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(54) Title: POLYMERIC DERIVATIVES OF CAMPTOTHECINS

(57) Abstract

Water soluble polymeric conjugates of camptothecin comprise N–(2–hydroxypropyl)methacryloylamide units linked via a spacer of the formula –Gly–$(CH_2)_n$–CO–Gly wherein n = 2–8 to the C–20 position of a camptothecin residue. The conjugates possess enhanced antitumor activity and decreased toxicity with respect to the free drug. A process for their preparation and pharmaceutical compositions containing them are also described.