

Supporting Information

Analgesic properties of opioid/NK1 multitarget ligands with distinct *in vitro* profiles in naive and chronic constriction injury (CCI)-mice

Joanna Starnowska,[†] Roberto Costante,^{‡,§} Karel Guillemyn,[‡] Katarzyna Popiolek-Barczyk,[†] Nga N. Chung,[‡] Carole Lemieux,[‡] Attila Keresztes,[§] Joost Van Duppen,[¶] Adriano Mollica,[◇] John Streicher,[§] Jozef Vanden Broeck,[¶] Peter W. Schiller,[‡] Dirk Tourwé,[‡] Joanna Mika,[†] Steven Ballet,^{‡*} Barbara Przewlocka^{†*}

[†] *Institute of Pharmacology, Department of Pain Pharmacology, Krakow, Poland*

[‡] *Research Group of Organic Chemistry, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium,*

[‡] *Department of Chemical Biology and Peptide Research, Clinical Research Institute of Montreal, Montreal, Canada,*

[§] *Department of Pharmacology, College of Medicine, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, U.S.A.*

[¶] *Animal Physiology and Neurobiology, Zoological Institute, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Leuven, Belgium.*

[◇] *Department of Pharmacy, “G. d’Annunzio” University, Chieti, Italy*

^{*} *Present address: IRBM Science Park s.p.a., Pomezia (RM), Italy*

Compound characterization

H-Dmt-D-Arg-Ab-Gly-NMe-3',5'-(CF₃)₂-Bn (3, SBCHM1). Preparative HPLC yielded the desired compound (white powder, 34%). HPLC: $t_R = 14.0$ min. TLC R_f 0.72 (EBAW). HRMS (ESP⁺) found m/z 821.3536 [M + H]⁺, [C₃₉H₄₆F₆N₈O₅ + H⁺] requires 821.3568.

H-Dmt-D-Arg-Ab-β-Ala-NMe-Bn (4, KGCHM2). Preparative HPLC yielded the desired compound (white powder, 34%). HPLC: $t_R = 11.7$ min. TLC R_f 0.64 (EBAW). HRMS (ESP⁺) found m/z 699.3955 [M + H]⁺, [C₃₈H₅₀N₈O₅ + H⁺] requires 699.3977.

H-Dmt-D-Arg-Ab-Gly-NH₂ (1 (AN81)). Preparative HPLC yielded the desired compound (white powder). HPLC: $t_R = 8.6$ min. TLC R_f 0.55 (EBAW). HRMS (ESP⁺) found m/z 581.3220 [M + H]⁺, [C₂₉H₄₀N₈O₅ + H⁺] requires 581.3195.⁵⁶

H-Dmt-D-Arg-Aba-β-Ala-NH₂ (**2**, **KGOP01**). Preparative HPLC yielded the desired compound (white powder, 49.5%). HPLC: $t_R = 10.1$ min. TLC R_f 0.44 (EBAW). HRMS (ESP⁺) found m/z 595.3394 [M+H]⁺, [C₃₀H₄₃N₈O₅ + H⁺] requires 595.3351.²²

H-Dmt-D-Arg-Aba-β-Ala-NcPr-3'-5'-(CF₃)₂-Bn (**6**, **RCCHM1**). Preparative HPLC yielded the desired compound (white powder, 7%). HPLC: $t_R = 14.7$ min. TLC R_f 0.78 (EBAW). HRMS (ESP⁺) found m/z 861.3876 [M + H]⁺, [C₄₂H₅₀F₆N₈O₅ + H⁺] requires 861.3881.

H-Dmt-D-Arg-Aba-β-Ala-NcPr-Bn (**7**, **RCCHM2**). Preparative HPLC yielded the desired compound (white powder, 20%). HPLC: $t_R = 12.5$ min. TLC R_f 0.76 (EBAW). HRMS (ESP⁺) found m/z 725.4151 [M + H]⁺, [C₄₀H₅₂N₈O₅ + H⁺] requires 725.4133.

H-Dmt-D-Arg-Aba-Gly-NcPr-Bn (**8**, **RCCHM8**). Preparative HPLC yielded the desired compound (white powder, 9%). HPLC: $t_R = 12.5$ min. TLC R_f 0.81 (EBAW). HRMS (ESP⁺) found m/z 711.3972 [M + H]⁺, [C₃₉H₅₀N₈O₅ + H⁺] requires 711.3977.

H-Dmt-D-Arg-Aba-β-Ala-isoindoline (**9**, **RCCHM4**). Preparative HPLC yielded the desired compound (white powder, 23%). HPLC: $t_R = 11.2$ min. TLC R_f 0.71 (EBAW). HRMS (ESP⁺) found m/z 697.3843 [M + H]⁺, [C₃₈H₄₈N₈O₅ + H⁺] requires 697.3820.

H-Dmt-D-Arg-Aba-Gly-isoindoline (**10**, **RCCHM5**). Preparative HPLC yielded the desired compound (white powder, 16%). HPLC: $t_R = 11.6$ min. TLC R_f 0.76 (EBAW). HRMS (ESP⁺) found m/z 683.3673 [M + H]⁺, [C₃₇H₄₆N₈O₅ + H⁺] requires 683.3664.

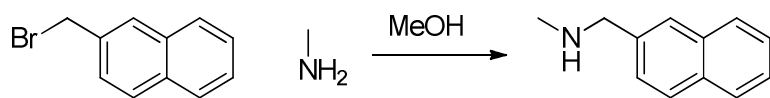
H-Dmt-D-Arg-Aba-Gly-NMe-2'-OMe-Bn (**11**, **RCCHM7**). Preparative HPLC yielded the desired compound (white powder, 29%). HPLC: $t_R = 11.9$ min. TLC R_f 0.73 (EBAW). HRMS (ESP⁺) found m/z 729.4109 [M + H]⁺, [C₄₁H₅₀N₈O₅ + H⁺] requires 729.4083.

H-Dmt-D-Arg-Aba-β-Ala-NMe-2'-naphthyl (**12**, **RCCHM3**). Preparative HPLC yielded the desired compound (white powder, 20%). HPLC: $t_R = 13.2$ min. TLC R_f 0.77 (EBAW). HRMS (ESP⁺) found m/z 749.4146 [M + H]⁺, [C₄₂H₅₂N₈O₅ + H⁺] requires 749.4133.

H-Dmt-D-Arg-Aba-Gly-NMe-2'-naphthyl (**13**, **RCCHM6**). Preparative HPLC yielded the desired compound (white powder, 21%). HPLC: $t_R = 13.0$ min. TLC R_f 0.80 (EBAW). HRMS (ESP⁺) found m/z 735.3989 [M + H]⁺, [C₄₁H₅₀N₈O₅ + H⁺] requires 735.3977.

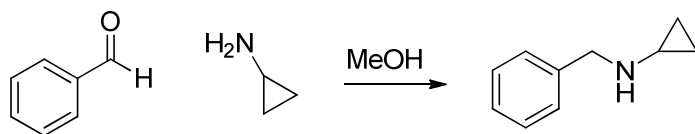
Synthesis of benzylamine derivates

Synthesis of *N*-methyl-1-(naphthalen-2-yl)methanamine



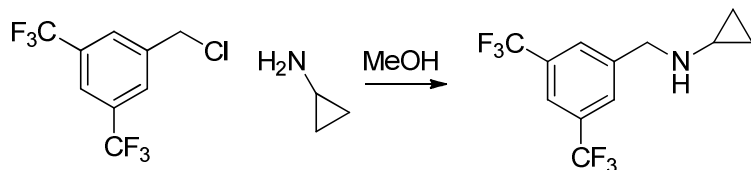
A 40 % solution of methylamine in water (1.78 g, 22.9 mmol, 10.14 equiv.) was dissolved in 10 ml of methanol in a two-headed round bottom flask which was equipped with a stirbar, a cooler and an oil bath. The mixture was heated to 50°C and a solution of 2-(bromomethyl)naphthalane (0.5 g, 2.26 mmol, 1 equiv.) in methanol (5 ml) was added dropwise during 1 hour. After 6 hours, the reaction was complete and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (300 ml) and washed with a 20% NaOH-solution (2 x 50 ml) and water (2 x 50 ml). The organic phase was dried, filtrated and evaporated to give a yellow liquid. Purification was done using flash chromatography with MeOH/CH₂Cl₂ (1:9) as eluent to give a brown oil in 70 % yield. **Yield:** 70% (271 mg); **Formula:** C₁₂H₁₃N; **MW:** 276.15 g/mol.

Synthesis of N-cyclopropylbenzylamine



Benzaldehyde (500 mg, 4.71 mmol, 1 equiv.) was dissolved in MeOH and cyclopropylamine (326 µL, 4.71 mmol, 1 equiv.) was added. After 15 min of stirring at room temperature, the solution was cooled to 0° C and NaBH₄ (1 eq.) was added portionwise. After 2 h the reaction was complete and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ and washed with water and brine, dried with MgSO₄ and the solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* to obtain a yellow oil. The oil was dissolved in 1 N HCl and lyophilized to obtain the product as a white powder in 82% yield. **Yield:** 82% (569 mg); **Formula:** C₁₀H₁₃N; **MW:** 147.22 g/mol.

Synthesis of N-cyclopropyl-3',5'-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzylamine



Cyclopropylamine (1.32 ml, 19.0 mmol, 10 equiv.) was dissolved in MeOH and the solution was heated to 50 °C. 3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl chloride (500 mg, 1.90 mmol, 1 equiv.) was dissolved in MeOH and added dropwise to reaction mixture. After 4 h the solvent was evaporated, the residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ and washed twice with 20% NaOH, H₂O and brine. The organic layer was dried with MgSO₄ and evaporated to give a yellow oil, which was purified on flash chromatography using CH₂Cl₂/DIPEA (99:1) as eluent. The product was lyophilized in 1 N HCl to obtain the product as a yellow powder in 55% yield. **Yield:** 55% (243 mg); **Formula:** C₁₂H₁₁F₆N; **MW:** 283.21 g/mol.