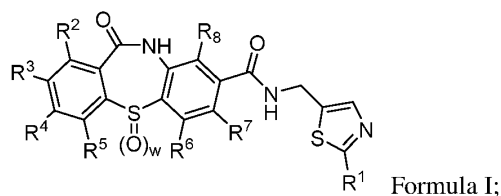


1. A process for preparing a compound represented by Formula I:



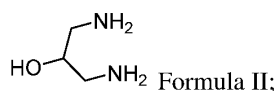
wherein w is 0, 1, or 2;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} alkyl (optionally substituted with one, two or three halogens), phenyl, and 4-6 membered monocyclic heteroaryl; wherein phenyl and 4-6 membered monocyclic heteroaryl may optionally be substituted with one or more substituents each independently selected from R^{11} ;

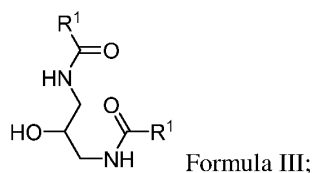
R^{11} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, and $-S(O)_w-C_{1-6}$ alkyl (wherein w is 0, 1 or 2);

R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , and R^8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, and C_{1-6} alkoxy; wherein C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} alkoxy may be optionally substituted with one, two, three or more substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, and C_{1-6} alkoxy; comprising:

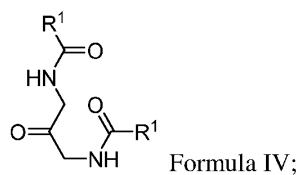
amidating a compound of Formula II:



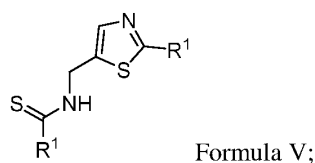
to provide a compound of Formula III:



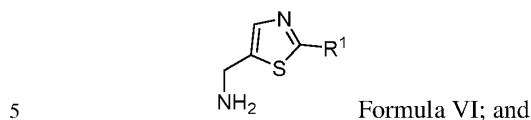
oxidizing the compound of Formula III to provide a compound of Formula IV:



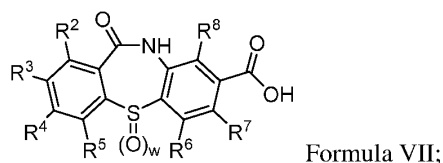
cyclizing the compound of Formula IV to provide a thiazole compound of Formula V:



hydrolyzing the compound of Formula V to provide a compound of Formula VI:



coupling the compound of Formula VI with a tricyclic compound of Formula VII:



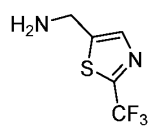
wherein w is 0, 1 or 2;

10 R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , and R^8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, and C_{1-6} alkoxy; wherein C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} alkoxy may be optionally substituted with one, two, three or more substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, and C_{1-6} alkoxy;

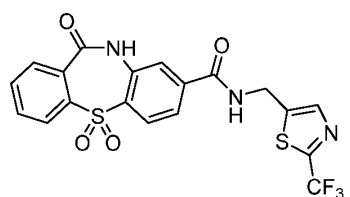
to provide the compound of Formula I.

2. The process of claim 1, wherein amidating the compound of Formula II comprises
15 contacting the compound of Formula II with an amine base and an acylating agent.

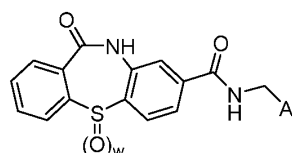
3. The process of claim 1 or 2, wherein the acylating agent is an acid anhydride or an acid chloride.
4. The process of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the acylating agent is trifluoroacetic anhydride.
- 5 5. The process of any one of claims 1-4, wherein the amine base is triethylamine.
6. The process of any one of claims 1-5, wherein oxidizing the compound of Formula III comprises contacting the compound of Formula III with a chromium-based oxidizing reagent.
7. The process of claim 6, wherein the chromium-based oxidizing reagent is Jones reagent.
8. The process of any one of claims 1-7, wherein cyclizing the compound of Formula IV
10 comprises contacting the compound of Formula IV with a thionating reagent.
9. The process of claim 8, wherein the thionating reagent is phosphorus pentasulfide.
10. The process of any one of claims 1-9, wherein hydrolyzing the compound of Formula V comprises contacting the compound of Formula V with an aqueous amine base.
11. The process of claim 10, wherein the aqueous amine base is aqueous methylamine.
- 15 12. The process of any one of claims 1-11, wherein coupling the compound of Formula VI with the compound of Formula VII is conducted in the presence of a coupling agent.
13. The process of claim 12, wherein the coupling agent is hydroxybenzotriazole/ ethyl-(*N,N'*-dimethylamino)propylcarbodiimide hydrochloride.
14. The process of any one of claims 1-13, wherein R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , and R^8 are each
20 independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoride, chloride, methyl, and methoxy.
15. The process of any one of claims 1-14, wherein R^1 is trifluoromethyl.
16. The process of any one of claims 1-15, wherein the compound of Formula VI is:



17. The process of any one of claims 1-16, wherein the compound of Formula I is:



18. A process for preparing a compound represented by Formula VIII:



Formula VIII;

wherein w is 0, 1 or 2;

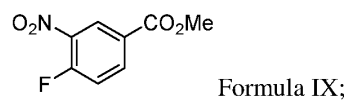
A is a 5-6 membered monocyclic heteroaryl having 1, 2 or 3 heteroatoms each independently selected from the group consisting of S, N, and O; wherein said heteroaryl may optionally be substituted with one or more substituents selected from R^f;

- 10 R^f is independently selected, for each occurrence, from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, R^aR^bN-, R^aR^bN-carbonyl-, R^aR^bN-SO₂-, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆alkyl-S(O)_w-, (wherein w is 0, 1 or 2), C₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl-N(R^a)- and C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonyl-N(R^a)-; wherein C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆alkyl-S(O)_w-, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl-N(R^a)-,
- 15 C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonyl-N(R^a)- may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, and C₁₋₆alkoxy;

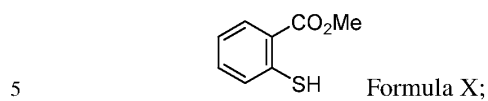
- R^a and R^b are independently selected, for each occurrence, from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₃alkyl; wherein C₁₋₃alkyl may optionally be substituted by one or more substituents selected from fluorine, hydroxyl, C₁₋₃alkoxy; or R^a and R^b, together with the
- 20 nitrogen to which they are attached, may form a 4-6 membered heterocyclic ring;

comprising:

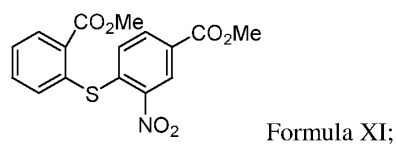
coupling a compound of Formula IX:



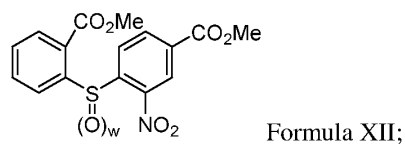
with a compound of Formula X:



to provide a compound of Formula XI:

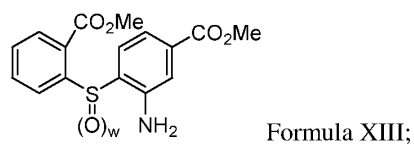


optionally oxidizing the compound of Formula XI to provide a compound of Formula XII:



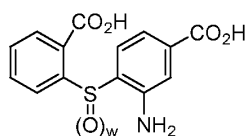
10 wherein w is 1 or 2;

reducing the compound of Formula XII to provide a compound of Formula XIII:



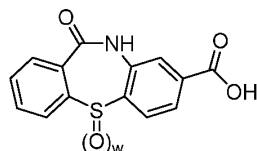
wherein w is 1 or 2;

hydrolyzing the compound of Formula XIII to provide a compound of Formula XIV:



Formula XIV;

cyclizing the compound of Formula XIV to provide a tricyclic compound of Formula VII:



Formula VII; and

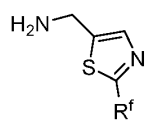
amidating the compound of Formula VII to provide the compound of Formula VIII.

- 5 19. The process of claim 18, wherein coupling the compound of Formula IX with the compound of Formula X is conducted in the presence of a base.
20. The process of claim 18 or 19, wherein the base is cesium carbonate.
21. The process of any one of claims 18-20, wherein oxidizing the compound of Formula XI comprises contacting the compound of Formula XI with aqueous hydrogen peroxide.
- 10 22. The process of any one of claims 18-20, wherein oxidizing the compound of Formula XI comprises contacting the compound of Formula XI with sodium metaperiodate and catalytic ruthenium (III) chloride.
23. The process of any one of claims 18-22, wherein reducing the compound of Formula XII comprises contacting the compound of Formula XII with Pd/C under hydrogen gas.
- 15 24. The process of any one of claims 18-23, wherein hydrolyzing the compound of Formula XIII comprises contacting the compound of Formula XIII with an aqueous base.
25. The process of claim 24, wherein the aqueous base is aqueous lithium hydroxide.
26. The process of any one of claims 18-25, wherein cyclizing the compound of Formula XIV comprises contacting the compound of Formula XIV with carbodiimidazole.

27. The process of any one of claims 18-26, wherein amidating the compound of Formula VII comprises contacting the compound of Formula VII with a primary amine represented by A-CH₂-NH₂ in the presence of a coupling agent.

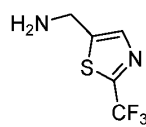
28. The process of claim 27, wherein the coupling agent is hydroxybenzotriazole/ ethyl-
5 (N',N'-dimethylamino)propylcarbodiimide hydrochloride.

29. The process of claim 27 or 28, wherein the primary amine is represented by:



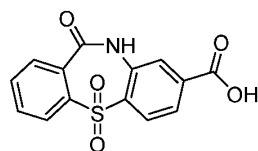
atoms.

30. The process of any one of claims 27-29, wherein the primary amine is:

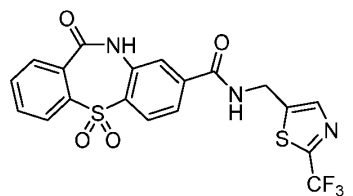


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31. The process of any one of claims 18-30, wherein the compound of Formula VII is:

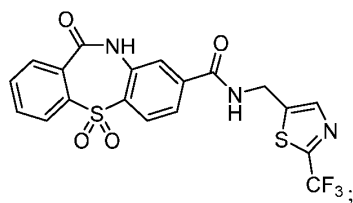


32. The process of any one of claims 18-31, wherein the compound of Formula VIII is:



15

33. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, represented by:



prepared by the process of any one of claims 1-32.