



FIGURE 10.4 Functional groups amenable to prodrug design and representative prodrugs.

### 10.5 APPLICATIONS OF PRODRUGS

Prodrugs have offered a versatile approach to enhance the clinical usefulness of existing drugs by improving their physicochemical, formulation, or pharmacokinetic properties. Additionally, prodrugs have been designed to increase the selectivity of drugs to their intended target. Design of prodrugs with improved properties may also provide an opportunity for commercial life cycle