

Intramolecular arylation of amino acid enolates

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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General Information

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectra (^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR) were recorded on either Bruker Ultrashield 300, 400 or 500 MHz spectrometers. The residual solvent peak for CDCl_3 , CD_3OD , D_2O and $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$ were used as internal standards when assigning NMR spectra (δ_{H} : CDCl_3 7.26 ppm; δ_{C} : CDCl_3 77.16 ppm; δ_{H} : CD_3OD 3.31 ppm; δ_{C} : CD_3OD 49.00 ppm; δ_{H} : D_2O 4.79 ppm; δ_{H} : $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$ 2.50 ppm; δ_{C} : $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$ 39.52 ppm). Chemical shifts, δ , are quoted in parts per million (ppm) downfield of trimethylsilane. Coupling constants (J) are reported to the nearest 0.1 Hz. The splitting patterns for the spectra assignment are abbreviated to: singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), quartet (q), quintet (quin.), septet (sept.), multiplet (m), broad (br.) and some as a combination of these.

Low and high resolution mass spectra were recorded mainly by staff at the University of Manchester. ESI were recorded on a Micromass Platform II or Waters QTOF; GCMS were recorded on Agilent 5975C Triple Axis GCMS; high resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Thermo Finnigan MAT95XP mass spectrometer or Waters QTOF. A small number of HRMS were recorded at the EPSRC National Facility Swansea using the LTQ Orbitrap XL.

Infrared spectra were recorded on a Thermo Scientific iD5 ATR, FT-IR spectrometer, using a Universal ATR accessory for sampling, with absorption of most relevance quoted as ν in cm^{-1} . Capillary melting points were determined on a Stuart Scientific melting point SMP 10 apparatus.

Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using commercially available pre-coated plates (Macherey-Nagel alugram SIL G/UV254). Visualisation was *via* UV light (at 254 nm) or by staining with phosphomolybdic acid or 'Seebach' dip (2.50 g phosphomolybdic acid hydrate, 1.00 g Cerium (IV) sulphate tetrahydrate, 3.20 mL conc. H_2SO_4 , 90.50 mL H_2O) then heating. Flash column chromatography used chromatography grade silica, 60 Å particle size, 40-63 microns from Aldrich and compounds were loaded as saturated solutions in the correct solvents.

Optical rotation measurements were taken on an AA-100 polarimeter using a cell with a pathlength of 0.25 dm at 20-21 °C with the solvent and concentration (g/100 mL) stated.

All reactions were performed under a nitrogen atmosphere in flame-dried apparatus. All reagents and chemicals were bought from chemical suppliers and used without further purification (unless stated). Tetrahydrofuran (THF) was distilled under nitrogen from sodium wire using benzophenone as an indicator. Diisopropylamine (DiPA) and dichloromethane (DCM) were obtained by distillation from calcium hydride under nitrogen. Diethylether was collected under inert conditions from an Innovative Technologies PureSolve PS-MP-5 solvent purification system. All solvents were removed under

vacuum using a rotary evaporator. Pet.Ether indicates fractions of petroleum ether boiling at 40-60 °C. Lithium chloride (LiCl) was dried in the oven and used directly. Acetone/dry ice cooling baths were used to obtain -78 °C, acetonitrile/dry ice cooling baths were used to obtain -40 °C and other temperatures were reached using a Thermo Scientific Haake Immersion Cooler EK90.

The ReactIR *iC10*, made by Mettler Toledo was used for the *in situ* IR experiments. It was fitted with a K6 conduit, that is a silicon tipped 16mm probe, and uses an MCT detector. The data was collected using *iC* IR software (version 4.1.882) as supplied by Mettler Toledo. Nitrogen purge of the probe was used throughout the experiment and this was subtracted from all spectra as the background. Further to this, solvent spectra at the appropriate temperature for each experiment were taken and this was also subtracted from the data. Each spectrum represents 256 scans measured at a spectral resolution of 8 cm⁻¹ although provides data points approximately every 4 cm⁻¹.

General Procedures

Procedure 1: Carbamoyl chloride formation from methylaniline

To a solution of triphosgene (0.5 eq) in anhydrous DCM (0.4 M) at -78 °C were added pyridine (1.0 eq), followed by *N*-methylaniline (1.0 eq) in anhydrous DCM (16.0 M). After 10 minutes the reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature, stirred for three hours and quenched with 1.0 M HCl. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with DCM three times. The combined organic layers were washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was used without further purification.

Procedure 2: Nitrile urea formation from carbamoyl chloride

To a solution of 2-aminopropanonitrile hydrochloride (1.5 eq) in anhydrous 1,2-DCE (0.3 M) was added triethylamine (2.5 eq). To the resulting mixture was added carbamoyl chloride (1.0 eq) and DMAP (catalytic amount). The reaction was heated at 65 °C and left until TLC analysis showed the reaction was complete. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted three times with DCM. The combined organic layers were washed with 1.0 M HCl, then brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography.

Procedure 3: Methylation of nitrile ureas

A solution of urea (1.0 eq) in anhydrous DMF (0.1 M) was cooled to 0 °C and sodium hydride (60% solution, 2.0 eq) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for fifteen minutes, before adding methyl iodide (3.0 eq). The reaction was then stirred for one hour at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate, quenched by the addition of ice and 1.0 M NaOH. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography.

Procedure 4: Imino hydantoin formation from methylated nitrile urea

To a solution of urea (1.0 eq) in anhydrous THF (0.1 M) at -78 °C was added dropwise *s*-BuLi (1.3 M solution in hexane, 2.0 eq). The reaction mixture was stirred for one hour then quenched with MeOH and saturated solution of NH₄Cl. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether three times. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography.

Procedure 5: *Hydantoin formation from imino hydantoin*

A stirred mixture of imine (1.0 eq), HCl (12.0 M, 60.0 eq) and ethanol (0.2 M) was refluxed for twenty hours. The resulting mixture was diluted with water and extracted with ethyl acetate three times. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography.

Procedure 6a: *Urea formation from carbamoyl chloride*

Amine·HCl (1.1 eq), anhydrous 1,2-DCE (0.2-0.6 M) and Et₃N (2.3 eq) were combined and stirred for ten minutes at room temperature. To this solution was added the carbamoyl chloride (1.0 eq) and DMAP (catalytic amount). The reaction mixture was then heated to reflux and left until TLC analysis showed the reaction was complete. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature then quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution, the organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted twice with DCM. The combined organic layers were washed with 1.0 M HCl and brine, then dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography.

Procedure 6b: *Urea formation from carbamoyl chloride*

Amine·HCl (1.0 eq) was added to a stirred solution of carbamoyl chloride (1.0 eq) dissolved in anhydrous 1,2-DCE (0.1-0.5 M). Et₃N (1.2 eq) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were then added and the resulting mixture was refluxed for two hours. The mixture was then diluted with DCM and quenched with water. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted twice with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography.

Procedure 7: *Methylation of ureas*

Urea (1.0 eq) was dissolved in anhydrous DMF (0.1-0.4 M) and methyl iodide (3.0 eq) was added. The solution was cooled to 0 °C before sodium hydride (2.0 eq, (60% suspension)) was added. The reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature, monitored by TLC and worked up when complete. The reaction mixture was quenched with water and basified before being extracted three times with diethyl ether. The combined organic layers were washed twice with water, once with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography.

Procedure 8: *Removal of tert-butyl group (TFA deprotection)*

Urea (1.0 eq) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (0.5-0.7 M) and TFA (0.5-0.7 M) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was left to stir at room temperature and monitored by TLC. When the reaction was complete, the reaction mixture was diluted with DCM (three times starting amount) and washed with water three times. The organic layer was dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography.

Procedure 9: *Removal of benzyl group (hydrogenation)*

Urea ester (1.0 eq) was dissolved in methanol (0.2 M) and nitrogen was bubbled through the solution. 10% palladium on carbon (10% by weight) was added to the reaction mixture and the reaction was placed under a hydrogen atmosphere through use of a balloon. The reaction mixture was left to stir at room temperature and monitored by TLC. When the reaction was complete the solution was filtered over celite, washed through with ethyl acetate and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was used without any further purification.

Procedure 10: *Removal of methyl ester group (saponification)*

Urea (1.0 eq) was dissolved in 2:1 THF:H₂O (0.03 M) and LiOH (50.0 eq) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for twenty hours at 45 °C. The reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate and 1.0 M HCl was added until pH = 2. The organic layer was then separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography.

Procedure 11: *Rearrangement to hydantoin*

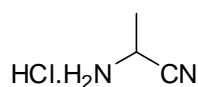
To urea acid (1.0 eq) was added anhydrous LiCl (3.0 eq) and anhydrous THF (0.1 M (overall)). The reaction mixture was cooled to -78 °C. In a separate flask LDA was prepared; anhydrous THF (0.1 M (overall)) and DiPA (3.0 eq) were cooled to 0 °C, *n*BuLi (3.0 eq) was added dropwise and stirred for ten minutes. The LDA was added dropwise to the reaction mixture and a colour change was observed. The reaction mixture was left to stir at -78 °C for five minutes before the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stir for three hours. The reaction mixture was quenched *via* dropwise addition of 1.0 M HCl and stirred for fifteen to thirty minutes ensuring the pH was acidic. The reaction mixture was extracted three times with ethyl acetate, dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography.

Stereochemistry of the amino acid derivatives 6

Although the products **5** of the rearrangement are all racemic, for convenience compounds **6** were made from L-amino acids, apart from **6i** (from Gly) and **6j** (from (±)-allylglycine). During the synthesis, alanine derivatives **6a-6d**, **6g**, **6h** underwent partial racemisation (ca. 60% ee). All other carboxylic acids **6** remained enantiomerically pure by HPLC.

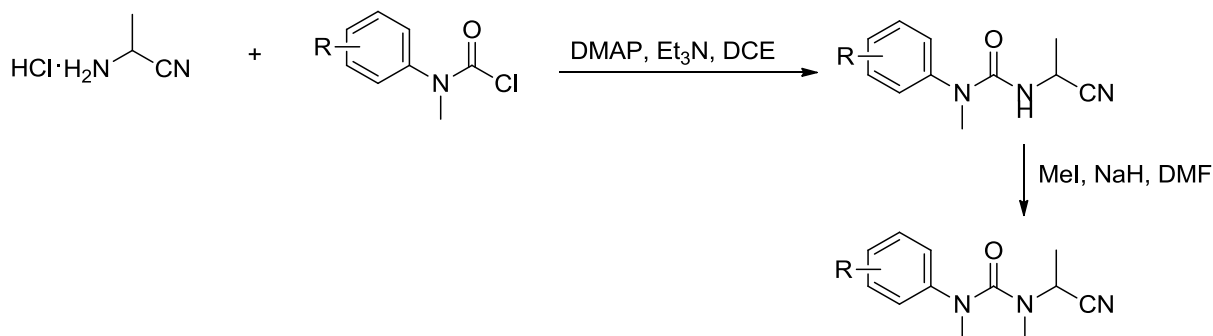
Experimental Procedures and Characterisation Data

Synthesis of 2-aminopropanonitrile hydrochloride¹

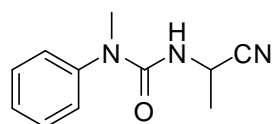


A solution of lactonitrile (6.00 mL, 83.70 mmol, 1.0 eq), NH₄Cl (1.56 g, 29.20 mmol, 0.4 eq) in ammonium hydroxide (34.00 mL) was stirred at room temperature for two hours. The product was extracted with DCM three times, washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo*. Diethyl ether (50.00 mL) was added to the resulting amine, the solution was cooled to 0 °C and HCl (2.0 M, 38.50 mL, 0.08 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred for ten minutes. The suspension formed was filtered *in vacuo*, washed with diethyl ether and air dried to yield 2-aminopropanonitrile hydrochloride as a white solid (1.32 g, 12.38 mmol, 15%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD): δ_H = 9.12 (2H, br. s, NH₂), 4.59 (1H, q, *J* = 7.0, CHCH₃), 1.66 (3H, d, *J* = 7.0, CHCH₃).

Synthesis of Urea Nitriles:



Synthesis of 1a:

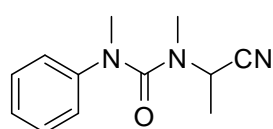


3-(1-Cyanoethyl)-1-methyl-1-phenylurea (S1a)

Following general procedure **2**, *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylcarbamoyl chloride (440 mg, 2.60 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of 2-aminopropanonitrile hydrochloride (417 mg, 3.91 mmol) and Et₃N (0.91 mL, 6.51 mmol) in DCE (8.70 mL). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at 65 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a solid (257

¹ M. Paventi and J. T. Edward, *Canadian Journal of Chemistry*, 1987, **65**, 282.

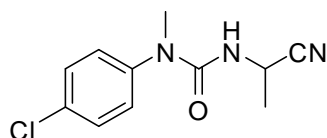
mg, 1.26 mmol, 49%). **S1a**: mp: 115-117 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.49-7.43 (2H, m, PhH), 7.40-7.34 (1H, m, PhH), 7.27-7.24 (2H, m, PhH), 4.85 (1H, dq, *J* = 8.4, 7.3, NHCHCH₃), 4.50 (1H, d, *J* = 7.3, NHCH), 3.28 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.43 (3H, d, *J* = 7.3, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 155.2 (C=O), 142.3 (ArCN), 130.4 (2xAr), 128.1 (Ar), 127.3 (2xAr), 120.0 (C≡N), 37.5 (CH), 37.4 (NCH₃), 19.8 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3357 (NH), 2942 (C-H), 2353 (C≡N), 1649 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₁H₁₄N₃O [M+H]⁺ 204.1134, found 204.1131.



3-(1-Cyanoethyl)-1,3-dimethyl-1-phenylurea (**1a**)

Following general procedure **3**, methyl iodide (0.15 mL, 2.36 mmol) and sodium hydride (63 mg, 1.58 mmol) were added to urea **S1a** (160 mg, 0.79 mmol) in DMF (7.00 mL). The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. The title compound was yielded as a yellow oil without further purification (130 mg, 0.60 mmol, 76%). **1a**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ: 7.40-7.35 (2H, m, PhH), 7.21-7.16 (1H, m, PhH), 7.11-7.08 (2H, m, PhH), 5.22 (1H, q, *J* = 7.3, CHCH₃), 3.24 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.51 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.42 (3H, d, *J* = 7.3, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 161.0 (C=O), 145.9 (ArCN), 130.0 (2xAr), 125.7 (Ar), 124.7 (2xAr), 118.6 (C≡N), 44.2 (CH), 40.3 (NCH₃), 32.4 (NCH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2936 (C-H), 2360 (C≡N), 1645 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₅N₃ONa [M+Na]⁺ 240.1107, found 240.1110.

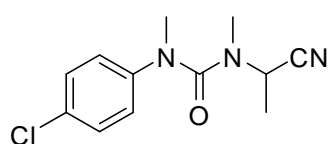
Synthesis of **1b**:



1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-(1-cyanoethyl)-1-methylurea (**S1b**)

Following general procedure **1**, to a solution of triphosgene (417 mg, 1.41 mmol) in DCM (4.00 mL) at -78 °C was added pyridine (0.25 mL, 3.06 mmol), followed by 4-chloro-*N*-methylaniline (433 mg, 3.06 mmol) in DCM (0.17 mL). The crude product was used in the next reaction without further purification.

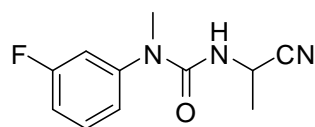
Following general procedure **2**, *N*-(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (3.06 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of 2-aminopropanonitrile hydrochloride (396 mg, 3.71 mmol) and Et₃N (0.86 mL, 6.19 mmol) in DCE (10.20 mL). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at 65 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a solid (451 mg, 1.89 mmol, 62% over two steps). **S1b**: mp: 146-148 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.49-7.37 (2H, m, ArH), 7.23-7.16 (2H, m, ArH), 4.83 (1H, dq, *J* = 8.3, 7.3, NHCHCH₃), 4.47 (1H, br. d, *J* = 8.2, NHCH), 3.25 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.45 (3H, d, *J* = 7.3, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 155.2 (C=O), 140.9 (ArCN), 134.0 (ArCCl), 130.7 (2xAr), 128.8 (2xAr), 120.2 (C≡N), 37.7 (CH), 37.6 (NCH₃), 19.9 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3305 (NH), 3072, 2990, 2943, 2881 (C-H), 2246 (C≡N), 1648 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₁H₁₂N₃OCINa [M+Na]⁺ 260.0561, found 260.0569.



1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-(1-cyanoethyl)-1,3-dimethylurea (**1b**)

Following general procedure **3**, methyl iodide (0.24 mL, 3.79 mmol) and sodium hydride (126 mg, 3.16 mmol) were added to urea **S1b** (300 mg, 1.26 mmol) in DMF (3.20 mL). The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. The title compound was yielded as a yellow oil without further purification (224 mg, 0.89 mmol, 71%). **1b**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.32-7.29 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7, Ar*H*), 7.03-7.00 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7, Ar*H*), 5.15 (1H, q, *J* = 7.2, CHCH₃), 3.18 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.49 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.45 (3H, d, *J* = 7.2, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 160.5 (C=O), 144.2 (ArCN), 130.8 (ArCCl), 129.8 (2xAr), 125.6 (2xAr), 118.4 (C≡N), 44.0 (CH), 39.9 (NCH₃), 32.4 (NCH₃), 19.9 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3080 2990, 2942, 2880 (C-H), 2242 (C≡N), 1648 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₄N₃OClNa [M+Na]⁺ 274.0718, found 274.0721.

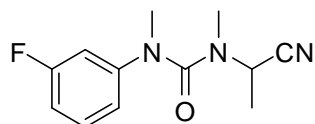
Synthesis of **1c**:



3-(1-Cyanoethyl)-1-(3-fluorophenyl)-1-methylurea (**S1c**)

Following general procedure **1**, to a solution of triphosgene (377 mg, 1.27 mmol) in DCM (3.63 mL) at -78 °C was added pyridine (0.22 mL, 2.76 mmol), followed by 3-fluoro-*N*-methylaniline (345 mg, 2.76 mmol) in DCM (0.17 mL). The crude product was used in the next reaction without purification.

Following general procedure **2**, *N*-(3-fluorophenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (2.76 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of 2-aminopropanonitrile hydrochloride (427 mg, 4.01 mmol) and Et₃N (0.93 mL, 6.68 mmol) in DCE (9.20 mL). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at 65 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a solid (317 mg, 1.43 mmol, 52% over two steps). **S1c**: mp: 96-98 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.50-7.32 (1H, m, Ar*H*), 7.11-6.84 (3H, m, Ar*H*), 4.86-4.62 (2H, m, NHCHCH₃ and NHCH), 3.24 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.43 (3H, d, *J* = 7.3, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 163.3 (d, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 249.6, ArCF), 155.0 (C=O), 143.9 (d, ³*J*_{C-F} = 9.3, ArCN), 131.5 (d, ³*J*_{C-F} = 9.3, Ar), 122.9 (d, ⁴*J*_{C-F} = 3.2, Ar), 120.0 (C≡N), 115.1 (d, ²*J*_{C-F} = 20.9, Ar), 114.6 (d, ²*J*_{C-F} = 22.0, Ar), 37.7 (CH), 37.5 (NCH₃), 19.7 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3318 (NH), 3068, 2992, 2943, 2880 (C-H), 2242 (C≡N), 1651 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₁H₁₂N₃OFNa [M+H]⁺ 244.0857, found 244.0857.

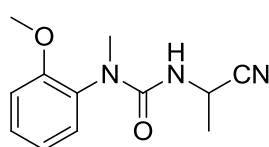


3-(1-Cyanoethyl)-1-(3-fluorophenyl)-1,3-dimethylurea (**1c**)

Following general procedure **3**, methyl iodide (0.27 mL, 4.30 mmol) and sodium hydride (143 mg, 3.58 mmol) were added to urea **S1c** (317 mg, 1.43 mmol) in DMF (3.60 mL). The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. The title compound was yielded as a yellow oil without further purification (158 mg, 0.67 mmol, 47%). **1c**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.36-7.20 (1H, m, Ar*H*), 6.93-6.72 (3H, m, Ar*H*), 5.18 (1H, q, *J* = 7.2, CHCH₃), 3.21 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.53 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.43 (3H, d, *J* = 7.2, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz,

CDCl₃): δ_C = 163.4 (d, $^1J_{C-F}$ = 247.9, ArCF), 160.5 (C=O), 147.3 (d, $^3J_{C-F}$ = 9.6, ArCN), 131.0 (d, $^3J_{C-F}$ = 9.4, Ar), 119.8 (d, $^4J_{C-F}$ = 3.1, Ar), 118.4 (C \equiv N), 112.5 (d, $^2J_{C-F}$ = 21.0, Ar), 111.6 (d, $^2J_{C-F}$ = 23.3, Ar), 44.2 (CH), 39.9 (NCH₃), 32.5 (NCH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3069, 2993, 2947 (C-H), 2241 (C \equiv N), 1652 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₂H₁₅N₃OF [M+H]⁺ 236.1194, found 236.1193.

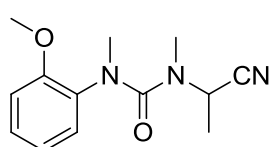
Synthesis of 1d:



3-(1-Cyanoethyl)-1-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1-methylurea (S1d)

Following general procedure **1**, to a solution of triphosgene (369 mg, 1.24 mmol) in DCM (3.55 mL) at -78 °C was added pyridine (0.22 mL, 2.70 mmol), followed by methyl *N*-methylantranilate (370 mg, 2.70 mmol) in DCM (0.17 mL). The crude product was used in the next reaction without purification.

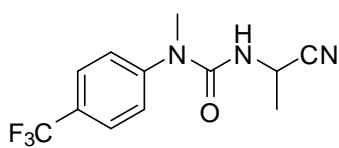
Following general procedure **2**, *N*-(2-methoxyphenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (2.70 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of 2-aminopropanonitrile hydrochloride (320 mg, 3.01 mmol) and Et₃N (0.70 mL, 5.00 mmol) in DCE (9.00 mL). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at 65 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (138 mg, 0.59 mmol, 22% over two steps). **S1d**: **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.37-7.28 (1H, m, ArH), 7.19-7.13 (1H, m, ArH), 7.04-6.93 (2H, m, ArH) 4.79 (1H, dq, J = 8.6, 7.3, NHCHCH₃), 4.53 (1H, br. d, J = 8.6, NHCH), 3.82 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.12 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.36 (3H, d, J = 7.3, CHCH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 155.9 (ArCOMe), 155.4 (C=O), 130.1 (ArCN), 129.9 (Ar), 129.6 (Ar), 121.5 (Ar), 120.2 (C \equiv N), 112.5 (Ar), 55.6 (OCH₃), 37.5 (CH), 36.4 (NCH₃), 19.8 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3322 (NH), 3080, 2942, 2839 (C-H), 2241 (C \equiv N), 1650 (C=O urea), 1239, 1024 (C-O ether); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₂H₁₅N₃O₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 256.1057, found 256.1057.



3-(1-Cyanoethyl)-1-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-dimethylurea (1d)

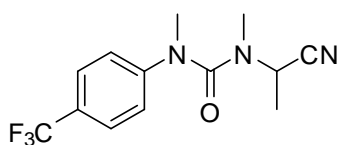
Following general procedure **3**, methyl iodide (0.11 mL, 1.77 mmol) and sodium hydride (59 mg, 1.48 mmol) were added to urea **S1d** (138 mg, 0.59 mmol) in DMF (1.50 mL). The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. The title compound was yielded as a yellow oil without further purification (100 mg, 0.41 mmol, 69%). **1d**: **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.39-7.23 (1H, m, ArH), 7.18-6.92 (3H, m, ArH), 5.24 (1H, q, J = 7.3, CHCH₃), 3.95 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.17 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.51 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.43 (3H, d, J = 7.3, CHCH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 161.6 (ArCOMe), 154.1 (C=O), 133.8 (ArCN), 128.1 (Ar), 127.7 (Ar), 121.5 (Ar), 118.8 (C \equiv N), 112.0 (Ar), 55.7 (OCH₃), 44.1 (CH), 38.7 (NCH₃), 31.8 (NCH₃), 17.2 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3066, 2988, 2942, 2839 (C-H), 2237 (C \equiv N), 1645 (C=O urea), 1238, 1024 (C-O); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₃H₁₇N₃O₂Na [M+H]⁺ 270.1213, found 270.1214.

Synthesis of 1e:



3-(1-Cyanoethyl)-1-methyl-1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]urea (S1e)

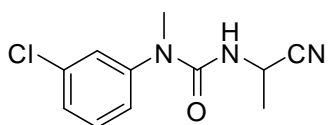
Following general procedure **1**, to a solution of triphosgene (364 mg, 1.23 mmol) in DCM (3.52 mL) at -78 °C was added pyridine (0.22 mL, 2.67 mmol), followed by 4-(trifluoromethyl)-*N*-methylaniline (467 mg, 2.67 mmol) in DCM (0.17 mL). The crude product was used in the next reaction without purification. Following general procedure **2**, *N*-methyl-*N*-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]carbamoyl chloride (2.67 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of 2-aminopropanonitrile hydrochloride (404 mg, 3.79 mmol) and Et₃N (0.88 mL, 6.31 mmol) in DCE (8.90 mL). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at 65 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a solid (385 mg, 1.42 mmol, 53% over two steps). **S1e**: mp: 154-156 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.73-7.70 (2H, d, *J* = 8.4, Ar*H*), 7.40-7.37 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3, Ar*H*), 4.83 (1H, dq, *J* = 8.2, 7.3, NHCHCH₃), 4.66 (1H, br. d, *J* = 8.2, NHCH), 3.30 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.47 (3H, d, *J* = 7.3, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 154.9 (C=O), 145.8 (ArCN), 129.8 (q, ²*J*_{C-F} = 33.1, ArCCF₃), 127.5 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.7, 2xAr), 127.4 (2xAr), 123.7 (q, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 273.2, CF), 119.9 (C≡N), 37.8 (CH), 37.5 (NCH₃), 19.8 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3319 (NH), 3069, 2993, 2945, 2884 (C-H), 2243 (C≡N), 1653 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₂N₃OF₃Na [M+Na]⁺ 294.0825, found 294.0830.



3-(1-Cyanoethyl)-1,3-dimethyl-1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]urea (1e)

Following general procedure **3**, methyl iodide (0.27 mL, 4.26 mmol) and sodium hydride (142 mg, 3.55 mmol) were added to urea **S1e** (385 mg, 1.42 mmol) in DMF (3.60 mL). The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. The title compound was yielded as a yellow oil without further purification (222 mg, 0.78 mmol, 55%). **1e**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.62 (2H, d, *J* = 8.6, Ar*H*), 7.18 (2H, d, *J* = 8.6, Ar*H*), 5.23 (1H, q, *J* = 7.3, CHCH₃), 3.27 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.54 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.47 (3H, d, *J* = 7.3, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 160.4 (C=O), 148.8 (ArCN), 127.1 (q, ²*J*_{C-F} = 32.9, ArCCF₃), 127.0 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.7, 2xAr), 123.9 (q, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 271.8, CF), 123.7 (2xAr), 118.3 (C≡N), 44.1 (CH), 39.6 (NCH₃), 32.6 (NCH₃), 17.0 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3065, 2948 (C-H), 2361 (C≡N), 1656 (C=O urea); HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₄N₃OF₃ [M]⁺ 285.1083, found 285.1071.

Synthesis of 1f:

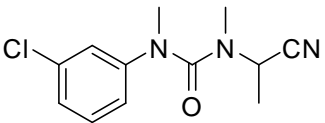


1-(3-Chlorophenyl)-3-(1-cyanoethyl)-1-methylurea (S1f)

Following general procedure **1**, to a solution of triphosgene (344 mg, 1.28 mmol) in DCM (9.30 mL) at -78 °C was added pyridine (0.22 mL, 2.78 mmol), followed by *N*-methyl-3-chloroaniline (393 mg, 2.78 mmol) in DCM (0.17 mL). The crude product was used in the next reaction without purification.

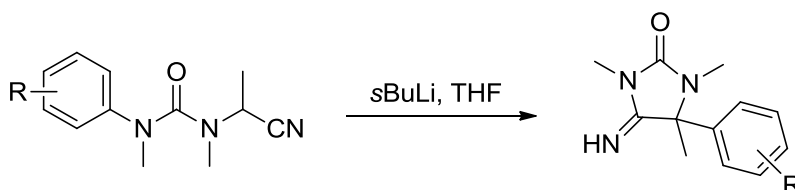
Following general procedure **2**, *N*-(3-chlorophenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (2.78 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of 2-aminopropanonitrile hydrochloride (396 mg, 3.71 mmol) and Et₃N (0.86 mL, 6.19 mmol) in DCE (9.30 mL). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at 65 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a solid (324 mg, 1.36 mmol, 49% over two steps). **S1f**: mp: 94-96 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.45-7.07 (4H, m, ArH), 4.80 (1H, dq, *J* = 8.2, 7.3, NHCHCH₃), 4.70 (1H, br. d, *J* = 8.2, NHCH), 3.25 (3H, s, NCH₃, NHCH), 1.46 (3H, d, *J* = 7.1, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 155.0 (C=O), 143.6 (ArCN), 135.7 (ArCCL), 131.3 (Ar), 128.3 (Ar), 127.7 (Ar), 125.6 (Ar), 120.0 (C≡N), 37.7 (CH), 37.6 (NCH₃), 19.8 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3316 (NH), 3066, 2991, 2942, 2879 (C-H), 2244 (C≡N), 1650 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₁H₁₂N₃OCINa [M+Na]⁺ 260.0561, found 260.0562.

1-(3-Chlorophenyl)-3-(1-cyanoethyl)-1,3-dimethylurea (1f)

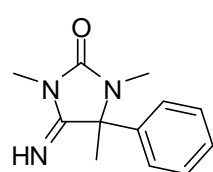


Following general procedure **3**, methyl iodide (0.25 mL, 3.93 mmol) and sodium hydride (131 mg, 3.24 mmol) were added to urea **S1f** (311 mg, 1.31 mmol) in DMF (3.30 mL). The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. The title compound was yielded as a yellow oil without further purification (208 mg, 0.83 mmol, 63%). **1f**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.33-7.21 (1H, m, ArH), 7.19-7.05 (2H, m, ArH), 7.01-6.91 (1H, m, ArH), 5.19 (1H, q, *J* = 7.3, CHCH₃), 3.22 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.54 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.44 (3H, d, *J* = 7.3, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 160.5 (C=O), 146.9 (ArCN), 135.4 (ArCCL), 130.8 (Ar), 125.7 (Ar), 124.5 (Ar), 122.3 (Ar), 118.4 (C≡N), 44.2 (CH), 39.9 (NCH₃), 32.5 (NCH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3066, 2946 (C-H), 2239 (C≡N), 1651 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₄N₃OCINa [M+Na]⁺ 274.0718, found 274.0715.

Synthesis of Iminohydantoins:



Synthesis of **2a**:

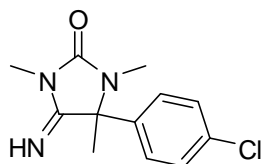


5-Imino-1,3,4-trimethyl-4-phenylimidazolidin-2-one (**2a**)

Following general procedure **4**, to a solution of urea nitrile **1a** (100 mg, 0.46 mmol) in THF (4.60 mL) at -78 °C was added dropwise *s*BuLi (0.71 mL, 0.92 mmol, 1.3 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (85 mg, 0.39 mmol, 85%). **2a**: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.42-7.38 (2H, m, PhH), 7.37-7.33 (1H, m, PhH), 7.29-7.26 (2H, m, PhH), 6.68 (1H, br. s, NH), 3.11 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.73 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.79 (3H, s, CCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 160.5 (C=O), 146.9 (ArCN), 135.4 (ArCCL), 130.8 (Ar), 125.7 (Ar), 124.5 (Ar), 122.3 (Ar), 118.4 (C≡N), 44.2 (CH), 39.9 (NCH₃), 32.5 (NCH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3066, 2946 (C-H), 2239 (C≡N), 1651 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₄N₃OCINa [M+Na]⁺ 274.0718, found 274.0715.

NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_c = 169.8 (C=N), 156.9 (C=O), 138.2 (ArC), 129.3 (2xAr), 128.9 (Ar), 126.1 (2xAr), 66.0 (NCC=NH), 25.9 (NCH₃), 25.4 (NCH₃), 21.8 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 2924 (C-H), 1733 (C=O urea), 1675 (C=N); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₂H₁₅N₃O [M+H]⁺ 218.1289, found 218.1289.

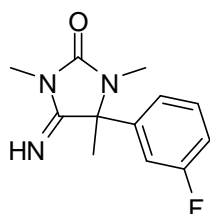
Synthesis of 2b:



4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-5-imino-1,3,4-trimethylimidazolidin-2-one (2b)

Following general procedure 4, to a solution of urea nitrile **1b** (117 mg, 0.46 mmol) in THF (4.60 mL) at -78 °C was added dropwise *s*BuLi (0.72 mL, 0.92 mmol, 1.3 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (115 mg, 0.45 mmol, 98%). **2b**: **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.40-7.32 (2H, m, ArH), 7.24-7.11 (2H, m, ArH), 6.68 (1H, br. s, NH), 3.07 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.70 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.78 (3H, s, CCH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_c = 168.6 (C=N), 156.6 (C=O), 136.9 (ArC), 134.9 (ArC), 129.4 (2xAr), 127.6 (2xAr), 65.5 (NCC=NH), 25.8 (NCH₃), 25.3 (NCH₃), 21.8 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3274 (NH), 3065, 2935 (C-H), 1731 (C=O urea), 1654 (C=N); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₂H₁₄N₃OCINa [M+Na]⁺ 274.0718, found 274.0715.

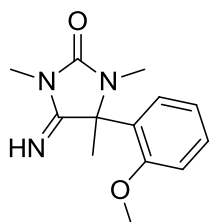
Synthesis of 2c:



4-(3-Fluorophenyl)-5-imino-1,3,4-trimethylimidazolidin-2-one (2c)

Following general procedure 4, to a solution of urea nitrile **1c** (117 mg, 0.50 mmol) in THF (5.00 mL) at -78 °C was added dropwise *s*BuLi (0.77 mL, 1.00 mmol, 1.3 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a white solid (101 mg, 0.43 mmol, 86%). **2c**: **mp**: 123-125 °C; **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.44-7.30 (1H, m, ArH), 7.13-6.91 (3H, m, ArH), 6.69 (1H, br. s, NH), 3.09 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.73 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.77 (3H, s, CCH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_c = 168.5 (C=N), 163.3 (d, ¹J_{C-F} = 247.8, ArCF), 156.7 (C=O), 141.0 (d, ³J_{C-F} = 5.5, ArC), 130.9 (d, ³J_{C-F} = 8.2, Ar), 121.8 (d, ⁴J_{C-F} = 2.8, Ar), 115.9 (d, ²J_{C-F} = 21.2, Ar), 113.6 (d, ²J_{C-F} = 22.8, Ar), 65.6 (NCC=NH), 25.8 (CH₃), 25.4 (NCH₃), 21.9 (NCH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3278 (NH), 3070, 2978, 2943 (C-H), 1731 (C=O urea), 1653 (C=N); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₂H₁₅N₃OF [M+H]⁺ 236.1194, found 236.1194.

Synthesis of 2d:

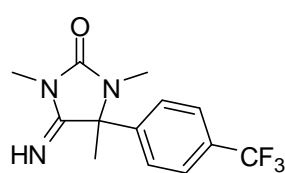


5-Imino-4-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1,3,4-trimethylimidazolidin-2-one (2d)

Following general procedure 4, to a solution of urea nitrile **1d** (92 mg, 0.37 mmol) in THF (3.70 mL) at -78 °C was added dropwise *s*BuLi (0.57 mL, 0.74 mmol, 1.3

M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (70 mg, 0.28 mmol, 76%). **2d**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.46-7.28 (2H, m, ArH), 6.97 (1H, t, *J* = 7.6, ArH), 6.86 (1H, d, *J* = 8.1, ArH), 6.44 (1H, br. s, NH), 3.69 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.11 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.52 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.71 (3H, s, CCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 170.6 (C=N), 158.1 (ArCOMe), 157.4 (C=O), 130.7 (Ar), 128.7 (Ar), 125.2 (ArC), 120.5 (Ar), 111.8 (Ar), 64.1 (NCC=NH), 56.0 (OCH₃), 25.7 (NCH₃), 25.3 (NCH₃), 22.9 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3271 (NH), 3085, 2935, 2839 (C-H), 1730 (C=O urea), 1653 (C=N), 1251, 1016 (C-O); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₈N₃O₂ [M+H]⁺ 248.1398, found 248.1389.

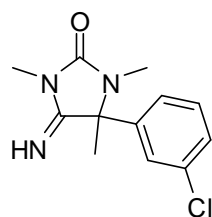
Synthesis of 2e:



5-Imino-1,3,4-trimethyl-4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazolidin-2-one (2e)

Following general procedure **4**, to a solution of urea nitrile **1e** (110 mg, 0.39 mmol) in THF (3.90 mL) at -78 °C was added dropwise *s*BuLi (0.59 mL, 0.77 mmol, 1.3 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (107 mg, 0.38 mmol, 97%). **2e**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.65 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3, ArH), 7.40 (2H, d, *J* = 8.2, ArH), 6.50 (1H, br. s, NH), 3.07 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.73 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.81 (3H, s, CCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 168.0 (C=N), 156.7 (C=O), 142.4 (ArC), 131.0 (q, ²*J*_{C-F} = 32.6, ArCCF₃), 126.7 (2xAr), 126.3 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.6, 2xAr), 123.8 (q, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 272.3, CF), 65.7 (NCC=NH), 25.8 (NCH₃), 25.4 (NCH₃), 21.8 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3276 (NH), 3073, 2940 (C-H), 1733 (C=O urea), 1653 (C=N); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₅N₃OF₃ [M+H]⁺ 286.1162, found 286.1174.

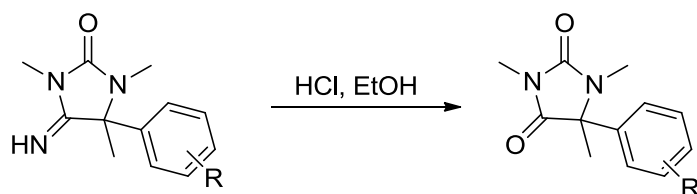
Synthesis of 2f:



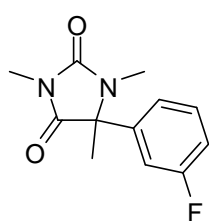
4-(3-Chlorophenyl)-5-imino-1,3,4-trimethylimidazolidin-2-one (2f)

Following general procedure **4**, to a solution of urea nitrile **1f** (130 mg, 0.52 mmol) in THF (5.20 mL) at -78 °C was added dropwise *s*BuLi (0.79 mL, 1.03 mmol, 1.3 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a white solid (111 mg, 0.44 mmol, 85%). **2f**: mp: 131-133 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.41-7.10 (4H, m, ArH), 6.68 (1H, br. s, NH), 3.11 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.74 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.78 (3H, s, CCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 168.6 (C=N), 156.7 (C=O), 140.4 (ArC), 135.3 (ArC), 130.5 (Ar), 129.0 (Ar), 126.5 (Ar), 124.4 (Ar), 65.6 (NCC=NH), 25.8 (NCH₃), 25.4 (NCH₃), 21.8 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3273 (NH), 3083, 2977, 2942 (C-H), 1731 (C=O urea), 1652 (C=N); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₅N₃OCl [M+H]⁺ 252.0898, found 252.0909.

Synthesis of hydantoins:



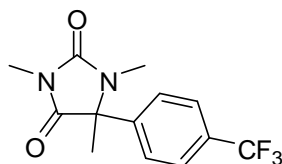
Synthesis of 5c:



5-(3-Fluorophenyl)-1,3,5-trimethylimidazolidin-2,4-one (5c)

Following general procedure **5**, to a solution of imino hydantoin **2c** (96 mg, 0.41 mmol) in ethanol (2.36 mL) was added 12.0 M HCl (0.79 mL). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (54 mg, 0.23 mmol, 56%). **5c**: **R_f** (2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.34; **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.46-7.28 (1H, m, ArH), 7.13-6.87 (3H, m, ArH), 3.04 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.84 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.78 (3H, s, CCH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.5 (C=O), 163.3 (d, ¹J_{C-F} = 247.4, ArCF), 156.3 (C=O), 139.1 (d, ³J_{C-F} = 6.8, ArCC), 130.8 (d, ³J_{C-F} = 8.2, Ar), 121.7 (d, ⁴J_{C-F} = 2.9, Ar), 115.9 (d, ²J_{C-F} = 21.0, Ar), 113.5 (d, ²J_{C-F} = 23.1, Ar), 65.5 (d, ⁴J_{C-F} = 1.7, NCC=O), 25.5 (NCH₃), 25.3 (NCH₃), 20.4 (CH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 3072, 2939 (C-H), 1770 (C=O amide), 1706 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₄O₂N₂F [M+H]⁺ 237.1034, found 237.1029.

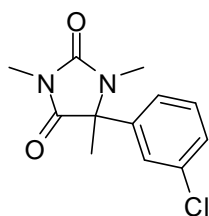
Synthesis of 5e:



1,3,5-Trimethyl-5-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazolidin-2,4-one (5e)

Following general procedure **5**, to a solution of imino hydantoin **2e** (80 mg, 0.28 mmol) in ethanol (1.63 mL) was added 12.0 M HCl (0.54 mL). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (40 mg, 0.14 mmol, 50%). **5e**: **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.67 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3, ArH), 7.42 (2H, d, *J* = 8.2, ArH), 3.05 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.88 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.84 (3H, s, CCH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.0 (C=O), 156.3 (C=O), 140.6 (ArC), 131.1 (q, ²J_{C-F} = 32.8, ArCCF₃), 126.6 (2xAr), 126.3 (q, ³J_{C-F} = 3.7, 2xAr), 123.9 (q, ¹J_{C-F} = 272.3, CF), 66.7 (NCC=O), 25.7 (NCH₃), 25.4 (NCH₃), 20.6 (CH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 3067, 2942 (C-H), 1774 (C=O amide), 1707 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (FTMS+pNSI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₄F₃O₂N₂ [M+H]⁺ 287.1002, found 287.1005.

Synthesis of 5f:

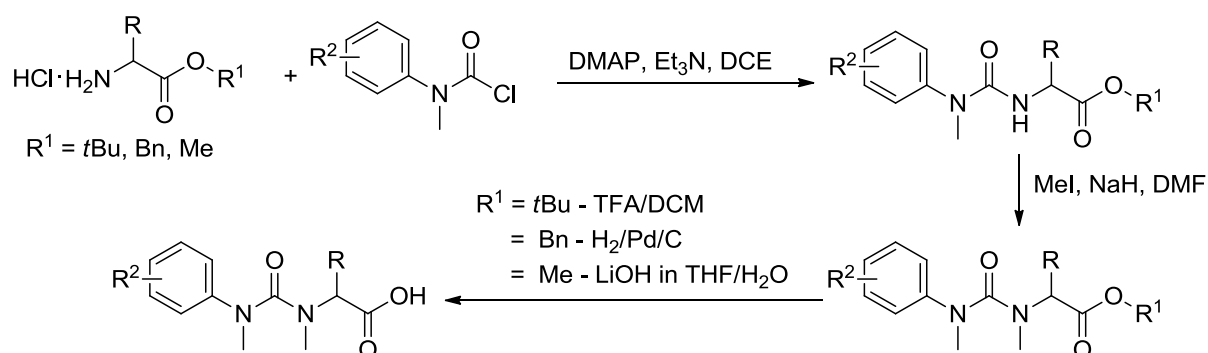


5-(3-Chlorophenyl)-1,3,5-trimethylimidazolidin-2,4-one (5f)

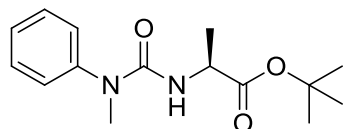
Following general procedure **5**, to a solution of imino hydantoin **2f** (98 mg, 0.39 mmol) in ethanol (2.25 mL) was added 12.0 M HCl (0.75 mL). Purification by

flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (50 mg, 0.20 mmol, 51%). **5f**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.43-6.98 (4H, m, ArH), 2.99 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.79 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.73 (3H, s, CCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.4 (C=O), 156.3 (C=O), 138.6 (ArC), 135.3 (ArC), 130.5 (Ar), 129.0 (Ar), 126.4 (Ar), 124.3 (Ar), 66.4 (NCC=O), 25.5 (NCH₃), 25.3 (NCH₃), 20.4 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3065, 2934 (C-H), 1770 (C=O amide), 1707 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₂₀O₃N₂NaS [M+Na]⁺ 253.0738, found 253.0744.

Synthesis of Urea Acids:

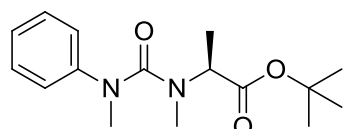


Synthesis of 6aAla:



(S)-tert-Butyl 2-(3-methyl-3-phenylureido)propanoate (S2a)

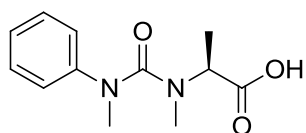
Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylcarbamoyl chloride (3.49 g, 20.58 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-alanine *tert*-butyl ester hydrochloride (4.00 g, 22.08 mmol) and Et₃N (6.59 mL, 47.30 mmol) in DCE (0.5 M). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at reflux. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (5.42 g, 19.47 mmol, 95%). **S2a**: *R_f* (4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.29; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.40-7.34 (2H, m, PhH), 7.26-7.20 (3H, m, PhH), 4.82 (1H, br. d, *J* = 7.0, NHCH), 4.33 (1H, quin., *J* = 7.0, NHCHCH₃), 3.21 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.34 (9H, s, OC(CH₃)₃), 1.21 (3H, d, *J* = 7.0, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 172.9 (C=O), 156.4 (C=O), 143.3 (ArCN), 130.0 (2xAr), 127.2 (Ar), 127.2 (2xAr), 81.4 (C(CH₃)₃), 49.9 (NHCHCH₃), 37.1 (NCH₃), 28.0 (C(CH₃)₃), 19.2 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3343 (NH), 2978, 2934, 2879 (C-H), 1731 (C=O ester), 1664 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₂₂O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 301.1523, found 301.1516.



(S)-tert-Butyl 2-(1,3-dimethyl-3-phenylureido)propanoate (S3a)

Following a similar method to general procedure **7**, sodium hydride (1.94 g, 48.75 mmol, 2.5 eq., 60% suspension) was added to urea **S2a**

(5.42 g, 19.50 mmol) in DMF (0.4 M). After thirty minutes methyl iodide (3.64 mL, 58.50 mmol) was added. The reaction was left at 0 °C for one hour before warming to room temperature. The reaction was complete after twenty two hours at room temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 9:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (4.27 g, 14.61 mmol, 75%). **S3a**: *R_f* (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.69; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.34-7.30 (2H, m, PhH), 7.16-7.08 (3H, m, PhH), 4.66 (1H, q, *J* = 7.0, NCHCH₃), 3.23 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.45 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.45 (9H, s, OC(CH₃)₃), 1.27 (3H, d, *J* = 7.0, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 171.3 (C=O), 161.6 (C=O), 146.7 (ArCN), 129.4 (2xAr), 124.4 (Ar), 124.0 (2xAr), 81.2 (C(CH₃)₃), 55.7 (NCHCH₃), 39.8 (NCH₃), 32.5 (NCH₃), 28.1 (C(CH₃)₃), 14.3 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2976, 2926, 2872, 2854 (C-H), 1732 (C=O ester), 1649 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₂₄O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 315.1680 found 315.1667.

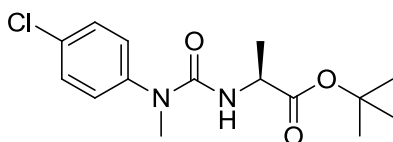


(S)-2-(1,3-Dimethyl-3-phenylureido)propanoic acid (6a)

Following general procedure **8**, anhydrous DCM (20.00 mL) and TFA (20.00 mL) were added to urea **S3a** (4.27 g, 14.62 mmol). The reaction was complete after four hours. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc to 100% EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a white solid (1.97 g, 8.33 mmol, 57%). **6a**: mp: 104-107 °C; *R_f* (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.19; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.40-7.37 (2H, m, PhH), 7.23-7.20 (1H, m, PhH), 7.15-7.13 (2H, m, PhH), 4.48 (1H, q, *J* = 7.2, NCHCH₃), 3.33 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.35 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.35 (3H, d, *J* = 7.2, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.7 (C=O), 162.8 (C=O), 145.5 (ArCN), 129.5 (2xAr), 125.2 (Ar), 124.3 (2xAr), 55.5 (NCHCH₃), 39.7 (NCH₃), 33.5 (NCH₃), 13.9 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2982 (OH broad), 2938 (C-H), 1710 (C=O acid), 1644 (C=O urea); HRMS: (ESI⁺) *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₆O₃N₂ [M+H]⁺ 237.1234, found 237.1239.

Enantiomerically enriched; HPLC: *er* 80:20, Chiral AD-H, Hexane:IPA = 95:5, flow = 1.0 mL/min, λ = 262 nm, t_R = 19 (major), 22 (minor) min.

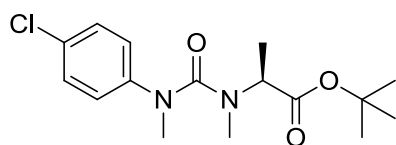
Synthesis of 6bAla:



(S)-tert-Butyl 2-(3-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-methylureido)propanoate (S2b)

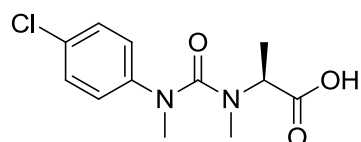
Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (510 mg, 2.50 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-alanine *tert*-butyl ester hydrochloride (500 mg, 2.75 mmol) and Et₃N (0.80 mL, 5.76 mmol) in DCE (0.5 M). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at reflux. The title compound was yielded as a brown oil without further purification (776 mg, 2.48 mmol, 99%). **S2b**: *R_f* (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.66; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.41-7.38 (2H, m, ArH), 7.26-7.23 (2H, m, ArH), 4.86 (1H, br. d, *J* = 7.0, NHCH), 4.39

(1H, quin., $J = 7.0$, NHCHCH₃), 3.25 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.43 (9H, s, C(CH₃)₃), 1.28 (3H, d, $J = 7.0$, CHCH₃).



(S)-tert-Butyl 2-(3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1,3-dimethylureido)propanoate (S3b)

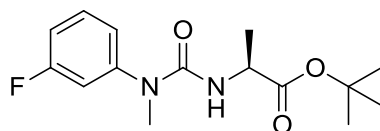
Following general procedure 7, methyl iodide (0.46 mL, 7.40 mmol) and sodium hydride (118 mg, 4.94 mmol) were added to urea **S2b** (772 mg, 2.47 mmol) in DMF (0.3 M). The reaction was complete after three hours at room temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (363 mg, 1.11 mmol, 45%). **S3b**: R_f (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.80; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_H = 7.31$ -7.26 (2H, m, ArH), 7.11-7.06 (2H, m, ArH), 4.62 (1H, q, $J = 7.2$, CHCH₃), 3.20 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.48 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.45 (9H, s, C(CH₃)₃), 1.30 (3H, d, $J = 7.2$, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_C = 171.1$ (C=O), 161.3 (C=O), 145.1 (ArCN), 129.6 (ArCCl), 129.4 (2xAr), 124.9 (2xAr), 81.2 (C(CH₃)₃), 55.7 (CHCH₃), 39.7 (NCH₃), 32.6 (NCH₃), 28.1 (C(CH₃)₃), 14.4 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): $\nu_{max} = 2978$, 2935 (C-H), 1732 (C=O ester), 1651 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₆H₂₃O₃N₂³⁵ClNa [M+Na]⁺ 349.1289 found 349.1289.



(S)-2-(3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1,3-dimethylureido)propanoic acid (6b)

Following a similar method to general procedure 8, anhydrous DCM (2.10 mL) and TFA (2.10 mL) were added to urea **S3b** (343 mg, 1.05 mmol). The reaction was complete after two hours. Removal of the solvent *in vacuo* and purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc to 95:5 EtOAc:MeOH) yielded the title compound as a yellow oil (137 mg, 0.51 mmol, 48%). **6b**: R_f (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.37; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_H = 9.17$ (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.34-7.31 (2H, m, ArH), 7.10-7.07 (2H, m, ArH), 4.52 (1H, q, $J = 7.2$, CHCH₃), 3.26 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.43 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.35 (3H, d, $J = 7.2$, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_C = 174.4$ (C=O), 163.0 (C=O), 144.0 (ArCN), 130.8 (ArCCl), 129.7 (2xAr), 125.6 (2xAr), 55.8 (CHCH₃), 39.7 (NCH₃), 33.8 (NCH₃), 13.9 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): $\nu_{max} = 2981$ (OH broad), 2938 (C-H), 1733 (C=O acid), 1644 (C=O urea); HRMS: (ESI⁺) m/z calcd for C₁₂H₁₅O₃N₂³⁵ClNa [M+Na]⁺ 293.0663, found 293.0670.

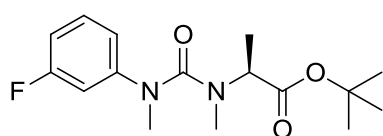
Synthesis of 6cAla:



(S)-tert-Butyl 2-(3-(3-fluorophenyl)-3-methylureido)propanoate (S2c)

Following general procedure 6a, *N*-(3-fluorophenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (469 mg, 2.50 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-alanine *tert*-butyl ester hydrochloride (500 mg, 2.75 mmol) and Et₃N (0.80 mL, 5.76 mmol) in DCE (0.5 M). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at reflux. The title compound was yielded as a brown oil without further purification (735 mg, 2.48 mmol, 99%). **S2c**: R_f

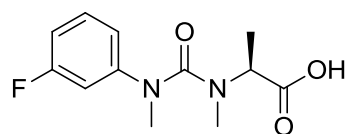
(1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.63; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.43-7.35 (1H, m, ArH), 7.12-7.09 (1H, m, ArH), 7.05-6.97 (2H, m, ArH), 4.97 (1H, br. d, *J* = 7.2, NHCH), 4.40 (1H, quin., *J* = 7.2, NHCHCH₃), 3.27 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.43 (9H, s, C(CH₃)₃), 1.30 (3H, d, *J* = 7.0, CHCH₃).



(S)-tert-Butyl 2-(3-(3-fluorophenyl)-1,3-

dimethylureido)propanoate (S3c)

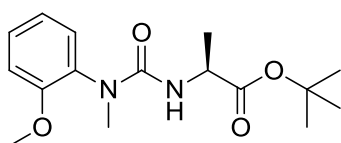
Following general procedure 7, methyl iodide (0.46 mL, 7.44 mmol) and sodium hydride (198 mg, 4.96 mmol) were added to urea **S2c** (735 mg, 2.48 mmol) in DMF (0.3 M). The reaction was complete after three hours at room temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (393 mg, 1.27 mmol, 51%). **S3c**: *R_f* (4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.29; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.29-7.24 (1H, m, ArH), 6.93-6.91 (1H, m, ArH), 6.88-6.85 (1H, m, ArH), 6.81-6.77 (1H, m, ArH), 4.63 (1H, q, *J* = 7.0, CHCH₃), 3.22 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.52 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.46 (9H, s, C(CH₃)₃), 1.31 (3H, d, *J* = 7.5, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 171.1 (C=O), 163.3 (d, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 244.6, ArCF), 161.0 (C=O), 148.1 (d, ³*J*_{C-F} = 9.8, ArCN), 130.4 (d, ³*J*_{C-F} = 9.4, Ar), 118.7 (d, ⁴*J*_{C-F} = 2.8, Ar), 110.9 (d, ²*J*_{C-F} = 21.0, Ar), 110.4 (d, ²*J*_{C-F} = 23.4, Ar), 81.4 (C(CH₃)₃), 55.7 (CHCH₃), 39.4 (NCH₃), 32.5 (NCH₃), 28.0 (C(CH₃)₃), 14.2 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2979, 2937 (C-H), 1733 (C=O ester), 1655 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₂₃O₃N₂FNa [M+Na]⁺ 333.1585 found 333.1574.



(S)-2-(3-(3-Fluorophenyl)-1,3-dimethylureido)propanoic acid (6c)

Following a similar method to general procedure 8, anhydrous DCM (2.50 mL) and TFA (2.50 mL) were added to urea **S3c** (390 mg, 1.26 mmol). The reaction was complete after two hours. Removal of the solvent *in vacuo* and purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc to 95:5 EtOAc:MeOH) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (163 mg, 0.64 mmol, 51%). **6c**: *R_f* (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.34; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 9.73 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.36-7.28 (1H, m, ArH), 6.95-6.85 (3H, m, ArH), 4.55 (1H, q, *J* = 7.2, CHCH₃), 3.29 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.46 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.38 (3H, d, *J* = 7.2, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.1 (C=O), 163.3 (d, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 246.0, ArCF), 162.9 (C=O), 146.8 (d, ³*J*_{C-F} = 10.0, ArCN), 130.7 (d, ³*J*_{C-F} = 9.2, Ar), 119.6 (d, ⁴*J*_{C-F} = 3.0, Ar), 112.2 (d, ²*J*_{C-F} = 20.9, Ar), 111.3 (d, ²*J*_{C-F} = 23.3, Ar), 55.8 (CHCH₃), 39.5 (NCH₃), 33.8 (NCH₃), 13.8 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2927 (OH broad), 2854 (C-H), 1736 (C=O acid), 1644 (C=O urea); HRMS: (FTMS + p APCI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₆O₃N₂F [M+H]⁺ 255.1139, found 255.1136.

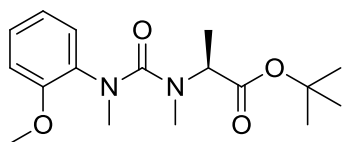
Synthesis of 6dAla:



(*S*)-*tert*-Butyl 2-(3-(2-methoxyphenyl)-3-methylureido)propanoate

(S2d)

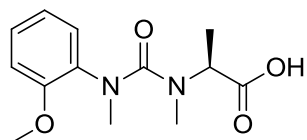
Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-(2-methoxyphenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (500 mg, 2.50 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-alanine *tert*-butyl ester hydrochloride (500 mg, 2.75 mmol) and Et₃N (0.80 mL, 5.76 mmol) in DCE (0.5 M). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at reflux. The title compound was yielded as a brown oil without further purification (768 mg, 2.49 mmol, 90%). **S2d**: *R_f* (2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.53; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.35-7.29 (1H, m, ArH), 7.27-7.25 (1H, m, ArH), 7.01-6.97 (2H, m, ArH), 4.78 (1H, br. d, *J* = 7.5, NHCH), 4.40 (1H, quin., *J* = 7.2, NHCHCH₃), 3.83 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.16 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.40 (9H, s, C(CH₃)₃), 1.25 (3H, d, *J* = 7.2, CHCH₃).



(*S*)-*tert*-Butyl 2-(3-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-

dimethylureido)propanoate (S3d)

Following general procedure **7**, methyl iodide (0.45 mL, 7.18 mmol) and sodium hydride (191 mg, 4.79 mmol) were added to urea **S2d** (738 mg, 2.39 mmol) in DMF (0.3 M). The reaction was complete after three hours at room temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 7:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (671 mg, 2.08 mmol, 87%). **S3d**: *R_f* (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.63; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.22-7.17 (1H, m, ArH), 7.11-7.08 (1H, m, ArH), 6.94-6.88 (2H, m, ArH), 4.63 (1H, q, *J* = 7.2, CHCH₃), 3.88 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.06 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.34 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.41 (9H, s, C(CH₃)₃), 1.21 (3H, d, *J* = 7.2, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 171.6 (C=O), 162.2 (C=O), 153.9 (ArCOMe), 134.8 (ArCN), 127.6 (Ar), 127.2 (Ar), 121.1 (Ar), 111.8 (Ar), 80.9 (C(CH₃)₃), 55.4 (CHCH₃ and OCH₃), 38.3 (NCH₃), 31.7 (NCH₃), 28.1 (C(CH₃)₃), 14.4 (CHCH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2977, 2936 (C-H), 1731 (C=O ester), 1645 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₂₆O₄N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 345.1785 found 345.1787.

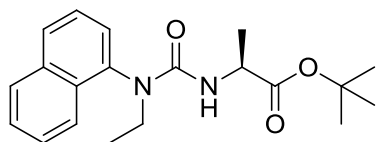


(*S*)-2-(3-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-1,3-dimethylureido)propanoic acid (**6d**)

Following a similar method to general procedure **8**, anhydrous DCM (4.20 mL) and TFA (4.20 mL) were added to urea **S3d** (671 mg, 2.08 mmol). The reaction was complete after two hours. Removal of the solvent *in vacuo* and purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc to 95:5 EtOAc:MeOH) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (147 mg, 0.55 mmol, 27%). **6d**: *R_f* (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.31; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 12.30 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.28-7.25 (1H, m, ArH), 7.10-7.08 (1H, m, ArH), 6.98-6.95 (2H, m, ArH), 4.40 (1H, q, *J* = 7.0, CHCH₃), 3.87 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.17 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.29 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.28 (3H, d, *J* = 7.5, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.2 (C=O), 165.2 (C=O), 153.9 (ArCOMe), 132.8 (ArCN), 128.4 (Ar), 127.6 (Ar), 121.3 (Ar), 112.0 (Ar),

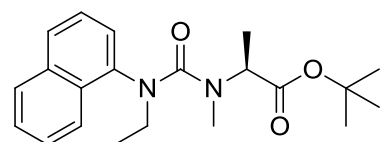
56.2 (CHCH₃), 55.6 (OCH₃), 38.4 (NCH₃), 33.4 (NCH₃), 13.6 (CHCH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 2978 (OH broad), 2939 (C-H), 1733 (C=O acid), 1635 (C=O urea); **HRMS**: (ESI⁺) m/z calcd for C₁₃H₁₈O₄N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 289.1159, found 289.1156.

Synthesis of 6gAla:



(S)-tert-Butyl 2-(3-ethyl-3-(naphthalen-1-yl)ureido)propanoate (S2g)

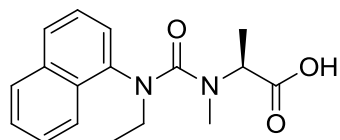
Following a similar method to general procedure **6a**, *N*-ethyl-*N*-(1-naphthalen-1-yl)carbamoyl chloride (708 mg, 3.30 mmol, 1.1 eq) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-alanine *tert*-butyl ester hydrochloride (500 mg, 2.75 mmol, 1.0 eq) and Et₃N (0.88 mL, 6.33 mmol) in DCE (0.5 M). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at reflux. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a rose-coloured oil (933 mg, 2.73 mmol, 99%). **S2g**: **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.71; **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) (0.6:0.4 rotamers): δ_{H} = 7.96-7.88 (3H, m, NaphtH), 7.57-7.50 (3H, m, NaphtH), 7.48-7.47 (0.60H, m, NaphtH), 7.41-7.39 (0.40H, m, NaphtH), 4.57 (0.60H, br. d, J = 8.0, NHCH), 4.46 (0.40H, br. d, J = 7.0, NHCH), 4.40 (0.60H, quin., J = 7.5, NHCHCH₃), 4.34 (0.40H, quin., J = 7.5, NHCHCH₃), 4.21-4.10 (1H, m, CH_AH_BCH₃), 3.54-3.33 (1H, m, CH_AH_BCH₃), 1.38 (5.40H, s, C(CH₃)₃), 1.27 (3.60H, s, C(CH₃)₃), 1.20 (1.20H, d, J = 7.0, CHCH₃), 1.13 (3H, t, J = 7.3, CH₂CH₃), 1.12 (1.80H, d, J = 7.0, CHCH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{C} = 172.9 (C=O_{maj}), 172.4 (C=O_{min}), 156.5 (C=O), 137.2 (NaphtCN), 135.0 (NaphtC), 131.1 (NaphtC_{min}), 131.0 (NaphtC_{maj}), 128.8 (Napht_{maj}), 128.7 (Napht_{min}), 128.5 (Napht_{maj}), 128.4 (Napht_{min}), 127.5 (Napht_{maj}), 127.3 (Napht_{min}), 127.2 (Napht_{min}), 127.0 (Napht_{maj}), 126.7 (Napht_{min}), 126.6 (Napht_{maj}), 126.0 (Napht_{maj}), 125.8 (Napht_{min}), 123.2 (Napht_{min}), 123.0 (Napht_{maj}), 81.2 (C(CH₃)_{3maj}), 81.0 (C(CH₃)_{3min}), 50.0 (CHCH_{3min}), 49.7 (CHCH_{3maj}), 44.0 (CH₂CH₃), 27.9 (C(CH₃)_{3maj}), 27.8 (C(CH₃)_{3min}), 19.1 (CHCH₃), 14.1 (CH₂CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3421 (NH), 3050, 2976, 2933, 2873 (C-H), 1731 (C=O ester), 1660 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₂₀H₂₆O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 365.1836 found 365.1835.



(S)-tert-Butyl 2-(3-ethyl-1-methyl-3-(naphthalen-1-yl)ureido)propanoate (S3g)

Following general procedure **7**, methyl iodide (0.51 mL, 8.15 mmol) and sodium hydride (217 mg, 5.43 mmol) were added to urea **S2g** (930 mg, 2.72 mmol) in DMF (0.3 M). The reaction was complete after three hours at room temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (727 mg, 2.04 mmol, 75%). **S3g**: **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.80; **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{H} = 8.02 (1H, d, J = 8.5, NaphtH), 7.89 (1H, d, J = 7.5, NaphtH), 7.75 (1H, d, J = 8.0, NaphtH), 7.57-7.50 (2H, m, NaphtH), 7.42 (1H, t, J = 8.0, NaphtH), 7.27-7.25 (1H, m, NaphtH), 4.60 (1H, q, J = 7.0, CHCH₃), 3.72-3.61 (2H, m, CH₂CH₃), 2.24 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.41 (9H, s, C(CH₃)₃), 1.18 (3H, t, J = 7.0, CH₂CH₃),

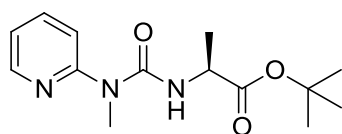
1.14 (3H, d, $J = 7.5$, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 171.6 (C=O), 162.1 (C=O), 140.8 (NaphtCN), 134.8 (NaphtC), 129.9 (NaphtC), 128.7 (Napht), 126.8 (Napht), 126.7 (Napht), 126.2 (Napht), 125.6 (Napht), 124.9 (Napht), 123.0 (Napht), 80.9 (C(CH₃)₃), 55.6 (CHCH₃), 46.8 (CH₂CH₃), 32.1 (NCH₃), 28.0 (C(CH₃)₃), 14.3 (CHCH₃), 13.4 (CH₂CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3050, 2977, 2934, 2873 (C-H), 1731 (C=O ester), 1644 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₂₁H₂₈O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 379.1992, found 379.2004.



(S)-2-(3-Ethyl-1-methyl-3-(naphthalen-1-yl)ureido)propanoic acid (6g)

Following a similar method to general procedure **8**, anhydrous DCM (3.90 mL) and TFA (3.90 mL) were added to urea **S3g** (700 mg, 1.96 mmol). The reaction was complete after one hour. The reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* to give a pale brown solid. Purification by suspension in diethyl ether, filtration and washing with a small volume of cold diethyl ether yielded the title compound as a white solid (486 mg, 1.62 mmol, 82%). **6g**: mp 166-171 °C; **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.37; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, (CD₃)₂SO): δ_H = 12.46 (1H, s, COOH), 8.00 (1H, d, $J = 8.0$, NaphtH), 7.94 (1H, d, $J = 8.0$, NaphtH), 7.85 (1H, d, $J = 8.5$, NaphtH), 7.61 (1H, t, $J = 7.3$, NaphtH), 7.56 (1H, t, $J = 7.3$, NaphtH), 7.50 (1H, t, $J = 7.8$, NaphtH), 7.28 (1H, d, $J = 7.0$, NaphtH), 4.41 (1H, q, $J = 7.0$, CHCH₃), 3.61-3.46 (2H, m, CH₂CH₃), 2.14 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.06-1.04 (6H, m, CH₂CH₃ and CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (125 MHz, (CD₃)₂SO): δ_C = 173.4 (C=O), 161.2 (C=O), 140.3 (NaphtCN), 134.4 (NaphtC), 129.3 (NaphtC), 128.7 (Napht), 126.9 (Napht), 126.7 (Napht), 126.3 (Napht), 125.9 (Napht), 124.7 (Napht), 122.5 (Napht), 54.6 (CHCH₃), 46.2 (CH₂CH₃), 32.5 (NCH₃), 14.3 (CHCH₃), 13.1 (CH₂CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3051, 2983, 2937, 2875 (C-H), 1737 (C=O acid), 1640 (C=O urea); HRMS: (ESI⁺) m/z calcd for C₁₇H₂₀O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 323.1366, found 323.1359.

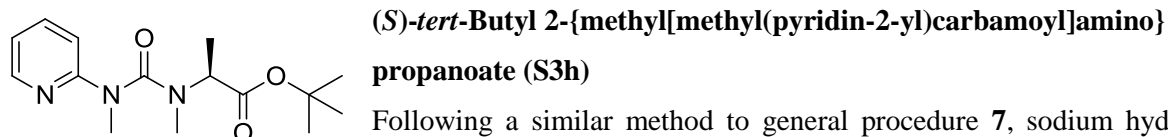
Synthesis of 6hAla:



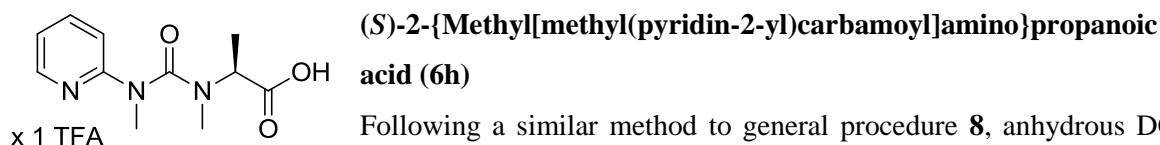
(S)-tert-Butyl 2-[(methyl(pyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl)amino]propanoate (S2h)

Following general procedure **6b**, L-alanine *tert*-butyl ester hydrochloride (882 mg, 4.86 mmol) was added to a pre-stirred solution of *N*-methyl-*N*-(pyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl chloride (827 mg, 4.86 mmol) in DCE (9.70 mL). To this solution was added Et₃N (0.80 mL, 5.74 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (1.14 g, 4.08 mmol, 84%). **S2h**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 10.29 (1H, d, $J = 6.8$, ArH), 7.87 (1H, br. d, $J = 4.7$, ArH), 7.27 (1H, m, ArH), 6.53 (2H, m, ArH and NHCH), 4.07 (1H, quin., $J = 7.0$, NHCHCH₃), 2.92 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.07 (9H, s, C(CH₃)₃), 1.05 (3H, d, $J = 7.0$, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 172.2 (C=O), 155.4 (C=O), 155.2 (ArCN), 145.4 (Ar), 138.3 (Ar), 116.6 (Ar), 111.1 (Ar), 88.4 (OC(CH₃)₃), 49.9 (CHCH₃), 32.1 (NCH₃), 27.5 (OC(CH₃)₃), 18.4 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2977 (C-H), 1732 (C=O

ester), 1666 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₂₁O₃N₃Na [M+Na]⁺ 302.1475, found 302.1471.

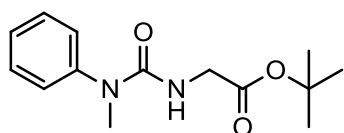


Following a similar method to general procedure **7**, sodium hydride (324 mg, 8.10 mmol) was added to urea **S2h** (1.13 g, 4.05 mmol) in DMF (10.00 mL). After fifteen minutes methyl iodide (0.75 mL, 12.15 mmol) was added. The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. The reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate and quenched by addition of ice water. The aqueous layer was extracted twice with ethyl acetate and the organic layer washed with brine. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (986 mg, 3.36 mmol, 83%). **S3h**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 8.08 (1H, dt, *J* = 4.9, 0.8, Ar*H*), 7.33 (1H, m, Ar*H*), 6.86 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3, Ar*H*), 6.64 (1H, m, Ar*H*), 4.44 (1H, q, *J* = 7.2, NCHCH₃), 3.09 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.45 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.23 (9H, s, C(CH₃)₃), 1.16 (3H, d, *J* = 7.2, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 170.5 (C=O), 160.5 (C=O), 156.6 (ArCN), 147.9 (Ar), 137.2 (Ar), 117.0 (Ar), 114.1 (Ar), 81.1 (OC(CH₃)₃), 55.5 (CH), 35.3 (NCH₃), 32.1 (NCH₃), 27.7 (OC(CH₃)₃), 14.1 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2978 (C-H), 1731 (C=O ester), 1656 (C=O urea). **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₅H₂₃N₃O₃Na [M+Na]⁺ 316.1637, found 316.1646



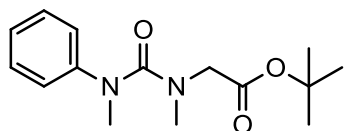
Following a similar method to general procedure **8**, anhydrous DCM (4.00 mL) and TFA (1.00 mL) were added to urea **S3h** (112 mg, 0.38 mmol). The reaction was complete after two hours. Removal of the solvent *in vacuo* and purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 9:1 EtOAc:MeOH) yielded the title compound as its trifluoroacetic salt (77 mg, 0.32 mmol, 85%). **6h**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD): δ_H = 8.26 (1H, br. d, *J* = 5.0, Ar*H*), 7.82 (1H, ddd, *J* = 8.3, 5.0, 1.7, Ar*H*), 7.21 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3, Ar*H*), 7.07 (1H, m, Ar*H*), 4.65 (1H, q, *J* = 7.2, NCHCH₃), 3.27 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.71 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.43 (3H, d, *J* = 7.2, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CD₃OD): δ_C = 174.8 (C=O), 161.8 (C=O), 156.9 (ArCN), 146.6 (Ar), 141.7 (Ar), 119.2 (Ar), 116.5 (Ar), 56.7 (CH), 36.5 (NCH₃), 33.4 (NCH₃), 14.7 (CH₃). ¹⁹F NMR (400 MHz CD₃OD): δ_F = -76.9; **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2979 (C-H), 1731 (C=O acid), 1659 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₁H₁₅N₃O₃Na [M+Na]⁺ 260.0998, found 260.1006.

Synthesis of 6iGly:



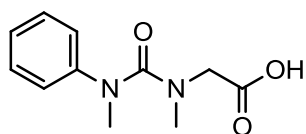
tert-Butyl 2-(3-methyl-3-phenylureido)acetate (**S2i**)

Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylcarbamoyl chloride (473 mg, 2.79 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of glycine *tert*-butyl ester hydrochloride (500 mg, 2.98 mmol) and Et₃N (0.89 mL, 6.41 mmol) in DCE (0.3 M). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at reflux. The title compound was yielded as a yellow oil without further purification (736 mg, 2.79 mmol, >99%). **S2i**: *R_f* (4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.15; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.46-7.41 (2H, m, PhH), 7.33-7.28 (3H, m, PhH), 4.79 (1H, br. s, NHCH), 3.86 (2H, d, *J* = 4.8, NHCH₂), 3.28 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.43 (9H, s, OC(CH₃)₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 170.0 (C=O), 156.8 (C=O), 143.0 (ArCN), 130.0 (2xAr), 127.4 (Ar), 127.3 (2xAr), 81.7 (C(CH₃)₃), 43.3 (NHCH₂), 37.3 (NCH₃), 28.0 (C(CH₃)₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3370 (NH), 2977 (C-H), 1740 (C=O ester), 1657 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₂₀O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 287.1367, found 287.1377.



tert-Butyl 2-(1,3-dimethyl-3-phenylureido)acetate (**S3i**)

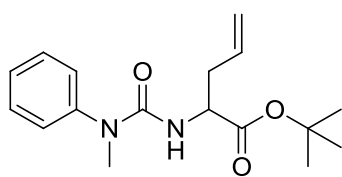
Following general procedure **7**, methyl iodide (0.52 mL, 8.36 mmol) and sodium hydride (223 mg, 5.58 mmol) were added to urea **S2i** (736 mg, 2.79 mmol) in DMF (0.2 M). The reaction was complete after two hours at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was quenched with methanol and saturated aqueous NH₄Cl solution. The title compound was yielded as a yellow oil without further purification (775 mg, 2.79 mmol, > 99%). **S3i**: *R_f* (2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.42; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.36-7.31 (2H, m, PhH), 7.20-7.17 (2H, m, PhH), 7.13-7.09 (1H, m, PhH), 3.85 (2H, s, NCH₂), 3.23 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.60 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.45 (9H, s, OC(CH₃)₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 169.0 (C=O), 161.5 (C=O), 146.4 (ArCN), 129.5 (2xAr), 124.6 (Ar), 124.2 (2xAr), 81.5 (C(CH₃)₃), 52.5 (NCH₂), 40.0 (NCH₃), 37.9 (NCH₃), 28.1 (C(CH₃)₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2927 (C-H), 1740 (C=O ester), 1650 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₂₂O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 301.1523, found 301.1521.



2-(1,3-Dimethyl-3-phenylureido)acetic acid (**6i**)

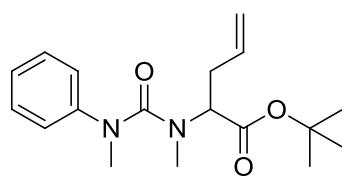
Following general procedure **8**, anhydrous DCM (5.00 mL) and TFA (5.00 mL) were added to urea **S3i** (769 mg, 2.77 mmol). The reaction was complete after five hours. Purification by removal of grease through washing with pentane over a silica plug and extraction with ethyl acetate yielded the title compound as a white solid (369 mg, 1.66 mmol, 60%). **6i**: mp 104-107 °C; *R_f* (2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.06; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 11.01 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.34-7.30 (2H, m, PhH), 7.18-7.10 (3H, m, PhH), 3.95 (2H, s, NCH₂), 3.23 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.56 (3H, s, NCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.1 (C=O), 162.1 (C=O), 145.6 (ArCN), 129.5 (2xAr), 125.1 (Ar), 124.4 (2xAr), 51.8 (NCH₂), 40.0 (NCH₃), 38.0 (NCH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2931 (OH broad), 2931 (C-H), 1736 (C=O acid), 1592 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁻): *m/z* calcd for C₁₁H₁₃O₃N₂ [M-H]⁻ 221.0931, found 221.0921.

Synthesis of 6jPrg:



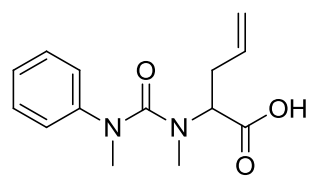
tert-Butyl 2-(3-methyl-3-phenylureido)pent-4-enoate (**S2j**)

Following a similar method to general procedure **6a**, *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylcarbamoyl chloride (726 mg, 4.27 mmol, 1.1 eq) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of DL-2-allylglycine *tert*-butyl ester (666 mg, 3.89 mmol, 1.0 eq) and Et₃N (0.70 mL, 5.06 mmol, 1.3 eq) in DCE (0.5 M). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at reflux. The title compound was yielded as a brown oil without further purification (1.05 g, 3.43 mmol, 88%). **S2j**: *R_f* (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.69; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.43-7.40 (2H, m, PhH), 7.31-7.28 (3H, m, PhH), 5.59 (1H, ddt, *J* = 17.4, 10.2, 7.2, CH₂CH=CH₂), 5.00-4.95 (2H, m, CH=CH₂), 4.86 (1H, br. d, *J* = 7.7, NH), 4.47 (1H, dt, *J* = 7.9, 5.7, NHCHCH₂), 3.27 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.50-2.45 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH), 2.42-2.36 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH), 1.42 (9H, s, C(CH₃)₃).



tert-Butyl 2-(1,3-dimethyl-3-phenylureido)pent-4-enoate (**S3j**)

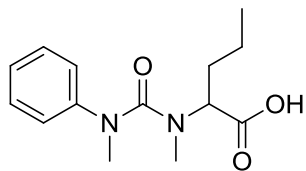
Following general procedure **7**, methyl iodide (0.64 mL, 10.30 mmol) and sodium hydride (275 mg, 6.87 mmol) were added to urea **S2j** (1.05 g, 3.43 mmol) in DMF (0.3 M). The reaction was complete after three hours at room temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 9:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (750 mg, 2.35 mmol, 69%). **S3j**: *R_f* (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.80; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.33-7.28 (2H, m, PhH), 7.14-7.08 (3H, m, PhH), 5.80-5.67 (1H, m, CH₂CH=CH₂), 5.10-5.04 (2H, m, CH=CH₂), 4.69 (1H, dd, *J* = 9.9, 5.7, CHCH₂), 3.22 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.69-2.60 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH), 2.47 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.40-2.29 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH), 1.44 (9H, s, C(CH₃)₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 170.5 (C=O), 162.0 (C=O), 146.5 (ArCN), 134.6 (Ar), 129.3 (2xAr), 124.5 (CH=CH₂), 124.2 (2xAr), 117.4 (CH=CH₂), 81.4 (C(CH₃)₃), 59.6 (CHCH₂CH), 40.0 (NCH₃), 33.6 (CHCH₂CH), 32.9 (NCH₃), 28.1 (C(CH₃)₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2978, 2932 (C-H), 1731 (C=O ester), 1649 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₂₆O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 341.1836 found 341.1845.



2-(1,3-Dimethyl-3-phenylureido)pent-4-enoic acid (**S3j'**)

Following a similar method to general procedure **8**, anhydrous DCM (4.70 mL) and TFA (4.70 mL) were added to urea **S3j** (750 mg, 2.35 mmol). The reaction was complete after two hours. Removal of the solvent *in vacuo* and purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc to 95:5 EtOAc:MeOH) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (445 mg, 1.70 mmol, 72%). **S3j'**: *R_f* (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.29; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.38-7.33 (2H, m, PhH), 7.23-7.19 (1H, m, PhH), 7.16-7.13 (3H, m, PhH), 5.71 (1H, dddd, *J* = 16.4, 10.8, 8.0, 5.6, CH₂CH=CH₂), 5.16-5.15 (1H, m, CH=CH_AH_B), 5.13-5.10 (1H, m, CH=CH_AH_B), 4.46 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.8, 5.6, CHCH₂), 3.34 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.68-2.60 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH), 2.35 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.51-2.43 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 171.8 (C=O), 164.6 (C=O), 144.4 (ArCN),

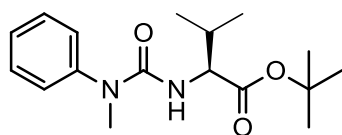
133.7 (Ar), 129.6 (2xAr), 126.1 (CH=CH₂), 125.1 (2xAr), 118.4 (CH=CH₂), 60.4 (CHCH₂CH), 39.9 (NCH₃), 34.0 (CHCH₂CH), 32.2 (NCH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3008 (OH broad), 2978, 2940 (C-H), 1731 (C=O acid), 1642 (C=O urea); **HRMS**: (ESI⁺) m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₉O₃N₂ [M+H]⁺ 263.1390, found 263.1387.



2-(1,3-Dimethyl-3-phenylureido)pentanoic acid (6j)

Urea **6bb** (243 mg, 0.93 mmol, 2.5 eq) was dissolved in methanol (0.1 M) and nitrogen was bubbled through the solution. 10% Palladium on carbon (40 mg, 0.38 mmol, 10% by weight, 1.0 eq) was added to the reaction mixture and the reaction was placed under a hydrogen atmosphere through use of a balloon. The reaction was left to stir for twenty hours. The solution was filtered over celite, washed through with dichloromethane and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc to 95:5 EtOAc:MeOH) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (227 mg, 0.86 mmol, 93%). **6j**: **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.40; **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.38-7.35 (2H, m, PhH), 7.21-7.18 (1H, m, PhH), 7.14-7.12 (2H, m, PhH), 4.38 (1H, dd, J = 10.0, 6.0, CHCH₂), 3.29 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.37 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.88-1.81 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂), 1.67-1.59 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂), 1.31-1.26 (2H, m, CH₂CH₃), 0.94 (3H, t, J = 7.0, CH₂CH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.4 (C=O), 164.3 (C=O), 145.1 (ArCN), 129.7 (2xAr), 125.9 (Ar), 124.9 (2xAr), 59.9 (CHCH₂), 40.0 (NCH₃), 33.7 (NCH₃), 30.1 (CHCH₂), 19.4 (CH₂CH₃), 13.6 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3006 (OH broad), 2959, 2933, 2873 (C-H), 1731 (C=O acid), 1642 (C=O urea); **HRMS**: (EI): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₂₀O₃N₂ [M]⁺⁺ 284.1468, found 284.1461.

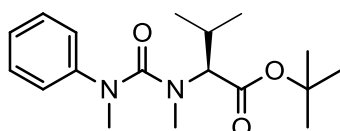
Synthesis of 6kVal:



(S)-tert-Butyl 3-methyl-2-(3-methyl-3-phenylureido)butanoate

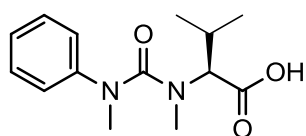
(S2k)

Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylcarbamoyl chloride (378 mg, 2.23 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-valine *tert*-butyl ester hydrochloride (500 mg, 2.38 mmol) and Et₃N (0.71 mL, 5.12 mmol) in DCE (0.2 M). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at reflux. The title compound was yielded as a yellow oil without further purification (647 mg, 2.11 mmol, 95%). **S2k**: **R_f** (4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.23; **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.47-7.41 (2H, m, PhH), 7.33-7.28 (3H, m, PhH), 4.81 (1H, br. d, J = 8.4, NHCH), 4.34 (1H, dd, J = 8.7, 4.5, NHCHCH), 3.28 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.11-2.00 (1H, m, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.42 (9H, s, OC(CH₃)₃), 0.89 (3H, d, J = 6.9, CH(CH₃)₂), 0.71 (3H, d, J = 6.9, CH(CH₃)₂); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 171.8 (C=O), 156.9 (C=O), 143.3 (ArCN), 130.0 (2xAr), 127.3 (Ar), 127.2 (2xAr), 81.4 (C(CH₃)₃), 58.7 (NCH), 37.2 (NCH₃), 31.5 (CH(CH₃)₂), 28.3 (C(CH₃)₃), 27.6 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.4 (CH(CH₃)₂); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3428 (NH), 2966, 2933, 2874 (C-H), 1728 (C=O ester), 1670 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₇H₂₆O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 329.1836 found 329.1834.



(S)-tert-Butyl 2-(1,3-dimethyl-3-phenylureido)-3-methylbutanoate (S3k)

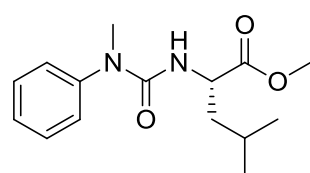
Following a similar method to general procedure **7**, sodium hydride (206 mg, 5.15 mmol, 2.5 eq, 60% suspension) was added to urea **S2k** (630 mg, 2.06 mmol) in DMF (0.2 M). After twenty minutes methyl iodide (0.38 mL, 6.18 mmol) was added. The reaction was left at 0 °C for one hour before warming to room temperature. The reaction was complete after one hour at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with water. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a white solid (610 mg, 1.91 mmol, 93%). **S3k**: mp: 72-74 °C, *R_f* (4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.49; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.33-7.29 (2H, m, PhH), 7.13-7.08 (3H, m, PhH), 4.27 (1H, d, *J* = 10.4, NCHCH), 3.20 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.49 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.14-2.01 (1H, m, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.45 (9H, s, OC(CH₃)₃), 0.96 (3H, d, *J* = 6.8, CH(CH₃)₂), 0.85 (3H, d, *J* = 6.8, CH(CH₃)₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 170.8 (C=O), 162.6 (C=O), 146.7 (ArCN), 129.4 (2xAr), 124.6 (Ar), 124.4 (2xAr), 81.1 (C(CH₃)₃), 65.3 (NCHCO₂C(CH₃)₃), 40.2 (NCH₃), 32.3 (NCH₃), 28.1 (C(CH₃)₃), 27.6 (CH(CH₃)₂), 19.8 (CH(CH₃)₂), 19.3 (CH(CH₃)₂); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2970, 2933, 2875 (C-H), 1728 (C=O ester), 1651 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₂₈O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 343.1993 found 343.1998.



(S)-2-(1,3-Dimethyl-3-phenylureido)-3-methylbutanoic acid (6k)

Following general procedure **8**, anhydrous DCM (2.50 mL) and TFA (2.50 mL) were added to urea **S3k** (400 mg, 1.25 mmol). The reaction was complete after two hours. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc to 100% EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (304 mg, 1.15 mmol, 92%). **6k**: *R_f* (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.27; [α]_D²⁰ = -207.4 (*c* = 1.5 in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 10.89 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.39-7.34 (2H, m, PhH), 7.23-7.13 (3H, m, PhH), 3.91 (1H, d, *J* = 10.8, NCHCH), 3.29 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.36 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.22-2.10 (1H, m, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.01 (3H, d, *J* = 6.3, CH(CH₃)₂), 0.84 (3H, d, *J* = 6.6, CH(CH₃)₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 171.4 (C=O), 164.7 (C=O), 144.6 (ArCN), 129.7 (2xAr), 126.3 (Ar), 125.4 (2xAr), 67.3 (NCH), 40.2 (NCH₃), 34.1 (NCH₃), 26.6 (CH(CH₃)₂), 20.3 (CH(CH₃)₂), 19.5 (CH(CH₃)₂); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2965 (OH broad), 2965, 2931, 2875 (C-H), 1726 (C=O acid), 1639 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₂₁O₃N₂ [M+H]⁺ 265.1547 found 265.1548.

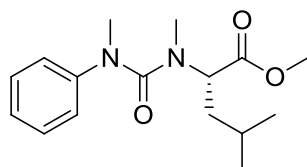
Synthesis of 6Leu:



(S)-Methyl 4-methyl-2-[[methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino]pentanoate (S2l)

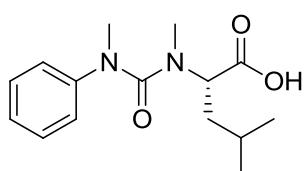
Following general procedure **6b**, L-leucine methyl ester hydrochloride (510 mg, 2.82 mmol) was added to a pre-stirred solution of *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylcarbamoyl chloride (475 mg, 2.82 mmol) in DCE (10.00 mL). To this solution was added Et₃N

(0.96 mL, 6.88 mmol, 2.4 eq) and DMAP (catalytic amount). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (708 mg, 2.54 mmol, 90%). **S2I**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.43-7.28 (2H, m, PhH), 7.23-7.14 (3H, m, PhH), 4.64 (1H, br. d, *J* = 7.9, NHCH), 4.48-4.26 (1H, m, NHCHCH₂), 3.59 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.16 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.71-1.08 (3H, m, CHCH₂CH and CH₂CH(CH₃)₂), 0.89-0.63 (6H, m, CH(CH₃)₂).



(S)-Methyl 4-methyl-2-{methyl[methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino}pentanoate (S3I)

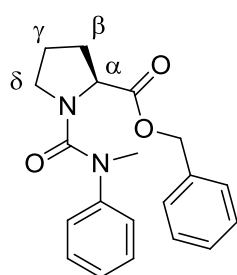
Following a similar method to general procedure **7**, sodium hydride (203 mg, 5.09 mmol) was added to urea **S2I** (708 mg, 2.54 mmol) in DMF (10.00 mL). After fifteen minutes methyl iodide (0.47 mL, 7.62 mmol) was added. The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. The reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate and quenched by addition of ice water. The aqueous layer was extracted twice with ethyl acetate and the organic layer washed with brine. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (519 mg, 1.78 mmol, 70%). **S3I**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.37-7.17 (2H, m, PhH), 7.12-6.96 (3H, m, PhH), 4.65 (1H, t, *J* = 8.1, NCHCH₂), 3.55 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.13 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.42 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.66-1.22 (3H, m, CHCH₂CH and CH₂CH(CH₃)₂), 0.88 (3H, d, *J* = 6.4, CH(CH₃)₂), 0.82 (3H, d, *J* = 6.5, CH(CH₃)₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.1 (C=O), 162.5 (C=O), 146.7 (ArCN), 129.6 (2xAr), 125.0 (Ar), 124.1 (2xAr), 57.4 (NCH), 51.9 (OCH₃), 40.3 (NCH₃), 38.2 (CH₂), 32.8 (NCH₃), 25.2 (CH), 23.3 (CH₃), 21.4 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2954 (C-H), 1742 (C=O ester), 1646 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₂₄N₂O₃Na [M+Na]⁺ 315.1679, found 315.1685.



(S)-4-Methyl-2-{methyl[methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino}pentanoic acid (6I)

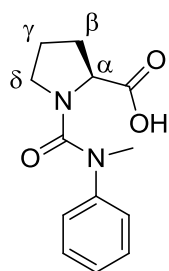
Following general procedure **10**, urea **S3I** (334 mg, 1.14 mmol) was dissolved in 2:1 THF:H₂O (32.10 mL) and LiOH (1.37 g, 57.00 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for twenty hours at 45 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (187 mg, 0.67 mmol, 59%). **6I**: [α]_D²⁰ = -48.5 (*c* = 1.7 in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 12.23 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.44-7.33 (2H, m, PhH), 7.28-7.19 (1H, m, PhH), 7.16-7.08 (2H, m, PhH), 4.40 (1H, t, *J* = 7.9, NCHCH₂), 3.33 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.33 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.64 (2H, m, CHCH₂CH), 1.52-1.39 (1H, m, CHCH₂CH(CH₃)₂), 0.96 (3H, d, *J* = 6.6, CH(CH₃)₂), 0.93 (3H, d, *J* = 6.5, CH(CH₃)₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 172.7 (C=O), 165.0 (C=O), 144.9 (ArCN), 129.9 (2xAr), 126.4 (Ar), 125.2 (2xAr), 58.7 (NCH), 40.2 (NCH₃), 36.7 (CH₂), 34.2 (NCH₃), 24.6 (CH), 23.2 (CH₃), 21.8 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2956 (C-H), 2584 (OH broad), 1735 (C=O acid), 1593 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₂₂O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 301.1523, found 301.1519.

Synthesis of 6mPro:



(S)-Benzyl 1-(methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (**S2m**)

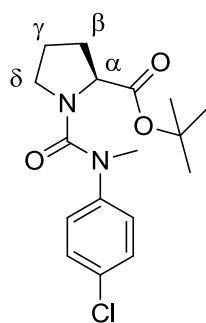
Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylcarbamoyl chloride (983 mg, 5.80 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-proline benzyl ester hydrochloride (1.50 g, 6.21 mmol) and Et₃N (1.86 mL, 13.35 mmol) in DCE (0.6 M). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at reflux. The title compound was yielded as a yellow oil without further purification (1.96 g, 5.80 mmol, >99%). **S2m**: **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.5; **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.49-7.43 (5H, m, PhH), 7.37-7.30 (4H, m, PhH), 7.24-7.18 (1H, m, PhH), 5.33 (1H, d, *J* = 12.3, OCH_AH_BPh), 5.26 (1H, d, *J* = 12.3, OCH_AH_BPh), 4.68-4.63 (1H, m, NCHCO(α)), 3.32 (3H, s, NCH₃), 3.09-3.02 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.81-2.73 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.30-2.20 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.89-1.72 (3H, m, CH₂CH₂(β + 2γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.0 (C=O), 159.3 (C=O), 145.8 (ArCN), 135.9 (ArC), 129.4 (2xAr), 128.6 (2xAr), 128.3 (3xAr), 125.4 (2xAr), 125.0 (Ar), 66.7 (OCH₂Ph), 60.4 (NCHCO(α)), 49.0 (NCH₂(δ)), 39.6 (NCH₃), 29.4 (CH₂(β)), 25.4 (CH₂(γ)); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 2925, 2877 (C-H), 1742 (C=O ester), 1641 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₂₀H₂₂O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 361.1523, found 361.1519.



(S)-1-(Methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (**6m**)

Following general procedure **9**, urea ester **S2m** (1.47 g, 4.35 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (20.00 mL) and palladium on carbon (150 mg, 10% by weight) was added. The reaction was complete in twenty hours. The title compound was yielded as a white solid without further purification (1.00 g, 4.03 mmol, 93%). **6m**: **mp** 158-160 °C; **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.1; [α]_D²⁰ = -122.0 (*c* = 0.2 in CHCl₃) **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.39-7.35 (2H, m, PhH), 7.24-7.18 (3H, m, PhH), 4.53 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.2, 4.8, NCHCO(α)), 3.28 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.76-2.70 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.67-2.61 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.26-2.18 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.94-1.86 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.83-1.72 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)), 1.71-1.61 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.2 (C=O), 160.7 (C=O), 144.9 (ArCN), 129.7 (2xAr), 126.0 (Ar), 125.7 (2xAr), 61.0 (NCHCO(α)), 49.2 (NCH₂(δ)), 40.3 (NCH₃), 28.1 (CH₂(β)), 25.2 (CH₂(γ)); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 3002 (OH broad), 2976, 2948, 2876 (C-H), 1721 (C=O acid), 1644 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁻): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₅O₃N₂ [M-H]⁻ 247.1088, found 247.1088.

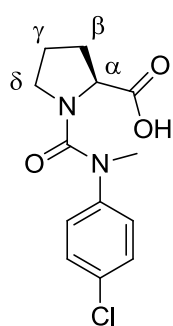
Synthesis of 6nPro:



(S)-tert-Butyl 1-((4-chlorophenyl)(methyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (**S2n**)

Following a similar method to general procedure **6a**, *N*-(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (530 mg, 2.60 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-proline *tert*-butyl ester (446 mg, 2.60

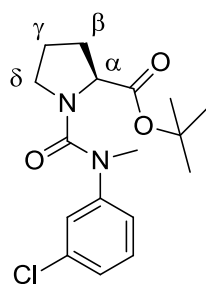
mmol, 1.0 eq) and Et₃N (0.47 mL, 3.38 mmol, 1.3 eq) in DCE (0.5 M). The reaction mixture was heated to 45 °C and was complete after twenty hours heating at temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a white solid (792 mg, 2.34 mmol, 90%). **S2n**: mp 115-117 °C; **R_f** (4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.16; **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.31-7.22 (4H, m, ArH), 4.37-4.32 (1H, m, NCHCO(α)), 3.20 (3H, d, *J* = 1.5, NCH₃), 3.03-2.97 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.77-2.69 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.22-2.09 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.77-1.62 (3H, m, CH₂CH₂(β + 2γ)), 1.48 (9H, d, *J* = 1.8, OC(CH₃)₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 172.0 (C=O), 158.9 (C=O), 144.5 (ArCN), 129.8 (ArCCL), 129.3 (2xAr), 126.1 (2xAr), 80.9 (OC(CH₃)₃), 60.8 (NCHCO(α)), 49.0 (NCH₂(δ)), 39.2 (NCH₃), 29.5 (CH₂(β)), 28.0 (OC(CH₃)₃), 25.2 (CH₂(γ)); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 2976, 2877 (C-H), 1735 (C=O ester), 1645 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₂₃O₃N₂³⁵ClNa [M+Na]⁺ 361.1289, found 361.1289.



(S)-1-((4-Chlorophenyl)(methyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (6n)

Following general procedure **8**, anhydrous DCM (3.00 mL) and TFA (3.00 mL) were added to urea **S2n** (611 mg, 1.81 mmol). The reaction was complete after four hours. The title compound was yielded as a pale yellow solid without further purification (413 mg, 1.45 mmol, 81%). **6n**: mp 150-152 °C; **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.08; [α]_D²⁰ = +104.7 (*c* = 1.2 in CHCl₃); **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 9.90 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.34-7.30 (2H, m, ArH), 7.23-7.20 (2H, m, ArH), 4.54-4.50 (1H, m, NCHCO(α)), 3.24 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.89-2.84 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.74-2.68 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.18-2.09 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.99-1.90 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.86-1.78 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)), 1.76-1.65 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 175.7 (C=O), 159.9 (C=O), 143.8 (ArCN), 130.9 (ArCCL), 129.6 (2xAr), 126.8 (2xAr), 60.6 (NCHCO(α)), 49.3 (NCH₂(δ)), 39.9 (NCH₃), 28.7 (CH₂(β)), 25.4 (CH₂(γ)); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 2976 (OH broad), 2976, 2879 (C-H), 1737 (C=O acid), 1606 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₅O₃N₂³⁵ClNa [M+Na]⁺ 305.0663, found 305.0663.

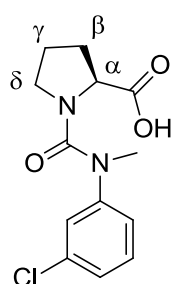
Synthesis of 6oPro:



(S)-tert-Butyl 1-((3-chlorophenyl)(methyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (S2o)

Following a similar method general procedure **6a**, *N*-(3-chlorophenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (498 mg, 2.44 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-proline *tert*-butyl ester (418 mg, 2.44 mmol, 1.0 eq) and Et₃N (0.44 mL, 3.17 mmol, 1.3 eq) in DCE (0.5 M). The reaction mixture was heated to 45 °C and was complete after twenty hours heating at temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (753 mg, 2.22 mmol, 91%). **S2o**: **R_f** (4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.21; **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.30-7.23 (3H, m, ArH), 7.11-7.09 (1H, m, ArH), 4.37-4.34 (1H, m,

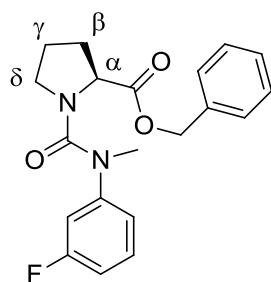
NCHCO(α), 3.24 (3H, s, NCH₃), 3.06-3.01 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.84-2.78 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.23-2.14 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.83-1.67 (3H, m, CH₂CH₂(β + 2 γ)), 1.51 (9H, s, OC(CH₃)₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_c = 171.9 (C=O), 158.7 (C=O), 147.1 (ArCN), 134.6 (ArCCl), 130.2 (Ar), 124.5 (Ar), 124.4 (Ar), 122.7 (Ar), 81.0 (OC(CH₃)₃), 60.9 (NCHCO(α)), 49.1 (NCH₂(δ)), 39.1 (NCH₃), 29.5 (CH₂(β)), 28.0 (OC(CH₃)₃), 25.2 (CH₂(γ)); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 2977, 2877 (C-H), 1736 (C=O ester), 1649 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₇H₂₃O₃N₂³⁵ClNa [M+Na]⁺ 361.1289, found 361.1289.



(S)-1-((3-Chlorophenyl)(methyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (6o)

Following general procedure **8**, anhydrous DCM (3.00 mL) and TFA (3.00 mL) were added to urea **S2o** (688 mg, 2.04 mmol). The reaction was complete after two hours. The title compound was yielded as a off-white solid without further purification (514 mg, 1.82 mmol, 89%). **6o**: mp 132-134 °C; R_f (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.08; [α]_D²⁰ = +100.9 (c = 1.3 in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 10.92 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.29-7.25 (2H, m, ArH), 7.22-7.19 (1H, m, ArH), 7.14-7.11 (1H, m, ArH), 4.56-4.52 (1H, m, NCHCO(α)), 3.24 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.95-2.90 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.75-2.69 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.22-2.14 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.96-1.87 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.86-1.77 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)), 1.77-1.66 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_c = 176.2 (C=O), 159.5 (C=O), 146.5 (ArCN), 134.8 (ArCCl), 130.4 (Ar), 125.3 (2xAr), 123.5 (Ar), 60.4 (NCHCO(α)), 49.2 (NCH₂(δ)), 39.6 (NCH₃), 28.9 (CH₂(β)), 25.4 (CH₂(γ)); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 2976 (OH broad), 2976, 2879 (C-H), 1738 (C=O acid), 1610 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₃H₁₅O₃N₂³⁵ClNa [M+Na]⁺ 305.0663, found 305.0659.

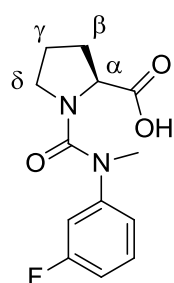
Synthesis of 6pPro:



(S)-Benzyl 1-((3-fluorophenyl)(methyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (S2p)

Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-(3-fluorophenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (362 mg, 1.93 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-proline benzyl ester hydrochloride (500 mg, 2.07 mmol) and Et₃N (0.62 mL, 4.45 mmol) in DCE (0.4 M). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at reflux. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 to 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a yellow oil (649 mg, 1.82 mmol, 94%). **S2p**: R_f (4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.13; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.38-7.31 (5H, m, PhH), 7.21 (1H, dt, J = 6.4, 8.0, FArH), 7.02 (1H, ddd, J = 8.0, 2.0, 0.8, FArH), 6.97 (1H, dt, J = 10.4, 2.4, FArH), 6.81 (1H, tdd, J = 8.0, 2.8, 0.8, FArH), 5.23 (1H, d, J = 12.4, OCH_AH_BPh), 5.17 (1H, d, J = 12.4, OCH_AH_BPh), 4.58-4.54 (1H, m, NCHCO(α)), 3.22 (3H, s, NCH₃), 3.04-2.99 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.80-2.73 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.26-2.16 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.82-1.66 (3H, m, CH₂CH₂(β + 2 γ)); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_c = 172.7 (C=O), 163.1 (d, ¹ J_{C-F} = 245.0, ArCF), 158.8 (C=O), 147.3

(ArCN), 135.7 (ArC), 130.3 (d, $^3J_{C-F} = 9.2$, FAr), 128.5 (2xAr), 128.3 (Ar), 128.2 (2xAr), 120.4 (d, $^4J_{C-F} = 3.0$, FAr), 112.0 (d, $^2J_{C-F} = 30.0$, FAr), 111.5 (d, $^2J_{C-F} = 20.0$, FAr), 66.7 (OCH₂Ph), 60.3 (NCHCO(α)), 49.0 (NCH₂(δ)), 39.2 (NCH₃), 29.4 (CH₂(β)), 25.4 (CH₂(γ)); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): $\nu_{\max} = 3064, 2953, 2879$ (C-H), 1741 (C=O ester), 1645 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₂₀H₂₁O₃N₂FNa [M+Na]⁺ 379.1433, found 379.1436.

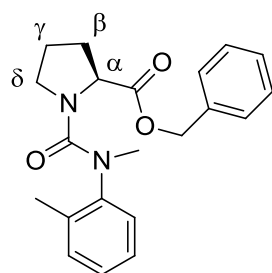


(S)-1-((3-Fluorophenyl)(methyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (6p)

Following general procedure **9**, urea ester **S2p** (602 mg, 1.69 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (10.00 mL) and palladium on carbon (60 mg, 10% by weight) was added. The reaction was complete after twenty hours. The title compound was yielded as a white solid without further purification (435 mg, 1.64 mmol, 97%). **6p**: mp 143-145

°C; **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.18; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +92.4$ ($c = 1.0$ in CHCl₃); **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_H = 7.32$ (1H, dt, $J = 6.8, 8.0$, ArH), 7.03 (1H, ddd, $J = 8.0, 2.0, 0.8$, ArH), 6.98 (1H, dt, $J = 10.0, 2.0$, ArH), 6.90 (1H, tdd, $J = 8.0, 2.4, 0.8$, ArH), 4.57-4.53 (1H, m, NCHCO(α)), 3.27 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.86-2.74 (2H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.15-2.01 (2H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.87-1.78 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)), 1.76-1.66 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_C = 175.3$ (C=O), 163.2 (d, $^1J_{C-F} = 245.9$, ArCF), 159.9 (C=O), 146.8 (d, $^3J_{C-F} = 9.8$, ArCN), 130.6 (d, $^3J_{C-F} = 9.3$, Ar), 120.9 (d, $^4J_{C-F} = 3.0$, Ar), 112.6 (d, $^2J_{C-F} = 12.2$, Ar), 112.3 (d, $^2J_{C-F} = 10.4$, Ar), 60.7 (NCHCO(α)), 49.2 (NCH₂(δ)), 39.8 (NCH₃), 28.6 (CH₂(β)), 25.3 (CH₂(γ)); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): $\nu_{\max} = 2976$ (OH broad), 2976, 2881 (C-H), 1740 (C=O acid), 1589 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₃H₁₆O₃N₂F [M+H]⁺ 267.1140, found 267.1135.

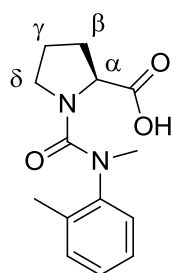
Synthesis of 6qPro:



(S)-Benzyl 1-(methyl(2-methylphenyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (S2q)

Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-methyl-*N*-(2-methylphenyl)carbamoyl chloride (355 mg, 1.93 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-proline benzyl ester hydrochloride (500 mg, 2.07 mmol) and Et₃N (0.62 mL, 4.45 mmol) in DCE (0.4 M). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at reflux. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (654 mg, 1.85 mmol, 96%). **S2q**: **R_f** (7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.32; **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_H = 7.37$ -7.30 (5H, m, PhH), 7.22-7.20 (1H, m, MeArH), 7.17-7.08 (3H, m, MeArH), 5.23 (1H, d, $J = 12.4$, OCH_AH_BPh), 5.12 (1H, d, $J = 12.4$, OCH_AH_BPh), 4.53-4.49 (1H, m, NCHCO(α)), 3.08 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.76-2.70 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.55-2.50 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.28 (3H, s, CH₃), 2.13-2.03 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.77-1.62 (3H, m, CH₂CH₂($\beta + 2\gamma$)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_C = 173.0$ (C=O), 159.5 (C=O), 144.1 (ArCN + ArC), 135.9 (ArC), 131.1 (MeAr), 128.5 (2xAr), 128.1 (2xAr + MeAr), 127.9 (Ar), 127.1 (MeAr),

126.7 (MeAr), 66.6 (OCH₂Ph), 60.7 (NCHCO(α)), 48.0 (NCH₂(δ)), 38.6 (NCH₃), 29.2 (CH₂(β)), 25.2 (CH₂(γ)), 17.7 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3029, 2957, 2880 (C-H), 1742 (C=O ester), 1638 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₂₁H₂₅O₃N₂ [M+H]⁺ 353.1860, found 353.1867.

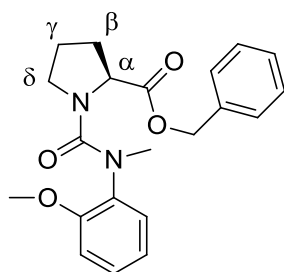


(S)-1-(Methyl(2-methylphenyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (6q)

Following general procedure **9**, urea ester **S2q** (617 mg, 1.75 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (10.00 mL) and palladium on carbon (62 mg, 10% by weight) was added. The reaction was complete after twenty hours. The title compound was yielded as a white solid without further purification (454 mg, 1.73 mmol, 99%). **6q**: mp 152-154

°C; **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.14; [α]_D²⁰ = -120.0 (c = 1.0 in CHCl₃); **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 10.50 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.24-7.17 (4H, m, ArH), 4.51-4.47 (1H, m, NCHCO(α)), 3.14 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.62-2.56 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.52-2.46 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.27 (3H, s, CH₃) 2.13-2.06 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 2.94-2.86 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.81-1.71 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)), 1.69-1.59 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.7 (C=O), 160.5 (C=O), 143.2 (ArCN), 135.0 (ArC), 131.3 (Ar), 127.8 (Ar), 127.3 (Ar), 127.2 (Ar), 61.3 (NCHCO(α)), 48.2 (NCH₂(δ)), 39.2 (NCH₃), 28.0 (CH₂(β)), 25.2 (CH₂(γ)), 17.6 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 2971 (OH broad), 2971, 2881 (C-H), 1740 (C=O acid), 1576 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₈O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 285.1210, found 285.1222.

Synthesis of 6rPro:

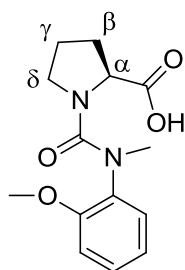


(S)-Benzyl 1-((2-methoxyphenyl)(methyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (S2r)

Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-(2-methoxyphenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (385 mg, 1.93 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-proline benzyl ester hydrochloride (500 mg, 2.07 mmol) and Et₃N (0.62 mL, 4.45 mmol) in

DCE (0.4 M). The reaction was complete after twenty hours heating at reflux. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (694 mg, 1.88 mmol, 98%). **S2r**: **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.35; **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.38-7.30 (5H, m, PhH), 7.21-7.17 (2H, m, OMeArH), 6.91 (1H, dd, J = 8.8, 1.2, OMeArH), 6.84 (1H, td, J = 7.6, 1.2, OMeArH), 5.21 (1H, d, J = 12.4, OCH_AH_BPh), 5.12 (1H, d, J = 12.4, OCH_AH_BPh), 4.53-4.50 (1H, m, NCHCO(α)), 3.87 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.08 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.90-2.84 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.58-2.52 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.14-2.09 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.76-1.63 (3H, m, CH₂CH₂(β + 2γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.0 (C=O), 159.7 (C=O), 154.3 (ArCOMe), 135.9 (ArCN), 133.8 (ArC), 128.6 (Ar), 128.5 (2xAr), 128.1 (3xAr), 127.5 (Ar), 121.1 (Ar), 111.5 (Ar), 66.5 (OCH₂Ph), 60.4 (NCHCO(α)), 55.4 (OCH₃), 48.0 (NCH₂(δ)), 37.7 (NCH₃), 29.5 (CH₂(β)), 25.3 (CH₂(γ)); **IR**

(film, cm^{-1}): ν_{max} = 2957, 2880 (C-H), 1743 (C=O ester), 1639 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI^+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{25}\text{O}_4\text{N}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 369.1809, found 369.1800.

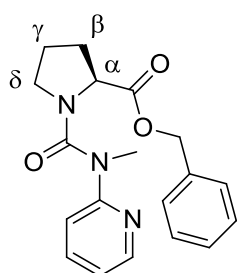


(S)-1-((2-Methoxyphenyl)(methyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (6r)

Following general procedure **9**, urea ester **S2r** (678 mg, 1.84 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (10.00 mL) and palladium on carbon (70 mg, 10% by weight) was added. The reaction was complete after twenty hours. The title compound was yielded as a white solid without further purification (511 mg, 1.84 mmol, >99%). **6r**: mp 136-138 °C; **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.21; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20}$ = -105.5 (c = 1.1 in CHCl_3); **¹H NMR**

(400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{H} = 11.50 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.27-7.23 (1H, m, ArH), 7.20-7.18 (1H, m, ArH) 6.98-6.93 (2H, m, ArH), 4.53-4.50 (1H, m, NCHCO(α)), 3.87 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.15 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.66-2.55 (2H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.25-2.17 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.89-1.80 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.77-1.68 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)), 1.68-1.59 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{C} = 173.6 (C=O), 161.4 (C=O), 154.4 (ArCOMe), 132.8 (ArCN), 128.5 (Ar), 128.4 (Ar), 121.4 (Ar), 111.9 (Ar), 61.3 (NCHCO(α)), 55.8 (OCH₃) 48.5 (NCH₂(δ)), 39.0 (NCH₃), 27.7 (CH₂(β)), 25.2 (CH₂(γ)); **IR** (film, cm^{-1}): ν_{max} = 2969 (OH broad), 2969, 2881 (C-H), 1740 (C=O acid), 1593 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI^+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_4\text{N}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 279.1340, found 279.1343.

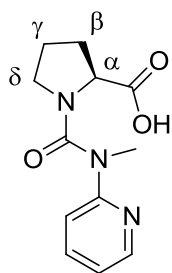
Synthesis of 6sPro:



(S)-Benzyl 1-[methyl(pyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]pyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (S2s)

Following general procedure **6b**, L-proline benzyl ester hydrochloride (392 mg, 1.62 mmol) was added to a pre-stirred solution of *N*-methyl-*N*-(pyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl chloride (276 mg, 1.62 mmol) in DCE (3.24 mL). To this solution was added Et₃N (0.29 mL, 2.11 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount).

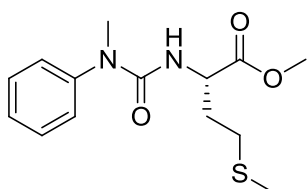
Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO_2 , 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (478 mg, 1.41 mmol, 87%). **S2s**: **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{H} = 8.21 (1H, dd, J = 4.8, 1.0, ArH), 7.35 (1H, m, ArH), 7.22-7.15 (6H, m, ArH), 6.67 (1H, dd, J = 6.8, 5.3, ArH), 5.08 (1H, d, J = 12.3, OCH_AH_BPh), 5.02 (1H, d, J = 12.3, OCH_AH_BPh), 4.51 (1H, m, NCHCO(α)), 3.21 (3H, s, NCH₃), 3.04-2.99 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.85-2.81 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.16-2.09 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.72-1.56 (3H, m, CH₂CH₂(β + γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{C} = 172.5 (C=O), 158.3 (ArCN), 156.6 (C=O), 148.2 (ArCCH₂), 137.6 (Ar), 135.5 (Ar), 128.4 (2xAr), 128.1 (Ar), 128.0 (2xAr), 118.0 (Ar), 116.6 (Ar), 66.6 (OCH₂Ph), 59.9 (NCHCO(α)), 48.7 (NCH₂(δ)), 35.5 (NCH₃), 29.4 (CH₂(β)), 25.1 (CH₂(γ)); **IR** (film, cm^{-1}): ν_{max} = 2977 (C-H), 1735 (C=O ester), 1667 (C=O urea). **HRMS** (ESI^+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 362.1481, found 362.1464.



(S)-1-[Methyl(pyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (6s)

Urea **S2s** (68 mg, 0.20 mmol) was dissolved in ethyl acetate and Et₃N (0.06 mL, 0.40 mmol). Palladium on carbon (10 mol%) was added to this solution and the resulting mixture was placed under a hydrogen atmosphere through use of a balloon. The reaction was complete after one hour at room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate and methanol and filtered over celite. The filtrate was concentrated under *in vacuo* to yield the title compound as an oil without further purification (50 mg, 0.20 mmol, >99%). **6s**: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -285.3$ ($c = 0.3$ in CHCl₃); **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CD₃OD): $\delta_H = 12.34$ (1H, br. s, COOH), 8.34 (1H, dd, $J = 2.0, 5.0$, ArH), 7.79-7.68 (1H, m, ArH), 7.14 (1H, d, $J = 8.3$, ArH), 7.01 (1H, dd, $J = 5.1, 6.7$, ArH), 4.75 (1H, dd, $J = 6.2, 8.3$, NCHCO(α)), 3.31 (3H, s, NCH₃), 3.36-3.14 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.97-2.80 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.40-2.22 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 2.14-1.98 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 1.80 (2H, quin., $J = 6.9$, CH₂CH₂(2 γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (100 MHz, CD₃OD): $\delta_C = 174.7$ (C=O), 158.6 (C=O), 157.0 (ArCN), 147.7 (Ar), 139.5 (Ar), 118.6 (Ar), 115.3 (Ar), 60.2 (NCH), 48.8 (NCH₂), 36.2 (NCH₃), 29.8 (CH₂), 25.1 (CH₂); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: $\nu_{max} = 2980$ (C-H), 1731 (C=O acid), 1643 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₂H₁₅N₃O₃Na [M+Na]⁺ 272.0999, found 272.1006. Triethylamine was added to quench the carboxylic acid forming in the reaction and thus avoid pyridine hydrogenation.^{2,3}

Synthesis of 6tMet:

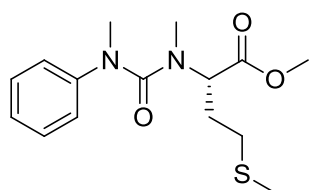


(S)-Methyl 2-[[methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino]-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoate (S2t)

Following general procedure **6b**, L-methionine methyl ester hydrochloride (400 mg, 2.00 mmol) was added to a pre-stirred solution of *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylcarbamoyl chloride (338 mg, 2.00 mmol) in DCE (6.50 mL). To this solution was added Et₃N (0.84 mL, 6.00 mmol, 3.0 eq) and DMAP (catalytic amount). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (583 mg, 1.96 mmol, 98%). **S2t**: **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_H = 7.37$ -7.31 (2H, m, PhH), 7.22-7.15 (3H, m, PhH), 4.96 (1H, br. d, $J = 8.1$, NHCH), 4.50 (1H, dt, $J = 4.9, 8.0$, NHCHCH₂), 3.59 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.15 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.36-2.28 (2H, m, CH₂CH₂S), 2.01-1.86 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂), 1.90 (3H, s, SCH₃), 1.78-1.68 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_C = 173.1$ (C=O), 156.5 (C=O), 142.7 (ArCN), 129.8 (2xAr), 127.3 (Ar), 127.0 (2xAr), 52.7 (NCH), 52.1 (OCH₃), 37.0 (NCH₃), 31.4 (CH₂), 29.9 (CH₂), 15.1 (SCH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: $\nu_{max} = 3346$ (NH), 2951, 2916 (C-H), 1740 (C=O ester), 1661 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₂₀O₃N₂NaS [M+Na]⁺ 319.1087, found 319.1086.

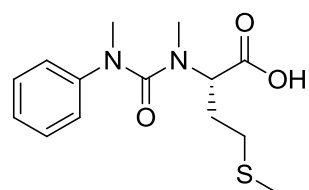
² F. Glorius, *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2005, **3**, 4171.

³ C. Cheng, J. Xu, R. Zhu, L. Xing, X. Wang and Y. Hu, *Tetrahedron*, 2009, **65** (41), 8538.



(S)-Methyl 2-{methyl[methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino}-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoate (S3t)

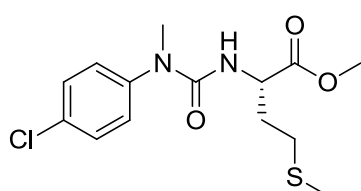
Following a similar method to general procedure **7**, sodium hydride (157 mg, 3.92 mmol) was added to urea **S2t** (583 mg, 1.96 mmol) in DMF (10.00 mL). After fifteen minutes methyl iodide (0.37 mL, 5.88 mmol) was added. The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. The reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate and quenched by addition of ice water. The aqueous layer was extracted twice with ethyl acetate and the organic layer washed with brine. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (414 mg, 1.33 mmol, 68%). **S3t**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.36-7.20 (2H, m, PhH), 7.18-7.01 (3H, m, PhH), 4.71 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.1, 5.1, NCHCH₂), 3.65 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.18 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.49-2.29 (2H, m, CH₂CH₂S), 2.46 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.26-2.12 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂), 2.06 (3H, s, SCH₃), 2.00-1.78 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 172.0 (C=O), 162.1 (C=O), 146.3 (ArCN), 129.3 (2xAr), 124.9 (Ar), 124.6 (2xAr), 58.1 (NCH), 51.9 (OCH₃), 40.0 (NCH₃), 33.2 (NCH₃), 30.8 (CH₂), 28.4 (CH₂), 15.1 (SCH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2950, 2916 (C-H), 1740 (C=O ester), 1644 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₂₂O₃N₂NaS [M+Na]⁺ 333.1243, found 333.1251.



(S)-2-{Methyl[methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino}-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoic acid (6t)

Following general procedure **10**, urea **S3t** (170 mg, 0.55 mmol) was dissolved in 2:1 THF:H₂O (15.50 mL) and LiOH (656 mg, 27.38 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for twenty hours at 45 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (121 mg, 0.41 mmol, 74%). **6t**: [α]_D²⁰ = -94.7 (*c* = 1.3 in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 10.97 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.42-7.30 (2H, m, PhH), 7.24-7.10 (3H, m, PhH), 4.63 (1H, dd, *J* = 9.9, 5.4, NCHCH₂), 3.28 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.54-2.31 (2H, m, CH₂CH₂S), 2.37 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.27-2.13 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂), 2.09 (3H, s, SCH₃), 2.01-1.80 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.7 (C=O), 164.4 (C=O), 145.3 (ArCN), 129.9 (2xAr), 126.2 (Ar), 125.3 (2xAr), 58.6 (NCH), 40.2 (NCH₃), 34.0 (NCH₃), 30.5 (CH₂), 27.4 (CH₂), 15.3 (SCH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2917 (C-H), 2587 (OH broad), 1736 (C=O acid), 1592 (C=O urea).); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₂₀O₃N₂NaS [M+Na]⁺ 319.1087, found 319.1090.

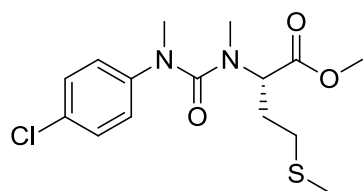
Synthesis of 6uMet:



(S)-Methyl 2-[[[(4-chlorophenyl)(methyl)carbamoyl]amino]-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoate (S2u)

Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (500 mg, 2.45 mmol) and DMAP

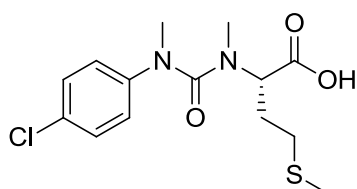
(catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-methionine methyl ester hydrochloride (734 mg, 3.68 mmol, 1.5 eq) and Et₃N (0.85 mL, 6.13 mmol, 2.5 eq) in DCE (8.00 mL). The reaction was complete after twenty hours at 65 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (626 mg, 1.89 mmol, 77%). **S2u**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.42 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7, *ArH*), 7.25 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7, *ArH*), 5.03 (1H, br. d, *J* = 7.9, *NHCH*), 4.83 (1H, ddd, *J* = 15.7, 7.9, 4.8, *NHCHCH*₂), 3.73 (3H, s, *OCH*₃), 3.25 (3H, s, *NCH*₃), 2.45 (2H, dd, *J* = 7.4, 7.0, *CH*₂*CH*₂*S*), 2.14-1.98 (1H, m, *CHCH*_A*H*_B*CH*₂), 2.04 (3H, s, *SCH*₃), 1.87 (1H, ddt, *J* = 14.2, 7.2, 7.2, *CHCH*_A*H*_B*CH*₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.5 (*C=O*), 156.6 (*C=O*), 141.7 (*ArCN*), 133.3 (*ArCCl*), 130.4 (2x*Ar*), 128.8 (2x*Ar*), 53.2 (*NCH*), 52.5 (*OCH*₃), 37.4 (*NCH*₃), 31.8 (*CH*₂), 30.3 (*CH*₂), 15.6 (*SCH*₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3342 (*NH*), 2950, 2916 (*C-H*), 1738 (*C=O* ester), 1657 (*C=O* urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₉N₂O₃³⁵ClNa [M+Na]⁺ 353.0697, found 353.0689.



(S)-Methyl 2-[[[(4-chlorophenyl)(methyl)

carbamoyl](methyl)amino]-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoate (S3u)

Following general procedure 7, methyl iodide (0.36 mL, 5.68 mmol) and sodium hydride (189 mg, 4.73 mmol) were added to urea **S2u** (626 mg, 1.89 mmol) in DMF (4.70 mL). The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (316 mg, 0.92 mmol, 49%). **S3u**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.30 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7, *ArH*), 7.08 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7, *ArH*), 4.72 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.1, 5.1, *NCHCH*₂), 3.69 (3H, s, *OCH*₃), 3.19 (3H, s, *NCH*₃), 2.55-2.33 (2H, m, *CH*₂*CH*₂*S*), 2.51 (3H, s, *NCH*₃), 2.29-2.13 (1H, m, *CHCH*_A*H*_B*CH*₂), 2.10 (3H, s, *SCH*₃), 2.02-1.82 (1H, m, *CHCH*_A*H*_B*CH*₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 172.2 (*C=O*), 162.1 (*C=O*), 145.1 (*ArCN*), 130.5 (*ArCCl*), 129.7 (2x*Ar*), 126.0 (2x*Ar*), 58.4 (*NCH*), 52.2 (*OCH*₃), 40.2 (*NCH*₃), 33.5 (*NCH*₃), 31.1 (*CH*₂), 28.7 (*CH*₂), 15.5 (*SCH*₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2950, 2916 (*C-H*), 1740 (*C=O* ester), 1647 (*C=O* urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₂₁N₂O₃³⁵ClNa [M+Na]⁺ 367.0854, found 367.0867.

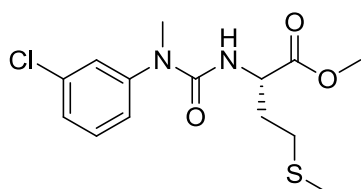


(S)-2-[[[(4-Chlorophenyl)(methyl) carbamoyl](methyl)amino]-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoic acid (6u)

Following general procedure 10, urea **S3u** (316 mg, 0.92 mmol) was dissolved in 2:1 THF:H₂O (27.50 mL) and LiOH (1.10 g, 45.82 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for twenty hours at 45 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (220 mg, 0.66 mmol, 72%). **6u**: [*α*]_D²⁵ = -99.4 (*c* = 1.3 in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 10.84 (1H, br. s, *COOH*), 7.33 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7, *ArH*), 7.10 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7, *ArH*), 4.63 (1H, dd, *J* = 9.4, 5.2, *NCHCH*₂), 3.25 (3H, s, *NCH*₃), 2.55-2.29 (2H, m, *CH*₂*CH*₂*S*), 2.43 (3H, s, *NCH*₃), 2.29-2.14 (1H, m, *CHCH*_A*H*_B*CH*₂), 2.09 (3H, s, *SCH*₃), 2.00-1.83 (1H, m, *CHCH*_A*H*_B*CH*₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz,

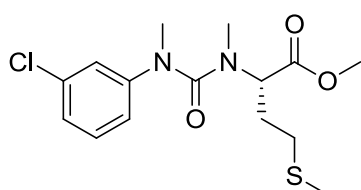
CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.7 (C=O), 163.9 (C=O), 144.0 (ArCN), 131.5 (ArCCl), 130.0 (2xAr), 126.4 (2xAr), 58.5 (NCH), 40.1 (NCH₃), 34.1 (NCH₃), 30.7 (CH₂), 27.5 (CH₂), 15.3 (SCH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{\max} = 2969 (OH broad), 2914 (C-H), 1733 (C=O acid), 1589 (C=O urea); **HRMS (ESI⁺)**: m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₉N₂O₃³⁵ClSNa [M+Na]⁺ 353.0697, found 353.0698.

Synthesis of 6vMet:



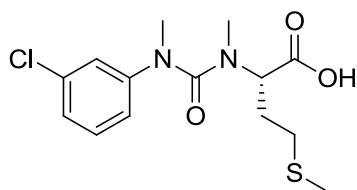
(S)-Methyl 2-[(3-chlorophenyl)(methyl) carbamoyl]amino-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoate (**S2v**)

Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-(3-chlorophenyl)-*N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride (500 mg, 2.45 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-methionine methyl ester hydrochloride (734 mg, 3.68 mmol, 1.5 eq) and Et₃N (0.85 mL, 6.13 mmol, 2.5 eq) in DCE (8.00 mL). The reaction was complete after twenty hours at 65 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (614 mg, 1.81 mmol, 76%). **S2v**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.45-7.13 (4H, m, ArH), 5.12 (1H, br. d, J = 7.9, NHCH), 4.83 (1H, ddd, J = 12.6, 7.8, 4.8, NHCHCH₂), 3.73 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.26 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.45 (2H, dt, J = 1.3, 6.5, CH₂CH₂S), 2.15-1.98 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂), 2.04 (3H, s, SCH₃), 1.87 (1H, ddt, J = 14.3, 7.4, 7.4, CHCH_AH_BCH₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.4 (C=O), 156.5 (C=O), 144.4 (ArCN), 135.5 (ArCCl), 131.1 (Ar), 127.8 (Ar), 127.6 (Ar), 125.5 (Ar), 53.3 (NCH), 52.6 (OCH₃), 37.4 (NCH₃), 31.7 (CH₂), 30.3 (CH₂), 15.6 (SCH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{\max} = 3329 (NH), 2950, 2916 (C-H), 1739 (C=O ester), 1659 (C=O urea); **HRMS (ESI⁺)**: m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₉N₂O₃³⁵ClSNa [M+Na]⁺ 353.0697, found 353.0710.



(S)-Methyl 2-[(3-chlorophenyl)(methyl) carbamoyl](methylamino)-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoate (**S3v**)

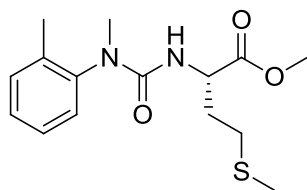
Following general procedure **7**, methyl iodide (0.31 mL, 5.03 mmol) and sodium hydride (168 mg, 4.19 mmol) were added to urea **S2v** (555 mg, 1.67 mmol) in DMF (4.20 mL). The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (150 mg, 0.43 mmol, 26%). **S3v**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.37-7.21 (1H, m, ArH), 7.18-6.99 (3H, m, ArH), 4.76 (1H, dd, J = 10.1, 5.1, NCHCH₂), 3.72 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.21 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.54-2.41 (2H, m, CH₂CH₂S), 2.52 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.34-2.15 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂), 2.12 (3H, s, SCH₃), 2.04-1.86 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 172.1 (C=O), 161.8 (C=O), 147.7 (ArCN), 135.0 (ArCCl), 130.6 (Ar), 125.0 (Ar), 124.5 (Ar), 122.4 (Ar), 58.4 (NCH), 52.3 (OCH₃), 39.9 (NCH₃), 33.5 (NCH₃), 31.1 (CH₂), 28.6 (CH₂), 15.5 (SCH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{\max} = 2950, 2917 (C-H), 1740 (C=O ester), 1649 (C=O urea); **HRMS (ESI⁺)**: m/z calcd for C₁₅H₂₁N₂O₃³⁵ClSNa [M+Na]⁺ 367.0854, found 367.0868.



(S)-2-[[[(3-Chlorophenyl)(methyl) carbamoyl](methyl)amino]-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoic acid (6v)

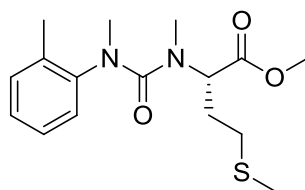
Following general procedure **10**, urea **S3v** (150 mg, 0.43 mmol) was dissolved in 2:1 THF:H₂O (13.00 mL) and LiOH (520 mg, 21.70 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for twenty hours at 45 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (80 mg, 0.24 mmol, 56%). **6v**: $[\alpha]_D^{21} = -101.3$ ($c = 1.2$ in CHCl₃); **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_H = 10.72$ (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.37-7.24 (1H, m, ArH), 7.21-7.11 (2H, m, ArH), 7.11-6.99 (1H, m, ArH), 4.67 (1H, dd, $J = 9.9, 5.4$, NCHCH₂), 3.28 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.58-2.35 (2H, m, CH₂CH₂S), 2.46 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.32-2.15 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂), 2.12 (3H, s, SCH₃), 2.05-1.84 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_C = 173.9$ (C=O), 163.6 (C=O), 146.6 (ArCN), 135.2 (ArCCL), 130.8 (Ar), 125.9 (Ar), 125.0 (Ar), 122.8 (Ar), 58.5 (NCH), 39.9 (NCH₃), 34.0 (NCH₃), 30.7 (CH₂), 27.6 (CH₂), 15.4 (SCH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: $\nu_{max} = 2971$ (OH broad), 2940, 2912 (C-H), 1734 (C=O acid), 1589 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₉N₂O₃³⁵ClSNa [M+Na]⁺ 353.0697, found 353.0685.

Synthesis of 6wMet:



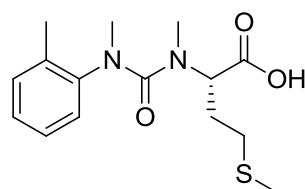
(S)-Methyl 2-[[methyl(2-methylphenyl)carbamoyl]amino]-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoate (S2w)

Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-methyl-*N*-(2-methylphenyl)carbamoyl chloride (500 mg, 2.72 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-methionine methyl ester hydrochloride (815 mg, 4.08 mmol, 1.5 eq) and Et₃N (0.95 mL, 6.81 mmol, 2.5 eq) in DCE (8.80 mL). The reaction was complete after twenty hours at 65 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (646 mg, 2.08 mmol, 77%). **S2w**: **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (1:1 rotamers): $\delta_H = 7.36$ -7.09 (4H, m, ArH), 4.82-4.69 (1H, m, NHCH), 4.65-4.53 (1H, m, NHCHCH₂), 3.69 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.18 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.42 (2H, br. t, $J = 7.9$, CH₂CH₂S), 2.31 (1.5H, s, ArCH₃), 2.25 (1.5H, s, ArCH₃), 2.00 (1.5H, s, SCH₃), 2.12-1.93 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂), 1.99 (1.5H, s, SCH₃), 1.87 (1H, ddt, $J = 14.4, 7.5, 7.5$, CHCH_AH_BCH₂); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_C = 173.5$ (C=O_{rot1}), 172.3 (C=O_{rot2}), 156.9 (C=O_{rot1}), 156.8 (C=O_{rot2}), 141.0 (ArCN), 132.0 (ArCMe_{rot1}), 131.8 (ArCMe_{rot2}), 128.8 (3xAr_{rot2}), 128.7 (3xAr_{rot1}), 128.1 (Ar_{rot1}), 127.9 (Ar_{rot2}), 53.0 (NCH), 52.4 (OCH₃), 36.1 (NCH₃), 32.2 (CH_{2rot1}), 31.7 (CH_{2rot2}), 30.3 (CH₂), 17.5 (PhCH_{3rot1}), 17.4 (PhCH_{3rot2}), 15.5 (SCH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: $\nu_{max} = 3334$ (NH), 2950, 2916 (C-H), 1739 (C=O ester), 1661 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₅H₂₂N₂O₃SSNa [M+Na]⁺ 333.1243, found 333.1241.



(S)-Methyl 2-{methyl[methyl(2-methylphenyl)carbamoyl]amino}-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoate (S3w)

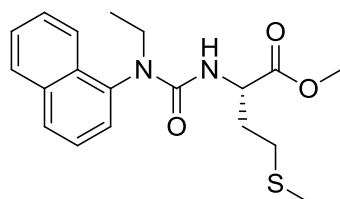
Following general procedure **7**, methyl iodide (0.34 mL, 6.24 mmol) and sodium hydride (208 mg, 5.20 mmol) were added to urea **S2w** (646 mg, 2.08 mmol) in DMF (5.20 mL). The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (190 mg, 0.59 mmol, 28%). **S3w**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.28-7.12 (3H, m, ArH), 7.08-7.00 (1H, m, ArH), 4.70 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.3, 5.0, NCHCH₂), 3.65 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.05 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.47-2.24 (2H, m, CH₂CH₂S), 2.38 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.31 (3H, s, ArCH₃), 2.23-2.08 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂), 2.03 (3H, s, SCH₃), 1.93-1.77 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 172.4 (C=O), 163.1 (C=O), 144.9 (ArCN), 134.7 (ArCMe), 131.7 (Ar), 127.3 (Ar), 127.1 (Ar), 126.9 (Ar), 58.5 (NCH), 52.1 (OCH₃), 39.2 (NCH₃), 32.6 (NCH₃), 31.0 (CH₂), 28.9 (CH₂), 17.9 (ArCH₃), 15.5 (SCH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2950, 2917 (C-H), 1741 (C=O ester), 1645 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₂₄N₂O₃SNa [M+Na]⁺ 347.1400, found 347.1392.



(S)-2-{Methyl[methyl(2-methylphenyl)carbamoyl]amino}-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoic acid (6w)

Following general procedure **10**, urea **S3w** (190 mg, 0.59 mmol) was dissolved in 2:1 THF:H₂O (16.60 mL) and LiOH (701 mg, 29.28 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for twenty hours at 45 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (145 mg, 0.47 mmol, 79%). **6w**: [α]_D²⁵ = -14.0 (*c* = 1.4 in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 10.90 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.31-7.17 (3H, m, ArH), 7.11-6.99 (1H, m, ArH), 4.60 (1H, dd, *J* = 9.0, 6.0, NCHCH₂), 3.14 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.45-2.08 (3H, m, CH₂CH₂S and CHCH_AH_BCH₂), 2.28 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.27 (3H, s, ArCH₃), 2.07 (3H, s, SCH₃), 1.92-1.74 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 172.9 (C=O), 165.5 (C=O), 143.4 (ArCN), 134.4 (ArCMe), 131.9 (Ar), 127.7 (Ar), 127.5 (Ar), 127.2 (Ar), 58.6 (NCH), 39.1 (NCH₃), 33.1 (NCH₃), 30.4 (CH₂), 27.2 (CH₂), 17.9 (ArCH₃), 15.3 (SCH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2969 (OH broad), 2913 (C-H), 1734 (C=O acid), 1594 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₂₂N₂O₃SNa [M+Na]⁺ 333.1243, found 333.1246.

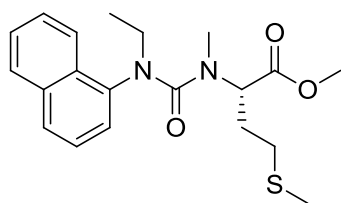
Synthesis of 6xMet:



(S)-Methyl 2-{ethyl[(naphthalen-1-yl)carbamoyl]amino}-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoate (S2x)

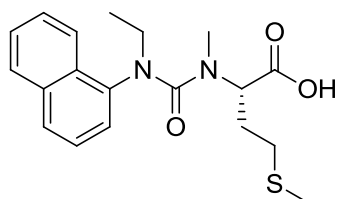
Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-ethyl-*N*-(naphthalen-1-yl)carbamoyl chloride (700 mg, 3.00 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of L-methionine methyl ester hydrochloride (718 mg, 3.59 mmol, 1.5 eq) and Et₃N (1.04 mL, 7.49 mmol, 2.5 eq) in DCE

(10.00 mL). The reaction was complete after twenty hours at 65 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (846 mg, 2.44 mmol, 82%). **S2x**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (1:0.8 rotamers): δ_H = 7.99-7.78 (3H, m, NaphtH), 7.68-7.34 (4H, m, NaphtH), 4.77 (0.42H, br. d, *J* = 8.2, NHCH), 4.67-4.50 (1H, m, NHCHCH₂), 4.66 (0.58H, br. d, *J* = 8.0, NHCH), 4.14 (1H, dq, *J* = 20.8, 7.1, CH_AH_BCH₃), 3.67 (1.6H, s, OCH₃), 3.59 (1.4H, s, OCH₃), 3.52 (1H, m, CH_AH_BCH₃), 2.44-1.56 (4H, m, CHCH₂CH₂ and CH₂CH₂S), 1.92 (1.3H, s, SCH₃), 1.78 (1.7H, s, SCH₃), 1.13 (3H, t, *J* = 7.0, CH₂CH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.5 (C=O_{maj}), 173.1 (C=O_{min}), 157.0 (C=O_{min}), 156.9 (C=O_{maj}), 137.1 (NaphtCN_{maj}), 137.1 (NaphtCN_{min}), 135.2 (NaphtC_{min}), 135.2 (NaphtC_{maj}), 131.2 (NaphtC_{maj/min}), 129.1 (Napht_{maj/min}), 128.8 (Napht_{maj}), 128.6 (Napht_{min}), 127.6 (Napht_{maj}), 127.5 (Napht_{min}), 127.3 (Napht_{min}), 127.3 (Napht_{maj}), 127.0 (Napht_{min}), 126.9 (Napht_{maj}), 126.2 (Napht_{maj}), 125.9 (Napht_{min}), 123.3 (Napht_{min}), 123.0 (Napht_{maj}), 53.2 (NCH_{min}), 52.8 (NCH_{maj}), 52.4 (OCH_{3maj}), 52.2 (OCH_{3min}), 44.2 (NCH_{2min}), 44.2 (NCH_{2maj}), 31.7 (CH_{2maj}), 31.5 (CH_{2min}), 30.3 (CH_{2min}), 30.0 (CH_{2maj}), 15.5 (SCH_{3min}), 15.3 (SCH_{3maj}), 14.3 (CH_{3maj}), 14.2 (CH_{3min}); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3355 (NH), 2951 (C-H), 1740 (C=O ester), 1655 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₉H₂₄N₂O₃SNa [M+Na]⁺ 383.1400, found 383.1396.



(S)-Methyl 2-[(ethyl(naphtalen-1-yl)carbamoyl](methylamino)-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoate (S3x)

Following general procedure 7, methyl iodide (0.39 mL, 6.30 mmol) and sodium hydride (210 mg, 5.25 mmol) were added to urea **S2x** (758 mg, 2.10 mmol) in DMF (5.25 mL). The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (630 mg, 1.68 mmol, 80%). **S3x**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 8.01 (1H, br. d, *J* = 7.8, NaphtH), 7.87 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.0, 1.6, NaphtH), 7.75 (1H, d, *J* = 18.2, NaphtH), 7.58-7.46 (2H, m, NaphtH), 7.41 (1H, t, *J* = 7.9, NaphtH), 7.23 (1H, br. d, *J* = 7.8, NaphtH), 3.69 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.5, 4.8, NCHCH₂), 3.84-3.85 (2H, m, NCH₂CH₃), 3.63 (3H, s, OCH₃), 2.39-1.91 (3H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂ and CH₂CH₂S), 2.25 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.00 (3H, s, SCH₃), 1.82-1.65 (1H, m, CHCH_AH_BCH₂), 1.15 (3H, t, *J* = 7.0, CH₂CH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 172.3 (C=O), 162.9 (C=O), 140.4 (NaphtCN), 134.9 (NaphtC), 130.0 (NaphtC), 128.7 (Napht), 127.2 (Napht), 126.9 (Napht), 126.4 (Napht), 125.5 (Napht), 125.3 (Napht), 123.0 (Napht), 58.4 (NCH), 51.9 (OCH₃), 46.9 (NCH₂), 33.0 (NCH₃), 30.9 (CH₂), 28.6 (CH₂), 15.5 (SCH₃), 13.3 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2949, 2916 (C-H), 1740 (C=O ester), 1641 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₂₀H₂₆N₂O₃SNa [M+Na]⁺ 397.1556, found 397.1561.

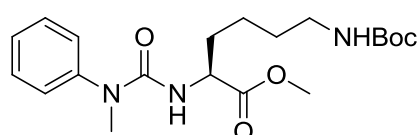


(S)-2-[(Ethyl(naphtalen-1-yl)carbamoyl](methylamino)-4-(methylsulfanyl)butanoic acid (6x)

Following general procedure 10, urea **S3x** (450 mg, 1.20 mmol) was dissolved in 2:1 THF/H₂O (36.00 mL) and LiOH (1.44 g, 60.08 mmol)

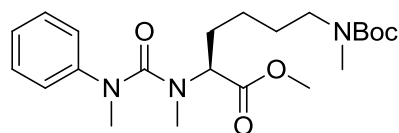
was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for twenty hours at 45 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (368 mg, 1.03 mmol, 86%). **6x**: $[\alpha]_D^{21} = -24.3$ ($c = 1.3$ in CHCl₃); **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_H = 10.73$ (1H, br. s, COOH), 8.07-7.71 (3H, m, NaphtH), 7.67-7.05 (4H, m, NaphtH), 4.65 (1H, br. s, NCHCH₂), 3.93 (1H, br. s, NCH_AH_BCH₃), 3.48 (1H, br. s, NCH_AH_BCH₃), 2.46-1.63 (7H, m, CHCH₂CH₂S, CH₂CH₂S and CH₃), 2.13 (3H, s, CH₃), 1.18 (3H, t, $J = 7.0$, CH₂CH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_C = 173.0$ (C=O), 165.4 (C=O), 138.8 (NaphtCN), 134.9 (NaphtC), 129.7 (NaphtC), 129.0 (Napht), 128.2 (Napht), 127.5 (Napht), 126.7 (Napht), 125.7 (Napht), 125.6 (Napht), 122.5 (Napht), 58.3 (NCH), 46.8 (NCH₂), 33.2 (NCH₃), 30.3 (CH₂), 27.0 (CH₂), 15.3 (SCH₃), 13.2 (CH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: $\nu_{max} = 3047$ (OH broad), 2968, 2916 (C-H), 1735 (C=O acid), 1591 (C=O urea); **HRMS (ESI⁺)**: m/z calcd for C₁₉H₂₄N₂O₃SNa [M+Na]⁺ 383.1400; found 383.1414.

Synthesis of 6yLys:



(S)-Methyl 6-[[[(tert-butoxy)carbonyl]amino]-2-[[methyl(phenyl) carbamoyl]amino]hexanoate (S2y)

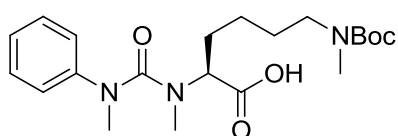
Following general procedure **6b**, *N*-Boc-L-lysine methyl ester hydrochloride (378 mg, 1.27 mmol) was added to a pre-stirred solution of *N*-methyl-*N*-phenyl carbamoyl chloride (215 mg, 1.27 mmol) in DCE (10.00 mL). To this solution was added Et₃N (0.51 mL, 3.81 mmol, 3.0 eq) and DMAP (catalytic amount). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (465 mg, 1.18 mmol, 93%). **S2y**: **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_H = 7.32$ -7.27 (2H, m, PhH), 7.18-7.13 (3H, m, PhH), 4.92 (1H, m, CH₂NH), 4.71 (1H, d, $J = 8.1$, NHCH), 4.33 (1H, dt, $J = 5.1, 8.1$, NHCH), 3.53 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.11 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.93-2.87 (2H, m, CH₂), 1.66-1.55 (1H, m, CH_AH_B), 1.43-1.21 (3H, m, CH_AH_B and CH₂), 1.27 (9H, s, C(CH₃)₃), 1.11 (2H, m, CH₂); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_C = 173.6$ (C=O), 156.2 (C=O), 155.9 (C=O), 142.8 (ArCN), 129.9 (2xAr), 127.3 (Ar), 127.0 (2xAr), 78.5 (OC(CH₃)₃), 53.1 (OCH₃), 51.9 (NCH), 37.0 (NCH₂), 32.1 (NCH₃), 31.4 (CH₂), 29.2 (CH₂), 28.2 (OC(CH₃)₃), 22.4 (CH₂); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: $\nu_{max} = 3338$ (NH), 2933 (C-H), 1739 (C=O ester), 1697 (C=O Boc), 1655 (C=O urea); **HRMS (ESI⁺)**: m/z calcd for C₂₀H₃₂O₅N₃ [M+H]⁺ 394.2336, found 394.2340.



(S)-Methyl 6-[[[(tert-butoxy)carbonyl](methyl)amino]-2-methyl [methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino]hexanoate (S3y)

Following a similar method to general procedure **7**, sodium hydride (188 mg, 4.72 mmol, 4.0 eq) was added to urea **S2y** (465 mg, 1.18 mmol) in DMF (10.00 mL). After fifteen minutes methyl iodide (0.43 mL, 7.08 mmol, 6.0 eq) was added. The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. The reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate and quenched by addition of ice water. The aqueous layer was extracted twice with ethyl acetate and the organic layer washed with brine. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title

compound as an oil (438 mg, 1.04 mmol, 88%). **S3y**: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{H} = 7.28-7.23 (2H, m, PhH), 7.04-7.01 (3H, m, PhH), 4.55 (dd, 1H, J = 10.4, 5.3, CHCH_2), 3.57 (3H, s, OCH_3), 3.12 (3H, s, NCH_3), 3.12 (2H, m, CH_2), 2.74 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.38 (3H, s, NCH_3), 1.84-1.75 (1H, m, CH_AH_B), 1.59-1.39 (3H, m, CH_AH_B and CH_2), 1.35 (s, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$), 1.19-1.14 (2H, m, CH_2); ^{13}C $\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{C} = 172.4 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 162.2 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 155.6 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 146.3 (ArCN), 129.3 (2xAr), 124.8 (Ar), 124.5 (2xAr), 79.0 ($\text{OC}(\text{CH}_3)_3$), 58.8 (OCH_3), 51.7 (NCH), 40.0 (NCH_2), 39.9 (NCH_3), 32.6 (NCH_3), 31.4 (NCH_3), 28.7 (CH_2), 28.3 ($\text{OC}(\text{CH}_3)_3$), 23.5 (CH_2), 22.5 (CH_2); IR (film, cm^{-1}): ν_{max} = 2932 (C-H), 1741 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$ ester), 1688 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$ Boc), 1644 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$ urea); HRMS (ESI^+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{36}\text{O}_5\text{N}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 422.2649, found 422.2645.

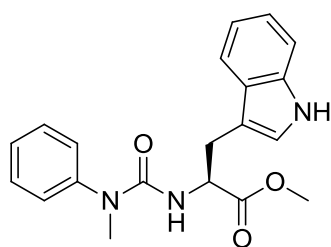


(S)-6-([(tert-Butoxy)carbonyl](methylamino)-2-

{methyl[methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino}hexanoic acid (6y)

Following a similar method to general procedure **10**, urea **S3y** (160 mg, 0.38 mmol) was dissolved in 2:1 THF:H₂O (15.00 mL) and LiOH (455 mg, 19.00 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for twenty hours at 45 °C. The reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate and 5% KHSO₄ was added. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer extracted twice with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO_2 , 1:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (139 mg, 0.34 mmol, 90%). **6y**: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20}$ = -20.4 (c = 1.8 in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_3OD): δ_{H} = 7.48-7.32 (2H, m, PhH), 7.27-7.11 (3H, m, PhH), 4.68-4.46 (1H, m, NCHCH_2), 3.44-3.13 (2H, m, CH_2), 3.19 (3H, s, NCH_3), 3.12 (2H, m, CH_2), 2.50 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.43 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.08-1.09 (6H, m, $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$), 1.46 (s, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$); ^{13}C $\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, CD_3OD): δ_{C} = 173.4 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 164.4 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 157.5 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 147.5 (ArCN), 130.7 (2xAr), 126.4 (Ar), 125.8 (2xAr), 74.1 ($\text{OC}(\text{CH}_3)_3$), 60.3 (NCH), 43.8 (NCH_2), 40.5 (NCH_3), 34.4 (NCH_3), 33.6 (CH_2), 29.8 (CH_2), 28.8 ($\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$), 24.8 (CH_2); IR (film, cm^{-1}): ν_{max} = 2942 (OH broad), 2923 (C-H), 1736 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$ acid), 1689 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$ Boc), 1645 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$ urea); HRMS (ESI^+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 408.2491, found 408.2493.

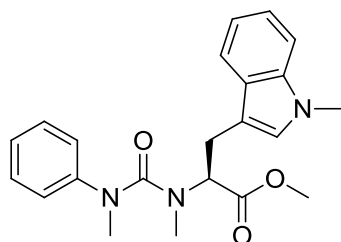
Synthesis of 6zTrp:



(S)-Methyl 3-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-([methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino)propanoate (S2z)

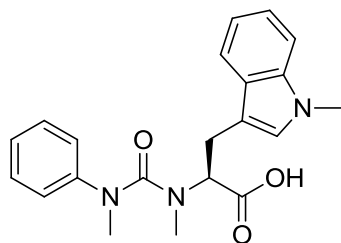
Following general procedure **6b**, L-tryptophane methyl ester hydrochloride (350 mg, 1.37 mmol) was added to a pre-stirred solution of *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylcarbamoyl chloride (233 mg, 1.37 mmol) in DCE (2.74 mL). To this solution was added Et₃N (0.25 mL, 1.78 mmol, 1.3 eq) and DMAP (catalytic amount). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO_2 , 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (438 mg, 1.25 mmol, 91%). **S2z**: ^1H NMR (300

MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{H} = 9.06 (1H, br. s, NH), 7.43 (1H, d, J = 7.9, ArH), 7.34 (1H, d, J = 8.1, ArH), 7.27-7.15 (4H, m, ArH), 7.08-7.03 (3H, m, ArH), 6.73 (1H, br. s, ArH), 4.96 (1H, d, J = 7.5, NHCH), 4.83 (1H, m, NHCHCH₂), 3.66 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.32-3.16 (2H, m, CHCH₂), 3.25 (3H, s, NCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{C} = 173.5 (C=O), 156.8 (C=O), 142.6 (ArC), 136.3 (ArC), 129.8 (2xAr), 127.4 (ArC), 127.3 (Ar), 126.9 (2xAr), 122.9 (ArC), 121.8 (Ar), 119.4 (Ar), 118.3 (Ar), 111.4 (Ar), 109.4 (Ar), 54.5 (OCH₃), 52.2 (NCH), 37.1 (NCH₃), 27.6 (CH₂); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3271 (NH), 3007 (C-H), 1738 (C=O ester), 1644 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₂₀H₂₂N₃O₃ [M+H]⁺ 352.1661, found 352.1650.



(S)-Methyl 3-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-{methyl[methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino}propanoate (S3z)

Following a similar method to general procedure 7, sodium hydride (190 mg, 4.80 mmol, 4.0 eq) was added to urea S2z (420 mg, 1.20 mmol) in DMF (10.00 mL). After fifteen minutes methyl iodide (0.44 mL, 7.20 mmol, 6.0 eq) was added. The reaction was complete after one hour at 0 °C. The reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate and quenched by addition of ice water. The aqueous layer was extracted twice with ethyl acetate and the organic layer washed with brine. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (328 mg, 0.86 mmol, 72%). S3z: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{H} = 7.63 (1H, d, J = 7.7, ArH), 7.36-7.25 (2H, m, ArH), 7.17-7.12 (1H, m, ArH), 6.97-6.95 (3H, m, ArH), 6.91 (1H, s, ArH), 6.64-6.60 (2H, m, ArH), 5.17 (1H, dd, J = 10.8, 5.4, CHCH₂), 3.75 (6H, s, NCH₃ and OCH₃), 3.45 (1H, dd, J = 15.1, 5.3, CHCH_AH_B), 3.17 (1H, dd, J = 15.1, 10.9, CHCH_AH_B), 3.10 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.51 (3H, s, NCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{C} = 172.3 (C=O), 161.8 (C=O), 146.0 (ArC), 137.0 (ArC), 129.0 (2xAr), 127.7 (ArC), 127.3 (2xAr), 124.2 (Ar), 123.7 (ArC), 121.7 (Ar), 119.1 (Ar), 118.8 (Ar), 110.0 (Ar), 109.2 (Ar), 59.9 (OCH₃), 52.0 (NCH), 39.6 (NCH₃), 33.5 (NCH₃), 32.7 (NCH₃), 25.1 (CH₂); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2949 (C-H), 1740 (C=O ester), 1639 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₂₂H₂₅N₂O₃Na [M+Na]⁺ 402.1777, found 402.1789.

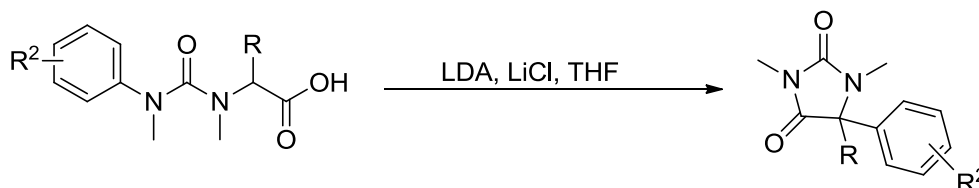


(S)-3-(1-Methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-{methyl[methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl] amino}propanoic acid (6z)

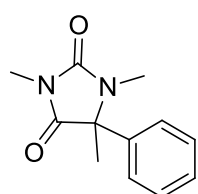
Following general procedure 10, urea S3z (239 mg, 0.63 mmol) was dissolved in 2:1 THF:H₂O (15.00 mL) and LiOH (754 mg, 31.50 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for twenty hours at 45 °C. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (182 mg, 0.50 mmol, 79%). 6z: [α]_D²⁰ = -128.0 (c = 0.6 in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{H} = 11.3 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.6 (1H, d, J = 7.9, ArH), 7.40 (1H, d, J = 8.1, ArH), 7.30 (1H, t, J = 7.3, ArH), 7.16 (1H, t, J = 7.17, ArH), 7.00-6.88 (4H, m, ArH), 6.49 (2H, d, J = 7.4, ArH), 5.03 (1H, dd, J = 11.0, 5.4, NCHCH₂), 3.80 (3H, s, NCH₃),

3.46-3.39 (1H, dd, $J = 15.4, 5.3$, CHCH_ACH_B), 3.30-3.25 (1H, m, CHCH_ACH_B), 3.20 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.42 (3H, s, NCH_3); ^{13}C { ^1H } NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta_{\text{C}} = 174.1$ (C=O), 163.5 (C=O), 144.7 (ArC), 137.0 (ArC), 129.1 (2xAr), 127.6 (ArC), 127.6 (Ar), 125.0 (ArC), 124.1 (2xAr), 121.9 (Ar), 119.3 (Ar), 118.7 (Ar), 109.6 (Ar), 109.3 (Ar), 60.8 (NCH), 39.7 (NCH_3), 34.3 (NCH_3), 32.7 (NCH_3), 24.3 (CH_2); IR (film, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2929$ (C-H), 1733 (C=O acid), 1592 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI $^{+}$): m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^{+}$ 388.1624, found 388.1632.

Synthesis of hydantoins:



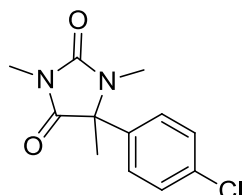
Synthesis of 5aAla:



1,3,5-Trimethyl-5-phenylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (5a)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (276 mg, 6.52 mmol) and THF (17.00 mL) were added to urea acid **6a** (513 mg, 2.17 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.91 mL, 6.52 mmol), THF (5.00 mL) and $n\text{BuLi}$ (2.61 mL, 6.52 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned yellow. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO_2 , 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow solid (422 mg, 1.93 mmol, 89%). **5a**: mp 81-83 °C; R_f (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.44; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta_{\text{H}} = 7.42$ -7.32 (3H, m, PhH), 7.29-7.26 (2H, m, PhH), 3.06 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.84 (3H, s, NCH_3), 1.81 (3H, s, CCH_3); ^{13}C { ^1H } NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta_{\text{C}} = 175.0$ (C=O), 156.3 (C=O), 136.3 (ArC), 129.1 (2xAr), 128.7 (Ar), 125.9 (2xAr), 66.7 (CCH_3), 25.3 (NCH_3), 25.1 (NCH_3), 20.2 (CCH_3); IR (film, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2939$ (C-H), 1770 (C=O amide), 1704 (C=O urea); HRMS (ESI $^{+}$): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2\text{N}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^{+}$ 241.0948, found 241.0948.

Synthesis of 5bAla:

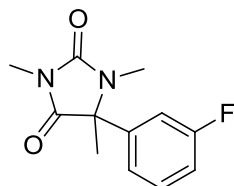


5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1,3,5-trimethylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (5b)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (63 mg, 1.50 mmol) and THF (2.5 mL) were added to urea acid **6b** (135 mg, 0.50 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.21 mL, 1.50 mmol), THF (2.5 mL) and $n\text{BuLi}$ (0.60 mL, 1.50 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned yellow before becoming brown upon warming to room temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO_2 , 7:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow solid (98 mg, 0.39 mmol, 78%). **5b**: mp 96-101 °C; R_f (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.51; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta_{\text{H}} = 7.36$ -7.34 (2H, m, ArH), 7.22-7.19 (2H, m, ArH), 3.03 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.82 (3H, s, NCH_3), 1.77 (3H, s, CCH_3); ^{13}C { ^1H } NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta_{\text{C}} = 174.4$ (C=O), 156.1 (C=O), 134.9 (ArC), 134.8 (ArCCl), 129.2 (2xAr), 127.3

(2xAr), 66.2 (CCH₃), 25.3 (NCH₃), 25.1 (NCH₃), 20.3 (CCH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3061, 2939 (C-H), 1770 (C=O amide), 1704 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₂H₁₃O₂N₂³⁵ClNa [M+Na]⁺ 275.0558, found 275.0558.

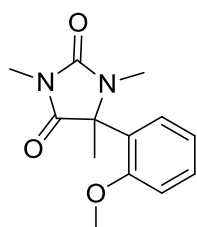
Synthesis of 5cAla:



5-(3-Fluorophenyl)-1,3,5-trimethylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (5c)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (44 mg, 1.04 mmol) and THF (1.75 mL) were added to urea acid **6c** (86 mg, 0.35 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.15 mL, 1.04 mmol), THF (1.75 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.52 mL, 1.04 mmol, 2.0 M in hexanes). Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned yellow before becoming brown upon warming to room temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a yellow oil (56 mg, 0.24 mmol, 70%). **5c**: **R_f** (2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.34; **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.46-7.28 (1H, m, ArH), 7.13-6.87 (3H, m, ArH), 3.04 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.84 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.78 (3H, s, CCH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.5 (C=O), 163.3 (d, ¹J_{C-F} = 247.4, ArCF), 156.3 (C=O), 139.1 (d, ³J_{C-F} = 6.8, ArCC), 130.8 (d, ³J_{C-F} = 8.2, Ar), 121.7 (d, ⁴J_{C-F} = 2.9, Ar), 115.9 (d, ²J_{C-F} = 21.0, Ar), 113.5 (d, ²J_{C-F} = 23.1, Ar), 65.5 (d, ⁴J_{C-F} = 1.7, NCC=O), 25.5 (NCH₃), 25.3 (NCH₃), 20.4 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3072, 2939 (C-H), 1770 (C=O amide), 1706 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₂H₁₄O₂N₂F [M+H]⁺ 237.1034, found 237.1029.

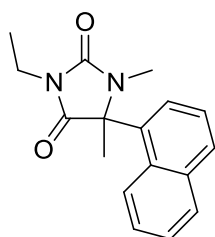
Synthesis of 5dAla:



5-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-1,3,5-trimethylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (5d)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (50 mg, 1.17 mmol) and THF (2.00 mL) were added to urea acid **6d** (104 mg, 0.39 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.16 mL, 1.17 mmol), THF (2.00 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.58 mL, 1.17 mmol, 2.0 M in hexanes). Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned yellow before becoming brown upon warming to room temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a white solid (73 mg, 0.29 mmol, 75%). **5d**: **mp** 136-137 °C; **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.40; **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.42-7.31 (2H, m, ArH), 7.05-6.99 (1H, m, ArH), 6.90-6.87 (1H, m, ArH), 3.73 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.13 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.59 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.76 (3H, s, CCH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 176.6 (C=O), 157.4 (C=O), 156.5 (ArCOMe) 130.5 (Ar), 128.6 (Ar), 123.6 (ArC), 120.7 (Ar), 111.3 (Ar), 64.2 (CCH₃), 55.9 (OCH₃), 24.8 (2xNCH₃), 20.5 (CCH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3074, 2941 (C-H), 1768 (C=O amide), 1701 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₃H₁₇O₃N₂ [M+H]⁺ 249.1234, found 249.1237.

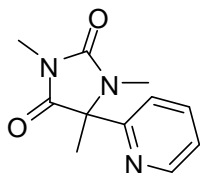
Synthesis of 5gAla:



3-Ethyl-1,5-dimethyl-5-(naphthalen-1-yl)imidazolidine-2,4-dione (5g)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (64 mg, 1.50 mmol) and THF (7.50 mL) were added to urea acid **6g** (150 mg, 0.50 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.21 mL, 1.50 mmol), THF (2.50 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.60 mL, 1.50 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned yellow before becoming orange upon warming to room temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a white solid (129 mg, 0.46 mmol, 91%). **5g**: mp 119-123 °C; **R_f** (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.49; **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.89-7.86 (2H, m, NaphtH), 7.67-7.65 (1H, m, NaphtH), 7.50-7.43 (4H, m, NaphtH), 3.79 (2H, q, *J* = 7.2, CH₂CH₃), 2.61 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.96 (3H, s, CCH₃), 1.38 (3H, t, *J* = 7.2, CH₂CH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 175.5 (C=O), 155.4 (C=O), 134.3 (NaphtC), 131.0 (NaphtC), 130.7 (Napht), 130.0 (NaphtC), 129.5 (Napht), 127.8 (Napht), 127.0 (Napht), 125.8 (Napht), 124.7 (Napht), 122.5 (Napht), 66.5 (CCH₃), 34.1 (CH₂CH₃), 24.9 (NCH₃), 23.4 (CCH₃), 13.2 (CH₂CH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 3053, 2977, 2938, 2878 (C-H), 1765 (C=O amide), 1702 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₁₉O₂N₂ [M+H]⁺ 283.1452, found 283.1444.

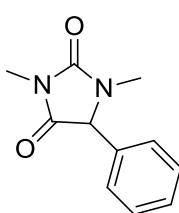
Synthesis of 5hAla:



1,3,5-Trimethyl-5-(pyridin-2-yl)imidazolidin-2,4-dione (5h)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (13 mg, 0.30 mmol) and THF (0.50 mL) were added to urea acid **6h** (27 mg, 0.10 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.04 mL, 0.30 mmol), THF (0.27 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.12 mL, 0.30 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:2 Hexane:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (13 mg, 0.06 mmol, 78%). **5h**: **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 8.56 (1H, dt, *J* = 4.8, 0.8, ArH), 7.67 (1H, td, *J* = 7.8, 1.8, ArH), 7.27 (1H, d, *J* = 8.1, ArH), 7.19 (1H, m, ArH), 3.02 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.74 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.79 (3H, s, CH₃); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.4 (C=O), 156.5 (C=O), 155.4 (ArC), 149.8 (Ar), 137.2 (Ar), 123.4 (Ar), 120.9 (Ar), 68.3 (NCC=O), 25.5 (NCH₃), 25.2 (NCH₃), 19.1 (CH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 2934 (C-H), 1770 (C=O amide), 1704 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₁H₁₄N₃O₂ [M+H]⁺ 220.1074, found 220.1081.

Synthesis of 5iGly:

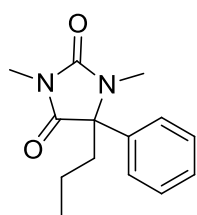


1,3-Dimethyl-5-phenylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (5i)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (67 mg, 1.57 mmol) and THF (4.20 mL) were added to urea acid **6i** (116 mg, 0.52 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.22 mL, 1.57 mmol), THF (1.00 mL) and *n*BuLi (1.30 mL, 1.57 mmol, 1.2 M in hexanes). Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned pale yellow and with warming to room temperature turned orange. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:2

Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (85 mg, 0.42 mmol, 80%). **5i**: R_f (3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.41; $^1\text{H NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{H} = 7.45-7.34 (3H, m, PhH), 7.26-7.23 (2H, m, PhH), 4.79 (1H, s, NCHC=O), 3.06 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.89 (3H, s, NCH_3); $^{13}\text{C } \{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{C} = 171.3 (C=O), 156.9 (C=O), 132.5 (ArC), 129.3 (3xAr), 127.2 (2xAr), 65.9 (NCH), 28.1 (NCH_3), 25.1 (NCH_3); **IR** (film, cm^{-1}): ν_{max} = 2918 (C-H), 1770 (C=O amide), 1702 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI^+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2\text{N}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 227.0791, found 227.0796. Matches literature data.⁴

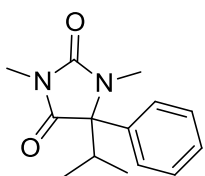
Synthesis of 5jPrg:



1,3-Dimethyl-5-phenyl-5-propylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (5j)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (48 mg, 1.12 mmol) and THF (2.00 mL) were added to urea acid **6j** (99 mg, 0.37 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.16 mL, 1.12 mmol), THF (2.00 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.45 mL, 1.12 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned yellow before becoming brown upon warming to room temperature. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO_2 , 3:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow solid (72 mg, 0.29 mmol, 78%). **5j**: mp 99-101 °C; R_f (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.43; $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{H} = 7.37-7.34 (2H, m, PhH), 7.31-7.28 (1H, m, PhH), 7.26-7.25 (2H, m, PhH), 3.01 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.79 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.47 (1H, ddd, J = 16.0, 11.5, 4.5, $\text{CH}_\text{A}\text{H}_\text{B}\text{CH}_2$), 1.92 (1H, ddd, J = 16.5, 12.0, 4.5, $\text{CH}_\text{A}\text{H}_\text{B}\text{CH}_2$), 1.26-1.09 (2H, m, $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$), 0.99 (H, t, J = 7.0, CH_2CH_3); $^{13}\text{C } \{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{C} = 174.3 (C=O), 156.7 (C=O), 136.3 (ArC), 129.0 (2xAr), 128.5 (Ar), 125.8 (2xAr), 70.2 (CCH_2), 34.7 (CCH_2), 25.4 (NCH_3), 24.9 (NCH_3), 16.7 (CH_2CH_3), 13.8 (CH_2CH_3); **IR** (film, cm^{-1}): ν_{max} = 2959, 2931, 2873 (C-H), 1782 (C=O acid), 1716 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI^+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_2\text{N}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 269.1260, found 269.1267.

Synthesis of 5kVal:



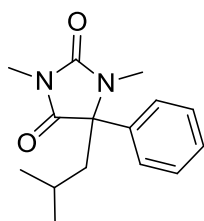
5-Isopropyl-1,3-dimethyl-5-phenylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (5k)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (28 mg, 0.65 mmol) and THF (1.20 mL) were added to urea acid **6k** (57 mg, 0.22 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.09 mL, 0.65 mmol), THF (1.00 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.26 mL, 0.65 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned yellow. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO_2 , 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (28 mg, 0.11 mmol, 53%). **5k**: R_f (3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.55; $^1\text{H NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{H} = 7.44-7.31 (3H, m, PhH), 7.29-7.26 (2H, m, PhH), 3.04 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.97 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.99-2.90 (1H, m, $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$), 1.02 (3H, d, J = 5.4, $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$), 0.99 (3H, d, J = 6.0, $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$); $^{13}\text{C } \{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100

⁴ D. R. Anderson, N. C. Faibish and P. Beak, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1999, **121**, 7553.

MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.3 (C=O), 156.9 (C=O), 135.2 (ArC), 129.1 (2xAr), 128.4 (Ar), 126.7 (2xAr), 73.8 (NCC=O), 32.0 (CH(CH₃)₂), 27.6 (NCH₃), 24.9 (NCH₃), 17.1 (CH(CH₃)₂), 16.7 (CH(CH₃)₂); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 2969 (C-H), 1768 (C=O amide), 1704 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₈O₂N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 269.1261, found 269.1262.

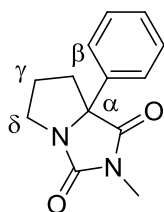
Synthesis of 5ILeu:



5-Isobutyl-1,3-dimethyl-5-phenylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (5I)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (13 mg, 0.30 mmol) and THF (0.50 mL) were added to urea acid **6I** (29 mg, 0.10 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.04 mL, 0.30 mmol), THF (0.27 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.12 mL, 0.30 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:2 Hexane:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (17 mg, 0.07 mmol, 64%). **5I**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.34-7.25 (3H, m, PhH), 7.21-7.18 (2H, m, PhH), 2.98 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.77 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.42 (1H, dd, J = 14.7, 8.1, CH_AH_B), 1.91 (1H, dd, J = 14.7, 4.2, CH_AH_B), 1.57-1.51 (1H, m, CH(CH₃)₂), 0.92 (3H, d, J = 6.8, CH(CH₃)₂), 0.83 (3H, d, J = 6.8, CH(CH₃)₂); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.5 (C=O), 156.9 (C=O), 137.2 (ArC), 129.1 (2xAr), 128.6 (Ar), 125.7 (2xAr), 69.8 (NCC=O), 41.3 (CH₂), 25.9 (NCH₃), 25.1 (NCH₃), 24.4 (CH₃), 24.1 (CH₃), 22.8 (CH); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 2925 (C-H), 1771 (C=O amide), 1708 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₅H₂₀N₂O₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 283.1413, found 283.1417.

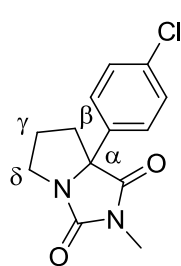
Synthesis of 5mPro:



2-Methyl-7a-phenyltetrahydro-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazole-1,3(2H)-dione (5m)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (66 mg, 1.56 mmol) and THF (3.20 mL) were added to urea acid **6m** (129 mg, 0.52 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.22 mL, 1.56 mmol), THF (2.00 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.78 mL, 1.56 mmol, 2.0 M in hexanes). Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned yellow and with warming to room temperature turned orange. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (84 mg, 0.36 mmol, 70%). **5m**: **R_f** (7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.28; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.59-7.56 (2H, m, PhH), 7.41-7.31 (3H, m, PhH), 3.86-3.79 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 3.43-3.37 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.97 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.42-2.34 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 2.16-2.07 (2H, m, CH₂(β) + CH₂(γ)), 1.96-1.84 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.5 (C=O), 160.2 (C=O), 137.4 (ArC), 128.6 (2xAr), 128.3 (Ar), 125.7 (2xAr), 74.5 (C(α)), 45.0 (NCH₂(δ)), 36.1 (CH₂(β)), 26.0 (CH₂(γ)), 25.2 (NCH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 2952, 2899 (C-H), 1771 (C=O amide), 1705 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₃H₁₄O₂N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 253.0948, found 253.0951.

Synthesis of 5nPro:

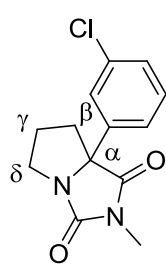


7a-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-methyltetrahydro-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazole-1,3(2H)-dione (5n)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (22 mg, 0.53 mmol) and THF (1.00 mL) were added to urea acid **6n** (50 mg, 0.18 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.07 mL, 0.53 mmol), THF (0.80 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.26 mL, 0.53 mmol, 2.0 M in hexanes).

Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned bright yellow. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as white solid (34 mg, 0.13 mmol, 72%). **5n**: *R_f* (7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.25; **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.53-7.49 (2H, m, ArH), 7.37-7.34 (2H, m, ArH), 3.85-3.78 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 3.41-3.35 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.97 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.36-2.28 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 2.17-2.08 (2H, m, CH₂(β) + CH₂(γ)), 1.96-1.81 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.1 (C=O), 160.1 (C=O), 136.0 (ArC), 134.5 (ArCCl), 128.8 (2xAr), 127.2 (2xAr), 74.1 (C(α)), 45.2 (NCH₂(δ)), 36.2 (CH₂(β)), 26.0 (CH₂(γ)), 25.3 (NCH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 2952, 2900 (C-H), 1772 (C=O amide), 1705 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₄O₂N₂³⁵Cl [M+H]⁺ 265.0738, found 265.0728.

Synthesis of 5oPro:

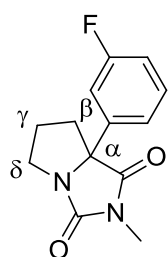


7a-(3-Chlorophenyl)-2-methyltetrahydro-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazole-1,3(2H)-dione (5o)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (22 mg, 0.53 mmol) and THF (1.00 mL) were added to urea acid **6o** (50 mg, 0.18 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.07 mL, 0.53 mmol), THF (0.80 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.26 mL, 0.53 mmol, 2.0 M in hexanes).

Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned bright yellow. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale pink oil (31 mg, 0.12 mmol, 65%). **5o**: *R_f* (7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.30; **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.59-7.55 (1H, m, ArH), 7.49-7.44 (1H, m, ArH), 7.39-7.29 (2H, m, ArH), 3.87-3.78 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 3.44-3.36 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.98 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.41-2.29 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 2.18-2.07 (2H, m, CH₂(β) + CH₂(γ)), 1.99-1.82 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.9 (C=O), 160.1 (C=O), 139.5 (ArC), 134.6 (ArCCl), 130.0 (Ar), 128.6 (Ar), 126.0 (Ar), 124.1 (Ar), 74.2 (C(α)), 45.2 (NCH₂(δ)), 36.2 (CH₂(β)), 26.0 (CH₂(γ)), 25.3 (NCH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 2952, 2900 (C-H), 1773 (C=O amide), 1705 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₄O₂N₂³⁵Cl [M+H]⁺ 265.0738, found 265.0733.

Synthesis of 5pPro:

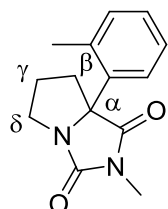


7a-(3-Fluorophenyl)-2-methyltetrahydro-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazole-1,3(2H)-dione (5p)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (48 mg, 1.13 mmol) and THF (1.80 mL) were added to urea acid **6p** (100 mg, 0.38 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.16 mL, 1.13 mmol), THF (2.00 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.56 mL, 1.13 mmol, 2.0 M in hexanes).

Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned bright yellow. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (52 mg, 0.21 mmol, 55%). **5p**: *R_f* (7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.27; **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.38-7.33 (2H, m, ArH), 7.30-7.28 (1H, m, ArH), 7.04-7.00 (1H, m, ArH) 3.86-3.80 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 3.42-3.37 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.98 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.36-2.31 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 2.16-2.09 (2H, m, CH₂(β) + CH₂(γ)), 1.95-1.85 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.0 (C=O), 162.9 (d, ¹J_{C-F} = 245.5, ArCF), 160.1 (C=O), 140.1 (d, ³J_{C-F} = 7.3, ArC), 130.2 (d, ³J_{C-F} = 8.1, Ar), 121.4 (d, ⁴J_{C-F} = 3.0, Ar), 115.3 (d, ²J_{C-F} = 20.9, Ar), 113.1 (d, ²J_{C-F} = 22.9, Ar), 74.5 (C(α)), 45.2 (NCH₂(δ)), 36.3 (CH₂(β)), 26.0 (CH₂(γ)), 25.3 (NCH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 2953 (C-H), 1774 (C=O amide), 1707 (C=O urea); **HRMS (ESI⁺)**: *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₄O₂N₂F [M+H]⁺ 249.1034, found 249.1045.

Synthesis of 5qPro:

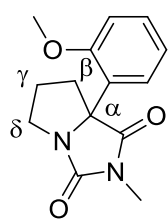


2-Methyl-7a-(2-methylphenyl)tetrahydro-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazole-1,3(2H)-dione (5q)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (24 mg, 0.57 mmol) and THF (1.00 mL) were added to urea acid **6q** (50 mg, 0.19 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.08 mL, 0.57 mmol), THF (0.90 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.29 mL, 0.57 mmol, 2.0 M in hexanes).

Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned orange/brown. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (28 mg, 0.12 mmol, 60%). **5q**: *R_f* (7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.34; **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.51-7.49 (1H, m, ArH), 7.26-7.21 (2H, m, ArH), 7.18-7.15 (1H, m, ArH), 3.95-3.90 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 3.22-3.16 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.98 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.68 (ArCH₃) 2.66-2.61 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 2.28-2.22 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 2.10-2.02 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)), 1.95-1.86 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.7 (C=O), 159.8 (C=O), 136.9 (ArC), 135.4 (ArC), 133.0 (Ar), 128.5 (Ar), 126.1 (Ar), 125.9 (Ar), 75.1 (C(α)), 44.3 (NCH₂(δ)), 34.6 (CH₂(β)), 26.5 (CH₂(γ)), 25.2 (NCH₃), 21.5 (CH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 2952 (C-H), 1771 (C=O amide), 1706 (C=O urea); **HRMS (ESI⁺)**: *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₆O₂N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 267.1104, found 267.1101.

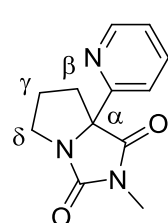
Synthesis of 5rPro:



7a-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-2-methyltetrahydro-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazole-1,3(2H)-dione (**5r**)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (69 mg, 1.62 mmol) and THF (3.40 mL) were added to urea acid **6r** (150 mg, 0.54 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.23 mL, 1.62 mmol), THF (2.00 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.81 mL, 1.62 mmol, 2.0 M in hexanes). Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned orange/brown. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a white solid (106 mg, 0.41 mmol, 75%). **5r**: mp 148-150 °C; **R_f** (7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.18; **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.36-7.31 (2H, m, ArH), 6.97-6.93 (2H, m, ArH), 3.85-3.80 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 3.82 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.18-3.13 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 3.03 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.85 (1H, ddd, *J* = 13.5, 7.0, 2.5, CH₂(β)), 2.22-2.14 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)), 2.12-2.05 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)), 1.95-1.88 (1H, m, CH₂(β)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 175.1 (C=O), 160.5 (C=O), 158.2 (ArCOMe), 130.2 (Ar), 127.3 (Ar), 124.5 (ArC), 120.5 (Ar), 112.5 (Ar), 72.9 (C(α)), 56.0 (OCH₃), 44.2 (NCH₂(δ)), 31.7 (CH₂(β)), 26.7 (CH₂(γ)), 25.1 (NCH₃); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 2949, 2839 (C-H), 1770 (C=O amide), 1703 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₆O₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 283.1053, found 283.1042.

Synthesis of 5sPro:

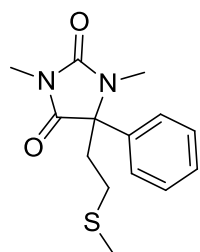


2-Methyl-7a-(pyridin-2-yl)-hexahydro-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazolidin-1,3-dione (**5s**)

Following a similar method to general procedure **11**, LiCl (58 mg, 1.38 mmol) and THF (4.00 mL) were added to urea acid **6s** (117 mg, 0.46 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.19 mL, 1.38 mmol), THF (0.60 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.55 mL, 1.38 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). The reaction mixture was quenched with methanol and stirred for ten minutes. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the crude product re-dissolved in methanol (3.00 mL) and conc. H₂SO₄ (0.10 mL) added. The resulting mixture was stirred for eighteen hours at room temperature. The reaction was then diluted with ethyl acetate and saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution was added until pH = 8. The basic organic layer was separated and extracted twice with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 100% EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (71 mg, 0.31 mmol, 67%). **5s**: **¹H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 8.65-8.62 (1H, m, ArH), 7.65 (1H, td, *J* = 7.7, 1.9, ArH), 7.50 (1H, d, *J* = 7.7, ArH), 7.21-7.17 (1H, m, ArH), 3.88-3.74 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 3.32-3.25 (1H, m, NCH₂(δ)), 2.95 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.87-2.83 (1H, m, CH₂(β)), 2.09-2.01 (2H, m, CH₂(β) + CH₂(γ)), 1.98-1.75 (1H, m, CH₂(γ)); **¹³C {¹H} NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.3 (C=O), 160.4 (C=O), 155.7 (ArC), 150.0 (Ar), 136.9 (Ar), 123.2 (Ar), 120.4 (Ar), 76.1 (NCC=O), 45.2 (NCH₂), 33.8 (CH₂), 26.2 (NCH₃), 24.4 (CH₂); **IR (film, cm⁻¹)**: ν_{max} = 2954 (C-H),

1772 (C=O amide), 1708 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₂H₁₄N₃O₂ [M+H]⁺ 232.1085, found 232.1081.

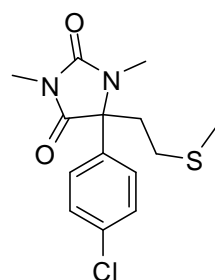
Synthesis of 5tMet:



1,3-Dimethyl-5-(2-(methylthio)ethyl)-5-phenylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (5t)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (14 mg, 0.36 mmol) and THF (1.00 mL) were added to urea acid **6t** (37 mg, 0.12 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.51 mL, 0.36 mmol), THF (0.20 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.14 mL, 0.36 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:2 Hexane:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (24 mg, 0.09 mmol, 72%). **5t**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.36-7.28 (3H, m, PhH), 7.22-7.18 (2H, m, PhH), 2.99 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.81-2.76 (1H, m, CH₂CH_AH_BS), 2.78 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.30-2.17 (3H, m, CH₂CH_AH_BS and CH₂CH₂), 2.07 (3H, s, SCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.7 (C=O), 153.7 (C=O), 135.8 (ArC), 129.2 (2xAr), 128.9 (Ar), 125.8 (2xAr), 69.8 (NCC=O), 32.2 (CH₂), 28.1 (CH₂), 25.6 (NCH₃), 25.2 (NCH₃), 15.7 (SCH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2917 (C-H), 1714 (C=O amide), 1644 (C=O urea). **HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for C₁₁H₁₁N₂O₂ [M-SC₃H₇]⁺⁺ 203.0815, found 203.0806.

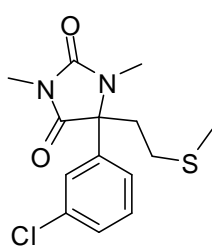
Synthesis of 5uMet:



5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1,3-dimethyl-5-[2-(methylsulfanyl)ethyl]imidazolidine-2,4-dione (5u)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (41 mg, 0.97 mmol) and THF (2.50 mL) were added to urea acid **6u** (100 mg, 0.30 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.14 mL, 0.97 mmol), THF (0.50 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.39 mL, 0.97 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (73 mg, 0.23 mmol, 78%). **5u**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.38 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7, ArH), 7.21 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7, ArH), 3.04 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.88-2.75 (1H, m, CH₂CH_AH_BS), 2.84 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.47-2.17 (3H, m, CH₂CH₂ and CH₂CH_AH_BS), 2.12 (3H, s, SCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.4 (C=O), 156.7 (C=O), 135.2 (ArC), 134.6 (ArC), 129.6 (2xAr), 127.4 (2xAr), 69.5 (NCC=O), 32.5 (CH₂), 28.1 (CH₂), 25.8 (NCH₃), 25.4 (NCH₃), 15.9 (SCH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2916 (C-H), 1769 (C=O amide), 1706 (C=O urea); **HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for C₁₁H₁₁N₂O₂³⁵Cl [M-SC₃H₆]⁺⁺ 238.0504, found 238.0509.

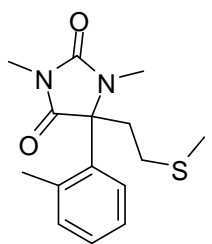
Synthesis of 5vMet:



5-(3-Chlorophenyl)-1,3-dimethyl-5-[2-(methylsulfanyl)ethyl] imidazolidin-2,4-dione (5v)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (28 mg, 0.65 mmol) and THF (1.70 mL) were added to urea acid **6v** (68 mg, 0.21 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.09 mL, 0.65 mmol), THF (0.40 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.26 mL, 0.65 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (41 mg, 0.13 mmol, 64%). **5v**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.29-7.22 (2H, m, ArH), 7.13 (1H, br. s, ArH), 7.11-7.02 (1H, m, ArH), 2.97 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.82-2.67 (1H, m, CH₂CH_AH_BS), 2.77 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.36-2.08 (3H, m, CH₂CH₂ and CH₂CH_AH_BS), 2.05 (3H, s, SCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.2 (C=O), 156.7 (C=O), 138.1 (ArC), 135.5 (ArC), 130.7 (Ar), 129.3 (Ar), 126.4 (Ar), 124.2 (Ar), 69.6 (NCC=O), 34.5 (CH₂), 28.1 (CH₂), 25.9 (NCH₃), 25.5 (NCH₃), 15.9 (SCH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2917 (C-H), 1770 (C=O amide), 1707 (C=O urea). **HRMS** (EI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₁H₁₁N₂O₂³⁵Cl [M-SC₃H₆]⁺ 238.0504, found 238.0502.

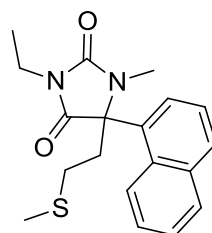
Synthesis of 5wMet:



1,3-Dimethyl-5-(2-methylphenyl)-5-[2-(methylsulfanyl)ethyl] imidazolidin-2,4-dione (5w)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (44 mg, 1.03 mmol) and THF (2.70 mL) were added to urea acid **6w** (100 mg, 0.32 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.15 mL, 1.03 mmol), THF (0.50 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.41 mL, 1.03 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Upon addition of LDA the reaction mixture turned yellow. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:2 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a pale yellow oil (50 mg, 0.17 mmol, 53%). **5w**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.52-7.38 (1H, m, ArH), 7.29-7.24 (2H, m, ArH), 7.20-7.08 (1H, m, ArH), 3.10 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.81-2.66 (1H, m, CH₂CH_AH_BS), 2.62 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.57-2.21 (3H, m, CH₂CH₂ and CH₂CH_AH_BS), 2.14 (3H, s, ArCH₃), 2.05 (3H, s, SCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.2 (C=O), 156.4 (C=O), 137.1 (ArC), 133.1 (Ar), 132.9 (ArC), 129.4 (Ar), 128.1 (Ar), 126.7 (Ar), 69.1 (NCC=O), 34.2 (CH₂), 27.7 (CH₂), 25.1 (NCH₃), 24.9 (NCH₃), 19.9 (ArCH₃), 16.0 (SCH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2933, 2916 (C-H), 1767 (C=O amide), 1704 (C=O urea). **HRMS** (EI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₄N₂O₂ [M-SC₃H₆]⁺ 218.1050, found 218.1049.

Synthesis of 5xMet:

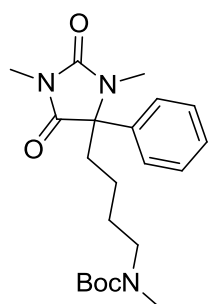


3-Ethyl-1-methyl-5-[2-(methylsulfanyl)ethyl]-5-(naphthalen-1-yl) imidazolidin-2,4-dione (5x)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (39 mg, 0.91 mmol) and THF (1.80 mL) were added to urea acid **6x** (103 mg, 0.28 mmol). LDA was prepared with

DiPA (0.12 mL, 0.91 mmol), THF (1.00 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.37 mL, 0.91 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). The title compound was yielded as a pale yellow oil without further purification (95 mg, 0.28 mmol, >99%). **5x**: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{H} = 7.95-7.79 (2H, m, NaphtH), 7.77-7.66 (1H, m, NaphtH), 7.59-7.35 (4H, m, NaphtH), 3.79 (2H, q, J = 7.2, NCH_2CH_3), 2.89 (1H, ddd, J = 13.3, 9.3, 7.4, $\text{CH}_\text{A}\text{H}_\text{B}\text{S}$), 2.71-2.54 (1H, m, $\text{CH}_\text{A}\text{H}_\text{B}\text{S}$), 2.63 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.48-2.36 (2H, m, CHCH_2CH_2), 2.18 (3H, s, SCH_3), 1.37 (3H, t, J = 7.2, CH_2CH_3); ^{13}C $\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{C} = 174.0 (C=O), 156.2 (C=O), 134.7 (NaphtC), 131.4 (NaphtC), 131.1 (Napht), 130.1 (NaphtC), 129.9 (Napht), 127.6 (Napht), 127.4 (Napht), 126.1 (Napht), 125.0 (Napht), 122.4 (Napht), 69.2 (NCC=O), 35.3 (CH_2), 34.4 (CH_2), 27.8 (CH_2), 25.4 (NCH_3), 16.1 (SCH_3), 13.5 (CH_3); **IR** (film, cm^{-1}): ν_{max} = 2973, 2918 (C-H), 1765 (C=O amide), 1706 (C=O urea). **HRMS** (ESI^+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{SNa}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 365.1294; found 365.1287.

Synthesis of 5yLys:

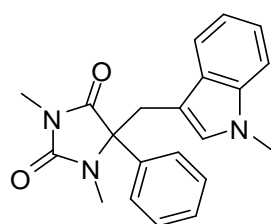


tert-Butyl N-[4-(1,3-dimethyl-2,5-dioxo-4-phenylimidazolidin-4-yl)butyl]-N-methylcarbamate (**5y**)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (16 mg, 0.37 mmol) and THF (1.00 mL) were added to urea acid **6y** (50 mg, 0.12 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.52 mL, 0.37 mmol), THF (0.22 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.15 mL, 0.37 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO_2 , 1:2 Hexane:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (39 mg, 0.10 mmol, 83%).

5y: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{H} = 7.34-7.25 (3H, m, PhH), 7.22-7.19 (2H, m, PhH), 3.31-3.10 (3H, m, $\text{CH}_\text{A}\text{H}_\text{B}$ and CH_2), 2.97 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.75 (6H, s, $2\times\text{NCH}_3$), 2.45 (1H, m, $\text{CH}_\text{A}\text{H}_\text{B}$), 1.57-1.46 (2H, m, CH_2), 1.37 (s, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$), 1.22-1.02 (2H, m, CH_2); ^{13}C $\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{C} = 174.3 (C=O), 156.7 (C=O), 155.7 (C=O), 136.2 (ArC), 129.1 ($2\times\text{Ar}$), 128.7 (Ar), 125.9 ($2\times\text{Ar}$), 79.3 ($\text{OC}(\text{CH}_3)_3$), 70.2 (NCC=O), 34.0 (NCH_2), 31.5 (CH_2), 28.4 ($\text{OC}(\text{CH}_3)_3$), 25.5 ($2\times\text{NCH}_3$), 25.0 (NCH_3), 22.6 (CH_2), 14.1 (CH_2); **IR** (film, cm^{-1}): ν_{max} = 2929 (C-H), 1710 (C=O amide), 1690 (C=O urea). **HRMS** (ESI^+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 412.2201, found 412.2207.

Synthesis of 5zTrp:

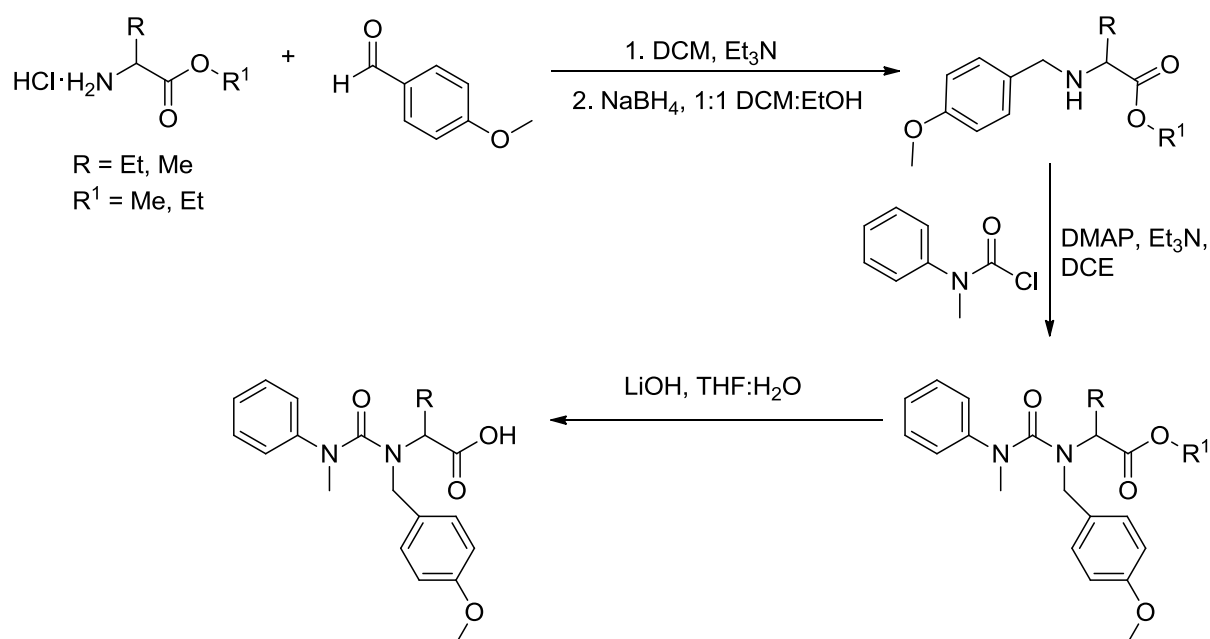


1,3-Dimethyl-5-[(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)methyl]-5-phenylimidazolidin-2,4-dione (**5z**)

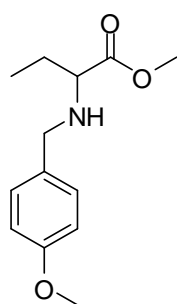
Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (16 mg, 0.37 mmol) and THF (1.00 mL) were added to urea acid **6z** (45 mg, 0.12 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.52 mL, 0.37 mmol), THF (0.24 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.15 mL, 0.37 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO_2 , 1:2 Hexane:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (22 mg, 0.06 mmol, 52%) and starting material (7 mg, 0.02 mmol, 15%). **5z**: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{H} = 7.51 (1H, d, J = 7.9, ArH), 7.39-7.30 (5H, m, ArH),

7.21-7.10 (2H, m, ArH), 7.05-7.00 (1H, m, ArH), 6.74 (1H, s, Ar), 4.01 (1H, d, $J = 14.8$, CH), 3.65 (3H, s, NCH₃), 3.37 (1H, d, $J = 14.8$, CH), 2.81 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.68 (3H, s, NCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta_c = 174.7$ (C=O), 156.8 (C=O), 136.6 (ArC), 136.3 (ArC), 129.2 (2xAr), 128.8 (ArC), 127.8 (Ar), 127.6 (ArC), 126.4 (2xAr), 121.8 (Ar), 119.2 (Ar), 118.8 (Ar), 109.3 (Ar), 106.3 (Ar), 71.1 (NCC=O), 32.8 (CH₂), 28.7 (NCH₃), 26.2 (NCH₃), 24.8 (NCH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): $\nu_{\max} = 2924$ (C-H), 1767 (C=O amide), 1703 (C=O urea). HRMS (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₂₁H₂₂N₃O₂ [M+H]⁺ 348.1708, found 348.1707.

Synthesis of PMB protected Urea Acids:



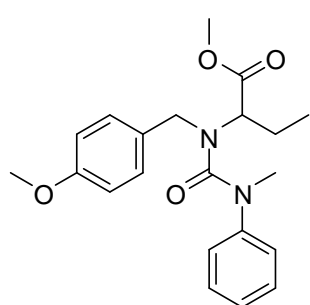
Synthesis of 14a:



Methyl-2-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]amino}butanoate (S4a)

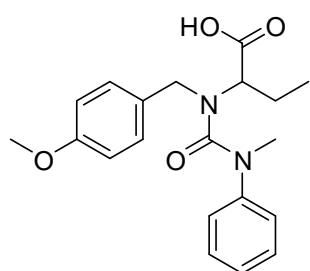
To a solution of methyl-DL- α -aminobutyrate hydrochloride (10.00 g, 65.10 mmol, 1.2 eq) and molecular sieves (3 Å), in anhydrous DCM (108.50 mL, 0.5 M), was added Et₃N (13.60 mL, 97.65 mmol, 1.8 eq). The reaction mixture was stirred for ten minutes before *p*-anisaldehyde (6.60 mL, 54.25 mmol, 1.0 eq) was added. The reaction was stirred for eighteen hours at room temperature. The mixture was filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was dissolved in 1:1 DCM:EtOH (108.00 mL), cooled to 0 °C and NaBH₄ (3.27 g, 86.40 mmol, 1.6 eq) was added. The reaction was warmed to room temperature and stirred for eighteen hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, a solution of conc. HCl was added, then a solution of NaOH (5.0 M) to pH = 12. The aqueous layer was extracted twice with DCM. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 Pet. Ether:EtOAc + 1% Et₃N) yielded the title compound as an oil (13.60 g, 48.88 mmol, 91%). **S4a**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz,

CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.25 (2H, d, J = 8.6, ArH), 6.86 (2H, J = 8.6, ArH), 3.79 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.73 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.67 (2H, AB pattern, J = 12.6, $\Delta\nu$ = 48.8, CH₂NH), 3.22 (1H, t, J = 7.4, CHCH₂), 1.84 (1H, br. s, NHCH), 1.76-1.56 (2H, m, CHCH₂CH₃), 0.92 (3H, t, J = 7.1, CH₂CH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 176.0 (C=O), 158.9 (ArCOMe), 132.1 (ArC), 129.6 (2xAr), 113.9 (2xAr), 62.0 (NCH), 55.4 (OCH₃), 51.7 (OCH₃), 51.6 (NCH₂), 26.7 (CH₂), 10.3 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3330 (NH), 2952 (C-H), 1732 (C=O ester), 1245 (C-O ether); HRMS (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₃H₁₉NO₃Na [M+Na]⁺ 260.1257, found 260.1249.



Methyl-2-[[[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl][methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino]butanoate (S5a)

Following general procedure **6a**, *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylcarbamoyl chloride (6.88 g, 40.56 mmol) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of **S4a** (10.30 g, 43.40 mmol) and Et₃N (7.35 mL, 52.74 mmol) in DCE (101.00 mL). The reaction was complete after twenty hours. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2:1 Pet. Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (4.13 g, 11.16 mmol, 28%). **S5a**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.36-7.27 (2H, m, PhH), 7.19-7.11 (1H, m, PhH), 7.10-7.00 (4H, m, PhH + ArH), 6.84-6.76 (2H, m, ArH), 4.12 (2H, AB pattern, J = 15.1, $\Delta\nu$ = 35.9, CH₂N), 4.10 (1H, t, J = 7.1, CHCH₂), 3.79 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.61 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.13 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.90 (1H, dqin., J = 14.5, 7.4, CHCH₂CH₃), 1.60 (1H, dq, J = 14.9, 7.5, CHCH₂CH₃), 0.77 (3H, t, J = 7.4, CH₂CH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 172.5 (C=O), 162.4 (C=O), 158.8 (ArCOMe), 146.3 (ArCN), 130.2 (ArC), 129.6 (2xAr), 129.5 (2xAr), 125.1 (Ar), 125.1 (2xAr), 113.6 (2xAr), 61.8 (NCH), 55.4 (OCH₃), 51.9 (OCH₃), 49.5 (NCH₂), 40.0 (NCH₃), 23.5 (CH₂), 11.4 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2951 (C-H), 1739 (C=O ester), 1651 (C=O urea), 1245 (C-O ether); HRMS (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₂₁H₂₆N₂O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ 393.1785, found 393.1782.

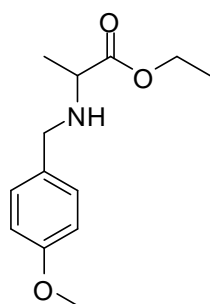


2-[[[(4-Methoxyphenyl)methyl][methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino]butanoic acid (14a)

Following general procedure **10**, urea **S5a** (3.10 g, 8.37 mmol) was dissolved in 2:1 THF:H₂O (285.00 mL) and LiOH (10.02 g, 418.38 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for twenty hours at 45 °C. The title compound was yielded as a yellow oil without further purification (2.93 g, 8.22 mmol, 98%). **14a**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 10.01 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.45-7.33 (2H, m, PhH), 7.28-7.19 (1H, m, PhH), 7.15-7.06 (2H, m, PhH), 6.91-6.83 (2H, m, ArH), 6.80-6.72 (2H, m, ArH), 3.90 (2H, AB pattern, J = 15.4, $\Delta\nu$ = 57.1, CH₂N), 3.89-3.80 (1H, m, CHCH₂), 3.76 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.25 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.10 (1H, dqin., J = 15.0, 7.5, CHCH₂CH₃), 1.79 (1H, dqin., J = 14.9, 7.4, CHCH₂CH₃), 0.94 (3H, t, J = 7.4, CH₂CH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 173.0 (C=O), 164.3 (C=O), 159.3 (ArCOMe), 144.7 (ArCN), 129.9 (2xAr), 129.2 (2xAr), 128.0 (ArC), 126.4 (Ar), 125.1 (2xAr), 114.0 (2xAr), 64.2 (NCH), 55.3 (OCH₃), 52.0 (NCH₂),

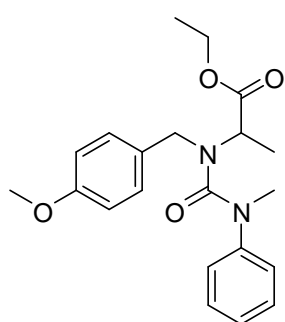
40.1 (NCH₃), 22.3 (CH₂), 11.4 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 2967, 2935 (C-H), 2549 (OH broad), 1733 (C=O acid), 1650 (C=O urea), 1245 (C-O ether); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₂₀H₂₄N₂O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ 379.1628, found 379.1628.

Synthesis of 14b:



Ethyl-2-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]amino}propanoate (S4b)

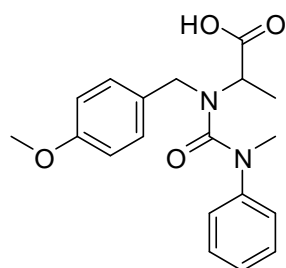
To a solution of L-alanine ethyl ester hydrochloride (9.39 g, 61.14 mmol, 1.2 eq) and molecular sieves (3 Å), in anhydrous DCM (101.90 mL, 0.5 M), was added Et₃N (12.78 mL, 91.72 mmol, 1.8 eq). The reaction mixture was stirred for ten minutes before *p*-anisaldehyde (6.20 mL, 50.95 mmol, 1.0 eq) was added. The reaction was stirred for eighteen hours at room temperature. The mixture was filtered and the organic layer was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was dissolved in 1:1 DCM:EtOH (102.00 mL), cooled to 0 °C and NaBH₄ (3.08 g, 81.52 mmol, 1.6 eq) was added. The reaction was warmed to room temperature and stirred for eighteen hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, a solution of conc. HCl was added, then a solution of NaOH (5.0 M) to pH = 12. The aqueous layer was extracted twice with DCM. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 Pet. Ether:EtOAc + 1% Et₃N) yielded the title compound as an oil (10.50 g, 44.25 mmol, 87%). **S4b**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{H} = 7.30-7.19 (2H, m, ArH), 6.90-6.81 (2H, m, ArH), 4.19 (2H, q, J = 7.1, CH₂CH₃), 3.79 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.68 (2H, AB pattern, J = 12.4, $\Delta\nu$ = 34.2, CH₂NH), 3.35 (1H, q, J = 7.0, CHCH₃), 2.16 (1H, br. s, NHCH), 1.32 (3H, d, J = 7.0, CHCH₃), 1.29 (3H, t, J = 7.1, CH₂CH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{C} = 175.7 (C=O), 159.0 (ArCOMe), 131.7 (ArC), 129.7 (2xAr), 114.0 (2xAr), 60.9 (OCH₂), 55.9 (NCH), 55.4 (OCH₃), 51.4 (NCH₂), 19.1 (CH₃), 14.4 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 3327 (NH), 2978, 2935, 2906 (C-H), 1728 (C=O ester), 1245 (C-O ether); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₃H₂₀NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 238.1438, found 238.1442.



Ethyl-2-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl][methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino}propanoate (S5b)

Following general procedure 6a, *N*-methyl-*N*-phenyl carbamoyl chloride (7.00 g, 41.40 mmol, 1.0 eq) and DMAP (catalytic amount) were added to a pre-stirred solution of **S4b** (10.50 g, 44.25 mmol, 1.1 eq) and Et₃N (8.00 mL, 57.50 mmol, 1.4 eq) in DCE (103.80 mL). The reaction was complete after twenty hours. The title compound was yielded as a yellow oil without further purification (9.40 g, 25.37 mmol, 57%). **S5b**: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{H} = 7.35-7.24 (2H, m, PhH), 7.16-7.06 (3H, m, PhH), 7.00-6.92 (2H, m, ArH), 6.82-6.73 (2H, m, ArH), 4.24 (1H, q, J = 7.0, CHCH₃), 4.14 (2H, dq, J = 0.9, 7.1, CH₂CH₃), 4.08 (2H, AB pattern, J = 15.7, $\Delta\nu$ = 81.2, CH₂N), 3.76 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.11 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.32 (3H, d, J = 6.9, CHCH₃), 1.27 (3H, t, J = 7.1, CH₂CH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{C} = 172.4 (C=O), 161.8 (C=O), 158.7 (ArCOMe),

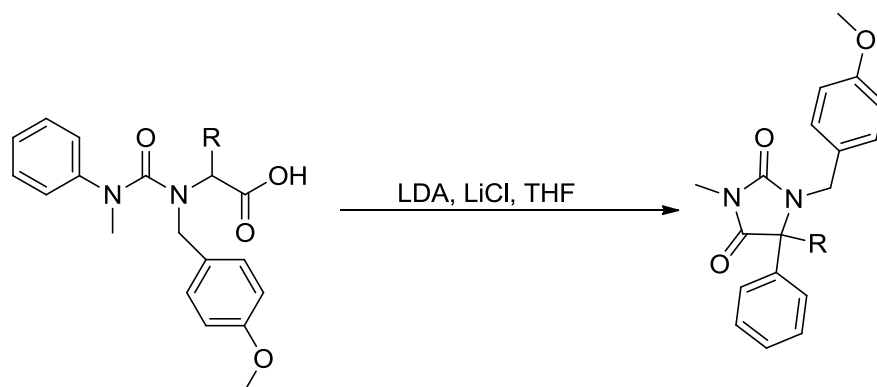
146.1 (ArCN), 130.0 (ArC), 129.4 (2xAr), 128.7 (2xAr), 125.1 (Ar), 124.6 (2xAr), 113.6 (2xAr), 61.0 (OCH₂), 55.9 (NCH), 55.2 (OCH₃), 50.1 (NCH₂), 39.8 (NCH₃), 15.1 (CH₃), 14.3 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 2938 (C-H), 1736 (C=O ester), 1650 (C=O urea), 1244 (C-O ether); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₂₁H₂₆N₂O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ 393.1785, found 393.1792.



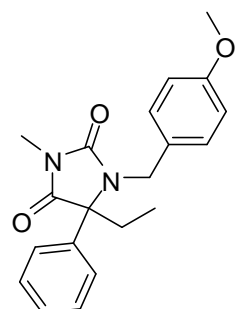
2-[[[(4-Methoxyphenyl)methyl][methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl]amino]propanoic acid (14b)

Following general procedure **10**, urea **S5b** (9.40 g, 25.37 mmol) was dissolved in 2:1 THF:H₂O (0.85 L) and LiOH (30.40 g, 1.27 mol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for twenty hours at 45 °C. The title compound was yielded as an oil without further purification (8.35 g, 24.39 mmol, 98%). **14b**: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 10.60 (1H, br. s, COOH), 7.42-7.31 (2H, m, PhH), 7.24-7.09 (3H, m, PhH), 6.99-6.85 (2H, m, ArH), 6.82-6.73 (2H, m, ArH), 4.07 (1H, q, J = 7.1, CHCH₃), 3.98 (2H, AB pattern, J = 15.5, $\Delta\nu$ = 100.2, CH₂N), 3.76 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.23 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.44 (3H, d, J = 7.2, CHCH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 175.0 (C=O), 163.3 (C=O), 159.0 (ArCOMe), 145.3 (ArCN), 129.7 (2xAr), 129.0 (2xAr), 128.7 (ArC), 125.8 (Ar), 124.8 (2xAr), 113.9 (2xAr), 57.4 (NCH), 55.3 (OCH₃), 51.5 (NCH₂), 39.8 (NCH₃), 14.9 (CH₃); **IR** (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{\max} = 2907 (OH broad), 2937 (C-H), 1721 (C=O acid), 1651 (C=O urea), 1246 (C-O ether); **HRMS** (ESI⁺): m/z calcd for C₁₉H₂₂N₂O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ 365.1472, found 365.1479.

Synthesis of PMB protected hydantoins:



Synthesis of 15a:

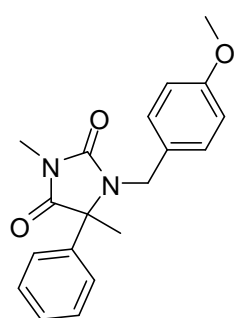


5-Ethyl-1-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-methyl-5-phenylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (15a)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (84 mg, 1.97 mmol) and THF (6.00 mL) were added to urea acid **14a** (234 mg, 0.66 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.28 mL, 1.97 mmol), THF (0.60 mL) and *n*BuLi (0.79 mL, 1.97 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2:1

Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (107 mg, 0.32 mmol, 48%). **15a**: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{H} = 7.41-6.96 (7H, m, PhH + ArH), 6.78-6.63 (2H, m, ArH), 4.22 (2H, AB pattern, J = 15.4, $\Delta\nu$ = 333.6, CH_2N), 3.72 (3H, s, OCH_3), 3.07 (3H, s, NCH_3), 2.45-2.28 (1H, m, CH_2CH_3), 1.95-1.76 (1H, m, CH_2CH_3), 0.51 (3H, t, J = 15.4, CH_2CH_3); ^{13}C $\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{C} = 174.6 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 159.3 (ArCOMe), 157.6 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 136.6 (ArC), 130.5 (2xAr), 129.3 (ArC), 129.2 (2xAr), 128.9 (Ar), 126.7 (2xAr), 113.9 (2xAr), 72.1 ($\text{NCC}=\text{O}$), 55.4 (OCH_3), 44.1 (NCH_2), 25.8 (CH_2), 25.1 (NCH_3), 7.5 (CH_3); IR (film, cm^{-1}): ν_{max} = 2969, 2936 (C-H), 1767 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$ amide), 1704 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$ urea), 1245 (C-O ether); HRMS (ESI^+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 361.1523, found 361.1520.

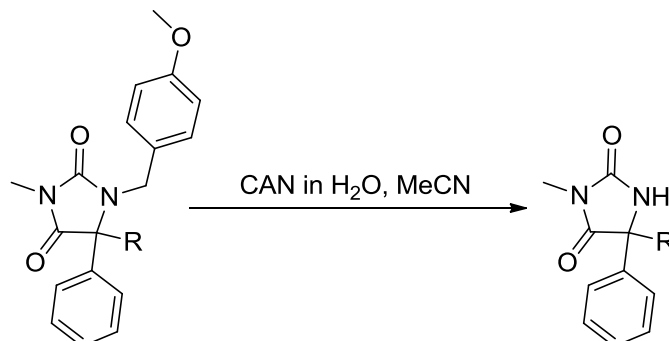
Synthesis of 15b:



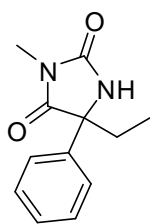
1-[(4-Methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3,5-dimethyl-5-phenylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (15b)

Following general procedure **11**, LiCl (18 mg, 0.43 mmol) and THF (1.00 mL) were added to urea acid **14b** (49 mg, 0.14 mmol). LDA was prepared with DiPA (0.06 mL, 0.43 mmol), THF (0.40 mL) and $n\text{BuLi}$ (0.25 mL, 0.43 mmol, 1.75 M in hexanes). Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO_2 , 7:3 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as a colourless oil (32 mg, 0.10 mmol, 69%). **15b**: R_f (1:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) 0.49; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{H} = 7.34-7.06 (5H, m, PhH), 7.02-7.00 (2H, m, ArH), 6.69-6.66 (2H, m, ArH), 4.23 (2H, AB pattern, J = 15.4, $\Delta\nu$ = 333.6, CH_2N), 3.67 (3H, s, OCH_3), 3.01 (3H, s, NCH_3), 1.47 (3H, s, CH_3C); ^{13}C $\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ_{C} = 175.3 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 159.2 (ArCOMe), 156.9 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 136.6 (ArC), 129.8 (2xAr), 129.7 (ArC), 129.3 (2xAr), 128.9 (Ar), 126.4 (2xAr), 114.0 (2xAr), 67.7 ($\text{NCC}=\text{O}$), 55.4 (OCH_3), 43.9 (NCH_2), 25.4 (NCH_3), 21.6 (CH_3); IR (film, cm^{-1}): ν_{max} = 2983 (C-H), 1769 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$ amide), 1705 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$ urea), 1245 (C-O ether); HRMS (ESI^+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 347.1366, found 347.1354.

Synthesis of deprotected hydantoins:



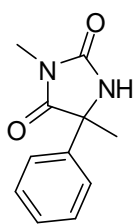
Synthesis of 16a:



5-Ethyl-3-methyl-5-phenylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (16a)⁵

To a solution of hydantoin **15a** (35 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 eq) in acetonitrile (1.03 mL, 0.1 M) at 0 °C, a solution of CAN (Ceric Ammonium Nitrate) (226 mg, 0.41 mmol, 4.0 eq) in water (0.52 mL, 0.8 M) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred for one hour at 0 °C. The solution was diluted with water and extracted three times with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc) yielded the title compound as an oil (21 mg, 0.09 mmol, 96%). **16a**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.60-7.51 (2H, m, PhH), 7.44-7.28 (3H, m, PhH), 6.80 (1H, br. s, NH), 3.01 (3H, s, NCH₃), 2.24 (1H, dq, *J* = 14.5, 7.3, CH₂CH₃), 2.12 (1H, dq, *J* = 14.5, 7.4, CH₂CH₃), 0.90 (3H, t, *J* = 7.4, CH₂CH₃); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 174.9 (C=O), 157.5 (C=O), 137.8 (ArC), 128.8 (2xAr), 128.4 (Ar), 125.4 (2xAr), 67.9 (NCC=O), 32.1 (CH₂), 24.7 (NCH₃), 8.1 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3288 (NH), 2970 (C-H), 1775 (C=O amide), 1706 (C=O urea).

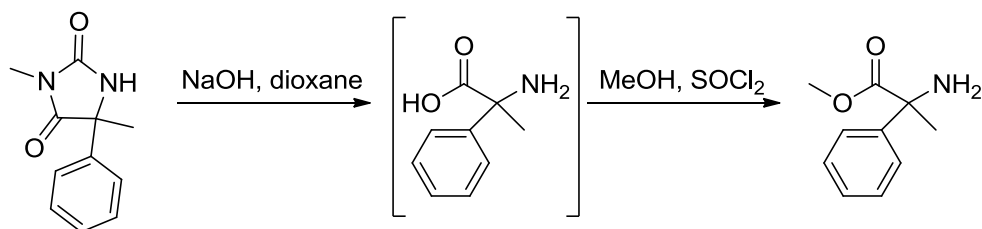
Synthesis of 16b:



3,5-Dimethyl-5-phenylimidazolidine-2,4-dione (16b)⁶

To a solution of hydantoin **15b** (47 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.0 eq) in acetonitrile (1.45 mL, 0.1 M) at 0 °C, a solution of CAN (318 mg, 0.58 mmol, 4.0 eq) in water (0.72 mL, 0.8 M) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred for one hour at 0 °C. The solution was diluted with water and extracted three times with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 Pet.Ether:EtOAc + 1% Et₃N) yielded the title compound as a solid (25 mg, 0.12 mmol, 84%). **16b**: mp: 136-138 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 7.56-7.47 (2H, m, PhH), 7.44-7.30 (3H, m, PhH), 6.23 (1H, br. s, NH), 3.03 (3H, s, NCH₃), 1.84 (3H, s, CH₃C); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 175.4 (C=O), 157.0 (C=O), 138.7 (ArC), 129.1 (2xAr), 128.7 (Ar), 125.3 (2xAr), 63.9 (NCC=O), 25.8 (CH₃), 25.0 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3291 (NH), 2981 (C-H), 1780 (C=O amide), 1710 (C=O urea).

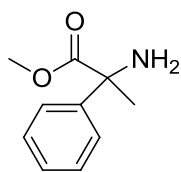
Synthesis of amino ester:



⁵M. D. Rosa and A. J. Freyer, *J. Heterocyclic Chem.*, 1995, **32**, 1661.

⁶M. E. Koscho and W. H. Pirkle, *Tetrahedron: Asymmetry*, 2005, **16**, 3345.

Synthesis of 18:



Methyl 2-amino-2-phenylpropanoate (18)

To hydantoin **16b** (392 mg, 1.92 mmol, 1.0 eq) in water (8.00 mL, 0.2 M) was added aqueous NaOH (8.00 mL, 2.0 M) and dioxane (1.60 mL, 1.2 M). The resulting mixture was heated to reflux. After twenty four hours the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with water (10.00 mL), and acidified with conc. HCl. The mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was dissolved in methanol (12.40 mL), cooled to 0 °C and thionyl chloride (0.56 mL, 7.68 mmol, 4.0 eq) was added dropwise. The reaction was heated to reflux for twenty hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, the solution was filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The title compound was yielded as an oil without further purification (326 mg, 1.82 mmol, 95%). **18**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H = 9.43 (2H, br. s, NH₂), 7.80-7.13 (5H, m, PhH), 3.75 (3H, s, OCH₃), 2.07 (3H, s, CH₃C); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C = 170.3 (C=O), 135.7 (ArC), 129.5 (Ar), 129.3 (2xAr), 126.0 (2xAr), 62.5 (NCC=O), 54.1 (OCH₃), 22.5 (CH₃); IR (film, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3393 (NH), 2951 (C-H), 1746 (C=O ester). HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for C₉H₁₀N₁O₂ [M-CH₃]⁺ 164.0706, found 164.0708.

Optimisation of the rearrangement of **6a**

Preliminary optimisation work was carried out prior to the ReactIR studies to investigate the behaviour of *N'*-phenyl-*N,N'*-dimethylurea derivative of alanine **6a** upon treatment with base.

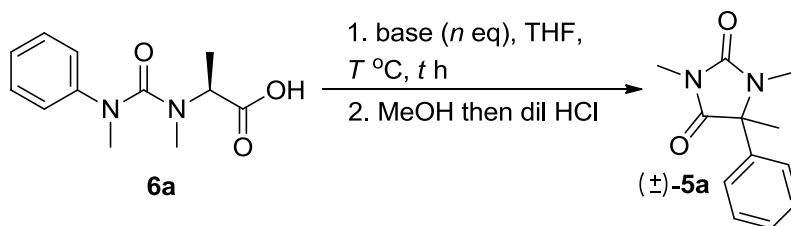


Table S1. Optimisation of the transformation of **6a** to **5a**

entry	base, <i>n</i> equiv	conditions (<i>T</i> °C, <i>t</i> h)	remaining 6a ; % racemisation ^a	5a , % yield
1	<i>sec</i> -BuLi, 3	−78 °C, 1 h	— ^b	0
2	LDA, 3	−78 °C, 1 h	15	18 ^c
3	LDA, 3	−40 °C, 1 h	31	43 ^c
4	LDA, 3	−15 °C, 1 h	62	86 ^c
5	LDA, 3	0 °C, 2 h	9	83 ^c
6	LDA, 3 ^d	0 °C, 1 h	64	59 ^c
7	LiTMP, 3	0 °C, 2 h	— ^b	50 ^c
8	LiNEt ₂ , 3	0 °C, 2 h	— ^b	75 ^c
9	LDA, 7	0 °C, 2 h	— ^b	90 ^c
10	LDA, 3	−78–20 °C, 20 h	— ^b	96 ^c
11	LDA, 3 + LiCl, 3 ^e	−78–20 °C, 3 h	— ^b	98 ^c , 89 ^f

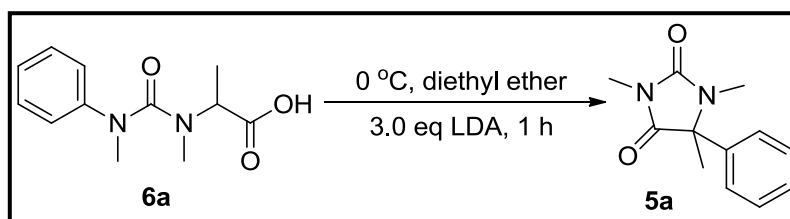
^a 100- (100 x [ee of recovered **6a**] / [ee of starting **6a** (= ca. 60%)]); ^b not determined. ^c NMR yield. ^d Et₂O as solvent. ^e Similar result with 10 eq LiCl. ^f Isolated yield (0.5 g scale).

Treatment of **6a** with an excess of *sec*-BuLi at −78 °C led only to decomposition (entry 1), but encouragingly using LDA as the base generated some of the racemic hydantoin **5a** (entry 2), presumably by formation of the enolate dianion, aryl migration to the enolate, and cyclization. Although the yield was low (entry 2), lack of racemisation of the remaining starting material suggested that this was due to slow formation of the enolate. Raising the temperature increased both the yield of **5a** and the extent of starting material racemisation (entries 3, 4), indicating that both deprotonation and rearrangement were increasing in rate. At 0 °C, a drop in the extent of racemisation suggested that the yield, though good (83%), was again limited by incomplete deprotonation (entry 5). Using ether as solvent or other lithium amide bases (entries 6–8) gave no improvement, but adding a large excess of LDA (entry 9) or raising the temperature further to 20 °C (entry 10) increased the yield above 90%. Reasoning that coordination of reaction intermediates by Li⁺ might facilitate rearrangement, LiCl was added to the reaction mixture resulting in almost quantitative conversion to **5a** (entry 11) which was isolated in 89% yield.

***In situ* ReactIR Data**

In order to explore in more detail the mechanism of the intramolecular enolate arylation, the rearrangement of **6a** to **5a** was followed by *in situ* infra-red spectroscopy (ReactIR). The result in table S1, entry 6, suggested that in Et₂O at 0 °C both deprotonation by LDA and rearrangement would occur at rates slow enough to allow observation of any intermediates. Rearrangements of **6a** were carried out in diethyl ether and in THF and followed by ReactIR. The slower rate of reaction in diethyl ether allowed for a more detailed observation of reaction intermediates.

Reaction carried out in diethyl ether



Anhydrous diethyl ether (8.00 mL) was added to a 100 mL three-necked flask equipped with a stirrer bar and ReactIR probe under nitrogen. The solution was cooled to 0 °C using an ice bath, and left to stabilise, after which time an IR solvent background spectrum was taken. Urea acid **6a** (250 mg, 1.06 mmol, 1.0 eq) was added *via* one of the three necks, followed by anhydrous diethyl ether (6.00 mL) to wash the substrate into the flask and dissolve the urea acid **6a**. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and left to stir for 30 min, whilst all the urea acid **6a** dissolved. The reaction mixture was a pale orange solution. In a separate flask LDA was prepared; anhydrous diethyl ether (4.00 mL) and DiPA (0.45 mL, 3.18 mmol, 3.0 eq) were cooled to 0 °C, *n*BuLi (1.38 mL, 3.18 mmol, 2.3 M in hexanes, 3.0 eq) was added dropwise and stirred for 30 min. The three-necked flask was cooled to 0 °C and an IR reactant background spectrum was taken. The LDA was added dropwise to the reaction mixture over 10 min and the reaction mixture became cloudy. The reaction mixture was left to stir for 1 h at 0 °C and was quenched by a dropwise addition of methanol. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and the ReactIR probe was removed. The reaction mixture was acidified with 1.0 M HCl and the product was extracted with ethyl acetate three times. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture confirmed the presence of hydantoin **5a**, along with unreacted **6a** (1:3 **6a**:**5a**)

Throughout the experiment IR spectra were recorded continuously at varying time intervals. An IR spectrum was initially recorded every minute, with **6a** in diethyl ether at 0 °C. The frequency of recording IR spectra was increased to every 15 seconds during the LDA addition and for 10 minutes after the addition was complete. The frequency was then reduced to every 45 seconds for the remainder of the 1 h hold at 0 °C and finally the frequency was increased to every 15 seconds during

the methanol quench of the reaction. **Figures S1-S3** show the changes observed in the portion of the IR spectrum centred on the carbonyl absorptions during the course of the reaction.

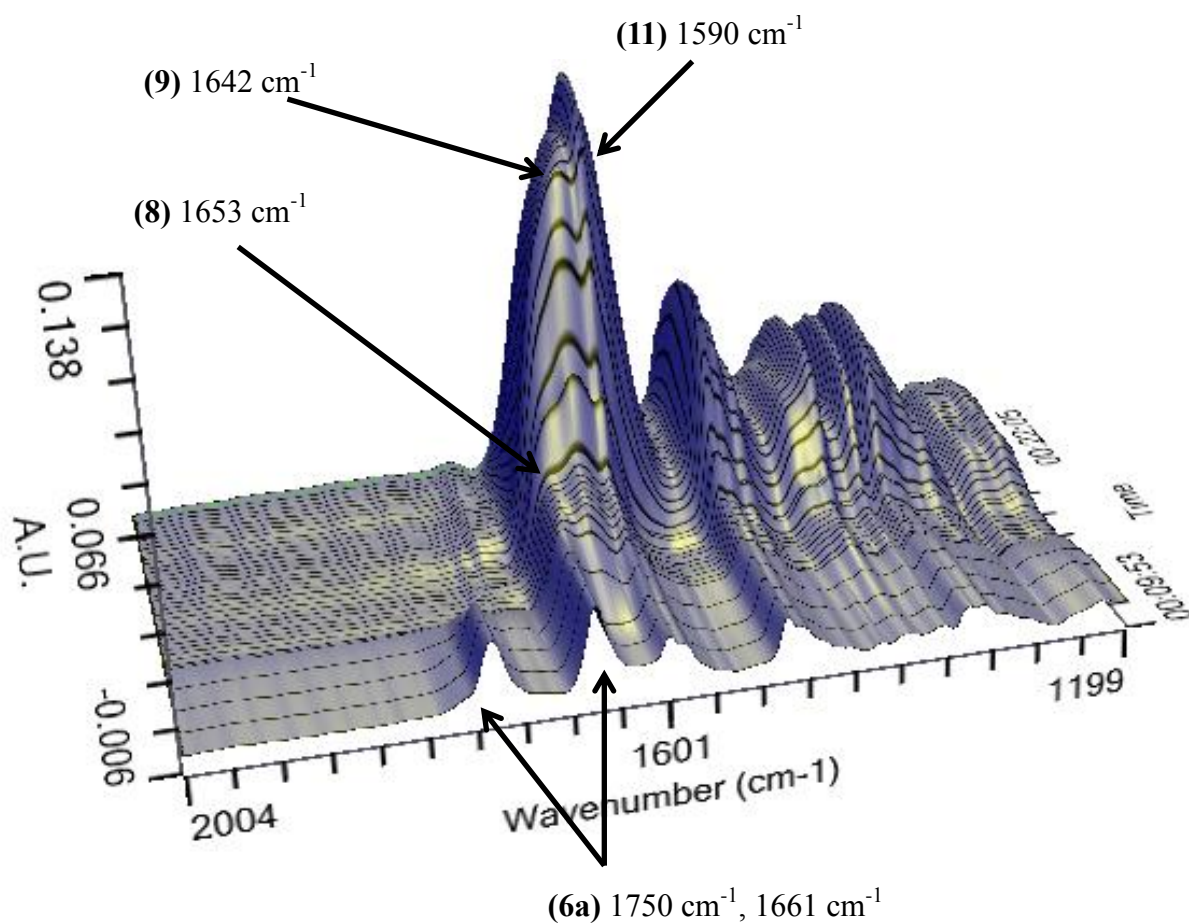


Figure S1: 3D-ReactIR trace for **6a** in diethyl ether at 0 °C during the addition of LDA over 10 min.

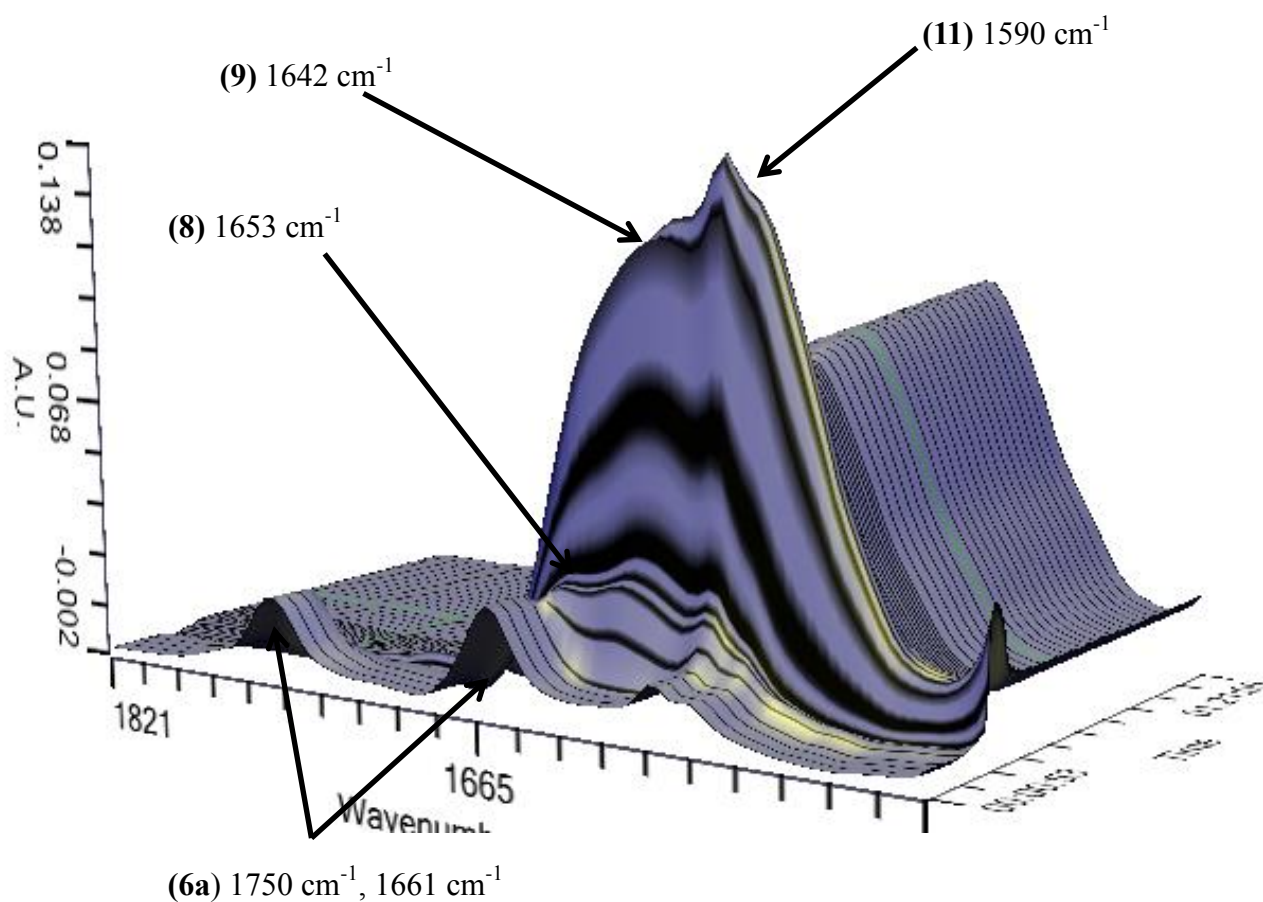


Figure S2: 3D-ReactIR trace for **6a** in diethyl ether at 0 °C during the addition of LDA over 10 min and through the 1 h reaction period at 0 °C.

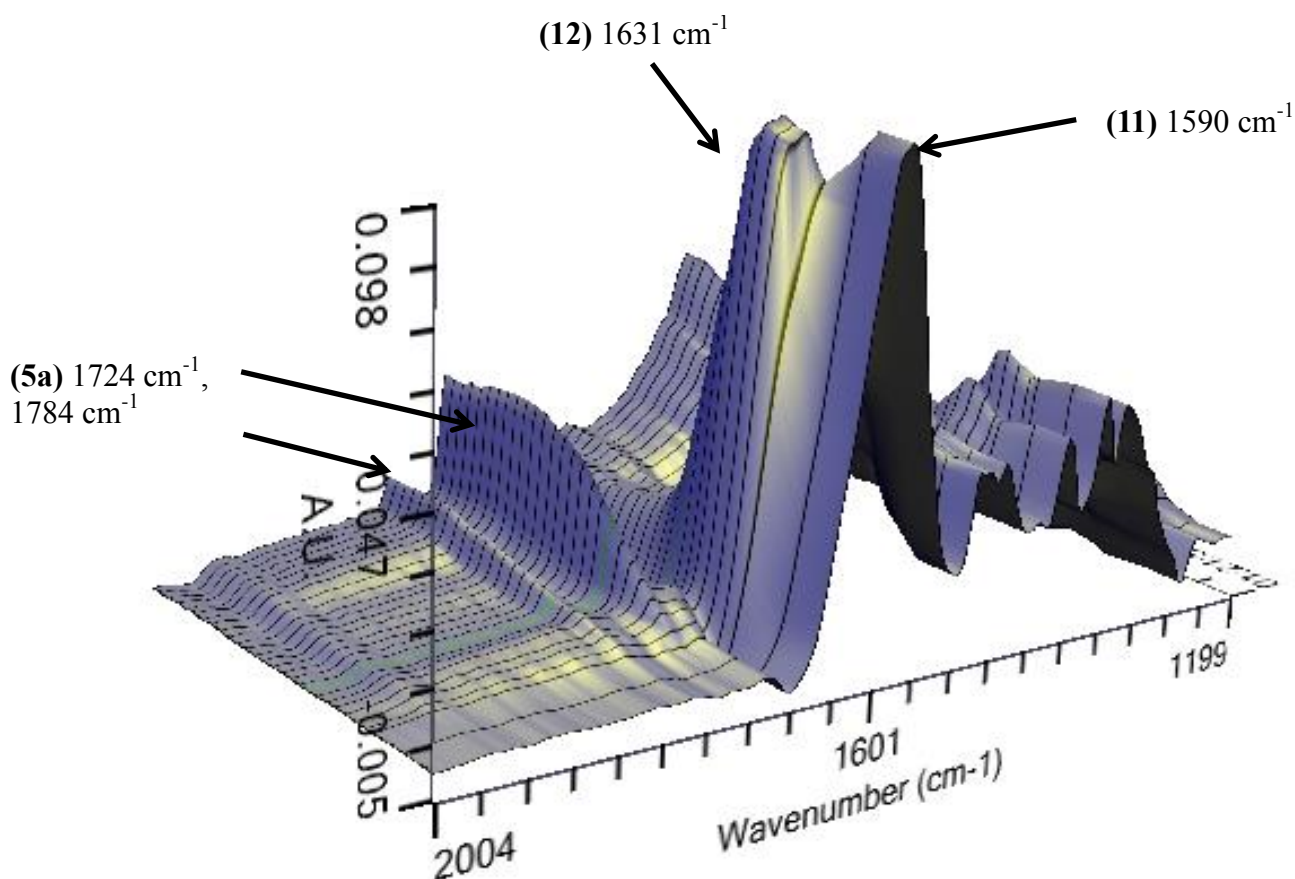


Figure S3: 3D-ReactIR trace from the end of the 1 h reaction period at 0 °C through the quench with methanol.

Using the IR data acquired over different time periods of the reaction, difference spectra allow successive reaction intermediates to be identified by shifts in the C=O stretching frequencies. The spectra shown in **Figure S4, S5, S6** and **S7** have the spectrum of **6a** subtracted. The spectra shown in **Figure S4** also have the spectrum of **11** (taken at the end of the 1 h reaction period) subtracted.

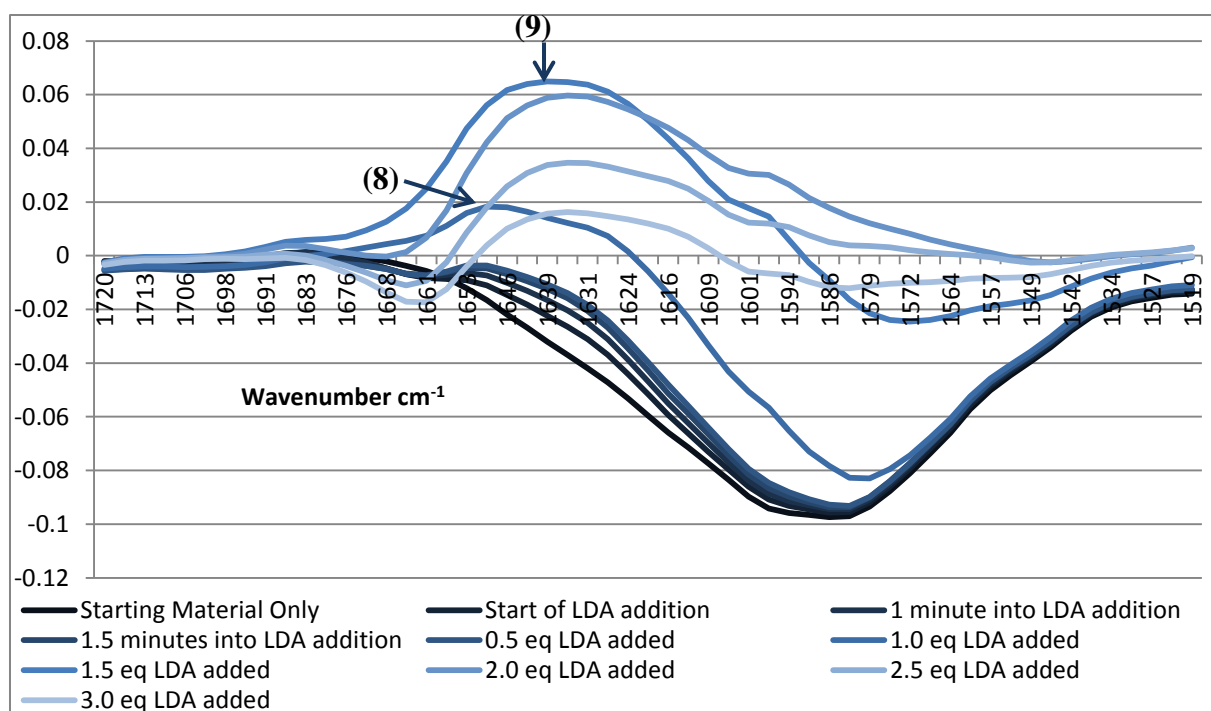


Figure S4: IR difference spectra for the period during the addition of 3.0 eq LDA over 10 min at 0 °C.

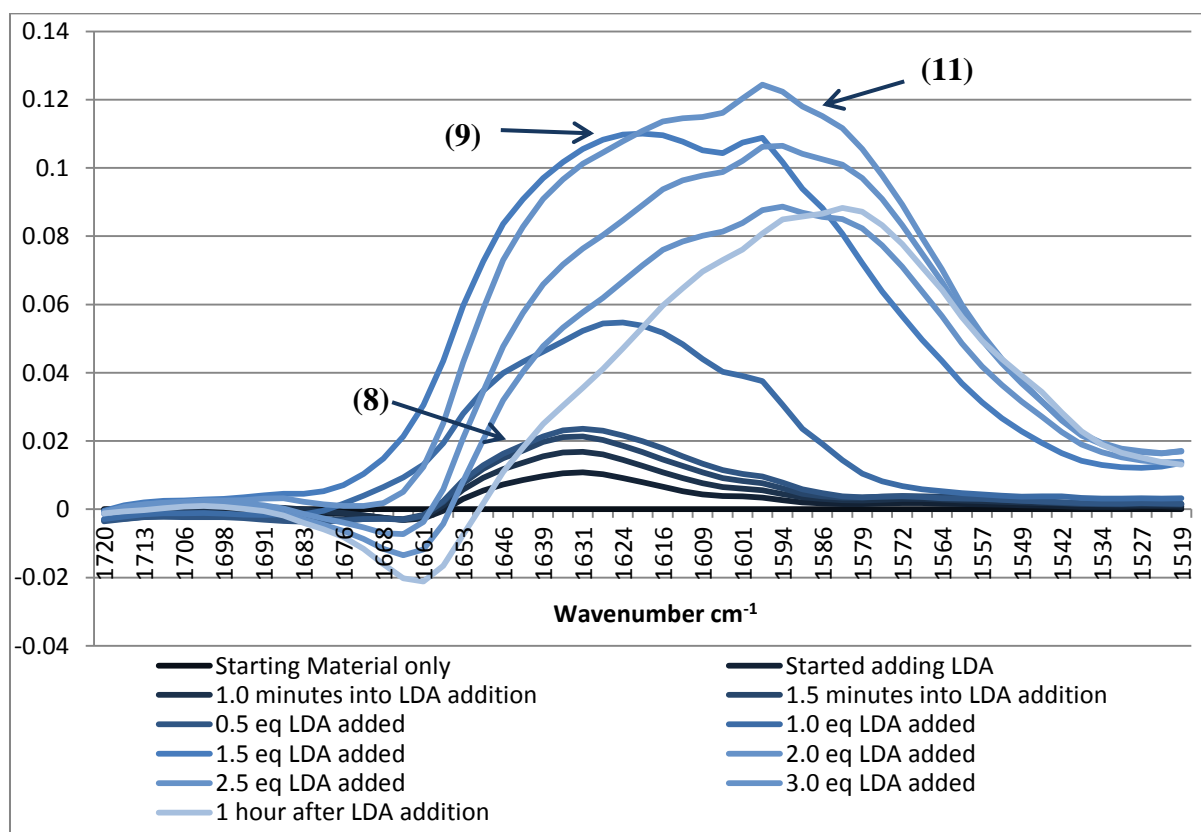


Figure S5: IR difference spectra for the period during the addition of 3.0 eq LDA over 10 min at 0 °C and the 1 h reaction period at 0 °C.

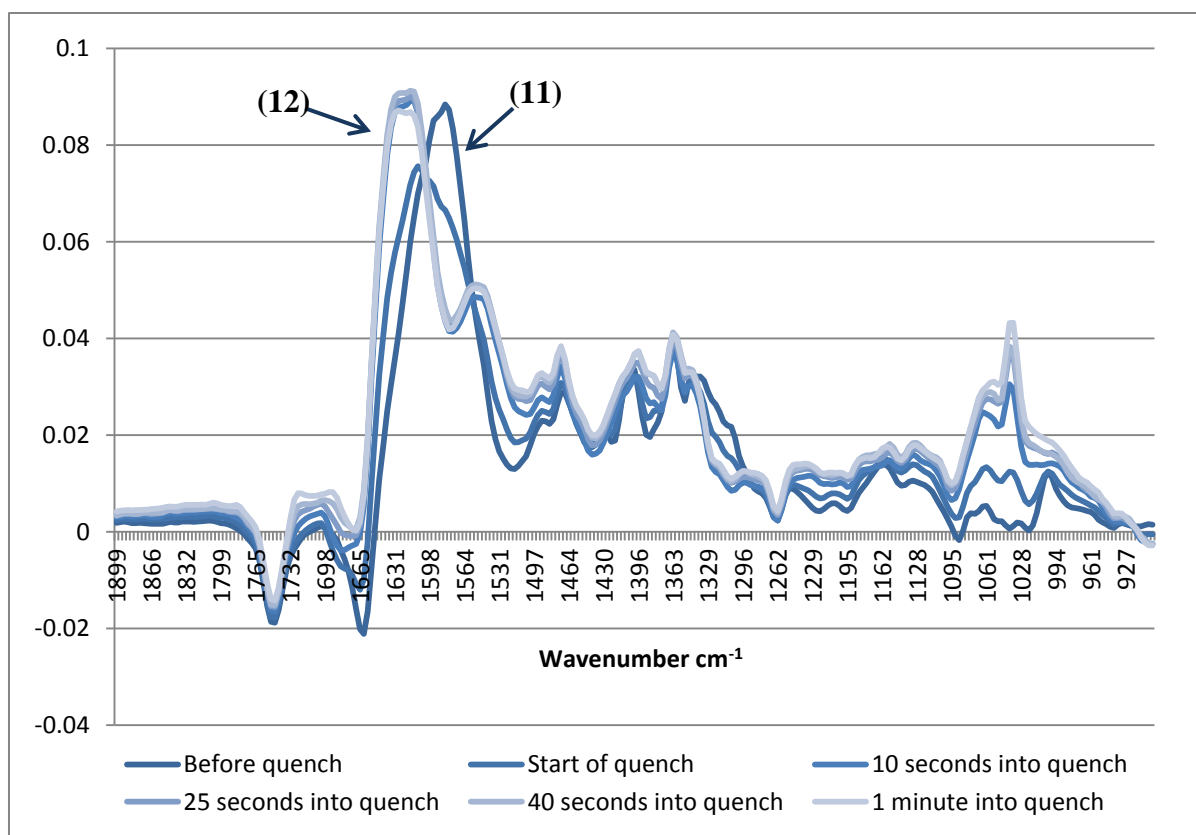


Figure S6: IR difference spectra for the period after the 1 h reaction period at 0 °C and during the first minute of the quench with methanol.

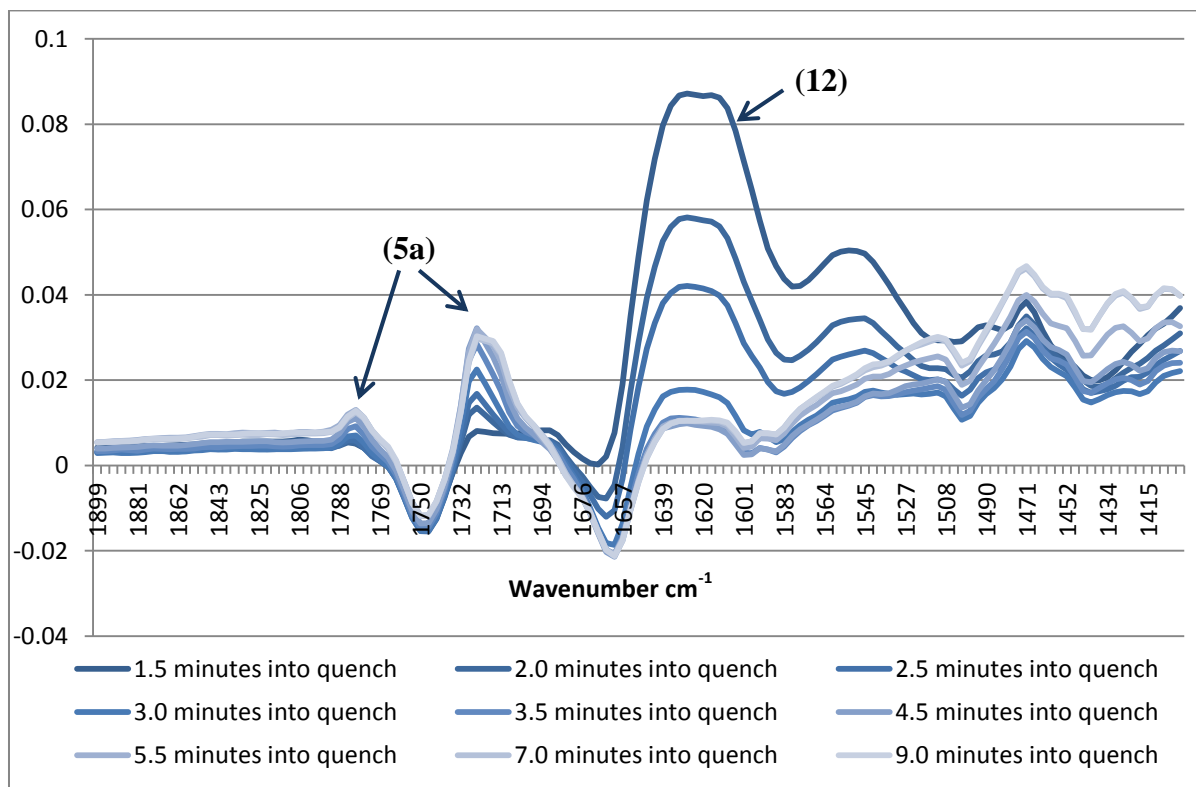


Figure S7: IR difference spectra for the period 1.5 min into the methanol addition until the end of the quench (9.0 min).

The difference spectra at a specific times during the reaction allows estimation of the C=O stretching frequencies of the proposed species formed successively in the reaction mixture. The spectra shown in **Figure S9, S10, S11, S12 and S13** have the spectrum of **6a** subtracted. The spectra shown in **Figures S9 and S10** also have the spectrum of **11** (taken at the end of the 1 h reaction period) subtracted.

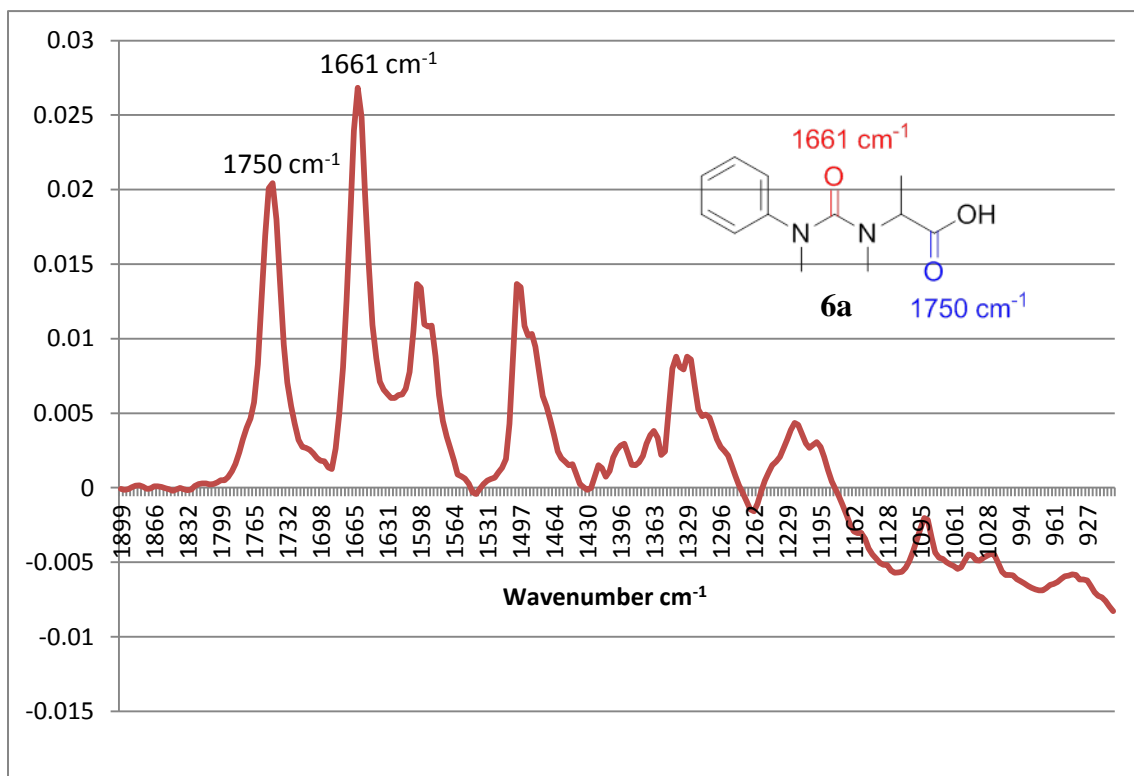


Figure S8: Starting material **6a** in diethyl ether at 0 °C prior to the addition of LDA.

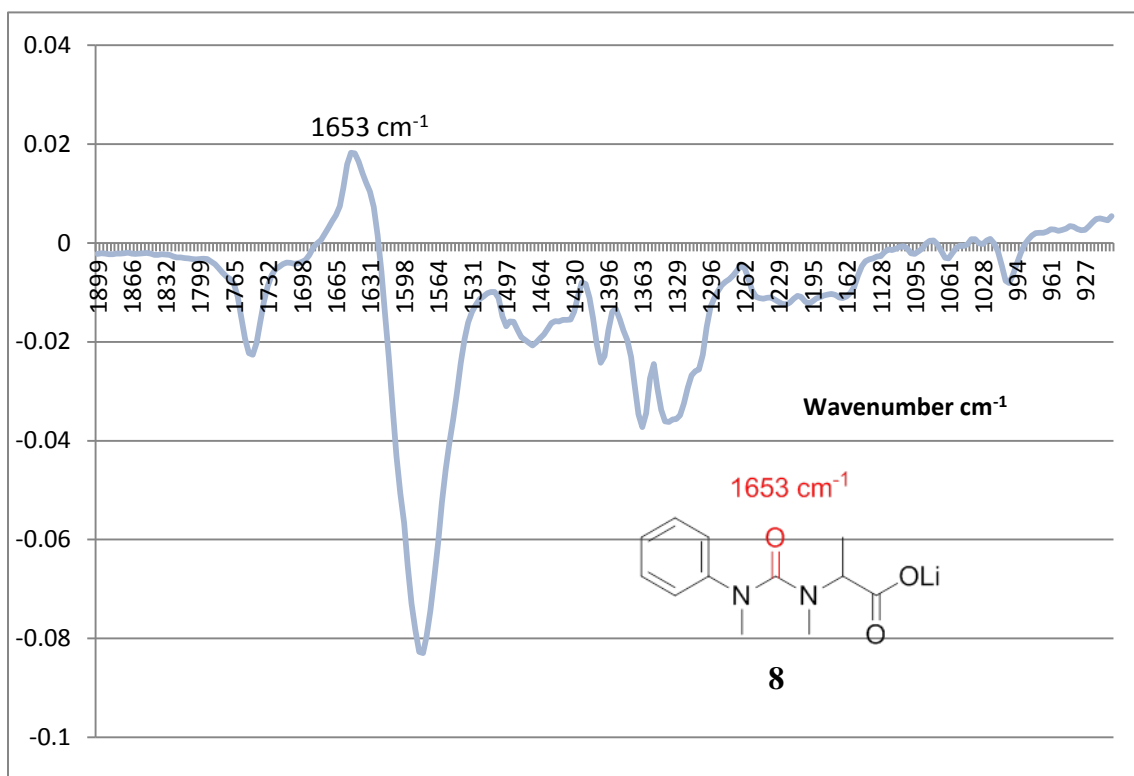


Figure S9: IR difference spectrum after addition of *ca.* 1.0 eq LDA.

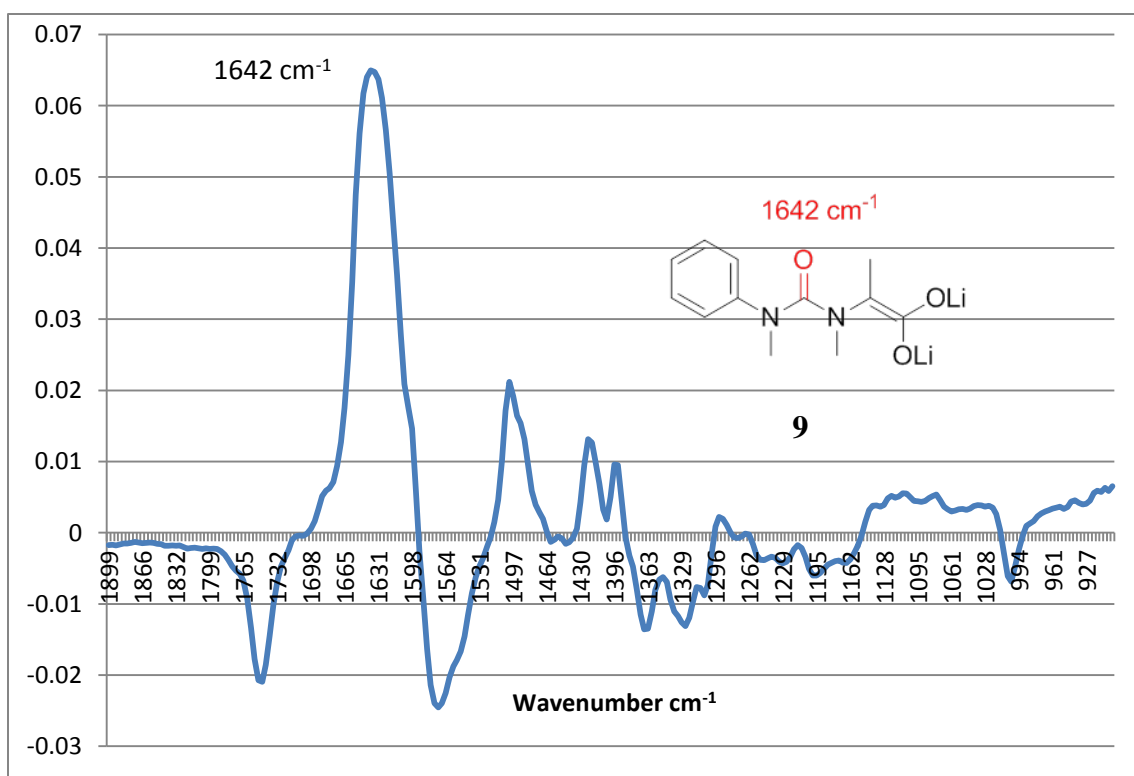


Figure S10: IR difference spectrum after addition of *ca.* 1.5 eq LDA had been added.

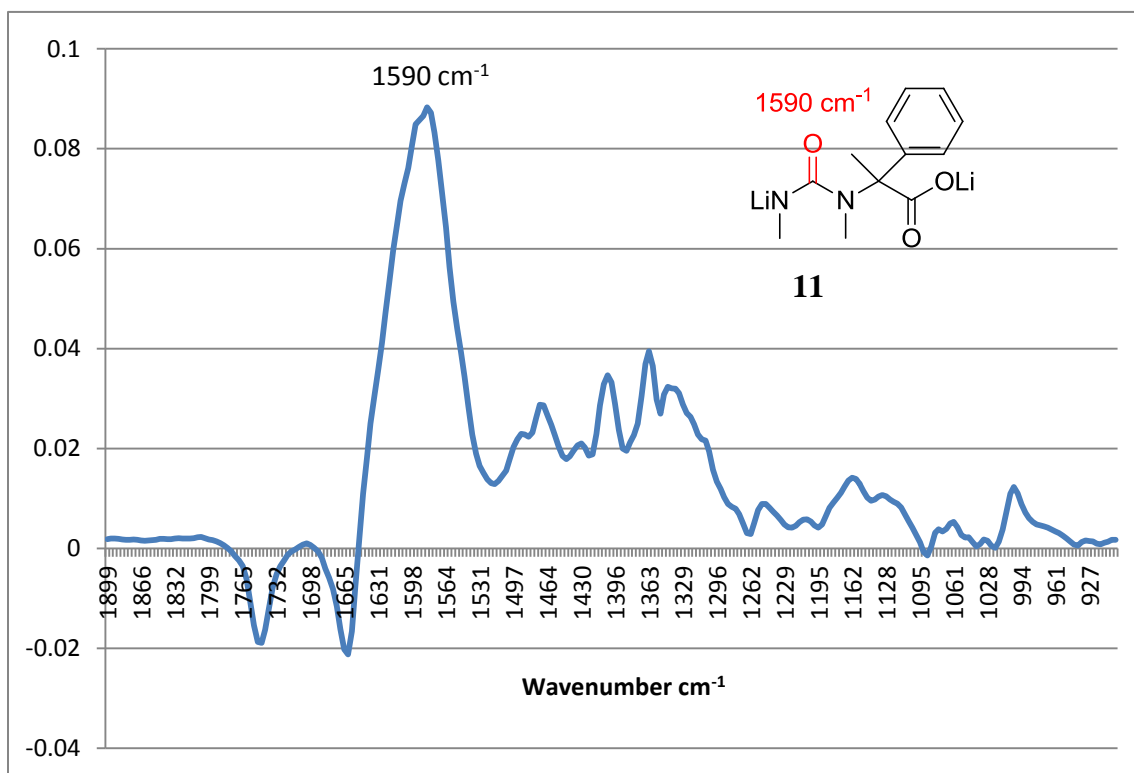


Figure S11: IR difference spectrum after 1 h reaction time at $0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$.

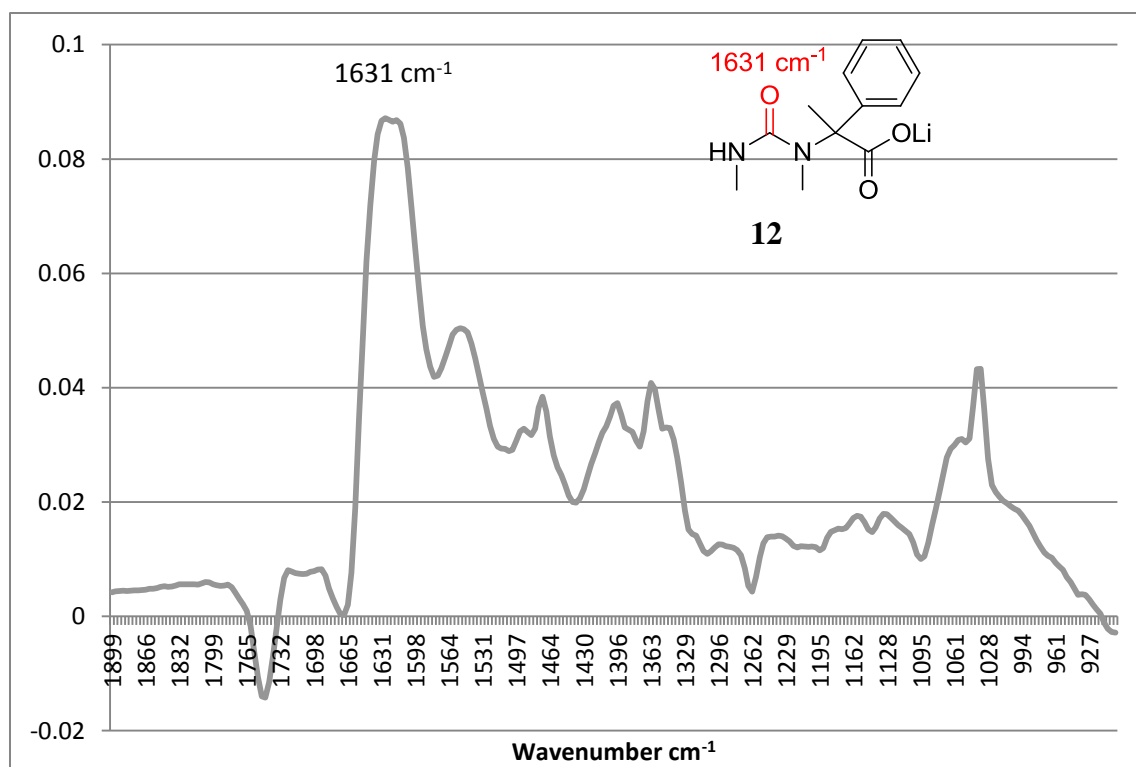


Figure S12: IR difference spectrum 1 min after the start of the quench with methanol.

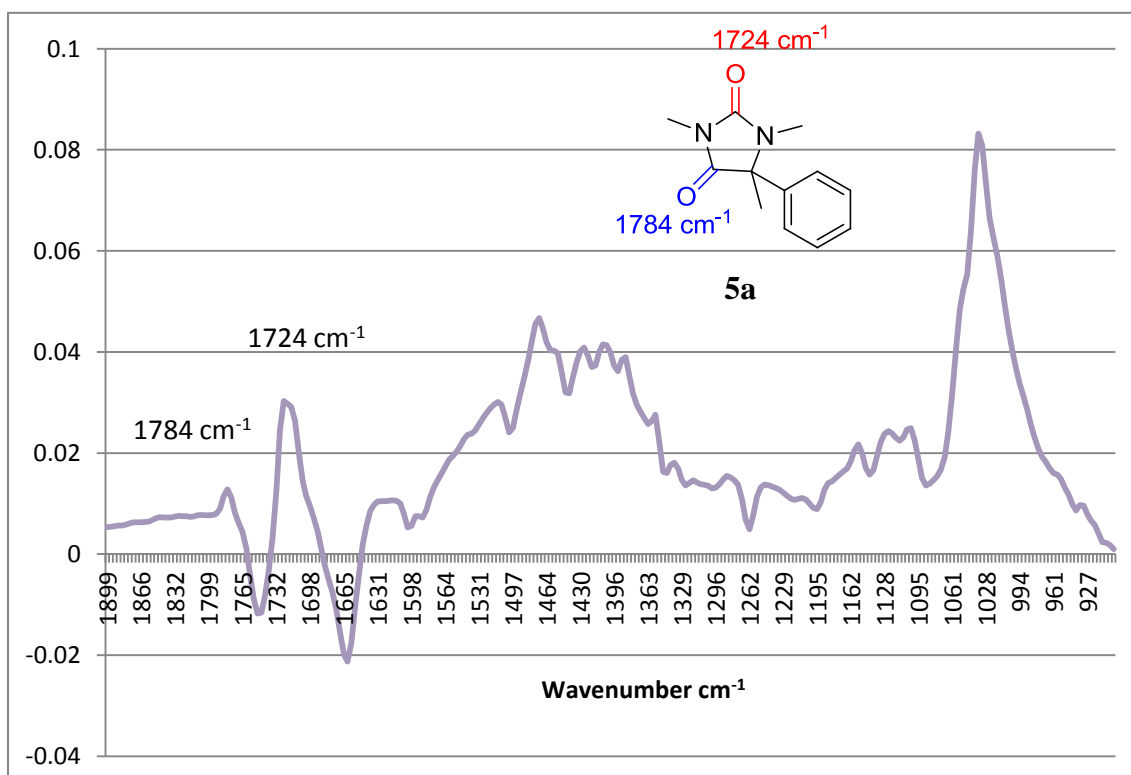


Figure S13: IR difference spectrum 9 min after the quench with methanol.

For the urea starting material **6a** in diethyl ether at 0 °C, the two absorptions at 1750 cm⁻¹ and 1661 cm⁻¹ were assigned to $\nu_{\text{C=O}}$ for the carboxylic acid and urea respectively (**Figure S8**). Upon addition of the first equivalent of LDA there was immediate loss of the absorption at 1750 cm⁻¹ corresponding to the carbonyl of the carboxylic acid, suggesting formation of a carboxylate anion. A change from the starting material **6a** was further indicated by a small shift in the urea carbonyl absorption at 1661 cm⁻¹ to 1653 cm⁻¹ which we assign to the carboxylate **8** (**Figure S9**).

During the addition of the remaining LDA, the 1653 cm⁻¹ absorption disappeared and an absorption appeared at a lower wavenumber of 1642 cm⁻¹. A carboxylic acid carbonyl absorption was still absent. This new stretching frequency was assigned to enolate **9** (**Figure S10**). This species predominated between the addition of one and two equivalents of LDA (**Figure S4**).

Towards the end of the LDA addition there was a decay in the intensity of the absorption at 1653 cm⁻¹ assigned to enolate **9**, but at the same time a new absorption at 1590 cm⁻¹ grew (**Figure S1, S2 and S5**). This significant shift in the carbonyl stretching frequency to a lower wavenumber is consistent with formation of the deprotonated urea and we assign this absorption to the urea function of dianion **11** (**Figure S11**). A negative charge on the nitrogen donating into the adjacent carbonyl group is expected to weaken the carbonyl stretching frequency significantly, and the shift to a wavenumber of 1550-1600 cm⁻¹ is consistent with data reported for related anionic ureas.^{7,8} Throughout the addition the absorption assigned to enolate **9** reduced and the absorption assigned to dianion **11** increased.

The reaction was left at 0 °C for 1 hour, during which time the peak for dianion **11** remained constant (**Figure S2 and S5**). At no point during the reaction was a higher frequency carbonyl absorption observed that would be expected for a 5-membered-ring cyclic intermediate **10**. If such an intermediate is formed it does not accumulate to any significant concentration during the reaction.

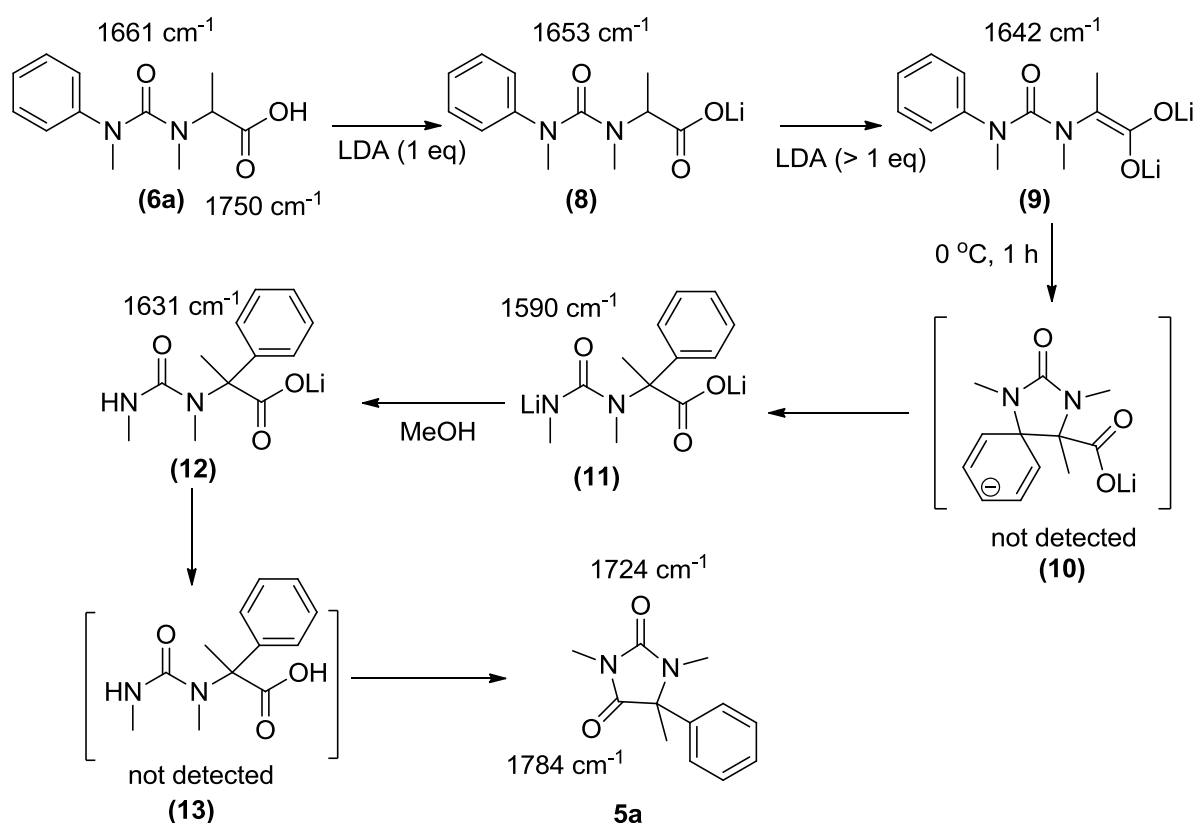
After one hour at 0 °C the reaction was quenched through dropwise addition of methanol, and immediately the absorption at 1590 cm⁻¹ assigned to the dianion **11** shifted back to a higher wavenumber, reappearing at 1631 cm⁻¹. This is consistent with reprotonation of the anionic urea. No absorbance appeared with a stretching frequency indicative of a carboxylic acid C=O. We assign the peak at 1631 cm⁻¹ to a rearranged carboxylate species **12**. No intermediate with both the nitrogen and carboxylate protonated (**13**) was observed (**Figure S3, S6 and S12**). Species **12** was present for the

⁷ J. Lefranc, A. M. Fournier, G. Mingat, S. Herbert, T. Marcelli and J. Clayden, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2012, **134** (17), 7286.

⁸ D. M. Grainger, A. Campbell Smith, M. A. Vincent, I. H. Hillier, A. E. H. Wheatley and J. Clayden, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.*, 2012, **4**, 731.

first minute and a half of the quench, after which time the absorption at 1631 cm^{-1} decreased in intensity and finally disappeared.

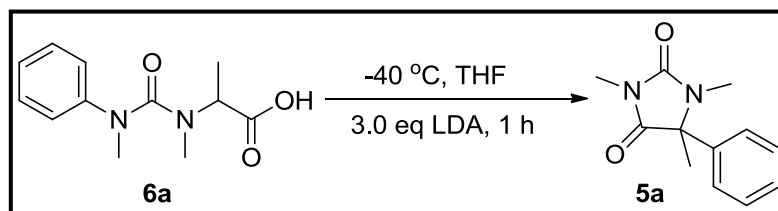
Approximately one minute into the quench two new absorptions appeared, at 1724 cm^{-1} and 1784 cm^{-1} , which correspond to $\nu_{\text{C=O}}$ for **5a** (Figure S3, S7 and S13). The IR data for an isolated sample of hydantoin **5a**, obtained in the solid state, gave stretching frequencies of 1704 cm^{-1} and 1770 cm^{-1} . No carboxylic acid C=O absorption was evident before the cyclisation to give hydantoin **5a** suggesting the hydantoin must form even under basic conditions; directly from the carboxylate (Scheme S1).



Scheme S1: The six successive reaction species identified on the pathway from **6a** to **5a** in diethyl ether.

Reaction carried out in THF

The reaction was carried in THF to establish whether the same ReactIR trace was observed for the intermediates **8**, **9** and **11** during the LDA addition as in the experiment in diethyl ether. It was necessary to carry the reaction out at -40 °C in THF to slow the reaction enough to observe the reaction intermediates.



Anhydrous THF (8.00 mL) was added to a 100 mL three-necked flask equipped with a stirrer bar and ReactIR probe under nitrogen. The solution was cooled to -40 °C using an acetonitrile/dry ice bath and left to stabilise. An IR solvent background spectrum was taken. Urea acid **6a** (250 mg, 1.06 mmol, 1.0 eq) was added through one of the three necks and an IR reactant background spectrum was taken. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature to allow the urea acid **6a** to dissolve. Once homogeneous the reaction mixture was cooled to -40 °C. In a separate flask LDA was prepared; anhydrous THF (4.00 mL) and DiPA (0.45 mL, 3.18 mmol, 3.0 eq) were cooled to 0 °C, *n*BuLi (1.38 mL, 3.18 mmol, 2.3 M in hexanes, 3.0 eq) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The LDA was added very slowly dropwise to the reaction mixture over 25 min (1.0 eq with 5 min wait, 2.0 eq with 5 min wait and 3.0 eq). The reaction mixture was left to stir for 1 h at -40 °C and was quenched by a dropwise addition of methanol. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and the ReactIR probe was removed. The reaction mixture was acidified with 1.0 M HCl and the product extracted with ethyl acetate three times. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. NMR analysis confirmed the hydantoin **5a** was present at the end of the reaction (1:1 **6a**:**5a**).

Throughout the experiment IR spectra were recorded continuously at varying time intervals. An IR spectrum was recorded every 15 seconds from the start of the experiment until 7 minutes after the LDA addition was complete. After this time the frequency of recording IR spectra was decreased to every 45 seconds. When the methanol was added to quench the reaction the frequency was increased to recording spectra every 15 seconds.

Figure S14 shows a difference spectrum constructed using the IR data acquired over the 25 min LDA addition at -40°C (one equivalent added at a time), subtracting the spectrum of **6a** to allow clearer identification of new species.

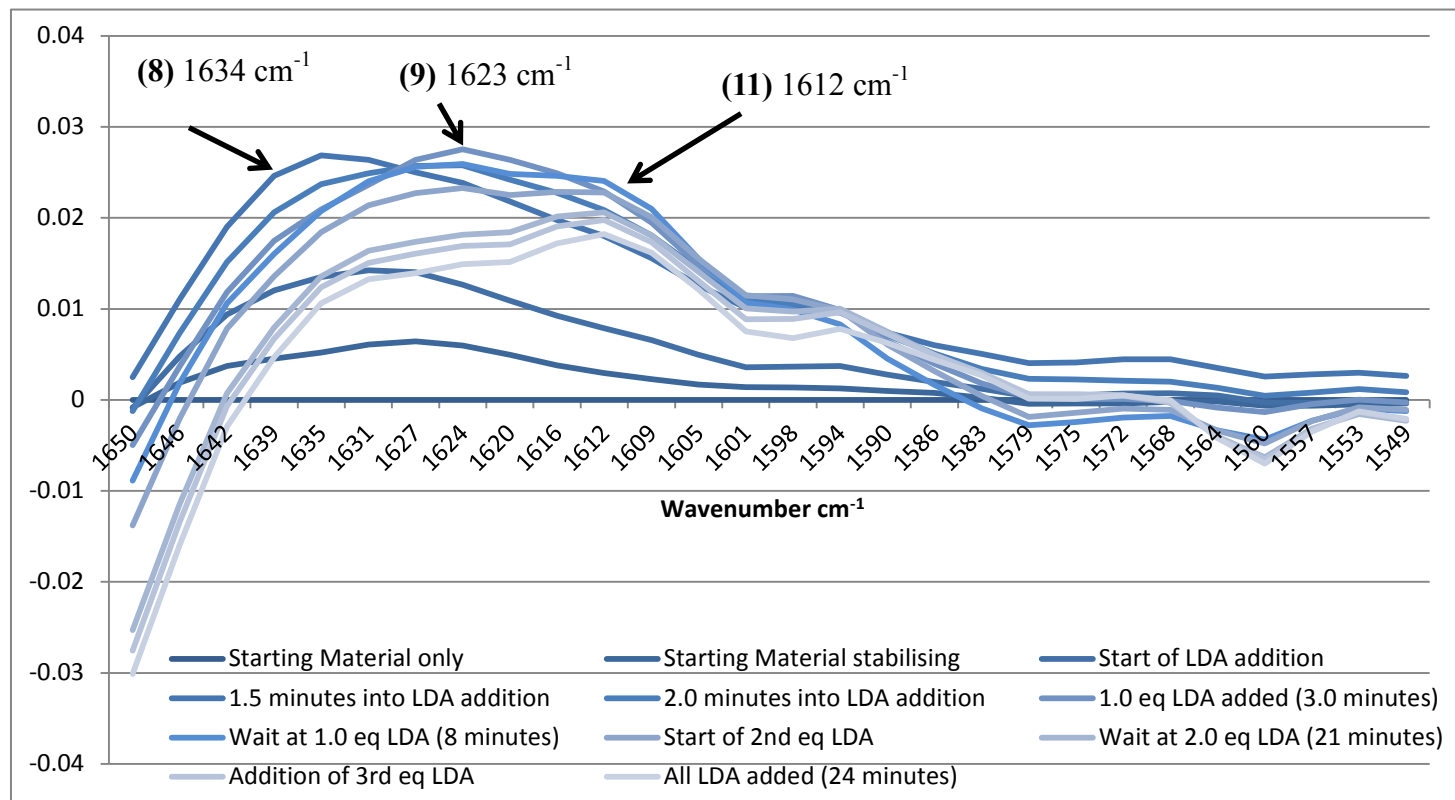
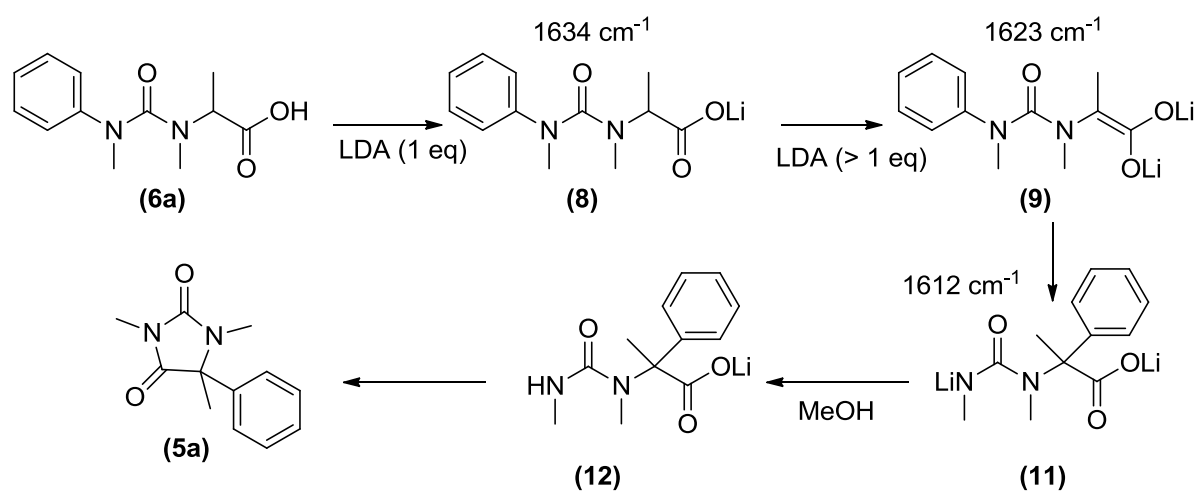


Figure S14: IR difference spectrum for the 25 min addition of LDA to **6a** at -40°C .

The LDA was added over 25 min, and as soon as one drop of LDA was added an absorption at 1634 cm^{-1} was observed, which we assign to the carboxylate **8**. At the end of the addition of the first equivalent and during the 5 min wait the enolate **9** started to form and continued to form throughout the addition of the second equivalent of LDA, with the absorption at 1623 cm^{-1} appearing and the absorption at 1634 cm^{-1} reducing in intensity. Finally, between the addition of the second and the third equivalents, a third absorption was observed at 1612 cm^{-1} , which was assigned to **11**. Throughout the addition the carbonyl absorption for **8** increases then reduces in intensity as the carbonyl absorption for **9** increases. At the end of the addition the carbonyl absorption for **9** reduces and the carbonyl peak for **11** becomes predominant (**Figure S14**).

The same pattern was observed in the diethyl ether ReactIR experiments, confirming the reaction undergoes the same pathway in both diethyl ether and THF. The values of the stretching frequencies are different due to the two different solvents but the same general shifts in the carbonyl stretching frequencies were consistent with a corresponding series of reaction intermediates (**Scheme S2**).



Scheme S2: The observed reaction species on the pathway from **6a** to **5a** in THF.

¹H and ¹³C NMR Spectra

