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Supporting Information for

"Clemastine/Tamoxifen Hybrids as Easily Accessible Antileishmanial Drug Leads"

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1. Synthetic procedures and compound characterisation

General procedure A

 Cs_2CO_3 (4.7 equiv.) was added to a solution of hydroxybenzophenone (1 equiv.) in anhydrous DMF or MeCN (0.03 M), and the resulting suspension stirred at RT for 30 min. Dibromoalkyl (5 equiv.) was then added and the solution stirred overnight at RT. The reaction mixture was diluted in water (X mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 x X mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure.

General procedure B

To a solution of hydroxybenzophenone (1 equiv.) in anhydrous DMF (0.3 M), caesium carbonate (3.5 equiv.) and TBAI (0.1 equiv.) were added. The mixture was heated to 60°C and stirred for 15 min. Alkyl chloride (2 equiv.) was then added and the resultant solution heated under reflux overnight. After cooling to room temperature, sat. $Na_2CO_{3(aq)}$ was added (X mL) and the products were extracted with EtOAc (3 x X mL). The combined organic layers were washed with sat. $NaCO_{3(aq)}$ (4 x 2X mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*.

[2"-(2-benzoylphenoxy)ethyl]dimethylamine 1



A solution of 2-hydroxybenzophenone (100 mg, 0.5 mmol) in anhydrous acetone (2 mL) was stirred with potassium carbonate (209 mg, 1.5 mmol) and potassium iodide (92 mg, 0.5 mmol) for 20 min when 2-dimethylamine ethylchloride hydrochloride (106 mg, 0.74 mmol) in anhydrous acetone (2 mL) was slowly added to the mixture. The reaction was then heated to 40°C and stirred for 72 hours. After cooling, the reaction mixture was diluted with water and the products extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound **47** (43 mg, 32%) as a yellow oil.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (700 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.77 (dd, J = 7.1, 1.2 Hz, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.47 – 7.44 (m, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.43 – 7.39 (m, 3H, 3'-*H*, 3-*H*), 7.05 (dt, J = 7.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H, 4-*H*), 6.97 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.00 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H, 1"-C*H*₂), 2.37 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H, 2"-C*H*₂), 2.10 (s, 6H, C*H*₃ x2); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (176 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.7 (Ar₂CO), 156.7 (C-1), 138.3 (C-1'), 132.7 (C-4'), 132.0 (C-5), 129.7 (C-3), 129.6 (C-2'), 129.2 (C-2), 128.1 (C-3'), 120.8 (C-4), 112.6 (C-6), 67.3 (C-1"), 57.6 (C-2"), 45.8 (CH₃); Accurate mass: found [M+H] 270.1507, C₁₇H₂₀NO₂ requires *M*, 270.1494.

[3"-(2-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]dimethylamine 2



2-hydroxybenzophenone (70 mg, 0.35 mmol) was reacted with 3dimethylaminopropylchloride hydrochloride (84 mg, 0.53 mmol) following general procedure B. Purification by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) afforded the title compound **49** (71 mg, 71%) as a yellow oil.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (700 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.79 – 7.75 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.55 – 7.50 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.46 – 7.39 (m, 4H, 3-*H*, 5-*H*, 3'-*H*), 7.04 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H, 4-*H*), 6.97 – 6.93 (m, 1H, 6-*H*), 3.92 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 2.05 (s, 6H, C*H*₃ x2), 1.96 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H, 3" *H*₂), 1.59 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (176 MHz, CDCl₃), 196.9 (Ar₂CO), 156.7 (C-1), 138.5 (C-1'), 132.7 (C-4'), 132.0 (C-5), 129.7 (C-3), 129.5 (C-2'), 129.05 (C-2), 128.1 (C-3'), 120.6 (C-4), 112.1 (C-6), 66.4 (C-1"), 55.9 (C-3"), 45.3 (CH₃), 27.1 (C-2"); Accurate mass: found [M+H] 284.1658, C₁₈H₂₂NO₂ requires M, 284.1651.

[2"-(2-benzoyl-4-chlorophenoxy)ethyl]dimethylamine 3



5-chloro-2-hydroxybenzophenone (100 mg, 0.43 mmol) was reacted with 2dimethylamino-ethylchloride hydrochloride (490 mg, 1.5 mmol) following general procedure B. The product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM with 1% NEt₃) to afford the title compound **49** (63 mg, 48%) as a yellow oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (700 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.78 – 7.75 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.58 – 7.55 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.45 – 7.42 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.6 Hz, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.37 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H, 3-*H*), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, 6-*H*), 3.97 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 2.35 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 2.08 (s, 6H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (176 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.0 (Ar₂CO), 155.2 (C-1), 137.6 (C-1'), 133.0 (C-4'), 131.6 (C-5), 130.5 (C-4), 129.6 (C-2'), 129.3 (C-3), 128.3 (C-3'), 126.0 (C-2), 113.9 (C-6), 67.9 (C-1"), 57.5 (C-2"), 45.8 (CH₃); Accurate mass: found [M+H] 304.1119, C₁₇H₁₉N³⁵ClO₂ requires *M*, 304.1104.

[3"-(2-benzoyl-4-chlorophenoxy)propyl]dimethylamine 4



5-chloro-2-hydroxybenzophenone (100 mg, 0.43 mmol) was reacted with 3dimethylaminepropylchloride hydrochloride (136 mg, 0.86 mmol) following general procedure B. The product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM with 1% NEt₃) to afford the title compound **49** (53 mg, 39%) as a yellow oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (700 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.79 – 7.76 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.60 – 7.56 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.48 – 7.45 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.41 (dd, 1H, *J* = 8.8, 2.6 Hz, 5-*H*), 7.37 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.6, 3-*H*), 6.90 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.8, 6-*H*), 3.97 (t, 2H, *J* = 5.7, 1"-*H*₂), 2.39 – 2.33 (m, 6H, C*H*₃ x2), 2.32 – 2.24 (m, 2H, 3"-*H*₂), 1.88 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (176 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.8 (Ar₂CO), 154.8 (C-1), 137.8 (C-1'), 133.2 (C-4'), 131.8 (C-5), 130.1 (C-4), 129.6 (C-2'), 129.5 (C-3), 128.5

(**C**-3'), 126.3 (**C**-2), 113.6 (**C**-6), 66.0 (**C**-1"), 55.4 (**C**-3"), 43.9 (**C**H₃), 25.5 (**C**-2"); Accurate mass: found [M+H] 318.1261, C₁₈H₂₁N³⁵ClO₂ requires *M*, 318.1261.

2-(2"-bromoethoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 5a



1,2-dibromoethane (0.262 mL, 3.027 mmol) was reacted with 2hydroxybenzophenone (150 mg, 0.757 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (3 mL) following general procedure A. Purification by column chromatography (0 to 100% Chloroform) afforded the title compound (82 mg, 36%) as a colourless oil.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.83 – 7.79 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.61 – 7.56 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.51 – 7.43 (m, 4H, 4-*H*, 6-*H*, 3'-*H*), 7.10 – 7.06 (m, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.02 – 6.99 (m, 1H, 3-*H*), 4.09 – 4.05 (m, 2H, 1''-*H*₂), 3.68 – 3.64 (m, 2H, 2''-*H*₂); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.5 (Ar₂CO), 156.9 (C-2), 138.4 (C-1'), 132.9 (C-4'), 132.5 (C-4), 130.3 (C-6), 129.5 (C-2'), 128.8 (C-1), 128.4 (C-3'), 121.1 (C-5), 113.4 (C-3), 70.5 (C-1''), 61.1 (C-2''). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 305.0193, C₁₅H₁₄⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 305.0177.

(2""R)-N-[2"-(2-benzoylphenoxy)ethyl]-2""-methylpyrrolidine 5



2-(2"-Bromoethoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone (82 mg, 0.27 mmol) was reacted with (2R)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (37 mg, 0.303 mmol) in anhydrous DMF following general procedure B. Product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (45 mg, 53%) as a yellow oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.80 – 7.75 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.56 – 7.52 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.48 – 7.44 (m, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.44 – 7.38 (m, 3H, 3'-*H*, 3-*H*), 7.05 (td, *J* = 7.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H, 4-*H*), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.24 – 3.97 (m, 2H, 1''-*H*₂), 3.01 – 2.92 (m, 1H, 5'''-*H*), 2.92 – 2.81 (m, 1H, 2''-*H*), 2.37 – 2.29 (m, 1H, 2''-*H*), 2.30 – 2.22 (m, 1H, 2'''-*H*), 2.06 – 1.05 (m, 1H, 5'''-*H*), 1.88 – 1.78 (m, 1H, 3'''-*H*), 1.73 – 1.62 (m, 1H, 4'''-*H*), 1.61 – 1.51 (m, 1H, 4'''-*H*), 1.42 – 1.31 (m, 1H, 3'''-*H*), 1.01 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.7 (Ar₂CO), 156.5 (C-1), 138.2 (C-1'), 132.7 (C-4'), 132.0 (C-5), 129.6 (C-2', C-3), 129.0 (C-2), 128.1 (C-3'), 120.8 (C-4), 112.4 (C-6), 67.5 (C-1''), 60.4 (C-2''') 54.4 (C-5'''), 51.9 (C-2''), 32.1 (C-3'''), 21.7 (C-4'''), 18.5 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 310.1820, C₂₀H₂₄NO₂ requires *M*, 310.1807.

[2-(3"-bromopropoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 6a



2-hydroxybenzophenone (70 mg, 0.35 mmol) was reacted with 1,3-dibromopropane (0.12 mL, 1.41 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (1.2 mL) following general procedure A. Purification by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) afforded the title compound (45 mg, 42%) as a colourless oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.79 – 7.76 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.57 – 7.53 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.50 – 7.43 (m, 4H, 4-*H*, 6-*H*, 3'-*H*), 7.10 – 7.06 (m, 1H, 5-*H*), 6.99 – 6.96 (m, 1H, 3-*H*), 4.02 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 2.97 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H, 3"-*H*₂), 1.97 (tt, *J* = 6.3, 5.6 Hz, 2H, 2"-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.7 (Ar₂CO), 156.4 (C-2), 138.4 (C-1'), 132.7 (C-4'), 132.1 (C-4), 129.9 (C-6), 129.3 (C-2'), 128.9 (C-1), 128.3 (C-3'), 120.9 (C-5), 111.9 (C-3), 65.2 (C-1"), 31.9 (C-3"), 29.7 (C-2"). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 319.0324, C₁₆H₁₅⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 319.0334.

(2""R)-N -[3"-(2-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]-2""-methylpyrrolidine 6



[2-(3"-bromopropoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone (106 mg, 0.332 mmol) was reacted with (2*R*)-Methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (44 mg, 0.362 mmol) following general

procedure B. Product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM with 1% NEt₃) to afford the title compound (40 mg, 66%) as a yellow oil.

$$δ_{\rm H}$$
 (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.81 – 7.76 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.45 (ddd,
 $J = 8.4, 7.5, 1.8$ Hz, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.43 – 7.39 (m, 3H, 3'-*H*, 3-*H*), 7.05 (td, $J = 7.5, 0.9$ Hz,
1H, 4-*H*), 6.96 (dd, $J = 8.4, 0.9$ Hz, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.02 – 3.89 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.06 (s, 1H,
5"'-*H*), 2.64 – 2.54 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.33 – 2.17 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.05 – 1.95 (m, 1H, 5"'-
H), 1.93 – 1.81 (m, 2H, 3"-*H*, 3"'-*H*), 1.80 – 1.60 (m, 4H, 2"-*H*₂, 4"'-*H*₂), 1.44 (s, 1H, 3"'-
H), 1.08 – 0.94 (m, 3H, C*H*₃); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.8 (Ar₂CO), 156.6 (C-1), 138.3
(C-1'), 132.7 (C-4'), 132.1 (C-5), 129.7 (C-3), 129.6 (C-2'), 129.0 (C-2), 128.2, 120.7
(C-4), 112.1 (C-6), 66.6 (C-1"), 60.5 (C-2"'), 53.6 (C-5"'), 50.5 (C-3"), 32.4 (C-3"'),
27.7 (C-2"), 21.5 (C-4''), 18.3 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 324.1963,
C₂₁H₂₆NO₂ requires *M*, 324.1964.

[2-(4"-bromobutoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 7a



1,4-dibromobutane (0.36 mL, 3.023 mmol) was reacted with 2-hydroxybenzophenone (156 mg, 0.79 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (8 mL) following general procedure B. Product was purified by column chromatography (0-100% DCM in Hexane) to afford title product (203 mg, 78%) as a white solid.

δ_H (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.76 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.50 - 7.36 (m, 4H, 4- *H*, 6- *H*, 3'-*H*), 7.06 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H, 5-*H*), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, 3-

H), 3.90 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.17 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H, 4"- *H*₂), 1.69 – 1.56 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 1.52 (m, 2H, 3"-*H*₂); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.8 (Ar₂CO), 156.6 (C-2), 138.5 (C-1'), 132.7 (C-4'), 132.1 (C-4), 129.8 (C-6), 129.4 (C-2'), 129.0 (C-1), 128.2 (C-3'), 120.8 (C-5), 112.0 (C-3), 66.9 (C-1"), 33.3 (C-4"), 28.7 (C-2"), 27.4 (C-3"). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 333.0476, C₁₇H₁₈⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 333.0490.





[2-(4"-bromobutoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone (150 mg, 0.45 mmol) was reacted with (2*R*)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (57.5 mg, 0.47 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (2.5 mL) following general procedure B. Product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (70 mg, 46%) as a yellow oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.80 – 7.76 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.45 (td, *J* = 8.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.43 – 7.37 (m, 3H, 3-*H*, 3'-*H*), 7.03 (td, *J* = 7.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H, 4-*H*), 6.95 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H, 6-*H*), 3.98 – 3.84 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.11 – 2.99 (m, 1H, 5""-*H*), 2.72 – 2.61 (m, 1H, 4"-*H*), 2.42 – 2.22 (m, 1H, 2""-*H*), 2.14 – 1.95 (m, 2H, 4"-*H*, 5""-*H*), 1.96 – 1.85 (m, 1H, 3""-*H*), 1.85 – 1.72 (m, 1H, 4""-*H*), 1.72 – 1.62 (m, 1H, 4""-*H*), 1.61 – 1.50 (m, 1H, 2"-*H*), 1.52 – 1.31 (m, 4H, 2"-*H*, 3"-*H*₂, 3""-*H*), 1.10 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.7 (Ar₂CO), 156.7 (C-1), 138.2 (C-1'), 132.7 (C-4'), 131.9 (C-5), 129.6 (C-3), 129.6 (C-2'), 129.0 (C-2), 128.1 (C-3'), 120.5 (C-4), 112.2 (C-6), 68.1 (C-1"), 60.6 (C-2""), 53.4 (C-5""), 53.3 (C-4"), 32.4 (C-3""), 26.9 (C-2"), 24.4 (**C**-3"), 21.5 (**C**-4""), 18.2 (**C**H₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 338.2133, C₂₂H₂₈NO₂ requires *M*, 338.2120.

[2-(2"-bromopropoxy)-5-chlorophenyl](phenyl)methanone 8a



5-chloro-2-hydroxybenzophenone (100 mg, 0.43 mmol) was reacted with 2bromoethane (0.15 mL, 1.72 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (1.4 mL) following general procedure A. Purification by column chromatography (100% Chloroform) afforded the title compound (78 mg, 54%) as a colourless oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.79 – 7.75 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.43 – 7.40 (m, 1H, 4-*H*), 7.40 – 7.38 (m, 1H, 3-*H*), 6.93 – 6.89 (m, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.20 – 4.15 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.28 – 3.23 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.7 (Ar₂CO) 154.3 (C-1), 137.5 (C-1'), 133.2 (C-4'), 131.5 (C-5), 130.9 (C-4), 129.6 (C-2'), 129.5 (C-3), 128.3 (C-3'), 126.8 (C-2), 114.4 (C-6), 68.8 (C-1"), 27.8 (C-2"); Accurate mass: found [M+H] 338.9784, C₁₅H₁₃³⁵Cl⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 338.9787.

(2""R)-N -[2-(2"-benzoyl-4-chlorophenoxy)ethyl]-2"'-methylpyrrolidine 8



(2*R*)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (22.6 mg, 0.18 mmol) was reacted with [2-(2-bromoethoxy)-5-chlorophenyl](phenyl)methanone (60 mg, 0.18 mmol) in dry DMF (2 mL) following general procedure B. Product was purified by column chromatography (0 to 10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title product (18 mg, 31%) as a yellow oil.

 $δ_{H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.78 – 7.74 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.57 – 7.53 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.44 – 7.41 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.39 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.6 Hz, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.35 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H, 3-*H*), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.07 – 3.95 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 2.87 (ddd, *J* = 9.3, 8.2, 2.9 Hz, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.84 – 2.78 (m, 1H, 2"-*H*), 2.25 – 2.15 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*, 2"'-*H*), 1.91 (q, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 1.84 – 1.76 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.68 – 1.59 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.59 – 1.49 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.35 – 1.26 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 0.95 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.1 (Ar₂CO), 155.2 (C-1), 137.6 (C-1'), 133.1 (C-4'), 131.5 (C-5), 130.4 (C-2), 129.63 (C-2'), 129.2 (C-3), 128.3 (C-3'), 125.9 (C-4), 113.7 (C-6), 68.4 (C-1''), 60.1 (C-2'''), 54.6 (C-5'''), 51.9 (C-2''), 32.2 (C-3'''), 21.7 (C-4'''), 18.8 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 344.1430, C₂₀H2₃³⁵CINO₂ requires *M*, 344.1417.

[2-(3"-bromopropoxy)-5-chlorophenyl](phenyl)methanone 9a



5-chloro-2-hydroxybenzophenone (100 mg, 0.43 mmol) was reacted with 1,3dibromopropane (0.220 mL, 2.15 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (1.4 mL) following general procedure A. Purification by column chromatography (75% EtOAc in Hexane) afforded the title compound **56b** (70 mg, 46%) as a white solid.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (700 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.78 – 7.75 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.59 – 7.56 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.48 – 7.44 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.43 – 7.41 (m, 1H, 4-*H*), 7.40 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H, 6-*H*), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, 3-*H*), 4.00 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 2.96 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H, 3"-*H*₂), 1.99 – 1.94 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (176 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.0 (Ar₂CO), 154.9 (C-2), 137.7 (C-1'), 133.1 (C-4'), 131.7 (C-4), 130.3 (C-1), 129.5 (C-6), 129.3 (C-2'), 128.4 (C-3'), 126.2 (C-5), 113.4 (C-3), 65.7 (C-1"), 31.8 (C-2"), 29.5 (C-3"); Accurate mass: found [M+H] 352.9937, C₁₆H₁₆N³⁵Cl⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 352.9944.

(2""R)-N-[3"-(2-benzoyl-4-chlorophenoxy)propyl]-2"-methylpyrrolidine 9



56b (60 mg, 0.17 mmol) was reacted with (2*R*)-Methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (21.7 mg, 0.178 mmol) following general procedure B. The product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM with 1% NEt₃) to afford the title compound **59** (40 mg, 66%) as a yellow oil.

 $δ_{H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.80 – 7.74 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.59 – 7.54 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.6 Hz, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.36 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H, 3-*H*), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.01 – 3.91 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.29 – 3.10 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.74 – 2.63 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.57 – 2.40 (m, 1H, 2'"-*H*), 2.26 – 2.10 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.06 – 1.92 (m, 3H, 2"-*H*, 3"-*H*, 3"'-*H*), 1.92 – 1.83 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.83 – 1.69 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*, 4"'-*H*), 1.65 – 1.51 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.18 – 1.09 (m, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.9 (Ar₂CO), 154.9 (C-1), 137.7 (C-1'), 133.2 (C-4'), 131.7 (C-5), 130.2 (C-4), 129.6 (C-2'), 129.4 (C-3), 128.4 (C-3'), 126.1 (C-2), 113.6 (C-6), 66.6 (C-1"), 61.7 (C-2"'), 53.3 (C-5"') 50.2 (C-3"), 31.9 (C-3"'), 26.8 (C-2"), 21.4 (C-4"'), 17.3 (CH₃); Accurate mass: found [M+H] 358.1582, C₂₁H₂₅N³⁵ClO₂ requires 358.1574.

[2-(4"-bromobutoxy)-5-chlorophenyl](phenyl)methanone 10a



 Na_2CO_3 (2.3 g, 21.7 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,4-dibromobutane (0.1.3 mL, 10.74 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (20 mL). A solution 5-chloro-2-hydroxybenzophenone (500 mg, 2.15 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (23 mL) was slowly added and stirred overnight at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and product was purified by column chromatography (0-100% DCM in Hexane) to afford the title compound (269 mg, 34%) as a colourless oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.78 – 7.73 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.60 – 7.54 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.47 – 7.37 (m, 4H, 3'-*H*, 4-*H*, 6-*H*), 6.90 – 6.85 (m, 1H, 3-*H*), 3.88 (t, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.16 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H, 4"-*H*₂), 1.65 – 1.55 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 1.55 – 1.43 (m, 2H, 3"- *H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (101 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.2 (Ar₂CO), 155.2 (C-2), 137.8 (C-1'), 133.2 (C-4'), 131.7 (C-4), 130.3 (C-1), 129.4 (C-6), 129.4 (C-2'), 128.4 (C-3'), 125.9 (C-5'), 113.4 (C-3), 67.4 (C-1''), 33.2 (C-4'''), 28.6 (C-2''), 27.4 (C-3''). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 367.0094, C₁₇H₁₇⁷⁹Br³⁵ClO₂ requires *M*, 367.0100.

(2""R)-N-[4"-(2-benzoyl-4-chlorophenoxy)butyl]-2"-methylpyrrolidine 10



To a solution of (2*R*)-Methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (50 mg, 0.41 mmol), KI (4.5 mg, 0.027 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (132.6 mg, 1.25 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (7 mL) at 70°C, [2-(4-bromobutoxy)-5-chlorophenyl](phenyl)methanone (100 mg, 0.27 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (7 mL) was slowly added. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. Solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (22 mg, 22%) as a brown oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 – 7.73 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.58 – 7.52 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.45 – 7.40 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.39 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.6 Hz, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.34 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H, 3-*H*), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, 6-*H*), 3.94 – 3.84 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.10 – 2.98 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.72 – 2.60 (m, 1H, 4"-*H*), 2.40 – 2.24 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.09 – 1.95 (m, 2H, 4"-*H*, 5"'-*H*), 1.95 – 1.87 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.84 – 1.72 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.71 – 1.63 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.59 – 1.51 (m, 1H, 2"-*H*), 1.51 – 1.43 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*, 3"'-*H*), 1.43 – 1.38 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 1.38 – 1.30 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 1.09 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.1 (Ar₂CO), 155.3 (C-1), 137.5 (C-1'), 133.1 (C-4'), 131.5 (C-5), 130.3 (C-2), 129.6 (C-2'), 129.2 (C-3), 128.3 (C-3'), 125.7 (C-4), 113.6 (C-6), 68.6 (C-1"), 60.7 (C-2"), 53.5

(**C**-5^{'''}), 53.3 (**C**-4^{''}), 32.4 (**C**-3^{'''}), 26.9 (**C**-2^{''}), 24.4 (**C**-3^{''}), 21.5 (**C**-4^{'''}), 18.3 (**C**H₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 372.1738, C₂₂H₂₇³⁵CINO₂ requires *M*, 372.1730.

[3-(2"-bromoethoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 11a



 Cs_2CO_3 (986 g, 3.03 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,2-dibromoethane (0.35 mL, 4.04 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (5 mL). A solution of 3-hydroxybenzophenone (200 mg, 1.01 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (5 mL) was slowly added and stirred overnight at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and product was purified by column chromatography (0-100% Chloroform in Hexane) to afford the title compound (116 mg, 38%) as a colourless oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.82 – 7.78 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.61 – 7.57 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.52 – 7.46 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 3H, 2-*H*, 5-*H*, 6-*H*), 7.18 – 7.14 (m, 1H, 4-*H*), 4.35 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.66 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H, 2"-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.2 (Ar₂CO), 158.1 (C-3), 139.0 (C-1), 137.5 (C-1'), 132.5 (C-4'), 130.0 (C-2'), 129.4 (C-5), 128.3 (C-3'), 123.5 (C-6), 119.5 (C-4), 115.1 (C-2), 68.0 (C-1"), 28.9 (C-2"). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 305.0184, C₁₅H₁₄⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 305.0177.

(2""R)- N -[2"-(3-benzoylphenoxy)ethyl]-2""-methylpyrrolidine 11



To a solution of (2R)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (48 mg, 0.39 mmol), KI (5.4 mg, 0.033 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (105 mg, 1.64 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (10 mL) at 70°C, [3-(2-bromoethoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (6 mL) was slowly added. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. The solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (69 mg, 68%) as a yellow solid.

 $δ_{H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.80 – 7.75 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.37 – 7.30 (m, 3H, 2-*H*, 4-*H*, 5-*H*), 7.15 – 7.10 (m, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.19 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.30 (ddd, *J* = 9.5, 8.9, 3.1 Hz, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 3.25 (dt, *J* = 12.5, 6.0 Hz, 1H, 2"-*H*), 2.64 (dt, *J* = 12.5, 6.0 Hz, 1H, 2"-*H*), 2.60 – 2.51 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.38 (q, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.00 – 1.90 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.90 – 1.79 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.79 – 1.69 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.55 – 1.43 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.18 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.4 (Ar₂CO), 158.6 (C-1), 138.9 (C-3), 137.5 (C-1'), 132.4 (C-4'), 129.9 (C-2'), 129.2 (C-5), 128.2 (C-3'), 122.9 (C-4), 119.2 (C-6), 115.2 (C-2), 66.9 (C-1"), 60.9 (C-2"'), 54.7 (C-5"'), 52.5 (C-2"), 32.2 (C-3"'), 21.8 (C-4"'), 18.6 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 310.1819, C₂₀H₂₄NO₂ requires *M*, 310.1807.

(2["]*R*)-*N*-[3["]-(3-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]-2["]-methylpyrrolidine 12



To a solution of (2*R*)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (45.7 mg, 0.37 mmol), KI (0.5 mg, 0.003 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (152.7 mg, 1.44 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (10 mL) at 70°C, [3-(3-bromopropoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone (100 mg, 0.31 mmol) in dry

acetonitrile (6 mL) was slowly added. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. The solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (77 mg, 77%) as a yellow solid.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.82 – 7.78 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.59 (ddt, *J* = 8.7, 7.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 3H, 2-*H*, 4-*H*, 5-*H*), 7.13 (ddd, *J* = 8.1, 2.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.13 – 4.04 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.32 – 3.18 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 3.04 (q, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.50 – 2.37 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.37 – 2.26 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.26 – 2.14 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.13 – 2.01 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 2.01 – 1.90 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.90 – 1.79 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.79 – 1.68 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.56 – 1.42 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.15 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.5 (Ar₂CO), 158.9 (C-1), 138.8 (C-3), 137.6 (C-1'), 132.4 (C-4'), 130.0 (C-2'), 129.2 (C-5), 128.2 (C-3'), 122.8 (C-4), 119.2 (C-6), 115.1 (C-2), 66.5 (C-1"), 60.6 (C-2"'), 53.9 (C-5"'), 50.7 (C-3"), 32.6 (C-3"'), 28.1 (C-2"), 21.6 (C-4"'), 18.6 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 324.1971, C₂₁H₂₆NO₂ requires *M*, 324.1964.

[3-(4"-bromobutoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 13a



 Cs_2CO_3 (986 g, 3.03 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,4-dibromobutane (0.48 mL, 4.04 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (5 mL). A solution of 3-hydroxybenzophenone (200 mg, 1.01 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (5 mL) was slowly added and stirred overnight at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and product was purified by column

chromatography (0-100% DCM in Hexane) to afford the title compound (201 mg, 60%) as a colourless oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.82 – 7.79 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.61 – 7.57 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.35 – 7.32 (m, 2H, 2-*H*, 6-*H*), 7.13 – 7.10 (m, 1H, 4-*H*), 4.05 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.49 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H, 4"-*H*₂), 2.11 – 2.04 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 2.01 – 1.93 (m, 2H, 3"-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.5 (Ar₂CO), 158.8 (C-3), 138.9 (C-1), 137.6 (C-1'), 132.4 (C-4'), 130.0 (C-2'), 129.2 (C-5), 128.2 (C-3'), 122.9 (C-6), 119.2 (C-4), 114.9 (C-2), 67.1 (C-1"), 33.3 (C-4"), 29.4 (C-2"), 27.8 (C-3"). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 333.0490, C₁₇H₁₈⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 333.0490.

(2^{'''}*R*)-*N*-[4^{''}-(3-benzoylphenoxy)butyl]-2^{'''}-methylpyrrolidine 13



To a solution of (2R)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (73 mg, 0.6 mmol), KI (5 mg, 0.03 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (159 mg, 1.5 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (7 mL) at 70°C, [3-(4-bromobutoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone (100 mg, 0.3 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (8 mL) was slowly added. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. The solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (48 mg, 48%) as a brown oil.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.83 – 7.77 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.61 – 7.55 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.36 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 2H, 2-*H*, 4-*H*), 7.13 – 7.07 (m, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.09 – 3.98 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.49 – 3.26 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 3.07 – 2.90 (m, 1H, 4"-*H*), 2.71 – 2.51 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.47 – 2.24 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*, 5"'-*H*), 2.08 – 1.98

(m, 1H, 3'"-*H*), 1.98 – 1.73 (m, 6H, 2"-*H*₂, 3"-*H*₂, 4""-*H*₂), 1.68 – 1.56 (m, 1H, 3""-*H*), 1.35 – 1.14 (m, 3H, C*H*₃); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.5 (Ar₂CO), 158.8 (C-1), 138.9 (C-3), 137.6 (C-1'), 132.4 (C-4'), 130.0 (C-2'), 129.2 (C-5), 128.2 (C-3'), 122.8 (C-4), 119.2 (C-6), 115.0 (C-2), 67.7 (C-1"), 61.4 (C-2""), 53.5 (C-5""), 53.4 (C-4"), 32.2 (C-3""), 24.3 (C-3"), 21.5 (C-4""), 17.7 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 338.2130, C₂₂H₂₈NO₂ requires *M*, 338.2120.

3-(4'-chlorobenzoyl)phenol H¹



3-methoxybenzoic acid (500 mg, 3.28 mmol) was dissolved in thionyl chloride (3 mL) and heated under reflux for 2h. After cooling to RT, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure and the products redissolved in anhydrous chlorobenzene (10 mL). AlCl₃ (1.31 g, 9.86 mmol) was added in portions over 20 minutes and the mixture stirred for 24h at 70°C. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was added to 3M HCl (aq.) (10 mL) in a separating funnel and extracted with DCM (3x10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced solid. The crude product was submitted to column chromatography (0-100% DCM in Hexane) to afford the title product (670 mg, 87%) as a brown solid.

 δ_{H} (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.79 – 7.73 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.39 – 7.33 (m, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 2H, 2-*H*, 6-*H*), 7.12 – 7.07 (m, 1H, 4-*H*), 5.76 (s, 1H, O*H*); δ_{C} (101 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.6 (Ar₂CO), 155.9 (C-3), 139.2 (C-4'), 138.6 (C-1), 135.6 (C-1'), 131.5 (C-2'), 129.7 (C-5), 128.7 (C-3'), 122.7 (C-6), 120.1 (C-4), 116.4 (C-2);

m/z (LC-MS, ESI⁺) 233 [M(³⁵CI)+H] and 235 [M(³⁷CI)+H]) in a 3:1 ratio. All data agrees with literature.

[3-(2"-bromoethoxy)phenyl](4'-chlorophenyl)methanone 14a



 Cs_2CO_3 (420 mg, 1.28 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,2-dibromoethane (0.15 mL, 1.72 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (5 mL). A solution of 4'-chloro-3-hydroxybenzophenone (100 mg, 0.43 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (5 mL) was slowly added and stirred overnight at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and product purified by column chromatography (0-100% DCM in Hexane) to afford the title compound (94 mg, 65%) as a yellow oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.42 - 7.38 (m, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.35 - 7.32 (m, 2H, 2-*H*, 6-*H*), 7.18 - 7.15 (m, 1H, 4-*H*), 4.35 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.66 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H, 2"-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.0 (Ar₂CO), 158.2 (C-3), 138.9 (C-4'), 138.6 (C-1), 135.7 (C-1'), 131.4 (C-2'), 129.5 (C-5), 128.6 (C-3'), 123.3 (C-6), 119.6 (C-4), 115.1 (C-2), 68.0 (C-1"), 28.9 (C-2"). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 338.9789, C₁₅H₁₃N³⁵Cl⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 338.9787.

(2""R)-N-{2"-[3-(4'-chlorobenzoyl)phenoxy]ethyl}-2""-methylpyrrolidine 14



To a solution of (2*R*)-Methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (50.1 mg, 0.41 mmol), KI (3.4 mg, 0.021 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (110 mg, 1.038 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (5 mL) at 70°C, [3-(2-bromoethoxy)phenyl](4-chlorophenyl)methanone (70 mg, 0.41 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (5 mL) was slowly added. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. Solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (56 mg, 80%) as a brown oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.76 – 7.71 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*₂), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*₂), 7.39 – 7.35 (m, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.32 – 7.28 (m, 2H, 2-*H*, 4-*H*), 7.18 – 7.12 (m, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.38 – 4.30 (m, 1H, 1"-*H*), 4.30 – 4.21 (m, 1H, 1"-*H*), 3.49 – 3.41 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 3.41 – 3.32 (m, 1H, 2"-*H*), 2.88 – 2.76 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*, 2"'-*H*), 2.64 – 2.52 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.09 – 2.00 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 2.00 – 1.89 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.89 – 1.78 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.66 – 1.57 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.29 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.1 (Ar₂CO), 158.3 (C-1), 138.9 (C-4'), 138.6 (C-3), 135.7 (C-1'), 131.4 (C-2'), 129.5 (C-5), 128.63 (C-3'), 122.9 (C-4), 119.3 (C-6), 115.2 (C-2), 66.0 (C-1"), 61.8 (C-2"'), 54.6 (C-5"'), 52.3 (C-2"), 31.9 (C-3"'), 21.7 (C-4"'), 17.9 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 344.1427, C₂₀H₂₃N³⁵ClO₂ requires *M*, 344.1417.

[3-(3"-bromopropoxy)phenyl](4'-chlorophenyl)methanone 15a



 Cs_2CO_3 (630 mg, 1.93 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,3-dibromopropane (0.33 mL, 3.22 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (6 mL). A solution of 4'-chloro-3hydroxybenzophenone (150 mg, 0.64 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (7 mL) was slowly added and stirred overnight at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and product submitted to column chromatography (0-100% DCM in Hexane) to afford the title compound contaminated with 32% (4-chlorophenyl) [3-(prop-2-en-1-yloxy)phenyl] methanone (166 mg, 73%) as a white solid.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.79 – 7.73 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.42 – 7.36 (m, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H, 2-*H*, 6-*H*), 7.16 – 7.11 (m, 1H, 4-*H*), 4.16 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.61 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H, 3"-*H*₂), 2.38 – 2.29 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (101 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.2 (Ar₂CO), 158.8 (C-3), 138.9 (C-4'), 138.6 (C-1), 135.8 (C-1'), 131.5 (C-2'), 129.4 (C-5), 128.7 (C-3'), 122.9 (C-6), 119.4 (C-4), 115.0 (C-4), 65.5 (C-1"), 32.2 (C-3"), 29.8 (C-2"). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 352.9951, C₁₆H₁₅N³⁵Cl⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 352.9944.

(2"'R)-N-{3"-[3-(4'-chlorobenzoyl)phenoxy]propyl}-2"'-methylpyrrolidine 15



To a solution of (2*R*)-Methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (68.8 mg, 0.56 mmol), KI (4.7 mg, 0.028 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (150 mg, 1.41 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (5 mL) at 70°C, [3-(3-bromopropoxy)phenyl](4-chlorophenyl)methanone (100 mg, 0.28 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (5 mL) was slowly added. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. Solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (41 mg, 41%) as a brown oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.76 – 7.72 (m, 2H, 2-*H*₂), 7.46 – 7.43 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.36 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 2H, 2-*H*, 4-*H*), 7.15 – 7.10 (m, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.12 – 4.03 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.30 – 3.21 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 3.09 – 2.99 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.50 – 2.41 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.37 – 2.28 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.28 – 2.19 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.13 – 2.02 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 2.02 – 1.93 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.89 – 1.79 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.79 – 1.69 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.55 – 1.46 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.16 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.2 (Ar₂CO), 158.9 (C-1), 138.8 (C-4'), 138.5 (C-3), 135.8 (C-1'), 131.4 (C-2'), 129.3 (C-5), 128.6 (C-3'), 122.5 (C-4), 119.3 (C-6), 115.0 (C-2), 66.5 (C-1"), 60.8 (C-2"'), 53.8 (C-5"'), 50.7 (C-3"), 32.5 (C-3"'), 28.0 (C-2"), 21.6 (C-4"'), 18.4 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 358.1579, C₂₁H₂₅N³⁵ClO₂ requires *M*, 358.1574.

(2""R)-N-{4"-[3-(4'-chlorobenzoyl)phenoxy]butyl}-2""-methylpyrrolidine 16



 Cs_2CO_3 (630 mg, 1.93 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,4-dibromobutane (0.385 mL, 3.22 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (16 mL). A solution 4'-chloro-3hydroxybenzophenone (150 mg, 0.64 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (16 mL) was slowly added and stirred overnight at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and crude product was submitted to column chromatography (0-100% DCM in Hexane) to remove inorganic salts. Resultant product (130 mg) in dry acetonitrile (10 mL) was slowly added to a stirring solution of (2*R*)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (86 mg, 0.71 mmol), KI (6 mg, 0.035 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (187.4 mg, 1.77 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (8 mL) at 70°C. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. Solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (35 mg, 27%) as a brown oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.77 – 7.73 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*₂), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*₂), 7.39 – 7.35 (m, 1H, 5), 7.30 – 7.27 (m, 2H, 2-*H*, 4-*H*), 7.13 – 7.10 (m, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.09 – 3.97 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.35 – 3.23 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 3.00 – 2.88 (m, 1H, 4"-*H*), 2.61 – 2.40 (m, 1H, 2'"-*H*), 2.37 – 2.20 (m, 2H, 4"-*H*, 5"'-*H*), 2.07 – 1.94 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.92 – 1.84 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*, 4"'-*H*), 1.83 – 1.71 (m, 4H, 2"-*H*, 3"-*H*₂, 4"'-*H*), 1.62 – 1.48 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.20 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.3 (Ar₂CO), 159.0 (C-1), 138.9 (C-4'), 138.5 (C-3), 135.9 (C-1'), 131.4 (C-2'), 129.3 (C-5), 128.6 (C-3'), 122.5 (C-4), 119.4 (C-6), 114.9 (C-2), 67.8 (C-1"), 61.0 (C-2"'), 53.6 (C-4"), 53.5 (C-5"'), 32.3 (C-3"'), 27.2 (C-2"), 24.6 (C-3"), 21.5 (C-4"'), 18.1 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 372.1716, C₂₂H₂₇N³⁵ClO₂ requires *M*, 372.1730.

3-(4'-methylbenzoyl)phenol I²



3-methoxybenzoic acid (1 g, 6.57 mmol) was dissolved in thionyl chloride (3 mL) and heated under reflux for 2h. After cooling down to RT, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure and the products redissolved in anhydrous toluene (10 mL). AICl₃ (2.63 g, 19.72 mmol) was added in portions over 20 minutes and the mixture stirred for 24h at 70°C. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was added to 3M HCl (aq.) (10 mL) in a separating funnel and extracted with DCM (3x10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and

concentrated under reduced solid. The crude product was submitted to column chromatography (0-100% EtOAc in Hexane) to afford the title product (1.16 g, 83%) as a brown solid.

 δ_{H} (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.73 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H, 2'- H_2), 7.37 – 7.26 (m, 5H, 2-H, 5-H, 6-H, 3'- H_2), 7.09 – 7.06 (m, 1H, 4-H), 2.44 (s, 3H, -C H_3); δ_{C} (101 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.5 (Ar₂CO), 155.7 (C-3), 143.5 (C-4'), 139.3 (C-1), 134.7 (C-1'), 130.4 (C-2'), 129.5 (C-5), 129.0 (C-3'), 122.7 (C-6), 119.5 (C-4), 116.4 (C-2), 21.7 (-CH₃). *m/z* (LC-MS, ESI⁺) 213.25 [M+H]. All data agrees with literature.

(2""R)-N-{3"-[3-(4'-methylbenzoyl)phenoxy]propyl}2"'-methylpyrrolidine 17



 Cs_2CO_3 (2.2 g, 6.75 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,3-dibromopropane (0.72 mL, 7.07 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (20 mL). A solution of 3-(4-methylbenzoyl)phenol (300 mg, 1.41 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (27 mL) was slowly added and stirred overnight at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and crude product was submitted to column chromatography (0-100% DCM in Hexane) to remove inorganic salts. Resultant product (200 mg) in dry acetonitrile (15 mL) was then slowly added to a stirring solution of (2*R*)-Methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (87.6 mg, 0.72 mmol), KI (10 mg, 0.06 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (292.6 mg, 2.76 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (15 mL) at 70°C. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. Solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Crude mixture was submitted to

column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (119 mg, 59%) as a brown oil.

 $δ_{H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.74 – 7.70 (m, 2H, 2'-H₂), 7.38 – 7.34 (m, 1H, 5-H), 7.33 – 7.30 (m, 2H, 2-H, 4-H), 7.29 – 7.27 (m, 2H, 3'-H₂), 7.12 – 7.09 (m, 1H, 6-H), 4.15 – 4.02 (m, 2H, 1"-H₂), 3.46 – 3.30 (m, 1H, 5"'-H), 3.19 – 3.06 (m, 1H, 3"-H), 2.75 – 2.55 (m, 1H, 2"'-H), 2.53 – 2.45 (m, 1H, 3"-H), 2.44 (s, 3H, ArCH₃), 2.43 – 2.36 (m, 1H, 5"'-H), 2.27 – 2.16 (m, 1H, 2"-H), 2.16 – 2.08 (m, 1H, 2"-H), 2.08 – 1.99 (m, 1H, 3"'-H), 1.98 – 1.87 (m, 1H, 4"'-H), 1.87 – 1.76 (m, 1H, 4"'-H), 1.66 – 1.59 (m, 1H, 3-H), 1.32 – 1.20 (m, 3H, CH₃); $δ_{C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.2 (Ar₂CO), 158.7 (C-1), 143.3 (C-4'), 139.3 (C-3), 134.8 (C-1'), 130.3 (C-2'), 129.2 (C-5), 128.9 (C-3'), 122.7 (C-4), 118.8 (C-6), 115.1 (C-2), 66.2 (C-1"), 61.4 (C-2"'), 53.6 (C-5"'), 50.7 (C-3"), 32.3 (C-3"'), 27.5 (C-2"), 21.6 (ArCH₃), 21.5 (C-4"'), 17.8 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 338.2116, C₂₂H₂₈NO₂ requires *M*, 338.2120

3-[4'-(isopropanyl)benzoyl]phenol J



3-methoxybenzoic acid (1 g, 6.57 mmol) was dissolved in thionyl chloride (3 mL) and refluxed for 2h. After cooling down to RT, volatiles were removed under reduced pressure and products redissolved in anhydrous cumene (10 mL). AICl₃ (2.63 g, 19.72 mmol) was added in portions over 20 minutes and mixture stirred for 24h at 70°C. After cooling down to room temperature, reaction mixture was added to 3M HCl (aq.) (10 mL) in a separating funnel and extracted with DCM (3x10 mL). Combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under

reduced solid. Crude was submitted to column chromatography (0-100% EtOAc in Hexane) to afford de title product (1.58 g, 100%) as a light brown solid.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.80 – 7.71 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.38 – 7.29 (m, 5H, 2-*H*, 5-*H*, 6-*H*, 3'-*H*₂), 7.11 – 7.05 (m, 1H,), (h, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H, C*H*), 1.29 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H, 2xC*H*₃); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.0 (Ar₂CO), 155.5 (C-3), 154.1 (C-4'), 139.5 (C-1), 135.1 (C-1'), 130.4 (C-2'), 129.5 (C-5), 126.4 (C-3'), 122.7 (C-6), 119.3 (C-4), 116.4 (C-2), 34.3 (CH), 23.7 (2xCH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 241.1236, C₁₆H₁₇O₂ requires *M*, 241.1229

(2'''R)-N-(3''-{3-[4'-(propan-2''''-yl)benzoyl]phenoxy}propyl)-2'''-





 Cs_2CO_3 (1.25 g, 3.83 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,3-dibromopropane (0.42 mL, 4.16 mmol) anhydrous acetonitrile (10 mL). А in solution 3-[4-(propan-2-yl)benzoyl]phenol (200 mg, 0.83 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (17 mL) was slowly added and stirred overnight at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and crude product was submitted to column chromatography (0-100% DCM in Hexane) to to remove inorganic salts. Resultant product (150 mg) in dry acetonitrile (15 mL) was then slowly added to a stirring solution of (2R)-Methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (60.6 mg, 0.49 mmol), KI (7 mg, 0.042 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (202.4 mg, 1.91 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (11 mL) at 70°C. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. Solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (76 mg, 50%) as a brown oil.

$$δ_{H}$$
 (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.78 – 7.70 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*₂), 7.38 – 7.28 (m, 5H, 2-*H*, 4-*H*, 5-*H*, 3'-
*H*₂), 7.13 – 7.08 (m, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.12 – 4.02 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.26 – 3.18 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*),
3.07 – 2.93 (m, 2H, C*H*, 5'"-*H*), 2.42 – 2.32 (m, 1H, 2'''-*H*), 2.30 – 2.21 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*),
2.21 – 2.13 (m, 1H, 5'''-*H*), 2.08 – 1.99 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 1.99 – 1.88 (m, 1H, 3'''-*H*), 1.88
– 1.65 (m, 2H, 4'''-*H*₂), 1.51 – 1.40 (m, 1H, 3'''-*H*), 1.26 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H, 2xC*H*₃),
1.10 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{C}$ (101 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.3 (Ar₂CO), 158.9 (C-3), 153.9
(C-4'), 139.2 (C-1), 135.2 (C-1'), 130.4 (C-2'), 129.1 (C-5), 126.4 (C-3'), 122.7 (C-6),
118.9 (C-4), 115.1 (C-2), 66.6 (C-1''), 60.5 (C-2'''), 53.9 (C-5'''), 50.8 (C-3''), 34.3 (CH),
32.6 (C-3'''), 28.3 (C-2''), 23.7 (2xCH₃), 21.6 (C-4'''), 18.7 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found
[M+H] 366.2446, C₂₄H₃₄NO₂ requires *M*, 366.2433.

(2""R)-N-[3"-(3-benzylphenoxy)propyl]-2""-methylpyrrolidine 19



 Cs_2CO_3 (1.061 g, 3.26 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,3-dibromopropane (0.44 mL, 4.34 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (26 mL). A solution of 3-benzylphenol (200 mg, 1.086 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (26 mL) was slowly added and stirred overnight at RT. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and crude product was submitted to column chromatography (0-80% EtOAc in Hexane). Resultant product (127 mg, 0.42 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (10 mL) was slowly added to a stirring solution of (2*R*)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (61 mg, 0.50 mmol), KI (1 mg, 0.004 mmol) and

Na₂CO₃ (203 mg, 1.92 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (10 mL) at 60°C. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. Solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (50 mg, 39%) as a yellow oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.23 – 7.16 (m, 4H, 4-*H*, 2'-*H*, 4'-*H*), 6.84 – 6.80 (m, 1H, 6-*H*), 6.72 – 6.66 (m, 2H, 2-*H*, 4-*H*), 4.08 – 4.03 (m, 1H, 1"-*H*), 4.03 – 3.98 (m, 1H, 1"-*H*), 3.94 (s, 2H, C*H*₂), 3.53 – 3.38 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 3.38 – 3.21 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 3.10 – 2.98 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.97 – 2.71 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.71 – 2.50 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.40 – 2.17 (m, 3H, 2"-*H*₂, 3"'-*H*), 2.13 – 1.91 (m, 2H, 4"'-*H*₂), 1.79 – 1.49 (m, 3H, C*H*₃), 1.28 – 1.21 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 158.3 (C-1), 142.9 (C-3), 140.7 (C-1'), 129.6 (C-5), 128.9 (C-3'), 128.5 (C-4'), 126.2 (C-2'), 122.0 (C-2), 115.2 (C-6), 111.7 (C-4), 82.2 (C-1"), 64.7 (C-2"'), 41.9 (CH₂), 31.4 (C-3"), 29.7 (C-5"'), 25.4 (C-3"'), 25.1 (C-2"), 21.2 (C-4"'), 15.5 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 310.2203, C₂₁H₂₇NO requires *M*, 310.2197.

(2""R)-2""-methyl-N-[3"-(3-phenoxyphenoxy)propyl]pyrrolidine 20



Cs₂CO₃ (1.05 g, 3.22 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,3-dibromopropane (0.44 mL, 4.29 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (27 mL). A solution of 3-phenoxyphenol (200 mg, 1.074 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (27 mL) was slowly added and stirred overnight at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and crude product was submitted to column chromatography

(0-100% EtOAc in Hexane) to remove inorganic salts. The resultant product (320 mg, 1.042 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (25 mL) was slowly added to a stirring solution of (2*R*)methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (0.152 mg, 1.25 mmol), KI (2 mg, 0.010 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (508 mg, 4.79 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (25 mL) at 60°C. The mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. The solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (127 mg, 39%) as a brown oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.22 – 7.17 (m, 1H, 5-*H*), 7.11 – 7.07 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.03 – 6.99 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 6.66 – 6.62 (m, 1H, 6-*H*), 6.59 – 6.55 (m, 2H, 2-*H*, 4-*H*), 4.04 – 3.93 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.27 – 3.19 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 3.05 – 2.96 (m, 1H, 5"'), 2.46 – 2.37 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.33 – 2.25 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.25 – 2.17 (m, 1H, 3'''-*H*), 2.09 – 1.99 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 1.99 – 1.91 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.88 – 1.77 (m, 1H, 4'''-*H*), 1.77 – 1.68 (m, 1H, 4'''-*H*), 1.53 – 1.43 (m, 1H, 3'''-*H*), 1.15 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 160.3 (C-1), 158.4 (C-3), 156.9 (C-1'), 130.1 (C-5), 129.7 (C-3'), 123.3 (C-4'), 119.0 (C-2'), 110.9 (C-2), 109.4 (C-6), 105.4 (C-4), 66.4 (C-1''), 60.7 (C-2'''), 53.8 (C-3''), 50.7 (C-5'''), 32.5 (C-3'''), 28.1 (C-2''), 21.6 (C-4'''), 18.5 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 315.4259, C₂₀H₂₅NO₂ requires *M*, 315.4251.





3-hydroxybenzophenone (135 mg, 0.68 mmol) was added to a suspension of KI (17 mg, 0.102 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (579 mg, 5.46 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (3 mL). The

resultant mixture stirred at 70°C for 15 min. (*S*)-2-chlorophenyl(phenyl)methanol (148 mg, 0.75 mmol), in dry acetonitrile (3 mL), was then added to the suspension and the reaction mixture then stirred at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (150 mg, 68%) as a brown oil.

 $δ_{H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.84 – 7.77 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.63 – 7.55 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.52 – 7.44 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.42 – 7.29 (m, 3H, 2-*H*, 4-*H*,5-*H*), 7.16 – 7.09 (m, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.16 – 4.00 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.33 – 3.18 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 3.10 – 2.95 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.60 – 2.36 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.35 – 2.25 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.25 – 2.11 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.10 – 2.01 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 2.01 – 1.90 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.90 – 1.79 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.78 – 1.69 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.57 – 1.38 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.15 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.5 (Ar₂CO), 159.0 (C-1), 138.9 (C-3), 137.6 (C-1'), 132.4 (C-4'), 130.0 (C-2'), 129.2 (C-5), 128.2 (C-3'), 122.8 (C-4), 119.2 (C-6), 115.1 (C-2), 66.5 (C-1"), 60.6 (C-2"'), 53.9 (C-5"'), 50.7 (C-3"), 32.6 (C-3"'), 28.2 (C-2"), 21.6 (C-4"'), 18.6 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 338.2114, C₂₂H₂₇NO₂ requires *M*, 338.2120.

N-[3"-(3-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]-2",2"-dimethylpyrrolidine 22



3-hydroxybenzophenone (104 mg, 0.52 mmol) was added to a suspension of KI (13 mg, 0.079 mmol) and Na_2CO_3 (446 mg, 4.21 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (2.5 mL). The resultant mixture stirred at 70°C for 15 min. 1-(3-chloropropyl)-2,2-dimethylpyrrolidine (95.6 mg, 0.54 mmol), in dry acetonitrile (2.5 mL), was then added to the suspension

and the reaction mixture then stirred at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (43 mg, 25%) as a clear oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 – 7.75 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.62 – 7.54 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.51 – 7.42 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.39 – 7.33 (m, 2H, 5-*H*, 2-*H*), 7.33 – 7.29 (m, 1H, 4-*H*), 7.14 – 7.10 (m, 1H, 6-*H*), 4.08 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 2.79 – 2.71 (m, 2H, 5"'-*H*₂), 2.54 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H, 3"-*H*₂), 1.97 – 1.89 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 1.78 – 1.71 (m, 2H, 4"'-*H*₂), 1.65 – 1.59 (m, 2H, 3"'-*H*₂), 0.97 (s, 6H, 2xC*H*₃); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.7 (Ar₂CO), 159.3 (C-1, 139.0 (C-3), 137.8 (C-1'), 132.5 (C-4'), 130.2 (C-2'), 129.3 (C-5), 128.4 (C-3'), 122.7 (C-4), 119.4 (C-6), 115.3 (C-2), 66.7 (C-1"), 60.3 (C-2"'), 51.1 (C-5"'), 45.4 (C-3"),40.0 (C-3"''), 29.1 (C-2"), 22.9 (CH₃), 20.6 (C-4'''). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 338.2114, C₂₂H₂₈NO₂ requires *M*, 338.2120.

[2"-(4-benzoylphenoxy)ethyl]dimethylamine 23



4-hydroxybenzophenone (70 mg, 0.35 mmol) was reacted with 2-dimethylaminoethylchloride hydrochloride (76 mg, 0.53 mmol) following general procedure B. The product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM with 1% NEt₃) to afford the title compound **61** (59 mg, 62%) as a yellow oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (700 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.83 – 7.80 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 7.76 – 7.73 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.49 – 7.45 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.00 – 6.96 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 4.21 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 2.87 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 2.43 (s, 6H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (176 MHz, CDCl₃)

195.5 (Ar₂**C**O), 162.2 (**C**-1), 138.2 (**C**-1'), 132.5 (**C**-3), 131.9 (**C**-4'), 130.3 (**C**-4), 129.7 (**C**-2'), 128.2 (**C**-3'), 114.1 (**C**-2), 65.8 (**C**-1''), 57.9 (**C**-2''), 45.6 (**C**H₃); Accurate mass: found [M+H] 270.1481, C₁₇H₂₀NO₂ requires *M*, 270.1494.

[3"-(4-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]dimethylamine 24



4-hydroxybenzophenone (100 mg, 0.50 mmol) was reacted with 3-dimethylaminopropylchloride hydrochloride (159.5 mg, 1 mmol) following general procedure B. The product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (84 mg, 59%) as a colourless oil.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (700 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.83 – 7.80 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 7.76 – 7.74 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.49 – 7.45 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 6.97 – 6.94 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 4.12 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 2.62 – 2.54 (m, 2H, 3"-*H*₂), 2.35 (s, 6H, C*H*₃), 2.09 – 2.03 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (176 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.5 (Ar₂CO), 162.6 (C-1), 138.3 (C-1'), 132.5 (C-3), 131.8 (C-4'), 130.1 (C-4), 129.7 (C-2'), 128.1 (C-3'), 114.0 (C-2), 66.3 (C-1"), 56.1 (C-3"), 45.2 (CH₃), 27.1 (C-2"). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 284.1644, C₁₈H₂₂NO₂ requires *M*, 284.1651.

[4"-(4-benzoylphenoxy)butyl]dimethylamine 25

$$3'_{4'}$$
 $1'$ $1'$ $1''_{0}$ $3''_{2''}$ N_{-}

[4-(4"-bromobutoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone **28a** (128 mg, 0.38 mmol) was reacted with dimethylamine hydrochloride (38 mg, 0.46 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (19 mL) following general procedure B. Product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (60 mg, 52%) as a clear oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.83 – 7.78 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 7.76 – 7.71 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.58 – 7.53 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.50 – 7.42 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 6.96 – 6.89 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 4.09 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.04 – 2.96 (m, 2H, 4"-*H*₂), 2.73 (s, 6H, 2xC*H*₃), 2.08 – 1.99 (m, 2H, 3"-*H*₂), 1.97 – 1.89 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.5 (Ar₂CO), 162.2 (C-1), 138.1 (C-4), 132.6 (C-3), 131.9 (C-4'), 130.4 (C-1'), 129.7 (C-2'), 128.2 (C-3'), 113.9 (C-2), 67.1 (C-1"), 57.9 (C-4"), 43.3 (CH₃), 26.4 (C-2"), 21.9 (C-3"). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 298.1807, C₁₉H₂₃NO₂ requires *M*, 298.1815.

[4-(2"-bromoethoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 26a



1,2-Dibromoethane (0.175 mL, 2.02 mmol) was reacted with 4-Hydroxybenzophenone (100 mg, 0.50 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (5 mL) following general procedure A. Purification by column chromatography (100% Chloroform) afforded the title compound (90 mg, 58.7%) as a white solid.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.85 – 7.82 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 7.78 – 7.74 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.59 – 7.55 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.50 – 7.46 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.00 – 6.96 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 4.38 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H, 1''-*H*₂), 3.68 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H, 2''-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (176 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.4 (Ar₂CO), 161.6 (C-4), 138.1 (C-1'), 132.6 (C-2), 131.9 (C-4'), 130.8 (C-1), 129.7 (C-2'), 128.2 (C-3'),
114.1 (**C**-3), 67.8 (**C**-1"), 28.5 (**C**-2"). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 305.0175, C₁₅H₁₄⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 305.0177.

(2""R)-1""-[2"-(4-benzoylphenoxy)ethyl]-2""-methylpyrrolidine 26



To a solution of (2*R*)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (43 mg, 0.35 mmol), KI (5 mg, 0.033 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (208 mg, 1.51 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (30.5 mL) at 70°C, [4-(2"-Bromoethoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (30 mL) was slowly added. The mixture was then stirred overnight under a nitrogen atmosphere. The solution was then cooled to RT, filtered and concentrated. The crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (29 mg, 28%) as a yellow oil.

 δ_{H} (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.83 – 7.78 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 7.76 – 7.72 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.57 – 7.53 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 6.98 – 6.93 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 4.20 (td, *J* = 6.1, 2.0 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.32 – 3.20 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*, 5""-*H*), 2.65 – 2.58 (m, 1H, 2"-*H*), 2.53 – 2.43 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.38 – 2.30 (m, 1H, 5""-*H*), 1.99 – 1.91 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.89 – 1.78 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.78 – 1.70 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.52 – 1.41 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.16 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); δ_{C} (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.5 (Ar₂CO), 162.4 (C-1), 138.3 (C-1'), 132.5 (C-3), 131.8 (C-4'), 130.1 (C-4), 129.7 (C-2'), 128.1 (C-3'), 114.1 (C-2), 67.3 (C-1"), 60.6 (C-2"'), 54.8 (C-5"'), 52.5 (C-2"'), 32.3 (C-3"'), 21.9 (C-4"'), 18.9 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 324.1976, C₂₁H₂₄NO₂ requires *M*, 324.1964.

[4-(3"-bromopropoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 27a



4-Hydroxybenzophenone (100 mg, 0.50 mmol) was reacted with 1,3-Dibromopropane (0.3 mL, 3.03 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (5 mL) following general procedure A. Purification by column chromatography (100% Chloroform) afforded the title compound (128 mg, 79%) as a colourless oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (700 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.85 – 7.81 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 7.77 – 7.74 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 6.99 – 6.96 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 4.20 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H, 1''-*H*₂), 3.62 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H, 3''-*H*₂), 2.36 (p, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H, 2''-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (176 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.5 (Ar₂CO), 162.3 (C-4), 138.2 (C-1'), 132.5 (C-2), 131.90 (C-4'), 130.4 (C-1), 129.7 (C-2'), 128.2 (C-3'), 114.0 (C-3), 65.5 (C-1''), 32.1 (C-3''), 29.7 (C-2''). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 319.0332, C₁₆H₁₆⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 319.0334.

(2""R)-1"'-[3"-(4-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]-2"'-methylpyrrolidine 27



[4-(3"-Bromopropoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone (70 mg, 0.22 mmol) was reacted with (2*R*)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (28 mg, 0.23 mmol) following general

procedure B. The product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (17 mg, 25%) as a brown solid.

$$δ_{\rm H}$$
 (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.83 – 7.79 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 7.76 – 7.73 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 6.96 – 6.93 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 4.18 – 4.09 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.43 – 3.32 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 3.19 – 3.09 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.71 – 2.58 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.54 – 2.45 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.45 – 2.35 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.27 – 2.18 (m, 1H, 2"-*H*), 2.18 – 2.09 (m, 1H, 2"-*H*), 2.08 – 1.99 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.98 – 1.88 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.86 – 1.76 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.67 – 1.57 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.34 – 1.24 (m, 3H, C*H*₃); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.5 (Ar₂CO), 162.4 (C-1), 138.2 (C-1'), 132.5 (C-3), 131.9 (C-4'), 130.2 (C-4), 129.7 (C-2'), 128.1 (C-3'), 113.9 (C-2), 66.2 (C-1''), 61.4 (C-2'''), 53.6 (C-5'''), 50.5 (C-3''), 32.2 (C-3'''), 27.4 (C-2''), 21.5 (C-4'''), 17.8 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 324.1959, C₂₁H₂₆NO₂ requires *M*, 324.1964.

[4-(4"-bromobutoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 28a



1,4-Dibromobutane (0.602 mL, 5.045 mmol) was reacted with 4-Hydroxybenzophenone (200 mg, 1.009 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (5 mL) following general procedure A. Purification by column chromatography (0 to 100% DCM in Hexane) afforded the title compound (159 mg, 47%) as a white solid.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.84 – 7.80 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 7.78 – 7.73 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.59 – 7.54 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 6.97 – 6.92 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 4.09 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.50 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, 4"-*H*₂), 2.13 – 2.06 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 2.04 – 1.95 (m, 2H, 3"-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.5 (Ar₂CO), 162.5 (**C**-4), 138.3 (**C**-1'), 132.6 (**C**-

2), 131.9 (**C**-4'), 130.2 (**C**-1), 129.7 (**C**-2'), 128.2 (**C**-3'), 113.9 (**C**-3), 67.1 (**C**-1''), 33.2 (**C**-4''), 29.3 (**C**-2''), 27.7 (**C**-3''). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 333.0493, C₁₇H₁₈⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 333.0490.

(2""R)-1""-[4"-(4-benzoylphenoxy)butyl]-2""-methylpyrrolidine 28



[4-(4"-Bromobutoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone (100 mg, 0.300 mmol) was reacted with (2R)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (38 mg, 0.312 mmol) in DMF following general procedure B. Product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (31 mg, 31%) as a light brown solid.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.84 – 7.77 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 7.77 – 7.70 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.58 – 7.52 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 6.97 – 6.90 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 4.06 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.28 – 3.18 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.93 – 2.84 (m, 1H, 4"-*H*), 2.42 – 2.34 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.23 – 2.10 (m, 2H, 4"-*H*, 5"'-*H*), 1.99 – 1.91 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.91 – 1.85 (m, 1H, 2"-*H*), 1.85 – 1.79 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*, 4"'-*H*), 1.78 – 1.66 (m, 3H, 3"-*H*₂, 4"'-*H*), 1.54 – 1.41 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.15 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 195.6 (Ar₂CO), 162.7 (C-1), 138.3 (C-1'), 132.5 (C-3), 131.8 (C-4'), 129.9 (C-4), 129.7 (C-2'), 128.1 (C-3'), 114.0 (C-2), 67.9 (C-1''), 60.6 (C-2'''), 53.7 (C-5'''), 53.6 (C-4''), 32.5 (C-3'''), 27.2 (C-2''), 24.9 (C-3''), 21.6 (C-4'''), 18.5 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 338.2139, C₂₂H₂₈NO₂ requires *M*, 338.2120.

[4-(2"-bromoethoxy)phenyl](4'-chlorophenyl)methanone 29a



1,2-Dibromoethane (0.15 mL, 1.72 mmol) was reacted with 4-Chloro-4'hydroxybenzophenone (100 mg, 0.43 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (4.5 mL) following general procedure A. Purification by column chromatography (100% DCM) afforded the title compound (32 mg, 22.3%) as a white solid.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.82 – 7.78 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 7.73 – 7.69 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.47 – 7.44 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.00 – 6.96 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 4.38 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.68 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H, 2"-*H*₂); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.2 (Ar₂CO), 161.8 (C-4), 138.4 (C-1'), 136.4 (C-4'), 132.5 (C-2), 131.2 (C-2'), 130.5 (C-1), 128.6 (C-3'), 114.3 (C-3), 67.9 (C-1"), 28.5 (C-2"). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 338.9796, C₁₅H₁₃N³⁵Cl⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 338.9807.

(2""R)-1""-{2"-[4-(4'-chlorobenzoyl)phenoxy]ethyl}-2""-methylpyrrolidine 29



[4-(2"-Bromoethoxy)phenyl](4'-chlorophenyl)methanone (30 mg, 0.088 mmol) was reacted with (2*R*)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (11.3 mg, 0.093 mmol) in anhydrous MeCN following general procedure B. Product was purified by column

chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (7 mg, 23%) as a brown solid.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.81 – 7.76 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 7.72 – 7.68 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 6.99 – 6.95 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 4.50 – 4.20 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.51 – 3.22 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*, 5"'-*H*), 2.87 – 2.61 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*, 2"'-*H*), 2.61 – 2.41 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.10 – 1.98 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.98 – 1.88 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.88 – 1.77 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.68 – 1.50 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.34 – 1.25 (m, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.2 (Ar₂CO), 162.2 (C-1) 138.3 (C-1'), 136.5 (C-4'), 132.4 (C-3), 131.1 (C-2'), 130.1 (C-4), 128.5 (C-3'), 114.2 (C-2), 66.4 (C-1"), 61.4 (C-2"'), 54.4 (C-5"'), 52.2 (C-2"), 33.9 (C-3"'), 21.7 (C-4"''), 18.0 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 344.1425, C₂₀H₂₃N³⁵ClO₂ requires *M*, 344.1417.

[4-(3"-bromopropoxy)phenyl](4'-chlorophenyl)methanone 30a



1,3-Dibromoproane (0.349 mL, 3.438 mmol) was reacted with 4-Hydroxybenzophenone (200 mg, 0.860 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (4.5 mL) following general procedure A. Purification by column chromatography (50% Hexane in DCM) afforded the title compound (193 mg, 64%) as a white solid.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.81 – 7.77 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 7.73 – 7.69 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.47 – 7.44 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.00 – 6.95 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 4.20 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H, 1''-*H*₂), 3.62 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H, 3''-*H*₂), 2.36 (p, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H, 2''-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.2 (Ar₂CO), 162.5 (C-4), 138.3 (C-1'), 136.5 (C-4'), 132.5 (C-2), 131.1 (C-2'), 130.0 (C-1), 128.5

(**C**-3'), 114.1 (**C**-3), 65.5 (**C**-1''), 32.1 (**C**-2''), 29.6 (**C**-3''). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 352.9944, C₁₆H₁₅N³⁵Cl⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 352.9944.

(2""R)-N-{3"-[4-(4'-chlorobenzoyl)phenoxy]propyl}-2""-methylpyrrolidine 30



[4-(3-bromopropoxy)phenyl](4-chlorophenyl)methanone (106 mg, 0.300 mmol) was reacted with (2*R*)-Methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (44 mg, 0.384 mmol) following general procedure B. Product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (49 mg, 46%) as a brown solid.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.87 – 7.77 (m, 2H, 3-*H*₂), 7.77 – 7.65 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*₂), 7.51 – 7.42 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*₂), 7.07 – 6.91 (m, 2H, 2-*H*₂), 4.24 – 4.05 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.34 – 3.18 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 3.12 – 2.96 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.50 – 2.34 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.34 – 2.25 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.25 – 2.15 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.15 – 2.03 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 2.03 – 1.92 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.92 – 1.68 (m, 2H, 4"'-*H*₂), 1.55 – 1.42 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.22 – 1.08 (m, 3H, C*H*₃). $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.2 (Ar₂CO), 162.3 (C-1), 138.4 (C-1'), 136.4 (C-4'), 132.5 (C-3), 131.1 (C-2'), 130.1 (C-4), 128.5 (C-3'), 114.1 (C-2), 65.9 (C-1''), 64.3 (C-2'''), 53.3 (C-5'''), 50.5 (C-3''), 31.9 (C-3'''), 26.6 (C-2''') 21.4 (C-4'''), 17.9 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 358.1575, C₂₁H₂₅N³⁵ClO₂ requires *M*, 358.1574.

[4-(4"-bromobutoxy)phenyl](4'-chlorophenyl)methanone 31a



1,4-dibromobutane (0.411 mL, 3.428 mmol) was reacted with 4'-Chloro-4hydroxybenzophenone (150 mg, 0.757 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (8.6 mL) following general procedure A. The product was precipitated overnight at -20°C. Solvent was removed using a glass pipette and white solid left was washed with cold EtOAc to afford the title product (135 mg, 41%).

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.80 – 7.77 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 7.72 – 7.69 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*), 7.47 – 7.44 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 6.97 – 6.93 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 4.09 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.50 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, 4"-*H*₂), 2.13 – 2.06 (m, 2H, 3"-*H*₂), 2.03 – 1.96 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.2 (Ar₂CO), 162.7 (C-4), 138.3 (C-1'), 136.5 (C-4'), 132.5 (C-2), 131.1 (C-2'), 129.83 (C-1), 128.5 (C-3'), 114.09 (C-3), 67.16 (C-1"), 33.21 (C-4"), 29.32 (C-3"), 27.73 (C-2"). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 367.0097, C₁₇H₁₇N³⁵Cl⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 367.367.0100.

(2""R)-N-{4"-[4-(4'-chlorobenzoyl)phenoxy]butyl}-2""-methylpyrrolidine 31



[4-(4-bromobutoxy)phenyl](4-chlorophenyl)methanone (92 mg, 0.25 mmol) was reacted with (2*R*)-Methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (35 mg, 0.29 mmol) in dry DMF (2.5 mL) following general procedure B. Product was purified by column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (48 mg, 52%) as a yellow oil.

 δ_{H} (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.80 – 7.74 (m, 2H, 3-*H*₂), 7.72 – 7.66 (m, 2H, 2-*H*₂), 7.46 – 7.40 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*₂), 6.97 – 6.90 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*₂), 4.11 – 4.01 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.40 – 3.26 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 3.03 – 2.91 (m, 1H, 4"-*H*), 2.67 – 2.47 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.42 – 2.24 (m, 2H, 4"-*H*, 5"'-*H*), 2.06 – 1.96 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.96 – 1.73 (m, 6H, 2"-*H*₂, 3"-*H*₂, 4"'-*H*₂), 1.64 – 1.55 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*₂), 1.24 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); δ_{C} (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.2 (Ar₂CO), 162.8 (C-1), 138.2 (C-1'), 136.5 (C-4'), 132.4 (C-3), 131.1 (C-2'), 129.7 (C-4), 128.5 (C-3'), 114.1 (C-2), 67.8 (C-1''), 61.2 (C-2'''), 53.5 (C-5'''), 53.4 (C-4''), 32.2 (C-3'''), 27.1 (C-2''), 24.4 (C-3''), 21.5 (C-4'''), 17.9 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 372.1736, C₂₂H₂₇N³⁵ClO₂ requires *M*, 372.1730.

(3'-chlorophenyl)(4-methoxyphenyl)methanone Ea ³



3-chlorobenzoate (1g, 6.39 mmol) was dissolved in thionyl chloride (3 mL) and refluxed for 3hours. After cooling down to RT, volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. 3-benzoyl chloride was then added to a solution of anisole (0.85 mL, 7.78 mmol) in anhydrous DCE (31 mL). AlCl₃ (1.04 g, 7.78 mmol) was added in portions over 20 minutes and mixture stirred for 24h at RT. In a separating funnel, the reaction mixture was added to 3M HCl (aq.) (30 mL) and extracted with DCM (3x20 mL). Combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced solid. Crude was submitted to column chromatography (0-100% EtOAc in Hexane) to afford de title product (1.19 g, 77%) as a white solid.

δ_H (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.84 – 7.79 (m, 2H, 2-*H*₂), 7.75 – 7.71 (m, 1H, 2'-*H*), 7.64 – 7.60 (m, 1H, 6'-*H*), 7.56 – 7.52 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.44 – 7.39 (m, 1H, 5'-*H*), 7.00 – 6.96 (m, 2H,

3-*H*₂), 3.90 (s, 3H, C*H*₃); δ_C (101 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.1 (Ar₂*C*O), 163.5 (*C*-4), 139.9 (*C*-5), 134.4 (*C*-1'), 132.6 (*C*-2), 131.9 (*C*-3'), 129.6 (*C*-5'), 129.6 (*C*-6'), 129.5 (*C*-4'), 127.8 (*C*-2'), 113.8 (*C*-3), 55.6 (*C*H₃). *m/z* (LC-MS, ESI⁺) 247 [M(³⁵Cl)+H] and 249 [M(³⁷Cl)+H]) in a 3:1 ratio. All data agrees with literature.

4-(3'-chlorobenzoyl)phenol Eb ³



AICI₃ (421.2 mg, 3.16 mmol) was added to а solution of (3-chlorophenyl)(4-methoxyphenyl)methanone (208 mg, 0.843 mmol) in dry toluene (5.6 mL) and mixture was heated under reflux for 2h. The mixture was cooled then poured into 3M HCI (ag.) (10 mL) in a separating funnel and extracted with EtOAc (3x15 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the title product (196 mg, 99%) as a brown solid.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.81 – 7.75 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 7.75 – 7.70 (m, 1H, 2'-*H*), 7.62 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H, 6'-*H*), 7.57 – 7.52 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, 5'-*H*), 6.96 – 6.89 (m, 2H, 3-*H*); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (101 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.2 (Ar₂CO), 160.0 (C-4), 139.9 (C-3'), 134.5 (C-1'), 132.9 (C-2), 131.9 (C-4'), 129.7 (C-1'), 129.6 (C-2'), 129.6 (C-5'), 127.8 (C-6'), 115.3 (C-3). *m/z* (LC-MS, ESI⁺) 233 [M(³⁵Cl)+H] and 235 [M(³⁷Cl)+H]) in a 3:1 ratio. All data agrees with literature.

[4-(3"-bromopropoxy)phenyl](3'-chlorophenyl)methanone 32a



 Na_2CO_3 (683.3 mg, 6.45 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,3-dibromopropane (0.327 mL, 3.22 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (15.2 mL). A solution of 4-(3-chlorobenzoyl)phenol (150 mg, 0.645 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (17 mL) was slowly added and stirred overnight at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and product was purified by column chromatography (0 to 100% Chloroform) to afford the title compound (90 mg, 59%) as a yellow oil.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.84 – 7.78 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 7.73 (t, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H, 2'-*H*), 7.62 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H, 6'-*H*), 7.56 – 7.51 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, 5'-*H*), 7.01 – 6.95 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 4.21 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H, 1''-*H*₂), 3.62 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H, 3''-*H*₂), 2.41 – 2.32 (m, 2H, 2''-*H*₂); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (101 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.0 (Ar₂CO), 162.6 (C-4), 139.9 (C-3'), 134.4 (C-1'), 132.6 (C-2), 131.9 (C-4'), 129.7 (C-1), 129.6 (C-2'), 129.6 (C-5'), 127.8 (C-6'), 114.2 (C-3), 65.6 (C-1''), 32.1 (C-2''), 29.7 (C-3''). *m/z* (LC-MS, ESI⁺) 353 [M(³⁵Cl⁷⁹Br)+H], 355 [M(³⁷Cl⁷⁹Br)+H]) and 357 [M(³⁷Cl⁸¹Br)+H]) in a 3:4:1 ratio.





To a solution of (2*R*)-methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (37.1 mg, 0.305 mmol), KI (4.2 mg, 0.025 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (124 mg, 1.71 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (7 mL) at 70°C, [4-(3-Bromopropoxy)phenyl](3-chlorophenyl)methanone (96 mg, 0.27 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (5 mL) was slowly added. The mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. The solution was then cooled to RT, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (51 mg, 53%) as a yellow oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.82 – 7.78 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 7.72 (t, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H, 2'-*H*), 7.61 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H, 6'-*H*), 7.55 – 7.52 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, 5'-*H*), 6.99 – 6.95 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 4.18 – 4.09 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.35 – 3.21 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 3.12 – 3.00 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.59 – 2.41 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.42 – 2.30 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.30 – 2.19 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.19 – 2.04 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 2.04 – 1.92 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.92 – 1.81 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.81 – 1.71 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.60 – 1.44 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.18 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 193.9 (Ar₂CO), 162.9 (C-1), 139.9 (C-3'), 134.4 (C-1'), 132.5 (C-3), 131.8 (C-4'), 129.6 (C-2'), 129.5 (C-5'), 129.4 (C-4), 127.7 (C-6'), 114.2 (C-2), 66.5 (C-1"), 60.6 (C-2"), 53.8 (C-5"), 50.6 (C-3"), 32.5 (C-3"), 27.9 (C-2"), 21.6 (C-4""), 18.4 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 358.1584, C₂₁H₂₅N³⁵ClO₂ requires *M*, 358.1574.

4-(2'-chlorobenzoyl)phenol D⁴



2-chlorobenzoic acid (1g, 6.39 mmol) was dissolved in thionyl chloride (3 mL) and refluxed for 3hours. After cooling down to RT, volatiles were removed under reduced

pressure and a solution of anisole (0.85 mL, 7.78 mmol) in anhydrous DCE (31 mL) was added. AICl₃ (1.04 g, 7.78 mmol) was added in portions over 20 minutes and mixture stirred for 2h at RT and 2h at 80°C. After cooling down to room temperature, reaction mixture was added to 3M HCI (aq.) (30 mL) in a separating funnel and extracted with DCM (3x20 mL). Combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced solid. Crude was submitted to column chromatography (0-100% EtOAc in Hexane) to afford de title product (1.04 g, 70%) as a white solid.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.78 – 7.72 (m, 2H, 2-*H*₂), 7.48 – 7.39 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*, 6'-*H*), 7.37 – 7.33 (m, 2H, 4'-*H*, 5'-*H*), 6.91 – 6.84 (m, 2H, 3-*H*₂), 5.79 (s, 1H, OH); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (101 MHz, CDCl₃) 194.1 (Ar₂CO), 160.7 (C-4), 138.8 (C-1), 132.9 (C-2), 131.1 (C-1'), 130.9 (C-2'), 130.0 (C-5'), 129.6 (C-4'), 128.9 (C-3'), 126.7 (C-6'), 115.5 (C-3). *m/z* (LC-MS, ESI⁺) 233 [M(³⁵Cl)+H] and 235 [M(³⁷Cl)+H]) in a 3:1 ratio. All data agrees with literature.

(2""R)-N-{3"-[4-(2'-chlorobenzoyl)phenoxy]propyl}-2"-methylpyrrolidine 33



 Cs_2CO_3 (1.93 g, 5.93 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,3-dibromopropane (0.65 mL, 6.45 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (20 mL). A solution of 4-(2-chlorobenzoyl)phenol (300 mg, 1.29 mmol) in anhydrous acetonitrile (23 mL) was slowly added and stirred overnight at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and product was submitted to column

chromatography (0-100% DCM in Hexane) remove inorganic salts. Resultant product (100 mg) in dry acetonitrile (7 mL) was slowly added to a stirring solution of (2*R*)-Methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (41.3 mg, 0.34 mmol), KI (4.7 mg, 0.028 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (138 mg, 1.30 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (7 mL) at 70°C. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. Solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (20 mg, 20%) as a yellow solid.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.81 – 7.74 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*₂), 7.47 – 7.37 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*, 6'-*H*), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 2H, 4'-*H*, 5'-*H*), 6.96 – 6.89 (m, 2H, 2-*H*₂), 4.19 – 4.01 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.36 – 3.12 (m, 1H, 5'"-*H*), 3.12 – 2.92 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.51 – 2.33 (m, 1H, 2"-*H*), 2.33 – 2.22 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.22 – 2.13 (m, 1H, 5'''-*H*), 2.13 – 2.00 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*₂), 2.00 – 1.90 (m, 1H, 3'''-*H*), 1.90 – 1.76 (m, 1H, 4'''-*H*), 1.77 – 1.66 (m, 1H, 4'''-*H*), 1.58 – 1.38 (m, 1H, 3'''-*H*), 1.22 – 1.01 (m, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (101 MHz, CDCl₃) 193.9 (Ar₂CO), 163.6 (C-1), 139.0 (C-2'), 132.5 (C-3), 131.1 (C-4), 130.8 (C-1'), 129.9 (C-5'), 129.3 (C-4'), 128.9 (C-6'), 126.7 (C-3'), 114.3 (C-2), 66.7 (C-1''), 60.7 (C-2'''), 53.9 (C-5'''), 50.6 (C-3''), 32.6 (C-3'''), 28.2 (C-2''), 21.6 (C-3'''), 18.7 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 344.1427, C₂₀H₂₃N³⁵ClO₂ requires *M*, 344.1417.





(*R*)-2-chlorophenyl(phenyl)methanol (80 mg, 0.49 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DMF (2 mL), to which tBuOK (107 mg, 0.95 mmol), TBAI (32 mg, 0.087 mmol) and 4-

benzylphenol (80 mg, 0.434 mmol) were added. The solution stirred overnight at 70°C. Once full conversion was achieved, the reaction mixture was diluted with water and extracted with EtOAc. Once concentrated under reduced pressure, the crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (73 mg, 54%) as a brown oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.21 – 7.15 (m, 3H, 2'-*H*, 4'-*H*), 7.11 – 7.07 (m, 2H, 3-*H*), 6.85 – 6.81 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 4.04 – 3.96 (m, 2H, 1"-*H*₂), 3.93 (s, 2H, C*H*₂), 3.23 – 3.15 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 3.02 – 2.94 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.36 – 2.28 (m, 1H, 2"'-*H*), 2.26 – 2.18 (m, 1H, 5"'-*H*), 2.18 – 2.10 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 2.04 – 1.96 (m, 2H, 2"-*H*), 1.96 – 1.88 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.84 – 1.75 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.74 – 1.66 (m, 1H, 4"'-*H*), 1.49 – 1.40 (m, 1H, 3"'-*H*), 1.11 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 157.4 (*C*-1), 141.6 (*C*-4), 133.1 (*C*-1'), 129.8 (*C*-3), 128.8 (*C*-2'), 128.4 (*C*-3'), 125.9 (*C*-4'), 114.5 (*C*-2), 66.5 (*C*-1"), 60.3 2"''), 53.9 (*C*-3"), 50.9 (*C*-5"''), 41.0 (*C*H₂), 32.7 (*C*-3"''), 28.6 (*C*-2"), 21.6 (*C*-4"''), 18.9 (*C*H₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 310.2197, C₂₁H₂₇NO requires *M*, 310.2203.

4-[1-(3'-bromopropoxy)phenyl]ethenone 35a



A solution of 4'-hydroxyacetophenone (200 mg, 1.47 mmol) in EtOAc (2.1 mL) was slowly added to a solution of 1,3-dibromopropane (1.1 mL, 11.018 mmol), potassium carbonate (710 mg, 5.14 mmol) and triethylbenzylammonium chloride (33 mg, 0.148 mmol) in EtOAc (2.1 mL). After refluxing overnight, reaction was cooled to room temperature, filtered, diluted with water (5 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (10 mL).

Combined organic layers were washed with 1M NaOH (aq), brine and dried over MgSO₄. After filtration, volatiles were removed and crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (0-100% EtOAc in Hexane) to afford title product (201 mg, 53%) as a colourless oil.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.96 – 7.90 (m, 2H, 3-*H*₂), 6.97 – 6.90 (m, 2H, 2-*H*₂), 4.17 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, 1'-*H*₂), 3.61 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, 3'-*H*₂), 2.56 (s, 3H, C*H*₃), 2.34 (p, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, 2'-*H*₂); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (101 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.8 (Ar₂CO), 162.6 (C-1), 130.6 (C-3), 130.5 (C-4), 114.2 (C-2), 65.5 (C-1'), 32.1 (C-3'), 29.7 (C-2'), 26.4 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 257.0193, C₁₁H₁₄N⁷⁹BrO₂ requires *M*, 257.0177.

4-(1-{3'-[(2"R)-2"-methylpyrrolidine]propoxy}phenyl)ethenone 35



To a solution of (2*R*)-Methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (56.8 mg, 0.46 mmol), KI (6.5 mg, 0.039 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (189.6 mg, 1.79 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (10 mL) at 70°C, 1-[4-(3-bromopropoxy)phenyl]ethan-1-one (100 mg, 0.39 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (10 mL) was slowly added. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. Solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (69 mg, 69%) as a brown oil.

 δ_{H} (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.94 – 7.90 (m, 2H, 3-*H*₂), 6.95 – 6.90 (m, 2H, 2-*H*₂), 4.14 – 4.05 (m, 2H, 1'-*H*₂), 3.28 – 3.17 (m, 1H, 5"-*H*), 3.06 – 2.97 (m, 1H, 3'-*H*), 2.55 (s, 3H, COC*H*₃), 2.44 – 2.33 (m, 1H, 2"-*H*), 2.32 – 2.24 (m, 1H, 3'-*H*), 2.24 – 2.14 (m, 1H, 5"-

H), 2.10 – 2.01 (m, 2H, 2'-*H*₂), 2.00 – 1.91 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 1.87 – 1.77 (m, 1H, 4"-*H*), 1.77 – 1.68 (m, 1H, 4"-*H*), 1.53 – 1.41 (m, 1H, 3"-*H*), 1.13 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃); δ_{C} (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.8 (Ar₂CO), 162.9 (C-1), 130.5 (C-3), 130.2 (C-4), 114.1 (C-2), 66.6 (C-1'), 60.5 (C-2"), 53.9 (C-5"), 50.6 (C-3'), 32.6 (C-3"), 28.2 (C-2'), 26.3 (COCH₃), 21.6 (C-4"), 18.7 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 262.1809, C₁₆H₂₄NO₂ requires *M*, 262.1807.

(2'R)-2'-methyl-N-(3-phenoxypropyl)pyrrolidine 36



A solution of phenol (200 mg, 2.12 mmol) in acetonitrile (4 mL) was slowly added to a mixture of potassium carbonate (1.46 g, 10.63 mmol) and 1,3- dibromopropane (1.1 mL, 10.63 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (3 mL) at 70°C. After stirring overnight, reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and filtered. Volatiles were removed and crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (0-100% EtOAc in Hexane) to remove inorganic salts. Resultant product (100 mg) in dry acetonitrile (13 mL) was slowly added to a stirring solution of (2*R*)-Methylpyrrolidine hydrochloride (67.8 mg, 0.56 mmol), KI (7.7 mg, 0.046 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (226.7 mg, 2.14 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (10 mL) at 70°C. Mixture stirred overnight under nitrogen atmosphere. Solution was cooled down to RT, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Crude mixture was submitted to column chromatography (10% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (35 mg, 35%) as a brown oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 2H, 2xAr*H*), 6.95 – 6.92 (m, 1H, Ar*H*), 6.92 – 6.88 (m, 2H, 2xAr*H*), 4.10 – 3.97 (m, 2H, 1-*H*₂), 3.28 – 3.20 (m, 1H, 5'-*H*), 3.08 – 2.98 (m, 1H, 3-*H*₂), 2.47 – 2.34 (m, 1H, 2'-*H*), 2.34 – 2.25 (m, 1H, 3-*H*), 2.25 – 2.15 (m, 1H, 5'-*H*), 2.11 – 2.01 (m, 2H, 2-*H*₂), 2.01 – 1.91 (m, 1H, 3'-*H*), 1.87 – 1.78 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 1.78 – 1.68 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 1.53 – 1.44 (m, 1H, 3'-*H*), 1.15 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 3H, C*H*₃). $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 158.9 (C-Ar), 129.4 (C-Ar), 120.6 (C-Ar), 114.5 (C-Ar), 66.2 (C-1), 60.6 (C-2'), 53.9 (C-5'), 50.8 (C-3), 32.6 (C-3'), 28.3 (C-2), 21.6 (C-4'), 18.7 (CH₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 220.1711, C₁₄H₂₂NO₂ requires *M*, 220.1701.

{2"-[(4-benzoylphenyl)methoxy]ethyl}dimethylamine 37



To a suspension of NaH (60% in mineral oil) (40 mg, 1 mmol) in anhydrous THF (1 mL), 2-dimethylaminoethanol **34** (0.05 mL, 0.48 mmol) was slowly added. After heating under reflux for 1h, a solution of 4-bromomethyl benzophenone (50 mg, 0.18 mmol) and TBAI (6 mg, 0.02 mmol) in anhydrous THF (1 mL) was added dropwise, and mixture then heated under reflux overnight. The reaction was then diluted with sat. NaCO_{3(aq)} (15 mL) and products extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with sat. Na₂CO_{3(aq)} (3 x 30 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the title ether (20 mg, 39%) as a yellow oil.

 $δ_{\rm H}$ (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.81 – 7.77 (m, 4H, 3-*H*, 2'-*H*), 7.60 – 7.56 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 4H, 2-*H*, 3'-*H*), 4.63 (s, 2H, ArC*H*₂), 3.66 (t, 2H, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1''-*H*₂), 2.67 (t, 2H, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2''-*H*₂), 2.37 (s, 6H, C*H*₃); $δ_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.4 (Ar₂*C*O), 142.9

(**C**-1), 137.6 (**C**-1'), 136.8 (**C**-4), 132.3 (**C**-4'), 130.2 (**C**-3), 129.9 (**C**-2'), 128.2 (**C**-3'), 127.2 (**C**-2), 72.6 (Ar**C**H₂), 68.1 (**C**-1''), 58.6 (**C**-2''), 45.6 (**C**H₃). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 284.1646, C₁₈H₂₂NO₂ requires *M*, 284.1651.

{3"-[(4-benzoylphenyl)methoxy]propyl}dimethylamine 38



To a suspension of NaH (60% in mineral oil) (22 mg, 0.545 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (1.5 mL), 2-dimethylaminoethanol **34** (0.073 mL, 0.612 mmol) was slowly added and let stir for 1 hour at RT. After, a solution of 4-bromomethyl benzophenone (100 mg, 0.363 mmol) and TBAI (13 mg, 0.036 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (2 mL) was added dropwise, and the mixture stirred overnight at RT. The reaction was then diluted with sat. Na₂CO_{3(aq)} (15 mL) and products extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with sat. Na₂CO_{3(aq)} (3 x 30 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The product was purified by column chromatography (20% MeOH in DCM) to afford the title compound (16 mg, 15%) as a colourless oil.

δ_H (599 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.80 – 7.77 (m, 4H, 2'-*H*, 3-*H*), 7.60 – 7.57 (m, 1H, 4'-*H*), 7.50 – 7.46 (m, 2H, 3'-*H*), 7.45 – 7.42 (m, 2H, 2-*H*), 4.59 (s, 2H, ArC*H*₂), 3.59 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz,

2H, 1"- H_2), 2.61 – 2.54 (m, 2H, 3"- H_2), 2.41 – 2.34 (m, 6H, C H_3), 1.95 – 1.88 (m, 2H, 2"- H_2); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (151 MHz, CDCl₃) 196.4 (Ar₂CO), 143.2 (C-1), 137.6 (C-1'), 136.8 (C-4), 132.3 (C-4'), 130.2 (C-4), 129.9 (C-2'), 128.2 (C-3'), 127.1 (C-2), 72.4 (ArCH₂), 68.6 (C-1"), 56.4 (C-3"), 44.8 (CH₃), 27.2 (C-2"). Accurate mass: found [M+H] 298.1800, C₁₉H₂₄NO₂ requires *M*, 298.1807.

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2. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of all compounds

[2"-(2-benzoylphenoxy)ethyl]dimethylamine 1



[3"-(2-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]dimethylamine 2



[2"-(2-benzoyl-4-chlorophenoxy)ethyl]dimethylamine 3



[3"-(2-benzoyl-4-chlorophenoxy)propyl]dimethylamine 4





{2"-[(4-benzoylphenyl)methoxy]ethyl}dimethylamine 118





[2-(3"-bromopropoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 6a





(2""R)-N -[3"-(2-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]-2""-methylpyrrolidine 6

[2-(4"-bromobutoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 7a







[2-(2"-bromopropoxy)-5-chlorophenyl](phenyl)methanone 8a





(2"'R)-N -[2-(2"-benzoyl-4-chlorophenoxy)ethyl]-2"'-methylpyrrolidine 8

[2-(3"-bromopropoxy)-5-chlorophenyl](phenyl)methanone 9a






[2-(4"-bromobutoxy)-5-chlorophenyl](phenyl)methanone 10a







(2R)-N-[4''-(2-benzoyl-4-chlorophenoxy)butyl]-2'''-methylpyrrolidine 10



[3-(2"-bromoethoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 11a



(2""R)- N -[2"-(3-benzoylphenoxy)ethyl]-2""-methylpyrrolidine 11

(2""R)-N -[3"-(3-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]-2""-methylpyrrolidine 12







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(2""R)-N-[4"-(3-benzoylphenoxy)butyl]-2""-methylpyrrolidine 13

3-(4'-methylbenzoyl)phenol I







3-[4'-(isopropanyl)benzoyl]phenol J



(2R)-N-(3"-{3-[4'-(propan-2""-yl)benzoyl]phenoxy}propyl)-2""-methylpyrrolidine 18





(2'''R)-N-[3''-(3-benzylphenoxy)propyl]-2'''-methylpyrrolidine 19



(2"'R)-2"'-methyl-N-[3"-(3-phenoxyphenoxy)propyl]pyrrolidine 20



(2'''S)-1-[3''-(3-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]-2'''-methylpyrrolidine 21



N-[3"-(3-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]-2"',2"'-dimethylpyrrolidine 22



3-(4'-chlorobenzoyl)phenol H









(2""R)-N-{2"-[3-(4'-chlorobenzoyl)phenoxy]ethyl}-2""-methylpyrrolidine 14









(2"'R)-N-{4"-[3-(4'-chlorobenzoyl)phenoxy]butyl}-2"'-methylpyrrolidine 16







[3"-(4-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]dimethylamine 24





[4"-(4-benzoylphenoxy)butyl]dimethylamine 25

[4-(2"-bromoethoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 26a





(2""R)-1"'-[2"-(4-benzoylphenoxy)ethyl]-2"'-methylpyrrolidine 26

[4-(3"-bromopropoxy)phenyl](phenyl)methanone 27a





(2"'R)-1"'-[3"-(4-benzoylphenoxy)propyl]-2"'-methylpyrrolidine 27







(2""R)-1""-[4"-(4-benzoylphenoxy)butyl]-2""-methylpyrrolidine 28



[4-(2"-bromoethoxy)phenyl](4'-chlorophenyl)methanone 29a







[4-(3"-bromopropoxy)phenyl](4'-chlorophenyl)methanone 30a

(2"'R)-N-{3"-[4-(4'-chlorobenzoyl)phenoxy]propyl}-2"'-methylpyrrolidine 30






(2"'R)-N-{4"-[4-(4'-chlorobenzoyl)phenoxy]butyl}-2"'-methylpyrrolidine 31



4-(3'-chlorobenzoyl)phenol E



[4-(3"-bromopropoxy)phenyl](3'-chlorophenyl)methanone 32a



(2""R)-N-{3"-[4-(3'-chlorobenzoyl)phenoxy]propyl}-2""-methylpyrrolidine 32



4-(2'-chlorobenzoyl)phenol D















(2""R)-N-[3"-(4-benzylphenoxy)propyl]-2""-methylpyrrolidine 34



4-(1-{3'-[(2"R)-2"-methylpyrrolidine]propoxy}phenyl)ethenone 35

(2'R)-2'-methyl-N-(3-phenoxypropyl)pyrrolidine 36







{3"-[(4-benzoylphenyl)methoxy]propyl}dimethylamine 38

