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Biological assays

Materials. Human peripheral blood mononuclear cell (PBMCs) were isolated from buffy coat obtained from Research Blood Components (Boston, MA). Pooled human plasma was from Fisher Scientific (Hampton, NH). HMBPP was purchased from Echelon (Salt Lake City, UT) and Cayman Chemical (Ann Arbor, MI). K562 cells were from Sigma Aldrich (Saint Louis, MO). Cell Quantiblue viability reagent was purchased from Bioassay Systems (Hayward, CA). The interferon- γ enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay kit was purchased from Biolegend (San Diego, CA). Interleukin 2 and the TCR γ/δ + T Cell Isolation Kit were purchased from Miltenyi (Bergisch Gladbach, Germany).

Solubility. The prodrugs were dissolved in ethanol at 50 mM. For stability studies, compounds were diluted with water to a stock concentration of 1 mM. For cellular studies, compounds were diluted with tissue culture media to a stock concentration of 1 mM. Some minor cloudiness in 1 mM aqueous solutions was observed only with compounds **9** and **12**, which was no longer apparent upon dilution to 100 μ M or lower concentrations.

Stability studies. Stability studies were performed as described previously with some modifications for the specific compounds.¹ Pooled human plasma was diluted to 50% with phosphate buffered saline at pH 7.5. Test compounds were added at a final concentration of 100 μ M in a volume of 100 μ L. Compounds were incubated as indicated in the text, then extracted from the plasma with 300 μ L of LCMS grade acetonitrile and vigorous mixing. Debris was pelleted by centrifugation at 10,000 rcf for 2 minutes. 10 μ L of the extract was evaluated by

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LCMS with a Waters Synapt G2-Si Mass Spectrometer in positive mode using a gradient of water and acetonitrile and a C18 column. The gradient started at 25% acetonitrile then increased to 80% acetonitrile over 8 minutes and held there for 1 minute before re-equilibration. Masses corresponding to the molecular ion $[M+H]^+$, the sodium adduct $[M + Na]^+$, and the dehydration product $[M - OH]^+$ were generally observed, though varied by compound. The integrated peak values were compared to those of t = 0 minutes for each test compound and expressed as a fraction of the initial compound.

Expansion of Vy9Võ2 T cells. All compounds were evaluated for their ability to promote growth of human Vy9Võ2 T cells from peripheral blood as previously described.² In each replicate, 100 nM of HMBPP **1** and 100 nM of POM₂-C-HMBP **2** were used as positive controls. Negative controls contained cells without test compounds. EC_{50} values were determined as the concentration that induced 50% of the maximum proliferative effect.

ELISA for interferon- γ . Interferon- γ was measured by ELISA as previously described.^{2b,} ³ K562 cells were treated with test compounds for indicated times at indicated concentrations. They were washed twice with media, then diluted and mixed with V γ 9V δ 2 T cells that had been expanded by treatment with HMBPP (3 days on 7-11 days off) then purified by negative selection. Each well contained a 3:1 effector: target ratio in 200 µL. After 20 hours of coincubation, the concentration of interferon- γ in the supernatant was determined relative to a standard curve.

Cell viability. Viability assays were performed using K562 cells with various concentrations of test compounds. K562 cells (0.5 x 10^4 cells in 100 µL of RPMI media) were distributed into each well of a 96-well plate. The aryl phosphonates were added for 72 hours, during the last 2 hours the cell-QB reagent was added. Signals were quantified with a

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fluorescence plate reader. Viable cells are expressed as a percentage of untreated control cells after subtraction of a media-only blank.

Statistical analysis. All experiments involving primary human cells were performed at least three times (n=3) using cells from a minimum of two different donors. Graphs were constructed and data analyzed using GraphPad Prism 6. The proliferation dose response curves were analyzed using a log (agonist) versus response -- variable slope (four parameters) model in which the bottom was constrained at the level of the negative control. The ELISA dose response curves were analyzed using a log (agonist) versus response -- variable slope (four parameters) model in which the bottom was constrained at the level of the negative control. The ELISA dose response curves were analyzed using a log (agonist) versus response -- variable slope (four parameters) model in which the top, bottom, and Hill slope parameters were assigned as shared values within each compound. EC₅₀ values for each assay and time point were calculated, and the EC₅₀ values with 95% confidence intervals are reported. Log EC₅₀ values for each compound and time point from the ELISA assay were plotted on the X-axis versus log *t* on the Y-axis (log time for 50% interferon- γ response). Power constants (k_1) were calculated according to the formula $k_1 = \log t + \alpha \log C$ where *C* is the concentration (μ M) and *t* the incubation time (minutes), and both α and *k* were variables. The fit (R²) was assessed for each compound.^{3b}

SI References.

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Table S1. Stability of compounds in 50% human plasma in PBS. ^[a]			
Compound	2 hour fraction remaining (SD)	20 hour fraction remaining (SD)	
2 ¹⁻²	0.025 (0.007)	0.050 (0.057)	
4	0.085 (0.021)	0.070 (0.014)	
5	0.60 (0.25)	0.10 (0.04)	
12	1.0 (0.2)	0.60 (0.14)	
14	0.59 (0.00)	0.040 (0.028)	
17	0.20 (0.04)	0.00 (0.00)	
9	1.0 (0.1)	0.98 (0.08)	

[a] Data represent the mean +/- standard deviation (SD) of 2 independent experiments











400 MHz ¹H NMR Spectrum of Compound 8



75 MHz ¹³C NMR Spectrum of Compound 8





100 MHz ¹³C NMR Spectrum of Compound 9









100 MHz ¹³C NMR Spectrum of Compound **12**





100 MHz ¹³C NMR Spectrum of Compound **13**











400 MHz ¹H NMR Spectrum of Compound **17**



125 MHz ¹³C NMR Spectrum of Compound **17**