Supporting Information

Water-DMSO-promoted one-pot synthesis of two new series of

dihydropyrrolo[2,3-h]quinolines

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Experimental section

General information

All melting points were measured using a X-5 micro melting point apparatus and were uncorrected. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (101 MHz) spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 MHz NMR spectrometer with DMSO-*d*₆ or CDCl₃ as the solvent. ¹H NMR chemical shifts were referenced to DMSO-*d*₆ at 2.50 ppm or referenced to TMS at 0.00 ppm. ¹³C NMR chemical shifts were referenced to DMSO-*d*₆ at 39.50 ppm. IR spectra were obtained as potassium bromide pellets or as liquid films on potassium bromide pellets with a Bruker Vector 22 spectrometer. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on an Agilent 6210 ESI/TOF mass spectrometer. Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data were measured by Bruker D8 Venture. The reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) using 100–400 mesh silica gel plates (GF254) and were visualized using UV lamp (254 and 365 nm). All the starting materials were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification.

General procedure for the synthesis of 4 and 6



The reactions were run with the following steps: (a) but-2-ynedioates 1 (0.5 mmol) and 4-aminoindoles 2 (0.5 mmol) were added into a 25 mL tube with 1.25 mL anhydrous DMSO (analytical reagent) and kept stirring at room temperature for suitable time (monitoring the reaction by thin layer chromatography, 10–30 min in this work). It was worth mentioning that the hydroamination reaction of 1 and 2 affords *Z*- and *E*-isomers. The hydroamination reaction of amines and but-2-ynedioates was studied in detail in our previous work,¹ including the influences of time, temperature, solvent and amine structures on the hydroamination, the influence of solvent on the regioselectivity of the hydroamination reaction, and the inter-conversion of the hydroamination regioselective products (*Z*- and *E*-isomers). (b) aldehydes 3 or isatins 5 (0.5 mmol) and H₂O (0.5 mL) were added into the above mixture sequentially and kept stirring at 80 °C (oil bath temperature) for 3 h. After the reactions were finished, the mixtures were cooled to room temperature, extracted with EtOAc three times. The organic phase was dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and evaporated under vacuum. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM/EtOAc = 3:3:1 - 1:1:1 as eluent to yield products **4** and petroleum ether/EtOAc = 3:1-1:2 as eluent to yield products **6**).

General procedure for the oxidation of dihydropyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline ring of 4 into pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline ring



The reaction was run with the following steps: **4a** (0.5 mmol), $Cu(NO_3)_2$ (0.6 mmol) and MeOH (2 mL) were added into a 25 mL tube and kept stirring at room temperature for 3 h. After completion of the reaction, the product mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether/EtOAc = 1:1) to afford the desired products **10a** in 94% yields.

Table S1 Optimization of reaction conditions for the 3CR synthesis of 4a^a



Solvent ^b	Catalyst	<i>T</i> (°C)	<i>t</i> (h)	Yield ^c (%)
DMSO-H ₂ O $(1:1)^{d}$		80	3	35
DMSO-H ₂ O (2:1) ^{<i>d</i>}		80	3	43
DMSO-H ₂ O $(2.1:1)^d$		80	3	47
DMSO-H ₂ O (2.3:1) ^{<i>d</i>}		80	3	52
DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)		80	3	55
DMSO-H ₂ O (3:1)		80	3	51
DMSO-H ₂ O (3.5:1)		80	3	47
DMSO-H ₂ O (4:1)		80	3	37
DMSO-H ₂ O (6:1)		80	3	37
DMSO-H ₂ O (9:1)		80	3	34
DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)	AcOH	80	3	34
DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)	TfOH	80	3	11
DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)	AlCl ₃	80	3	19
DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)	FeCl ₃	80	3	13
	Solvent ^b DMSO-H ₂ O (1:1) d DMSO-H ₂ O (2:1) d DMSO-H ₂ O (2.1:1) d DMSO-H ₂ O (2.3:1) d DMSO-H ₂ O (2.3:1) d DMSO-H ₂ O (3:1)DMSO-H ₂ O (3:1)DMSO-H ₂ O (3.5:1)DMSO-H ₂ O (4:1)DMSO-H ₂ O (6:1)DMSO-H ₂ O (9:1)DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)	SolventbCatalystDMSO-H2O $(1:1)^d$ DMSO-H2O $(2:1)^d$ DMSO-H2O $(2:1)^d$ DMSO-H2O $(2.1:1)^d$ DMSO-H2O $(2.3:1)^d$ DMSO-H2O $(2.3:1)^d$ DMSO-H2O $(2.5:1)$ DMSO-H2O $(3:1)$ DMSO-H2O $(3.5:1)$ DMSO-H2O $(3.5:1)$ DMSO-H2O $(4:1)$ DMSO-H2O $(4:1)$ DMSO-H2O $(6:1)$ DMSO-H2O $(9:1)$ DMSO-H2O $(2.5:1)$ AcOHDMSO-H2O $(2.5:1)$ TfOHDMSO-H2O $(2.5:1)$ AlCl3DMSO-H2O $(2.5:1)$ FeCl3	Solvent ^b Catalyst T (°C)DMSO-H2O (1:1) ^d 80DMSO-H2O (2:1) ^d 80DMSO-H2O (2.1:1) ^d 80DMSO-H2O (2.3:1) ^d 80DMSO-H2O (2.3:1) ^d 80DMSO-H2O (3:1)80DMSO-H2O (3:1)80DMSO-H2O (3:1)80DMSO-H2O (3:1)80DMSO-H2O (3:1)80DMSO-H2O (3:1)80DMSO-H2O (3:1)80DMSO-H2O (3:1)80DMSO-H2O (3:1)80DMSO-H2O (2:1)80DMSO-H2O (2:1)AcOHDMSO-H2O (2:1)TfOHDMSO-H2O (2:1)AlCl3DMSO-H2O (2:1)AlCl3DMSO-H2O (2:1)FeCl3	SolventbCatalyst T (°C) t (h)DMSO-H2O (1:1) d803DMSO-H2O (2:1) d803DMSO-H2O (2.1:1) d803DMSO-H2O (2.3:1) d803DMSO-H2O (2.5:1)803DMSO-H2O (3:1)803DMSO-H2O (3:1)803DMSO-H2O (3:1)803DMSO-H2O (3:1)803DMSO-H2O (3:1)803DMSO-H2O (3:1)803DMSO-H2O (3:1)803DMSO-H2O (3:1)803DMSO-H2O (3:1)803DMSO-H2O (2:1)803DMSO-H2O (2:1)AcOH803DMSO-H2O (2:1)TfOH803DMSO-H2O (2:1)AlCl3803DMSO-H2O (2:1)FeCl3803

15	DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)	Cu(OAc) ₂	80	3	0
16	DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)	N(Et) ₃	80	3	0
17 ^e	DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)		80	3	47
18 ^f	DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)		80	3	53
19 ^g	DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)		80	3	49
20	DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)		70	3	31
21	DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)		90	3	48
22	DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)		80	2	49
23	DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)		80	4	54
24^h	DMSO-H ₂ O (2.5:1)		80	3	54

^{*a*} Unless otherwise noted, reaction was carried out with **1a** (0.5 mmol), **2a** (0.5 mmol) and **3a** (0.5 mmol) without or with catalyst (0.05 mmol) in 1.75 mL solvent. ^{*b*} The data in parentheses is the ratio of volume. ^{*c*} Isolated yield. ^{*d*} The reactants were completely soluble in DMSO-H₂O mixtures except the DMSO-H₂O mixtures marked with superscript d. ^{*e*-g} Stoichiometry ratio of **1a/2a/3a** is 1/1/1.2, 1.2/1.2/1 and 1/1.2/1.2, respectively. ^{*h*} The reaction was under N₂ atmosphere.



Scheme S1 Screen of the addition order of reactants for the 3CR synthesis of 4a.

HN COOEt 4a (1 equiv)	Oxidant (1.2 equiv) MeOH, rt, 3 h	HN COOEt 10a
Entry	Oxidant	$\operatorname{Yield}^{b}(\%)$
1	I_2	83
2	H ₂ O ₂	17
3	$K_2S_2O_8$	62
4	TBHP	50
5	DTBP	21
6	Cu(NO ₃) ₂	94
7	CuCl ₂	88
8	Cu(OAc) ₂	55
9	Cu(OTf) ₂	92
10	FeCl ₃	90

Table S2 Optimization of reaction conditions for the synthesis of 10a^a

^{*a*} Reaction was carried out with 0.5 mmol scale in 2 mL MeOH by using 1.2 equiv oxidant at room temperature for 3 h. ^{*b*} Isolated yield. TBHP = *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide. DTBP = di-*tert*-butyl peroxide.



Scheme S2 Reported methods for the synthesis of $pyrrolo[2,3-h]quinolines^2$ and the method in this work.

Characterization data of 4

Diethyl 4-phenyl-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4a)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (107.9 mg, 55% yield); mp: 213–214 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{max} = 3685, 3318, 3179, 2919, 2848, 1720, 1578, 1242, 1102, 755, 484 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-$ *d* $₆) <math>\delta = 11.09$ (s, 1H), 9.73 (s, 1H), 7.24 (m, 5H), 7.08 (m, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.85–6.74 (m, 2H), 5.12 (s, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (m, 2H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.09 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.62, 164.87, 148.89, 141.81, 135.40, 128.11, 127.09, 126.99, 125.79, 124.52, 122.46, 116.45, 112.85, 107.44, 98.61, 97.41, 61.44, 59.27, 41.87, 14.01, 13.70 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₂N₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺ : 413.1472; found: 413.1475.$

Diethyl 4-(4-nitrophenyl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4b)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (126.5 mg, 58% yield); mp: 128–129 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3671, 3322, 2921, 2844, 1687, 1511, 1337, 1237, 1102, 752, 509 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-$ *d* $₆) <math>\delta = 11.15$ (s, 1H), 9.90 (s, 1H), 8.13 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (m, 2H), 5.33 (s, 1H), 4.31 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (m, 2H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.09 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.28, 164.55, 155.97, 145.71, 142.36, 135.65, 128.19, 127.02, 124.85, 123.65, 122.39, 116.58, 111.47, 107.84, 98.69, 96.24, 61.59, 59.48, 41.92, 13.99, 13.69 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₁N₃O₆ [M+Na]⁺: 458.1323; found: 458.1328.$

Diethyl 4-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4c)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (145.6 mg, 70% yield); mp: 202–203 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{max} = 3686, 3318, 3137, 2919, 2846, 2230, 1710, 1575, 1242, 1103, 873, 753, 498 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-$ *d* $₆) <math>\delta = 11.15$ (s, 1H), 9.88 (s, 1H), 7.77–7.66 (m, 2H), 7.49–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (m, 2H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 4.31 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.05–3.92 (m, 2H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.09 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.33, 164.62, 154.00, 142.36, 135.62, 132.33, 127.99, 127.04, 124.82, 122.37, 118.91, 116.56, 111.68, 108.68, 107.81, 98.68, 96.33, 61.59, 59.46, 42.08, 14.00, 13.70 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₄H₂₁N₃O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 438.1424; found: 438.1426.$

Diethyl 4-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarbox ylate (4d)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (149.0 mg, 65% yield); mp: 185–186 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3655$, 3397, 2922, 1644, 1512, 1401, 1322, 1245, 1105, 755, 488 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = 11.13$ (s, 1H), 9.85 (s, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (m, 2H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.07–3.89 (m, 2H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.09 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = 165.39$, 164.66, 153.22, 142.20, 135.56, 127.75, 127.04, 126.39, 125.68, 125.24, 125.21, 125.17, 125.13, 124.74, 122.98, 122.38, 116.53, 111.96, 107.74, 98.66, 96.62, 61.55, 59.41, 41.84, 13.98, 13.69 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₄H₂₁F₃N₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺ : 481.1346; found: 481.1347.

Diethyl 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4e)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (136.8 mg, 67% yield); mp: 106–107 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3687, 3311, 3138, 2922, 1716, 1566, 1234 \text{ cm}^{-1}; {}^{1}\text{H} \text{ NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = 11.10$ (s, 1H), 9.76 (s, 1H), 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.10–6.93 (m, 3H), 6.85–6.73 (m, 2H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.07–3.89 (m, 2H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.10 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ${}^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = 165.54, 164.78, 145.19, 145.16, 141.81, 135.42, 128.72, 128.64, 127.04, 124.58, 122.41, 116.45, 114.88, 114.67, 112.67, 107.57, 98.62, 97.29, 61.48, 59.32, 41.08, 14.02, 13.70 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₁FN₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺ : 431.1378; found: 431.1375.$

Diethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-4,7-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-h]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4f)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (121.9 mg, 57% yield); mp: 111–112 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3407$, 2919, 2848, 1642, 1485, 1398, 1241, 1098, 754 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 11.11$ (s, 1H), 9.79 (s, 1H), 7.25 (m, 5H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (m, 2H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.05–3.92 (m, 2H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.10 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.48$, 164.73, 147.82, 141.93, 135.48, 130.39, 128.82, 128.10, 127.05, 124.64, 122.39, 116.48, 112.34, 107.62, 98.64, 96.98, 61.50, 59.36, 41.29, 14.02, 13.69 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₁ClN₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺ : 447.1082; found: 447.1083.

Diethyl 4-(4-bromophenyl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4g)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (148.3 mg, 63% yield); mp: 114–115 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3677, 3333, 3191, 2918, 1649, 1488, 1396, 1241, 1091, 753, 503 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-$ *d* $₆) <math>\delta = 11.11$ (s, 1H), 9.78 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (m, 2H), 5.13 (s, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.98 (m, 2H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.10 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.47, 164.71, 148.23, 141.92, 135.48, 131.01, 129.23, 127.03, 124.64, 122.38, 122.38, 122.38, 123.01$

118.88, 116.47, 112.26, 107.62, 98.63, 96.91, 61.50, 59.36, 41.36, 14.02, 13.69 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₁BrN₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 491.0577; found: 491.0582.

Diethyl 4-(p-tolyl)-4,7-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-h]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4h)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (101.1 mg, 50% yield); mp: 212–213 °C; IR (KBr) $\nu_{max} = 3398$, 2918, 2849, 1642, 1385, 1251, 1040, 755 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 11.07$ (s, 1H), 9.68 (s, 1H), 7.26 (t, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (m, 3H), 6.81–6.71 (m, 2H), 5.07 (s, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.10 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.65$, 164.89, 146.05, 141.60, 135.35, 134.72, 128.64, 127.08, 126.90, 124.46, 122.46, 116.42, 113.01, 107.37, 98.59, 97.57, 61.41, 59.25, 41.43, 20.50, 14.03, 13.70 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₄H₂₄N₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 427.1628; found: 427.1633.

Diethyl 4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4,7-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-h]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4i)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (90.1 mg, 43% yield); mp: 212–213 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3689, 3312, 3124, 2918, 1717, 1574, 1265, 755 cm^{-1}; ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-$ *d* $₆) <math>\delta = 11.07$ (s, 1H), 9.68 (s, 1H), 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (m, 4H), 5.06 (s, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.98 (m, 2H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.11 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; 13 C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.69, 164.91, 157.38, 141.48, 141.33, 135.33, 127.94, 127.08, 124.44, 122.47, 116.40, 113.47, 113.16, 107.38, 98.59, 97.73, 61.40, 59.25, 54.90, 40.95, 14.05, 13.71 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₄H₂₄N₂O₅ [M+Na]⁺ : 443.1577; found: 443.1582.$

Diethyl 4-(3-chlorophenyl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4j)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (132.0 mg, 62% yield); mp: 150–151 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3682$, 3316, 2919, 1710, 1575, 1257, 1038, 755, 483 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 11.13$ (s, 1H), 9.82 (s, 1H), 7.34–7.11 (m, 5H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.90–6.73 (m, 2H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (m, 2H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.10 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.41$, 164.69, 151.19, 142.10, 135.52, 132.72, 130.13, 127.00, 126.75, 125.80, 125.74, 124.72, 122.38, 116.47, 112.17, 107.72, 98.62, 96.73, 61.55, 59.40, 41.57, 13.99, 13.69 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₁ClN₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 447.1082; found: 447.1086.

Diethyl 4-(2-chlorophenyl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4k)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (108.5 mg, 51% yield); mp: 204–205 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3437, 2919, 1643, 1390, 1254, 1043, 754, 488 \text{ cm}^{-1}; {}^{1}\text{H} NMR (400 \text{ MHz, DMSO-}d_6)$ $\delta = 11.11$ (s, 1H), 9.77 (s, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.33–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.21 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (m, 1H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 4.31 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.33 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.03 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ${}^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = 165.40, 164.70, 147.10, 142.68, 135.49, 130.12, 129.72, 128.82, 127.76, 127.41, 126.57, 124.68, 121.46, 116.60, 112.67, 107.64, 98.69, 96.97, 61.50, 59.24, 37.92, 13.86, 13.70 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₁ClN₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 447.1082; found: 447.1086.$

Diethyl 4-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarb oxylate (41)



The title compound was obtained as orange red solid (78.6 mg, 36% yield); mp: 221–222 °C;IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3411, 3336, 2922, 1651, 1505, 1385, 1244, 1100, 1031, 754, 499 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-$ *d* $₆) <math>\delta = 11.06$ (s, 1H), 9.67 (s, 1H), 8.64 (s, 1H), 7.29–7.22 (m, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.89–6.81 (m, 2H), 6.79–6.73 (m, 1H), 6.59 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (m, 1H), 5.00 (s, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (m, 2H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.12 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.78, 164.97, 146.97, 144.60, 141.48, 140.28, 135.30, 127.00, 124.39, 122.47, 119.37, 116.39, 115.27, 113.37, 111.37, 107.30, 98.59, 97.72, 61.39, 59.22, 55.47, 41.19, 14.09, 13.70 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₄H₂₄N₂O₆ [M+Na]⁺: 459.1527; found: 459.1531.$

Diethyl 4-(4-(methoxycarbonyl)phenyl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarbo xylate (4m)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (115.1 mg, 51% yield); mp: 204–205 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3681, 3322, 2921, 1707, 1606, 1501, 1431, 1371, 1275, 1103, 1024, 883, 756, 490 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-$ *d* $₆) <math>\delta = 11.12$ (s, 1H), 9.81 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.85–6.73 (m, 2H), 5.23 (s, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.96 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.08 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 166.07, 165.42, 164.69, 154.00, 142.12, 135.54, 129.25, 127.39, 127.27, 127.04, 124.70, 122.42, 116.52, 111.99, 107.65, 98.66, 96.69, 61.52, 59.36, 51.92, 42.02, 13.99, 13.69 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₅H₂₄N₂O₆ [M+Na]⁺ : 471.1527; found: 471.1534.$

Diethyl 4-(4-ethynylphenyl)-4,7-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-h]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4n)



The title compound was obtained as light green solid (120.2 mg, 58% yield); mp: 196–197 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3683$, 3312, 2916, 1707, 1582, 753, 492 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 11.11$ (s, 1H), 9.78 (s, 1H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.2 Hz,

2H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (m, 2H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.05 (s, 1H), 4.03–3.90 (m, 2H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.09 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = 165.48$, 164.74, 149.65, 141.99, 135.49, 131.63, 127.31, 127.06, 124.64, 122.41, 119.19, 116.48, 112.25, 107.60, 98.63, 96.88, 83.48, 80.14, 61.50, 59.35, 41.78, 14.01, 13.69 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₅H₂₂N₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 437.1472; found: 437.1473.

Diethyl 4-(naphthalen-1-yl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (40)



The title compound was obtained as dark yellow solid (72.7 mg, 33% yield); mp: 214–215 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3679$, 3322, 2920, 2848, 1709, 1382, 1254, 1034, 756 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = 11.04$ (s, 1H), 9.76 (s, 1H), 8.69 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.25 (m, 1H), 6.83 (m, 2H), 6.68 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 4.32 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.84–3.70 (m, 2H), 1.33 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.80 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = 165.73$, 164.89, 147.00, 141.92, 135.30, 133.19, 129.99, 128.29, 126.48, 126.16, 125.93, 125.83, 125.32, 124.53, 124.04, 121.79, 116.59, 113.82, 107.18, 98.70, 98.46, 61.45, 59.08, 40.17, 13.72, 13.68 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₇H₂₄N₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺ : 463.1628; found: 463.1632.

Diethyl 4-(furan-2-yl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4p)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (93.4 mg, 49% yield); mp: 219–220 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3677, 3326, 2919, 1680, 1497, 1254, 1091, 875, 753, 488 \text{ cm}^{-1}; ^{1}\text{H} NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-$ *d* $_6) <math>\delta = 11.13$ (s, 1H), 9.80 (s, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (m, 1H), 6.25 (m, 1H), 5.90 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (s, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.05 (m, 2H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.14 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.46, 164.66, 159.17, 142.49, 141.33, 135.66, 127.51, 124.62, 122.28, 116.51, 110.19, 109.90, 107.34, 103.90, 98.55, 94.01, 61.50, 59.34, 35.67, 14.11, 13.70 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₁H₂₀N₂O₅ [M+Na]⁺: 403.1264; found: 403.1266.$

Diethyl 4-(thiophen-2-yl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4q)



The title compound was obtained as light green solid (115.3 mg, 58% yield); mp: 236–237 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3681$, 3326, 2920, 2848, 1708, 1262, 754, 487 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 11.14$ (s, 1H), 9.88 (s, 1H), 7.29 (t, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.06 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (m, 1H), 6.78 (m, 1H), 6.68 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 5.42 (s, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.06 (m, 2H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.16 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.42$, 164.64, 152.98, 141.66, 135.60, 127.26, 126.39, 124.63, 123.95, 122.48, 122.33, 116.40, 112.22, 107.60, 98.67, 96.95, 61.49, 59.44, 36.87, 14.12, 13.70 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₁H₂₀N₂O₄S [M+Na]⁺: 419.1036; found: 419.1037.

Diethyl 4-(pyridin-4-yl)-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4r)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (86.5 mg, 44% yield); mp: 201–202 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3689, 3311, 3125, 2922, 1719, 1572, 1248, 754, 494 \text{ cm}^{-1}; ^{1}\text{H} NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-$ *d* $_6)$ $\delta = 11.14$ (s, 1H), 9.88 (s, 1H), 8.41 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (m, 1H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 4.31 (m, 2H), 3.98 (m, 2H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.09 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*_6) $\delta = 165.30$, 164.61, 156.42, 149.57, 142.56, 135.65, 127.10, 124.82, 122.26, 122.21, 116.53, 111.34, 107.78, 98.65, 95.82, 61.59, 59.46, 41.39, 14.00, 13.70 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₂H₂₁N₃O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 414.1424; found: 414.1429.

Diethyl 4-butyl-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4s)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (51.9 mg, 28% yield); mp: 129–130 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3677, 3312, 2917, 1710, 1258, 1041, 748, 623, 532, 457 \text{ cm}^{-1}$; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 11.05$ (s, 1H), 9.49 (s, 1H), 7.29–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.09–6.98 (m, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.3Hz, 1H), 6.76–6.68 (m, 1H), 4.26 (m, 2H), 4.08 (m, 2H), 3.91 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 1.43 (m, 2H), 1.30 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.26–1.11 (m, 6H), 1.03 (m, 1H), 0.76 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = 165.80$, 165.03, 142.40, 135.42, 128.31, 124.24, 121.95, 116.27, 112.37, 106.82, 98.38, 97.05, 61.29, 59.20, 38.47, 35.54, 26.70, 22.23, 14.20, 14.00, 13.70 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₁H₂₆N₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 393.1785; found: 393.1791.

Dimethyl 4-phenyl-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4t)



The title compound was obtained as orange red solid (94.8 mg, 52% yield); mp: 226–227 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3674$, 3332, 2921, 2849, 1697, 1389, 1039, 756, 608 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 11.10$ (s, 1H), 9.82 (s, 1H), 7.30–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.25–7.17 (m, 4H), 7.11–7.05 (m, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (m, 1H), 5.13 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 166.13$, 165.37, 148.71, 141.97, 135.41, 128.21, 126.96, 126.81, 125.86, 124.62, 122.41, 116.49, 112.98, 107.55, 98.52, 97.18, 52.59, 51.02, 41.71 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₁H₁₈N₂O4 [M+Na]⁺: 385.1159; found: 385.1159.

Di-tert-butyl 4-phenyl-4,7-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-h]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4u)



The title compound was obtained as light yellow solid (100.5 mg, 45% yield); mp: 189–190 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3427, 3370, 2974, 2925, 1711, 1629, 1580, 1244, 1164, 1105, 847, 702 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-$ *d* $₆) <math>\delta = 11.04$ (s, 1H), 9.36 (s, 1H), 7.27–7.18 (m, 5H), 7.09 (m, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (m, 1H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (s, 1H), 1.53 (s, 9H), 1.26 (s, 9H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.48, 163.81, 149.34, 141.50, 135.39, 127.95, 127.33, 127.18, 125.70, 124.17, 122.64, 116.42, 112.82, 106.97, 99.81, 99.06, 81.80, 78.60, 42.76, 27.74, 27.71 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₇H₃₀N₂O₄ [M+H]⁺: 447.2278; found: 447.2268.$

Diethyl 5-fluoro-4-phenyl-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4v)



The title compound was obtained as yellow brown solid (87.5 mg, 43% yield); mp: 238–239 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{max} = 3417$, 3292, 2983, 2911, 1721, 1681, 1622, 1500, 1437, 1319, 1230, 1114, 756, 710 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 11.16$ (s, 1H), 9.96 (s, 1H), 7.28–7.25 (m, 1H), 7.25–7.17 (m, 4H), 7.12 (m, 1H), 6.84–6.75 (m, 2H), 5.25 (s, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.06–3.95 (m, 2H), 1.30 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.13 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.30$, 164.54, 157.41, 155.08, 147.27, 141.46, 134.56, 134.42, 128.44, 128.35, 128.12, 127.21, 126.16, 124.70, 124.67, 112.82, 102.46, 102.23, 98.78, 98.26, 92.90, 92.64, 61.60, 59.58, 36.15, 36.12, 14.00, 13.68 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₁FN₂O₄ [M+H]⁺ : 409.1558; found: 409.1546.

Diethyl 5-chloro-4-phenyl-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4w)



The title compound was obtained as light yellow solid (102.0 mg, 48% yield); mp: 282–283 °C; IR (KBr) $\nu_{max} = 3335$, 3288, 2982, 2905, 1726, 1621, 1528, 1481, 1312, 1230, 1119, 756, 698 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 11.24$ (s, 1H), 9.95 (s, 1H), 7.37–7.32 (m, 1H), 7.23–7.07 (m, 6H), 6.86 (m, 1H), 5.35 (s, 1H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.11–3.99 (m, 2H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.17 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.26$, 164.46, 146.64, 140.97, 135.28, 129.53, 127.99, 127.73, 126.11, 126.02, 125.49, 115.64, 110.04, 107.54, 99.01, 98.94, 61.59, 59.66, 54.87, 14.05, 13.66 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₁ClN₂O₄ [M+H]⁺ : 425.1263; found: 425.1251.

Diethyl 7-methyl-4-phenyl-4,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (4x)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (89.0 mg, 44% yield); mp: 149–150 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3348, 2979, 2916, 1710, 1625, 1491, 1368, 1246, 1100, 1021, 771, 706 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-$ *d* $₆) <math>\delta = 9.74$ (s, 1H), 7.22 (m, 5H), 7.08 (m, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (s, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (m, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.09 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 165.60, 164.83, 148.82, 141.72, 135.93, 128.78, 128.12, 127.24, 126.99, 125.83, 122.61, 116.64,$

113.16, 105.72, 97.83, 97.60, 61.48, 59.32, 41.82, 32.55, 14.01, 13.70 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{24}H_{24}N_2O_4$ [M+H]⁺: 405.1809; found: 405.1798.

Characterization data of 6

Diethyl 2-oxo-1',7'-dihydrospiro[indoline-3,4'-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline]-2',3'-dicarboxylate (6a)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (82.5 mg, 38% yield); mp: 275–276 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3677, 3312, 1702, 1586, 1267, 899, 752 \text{ cm}^{-1}$; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 11.14$ (s, 1H), 10.28 (s, 1H), 9.87 (s, 1H), 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.12 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.99–6.73 (m, 5H), 6.28 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.82–3.70 (m, 2H), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 181.29, 164.78, 164.43, 143.17, 141.08, 141.02, 135.47, 127.45, 126.55, 124.86, 123.58, 121.69, 119.57, 116.48, 110.87, 108.93, 107.85, 98.86, 95.16, 61.60, 59.27, 52.17, 13.71, 13.29 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₄H₂₁N₃O₅ [M+Na]⁺: 454.1373; found: 454.1378.$

Diethyl 5-chloro-2-oxo-1',7'-dihydrospiro[indoline-3,4'-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline]-2',3'-dicarb oxylate (6b)



The title compound was obtained as yellow solid (97.8 mg, 42% yield); mp: 187–188 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3687, 3312, 2997, 1712, 1561, 1268, 907, 752 \text{ cm}^{-1}; ^{1}\text{H} NMR (400 \text{ MHz, DMSO-}d_6) \delta =$ 11.20 (s, 1H), 10.46 (s, 1H), 9.99 (s, 1H), 7.32 (s, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.95–6.80 (m, 4H), 6.27 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.87–3.72 (m, 2H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.90 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = 180.94, 164.61, 164.23, 143.49,$ 142.75, 140.12, 135.59, 127.45, 126.47, 125.46, 125.07, 123.43, 119.26, 116.57, 110.53, 110.12, 108.18, 98.92, 94.37, 61.71, 59.47, 52.48, 13.70, 13.32 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₄H₂₀ClN₃O₅ [M+Na]⁺: 488.0984; found: 488.0987.

Diethyl 5-bromo-2-oxo-1',7'-dihydrospiro[indoline-3,4'-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline]-2',3'-dicar boxylate (6c)



The title compound was obtained as brown solid (100.5 mg, 39% yield); mp: 200–201 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3678$, 3314, 1698, 1585, 1452, 1258, 1103, 751 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 11.21$ (s, 1H), 10.48 (s, 1H), 10.00 (s, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (m, 2H), 6.28 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (q, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (m, 2H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.90 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 180.81$, 164.60, 164.23, 143.51, 143.15, 140.52, 135.59, 130.33, 126.46, 126.11, 125.10, 119.26, 116.57, 113.15, 111.13, 110.13, 108.22, 98.93, 94.36, 61.73, 59.50, 52.44, 13.71, 13.33 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₄H₂₀BrN₃O₅ [M+Na]⁺: 532.0479; found: 532.0484.

Diethyl 5-methyl-2-oxo-1',7'-dihydrospiro[indoline-3,4'-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline]-2',3'-dicar boxylate (6d)



The title compound was obtained as brown solid (69.2 mg, 31% yield); mp: 209–210 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3685, 3318, 1695, 1588, 1472, 1258, 1099, 745 \text{ cm}^{-1}; ^{1}\text{H} \text{ NMR} (400 \text{ MHz, DMSO-}d_6) \delta =$ 11.15 (s, 1H), 10.19 (s, 1H), 9.86 (s, 1H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 6.90 (m, 2H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 6.77–6.63 (m, 2H), 6.27 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (m, 2H), 3.84–3.67 (m, 2H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.0 Hz,3H), 0.88 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = 181.28, 164.79, 164.45,$ 143.11, 141.17, 138.60, 135.43, 130.33, 127.69, 126.49, 124.82, 124.16, 119.63, 116.44, 111.01, 108.68, 107.82, 98.83, 95.20, 61.58, 59.27, 52.20, 20.57, 13.70, 13.28 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₅H₂₃N₃O₅ [M+Na]⁺: 468.1530; found: 468.1532.

Diethyl 5-methoxy-2-oxo-1',7'-dihydrospiro[indoline-3,4'-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline]-2',3'-dica rboxylate (6e)



The title compound was obtained as brown solid (73.8 mg, 32% yield); mp: 196–197 °C; IR (KBr) $v_{\text{max}} = 3686, 3308, 2928, 1701, 1583, 1471, 1270, 751 \text{ cm}^{-1}$; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta =$ 11.15 (s, 1H), 10.12 (s, 1H), 9.86 (s, 1H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.83–6.66 (m, 3H), 6.42 (s, 1H), 6.28 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 4.38–4.26 (m, 2H), 3.82–3.71 (m, 2H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 1.33 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.88 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = 181.12$, 164.76, 164.41, 154.93, 143.13, 142.23, 135.49, 134.57, 126.49, 124.85, 119.60, 116.48, 111.76, 110.85, 110.63, 109.25, 107.86, 98.87, 95.15, 61.60, 59.29, 55.29, 52.65, 13.69, 13.30 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₅H₂₃N₃O₆ [M+Na]⁺: 484.1479; found: 484.1481.

Characterization data of 10a

Diethyl 4-phenyl-7*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*h*]quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (10a)



The title compound was obtained as green oil (182.6 mg, 94% yield); IR (KBr) $v_{max} = 3329, 2980, 2399, 1723, 1542, 1408, 1354, 1245, 1164, 1093, 1019, 751 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-$ *d* $₆) <math>\delta = 11.95$ (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65–7.46 (m, 4H), 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.27–7.10 (m, 2H), 4.40 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.04–3.88 (m, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.89 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) $\delta = 166.71, 165.57, 147.35, 144.69, 142.65, 135.73, 135.56, 129.11, 128.41, 128.18, 125.44, 123.58, 123.52, 121.77, 118.75, 117.27, 102.33, 61.71, 60.88, 13.93, 13.35 ppm; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₀N₂O₄[M+Na]⁺: 411.1315; found: 411.1317.$

Crystallographic information of 4m (CCDC: 1918956)

COOMe COOEt HN HN HN HN HN HN HN HN HN HN	
T^{u} [K]	296
crystal system	Monoclinic
space group	P12/n1
a [Å]	15.0700 (17)
<i>b</i> [Å]	11.1664 (12)
<i>c</i> [Å]	15.3653 (17)
α[Å]	90
β [deg]	97.227 (2)
γ [deg]	90
<i>V</i> [Å ³]	2565.1 (5)
Ζ	4
$D_{ m calcu} [m mg/m^3]$	1.161
R	0.0549
wR_2	0.1748

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of products



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4a**

$\int_{-11.116}^{-11.146} \int_{-9.897}^{-9.897} \int_{-9.897}^{-9.897} \int_{-9.8115}^{-9.8115} \int_{-7.287}^{-7.287} \int_{-7.287}^{-7.287} \int_{-5.327}^{-7.287} \int_{-5.327}^{-5.327} \int_{-5.327}^{-5.327} \int_{-3.314}^{-5.327} \int_{-3.314}^{-3.314} \int_{-1.1299}^{-1.1299} \int_{-1.1299}^{-1.1299} \int_{-1.094}^{-1.1299} \int_{-1.094}^{-1.1299} \int_{-1.094}^{-1.1299} \int_{-1.094}^{-1.1299} \int_{-1.077}^{-1.1299} \int_{-1.077}^$



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4b**





¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4**c



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4d**





¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4e**



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4f**





 $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra of compound 4g

-11.072 -9.685 -9.685 -9.685 (-9.77) -9.697 (-9.77) (-9.977) (-9.977) (-0.977) (-0.977) (-0.977) (-0.977) (-0.977) (-0.977) (-0.977) (-0.977) (-0.977) (-0.977) (-0.977) (-0.977) (-0.976)



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4h**





¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4i**

= 11.133 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 9.823 - 5.161 - 5.160 - 5.161 - 5.161 - 5.160 - 5.161 - 5.160 -



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4**j





$\int_{-11,064}^{-11,064} \int_{-9.671}^{-9.671} \int_{-9.671}^{-9.671} \int_{-8.642}^{-8.642} \int_{-6.768}^{-6.768} \int_{-5.004}^{-5.004} \int_{-5.004}^{-5.004} \int_{-3.320}^{-3.692} \int_{-3.50}^{-3.692} \int_{-3.$



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4**l





¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4m**





¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4n**



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **40**

$\int_{-11.126}^{-11.126} \int_{-9.802}^{-9.802} \int_{-9.802}^{-9.802} \int_{-9.802}^{-9.802} \int_{-9.211}^{-9.209} \int_{-6.758}^{-0.247} \int_{-5.227}^{-6.758} \int_{-5.227}^{-6.758} \int_{-5.227}^{-6.758} \int_{-3.364}^{-4.021} \int_{-3.364}^{-4.275} \int_{-3.364}^{-1.332} \int_{-3.364}^{-1.332} \int_{-1.153}^{-1.332} \int_{-1.153}^{-1.135} \int_{-1.118}^{-1.135} \int_{-1.118}^{-1.118} \int_{-1.118}^{-1.1126} \int_{-1.1118}^{-1.1126} \int_{-1.11118}^{-1.11126} \int_{-1.1118}^{-1.1116} \int_{-1.1118}^{-1.1116} \int_{-1.1118}^{-1.1116} \int_{-1.1116}^{-1.1116} \int_{-1.1116}^{-1.1116} \int_{-1.116}^{-1.116} \int_{-1.116}^{-1.116} \int_{-1.116}^$



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4p**



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4**q

$\begin{array}{c} -11.142 \\ -9.877 \\ -9.877 \\ \hline 8.413 \\ \hline 8.413 \\ \hline 8.3398 \\ \hline 7.211 \\ \hline 7.210 \\ \hline 7.20 \\ \hline$



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4r**



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4s**





¹³C NMR spectra of compound 4t





¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4u**



¹³C NMR spectra of compound 4v





¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4w**





¹³C NMR spectra of compound **4**x



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **6a**



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **6b**



2.0

0.0



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **6**c



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **6d**



¹³C NMR spectra of compound **6e**





¹³C NMR spectra of compound **10a**

¹H NMR spectra of 7a in DMSO-d₆ and CDCl₃



¹H NMR spectra of **7a** in CDCl₃

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