# An Ugi Reaction Incorporating a Redox-Neutral Amine C–H Functionalization Step

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## **Supporting Information**

General Information: Reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and were purified by distillation or recrystallization prior to use unless stated otherwise. Cyclohexyl isocyanide was used as received. Benzyl isocyanide<sup>1</sup> and isocyanobenzene<sup>2</sup> were prepared following literature procedures. Purification of reaction products was carried out by flash column chromatography using Sorbent Technologies Standard Grade silica gel (60 Å, 230-400 mesh). Analytical thin layer chromatography was performed on EM Reagent 0.25 mm silica gel 60  $F_{254}$  plates. Visualization was accomplished with UV light and Dragendorff-Munier stains, followed by heating. Melting points were recorded on a Thomas Hoover capillary melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. Infrared spectra were recorded on an ATI Mattson Genesis Series FT-Infrared spectrophotometer. Proton nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR) were recorded on a Varian VNMRS-500 MHz. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm using the solvent as an internal standard (CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 7.26 ppm). Data are reported as app = apparent, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet, comp = complex, br = broad, coupling constant(s) in Hz. Proton-decoupled carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (<sup>13</sup>C-NMR) spectra were recorded on a Varian VNMRS-500 MHz. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm using the solvent as an internal standard (CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 77.0 ppm). Mass spectra were recorded on a Finnigan LCQ-DUO mass spectrometer.

Table S1: Additional optimization data for 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline.<sup>a</sup>

NC + $()$ NH + $()$ NH + $()$ O + $()$ O				
Entry	Molarity (M)	Х	Time (h)	Yield (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	0.25	-	2	65
2	0.25	10	2	61
3	0.5	-	2	54
4	0.5	10	2	50
5	0.1	-	3	58
6	0.1	10	3	69
7	0.1	5	3	65
8	0.1	15	3	64
9 <sup>c</sup>	0.1	10	3	27

<sup>a</sup>.Reactions were performed on a 0.5 mmol scale. All substrates were mixed directly. <sup>b</sup>.Isolated yields. <sup>c</sup>.With 2 equiv of 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline.

#### General procedure A for the redox-neutral α-amidation:

To a solution of 9*H*-fluoren-9-one (180 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv) in toluene (2 mL, 0.25 M) was added the pyrrolidine (0.21 mL, 2.5 mmol, 5 equiv), isocyanide (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and acetic acid (0.14 mL, 2.5 mmol, 5 equiv). The resulting mixture was heated at reflux until the isocyanide was consumed as indicated by TLC. The reaction mixture was then allowed to cool to room temperature, diluted with 5 mL EtOAc, and washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (3 x 10 mL). The combined aqueous layers were extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (20 mL) and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue purified by silica gel chromatography.

## General procedure B for the redox-neutral α-amidation:

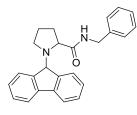
To a solution of the aldehyde (1 mmol, 2 equiv) in toluene (5 mL, 0.1 M) was added the amine (2.5 mmol, 5 equiv), isocyanide (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), acetic acid (0.14 mL, 2.5 mmol, 5 equiv) and distilled water (90  $\mu$ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv). The resulting mixture was heated at reflux until

the isocyanide was consumed as indicated by TLC. The reaction mixture was then allowed to cool to room temperature, diluted with 5 mL EtOAc, and washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (3 x 10 mL). The combined aqueous layers were extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (20 mL) and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue purified by silica gel chromatography.

*N*-cyclohexyl-1-(*9H*-fluoren-9-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxamide 1a: Following the general procedure A, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 9*H*-fluoren-9-one and pyrrolidine were heated at reflux for 18 h. Product **1a** was obtained as a yellow solid in 89% yield (160 mg), ( $R_f = 0.28$  in hexane/EtOAc 80:20 v/v); mp = 113–115 °C; IR (KBr) 3310, 2931, 2848, 1637, 1522, 1449, 1302, 1154, 1127, 741, 731, 624; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.65 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz,

1H), 7.58–7.55 (comp, 2H), 7.50–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.44–7.40 (m, 1H), 7.30–7.20 (comp, 3H), 7.17–7.12 (m, 1H), 4.88 (s, 1H), 3.89 (dd, J = 9.7, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.77–3.68 (m, 1H), 2.60–2.55 (m, 1H), 2.25–2.18 (m, 1H), 2.12–2.02 (m, 1H), 1.93–1.83 (comp, 3H), 1.71–1.61 (comp, 2H), 1.59–1.47 (comp, 3H), 1.38–1.27 (comp, 2H), 1.24–1.10 (comp, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.0, 144.8, 143.8, 141.6, 140.7, 128.62, 128.61, 127.7, 127.5, 126.0, 124.7, 120.3, 120.2, 66.0, 65.3, 48.2, 47.8, 33.7, 33.6, 31.8, 25.8, 25.2, 25.1, 24.7; m/z (ESI–MS) 361.0 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

*N*-benzyl-1-(9*H*-fluoren-9-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxamide 1b: Following the general



procedure A, benzyl isocyanide, 9*H*-fluoren-9-one and pyrrolidine were heated at reflux for 20 h. Product **1b** was obtained as a yellow solid in 65% yield (119 mg), ( $R_f = 0.26$  in hexane/EtOAc 80:20 v/v); mp = 119–120 °C; IR (KBr) 3351, 3028, 2933, 2877, 1649, 1518, 1450, 1359, 1298, 1201, 1126, 754, 733, 620, 478; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$ 8.14–8.08 (m, 1H), 7.70–7.65 (comp, 2H), 7.58–7.54 (m, 1H), 7.41–7.16

(comp, 10H), 5.03 (s, 1H), 4.59 (dd, J = 14.7, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (dd, J = 14.7, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (dd, J = 9.8, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.70–2.65 (m, 1H), 2.40–2.33 (m, 1H), 2.29–2.17 (m, 1H), 2.10–2.03 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  175.1, 144.5, 143.7, 141.6, 140.6, 138.6, 129.1, 128.7, 128.6, 127.9, 127.8, 127.6, 127.5, 125.8, 124.9, 120.3, 120.1, 66.1, 65.3, 48.3, 43.5, 31.8, 24.9; m/z (ESI–MS) 369.4 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>.

**1-(9***H***-fluoren-9-yl)-***N***-phenylpyrrolidine-2-carboxamide 1c:** Following the general procedure A, isocyanobenzene, 9*H*-fluoren-9-one and pyrrolidine were heated at reflux for 19 h. Product 1c was obtained as a yellow solid in 29% yield (52 mg), ( $R_f = 0.55$  in hexane/EtOAc 80:20 v/v); mp = 152–154 °C; IR (KBr) 3284, 2964, 2839, 1681, 1601, 1518, 1442, 1311, 1258, 1080, 1025, 744, 500; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  9.81 (s, 1H), 7.65–7.60

(comp, 3H), 7.59–7.54 (comp, 2H), 7.36–7.28 (comp, 5H), 7.22–7.16 (comp, 2H), 7.10–7.05 (m, 1H), 5.04 (s, 1H), 4.04 (dd, *J* = 9.8, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.77–2.72 (m, 1H), 2.39–2.32 (m, 1H), 2.22–

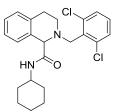
2.13 (m, 1H), 2.10–2.03 (m, 1H), 1.67–1.61 (comp, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.3, 144.4, 143.4, 141.7, 140.8, 138.0, 129.4, 128.82, 128.81, 127.8, 127.6, 125.8, 124.8, 124.4, 120.4, 120.3, 119.5, 66.2, 65.8, 48.5, 31.9, 24.9.; *m*/*z* (ESI–MS) 355.4 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>.

*N*-cyclohexyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethylbenzyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxamide 1d: Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, mesitaldehyde and pyrrolidine were heated at reflux for 12 h. Product 1d was obtained as a white solid in 68% yield (112 mg), ( $R_f = 0.18$  in hexane/EtOAc 80:20 v/v); mp = 113–115 °C; IR (KBr) 3324, 2937, 2851, 2797, 1648, 1525, 1450, 1318, 1173, 1150, 1113, 885, 849, 668; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  6.90 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (s, 2H), 3.74 (d, *J* = 12.9 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (d, *J* = 12.9 Hz, 1H), 3.56–3.47 (m, 1H), 3.16 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.99–2.93 (m, 1H), 2.56–2.46 (m, 1H), 2.36 (s, 6H), 2.28–2.18 (comp, 4H), 1.92–1.84 (m, 1H), 1.81–1.70 (comp, 2H), 1.68–1.52 (comp, 5H), 1.35–1.20 (comp, 2H), 1.15–0.90 (comp, 2H), 0.82–0.72 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.1, 137.3, 136.8, 132.3, 129.5, 68.3, 54.9, 53.7, 47.6, 33.4, 32.7, 31.6, 25.8, 25.11, 25.10, 24.4, 21.0, 20.7; m/z (ESI–MS) 329.0 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

*N*-cyclohexyl-1-(2,6-dichlorobenzyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxamide 1e: Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 2,6-dichlorobenzaldehyde and pyrrolidine were heated at reflux for 12 h. Product 1e was obtained as a yellow solid in 60% yield (106 mg), ( $R_f = 0.24$  in hexane/EtOAc 80:20 v/v); mp = 108–109 °C; IR (KBr) 3310, 2934, 2844, 2364, 1641, 1521, 1451, 1293, 1153, 743, 728, 620; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.31 (d, J = 8.2

Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.22 (comp, 2H), 7.10 (dd, J = 8.5, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (d, J = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (d, J = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 3.55–3.45 (m, 1H), 3.31 (dd, J = 10.3, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.03–2.96 (m, 1H), 2.63 (ddd, J = 10.8, 9.0, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 2.22–2.12 (m, 1H), 1.93–1.86 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.67 (comp, 2H), 1.66–1.49 (comp, 5H), 1.30–1.17 (comp, 2H), 1.12–0.97 (comp, 2H), 0.91–0.81 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.7, 136.6, 134.2, 129.3, 128.8, 66.9, 54.7, 54.0, 47.6, 33.5, 32.9, 31.6, 25.8, 25.18, 25.16, 24.5; m/z (ESI–MS) (<sup>35</sup>Cl) 354.98 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>, (<sup>37</sup>Cl) 357.0 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>.

*N*-cyclohexyl-2-(2,6-dichlorobenzyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1f:

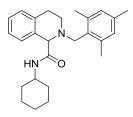


Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 2,6-dichlorobenzaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1f** was obtained as a yellow solid in 68% yield (142 mg), ( $R_f = 0.29$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 65–66 °C; IR (KBr) 3271, 2930, 2852, 1671, 1648, 1508, 1450, 1091, 745, 435; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.54–7.48 (comp, 2H), 7.35–7.31 (comp, 2H), 7.21–7.14

(comp, 3H), 7.09–7.05 (m , 1H), 4.17 (s, 1H), 4.13 (d, J = 12.7 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.64–3.55 (m, 1H), 3.05 (ddd, J = 12.3, 8.0, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.96 (ddd, J = 16.0, 8.0, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.92–2.84 (m, 1H), 2.67 (app dt, J = 16.0, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 1.81–1.70 (comp, 2H), 1.68–1.50 (comp, 3H), 1.35–1.22 (comp, 2H), 1.19–1.01 (comp, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 

170.9, 137.2, 134.2, 134.0, 132.2, 130.1, 129.6, 128.9, 128.4, 127.0, 126.0, 66.0, 53.4, 48.1, 46.3, 33.2, 32.8, 26.2, 25.8, 25.0, 24.9; m/z (ESI–MS) (<sup>35</sup>Cl) 417.72 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>, (<sup>37</sup>Cl) 419.9 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>.

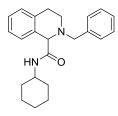
*N*-cyclohexyl-2-(2,4,6-trimethylbenzyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1g:



Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, mesitaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1g** was obtained as a white solid in 64% yield (124 mg), ( $R_f = 0.37$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 150–151 °C; IR (KBr) 3322, 2927, 2849, 1644, 1521, 1450, 1319, 1231, 1136, 1103, 1073, 1031, 852, 745, 433; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.48–7.45 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.16 (comp.

2H), 7.11–7.08 (m, 1H), 6.90–6.85 (comp,3H), 4.09 (s, 1H), 3.95 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.73–3.62 (comp, 2H), 3.07–3.00 (m, 1H), 2.89–2.81 (m, 1H), 2.77–2.66 (comp, 2H), 2.33 (s, 6H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.91–1.83 (m, 1H), 1.81–1.74 (m, 1H), 1.72–1.55 (comp, 3H), 1.41–1.25 (comp, 2H), 1.21–0.96 (comp, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.7, 138.2, 137.2, 134.2, 132.8, 131.2, 129.5, 128.9, 128.7, 127.0, 126.2, 67.8, 52.8, 48.2, 46.1, 33.1, 32.9, 27.2, 25.8, 25.0, 24.9, 21.1, 20.7; m/z (ESI–MS) 391.2 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

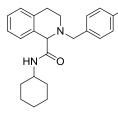
2-benzyl-N-cyclohexyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1h: Following the



general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, benzaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1h** was obtained as a white solid in 69% yield (120 mg), ( $R_f = 0.27$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 117–119 °C; IR (KBr) 3346, 3023, 2936, 2849, 2802, 1663, 1510, 1491, 1450, 1148, 753, 695, 607, 550; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.61–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.40–7.28 (comp, 5H), 7.19–7.15

(comp, 2H), 7.12–7.06 (comp, 2H), 4.18 (s, 1H), 3.95 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.79–3.69 (m, 1H), 3.46 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (ddd, J = 11.5, 5.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (ddd, J = 15.9, 10.6, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (app dt, J = 16.1, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (app td, J = 11.1, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 1.94–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.73 (m, 1H), 1.71–1.54 (comp, 3H), 1.40–1.26 (comp, 2H), 1.21–1.08 (comp, 2H), 1.06–0.97(m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.1, 138.1, 134.1, 132.8, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 127.6, 127.5, 127.0, 126.4, 68.7, 60.3, 48.0, 46.8, 33.2, 33.1, 29.0, 25.8, 25.0, 24.9; *m/z* (ESI–MS) 349.0 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>.

2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-*N*-cyclohexyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1i:



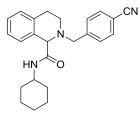
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Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 4-chlorobenzaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1i** was obtained as a white solid in 76% yield (145 mg), ( $R_f = 0.27$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 103–105 °C; IR (KBr) 3264, 3070, 2930, 2851, 1648, 1635, 1552, 1490, 1449, 1090, 1014, 741, 485; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.57–7.52 (m, 1H),

7.35-7.31 (comp, 2H), 7.29-7.24 (comp, 2H), 7.19-7.13 (comp, 2H), 7.10-7.05 (m, 1H), 6.95 (d,

J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (s, 1H), 3.89 (d, *J* = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 3.79–3.69 (m, 1H), 3.44 (d, *J* = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 3.06–3.00 (m, 1H), 2.91 (ddd, *J* = 15.9, 10.6, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (app dt, *J* = 16.2, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (app td, *J* = 11.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 1.91–1.84 (m, 1H), 1.78–1.71 (m, 1H), 1.70–1.53 (comp, 3H), 1.39–1.24 (comp, 2H), 1.18–1.07 (comp, 2H), 1.04–0.94 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.0, 136.5, 133.9, 133.4, 132.6, 130.2, 128.9, 128.8, 127.4, 127.1, 126.4, 68.7, 59.5, 48.0, 46.8, 33.3, 33.1, 29.0, 25.7, 25.0, 24.9; *m*/z (ESI–MS) (<sup>35</sup>Cl) 383.14 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>, (<sup>37</sup>Cl) 385.1 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>.

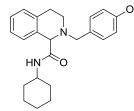
## 2-(4-cyanobenzyl)-*N*-cyclohexyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1j:



Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 4-formylbenzonitrile and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1j** was obtained as a yellow oil in 67% yield (125 mg), ( $R_f = 0.10$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); IR (KBr) 3373, 2931, 2854, 2228, 1656, 1510, 1451, 1386, 1311, 1151, 1093, 890, 815, 736; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.69–7.63 (comp, 2H), 7.52–7.48 (m, 1H),

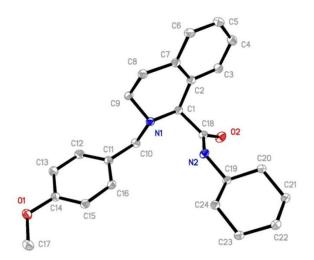
7.47–7.43 (comp, 2H), 7.20–7.13 (comp , 2H), 7.11–7.05 (m, 1H), 6.78 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H) 4.17 (s, 1H), 3.96 (d, J = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 3.76–3.66 (m, 1H), 3.55 (d, J = 14.4 Hz, 1H) , 3.02–2.90 (comp, 2H), 2.72 (app dt, J = 16.2, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (m, 1H), 1.85–1.78 (m, 1H), 1.77–1.71 (m, 1H), 1.68–1.52 (comp, 3H), 1.38–1.23 (comp, 2H), 1.16–1.03 (comp, 2H), 1.02–0.92 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.7, 143.7, 133.6, 132.6, 132.4, 129.3, 128.8, 127.3, 127.2, 126.6, 118.9, 111.6, 68.9, 59.7, 48.0, 47.2, 33.3, 33.0, 28.9, 25.7, 25.0, 24.8; m/z (ESI–MS) 374.6 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>.

#### *N*-cyclohexyl-2-(4-methoxybenzyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1k:



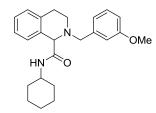
Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 4-methoxybenzaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1k** was obtained as a white solid in 68% yield (130 mg), ( $R_f = 0.20$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 133–135 °C; IR (KBr) 3368, 2931, 2856, 2834, 2354, 1670, 1611, 1508, 1443, 1247, 1173, 1080, 1032, 813, 752, 525; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.60–

7.55 (m, 1H), 7.26–7.22 (comp, 2H), 7.18–7.14 (comp, 2H), 7.13–7.05 (comp, 2H), 6.92–6.88 (comp, 2H), 4.15 (s, 1H), 3.88 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.78–3.70 (m, 1H), 3.40 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (ddd, J = 11.5, 5.0, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (ddd, J = 16.2, 10.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (app dt, J = 16.1, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (app td, J = 11.1, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 1.96–1.89 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.54 (comp, 4H), 1.41–1.26 (comp, 2H), 1.22–1.09 (comp, 2H), 1.06–0.96 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.2, 159.2, 134.2, 132.8, 130.2, 129.9, 128.7, 127.5, 127.0, 126.4, 114.1, 68.5, 59.6, 55.5, 48.0, 46.6, 33.3, 33.1, 29.0, 25.8, 25.1, 24.9; *m/z* (ESI–MS) 379.0 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>. X-ray quality crystals of **1k** were obtained from hexane/dichloromethane through slow diffusion at room temperature.



The requisite CIF has been submitted to the journal and deposited with the CCDC (deposition # 1441887).

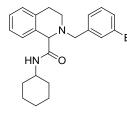
*N*-cyclohexyl-2-(3-methoxybenzyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 11:



Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 3-methoxybenzaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **11** was obtained as a white solid in 74% yield (140 mg), ( $R_f = 0.19$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 90–92 °C; IR (KBr) 3310, 3052, 3019, 2933, 2849, 1648, 1522, 1487, 1449, 1277, 1153, 1049, 778, 750, 688, 568, 435; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>,

500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.60–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.31–7.25 (m, 1H), 7.18–7.06 (comp, 4H), 6.95–6.88 (comp, 2H), 6.86–6.82 (m, 1H), 4.17 (s, 1H), 3.92 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.78–3.69 (m, 1H), 3.42 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (ddd, *J* = 11.5, 5.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (ddd, *J* = 15.9, 10.7, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (app dt, *J* = 16.2, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (app td, *J* = 11.1, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 1.93–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.72 (m, 1H), 1.70–1.53 (comp, 3H), 1.39–1.25 (comp, 2H), 1.20–1.07 (comp, 2H), 1.05–0.96 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.2, 160.0, 139.7, 134.1, 132.7, 129.8, 128.8, 127.4, 127.0, 126.4, 121.2, 114.6, 112.8, 68.7, 60.2, 55.4, 48.0, 46.8, 33.2, 33.1, 29.0, 25.8, 25.1, 24.9; *m/z* (ESI–MS) 379.4 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>.

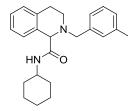
## 2-(3-bromobenzyl)-*N*-cyclohexyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1m:



Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 3-bromobenzaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1m** was obtained as a yellow solid in 74% yield (158 mg), ( $R_f = 0.21$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 83–85 °C; IR (KBr) 3262, 3063, 2928, 2851, 1648, 1560, 1445, 1244, 1088, 925, 882, 777, 740, 669, 425; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.57–7.53 (m, 1H),

7.52–7.50 (m, 1H), 7.42 (app dt, J = 7.3, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.20 (comp, 2H), 7.18–7.14 (comp, 2H), 7.10–7.06 (m, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (s, 1H), 3.89 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 3.78–3.69 (m, 1H), 3.44 (d, J = 13.8 Hz, 1H), 3.04 (ddd, J = 11.5, 5.1, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (ddd, J = 15.8, 10.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (app dt, J = 16.2, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (ddd, J = 11.4, 10.5, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 1.91–1.85 (m, 1H), 1.78–1.71 (m, 1H), 1.70–1.52 (comp, 3H), 1.40–1.25 (comp, 2H), 1.21–1.09 (comp, 2H), 1.06–0.96 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.9, 140.6, 133.9, 132.5, 131.8, 130.8, 130.3, 128.8, 127.49, 127.46, 127.1, 126.4, 123.0, 68.7, 59.6, 48.0, 47.0, 33.2, 33.0, 28.9, 25.7, 25.0, 24.8; m/z (ESI–MS) (<sup>79</sup>Br) 427.13 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>, (<sup>81</sup>Br) 429.1 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

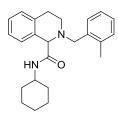
### *N*-cyclohexyl-2-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1n:



Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 3-methylbenzaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1n** was obtained as a white solid in 72% yield (130 mg), ( $R_f = 0.29$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 103–104 °C; IR (KBr) 3375, 2927, 2856, 1668, 1506, 1452, 1365, 1139, 1083, 789, 755, 748, 701, 571, 538, 440; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.52–7.48 (m,

1H), 7.19–7.14 (m, 1H), 7.11–6.97 (comp, 7H), 4.08 (s, 1H), 3.82 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 3.70– 3.61 (m, 1H), 3.32 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 2.98 (ddd, J = 11.5, 5.0, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (ddd, J = 15.8, 10.6, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (app dt, J = 16.1, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (app td, J = 11.1, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.87–1.80 (m, 1H), 1.71–1.44 (comp, 4H), 1.32–1.17 (comp, 2H), 1.14–1.00 (comp, 2H), 0.98–0.88 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.2, 138.4, 138.0, 134.2, 132.8, 129.8, 128.74, 128.67, 128.4, 127.5, 127.0, 126.4, 126.0, 68.6, 60.3, 48.0, 46.7, 33.2, 33.1, 29.0, 25.8, 25.0, 24.9, 21.8; m/z (ESI–MS) 363.2 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

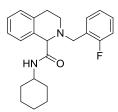
## *N*-cyclohexyl-2-(2-methylbenzyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 10:



Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 2-methylbenzaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **10** was obtained as a white solid in 64% yield (115 mg), ( $R_f = 0.34$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 101–102 °C; IR (KBr) 3273, 3065, 2931, 1635, 1551, 1496, 1451, 1229, 1085, 887, 741, 684; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.50–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.29–7.25 (m, 1H), 7.14–7.06

(comp, 5H), 7.02–6.99 (m, 1H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (s, 1H), 3.73 (d, J = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 3.63 – 3.55 (m, 1H), 3.50 (d, J = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (app dt, J = 11.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (ddd, J = 15.3, 9.8, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.66 (app dt, J = 16.2, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (ddd, J = 11.7, 9.8, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.71–1.61 (comp, 2H), 1.54–1.40 (comp, 3H), 1.25–1.14 (comp, 2H), 1.05–0.83 (comp, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.0, 136.9, 136.3, 134.1, 132.8, 130.7, 128.7, 128.6, 127.9, 127.5, 127.0, 126.4, 126.3, 69.0, 57.6, 48.0, 47.0, 33.0, 32.9, 28.5, 25.7, 24.9, 24.83, 19.7; m/z (ESI–MS) 363.2 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

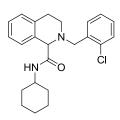
## *N*-cyclohexyl-2-(2-fluorobenzyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1p:



Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 2-fluorobenzaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3h. Product **1p** was obtained as a yellow oil in 82% yield (150 mg), ( $R_f = 0.39$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); IR (KBr) 3374, 3064, 2931, 2854, 2359, 1671, 1510, 1492, 1453, 1368, 1229, 1098, 1085, 1033, 890, 757; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.64–7.59 (m, 1H), 7.36–7.27 (comp, 2H),

7.22–7.18 (m, 1H), 7.17–7.11 (comp, 3H), 7.10–7.03 (comp, 2H), 4.17 (s, 1H), 3.97 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 3.76–3.66 (m, 1H), 3.54 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (ddd, J = 11.4, 4.9, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (ddd, J = 15.9, 10.8, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (app dt, J = 16.1, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (app td, J = 11.1, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 1.97–1.89 (m, 1H), 1.76–1.53 (comp, 4H), 1.39–1.23 (comp, 2H), 1.21–1.07 (comp, 2H), 1.06–0.97 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.9, 161.9 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 247.1$  Hz), 134.1, 132.8, 131.8 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 4.6$  Hz), 129.6 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 8.3$  Hz), 128.6, 127.5, 127.0, 126.4, 124.7 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 14.4$  Hz), 124.3 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 3.5$  Hz), 115.9 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 22.0$  Hz), 68.8, 54.4, 48.2, 46.8, 33.0, 32.9, 29.0, 25.8, 25.1, 25.0; m/z (ESI–MS) 367.2 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

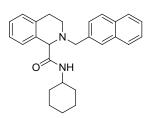
2-(2-chlorobenzyl)-*N*-cyclohexyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1q:



Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 2-chlorobenzaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1q** was obtained as a white solid in 75% yield (143 mg), ( $R_f = 0.24$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 117–118 °C; IR (KBr) 3289, 2930, 2853, 1636, 1549, 1442, 1230, 1035, 748, 696; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.60–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.43–7.37 (comp, 2H), 7.30–7.22

(comp, 2H), 7.21–7.15 (comp, 3H), 7.12–7.07 (m, 1H), 4.21 (s, 1H), 3.87 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 3.70–3.61 (m, 1H), 3.07 (app dt, J = 11.9, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (ddd, J = 14.7, 9.3, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (app dt, J = 16.3, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (ddd, J = 11.8, 9.3, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 1.79–1.70 (comp, 2H), 1.64–1.49 (comp, 3H), 1.34–1.22 (comp, 2H), 1.15–0.95 (comp, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.6, 135.8, 134.7, 134.0, 132.6, 130.5, 130.1, 129.0, 128.7, 128.3, 127.13, 127.06, 126.3, 68.0, 57.3, 48.0, 47.1, 33.0, 32.9, 28.1, 25.8, 24.94, 24.86; *m/z* (ESI–MS) (<sup>35</sup>Cl) 383.14 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>, (<sup>37</sup>Cl) 385.2 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

#### *N*-cyclohexyl-2-(naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1r:

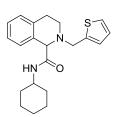


Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, 2-naphthaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1r** was obtained as a white solid in 71% yield (141 mg), ( $R_f = 0.26$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 150–151 °C; IR (KBr) 3379, 3023, 2923, 1668, 1504, 1451, 857, 816, 759, 480; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.90–7.83 (comp, 3H), 7.80–7.78 (m, 1H),

7.65–7.61 (m, 1H), 7.55–7.47 (comp, 3H), 7.23–7.16 (comp, 3H), 7.13–7.08 (m, 1H), 4.7 (s, 1H), 4.13 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 3.85–3.75 (m, 1H), 3.64 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (ddd, J = 11.6, 5.0, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (ddd, J = 15.8, 10.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (app dt, J = 16.2, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.56–

2.49 (m, 1H), 1.99–1.92 (m, 1H), 1.84–1.77 (m, 1H), 1.74–1.56 (comp, 3H), 1.43–1.03 (comp, 5H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.1, 135.7, 134.1, 133.6, 133.1, 132.8, 128.8, 128.6, 127.96, 127.95, 127.8, 127.6, 127.1, 126.8, 126.5, 126.4, 126.2, 68.8, 60.4, 48.0, 46.9, 33.3, 33.2, 29.0, 25.8, 25.0, 24.9; m/z (ESI–MS) 399.4 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>.

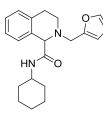
#### *N*-cyclohexyl-2-(thiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1s:



Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, thiophene-2-carbaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1s** was obtained as a yellow solid in 76% yield (135 mg), ( $R_f = 0.24$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 100–102 °C; IR (KBr) 3372, 2932, 2856, 1670, 1507, 1452, 1369, 1140, 754, 733, 709; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.61–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.28–7.25 (m, 1H), 7.19–7.05

(comp, 4H), 6.98–6.94 (comp, 2H), 4.20 (s, 1H), 4.00 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 3.78–3.68 (comp, 2H), 3.17 (ddd, J = 11.6, 5.1, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (ddd, J = 15.8, 10.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (app dt, J = 16.2, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (app td, J = 11.0, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 1.98–1.91 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.54 (comp, 4H), 1.40–1.00 (comp, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.8, 142.1, 134.0, 132.5, 128.7, 127.6, 127.1, 126.9, 126.5, 126.4, 125.2, 68.2, 54.7, 48.2, 46.8, 33.2, 33.0, 29.0, 25.8, 25.1, 25.0; m/z (ESI–MS) 355.3 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>.

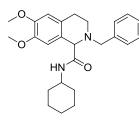
*N*-cyclohexyl-2-(furan-2-ylmethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1t:



Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, furan-2-carbaldehyde and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1t** was obtained as a yellow oil in 68% yield (115 mg), ( $R_f = 0.19$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); IR (KBr) 3370, 2930, 2853, 1671, 1508, 1452, 1313, 1149, 1010, 910, 880, 805, 735; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.65–7.60 (m, 1H), 7.41–7.37 (m, 1H), 7. 31–7.27 (m, 1H),

7.18–7.12 (comp, 2H), 7.09–7.04 (m, 1H), 6.36–6.32 (m, 1H), 6.28–6.24 (m,1H), 4.18 (s, 1H), 3.82 (d, J = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 3.77–3.68 (m, 1H), 3.56 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H), 3.13 (ddd, J = 11.2, 5.0, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (ddd, J = 16.1, 11.2, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (app dt, J = 16.1, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (app td, J = 11.3, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 1.99–1.91 (m, 1H), 1.76–1.67 (comp, 2H), 1.65–1.54 (comp, 2H), 1.42–1.11 (comp, 4H), 1.08–0.97(m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.9, 151.6, 142.6, 134.0, 132.7, 128.6, 127.5, 126.9, 126.4, 110.4, 109.4, 67.6, 52.5, 48.0, 47.2, 33.0, 29.4, 25.8, 25.0, 24.9; m/z (ESI–MS) 339.1 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

## 2-benzyl-*N*-cyclohexyl-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1u:



Following the general procedure B, cyclohexyl isocyanide, benzaldehyde and 6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product **1u** was obtained as a white solid in 94% yield (192 mg), ( $R_f = 0.21$  in hexane/EtOAc 80:20 v/v); mp = 135–137 °C; IR (KBr) 3380, 3322, 2928, 2849, 1648, 1606, 1518, 1453, 1254, 1229, 1131, 1020, 755, 730, 697; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.38–7.26 (comp. 5H),

7.12–7.07 (comp, 2H), 6.54 (s, 1H), 4.07 (s, 1H), 3.92 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.76-3.67 (m, 1H), 3.43 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (ddd, J = 11.4, 5.0, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.82(ddd, J = 15.7, 10.3, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (app dt, J = 15.9, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (app td, J = 11.0, 3.5 Hz)Hz, 1H), 1.93–1.85 (m, 1H), 1.81–2.73 (m, 1H), 1.70–1.52(comp, 3H), 1.38–1.23 (comp, 2H), 1.39–1.24 (comp, 2H), 1.19–0.96 (comp, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.3, 148.1, 147.6, 138.1, 128.9, 128.7, 127.6, 126.1, 124.6, 111.1, 110.1, 68.2, 60.2, 56.1, 56.0, 48.0, 46.9, 33.2, 33.1, 28.4, 25.8, 25.0, 24.9; m/z (ESI-MS) 409.0 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

*N*,2-dibenzyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1v: Following the general procedure benzyl benzaldehyde Β, isocyanide, and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product 1v was obtained as a yellow solid in 85% yield (151 mg), ( $R_f = 0.22$  in ≷∩ hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 130–131 °C; IR (KBr) 3338, 3029, 2921, 2807, 1655, 1523, 1492, 1453, 1426, 1273, 1030, 755, 734, 696, 430; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) δ 7.71–7.67 (m, 1H), 7.62–7.57 (m, 1H),

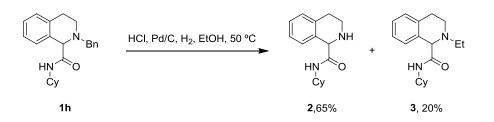
7.35–7.17 (comp, 12H), 7.16–7.11 (m, 1H), 4.63 (dd, J = 14.8, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.36–4.28 (comp, 2H), 3.95 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (ddd, J = 11.5, 4.9, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (ddd, J = 15.8, 10.6, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (app dt, J = 16.2, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (app td, J = 11.1, 3.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.2, 138.7, 137.7, 134.3, 132.6, 129.2, 128.94, 128.87, 128.7, 128.0, 127.8, 127.70, 127.68, 127.2, 126.5, 68.6, 60.4, 46.7, 43.5, 29.0; m/z (ESI-MS) 357.2 $[M + H]^+$ .

ΗN

2-benzyl-*N*-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 1w: Following the procedure Β. isocyanobenzene, benzaldehyde and general 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline were heated at reflux for 3 h. Product 1w was obtained as a white solid in 53% yield (90 mg), ( $R_f = 0.45$  in ΗN hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 117–119 °C; IR (KBr) 3328, 2813, 1676, 1604, 1523, 1493, 1439, 1313, 1153, 1128, 755, 747, 692, 535; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  9.28 (s, 1H), 7.69–7.64 (m, 1H), 7.58–7.53 (comp, 2H),

7.43–7.28 (comp, 7H), 7.24–7.18 (comp, 2H), 7.15–7.05 (comp, 2H), 4.35 (s, 1H), 4.01 (d, J =13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (ddd, J = 11.6, 5.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (ddd, J = 15.8, 10.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (app dt, J = 16.2, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (app td, J = 11.1, 3.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>15</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.1, 138.1, 137.5, 134.3, 131.8, 129.23, 129.15, 128.92, 128.88, 127.90, 127.85, 127.4, 126.6, 124.3, 119.6, 68.9, 60.6, 46.7, 28.9; m/z (ESI-MS) 343.1 [M +  $H^{+}$ .

## *N*-cyclohexyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide (2) and *N*-cyclohexyl-2-ethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxamide (3):



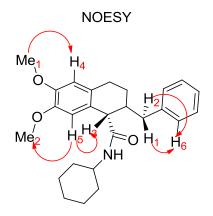
Following a modified literature procedure,<sup>3</sup> a solution of **1h** (62 mg, 0.18 mmol) in MeOH (5 mL) was treated with methanolic HCl (1.2 equiv). The solvent was subsequently removed under reduced pressure to obtain the hydrochloride salt, which was dissolved in EtOH (5 mL). To this solution was added 10% Pd/C (10 mg) and it was stirred for 20 h at 50 °C under an atmosphere of hydrogen. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and filtered through Celite. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash chromatography on silica gel. Product **2** was obtained as a white solid in 65% yield (30 mg), (R<sub>f</sub> = 0.52 in EtOAc/MeOH 90:10 v/v); mp = 130–132 °C; IR (KBr) 3283, 3057, 3017, 2929, 2854, 1644, 1545, 1449, 1247, 985, 890, 735, 693, 645, 443; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.54–7.49 (m, 1H), 7.19–7.14 (comp, 2H), 7.10–7.06 (m, 1H), 7.04–6.96 (m, 1H), 4.50 (s, 1H), 3.78–3.68 (m, 1H), 3.12–3.03 (comp, 2H), 2.89–2.81 (m, 1H), 2.79–2.70 (m, 1H), 2.16 (br s, 1H) 1.93–1.86 (m, 1H), 1.83–1.75 (m, 1H), 1.71–1.53 (comp, 3H), 1.41–1.25 (comp, 2H), 1.20–1.02 (comp, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.9, 134.8, 133.1, 129.2, 128.1, 127.1, 126.1, 60.4, 48.1, 41.5, 33.2, 33.1, 29.6, 25.8, 25.0, 24.9.; *m/z* (ESI–MS) 259.1 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>.

In addition, product **3** was obtained as a white solid in 20% yield (10 mg), ( $R_f = 0.12$  in hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 88–89 °C; IR (KBr) 3275, 3067, 2931, 2852, 1637, 1536, 1448, 1248, 1095, 930, 888, 735; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.60–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.17–7.05 (comp, 4H), 4.06 (s, 1H), 3.75–3.65 (m, 1H), 3.17 (ddd, J = 11.3, 4.9, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (ddd, J = 16.0, 11.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.77–2.65 (comp, 2H), 2.54–2.43 (comp, 2H), 1.94–1.89 (m, 1H), 1.72–1.53 (comp, 5H), 1.41–1.24 (comp, 2H), 1.20–1.09 (comp, 4H), 1.02–0.94 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.6, 134.3, 133.1, 128.5, 127.5, 126.8, 126.3, 68.5, 50.3, 47.8, 46.5, 33.2, 33.0, 29.5, 25.8, 25.0, 24.9, 12.6; m/z (ESI–MS) 287.1 [M + H ]<sup>+</sup>.

*N*-cyclohexylisoquinoline-1-carboxamide 4: Following a modified literature procedure,<sup>4</sup> to a solution of 1k (76 mg, 0.2 mmol) in mesitylene (2 mL, 0.1 M) was added 10% Pd/C (43 mg) and the mixture was stirred under reflux for 4 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature, diluted with 5 mL of EtOAc and a few drops of triethylamine, and then filtered through Celite. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash chromatography on silica gel. Product 4 was obtained as a white solid in 71% yield (36 mg), (R<sub>f</sub> = 0.45 in

hexane/EtOAc 90:10 v/v); mp = 118–120 °C; IR (KBr) 3355, 2923, 2856, 1654, 1513, 1451, 1383, 1341, 1313, 1251, 1148, 763, 625, 513; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  9.62–9.59 (m, 1H), 8.44 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 8.14–8.06 (m, 1H), 7.84–7.80 (m, 1H), 7.78–7.74 (m, 1H), 7.72–7.63 (comp, 2H), 4.06–3.97 (m, 1H), 2.11–2.04 (comp, 2H), 1.83–1.75 (comp, 2H), 1.70–1.62 (m, 1H), 1.52–1.32 (comp, 4H), 1.30–1.20 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.4, 148.9, 140.4, 137.6, 130.6, 128.7, 128.2, 127.3, 126.9, 124.3, 48.5, 33.3, 25.9, 25.2.; *m/z* (ESI–MS) 277.6 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>.

# 2D-NMR Analysis for Compound 1u, Selected Interactions (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>):



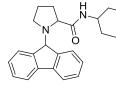
Protons	Chemical Shifts (ppm)	
H1,H2	3.43, 3.92	
Me1	3.83	
Me2	3.84	
НЗ	4.07	
H4	6.54	
H5	7.12–7.07	
Нб	7.38–7.26	

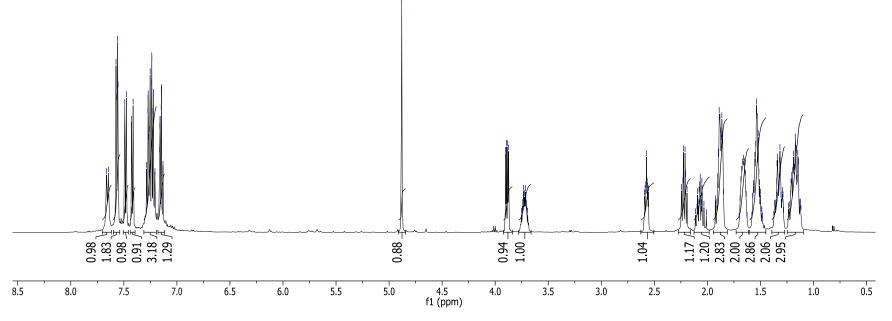
## **References:**

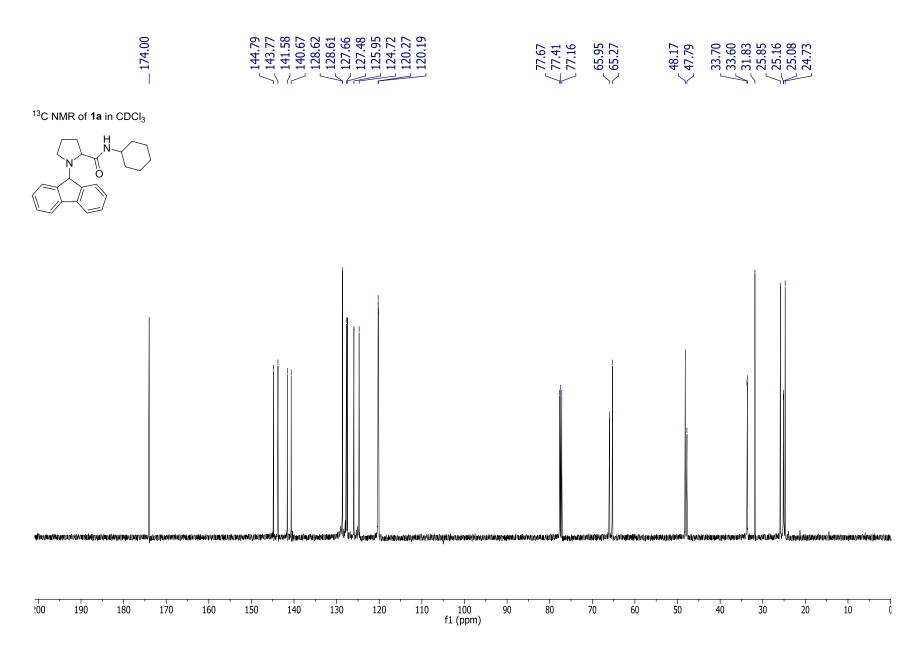
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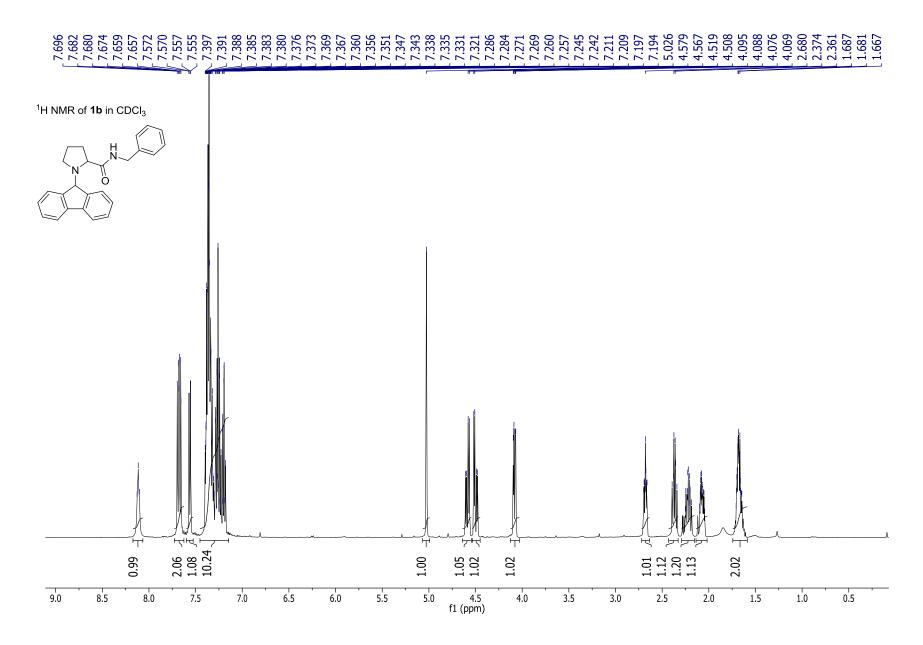


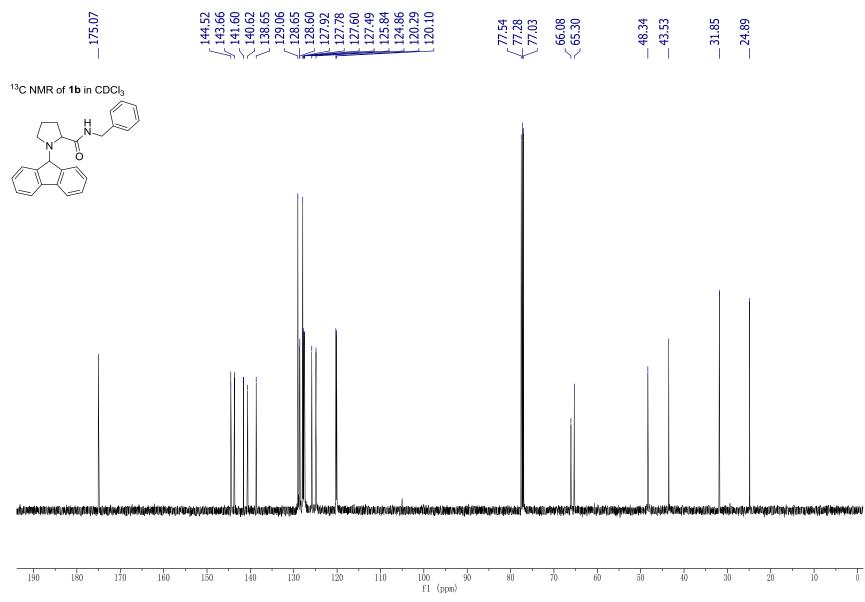
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **1a** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>







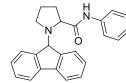


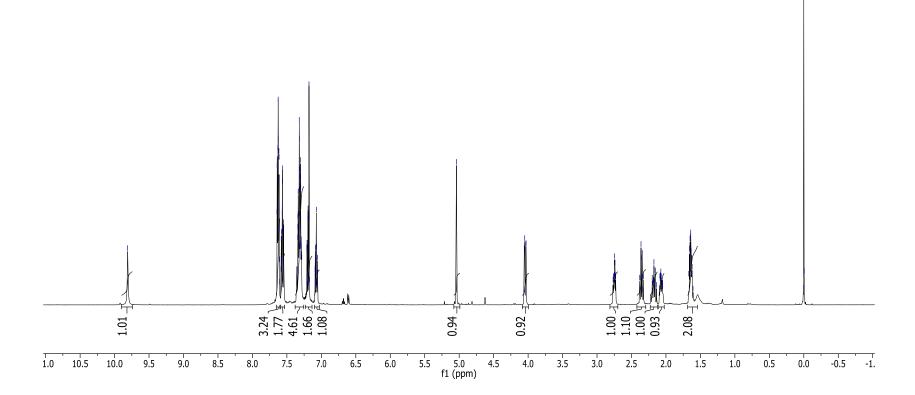


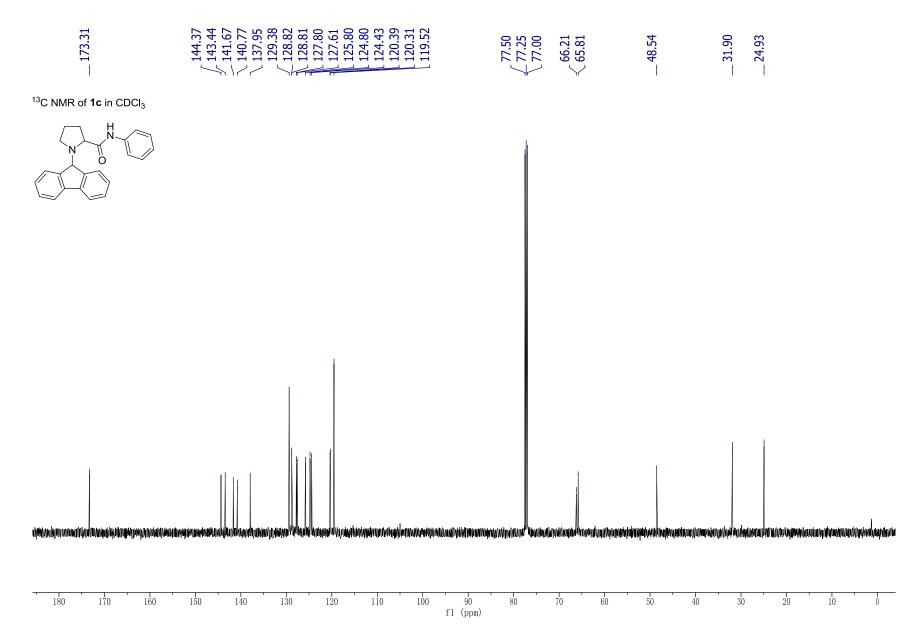
S-19

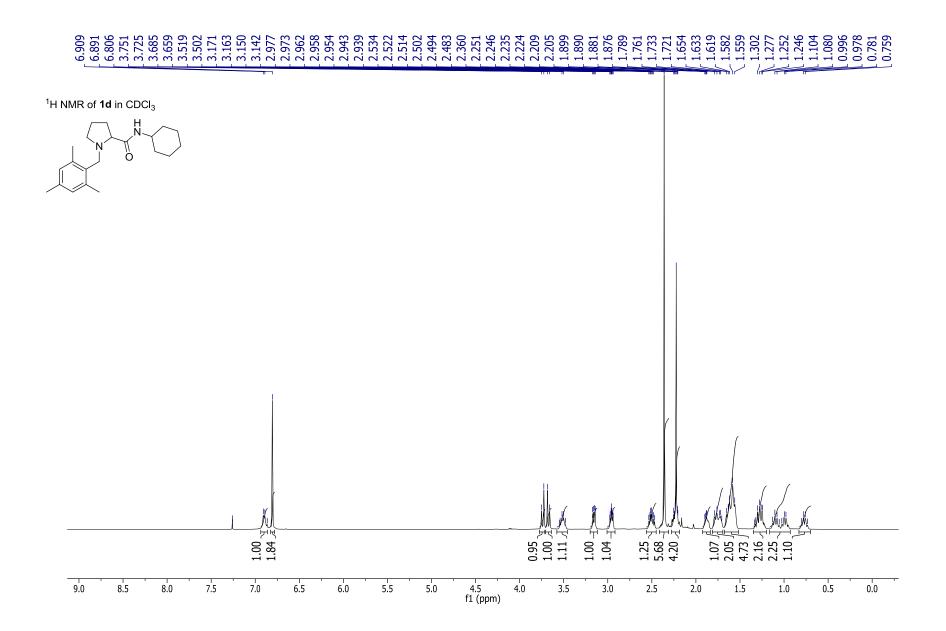


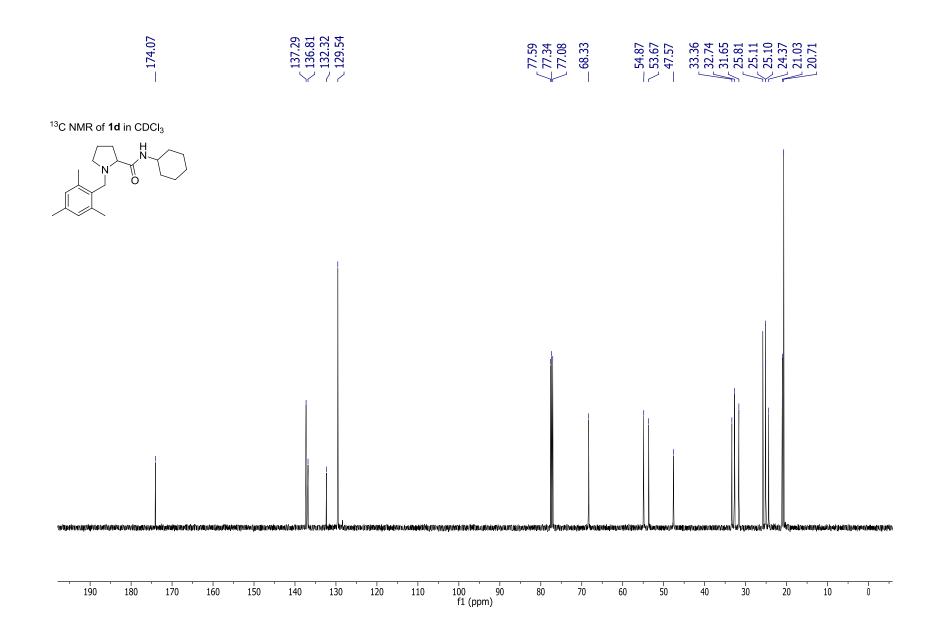
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **1c** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

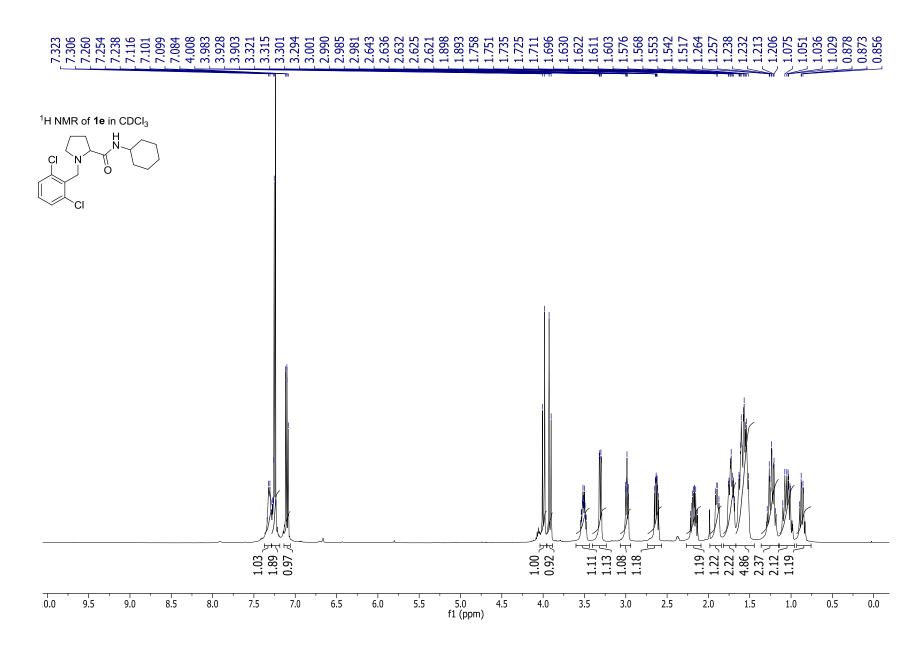


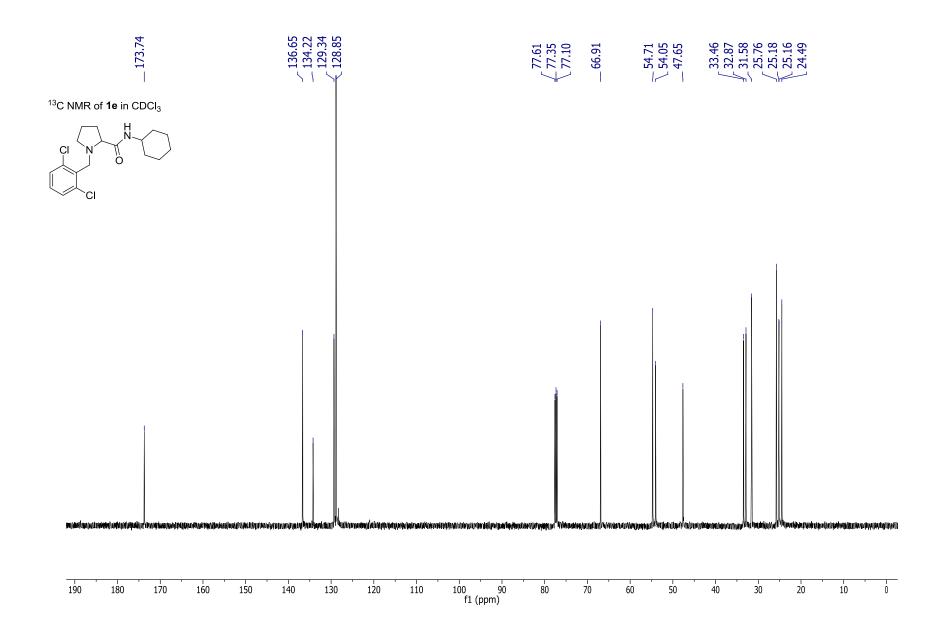




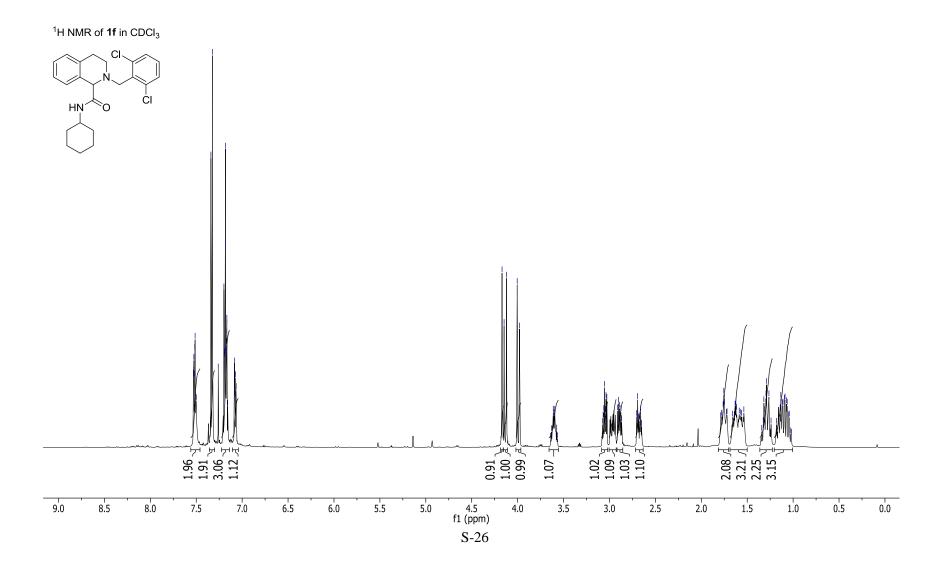


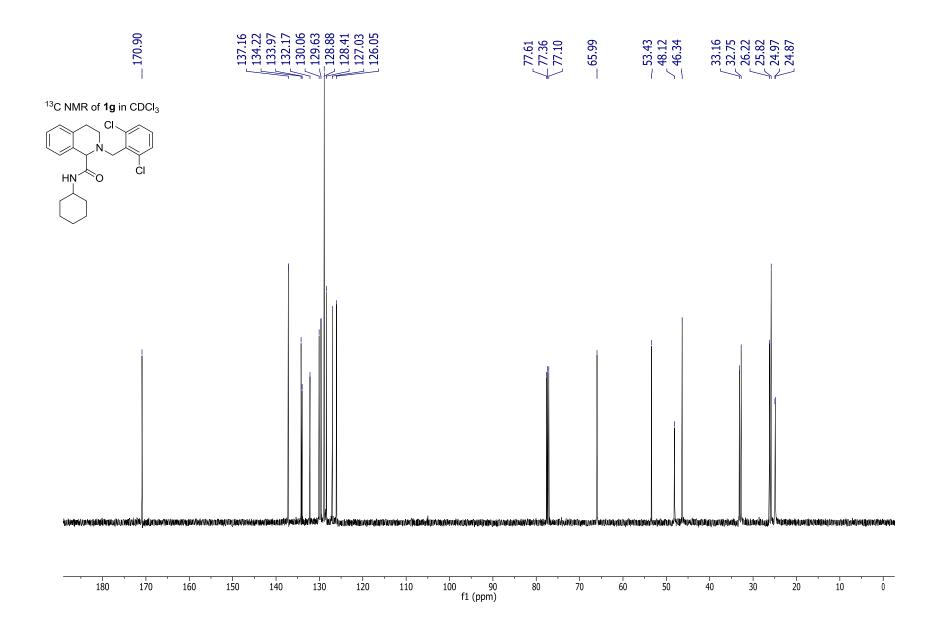


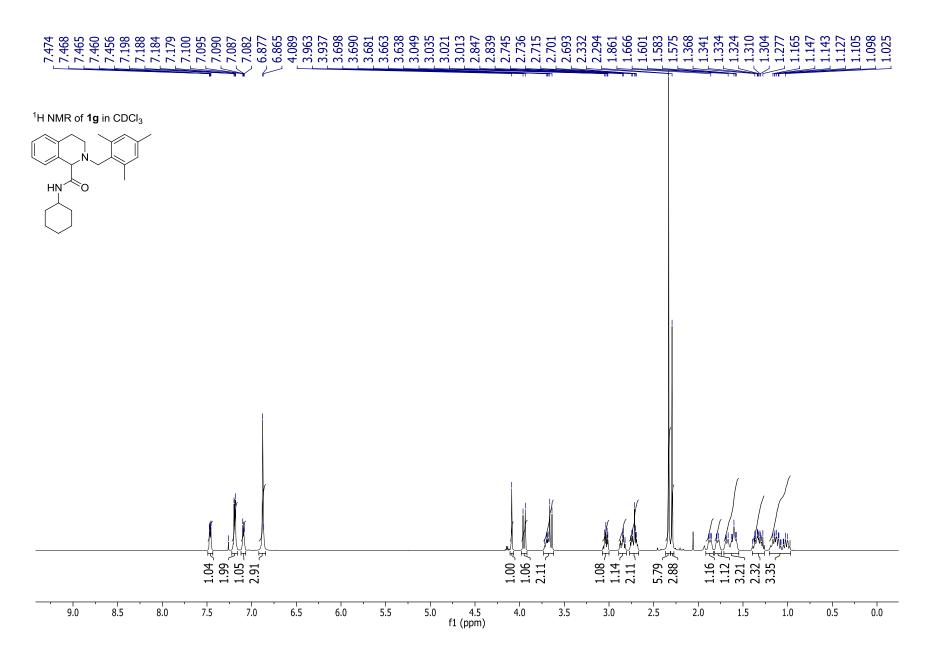


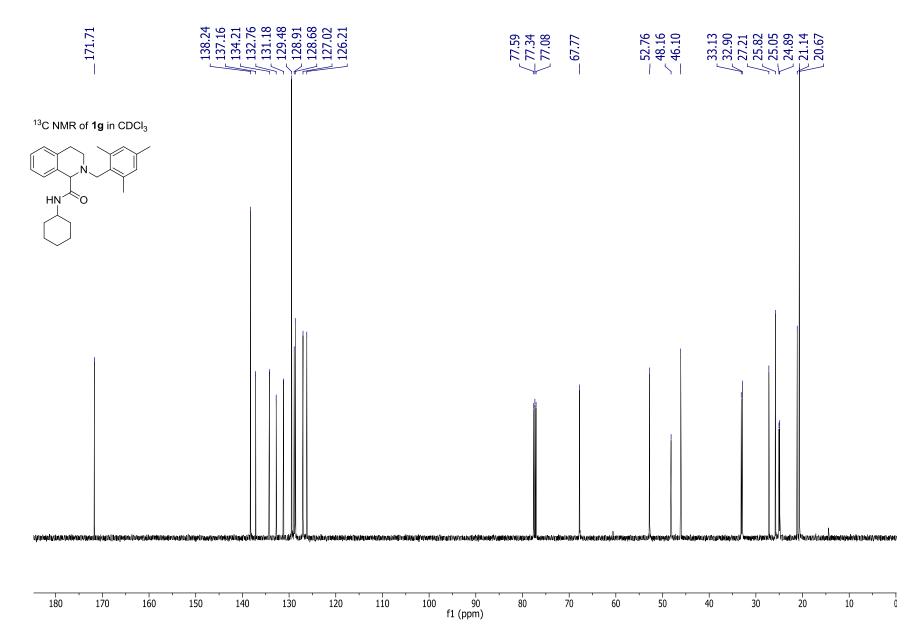


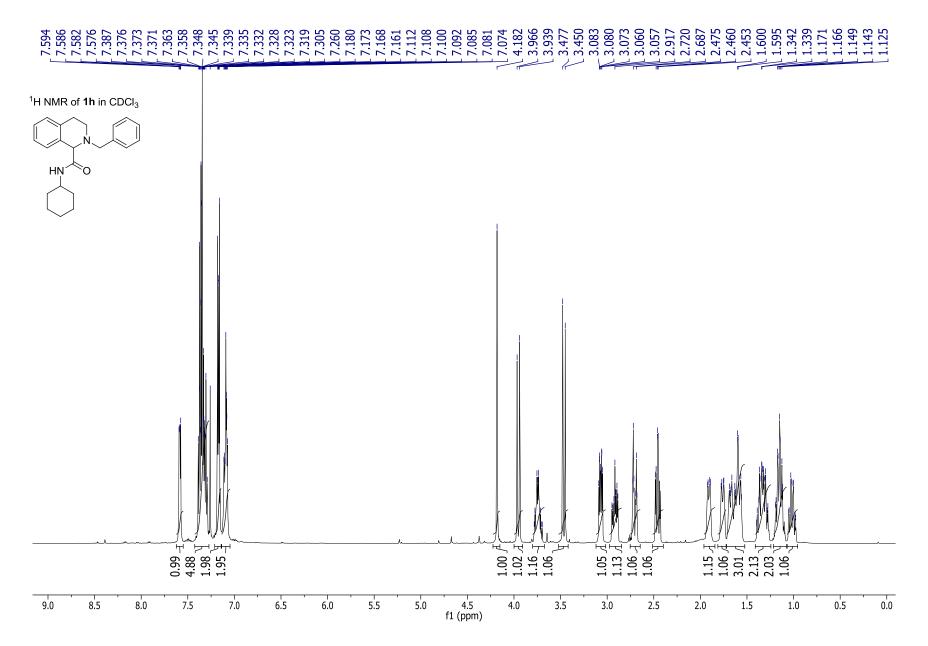


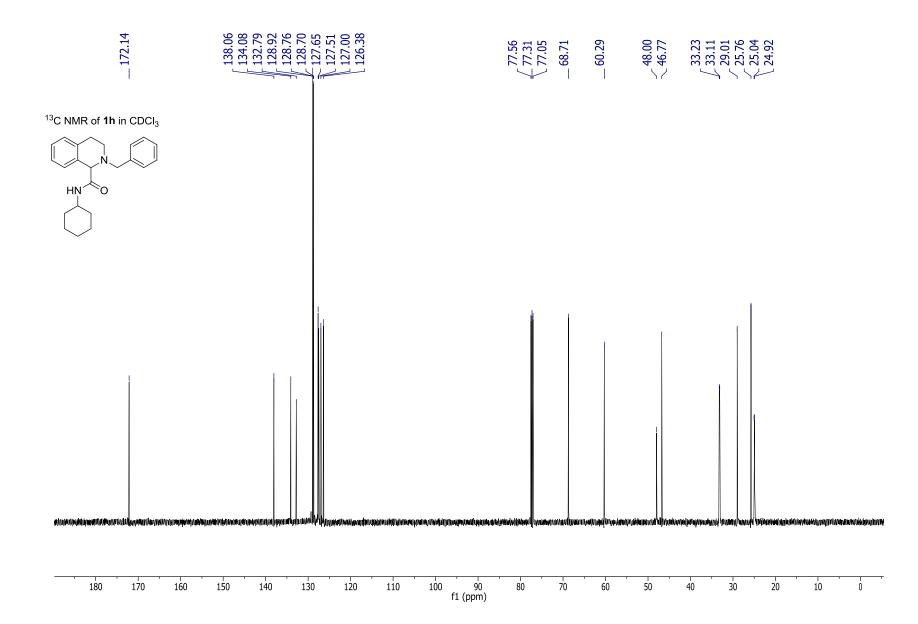














<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **1i** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

