Supplementary Information:

Oxa-Iboga Alkaloids Lack Cardiac Risk and Disrupt Opioid Use in Animal Models (57 pages)

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Fig. S1 | Synthesis of oxa-iboga analog intermediates. a The isoquinuclidine ring was assembled via a Diels-Alder reaction starting from dihydropyridine **1**. **b** The benzofuran intermediate was prepared using two slightly different reaction pathways, with the alternative route proving to be a more convenient choice for a multigram synthesis.



Fig. S2 | Synthesis of oxa-iboga analogs. a Formation of the 7-membered azepine ring can be achieved using a nickel-catalyzed coupling between the benzofuran and isoquinuclidine moieties or **b** via a sequence of lithiation/iodination followed by reductive Heck coupling. **c** An X-ray crystallography structure of racemic oxa-ibogaine (only one enantiomer shown) in thermal ellipsoid style (50% probability). Atom color coding: H white, C gray, O red, N blue. **d** Noribogaine hydrochloride used in the study was prepared starting from Voacangine isolated from *Voacanga africana* root bark according to a procedure which avoided using ibogaine as a synthetic intermediate.



e Broad receptor radiolig	Broad receptor radioligand displacement screen for oxa-noribogaine.			
Primary Binding Screen at 10 µM	Sec	condary Screen (Ki±SE	M)	
5-HT1A, 5-HT1B, 5-HT1D, 5-HT1E, 5-	α2A (n = 3)	α2C (n = 3)	α3β2 (n = 1)	
HT2A, 5-HT2B, 5-HT2C, 5-HT3, 5-HT4, 5- HT5A, 5-HT6, 5-HT7A, A1, A2A, α1A.	1,452 ± 538	2,435 ± 476	~2,207	
α1Β, α1D, α2Α, α2Β, α2C, β1, β2, β3,	α3β4 (n = 1)	α4β4 (n = 1)	α7 (n = 1)	
BZP, D1, D2, D3, D4, D5, DAT, DOR,	~2,802	~3,485	~1,293	
M3, M4, M5, MOR, NET, PBR,SERT, σ1,	(σ2 (n = 3)	SERT (n = 3)	D5 (n = 3)	
σ2, AMPA, NR2B, M4 D, NTS1, mGluR5,	4,488 ± 358	1,157 ± 391	4,217 ± 866	
α2β2, α2β4, α3β2, α3β4, α4β2, α4β2 (Rat Brain) α4β4 α7 ΝΟΡ ΟΤ V1Α V1B	DOR (n = 3)	KOR (n = 3)	MOR (n = 3)	
V2, BZP Rat Brain Site	411 ± 30	1.6 ± 0.3	56 ± 15	

f Functional assays [EC ₅₀ /IC ₅₀ , (95% CI) in nM], {%E _{max} } (n = 1).			
Assay (Species)	Receptor	Noribogaine	Oxa-noribogaine
CTDVS (human)	hKOR (Agonist)	8,325 (6143; 11,280) {73}	/
GTPYS (numan)	h5-HT _{2A} (Agonist)	n.d. {3% at 25 µM}	/
	h5-HT _{2A} (Agonist)	n.d. {<0% at 25 µM}	n.d. {2% at 10 μM}
IP1 (human)	h5-HT _{2B} (Agonist)	n.d. {<0% at 10 µM}	n.d. {<0% at 10 µM}
	h5-HT _{2B} (Antagonist)	n.d. {10% at 10 μM}	n.d. {<0% at 10 μM}

Fig. S3 | **Characterization of noribogaine and oxa-iboga analogs target profiles. a** Inhibition of human serotonin transporter (hSERT) by noribogaine and oxa-iboga analogs. Data are presented as mean (n = 3) \pm SEM. **b** Inhibition of human nicotinic acetylcholine receptor (nAChR α 3 β 4) by iboga alkaloids as determined by electrophysiological assays (n = 1). **c** Binding affinity (radioligand displacement assay, [³H]MK-801) of iboga alkaloids at rat NMDA receptor (n = 1). **d** Oxa-noribogaine binds to the human etherà-go-go-related gene (**hERG**) potassium channel with a low micromolar activity (radioligand displacement assay, [³H]Dofetilide), (n = 1). **e** Radioligand displacement by oxa-noribogaine was tested for a broad selection of targets at 10 µM. Binding affinities [Ki ± SEM, nM] were determined only for targets identified in the primary binding screening as having ligand displacement >50% at 10 µM. Targets tested in the primary but not secondary screen showed minimal binding affinity at 10 µM. **f** Noribogaine is a low micromolar agonist of human KOR. No agonist activity at human 5-hydroxytryptamine type 2 receptors (h5-HT2R) was detected for noribogaine and oxa-noribogaine up to 10 µM (n = 1).

Fig. S4 | Opioid receptor signaling induced by noribogaine and oxa-iboga analogs (part 1). a Binding affinity measured by radioligand ([¹²⁵*I*]-*IBNtxA*) displacement experiments at mouse opioid receptors (mMOR, mKOR and mDOR) for oxa-noribogaine and **b** epi-oxa-noribogaine. Data are presented as mean (MOR n = 3, KOR/DOR n = 5) \pm SEM. **c** Agonist activity at mouse opioid receptors determined by [³⁵S]GTP γ S assay for oxa-noribogaine and **d** epi-oxa-noribogaine. Data are presented as mean (n = 3) \pm SEM. Docking pose of noribogaine (**e**, carbon scaffold in green), oxa-noribogaine (**f**, carbon scaffold in orange) and superimposed overlay (**g**) in sticks representation inside active state KOR structure. Hydrogen bonding shown in yellow dots. However, the docking studies do not provide an explanation for the large differences in binding and signaling potencies between noribogaine and oxa-noribogaine as the docking poses are similar. We suggest the observed differences in binding potency are due to electronic effects, namely changes in the electron density distribution in the ligand aromatic ring and the resulting interactions with larger surface of the receptor.

Fig. S5 | **Opioid receptor signaling induced by noribogaine and oxa-iboga analogs (part 2). a** Agonist activity of noribogaine at human KOR determined by [35 S]GTP₇S assay (n = 1). **b** Human KOR agonist activity (G protein BRET assay) for noribogaine and oxa-noribogaine analogs. **c** Human KOR agonist activity determined using a nanobody sensor (Nb33 BRET assay) for noribogaine and oxa-noribogaine and oxa-noribogaine and oxa-noribogaine analogs. **d** Oxa-iboga alkaloids recruit β -arrestin with partial efficacy compared to U50,488 in HEK-293 cells expressing human (hKOR) kappa opioid receptors. **e** Unamplified experiment without addition of GRK3 (G Protein-Coupled Receptor Kinase 3) determined at human (hKOR) and **f** rat receptors. **g** Oxa-noribogaine acts as a full agonist, while epi-oxa and noribogiane as partial/low efficacy agonists in the human and **h** mouse mu opioid receptor (MOR) G protein BRET assay. **i** Observed agonist activity of oxa-iboga analogs is significantly diminished in the human and **j** mouse MOR nanobody sensor-based assay. Data are presented as mean ± SEM (n = 3, all panels except **a**).

Fig. S6 | BRET assay for activation of G protein heterotrimers (TRUPATH). a Dose-response curves generated for G protein heterotrimer activation incorporating seven distinct G α subunits. **b** Bar graph comparing the distinct signaling profiles of a classical, strongly aversive KOR agonist (U50,488) and an atypical one (oxa-noribogaine). Data are presented as mean ± SEM (n = 3 biological replicates).

Fig. S7 | In vivo characterization of iboga analogs. a Effect of pre-treatment with antagonists naltrindole (DOR selective), naloxone (non-selective at 10 mg/kg, MOR preferring at 1 mg/kg), cyprodime (MOR selective) and aticaprant (KOR selective) on oxa-noribogaine induced nociception in male mice and naloxone (10 mg/kg) and aticaprant (0.1 mg/kg) on epi-oxa-noribogaine. Data are presented as mean (n = 10) ± SEM. b Escalating dose effect of oxa-iboga analogs on locomotion in OF test (male mice). Oxanoribogaine (3.0 mg/kg = ED₅₀, 5.4 mg/kg = ED₈₀ and 10 mg/kg > ED₉₅) and c epi-oxa-noribogaine (1.9 $mg/kg = ED_{50}$ and 5.2 $mg/kg = ED_{80}$). d, Escalating dose effect of oxa-noribogaine (5.4 mg/kg = maleED₈₀, 10.2 mg/kg = female ED₈₀ and 20.1 mg/kg > ED₉₅) on locomotion in OF test (female mice). Data are presented as mean ± SEM. e Rat and human plasma protein binding and rat brain tissue binding data of noribogaine and oxa-iboga analogs. Data are presented as mean (n = 3 technical replicates) ± SEM. f Noribogaine (s.c. 10 mg/kg) PK in male C57BL/6 mice, total and estimated free concentrations. g Oxanoribogaine exhibits rapid and high brain penetration in PK (male C57BL/6 mice, s.c. 10 mg/kg, brain/plasma = 5.5). Approximately 85% of the compound is cleared in the first 2 hours and only traces remain after 8 hours. Estimated free plasma and brain drug concentrations. Assuming linearity of PK below 10 mg/kg, C_{max(brain)} at an ED₅₀ analgesic dose (3 mg/kg) is expected to be ~ 49 nM, which matches very well the in vitro KOR activation potency (EC₅₀ = 41 nM in BRET assay, EC₅₀ = 49 nM, in [³⁵S]GTPgS assay). h Oxa-noribogaine (i.p. 40 mg/kg) PK in male Wistar rats, total and estimated free concentrations. Rat plasma protein and brain tissue binding data were used to estimate free drug fractions in mice. The C_{max} and area under the curve (AUC, drug exposure) values for estimated free drugs are much smaller for oxa-noribogaine in comparison to noribogaine which is relevant for interpreting the oxa-noribogaine's superior efficacy in addiction models. Data are presented as mean (n = 3 animals/time point) \pm SEM. Specifics of statistical tests are reported in source data file, *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001.

Fig. S8 | Pro-arrhythmia risk of noribogaine and oxa-iboga analogs examined in human primary cardiomyocytes. a Noribogaine was compared to **b** oxa-noribogaine using cardiomyocytes isolated from the same donor heart. **c** Comparable and concentration-dependent pro-arrhythmia risk was detected for noribogaine across 2 donors. **d** Epi-oxa-noribogaine shows no risk of pro-arrhythmia. **e** Anemone toxin, ATX-II, was used as a positive control. **f** Donor information.

Fig. S9 | Morphine self-administration studies in rats. a Complete time profile of a morphine SA study (Fig 5b) for noribogaine (40 mg/kg, n = 8) and oxa-noribogaine (40 mg/kg, n = 6) treatments. **b** Morphine intake for one test subject that showed a profound and lasting morphine intake suppression (>14 days) after a single dose of oxa-noribogaine (40 mg/kg, i.p.). The mean response of the entire cohort is shown for comparison. Data are presented as mean ± SEM, specifics of statistical tests are reported in source data file, *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001.

Table S1. In vitro data collected for iboga alkaloids and analogs.

Binding affinities (Radioligand Displacement) [K _i , (95% CI) in nM] for oxa-iboga alkaloids at			
mouse opioid receptors (n = 3).			
Receptor	Oxa-noribogaine	Epi-oxa-noribogaine	
mMOR 86 (65; 115) 136 (111; 166)		136 (111; 166)	
mKOR 36 (29; 44) 6.9 (5.7; 8.3)		6.9 (5.7; 8.3)	
mDOR 168 (127; 223) 94 (85; 104)			
For radioligand experiments fitted curves were constrained to top = 100 and bottom = 0.			

Agonist activity (GTPγS assay) [EC₅₀, (95% CI) in nM], {%E_{max}} of iboga alkaloids at mouse opioid receptors (n ≥ 3).

Receptor	Oxa-noribogaine	Epi-oxa-noribogaine		
mMOR	559 (331, 920) {101}	211 (139, 322) {111}		
mKOR	49 (37, 64) {92}	9.6 (7.2, 12.8) {89}		
mDOR	329 (91, 117) {100}	99 (75, 130) {108}		
Efficacy data were obtained using agonist induced stimulation of [35S]GTPyS binding assay. Efficacy is				
represented as EC ₅₀ (nM) and percent maximal stimulation (E _{max}) relative to standard agonist DAMGO				
(MOR), DPDPE (DOR), or U50,488 (KOR) at 1000 nM.				

Agonist activity (G protein BRET assay) [EC ₅₀ , (95% CI) in nM], {%E _{max} } of iboga alkaloids at human and rat kappa opioid receptor (n = 3)				
Receptor	(±)-U50,488	Noribogaine	Oxa-noribogaine	Epi-oxa-noribogaine
hKOR	13 (8, 20) {100}	7,745 (284; 21,050) {46}	68 (42; 109) {108}	16 (10; 26) {96}
rKOR	18 (11; 32) {100}	6,239 (2,640; 33,510) {52}	43 (17; 126) {82}	12 (7; 23) {81}

Agonist activity (G protein BRET assay) [EC ₅₀ , (95% CI) in nM], {% E_{max} } of iboga alkaloids at				
Receptor DAMGO Noribogaine Oxa-noribogaine Epi-oxa-noribogaine				
hMOR 3 (2, 4) {100} 11,134 (6,734; 19,260) {57}		88 (69; 113) {108}	90 (54; 147) {69}	
mMOR	8 (7; 10) {100}	9,110 (1,941; 53,530) {19}	328 (201; 531) {81}	217 (105; 443) {28}

Agonist activity (Nb33 BRET assay) [EC ₅₀ , (95% CI) in nM], {%E _{max} } of iboga alkaloids at human and rat kappa opioid receptor (n = 3)				
Receptor (±)-U50,488 Noribogaine Oxa-noribogaine Epi-oxa-noribo				Epi-oxa-noribogaine
hKOR	176 (113, 284) {100}	n.d. {<3% at 100 µM}	304 (171; 567) {46}	58 (18; 336) {50}
rKOR	202 (159; 257) {100}	n.d. {<4% at 100 µM}	484 (304; 801) {52}	62 (35; 112) {34}

Agonist activity (Nb33 BRET assay) [EC ₅₀ , (95% Cl) in nM], {%E _{max} } of iboga alkaloids at human				
Receptor DAMGO Oxa-noribogaine Epi-oxa-noribogaine				
hMOR	233 (170, 322) {100}	13,770 (4,743; 43,640) {31}	n.d.	
mMOR	357 (232; 547) {100}	4,281 (2,286; 7,614) {44}	n.d.	

β-Arrestin recruitment (BRET assay) [EC₅₀, (95% CI) in nM], {% E_{max} } of iboga alkaloids at human and rat kappa opioid receptor (n = 3), with and without addition of G-protein coupled receptor kinase 3 (GRK3)

Receptor	(±)-U50,488	Oxa-noribogaine	Epi-oxa-noribogaine
hKOR + GRK3	86 (52, 141) {100}	405 (216; 748) {65}	49 (31; 108) {50}
rKOR + GRK3	129 (64; 276) {100}	610 (314; 997) {69}	128 (60; 194) {50}
hKOR	5,802 (1,515; 3,260,000) {100}	n.d. {13% at 100 µM}	n.d. {11% at 100 µM}
rKOR	1,566 (841; 3,784) {100}	n.d. {11% at 100 µM}	n.d. {<0% at 100 µM}

Agonist activity (G protein BRET assay) [EC₅₀ in nM], {%E_{max}} of oxa-ibogamine analogs demonstrating the importance of the phenolic -OH (position 10) on KOR activity (n = 4). Fitted curves were constrained to top = 100% and bottom = 0%.

Assay (Species)	Receptor	Oxa-ibogamine	Epi-oxa-ibogamine
G protein BRET (human)	hKOR	>10,000 {56% at 100 µM}	>10,000 {46% at 100 µM}

Binding affinities for hNOP, rNMDAR and inhibition of hnAChR (α 3 β 4) ion channels [IC ₅₀ , (95%
CI) in nM] by iboga alkaloids (n = 1).
Fitted curves were constrained to top -100% and bottom -0%

Fitted curves were constrained to top = 100% and bottom = 0% .							
Assay	Receptor Noribogaine		Oxa-noribogaine	Epi-oxa-noribogaine			
	hNOP	n.d. {<0% at 10 µM}	n.d. {<0% at 10 µM}	n.d. {5% at 10 µM}			
Radioligand	rNMDAR	42,220 (35,820;	24,060 (17,500;	66,800 (63,950;			
Displacement		49,770)	33,090)	69,790)			
	hERG	/	3,003 (2,028; 4,461)	/			
Electrophysiology	hnAChR	4,960 (3,343; 7,360)	2,891 (2,622; 3,188)	1,495 (1,041; 2,147)			
LIECTOPHYSIOlOGY	(α3β4)						

Inhibitory activity [IC ₅₀ (95% CI) in nM] {% E_{max} } of iboga alkaloids at human serotonin transporter (hSERT, n = 3).						
Assay	Imipramine	Noribogaine	Oxa-noribogaine	Epi-oxa-noribogaine		
Fluorescence	8.9 (7.0; 11)	286 (216; 372)	711 (560; 908)	1,707 (1,282; 2,394)		
Uptake Inhibition	{100}	{104}	{106}	{120}		

Table S2. Summary of behavioral (in vivo) and pharmacokinetic (in vivo, ex vivo detection) data for oxa-iboga analogs.

Pharmacokinetics data determined for noribogaine in male C57BL/6 mice following a single								
subcutaneous administration (Dose: 10 mg/kg, n = 3).								
Matrix	T _{max}	C _{max} (ng/mL) ^a	AUC _{last}	AUC _{inf}	T _{1/2} z	CLf	VZ/F	
	(h)		(h×ng/mL)	(h×ng/mL)	(h)	(mL/min/kg)	(L/kg)	
Plasma	0.50	1979.32	5221.91	5229.14	2.76	31.87	7.62	
Brain	Brain 0.50 5093.45 11672.46 12112.71 1.71 13.76 2.04							
^a Brain conc. expressed as ng/g, density of brain tissue was considered as 1 which is equivalent to								
plasma o	densitv.							

Pharmacokinetics data determined for oxa-noribogaine in male C57BL/6 mice following a single
subcutaneous administration (Dose: 10 mg/kg , n = 3).

Matrix	T _{max}	C _{max}	AUC _{last}	T _{1/2} z	CLf	Vd/F	Brain-	Brain-
	(h)	(ng/mL) ^a	(h×ng/mL)	(h)	(mL/min/kg)	(L/kg)	Kp(C _{max})	Kp(AUC _{last})
Plasma	0.25	581.24	1413.06	6.10	112.73	59.53	N/A	N/A
Brain	0.50	4492.48	7227.68	4.76	N/A	N/A	7.72	5.11
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^a Brain conc. expressed as ng/g, density of brain tissue was considered as 1 which is equivalent to plasma density.

Pharmacokinetics data determined for oxa-noribogaine in male Wistar rats following a single								
intraperitoneal administration (Dose: 40 mg/kg, n = 3).								
Matrix	T_{max}	C _{max}	AUC _{last}	$T_{1/2}z$	CLf	Vd/F	Brain-	Brain-
	(h)	(ng/mL) ^a	(h×µg/mL)	(h)	(mL/min/kg)	(L/kg)	Kp(C _{max})	Kp(AUC _{last})
Plasma	0.08	1973.00	3520	1.26	189.29	20.62	N/A	N/A
Brain	0.08	18919.68	55220	3.59	N/A	N/A	9.60	15.69
^a Brain conc. expressed as ng/g, density of brain tissue was considered as 1 which is equivalent to								

plasma density.

Rat plasma protein binding of Oxa- and Epi-oxa-noribogaine (n = 3).					
Compound	% Bound ± SD	% Unbound	% Recovery	% Stability (4 h)	
Oxa-noribogaine	93.4 ± 0.4	6.6	94	104	
Epi-oxa-noribogaine	86.4 ± 1.9	13.6	88	111	

Human plasma protein binding of noribogaine, Oxa- and Epi-oxa-noribogaine (n = 3).						
Compound	% Bound ± SD	% Unbound ± SD	% Recovery	% Stability (4 h)		
Noribogaine	59.9 ± 3.7	40.1	75	105		
Oxa-noribogaine	95.8 ± 0.9	4.2	97	116		
Epi-oxa-noribogaine	89.4 ± 0.5	10.6	98	108		

Rat brain tissue binding of Oxa- and Epi-oxa-noribogaine (n = 3).						
Compound	% Bound ± SD	% Unbound	% Recovery	% Stability (4 h)		
Oxa-noribogaine	98.9 ± 0.1	1.1	120	80		
Epi-oxa-noribogaine	98.6 ± 0.1	1.4	106	97		

Tail-flick test characterization of antinociceptive properties of U50,488, oxa- and epi-oxa-					
noribogaine [Base Latency, (95% CI) in s; ED ₅₀ , (95% CI) in mg/kg], in male WT C57BL/6 mice.					
Compound	(±)-U-50,488 (n = 5)*	Oxa-noribogaine (n = 20)	Epi-oxa-noribogaine (n = 9)		
Base Latency (s)	3.7 (3.2; 4.1)	2.6 (2.5; 3.9)	2.0 (1.2; 2.7)		
ED ₅₀ (mg/kg) 2.2 (1.6; 3.1) 3.0 (2.6; 3.4) 1.9 (1.4; 2.5)					
*5 naive animals were used for each dose, baseline was determined for each test subject					

Tail-flick test characterization of antinociceptive properties of U50,488, oxa- and epi-oxa-					
noribogaine [Base Latency, (95% CI) in s; ED50, (95% CI) in mg/kg], in female WT C57BL/6 mice.					
Compound	(±)-U-50,488 (n = 5)*	Oxa-noribogaine (n = 10)	Epi-oxa-noribogaine (n = 10)		

Base Latency (s)	2.9 (2.6; 3.2)	2.3 (1.8; 2.8)	2.3 (1.7; 2.9)		
ED ₅₀ (mg/kg)	6.3 (4.4; 9.0)	4.9 (3.9; 6.3)	9.7 (6.9; 13.7)		
*5 naive animals were used for each dose, baseline was determined for each test subject					

Antinociceptive properties of oxa-noribogaine in wild type (WT), mu (MOR-KO) and kappa (KOR) knockout (KO) mouse models [baseline, (95% CI) in s; ED ₅₀ , (95% CI) in mg/kg].						
Sex	Male		Female			
Model	WT	KOR-KO	MOR-KO	WT	KOR-KO	MOR-KO
	(n = 10)	(n = 8)	(n = 9)	(n = 10)	(n = 4)	(n = 5)
Base	2.5	2.7	3.0	3.2	3.5	3.5
Latency (s)	(2.3, 2.7)	(2.4, 3.0)	(2.7, 3.2)	(2.8, 3.5)	(2.6, 4.4)	(3.3, 3.8)
ED ₅₀	2.3	17.7	4.3	2.0	12.4	7.1
(mg/kg)	(1.9; 2.7)	(14.4; 21.9)	(3.2; 5.9)	(1.5; 2.5)	(7.4; 20.9)	(4.0; 12.6)

Antinociceptive properties of epi-oxa-noribogaine in wild type (WT), mu (MOR-KO) and kappa (KOR) knockout (KO) mouse models [baseline, (95% CI) in s; ED₅₀, (95% CI) in mg/kg].				
Sex	Male			
Model	WT	KOR-KO	MOR-KO	
	(n = 5)	(n = 5)	(n = 7)	
Base Latency	2.3	2.2	3.4	
(s)	(1.9, 2.6)	(2.0, 2.4)	(2.7, 4.0)	
ED ₅₀	1.3	nd >>100	2.0	
(mg/kg)	(0.9; 1.7)	11.u. 200	(1.5; 2.6)	

Synthetic procedures and compound characterization

Noribogaine hydrochloride

The compound was synthetized as previously described starting from Voacangine¹ isolated from root bark of *Voacanga africana* according to published isolation procedure.² To avoid complications arising from legal restrictions on ibogaine synthesis (controlled substance schedule I in the US) a synthetic route utilizing 10-hydroxy-coronaridine as intermediate was used (Fig. S2).

Synthesis of exolendo-isoquinuclidine ketone intermediates 2a and 2b

The isoquinuclidine core was synthesized according to the reported literature procedures.^{3,4} Briefly, methyl pyridine-1(2*H*)-carboxylate **1** was prepared by treating a mixture of pyridine and sodium borohydride in methanol with methyl chloroformate at -70°C. The crude diene (unstable, slowly decomposing during storage, should be used for next step as soon as possible) was filtered through silica (eluted with 10% diethyl ether in hexanes), concentrated and then heated with methyl vinyl ketone at 50 °C for 5 days to form a mixture of *exo* **2a** and *endo* **2b** compounds in a 26:74 ratio. The mixture was further epimerized using sodium methoxide in methanol to obtain a new ratio of *exo:endo* 62:38.

Synthesis of exolendo-isoquinuclidine tosylhydrazones 3a and 3b

A mixture of exo/endo-intermediates **2a/2b** (62:38 *exo:endo* ratio, 34.93 g, 167 mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfonyl hydrazide (31.10 g, 167 mmol) in THF (136 mL) was heated at 50 °C for 15 h, at which time a white precipitate had formed. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and the white precipitate was collected by filtration, the solid was washed 3× on the filter with ice-cold MeOH, to provide pure *endo*-tosylhydrazone **3b** as a fine white powder (19.55 g, 31%). The filtrate and washings were combined and concentrated to a tan solid, which was recrystallized from MeOH to obtain the pure *exo*-tosylhydrazone **3a** as white plates (33.14 g, 53%).

exo-Methyl 7-(1-(2-tosylhydrazono)ethyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-5-ene-2-carboxylate (3a)

Mp 162-166 °C (inaccurate due to trapped MeOH); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (spectrum complicated by conformers) δ 7.85 and 7.79 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 6.46 – 6.37 (m, 2H), 4.74 – 4.68 and 4.61 – 4.57 (m, 1H), 3.52 and 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.02 and 2.94 (dd, J = 9.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.87 and 2.78 (dt, J = 9.8, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.73 – 2.67 (m, 1H), 2.48 – 2.37 (m, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.30 and 2.09 (ddd, J = 13.1, 4.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 1.89 and 1.80 (s, 3H), 1.42 – 1.26 (m, 1H); LR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₁₈H₂₄N₃O₄S⁺ [M+H]⁺ 378.15, found 377.80.

endo-Methyl 7-(1-(2-tosylhydrazono)ethyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-5-ene-2-carboxylate (3b)

Mp 181-184 °C; ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI₃)** (spectrum complicated by conformers) δ 7.81 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 6.19 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.02 (dd, J = 12.0, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.87 and 4.77 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 3.69 and 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.23 (d, J = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 3.01 – 2.85 (m, 2H), 2.74 (br s, 1H), 2.45 and 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.87 – 1.66 (m, 1H), 1.71 and 1.69 (s, 3H), 1.59 – 1.47 (m, 1H); **LR-MS** (m/z): calcd. for C₁₈H₂₄N₃O₄S⁺ [M+H]⁺ 378.15, found 377.80.

exo-Methyl 7-ethyl-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-5-ene-2-carboxylate (4a)

exo-Tosylhydrazone **3a** (33.02 g, 87.5 mmol), sodium cyanoborohydride (21.99 g, 350 mmol), and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate (1.40 g, 7.36 mmol) were combined in THF (250 mL) and refluxed for 21 h. At this time, additional *p*-TsOH·H₂O (0.35 g, 1.84 mmol) was added, and reflux was continued for an additional 4 h. The reaction mixture was then diluted with water (250 mL) and extracted with cyclohexane (3 × 100 mL). The combined organics were washed with water (250 mL), saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (250 mL), and water again (50 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated to provide a cloudy, pale-yellow oil. The oil was passed through a short silica column in 7:3 hexanes:EtOAc and the eluate was concentrated to yield pure product as a pale-yellow oil (10.12 g, 59%). The spectral characterization was in agreement with the previously reported literature data.⁵

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI₃)** δ 6.47 and 6.42 (br dd, J = 7 Hz, 1H), 6.34 and 6.30 (br dd, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 4.59 and 4.44 (d, J = 6 Hz, 1H), 3.67 and 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.20 (td, J = 10, 2 Hz, 1H), 2.98 and 2.94 (dt, J = 10, 3 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (m, 1H), 1.64 and 1.61 (dt, J = 10, 3 Hz, 1H), 1.38 (m, 3H), 1.00 (m, 1H), 0.95 and 0.92 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H); ¹³**C NMR (101 MHz, CDCI₃)** δ 156.7 and 156.3, 133.8 and 133.7, 133.3 and 133.1, 52.2 and 52.1, 49.1 and 48.8, 48.4 and 48.1, 40.7, 30.8 and 30.6, 29.9, 27.5 and 27.4, 12.1 and 12.0; **LR-MS** (m/z): calcd. for C₁₁H₁₈NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 196.13, found 195.9.

endo-Methyl 7-ethyl-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-5-ene-2-carboxylate (4b)

To a suspension of endo-tosylhydrazone **3b** (3.50 g, 9.27 mmol) in MeOH (41 mL) was added a solution of sodium cyanoborohydride (0.83 g, 13.26 mmol) and ZnCl_2 (0.90 mg, 6.63 mmol) in MeOH (28 mL) and the resulting mixture was refluxed for 3 h. The reaction was then quenched with 1% aqueous NaOH (200 mL) and extracted with cyclohexane ($3 \times 50 \text{ mL}$). The combined organics were washed with water (50 mL) and brine (50 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated to provide a clear, colorless oil. The crude material was filtered through a short silica column with 1:1 hexanes:EtOAc and the eluate was concentrated to yield pure product as a colorless oil (1.11 g, 61%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.31 (m, 2H), 4.66 and 4.48 (s, 1H), 3.69 and 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.21 (m, 1H), 2.94 (m, 1H), 2.69 (m, 1H), 1.96 (m, 1H), 1.81 (m, 1H), 1.19 (m, 1H), 1.01 - 0.84 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.6 and 155.2, 134.4 and 134.0, 130.6 and 130.0, 52.0 and 51.9, 49.3 and 48.9, 46.9 and 46.5, 40.7 and 40.5, 31.0 and 30.8, 30.0, 28.3 and 28.2, 11.2; LR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₁₁H₁₈NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 196.13, found 195.90.

5-Methoxybenzofuran-3(2H)-one (5)

Benzofuranone **5** was prepared from 4-methoxyphenol according to literature procedure⁶ and obtained as orange-tan crystals (yield 30 - 40%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.24 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 4.64 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 200.3, 169.5, 155.2, 128.1, 121.2, 114.7, 104.0, 75.6, 56.1; LR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₉H₉O₃+ [M+H]⁺ 165.06, found 164.99.

Ethyl 2-(5-methoxybenzofuran-3-yl)acetate (6a)

A solution of benzofuranone **5** (4.92 g, 30.00 mmol) and (carbethoxymethylene)triphenylphosphorane (11.50 g, 33.00 mmol) in toluene (100 mL) was refluxed for 110 h and then concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting material was triturated with 9:1 hexanes:EtOAc (210 mL) and filtered, and the remaining solids were washed with additional portions of 9:1 hexanes:EtOAc (3 × 90 mL). The combined filtrates were concentrated to give the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography (1:1 hexanes:CH₂Cl₂, 5 column volumes \rightarrow CH₂Cl₂, 3 column volumes \rightarrow 1:1 CH₂Cl₂:Et₂O, 1 column volume). Collected fractions were concentrated to provide product **6** as a thin, yellow-orange oil (5.68 g, 81%). The spectral characterization was in agreement with the previously reported literature data.⁷

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.66 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 2H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.8, 156.1, 150.4, 143.8, 128.3, 113.42, 113.39, 112.1, 102.3, 61.2, 56.1, 30.1, 14.4; LR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₁₃H₁₅O₄+ [M+H]⁺ 235.10, found 235.37.

2-(5-methoxybenzofuran-3-yl)acetic acid (6b)

Compound 6b was prepared using slightly modified published reaction conditions.⁸ A mixture of 4methoxyphenol (24.8 g, 200 mmol) and ethyl 4-chloroacetoacetate (32.64 mL, 240.00 mmol) was cooled in an ice bath and cold (~ 4 °C) 70% aqueous sulfuric acid was added (1 mL of acid per 1 mmol of phenol). Reaction mixture was further stirred for 1-3 days and quenched with ice and ice-cold water (final volume ~500 mL). The resulting beige suspension was further stirred for 1 h and was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 × 250 mL). Combined dark brown extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered through a plug of silica, washing the plug with more CH₂Cl₂, until all product eluted (solvent was recycled by evaporation and reused for further elution). Collected fractions were concentrated to yield the coumarin intermediate as a bright yellow solid (35.6 g). The crude intermediate was then suspended in 1M NaOH (500 mL) and heated to reflux for 2 h. After cooling to room temperature pH of reaction mixture was adjusted to ~6 using concentrated (36-38%) aq. hydrochloric acid (~20 mL) and was back adjusted to 7 using addition of solid NaHCO₃. Neutral aqueous solution was washed with diethyl ether (2 × 150 mL, removal of unreacted phenol). Aqueous mixture was further acidified to pH ~2 using concentrated (36-38%) aq. hydrochloric acid and the formed suspension was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (4 × 250 mL, product dissolves slowly initially). Combined extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to yield the crude acid **6b** (~90-95% pure) as a beige solid (25.00 g, 58%). The crude material was used as is for the next step. The spectral characterization was in agreement with the previously reported literature data.8

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.73 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.73 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 2H). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 12.42 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.67 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 2H); LR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₁₁H₁₀O_{4⁻</sup> [M-H]⁻ 205.1, found 205.4.}

2-(5-Methoxybenzofuran-3-yl)ethanol (7)

From **6a**: To a suspension of LiAlH₄ (2.36 g, 62.09 mmol) in THF (60 mL) at room temperature was carefully added a solution of the ester **6a** (5.60 g, 23.88 mmol) in THF (20 mL), and the mixture was refluxed for 30 min. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was quenched by the successive addition of H₂O (2.4 mL), 15% aqueous NaOH (2.4 mL), and H₂O again (7.2 mL). The resulting mixture was stirred vigorously until the aluminum salts were white and loose and then filtered, washing the filter cake with Et₂O (3 × 60). The combined filtrate and washings were concentrated to yield the product **7** directly as a yellow oil (4.50 g, 98%). The spectral characterization was in agreement with the previously reported literature data.⁹

From **6b**: Suspension of LiAlH₄ (2.85 g, 75.0 mmol) in THF (30.0 mL) was cooled using water/ice-bath and the solution of crude (~90-95% pure) acid **6b** (6.51 g, ~30.00 mmol) in THF (30.0 mL) was added in small portions via canula. Reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred until no more starting material was detected by TLC (<1 h). The reaction mixture was again cooled using water/ice-bath before adding diethyl ether (not anhydrous, 60 mL) and carefully quenching it by the successive addition of H₂O (2.9 mL), 15% aqueous NaOH (2.9 mL), and H₂O again (8.7 mL). The resulting mixture was stirred vigorously until the aluminum salts were pale and loose, suspension was dried by addition of MgSO₄ and filtered, washing the filter cake with diethyl ether until no more product eluted. The combined filtrate and washings were concentrated to yield the product **7** directly as a yellow oil (5.23 g, 90%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.91 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.74 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.0, 150.5, 143.2, 128.7, 117.0, 113.2, 112.1, 102.3, 61.9, 56.1, 27.2; LR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₁₁H₁₃O₃⁺ [M+H]⁺ 193.09, found 193.35.

3-(2-Bromoethyl)-5-methoxybenzofuran (8)

To a solution of the alcohol **7** (2.18 g, 11.34 mmol) and carbon tetrabromide (5.64 g, 17.01 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (anhydrous, 23 mL) at room temperature was carefully added triphenylphosphine (4.46 g, 17.01 mmol) and the resulting dark orange-brown mixture was left to stir for 20 min. The reaction mixture was filtered through a silica plug to remove baseline impurities, washing the plug with additional CH₂Cl₂ until TLC indicated that all product was eluted. The filtrate was then concentrated and purified by column chromatography (hexanes, 2 column volumes \rightarrow 20:1 hexanes:Et₂O, 2 column volumes \rightarrow 10:1 hexanes:Et₂O, 2 column volumes) to provide a pale-yellow oil that slowly crystallized to a white solid (2.81 g, 97%). The spectral characterization was in agreement with the previously reported literature data.¹⁰

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (s, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.64 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 3.23 (td, J = 7.4, 0.7 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.1, 150.4, 143.1, 128.1, 117.8, 113.2, 112.3, 101.9, 56.2, 31.3, 27.7; LR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₁₁H₁₂BrO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 255.00 and 257.00, found 255.29 and 257.29.

General Procedure for Preparation of N-benzofuranylethylisoquinuclidines

To a solution of a carbamate protected isoquinuclidine **4** (1 equivalent) in CH_2Cl_2 (anhydrous, 0.125 M, based on 2) at 0 °C was added iodotrimethylsilane (4 equivalents), and the resulting mixture was stirred for 10 min at 0 °C and then at room temperature until TLC indicated that no **4** remained (typically ~1 h). The reaction mixture was then quenched with MeOH (3.0 mL per mmol of **4**) and concentrated to yield the deprotected isoquinuclidine hydroiodide salt in quantitative yield. To this material was added 3-(2-bromoethyl)-5-methoxybenzofuran **8** (1 equivalent) and NaHCO₃ (4 equivalents), followed by anhydrous CH₃CN (0.208 M, based on **4**), and the resulting mixture was refluxed until TLC indicated the disappearance of the bromide (typically >24 h). The reaction was then diluted with water, made strongly basic with aqueous NaOH, and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3×). The combined organics were washed with water, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated to provide the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography with an appropriate solvent mixture (as described below for each compound).

exo-7-Ethyl-2-(2-(5-methoxybenzofuran-3-yl)ethyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-5-ene (9a)

The product **9a** was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography (20:1 hexanes: Et_2O , 3 column volumes \rightarrow 20:1 hexanes: Et_2O + 2% Et_3N , 5 column volumes) to provide a pale-yellow oil (288 mg, 74%).

Note (multigram scale preparation) reaction was scaled up to 30 mmol of starting materials **8** and **4a** to yield **9a** (7.02g, 75%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.46 (s, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.39 – 6.27 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.23 (dt, *J* = 5.3, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.09 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.84 – 2.63 (m, 3H), 2.57 – 2.48 (m, 1H), 2.48 – 2.40 (m, 1H), 1.94 (dt, *J* = 9.1, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 1.63 –

1.42 (m, 3H), 1.35 – 1.24 (m, 1H), 0.95 – 0.90 (m, 1H), 0.88 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.8, 150.3, 142.6, 133.1, 132.8, 129.2, 119.2, 112.6, 111.8, 102.5, 57.8, 56.3, 56.3, 56.2, 41.3, 31.8, 29.9, 27.4, 23.1, 12.6; HR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₂₀H₂₆NO₂+ [M+H]+ 312.1964, found 312.1948.

endo-7-Ethyl-2-(2-(5-methoxybenzofuran-3-yl)ethyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-5-ene (9b)

The product **9b** was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography (gradient of 5, 10 to 15% of EtOAc in hexanes + 2% Et₃N) to provide a pale-yellow oil (582 mg, 75%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.42 - 6.35 (m, 1H), 6.17 - 6.10 (m, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.41 - 3.34 (m, 1H), 3.02 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.88 - 2.70 (m, 3H), 2.57 - 2.48 (m, 2H), 2.07 (dt, *J* = 9.6, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.05 - 1.98 (m, 1H), 1.78 (ddd, *J* = 12.2, 9.2, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 1.22 - 1.13 (m, 1H), 1.05 - 0.95 (m, 1H), 0.85 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 0.79 (ddt, *J* = 12.2, 5.1, 2.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.8, 150.3, 142.4, 133.7, 130.2, 129.0, 118.9, 112.7, 111.9, 102.4, 57.8, 57.4, 56.1, 54.5, 40.9, 31.6, 30.7, 28.8, 23.2, 11.8; HR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₂₀H₂₆NO₂+ [M+H]+ 312.1964, found 312.1955.

General Procedure for Preparation of Oxa-ibogaine Analogs by Ni(0)-catalyzed Cyclization

In a glovebox, a vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (0.20 equivalents) and 1,3- bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1,3dihydro-2*H*-imidazol-2-ylidene (IMes, 0.24 equivalents) followed by heptane (0.100 M, based on Ni(COD)₂), and the resulting black solution was stirred at room temperature for 15 min. To this mixture was then added a solution of the substrate **9** (1 equivalent) in heptane (0.333 M, based on **9**), and the reaction vessel was sealed with a Teflon lined solid cap, removed from the glovebox, and heated at 130 °C for 3 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was purified as described below for each compound. *Note, especially for larger synthetic scale using nonane/decane as the solvent is preferred to avoid over*

Note, especially for larger synthetic scale using nonane/decane as the solvent is preferred to avoid over pressurization of reaction vessel.

Oxa-ibogaine (10a)

Prepared according to the general procedure. The crude reaction mixture was purified directly by column chromatography (30:1 hexanes:EtOAc + 1% Et₃N) to yield the crude product as a pale-yellow oil. This material was further purified by preparative TLC (30:1 hexanes:EtOAc + 1% Et₃N) to provide the pure product **10a** as a pale-brown oil (118 mg, 76%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.24 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.45 – 3.36 (m, 1H), 3.26 – 3.11 (m, 3H), 3.02 – 2.91 (m, 2H), 2.82 – 2.78 (m, 1H), 2.53 – 2.44 (m, 1H), 2.08 – 2.00 (m, 1H), 1.88 – 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.67 – 1.61 (m, 1H), 1.59 – 1.42 (m, 3H), 1.24 – 1.15 (m, 1H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.1, 155.8, 148.6, 131.4, 111.8, 111.4, 111.0, 101.9, 57.2, 56.2, 53.3, 49.7, 41.5, 41.2, 33.1, 32.3, 27.5, 26.5, 19.5, 11.9; HR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₂₀H₂₆NO₂+ [M+H]+ 312.1964, found 312.1956.

Epi-oxa-ibogaine (10b)

Prepared according to the general procedure. The crude reaction mixture was purified directly by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc + 2% Et₃N, 4 column volumes \rightarrow 8:2 hexanes:EtOAc + 2% Et₃N, 3 column volumes) to yield the crude product as a yellow-orange oil. This material was further purified by preparative TLC (Et₂O + 1% Et₃N) to provide the pure product **10b** as a nearly colorless oil that slowly crystallized to a white solid (27.0 mg, 28%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.43 (ddd, *J* = 13.7, 4.7, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (m, 3H), 3.06 (qt, *J* = 9.5, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 2.86 (t, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (dt, *J* = 16.3, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 2.09 – 1.90 (m, 3H), 1.92 – 1.84 (m, 1H), 1.66 – 1.56 (m, 1H), 1.45 – 1.31 (m, 2H), 1.18 – 1.05 (m, 1H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.7, 155.9, 148.4, 131.3, 112.3, 111.5, 111.0, 101.8, 56.5, 56.2, 53.5, 49.1, 42.0, 34.5, 34.1, 31.7, 28.5, 26.4, 19.0, 12.3; HR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₂₀H₂₆NO₂+ [M+H]⁺ 312.1964, found 312.1983.

General Procedure for Preparation of Oxa-noribogaine Analogs by Demethylation

To a solution of the oxa-ibogaine **10** (1 equivalent) in CH_2Cl_2 (0.125 M, based on **10**) at 0 °C was added aluminum chloride (6 equivalents) followed by ethanethiol (18 equivalents), and the resulting mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred until TLC indicated the complete consumption of starting material (typically <1.5 h). The reaction was then quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (100 mL per mmol of **10**) and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (4 × to 6 ×, until no further extraction detected by TLC). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to provide the crude product. This material was purified by column chromatography with an appropriate solvent mixture (as described below for each compound).

rac-oxa-noribogaine (Oxa-noriboga, 11a)

The product **11a** was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography (1:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to provide a white, foamy solid (24.3 mg, 82%).

Note (multigram scale preparation starting from **9a**): In glovebox Ni(COD)₂ (0.94 g, 3.42 mmol) and IMes (1.25 g, 4.10 mmol) were balanced into three 40 mL oven-dried scintillation vials (divided in equal portions), sealed with cap with teflon septa and electrical (vinyl) tape and removed from glove box. Decane (11.4 mL per vial) was added into each vial and the black mixture was vigorously stirred for ~15 min (sonication was used to improve initial dissolution of components). Starting material **9** (5.32 g, 17.08 mmol) was dissolved in decane under Argon and divided equally among the reaction vials washing the original container 2 times with fresh solvent (total volume 51.6 mL decane, solution divided equally per vial). Dark mixture was heated to 130°C (135-140 °C vial heating block) and stirred vigorously. After 3 h, mixture was cooled to room temperature and directly purified by repeated column chromatography (30:1 hexanes:EtOAc + 1% Et₃N). After first column crude material was dissolved in hot hexanes, colored insoluble impurities were filtered off and washed with hexanes. After second column chromatography slightly impure product (5.32 g) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂(71.2 mL) and cooled in ice-water bath. Aluminum chloride (6.83 g, 51.24 mmol) followed by ethanethiol (11.8 mL, 153.72 mmol) were added at 0 °C and the resulting mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred. After 3 h, reaction mixture was poured into a mixture of saturated solution of sodium bicarbonate (150 mL) and solution of potassium sodium tartrate (Rochelle salt, 2 eq. per AlCl₃,

28.9 g) in H₂O (150 mL) and the mixture was vigorously stirred and shaken until all aluminum salts dissolved. Aqueous phase was further extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (4 × 100 mL), combined extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄, desiccant was filtered, and solution was concentrated to a pink foamy solid. Crude material was purified by repeated column chromatography (gradient of 20 to 40% EtOAc in hexanes + 2% Et₃N). Slightly impure product was repeatedly dissolved in aqueous ethanol and concentrated to remove all triethylamine trapped as the partial phenolate salt. Material was then dissolved in methanol (~15 mL per 1 g of solid) and acidified by a dropwise addition of concentrated hydrochloric acid (12.1 M, 36-38%), until the solution gave strongly acidic response on pH paper. Solution was concentrated, suspended in acetonitrile, concentrated again and solid thoroughly dried. Crude hydrochloride salt was suspended in acetonitrile (~10 mL per 1 g of solid), suspension was briefly heated to reflux (colored impurities dissolve) and cooled to room temperature. Oxanoribogaine hydrochloride was collected by filtration, washed with acetonitrile (~5 mL per 1 g of solid) and diethyl ether and air dried. Material was further suspended in saturated sodium bicarbonate solution and repeatedly extracted with mixture of 9:1 CH₂Cl₂:isopropanol, until no further extraction was detected by TLC. Combined extracts were dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated. To remove traces of solvents used, the material was dissolved in aqueous ethanol and concentrated. The obtained foamy solid material was crushed to release trapped solvent residue and dried overnight at 45 °C under high vacuum. Oxanoribogaine was obtained as an off-white (pale grey) amorphous solid (3.49 g, 67% over two steps), yield was corrected for 1.9% of ethanol remaining in the material even after extensive drying.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.19 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (br, 1H), 3.45 – 3.33 (m, 1H), 3.21 – 3.09 (m, 3H), 3.00 – 2.91 (m, 2H), 2.81 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.48 – 2.36 (m, 1H), 2.09 – 1.99 (m, 1H), 1.89 – 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.64 (dq, J = 13.3, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 1.61 – 1.41 (m, 3H), 1.21 (ddt, J = 12.7, 6.5, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.1, 151.4, 148.6, 131.8, 111.64, 111.55, 110.9, 104.2, 57.3, 53.3, 49.6, 41.6, 41.1, 33.0, 32.2, 27.5, 26.4, 19.4, 12.0; HR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₁₉H₂₄NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 298.1807, found 298.1818.

rac-epi-oxa-noribogaine (Epi-oxa, 11b)

The product **11b** was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography (20:1 CH₂Cl₂:MeOH, 4 column volumes \rightarrow 20:1 acetone:MeOH, 4 column volumes) to provide a white, foamy solid (13.7 mg, 92%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.19 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (br s, 1H), 3.40 (ddd, J = 14.2, 4.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.34 – 3.26 (m, 2H), 3.20 – 3.08 (m, 2H), 3.02 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (s, 1H), 2.43 (dt, J = 16.6, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 2.08 – 1.95 (m, 3H), 1.90 (s, 1H), 1.65 – 1.58 (m, 1H), 1.44 – 1.33 (m, 2H), 1.15 – 1.09 (m, 1H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.5, 152.1, 148.2, 131.4, 112.11, 112.06, 111.0, 104.2, 56.5, 53.6, 49.0, 41.2, 34.0, 33.9, 31.4, 28.4, 26.1, 18.8, 12.3.; HR-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₁₉H₂₄NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 298.1807, found 298.1818.

General Procedure for Preparation of Oxa-ibogaine Analogs by lithiation/iodination and reductive Heck sequence.

Uncyclized intermediate 9a/9b (1 equivalent) was dissolved in THF (0.5 M based on 9a/9b) under argon atmosphere and the solution was cooled to -40°C in acetone/dry ice bath. Solution of n-butyl lithium in hexanes (2.5 M, 2 equivalents) was added dropwise over 5 - 10 min and the resulting orange solution was stirred 1 h at -40°C. Solution of iodine (1.5 - 1.7 equivalents) in THF (same volume as for 9a/9b) was added (I2 is consumed during addition, but persistent coloration remains after the entire amount is added) and after stirring for 10 min at -40°C the cooling bath was removed, and reaction allowed to warm to room temperature. After stirring at room temperature for 1 h, reaction was guenched with addition of saturated Na₂S₂O₃ solution (1 mL per 1 mmol of **9a/9b**) and the resulting mixture was vigorously stirred until excess iodine was consumed (org. phase discolored to pale orange-brown). Mixture was then poured into water, extracted with diethyl ether (3×), combined extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. Crude material (from 9a pale orange, from 9b orange-brown oil, can solidify over time) was used for next step without further purification. Largest scale tested for 9a (5.05 mmol, 1.57 g) and 9b (2.79 mmol, 0.87 g). Note: Despite using excess n-BuLi and l_2 the reaction never reached full conversion, even when l_2 was added in excess to n-BuLi. Typically, 3 – 10% of unreacted starting material remains and is difficult to separate. No improvement in conversion was observed by increasing the reaction temperature after addition of n-BuLi to 0°C or using freshly opened commercially available anhydrous THF and n-BuLi solution.

Crude iodo-intermediate (1 eq.), sodium formate (4 eq., powdered and dried overnight on high-vacuum) and bis[tri(o-tolyl)phosphine]palladium(II) chloride (1 mol%, 0.01 eq.) were combined in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.25 M based on iodo-intermediate) under argon atmosphere. Closed reaction vessel was placed in a pre-heated (130 °C) heating adapter. Upon reaching reaction temperature (2 to 10 min, depending on volume and reaction vessel) the mixture (pale orange for **10a** or orange-brown for **10b**) turned dark brown/black. Reaction was further stirred at 130 °C for 5 - 60 min. After complete conversion was observed, reaction was cooled to room temperature and the dark mixture was poured to water (~5× volume of DMSO) and extracted with diethyl ether (3-4×, until no further extraction was observed). Combined extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. Obtained crude material was purified as indicated for each derivative.

Note: In the course of reaction scale-up, it was observed that starting material is consumed upon reaching reaction temperature (exact time depends on reaction volume and vessel used). Subsequently, reaction time was reduced to 5 minutes after color change was observed due to precipitation of reduced palladium. Two repeats for oxa-ibogaine **10a** suggest possible improvement in yield by shortening the reaction time or lowering the reaction temperature. Palladium loading <1 mol% was not tested at this time.

Oxa-ibogaine (10a)

Prepared according to the general procedure, reaction was repeated 3 times on (1.88, 2.0 and 5.05 mmol scale). The crude material after cyclization was purified by column chromatography (30:1 hexanes:EtOAc + 1% Et₃N) to yield the product as an off white solid. The slightly impure material, typically (>95% purity) was used for next step as is, yield of first repeat over two steps (0.47 g, 80%), reaction time 60 min. For second (0.52 g 86%) and third repeat (1.42 g, 90%), reactions were terminated 5 minutes after reduction of palladium was observed, total reaction time <15 minutes. Yields are corrected for presence of uncyclized material **9a** that can be removed after transformation to **11a**, as indicated in the multigram scale Ni-based synthesis note.

Spectral characterization of **10a** is identical to the material prepared by Ni mediated cyclization reaction.

Epi-oxa-ibogaine (10b)

Prepared according to the general procedure, reaction was repeated 3 times on (1.0, 1.03, and 6.74 mmol scale). The crude material after cyclization was purified by column chromatography (gradient of 15 to 20% EtOAc in hexanes + 2% Et₃N) to yield the product as an off white solid. Yields over two steps (81%, 252 mg) and (250 mg, 78%). Third repeat (1.32 g, 63%), initial palladium catalyst was reduced upon reaching reaction temperature, but no conversion of iodo-intermediate was detected. Full conversion was achieved by the addition of extra 4 equiv. HCOONa and 1 mol% of Pd[P(o-tolyl)₃]₂Cl₂ to the same reaction mixture and continued heating for 15 min. During purification a mixed fraction containing 83:17 **9b:10b** was also recovered (0.37 g, 19%). Deviation from previous repeats were higher reaction scale, different batch of solvent and reagents (SM, HCOONa and Pd cat. were pre-dried for 1 h before addition of solvent at 40°C instead of only HCOONa overnight at room temperature).

Spectral characterization of 10b is identical to the material prepared by Ni mediated cyclization reaction.

Synthesis Comments

The lithiation/iodination and reductive Heck sequence represents a superior alternative for multigram synthesis of oxa-iboga compounds compared to alternative, previously published methodologies: Nicatalyzed C-H activation (catalyst and ligand are oxygen sensitive, require high loading and provide modest yields for certain substrates)¹¹ or electrophilic palladation-cyclization (low to modest yields – substrate dependent, stoichiometric Pd reagent required).^{11,12} The development of the reductive Heck sequence for oxa-iboga compounds was inspired by conditions applied for synthesis of indole-based iboga analogs.¹³

X-Ray structure determination of Oxa-ibogaine 10a

X-Ray suitable crystals were prepared by dissolving racemic oxa-ibogaine in hot acetonitrile and the resulting solution was allowed to cool to room temperature and slowly concentrate by evaporation.

Property	Oxa-ibogaine 10a	Property	Oxa-ibogaine 10a
Formula	C20H25NO2	Radiation type	ΜοΚ α
Formula Weight	311.41	Wavelength (λ, Å)	0.71073
$D_{calc.}/g\cdot cm^{-3}$	1.272	θ min, deg.	2.33
Mu/mm ⁻¹	0.081	θ max, deg.	30.55
Color	colorless	Measured Refl.	25983
Shape	block	Independent Refl.	4982
Size/mm ³	0.43×0.11×0.07	Reflections with $I > 2(I)$	3804
Space Group	P21/n	R _{int}	0.0432
Crystal System	Monoclinic	Parameters	210
a/Å	10.9618(18)	Restraints	0
b/Å	8.4800(14)	Density Max	0.434
c/Å	17.660(3)	Density Min	-0.211
α/°	90	GoF	1.045
β/°	97.742(3)	wR2 (all data)	0.1217
γ∕°	90	wR2	0.1100
V/Å ³	1626.6(5)	R1 (all data)	0.0625
Ζ	4	R1	0.0441
Temperature (K)	150(2)		

Appendix 1. High Resolution Mass Spectra

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of a crude, unstable intermediate **1**.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of a mixture of **2a** and **2b** prior to epimerization.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI₃) spectrum of a mixture of 2a and 2b after epimerization.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound 3b.

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¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of exo-ethyl isoquinuclidine hydroiodide intermediate.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound 6a.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of crude compound **6b**.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound **7**.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound 8.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound 9a.

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound 9b.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) magnified and assigned spectrum of compound **10a**. Blank regions of spectra were omitted for clarity.

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound **10a.** Expansions included for tightly clustered peaks.

¹H-¹³C HSQC multiplicity edited NMR (500/126 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound **10a.**

¹H-¹³C HMBC NMR (500/126 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound **10a**, one-bond correlations are suppressed.

¹H-¹H NOESY NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound **10a.**

Isoquinuclidine portion of the NOESY spectrum of compound 10a.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound **10b.**

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) magnified and assigned spectrum of compound **10b**. Blank regions of spectra were omitted for clarity.

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound **10b**. Expansions included for tightly clustered peaks.

¹H-¹³C HSQC multiplicity edited NMR (500/126 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound **10b.**

¹H-¹³C HMBC NMR (500/126 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound **10b**, one-bond correlations are suppressed.

¹H-¹H NOESY NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound **10b.**

Isoquinuclidine portion of the NOESY spectrum of compound **10b.**

l

0

0.0 0.5

1.0

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound **11a**, multigram scale preparation. Residual solvent (EtOH) remains trapped in solid material even after extensive drying at elevated temperature (45 °C) in vacuum.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of compound **11b.**

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI₃) spectrum of crude 2-iodo-benzofuran-*exo*-ethyl-isoquinuclidine intermediate.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of crude 2-iodo-benzofuran-endo-ethyl-isoquinuclidine intermediate.

Stacked ¹H NMR spectra of oxa-ibogaine **10a** prepared using a) Nickel mediated C-H coupling or b) reductive Heck procedure.

Stacked ¹H NMR spectra of epi-oxa-ibogaine **10b** prepared using a) Nickel mediated C-H coupling or b) reductive Heck procedure.

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