Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2018

# **Supporting Information**

# **Grignard-Mediated Rearrangement of Trifluoroacetyl from Dihdro**isoquinoline Enamides to Afford Tertiary Trifluoromethylcarbinols

Raghavendra Achary,<sup>a,b</sup> Gangadhar Rao Mathi,<sup>a,b</sup> Seulgi Kim,<sup>a,c</sup> Jong Yeon Hwang, <sup>a,b</sup> Pilho Kim,<sup>\*,a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Bio & Drug Discovery Division, Korea Research Institute of Chemical Technology, Daejeon 34114, Korea <sup>b</sup>Department of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacology, University of Science & Technology, Daejeon 34113, Korea <sup>c</sup>Department of Chemistry, Chungnam National University, Daejeon 34134, Korea

# **Table of Contents**

I.	General Information ······S2
II.	Preparation of Enamides
III.	Synthesis of Trifluoromethylcarbinols
IV.	One-Pot Synthesis of 4a ·····S17
V.	Alternate Procedure for the Synthesis of <b>4a</b> ······S18
VI.	Crossover Experiment ·····S19
VII.	References ······S19
VIII.	X-ray Crystallography Analysis of <b>4g</b> ······S20
IX.	X-ray Crystallography Analysis of <b>3a</b> ······S22
X.	X-ray Crystallography Analysis of <b>3d</b> ······S24
XI.	<sup>1</sup> H & <sup>13</sup> C NMR Spectra ······S26
XII.	LC/MS of Crossover Experiment ······S56

## **General Information**

Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were performed under an atmosphere of nitrogen or argon. Dry tetrahydrofuran (THF), dichloromethane, and dimethylformamide (DMF) were obtained by passing these previously degassed solvents through activated alumina columns. All other reagents were used as received, unless stated otherwise. Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) on precoated silica gel F254 plate (Merck, art. 5715) and column chromatography was performed using silica gel (Merck, mesh 230-400). Volatile solvents were removed under reduced pressure with a rotary evaporator. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded with Bruker Avance spectrometers operating at 300 and 500 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H, 125 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C using CDCl<sub>3</sub> or other deuterated solvents. Chemical shifts were reported relative to the residual solvent signal (<sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  = 7.26 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  = 77.16 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)). NMR data were reported as follows: chemical shift (multiplicity, coupling constants where applicable, number of hydrogens). Splitting is reported with the following symbols: s = singlet, bs = broad singlet, d = doublet, t = broad singlet, d = doublet, t = broad singlet, d = doublet, t = broad singlet, d = broad singltriplet, dd = doublet of doublets, ddd = doublet of doublet of doublets, dt = doublet of triplets, hept = heptet, m = multiplet. Melting points were determined in open capillaries using Optimelt apparatus. The IR spectra of compounds were recorded using Smiths FT-IR spectrometer (model: Identify IR). The  $v_{max}$ values expressed in cm<sup>-1</sup> for the main absorption bands. LC/MS analysis was performed on the Waters Acquity UPLC system with SQ Detector2 via electrospray ionization mode using a mixture of solvents as a mobile phase (Water + 0.1% HCOOH and CH<sub>3</sub>CN + 0.1% HCOOH) and C18 column (Acquity UPLC BEH C18 1.7 µm). HRMS was measured with electron impact (EI) ionization or fast atom bombardment (FAB) ionization methods via double focusing mass analyzer (magnetic and electric fields) using JMS-700 (JEOL, Tokyo, Japan).

## **Preparation of Enamides**

#### 2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(7-methoxy-1-methylene-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1*H*)-yl)ethan-1-one (2a)

To a solution of 7-methoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline<sup>1</sup> (**1a**, 100 mg, 0.57 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added trifluoroacetic anhydride (TFAA) (0.20 mL, 1.4 mmol) at rt and

the mixture was stirred at rt for 10 min. The reaction mixture was evaporated under vacuum to get crude mixture which was then purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/4) as an eluent to afford the title compound **2a** (182 mg, 0.67 mmol, 83%); TLC  $R_f = 0.85$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 1/9); white solid; mp 71.9-74.1 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.25 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, br, 1H), 5.34 (s, br, 1H), 3.95 (t, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.89 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  158.4, 155.5 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 35.8 Hz), 141.1, 132.0, 130.1, 125.7, 116.5 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 288.3 Hz), 115.6, 108.9, 108.7, 55.3, 44.7, 27.6; IR v 3044, 3015, 2936, 1688, 1567, 1493, 1432, 1200, 1141, 1032, 913, 882, 798 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 272.0 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 271.0820, found 271.0807.

#### 2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(1-methylene-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1*H*)-yl)ethan-1-one (2b)<sup>2</sup>

To a solution of 1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**1b**, 200 mg, 1.38 mmol) in THF (2.0 mL) was added TFAA (0.29 mL, 2.07 mmol) followed by Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.38 mL, 2.75 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h, quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with EtOAc (2 X 50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture, which was then purified, on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/4) as an eluent to afford **2b** (241 mg, 0.99 mmol, 73%); TLC R<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.88 (EtOAc/hexane es = 1/9); white solid; mp 54.3-56.5 °C (lit.<sup>2</sup> mp 55-56 °C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.59 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 5.77 (s, br, 1H), 5.34 (s, br, 1H), 4.05 (s, br, 2H), 3.01 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.69 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  155.6 (q, <sup>2</sup> *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 34.9 Hz), 141.0, 137.2, 133.4, 131.1, 129.1, 126.9, 124.3, 116.5 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 288.1 Hz), 108.6, 44.3, 28.5; IR v 3124, 3010, 2951, 1679, 1634, 1434, 1357, 1137, 1043, 895, 770, cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 242.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>10</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO [M<sup>+</sup>] 241.0714, found 241.0728.

#### 2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(4-methyl-1-methylene-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1*H*)-yl)ethan-1-one (2c)



To a round-bottomed flask capped with a rubber septum were added 1,4-dimethyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline<sup>3</sup> (**1c**, 200 mg, 1.25 mmol) and a solution of  $Et_3N$  (152 mg, 1.51 mmol) in THF (3.0 mL). The mixture was cooled to 0 °C under stirring and a solution of TFAA (0.21 mL, 1.5 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added dropwise. The

reaction mixture was maintained at rt under stirring and a nitrogen atmosphere for 30 min. Afterwards, the reaction was diluted with EtOAc (10 mL) and washed with distilled water (10 mL). The organic phase was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to afford the crude mixture which was purified by silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexane (1/4) as an eluent to afford **2c** (260 mg, 1.02 mmol, 81%); TLC R<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.90 (EtOAc/hexanes = 1/9); colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.58 (d, *J* = 7.56 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.21 (m, 2H), 5.74 (s, br, 1H), 5.31 (s, br, 1H), 4.02-3.96 (m, 1H), 3.94-3.89 (m, 1H), 3.15 (sextet, *J* = 6.69 Hz, 1H), 1.29 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  155.8 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 36.3 Hz), 141.29, 138.8, 130.4, 129.3, 128.0, 126.9, 124.2, 116.6 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 288.4 Hz), 108.0, 50.2, 33.3, 19.9; IR v 2963, 1687, 1639, 1431, 1297, 1197, 1144, 1032, 965, 898, 770, 751 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 256.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO [M<sup>+</sup>] 255.0871, found 255.0865.

#### 2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(6-methoxy-1-methylene-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1*H*)-yl)ethan-1-one (2d)



To a solution of 6-methoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**1d**, 100 mg, 0.57 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added TFAA (0.08 mL, 0.57 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 10 min, quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried

over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/4) as an eluent to afford **2d** (120 mg, 0.44 mmol, 78%); TLC  $R_f = 0.86$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 1/9); white solid; mp 68.6-70.6 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.52 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 5.62 (s, br, 1H), 5.22 (s, br, 1H), 4.03 (s, br, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.98 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.1, 155.6 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 35.2 Hz), 140.6, 135.0, 125.7, 123.8, 116.5 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 288.3 Hz), 113.4, 113.2, 106.4, 55.3, 44.2, 28.9; IR v 3010, 2932, 2835, 1689, 1606, 1495, 1438, 1361, 1279, 1202, 1176, 1133 1037, 898, 877, 807 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 272.2 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 271.0820, found 271.0831.

#### 1-(6,7-Dimethoxy-1-methylene-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1*H*)-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethan-1-one (2e)<sup>4</sup>

 To a solution of 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**1e**, 205 mg, 1.00 mmol) and pyridine (98.9 mg, 1.25 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3.1 mL) was added dropwise TFAA (263 mg, 1.25 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.75 mL) at -50 °C. The

reaction mixture was stirred at -50 °C for 3 h, quenched with water (5 mL), and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 5 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified through silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/4) as an eluent to afford **2e** (226 mg, 0.750 mmol, 75%); TLC R<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.88 (EtOAc/hexanes = 1/9); slightly yellow solid; mp 81.5-83.1 °C (lit.<sup>9</sup> mp 80 °C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.03 (s, 1H), 6.59 (s, 1H), 5.62 (s, br, 1H), 5.25 (s, br, 1H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.94 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  155.6 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 35.8 Hz), 150.1, 148.1, 126.3, 123.4, 116.5 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 286.5 Hz), 111.1, 106.8, 106.6, 106.5, 56.0, 55.9, 44.6, 28.4; IR v 3020, 2965, 2935, 1698, 1608, 1515, 1440, 1340, 1279, 1135 1037, 902, 810 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 302.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>].

#### 2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(7-fluoro-1-methylene-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1H)-yl)ethan-1-one (2f)



To a solution of 7-Fluoro-1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**1f**, 200 mg, 1.23 mmol) in THF (2.0 mL) was added  $Et_3N$  (0.43 mL, 3.06 mmol) followed by TFAA (0.26 mL, 1.84 mmol) at 0 °C and stirred for 10 min at rt. The mixture was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 200 mL). The combined

organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified through silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/4) as an eluent to afford **2f** (241 mg, 0.93 mmol, 76%); TLC R<sub>f</sub> = 0.86 (EtOAc/hexanes = 1/9); white solid; mp 50.3-53.1 °C; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.26-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.09-7.14 (m, 1H), 6.95-7.02 (m, 1H), 5.76 (s, br, 1H), 5.41 (s, br, 1H), 4.03 (s, br, 2H), 2.97 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.5 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 245.0 Hz), 155.4 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 34.9 Hz), 140.2, 132.6, 130.7, 129.1, 116.4 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 21.1 Hz), 116.4 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 288.2 Hz), 110.8 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 23.2 Hz), 109.6, 44.3, 27.8; IR v 3071, 3030, 2947, 1684, 1610, 1578, 1488, 1431, 1316, 1270, 1196, 1151, 931, 893, 752 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 260.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>9</sub>F<sub>4</sub>NO [M<sup>+</sup>] 259.0620, found 259.0624.

#### 2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(1-methylene-1,3,4,9-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrido[3,4-*b*]indol-2-yl)ethan-1-one (2g)<sup>5</sup>



To a solution of 1-methyl-4,9-dihydro-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole<sup>6</sup> (**1g**, 100 mg, 0.54 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added TFAA (0.12 mL, 0.81 mmol) followed by Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.19 mL, 1.36 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for

30 min, quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O, and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified through silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (2/1) as an eluent to afford **2g** (85 mg, 0.3 mmol, 56%); TLC R<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.51 (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/1); white solid; mp 154.2-156.8 °C; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.38 (s, br, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 5.42 (s, br, 2H), 4.06-4.14 (m, 2H), 2.91 (s, br, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  136.9, 128.8, 126.5, 124.1 120.4, 119.1, (q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 286.3 Hz), 111.2, 103.9, 46.4, 22.2; IR v 3329, 3243, 3101, 1700, 1633, 1559, 1418, 1334, 1184, 1120, 1067, 727 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 281.2 [M + H<sup>+</sup>], 561.3 [2M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>1</sub>4H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M<sup>+</sup>] 280.0823, found 280.0832

#### 2,2,2-Trifluoro-N-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)vinyl)-N-methylacetamide (2h)<sup>7</sup>

[Step 1] To a solution of (E)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethan-1-one oxime (500 mg, 3.03 mmol) and TFAA

 $(0.51 \text{ mL}, 3.63 \text{ mmol}) \text{ in DMF } (5.0 \text{ mL}) \text{ was added Fe powder } (507 \text{ mg}, 9.08 \text{ mmol}), \text{ and then the reaction was initiated by adding catalytic amount of TMSCl under nitrogen. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 4 h, quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O, and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 150 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/3) as an eluent to afford 2,2,2-trifluoro-$ *N* $-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)vinyl)acetamide<sup>8</sup> (223 mg, 0.91 mmol, 30%); TLC R<sub>f</sub> = 0.52 (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); white solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) <math>\delta$  7.53 (s, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 5.27 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H); LC/MS 246.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>].

[Step 2] To a solution of above 2,2,2-trifluoro-N-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)vinyl)acetamide (100 mg, 0.41



mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added NaH (24.4 mg, 0.61 mmol) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 10 min and MeI (51 $\mu$ L, 0.80 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 12 h, quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O, and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried

over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/4) as an eluent to afford **2h** (38 mg, 0.15 mmol, 36%); TLC  $R_f$ 

= 0.73 (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); white solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.33 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.11 (s, 3H); LC/MS 260.3 [M + H<sup>+</sup>].

#### 1-(7-Methoxy-1-methylene-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1*H*)-yl)ethan-1-one (2i)



To a solution of 7-methoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**1a**, 100 mg, 0.57 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added Ac<sub>2</sub>O (146 mg, 1.43 mmol) followed by Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.19 mL, 1.43 mmol) at rt and stirred for 5 h. The reaction mixture was

evaporated under vacuum to get a crude product which was then purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/4) as an eluent to afford **2i** (108 mg, 0.49 mmol, 87%); TLC R<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.70 (EtOAc/hexanes = 1/9); colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.15 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 5.08 (s, br, 1H), 3.99 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.86 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  203.5, 171.3, 157.8, 139.1, 132.9, 130.4, 117.1, 115.1, 100.0, 55.5, 42.3, 31.3, 29.8, 22.7; IR v 3288, 2935, 2835, 1677, 1650, 1608, 1434, 1356, 1267, 1216, 1199, 1039, 728 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 217.8 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]. HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13H15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 217.1103, found 217.1091

#### 7-Methoxy-1-methylene-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1H)-yl)(phenyl)methanone (2j)



To a solution of 7-methoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**1a**, 300 mg, 1.71 mmol) in THF (3.0 mL) was added Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.59 mL, 4.28 mmol) followed by addition of benzoyl chloride (0.24 mL, 2.05 mmol) at 0  $^{\circ}$ C and

stirred at rt for 30 min. The reaction mixture was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The organic layers were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and saturated NaCl (aq). The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/4) as an eluent to afford **2j** (421 mg, 1.51 mmol, 88%); TLC R<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.73 (EtOAc/hexanes = 1/9); yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.45 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.28-7.42 (m, 3H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 5.42 (s, 1H), 5.55 (s, 1H), 4.13 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.01 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  28.5, 42.8, 55.4, 107.4, 108.9, 115.1, 126.9, 127.9, 128.2, 129.9, 130.2, 132.2, 136.1, 142.9, 158.3, 169.9; IR v 3055, 2930, 2833, 1719, 1633, 1571, 1490, 1445, 1382, 1291, 1218, 1036, 887, 788, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 280.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 279.1259, found 279.1252

# Synthesis of Trifluoromethylcarbinols

#### 1,1,1-Trifluoro-3-(7-methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-2-methylpropan-2-ol (4a)

To a solution of **2a** (50.0 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added 3.0 M MeMgBr in diethyl ether (0.09 mL, 0.27 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 10 min and quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq). The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL) and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/2) as an eluent to afford the title compound **4a** (52 mg, 0.181 mmol, 98%); TLC  $R_f = 0.50$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.09 (s, br, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.98-6.95 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.73-3.65 (m, 2H), 3.15 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (d, J = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  22.7, 24.8, 35.3, 46.1, 55.5, 73.6 (q, <sup>2</sup> $J_{C-F} = 28$  Hz), 110.9, 116.4, 124.7, 126.1 (q, <sup>1</sup> $J_{C-F} =$ 284 Hz), 128.6, 129.4, 129.7, 158.7, 166.2; IR v 3220, 2992, 2947, 2838, 1733, 1605, 1568, 1464, 1431, 1281, 1137, 1108, 1082 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 287.7 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m*/z calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 287.1133, found 287.1145

#### 3-(3,4-Dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2-methylpropan-2-ol (4b)



To a solution of **2b** (50.0 mg, 0.21 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added 3.0 M MeMgBr in diethyl ether (0.10 mL, 0.31 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 10 min and quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq). The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL) and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were dried

over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/2) as an eluent to afford **4b** (50 mg, 0.2 mmol, 94%); TLC R<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.53 (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.07 (s, br, 1H), 7.38-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.60-3.75 (m, 2H), 3.17 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.81 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  22.8, 25.7, 35.3, 45.7, 73.5 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 27.9 Hz), 124.7, 126.3 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 284 Hz), 127.3, 127.9, 131.5, 137.4, 166.4; IR v 3375, 3056, 2980, 2759, 1617, 1569, 1294, 1278, 1141, 1093, 865, 758 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 258.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO [M<sup>+</sup>] 257.1027, found 257.1034.

#### 1,1,1-Trifluoro-2-methyl-3-(4-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-ol (4c)



To solution of 2c (200 mg, 0.78 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added 3.0 M MeMgBr in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.39 mL, 1.17 mmol) at rt and stirred for 30 min. The reaction mixture was treated with sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq) solution and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude product obtained was

purified through column chromatography using EtOAC/hexanes (1/3) as an eluent to afford **4c** (180 mg, 0.66 mmol, 85%); TLC  $R_f = 0.58$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); white solid. mp 83.3-85.0 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.19 (s, br, 1H), 7.50-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.29 (m, 2H), 3.81-3.71 (s, 1H), 3.59-3.46 (s, 1H), 3.24-3.16 (m, 1H), 2.94-2.82 (m, 2H), 1.49 (s, 3H), 1.27 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 2.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  17.3, 17.5, 22.7, 22.9, 29.6, 29.7, 35.1, 35.2, 52.5, 52.6, 73.7 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 27.9 Hz), 124.7, 124.7, 126.0, 126.1, 126.4 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 284 Hz), 126.9, 127.0, 127.9, 127.9, 131.8, 142.3, 142.4, 166.2; IR v 3067, 2846, 2777, 1618, 1570, 1464, 1276, 1137, 1089, 1015, 961, 748 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 272.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO [M<sup>+</sup>] 271.1184, found 271.1183

#### 1,1,1-Trifluoro-3-(6-methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-2-methylpropan-2-ol (4d)



To a solution of **2d** (50.0 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added 3.0 M MeMgBr in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.09 mL, 0.28 mmol) at rt and stirred for 10 min. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq), extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL), and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

and concentrated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/2) as an eluent to afford **4d** (50 mg, 0.2 mmol, 96%); TLC R<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.56 (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.38 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.62-3.69 (m, 2H), 3.10 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  22.8, 26.3, 35.2, 45.5, 55.4, 73.5 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 27.8 Hz), 112.2, 113.3, 122.4, 126.3 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 284 Hz), 126.7, 139.8, 161.8, 165.9; IR v 3390, 2952, 2765, 2580, 2244, 1604, 1568, 1315, 1251, 1137, 1093, 1026, 961, 726 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 287.9 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 287.1133, found 287.1127.

#### 3-(6,7-Dimethoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2-methylpropan-2-ol (4e)



To solution of 2e (205 mg, 0.68 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added 3.0 M MeMgBr in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.33 mL, 0.99 mmol) at rt and stirred for 30 min. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq) solution and extracted with EtOAc (2 X 20 mL). The organic layers were washed with water followed by saturated brine solution. The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the

solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was purified through column chromatography using EtOAC/hexanes (1/1) as an eluent to afford **4e** (180 mg, 0.57 mmol, 83%); TLC  $R_f = 0.60$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); white solid; mp 107.2-109.0 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.23 (s, br, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.74-3.58 (m, 1H), 3.15-3.09 (m, 1H), 2.79-2.73 (m, 1H), 2.67 (t, *J* = 7.65 Hz, 2H), 1.48 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  22.7, 25.4, 35.3, 45.6, 56.0, 56.3, 73.5 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 27.9 Hz), 108.3, 110.5, 121.7, 126.3, (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 284 Hz), 131.4, 147.7, 151.6, 165.7.; IR v 3095, 2973, 2781, 1608, 1567, 1465, 1363, 1268, 1211, 1140, 1093, 1031, 967, 865,784 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 318.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 317.1239, found 317.1237

#### 1,1,1-Trifluoro-3-(7-fluoro-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-2-methylpropan-2-ol (4f)

 $F \xrightarrow{\text{OH}}_{\text{CF}_3} \text{To a solution of } 2\mathbf{f} (80.0 \text{ mg}, 0.31 \text{ mmol}) \text{ in THF (1.2 mL) was added } 3.0 \text{ M} \text{MeMgBr in Et}_2\text{O} (0.15 \text{ mL}, 0.46 \text{ mmol}) \text{ at rt and stirred for 15 min. The reaction} mixture was quenched with NH_4Cl (aq) and extracted with EtOAc (2 X 100 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/2) as an eluent to afford <math>4\mathbf{f}$  (91 mg, 0.3 mmol, 86%); TLC R<sub>f</sub> = 0.52 (EtOAc/hexanes (1/2) as a single column chromatography using the single column chromato

= 2/8); colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.83 (s, br, 1H), 7.07-7.21 (m, 3H), 3.66-3.73 (m, 2H), 3.12 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.76 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (d, *J* = 0.5 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  22.8, 35.5, 45.9, 73.6 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 27.9 Hz), 111.8 (d, *J* = 22.5 Hz), 118.2 (d, *J* = 21.1 Hz), 126.2 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 284 Hz), 129.2 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 129.9 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 132.9 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 161.7 (d, *J* = 244.4 Hz), 165.4; IR v 3317, 2944, 1626, 1578, 1491, 1264, 1147, 1102, 1027, 887, 868,747 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 276.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F4NO [M<sup>+</sup>] 275.0933, found 275.0929.

#### 3-(4,9-Dihydro-3*H*-pyrido[3,4-*b*]indol-1-yl)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2-methylpropan-2-ol (4g)

To a solution of **2g** (50 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added 3.0 M H  $CF_3$  MeMgBr in diethyl ether (0.18 mL, 0.53 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred at same temperature for 10 min and quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq). The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (25 mL x 2) and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude product which was purified through silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (2/1) as an eluent to afford **4g** (42 mg, 0.14 mmol, 80%); TLC R<sub>f</sub> = 0.3 (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/1); white solid; mp 144.1-146.8 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.40 (s, br, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.42 (s, br, 2H), 4.06-4.14 (m, 2H), 2.91 (s, br, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  18.9, 21.5, 47.7, 73.2 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 27.4 Hz), 112.9, 116.1, 120.2, 120.2, 124.6, 125.1, 126.9 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 284.9 Hz), 129.1, 137.2, 159.1; IR v 3405, 3105, 2959, 2720, 2510, 1602, 1543, 1369, 1281, 1134, 1092, 863, 727 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 297.11 [M + H<sup>+</sup>], 593.3 [2M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M<sup>+</sup>] 296.1136, found 296.1134

#### 1,1,1-Trifluoro-2-((7-methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)methyl)butan-2-ol (4h)



To a solution of compound **2a** (50.0 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added 3.0 M EtMgBr in diethyl ether (0.09 mL, 0.28 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 10 min and quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq). The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL) and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a

crude mixture which was purified through silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/2) as an eluent to afford the title compound **4h** (52 mg, 0.2 mmol, 95%); TLC  $R_f = 0.53$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.24 (s, br, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.95-7.01 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.61-3.71 (m, 2H), 3.07 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.86-1.95 (m, 1H), 1.59-1.78 (m, 1H), 1.06 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.5, 24.8, 28.4, 32.2, 46.0, 55.5, 75.7 (q, <sup>2</sup> $_{JC-F} = 26.4$  Hz), 111.1, 116.3, 124.7, 126.8 (q, <sup>1</sup> $_{JC-F} = 286$  Hz), 128.6, 129.4, 129.6, 130.2, 158.7, 166.8; IR v 3125, 2939, 2836, 1607, 1571, 1461, 1428, 1281, 1262, 1139, 1108, 1044, 987, 814 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 302.0 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 301.1290, found 301.1292.

#### 1,1,1-Trifluoro-3-(7-methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-2-phenylpropan-2-ol (4i)



To a solution of compound **2a** (50.0 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added PhMgBr (0.28 mL, 0.28 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 2 h and quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq). The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL) and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO4 and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified through silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes

(1/2) as an eluent to afford the title compound **4i** (41 mg, 0.12 mmol, 64%); TLC  $R_f = 0.57$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); white solid; mp 74.3-75.2 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.62 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.25-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.06 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.42-3.55 (m, 4H), 2.32-2.58 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  24.7, 35.02, 45.9, 55.6, 76.6 (q, <sup>2</sup> $_{J_{C-F}} = 27.9$  Hz), 110.9, 116.3, 125.3 (q, <sup>1</sup> $_{J_{C-F}} = 284$  Hz), 128.1, 128.2, 128.6, 129.3, 129.7, 139.1, 158.7, 165.9; IR v 3020, 2999, 2932, 2832, 1602, 1500, 1444, 1309, 1252, 1140, 1074, 1014, 963, 899, 841, 824 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 350.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 349.1290, found 349.1297

### 2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-(7-methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-ol (4j)



To a solution of compound **2a** (50 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added 1.0 M 4-chlorophenylphenyl magnesium bromide in diethyl ether (0.28 mL, 0.28 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 2 h and quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq). The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL) and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified through silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/2) as an eluent to

afford unstable **4j** (43 mg, 0.1 mmol, 61%); TLC  $R_f = 0.55$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); white solid; mp 104.9-105.8 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.59 (s, br, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.53-3.60 (m, 2H), 3.43 (q, J = 16.4 Hz, 2H), 2.54-2.61 (m, 1H), 2.38-2.44 (m, 1H); IR v 3314, 3117, 2942, 2831, 1608, 1499, 1244, 1154, 1091, 1033, 1011, 816 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 383.9 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (FAB+) *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M + H<sup>+</sup>] 384.0978, found 384.0992

\*Note: Due to unstable nature of trifluoromethylcarbinols **4***j*, **4***k* and **4***m* at rt, for the purpose of NMR confirmation these compounds were promptly reduced using NaBH<sup>4</sup> to obtain diastereomeric mixtures of stable 1,3-aminoalcohols in good yields.

#### 2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-(7-methoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-ol (5j)



To a solution of **4d** (40 mg, 0.10 mmol) in MeOH (1.0 mL) was added NaBH<sub>4</sub> (10 mg, 0.26 mmol) and stirred at rt for 10 min. The reaction mixture was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O and the solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The crude mixture was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL) and washed with saturated NaCl (aq). The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum. The crude mixture was purified on silica gel column chromatography using

EtOAc/hexanes (1/1) as an eluent to afford **5j** (39 mg, 0.1 mmol, 98%); TLC R<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.32 (EtOAc/hexanes = 1/1); white solid; mp 118.9-120.7 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.72 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.5H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1.5H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.5H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1.5H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (s, 0.8H), 6.38 (s, 0.2H), 4.63 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.04-3.15 (m, 2H), 2.67-2.71 (m, 2H), 2.37-2.54 (m, 1H), 2.03-2.17 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  27.6, 36.5, 37.4, 38.7, 51.7, 52.5, 55.4, 126.0, 126.2, 127.1, 128.2, 128.7, 128.7, 130.5, 133.9, 134.5, 137.6, 137.9, 139.5, 157.9; IR v 3316, 2953, 2923, 2829, 1605, 1499, 1490, 1254, 1219, 1158, 1132, 1025, 898, 828, 663 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 385.9 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 385.1056, found 385.1041

#### 1,1,1-Trifluoro-3-(7-methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)propan-2-ol (4k)



To a solution of compound **2a** (50 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added 0.5 M 4-methoxyphenylmagnesium bromide in THF (0.55 mL, 0.28 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 2 h and quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq). The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL) and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixuture which was purified through silica gel column

chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/2) as an eluent to afford **4k**. The isolated compound was highly unstable. Hence, it was directly used for the next step (46 mg, 0.1 mmol, 66%); TLC  $R_f = 0.49$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.55 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.53-3.61 (m, 2H), 3.47 (d, *J* = 16 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (d, *J* = 16 Hz, 1H), 2.54-2.60 (m, 1H), 2.38-2.45 (m, 1H); LC/MS 380.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>].

#### 1,1,1-Trifluoro-3-(7-methoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)propan-2-ol (5k)



To a solution of **4e** (45 mg, 0.12 mmol) in MeOH (1.0 mL) was added NaBH<sub>4</sub> (6.7 mg, 0.2 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 10 min and the solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The solid obtained was dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/1) as

an eluent to afford a diastereomeric mixture (50:50 based on LC/MS) of **5k** (38 mg, 0.099 mmol, 84%); TLC  $R_f = 0.26$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 1/1); white solid; mp 125.7-126.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 7.51 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.79 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.73 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 4.64 (d, J = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 3.06-3.12 (m, 2H), 2.52-2.70 (m, 3H), 2.09-2.19 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  27.7, 37.3, 39.0, 52.5, 55.2, 55.4, 111.8, 112.7, 113.4, 126.0, 126.6 (q, <sup>1</sup> $J_{C-F} = 286$  Hz), 126.8, 130.4, 133.1, 138.3, 157.9, 159.2; ; IR v 3303, 3012, 2943, 2843, 2024, 1607, 1496, 1457, 1251, 1162, 1139, 1031, 912, 884 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 381.9 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (FAB+) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> [M + H<sup>+</sup>] 382.1630, found 382.1624

#### 2-Benzyl-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-(7-methoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-ol (4l)



To a solution of compound **2a** (50 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added 2.0 M benzylmagnesium chloride in THF (0.14 mL, 0.28 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 2 h and quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq). The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL) and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum

to get a crude mixture which was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/2) as an eluent to afford **4l** (48 mg, 0.1 mmol, 72%); TLC  $R_f = 0.55$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); white solid; mp 50.2-51.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.57 (s, br, 1H), 7.23-7.29 (m, 5H), 7.06 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (s, br, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.49 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.23 (d, J = 13.8 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (d, J = 13.8 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.41-2.62 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  24.6, 31.9, 41.2, 45.8, 55.5, 76.3 (q, <sup>2</sup> $_{JC-F} = 26.3$  Hz), 111.2, 116.1, 126.5, (q, <sup>1</sup> $_{JC-F} = 286$  Hz), 126.9, 127.7, 128.5, 129.4, 129.5, 131.2, 135.5, 158.6, 166.6; IR v 3085, 2951, 2835, 2165, 1631, 1573, 1413, 1430, 1281, 1162, 1110, 1043, 1010, 918, 865 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 364.0 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 363.1446, found 363.1430

#### (Z)-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-(7-methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-ylidene)propan-2-one (3a)



To a solution of **2a** (50 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added *i*PrMgBr 1.3 NH M in THF (0.42 mL, 0.54 mmol) at rt and the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min. The reaction mixture was treated with sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq) solution and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water,

dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude product obtained was purified through column chromatography using EtOAC/hexanes (1/3) as an eluent to afford **3a** (44 mg, 0.16 mmol, 88%); TLC R<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.5 (2:8 EtOAc/hexanes); slightly yellow solid. mp 114.6-116.1 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  11.60 (s, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 5.94 (s, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.61-3.57 (m, 2H), 2.94 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.3 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 32.6 Hz), 162.3, 158.8, 129.4, 128.6, 128.5, 118.5, 117.8 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 286.5 Hz), 111.2, 83.8, 55.6, 39.2, 26.8; IR v 3184, 2916, 1588, 1564, 1489, 1278, 1231, 1117, 867 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 271.0820, found 271.0835.

\*In case of cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl magnesium bromides, **3a** was obtained in 76 and 72% yields, respectively.

# 1-(7-Methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-2-methylpropan-2-ol (4m) (Z)-1-(7-Methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2*H*)-ylidene)propan-2-one (3b)



To a solution of **2i** (50 mg, 0.23 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added 3.0 M MeMgBr in diethyl ether (0.12 mL, 0.35 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 2 h and quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq). The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL) and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were

dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/2) as an eluent to afford **4m** (30 mg, 0.1 mmol, 55%); TLC  $R_f = 0.52$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 3/7); colorless oil; and **3b** (17.5 mg, 0.08 mmol, 35%); TLC  $R_f = 0.31$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 3/7); yellow solid; mp 76.9-78.1 °C; Unstable **4m** had a tendency to be transformed to DHIQ **1a** during purification. Basification of silica gel and running column chromatography expeditiously could overcome this conversion.

**4m:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.67-3.72 (m, 2H), 2.81 (s, 2H), 2.66 (t, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (s, 6H); LC/MS 233.9 [M + H<sup>+</sup>].

**3b:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  11.25 (s, br, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.43-3.47 (m, 2H), 2.86 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  22.7, 29.4, 38.7, 55.4, 89.9, 110.4, 116.9, 128.9, 129.2, 129.9, 156.8, 158.5, 195.7; IR v 3056, 2963, 2836, 1661, 1597, 1550, 1490, 1319, 1248, 1137, 1030, 979 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 218.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 217.1103, found 217.1120

#### 1-(7-Methoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-2-methylpropan-2-ol (5m)



To a solution of **4m** (30 mg, 0.13 mmol) in MeOH (1.0 mL) was added NaBH<sub>4</sub> (6.7 mg, 0.2 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 10 min and the solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The solid obtained was dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic layers were

dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture which was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/1) as an eluent to afford a diastereomeric mixture (50:50 based on LC/MS) of **5m** (26 mg, 0.11 mmol, 85%); TLC  $R_f = 0.25$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 1/1); white solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.98 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (s, 1H), 4.28 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.19-3.08 (m, 2H), 2.68 (s, 2H), 1.99 (t, *J* = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 1.68-1.66 (m, 1H), 1.40 (s, 3H), 1.22 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  28.1, 28.4, 31.7, 37.9, 45.5, 52.9, 55.3, 70.4, 111.5, 112.3, 126.6, 130.4, 140.1, 157.8; IR v 3279, 2961, 2916, 2832, 1608, 1500, 1420, 1249, 1146, 1120, 1037, 849, 771, 663 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 235.9 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 235.1572, found 235.1556

#### (Z)-2-(7-Methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-ylidene)-1-phenylethan-1-one (3c)



To a solution of compound 2j (50.0 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added 3.0 M MeMgBr in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.18 mL, 0.54 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 2 h and quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq). The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (25 mL x 2) and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude mixture

which was purified through silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/hexanes (1/2) as an eluent to afford **3c** (29 mg, 0.1 mmol, 58%); TLC  $R_f = 0.36$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 3/7); yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  11.81 (s, br, 1H), 7.92-7.95 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.33 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.50-3.56 (m, 2H), 2.89 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  188.8, 158.6, 158.4, 140.9, 130.5, 130.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.2, 126.9, 116.8, 111.0, 86.9, 55.5, 38.9, 27.6; IR v 3053, 2936, 2832, 1595, 1560, 1483, 1315, 1240, 1145, 1061, 1036, 863, 760 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 280.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 279.1259, found 279.1254.

#### (Z)-1,1,1-Trifluoro-3-(6-methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-ylidene)propan-2-one (3d)



To a solution of 6-methoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**1d**, 1.0 g, 5.7 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added TFAA (2.0 mL, 14 mmol) followed by Et<sub>3</sub>N (2.40 mL, 17.1 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 20 min, quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with EtOAc (2 X 100 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to get a crude product which was purified

through silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/Hexanes (1/2) as an eluent to afford **3d**. Geometric isomerism was unambiguously determined based on the x-ray crystallography structure of **3d** (1.4 g, 5.2 mmol, 90%); TLC R<sub>f</sub> = 0.31 (EtOAc/hexanes = 3/7); white solid; mp 167.4-168.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  11.52 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.55-3.59 (s, 2H), 2.95 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  27.9, 38.9, 55.5, 83.2, 113.3, 118.0 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 286.5 Hz), 120.1, 128.4, 138.9, 162.4, 163.1, 175.4 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 32.1 Hz); IR v 3188, 2967, 2918, 1610, 1587, 1490, 1455, 1319, 1245, 1093, 1040, 855, 775 cm<sup>-1</sup>; LC/MS 272.1 [M + H<sup>+</sup>]; HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 271.0820, found 271.0829

## **One-Pot Synthesis of 4a**

#### 1,1,1-Trifluoro-3-(7-methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-2-methylpropan-2-ol (4a)



To a solution of a **1a** (50 mg, 0.28 mmol) in THF (3 mL) was added TFAA (0.04 mL, 0.31 mmol) at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was stirred at rt for 10 min. TLC analysis showed the complete disappearance of starting material. The reaction mixture was then concentrated to remove THF to afford crude **2a** as a yellow oil.

To a solution of crude **2a** in THF (3 mL) was added 3.0 M MeMgBr in diethyl ether (0.14 mL, 0.42 mmol) at rt. The resulting mixture was stirred at rt for 10 min. The reaction was quenched NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq), water and then extracted with EtOAc (2 X 25 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The crude mixture was purified on silica gel column chromatography

using EtOAc/Hex (1/2) as an eluent to afford **4a** (51 mg, 0.18 mmol, 64%); TLC  $R_f = 0.50$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.06 (s, br, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.99–6.92 (m, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.79–3.56 (m, 3H), 3.13 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.66 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  22.7, 24.8, 35.3, 46.1, 55.5, 73.6 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 28 Hz), 110.9, 116.4, 124.7, 126.1 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 284 Hz), 128.6, 129.4, 129.7, 158.7, 166.2; 1C/MS 287.7 [M + H<sup>+</sup>].

## Alternate Procedure for the Synthesis of 4a

#### 1,1,1-Trifluoro-3-(7-methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-2-methylpropan-2-ol (4a)

To a solution of a **2a** (50 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added 3.0 M MeLi in diethoxymethane (0.090 mL, 0.27mmol) at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. The reaction was quenched with NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq), water and then extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The crude mixture was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/Hex (1/2) as an eluent to afford **4a** (29 mg, 0.10 mmol, 57%); TLC  $R_f = 0.50$  (EtOAc/hexanes = 2/8); colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.09 (s, br, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.98-6.95 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.73-3.65 (m, 2H), 3.15 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  22.7, 24.8, 35.3, 46.1, 55.5, 73.6 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 28 Hz), 110.9, 116.4, 124.7, 126.1 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 284 Hz), 128.6, 129.4, 129.7, 158.7, 166.2; 73.6 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 28 Hz), 110.9, 116.4, 124.7, 126.1 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 284 Hz), 128.6, 129.4, 129.7, 158.7, 166.2; LC/MS 287.7 [M + H<sup>+</sup>].



To a mixture of **2b** (50 mg, 0.21 mmol) and **2i** (45 mg, 0.21 mmol) in THF (3 mL) was added 3.0 M MeMgBr in diethyl ether (0.24 mL, 0.72 mmol) at rt. The resulting mixture was stirred at rt for 10 min. LC/MS analysis showed new peaks corresponding to **4b**, **4m**, and **3d** in addition to unreacted **2i**. There were no peaks matching with molecular weights of **4o**, **4a**, and **3e**. The reaction was quenched with NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq) and then extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The crude mixture was purified on silica gel column chromatography using EtOAc/Hex (1/2) as an eluent to afford **4b** (38 mg, 0.15 mmol, 72%), **4m** (5.0 mg, 0.021 mmol, 10%), **3d** (1.2 mg, 5.5 µmol, 3%), and recovered **2i** (28 mg, 0.13 mmol, 62%).

#### References

- 1. Chan, B. K. H. A New Understanding and Applications of 1,1'-Bisisoquinolines, Dissertation, 2007.
- 2. B. Gomez, G. Martin, E. Guitian, L.Castedo, J.M. Saa, Tetrahedron, 1993, 49, 1251.
- 3. K. C. Agrawal, P. D. Mooney and A. C. Sartorelli, J. Med. Chem. 1976, 19, 970.
- 4. A. F. Rossini, A. C. Muraca, G. A. Casagrande and C. Raminelli, J. Org. Chem. 2015, 80, 10033.
- 5. U. Rößler, S. Blechert and E. Steckhan, Tetrahedron Lett. 1999, 40, 7075.
- 6. A. Kamal, M. K. Reddy, T. S. Reddy, L. S. Santos and N. Shankaraiah, Synlett. 2011, 1, 61.
- 7. W. Yu, J. Chen, K. Gao, Z. Liu and Y. Zhang, Org. Lett. 2014, 16, 4870.
- S. P. Allwein, J. C. McWilliams, E. A. Secord, D. R. Mowrey, T. D. Nelson and M. H. Kress, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2006, 47, 6409.
- 9. C. Leroy, G. Dupas, J. Bourguignon, G. Quéguiner, Tetrahedron 1994, 50, 13135.

# X-ray Crystallography Analysis of 4g

CCDC-1532366 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for **4g**. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre *via* www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\_request/cif.



4g



Crystal data and structure refinement for 4g					
Identification code	20150901lt_0m				
Empirical formula	$C_{15}  H_{15}  F_3  N_2  O$				
Formula weight	296.29				
Temperature	100(1) K				
Wavelength	0.71073 Å				
Crystal system	Monoclinic				
Space group	P2(1)/n				
Unit cell dimensions	a = 6.92630(10) Å	$\alpha = 90^{\circ}$ .			
	b = 8.72380(10) Å	$\beta = 95.2920(10)^{\circ}.$			
	c = 22.5349(4) Å	$\gamma = 90^{\circ}$ .			
Volume	1355.84(3) Å <sup>3</sup>				
Z	4				
Density (calculated)	1.452 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>				
Absorption coefficient	0.120 mm <sup>-1</sup>				
F(000)	616				
Crystal size	0.28 x 0.18 x 0.08 mm <sup>3</sup>				
Theta range for data collection	1.82 to 26.00°				
Index ranges	-8<=h<=8, 0<=k<=10, 0<=l<=27				
Reflections collected	2669				
Independent reflections	2669 [R(int) = $0.0000$ ]				
Completeness to theta = $26.00^{\circ}$	100.0 %				
Absorption correction	Multi-scan				
Max. and min. transmission	0.9904 and 0.9671				
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares	on F <sup>2</sup>			
Data / restraints / parameters	2669 / 0 / 190				
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.067				
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0347, wR2 = 0.0847				
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0382, wR2 = 0.0876				
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.398 and -0.482 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>				

# X-ray Crystallography Analysis of 3a

CCDC-1819355 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for **3a**. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre *via* www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\_request/cif.





Crystal data and structure refinement for <b>3a.</b>						
Identification code	20170922					
Empirical formula	C13 H12 F3 N O2					
Formula weight	271.24					
Temperature	296(2) K					
Wavelength	0.71073 Å					
Crystal system	Monoclinic					
Space group	C2/c					
Unit cell dimensions	a = 17.9537(9) Å	α= 90°.				
	b = 7.1369(3) Å	β=112.706(3)°.				
	c = 21.8227(14) Å	$\gamma = 90^{\circ}$ .				
Volume	2579.5(2) Å <sup>3</sup>					
Ζ	8					
Density (calculated)	1.397 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>					
Absorption coefficient	0.123 mm <sup>-1</sup>					
F(000)	1120					
Crystal size	0.50 x 0.40 x 0.20 mm <sup>3</sup>					
Theta range for data collection	2.51 to 29.89°.					
Index ranges	-24<=h<=22, -10<=k<=0, -30<=l<=21					
Reflections collected	3711					
Independent reflections	3711 [R(int) = 0.0000]					
Completeness to theta = $29.89^{\circ}$	99.7 %					
Absorption correction	None					
Max. and min. transmission	0.9758 and 0.9411					
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>					
Data / restraints / parameters	3711 / 0 / 200					
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.027					
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0596, $wR2 = 0.1685$					
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0842, $wR2 = 0.1903$					
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.257 and -0.205 e.Å -3					

# X-ray Crystallography Analysis of 3d

CCDC-1532365 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for **3d**. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via

www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\_request/cif.

С

ŃΗ ĊF₃ 3d

Crystal data and structure refinement for 3	d		
Identification code	20150722_0m		
Empirical formula	C13 H12 F3 N O2		
Formula weight	271.24		
Temperature	296(1) K		
Wavelength	0.71073 Å		
Crystal system	Monoclinic		
Space group	P2(1)/c		
Unit cell dimensions	a = 7.8606(2) Å	$\alpha = 90^{\circ}$	
	b = 8.5158(2) Å	$\beta = 98.771(1)^{\circ}$	
	c = 18.6068(4)  Å	$\gamma = 90^{\circ}$	
Volume	1230.96(5) Å <sup>3</sup>		
Z	4		
Density (calculated)	1.464 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>		
Absorption coefficient	0.129 mm <sup>-1</sup>		
F(000)	560		
Crystal size	$0.56 \ge 0.20 \ge 0.12 \text{ mm}^3$		
Theta range for data collection	2.21 to 28.28°		
Index ranges	-9<=h<=10, -11<=k<=10, -24<=l<=24		
Reflections collected	19921		
Independent reflections	3068 [R(int) = 0.0221]		
Completeness to theta = $28.28^{\circ}$	99.9 %		
Absorption correction	Multi-scan		
Max. and min. transmission	0.9847 and 0.9314		
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>		
Data / restraints / parameters	3068 / 0 / 200		
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.029		
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0439, wR2 = 0.1087		
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0581, wR2 = 0.1199		
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.147 and -0.242 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>		

# <sup>1</sup>H & <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra

#### <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)





<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) - 5.6230 - 4.0261  $\angle 7.5394$ -7.5111 -7.2594  $\sum_{6.7834}^{6.8124}$  - 6.6395  $\underbrace{ \begin{array}{c} 2.9955 \\ 2.9761 \\ 2.9569 \end{array} }$ - 1.6633 - 1.2594 - 5500 5000  $\cap$ CF<sub>3</sub> Ń.  $\bigvee_{\mathsf{O}}$ ſſ *f f* - 4500 2d - 4000 -3500 - 3000 -2500 - 2000 1500 - 1000 500 - 0 <u>1</u>-66.0 <u>\_\_\_\_0</u> 1.96<u>–1</u> 3.00<u>–1</u> 2.00 H - H 0.95--0.86 L-500 7.5 4.0 3.0 9.5 9.0 8.5 7.0 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 f1 (ppm) 3.5 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 8.0 6.5









<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)











<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\begin{array}{c} 3.8564 \\ 3.7557 \\ 3.7557 \\ 3.7583 \\ 3.6758 \\ 3.6758 \\ 3.6758 \\ 3.6758 \\ 3.6758 \\ 3.6235 \\ 3.6235 \\ 3.1276 \\ 2.7797 \\ 2.7791 \\ 2.770$  $\sum_{\substack{7.1700\\7.1401}} \frac{7.2831}{7.1401}$ 6.9852
6.9766
6.9766
6.9555 -1.4848 --8.0880- 3E+05 - 3E+05 Ń -2E+05 `O -2E+05 4a -2E+05 -2E+05 - 2E+05 -1E+05 - 1E+05 - 1E+05 - 80000 - 60000 40000 - 20000 0 0.84-1 1.96<u>–</u> 1.96 3.00 2.04 1.01 1.02 2.01 3.00H 7.0 1.5 9.5 9.0 8.0 7.5 6.5 6.0 5.5 4.0 3.0 2.0 0.5 0.0 8.5 5.0 4.5 f1 (ppm) 3.5 2.5 1.0



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)















### 13C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)







<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



#### <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)









<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)









<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)











<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

















<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





# LC/MS of Crossover Experiment

