

SUBSTITUTED CINNAMAMIDE DERIVATIVE, PREPARATION METHOD AND USE THEREOF

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to the fields of both organic chemistry and pharmaceuticals, in particular to a compound of a general formula (I), the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts of the compound of the general formula (I), the method for preparing thereof, the pharmaceutical composition containing thereof and the use of the compound of the general formula (I) for treating
10 and/or preventing depressive-type mental diseases.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

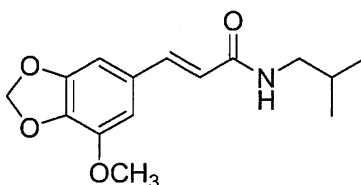
Depression is believed to be an affective disorder, a mental disease symptom that is mainly characterized by a depressed mood. Clinically, it is expressed by a series of
15 symptoms, including depressed mood, bradyphrenia, less words, decreased activity and loss interest in work etc. As reported by the WHO, depression has become the fourth largest disease in worldwide. By 2020, it will likely to become the second largest disease, just next to heart diseases. Now, there are about 26 million depression patients in China, only 10% of which, however, can have opportunity to get normal
20 drug therapy. Hence, anti-depressive drugs will certainly have a huge potential market.

As suggested by numerous researches, the change of nerve center monoaminergic neurotransmitters, dopamine and cholinergic, variation of their relevant receptor
25 function and neuroendocrine dysfunction were likely to play an important role in occurrence and development of depression. Up to now, a principle for treating the depression should be focused on adjusting the content of monoamine neurotransmitters in hypothalamus, their receptor function and restoring normal neuroendocrine.

30 Nowadays, drug therapy is still the main manner for treating depression. It has been confirmed by literatures that the pathogeny of depression is complex, associated with many factors, e.g. social psychology, heredity, biochemical changes of human body and neuroendocrinology. The anti-depressive drug is possible to have various kinds of
35 targets, e.g. receptors, concentration of monoamine neurotransmitters and cytokine. Different anti-depressive drugs take effect through different targets. The first generation of anti-depressive drugs belonged to monoamine oxidase inhibitors. However, the selectivity and irreversible inhibitory effect on enzyme thereof lead to toxic liver injury, which has certain toxic and side effects; therefore, it is gradually
40 replaced by tricyclic anti-depressive drugs. Such common-used medicines include doxepin, amitriptyline and clomipramine etc. Although having a better therapeutic effect on endogenous depression, especially having more than 80% of efficacy for emotional depression, loss of interest and pessimism, these drugs are considered to have higher cardiac toxicity and more adverse reactions. In the late 1980s, selective
45 5-HT reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) emerged as a kind of novel anti-depressive drug. By now, they have been used as a common first-line anti-depressive drug in Europe and USA, because they maintain the classical effect of anti-depression, and significantly reduce adverse reactions caused by other receptors. Such common-used medicines

include fluoxetine, paroxetine, sertraline, citalopram and fluvoxamine etc. They are absorbed through stomach and intestine and metabolized in live, thus cause gastrointestinal dysfunction, and some of them further cause sexual dysfunction. Also, clinical studies showed that it was hard to achieve a satisfactory effect for those synthesized drugs which was designed to direct to single target. Up until now, there has not been developed the ideal anti-depressive drug with better efficacy and less toxic and side effects.

Chinese patent application (Appl. No.: 201010169679.9) disclosed a compound of N-isobutyl-5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide, which was a alkaloids extracted from *Piper laetispicum* C. DC, a plant of *piperaceae*. Its structure is presented below. As shown in animal experiments, the compound of N-isobutyl-5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide had significant anti-depressive effect.



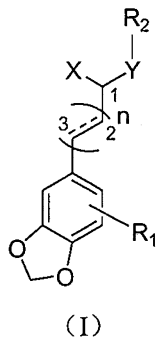
N-isobutyl-5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide

Actually, there is a limited resource of the plant of *Piper laetispicum* C. DC with a low content of the compound, N-isobutyl-5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide therein. The extraction and separation of this compound solely from the plant will be hard to meet the demands of basic research and clinical study. Thus, the present invention focuses on the process of chemically synthesizing N-isobutyl-5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide and its derivatives, so as to obtain a drug molecule with a higher anti-depressive activity.

In the present invention, N-isobutyl-5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-1) and its derivatives have been synthesized and their anti-depressive activities have been screened out by various types of mice depression models. Eventually, a series of drug molecules having significant anti-depression effects have been found.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The objective of the present invention is to provide a compound of a general formula (I) and its pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts:



wherein,

R_1 is H, OH, F, Cl, Br, I, OCH_3 , OCF_3 , $OCHF_2$, OCH_2F , CF_3 , CHF_2 , CH_2F , CH_3 , CH_3CH_2 , CF_3CH_2 , CN, NO_2 , NH_2 or $COOR_3$; wherein said R_3 is H, $C_1\sim C_{10}$ straight chain hydrocarbyl, $C_3\sim C_{10}$ branched chain hydrocarbyl, $C_3\sim C_{10}$ cyclic hydrocarbyl or $C_6\sim C_{10}$ aromatic hydrocarbyl;

n is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and the  unit contains at least one carbon-carbon single or double bond;

X is $=O$, $=S$, H, SH or SR_3 ;

Y is N or NR_3 , O or S, wherein said R_3 is H, $C_1\sim C_{10}$ straight chain hydrocarbyl; $C_3\sim C_{10}$ branched chain hydrocarbyl; $C_3\sim C_{10}$ cyclic hydrocarbyl or $C_6\sim C_{10}$ aromatic hydrocarbyl;

R_2 is H, $C_1\sim C_{10}$ straight chain hydrocarbyl, $C_3\sim C_{10}$ branched chain hydrocarbyl, $C_3\sim C_{10}$ cyclic hydrocarbyl, $C_6\sim C_{10}$ aromatic hydrocarbyl, $C_1\sim C_{10}$ hydroxyalkyl or N-substituted piperazine derivatives group; or R_2 is a group which forms tetrahydropyrrolyl, piperidyl or hexamethyleneimino group with the neighboring Y.

Preferably, R_1 is $-CF_3$;

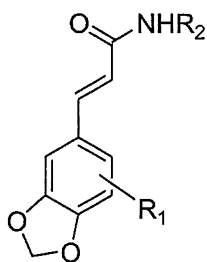
n is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and the  unit contains at least one carbon-carbon single or double bond;

X is $=O$;

Y is N or NH;

R_2 is H, $C_1\sim C_{10}$ straight chain hydrocarbyl, $C_3\sim C_{10}$ branched chain hydrocarbyl, $C_3\sim C_{10}$ cyclic hydrocarbyl, $C_6\sim C_{10}$ aromatic hydrocarbyl, $C_1\sim C_{10}$ hydroxyalkyl or N-substituted piperazine derivatives group; or R_2 is a group which forms tetrahydropyrrolyl, piperidyl or hexamethyleneimino group with the neighboring Y.

Another preferably substituted cinnamamide derivative is presented with a structure of the following general formula (II).



(II)

Wherein,

R_1 is H, OH, F, Cl, Br, I, OCH_3 , OCF_3 , $OCHF_2$, OCH_2F , CF_3 , CHF_2 , CH_2F , CH_3 , CH_3CH_2 , CF_3CH_2 , CN, NO_2 , NH_2 or $COOR_3$; wherein said R_3 is $C_1\sim C_{10}$ straight chain hydrocarbyl, $C_3\sim C_{10}$ branched chain hydrocarbyl, $C_3\sim C_{10}$ cyclic hydrocarbyl or $C_6\sim C_{10}$ aromatic

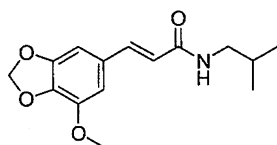
hydrocarbyl;

R₂ is H, C₁~C₁₀ straight chain hydrocarbyl, C₃~C₁₀ branched chain hydrocarbyl, C₃~C₁₀ cyclic hydrocarbyl, C₆~C₁₀ aromatic hydrocarbyl, C₁~C₁₀ hydroxyalkyl or N-substituted piperazine derivatives group.

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Most preferably, the structure of the present compound and its pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts are represented by the following compounds.

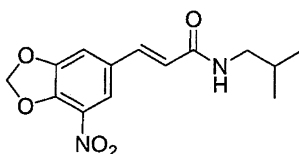
N-isobutyl-5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-1)



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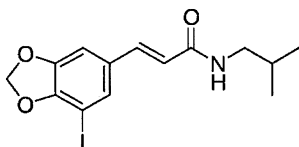
I-1

N-isobutyl-5'-nitro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-2)



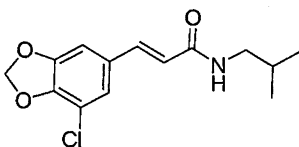
I-2

N-isobutyl-5'-iodo-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-3)



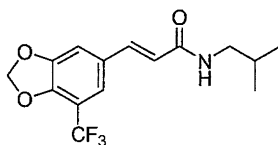
I-3

15 N-isobutyl-5'-chloro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-4)



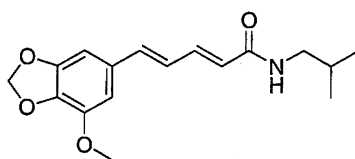
I-4

N-isobutyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-5)



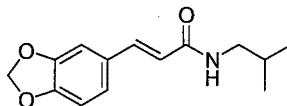
I-5

N-isobutyl-5-(5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy phenyl) pentadienamide (I-6)



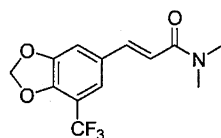
I-6

N-isobutyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-7)



I-7

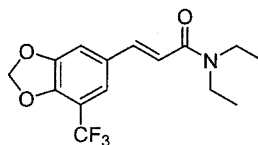
N,N-dimethyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-8)



I-8

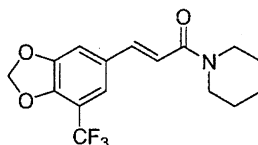
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N,N-diethyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-9)



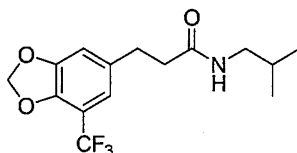
I-9

1-(5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamyl)-piperidine (I-10)



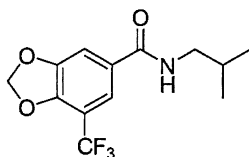
I-10

10 N-isobutyl-3-(5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy phenyl)-propionamide (I-11)



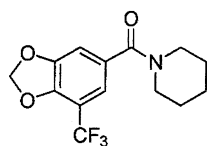
I-11

N-isobutyl-5-trifluoromethyl-3,4-methylenedioxy benzamide (I-12)



I-12

1-(5-trifluoromethyl-3,4-methylenedioxy benzoyl)-piperidine (I-13)



I-13

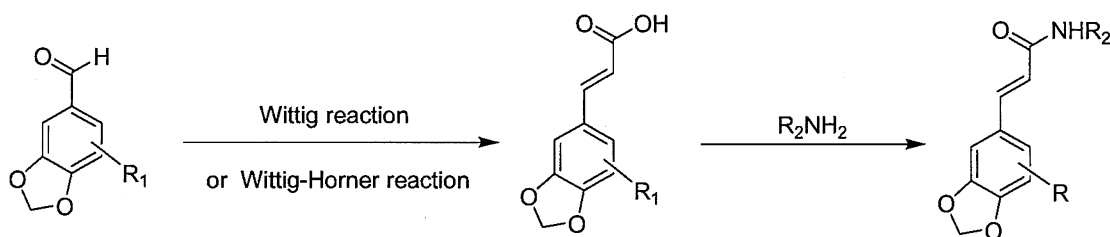
According to the present invention, said pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts of the present compounds are prepared by reacting with the following acids: sulfuric acid, hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, phosphoric acid, tartaric acid, fumaric acid, maleic acid, citric acid, acetic acid, formic acid, methanesulfonic acid, p-toluene sulphonic acid, oxalic acid or succinic acid; preferably, said pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts of the present compounds are the hydrochloride salts.

In another aspect, the invention provides a method for preparing the compounds of the general formula (I).

Preferably, the compound of the general formula (I) is N-isobutyl substituted cinnamamide derivative. The compound of the general formula (I) is prepared by the following synthetic routes:

The substituted cinnamic acid derivative is obtained by a Wittig reaction or Wittig-Horner reaction between a substituted piperonal derivative and ethoxyformyl methylene triphenyl phosphine or triethyl phosphonoacetate.

The obtained substituted cinnamic acid derivative is further acylated to obtain an acylated derivative (including acyl halide, azide, anhydride, active ester) thereof, and then the acylated derivative is reacted with an organic amine to obtain an amide derivative; Alternatively, the substituted cinnamic acid derivative is reacted with an organic amine and a condensing agent (HATU, HBTU, EDCI, DCC etc.) to obtain an amide derivative.

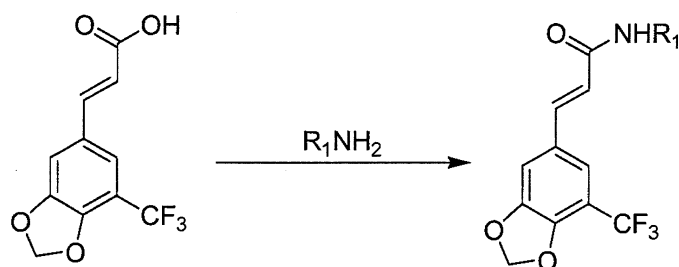


According to the present invention, the most convenient synthetic method is to obtain an amide compound by an amidation reaction of the acid corresponding to the final product.

The preferable structure of 5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide derivative is prepared by following synthetic routes:

Using 5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid as a starting material to obtain an acylated derivative (including acyl halide, azide, anhydride, active ester) thereof, and then reacting the acylated derivative with an organic amine to obtain an

amide derivative; Alternatively, reacting 5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid with an organic amine and a condensing agent (HATU, HBTU, EDCI, DCC etc.) to obtain an amide derivative;



5 Preferably, the acyl halide is used to be directly acylated.

According to the present invention, said pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts of the present compounds are prepared by a conventional acid-base neutralization reaction. For example, the corresponding acid addition salts of the
10 present invention are prepared by reacting the present compound with the following acids: sulfuric acid, hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, phosphoric acid, tartaric acid, fumaric acid, maleic acid, citric acid, acetic acid, formic acid, methane sulfonic acid, p-toluene sulphonic acid, oxalic acid or succinic acid, preferably, said pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts of the present compounds are the
15 hydrochloride salts.

In another aspect of the present invention, the pharmaceutical compositions containing said compound of the present invention or their pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts are provided.

20 According to the present invention, the pharmaceutical compositions can be prepared into any dosage forms. The dosage forms include: tablets, e.g. sugar-coated tablets, film-coated tablets, enteric-coated tablets or sustained released tablets; capsules, e.g. hard capsules, soft capsules or sustained released capsules; oral solutions;
25 buccal tablets; granules; granules taken after dissolving in boiling water; pills; pulvis; pastes, e.g. ointments, plasters; pellets; suspensions; powders; liquors, e.g. injections; suppositories; creams; sprays; drops and patches.

According to the present invention, the compound can be preferably prepared into a
30 formulation in unit dosage form.

According to the present invention, the composition comprises 0.1~1000mg of the said compound as an active ingredient per unit dosage form, and the balanced is pharmaceutically acceptable excipient(s). Said pharmaceutically acceptable
35 excipient(s) account for 0.01~99.99wt% of the total weight of the formulation.

According to the present invention, the medical usage and the dosage of said composition are determined by patients' conditions, e.g. 1~3 times per day and 1~10
40 tablets per time.

According to the present invention, said composition can be prepared into orally-administrated dosage form or injections.

5 Wherein, said orally-administrated dosage form is selected from one kind of the following: capsules, tablets, drop pills, granules, concentrated pills and oral solutions.

Wherein, said injections are selected from one kind of the following: injection solutions, lyophilized powder for injection and water injections.

10 According to the present invention, said orally-administrated dosage form of the present pharmaceutical composition generally contains conventional excipient(s), e.g. binding agents, bulking agents, diluents, tablet-pressing agents, lubricants, disintegrating agents, colorants, flavoring agents, wetting agents, and if necessary, the tablets can be coated.

15 Suitable bulking agents include cellulose, mannitol, lactose and other analogous bulking agents. Suitable disintegrating agents include starch, polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP) and starch derivatives (preferably sodium starch glycollate). Suitable lubricants include, such as magnesium stearate. Suitable wetting agents include sodium
20 dodecyl sulfate.

Usually, the orally-administrated solid preparations can be prepared by conventional methods, such as blending, filling and tablet-pressing, etc. Being blended repeatedly allows the active substance distribute uniformly into those compositions having a large
25 amount of bulking agent.

According to the present invention, the oral liquid preparations can be, for example water-soluble or oil-soluble suspensions, solutions, emulsions, syrups or elixirs, or dried products that can be reconstituted with water or other suitable carriers before
30 using. The liquid preparations can contain conventional additives, for example, suspending agents, e.g. sorbitol, syrup, methylcellulose, gelatin, hydroxyethyl cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose, aluminum stearate gel or hydrogenated edible fat; emulsifying-agents, e.g. lecithin, sorbitan monooleate or arabic gum; non-aqueous carriers which can be edible oil, e.g. almond oil, fractionated coconut oil, esters of
35 glycerol, propylene glycol or ethanol; and preservatives, e.g. methyl paraben, nipasol or sorbic acid. And if necessary, conventional scenting agents or colorants can be included.

As for the injections, the prepared liquid unit dosage form contains the active
40 component(s) of the present invention and sterile carrier(s). According to the type of the carrier(s) and the concentration of the active component(s), said active component(s) can be dissolved or suspended. Generally, the solutions are prepared by dissolving the active component(s) in the carriers, sterilizing by filtering, loading into a suitable vial or ampoule, and sealing. Some pharmaceutically acceptable
45 vehicles, e.g. local anesthetics, preservatives and buffering agents can also be added into the carriers. In order to improve the stability, the composition of the present

invention can be frozen after being loaded into the vial and then treated in vacuum to remove water.

According to the present invention, said pharmaceutical composition is prepared into a formulation into which the pharmaceutically acceptable carriers can be added optionally. Said carriers are selected from sugar alcohol, e.g. mannitol, sorbitol, xylitol; amino acids, e.g. cysteine hydrochloride, methionine, glycine; EDTA disodium, EDTA calcium sodium; inorganic salts, e.g. carbonates, phosphates of the monovalent alkali metals or aqueous solutions thereof, sodium chloride, potassium chloride, sodium pyrosulfite, sodium bisulfite, sodium thiosulfate, calcium carbonate, calcium bicarbonate; stearates, e.g. calcium stearate, magnesium stearate; inorganic acids, e.g. hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, phosphoric acid; organic acids, e.g. acetic acid, Vitamin C; organic acid salts, e.g. acetates, sodium lactate; oligosaccharides, polysaccharides, celluloses and derivatives thereof, e.g. maltose, glucose, fructose, dextran, sucrose, lactose, cyclodextrin (such as β -cyclodextrin), starch; mercaptoacetic acid; silicon derivatives; alginate; gelatin; PVP, glycerol; Tween-80; agar; surfactants; polyethylene glycol; phospholipids materials; Kaolin; talc powder etc.

According to the present invention, said pharmaceutical composition may be applied in combination with other anti-depressive drugs. That is to say, except the compound of the present invention, there are one or more kinds of anti-depressive drugs which is (are) clinically used for prevention and treatment of mental diseases, e.g. nefazodone, sulpiride, alprazolam, serenade, buspirone, tandospirone, methylphenidate, fluoxetine, paroxetine, sertraline, citalopram, lexapro, fluvoxamine, reboxetine, venlafaxine, fluvoxol, melitracene and neurostan etc.

According to the present invention, as shown in animal experiments, the substituted cinnamamide and the derivatives thereof can significantly shortened immobility time in the forced swimming test and in the tail suspension test of mice, which are the two acquired-behavioral despair animal models of depression. They have the effect of antagonizing the activity of reserpine in consuming monoamine. Thus, the substituted cinnamamide and the derivatives thereof can be used as a drug for treatment and prevention of depressive-type mental diseases.

In another aspect of the present invention, the use of the compound of the general formula (I) in preparation of a medicine for preventing and treating depressive-type mental diseases is provided.

According to the present invention, the beneficial effects of the compound and the composition for preventing and treating mental diseases are confirmed via the following experimental data.

Test 1 A "acquired despair" depression model of tail suspension test in mice

1 Material

1.1 Reagents

Compounds of I-1, I-2, I-3, I-4, I-5, I-6, I-7, I-8, I-9, I-10, I-11, I-12 and I-13 were synthesized in light of the method of the present invention with a purity of more than 95%. They were added into 2% Tween-80 aqueous solution to obtain a solution containing 1mg/ml of the drug compound before use.

Fluoxetine hydrochloride was manufactured by Patheon Inc. (France) and separately packaged by Eli Lilly (Suzhou) Pharmaceutical Inc. with a specification of 20mg/pill and a batch number of 81958. Before experiment, it was dissolved into 2% Tween-80 aqueous solution to prepare a solution containing 1mg/ml of the drug compound.

1.2 Animals

C57BL/6 mice were purchased from Beijing Vital River Experimental Animal Co. Ltd. Animal certification number was SCXK (Beijing) 2006-0009.

1.3 Apparatus

YLS-1A multi-functional mice autonomic activity recorder was provided by Shandong Institute of Medical Instruments.

2. Method

240 male C57BL/6 mice with a weight of 18~22g at the age of 6~8 weeks are feed adaptive for 2~3 days.

Experiment 1

110 mice were randomly selected to observe the number of their autonomic activity.

The mice was placed into the YLS-1A multi-functional mice autonomic activity recorder, and after 1min of adaption, the mice's activity was counted within a time period from the end of 1st min to 4th min. 96 mice with the number of autonomic activity between 70~140 were screened out, divided randomly into 8 groups, and intragastrically administrated with the drug compounds at a dose listed in Table 1, one time daily for 7 days consecutively. The solvent control group was administrated with 2% Tween-80 aqueous solution in the same volume. All mice were placed into the autonomic activity recorder 30min after administration at 6th day. After 1min of adaption, the mice's activity was counted within a time period from the end of 1st min to 4th min.

30min after administration at 7th day, the mice was fixed on a sustainer with a rubberized cloth at 1cm close to the end of the tail of mice, making the mice hanged upside down. The head of the mice was about 30 cm above the table and its sight was separated from the neighboring mouse with a plate. Usually, the mice might manage to struggle in hopes of overcoming the abnormal body position. After a period of time, however, the mice showed immobility episodically, displaying hopelessness. The accumulated immobility time within 6 min of each mouse was observed, which was regarded as "despair time". Wherein, the immobility is referred to that the limbs of mice do not move except taking respiration.

Experiment 2

130 mice were randomly selected to observe the number of their autonomic activity. The method was the same with that of Experiment 1. 108 mice with the number of autonomic activity between 70~140 were screened out, divided randomly into 9 groups, and intragastrically administrated with the drug compounds at a dose listed in Table 2, one time daily for 7 days consecutively. The solvent control group was administrated with 2% Tween-80 aqueous solution in the same volume. 30min after administration at 6th day, the number of the autonomic activity of each mouse was observed. 30min after administration at 7th day, the immobility time in tail suspension test was observed. The method was the same with that in Experiment 1.

Statistics:

SPSS10.0 analytical software was used and the results were analyzed with one-way Anova method to compare the inter-group significance.

3. Results

Experiment 1 was used to evaluate the effect of compounds I-1, I-2, I-3, I-4, I-5, I-6 on the number of the autonomic activity and immobility time of mice in tail suspension test. As shown in Table 1, compared with the solvent control group, one week of intragastric administration of fluoxetine hydrochloride at a dose of 10mg/kg had no effect on mice autonomic activity and could reduce the immobility time in tail suspension test significantly ($p < 0.01$). Intragastric administration of compounds I-4 or I-5 at a dose of 10mg/kg could also remarkably reduce the immobility time of the mice in tail suspension test ($p < 0.05$, $p < 0.01$), but had no affect the autonomic activity of mice. As for other treating groups, the immobility time of the mice in tail suspension test was reduced to different degrees, but had no statistical difference. Compared with I-1, I-4 or I-5 had a better effect on antagonize immobility of the mice in tail suspension test ($p < 0.05$).

Table 1 Effect of different compounds on the number of the autonomic activity and the immobility time of mice in the tail suspension test

Groups	Dosages	Number of the mice	Number of Autonomic activity (time)	Immobility time in tail suspension test (s)
Solvent control	--	12	107.75 ± 8.38	193.11 ± 41.69
fluoxetine hydrochloride	10mg/kg	12	121.75 ± 24.14	131.14 ± 28.76 *** ^Δ
I-1	10mg/kg	12	113.92 ± 14.24	180.10 ± 18.26
I-2	10mg/kg	12	102.00 ± 26.24	169.69 ± 38.10
I-3	10mg/kg	12	94.42 ± 23.97	173.14 ± 32.39
I-4	10mg/kg	12	94.75 ± 28.53	155.29 ± 31.81 * ^Δ
I-5	10mg/kg	12	94.75 ± 23.98	147.54 ± 35.72 ** ^Δ
I-6	10mg/kg	12	98.83 ± 17.56	164.82 ± 23.04

Note: compared with the solvent control group. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$; compared with I-1, ^Δ $p < 0.05$.

Experiment 2 was used to evaluate the effect of the compounds I-5, I-8, I-9, I-10, I-11, I-12 and I-13 on the number of autonomic activity of the mice and the immobility time in tail suspension test. As shown in Table 2, compared with the solvent control group, one week of intragastric administration of I-5, I-9, I-10, I-11, I-12, I-13 at a dose of 10mg/kg could reduce the immobility time of the mice in tail suspension test significantly ($p<0.01$), but had no effect on the autonomic activity of the mice. It was illustrated that these compounds had a certain anti-depression activity without an action of exciting central nervous system.

10 **Table 2 Effect of different compounds on the number of the autonomic activity and the immobility time of the mice in tail suspension test**

Groups	Dosages	Number of the mice	Number of Autonomic activity (time)	Immobility time in tail suspension test (s)
Solvent control	--	12	94.50 ± 19.55	204.05 ± 33.86
fluoxetine hydrochloride	10mg/kg	12	102.00 ± 14.91	123.58 ± 30.44 **
I-5	10mg/kg	12	99.40 ± 19.67	117.34 ± 32.78 **
I-8	10mg/kg	12	84.00 ± 21.81	194.39 ± 39.14
I-9	10mg/kg	12	83.60 ± 22.68	139.70 ± 48.62 **
I-10	10mg/kg	12	95.30 ± 15.06	121.91 ± 22.75 **
I-11	10mg/kg	12	86.60 ± 23.08	145.32 ± 33.78 **
I-12	10mg/kg	12	93.20 ± 19.54	136.44 ± 53.28 **
I-13	10mg/kg	12	87.40 ± 22.39	122.76 ± 39.34 **

Note: compared with the solvent control group. ** $p<0.01$.

Test 2 A depression model test of anti-blepharoptosis caused by reserpine

15 1 Material

1.1 Reagents

Compounds I-1, I-2, I-3, I-4, I-5, I-6, I-7, I-8, I-9, I-10, I-11, I-12 and I-13 were synthesized in accordance with the method of the present invention (purity>95%). 2% Tween-80 aqueous solution was added to prepare a solution containing 1mg/ml of the drug compound.

Fluoxetine hydrochloride was manufactured by Patheon Inc. (France) and separately packaged by Eli Lilly (Suzhou) Pharmaceutical Inc. with a specification of 20mg/pill and a batch No. of 81958. Before experiment, it was dissolved into 2% Tween-80 aqueous solution to prepare a solution containing 1mg/ml of the drug compound.

Reserpine injection was purchased from Shanghai Fudan Fuhua Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. with a specification of 1mg/ml and a batch number of x070302.

30 1.2 Animals

C57BL/6 mice was purchased from Beijing Vital River Experimental Animal Co. Ltd. Animal certification number was SCXK (Beijing)2006-0009.

1.3 Apparatus

YLS-1A multi-functional mice autonomic activity recorder was provided by Shandong Institute of Medical Instruments.

2. Method

240 male C57BL/6 mice with a weight of 18~22g at the age of 6~8 weeks are feed adaptive for 2~3 days.

Experiment 1

120 male C57BL/6 mice were randomly selected to observe the number of their autonomic activity. The mice was placed into the YLS-1A multi-functional mice autonomic activity recorder, and after 1min of adaption, the activity of the mice was counted within a time period from the end of 1st min to 4th min. 96 mice with the number of autonomic activity between 70~140 were screened out, divided randomly into 8 groups, and intragastrically administrated with the drug compounds at a dose listed in Table 3, one time daily for 7 days consecutively. The solvent control group was administrated with 2% Tween-80 aqueous solution in the same volume. Except the normal control group, 30 min after the last administration, each group was injected intraperitoneally with reserpine at a dose of 4mg/kg. Next, akinesia, blepharoptosis and shell temperature were observed.

I Akinesia: one hour after intraperitoneal injection of reserpine, the mice were placed at the center of a circle with a diameter of 7.5cm for a 15-second observation to calculate the "out-of-circle" ratio.

II Blepharoptosis: one hour after intraperitoneal injection of reserpine, the eye closure of mice was observed and scored by the following standard: eyelids open, 0; eyelids 1/4 closed, 1; eyelids 2/4 closed, 2; eyelids 3/4 closed, 3; eyelids closed completely, 4.

III Shell temperature: two hours after intraperitoneal injection of reserpine, the shell temperature of the abdomen of the mice was measured.

Experiment 2

120 C57BL/6 mice were randomly selected to observe the number of their autonomic activity. The method was the same with that of Experiment 1. 100 mice with the number of autonomic activity between 70~140 were screened out, divided randomly into 10 groups, and intragastrically administrated with the drug compounds at a dose listed in Table 4, one time daily for 7 days consecutively. The mice in the normal group and the solvent control group were administrated with 2% Tween-80 aqueous solution in the same volume. Except the normal control group, 30 min after the last administration, each group was injected intraperitoneally with reserpine at a dose of 4mg/kg. Next, akinesia, blepharoptosis and shell temperature were observed. Observation method was the same with that of Experiment 1.

Statistics:

SPSS10.0 analytical software was used and the results were analyzed with one-way

Anova method to compare the inter-group significance.

3 Results

Reserpine reversal is believed to be a vesicle re-uptake inhibitor, which makes the transmitters out of the vesicle and further leads to easy degradation of the transmitters by monoamine oxidase. Thus, NE, E, DA, 5-HT and the like are depleted, which results in physiological or behavioral changes, consequently, depression symptoms are observed.

As shown in Experiment 1, after administration of reserpine, akinesia, blepharoptosis and reduced shell temperature were observed. Compared with the solvent control group, the positive drug fluoxetine hydrochloride (10mg/kg) could obviously increase mice "out-of-circle" ratio and shell temperature, and significantly reduce the degree of eye closure of the mice ($p<0.01$). Compared with the solvent control group, blepharoptosis, "out-of-circle" ratio and shell temperature were improved significantly ($p<0.05$, $p<0.01$) in groups of I-1, I-2, I-3, I-4, I-5, I-6. Compared with I-1, the degree of eye closure of the mice in groups I-3, I-4, I-5 were reduced ($p<0.01$); "out-of-circle" ratio in I-2, I-3, I-4, I-5, I-6 groups increased markedly ($p<0.05$). Compounds I-4 and I-5 had the best effect on improving akinesia, blepharoptosis and shell temperature.

Table 3 Effect of each compound on the eye-closure and akinesia induced by reserpine ($\pm$ SD)

Groups	Dosage	Number of the mice	Degree of eye-closure	Change in the shell temperature ($\Delta T^{\circ}\text{C}$)	"out-of-circle" ratio
Solvent control	--	12	3.50 ± 0.52	3.51 ± 0.37	0%
fluoxetine hydrochloride	10mg/kg	12	1.42 ± 1.38 ** Δ	1.89 ± 0.21 *	58% Δ
I-1	10mg/kg	12	2.67 ± 0.89 *	2.05 ± 0.24 *	17%
I-2	10mg/kg	12	1.67 ± 1.30 **	1.60 ± 0.18 *	83% Δ
I-3	10mg/kg	12	1.00 ± 1.13 ** $\Delta\Delta$	1.72 ± 0.26 *	92% Δ
I-4	10mg/kg	12	0.17 ± 0.39 ** $\Delta\Delta$	1.51 ± 0.31 *	100% Δ
I-5	10mg/kg	12	0.42 ± 0.79 ** $\Delta\Delta$	1.32 ± 0.16 *	92% Δ
I-6	10mg/kg	12	2.08 ± 1.68 *	1.84 ± 0.22 *	67% Δ

Note: compared with the solvent control group, * $p<0.05$, ** $p<0.01$; compared with I-1, $\Delta p<0.05$, $\Delta\Delta p<0.01$.

Experiment 2 evaluated the antagonistic effect of compounds I-1, I-8, I-9, I-10, I-11, I-12 and I-13 by intraperitoneal injection of reserpine. As shown in Table 4, compared with the normal group, the degree of eye closure of the mice in the solvent control group was increased significantly ($p<0.01$), but the shell temperature and "out-of-circle" ratio decreased remarkably ($p<0.01$). It was illustrated that the mice depression model induced by intraperitoneal injection of reserpine was successful.

Compared with the solvent control group, the positive drug fluoxetine hydrochloride at a dose of 10mg/kg could improve the “out-of-circle” ratio obviously, and significantly reduce the degree of eye closure and raise the shell temperature ($p<0.01$). Compounds I-1, I-8, I-9, I-11, I-12 and I-13 at a dose of 10mg/kg could remarkably improve blepharoptosis, shell temperature and “out-of-circle” ratio, and the improvement was statistically significant ($p<0.05$, $p<0.01$). Compound I-10 at a dose of 10mg/kg could improve blepharoptosis of the mice significantly ($p<0.01$), ameliorate the shell temperature and “out-of-circle” ratio to a certain degree but without statistically significant difference. Compared with Compound I-1, compounds I-11, I-12 and I-13 had significantly improved effect on blepharoptosis, shell temperature and “out-of-circle” ratio of the mice ($p<0.05$, $p<0.01$), and I-9 and I-10 had an increased improvement on blepharoptosis ($p<0.05$). In terms of the improvement in eye closure and shell temperature of the mice, I-13 had a better effect to a certain degree than that of fluoxetine ($p<0.05$). In terms of the improvement in blepharoptosis, shell temperature and “out-of-circle” ratio of the mice, I-11, I-12 and I-13 had better effects.

Table 4 Effect of each compound on the eye-closure, akinesia and the shell temperature induced by reserpine ($\pm$ SD)

Groups	Dosage	Number of the mice	Degree of eye-closure	Change in the shell temperature ($^{\circ}$ C)	“out-of-circle” ratio
Normal group	---	10	0.00 $\pm$ 0.00	32.83 $\pm$ 0.54	100%
Solvent control group	--	10	4.00 $\pm$ 0.00	26.05 $\pm$ 0.44 $\Delta\Delta$	0% $\Delta\Delta$
fluoxetine hydrochloride	10mg/kg	10	2.00 $\pm$ 1.33 **	29.20 $\pm$ 0.54 **	50%*
I-1	10mg/kg	10	2.91 $\pm$ 0.75 *	27.80 $\pm$ 0.61 ***	10% [#]
I-8	10mg/kg	10	2.30 $\pm$ 1.64 **	27.60 $\pm$ 0.88 ***	40% ^{*†}
I-9	10mg/kg	10	1.80 $\pm$ 1.23 **†	28.70 $\pm$ 1.78 **	30%
I-10	10mg/kg	10	1.80 $\pm$ 1.32 **†	27.15 $\pm$ 1.20 ##	30%
I-11	10mg/kg	10	1.40 $\pm$ 0.97 **††	30.20 $\pm$ 0.95 ***††	50% ^{*†}
I-12	10mg/kg	10	1.50 $\pm$ 1.18 **†	30.65 $\pm$ 1.16 ***††	70% ^{*†}
I-13	10mg/kg	10	0.90 $\pm$ 0.88 ***††	30.20 $\pm$ 0.95 ***††	70% ^{*†}

Note: compared with the normal group, $\Delta\Delta$ $p<0.01$; compared with the solvent control group, * $p<0.05$, ** $p<0.01$; compared with fluoxetine hydrochloride group, [#] $p<0.05$, ^{##} $p<0.01$; compared with I-1, [†] $p<0.05$, ^{††} $p<0.01$.

Test 3 Forced swimming experiment in mice

1 Material

1.1 Reagents

Compounds I-5, I-10, I-13 were synthesized in accordance with the method of the present invention (purity>95%). 2% Tween-80 aqueous solution was added to prepare a solution containing 1mg/ml of the drug compound.

Fluoxetine hydrochloride was manufactured by Patheon Inc. (France) and separately packaged by Eli Lilly (Suzhou) Pharmaceutical Inc. with a specification of 20mg/pill and a batch number of 81958. Before experiment, it was dissolved into 2% Tween-80 aqueous solution to prepare a solution containing 1mg/ml of the drug compound.

1.2 Animals

C57BL/6 mice were purchased from Beijing Vital River Experimental Animal Co. Ltd. Animal certification number was SCXK (Beijing) 2006-0009.

1.3 Apparatus

YLS-1A multi-functional mice autonomic activity recorder was provided by Shandong Institute of Medical Instruments.

2. Method

After 1~2 days of adaptive feed, 80 male C57BL/6 mice, aged 6~8 weeks and weighing 18~22g, were placed into the YLS-1A multi-functional mice autonomic activity recorder. After 1min of adaption, the activity of the mice was counted within a time period from the end of 1st min to 4th min. 60 mice with the number of autonomic activity between 70~140 were screened out, divided randomly into 6 groups, and intragastrically administrated with the drug compounds at a dose listed in Table 5, one time daily for 7 days consecutively. The solvent control group was administrated with 2% Tween-80 aqueous solution in the same volume. After the administration at 6th day, the mice were placed into a cylindrical aquarium with a water depth of 10cm and 25 °C to force the mice to swim. After 15min, the mice were taken out, dried and returned to the cage. 24 hours later, 30 min after the last intragastrical administration, the mice were placed into a glass bottle with a diameter of 10cm, a height of 30cm and a water depth of 10cm, and the temperature of the water in the bottle was at 25°C. The mice were separated with an opaque partition, so as not to influence each other. After 2 min of adaption, an accumulated immobility time from the end of 2nd min to 6th min was recorded. Said immobility status is referred to that the mice stop struggling or float on the surface of water, and the whole body shows slightly curled with only small limb movements to keep their head floating on the water with their nostrils exposed to the air.

Statistics:

SPSS10.0 analytical software was used and the results were analyzed with one-way Anova method to compare the inter-group significance.

3 Results

As shown in the results, compared with the solvent control group, compounds I-5, I-10, I-13 had an effect of shortening the immobility time within the dosage range in the forced swimming test in mice. It was statistically significant ($p < 0.05$, $p < 0.01$). I-5 showed a dose-dependent effect on the immobility time in the forced swimming test in mice.

Table 5 Effect of the derivatives on the immobility time of the forced swimming test in mice

Groups	Dosage	Immobility time in the forced swimming test in mice(s)		
Solvent control group	--	139.05	± 25.09	
Fluoxetine hydrochloride	10mg/kg	98.96	± 32.43	*
I-5 low dose group	5mg/kg	91.20	± 43.09	*
I-5 high dose group	10mg/kg	78.58	± 35.70	**
I-10	10mg/kg	83.07	± 31.03	**
I-13	10mg/kg	76.00	± 32.32	**

Note: compared with the solvent control group, *p<0.05, **p<0.01.

5 Based on the aforesaid experiments, the following conclusion can be drawn:

1. In the "acquired despair" depression model of tail suspension test in mice, administration of compounds I-4, I-5, I-9, I-10, I-11, I-12 and I-13 at a dose of 10mg/kg for 7 days can significantly shorten the immobility time in the tail suspension test in mice.
- 10 2. In depression model test of anti-blepharoptosis caused by reserpine, administration of compounds I-4, I-5, I-8, I-9, I-10, I-11, I-12 and I-13 at a dose of 10mg/kg for 7 days has an effect of antagonizing the decrease of shell temperature, akinesia and improving the degree of eye closure of mice induced by reserpine, thus indicates that the compounds of the present invention have a
- 15 modulating effect on the re-uptake of 5-HT, NE and DA.
3. In the forced swimming test in mice, I-5, I-10 and I-13 of the present compound can shorten the immobility time in the forced swimming test, and I-5 showed a dose-dependent effect on the immobility time in the forced swimming test in mice.
- 20 4. Compared with the pharmacologic effect of I-1, the anti-depression effect of I-4, I-5, I-9, I-10, I-11, I-12 and I-13 in the tested model at the tested dose increased to some degree.

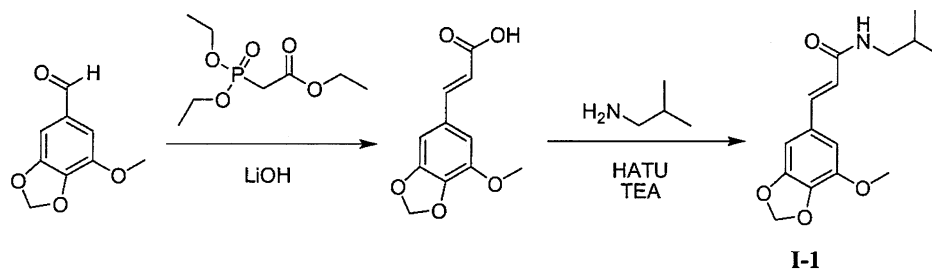
25 In summary, said substituted cinnamamide derivatives of the present invention was confirmed to have a better anti-depression activity than the one in the prior art.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

30 The following examples are given only for purpose of illustration of the present invention. The synthesis and relevant structure identification data of typical compounds are presented in the following examples. The following examples are given only for purpose of illustration and do not intend to limit the scope of the invention in any way. Any simple improvement in accordance with the essence of the present invention should be regarded to be within the protection scope of the present

35 invention.

Example 1 N-isobutyl-5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-1)



Triethyl phosphonoacetate (300mg, 1.3mmol), anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (10ml) and lithium hydroxide (163mg, 3.9mmol) were added into a 50ml three-necked flask, and heated to 70 °C to react for 1 hour under a protection of nitrogen. 3,4-methylenedioxy-5-methoxybenzaldehyde (200mg, 1.1mmol) was dissolved into 5ml anhydrous tetrahydrofuran, and the obtained solution was dripped into the flask within 0.5 hours. The reaction solution was allowed to react at 70°C for 10 hours. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was used to monitor the reaction. Heating was not stopped until the reaction was completed. The resultant reaction solution was concentrated to a dry solid by rotary evaporation. 20ml distilled water was added to dissolve the solid to form a solution. 2N hydrochloride was slowly dripped into afore-said solution to adjust pH to 2.0 and stirred continuously for 1 hour to allow a light-yellow solid to be precipitated. The solid was collected through filtration under reduced pressure, and then a vacuum drying method was used to obtain the intermediate of 5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (180mg, 74%).

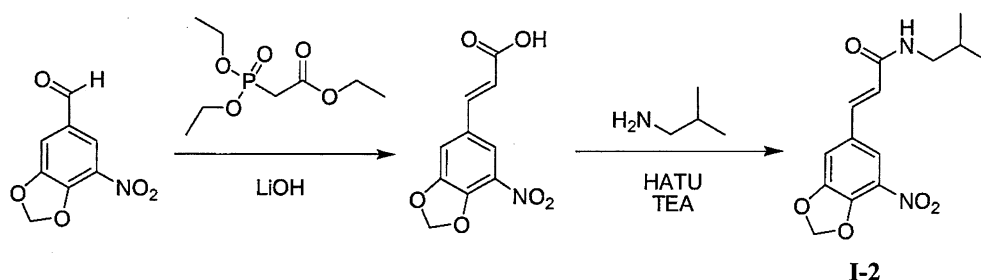
5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (210mg, 0.81mmol), isobutenamine (71mg, 0.97mmol) and triethylamine (122mg, 1.2mmol) were dissolved in 10ml anhydrous dichloromethane, stirred for 15min under the condition of an ice bath, and slowly added with HATU (368mg, 0.97mmol). The resultant solution was continued to be stirred under the condition of an ice bath for 2 hours. After stopping agitation, 20ml water was added and shaken to separate the organic phase. The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=3/1) to obtain N-isobutyl-5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (160mg, 71%).

^1H NMR(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.50 (1H, d, J = 15.6 Hz), 6.72 (1H, d, J = 1.2 Hz), 6.67 (1H, d, J = 1.6 Hz), 6.25 (1H, d, J = 15.6 Hz), 6.00 (2H, s), 5.69 (1H, br), 3.91 (3H, s), 3.22 (2H, t, J = 6.8 Hz), 1.84 (1H, m), 0.96 (3H, s), 0.95 (3H, s);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 166.19, 149.49, 143.85, 140.90, 136.93, 129.97, 119.64, 109.18, 102.05, 101.04, 56.83, 47.33, 28.87, 20.38;

ESI-MS: 278.1 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$

Example 2 N-isobutyl-5'-nitro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-2)



Triethyl phosphonoacetate (300mg, 1.3mmol), anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (10ml) and lithium hydroxide (163mg, 3.9mmol) were added into a 50ml three-necked flask, and heated to 70 °C to react for 1 hour under a protection of nitrogen.

3,4-methylenedioxy-5-nitrobenzaldehyde (215mg, 1.1mmol) was dissolved into 5ml anhydrous tetrahydrofuran, and the obtained solution was dripped into the flask within 0.5 hours. The reaction solution was allowed to react at 70°C for 10 hours. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was used to monitor the reaction. Heating was not stopped until the reaction was completed. The resultant reaction solution was concentrated to a dry solid by rotary evaporation. 20ml distilled water was added to dissolve the solid to form a solution. 2N hydrochloride was slowly dripped into afore-said solution to adjust pH to 2.0 and stirred continuously for 1 hour to allow a yellow solid to be precipitated. The solid was collected through filtration under reduced pressure, and then a vacuum drying method was used to obtain the intermediate of 5'-nitro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (190mg, 73%).

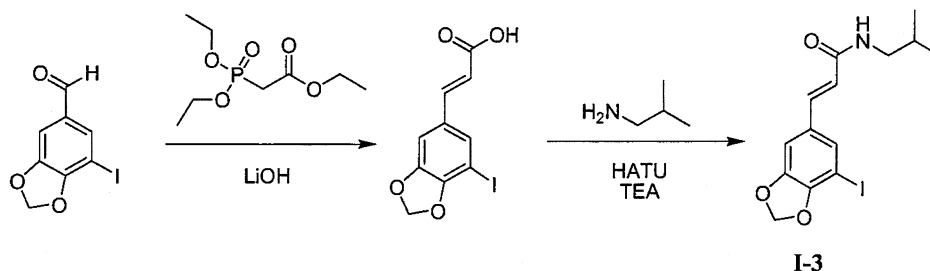
5'-nitro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (190mg, 0.80mmol), isobutenamine (71mg, 0.97mmol) and triethylamine (122mg, 1.2mmol) were dissolved in 10ml anhydrous dichloromethane, stirred for 15min under the condition of an ice bath and slowly added with HATU (368mg, 0.97mmol). The resultant solution was continued to be stirred under the condition of an ice bath for 2 hours. After stopping agitation, 20ml water was added and shaken to separate the organic phase. The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=3/1) to obtain N-isobutyl-5'-nitro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (140mg, 60%).

¹H NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.75 (1H, d, J= 1.2 Hz), 7.53 (1H, d, J= 15.2 Hz), 7.19 (1H, d, J= 1.6 Hz), 6.36 (1H, d, J= 15.6 Hz), 6.26 (2H, s), 5.72 (1H, br), 3.23 (2H, t, J= 6.8 Hz), 1.85 (1H, m), 0.97 (3H, s), 0.96 (3H, s);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 165.32, 151.37, 144.62, 138.53, 132.27, 129.83, 122.31, 117.12, 111.64, 104.20, 47.42, 28.23, 20.36;

ESI-MS: 293.1 [M+H]⁺

Example 3 N-isobutyl-5'-iodo-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-3)



Triethyl phosphonoacetate (300mg, 1.3mmol), anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (10ml) and lithium hydroxide (163mg, 3.9mmol) were added into a 50ml three-necked flask, and heated to 70 °C to react for 1 hour under a protection of nitrogen.

3,4-methylenedioxy-5-iodobenzaldehyde (300mg, 1.1mmol) was dissolved into 5ml anhydrous tetrahydrofuran, and the obtained solution was dripped into the flask within 0.5 hours. The reaction solution was allowed to react at 70°C for 10 hours. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was used to monitor the reaction. Heating was not stopped until the reaction was completed. The resultant reaction solution was concentrated to a dry solid by rotary evaporation. 20ml distilled water was added to dissolve the solid to form a solution. 2N hydrochloride was slowly dripped into afore-said solution to adjust pH to 2.0 and stirred continuously for 1 hour to allow a yellow solid to be precipitated. The solid was collected through filtration under reduced pressure, and then a vacuum drying method was used to obtain the intermediate of 5'-iodo-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (245mg, 70%).

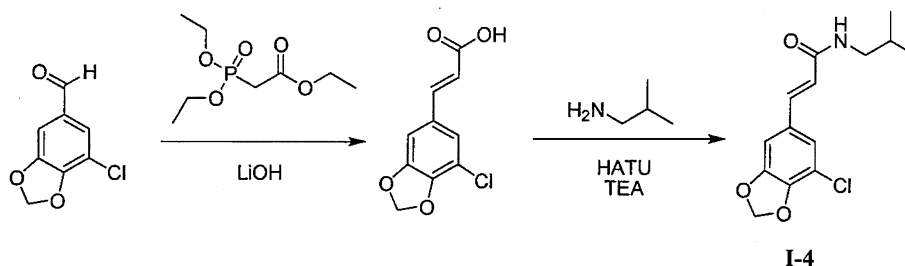
5'-iodo-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (245mg, 0.77mmol), isobutenamine (71mg, 0.97mmol) and triethylamine (122mg, 1.2mmol) were dissolved in 10ml anhydrous dichloromethane, stirred for 15min under the condition of an ice bath and slowly added with HATU (368mg, 0.97mmol). The resultant solution was continued to be stirred under the condition of an ice bath for 2 hours. After stopping agitation, 20ml water was added and shaken to separate the organic phase. The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=5/1) to obtain N-isobutyl-5'-iodo-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (200mg, 69%).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.45 (1H, d, *J* = 15.6 Hz), 7.29 (1H, d, *J* = 1.2 Hz), 6.92 (1H, d, *J* = 1.2 Hz), 6.23 (1H, d, *J* = 15.2 Hz), 6.05 (2H, s), 5.63 (1H, br), 3.21 (2H, t, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 1.84 (1H, m), 0.96 (3H, s), 0.95 (3H, s);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 165.93, 150.75, 147.20, 139.35, 131.53, 131.49, 120.47, 106.46, 106.85, 101.29, 70.86, 47.35, 28.86, 20.39;

ESI-MS: 374.0 [M+H]⁺

Example 4 N-isobutyl-5'-chloro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-4)



Triethyl phosphonoacetate (300mg, 1.3mmol), anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (10ml) and lithium hydroxide (163mg, 3.9mmol) were added into a 50ml three-necked flask, and heated to 70 °C to react for 1 hour under a protection of nitrogen.

3,4-methylenedioxy-5-chlorobenzaldehyde (200mg, 1.1mmol) was dissolved into 5ml anhydrous tetrahydrofuran, and the obtained solution was dripped into the flask within 0.5 hours. The reaction solution was allowed to react at 70°C for 10 hours. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was used to monitor the reaction. Heating was not stopped until the reaction was completed. The resultant reaction solution was concentrated to a dry solid by rotary evaporation. 20ml distilled water was added to dissolve the solid to form a solution. 2N hydrochloride was slowly dripped into afore-said solution to adjust pH to 2.0 and stirred continuously for 1 hour to allow a light-yellow solid to be precipitated. The solid was collected through filtration under reduced pressure, and then a vacuum drying method was used to obtain the intermediate of 5'-chloro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (175mg, 70%).

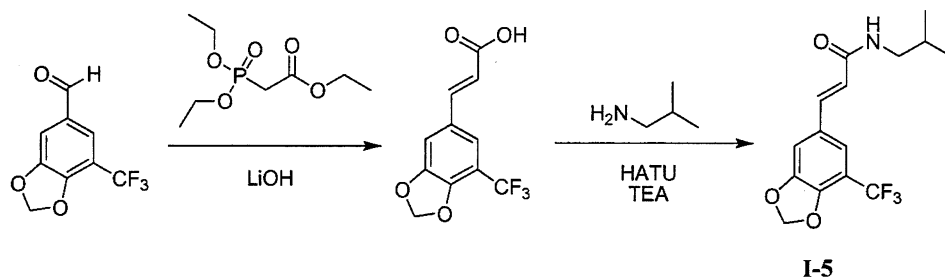
5'-chloro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (175mg, 0.77mmol), isobutenamine (71mg, 0.97mmol) and triethylamine (122mg, 1.2mmol) were dissolved in 10ml anhydrous dichloromethane, stirred for 15min under the condition of an ice bath, and slowly added with HATU (368mg, 0.97mmol). The resultant solution was continued to be stirred under the condition of an ice bath for 2 hours. After stopping agitation, 20ml water was added and shaken to separate the organic phase. The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=5/1) to obtain N-isobutyl-5'-chloro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (160mg, 74%).

¹H NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.40 (1H, d, *J*=15.6 Hz), 6.92 (1H, d, *J*=1.2 Hz), 6.81 (1H, d, *J*=1.2 Hz), 6.18 (1H, d, *J*=15.6 Hz), 6.00 (2H, s), 5.62 (1H, br), 3.15 (2H, t, *J*=6.8 Hz), 1.77 (1H, m), 0.89 (3H, s), 0.88 (3H, s);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 165.87, 149.23, 145.59, 139.62, 130.52, 123.68, 120.60, 114.43, 105.57, 102.41, 47.34, 28.85, 20.37;

ESI-MS: 282.1 [M+H]⁺

Example 5 N-isobutyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-5)



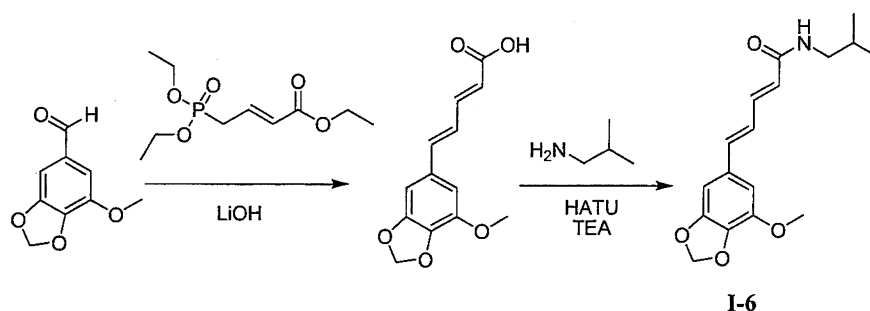
Triethyl phosphonoacetate (300mg, 1.3mmol), anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (10ml) and lithium hydroxide (163mg, 3.9mmol) were added into a 50ml three-necked flask, and heated to 70 °C to react for 1 hour under a protection of nitrogen.

5 3,4-methylenedioxy-5-trifluoromethylbenzaldehyde (240mg, 1.1mmol) was dissolved into 5ml anhydrous tetrahydrofuran, and the obtained solution was dripped into the flask within 0.5 hours. The reaction solution was allowed to react at 70°C for 10 hours. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was used to monitor the reaction. Heating was not stopped until the reaction was completed. The resultant reaction solution was concentrated to a dry solid by rotary evaporation. 20ml distilled water was added to dissolve the solid to form a solution. 2N hydrochloride was slowly dripped into afore-said solution to adjust pH to 2.0 and stirred continuously for 1 hour to allow a light-yellow solid to be precipitated. The solid was collected through filtration under reduced pressure, and then a vacuum drying method was used to obtain the intermediate of 5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (170mg, 59%).

5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (170mg, 0.65mmol), isobutenamine (57mg, 0.78mmol) and triethylamine (100mg, 0.97mmol) were dissolved in 10ml anhydrous dichloromethane, stirred for 15min under the condition of an ice bath, and slowly added with HATU (300mg, 0.78mmol). The resultant solution was continued to be stirred under the condition of an ice bath for 2 hours. After stopping agitation, 20ml water was added and shaken to separate the organic phase. The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=5/1) to obtain N-isobutyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (140mg, 70%).

30 ¹H NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.53 (1H, d, J= 15.6 Hz), 7.17 (1H, d, J= 1.2 Hz), 7.11 (1H, d, J= 1.2 Hz), 6.29 (1H, d, J= 15.6 Hz), 6.13 (2H, s), 5.65 (1H, br), 3.22 (2H, t, J= 6.8 Hz), 1.84 (1H, m), 0.97 (3H, s), 0.95 (3H, s);
¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 165.97, 149.60, 146.31, 139.08, 129.81, 123.80,
 35 121.63, 121.29, 119.36, 109.49, 103.09, 47.42, 28.84, 20.35;
 ESI-MS: 316.1 [M+H]⁺

Example 6 N-isobutyl-5-(5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy phenyl) pentadienamide (I-6)



Triethyl 4-phosphonocrotonate (325mg, 1.3mmol), anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (10ml) and lithium hydroxide (163mg, 3.9mmol) were added into a 50ml three-necked flask, and heated to 70 °C to react for 1 hour under a protection of nitrogen.

3,4-methylenedioxy-5-methoxybenzaldehyde (200mg, 1.1mmol) was dissolved into 5ml anhydrous tetrahydrofuran, and the obtained solution was dripped into the flask within 0.5 hours. The reaction solution was allowed to react at 70°C for 10 hours. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was used to monitor the reaction. Heating was not stopped until the reaction was completed. The resultant reaction solution was concentrated to a dry solid by rotary evaporation. 20ml distilled water was added to dissolve the solid to form a solution. 2N hydrochloride was slowly dripped into afore-said solution to adjust pH to 2.0 and stirred continuously for 1 hour to allow a light-yellow solid to be precipitated. The solid was collected through filtration under reduced pressure, and then a vacuum drying method was used to obtain the intermediate of 5-(5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy phenyl) pentadienoic acid (125mg, 65%).

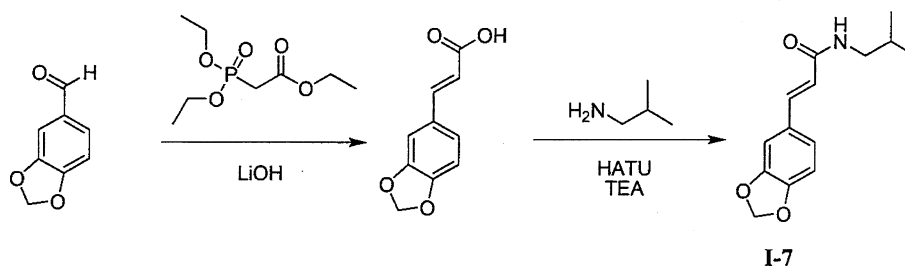
5-(5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy phenyl) pentadienoic acid (125mg, 0.65mmol), isobutenamine (57mg, 0.78mmol) and triethylamine (100mg, 0.97mmol) were dissolved in 10ml anhydrous dichloromethane, stirred for 15min under the condition of an ice bath, and slowly added with HATU (300mg, 0.78mmol). The resultant solution was continued to be stirred under the condition of an ice bath for 2 hours. After stopping agitation, 20ml water was added and shaken to separate the organic phase. The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=3/1) to obtain N-isobutyl-5-(5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy phenyl) pentadienamide (140mg, 71%).

¹H NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.29 (1H, dd, *J*₁ = 10.0 Hz, *J*₂ = 12.8 Hz), 6.69–6.58 (3H, m), 6.51 (1H, s), 5.91 (2H, s), 5.87 (1H, d, *J* = 14.8 Hz), 5.55 (1H, br), 3.85 (3H, s), 3.12 (2H, t, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 1.76 (1H, m), 0.88 (3H, s), 0.86 (3H, s);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 166.45, 149.46, 143.82, 140.94, 138.97, 136.15, 131.52, 125.42, 123.83, 108.08, 101.94, 100.28, 56.78, 47.26, 28.87, 20.40;

ESI-MS: 304.2 [M+H]⁺

Example 7 N-isobutyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-7)



Triethyl phosphonoacetate (300mg, 1.3mmol), anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (10ml) and lithium hydroxide (163mg, 3.9mmol) were added into a 50ml three-necked flask, and heated to 70 °C to react for 1 hour under a protection of nitrogen.

5 3,4-(methylenedioxy)benzaldehyde (165mg, 1.1mmol) was dissolved into 5ml anhydrous tetrahydrofuran, and the obtained solution was dripped into the flask within 0.5 hours. The reaction solution was allowed to react at 70°C for 10 hours. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was used to monitor the reaction. Heating was not stopped until the reaction was completed. The resultant reaction solution was concentrated to a dry solid by rotary evaporation. 20ml distilled water was added to dissolve the solid to form a solution. 2N hydrochloride was slowly dripped into afore-said solution to adjust pH to 2.0 and stirred continuously for 1 hour to allow a light-yellow solid to be precipitated. The solid was collected through filtration under reduced pressure, and then a vacuum drying method was used to obtain the intermediate of 3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (180mg, 80%).

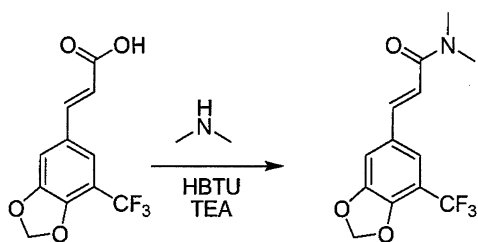
3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (180mg, 0.94mmol), isobutenamine (83mg, 1.12mmol) and triethylamine (142mg, 1.4mmol) were dissolved in 10ml anhydrous dichloromethane, stirred for 15min under the condition of an ice bath, and slowly added with HATU (425mg, 1.12mmol). The resultant solution was continued to be stirred under the condition of an ice bath for 2 hours. After stopping agitation, 20ml water was added and shaken to separate the organic phase. The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=3/1) to obtain N-isobutyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (188mg, 81%).

¹H NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.45 (1H, d, *J* = 20.4 Hz), 6.90 (1H, s), 6.88 (1H, d, *J* = 10.8 Hz), 6.68 (1H, d, *J* = 10.8 Hz), 6.22 (1H, d, *J* = 20.8 Hz), 5.96 (1H, br), 5.89 (2H, s), 3.13 (2H, t, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 1.77 (1H, m), 0.88 (3H, s), 0.86 (3H, s);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 166.53, 149.10, 148.36, 140.58, 129.57, 123.92, 119.36, 108.65, 106.54, 101.59, 47.35, 28.87, 20.35;

ESI-MS: 248.1 [M+H]⁺

Example 8 N,N-dimethyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-8)



I-8

5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (200mg, 0.77mmol), dimethyl amine (1.54mmol) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran, and triethylamine (233mg, 2.3mmol) were dissolved into 20ml anhydrous dichloromethane and stirred under the condition of an ice bath for 15min. The obtained solution was slowly added with HBTU (352mg, 0.92mmol) and stirred for 2 hours under the condition of an ice bath. After stopping agitation, 20ml water was added and shaken to separate the organic phase. The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=3/1) to obtain N,N-dimethyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (200mg, 90%).

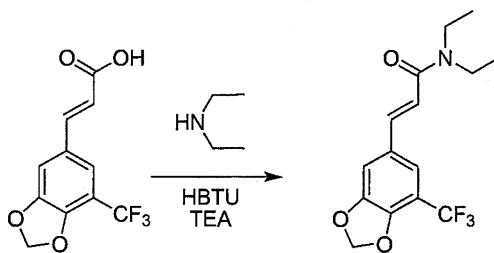
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.57 (1H, d, *J* = 15.6 Hz), 7.18 (1H, s), 7.15 (1H, s), 6.78 (1H, d, *J* = 15.6 Hz), 6.14 (2H, s), 3.19 (3H, s), 3.08 (3H, s);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 166.24, 149.44, 146.15, 140.62, 130.01, 123.89, 121.19, 119.26, 117.28, 109.40, 102.91, 37.43, 35.98;

¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ -61.48

ESI-MS: 310.1 [M+Na]⁺

Example 9 N,N-diethyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-9)



I-9

5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (300mg, 1.15mmol), diethyl amine (170mg, 2.3mmol), and triethylamine (350mg, 3.45mmol) were dissolved into 10ml anhydrous dichloromethane and stirred under the condition of an ice bath for 15min. The obtained solution was slowly added with HBTU (530mg, 1.38mmol) and stirred for 2 hours under the condition of an ice bath. After stopping agitation, 20ml water was added and shaken to separate the organic phase. The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was

concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=5/1) to obtain N,N-diethyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamide (350mg, 96%).

5

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.61 (1H, d, $J = 15.2$ Hz), 7.17 (1H, s), 7.16 (1H, s), 6.71 (1H, d, $J = 15.2$ Hz), 6.14 (2H, s), 3.53–3.46 (4H, m), 1.28 (3H, t, $J = 7.2$ Hz), 1.20 (3H, t, $J = 7.2$ Hz);

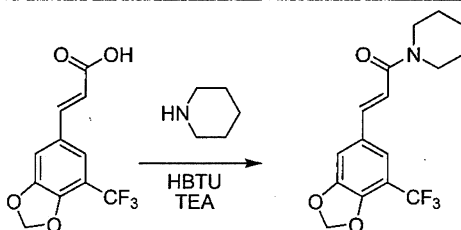
^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 165.23, 149.42, 146.08, 140.59, 130.16, 123.91, 121.20, 119.22, 117.66, 109.36, 102.89, 42.30, 41.13, 15.13, 13.19;

10

^{19}F NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ -61.48

ESI-MS: 338.1 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$

Example 10 1-(5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamyl)-piperidine (I-10)



I-10

15

5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid (300mg, 1.15mmol), piperidine (195mg, 2.3mmol), and triethylamine (350mg, 3.45mmol) were dissolved into 10ml anhydrous dichloromethane and stirred under the condition of an ice bath for 15min. The obtained solution was slowly added with HBTU (530mg, 1.38mmol) and stirred for 2 hours under the condition of an ice bath. After stopping agitation, 20ml water was added and shaken to separate the organic phase. The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=5/1) to obtain 1-(5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamyl)-piperidine (350mg, 92%).

20

25

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.55 (1H, d, $J = 15.6$ Hz), 7.18 (1H, s), 7.15 (1H, s), 6.80 (1H, d, $J = 15.6$ Hz), 6.14 (2H, s), 3.63 (4H, br), 1.72–1.68 (2H, m), 1.64–1.60 (4H, m);

30

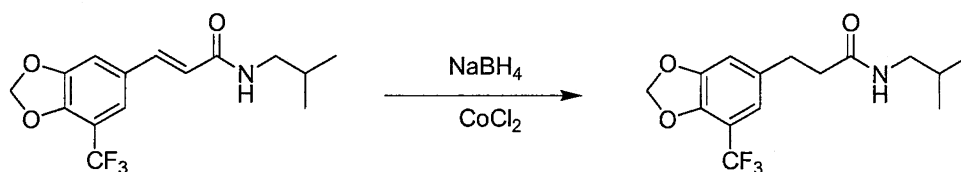
^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 164.86, 149.43, 146.06, 140.47, 130.19, 123.93, 121.23, 119.06, 117.64, 109.43, 102.89, 47.07, 43.44, 26.77, 25.68, 24.64;

^{19}F NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ -61.46

35

ESI-MS: 350.1 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$

Example 11 N-isobutyl-3-(5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy phenyl)-propionamide (I-11)



I-11

N-isobutyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (200mg, 0.63mmol) were dissolved into 30ml methanol and added with $\text{CoCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (600mg, 2.54mmol) under the condition of an ice bath. After 0.5 hours of agitation, NaBH_4 (195mg, 5.1mmol) was batch-added into the obtained solution, heated to room temperature one hour later, and continued to stir for 2 hours. After stopping agitation, the solvent was evaporated to dry. The crude product was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=5/1) to obtain N-isobutyl-3-(5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy phenyl)-propionamide (140mg, 70%).

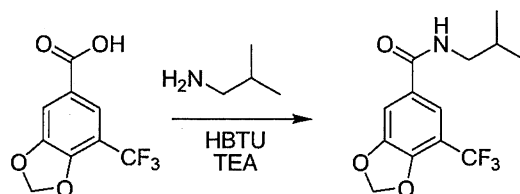
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 6.86 (1H, s), 6.85 (1H, s), 6.06 (2H, s), 5.55 (1H, br), 3.06 (2H, t, $J = 6.4$ Hz), 2.93 (2H, t, $J = 7.2$ Hz), 2.45 (2H, t, $J = 7.2$ Hz), 1.75–1.68 (1H, m), 0.87 (3H, s), 0.85 (3H, s);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 171.44, 148.91, 143.54, 135.21, 124.21, 121.51, 117.42, 112.01, 102.29, 46.89, 38.39, 31.27, 28.44, 19.98;

^{19}F NMR(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ -119.72;

ESI-MS: 340.1 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$

Example 12 N-isobutyl-5-trifluoromethyl-3,4-methylenedioxy benzamide (I-12)



I-12

5-trifluoromethyl-3,4-methylenedioxy benzoic acid (260mg, 1.11mmol), isobutyl amine (162mg, 2.22mmol) and triethylamine (330mg, 3.33mmol) were dissolved into 10ml anhydrous dichloromethane and stirred under the condition of an ice bath for 15min. The obtained solution was slowly added with HBTU (500mg, 1.33mmol) and stirred for 2 hours under the condition of an ice bath. After stopping agitation, 20ml water was added and shaken to separate the organic phase. The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=3/1) to obtain N-isobutyl-5-trifluoromethyl-3,4-methylenedioxy benzamide (250mg, 78%).

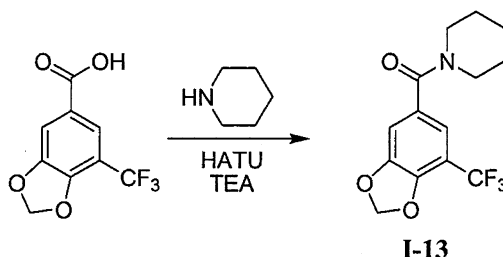
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.46 (1H, s), 7.41 (1H, s), 6.37 (1H, br), 6.16 (2H, s), 3.26 (2H, t, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 1.95–1.85 (1H, m), 0.98 (3H, s), 0.96 (3H, s);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 165.73, 149.27, 147.56, 129.47, 123.79, 121.08, 117.73, 110.40, 103.19, 47.57, 28.59, 20.16;

¹⁹F NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ -61.45;

ESI-MS: 312.1 [M+Na]⁺

Example 13 1-(5-trifluoromethyl-3,4-methylenedioxy benzoyl)-piperidine (I-13)



5-trifluoromethyl-3,4-methylenedioxy benzoic acid (260mg, 1.11mmol), piperidine (190mg, 2.22mmol) and triethylamine (330mg, 3.33mmol) were dissolved into 10ml anhydrous dichloromethane and stirred under the condition of an ice bath for 15min. The obtained solution was slowly added with HBTU (500mg, 1.33mmol) and stirred for 2 hours under the condition of an ice bath. After stopping agitation, 20ml water was added and shaken to separate the organic phase. The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (2×20ml). After combining the organic phases, anhydrous sodium sulfate was used to dry, and the resultant solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The raw product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=3/1) to obtain 1-(5-trifluoromethyl-3,4-methylenedioxy benzoyl)-piperidine (280mg, 87%).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.11 (1H, s), 7.03 (1H, s), 6.14 (2H, s), 3.64–3.41 (4H, m), 1.69–1.62 (6H, m);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 168.37, 148.91, 146.11, 130.45, 123.82, 121.12, 117.72, 110.69, 102.91, 102.91, 29.73, 24.53;

¹⁹F NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ -61.48;

ESI-MS: 324.1 [M+Na]⁺

Example 14 Preparation of tablets of N-isobutyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide

N-isobutyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-5) was taken, mixed with starch, dextrin, microcrystalline cellulose and magnesium stearate in accordance with a conventional method to prepare into wet granules. Tablets were prepared by machine punching, and a coating step was performed to obtain coated tablets. Each tablet contained 20mg of N-isobutyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide. Usage: twice per day and 1~2 tablets per time.

Example 15 Preparation of capsules of N-isobutyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-

3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide

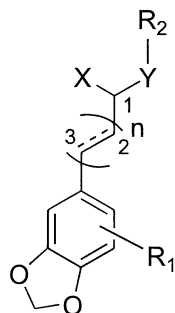
5 N-isobutyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide (I-5), lactose and hydroxypropyl cellulose (HPC) screened by using a 60 mesh sieve were mixed well, added with an appropriate amount of Tween-80 and then added 3% aqueous hydroxypropyl methylcellulose (HMPC) solution, and passed through a 20 mesh sieve. The obtained granules were subjected to air drying in baking oven. Dried material was added with talc powder, mixed well and loaded into capsule shell. Each capsule contained 20mg of N-isobutyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide. Usage: twice per day and 1~2 capsules per time.

10 Said applications of the present invention in the field of pharmaceuticals are not completely limited to those disclosed herein in any way. Said raw medicine is any one of compounds or their pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts described in the present invention.

15 Said dosage forms are not completely limited to those disclosed herein in any way. Said compounds can be prepared into more other pharmaceutically acceptable dosage forms, e.g. drop pills, sustainable released formulations etc.

What is claimed is :

1. A compound of a general formula (I) or its pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts:



(I)

wherein, R₁ is F, Br, I, OCF₃, OCHF₂, OCH₂F, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, CH₃, CH₃CH₂, CF₃CH₂, NO₂;

n represents 0, 1, 2 or 3, and the unit of  contains at least one carbon-carbon single or double bond;

X is =O;

Y is N or NR₃, wherein said R₃ is H, C₁~C₁₀ straight chain hydrocarbyl; C₃~C₁₀ branched chain hydrocarbyl; R₂ is H, C₁~C₁₀ straight chain hydrocarbyl, C₃~C₁₀ branched chain hydrocarbyl; or R₂ is a group which forms piperidyl group with the neighboring Y.

2. The compound or its pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts according to claim 1, wherein

R₁ is -CF₃;

n represents 0, 1, 2 or 3, and  contains at least one carbon-carbon single or

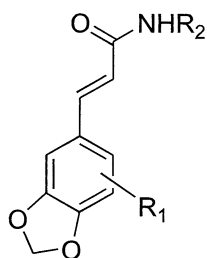
double bond;

X is =O;

Y is N or NH;

R₂ is H, C₁~C₁₀ straight chain hydrocarbyl, C₃~C₁₀ branched chain hydrocarbyl; or R₂ is a group which forms piperidyl group with the neighboring Y.

3. The compound or its pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts according to claim 1, wherein the substituted cinnamamide derivatives of a general formula (II)



(II)

- 5 wherein, R₁ is F, Br, I, OCF₃, OCHF₂, OCH₂F, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, CH₃, CH₃CH₂, CF₃CH₂, NO₂;
R₂ is H, C₁~C₁₀ straight chain hydrocarbyl, C₃~C₁₀ branched chain hydrocarbyl.

10 4. A compound or its pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

- N-isobutyl-5'-nitro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide;
N-isobutyl-5'-iodo-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide;
N-isobutyl-5'-chloro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide;
N-isobutyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide;
15 N-isobutyl-5-(5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy phenyl) pentadienamamide;
N,N-dimethyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide;
N,N-diethyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide;
1-(5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamyl)-piperidine;
N-isobutyl-3-(5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy phenyl)-propionamide;
20 N-isobutyl-5-trifluoromethyl-3,4-methylenedioxy benzamide; and
1-(5-trifluoromethyl-3,4-methylenedioxy benzoyl)-piperidine.

25 5. The compound or its pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts according to any one of claims 1~4, wherein said acceptable acid addition salts are prepared by reacting the compound of the general formula (I) with the following acids: sulfuric acid, hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, phosphoric acid, tartaric acid, fumaric acid, maleic acid, citric acid, acetic acid, formic acid, methane sulfonic acid, p-toluene sulphonic acid, oxalic acid or succinic acid.

30 6. A pharmaceutical composition containing the compound of any one of claims 1~5 or its pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts.

7. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 6, wherein said composition further contains pharmaceutically acceptable carrier(s).

35

8. A method for preparing the compound or its pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts according to any one of claims 1~5, comprising the following steps:
- a. reacting a substituted piperonal derivative with ethoxyformyl methylene triphenyl phosphine or triethyl phosphonoacetate by a Wittig reaction or Wittig-Horner reaction to obtain a substituted cinnamic acid derivative;
 - b. obtaining an acylated derivative (including acyl halide, azide, anhydride, active ester) of the substituted cinnamic acid derivative from the substituted cinnamic acid derivative, and reacting the acylated derivative with an organic amine to obtain an amide derivative; alternatively, reacting the substituted cinnamic acid derivative with an organic amine and a condensing agent (HATU, HBTU, EDCI, DCC etc.) to obtain an amide derivative;
- or using 5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid as a starting material to obtain an acylated derivative (including acyl halide, azide, anhydride, active ester) thereof, and reacting the acylated derivative with an organic amine to obtain an amide derivative; or reacting 5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamic acid with an organic amine and a condensing agent (HATU, HBTU, EDCI, DCC etc.) to obtain an amide derivative;
- preparing a derivative containing carbon-carbon single bond in its side chain by reducing a derivative containing carbon-carbon double bond in its side chain with a catalytic hydrogenation or sodium borohydride.
9. A use of any compound or its pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts of any one of claims 1~3 in preparation of a medicine for preventing and/or treating depressive-type mental diseases.
10. A use of any compound or its pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts of claim 4 in preparation of a medicine for preventing and/or treating depressive-type mental diseases, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:
- N-isobutyl-5'-nitro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide;
 - N-isobutyl-5'-iodo-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide;
 - N-isobutyl-5'-chloro-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide;
 - N-isobutyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide;
 - N-isobutyl-5-(5'-methoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy phenyl) pentadienamamide;
 - N,N-dimethyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide;
 - N,N-diethyl-5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamamide;
 - 1-(5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy cinnamyl)-piperidine;
 - N-isobutyl-3-(5'-trifluoromethyl-3',4'-methylenedioxy phenyl)-propionamide;
 - N-isobutyl-5-trifluoromethyl-3,4-methylenedioxy benzamide; and
 - 1-(5-trifluoromethyl-3,4-methylenedioxy benzoyl)-piperidine.