CLAIMS:

1. A method of improving immune function in a cancer patient having a solid tumor, the method comprising administering an effective amount of a cancer treatment and an effective amount of a nonsteroidal selective glucocorticoid receptor modulator (SGRM) to said cancer patient,

Whereby the patient's immune function is improved.

2. The method of improving immune function of claim 1, wherein said improvement in immune function is effective to elicit an anti-cancer effect in said patient having a solid tumor, thereby slowing tumor growth, stopping tumor growth, reducing tumor load, or combinations thereof.

3. The method of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said improved immune function comprises increased CD8+ T-cell activation as compared to CD8+ T-cell activation prior to administration of said nonsteroidal SGRM.

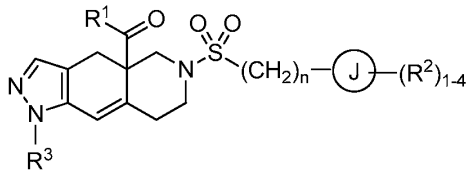
4. The method of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said improved immune function comprises increased pro-inflammatory cytokine secretion as compared to pro-inflammatory cytokine secretion prior to administration of said nonsteroidal SGRM.

5. The method of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said improved immune function comprises increased TNFα secretion as compared to TNFα secretion prior to administration of said nonsteroidal SGRM.

6. The method of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said improved immune function comprises increased IFNγ secretion as compared to IFNγ secretion prior to administration of said nonsteroidal SGRM.

7. The method of any of claims 1 to 6, wherein said immune function is improved after administration of said nonsteroidal SGRM for a number of days selected from 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 14, or more days.

8. The method of any of claims 1 to 6, wherein said nonsteroidal SGRM is a compound comprising a heteroaryl ketone fused azadecalin structure having the formula:



wherein

R^1 is a heteroaryl ring having from 5 to 6 ring members and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms each independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S, optionally substituted with 1-4 groups each independently selected from R^{1a};

each R^{1a} is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, halogen, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, CN, N-oxide, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-8} heterocycloalkyl;

ring J is selected from the group consisting of a cycloalkyl ring, a heterocycloalkyl ring, an aryl ring and a heteroaryl ring, wherein the heterocycloalkyl and heteroaryl rings have from 5 to 6 ring members and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms each independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S;

each R^2 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, halogen, $C_{1\,6}$ haloalkyl, $C_{1\,6}$ alkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl-C_{1-6} alkoxy, CN, OH, $NR^{2a}R^{2b}$, $C(O)R^{2a}$, $C(O)OR^{2a}$, $C(O)NR^{2a}R^{2b}$, SR^{2a}, $S(O)R^{2a}$, $S(O)_2R^{2a}$, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-8} heterocycloalkyl, wherein the heterocycloalkyl groups are optionally substituted with 1-4 R^{2c} groups;

alternatively, two R^2 groups linked to the same carbon are combined to form an oxo group (=O);

alternatively, two R^2 groups are combined to form a heterocycloalkyl ring having from 5 to 6 ring members and from 1 to 3 heteroatoms each independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S, wherein the heterocycloalkyl ring is optionally substituted with from 1 to 3 R^{2d} groups;

R^{2a} and R^{2b} are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_{1-6} alkyl;

each R^{2c} is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, CN, and $NR^{2a}R^{2b}$;

each R^{2d} is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_{1-6} alkyl, or two R^{2d} groups attached to the same ring atom are combined to form (=O);

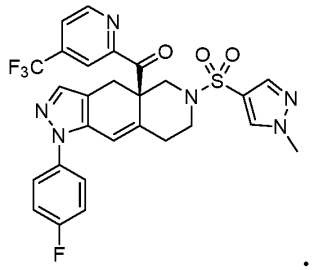
R^3 is selected from the group consisting of phenyl and pyridyl, each optionally substituted with 1-4 R^{3a} groups;

each R^{3a} is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, and C_{1-6} haloalkyl; and

subscript n is an integer from 0 to 3;

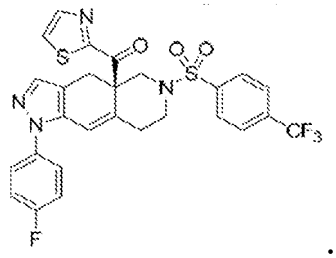
or salts and isomers thereof.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the nonsteroidal SGRM is (R)-(1-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-((1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)sulfonyl)-4,4a,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-g]isoquinolin-4a-yl)(4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-yl)methanone, termed relacorilant, which has the following structure:



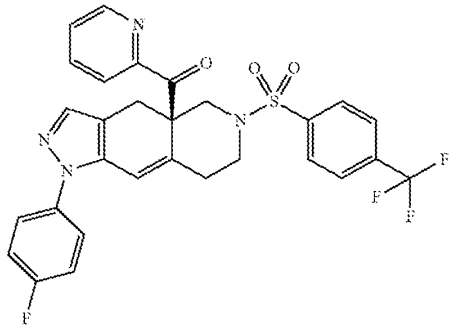
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10. The method of claim 8, wherein the nonsteroidal SGRM is (R)-(1-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-((4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)sulfonyl)-4,4a,5,6,- 7,8-hexahydro-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-g]isoquinolin-4a-yl)(thiazol-2-yl)methanone, termed CORT122928, which has the following structure:



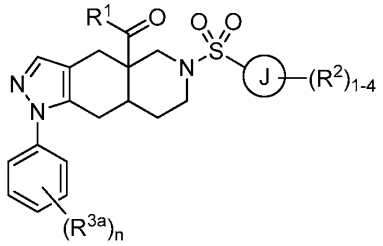
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11. The method of claim 8, wherein the nonsteroidal SGRM is (R)-(1-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-((4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl) sulfonyl)-4, 4a, 5,6,7,8-hexahydro-1-H-pyrazolo P,4-g]isoquinolin-4a-yl) (pyridin-2-yl)methanone, termed CORT113176, which has the following structure:



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12. The method of any of claims 1 to 6, wherein the nonsteroidal SGRM comprises an octahydro fused azadecalin structure compound having the formula:



Wherein R^1 is selected from the group consisting of pyridine and thiazole, optionally substituted with 1-4 groups each independently selected from R^{1a};

each R^{1a} is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, halogen, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, N-oxide, and C_{3-8} cycloalkyl;

ring J is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, pyridine, pyrazole, and triazole;

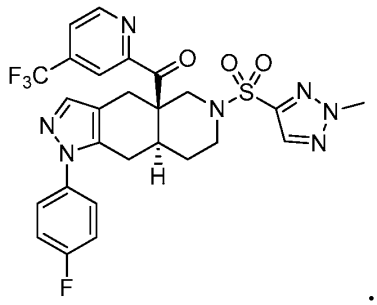
each R^2 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, halogen, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, and -CN;

R^{3a} is F;

subscript n is an integer from 0 to 3,

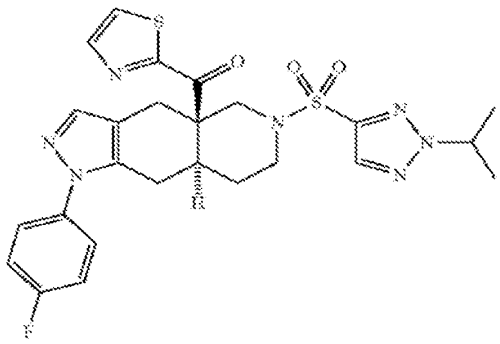
or salts and isomers thereof.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the nonsteroidal SGRM is ((4aR,8aS)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-((2-methyl-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)sulfonyl)-4,4a,5,6,7,8,8a,9-octahydro-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-g]isoquinolin-4a-yl)(4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-yl)methanone, termed exicorilant, which has the structure:



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14. The method of claim 12, wherein the nonsteroidal SGRM is ((4aR,8aS)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-((2-isopropyl-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)sulfonyl)-4,4a,5,6,7,8,8a,9-octahydro-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-g]isoquinolin-4a-yl)(thiazol-2-yl)methanone, termed “CORT125329”, having the formula:



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15. The method of any of claims 1 to 14, wherein the cancer treatment comprises administration of a chemotherapeutic agent.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the chemotherapeutic agent is selected from the group consisting of taxanes, alkylating agents, topoisomerase inhibitors, endoplasmic reticulum stress inducing agents, antimetabolites, mitotic inhibitors and combinations thereof.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the chemotherapeutic agent is a taxane.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the chemotherapeutic agent is nab-paclitaxel.

19. The method of any of claims 1 to 14, wherein the cancer treatment comprises administration of an immunotherapeutic agent.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the immunotherapeutic agent comprises administration of an antibody checkpoint inhibitor directed against a protein target selected from PD-1, PD-L1, CTLA-4, LAG3, B7-H3, B7-H4, OX-40, CD137, and TIM3.

21. The method of any of claims 1 to 14, wherein the cancer treatment comprises one or more of cancer radiation therapy, administration of growth factor inhibitors, and administration of anti-angiogenesis factors.

22. The method of any of claims 1 to 21, wherein said selective glucocorticoid receptor modulator is a selective glucocorticoid receptor antagonist.