Discovery of a series of indazole TRPA1 antagonists

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1. Compound Synthesis

General

All chemicals, reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification. All reactions were performed under an atmosphere of nitrogen unless otherwise noted. NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Unity 400 at room temperature at 400MHz. Chemical shifts are

expressed as parts per million (δ) relative to residual solvent as an internal reference.

Characteristic chemical shifts (δ) are given using conventional abbreviations for designation of major peaks: e.g. s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet; br, broad. The following abbreviations have been used for common solvents: CDCl₃, deuterochloroform; d6-DMSO, deuterodimethylsulphoxide; CD₃OD, deuteromethanol.

Mass spectra were recorded by direct flow analysis using positive and negative atmospheric pressure chemical ionization scan modes. A Waters APcI/MS model ZMD mass spectrometer equipped with a Gilson 215 liquid handling system was used to carry out the experiments. Mass spectrometry analysis was also obtained by reversed phase HPLC gradient method for chromatographic separation. Molecular weight identification was recorded by positive and negative electrospray ionization (ESI) scan modes. A Waters/Micromass ESI/MS model ZMD or LCZ mass spectrometer equipped with Gilson 215 liquid handling system and HP 1100 DAD was used to carry out the experiments. Purity determinations on test compounds were carried out either by elemental analysis or by LCMS analysis. All test compounds for which biochemical data is reported are of >95% purity.

Column chromatography was performed with Baker silica gel 40 µm; J.T. Baker, Phillipsburg, NJ) in glass columns under low nitrogen pressure. Where HPLC chromatography is referred to below, the column used was a Waters Sunfire C18 column, 50 x 4.6 mm using mixtures of formic acid in water (typically 0.1% formic acid in water) or acetonitrile (typically 0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile) as eluent at a flow rate of 1.5 mL/min, unless otherwise indicated. Compounds were detected by UV absorption (225 nm) and electrospray mass ionization.

Abbreviations

APCI; atmospheric pressure chemical ionisation mass spectrum DCE; dichloroethane DCM; dichloromethane

DIPEA; diisopropylethylamine DMAP; dimethylaminopyridine DMF; dimethyl formamide DMSO; dimethyl sulfoxide dppf; 1,1-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene ESI; electrospray ionization EtOAc; ethyl acetate EtOH; ethanol HCl; hydrochloric acid HPLC; high pressure liquid chromatography IPA; isopropylamine LCMS; liquid chromatography mass spectrum LRMS; low resolution mass spectrum MgSO4; magnesium sulfate m/z; mass spectrum peak, mass to charge ratio NaHCO₃; sodium bicarbonate NH4Cl; ammonium chloride $Na₂S₂O₃$; sodium thiosulfate Na2SO4; sodium sulfate NMR; nuclear magnetic resonance PCl₅; phosphorus pentachloride PMBCl; paramethoxybenzyl chloride ppm; parts per million Rt; retention time UV; ultraviolet

Synthesis of Compound 10

N-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-indazol-3-amine

To a solution of *N*-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-fluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)-thiobenzamide (250 mg, 0.75mmol) in EtOH (10 mL) was added hydrazine (1 mL, 31.9mmol). The mixture was heated at 50°C in a sealed tube for 16h, and then reduced in volume under reduced pressure. The residue was taken up in 10 mL MeCN and heated at 150°C in a microwave reactor for 1h. The reaction was concentrated *in vacuo*. Column chromatography using 30% EtOAc in hexanes provided the title compound as a white solid (230 mg, 94%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 6.38 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.43 (m, 4H), 7.70 (s, 2H), 9.70 (s, 1H). HRMS: m/z found 312.0500 $[M+H]^+$. $C_{14}H_{10}$ ClF₃N₃ requires m/z 312.0510. LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile $phase: Rt 1.62 min, m/z 312 [M+H]⁺, purity 100%.$

Compounds, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13 were all made analogously to compound 10.

N-(6-chloropyridin-3-yl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-indazol-3-amine (**8**), prepared from *N*-(6-chloropyridin-3 yl)-2-fluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)-thiobenzamide and hydrazine. LCMS m/z 314 [M+H]⁺, purity 98%.

6-(trifluoromethyl)-N-[6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine-3-yl]-1H-indazol-3-amine (**9**), prepared from 2-fluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)*-N*-[6- trifluoromethyl)pyridine-3-yl]-thiobenzamide and hydrazine. LCMS m/z 347 $[M+H]^+$, purity 98%.

N-(6-chloropyridin-3-yl)-1-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-indazol-3-amine (**11**), prepared from *N*-(6 chloropyridin-3-yl)-2-fluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)-thiobenzamide and methyl hydrazine. LCMS m/z 328 $[M+H]^+$, purity 100%.

N-(6-chloropyridin-3-yl)-*N*-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-indazol-3-amine (**12**), prepared from *N*-(6 chloropyridin-3-yl)-2-fluoro-*N*-methyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)-thiobenzamide and methyl hydrazine. LCMS m/z 328 $[M+H]$ ⁺, purity 100%.

N-(6-chloropyridin-3-yl)-*N*,1-dimethyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-indazol-3-amine (**13**), prepared from *N*-(6 chloropyridin-3-yl)-2-fluoro-*N*-methyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)-thiobenzamide and hydrazine. LCMS m/z 342 $[M+H]^{+}$, purity 100%.

Synthesis of Compound 14

To a solution of *N*-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-fluorobenzamide (100 mg, 0.4mmol) in toluene (1.8 mL) and pyridine (0.2 mL) was added 2,4-bis-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,4-dithioxo-1,2,3,4-dithia-diphosphetane (210 mg, 0.52mmol). The mixture was heated at reflux for 2h and then allowed to cool to room temperature. EtOAc (2 mL), saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (2 mL) and water (0.8 mL) were added. The mixture was stirred vigorously for 30 min and then the organic layer separated, dried over $Na₂SO₄$ and concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting yellow solid was dissolved in EtOH (2 mL), treated with hydrazine (0.04 mL, 1.2mmol) and the mixture heated at reflux for 2h. The EtOH was removed and replaced with n-BuOH (2 mL) and the whole heated at 115°C for 15h. After this time, the reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature and EtOAc (4 mL), brine (2 mL) and water (0.8 mL) added. The organic layer was removed and filtered through a short pad of celite and then concentrated *in vacuo*. Column chromatography on silica gel using 40% EtOAc in hexanes as eluent to provide the title compound* as an off-white solid (5 mg, 5%). LRMS m/z: found 244 $[M+H]^+$. $C_{13}H_{11}N_3$ Cl requires m/z 244. ¹H NMR (400MHz, d6-DMSO): δ 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.86-8.06 (m, 2H), 9.22 (s, 1H), 12.24 (s, 1H). LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 2.46 min, m/z 244 [M+H]⁺, purity 100%.

* Burmistrov, S. I. and Belykh, V. S., *Khimiya Geterotsiklicheskikh Soedinenii* , **1973**, 2, 249-51.

Synthesis of Compound 15

N-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-indazol-3-amine

To a solution of N-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-2-fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-benzamide (128 mg, 0.4mmol) in DCE (1.2 mL) was added PCl₅ (1.02 mg, 0.48mmol). The mixture was heated at reflux for 2h, and then reduced in volume under reduced pressure and THF (8 mL) added. The mixture was cooled in an ice bath and hydrazine (0.19 mL, 6mmol) was added in one portion and the resulting mixture stirred at room temperature for 2h. The reaction was then concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was partitioned between DCM and a 1:1 solution of saturated aqueous brine and 1M NaOH solution. After vigorous stirring, the organic layer was separated, dried over $Na₂SO₄$ and concentrated to provide an off-white solid. This solid was dissolved in 0.8 mL NMP and pyridine (0.4 mL, 0.48mmol) and heated at 80°C overnight. The reaction was partitioned between EtOAc and water, washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution, brine and then the organic layer was separated, dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo*. Column chromatography using 30% EtOAc in hexanes provided the title compound as a white solid (96 mg, 76%). ¹H NMR (d6-DMSO, 400MHz): δ 7.35-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.90 (ddd, *J* 13.4, 7.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 9.42 (s, 1H). HRMS: m/z found 314.0713 [M+H]⁺. C₁₄H₉F₅N₃ requires m/z 314.0711. LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 1.99 min, m/z 314 [M+H]⁺, purity 100%.

Synthesis of Compound 16

6-chloro-*N*-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-1*H*-indazol-3-amine

To a solution of 4-chloro-N-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-2-fluoro-benzamide (561 mg, 1.96mmol) in DCE (1.2 mL) was added PCI₅ (490 mg, 2.4mmol). The mixture was heated at reflux for 2h, and then reduced in volume under reduced pressure and THF (8 mL) added. The mixture was cooled in an ice bath and hydrazine (0.92 mL, 29mmol) was added in one portion and the resulting mixture stirred at room temperature for 1h. The reaction was then concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was partitioned between DCM and a 1:1 solution of saturated aqueous brine and 1M NaOH solution. After vigorous stirring, the organic layer was separated, dried over $Na₂SO₄$ and concentrated to provide an off-white solid. This solid was dissolved in 4 mL NMP and pyridine (0.19 mL, 2.4mmol) and heated at 80°C overnight. The reaction was partitioned between EtOAc and water, washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution, brine and then the organic layer was separated, dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo*. Column chromatography using 30% EtOAc in hexanes provided the title compound as a white solid (96 mg, 76%). 1 H NMR (d6DMSO, 400MHz): δ 7.35-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.90 (ddd, *J* 13.7, 7.0, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* 8.3 Hz, 1H), 9.42 (s, 1H). HRMS: m/z found 280.0449 $[M+H]^+$. C₁₃H₉ClF₂N₃ requires m/z 280.0448. LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 1.89 min, m/z 280 [M+H]⁺, purity 100%.

Synthesis of Compound 17

N-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-indazol-3-amine

A solution of *N*-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-2-fluoro-4-(trifluoromethoxy)benzamide (167.6 mg, 0.50mmol) in 1 mL DCE was treated with PCI₅ (125 mg, 0.6mmol) and the reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 2h. It was then allowed to cool, was concentrated *in vacuo* and then dissolved in THF and added to a solution of hydrazine (235 µL, 7.50mmol) in 2 mL of dry THF. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 1h and then concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was partitioned between DCM and a 1:1 solution of saturated aqueous brine and 1M NaOH solution. The organic layer was separated, dried over $Na₂SO₄$ and concentrated to provide a light orange solid. This solid was dissolved in 4 mL NMP and pyridine (48.5 µL, 0.60mmol) and heated at 80°C overnight. The reaction was partitioned between EtOAc and water, washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO $_3$ solution, brine and then the organic layer was separated, dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo*. Column chromatography using 10% DCM in hexanes provided the title compound as a white solid (104 mg, 63%). ¹H NMR (MeOD, 400MHz): δ 6.97 (d, *J* 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (td, *J* = 10.4, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.72 (ddd, *J* 13.7, 7.0, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, J 8.3 Hz, 1H). HRMS: m/z found 330.0657 [M+H]⁺. C₁₄H₉F₅N₃O requires m/z 330.0660. LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 1.97 min, m/z 330 [M+H]⁺, purity 100%.

Synthesis of Compound 18

N-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(2-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)-1*H*-indazol-3-amine

[1,1-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II) (10.5 mg, 0.014mmol) was added to a suspension of 6-bromo-*N*-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-1*H*-indazol-3-amine (46.5 mg, 0.14mmol), 2- (trifluoromethoxy)benzeneboronic acid (35.4 mg, 0.17mmol) and sodium carbonate (45.6 mg, 0.43mmol) in IPA (3 mL) and water (1 mL). The reaction was heated in a microwave reactor at 150°C for 30min and then concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was partitioned between EtOAc and water and the organic layer was then separated, washed with saturated brine and then dried over $Na₂SO₄$ and concentrated *in vacuo*. Column chromatography on silica gel using 10% DCM in hexanes as eluent to provide the title compound as a waxy solid (58 mg, 100%). ¹H NMR (400MHz, d6-DMSO): δ 7.16 (d, *J* 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.43 (s, 1H), 7.43-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.54-7.64 (m, 1H), 7.87 (ddd, *J* 12.0, 7.5, 3.0Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, J 12.0 Hz, 1H), 9.22 (s, 1H), 12.24 (s, 1H). HRMS: m/z found 406.0977 [M+H]⁺. $C_{20}H_{13}F_5N_3O$ requires m/z 406.0973. LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 1.57 min, m/z 406 [M+H]⁺, purity 100%.

Compound 19 was made analogously to 18.

N,6-bis(3,4-difluorophenyl)-1*H*-indazol-3-amine (**19**), prepared from 6-bromo-*N*-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-1*H*indazol-3-amine and 3,4-difluorobenzene boronic acid. LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 1.43 min, m/z 358 $[M+H]$ ⁺, purity 100%.

Synthesis of Compound 20

N-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-pyrazol[4,3-b]pyridine-3-amine

1-tert-butyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol[4,3-b]pyridine-3-amine (700 mg, 3mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (15 mL) and potassium phosphate (860 mg, 4.1mmol) was treated with 1-bromo-3,4-difluorobenzene (620 µL, 5.2mmol) in a small pressure vial and purged with argon gas. 9,9-Dimethyl-4,5 bis(diphenylphosphino)xanthene (160 mg, 0.27mmol) and tris(dibenzylideneacetone)dipalladium(0) (120 mg, 0.14mmol) was added, the vial sealed and then heated at 110°C for 2 days. The mixture was cooled, diluted with water and extracted with EtOAc and then dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated in

vacuo. Column chromatography using 30% EtOAc in hexanes provided a white solid, which was taken up in formic acid (11 mL, 290mmol) and heated at 60°C for 4h and then at room temperature overnight. The mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*, diluted with EtOAc and saturated sodium bicarbonate and the organic layer separated, dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting oil was purified by HPLC to afford the title compound as a white solid (8 mg, 9%). LRMS: found m/z 315 $[M+H]^+$. $C_{13}H_8F_5N_4$ requires 315. ¹H NMR (CDCl3, 400MHz): δ 7.07 (td, *J* = 10.4, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dddd, *J* = 8.6, 4.3, 2.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65-7.81 (m, 2H), 9.12 (s, 1H). Found C, 49.46; H, 2.12; N, 17.86%. C₁₃H₇F₅N₄ requires C, 49.69; H, 2.25; N, 17.83%.

Synthesis of Compound 22

Step 1

2-chloro-3-hydrazinyl-5-(trifluoromethoxy)pyridine

2-chloro-3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethoxypyridine (10 g, 46mmol) was dissolved in 25 mL ethanol. Hydrazine (15 mL) was then added and the mixture heated at 90°C for 30 min. The solvent was evaporated to

dryness and a mixture of water, EtOAc and saturated aqueous NaHCO $_3$ added. The organic layer was separated and dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated *in vacuo*. The solvent was then evaporated to give 10.56 g (~95% yield) of a yellow-green oil which was used without further purification.

Step 2

6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*b*]pyridine-3-amine

The hydrazide from Step 1 (10.06 g, 44mmol) was dissolved in 80 mL DMF. Argon was passed through the mixture for 10 min. Then zinc cyanide (13.9 g, 120mmol), Zn (0.56 g, 8.1mmol) and the catalyst bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene dichloropalladium (II) (2.8 g, 3.8mmol) added. The reaction mixture was heated at 120°C for 30 min. A mixture of water, EtOAc and saturated aqueous NH₄Cl was added and the mixture was filtered. The filtrate was separated and the organic layer dried over $Na₂SO₄$ and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed using EtOAc in hexanes in a gradient of 0- 100% to give 10 g (100% yield) of the product as a dark oil. LRMS: found m/z 219 $[M+H]^+$. C₇H₅N₄OF₃ requires 219.

Step 3

1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridin-3-amine

The amine (1g, 5mmol) was dissolved in DMSO (10 mL) and potassium hydroxide (493 mg, 8.8mmol) added. The mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature and then 4-methoxybenzylchloride (718 mg, 4.6mmol) added in one portion. The reaction was stirred at room temperature overnight. Saturated brine, water, EtOAc and saturated NaHCO₃ were all added. The organic layer was separated, dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was then chromatographed using a gradient of EtOAc in

hexanes of 0-100% to give the product as a yellow solid (640 mg, 40%). LRMS: m/z 339 $[M+H]$ ⁺. $C_{15}H_{13}N_{4}O_{2}F_{3}$ requires 339.

Step 4

N-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridin-3-amine

A suspension of copper (II) acetate (1.21 g, 6.65 mmol 1.5 eq) in DCM (45 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 5 minutes. After this time, 4A molecular sieves (3 g), 1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-6- (trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridin-3-amine (1.50 g, 4.43 mmol, 1 eq), (3,4 difluorophenyl)boronic acid (2.10 g, 13.3 mmol, 3.0 eq) and diisopropylethylamine (1.16 mL, 6.65 mmol, 1.5 eq) were added and the reaction mixture was stirred in air (septum/needle) at room temperature for 16 hours. After this time further (3,4-difluorophenyl)boronic acid (2.10 g, 13.3 mmol, 3.0 eq), copper (II) acetate (1.21 g, 6.65 mmol 1.5 eq) and diisopropylethylamine (1.16 mL, 6.65 mmol, 1.5 eq) were added and allowed to stir at room temperature for 5 hours. After this time, the reaction mixture was filtered through arbocel and washed with DCM (50 mL), the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give the crude. The crude was purified by silica chromatography eluting from 20% to 80% DCM/heptane to give the title compound (875 mg, 44%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 3.79 (s, 3H), 5.38 (s, 2H), 6.85-6.89 (m, 2H), 7.07-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.21-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.82 (ddd, *J* 12.0, 7.3, 2.8Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* 12.0 Hz, 1H). ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ -58 ppm (OCF₃), -136 ppm (ArF), -148 ppm (ArF). LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 4.04 min, 451 [M+H]⁺, purity 100%.

Step 5

N-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridin-3-amine (**22**)

To a solution of N-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3 b]pyridin-3-amine (875 mg, 1.94 mmol, 1 eq) in trifluoroacetic acid (20 mL) was added p-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate (1.11 g, 5.83 mmol, 3.0 eq). The reaction mixture was heated at 50 °C for 16 hours. After this time, the reaction was cooled to room temperature and trifluoroacetic acid was removed under reduced pressure. To the residue was added EtOAc (50 mL), H_2O (20 mL) and saturated NaHCO₃(aq) (50 mL). The phases were separated and the aqueous layer was further extracted with EtOAc (50 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaHCO₃(aq) (100 mL), dried (MgSO4), filtered and concentrated to give the crude. The crude was purified by silica chromatography eluting with 100% DCM to give the title compound with 9% starting material contaminated. It was further purified by trituation with 50% DCM/heptane (5 mL), the solid was collected by filtration and dried under reduced pressure to give the title compound (417 mg, 65%) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 7.10-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.82 (ddd, *J* 12.0, 7.5, 3.0Hz, 1H), 8.41 (s, 1H), 9.27 (s, 1H). ¹⁹F NMR (CD₃OD, 400MHz): δ -60 ppm (OCF₃), -140 ppm (ArF), -152 ppm (ArF). LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 3.18 min, 372.22 [MH+MeCN]⁺, purity 98%. HRMS: m/z found 331.0609 $[M+H]^+$. C₁₃H₈F₅N₄O requires m/z 331.0613. Found C, 47.33; H, 2.16; N, 16.76%. C₁₃H₇F₅N₄O requires C, 47.29; H, 2.14; N, 16.97%.

Compounds 21 and 23 were made analogously to compound 22.

N-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*c*]pyridin-3-amine (**21**), prepared starting from 3-amino-6-bromo-1H-indazole. LCMS m/z 315 [M+H]⁺, purity 100%.

N-(5-fluoropyridin-2-yl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*b*]pyridine-3-amine (**23**), prepared starting from 2-chloro-3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethoxypyridine. LCMS m/z 314 [M+H]⁺, purity 97%.

Synthesis of Compound 28

3-(4-cyanophenyl)-*N*-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-indazole-6-carboxamide

A mixture of 3-bromo-*N*-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-indazole-6-carboxamide (93mg, 0.31 mmol), 4 cyanophenylboronic acid (138mg, 0.939 mmol), *bis*(di-*tert*-butyl(4 dimethylaminophenyl)phosphine)dichloropalladium(II) (6.3mg, 0.008mmol) and sodium carbonate (99mg, 0.94mmol) was taken up in a mixture of IPA (3 mL) and water (1.5 mL) and heated in a microwave reactor under Argon for 30 min at 120°C. Upon cooling to room temperature, the mixture was diluted with EtOAc and water and the organic layer was separated, washed with brine and then dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting yellow solid was purified by column chromatography using 5% MeOH in DCM as eluent to afford the product as a white solid (45 mg, 45%). LRMS: found m/z 319 [M-H]. $C_{18}H_{15}N_4O_2$ requires 319. ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.26 (s, 3H), 3.46-3.58 (m, 4H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.3Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.2Hz, 2H), 8.16-8.22 (m, 1H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 8.2Hz, 2H), 8.75 (m, 1H). Found C, 67.53; H, 5.02; N, 17.42%. C₁₈H₁₆N₄O₂ requires C, 67.49; H, 5.03; N, 17.49%.

Synthesis of Compound 33

Step 1

3-iodo-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-indazole

6-Trifluoromethoxy-indazole (10g, 49mmol) was dissolved in 300 mL DMF, then solid KOH (10g, 180mmol) added and the mixture stirred at room temperature for 15 min. Iodine (41g, 160mmol) was then added and the dark mixture left to stir at room temperature overnight. EtOAc and a 10% aqueous solution of Na₂S₂O₃ was added. Stirring was continued for 10 min and the organic layer then separated, dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated *in vacuo*. Column chromatography using a gradient of EtOAc in hexanes of between 0-100%, provided the product as a white solid (6g, 40%). LRMS: found m/z 329 $[M+H]$ ⁺. C₈H₅N₂OF₃I requires 329. ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.16-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.69 (m, 2H).

Step 2

3-iodo-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-yl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-indazole

3-iodo-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-indazole (2.72g, 8.3mmol) and trifluoroacetic acid (32 µL, 0.42mmol) in 50 mL of toluene was heated to 80°C. Dihydropyran (833 µL, 9.1mmol) was added slowly and the whole then heated at reflux overnight. The mixture was cooled to room temperature and then concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting yellow oil was dissolved in a mixture of water and EtOAc and the organic layer was separated, washed with brine, then dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo*. Chromatography on silica with 10% EtOAc in hexanes as eluant provided the protected indazole as a viscous yellow gum (2.51g, 73%). LRMS: found m/z 413 $[M+H]^+$. $C_{13}H_{13}N_2O_2F_3I$ requires 413. ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.62-1.86 (m, 3H), 2.03-2.23 (m, 2H), 2.50-2.62 (m, 1H), 3.73-3.82 (m, 1H), 4.01-4.08 (m, 1H), 5.71 (m, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H),7.46 (s, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, 1H).

Step 3

4-(6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-indazol-3-yl)benzonitrile (**33**)

A mixture of 3-iodo-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-indazole (3g, 9mmol), 4-cyanophenylboronic acid (2.04g, 13.7mmol) and sodium carbonate (1.98g, 18.3mmol) was taken up in 42 mL of a 3:1 mixture of IPA and water and stirred at room temperature for 30 min. 341mg (0.48mmol) of bis(di-tert-butyl(4 dimethylaminophenyl)phosphine)dichloropalladium(II) was then added to the mixture stirring continued for a further 15 min. The yellow suspension was left stirring at 88°C for 5 hours and then cooled to room temperature, concentrated *in vacuo* and partitioned between EtOAc and a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO₃. The organic phase was separated, washed with brine and then dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting light yellow solid was recrystallised from 15% DCM/hexanes to afford the product as an off white solid (1450 mg, 50%). LRMS: found m/z 304 $[M+H]^+$. $C_{15}H_9F_3N_3O$ requires 304. ¹H NMR (400MHz, MeOD): δ 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.82-7.91 (m, 2H), 7.94-8.05 (m, 2H). HRMS: m/z found 304.0684 [M+H]⁺. C₁₅H₉F₃N₃O requires m/z 304.0692. Found C, 59.26; H, 3.02; N, 13.76%. C₁₅H₈F₃N₃O requires C, 59.41; H, 2.66; N, 13.86%.

Synthesis of Compound 31

5-((6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-indazol-3-yl)amino)thiophene-2-carbonitrile

Following the above procedure, but using 3-iodo-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-indazole and 5 cyanothiophen-2-ylboronic acid, the title compound was made in 58% yield.

¹H NMR (400MHz, MeOD): δ 7.18-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H). LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 1.60 min, m/z 310 $[M+H]^{+}$, purity 100%.

Synthesis of Compound 32

5-((6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-indazol-3-yl)amino)picolinonitrile

Following the above procedure, but using 3-iodo-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-indazole and 2-cyanopyridyl-5-boronic acid ester, the title compound was made in 60% yield.

¹H NMR (400MHz, MeOD): δ 7.03-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.49 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 9.27 (s, 1H). HRMS m/z: found 305.0643 [M+H]⁺. C₁₄H₈F₃N₄O requires

 m/z 305.0645. LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 1.47 min, m/z 305 $[M+H]$ ⁺, purity 100%.

Compounds 24, 25, 26, 27, 29 and 30 were all made analogously to compound 33.

3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-indazole (**24**) was made starting from 3-iodo-6- (trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-indazole and 3,4-difluorophenyl boronic acid. LCMS m/z [M+H]⁺ 299, purity 99%.

3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*b*]pyridine (**25**) was made starting from 3 iodo-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*b*]pyridine and 3,4-difluorophenyl boronic acid. LCMS m/z $[M+H]^{+}$ 300, purity 100%.

3-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*b*]pyridine (**26**) was made starting from 3-iodo-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridine and 4-fluorophenyl boronic acid. LCMS m/z [M+H]⁺ 298, purity 98%.

N-[1-(cyclopropylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-*b*]pyridin-6-amine (**27**) was made starting from 3-iodo-6-nitro-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*b*]pyridine and 4-fluorophenyl boronic acid. LCMS m/z [M+H]⁺ 366, purity 99%.

3-(5-fluoro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-indazole (**29**) was made starting from 3-iodo-6- (trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-indazole and 5-fluoro-1*H*-indol-2-yl-boronic acid. LCMS m/z [M+H]⁺ 336, purity 100%.

3-(5-fluoro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-pyrazolo-[4,3-*b*]pyridine (**30**) was made starting from 3-iodo-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*b*]pyridine and 5-fluoro-1*H*-indol-2-yl-boronic acid. LCMS m/z $[M+H]^+$ 337, purity 100%.

Synthesis of Compound 34

Step 1

3-iodo-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*b*]pyridine

To a mixture of 6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridin-3-amine (1.0 g, 4.6mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added diiodomethane (1.8 mL, 23mmol). The mixture was cooled in an ice bath and to it was added copper(I) iodide (0.96 g, 5.0mmol) to give a yellow suspension. After 5 mins, amyl nitrite (1.8 ml, 14mmol) was added slowly. The mixture was stirred in an ice bath for 30 mins, the ice bath was removed and the mixture then stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. The mixture was heated at reflux for 1 hour and then allowed to cool to room temperature. EtOAc and 1N HCl were added. The organic layer was separated, dried over Na₂SO₄ and purified by column chromatography using EtOAc in hexanes, first at 10%, then increased to 30%. The product was obtained as a pale yellow solid (0.32 g, 21%). LRMS: found m/z 330 $[M+H]$ ⁺. C₇H₃F₃N₃IO requires 330.

Alternate route

6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridine

To a cool (0°C) solution of 6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridin-3-amine (1.3 g, 5.96 mmol, 1 eq) in H₂O (10 mL), acetic acid (15 mL) and concentrated HCl (5 mL) was added sodium nitrite (822 mg, 12 mmol, 2 eq) in solution in water (5 mL) then the mixture was stirred for 30 min at the same temperature, before the dropwise addition of hypophosphorous acid (50% solution in water, 15 mL, 92 mmol, 15 eq), the reaction was stirred at 0°C for 30 minutes then at room temperature for 2 hours. The reaction was then basified by a dropwise addition of 4M NaOH at 0°C, and partitioned with ethyl acetate (3 x 150 mL), the organic phase was washed with brine (150 mL), dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and evaporated to give a brown residue (1 g, 4.92 mmol, 83%) that was used in the next step without further purification. LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 2.07 min, 202 [M-H], purity 47%.

Alternate route

3-iodo-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridine

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To a cool (0°C) solution of 6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridine (1 g, 4.92 mmol, 1 eq) in DMF (15 mL) was added potassium hydroxide (966 mg, 17 mmol, 3.5 eq) and iodine (2.5 g, 9.85 mmol, 2 eq) the mixture was stirred for 30 min at 0°C and 1 hour at room temperature, the mixture was then cooled to 0°C and quenched with 100 mL of saturated Na₂SO₃, the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 100 mL), the organic phase washed with brine (100 mL), dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/Heptane gradient 0 to 60%) to give a white solid (600 mg, 1.82 mmol, 37%). LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 2.97 min, 330 [M+H]⁺, purity 90%. ¹H NMR (DMSO d6, 400MHz): δ 8.20 (br s, 1 H), 8.61 (s, 1H), 13.99 (br s, 1H). ¹⁹F NMR (DMSO d6, 400MHz): δ -57.3.

Step 2

tert-Butyl 3-iodo-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridine-1-carboxylate

To a solution of 3-iodo-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridine (548 mg, 1.67 mmol, 1 eq) DIPEA (0.58 mL, 3.33 mmol, 2 eq) and THF (10 mL) was added di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (400 mg, 1.83 mmol, 1.1 eq) and DMAP (20 mg, 0.17 mmol, 0.1 eq). The mixture was stirred for 3 hours. The reaction was then partitioned between 10% citric acid (100 mL) and EtOAc (2X100 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine (100 mL), dried over sodium sulfate, and concentrated to give the title compound as a white solid (900 mg, 2.1 mmol, 126%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 1.72 (s, 9 H), 8.34 (br s, 1 H), 8.64 (d, 1 H, *J*=2.2 Hz). LCMS, ammonium formate in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 1.88 min, 430 [M-H], purity 100%.

Step 3

tert-Butyl 3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridine-1-carboxylate

A solution of *tert*-butyl 3-iodo-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridine-1-carboxylate (664 mg, 1.55 mmol, 1 eq), $(3,4$ -difluorophenyl)boronic acid $(318 \text{ mg}, 2.01 \text{ mmol}, 1.3 \text{ eq})$, Pd $(dppf)Cl₂$ (126 mg, 0.15 mmol, 0.1 eq) and cesium carbonate (1.01 g, 3.09 mmol, 2 eq) in dioxane (15 mL) was heated at 85°C in the microwave for 3 hours. The reaction was complete after this time. The mixture was filtered through a silica pad washed with EtOAc, the solvent was evaporated and the residue $(1.2 g)$ took to the next step without further purification.

Step 4

Synthesis of 3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridine (**34**)

A solution of *tert*-butyl-3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-b]pyridine-1 carboxylate (690 mg, 1.66 mmol, 1 eq) in THF (4 mL), MeOH (4 mL) and 4M potassium carbonate (4 mL) was heated to reflux for 2 hours, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and the solvent was

evaporated, and the residue was dry loaded on silica and purified by column chromatography on silica (EtOAc in heptane 10%) to give a white solid (400 mg, 1.27 mmol, 76%) the LCMS was 96% pure. The crude NMR spectrum showed some impurities, so the product was dissolved in 1 mL of TBME then heptane was slowly added until a precipitate started to form, the solid was filtered to give a white solid (304 mg, 0.96 mmol, 58%). LCMS, formic acid in water/MeCN mobile phase: Rt 1.47 min, 314 [M-H], purity 99%. ¹H NMR (MeOD, 400MHz): δ 7.35-7.42 (m, 1H), 7.96 (s, 1H), 8.30-8.34 (m, 1H), 8.39-8.44 (m, 1H), 8.60 (s, 1H). ¹⁹F NMR (MeOD, 400MHz): δ -140.57, -140-90, -59.96. HRMS: m/z found 316.0506 $[M+H]^+$. C₁₃H₇F₅N₃O calculated m/z 316.0504. Found C, 49.62; H, 1.95; N, 13.23%. C₁₃H₆F₅N₃O requires C, 49.54; H, 1.92; N, 13.33%.

2. Plasmids and cell lines

Full-length human TRPA1 (hTRPA1) cDNA (Genbank accession Y10601) was cloned into inducible vector pcDNA5/TO (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA). DNA representing full-length opossum TRPA1 (oTRPA1, Monodelphis domestica XP001378427) was codon-optimized, synthesized and cloned into pcDNA5/TO. The hS5 chimera was generated by gene synthesis of human S5 DNA which was cloned (using seamless cloning technology) into opossum TRPA1 to replace oS5. The oS5 chimera was generated by synthesis of opossum S5 DNA which was cloned into human TRPA1 to replace hS5. This resulted in a 27 amino acid swap such that for the hS5 chimera, hTRPA1 amino acids 867-893 replaced oTRPA1 amino acids 870- 896. For the oS5 chimera, oTRPA1 amino acids 870-896 replaced hTRPA1 amino acids 867-983. All gene synthesis and seamless cloning was performed by GenScript USA. Stable clonal cell lines for each chimeric construct were generated by transfecting chimera plasmid DNA into 293-T-REx cell line (Invitrogen) and selecting with 150ug/ml hygromycin and 5ug/ml blasticidin (at 37°C with 10% CO₂). 1 ug/ml tetracycline was used to induce hTRPA1 expression for functional assays.

3. Whole-cell patch clamp electrophysiology

Whole-cell manual patch clamp recordings were obtained using patch pipettes with resistances of 1.5 to 3.0 MΩ when filled with the internal solution, consisting of (in mM) 90 CsCl, 32 CsF, 10 HEPES, 10 EGTA, 10 Cs₄ BAPTA, 1 MgCl₂, 5 Mg ATP, and 0.1 Na GTP, pH adjusted to 7.3 with CsOH. The external solution consisted of (in mM) 132 NaCl, 5.4 KCl, 1.8 CaCl₂, 0.8 MgCl₂, 10 HEPES, and 5 Glucose, pH adjusted to 7.4 with NaOH. To ensure complete dialysis with pipette solution, recordings began 1 min after establishment of whole-cell configuration. Subsequently, 150 µM cinnamaldehyde was perfused with the external solution to activate TRPA1 channels. Currents were recorded at room temperature with an Axopatch 200B amplifier and filtered at 1 kHz with a low-pass Bessel filter. Voltage protocols were elicited using Clampex 10.2 software and consisted of 150 msec. depolarizing ramps from -40 mV followed by 100 msec steps to +40 mV and then to -40 mV repeated every 5 seconds from a holding potential of 15 mV. Currents were digitized using a Digidata 1440A data acquisition interface and analyzed using Clampfit 10.2 software. For these experiments the average steady state current at -40 mV was analyzed for each test condition. For potency experiments, cumulative concentrationresponses were generated. Individual concentration-response relationships were fitted to a logistic equation with floating potency, slope and Emax. Individual concentration-relationships were then normalized to their fitted Emax to visualize all data on a single graph. PatchXpress automated EP voltage protocol was same as manual patch and used custom scripting to determine steady-state block. For these experiments the internal solution was composed of (in mM) 60 CsCl, 30 CsF, 10 HEPES, 20 EGTA, 20 Cs₄ BAPTA, 1 MgCl₂, 5 Mg ATP, and 0.1 Na GTP, pH adjusted to 7.3 with CsOH. TRPA1 channels were activated with 300 µM cinnamaldehyde.

Data summary

Supplementary Table 1. Summary of biological data, replicates and standard deviations

All data is against the human channel unless otherwise stated

4. Binding site elucidation using protein chimeras

In order to establish the binding site of compounds such as 22 and 33, TRPA1 species ortholog chimeras were generated to identify the critical regions of interaction. Opossum TRPA1 (oTRPA1) was selected as the human (hTRPA1) chimeric partner because of divergence in the channel pore region (68% identity in S5-S6). Chimeric constructs were stably expressed in hEK293 cells and evaluated using manual whole-cell voltage clamp electrophysiology as has been described previously in *MedChemComm*, 2016, *7*, 2145- 2158.

The figure below shows the potency of 22 against these species orthologs and chimeras. 22 was >1000X more potent against hTRPA1 (IC₅₀=20 nM) compared to oTRPA1 (IC₅₀>30microM). Because of this potency difference, hTRPA1/oTRPA1 chimeric constructs were designed to help elucidate the compound binding site (data not shown). A 27 amino acid sequence within the S5 helix was swapped and 22 potency tested. The potency of the compound positively correlated with the species source of this 27 amino acid S5 region. Gain of potency was observed when the S5 region of human TRPA1 was swapped into oTRPA1 (hS5, IC₅₀=132 nM). Loss of function was observed in the counterpart chimera (oS5, IC₅₀=16 microM). Taken together, these data suggest the activity of 22 at TRPA1 is dependent on the S5 helix.

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Supplementary Figure 1. Indazole potency is dependent on the TRPA1 S5 helix**¹**

¹ hTRPA1/oTRPA1 chimeras were generated by swapping the 27 amino acid comprising S5. hS5 designates chimeras in which hTRPA1 amino acids 867-893 were swapped into oTRPA1. oS5 designates chimeras in which oTRPA1 amino acids 870-896 were swapped into hTRPA1. The mean IC50 (95% confidence interval, *n*) was (●) hTRPA1=0.020 μM (95% CI= 0.018-0.023 μM, *n*=6), (○)

hS5=0.132 μM (95% CI=0.126-0.138 μM, n=3), (□) oS5=16.1 μM (95% CI-13.5-19.3 μM, n=3) and

() oTRPA1 = >30 µM (*n*=3).

<u>.</u>

5. Compound 33 selectivity

Ion channels

Supplementary Table 2. Ion channel selectivity data for 33

All data are the mean of at least two separate experiments, and were produced in a PX platform unless otherwise stated.

Broad ligand profiling

>10 μ M on all receptors and transporters in a CEREP panel of 72 targets, except adenosine 2A (IC₅₀ = 2 μ M) and NE transporter (IC₅₀ = 8 μ M).

6. **Computational docking studies**

Having established using protein chimeras that compounds from the series relied on contacts within S5 for hTRPA1 activity, we sought to provide more granularity of critical residues of interaction using computational docking. Specific residues in the S5 region have been suggested to be involved in interactions with small molecule TRPA1 modulators. Xiao et.al found that agonist activity of menthol was ablated when the S5 domain is replaced with that of *Drosophila melanogaster* (*J Neurosci*, **2008**, *28*(39), 9640-9651). Sequence alignment suggested that Ser873 and Thr874 in the human protein were important (*J Mol Neurosci*, **2013**, *51*(3), 754-762) for small molecule binding. We docked exemplar compounds into the cryo-EM structure of human TRPA1 described by Paulsen et. al. (*Nature*, **2015**, *520*, 511-517) using compounds 22 and 33 and focused on a binding site in the region around Ser873 and Thr874.

As the human TRPA1 structure is a homo-tetramer, there are four equivalent binding sites. One binding site between chain A and B was selected for the docking calculations. Initial docking calculations, using the cryo-EM structure itself, were not successful. The calculations did not provide unique interaction modes of the compounds, likely because the reported cryo-EM structure was in complex with a ligand and a conformational change in the binding site was induced to accommodate the molecule. We created an ensemble of 500 human TRPA1 structure models in which the binding site conformation was randomized to introduce a degree of flexibility. The positions and dihedral angles of key residues such as Ser873, Thr874, and Phe909 could cover most viable conformations using this approach. Then, ligand binding poses were analysed through application of an ensemble docking program (created in-house) to the 500 human TRPA1 structure models. The compounds were docked to each of the 500 structures. Here, one docking process of a protein/ligand pair was set to provide 100 docking poses. This resulted in 50000 docking poses in total. The top 50 poses were selected based on docking score and evaluated for RMSD consistency. Interestingly, for both compounds 22 and 33, more than half of the 50 structures showed a unique binding mode with an RMSD consistency < 1.0 Å.

Supplementary Figure 2 shows an exemplar binding mode of compound 33. It appears that two hydrogen bond interactions stabilize the complex, formed between the OH group of Thr945 and the NH of the indole core, and the other being created between the CN group of the core and the OH group of Ser873. Thr874 lies close to the indazole 4-position and which could explain the quite specific SAR of the aromatic ring in this location. Introduction of an aromatic N at the 4-position (transformation from compound 24 to compound 25 and 29 to 30) resulted in enhancement of human TRPA1 potency,

potentially through the OH group of Thr874 forming a hydrogen bond to this N. A sub-pocket around Ser873 was not fully occupied, suggesting larger groups could be accommodated. The OCF₃ group on the 6-position of the indazole was located at the entrance of the binding site and directed toward bulk solvent (lipid membrane), suggesting that potency was less sensitive to modifications of substituents at this position. This assumption was consistent with compounds such as 28 with a much extended 6 substituent. This entrance region also attracted our attention from a species selectivity viewpoint. 27, whose 6-position contained a bulky amine substituent was more potent at rat than human protein. We propose that Val942 in human TRPA1 when mutated to Ile945 in rat TRPA1 supports a stronger hydrophobic interaction to these extended 6-substituents.

Supplementary Figure 2. 33 docked into the reported cryo-EM structure of TRPA1

A potential binding mode of compound 22 is shown in the two figures below. Two diagrams were created for visual clarity. There are two hydrogen bond interactions which stabilize ligand binding to the protein. The NH of the *1H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*b*]pyridine core formed a hydrogen bond interaction with the backbone carbonyl oxygen atom of Val942, which was unsatisfied in the apo structure due to the helix kink of S6. The NH linker between the two aromatic rings created a hydrogen bond interaction with the hydroxyl group of Thr874. These hydrogen bond interactions are consistent with the SAR of compounds 8, 11, and 13. Compound 8 showed an IC₅₀ of 546 nM while both 11 and 13 are very weak ligands. The NH of the indazole and the linker NH of compound 8 was replaced by NMe in compound 11 and compound 13, respectively, and abrogation of activity of these compounds could be attributed to the

loss of the hydrogen bond interaction. Phe909, which was suggested to play a key role in the interaction with A967079 in the cryo-EM human TRPA1 structure, was engaged in a $\pi-\pi$ stacking interaction with the *1H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*b*]pyridine ring. This interaction is further stabilized by a CH-π stacking interaction with the methyl group of Thr874, Ile878, and Leu881. Another π-π stacking interaction was seen between the 3,4-difluorophenyl ring and Phe877. A CH-π interaction with Leu956 on the other side of the ring system bolstered this interaction. The two fluorines projected into a hydrophobic environment created by Leu952, Met953, and Met912. This hydrophobic pocket was almost fully occupied and bulkier groups appeared less likely to be accommodated. This presumption was consistent with the 20 fold activity difference in potency between compound 8 and compound 9, the former having a chlorine in the *para* position compared to the CF₃ group of the latter, which might begin to create a steric clash within the hydrophobic pocket. Finally, the trifluoromethoxy group on the 6-position of the pyrazolopyridine ring system is accommodated in a hydrophobic pocket, located at the entrance of the binding site. The pocket was created by three residues Val942, Leu905, Leu906 and Ile878 and hydrophobic interactions with these residues would contribute to the high potency of compound 22. Consistently, compound 14, which lacks a hydrophobic group at this position, showed much reduced potency. The strength of the hydrophobic interaction appears highly dependent on the size of the substituents. Compounds with substituents such as Cl (16) and CF₃ (15) showed moderate IC₅₀ (< 1000 nM), while a decrease in potency was observed for compounds 23 and 24 which have bulkier aromatic substituents in this position.

Grandl and co-workers described mutations in the central region of S5 involved in the binding of an indazole compound that is structurally related to the compounds described here (*PLoS One*, September 2, 2014; DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0106776). These residues describe a region of the TRPA1 protein that is very close in space to the region shown in the figures above for the compounds in our study.

Supplementary Figure 3. Docked model of 22 in the cryo-EM structure of TRPA1. Only residues at the top of the binding site are highlighted for clarity. Residues from chain A and B are colored orange and purple respectively and highlighted residues are suffixed by chain ID for clarity.

Supplementary Figure 4. Docked model of 22 in the cryo-EM structure of TRPA1. Only residues at the base of the binding site are highlighted for clarity. Residues from chain A and B are colored orange and purple respectively and highlighted residues are suffixed by chain ID for clarity.

7. AITC study

Adult Sprague-Dawley rats (Charles River Laboratories, Raleigh, NC) weighing 180-225g at time of testing were used in all experiments. Rats were housed four per cage and were maintained on a 12h light/dark cycle with lights on at 6 a.m. Rats had free access to food and water throughout the experiment and all experiments were conducted between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. The experimental procedures described in this study adhered to the guidelines of the Committee for Research and Ethical Issues of the IASP, were approved by an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, and were performed in accordance with *The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*. Allyl isothiocyanate (AITC) was obtained from Sigma-Aldrich (St Louis, MO, USA) and the vehicle used was Neobe (Spectrum Chemicals, Northampton, UK). Morphine was obtained from Sigma-Aldrich (St Louis, MO, USA) and the vehicle used was 0.9% sterile saline. Methylcellulose was the vehicle used for all compounds. Separate experiments were conducted for each compound. Morphine (3.0 mg/kg, s.c.) was used as positive control for each experiment and was dosed 0.5 hr prior to behavioral evaluation. All test compounds and vehicles were dosed 2 hr prior to behavioural evaluation. One hour prior to behavioral evaluation rats were placed without restraint in a clear Plexiglass container to acclimate to the test environment. Immediately before testing, rats were restrained by hand and injected with 25µL of 10% AITC subcutaneously into the dorsal surface of the right hind paw. The rat was then placed without restraint into a Plexiglas observation chamber situated over an electromagnetic detector system (Automated Formalin Analyzer, Department of Anesthesiology, University of California, San Diego) and flinching behavior was recorded. Paw flinches of the AITC-injected paw are detected by the electromagnetic system and counted automatically using a computer. Measurements were be made for 30 minutes post AITC administration. All values are expressed as means \pm standard error of the mean (SEM). All statistical analysis was carried out on the raw data using GraphPad Prism version 5.00 for Windows (GraphPad Software, San Diego California USA).

Compound 33 protein binding

Protein binding was measured using the equilibrium dialysis method, described in Riccardi, K.; Cawley, S.; Yates, P.D.; Chang, C.; Funk, C.; Niosi, M.; Lin, J and Di, L. *J. Pharm. Sci.* 2015, *104*(8), 2627-2636.

Human 98.2% Rat 98.7%

Comp	Minimum effective dose (mg/kg)	Free exposure (μM)	Rat MP potency (IC_{50})	Free exposure/ potency
33	100	0.166	0.195	0.9

 \blacktriangleright Free plasma levels Injected foot -0.3 1000 Concentration (uM) rTRPA1 IC₅₀ Flinches 0.2 500 $**$ 0.1 $\pmb{0}$ 0.0 $\frac{Veh \cdot}{ATC}$ Veh
no $A \Pi C$ 30 100 10 Compound 33 (mg/kg PO)

P<0.05 ANOVA with post hoc Dunnett's T-test

Supplementary Figure 5. Efficacy and PK/PD of 33 in a rat model of acute inflammatory pain

Supplementary Table 3. Rat AITC efficacy and exposure data for 33

8. Laser Doppler sonography studies

All experimental procedures were conducted in accordance with UK Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 and followed the guidelines of the International Association for the Study of Pain (*Pain*, **1983**, *16*(2), 109-110). All studies were approved by the internal Pfizer governance committee for in vivo experiments.

Protein binding

Protein binding was measured using the equilibrium dialysis method, described in Riccardi, K.; Cawley, S.; Yates, P.D.; Chang, C.; Funk, C.; Niosi, M.; Lin, J and Di, L. *J. Pharm. Sci.* 2015, *104*(8), 2627-2636.

33 Human 98.2% Rat 98.7%

22

Human 99.7% Rat 99.2%

Compound 33 systemic study

Treatment groups

Male Sprague Dawley rats were weighed and randomised to one of the following treatment groups:

Group I: Vehicle (2ml/kg, PO) Group II: 33 (10mg/kg, PO) Group III: 33 (30mg/kg, PO) Group IV: 33 (100mg/kg, PO) Group V: 37 (300 mg/kg, PO), TRPV1 antagonist, negative control

The above mentioned treatment groups were dosed 180 min prior to cinnamaldehyde application.

Formulation and Dosing

33 was formulated in a homogenous suspension in 0.5% w/v methylcellulose/0.1% w/v Tween 80. 37 was formulated at 300 mg/kg in a homogenous suspension in 0.5% w/v methylcellulose/0.1% w/v Tween 80. 37 was supplied as a spray dried suspension form that contained 15% active pharmaceutical ingredient (API). *trans*-Cinnamaldehyde (99%, Sigma-Aldrich, Munich, Germany) was dissolved in 100% ethanol at 10% and 20% v/v and dosed topically at 50µl dose volume.

Laser Doppler imaging protocol

Male Sprague dawley rats were weighed and randomised to one of five treatment groups, orally dosed via gavage and returned to home cage. In all cases the experimenter was blinded to treatment group. 75 minutes following oral dosing, rats were placed in an anaesthetic chamber and anaesthetized with a 5% isoflurane/ $0₂$ mix. Animals were then moved to a homoeothermic heat mat and anaesthesia maintained at approximately 2% isoflurane/O₂ during the laser Doppler scanning *via* nose cone for the duration of the study. The abdomen was then shaved to allow Laser Doppler flowmetry scans to be taken over an approximate area of 5 x 5 cm. This scan area was split into two equal halves to allow two doses of cinnamaldehyde to be applied. Baseline blood flow was measured for 35 minutes then 50μl of a 10% and 20% *trans*-cinnamaldehyde (99%, Sigma-Aldrich, Munich, Germany) dissolved in 100% ethanol was administered topically to the two halves of the scan area using a 12mm polypropylene coated aluminium Finn chamber on Scanpor tape (Biodiagnostics Ltd, Worcestershire) applied for a 10 minute duration. The Finn chamber was removed and Laser Doppler flowmetry scans were then recorded for 30 minutes.

Sample collection schedule

Terminal PK samples were taken from all animals via cardiac puncture at study endpoint (180 min post oral dose). Blood samples were centrifuged and resultant plasma samples were frozen at -20 $^{\circ}$ C prior to bioanalysis.

Supplementary Table 4.

Equipment and supplies list

MoorLDI2 laser Doppler imager (Moor Instruments Ltd, Axminster, UK).

Data analysis

All data design, randomization and analysis were handled in accordance with previous discussions with Non-Clinical Statistics group. In brief, area under the curve (AUC) analysis was carried out for normalized blood flow following cinnamaldehyde challenge. AUC values were then compared across groups using one-way ANOVA.

Supplementary Figure 6. Cinnamaldehyde flare response data with systemically applied 33

Compound 22 topical study

Treatment groups

Male Sprague dawley rats were weighed and randomised to one of the following treatment groups:

Group I: Vehicle (5 μ I/cm², Topical); 30 minute pre-dose. Group II: 22, 50mg/ml (5 μ I/cm², Topical); 30 minute pre-dose. Group III: Vehicle (5 μ I/cm², Topical); 60 minute pre-dose. Group IV: 22, 50mg/ml $(5 \mu l/cm^2,$ Topical); 60 minute pre-dose.

Formulation and dosing

22 was formulated into a solution of 70:30 ethanol: propylene glycol and dosed at 6 μ l/cm². To a weighing of the compound (equivalent to a final concentration of 50 mg/mL), ethanol was added to 70% of the final volume. This was sonicated until dissolved, prior to addition of 30% of final volume of propylene glycol. This was mixed well to give a final clear solution for dosing. *trans*-Cinnamaldehyde (99%, Sigma-Aldrich, Munich, Germany) was dissolved in 100% ethanol at 20% v/v and dosed topically at 50µl dose volume.

Laser Doppler imaging protocol

Male Sprague Dawley rats were weighed and randomised to one of the 4 treatment groups, placed in an anaesthetic chamber and anaesthetized with a 5% isoflurane/ $0₂$ mix. Animals were then moved to a homoeothermic heat mat and anaesthesia maintained at approximately 2% isoflurane/O₂ during the laser Doppler scanning via nose cone for the duration of the study.

The abdomen was then shaved to allow Laser Doppler flowmetry scans to be taken over an approximate area of 2.5 cm². Baseline scans were recorded for 10mins, subsequently 15µl of compound (50mg/ml 22) or vehicle (70:30 ethanol: propylene glycol) was then applied to the centre of the scan area. The treatment was left to penetrate the skin for 30 or 60 minutes while baseline blood flow was measured. After the treatment period, a further 5 post-dose Doppler scans were completed to establish a postdose baseline before 50µl of 20% *trans*-cinnamaldehyde (99%, Sigma-Aldrich, Munich, Germany) dissolved in 100% ethanol was administered topically to the centre of the scan area using a 12mm polypropylene coated aluminium Finn chamber on Scanpor tape (Biodiagnostics Ltd, Worcestershire) applied for a 10 minute period. The Finn chamber was removed and Laser Doppler flowmetry scans were then recorded for 30 minutes.

Sample collection schedule

Terminal PK samples were taken from all animals via cardiac puncture at study endpoint (70-120 min post topical dose depending on pre-dose time). Blood samples were centrifuged and resultant plasma samples were frozen at -20°C prior to bioanalysis.

Supplementary Table 5.

Equipment and supplies list

MoorLDI2 laser Doppler imager (Moor Instruments Ltd, Axminster, UK).

Data analysis

All data design, randomization and analysis were handled in accordance with previous discussions with Non-Clinical Stats group. In brief, area under the curve (AUC) analysis was carried out for normalized blood flow following cinnamaldehyde challenge. AUC values were then compared across groups using one-way ANOVA.

Supplementary Figure 7. Cinnamaldehyde flare response data with topically applied 22 and a 30min pre-incubation period

9. Supplementary references

TRPA1 as a drug discovery target

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10. Selected NMR spectra

Compound 17 **Compound 17**

Compound 18

Compound 20 **Compound 20**

Compound 28

Compound 31

Compound 32 **Compound 32**

Compound 33 **Compound 33**

