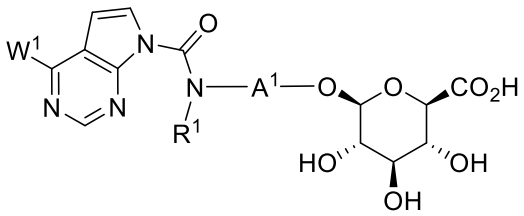
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of formula I:

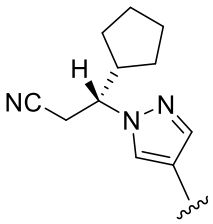


I

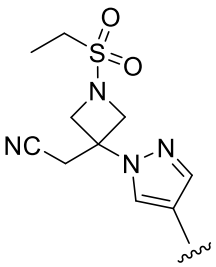
wherein

R^1 is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl;

W^1 is selected from:

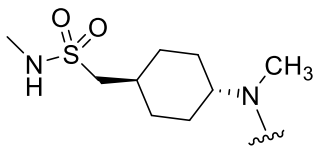


(1)



(2)

and



(3)

;

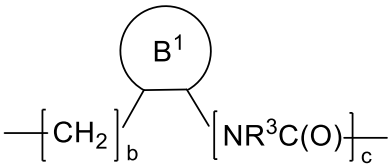
and A^1 is selected from:

(a) a group having formula (i):

$$-[CH_2]_a-N(R^2)C(O)- \quad \text{(i)}$$

wherein *a* is 2 or 3; and R^2 is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl;

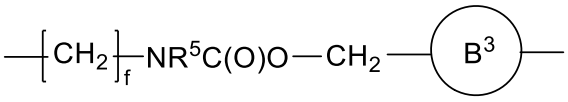
(b) a group having formula (ii):



(ii)

wherein *b* is 0 or 1; *c* is 0 or 1; R^3 is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl; and B^1 is selected from C_{6-10} aryl, C_{1-9} heteroaryl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl and C_{2-9} heterocyclic; wherein the heteroaryl group contains from 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur; the aryl or heteroaryl group is unsubstituted or substituted with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, amino, cyano, halo, hydroxy, nitro and trifluoromethyl; the heterocyclic group contains from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur; and the cycloalkyl or heterocyclic group is unsubstituted or substituted with 1 to 4 substituents independently selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, hydroxy, and trifluoromethyl; and

(c) a group having the formula (iv)



(iv)

wherein *f* is 2 or 3; R^5 is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl; and B^3 is selected from C_{6-10} aryl and C_{1-9} heteroaryl; wherein the heteroaryl group contains from 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur; the aryl or heteroaryl group is unsubstituted or substituted with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, amino, cyano, halo, hydroxy, nitro and trifluoromethyl;

or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

2. The compound of Claim 1, wherein W^1 has formula (1).

3. The compound of Claim 1, wherein W^1 has formula (2).

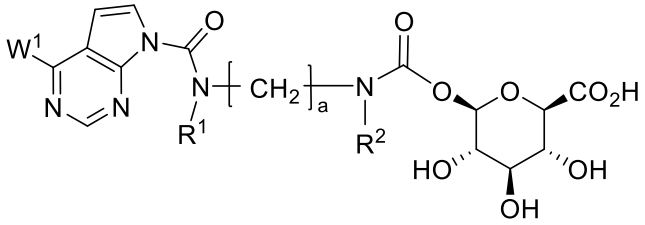
4. The compound of Claim 1, wherein W^1 has formula (3).

5. The compound of any one of Claims 1 to 4, wherein A^1 is a group having formula (i).

6. The compound of any one of Claims 1 to 4, wherein A^1 is a group having formula (ii).

7. The compound of any one of Claims 1 to 4, wherein A^1 is a group having formula (iv).

8. A compound of formula II:



II

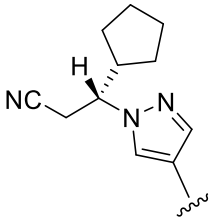
wherein

a is 2 or 3;

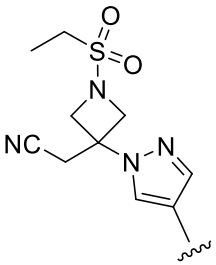
R^1 is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl;

R^2 is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl; and

W^1 is selected from:

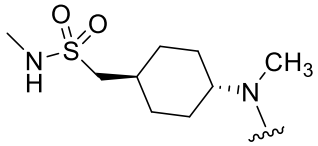


(1)



(2)

and



(3)

;

or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

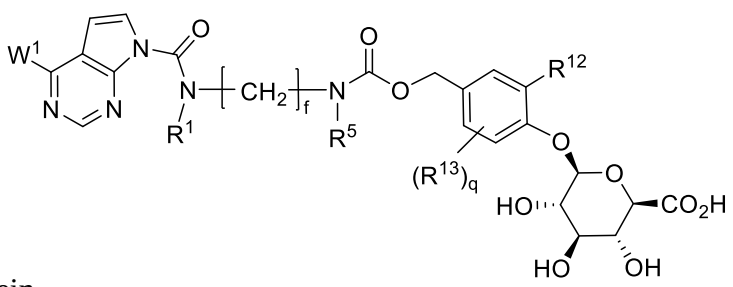
9. The compound of Claim 8, wherein W^1 has formula (1).

10. The compound of Claim 8, wherein W^1 has formula (2).

11. The compound of Claim 8, wherein W^1 has formula (3).

12. The compound of any one of Claims 8 to 11, wherein R^1 is methyl; and R^2 is methyl.

13. A compound of formula VI:



VI

wherein

f is 2 or 3;

q is 0, 1 or 2;

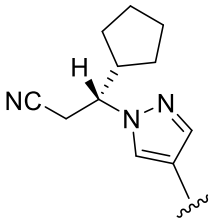
R^1 is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl;

R^5 is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl;

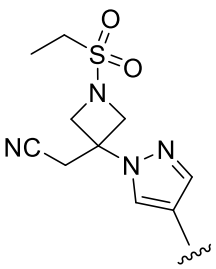
R^{12} is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, amino, cyano, halo, hydroxy, nitro or trifluoromethyl;

each R^{13}, when present, is independently selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, amino, cyano, halo, hydroxyl, nitro and trifluoromethyl; and

W^1 is selected from:

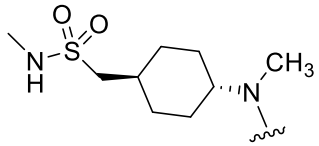


(1)



(2)

and



(3)

;

or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

14. The compound of Claim 13, wherein W^1 has formula (1).

15. The compound of Claim 13, wherein W^1 has formula (2).

16. The compound of Claim 13, wherein W^1 has formula (3).

17. The compound of any one of Claims 13 to 16, wherein R^1 is methyl.

18. The compound of any one of Claims 13 to 16, wherein *f* is 2.

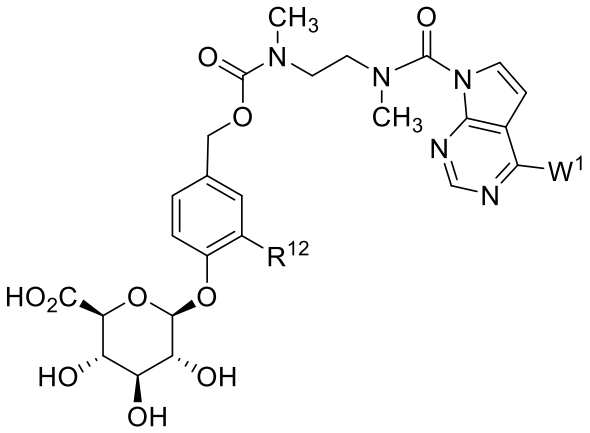
19. The compound of any one of Claims 13 to 16, wherein R^5 is methyl.

20. The compound of any one of Claims 13 to 16, wherein *q* is 0.

21. The compound of any one of Claims 13 to 16, wherein R^{12} is hydrogen, $C_{1\text{-}4}$ alkyl, halo, nitro or trifluoromethyl.

22. The compound of any one of Claims 13 to 16, wherein *f* is 2; *q* is 0; R^1 is methyl; R^5 is methyl; and R^{12} is hydrogen, $C_{1\text{-}4}$ alkyl, halo, nitro or trifluoromethyl.

23. A compound of formula VII:

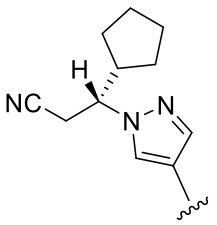


VII

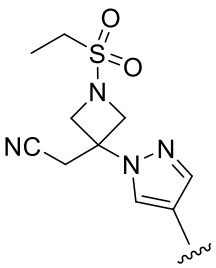
wherein

R^{12} is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, amino, cyano, halo, hydroxy, nitro or trifluoromethyl; and

W^1 is selected from:

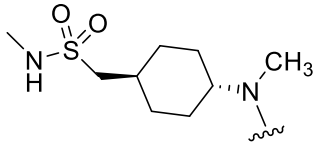


(1)



(2)

and



(3)

;

or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

24. The compound of Claim 23, wherein W^1 has formula (1).

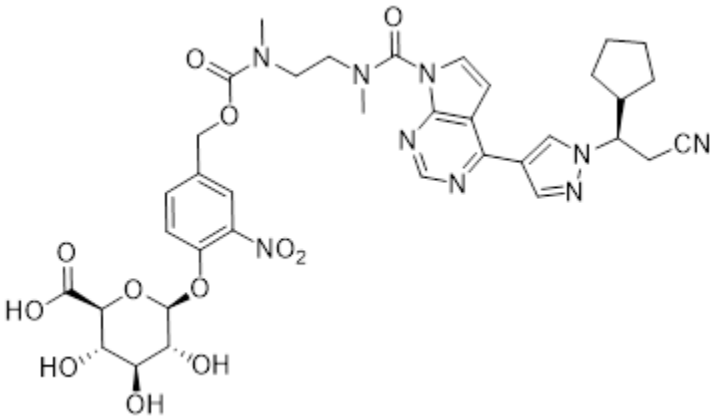
25. The compound of Claim 23, wherein W^1 has formula (2).

26. The compound of Claim 23, wherein W^1 has formula (3).

27. The compound of any one of Claims 23 to 26, where R^{12} is hydrogen.

28. The compound of any one of Claims 23 to 26, where R^{12} is nitro.

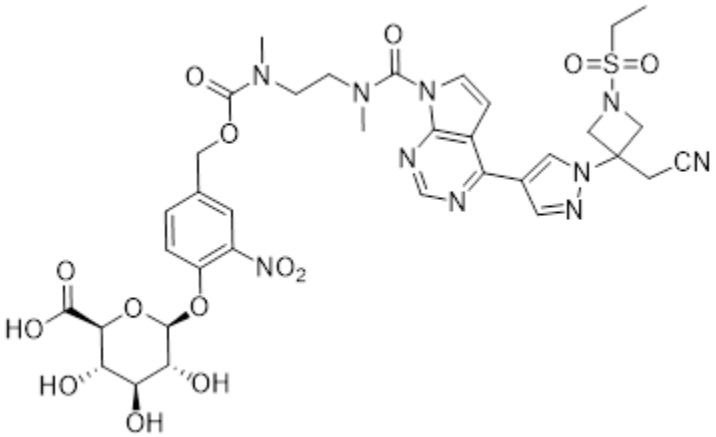
29. A compound of formula VII-1:



VII-1

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

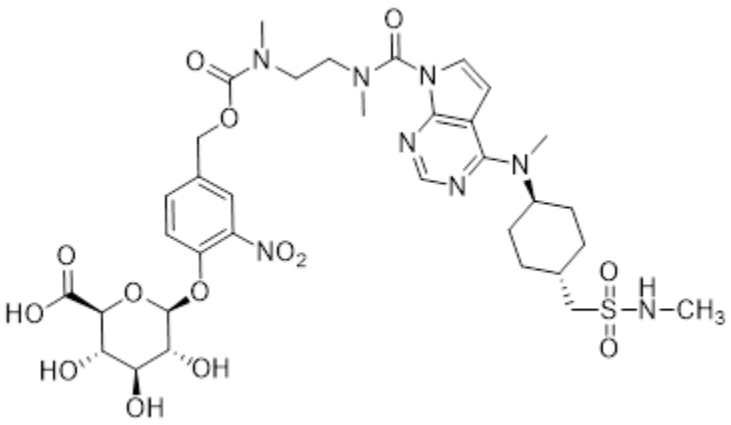
30. A compound of formula VII-2:



VII-2

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

31. A compound of formula VII-3:



VII-3

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof

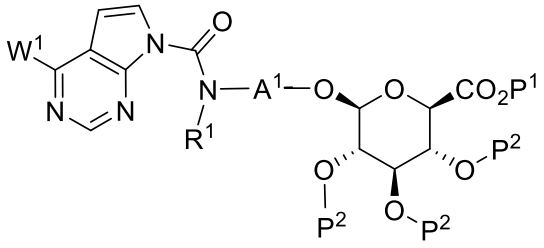
32. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable-carrier and a compound of any one of Claims 1 to 31.

33. Use of a compound of any one of Claims 1 to 31 in the manufacture of a medicament.

34. Use of a compound of any one of Claims 1 to 31 in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a gastrointestinal inflammatory disease.

35. The use of claim 34, wherein the gastrointestinal inflammatory disease is ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, or colitis associated with immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy.

36. A process for preparing a compound of Claim 1, the process comprising deprotecting a compound of formula **3**:



3

wherein

R^1, W^1 and A^1 are as defined in Claim 1;

P^1 is a carboxy-protecting group; and

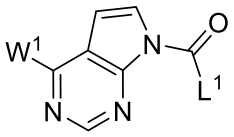
each P^2 is independently a hydroxyl-protecting group;

or a salt thereof;

to provide a compound of Claim 1.

37. A process for preparing a compound of Claim 1, the process comprising:

(a) contacting a compound of formula **1**:



1

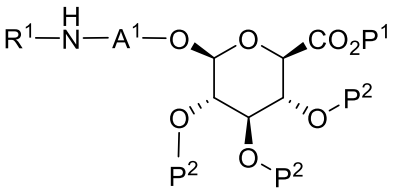
wherein

W^1 is as defined in Claim 1;

L^1 is an acyl leaving group;

or a salt thereof;

with a compound of formula **2**:



2

wherein

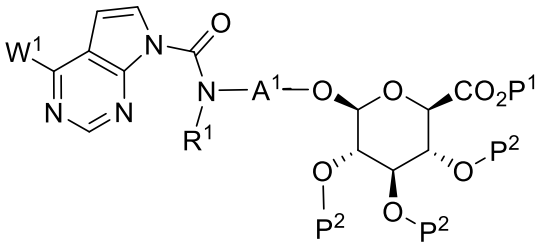
R^1 and A^1 are as defined in Claim 1;

P^1 is a carboxy-protecting group; and

each P^2 is independently a hydroxyl-protecting group;

or a salt thereof;

to provide a compound of formula **3**:



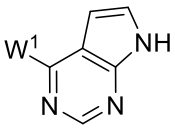
3

or a salt thereof; and

(b) deprotecting the compound of formula **3**, or a salt thereof, to provide a compound of Claim 1.

38. A process for preparing a compound of Claim 1, the process comprising:

(a) contacting a compound of formula **4**:

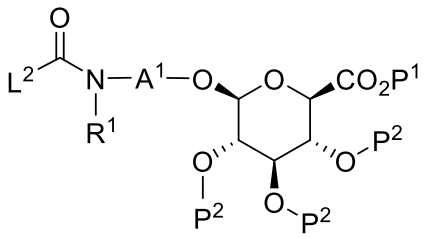


4

wherein W^1 is as defined in Claim 1;

or a salt thereof;

with a compound of formula **5**:



5

wherein

R^1 and A^1 are as defined in Claim 1;

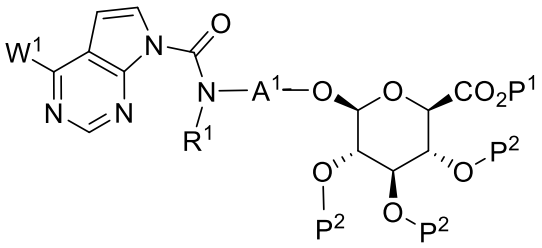
L^2 is an acyl leaving group;

P^1 is a carboxy-protecting group; and

each P^2 is independently a hydroxyl-protecting group;

or a salt thereof;

to provide a compound of formula **3**:



3

or a salt thereof; and

(b) deprotecting the compound of formula **3**, or a salt thereof, to provide a compound of Claim 1.