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(54) Title: BIOACTIVATED DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING CONTRAST AGENTS

(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to improved diagnostic agents for Magnetic Resonance Imaging and optical imaging. In particular, this invention relates to MRI and optical imaging agents that allow for the sensitive detection of a specific bioactivity within a tissue. These agents are prodrug contrast agents which are bioactivated in vivo in the presence of the specific bioactivity. This invention also relates to pharmaceutical compositions comprising these agents and to methods of using the agents and compositions comprising the agents.