Visible-light-promoted synthesis of phenanthridines via

intermolecular isocyanide insertion reaction

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1. List of the substrates

Isocyanides could be generated according to the previously reported procedures.¹All amides and *fac*-Ir(ppy)₃ were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification.



2. Crystal data

3s: Diffraction measurements were performed at 296 K on a Bruker APEX-II diffractometer equipped with Mo– K_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å). C₁₆H₁₃ClN₂O, $M_r =$

284.73, orthorhombic, space group *P* 21 21 21, a = 4.7439(8) Å, b = 16.180(3) Å, c = 18.262(3) Å, V = 1401.7(4) Å³, Z = 4, $D_x = 1.349$ g/cm³, $\mu = 0.269$ mm⁻¹ and F(000) = 592.0; crystal dimensions: 0.18 ×0.03 × 0.02 mm³; 1714 unique reflections with 3171 obeying the $I \ge 2\sigma(I)$; R1 = 0.0445, wR2 = 0.1182, S = 1.002; supplementary publication no.CCDC-1499099.

3t: Diffraction measurements were performed at 100 K on a Bruker APEX II diffractometer equipped with Cu– K_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 1.54178$ Å). C₁₈H₁₅ClN₂O, $M_r = 310.77$, orthorhombic, space group *P* b c a, a = 8.2579(5) Å, b = 16.2062(10) Å, c = 21.6169(13) Å, V = 2893.0(3) Å³, Z = 8, $D_x = 1.427$ g/cm³, $\mu = 2.355$ mm⁻¹ and *F*(000) = 1296.0; crystal dimensions: $0.26 \times 0.21 \times 0.10$ mm³; 2234 unique reflections with 2509 obeying the $I \ge 2\sigma(I)$; R1 = 0.0384, wR2 = 0.1207, S = 1.050; supplementary publication no.CCDC-1499100.

3. Biological evaluation

(1) Reagents

DMEM (Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium, WISENT); FBS (Fetal bovine serum, Gibco); Doxorubicin HCl (Sigma-Aldrich); Penicillin (Sangon Biotech, Shanghai, China); Streptomycin (Sangon Biotech, Shanghai, China); MTT (Sangon Biotech , Shanghai, China)

(2) Cell Culture

Cells (A375, HepG-2, HT-29, MCF-7, CaoV-3) were maintained in cell culture dishes in complete growth medium (DMEM), supplemented with 10% FBS, 100U/mL penicillin, and 100 μ g/mL streptomycin. The cells were grown in a carbon dioxide incubator (37 °C, 5% CO₂). All cell lines were obtained from the Cell Bank of the Chinese Academic of Science (Shanghai, China)

(3) Cytotoxicity

The cytotoxicity was tested on the five cell lines (human melanoma A375, human hepatoma HepG-2, human colon carcinoma HT-29, human breast cancer MCF-7 and human ovarian cancer Caov-3) by MTT [3-(4,5-dimethyl-2-thiazolyl)-2,5-diphenyl-2-H-tetrazolium bromide] assay as s3 / s78

described.² Briefly, the test cell at the exponential growth phase were collected and transferred into 96-well plates. After incubated for 24 h, compound dilutions were dispensed to the established culture plates. Two days (48 h) later, the MTT solution (0.1 mg per well) was then added to each well. After further incubation for 4 h, the supernatant was removed, the crystals were fully dissolved in DMSO (150 mL), and the absorbance of each well was read at 570 nm (Safire, Tecan). The IC₅₀ value was determined as the concentration, at which a half of the test cell growth was inhibited and calculated using GraphPad Prism 5.0 (GraphPad Software Inc., San Diego, CA, USA). The experiment was performed in triplicate, and the data expressed as means \pm SEM.³

(4) Neuraminidase Inhibitory Assay

The fluorimetric assay was used to measure NA activity performed as previously reported with a slight modification.^{4,5} The NA activity was measured using the substrate 4-methylumbelliferyl-R-D-N-acetylneuraminic acid sodium salt hydrate (4-MU-NANA) in the MES buffer [32.5 mM 2-(*N*-morpholino) ethanesulfonic acid, 4 mM CaCl₂, pH 6.5]. All compounds were dissolved in DMSO and diluted to the corresponding concentrations in MES buffer. An enzyme inhibitory assay was carried out in 96-well plates containing 50µl MES buffer, 10 µl of NA (0.035 U/ml) and 10 µl of test compound incorporated in the MES buffer at different concentrations to assess their inhibitory activity. The mixture was incubated for 30 min at 37°C, and 30 µl of 4-MU-NANA substrate per well in MES buffer was added. The enzymatic reactions were carried out for 1 h at 37 °C and quenched by adding 100 µL of the stop solution (83% EtOH, 14mM NaOH). The fluorescence intensity of the product (4-MU) was acquired with excitation and emission wavelengths of 360 and 450 nm, respectively. The IC₅₀ for reducing the NA activity was then determined.

4. Reference

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5. Table S1 The inhibitory effect of compounds on neuraminidase

Compounds	3d	3k	3r	Oseltamivir ^b
IC ₅₀ (µM)	7.19±0.26 ^a	10.71±0.36	8.34±0.31	0.23±0.02

^a IC₅₀ values (μ M) are the mean ± SEM of three independent assays.

^b Oseltamivir is the reference standard used in the present study.

6. The X-ray structure of 3s, 3t (see for main article)



7. Figure S1 LC-UV-MS for detection of TEMPO-DMAc adduct

ESI-MS calcd for $C_{13}H_{27}N_2O_2$ [M + H] ⁺: 243.2073, found: 243.2073.



8. NMR and ESI-MS Spectra for All Compounds



S7 / S78







S10 / S78















S17 / S78





S19 / S78

















S25 / S78



S26 / S78











S31 / S78







S34 / S78


















S43 / S78







S46 / S78



S47 / S78





S49 / S78







S52 / S78













S58 / S78



S59 / S78





S61 / S78



















S68 / S78




























