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New derivatives of 1,4-dideoxy-1,4-imino-D-ribitol have been prepared and evaluated for their cytotoxicity on solid and haematological malignancies. 1,4-Dideoxy-5-O-[(9Z)-octadec-9-en-1-yl]-1,4-imino-D-ribitol (13, IC<sub>50</sub> ~2 μM) and its C(18)-analogues (IC<sub>50</sub> <10 μM) are cytotoxic toward SKBR3 (breast cancer) cells. 13 also inhibits (IC<sub>50</sub> ~8 μM) growth of JURKAT cells.