Rational Design of Central Selective Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitors by Means of a "Bio-oxidable Prodrug" Strategy.

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1.1. Carbamylated quinolines 11a-g

Ethyl 7-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)quinoline-3-carboxylate (11a)

According to procedure A from compound **10a** (300 mg, 1.38 mmol), NaH (72 mg, 1.5 mmol, 50% dispersion in mineral oil) and dimethylcarbamoyl chloride (140 μ L, 1.5 mmol). Flash chromatography of the residue (Eluent: CH₂Cl₂) provided pure **11a** (360 mg, 90%) as a pale yellow powder. mp 98°C. ¹H NMR(CDCl₃) δ 9.42 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 8.80 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 9 and 2 Hz, 1H), 4.47 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 1.44 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). Found: C, 62.4; H, 5.6; N, 9.6. Calc. for C₁₅H₁₆N₂O₄: C, 62.49; H, 5.59; N, 9.72.

Ethyl 5-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)quinoline-3-carboxylate (11b)

According to procedure A from compound **10b** (0.4 g, 1.84 mmol), NaH (96 mg, 2 mmol, 50% dispersion in mineral oil) and *N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamoyl chloride (203 µL, 2.21 mmol). Flash chromatography on silica gel of the residue (Eluent: diethyl ether) provided pure **11b** (415 mg, 78%) as a pale yellow powder. mp: 99°C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.40 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 8.89 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, *J* = 7.5 and 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 1.41, (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 165.2 (C), 154.3 (C), 150.2 (CH), 147.8 (C), 133.0 (CH), 131.4 (CH), 126.6 (CH), 123.3 (C), 121.6 (C), 119.5 (CH), 61.6 (CH₂), 37.0 (CH₃), 36.7 (CH₃), 14.3 (CH₃). IR v_{max}/cm⁻¹ (KBr): 1754, 1720, 1281, 1157. Found: C, 62.6; H, 5.45; N, 9.8. Calc. for C₁₅H₁₆N₂O₄: C, 62.49; H, 5.59; N, 9.72.

Methyl 5-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)-quinoline-3-carboxylate (11c)

According to procedure A from compound **10c** (0.7 g, 3.45 mmol), NaH (0.33 g, 6.90 mmol, 50% dispersion in mineral oil) and *N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamoyl chloride (635 μ L, 6.90 mmol). Flash chromatography of the residue on silica gel (Eluent: Cyclohexane/EtOAc 1:1) provided pure **11c** (757 mg, 85%) as a pale yellow powder. mp 112°C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.45 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 8.95 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, *J* = 7.5 and 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 3.10 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 165.8 (C), 154.3 (C), 150.3 (C),

150.3 (CH), 147.8 (C), 133.2 (CH), 131.5 (CH), 126.7 (CH), 123.1 (C), 121.7 (C), 119.6 (C), 52.7 (CH₃), 37.1 (CH₃), 36.8 (CH₃). IR v_{max} /cm⁻¹ (KBr): 1759, 1729, 1286, 1176, 1160. Found: C, 61.2; H, 5.2; N, 10.1. Calc. for C₁₄H₁₄N₂O₄: C, 61.31; H, 5.14; N, 10.21.

5-(*N*,*N*-Dimethylcarbamate)-3-(*N*-methylcarboxamido) quinoline (11d)

According to procedure A from compound **10d** (150 mg 0.74 mmol), NaH (48 mg, 1 mmol) and *N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamoyl chloride (82 μ L, 0.89 mmol). Flash chromatography on silica gel of the residue (Eluent: CH₂Cl₂ then CH₂Cl₂/*i*-PrOH 9:1) provided pure **11d** (132 mg, 65%) as a pale yellow powder. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.18 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.71 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 7.7 and 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (br, 1H), 3.27 (br, 3H), 3.07 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR δ 166.5 (C), 154.9 (C), 149.8 (C), 148.6 (CH), 147.9 (C), 130.9 (CH), 130.6 (CH), 127.7 (C), 126.9 (CH), 122.1 (C), 120.0 (CH), 37.4 (CH₃), 37.1 (CH₃), 27.3 (CH₃). Found: C, 61.45; H, 5.6; N, 15.4. Calc. for C₁₄H₁₅N₃O₃: C, 61.53; H, 5.53; N, 15.38.

5-(*N*,*N*-Dimethylcarbamate)-3-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarboxamido) quinoline (11e)

According to procedure A from compound **10e** (0.1 g, 0.46 mmol), NaH (33 mg, 0.69 mmol, 50% dispersion in mineral oil) and *N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamoyl chloride (64 μ L, 0.69 mmol). Flash chromatography on neutral alumina gel (Eluent: CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc 1:1) provided pure **11e** (72 mg, 55%) as a pale brown powder. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.95 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, *J* = 7.9 and 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR δ 169.1 (C), 154.4 (C), 148.9 (CH), 148.6 (C), 147.3 (C), 130.3 (CH), 130.0 (CH), 129.3 (C), 126.8 (CH), 122.0 (C), 119.6 (CH), 39.9 (CH₃), 37.1 (CH₃), 36.8 (CH₃), 35.7 (CH₃). Found: C, 62.7; H, 5.9; N, 14.6. Calc. for C₁₅H₁₇N₃O₃: C, 62.71; H, 5.96; N, 14.63.

4-[5-(*N*,*N*-Dimethylcarbamate)quinolin-3-yl-carbonyl]-morpholine (11f)

According to procedure A from compound **10f** (444 mg, 1.72 mmol), NaH (166 mg, 3.45 mmol, 50% dispersion in mineral oil) and *N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamoyl chloride (320 μ L, 3.45 mmol). Flash chromatography on silica gel (Eluent: CH₂Cl₂ then CH₂Cl₂/*i*-PrOH 49:1) provided pure **11f** (102 mg, 18%) as a pale yellow powder. mp 130°C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.91 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz,

1H), 7.74 (dd, J = 8.5 and 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.30-3.90 (m, 8H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 3.04 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) 168.3 (C), 154.7 (C), 149.3 (C), 148.8 (CH), 147.5 (C), 130.8 (CH), 130.7 (CH), 128.4 (C), 127.1 (CH), 122.2 (C), 120.1 (CH), 67.2 (CH₂), 37.4 (CH₃), 37.1 (CH₃). Found: C, 62.25; H, 5.9; N, 12.0. Calc. for $C_{17}H_{19}N_3O_4$: C, 62.00; H, 5.81; N, 12.76. IR v_{max} /cm⁻¹ (KBr): 1725, 1628, 1168, 1111.

Methyl 5-(*N*-ethylcarbamate)-quinoline-3-carboxylate (11g)

According to procedure A from compound **10c** (321 mg, 1.58 mmol), NaH (0.10 g, 1.90 mmol, 50% dispersion in mineral oil) and ethyl isocyanate (130 µL, 1.64 mmol). Flash chromatography on silica gel (Eluent: petroleum ether/*i*-PrOH 3:1) provided pure **11g** (408 mg, 94%) as a pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.43 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.98 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.39 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.36 (quint, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). MS EI (70 eV) Calc. for C₁₄H₁₄N₂O₄ m/z = 274, Found: (MH⁺) m/z = 275.

1.2. Quinolinium salts 2a-g

Ethyl 1-methyl-7-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)quinolinium-3-carboxylate triflate (2a)

According to procedure B from compound **11a** (300 mg, 1.0 mmol) and methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (130 µL, 1.1 mmol). After evaporation of volatiles addition of Et₂O (10 mL) furnished a white precipitate (450 mg, 100%) which was filtered to give the desired quinolinium salt **2a** as a white powder. mp 193°C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.78 (s, 1H), 9.44 (s, 1H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (s, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (s, 3H), 4.54 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H,), 3.19 (s, 3H), 3.07 (s, 3H), 1.47 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO) δ 162.1 (C), 158.1 (C), 152.7 (C), 150.6 (CH), 147.2 (CH), 140.8 (C), 133.4 (CH), 126.7 (CH), 126.1 (C), 123.1 (C), 111.1 (CH), 62.6 (CH₂), 45.6 (CH₃), 36.6 (CH₃), 36.4 (CH₃), 14.2 (CH₃). HRMS (DCl⁺, isobutene): calc. for (M⁺) C₁₆H₁₉N₂O₄⁺: *m/z* 303.1339. Found: 303.1351.

Ethyl 1-methyl-5-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)quinolinium-3-carboxylate triflate (2b)

According to procedure B from compound **11b** (300 mg, 1.0 mmol) and methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (130 µL, 1.1 mmol). After evaporation of volatiles, addition of Et₂O (10 mL) furnished a white precipitate which was filtered to give the desired quinolinium salt **2b** (450 mg, 100 %) as a white solid. mp 170°C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.89 (s, 1H), 9.58 (s, 1H), 8.25-8.35 (m, 2H), 7.87 (dd, *J* = 2.5 and 6.2 Hz, 1H), 4.83 (s, 3H), 4.55 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 1.48 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 161.4 (C), 152.9 (C), 150.9 (CH), 149.8 (C), 142.5 (CH), 140.1 (C), 138.6 (CH), 124.6 (C), 124.0 (C), 123.2 (CH), 115.8 (CH), 63.8 (CH₂), 47.4 (CH₃), 37.4 (CH₃), 37.1 (CH₃), 14.2 (CH₃). HRMS (DCl⁺, isobutene): calc. for (M⁺) C₁₆H₁₉N₂O₄⁺: *m/z* 303.1339. Found: 303.1347.

Methyl 1-methyl-5-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)quinolinium-3-carboxylate triflate (2c)

According to procedure B from compound **11c** (565 mg, 2.06 mmol) and methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (256 μ L, 2.27 mmol). After evaporation of volatiles, compound **2c** (903 mg, 100%) was obtained as a pale yellow powder. mp: 170°C ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.82 (s, 1H), 9.52 (s, 1H), 8.20-8.32 (m, 2H), 7.82 (dd, *J* = 6.9 and 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (s, 3H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 162.1 (C), 153.0 (C), 150.9 (CH), 149.6 (C), 142.4 (CH), 140.1 (C), 138.6 (CH), 124.2 (C), 123.9 (C), 123.3 (CH), 116.0 (CH), 54.0 (CH₃), 47.2 (CH₃), 37.3 (CH₃), 37.0 (CH₃). ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃) δ -79.0. Found: C, 43.55; H, 3.9; N, 6.5; S, 7.2. Calc. for C₁₆H₁₇F₃N₂O₇S: C, 43.84; H, 3.91; N, 6.39; S, 7.31. IR v_{max}/cm⁻¹ (KBr): 1736, 1268, 1159, 1029.

1-Methyl-5-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)-3-(*N*-methylcarboxamido)quinolinium triflate (2d)

According to procedure B from compound **11d** (146 mg, 0.53 mmol) and methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (68 μ L, 0.60 mmol). After evaporation of the volatiles compound **2d** (216 mg, 100%) was obtained as a pale brown powder. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.86 (s, 1H), 9.69 (s, 1H), 8.58 (br, 1H), 8.25 (dd, *J* = 8.9 and 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (s, 3H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 3.09 (s,

3H), 3.05 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 3H). HRMS (DCI⁺, isobutene): calc. for (M⁺) C₁₅H₁₈N₃O₃⁺: m/z 288.1343. Found: 288.1352.

1-Methyl-5-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)-3-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarboxamido)quinolinium triflate (2e)

According to procedure B from compound **11e** (25 mg, 0.09 mmol) and methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (12 μ L, 0.11 mmol). After evaporation of volatiles, compound **2e** (40 mg, 100%) was obtained as a brown powder. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.44 (s, 1H), 9.07 (s, 1H), 8.10-8.25 (m, 2H), 7.77 (dd, *J*= 6.5 and 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 3.13 (s, 6H), 3.05 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 162.3 (C), 153.1 (C), 149.5 (CH), 149.0 (C), 139.7 (CH), 139.0 (C), 137.1 (CH), 130.0 (C), 124.1 (C), 123.0 (CH), 115.6 (CH), 46.9 (CH₃), 39.9 (CH₃), 37.3 (CH₃), 37.0 (CH₃), 36.0 (CH₃). HRMS (DCl⁺, isobutene): calc. for (M⁺) C₁₆H₂₀N₃O₃⁺: *m/z* 302.1499. Found: 302.1512.

1-Methyl-5-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)-3-(morpholinocarboxy)quinolinium triflate (2f)

According to procedure B from compound **11f** (102 mg, 0.31 mmol) and methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (35 μ L, 0.31 mmol). After evaporation of volatiles, compound **2f** (152 mg, 100%) was obtained as a brown powder. mp 92°C (degrad.) ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.37 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.98 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.10-8.25 (m, 2H), 7.76 (dd, *J* = 6.6 and 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.65 (s, 3H), 3.50-8.85 (m, 8H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 3.05 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 163.2 (C), 153.0 (C), 149.7 (CH), 149.0 (C), 139.6 (CH), 139.1 (C), 137.1 (CH), 129.3 (C), 124.0 (C), 122.9 (CH), 115.6 (CH), 66.5 (CH₂), 47.0 (CH₃), 37.3 (CH₃), 37.0 (CH₃). ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃) δ -79.0. IR v_{max} (KBr): 1731, 1638, 1260, 1155, 1031 cm⁻¹. HRMS (DCl⁺, isobutene): calc. for (M⁺) C₁₈H₂₂N₃O₄⁺: *m/z* 344.1605. Found: 344.1625.

Methyl 5-(N-ethylcarbamate)-1-methylquinolinium-3-carboxylate triflate (2g)

According to procedure B from compound **11g** (80 mg, 0.27 mmol) and methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (36 μ L, 0.32 mmol). After evaporation of volatiles, compound **2g** (125 mg, 100%) was obtained as a white powder. ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.07 (s, 1H), 9.49 (s, 1H), 8.48 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (m, 2H), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 3.2 Hz and 5.3 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (s, 3H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 3.18 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆) δ 162.7, 153.0, 151.2, 149.0, 141.2, 140.1, 138.3,

123.9, 123.2, 122.7, 116.2, 53.9, 46.3, 36.0, 15.0. HRMS (DCI⁺, isobutene): calc. for (M⁺) C₁₅H₁₇N₂O₄⁺: *m/z* 289.1183. Found: 289.1195.

1.3. 1,4-Dihydroquinolines 1a-g

Ethyl 1-methyl-7-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)-1,4-dihydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (1a)

According to procedure C from compound **2a** (100 mg, 0.22 mmol). The crude product **1a** (31 mg, 47%) was obtained as a yellow oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dd, *J* = 9Hz and 3 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, *J* = 3 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 2H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.08 (s, 3H), 3.00 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 167.8 (C), 155.0 (C), 150.7 (C), 142.7 (CH), 139.9 (C), 130.1 (CH), 120.0 (C), 116.1 (CH), 106.7 (CH), 97.9 (C), 59.7 (CH₂), 39.0 (CH₃), 36.8 (CH₃), 36.5 (CH₃), 25.9 (CH₂), 14.7 (CH₃). HRMS (DCl⁺, isobutene): calc. for (M⁺) C₁₆H₂₀N₂O₄⁺: *m/z* 304.1423. Found: 304.1433.

Ethyl 1-methyl-5-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)-1,4-dihydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (1b)

According to procedure C from compound **2b** (100 mg, 0.22 mmol). The crude product **1b** (31 mg, 46%) was obtained as a yellow oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.12 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (dd, *J* = 8 Hz and 1 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (dd, *J* = 8 Hz and 1 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 3.63 (s, 2H), 3.20 (s, 3H,), 3.11 (s, 3H), 3.00 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H). HRMS (DCl⁺, isobutene): calc. for (M⁺) C₁₆H₂₀N₂O₄⁺: *m/z* 304.1423. Found: 304.1428.

Methyl 1-methyl-5-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)-1,4-dihydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (1c)

According to procedure C from compound **2c** (100 mg, 0.23 mmol). The crude product **1c** (31 mg, 47%) was a yellow powder, but yields are not reproducible. Alternatively, compound **2c** could be reduced with *N*-benzyl-1,4-dihydronicotinamide (BNAH) by following the below procedure. A solution of **2c** (0.1 g, 0.23 mmol) and *N*-benzyl-1,4-dihydronicotinamide (BNAH) (54 mg, 0.25 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) was stirred at room temperature (1h). The reaction mixture was then washed with water

(3 x 10 mL). The organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure at room temperature to afford **1c** (45 mg, 67%) as a pale yellow powder. mp 130°C (degrad.) ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.11 (dd, *J* = 8.1 and 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.61 (s, 2H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 2.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 168.3 (C), 154.4 (C), 150.3 (C), 142.9 (CH), 140.1 (C), 127.4 (CH), 117.2 (CH), 116.8 (C), 109.7 (CH), 96.8 (CH), 51.2 (CH₃), 39.5 (CH₃), 36.9 (CH₃), 36.6 (CH₃), 21.3 (CH₂). IR v_{max}/cm⁻¹ (KBr): 1725, 1679, 1390, 1270, 1168, 1146. HRMS (DCl⁺, isobutene): calc. for (M⁺) C₁₅H₁₈N₂O₄⁺: *m*/*z* 290.1267. Found: 290.1272.

1-Methyl-5-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)-3-(*N*-methylcarboxamido)-1,4dihydroquinoline (1d)

According to procedure C from compound **2d** (70 mg, 0.17 mmol). The work-up was somewhat different from the procedure C. The aqueous layer was separated and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 5 mL) giving after evaporation of the solvent some impure product. The pH of the aqueous layer was adjusted to 5.0 with an aqueous solution of HCl 1M. An additional extraction of the resulting aqueous phase with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 5 mL), drying (MgSO₄), followed by filtration and evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure at room temperature gave compound **1d** (26 mg, 53%) as a pale brown powder. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.05-7.20 (m, 2H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 5.36 (br, 1H), 3.61 (s, 2H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 3.02 (s, 3H), 2.88 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 168.6 (C), 154.8 (C), 150.5 (C), 140.9 (C), 139.8 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 116.3 (CH), 115.7 (C), 109.8 (CH), 99.3 (C), 39.5 (CH₃), 37.2 (CH₃), 37.0 (CH₃), 26.9 (CH₃), 21.9 (CH₂). HRMS (DCl⁺, isobutene): calc. for (M⁺) C₁₅H₁₉N₃O₃⁺: *m/z* 289.1426. Found: 289.1433.

4-[1-Methyl-5-(*N*,*N*-dimethylcarbamate)-1,4-dihydroquinolin-3-yl-carbonyl] morpholine (1f)

According to procedure C from compound **2f** (50 mg, 0.10 mmol). The crude product **1f** (16 mg, 46%) was obtained as a pale brown powder. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.12 (dd, J = 8.3 and 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (s, 1H), 3.50-3.75 (m, 10H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 3.00 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.5 (C), 157.2 (C), 149.9 (C), 141.2 (C), 138.2 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 116.3 (CH), 115.5 (C), 109.1 (CH), 100.2 (C), 67.2 (CH₂), 46.1 (CH₂), 39.1 (CH₃), 36.9 (CH₃), 36.7

(CH₃), 23.1 (CH₂). HRMS (DCl⁺, isobutene): calc. for (M⁺) $C_{18}H_{23}N_3O_4^+$: *m/z* 345.1687. Found: 345.1680.

Methyl 5-(*N*-ethylcarbamate)-1-methyl-1,4-dihydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (1g)

According to procedure C from compound **2g** (50 mg, 0.11 mmol). The crude product **1g** (20 mg, 62%) was obtained as a yellow powder. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 2H), 3.28 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 168.6 (C), 154.3 (C), 150.0 (C), 143.2 (CH), 140.4 (C), 127.7(CH), 117.3 (CH), 117.1 (C), 110.0 (CH), 97.1 (C), 51.4 (CH₃), 39.7 (CH₃), 36.6 (CH₂), 21.6 (CH₂), 15.5 (CH₃). HRMS (DCl⁺, isobutene): calc. for (M⁺) C₁₅H₁₈N₂O₄⁺: *m/z* 290.1267. Found: 290.1275.

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1.4. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra































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2. In vitro AChE inhibition assay

2.1. Preparation of enzyme: human acetylcholinesterase : Blood was collected from various patients hospitalized at the Rouen University Hospital. These patients have no blood disease and no anticholinesterasic treatment. After centrifugation at 3000 rotation per minutes for ten minutes, the plasma was removed. The globular pellet was washed twice by aqueous NaCl (9 g.L⁻¹), and pooled. The washed cells were haemolysed by dilution with 3 or 4 volumes of distilled water. After centrifugation at 20000g for 20 minutes, the cell membranes were washed twice by NaCl (9 g.L⁻¹). Additional centrifugation at 20000g furnished erythrocyte membranes with high cholinesterase activity. These sedimented membranes were mixed with 0.2 volumes of 5% Triton X-100 in NaCl 9 g.L⁻¹. The AChE inhibitory activity was measured by a modified Ellmann assay¹ and must be set between 500 and 800 IU (1 unit is the amount of enzyme which hydrolyze 1 µmol of acetylthiocholine per minute at 25° C).

2.2. Preparation of the solution

a) Phosphate buffer (pH = 7.4)

for 1L of buffer: NaH₂PO₄ (3.1 g) Na₂HPO₄•12H₂O (10.4 g) 5,5'-dithio-bis(2-nitrobenzoic) acid (0.1 g)

b) Substrate (acetylthiocholine 0.156M)

135 mg of acetylthiocholine iodide in 3 mL water

2.3. Measurement of inhibitory activity of compounds 1a-g and 2a-g

The enzymatic solution (20 μ L) was added to phosphate buffer (2.9 mL) mixed with various concentrations of compound **1** or **2**. After 10 minutes of incubation, substrate was added (100 μ L) and enzymatic hydrolysis kinetic was measured by a Schimadzu

¹ (a) Ellmann G.L., Courtney K.D., Andres V. Jr. and Featherstone R.M. "*A new and rapid colorimetric determination of acetylcholinesterase activity*." Bioch. Pharmacol. **1961**, *7*, 88-95 (b) Rosenberry T.L., Richardson J.M. Biochemistry. **1977**, *16*, 3550-8.

spectrophotometer. This experiment was conducted without inhibitor or without enzyme to determine maximal enzymatic kinetic and chemical hydrolysis of substrate in the buffer respectively.

	Total	Blank	Measure points ²
Phosphate buffer	2.9 mL	2.9 mL	2.6 mL
Human acetylcholinesterase solution	20 µL	0 µL	20 µL
Solutions of unknown compound (<u>1</u> or <u>2</u>) ²	0 µL	0 µL	300 µL
Acetylthiocholine 0.156M	100 µL	100 µL	100 μL

Table 1 – Assay method used to determine AChE inhibitory activity

A dose-effect curve was obtained, and IC_{50} was determined.

Example: determination of the experimental IC_{50} for 2a

The experimental IC₅₀ for **2a** is determined at 0.53 μ M on this test (Figure 1).



Figure 1 – Cholinesterase inhibition by 2a

² Final concentrations ranging: 10⁻⁵M to 10⁻⁸M, or less if necessary