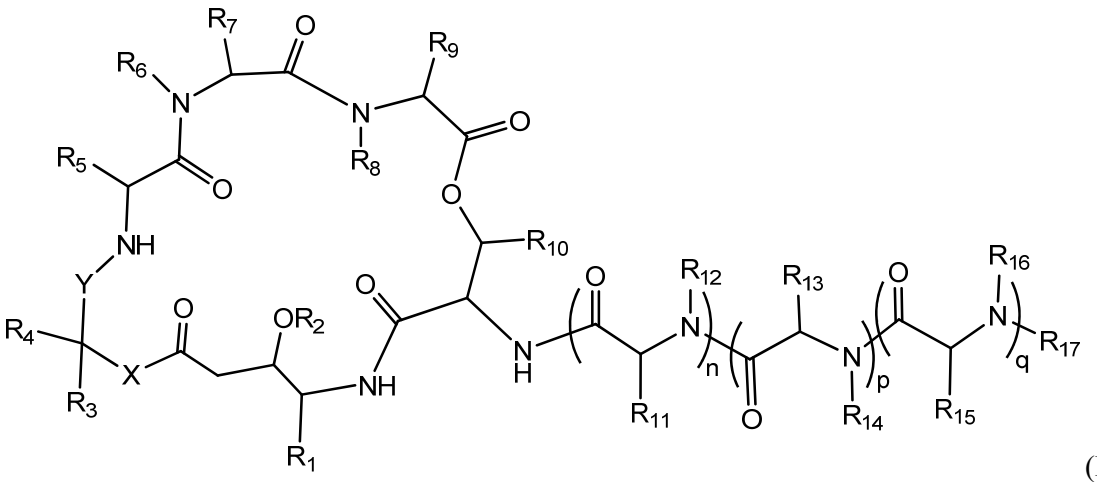
CLAIMS:

1. Use of a compound of general formula **I**



(**I**)

wherein X is selected from O and NH;

Y is selected from CO and –COCH(CH_3)CO-;

each n and p is independently selected from 0 and 1, and q is selected from 0, 1 and 2;

each R_1, R_3, R_5, R_9, R_{11}, and R_{15} is independently selected from hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_6 alkenyl, and substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_6 alkynyl;

R_2 is selected from hydrogen, COR_a, $COOR_a$, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_6 alkenyl, and substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_6 alkynyl;

each R_4, R_8, R_{10}, R_{12}, and R_{16} is independently selected from hydrogen and substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl;

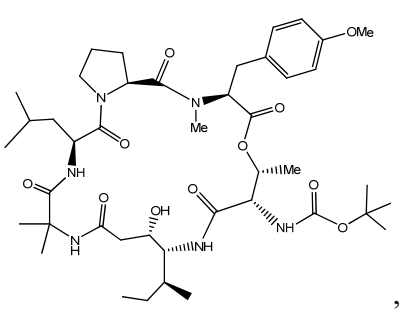
each R_7 and R_{13} is independently selected from hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_6 alkenyl, and substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_6 alkynyl; each R_6 and R_{14} is independently selected from hydrogen and substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl; or R_6 and R_7 and/or R_{13} and R_{14} together with the corresponding N atom and C atom to which they are attached may form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group;

R_{17} is selected from hydrogen, COR_a, $COOR_a$, $CONHR_b$, $COSR_c$, $(C{=}NR_b)OR_a$, $(C{=}NR_b)NHR_b$, $(C{=}NR_b)SR_c$, $(C{=}S)OR_a$, $(C{=}S)NHR_b$, $(C{=}S)SR_c$, SO_2R_c, SO_3R_c, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{12} alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{12} alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, and substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, with the proviso that when n, p, and q are 0 then R_{17} is not hydrogen; and

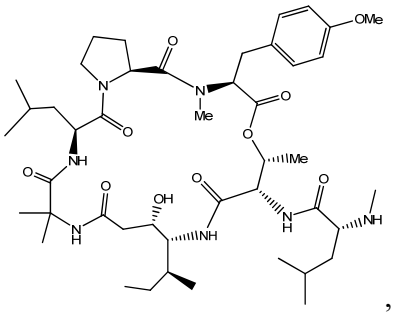
each R_a, R_b, and R_c is independently selected from hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{12} alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{12} alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, and substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a viral infection, wherein the virus is selected from the Orthomyxoviridae family or wherein the virus is West Nile virus.

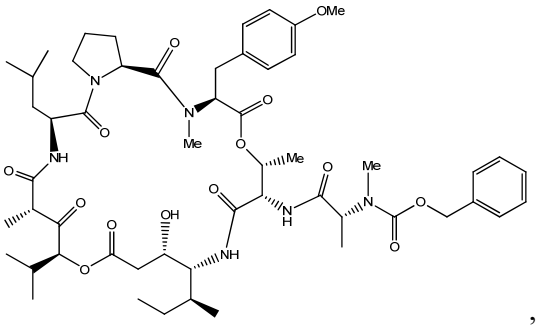
2. The use according to claim 1, having the following structure:



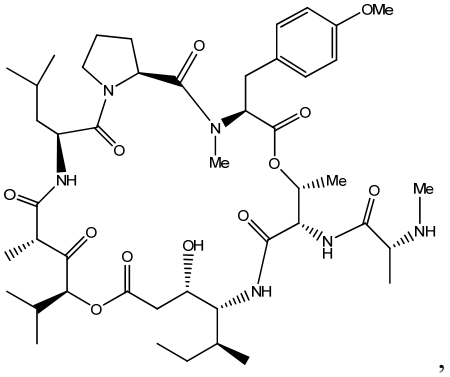
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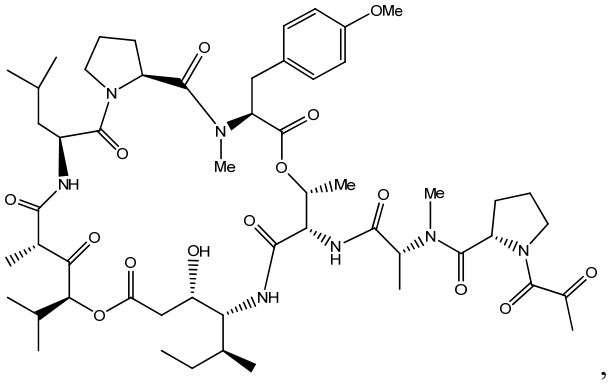
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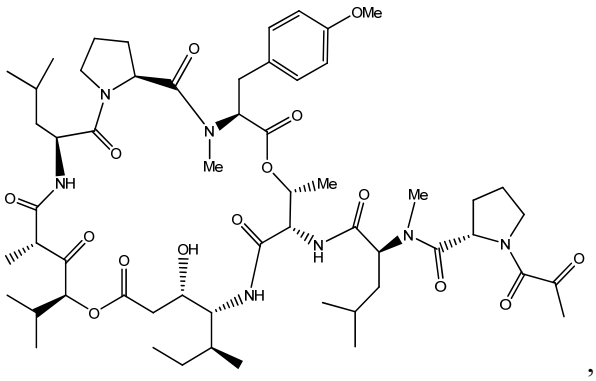
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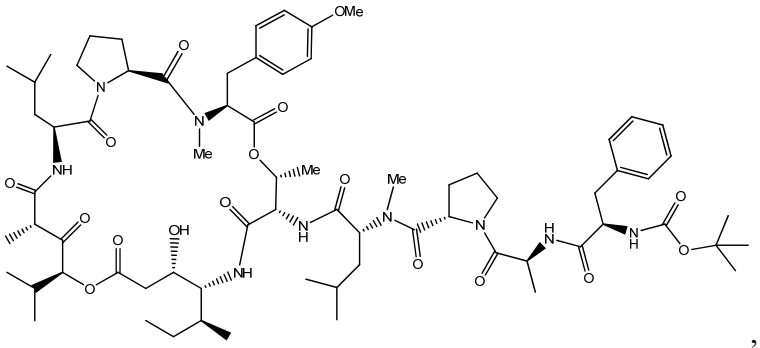
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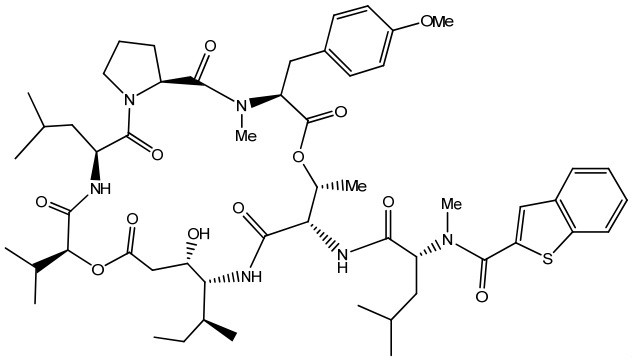
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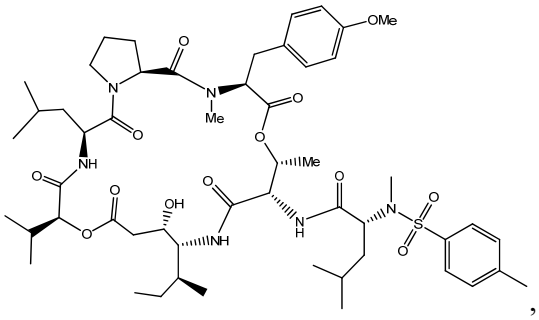
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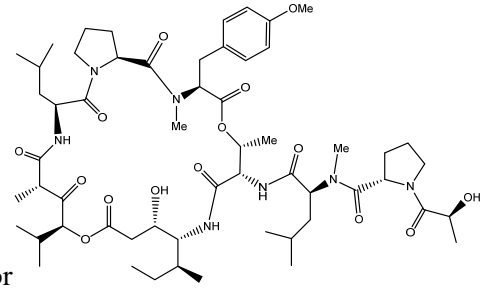
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or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof.

3. The use according to claim 1, wherein the compound is PLD, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof.

4. The use according to claim 1, wherein the compound is didemninB, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof.

5. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein the virus is Orthomyxoviridae virus.

6. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein the Orthomyxoviridae virus is selected from Influenzavirus A, Influenzavirus B, Influenzavirus C, Thogotovirus, Quaranjavirus, and Isavirus.

7. The use according to claim 6, wherein the Orthomyxoviridae virus is Influenza A, preferably selected from H1N1, H1N2 and H3N2; or the Orthomyxoviridae virus is influenza B, preferably selected from the Yamagata or Victoria lineages.

8. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the virus is West Nile virus.

9. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein the compound is administered in combination with a corticosteroid, preferably dexamethasone; including

wherein the compound and corticosteroid are administered concurrently, separately or sequentially.

10. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein the compound is administered according to a regimen of a daily dose for 10 days, 9 days, 8 days, 7 days, 6 days, 5 days, 4 days, 3 days, 2 days or 1 day; preferably 2-5 days, 3-5 days, or 3, 4 or 5 days; most preferably 3 days or 5 days; most preferably 3 days.

11. The use according to any preceding claim wherein the compound is administered at a dose of 5mg a day or less, 4.5mg a day or less, 4mg a day or less, 3.5mg a day or less, 3mg a day or less, 2.5mg a day or less or 2mg a day or less; 0.5 mg/day, 1 mg/day, 1.5 mg/day, 2 mg/day, 2.5 mg/day, 3 mg/day, 3.5 mg/day, 4 mg/day, 4.5 mg/day, or 5mg/day; preferably 1 mg/day, 1.5 mg/day, 2 mg/day or 2.5 mg/day; more preferably 1.5-2.5 mg/day; most preferably 1.5 mg/day, 2.0 mg/day or 2.5 mg/day.

12. The use according to any preceding claim wherein the compound is administered at a total dose of 1-50 mg, 1-40 mg, 1-30 mg, 1-20 mg, 1-15 mg, 3-15 mg, 3-12 mg, 4-12 mg, 4-10 mg, or 4.5-10 mg; 4mg, 4.5mg, 5mg, 5.5mg, 6mg, 6.5mg, 7mg, 7.5mg, 8mg, 8.5mg, 9mg, 9.5mg or 10mg; preferably 4.5mg, 5mg, 6mg, 7.5mg, 8mg, 9mg or 10mg; more preferably 4.5-7.5 mg/day.

13. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein the compound is administered by infusion; including

wherein the infusion is a 1 hour infusion, a 1.5 hour infusion, a 2 hour infusion or a 3 hour infusion; preferably a 1.5 hour infusion.

14. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein 1.5 mg of plitidepsin is administered

as a 1.5-hour infusion, once a day for 3 consecutive days; or wherein 2 mg of plitidepsin is administered as a 1.5-hour infusion, once a day for 3 consecutive days; wherein 2.5 mg of plitidepsin is administered as a 1.5-hour infusion, once a day for 3 consecutive days; or wherein 1 mg of plitidepsin is administered as a 1.5-hour infusion, once a day for 5 consecutive days; or wherein 2 mg of plitidepsin is administered as a 1.5-hour infusion, once a day for 5 consecutive days.

15. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein the compound is administered using a loading dose and a maintenance dose; including

wherein the dosage regimen is:

a loading dose of 2.5 mg for day 1, and followed by a maintenance dose of 2 mg/day for subsequent days;

a loading dose of 2.5 mg for day 1, and followed by a maintenance dose of 1.5 mg/day for subsequent days;

a loading dose of 2.5 mg for day 1, and followed by a maintenance dose of 1 mg/day for subsequent days;

a loading dose of 2.5 mg for day 1, and followed by a maintenance dose of 0.5 mg/day for subsequent days;

a loading dose of 2 mg for day 1, and followed by a maintenance dose of 1.5 mg/day for subsequent days;

a loading dose of 2 mg for day 1, and followed by a maintenance dose of 1 mg/day for subsequent days;

a loading dose of 2 mg for day 1, and followed by a maintenance dose of 0.5 mg/day for subsequent days;

a loading dose of 1.5 mg for day 1, and followed by a maintenance dose of 1 mg/day for subsequent days;

a loading dose of 1.5 mg for day 1, and followed by a maintenance dose of 0.5 mg/day for subsequent days; or

a loading dose of 1 mg for day 1, and followed by a maintenance dose of 0.5 mg/day for subsequent days.

16. A compound for use according to any preceding claim, wherein the compound is administered in combination with a corticosteroid, and wherein the corticosteroid is administered on the same days as administration of the compound according to any one of claims 1 to 4.

17. A compound for use according to claim 16, wherein the corticosteroid may also be administered on one or more subsequent days; preferably wherein the corticosteroid is administered with the compound on days 1-3 and the corticosteroid is further administered on one or more of days 4-10; optionally

wherein the corticosteroid is administered intravenously on days when the compound is administered but is administered by oral administration or IV on subsequent days.

18. A compound for use according to any one of claims 16 to 17, wherein the corticosteroid is dexamethasone; preferably wherein dexamethasone is administered at a dose of 6.6 mg/day IV on days when the compound according to any one of claims 1 to 4 is administered.

19. A compound for use according to claim 18, wherein dexamethasone is administered at a dose of 6 mg/day oral administration or IV on subsequent days, preferably one or more of days 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

20. A compound for use according to any preceding claim, wherein PLD is administered 1.5 mg/day intravenous (IV) combined with dexamethasone 6.6 mg/day IV on Days 1 to 3, followed by dexamethasone 6 mg/day oral administration (PO)/IV from Day 4 and up to Day 10 (as per physician judgement according to patient clinical condition and evolution); or

wherein PLD is administered 2.0 mg/day intravenous (IV) combined with dexamethasone 6.6 mg/day IV on Days 1 to 3, followed by dexamethasone 6 mg/day oral administration (PO)/IV from Day 4 and up to Day 10 (as per physician judgement according to patient clinical condition and evolution); or

wherein PLD is administered 2.5 mg/day intravenous (IV) combined with dexamethasone 6.6 mg/day IV on Days 1 to 3, followed by dexamethasone 6 mg/day oral administration (PO)/IV from Day 4 and up to Day 10 (as per physician judgement according to patient clinical condition and evolution).

21. A compound for use according to any one of claims 16 to 20, wherein the corticosteroid is administered 20 to 30 minutes prior to starting treatment with the compound according to any one of claims 1 to 4.

22. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein the compound is administered as a single dose (on day 1).

23. The use according to claim 22, wherein the single dose is 1-10 mg, 4-10 mg, 4.5-10 mg, 4mg, 4.5mg, 5mg, 5.5mg, 6mg, 6.5mg, 7mg, 7.5mg, 8mg, 8.5mg, 9mg, 9.5mg or 10mg, preferably 4.5mg, 5mg, 6mg, 7.5mg, 8mg, 9mg or 10mg, more preferably 5-9 mg, 6.5-8.5 mg, 7-8 mg or most preferably 7.5 mg.

24. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein the following prophylactic medications are administered 20-30 minutes prior to administration with a compound of the present invention:

Ondansetron 8 mg IV (or equivalent), particularly in slow infusion of 15 minutes;

Diphenhydramine hydrochloride 25 mg IV (or equivalent);

Ranitidine 50 mg IV (or equivalent).

25. A kit comprising the compound as defined in any of claims 1 to 24, together with instructions for treating viral infection as defined in any of claims 1 to 24, wherein the virus is selected from the Orthomyxoviridae family or wherein the virus is West Nile virus.

26. Use of a corticosteroid in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a viral infection, wherein the virus is selected from the Orthomyxoviridae family or wherein the virus is West Nile virus; wherein said treatment includes administration of a compound as defined in any of claims 1 to 24 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

27. Use of a compound as defined in any of claims 1 to 24 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof and a corticosteroid in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a viral infection, wherein the virus is selected from the Orthomyxoviridae family or wherein the virus is West Nile virus.

28. A pharmaceutical package comprising a compound as defined in any of claims 1 to 4 and a corticosteroid, optionally further comprising instructions according to any one of claims 1 to 24.