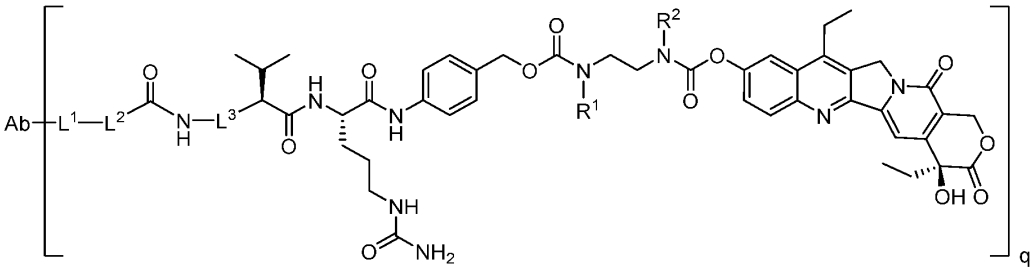
We claim:

1. An antibody-drug conjugate (ADC) which is of formula (I):



(I)

or is a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

Ab is an anti-Trop-2 antibody;

q is a value in the range of 1 to 20;

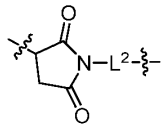
L^1 is a linker bound to the anti-Trop-2 antibody;

L^2 is $-(CH_2)_p-$ where p is 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8;

L^3 is a bond or a polyoxyethylene-based divalent linker; and

R^1 and R^2 are each independently C_{1-6} alkyl.

2. The ADC of claim 1, wherein L^1 is a linker bound to a sulfur of the anti-Trop-2 antibody.

3. The ADC of claim 1 or 2, wherein $-L^1-L^2-$ is .

4. The ADC of any one of claims 1-3, wherein q is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, or 20, a value in the range of 1 to 10, or a value in the range of 6 to 8.

5. The ADC of any one of claims 1-4, wherein p is 4, 5, or 6, preferably 5.

6. The ADC of any one of claims 1-5, wherein L^3 is a bond.

7. The ADC of any one of claims 1-5, wherein L^3 is a polyoxyethylene-based divalent linker.

8. The ADC of any one of claims 1-7, wherein R^1 is C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkyl.

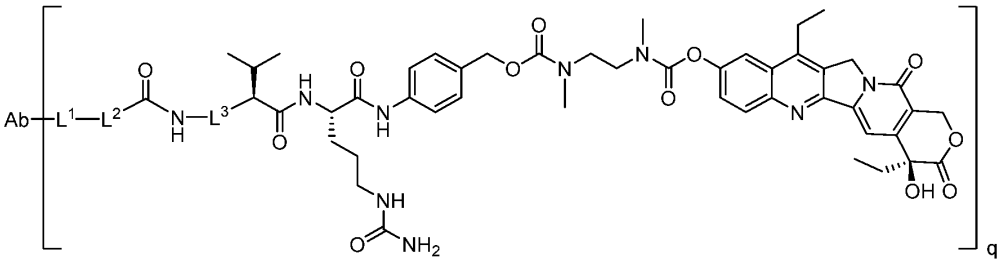
9. The ADC of claim 8, wherein R^1 is methyl or ethyl.

10. The ADC of any one of claims 1-9, wherein R^2 is C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkyl.

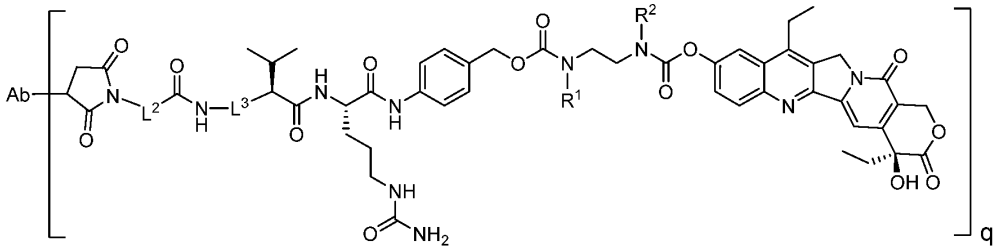
11. The ADC of claim 10, wherein R^2 is methyl or ethyl.

12. The ADC of any one of claims 1-11, wherein R^1 and R^2 are identical.

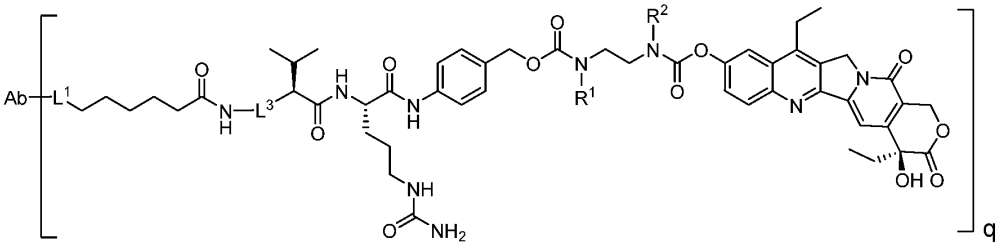
13. The ADC of any one of claims 1-12, wherein the ADC is of formula (IIa), (IIb), (IIc), (IIIa), (IIIb), or (IIIc):



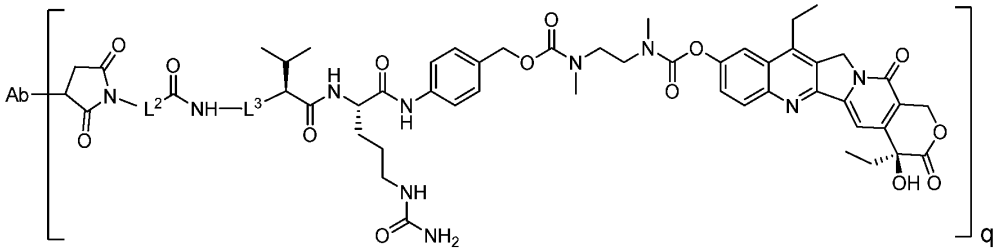
(IIa),



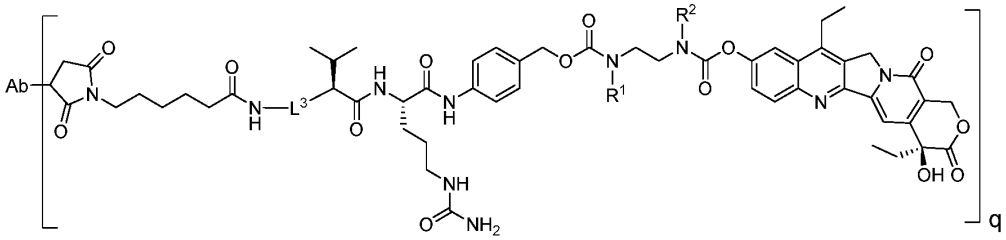
(IIb),



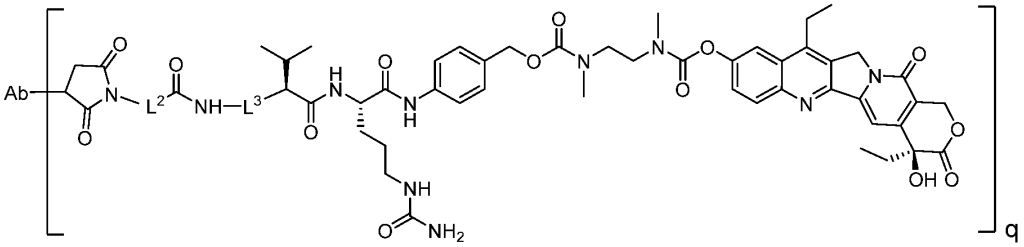
(IIc),



(IIIa),



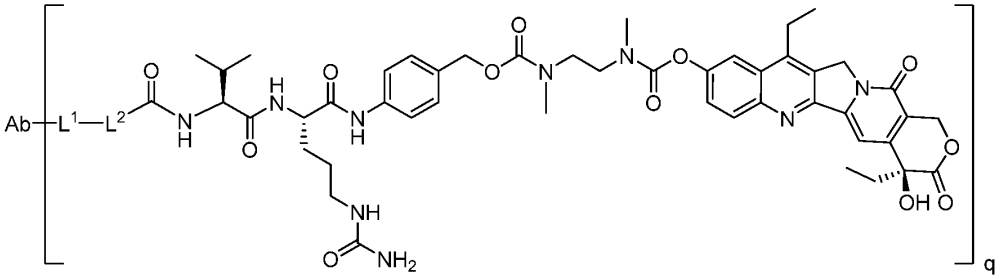
(IIIb),



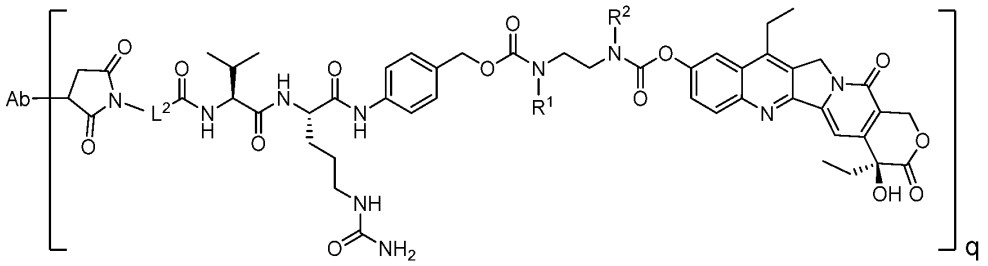
(IIIc)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

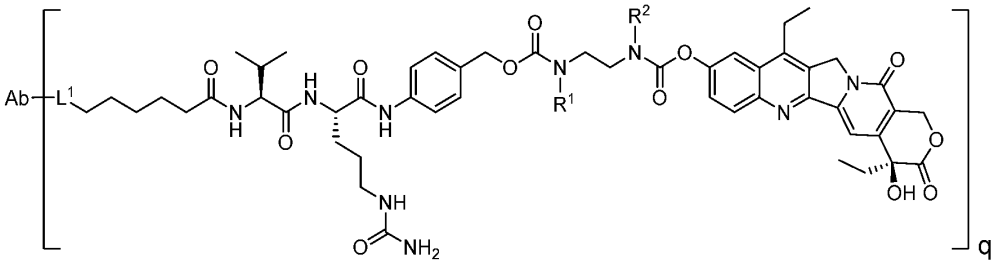
14. The ADC of claim 13, wherein the ADC is of formula (IIa-1), (IIb-1), (IIc-1), (IIIa-1), (IIIb-1), or (IIIc-1):



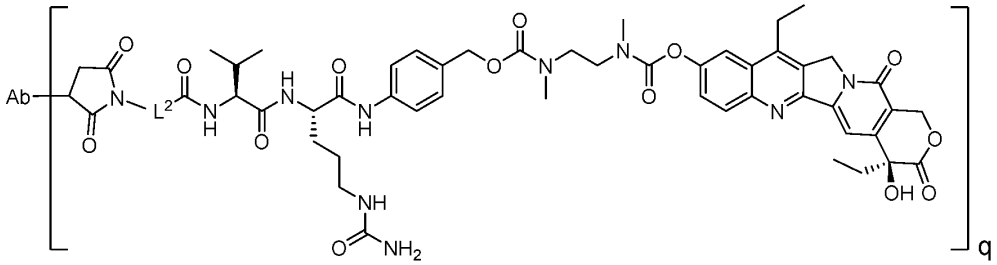
(IIa-1),



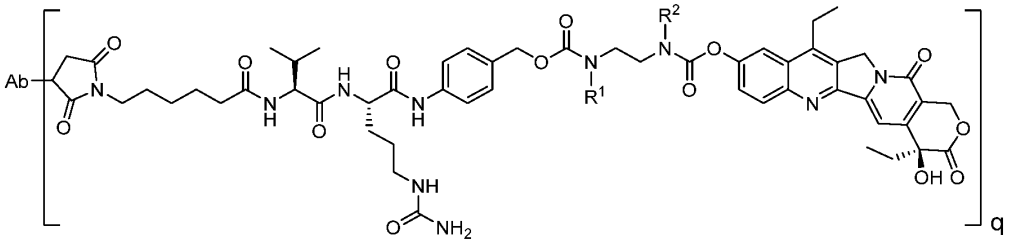
(IIb-1),



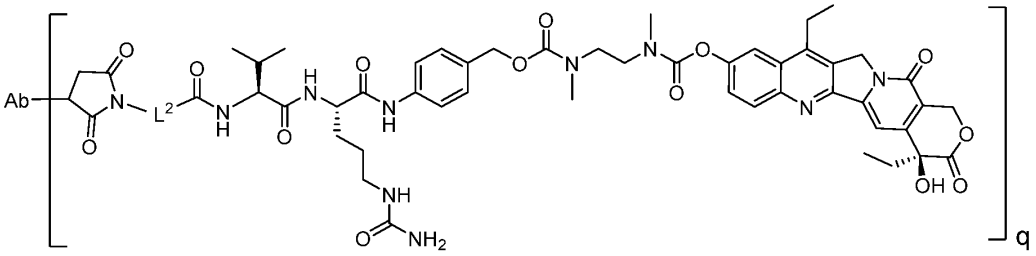
(IIc-1),



(IIIa-1),



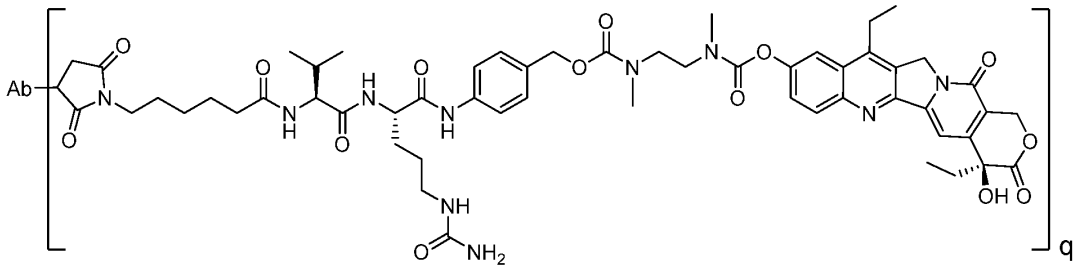
(IIIb-1),



(IIIc-1)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. The ADC of claim 1, wherein the ADC is of formula (IV):



(IV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. The ADC of any one of claims 1-315, wherein the anti-Trop-2 antibody comprises a VL HVR1 comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, a VL HVR2 comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, a VL HVR3 comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, a VH HVR1 comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, a VH HVR2 comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5, and a VH HVR3 comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6.

17. The ADC of any one of claims 1-16, wherein the anti-Trop-2 antibody comprises: a VL having a sequence with at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identity to SEQ ID NO: 7; a VH having a sequence with at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identity to SEQ ID NO: 8; a VL having the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7; and/or a VH having the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8.

18. The ADC of any one of claims 1-17, wherein the anti-Trop-2 antibody comprises: a kappa light chain, and/or an IgG antibody, optionally wherein the anti-Trop-2 antibody is an IgG1 antibody.

19. The ADC of any one of claims 1-18, wherein the anti-Trop-2 antibody binds a human Trop-2, optionally wherein the human Trop-2 has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9.

20. The ADC of any one of claims 1-19, for use in therapy, optionally for use in treating a Trop-2-expressing cancer.

21. A method of treating a Trop-2-expressing cancer in a subject, comprising administering the ADC of any one of claims 1-19 to a subject in need thereof.

22. Use of the ADC of any one of claims 1-19 for the manufacture of a medicament, optionally for the manufacture of a medicament for treating a Trop-2-expressing cancer.

23. The ADC for use, method, or use of any one of claims 20, 21, or 22, wherein the Trop-2-expressing cancer is an epithelial-cell-derived cancer, optionally wherein the Trop-2-expressing cancer is a carcinoma.

24. The ADC for use, method, or use of claim 23, wherein the carcinoma is a basal cell carcinoma, a squamous cell carcinoma, a renal cell carcinoma, a ductal carcinoma in situ, an invasive ductal carcinoma, or an adenocarcinoma.

25. The ADC for use, method, or use of claim 23 or 24, wherein the Trop-2-expressing cancer comprises a solid tumor.

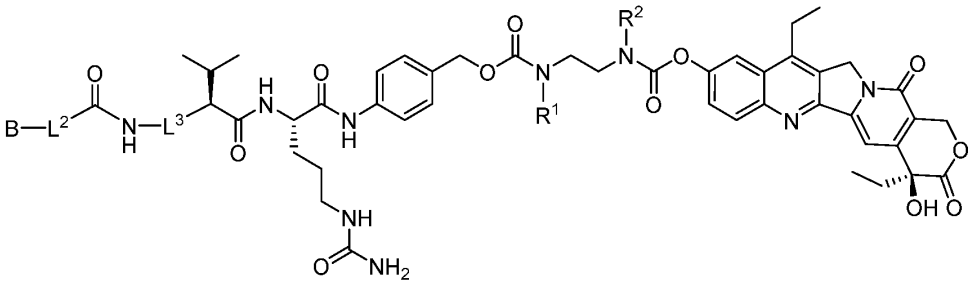
26. The ADC for use, method, or use of any one of claims 23-25, wherein the Trop-2-expressing cancer is metastatic and/or a relapsed cancer.

27. The ADC for use, method, or use of any one of claims 20-26, wherein the Trop-2-expressing cancer is a pancreatic cancer, a gastric cancer, a breast cancer, a melanoma, a kidney cancer, a colorectal cancer, an endometrial cancer, a prostate cancer, a urothelial cancer, a glioblastoma, a lung cancer, a cervical cancer, an esophageal cancer, or an ovarian cancer.

28. The ADC for use, method, or use of claim 27, wherein the Trop-2-expressing cancer is a pancreatic cancer, a gastric cancer, or a breast cancer, optionally wherein the cancer is metastatic.

29. The ADC for use, method, or use of claim 28, wherein the Trop-2-expressing cancer is triple-negative breast cancer, optionally wherein the cancer is metastatic.

30. A method of preparing the ADC of claim 1, comprising reacting an anti-Trop-2 antibody with a molecule of formula (P-I):



(P-I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

B is a reactive moiety capable of forming a bond with the anti-Trop-2 antibody;

L^2 is $-(CH_2)_p-$ where p is 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8;

L^3 is a bond or a polyoxyethylene-based divalent linker; and

R^1 and R^2 are each independently C_{1-6} alkyl.

31. The method of claim 30, wherein B is a reactive moiety capable of forming a bond with a sulfhydryl of the anti-Trop-2 antibody.

32. The method of claim 30 or 31, wherein B is N-maleimido.

33. The method of any one of claims 30-32, wherein the ADC is the ADC of any one of claims 1-19.

34. The method of any one of claims 30-33, wherein p is 4, 5, or 6, preferably 5.

35. The method of any one of claims 30-34, wherein R^1 is C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkyl.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein R^1 is methyl or ethyl.

37. The method of any one of claims 30-36, wherein R^2 is C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkyl.

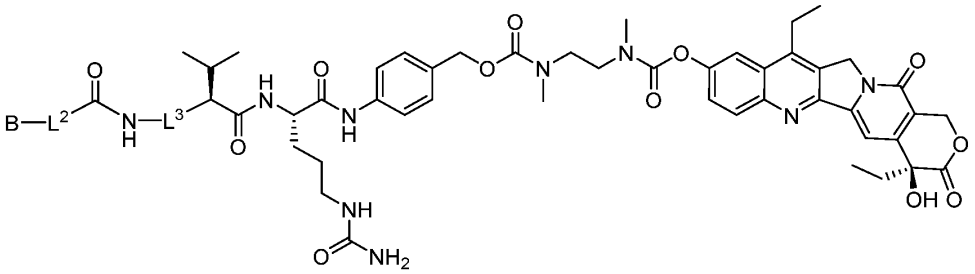
38. The method of claim 37, wherein R^2 is methyl or ethyl.

39. The method of any one of claims 30-38, wherein R^1 and R^2 are identical.

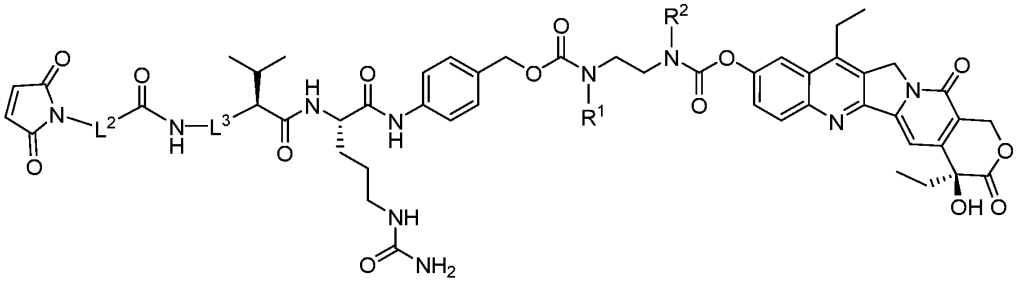
40. The method of any one of claims 30-39, wherein L^3 is a bond.

41. The method of any one of claims 30-39, wherein L^3 is a polyoxyethylene-based divalent linker.

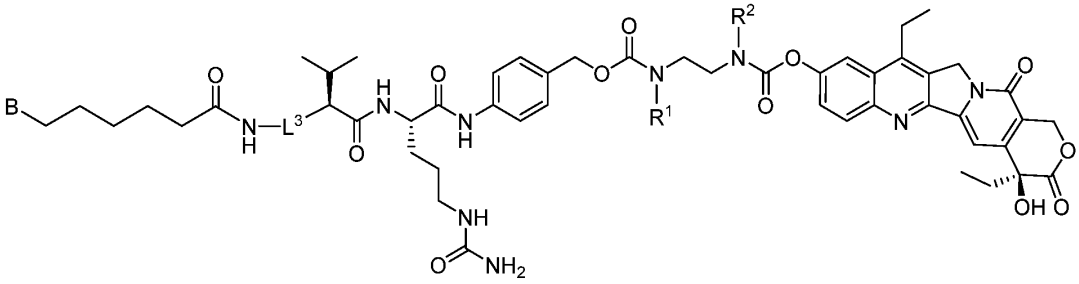
42. The method of any one of claims 30-41, wherein the molecule is of formula (P-IIa), (P-IIb), (P-IIc), (P-IIIa), (P-IIIb), or (P-IIIc):



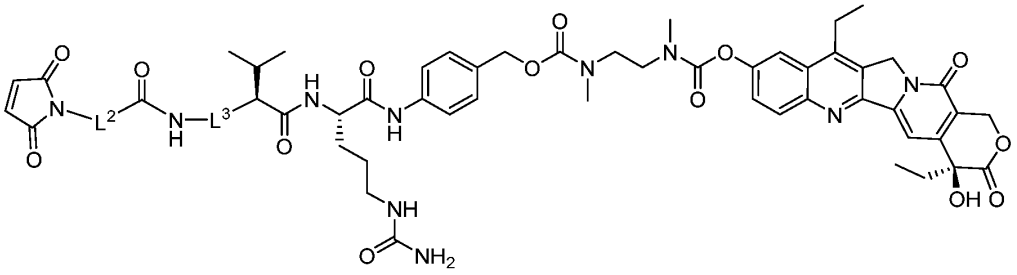
(P-IIa),



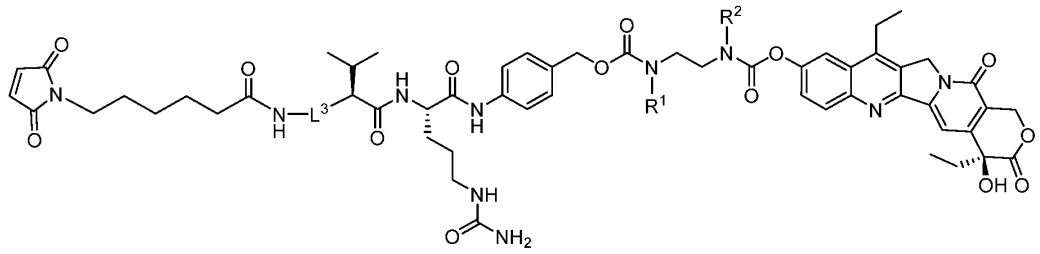
(P-IIb),



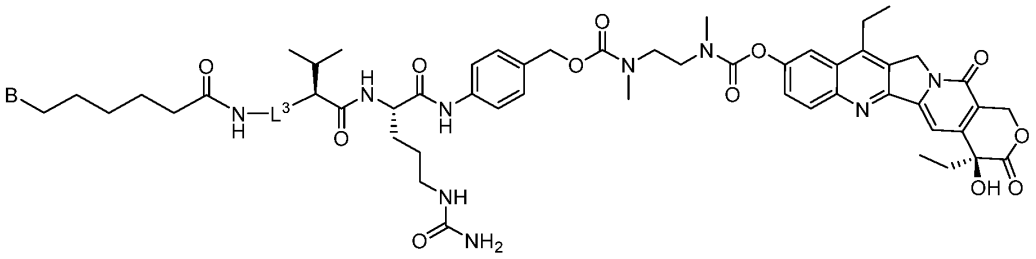
(P-IIc),



(P-IIIa),



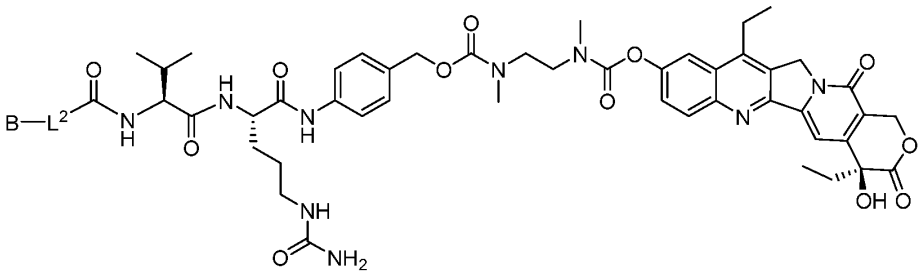
(P-IIIb),



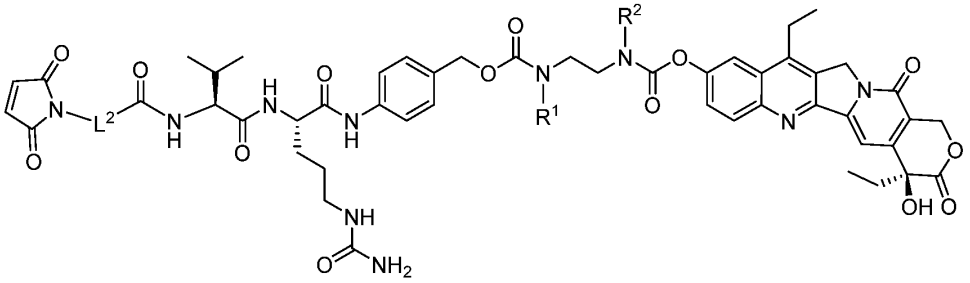
(P-IIIc)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

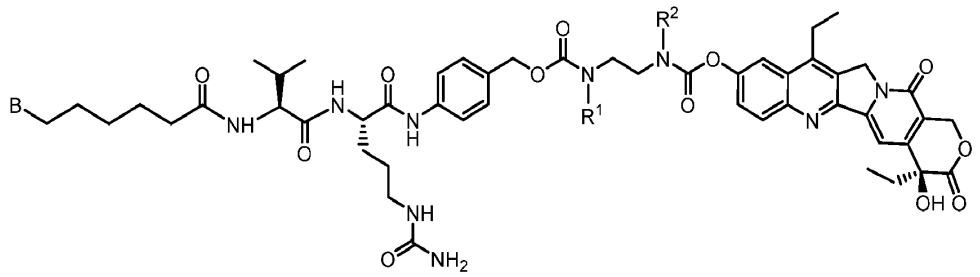
43. The method of claim 42, wherein the molecule is of formula (P-IIa-1), (P-IIb-1), (P-IIc-1), (P-IIIa-1), (P-IIIb-1), or (P-IIIc-1):



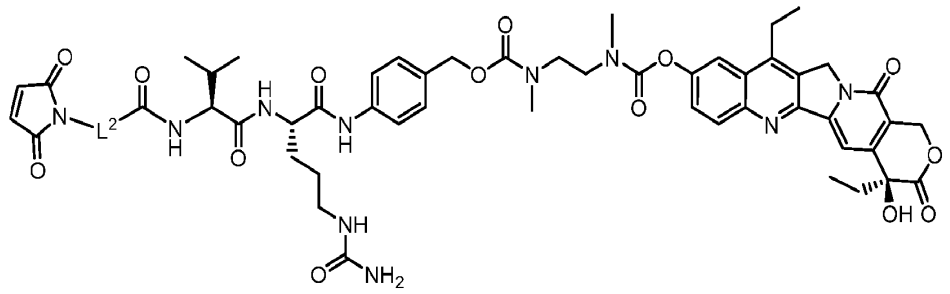
(P-IIa-1),



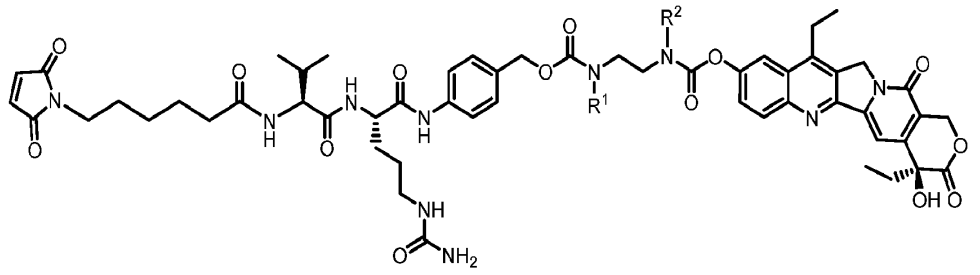
(P-IIb-1),



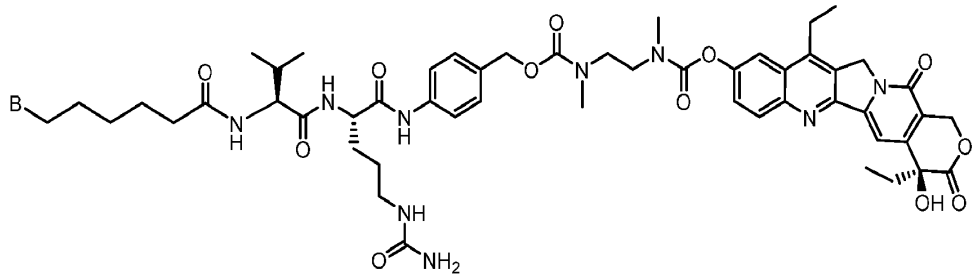
(P-IIc-1),



(P-IIIa-1),



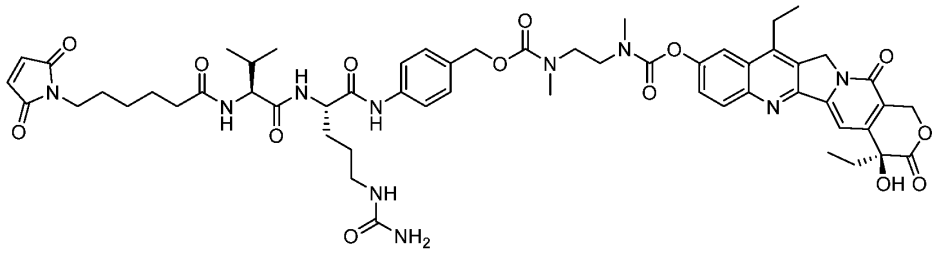
(P-IIIb-1),



(P-IIIc-1)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

44. The method of claim 43, wherein the molecule is of formula (P-IV):



(P-IV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.