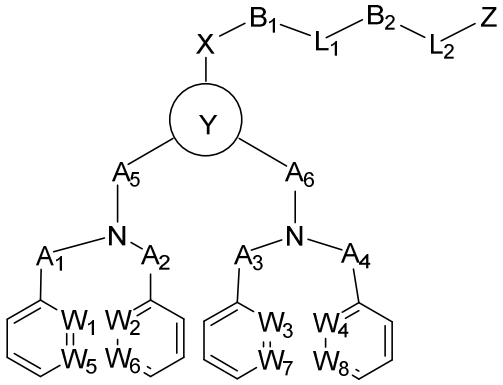
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

in which

each of A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, and A_6, independently, is a C_1-C_6 bivalent aliphatic radical;

B_1 is a C_1-C_6 bivalent aliphatic radical, a C_1-C_6 bivalent heteroaliphatic radical, a bivalent aryl radical, or a bivalent heteroaryl radical;

B_2 is a bond, a C_1-C_6 bivalent aliphatic radical, a C_1-C_6 bivalent heteroaliphatic radical, a bivalent aryl radical, a bivalent heteroaryl radical, D_1-NR_1-C(O)-D_2, D_1-C(O)NR_1-D_2-NR_1'-C(O)-D_3, D_1-D_2-C(O)-NR_1-C(O)-D_3, or D_1-D_2-D_3, each of D_1, D_2, D_3, independently, being a C_1-C_6 bivalent aliphatic radical, a C_1-C_6 bivalent heteroaliphatic radical, a bivalent aryl radical, a bivalent heteroaryl radical, a C_1-C_{10} bivalent aralkyl radical, or a C_1-C_{10} bivalent heteroaralkyl radical, and each of R_1 and R_1', independently, being H, a C_1-C_6 bivalent heteroaliphatic radical, a bivalent aryl radical, a bivalent heteroaryl radical, or a C_1-C_{10} bivalent aralkyl radical;

each of L_1 and L_2, independently, is a bond, NR_2, $NR_2C(O)$, $NR_2C(S)$, $NR_2CR_3R_4$, NR_2SO_2, $NR_2C(O)NR_3$, or $NR_2C(S)NR_3$, each of R_2, R_3, and R_4, independently, being H, a C_1-C_6 monovalent aliphatic radical, a C_1-C_6 monovalent heteroaliphatic radical, a monovalent aryl radical, a monovalent heteroaryl radical, a C_1-C_{14} monovalent aralkyl radical, a C_1-C_{14} monovalent heteroaralkyl radical, C(s)R', or C(O)R', in which R' is a C_1-C_6 monovalent aliphatic radical, a C_1-C_6 monovalent heteroaliphatic radical, a monovalent aryl radical, a monovalent heteroaryl radical, a C_1-C_{14} monovalent aralkyl radical, or a C_1-C_{14} monovalent heteroaralkyl radical, provided that at least one of L_1 and L_2 is not a bond;

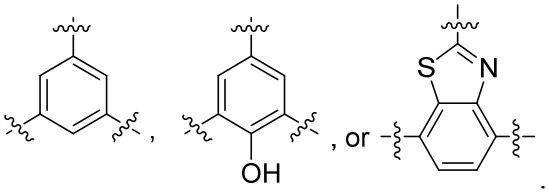
each of W_1, W_2, W_3, W_4, W_5, W_6, W_7, and W_8, independently, is N or CR_5, R_5 being H, halo, cyano, amino, hydroxyl, nitro, sulfhydryl, a C_1-C_6 aliphatic radical, a C_1-C_6 heteroaliphatic radical, or a haloaliphatic radical;

X is a bond, O, S, or NR_6, R_6 being H, a C_1-C_6 monovalent aliphatic radical, a C_1-C_6 monovalent heteroaliphatic radical, a monovalent aryl radical, a monovalent heteroaryl radical, a C_1-C_{14} monovalent aralkyl radical, or a C_1-C_{14} monovalent heteroaralkyl radical;

Y is a aryl ring or a heteroaryl ring; and

Z is an anticancer therapeutic moiety,

wherein each of the aliphatic radical, the heteroaliphatic radical, the aralkyl radical, and the heteroaralkyl radical is unsubstituted or substituted with halo, cyano, amino, hydroxyl, nitro, sulfhydryl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 alkylamino, C_1-C_{12} dialkylamino, and C_1-C_6 haloalkyl; and each of the aryl radical and the heteroaryl radical is unsubstituted or substituted with halo, cyano, amino, hydroxyl, nitro, sulfhydryl, a C_1-C_6 aliphatic radical, a C_1-C_6 heteroaliphatic radical, or a haloaliphatic radical.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein Y is 

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3. The compound of claim 1, wherein each of W_1, W_2, W_3, and W_4 is N, and each of W_5, W_6, W_7, and W_8 is CH.

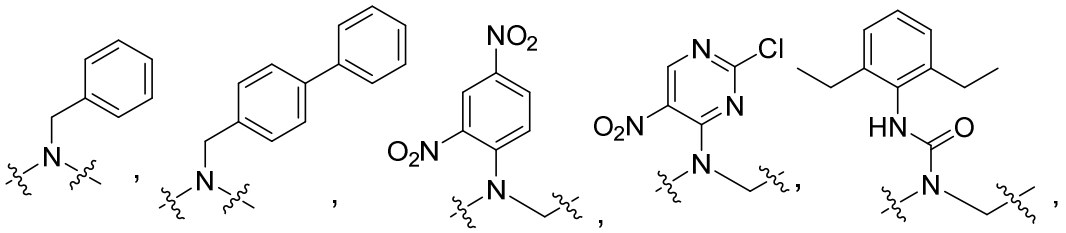
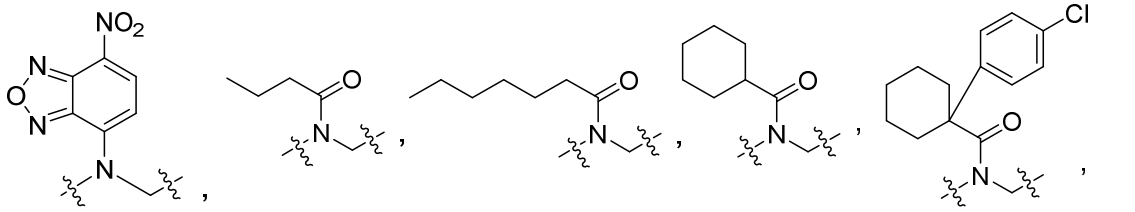
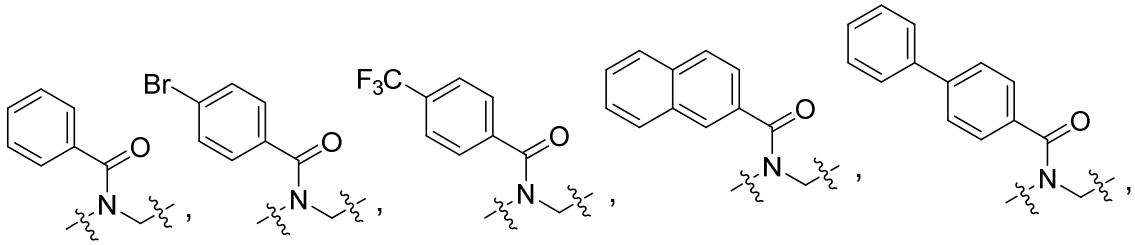
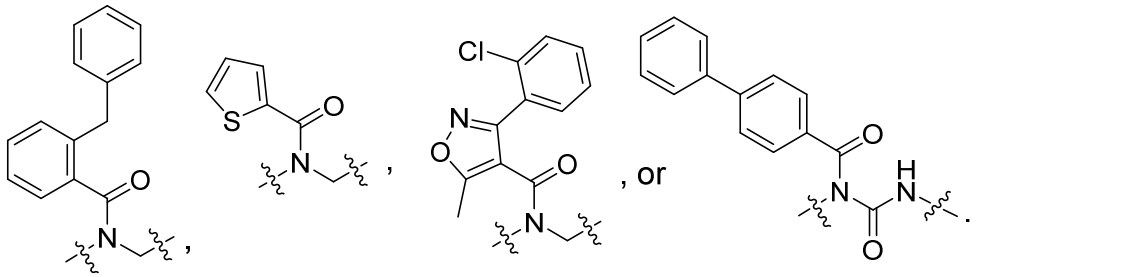
4. The compound of claim 1, wherein each of W_1, W_2, W_3, and W_8 is N, and each of W_4, W_5, W_6, and W_7 is CH.

5. The compound of claim 1, wherein each of A_1, A_2, A_3, A_5, A_5, and A_6 is methylene.

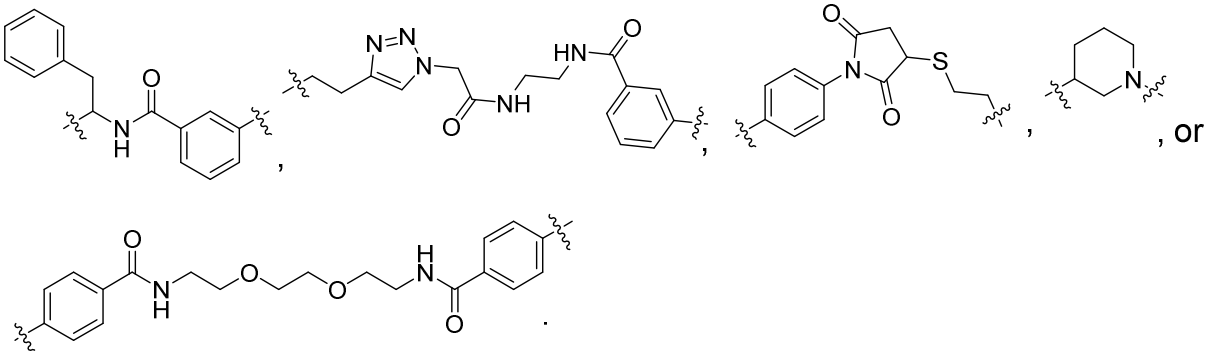
6. The compound of claim 1, wherein B_1 is ethylene, propylene, butylene, or hexylene.

7. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is O or NH.

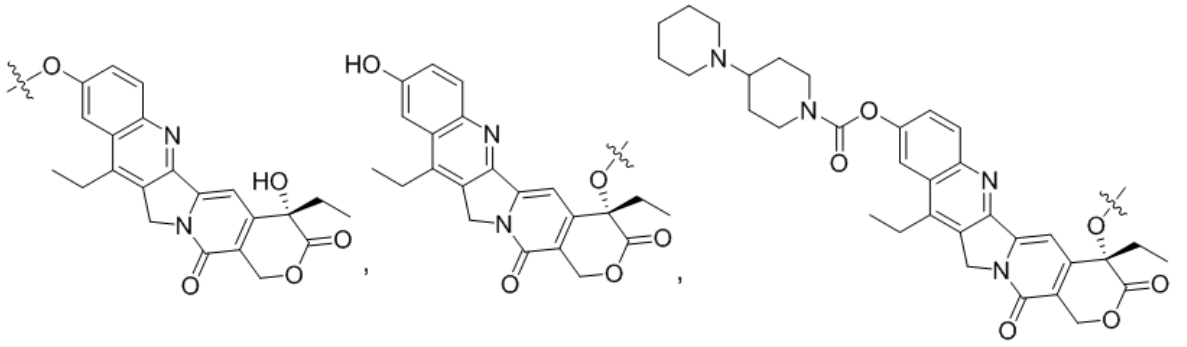
8. The compound of claim 1, wherein L_2 is C(O).

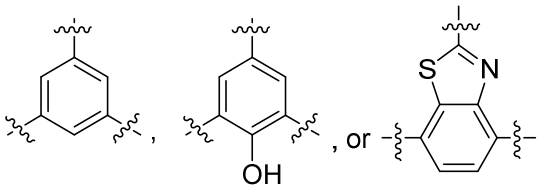
9. The compound of claim 1, wherein L_1 is a bond, NH, $NHCH_2$, NHC(O), $NHSO_2$, NHC(O)NH, 




10. The compound of claim 1, wherein B_2 is a bond, ethylene, phenylene,



11. The compound of claim 1, wherein Z is



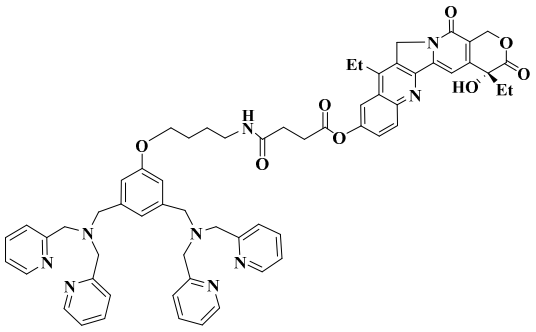
12. The compound of claim 11, wherein Y is .

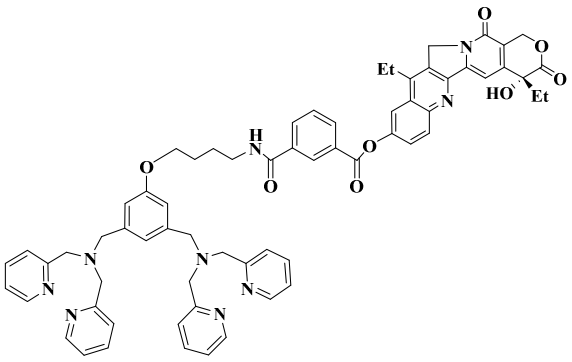
13. The compound of claim 11, wherein each of A_1, A_2, A_3, A_5, and A_6 is methylene.

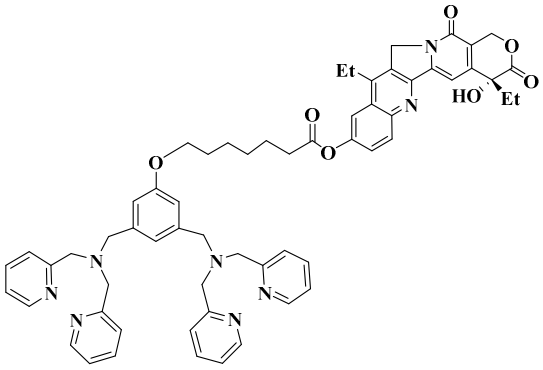
14. The compound of claim 11, wherein X is O or NH.

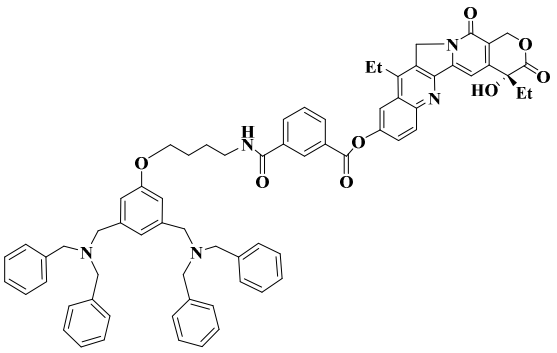
15. The compound of claim 12, wherein each of A_1, A_2, A_3, A_5, A_5, and A_6 is methylene; X is O or NH; and L_2 is C(O).

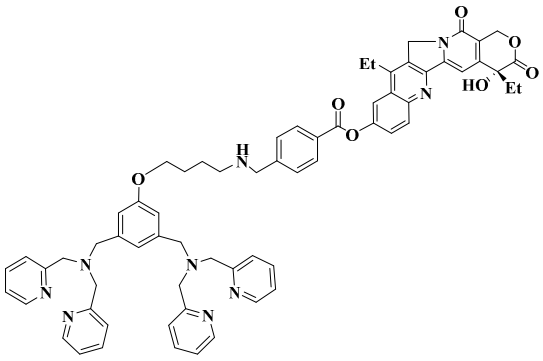
16. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound is one of the following compounds:

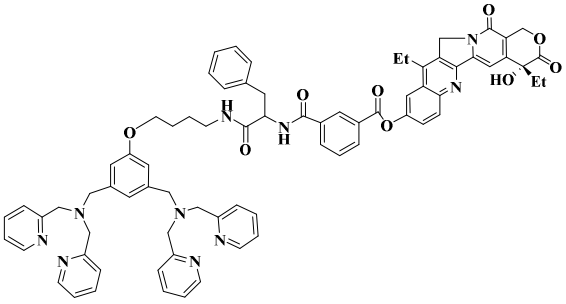


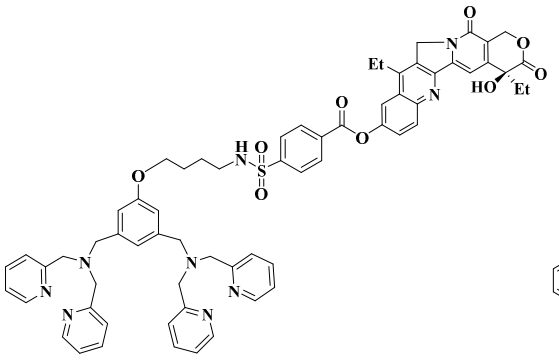


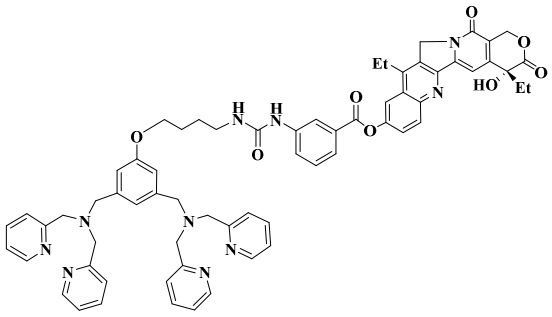


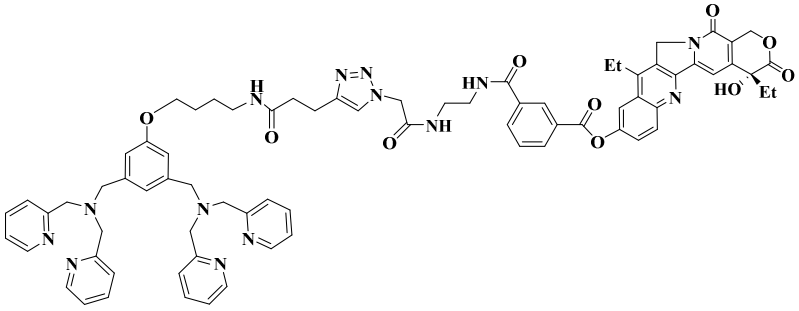


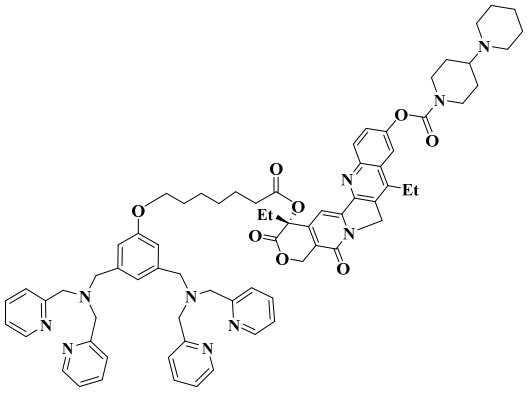


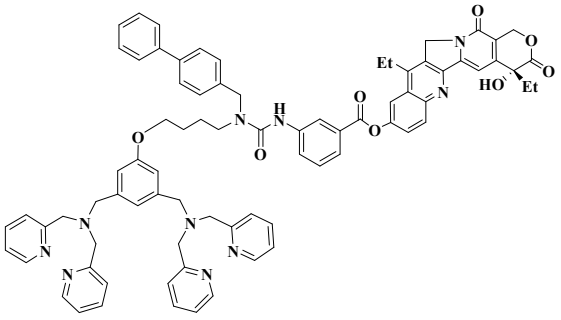


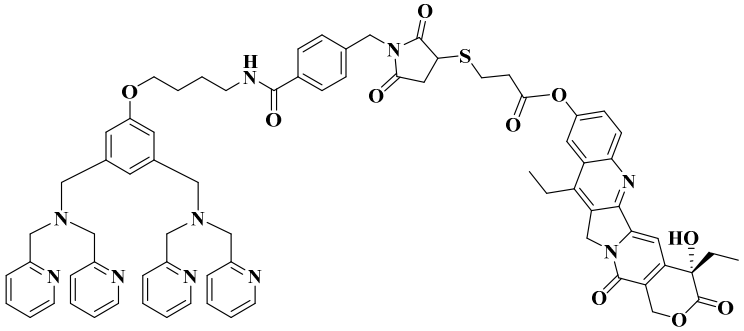


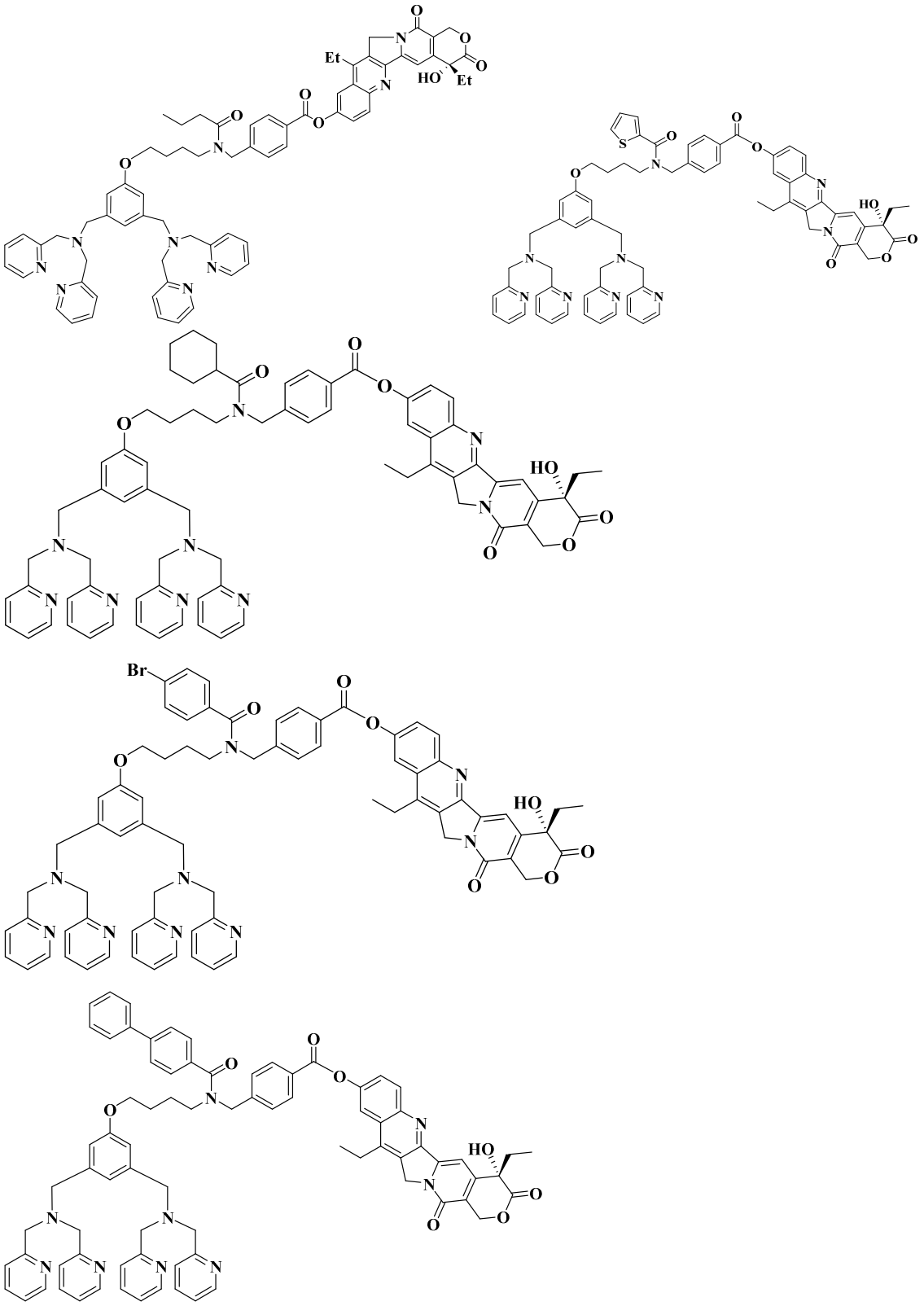


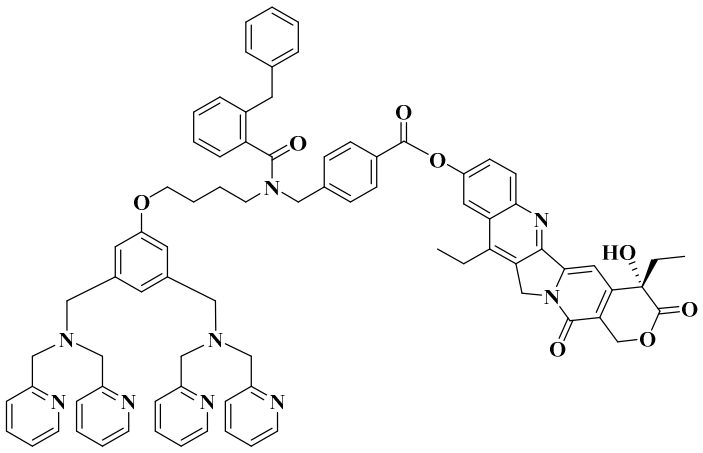


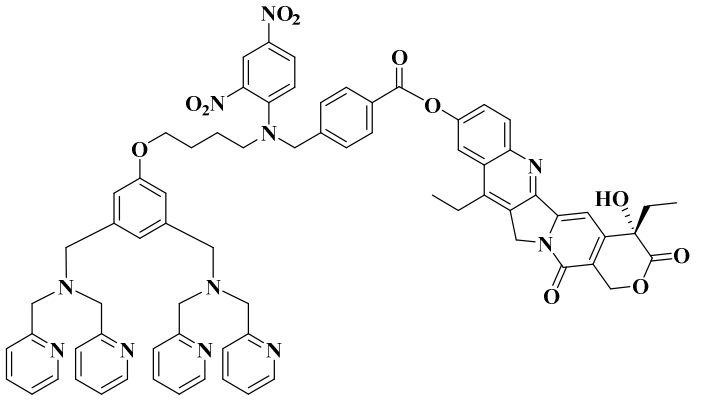


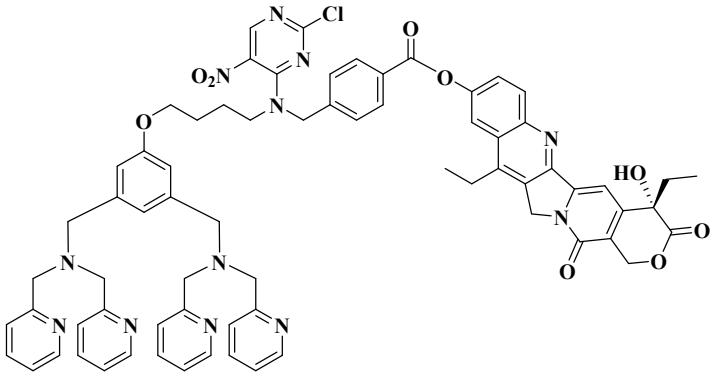


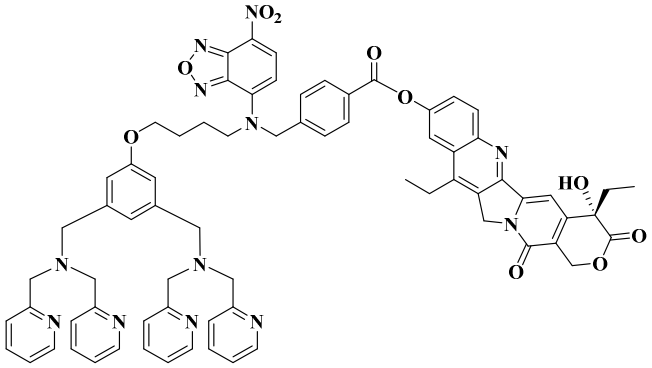


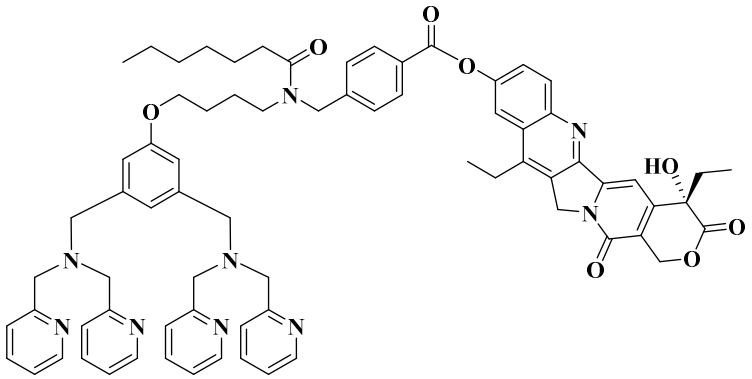


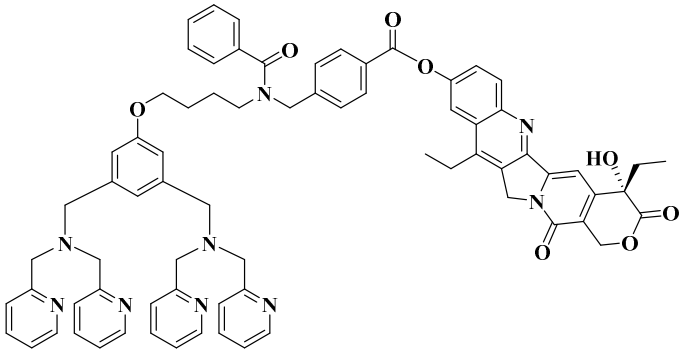


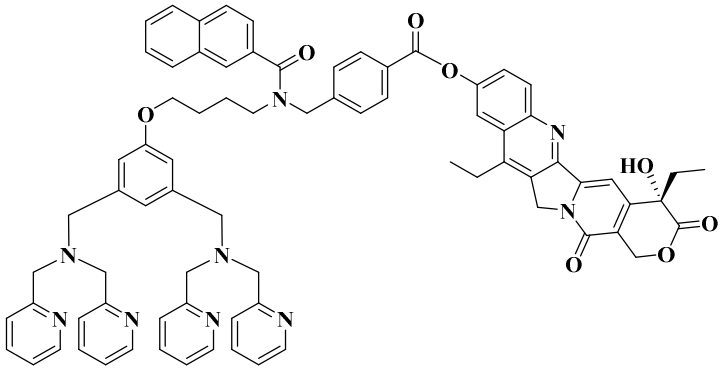


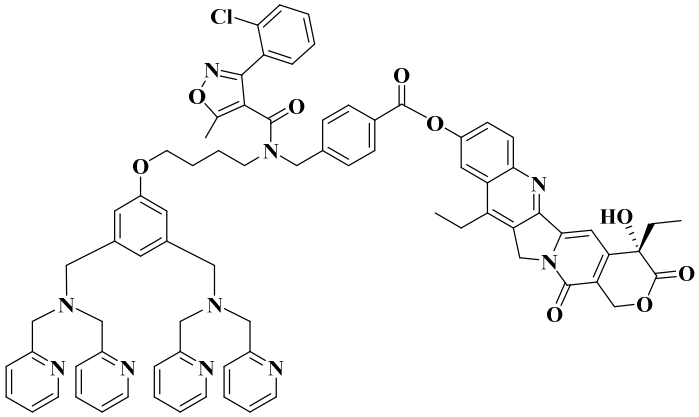


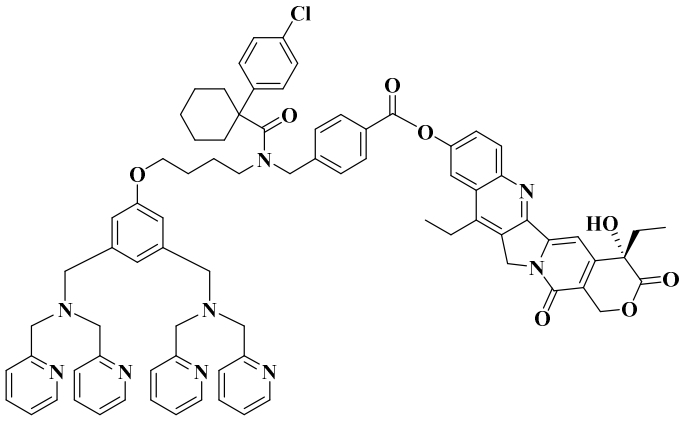


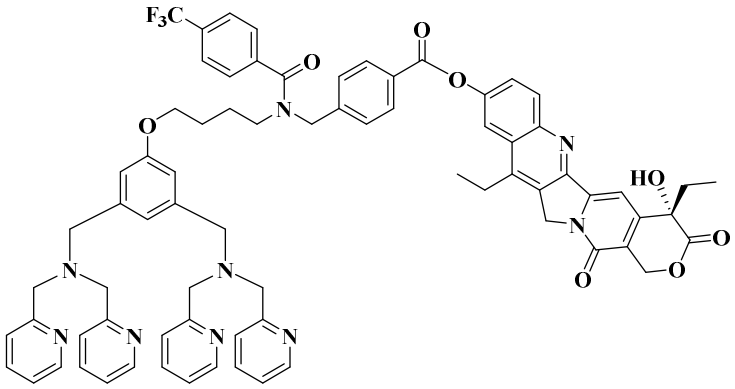


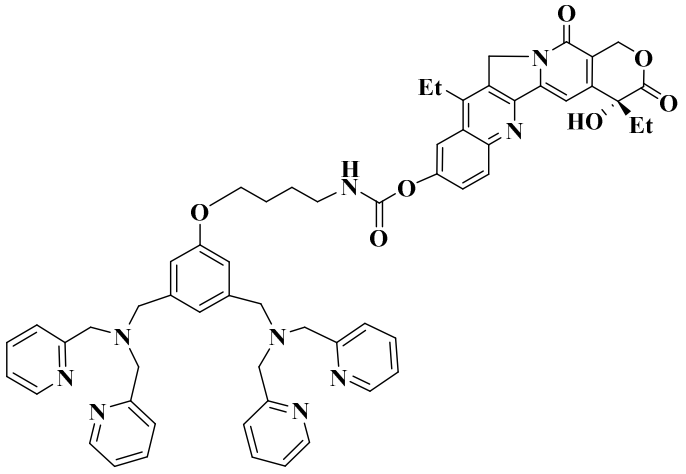


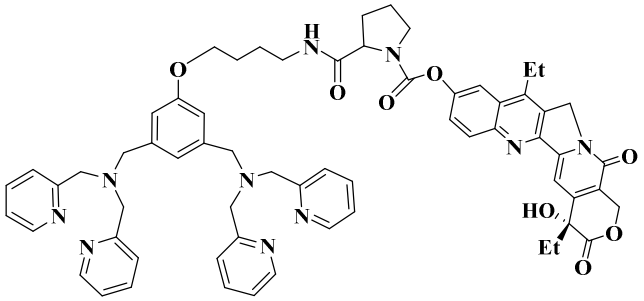


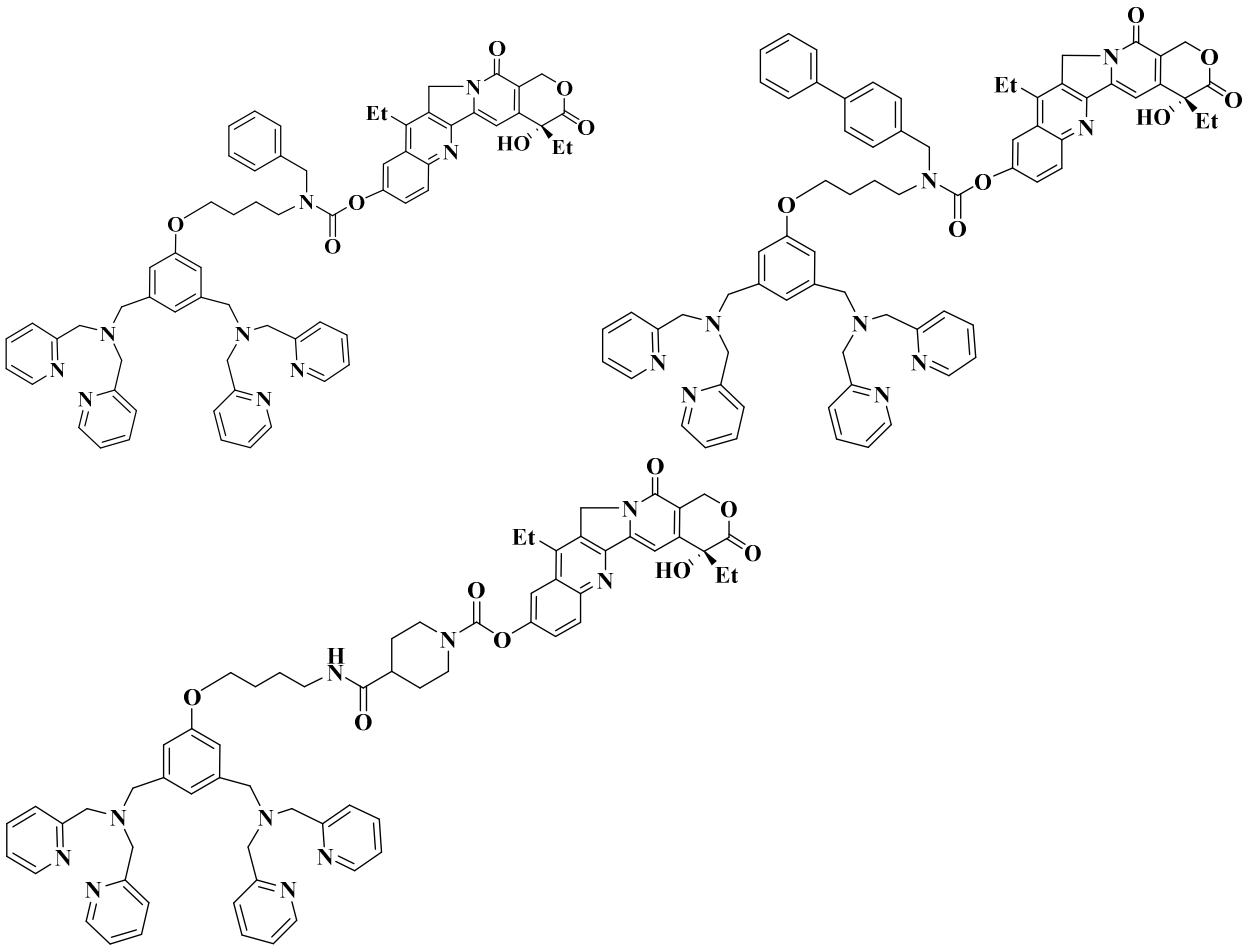


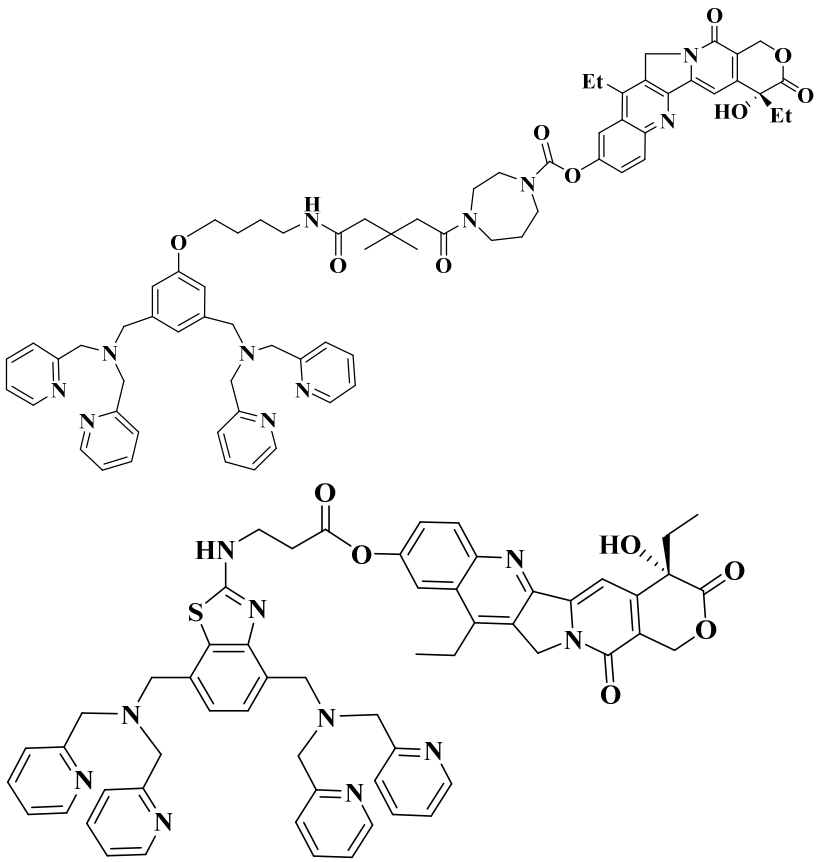


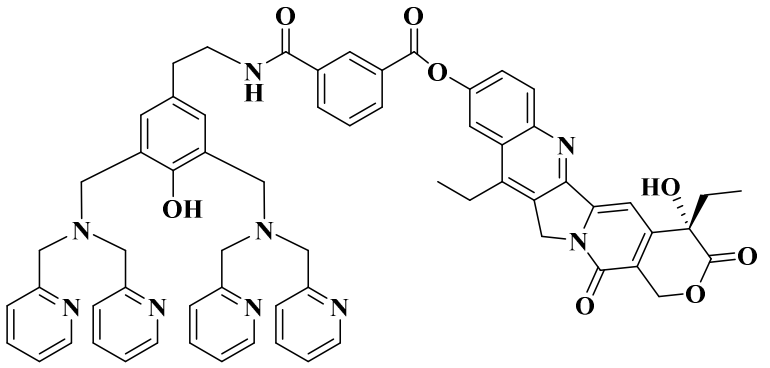


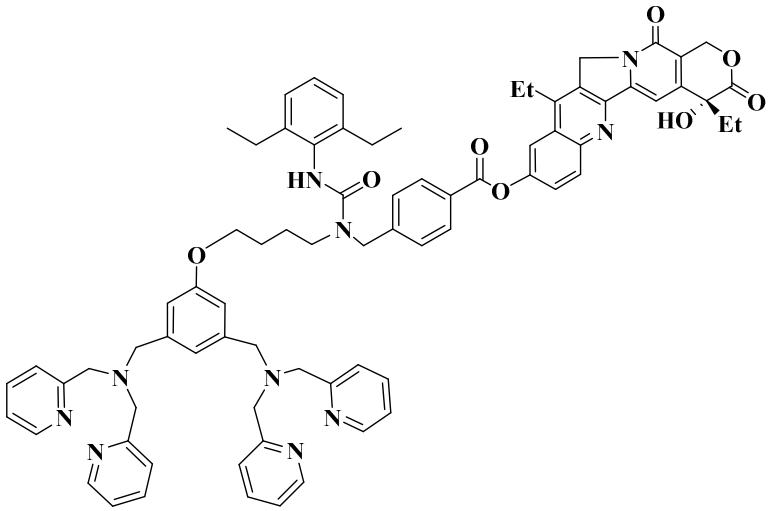


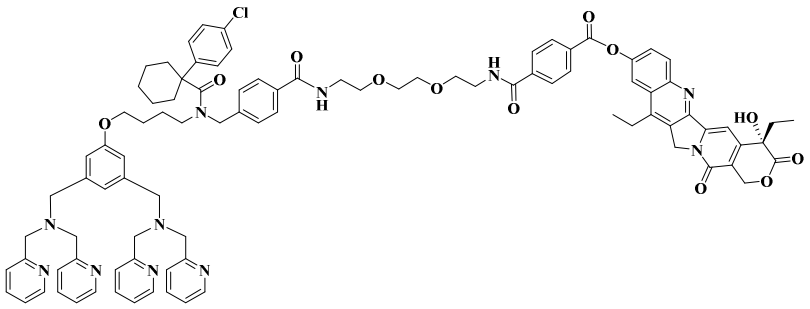


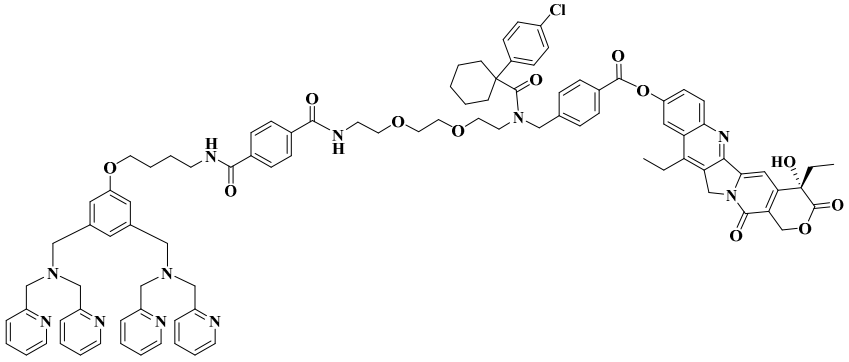


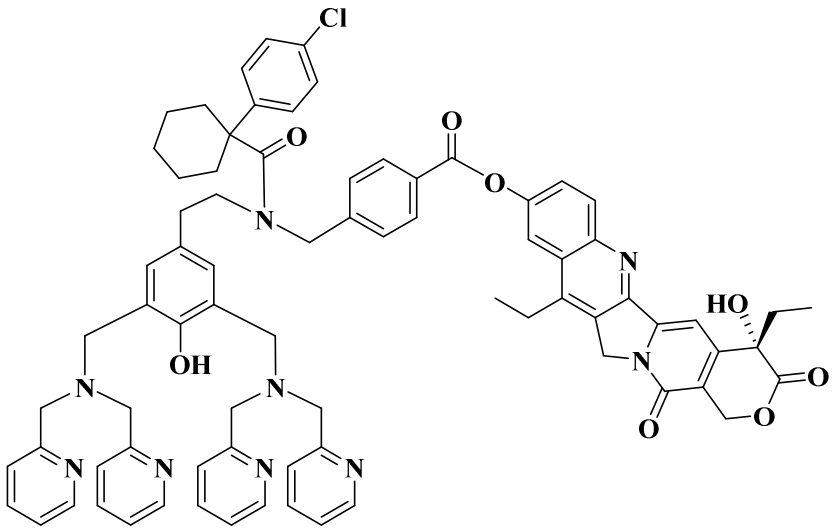


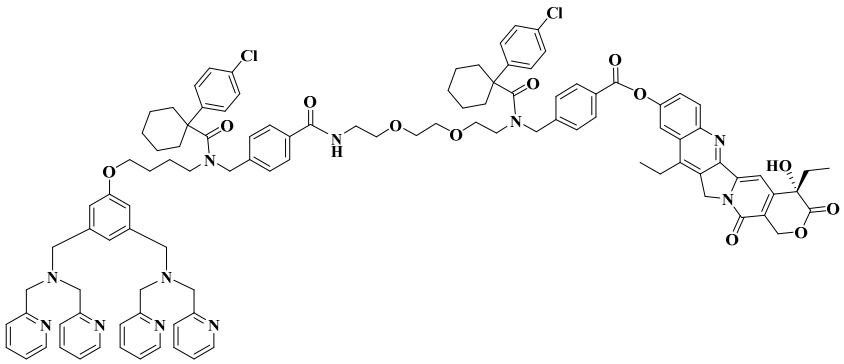


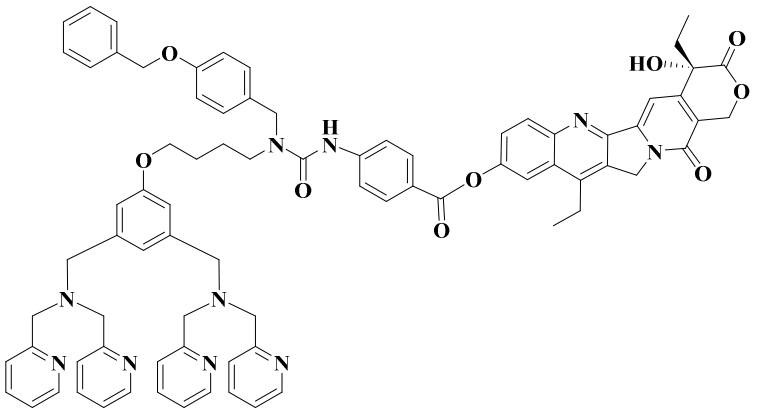


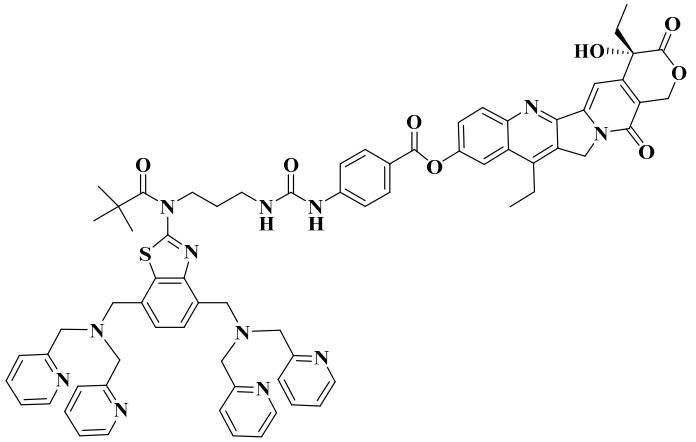


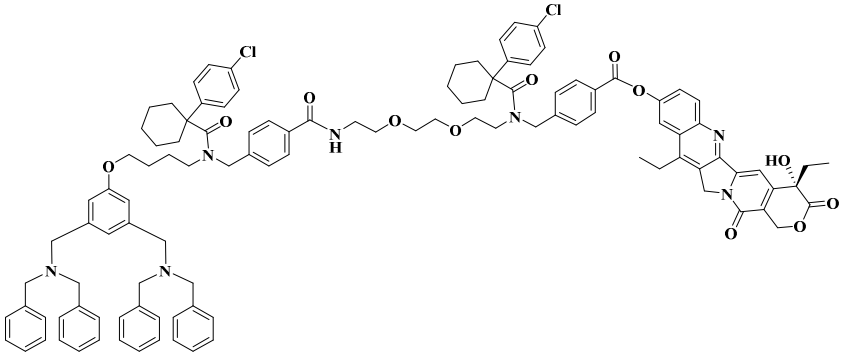


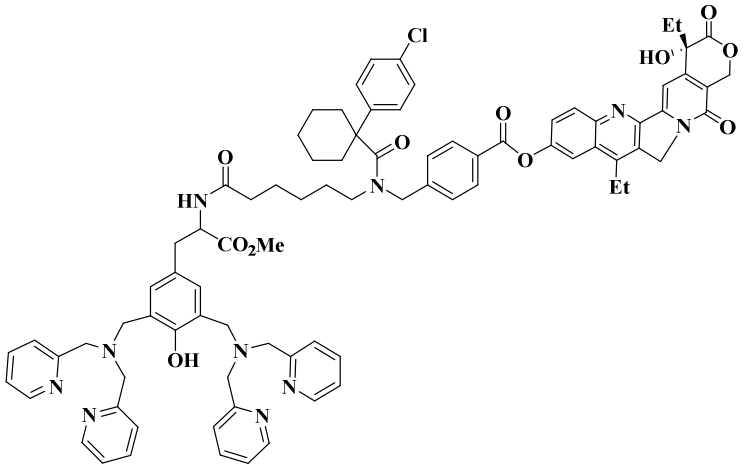


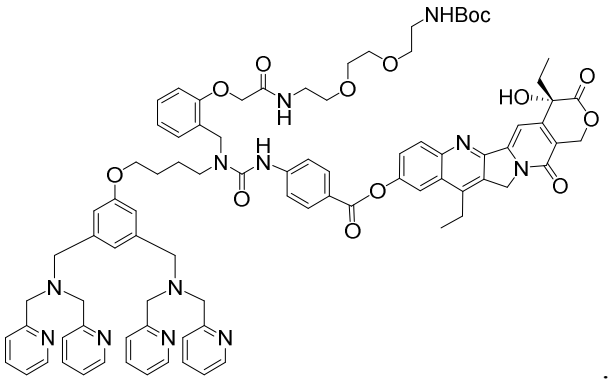






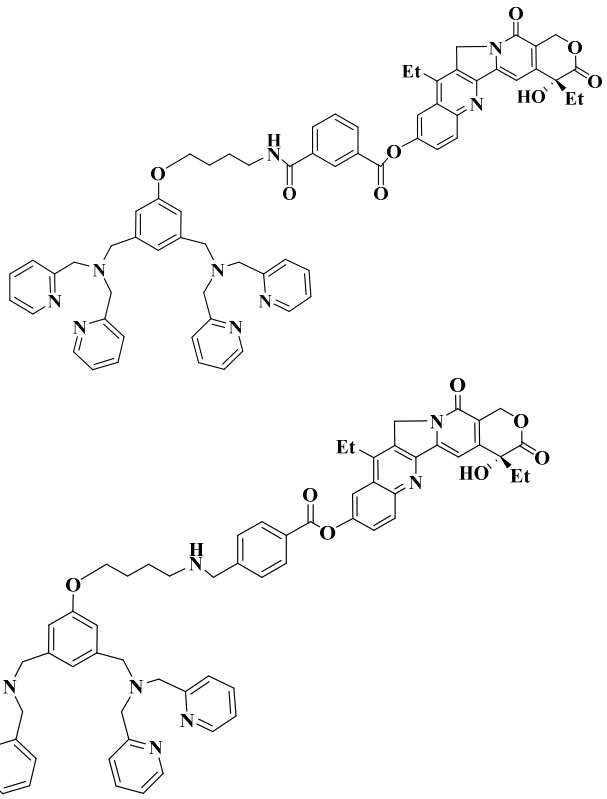


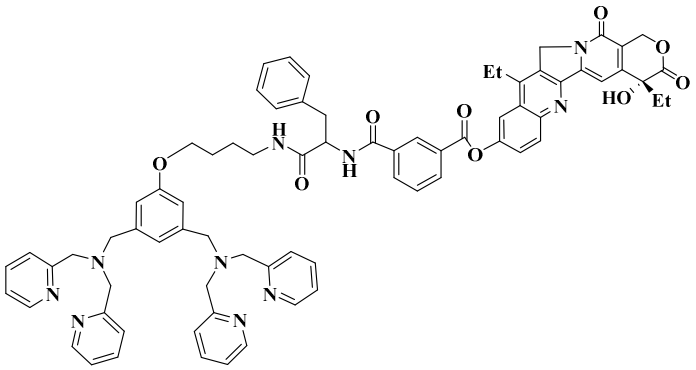


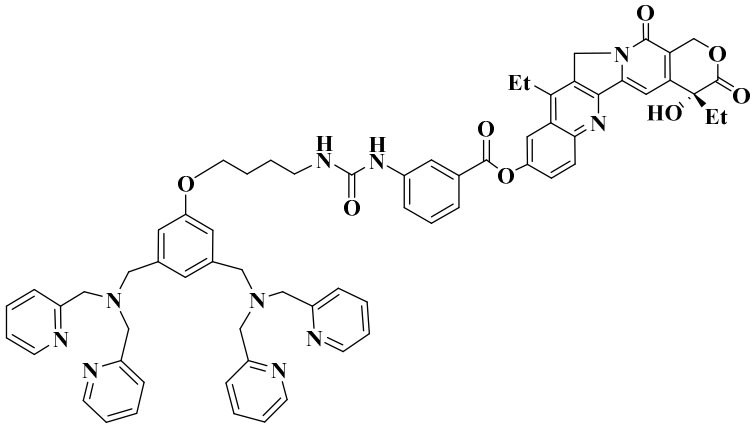


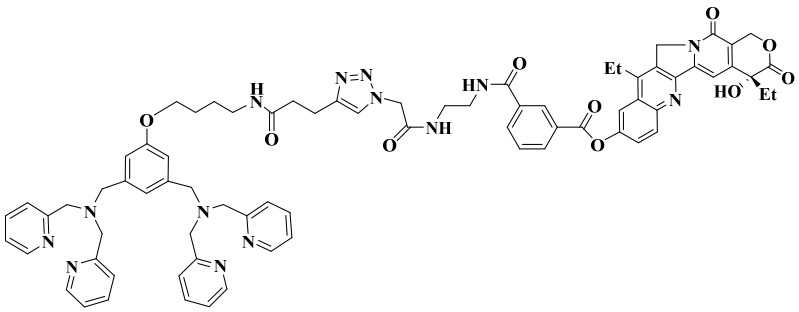
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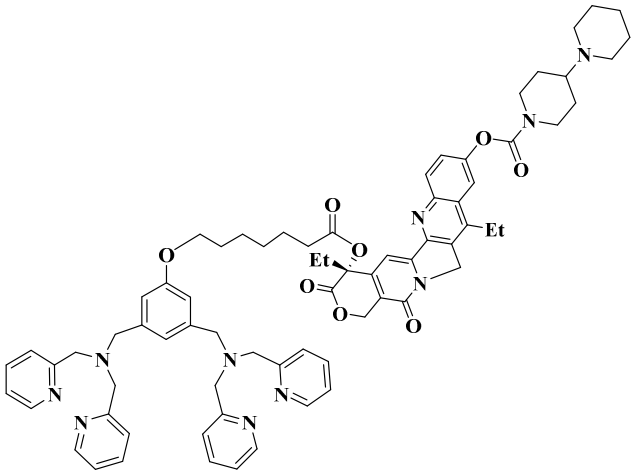
17. The compound of claim 16, wherein the compound is one of the following compounds:

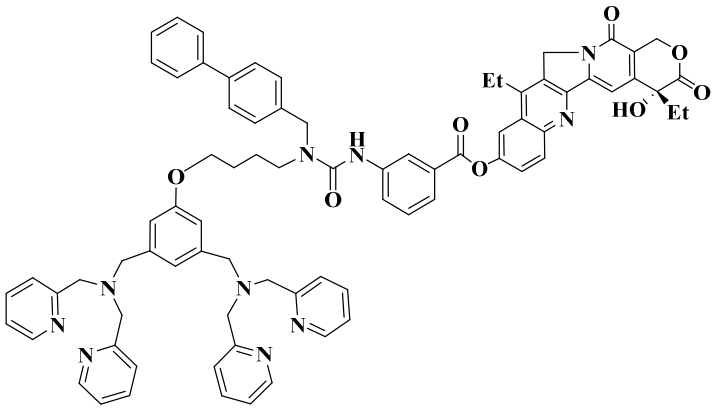


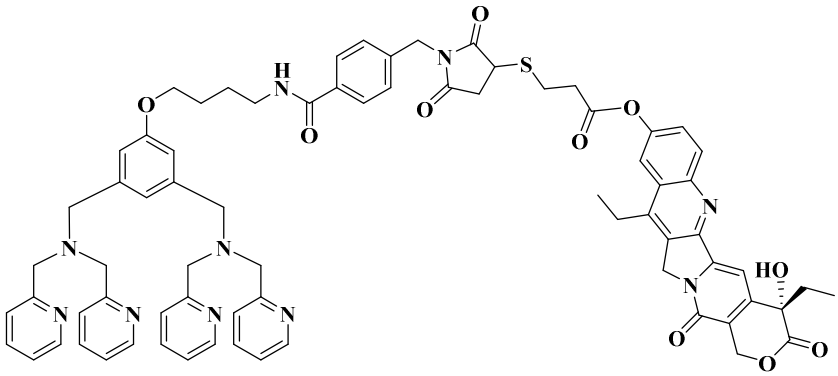


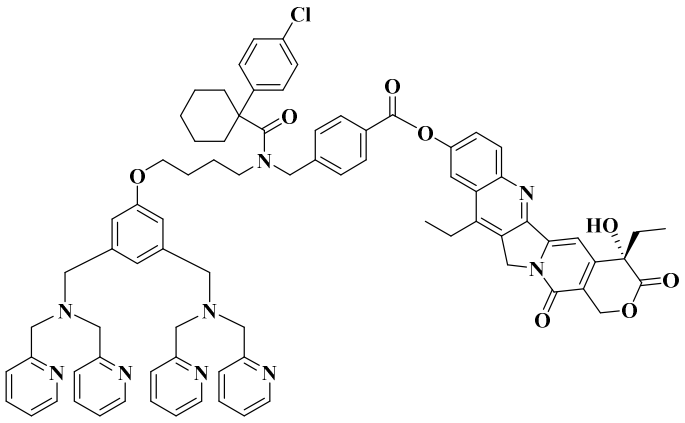


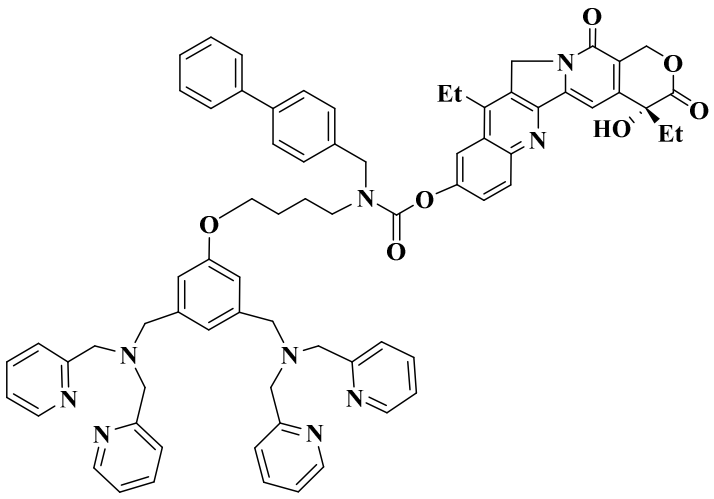


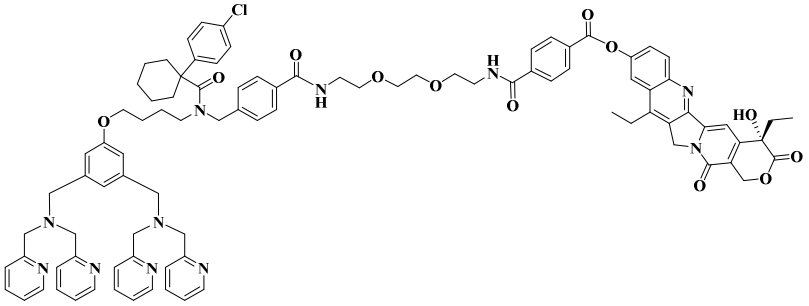


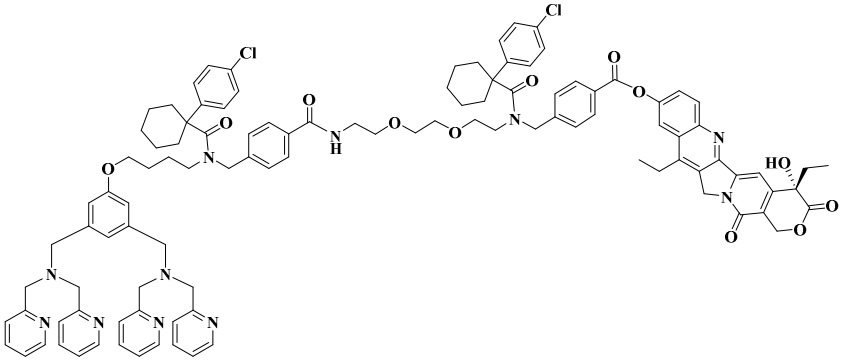








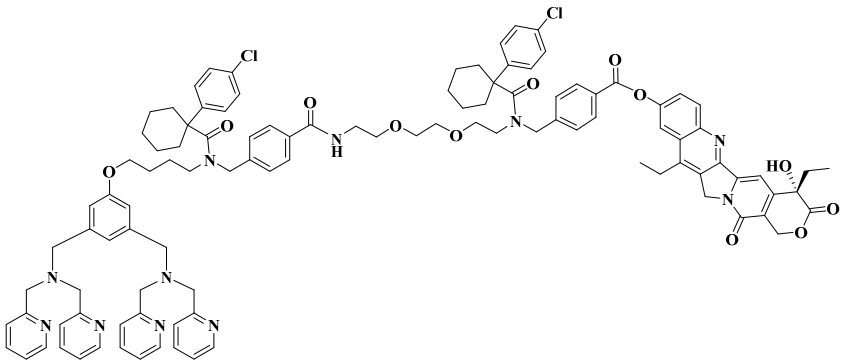




18. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a complex of a metal ion and a compound of claim 1, wherein the metal ion is a cation having two or more charges.

19. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, wherein the metal ion is Zn^{2+}, Cu^{2+}, Ca^{2+}, Mg^{2+}, Mn^{2+}, Ni^{2+}, Co^{2+}, Fe^{2+}, Cd^{2+}, or a combination thereof.

20. The compound of claim 16, wherein the compound is:


Cl
Cl
O
O
O
N
H
O
O
N
O
O
O
N
N
HO
O
O
O
N
N
N
N
N
N
N
N