

Supplementary Information

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| Table S1. The calculated molecular descriptors for the thieno[2,3- <i>b</i>]pyridines. | |

| Molecule | MW | Log P | donorHB | accptHB | PSA | Rot. Bond. |
|-----------|-------|-------|---------|---------|-------|------------|
| 1 | 385.9 | 3.0 | 2 | 5.5 | 95.9 | 3 |
| 2 | 371.8 | 2.7 | 2 | 5.5 | 96.7 | 3 |
| 3 | 355.4 | 2.4 | 2 | 5.5 | 97.6 | 3 |
| 4 | 367.4 | 2.4 | 2 | 6.3 | 103.6 | 4 |
| 5 | 406.3 | 3.1 | 2 | 5.5 | 96.6 | 3 |
| 6 | 405.4 | 3.1 | 2 | 5.5 | 94.7 | 3 |
| 7 | 351.4 | 2.5 | 2 | 5.5 | 97.6 | 3 |
| 8 | 355.4 | 2.4 | 2 | 5.5 | 97.6 | 3 |
| 9 | 371.8 | 2.7 | 2 | 5.5 | 97.4 | 3 |
| 10 | 416.3 | 2.7 | 2 | 5.5 | 97.4 | 3 |
| 11 | 365.4 | 2.9 | 2 | 5.5 | 92.7 | 3 |
| 12 | 397.4 | 2.5 | 2 | 7.0 | 111.6 | 5 |
| 13 | 397.4 | 2.5 | 2 | 7.0 | 111.4 | 5 |
| 14 | 406.3 | 3.1 | 2 | 5.5 | 97.6 | 3 |
| 15 | 379.4 | 1.7 | 2 | 7.5 | 126.0 | 4 |
| 16 | 387.5 | 3.1 | 2 | 5.5 | 96.2 | 3 |
| 17 | 343.4 | 2.4 | 2 | 5.5 | 97.8 | 3 |
| 18 | 344.4 | 1.3 | 2 | 7.0 | 110.7 | 3 |
| 19 | 341.4 | 1.9 | 2 | 6.0 | 108.8 | 4 |

Table S2. The results of the scoring functions for derivatives 1 -19.

| Deriv. | GoldScore | ChemScore | ChemPLP | ASP |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------|
| 1 | 56.4 | 31.2 | 69.6 | 35.8 |
| 2 | 62.6 | 30.3 | 68.4 | 34.4 |
| 3 | 62.3 | 30.6 | 74.1 | 36.6 |
| 4 | 56.7 | 27.8 | 63.1 | 34.4 |
| 5 | 55.4 | 30.7 | 70.5 | 34.9 |
| 6 | 53.7 | 30.2 | 66.5 | 34.6 |
| 7 | 58.4 | 29.7 | 63.6 | 32.4 |
| 8 | 62.5 | 34.5 | 72.6 | 38.1 |
| 9 | 58.8 | 29.0 | 61.5 | 31.7 |
| 10 | 57.7 | 29.2 | 60.1 | 30.3 |
| 11 | 59.2 | 30.9 | 66.0 | 35.7 |
| 12 | 60.2 | 28.3 | 61.3 | 34.1 |
| 13 | 59.4 | 28.2 | 68.8 | 36.7 |
| 14 | 64.2 | 34.7 | 67.2 | 33.0 |
| 15 | 61.9 | 31.0 | 71.0 | 37.7 |
| 16 | 57.6 | 33.1 | 79.3 | 39.6 |
| 17 | 48.1 | 33.2 | 67.3 | 26.5 |
| 18 | 61.3 | 34.1 | 73.6 | 36.2 |
| 19 | 57.9 | 34.3 | 81.9 | 39.1 |

Table S3. The results from the virtual screen.

| Number | NCI Total (%) | Leukaemia Average (%) | Ratio | ChemBridge ID |
|--------|---------------|-----------------------|-------|---------------|
| 20 | 97.7 | 91.1 | 1.1 | 5152889 |
| 21 | 99.2 | 89.3 | 1.1 | 5656310 |
| 22 | 80.7 | 55.6 | 1.5 | 5890847 |
| 23 | 99.6 | 82.6 | 1.2 | 7653771 |
| 24 | 95.9 | 69.8 | 1.4 | 7677433 |
| 25 | 96.0 | 74.9 | 1.3 | 7724791 |
| 26 | 94.3 | 33.6 | 2.8 | 7725570 |
| 27 | 71.6 | 50.1 | 1.4 | 7754704 |
| 28 | 96.7 | 86.1 | 1.1 | 7779675 |
| 29 | 77.1 | 33.9 | 2.3 | 7816934 |
| 30 | 100.3 | 75.6 | 1.3 | 7975398 |
| 31 | 95.2 | 79.9 | 1.2 | 7989630 |
| 32 | 87.7 | 57.2 | 1.5 | 7996756 |
| 33 | 87.9 | 70.6 | 1.2 | 9009888 |
| 34 | 97.9 | 87.1 | 1.1 | 9023708 |
| 35 | 88.7 | 36.4 | 2.4 | 9030551 |
| 36 | 97.4 | 89.8 | 1.1 | 9033852 |
| 37 | 99.0 | 88.0 | 1.1 | 9040504 |
| 38 | 84.6 | 61.6 | 1.4 | 9114228 |
| 39 | 85.1 | 37.6 | 2.3 | 9116933 |

Table S4 Criteria of lead-like, drug-like and known drug space (KDS) in terms of molecular descriptors.

| | Lead-like Space | Drug-like Space | Known Drug Space |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Molecular weight (g mol ⁻¹) | 300 | 500 | 800 |
| Lipophilicity (Log P) | 3 | 5 | 6.5 |
| Hydrogen bond donors (HD) | 3 | 5 | 7 |
| Hydrogen bond acceptors (HA) | 3 | 10 | 15 |
| Polar surface area (Å ²) (PSA) | 60 | 140 | 180 |
| Rotatable bonds (RB) | 3 | 10 | 17 |

Table S5. Length of the pyridines and the NCI mean growth inhibition.

| | NCI Mean (%) | Length A |
|-----------------|--------------|----------|
| 1 | 16.4 | 13.465 |
| 2 | 48.3 | 13.506 |
| 3 | 31.4 | 13.516 |
| 4 | 61.3 | 13.518 |
| 5 | 74.8 | 13.537 |
| 6 | 81.6 | 13.536 |
| 7 | 75.6 | 15.061 |
| 8 | 89.8 | 14.887 |
| 9 | 100.2 | 15.258 |
| 10 | 100.1 | 15.421 |
| 11 | 73.5 | 13.517 |
| 12 | 99.2 | 15.604 |
| 13 | 82.5 | 13.505 |
| 14 | 101.6 | 15.245 |
| 15 | 97.9 | 15.030 |
| 16 | 20.8 | 13.649 |
| 17 | 99.2 | 13.194 |
| 18 | 100.4 | 13.082 |
| 19 | 103.1 | 12.474 |
| 1 ^a | 30.2 | 13.486 |
| 2 ^a | 33.3 | 13.487 |
| 3 ^a | 36.3 | 13.736 |
| 4 ^a | 23.1 | 15.014 |
| 5 ^a | 42.0 | 13.491 |
| 6 ^a | 59.2 | 13.492 |
| 7 ^a | 103.0 | 15.736 |
| 8 ^a | 105.4 | 15.036 |
| 9 ^a | 102.4 | 15.033 |
| 10 ^a | 99.9 | 16.120 |
| 11 ^a | 101.7 | 16.522 |
| 12 ^a | 109.8 | 16.354 |
| 13 ^a | 107.6 | 16.732 |
| 14 ^a | 110.2 | 15.347 |
| 15 ^a | 87.4 | 16.445 |
| 16 ^a | 104.5 | 16.230 |
| 1a ^a | 111.9 | 13.302 |
| 2a ^a | 102.6 | 15.286 |

^a Values from: L. Feng, I. Reynisdóttir and J. Reynisson, *Eur. J. Med. Chem.*, 2012, **54**, 463-469.

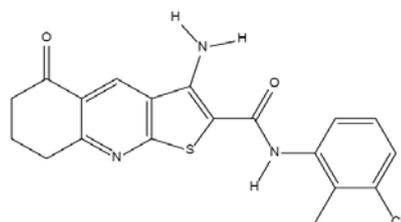
NCI's 60-cell line panel growth inhibition assay

The NCI's human 60-cell lines were grown in RPMI 1640 medium containing 5% FBS and 2mM L-glutamine. Cells were inoculated into 96-well plates at plating densities 5000–40 000 cells per well, based on the doubling time of individual cell lines. Plates were then incubated at 37 °C, 5% CO₂, 95% air and 100% relative humidity for 24 h prior to addition of tested compounds. After 24 h, two plates of each cell line were fixed *in situ* with trichloroacetic acid (TCA), to represent a measurement of the cell population for each cell line at the time of tested compound addition. Tested compounds were solubilized in DMSO at a concentration 400 times that of the desired final maximum test concentration and stored frozen prior to use. An aliquot of each frozen tested concentrate was thawed and diluted to twice the desired final maximum test concentration with complete medium containing 50 µg mL⁻¹ gentamicin. 100 µL aliquot of the tested drug diluted solution was added to appropriate wells containing 100 µL of medium, resulting in the required final drug doses. Following tested compound addition, plates were incubated for additional 48 h. The assay was terminated by the addition of cold TCA for adherent cells. Cells were fixed *in situ* by addition of 50 µL of cold 50% (w/v) TCA (final concentration, 10% TCA) and incubated for 60 min at 4 °C. The supernatant was discarded, and plates were washed 5 times with water and air dried. Sulforhodamine B (SRB) solution (100 µL), 0.4%(w/v) in 1% acetic acid was added to each well, and plates were incubated for 10 min at rt. After staining, the unbound dye was removed by washing five times with 1% acetic acid and plates were air dried. The bound stain was subsequently solubilized with 10 mM Trizma base, and the absorbance was measured on a plate reader at 515 nm. For suspension cells, the methodology was identical except the assay termination by fixing settled cells at the bottom of each well by adding 50 µL of 80% TCA (final concentration, 16% TCA).

Taken from: K. A. El Sayed, A. I. Foudah, A. M. S. Mayer, A. M. Crider and D. Song, *Med. Chem. Comm.*, 2013, **4**, 1231-1238.

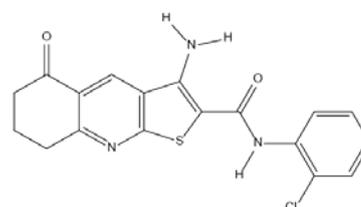
Table S6. Structures of all the tested pyridines.

1



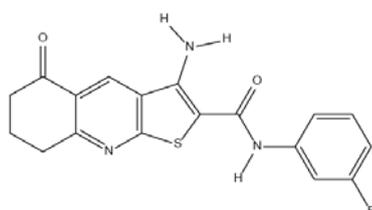
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2



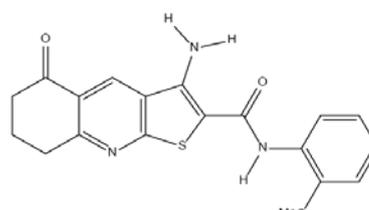
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3



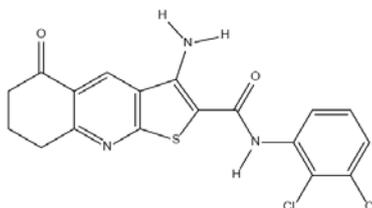
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4



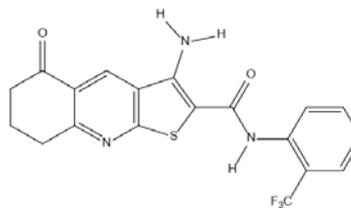
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5



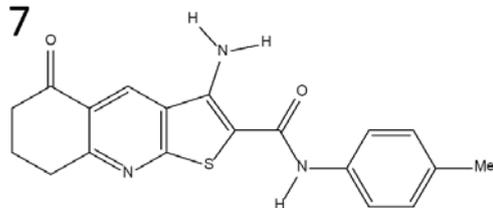
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6



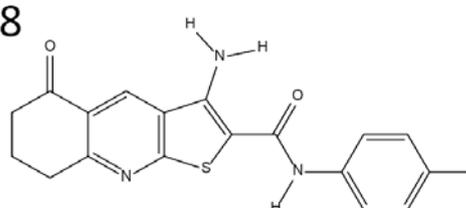
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7

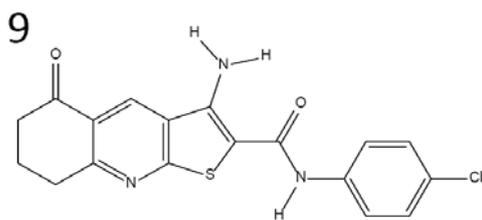


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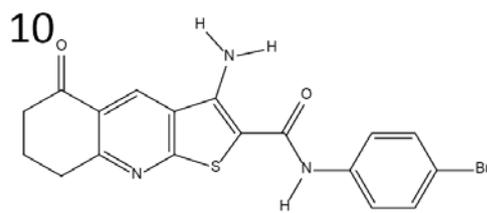
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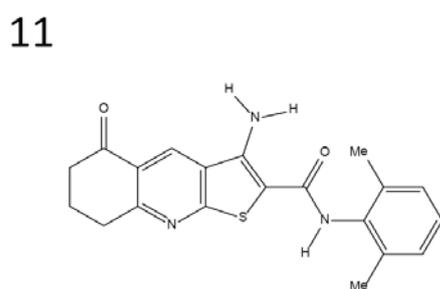
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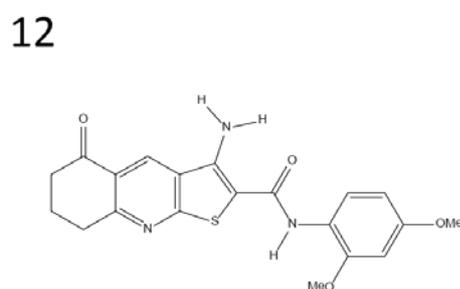
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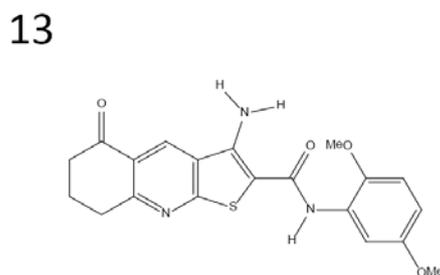
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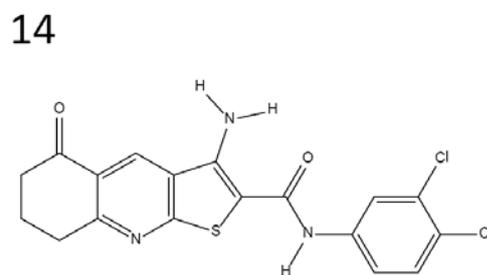
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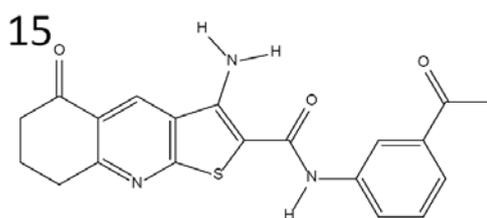
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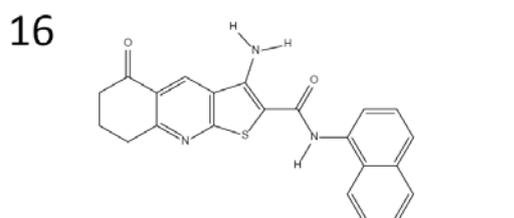
3-amino-N-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



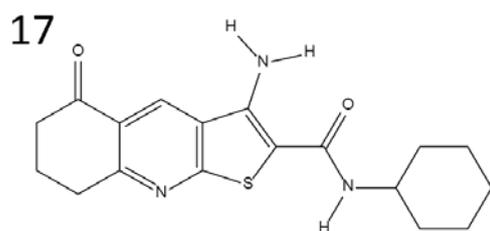
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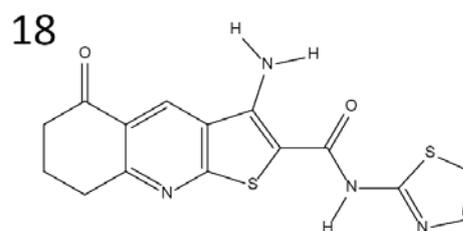
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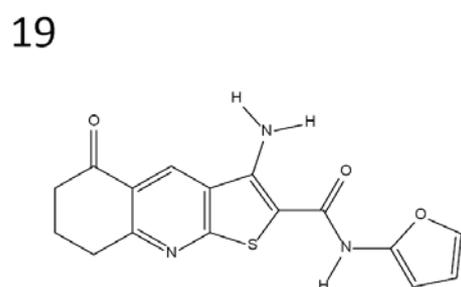
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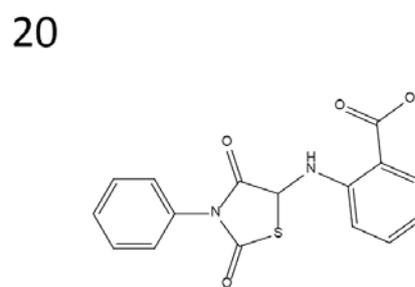
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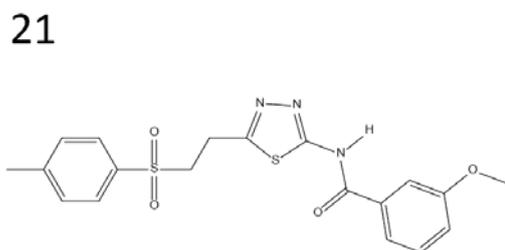
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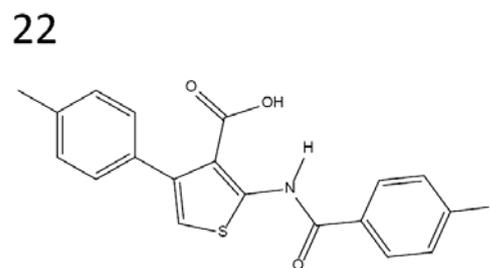
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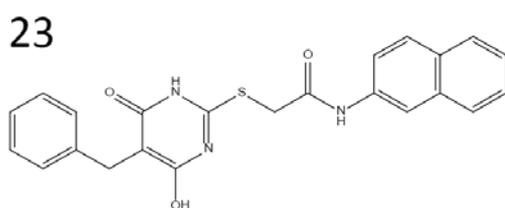
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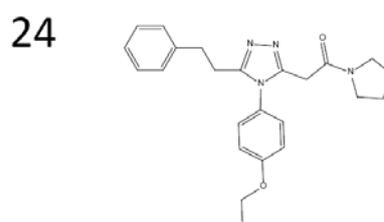
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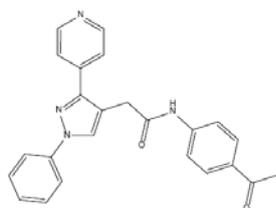


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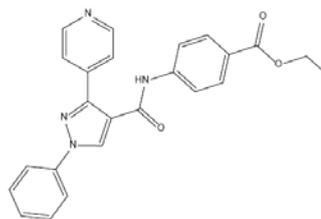
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25



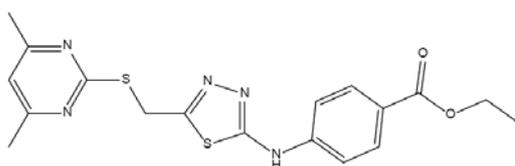
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26



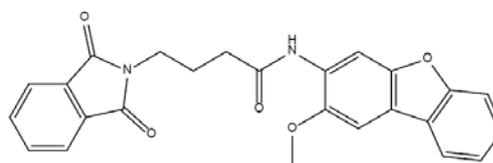
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27



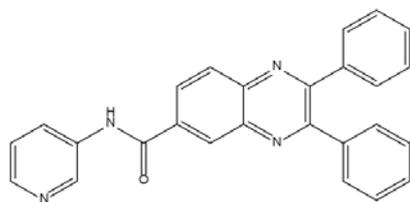
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28



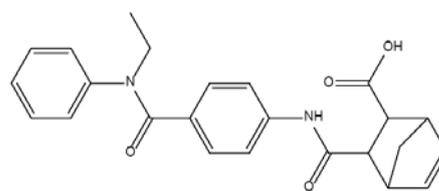
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29



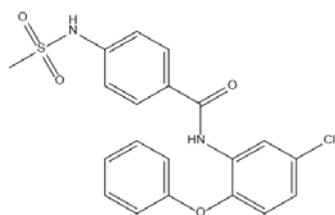
2,3-diphenyl-N-(pyridin-3-yl)quinoxaline-6-carboxamide

30



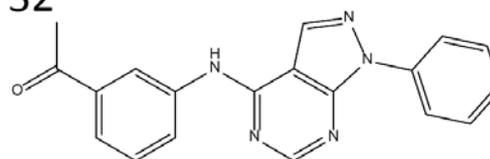
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31



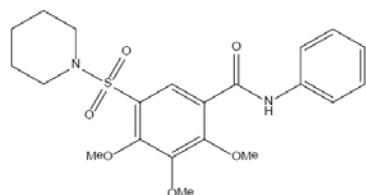
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32



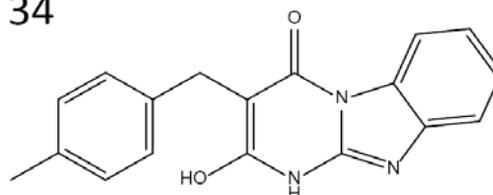
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33



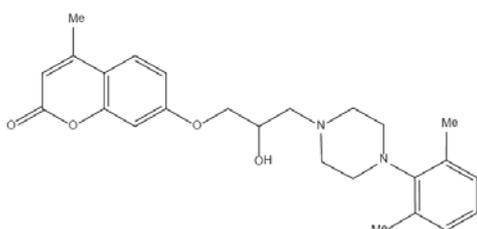
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34



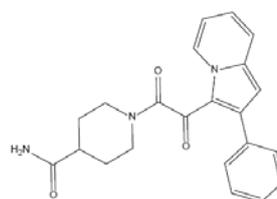
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35



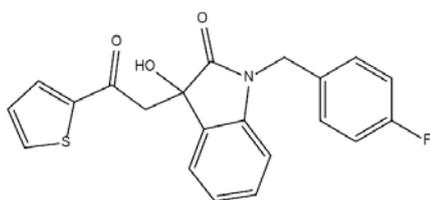
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36



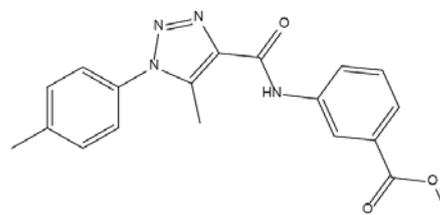
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37



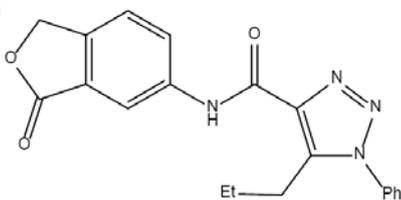
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38



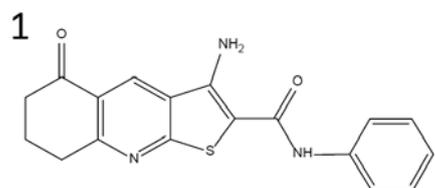
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39

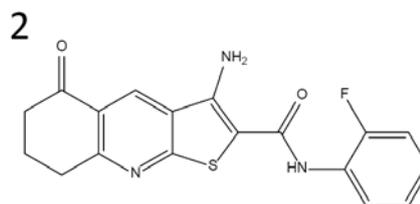


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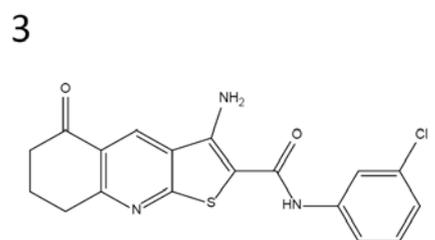
Table S7. Structures from Feng et al. (L. Feng, I. Reynisdóttir and J. Reynisson, *Eur. J. Med. Chem.*, 2012, **54**, 463-469) used in the QSAR analysis.



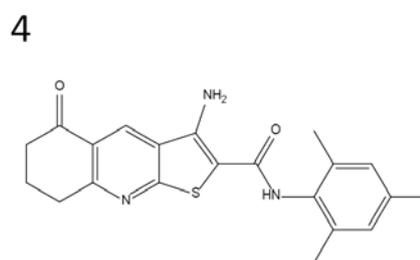
3-amino-5-oxo-N-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



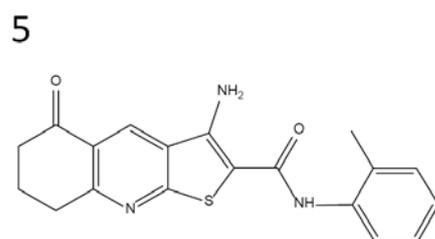
3-amino-N-(2-fluorophenyl)-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



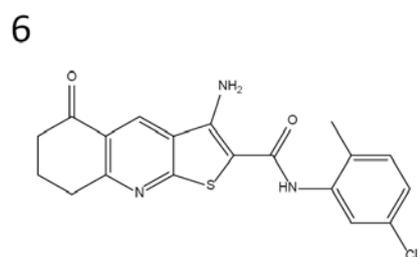
3-amino-N-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



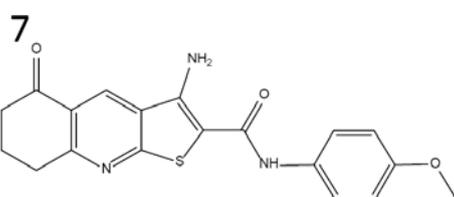
3-amino-N-mesityl-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



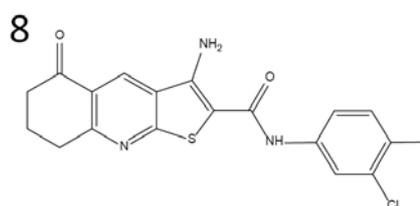
3-amino-5-oxo-N-o-tolyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



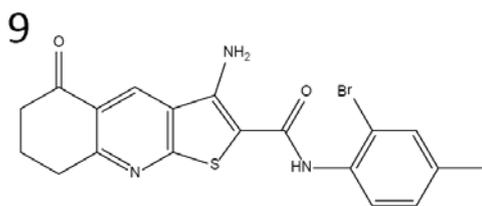
3-amino-N-(5-chloro-2-methylphenyl)-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



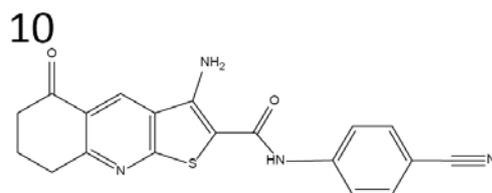
3-amino-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



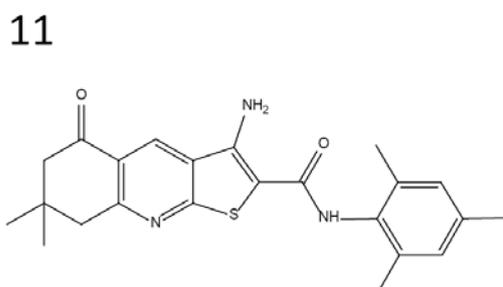
3-amino-N-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



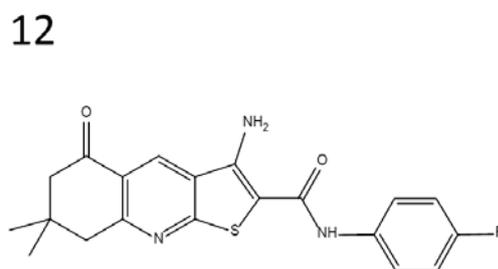
3-amino-N-(2-bromo-4-methylphenyl)-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



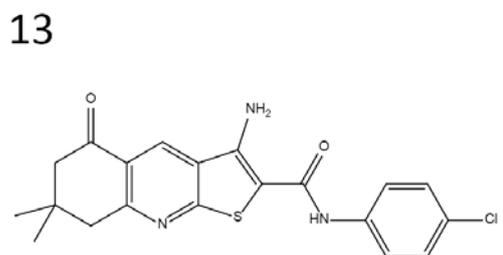
3-amino-N-(4-cyanophenyl)-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



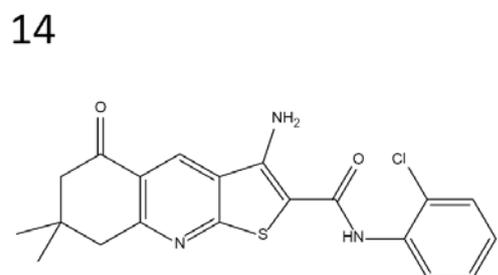
3-amino-N-mesityl-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



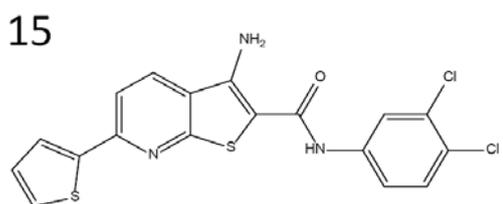
3-amino-N-(4-fluorophenyl)-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



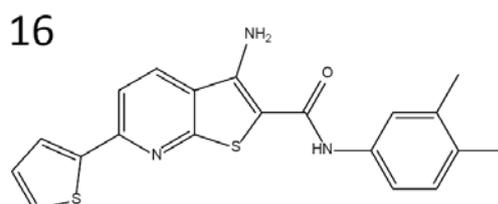
3-amino-N-(4-chlorophenyl)-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide



3-amino-N-(2-chlorophenyl)-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide

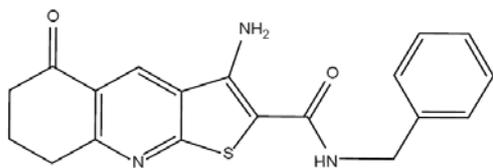


3-amino-N-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-6-(thiophen-2-yl)thieno[2,3-b]pyridine-2-carboxamide



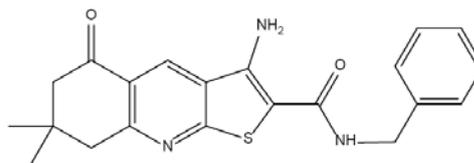
3-amino-N-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-6-(2-thienyl)thieno[2,3-b]pyridine-2-carboxamide

1a



3-amino-N-benzyl-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide

2a



3-amino-N-benzyl-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-b]quinoline-2-carboxamide