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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: NYCOMED IMAGING AS [NO/NO]; Nycoveien 1–2, N–0401 Oslo (NO).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: YU, Shi–Bao [CN/US]; Nycomed Inc., 466 Devon Park Drive, Wayne, PA 19087–8630 (US). SINGH, Jasbir [US/US]; Nycomed Inc., 466 Devon Park Drive, Wayne, PA 19087–8630 (US). GOLDING, Louise [GB/GB]; Frank B. Dehn & Co., 179 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4EL (GB).

(74) Agents: GOLDING, Louise et al.; Frank B. Dehn & Co., 179 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4EL (GB).

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(57) Abstract

The invention provides a complexant compound of formula (I): $R^3S(CR^1_2)_nN(R^2)_i(CR^1_2)_nX(CR^1_2)_nN(R^2)_i(CR^1_2)_nSR^3$, (wherein each n, which may be the same or different, is an integer 2, 3 or 4 (preferably 2); each i, which may be the same or different, represents 0 or 1; each R^3, which may be the same or different, is H or a thiol protecting group, preferably a protecting group; X is O, S, N, NR^4 or a substituted phosphorus (e.g. oxo substituted phosphorus), preferably S or N; each R^4, which may be the same or different, is hydrogen or an optionally substituted organic group; each R^2, which may be the same or different, is hydrogen or an optionally substituted organic group; each R^1, which may be the same or different, is hydrogen or an optionally substituted organic group, or a moiety CR^1_2 may represent a carbonyl group or two, three or four R^1S on two different carbons together with those carbons and any intervening atoms may represent an optionally substituted saturated or unsaturated homocyclic or heterocyclic ring; and preferably, at least one CR^1_2 moiety is other than CH_2 or $CH(CH_3)$) or a salt or complex thereof, wherein optionally at least one of the R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 moieties is coupled directly or indirectly to a vector moiety.