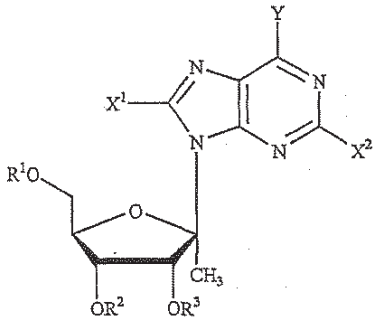
We Claim:

1. A compound of Formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

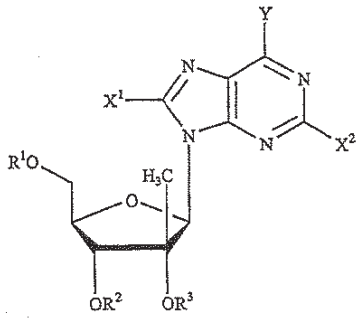
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

2. A compound of Formula II:



(II)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

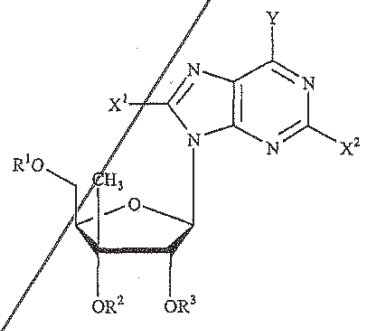
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

3. A compound of Formula III:



(III)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is

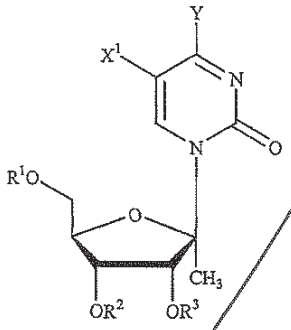
~~capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or~~ phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

4. A compound of Formula IV:



(IV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

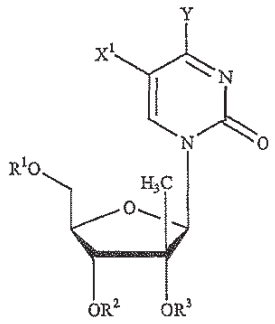
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

5. A compound of Formula V:



(V)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

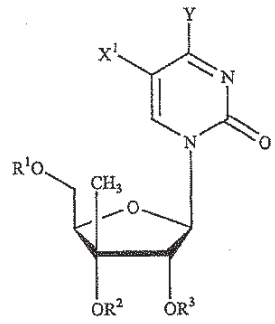
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

6. A compound of Formula VI:



(VI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

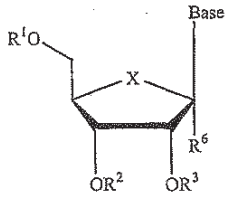
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

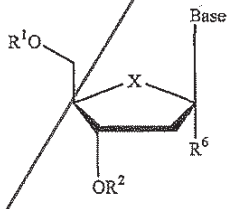
X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

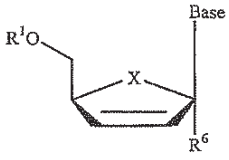
7. A compound selected from Formulas VII, VIII and IX:



(VII)



(VIII)



(IX)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

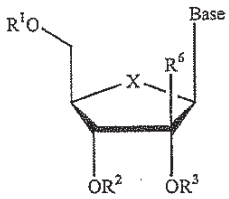
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is

capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

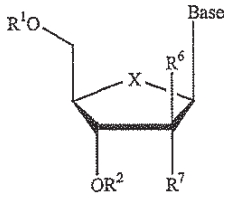
R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, 2-Br-ethyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), CF_3, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2, or CH_2.

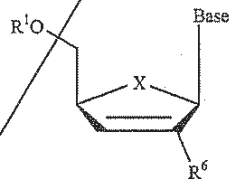
8. A compound of Formulas X, XI and XII:



(X)



(XI)



(XII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

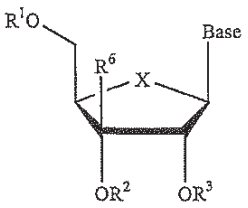
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

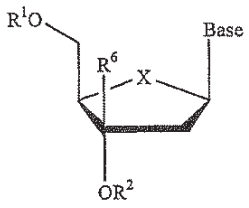
R^7 is hydrogen, OR^3, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

~~X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.~~

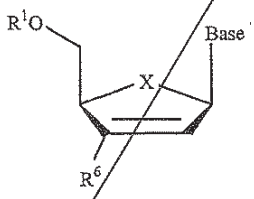
9. A compound selected from Formulas XIII, XIV and XV:



(XIII)



(XIV)



(XV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

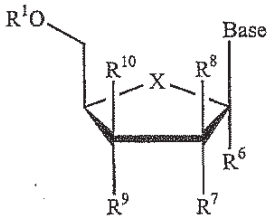
Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

10. A compound of Formula XVI:



(XVI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

~~Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;~~

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

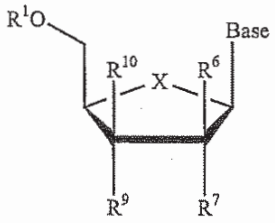
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

R^8 and R^{10} are independently H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine, or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, R^7 and R^{10}, R^8 and R^9, or R^8 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

11. A compound of Formula XVII:



(XVII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl

(including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

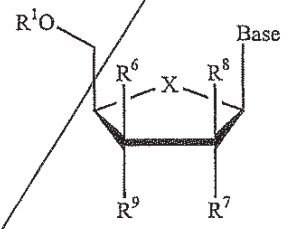
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

R^{10} is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine, or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^7 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

12. A compound of Formula XVIII:



(XVIII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or

~~other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is~~ capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

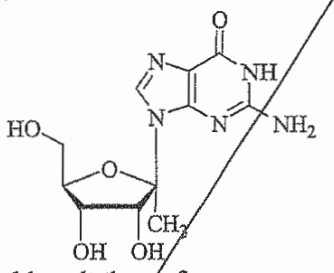
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, alkyl (including lower alkyl), alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, O-alkenyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, amino, loweralkylamino, or di(loweralkyl)amino;

R^8 is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^8 and R^9 can come together to form a bond; and

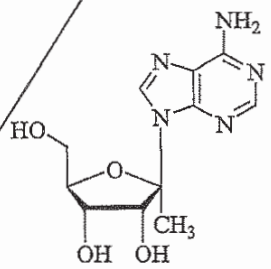
X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

13. A compound of the structure:



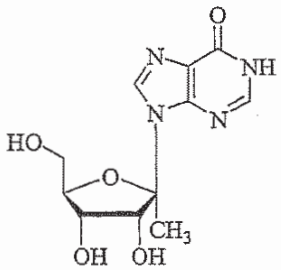
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. A compound of the structure:



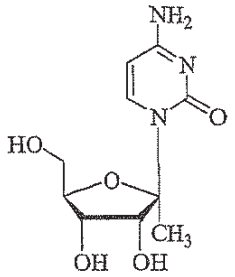
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. A compound of the structure:



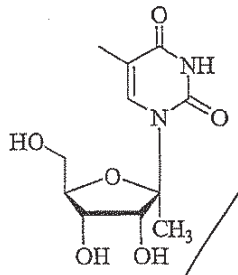
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. A compound of the structure:



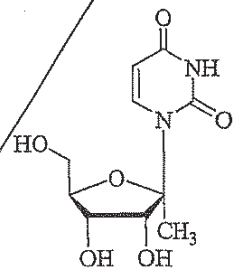
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. A compound of the structure:



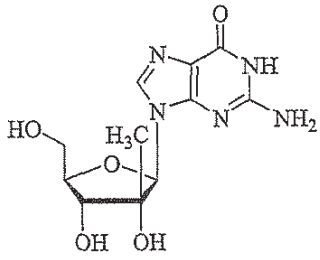
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

18. A compound of the structure:



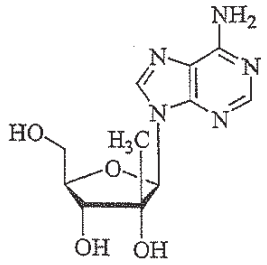
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

19. A compound of the structure:



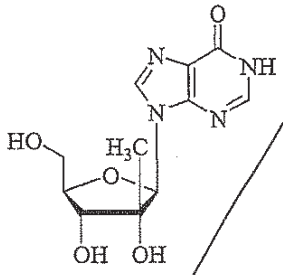
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

~~20. A compound of the structure:~~



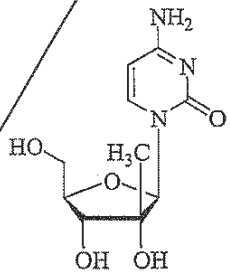
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

21. A compound of the structure:



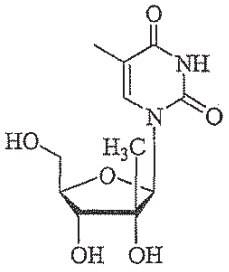
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

22. A compound of the structure:



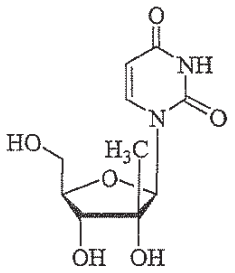
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

23. A compound of the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

24. A compound of the structure:



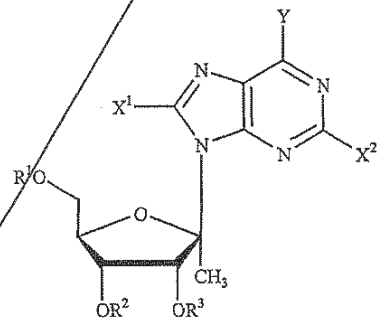
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25. The compound as described in any of the preceding claims 1-24, wherein the said compound is in the form of a dosage unit.

26. The compound as described in claim 187, wherein the dosage unit contains 10 to 1500 mg of said compound.

27. The compound as described in claim 187 or 188, wherein said dosage unit is a tablet or capsule.

28. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more

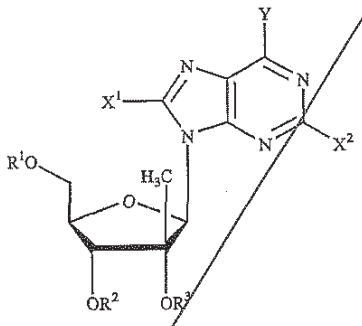
substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

29. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula II:



(II)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

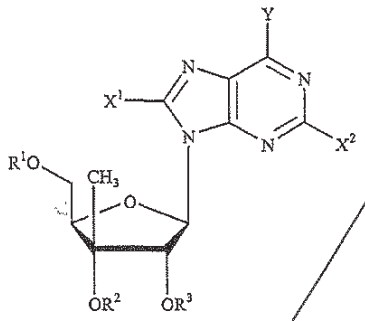
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

~~X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained,~~ branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

30. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula III:



(III)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically *acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:*

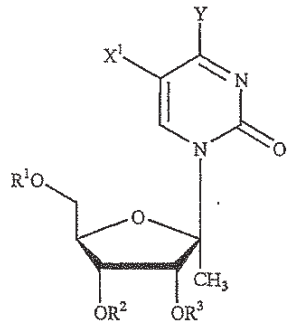
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~31. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in~~ a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula IV:



(IV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

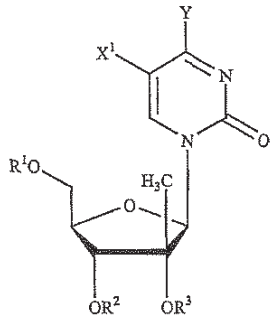
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~32. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in~~ a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula V:



(V)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

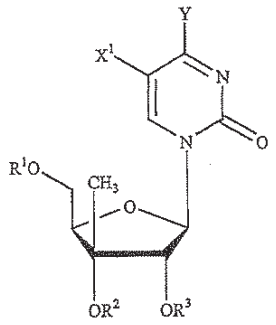
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

33. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula VI:



(VI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

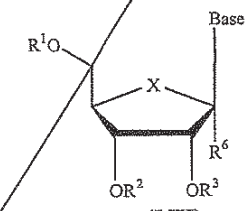
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

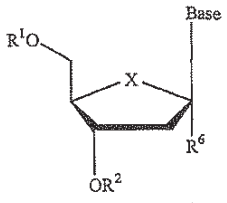
X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

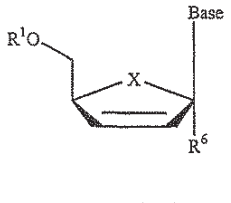
34. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formulas VII, VIII or IX:



(VII)



(VIII)



(IX)

~~or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically~~ acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

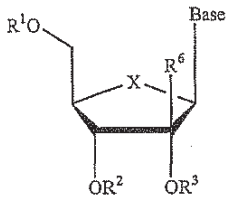
Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

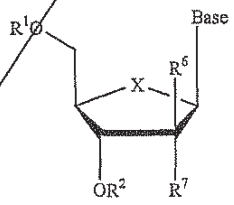
R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, 2-Br-ethyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), CF_3, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

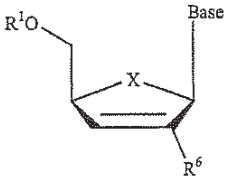
35. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula X, XI or XII:



(X)



(XI)



(XII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid,

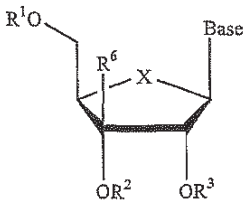
~~including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or~~ other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

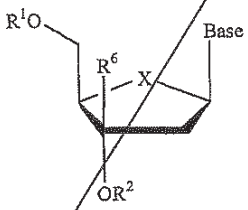
R^7 is hydrogen, OR^3, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

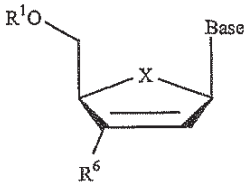
36. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula XIII, XIV or XV:



(XIII)



(XIV)



(XV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

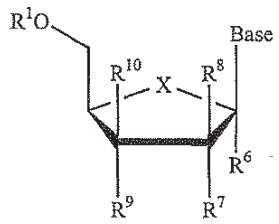
Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

~~R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl,~~ Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

37. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula XVI:



(XVI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

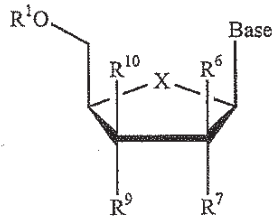
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$ or -N(acyl)$_2$;

~~R^8 and R^{10} are independently H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or~~ iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, R^7 and R^{10}, R^8 and R^9, or R^8 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

38. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula XVII:



(XVII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

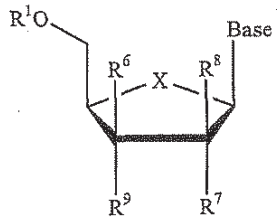
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

R^{10} is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^7 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

39. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula XVIII:



(XVIII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

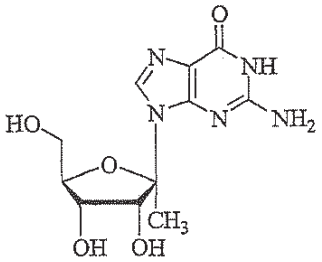
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, alkyl (including lower alkyl), alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, O-alkenyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, amino, loweralkylamino, or di(loweralkyl)amino;

R^8 is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^8 and R^9 can come together to form a bond; and

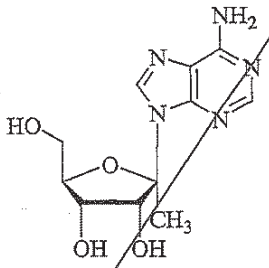
X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

~~40. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in~~ a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



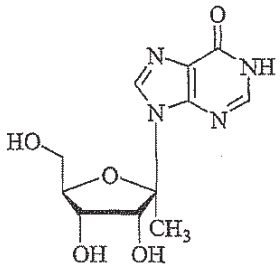
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

41. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



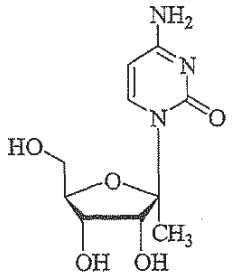
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

42. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



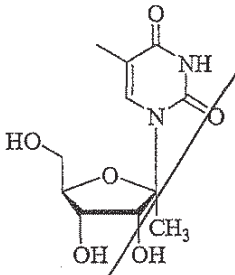
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

43. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



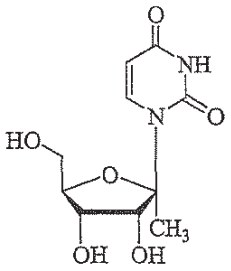
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

44. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



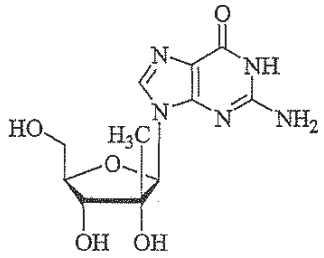
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

45. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



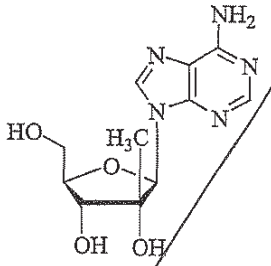
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

~~46. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in~~ a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



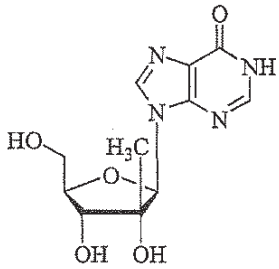
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

47. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



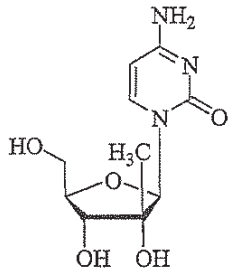
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

48. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



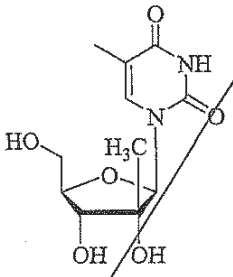
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

49. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



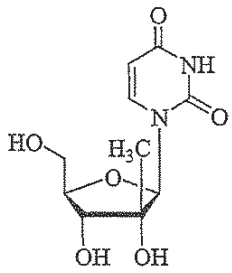
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

50. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



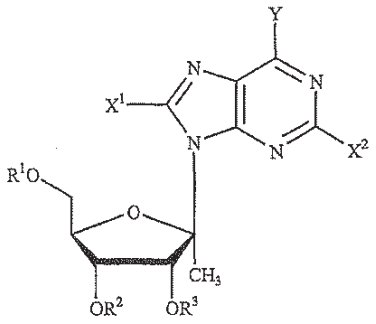
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

51. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

~~52. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in~~ a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

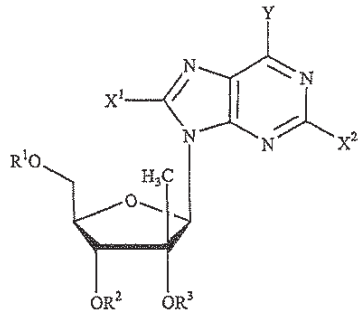
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~53. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in~~ a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula II:



(II)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

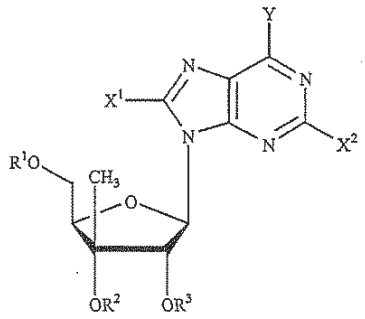
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~54. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in~~ a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula III:



(III)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

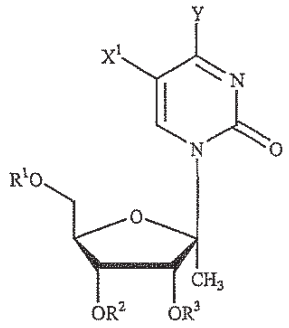
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~55. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in~~ a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula IV:



(IV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

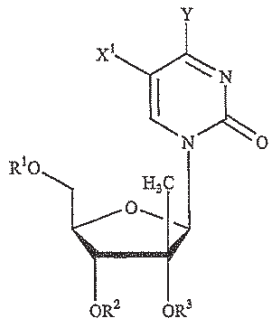
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~56. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in~~ a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula V:



(V)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

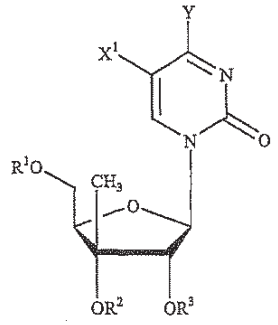
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

57. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula VI:



(VI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

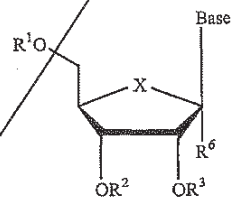
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

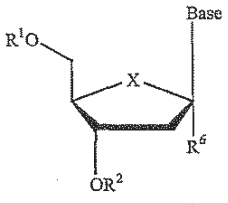
X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

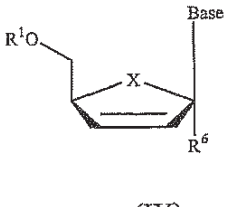
58. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula VII, VIII or IX:



(VII)



(VIII)



(IX)

~~or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other~~ antivirally effective agents, wherein:

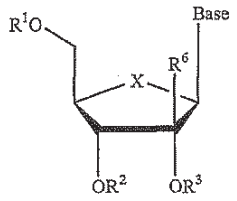
Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

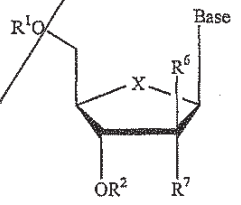
R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, 2-Br-ethyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), CF_3, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2, or CH_2.

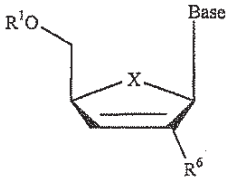
59. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula X, XI or XII:



(X)



(XI)



(XII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with

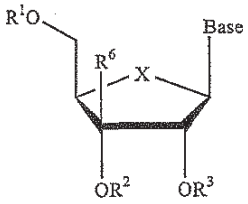
one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

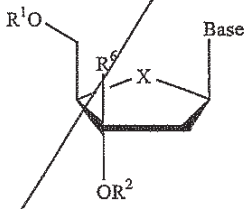
R^7 is hydrogen, OR^3, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2, or CH_2.

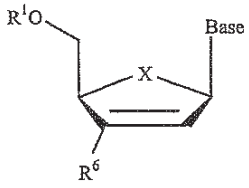
60. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula XIII, XIV or XV:



(XIII)



(XIV)



(XV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

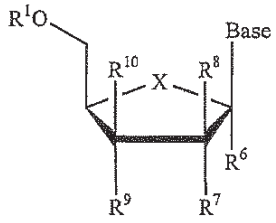
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is

~~capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or~~ phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

61. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula XVI:



(XVI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

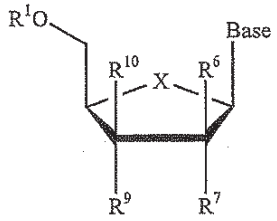
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

~~R^8 and R^{10} are independently H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine, or~~ iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, R^7 and R^{10}, R^8 and R^9, or R^8 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2, or CH_2.

62. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula XVII:



(XVII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

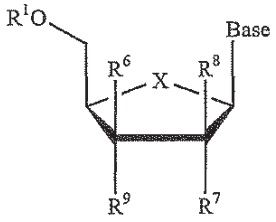
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

R^{10} is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^7 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

63. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of Formula XVIII:



(XVIII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

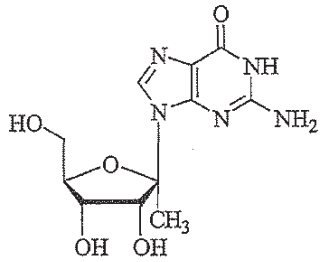
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, alkyl (including lower alkyl), alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, O-alkenyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, amino, loweralkylamino, or di(loweralkyl)amino;

R^8 is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^8 and R^9 can come together to form a bond; and

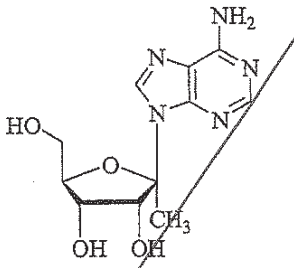
X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

64. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



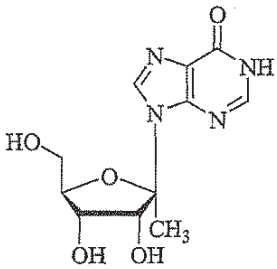
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents.

65. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



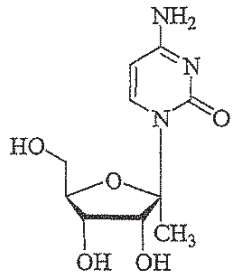
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents.

66. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



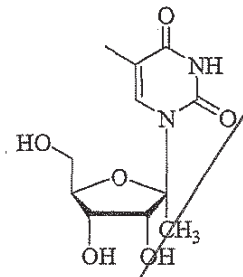
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents.

67. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



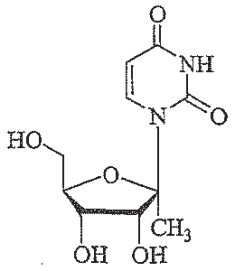
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents.

68. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



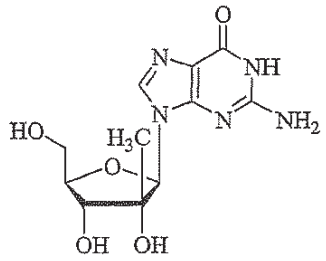
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents.

69. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



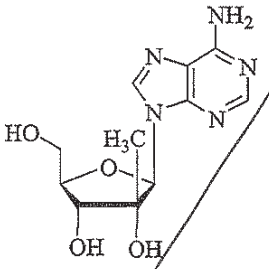
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents.

70. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



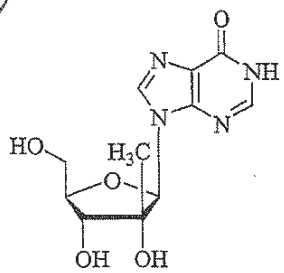
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents.

71. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



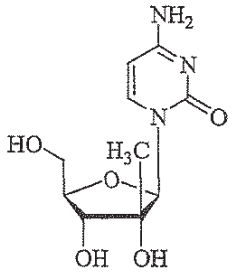
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents.

72. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



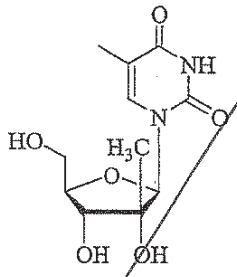
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents.

73. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



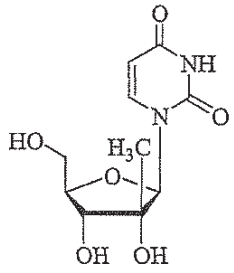
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents.

74. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents.

75. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus in a host, comprising an effective amount of a compound of structure:



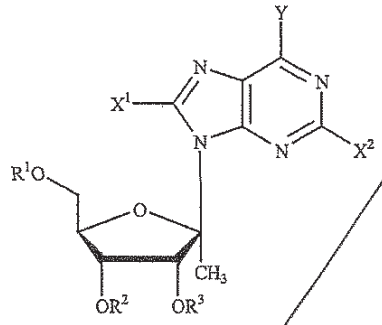
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more other antivirally effective agents.

76. The pharmaceutical composition as described in any of the preceding claims 28-75, wherein the said compound is in the form of a dosage unit.

77. The pharmaceutical composition as described in claim 76, wherein the dosage unit contains 10 to 1500 mg of said compound.

78. The pharmaceutical composition as described in claim 75 or 76, wherein said dosage unit is a tablet or capsule.

79. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

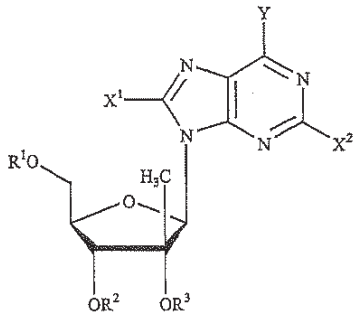
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~80. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host,~~ comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula II:



(II)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

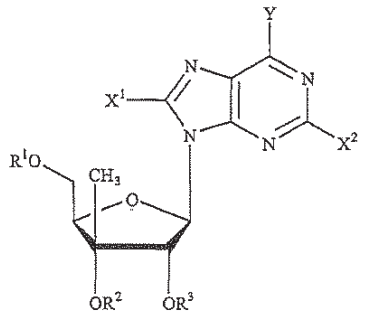
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~81. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host,~~ comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula III:



(III)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

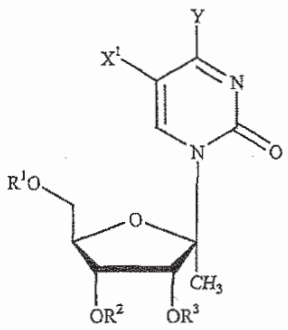
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~82. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host,~~ comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula IV:



(IV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

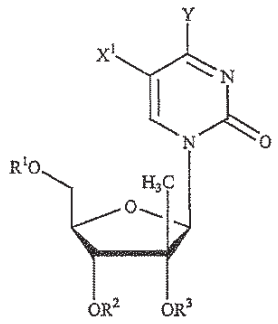
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~83. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host,~~ comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula V:



(V)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

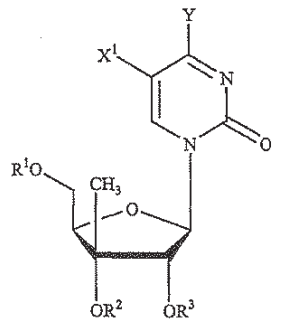
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

84. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula VI:



(VI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

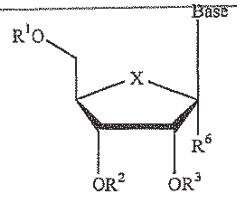
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

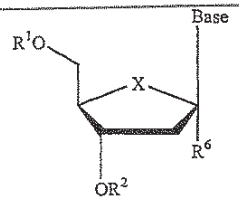
X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

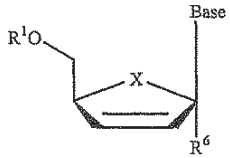
85. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula VII, VIII or IX:



(VII)



(VIII)



(IX)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

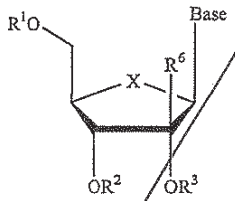
Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

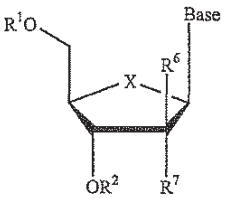
R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, 2-Br-ethyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), CF_3, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2, or CH_2.

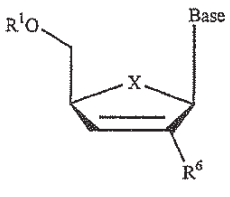
86. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula X, XI or XII:



(X)



(XI)



(XII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

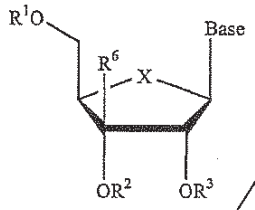
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

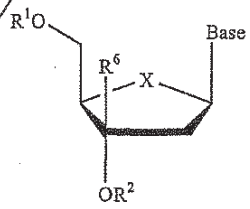
R^7 is hydrogen, OR^3, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

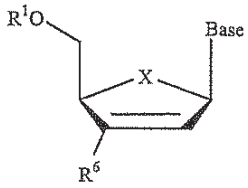
87. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula XIII, XIV or XV:



(XIII)



(XIV)



(XV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

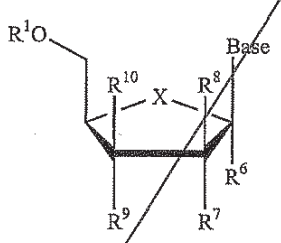
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with

one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

88. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula XVI:



(XVI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

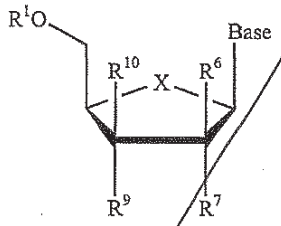
~~R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl),~~ azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

R^8 and R^{10} are independently H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, R^7 and R^{10}, R^8 and R^9, or R^8 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

89. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula XVII:



(XVII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

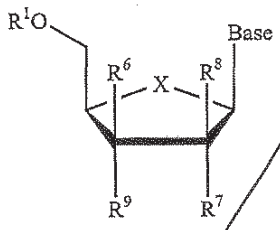
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

R^{10} is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^7 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

90. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula XVIII:



(XVIII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

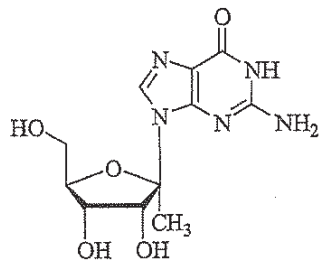
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, alkyl (including lower alkyl), alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, O-alkenyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, amino, loweralkylamino, or di(loweralkyl)amino;

~~R^8 is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;~~

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^8 and R^9 can come together to form a bond; and

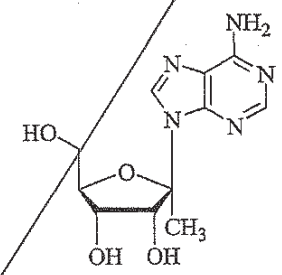
X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

91. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



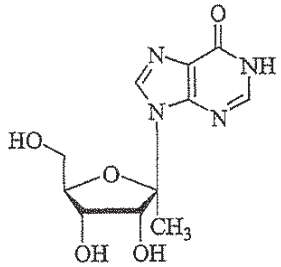
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

92. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



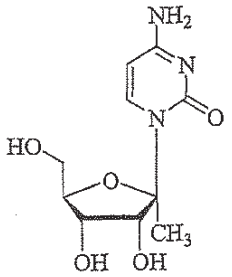
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

93. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



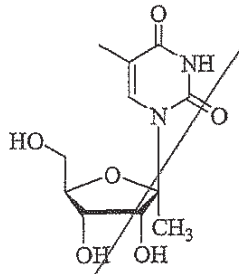
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

94. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



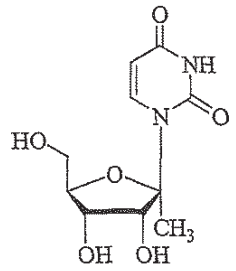
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

95. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



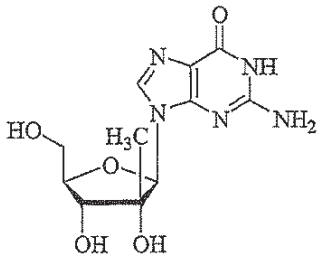
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

96. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



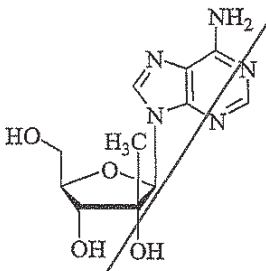
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

~~97. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host,~~ comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



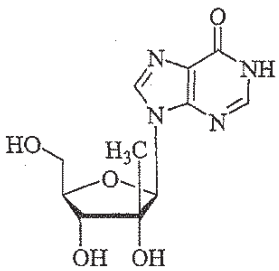
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

98. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



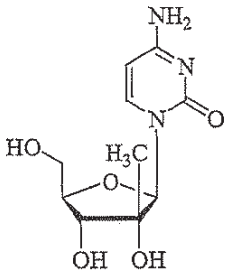
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

99. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



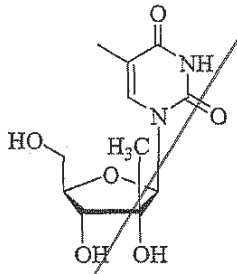
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

100. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



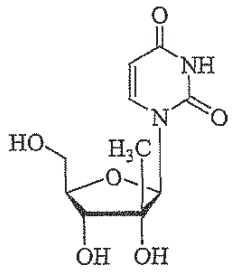
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

101. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



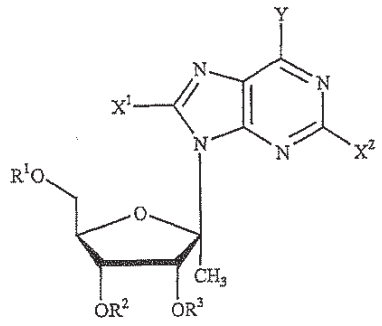
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

102. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

~~103. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host,~~ comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

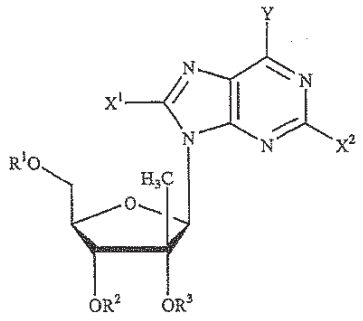
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~104. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host,~~ comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula II:



(II)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

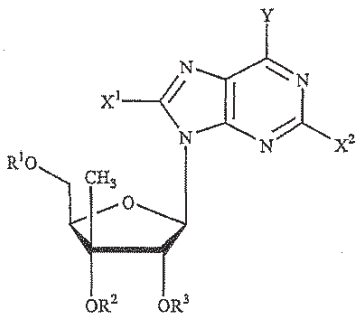
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~105. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host,~~ comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula III:



(III)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

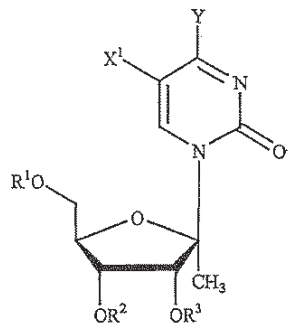
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~106. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host,~~ comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula IV:



(IV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

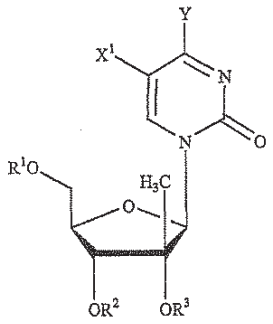
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~107. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host,~~ comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula V:



(V)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

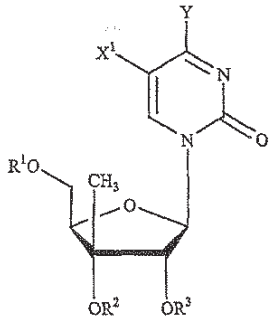
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

~~108. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host,~~ comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula VI:



(VI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

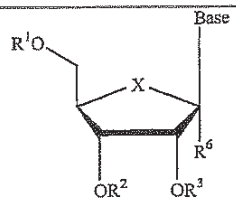
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

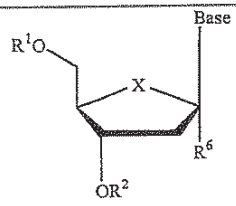
X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

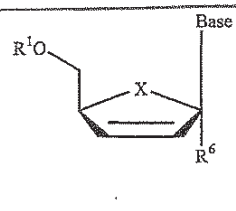
109. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula VII, VIII or IX:



(VII)



(VIII)



(IX)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

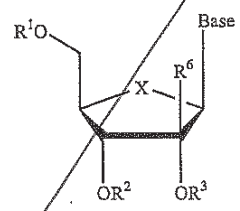
Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

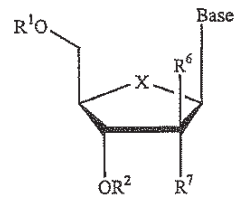
R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, 2-Br-ethyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), CF_3, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2, or CH_2.

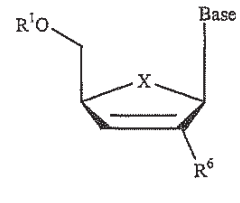
110. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula X, XI or XII:



(X)



(XI)



(XII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

~~Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;~~

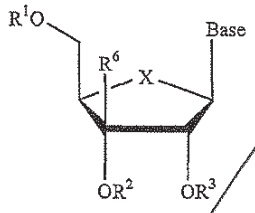
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

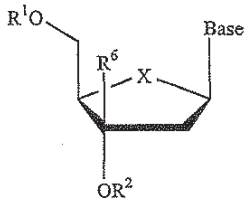
R^7 is hydrogen, OR^3, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

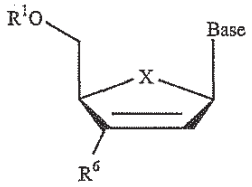
111. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula XIII, XIV or XV:



(XIII)



(XIV)



(XV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

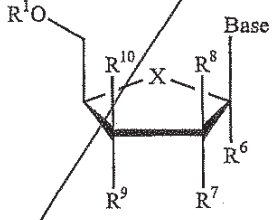
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl

~~(including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including~~ methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

112. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula XVI:



(XVI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

~~R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl,~~ Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

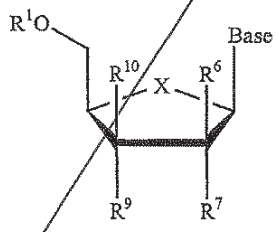
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

R^8 and R^{10} are independently H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, R^7 and R^{10}, R^8 and R^9, or R^8 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

113. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula XVII:



(XVII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

~~R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl,~~ Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

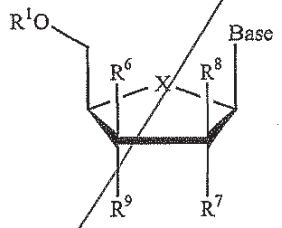
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

R^{10} is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^7 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

114. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an anti-virally effective amount of a compound of Formula XVIII:



(XVIII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more other antivirally effective agents, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -

~~O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl),~~ -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

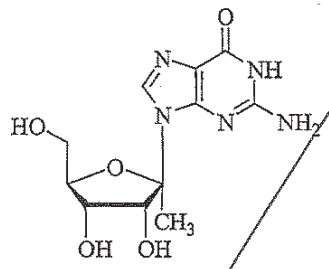
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, alkyl (including lower alkyl), alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, O-alkenyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, amino, loweralkylamino, or di(loweralkyl)amino;

R^8 is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^8 and R^9 can come together to form a bond; and

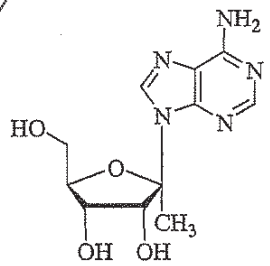
X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

115. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



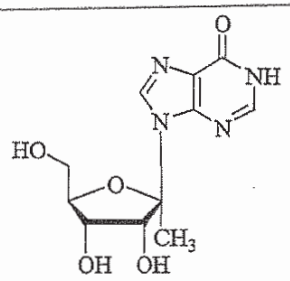
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more antivirally effective agents.

116. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



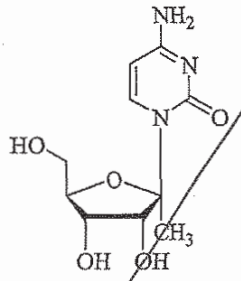
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more antivirally effective agents.

117. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



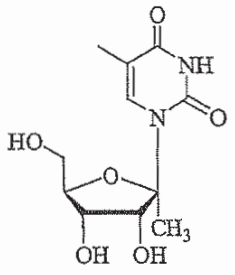
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more antivirally effective agents.

118. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



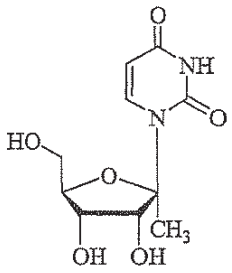
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more antivirally effective agents.

119. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



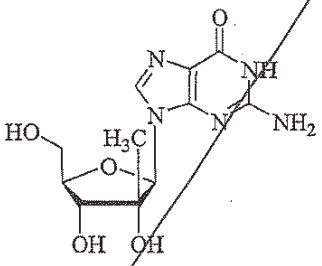
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more antivirally effective agents.

~~120. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host,~~ comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



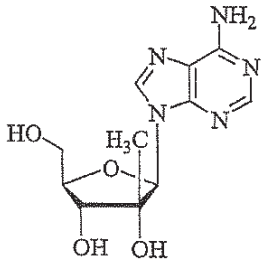
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more antivirally effective agents.

121. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



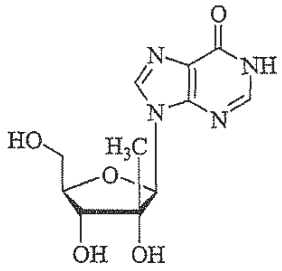
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more antivirally effective agents.

122. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



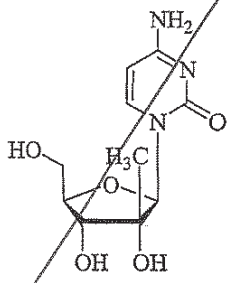
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more antivirally effective agents.

123. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



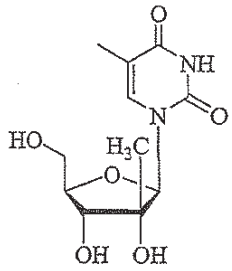
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more antivirally effective agents.

124. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



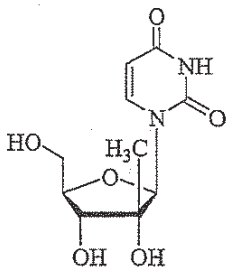
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more antivirally effective agents.

125. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more antivirally effective agents.

126. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a Hepatitis C virus infection in a host, comprising administering an antivirally effective amount of a compound of the structure:



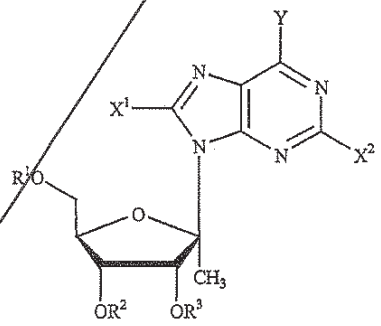
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with one or more antivirally effective agents.

127. Method of treatment as described in any of the preceding claims 79-126, wherein the said compound is in the form of a dosage unit.

128. Method of treatment as described in claim 127, wherein the dosage unit contains 10 to 1500 mg of said compound.

129. Method of treatment as described in claim 127 or 128, wherein said dosage unit is a tablet or capsule.

130. A use of a compound of Formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl

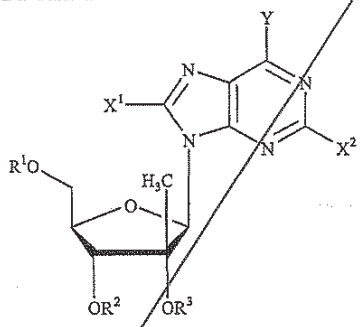
and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

131. A use of a compound of Formula II:



(II)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

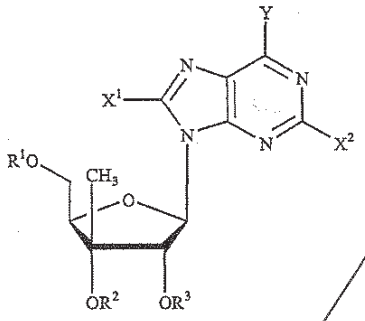
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

132. A use of a compound of Formula III:



(III)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

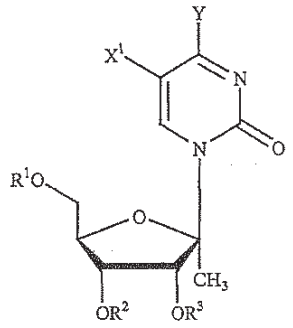
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

133. A use of a compound of Formula IV:



(IV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

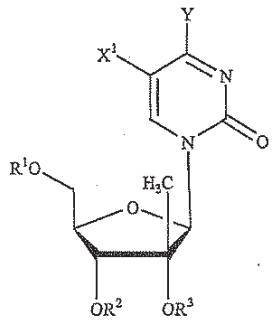
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

134. A use of a compound of Formula V:



(V)

~~or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host~~ infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

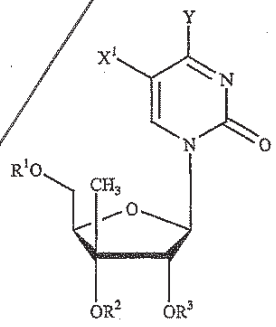
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

135. A use of a compound of Formula VI:



(VI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid,

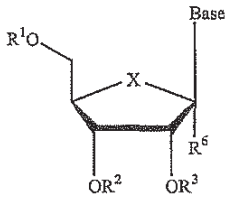
including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

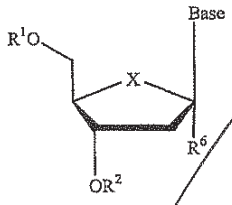
X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

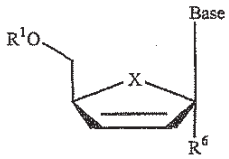
136. A use of a compound selected from Formulas VII, VIII and IX:



(VII)



(VIII)



(IX)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

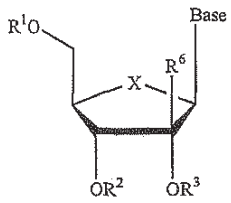
Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

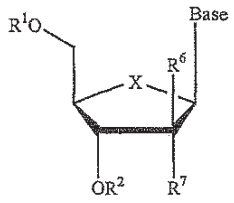
R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, 2-Br-ethyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), CF_3, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

~~X is O, S, SO_2, or CH_2.~~

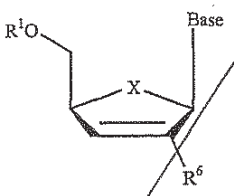
137. A use of a compound of Formulas X, XI and XII:



(X)



(XI)



(XII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

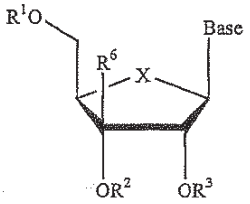
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

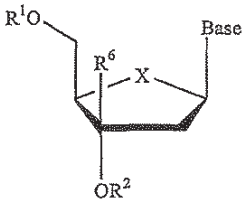
R^7 is hydrogen, OR^3, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

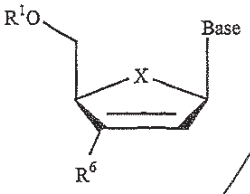
138. A use of a compound selected from Formulas XIII, XIV and XV:



(XIII)



(XIV)



(XV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

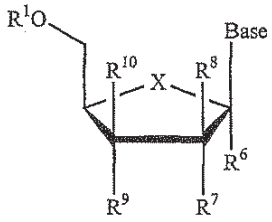
Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

139. A use of a compound of Formula XVI:



(XVI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

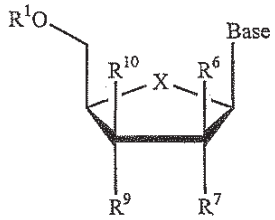
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

R^8 and R^{10} are independently H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine, or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, R^7 and R^{10}, R^8 and R^9, or R^8 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

140. A use of a compound of Formula XVII:



(XVII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

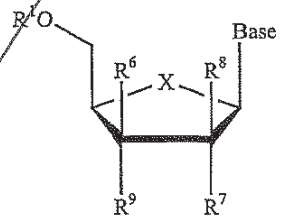
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

R^{10} is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine, or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^7 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

141. A use of a compound of Formula XVIII:



(XVIII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with

~~one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid,~~ including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

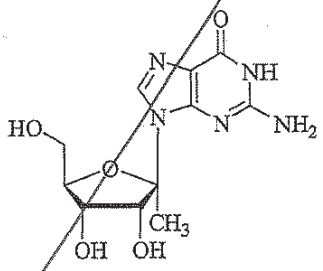
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, alkyl (including lower alkyl), alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, O-alkenyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, amino, loweralkylamino, or di(loweralkyl)amino;

R^8 is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^8 and R^9 can come together to form a bond; and

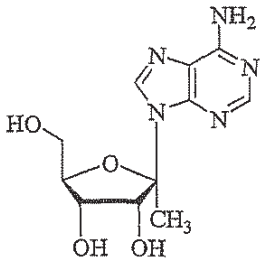
X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

142. A use of a compound of the structure:



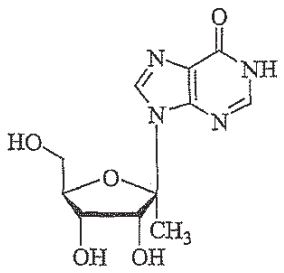
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

143. A use of a compound of the structure:



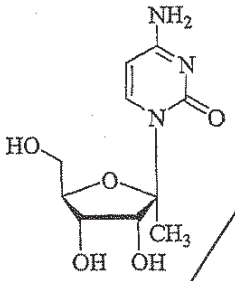
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

~~144. A use of a compound of the structure:~~



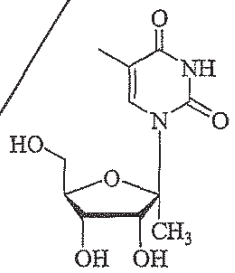
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

145. A use of a compound of the structure:



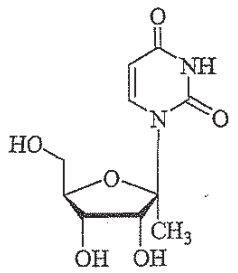
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

146. A use of a compound of the structure:



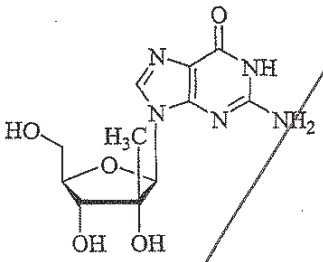
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

~~147. A use of a compound of the structure:~~



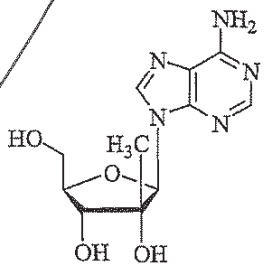
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

148. A use of a compound of the structure:



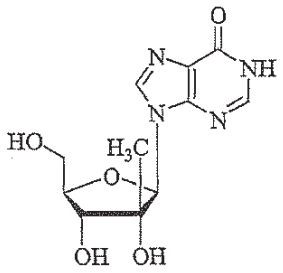
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

149. A use of a compound of the structure:



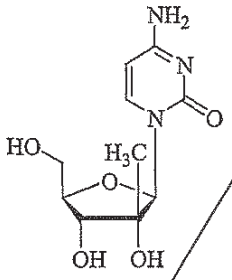
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

~~150. A use of a compound of the structure:~~



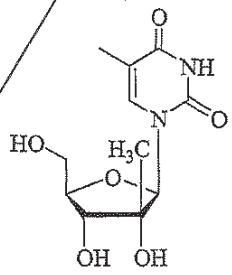
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

151. A use of a compound of the structure:



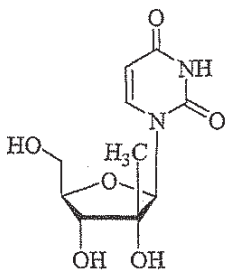
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

152. A use of a compound of the structure:



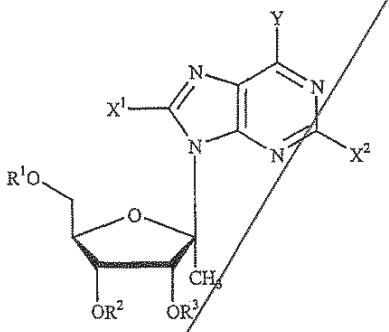
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

~~153. A use of a compound of the structure:~~



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

154. A use of a compound of Formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

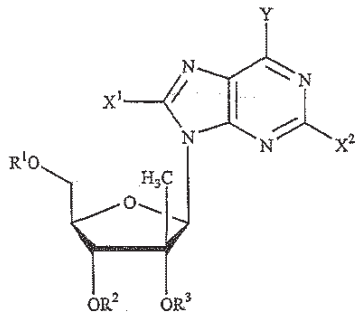
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

~~R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including~~ but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

155. A use of a compound of Formula II:



(II)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

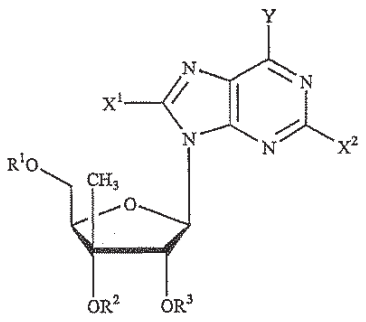
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are is independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

156. A use of a compound of Formula III:



(III)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

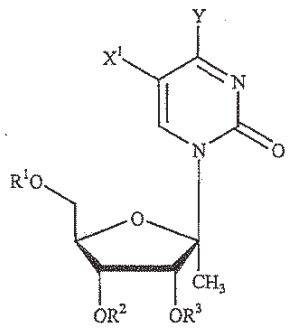
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 and X^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

157. A use of a compound of Formula IV:



(IV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

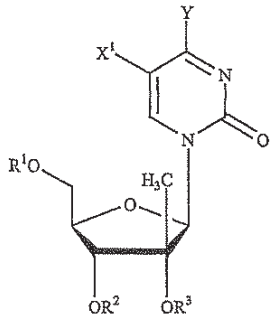
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H, phosphate (including mono-, di- or triphosphate and a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

158. A use of a compound of Formula V:



(V)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

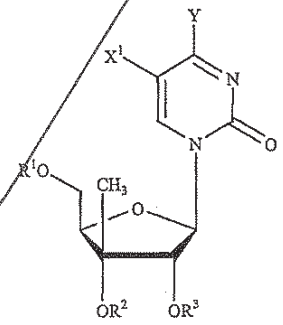
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

159. A use of a compound of Formula VI:



(VI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid,

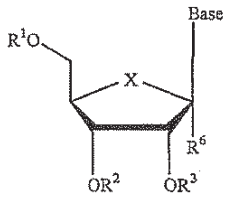
including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate; and

Y is hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4R^5 or SR^4;

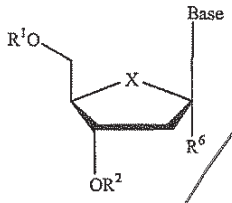
X^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, OR^4, NR^4NR^5 or SR^4; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, acyl (including lower acyl), or alkyl (including but not limited to methyl, ethyl, propyl and cyclopropyl).

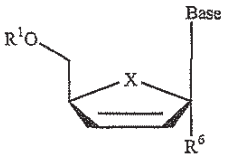
160. A use of a compound selected from Formulas VII, VIII and IX:



(VII)



(VIII)



(IX)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

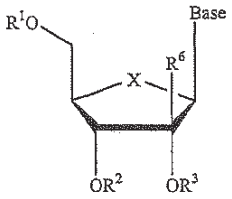
Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

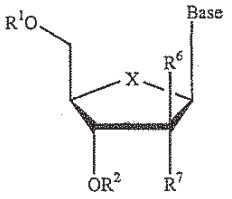
R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, 2-Br-ethyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), CF_3, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

~~X is O, S, SO_2, or CH_2.~~

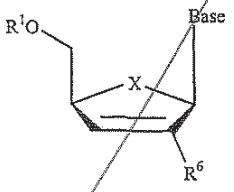
161. A use of a compound of Formulas X, XI and XII:



(X)



(XI)



(XII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

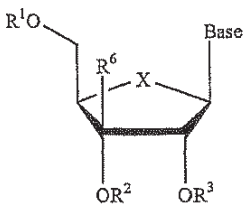
R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

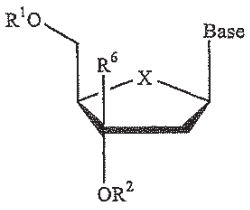
R^7 is hydrogen, OR^3, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

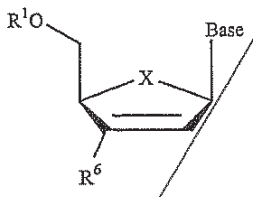
162. A use of a compound selected from Formulas XIII, XIV and XV:



(XIII)



(XIV)



(XV)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

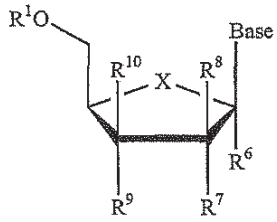
Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

163. A use of a compound of Formula XVI:



(XVI)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

~~Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;~~

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

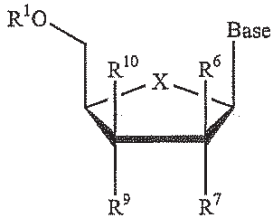
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

R^8 and R^{10} are independently H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, R^7 and R^{10}, R^8 and R^9, or R^8 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

164. A use of a compound of Formula XVII:



(XVII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid, including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

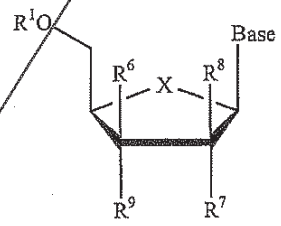
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

R^{10} is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine, or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^7 and R^{10} can come together to form a bond; and

X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

165. A use of a compound of Formula XVIII:



(XVIII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus, wherein:

Base is a purine or pyrimidine base as defined herein;

R^1 and R^2 are independently H; phosphate (including monophosphate, diphosphate, triphosphate, or a stabilized phosphate prodrug); acyl (including lower acyl); alkyl (including lower alkyl); sulfonate ester including alkyl or arylalkyl sulfonyl including methanesulfonyl and benzyl, wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted with

~~one or more substituents as described in the definition of aryl given herein; a lipid,~~ including a phospholipid; an amino acid; a carbohydrate; a peptide; a cholesterol; or other pharmaceutically acceptable leaving group which when administered *in vivo* is capable of providing a compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or phosphate;

R^6 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl (including lower alkyl), azido, cyano, alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, -C(O)O(alkyl), -C(O)O(lower alkyl), -O(acyl), -O(lower acyl), -O(alkyl), -O(lower alkyl), -O(alkenyl), chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, NO_2, NH_2, -NH(lower alkyl), -NH(acyl), -N(lower alkyl)$_2$, -N(acyl)$_2$;

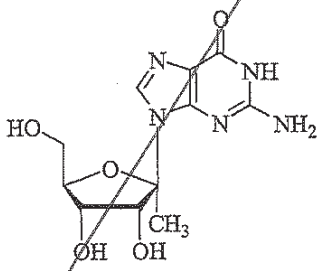
R^7 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, OR^2, alkyl (including lower alkyl), alkenyl, alkynyl, Br-vinyl, O-alkenyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, NO_2, amino, loweralkylamino, or di(loweralkyl)amino;

R^8 is H, alkyl (including lower alkyl), chlorine, bromine or iodine;

alternatively, R^7 and R^9, or R^8 and R^9 can come together to form a bond; and

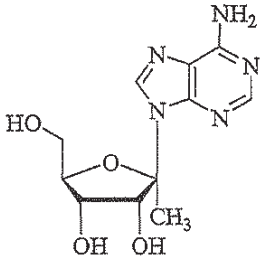
X is O, S, SO_2 or CH_2.

166. A use of a compound of the structure:



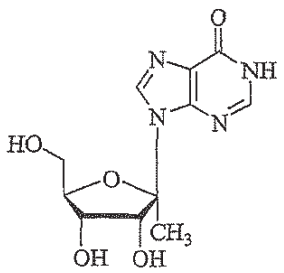
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

167. A use of a compound of the structure:



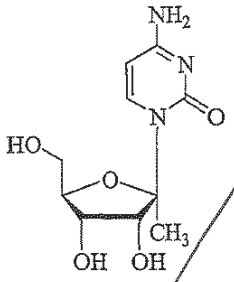
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

~~168. A use of a compound of the structure:~~



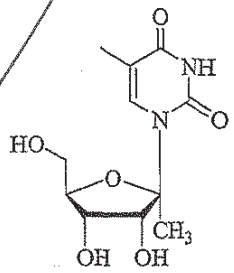
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

169. A use of a compound of the structure:



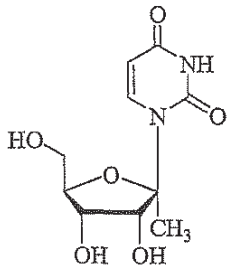
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

170. A use of a compound of the structure:



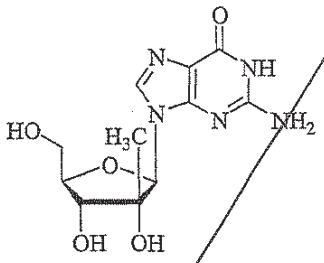
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

~~171. A use of a compound of the structure:~~



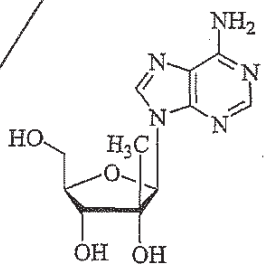
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

172. A use of a compound of the structure:



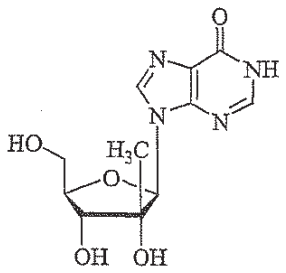
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

173. A use of a compound of the structure:



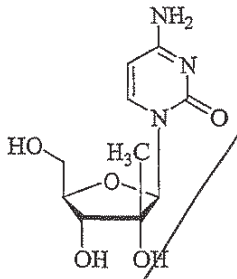
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

~~174. A use of a compound of the structure:~~



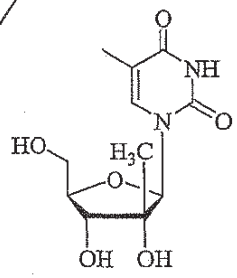
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

175. A use of a compound of the structure:



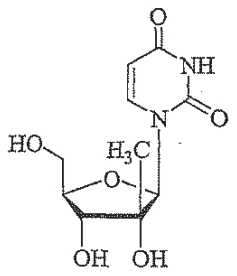
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

176. A use of a compound of the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

~~177. A use of a compound of the structure:~~



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a host infected with the Hepatitis C virus.

178. Use of the compound as described in any of the preceding claims 130-177, wherein the said compound is in the form of a dosage unit.

179. Use of the compound of claim 101, wherein the dosage unit contains 178 to 1500 mg of said compound.

180. Use of the compound of claim 178 or 179, wherein said dosage unit is a tablet or capsule.

We claim:

1. A β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl-nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

2. The deoxynucleoside of claim 1, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl-nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

3. The deoxynucleoside of claim 1, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

4. The deoxynucleoside of claim 1, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

5. The deoxynucleoside of claim 3, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl uracil nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

6. The deoxynucleoside of claim 3, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl uracil nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

7. The deoxynucleoside of claim 3, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

8. The deoxynucleoside of claim 3, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

9. The deoxynucleoside of claim 1, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl-ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

10. The deoxynucleoside of claim 9, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

11. The deoxynucleoside of claim 10, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl uracil ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

12. The deoxynucleoside of claim 10, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the deoxynucleoside of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

14. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl-nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

15. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

16. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

17. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl uracil nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

18. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl uracil nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

19. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

20. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

21. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl-ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

22. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

23. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl uracil ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

24. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

25. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the composition is formulated as a dosage unit for single dose administration.

26. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, wherein the dosage unit contains from about 50 to about 1000 mg of the deoxynucleoside.

27. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, wherein the dosage unit is a tablet or capsule.

28. Use of a deoxynucleoside in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a hepatitis C virus infection in a host, , wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-*C*-methyl-nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

29. The use of claim 28, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl-nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

30. The use of claim 28, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl-nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

31. The use of claim 28, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

32. The use of claim 31, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

33. The use of claim 31, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

34. The use of claim 31, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-*C*-methyl uracil nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

35. The use of claim 31, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl uracil nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

36. The use of claim 35, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl uracil nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

37. The use of claim 31, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

38. The use of claim 31, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

39. The use of claim 38, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

40. The use of claim 28, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl-ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

41. The use of claim 40, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

42. The use of claim 41, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl uracil ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

43. The use of claim 41, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

44. The use of claim 28, wherein the host is a human.

45. The use of claim 28, wherein the antivirally effective amount is ranging from about 0.1 to about 100 mg/kg/day.

46. The use of claim 45, wherein the antivirally effective amount is ranging from about 1 to about 50 mg/kg/day.

47. The use of claim 45, wherein the antivirally effective amount is ranging from about 1 to about 20 mg/kg/day.

48. The use of claim 28, wherein the deoxynucleoside is administered in combination or alternation with a second anti-hepatitis C agent.

49. The use of claim 48, wherein the second agent is selected from the group consisting of an interferon, ribavirin, a protease inhibitor, a thiazolidine derivative, a polymerase inhibitor, and a helicase inhibitor.

50. The use of claim 48, wherein the second agent is an interferon.

51. The use of claim 48, wherein the second agent is ribavirin.

52. Use of a deoxynucleoside in the manufacture of a medicament for inhibiting replication of a hepatitis C virus in a host, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-*C*-methyl-nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

53. The use of claim 52, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl-nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

54. The use of claim 52, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl-nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

55. The use of claim 52, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

56. The use of claim 52, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

57. The use of claim 56, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

58. The use of claim 55, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-*C*-methyl uracil nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

59. The use of claim 58, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl uracil nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

60. The use of claim 58, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl uracil nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

61. The use of claim 55, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

62. The use of claim 61, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

63. The use of claim 61, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine nucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

64. The use of claim 53, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl-ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

65. The use of claim 64, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl pyrimidine ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

66. The use of claim 65, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl uracil ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

67. The use of claim 65, wherein the deoxynucleoside is a β-D-2'-deoxy-2'-halo-2'-*C*-methyl cytosine ribonucleoside, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug thereof.

68. The use of claim 52, wherein the host is a human cell.