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(54) Title: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS CONTAINING OXAPENEM-3-CARBOXYLIC ACIDS

(57) Abstract: An oxapenem compound which is, or is capable of forming, a zwitterion of formula Ia or Ib: (Ia), (Ib) wherein R is a C_1-C_8 branched or straight chain alkyl group which includes a protonated basic substituent. The compounds find particular use as high bioavailability β-lactamase inhibitors.