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# 2-Triazole-Substituted Adenosines: A New Class of Selective A<sub>3</sub> Adenosine Receptor Agonists, Partial Agonists, and Antagonists

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#### Abstract

"Click chemistry" was explored to synthesize two series of 2-(1,2,3-triazolyl)adenosine derivatives (1–14). Binding affinity at the human  $A_1$ ,  $A_{2A}$ , and  $A_3ARs$  (adenosine receptors) and relative efficacy at the  $A_3AR$  were determined. Some triazol-1-yl analogues showed  $A_3AR$  affinity in the low nanomolar range, a high ratio of  $A_3/A_{2A}$  selectivity, and a moderate-to-high  $A_3/A_1$  ratio. The 1,2,3-triazol-4-yl regiomers typically showed decreased  $A_3AR$  affinity. Sterically demanding groups at the adenine C2 position tended to reduce relative  $A_3AR$  efficacy. Thus, several 5'-OH derivatives appeared to be selective  $A_3AR$  antagonists, i.e., 10, with 260-fold binding selectivity in comparison to the  $A_1AR$  and displaying a characteristic docking mode in an  $A_3AR$  model. The corresponding 5'-ethyluronamide analogues generally showed increased  $A_3AR$  affinity and behaved as full agonists, i.e., 17, with 910-fold  $A_3/A_1$  selectivity. Thus,  $N^6$ -substituted 2-(1,2,3-triazolyl)-adenosine analogues constitute a novel class of highly potent and selective nucleoside-based  $A_3AR$  antagonists, partial agonists, and agonists.

#### Introduction

Adenosine receptors (AR) are G-protein-coupled receptors and consist of four subtypes classified as  $A_1$ ,  $A_{2A}$ ,  $A_{2B}$ , and  $A_3$ . Among the four AR subtypes, the  $A_3AR$  is the most recently identified. The distribution of  $A_3AR$  is species-dependent, and in humans this subtype occurs in the lungs, liver, heart, kidneys, and brain. Activation of this receptor subtype inhibits adenylyl cyclase activity, increases phosphatidylinositol-specific phospholipase C activity, and stimulates  $Ca^{2+}$  mobilization. Adenosine  $A_3$  receptor stimulation induces cardioprotection through the activation of  $K_{ATP}$  channels and is also involved in neuroprotection, suggesting the possibility of using  $A_3AR$  agonists to treat cardial and cerebral ischemia.  $A_3AR$  agonists also exhibit systemic anticancer and

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chemoprotective effects.  $^6$  A<sub>3</sub>AR modulators have been proposed as antiinflammatory and antiasthmatic drugs.  $^{7,8}$  Selective A<sub>3</sub>AR antagonists promise to be useful in the regulation of cell growth  $^{8,9}$  and as cerebroprotective agents.  $^{10,11}$  They also seem to enhance anticancer treatment by counteracting P-glycoprotein efflux in multidrug resistance.  $^{12}$  A<sub>3</sub>AR antagonists are also proposed as potential therapeutics for the treatment of glaucoma; application of A<sub>3</sub>-AR antagonists externally to the eye substantially lowers intraocular pressure in mice and monkeys.  $^{13-15}$ 

Although diverse in structure, most AR antagonists share some common structural features. In general, they are planar, aromatic, or  $\pi$ -electron-rich and nitrogen-containing heterocycles. Additionally, most AR antagonists lack the ribose moiety, which seems essential for agonist activity. <sup>16</sup> Various heterocyclic classes have been identified as promising leads for A<sub>3</sub>AR antagonists, among them 1,4-dihydropyridines, pyridines, deazaadenines, pyrazolopyrimidines, adenines, and 1,2,4-triazolo[4,3-a]quinoxalin-1-ones. <sup>4,7,17,18</sup>

However, the  $A_3AR$ , more than other AR subtypes, is amenable to the design of nucleoside-based antagonists. The efficacy of nucleoside derivatives in activation of the  $A_3AR$  is particularly sensitive to molecular substitution of the ligand. A wide range of adenosine derivatives have been shown to antagonize this receptor, including the highly potent  $A_1AR$  agonist 2-chloro- $N^6$ -cyclopentyladenosine.  $N^6$ -Benzyl groups are associated with reduced  $A_3AR$  efficacy, leading to partial agonists and antagonists. However, many of the nucleosides so far demonstrated to be antagonists of the  $A_3AR$  are not highly subtype-selective. Nucleoside-based  $A_3AR$  antagonists maintaining an intact ribose moiety were reported by Volpini et al., at with a series of 8-alkynyladenosine derivatives that exhibited  $A_3AR$  selectivity, but suffered from weak  $A_3AR$  affinity. A spirolactam derivative, in which the 5'-alkyluronamide group was cyclized onto the 4' carbon, was found to potently and selectively antagonize the  $A_3AR$ . An advantage of nucleoside-based  $A_3AR$  antagonists over other heterocyclic antagonists is the ability to achieve high affinity at murine species.

Recently, researchers from CV Therapeutics described a series of 2-pyrazolyladenosine analogues. <sup>22</sup> Several representative compounds containing an  $N^6$ -methyl substituent proved to display high affinity and selectivity for the  $A_3AR$ . This study confirms the former finding<sup>23</sup> that introduction of a methyl group into the  $N^6$  position increases the affinity for the human  $A_3AR$  and enhances the selectivity versus  $A_1$  and  $A_{2A}AR$ s. On the basis of these results, we explored the versatile "click chemistry" approach<sup>24</sup> to synthesize two series of  $N^6$ -methyl-2-(1,2,3-triazolyl)adenosine derivatives and evaluated their affinity, selectivity, and efficacy at the  $A_3AR$ . Although a number of 1,2,3-triazole nucleoside derivatives have been described, <sup>25</sup> most involve base replacement with 1,2,3-triazole or introduction of 1,2,3-triazole at C8 or at the sugar moiety.

# **Results and Discussion**

#### Chemistry

The synthesis of the 1,2,3-triazol-1-yladenosine derivatives is depicted in Scheme 1. 2-Iodo- $N^6$ -methyladenosine  $22^{23}$  was prepared by reacting  $21^{26}$  with 2.0 M CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> in THF. Since

the reaction conditions<sup>27</sup> for a Cu(I)-catalyzed nucleophilic substitution are very similar to those used in the "click" variant of Huisgen's 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition, we initially attempted to perform a one-pot conversion of **22** to the desired 1,4-disubstituted 1,2,3-triazoles. The 2-azido derivative **23** was isolated as the main reaction product, and only a minor amount of the appropriate triazole was formed. This event forced us to perform the reaction in two steps. First the azido intermediate **23** was prepared in 66% yield from **22**.  $^{1}$ H and  $^{13}$ C NMR in DMSO- $d_{6}$  proved the presence of a tautomeric fused tetrazole form (17%) of the 2-azidoadenosine derivative **23**, due to a spontaneous cyclization (Scheme 2). Such azido/tetrazole tautomerism has been previously reported for 2-azidoadenine and for 2-azidoadenosine. Next we applied a Cu(I)-catalyzed 1,3-cycloaddition reaction of azide **23** with the appropriate alkyne to generate the triazole analogues **1–11** (Scheme 1). Generally, the use of a water/butanol mixture as a solvent for the 1,3-cycloaddition allowed simple isolation of the desired compounds, which precipitated from the reaction medium.

Similarly, the 1,2,3-triazol-4-yl analogues **12–14** (Scheme 3) were prepared by a  $Cu^+$ -catalyzed Huisgen 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction of 2-ethynyl- $N^6$ -methyladenosine (**25**) with the appropriate azide.

The synthesis of the 5'-N-ethylcarbamoyl 2-(1,2,3)-triazol-1-yladenosine analogues **15–19** was carried out starting from 2-iodo-9-(2',3'-O-isopropylidene- $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl)- $N^6$ -methyladenine (**26**). After permanganate oxidation, carboxylic acid **27** was converted into its p-nitrophenyl ester **28**, which upon treatment with ethylamine gave uronamide **29**. Deprotection with 80% trifluoroacetic acid yielded 5'-ethylcarbamoyl- $N^6$ -methyl-2-iodoadenosine (**30**). The conversion of this 2-iodo derivative into the azido intermediate **31** was performed in 79% yield. The presence of a tautomeric fused tetrazole form (20%) of the 2-azidoadenosine derivative **31**, due to a spontaneous cyclization, was here also observed in the NMR spectrum. Finally we applied the Cu(I)-catalyzed 1,3-cycloaddition reaction of azide **31** with the appropriate alkyne to generate the triazole analogues **15–19** (Scheme 4).

2-Azido- $N^6$ -(5-chloro-2-methoxybenzyl)-2-(4-cyclopentylmethyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)-9-( $\beta$ -Dribofuranosyl)adenine (**20**) was prepared in three steps starting from intermediate **21**, as depicted in Scheme 5.

#### **Biological Evaluation**

The binding affinities of the newly synthesized adenosine derivatives were measured at the  $hA_1$ ,  $hA_{2A}$ , and  $hA_3ARs$  expressed in CHO (Chinese hamster ovary) cells as previously described,  $^{20}$  and their relative efficacy in the activation of the  $A_3AR$  was determined (Table 1). The binding affinity of more potent compounds at the ARs was evaluated with full competition curves, while the weaker compounds at the  $hA_1$  and  $hA_{2A}$  ARs were measured at a fixed concentration of 10  $\mu$ M. Several compounds showed affinity for the  $A_3AR$  in the low nanomolar range, a very high ratio of  $A_3/A_{2A}$  selectivity, and a moderate-to-high  $A_3/A_1$  selectivity ratio. A functional assay of  $A_3AR$  activation consisted of the ability of a single, high concentration of the nucleoside (10  $\mu$ M) to inhibit forskolin-stimulated adenylyl cyclase measured by the method of Nordstet and Fredholm,  $^{32}$  in comparison to the full agonist NECA (10  $\mu$ M). Cl-IB-MECA (2-chloro- $N^6$ -(3-iodobenzyl)-5'-N-

methylcarboxamidoadenosine) was also a full agonist (100%) in this assay. <sup>19</sup> The range of efficacies observed depended on the nature of the groups at the 2 and  $N^6$  positions.

The 2-azido precursor **23** showed high binding affinity at the  $A_3AR$  ( $K_i = 10.8$  nM) and modest selectivity in comparison to the  $A_1AR$ . The 1,2,3-triazol-1-yl derivatives obtained by 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of azide **23** with acetylene (**1**), butyne (**2**), and hexyne (**3**) maintained high affinity for the  $A_3AR$  and increased selectivity. They displayed  $K_i$  values of 10.4, 13.8, and 11.7 nM, respectively. Also, aromatic triazole substituents (**6**, **7**, **9**) resulted in similar  $K_i$  values of about 10 nM and even greater selectivity. Introducing nitrogen or oxygen including substituents at position 4 of the 1,2,3-triazole ring (**4**, **5**, and **8**) reduced the  $A_3AR$  affinity. Among the investigated analogues, the 4-cyclopentylmethyl derivative **10** exhibited the highest affinity for the  $A_3AR$  ( $K_i = 1.3$  nM) and 260-fold selectivity in comparison to the  $A_1AR$ . Replacement of the cyclopentyl ring with a phenyl (**9**) or cyclohexyl (**11**) moiety adversely affected  $A_3AR$  affinity. Remarkably, the 1,2,3-triazol-4-yl regiomers (**12**–**14**) showed decreased affinity for the  $A_3AR$  in comparison to similar 1,2,3-triazol-1-yl regiomers. In particular, a comparison of homologous compounds **12** and **9** indicated a 6-fold loss of affinity at the  $A_3AR$  for the 4-yl isomer, approximately the same affinity at the  $A_1AR$ , and no significant measurable gain in affinity at the  $A_2AR$ .

Replacement of the ribose 4'-hydroxymethyl moiety of the 2-azido derivative **23** by a 5'-N-ethyluronamide did not appreciably affect affinity at any of the AR subtypes. However, a similar substitution in the 2-(1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)-substituted series provided a modest (2- to 5-fold) increase in A<sub>3</sub>AR affinity and small or no changes in A<sub>1</sub>AR affinity, as demonstrated for the unsubstituted, 4-butyl, 4-pyridin-2-yl, and 4-benzyl substituted 1,2,3-triazol-1-yl combinations (**15**, **16**, **17**, and **18**, in comparison to **1**, **3**, **7**, and **9**, respectively). Curiously, one 5'-uronamide, compound **19**, exhibited decreased A<sub>3</sub>AR affinity ( $K_i = 11.5 \text{ nM}$ ) compared to its potent 5'-OH analogue **10** ( $K_i = 1.3 \text{ nM}$ ).

Replacement of the  $N^6$ -methyl substituent of the 2-azido precursor 23 by a sterically demanding 2-chloro-5-methoxybenzyl group yielded 33, which manifested very high  $A_3AR$  affinity ( $K_i = 1.4$  nM). A similar replacement of the  $N^6$ -methyl group of an analogue 10, also having a bulky 2-position substituent, to yield 20 reduced  $A_3AR$  affinity but not appreciably. This was in accordance with previous observations that a simultaneous substitution at the 6 and 2 positions did not improve  $A_3AR$  affinity. Thus, the effects of substitution at the 2 and  $N^6$  positions were not independent; however, it was possible to retain considerable  $A_3AR$  selectivity (46-fold in compound 20). This was not representative of findings in a previous study in which double substitution greatly diminished the affinity and selectivity at the human  $A_3AR$ .

Whereas some previously synthesized 2-substituted adenosine derivatives  $^{22,23}$  displayed selective  $A_3AR$  agonist activity, all 2-triazol-1-yl- $N^6$ -methyladenosine analogues synthesized with an unmodified ribose moiety (1–11 and 20) behaved as antagonists or weak partial agonists. Similar findings were reported for 2-ester derivatives of adenosine, in which a combination of 2 and  $N^6$  substitution reduced efficacy.  $^{34}$  Direct ring substitution at the 4-position of the 1,2,3-triazole with alkyl or aryl groups resulted in weak partial agonists (1, 2, 4–8), but subtle changes of structure resulted in a loss of efficacy, e.g., the 4-butyl derivative

3. 2-Triazol-1-yl- $\mathcal{N}^6$ -methyladenosine analogues with a methylene spacer between the 1,2,3-triazole moiety and a ring system yielded full A<sub>3</sub>AR antagonists (9–11, 20), since they bound to the receptor but did not activate it. The 2-triazol-4-yl- $\mathcal{N}^6$ -methyladenosine derivatives (12–14) also behaved as full A<sub>3</sub>AR antagonists. Thus, the 5'-OH derivatives 3, 9–14, and 20 appeared to be A<sub>3</sub>AR antagonists with the following order of decreasing selectivity for the A<sub>3</sub>AR in comparison to the A<sub>1</sub>AR: 4-cyclopentylmethyl- $\mathcal{N}^6$ -methyl 10 (260-fold) > 4-butyl- $\mathcal{N}^6$ -methyl 3 (72-fold), 4-cyclohexylmethyl- $\mathcal{N}^6$ -methyl 11 (67-fold) > 4-cyclopentylmethyl- $\mathcal{N}^6$ -(5-chloro-2-methoxybenzyl) 20.

Interestingly, the 5'-N-ethyluronamide modification was able to reestablish the  $A_3AR$  agonist activity in analogues with sterically bulky substitution at the 2 position. This is consistent with previous findings that similar 5'-uronamides overcome the efficacy-reducing activity of substitution at the adenine 2 and  $N^6$  positions but not at the ribose 3' position.  $^{19,35,36}$  Indeed, all 5'-N-ethyluronamide analogues studied here (15–19) proved to be full agonists at the  $A_3AR$ . Among them are highly selective  $A_3AR$  agonists,  $N^6$ -methyladenosine-5'-N-ethyluronamide 2-(1,2,3-triazol-1-yl) derivatives: pyridin-2-yl 17 (910-fold) > unsubstituted 15 (280-fold) > benzyl 18 (180-fold). The 2-azido- $N^6$ -methyl precursors 23 and 31 also showed full agonist activity, whereas azide 33 having a bulky  $N^6$  group showed partial agonist activity.

Selected potent agonists in this series were measured in a functional assay of the human  $A_{2B}AR$ . At 10  $\mu$ M, compounds 3–7, 15, and 16 did not significantly stimulate adenylyl cyclase in human  $A_{2B}AR$ -expressing CHO cells (<10% of the effect of 10  $\mu$ M NECA, as a full agonist). Compounds 2, 8–14, 17, 19, and 23 at 10  $\mu$ M stimulated adenylyl cyclase by <50%. Compounds 18 and 31 produced approximately 50% stimulation at 10  $\mu$ M. Thus, selectivity for the  $A_3AR$  was demonstrated; these nucleosides that activate the  $A_3AR$  at low nanomolar concentrations activated the  $A_{2B}AR$  only at substantial micromolar concentrations.

On the basis of previous findings, it is predicted that only the analogues containing the substituted  $N^6$ -benzyl group (5-chloro-2-methoxy), i.e., full agonist **20** and partial agonist **33**, would be expected to bind in the nanomolar range to the rat A<sub>3</sub>AR. Small alkyl groups at the N<sup>6</sup> position, such as methyl and ethyl, although conducive to high affinity at the human A<sub>3</sub>-AR, led to negligible affinity at the rat homologue of the receptor. Selected compounds were measured in binding to the rat A<sub>3</sub>AR expressed in CHO cell membranes using [ $^{125}$ I]I-AB-MECA. The  $K_i$  values determined were as follows: compounds **5**, **7**, and **8**,  $K_i > 10 \mu M$ ; compound **9**,  $K_i = 1.79 \mu M$ ; compound **10**,  $K_i = 0.312 \mu M$ .

#### Molecular Modeling

To explain the structural basis for the high binding affinity of the nucleoside 2-(4-cyclopentylmethyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)- $N^6$ -methyl-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl)adenine **10** at hA<sub>3</sub>AR, we performed a computational study of ligand docking in a previously derived A<sub>3</sub>AR model based on the high-resolution structure of bovine rhodopsin.<sup>37,38</sup> Various bound conformations of the C2-substituent and  $\chi_1$  angles for the adenine ring were generated for an

energetically favorable binding location and orientation, and the resulting conformations were compared energetically in the putative binding site.

The result of docking **10** in the putative binding site of the A<sub>3</sub>AR is shown in Figure 1A. The purine ring was surrounded by a hydrophobic pocket, defined by L91 (3.33) and L246 (6.51). In addition, the H-bonds formed between the exocyclic amine and the hydroxyl group of S247 (6.52) and between the purine N<sup>1</sup> atom and the side chain of N250 (6.55). The 2'-OH group of the ribose moiety formed a H-bond with the side chain of Q167 (EL2), and the 3'-OH group formed an intramolecular H-bond with the 5'-OH group. Unlike the previously reported docking models of N<sup>6</sup>-substituted adenosines,<sup>37</sup> here the 5'-OH group H-bonded with the side chain of H272 (7.43) and the backbone carbonyl group of S271 (7.42). The cyclopentyl moiety interacted with aliphatic hydrophobic residues, M177 (5.38) and V178 (5.39), through a hydrophobic interaction and were situated in proximity to F168 (EL2) F182 (5.43), consistent with the optimized binding affinity of compound **10**.

A comparison of the docking modes of Cl-IB-MECA and compound 10 in the putative binding domain showed considerable overlap of the ribose rings and of the adenine moieties, although in compound 10 both were situated a little closer to extracellular loop 2 (Figure 1B). Previously, it was noted that 5'-uronamide analogues, typically of derivatives having bulky N<sup>6</sup>-substituents, generally gain affinity in comparison to the corresponding 5'hydroxyl analogue. Here, the 5'-uronamide analogue 19 (agonist) of the most potent 5'hydroxyl analogue 10 (antagonist) displayed a lower binding affinity, which could be explained by the shift of the ribose position in adenosine analogue having a bulky 2-(4cyclopentylmethyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl) substituent in comparison to those having N<sup>6</sup> bulky substituents. The binding of the cyclopentylmethyl group in 10 was directed more toward the upper part of TM5, partially overlapping with the binding site of the 3-iodophenyl ring in Cl-IB-MECA. Curiously, other closely related triazolo derivatives displayed a higher potency of the 5'-uronamide analogues; thus, compound 10 must bind to the receptor in a very distinct manner. There was a subtle difference in orientation between the 2-cyclopentyl group and bulkier groups like benzyl (9) or cyclohexylmethyl (11), which were associated with unfavorable van der Waals interactions and resulted in a decrease of binding affinity of 7- and 16-fold, respectively. In addition, the same preferred  $\chi_1$  angles of the energetically favorable bound conformation, common to Cl-IB-MECA and compound 10, were consistent with the empirical finding that the combination of bulky N<sup>6</sup> and C2 substituents was unfavorable for A<sub>3</sub>AR selectivity because of competitive interaction of these bulky substituents. Thus, the modeling has demonstrated that the human A<sub>3</sub>AR preference of 2-(4cyclopentylmethyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl) derivatives in the 5'-OH series might be explained by optimal van der Waals interactions.

### **Conclusions**

Several 2-(1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)- $N^6$ -methyl-substituted adenosine derivatives described in the present study displayed  $A_3AR$  affinities in the low nanomolar range, showed very high  $A_3/A_1$ , and a moderate to high  $A_3/A_1$  selectivity. Contrary to what we expected, the 2-triazole analogues with an unmodified ribose moiety (1–14) showed antagonist or weak partial agonist activity at the  $A_3AR$ . A 2-(4-cyclopentylmethyl-(1,2,3-triazol-1-yl))- $N^6$ -methyl

derivative 10 was 260-fold selective in binding in comparison to the A<sub>1</sub>AR. The binding of the 4-cyclopentylmethyl group in 10, in distinction to the binding of closely related bulky groups pendent on the triazole ring, was directed more toward the upper part of TM5 partially overlapping with the binding site of the 3-iodophenyl ring in Cl-IB-MECA. The 5'-N-ethyluronamide modification was dominant over the efficacy reducing effects at the 2 position and was capable of fully re-establishing the A<sub>3</sub>AR agonist activity, resulting in highly potent and selective A<sub>3</sub>AR agonists 15–19. The most selective agonist derivative was compound 17, 9-(5-ethylcarbamoyl- $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl)- $\mathcal{N}^6$ -methyl-2-(4-pyridin-2-yl-1,2,3triazol-1-yl)adenine, which was 910-fold selective in binding to the A<sub>3</sub>AR in comparison to the A<sub>1</sub>AR. The retention of high human A<sub>3</sub>AR affinity in compound 20 was not typical of previous findings that double bulky substitution at the 2 and N<sup>6</sup> positions tended to reduce  $A_3AR$  affinity markedly. Thus, the 2-triazol-1-yl- $N^6$ -methyladenosine analogues 1–11 constitute a novel class of highly potent and selective nucleoside-based A3AR partial agonists and antagonists (all of which maintain an intact ribose in the molecular structure) and agonists. Since the reported analogues show excellent affinity for the A<sub>3</sub>AR and span the full intrinsic activity range, they might be useful as pharmacological tools or as leads for further optimization.

# **Experimental Section**

All reagents were from standard commercial sources and of analytic grade, except for the benzylic azides, which were prepared by treating the corresponding benzylic bromides with NaN<sub>3</sub> in DMF. Precoated Merck silica gel F254 plates were used for TLC, and spots were examined under UV light at 254 nm and further visualized by sulfuric acid-anisaldehyde spray. Column chromatography was performed on ICN silica gel (63–200 µm, 60 Å, ICN Biochemicals, Eschwege, Germany). NMR spectra were obtained with a Varian Mercury 300 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts are given in ppm ( $\delta$ ) relative to the residual solvent signals, which in the case of DMSO- $d_6$  were 2.54 ppm for  $^{1}$ H and 40.5 ppm for  $^{13}$ C. Structural assignment was confirmed with COSY and DEPT. All signals assigned to hydroxyl groups were exchangeable with D<sub>2</sub>O. Exact mass measurements were performed on a quadrupole/orthogonal-acceleration time-of-flight (Q/oaTOF) tandem mass spectrometer (qToF 2, Micromass, Manchester, U.K.) equipped with a standard electrospray ionization (ESI) interface. Samples were infused in a 2-propanol/water (1:1) mixture at 3  $\mu$ L/ min. For the compounds that precipitated from the reaction medium, the yields were calculated from the amount obtained after filtration and are lower than the actual yields, since in most cases a considerable amount remained in solution.

# $N^6$ -Methyl-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl)-2-(1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)adenine (1)

In a pressure tube was added **23** (165 mg, 0.51 mmol), trimethylsilylacetylene (292  $\mu$ L, 2.05 mmol), and 4 mL of DMF. The mixture was stirred at 105 °C for 15 h. After solvent evaporation, the yellowish residue was dissolved in 2 mL of a 1.0 M solution of tetrabutylammonium fluoride in THF and stirred for 5 h. The reaction was monitored by NMR. After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate. Water was added, and the triazole product was precipitated in the water layer. After overnight cooling and filtration, the precipitate was further purified on a silica gel column (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH,

92:8) and yielded compound **1** as a white solid (82 mg, 46%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSOd<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  3.06 (d, 3H, J= 4.5 Hz, N<sup>6</sup>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.54–3.61 (m, 1H, H-5′A), 3.65–3.72 (m, 1H, H-5′B), 3.96 (dd, 1H, J= 3.8 and 7.9 Hz, H-4′), 4.20 (dd, 1H, J= 4.7 and 8.2 Hz, H-3′), 4.65 (app q, J= 5.9 Hz, H-2′), 4.98 (t, 1H, J= 5.6 Hz, 5′-OH), 5.23 (d, 1H, J= 5.0 Hz, 3′-OH), 5.48 (d, 1H, J= 6.2 Hz, 2′-OH), 5.95 (d, 1H, J= 5.9 Hz, H-1′), 7.92 (d, 1H, J= 1.2 Hz, H-4′′), 8.37 (d, 1H, J= 4.6 Hz, N<sup>6</sup>-H), 8.46 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.82 (br s, 1H, H-5″). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  27.84 (N<sup>6</sup>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 62.19 (C-5′), 71.13 (C-3′), 74.30 (C-2′), 86.42 (C-4′), 88.01 (C-1′), 119.75 (C-5), 124.67 (C-5″), 134.25 (C-4″), 141.13 (C-8), 149.56 and 149.85 (C-2 and C-4), 156.082 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 349.1367 found; 349.1372 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub>·½H<sub>2</sub>O) C, H, N.

### 2-(4-Ethyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)- $N^6$ -methyl-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl)-adenine (2)

Compound **23** (70 mg, 0.217 mmol), sodium ascorbate (8.6 mg, 0.043 mmol), and CuSO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O (2.2 mg, 0.009 mmol) were suspended in 20 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O/ $^t$ BuOH (3:1). The mixture was saturated with 1-butyne and stirred for 4 days at room temperature in a Parr apparatus. Purification on a preparative TLC plate (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 90:10) resulted in compound **2** as a white solid in 40% yield.  $^1$ H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $^4$ 6):  $\delta$ 1.27 (t, 3H,  $^4$ 1.27 (t, 3H,  $^4$ 2.48 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.75 (q, 2H,  $^4$ 4.49 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.05 (d, 3H,  $^4$ 4.41 Hz,  $^4$ 4.41 Hz,  $^4$ 5.41 (dd, 1H,  $^4$ 4.41 and 7.9 Hz, H-3'), 4.60 (app q,  $^4$ 4.51 (dd, 1H,  $^4$ 5.42 (d, 1H,  $^4$ 6.47 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.47 (d, 1H,  $^4$ 6.48 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.93 (d, 1H,  $^4$ 6.49 Hz, H-1'), 8.34 (d, 1H,  $^4$ 7 Hz, 3'-OH), 8.45 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.55 (s, 1H, H-5").  $^{13}$ C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $^4$ 6):  $\delta$ 14.32 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 19.08 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.84 ( $^6$ 6-CH<sub>3</sub>), 62.13 (C-5'), 71.15 (C-3'), 74.34 (C-2'), 86.43 (C-4'), 87.84 (C-1'), 119.57 (C-5), 120.962 (C-5"), 140.92 (C-8), 149.31, 149.63, 149.88 (C-2, C-4, and C-4"), 156.05 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]+: 377.1682 found; 377.1685 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N.

# General Procedure for the Synthesis of 4''-Substituted 2-(1,2,3-Triazol-1-yl)adenosine Derivatives 3–11

Compound 23 (70 mg, 0.217 mmol), sodium ascorbate (8.6 mg, 0.043 mmol), and  $\text{CuSO}_4\text{-}5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2.2 mg, 0.009 mmol) were suspended in 2 mL of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{BuOH}$  (3:1). The appropriate alkyne (2 equiv) was subsequently added, and the mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The 2-triazol-1-yl compounds (generally) precipitated from this reaction medium and were isolated by filtration with water.

# 2-(4-Butyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)-N<sup>6</sup>-methyl-9-(β-D-ribofuranosyl)-adenine (3)

The reaction of **23** (70 mg, 0.217 mmol) with 1-hexyne (50  $\mu$ L, 0.435 mmol) gave compound **3** in 59% yield.  $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ):  $\delta$  0.93 (t, 3H, J= 7.3 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.38 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.66 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.71 (t, 2H, J= 7.2 Hz, C4″-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.05 (d, 3H, J= 4.0 Hz,  $N^{6}$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.52–3.62 (m, 1H, H-5′A), 3.62–3.72 (m, 1H, H-5′B), 3.95 (dd, 1H, J= 3.6 and 7.2 Hz, H-4′), 4.18 (dd, 1H, J= 4.8 and 8.1 Hz, H-3′), 4.62 (app q, 1H, J= 5.7 Hz, H-2′), 5.01 (t, 1H, J= 5.2 Hz, 5′-OH), 5.29 (d, 1H, J= 4.0 Hz, 3′-OH), 5.54 (d, 1H, J= 5.6 Hz, 2′-OH), 5.94 (d, 1H, J= 5.9 Hz, H-1′), 8.36 (d, 1H, J= 4.1 Hz,  $N^{6}$ -H), 8.45 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.56 (s, 1H, H-5″).  $^{13}$ C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ):  $\delta$  14.37 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.37 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.21

(CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.83 ( $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 31.68 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 62.14 (C-5'), 71.15 (C-3'), 74.36 (C-2'), 86.43 (C-4'), 87.88 (C-1'), 119.56 (C-5), 121.33 (C-5"), 140.96 (C-8), 147.88 and 149.90 (C-2, C-4 and C-4"), 156.07 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS)  $C_{17}H_{25}N_8O_4$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 405.1992 found, 405.1998 calcd. Anal. ( $C_{17}H_{24}N_8O_4$ ) C, H, N.

### 2-[4-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl]- $N^6$ -methyl-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl) adenine (4)

The reaction of **23** (70 mg, 0.217 mmol) with 3-butyn-1-ol (33  $\mu$ L, 0.435 mmol) afforded compound **4** without precipitation. After solvent evaporation, the mixture was purified on a silica gel column (90:10 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH + 1% 7 N NH<sub>3</sub> in MeOH), yielding compound **11** as a white solid in 68% yield.  $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ):  $\delta$ 2.85 (t, 2H, J= 6.9 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.03 (d, 3H, J= 4.7 Hz,  $N^{6}$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.52–3.59 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.63–3.72 (m, 3H, H-5'B and CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.94 (dd, 1H, J= 3.5 and 7.3 Hz, H-4'), 4.16 (dd, 1H, J= 4.8 and 8.1 Hz, H-3'), 4.59 (app q, 1H, J= 5.4 Hz, H-2'), 4.74 (t, 1H, J= 5.8 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>-OH), 4.97 (app t, 1H, J= 5.6 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.24 (d, 1H, J= 5.0 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.50 (d, 1H, J= 6.2 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.93 (d, 1H, J= 6.2 Hz, H-1'), 8.31 (d, 1H, J= 4.7 Hz,  $N^{6}$ -H), 8.43 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.54 (s, 1H, H-5'').  $N^{13}$ C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ):  $\delta$ 27.83 ( $N^{6}$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 29.70 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 60.85 (CH<sub>2</sub>-OH), 62.13 (C-5'), 71.15 (C-3'), 74.35 (C-2'), 86.43 (C-4'), 87.81 (C-1'), 119.56 (C-5), 122.02 (C-5''), 140.49 (C-8), 145.49, 149.88, and 149.65 (C-2, C-4, and C-4''), 156.05 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 393.1630 found, 393.1634 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>5</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O) C, H, N.

# 2-(4-Dimethylaminomethyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)-N<sup>6</sup>-methyl-9-(β-D-ribofuranosyl)adenine (5)

The reaction of **23** (70 mg, 0.217 mmol) with 1-dimethylamino-2-propyne (47  $\mu$ L, 0.435 mmol) gave compound **5** without precipitation. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified on a silica gel column (80:20 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH + 1% 7 N NH<sub>3</sub> in MeOH). Compound **5** was obtained as a white solid in 67% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 2.20 (s, 6H, 2 × CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.05 (d, 3H, J= 4.4 Hz,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.54–3.62 (m, 3H, H-5′A and CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.65–3.72 (m, 1H, H-5′B), 3.95 (dd, 1H, J= 4.1 and 7.6 Hz, H-4′), 4.18 (dd, 1H, J= 5.0 and 8.2 Hz, H-3′), 4.62 (app q, 1H, J= 5.4 Hz, H-2′), 4.98 (t, 1H, J= 5.6 Hz, 5′-OH), 5.23 (d, 1H, J= 5.0 Hz, 3′-OH), 5.49 (d, 1H, J= 6.2 Hz, 2′-OH), 5.95 (d, 1H, J= 6.2 Hz, H-1′), 8.38 (d, 1H, J= 4.4 Hz,  $N^6$ -H), 8.45 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.64 (s, 1H, H-5′ ′). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 27.85 ( $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 45.18 (N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 53.85 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 62.10 (C-5′), 71.12 (C-3′), 74.38 (C-2′), 86.41 (C-4′), 87.84 (C-1′), 119.64 (C-5), 123.328 (C-5″), 140.97 (C-8), 144.41, 149.59, 149.79 (C-2, C-4, and C-4″), 156.05 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 406.1944 found, 406.1951 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N. N calcd, 31.09; found, 30.41.

### $N^6$ -Methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl) adenine (6)

The reaction of **23** (70 mg, 0.217 mmol) with phenylacetylene (48  $\mu$ L, 0.435 mmol) yielded compound **6** (54%) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  3.11 (d, 3H, J= 4.5 Hz,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.55–3.63 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.67–3.74 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.97 (dd, J= 3.6 and 7.2 Hz, H-4'), 4.21 (dd, J= 4.8 and 8.1 Hz, H-3'), 4.66 (app q, J= 5.4 Hz, H-2'), 5.03 (app t, 1H, J= 5.6 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.29 (d, 1H, J= 5.0 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.54 (d, 1H, J= 6.2 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.99 (d, 1H, J= 5.9 Hz, H-1'), 7.4 (t, 1H, J= 7.3 Hz, Ph), 7.50 (t, 2H, J= 7.5 Hz, Ph), 8.06

(d, 2H, J= 7.3 Hz, Ph), 8.44 (d, 1H, J= 4.5 Hz, N<sup>6</sup>-H), 8.49 (s, 1H, H-8), 9.31 (s, 1H, H-5''). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  27.92 (N<sup>6</sup>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 62.16 (C-5'), 71.17 (C-3'), 74,39 (C-2'), 86.48 (C-4'), 87.94 (C-1'), 119.85 (C-5), 120.68 (C-5"), 126.27, 128.95, 129.61, and 130.85 (Ph), 141.082 (C-8), 147.02 and 149.77 (C-2, C-4, and C-4"), 156.10 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 425.1689 found, 425.1685 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N.

# $N^6$ -Methyl-2-[4-pyridin-2-yl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl]-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl) adenine (7)

The reaction of **23** (70 mg, 0.217 mmol) with 2-ethynylpyridine (44  $\mu$ L, 0.435 mmol) afforded compound **7** as a white solid in 55% yield.  $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ):  $\delta$ 3.09 (d, 3H, J= 4.1 Hz,  $N^{6}$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.57–3.66 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.67–3.76 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.97 (dd, 1H, J= 3.9 and 7.5 Hz, H-4'), 4.19 (dd, 1H, J= 4.8 and 8.1 Hz, H-3'), 4.64 (app q, 1H, J= 6.0 Hz, H-2'), 4.99 (t, 1H, J= 5.6 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.26 (d, 1H, J= 5.0 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.54 (d, 1H, J = 6.2 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.99 (d, 1H, J= 5.9 Hz, H-1'), 7.42 (m, 1H, pyridin-2-yl), 7.96 (m, 1H, pyridin-2-yl), 8.16 (d, 1H, J= 7.3 Hz, pyridin-2-yl), 8.42 (d, 1H, J= 4.1 Hz, 1H,  $N^{6}$ -H), 8.49 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.68 (d, 1H, J= 4.1 Hz, pyridin-2-yl), 9.16 (s, 1H, H-5'').  $^{13}$ C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ):  $\delta$ 27.92 ( $N^{6}$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 62.13 (C-5'), 71.14 (C-3'), 74.49 (C-2'), 86.47 (C-4'), 88.16 (C-1'), 119.92 (C-5), 120.53 (C-5"), 121.07 (pyridin-2-yl), 122.25 (pyridin-2-yl), 137.79 (pyridin-2-yl), 141.28 (C-8), 148.47, 150.45 and 150.56 (C-2, C-4, C-4", and pyridin-2-yl), 156.28 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 448.1458 found, 448.1457 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N.

# $N^6$ -Methyl-2-[4-(4-propoxyphenyl)-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl]-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl) adenine (8)

The reaction of **23** (70 mg, 0.217 mmol) with 1-eth-1-ynyl-4-propoxybenzene (57  $\mu$ L, 0.435 mmol) afforded compound **8** as a white solid in 36% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 0.99 (t, 3H, J= 7.3 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.71–1.78 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.10 (d, 3H, J= 4.1 Hz,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.54–3.62 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.64–3.72 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.98 (m, 3H, H-4' and CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.18 (dd, 1H, J= 4.8 and 8.1 Hz, H-3'), 4.64 (app q, 1H, J= 5.4 Hz, H-2'), 4.99 (t, 1H, J= 5, 7 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.25 (d, 1H, J= 4.1 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.50 (d, 1H, J= 5.9 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.97 (d, 1H, J= 6.2 Hz, H-1'), 7.03 (d, 2H, J= 8.8 Hz, Ph), 7.94 (d, 2H, J= 8.8 Hz, Ph), 8.36 (d, 1H, J= 4.1 Hz, 1H,  $N^6$ -H), 8.45 (s, 1H, H-8), 9.15 (s, 1H, H-5"). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 11.08 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.73 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.90 ( $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 62.16 (C-5'), 69.71 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 71.18 (C-3'), 74.38 (C-2'), 86.46 (C-4'), 87.91 (C-1'), 115.50 (Ph), 119.60 (C-5), 123.28 (C-5"), 127.66 (Ph), 140.01 (C-8), 147.01, 149.82, 150.45 (C-4, C-2, and C-4"), 156.10 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 483.2109 found, 483.2104 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) C, H, N.

### $N^6$ -Methyl-2-(4-benzyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl) adenine (9)

The reaction of **23** (70 mg, 0.217 mmol) with 3-phenyl-1-propyne (54  $\mu$ L, 0.435 mmol) gave compound **9** as a white solid in 43% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  3.03 (d, 3H, J = 3.8 Hz,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.53–3.62 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.64–3.71 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.95 (dd, 1H, J = 3.7 and 7.2 Hz, H-4'), 4.11 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.17 (dd, 1H, J = 4.8 and 8.1 Hz, H-3'), 4.61 (app q, 1H, J = 5.7 Hz, H-2'), 4.97 (app t, 1H, J = 5.3 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.22 (d, 1H, J = 4.7 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.47 (d, 1H, J = 5.9 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.94 (d, 1H, J = 5.9 Hz, H-1'), 7.23 (m, 1H, Ph), 7.32 (d, 4H, J = 4.4 Hz, Ph), 8.34 (d, 1H, J = 3.8 Hz,  $N^6$ -H), 8.45 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.59 (s, 1H, H-5'

′).  $^{13}$ C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  25.32 ( $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 32.51 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 62.11 (C-5′), 71.13 (C-3′), 74.43 (C-2′), 86.41 (C-4′), 87.96 (C-1′), 121.42 (C-5), 121.97 (C-5″), 126.91, 129.12, 129.21, and 140.02 (Ph), 140.88 (C-8), 147.42, 149.58, and 149.81 (C-4, C-2, and C-4″), 156.09 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS)  $C_{20}H_{23}N_8O_4$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 439.1846 found, 439.1842 calcd. Anal. ( $C_{20}H_{22}N_8O_4$ ) C, H, N.

# 2-(4-Cyclopentylmethyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)- $N^6$ -methyl-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl) adenine (10)

The reaction of **23** (70 mg, 0.217 mmol) with 3-cyclopentyl-1-propyne (57  $\mu$ L, 0.435 mmol) yielded compound **10** (32%) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 1.23–1.28 (m, 2H, cyclopentyl), 1.48–1.62 (m, 4H, cyclopentyl), 1.71–1.75 (m, 2H, cyclopentyl), 2.19–2.25 (m, 1H, cyclopentyl), 2.72 (d, 2H, J= 7.3 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>-cyclopentyl), 3.05 (d, 3H, J= 3.9 Hz,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.53–3.61 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.63–3.72 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.96 (dd, 1H, J= 3.6 and 7.2 Hz, H-4'), 4.19 (dd, 1H, J= 4.8 and 8.1 Hz, H-3'), 4.62 (app q, 1H, J= 5.9 Hz, H-2'), 4.98 (t, 1H, J= 5.3 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.23 (d, 1H, J= 4.7 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.49 (d, 1H, J= 6.5 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.95 (d, 1H, J= 5.9 Hz, H-1'), 8.34 (d, 1H, J= 3.9 Hz,  $N^6$ -H), 8.45 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.55 (s, 1H, H-5"). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 25.37 (cyclopentyl), 27.83 ( $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 31.56 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 32.55 (cyclopentyl), 62.15 (C-5'), 71.15 (C-3'), 74.34 (C-2'), 86.43 (C-4'), 87.87 (C-1'), 119.60 (C-5), 121.58 (C-5"), 140.92 (C-8), 147.33, 149.89 (C-4, C-2, and C4"), 156.07 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 431.2153 found, 431.2155 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N.

### 2-(4-Cyclohexylmethyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)- $N^6$ -methyl-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl) adenine (11)

The reaction of **23** (70 mg, 0.217 mmol) with cyclohexyl-1-propyne (63  $\mu$ L, 0.435 mmol) gave compound **11** in 82% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 0.86–1.28 (br m, 6H, cyclohexyl), 1.54–1.72 (br m, 5H, cylcohexyl), 2.58 (d, 2H, J = 6.9 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.03 (d, 3H, J = 3.9 Hz,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.51–3.59 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.63–3.70 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.94 (dd, 1H, J = 4.2 and 7.5 Hz, H-4'), 4.16 (dd, 1H, J = 4.8 and 8.1 Hz, H-3'), 4.59 (app q, 1H, J = 6.3 Hz, H-2'), 4.97 (t, 1H, J = 5.5 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.22 (d, 1H, J = 4.8 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.47 (d, 1H, J = 6.3 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.93 (d, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz, H-1'), 8.30 (d, 1H, J = 3.9 Hz,  $N^6$ -H), 8.43 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.51 (s, 1H, H-5"). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 26.31 (cyclohexyl), 26.66 (cyclohexyl), 27.84 ( $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 33.16 (cyclohexyl), 38.22 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 62.14 (C-5'), 71.15 (C-3'), 74.35 (C-2'), 86.44 (C-4'), 87.86 (C-1'), 119.60 (C-5), 121.93 (C-5"), 140.92 (C-8), 146.45, 149.92 (C-4, C-2, and C-4"), 153.51 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 445.2305 found, 445.2311 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N.

# General Procedure for the Synthesis of 4"-Substituted 2-(1,2,3-Triazol-4-yl)adenosine Derivatives 12–14

Compound **25** (100 mg, 0.32 mmol), sodium ascorbate (13 mg, 0.06 mmol mmol), and  $CuSO_4\cdot 5H_2O$  (3 mg, 0.013 mmol) were suspended in 30 mL of  $H_2O/^tBuOH$  (3:1). The appropriate azide (2 equiv) was subsequently added, and the mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The 2-triazol-4-yl compounds (generally) precipitated from this reaction medium and were isolated by filtration with water.

# 2-(1-Benzyl-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)- $N^6$ -methyl-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl) adenine (12)

The reaction of **25** (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) with 85 mg (0.64 mmol) of benzylazide gave compound **12** in 78% yield (110 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ):  $\delta$  3.03 (br s, 3H,  $N^{6}$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.52–3.58 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.60–3.66 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.92 (app d, H-4', J= 2.9 Hz, H-4'), 4.15 (dd, 1H, J= 4.7 and 7.6 Hz, H-3'), 4.60 (app q, 1H, J= 5.9 Hz, H-2'), 5.08 (t, 1H, J= 5.4 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.19 (d, 1H, J= 3.5 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.44 (d, 1H, J= 5.6 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.68 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.97 (d, 6.2 Hz, H-1'), 7.38 (br s, 5H, Ph), 7.82 (br s, 1H,  $N^{6}$ -H), 8.36 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.66 (s, 1H, H-5").  $^{13}$ C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ):  $\delta$ 27.54 ( $N^{6}$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 53.62 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 62.29 (C-5'), 71.30 (C-3'), 74.30 (C-2'), 86.41 (C-4'), 87.77 (C-1'), 119.52 (C-5), 126.41 (C-5"), 128.63, 128.86, 129.48 and 136.71 (Ph), 140.27 (C-8), 148.22, 153.56, 153.72 (C-2, C-4, and C-4'), 155.69 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 439.1834 found, 439.1842 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N.

# 2-[1-(3-Methoxybenzyl)-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)- $N^6$ -methyl-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl) adenine (13)

The reaction of **25** (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) with 104 mg (0.64 mmol) of 3-methoxybenzylazide gave compound **13** in 80% yield (120 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  3.03 (br s, 3H,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.52–3.60 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.64–3.72 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.95 (app d, H-4', J= 2.9 Hz, H-4'), 4.15 (dd, 1H, J= 4.7 and 7.6 Hz, H-3'), 4.60 (app q, 1H, J= 6.4 Hz, H-2'), 5.07 (t, 1H, J= 5.1 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.21 (d, 1H, J= 4.2 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.46 (d, 1H, J= 6.3 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.62 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.95 (d, 1H, J= 6.6 Hz, H-1'), 6.91 (m, 3H, Ph), 7.29 (t, 1H, J= 7.9 Hz, Ph), 7.79 (br s, 1H,  $N^6$ -H), 8.34 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.63 (s, 1H, H-5").  $^{13}$ C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  27.59 ( $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 53.45 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 55.82 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 62.30 (C-5'), 71.33 (C-3'), 74.25 (C-2'), 86.42 (C-4'), 87.70 (C-1'), 114.44 and 114.20 (Ph), 119.51 (C-5), 120.72 (Ph), 130.65 (C-5"), 138.21 (C-8), 148.22, 153.56, 153.64 (C-2, C-4, and C-4'), 155.69 (C-6), 160.14 (Ph). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 469.1938 found, 469.1947 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) C, H, N.

### 2-[1-(3-Chlorobenzyl)-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)- $N^6$ -methyl-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl) adenine (14)

The reaction of **25** (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) with 107 mg (0.64 mmol) of 3-chlorobenzylazide gave compound **14** in 73% yield (110 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ):  $\delta$ 3.04 (br s, 3H,  $N^{6}$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.53–3.60 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.64–3.71 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.96 (app d, H-4', J= 2.9 Hz, H-4'), 4.17 (dd, 1H, J= 4.7 and 7.6 Hz, H-3'), 4.64 (app q, 1H, J= 5.8 Hz, H-2'), 5.09 (t, 1H, J= 5.3 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.20 (d, 1H, J= 4.4 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.45 (d, 1H, J= 6.2 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.97 (d, 1H, J= 6.2 Hz, H-1'), 7.31–7.36 (m, 1H, Ph), 4.41–7.47 (m, 3H, Ph), 7.83 (br s, 1H,  $N^{6}$ -H), 8.37 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.72 (s, 1H, H-5").  $^{13}$ C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ):  $\delta$  27.54 ( $N^{6}$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.80 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 62.31 (C-5'), 71.33 (C-3'), 74.27 (C-2'), 86.43 (C-4'), 87.69 (C-1'), 119.56 (C-5), 126.63 (C-5"), 127.53, 128.53, 128.84, 131.42, 133.98, and 139.15 (Ph), 140.36 (C-8), 148.22, 150.03, and 153.43 (C-2, C-4, and C-4'), 155.78 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS)  $C_{20}$ H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Cl [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 473.1452 found, 473.1452 calcd. Anal. ( $C_{20}$ H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Cl) C, H, N.

### 9-(5-Ethylcarbamoyl-β-D-ribofuranosyl)-N<sup>6</sup>-methyl-2-(1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)adenine (15)

In a pressure tube was added **31** (110 mg, 0.30 mmol), trimethylsilylacetylene (259  $\mu$ L, 1.81 mmol), and 4 mL of DMF. The mixture was stirred at 105 °C for 15 h. Solvent evaporation

yielded a yellowish solid that was dissolved 6 mL of a 1.0 solution of tetrabutylammonium fluoride in THF and stirred for 5 h. After solvent evaporation, the residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate. Water was added, and the triazole precipitated in the water layer. After overnight cooling and filtration, the precipitate was further purified on a silica gel column (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 93:7) and yielded compound **15** as a white solid (49 mg, 42%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ 0.90 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.05–3.21 (m, 2H, *N*-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.05 (d, 3H, *J* = 4.2 Hz, *N*<sup>6</sup>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.26 (m, 1H, H-3'), 4.33 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.1 Hz, H-4'), 5.61 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.71 (d, 1H, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 2'-OH), 6.04 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.2 Hz, H-1'), 7.91 (d, 1H, *J* = 1.2 Hz, H-4"), 8.07 (t, 1H, *J* = 5.3 Hz, *N*HCO), 8.41 (d, 1H, *J* = 4.2 Hz, *N*<sup>6</sup>-H), 8.54 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.82 (br s, 1H, H-5"). <sup>13</sup>CMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ 15.16 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.85 (*N*<sup>6</sup>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 34.07 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 73.64 (C-2' and C-3'), 84.98 (C-4'), 88.02 (C-1'), 119.91 (C-5), 124.70 (C-5"), 134.29 (C-4"), 141.59 (C-8), 149.69 and 149.90 (C-2 and C-4), 156.14 (C-6), 169.73 (C=O). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 390.1676 found, 390.1683 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N.

# General Procedure for the Synthesis of 4''-Substituted 2-(1,2,3-Triazol-1-yl)adenosine Derivatives 16–18

To a mixture of **31** (100 mg, 0.28 mmol), CuI (5 mg, 0.03 mmol), and triethylamine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.28 mmol) in water/acetonitrile (1:1), the appropriate alkyne (2 equiv) was added. The mixture was stirred for 5 days at room temperature. The reaction was monitored by  $^{1}$ H NMR. The product was precipitated with water and cooled overnight. After filtration, the yellowish solid was purified on a silica gel column (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 90:10) to obtain the 1,2,3-triazol-1-yladenosine derivative as a white solid.

### 2-(4-Butyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)-9-(5-ethylcarbamoyl-β-D-ribofuranosyl)-N<sup>6</sup>-methyladenine (16)

The reaction of compound **31** (100 mg, 0.28 mmol) with 1-hexyne ( $64\mu$ L, 0.56 mmol) gave 65 mg (53%) of compound **16** as a white solid.  $^1$ H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) &0.88–0.95 (m, 6H, 2 × CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.31–1.43 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.61–1.71 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.72 (t, 2H, J= 7.8 Hz, C4"-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.05–3.22 (m, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.05 (d, 3H, J= 4.1 Hz, N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.25 (m, 1H, H-3'), 4.33 (d, 1H, J= 2.1 Hz, H-4'), 4.73 (m, 1H, H-2'), 5.59 (d, 1H, J= 6.3 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.69 (d, 1H, J= 4.5 Hz, 2'-OH), 6.04 (d, 1H, J= 6.9 Hz, H-1'), 8.09 (t, 1H, J= 5.4 Hz), 8.37 (d, 1H, J= 4.1 Hz, N-H), 8.53 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.56 (s, 1H, H-5").  $^{13}$ C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): 14.36 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 15.17 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.35 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.21 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.84 (N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 31.70 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.07 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 73.60 and 73.64 (C-2' and C-3'), 84.99 (C-4"), 87.91 (C-1'), 119.79 (C-5), 121.45 (C-5"), 141.49 (C-8), 147.97, 149.72, and 149.93 (C-2, C-4, and C-4"), 156.11 (C-6), 169.73 (C=O). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 446.2256 found, 446.2264 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N.

# 9-(5-Ethylcarbamoyl- $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl)- $N^6$ -methyl-2-(4-pyridin-2-yl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)adenine (17)

The reaction of compound **31** (50 mg, 0.14 mmol) with 2-ethynylpyridine (56  $\mu$ L, 0.56 mmol) gave 35 mg (54%) of compound **17** as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  0.93 (t, 3H, J= 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.09–3.21 (m, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.10 (d, 3H, J= 4.2 Hz, N<sup>6</sup>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.25 (m, 1H, H-3'), 4.35 (d, 1H, J= 2.1 Hz, H-4'), 4.74 (m, 1H, H-2'), 5.68 (d, 1H, J=

6.6 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.75 (d, 1H, J= 4.5 Hz, 3'-OH), 6.08 (d, 1H, J= 6.6 Hz, H-1'), 7.41 (m, 1H, pyridin-2-yl), 7.96 (m, 1H, pyridin-2-yl), 8.10 (t, 1H, J= 6.0 Hz, NHCO), 8.16 (d, 1H, J= 8.1 Hz, pyridin-2-yl), 8.48 (d, 1H, J= 4.1 Hz, 1H, N6-H), 8.60 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.67 (d, H, J= 5.1 Hz, pyridin-2-yl), 9.17 (s, 1H, H-5").  $^{13}$ C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6):  $\delta$  15.18 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.94 (N6-CH<sub>3</sub>), 34.11 (N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 73.69 and 73.78 (C-2' and C-3'), 84.95 (C-4'), 87.98 (C-1'), 120.04 (C-5), 120.65 (C-5"), 122.20 and 124.11 (pyridin-2-yl), 138.027 (pyridin-2-yl), 141.64 (C-8), 147.95, 149.64, 149.67, and 149.98 (C-2, C-4, C-4", and pyridin-2-yl), 150.49 (pyridin-2-yl), 156.13 (C-6), 169.76 (C=O). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]+: 467.1899 found, 467.1903 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N. N calcd, 30.03; found, 29.55.

# 9-(5-Ethylcarbamoyl-β-D-ribofuranosyl)-N<sup>6</sup>-methyl-2-(4-benzyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)adenine (18)

The reaction of compound **31** (70 mg, 0.19 mmol) with 3-phenyl-1-propyne (49 $\mu$ L, 0.56 mmol) gave 35 mg (38%) of compound **18** as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  0.87 (t, 3H, J= 7.5 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.03–3.20 (m, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.03 (d, 3H, 4.5 Hz, N6-CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.11 (s, 2H, CH–Ph), 4.24 (m, 1H, H-3'), 4.32 (d, 1H, J= 2.1 Hz, H4'), 4.72 (m, 1H, H-2'), 5.59 (d, 1H, J= 6.6 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.69 (d, 1H, J= 4.5 Hz, 2'-OH), 6.03 (d, 1H, J= 6.9 Hz, H1'), 7.22 (m, 1H, Ph), 7.32 (d, 4H, J= 4.2 Hz, Ph), 8.06 (t, 1H, J= 5.7 Hz, NHCO), 8.38 (d, 1H, J= 4.1 Hz, N6-H), 8.54 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.60 (s, 1H, H-5"). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  15.16 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.84 (N6-CH<sub>3</sub>), 31.72 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.07 (N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 73.64 (C-2' and C-3'), 84.98 (C-4'), 87.87 (C-1'), 119.91 (C-5), 122.11 (C-5"), 126.93, 129.13, 129.22, and 140.07 (Ph), 140.48 (C-8), 147.05, 149.87 (C-4, C-2, and C-4"), 156.12 (C-6), 169.71 (C=O). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]+: 480.2098 found, 480.2107 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N.

# 2-(4-Cyclopentylmethyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)-9-(5-ethylcarbamoyl- $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl)- $N^6$ -methyladenine (19)

Compound 31 (60 mg, 0.17 mmol), sodium ascorbate (13 mg, 0.066 mmol) and  $CuSO_4.5H_2O$  (3.5 mg, 0.013 mmol) were suspended in 4 mL of <sup>t</sup>BuOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1). 3-Cyclopentyl-1-propyne (58 µL, 0.44 mmol) was subsequently added, and the mixture was stirred for 2 days at room temperature. The 2-triazol-1-yl compound precipitated from the reaction medium. Water was added, and the mixture was cooled overnight. The precipitate was filtered off and washed with water and hexane to obtain 19 as a white solid in 33% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 0.89 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.19–1.28 (m, 2H, cyclopentyl), 1.45-1.75 (m, 6H, cyclopentyl), 2.15-2.25 (m, 1H, CH, cyclopentyl), 2.72 (d, 2H, J=7.2) Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.06 (d, 3H, J = 4.5 Hz,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.09–3.22 (m, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.24 (dt, 1H, J =1.5 and 4.8 Hz, H-3'), 4.33 (d, 1H, J = 2.1 Hz, H-4'), 4.71–7.76 (app q, 1H, J = 6.6 Hz, H-2'), 5.61 (d, 1H, J = 6.3 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.71 (d, 1H, J = 4.8 Hz, 3'-OH), 6.03 (d, 1H, J = 6.9Hz, H-1'), 8.10 (t, 1H, J = 5.7 Hz, NHCO), 8.40 (d, 1H, J = 5.1 Hz, N<sup>6</sup>-H), 8.54 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.56 (s, 1H, H-5").  $^{13}$ C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  15.17 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 25.36 (cyclopentyl),  $27.85 \, (N^6 - \text{CH}_3), 31.53 \, \text{(cyclopentyl)}, 31.51 \, \text{(CH}_2), 34.07 \, \text{(CH}_2), 73.63 \, \text{and} \, 73.56 \, \text{(C-2' and)}$ C-3'), 84.99 (C-4'), 87.93 (C-1'), 119.77 (C-5), 121.69 (C-5"), 141.51 (C-8), 147.48 and 149.92 (C-2, C-4, and C-4"), 156.10 (C-6), 169.74 (C=O). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 472.2415 found, 472.2420 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N.

# $N^6$ -(5-Chloro-2-methoxybenzyl)-2-(4-cyclopentylmethyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl)adenine (20)

Compound 33 (100 mg, 0.22 mmol), sodium ascorbate (17 mg, 0.086 mmol), and  $\text{CuSO}_4.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (3.5 mg, 0.017 mmol) were suspended in 4 mL of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}/^t\text{BuOH}$  (1:1). 3-Cyclopentyl-1-propyne (29 µL, 0.44 mmol) was subsequently added, and the mixture was stirred for 2 days at room temperature. The 2-triazol-1-yl compound precipitated from the reaction medium. Water was added, and the mixture was cooled overnight. The precipitate was filtered off and washed with water and hexane to obtain 20 as a white solid in 59% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ1.23–1.28 (m, 2H, cyclopentyl), 1.48–1.61 (m, 4H, cyclopentyl), 1.66–1.73 (m, 2H, cyclopentyl), 2.15–2.25 (m, 1H, cyclopentyl), 2.72 (d, 2H, J = 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>-cyclopentyl), 3.56–3.61 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.66–3.71 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.97 (m, 1H, H-4'), 4.20 (m, 1H, H-3'), 4.64 (m, 1H, H-2'), 4.73 (br s, 2H,  $N^6$ - $CH_2$ ), 4.96 (t, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.22 (d, 1H, J = 4.8 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.48 (d, 1H, J = 5.7Hz, 2'-OH), 5.95 (d, 1H, J = 6.3 Hz, H-1'), 7.04 (d, 1H, J = 9.0 Hz, Ph), 7.25–7.29 (m, 2H, Ph), 8.40 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.81 (s, 1H, H-5"), 8.81 (br s, 1H,  $N^6$ -H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ25.36 (cyclopentyl), 31.54 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 32.54 (cyclopentyl), 38.86 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 56.57 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 62.13 (C-5'), 71.15 (C-3'), 74.37 (C-2'), 86.46 (C-4'), 88.07 (C-1'), 113.15 (Ph), 119.58 (C-5), 121.37 (C-5"), 124.66, 128.23, and 129.93 (Ph), 141.37 (C-8), 147.40, 149.66, and 150.12 (C-2, C-4, and C-4"), 155.51 (Ph), 156.33 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS)  $C_{26}H_{32}N_8O_5Cl$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 571.2184 found, 571.2184 calcd. Anal. ( $C_{26}H_{31}N_8O_5Cl$ ) C, H, N.

# 2-Azido-N<sup>6</sup>-methyl-9-(β-D-ribofuranosyl)adenine (23)

Sodium ascorbate (19.4 mg, 0.098 mmol) and CuSO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O (12.2 mg, 0.049 mmol) were added to a mixture of 22 (200 mg, 0.491 mmol), sodium azide (38,3 mg, 0.589 mmol), Lproline (11,3 mg, 0.098 mmol), and sodium carbonate (10.4 mg, 0.098 mmol) in 10 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O/<sup>t</sup>BuOH (1:1). The mixture was stirred overnight at 65 °C and was monitored by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. Then 50 mL of dilute NH<sub>4</sub>OH was added and the crude mixture extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 60 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine (60 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and purified on a silica gel column (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 95:5) to afford compound 23 as a slightly yellow solid in 66% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  2.91 (d, 3H, J= 4.4 Hz,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.48–3.55 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.58–3.66 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.90 (dd, 1H, J= 3.8 and 7.3 Hz, H-4'), 4.10 (dd, 1H, J = 4.7 and 9.7 Hz, H3'), 4.53 (app q, 1H, J = 5.9 Hz, H-2'), 5.04 (dd, 1H, J = 5.2 and 6.2 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.19 (d, 1H, J = 5.0 Hz, 3'OH), 5.43 (d, 1H, J = 6.2Hz, 2'-OH), 5.78 (d, 1H, J = 6.2 Hz, H-1'), 8.12 (d, J = 4.4 Hz,  $N^6$ -H), 8.27 (s, 1H, H-8). Small peaks from 1/6 tetrazole tautomeric form:  $\delta 3.15$  (d, 3H, J = 5.0 Hz,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.95 (d, H-4'), 4.15 (d, H-3'), 5.51 (d, 2'-OH), 5.94 (d, H-1'), 8.51 (s, H-8). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  27.54 ( $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 62.21 (C-5'), 71.17 (C-3'), 74.12 (C-2'), 86.35 (C-4'), 88.01 (C-1'), 118.07 (C-5), 139.99 (C-8), 156.06 and 156.20 (C-2 and C-6). Small peaks from 1/6 tetrazole tautomeric form:  $\delta$  31.89 ( $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 61.79 (C-5'), 70.77 (C-3'), 74.37 (C-4'), 112.30 (C-12), 142.91 (C-11), 147.60 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS)  $C_{11}H_{15}N_8O_4$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 323.1208 found, 323.1216 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) C, H, N.

# $N^6$ -Methyl-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl)-2-[2-trimethylsilylethyn-1-yl]adenine (24)

Compound **22** (500 mg, 1.23 mmol), CuI (12 mg, 0.062 mmol), and (Ph<sub>3</sub>P)<sub>3</sub>PCl<sub>2</sub> were dissolved in 9 mL of DMF. Triethylamine (205  $\mu$ L, 1.47 mmol) and trimethylsilylacetylene (210 mg, 1.47 mmol) were added, and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight. After solvent evaporation, the residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and filtered through a pad of Celite. Purification on a silica gel column (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 95:5) yielded 305 mg (66%) of compound **23**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 0.00 (9H, s, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>Si), 2.7 (3H,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.26–3.34 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.37–3.44 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.68 (dd, 1H, J= 3.5 Hz, H-4'), 3.86 (dd, 1H, J= 3.4 and 8.2 Hz, H-3'), 4.23 (app q, 1H, J= 5.9 Hz, H-2'), 4.87 (t, 1H, J= 5.0, 5'-OH), 4.94 (d, 1H, J= 4.99 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.21 (d, 1H, J= 6.2 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.63 (d, 1H, J= 6.2 Hz, H-1'), 7.69 (br s, 1H,  $N^6$ -H), 8.19 (s, 1H, H-8). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Si: [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 378.1586 found; 378.1597 calcd.

# 2-Ethynyl-N<sup>6</sup>-methyl-9-(β-D-ribofuranosyl)purine (25)

An amount of 300 mg (0.8 mmol) of compound **24** was dissolved in 7 N ammonia in methanol and stirred for 2 h at 0 °C. After solvent evaporation, the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 95:5) to obtain 160 mg (65%) of derivative **25**.  $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 2.91 (s, 3H,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.48–3.56 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.61–3.68 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.92 (m, 1H, H-4'), 4.02 (s, 1H, C $\equiv$ CH), 4.11 (dd, 1H, J = 5.0 and 8.2 Hz, H-3'), 4.53 (app q, 1H, J = 5.9 Hz, H-2'), 5.15 (m, 2H, 3'-OH and 5'-OH), 5.44 (d, 1H, J = 6.15 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.84 (d, 1H, J = 6.16 Hz, H-1'), 7.95 (br s, 1H,  $N^6$ -H), 8.40 (s, 1H, H-8). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 306.1197 found; 306.1202 calcd.

# 1-Deoxy-1-(6-methylamino-2-iodo-9H-purin-9-yl)-2,3-O-isopropylidene- $\beta$ -D-ribufuranuronic Acid (27)

To a stirred solution of 3.8 g (8.5 mmol) of **26** in 560 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O were added 1.4 g of KOH and, dropwise, a solution of 4.03 g (25.5 mmol) of KMnO<sub>4</sub> in 110 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O. The mixture was stirred in the dark for 20 h, cooled to 0 °C, and quenched with 30 mL of 7% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. The mixture was filtered through Celite. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo and then acidified to pH 4 with 3 N HCl. The resulting precipitate was filtered off and successively washed with water and ether to give 2.98 g (76%) of **27** as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  1.36 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.51 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.89 (d, 3H, J= 3.3 Hz,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.68 (d, 1H, J= 1.8 Hz, H-4'), 5.40 (d, 1H, J= 6.0 Hz, H-2'), 5.47 (dd, 1H, J= 6.0 and 1.8 Hz, H-3'), 6.28 (s, 1H, H-1'), 8.08 (d, 1H, J= 3.3 Hz,  $N^6$ -H), 8.16 (s, 1H, H-8). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>5</sub>I [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 462.0273 found; 462.0276 calcd.

### 9-(5-Ethylcarbamoyl-β-D-ribofuranosyl)-2-iodo-N<sup>6</sup>-methyladenine (30)

*p*-Nitrophenol (402 mg, 2.89 mmol) and 1-[3-(dimethylamino) propyl]-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (506 mg, 2.65 mmol) were added to a solution of **27** (1.11 g, 2.41 mmol) in 10 mL of dry DMF. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature and cooled to 0 °C, and 1.6 mL (24.1 mmol) of ethylamine was added. The solution turned yellow immediately and was further stirred for 1 h at room temperature. After evaporation of the volatiles, the residue was partitioned between ethyl acetate (3 × 100 mL) and  $H_2O$  (100 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine (100 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated to

dryness. The residue was dissolved in 80% aqueous TFA (20 mL) and stirred for 2 h at room temperature. The mixture was concentrated in vacuo, coevaporated several times with EtOH, and purified by silica gel chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 96:4). Compound **30** was obtained as a white solid in 78% yield (840 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ1.05 (t, 3H, J= 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.91 (d, 3H, J= 4.4 Hz,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.19–3.29 (m, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.16 (dt, 1H, J= 2.1 and 4.4 Hz, H-3'), 4.31 (d, 1H, J= 2.1 Hz, H-4'), 4.58 (app q, 1H, J= 5.6 Hz, H-2'), 5.59 (d, 1H, J= 6.5 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.71 (d, 1H, J= 4.7 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.92 (d, 1H, J= 7.1 Hz, H-1'), 8.12 (t, 1H, J= 5.5 Hz, NHCO), 8.19 (d, 1H, J= 4.4 Hz,  $N^6$ -H), 8.38 (s, 1H, H-8). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>I [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 449.0429 found, 449.0436 calcd.

### 2-Azido-9-(5-ethylcarbamoyl-β-D-ribofuranosyl)-N<sup>6</sup>-methyladenine (31)

Sodium ascorbate (69 mg, 0.34 mmol) and CuSO<sub>4</sub>· 5H<sub>2</sub>O (5.6 mg, 0.17 mmol) were added to a mixture of **30** (780 mg, 1.74 mmol), sodium azide (226 mg, 3.48 mmol), L-proline (40 mg, 0.35 mmol), and sodium carbonate (37 mg, 0.35 mmol) in 20 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O/BuOH (1:1). The mixture was stirred for 2 days at 65 °C and monitored by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. An amount of 100 mL of dilute NH<sub>4</sub>OH was added, and the crude mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $5 \times$ 150 mL) and washed with brine (150 mL). The organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and purified on a silica gel column (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 96:4) to afford compound 31 as a white solid in 79% yield (500 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  1.06 (t, 3H, J= 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.96 (d, 3H, J = 4.0 Hz,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.16–3.29 (m, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.14 (dt, 1H, J = 1.8and 4.8 Hz, H-3'), 4.29 (d, 1h, J = 1.8, H-4'), 4.53–4.59 (app q, 1H, J = 6.3 Hz, H-2'), 5.52 (d, 1H, J = 6.3 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.68 (d, 1H, J = 4.8 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.90 (d, 1H, J = 7.2 Hz, H-1'), 8.20 (d, 1H, J= 4.0 Hz, N<sup>6</sup>-H), 8.35 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.49 (t, 1H, J= 6.0 Hz, NHCO). Small peaks from 1/5 tetrazole tautomeric form:  $\delta$  1.08–1.12 (t, 3H, J= 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.34 (d, 1H, J = 2.1 Hz, H-4'), 4.67–4.73 (app q, 1H, J = 7.2 Hz, H-2'), 5.54 (d, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz, 2'-OH) 6.00 (d, 1H, J = 7.2 Hz, H-1'). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  15.48 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.52 ( $N^6$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 33.94 (N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 73.06 and 73.75 (C-2' and C-3'), 85.15 (C-4'), 88.09 (C-1'), 118.36 (C-5), 140.69 (C-8), 156.032 and 156.143 (C-2 and C-4), 169.79 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS)  $C_{13}H_{18}N_9O_4$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 364.1473 found; 364.1481 calcd. Anal. ( $C_{13}H_{17}N_9O_4$ ) C, H, N.

# $N^6$ -(5-Chloro-2-methoxybenzyl)-2-iodo-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl)-adenine (32)

Compound **21** (1 g, 1.86 mmol) was dissolved in EtOH (30 mL). 5-Chloro-2-methoxybenzylammonium chloride (580 mg, 2.79 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (392  $\mu$ L, 2.79 mmol) were added, and the solution was refluxed overnight. The mixture was concentrated to dryness, dissolved in 7 N NH<sub>3</sub> in methanol, and stirred at room temperature for 2 h to deprotect the 2'-hydroxyl group. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by silica gel column (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 97:3). The product, compound **32**, was realized in 80% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 3.51–3.58 (m, 1H, H-5'A), 3.63–3.68 (m, 1H, H-5'B), 3.85 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.94 (m, 1H, H-4'), 4.13 (m, 1H, H-3'), 4.52–4.59 (m, 3H,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>2</sub> and H-2'), 5.03 (t, 1H, J= 5.6 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.21 (d, 1H, J= 5.0 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.48 (d, 1H, J= 5.8 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.83 (d, 1H, J= 6.2 Hz, H-1'), 7.03 (d, 1H, J= 8.8 Hz, Ph), 7.16 (d, 1H, J= 2.7 Hz, Ph), 7.29 (dd, 1H, J= 2.7 and 8.8 Hz, Ph), 8.35 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.62 (br s, 1H,  $N^6$ -H). HRMS (ESI-MS) C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-ICl [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 548.0204 found; 548.0199 calcd.

# 2-Azido- $N^6$ -(5-chloro-2-methoxybenzyl)-9-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl) adenine (33)

Sodium ascorbate (14 mg, 0.073 mmol) and CuSO<sub>4</sub>· 5H<sub>2</sub>O (9 mg, 0.037 mmol) were added to a mixture of 32 (200 mg, 0.365 mmol), sodium azide (47 mg, 0.73 mmol), L-proline (8 mg, 0.073 mmol), and sodium carbonate (8 mg, 0.073 mmol) in 4 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O/BuOH (1:1). The mixture was stirred for 2 days at 65 °C and monitored by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. An amount of 10 mL of dilute NH<sub>4</sub>-OH was added, and the crude mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (5  $\times$  15 mL) and washed with brine (15 mL). The organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and purified on a silica gel column (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 97:3) to afford compound 33 as a white solid in 82% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 3.51–3.56 (m, 1H, H5'-A), 3.60–3.66 (m, 1H, H5'-B), 3.83 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.93 (m, 1H, H4'), 4.13 (m, 1H, H-3'), 4.56-4.62 (m, 3H,  $N^6$ -CH<sub>2</sub> and H-2'), 5.03 (t, 1H, J = 5.4 Hz, 5'-OH), 5.17 (d, 1H, J = 4.8 Hz, 3'-OH), 5.41 (d, 1H, J = 6.3 Hz, 2'-OH), 5.81 (d, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz, H-1'), 7.02 (d, 1H, J = 8.7 Hz, Ph), 7.15 (d, 1H, J = 3.0 Hz, Ph), 7.28 (dd, 1H, J = 2.7 and 8.7 Hz, Ph), 8.34 (s, 1H, H-8), 8.63 (br s, 1H, H-8), 8.63 (br s,1H,  $N^6$ -H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  38.59 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 56.49 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 62.19 (C-5'), 71.15 (C-3'), 74.13 (C-2'), 86.36 (C-4'), 88.13 (C-1'), 113.02 (Ph), 119.58 (C-5), 124.29 (Ph), 128.10 (Ph), 129.93 (Ph), 140.43 (C-8), 150.69 (C-4), 155.51 (Ph and C-2), 156.33 (C-6). HRMS (ESI-MS)  $C_{18}H_{20}N_8O_5Cl$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 463.1248 found, 463.1245 calcd. Anal. (C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Cl) C, H, N.

### **Cell Culture and Membrane Preparation**

CHO cells expressing recombinant human ARs or the rat  $A_3AR$  were cultured in DMEM (Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium) and F12 (1:1) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum, 100 units/mL penicillin, 100  $\mu$ g/mL streptomycin, and 2  $\mu$ mol/mL glutamine. After harvest and homogenization, the cells were centrifuged at 500g for 10 min. The pellet was resuspended in 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.4) containing 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 1 mM EDTA. The suspension was homogenized with an electric homogenizer for 10 s and was then recentrifuged at 20000g for 20 min at 4 °C. The resulting pellets were resuspended in buffer containing 3 units/mL of adenosine deaminase, and the suspension was stored at -80 °C prior to the binding experiments. The protein concentration was measured using the Bradford assay.<sup>39</sup>

### **Radioligand Binding Studies**

For the  $A_3AR$  binding experiments, the procedures were similar to those previously described. Briefly, each tube contained 100  $\mu$ L of membrane suspension, 50  $\mu$ L of [^{125}I]I-AB-MECA ([^{125}I]N^6-(4-amino-3-iodobenzyl)adenosine-5'-N-methyluronamide, final concentration of 0.5 nM), and 50  $\mu$ L of increasing concentrations of compounds in Tris-HCl buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4) containing 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 1 mM EDTA. Nonspecific binding was determined using 10  $\mu$ M NECA (adenosine-5'-N-ethyluronamide). The mixtures were incubated at 25 °C for 60 min. Binding reactions were terminated by filtration through Whatman GF/B filters under reduced pressure using a MT-24 cell harvester (Brandel, Gaithersburg, MD). Filters were washed three times with ice-cold buffer. Radioactivity was determined in a Beckman 5500B  $\gamma$ -counter. The binding of [^3H]CCPA (2-chloro- $N^6$ -cyclopentyladenosine) to the recombinant hA<sub>1</sub>AR and the binding of [^3H]CGS21680 (2-[p-

(2-carboxyethyl)phenylethylamino]-5'-N-ethylcarboxamidoadenosine) to the recombinant  $hA_{2A}AR$  was performed as previously described.  $^{20,44}$ 

### **Cyclic AMP Accumulation Assay**

Intracellular levels of 3',5'-cyclic AMP were measured by the competitive protein binding method. 32 CHO cells expressing recombinant human 40 ARs were harvested by trypsinization. After resuspension in the medium, cells were plated in 24-well plates in 0.5 mL of medium/well. After 24 h the medium was removed and cells were washed three times with 1 mL/well of DMEM containing 50 mM N-2-hydroxyethylpiperazine-N-2ethanesulfonic acid, pH 7.4. Cells were then treated with agonists and/or test compounds in the presence of rolipram (10  $\mu$ M) and adenosine deaminase (3 units/mL) and incubated at 37 °C. For the A<sub>3</sub>AR, after 45 min forskolin (10  $\mu$ M) was added to the medium, and incubation was continued for an additional 15 min. The reaction was terminated upon removal of the medium, and the cells were lysed with 200 μL/well of 0.1 M ice-cold HCl. The cell lysate was resuspended and stored at -20 °C. For determination of cyclic AMP production, protein kinase A (PKA) was incubated with [<sup>3</sup>H]cyclic AMP (2 nM) in K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>/EDTA buffer (K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, 150 mM; EDTA, 10 mM), 20 μL of the cell lysate, and 30 µL of 0.1 M HCl. Bound radioactivity was separated by rapid filtration through Whatman GF/C filters under reduced pressure and washed once with cold buffer. Bound radioactivity was subsequently measured by scintillation spectrometry. Calculation of the relative maximal efficacy at the A<sub>3</sub>AR was determined at a fixed concentration of the nucleoside analogue (10 µM) and expressed as a relative percent of the effect of 10 µM NECA determined in each experiment, which typically reached ×50% inhibition of the forskolin stimulated cyclase.

#### Molecular Modeling

All calculations were performed on a Silicon Graphics Octane2 workstation (600 MHz IP30 processor, MIPS R14000). Compound **10**, 2-(4-cyclopentylmethyl-1,2,3-triazole)- $N^6$ -methyladenosine, was constructed with the use of the Sketch Molecule of SYBYL 7.1 (Tripos Inc., 1699 South Hanley Road, St. Louis, MO 63144). A grid search was performed in which flexible bonds were rotated by  $0^\circ$  and  $180^\circ$  for t1 ( $C_5$ – $C_6$ – $N^6$ – $C_{Me}$ ) at the  $N^6$  position, t2 (4'O–4'C–5'C–5'OH) at the 5'-position, and t3 ( $N_3$ – $C_2$ – $N_1'$ – $N_2'$ ) and by  $60^\circ$ ,  $180^\circ$ , and  $-60^\circ$  for t4 ( $N_3'$ – $C_4'$ – $C_{Me}$ – $C_{Cyc}$ ) and t5 ( $C_4'$ – $C_{Me}$ – $C_{Cyc}$ – $C_{Cyc}$ ) at the C2 position. The low-energy conformers from the grid search were reoptimized, removing all torsional constraints. Merck molecular force field (MMFF)<sup>41</sup> and charges were applied with the use of distance-dependent dielectric constants and the conjugate gradient method until the gradient reached 0.05 kcal·mol<sup>-1</sup>· $\mathring{A}$ -1. After the low-energy conformers from the result of the grid search were clustered, the representative ones from all groups were reoptimized by semiempirical molecular orbital calculations with the PM3 method in the MOPAC 6.0 package.  $^{42}$ 

A human A<sub>3</sub>AR model (PDB code 1OEA) constructed by homology to the X-ray structure of bovine rhodopsin with 2.8 Å resolution (PDB code 1F88)<sup>38</sup> was used for the docking study. All atom types were assigned by the Amber7\_FF99 force field.<sup>43</sup> Amber charges for protein and MMFF charges for ligand were calculated. The starting geometry of the ligand

conformation was chosen from the human  $A_3AR$  complex model with CI-IB-MECA, <sup>19</sup> which was already validated by point mutation. The ribose binding position was fixed, using an atom-by-atom fitting method for the carbon atoms of the ribose ring. To determine the binding region of the 2-(4-cyclopentylmethyl-1,2,3-triazole) moiety at the adenine 2 position, the flexible bond defining a  $\chi_1$  (O–C<sub>1</sub>/–N<sub>9</sub>–C<sub>4</sub>) angle was searched while docked within the putative binding cavity through various low-energy conformers with diverse t1–t5 angles, rotating by  $-60^{\circ}$ ,  $-110^{\circ}$ , and  $-160^{\circ}$ , assuming an anti conformation. Several conformations without any steric bump were selected for further optimization. The initial structures of all complexes were optimized using the Amber force field with a fixed dielectric constant of 4.0 and a terminating gradient of 0.05 kcal·mol<sup>-1</sup>·Å<sup>-1</sup>.

# **Supplementary Material**

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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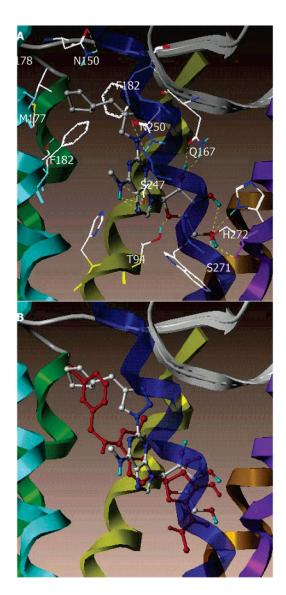


Figure 1. (A) Docking complexes of compound 10, 2-(4-cyclopentylmethyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)- $N^6$ -methyladenosine. (B) Superimposition of Cl-IB-MECA in red and compound 10 in color by atom type. Residues that were within 5 Å to the ligand in this putative binding site were L91 (3.33), T94 (3.36), H95 (3.37), Q167 (EL2), F168 (EL2), M172 (EL2), S181 (5.42), M177 (5.38), V178 (5.39), F182 (5.43), W243 (6.48), L246 (6.51), S247 (6.52), N250 (6.55), C251 (6.56), I268 (7.39), S271 (7.42), and H272 (7.43). The ligand is represented by a ball-and-stick model. The H-bonds are indicated with yellow dots. By use of the MOLCAD ribbon surface program, the A<sub>3</sub>AR is shown in a ribbon model with different colors for each TM (TM1, red; TM2, orange; TM3, yellow; TM4, green; TM5, cyan; TM6, blue; TM7, purple; H8, violet).

Scheme 1. Synthesis of 1,2,3-Triazol-1-yl Analogues of N<sup>6</sup>-Methyladenosine 1–11<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Reagents and conditions: (a) CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> in THF, 2 days; (b) CuSO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O, sodium ascorbate, L-proline, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, NaN<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O/<sup>a</sup>BuOH 1:1, 60 °C; (c) CuSO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O, sodium ascorbate, alkyne, H<sub>2</sub>O/<sup>a</sup>BuOH 3:1, room temp.

Scheme 2.
Azido/Tetrazole Tautomerism of a 2-Substituted Adenosine Derivative 23

Scheme 3. Synthesis of 1,2,3-Triazol-4-yl Analogues of  $N^6$ -Methyladenosine  $12-14^a$  <sup>a</sup> Reagents and conditions: (a) trimethylsilylacetylene, CuI, (Ph<sub>3</sub>P)<sub>3</sub>PdCl<sub>2</sub>, DMF; (b) 7 N NH<sub>3</sub> in MeOH, 0 °C; (c) CuSO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O, sodium ascorbate, alkyne, H<sub>2</sub>O/ $^t$ BuOH 3:1, room temp.

#### Scheme 4.

Synthesis of 1,2,3-Triazol-1-yl Analogues of  $N^6$ -Methyladenosine-5'-N-ethyluronamide **15**–**19**<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Reagents and conditions: (a) KMnO<sub>4</sub>, KOH, room temp, 20 h; (b) *p*-nitrophenol, EDCI, DMF, room temp; (c) ethylamine; (d) 80% TFA/H<sub>2</sub>O; (e) CuSO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O, sodium ascorbate, L-proline, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, NaN<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O/<sup>t</sup>BuOH 1:1, 60 °C; (f) CuSO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O, sodium ascorbate, alkyne, H<sub>2</sub>O/<sup>t</sup>BuOH 1:1, room temp.

### Scheme 5.

Synthesis of Compound **20**, 2-(4-Cyclopentylmethyl-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)- $N^6$ -(2-chloro-5-methoxybenzyl)adenosine<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Reagents and conditions: (a) 2-chloro-5-methoxybenzylammonium chloride, Et<sub>3</sub>N, EtOH, reflux; (b) CuSO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O, sodium ascorbate, L-proline, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, NaN<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O/′BuOH 1:1, 60 °C; (c) CuSO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O, sodium ascorbate, alkyne, H<sub>2</sub>O/′BuOH 1:1, room temp.

Table 1

Binding Affinities of Adenosine Derivatives at Human A<sub>1</sub>, A<sub>2A</sub>, and A<sub>3</sub>ARs Expressed in CHO Cells and Relative Efficacy at the A<sub>3</sub>AR<sup>a</sup>

		но но	R <sub>2</sub> OH OH	- <del>-</del>	но но		
		1-11, 15-20	50	12-14	23, 31, 33		
				K <sub>i</sub> (nM) or % in	$K_{ m i}$ (nM) or % inhibition (in parentheses) at $10\mu{ m M}$	ntheses) at 10 $\mu M$	4
	$R_{\rm I}$	$\mathbf{R}_2$	R <sub>3</sub>	$hA_1$	$hA_{2A}$	$hA_3$	% efficacy <sup>o</sup> hA <sub>3</sub>
-	СН2ОН	Н	CH <sub>3</sub>	$1000 \pm 30$	(13 ± 3)	$10.4 \pm 0.2$	41 ± 6
7	$\mathrm{CH}_2\mathrm{OH}$	ethyl	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	$2920 \pm 910$	(18)	$13.8 \pm 3.3$	23c
8	$CH_2OH$	butyl	$CH_3$	848 ± 76	(23)	$11.7 \pm 3.1$	3 ± 8
4	$\mathrm{CH}_2\mathrm{OH}$	2-hydroxyethyl	CH <sub>3</sub>	$1270 \pm 260$	(14)	$45.0 \pm 4.4$	25c
w	$\mathrm{CH}_2\mathrm{OH}$	dimethylaminomethyl	CH <sub>3</sub>	$3800 \pm 600$	(9)	$117\pm25$	80
9	$CH_2OH$	phenyl	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	(36)	(5)	$14.9\pm1.7$	14 ± 8
7	$CH_2OH$	pyridin-2-yl	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	$1970 \pm 210$	(40)	$10.3\pm1.5$	11 ± 4
∞	$CH_2OH$	4-propoxyphenyl	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	(49)	(14)	$25.2 \pm 2.6$	31°
6	$CH_2OH$	benzyl	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	$589 \pm 55$	(20)	$9.5\pm0.7$	-1 ± 5
p01	$CH_2OH$	cyclopentylmethyl	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	$335\pm13$	(39)	$1.3 \pm 0.4$	-5 ± 7
11	$\mathrm{CH}_2\mathrm{OH}$	cyclohexylmethyl	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	$1430 \pm 60$	$(16\pm1)$	$21.3\pm8.1$	2 ± 5
12	$CH_2OH$	benzyl	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	$770\pm210$	$(21 \pm 5)$	$53.9 \pm 6.6$	2 ± 3
13	$\mathrm{CH}_2\mathrm{OH}$	3-methoxybenzyl	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	957 ± 65	$(43 \pm 10)$	$86.1 \pm 3.8$	-1 ± 3
4	$CH_2OH$	3-Cl-benzyl	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	$956\pm 6$	$(39 \pm 10)$	$81.1\pm5.0$	0 ± 5
15 <sup>d</sup>	$C_2H_5NHCO$	Н	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	590 ± 70	$(18 \pm 3)$	$2.1\pm0.1$	$102\pm5$
16	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NHCO	butyl	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	$750\pm110$	$(43 \pm 1)$	$5.6\pm0.2$	89 ± 3
$^{17d}$	$C_2H_5NHCO$	pyridin-2-yl	$\mathrm{CH}_3$	$1640 \pm 90$	$(45 \pm 12)$	$1.8\pm0.6$	7 ± 06
p81	$C_2H_5NHCO$	benzyl	CH <sub>3</sub>	$510 \pm 50$	$(33 \pm 2)$	$2.8\pm1.3$	86 ± 5
19	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NHCO	cyclopentylmethyl	$CH_3$	$1250 \pm 150$	$(36 \pm 7)$	$11.5\pm1.4$	83c

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ZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ	1-11, 15-20

		P S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	H H H H H H H H H H H H H H H H H H H	N N-R2	E E E		
		1-11, 15-20	-20	12-14	23, 31, 33		
				$\underline{K_{\rm i}}$ (nM) or % in	$K_{ m i}$ (nM) or % inhibition (in parentheses) at 10 $\mu{ m M}$	theses) at 10 $\mu M$	1
	$\mathbf{R_1}$	$\mathbf{R}_2$	R <sub>3</sub>	$\mathbf{h}\mathbf{A}_1$	$hA_{2A}$	$hA_3$	% efficacy hA <sub>3</sub>
70	СН2ОН	cyclopentylmethyl	2-Cl-5-MeO-Bn $830 \pm 40$	830 ± 40	0009	18 ± 11	<b>-6</b> ± 3
23	$CH_2OH$		$\mathrm{CH}_3$	$230\pm10$	(23)	$10.8\pm3.1$	84 ± 9
31	$C_2H_5NHCO$		$CH_3$	429 ± 55	$(18 \pm 3)$	$11.4 \pm 4.2$	$112^{C}$
33	$\mathrm{CH}_2\mathrm{OH}$		$2-Cl-5-MeO-Bn$ $60 \pm 10$	60 ± 10	$1800\pm500$	$1.4 \pm 0.1$	44 ± 5

Experimental Section using [ $^3$ H]CCPA, [ $^3$ H]CGS 21680, or [ $^1$ 25]IAB-MECA as a radioligand. Values from the present study are expressed as  $K_1$  values (mean  $\pm$  SEM, n=3, unless otherwise noted) or as <sup>a</sup>All binding experiments were performed using cells stably transfected with cDNA encoding one of the human ARs. Binding at human A1, A2A, and A3ARs in this study was carried out as described in percent displacement of radioligand.

b activation at 10  $\mu$ M, relative to cyclic AMP inhibitory effect of 10  $\mu$ M NECA (=100%). CI-IB-MECA was also a full agonist (100%) in this assay.

<sup>d</sup>10, LC 153; **15**, LC 260; **17**, LC 257; **18**, LC 259.