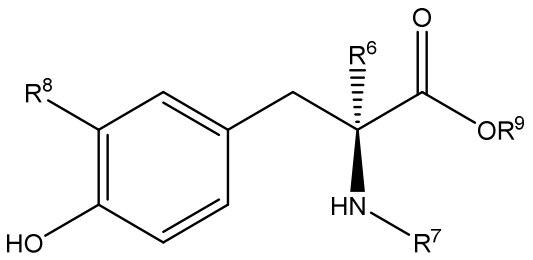
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Use of a phenylpropionic acid derivative compound for inhibiting or treating an infection of a subject with a pathogen that interacts with a complement receptor 3 (CR3) polypeptide of a CR3 polypeptide-expressing cell, wherein the pathogen is selected from a *Neisseria* species and a retrovirus, and wherein the phenylpropionic acid derivative compound is represented by Formula (III):



(III)

wherein:

R^6 is hydrogen, CH_3 or CHF_2;

R^7 is hydrogen or NH_2;

R^8 is hydrogen or OH;

R^9 is hydrogen or $C_{1\text{-}4}$alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the phenylpropionic acid derivative compound is selected from methyldopa, carbidopa, methyldopa methyl ester, methyldopa ethyl ester, levodopa, etilevodopa (levodopa ethyl ester), metirosine, (α-methyltyrosine) and α-difluoromethyldopa.

3. The use of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the phenylpropionic acid derivative compound is methyldopa.

4. The use of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the pathogen is resistant to an antimicrobial.

5. The use of claim 4, wherein the antimicrobial is an antibiotic.

6. The use of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the *Neisseria* species is *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*.

7. The use of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the retrovirus is human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

8. The use of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the phenylpropionic acid derivative compound is formulated for oral delivery.

9. The use of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the phenylpropionic acid derivative compound is formulated for systemic delivery.

10. The use of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the phenylpropionic acid derivative compound is formulated for topical delivery.

11. The use of claim 10, wherein the phenylpropionic acid derivative compound is formulated as a cream, a foam, a wash, a lotion, a spray, a gel, a suppository, a pessary, an ointment, an ovule, a tampon, a glove, a male condom, a female condom, an intrauterine

device, an intravaginal barrier, a vaginal dispenser, a vaginal ring, an intravaginal sponge, or aerosol.

12. The use of claim 10 or 11, wherein the phenylpropionic acid derivative compound is formulated for intrauterine delivery.

13. The use of any one of claims 1 to 12, wherein the phenylpropionic acid derivative compound is to be concurrently administered with an antimicrobial agent.

14. The use of claim 13, wherein the antimicrobial agent is selected from antibiotics, antifungals, antiprotozoals, antimalarials, antituberculotics and antivirals.