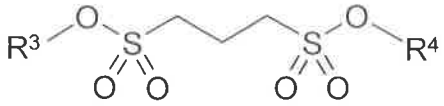
CLAIMS

1. A compound of Formula II:



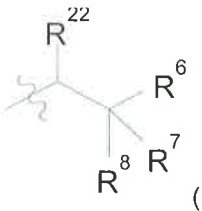
(II)

wherein,

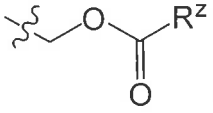
R^3 is selected from hydrogen and a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, C_3-C_{15}cycloalkyl, C_3-C_{15}heterocycloalkyl, C_6-C_{15}aryl, and C_5-C_{15}heteroaryl; and

R^4 is a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, C_3-C_{15}cycloalkyl, C_3-C_{15}heterocycloalkyl, C_6-C_{15}aryl, and C_5-C_{15}heteroaryl; and

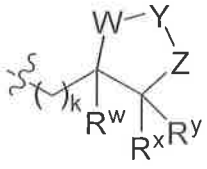
wherein at least one of R^3 and R^4 is a substituted branched C_3-C_8alkyl, or a group selected from Formula B, E and F:



(B);



(E); and



(F);wherein,

R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each independently a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl, C_2-C_6alkynyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6heterocycloalkyl, C_6-C_{10}aryl, C_5-C_{10}heteroaryl, C(O)OH, C(O)OC_1-C_6alkyl, NH_2, NHC(O)OC_1-C_6alkyl, or R^7 and R^8 are taken together with their adjacent carbon atom to form a group selected from C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, and C_3-C_8heterocycloalkyl, or R^6, R^7 and R^8 are taken together with their adjacent carbon atom to form a C_4-C_{10}cycloalkyl, a C_4-C_{10}heterocycloalkyl fused ring group, or a C_5-C_{10}heteroaryl;

R^{22} is a hydrogen atom or a group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C(O)OH, or C(O)OC_1-C_6alkyl;

R^w, R^x, and R^y are each independently selected from a hydrogen atom or a substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_3alkyl group, or R^w and R^x are taken together with their adjacent carbon atoms to form a double bond;

R^z is a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, C_3-C_{15}cycloalkyl, C_3-C_{15}heterocycloalkyl, C_6-C_{15}aryl, C_5-C_{15}heteroaryl, OC_1-C_{12}alkyl, OC_2-C_{12}alkenyl, OC_2-C_{12}alkynyl, OC_3-C_{15}cycloalkyl, OC_3-OC_{15}heterocycloalkyl, OC_6-C_{15}aryl, and OC_5-C_{15}heteroaryl;

W-Y-Z is selected from C(O)OCH_2, OC(O)CH_2, CH_2C(O)O, and CH_2OC(O);

k is an integer selected from 0, 1 and 2;

wherein when both of R^3 and R^4 are substituted branched C_3-C_8alkyl groups, then said branched C_3-C_8alkyl is substituted by a substituent other than aryl or heteroaryl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^3 is a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, C_3-C_{15}cycloalkyl, C_3-C_{15}heterocycloalkyl, C_6-C_{15}aryl, and C_5-C_{15}heteroaryl.

3. The compound of claim 1, wherein said R^3 is hydrogen.

4. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein at least one of R^3 and R^4 is a group of Formula B.

5. The compound of claim 4, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each a group of Formula B.

6. The compound of claim 4 or 5, wherein said R^{22} is C_2-C_6alkyl, or wherein said R^{22} is C_3-C_5alkyl, or wherein said R^{22} is a C_3-C_4alkyl.

7. The compound of claim 4 or 5, wherein said R^{22} is hydrogen.

8. The compound of any one of claims 4 to 7, wherein R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each independently a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl, C_2-C_6alkynyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6heterocycloalkyl, C_6-C_{10}aryl, and C_5-C_{10}heteroaryl, or R^7 and R^8 are taken together with their adjacent carbon atom to form a group selected from C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, and C_3-C_8heterocycloalkyl, or R^6, R^7 and R^8 are taken together with their adjacent carbon atom to form a C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, a C_3-C_8heterocycloalkyl fused ring group, or a C_5-C_{10}heteroaryl.

9. The compound of any one of claims 4 to 8, wherein R^6 is a group of Formula C:



(**C**)

wherein,

R^9 is, separately in each occurrence, selected from hydrogen, hydroxyl, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, nitro, and a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6heterocycloalkyl, C_6aryl, C_5-C_6heteroaryl, C(O)OH, $C(O)OR^{11}$, OR^{11}, $OC(O)R^{11}$, $OC(O)OR^{11}$, $NHC(O)R^{11}$, NH_2, NHR^{11}, and $N(R^{11})_2$;

X is selected from the group consisting of OH, NH_2, NO_2, CN, SH, C(O)OH, $C(O)OR^{12}$, $OC(O)OR^{12}$, $NHC(O)OR^{12}$, $SC(O)OR^{12}$, $P(O)(OH)_2$, $P(O)(OR^{12})_2$, $P(O)(OR^{12})(OH)$, $OC(O)R^{13}$, $OC(O)NHR^{13}$, $SC(O)R^{13}$, $C(O)R^{14}$, and NHR^{15};

n is an integer selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

R^{11} is a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6heterocycloalkyl, C_6aryl, C_5-C_6heteroaryl and benzyl;

R^{12} is a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6heterocycloalkyl, C_6aryl, C_5-C_6heteroaryl, benzyl, CH_2R^{16}, and $CH(C_1$-C_6alkyl$)R^{16}$;

R^{13} is a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6heterocycloalkyl, C_6aryl, C_5-C_6heteroaryl, and benzyl;

R^{14} is the residue of a natural or unnatural N-coupled amino acid having an protected or unprotected carboxyl end;

R^{15} is the residue of a natural or unnatural C-coupled amino acid having an protected or unprotected amino end; and

R^{16} is selected from the group consisting of $OC(O)C_1$-C_6alkyl and $OC(O)OC_1$-C_6alkyl.

10. The compound of claim 9, wherein:

X is selected from the group consisting of OH, NH_2, SH, C(O)OH, $C(O)OR^{12}$, $OC(O)OR^{12}$, $NHC(O)OR^{12}$, $SC(O)OR^{12}$, $OC(O)R^{13}$, $OC(O)NHR^{13}$, $SC(O)R^{13}$, $C(O)R^{14}$, and NHR^{15};

R^{14} is the residue of a natural or unnatural N-coupled amino acid;

R^{15} is the residue of a natural or unnatural C-coupled amino acid; and

all other groups are defined in claim 9.

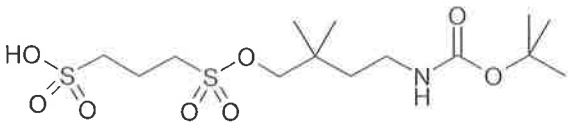
11. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein at least one of R^3 and R^4 is a group of Formula E..

12. The compound of claim 11, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each a group of Formula E.

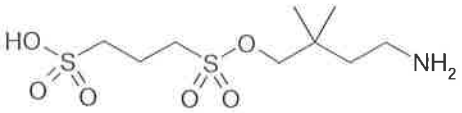
13. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein at least one of R^3 and R^4 is a group of Formula F.

14. The compound of claim 13, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each a group of Formula F.

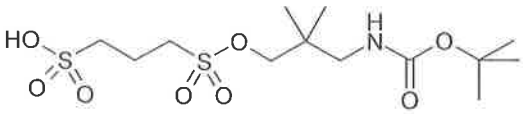
15. The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from:



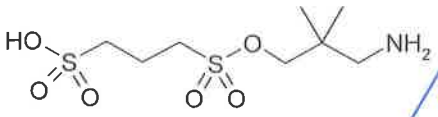
Compound A1



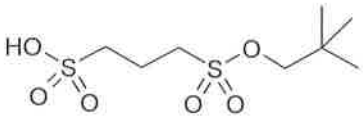
Compound A2



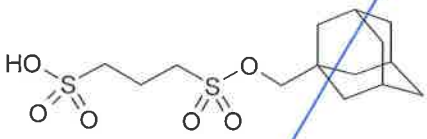
Compound A3



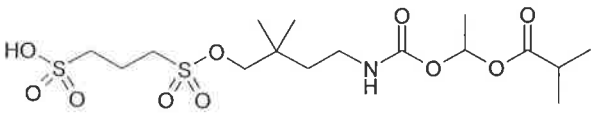
Compound A4



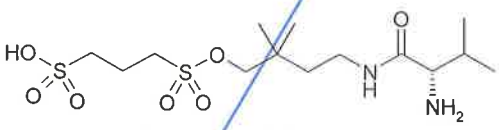
Compound A6



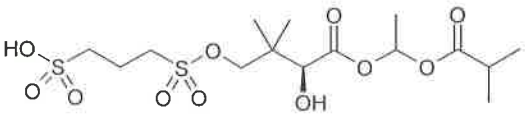
Compound A9



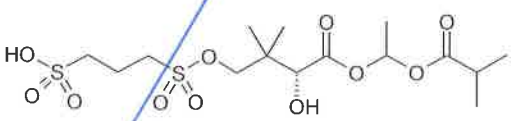
Compound A13



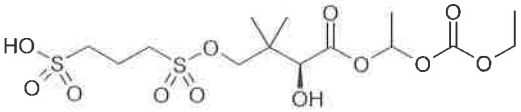
Compound A14



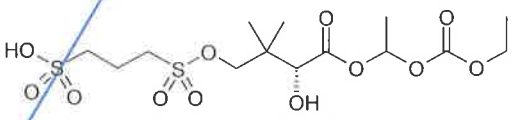
Compound A15



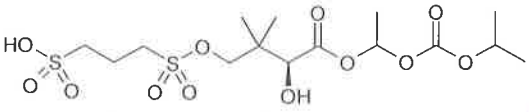
Compound A16



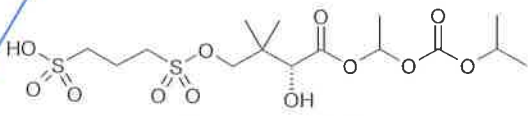
Compound A17



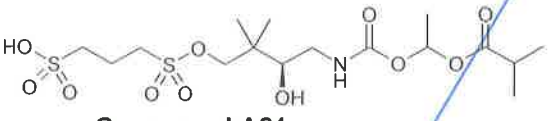
Compound A18



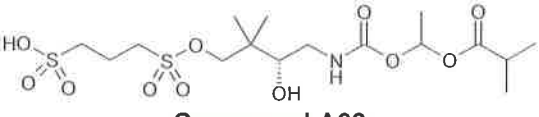
Compound A19



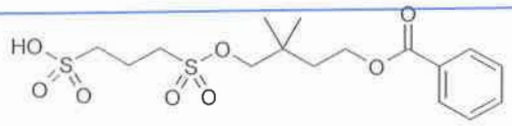
Compound A20



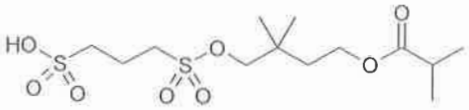
Compound A21



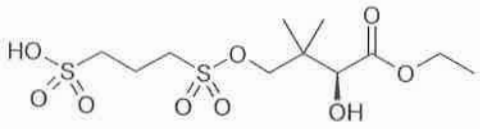
Compound A22



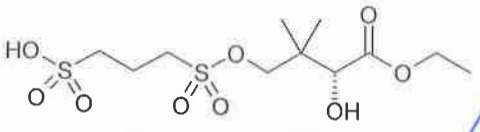
Compound A23



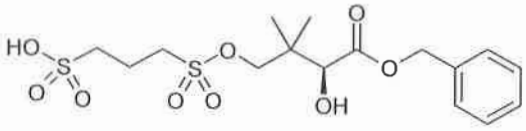
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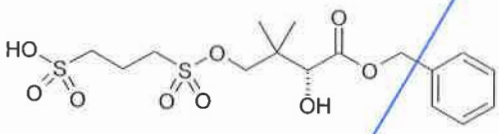
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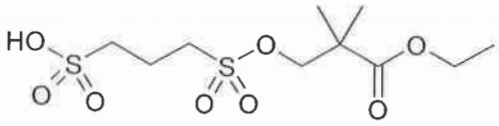
Compound A26



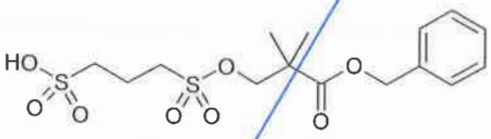
Compound A27



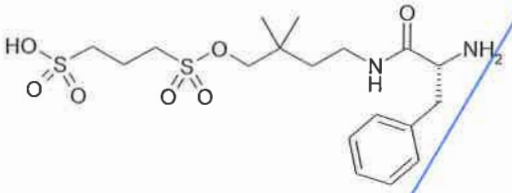
Compound A28



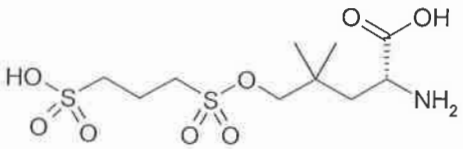
Compound A29



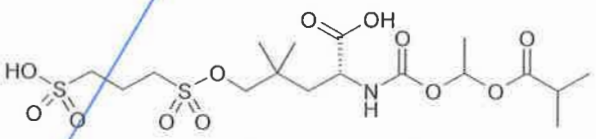
Compound A30



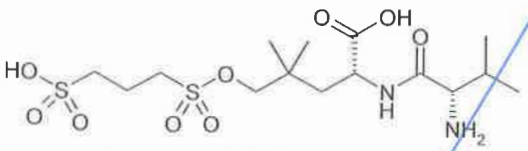
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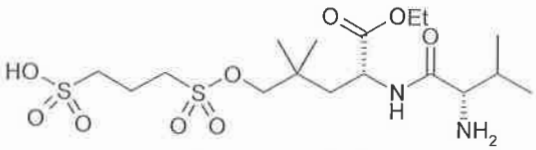
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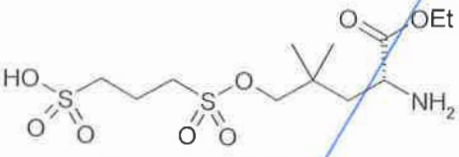
Compound A34



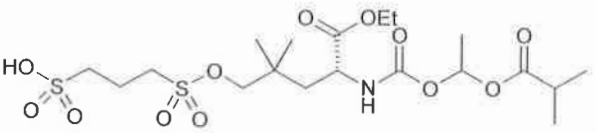
Compound A35



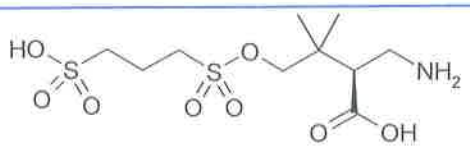
Compound A36



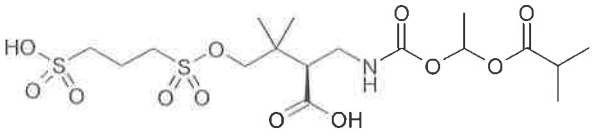
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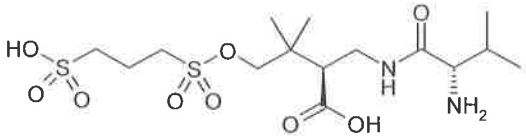
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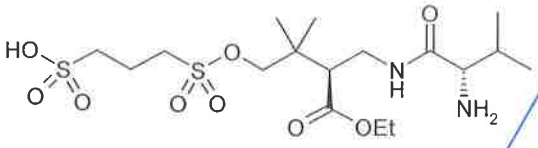
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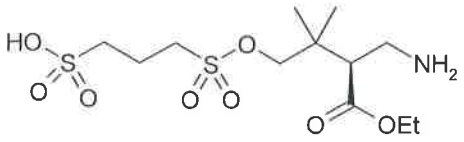
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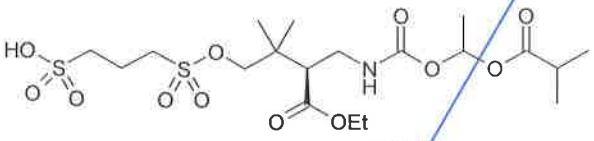
Compound A41



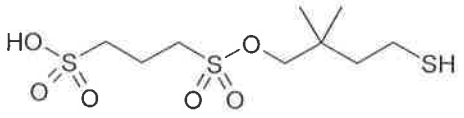
Compound A42



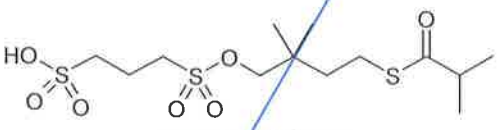
Compound A43



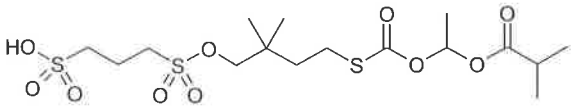
Compound A44



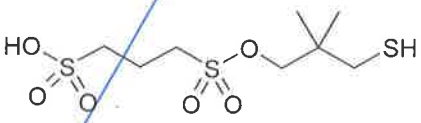
Compound A45



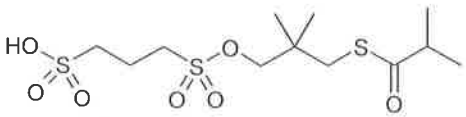
Compound A46



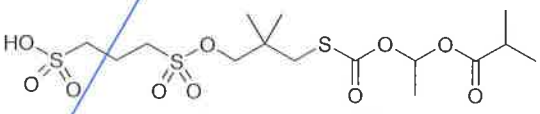
Compound A47



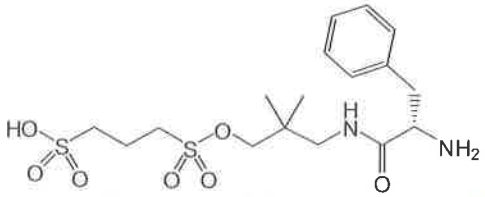
Compound A48



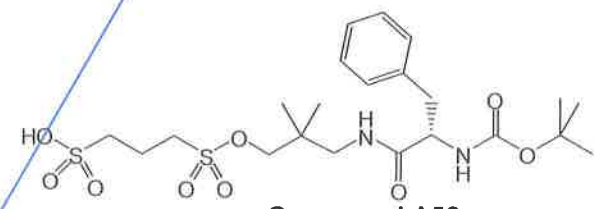
Compound A49



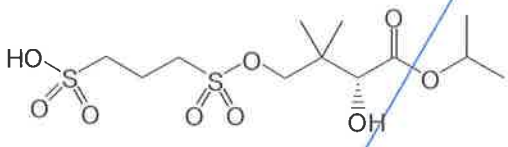
Compound A50



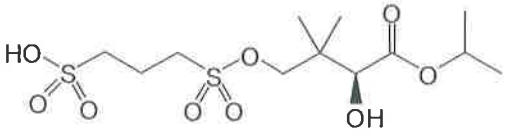
Compound A51



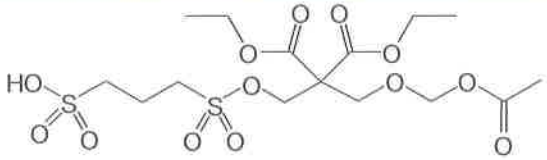
Compound A52



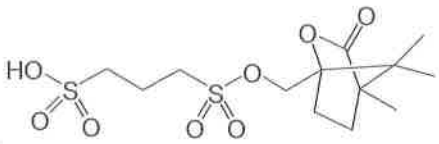
Compound A53



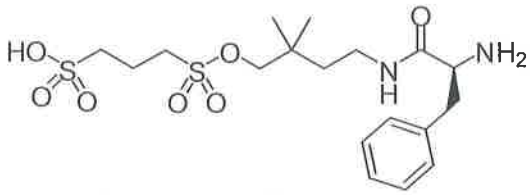
Compound A54



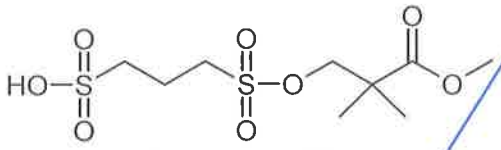
Compound A55



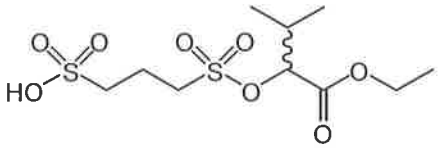
Compound A56



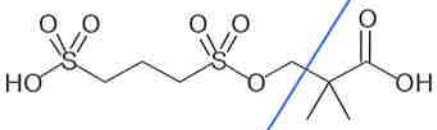
Compound A57



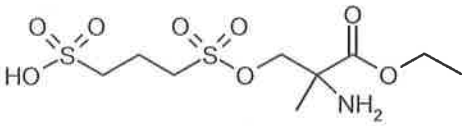
Compound A58



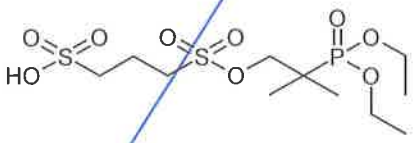
Compound A59



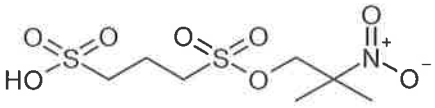
Compound A60



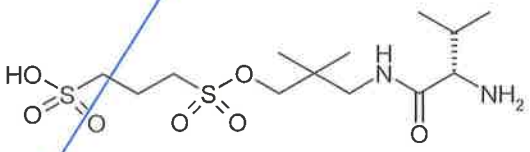
Compound A61



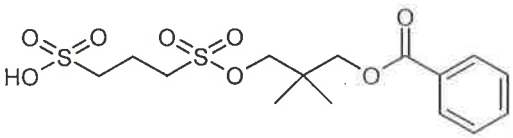
Compound A62



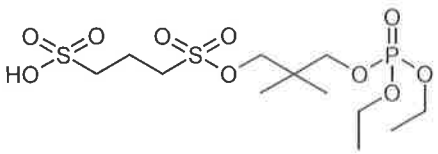
Compound A63



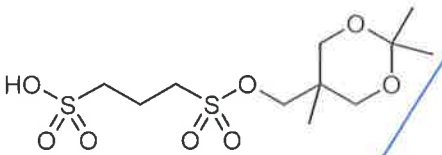
Compound A64



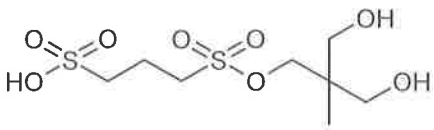
Compound A65



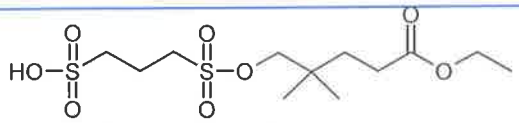
Compound A66



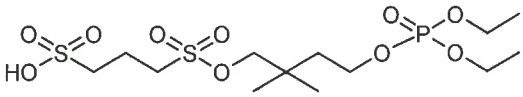
Compound A67



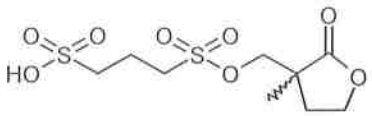
Compound A68



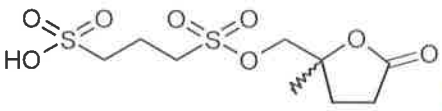
Compound A69



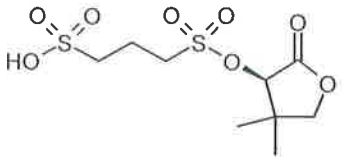
Compound A70



Compound A71



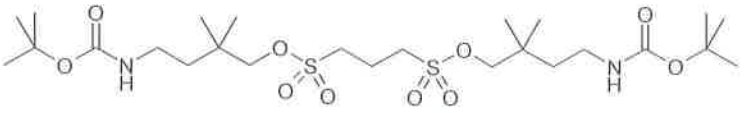
Compound A72



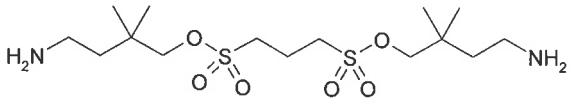
Compound A73;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

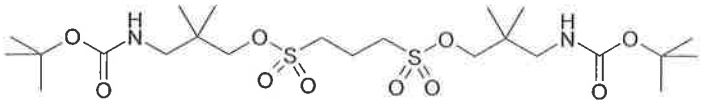
16. The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from:



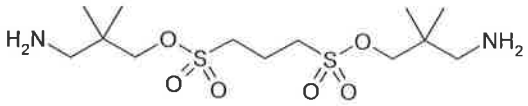
Compound B1



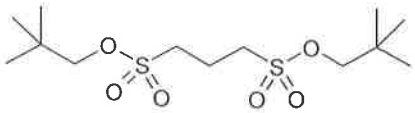
Compound B2



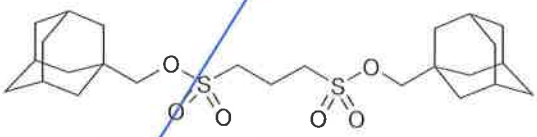
Compound B3



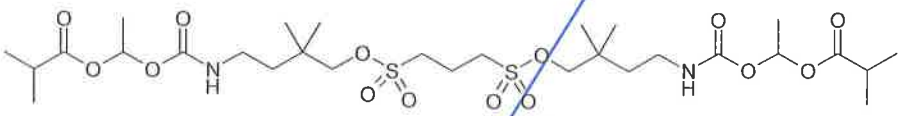
Compound B4



Compound B6



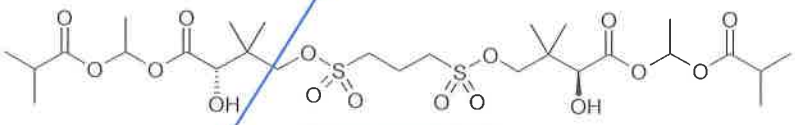
Compound B9



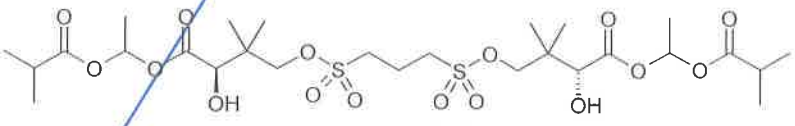
Compound B13



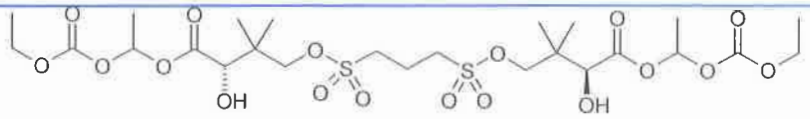
Compound B14



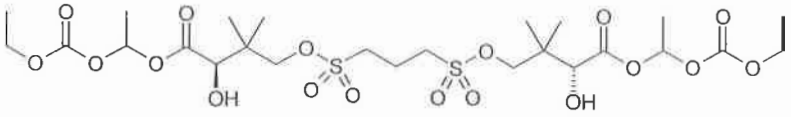
Compound B15



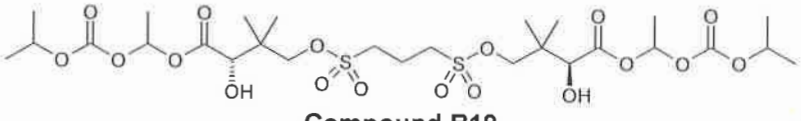
Compound B16



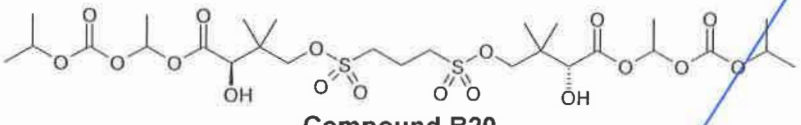
Compound B17



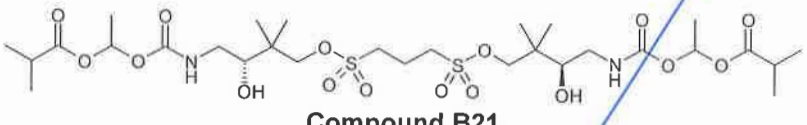
Compound B18



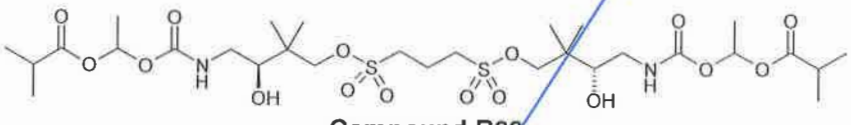
Compound B19



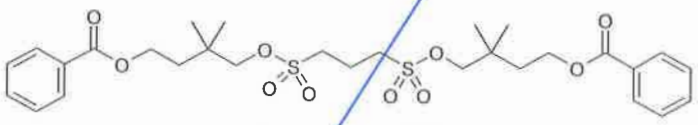
Compound B20



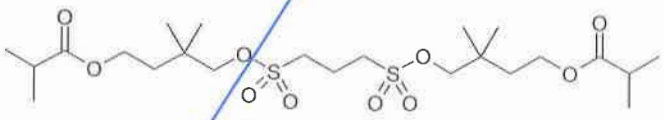
Compound B21



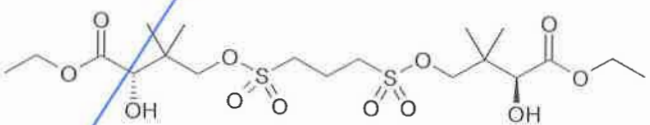
Compound B22



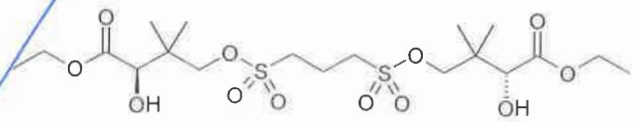
Compound B23



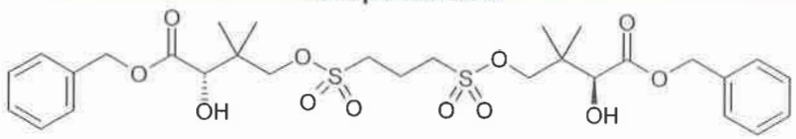
Compound B24



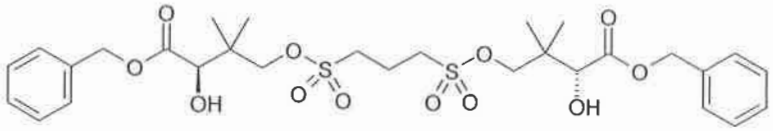
Compound B25



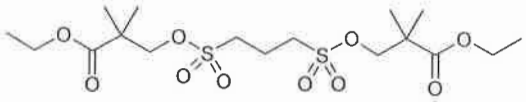
Compound B26



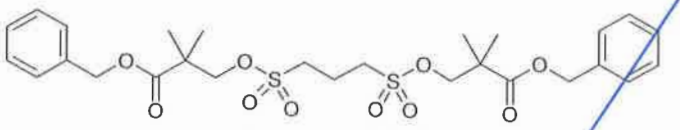
Compound B27



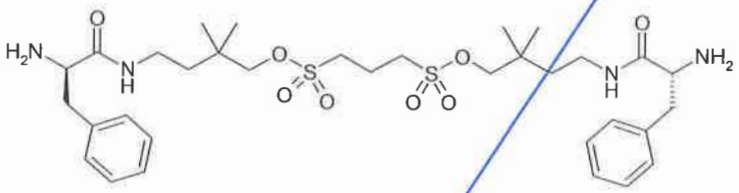
Compound B28



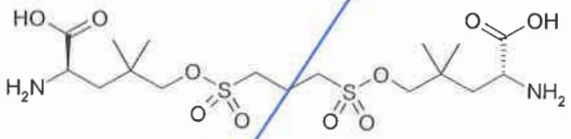
Compound B29



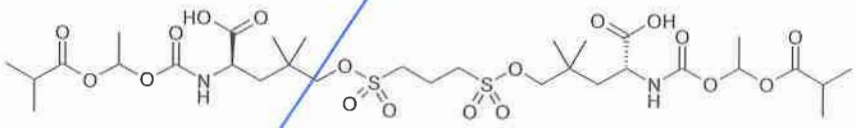
Compound B30



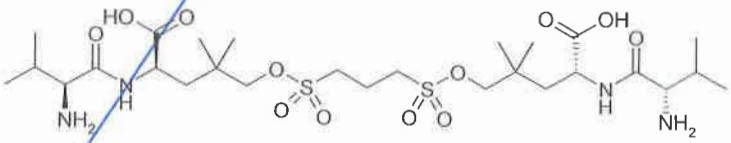
Compound B31



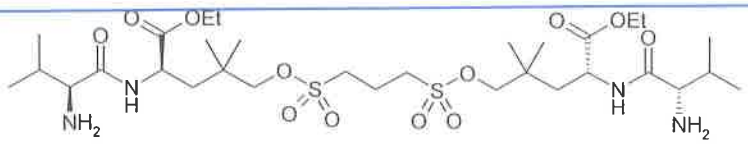
Compound B33



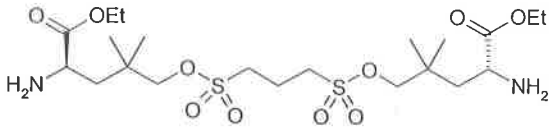
Compound B34



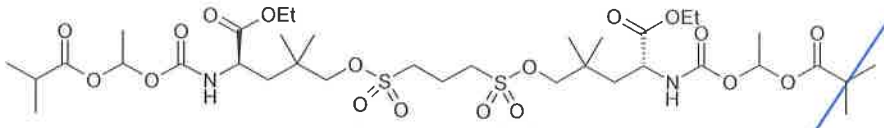
Compound B35



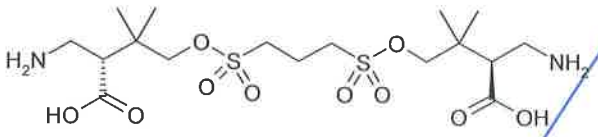
Compound B36



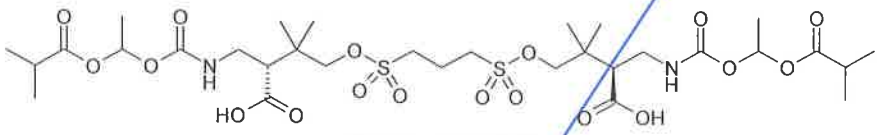
Compound B37



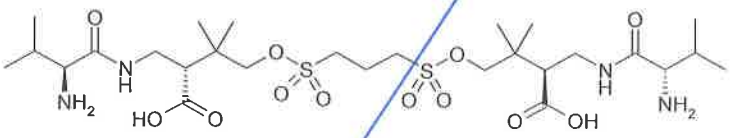
Compound B38



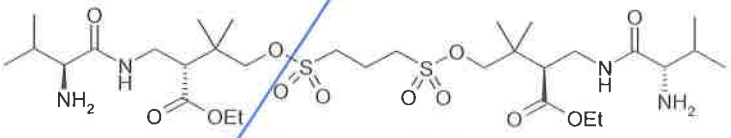
Compound B39



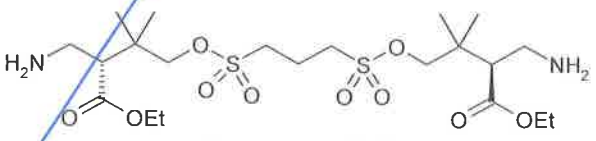
Compound B40



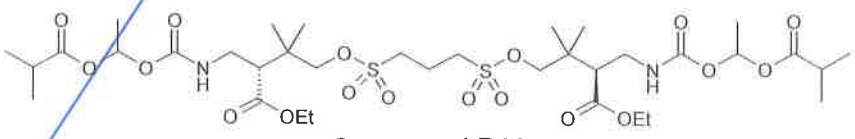
Compound B41



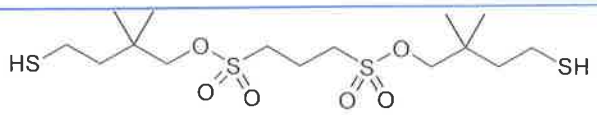
Compound B42



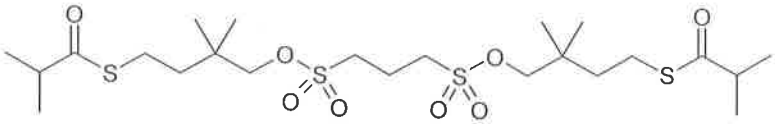
Compound B43



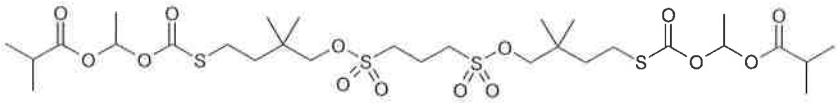
Compound B44



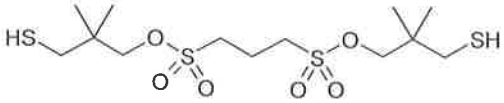
Compound B45



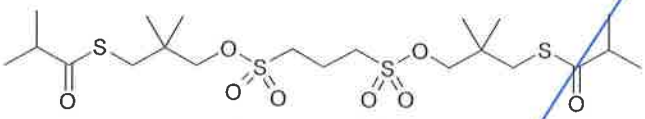
Compound B46



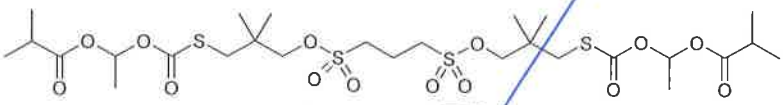
Compound B47



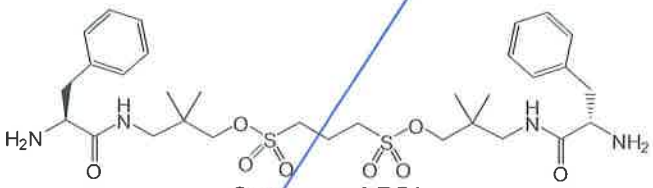
Compound B48



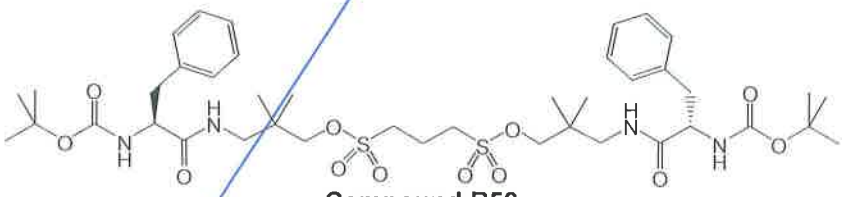
Compound B49



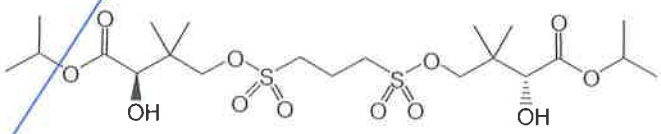
Compound B50



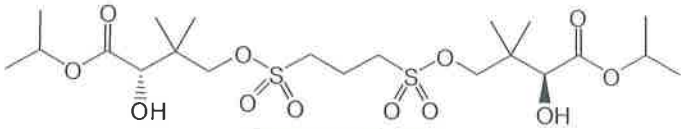
Compound B51



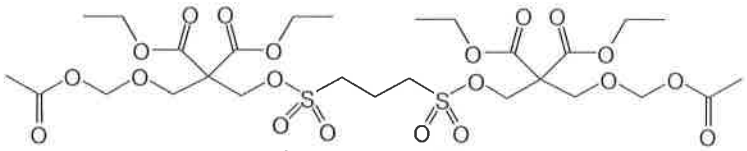
Compound B52



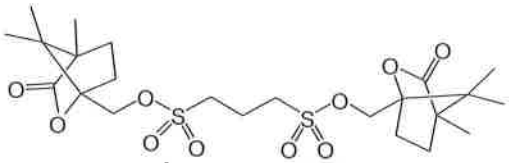
Compound B53



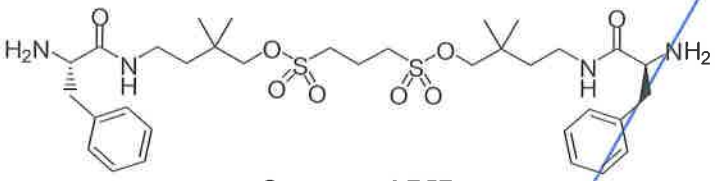
Compound B54



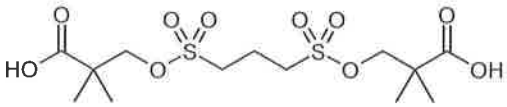
Compound B55



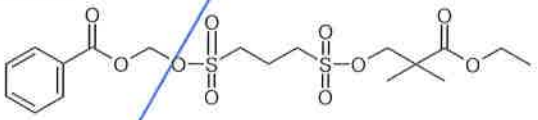
Compound B56



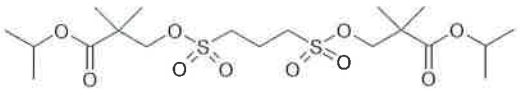
Compound B57



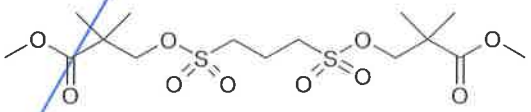
Compound B58



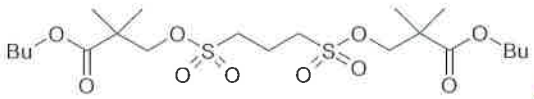
Compound B59



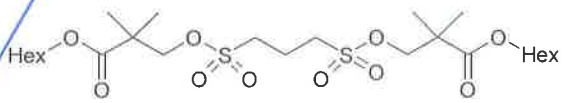
Compound B60



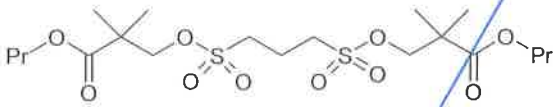
Compound B61



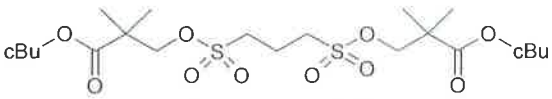
Compound B62



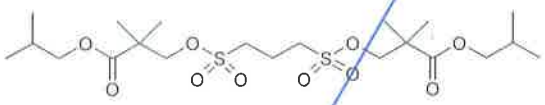
Compound B63

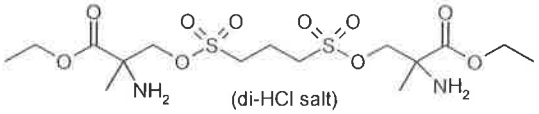


Compound B64

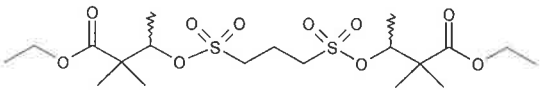


Compound B65

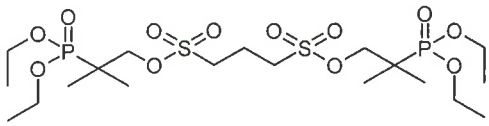




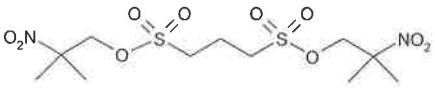
Compound B66



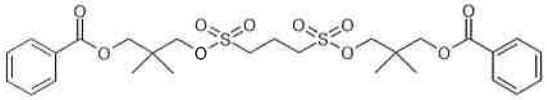
Compound B68



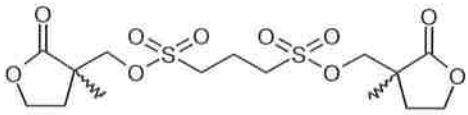
Compound B70



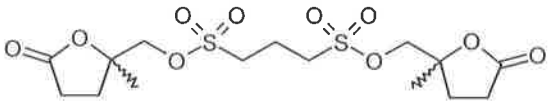
Compound B72



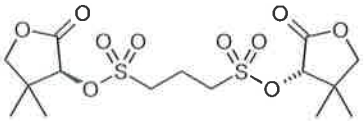
Compound B74



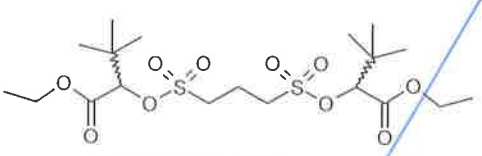
Compound B76



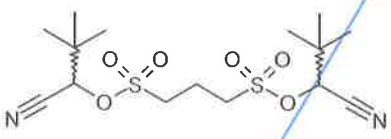
Compound B78



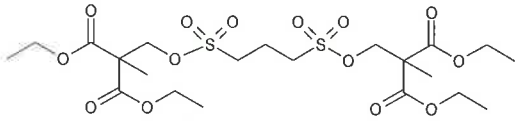
Compound B80



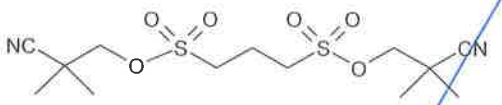
Compound B82



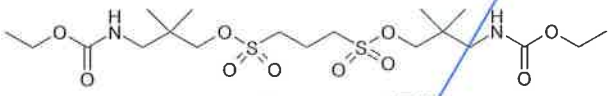
Compound B67



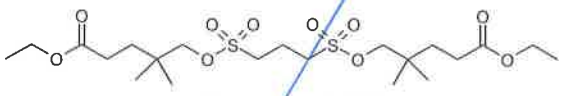
Compound B69



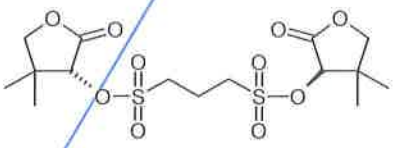
Compound B71



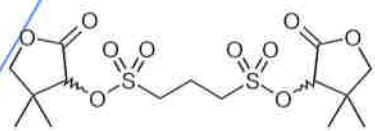
Compound B73



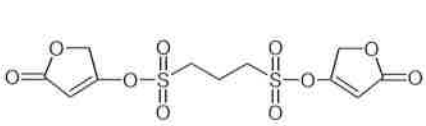
Compound B75



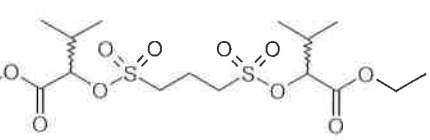
Compound B77



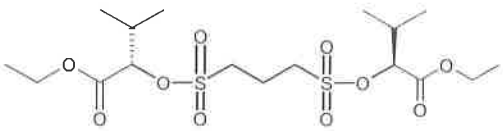
Compound B79



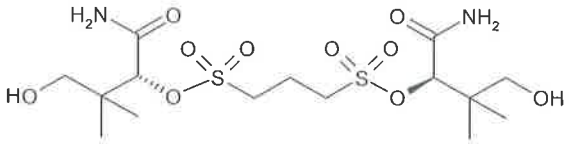
Compound B81



Compound B83

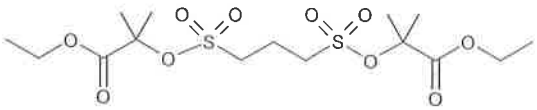


Compound B84



Compound B86

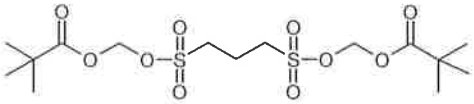
Compound B85



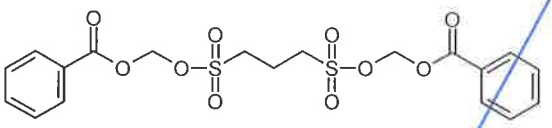
Compound B87;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

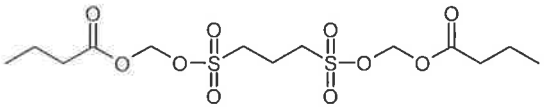
17. The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from:



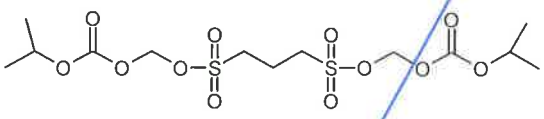
Compound D1



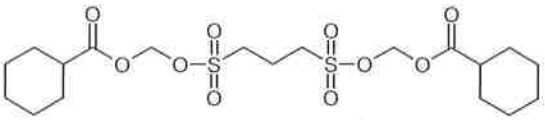
Compound D2



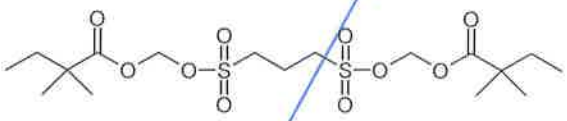
Compound D3



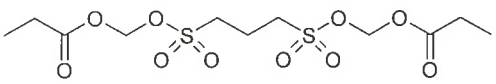
Compound D4



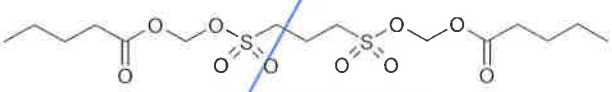
Compound D5



Compound D6



Compound D7

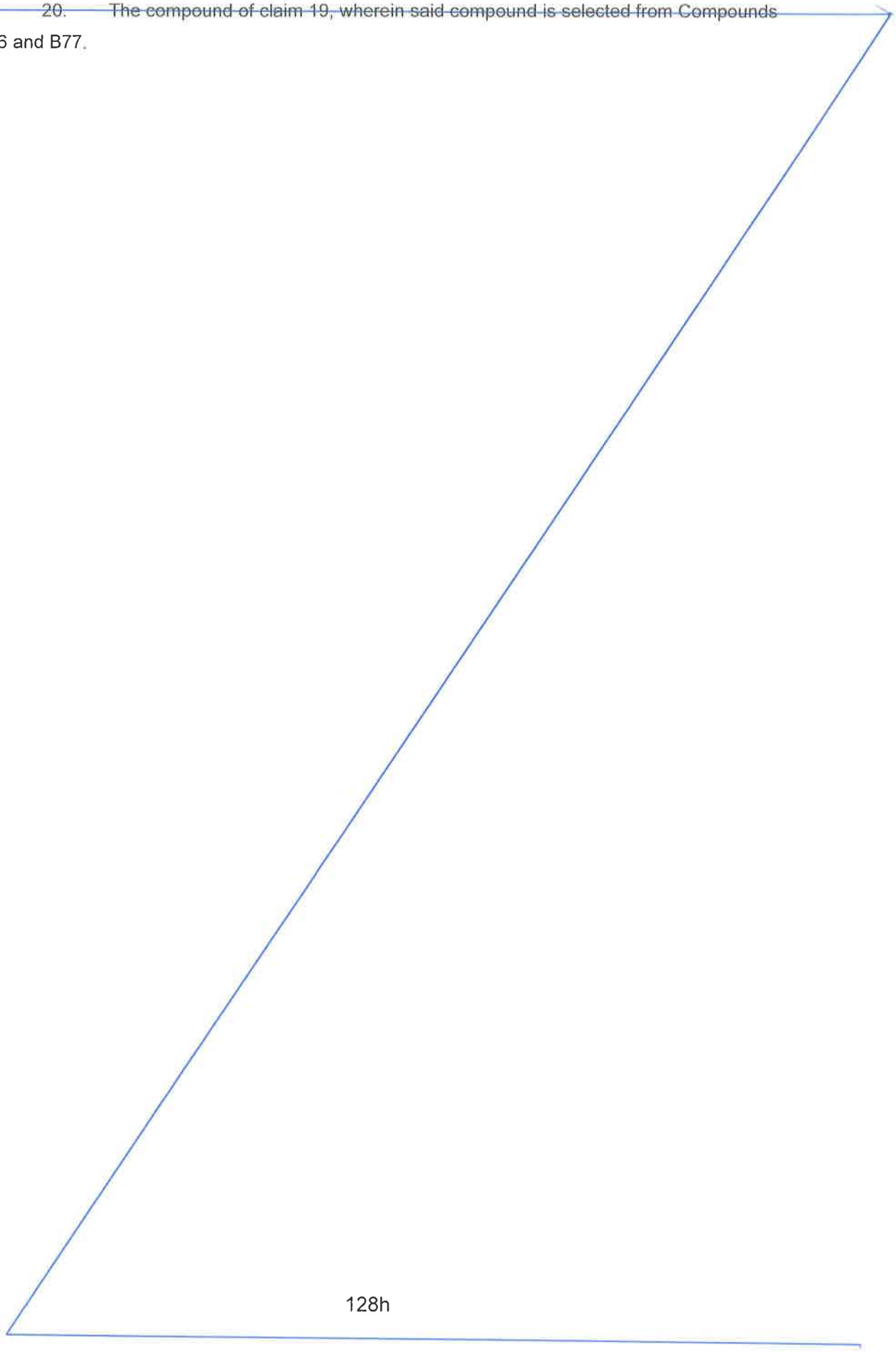


Compound D8.

18. The compound of claim 17, wherein said compound is Compound D5.

19. The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from Compounds A71, A72, A73, B76, B77, B78, B79, B80 and B81 as defined in claim 15 or 16, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

20. The compound of claim 19, wherein said compound is selected from Compounds B76 and B77.



21. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 20 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

22. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 20, in the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing amyloid A amyloidosis.

23. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 20, in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a renal disorder or for stabilizing renal function or delaying progression of a renal disorder.

24. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 20, in the manufacture of a medicament for delaying requirement for dialysis in a patient with a renal disorder.

25. The use of claim 23 or 24, wherein said renal disorder is diabetic nephropathy.

26. The use of claim 23 or 24, wherein said renal disorder is amyloid A amyloidosis.

27. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 20, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of dyslipidemia or metabolic syndrome.

28. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 20, in the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention or treatment of hyperglycemia.

29. The use of claim 28, wherein the disease is diabetes mellitus.

30. The use of claim 29, wherein said diabetes mellitus is type 1 diabetes.

31. The use of claim 29, wherein said diabetes mellitus is type 2 diabetes.

32. The use of claim 31, wherein said diabetes mellitus is type 2 diabetes with features of metabolic syndrome.

33. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 20, in the manufacture of a medicament for increasing insulin levels circulating in blood in response to food, decreasing resistance to insulin and/or increasing insulin sensitivity in selected tissues, increasing insulin secretion by pancreatic cells, increasing beta-cells and/or islets of Langerhans neogenesis and/or regeneration of islets of Langerhans or preventing their destruction by apoptosis, preventing apoptosis in beta-cells, and stabilizing, restoring, and/or improving pancreatic function, and more particularly stabilizing, restoring, and/or improving beta-cells size, growth and/or function.

34. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 20, in the manufacture of a medicament for delaying the requirement for treating a diabetic patient with exogenous insulin.

35. A method for the preparation of a compound of as defined in claim 3, comprising the steps of: a) preparing a disulfonyl chloride of the formula: ClO_2S-$(CH_2)_3$-SO_2Cl; b) reacting the disulfonyl chloride of step (a) with a compound of the formula PGOH, wherein said PG is a protecting group, to produce a monosulfonyl chloride of the formula: PGO_3S-$(CH_2)_3$-SO_2Cl; c) reacting the monosulfonyl chloride of step (b) with an alcohol of the formula R^4OH to produce a monoprotected compound of the

formula: $PGO_3S(CH_2)_3SO_3OR^4$; and d) cleaving the protecting group of the monoprotected compound of step (c) to produce the compound of claim 3.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein step (a) comprises reacting 1,3-propanedisulfonic acid disodium salt with phosphorus pentachloride.

37. The method of claims 35 or 36, wherein the PGOH compound of step (b) is phenol and step (d) comprises reacting the monoprotected compound with a source of palladium and a source of hydrogen gas.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein step (d) comprises adding palladium hydroxide ($Pd(OH)_2$), an acid and hydrogen gas.

39. The method of claim 38, wherein said acid is acetic acid.

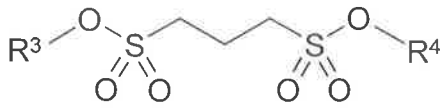
40. The method of any one of claims 35 to 39, wherein steps (b) and (c) further comprise addition of a base.

41. The method of claim 40, wherein said base is an organic base.

42. The method of claim 41, wherein said organic base is pyridine.

CLAIMS

1. A compound of Formula II:



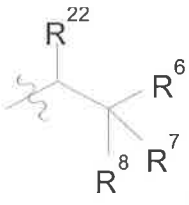
(II)

wherein,

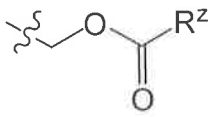
R^3 is selected from hydrogen and a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, C_3-C_{15}cycloalkyl, C_3-C_{15}heterocycloalkyl, C_6-C_{15}aryl, and C_5-C_{15}heteroaryl; and

R^4 is a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, C_3-C_{15}cycloalkyl, C_3-C_{15}heterocycloalkyl, C_6-C_{15}aryl, and C_5-C_{15}heteroaryl; and

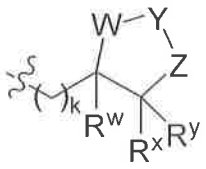
wherein at least one of R^3 and R^4 is a group selected from Formula B, E and F:



(B);



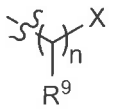
(E); and



(F);

wherein,

R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each independently NH_2 or a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl, C_2-C_6alkynyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6heterocycloalkyl, C_6-C_{10}aryl, C_5-C_{10}heteroaryl, $NHC(O)OC_1$-C_6alkyl, or R^7 and R^8 are taken together with their adjacent carbon atom to form a group selected from C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, and C_3-C_8heterocycloalkyl, or R^6, R^7 and R^8 are taken together with their adjacent carbon atom to form a C_4-C_{10}cycloalkyl fused ring group, a C_4-C_{10}heterocycloalkyl fused ring group, or a C_5-C_{10}heteroaryl; or R^6 is a group of Formula C:



(C)

wherein,

R^9 is, separately in each occurrence, selected from hydrogen, hydroxyl, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, nitro, C(O)OH, $C(O)OR^{11}$, OR^{11}, $OC(O)R^{11}$, $OC(O)OR^{11}$, NH_2,

$NHC(O)R^{11}$, NHR^{11}, $N(R^{11})_2$, and a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6heterocycloalkyl, C_6aryl, and C_5-C_6heteroaryl;

X is selected from the group consisting of OH, NH_2, NO_2, CN, SH, C(O)OH, $C(O)OR^{12}$, $OC(O)OR^{12}$, $NHC(O)OR^{12}$, $SC(O)OR^{12}$, $P(O)(OH)_2$, $P(O)(OR^{12})_2$, $P(O)(OR^{12})(OH)$, $OC(O)R^{13}$, $OC(O)NHR^{13}$, $SC(O)R^{13}$, $C(O)R^{14}$, and NHR^{15};

n is an integer selected from 1 , 2 and 3;

R^{11} is a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6heterocycloalkyl, C_6aryl, C_5-C_6heteroaryl and benzyl;

R^{12} is a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6heterocycloalkyl, C_6aryl, C_5-C_6heteroaryl, benzyl, CH_2R^{16}, and $CH(C_1$-C_6alkyl)R^{16};

R^{13} is a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl;

C_3-C_6heterocycloalkyl, C_6aryl, C_5-C_6heteroaryl, and benzyl;

R^{14} is the residue of a natural amino acid coupled through its amino group and having a protected or unprotected carboxyl end;

R^{15} is the residue of a natural amino acid coupled through its carboxyl group and having a protected or unprotected amino end;

R^{16} is selected from the group consisting of $OC(O)C_1$-C_6alkyl and $OC(O)OC_1$-C_6alkyl;

R^{22} is a hydrogen atom or a group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C(O)OH, or $C(O)OC_1$-C_6alkyl;

R^w, R^x, and R^y are each independently selected from a hydrogen atom or a substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_3alkyl group, or R^w and R^x are taken together with their adjacent carbon atoms to form a double bond;

R^z is a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, C_3-C_{15}cycloalkyl, C_3-C_{15}heterocycloalkyl, C_6-C_{15}aryl, C_5-C_{15}heteroaryl, OC_1-C_{12}alkyl, OC_2-C_{12}alkenyl, OC_2-C_{12}alkynyl, OC_3-C_{15}cycloalkyl, OC_3-OC_{15}heterocycloalkyl, OC_6-C_{15}aryl, and OC_5-C_{15}heteroaryl;

W-Y-Z is selected from $C(O)OCH_2$, $OC(O)CH_2$, $CH_2C(O)O$, and $CH_2OC(O)$;

k is an integer selected from 0, 1 and 2;

wherein when both of R^3 and R^4 are substituted branched C_3-C_8alkyl groups, then said branched C_3-C_8alkyl is substituted by a substituent other than aryl or heteroaryl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^3 is a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, C_3-C_{15}cycloalkyl, C_3-C_{15}heterocycloalkyl, C_6-C_{15}aryl, and C_5-C_{15}heteroaryl.

3. The compound of claim 1, wherein said R^3 is hydrogen.

4. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein R^4 is a group of Formula B.

5. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each a group of Formula B.

6. The compound of claim 4 or 5, wherein said R^{22} is C_2-C_6alkyl, or wherein said R^{22} is C_3-C_5alkyl, or wherein said R^{22} is a C_3-C_4alkyl.

7. The compound of claim 4 or 5, wherein said R^{22} is hydrogen.

8. The compound of any one of claims 4 to 7, wherein R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each independently a substituted or unsubstituted group selected from C_1-C_6alkyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl, C_2-C_6alkynyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6heterocycloalkyl, C_6-C_{10}aryl, and C_5-C_{10}heteroaryl, or R^7 and R^8 are taken together with their adjacent carbon atom to form a group selected from C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, and C_3-C_8heterocycloalkyl, or R^6, R^7 and R^8 are taken together with their adjacent carbon atom to form a C_4-C_8cycloalkyl fused ring group, a C_4-C_8heterocycloalkyl fused ring group, or a C_5-C_{10}heteroaryl.

9. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein R^6 is a group of Formula C in which:

X is selected from the group consisting of OH, NH_2, SH, C(O)OH, $C(O)OR^{12}$, $OC(O)OR^{12}$, $NHC(O)OR^{12}$, $SC(O)OR^{12}$, $OC(O)R^{13}$, $OC(O)NHR^{13}$, $SC(O)R^{13}$, $C(O)R^{14}$, and NHR^{15}.

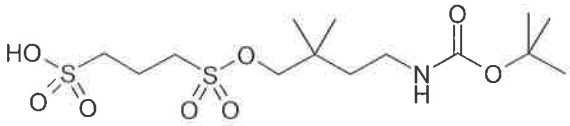
10. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein R^4 is a group of Formula E.

11. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each a group of Formula E.

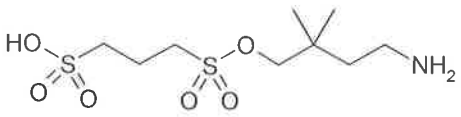
12. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein R^4 is a group of Formula F.

13. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each a group of Formula F.

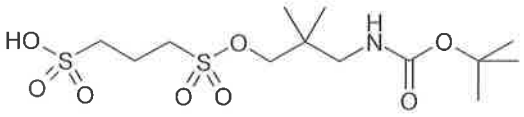
14. The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from:



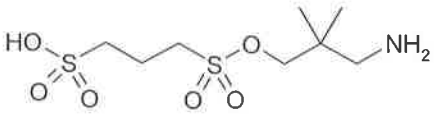
Compound A1



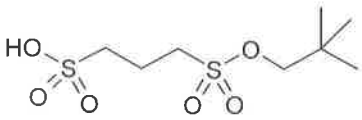
Compound A2



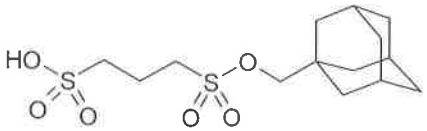
Compound A3



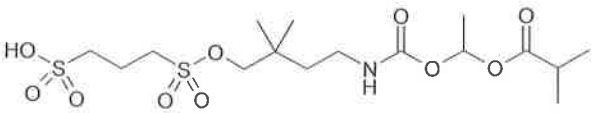
Compound A4



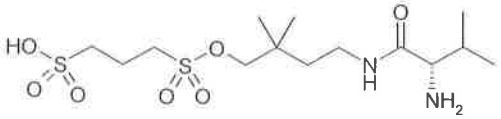
Compound A6



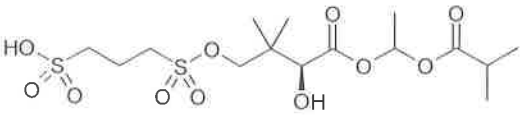
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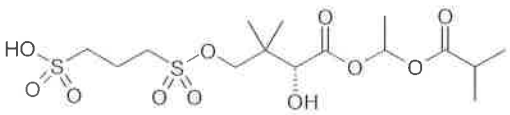
Compound A13



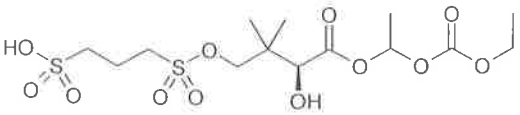
Compound A14



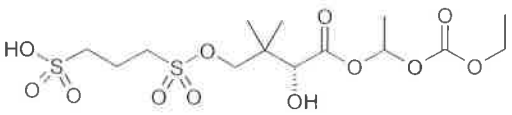
Compound A15



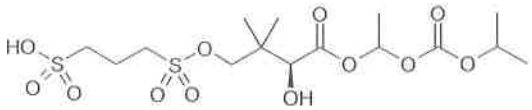
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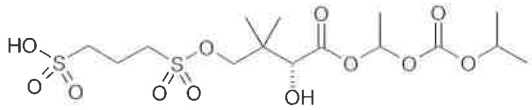
Compound A17



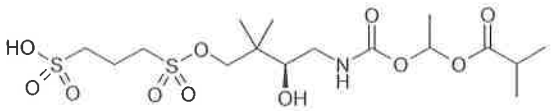
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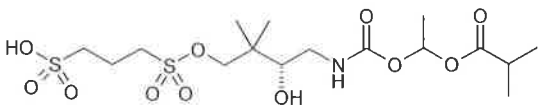
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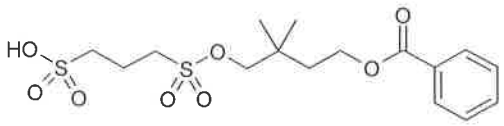
Compound A20



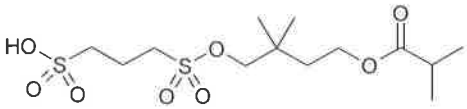
Compound A21



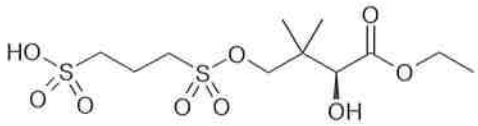
Compound A22



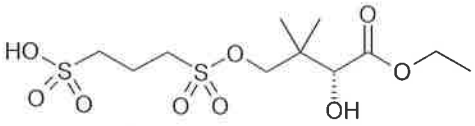
Compound A23



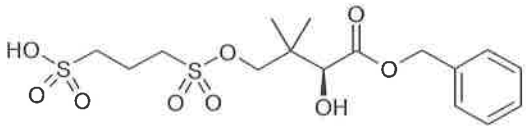
Compound A24



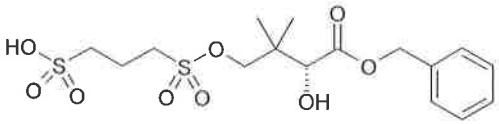
Compound A25



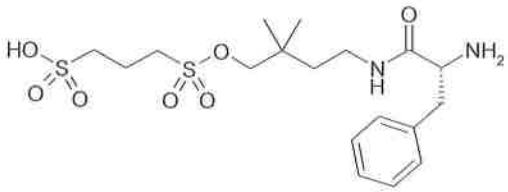
Compound A26



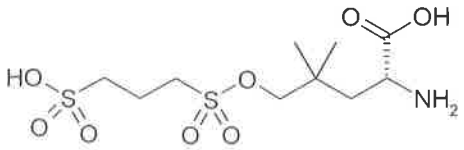
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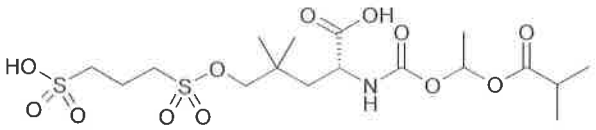
Compound A28



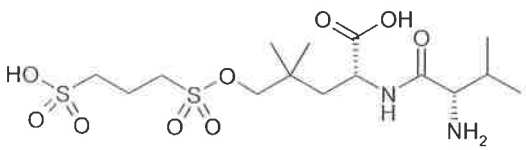
Compound A31



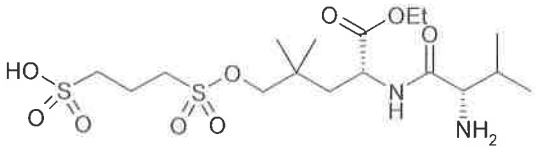
Compound A33



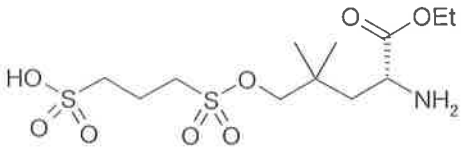
Compound A34



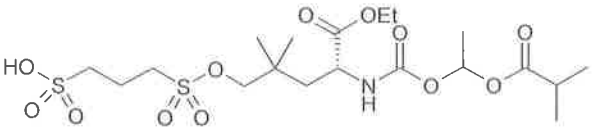
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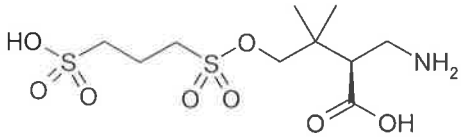
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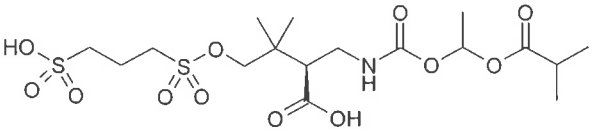
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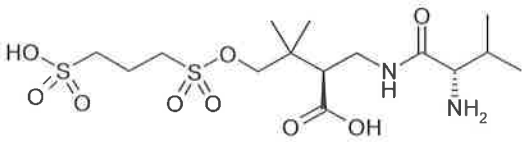
Compound A38



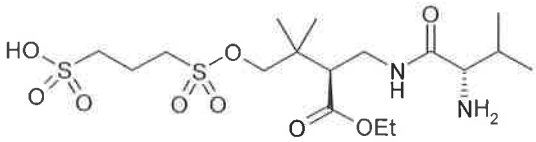
Compound A39



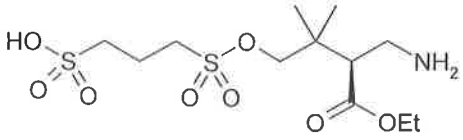
Compound A40



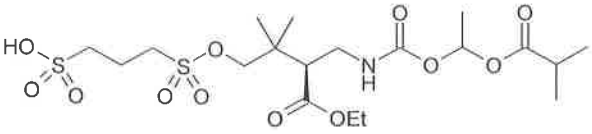
Compound A41



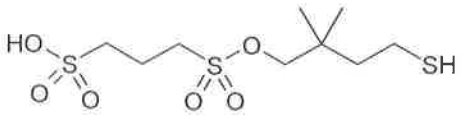
Compound A42



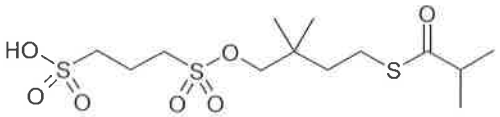
Compound A43



Compound A44



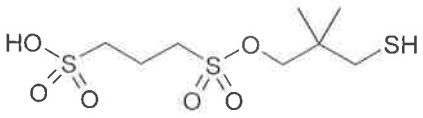
Compound A45



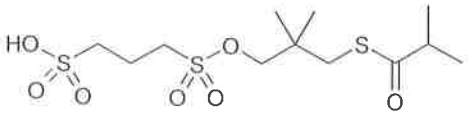
Compound A46



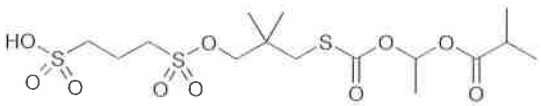
Compound A47



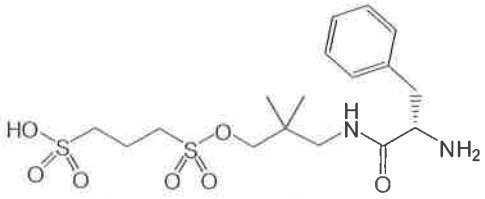
Compound A48



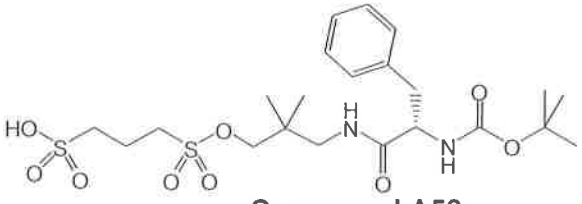
Compound A49



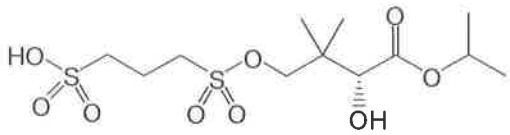
Compound A50



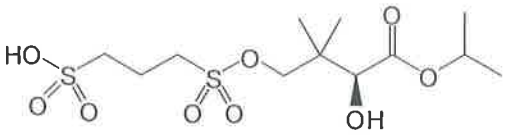
Compound A51



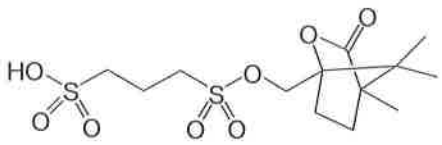
Compound A52



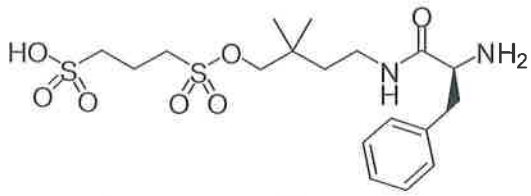
Compound A53



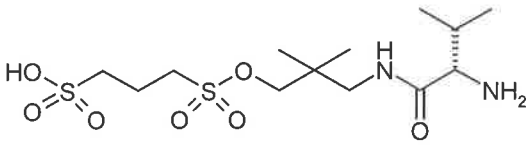
Compound A54



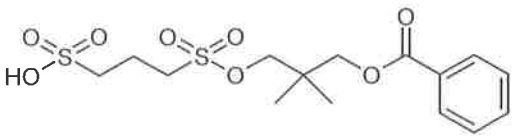
Compound A56



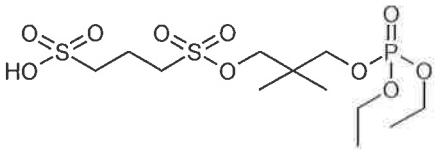
Compound A57



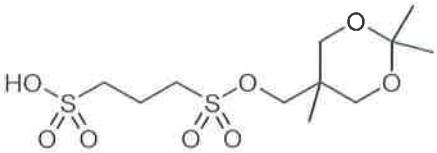
Compound A64



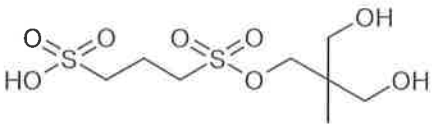
Compound A65



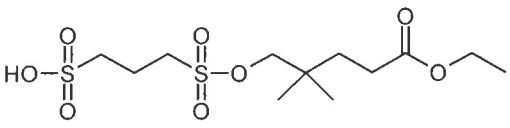
Compound A66



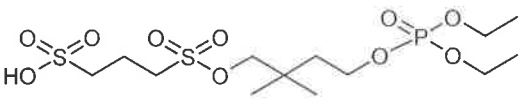
Compound A67



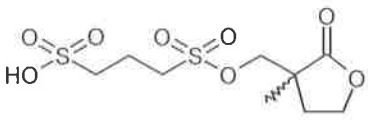
Compound A68



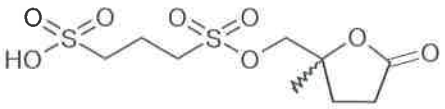
Compound A69



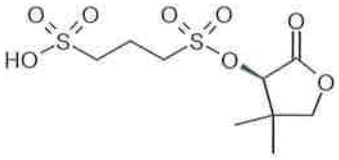
Compound A70



Compound A71



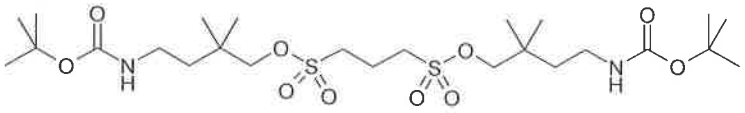
Compound A72



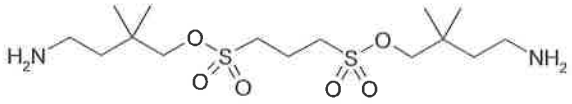
Compound A73;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

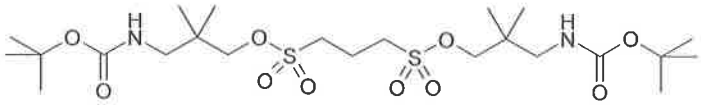
15. The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from:



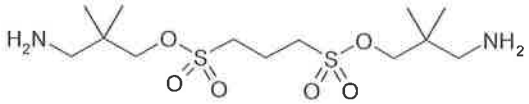
Compound B1



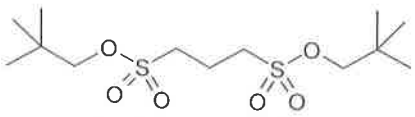
Compound B2



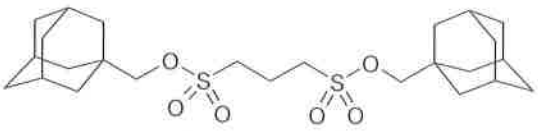
Compound B3



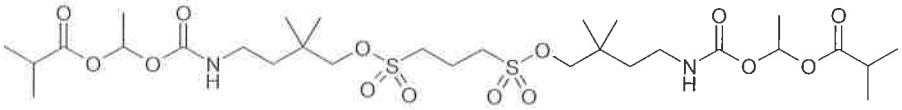
Compound B4



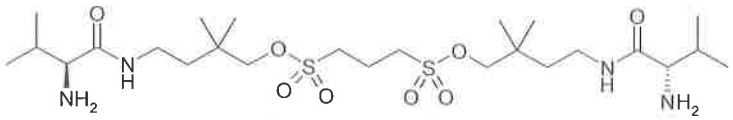
Compound B6



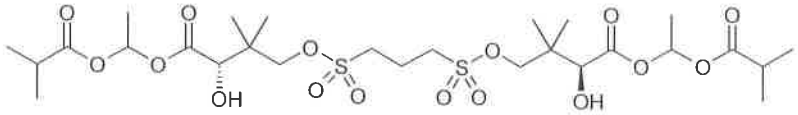
Compound B9



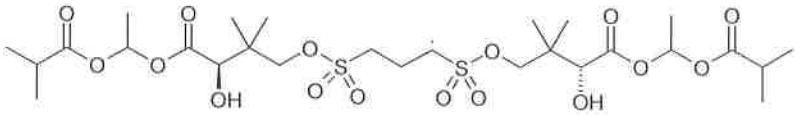
Compound B13



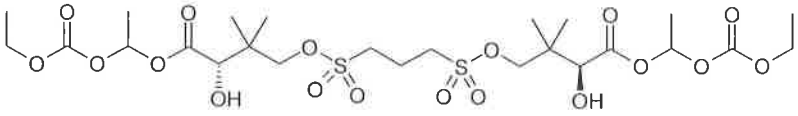
Compound B14



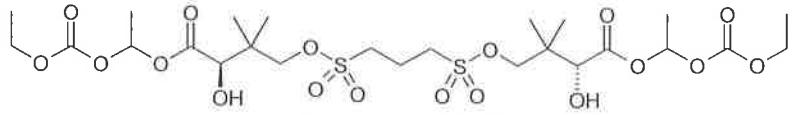
Compound B15



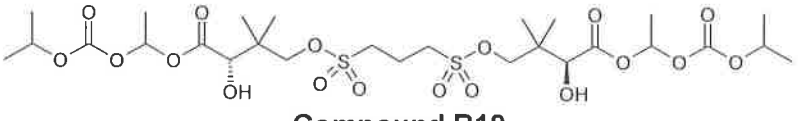
Compound B16



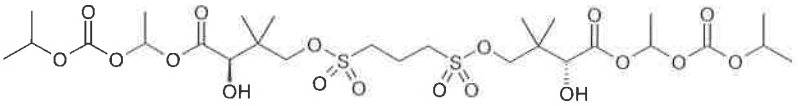
Compound B17



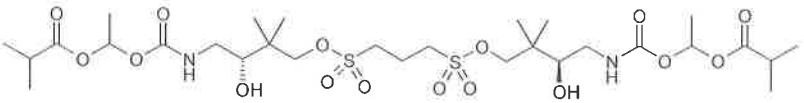
Compound B18



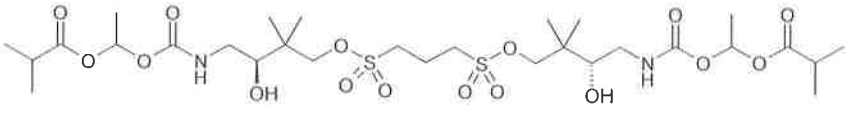
Compound B19



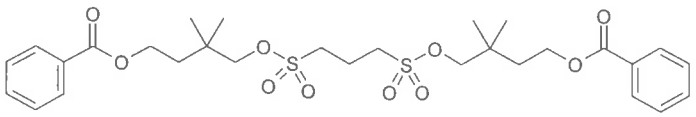
Compound B20



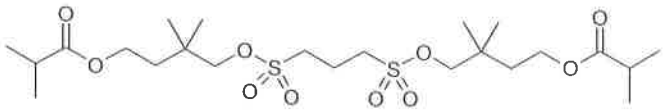
Compound B21



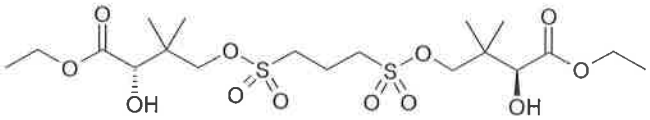
Compound B22



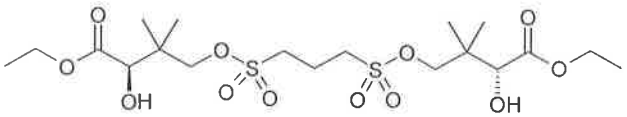
Compound B23



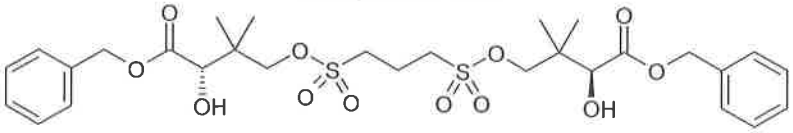
Compound B24



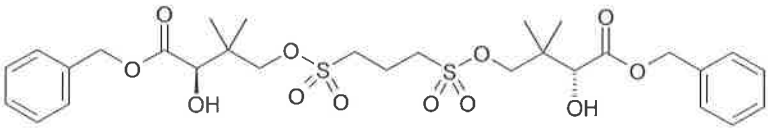
Compound B25



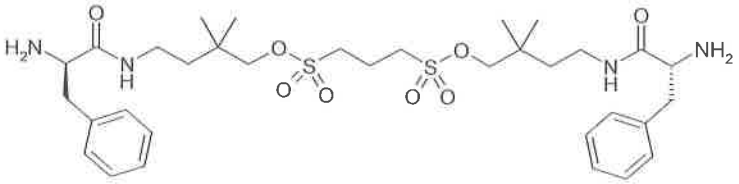
Compound B26



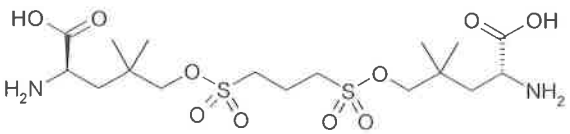
Compound B27



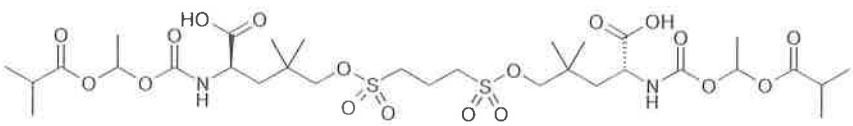
Compound B28



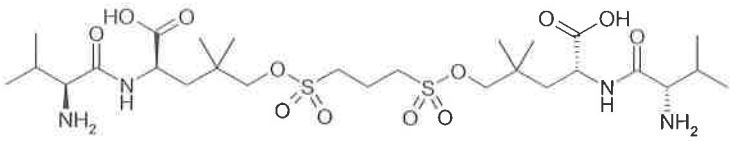
Compound B31



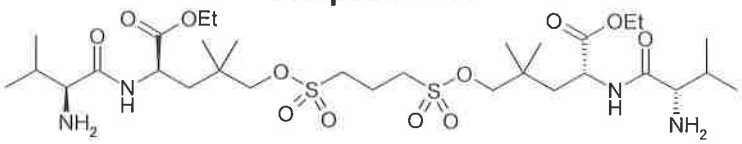
Compound B33



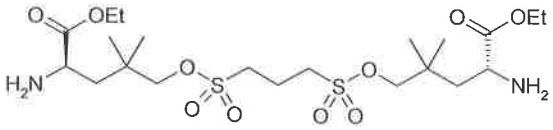
Compound B34



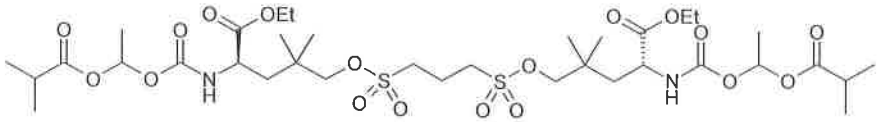
Compound B35



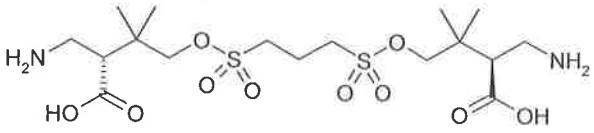
Compound B36



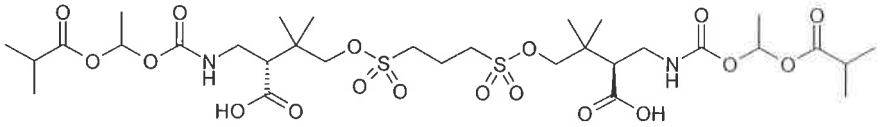
Compound B37



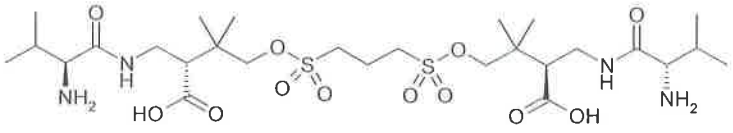
Compound B38



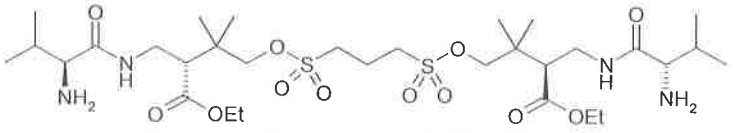
Compound B39



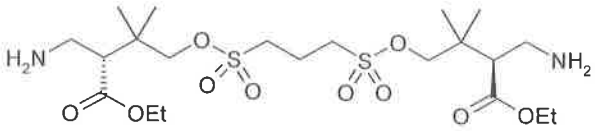
Compound B40



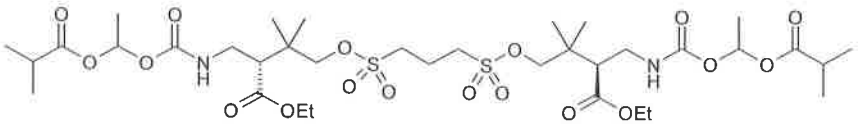
Compound B41



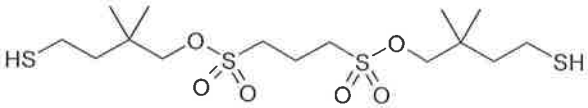
Compound B42



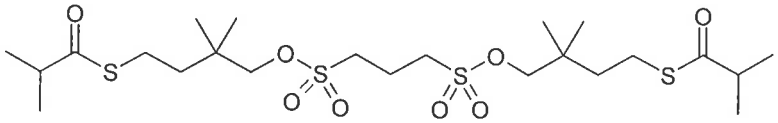
Compound B43



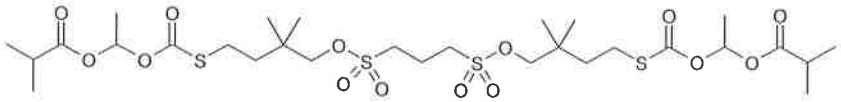
Compound B44



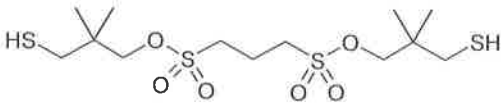
Compound B45



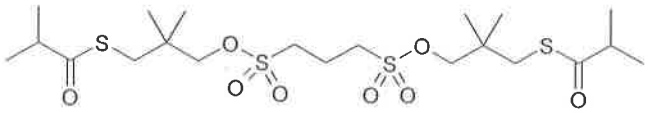
Compound B46



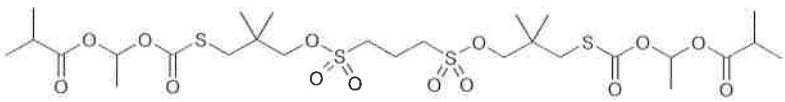
Compound B47



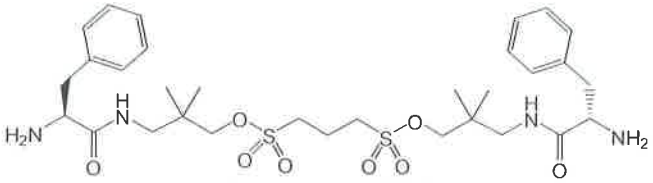
Compound B48



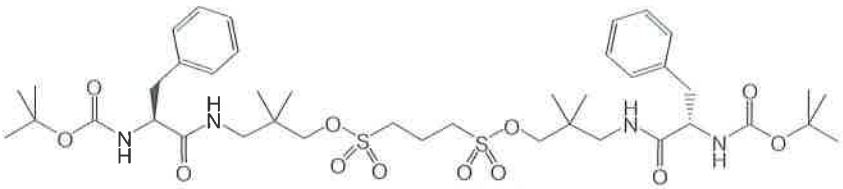
Compound B49



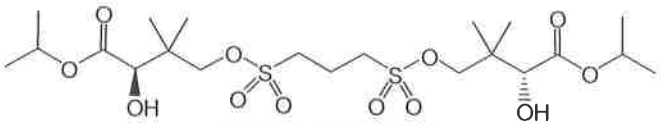
Compound B50



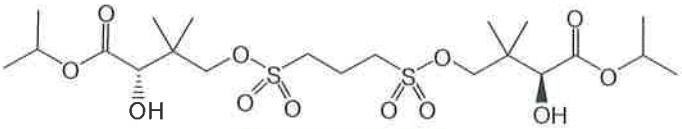
Compound B51



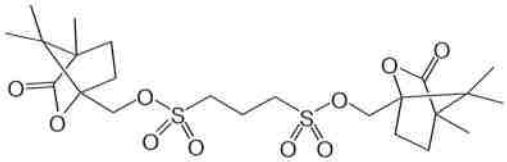
Compound B52



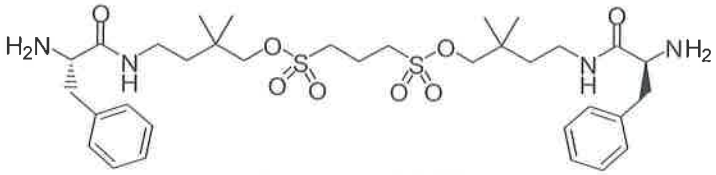
Compound B53



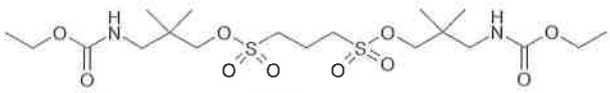
Compound B54



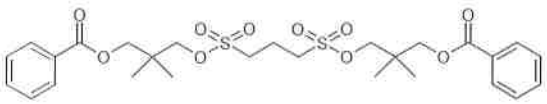
Compound B56



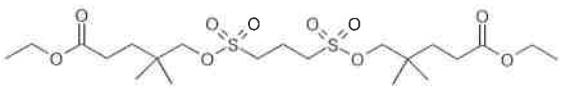
Compound B57



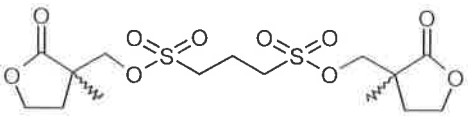
Compound B73



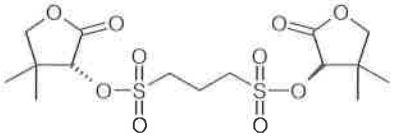
Compound B74



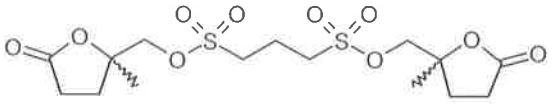
Compound B75



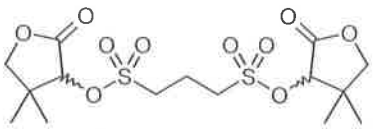
Compound B76



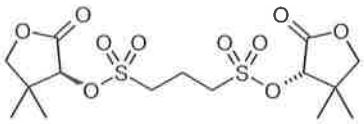
Compound B77



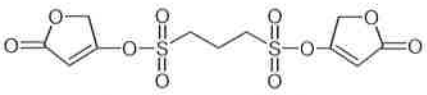
Compound B78



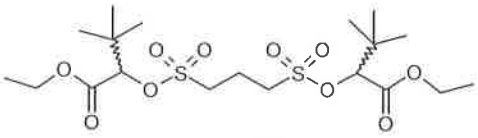
Compound B79



Compound B80



Compound B81

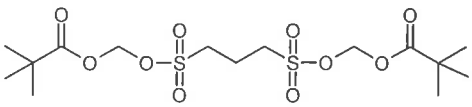


Compound B82

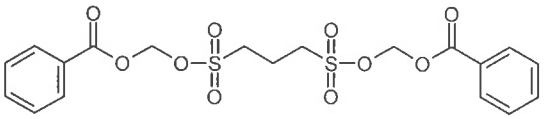
;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

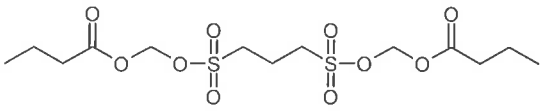
16. The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from:



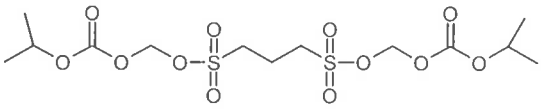
Compound D1



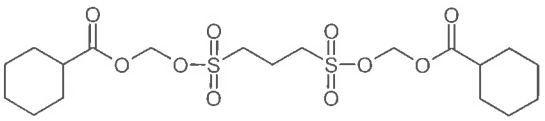
Compound D2



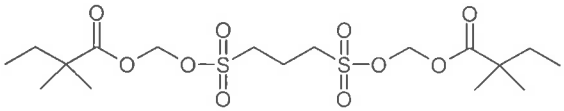
Compound D3



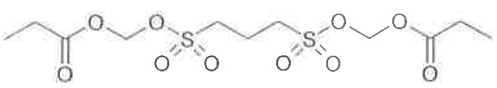
Compound D4



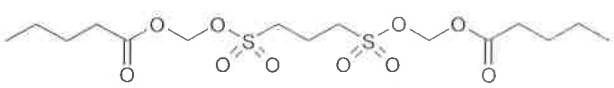
Compound D5



Compound D6



Compound D7



Compound D8.

17. The compound of claim 16, wherein said compound is Compound D5.

18. The compound of claim 14, wherein said compound is selected from Compounds A71, A72, and A73, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

19. The compound of claim 15, wherein said compound is selected from Compounds B76, B77, B78, B79, B80 and B81.

20. The compound of claim 19, wherein said compound is selected from Compounds B76 and B77.

21. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 20 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

22. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 20, in the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing amyloid A amyloidosis.

23. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 20, in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a renal disorder.

24. The use of claim 23, wherein said renal disorder is diabetic nephropathy.

25. The use of claim 23, wherein said renal disorder is amyloid A amyloidosis.

26. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 20, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of dyslipidemia or metabolic syndrome.

27. Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 20, in the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention or treatment of hyperglycemia.

28. The use of claim 27, wherein the disease is diabetes mellitus.

29. The use of claim 28, wherein said diabetes mellitus is type 1 diabetes.

30. The use of claim 28, wherein said diabetes mellitus is type 2 diabetes.

31. The use of claim 30, wherein said diabetes mellitus is type 2 diabetes with features of metabolic syndrome.

32. A method for the preparation of a compound of as defined in claim 3, comprising the steps of:

a) reacting a disulfonyl chloride of the formula: ClO_2S-$(CH_2)_3$-SO_2Cl with a compound of the formula PGOH in the presence of a base, wherein said PG is a protecting group, to produce a monosulfonyl chloride of the formula: PGO_3S-$(CH_2)_3$-SO_2Cl;

b) reacting the monosulfonyl chloride of step (a) with an alcohol of the formula R^4OH in the presence of a base, to produce a monoprotected compound of the formula: PGO_3S-$(CH_2)_3$-SO_3R^4; and

c) cleaving the protecting group of the monoprotected compound of step (b) to produce a compound of the formula: HO_3S-$(CH_2)_3$-SO_3R^4.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein the disulfonyl chloride is prepared by reacting 1,3-propanedisulfonic acid disodium salt with phosphorus pentachloride.

34. The method of claims 32 or 33, wherein the PGOH compound of step (a) is phenol and step (c) comprises reacting the monoprotected compound with a source of palladium and a source of hydrogen gas.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein step (c) comprises adding palladium hydroxide ($Pd(OH)_2$), acetic acid and hydrogen gas.

36. The method of claim 32, wherein said base is an organic base.

37. The method of claim 36, wherein said organic base is pyridine.