Supporting Information

'Carba'-Analogues of Fentanyl are Opioid Receptor Agonists

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<u>Stereochemical assignment of the two isomers of compound 1 by homonuclear decoupling NMR experiments</u>

Figure 1. ¹H NMR spectra of compound **1** recorded in DMSO- d_6 (0.8-4.8 ppm region). Top panel: isomer 1, bottom panel: isomer 2.

Figure 2. NOESY/EXSY spectra of compound **1** in DMSO- d_6 . Top panel: isomer 1, bottom panel: isomer 2. At 20° C, each isomer has two rotamers due to slow rotation of the N-CO bond.

Figure 3. Expansion of the ¹H NMR spectrum high-lighting the 1-H proton for isomer 1 (top panel) and isomer 2 (bottom panel). Clearly, the 1-H is an axial proton for both isomers.

Figures 4a and 4b. ¹H homonuclear decoupling experiments performed with isomer 1 in DMSO- d_6 . Irradiation of the 2-,6-protons confirms that 1-H is an axial proton. 4-H could not be identified because it is overlapped with the 3- and 5-protons.

Figures 5a and 5b. ¹H homonuclear decoupling experiments performed with isomer 2 in DMDO- d_6 . Irradiation of the 2-,6-protons confirms that 1-H is an axial proton. Irradiation of the 3-5-protons confirms that 4-H is an axial proton. Therefore isomer 2 is the *trans* isomer.

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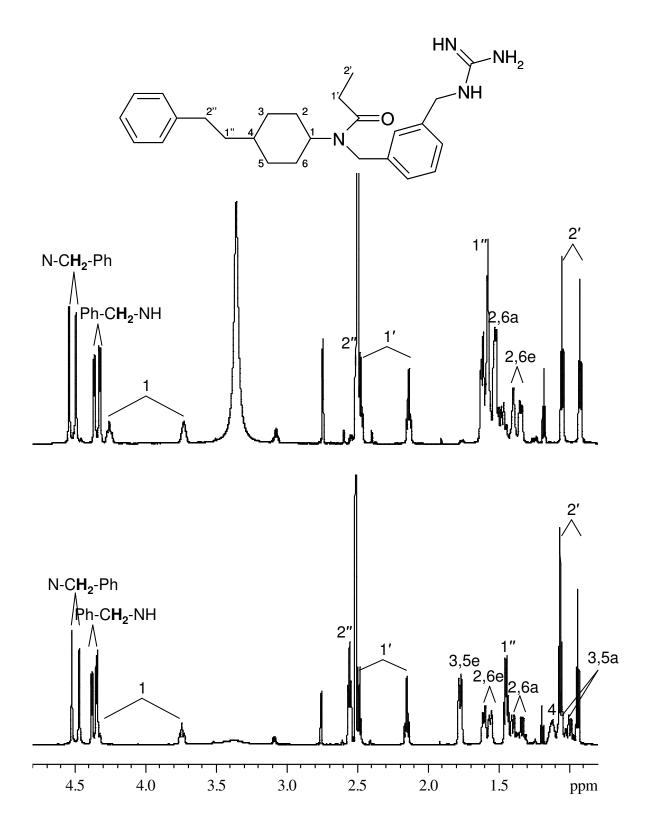
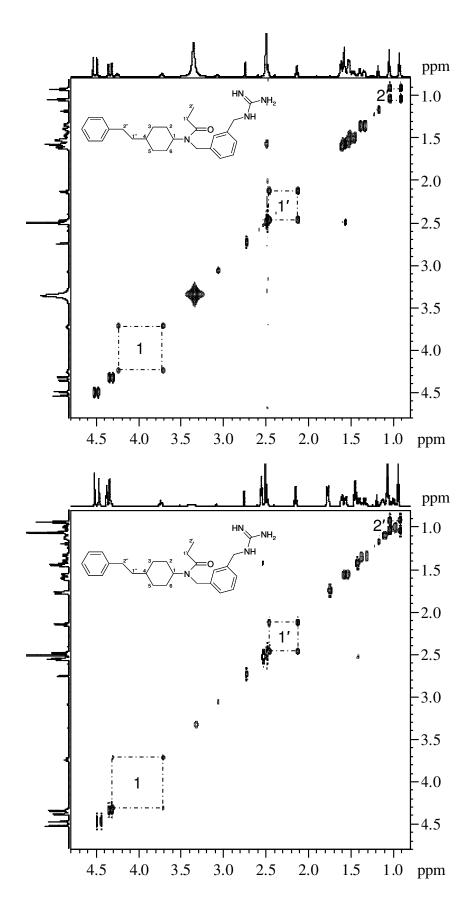
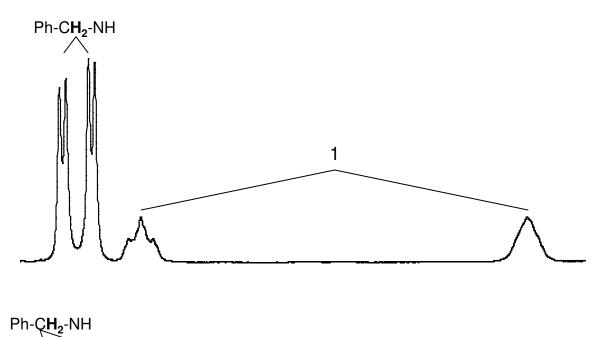


Figure 2





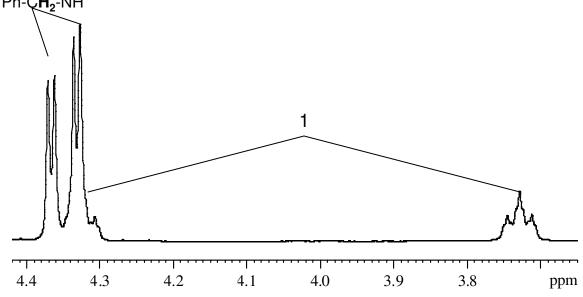


Figure 4a

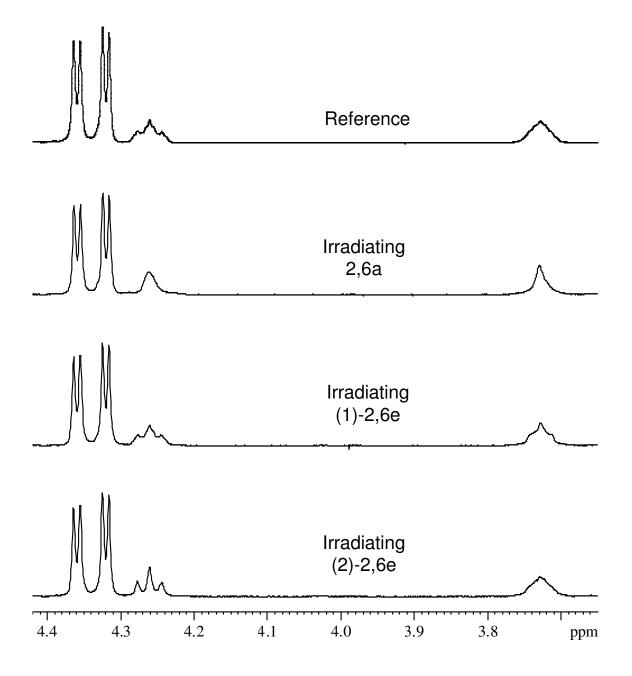


Figure 4b

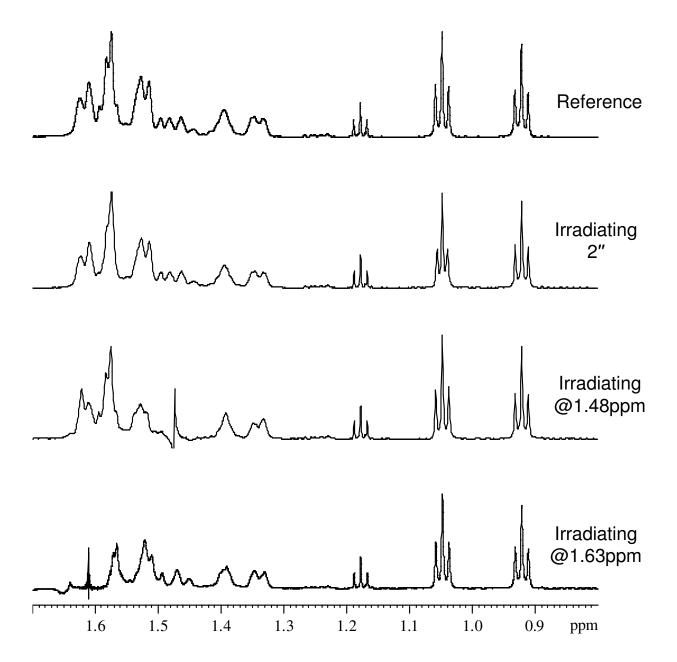


Figure 5a

