a general formula CR7d (where R7d is a halogen atom or an optionally substituted lower alkyl or lower alkoxy group); and Z^6 is a nitrogen atom or CH.

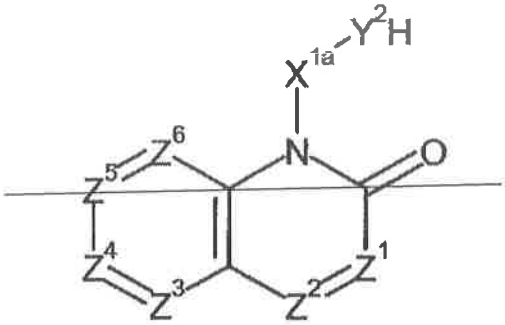
11. The compound or a salt thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein Z^5 is a group represented by a general formula CR^{7e} (where R^{7e} is a halogen atom, a lower alkyl group or a lower alkoxy group).

12. The compound or a salt thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein X^1 is an ethylene group; X^2 and X^5 are each a bond; X^3 is NH; and X^4 is a methylene group.

13. The compound or a salt thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 12, wherein Y^1 is a piperidine-1, 4-diyl group (the nitrogen atom in the 1-position binds to X^2).

14. The compound or a salt thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein R^1 is a 2,3-dihydro (1,4) dioxino (2,3-c) pyridine-7-yl group.

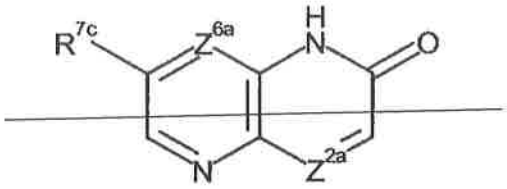
~~15. A compound represented by a general formula: [Formula 2]~~



[wherein X1a denotes an optionally substituted C_1-C_3 alkylene group; Y^2 denotes an optionally protected carbonyl group; Z^1, Z^2, Z^3, Z^4, Z^5 and Z^6 are the same or different and are each a nitrogen atom or a group represented by a general formula CR^7 (where R^7 denotes a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a cyano group, a nitro group, a formyl group, an optionally protected or substituted amino group, an optionally substituted lower alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, lower alkoxy, cycloalkyloxy, aralkyloxy, alkanoyl, ureido or monocyclic heterocyclic group, or a group represented by a general formula $Q^1CONR^8R^9$ or $Q^1CO_2R^{10}$ or Q^1CN (where R^8 and R^9 are the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl, cycloalkyl, aralkyl, aryl, lower alkoxy, alkanesulfonyl or monocyclic heterocyclic group, or form, together with the nitrogen atom to which R^8 and R^9 bind, an optionally substituted cyclic amino group; R^{10} denotes a hydrogen atom or a carbon-protecting group; and Q^1 denotes an optionally substituted lower alkylene or lower alkenylene group or a bond)); provided that at least one of Z^3, Z^4, Z^5 and Z^6 is a nitrogen atom].

16. The compound according to Claim 15, wherein X^{1a} is a methylene group; and Y^2 is a carbonyl group.

17. A compound represented by a general formula: [Formula 3]



[wherein R^{7c} denotes a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a cyano group, a nitro group, a formyl group, an optionally protected or substituted amino group, an optionally substituted lower alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, lower alkoxy, cycloalkyloxy, aralkyloxy, alkanoyl, ureido or monocyclic heterocyclic group, or a group represented by a general formula $Q^1CONR^8R^9$, $Q^1CO_2R^{10}$ or Q^1CN (where R^8 and R^9 are the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl, cycloalkyl, aralkyl, aryl, lower alkoxy, alkanesulfonyl or monocyclic heterocyclic group, or form, together with the nitrogen atom to which R^8 and R^9 bind, an optionally substituted cyclic amino group; R^{10} denotes a hydrogen atom or carboxyl-protecting group; Q^1 denotes an optionally substituted lower aklylene or lower alkenylene group or a bond); Z^{2a} and Z^{6a} are the same or different and are each a nitrogen atom or a group represented by the general formula CR^7 (where R^7 denotes a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a cyano group, a nitro group, a formyl group, an

~~optionally protected or substituted amino group, an optionally substituted lower alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, lower alkoxy, cycloalkyloxy, aralkyloxy, alkanoyl, ureido or monocyclic heterocyclic group, or a group represented by a general formula $Q^1CONR^8R^9$, $Q^1CO_2R^{10}$ or Q^1CN (where R^8 and R^9 are the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl, cycloalkyl, aralkyl, aryl, lower alkoxy, alkanesulfonyl or monocyclic heterocyclic group, or form, together with the nitrogen atom to which R^8 and R^9 bind, an optionally substituted cyclic amino group; R^{10} denotes a hydrogen atom or a carboxyl-protecting group; and Q^1 denotes an optionally substituted lower alkylene or lower alkenylene group or a bond))].~~

~~18. The compound according to Claim 17, wherein R^{7a} is a halogen atom or an optionally substituted lower alkyl or lower alkoxy group; Z^{2a} is CH; and Z^{6a} is a nitrogen atom or CH.~~

~~19~~15. An antimicrobial agent containing the compound or a salt thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 14.