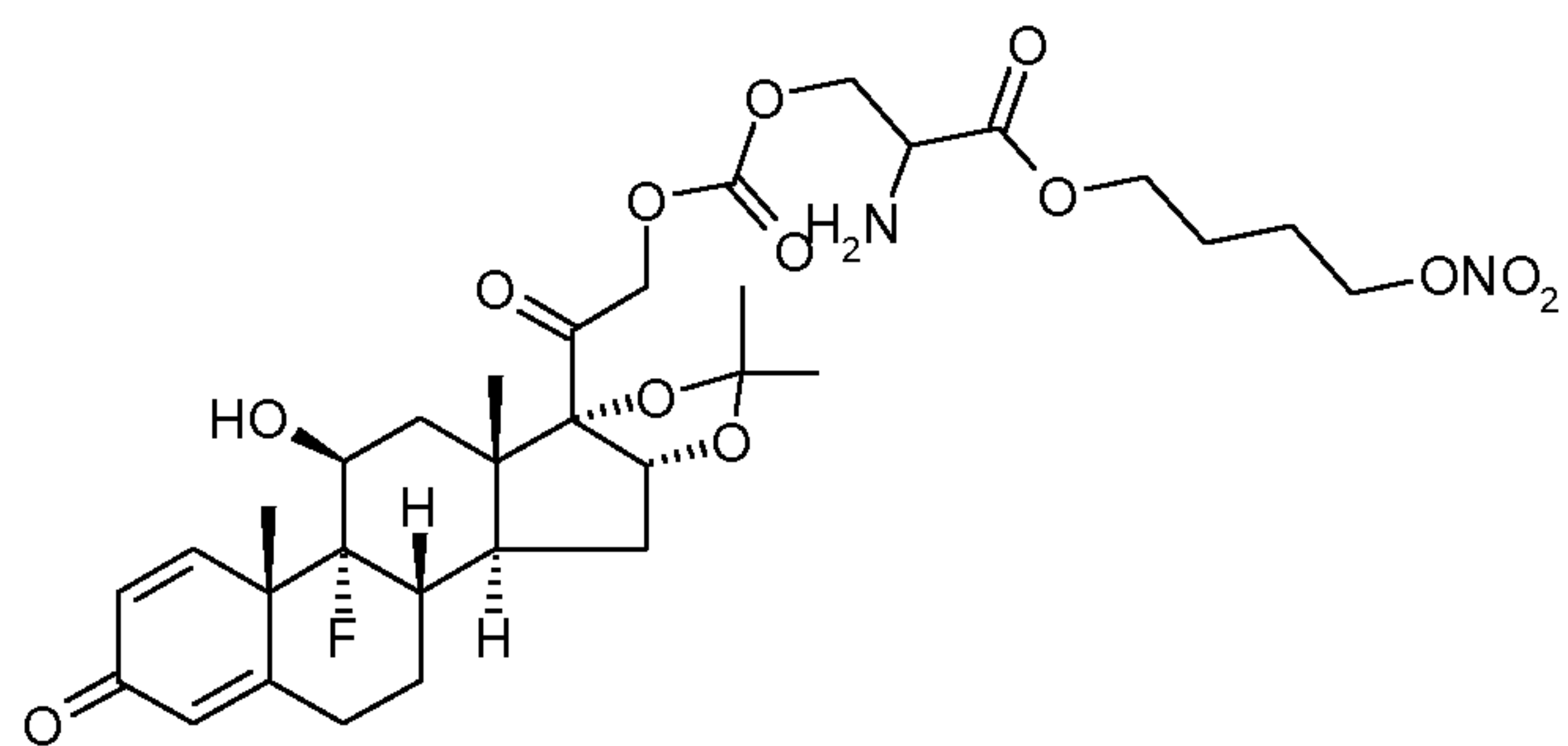


(29)

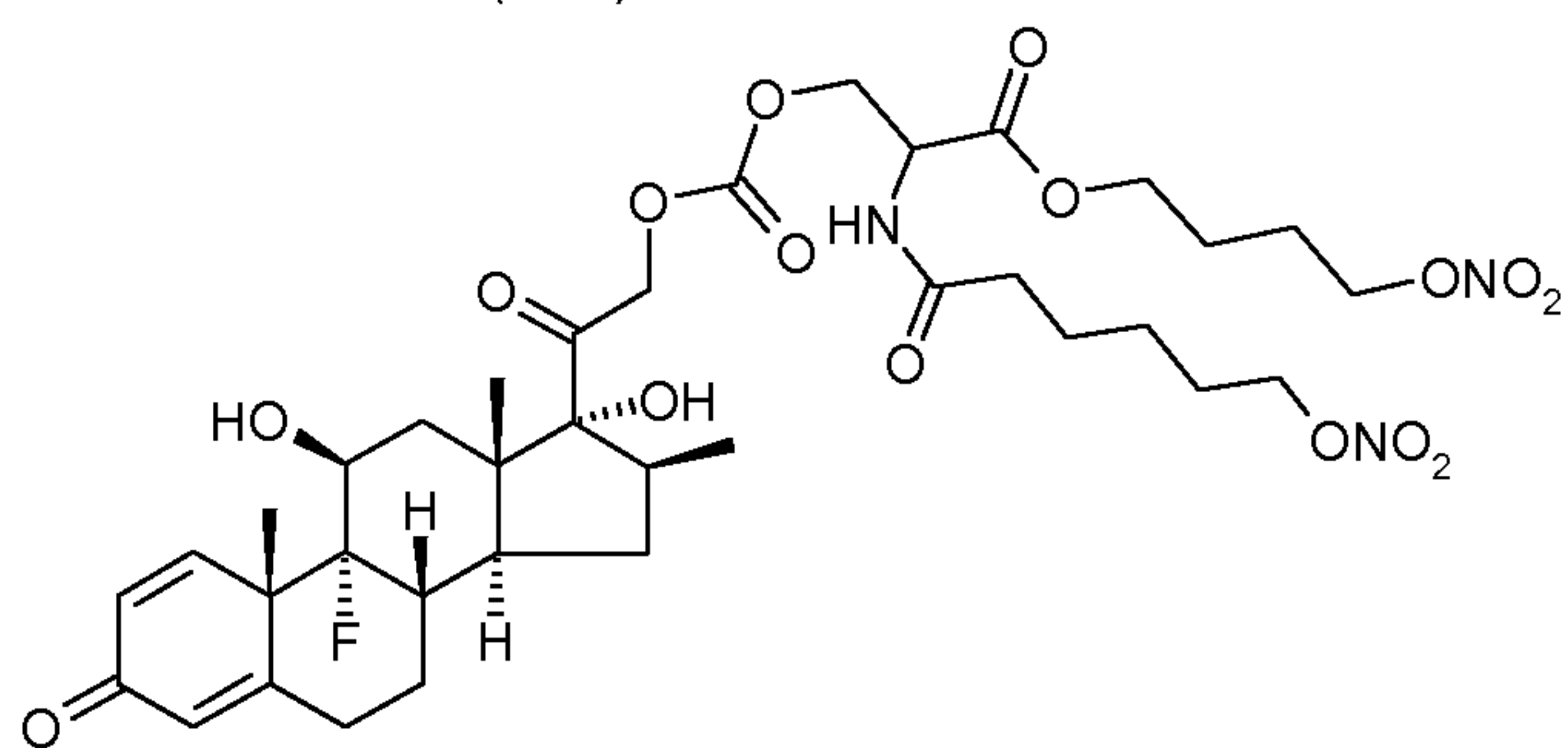
42



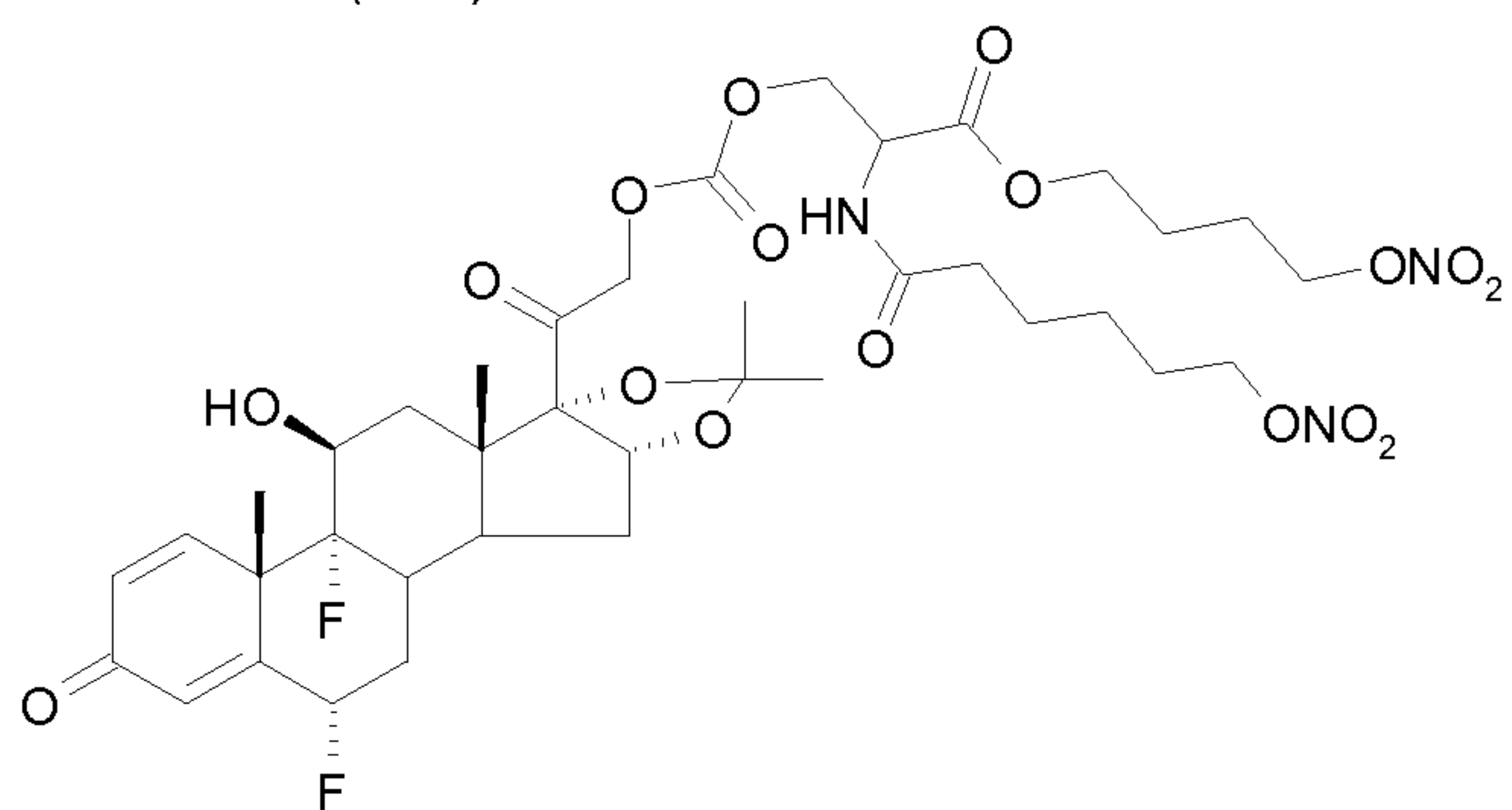
(30)



(31)

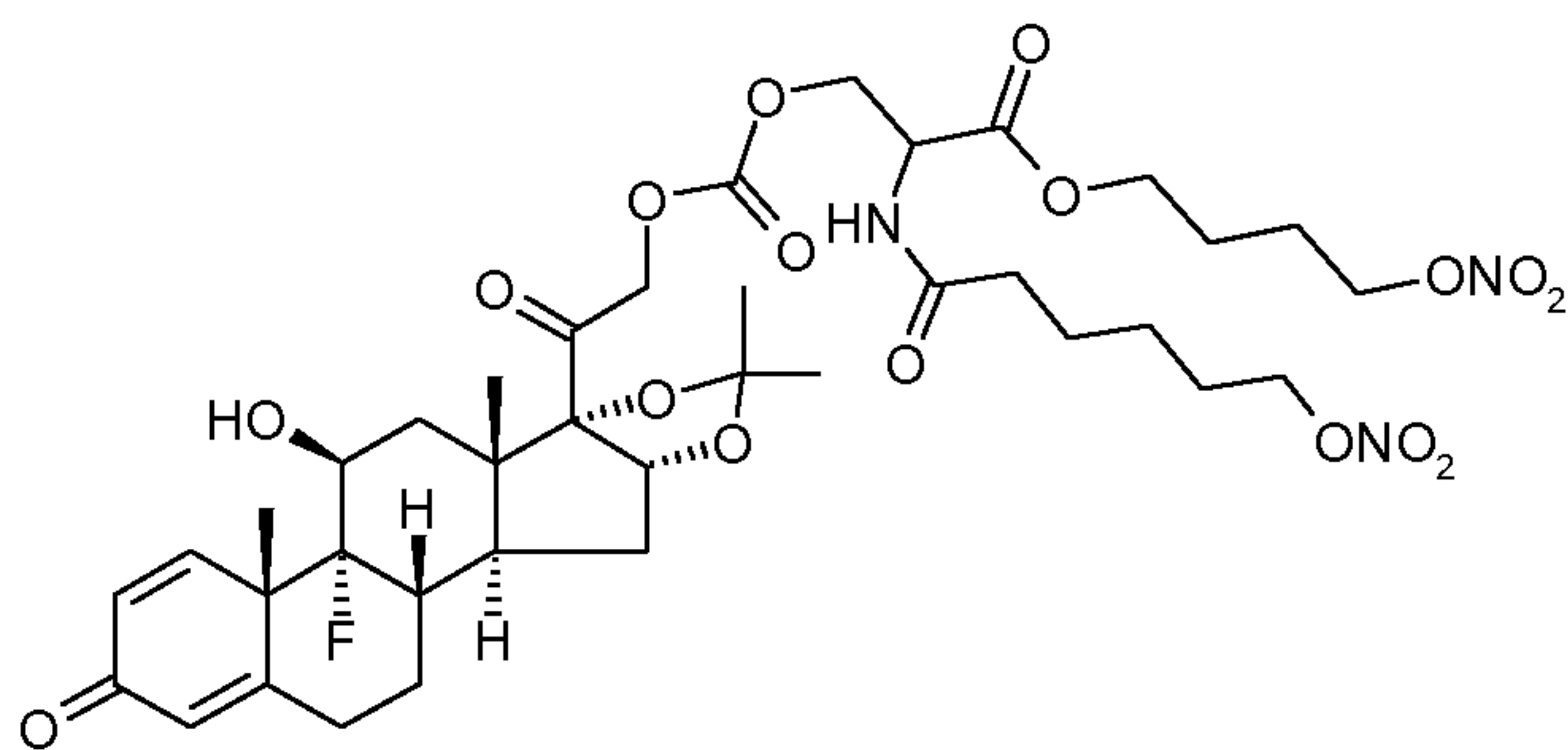


(32)



(33)

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(34)

As stated above, the invention includes also the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the compounds of formula (I) and stereoisomers thereof.

Examples of pharmaceutically acceptable salts are either those with inorganic bases, such as sodium, potassium, calcium and aluminium hydroxides, or with organic bases, such as lysine, arginine, triethylamine, dibenzylamine, piperidine and other acceptable organic amines.

The compounds according to the present invention, when they contain in the molecule one salifiable nitrogen atom, can be transformed into the corresponding salts by reaction in an organic solvent such as acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran with the corresponding organic or inorganic acids.

Examples of organic acids are: oxalic, tartaric, maleic, succinic, citric acids. Examples of inorganic acids are: nitric, hydrochloric, sulphuric, phosphoric acids. Salts with nitric acid are preferred.

The compounds of the invention which have one or more asymmetric carbon atoms can exist as optically pure enantiomers, pure diastereomers, enantiomers mixtures, diastereomers mixtures, enantiomer racemic mixtures, racemates or racemate mixtures. Within the object of the invention are also all the possible isomers, stereoisomers and their mixtures of the compounds of formula (I).

The compounds object of the present invention are formulated in the corresponding pharmaceutical compositions, also with belated release, for parenteral, oral and topic use, such as

for example sublingual, inhalatory, suppository, transdermal, enema, according to the well known techniques in the art, together with the usual excipients; see for example the publication "Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences" 15th Ed.

5 The amount on a molar basis of the active principle in said compositions is generally the same, or lower than that of the corresponding precursor drug.

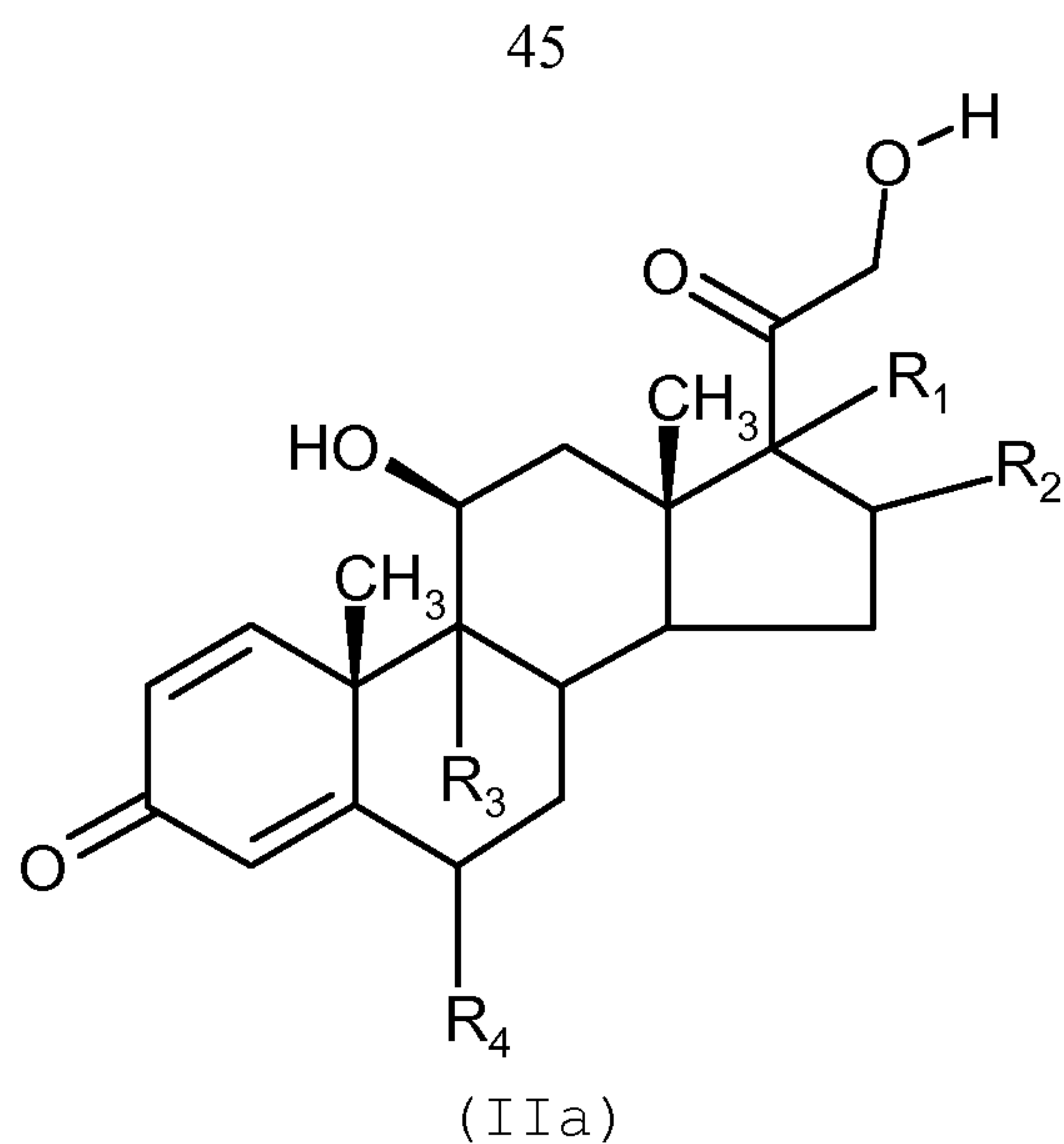
The daily administrable doses are those of the precursor drugs, or optionally lower. The precursor daily doses can be
10 found in the publications of the field, such for example in the "Physician's Desk reference".

The present invention compounds are used in particular for the treatment of ocular disease therapies such as ocular hypertension, age-related macular degeneration, diabetic
15 macular edema, diabetic retinopathy, hypertensive retinopathy and retinal vasculopathies.

Synthesis procedure

1) The compound of general formula (I) as above defined wherein
20 a is equal to 0, the radical R_x is selected from (a2), (a4), (a8), (b2), (b4), (b8), (c2), (e2), (f1), (g2), (h1), (i1), (l2), (m2), (n2), (o2), (p2), (q2), (r2), (s2), (t2), (u2), (v2), can be obtained:

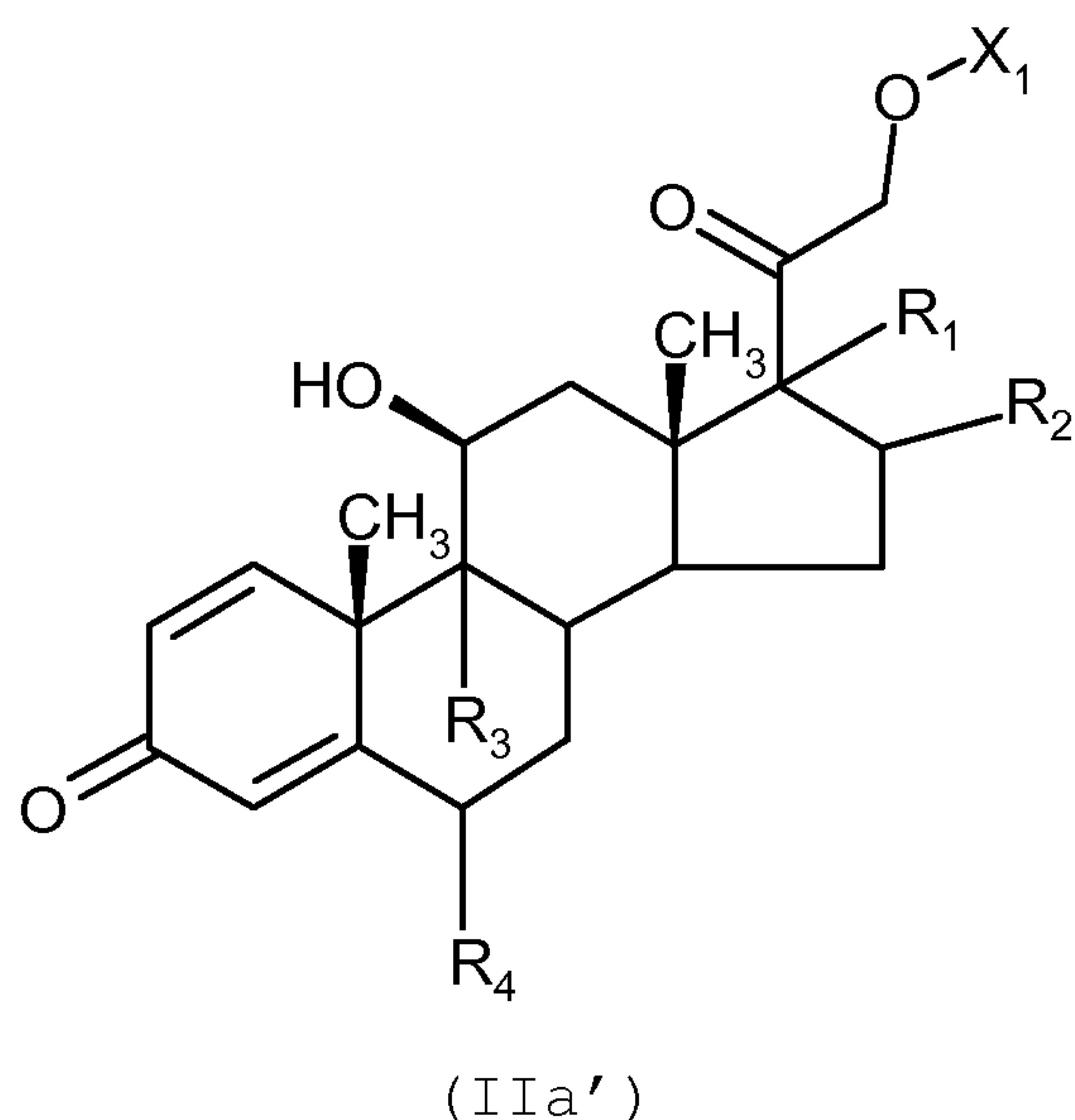
1-i) by reacting a compound of (IIa)



wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , are as above defined, with a compound of formula (Ia)



wherein W is -OH, Cl, O-R_a wherein R_a is pentafluorophenyl, 4-nitrophenyl or -(N-succimidyl), X₁ is as below defined, to obtain the compound of formula (IIa')



wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , are as above defined and X₁ is as below defined,

15 X₁ is a radical having the following meaning:

-(a2') -C(O)-CH(R^{1'})-NH-(T'-Y-Q)

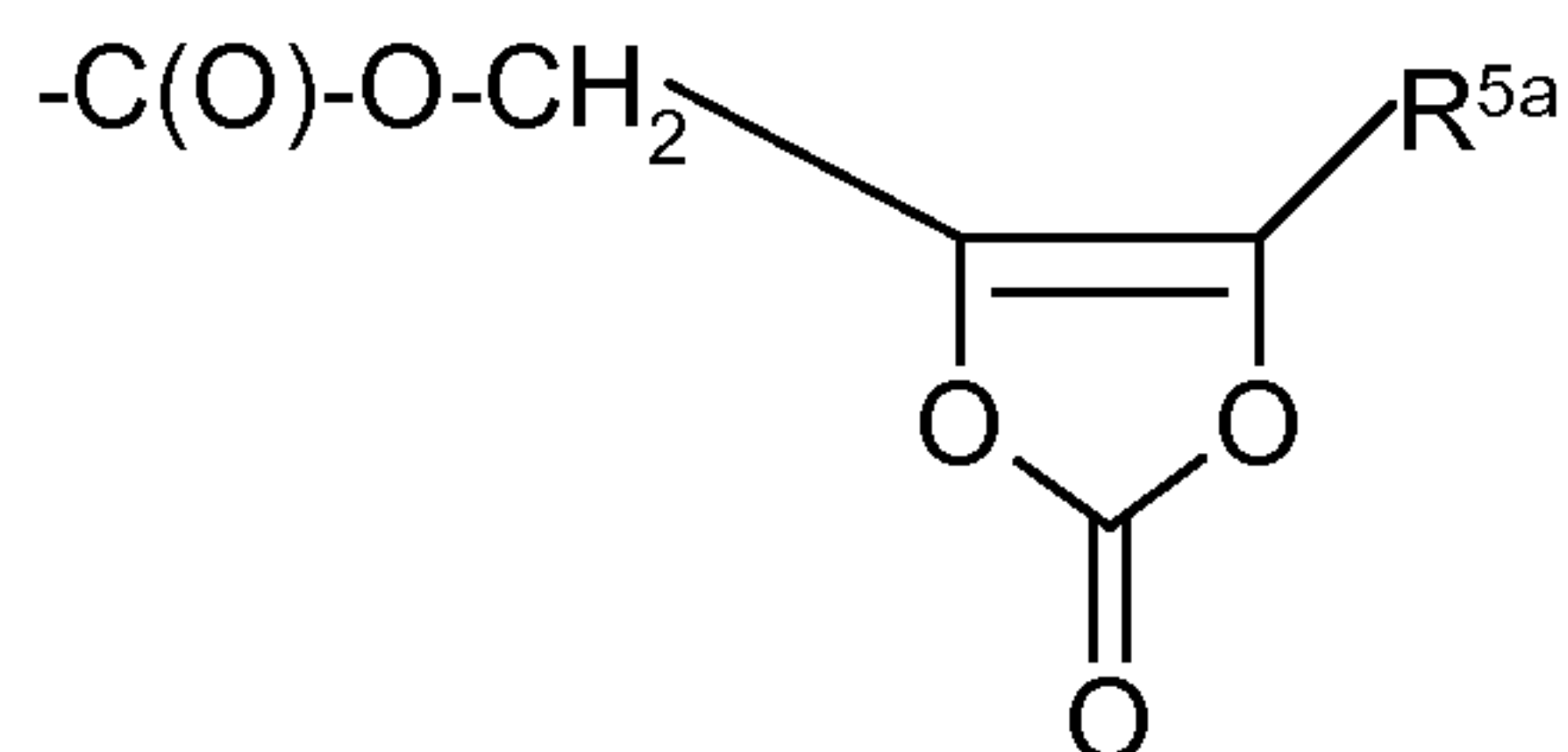
wherein R^{1'} is selected from

A1) as defined above or

A2') $-\text{CH}_2-\text{SP}^1$, $-\text{CH}_2-\text{OP}^1$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{OP}^1$, $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)-4-\text{OP}^1]$,
 $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)-(3,5\text{-diiodo})-4-\text{OP}^1]$, $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)-3\text{-nitro}-4-\text{OP}^1]$ or

A3') $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NHR}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{NHR}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NHR}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NHR}'''$,

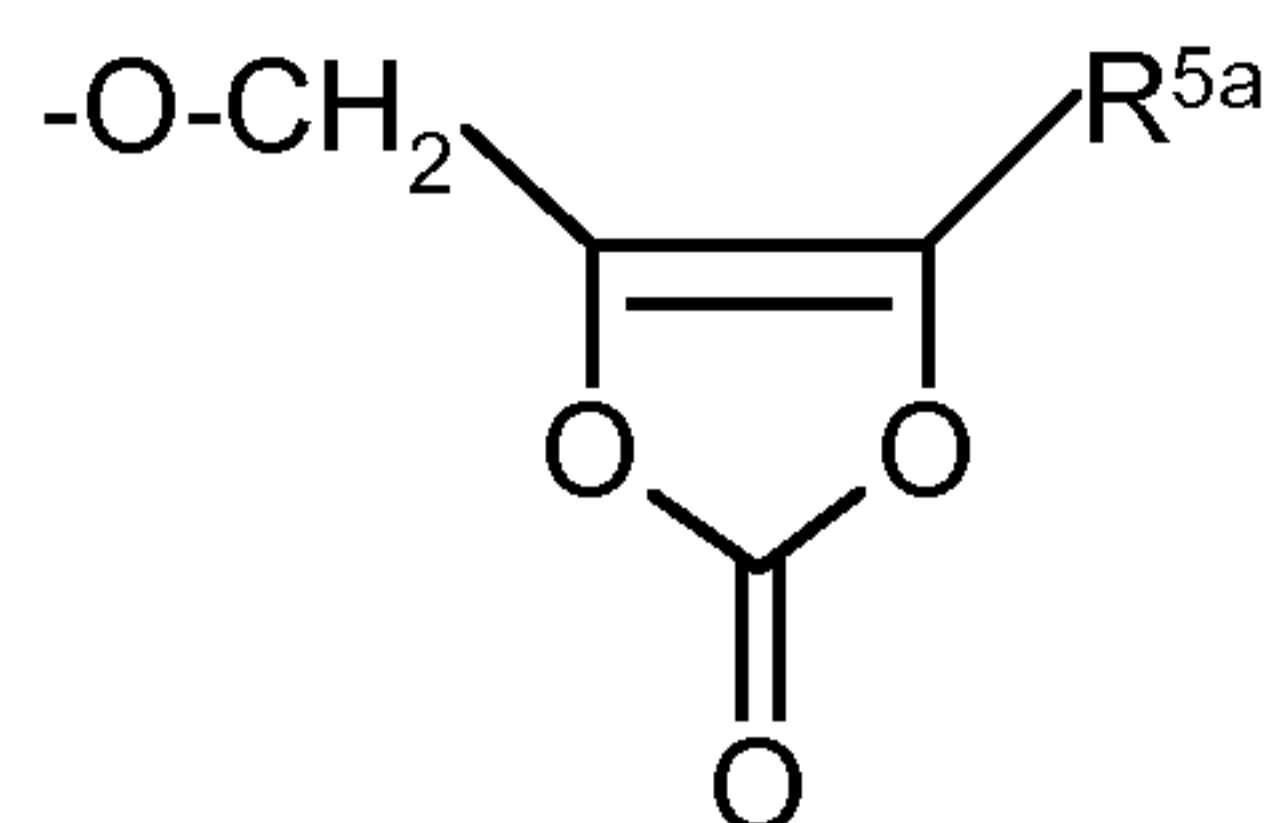
5 wherein R''' is P^3 or $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$ or



wherein R^{5a} is as defined above;

A4') $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}''''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}''''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}''''$

wherein R'''' is P^2 , $-\text{OR}^{5a}$ or



10

wherein R^{5a} is as above defined;

-(a4') $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{1a}-\text{T}''-\text{Y}'-\text{Q})-\text{NHR}^{4a'}$

-(a8') $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{1a}-\text{T}''-\text{Y}'-\text{Q})-\text{NH}-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{Q})$

wherein R^{1a} is as defined above;

15 -(b2') $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{2'})-\text{NH}-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{Q})$

wherein $\text{R}^{2'}$ is selected from

B1) as defined above or

B2') $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{OP}^1$, $-\text{CH}_2[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)-4-\text{OP}^1]$;

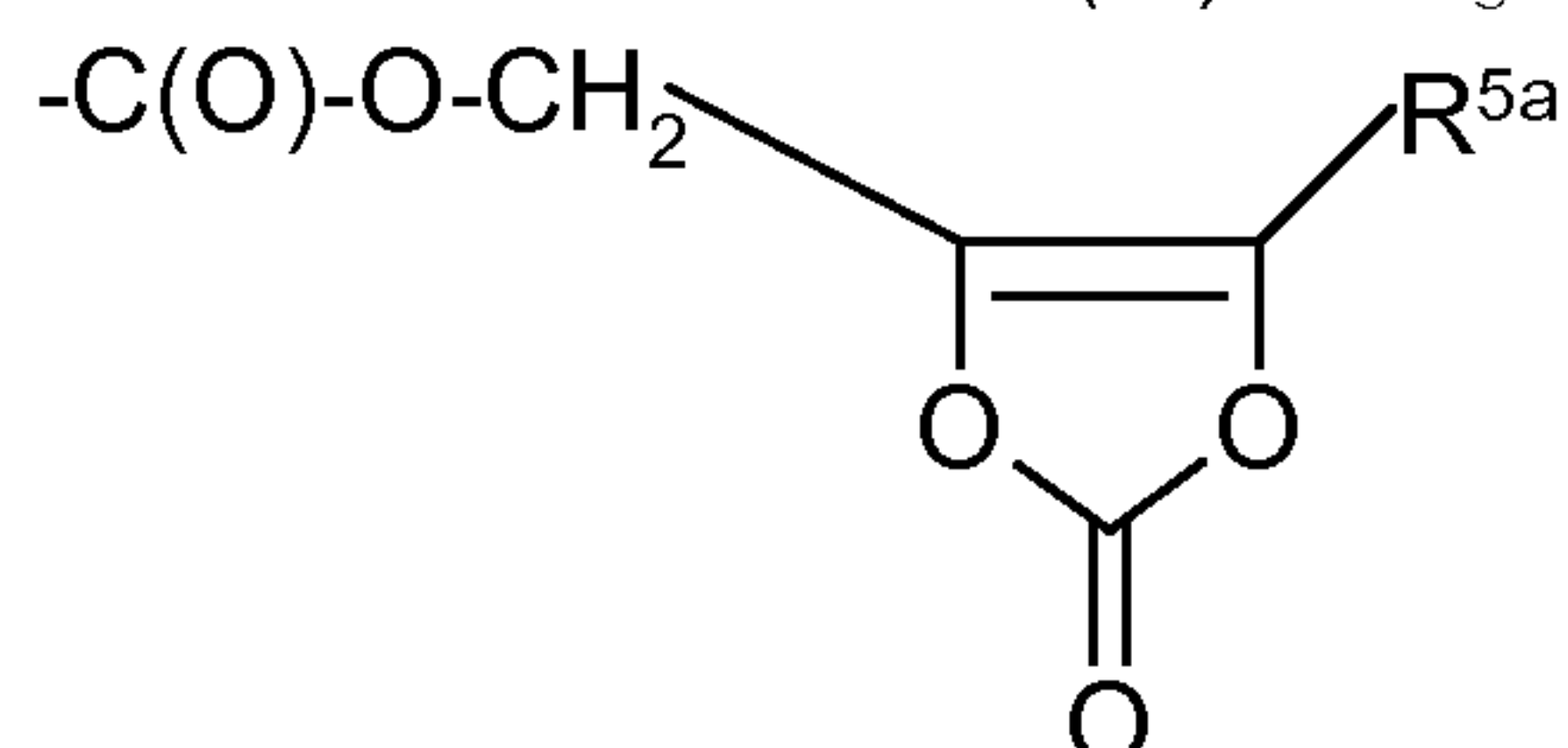
B3') $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NHR}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{NHR}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NHR}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NHR}'''$,

20 wherein R''' is as above defined;

B4') $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{R}''''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{R}''''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{R}''''$ wherein

R'''' is as above defined;

$\text{R}^{4a'}$ is P^3 or $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_3$ or



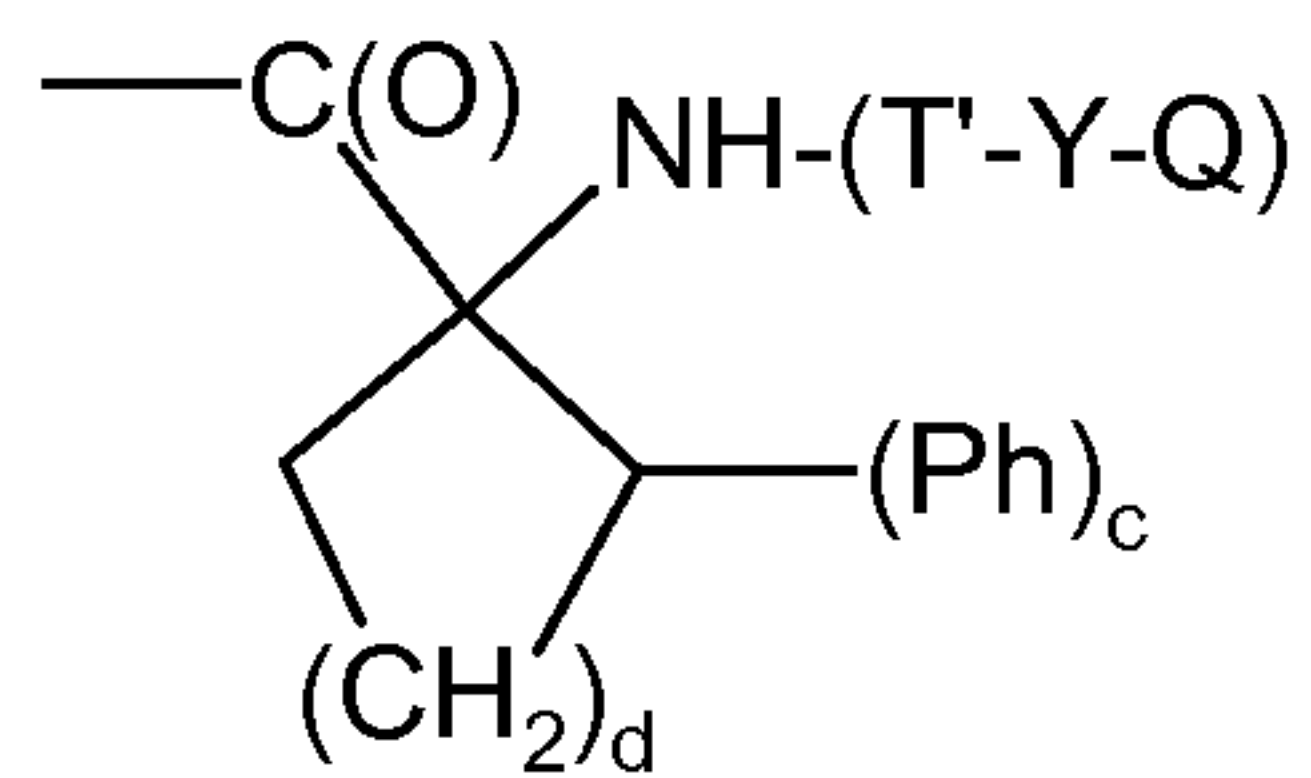
-(b4') $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{2a}-\text{T}''-\text{Y}'-\text{Q})-\text{NHR}^{4a'}$

-(b8') $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{2a}-\text{T}''-\text{Y}'-\text{Q})-\text{NH}-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{Q})$

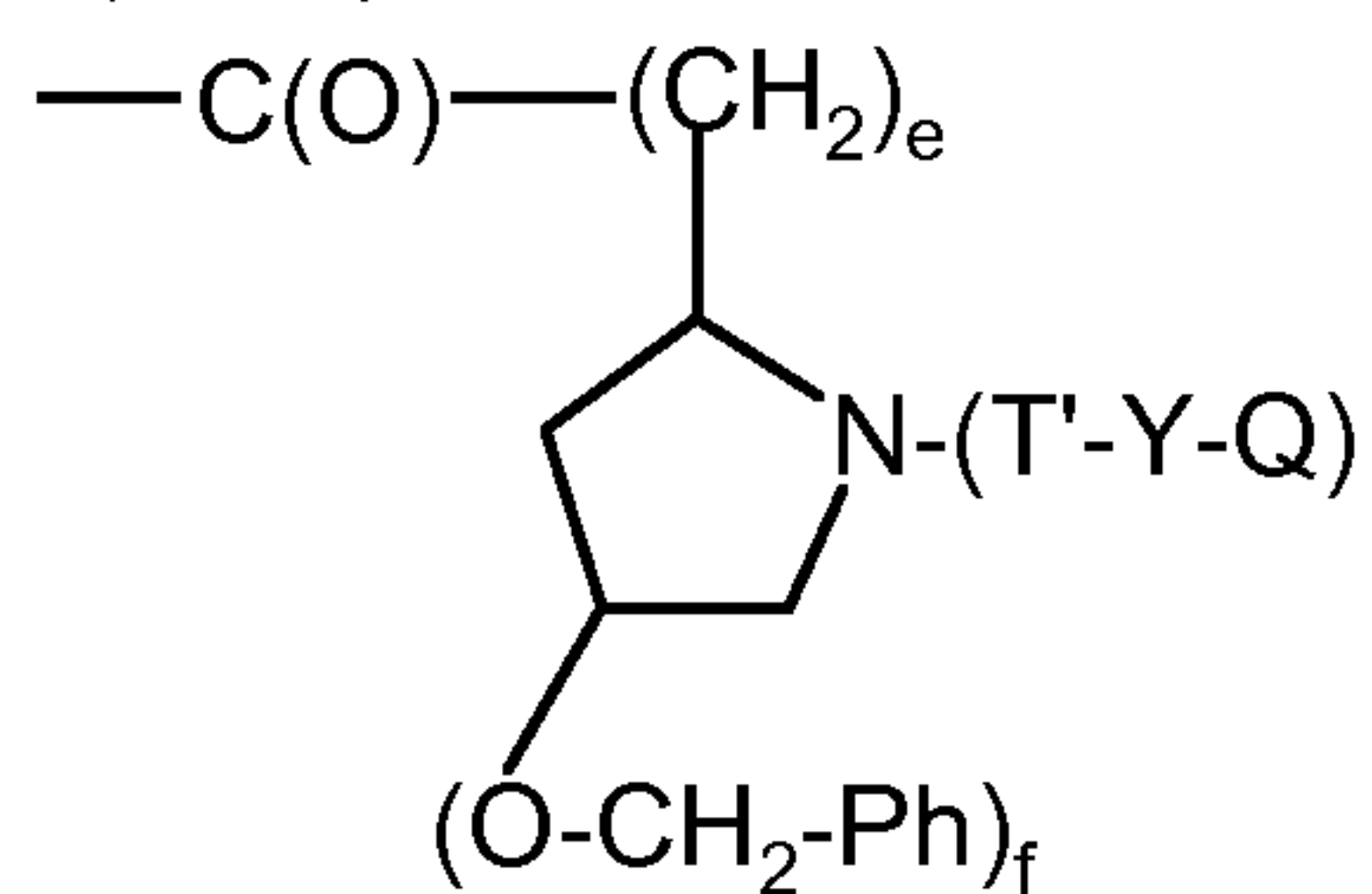
wherein R^{2a} and $\text{R}^{4a'}$ are as defined above;

-(c2') $-\text{C}(\text{O})-(\text{CH}_2)_b-\text{NH}-(\text{T}'-\text{Y}-\text{Q})$;

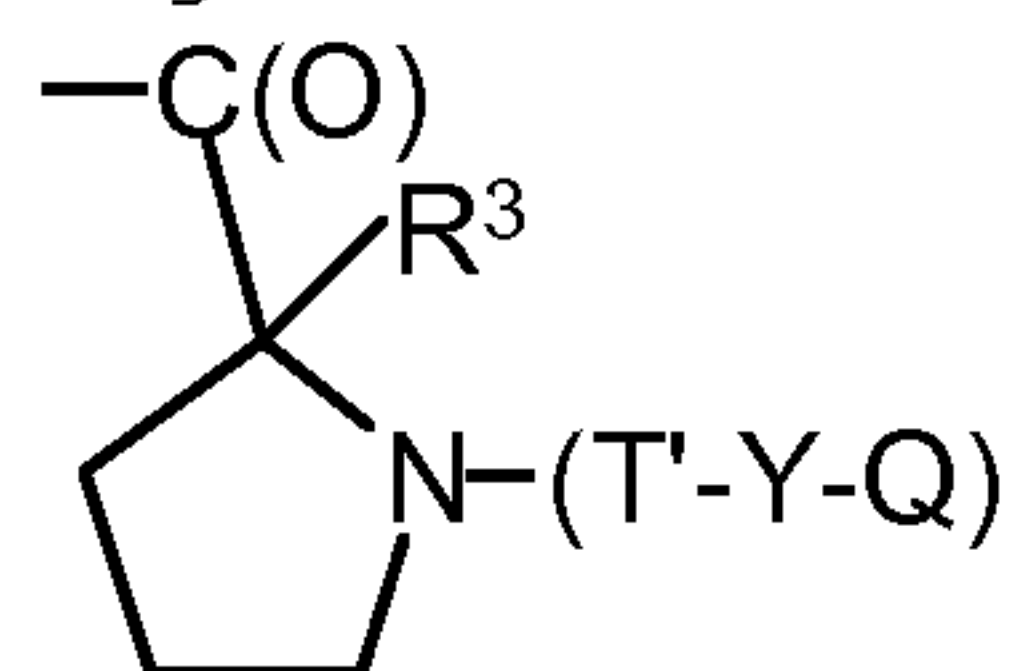
5 -(e2')



-(f1')

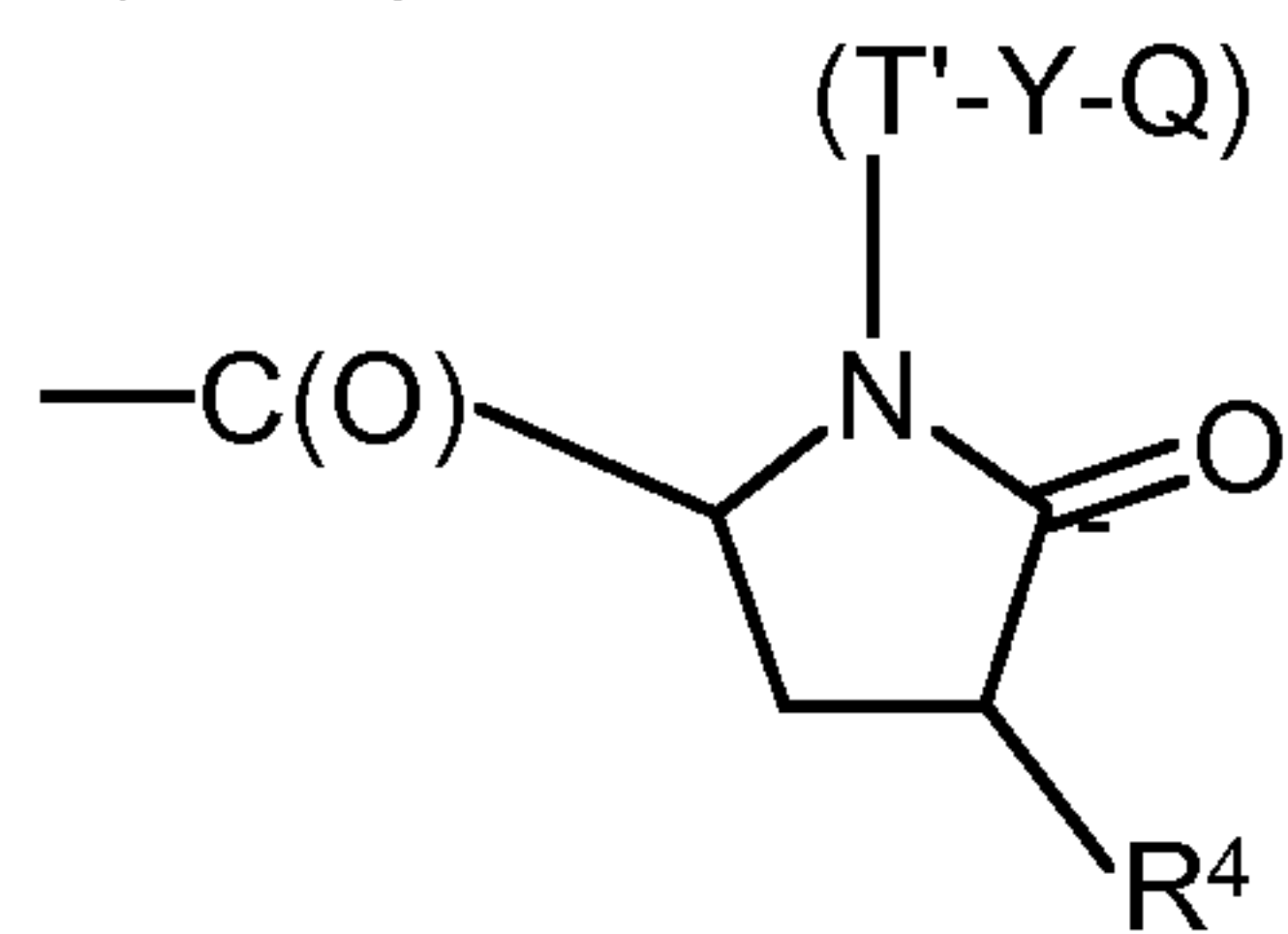


-(g2')

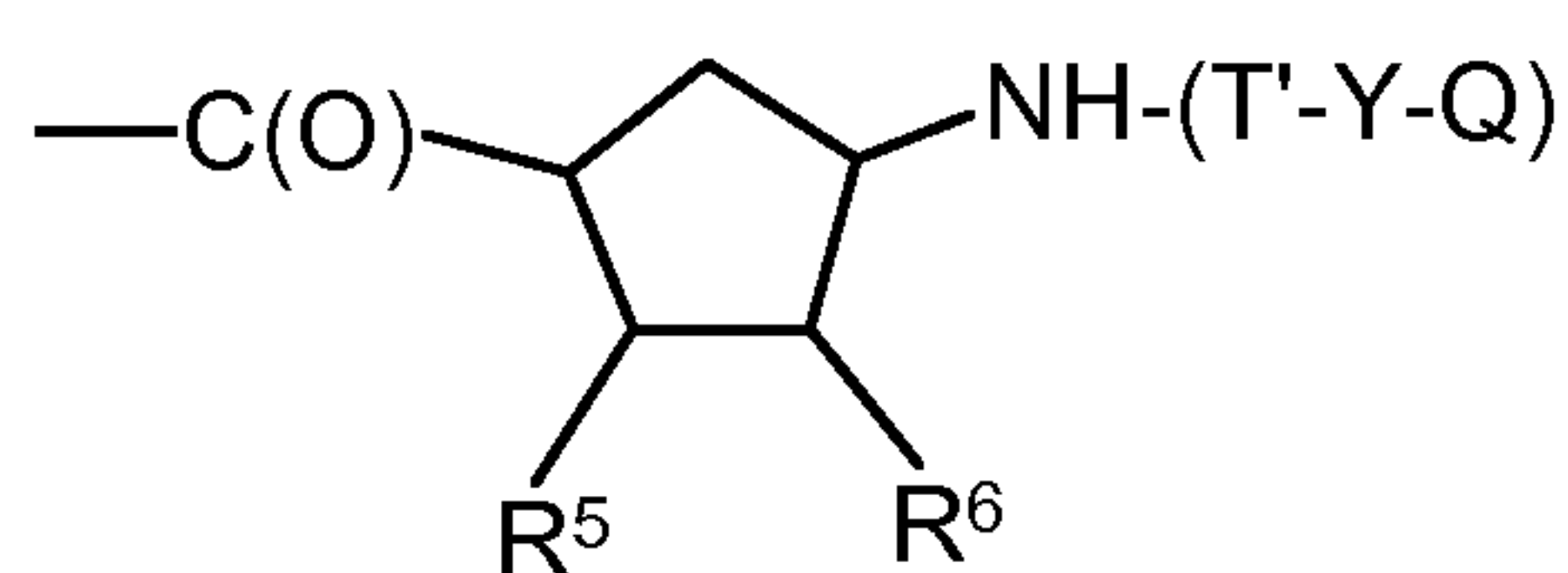


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-(h1')

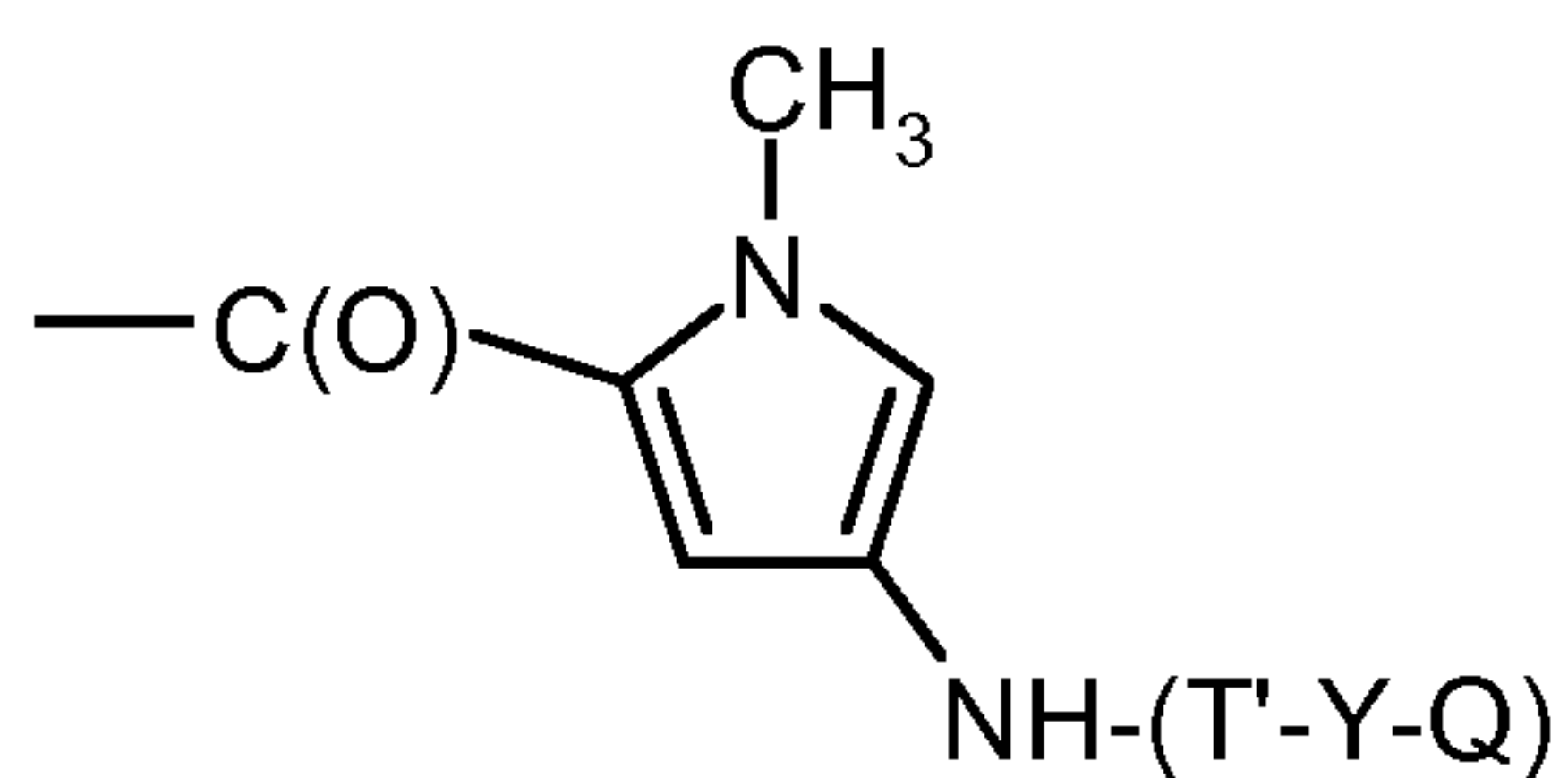


-(i1')

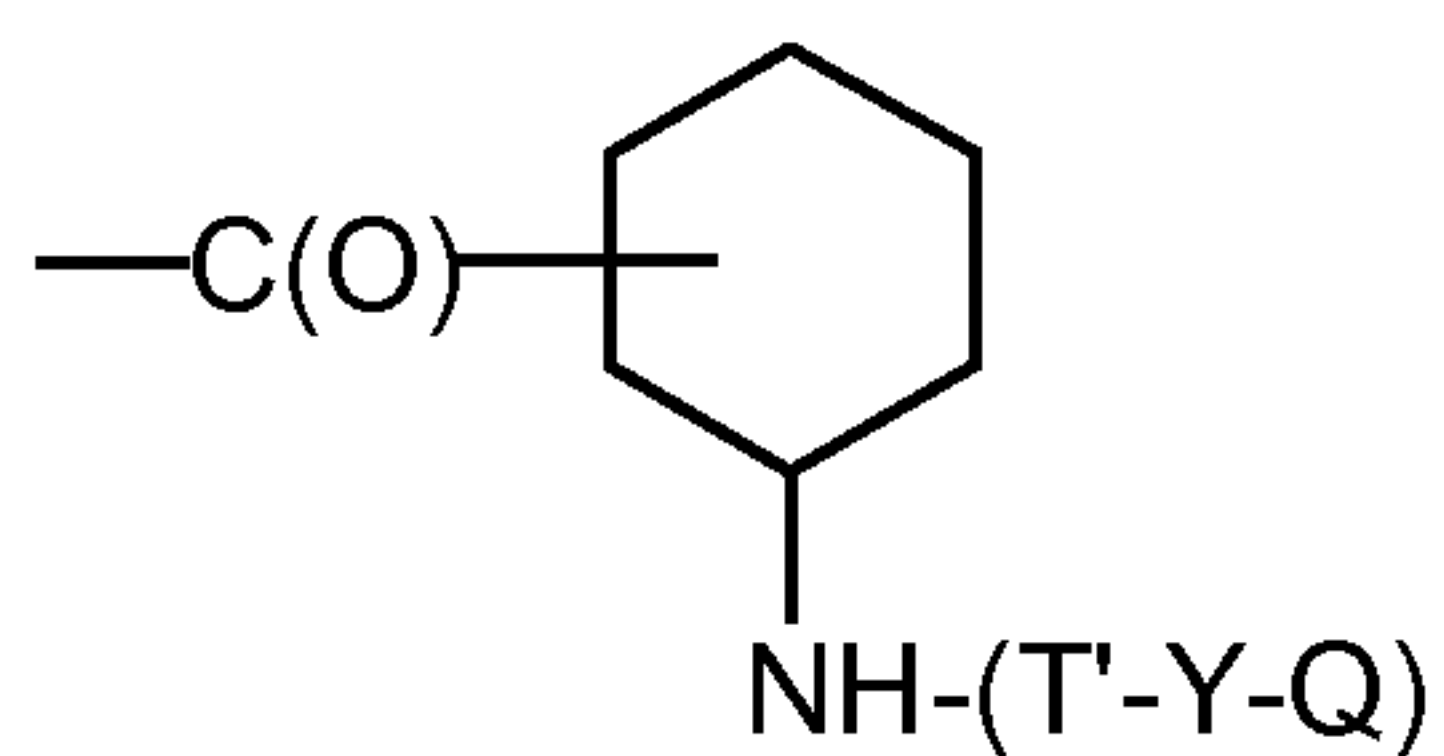


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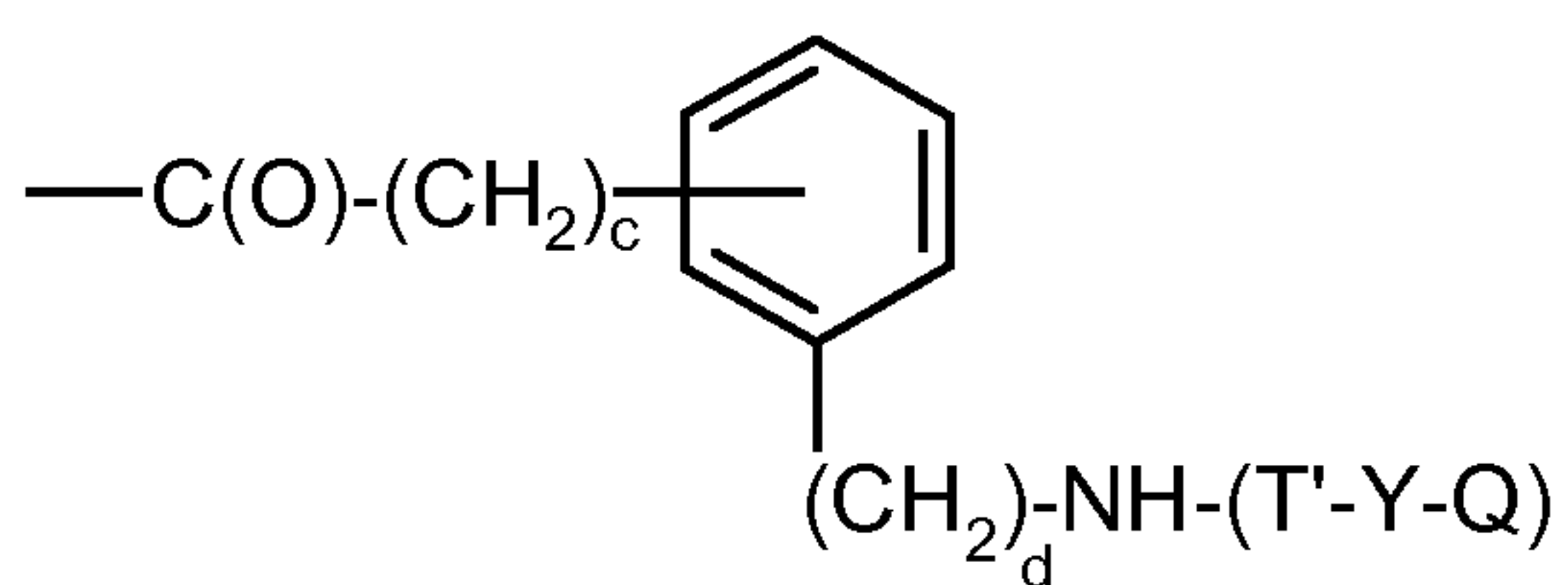
-(l2')



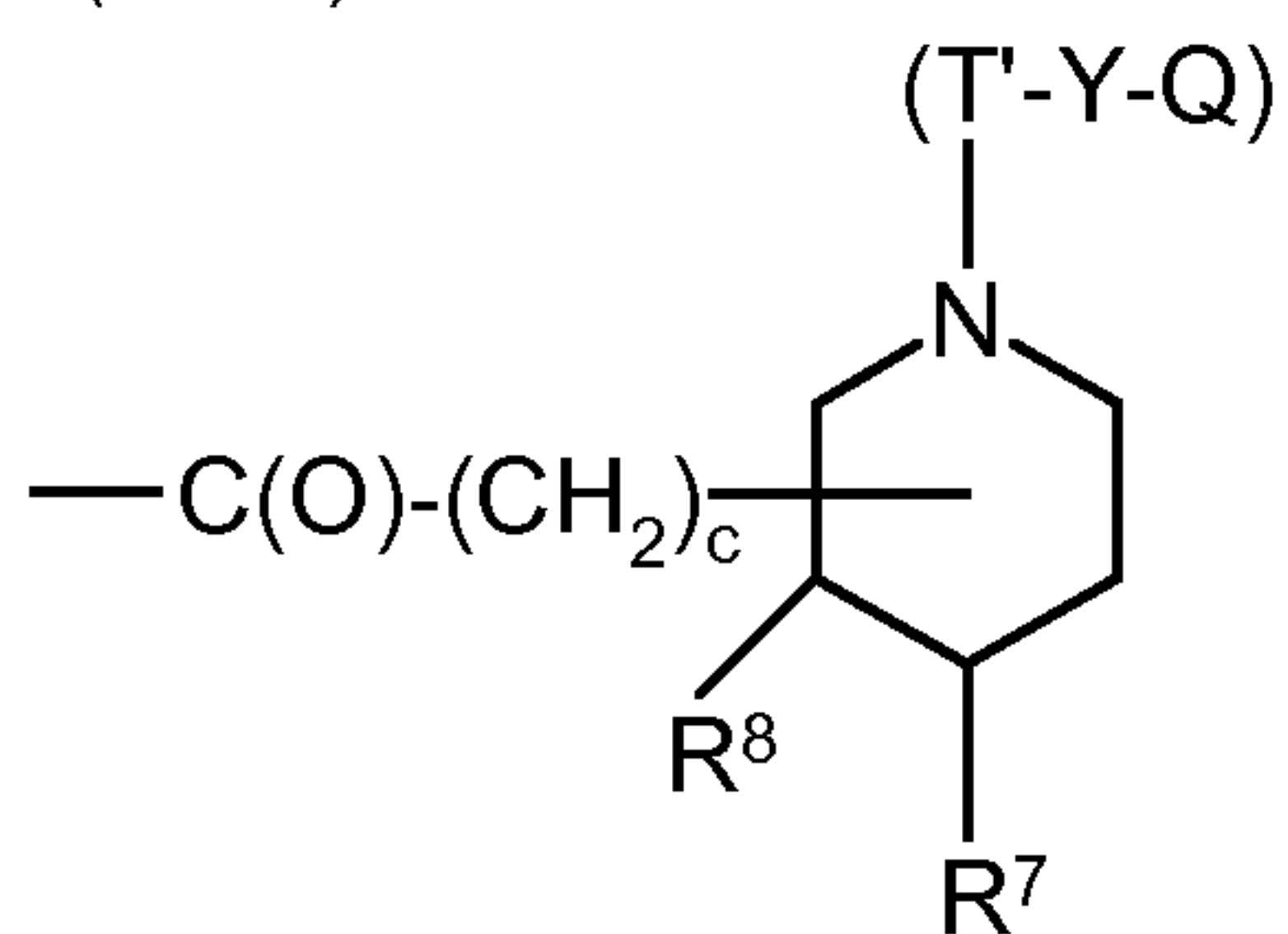
- (m2')



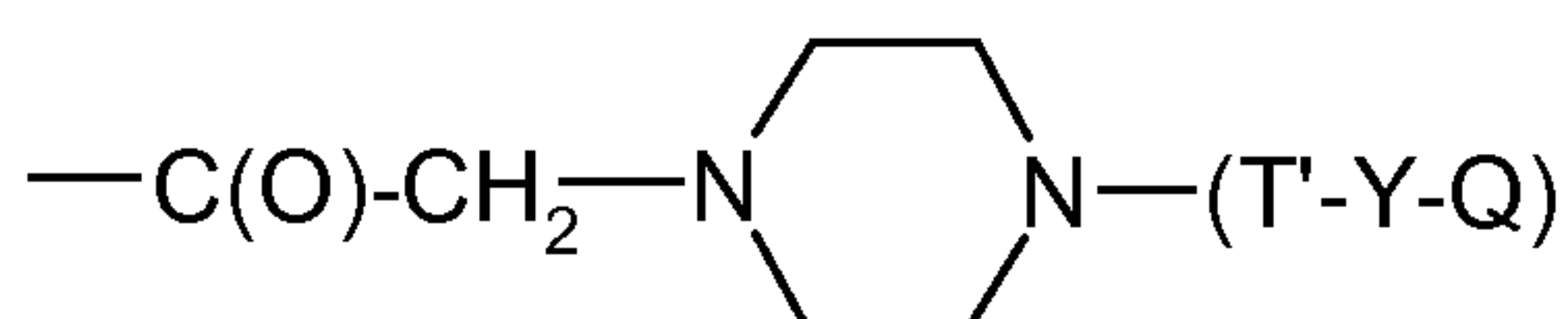
- (n2')



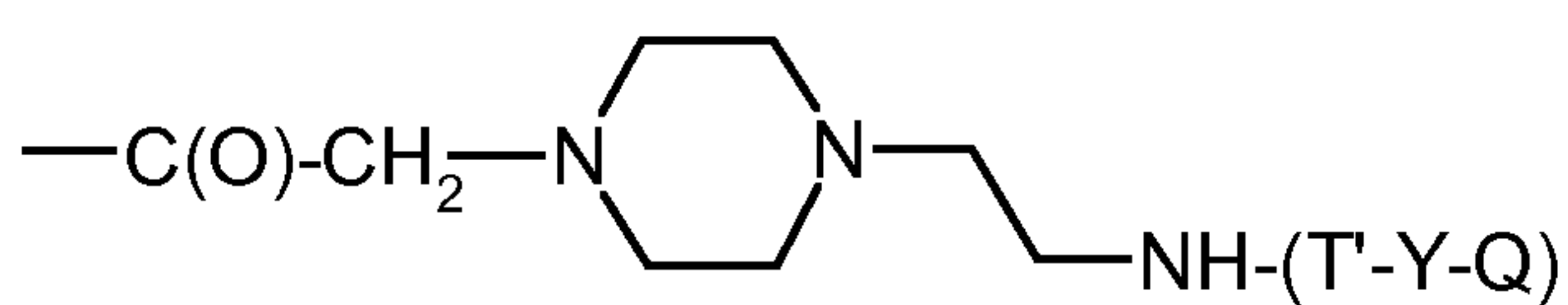
5 - (o2')



- (p2')

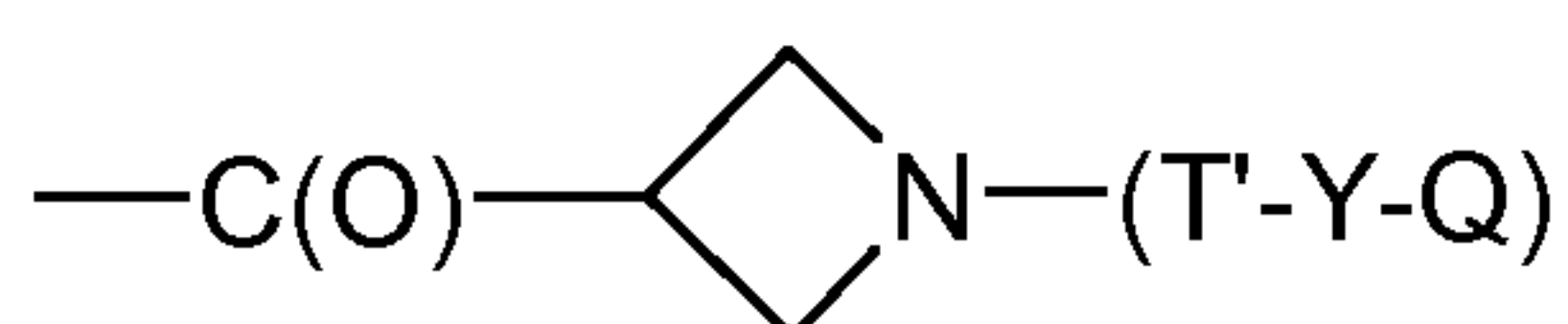


- (q2')

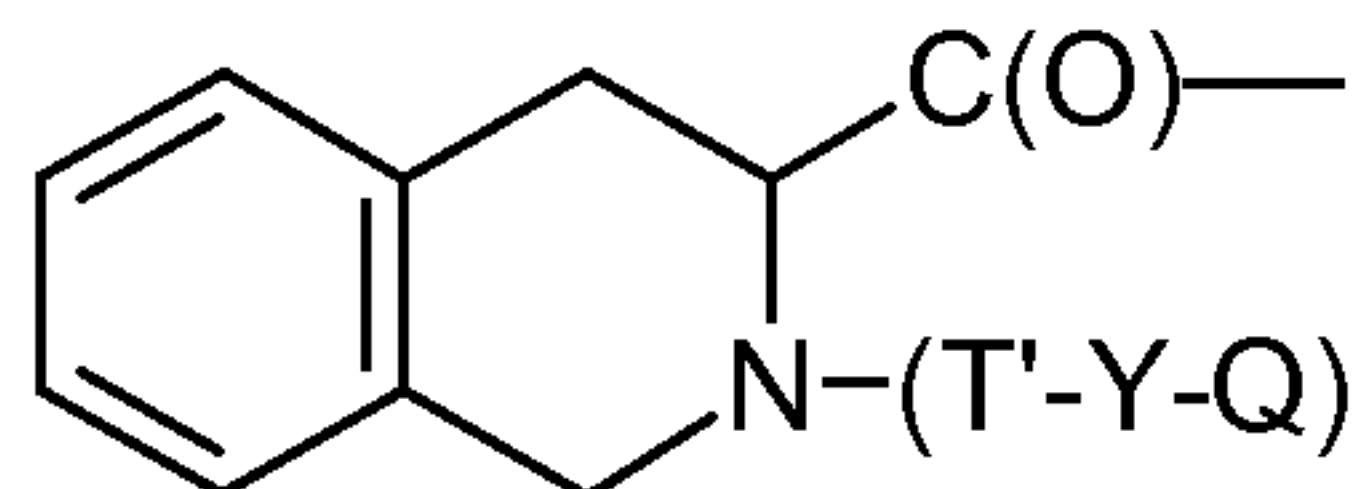


10

- (r2')

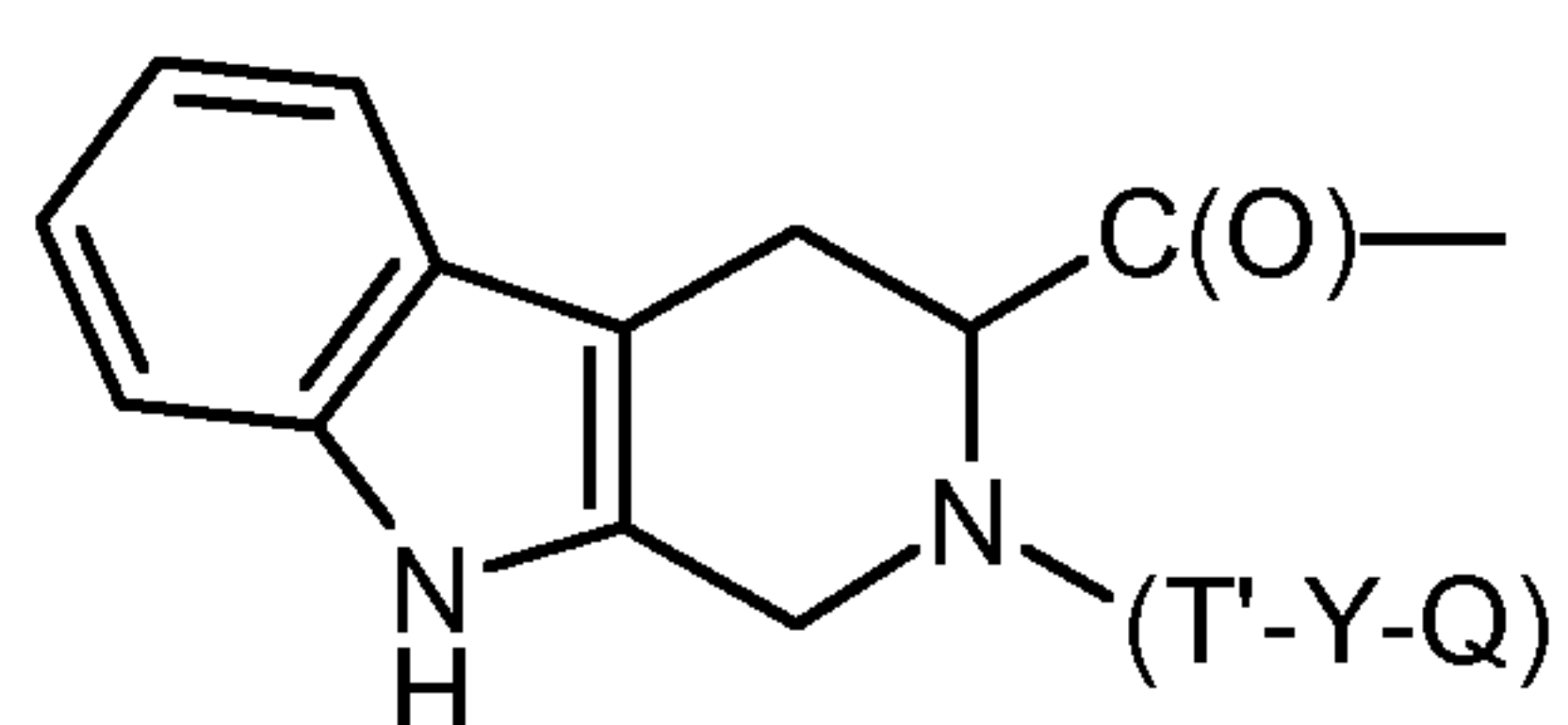


- (s2')

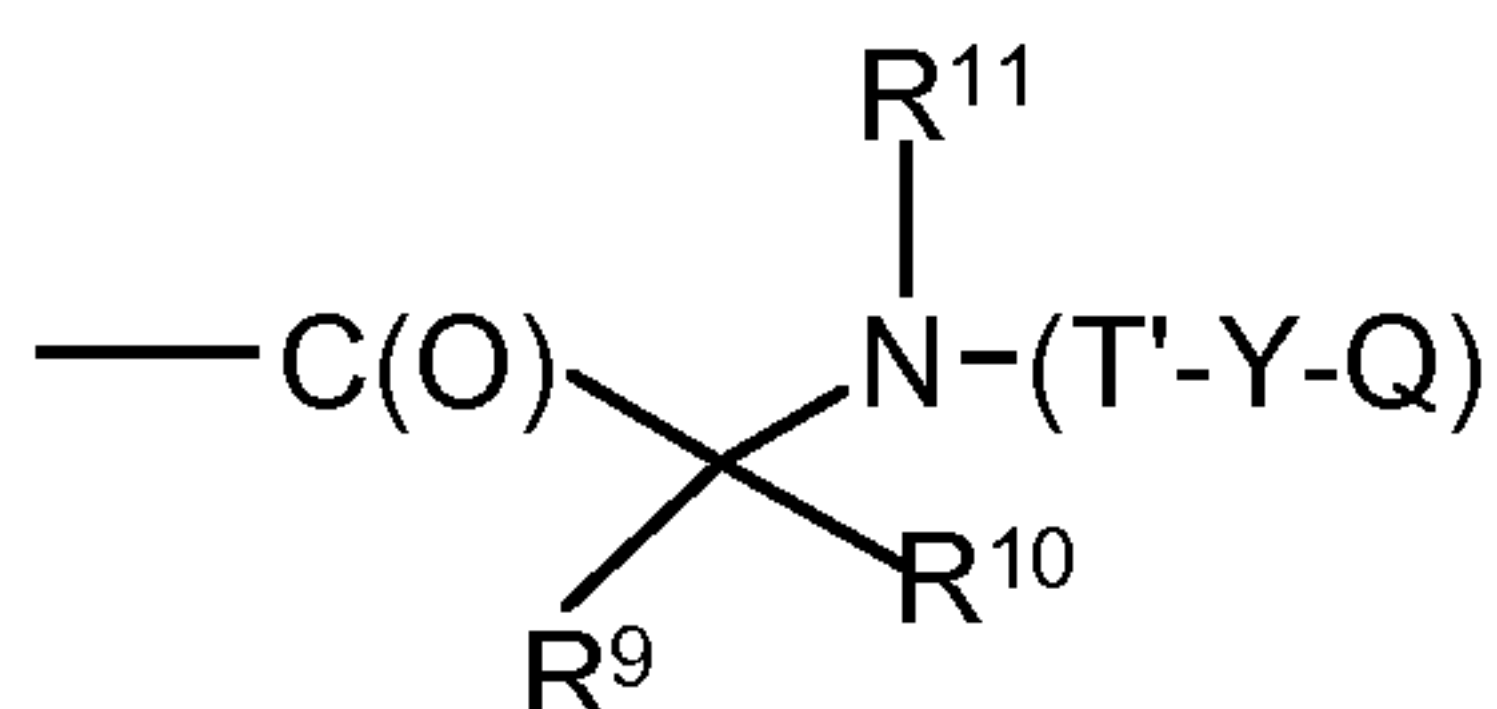


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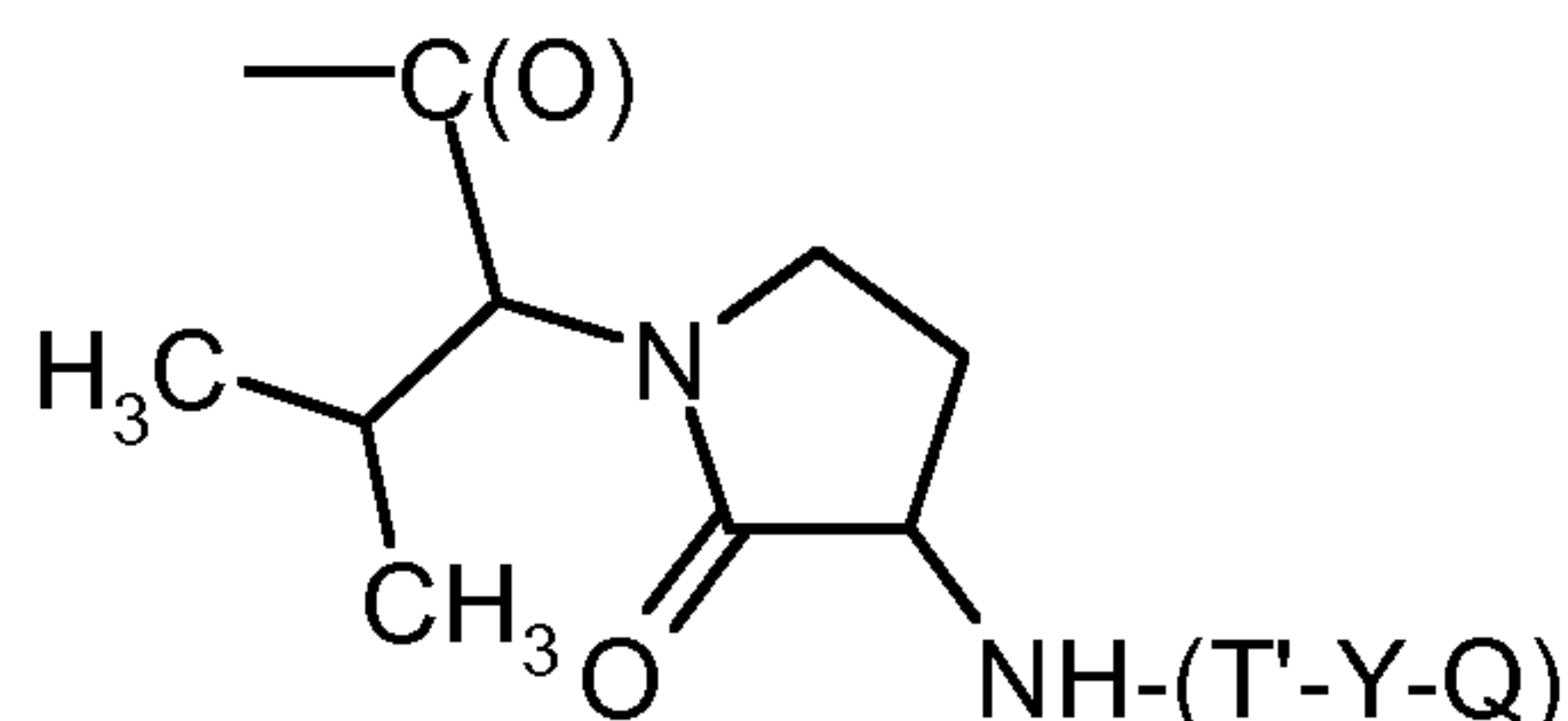
- (t2')



-(u2')



-(v2')



5

wherein R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , b , c , d , e and f are as above defined;

wherein P^1 is a hydroxyl or thiol protecting group such as silyl ethers, such as trimethylsilyl, tert-butyl-dimethylsilyl or

10 trityl and those described in T. W. Greene "Protective groups in organic synthesis", Harvard University Press, 1980, P^2 is a carboxylic protecting group such as tert-butyl ester and those described in T. W. Greene "Protective groups in organic synthesis", Harvard University Press, 1980, P^3 is a amino
15 protecting group such as Boc, Fmoc or those described in T. W. Greene "Protective groups in organic synthesis", Harvard University Press, 1980,

T , T' , T'' , Y and Y' are as above defined,

Q is independently $-\text{ONO}_2$ or Z_2 wherein Z_2 is selected from the
20 group consisting of: a chlorine atom, a bromine atom, a iodine atom, a mesyl group or a tosyl group, and

1-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 1-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source such as silver nitrate, lithium nitrate, sodium nitrate,
25 potassium nitrate, magnesium nitrate, calcium nitrate, iron nitrate, zinc nitrate or tetraalkylammonium nitrate (wherein alkyl is C_1 - C_{10} alkyl) in a suitable organic solvent such as

acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran, methyl ethyl ketone, ethyl acetate, DMF, the reaction is carried out, in the dark, at a temperature from room temperature to the boiling temperature of the solvent. Preferred nitrate source is silver nitrate and
5 1-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 1-i) or 1-ii) as described in T. W. Greene "Protective groups in organic synthesis", Harvard University Press, 1980, 2nd edition. Fluoride ion is the preferred method for removing silyl ether protecting group. Trifluoroacetic acid or anhydrous
10 inorganic acid are the preferred method for removing Boc protecting group, anhydrous organic or inorganic acid is the preferred method for removing trityl protecting group. Organic base such as piperidine is the preferred method for removing Fmoc protecting group. Aqueous or anhydrous organic or
15 inorganic acid is the preferred method for removing t-butyl ester protecting group.

1-i-1) The reaction of a compound of formula (Ia) wherein W = - OH and X₁ is as above defined, with a compound of formula (IIa) may be carried out in presence of a condensing agent as
20 dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC), N'-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-N-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (EDAC) N,N'-carbonyldiimidazole (CDI), in the presence or not of a base as for example as N,N-dimethylamino pyridine (DMAP).

The reaction is carried out in an inert organic dry solvent
25 such as N,N'-dimethylformamide, tetrahydrofuran, benzene, toluene, dioxane, a polyhalogenated aliphatic hydrocarbon at a temperature from -20°C and 50°C. The reaction is completed within a time range from 30 minutes to 36 hours.

1-i-2) The reaction of a compound of formula (Ia) wherein W = -
30 O-R_a wherein R_a and X₁ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IIa) may be carried out in presence of a catalyst,

such as N,N-dimethylamino pyridine (DMAP) or in the presence of DMAP and a Lewis acid such as $\text{Sc}(\text{OTf})_3$ or $\text{Bi}(\text{OTf})_3$.

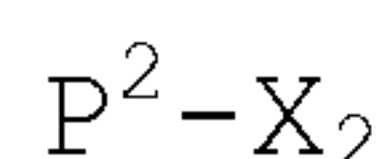
The reaction is carried out in an inert organic solvent such as N,N'-dimethylformamide, tetrahydrofuran, benzene, toluene,
 5 dioxane, a polyhalogenated aliphatic hydrocarbon at a temperature from -20°C and 40°C . The reaction is completed within a time range from 30 minutes to 36 hours.

1-i-3) The reaction of a compound of formula (Ia) wherein $\text{W} = -\text{Cl}$, and X_1 is as above defined, with a compound of formula
 10 (IIa) may be carried out in presence of an organic base such as N,N-dimethylamino pyridine (DMAP), triethylamine, pyridine. The reaction is carried out in an inert organic solvent such as N,N'-dimethylformamide, tetrahydrofuran, benzene, toluene, dioxane, a polyhalogenated aliphatic hydrocarbon at a
 15 temperature from -20°C and 40°C . The reaction is completed within a time range from 30 minutes to 36 hours.

The compounds of formula (IIa) are commercially available.

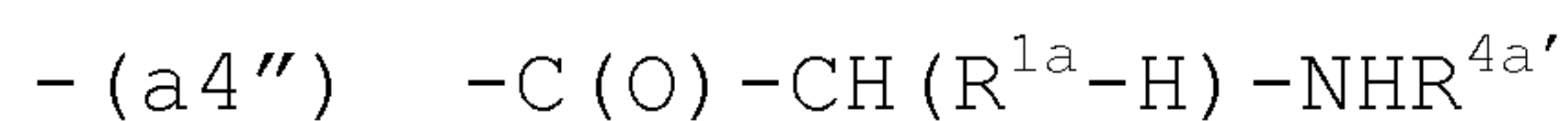
20 **1a)** The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-\text{OH}$, T' and T'' are $\text{C}(\text{O})$, and X_1 is the radical selected from $(\text{a}2')$, $(\text{a}4')$, $(\text{b}2')$, $(\text{b}4')$, $(\text{c}2')$, $(\text{e}2')$, $(\text{f}1')$, $(\text{g}2')$, $(\text{h}1')$, $(\text{i}1')$, $(\text{l}2')$, $(\text{m}2')$, $(\text{n}2')$, $(\text{o}2')$, $(\text{p}2')$, $(\text{q}2')$, $(\text{r}2')$, $(\text{s}2')$, $(\text{t}2')$, $(\text{u}2')$, $(\text{v}2')$, wherein $\text{R}^{1'}$ is selected from $\text{A}1)$, $\text{A}2')$, $\text{A}3')$, $\text{A}4')$, R^{1a} is
 25 selected from $\text{A}5)$ or $\text{A}6)$, R^{2a} is selected from $\text{B}5)$ or $\text{B}6)$ and $\text{R}^{2'}$ is selected from $\text{B}1)$, $\text{B}2')$, $\text{B}3')$, $\text{B}4')$ and Y , Y' and $\text{R}^{4a'}$ are as above defined, can be obtained

1a-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIa)

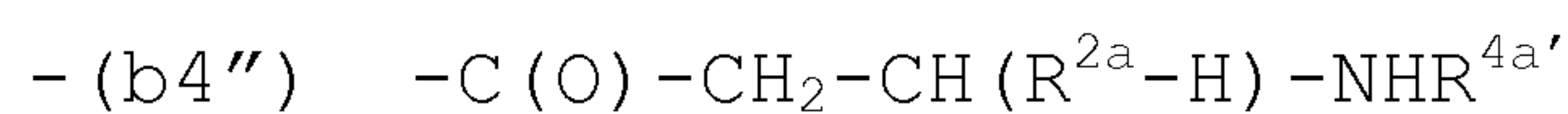
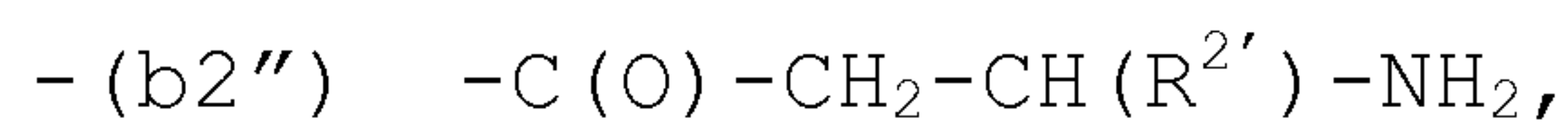


30 (IIIa)

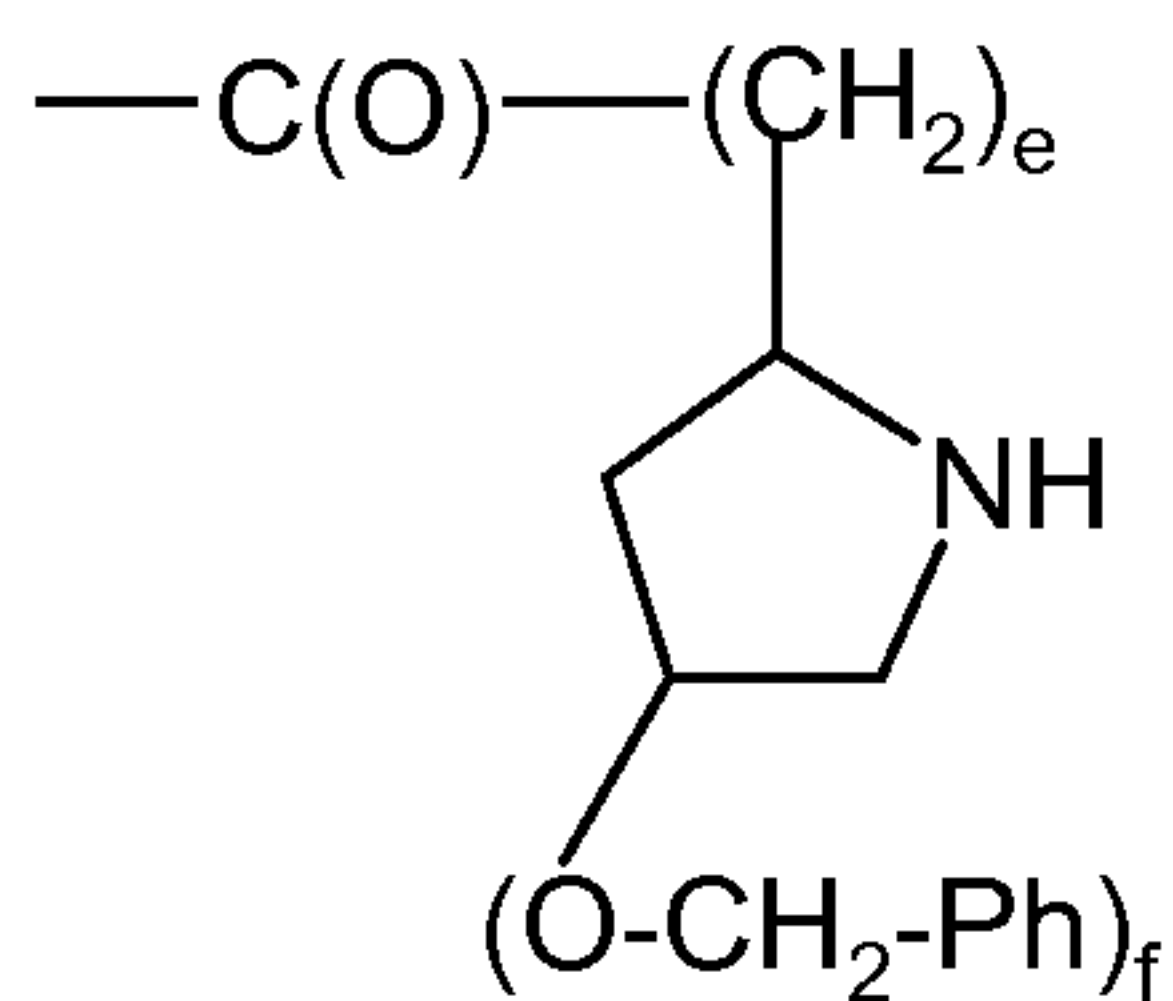
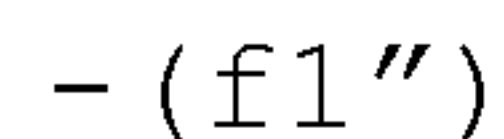
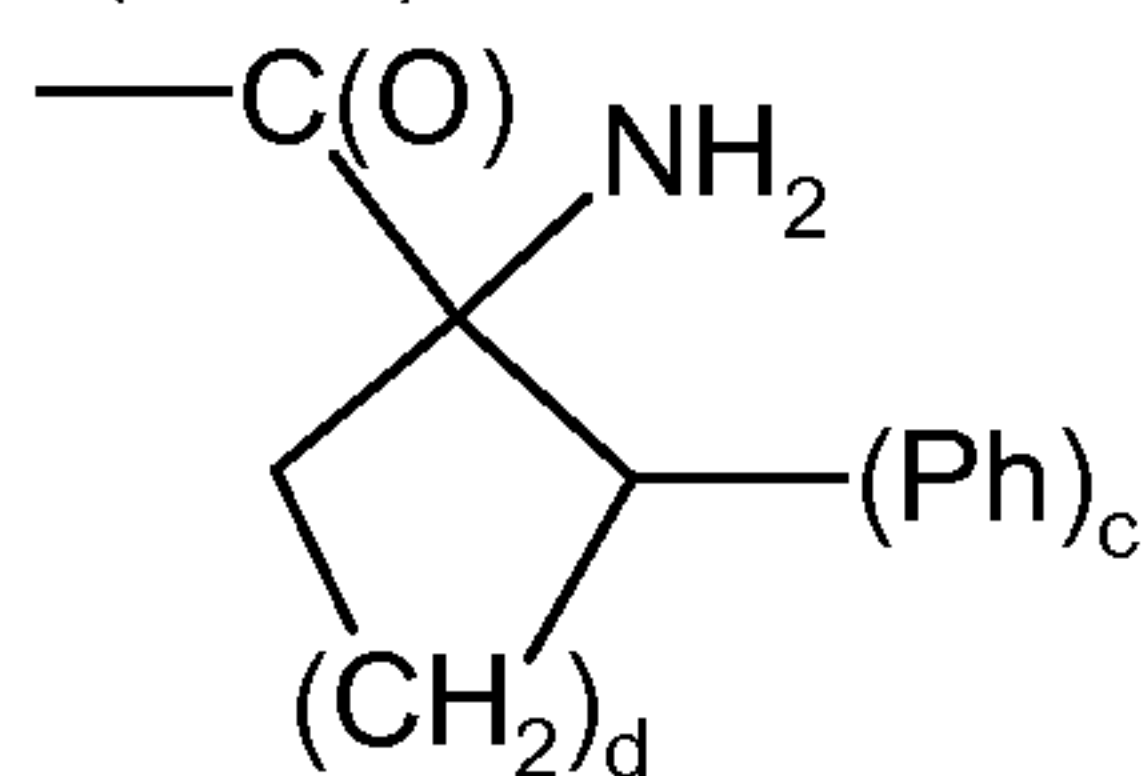
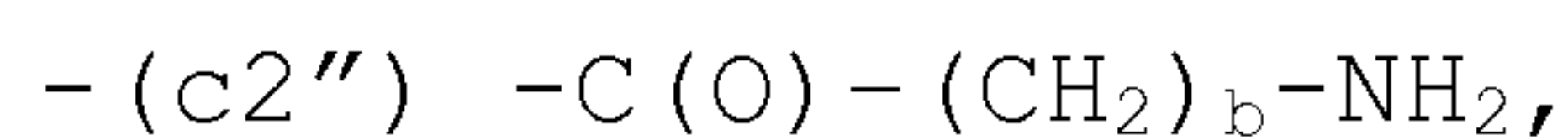
wherein P^2 is as above defined, X_2 is a radical having the following meaning



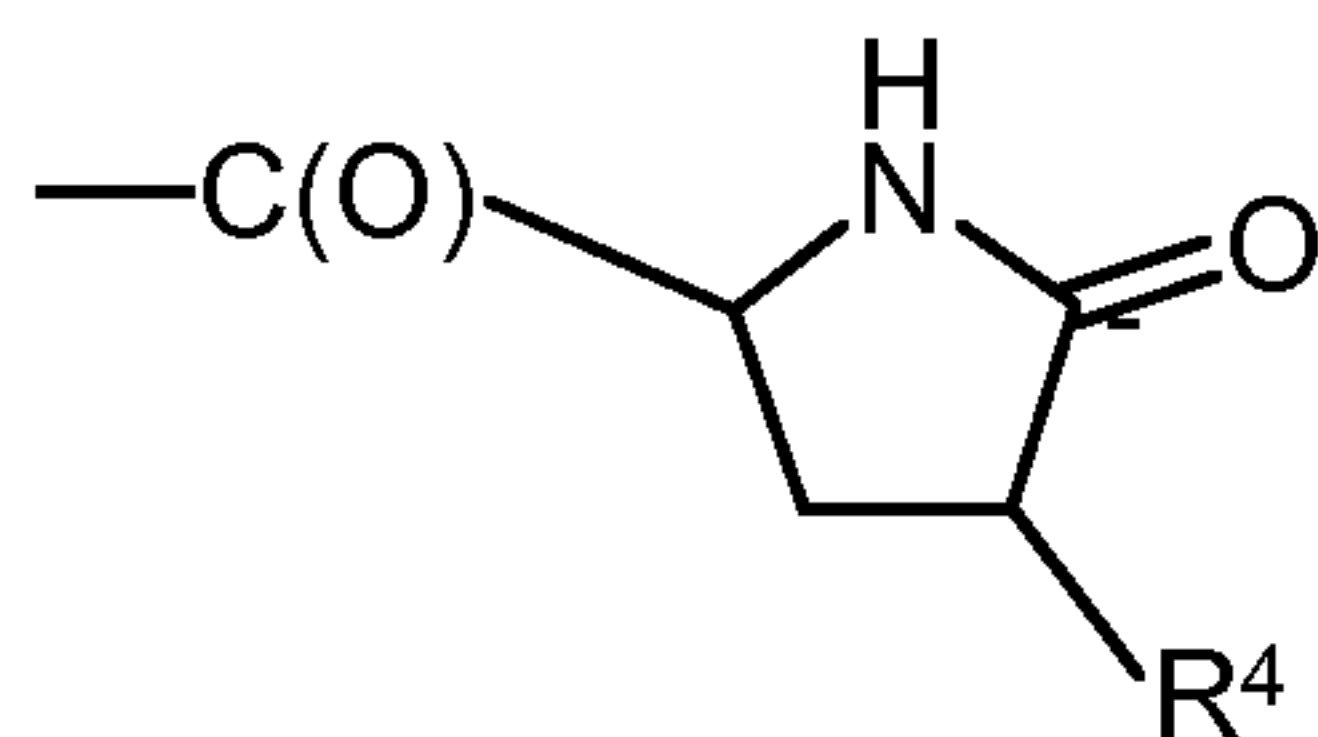
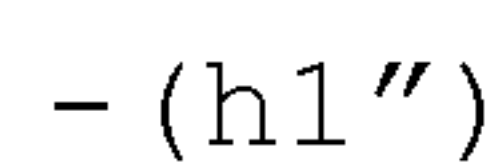
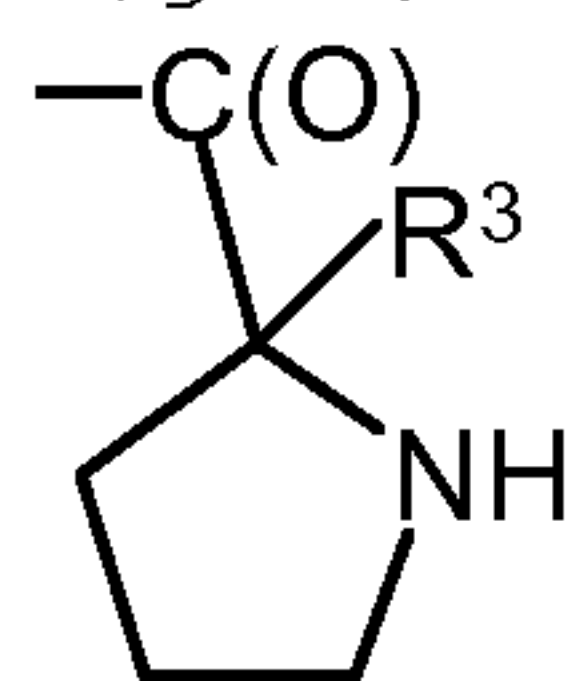
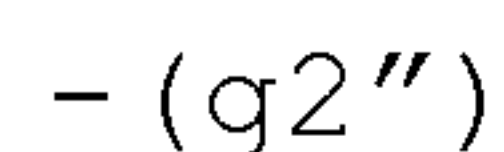
5 wherein $R^{1'}$ is selected from A1), A2'), A3'), A4'), R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6) and $R^{4a'}$ is as defined above



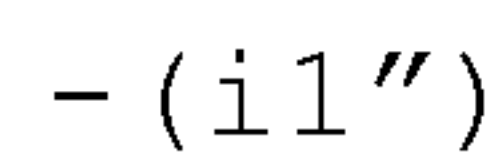
10 wherein $R^{2'}$ is selected from B1), B2'), B3'), B4'), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6) and $R^{4a'}$ is as defined above,



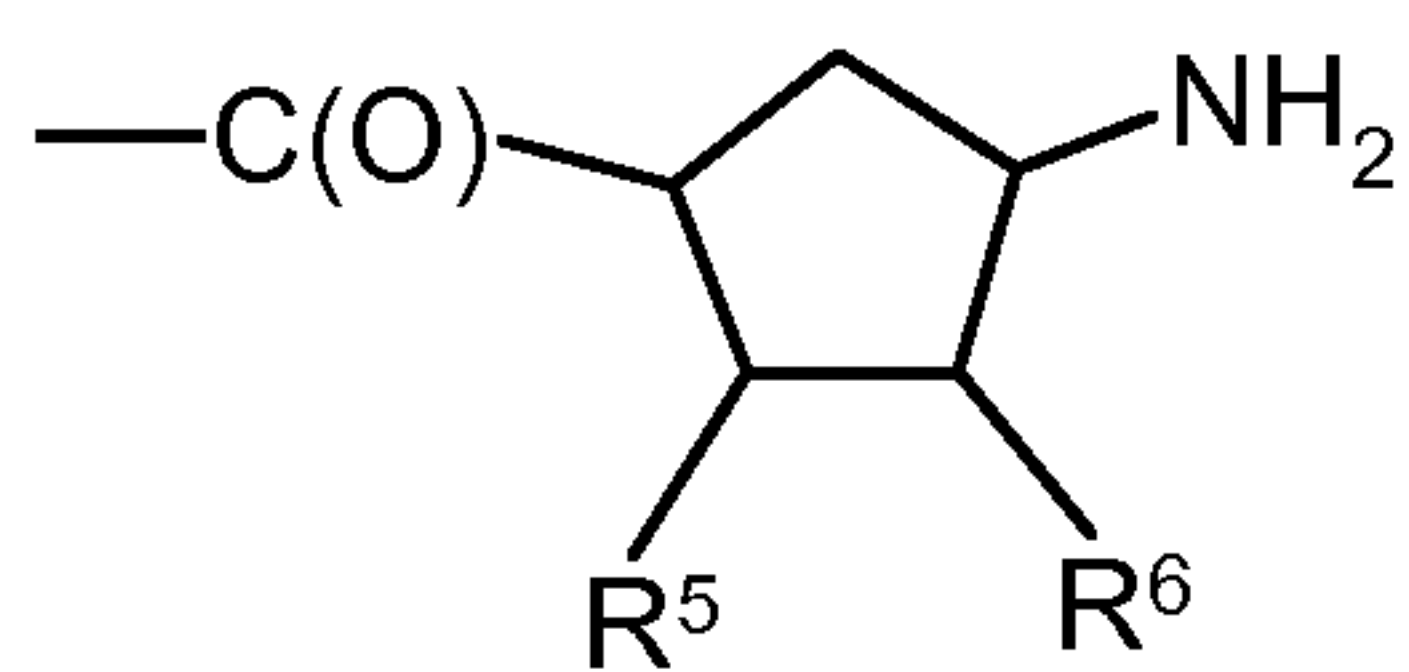
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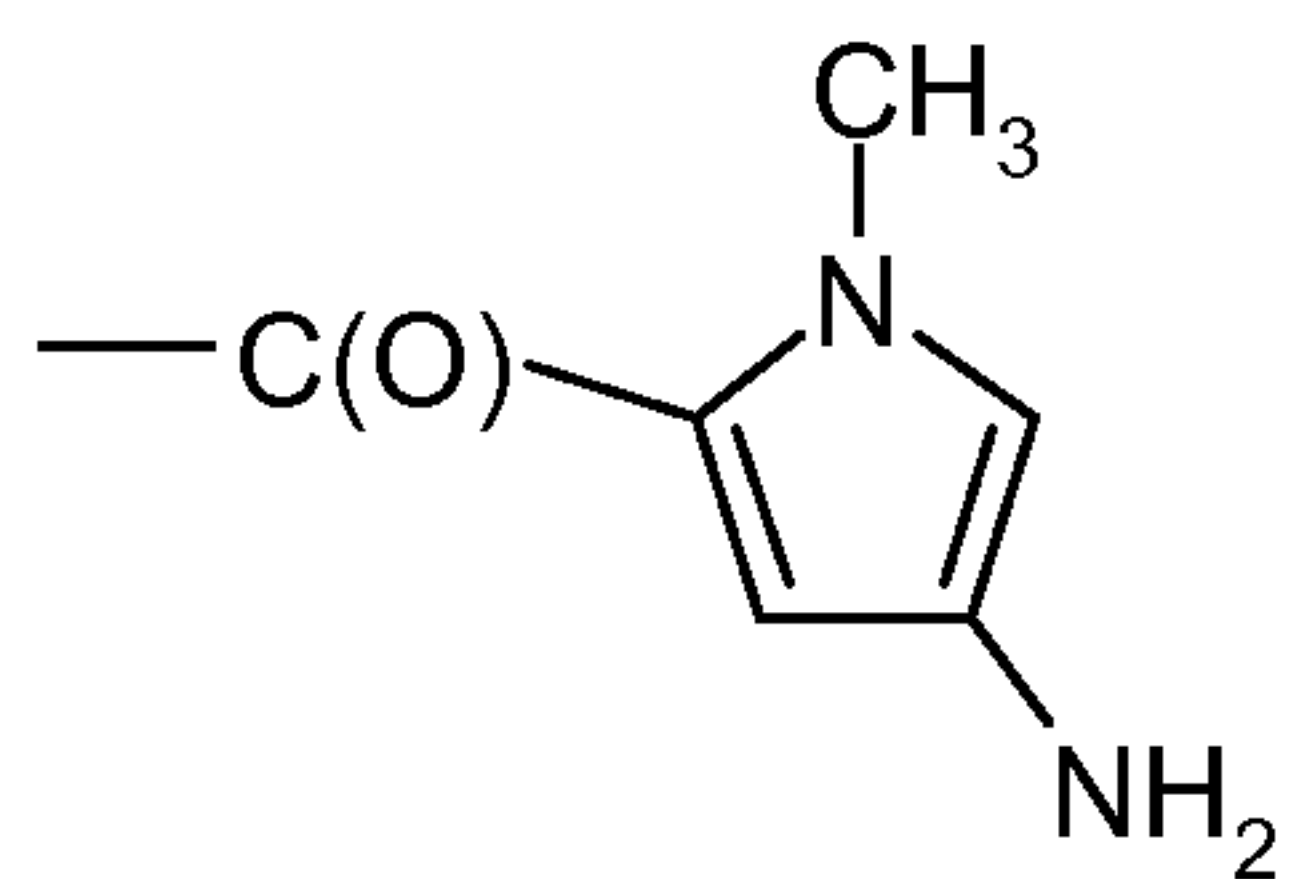
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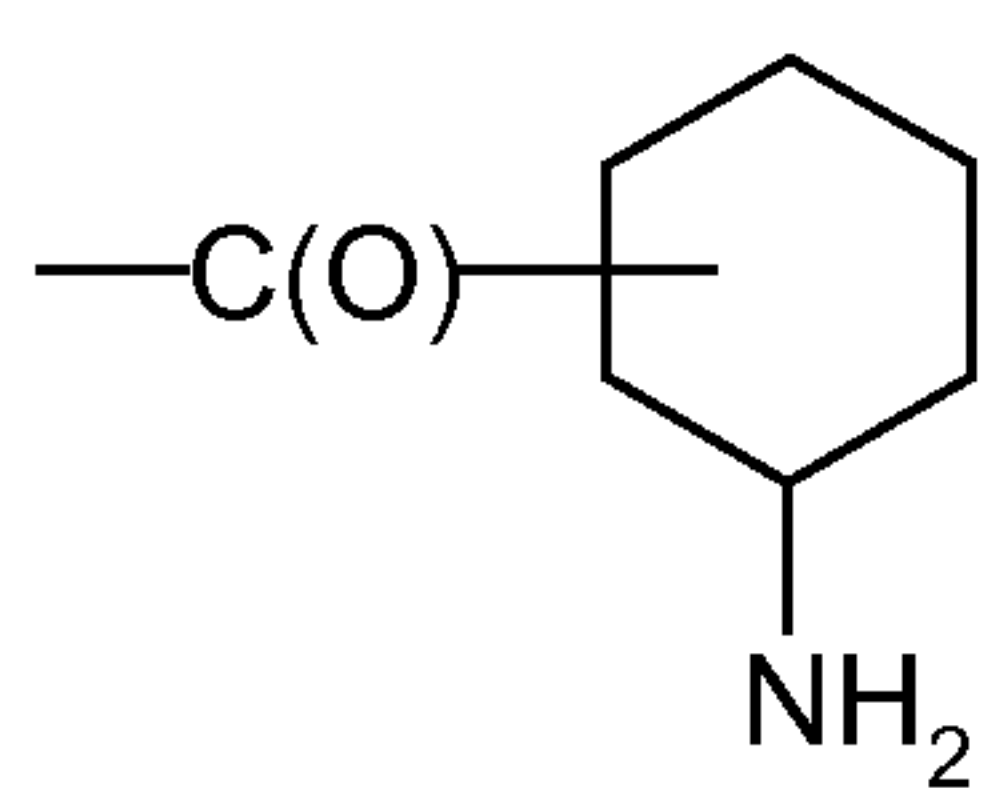
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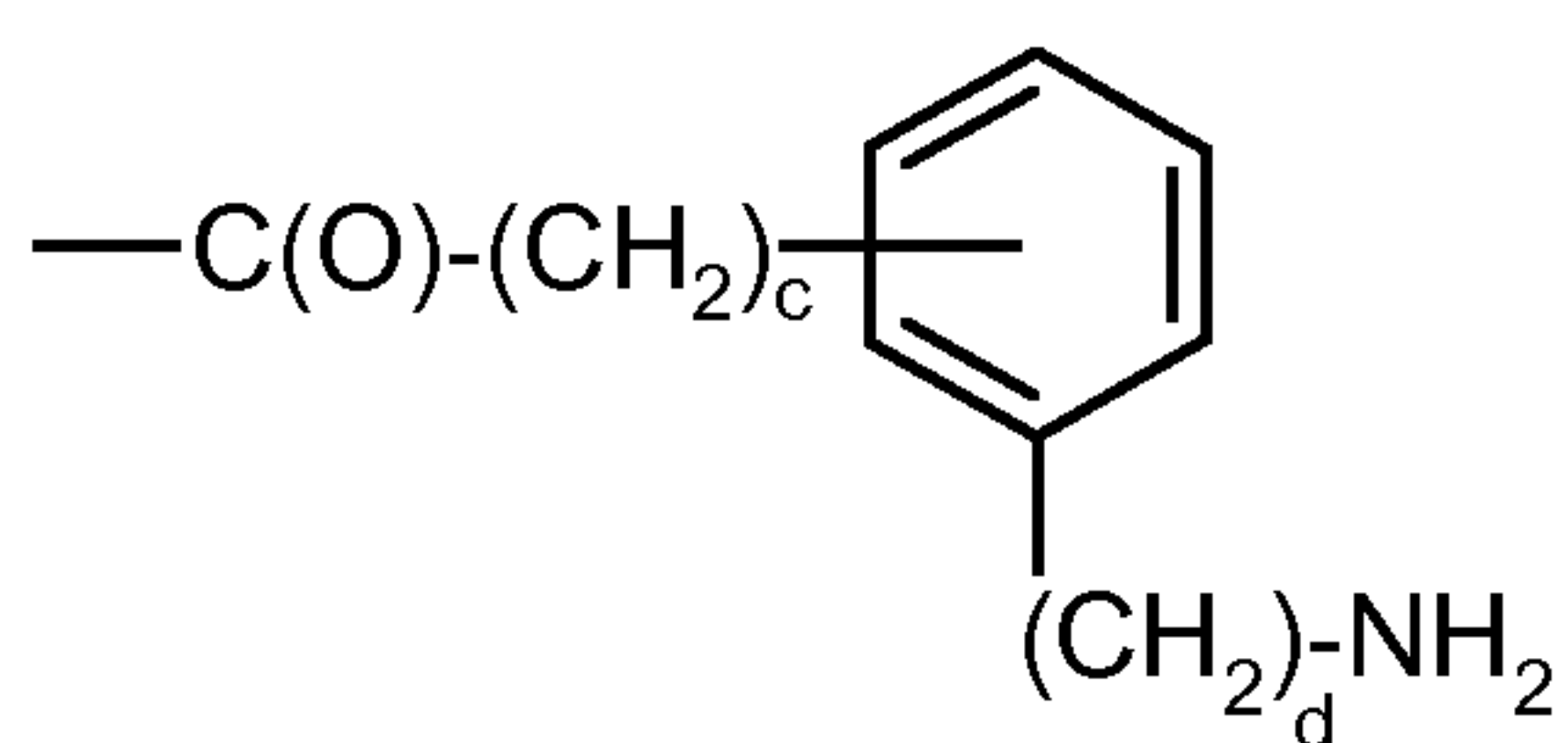
- (12'')



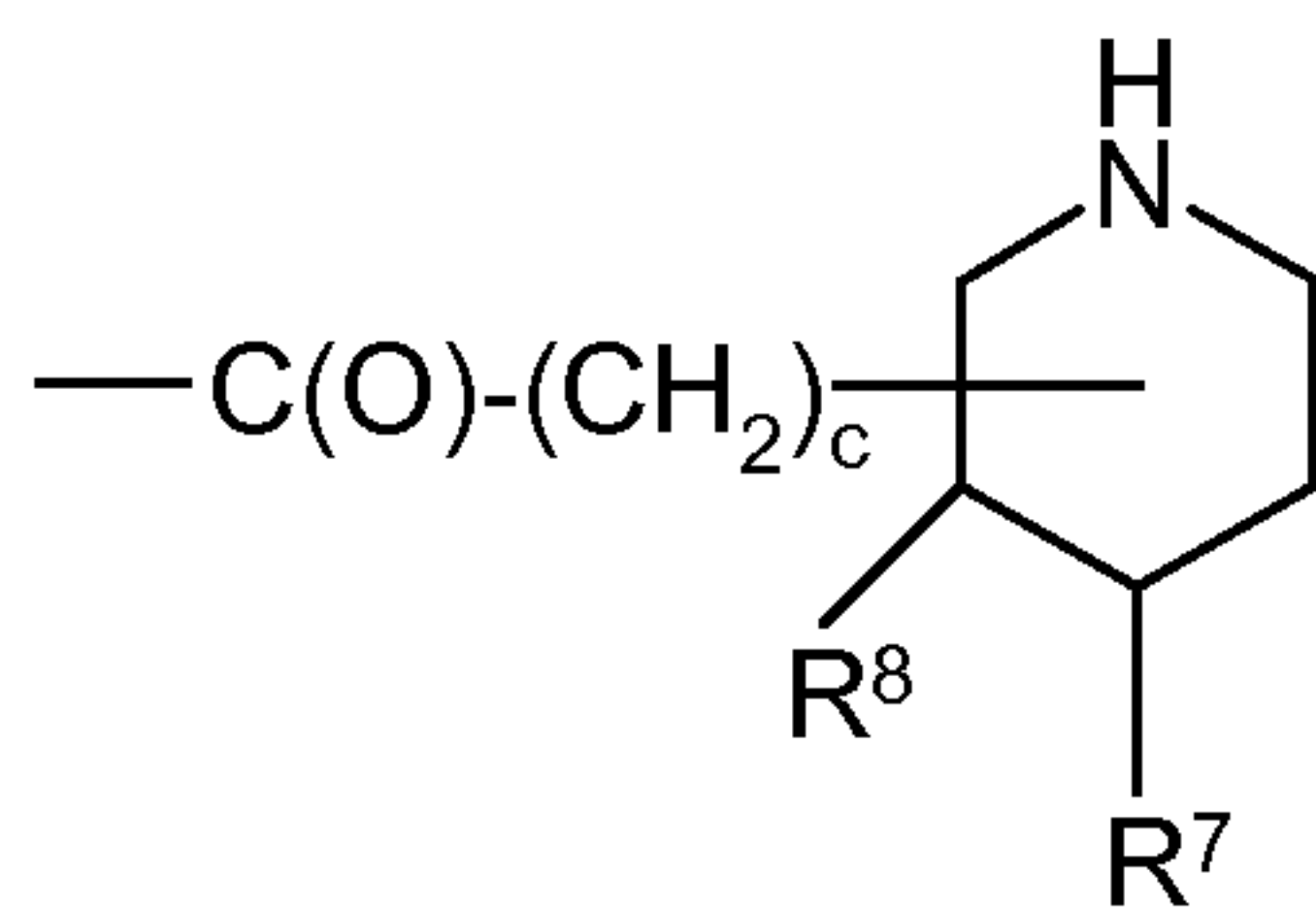
- (m2'')



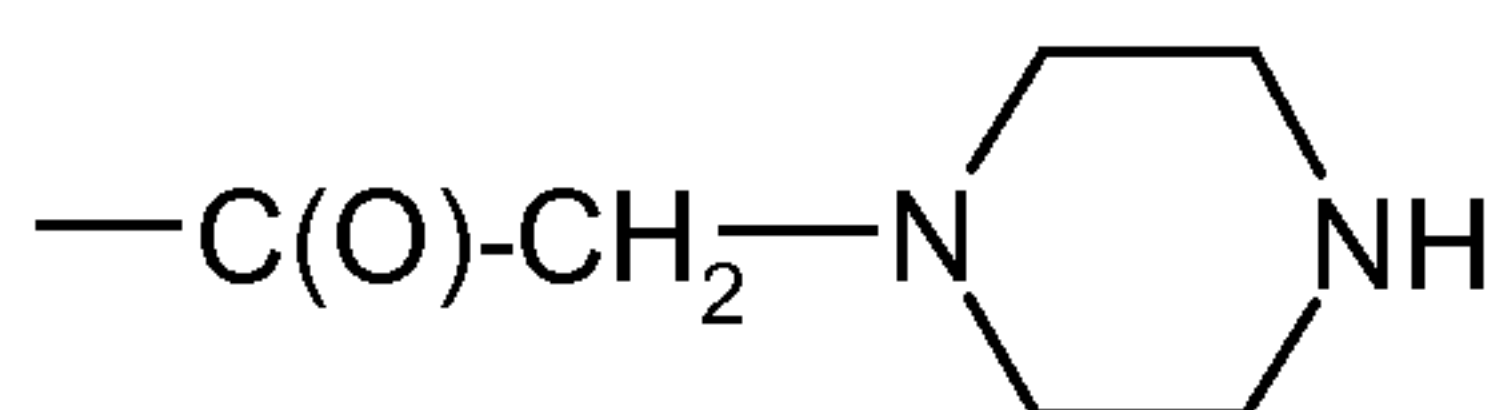
- (n2'')



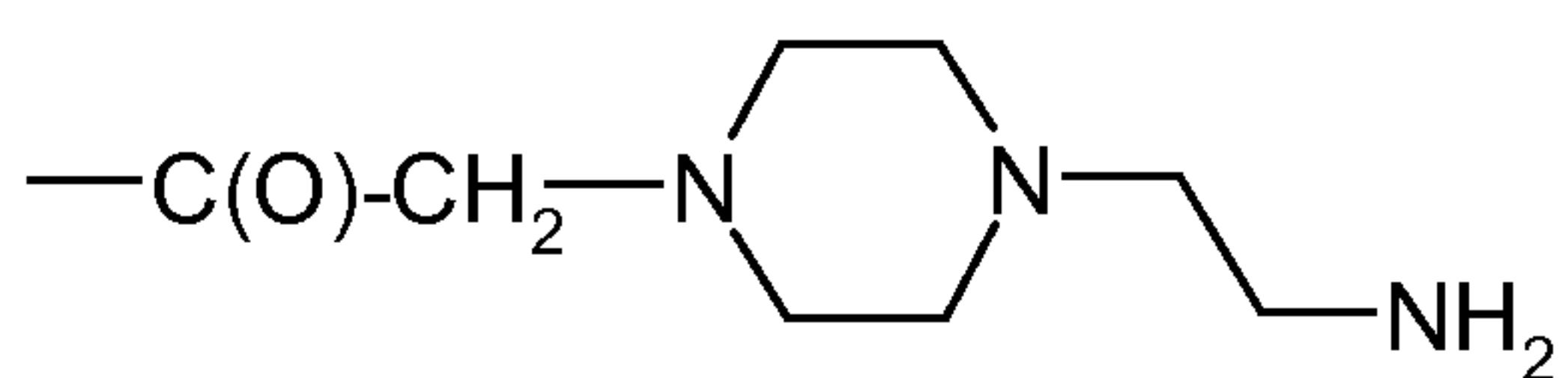
- (o2'')



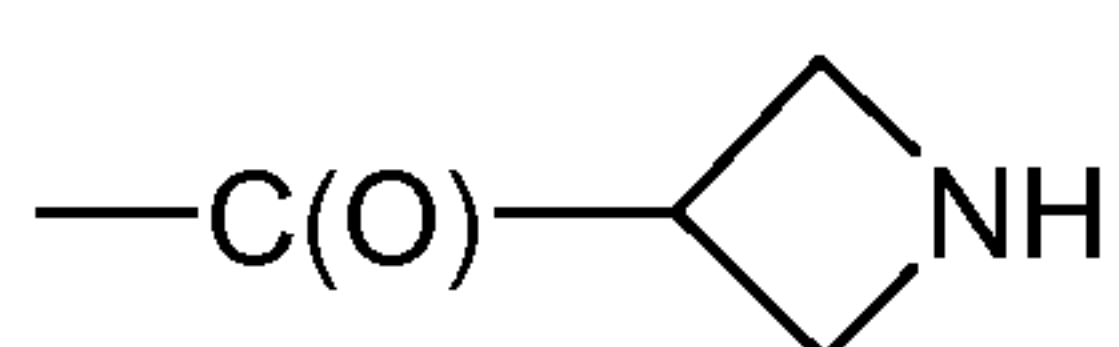
- (p2'')



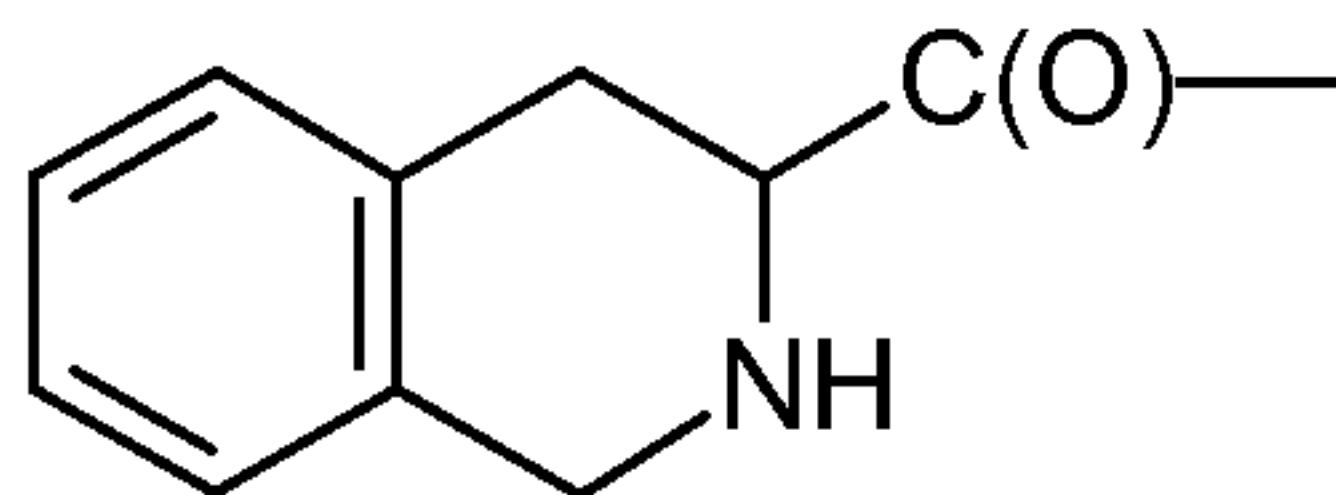
- (q2'')



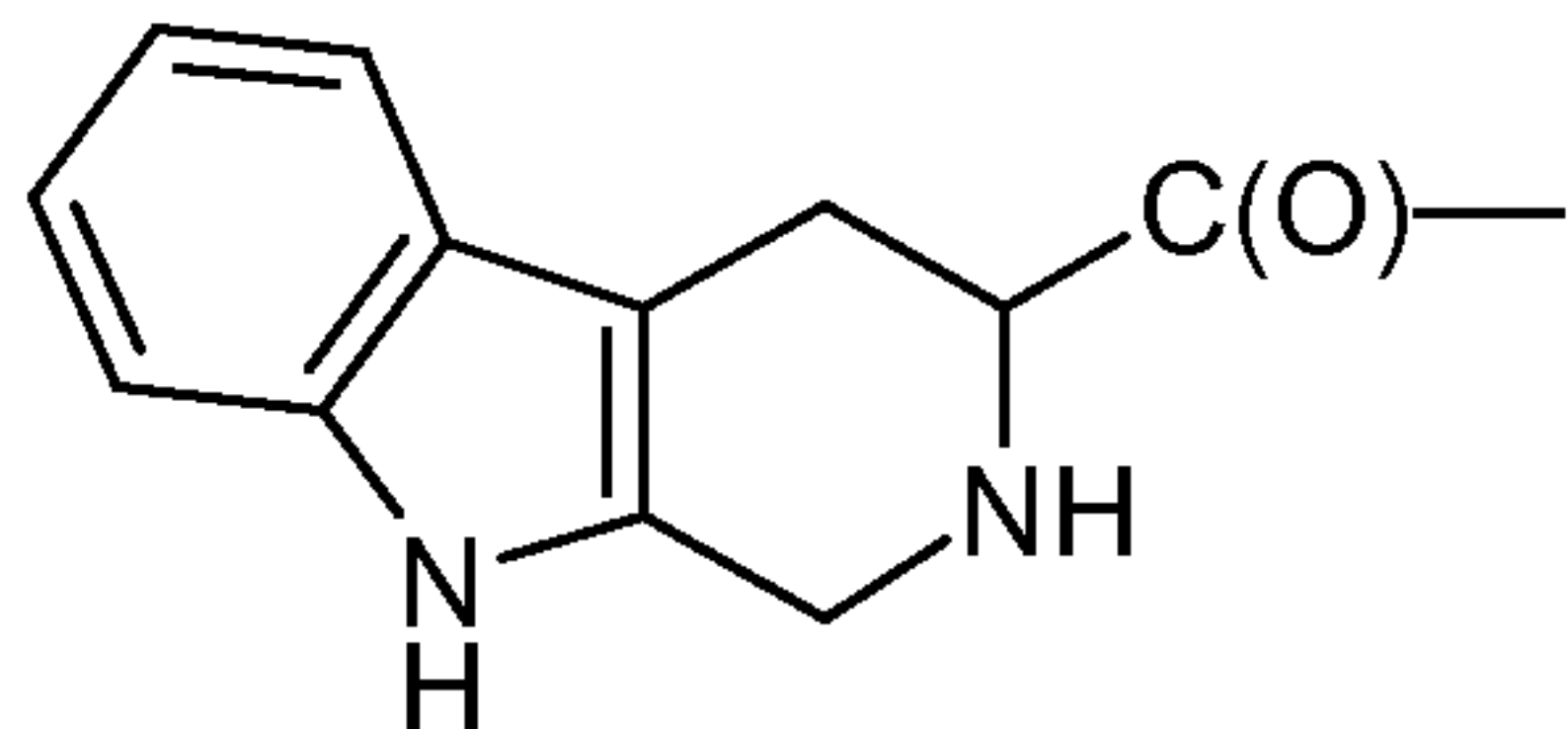
- (r2'')



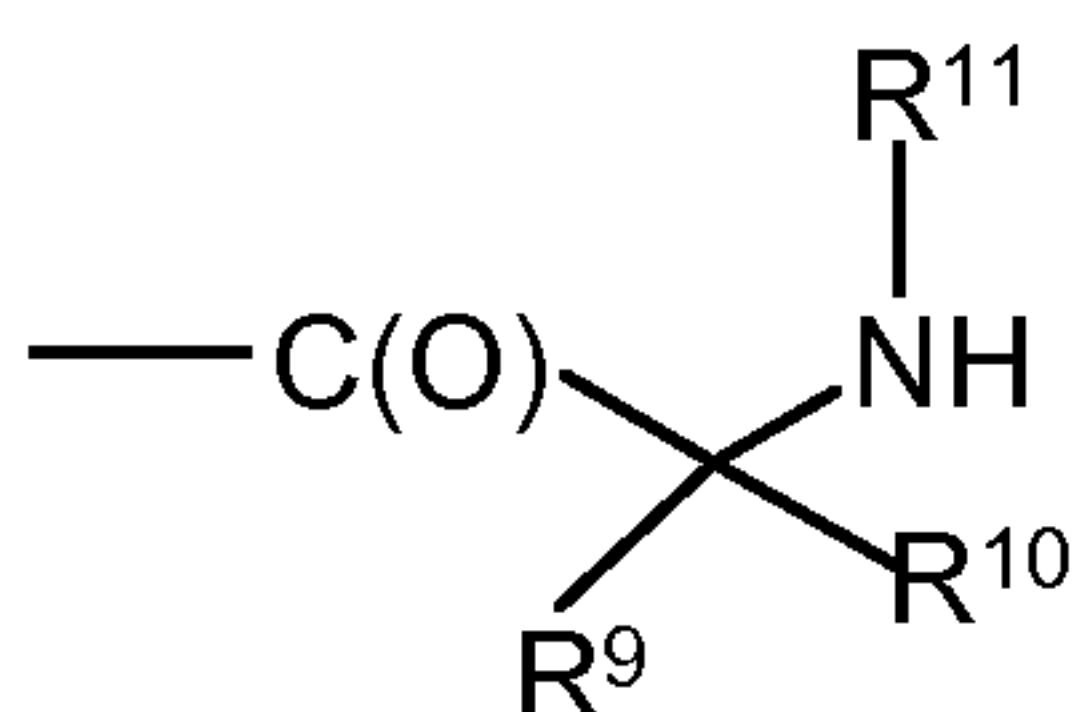
- (s2'')



- (t2'')

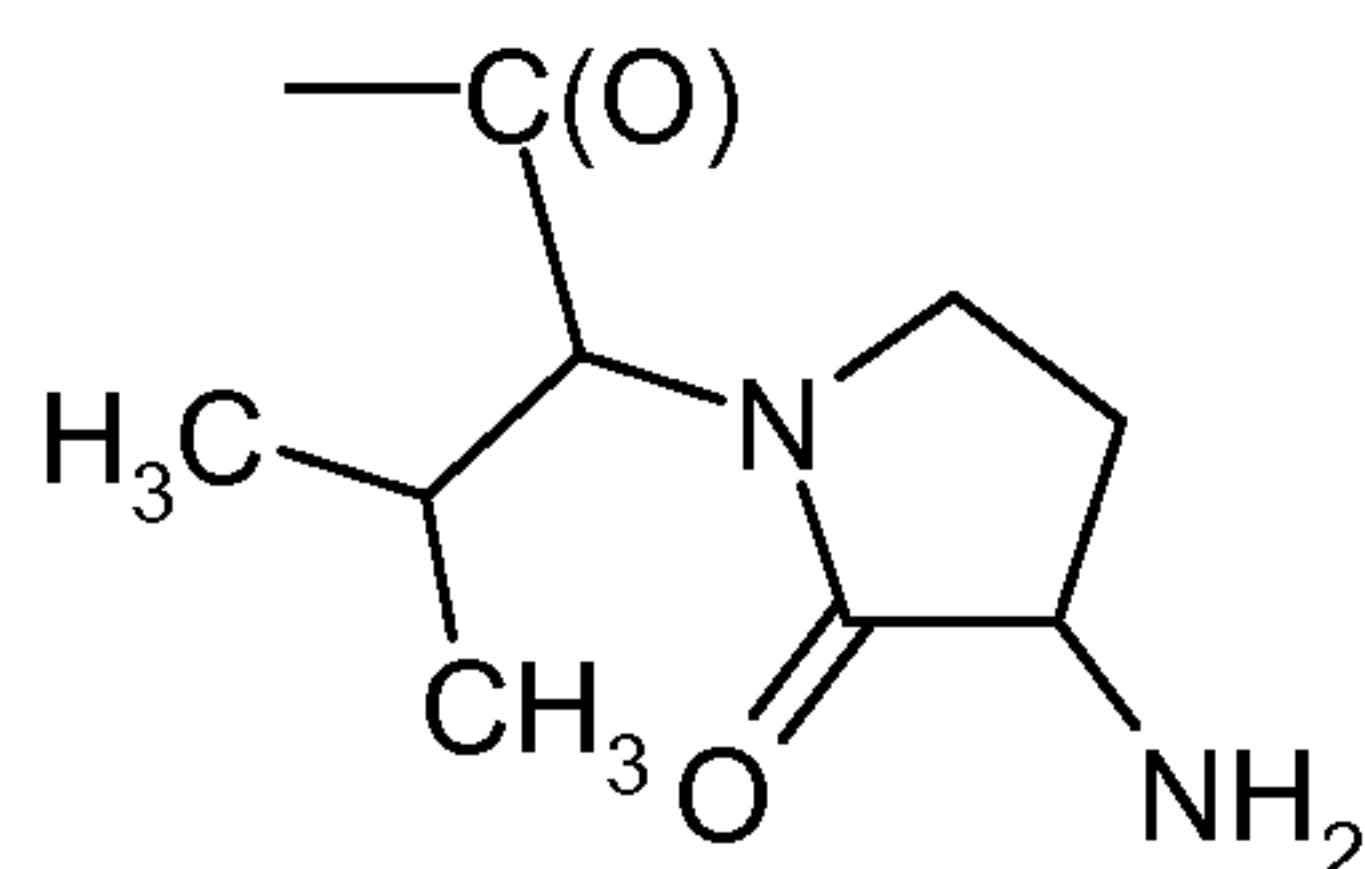


- (u2'')



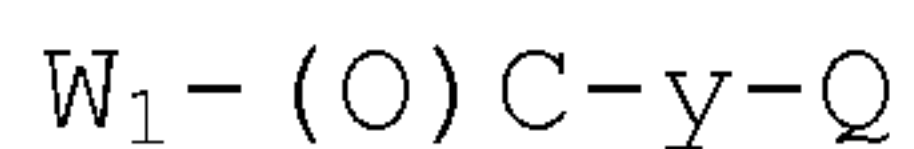
5

- (v2'')



wherein R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , b, c, d, e and f are as above defined;

10 with a compound of formula (IVa)



(IVa)

wherein W_1 is OH or $O-R_a$ and R_a and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y when X_2 is selected from (a2'), (b2'), (c2'),

15 (e2'), (f1'), (g2'), (h1'), (i1'), (l2'), (m2'), (n2'), (o2'), (p2'), (q2'), (r2'), (s2'), (t2'), (u2'), (v2'), and y is the radical Y' when X_2 is selected from (a4') or (b4'), wherein Y and Y' are as defined above, and

1a-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 1a-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

20 1a-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 1a-i) or 1a-ii) as above described.

55

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIa) wherein P^2 and X_2 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein W_1 is OH, y , Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-1) or in presence of other known condensing reagents such as O-(7-azabenzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate (HATU).

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIa) wherein P^2 and X_2 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein W_1 is O- R_a , y , Q are as above defined, may be carried as described in 1-i-2).

The compounds of formula (IIIa) are commercially available or can be obtained as known in the literature.

The compounds of formula (IVa) wherein W_1 is OH, y and Q are as above defined, can be obtained from the corresponding alcohols of formula $HOOC-y-OH$ (IVb) by reaction with nitric acid and acetic anhydride in a temperature range from -50°C to 0°C or from the corresponding derivatives of formula $HOOC-y-Z_2$ (IVc) wherein Z_2 is as above defined, by reaction with a nitrate source as above described. Alternatively the reaction with $AgNO_3$ can be performed under microwave irradiation in solvents such as acetonitrile or THF at temperatures in the range between about $100-180^\circ\text{C}$ for time range about 1-60 min.

The compounds of formula (IVb) are commercially available.

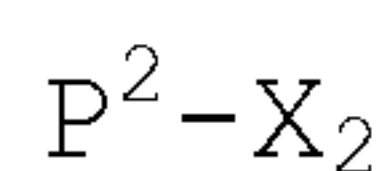
The compounds of formula (IVc) are commercially available or can be obtained as known in the literature.

The compounds of formula (IVa) wherein W_1 is $O-R_a$, y , Q are as above defined, can be obtained from the corresponding acids of formula (IVa) wherein W_1 is OH as known in the literature.

5 The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein $W = Cl$ or $O-R_a$, X_1 is selected from $(a2')$, $(a4')$, $(b2')$, $(b4')$, $(c2')$, $(e2')$, $(f1')$, $(g2')$, $(h1')$, $(i1')$, $(l2')$, $(m2')$, $(n2')$, $(o2')$, $(p2')$, $(q2')$, $(r2')$, $(s2')$, $(t2')$, $(u2')$, $(v2')$, wherein $R^{1'}$ is selected from $A1)$, $A2')$, $A3')$, $A4')$, R^{1a} is selected from $A5)$ or $A6)$, R^{2a} is
 10 selected from $B5)$ or $B6)$ and $R^{2'}$ is selected from $B1)$, $B2')$, $B3')$, $B4')$, and wherein Y , Y' and Q are as above defined and T' and T'' are $C(O)$, can be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$ as known in the literature.

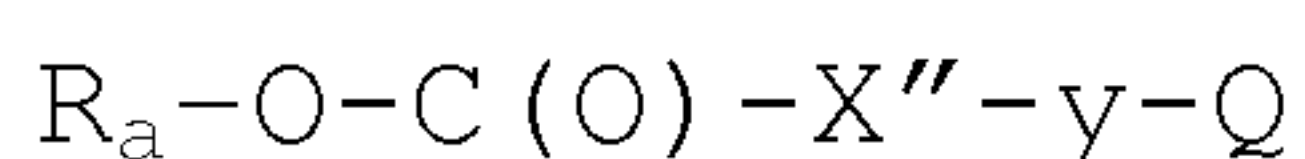
15 **1b)** The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$, X_1 is the radical selected from $(a2')$, $(a4')$, $(b2')$, $(b4')$, $(c2')$, $(e2')$, $(f1')$, $(g2')$, $(h1')$, $(i1')$, $(l2')$, $(m2')$, $(n2')$, $(o2')$, $(p2')$, $(q2')$, $(r2')$, $(s2')$, $(t2')$, $(u2')$, $(v2')$, wherein $R^{1'}$ is selected from $A1)$, $A2')$, $A3')$, $A4')$, R^{1a} is selected from $A5)$ or
 20 $A6)$, R^{2a} is selected from $B5)$ or $B6)$ and $R^{2'}$ is selected from $B1)$, $B2')$, $B3')$, $B4')$, Y and Y' are as above defined, T' and T'' are $C(O)-X''$, wherein X'' is $-O-$ or $-S-$ can be obtained

1b-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIa)



25 (IIIa)

wherein P^2 and X_2 are as defined above, with a compound of formula (IVd)



(IVd)

30 wherein R_a , X'' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y when X_2 is selected from $(a2')$, $(b2')$, $(c2')$, $(e2')$, $(f1')$,

(g2'), (h1'), (i1'), (l2'), (m2'), (n2'), (o2'), (p2'), (q2'), (r2'), (s2'), (t2'), (u2'), (v2'), and y is the radical Y' when X₂ is selected from (a4') or (b4'), wherein Y and Y' are as above defined, and

5 1b-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 1b-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

1b-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 1b-i) or 1b-ii) as above described.

10 The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIa) wherein P² and X₂ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) wherein R_a, X'', y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-2)

15 The compounds of formula (IVd) wherein R_a, X'', y, Q are as above defined, can be obtained from the compounds of formula HX''-y-Q (IVe) wherein X'', y, Q are as above defined, as known in literature.

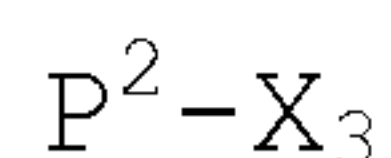
20 The compound of formula (IVe) are commercially available or are known in literature.

The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -Cl or O-R_a, X₁ is selected from (a2'), (a4'), (b2'), (b4'), (c2'), (e2'), (f1'),
 25 (g2'), (h1'), (i1'), (l2'), (m2'), (n2'), (o2'), (p2'), (q2'), (r2'), (s2'), (t2'), (u2'), (v2'), wherein R^{1'} is selected from A1), A2'), A3'), A4'), R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6) and R^{2'} is selected from B1), B2'), B3'), B4'), Y, Y' and Q are as above defined, T' and T'' are
 30 C(O)-X'' wherein X'' is O or S, can be obtained from the

corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W is -OH as known in the literature.

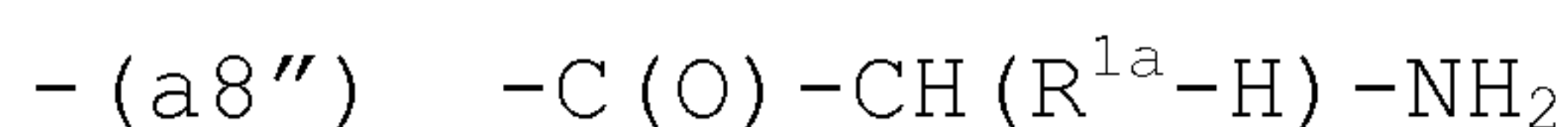
1c) The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -OH and X_1 is a radical selected from (a8') or (b8'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6), Q is as above defined, T' and T'' are C(O), Y and Y' are the same and are as above defined, can be obtained

1c-i) by reacting a compound of formula (II Ib),

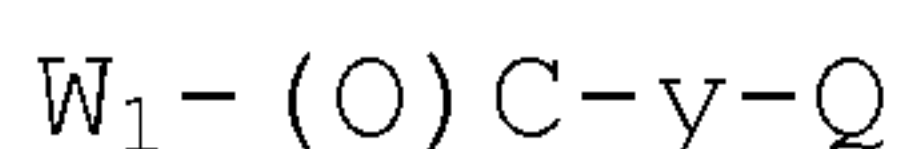


(II Ib)

wherein P^2 is as above defined, X_3 is the radical of formula



wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6), with a compound of formula (IVa)



(IVa)

wherein W_1 and Q are as above defined, wherein y is the radical

Y or Y', wherein Y and Y' are as above defined, and

1c-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 1c-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

1c-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step

1c-i) or 1c-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (II Ib) wherein P^2 and X_3 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein W_1 is OH, y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1a-i) using a ratio (II Ib)/(IVa) 1:2.

The reaction of a compound of formula (II Ib) wherein P^2 and X_3 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein

W_1 is OR_a , y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-2) using a ratio (IIIb)/(IVa) 1:2.

The compounds of formula (IIIb) are commercially available or
5 can be obtained as known in the literature.

The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-Cl$ or $O-R_a$, X_1 is the radical selected from (a8') or (b8') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6) and wherein Y ,
10 Y' and Q are as above defined and T' and T'' are $C(O)$, can be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$ as known in the literature.

1d) The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$, X_1 is the
15 radical selected from (a8') or (b8'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6), Q , Y and Y' are as above defined, T' is $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is as above defined, T'' is $C(O)$, can be obtained

1d-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ib)

20 P^2-X_3 ,

(Ib)

wherein P^2 is as above defined, X_3 is the radical of formula

$-(a8''') -C(O)-CH(R^{1a}-H)-NH-(T'-Y-Q)$

$-(b8''') -C(O)-CH_2-CH(R^{2a}-H)-NH-(T'-Y-Q)$

25 wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6), with a compound of formula (IVa)

$W_1-(O)C-y-Q$

(IVa)

wherein W_1 and Q are as above defined, wherein y is the radical

30 Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, and

1d-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 1d-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

1d-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 1d-i) or 1d-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ib) wherein P² and X₃ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein W₁ is OH, y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1a-i).

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ib) wherein P² and X₃ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein W₁ is OR_a, y and Q are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

The compounds of formula (Ib) wherein T' is C(O), P² and X₃ are as above defined, are obtained as described in 1a).

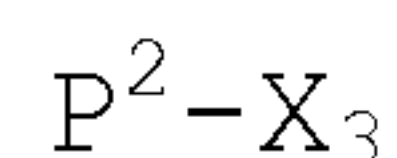
The compounds of formula (Ib) wherein T' is C(O)-X'', P² and X₃ are as above defined, are obtained as described in 1b).

The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -Cl or O-R_a', X₁ is the radical selected from (a8') or (b8') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6) and wherein Q, Y and Y' are as above defined, T' is C(O) or C(O)-X'' wherein X'' is as above defined, T'' is C(O), can be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W is -OH as known in literature.

1e) The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -OH, X₁ is the radical selected from (a8') or (b8'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6), Q is as above

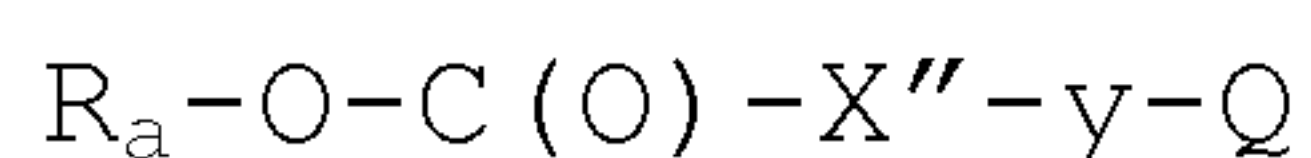
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defined, Y and Y' are the same and are as above defined, T' and T'' are C(O)-X''- wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained **1e-i)** by reacting a compound of formula (IIIb)



5 (IIIb)

wherein P^2 and X_3 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd)



10 (IVd)

wherein R_a and Q are as above defined, wherein y is the radical Y', wherein Y' is as above defined, and

1e-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 1e-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate

15 source as above described and

1e-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 1e-i) or 1e-ii) as above described.

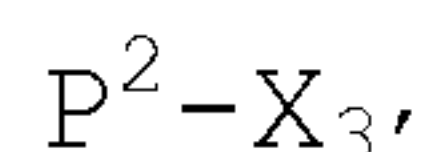
The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIb) wherein P^2 and X_3 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) wherein

20 R_a , y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-2) using a ratio (IIIb)/(IVd) 1:2.

The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -Cl or O- R_a , X_1 is the radical selected from (a8') or (b8') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6) and wherein Y and Y', Q is as above defined and T' and T'' are C(O)-X''- wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W is -OH as known in literature.

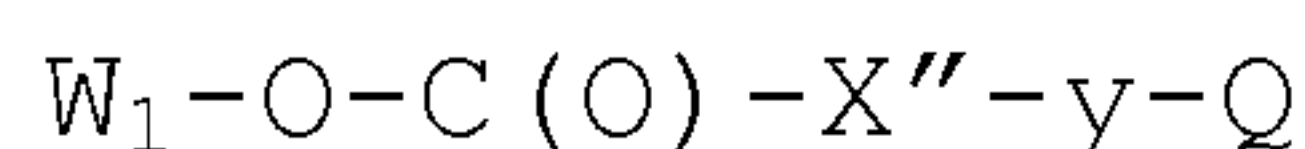
1f) The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -OH, X_1 is selected from (a8') or (b8'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6), Q, Y and Y' are as above defined, T' is C(O) or C(O)-X'' wherein X'' is as above defined, T'' is C(O)-X'', can be obtained

1f-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ib)



(Ib)

wherein X_3 and P^2 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd)



(IVd)

wherein W_1 and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y', wherein Y' is as above defined, and

1f-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 1f-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

1f-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 1f-i) or 1f-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ib) wherein P^2 and X_3 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) wherein W_1 is OH, y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1a-i).

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ib) wherein P^2 and X_3 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) wherein W_1 is OR_a , y and Q are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

The compounds of formula (Ib) wherein T' is C(O), P^2 and X_3 are as above defined, are obtained as described in 1a).

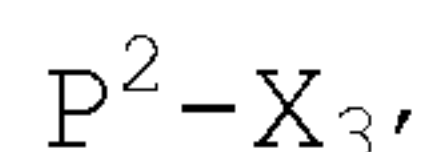
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The compounds of formula (Ib) wherein T' is $C(O)-X''$, P^2 and X_3 , are as above defined, are obtained as described in 1b).

The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-Cl$ or $O-R_a'$, X_1 is a radical selected from (a8') or (b8') wherein R^{1a} is A5) or A6), R^{2a} is B5) or B6) and wherein Q , Y and Y' are as above defined, T' is $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$ and T'' is $C(O)-X$, wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$ as known in literature.

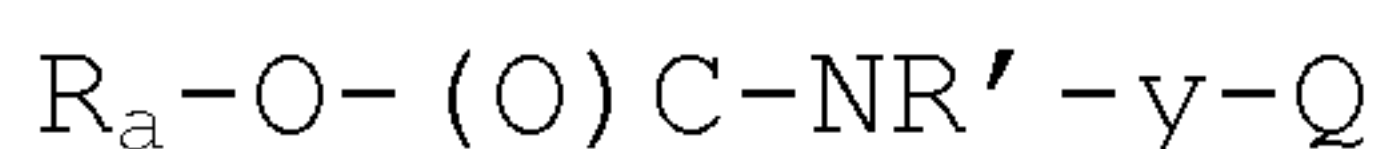
1g) The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$, X_1 is a radical is selected from (a8') or (b8'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5), A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5), B6), Q , Y and Y' are as above defined, T' is $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is as above defined, T'' is $C(O)-NR'$ wherein R' is above defined, can be obtained

1g-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ib)



(Ib)

wherein P^2 and X_3 , are as above defined, with a compound of formula



(IVf)

wherein R_a , R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,

wherein Y' is as above defined, and

1g-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 1g-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

1g-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step

1g-i) or 1g-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ib) wherein P^2 and X_3 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVf) wherein R_a , R' , y , Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

5

The compounds of formula (Ib) wherein T' is $C(O)$, wherein P^2 and X_3 are as above defined, are obtained as described in 1a-i), 1a-ii).

10 The compounds of formula (Ib) wherein T' is $C(O)-X''$, wherein P^2 and X_3 are as above defined, are obtained as described in 1b-i), 1b-ii).

The compounds of formula (IVf) wherein R' , y and Q are as above
15 defined, can be obtained from the compounds of formula $HR'N-y-Q$ (IVg) by reaction with a chloroformate as known in the literature.

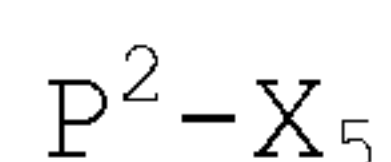
The compounds of formula (IVg) wherein y is as above defined and Q is Z_2 is commercially available, the compounds of formula
20 (IVg) wherein y is as above defined and Q is $-ONO_2$ may be obtained from the compound of formula $P^3-R'N-y-ONO_2$ (IVh) wherein P^3 is as above defined by deprotection of amino group as known in literature. The compounds of formula (IVh) wherein P^3 , y are as above defined may be obtained from the alcohol $P^3-R'N-y-OH$ (IVi)
25 $y-OH$ (IVi) by reacting with tetraalkylammonium nitrate as already described for analogous compounds. The compounds of formula (IVi) are commercially available or known in literature. Alternatively the compounds of formula (IVh) wherein P^3 , y are as above defined may be obtained from the
30 corresponding compounds of formula $P^3-R'N-y-Z_2$ (IVl) wherein P^3 ,

y, Z₂ are as above defined, by reaction with a nitrate source as above described.

The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -Cl or O-R_a, X₁ is a radical selected from (a8') or (b8') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6) and wherein Y, Y' and Q are as above defined and T' is C(O) or C(O)-X'', T'' is C(O)-NR'-, wherein X'' and R' are as above defined, can be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W is -OH as known in literature.

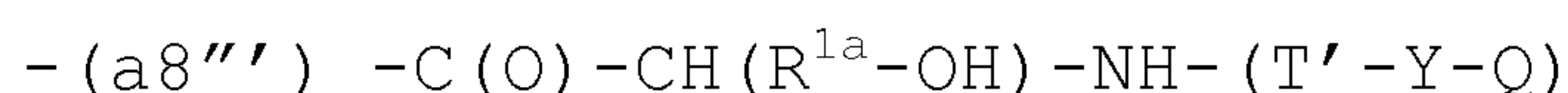
1h) The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -OH, X₁ is a radical selected from (a8') or (b8'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7), Q, Y and Y' are as above defined, T' is C(O) or C(O)-X'', T'' is X'' wherein X'' is above defined, can be obtained

1h-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ie),

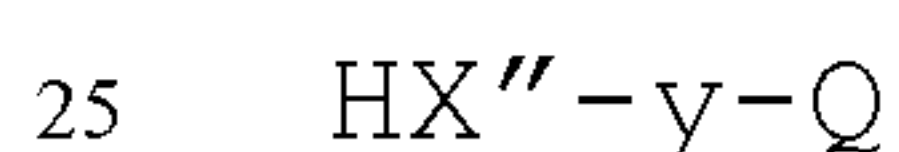


(Ie)

wherein P² is defined above, X₅ is the radical of formula



wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7), with a compound of formula (IVe)



(IVe)

wherein X'' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y', wherein Y' is as above defined, and

1h-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 1h-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

1h-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 1h-i) or 1h-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ie) wherein P^2 and X_5 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVe) wherein y,
 5 X'' and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-1).

The compounds of formula (Ie) wherein T' is $C(O)$, wherein P^2 and X_5 are as above defined, are obtained as described in 1a-i), 1a-
 10 ii).

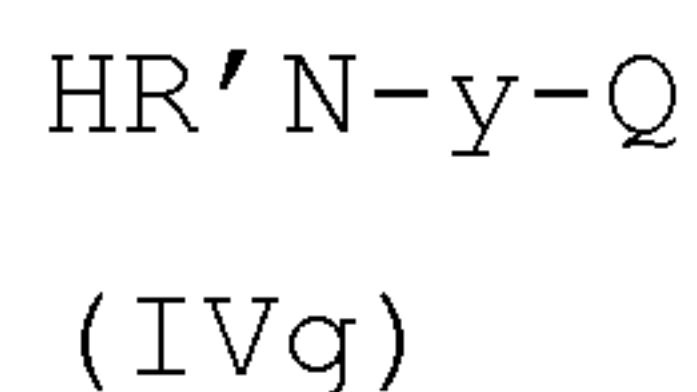
The compounds of formula (Ie) wherein T' is $C(O)-X''$, wherein P^2 and X_5 are as above defined, are obtained as described in 1b-i), 1b-ii).

15 The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-Cl$ or $O-R_a$, X_1 is a radical selected from (a8') or (b8') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7) and wherein Y, Y' and Q are as above defined, T' is $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$, and T'' is X'' wherein
 20 X'' is as above defined, can be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$ as known in literature.

1i) The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$, X_1 is a radical selected from (a8') or (b8'), wherein R^{1a} is selected
 25 from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7), Q, Y and Y' are as above defined, T' is $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is as above defined, T'' is $-NR'$ wherein R' is above defined, can be obtained

1i-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ie),
 30 P^2-X_5
 (Ie)

wherein is P^2 and X_5 are defined above, with a compound of formula (IVg)



- 5 wherein R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, and
- 1i-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 1i-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source such as above described and
- 10 1i-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 1i-i) or 1i-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ie) wherein P^2 and X_5 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVg) wherein R' , y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described

15 in 1a-i).

The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-Cl$ or $O-R_a$, X_1 is the radical selected from (a8') or (b8') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7) and wherein Y , Y' and Q are

20 as above defined, T' is $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is as above defined, and T'' is $-NR'$ wherein R' is as above defined can be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$ as known in literature

25 **11)** The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$, X_1 is a radical selected from (a8') or (b8'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7), Q , Y and Y' are as above defined, T' is $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is as above defined, T'' is $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$, wherein R' is as above defined, can be

30 obtained

11-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ie),

P^2-X_5

(Ie)

wherein P^2 and X_5 are defined above, with a compound of formula (IVm)

5 Hal-CH(R')-O-(O)C-y-Q
(IVm)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, Hal is an halogen atom, y is the radical Y', wherein Y' is as above defined, and
11-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
10 step 11-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source such as above described and
11-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 11-i) or 11-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ie) wherein P^5 and X_5 are
15 as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVm) wherein y, Q, R' are as above defined may be carried out in the presence of an inorganic or organic base in an aprotic polar/non-polar solvent such as DMF, THF or CH_2Cl_2 at temperatures range between 0° to 100°C or in a double phase system H_2O/Et_2O at temperatures
20 range between 20° to 40°C.

The compounds of formula (IVm) wherein y, Q, R' are as above defined, Hal is an halogen atom may be obtained by reacting a compound $R'-CH_2-CHO$, commercially available, with a compound of
25 formula Hal-(O)C-y-Q (IVn), wherein y and Q are as above defined, Hal is a chlorine atom and $ZnCl_2$ as known in literature.

T

he compounds of formula (IVn) may be obtained as known in
30 literature.

The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -Cl or O-R_a, , X₁ is a radical selected from (a8') or (b8') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7) and wherein Y, Y', and Q are as above defined, T' is C(O) or C(O)-X'' wherein X'' is as above defined, and T'' is -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)- wherein R' is as above defined can be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W is -OH as known in literature.

1m) The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -OH, X₁ is a radical selected from (a8') or (b8'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is B7), Q, Y and Y' are as above defined, T' is C(O) or C(O)-X'' wherein X'' is as above defined, T'' is -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O-, wherein R' is as above defined, can be obtained

1m-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ie),
 P^2-X_5
 (Ie)

wherein is P² and X₅ are defined above, with a compound of formula (IVo)

Hal-CH(R')-O-(O)C-O-y-Q
 (IVo)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y', wherein Y' is as above defined, Hal is an halogen atom, and 11-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 11-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source such above described and

11-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 11-i) or 11-ii) as above described.

70

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ie) wherein P^2 and X_5 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVo) wherein y , R' , Q , Hal are as above defined may be carried out as described in 11-i).

5

The compounds of formula (IVo) wherein y , R' , Q are as above defined, may be obtained by reacting the compounds of formula $Hal-(R')CH-OC(O)Hal$, wherein Hal is as above defined, commercially available, with a compound of formula $HO-y-Q$ (IVe) wherein y , Q are as above defined, in the presence of a inorganic or organic base in an aprotic polar or in an aprotic non-polar solvent such as DMF, THF or CH_2Cl_2 at temperatures range between 0° to $65^\circ C$.

15 The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-Cl$ or $O-R_a$, X_1 is a radical selected from (a8') or (b8') wherein R^{1a} selected from A7), R^{2a} selected from B7) and wherein Y , Y' and Q are as above defined, T' is $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is as above defined, and T'' is $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O-$, may be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$ as known in literature.

1n) The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$, X_1 is a radical selected from (a4') or (b4'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7), Y' , Q and $R^{4a'}$ are as above defined and T'' is X'' wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained

1n-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIC)

30 P^2-X_5 ,

(IIIC)

71

wherein P^2 is defined above, X_5 is

-(a4'') $-C(O)-CH(R^{1a}-OH)-NHR^{4a'}$

-(b4'') $-C(O)-CH_2-CH(R^{2a}-OH)-NHR^{4a'}$

wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7) and P^3

5 is as above defined,

with a compound of formula (IVe)

$HX''-y-Q$

(IVe)

wherein X'' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,

10 wherein Y' is as above defined, and

1n-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 1n-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

1n-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step

15 1n-i) or 1n-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIc) wherein X_5 and P^2 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVe) wherein X'' , y , Q are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1-i-1).

20

The compounds of formula (IIIc) wherein X_5 and P^2 are as above defined, are commercially available or can be obtained as known in the literature.

25 The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is $-Cl$ or $O-R_a$, X_1 is a radical selected from (a4') or (b4'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7), Y' and Q are as above defined, T'' is X'' , wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W is $-OH$ as

30 known in literature.

1o) The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -OH, X_1 is a radical selected from (a4') or (b4'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7), Y' , Q and $R^{4a'}$ are as above defined and T'' is -NR' wherein R' is as above defined, can be
 5 obtained

1o-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIC)

P^2-X_5 ,

(IIIC)

wherein P^2 and X_5 are as above defined, with a compound of

10 formula (IVg)

$HR'N-y-Q$

(IVg)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' , and

10-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the

15 step 10-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

10-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 10-i) or 10-ii) as above described.

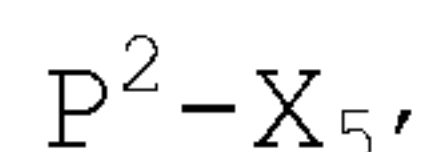
The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIC) wherein X_5 and P^2 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVg) wherein R', y and Q are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1a-i).

The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -Cl or -OR_a, X_1 is a

25 radical selected from (a4') or (b4'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7) and wherein Y' , Q are as above defined and T'' is -NR' wherein R' is as above defined, can be obtained may be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W= -OH as known in literature.

1p) The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -OH, X_1 is a radical selected from (a4') or (b4'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7), Y' , Q and $R^{4a'}$ are as above defined and T'' is -O-CH(R')-O-C(O), wherein R' is as above defined, can be obtained

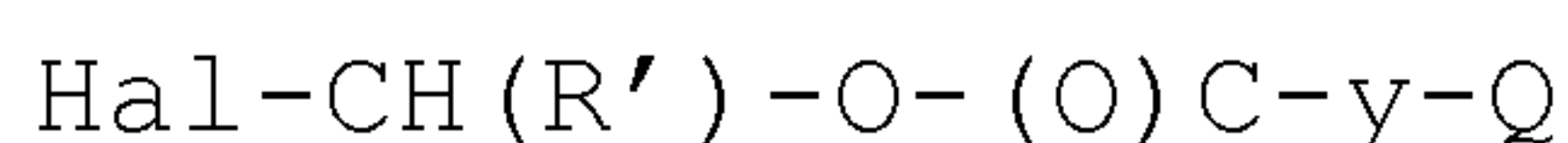
1p-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIc)



(IIIc)

wherein P^2 and X_5 are as above defined, with a compound of

formula (IVm)



(IVm)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,

wherein Y' is as above defined, Hal is an halogen atom and

1p-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step **1p-i)** into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

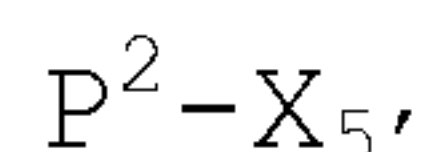
1p-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step **1p-i)** or **1p-ii)** as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIc) wherein P^2 and X_5 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVm) wherein R' , y, Q, Hal are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 11-1).

The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -Cl or OR_a , X_1 is a radical selected from (a4') or (b4'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7) and wherein Y and Q are as above defined and T'' is the group -O-CH(R')-O-C(O), wherein R' is as above defined, can be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W = -OH as known in literature.

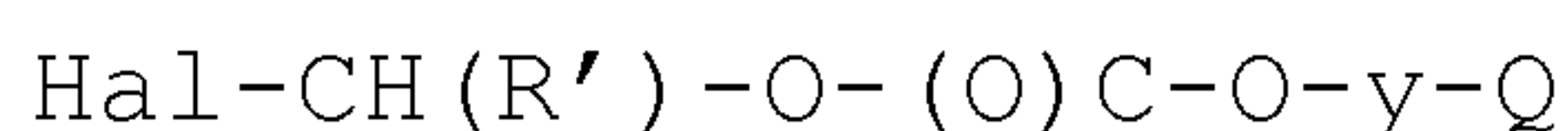
1q) The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -OH, X_1 is a radical selected from (a4') or (b4'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7), Y' , Q and $R^{4a'}$ are as above defined and T'' is -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-O-, wherein R' is as above defined, can be obtained

1q-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIc)



(IIIc)

wherein P^2 and X_5 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVo)



(IVo)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, Hal is an halogen atom and

1q-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step **1q-i)** into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

1q-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step **1q-i)** or **1q-ii)** as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIc) wherein P^2 and X_5 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVo) wherein R' , y, Q, Hal are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 11-1).

The compounds of formula (Ia) wherein W is -Cl or OR_a , X_1 is a radical selected from (a4') or (b4'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7) and wherein Y, Q, are as above defined and T'' is the group -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-O-, wherein R' is as above defined, can be obtained may be obtained from the corresponding acids (Ia) wherein W = -OH as known in literature.

2) The compound of general formula (I) as above defined wherein a is equal to 1, the radical R_x is the radical selected from (a2), (a4), (a8), (b2), (b4), (b8), (c2), (e2), (f1), (g2), (h1), (i1), (l2), (m2), (n2), (o2), (p2), (q2), (r2), (s2), (t2), (u2), (v2), Z is $-\text{CH}(R')-\text{O}-$ wherein R' is selected from H or straight or branched $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ alkyl, can be obtained:

2-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIa)

R-OH

(IIa)

wherein R is as above defined with a compound of formula (If)

$\text{Hal-CH}(R')\text{-O-X}_1$

(If)

wherein Hal is an halogen atom, R' and X_1 are as above defined

and

2-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 2-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

2-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step

2-i) or 2-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (If) wherein X_1 and R' are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IIa) wherein R is as above defined, may be carried out as described in 11-i).

The compounds of formula (If) are obtained by reacting a compound $R'\text{-CHO}$, wherein R' is as above defined with compounds of formula (Ia)

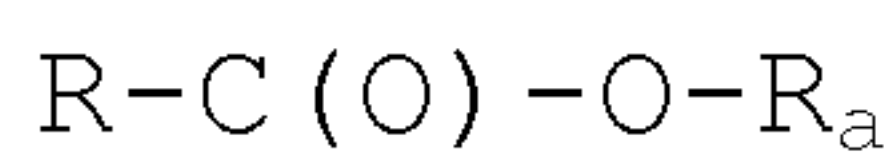
W-X_1

(Ia)

wherein W is a chlorine atom, X_1 is as above defined, and ZnCl_2 as known in literature.

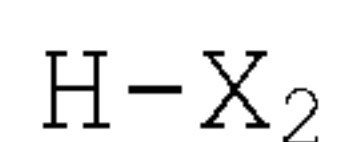
3) The compound of general formula (I) as above defined wherein a is equal to 1, the radical R_x is selected from (a1), (a3), (a7), (b1), (b3), (b7), (c1), (e1), (f2), (g1), (h2), (i2), (l1), (m1), (n1), (o1), (p1), (q1), (r1), (s1), (t1), (u1), (v1), Z is C(O), can be obtained

3-i) by reacting a compound of formula



(IIb)

wherein R and R_a are as above defined, with a compound of formula (Ig)



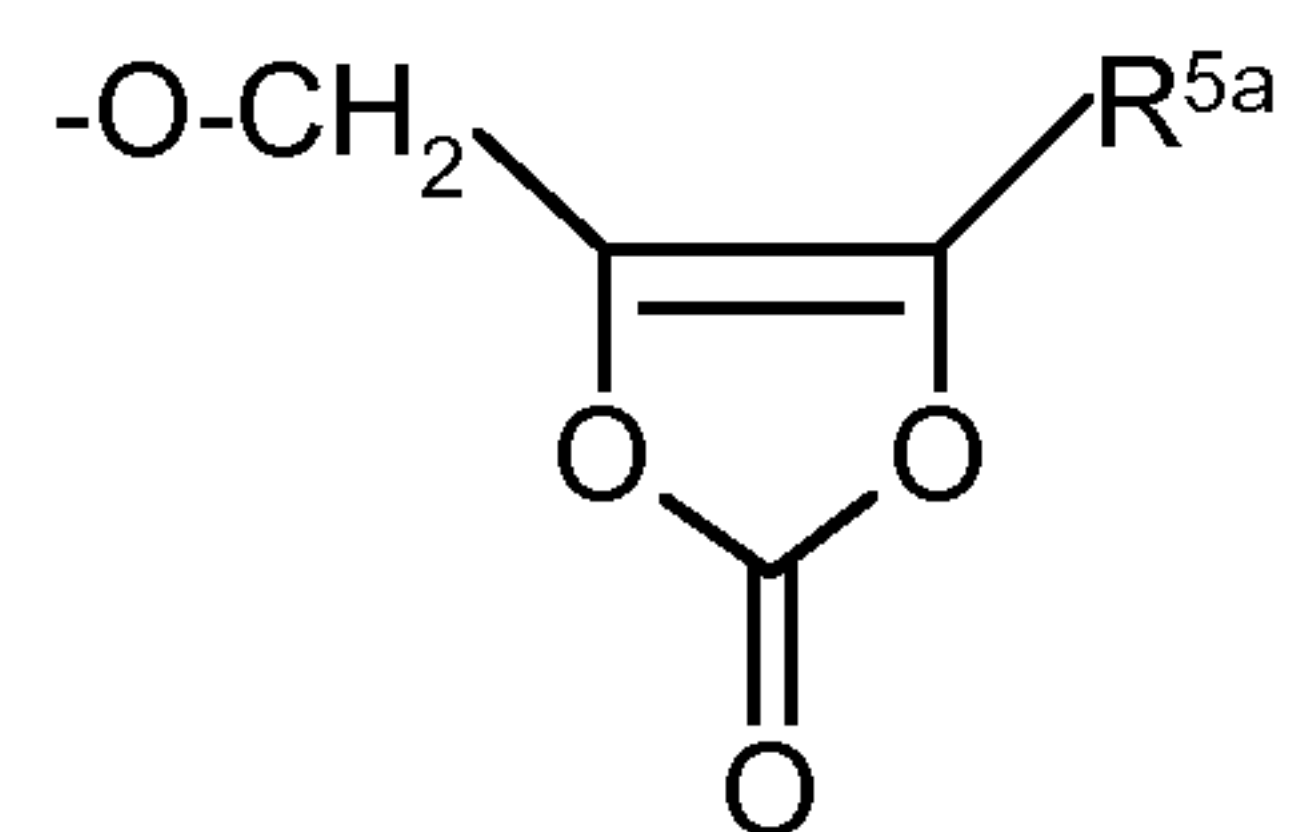
(Ig)

wherein X_2 is a radical having the following meanings:

- (a1') $-HN-CH(R^{1'})-C(O)-(T-Y-Q)$
- (a3') $-HN-CH(R^{1a}-T''-Y'-Q)-COOR^{3a'}$
- (a7') $-HN-CH(R^{1a}-T''-Y'-Q)-C(O)-(T-Y-Q)$
- (b1') $-HN-CH(R^{2'})-CH_2C(O)-(T-Y-Q)$
- (b3') $-HN-CH(R^{2a}-T''-Y'-Q)-CH_2COOR^{3a'}$
- (b7') $-HN-CH(R^{2a}-T''-Y'-Q)-CH_2-C(O)-(T-Y-Q)$

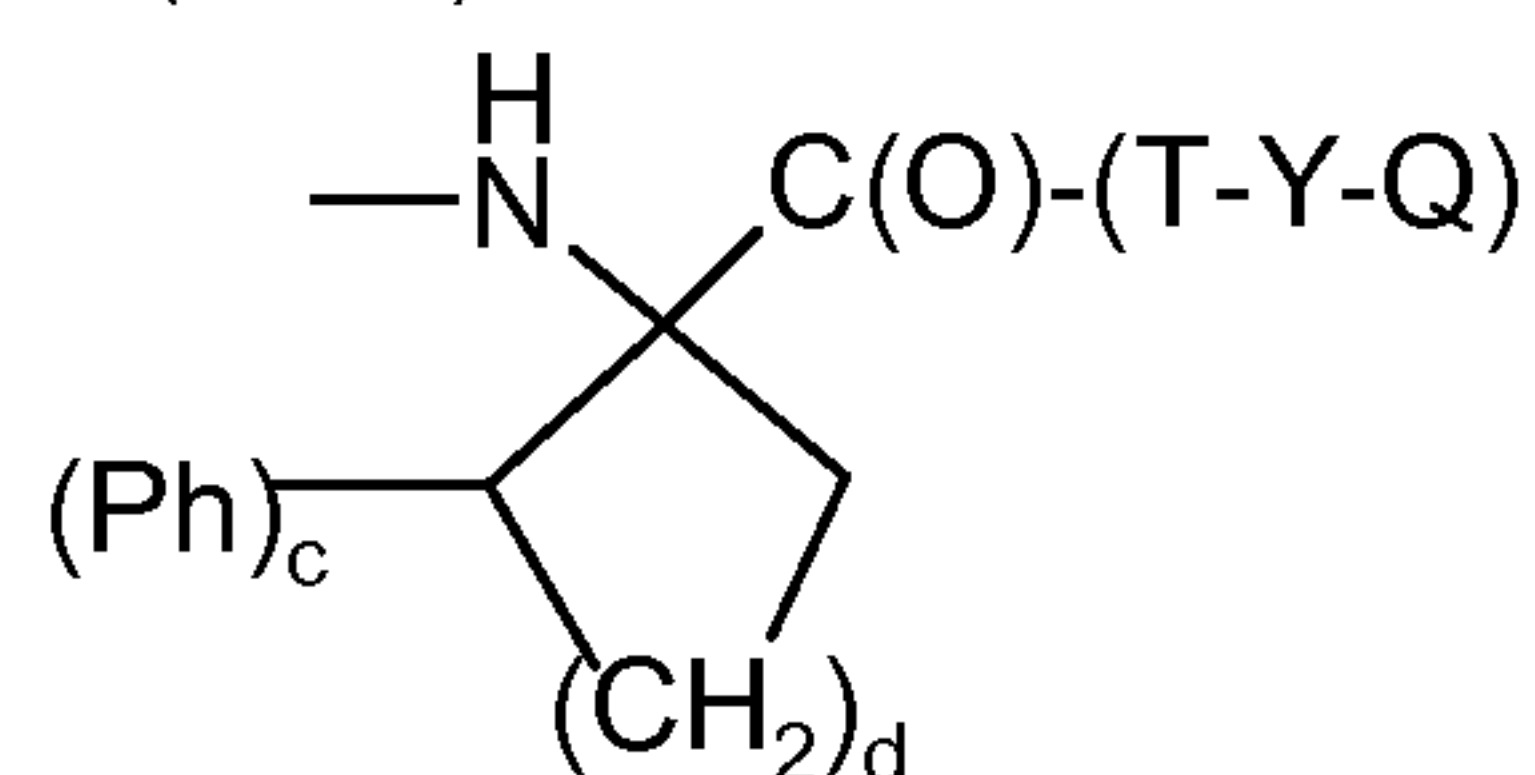
wherein $R^{1'}$, R^{1a} , $R^{2'}$, R^{2a} are as above defined

$R^{3a'}$ is selected from P^2 , $-OR^{5a}$ or

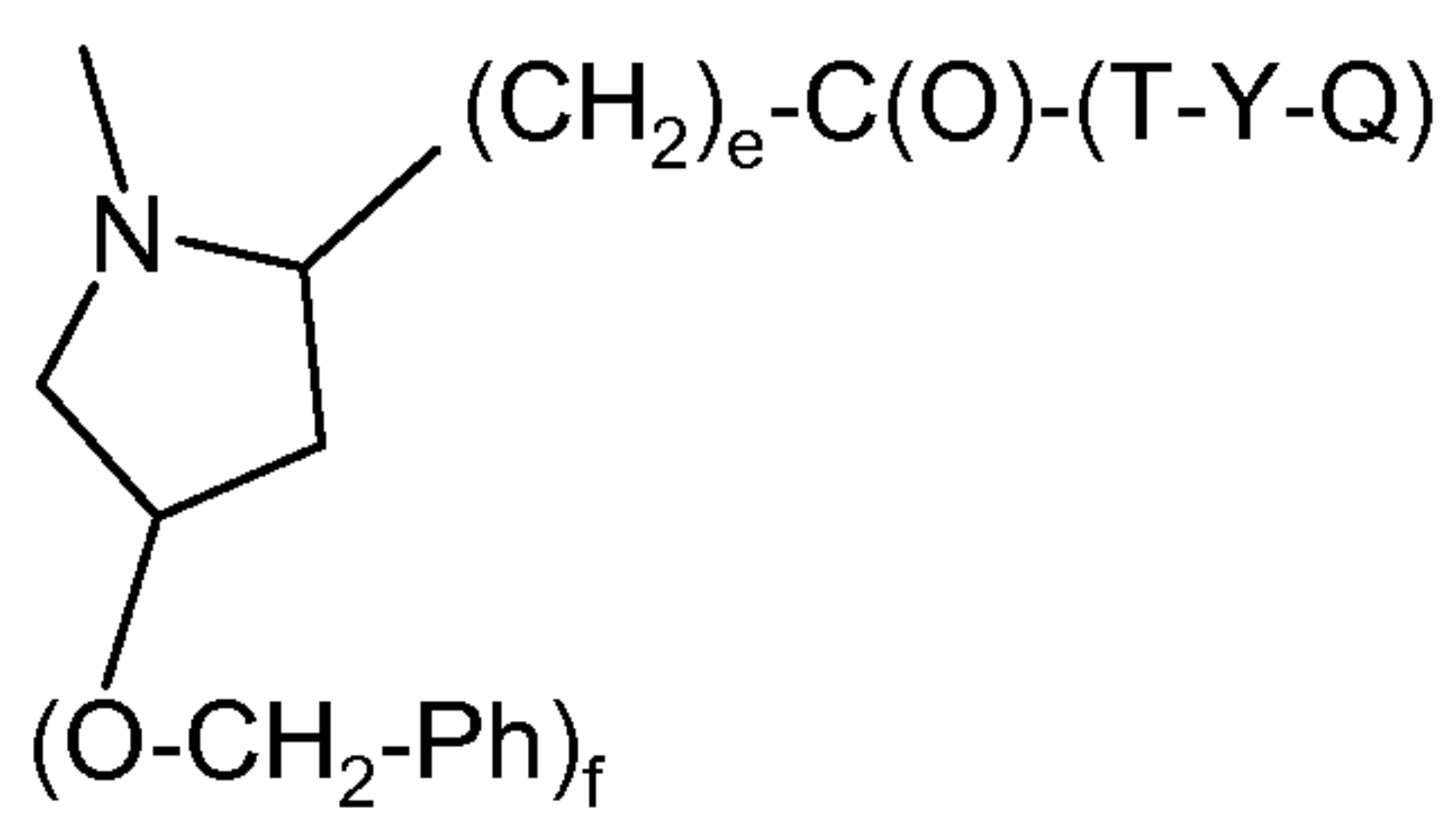


wherein R^{5a} is as above defined;

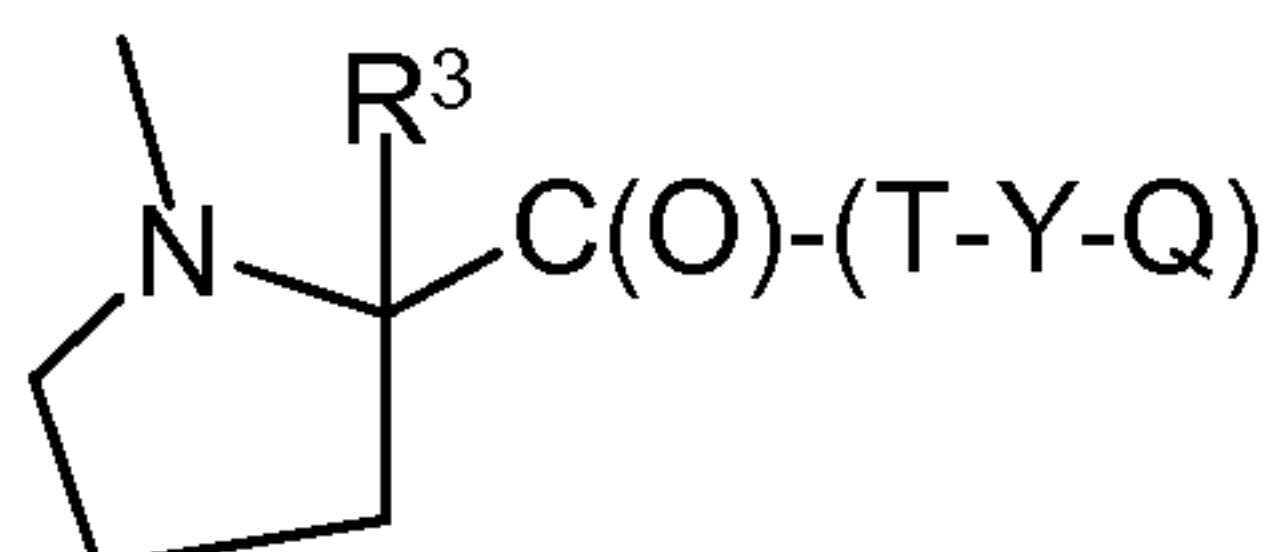
- (c1') $-HN-(CH_2)_b-C(O)-(T-Y-Q)$;
- (e1')



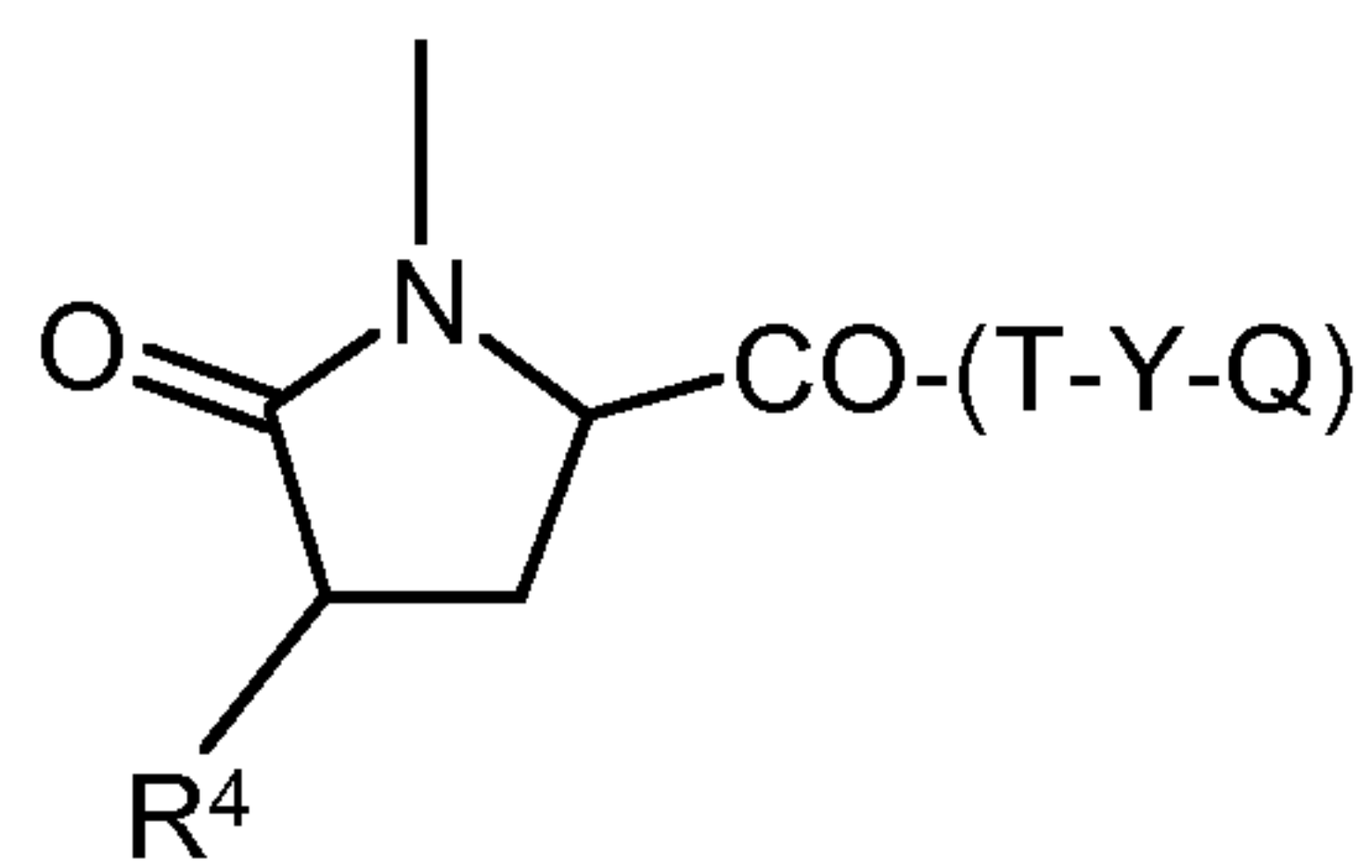
- (f2')



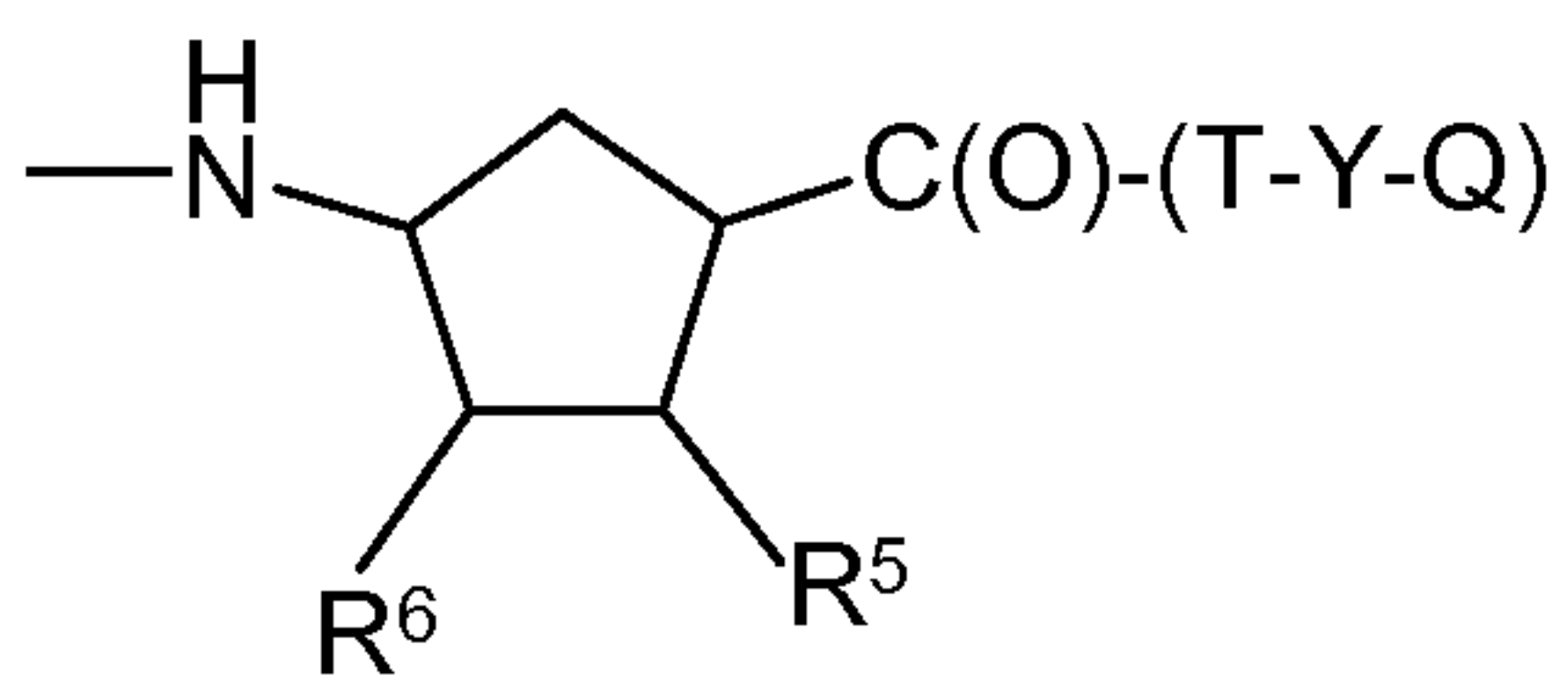
- (g1')



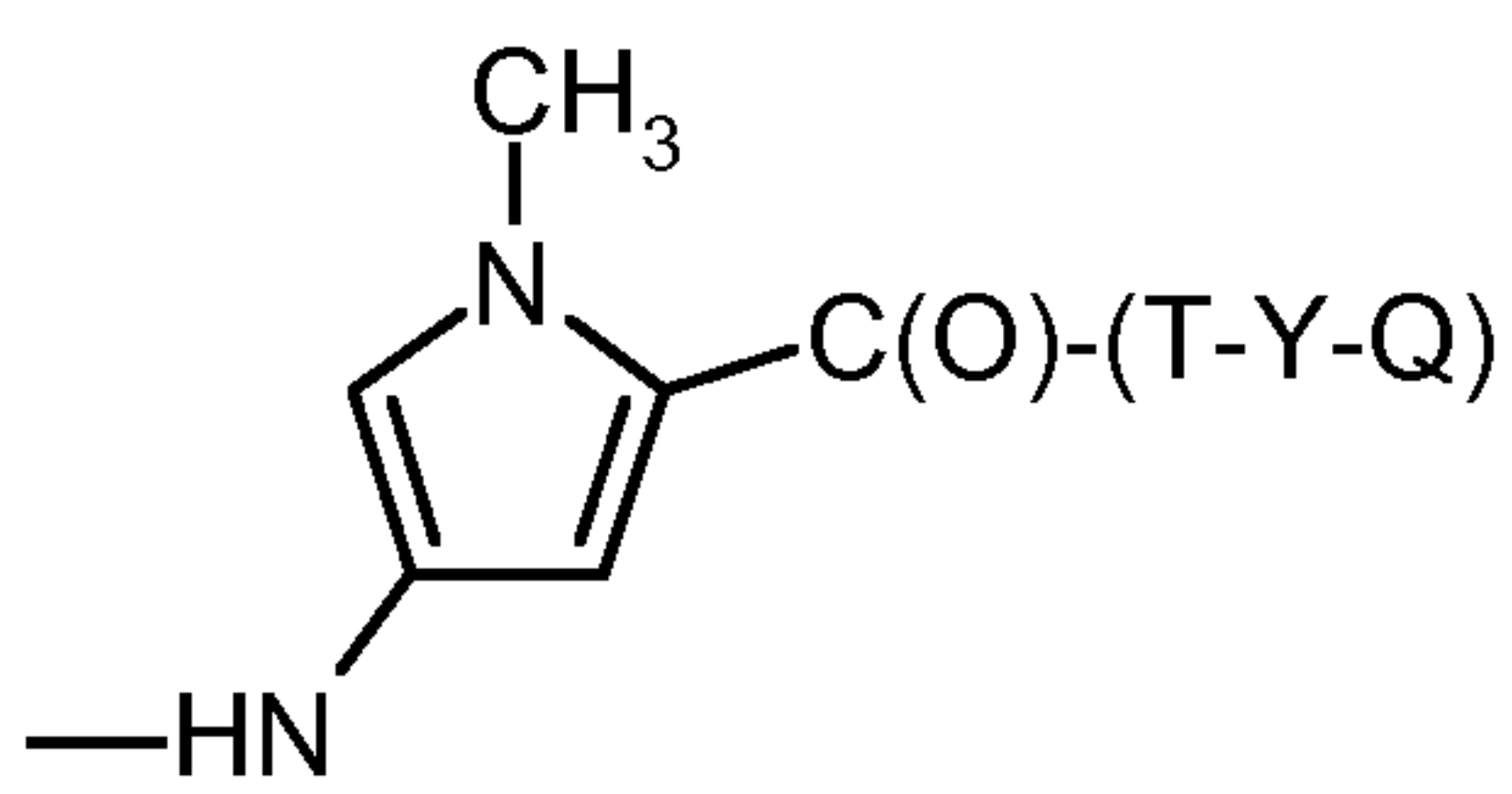
5 - (h2')



- (i2')

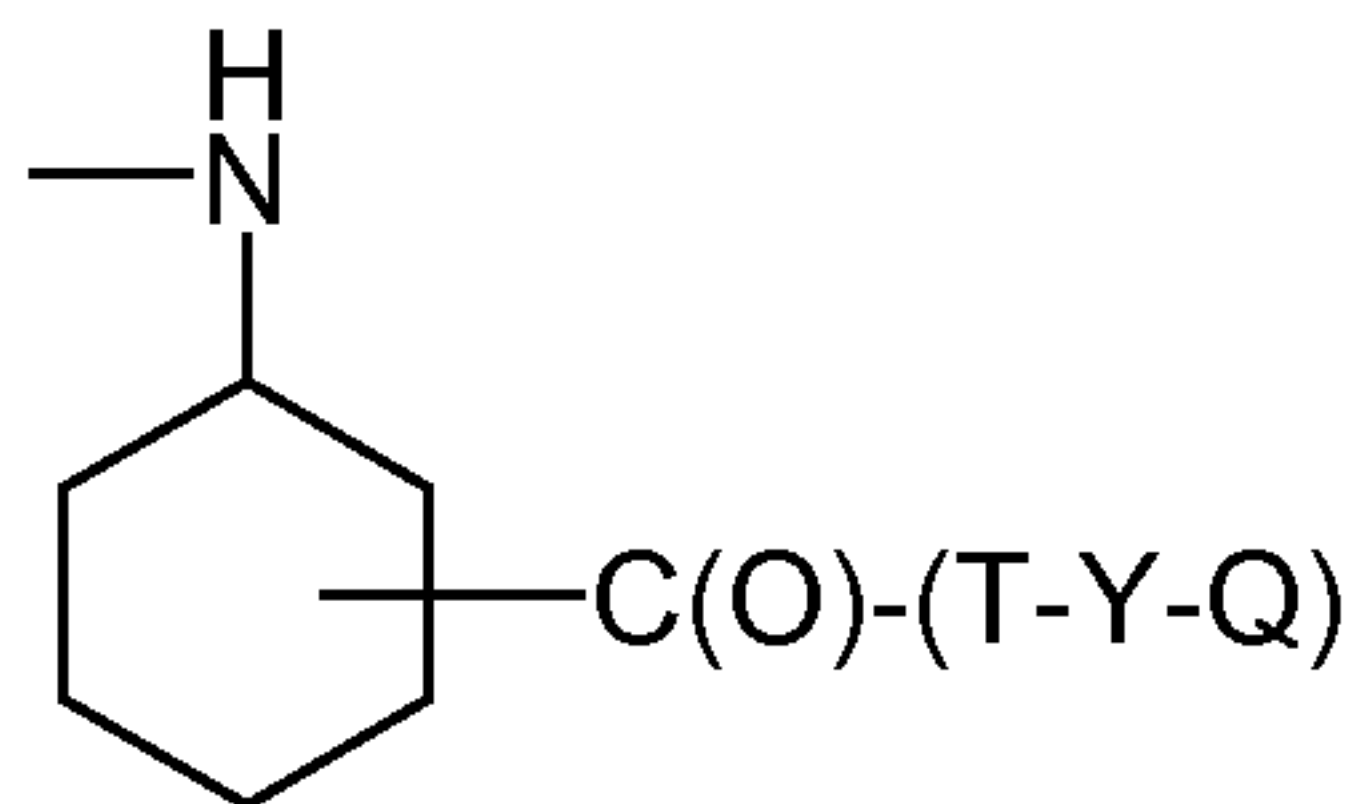


- (l1')



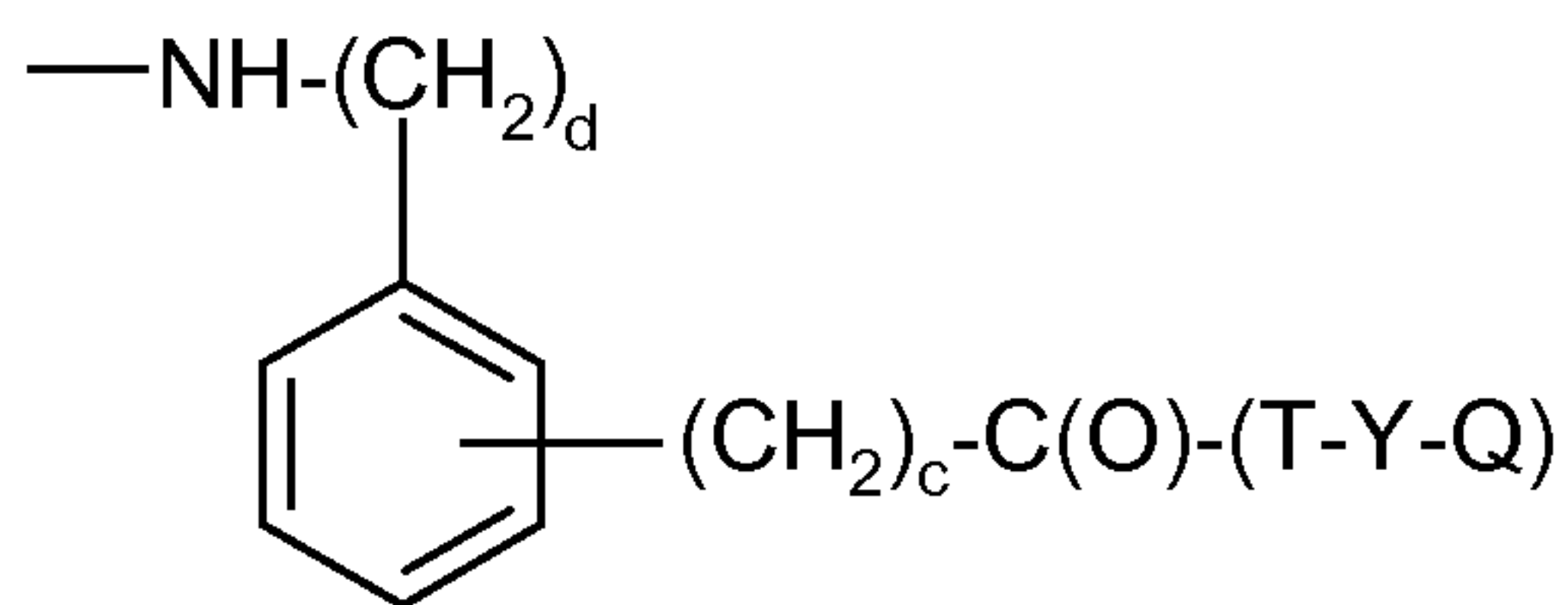
10

- (m1')

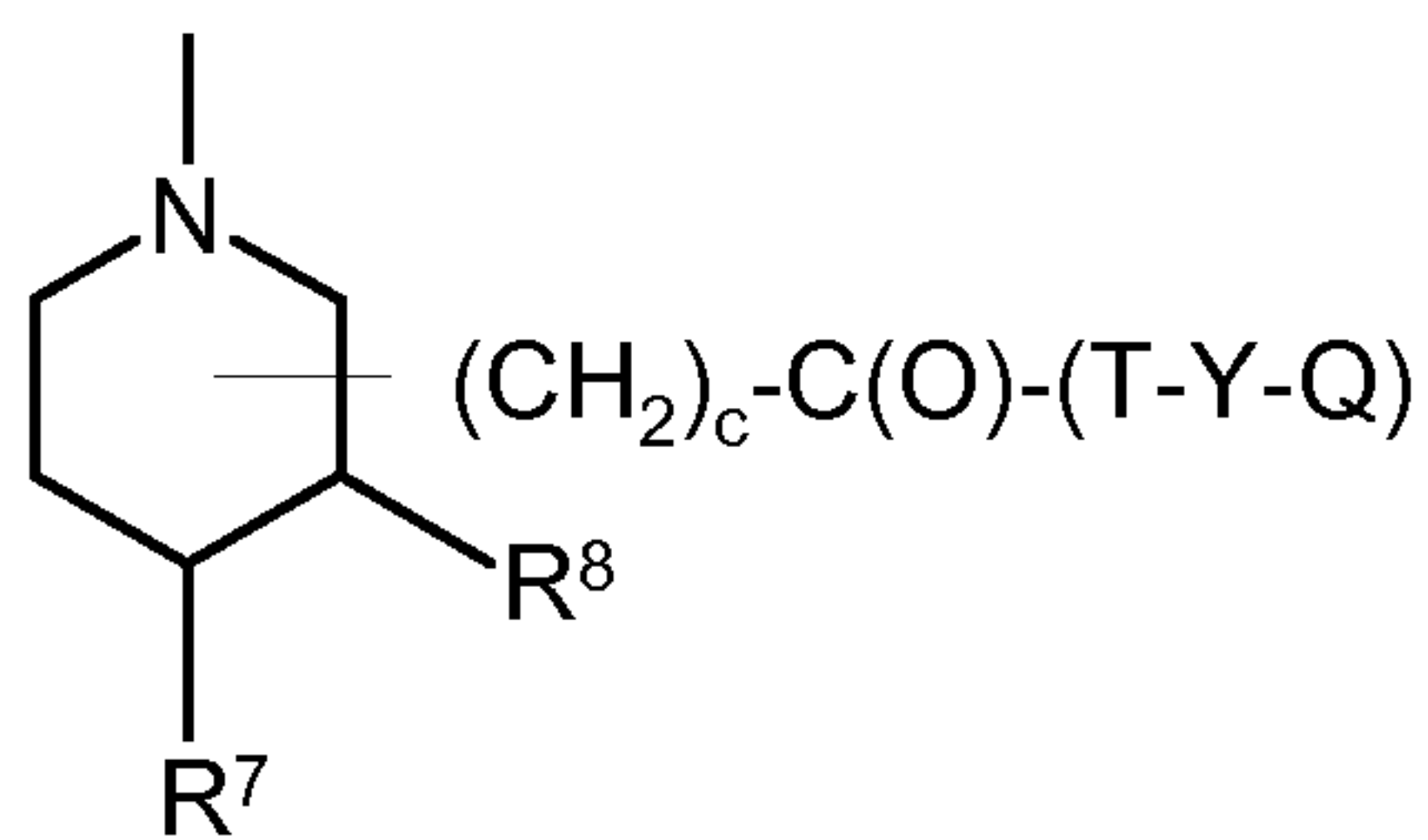


- (n1')

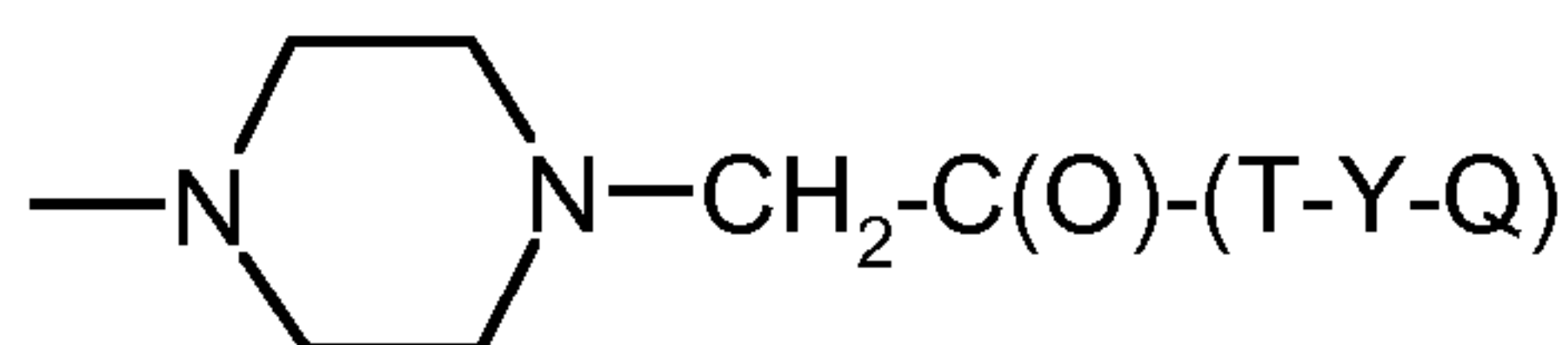
78



- (o1')

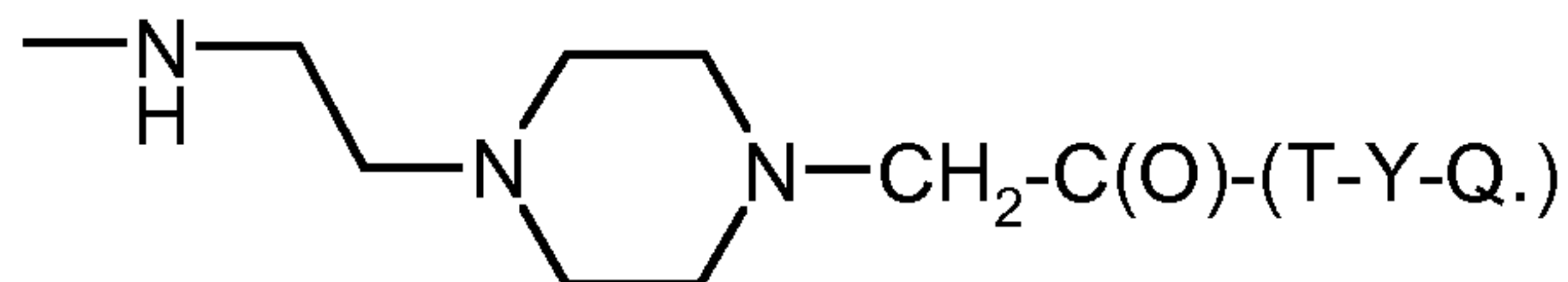


- (p1')

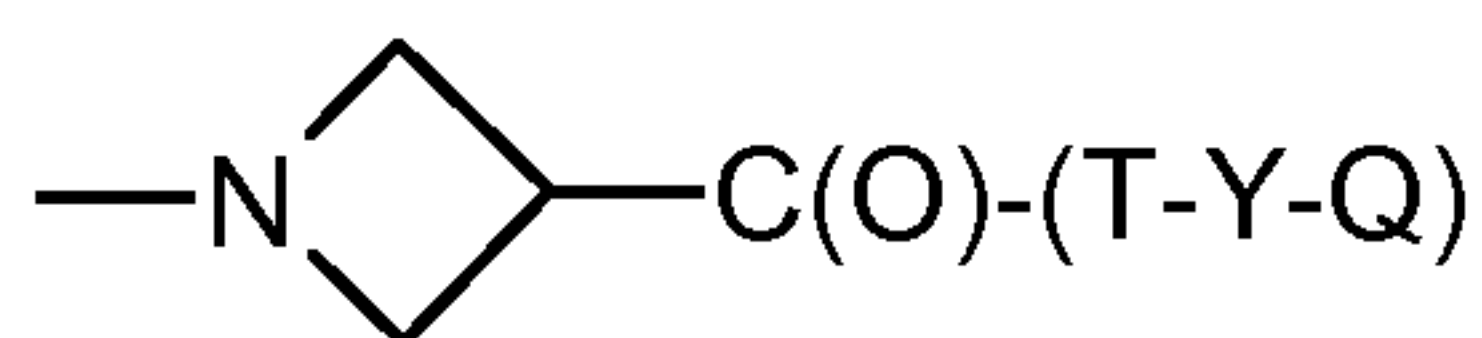


5

- (q1')

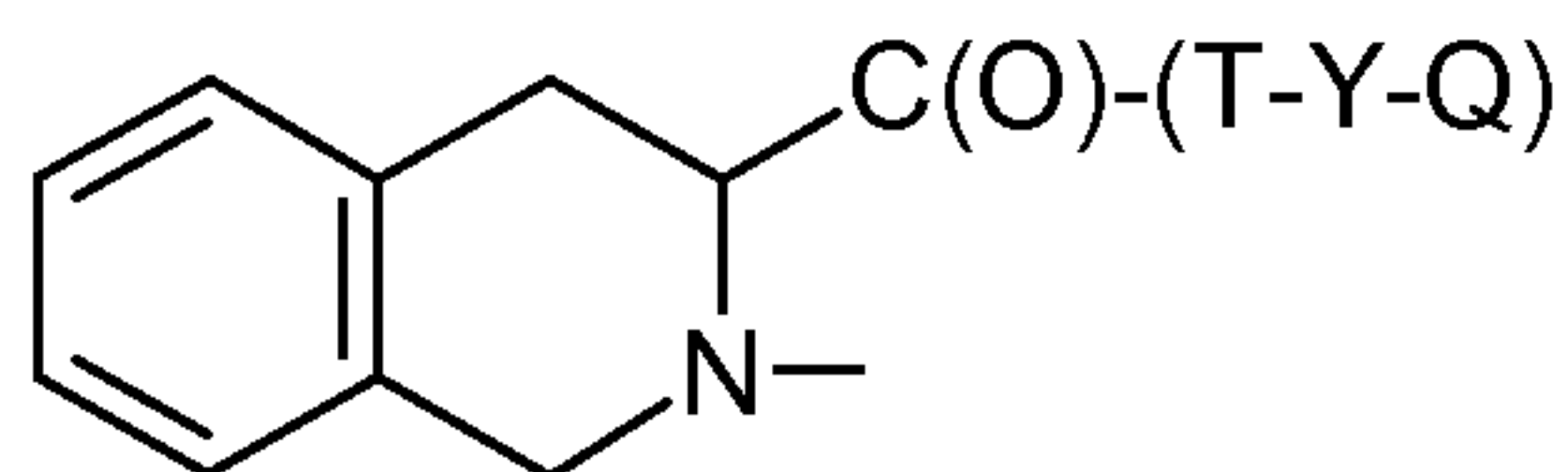


- (r1')

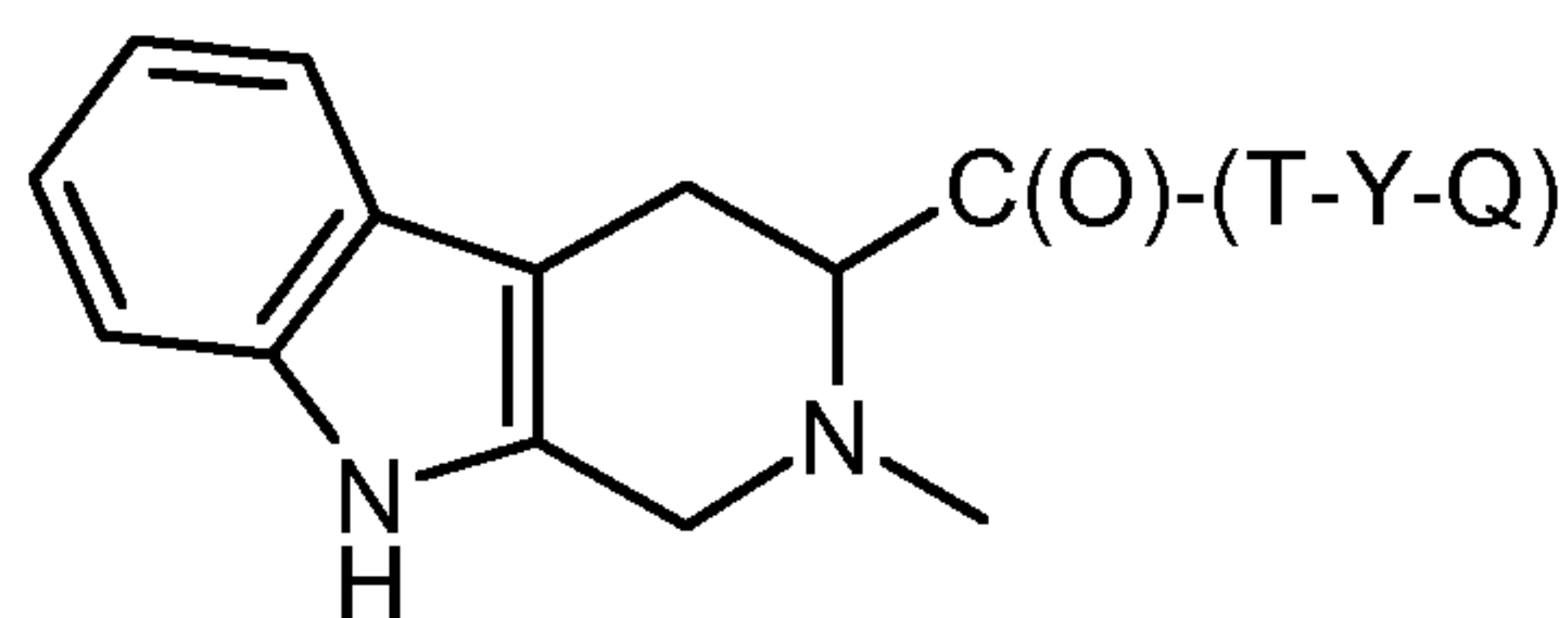


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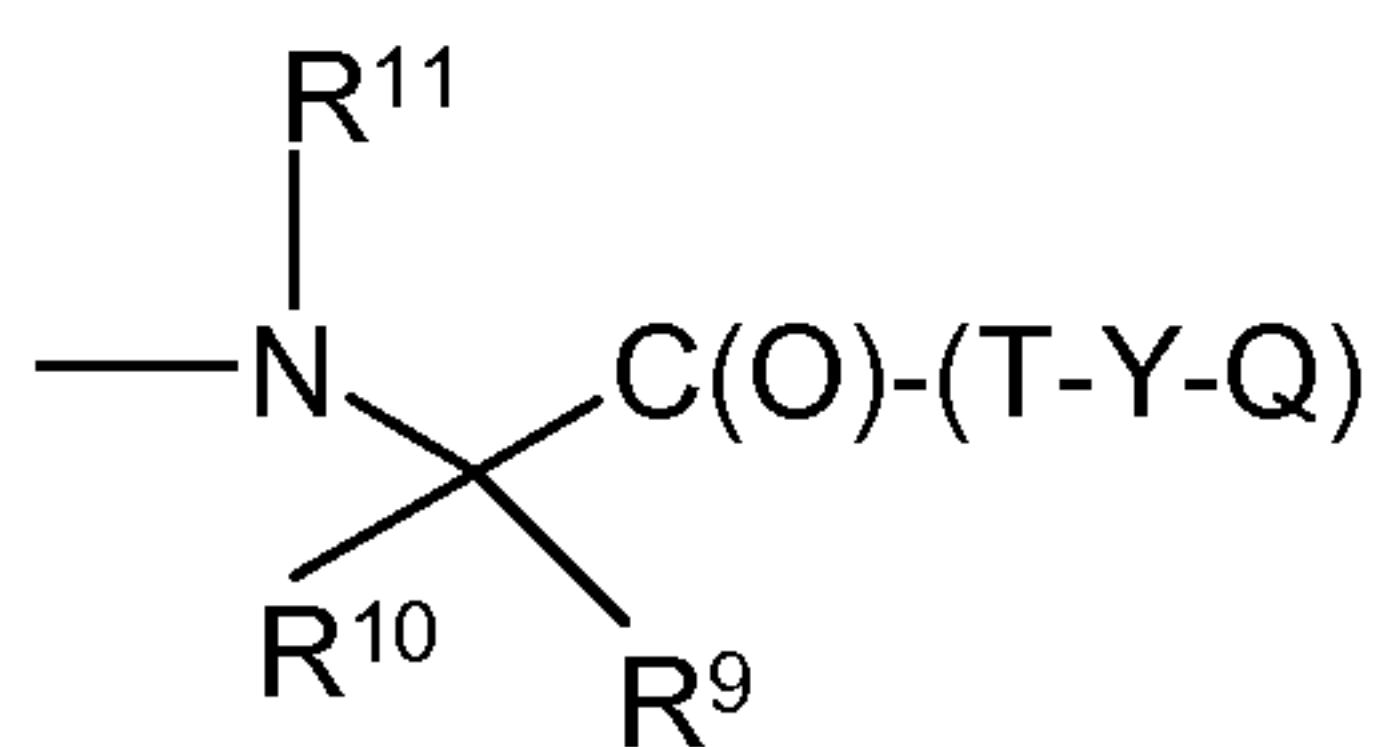
- (s1')



- (t1')

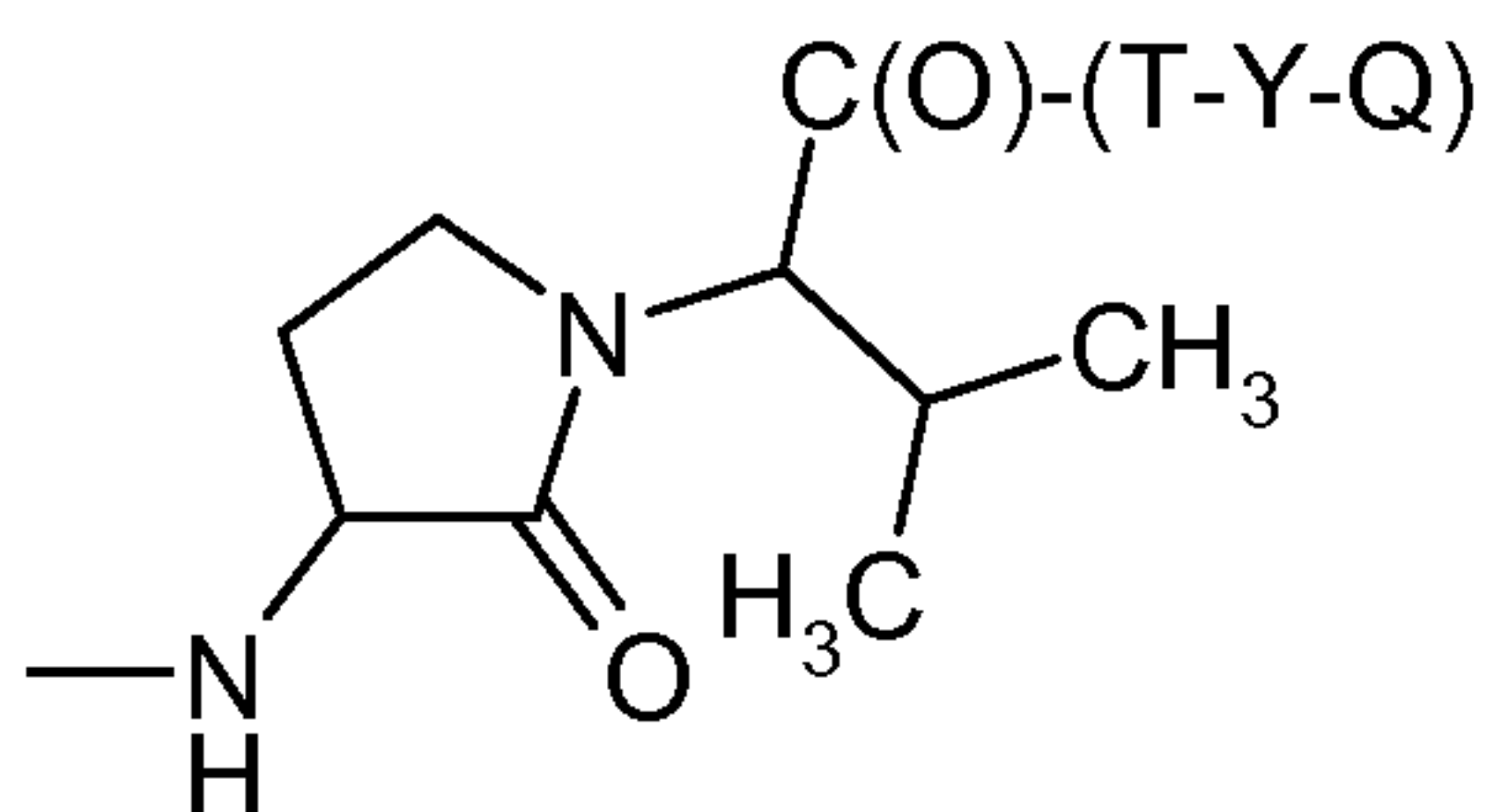


- (u1')



15

- (v1')



wherein T, T'', Y and Y' are as above defined,

3-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 3-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate

source such as above described and

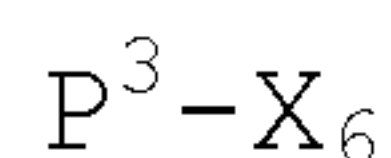
3-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 3-i) or 3-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIb) wherein R and R_a are as above defined, with a compound of formula (Ig) wherein X₁ is as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

The compounds of formula R-C(O)-O-R_a (IIb) wherein R and R_a are as above defined, are obtained from the compounds R-H (IIa) by reaction with the compounds of formula Cl-C(O)-O-R_a wherein R_a is as above defined, as known in literature.

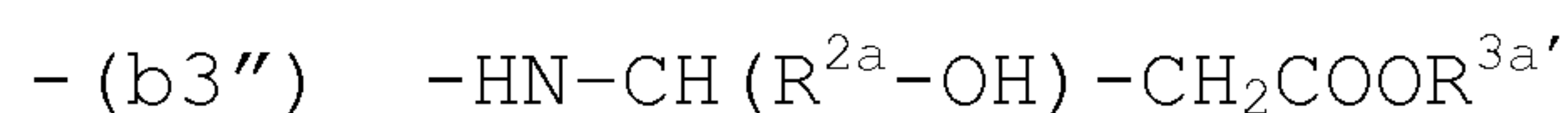
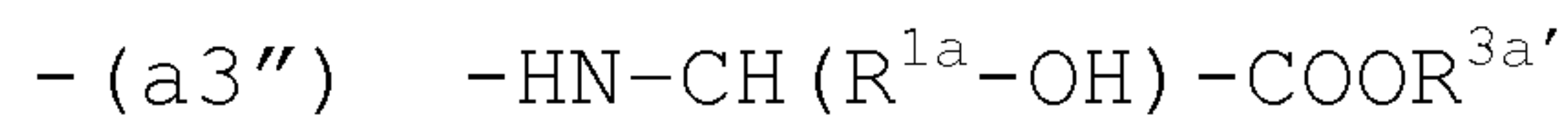
3a) The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X₂ is selected from (a1'), (a3'), (b1'), (b3'), (c1'), (e1'), (f2'), (g1'), (h2'), (i2'), (l1'), (m1'), (n1'), (o1'), (p1'), (q1'), (r1'), (s1'), (t1'), (u1'), (v1'), wherein R^{1'} is selected from A1), A2'), A3'), A4'), R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7) and R^{2'} is selected from B1), B2'), B3'), B4'), Y and Y' are as above defined, T and T'' are X'' wherein X'' is as above defined may be obtained

3a-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIe),

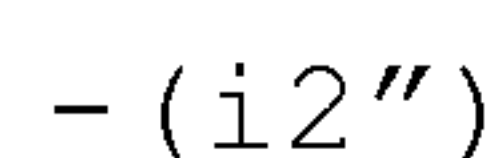
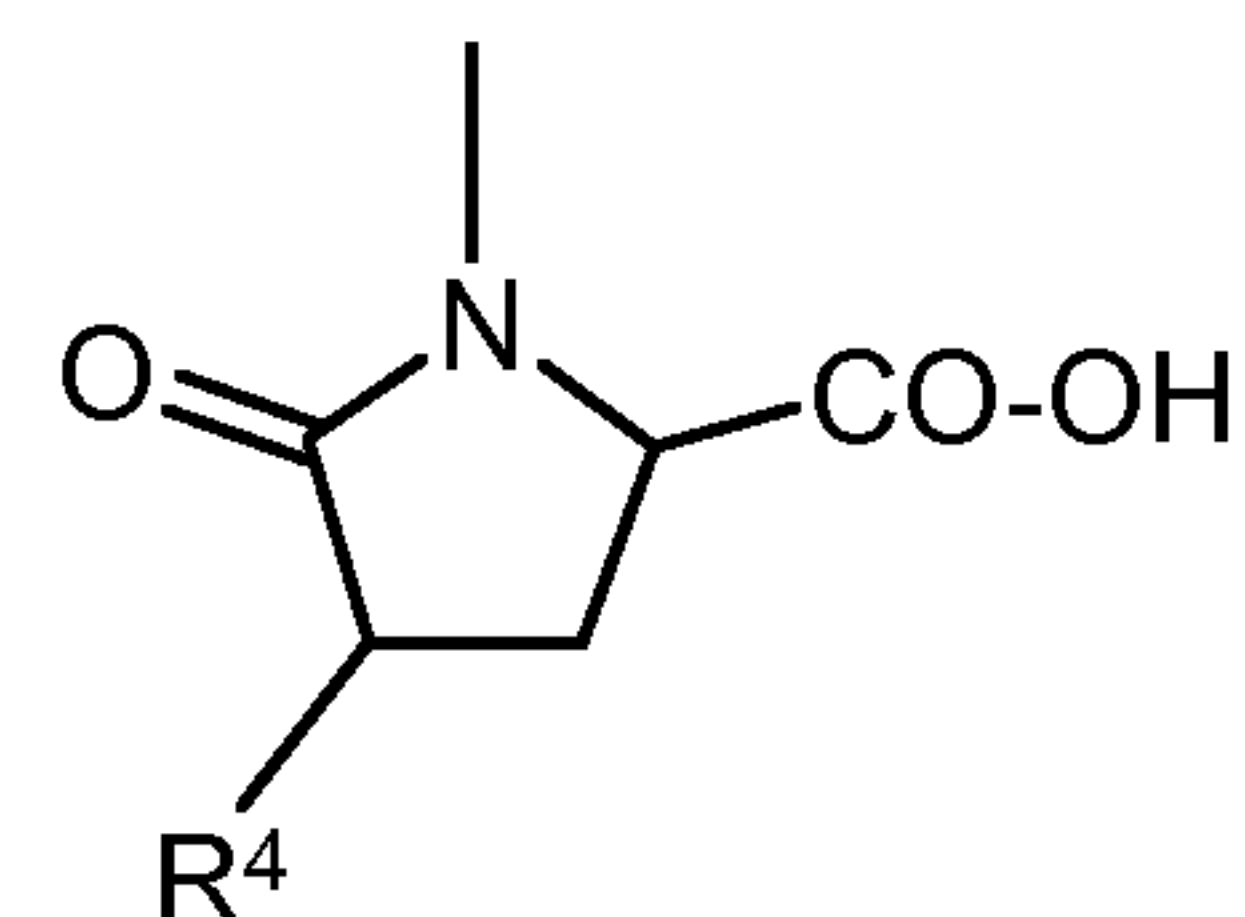
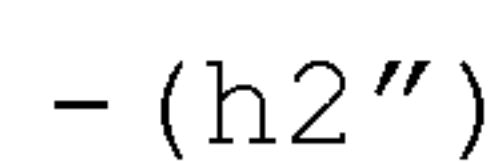
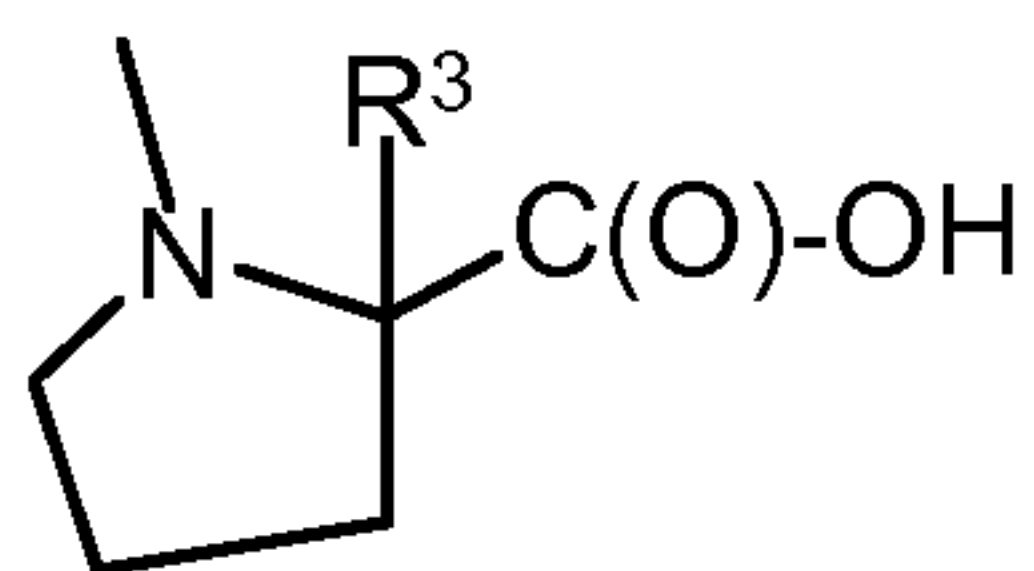
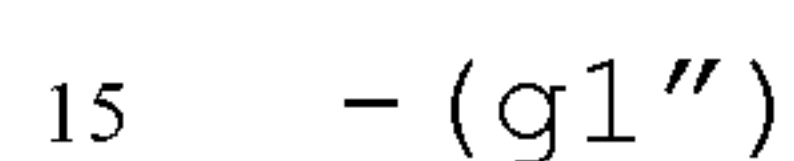
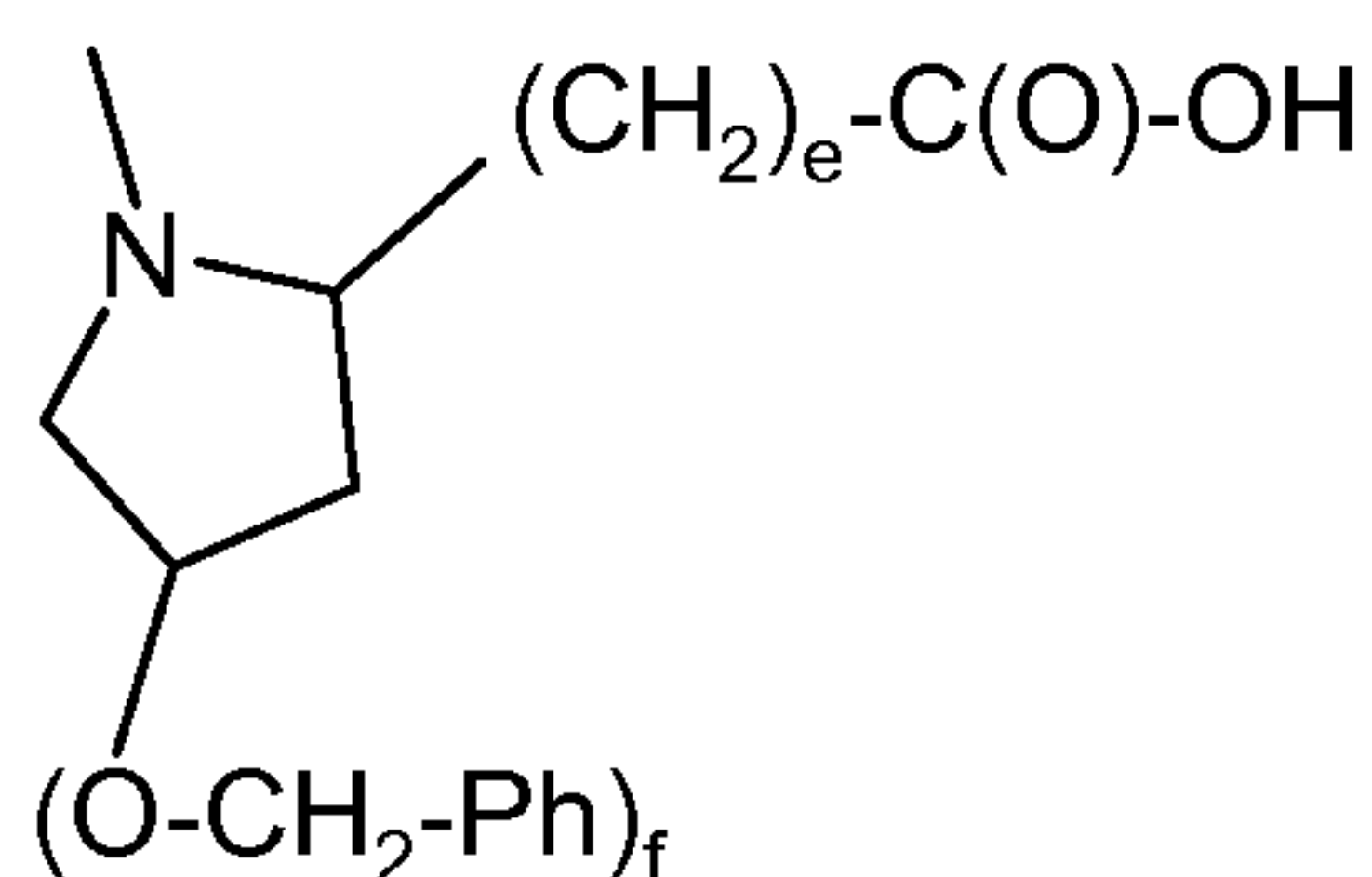
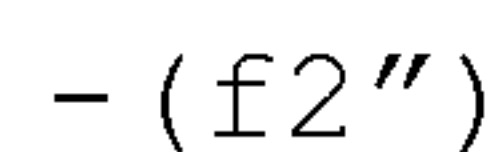
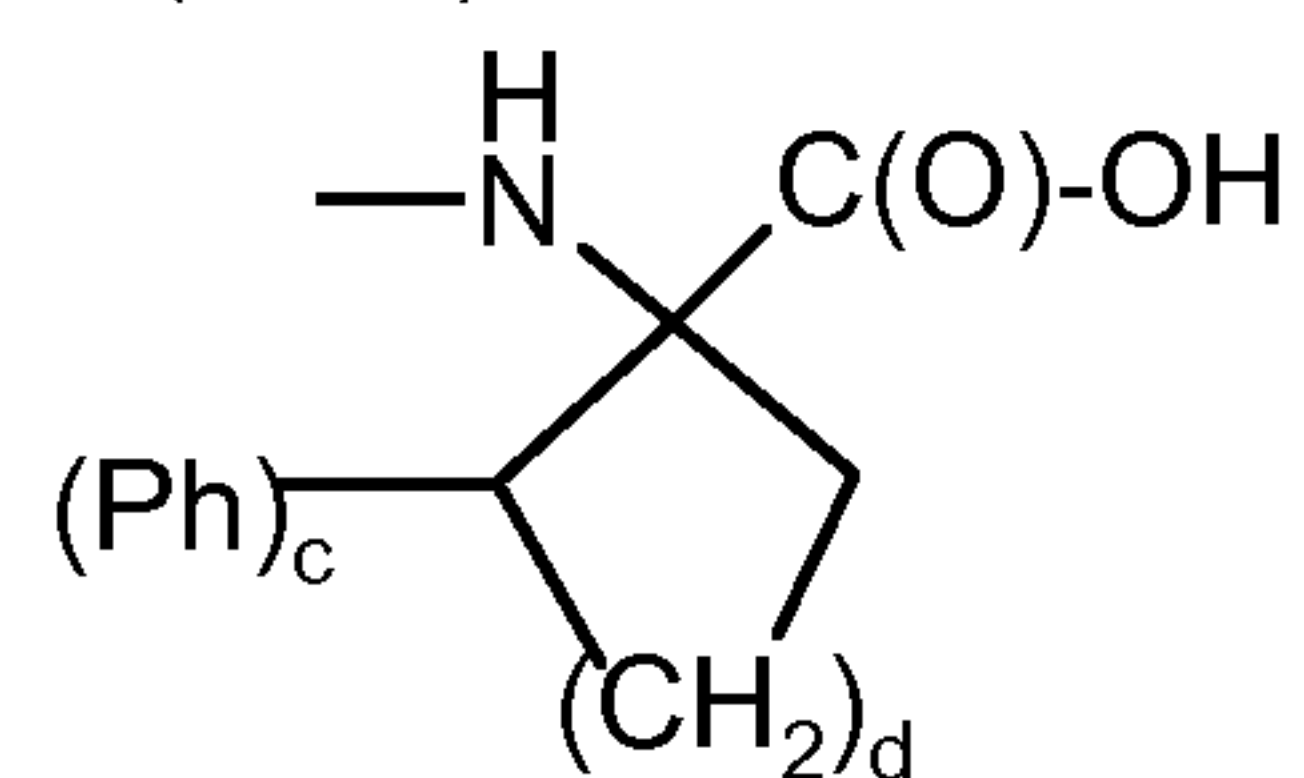


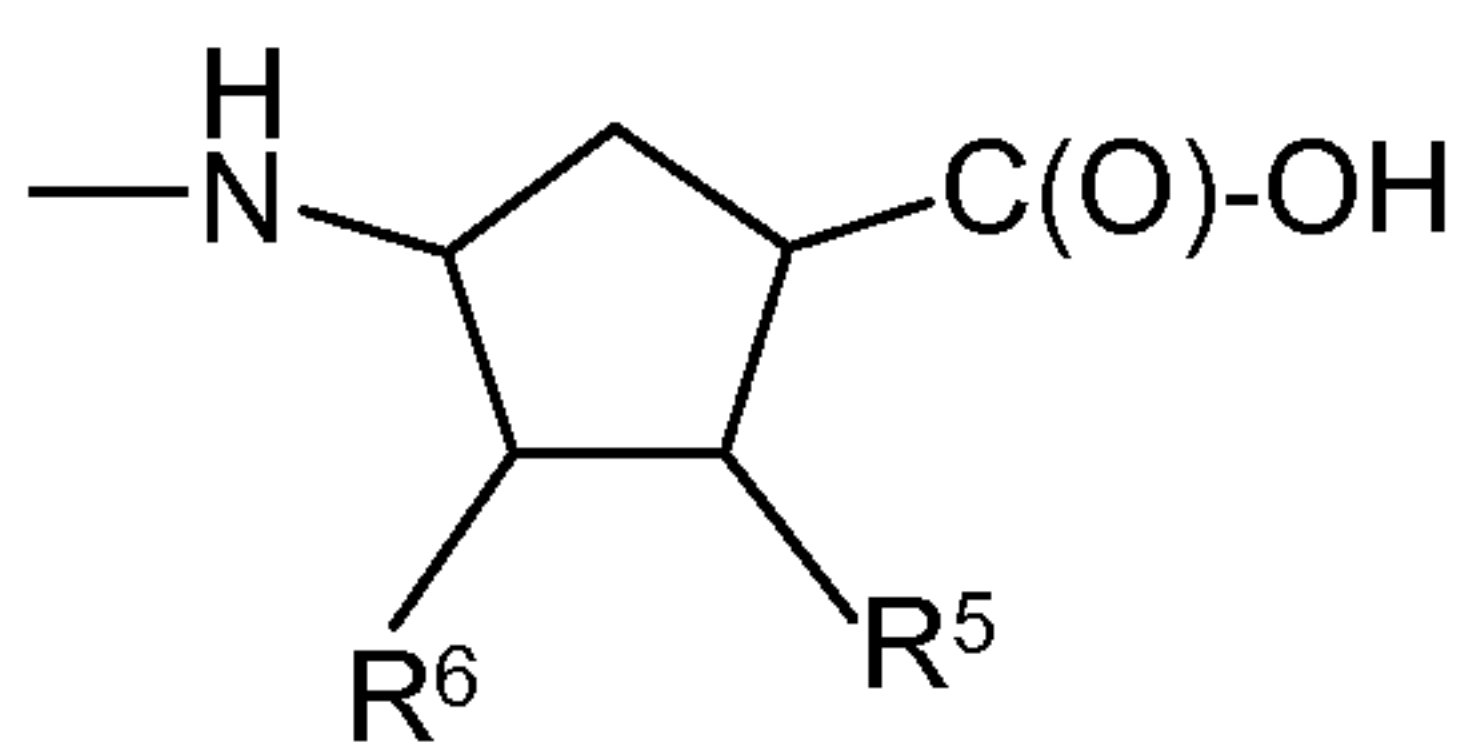
(IIIe)

wherein P^3 is as above defined, X_6 is a radical having the following meanings:

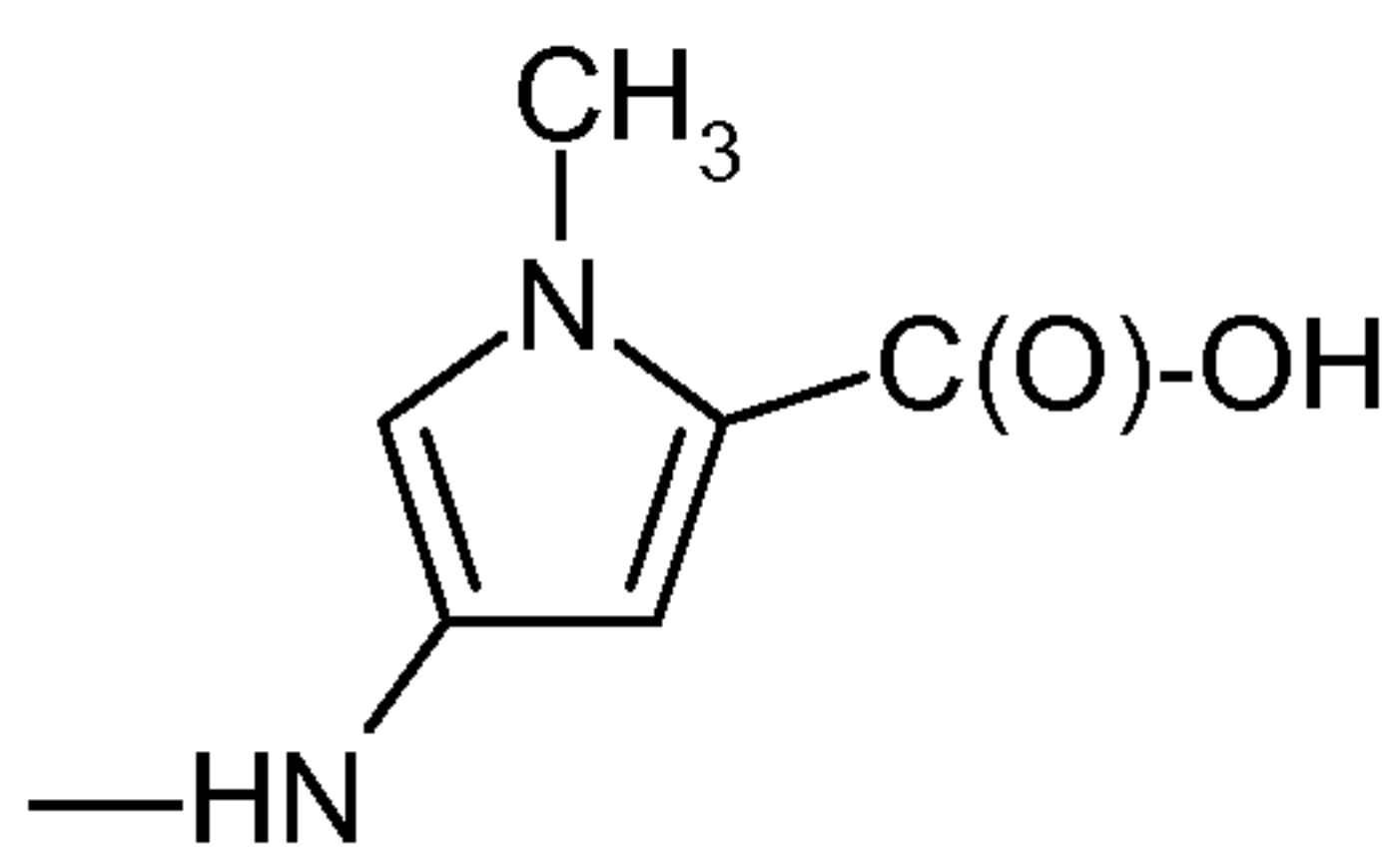


wherein $\text{R}^{1'}$ is selected from A1), A2'), A3'), A4'), R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7) and $\text{R}^{2'}$ is selected from B1), B2'), B3'), B4'), and $\text{R}^{3a'}$ is defined above

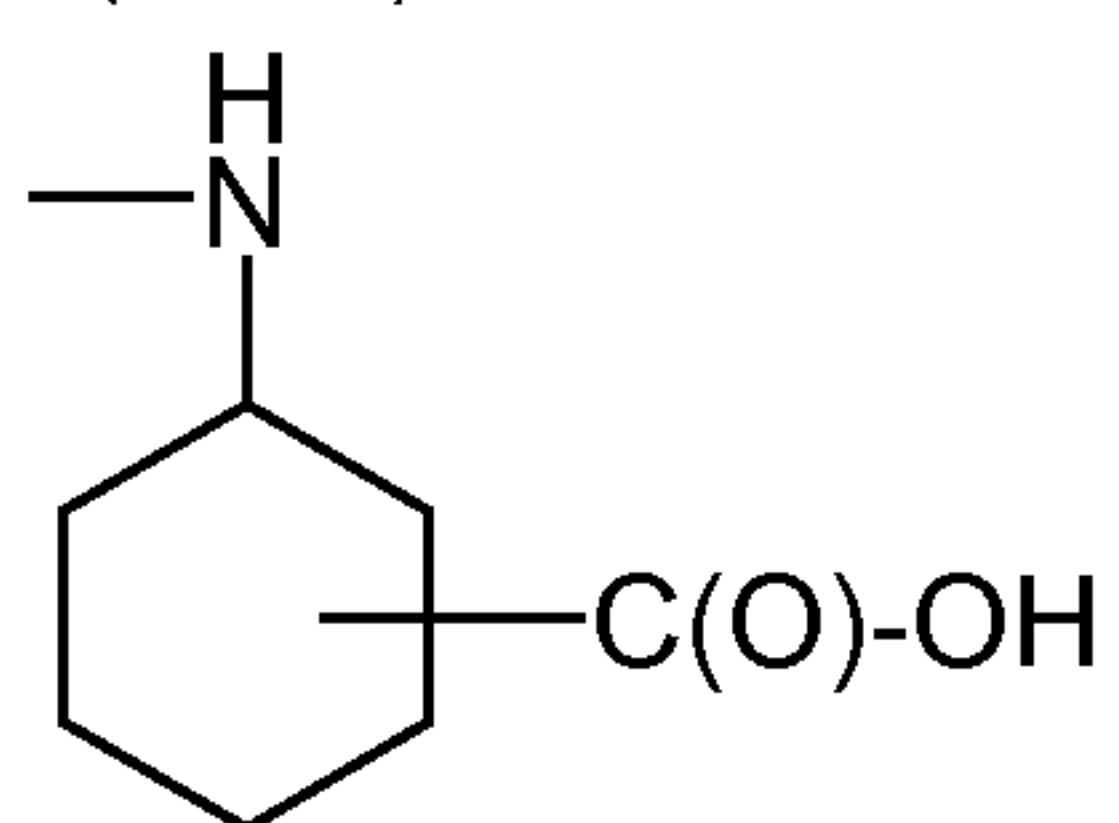




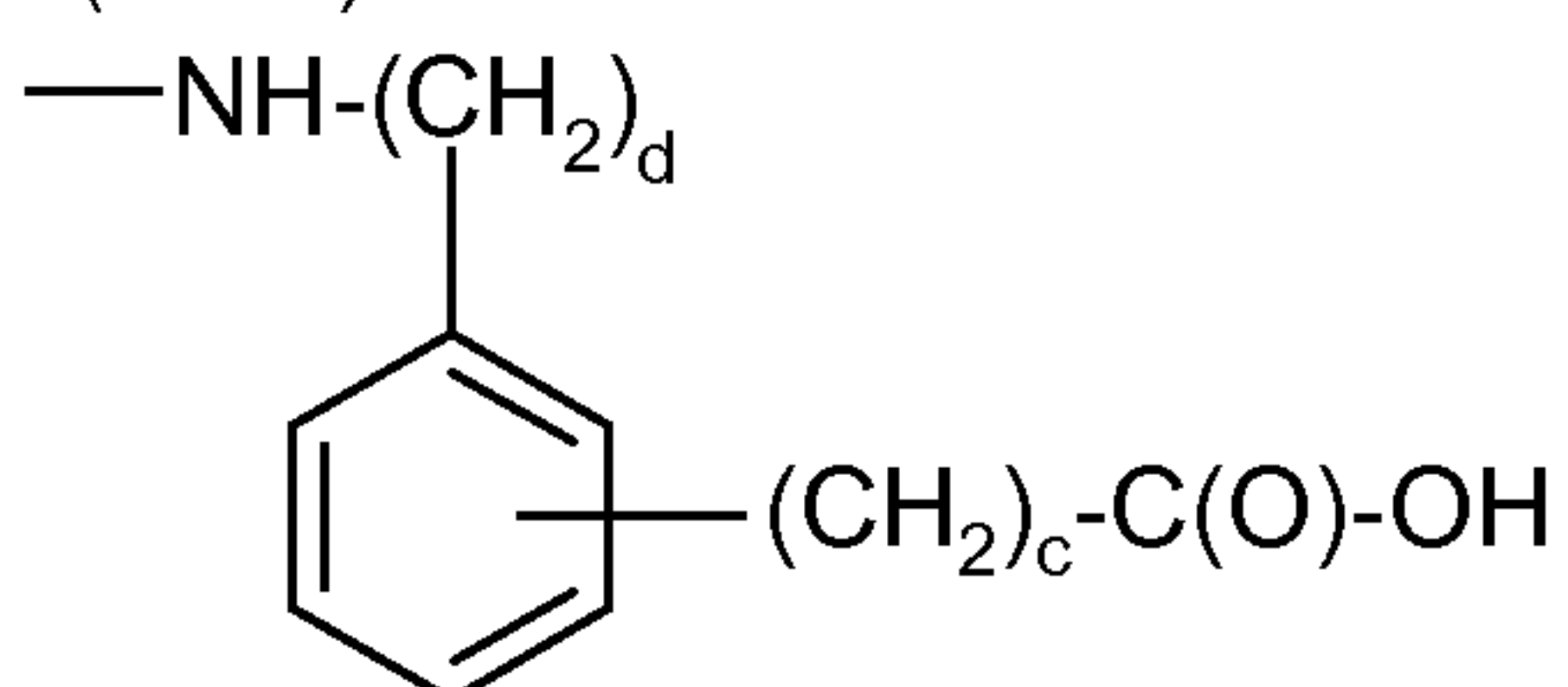
- (l1'')



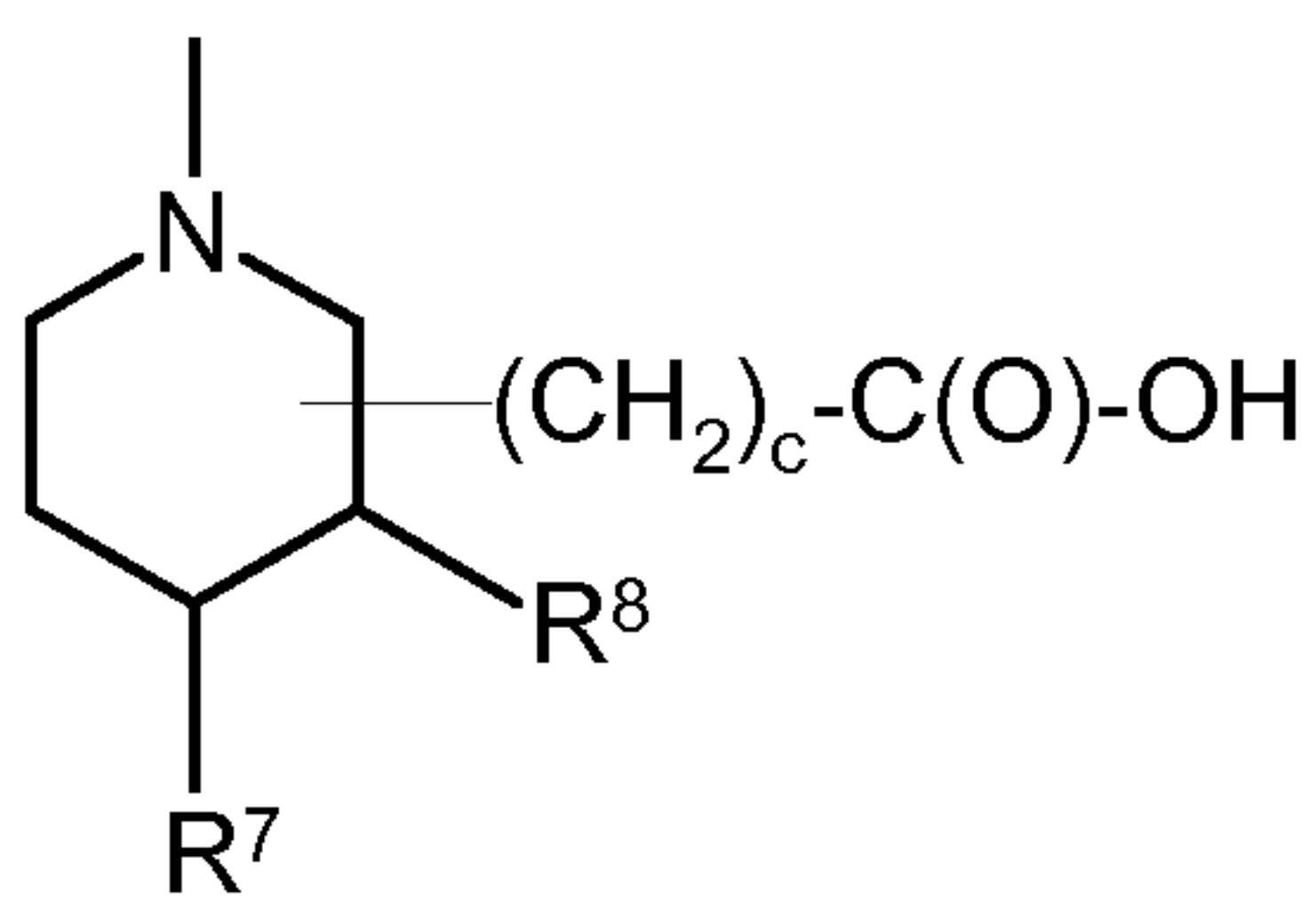
- (m1'')



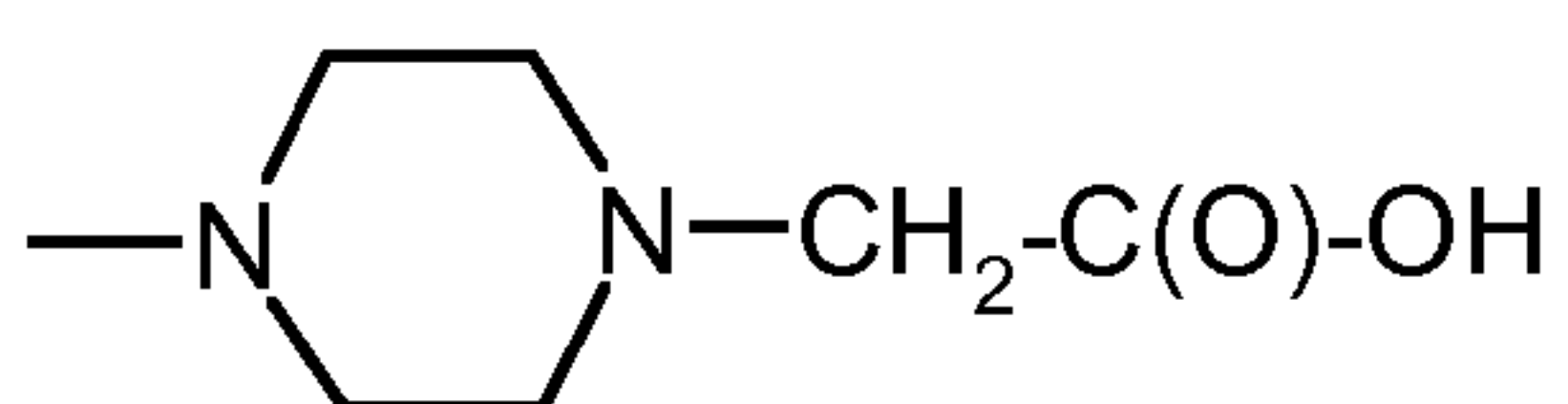
- (n1'')



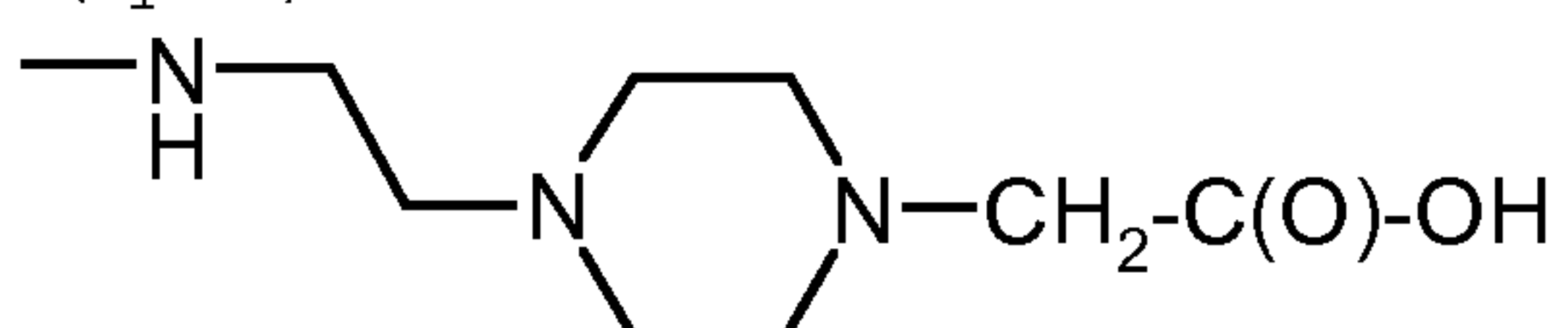
- (o1'')



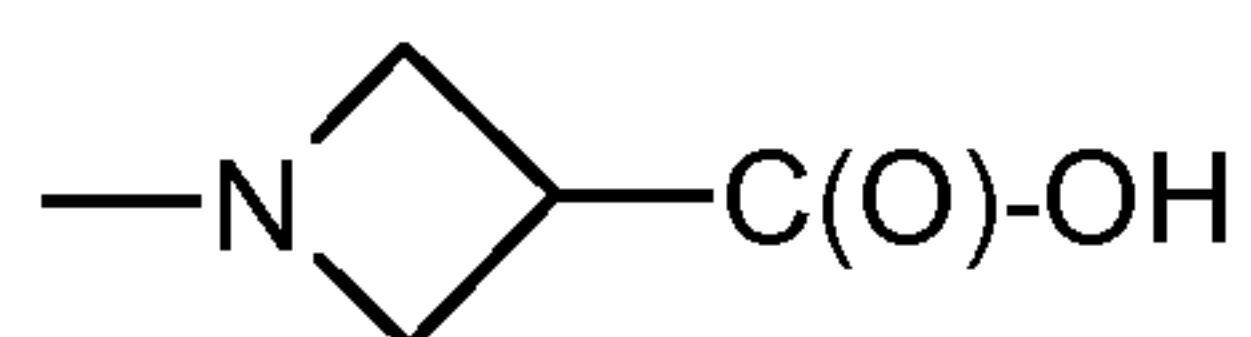
- (p1'')



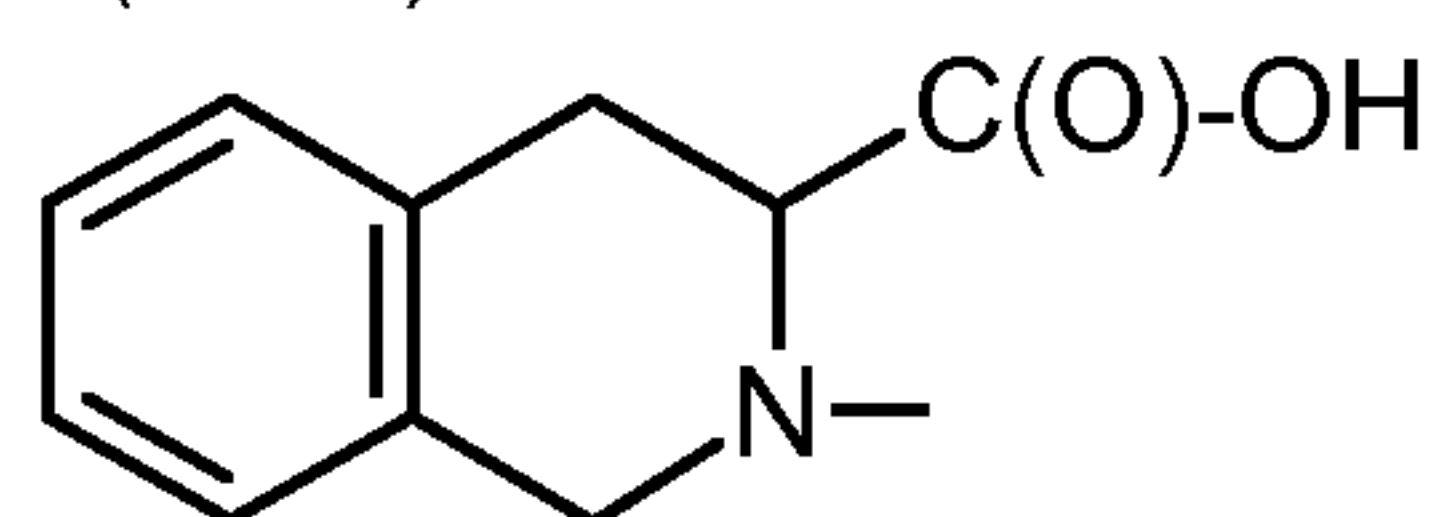
- (q1'')



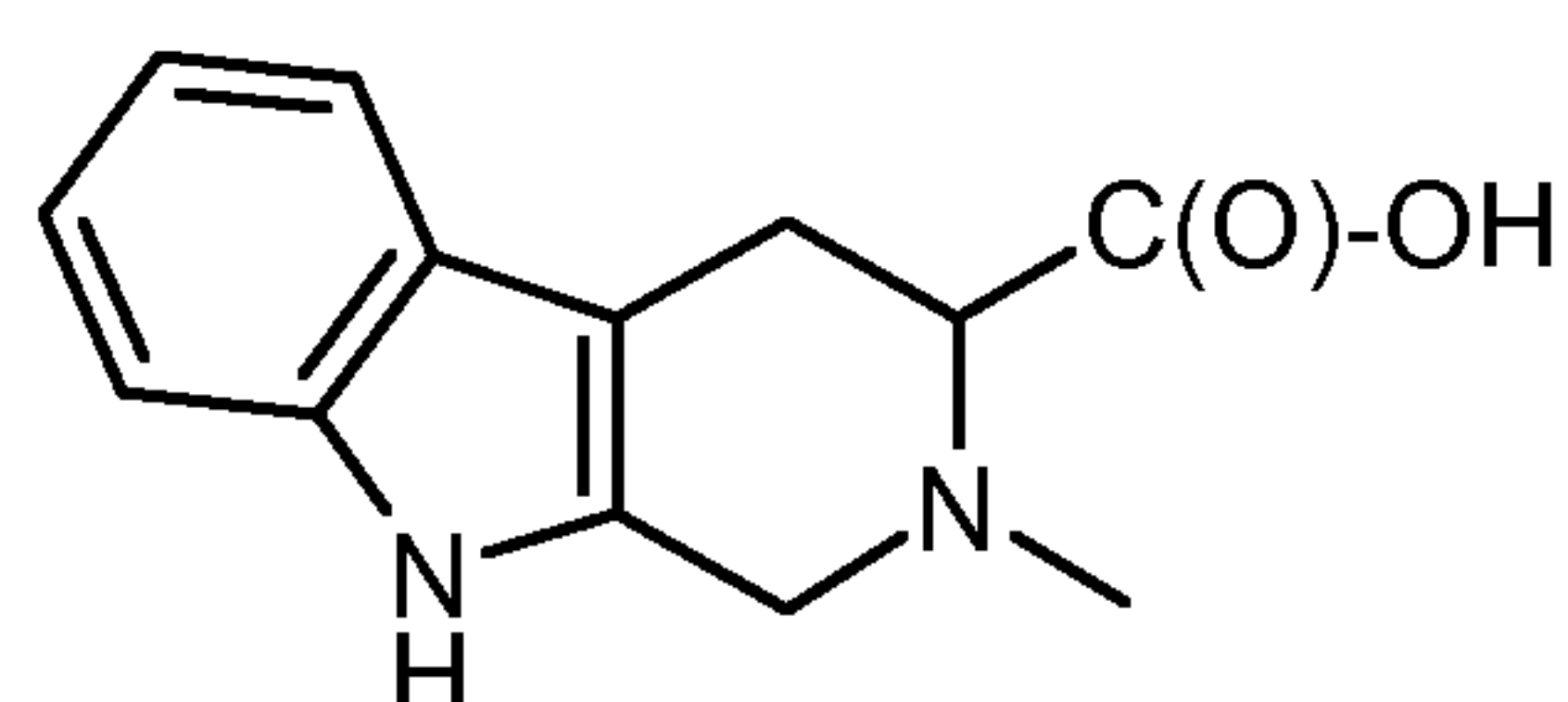
- (r1'')



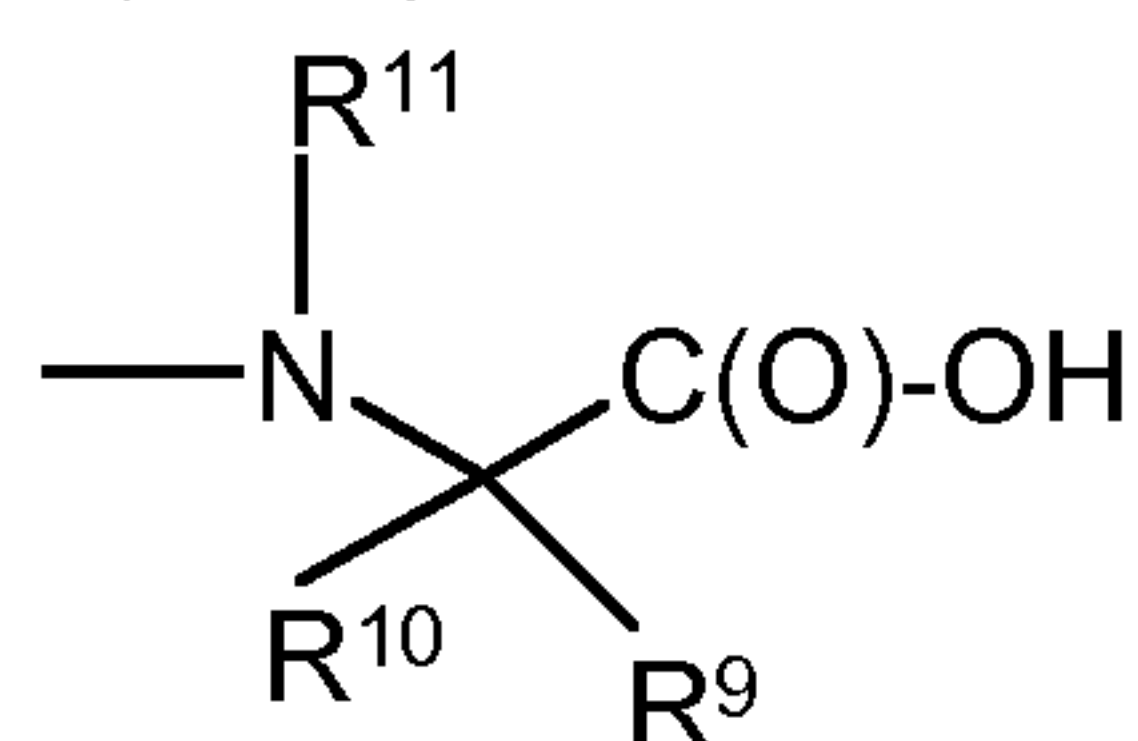
— (s1'')



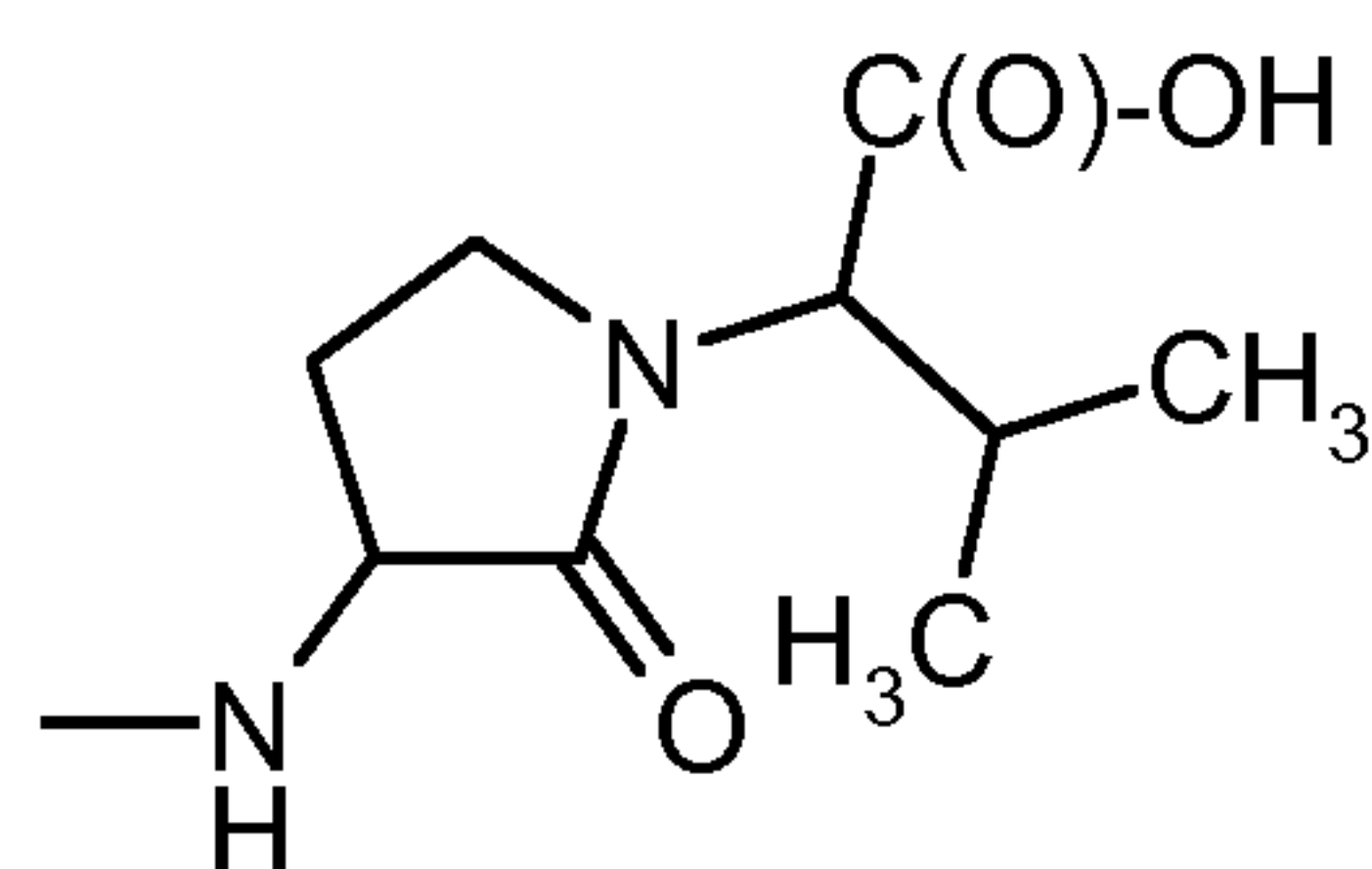
5 — (t1'')



— (u1'')



— (v1'')



10

with a compound of formula (IVe)

HX''—y—Q

(IVe)

15 wherein Q and X'' are as above defined y is the radical Y when X₆ is selected from (a1'), (b1'), (c1'), (e1'), (f2'), (g1'), (h2'), (i2'), (l1'), (m1'), (n1'), (o1'), (p1'), (q1'), (r1'), (s1'), (t1'), (u1') and (v1'), y is the radical Y' when X₆ is selected from (a3') and (b3'), wherein Y and Y' are as defined
20 above, and

3a-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 3a-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

3a-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 3a-i) or 3a-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIe) wherein P³ and X₆ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVe), wherein y, Q and X'' are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-1).

The compounds of formula (IIIe) are commercially available or can be obtained as known in the literature.

3b) The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X₂ is selected from (a1'), (a3'), (b1'), (b3'), (c1'), (e1'), (f2'), (g1'), (h2'), (i2'), (l1'), (m1'), (n1'), (o1'), (p1'), (q1'), (r1'), (s1'), (t1'), (u1'), (v1'), wherein R^{1'} is selected from A1), A2'), A3'), A4'), R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7) and R^{2'} is selected from B1), B2'), B3'), B4'), and R^{3a'}, Y and Y' are as above defined, T and T'' are -NR' wherein R' is as above defined may be obtained

3b-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIe),

P³-X₆

(IIIe)

wherein P³ and X₆ are as above defined, with a compound of formula

HR'N-y-Q

(IVg)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y when

X₆ is selected from (a1'), (b1'), (c1'), (e1'), (f2'), (g1'), (h2'), (i2'), (l1'), (m1'), (n1'), (o1'), (p1'), (q1'), (r1'),

(s1'), (t1'), (u1') and (v1'), y is the radical Y' when X₆ is selected from (a3') and (b3'), wherein Y and Y' are as defined above, and

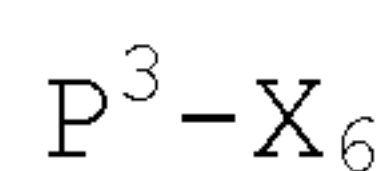
5 3b-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 3b-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

3b-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 3b-i) or 3b-ii) as above described.

10 The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIe) wherein P³ and X₆ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVg) wherein R', y, Q are as above defined, may be carried out 1a-i).

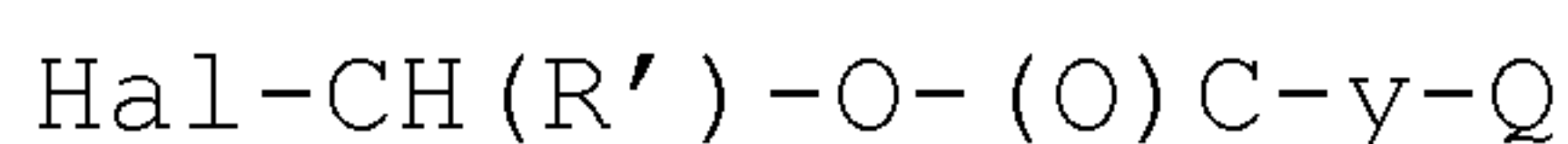
3c) The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X₂ is selected from
 15 (a1'), (a3'), (b1'), (b3'), (c1'), (e1'), (f2'), (g1'), (h2'), (i2'), (l1'), (m1'), (n1'), (o1'), (p1'), (q1'), (r1'), (s1'), (t1'), (u1'), (v1'), wherein R^{1'} is selected from A1), A2'), A3'), A4'), R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7) and R^{2'} is selected from B1), B2'), B3'), B4'), and R^{3a'}, Y and
 20 Y' are as above defined, T and T'' are -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-, wherein R' is as above defined, may be obtained

3c-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIe)



25 (IIIe)

wherein P³, X₆ are as above defined with compounds of formula (IVm)



(IVm)

30 wherein R' and Q are as above defined, Hal is an halogen atom, y is the radical Y when X₆ is selected from (a1'), (b1'), (c1'),

85

(e1'), (f2'), (g1'), (h2'), (i2'), (l1'), (m1'), (n1'), (o1'), (p1'), (q1'), (r1'), (s1'), (t1'), (u1') and (v1'), y is the radical Y' when X₆ is selected from (a3') and (b3'), wherein Y and Y' are as defined above, and

5 3c-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 3c-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

3c-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 3c-i) or 3c-ii) as above described.

10 The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIe) wherein P³ and X₆ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVm) wherein y, Q, R' are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 11-i)

15 **3d)** The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X₂ is selected from (a1'), (a3'), (b1'), (b3'), (c1'), (e1'), (f2'), (g1'), (h2'), (i2'), (l1'), (m1'), (n1'), (o1'), (p1'), (q1'), (r1'), (s1'), (t1'), (u1'), (v1'), wherein R^{1'} is selected from A1), A2'), A3'), A4'), R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{2a} is selected from B7) and R^{2'} is selected from B1), B2'), B3'), B4'), and R^{3a'}, Y and Y' are as above defined, T and T'' are -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O- wherein R' is as above defined may be obtained

3d-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIe)

25 P³-X₆

(IIIe)

wherein P³ and X₆ are as above defined, with compounds of formula (IVo)

Hal-CH(R')-O-(O)C-O-y-Q

30 (IVo)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, Hal is an halogen atom y is the radical Y when X_6 is selected from $(a1')$, $(b1')$, $(c1')$, $(e1')$, $(f2')$, $(g1')$, $(h2')$, $(i2')$, $(l1')$, $(m1')$, $(n1')$, $(o1')$, $(p1')$, $(q1')$, $(r1')$, $(s1')$, $(t1')$, $(u1')$ and $(v1')$, y is the
 5 radical Y' when X_6 is selected from $(a3')$ and $(b3')$, wherein Y and Y' are as defined above, and

3d-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 3d-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

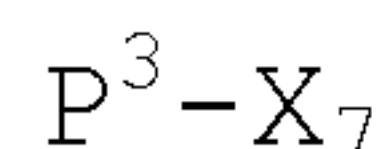
10 3d-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 3d-i) or 3d-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIe) wherein P^3 and X_6 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVo) wherein y , Q , R' are as above defined, may be carried out as described
 15 in 11-i).

3e) The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X_2 is selected from $(a7')$ or $(b7')$ wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{1b} is selected from B5) or B6) T'' is $-C(O)-$, T is $-X''$, $-NR'$, $-O-$

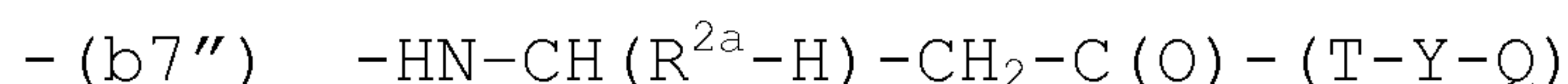
20 $CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ or $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O-$ wherein X'' and R' , Y and Y' are as above defined, may be obtained

3e-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ih)



(Ih)

25 wherein P^3 is as above defined and X_7 is the radical having the following meaning



wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5)

30 or B6), with compounds of formula (IVa)



(IVa)

wherein W_1 and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,

wherein Y' is as above defined, and

3e-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
5 step 3e-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate
source as above described and

3e-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
3e-i) or 3e-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ih) wherein P^3 and X_7 are
10 as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein y ,
 Q , W_1 are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1-
i-1), 1-i-2), 1-i-3) and 1a-i).

The compounds of formula (Ih) wherein P^3 and X_7 are as above
15 defined, T is $-X''$ are obtained as described in 3a).

The compounds of formula (Ih) wherein P^3 and X_7 are as above
defined, T is $-NR'$ are obtained as described in 3b).

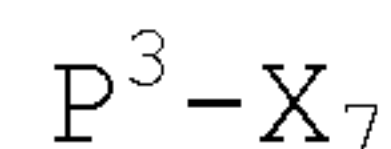
20 The compounds of formula (Ih) wherein P^3 and X_7 are as above
defined, T is $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ are obtained as described in
3c).

The compounds of formula (Ih) wherein P^3 and X_7 are as above
25 defined, T is $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O-$ are obtained as described in
3d).

3f) The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X_2 is selected from
(a7') or (b7') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{1b} is
30 selected from B5) or B6) T'' is $-C(O)-X''$, T is $-X''$, $-NR'$, $-O-$

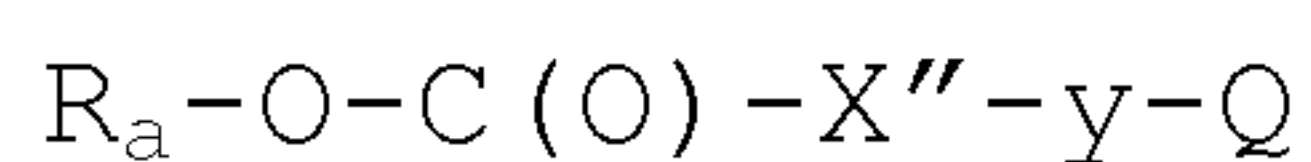
CH(R')-O-C(O)- or -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O- wherein X'' and R', Y and Y' are as above defined, may be obtained

3f-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ih)



5 (Ih)

wherein P^3 and X_7 are as above defined with compounds of formula (IVd)



(IVd)

10 wherein R_a , X'' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, and

3f-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 3f-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

15 3f-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 3e-i) or 3f-ii) as above described.

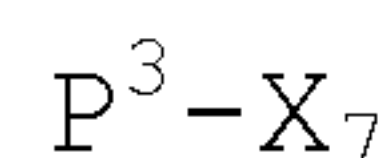
The reaction of a compound of formula (Ih) wherein P^3 and X_7 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) wherein y , Q , R_a are as above defined, may be carried out as described in

20 1-i-2).

3g) The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X_2 is selected from (a7') or (b7') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5), A6), R^{1b} is selected from B5), B6), T'' is -C(O)-NR', T is X'' , NR', -O-

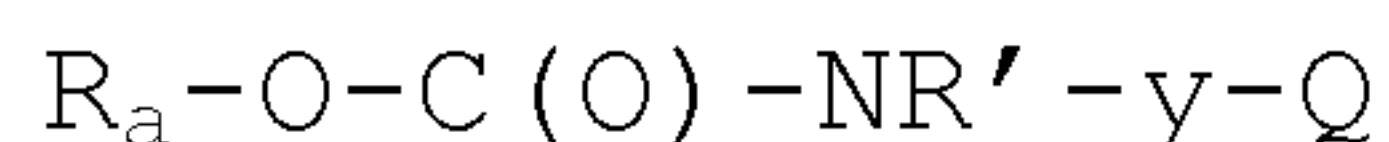
25 CH(R')-O-C(O)- or -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O- wherein X'' and R', Y and Y' are as above defined, may be obtained

3g-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ih)



(Ih)

30 wherein P^3 and X_7 are as above defined, with compounds of formula (IVf)



(IVf)

wherein R_a and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,
 wherein Y' is as above defined, and

5 3g-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
 step 3g-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate
 source as above described and

3g-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
 3g-i) or 3g-ii) as above described.

10 The reaction of a compound of formula (Ih) wherein P^3 and X_7 are
 as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVf) wherein y ,
 Q , R_a and R' are as above defined may be carried out as
 described in 1-i-2).

15 The compounds of formula (Ih) wherein P^3 and X_7 are as above
 defined, T is $-X''$ are obtained as described in 3a).

The compounds of formula (Ih) wherein P^3 and X_7 are as above
 defined, T is $-NR'$ are obtained as described in 3b).

20

The compounds of formula (Ih) wherein P^3 and X_7 are as above
 defined, T is $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ are obtained as described in
 3c).

25 The compounds of formula (Ii) wherein P^3 and X_7 are as above
 defined, T is $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O-$ are obtained as described in
 3d).

3h) The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X_2 is selected from
 30 (a7') or (b7') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{1b} is selected
 from B7), T'' is $-X''$, T is $-X''$, $-NR'$, $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ or $-O-$

CH(R')-O-C(O)O- wherein X'' and R', Y and Y' are as above defined, may be obtained

3h-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Iv)

5 P³-X₈

(Iv)

wherein P³ is as above defined and X₈ is the radical having the following meaning

-(a7'') -HN-CH(R^{1a}-H)-C(O)-(T-Y-Q)

10 -(b7'') -HN-CH(R^{2a}-H)-CH₂-C(O)-(T-Y-Q)

wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{1b} is selected from B7), with compounds of formula (IVe)

H-X''-y-Q

(IVe)

15 wherein X'' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y', wherein Y' is as above defined, and

3h-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 3h-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

20 3h-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 3h-i) or 3h-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Iv) wherein P³ and X₈ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVe) wherein y, Q, X'' are as above defined, may be carried out as described in

25 1-i-1), 1-i-2) and 1a-1).

The compounds of formula (Iv) wherein P³ and X₈ are as above defined, T is -X'' are obtained as described in 3a).

30 The compounds of formula (Iv) wherein P³ and X₈ are as above defined, T is -NR' are obtained as described in 3b).

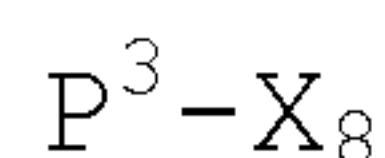
The compounds of formula (Iv) wherein P^3 and X_8 are as above defined, T is $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ are obtained as described in 3c).

5

The compounds of formula (Iv) wherein P^3 and X_8 are as above defined, T is $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O-$ are obtained as described in 3d).

10 **3i)** The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X_2 is selected from (a7') or (b7') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{1b} is selected from B7), T'' is NR' , T is $-X''$, $-NR'$, $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ or $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O-$ wherein X'' and R' , Y and Y' are as above defined, may be obtained

15 **3i-i)** by reacting a compound of formula (Iv)



(Iv)

wherein P^3 and X_8 are as above defined, with compounds of formula (IVg)

20 $H-NR'-y-Q$

(IVg)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, and

25 3i-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 3i-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

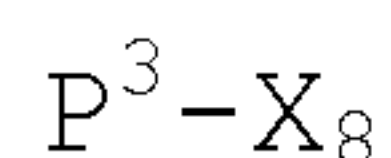
3i-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 3i-i) or 3i-ii) as above described.

30 The reaction of a compound of formula (Iv) wherein P^3 and X_8 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVg) wherein y,

Q, R' are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1a-i).

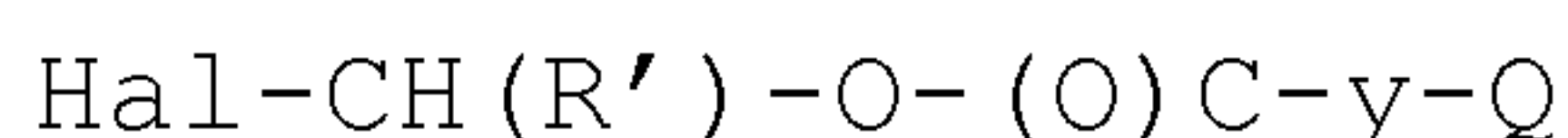
31) The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X₂ is selected from (a7') or (b7') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{1b} is selected from B7), T'' is -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-, T is X'', NR', -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)- or -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O- wherein X'' and R', Y and Y' are as above defined, may be obtained

31-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Iv)



(Iv)

wherein P³ and X₈ are as above defined with compounds of formula (IVm)



(IVm)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y', wherein Y' is as above defined, Hal is an halogen atom and 31-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 31-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

31-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 31-i) or 31-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Iv) wherein P³ and X₈ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVm) wherein y, Q, R' are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 11-i).

3m) The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X₂ is selected from (a7') or (b7') wherein R^{1a} is selected from A7), R^{1b} is selected from B7), T'' is -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O-, T is X'', NR', -O-CH(R')-O-

C(O)- or -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)O- wherein X'' and R', Y and Y' are as above defined, may be obtained

3m-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Iv)

5 P^3-X_8

(Iv)

wherein P^3 and X_8 are as above defined with compounds of formula (IVo)

Hal-CH(R')-O-(O)C-O-y-Q

10 (IVo)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y',

wherein Y' is as above defined, Hal is an halogen atom and

3m-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 3m-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate

15 source as above described and

3m-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 3l-i) or 3m-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Iv) wherein P^3 and X_8 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVo) wherein y,

20 Q, R' are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1l-i).

3n) The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X_2 is selected from (a3') or (b3'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6), Y' is as above defined, T'' is C(O) may be obtained

3n-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIIf),

P^3-X_9

30 (IIIIf)

wherein P^3 is as above defined, X_9 is a radical having the following meaning

-(a3'') $-\text{HN}-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{1a}-\text{H})-\text{COOR}^{3a'}$

-(b3'') $-\text{HN}-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{2a}-\text{H})-\text{CH}_2\text{COOR}^{3a'}$

5 wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5 or A6) and R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6), wherein $\text{R}^{3a'}$ is as above defined, with compounds of formula (IVa)

$\text{W}_1-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{y}-\text{Q}$

(IVa)

10 wherein W_1 and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, and

3n-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 3n-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

15 3n-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 3n-i) or 3n-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIIf) wherein P^3 and X_9 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein W_1 , y , Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described

20 in 1-i-1), 1-i-2), 1a-1).

The compounds of formula (IIIIf) wherein P^3 and X_9 are as above defined, is commercially available or obtained as known in literature.

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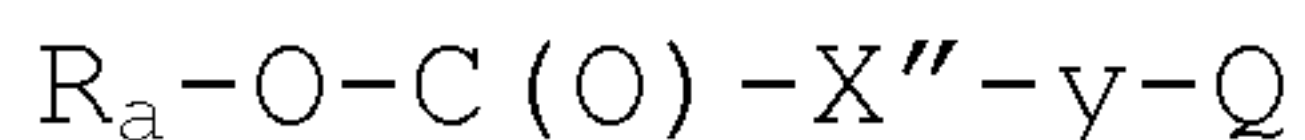
3o) The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X_2 is selected from (a3') or (b3'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is selected from B5) or B6), Y' is as above defined, T'' is $\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{X}''$ wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained

30 **3o-i)** by reacting a compound of formula (IIIIf)

P^3-X_9

(IIIIf)

wherein P^3 and X_9 are as above defined with compounds of formula (IVd)



5 (IVd)

wherein R_a , X'' , Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, and

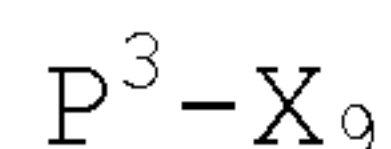
3o-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 3o-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate
10 source as above described and

3o-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 3o-i) or 3o-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIIf) wherein P^3 and X_9 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) wherein
15 R_a , X'' , y , Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

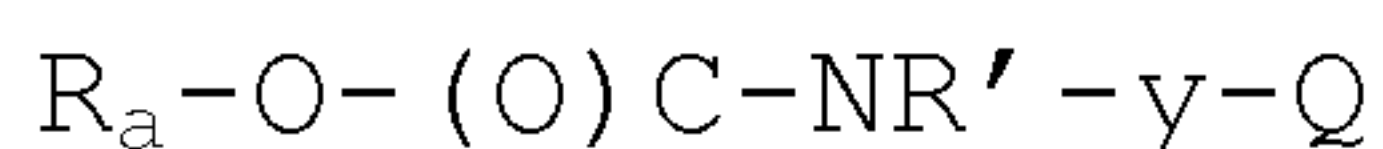
3p) The compounds of formula (Ig) wherein X_2 is selected from (a3') or (b3'), wherein R^{1a} is selected from A5) or A6), R^{2a} is
20 selected from B5) or B6), Y' is as above defined, T'' is $C(O)-NR'$ wherein R' is as above defined, can be obtained

3p-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIg),



(IIIIf)

25 wherein P^3 and X_9 are as above defined, with compounds of formula (IVf)



(IVf)

wherein R_a , R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,
30 wherein Y' is as above defined, and

3p-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 3p-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

3p-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 3p-i) or 3p-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (III_f) wherein P³ and X₉ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IV_f) wherein R_a, R', y, Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

4) The compound of general formula (I) as above defined wherein a is equal to 1, the radical R_x is selected from (d1), (d2), (d3), (d4), (d7), (d8), Z is C(O), can be obtained

4-i) by reacting a compound of formula (II_b)

R-C(O)-O-R_a

(II_b)

wherein R and R_a are as above defined, with a compound of formula (I_m)

H-X₁₂

(I_m)

wherein X₁₂ is the radical R_x having the following meaning

-(d1') -HN-CH(R^{12'})-CH₂-O-(T'''-Y-Q)

-(d2') -O-CH₂-CH(R^{12'})-NH-(T'-Y-Q)

-(d3') -HN-CH(R^{12a}-T''-Y'-Q)-CH₂OH

-(d4') -O-CH₂-CH(R^{12a}-T''-Y'-Q)-NHR^{4a}

-(d7') -HN-CH(R^{12a}-T''-Y'-Q)-CH₂-O-(T'''-Y-Q)

-(d8') -O-CH₂-CH(R^{12a}-T''-Y'-Q)-NH-(T'-Y-Q)

wherein R^{12'} is

D1),

D2') -CH₂-OP¹, -CH(CH₃)-OP¹, -CH₂[(C₆H₄)-4-OP¹], -CH₂[(C₆H₃)-(3,5-diiodo)-4-OP¹], -CH₂[(C₆H₃)-3-nitro-4-OP¹];

D3') $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NHR}''''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{NHR}''''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NHR}''''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NHR}''''$,

wherein R'''' is as above defined;

D4') $-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''''$, wherein

R''''' is as above defined;

5 wherein R^{12a} is as above defined;

and

4-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 4-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

10 4-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 4-i) or 4-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIb) wherein R and R_a are as above defined, with a compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

15

4a) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is selected from (d1'), (d2'), (d3') or (d4') wherein $\text{R}^{12'}$ is selected from D1), D2'), D3') or D4') and R^{12a} is selected from D5) or D6), Y and Y' are as above defined, T' and T'' and T''' are C(O) can be

20 obtained

4a-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIi),

P^4-X_{13}

(IIIi)

wherein P^4 is P^3 or P^1 as above defined and X_{13} is a radical

25 having the following meaning

$-(\text{d1}'') \quad -\text{HN}-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{12'})-\text{CH}_2-\text{OH}$

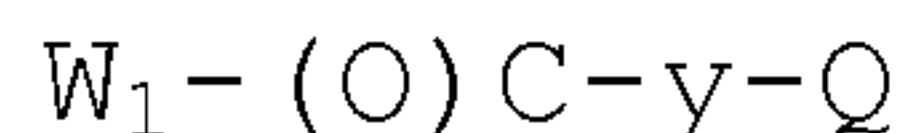
$-(\text{d2}'') \quad -\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{12'})-\text{NH}_2$

$-(\text{d3}'') \quad -\text{HN}-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{12a}-\text{H})-\text{CH}_2\text{OP}^1$

$-(\text{d4}'') \quad -\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{R}^{12a}-\text{H})-\text{NHR}^{4a'}$

30 wherein $\text{R}^{12'}$ is D1), D2'), D3') or D4'), R^{12a} is D5) or D6), $\text{R}^{4a'}$

and P^1 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa)



(IVa)

wherein Q and W_1 are as above defined, y is the radical Y when X_{13} is selected from (d1') or (d2'), y is the radical Y' when X_{13} is selected from (d3') or (d4'), wherein Y and Y' are as above defined, and

4a-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 4a-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

4a-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 4a-i) or 4a-ii) as above described.

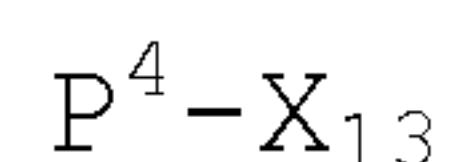
The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIi) wherein X_{13} and P^4 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein W_1 , y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as

described in 1-i-1) and 1-i-2).

The compounds of formula (IIIi) wherein X_{13} and P^4 are as above described, are commercially available or known in literature.

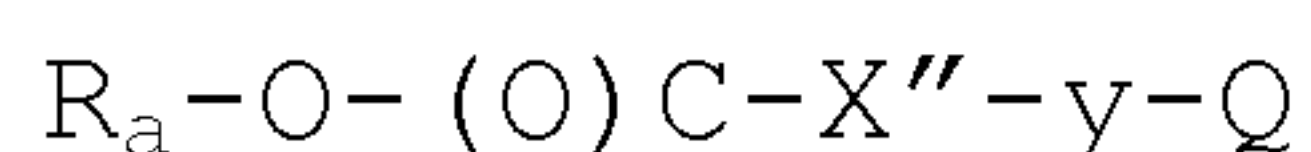
4b) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is selected from (d1'), (d2'), (d3') or (d4') wherein $R^{12'}$ is selected from D1), D2'), D3') or D4') and R^{12a} is selected from D5) or D6), Y and Y' are as above defined, T' and T'' and T''' are C(O)-X'', wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained

4b-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIi),



(IIIi)

wherein P^4 and X_{13} are defined above, with a compound of formula (IVd)



(IVd)

wherein Q, R_a and X'' are as above defined, y is the radical Y when X₁₃ is selected from (d1') or (d2'), y is the radical Y' when X₁₃ is selected from (d3') or (d4'), wherein Y and Y' are as above defined, and

5 4b-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 4b-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

4b-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 4b-i) or 4b-ii) as above described.

10 The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIi) wherein X₁₃ and P⁴ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) wherein y, Q, R_a and X'' are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

15 **4c)** The compound of formula (Im) wherein X₁₂ is selected from (d7') or (d8') wherein R^{12a} is selected from D5) or D6), Y' and Y are as above defined, T' and T'' and T''' are C(O), can be obtained

4c-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIII),

20 P⁴-X₁₄

(IIII)

wherein P⁴ is P¹ or P³, X₁₄ is the radical having the following meaning

-(d7'') -HN-CH(R^{12a}-H)-CH₂-OH

25 -(d8'') -O-CH₂-CH(R^{12a}-H)-NH₂

wherein R^{12a} is selected from D5) or D6), with a compound of formula (IVa)

W₁-(O)C-y-Q

(IVa)

30 wherein W₁ and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y', wherein Y' is as above defined, and

4c-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 4c-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

4c-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 4c-i) or 4c-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIl) wherein P⁴ and X₁₄ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein W₁ is OH, y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-1) using a ratio (IIIl)/(IVa) 1:2.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIl) wherein P⁴ and X₁₄ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein W₁ is OR_a, y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-2) using a ratio (IIIl)/(IVa) 1:2.

The compounds of formula (IIIl) wherein P⁴ and X₁₄ are as above described, are commercially available or known in literature.

4d) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X₁₂ is selected from (d7') or (d8') wherein R^{12a} is selected from D5) or D6), Q, Y and Y' are as above defined, T', T''' and T'' are C(O), can be obtained

4d-i) by reacting a compound of formula (In)

P⁴-X₁₅

(In)

wherein P⁴ is defined above and X₁₅ is the radical having the following meaning

-(d7''') -HN-CH(R^{12a}-H)-CH₂-O-(T'''-Y-Q)

-(d8''') -O-CH₂-CH(R^{12a}-H)-NH-(T'-Y-Q)

wherein R^{12a} is selected from D5) or D6), Y, Q, T' and T''' are as

above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa)

W₁-(O)C-y-Q

(IVa)

wherein W_1 , y and Q' are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,
wherein Y' is as above defined, and

4d-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
5 step 4d-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate
source as above described and

4d-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
4d-i) or 4d-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (In) wherein P^4 and X_{15}

10 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein
 W_1 is OH, y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as
described in 1-i-1).

The reaction of a compound of formula (In) wherein P^4 and X_{15}

are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein
15 W_1 is OR_a , y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as
described in 1-i-2).

The compounds of formula (In) wherein P^4 and X_{15} are as above
defined, T' and T''' are $-C(O)-$ can be obtained as described in
20 4a).

4e) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is selected from
(d7') or (d8') wherein R^{12a} is selected from D5) or D6), Q , Y and
 Y' are as above defined, T'' is $C(O)-X''$ wherein X'' is as above
25 defined, T' and T''' are $C(O)$, can be obtained

4e-i) by reacting a compound of formula (In)

P^4-X_{15}

(In)

wherein P^4 and X_{15} are defined above, with a compound of formula

30 (IVa)

$W_1-(O)C-y-Q$

(IVa)

wherein W_1 , y and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,
wherein Y' is as above defined, and

4e-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
5 step 1e-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate
source as above described and

4e-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
4e-i) or 4e-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (In) wherein P^4 and X_{15}
10 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein
 W_1 is OH, y and Q are as above defined, can be carried out as
described in 1-i-1).

The reaction of a compound of formula (In) wherein P^4 and X_{15}
are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein
15 W_1 is OR_a , y and Q are as above defined, can be carried out as
described in 1-i-2).

The compounds of formula (In) wherein P^4 and X_{15} are as above
defined can be obtained as described in 4b).

20

4f) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is selected from
(d7') or (d8') wherein R^{12a} is selected from D5) or D6), Y and Y'
are the same and are as above defined, T' , T'' and T''' are $C(O)-$
 X'' wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained

25 **4f-i)** by reacting a compound of formula (IIII),

P^4-X_{14}

(IIII)

wherein P^4 and X_{14} are as above defined, with a compound of
formula (IVd)

30 $R_a-O-C(O)-X''-y-Q$

(IVd)

wherein R_a , X'' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,
 wherein Y' is as above defined, and

4f-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
 step 4f-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate

source as above described and

4f-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
 4f-i) or 4f-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIII) wherein P^4 and X_{14}
 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) wherein

R_a , X'' , y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as
 described in 1-i-2) using a ratio (IIII)/(IVd) 1:2.

4g) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is selected from
 (d7') or (d8') wherein R^{12a} is selected from D5) or D6), Q , Y and
 Y' are as above defined, T'' is $C(O)-X''$, T' and T''' are $C(O)$ or
 $C(O)-X''$, wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained

4g-i) by reacting a compound of formula (In)

P^4-X_{15}

(In)

wherein P^4 and X_{15} are as above defined, with a compound of
 formula (IVd)

$R_a-O-C(O)-X''-y-Q$

(IVd)

wherein R_a , X'' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,
 wherein Y' is as above defined, and

4g-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
 step 4g-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate

source as above described and

4g-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
 4g-i) or 4g-ii) as above described.

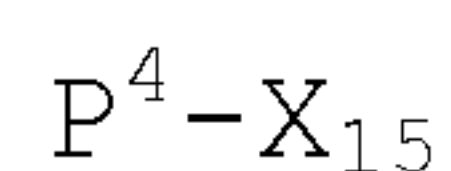
The reaction of a compound of formula (In) wherein P^4 and X_{15} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) wherein R_a , X'' , y and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

5

The compounds of formula (In) wherein T' or T''' are $C(O)$, P^4 and X_{15} are as above defined are obtained as described in 4a-i), 4a-ii).

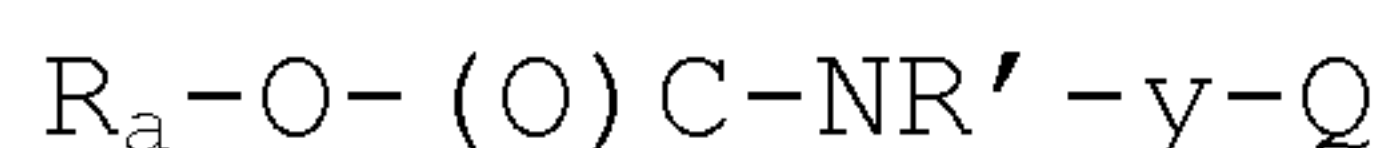
10 The compounds of formula (In) wherein T' or T''' are $C(O)-X''$, wherein P^4 and X_{15} are as above defined are obtained as described in 4b-i), 4b-ii).

4h) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is selected from
 15 (d7') or (d8') wherein R^{12a} is selected from D5) or D6), Q , Y and Y' are as above defined, T'' is $C(O)-NR'-$, T' and T''' are $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$, wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained
4h-i) by reacting a compound of formula (In)



20 (In)

wherein P^4 and X_{15} are as above defined, with a compound of formula



(IVf)

25 wherein R_a , R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, and

4h-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 4h-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

30 4h-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 4h-i) or 4h-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (In) P^4 and X_{15} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVf) wherein R_a , R' , y , Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

5

The compounds of formula (In) wherein T' or T''' are $C(O)$, wherein P^4 and X_{15} are as above defined, are obtained as described in 4a-i), 4a-ii).

10 The compounds of formula (In) wherein T' or T''' are $C(O)-X''$, wherein P^4 and X_{15} are as above defined, are obtained as described in 4b-i), 4b-ii).

4i) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is selected from
 15 (d7') or (d8') wherein R^{12a} is selected from D7), Q , Y and Y' are as above defined, T'' is X'' , wherein X'' is as above defined, T' and T''' are $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$, wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained

4i-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ir),

20 P^4-X_{16}

(Ir)

- (d7''') -HN-CH(R^{12a} -OH)-CH₂-O-(T''' -Y-Q)

- (d8''') -O-CH₂-CH(R^{12a} -OH)-NH-(T' -Y-Q)

wherein P^4 is as above defined, R^{12a} is selected from D7), with a
 25 compound of formula (IVe)

$HX''-y-Q$

(IVe)

wherein Y' , X'' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, and

4i-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 4i-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

4i-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 4i-i) or 4i-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ir) wherein P⁴ and X₁₆ are as above defined with a compound of formula (IVe) wherein y, X'' and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-1).

The compounds of formula (Ir) wherein T' or T''' are C(O), P⁴ and X₁₆ are as above defined are obtained as described in 4a-i), 4a-ii).

The compounds of formula (Ir) wherein T' or T''' are C(O)-X'', P⁴ and X₁₆ are as above defined, are obtained as described in 4b-i), 4b-ii).

41) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X₁₂ is selected from (d7') or (d8') wherein R^{12a} is selected from D7), Q, Y and Y' are as above defined, T'' is -NR' wherein R' is as above defined, T' and T''' are C(O) or C(O)-X'', wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained

41-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ir),

P⁴-X₁₆

(Ir)

wherein P⁴ and X₁₆ are as above defined and R^{12a} is selected from D7), with a compound of formula

HR'N-y-Q

(IVg)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,
 wherein Y' is as above defined, and

4l-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
 step 4l-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate

source such as above described and

4l-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
 4l-i) or 4l-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ir) P^4 and X_{16} are as

above defined, with a compound of formula (IVg) wherein R' , y ,

Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-
 1).

4m) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is selected from

(d7') or (d8') wherein R^{12a} is selected from D7), Q , Y and Y' are

as above defined, T'' is $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$, wherein R' is as

above defined, T' and T''' are $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$, wherein X'' is as
 above defined, can be obtained

4m-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ir),

P^4-X_{16}

(Ir)

wherein P^4 and X_{16} are as above defined and R^{12a} is selected from
 D7), with a compound of formula (IVm)

$Hal-CH(R')-O-(O)C-y-Q$

(IVm)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, Hal is a halogen atom,

y is the radical Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, and

4m-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
 step 4m-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate

source such as above described and

4m-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step

4m-i) or 4m-ii) as above described.

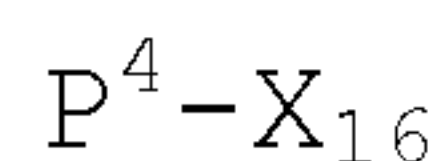
The reaction of a compound of formula (Ir) wherein P^4 and X_{16} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVm) wherein y , Q , R' are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 11-i).

5

4n) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is selected from (d7') or (d8') wherein R^{12a} is selected from D7), Q , Y and Y' are as above defined, T'' is $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-O-$, wherein R' is as above defined, T' and T''' are $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$, wherein X'' is as above defined, can be obtained

10

4n-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Ir),

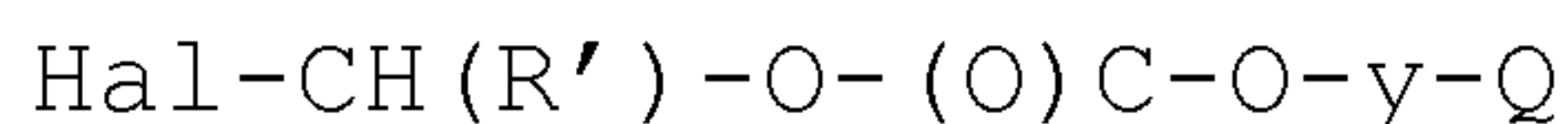


(Ir)

wherein P^4 and X_{16} are as above defined and R^{12a} is selected from

15

D7), with a compounds of formula (IVo)



(IVo)

wherein R and Q' are as above defined, Hal is an halogen atom, y is the radical Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, and

20

4n-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 4n-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

4n-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 4n-i) or 4n-ii) as above described.

25

The reaction of a compound of formula (Ir) wherein P^4 and X_{16} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVo) wherein y , R' , Q , Hal are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 11-i).

4o) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is (selected from $d3'$) or $(d4')$ wherein R^{12a} is selected from D7), Y' is as above defined, T'' is X'' , wherein X'' is defined above, can be obtained **4o-i)** by reacting a compound of formula (IIIm),

5 P^4-X_{17}

(IIIm)

wherein P^4 is defined above and X_{17} is the radical

$-(d3'') \quad -HN-CH(R^{12a}-H)-CH_2OP^1$

$-(d4'') \quad -O-CH_2-CH(R^{12a}-H)-NHR^{4a'}$

10 wherein R^{12a} is selected from D7), wherein P^1 and $R^{4a'}$ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVe)

$HX''-y-Q$

(IVe)

wherein X'' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,

15 wherein Y' is as above defined, and

4o-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 4o-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

4o-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
20 4o-i) or 4o-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIm) wherein P^4 and X_{17} are as above defined with a compound of formula (IVe) wherein y , X'' and Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-1).

25

The compounds of formula (IIIm), wherein P^4 and X_{17} are as above defined, are commercially available or obtained as known in literature.

30 **4p)** The compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is selected from $(d3')$ or $(d4')$ wherein R^{12a} is selected from D7), Y' is as above

defined, T'' is $-NR'$ wherein R' is as above defined, can be obtained

4p-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIIm),

P^4-X_{17}

5 (IIIIm)

wherein P^4 and X_{17} are as defined above, wherein R^{12a} is selected from D7), with a compound of formula

$HR'N-y-Q$

(IVg)

10 wherein R' and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, and

4p-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 4p-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source such as above described and

15 4p-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 4p-i) or 4p-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIIm) wherein P^4 and X_{17} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVg) wherein R' , y , Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described
20 in 1a-i).

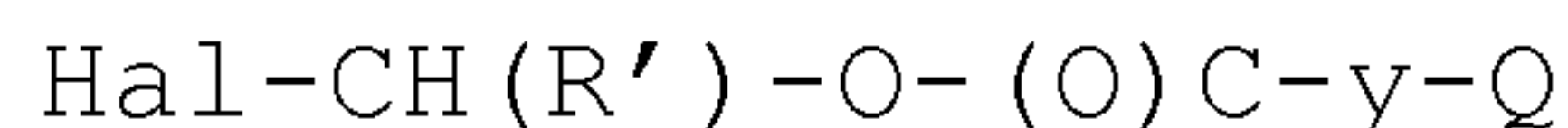
4q) The compound of formula (Im) wherein X_{12} is selected from (d3') or (d4') wherein R^{12a} is selected from D7), Y' is as above defined, T'' is $-O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-$ wherein R' is as above
25 defined, can be obtained

4q-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIIm),

P^4-X_{17}

(IIIIm)

30 wherein P^4 and X_{17} are as defined above, wherein R^{12a} is selected from D7), with a compound of formula (IVm)



(IVm)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, Hal is an halogen atom, y is the radical Y', wherein Y' is as above defined, and

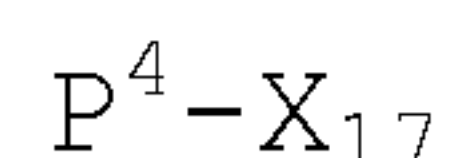
5 4q-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 4q-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source such as above described and

4q-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 4q-i) or 4q-ii) as above described.

10 The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIm) wherein P⁴ and X₁₇ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVm) wherein R', y, Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 11-i).

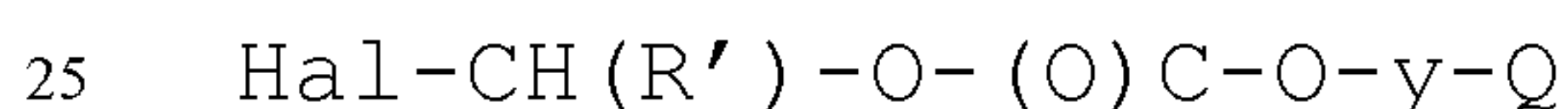
15 **4r)** The compound of formula (Im) wherein X₁₂ is selected from (d3') or (d4') wherein R^{12a} is selected from D7), Y' is as above defined, T'' is -O-CH(R')-O-C(O)-O- wherein R' is as above defined, can be obtained

20 **4r-i)** by reacting a compound of formula (IIIm),



(IIIm)

wherein P⁴ and X₁₇ are as defined above, wherein R^{12a} is selected from D7), with a compound of formula (IVo)



(IVo)

wherein R' and Q are as above defined, Hal is an halogen atom, y is the radical Y', wherein Y' is as above defined, and

4r-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 4r-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

30

4r-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 4r-i) or 4r-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIm) wherein P^4 and X_{17} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVo) wherein
 5 y, R' , Q, Hal are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 11-i).

5) The compound of general formula (I) as above defined wherein a is equal to 0, R_x is a radical selected from (d5), (d6), (d9)
 10 or (d10), wherein R^{12b} is selected from D10) can be obtained

5-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIa)

R-H

(IIa)

wherein R is as above defined, with a compound of formula (Is)

15 W- X_{18}

(Is)

wherein W is as above defined, X_{18} is the radical having the following meanings

-(d5') $-R^{12b}-CH(NHR^{4a})-CH_2-O-(T'''-Y-Q)$

20 -(d6') $-R^{12b}-CH(CH_2OH)-NH-(T'-Y-Q)$

-(d9') $-R^{12b}-CH(NH-T'''-Y'-Q)-CH_2-O-(T'-Y-Q)$

-(d10') $-R^{12b}-CH(CH_2-O-T'''-Y'-Q)-NH-(T'-Y-Q)$

wherein R^{12b} is selected from D10), T' , T''' , Y, Y' and Q are as above defined and

25 5-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 5-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

5-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 5-i) or 5-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIa) wherein R is as above defined, with a compound of formula (Is) wherein W and X_{18} are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1).

5 **5a)** The compounds of formula (Is) wherein X_{18} is a radical of formula (d5') or (d6'), wherein R^{12b} is selected from D10), T' and T''' are C(O) can be obtained

5a-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIIn),
 P^2-X_{19}

10 (IIIIn)

wherein P^2 is as above defined, X_{19} is the radical having the following meanings

- (d5'') $-R^{12b}-CH(NHP^3)-CH_2-OH$

- (d6'') $-R^{12b}-CH(CH_2OP^1)-NH_2$

15 wherein P^1 and P^3 are as above defined and R^{12b} is selected from D10), with a compound of formula (IVa)

$W_1-C(O)-Y-Q$

(IVa)

wherein W_1 , y , Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y ,

20 wherein Y is as above defined, and

5a-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 5a-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

5a-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step

25 5a-i) or 5a-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIIn) wherein P^2 and X_{19} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) W_1 , y , and Q are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1-i-1), 1-i-2), 1-i-3) and 1a-1).

The compounds of formula (IIIIn), wherein P^2 and X_{19} are as above defined, are commercially available or obtained as known in literature.

5 **5b)** The compounds of formula (Is) wherein X_{18} is a radical of formula (d5') or (d6'), wherein R^{12b} is selected from D10), T' and T''' are $C(O)-X''$, wherein X'' is defined above, can be obtained

5b-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIIn),
 10 P^2-X_{19}
 (IIIIn)

wherein P^2 and X_{19} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd)

$R_a-O-C(O)-X''-y-Q$
 15 (IVd)

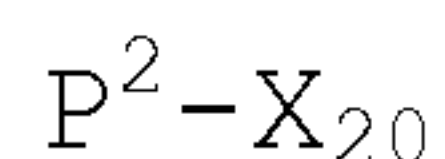
wherein R_a and Q , X'' are as above defined, y is the radical Y , wherein Y is as above defined, and

5b-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 5b-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate
 20 source as above described and
 5b-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 5b-i) or 5b-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIIn) wherein P^2 and X_{19} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) R_a , y , Q ,
 25 X'' are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

5c) The compounds of formula (Is) wherein X_{18} is a radical of formula (d9'), wherein R^{12b} is selected from D10), Y and Y' are
 30 as defined above, T' is $C(O)-$ and T''' is $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$, wherein X'' is defined above, can be obtained

5c-i) by reacting a compound of formula (It),



(It)

wherein P^2 is as above defined and X_{20} is the radical having the
 5 following meanings



wherein R^{12b} is selected from D10), T''' , Y and Q are as above
 defined, with a compound of formula (IVa)



10 (IVa)

wherein W_1 and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,

wherein Y' is as above defined, and

5c-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
 step 5c-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate

15 source as above described and

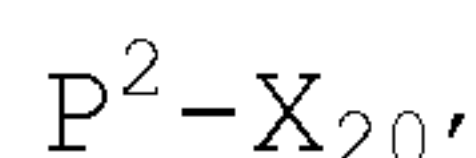
5c-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
 5c-i) or 5c-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (It) wherein P^2 and X_{20}
 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein

20 W_1 , y, Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described
 in 1-i-1), 1-i-2), 1-i-3) and 1a-1).

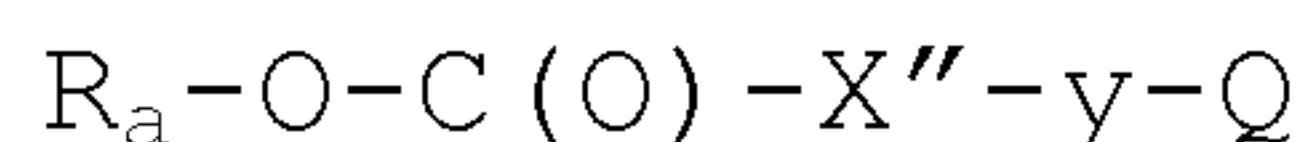
5d) The compounds of formula (Is) wherein X_{18} is a radical of
 formula (d9'), wherein R^{12b} is selected from D10), T' is $C(O)-X''$
 25 and T''' is $C(O)-$ or $C(O)-X''$, wherein X'' is defined above, can
 be obtained

5d-i) by reacting a compound of formula (It'),



(It')

30 wherein P^2 and X_{20} are as above defined, with a compound of
 formula (IVd)



(IVd)

wherein R_a and Q , X'' are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,
 wherein Y' is as above defined, and

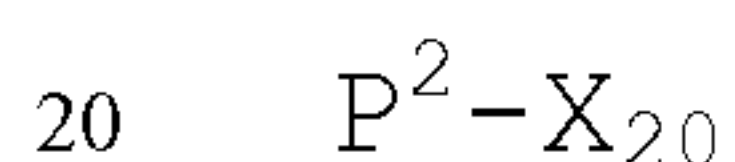
5 5d-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
 step 5d-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate
 source as above described and

5d-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
 5d-i) or 5d-ii) as above described.

10 The reaction of a compound of formula (It') wherein P^2 and X_{20} ,
 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) R_a , y , Q ,
 X'' are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1-i-
 2).

15 **5e)** The compounds of formula (Is) wherein X_{18} is the radical of
 formula (d10'), wherein R^{12b} is selected from D10), Y and Y' are
 as defined above, T''' is $C(O)-$ and T' is $C(O)$ or $C(O)-X''$,
 wherein X'' is defined above, can be obtained

5e-i) by reacting a compound of formula (It),



(It)

wherein P^2 is as above defined and X_{20} is the radical having the
 following meaning



25 wherein R^{12b} is selected from D10), T' , Y and Q are as above
 defined, with a compound of formula (IVa)



(IVa)

wherein W_1 and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,

30 wherein Y' is as above defined, and

5e-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 5e-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

5e-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 5e-i) or 5e-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (It) wherein P² and X₂₀ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein W₁, y, Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-1), 1-i-2), 1-i-3) and 1a-1).

5f) The compounds of formula (Is) wherein X₁₈ is the radical of formula (d10'), wherein R^{12b} is selected from D10), T''' is C(O)-X'' and T' is C(O)- or C(O)-X'', wherein X'' is defined above, can be obtained

5f-i) by reacting a compound of formula (It'),
P²-X₂₀,
(It')

wherein P² and X₂₀ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd)

R_a-O-C(O)-X''-y-Q
(IVd)

wherein R_a and Q, X'' are as above defined, y is the radical Y', wherein Y' is as above defined, and

5f-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 5f-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

5f-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 5f-i) or 5f-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (It') wherein P² and X₂₀,

are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) R_a, y, Q,

X'' are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

6) The compounds of general formula (I) as above defined
 5 wherein a is equal to 1, R_x is a radical selected from (d5),
 (d6), (d9) or (d10), wherein R^{12b} is selected from D10), Z is -
 CH(R')-O-, wherein R' is defined above, can be obtained

6-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIa)

R-OH

10 (IIa)

wherein R is as above defined with a compound of formula (Iu)

Hal-CH(R')-O-X₂₁

(Iu)

wherein Hal is an halogen atom, R' is as above defined and X₂₁

15 is a radical selected from (d5'), (d6'), (d9') or (d10'),

wherein R^{12b} is selected from D10), and

6-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the
 step 6-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate
 source as above described and

20 6-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
 6-i) or 6-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Iu) wherein Hal, X₂₁ and
 R' are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IIa)

wherein R is as above defined, may be carried out as described
 25 in 11-i).

The compounds of formula (Iu) are obtained by reacting a
 compound R'-CHO, wherein R' is as above defined with compounds
 of formula (IIIo)

30 W-X₂₂

(IIIo)

wherein W is a chlorine atom, X_{22} is the radical having the following meanings

-(d5''') $-R^{12b}-CH(NHP^3)-CH_2-O-(T'''-Y-Q)$

-(d6''') $-R^{12b}-CH(CH_2OP^1)-NH-(T'-Y-Q)$

5 -(d9''') $-R^{12b}-CH(NH-T'-Y'-Q)-CH_2-O-(T'''-Y-Q)$

-(d10''') $-R^{12b}-CH(CH_2-O-T'''-Y'-Q)-NH-(T'-Y-Q)$

wherein R^{12b} , P^3 , P^1 , T' , T''' , Y' , Y and Q are as above defined, and $ZnCl_2$ as known in literature.

The compounds of formula (IIIo), wherein W and X_{22} are as above
10 defined, may be carried out as described in 5).

7) The compounds of general formula (I) as above defined wherein a is equal to 1, R_x is a radical selected from (d5), (d6), (d9) or (d10), wherein R^{12b} is selected from D8) or D9), Z
15 is $-C(O)-$, can be obtained

7-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIb)

$R-C(O)-O-R_a$

(IIb)

wherein R and R_a are as above defined with a compound of formula
20 (Iv)

$H-X_{23}$

(Iv)

wherein X_{23} is a radical selected from (d5'), (d6'), (d9') or (d10'), wherein R^{12b} is selected from D8) or D9), and

25 7-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 7-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

7-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 7-i) or 7-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Iv) wherein X_{23} and is as above defined, with a compound of formula (IIb) wherein R is as above defined, may be carried out as described in 11-i).

- 5 **8)** The compound of general formula (I) as above defined wherein a is equal to 0, R_x is a radical selected from (a5), (a6), (a9) or (a10), (b5), (b6), (b9) or (b10) wherein R^{1b} is selected from A10) and R^{2b} is selected from B10), can be obtained

8-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIa)

10 R-H
(IIa)

wherein R is as above defined, with a compound of formula (Iz)
 $W-X_{24}$
(Iz)

15 wherein W is as above defined, X_{24} is the radical R_x having the following meanings

- (a5') $-R^{1b}-CH(NHR^{4a})-C(O)-(T-Y-Q)$
 - (a6') $-R^{1b}-CH(COOR^{3a})NH-(T'-Y-Q)$
 - (a9') $-R^{1b}-CH(NH-T'-Y'-Q)-C(O)-(T-Y-Q)$
 20 - (a10') $-R^{1b}-CH(C(O)-T'-Y'-Q)-NH-(T-Y-Q)$
 - (b5') $-R^{2b}-CH(NHR^{4a})-CH_2C(O)-(T-Y-Q)$
 - (b6') $-R^{2b}-CH(CH_2COOR^{3a})NH-(T'-Y-Q)$
 - (b9') $-R^{2b}-CH(NH-T'-Y'-Q)-CH_2C(O)-(T-Y-Q)$
 - (b10') $-R^{2b}-CH(CH_2C(O)-T'-Y'-Q)-NH-(T-Y-Q)$

25 wherein R^{1b} is selected from A10), R^{2b} is selected from B10), T, T', Y and Q are as above defined and

8-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 8-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

30 8-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 8-i) or 8-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIa) wherein R is as above defined, with a compound of formula (Iv) wherein W and X₂₄ are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1).

5 **8a)** The compounds of formula (Iz) wherein X₂₄ is a radical of formula (a5'), (a6'), (b5') or (b6'), wherein R^{1b} is selected from A10) and R^{2b} is selected from B10), T and T' are C(O) can be obtained

8a-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIq),
 10 P²-X₂₅
 (IIIq)

wherein P² is as above defined, X₂₅ is the radical having the following meanings

- (a5'') -R^{1b}-CH(NHP³)-C(O)-OH
 15 - (a6'') -R^{1b}-CH(COOP²)-NH₂
 - (b5'') -R^{2b}-CH(NH P³)-CH₂C(O)-OH
 - (b6'') -R^{2b}-CH(CH₂COO P²)-NH₂

wherein P² and P³ are as above defined and R^{1b} is selected from A10), R^{2b} is selected from B10), with a compound of formula
 20 (IVa)
 W₁-C(O)-y-Q
 (IVa)

wherein W₁ and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y, wherein Y is as above defined, and

25 8a-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the step 8a-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and
 8a-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 8a-i) or 8a-ii) as above described.

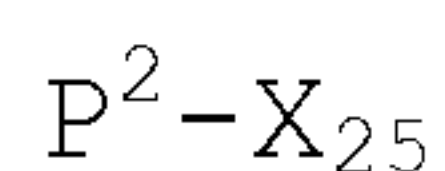
30 The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIq) wherein P² and X₂₅ are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) W₁, Y,

and Q are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1-i-1), 1-i-2), 1-i-3) and 1a-1).

The compounds of formula (IIIq), wherein P^2 and X_{25} are as above
5 defined, are commercially available or obtained as known in literature.

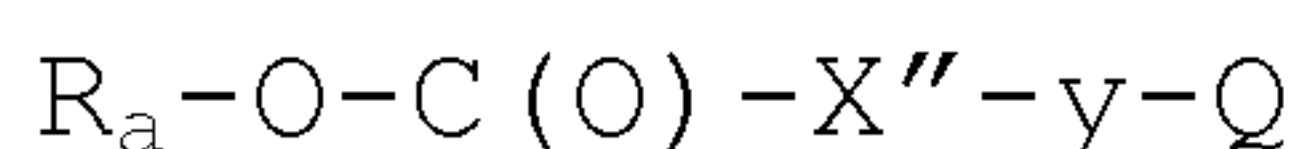
8b) The compounds of formula (Iz) wherein X_{24} is the radical of formula (a5'), (a6'), (b5') or (b6'), wherein R^{1b} is selected
10 from A10) and R^{2b} is selected from B10), T and T' are C(O)-X'', wherein X'' is defined above, can be obtained

8b-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIIq),



(IIIq)

15 wherein P^2 and X_{25} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd)



(IVd)

wherein R_a , Q and X'' are as above defined, y is the radical Y,

20 wherein Y is as above defined, and

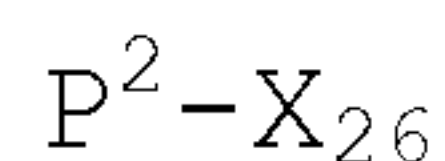
8b-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 8b-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

8b-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
25 8b-i) or 8b-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (IIIq) wherein P^2 and X_{25} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) R_a , y, Q, X'' are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1-i-2).

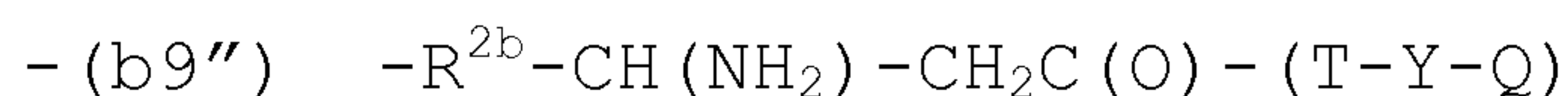
8c) The compounds of formula (Iz) wherein X_{24} is the radical of formula (a9') or (b9') wherein R^{1b} is selected from A10), and R^{2b} is selected from B10) Y and Y' are as defined above, T is C(O)- or C(O)-X'', wherein X'' is defined above and T' is C(O) can be
 5 obtained

8c-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Iy),



(Iy)

wherein P^2 is as above defined and X_{26} is the radical having the
 10 following meanings



wherein R^{1b} is selected from A10) and R^{2b} is selected from B10),
 with a compound of formula (IVa)



(IVa)

wherein W_1 and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y',

wherein Y' is as above defined, and

8c-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
 20 step 8c-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

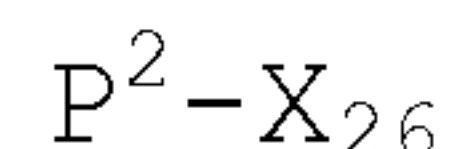
8c-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 8c-i) or 8c-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Iy) wherein P^2 and X_{26}
 25 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa) wherein W_1 , y, Q are as above defined, may be carried out as described in 1-i-1), 1-i-2), 1-i-3) and 1a-1).

8d) The compounds of formula (Iz) wherein X_{24} is the radical of
 30 formula (a9') or (b9') wherein R^{1b} is selected from A10), R^{2b} is selected from B10), Y and Y' are as defined above, T is C(O)-

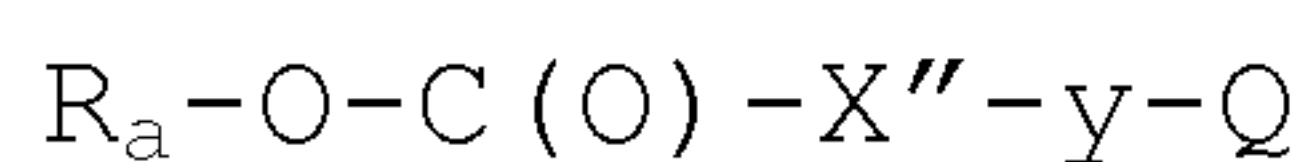
or $C(O)-X''$, wherein X'' is defined above and T' is $C(O)-X''$ can be obtained

8d-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Iy),



5 (Iy)

wherein P^2 and X_{26} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd)



(IVd)

10 wherein R_a and X'' are as above defined, y is the radical Y' , wherein Y' is as above defined, and

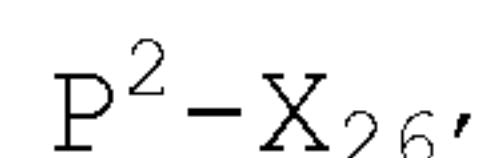
8d-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the step 8d-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate source as above described and

15 8d-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 8d-i) or 8d-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Iy) wherein P^2 and X_{20} are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) R_a , y , Q , X'' are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1-i-
20 2).

8e) The compounds of formula (Iz) wherein X_{24} is the radical of formula (a10') or (b10') wherein R^{1b} is selected from A10), and R^{2b} is selected from in B10) Y and Y' are as defined above, T is
25 $C(O)-$ or $C(O)-X''$, wherein X'' is defined above and T' is $C(O)$ can be obtained

8e-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Iy'),



(Iy')

30 wherein P^2 is as above defined and X_{26} is the radical having the following meanings

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-(a10'') -R^{1b}-CH(C(O)-OH)-NH-(T-Y-Q)

-(b10'') -R^{2b}-CH(CH₂C(O)-OH)-NH-(T-Y-Q)

wherein R^{1b} is selected from selected from A10) and R^{2b} is B10),
with a compound of formula (IVa)

5 W₁-C(O)-y-Q

(IVa)

wherein W₁ and Q are as above defined, y is the radical Y',

wherein Y' is as above defined, and

8e-ii) when Q is Z₂, by converting the compound obtained in the
10 step 8e-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate
source as above described and

8e-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
8e-i) or 8e-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Iy') wherein P² and
15 X₂₆' are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVa)
wherein W₁, y, Q are as above defined, may be carried out as
described in 1-i-1), 1-i-2), 1-i-3) and 1a-1).

8f) The compounds of formula (Iz) wherein X₂₄ is the radical of
20 formula (a10') or (b10') wherein R^{1b} is selected from A10), and
R^{2b} is selected from B10), Y and Y' are as defined above, T is
C(O)- or C(O)-X'', wherein X'' is defined above and T' is C(O)-X''
can be obtained

8f-i) by reacting a compound of formula (Iy'),

25 P²-X₂₆,

(Iy')

wherein P² and X₂₆' are as above defined, with a compound of
formula (IVd)

R_a-O-C(O)-X''-y-Q

30 (IVd)

wherein R_a and X'' are as above defined, y is the radical Y' ,
 wherein Y' is as above defined, and

8f-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
 step 8f-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate

source as above described and

8f-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step
 8f-i) or 8f-ii) as above described.

The reaction of a compound of formula (Iy') wherein P^2 and X_{26} ,
 are as above defined, with a compound of formula (IVd) R_a , y , Q ,
 X'' are as above defined may be carried out as described in 1-i-
 2).

9) The compounds of general formula (I) as above defined

wherein a is equal to 1, R_x is a radical selected from (a5),

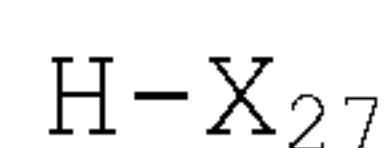
(a6), (a9) or (a10), (b5), (b6), (b9) or (b10) wherein R^{1b} is
 selected from A8) or A9), R^{2b} is selected from B8) or B9), Z is
 $-C(O)-$, can be obtained

9-i) by reacting a compound of formula (IIb)



(IIb)

wherein R and R_a are as above defined with a compound of formula
 (Ix)



(Ix)

wherein X_{27} is the radical selected from (a5'), (a6'), (a9'),
 (a10'), (b5'), (b6'), (b9') or (b10'), wherein R^{1b} is selected
 from A8) or A9), R^{2b} is selected from B8) or B9), and

9-ii) when Q is Z_2 , by converting the compound obtained in the
 step 9-i) into nitro derivative by reaction with a nitrate

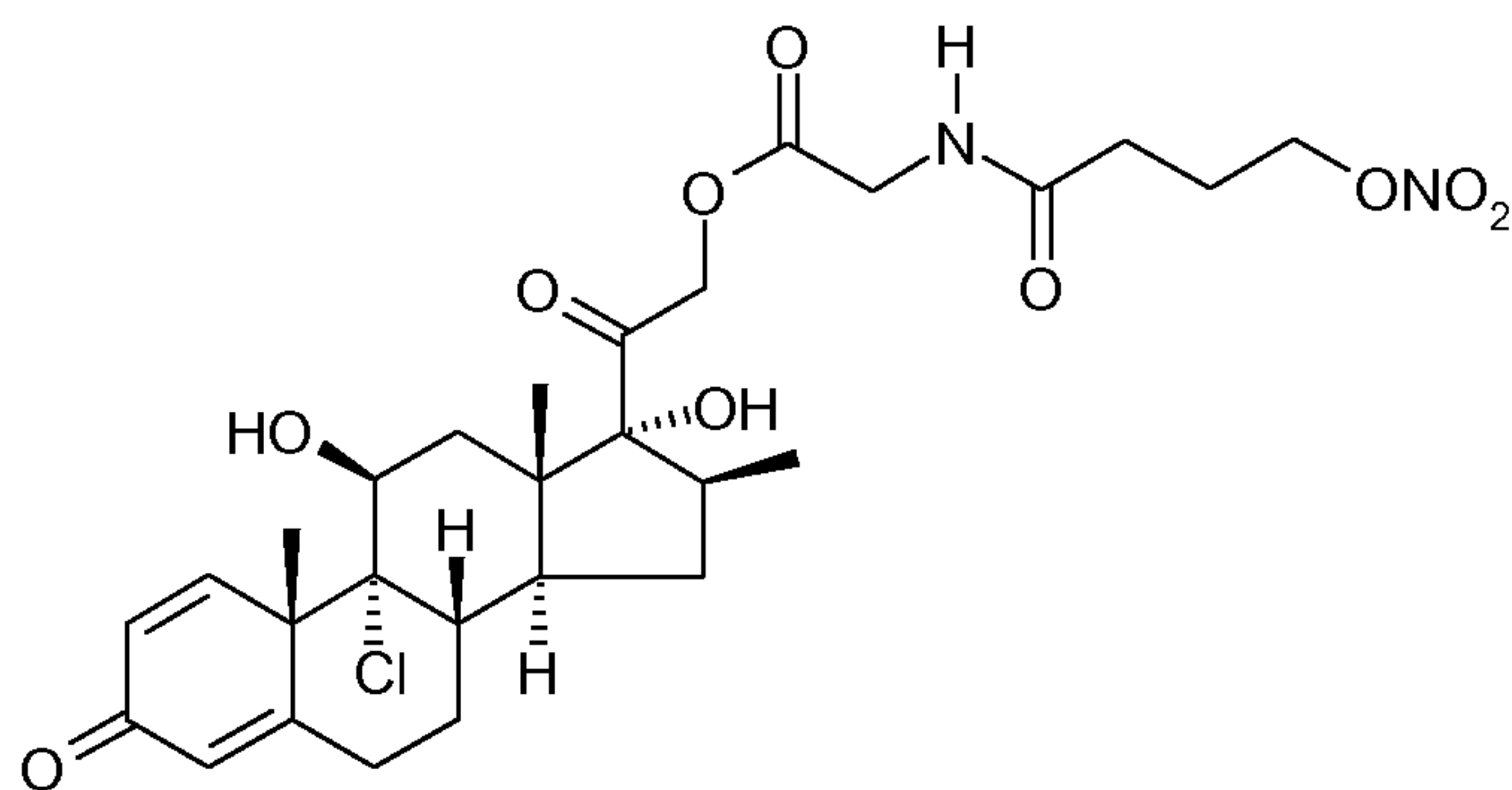
source as above described and

9-iii) optionally deprotecting the compounds obtained in step 9-i) or 9-ii) as above described.

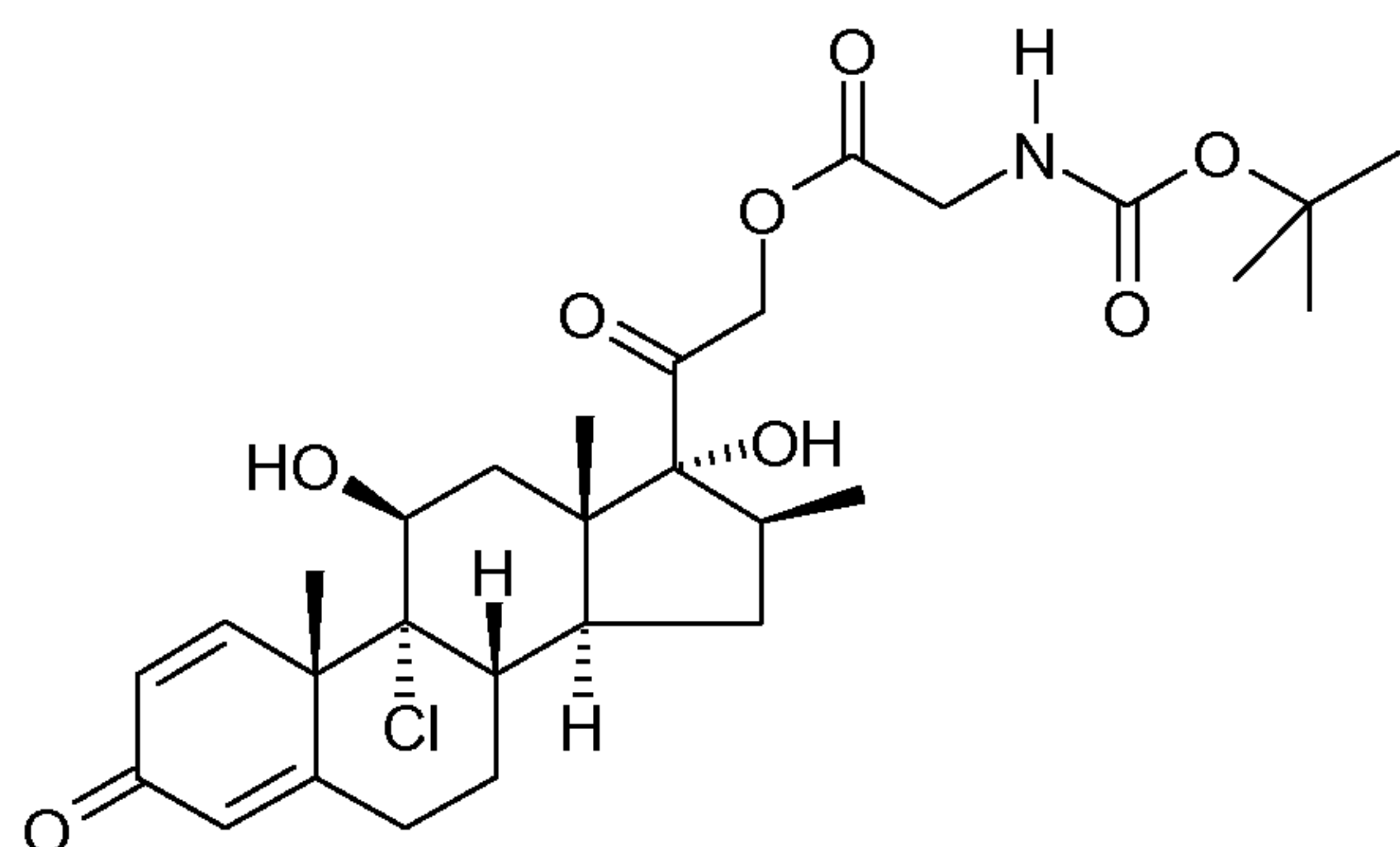
The reaction of a compound of formula (Ix) wherein X_{27} and is as above defined, with a compound of formula (IIb) wherein R is as
 5 above defined, may be carried out as described in 11-i).

Example 1

Synthesis of (11 β ,16 β)-9-Chloro-11,17-dihydroxy-16-methyl-21-[1-oxo-
 10 oxo-((2-(4-(nitrooxy)butyloxy-carbonylamino)acetyl)]-pregna-
1,4-diene-3,20-dione.



15 (11 β ,16 β)-9-Chloro-11,17-dihydroxy-16-methyl-21-[1-oxo-2-((tert-butylcarbonylamino)acetyl)]-pregna-1,4-diene-3,20-dione



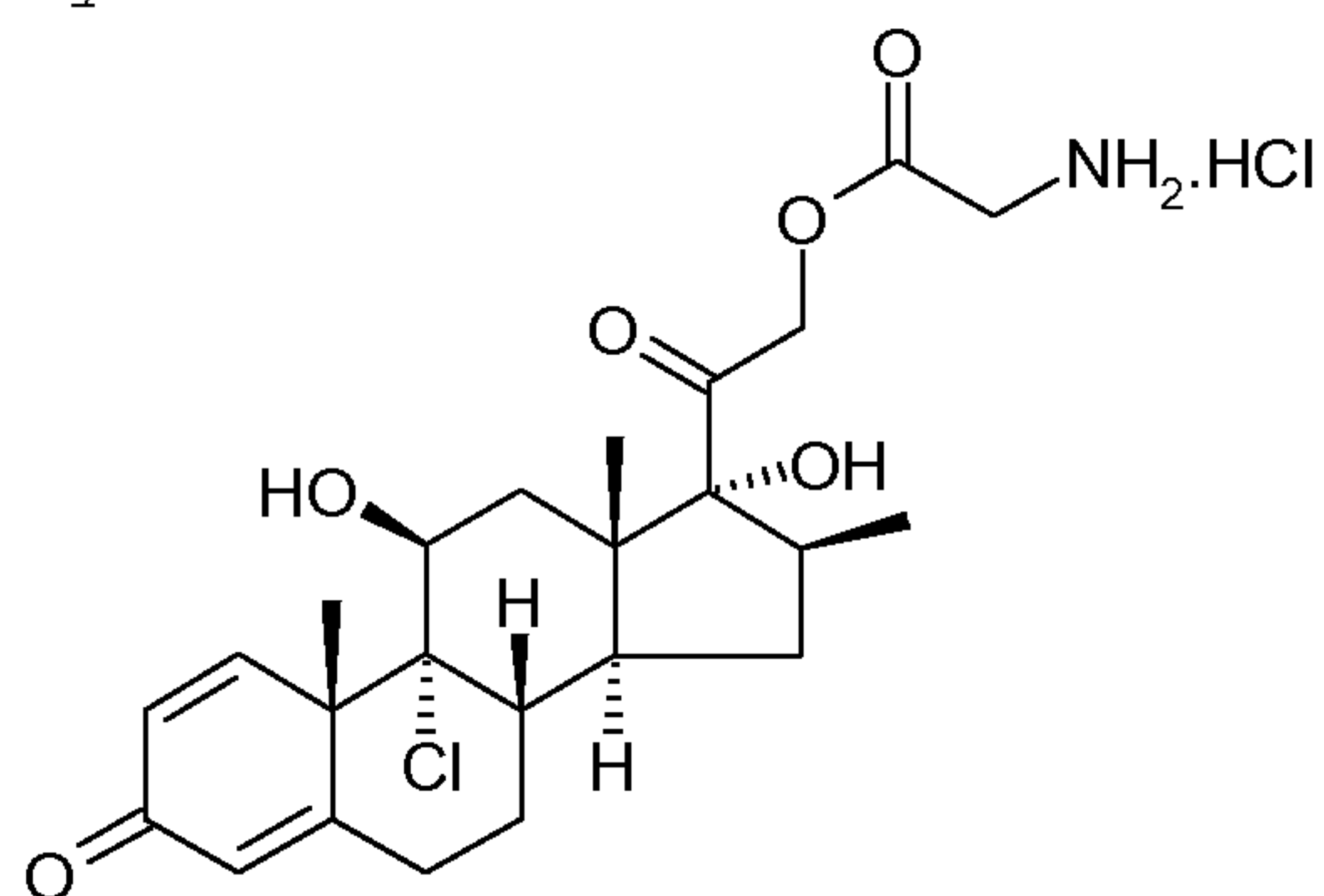
20 To a solution of beclomethasone (0.6 g, 1.46 mmol) in acetone (35 ml), N-Boc-glycine (0.334 g, 1.90 mmol) and DMAP (cat.

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amount) were added. The reaction was cooled at 0°C and EDAC (0.365 g, 1.90 mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The residue was treated with water (50 ml) and

5 methylene chloride (50x3 ml), the organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography, eluent n-hexane/ethyl acetate 6/4. The product (0.8 g) was obtained.

10 (11 β ,16 β)-9-Chloro-11,17-dihydroxy-16-methyl-21-[1-oxo-2-((carbonylamino)acetyl)]-pregna-1,4-diene-3,20-dione hydrochloride



15 A solution of compound A (0.8 g, 0.41 mmol) in methylene chloride (70 ml) was stirred at room temperature. HCl gas was bubbled in the solution for 1 hour. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The product was used in the next step without any purification.

20 (11 β ,16 β)-9-Chloro-11,17-dihydroxy-16-methyl-21-[1-oxo-(2-((4-(nitrooxy)butyoxycarbonylamino)acetyl)]-pregna-1,4-diene-3,20-dione

25 To a solution of B) (0.75 g, 1.46 mmol) in methylene chloride (40 ml), 4-nitrooxybutyric acid pentafluorophenyl ester (0.41

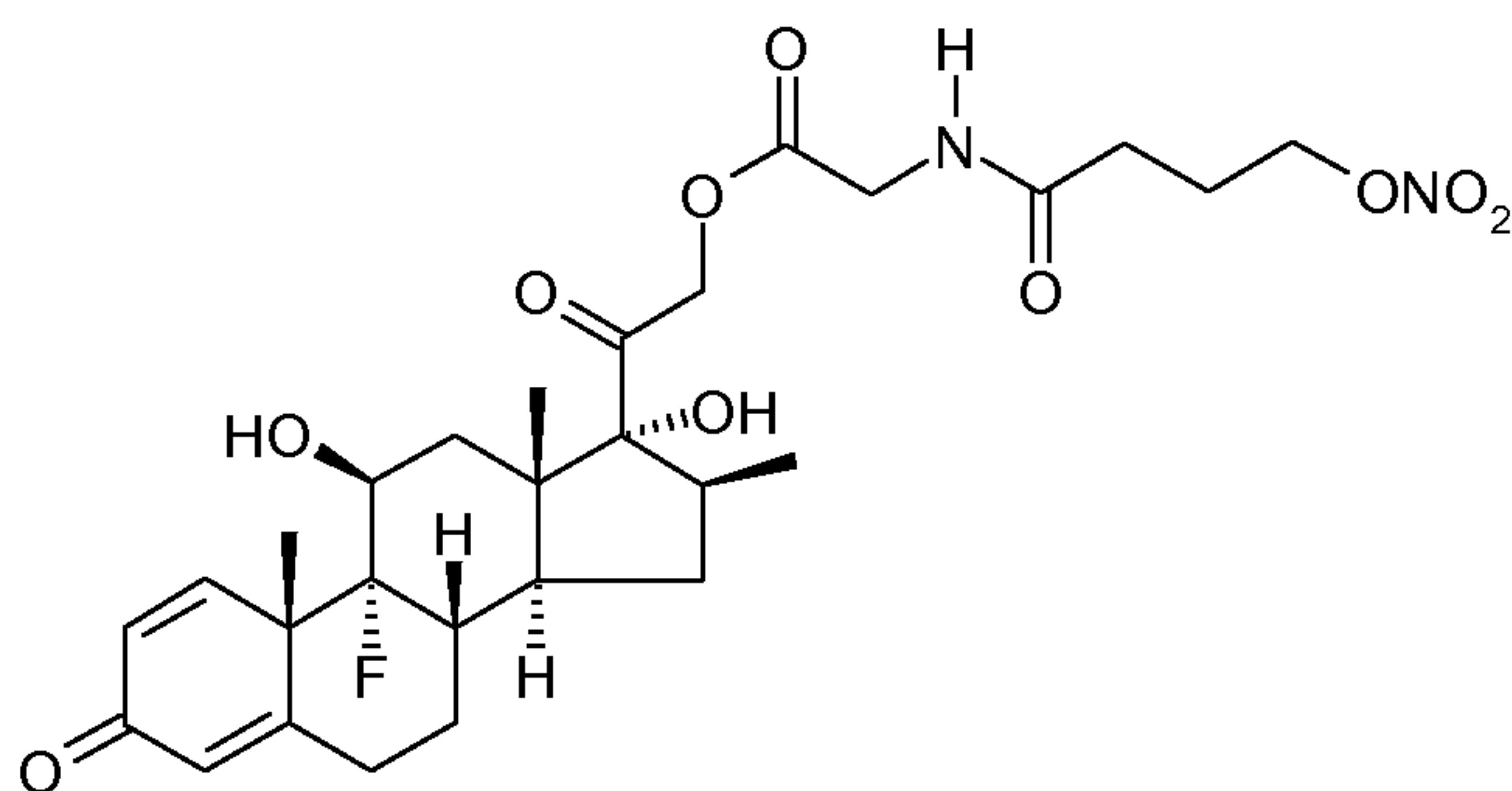
129

g, 1.46 mmol), DMAP (cat. amount) and triethylamine (0.3 ml, 2.19 mmol) were added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. The solution was treated with a 5% solution of H₃PO₄ (50 ml). The organic layer was dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography, (Biotage System, column FLASH 40+M™ KP-Sil) eluent : gradient n-hexane/ethyl acetate 1/1 (130 ml), to ethyl acetate 100% during 130 ml, ethyl acetate 100% (130 ml). The product (0.62 g) was obtained as white powder.

¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ : 8.42 (1H, t); 7.30 (1H, d); 6.22 (1H, dd); 5.98 (1H, s); 5.46 (1H, d); 5.42 (2H, s); 5.05 (1H, d); 4.84 (1H, d); 4.5 (2H, t); 4.34 (1H, sb); 3.97 (2H, d); 2.71-2.57 (2H, m); 2.5-2.2 (6H, m); 2.0-1.7 (5H, m); 1.65-1.35 (5H, m); 1.25-0.97 (4H, m); 0.8 (3H, s).

Example 2

Synthesis of (11 β ,16 β)-9-Fluoro-11,17-dihydroxy-16-methyl-21-[1-oxo-(2-((4-(nitrooxy)butyoxycarbonylamino)acetyl)]-pregna-1,4-diene-3,20-dione.



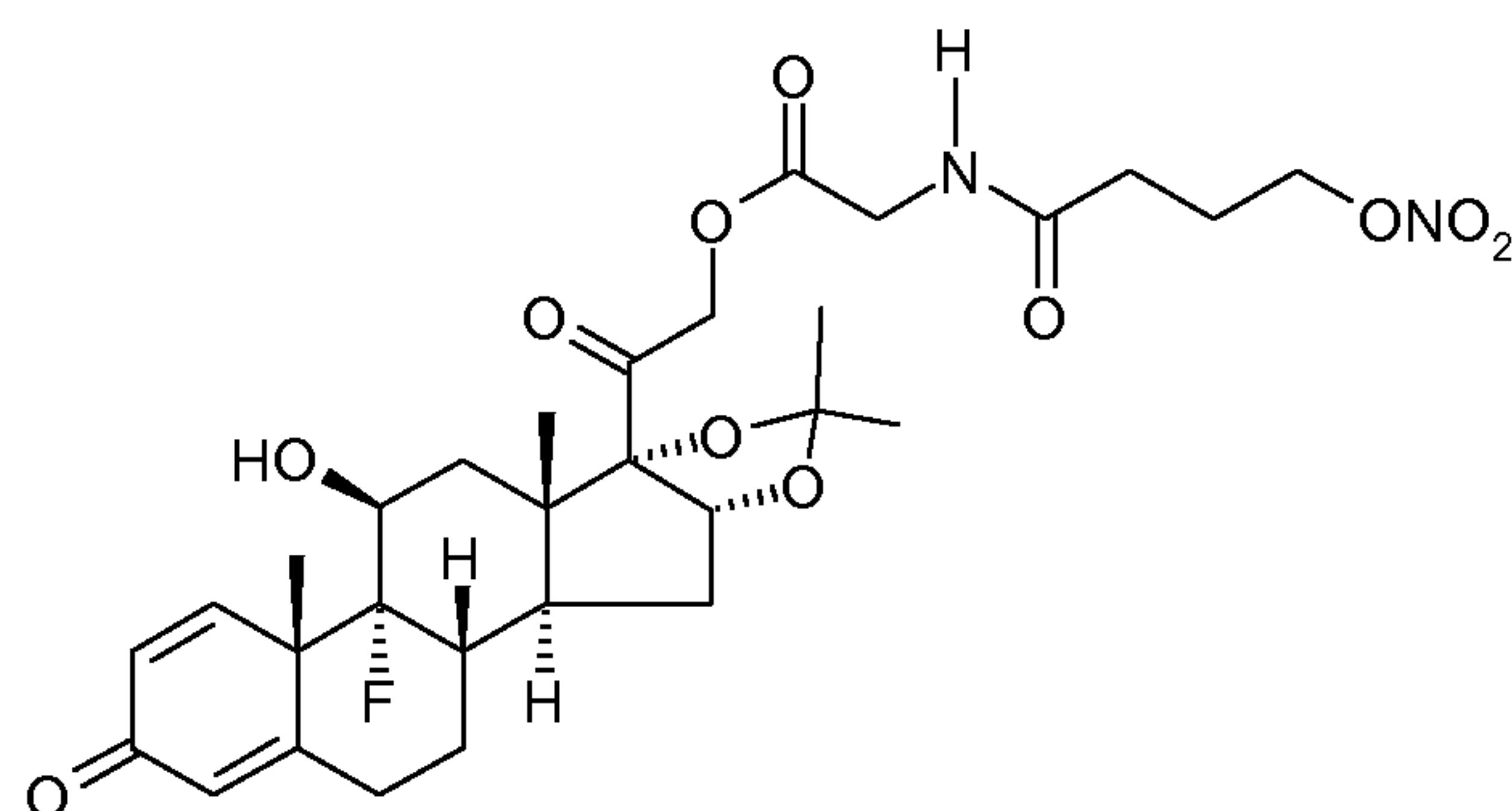
130

The compound was synthesized using the procedure described in example 1 starting from betamethasone, Boc-glycine and 4-nitrooxybutyric acid pentafluorophenol ester.

¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ : 8.4 (1H, t); 7.28 (1H, d); 6.22 (1H, dd); 6.0 (1H, s); 5.30 (1H, d); 5.08 (1H, d); 4.83 (1H, d); 4.53 (2H, t); 4.15 (1H, bp); 3.95 (2H, d); 2.71-2.52 (1H, m); 2.51-2.4 (6H, m); 2.38-2.07 (2H, m); 2.03-1.75 (6H, m); 1.58-1.45 (4H, m), 1.11-0.8 (6H, m).

Example 3

Synthesis of (11 β ,16 β)-9-Fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-(1-methylethylidenebis(oxy))-21-[1-oxo-(2-(4-(nitrooxy)butyoxycarbonylamino)acetyl)]-pregna-1,4-diene-3,20-dione



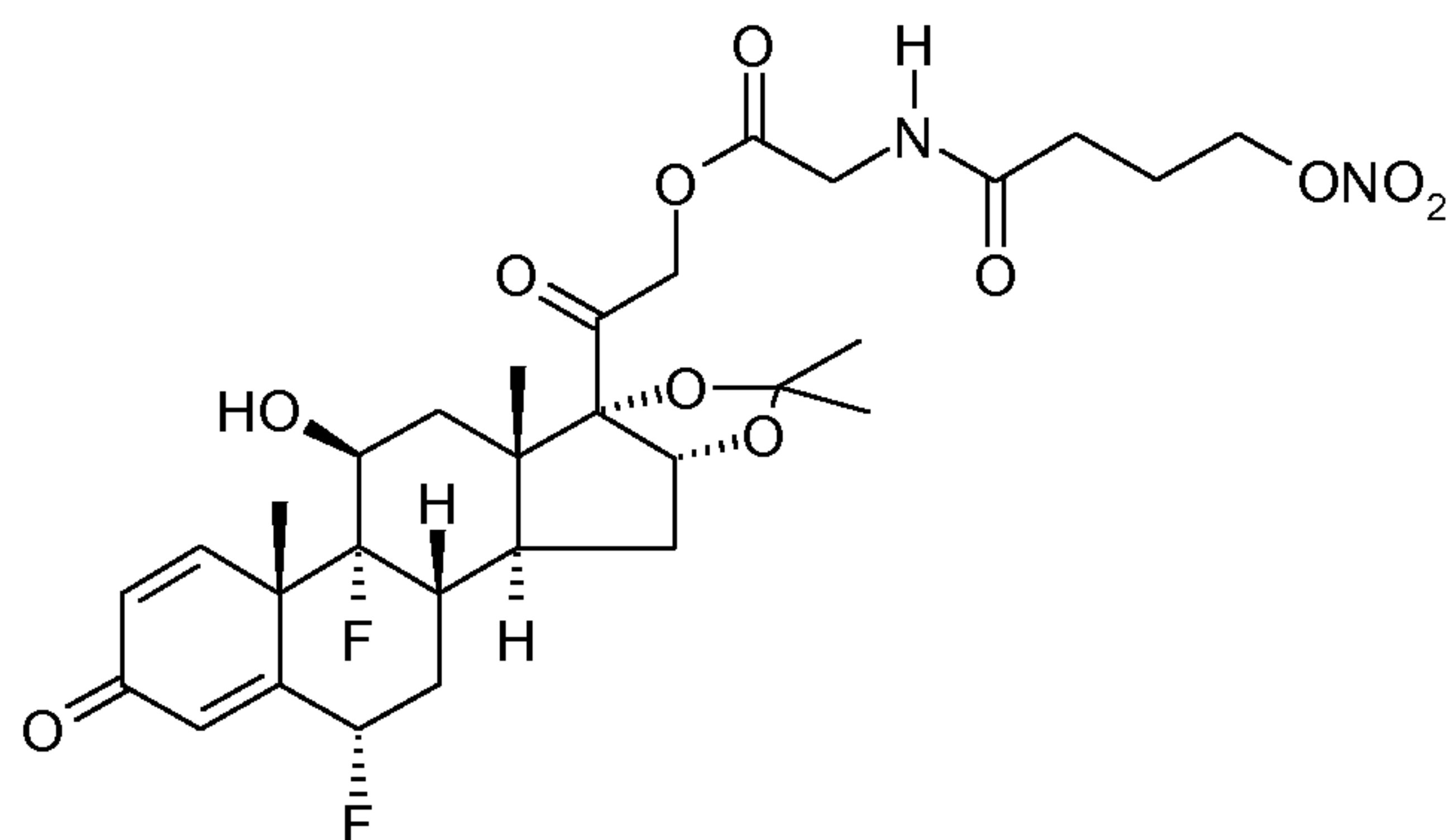
The compound was synthesized using the procedure described in example 1 starting from triamcinolone acetonide, Boc-glycine and 4-nitrooxybutyric acid pentafluorophenol ester.

¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ : 8.43 (1H, t); 7.27 (1H, d); 6.21 (1H, dd); 6.0 (1H, s); 5.46 (1H, d); 5.18 (1H, d); 4.87-4.83 (1H, m); 4.74 (1H, d); 4.50 (1H, t); 4.18 (1H, sb); 3.98-3.96 (2H, m); 2.71-2.31 (5H, m); 2.30-2.2 (3H, m); 2.10-1.77 (6H, m); 1.75-1.42 (7H, m); 1.4-1.32 (4H, m); 1.12 (3H, s); 0.85 (3H, s).

Example 4

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Synthesis of (6 α ,11 β ,16 α)-6,9-difluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-21-[1-oxo-(2-((4-(nitrooxy)butyoxycarbonylamino)acetyl)]-pregna-1,4-diene-3,20-dione

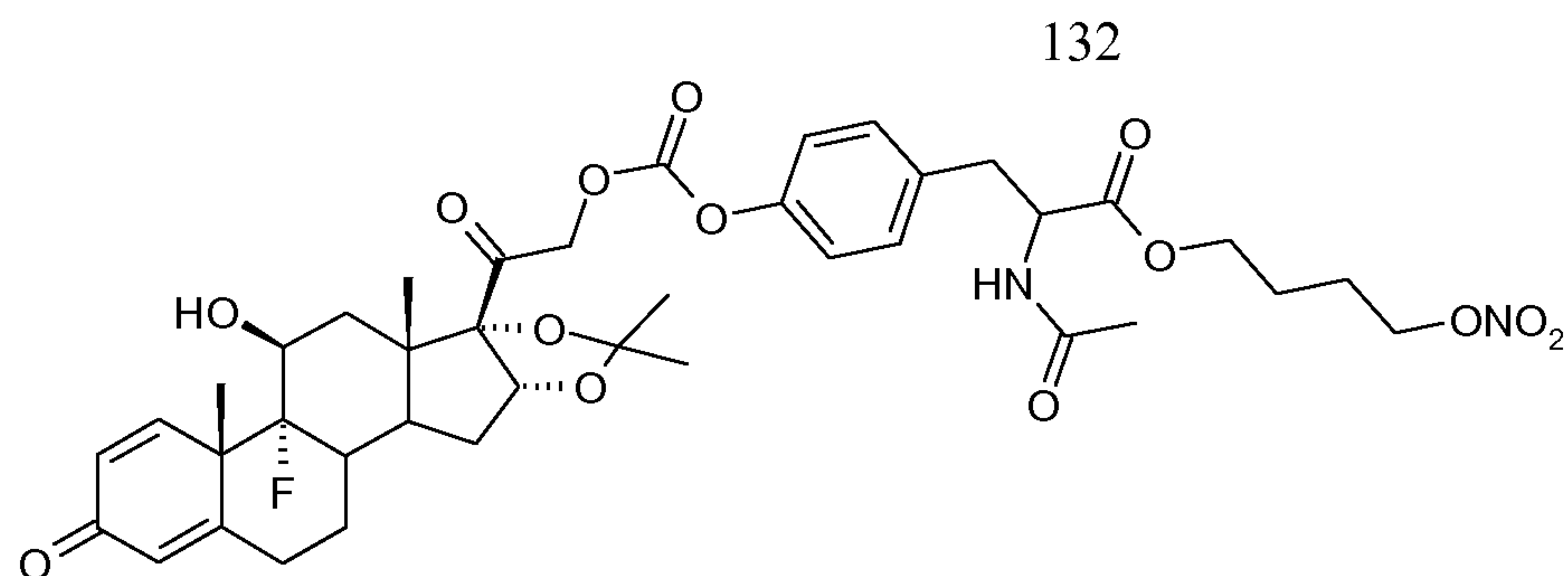


The compound was synthesized using the procedure described in example I starting from fluocinolone acetonide, Boc-glycine and 4-nitrooxybutyric acid pentafluorophenol ester.

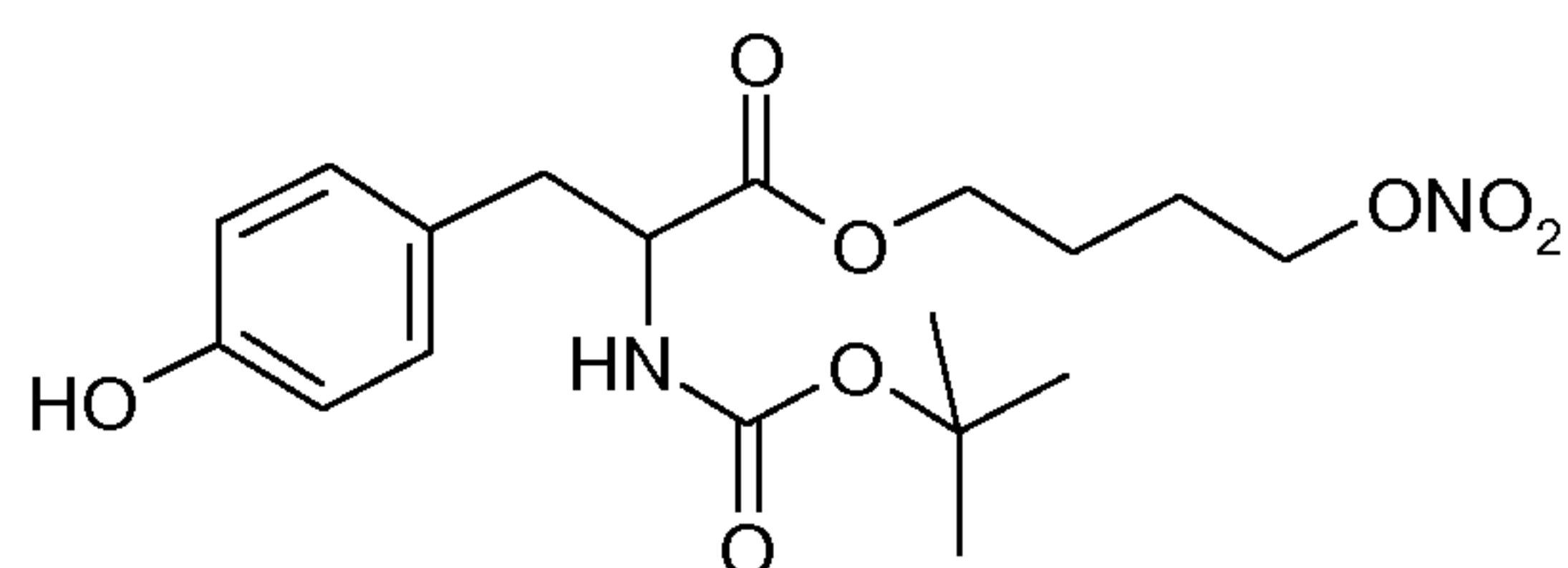
¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ : 8.43 (1H, t); 7.25 (1H, d); 6.28 (1H, dd); 6.09 (1H, s); 5.75-5.48 (2H, m); 5.18 (1H, d); 4.83 (1H, d); 4.78 (1H, d); 4.50 (2H, t); 4.18 (1H, sb); 3.9-3.8 (2H, m); 2.72-2.48 (4H, m); 2.25 (2H, t); 2.10-1.8 (3H, m); 1.78-1.65 (1H, m); 1.62-1.51 (2H, m); 1.48 (3H, s); 1.32 (3H, s); 1.10 (3H, s); 0.8 (3H, s).

Example 5

Synthesis of 4-(nitrooxy)butyl 2-acetamido-3-(4-((2-((9R,10S,11S,13S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethoxy)carbonyloxy)phenyl)propanoate

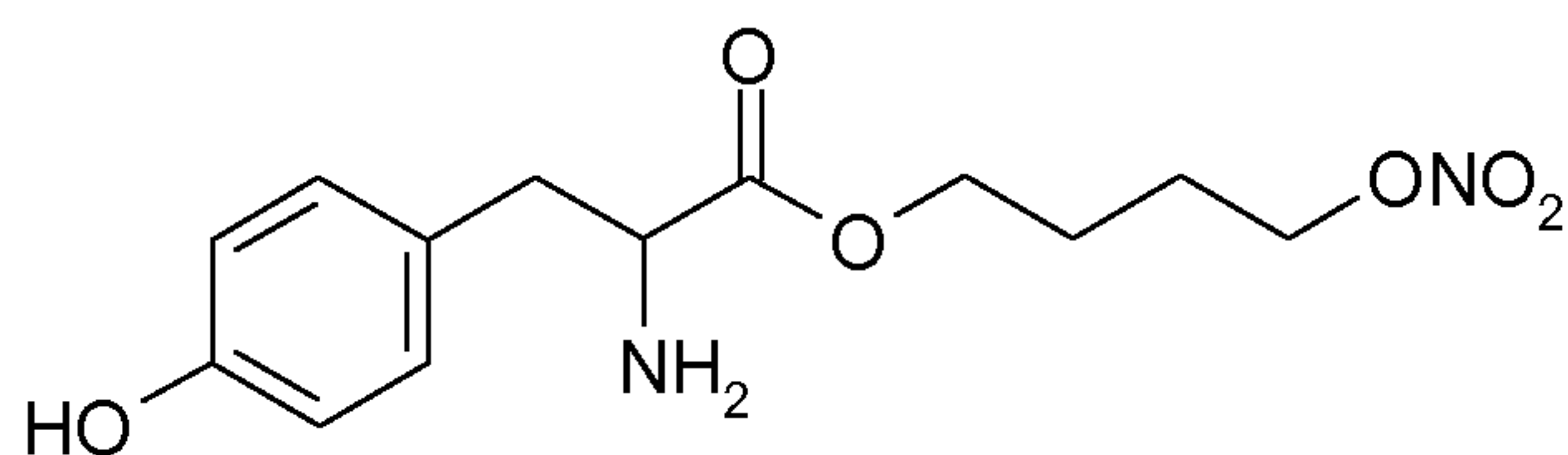


D) 4-(nitrooxy)butyl 2-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)propanoate



5 To a solution of Boc-(L)-tyrosine (5.0 g, 17.77 mmol) in N, N-dimethylformamide (40 ml) cesium carbonate (5.79 g, 17.77 mmol) was added. The reaction was cooled at 0°C and a solution of 4-bromobutyl nitrate (17.77 mmol) in dichloromethane (20% w/w, 17.06 g) was added drop wise. The reaction was stirred at 0°C
10 for 20 minutes and then at room temperature for 22 hours. The mixture was poured into a 5% aqueous NaH₂PO₄ solution and extracted with diethyl ether (40x4 ml), the organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography,
15 (Biotage System, column FLASH 65+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl acetate 9/1 (500 ml), to n-hexane/ethyl acetate 1/1 during 4000 ml, n-hexane/ethyl acetate 1/1 (1000 ml)). The product (3.91 g) was obtained.

E) 4-(nitrooxy)butyl 2-amino-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)propanoate



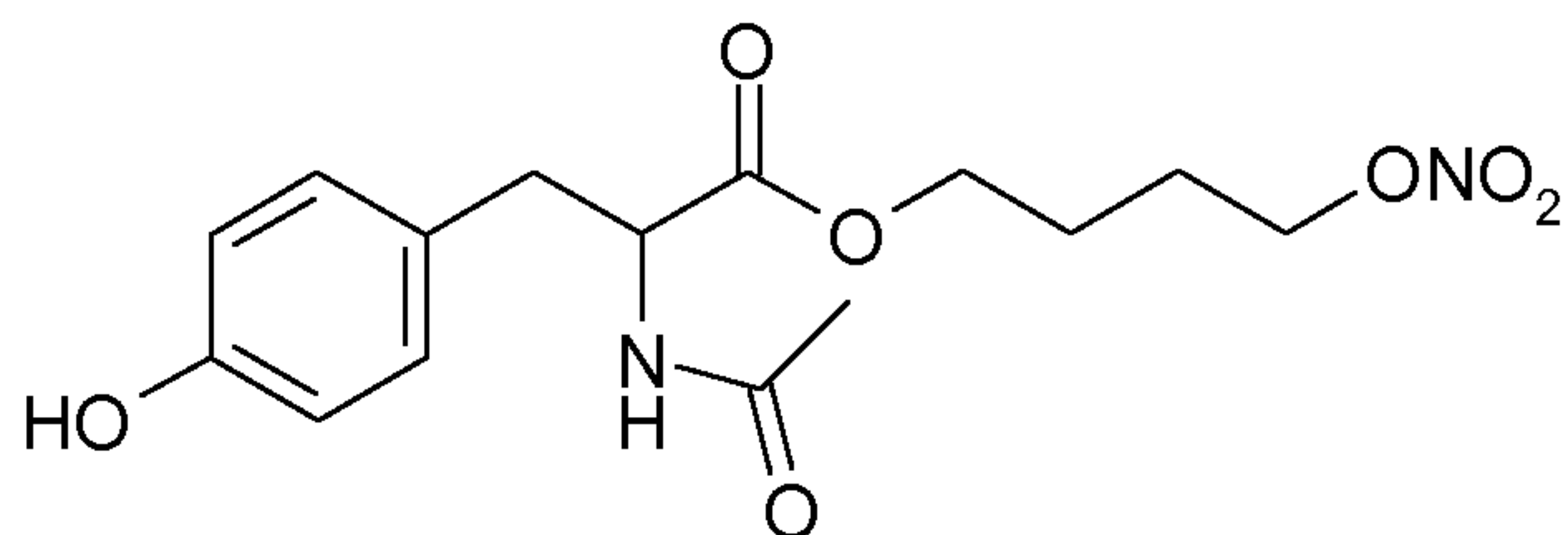
20

A solution of compound D (0.96 g, 2.41 mmol) in dichloromethane (20 ml) was stirred at room temperature. HCl gas was bubble in the solution for 3 hours. The mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (25 ml), washed with saturated aqueous sodium

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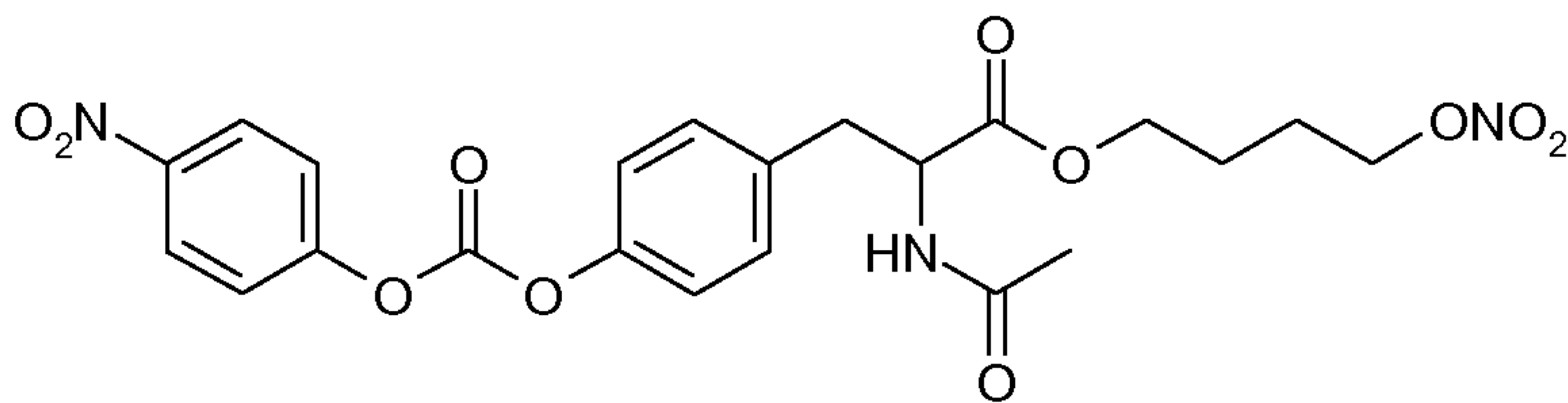
carbonate. The organic layer was dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure. The product (0.71 g) was used in the next step without any purification.

5 F) 4-(nitrooxy)butyl 2-acetamido-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)propanoate



To a solution of compound E (0.63 g, 2.25 mmol) in dichloromethane (15 ml) triethylamine (0.31 ml, 2.25 mmol) was added. The reaction was cooled at 0°C and acetyl chloride (0.17
10 ml, 2.48 mmol) was added drop wise. The reaction was stirred at 0°C for 10 minutes and then at room temperature for 16 hours. The mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (25 ml), washed with water. The organic layer was dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified
15 by flash chromatography, (Biotage System, column FLASH 25+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl acetate 9/1 (100 ml), to n-hexane/ethyl acetate 2/8 during 1200 ml). The product (0.54 g) was obtained.

20 G) 4-(nitrooxy)butyl 2-acetamido-3-(4-((4-nitrophenoxy)carbonyloxy) phenyl)propanoate

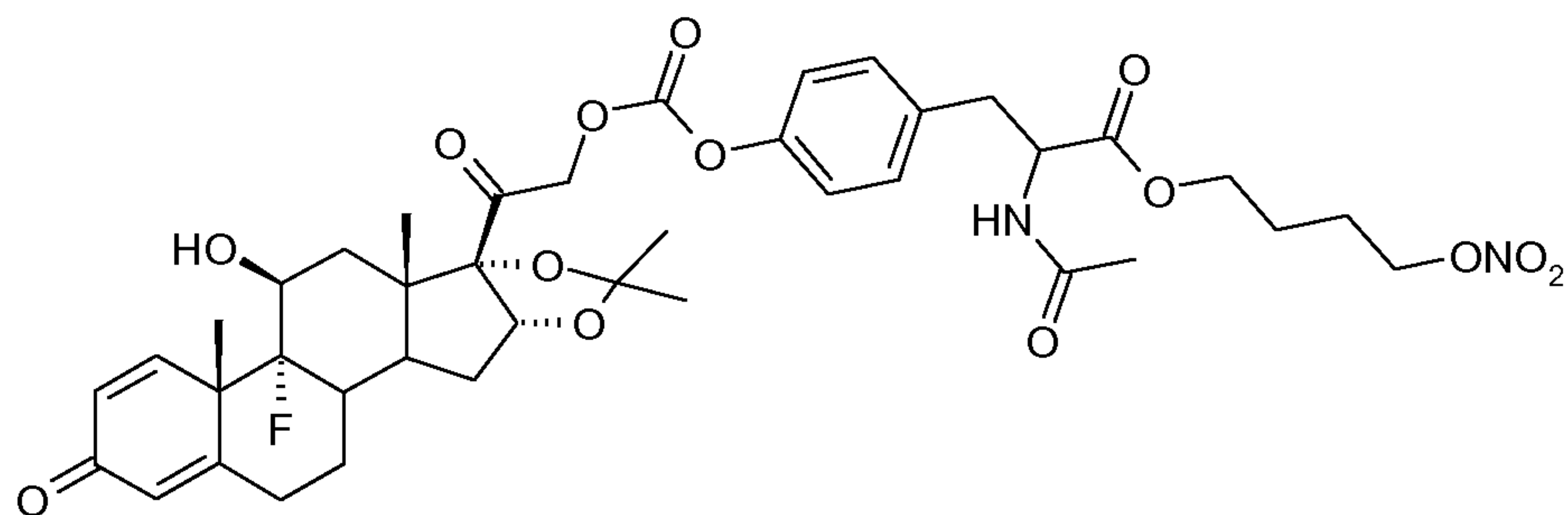


To a solution of compound F (0.54 g, 1.58 mmol) in dichloromethane (8 ml) pyridine (0.15 ml, 1.58 mmol) was added.
25 The reaction was cooled at 0°C and p-nitrophenylchloroformate (320 mg, 1.58 mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred at 0°C for 15 minutes and then at room temperature for 48 hours. The mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (25 ml), washed with

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1M aqueous HCl solution and then with saturated aqueous sodium carbonate. The organic layers was dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography, (Biotage System, column FLASH 25+M™
 5 KP-Sil, eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl acetate 9/1 (150 ml), to n-hexane/ethyl acetate 3/7 during 1200 ml, n-hexane/ethyl acetate 3/7 (600 ml)). The product (0.59 g) was obtained.

H) 4-(nitrooxy)butyl 2-acetamido-3-(4-((2-
 10 ((9R,10S,11S,13S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11 -hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-
 6,7,8,9,10,11,12, 13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethoxy) carbonyloxy) phenyl)propanoate



To a solution of compound G (0.55 g, 1.09 mmol) in dichloromethane (12 ml), scandium triflate (0.05 g, 0.11 mmol)
 20 and DMAP (0.26 g, 2.19 mmol) were added. The reaction was cooled at 0°C and triamcinolone acetonide (0.47 g, 1.09 mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 18 hours. The mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (24 ml), washed with 5% NaH₂PO₄ and then with saturated aqueous sodium
 25 carbonate. The organic layer was dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography, (Biotage System, column FLASH 25+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl acetate 9/1 (150 ml),

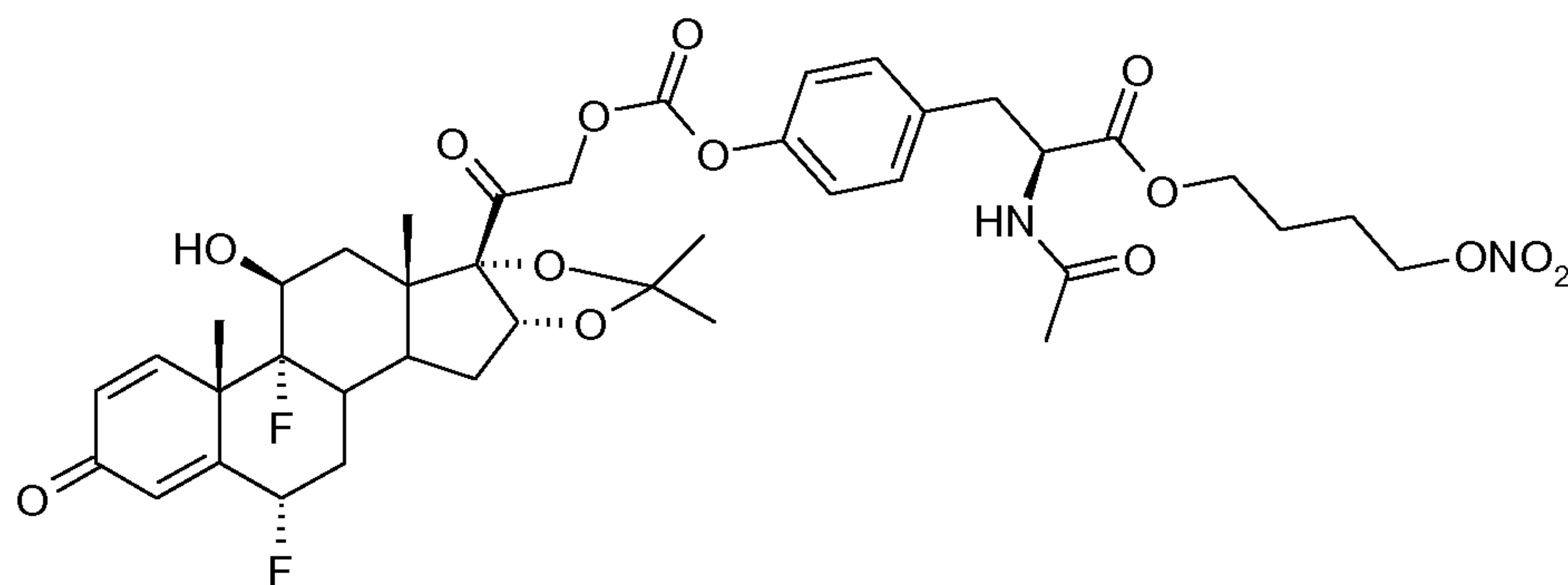
135

to n-hexane/ethyl acetate 2/8 during 1200 ml, n-hexane/ethyl acetate 2/8 (800 ml)). The product (0.29 g) was obtained.

¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ: 8.36 (1H, d); 7.37-7.32 (3H, m); 7.21-7.12 (2H, m); 6.23 (1H, dd); 6.02 (1H, s); 5.47 (1H, d); 5.31 (1H, d); 4.97-4.87 (2H, m); 4.59-4.48 (3H, m); 4.27-4.17 (1H, sb); 4.11-3.97 (2H, m); 3.10-2.90 (1H, m); 2.71-2.29 (4H, m); 2.10-1.75 (5H, m); 1.60-1.40 (7H, m); 1.38 (3H, s); 1.12 (3H, s); 0.80 (3H, s).

Example 6

Synthesis of (2S)-4-(nitrooxy)butyl 2-acetamido-3-(4-((2-((6S,9R,10S,11S,13S,16R,17S)-6,9-difluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethoxy)carbonyloxy)phenyl)propanoate



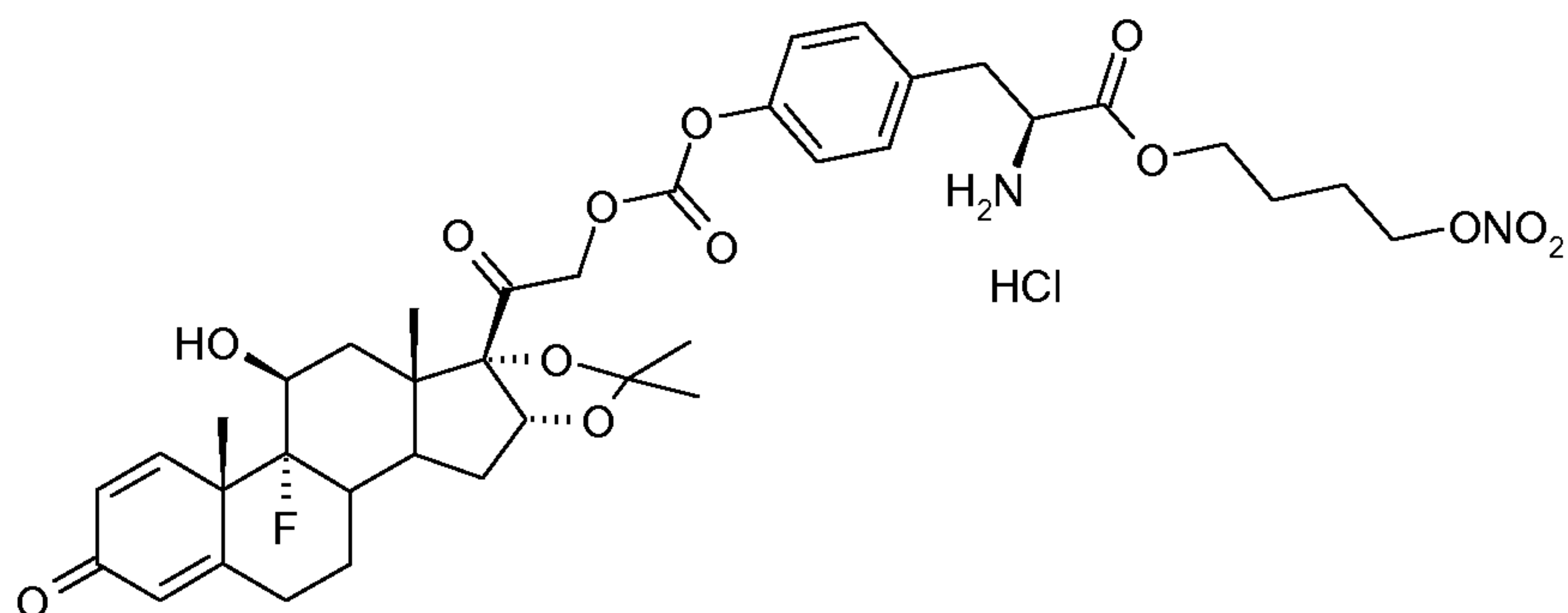
The compound was synthesized using the procedure described in example 5 starting from fluocinolone acetonide and compound G.

¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ: 8.36 (1H, d); 7.28 (3H, m); 7.09 (2H, m); 6.30 (1H, dd); 6.11 (1H, d); 5.56 (1H, d); 5.31 (1H, d); 4.91 (2H, m); 4.50 (2H, t); 4.93 (1H, m); 4.25 (1H, m); 4.02 (3H, t); 2.96 (2H, m); 2.27 (1H, m); 2.01 (3H, m); 1.90-1.25 (17H, m); 1.15 (3H, s); 0.80 (3H, s).

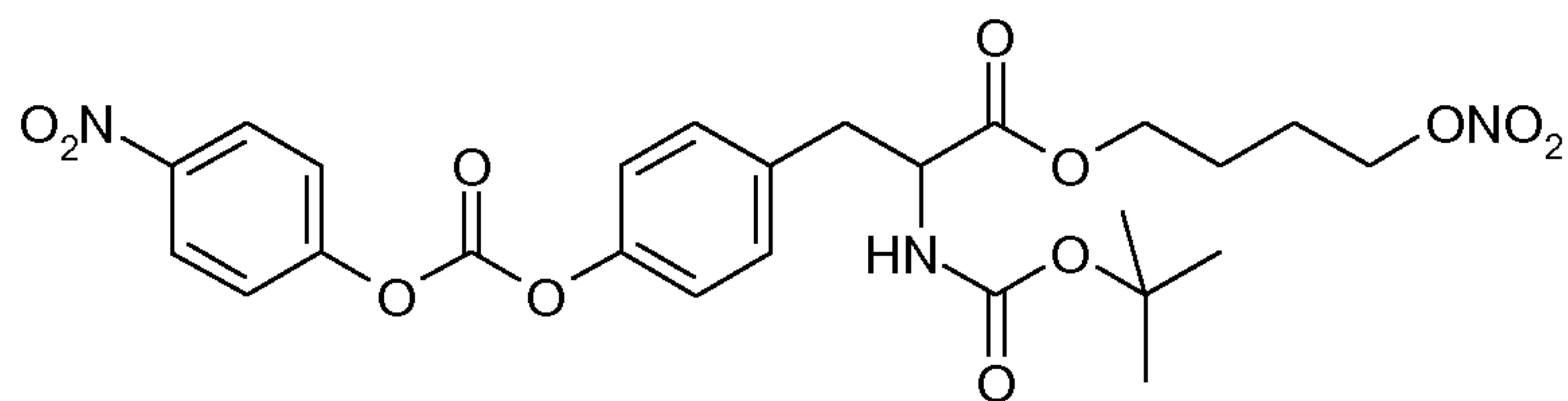
Example 7

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Synthesis of (2S)-4-(nitrooxy)butyl 2-amino-3-(4-((2-
 ((9R,10S,11S,13S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-
 methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-
 6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta
 5 [a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethoxy)carbonyloxy)phenyl)propanoate
 hydrochloride



10 I) 4-hydroxybutyl 2-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)-3-(4-((4-
 nitrophenoxy)carbonyloxy)phenyl) propanoate

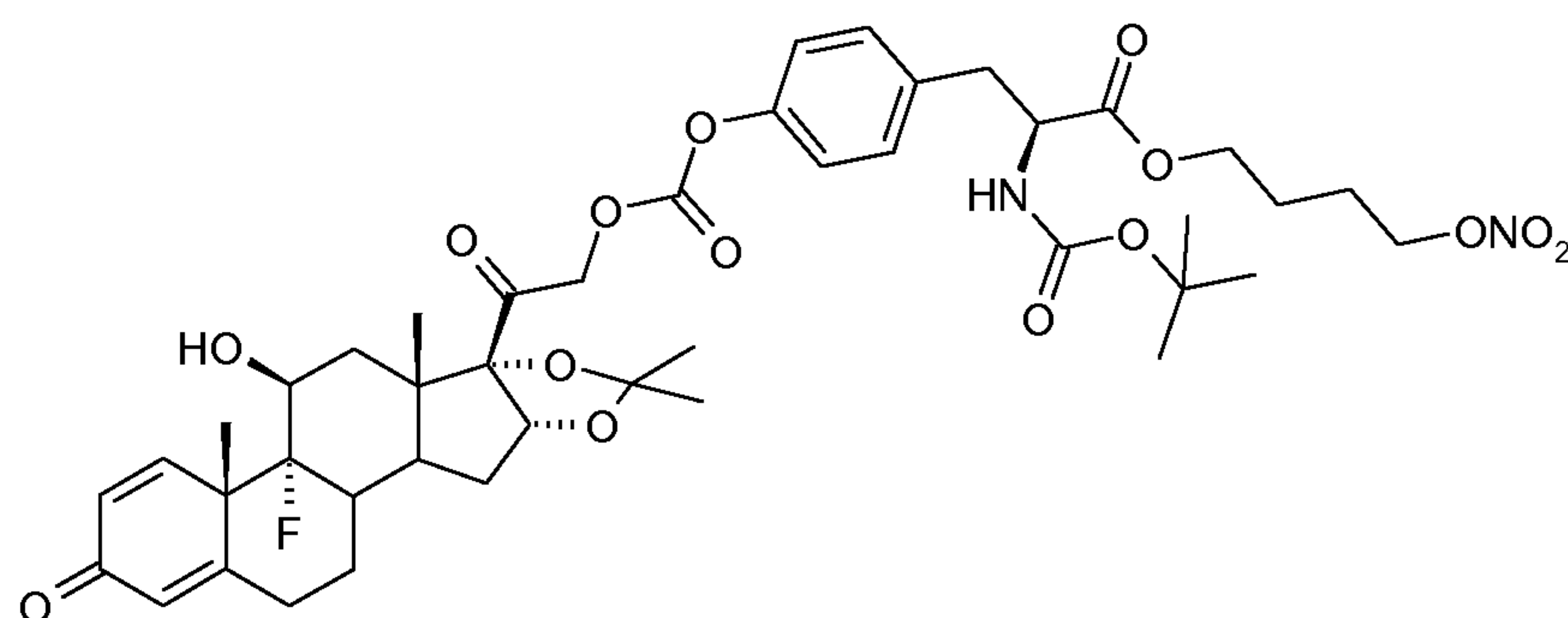


To a solution of compound D (1.97 g, 4.86 mmol) in
 15 dichloromethane (24 ml) pyridine (0.48 ml, 4.86 mmol) was
 added. The reaction was cooled at 0°C and p-
 nitrophenylchloroformate (980 mg, 4.86 mmol) was added. The
 reaction was stirred at 0°C for 10 minutes and then at room
 temperature for 21 hours. The mixture was diluted with
 20 dichloromethane (25 ml), washed with 1M aqueous HCl solution
 and then with saturated aqueous sodium carbonate. The organic
 layers was dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated under
 reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash
 chromatography, (Biotage System, column FLASH 40+M™ KP-Sil,
 25 eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl acetate 98/2 (200 ml), to n-

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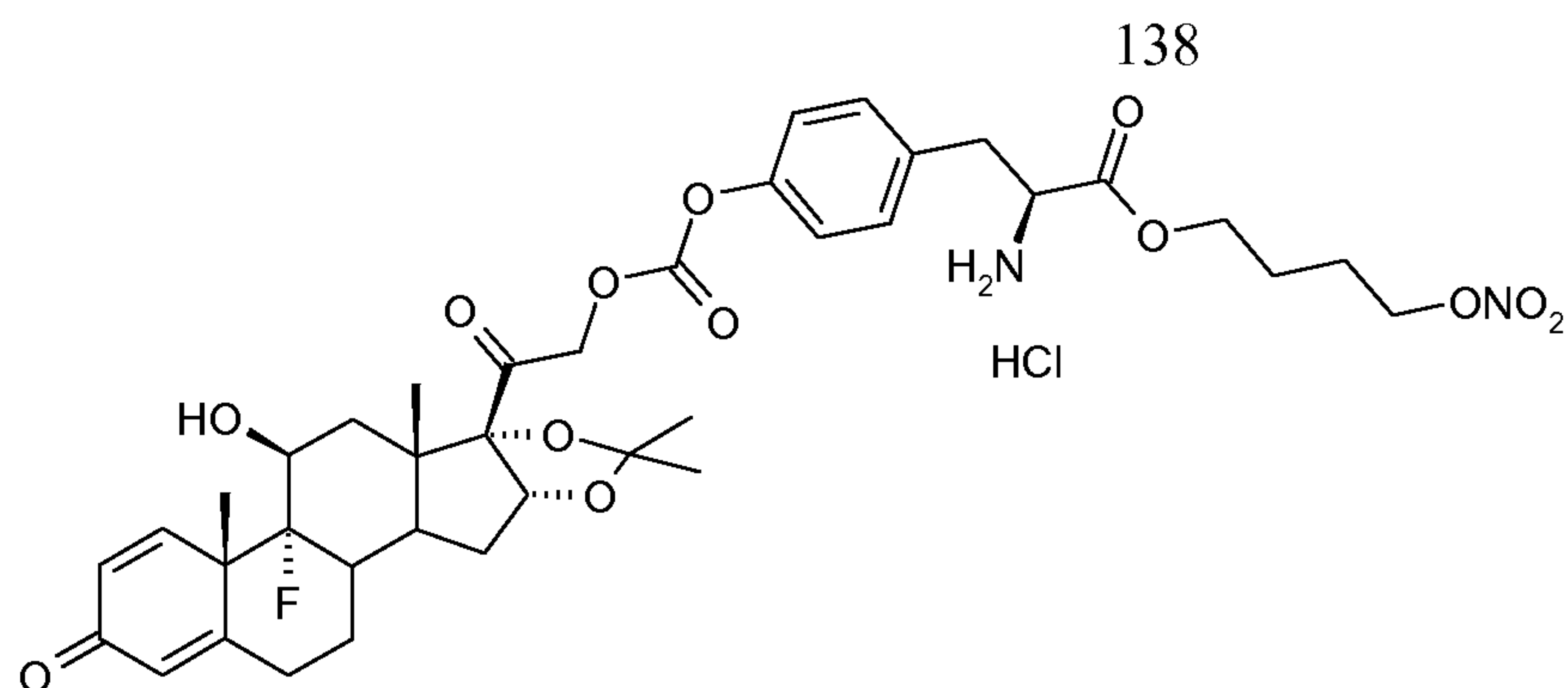
hexane/ethyl acetate 6/4 during 1600 ml, n-hexane/ethyl acetate 6/4 (300 ml)). The product (2.19 g) was obtained.

J) (2S)-4-(nitrooxy)butyl 2-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)-3-(4-
 5 ((2-((9R,10S,11S,13S,16R, 17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethoxy)carbonyloxy) phenyl)propanoate



To a solution of compound I (1.35 g, 2.4 mmol) in
 dichloromethane (40 ml), scandium triflate (0.11 g, 0.24 mmol)
 and DMAP (0.57 g, 4.8 mmol) were added. The reaction was cooled
 at 0°C and triamcinolone acetonide (1.25 g, 2.88 mmol) was
 15 added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 70
 hours. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The
 residue was purified by flash chromatography, (Biotage System,
 column FLASH 40+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl
 acetate 9/1 (200 ml), to n-hexane/ethyl acetate 3/7 during 1600
 20 ml, n-hexane/ethyl acetate 3/7 (500 ml)). The product (0.98 g)
 was obtained.

K) (2S)-4-(nitrooxy)butyl-2-amino-3-(4-((2-((9R,10S,11S,13S,
 16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis
 25 (oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-
 dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethoxy)
 carbonyloxy) phenyl)propanoate hydrochloride

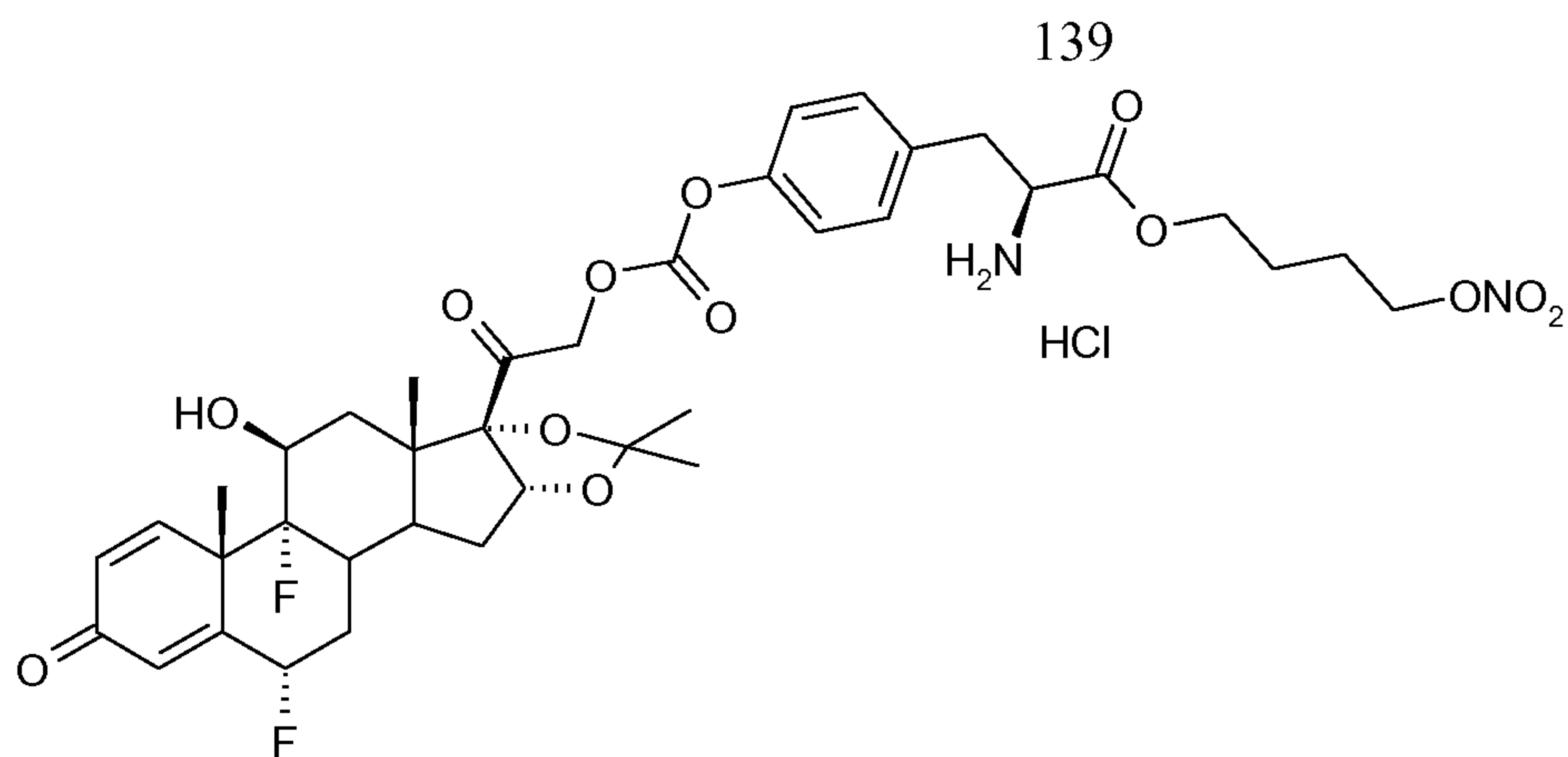


A solution of compound J (1.42 g, 1.65 mmol) in dichloromethane (28 ml) was stirred at room temperature. HCl gas was bubbled in the solution for 15 minutes. The mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (35 ml), washed with saturated aqueous sodium carbonate. The organic layer was dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by reverse-phase flash chromatography, (Biotage System, column FLASH 40+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient water/acetonitrile 9/1 (150 ml), to water/acetonitrile 2/8 during 1400 ml, water/acetonitrile 2/8 (200 ml)). The free base of product M (0.67 g) was treated with a solution of HCl in diethyl ether. The hydrochloride salt of compound M was filtered and dried under vacuum. The product (0.57 g) was obtained.

¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ : 8.57 (2H, m); 7.38-7.29 (3H, m); 7.22-7.19 (2H, m); 6.22 (1H, dd); 6.00 (1H, s); 5.54 (1H, d); 5.31 (1H, d); 4.88-4.84 (2H, m); 4.52-4.40 (2H, m); 4.25-4.20 (1H, sb); 4.16-4.09 (3H, m); 3.22-3.04 (1H, m); 2.71-2.29 (4H, m); 2.10-1.75 (5H, m); 1.60-1.34 (7H, m); 1.13 (3H, s); 0.82 (3H, s).

Example 8

Synthesis of (2S)-4-(nitrooxy)butyl 2-amino-3-(4-((2-((6S,9R,10S,11S,13S,16R,17S)-6,9-difluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethoxy)carbonyloxy)phenyl)propanoate hydrochloride

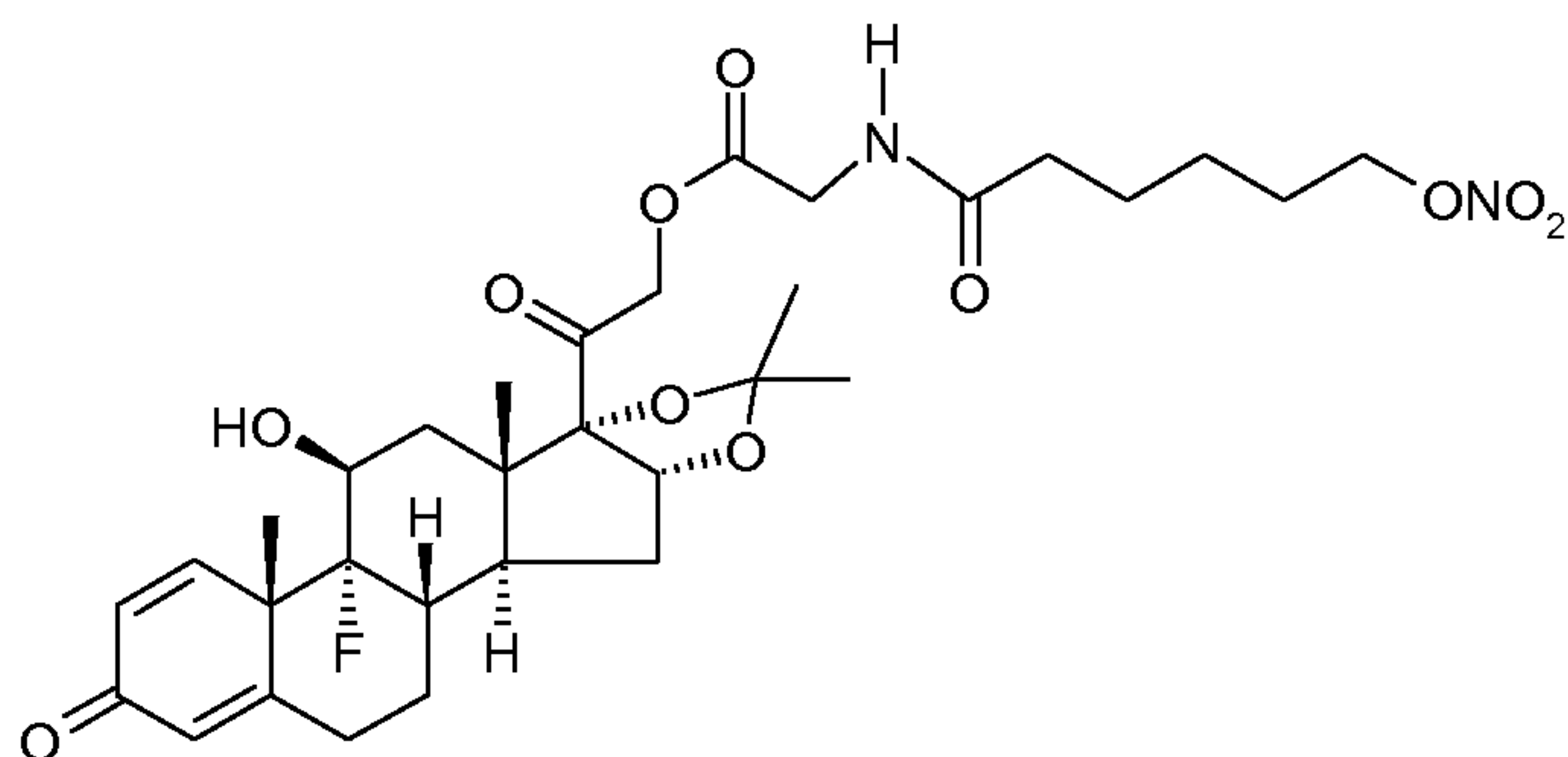


The compound was synthesized using the procedure described in example 7 starting from fluocinolone acetonide and compound I.

5 $^1\text{H-NMR}$: (DMSO), δ : 8.64 (2H, s); 7.41-7.35 (3H, m); 7.23 (2H, d); 6.30 (1H, dd); 6.11 (1H, s); 5.80-5.50 (2H, m); 5.40-5.27 (1H, m); 5.00-4.75 (2H, m); 4.53-4.45 (2H, m); 4.48-4.05 (4H, m); 3.31-3.03 (2H, m); 2.75-2.60 (1H, m); 2.27 (1H, sb); 2.11-1.98 (3H, m); 1.82-1.52 (5H, m); 1.50 (3H, s); 1.38 (3H, s);
 10 1.10 (3H, s); 0.81 (3H, s).

Example 9

Synthesis of 2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-(1-methyl ethylidenebis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta
 15 [a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl-2-(5-(nitrooxy)pentanamido)acetate



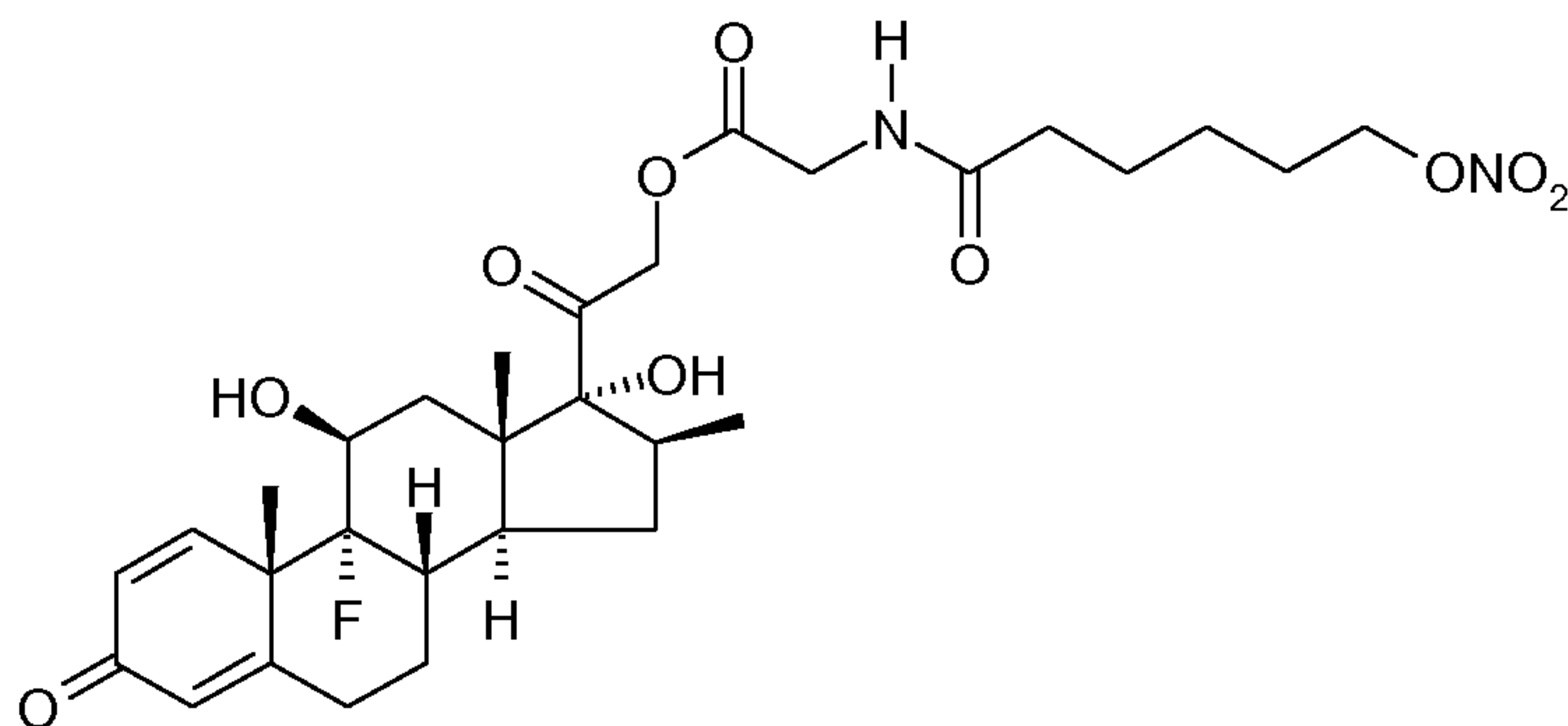
20 The compound was synthesized using the procedure described in example I starting from triamcinolone acetonide, Boc-glycine and 4-nitrooxybutyric acid pentafluorophenol ester.

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¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ : 7.29 (1H, d); 6.23 (1H, dd); 6.02 (1H, s); 5.48 (1H, d); 5.20 (1H, d); 4.86 (1H, m); 4.78 (1H, d); 4.50 (2H, t); 4.18 (1H, sb); 3.98-3.96 (2H, m); 2.71-2.25 (2H, m); 2.30 (5H, m); 1.75-1.42 (14H, m); 1.4-1.32 (4H, m); 1.12 (3H, s); 0.83 (3H, s).

Example 10

Synthesis of 2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16S,17R)-9-fluoro-11,17-dihydroxy-10,13,16-trimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl 2-(5-(nitrooxy)hexanamidoamido)acetate



The compound was synthesized using the procedure described in example I starting from betamethasone, Boc-glycine and 6-nitrooxyhexanoic acid pentafluorophenol ester.

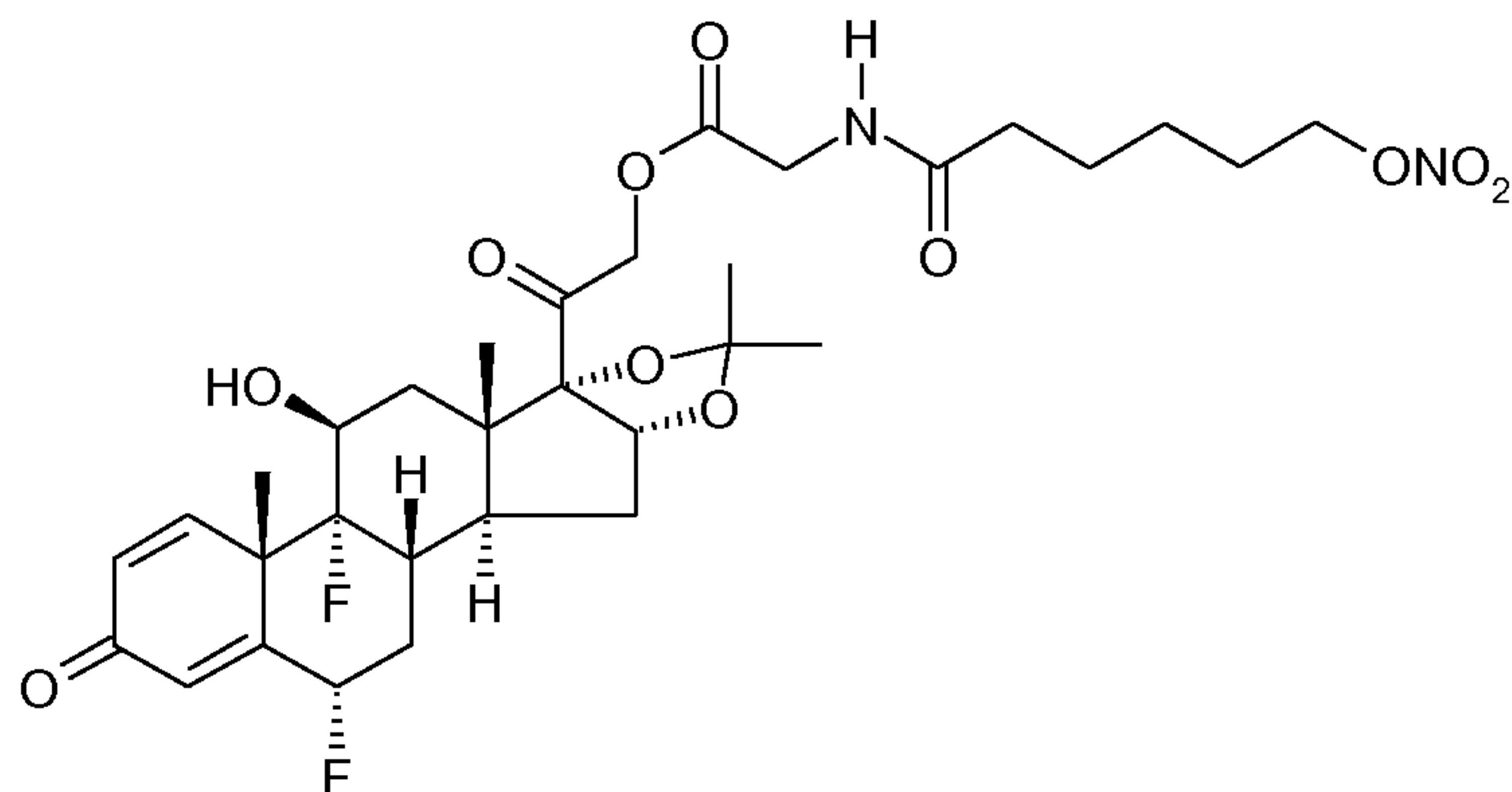
¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ : 8.28 (1H, t); 7.27 (1H, d); 6.15 (1H, dd); 5.99 (1H, s); 5.35 (1H, s); 5.27 (1H, d); 4.99 (1H, d), 4.79 (1H, d); 4.48 (2H, t), 4.11 (1H, m); 3.91 (2H, d); 2.60 (1H, m); 2.50-2.30 (2H, m); 2.10 (4H, m); 2.00-1.80 (3H, m); 1.70-1.30 (11H, m); 1.00 (4H, d); 0.99 (3H, s).

Example 11

Synthesis of 2-((6S,8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-6,9-difluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-dimethoxy-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-

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cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl-2-(6-nitrooxy
hexanamido) acetate

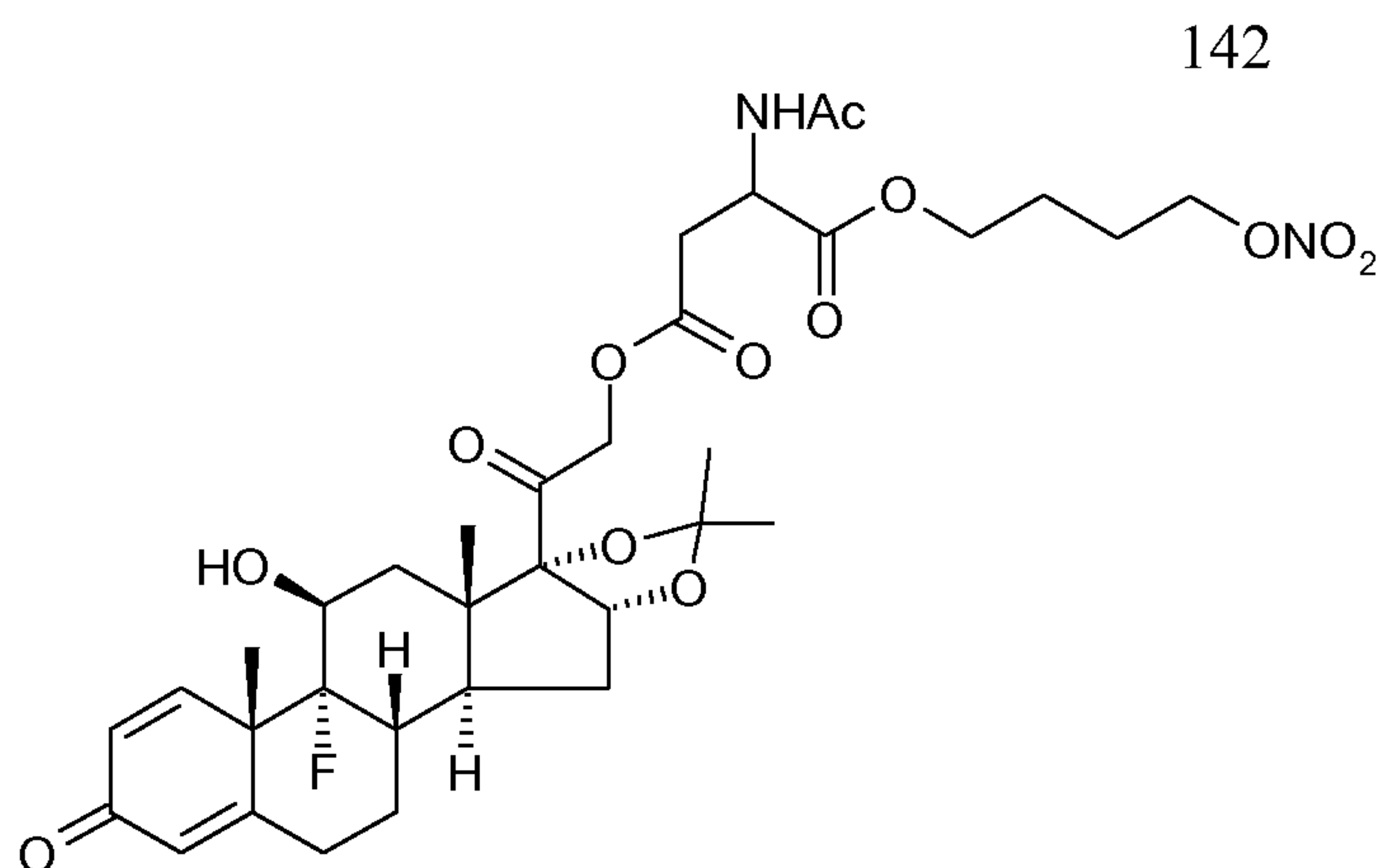


The compound was synthesized using the procedure described in example I starting from fluocinolone acetonide, Boc-glycine and 6-nitrooxyhexanoic acid pentafluorophenol ester.

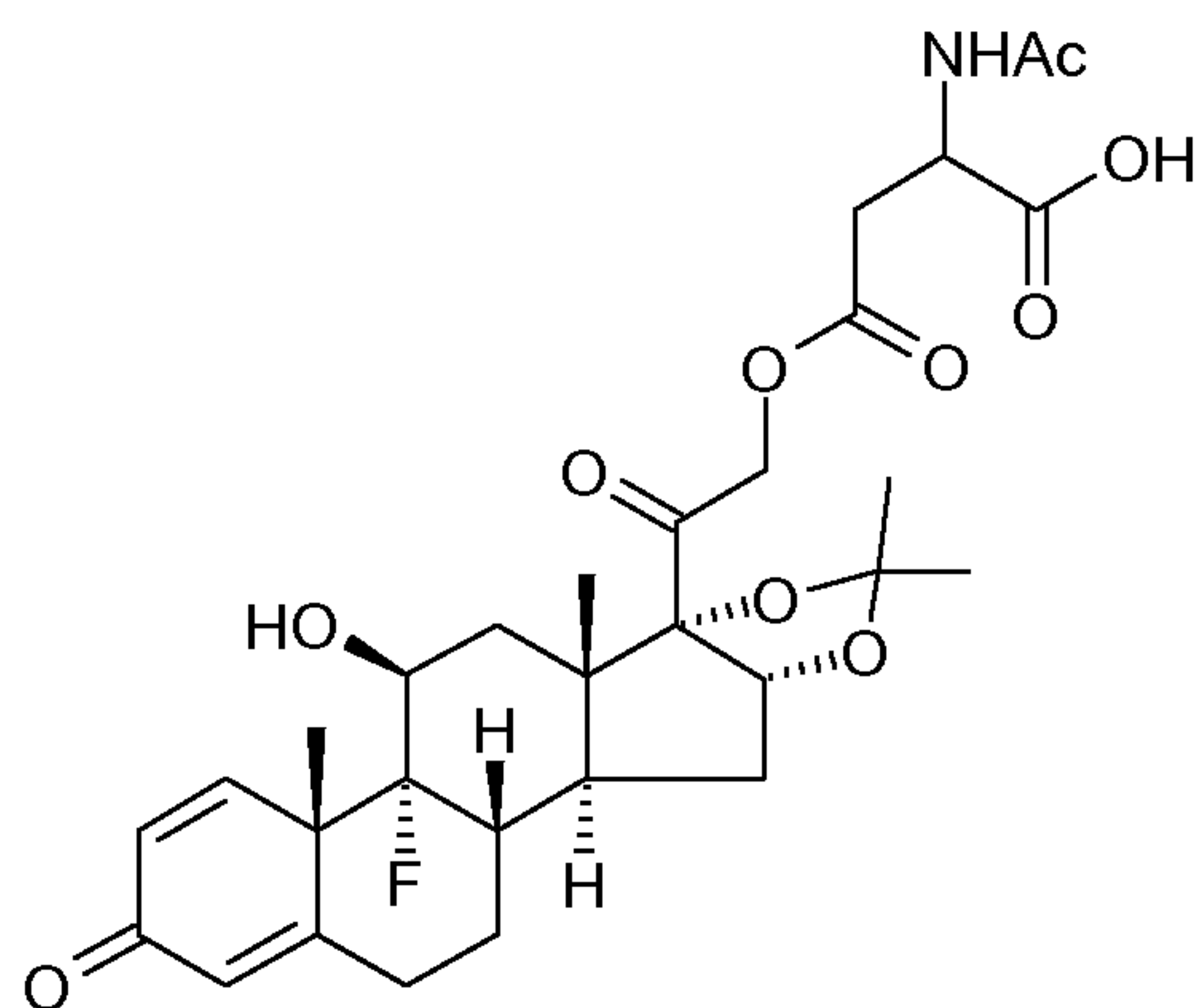
$^1\text{H-NMR}$: (DMSO), δ : 8.32 (1H, t); 7.25 (1H, d); 6.28 (1H, dd); 6.09 (1H, s); 5.74-5.50 (2H, m); 5.18 (1H, d); 4.85 (1H, d); 4.78 (1H, d); 4.48 (2H, t); 4.19 (1H, sb); 3.94 (2H, m); 2.63-2.48 (1H, m); 2.25 (1H, t); 2.13 (2H, t); 2.10-1.93 (2H, m); 1.73-1.40 (11H, m); 1.30 (5H, m); 1.10 (3H, s); 0.8 (3H, s).

Example 12

Synthesis of 1-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S, 16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta
[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl)-1-(4-(nitrooxy)butyl) 2-
acetamido pentanedioate



L) 2-acetamido-4-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta
 5 [a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethoxy)-4-oxobutanoic acid

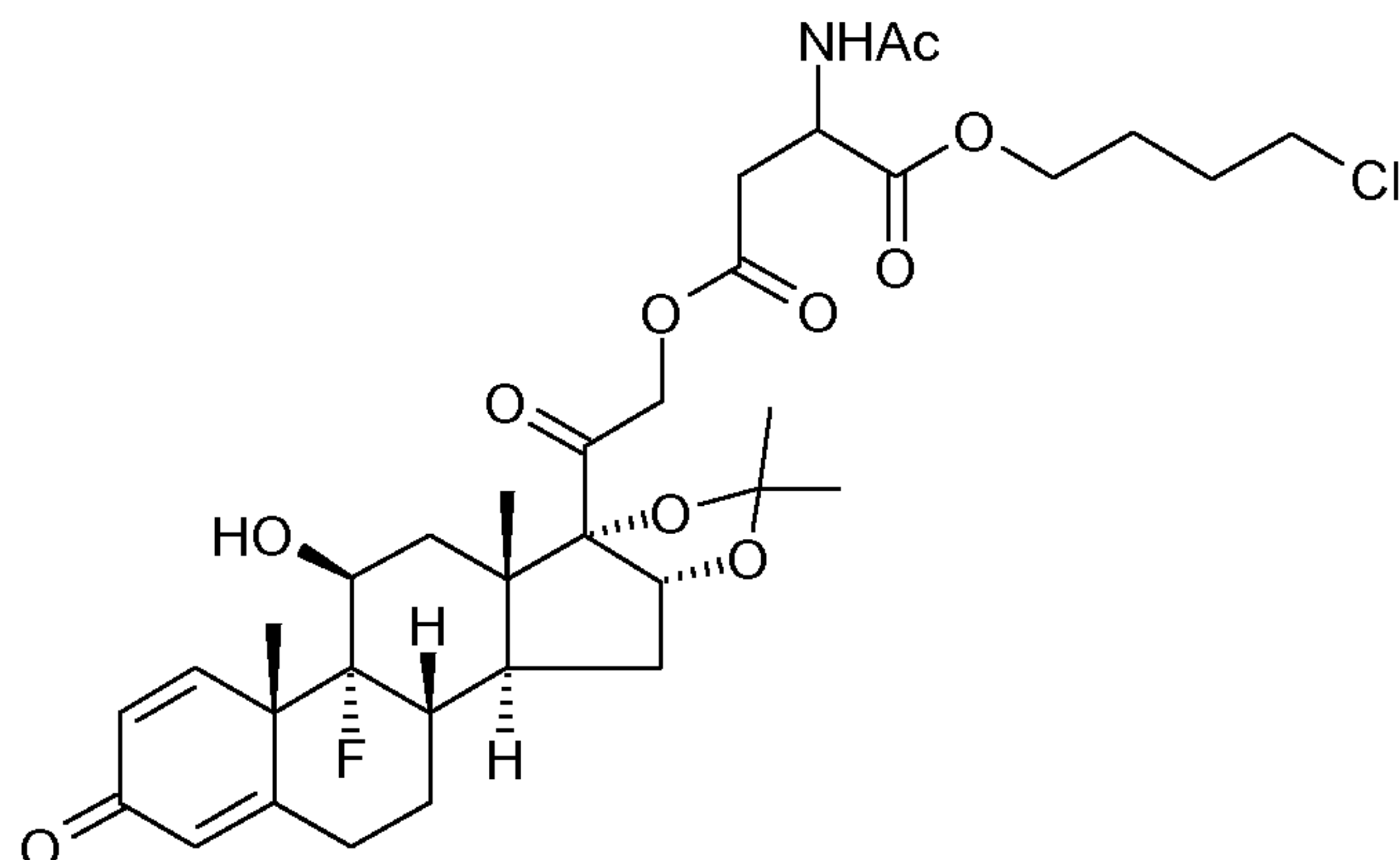


To a solution of triamcinolone acetonide (3.1 g, 7.13 mmol) in acetone (100 ml), N-acetyl aspartic acid (2.0 g, 11.42 mmol) and DMAP (cat. amount) were added. The reaction was cooled at
 10 0°C and EDAC (2.18 g, 11.42 mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (Biotage System, column FLASH 65+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient dichloromethane/methanol 95/5 (675 ml), to
 15 dichloromethane/methanol 9/1 during 3600 ml, dichloromethane/methanol 9/1 (900 ml)). The product (2.67 g) was obtained.

M) 1-(4-chlorobutyl) 4-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-
 20 dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15, 16,17-dodecahydro-3H-

143

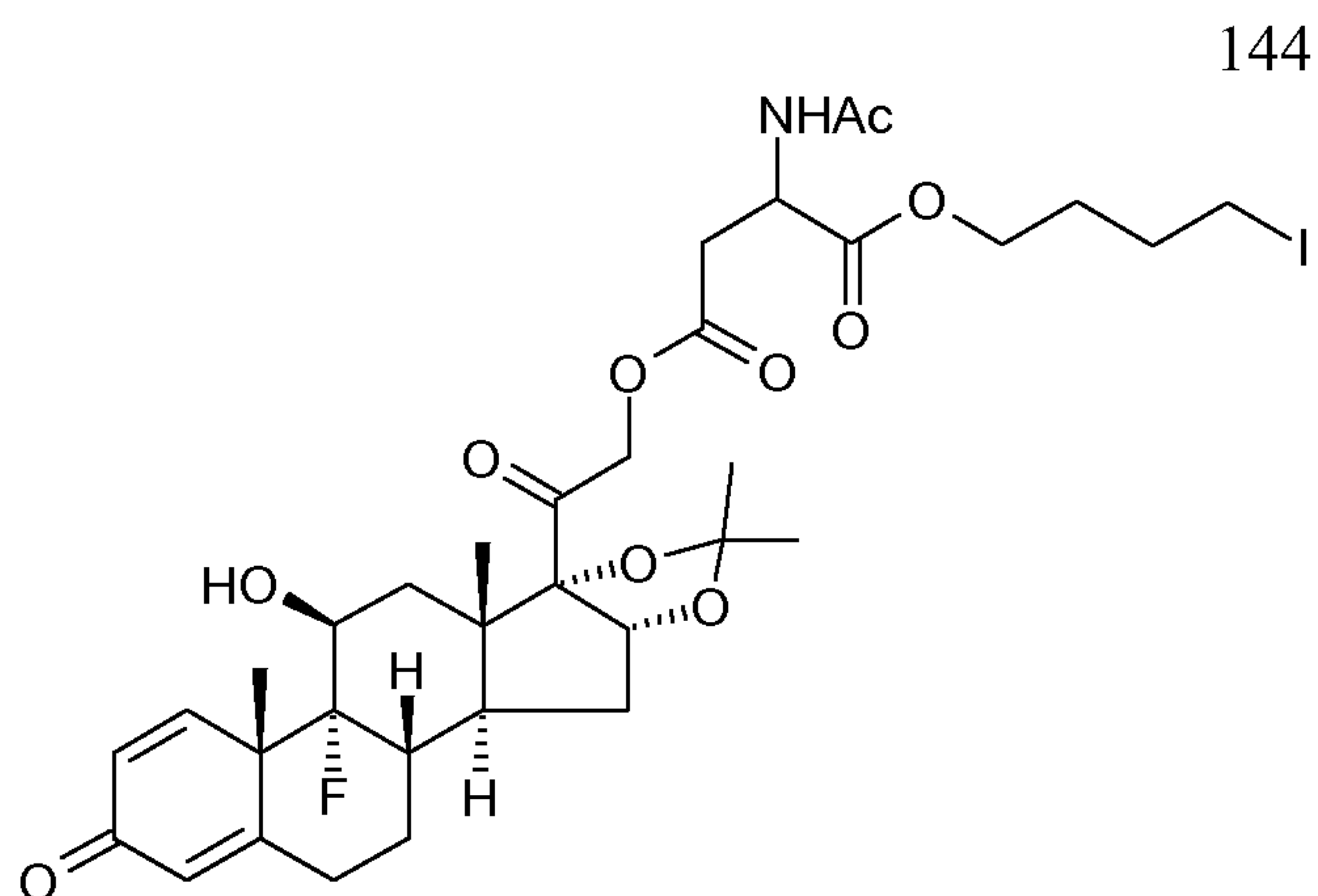
cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl)2-acetamido
succinate



To a solution of compound L (0.6 g, 1.31 mmol) in
5 dichloromethane (30 ml), 4-chlorobutanol (0.13 ml, 1.31 mmol)
and DMAP (cat. amount) were added. The reaction was cooled at
0°C and EDAC (0.25 g, 1.31 mmol) was added. The reaction was
stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. The solvent was
evaporated under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash
10 chromatography (Biotage System, column FLASH 25+M™ KP-Sil,
eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl acetate 6/4 (60 ml), to n-
hexane/ethyl acetate 2/8 during 600 ml, to ethyl acetate
during 60 ml, ethyl acetate (180 ml)). The product (0.65 g)
was obtained.

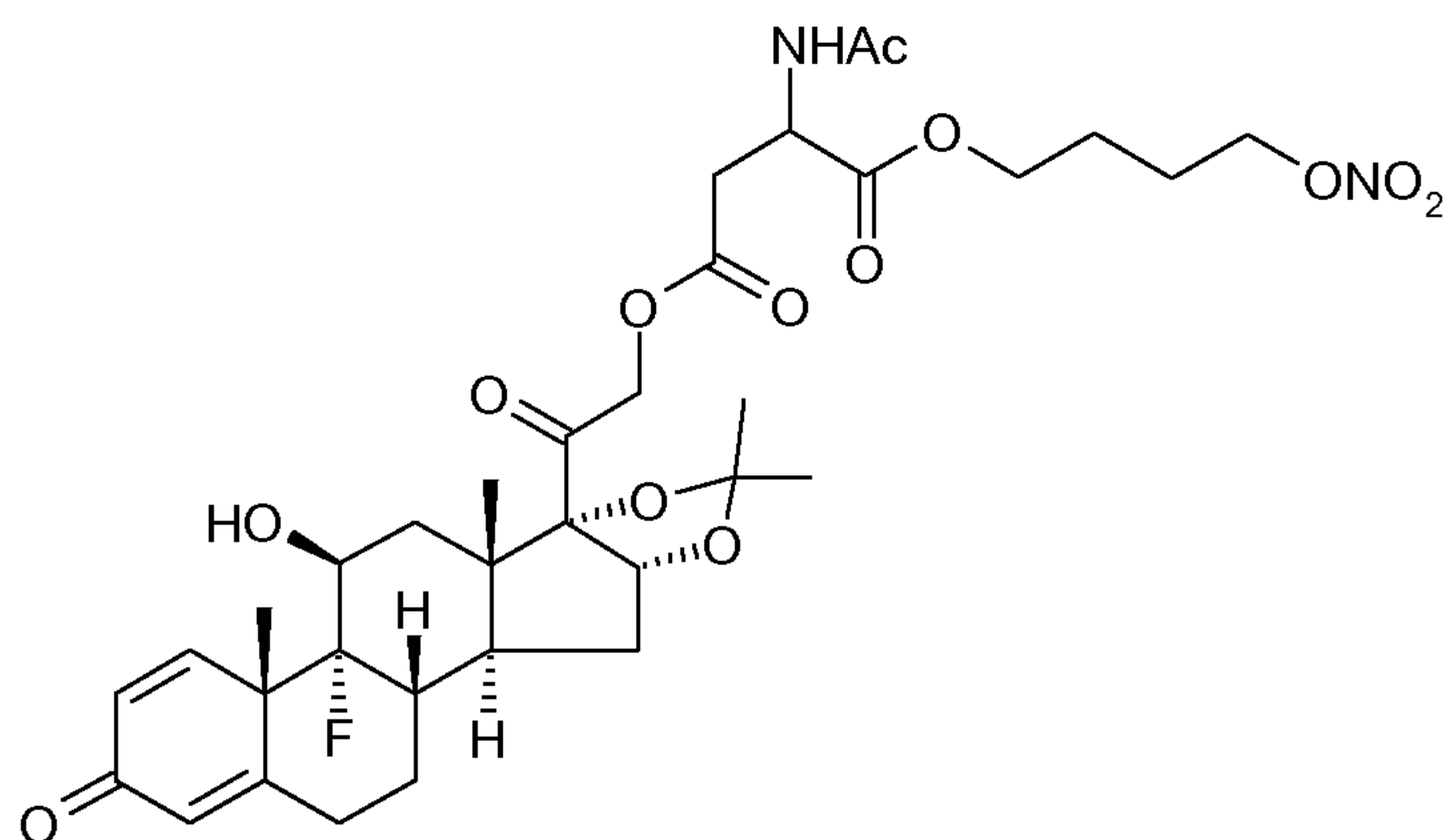
15

N) 1-(4-iodobutyl) 4-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-9-
fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17--((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-
dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15, 16,17-dodecahydro-3H-
cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl)2-acetamido
20 succinate



To a solution of compound M (0.55 g, 0.76 mmol) in acetonitrile (18 ml), sodium iodide (0.45 g, 3.06 mmol) was added. The reaction was heated to 120°C for 60 minutes under microwave irradiation. The resulting mixture was cooled, filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give a solid product which was used without further purification.

O) 1-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S, 16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13, 14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl)-1-(4-(nitrooxy)butyl)2-acetamidopentanedioate



To a solution of compound N (0.60 g, 0.76 mmol) in acetonitrile (20 ml), silver nitrate (0.51 g, 3.06 mmol) was added. The reaction was heated to 120°C for 5 minutes under microwave irradiation. The resulting mixture was cooled, filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (Biotage System, column FLASH

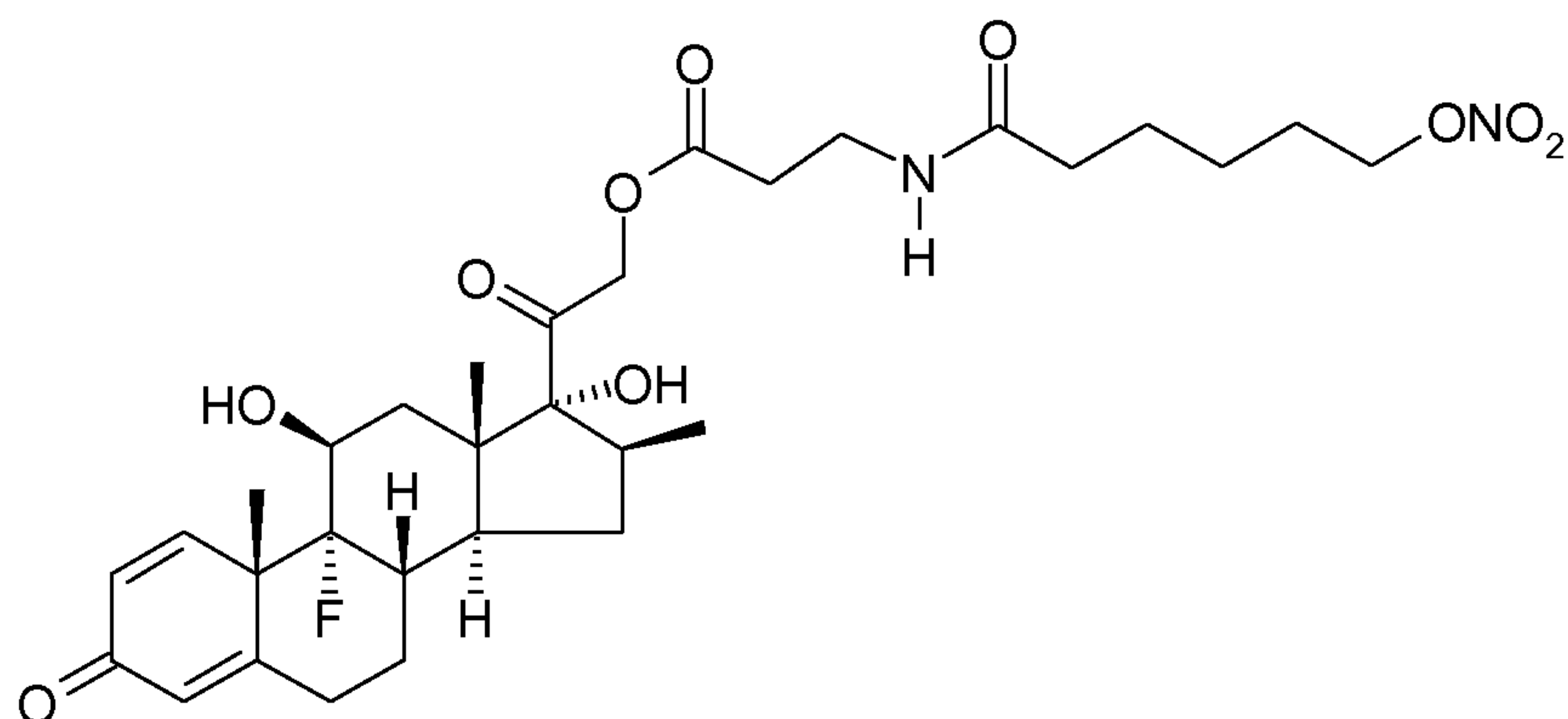
145

25+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl acetate 4/6 (60 ml), to ethyl acetate 100% during 480 ml, ethyl acetate (120 ml)). The product (0.40 g) was obtained.

¹H-NMR: (DMSO): 8.45 (1H, d); 7.26 (1H, d); 6.22 (1H, dd); 6.00
 5 (1H, s); 5.48 (1H, m); 5.12 (1H, dd), 4.84-4.76 (3H, m); 4.52 (2H, t); 4.20 (1H, m), 4.06 (2H, m); 2.87 (1H, dm); 2.75-2.48 (3H, m); 2.10-1.75 (4H, m); 1.82 (3H, s); 1.50-1.70 (7H, m); 1.47 (3H, s); 1.33 (4H, m); 1.15 (3H, s); 0.83 (3H, s).

10 Example 13

Synthesis of 2-((8S,9R,10S,11S, 3S,14S,16S,17R) -9-fluoro-11,17-dihydroxy-10,13,16-trimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a] phenanthren-17-yl)-
 15 2-oxoethyl 3-(6-(nitrooxy)hexanamido) propanoate

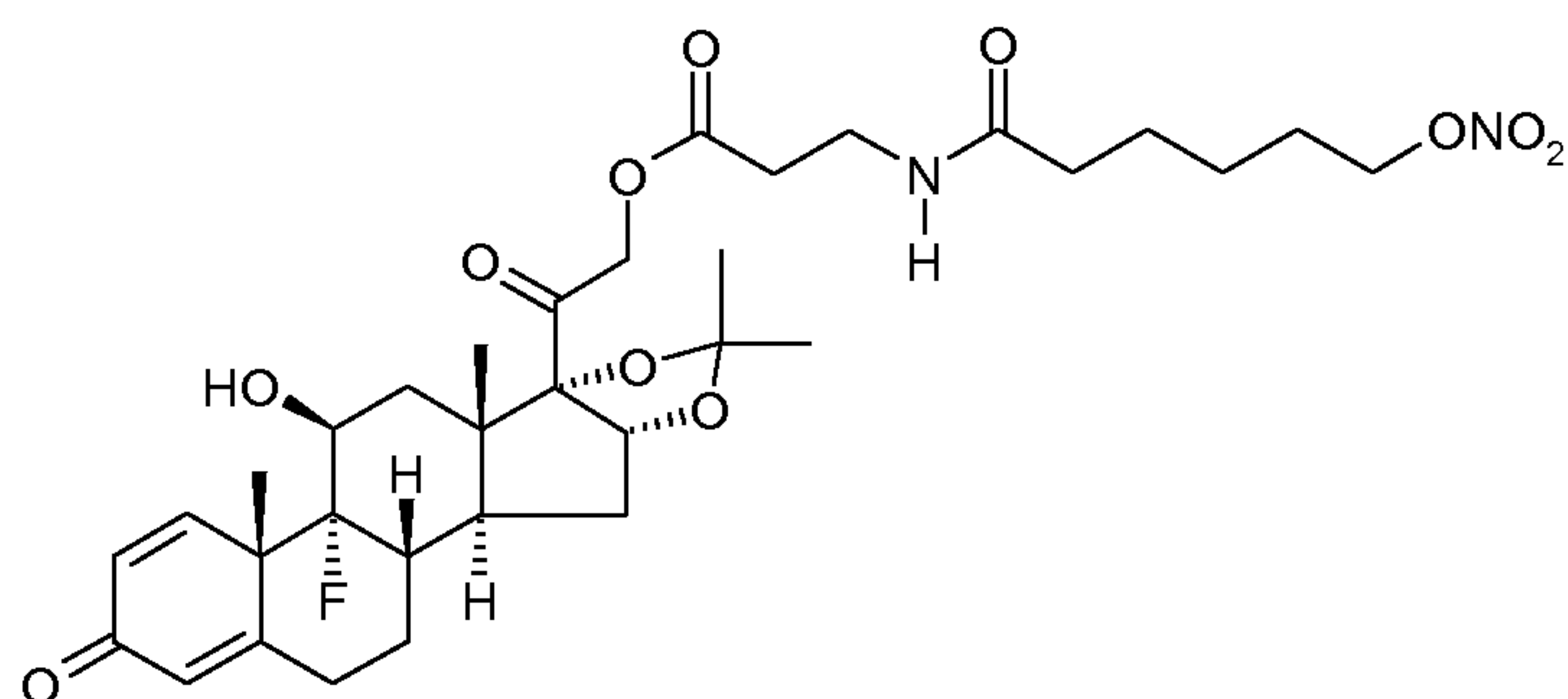


The compound was synthesized using the procedure described in example I starting from betamethasone, Boc-beta-alanine and
 20 6-nitrooxyhexanoic acid pentafluorophenol ester.

¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ: 7.88 (1H, t); 7.29 (1H, d); 6.22 (1H, dd); 6.01 (1H, s); 5.36 (1H, s); 5.31 (1H, d); 5.01 (1H, d); 4.84 (1H, d); 4.50 (2H, t); 4.15 (1H, sb); 3.48-3.25 (2H, m); 2.75-2.25 (7H, m); 2.20-2.00 (4H, m); 1.99-1.75 (4H, m); 1.71-1.61
 25 (2H, m); 1.57-1.48 (5H, m); 1.42-1.27 (2H, m); 1.01 (3H, d); 0.90 (3H, s).

Example 14

Synthesis of 2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S, 16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-dimethoxy-10,13--((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta
 5 [a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl-3-(6-(nitrooxy)hexanamido)propanoate

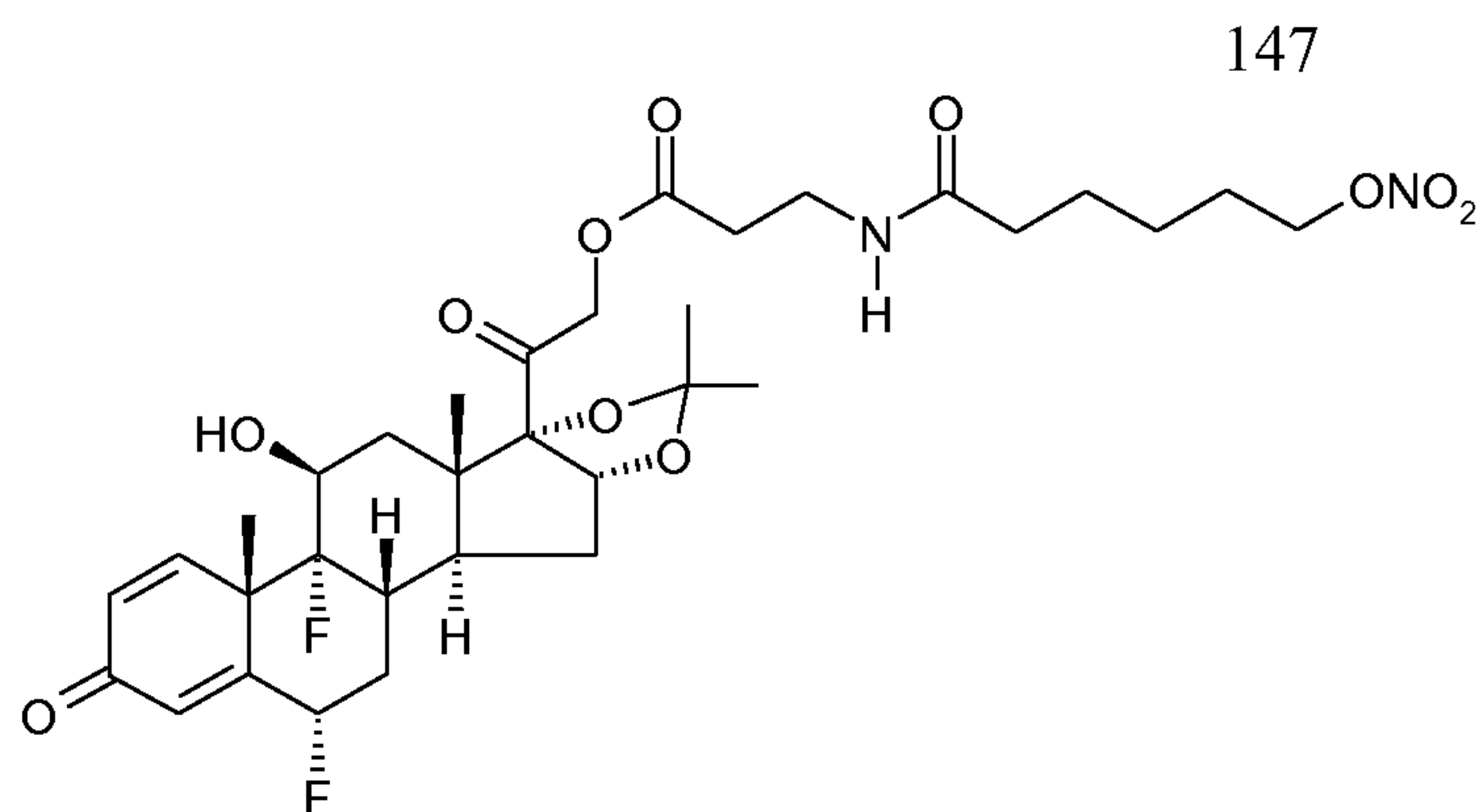


The compound was synthesized using the procedure described in example I starting from triamcinolone acetonide, Boc-beta-
 10 alanine and 6-nitrooxyhexanoic acid pentafluorophenol ester.

¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ: 8.31 (1H, t); 7.30 (1H, d); 6.24 (1H, dd); 6.01 (1H, s); 5.49 (1H, d); 5.25 (1H, d); 4.86 (1H, d); 4.75 (1H, d); 4.50 (2H, t); 4.19 (1H, sb); 3.93 (2H, m); 2.75-2.25 (2H, m); 2.15 (2H, t); 2.10-1.75 (3H, m); 1.75-1.45 (7H, m);
 15 1.47 (3H, s); 1.40-1.20 (6H, m); 1.17 (5H, m); 0.80 (3H, s).

Example 15

Synthesis of 2-((6S,8S,9R,10S,11S,13S, 14S,16R ,17S)-6,9-difluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12, 13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl-3-(6-(nitrooxy)
 20 hexanamido) propanoate

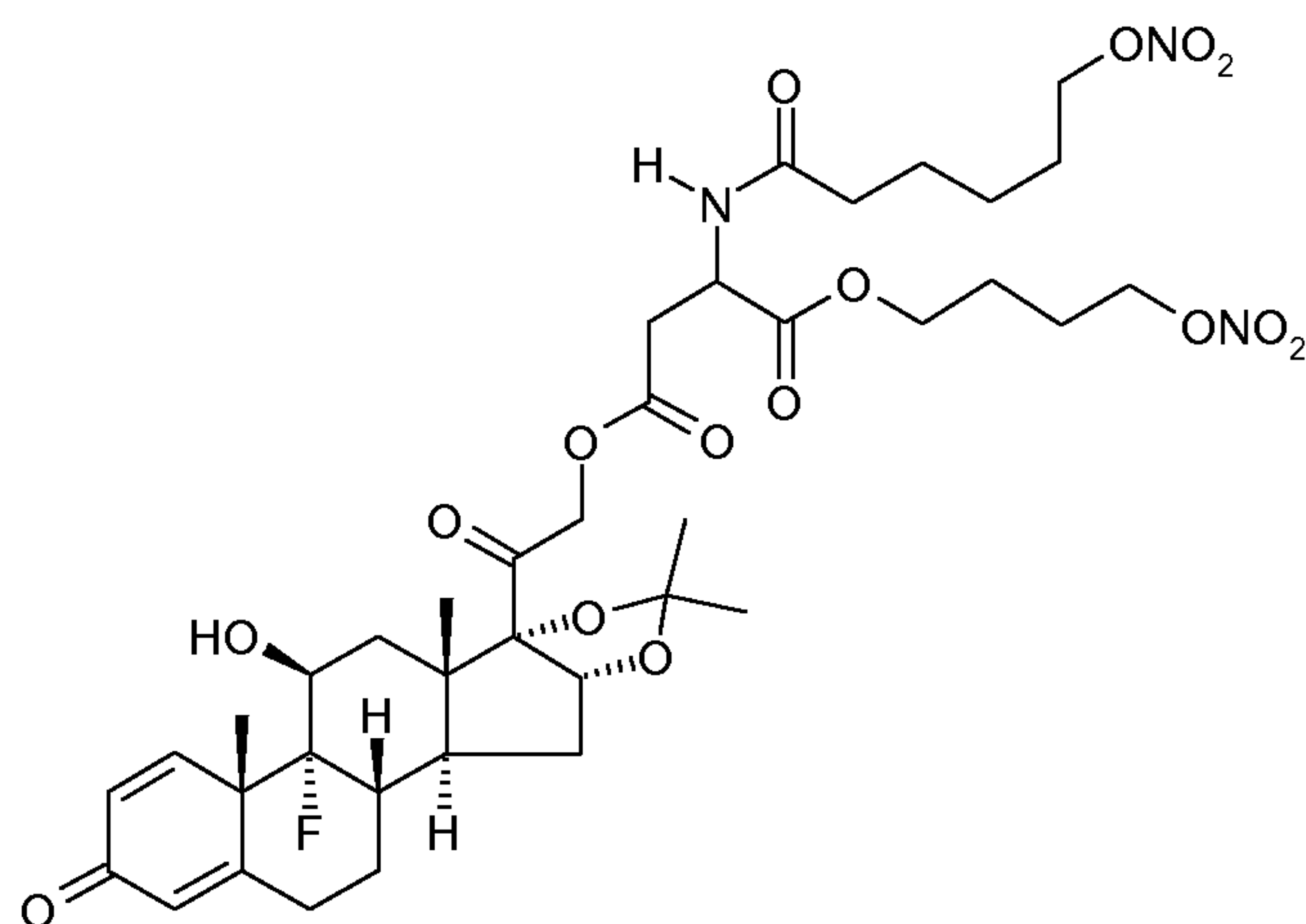


The compound was synthesized using the procedure described in example I starting from fluocinolone acetonide, Boc-beta-alanine and 6-nitrooxyhexanoic acid pentafluorophenol ester.

5 $^1\text{H-NMR}$: (DMSO), δ : 7.91 (1H, t); 7.27 (1H, d); 6.30 (1H, dd); 6.11 (1H, s); 5.75-5.50 (2H, m); 5.16 (1H, d); 4.85-4.90 (1H, m); 4.76 (1H, d); 4.61-4.48 (2H, t); 4.22 (1H, sb); 3.40-3.25 (3H, m); 2.70-2.50 (4H, m); 2.40-2.30 (1H, m); 2.15-1.93 (2H, m); 1.80-1.45 (10H, m); 1.41-1.28 (5H, m); 1.21 (3H, s); 0.82
10 (3H, s).

Example 16

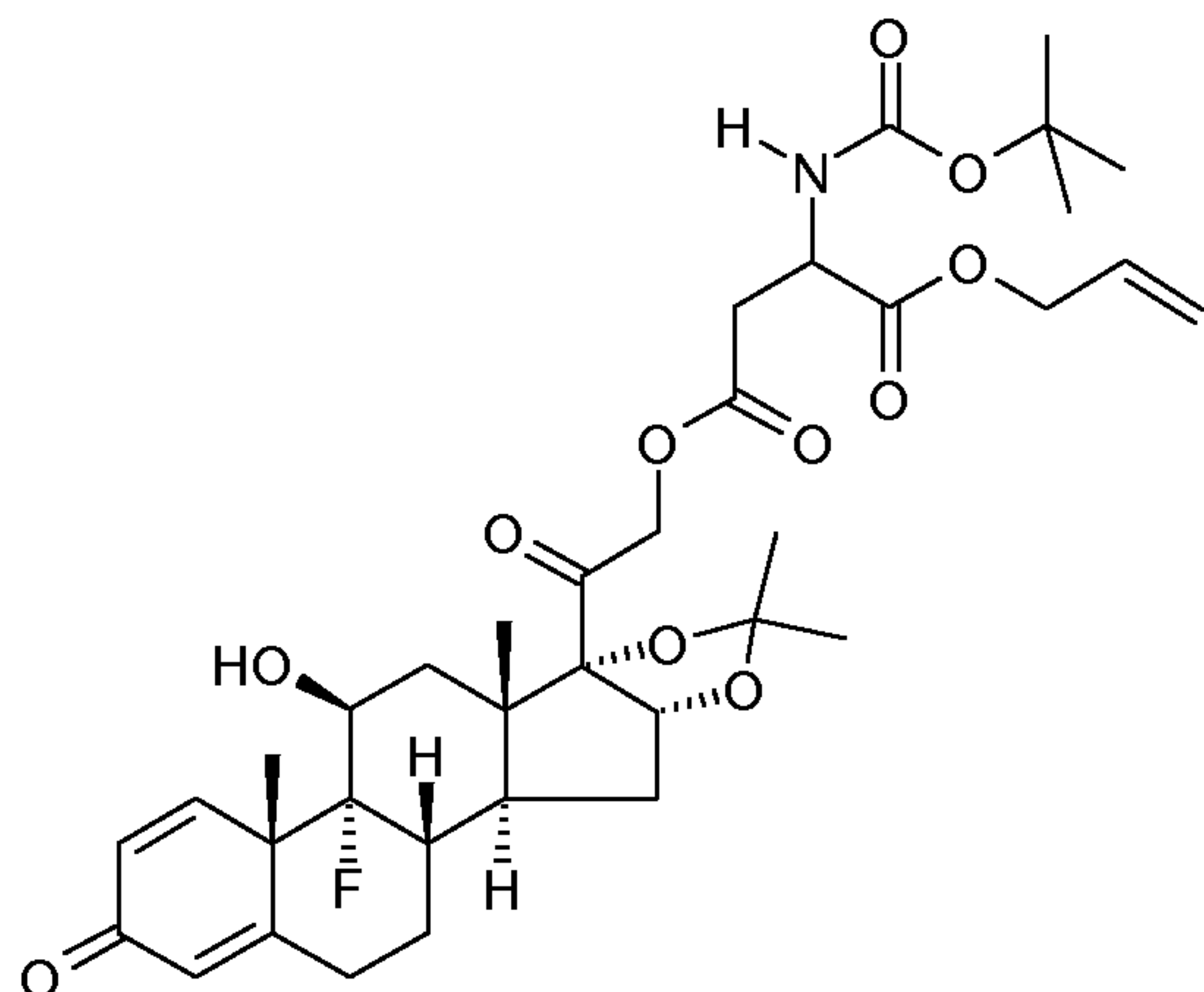
Synthesis of 4-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta
15 [a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl)-1-(4-(nitrooxy)butyl) 2-(6-(nitrooxy)hexanamido)succinate



P) 1-allyl 4-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-
20

148

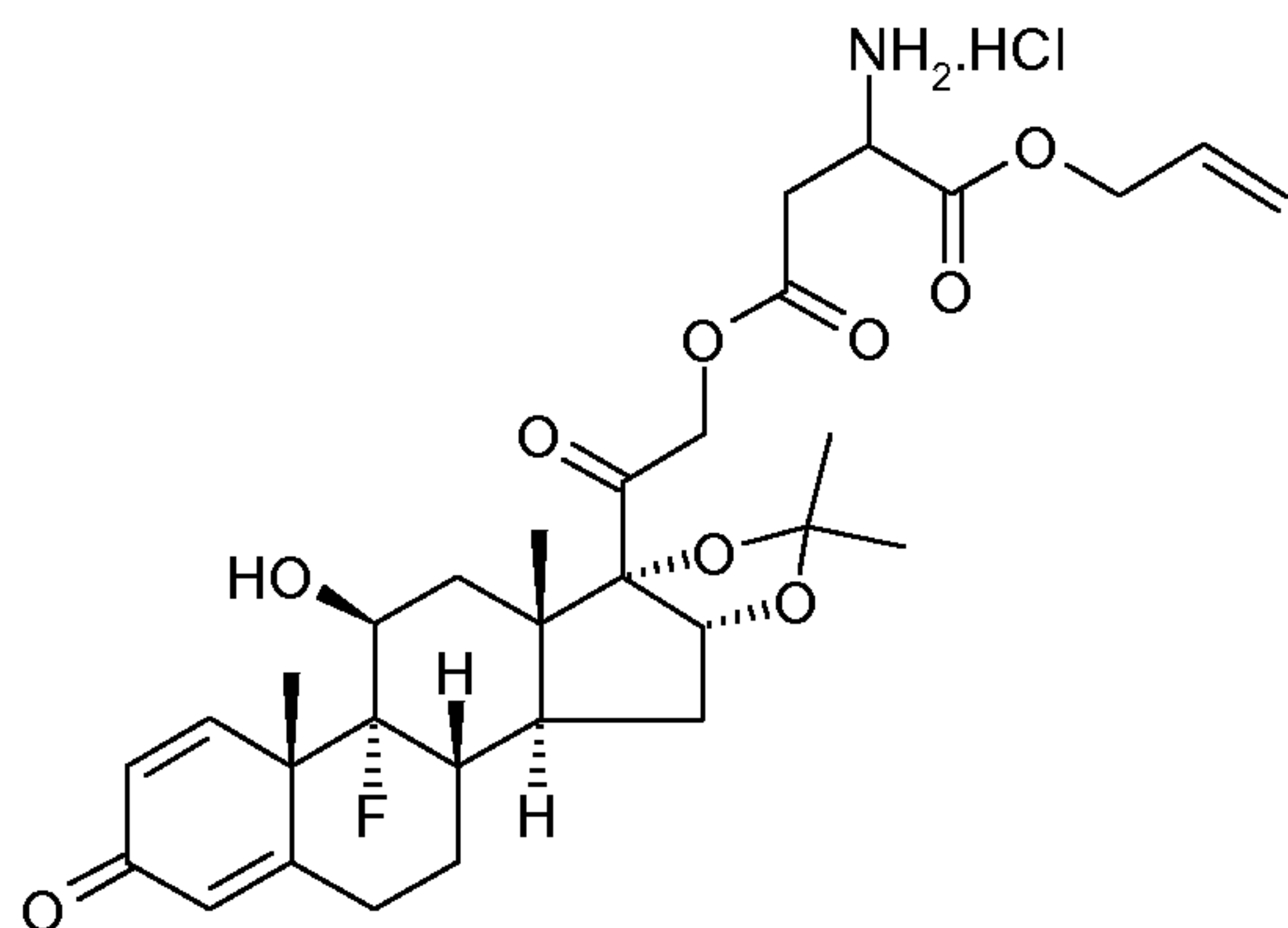
oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl)2-(tert-butoxycarbonyl amino) succinate



5 To a solution of triamcinolone acetonide (3.0 g, 6.9 mmol) in dichloromethane (100 ml), 4-(allyloxy)-3-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)-4-oxobutanoic acid (1.88 g, 6.9 mmol) and DMAP (cat. amount) were added. The reaction was cooled at 0°C and EDAC (1.7 g, 8.97 mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred
10 at room temperature for 12 hours. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (Biotage System, column FLASH 40+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl acetate 8/2 (300 ml), to n-hexane/ethyl acetate 4/6 during 900 ml, n-hexane/ethyl acetate 4/6 (300 ml)). The
15 product (4.16 g) was obtained.

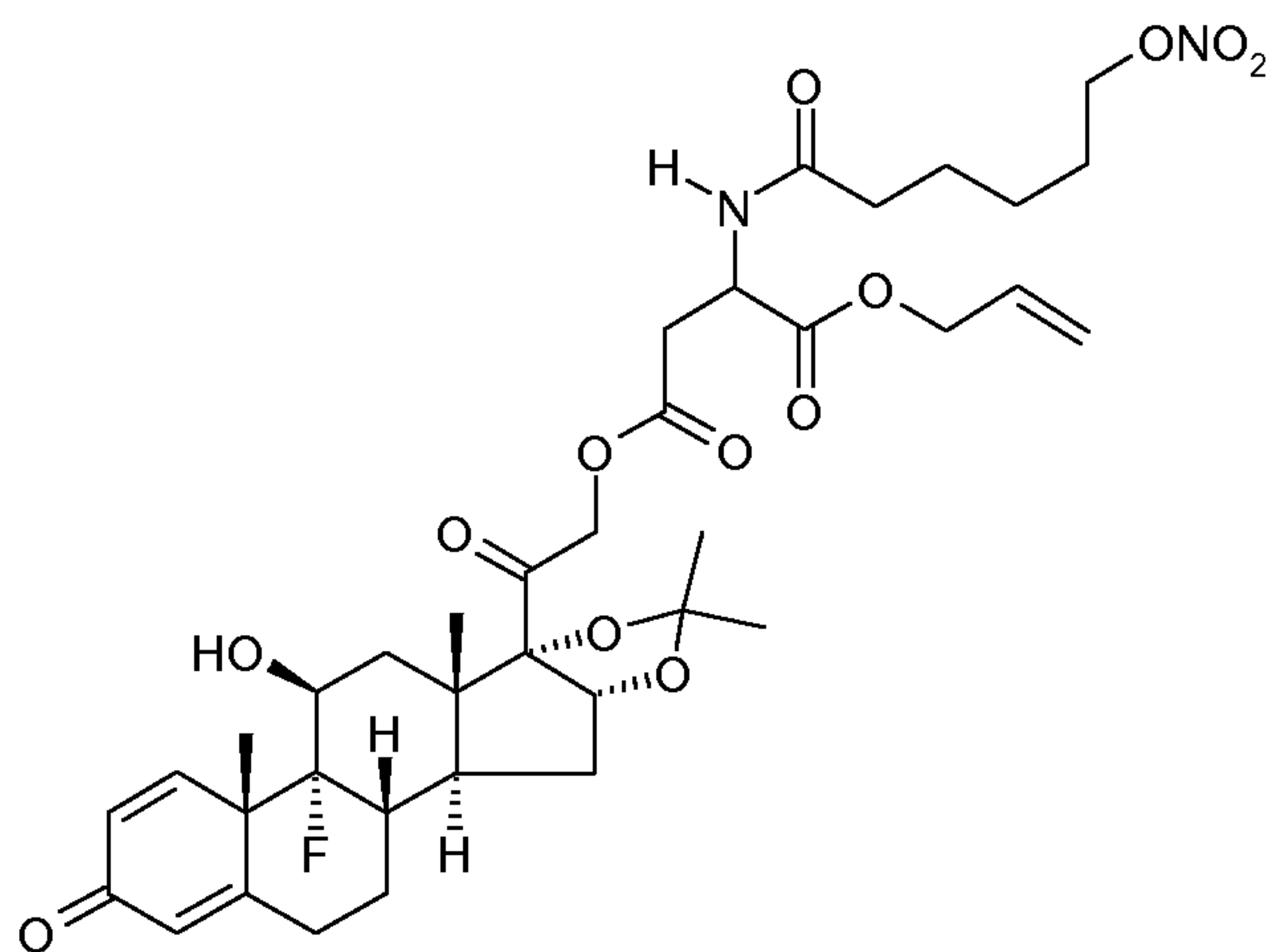
Q) 1-allyl 4-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl)2-(amino)succinate
20 hydrochloride

149



A solution of compound P (1.0 g, 1.45 mmol) in dichloromethane (28 ml) was stirred at room temperature. HCl gas was bubble in the solution for 15 minutes. The solvent evaporated under vacuum to give a solid product which was used without further purification.

R) 1-allyl 4-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl)-2-(6-(nitrooxy)hexanamido) succinate

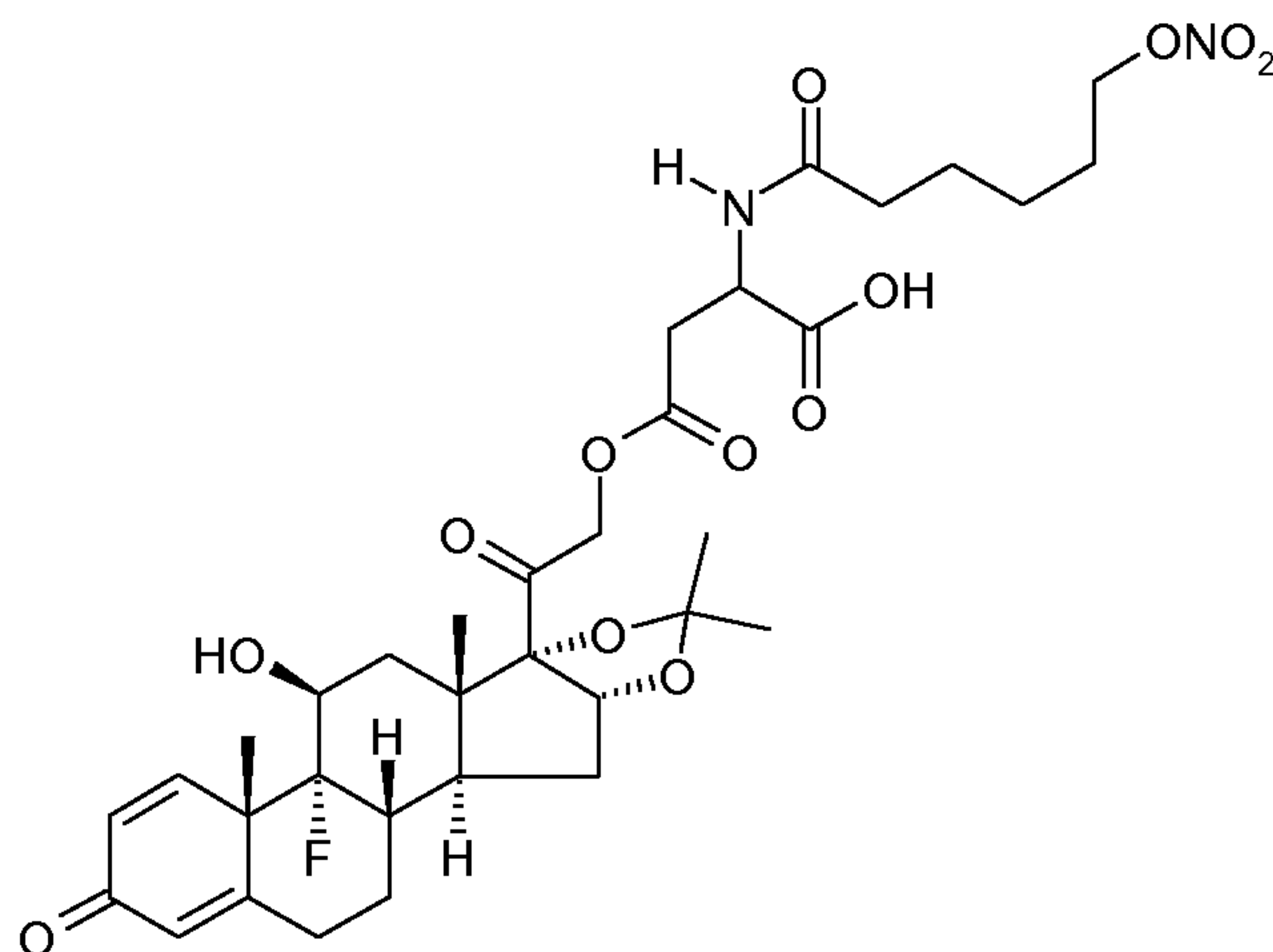


To a solution of compound Q (0.91 g, 1.45 mmol) in dichloromethane (100 ml), DMAP (0.26 g, 2.17 mmol) and 6-nitrooxyhexanoic acid pentafluorophenol ester (0.49 g, 1.45 mmol) were added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography, (Biotage System, column FLASH 40+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient

150

n-hexane/ethyl acetate 1/1 (150 ml), to ethyl acetate during 900 ml, ethyl acetate (450 ml)). The product (0.64 g) was obtained.

- 5 S) 4-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl)-2-(6-(nitrooxy)hexanamido)-4-oxobutanoic acid



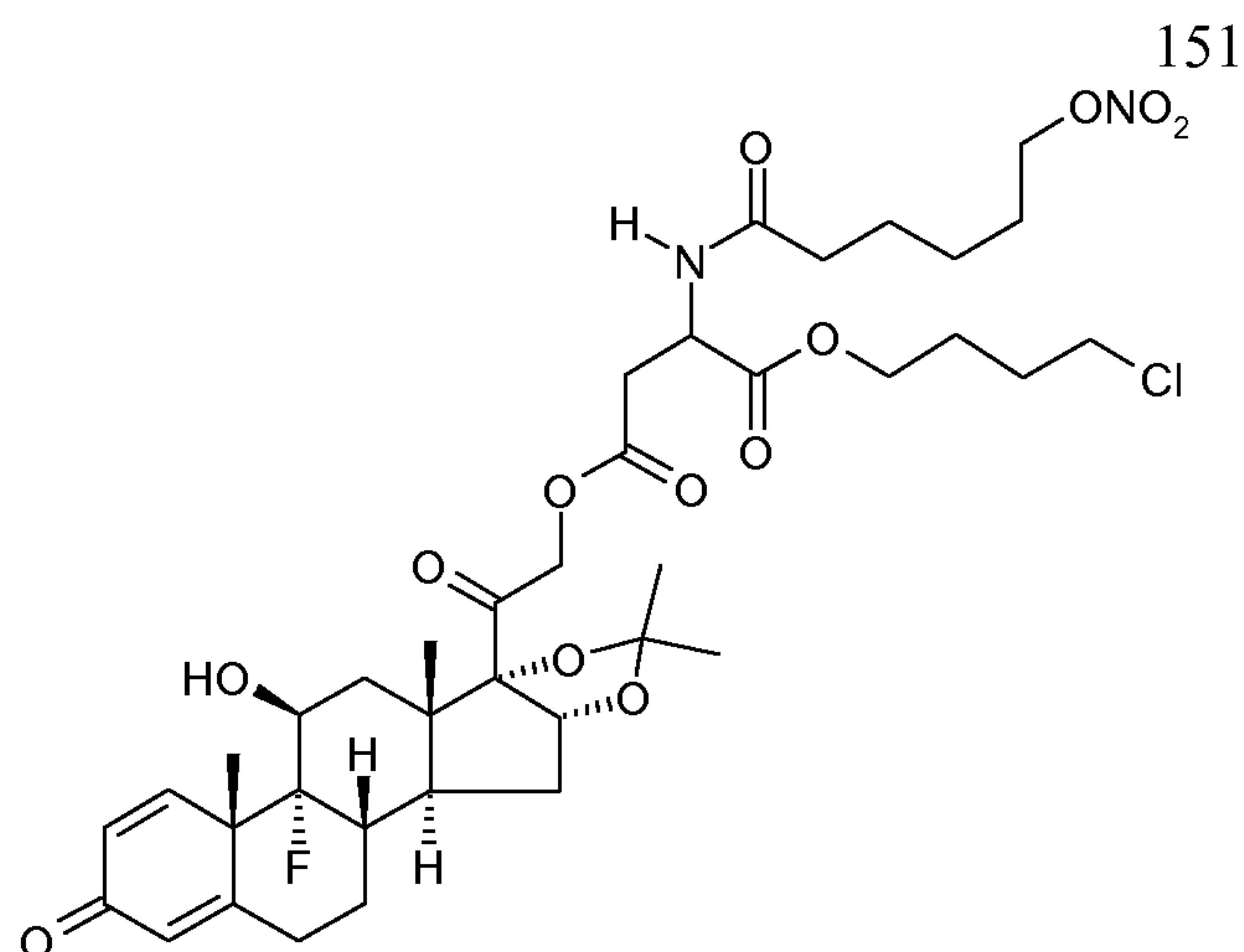
10

- To a solution of compound R (0.58 g, 0.77 mmol) in dichloromethane (20 ml), 5,5-dimethyl-1,3-cyclohexanedione (0.13 g, 0.97 mmol), triphenylphosphine (0.30 g, 1.16 mmol) and tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium (0.045 g, 0.039 mmol) were added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography, (Biotage System, column FLASH 40+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: n-hexane/acetone/acetic acid 4/6/0.1%) The product (0.31 g) was obtained.

20

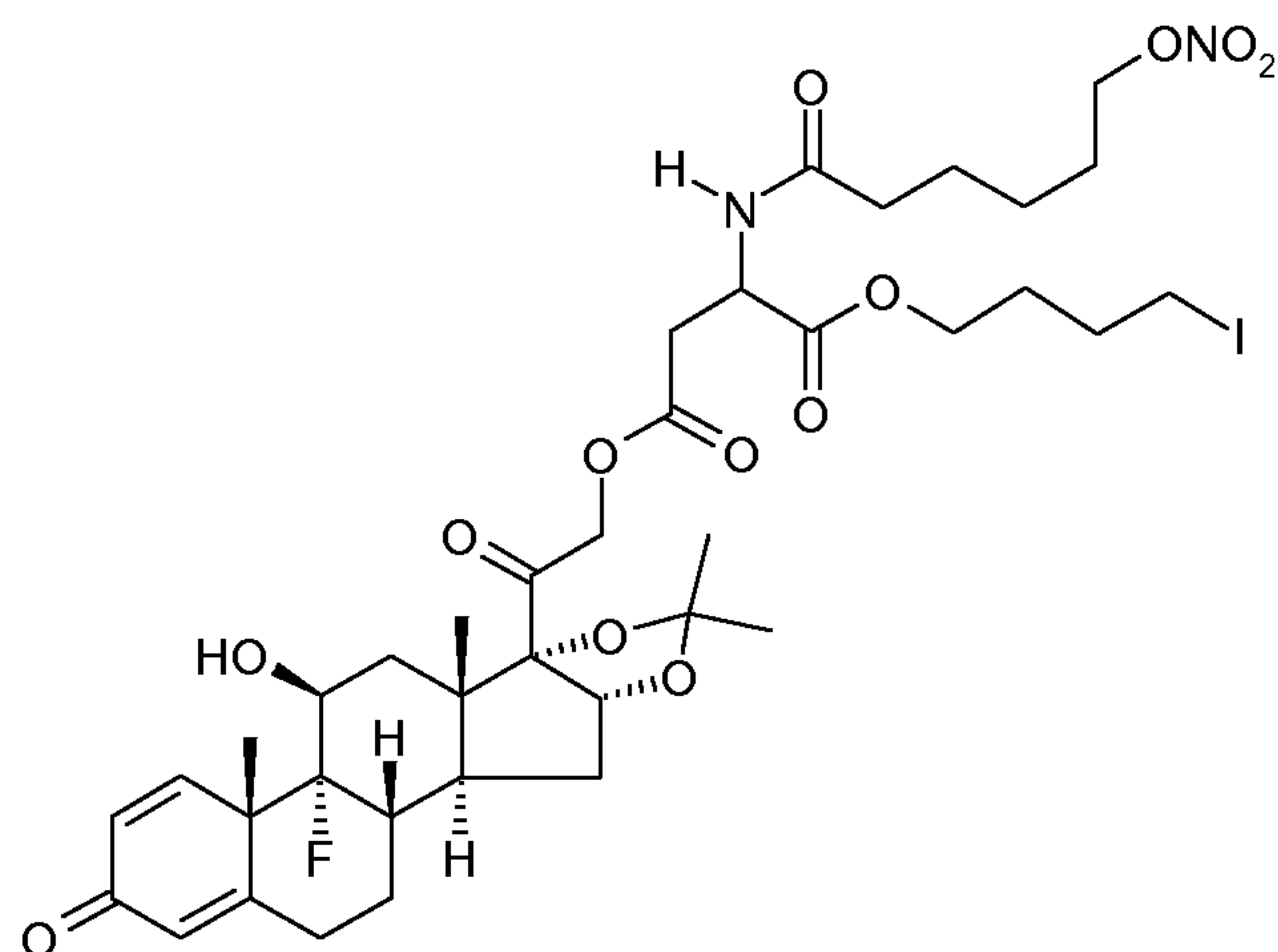
- T) 4-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl)-1-(4-(chloro)butyl) 2-(6-(nitrooxy)hexanamido)succinate

25



To a solution of compound S (0.33 g, 0.47 mmol) in dichloromethane (20 ml), 4-chlorobutanol (0.06 ml, 0.61 mmol) and DMAP (cat. amount) were added. The reaction was cooled at
 5 0°C and EDAC (0.12 g, 0.62 mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (Biotage System, column FLASH 25+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl acetate 6/4 (60 ml), to n-
 10 hexane/ethyl acetate 2/8 during 360 ml, n-hexane/ethyl acetate 2/8 (240 ml)). The product (0.25 g) was obtained.

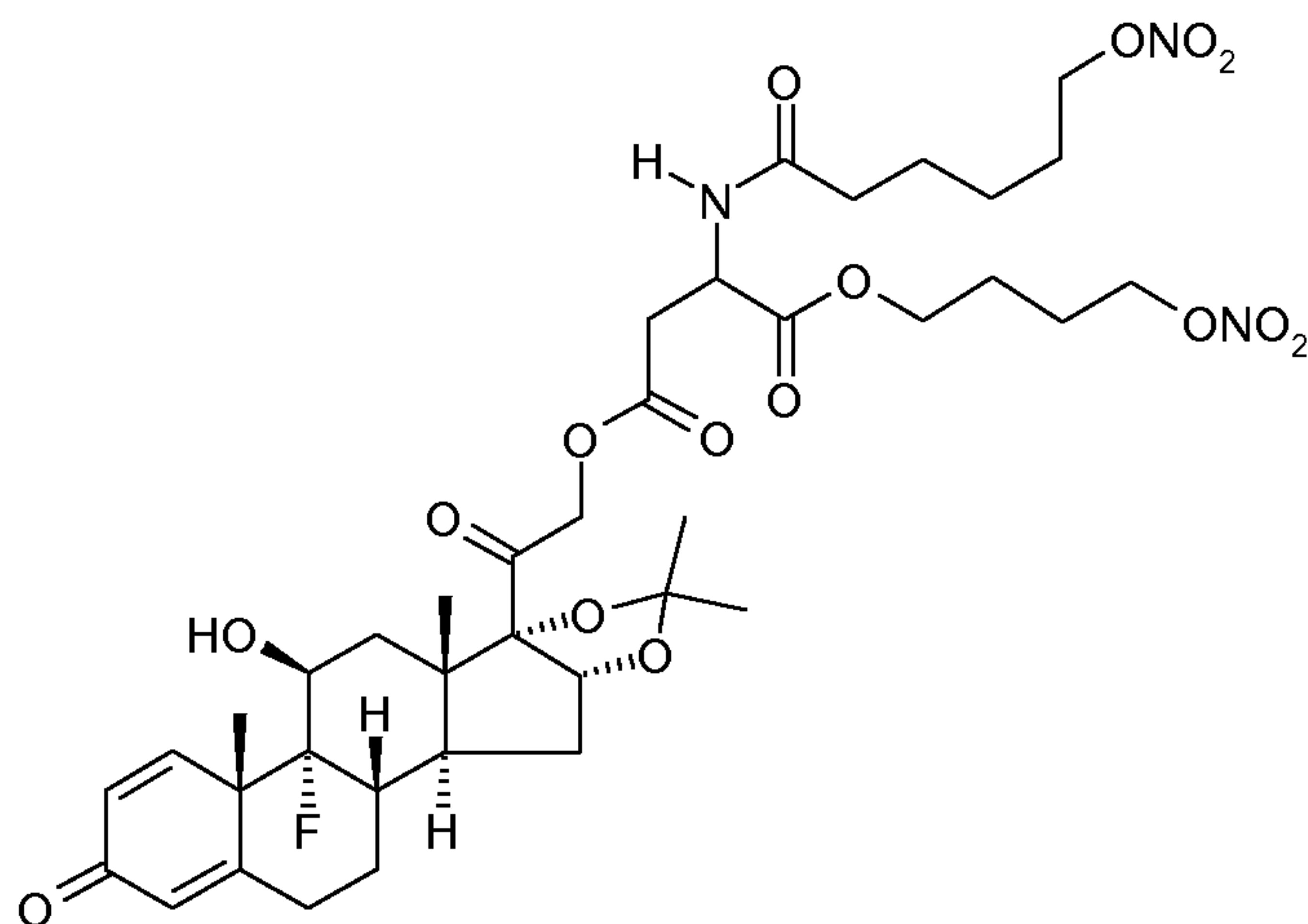
U) 4-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-
 15 6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl) 1-(4-(iodo)butyl) 2-(6-(nitrooxy)hexanamido)succinate



152

To a solution of compound T (0.25 g, 0.31 mmol) in acetonitrile (10 ml), sodium iodide (0.18 g, 1.25 mmol) was added. The reaction was heated to 120°C for 60 minutes under microwave irradiation. The resulting mixture was cooled, filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give a solid product which was used without further purification.

V) 4-(2-((8S,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl)-1-(4-(nitrooxy)butyl) 2-(6-(nitrooxy)hexanamido)succinate



To a solution of compound U (0.27 g, 0.31 mmol) in acetonitrile (10 ml), silver nitrate (0.21 g, 1.24 mmol) was added. The reaction was heated to 120°C for 5 minutes under microwave irradiation. The resulting mixture was cooled, filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (Biotage System, column FLASH 25+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient n-hexane/acetone 8/2 (120 ml), to n-hexane/acetone 55/45 during 480 ml, n-hexane/acetone 55/45 (120 ml)). The product (0.13 g) was obtained.

¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ: 7.18 (1H, d); 6.59 (1H, d); 6.32 (1H, dd); 6.13 (1H, s); 5.02-4.88 (4H, m); 4.51-4.40 (5H, m); 4.27-4.11 (2H, m); 3.05 (1H, dd); 2.90 (1H, dd); 2.68-2.30 (4H, m); 2.27

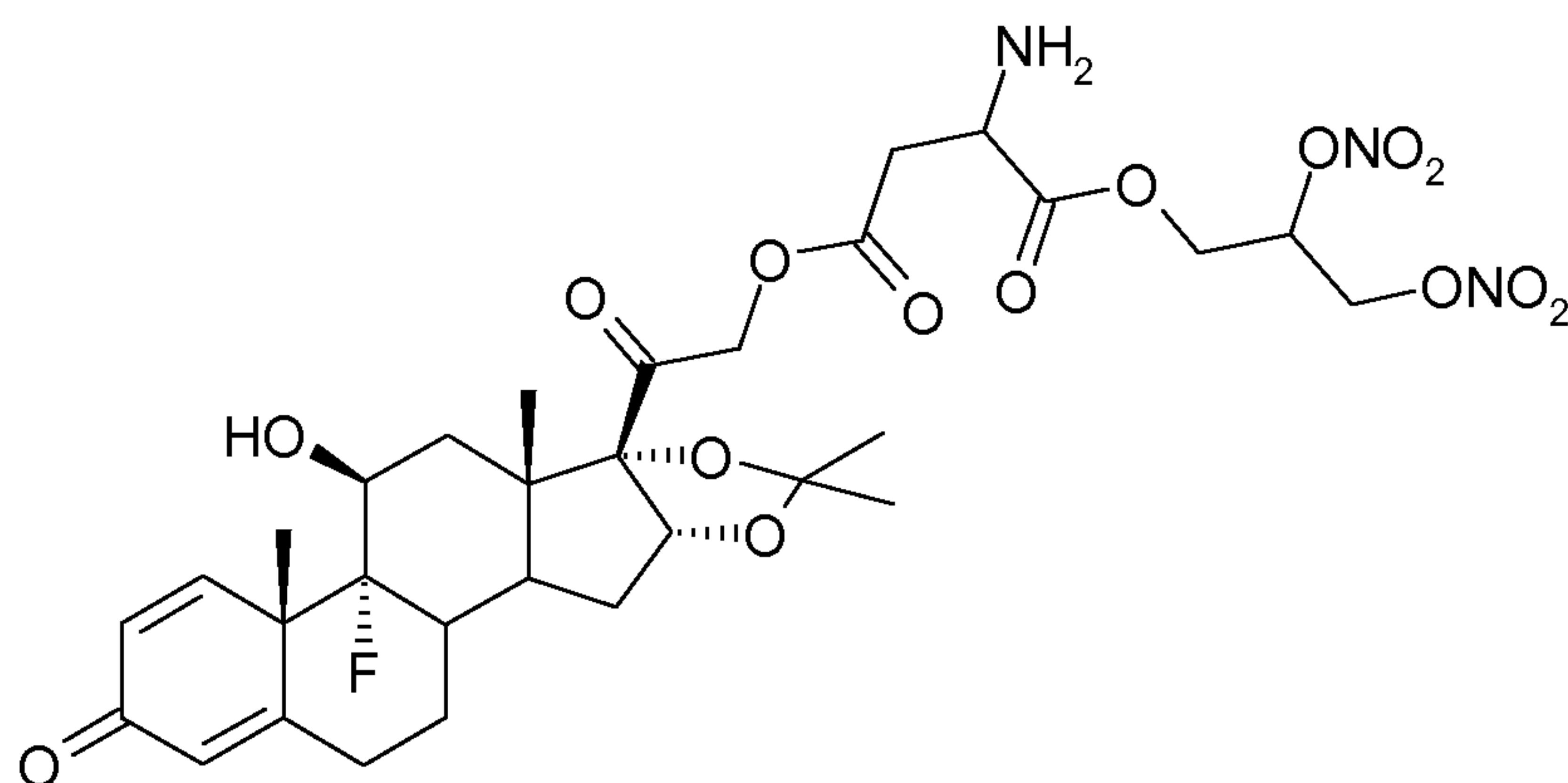
153

(2H, t); 2.27-2.00 (2H, m); 1.90-1.40 (18H, m); 1.21 (3H, s); 0.88 (3H, s).

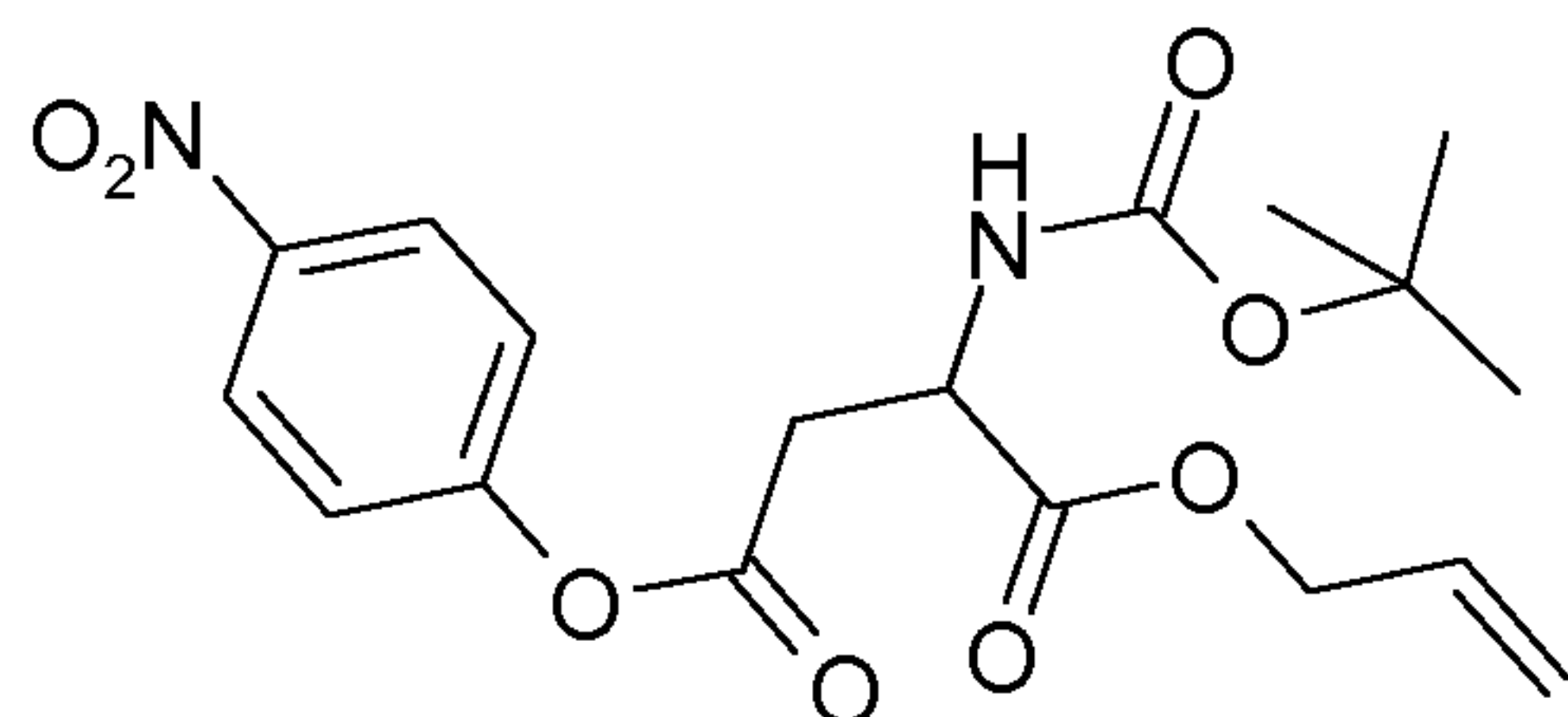
Example 17

5

Synthesis of 1-(2,3-bis(nitrooxy)propyl) 4-(2-
((9R,10S,11S,13S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-
methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,
12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-
10 yl)-2-oxoethyl)-2-aminosuccinate hydrochloride



W) 1-allyl-4-(4-nitrophenyl)-2-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)
succinate



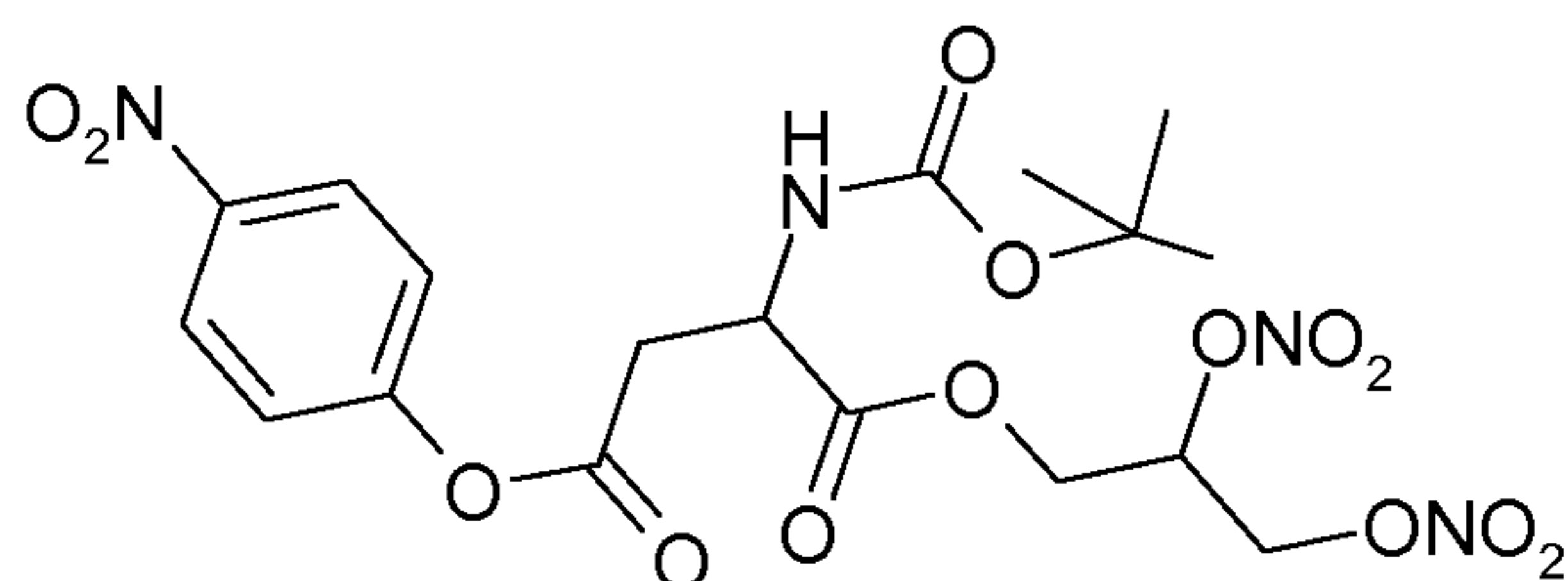
15

To a solution of 4-(allyloxy)-3-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)-4-oxobutanoic acid (3.0 g, 11.0 mmol) in dichloromethane (50 ml), 4-nitrophenol (1.4 g, 11.0 mmol) and DMAP (cat. amount) were added. The reaction was cooled at 0°C and EDAC (2.85 g, 15.0 mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (Biotage System, column FLASH 65+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl

154

acetate 95/5 (450 ml), to n-hexane/ethyl acetate 6/4 during 4500 ml, n-hexane/ethyl acetate 6/4 (900 ml)). The product (1.5 g) was obtained.

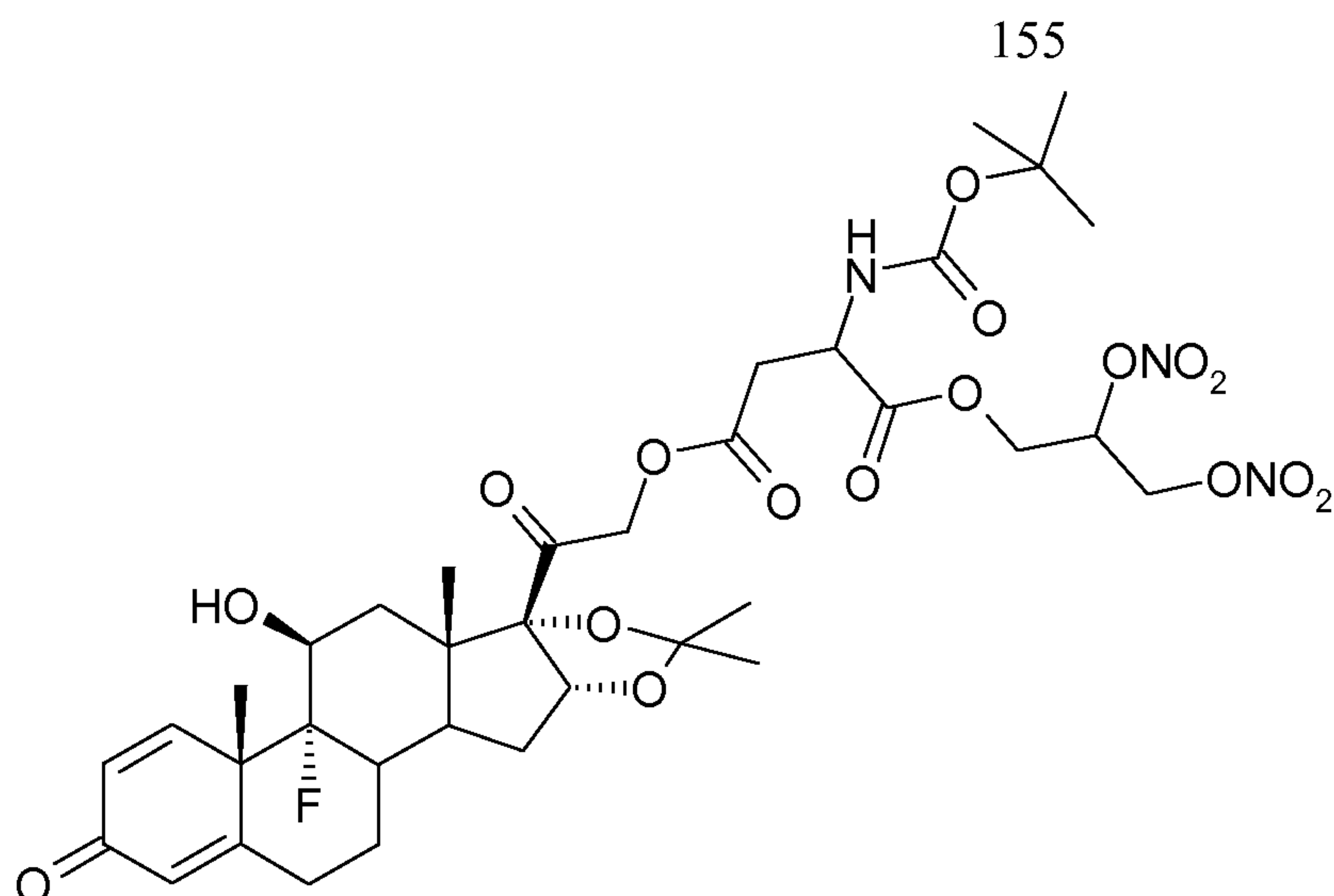
- 5 X) 1-(2,3-bis(nitrooxy)propyl) 4-(4-nitrophenyl) 2-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)succinate



To a solution of compound W (1.5 g, 3.8 mmol) in acetonitrile (60 ml), silver nitrate (0.63 g, 3.8 mmol) was added. The reaction was cooled at -15°C and iodine (0.96 g, 3.8 mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred at 0°C for 1 hour. Silver nitrate (1.27 g, 7.6 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred at 70°C for 7 days adding silver nitrate (0.96 g, 3.8 mmol) every day. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (Biotage System, column FLASH 65+M™ KP-Sil, eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl acetate 95/5 (450 ml), to n-hexane/ethyl acetate 6/4 during 4500 ml, n-hexane/ethyl acetate 6/4 (900 ml)). The product (0.54 g) was obtained.

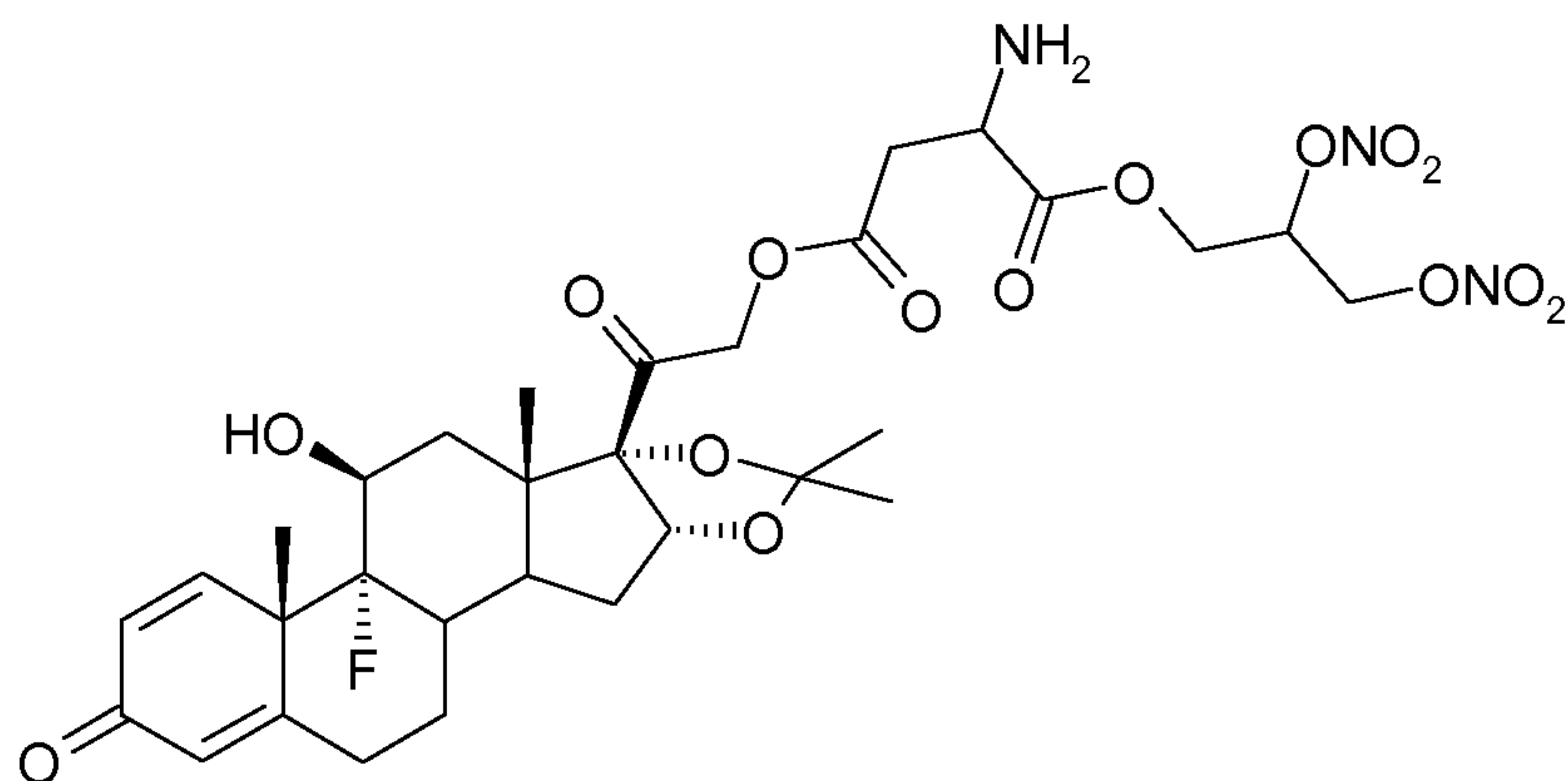
20

- Y) 1-(2,3-bis(nitrooxy)propyl) 4-(2-((9R,10S,11S,13S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12, 13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl)-2-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)succinate
- 25



To a solution of triamcinolone acetonide (0.21 g, 0.5 mmol) in dichloromethane (13 ml), compound X (0.26 g, 0.5 mmol) and DMAP (0.06 g, 0.5 mmol) were added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (Biotage System, SNAP Cartridge silica 100 g, eluent: gradient n-hexane/ethyl acetate 88/12 (150 ml), to ethyl acetate during 1500 ml, ethyl acetate (300 ml)). The product (0.4 g) was obtained.

Z) 1-(2,3-bis(nitrooxy)propyl) 4-(2-((9R,10S,11S,13S,16R,17S)-9-fluoro-11-hydroxy-16,17-((1-methylethylidene)bis(oxy))-10,13-dimethyl-3-oxo-6,7,8,9,10,11,12, 13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)-2-oxoethyl) 2-aminosuccinate hydrochloride



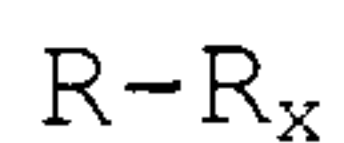
156

A solution of compound Y (0.4 g, 0.49mmol) in dichloromethane (8 ml) was stirred at room temperature. HCl gas was bubbled in the solution for 15 minutes. The solvent evaporated under vacuum. The residue was purified by reverse phase flash chromatography (Biotage column FLASH 25+M™, eluent: water/acetonitrile 1/1. The product (0.13 g) was obtained

¹H-NMR: (DMSO), δ : 7.30 (1H, d); 6.23 (1H, dd); 6.02 (1H, s); 5.66 (1H, m); 5.49 (1H, m); 5.17 (1H, dd), 4.97 (1H, dd); 4.89-4.79 (3H, m); 4.48 (1H, dm); 4.38 (1H, dd), 4.20 (1H, m); 3.82 (1H, m); 2.78 (1H, dm); 2.68-2.49 (7H, m); 2.10-1.75 (3H, m); 1.54 (1H, m); 1.49 (5H, m); 1.35 (4H, m); 1.15 (3H, s); 0.83 (3H, s).

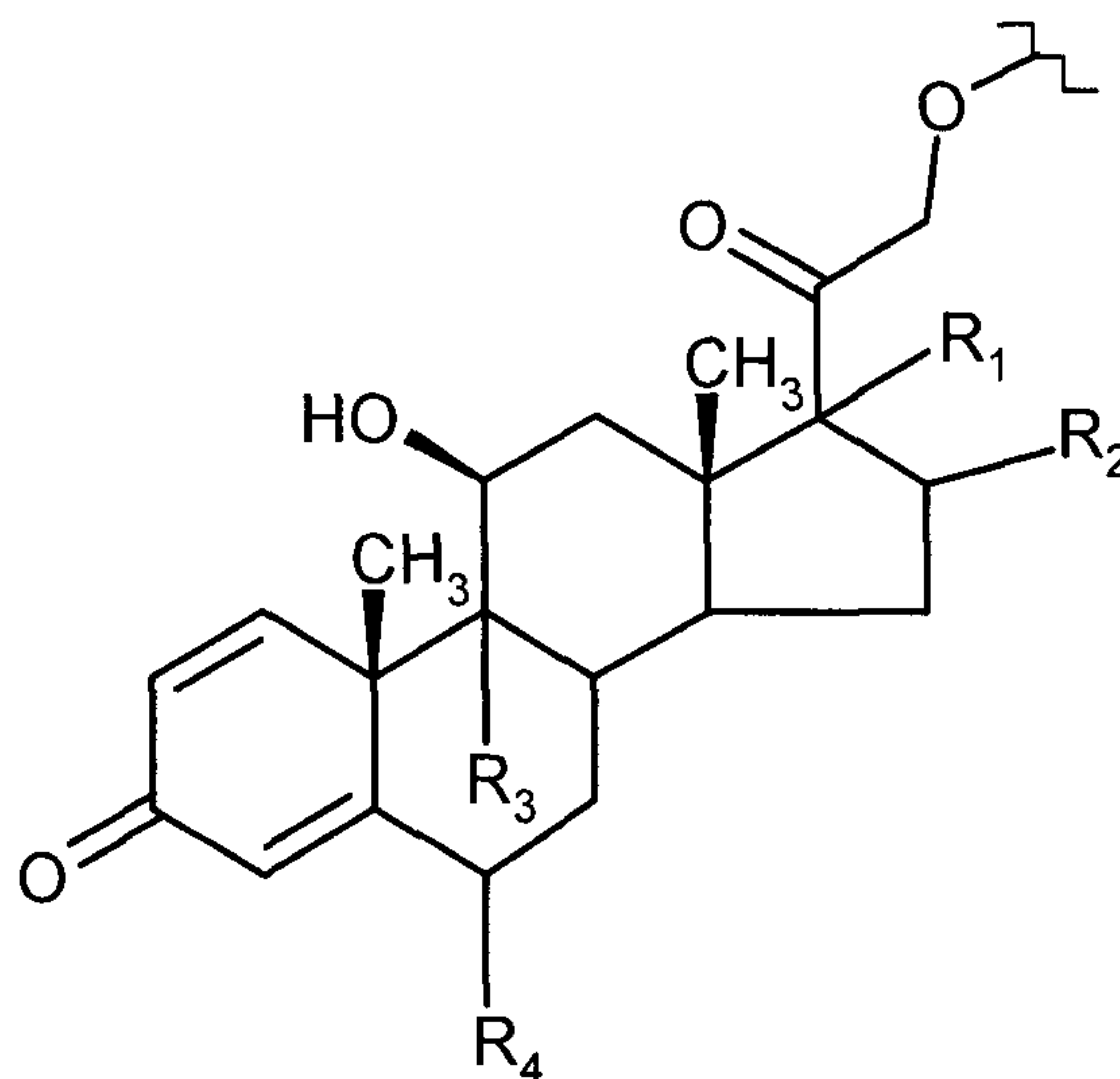
CLAIMS

1. A compound of general formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof



(I)

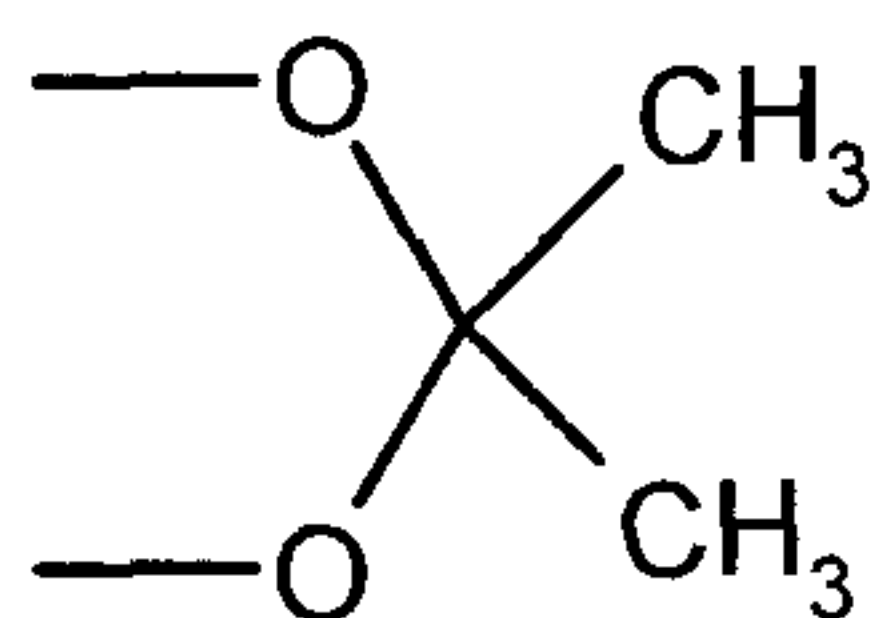
wherein R is a corticosteroid residue of formula (II):



(II)

wherein:

R_1 and R_2 are taken together to form a group of formula (III)

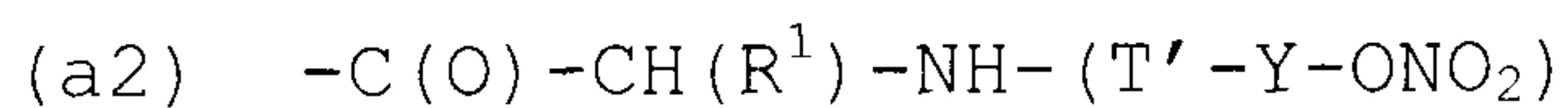


(III)

R_3 is F and R_4 is H, R_1 , R_2 and R_3 are in position α ;

$a=0$,

R_x is



wherein

R^1 is H

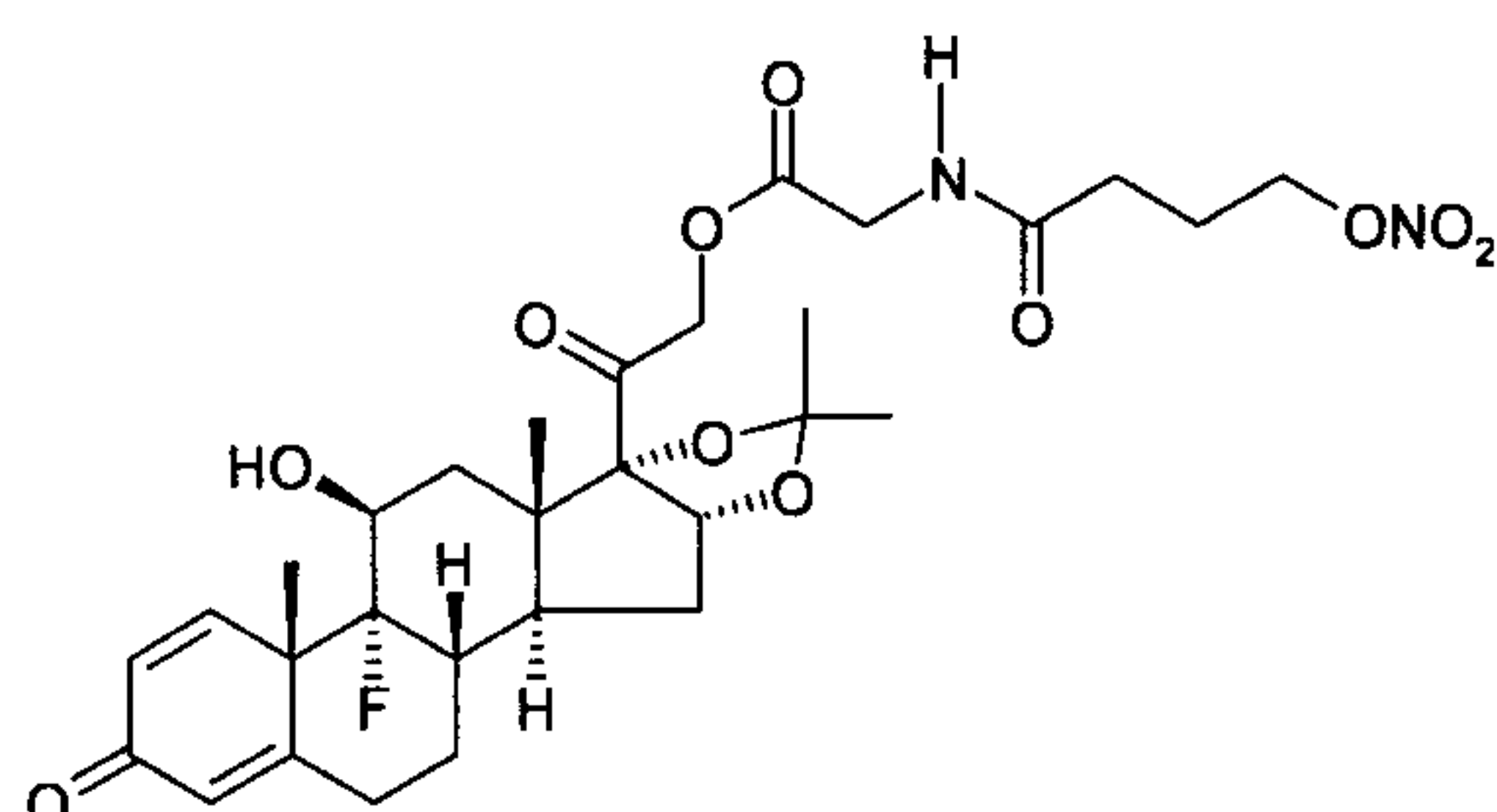
T' is $-C(O)-$;

Y is selected from

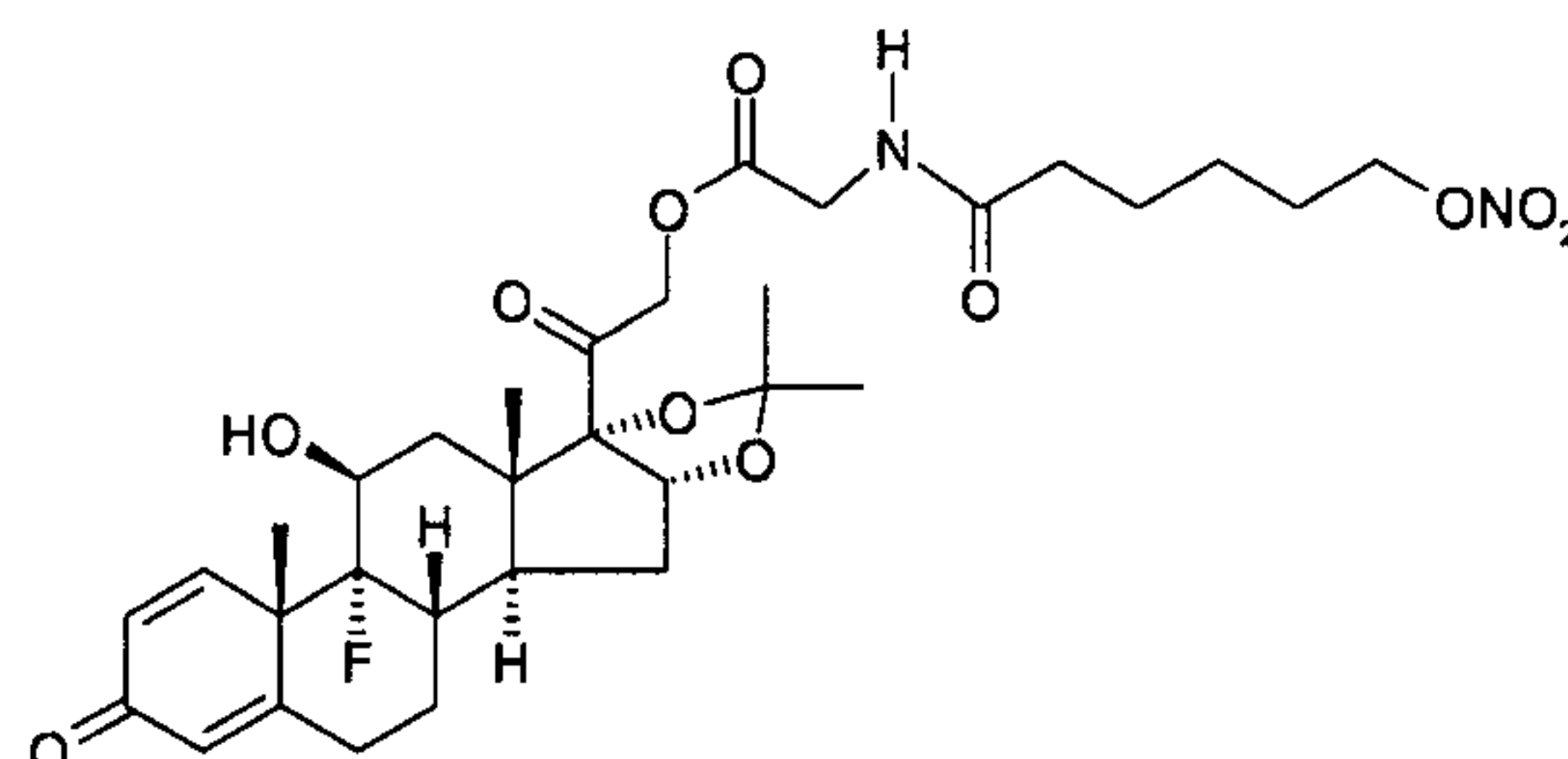
a)

- a straight or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene,
- a straight or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene substituted with a $-ONO_2$ group.

2. A compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof selected from the group consisting of:



(3)



(5)

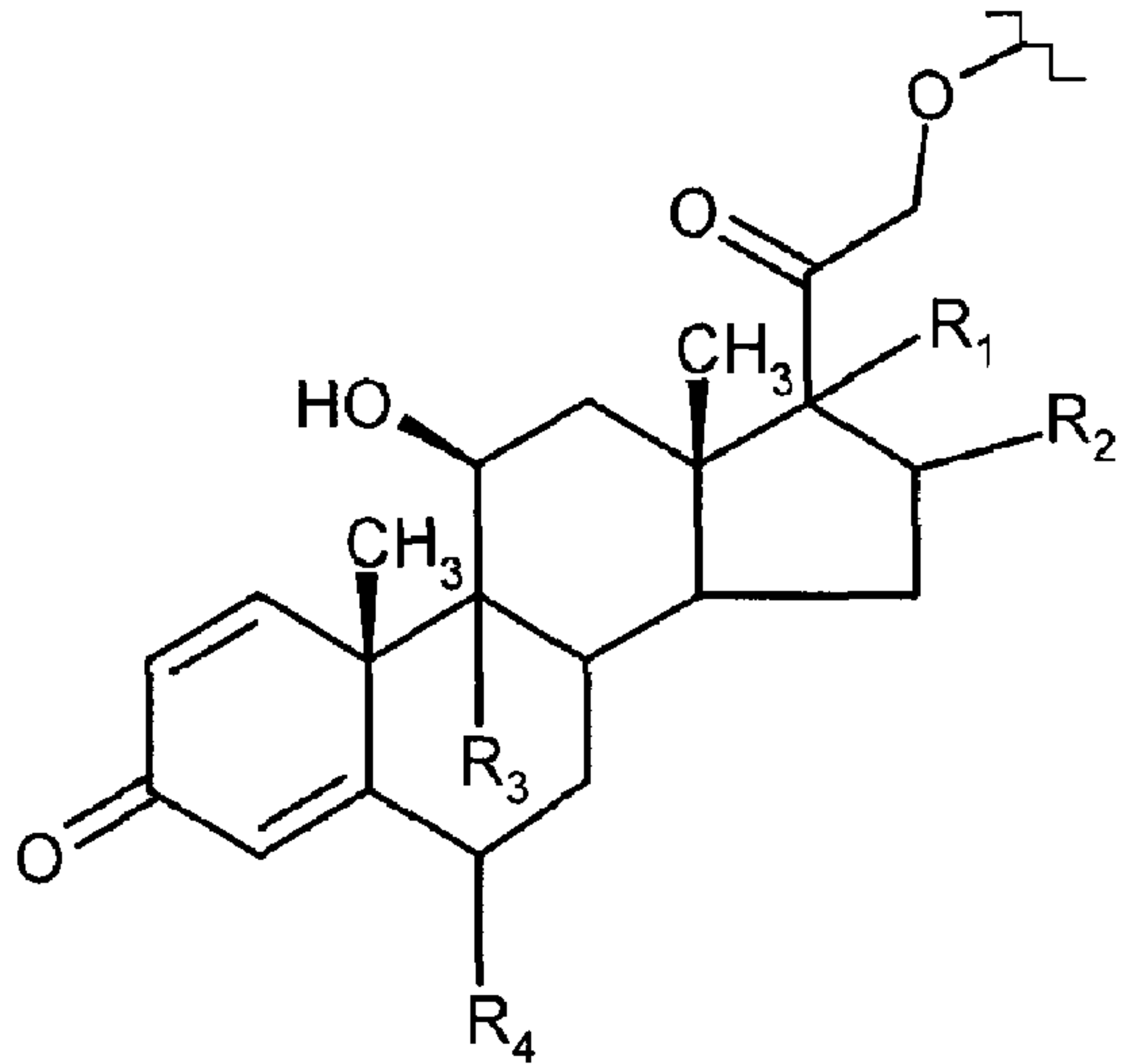
3. A compound of formula (I) according to claims 1 or 2 for use as a medicament.

4. A compound of formula (I) according to claims 1 or 2 for use in the treatment of ocular diseases.

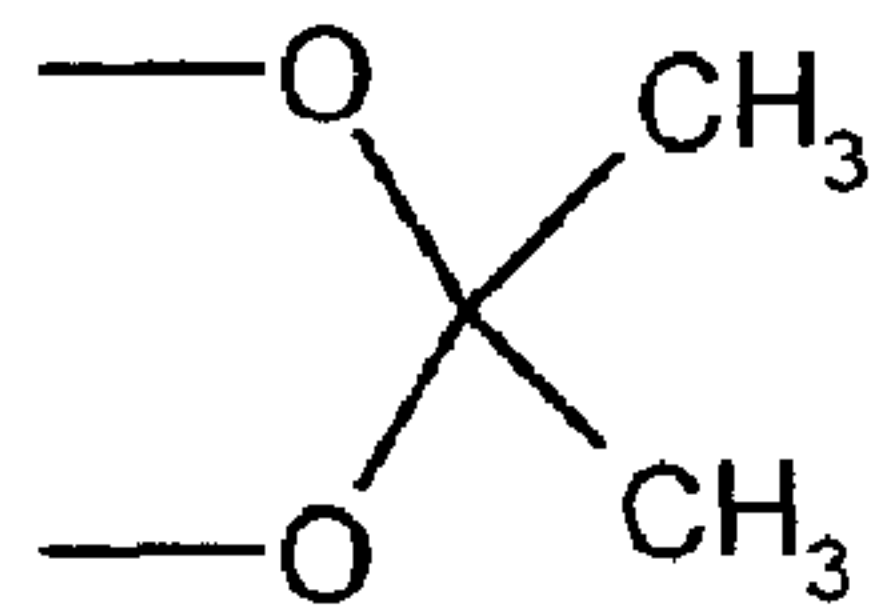
5. A compound according to claim 4 for use in the treatment of a condition selected from the group comprising ocular hypertension, age-related macular degeneration, diabetic macular edema, diabetic retinopathy, hypertensive retinopathy and retinal vasculopathies.

6. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising at least a compound of formula (I) as described in any of claims 1-2 and one or more pharmaceutical acceptable excipients.

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(II)



(III)