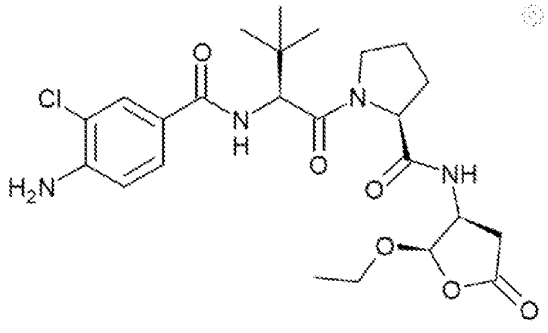
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for treating a patient infected with SARS-CoV-2 or a variant thereof and having pyroptotic activity comprising (a) determining if the patient is infected with SARS-CoV-2 or a variant thereof, (b) optionally determining if the patient has pyroptotic activity or a comorbidity associated with upregulation of an inflammasome/caspase/pyroptosis axis, and (c) administering an effective amount of a compound having the formula



to the patient infected with SARS-CoV-2 or a variant thereof.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) comprises screening a marker indicative of pyroptotic activity, wherein the marker has increased activity if pyroptotic activity is present.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the marker is NOD-, LRR- and pyrin domain-containing protein 3 (NLRP3), IL-1 receptor antagonist (IL-1RA), interleukin-1β (IL-1β), interleukin-18 (IL-18), gasdermin D (GSDMD), caspase 1, lymphopenia, a high neutrophil count, elevated LDH, ferritin or CRP levels.

4. The method of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the effective amount in step (c) is about 10 mg/kg to about 100 mg/kg.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the effective amount is 300 mg to about 900 mg per dose.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the effective dose is about 600 mg to about 900 mg per dose.

7. The method of any one of claims 4-6, wherein the effective dose is about 300 mg to about 3600 mg per day.

8. The method of any one of claims 5-7, wherein the 300 mg to about 900 mg is administered three or four times a day.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the administering is about every six to about eight hours.

10. The method of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the administering in step (c) is oral.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the oral administering is a tablet.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein the tablet comprises a 300 mg dose.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the administering comprises one tablet, two tablets or three tablets.

14. The method of any one of claims 1-13, wherein the administering in step (c) further comprises administering an effective amount of a caspase 1, GSDMD, IL-1R IL-1β, IL-6, IL-18, NLRP3, pan-caspase or TNF-α inhibitor.