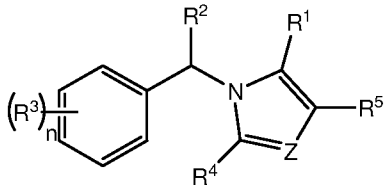
CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A compound according to formula (I)



(I)

wherein,

R^1 is $L^1C(O)OL^2$-$[C(R^7R^8)]_p$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(O)OT$;

R^2 is R^1, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkyl, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, wherein the backbone of C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms;

each R_3 is independently halogen, CN, CF_3, SR^2, SOR^2, SO_2R^2, OR^2, CO_2H, CO_2R^2, $N(R^2)_2$, NHR^2, NO_2, or R^2;

Z is N or CR^6;

R^4, R^5, and R^6 are independently hydrogen, halogen, CN, CF_3, SR^2, SOR^2, SO_2R^2, OR^2, CO_2H, CO_2R^2, $N(R^2)_2$, NHR^2, NO_2, or R^2;

R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkyl, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, or R^7 and R^8 together with the carbon they are attached to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered cyclyl or heterocyclyl;

R^9 and R^{10} are independently hydrogen, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkyl, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, optionally substituted C_4-C_8 cyclyl, optionally substituted C_3-C_8 heterocyclyl, or R^9 and R^{10} together with the carbon they are attached to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered cyclyl or heterocyclyl, or

R^7 and R^9 together with the carbons they are attached to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered cyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl or heteroaryl;

L^1 and L^2 are independently a bond, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkenylene, or optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkynylene, wherein the backbone of C_1-C_{10} alkylene, C_2-C_{10} alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10} alkynylene optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms;

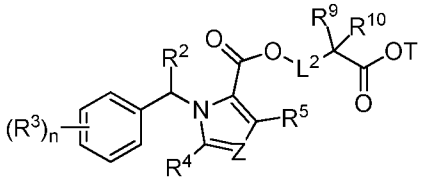
T is H, a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, optionally substituted cyclyl, optionally substituted heterocylcyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, or PEG, wherein the backbone of C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, C_2-C_{10} alkynyl optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms;

n is an integer from 0-5; and

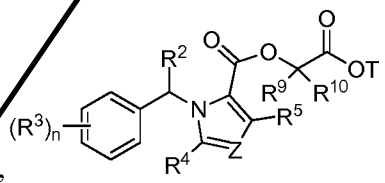
p is 0 or 1, provided that at least one of R^7, R^8, R^9 and R^{10} is not hydrogen,

or a salt, solvate, or ester thereof.

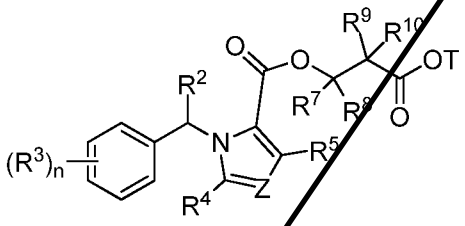
2. The compound of claim 1, having a structure of formula (IA), (IB) or (IC):


(IA)

,


(IB)

, or


(IC)

.

3. The compound of claim 1 or 2, wherein n is 0 or 1.

4. The compound of any of claims 1-3, wherein p is 0 or 1.

5. The compound of any of claims 1-4, wherein L^1 is a bond, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10}alkylene, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10}alkynylene; wherein the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms.

6. The compound of any of claims 1-5, wherein L^2 is a bond, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10}alkylene, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10}alkynylene; wherein

the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms.

7. The compound of any of claims 1-6, wherein T is hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, or optionally substituted cyclyl or heterocyclyl.

8. The compound of claim 7, wherein T is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl, 2-hydroxylpropyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, oxetanyl, morpholinyl, and oxazolindinyl.

9. The compound of any of claims 1-8, wherein Z is N.

10. The compound of any of claims 1-8, wherein Z is CR^6.

11. The compound of claim 10, wherein at least one of R^4 and R^6 is Br or CN.

12. The compound of claim 10 or 11, wherein R^6 is hydrogen.

13. The compound of any of claims 1-12, wherein R^4 is hydrogen.

14. The compound of any of claims 1-13, wherein R^5 is hydrogen.

15. The compound of any of claims 1-14, wherein R^2 is optionally substituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl.

16. The compound of claim 15, wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, and 2,2-dimethylbutyl.

17. The compound of any of claims 1-16, wherein the carbon to which R^2 is attached to has the R configuration.

18. The compound of any of claims 1-17, wherein R^9 and R^{10} are independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, optionally substituted C_4-C_6cyclyl or optionally substituted C_4-C_6heterocyclyl; or R^9 and R^{10} together with the carbon they are attached to form a 3-, 4-, 5, or 6- membered cyclyl.

19. The compound any of claims 1-18, wherein R^9 and R^{10} are independently optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl.

20. The compound of any of claims 1-19, wherein R^9 and R^{10} are the same.

21. The compound of any of claims 1-18, wherein one of R^9 and R^{10} is optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, optionally substituted C_4-C_6cyclyl or optionally substituted C_4-C_6heterocyclyl, and the other is hydrogen.

22. The compound of any of claims 1-21, wherein R^9 and R^{10} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-

dimethylbutyl, phenyl, pyridyl, thiophene, furanyl, pyrazolyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexenyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentenyl, and piperdinyl.

23. The compound of any of claims 1-19, 21 or 22, wherein the carbon to which R^9 and R^{10} are attached has the R configuration.

24. The compound of any of claims 1-19, 21 or 22, wherein the carbon to which R^9 and R^{10} are attached has the S configuration.

25. The compound of any of claims 1-24, wherein R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, optionally substituted C_4-C_6cyclyl or optionally substituted C_4-C_6heterocyclyl; or R^7 and R^8 together with the carbon they are attached to form a 3-, 4-, 5, or 6- membered cyclyl.

26. The compound of any of claims 1-25, wherein R^7 and R^8 are independently optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl.

27. The compound of any of claims 1-26, wherein R^7 and R^8 are the same.

28. The compound of any of claims 1-25, wherein one of R^7 and R^8 is optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, optionally substituted C_4-C_6cyclyl or optionally substituted C_4-C_6heterocyclyl, and the other is hydrogen.

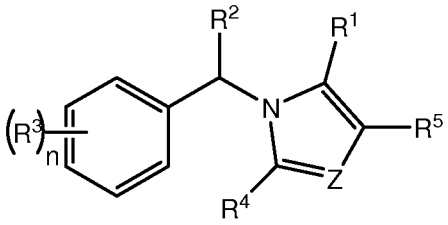
29. The compound of any of claims 1-28, wherein R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl, phenyl, pyridyl, thiophene, furanyl, pyrazolyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexenyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentenyl, and piperdinyl.

30. The compound of any of claims 1-27, 28 or 29, wherein the carbon to which R^7 and R^8 are attached has the R configuration.

31. The compound of any of claims 1-27, 28 or 29, wherein the carbon to which R^7 and R^8 are attached has the S configuration.

32. The compound of any of claims 1-31, wherein R^7 and R^9 together with the carbons they are attached to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered cyclyl or heterocyclyl.

33. A compound according to formula (I)



FORMULA (I)

wherein,

R^1 is $L^1C(O)OL^2$-$[C(R^7R^8)]_p$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-C(O)OT;

R^2 is R^1 or a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, wherein backbone of C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl can contain one or more heteroatoms;

each R_3 is independently halogen, CN, CF_3, SR^2, SOR^2, SO_2R^2, OR^2, CO_2H, CO_2R^2, $N(R^2)_2$, NHR^2, NO_2, or R^2;

Z is N or CR^5;

R^4, R^5, and R^6 are independently hydrogen, halogen, CN, CF_3, SR^2, SOR^2, SO_2R^2, OR^2, CO_2H, CO_2R^2, $N(R^2)_2$, NHR^2, NO_2, or R^2;

R^7, R^8, R^9 and R^{10} are independently hydrogen, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, or R^7 and R^8 together with the carbon they are attached to form a 3-8 membered cyclyl or heterocyclyl, or R^9 and R^{10} together with the carbon they are attached to form a 3-8 membered cyclyl or heterocyclyl, provided that at least one of R^7, R^8, R^9 and R^{10} is not hydrogen, and wherein the backbone of the C_1-C_{20} alkylene, C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl can contain one or more heteroatoms; ;

L^1 and L^2 are independently a bond, a substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkylene, C_2-C_{10} alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10} alkynylene, wherein backbone of alkylene can contain one or more heteroatoms;

T is H, a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, optionally substituted cyclyl, optionally substituted heterocylcyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, or PEG, wherein the backbone of C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, C_2-C_{10} alkynyl can contain one or more heteroatoms;.

n is an integer from 0-5; and

p is 0 or 1.

34. The compound of claim 33, wherein said compound is present in the form of a pure enantiomer.

35. The compound of any of claims 33-34, wherein the carbon to which R^2 is attached has the R configuration.

36. The compound of any of claims 33-35, wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, and 2,2-dimethylbutyl.

37. The compound of any of claims 33-36, wherein T is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl, and 2-hydroxylpropyl.

38. The compound of any of claims 33-37, wherein n is 0 or 1.

39. The compound of any of claims 33-38, wherein L^1 is a bond.

40. The compound of any of claims 33-39, wherein L^2 is a bond.

41. The compound of any of claims 33-40, wherein one of R^9 or R^{10} is C_1-C_{10} alkyl and the other is hydrogen.

42. The compound of any of claims 33-40, wherein both of R^9 and R^{10} are independently C_1-C_{10} alkyl.

43. The compound of claim 41 or 42, wherein the carbon to which R^9 and R^{10} are attached has the R configuration.

44. The compound of claim 41 or 42, wherein the carbon to which R^9 and R^{10} are attached has the S configuration.

45. The compound of any of claims 41-44, wherein R^9 and R^{10} are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl and any combinations thereof.

46. The compound of any of claims 42-45, wherein R^9 and R^{10} are both same or together with the carbon they are attached to form a 3 membered ring.

47. The compound of any of claims 33-46, wherein p is 0.

48. The compound of any of claims 33-46, wherein one of R^7 and R^8 is C_1-C_{10} alkyl and the other is hydrogen.

49. The compound of any of claims 33-46, wherein both of R^7 and R^8 are independently C_1-C_{10} alkyl.

50. The compound of claim 48 or 49, wherein the carbon to which R^7 and R^8 are attached has the R configuration.

51. The compound of claim 48 or 49, wherein the carbon to which R^7 and R^8 are attached has the S configuration.

52. The compound of any of claims 48-51, wherein R^7 and R^8 are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl and any combinations thereof.

53. The compound of any of claims 48-52, wherein R^7 and R^7 are both the same or together with the carbon they are attached to form a 3 membered ring.

54. The compound of any of claims 33-53, wherein R^5 is hydrogen.

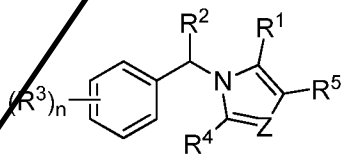
55. The compound of any of claims 33-54, wherein at least one of R^4 and R^6 is hydrogen.

56. The compound of any of claims 33-55, wherein at least one of R^4 and R^6 is Br or CN.

57. The compound of claim 56, wherein R^4 is H and R^6 is Br or CN.

58. The compound of claim 56, wherein R^4 is Br or CN.

59. A compound having a structure of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

R^1 is $L^1C(O)OL^2$-$[C(R^7R^8)]_p$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-C(O)OT;

R^2 is R^1 or a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10}alkynyl, wherein the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkyl, C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10}alkynyl optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms;

each R^3 is independently halogen, CN, CF_3, SR^2, SOR^2, SO_2R^2, OR^2, CO_2H, CO_2R^2, $N(R^2)_2$, NHR^2, NO_2, or R^2;

Z is N or CR^6;

R^4, R^5, and R^6 are independently hydrogen, halogen, CN, CF_3, SR^2, SOR^2, SO_2R^2, OR^2, CO_2H, CO_2R^2, $N(R^2)_2$, NHR^2, NO_2, or R^2;

R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10}alkynyl, or R^7 and R^8 taken

together form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

R^9 and R^{10} are independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_4-C_8 cyclyl or optionally substituted C_3-C_8heterocyclyl, with the proviso that at least one of R^9, and R^{10} is not hydrogen;

or R^7 and R^9 taken together form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

L^1 and L^2 are independently a bond, a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene; wherein the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms;

T is hydrogen, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, C_2-C_{10}alkynyl, optionally substituted cyclyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, or PEG, wherein the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkyl, C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10}alkynyl optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms;

each n is an integer of 0-5; and

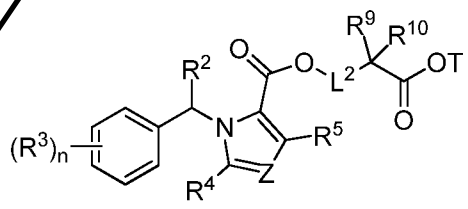
each p is 0 or 1,

or a salt, solvate, or ester thereof.

60. The compound of claim 59, wherein L^1 is a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene; wherein the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms.

61. The compound of claim 59 or 60, wherein L^2 is a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene; wherein the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms.

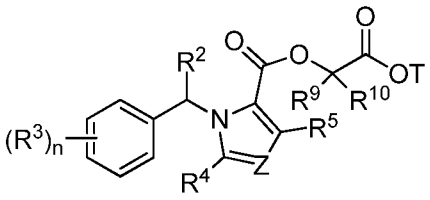
62. The compound of claim 59 or 61 having a structure of formula (IA):



(IA)

.

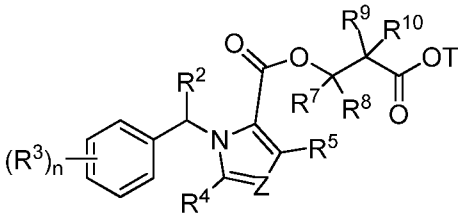
63. The compound of claim 59 having a structure of formula (IB):



(IB)

.

64. The compound of claim 59 having a structure of formula (IC):



(IC)

.

65. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 64, wherein Z is N.

66. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 64, wherein Z is CR^6.

67. The compound of claim 66, wherein R^6 is H.

68. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 67, wherein R^9 is optionally substituted C_4-C_6cyclyl and R^{10} is hydrogen.

69. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 67, wherein R^9 is optionally substituted C_4-C_6heterocyclyl and R^{10} is hydrogen.

70. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 69, wherein R^7 and R^9 together form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered cyclyl or heterocyclyl.

71. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 70, wherein R^4 is hydrogen.

72. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 71, wherein R^5 is hydrogen.

73. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 72, wherein n is 0.

74. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 72, wherein n is 1.

75. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 74, wherein R^2 is optionally substituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl.

76. The compound of claim 75, wherein R^2 is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, sec-butyl, iso-butyl, tert-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, or 2,2-dimethylbutyl.

77. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 76, wherein the carbon to which R^2 is attached is in the R configuration.

78. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 77, wherein T is optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl.

79. The compound of claim 78, wherein T is methyl or ethyl.

80. The compound of any one of claims 59 to 77, wherein T is optionally substituted cyclyl or heterocyclyl.

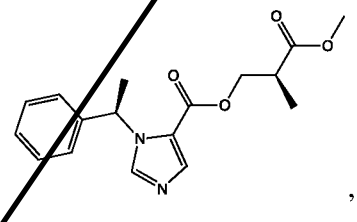
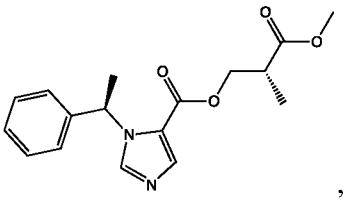
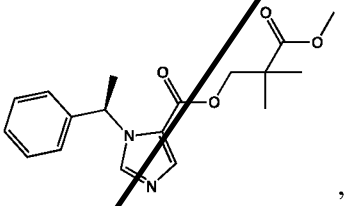
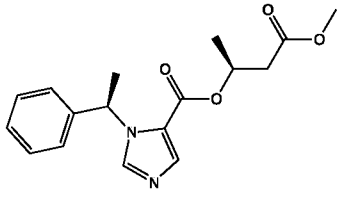
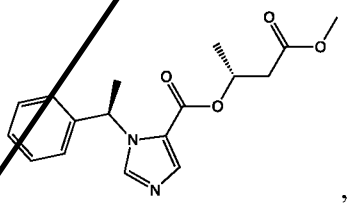
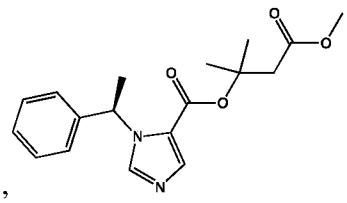
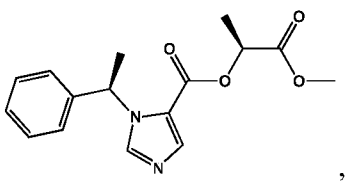
81. The compound of claim 80, wherein T is cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, oxetanyl, morpholinyl, or oxazolindinyl.

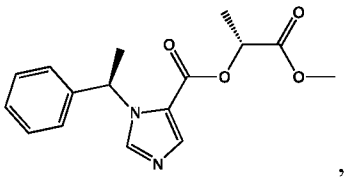
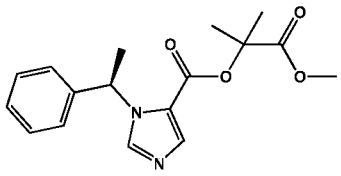
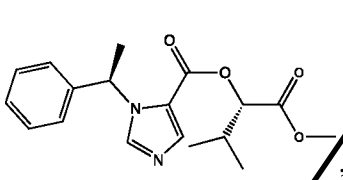
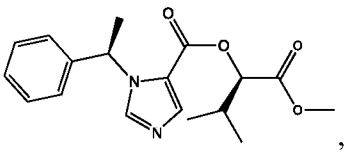
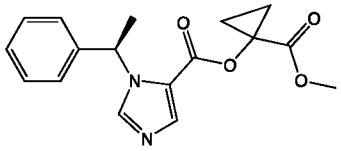
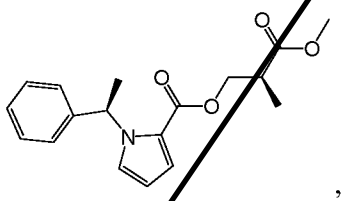
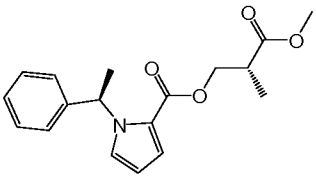
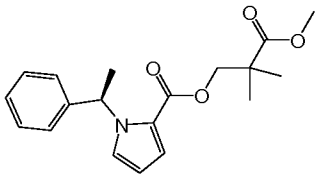
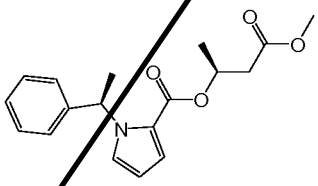
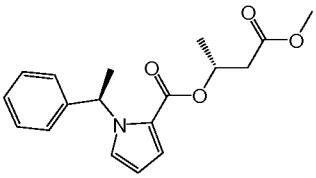
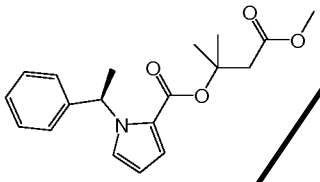
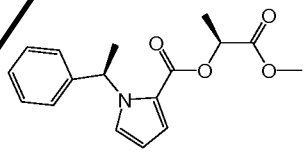
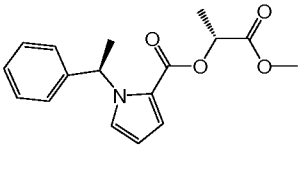
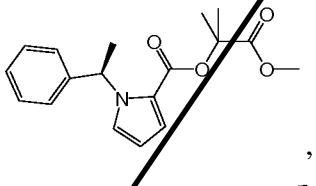
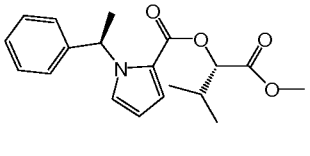
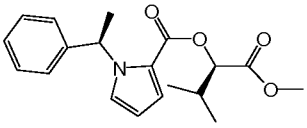
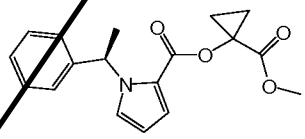
82. The compound of any of claims 1-32, wherein the compound is in the form of a single diastereomer

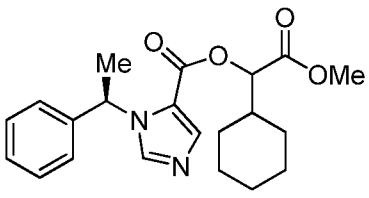
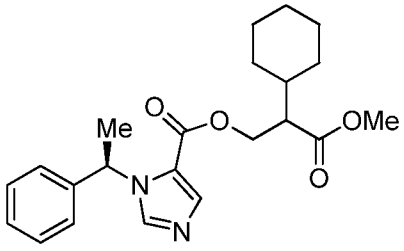
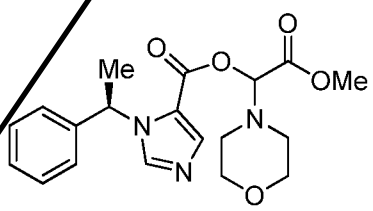
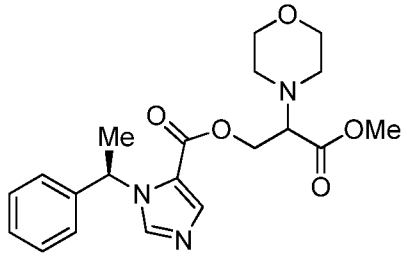
83. The compound of any of claims 1-33, wherein the compound is in the form of a single enantiomer.

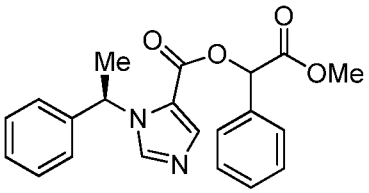
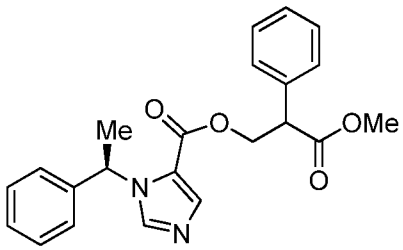
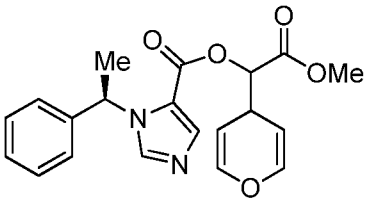
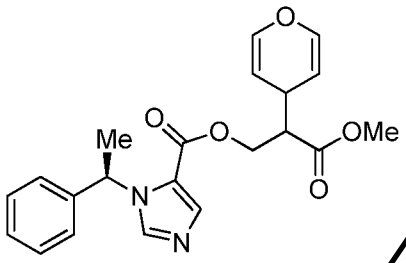
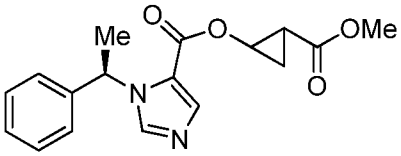
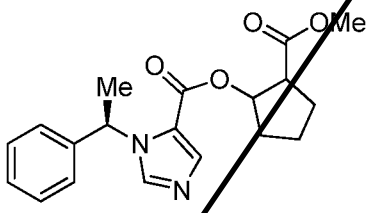
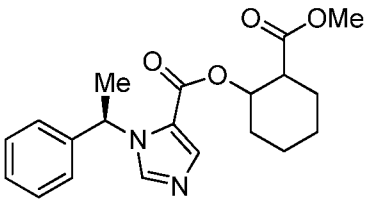
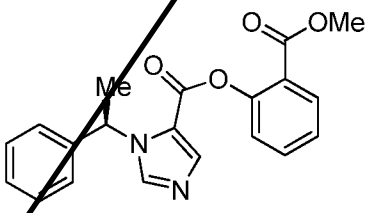
84. The compound of any of claims 1-34, wherein the compound is in the form of a salt.

85. The compound of any of claims 1-34, wherein the compound is in the form of a solvate.

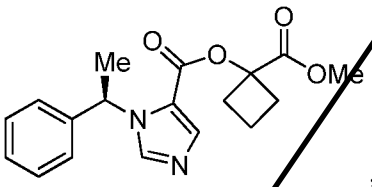
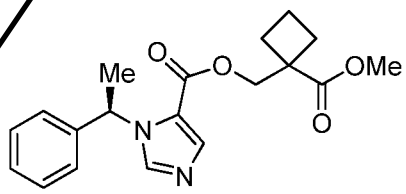
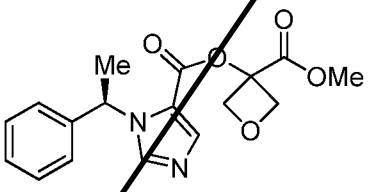
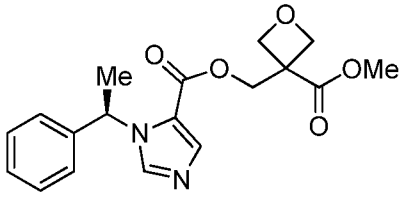
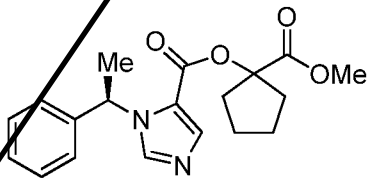
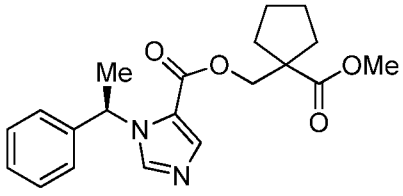
86. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of , , , , , , ,

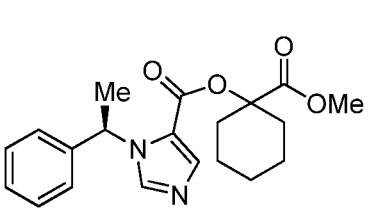
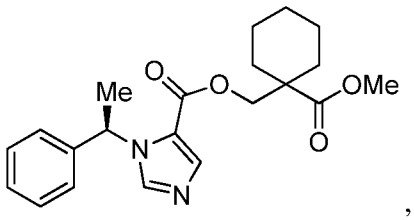
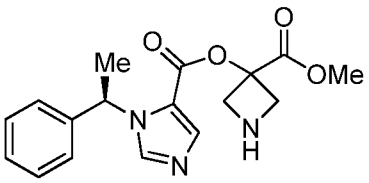
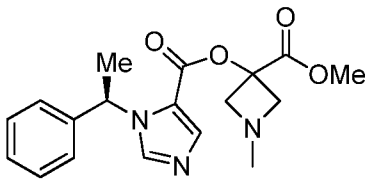
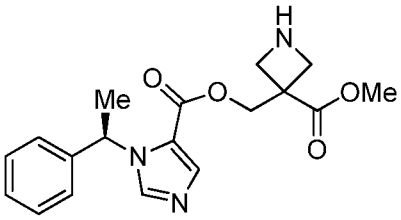
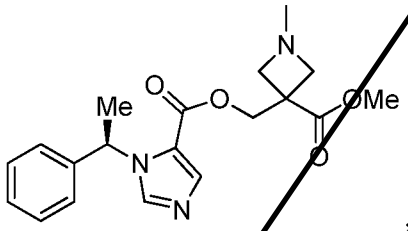
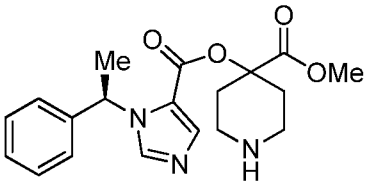
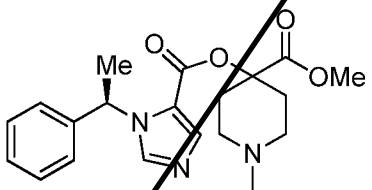
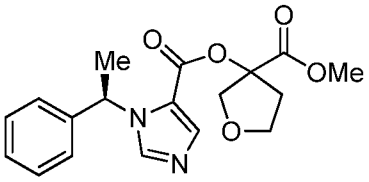
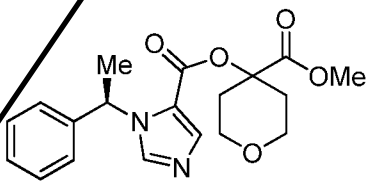

,

,

,

,

,

,

,

,

,

,

,

,

,

,

,

, and

.

87. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of

,

,

,

,









, and .

88. A compound having a structure selected from the group consisting of







, , , , , .

, and , or a salt, solvate, or ester thereof.

89. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of any of claims 1-88 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

90. A method for providing anesthesia or sedation to a subject comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claims 1-88 or a pharmaceutical composition of claim 89.

91. The compound of any of claims 1-88 for use as an anesthetic or sedative.

92. Use of a compound of any of claims 1-88 in the preparation of a medicament for use as an anesthetic or sedative.

93. Use of a compound of any of claims 1-88 as an anesthetic or sedative.

94. The method, compound or use of any of claims 90-93, wherein the subject is a mammal.

95. The method, compound or use of any of claims 91-94, wherein the subject is a human.

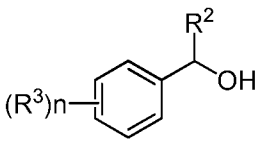
96. A method of preparing a compound of claim 1, 33, or 59, comprising:

(i) hydrolyzing ethyl-1-(1-phenylethyl)-1*H*-imidazole-5-carboxylate to obtain 1-(1-phenylethyl)-1*H*-imidazole-5-carboxylic acid; and

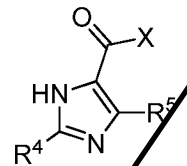
(ii) reacting the carboxylic acid with an alcohol of structure HO-L^2-$[C(R^7R^8)]_p$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-C(O)OT, wherein L^2, R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, T and p are as defined for formula (I).

97. A method of preparing a compound of claim 1, 33, or 59, comprising:

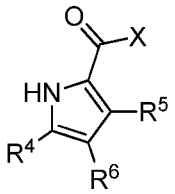
(i) coupling a compound of formula (II), and (a) a compound of formula (III) or (b) a compound of formula (IV):



(II)



(III)



(IV)

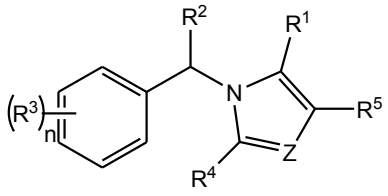
; wherein R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, and n are as defined for formula (I) and X is carboxylic acid protecting group;

(ii) removing the protecting group X to form a carboxylic acid; and

(iii) coupling the carboxylic acid with an alcohol of structure HO-L^2-$[C(R^7R^8)]_p$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-C(O)OT, wherein L^2, R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, T and p are as defined for formula (I).

CLAIMS

1. A compound according to formula (I)



(I)

in which,

R^1 is $L^1C(O)OL^2$-$[C(R^7R^8)]_p$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-C(O)OT;

R^2 is R^1, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkyl, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, in which the backbone of C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms;

each R_3 is independently halogen, CN, CF_3, SR^2, SOR^2, SO_2R^2, OR^2, CO_2H, CO_2R^2, $N(R^2)_2$, NHR^2, NO_2, or R^2;

Z is N;

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, halogen, CN, CF_3, SR^2, SOR^2, SO_2R^2, OR^2, CO_2H, CO_2R^2, $N(R^2)_2$, NHR^2, NO_2, or R^2;

L^1 and L^2 are independently a bond, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkenylene, or optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkynylene, in which the backbone of C_1-C_{10} alkylene, C_2-C_{10} alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10} alkynylene optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms;

T is H, a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, optionally substituted cyclyl, optionally substituted heterocylcyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, or PEG, in which the backbone of C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, C_2-C_{10} alkynyl optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms;

n is an integer from 0-5;

p is 0 or 1, provided that at least one of R^7, R^8, R^9 and R^{10} is not hydrogen; and

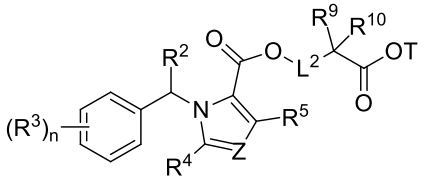
(i) R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkyl, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, in which the backbone of the C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl can contain one or more heteroatoms; and R^9 and R^{10} together with the carbon they are attached to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered cyclyl or heterocyclyl; or

(ii) R^7 and R^8 together with the carbon they are attached to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered cyclyl or heterocyclyl; and R^9 and R^{10} are independently hydrogen, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkyl, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, optionally substituted C_4-C_8 cyclyl, optionally substituted C_3-C_8 heterocyclyl, in which the backbone of the C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl can contain one or more heteroatoms; or

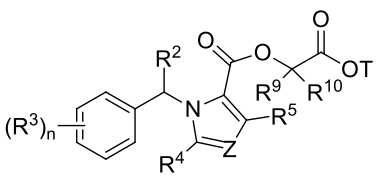
(iii) R^7 and R^9 together with the carbons they are attached to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered cyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl or heteroaryl; and R^8 and R^{10} are independently hydrogen, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkyl, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, optionally substituted C_4-C_8 cyclyl, optionally substituted C_3-C_8 heterocyclyl, in which the backbone of the C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl can contain one or more heteroatoms;

or a salt, solvate, or ester thereof.

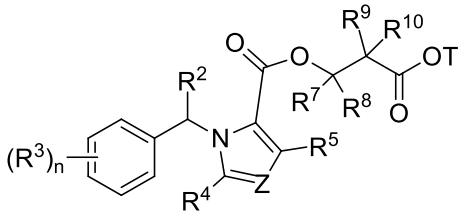
2. A compound according to Claim 1, having a structure of formula (IA), (IB) or (IC):



(IA),



(IB), or



(IC).

3. A compound according to Claim 1 or 2, in which n is 0 or 1.

4. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 3, in which p is 0 or 1.

5. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 4, in which L^1 is a bond, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkenylene, or optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkynylene; in which the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms.

6. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 5, in which L^2 is a bond, optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkylene, optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkenylene, or optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{10} alkynylene; in which the backbone of C_1-C_{10} alkylene, C_2-C_{10} alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10} alkynylene optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms.

7. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 6, in which T is hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, or optionally substituted cyclyl or heterocyclyl.

8. A compound according to Claim 7, in which T is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl, 2-hydroxylpropyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, oxetanyl, morpholinyl, and oxazolindinyl.

9. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 8, in which R^4 is hydrogen.

10. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 9, in which R^5 is hydrogen.

11. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 10, in which R^2 is optionally substituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl.

12. A compound according to Claim 11, in which R^2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, and 2,2-dimethylbutyl.

13. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 12, in which the carbon to which R^2 is attached to has the R configuration.

14. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 13, in which R^9 and R^{10} are independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, optionally substituted C_4-C_6cyclyl or optionally substituted C_4-C_6heterocyclyl; or R^9 and R^{10} together with the carbon they are attached to form a 3-, 4-, 5, or 6- membered cyclyl.

15. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 14, in which R^9 and R^{10} are independently optionally substituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl.

16. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 15, in which R^9 and R^{10} are the same.

17. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 14, in which one of R^9 and R^{10} is optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, optionally substituted C_4-C_6cyclyl or optionally substituted C_4-C_6heterocyclyl, and the other is hydrogen.

18. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 17, in which R^9 and R^{10} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl, phenyl, pyridyl, thiophene, furanyl, pyrazolyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexenyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentenyl, and piperdinyl.

19. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 15, 17 or 18, in which the carbon to which R^9 and R^{10} are attached has the R configuration.

20. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 15, 17 or 18, in which the carbon to which R^9 and R^{10} are attached has the S configuration.

21. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 20, in which R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, optionally substituted C_4-C_6cyclyl or optionally substituted C_4-C_6heterocyclyl; or R^7 and R^8 together with the carbon they are attached to form a 3-, 4-, 5, or 6- membered cyclyl.

22. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 21, in which R^7 and R^8 are independently optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl.

23. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 22, in which R^7 and R^8 are the same.

24. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 21, in which one of R^7 and R^8 is optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, optionally substituted C_4-C_6cyclyl or optionally substituted C_4-C_6heterocyclyl, and the other is hydrogen.

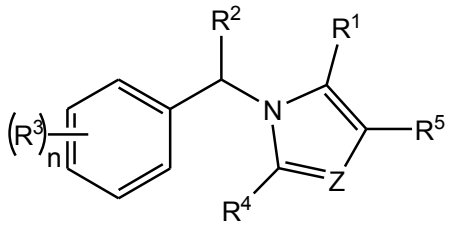
25. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 24, in which R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl, phenyl, pyridyl, thiophene, furanyl, pyrazolyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexenyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentenyl, and piperdinyl.

26. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 23, 24 or 25, in which the carbon to which R^7 and R^8 are attached has the R configuration.

27. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 23, 24 or 25, in which the carbon to which R^7 and R^8 are attached has the S configuration.

28. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 27, in which R^7 and R^9 together with the carbons they are attached to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered cyclyl or heterocyclyl.

29. A compound according to formula (I)



FORMULA (I)

in which,

R^1 is $L^1C(O)OL^2$-$[C(R^7R^8)]_p$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-C(O)OT;

R^2 is R^1 or a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, in which backbone of C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl can contain one or more heteroatoms;

each R_3 is independently halogen, CN, CF_3, SR^2, SOR^2, SO_2R^2, OR^2, CO_2H, CO_2R^2, $N(R^2)_2$, NHR^2, NO_2, or R^2;

Z is N;

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, halogen, CN, CF_3, SR^2, SOR^2, SO_2R^2, OR^2, CO_2H, CO_2R^2, $N(R^2)_2$, NHR^2, NO_2, or R^2;

L^1 and L^2 are independently a bond, a substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkylene, C_2-C_{10} alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10} alkynylene, in which backbone of alkylene can contain one or more heteroatoms;

T is H, a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, optionally substituted cyclyl, optionally substituted heterocylcyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, or PEG, in which the backbone of C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, C_2-C_{10} alkynyl can contain one or more heteroatoms;.

n is an integer from 0-5; and

p is 0 or 1; and

(i) R^7, R^9 and R^{10} are independently hydrogen, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkynyl; R^8 is linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkynyl; and in which the backbone of the C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl can contain one or more heteroatoms; or

(ii) R^7, R^8 and R^9 are independently hydrogen, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkynyl; R^{10} is linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_{10} alkynyl; and in which the backbone of the C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl can contain one or more heteroatoms.

30. A compound according to Claim 29, in which said compound is present in the form of a pure enantiomer.

31. A compound according to any of Claims 29 to 30, in which the carbon to which R^2 is attached has the R configuration.

32. A compound according to any of Claims 29 to 31, in which R^2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, and 2,2-dimethylbutyl.

33. A compound according to any of Claims 29 to 32, in which T is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl, and 2-hydroxylpropyl.

34. A compound according to any of Claims 29 to 33, in which n is 0 or 1.

35. A compound according to any of Claims 29 to 34, in which L^1 is a bond.

36. A compound according to any of Claims 29 to 35, in which L^2 is a bond.

37. A compound according to any of Claims 29 to 36, in which one of R^9 or R^{10} is C_1-C_{10} alkyl and the other is hydrogen.

38. A compound according to any of Claims 33 to 40, in which both of R^9 and R^{10} are independently C_1-C_{10} alkyl.

39. A compound according to Claim 37 or Claim 38, in which the carbon to which R^9 and R^{10} are attached has the R configuration.

40. A compound according to Claim 37 or Claim 38, in which the carbon to which R^9 and R^{10} are attached has the S configuration.

41. A compound according to any of Claims 37 to 40, in which R^9 and R^{10} are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl and any combinations thereof.

42. A compound according to any of Claims 38 to 41, in which R^9 and R^{10} are both same or together with the carbon they are attached to form a 3 membered ring.

43. A compound according to any of Claims 29 to 42, in which p is 0.

44. A compound according to any of Claims 29 to 42, in which one of R^7 and R^8 is C_1-C_{10} alkyl and the other is hydrogen.

45. A compound according to any of Claims 29 to 42, in which both of R^7 and R^8 are independently C_1-C_{10} alkyl.

46. A compound according to Claim 44 or Claim 45, in which the carbon to which R^7 and R^8 are attached has the R configuration.

47. A compound according to Claim 44 or Claim 45, in which the carbon to which R^7 and R^8 are attached has the S configuration.

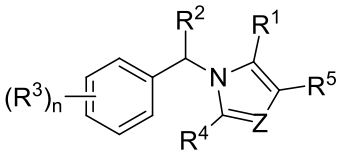
48. A compound according to any of Claims 44 to 47, in which R^7 and R^8 are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, t-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl and any combinations thereof.

49. A compound according to any of Claims 44 to 48, in which R^7 and R^8 are both the same or together with the carbon they are attached to form a 3 membered ring.

50. A compound according to any of Claims 29 to 49, in which R^5 is hydrogen.

51. A compound according to any of Claims 29 to 49, in which R^4 is Br or CN.

52. A compound having a structure of formula (I):



(I)

in which

R^1 is $L^1C(O)OL^2$-$[C(R^7R^8)]_p$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-$C(O)OT$;

R^2 is R^1 or a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10}alkynyl, in which the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkyl, C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10}alkynyl optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms;

each R^3 is independently halogen, CN, CF_3, SR^2, SOR^2, SO_2R^2, OR^2, CO_2H, CO_2R^2, $N(R^2)_2$, NHR^2, NO_2, or R^2;

Z is N;

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, halogen, CN, CF_3, SR^2, SOR^2, SO_2R^2, OR^2, CO_2H, CO_2R^2, $N(R^2)_2$, NHR^2, NO_2, or R^2;

R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10}alkynyl, or R^7 and R^8 taken together form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

R^9 and R^{10} are independently hydrogen, optionally substituted C_4-C_8 cyclyl or optionally substituted C_3-C_8heterocyclyl, with the proviso that at least one of R^9, and R^{10} is not hydrogen;

L^1 and L^2 are independently a bond, a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene; in which the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms;

T is hydrogen, linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl, C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, C_2-C_{10}alkynyl, optionally substituted cyclyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, or PEG, in which the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkyl, C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, or C_2-C_{10}alkynyl optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms;

each n is an integer of 0-5; and

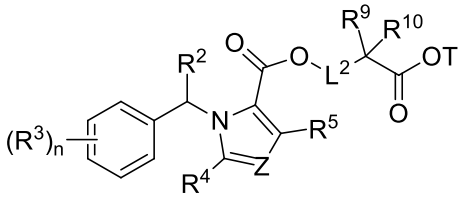
each p is 0 or 1,

or a salt, solvate, or ester thereof.

53. A compound according to Claim 52, in which L^1 is a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene; in which the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms.

54. A compound according to Claim 52 or Claim 53, in which L^2 is a linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene; in which the backbone of C_1-C_{10}alkylene, C_2-C_{10}alkenylene, or C_2-C_{10}alkynylene optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms.

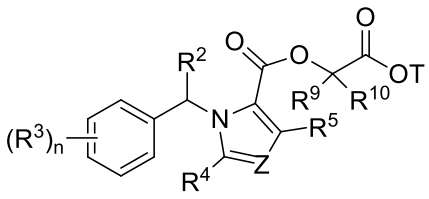
55. A compound according to Claim 52 or Claim 54 having a structure of formula (IA):



(IA)

.

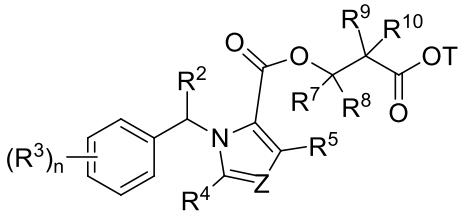
56. A compound according to Claim 52 having a structure of formula (IB):



(IB)

.

57. A compound according to Claim 52 having a structure of formula (IC):



(IC)

.

58. A compound according to any of Claims 52 to 57, in which R^9 is optionally substituted C_4-C_6cyclyl and R^{10} is hydrogen.

59. A compound according to any of Claims 52 to 57, in which R^9 is optionally substituted C_4-C_6heterocyclyl and R^{10} is hydrogen.

60. A compound according to any of Claims 52 to 59, in which R^4 is hydrogen.

61. A compound according to any of Claims 52 to 60, in which R^5 is hydrogen.

62. A compound according to any of Claims 52 to 61, in which n is 0.

63. A compound according to any of Claims 52 to 62, in which n is 1.

64. A compound according to any of Claims 52 to 63, in which R^2 is optionally substituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl.

65. A compound according to Claim 64, in which R^2 is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, sec-butyl, iso-butyl, tert-butyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, or 2,2-dimethylbutyl.

66. A compound according to any of Claims 52 to 65, in which the carbon to which R^2 is attached is in the R configuration.

67. A compound according to any of Claims 52 to 66, in which T is optionally substituted C_1-C_{10}alkyl.

68. A compound according to Claim 67, in which T is methyl or ethyl.

69. A compound according to any of Claims 52 to 66, in which T is optionally substituted cyclyl or heterocyclyl.

70. A compound according to Claim 69, in which T is cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, oxetanyl, morpholinyl, or oxazolindinyl.

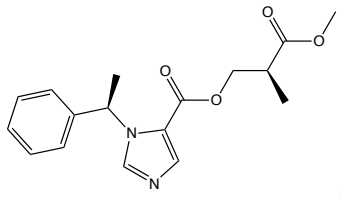
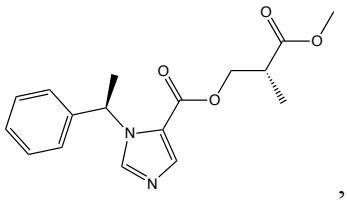
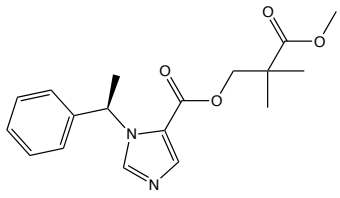
71. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 28, in which the compound is in the form of a single diastereomer.

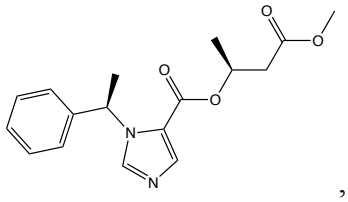
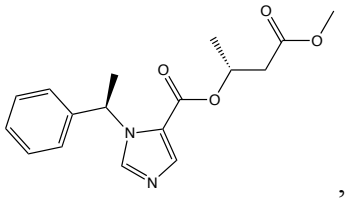
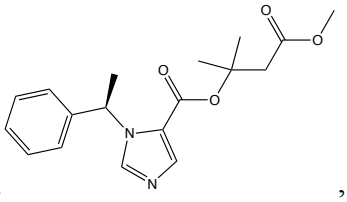
72. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 29, in which the compound is in the form of a single enantiomer.

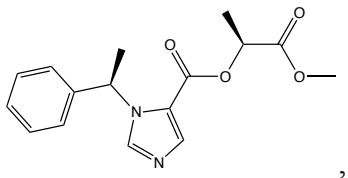
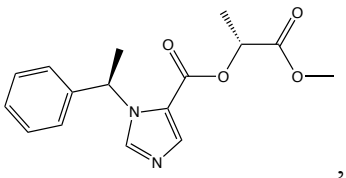
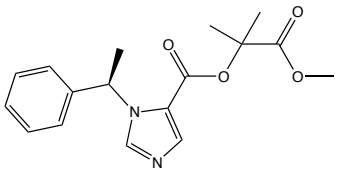
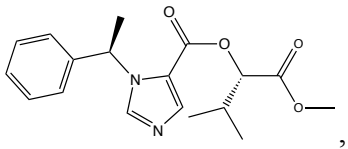
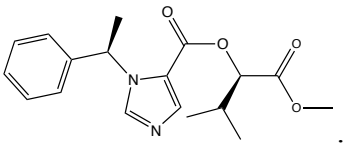
73. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 30, in which the compound is in the form of a salt.

74. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 30, in which the compound is in the form of a solvate.

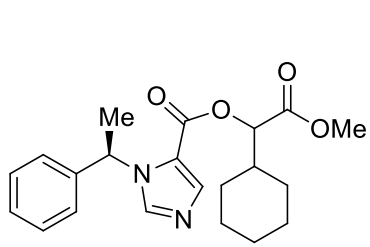
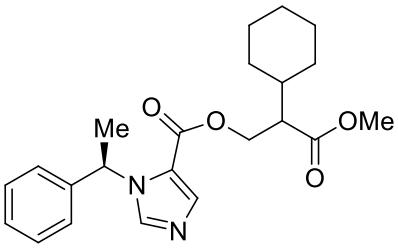
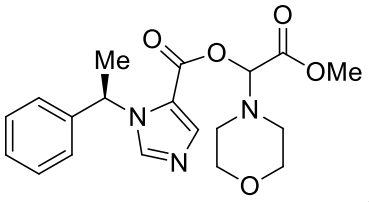
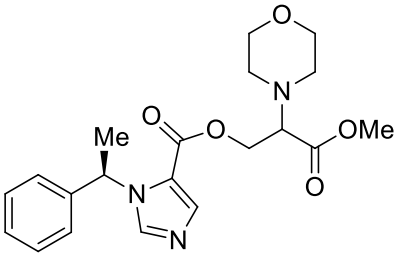
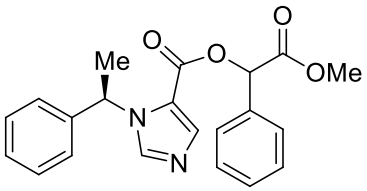
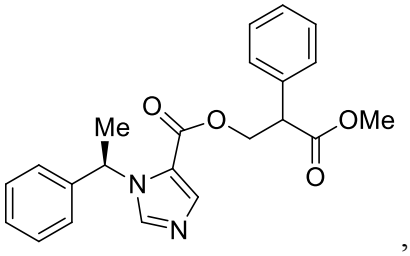
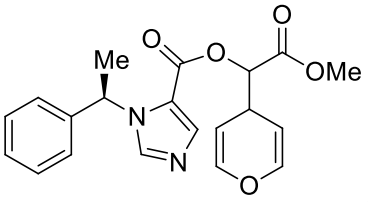
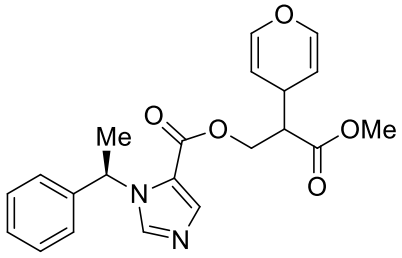
75. A compound according to Claim 29, in which the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of

, , ,

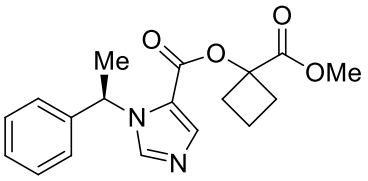
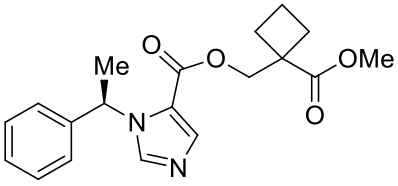
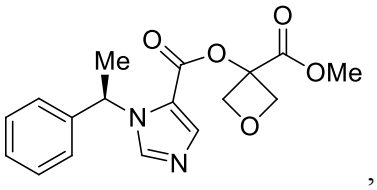
, , ,

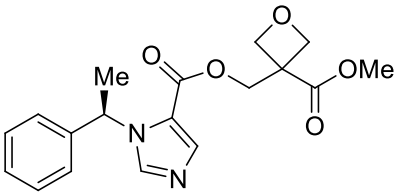
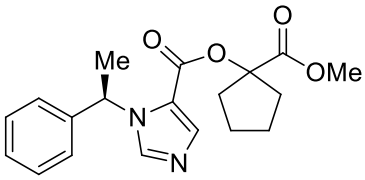
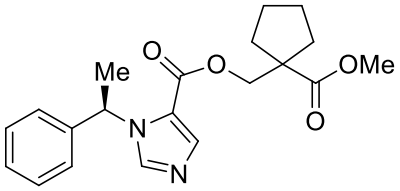
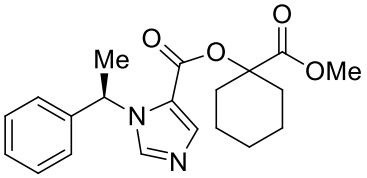
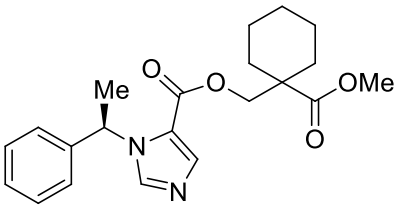
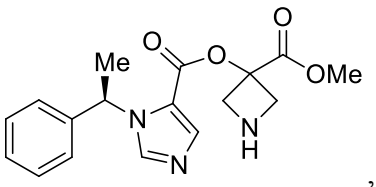
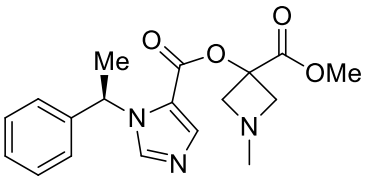
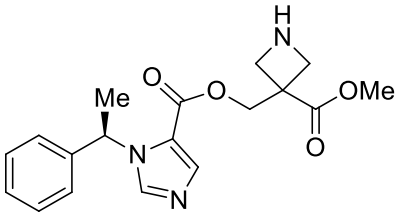
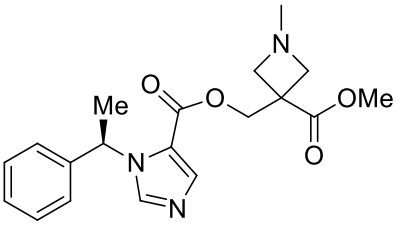
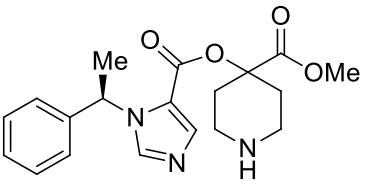
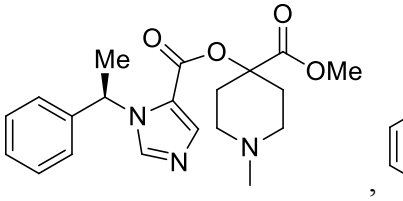
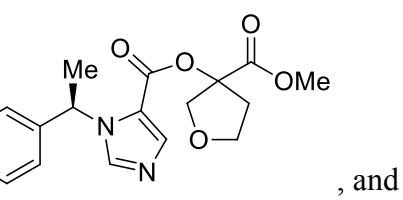

,

,

,

,

.

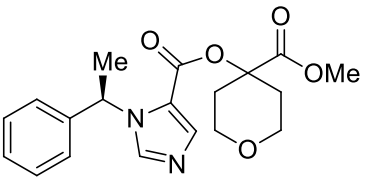
76. A compound according to Claim 52, in which the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of


,

,

,

,

,

,

, and

.

77. A compound having a structure selected from the group consisting of


,

,

,


, and

, or a salt, solvate, or ester thereof.

78. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any of Claims 1 to 77 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

79. A compound according to any of Claims 1 to 77, for use as an anesthetic or sedative.

80. Use of a compound according to any of Claims 1 to 77 in the preparation of a medicament for use as an anesthetic or sedative.

81. A compound or use according to any of Claims 79 to 80, in which the subject is a mammal.

82. A compound or use according to any of Claims 79 to 81, in which the subject is a human.

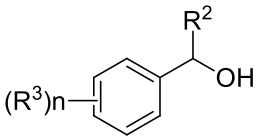
83. A method of preparing a compound according to any of Claims 1, 29, or 52, comprising:

(i) hydrolyzing ethyl-1-(1-phenylethyl)-1*H*-imidazole-5-carboxylate to obtain 1-(1-phenylethyl)-1*H*-imidazole-5-carboxylic acid; and

(ii) reacting the carboxylic acid with an alcohol of structure HO-L^2-$[C(R^7R^8)]_p$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-C(O)OT, in which L^2, R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, T and p are as defined for formula (I).

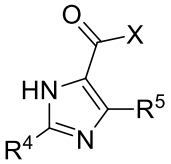
84. A method of preparing a compound according to Claim 1, 29, or 52, comprising:

(i) coupling a compound of formula (II), and a compound of formula (III):



(II)

and



(III)

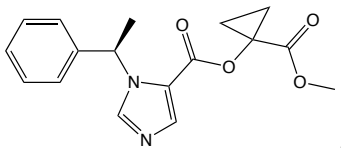
;

in which R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, and n are as defined for formula (I) and X is carboxylic acid protecting group;

(ii) removing the protecting group X to form a carboxylic acid; and

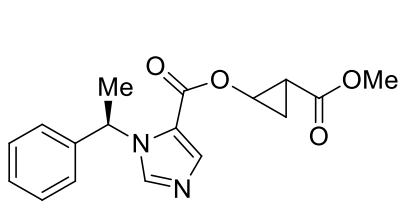
(iii) coupling the carboxylic acid with an alcohol of structure HO-L^2-$[C(R^7R^8)]_p$-$C(R^9R^{10})$-C(O)OT, in which L^2, R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, T and p are as defined for formula (I).

85. A compound according to Claim 1, in which the compound is:

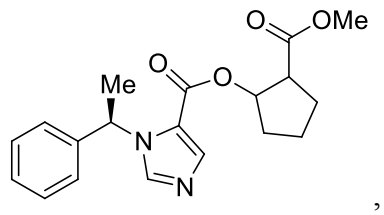


.

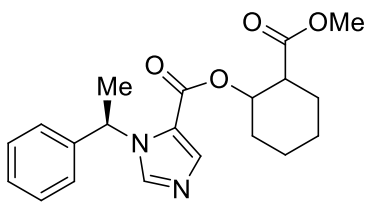
86. A compound according to Claim 1, in which the compound is selected from the group consisting of:



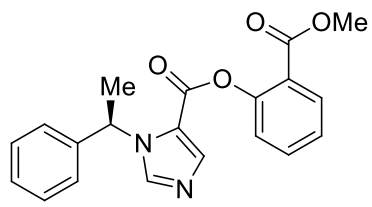
,



,



, and



.