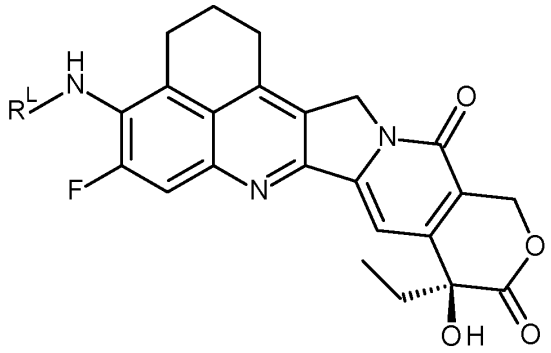
CLAIMS

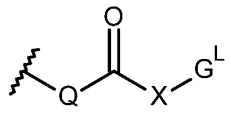
1. A compound with the formula I:



I

and salts and solvates thereof, wherein R^L is a linker for connection to a Ligand Unit, which is selected from:

(ia):

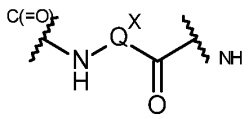


Ia

,

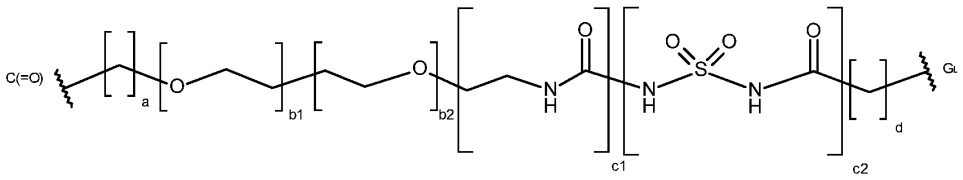
wherein

Q is:



, where Q^X is such that Q is an amino-acid residue, a dipeptide residue, a tripeptide residue or a tetrapeptide residue;

X is:

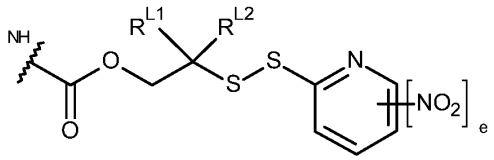


,

where a = 0 to 5, b1 = 0 to 16, b2 = 0 to 16, c1 = 0 or 1, c2 = 0 or 1, d = 0 to 5, wherein at least b1 or b2 = 0 and at least c1 or c2 = 0;

G^L is a linker for connecting to a Ligand Unit;

(ib):



Ib

,

where R^{L1} and R^{L2} are independently selected from H and methyl, or together with the carbon atom to which they are bound form a cyclopropylene or cyclobutylene group; and

e is 0 or 1.

2. The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^L is of formula Ia.

3. The compound according to claim 2, wherein Q is:

(a) an amino acid residue selected from: Phe, Lys, Val, Ala, Cit, Leu, Ile, Arg, and Trp; or

(b) a dipeptide residue selected from:

^{NH}-Phe-Lys-$^{C=O}$,

^{NH}-Val-Ala-$^{C=O}$,

^{NH}-Val-Lys-$^{C=O}$,

^{NH}-Ala-Lys-$^{C=O}$,

^{NH}-Val-Cit-$^{C=O}$,

^{NH}-Phe-Cit-$^{C=O}$,

^{NH}-Leu-Cit-$^{C=O}$,

^{NH}-Ile-Cit-$^{C=O}$,

^{NH}-Phe-Arg-$^{C=O}$,

^{NH}-Trp-Cit-$^{C=O}$, and

^{NH}-Gly-Val-$^{C=O}$; or

(c) a tripeptide residue selected from:

^{NH}-Glu-Val-Ala-$^{C=O}$-,

^{NH}-Glu-Val-Cit-$^{C=O}$,

^{NH}-αGlu-Val-Ala-$^{C=O}$, and

^{NH}-αGlu-Val-Cit-$^{C=O}$; or

(d) a tetrapeptide residue selected from:

^{NH}-Gly-Gly-Phe-Gly $^{C=O}$; and

^{NH}-Gly-Phe-Gly-Gly $^{C=O}$.

4. The compound according to either claim 2 or claim 3, wherein a is:

(a) 0 to 3; or

(b) 0 or 1; or

(c) 0.

5. The compound according to any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein b1 is:

(a) 0 to 8; or

(b) 0; or

(c) 2; or

(d) 3; or

(e) 4; or

(f) 5; or

(g) 8.

6. The compound according to any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein b2 is:

(a) 0 to 8; or

(b) 0; or

(c) 2; or

(d) 3; or

(e) 4; or

(f) 5; or

(g) 8.

7. The compound according any to one of claims 2 to 6, wherein:

(i) c1 is:

(a) 0; or

(b) 1; and

(ii) c2 is:

(a) 0; or

(b) 1;

wherein at least one of c1 and c2 is 0.

8. The compound according to any one of claims 2 to 7, wherein d is:

(a) 0 to 3; or

(b) 1 or 2; or

(c) 2; or

(d) 5.

9. The compound according to any one of claims 2 to 8, wherein:

(a) a is 0, b1 is 0, c1 is 1, c2 is 0 and d is 2, and b2 is 0, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 8; or

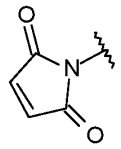
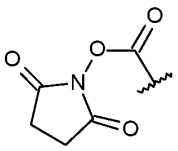
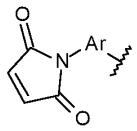
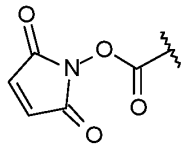
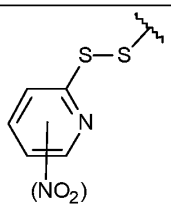
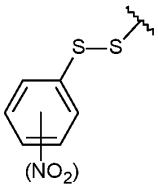
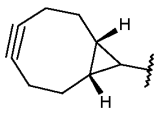
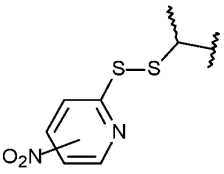
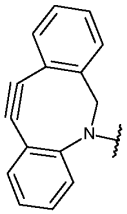
(b) a is 1, b2 is 0, c1 is 0, c2 is 0 and d is 0, and b1 is 0, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 8; or

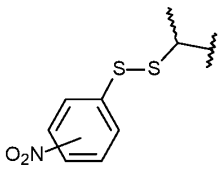
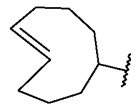
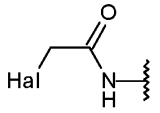
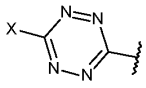
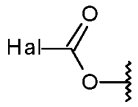
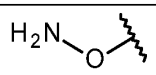
(c) a is 0, b1 is 0, c1 is 0, c2 is 0 and d is 1, and b2 is 0, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 8; or

(d) b1 is 0, b2 is 0, c1 is 0, c2 is 0, one of a and d is 0, and the other of a and d is 1 or 5; or

(e) a is 1, b2 is 0, c1 is 0, c2 is 1, d is 2, and b1 is 0, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 8.

10. The compound according to any one of claims 2 to 9, wherein G^L is selected from

(G^{L1-1})		(G^{L6})	
(G^{L1-2})		(G^{L7})	
(G^{L2})		(G^{L8})	
(G^{L3-1})	 where the NO_2 group is optional	(G^{L9})	
(G^{L3-2})	 where the NO_2 group is optional	(G^{L10})	
(G^{L3-3})	 where the NO_2 group is optional	(G^{L11})	

(G^{L3-4})	 where the NO_2 group is optional	(G^{L12})	
(G^{L4})	 Where Hal = I, Br, Cl	(G^{L13})	
(G^{L5})		(G^{L14})	

where Ar represents a C_{5-6} arylene group, and X represents C_{1-4} alkyl.

11. A compound according to claim 10, wherein G^L is selected from G^{L1-1} and G^{L1-2}.

12. The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^L is of formula Ib, and:

(a) both R^{L1} and R^{L2} are H; or

(b) R^{L1} is H and R^{L2} is methyl; or

(c) both R^{L1} and R^{L2} are methyl; or

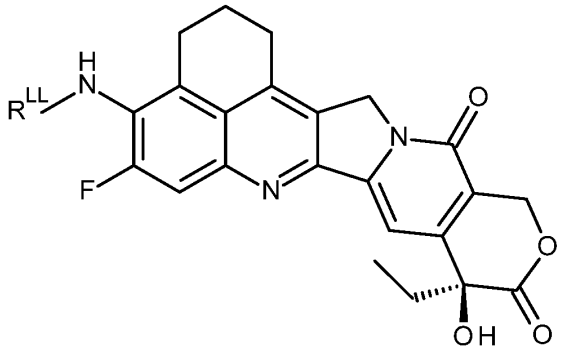
(d) wherein R^{L1} and R^{L2} together with the carbon atom to which they are bound form a cyclopropylene group; or

(e) wherein R^{L1} and R^{L2} together with the carbon atom to which they are bound form a cyclobutylene group.

13. A conjugate of formula IV:

$$L - (D^L)_p \qquad (IV)$$

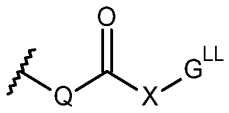
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, wherein L is a Ligand unit, D^L is a Drug Linker unit that is of formula III:



III

R^{LL} is a linker connected to the Ligand unit selected from

(ia'):

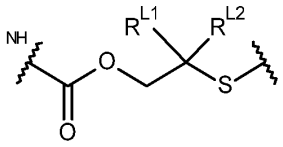


Ia'

,

where Q and X are as defined in any one of claims 1 to 9 and G^{LL} is a linker connected to a Ligand Unit; and

(ib'):



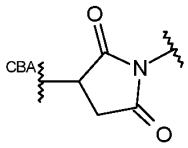
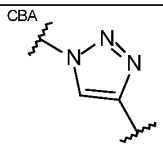
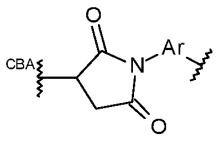
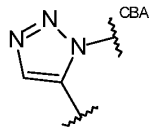
Ib'

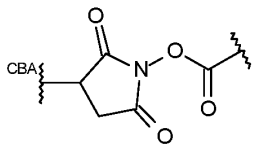
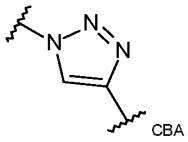
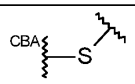
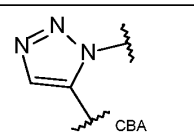
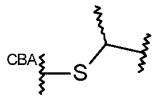
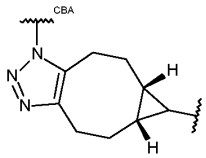
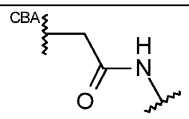
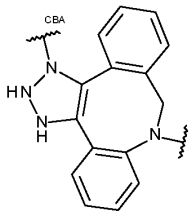
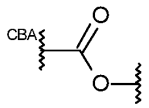
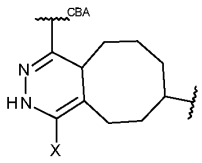
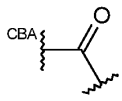
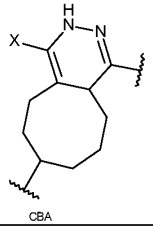
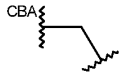
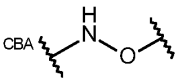
,

where R^{L1} and R^{L2} are as defined in either claim 1 or claim 12; and

p is an integer of from 1 to 20.

14. The conjugate according to claim 13, wherein G^{LL} is selected from:

(G^{LL1-1})		(G^{LL8-1})	
(G^{LL1-2})		(G^{LL8-2})	

(G^{LL2})		(G^{LL9-1})	
(G^{LL3-1})		(G^{LL9-2})	
(G^{LL3-2})		(G^{LL10})	
(G^{LL-4})		(G^{LL11})	
(G^{LL5})		(G^{LL12})	
(G^{LL6})		(G^{LL13})	
(G^{LL7})		(G^{LL14})	

where Ar represents a C_{5-6} arylene group and X represents C_{1-4} alkyl.

15. The conjugate according to claim 14, wherein G^{LL} is selected from G^{LL1-1} and G^{LL1-2}.

16. The conjugate according to any one of claims 13 to 15, wherein the Ligand Unit is an antibody or an active fragment thereof.

17. The conjugate according to claim 16, wherein the drug loading (p) of drugs (D) to antibody (Ab) is an integer from 1 to about 10.

18. A mixture of conjugates according to either claim 16 or claim 17, wherein the average drug loading per antibody in the mixture of antibody-drug conjugates is about 1 to about 10.

19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the conjugate or mixture of any one of claims 13 to 18 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent, carrier or excipient.

20. The conjugate or mixture according to any one of claims 13 to 18, or the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, for use in the treatment of a proliferative disease in a subject.

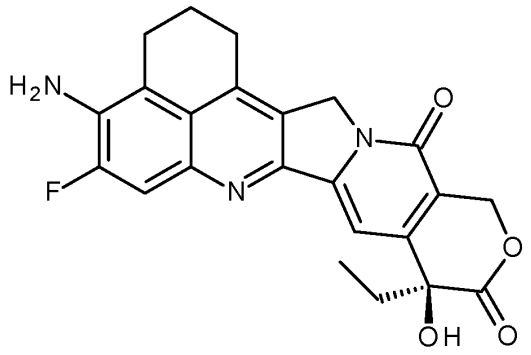
21. The conjugate, mixture or pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20, wherein the disease is cancer.

22. Use of a conjugate or mixture according to any one of claims 13 to 18, or the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19 in a method of medical treatment.

23. A method of medical treatment comprising administering to a patient the pharmaceutical composition of claim 19.

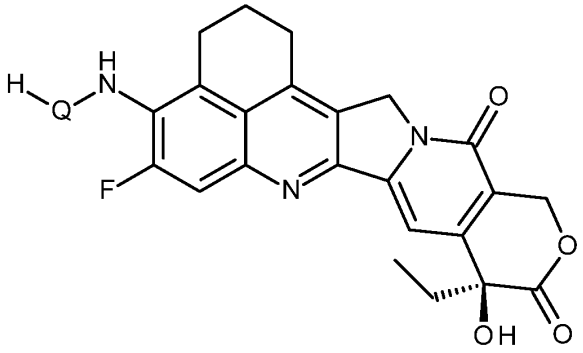
24. The method of claim 23 wherein the method of medical treatment is for treating cancer.

25. The compound A:



A

26. A compound with the formula VI:



VI

where Q is as in either claims 1 or 3.