2-IMIDAZOLINYLAMINOINDOLE COMPOUNDS USEFUL AS ALPHA-2 ADRENOCEPTOR AGONISTS

TECHNICAL FIELD

This invention relates to certain substituted (2-imidazolinylamino)indole compounds. The compounds have been found to be alpha-2 adrenoceptor agonists and are useful for treatment of disorders modulated by alpha-2 adrenoceptors.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Therapeutic indications of alpha-2 adrenoceptor agonists have been discussed in the literature: Ruffolo, R.R., A.J. Nichols, J.M. Stadel, & J.P. Hieble, "Pharmacologic and Therapeutic Applications of Alpha-2 Adrenoceptor Subtypes", Annual Review of Pharmacology & Toxicology, Vol. 32 (1993) pp. 243-279.

Information regarding alpha adrenergic receptors, agonists and antagonists, in general, and regarding compounds related in structure to those of this invention are disclosed in the following references: Timmermans, P.B.M.W.M., A.T. Chiu & M.J.M.C. Thoolen, "12.1 α-Adrenergic Receptors", Comprehensive Medicinal Chemistry, Vol. 3, Membranes & Receptors, P. G. Sammes & J. B. Taylor, eds., Pergamon Press (1990), pp. 133-185; Timmermans, P.B.M.W.M. & P.A. van Zwieten, "α-Adrenoceptor Agonists and Antagonists", Drugs of the Future, Vol. 9, No. 1, (January, 1984), pp. 41-55; Megens, A.A.H.P., J.E. Leysen, F.H.L. Awouters & C.J.E. Niemegeers, "Further Validation of *in vivo* and *in vitro* Pharmacological Procedures for Assessing the α_1 and α_2-Selectivity of Test Compounds: (2) α-Adrenoceptor Agonists", European Journal of Pharmacology, Vol. 129 (1986), pp. 57-64; Timmermans, P.B.M.W.M., A. de Jonge, M.J.M.C. Thoolen, B. Wilffert, H. Batink & P.A. van Zwieten, "Quantitative Relationships between α-Adrenergic Activity and Binding Affinity of α-Adrenoceptor Agonists and Antagonists", Journal of Medicinal Chemistry, Vol. 27 (1984) pp. 495-503; van Meel, J.C.A., A. de Jonge, P.B.M.W.M. Timmermans & P.A. van Zwieten, "Selectivity of Some Alpha Adrenoceptor Agonists for Peripheral Alpha-1 and Alpha-2 Adrenoceptors in the Normotensive Rat", The Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Vol. 219, No. 3 (1981), pp. 760-767; Chapleo, C.B., J.C. Doxey, P.L. Myers, M. Myers, C.F.C. Smith & M. R. Stillings, "Effect of 1,4-Dioxanyl Substitution on the Adrenergic Activity of Some Standard α-Adrenoreceptor

Agents", European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry, Vol. 24 (1989), pp. 619-622; Chapleo, C.B., R.C.M. Butler, D.C. England, P.L. Myers, A.G. Roach, C.F.C. Smith, M.R. Stillings & I.F. Tulloch, "Heteroaromatic Analogues of the α_2-Adrenoreceptor Partial Agonist Clonidine", Journal of Medicinal Chemistry, Vol. 32 (1989), pp. 1627-1630; Clare, K.A., M.C. Scrutton & N.T. Thompson, "Effects of α_2-Adrenoceptor Agonists and of Related Compounds on Aggregation of, and on Adenylate Cyclase Activity in, Human Platelets", British Journal of Pharmacology, Vol. 82 (1984), pp. 467-476; U.S. Patent No. 3,890,319 issued to Danielewicz, Snarey & Thomas on June 17, 1975; and U.S. Patent No. 5,091,528 issued to Gluchowski on February 25, 1992. However, many compounds related in structure to those of this invention do not provide the activity and specificity desirable when treating disorders modulated by alpha-2 adrenoceptors.

For example, many compounds found to be effective nasal decongestants are frequently found to have undesirable side effects, such as causing hypertension and insomnia at systemically effective doses. There is a need for new drugs which provide relief from nasal congestion without causing these undesirable side effects.

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the invention to provide compounds and compositions useful in treating disorders modulated by alpha-2 adrenoceptors.

It is an object of this invention to provide novel compounds having substantial activity in preventing or treating nasal congestion, otitis media, and sinusitis, without undesired side effects.

It is also an object of this invention to provide novel compounds for treating cough, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and/or asthma.

It is also an object of this invention to provide novel compounds for treating diseases and disorders associated with sympathetic nervous system activity, including benign prostatic hypertrophy, cardiovascular disorders comprising myocardial ischemia, cardiac reperfusion injury, angina, cardiac arrhythmia, heart failure and hypertension.

It is also an object of this invention to provide novel compounds for treating ocular disorders, such as ocular hypertension, glaucoma, hyperemia, conjunctivitis and uveitis.

It is also an object of this invention to provide novel compounds for treating gastrointestinal disorders, such as diarrhea, irritable bowel syndrome, hyperchlorhydria (hyperacidity) and peptic ulcer (ulcer).

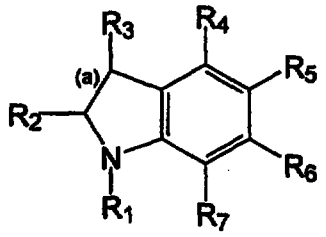
It is also an object of this invention to provide novel compounds for treating migraine.

It is also an object of this invention to provide novel compounds for treating pain, substance abuse and/or withdrawal.

It is a still further object of this invention to provide such compounds which have good activity from peroral, parenteral, intranasal and/or topical dosing.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to compounds having the following structure:



Formula I

wherein:

a) R_1 is hydrogen; or alkyl; bond *(a)* is a single or a double bond;

b) R_2 and R_3 are each independently selected from hydrogen; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkanyl, alkenyl or alkynyl; cycloalkanyl, cycloalkenyl; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkylthio or alkoxy; hydroxy; thio; nitro; cyano; amino; C_1-C_3 alkylamino or C_1-C_3 dialkylamino and halo;

c) R_4, R_5 and R_6 are each independently selected from hydrogen; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkanyl, alkenyl or alkynyl; cycloalkanyl, cycloalkenyl; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkylthio or alkoxy; hydroxy; thio; nitro; cyano; amino; C_1-C_3 alkylamino or C_1-C_3 dialkylamino; halo; and 2-imidazolinylamino; wherein one and only one of R_4, R_5 and R_6 is 2-imidazolinylamino;

d) R_7 is selected from hydrogen; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkanyl, alkenyl or alkynyl; cycloalkanyl, cycloalkenyl; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkylthio or alkoxy; hydroxy; thio; nitro; cyano; amino; C_1-C_3 alkylamino or C_1-C_3 dialkylamino and halo;

e) the compound is not 4-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole;

and enantiomers, optical isomers, stereoisomers, diastereomers, tautomers, addition salts, biohydrolyzable amides and esters, and pharmaceutical compositions containing such novel compounds, and the use of such compounds for preventing or treating disorders modulated by alpha-2 adrenoceptors.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

As used herein, "alkanyl" means a saturated hydrocarbon substituent, straight or branched chain, unsubstituted or substituted.

As used herein, "alkenyl" means a hydrocarbon substituent with one double bond, straight or branched chain, unsubstituted or substituted.

As used herein, "alkylthio" means a substituent having the structure Q-S-, where Q is alkanyl or alkenyl.

As used herein, "alkoxy" means a substituent having the structure Q-O-, where Q is alkanyl or alkenyl.

As used herein, "alkylamino" means a substituent having the structure Q-NH-, where Q is alkanyl or alkenyl.

As used herein, "dialkylamino" means a substituent having the structure Q_1-N(Q_2)-, where each Q is independently alkanyl or alkenyl.

"Halo", "halogen", or "halide" is a chloro, bromo, fluoro or iodo.

A "pharmaceutically-acceptable salt" is a cationic salt formed at any acidic (e.g., carboxyl) group, or an anionic salt formed at any basic (e.g., amino) group. Many such salts are known in the art, as described in World Patent Publication 87/05297, Johnston et al., published September 11, 1987, incorporated by reference herein. Preferred cationic salts include the alkali metal salts (such as sodium and potassium), alkaline earth metal salts (such as magnesium and calcium) and organic salts. Preferred anionic salts include halides, sulfonates, carboxylates, phosphates, and the like. Clearly contemplated in such salts are addition salts that may provide an optical center, where once there was none. For example, a chiral tartrate salt may be prepared from the compounds of the invention, and this definition includes such chiral salts.

The compounds of the invention are sufficiently basic to form acid-addition salts. The compounds are useful both in the free base form and the form of acid-addition salts, and both forms are within the purview of the invention. The acid-addition salts are in some cases a more convenient form for

use. In practice, the use of the salt form inherently amounts to the use of the base form of the active. Acids used to prepare acid-addition salts include preferably those which produce, when combined with the free base, medicinally acceptable salts. These salts have anions that are relatively innocuous to the animal organism, such as a mammal, in medicinal doses of the salts so that the beneficial property inherent in the free base are not vitiated by any side effects ascribable to the acid's anions.

Examples of appropriate acid-addition salts include, but at not limited to hydrochloride, hydrobromide, hydroiodiode, sulfate, hydrogensulfate, acetate, trifluoroacetate, nitrate, maleate, citrate, fumarate, formate, stearate, succinate, mallate, malonate, adipate, glutarate, lactate, propionate, butyrate, tartrate, methanesulfonate, trifluoromethanesulfonate, p-toluenesulfonate, dodecyl sulfate, cyclohexanesulfamate, and the like. However, other appropriate medicinally acceptable salts within the scope of the invention are those derived from other mineral acids and organic acids. The acid-addition salts of the basic compounds are prepared by several methods. For example the free base can be dissolved in an aqueous alcohol solution containing the appropriate acid and the salt is isolated by evaporation of the solution. Alternatively, they may be prepared by reacting the free base with an acid in an organic solvent so that the salt separates directly. Where separation of the salt is difficult, it can be precipitated with a second organic solvent, or can be obtained by concentration of the solution.

Although medicinally acceptable salts of the basic compounds are preferred, all acid-addition salts are within the scope of the present invention. All acid-addition salts are useful as sources of the free base form, even if the particular salt per se is desired only as an intermediate product. For example, when the salt is formed only for purposes of purification or identification, or when it is used as an intermediate in preparing a medicinally acceptable salt by ion exchange procedures, these salts are clearly contemplated to be a part of this invention.

"Biohydrolyzable amide" refers to an amide of the compound of the invention that is readily converted in vivo by a mammal subject to yield an active compound of the invention.

A "biohydrolyzable ester" refers to an ester of the compound of the invention that is readily converted by a mammal subject to yield an active compound of the invention.

"Optical isomer", "stereoisomer", "enantiomer," "diastereomer," as referred to herein have the standard art recognized meanings (Cf., Hawleys Condensed Chemical Dictionary, 11th Ed.). Of course, an addition salt may provide an optical center, where once there was none. For example, a chiral tartrate salt may be prepared from the compounds of the invention, and this definition includes such chiral salts. It will be apparent to the skilled artisan that disclosure of the racemic mixture alone discloses any enantiomers therein. Thus by one disclosure, more than one compound is taught.

As used herein "animal" includes "mammals" which includes "humans".

The skilled artisan will appreciate that tautomeric forms will exist in certain compounds of the invention. For example, when R_2 is hydroxy and bond *(a)* is a double bond, it is understood to include the keto form of that molecule, where R_2 is oxo, and bond *(a)* is a single bond, though not specifically described. Thus, in this description the disclosure of one tautomeric form discloses each and all of the tautomers. For example, it is understood that;



I II

are merely two forms and may be represented as

$R_2 = O$ $R_3 = H$ a = single

$R_2 = OH$ $R_3 = H$ a = double

although notation II is used throughout the specifications.

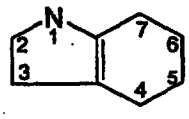
Similarly, when the 2-iminoimidazolidinyl form of the molecule is shown, it is understood to include the 2-imidazolinylamino form of that molecule although not specifically depicted.

The illustration of specific protected forms and other derivatives of the Formula (I) compounds is not intended to be limiting. The application of other useful protecting groups, salt forms, etc. is within the ability of the skilled artisan.

As defined above and as used herein, substituent groups may themselves be substituted. Such substitution may be with one or more substituents. Such substituents include those listed in C. Hansch and A. Leo, Substituent Constants for Correlation Analysis in Chemistry and

Biology (1979), incorporated by reference herein. Preferred substituents include (for example) alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, oxo, nitro, amino, aminoalkyl (e.g., aminomethyl, etc.), cyano, halo, carboxy, alkoxyacetyl (e.g., carboethoxy, etc.), thiol, aryl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl (e.g., piperidinyl, morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, etc.), imino, thioxo, hydroxyalkyl, aryloxy, arylalkyl, and combinations thereof.

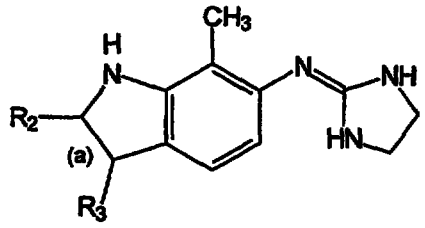
For the purposes of nomenclature, the numbering of the indole follows the IUPAC convention. Thus, as shown in the following example, the location of the radicals are denoted:



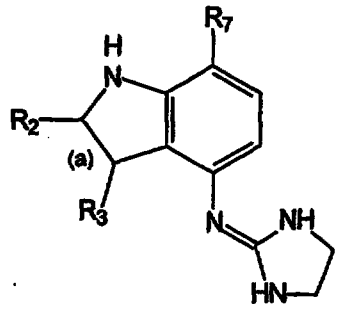
Compounds

This invention includes compounds as described in the summary of the invention.

Preferred compounds of this invention have the following structure:



Example	R_2	R_3	a
1	H	H	single
2	H	H	double
3	H	CN	double



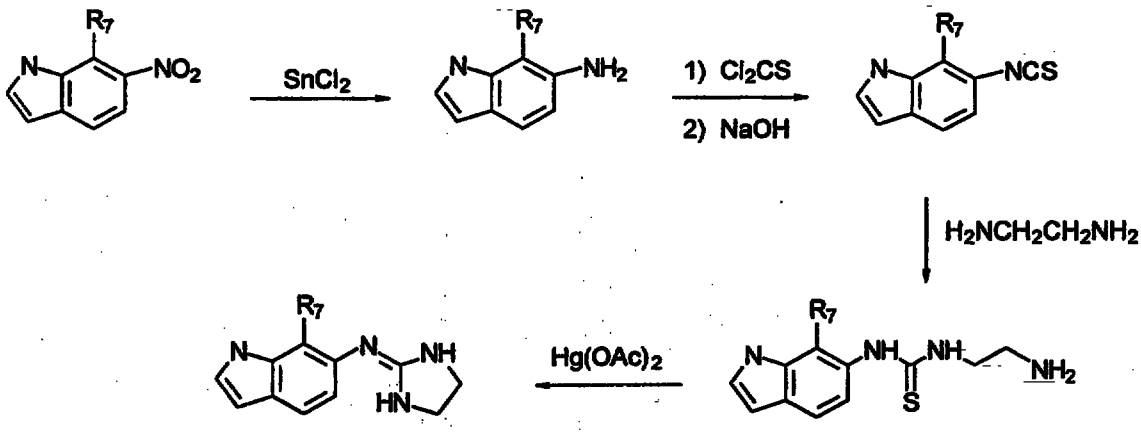
Example	R_2	R_3	R_7	a
4	OH	H	H	double

5	H	H	H	single
6	H	H	CH_3	single
7	H	Cl	H	double

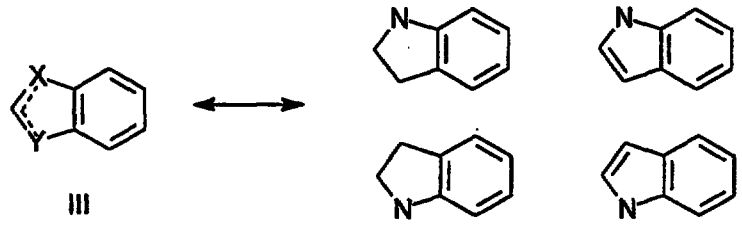
Methods of making the compounds of the invention

The compounds of this invention are synthesized using the following procedures. For purposes of this description, 6-(2-imidazolinylamino) compounds are shown, but the skilled artisan will appreciate that the 4- and 5-(2-imidazolinylamino) compounds are prepared similarly. The R_1 - R_7 radicals are omitted for clarity, unless they are prepared in that specific scheme. The skilled artisan will appreciate that the radicals omitted are added using techniques known in the art. The skilled artisan will also appreciate that the methods described may be used with blocking groups and the like, as appropriate.

Imidazolinylamino groups are conveniently prepared from nitro and amino compounds via the following example synthetic sequence.

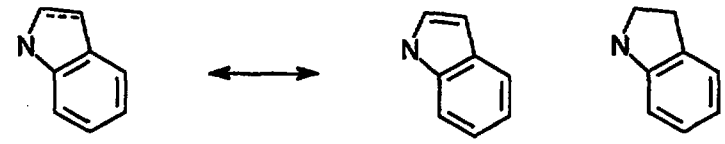


Preferably these compounds are made from nitro or amino compounds, for example those described above. The above starting nitro and amino compounds are obtained via one or more synthetic steps comprising alkylations, reduction/oxidations, fluorinations, other halogenations (usually brominations), and halogen displacement reactions. These reaction types are summarized below for X = NH and Y = CH or X = CH and Y = NH and their protected forms. Similarly the reactions are summarized in these schemes also for the dihydro compounds for X = NH and Y = CH_2 or X = CH_2 and Y = NH and their protected forms. In these schemes, the substructure III is meant to represent the four substructures:



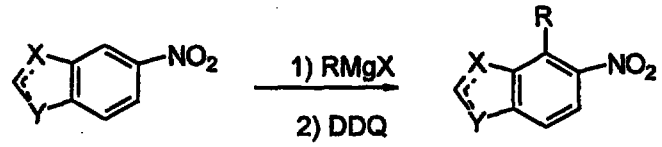
III

Similarly the substructure IV is meant to represent the two substructures:



IV

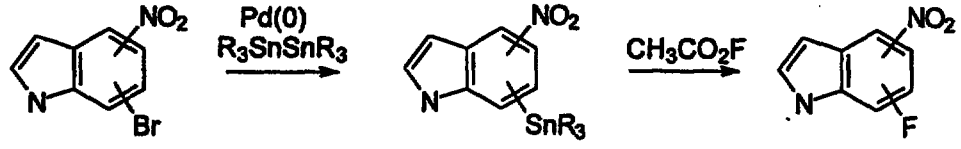
ALKYLATION REACTION:



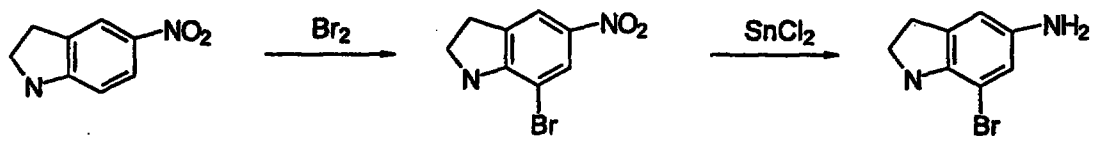
REDUCTION/OXIDATIONS

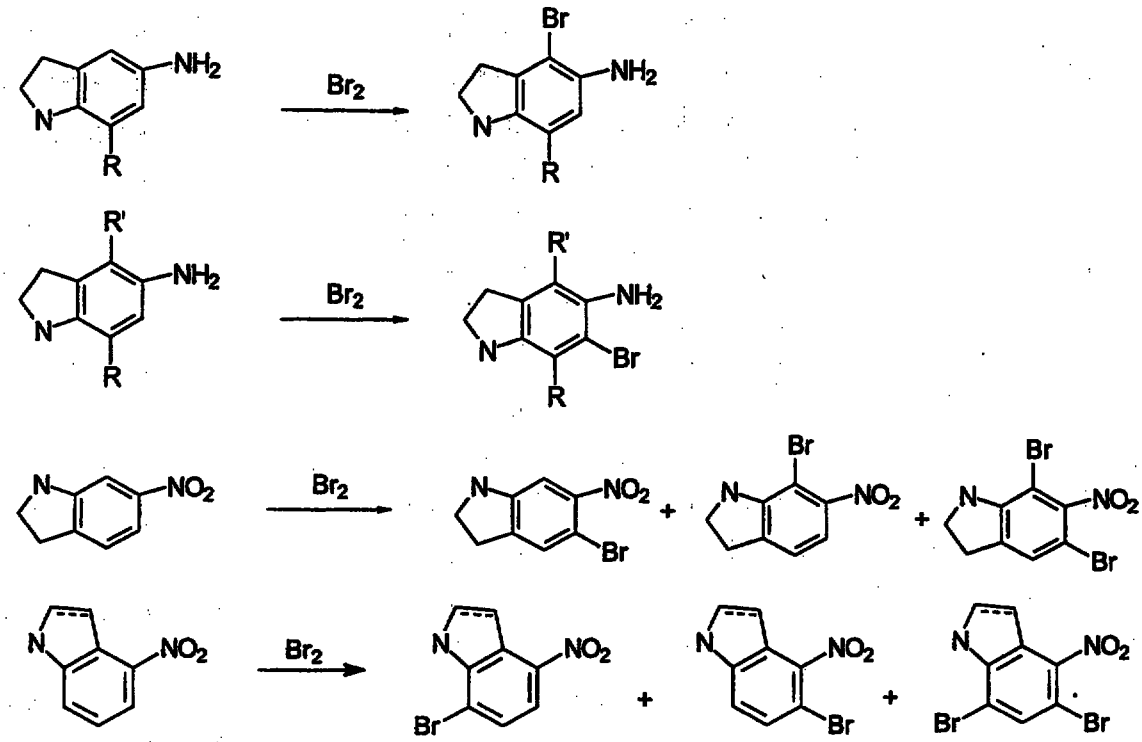


FLUORINATION:



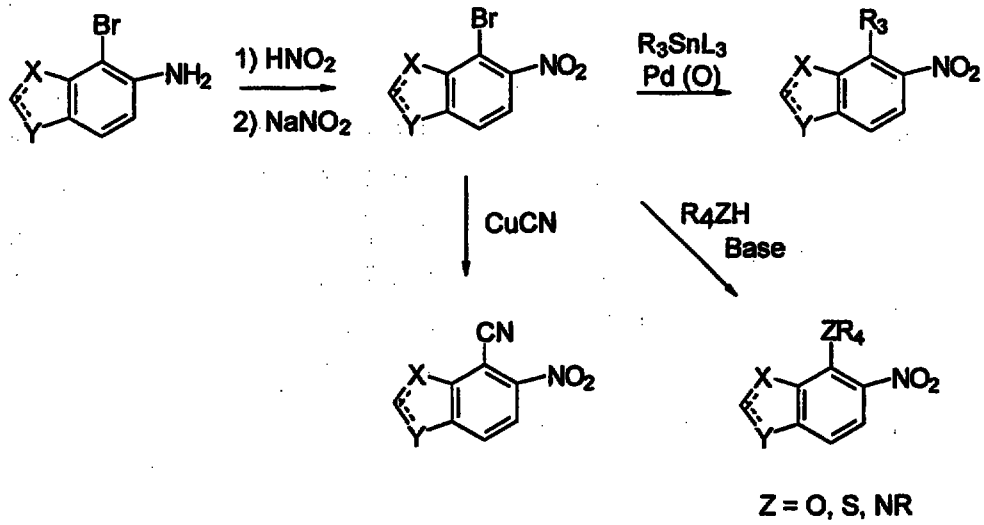
OTHER HALOGENATIONS, PREFERABLY BROMINATION (Preferably all brominations are carried out on dihydroindole nuclei which may then be oxidized to indoles):



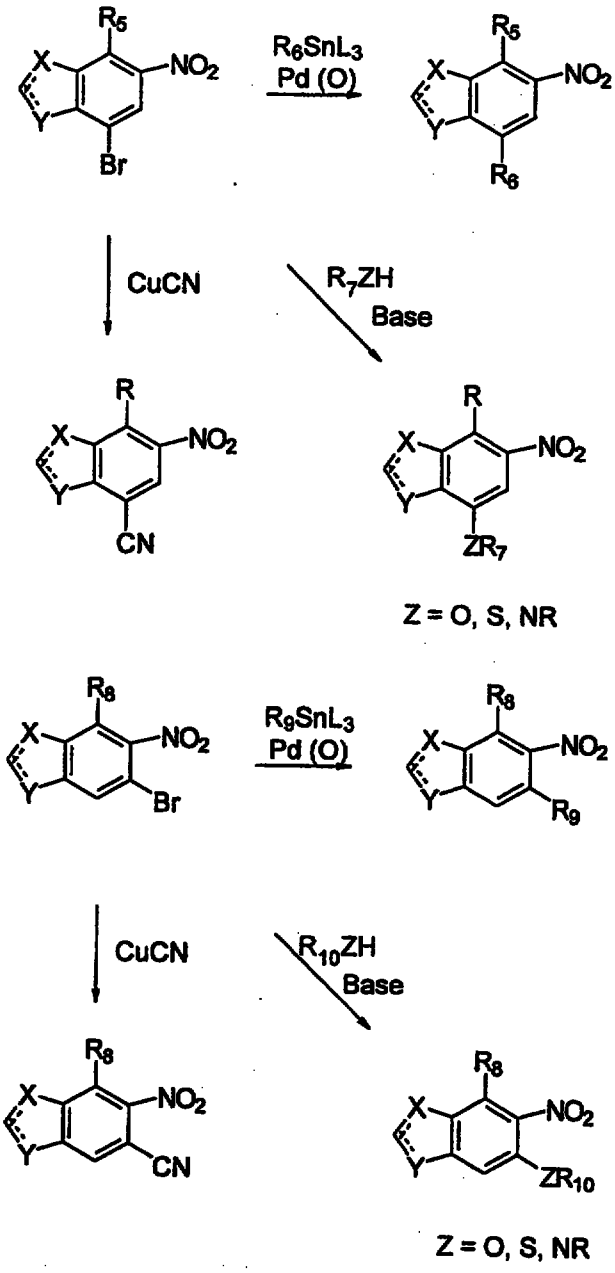


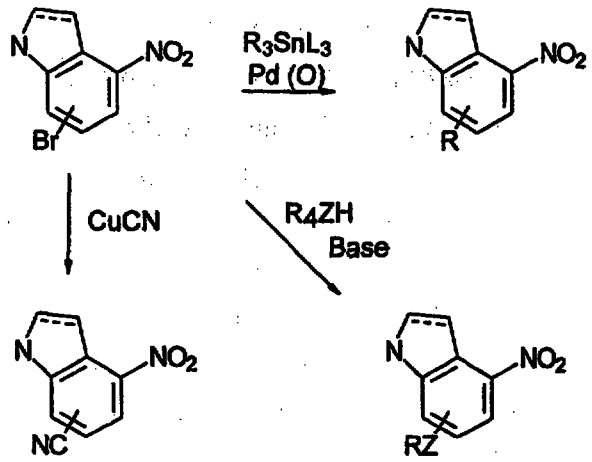
Preferably, chlorination is accomplished using Cl_2, and iodination, by ICl using the same reactions.

HALOGEN DISPLACEMENT REACTIONS:



Z = O, S, NR


R5
X
Y
NO2
Br
R6SnL3
Pd (O)
R6
CuCN
R7ZH
Base
R
CN
ZR7
Z = O, S, NR
R8
R9SnL3
R9
R10ZH
ZR10



Z = O, S, NR

It will be apparent to the skilled artisan that the reactions illustrated above are known reactions. Furthermore, it is within the purview of the skilled artisan to vary these reactions to prepare compounds within the scope of the claims.

In the above schemes, where an R is alkoxy or alkylthio, the corresponding hydroxy or thiol compounds are derived from the final compounds by using a standard dealkylating procedure (Bhatt, et al., "Cleavage of Ethers", Synthesis, 1983, pp. 249-281).

The starting materials used in preparing the compounds of the invention are known, made by known methods, or are commercially available as a starting material.

It is recognized that the skilled artisan in the art of organic chemistry can readily carry out manipulations without further direction, that is, it is well within the scope and practice of the skilled artisan to carry out these manipulations. These include reduction of carbonyl compounds to their corresponding alcohols, oxidations, acylations, aromatic substitutions, both electrophilic and nucleophilic, etherifications, esterifications and saponifications and the like. These manipulations are discussed in standard texts such as March, Advanced Organic Chemistry (Wiley), Carey and Sundberg, Advanced Organic Chemistry (2 vol.) and Trost and Fleming Comprehensive Organic Synthesis (6 vol.). The skilled artisan will readily appreciate that certain reactions are best carried out when other functionality is masked or protected in the molecule, thus avoiding any undesirable side reactions and/or increasing the yield of the reaction. Often the skilled artisan utilizes protecting groups to accomplish such increased yields or to avoid the undesired reactions. These reactions are found in the literature and are also well within the scope of the skilled artisan. Examples of many of

these manipulations are found, for example, in T. Greene, Protecting Groups in Organic Synthesis.

Compound Examples

The following non-limiting examples provide details for the synthesis of imidazolinylaminoindoles:

Example 1

2,3-Dihydro-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole

A. 2,3-Dihydro-7-methylindole. To a stirred solution of 7-methylindole (10.27 g, 78.3 mmol) in glacial acetic acid (50 mL) is added sodium cyanoborohydride (6.33 g, 100.7 mmol) portionwise over a 5 minute period. The reaction solution is allowed to stir for 1 hour. The solution is diluted with water (500 mL) and basified with 50% sodium hydroxide solution. The basic solution is extracted with three 250 mL portions of diethyl ether. The organic fractions are combined, dried over anhydrous potassium carbonate, filtered and evaporated to give a pink oil. The oil is purified by silica gel column chromatography using 20% ethyl acetate/hexanes as eluent to give 11.63 g of 2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole as a colorless oil (94% yield).

B. 2,3-Dihydro-7-methyl-6-nitroindole and 2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-4-nitroindole. Concentrated sulfuric acid (270 mL) is added to 2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole (10.2 g, 76.6 mol) and the solution is cooled to approximately 0 ^{o}C using an ice water bath. Solid potassium nitrate (8.52 g, 8.43 mmol) is slowly added to this solution while maintaining the temperature of the reaction below 25 ^{o}C. After stirring for 1.5 hours, the reaction mixture is poured into a 1000-mL beaker packed with ice. The solution is cautiously basified with 50% NaOH solution and extracted with three 250-mL portions of chloroform. The fractions are combined and dried over anhydrous potassium carbonate. The chloroform is removed by rotary evaporation yielding 13.24 g of 2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-6-nitroindole and 2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-4-nitroindole as a bright orange solid (96% yield). The solid is carried on without further purification.

C. 1-*t*-Butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-6-nitroindole and 1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-4-nitroindole. The isomeric mixture of 2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-6-nitroindole and 2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-4-nitroindole (6.10 g; 0.0337 mol) is dissolved in methylene chloride (50

mL). To this solution is added *N,N*-dimethylaminopyridine (4.30 g; 0.0337 mol) and di-*t*-butyldicarbonate (22.5 g; 0.101 mol). Additional methylene chloride (50 mL) is added and the flask is equipped with a reflux condenser. The solution is allowed to stir overnight under an atmosphere of argon. The methylene chloride solution is extracted with four 100-mL portions of aqueous citric acid and is dried over anhydrous potassium carbonate. The solution is filtered, concentrated by rotary evaporation and dried under vacuum to give an oily, brown solid. The crude mixture is purified by silica gel flash column chromatography using 5% ethyl acetate/hexanes as eluent to give 2.44 g of 1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-4-nitroindole as a yellow solid and 2.6 g of 1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-6-nitroindole as well as some unseparated material.

D. 6-Amino-1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole. 1-*t*-Butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-6-nitroindole (0.58 g; 2.2 mmol) is dissolved in methanol (5 mL), treated with a catalytic amount of 10% palladium on carbon and placed under an atmosphere of hydrogen. The solution is allowed to stir overnight. The black suspension is filtered through Celite and the solvent is removed by rotary evaporation to afford 0.51 g of 6-amino-1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole as a white solid. (99% yield)

E. 1-*t*-Butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-6-isothiocyanato-7-methylindole. 6-Amino-1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole (0.5 g, 2.13 mmol) is dissolved in methylene chloride (10 mL). To this solution is added *N,N*-dimethylaminopyridine (0.052 g, 0.42 mmol) and di-2-pyridyl thionocarbonate (0.496 g, 2.13 mmol). The solution is allowed to stir for 20 minutes. The solution is diluted with methylene chloride and washed first with four 75-mL portions of aqueous citric acid solution followed by three 100-mL portions of aqueous potassium carbonate. The organic extracts are dried over anhydrous potassium carbonate, filtered and the solvent is removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.59 g of crude 1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-6-isothiocyanato-7-methylindole as an orange, oily solid. The crude product is taken on to the next reaction without further purification.

F. 6-[*N'*-(2-Aminoethyl)thioureido]-1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole. A solution of the above crude 1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-

dihydro-6-isothiocyanato-7-methylindole (0.59 g) in methylene chloride (10 mL) is slowly added to a solution of ethylenediamine (0.60 g, 10 mmol) in methylene chloride (10 mL). After 30 minutes, the solution is washed with four 50-mL portions of aqueous potassium carbonate, dried over anhydrous potassium carbonate, filtered and rotary evaporated to yield 6-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]-1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole as an amber glassy solid (0.72 g). This material is taken on into the next reaction without further purification.

G. 1-*t*-Butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole. 6-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]-1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole, prepared as above (0.72 g, 2.13 mmol), is dissolved in ethanol (10 mL). To this solution is added mercuric acetate (0.68 g, 2.13 mmol). The color of the suspension immediately turns yellow, and over a period of 30 minutes slowly darkens to black. The reaction mixture is filtered through Celite and the Celite pad washed with ethanol. The solvent is removed from the filtrate by rotary evaporation to yield 0.66 g of 1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole as an acetic acid salt, as a white solid (98% yield).

H. 2,3-Dihydro-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole. A solution of 1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole acetic acid salt (0.69 g, 1.85 mmol) in methylene chloride (7 mL) is treated dropwise with a 30% solution of hydrogen bromide in acetic acid (1.0 g, 3.7 mmol). A precipitate forms which dissolves upon addition of 2 mL of methanol. The reaction is stirred for 2.5 hours then concentrated under a stream of nitrogen. The material is diluted with water, and chloroform and brought to pH = 14 with 1M aqueous sodium hydroxide solution. The chloroform layer is collected and the aqueous solution extracted two additional times with chloroform. The combined organic extracts are dried over potassium carbonate, filtered and the filtrate evaporated on a rotary evaporator to afford 2,3-dihydro-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole.

Example 2

7-Methyl-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole

A. 2,3-Dihydro-7-methyl-6-nitroindole. To a solution of 1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-6-nitroindole (5.00 g, 17.9 mmol), as prepared

above (Example 1C), in methylene chloride (75 mL) is slowly added trifluoroacetic acid (15 mL). The reaction is stirred for 1.5 hours then partitioned between 200 mL of methylene chloride and 200 mL of 1 M aqueous sodium hydroxide solution. The methylene chloride layer is collected, dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and evaporated to dryness on a rotary evaporator to afford 3.1 g of 2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-6-nitroindole as an orange solid (97% yield).

B. 7-Methyl-6-nitroindole. A solution of 2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-6-nitroindole (3.1 g, 17.4 mmol) in 75 mL of benzene is treated with 2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone (DDQ, 4.34 g, 19.1 mmol). The solution turns black and over the next 15 minutes, turns to green with a green precipitate. This mixture is distributed between 400 mL of aqueous potassium carbonate solution and 500 mL of methylene chloride. The organic solution is removed, dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and evaporated to dryness on a rotary evaporator to afford 3.05 g of 7-methyl-6-nitroindole as a yellow solid (99% yield).

C. 6-Amino-7-methylindole. A degassed suspension of 7-methyl-6-nitroindole (1.5 g, 8.5 mmol) and catalytic 10% palladium on carbon in ethanol (75 mL) is placed under an atmosphere of hydrogen at 50 p.s.i. for 7 hours. The reaction mixture is filtered through Celite and the mixture concentrated by rotary evaporation. The crude residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 20% isopropanol/hexanes as the eluting solvent. The product containing fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.95 g of 6-amino-7-methylindole as a light brown solid (76% yield).

D. 6-Isothiocyanato-7-methylindole. To a solution of 6-amino-7-methylindole (1.0 g, 6.84 mmol) in methylene chloride (50 mL) is added di-2-pyridyl thionocarbonate (1.59 g, 6.84 mmol). The resulting solution is stirred at room temperature for two hours followed by removal of the methylene chloride by rotary evaporation. The crude material is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 10% ethyl acetate/hexane as the eluting solvent. The product containing fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.90 g of 6-isothiocyanato-7-methylindole as a white solid (70% yield).

E. 6-[-*N'*-(2-Aminoethyl)thioureido]-7-methylindole. A solution of 6-isothiocyanato-7-methylindole (0.85 g, 4.52 mmol) in 25 mL of toluene is

added to a solution of ethylenediamine (1.06 mL, 15.8 mmol) in 50 mL of toluene. The milky white mixture is stirred for 30 minutes as the desired product precipitates. The reaction is filtered to yield 1.1 g of 6-[-*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]-7-methylindole as a flaky white solid (99% yield).

F. 6-(2-Imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole. To a solution of 6-[-*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]-7-methylindole (1.10 g, 4.43 mmol) in ethanol (100 mL) is added mercuric acetate (1.41 g, 4.43 mmol). The resulting yellow suspension is stirred for 2 hours as a black precipitate forms. The suspension is filtered through Celite and the Celite pad is washed several times with ethanol. The filtrate is concentrated by rotary evaporation and the crude residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 25% methanol (ammonium hydroxide treated)/chloroform as the eluting solvent to afford 0.400 g of 6-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole as an acetic acid salt, as a white solid (33% yield).

Example 3

3-Cyano-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole

A. 3-Formyl-7-methyl-6-nitroindole. Phosphorus oxychloride (0.878 mL, 9.42 mmol) is added to a stirred solution of dimethylformamide (5 mL). A solution of 7-methyl-6-nitroindole (1.5 g, 8.56 mmol) in dimethylformamide (2 mL) is added dropwise at room temperature at a rate so as to keep the temperature of the reaction mixture below 35 °C. The solidified mixture is heated to 35 °C and stirred for 30 minutes. The reaction mixture is allowed to cool to room temperature and is treated with 25 mL of 5N aqueous sodium hydroxide solution. This addition produces an exothermic reaction. This reaction mixture is extracted with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate is dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation. The crude residue is recrystallized from ethyl alcohol to yield 1.3 g of 3-formyl-7-methyl-6-nitroindole as a yellow solid (74% yield).

B. 3-Cyano-7-methyl-6-nitroindole. To a solution of 3-formyl-7-methyl-6-nitroindole (0.500 g, 2.45 mmol) in formic acid (95-97%, 20 mL) is added hydroxylamine hydrochloride (0.238 g, 3.43 mmol). The reaction mixture is heated to reflux and stirred for approximately 14 hours. It is then cooled to 0 °C and treated with water. Aqueous sodium hydroxide solution (5%) is added to bring the pH to 5. The mixture is extracted with

ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts are dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation. The crude residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 10% isopropanol/hexanes as the eluting solvent. The product containing fractions are combined and concentrated on a rotary evaporator to yield 0.161 g of an oil which is a mixture of the desired 3-cyano-7-methyl-6-nitroindole and the corresponding oxime intermediate.

C. 6-Amino-3-cyano-7-methylindole. A degassed suspension of 3-cyano-7-methyl-6-nitroindole (0.279 g, 1.39 mmol), as obtained in the previous reaction, and catalytic 10% palladium-on-carbon in methanol (70 mL) is placed under an atmosphere of hydrogen for 90 minutes. The reaction mixture is filtered through Celite and the mixture concentrated by rotary evaporation. The crude residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 2% methanol/methylene chloride as the eluting solvent. The product containing fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.206 g of 6-amino-3-cyano-7-methylindole as an off-white solid (86% yield).

D. 3-Cyano-6-isothiocyanato-7-methylindole. To a solution of 6-amino-3-cyano-7-methylindole (0.155 g, 0.905 mmol) in methylene chloride (10 mL) is added di-2-pyridyl thionocarbonate (0.210 g, 0.905 mmol) followed by 4-dimethylaminopyridine (0.010 g, 0.0905 mmol). The resulting solution is stirred at room temperature for one hour followed by removal of the methylene chloride by rotary evaporation. The crude material is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 20% ethyl acetate/hexane as the eluting solvent. The product containing fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.154 g of 3-cyano-6-isothiocyanato-7-methylindole as a yellow solid (80% yield).

E. 3-Cyano-6-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]-7-methylindole. To a solution of 3-cyano-6-isothiocyanato-7-methylindole (0.152 g, 0.713 mmol) in methylene chloride (30 mL) is added ethylenediamine (0.286 mL, 4.28 mmol). The milky white mixture is stirred for 30 minutes followed by removal of the volatile organics by rotary evaporation. The residue is taken up in 10% methanol/methylene chloride, causing a precipitate to form. This mixture is filtered (solid is saved), and the filtrate is directly applied to a silica gel column. The mixture is separated using 15%

methanol (ammonium hydroxide treated)/methylene chloride as eluent. The product containing fractions are combined with the previous precipitate and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.214 g of slightly impure 3-cyano-6-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]-7-methylindole as a white solid.

F. 3-Cyano-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole. To a solution of 3-cyano-6-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]-7-methylindole (0.19 g, 0.691 mmol) in ethanol (35 mL) is added mercuric acetate (0.220 g, 0.691 mmol). The resulting yellow suspension is heated to 57 °C and stirred for 15 minutes. The hot suspension is filtered through Celite and the Celite pad is washed several times with hot ethanol. The filtrate is concentrated by rotary evaporation and the crude residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 15% methanol (ammonium hydroxide treated)/methylene chloride as the eluting solvent. This material is determined to be a partial acetate salt; therefore, the material is dissolved in methanol (5 mL) and acetic acid is added to make a mono acetate salt. The volatile organics are removed by rotary evaporation and the residue is taken up in water and lyophilized to yield 0.181 g of 3-cyano-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole, as an acetic acid salt, as a white solid (87% yield).

Example 4

4-(2-Imidazolinylamino)oxindole (Tautomeric with 4-(2-Imidazolinylamino)-2-hydroxyindole.

A. 3-Chloro-4-nitroindole. *N*-Chlorosuccinimide (1.23 g, 9.25 mmol) is added to a solution of 4-nitroindole (1.5 g, 9.25 mmol, Aldrich) in methylene chloride (75 mL). The resulting mixture is heated to reflux for 16 hours. Acetonitrile (10 mL) is added to the mixture and heating is continued for another 16 hours. The reaction is cooled to room temperature and the methylene chloride is removed by rotary evaporation. The residue is taken up in ethyl acetate and washed with water. The ethyl acetate layer is dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation. The crude material is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 30% ethyl acetate/hexane as the eluent. The product containing fractions are

combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 1.35 g of 3-chloro-4-nitroindole as an orange solid (74%).

B. 4-Nitrooxindole. Phosphoric acid (35 mL of 86%) is added to a solution of 3-chloro-4-nitroindole (1.27 g, 6.46 mmol) in 2-methoxyethanol (50 mL) at 100 °C. The resulting brown colored solution is stirred at 95 °C for 3.5 hours. The reaction is cooled to room temperature and then poured into 500 mL of water. The aqueous layer is extracted three times with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate layer is dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation. The crude material is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 2% methanol/methylene chloride as the eluent. The product containing fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.90 g of slightly impure 4-nitrooxindole as an orange solid.

C. 4-Aminooxindole. A catalytic amount of 10% palladium-on-carbon is added to a solution of 4-nitrooxindole (0.889 g, 4.99 mmol) in methanol (100 mL). The suspension is degassed three times and placed under an atmosphere of hydrogen for 3 hours. The suspension is filtered through a pad of Celite and the Celite is washed several times with methanol. The methanol from the filtrate is removed by rotary evaporation. The resulting residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 3% methanol/methylene chloride as the eluent. The appropriate fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.558 g of 4-aminooxindole as a light orange solid (76%).

D. 4-Isothiocyanatooxindole. 4-Dimethylaminopyridine (0.086 g, 0.706 mmol) and di-2-pyridyl thionocarbonate (0.983 g, 4.23 mmol) are added to a solution of 4-aminooxindole (0.523 g, 3.53 mmol) in methylene chloride. The resulting mixture is stirred at room temperature for two hours during which time a soluble solution forms. The methylene chloride is removed by rotary evaporation and the crude residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 40% ethyl acetate/hexanes as the eluent. The appropriate fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.531 g of 4-isothiocyanatooxindole as a dark orange solid (79%, impure).

E. 4-[*N'*-(2-Aminoethyl)thioureido]oxindole. Ethylenediamine (0.828 mL, 12.38 mmol) is added to a solution of 4-isothiocyanatooxindole (0.471 g, 2.48 mmol) in methylene chloride (20 mL). The resulting solution is

stirred at room temperature for 2.5 hours. The reaction mixture is concentrated by rotary evaporation to yield 0.688 g of crude 4-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]oxindole as a green solid. This material is carried on directly to the next step.

F. 4-(2-Imidazolinylamino)oxindole. Mercuric acetate (0.751 g, 2.36 mmol) is added to a solution of 4-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]oxindole (0.590 g, 2.36 mmol) in ethanol (100 mL). The resulting mixture is heated to 78 °C for 3 hours. The black mixture is filtered through Celite and the Celite pad is washed several times with methanol. The methanol is removed by rotary evaporation. The crude material is purified on a silica gel column using 20% methanol/methylene chloride (ammonium hydroxide treated) as the eluent. The appropriate fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.266 g of 4-(2-imidazolinylamino)oxindole as a partial acetic acid salt.

Example 5

2,3-Dihydro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole, Acetic Acid Salt.

A. 4-Aminoindole. Iron powder (1.20 g, 21.58 mmol) and acetic acid (2.47 mL, 43.19 mmol) are added to a solution of 4-nitroindole (1.0 g, 6.17 mmol) in ethanol (20 mL). The resulting suspension is heated to reflux for 14 hours. The ethanol is removed by rotary evaporation and the residue is partitioned between water and ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate layer is dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation. The crude residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 1% methanol/methylene chloride as the eluent. The appropriate fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.815 g of 4-aminoindole as an orange solid (82% yield).

B. 4-Isothiocyanatoindole. Di-2-pyridyl thionocarbonate (0.351 g, 1.51 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (0.037 g, 0.302 mmol) are added to a solution of 4-aminoindole (0.200 g, 1.51 mmol) in methylene chloride (10 mL). The resulting mixture is stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. The methylene chloride solution is directly added to a silica gel column using 10% ethyl acetate/hexane as the eluent. The appropriate fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield

0.285 g of crude material containing 4-isothiocyanatoindole as a clear oil. This material is used without further purification in the next reaction.

C. 4-[*N'*-(2-Aminoethyl)thioureido]indole. Ethylenediamine (0.289 mL, 4.33 mmol) is added to a solution of 4-isothiocyanatoindole (0.150 g, 0.866 mmol) in methylene chloride (10 mL). The clear solution becomes cloudy within a few seconds with the formation of a white precipitate. The reaction mixture is stirred for one hour followed by the removal of most of the methylene chloride by rotary evaporation. The mixture is filtered and the white precipitate is dried to afford 0.185 g of 4-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]indole (91% yield).

D. 4-(2-Imidazolinylamino)indole. Mercuric acetate (0.238 g, 0.747 mmol) is added to a solution of 4-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]indole (0.175 g, 0.747 mmol) in ethanol (10 mL). The resulting bright yellow mixture is heated to 60 °C and stirred for two hours, during which time the reaction mixture turns black. The mixture is filtered through a pad of Celite followed by washing several times with hot ethanol. The ethanol is removed by rotary evaporation and the crude residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 10% methanol (ammonium hydroxide treated)/methylene chloride as the eluent. The appropriate fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.139 g of 4-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole as an acetic acid salt, as a white solid (72% yield).

E. 2,3-Dihydro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole. Sodium cyanoborohydride (0.143 g, 2.28 mmol) is added to a solution of 4-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole, acetic acid salt (0.237 g, 0.910 mmol) in acetic acid (6 mL). The resulting foamy solution is stirred at room temperature overnight. 50% Aqueous sodium hydroxide solution is added to the reaction until a basic pH is obtained, and the aqueous layer is extracted with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate layer is dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation. The crude residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 30% methanol (ammonium hydroxide treated)/methylene chloride as the eluent. The appropriate fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.110 g of 2,3-dihydro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole as an acetic acid salt, as an off-white solid (60% yield).

Example 6

2,3-Dihydro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole.

A. 1-*t*-Butoxycarbonyl-4-amino-2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole. 1-*t*-Butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-4-nitroindole (2.169 g; 8.7 mmol) is dissolved in methanol (35 mL), treated with a catalytic amount of 10% palladium-on-carbon (210 mg) and placed under an atmosphere of hydrogen. The solution is allowed to stir overnight. The black suspension is filtered through Celite and the solvent is removed by rotary evaporation. The crude product is purified by silica gel flash column chromatography using 15% ethyl acetate/hexanes as eluent to afford 1.769 g of 1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-4-amino-2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole as a white solid (94% yield).

B. 1-*t*-Butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-4-isothiocyanato-7-methylindole. 1-*t*-Butoxycarbonyl-4-amino-2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole (1.625 g, 6.55 mmol) is dissolved in methylene chloride (15 mL). To this solution is added 4-dimethylaminopyridine (0.160 g, 1.31 mmol) and di-2-pyridyl thionocarbonate (1.52 g, 6.55 mmol). The volume of solvent is brought to 30 mL, and the solution is allowed to stir for one hour. The solution is diluted to 150 mL with chloroform and washed first with four 75-mL portions of aqueous citric acid solution followed by three 100-mL portions of aqueous potassium carbonate. The organic layer is dried over anhydrous potassium carbonate, filtered and the solvent is removed by rotary evaporation to yield an orange, oily solid. The crude product is purified by silica gel flash column chromatography using 4% ethyl acetate/hexanes to afford 1.78 g of *N*-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-4-isothiocyanato-7-methylindole as a white solid (94% yield).

C. 4-[*N'*-(2-Aminoethyl)thioureido]-1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole. A solution of 1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-4-isothiocyanato-7-methylindole (1.70g; 5.86 mmol) in methylene chloride (10 mL) is slowly added to a solution of ethylenediamine (1.76 g, 29.3 mmol) in methylene chloride (10 mL). After 30 minutes, the solution is washed with four 50-mL portions of aqueous potassium carbonate, dried over anhydrous potassium carbonate, filtered and rotary evaporated to yield an off-white solid. The crude residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 10% methanol (ammonium hydroxide treated)/methylene chloride as the eluent. The appropriate fractions are

combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 1.92 g of 4-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]-1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole as a white solid (94% yield).

D. 1-*t*-Butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole. 1-*t*-Butoxycarbonyl-4-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]-2,3-dihydro-7-methylindole (1.87 g, 5.36 mmol) is dispersed in ethanol (75 mL) to form a white suspension. To this suspension is added mercuric acetate (1.71 g, 5.36 mmol). The color of the suspension immediately turns yellow, and over a period of 30 minutes slowly darkens to black. The reaction mixture is filtered through Celite and the Celite pad washed with ethanol. The solvent is removed from the filtrate by rotary evaporation to yield an off-white solid. The crude material is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 10% methanol (ammonium hydroxide treated)/methylene chloride as the eluent to afford 1.75 g of 1-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole as a white solid (98% yield).

E. 2,3-Dihydro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole. 1-*t*-Butoxycarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole (0.384 g,1.22 mmol) is dissolved in methanol (10 mL). To this solution is added 30% hydrogen bromide in acetic acid (2.5 mL). The solution is heated to reflux for 2.5 hours. The reaction mixture is concentrated by rotary evaporation and the resulting orange liquid taken up in chloroform. The chloroform solution is treated with 50% NaOH solution and extracted with three 25 mL portions of chloroform. The organic layers are collected and dried over anhydrous potassium carbonate. Filtration and removal of the solvent produces a brownish-orange solid which is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 10% methanol (ammonium hydroxide treated)/methylene chloride as the eluent to afford 0.257 g of 2,3-dihydro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole as a light-orange solid.

Example 7

3-Chloro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole.

A. 4-Amino-3-chloroindole. Stannous chloride (4.59 g, 20.36 mmol) is added to a solution of 3-chloro-4-nitroindole in 50 mL of ethanol. The reaction is heated to 45 °C and stirred for 1.5 hours. The reaction is cooled to room temperature and treated with 1 M aqueous sodium hydroxide solution. This mixture is extracted with ethyl acetate. The

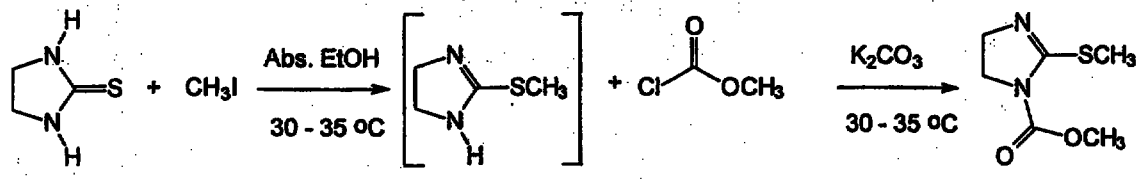
combined organic extracts are dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation. The crude residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 15% ethyl acetate/hexanes as the eluent. The appropriate fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.466 g of 4-amino-3-chloroindole as an off-white solid (55% yield).

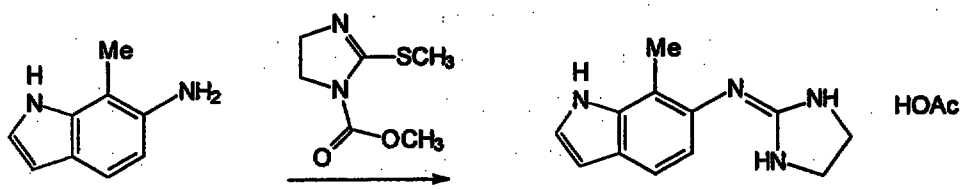
B. 3-Chloro-4-isothiocyanatooxindole. 4-Dimethylaminopyridine (0.031 g, 0.256 mmol) and di-2-pyridyl thionocarbonate (0.983 g, 4.23 mmol) are added to a solution of 4-amino-3-chloroindole (0.655 g, 2.82 mmol) in methylene chloride. The resulting mixture is stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. The volatile organics are removed by rotary evaporation and the crude residue is purified via silica gel column chromatography using 20% ethyl acetate/hexanes as the eluent. The appropriate fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.511 g of 3-chloro-4-isothiocyanatoindole as a yellow solid (96%).

C. 4-[*N'*-(2-Aminoethyl)thioureido]-3-chloroindole. Ethylenediamine (0.711 mL, 10.6 mmol) is added to a solution of 3-chloro-4-isothiocyanatoindole (0.370 g, 1.77 mmol) in methylene chloride (15 mL). The resulting solution is stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. The reaction mixture is concentrated by rotary evaporation and the crude material purified via silica gel column chromatography using 7% methanol (ammonium hydroxide treated)/methylene chloride as the eluent. The appropriate fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.484 g of 4-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]-3-chloroindole as a white solid (90% yield).

D. 3-Chloro-4-(2-Imidazolinylamino)indole. Mercuric acetate (0.408 g, 1.28 mmol) is added to a solution of 4-[*N'*-(2-aminoethyl)thioureido]-3-chloroindole (0.344 g, 1.28 mmol) in ethanol (20 mL). The resulting mixture is heated to 45 °C for 30 minutes. The black mixture is filtered through Celite and the Celite pad is washed several times with methanol. The solvents are removed by rotary evaporation. The crude material is purified on a silica gel column using 10% methanol (ammonium hydroxide treated)/methylene chloride as the eluent. The appropriate fractions are combined and the solvents removed by rotary evaporation to yield 0.34 g of 3-chloro-4-(2-Imidazolinylamino)indole as an acetic acid salt, as a white solid (90% yield).

Alternative Imidazolinylamine Formation from Aryl Amines



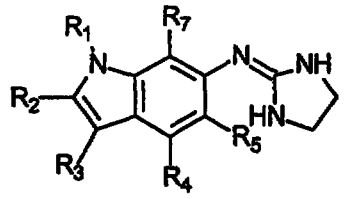


A. 2-Methylthio-2-imidazoline. 2-Imidazolidinethione (5.0 g) is added to absolute ethanol (40 mL) while stirring. Methyl iodide (4.3 mL) is rapidly added. The reaction mixture is warmed to 30-35 °C for 45 minutes. This solution is used directly in the next reaction.

B. *N*-Carbomethoxy-2-thiomethyl-2-imidazoline. Potassium carbonate (10.1 grams) is added to the mixture in (A) above, followed by addition of methyl chloroformate (4.2 mL) while stirring. After 45 minutes, the reaction mixture is heated to 55 °C and the insoluble salts are filtered off. These salts are washed with 10 mL of absolute ethanol. The filtrate (and ethanol wash) is cooled to -20 °C and the recrystallized product is isolated on a Buchner funnel. The product is washed with 10 mL cold (-20 °C) absolute ethanol. The product is dried overnight under vacuum at room temperature, yielding *N*-carbomethoxy-2-thiomethyl-2-imidazoline.

C. 7-Methyl-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole The *N*-carbomethoxy-2-thiomethyl-2-imidazoline is combined with the amine (2C) of Example 2 in 10% acetic acid in ethanol and heated to reflux. After the starting amine is consumed, the mixture is decolorized with carbon. The mixture is cooled, filtered and rotary evaporated. Upon recrystallization and drying, the compound (2F) of Example 2 is obtained as an acetic acid salt.

Using the methodologies outlined and exemplified above, the following compounds are made. Above each table the general structure for the examples following are given:

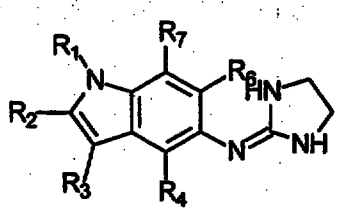


(Examples 8-105)

Example	R_1	R_2	R_3	R_4	R_5	R_7
8	H	H	H	H	H	Cl
9	H	H	H	H	H	Br
10	H	H	H	H	H	I
11	H	H	H	H	H	Et
12	H	H	H	H	H	OMe
13	H	H	H	H	H	SMe
14	H	H	H	Me	H	Me
15	H	H	H	F	H	Me
16	H	H	H	Cl	H	Me
17	H	H	H	Br	H	Me
18	H	H	H	I	H	Me
19	H	H	H	Et	H	Me
20	H	H	H	OMe	H	Me
21	H	H	H	SMe	H	Me
22	H	H	H	CN	H	Me
23	H	H	H	Me	H	Cl
24	H	H	H	F	H	Cl
25	H	H	H	Cl	H	Cl
26	H	H	H	Br	H	Cl
27	H	H	H	I	H	Cl
28	H	H	H	CN	H	Cl
29	H	H	H	Me	H	Br
30	H	H	H	F	H	Br
31	H	H	H	Cl	H	Br
32	H	H	H	Br	H	Br
33	H	H	H	I	H	Br
34	H	H	H	Et	H	Br
35	H	H	H	CN	H	Br

36	H	H	H	Me	H	I
37	H	H	H	F	H	I
38	H	H	H	Cl	H	I
39	H	H	H	Br	H	I
40	H	H	H	I	H	I
41	H	H	H	CN	H	I
42	H	H	H	Me	H	Et
43	H	H	H	F	H	Et
44	H	H	H	Cl	H	Et
45	H	H	H	Br	H	Et
46	H	H	H	I	H	Et
47	H	H	H	CN	H	Et
48	H	H	H	Me	H	OMe
49	H	H	H	Me	H	SMe
50	H	H	H	H	Me	Me
51	H	H	H	H	F	Me
52	H	H	H	H	Cl	Me
53	H	H	H	H	Br	Me
54	H	H	H	H	I	Me
55	H	H	H	H	Et	Me
56	H	H	H	H	OMe	Me
57	H	H	H	H	SMe	Me
58	H	H	H	H	CN	Me
59	H	H	H	H	Me	Cl
60	H	H	H	H	F	Cl
61	H	H	H	H	Cl	Cl
62	H	H	H	H	Br	Cl
63	H	H	H	H	I	Cl
64	H	H	H	H	Me	Br
65	H	H	H	H	F	Br
66	H	H	H	H	Cl	Br
67	H	H	H	H	Br	Br
68	H	H	H	H	I	Br
69	H	H	H	H	Me	I
70	H	H	H	H	F	I

71	H	H	H	H	Cl	I
72	H	H	H	H	Br	I
73	H	H	H	H	I	I
74	H	H	H	H	Me	Et
75	H	H	H	H	F	Et
76	H	H	H	H	Cl	Et
77	H	H	H	H	Br	Et
78	H	H	H	H	I	Et
79	H	H	H	H	Me	OMe
80	H	H	H	H	F	OMe
81	H	H	H	H	Cl	OMe
82	H	H	H	H	Br	OMe
83	H	H	H	H	I	OMe
84	H	H	H	H	Me	SMe
85	H	H	H	H	F	SMe
86	H	H	H	H	Cl	SMe
87	H	H	H	H	Br	SMe
88	H	H	H	H	I	SMe
89	H	H	CN	H	H	Cl
90	H	H	CN	H	H	Br
91	H	H	CN	H	H	I
92	H	H	Cl	H	H	Me
93	H	H	Cl	H	H	Cl
94	H	H	Cl	H	H	Br
95	H	H	Cl	H	H	I
96	H	H	Br	H	H	Me
97	H	H	Br	H	H	Cl
98	H	H	Br	H	H	Br
99	H	H	Br	H	H	I
100	H	OH	H	H	H	Me
101	H	OH	H	H	H	Cl
102	H	OH	H	H	H	Br
103	H	OH	H	H	H	I
104	H	H	H	Me	Me	Me
105	H	H	CN	Me	Me	Me

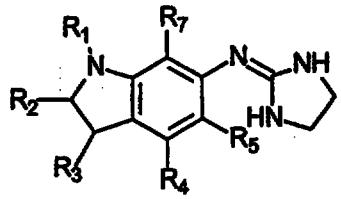


(Examples 106-192)

Example	R_1	R_2	R_3	R_4	R_6	R_7
106	H	H	H	Me	H	H
107	H	H	H	Cl	H	H
108	H	H	H	Br	H	H
109	H	H	H	I	H	H
110	H	H	H	Et	H	H
111	H	H	H	OMe	H	H
112	H	H	H	SMe	H	H
113	H	H	H	Me	H	Me
114	H	H	H	Me	H	F
115	H	H	H	Me	H	Cl
116	H	H	H	Me	H	Br
117	H	H	H	Me	H	I
118	H	H	H	Me	H	Et
119	H	H	H	Me	H	OMe
120	H	H	H	Me	H	SMe
121	H	H	H	Me	H	CN
122	H	H	H	Cl	H	Me
123	H	H	H	Cl	H	F
124	H	H	H	Cl	H	Cl
125	H	H	H	Cl	H	Br
126	H	H	H	Cl	H	I
127	H	H	H	Cl	H	Et
128	H	H	H	Cl	H	OMe
129	H	H	H	Cl	H	SMe
130	H	H	H	Cl	H	CN
131	H	H	H	Br	H	Me

132	H	H	H	Br	H	F
133	H	H	H	Br	H	Cl
134	H	H	H	Br	H	Br
135	H	H	H	Br	H	I
136	H	H	H	Br	H	Et
137	H	H	H	Br	H	OMe
138	H	H	H	Br	H	SMe
139	H	H	H	Br	H	CN
140	H	H	H	I	H	Me
141	H	H	H	I	H	F
142	H	H	H	I	H	Cl
143	H	H	H	I	H	Br
144	H	H	H	I	H	I
145	H	H	H	I	H	Et
146	H	H	H	I	H	OMe
147	H	H	H	I	H	SMe
148	H	H	H	I	H	CN
149	H	H	H	Et	H	Me
150	H	H	H	OMe	H	Me
151	H	H	H	SMe	H	Me
152	H	H	H	Me	Me	H
153	H	H	H	Me	F	H
154	H	H	H	Me	Cl	H
155	H	H	H	Me	Br	H
156	H	H	H	Me	I	H
157	H	H	H	Cl	Me	H
158	H	H	H	Cl	F	H
159	H	H	H	Cl	Cl	H
160	H	H	H	Cl	Br	H
161	H	H	H	Cl	I	H
162	H	H	H	Br	Me	H
163	H	H	H	Br	F	H
164	H	H	H	Br	Cl	H
165	H	H	H	Br	Br	H
166	H	H	H	Br	I	H

167	H	H	H	I	Me	H
168	H	H	H	I	F	H
169	H	H	H	I	Cl	H
170	H	H	H	I	Br	H
171	H	H	H	I	I	H
172	H	H	H	Et	Me	H
173	H	H	H	OMe	Me	H
174	H	H	H	SMe	Me	H
175	H	H	CN	Me	H	Me
176	H	H	CN	Cl	H	Me
177	H	H	CN	Br	H	Me
178	H	H	CN	I	H	Me
179	H	H	Cl	Me	H	Me
180	H	H	Cl	Cl	H	Me
181	H	H	Cl	Br	H	Me
182	H	H	Cl	I	H	Me
183	H	H	Br	Me	H	Me
184	H	H	Br	Cl	H	Me
185	H	H	Br	Br	H	Me
186	H	H	Br	I	H	Me
187	H	OH	H	Me	H	Me
188	H	OH	H	Cl	H	Me
189	H	OH	H	Br	H	Me
190	H	OH	H	I	H	Me
191	H	H	H	Me	Me	Me
192	H	H	CN	Me	Me	Me

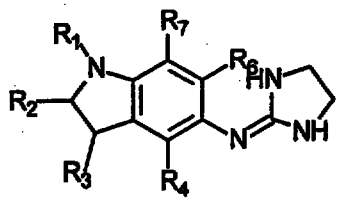


(Examples 193-250)

Example	R_1	R_2	R_3	R_4	R_5	R_7
193	H	H	H	H	H	Cl

194	H	H	H	H	H	Br
195	H	H	H	H	H	I
196	H	H	H	H	H	Et
197	H	H	H	H	H	OMe
198	H	H	H	H	H	SMe
199	H	H	H	Me	H	Me
200	H	H	H	F	H	Me
201	H	H	H	Cl	H	Me
202	H	H	H	Br	H	Me
203	H	H	H	I	H	Me
204	H	H	H	CN	H	Me
205	H	H	H	Me	H	Cl
206	H	H	H	F	H	Cl
207	H	H	H	Cl	H	Cl
208	H	H	H	Br	H	Cl
209	H	H	H	I	H	Cl
210	H	H	H	CN	H	Cl
211	H	H	H	Me	H	Br
212	H	H	H	F	H	Br
213	H	H	H	Cl	H	Br
214	H	H	H	Br	H	Br
215	H	H	H	I	H	Br
216	H	H	H	CN	H	Br
217	H	H	H	Me	H	I
218	H	H	H	F	H	I
219	H	H	H	Cl	H	I
220	H	H	H	Br	H	I
221	H	H	H	I	H	I
222	H	H	H	CN	H	I
223	H	H	H	H	Me	Me
224	H	H	H	H	F	Me
225	H	H	H	H	Cl	Me
226	H	H	H	H	Br	Me
227	H	H	H	H	I	Me
228	H	H	H	H	Me	Cl

229	H	H	H	H	F	Cl
230	H	H	H	H	Cl	Cl
231	H	H	H	H	Br	Cl
232	H	H	H	H	I	Cl
233	H	H	H	H	Me	Br
234	H	H	H	H	F	Br
235	H	H	H	H	Cl	Br
236	H	H	H	H	Br	Br
237	H	H	H	H	I	Br
238	H	H	H	H	Me	I
239	H	H	H	H	F	I
240	H	H	H	H	Cl	I
241	H	H	H	H	Br	I
242	H	H	H	H	I	I
243	H	H	H	H	Et	I
244	H	H	H	H	OMe	I
245	H	H	H	H	SMe	I
246	H	H	H	H	CN	I
247	H	H	H	H	Me	Et
248	H	H	H	H	Me	OMe
249	H	H	H	H	Me	SMe
250	H	H	H	Me	Me	Me

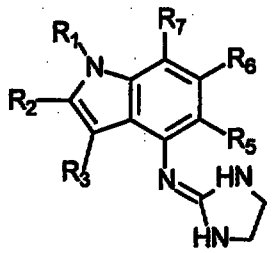


(Examples 251-310)

Example	R_1	R_2	R_3	R_4	R_6	R_7
251	H	H	H	Me	H	H
252	H	H	H	Cl	H	H
253	H	H	H	Br	H	H

254	H	H	H	I	H	H
255	H	H	H	Et	H	H
256	H	H	H	OMe	H	H
257	H	H	H	SMe	H	H
258	H	H	H	Me	H	Me
259	H	H	H	Me	H	F
260	H	H	H	Me	H	Cl
261	H	H	H	Me	H	Br
262	H	H	H	Me	H	I
263	H	H	H	Me	H	OMe
264	H	H	H	Me	H	CN
265	H	H	H	Cl	H	Me
266	H	H	H	Cl	H	F
267	H	H	H	Cl	H	Cl
268	H	H	H	Cl	H	Br
269	H	H	H	Cl	H	I
270	H	H	H	Br	H	Me
271	H	H	H	Br	H	F
272	H	H	H	Br	H	Cl
273	H	H	H	Br	H	Br
274	H	H	H	Br	H	I
275	H	H	H	I	H	Me
276	H	H	H	I	H	F
277	H	H	H	I	H	Cl
278	H	H	H	I	H	Br
279	H	H	H	I	H	I
280	H	H	H	I	H	CN
281	H	H	H	Et	H	Me
282	H	H	H	OMe	H	Me
283	H	H	H	SMe	H	Me
284	H	H	H	Me	Me	H
285	H	H	H	Me	F	H
286	H	H	H	Me	Cl	H
287	H	H	H	Me	Br	H
288	H	H	H	Me	I	H

289	H	H	H	Cl	Me	H
290	H	H	H	Cl	F	H
291	H	H	H	Cl	Cl	H
292	H	H	H	Cl	Br	H
293	H	H	H	Cl	I	H
294	H	H	H	Br	Me	H
295	H	H	H	Br	F	H
296	H	H	H	Br	Cl	H
297	H	H	H	Br	Br	H
298	H	H	H	Br	I	H
299	H	H	H	I	Me	H
300	H	H	H	I	F	H
301	H	H	H	I	Cl	H
302	H	H	H	I	Br	H
303	H	H	H	I	I	H
304	H	H	H	Et	Me	H
305	H	H	H	Et	F	H
306	H	H	H	Et	Cl	H
307	H	H	H	OMe	Me	H
308	H	H	H	OMe	Cl	H
309	H	H	H	SMe	Me	H
310	H	H	H	Me	Me	Me

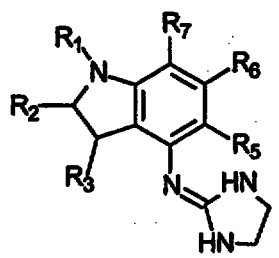


(Examples 311-376)

Example	R_1	R_2	R_3	R_5	R_6	R_7
311	H	H	Br	H	H	H
312	H	H	F	H	H	H
313	H	H	I	H	H	H

314	H	H	Me	H	H	H
315	H	H	CN	H	H	H
316	H	H	H	H	H	Me
317	H	H	H	H	H	Cl
318	H	H	H	H	H	Br
319	H	H	H	H	H	I
320	H	H	H	H	H	Et
321	H	H	H	H	H	OMe
322	H	H	H	H	H	SMe
323	H	H	H	H	Me	Me
324	H	H	H	H	F	Me
325	H	H	H	H	Cl	Me
326	H	H	H	H	Br	Me
327	H	H	H	H	I	Me
328	H	H	H	H	Me	Cl
329	H	H	H	H	F	Cl
330	H	H	H	H	Cl	Cl
331	H	H	H	H	Br	Cl
332	H	H	H	H	I	Cl
333	H	H	H	H	Me	Br
334	H	H	H	H	F	Br
335	H	H	H	H	Cl	Br
336	H	H	H	H	Br	Br
337	H	H	H	H	I	Br
338	H	H	H	H	Me	I
339	H	H	H	H	F	I
340	H	H	H	H	Cl	I
341	H	H	H	H	Br	I
342	H	H	H	H	I	I
343	H	H	H	Me	H	Me
344	H	H	H	F	H	Me
345	H	H	H	Cl	H	Me
346	H	H	H	Br	H	Me
347	H	H	H	I	H	Me
348	H	H	H	Me	H	Cl

349	H	H	H	F	H	Cl
350	H	H	H	Cl	H	Cl
351	H	H	H	Br	H	Cl
352	H	H	H	I	H	Cl
353	H	H	H	Me	H	Br
354	H	H	H	F	H	Br
355	H	H	H	Cl	H	Br
356	H	H	H	Br	H	Br
357	H	H	H	I	H	Br
358	H	H	H	Me	H	I
359	H	H	H	F	H	I
360	H	H	H	Cl	H	I
361	H	H	H	Br	H	I
362	H	H	H	I	H	I
363	H	H	CN	H	H	Me
364	H	H	CN	H	H	Cl
365	H	H	CN	H	H	Br
366	H	H	CN	H	H	I
367	H	H	Cl	H	H	Me
368	H	H	Cl	H	H	Cl
369	H	H	Cl	H	H	Br
370	H	H	Cl	H	H	I
371	H	H	Br	H	H	Me
372	H	H	Br	H	H	Cl
373	H	H	Br	H	H	Br
374	H	H	Br	H	H	I
375	H	H	H	Me	Me	Me
376	H	H	CN	Me	Me	Me



(Examples 377-438)

Example	R_1	R_2	R_3	R_5	R_6	R_7
377	H	H	H	H	H	H
378	H	H	H	H	H	Me
379	H	H	H	H	H	Cl
380	H	H	H	H	H	Br
381	H	H	H	H	H	I
382	H	H	H	H	H	Et
383	H	H	H	H	H	OMe
384	H	H	H	H	H	SMe
385	H	H	H	H	Me	H
386	H	H	H	H	F	H
387	H	H	H	H	Cl	H
388	H	H	H	H	Br	H
389	H	H	H	H	I	H
390	H	H	H	H	Me	Me
391	H	H	H	H	F	Me
392	H	H	H	H	Cl	Me
393	H	H	H	H	Br	Me
394	H	H	H	H	I	Me
395	H	H	H	H	Me	Cl
396	H	H	H	H	F	Cl
397	H	H	H	H	Cl	Cl
398	H	H	H	H	Br	Cl
399	H	H	H	H	I	Cl
400	H	H	H	H	Me	Br
401	H	H	H	H	F	Br
402	H	H	H	H	Cl	Br
403	H	H	H	H	Br	Br
404	H	H	H	H	I	Br
405	H	H	H	H	Me	I
406	H	H	H	H	F	I
407	H	H	H	H	Cl	I
408	H	H	H	H	Br	I

409	H	H	H	H	I	I
410	H	H	H	Me	H	H
411	H	H	H	F	H	H
412	H	H	H	Cl	H	H
413	H	H	H	Br	H	H
414	H	H	H	I	H	H
415	H	H	H	Me	H	Me
416	H	H	H	F	H	Me
417	H	H	H	Cl	H	Me
418	H	H	H	Br	H	Me
419	H	H	H	I	H	Me
420	H	H	H	Me	H	Cl
421	H	H	H	F	H	Cl
422	H	H	H	Cl	H	Cl
423	H	H	H	Br	H	Cl
424	H	H	H	I	H	Cl
425	H	H	H	Me	H	Br
426	H	H	H	F	H	Br
427	H	H	H	Cl	H	Br
428	H	H	H	Br	H	Br
429	H	H	H	I	H	Br
430	H	H	H	Me	H	I
431	H	H	H	F	H	I
432	H	H	H	Cl	H	I
433	H	H	H	Br	H	I
434	H	H	H	I	H	I
435	H	=O	H	H	H	Me
436	H	=O	H	H	H	Cl
437	H	=O	H	H	H	Br
438	H	=O	H	H	H	I

Compositions

Another aspect of this invention is compositions which comprise a safe and effective amount of a subject compound, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.

As used herein, "safe and effective amount" means an amount of the subject compound sufficient to significantly induce a positive modification in the condition to be treated, but low enough to avoid serious side effects (at a reasonable benefit/risk ratio), within the scope of sound medical judgment. A safe and effective amount of the subject compound will vary with the age and physical condition of the patient being treated, the severity of the condition, the duration of the treatment, the nature of concurrent therapy, the particular pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier utilized, and like factors within the knowledge and expertise of the attending physician.

Preparing a dosage form is within the purview of the skilled artisan. Examples are provided for the skilled artisan, but are non-limiting, and it is contemplated that the skilled artisan can prepare variations of the compositions claimed.

Compositions of this invention preferably comprise from about 0.0001% to about 99% by weight of the subject compound, more preferably from about 0.01% to about 90% of the compound of the invention. Depending upon the route of administration and attendant bioavailability, solubility or dissolution characteristics of the dosage form, the dosage form has preferably from about 10% to about 50%, also preferably from about 5% to about 10%, also preferably from about 1% to about 5%, and also preferably from about 0.01% to about 1% of the subject compound. The frequency of dosing of the subject compound is dependent upon the pharmacokinetic properties of each specific agent (for example, biological half-life) and can be determined by the skilled artisan.

In addition to the subject compound, the compositions of this invention contain a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier. The term "pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier", as used herein, means one or more compatible solid or liquid filler diluents or encapsulating substances which are suitable for administration to a mammal. The term "compatible", as used herein, means that the components of the composition are capable of being commingled with the subject compound, and with each other, in a manner such that there is no interaction which would substantially reduce the pharmaceutical efficacy of the composition under ordinary use situations. Preferably when liquid dose forms are used, the compounds of the invention are soluble in the components of the composition. Pharmaceutically-acceptable carriers must, of course, be of sufficiently high purity and sufficiently low toxicity to render them suitable for administration to the mammal being treated.

Some examples of substances which can serve as pharmaceutically-acceptable carriers or components thereof are sugars, such as lactose, glucose and sucrose; starches, such as corn starch and potato starch; cellulose and its derivatives, such as sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, and methyl cellulose; powdered tragacanth; malt; gelatin; talc; solid lubricants, such as stearic acid and magnesium stearate; calcium sulfate; vegetable oils, such as peanut oil, cottonseed oil, sesame oil, olive oil, corn oil and oil of theobroma; polyols such as propylene glycol, glycerine, sorbitol, mannitol, and polyethylene glycol; alginic acid; emulsifiers, such as the Tweens®; wetting agents, such sodium lauryl sulfate; coloring agents; flavoring agents; tableting agents, stabilizers; antioxidants; preservatives; pyrogen-free water; isotonic saline; and phosphate buffer solutions.The choice of a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier to be used in conjunction with the subject compound is basically determined by the way the compound is to be administered. If the subject compound is to be injected, the preferred pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier is sterile, physiological saline, with a blood-compatible suspending agent, the pH of which has been adjusted to about 7.4.

If the preferred mode of administering the subject compound is perorally, the preferred unit dosage form is therefore tablets, capsules, lozenges, chewable tablets, and the like. Such unit dosage forms comprise a safe and effective amount of the subject compound, which is preferably from about 0.01 mg to about 350 mg, more preferably from about 0.1 mg to about 35 mg, based on a 70 kg person. The pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier suitable for the preparation of unit dosage forms for peroral administration are well-known in the art. Tablets typically comprise conventional pharmaceutically-compatible adjuvants as inert diluents, such as calcium carbonate, sodium carbonate, mannitol, lactose and cellulose; binders such as starch, gelatin and sucrose; disintegrants such as starch, alginic acid and croscarmelose; lubricants such as magnesium stearate, stearic acid and talc. Glidants such as silicon dioxide can be used to improve flow characteristics of the powder mixture. Coloring agents, such as the FD&C dyes, can be added for appearance. Sweeteners and flavoring agents, such as aspartame, saccharin, menthol, peppermint, and fruit flavors, are useful adjuvants for chewable tablets. Capsules typically comprise one or more solid diluents disclosed above. The selection of carrier components depends on secondary considerations like taste, cost, and shelf stability, which

are not critical for the purposes of this invention, and can be readily made by a person skilled in the art.

Peroral compositions also include liquid solutions, emulsions, suspensions, and the like. The pharmaceutically-acceptable carriers suitable for preparation of such compositions are well known in the art. Such liquid oral compositions preferably comprise from about 0.001% to about 5% of the subject compound, more preferably from about 0.01% to about 0.5%. Typical components of carriers for syrups, elixirs, emulsions and suspensions include ethanol, glycerol, propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, liquid sucrose, sorbitol and water. For a suspension, typical suspending agents include methyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, Avicel® RC-591, tragacanth and sodium alginate; typical wetting agents include lecithin and polysorbate 80; and typical preservatives include methyl paraben and sodium benzoate. Peroral liquid compositions may also contain one or more components such as sweeteners, flavoring agents and colorants disclosed above.

Other compositions useful for attaining systemic delivery of the subject compounds include sublingual and buccal dosage forms. Such compositions typically comprise one or more of soluble filler substances such as sucrose, sorbitol and mannitol; and binders such as acacia, microcrystalline cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose and hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose. Glidants, lubricants, sweeteners, colorants, antioxidants and flavoring agents disclosed above may also be included.

Compositions can also be used to deliver the compound to the site where activity is desired: intranasal doses for nasal decongestion, inhalants for asthma, and eye drops, gels and creams for ocular disorders.

Preferred compositions of this invention include solutions or emulsions, preferably aqueous solutions or emulsions comprising a safe and effective amount of a subject compound intended for topical intranasal administration. Such compositions preferably comprise from about 0.001% to about 25% of a subject compound, more preferably from about 0.01% to about 10%. Similar compositions are preferred for systemic delivery of subject compounds by the intranasal route. Compositions intended to deliver the compound systemically by intranasal dosing preferably comprise similar amounts of a subject compound as are determined to be safe and effective by peroral or parenteral administration. Such compositions used for intranasal dosing also typically include safe and effective amounts of preservatives, such as benzalkonium

chloride and thimerosal and the like; chelating agents, such as edetate sodium and others; buffers such as phosphate, citrate and acetate; tonicity agents such as sodium chloride, potassium chloride, glycerin, mannitol and others; antioxidants such as ascorbic acid, acetylcystine, sodium metabisulfate and others; aromatic agents; viscosity adjustors, such as polymers, including cellulose and derivatives thereof, and polyvinyl alcohol and acids and bases to adjust the pH of these aqueous compositions as needed. The compositions may also comprise local anesthetics or other actives. These compositions can be used as sprays, mists, drops, and the like.

Other preferred compositions of this invention include aqueous solutions, suspensions, and dry powders comprising a safe and effective amount of a subject compound intended for atomization and inhalation administration. Such compositions preferably comprise from about 0.1% to about 50% of a subject compound, more preferably from about 1% to about 20%; of course, the amount can be altered to fit the circumstance of the patient contemplated and the package. Such compositions are typically contained in a container with attached atomizing means. Such compositions also typically include propellants such as chlorofluorocarbons 12/11 and 12/114, and more environmentally friendly fluorocarbons, or other nontoxic volatiles; solvents such as water, glycerol and ethanol, these include cosolvents as needed to solvate or suspend the active; stabilizers such as ascorbic acid, sodium metabisulfite; preservatives such as cetylpyridinium chloride and benzalkonium chloride; tonicity adjustors such as sodium chloride; buffers; and flavoring agents such as sodium saccharin. Such compositions are useful for treating respiratory disorders, such as asthma and the like.

Other preferred compositions of this invention include aqueous solutions comprising a safe and effective amount of a subject compound intended for topical intraocular administration. Such compositions preferably comprise from about 0.0001% to about 5% of a subject compound, more preferably from about 0.01% to about 0.5%. Such compositions also typically include one or more of preservatives, such as benzalkonium chloride, thimerosal, phenylmercuric acetate; vehicles, such as poloxamers, modified celluloses, povidone and purified water; tonicity adjustors, such as sodium chloride, mannitol and glycerin; buffers such as acetate, citrate, phosphate and borate; antioxidants such as sodium metabisulfite, butylated hydroxy toluene and acetyl cysteine; acids and bases may be used to adjust the pH of these formulations as needed.

Other preferred compositions of this invention useful for peroral administration include solids, such as tablets and capsules, and liquids, such as solutions, suspensions and emulsions (preferably in soft gelatin capsules), comprising a safe and effective amount of a subject compound. Such compositions preferably comprise from about 0.01 mg to about 350 mg per dose, more preferably from about 0.1 mg to about 35 mg per dose. Such compositions can be coated by conventional methods, typically with pH or time-dependent coatings, such that the subject compound is released in the gastrointestinal tract at various times to extend the desired action. Such dosage forms typically include, but are not limited to, one or more of cellulose acetate phthalate, polyvinylacetate phthalate, hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose phthalate, ethyl cellulose, Eudragit® coatings, waxes and shellac.

Any of the compositions of this invention may optionally include other drug actives. Non-limiting examples of drug actives which may be incorporated in these compositions, include:

Antihistamines, including;

Hydroxyzine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 25 to about 400 mg; Doxylamine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 3 to about 75 mg; Pyrilamine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 6.25 to about 200 mg; Chlorpheniramine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 1 to about 24 mg; Phenindamine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 6.25 to about 150 mg; Dexchlorpheniramine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 0.5 to about 12 mg; Dexbrompheniramine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 0.5 to about 12 mg; Clemastine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 1 to about 9 mg; Diphenhydramine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 6.25 to about 300 mg; Azelastine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 140 to about 1,680 μg (when dosed intranasally); 1 to about 8 mg (when dosed orally); Acrivastine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 1 to about 24 mg; Levocarbastine (which can be dosed as an intranasal or ocular medicament), preferably at a dosage range of from about 100 to about 800 mg; Mequitazine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 5 to about 20 mg; Astemizole, preferably at a dosage range of from about 5 to about 20 mg; Ebastine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 5 to about 20 mg; Loratadine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 5 to about 40 mg; Cetirizine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 5 to about 20 mg; Terfenadine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 30 to about 480 mg; Terfenadine

metabolites; Promethazine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 6.25 to about 50 mg; Dimenhydrinate, preferably at a dosage range of from about 12.5 to about 400 mg; Meclizine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 6.25 to about 50 mg; Tripelennamine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 6.25 to about 300 mg; Carbinoxamine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 0.5 to about 16 mg; Cyproheptadine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 2 to about 20 mg; Azatadine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 0.25 to about 2 mg; Brompheniramine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 1 to about 24 mg; Triprolidine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 0.25 to about 10 mg; Cyclizine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 12.5 to about 200 mg; Thonzylamine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 12.5 to about 600 mg; Pheniramine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 3 to about 75 mg; Cyclizine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 12.5 to about 200 mg and others;

Antitussives, including:

Codeine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 2.5 to about 120 mg; Hydrocodone, preferably at a dosage range of from about 2.5 to about 40 mg; Dextromethorphan, preferably at a dosage range of from about 2.5 to about 120 mg; Noscapine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 3 to about 180 mg; Benzonatate, preferably at a dosage range of from about 100 to about 600 mg; Diphenhydramine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 12.5 to about 150 mg; Chlophedianol, preferably at a dosage range of from about 12.5 to about 100 mg; Clobutinol, preferably at a dosage range of from about 20 to about 240 mg; Fominoben, preferably at a dosage range of from about 80 to about 480 mg; Glaucine; Pholcodine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 1 to about 40 mg; Zipeprol, preferably at a dosage range of from about 75 to about 300 mg; Hydromorphone, preferably at a dosage range of from about 0.5 to about 8 mg; Carbetapentane, preferably at a dosage range of from about 15 to about 240 mg; Caramiphen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 10 to about 100 mg; Levopropoxyphene, preferably at a dosage range of from about 25 to about 200 mg and others;

Antiinflammatories, preferably Non-Steroidal Anti-inflammatories, (NSAIDS) including:

Ibuprofen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 3,200 mg; Naproxen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 62.5 to about 1,500 mg; Sodium naproxen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 110 to about

1,650 mg; Ketoprofen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 25 to about 300 mg; Indoprofen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 25 to about 200 mg; Indomethacin, preferably at a dosage range of from about 25 to about 200 mg; Sulindac, preferably at a dosage range of from about 75 to about 400 mg; Diflunisal, preferably at a dosage range of from about 125 to about 1,500 mg; Ketorolac, preferably at a dosage range of from about 10 to about 120 mg; Piroxicam, preferably at a dosage range of from about 10 to about 40 mg; Aspirin, preferably at a dosage range of from about 80 to about 4,000 mg; Meclofenamate, preferably at a dosage range of from about 25 to about 400 mg; Benzydamine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 25 to about 200 mg; Carprofen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 75 to about 300 mg; Diclofenac, preferably at a dosage range of from about 25 to about 200 mg; Etodolac, preferably at a dosage range of from about 200 to about 1,200 mg; Fenbufen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 300 to about 900 mg; Fenoprofen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 200 to about 3,200 mg; Flurbiprofen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 300 mg; Mefenamic acid, preferably at a dosage range of from about 250 to about 1,500 mg; Nabumetone, preferably at a dosage range of from about 250 to about 2,000 mg; Phenylbutazone, preferably at a dosage range of from about 100 to about 400 mg; Pirprofen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 100 to about 800 mg; Tolmetin, preferably at a dosage range of from about 200 to about 1,800 mg and others;

Analgesics, including:

Acetaminophen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 80 to about 4,000 mg; and others:

Expectorants/Mucolytics, including:

Guaifenesin, preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 2,400 mg; N-Acetylcysteine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 100 to about 600 mg; Ambroxol, preferably at a dosage range of from about 15 to about 120 mg; Bromhexine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 4 to about 64 mg; Terpin hydrate, preferably at a dosage range of from about 100 to about 1,200 mg; Potassium iodide, preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 250 mg and others;

Anticholinergics (e.g., Atropinics), preferably intranasally or orally administered anticholinergics, including:

Ipratroprium (preferably intranasally), preferably at a dosage range of from about 42 to about 252 μg; Atropine sulfate (preferably oral), preferably at a dosage range of from about 10 to about 1,000 μg; Belladonna (preferably as an extract), preferably at a dosage range of from about 15 to about 45 mg equivalents; Scopolamine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 400 to about 3,200 μg; Scopolamine methobromide, preferably at a dosage range of from about 2.5 to about 20 mg; Homatropine methobromide, preferably at a dosage range of from about 2.5 to about 40 mg; Hyoscyamine (preferably oral), preferably at a dosage range of from about 125 to about 1,000 μg; Isopropramide (preferably oral), preferably at a dosage range of from about 5 to about 20 mg; Orphenadrine (preferably oral), preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 400 mg; Benzalkonium chloride (preferably intranasally) preferably a 0.005 to about 0.1% solution and others;

Mast Cell Stabilizers, preferably intranasally, or orally administered mast cell stabilizers, including:

Cromalyn, preferably at a dosage range of from about 10 to about 60 mg; Nedocromil, preferably at a dosage range of from about 10 to about 60 mg; Oxatamide, preferably at a dosage range of from about 15 to about 120 mg; Ketotifen, preferably at a dosage range of from about 1 to about 4 mg; Lodoxamide, preferably at a dosage range of from about 100 to about 3,000 μg and others;

Leukotriene Antagonists, including Zileuton and others;

Methylxanthines, including:

Caffeine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 65 to about 600 mg; Theophylline, preferably at a dosage range of from about 25 to about 1,200 mg; Enprofylline; Pentoxifylline, preferably at a dosage range of from about 400 to about 3,600 mg; Aminophylline, preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 800 mg; Dyphylline, preferably at a dosage range of from about 200 to about 1,600 mg and others;

Antioxidants or radical inhibitors, including:

Ascorbic acid, preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 10,000 mg; Tocopherol, preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 2,000 mg; Ethanol, preferably at a dosage range of from about 500 to about 10,000 mg and others;

Steroids, preferably intranasally administered steroids, including:

Beclomethasone, preferably at a dosage range of from about 84 to about 336 μg; Fluticasone, preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 400 μg; Budesonide, preferably at a dosage range of from about 64 to about 256 μg; Mometasone, preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 300 mg; Triamcinolone, preferably at a dosage range of from about 110 to about 440 μg; Dexamethasone, preferably at a dosage range of from about 168 to about 1,008 μg; Flunisolide, preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 300 μg; Prednisone (preferably oral), preferably at a dosage range of from about 5 to about 60 mg; Hydrocortisone (preferably oral), preferably at a dosage range of from about 20 to about 300 mg and others;

Bronchodilators, preferably for inhalation, including:

Albuterol, preferably at a dosage range of from about 90 to about 1,080 μg; 2 to about 16 mg (if dosed orally); Epinephrine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 220 to about 1,320 μg; Ephedrine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 15 to about 240 mg (if dosed orally); 250 to about 1,000 μg (if dosed intranasally); Metaproterenol, preferably at a dosage range of from about 65 to about 780 μg or 10 to about 80 mg if dosed orally; Terbutaline, preferably at a dosage range of from about 200 to about 2,400 μg; 2.5 to about 20 mg (if dosed orally); Isoetharine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 340 to about 1,360 μg; Pirbuterol, preferably at a dosage range of from about 200 to about 2,400 μg; Bitolterol, preferably at a dosage range of from about 370 to about 2,220 μg; Fenoterol, preferably at a dosage range of from about 100 to about 1,200 μg; 2.5 to about 20 mg (if dosed orally); Rimeterol, preferably at a dosage range of from about 200 to about 1,600 μg; Ipratroprium, preferably at a dosage range of from about 18 to about 216 μg (inhalation) and others; and

Antivirals, including:

Amantadine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 200 mg; Rimantadine, preferably at a dosage range of from about 50 to about 200 mg; Enviroxime; Nonoxinols, preferably at a dosage range of from about 2 to about 20 mg (preferably an intranasal form); Acyclovir, preferably at a dosage range of from about 200 to about 2,000 mg (oral); 1 to about 10 mg (preferably an intranasal form); Alpha-Interferon, preferably at a dosage range of from about 3 to about 36 MIU; Beta-Interferon, preferably at a dosage range of from about 3 to about 36 MIU and others;

Ocular Drug actives: acetylcholinesterase inhibitors, e.g., echothiophate from about 0.03% to about 0.25% in topical solution and others; and

Gastrointestinal actives: antidiarrheals, e.g., loperamide from about 0.1 mg to about 1.0 mg per dose, and bismuth subsalicylate from about 25 mg to about 300 mg per dose and others.

Of course, clearly contemplated and included in the description above are the acid or base addition salts, esters, metabolites, stereoisomers and enantiomers of these preferred combination actives, as well as their analogues of these actives that are safe and effective. It is also recognized that an active may be useful for more than one of the above uses, and these uses are clearly contemplated as well. This overlap is recognized in the art and adjusting dosages and the like to fit the indication is well within the purview of the skilled medical practitioner.

Methods of use

Without being bound by theory, it is contemplated that the primary mechanism by which alpha-2 agonists provide efficacy is by intervening in the biological cascade responsible for disorder(s) and/or manifestation(s) thereof. It may be that there is no deficit in alpha-2 adrenoceptor activity: such activity may be normal. However, administration of an alpha-2 agonist may be a useful way of rectifying a disorder, condition or manifestation thereof.

Thus as used herein, the terms "disease," "disorder" and "condition" are used interchangeably to refer to maladies related to or modulated by alpha-2 adrenoceptor activity.

As used herein, a disorder described by the terms "modulated by alpha-2 adrenoceptors," or "modulated by alpha-2 adrenoceptor activity" refers to a disorder, condition or disease where alpha-2 adrenoceptor activity is an effective means of alleviating the disorder or one or more of the biological manifestations of the disease or disorder; or interferes with one or more points in the biological cascade either leading to the disorder or responsible for the underlying disorder; or alleviates one or more symptoms of the disorder. Thus, disorders subject to "modulation" include those for which:

- The lack of alpha-2 activity is a "cause" of the disorder or one or more of the biological manifestations, whether the activity was altered genetically, by infection, by irritation, by internal stimulus or by some other cause;
- The disease or disorder or the observable manifestation or manifestations of the disease or disorder are alleviated by alpha-2 activity. The lack of alpha-2 activity need not be causally related to the disease or disorder or the observable manifestations thereof;

- Alpha-2 activity interferes with part of the biochemical or cellular cascade that results in or relates to the disease or disorder. In this respect, the alpha-2 activity alters the cascade, and thus controls the disease, condition or disorder.

The compounds of this invention are particularly useful for the treatment of nasal congestion associated with allergies, colds, and other nasal disorders, as well as the sequelae of congestion of the mucous membranes (for example, sinusitis and otitis media). At effective doses, it has been found that undesired side effects can be avoided.

While not limited to a particular mechanism of action, the subject compounds are believed to provide advantages in the treatment of nasal decongestion over related compounds through their ability to interact with alpha-2 adrenoceptors. The subject compounds have been found to be alpha-2 adrenoceptor agonists which cause constriction of peripheral vascular beds in the nasal turbinates.

Alpha-2 adrenoceptors are distributed both inside and outside of the central nervous system. Thus, though not essential for activity or efficacy, certain disorders preferably are treated with compounds that act on alpha-2 adrenoceptors in only one of these regions. Compounds of this invention vary in their ability to penetrate into the central nervous system and, thus, to produce effects mediated through central alpha-2 adrenoceptors. Thus, for example, a compound which displays a higher degree of central nervous system activity is preferred for central nervous system indications over other compounds as described below. However, even for compounds that exhibit primarily peripheral activity, central nervous system actions can be evoked by an increase in the dose of the compound. Further specificity of action of these compounds can be achieved by delivering the agent to the region where activity is desired (for example, topical administration to the eye, nasal mucosa or respiratory tract).

Compounds preferred for, but not limited to, the treatment of certain cardiovascular disorders, pain, substance abuse and/or withdrawal, ulcer and hyperacidity include those compounds that are centrally acting. By centrally acting what is meant is that they have some action on the alpha-2 adrenoceptors in the central nervous system in addition to their action at peripheral alpha-2 adrenoceptors.

Compounds preferred for, but not limited to, the treatment of respiratory disorders, ocular disorders, migraine, certain cardiovascular disorders, and

certain other gastrointestinal disorders are peripherally acting. By peripherally acting, what is meant is that these compounds act primarily on alpha-2 adrenoceptors in the periphery, rather than those in the central nervous system. Methods are available in the art to determine which compounds are primarily peripherally acting and which are primarily centrally acting.

Thus, compounds of the subject invention are also useful for the treatment of ocular disorders such as ocular hypertension, glaucoma, hyperemia, conjunctivitis, and uveitis. The compounds are administered either perorally, or topically as drops, sprays, mists, gels or creams directly to the surface of the mammalian eye.

The compounds of this invention are also useful for controlling gastrointestinal disorders, such as diarrhea, irritable bowel syndrome, hyperchlorhydria and peptic ulcer.

The compounds of this invention are also useful for diseases and disorders associated with sympathetic nervous system activity, including hypertension, myocardial ischemia, cardiac reperfusion injury, angina, cardiac arrhythmia, heart failure and benign prostatic hypertrophy. Due to their sympatholytic effect, compounds are also useful as an adjunct to anesthesia during surgical procedures.

The compounds of this invention are also useful for relieving pain associated with various disorders. The compounds are administered perorally, parenterally, and/or by direct injection into the cerebrospinal fluid.

The compounds of this invention are also useful for the prophylactic or acute treatment of migraine. The compounds are administered perorally, parenterally or intranasally.

The compounds of this invention are also useful for treatment of substance abuse, in particular abuse of alcohol and opiates, and alleviating the abstinence syndromes evoked by withdrawal of these substances.

The compounds of this invention are also useful for other diseases and disorders where vasoconstriction, particularly of veins, would provide a benefit, including septic or cardiogenic shock, elevated intracranial pressure, hemmorhoids, venous insufficiency, varicose veins, and menopausal flushing.

The compounds of this invention are also useful for neurologic diseases and disorders, including spasticity, epilepsy, attention deficit hyperactive disorder, Tourette's syndrome, and cognitive disorders.

The pharmacological activity and selectivity of these compounds can be determined using published test procedures. The alpha-2 selectivity of the compounds is determined by measuring receptor binding affinities and *in vitro* functional potencies in a variety of tissues known to possess alpha-2 and/or alpha-1 receptors. (See, e.g., The Alpha-2 Adrenergic Receptors, L.E. Limbird, ed., Humana Press, Clifton, NJ.) The following *in vivo* assays are typically conducted in rodents or other species. Central nervous system activity is determined by measuring locomotor activity as an index of sedation. (See, e.g., Spyraki, C. & H. Fibiger, "Clonidine-induced Sedation in Rats: Evidence for Mediation by Postsynaptic Alpha-2 Adrenoreceptors", Journal of Neural Transmission, Vol. 54 (1982), pp. 153-163). Nasal decongestant activity is measured using rhinomanometry as an estimate of nasal airway resistance. (See, e.g., Salem, S. & E. Clemente, "A New Experimental Method for Evaluating Drugs in the Nasal Cavity", Archives of Otolaryngology, Vol. 96 (1972), pp. 524-529). Antiglaucoma activity is determined by measuring intraocular pressure. (See, e.g., Potter, D., "Adrenergic Pharmacology of Aqueous Human Dynamics", Pharmacological Reviews, Vol. 13 (1981), pp. 133-153). Antidiarrheal activity is determined by measuring the ability of the compounds to inhibit prostaglandin-induced diarrhea. (See, e.g., Thollander, M., P. Hellstrom & T. Svensson, "Suppression of Castor Oil-Induced Diarrhea by Alpha-2 Adrenoceptor Agonists", Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Vol. 5 (1991), pp. 255-262). Efficacy in treating irritable bowel syndrome is determined by measuring the ability of compounds to reduce the stress-induced increase in fecal output. (See, e.g., Barone, F., J. Deegan, W. Price, P. Fowler, J. Fondacaro & H. Ormsbee III, "Cold-restraint stress increases rat fecal pellet output and colonic transit", American Journal of Physiology, Vol. 258 (1990), pp. G329-G337). Antiulcer and reduction of hyperchlorhydria efficacy is determined by measuring the reduction in gastric acid secretion produced by these compounds (See, e.g., Tazi-Saad, K., J. Chariot, M. Del Tacca & C. Roze, "Effect of α2-adrenoceptor agonists on gastric pepsin and acid secretion in the rat", British Journal of Pharmacology, Vol. 106 (1992), pp. 790-796). Antiasthma activity is determined by measuring the effect of the compound on bronchoconstriction associated with pulmonary challenges such as inhaled antigens. (See, e.g., Chang, J. J. Musser & J. Hand, "Effects of a Novel Leukotriene D_4 Antagonist with 5-Lipoxygenase and Cyclooxygenase Inhibitory Activity, Wy-45,911, on Leukotriene-D_4- and Antigen-Induced

Bronchoconstriction in Guinea Pig", International Archives of Allergy and Applied Immunology, Vol. 86 (1988), pp. 48-54; and Delehunt, J., A. Perruchound, L. Yerger, B. Marchette, J. Stevenson & W. Abraham, "The Role of Slow-Reacting Substance of Anaphylaxis in the Late Bronchial Response After Antigen Challenge in Allergic Sheep", American Reviews of Respiratory Disease, Vol. 130 (1984), pp. 748-754). Activity in cough is determined by measuring the number and latency of the cough response to respiratory challenges such as inhaled citric acid. (See, e.g., Callaway, J. & R. King, "Effects of Inhaled α2-Adrenoceptor and $GABA_B$ Receptor Agonists on Citric Acid-Induced Cough and Tidal Volume Changes in Guinea Pigs", European Journal of Pharmacology, Vol. 220 (1992), pp. 187-195). The sympatholytic activity of these compounds is determined by measuring the reduction of plasma catecholamines (See, e.g., R. Urban, B. Szabo & K. Starke "Involvement of peripheral presynaptic inhibition in the reduction of sympathetic tone by moxonidine, rilmenidine and UK 14,304", European Journal of Pharmacology, Vol. 282 (1995), pp. 29-37) or the reduction in renal sympathetic nerve activity (See, e.g., Feng, Q., S. Carlsson, P. Thoren & T. Hedner, "Effects of clonidine on renal sympathetic nerve activity, natriuresis and diuresis in chronic congestive heart failure rats", Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Vol. 261 (1992), pp. 1129-1135), providing the basis for their benefit in heart failure and benign prostatic hypertrophy. The hypotensive effect of these compounds is measure directly as a reduction in mean blood pressure (See, e.g., Timmermans, P. & P. Van Zwieten, "Central and peripheral α-adrenergic effects of some imidazolidines", European Journal of Pharmacology, Vol. 45 (1977), pp. 229-236). Clinical studies have demonstrated the beneficial effect of alpha-2 agonists in the prevention of myocardial ischemia during surgery (See, e.g., Talke, P., J. Li, U. Jain, J. Leung, K. Drasner, M. Hollenberg & D. Mangano, "Effects of Perioperative Dexmedetomidine Infusion in Patients Undergoing Vascular Surgery", Anesthesiology, Vol. 82 (1995), pp. 620-633) and in the prevention of angina (See, e.g., Wright, R.A., P. Decroly, T. Kharkevitch & M. Oliver, "Exercise Tolerance in Angina is Improved by Mivazerol--an α2-Adrenoceptor Agonist", Cardiovascular Drugs and Therapy, Vol. 7 (1993), pp. 929-934). The efficacy of these compounds in cardiac reperfusion injury is demonstrated by measuring the reduction of cardiac necrosis and neutrophil infiltration (See, e.g., Weyrich, A., X. Ma, & A. Lefer, "The Role of L-Arginine in Ameliorating Reperfusion Injury After Myocardial Ischemia in the Cat", Circulation, Vol. 86 (1992), pp. 279-288).

The cardiac antiarrhythmic effect of these compounds is demonstrated by measuring the inhibition of ouabain induced arrhythmias (See, e.g., Thomas, G. & P. Stephen, "Effects of Two Imidazolines (ST-91 and ST-93) on the Cardiac Arrhythmias and Lethality Induced by Ouabain in Guinea-Pig", Asia-Pacific Journal of Pharmacology, Vol. 8 (1993), pp.109-113; and Samson, R., J. Cai, E. Shibata, J. Martins & H. Lee, "Electrophysiological effects of α2-adrenergic stimulation in canine cardiac Purkinje fibers", American Journal of Physiology, Vol. 268 (1995), pp. H2024-H2035). The vasoconstrictor activity of these compounds is demonstrated by measuring the contractile properties on isolated arteries and veins *in vitro* (See, e.g., Flavahan, N., T. Rimele, J. Cooke & M. Vanhoutte, "Characterization of Postjunctional Alpha-1 and Alpha-2 Adrenoceptors Activated by Exogenous or Nerve-Released Norepinephrine in the Canine Saphenous Vein", Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Vol. 230 (1984), pp. 699-705). The effectiveness of these compounds at reducing intracranial pressure is demonstrated by measurement of this property in a canine model of subarachnoid hemorrhage (See, e.g., McCormick, J., P. McCormick, J. Zabramski & R. Spetzler, "Intracranial pressure reduction by a central alpha-2 adrenoreceptor agonist after subarachnoid hemorrhage", Neurosurgery, Vol. 32 (1993), pp. 974-979). The inhibition of menopausal flushing is demonstrated by measuring the reduction of facial blood flow in the rat (See, e.g., Escott, K., D. Beattie, H. Connor & S. Brain, "The modulation of the increase in rat facial skin blood flow observed after trigeminal ganglion stimulation", European Journal of Pharmacology, Vol. 284 (1995), pp. 69-76) as demonstrated for alpha-2 adrenergic agonists on cutaneous blood flow in the tail (See, e.g., Redfern, W., M. MacLean, R. Clague & J. McGrath, "The role of alpha-2 adrenoceptors in the vasculature of the rat tail", British Journal of Pharmacology, Vol. 114 (1995), pp. 1724-1730). The antinociceptive and pain reducing properties of these compounds is demonstrated by measuring the increase in pain threshold in the rodent writhing and hot plate antinociceptive models (See, e.g., Millan, M., K. Bervoets, J. Rivet, R. Widdowson, A. Renouard, S, Le Marouille-Girardon & A. Gobert, "Multiple Alpha-2 Adrenergic Receptor Subtypes. II. Evidence for a Role of Rat Alpha-2A Adrenergic Receptors in the Control of Nociception, Motor Behavior and Hippocampal Synthesis of Noradrenaline", Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Vol. 270 (1994), pp. 958-972). The antimigraine effect of these compounds is demonstrated by measuring the reduction of dural

neurogenic inflammation to trigeminal ganglion stimulation in the rat (See, e.g., Matsubara, T., M. Moskowitz & Z. Huang, "UK-14,304, R(-)-alpha-methyl-histamine and SMS 201-995 block plasma protein leakage within dura mater by prejunctional mechanisms", European Journal of Pharmacology, Vol. 224 (1992), pp. 145-150). The ability of these compounds to suppress opiate withdrawal is demonstrated by measuring the suppression of enhanced sympathetic nerve activity (See, e.g., Franz, D., D. Hare & K. McCloskey, "Spinal sympathetic neurons: possible sites of opiate-withdrawal suppression by clonidine", Science, Vol. 215 (1982), pp. 1643-1645). Antiepileptic activity of these compounds is demonstrated by measuring the inhibition of the kindling response (See, e.g., Shouse, M., M. Bier, J. Langer, O. Alcalde, M. Richkind & R. Szymusiak, "The α2-agonist clonidine suppresses seizures, whereas the alpha-2 antagonist idazoxan promotes seizures--a microinfusion study in amygdala-kindled kittens", Brain Research, Vol. 648 (1994), pp. 352-356). The effectiveness of other alpha-2 agonists in the management of neurologic disorders has been demonstrated, including attention-deficit hyperactive disorder and Tourette's syndrome (See, e.g., Chappell P., M. Riddle, L. Scahill, K. Lynch, R. Schultz, A. Arnsten, J. Leckman & D. Cohen, "Guanfacine treatment of comorbid attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder and Tourette's syndrome: preliminary clinical experience", Journal of American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Vol. 34 (1995), pp. 1140-1146), cognitive disorders (See, e.g., Coull, J., "Pharmacological manipulations of the α2-noradrenergic system. Effects on cognition", Drugs and Aging, Vol. 5 (1994), pp. 116-126), and spasticity (See, e.g., Eyssette, M., F. Rohmer, G. Serratrice, J. Warter & D. Boisson, "Multicenter, double-blind trial of a novel antispastic agent, tizanidine, in spasticity associated with multiple sclerosis", Current Medical Research & Opinion, Vol. 10 (1988), pp. 699-708).

Another aspect of this invention involves methods for preventing or treating nasal congestion by administering a safe and effective amount of a subject compound to a mammal experiencing or at risk of experiencing nasal congestion. Such nasal congestion may be associated with human diseases or disorders which include, but are not limited to, seasonal allergic rhinitis, acute upper respiratory viral infections, sinusitis, perennial rhinitis, and vasomotor rhinitis. In addition, other disorders can be generally associated with mucous membrane congestion (for example, otitis media and sinusitis.) Each administration of a dose of the subject compound preferably administers a dose

within the range of from about 0.0001 mg/kg to about 5 mg/kg of a compound, more preferably from about 0.001 mg/kg to about 0.5 mg/kg. Peroral administration of such doses is preferred. The frequency of administration of a subject compound according to this invention is preferably from about once to about six times daily, more preferably from about once to about 4 times daily. Such doses and frequencies are also preferred for treating other respiratory conditions, such as, cough, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and asthma. Such doses and frequencies are also preferred for treating conditions that are associated with mucous membrane congestion (for example, sinusitis and otitis media).

Another aspect of this invention involves methods for preventing or treating glaucoma by administering a safe and effective amount of a subject compound to a mammal experiencing or at risk of experiencing glaucoma. If administered systemically, each administration of a dose of the subject compound preferably administers a dose within the range of from about 0.0001 mg/kg to about 5 mg/kg of a compound, more preferably from about 0.001 mg/kg to about 0.5 mg/kg. If intraocular dosing is used then preferably one administers a typical volume (for example, 1 or 2 drops) of a liquid composition, comprising from about 0.0001% to about 5% of a subject compound, more preferably from about 0.01% to about 0.5% of the compound. Determination of the exact dosage and regimen is within the purview of the skilled artisan. Intraocular administration of such doses is preferred. The frequency of administration of a subject compound according to this invention is preferably from about once to about six times daily, more preferably from about once to about 4 times daily.

Another aspect of this invention involves methods for preventing or treating gastrointestinal disorders, such as diarrhea, irritable bowel syndrome, and peptic ulcer by administering a safe and effective amount of a subject compound to a mammal experiencing or at risk of experiencing gastrointestinal disorders. Each administration of a dose of the subject compound preferably administers a dose within the range of from about 0.0001 mg/kg to about 5 mg/kg of a compound, more preferably from about 0.001 mg/kg to about 0.5 mg/kg. Peroral administration of such doses is preferred. The frequency of administration of a subject compound according to this invention is preferably from about once to about six times daily, more preferably from about once to about 4 times daily.

Another aspect of this invention involves methods for preventing or treating migraine, by administering a safe and effective amount of a subject compound to a mammal experiencing or at risk of experiencing migraine. Each administration of a dose of the subject compound preferably administers a dose within the range of from about 0.0001 mg/kg to about 5 mg/kg of a compound, more preferably from about 0.001 mg/kg to about 0.5 mg/kg. Peroral, parenteral or intranasal administration of such doses is preferred. The frequency of peroral administration of a subject compound according to this invention is preferably from about once to about six times daily, more preferably from about once to about 4 times daily. The frequency of parenteral dosing of a subject compound according to this invention is preferably from about once to about six times daily, more preferably from about once to about 4 times daily or by infusion to the desired effect. The frequency of intranasal dosing of a subject compound according to this invention is preferably from about once to about six times daily, more preferably from about once to about 4 times daily.

Another aspect of this invention involves methods for preventing or treating disorders related to sympathetic nervous system activity, such as hypertension, myocardial ischemia, cardiac reperfusion injury, angina, cardiac arrhythmia, and benign prostatic hypertrophy, by administering a safe and effective amount of a subject compound to a mammal experiencing or at risk of experiencing these diseases or disorders. Each administration of a dose of the subject compound preferably administers a dose within the range of from about 0.0001 mg/kg to about 5 mg/kg of a compound, more preferably from about 0.001 mg/kg to about 0.5 mg/kg. Peroral and parenteral administration of such doses are preferred. The frequency of peroral administration of a subject compound according to this invention is preferably from about once to about six times daily, more preferably from about once to about 4 times daily. The frequency of parenteral dosing of a subject compound according to this invention is preferably from about once to about six times daily, more preferably from about once to about 4 times daily or by infusion to the desired effect.

Another aspect of this invention involves methods for preventing or treating pain, by administering a safe and effective amount of a subject compound to a mammal experiencing or at risk of experiencing pain. Each administration of a dose of the subject compound preferably administers a dose within the range of from about 0.0001 mg/kg to about 5 mg/kg of a compound, more preferably from about 0.001 mg/kg to about 0.5 mg/kg. Peroral or

parenteral administration of such doses is preferred. The frequency of peroral administration of a subject compound according to this invention is preferably from about once to about six times daily, more preferably from about once to about 4 times daily. The frequency of parenteral dosing of a subject compound according to this invention is preferably from about once to about six times daily, more preferably from about once to about 4 times daily or by infusion to the desired effect.

Another aspect of this invention involves methods for preventing or treating substance abuse and the abstinence syndrome resulting from withdrawal of these substances, such as alcohol and opiates, by administering a safe and effective amount of a subject compound to a mammal experiencing or at risk of experiencing substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms. Each administration of a dose of the subject compound preferably administers a dose within the range of from about 0.0001 mg/kg to about 5 mg/kg of a compound, more preferably from about 0.001 mg/kg to about 0.5 mg/kg. Peroral administration of such doses is preferred. The frequency of administration of a subject compound according to this invention is preferably from about once to about six times daily, more preferably from about once to about 4 times daily.

Composition and Method Examples

The following non-limiting examples illustrate the compositions and methods of use of this invention.

Example A

Oral Tablet Composition

Ingredient	Amount per tablet (mg)
Subject Compound 4	20.0
Microcrystalline cellulose (Avicel PH 102®)	80.0
Dicalcium phosphate	96.0
Pyrogenic silica (Cab-O-Sil®)	1.0
Magnesium stearate	3.0
Total =	200.0 mg

One tablet is swallowed by a patient with nasal congestion. The congestion is substantially diminished.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example B

Chewable Tablet Composition

Ingredient	Amount per tablet (mg)
Subject Compound 1	15.0
Mannitol	255.6
Microcrystalline cellulose (Avicel PH 101®)	100.8
Dextrinized sucrose (Di-Pac®)	199.5
Imitation orange flavor	4.2
Sodium saccharin	1.2
Stearic acid	15.0
Magnesium stearate	3.0
FD&C Yellow #6 dye	3.0
Pyrogenic silica (Cab-O-Sil®)	2.7
Total =	600.0 mg

One tablet is chewed and swallowed by a patient with nasal congestion. The congestion is substantially reduced.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example C

Sublingual Tablet Composition

Ingredient	Amount per tablet (mg)
Subject Compound 5	2.00
Mannitol	2.00
Microcrystalline cellulose (Avicel PH 101®)	29.00
Mint flavorants	0.25
Sodium saccharin	0.08
Total =	33.33 mg

One tablet is placed under the tongue of a patient with nasal congestion and allowed to dissolve. The congestion is rapidly and substantially diminished.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example D

Intranasal Solution Composition

Ingredient	Composition (% w/v)
Subject Compound 3	0.20
Benzalkonium chloride	0.02
Thimerosal	0.002
d-Sorbitol	5.00

Glycine	0.35
Aromatics	0.075
Purified water	q.s.
Total =	100.00

One-tenth of a mL of the composition is sprayed from a pump actuator into each nostril of a patient with nasal congestion. The congestion is substantially diminished.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example E

Intranasal Gel Composition

Ingredient	Composition (% w/v)
Subject Compound 1	0.10
Benzalkonium chloride	0.02
Thimerosal	0.002
Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose (Metolose 65SH4000®)	1.00
Aromatics	0.06
Sodium chloride (0.65%)	q.s.
Total =	100.00

One-fifth of a mL of the composition is applied as drops from a dropper into each nostril of a patient with nasal congestion. The congestion is substantially reduced.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example F

Inhalation Aerosol Composition

Ingredient	Composition (% w/v)
Subject Compound 2	5.0
Alcohol	33.0
Ascorbic acid	0.1
Menthol	0.1
Sodium Saccharin	0.2
Propellant (F12, F114)	q.s.
Total =	100.0

Two-puffs of the aerosol composition is inhaled from a metered-dose inhaler by a patient with asthma. The asthmatic condition is effectively relieved.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example G

Topical Ophthalmic Composition

Ingredient	Composition (% w/v)
Subject Compound 5	0.10
Benzalkonium chloride	0.01
EDTA	0.05
Hydroxyethylcellulose (Natrosol M®)	0.50
Sodium metabisulfite	0.10
Sodium chloride (0.9%)	q.s.
Total =	100.0

One-tenth of a mL of the composition is administered directly into each eye of a patient with glaucoma. The intraocular pressure is substantially reduced.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example H

Oral Liquid Composition

Ingredient	Amount/15 mL Dose
Subject Compound 4	15 mg
Chlorpheniramine maleate	4 mg
Propylene glycol	1.8 g
Ethanol (95%)	1.5 mL
Methanol	12.5 mg
Eucalyptus oil	7.55 mg
Flavorants	0.05 mL
Sucrose	7.65 g
Carboxymethylcellulose (CMC)	7.5 mg
Microcrystalline cellulose and Sodium CMC (Avicel RC 591®)	187.5 mg
Polysorbate 80	3.0 mg
Glycerin	300 mg
Sorbitol	300 mg
FD&C Red #40 dye	3 mg

Sodium saccharin	22.5 mg
Sodium phosphate monobasic	44 mg
Sodium citrate monohydrate	28 mg
Purified Water	q.s.
Total =	15 mL

One 15 mL dose of the liquid composition is swallowed by a patient with nasal congestion and runny nose due to allergic rhinitis. The congestion and runny nose are effectively reduced.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example J

Oral Liquid Composition

Ingredient	Amount/15 mL Dose
Subject Compound 2	30 mg
Sucrose	8.16 g
Glycerin	300 mg
Sorbitol	300 mg
Methylparaben	19.5 mg
Propylparaben	4.5 mg
Menthol	22.5 mg
Eucalyptus oil	7.5 mg
Flavorants	0.07 mL
FD&C Red #40 dye	3.0 mg
Sodium saccharin	30 mg
Purified water	q.s.
Total =	15 mL

One 15 mL dose of the alcohol-free liquid medication is swallowed by a patient with nasal congestion. The congestion is substantially diminished.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example K

Oral Tablet Composition

Ingredient	Amount per tablet (mg)
Subject Compound 1	4
Microcrystalline cellulose, NF	130
Starch 1500, NF	100

Magnesium stearate, USP	2
Total =	236 mg

One tablet is swallowed by a patient with migraine. The pain and aura of migraine is substantially diminished.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example L

Oral Tablet Composition

Ingredient	Amount per tablet (mg)
Subject Compound 2	12
Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, USP	12
Magnesium stearate, USP	2
Lactose anhydrous, USP	200
Total=	226 mg

For the relief of pain. Adults 12 and over take one tablet every twelve hours.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example M

Oral Caplet Composition

Ingredient	Amount per tablet (mg)
Naproxen sodium anhydrous, USP	220
Subject Compound 3	6
Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, USP	6
Magnesium stearate, USP	2
Povidone K-30, USP	10
Talc, USP	12
Microcrystalline cellulose, NF	44
Total=	300 mg

For relief of symptoms associated with the common cold, sinusitis, or flu including nasal congestion, headache, fever, body aches, and pains. Adults 12 and over take two caplets every twelve hours.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example N

Oral Tablet Composition

Ingredient	Amount per tablet (mg)

Subject Compound 4	6
Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, USP	6
Silicon dioxide, colloidal, NF	30
Pregelatinized starch, NF	50
Magnesium stearate, USP	4
Total=	96 mg

For treatment of benign prostatic hypertrophy. Take one tablet per day.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example O

Oral Tablet Composition

Ingredient	Amount per caplet (mg)
Subject Compound 5	6
Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, USP	6
Magnesium stearate, USP	2
Povidone K-30, USP	10
Talc, USP	12
Microcrystalline cellulose, NF	44
Total =	80 mg

For the use in the treatment of alcoholism or opiate addiction. Adults 12 and over take two caplets every twelve hours.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example P

Oral Tablet Composition

Ingredient	Amount per tablet (mg)
Subject Compound 1	6
Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, USP	12
Magnesium stearate, USP	2
Povidone K-30, USP	10
Talc, USP	12
Microcrystalline cellulose, NF	44
Total =	86 mg

For the treatment of ulcer and hyperacidity. Take two tablets as appropriate.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example Q

Oral Tablet Composition

Ingredient	Amount per tablet (mg)
Component	Amount
Subject Compound 5	10 mg/ml carrier
Carrier:	
Sodium citrate buffer with (percent by weight of carrier):	
Lecithin	0.48%
Carboxymethylcellulose	0.53
Povidone	0.50
Methyl paraben	0.11
Propyl paraben	0.011

For the reduction of cardiac reperfusion injury.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example R

Oral Liquid Composition

Ingredient	Amount/fl oz Dose (mg)
Acetaminophen, USP	1000
Doxylamine succinate, USP	12.5
Dextromethorphan hydrobromide, USP	30
Subject Compound 2	6
Dow XYS-40010.00 resin	3
High fructose corn syrup	16000
Polyethylene glycol, NF	3000
Propylene glycol, USP	3000
Alcohol, USP	2500
Sodium citrate dihydrate, USP	150
Citric acid, anhydrous, USP	50
Saccharin sodium, USP	20
Flavor	3.5
Purified water, USP	3500
Total =	29275 mg/fl oz

For the relief of minor aches, pains, headache, muscular aches, sore throat pain, and fever associated with a cold or flu. Relieves nasal congestion, cough

due to minor throat and bronchial irritations, runny nose, and sneezing associated with the common cold. Adults 12 and over take one fluid ounce every six hours.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example S

Oral Liquid Composition

Ingredient	Amount/fl oz Dose (mg)
Naproxen sodium anhydrous, USP	220
Doxylamine succinate, USP	12.5
Dextromethorphan hydrobromide, USP	30
Subject Compound 1	6
Dow XYS-40010.00 resin	3
High fructose corn syrup	16000
Polyethylene glycol, NF	3000
Propylene glycol, USP	3000
Alcohol, USP	2500
Sodium citrate dihydrate, USP	150
Citric acid, anhydrous, USP	50
Saccharin sodium, USP	20
Flavor	3.5
Purified water, USP	3800
Total =	28795 mg/fl oz

For the relief of minor aches, pains, headache, muscular aches, sore throat pain, and fever associated with a cold or flu. Relieves nasal congestion, cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritations, runny nose, and sneezing associated with the common cold. Adults 12 and over take one fluid ounce every six hours.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

COMPOSITION EXAMPLE T

A composition for parenteral administration, according to this invention, is made comprising:

Component	Amount
Subject Compound I	10 mg/ml carrier
Carrier:	

Sodium citrate buffer with (percent by weight of carrier):	
Lecithin	0.48%
Carboxymethylcellulose	0.53
Povidone	0.50
Methyl paraben	0.11
Propyl paraben	0.011

The above ingredients are mixed, forming a solution. Approximately 2.0 ml of the solution is administered, intravenously, to a human subject suffering from septic or cardiogenic shock. The symptoms subside.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example U

Oral Tablet Composition

Ingredient	Amount per tablet (mg)
Subject Compound 5	10
Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, USP	12
Magnesium stearate, USP	2
Povidone K-30, USP	10
Talc, USP	12
Microcrystalline cellulose, NF	44
Total =	90 mg

For the treatment of cardiac arrhythmia. Take as prescribed.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

Example V

Oral Tablet Composition

Ingredient	Amount per tablet (mg)
Subject Compound 1	4
Microcrystalline cellulose, NF	130
Starch 1500, NF	100
Magnesium stearate, USP	2
Total =	236 mg

For the treatment of congestive heart failure. Take as prescribed.

Other compounds having a structure according to Formula I are used with substantially similar results.

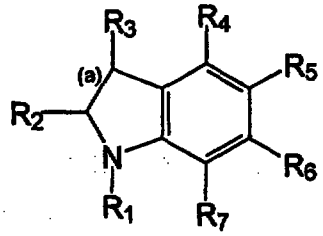
Modification of the preceding embodiments is within the scope of the skilled artisan in formulation, given the guidance of the specification in light of the state of the art.

Other examples of combination actives are contemplated. Examples of medicaments which can be combined with the primary active are included in U.S. Patent No. 4,552,899 to Sunshine, et al., hereby incorporated by reference. All other references referred to throughout this specification are hereby incorporated by reference.

While particular embodiments of this invention have been described, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that various changes and modifications of this invention can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. It is intended to cover, in the appended claims, all such modifications that are within the scope of this invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A compound of formula:



Formula I

wherein:

a) R_1 is hydrogen; or alkyl; bond *(a)* is a single or a double bond;

b) R_2 and R_3 are each independently selected from hydrogen; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkanyl, alkenyl or alkynyl; cycloalkanyl, cycloalkenyl; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkylthio or alkoxy; hydroxy; thio; nitro; cyano; amino; C_1-C_3 alkylamino or C_1-C_3 dialkylamino and halo;

c) R_4, R_5 and R_6 are each independently selected from hydrogen; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkanyl, alkenyl or alkynyl; cycloalkanyl, cycloalkenyl; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkylthio or alkoxy; hydroxy; thio; nitro; cyano; amino; C_1-C_3 alkylamino or C_1-C_3 dialkylamino; halo; and 2-imidazolinylamino; wherein one and only one of R_4, R_5 and R_6 is 2-imidazolinylamino;

d) R_7 is selected from hydrogen; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkanyl, alkenyl or alkynyl; cycloalkanyl, cycloalkenyl; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkylthio or alkoxy; hydroxy; thio; nitro; cyano; amino; C_1-C_3 alkylamino or C_1-C_3 dialkylamino and halo;

e) the compound is not 4-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole;

and enantiomers, optical isomers, stereoisomers, diastereomers, tautomers, addition salts, biohydrolyzable amides and esters, and pharmaceutical compositions containing such novel compounds, and the use of such compounds for preventing or treating disorders modulated by alpha-2 adrenoceptors.

2. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein the 2-imidazolinylamino is attached to the 6-position and *(a)* is a double bond.

3. The compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein:

R_1 is selected from hydrogen or unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkanyl; and

R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5 and R_7 are each independently selected from hydrogen; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkanyl, alkenyl or alkynyl; unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkylthio or alkoxy; hydroxy; thio; nitro; cyano; amino; and C_1-C_2 alkylamino or C_1-C_2 dialkylamino and halo.

4. The compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein:

R_1 is hydrogen; and

R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5 and R_7 are each independently selected from hydrogen; methyl; ethyl; cyclopropyl; ethenyl; methoxy; methylthio; hydroxy; thio; cyano; amino; C_1-C_2 alkylamino; C_1-C_2 dialkylamino and halo.

5. The compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the compound is:

6-(2-Imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole;

3-Cyano-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole;

2,3-Dihydro-7-methyl-6-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole;

3-Chloro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole;

2,3-Dihydro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)indole;

2,3-Dihydro-4-(2-imidazolinylamino)-7-methylindole; or

4-(2-imidazolinylamino)oxindole

6. The compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein:

R_1 is hydrogen or unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkanyl; and

R_2, R_3, R_5, R_6 and R_7 are each independently selected from hydrogen; methyl; ethyl; cyclopropyl; methoxy; methylthio; hydroxy; thio; cyano; amino; C_1-C_2 alkylamino; C_1-C_2 dialkylamino and halo.

7. The compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein:

R_1 is hydrogen or unsubstituted C_1-C_3 alkanyl; and

R_5, R_6 and R_7 are each independently selected from hydrogen; methyl; ethyl; methoxy; methylthio; hydroxy; thio; cyano; amino; C_1-C_2 alkylamino; C_1-C_2 dialkylamino and halo.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
   (a) a safe and effective amount of a compound of any of the preceding claims; and
   (b) a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.

9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of any of the preceding claims and one or more actives chosen from the group consisting of an antihistamine, antitussive, mast cell stabilizer, leukotriene antagonist, expectorant/mucolytic, antioxidant or radical inhibitor, steroid, bronchodilator, antiviral, analgesic, antiinflammatory, gastrointestinal and ocular active.

10. A method for preventing or treating a disorder modulated by alpha-2 adrenoceptors, by administering to a mammal in need of such treatment, a safe and effective amount of an alpha-2 adrenoceptor agonist compound according to any of the preceding claims.