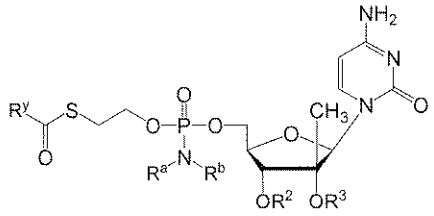
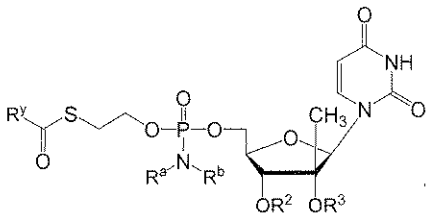
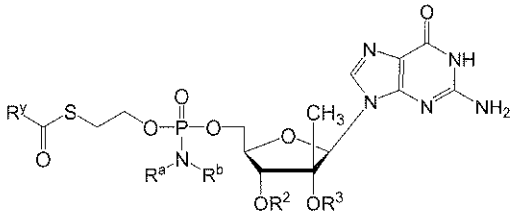
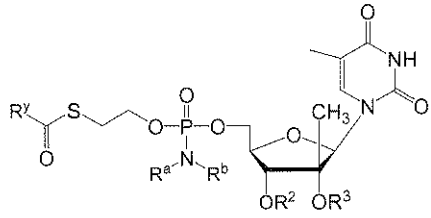
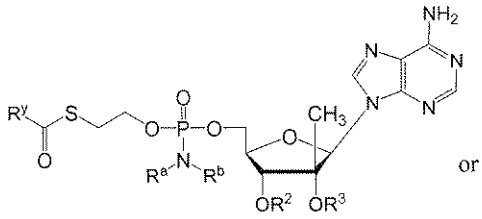
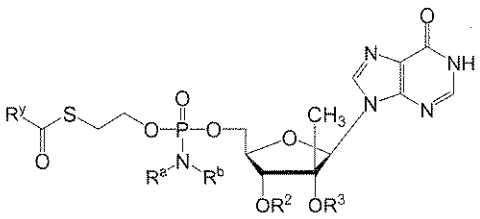
What is claimed is:

1. A compound of the formula:






or

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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a ~~stereoisomeric,~~ tautomeric or polymorphic form thereof, wherein;

R^y is optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, hydroxyalkyl, amino, heterocyclyl or heteroaryl;

R^a and R^b are selected as follows:

i) R^a and R^b are each independently hydrogen or alkyl, substituted alkyl, carboxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, hydroxyarylalkyl, acyloxyalkyl, aminocarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, aryl, substituted benzyl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl; or

ii) R^a and R^b together with the nitrogen atom on which they are substituted form a 3-7 membered heterocyclic or heteroaryl ring; and

R^2 and R^3 are each independently H, or R^2 and R^3 are linked to form a cyclic group by an alkyl, ester or carbamate linkage.

2. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^y is substituted alkyl and R^a and R^b are independently hydrogen, alkyl or substituted alkyl.

3. The compounds of claim 1 or 2, wherein substituted in the definition of R^y refers to any one of halogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, hydroxyl, amino, alkylamino, arylamino, alkoxy, aryloxy, nitro, cyano, sulfonic acid, sulfate, phosphonic acid, protected phosphate group, unprotected phosphate group, protected phosphonate group or unprotected phosphonate group.

~~3.~~4. The compound of claim 1 or 2 wherein R^y is hydroxyalkyl or aminoalkyl.

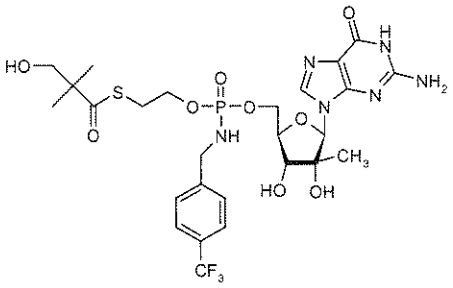
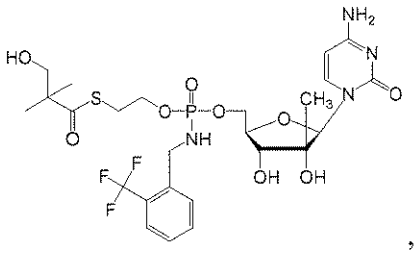
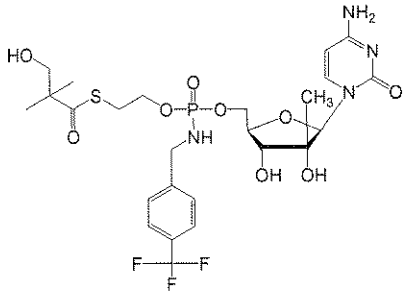
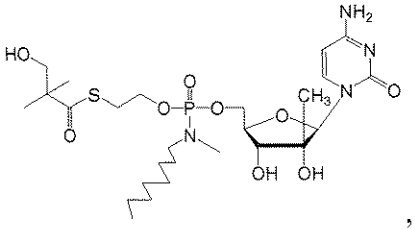
~~4. The compound of any of claims 1-3 wherein R^y is $-OR^e$, $-C(R^e)_3$ or $-NHR^e$ where each R^e is independently alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl or substituted aryl; and R^a and R^b are independently hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl or substituted benzyl.~~

5. The compound of any of claims 1-4 wherein R^a and R^b are independently hydrogen, substituted alkyl or substituted benzyl.

6. The compound of any of claims 1-5 wherein R^y is selected from the group consisting of alkyl and hydroxyalkyl.

7. The compound of any of claims 1-6 wherein R^y is $-C(CH_3)_2CH_2OH$.

8. The compound of any of claims 1-6, wherein the compound is selected from


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