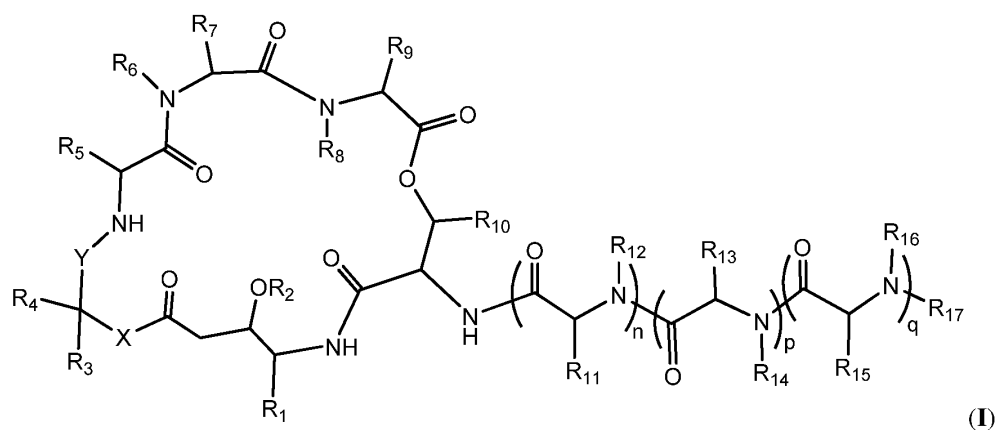


CLAIMS:

1. A compound of general formula I



wherein X is selected from O and NH;

- 5 Y is selected from CO and $-\text{COCH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CO}-$;

each n and p is independently selected from 0 and 1, and q is selected from 0, 1 and 2;

each R₁, R₃, R₅, R₉, R₁₁, and R₁₅ is independently selected from hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆ alkenyl, and substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆ alkynyl;

- 10 R₂ is selected from hydrogen, COR_a, COOR_a, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆ alkenyl, and substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆ alkynyl;

each R₄, R₈, R₁₀, R₁₂, and R₁₆ is independently selected from hydrogen and substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl;

- 15 each R₇ and R₁₃ is independently selected from hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆ alkenyl, and substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆ alkynyl; each R₆ and R₁₄ is independently selected from hydrogen and substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl; or R₆ and R₇ and/or R₁₃ and R₁₄ together with the corresponding N atom and C atom to which they are attached may form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group;

- 20 R₁₇ is selected from hydrogen, COR_a, COOR_a, CONHR_b, COSR_c, (C=NR_b)OR_a, (C=NR_b)NHR_b, (C=NR_b)SR_c, (C=S)OR_a, (C=S)NHR_b, (C=S)SR_c, SO₂R_c, SO₃R_c, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₁₂ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₁₂ alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₁₂ alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, and substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, with the proviso that when n, p, and q are 0 then R₁₇ is not hydrogen; and

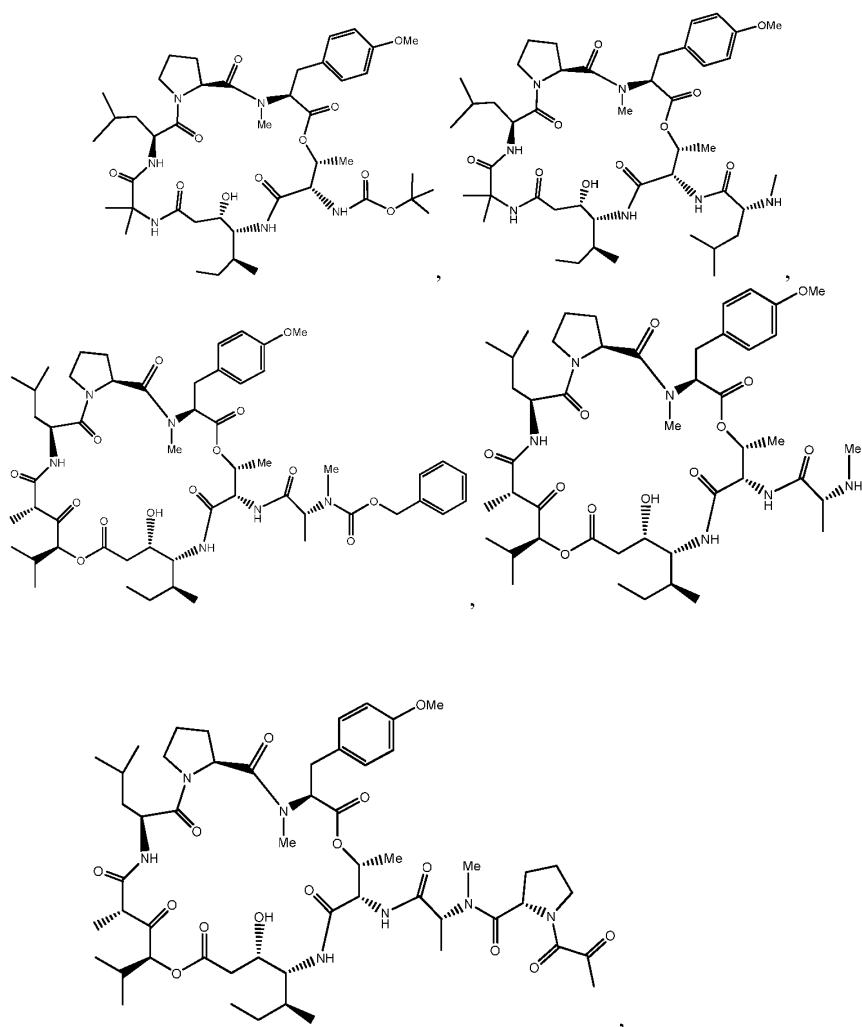
- 25 each R_a, R_b, and R_c is independently selected from hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₁₂ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₁₂ alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₁₂ alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, and substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group;

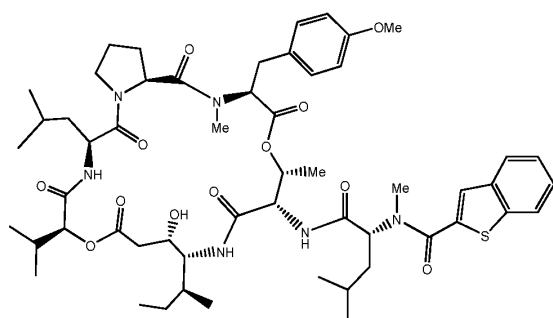
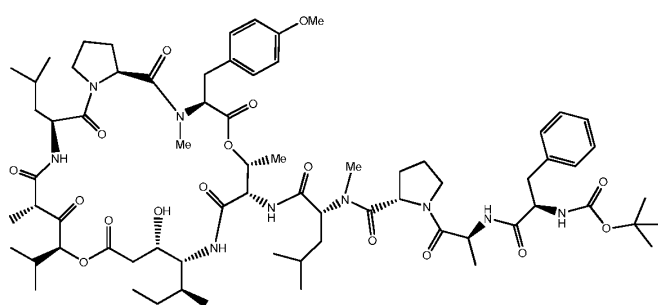
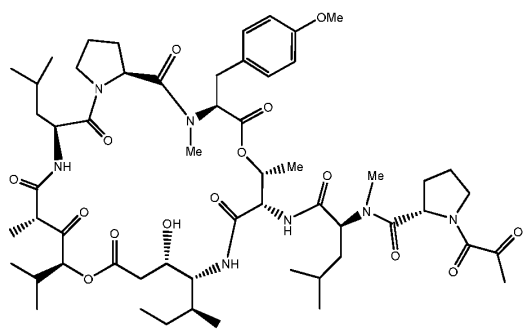
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof, for use in the treatment of an autoimmune condition.

2. A compound of claim 1, wherein the autoimmune condition is caused by the activation of one or more Toll-like receptor (TLR).
3. A compound of claim 1, wherein the autoimmune condition is characterised by increased signalling through at least one or more Toll-like receptor (TLR).
- 5 4. A compound of claim 1, wherein the autoimmune condition is characterised by increased levels of at least one pro-inflammatory cytokines.
5. A compound of any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the autoimmune condition is selected from systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), rheumatoid arthritis (RA), multiple sclerosis (MS), scleroderma, Sjögren's syndrome, autoimmune myocarditis, type 1 diabetes, and atherosclerosis.
- 10 6. A compound of claim 5, wherein the autoimmune condition is RA.
7. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein R₃ and R₄ are independently selected from hydrogen and substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl; preferably wherein R₃ is isopropyl and R₄ is hydrogen.
8. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 7, of general formula **II**, wherein R₃ and R₄ are methyl.
- 15 9. A compound according to any preceding claim, wherein R₁₁ is selected from hydrogen and substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl; preferably wherein R₁₁ is methyl or isobutyl.
10. A compound according to any preceding claim, of general formula **III** wherein R₁₁ is methyl and n=1.
- 20 11. A compound according to any preceding claim, wherein R₁, R₅, R₉, and R₁₅ are independently selected from hydrogen and substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl; preferably wherein R₁ is selected from sec-butyl and isopropyl, R₅ is isobutyl, R₉ is p-methoxybenzyl, and R₁₅ is selected from methyl and benzyl.
12. A compound according to any preceding claim, wherein R₈, R₁₀, R₁₂, and R₁₆ are independently selected from hydrogen and substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl; preferably wherein R₈, R₁₀ and R₁₂ are methyl, and R₁₆ is hydrogen.
- 25 13. A compound according to any preceding claim, wherein R₆ and R₁₄ are independently selected from hydrogen and substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl; preferably wherein R₆ is selected from hydrogen and methyl, and R₁₄ is hydrogen.
- 30 14. A compound according to any preceding claim, wherein R₇ and R₁₃ are independently selected from hydrogen and substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl; preferably wherein R₇ is methyl and R₁₃ is selected from hydrogen, methyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, and 3-amino-3-oxopropyl.
15. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 12, wherein R₆ and R₇ and/or R₁₃ and R₁₄ together with the corresponding N atom and C atom to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted pyrrolidine group.
- 35 16. A compound according to any preceding claim, wherein R₂ is selected from hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl, and COR_a, and wherein R_a is a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl; preferably wherein R₂ is hydrogen.
17. A compound according to any preceding claim, wherein R₁₇ is selected from hydrogen,

COR_a, COOR_a, CONHR_b, (C=S)NHR_b, and SO₂R_c, and wherein each R_a, R_b, and R_c is independently selected from substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆ alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆ alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, and substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group; preferably wherein R₁₇ is selected from hydrogen, COObenzyl, CObenzo[b]thiophen-2-yl, SO₂(p-methylphenyl), COCOCH₃ and COOC(CH₃)₃.

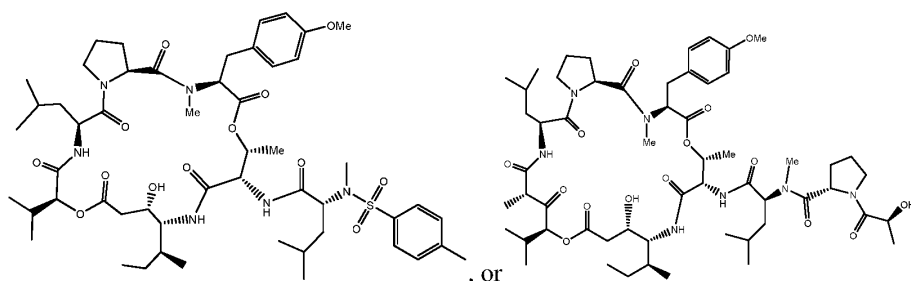
18. A compound according to any preceding claim, wherein X is NH.
19. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 17, wherein X is O.
20. A compound according to any preceding claim wherein Y is CO.
21. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 19, wherein Y is -COCH(CH₃)CO-.
22. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6, having the following structure:





5

, and



, or

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof.

23. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the compound is PLD, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof.
24. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the compound is didemninB, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof.
- 5 25. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the compound is PLD.
26. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the compound is Didemnin B.
- 10 27. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as defined in any of claims 1 to 26, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, for use in the treatment of an autoimmune condition.
28. Use of a compound as defined in to any of claims 1 to 26, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of an autoimmune condition.
- 15 29. A method of treating an autoimmune condition, wherein the method comprises administering to an individual in need thereof, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in any of claims 1 to 26, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.
30. A kit comprising the compound as defined in any of claims 1 to 26, together with instructions for treating an autoimmune condition.