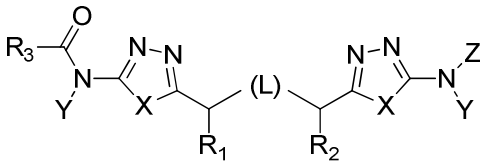
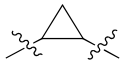
CLAIMS

1. Use of a compound of formula I, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of cancer,



(I),

wherein:

L represents CH_2SCH_2, CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$, CH_2, CH_2S, SCH_2, CH_2NHCH_2, CH=CH, or , wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH or CH_2 unit may be replaced by alkyl or alkoxy, any hydrogen of an NH unit may be replaced by alkyl, and any hydrogen atom of a CH_2 unit of CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$ or CH_2 may be replaced by hydroxy;

X, independently for each occurrence, represents S, O or CH=CH, wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH unit may be replaced by alkyl;

Y, independently for each occurrence, represents H or $CH_2O(CO)R_7$;

R_7, independently for each occurrence, represents H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkoxy, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, heterocyclylalkyl, or heterocyclylalkoxy;

Z represents H or $R_3(CO)$;

R_1 and R_2 each independently represent H, alkyl, alkoxy or hydroxy;

R_3, independently for each occurrence, represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaryloxyalkyl or $C(R_8)(R_9)(R_{10})$, $N(R_4)(R_5)$ or OR_6, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

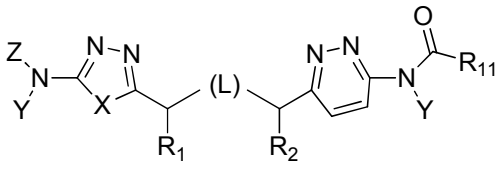
R_4 and R_5 each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, acyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_6, independently for each occurrence, represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$; and

R_8, R_9 and R_{10} each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, or R_8 and R_9 together with the carbon to which they are attached, form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$, and wherein at least two of R_8, R_9 and R_{10} are not H;

wherein the cancer is claudin-low breast cancer.

2. Use of a compound of formula Ia, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of cancer,



(Ia),

wherein:

L represents CH_2SCH_2, CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$, CH_2, CH_2S, SCH_2, CH_2NHCH_2, CH=CH, or , preferably CH_2CH_2, wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH or CH_2 unit may be replaced by alkyl or alkoxy, any hydrogen of an NH unit may be replaced by alkyl, and any hydrogen atom of a CH_2 unit of CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$ or CH_2 may be replaced by hydroxy;

X represents S, O or CH=CH, preferably S or CH=CH, wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH unit may be replaced by alkyl;

Y, independently for each occurrence, represents H or $CH_2O(CO)R_7$;

R_7, independently for each occurrence, represents H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkoxy, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, heterocyclylalkyl, arylalkyl, or heterocyclylalkoxy;

Z represents H or $R_3(CO)$;

R_1 and R_2 each independently represent H, alkyl, alkoxy or hydroxy, preferably H;

R_3 represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaryloxyalkyl or $C(R_8)(R_9)(R_{10})$, $N(R_4)(R_5)$ or OR_6, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_4 and R_5 each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, acyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_6, independently for each occurrence, represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$; and

R_8, R_9 and R_{10} each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, or R_8 and R_9 together with the carbon to which they are attached, form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$, and wherein at least two of R_8, R_9 and R_{10} are not H;

R_{11} represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, or $C(R_{12})(R_{13})(R_{14})$, $N(R_4)(R_{14})$ or OR_{14}, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_{12} and R_{13} each independently respresent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$, and wherein both of R_{12} and R_{13} are not H; and

R_{14} represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl;

wherein the cancer is claudin-low breast cancer.

3. The use of claim 2, wherein R_{11} represents substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl.

4. The use of claim 3, wherein R_{11} represents substituted or unsubstituted benzyl.

5. The use of claim any of claims 2-4, wherein L represents CH_2SCH_2, CH_2CH_2, CH_2S or SCH_2.

6. The use of claim 5, wherein L represents CH_2CH_2.

7. The use of any of claims 2-6, wherein each Y represents H.

8. The use of any of claims 2-7, wherein X represents S or CH=CH.

9. The use of claim 8, wherein X represents S.

10. The use of any of claims 2-9, wherein Z represents $R_3(CO)$.

11. The use of claim 10, wherein R_3 and R_{11} are not identical.

12. The use of any of claims 2-11, wherein R_1 and R_2 each represent H.

13. The use of claim 10, wherein R_3 represents substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl.

14. The use of claim 13, wherein R_3 represents substituted or unsubstituted heteroarylalkyl.

15. The use of claim 10, wherein R_3 represents $C(R_8)(R_9)(R_{10})$, wherein R_8 represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroaralkyl, R_9 represents H, and R_{10} represents hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy or alkoxyalkyl.

16. The use of claim 2, wherein L represents CH_2SCH_2, CH_2CH_2, CH_2S or SCH_2, Y represents H, X represents S, Z represents $R_3(CO)$, R_1 and R_2 each represent H, R_3 represents substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl, and R_{11} represents substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl.

17. The use of claim 16, wherein R_3 represents substituted or unsubstituted heteroarylalkyl.

18. The use of claim 2, wherein L represents CH_2SCH_2, CH_2CH_2, CH_2S or SCH_2, Y represents H, X represents S, Z represents $R_3(CO)$, R_1 and R_2 each represent H, R_3 represents $C(R_8)(R_9)(R_{10})$, wherein R_8 represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroaralkyl, R_9 represents H, R_{10} represents hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy or alkoxyalkyl, and R_{11} represents substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl.

19. The use of claim 2, wherein L represents CH_2CH_2, Y represents H, X represents S or CH=CH, Z represents $R_3(CO)$, R_1 and R_2 each represent H, R_3 represents substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl, and R_{11} represents substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl.

20. The use of claim 19, wherein R_3 represents substituted or unsubstituted heteroarylalkyl.

21. The use of any preceding claim, wherein the medicament is for conjoint administration with one or more additional chemotherapeutic agents.

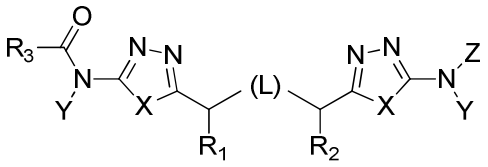
22. The use of claim 21, wherein conjoint administration of one or more additional chemotherapeutic agents provides improved efficacy relative to each individual administration of the compound of formula I or the one or more additional chemotherapeutic agents.

23. The use of claim 21 or 22, wherein the one or more additional chemotherapeutic agents are selected from ABT-263, aminoglutethimide, amsacrine, anastrozole, asparaginase, bcg, bicalutamide, bleomycin, bortezomib, buserelin, busulfan, campothecin, capecitabine, carboplatin, carfilzomib, carmustine, chlorambucil, chloroquine, cisplatin, cladribine, clodronate, colchicine, cyclophosphamide, cyproterone, cytarabine, dacarbazine, dactinomycin, daunorubicin, demethoxyviridin, dexamethasone, dichloroacetate, dienestrol, diethylstilbestrol, docetaxel, doxorubicin, epirubicin, estradiol, estramustine, etoposide, everolimus, exemestane, filgrastim, fludarabine, fludrocortisone, fluorouracil and 5-fluorouracil, fluoxymesterone, flutamide, gemcitabine, genistein, goserelin, hydroxyurea, idarubicin, ifosfamide, imatinib, interferon, irinotecan, ironotecan, lenalidomide, letrozole, leucovorin, leuprolide, levamisole, lomustine, lonidamine, mechlorethamine, medroxyprogesterone, megestrol, melphalan, mercaptopurine, mesna, metformin, methotrexate, mitomycin, mitotane, mitoxantrone, nilutamide, nocodazole, octreotide, oxaliplatin, paclitaxel, pamidronate, pentostatin, perifosine, PF-04691502, plicamycin, pomalidomide, porfimer, procarbazine, raltitrexed, rituximab, romidepsin, sorafenib, streptozocin, sunitinib, suramin, tamoxifen, temozolomide, temsirolimus, teniposide, testosterone, thalidomide, thioguanine, thiotepa, titanocene dichloride, topotecan, trastuzumab, tretinoin, vinblastine, vincristine, vindesine, vinorelbine, and vorinostat (SAHA).

24. The use of claim 23, wherein the one or more additional chemotherapeutic agents are selected from bortezomib, capecitabine, carboplatin, carfilzomib, cyclophosphamide, daunorubicin, dexamethasone, docetaxel, doxorubicin, epirubicin, eribulin, fluorouracil, gemcitabine, ixabepilone, lenalidomide, methotrexate, mitoxantrone, mutamycin, paclitaxel, pomalidomide, rituximab, thalidomide, thiotepa, vincristine, and vinorelbine.

25. The use of claim 24, wherein the one or more additional chemotherapeutic agents are selected from bortezomib, carfilzomib, dexamethasone, doxorubicin, lenalidomide, pacilitaxel, pomalidomide, thalidomide, and rituximab.

26. Use of a compound of formula I, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of cancer,



(I),

wherein:

L represents CH_2SCH_2, CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$, CH_2, CH_2S, SCH_2, CH_2NHCH_2, CH=CH, or , wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH or CH_2 unit may be replaced by alkyl or alkoxy, any hydrogen of an NH unit may be replaced by alkyl, and any hydrogen atom of a CH_2 unit of CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$ or CH_2 may be replaced by hydroxy;

one X represents S and the other X represents CH=CH;

Y, independently for each occurrence, represents H or $CH_2O(CO)R_7$;

R_7, independently for each occurrence, represents H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkoxy, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, heterocyclylalkyl, or heterocyclylalkoxy;

Z represents H or $R_3(CO)$;

R_1 and R_2 each independently represent H, alkyl, alkoxy or hydroxy;

R_3, independently for each occurrence, represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaryloxyalkyl or $C(R_8)(R_9)(R_{10})$, $N(R_4)(R_5)$ or OR_6, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_4 and R_5 each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, acyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

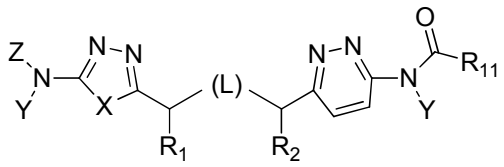
R_6, independently for each occurrence, represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl,

heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$; and

R_8, R_9 and R_{10} each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, or R_8 and R_9 together with the carbon to which they are attached, form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$, and wherein at least two of R_8, R_9 and R_{10} are not H;

according to a treatment wherein 1) the ratio of glutamate to glutamine in cells of the cancer is determined; and 2) the medicament is to be administered if the ratio of glutamate to glutamine is greater than or equal to 2.0.

27. Use of a compound of formula Ia, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of cancer,



(Ia),

wherein:

L represents CH_2SCH_2, CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$, CH_2, CH_2S, SCH_2, CH_2NHCH_2, CH=CH, or , preferably CH_2CH_2, wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH or CH_2 unit may be replaced by alkyl or alkoxy, any hydrogen of an NH unit may be replaced by alkyl, and any hydrogen atom of a CH_2 unit of CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$ or CH_2 may be replaced by hydroxy;

X represents S, O or CH=CH, preferably S or CH=CH, wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH unit may be replaced by alkyl;

Y, independently for each occurrence, represents H or $CH_2O(CO)R_7$;

R_7, independently for each occurrence, represents H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkoxy, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, heterocyclylalkyl, arylalkyl, or heterocyclylalkoxy;

Z represents H or $R_3(CO)$;

R_1 and R_2 each independently represent H, alkyl, alkoxy or hydroxy, preferably H;

R_3 represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaryloxyalkyl or $C(R_8)(R_9)(R_{10})$, $N(R_4)(R_5)$ or OR_6, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_4 and R_5 each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, acyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_6, independently for each occurrence, represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$; and

R_8, R_9 and R_{10} each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, or R_8 and R_9 together with the carbon to which they are attached, form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$, and wherein at least two of R_8, R_9 and R_{10} are not H;

R_{11} represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, or $C(R_{12})(R_{13})(R_{14})$, $N(R_4)(R_{14})$ or OR_{14}, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_{12} and R_{13} each independently respresent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$, and wherein both of R_{12} and R_{13} are not H; and

R_{14} represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl;

according to a treatment wherein 1) the ratio of glutamate to glutamine in cells of the cancer is determined; and 2) the medicament is to be administered if the ratio of glutamate to glutamine is greater than or equal to 2.0.

28. The use of claim 27, wherein the compound is a compound as described in any of claims 3-20.

29. The use of any of claims 26-28, wherein the ratio is determined by measuring levels of glutamate and glutamine in the cancer cells.

30. The use of any of claims 26-29, wherein the cancer is selected from a B cell malignancy, breast cancer, colorectal cancer, endocrine cancer, lung cancer, melanoma, mesothelioma and renal cancer.

31. The use of claim 30, wherein the cancer is breast cancer.

32. The use of claim 31, wherein the breast cancer comprises basal-type breast cancer cells, triple-negative breast cancer cells or claudin-low breast cancer cells.

33. The use of claim 30, wherein the cancer is colorectal cancer.

34. The use of claim 30, wherein the cancer is endocrine cancer.

35. The use of claim 34, wherein the endocrine cancer is selected from adrenal cortex adenoma, adrenal cortex carcicnoma, adrenal gland pheochromocytoma and parathyroid gland adenoma.

36. The use of claim 30, wherein the cancer is melanoma.

37. The use of claim 30, wherein the cancer is renal cancer.

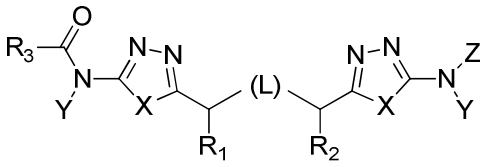
38. The use of claim 30, wherein the cancer is a B cell malignancy.

39. The use of claim 38, wherein the B cell malignancy is selected from multiple myeloma, leukemia and lymphoma.

40. The use of claim 39, wherein the B cell malignancy is leukemia, and the leukemia is selected from acute lymphoblastic leukemia and chronic lymphoblastic leukemia.

41. The use of claim 39, wherein the B cell malignancy is lymphoma, and the lymphoma is selected from Burkitt's lymphoma, Diffuse large B cell lymphoma, follicular lymphoma and Hodgkin's lymphoma.

42. Use of a compound of formula I, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of cancer,



(I),

wherein:

L represents CH_2SCH_2, CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$, CH_2, CH_2S, SCH_2, CH_2NHCH_2, CH=CH, or , wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH or CH_2 unit may be replaced by alkyl or alkoxy, any hydrogen of an NH unit may be replaced by alkyl, and any hydrogen atom of a CH_2 unit of CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$ or CH_2 may be replaced by hydroxy;

one X represents S and the other X represents CH=CH;

Y, independently for each occurrence, represents H or $CH_2O(CO)R_7$;

R_7, independently for each occurrence, represents H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkoxy, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, heterocyclylalkyl, or heterocyclylalkoxy;

Z represents H or $R_3(CO)$;

R_1 and R_2 each independently represent H, alkyl, alkoxy or hydroxy;

R_3, independently for each occurrence, represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaryloxyalkyl or $C(R_8)(R_9)(R_{10})$, $N(R_4)(R_5)$ or OR_6, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

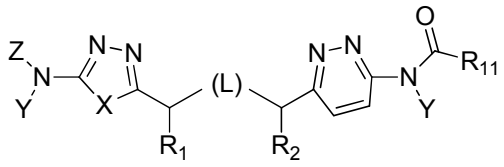
R_4 and R_5 each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, acyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_6, independently for each occurrence, represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$; and

R_8, R_9 and R_{10} each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, or R_8 and R_9 together with the carbon to which they are attached, form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$, and wherein at least two of R_8, R_9 and R_{10} are not H;

according to a treatment wherein 1) the ratio of glutaminase (GLS) to glutamine synthetase (GS) in cells of the cancer is determined; and 2) the medicament is to be administered if the ratio of GLS to GS is greater than or equal to 1.

43. Use of a compound of formula Ia, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of cancer,



(Ia),

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

L represents CH_2SCH_2, CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$, CH_2, CH_2S, SCH_2, CH_2NHCH_2, CH=CH, or , preferably CH_2CH_2, wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH or CH_2 unit may be replaced by alkyl or alkoxy, any hydrogen of an NH unit may be replaced by alkyl, and any hydrogen atom of a CH_2 unit of CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$ or CH_2 may be replaced by hydroxy;

X represents S, O or CH=CH, preferably S or CH=CH, wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH unit may be replaced by alkyl;

Y, independently for each occurrence, represents H or $CH_2O(CO)R_7$;

R_7, independently for each occurrence, represents H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkoxy, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, heterocyclylalkyl, arylalkyl, or heterocyclylalkoxy;

Z represents H or $R_3(CO)$;

R_1 and R_2 each independently represent H, alkyl, alkoxy or hydroxy, preferably H;

R_3 represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaryloxyalkyl or $C(R_8)(R_9)(R_{10})$, $N(R_4)(R_5)$ or OR_6, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_4 and R_5 each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, acyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl,

heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_6, independently for each occurrence, represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$; and

R_8, R_9 and R_{10} each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, or R_8 and R_9 together with the carbon to which they are attached, form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$, and wherein at least two of R_8, R_9 and R_{10} are not H;

R_{11} represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, or $C(R_{12})(R_{13})(R_{14})$, $N(R_4)(R_{14})$ or OR_{14}, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_{12} and R_{13} each independently respresent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$, and wherein both of R_{12} and R_{13} are not H; and

R_{14} represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl;

according to a treatment wherein 1) the ratio of glutaminase (GLS) to glutamine synthetase (GS) in cells of the cancer is determined; and 2) the medicament is to be administered if the ratio of GLS to GS is greater than or equal to 1.

44. The use of claim 43, wherein the compound is a compound as described in any of claims 3-20.

45. The use of any one of claims 42-44, wherein the ratio is determined by measuring the levels of GLS and GS in the cancer cells.

46. The use of claim 45, wherein measuring the levels of GLS and GS comprises measuring mRNA amounts.

47. The use of claims 45, wherein measuring the levels of GLS and GS comprises measuring protein amounts.

48. The use of any one of claims 42-47, wherein GLS is glutaminase C (GAC).

49. The use of any one of claims 42-47, wherein GLS is kidney-type glutaminase (KGA).

50. The use of any one of claims 42-47, wherein GLS is both GAC and KGA.

51. The use of any of claims 42-50, wherein the cancer is selected from a B cell malignancy, breast cancer, colorectal cancer, endocrine cancer, lung cancer, melanoma, mesothelioma and renal cancer.

52. The use of claim 51, wherein the cancer is breast cancer.

53. The use of claim 52, wherein the breast cancer comprises basal-type breast cancer cells, triple-negative breast cancer cells or claudin-low breast cancer cells.

54. The use of claim 51, wherein the cancer is colorectal cancer.

55. The use of claim 51, wherein the cancer is endocrine cancer.

56. The use of claim 55, wherein the endocrine cancer is selected from adrenal cortex adenoma, adrenal cortex carcicnoma, adrenal gland pheochromocytoma and parathyroid gland adenoma.

57. The use of claim 51, wherein the cancer is melanoma.

58. The use of claim 51, wherein the cancer is renal cancer.

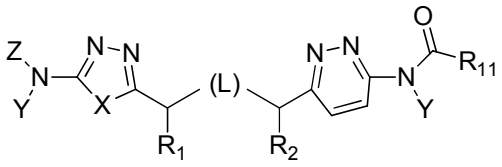
59. The use of claim 51, wherein the cancer is a B cell malignancy.

60. The use of claim 59, wherein the B cell malignancy is selected from multiple myeloma, leukemia and lymphoma.

61. The use of claim 59, wherein the B cell malignancy is leukemia, and the leukemia is selected from acute lymphoblastic leukemia and chronic lymphoblastic leukemia.

62. The use of claim 59, wherein the B cell malignancy is lymphoma, and the lymphoma is selected from Burkitt's lymphoma, Diffuse large B cell lymphoma, follicular lymphoma and Hodgkin's lymphoma.

63. Use of a compound of formula Ia, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of cancer,



(Ia),

wherein:

L represents CH_2SCH_2, CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$, CH_2, CH_2S, SCH_2, CH_2NHCH_2, CH=CH, or , preferably CH_2CH_2, wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH or CH_2 unit may be replaced

by alkyl or alkoxy, any hydrogen of an NH unit may be replaced by alkyl, and any hydrogen atom of a CH_2 unit of CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$ or CH_2 may be replaced by hydroxy;

X represents S, O or CH=CH, preferably S or CH=CH, wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH unit may be replaced by alkyl;

Y, independently for each occurrence, represents H or $CH_2O(CO)R_7$;

R_7, independently for each occurrence, represents H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkoxy, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, heterocyclylalkyl, arylalkyl, or heterocyclylalkoxy;

Z represents H or $R_3(CO)$;

R_1 and R_2 each independently represent H, alkyl, alkoxy or hydroxy, preferably H;

R_3 represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaryloxyalkyl or $C(R_8)(R_9)(R_{10})$, $N(R_4)(R_5)$ or OR_6, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_4 and R_5 each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, acyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_6, independently for each occurrence, represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$; and

R_8, R_9 and R_{10} each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl,

heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, or R_8 and R_9 together with the carbon to which they are attached, form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$, and wherein at least two of R_8, R_9 and R_{10} are not H;

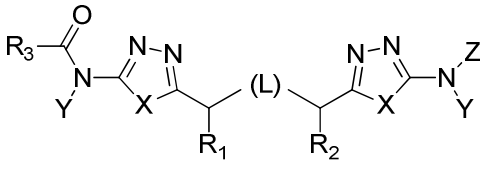
R_{11} represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, or $C(R_{12})(R_{13})(R_{14})$, $N(R_4)(R_{14})$ or OR_{14}, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_{12} and R_{13} each independently respresent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$, and wherein both of R_{12} and R_{13} are not H; and

R_{14} represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl;

according to a method wherein 1) glutaminase activity in cells of the cancer is determined; and 2) the medicament is to be administered if the activity is greater than or equal to 0.005 µmol/min/mg of protein.

64. Use of a compound of formula Ia, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of cancer,



(I),

wherein:

L represents CH_2SCH_2, CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$, CH_2, CH_2S, SCH_2, CH_2NHCH_2, CH=CH, or , wherein any hydrogen atom of a CH or CH_2 unit may be replaced by alkyl or alkoxy, any hydrogen of an NH unit may be replaced by alkyl, and any hydrogen atom of a CH_2 unit of CH_2CH_2, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$ or CH_2 may be replaced by hydroxy;

one X represents S and the other X represents CH=CH;

Y, independently for each occurrence, represents H or $CH_2O(CO)R_7$;

R_7, independently for each occurrence, represents H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkoxy, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, heterocyclylalkyl, or heterocyclylalkoxy;

Z represents H or $R_3(CO)$;

R_1 and R_2 each independently represent H, alkyl, alkoxy or hydroxy;

R_3, independently for each occurrence, represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaryloxyalkyl or $C(R_8)(R_9)(R_{10})$, $N(R_4)(R_5)$ or OR_6, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_4 and R_5 each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, acyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$;

R_6, independently for each occurrence, represents substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$; and

R_8, R_9 and R_{10} each independently represent H or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, or heteroaryloxyalkyl, or R_8 and R_9 together with the carbon to which they are attached, form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system, wherein any free hydroxyl group may be acylated to form $C(O)R_7$, and wherein at least two of R_8, R_9 and R_{10} are not H;

according to a method wherein 1) glutaminase activity in cells of the cancer is determined; and 2) the medicament is to be administered if the activity is greater than or equal to 0.005 μmol/min/mg of protein.