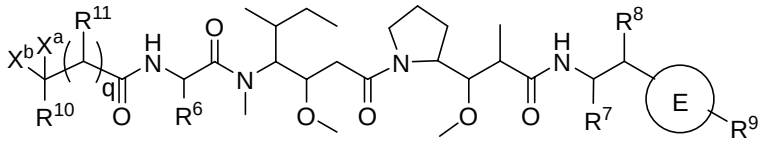
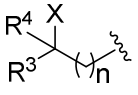
CLAIMS:

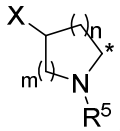
1. A compound of Formula (I):



(I)

or a salt thereof, wherein

X^b is $-NR^1R^2$; and X^a is  ; or

X^a and X^b are taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form  , wherein the asterisk denotes the carbon atom of Formula (I) that bears the X^a and X^b groups;

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^a, R^b, R^5, and R^{10} are each independently H or C_1-C_4 alkyl;

X is H, OH, $-C(O)NR^aR^b$, $-S(O)_2R^a$, $-S(O)-R^a$ $-S(O)_2NR^aR^b$, $-NHS(O)_2R^a$, or $-NHC(O)R^a$;

R^6 is C_1-C_4 alkyl optionally substituted with OH;

R^7 is H, C_1-C_4 alkyl optionally substituted with one or two OH moieties, or 5-6 membered heteroaryl;

E is phenyl or 5-6 membered heteroaryl;

R^8, R^9, and R^{11} are each independently H or OH;

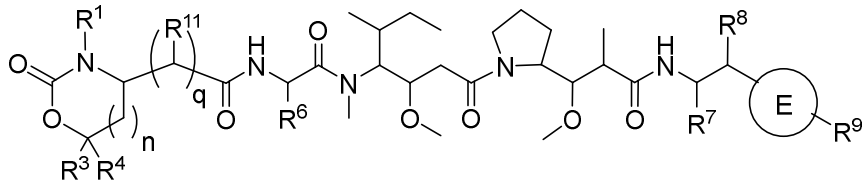
n is 0, 1, 2, or 3;

m is 1, 2, 3, or 4; and

q is 0 or 1,

wherein when X is H, at least two of R^7, R^8, R^9, and R^{11} comprise an OH moiety.

2. A compound of Formula (II):



(II)

or a salt thereof, wherein

R^1, R^3, and R^4 are independently H or C_1-C_4 alkyl;

R^6 is C_1-C_4 alkyl optionally substituted with OH;

R^7 is H, C_1-C_4 alkyl optionally substituted with one or two OH moieties, or 5-6 membered heteroaryl;

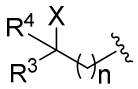
E is phenyl or 5-6 membered heteroaryl;

R^8, R^9, and R^{11} are each independently H or OH;

n is 0, 1, or 2; and

q is 0 or 1.

3. The compound of claim 1, or a salt thereof, wherein

X^a is ;

X^b is $-NR^1R^2$;

R^1 is H or methyl;

R^2 is methyl;

X is OH;

R^3 and R^4 are H;

R^6 is isopropyl;

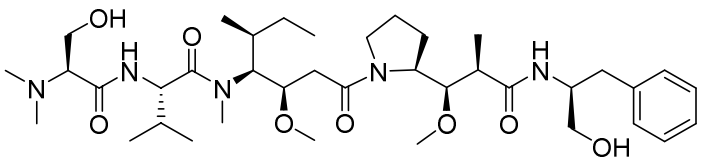
R^7 is $-CH_2OH$;

R^8 is H;

E is phenyl; and

R^9 is H.

4. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound is

 or a salt thereof.

5. A Drug-Linker compound of the following formula:

Q-D,

or a salt thereof, wherein

Q is a Linker Unit selected from the group consisting of:

(i) Z'-A-RL-,

(ii) Z'-A-RL-Y-,

(iii) Z'-A-S*-RL-,

(iv) Z'-A-S*-RL-Y-,

(v) Z'-A-B(S*)-RL-,

(vi) Z'-A-B(S*)-RL-Y-,

(vii) Z'-A-,

(viii) Z'-A-S*-W-,

(ix) Z'-A-B(S*)-W-,

(x) Z'-A-S*-W-RL-, and

(xi) Z'-A-B(S*)-W-RL-;

Z' is a Stretcher Unit precursor;

A is a bond or a Connector Unit;

B is a Parallel Connector Unit;

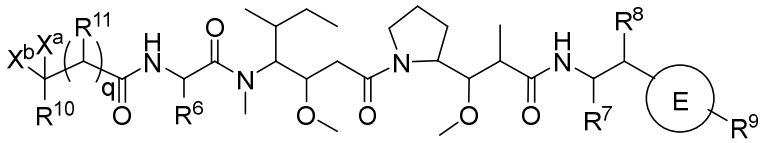
S* is a Partitioning Agent;

RL is a Releasable Linker;

W is an Amino Acid Unit;

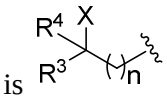
Y is a Spacer Unit; and

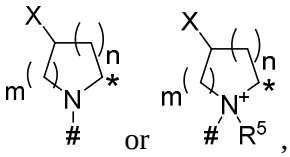
D is a Drug Unit of Formula (I'):



(I')

wherein

X^b is $-NR^{2}-^{\#}$ or $-N^{+}R^{1}R^{5}-^{\#}$, wherein the # denotes the point of attachment to Q, and X^a is  ; or

X^a and X^b are taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form  or , wherein the asterisk denotes the carbon atom of Formula (I) that bears the X^a and X^b groups, and the # denotes the point of attachment to Q;

R^1 and R^5 are independently C_1-C_4 alkyl;

X is H, OH, -C(O)NR^aR^b, -$S(O)_2R^a$, -S(O)-R^a -$S(O)_2NR^aR^b$, -$NHS(O)_2R^a$, or -$NHC(O)R^a$;

R^2, R^3, R^4, R^{10}, R^a, and R^b are each independently H or C_1-C_4 alkyl;

R^6 is C_1-C_4 alkyl optionally substituted with OH;

R^7 is H, C_1-C_4 alkyl optionally substituted with one or two OH moieties, or 5-6 membered heteroaryl;

E is phenyl or 5-6 membered heteroaryl;

R^8, R^9, and R^{11} are each independently H or OH;

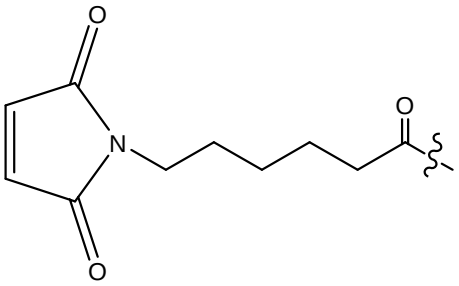
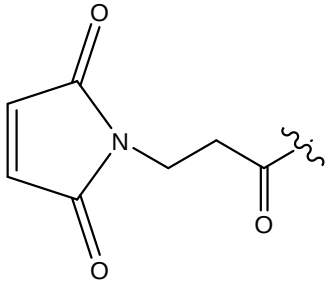
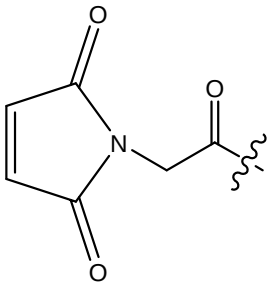
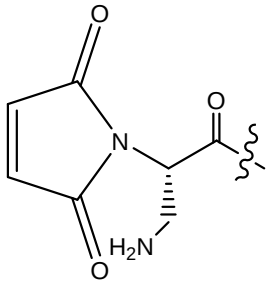
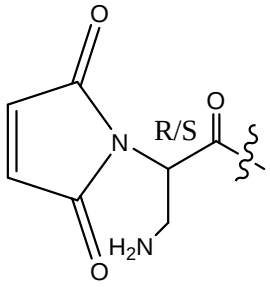
n is 0, 1, 2, or 3;

m is 1, 2, 3, or 4;

q is 0 or 1; and

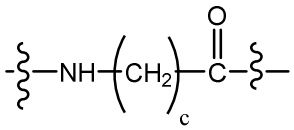
wherein when X is H, at least two of R^7, R^8, R^9, and R^{11} comprise an OH moiety.

6. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, or a salt thereof, wherein the Stretcher Unit Z' is


,

,

,

, or

,

wherein the wavy lines indicate the point of covalent attachment to the rest of the Drug-Linker compound.

7. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, or a salt thereof, wherein the Connector Unit A is

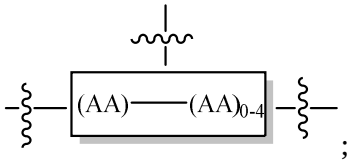

;

c is an integer ranging from 1 to 6; and

the wavy lines indicate the site of attachment to the rest of the Drug-Linker compound or salt thereof.

8. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, or a salt thereof, wherein A is a bond.

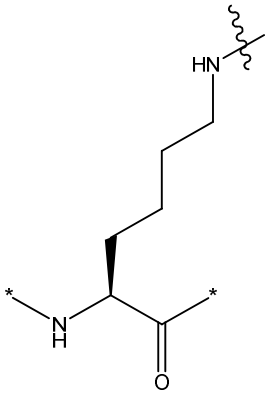
9. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, or a salt thereof, wherein B is

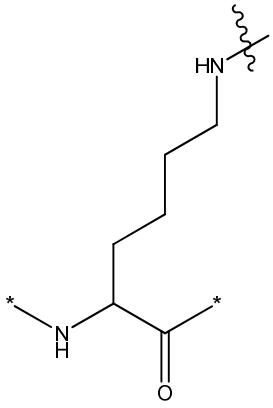

;

each AA is independently a proteinogenic or non-proteinogenic amino acid; and

the wavy lines indicate points of attachment to the rest of the Drug-Linker compound or salt thereof.

10. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, or a salt thereof, wherein B is



or


;

the wavy line indicates the point of attachement to the Partitioning Agent S*; and

the asterisks indicate points of attachment to the rest of the Drug-Linker structure.

11. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, or a salt thereof, wherein the Partitioning Agent S^* is a polyethylene glycol (PEG) unit, cyclodextrin unit, polyamide, hydrophilic peptide, polysaccharide, or dendrimer.

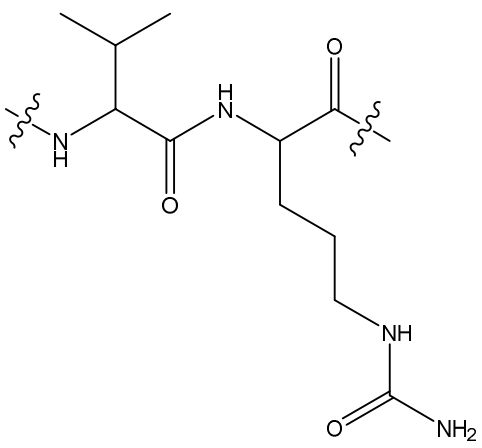
12. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 11, or a salt thereof, wherein the Partitioning Agent S^* is a PEG Unit comprising from 4 to 72 (CH_2CH_2O) subunits.

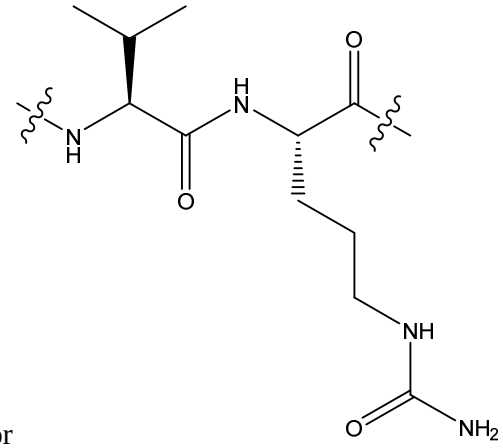
13. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, or a salt thereof, wherein the Releasable Linker RL is

$–(AA)_{1\text{-}12}–$; and

each AA is independently a proteinogenic or non-proteinogenic amino acid.

14. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, or a salt thereof, wherein the Releasable Linker RL is



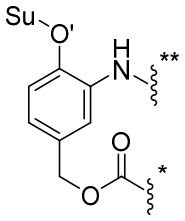
or


; and

the wavy line adjacent to the -NH- group indicates attachment to the Stretcher Unit Z' or the Connector Unit A and the wavy line adjacent to the -C(=O)- group indicates attachment to the Spacer Unit Y or the Drug Unit D.

15. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, or a salt thereof, wherein the Releasable Linker RL is a glycoside.

16. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, or a salt thereof, wherein the Releasable Linker RL is



wherein

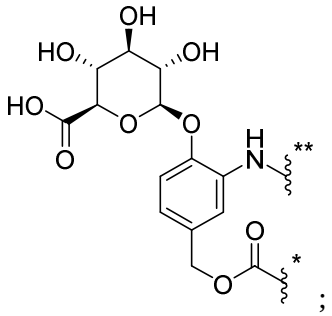
Su is a hexose form a monosaccharide;

O' represents the oxygen atom of a glycosidic bond that is capable of cleavage by a glycosidase;

the wavy line marked with a single asterisk (*) indicates the site of covalent attachment to D; and

the wavy line marked with a double asterisk (**) indicates the site of covalent attachment to the remainder of Q.

17. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 16, or a salt thereof, wherein the Releasable Linker RL is

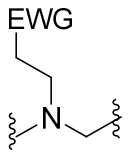


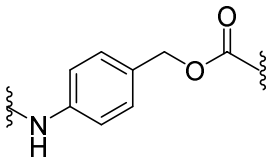
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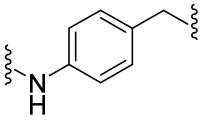
the wavy line marked with a single asterisk (*) indicates the site of covalent attachment to D; and

the wavy line marked with a double asterisk (**) indicates the site of covalent attachment to the remainder of Q.

18. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, or a salt thereof, wherein the Spacer Unit Y is



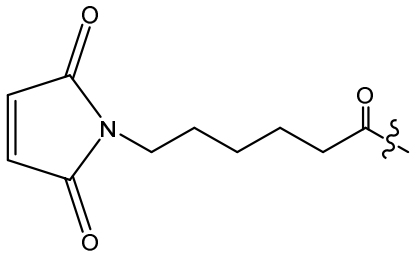
,


, or


wherein EWG is an electron-withdrawing group; and

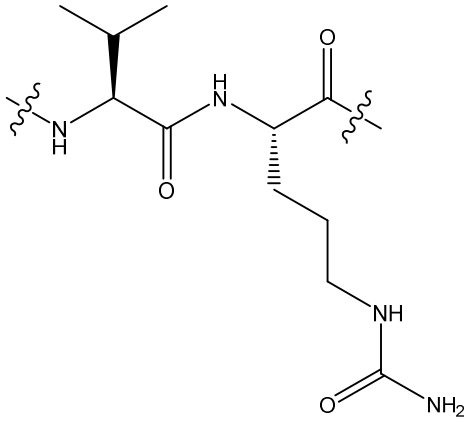
the wavy lines indicate the site of attachment to the rest of the Drug-Linker compound or salt thereof.

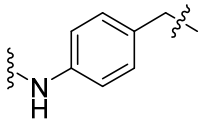
19. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, or a salt thereof, wherein

Z' is 

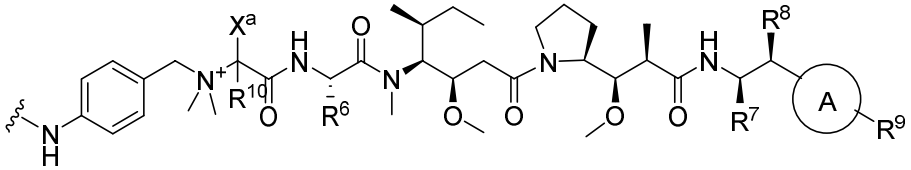
;

A is a bond;

RL is ; and

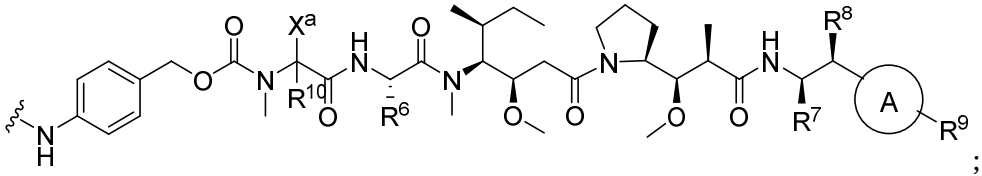
Y is .

20. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, wherein Y-D is

; and

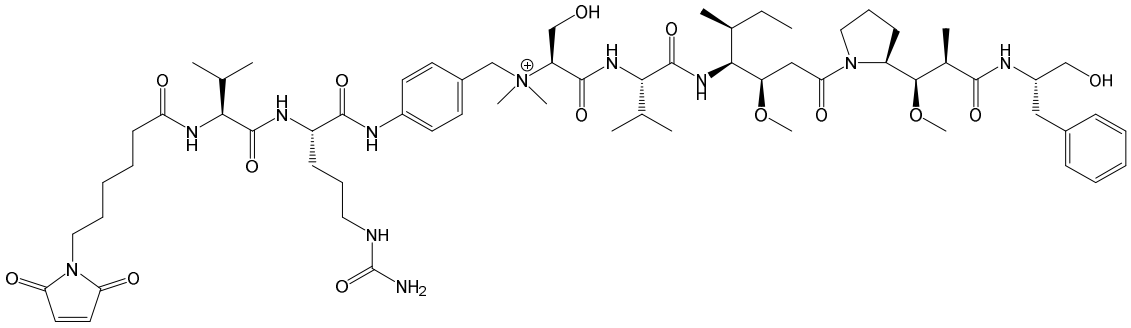
the wavy line indicates the site of attachment to the rest of the Drug-Linker compound or salt thereof.

21. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, wherein Y-D is

; and

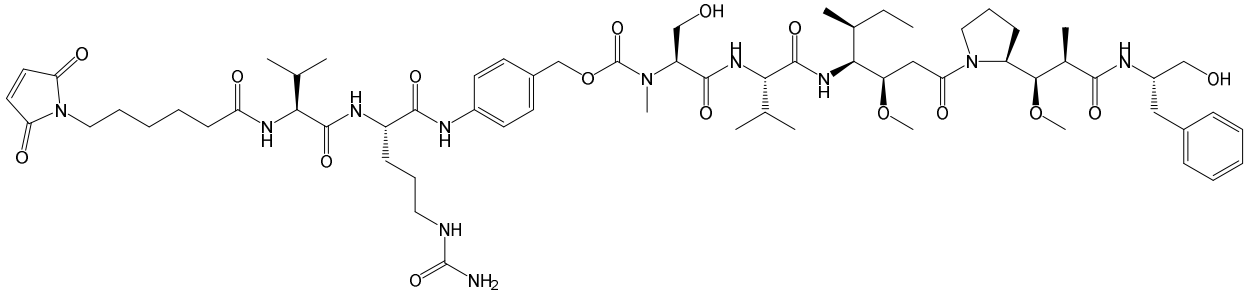
the wavy line indicates the site of attachment to the rest of the Drug-Linker compound or salt thereof.

22. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, wherein the compound is

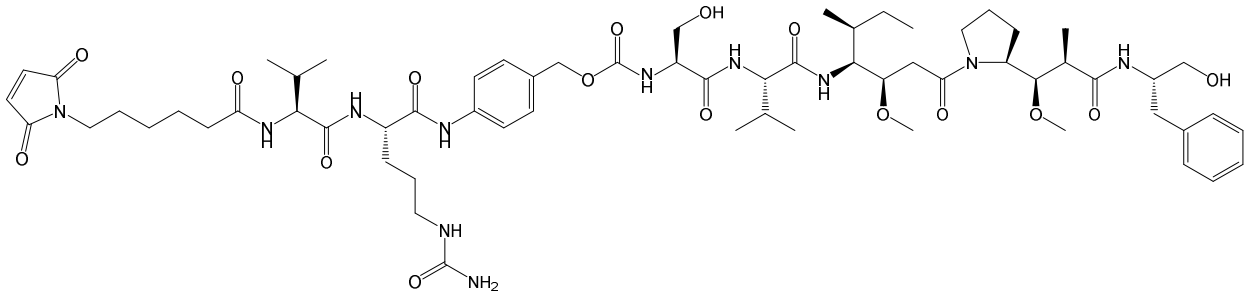


or a salt thereof.

23. The Drug-Linker compound of claim 5, wherein the compound is



or



or a salt thereof.

24. A Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of the formula:

$$L\text{-}(Q\text{-}D)_p$$

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

L is a Ligand Unit;

Q is a Linker Unit selected from the group consisting of:

(i) Z'-A-RL-,

(ii) Z'-A-RL-Y-,

(iii) Z'-A-S*-RL-,

(iv) Z'-A-S*-RL-Y-,

(v) Z'-A-B(S*)-RL-,

(vi) Z'-A-B(S*)-RL-Y-,

(vii) Z'-A-,

(viii) Z'-A-S*-W-,

(ix) Z'-A-B(S*)-W-,

(x) Z'-A-S*-W-RL-, and

(xi) Z'-A-B(S*)-W-RL-;

Z' is a Stretcher Unit;

A is a bond or a Connector Unit;

B is a Parallel Connector Unit;

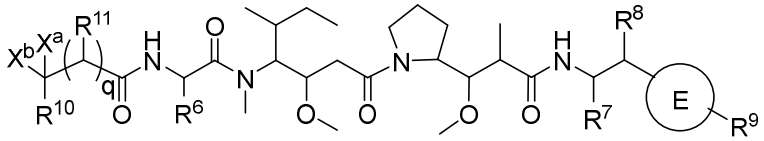
S^* is a Partitioning Agent;

RL is a Releasable Linker;

W is a Amino Acid Unit;

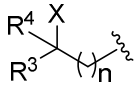
Y is a Spacer Unit; and

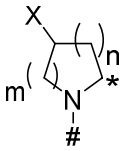
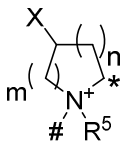
D is a Drug Unit of Formula (I'):



(I')

wherein

X^b is $-NR^2-^{\#}$ or $-N^+R^1R^5-^{\#}$, wherein the # denotes the point of attachment to Q, and X^a is  ; or

X^a and X^b are taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form  or  , wherein the asterisk denotes the carbon atom of Formula (I) that bears the X^a and X^b groups, and the # denotes the point of attachment to Q;

R^1 and R^5 are independently C_1-C_4 alkyl;

X is H, OH, $-C(O)NR^aR^b$, $-S(O)_2R^a$, $-S(O)-R^a$ $-S(O)_2NR^aR^b$, $-NHS(O)_2R^a$, or $-NHC(O)R^a$;

R^2, R^3, R^4, R^{10}, R^a, and R^b are each independently H or C_1-C_4 alkyl;

R^6 is C_1-C_4 alkyl optionally substituted with OH;

R^7 is H, C_1-C_4 alkyl optionally substituted with one or two OH moieties, or 5-6 membered heteroaryl;

E is phenyl or 5-6 membered heteroaryl;

R^8, R^9, and R^{11} are each independently H or OH;

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3;

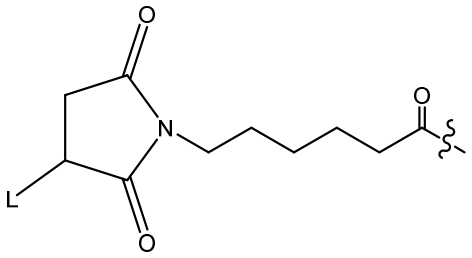
m is 1, 2, 3, or 4;

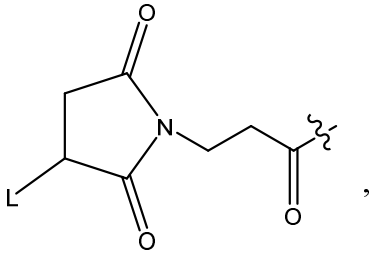
q is 0 or 1;

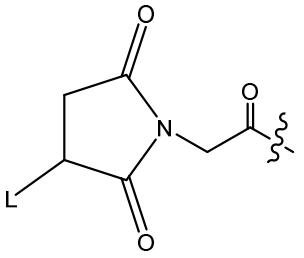
p is an integer ranging from 1 to 12; and

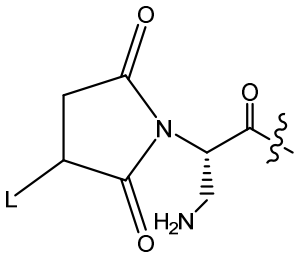
wherein when X is H, at least two of R^7, R^8, R^9, and R^{11} comprise an OH moiety.

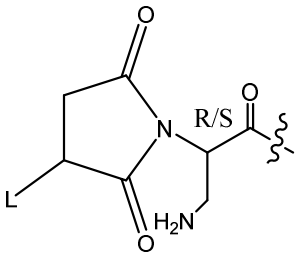
25. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the Ligand Unit L and the Stretcher Unit Z together are



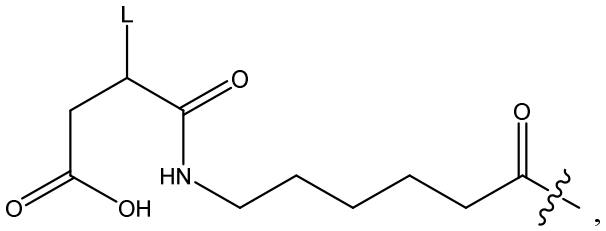
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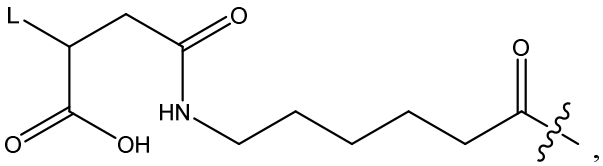
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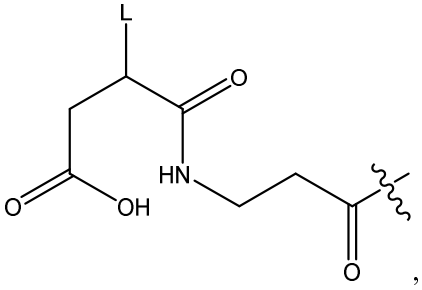
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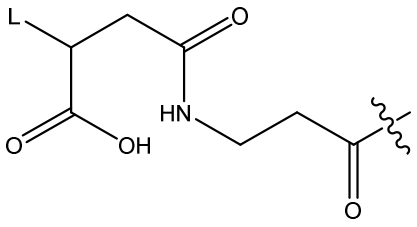
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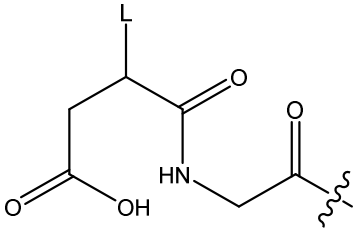
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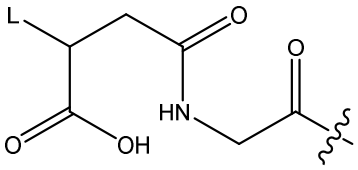


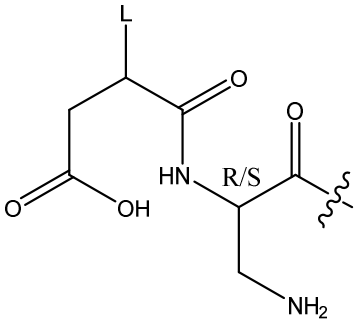
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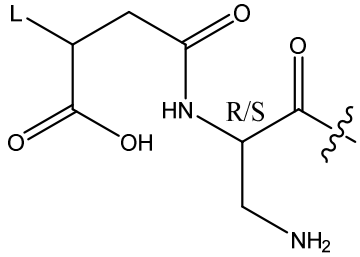
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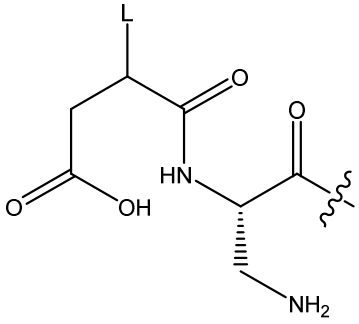
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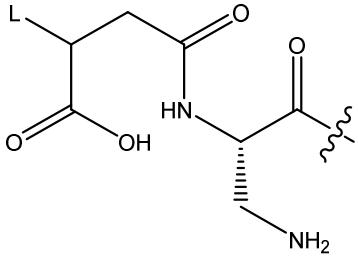
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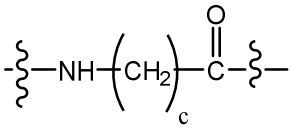
,


,
or


,

wherein the wavy lines indicate the point of covalent attachment to the rest of the Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound.

26. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the Connector Unit A is



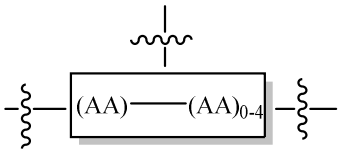
;

c is an integer ranging from 1 to 6; and

the wavy lines indicate the site of attachment to the rest of the Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

27. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein A is a bond.

28. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a salt thereof, wherein B is

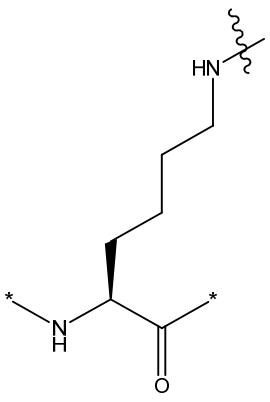


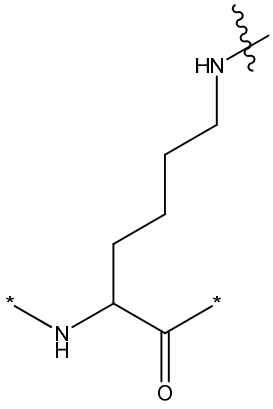
;

each AA is independently a proteinogenic or non-proteinogenic amino acid; and

the wavy lines indicate points of attachment to the rest of the Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein B is



or


;

the wavy line indicates the point of attachment to the Partitioning Agent S*; and

the asterisks indicate points of attachment to the rest of the Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

30. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the Partitioning Agent S^* is a polyethylene glycol (PEG) unit, cyclodextrin unit, polyamide, hydrophilic peptide, polysaccharide, or dendrimer.

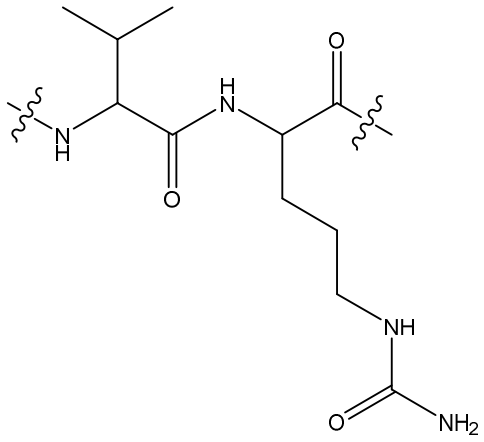
31. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 30, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the Partitioning Agent S^* is a PEG Unit comprising from 4 to 72 (CH_2CH_2O) subunits.

32. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the Releasable Linker RL is

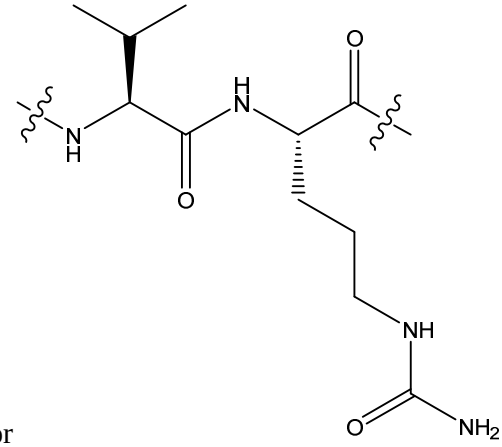
$–(AA)_{1\text{-}12}–$; and

each AA is independently a proteinogenic or non-proteinogenic amino acid.

33. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the Releasable Linker RL is



or

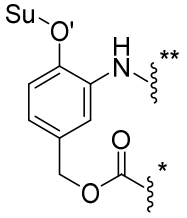


; and

the wavy line adjacent to the -NH- group indicates attachment to the Stretcher Unit Z or the Connector Unit A and the wavy line adjacent to the -C(=O)- group indicates attachment to the Spacer Unit Y or the Drug Unit D.

34. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the Releasable Linker RL is a glycoside.

35. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 34, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the Releasable Linker RL is



wherein

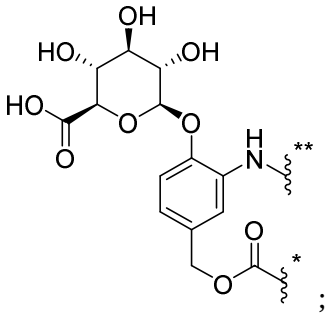
Su is a hexose form a monosaccharide;

O' represents the oxygen atom of a glycosidic bond that is capable of cleavage by a glycosidase;

the wavy line marked with a single asterisk (*) indicates the site of covalent attachment to D; and

the wavy line marked with a double asterisk (**) indicates the site of covalent attachment to the remainder of Q.

36. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 35, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the Releasable Linker RL is

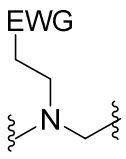


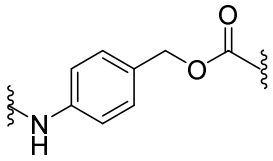
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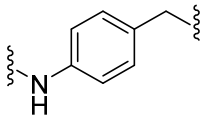
the wavy line marked with a single asterisk (*) indicates the site of covalent attachment to D; and

the wavy line marked with a double asterisk (**) indicates the site of covalent attachment to the remainder of Q.

37. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the Spacer Unit Y is



,


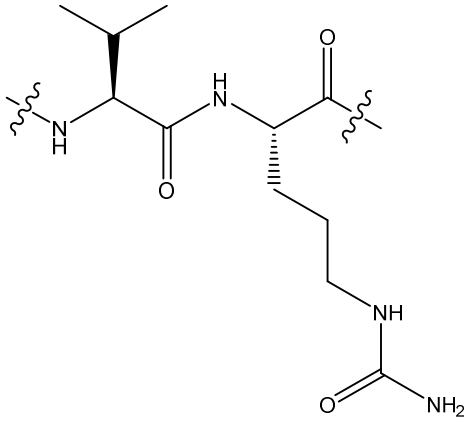
, or


wherein EWG is an electron-withdrawing group; and

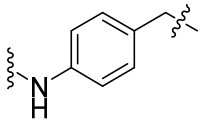
the wavy lines indicate the site of attachment to the rest of the Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

38. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

A is a bond;

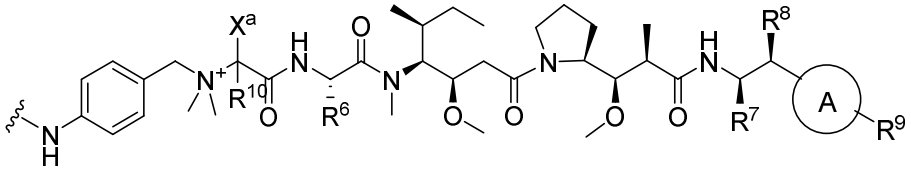
RL is


; and

Y is


.

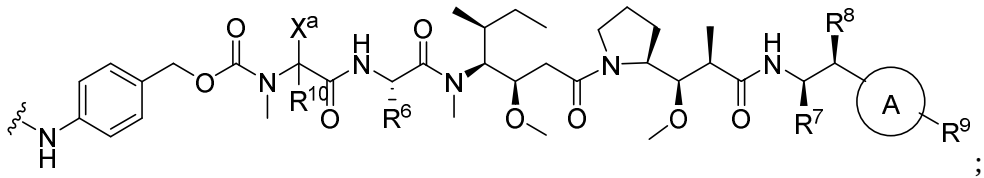
39. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Y-D is



; and

the wavy line indicates the site of attachment to the rest of the Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

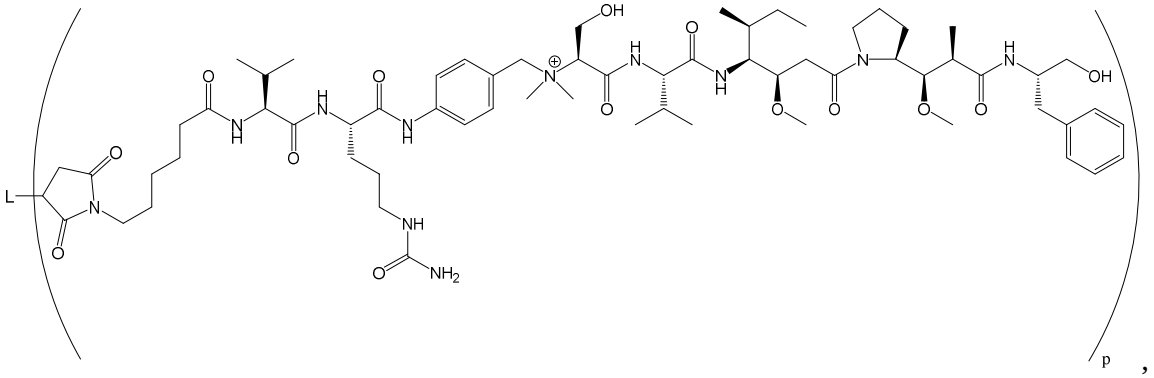
40. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Y-D is



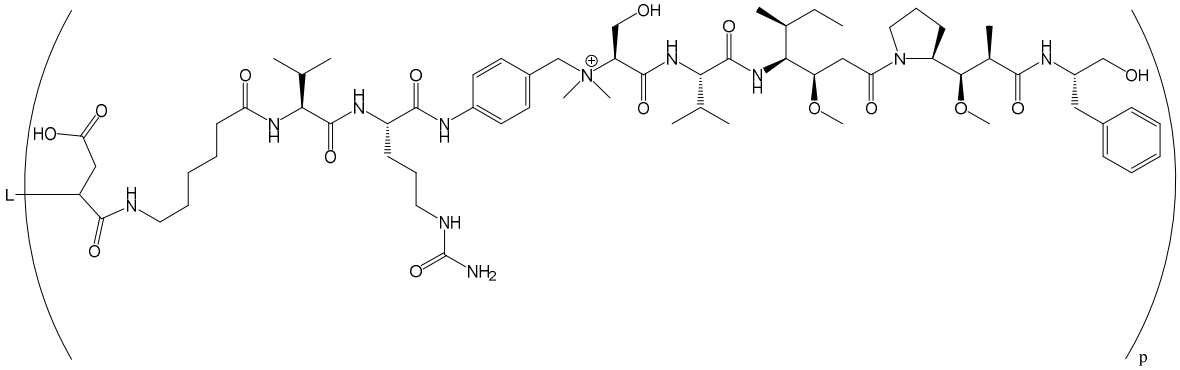
; and

the wavy line indicates the site of attachment to the rest of the Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

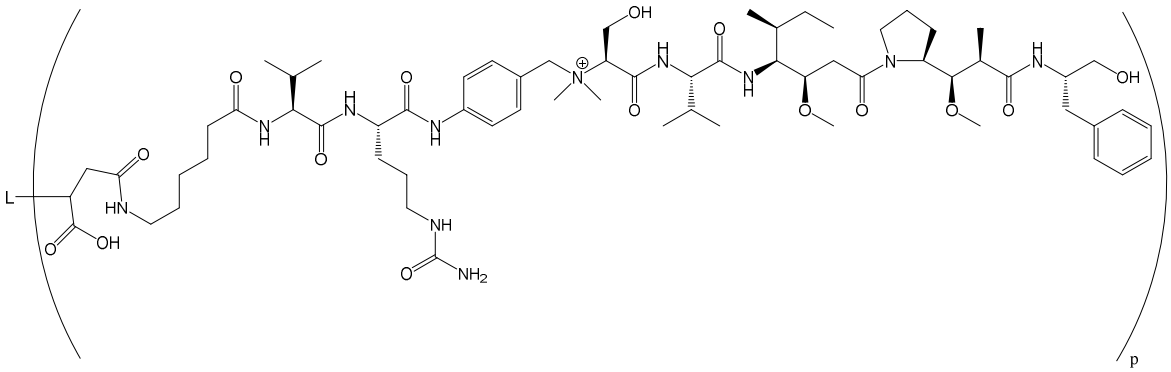
41. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, wherein the compound is



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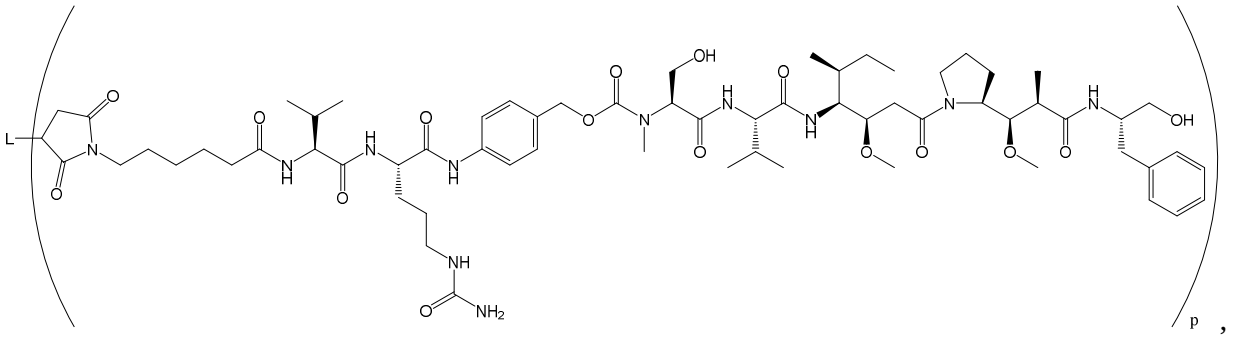


, or

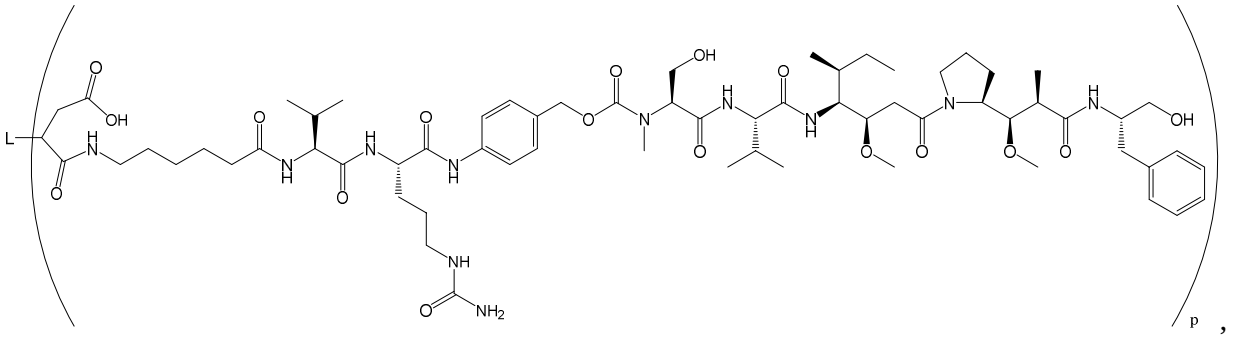


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

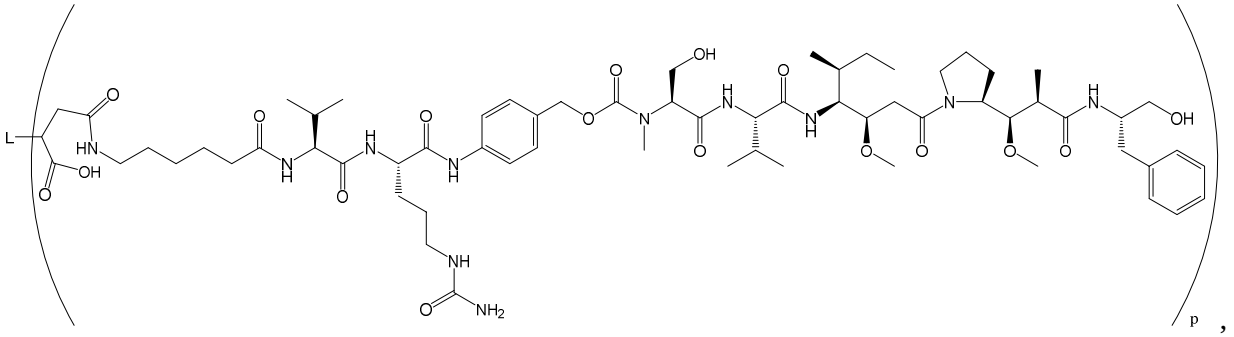
42. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, wherein the compound is



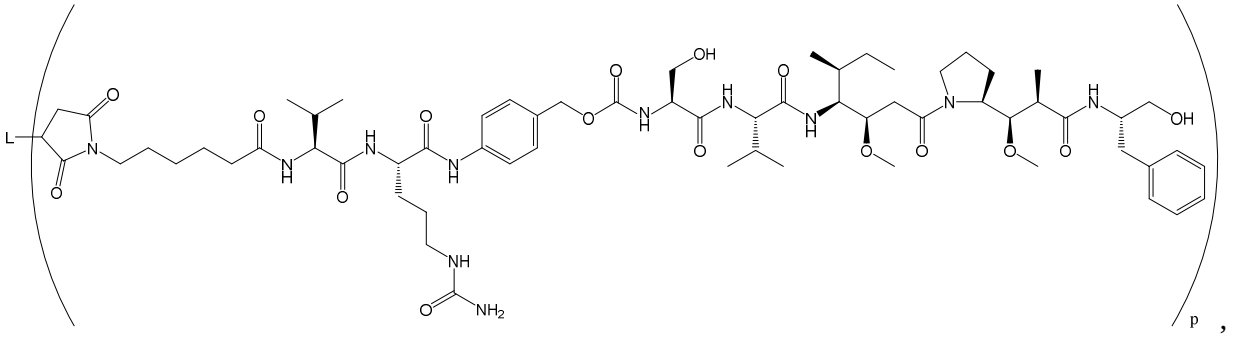
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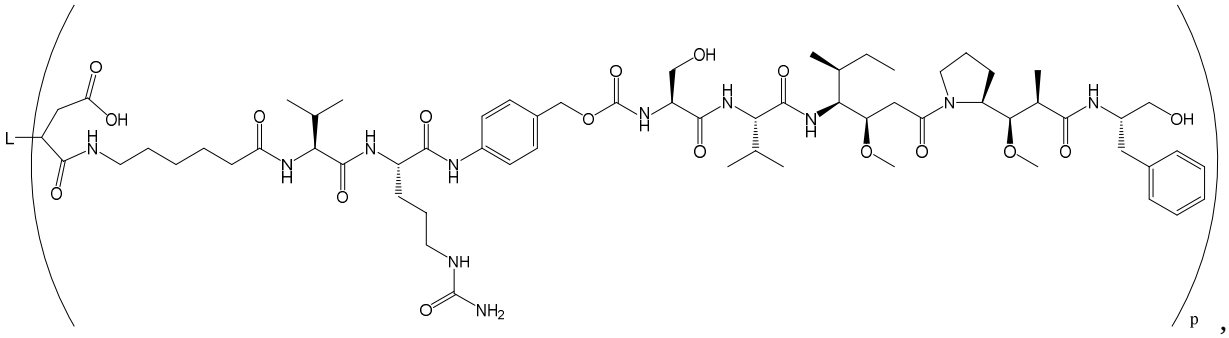
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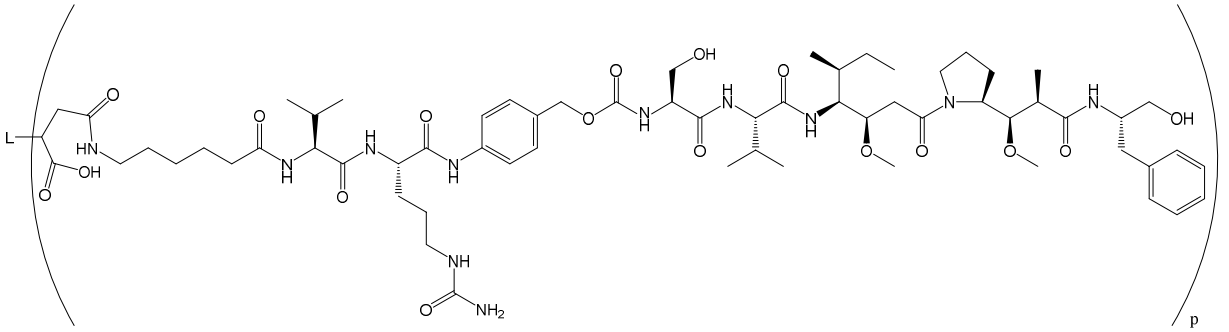
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,



or



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

43. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, wherein p is an integer ranging from 2 to 8.

44. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

45. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 44, wherein the composition comprises a plurality of Ligand-Drug Conjugate compounds with an average drug-loading from 2 to 8.

46. Use of the Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for treating cancer.

47. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, wherein L is an antibody.

48. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, wherein L comprises an amino acid sequence that is:

(i) at least 80% identical to the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID Nos. 1 to 1044;

(ii) at least 85% identical to the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID Nos. 1 to 1044;

(iii) at least 90% identical to the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID Nos. 1 to 1044;

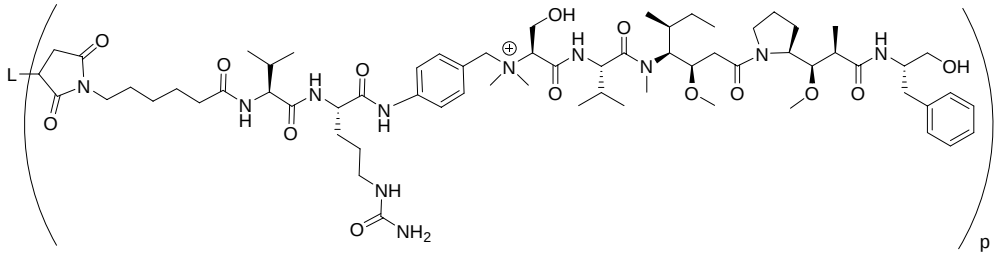
(iv) at least 95% identical to the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID Nos. 1 to 1044;

(v) at least 98% identical to the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID Nos. 1 to 1044; or

(vi) at least 99% identical to the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID Nos. 1 to 1044.

49. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, wherein L comprises the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID Nos. 1 to 1044.

50. A Ligand-Drug Conjugate of the following formula:



wherein L is an anti-gpNMB antibody,
and p is an integer from 1 to 14, or from 1 to 8, or is 8.

51. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate of claim 50, wherein the anti-gpNMB antibody comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80, 85, 90, 95, 98, or 99% identical to the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID Nos. 935-944.

52. The Ligand-Drug Conjugate compound of claim 24, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use in therapy.