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(54) Title: ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

The invention provides novel 7,8-dihydro-imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-e]pyrimidin-4-one compounds and 7,8,9-trihydro-[1H or 2H]-pyrimido [1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-e] pyrimidin-4(5H)-one compounds, substituted at the 1 or 2 position with C₂₋₉ alkyl, C₃₋₉ cycloalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, or substituted arylalkyl, in free, salt or prodrug form, processes for their production, their use as pharmaceuticals, particularly as PDE1 inhibitors, and pharmaceutical compositions comprising them.



Abstract

The invention provides novel 7,8-dihydro-imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4-one compounds and 7,8,9-trihydro-[1*H* or 2*H*]-pyrimido [1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one compounds, substituted at the 1 or 2 position with C₂₋₉ alkyl, C₃₋₉ cycloalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, or substituted arylalkyl, in free, salt or prodrug form, processes for their production, their use as pharmaceuticals, particularly as PDE1 inhibitors, and pharmaceutical compositions comprising them.

ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

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TECHNICAL FIELD

[0001] The present invention relates to novel 7,8-dihydro-imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4-one compounds and 7,8,9-trihydro-[1*H* or 2*H*]-pyrimido[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one compounds, processes for their production, their use as pharmaceuticals and pharmaceutical compositions comprising them. Of particular interest are novel compounds useful as inhibitors of phosphodiesterase 1 (PDE1), e.g., in the treatment of diseases involving disorders of the dopamine D1 receptor intracellular pathway, such as Parkinson's disease, depression and damage to cognitive function, e.g., in schizophrenia.

15

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] Eleven families of phosphodiesterases (PDEs) have been identified but only PDEs in Family I, the Ca²⁺-calmodulin-dependent phosphodiesterases (CaM-PDEs), have been shown to mediate the calcium and cyclic nucleotide (e.g. cAMP and cGMP) signaling pathways. The three known CaM-PDE genes, PDE1A, PDE1B, and PDE1C, are all expressed in central nervous system tissue. PDE1A is expressed throughout the brain with higher levels of expression in the CA1 to CA3 layers of the hippocampus and cerebellum and at a low level in the striatum. PDE1A is also expressed in the lung and heart. PDE1B is predominately expressed in the striatum, dentate gyrus, olfactory tract and cerebellum, and its expression correlates with brain regions having high levels of dopaminergic innervation. Although PDE1B is primarily expressed in the central nervous system, it may be detected in the heart. PDE1C is primarily expressed in olfactory epithelium, cerebellar granule cells, and striatum. PDE1C is also expressed in the heart and vascular smooth muscle.

[0003] Cyclic nucleotide phosphodiesterases decrease intracellular cAMP and cGMP signaling by hydrolyzing these cyclic nucleotides to their respective inactive 5'-monophosphates (5'AMP and 5'GMP). CaM-PDEs play a critical role in mediating signal transduction in brain cells, particularly within an area of the brain known as the

basal ganglia or striatum. For example, NMDA-type glutamate receptor activation and/or dopamine D2 receptor activation result in increased intracellular calcium concentrations, leading to activation of effectors such as calmodulin-dependent kinase II (CaMKII) and calcineurin and to activation of CaM-PDEs, resulting in reduced cAMP and cGMP. Dopamine D1 receptor activation, on the other hand, leads to activation of calcium dependent nucleotide cyclases, resulting in increased cAMP and cGMP. These cyclic nucleotides in turn activate protein kinase A (PKA; cAMP-dependent protein kinase) and/or protein kinase G (PKG; cGMP-dependent protein kinase) that phosphorylate downstream signal transduction pathway elements such as DARPP-32 (dopamine and cAMP-regulated phosphoprotein) and cAMP responsive element binding protein (CREB).

[0004] CaM-PDEs can therefore affect dopamine-regulated and other intracellular signaling pathways in the basal ganglia (striatum), including but not limited to nitric oxide, noradrenergic, neurotensin, CCK, VIP, serotonin, glutamate (e.g., NMDA receptor, AMPA receptor), GABA, acetylcholine, adenosine (e.g., A2A receptor), cannabinoid receptor, natriuretic peptide (e.g., ANP, BNP, CNP) and endorphin intracellular signaling pathways.

[0005] Phosphodiesterase (PDE) activity, in particular, phosphodiesterase 1 (PDE1) activity, functions in brain tissue as a regulator of locomotor activity and learning and memory. PDE1 is a therapeutic target for regulation of intracellular signaling pathways, preferably in the nervous system, including but not limited to a dopamine D1 receptor, dopamine D2 receptor, nitric oxide, noradrenergic, neurotensin, CCK, VIP, serotonin, glutamate (e.g., NMDA receptor, AMPA receptor), GABA, acetylcholine, adenosine (e.g., A2A receptor), cannabinoid receptor, natriuretic peptide (e.g., ANP, BNP, CNP) or endorphin intracellular signaling pathway. For example, inhibition of PDE1B should act to potentiate the effect of a dopamine D1 agonist by protecting cGMP and cAMP from degradation, and should similarly inhibit dopamine D2 receptor signaling pathways, by inhibiting PDE1 activity. Chronic elevation in intracellular calcium is linked to cell death in numerous disorders, particularly in neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's Parkinson's and Huntington's Diseases, and in disorders of the circulatory system leading to stroke and myocardial infarction. PDE1 inhibitors are therefore potentially useful in diseases characterized by reduced dopamine D1 receptor signaling activity, such as Parkinson's disease, restless

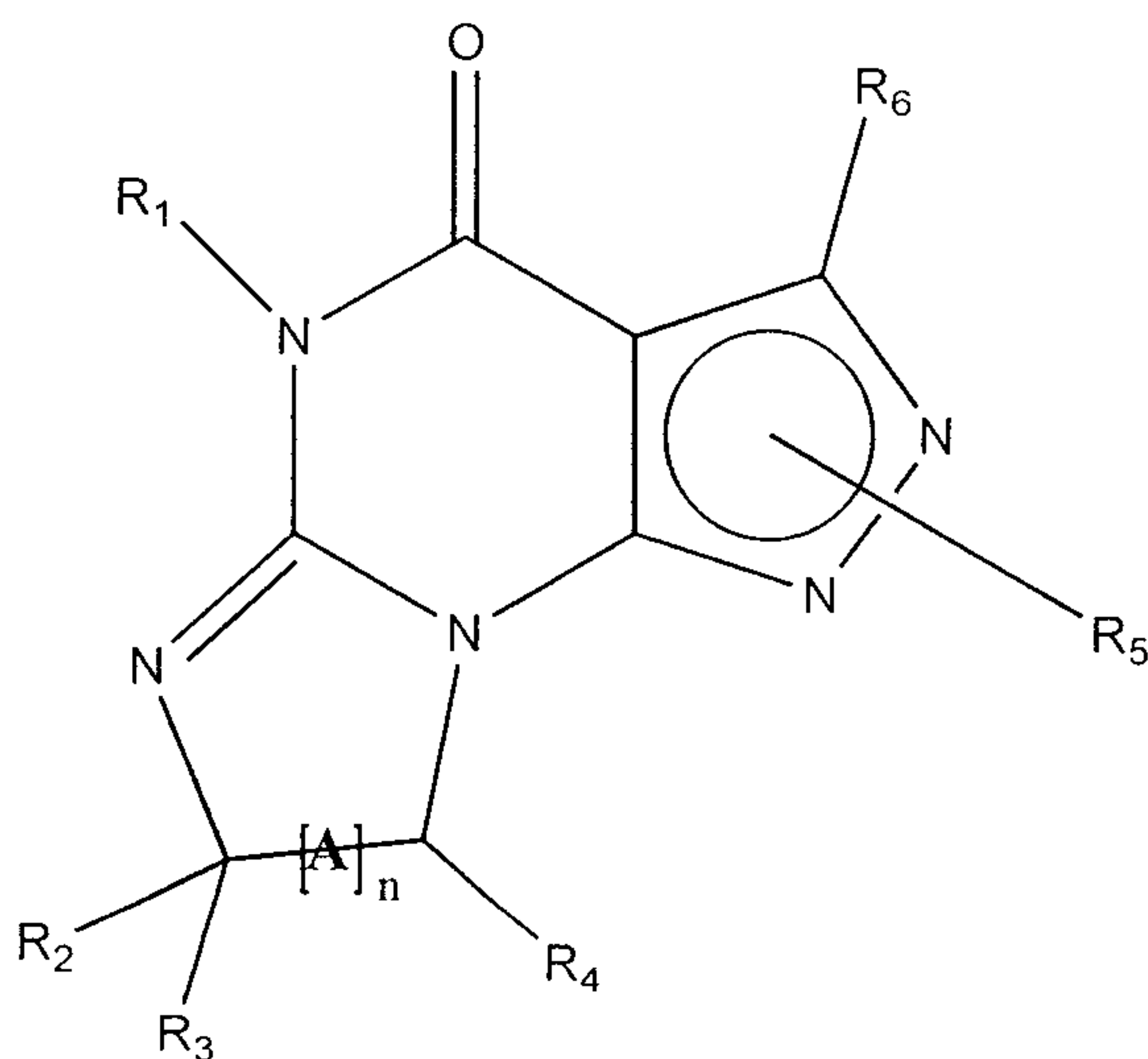
leg syndrome, depression, and cognitive impairment.

[0006] There is thus a need for compounds that selectively inhibit PDE1 activity, especially PDE1B activity.

5 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

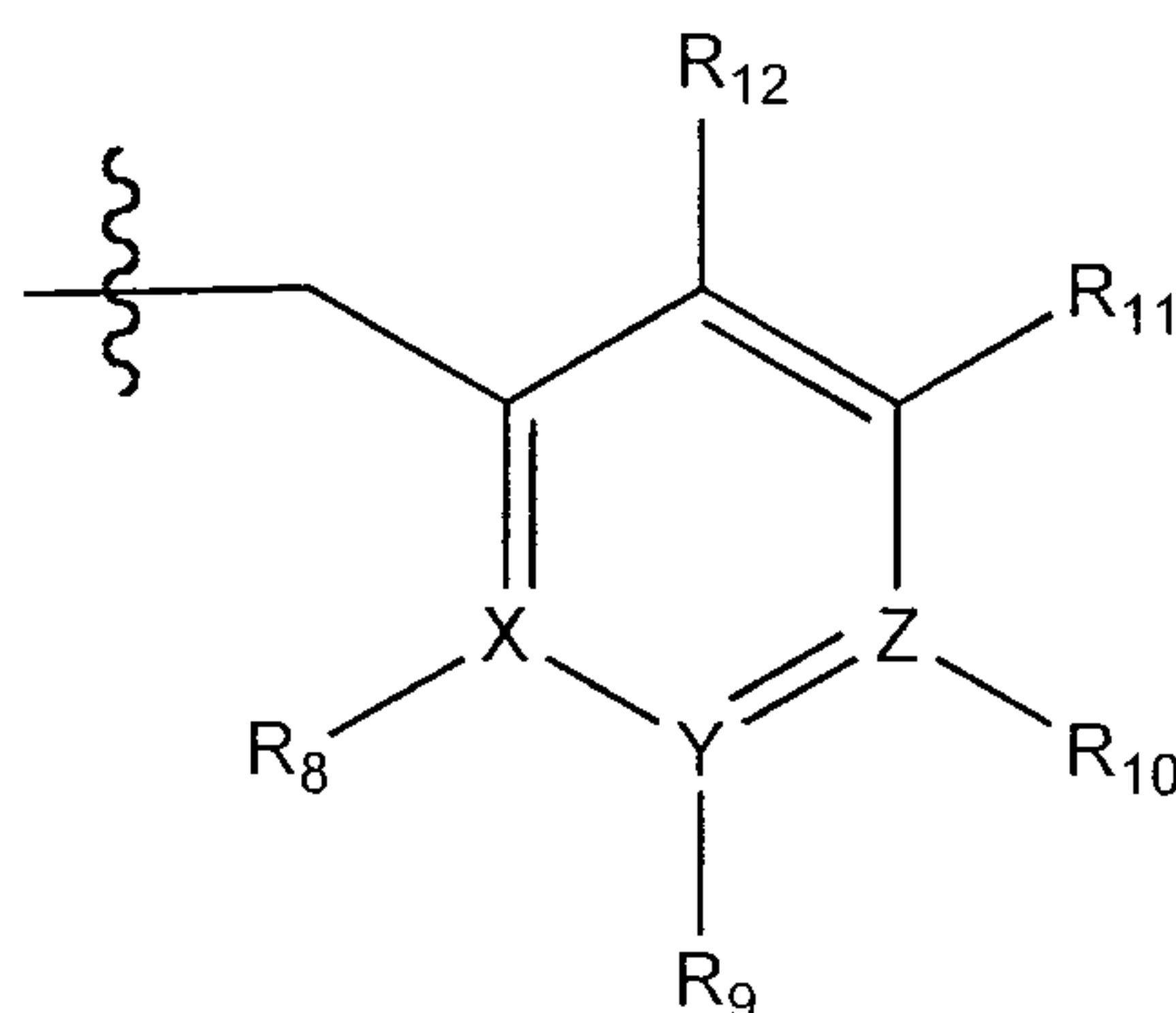
[0006a] Certain exemplary embodiments provide a 7,8-dihydro-[1*H* or 2*H*]-imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one or 7,8,9-trihydro-[1*H* or 2*H*]-pyrimido [1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one, substituted at the 1 or 2 position with C₂₋₉ alkyl, C₃₋₉ cycloalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, or substituted arylalkyl, in
10 a free form, a salt form, or a physiologically hydrolysable and acceptable ester prodrug form thereof.

[0006b] Other certain exemplary embodiments provide a compound of Formula I



15

wherein (i) R₁ is H or C₁₋₄ alkyl; (ii) R₄ is H or C₁₋₄ alkyl and R₂ and R₃ are, independently, H or C₁₋₄ alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkoxy, arylalkoxy, heteroarylalkyl, or arylalkyl; or R₂ is H and R₃ and R₄ together form a di-, tri-,
20 or tetra-methylene bridge; (iii) R₅ is a substituted heteroarylalkyl, optionally substituted with haloalkyl or R₅ is attached to one of the nitrogens on the pyrazolo portion of Formula A and is a moiety of Formula A



Formula A

- 5 wherein X, Y and Z are, independently, N or C; R₈, R₉, R₁₁ and R₁₂ are independently H or halogen; and R₁₀ is halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, haloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, or thiadiazolyl, diazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylsulfonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, or alkoxycarbonyl; provided that when X, Y, or Z is nitrogen, R₈, R₉, or R₁₀, respectively, is not present; (iv) R₆ is H, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, arylamino, heteroarylamino, N,N-dialkylamino, N,N-diarylamino, or N-aryl-N-(arylalkyl)amino; and (v) n=0 or 1; (vi) when n=1, A is -C(R₁₃R₁₄)- wherein R₁₃ and R₁₄, are, independently, H or C₁₋₄ alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkoxy, arylalkoxy, heteroarylalkyl or arylalkyl; in a free form, a salt form, or a physiologically hydrolysable and acceptable ester
- 10
- 15 prodrug form thereof, wherein said aryl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy, carboxy or an additional aryl or heteroaryl; or said heteroaryl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy or carboxy.

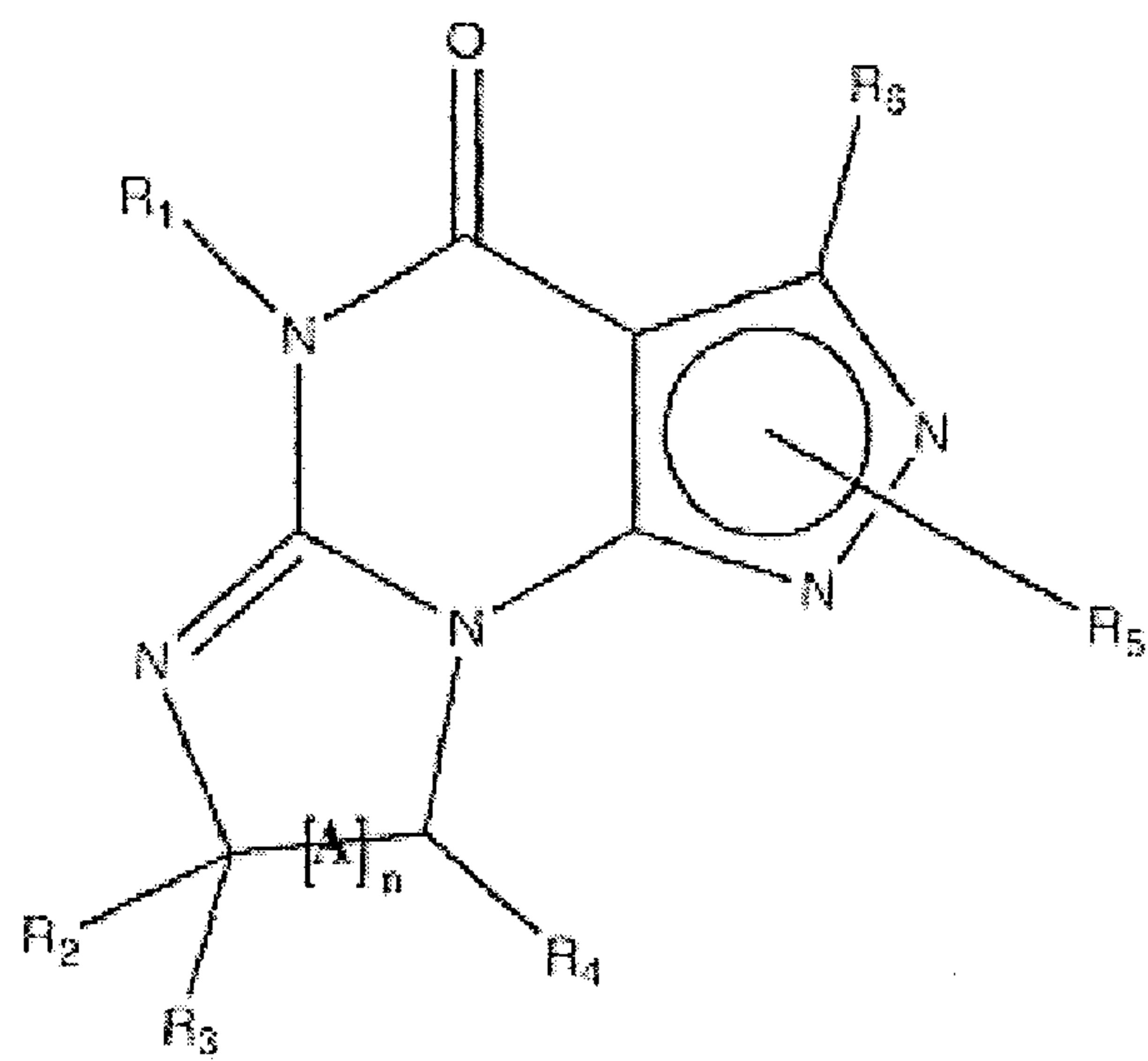
- [0006c] Other certain exemplary embodiments provide a compound selected
- 20 from the following: 2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-[2H]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3- e]pyrimidin-4(5H)-one; *Cis*-(6aR*,10aS*)-1-(4-Benzoylbenzyl)-5,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-heptahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3- e]pyrimidin-4(1H)-one;

3-Benzyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one; 1-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[1*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one; 1-(4-(1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl)benzyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-3-
 5 (phenylamino)-[1*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one; 1-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-3-((biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)(phenyl)amino)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-[1*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one; *Cis*-(6*aR**,10*aS**)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,10,10*a*-heptahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1-(4-(pyridin-2yl)benzyl)benzyl)-cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-
 10 *e*]pyrimidin-4-(1*H*)-one; *Cis*-(6*aR**,10*aS**)-2-(4-(Pyridin-2yl)benzyl)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,10,10*a*-heptahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one; *Cis*-(6*aR**,10*aS**)-3-(Benzyl)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,10,10*a*-heptahydro-5-methyl-2-(4-(1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl)benzyl)-cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one; *Cis*-(6*aR**,10*aS**)-3-(Benzyl)-2-(4-Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,10,10*a*-
 15 heptahydro-5-methyl-cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one; (*R*)-3-(Benzyl)-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-7-isopropyl-5-methyl-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one; (6*aR*,9*aS*)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,9*a*-hexahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-2-(4-Pyridin-2yl)-benzyl)-
 20 cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one; (6*aR*,9*aS*)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,9*a*-hexahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1-(4-Pyridin-2yl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(1*H*)-one; (6*aR*,9*aS*)-3-(benzylamino)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,9*a*-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(4-Pyridin-2yl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one; (6*aR*,9*aS*)-3-(phenylamino)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,9*a*-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-
 25 cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one; 2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8,9-trihydro-5,8,8-trimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[2*H*]-pyrimido-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one; (7*R*)-2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7-dimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-
 30 *e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one; (8*R*)-2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,8-dimethyl-

3-(phenylamino)-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one; (7*R*)-
 2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-3-(phenylamino)-5-methyl-7-(1-
 methylethyl)-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one;
 (6*aR*,9*aS*)-3-(phenylamino)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,9*a*-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(4-
 5 (trifluoromethyl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-
 4(2*H*)-one; (6*aR*,9*aS*)-3-(phenylamino)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,9*a*-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-((6-
 trifluoromethyl)-pyridin-3-yl)methyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-
e]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one; (6*aR*,9*aS*)-3-(phenylamino)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,9*a*-hexahydro-5-
 methyl-2-(3-fluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2-
 10 α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one; and (6*aR*,9*aS*)-3-(phenylamino)-
 5,6*a*,7,8,9,9*a*-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(4-methylsulfonyl-benzyl)-
 cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one; in free or salt
 form, or in pure enantiomeric form.

[0007] The invention provides novel, optionally substituted 7,8-dihydro-[1*H*
 15 or 2*H*]-imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-ones or 7,8,9-trihydro-[1*H* or
 2*H*]-pyrimido [1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-ones, substituted at the 1 or 2
 position with C₂₋₉ alkyl or C₃₋₉ cycloalkyl, or optionally substituted heteroarylalkyl
 or substituted arylalkyl, in free, salt or prodrug form (hereinafter "Compounds of
 the Invention"). The 1- or 2-position substituent is preferably substituted benzyl or
 20 pyridylmethyl, e.g. para-substituted relative to the point of attachment, e.g., with
 aryl, e.g., phenyl, or heteroaryl, e.g., pyridyl or thiadiazolyl. These compounds are
 surprisingly found to selectively inhibit phosphodiesterase 1 (PDE1) activity,
 especially PDE1B activity.

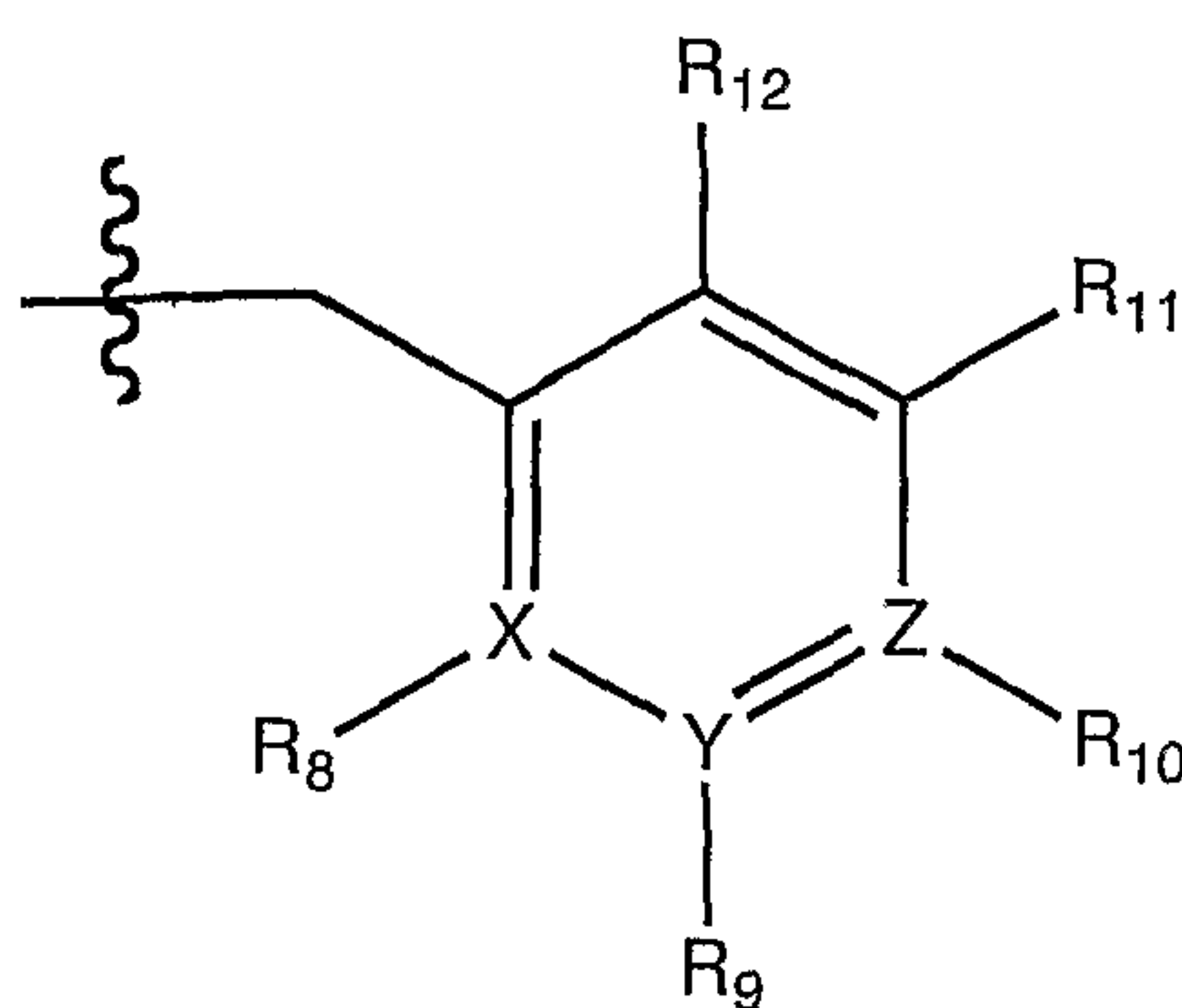
[0008] Preferably, the Compounds of the Invention are the 7,8-dihydro-[1*H*
 25 or 2*H*]-imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-ones and 7,8,9-trihydro-[1*H*
 or 2*H*]-pyrimido [1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-ones, of formula I



Formula 1

wherein

- (i) R_1 is H or C_{1-4} alkyl (e.g., methyl);
- (ii) R_4 is H or C_{1-4} alkyl and R_2 and R_3 are, independently, H or C_{1-4} alkyl (e.g., R_2 and R_3 are both methyl, or R_2 is H and R_3 is isopropyl), aryl, heteroaryl, (optionally hetero)arylalkoxy, or (optionally hetero)arylalkyl;
- 5 or
- R_2 is H and R_3 and R_4 together form a di-, tri- or tetramethylene bridge (pref. wherein the R_3 and R_4 together have the *cis* configuration, e.g., where the carbons carrying R_3 and R_4 have the R and S configurations, respectively);
- (iii) R_5 is a substituted heteroarylalkyl, e.g., substituted with haloalkyl
- 10 or
- R_5 is attached to one of the nitrogens on the pyrazolo portion of Formula 1 and is a moiety of Formula A



Formula A

wherein X, Y and Z are, independently, N or C, and R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} and R_{12} are

20 independently H or halogen (e.g., Cl or F), and R_{10} is halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, haloalkyl (e.g., trifluoromethyl), aryl (e.g., phenyl), heteroaryl (e.g., pyridyl (for example pyrid-2-yl), or thiadiazolyl (e.g., 1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl)), diazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, arylcarbonyl (e.g., benzoyl), alkylsulfonyl (e.g., methylsulfonyl), heteroarylcarbonyl, or alkoxycarbonyl; provided that when X, Y, or Z is nitrogen, R_8 ,

25 R_9 , or R_{10} , respectively, is not present; and

(iv) R_6 is H, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl (e.g., benzyl), arylamino (e.g., phenylamino), heterarylmino, N,N-dialkylamino, N,N-diarylmino, or N-aryl-N-(arylakyl)amino (e.g., N-phenyl-N-(1,1'-biphen-4-ylmethyl)amino); and

(v) $n=0$ or 1;

5 (vi) when $n=1$, A is $-C(R_{13}R_{14})-$

wherein R_{13} and R_{14} , are, independently, H or C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (optionally hetero)arylalkoxy or (optionally hetero)arylalkyl;

in free, salt or prodrug form, including its enantiomers, diastereoisomers and racemates.

10

[0009] The invention further provides compounds of Formula I as follows:

1.1 Formula I wherein R_1 is methyl and $n=0$;

1.2 Formula I or 1.1 wherein R_4 is H or C_{1-4} alkyl and at least one of R_2 and R_3 is lower alkyl, such that when the carbon carrying R_3 is chiral, it has the R configuration, e.g., wherein both R_2 and R_3 are methyl, or wherein one is

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hydrogen and the other isopropyl;

1.3 Formula I or 1.1 wherein R_4 is H and at least one of R_2 and R_3 is arylalkoxy;

1.4 Formula I wherein R_1 is methyl, R_2 , R_3 , and R_4 are H, $n=1$, and R_{13} and R_{14} are, independently, H or C_{1-4} alkyl (e.g., methyl or isopropyl);

20

1.5 Formula I or 1.1 wherein R_2 is H and R_3 and R_4 together form a tri- or tetramethylene bridge, having the *cis* configuration, preferably wherein the carbons carrying R_3 and R_4 have the R and S configurations respectively;

1.6 Formula I, 1.1 or 1.5 wherein R_5 is a substituted heteroarylmethyl, e.g., para-substituted with haloalkyl;

25

1.7 Formula I, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 or 1.5 wherein R_5 is a moiety of Formula A wherein R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} , and R_{12} are H and R_{10} is phenyl;

1.8 Formula I, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 or 1.5 wherein R_5 is a moiety of Formula A wherein R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} , and R_{12} are H and R_{10} is pyridyl or thiadiazolyl;

1.9 Formula I, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 or 1.5 wherein R_5 is a moiety of Formula A wherein R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} , and R_{12} are, independently, H or halogen, and R_{10} is haloalkyl;

30

1.10 Formula I, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 or 1.5 wherein R_5 is a moiety of Formula A wherein R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} , and R_{12} are, independently, H, and R_{10} is alkyl sulfonyl;

1.11 any of the preceding formulae wherein R_5 is attached to the 2-position nitrogen on the pyrazolo ring;

5 1.12 any of the preceding formulae wherein R_6 is benzyl;

1.13 any of the preceding formulae wherein R_6 is phenylamino or phenylalkylamino (e.g., benzylamino);

1.14 any of the preceding formulae wherein R_6 is phenylamino;

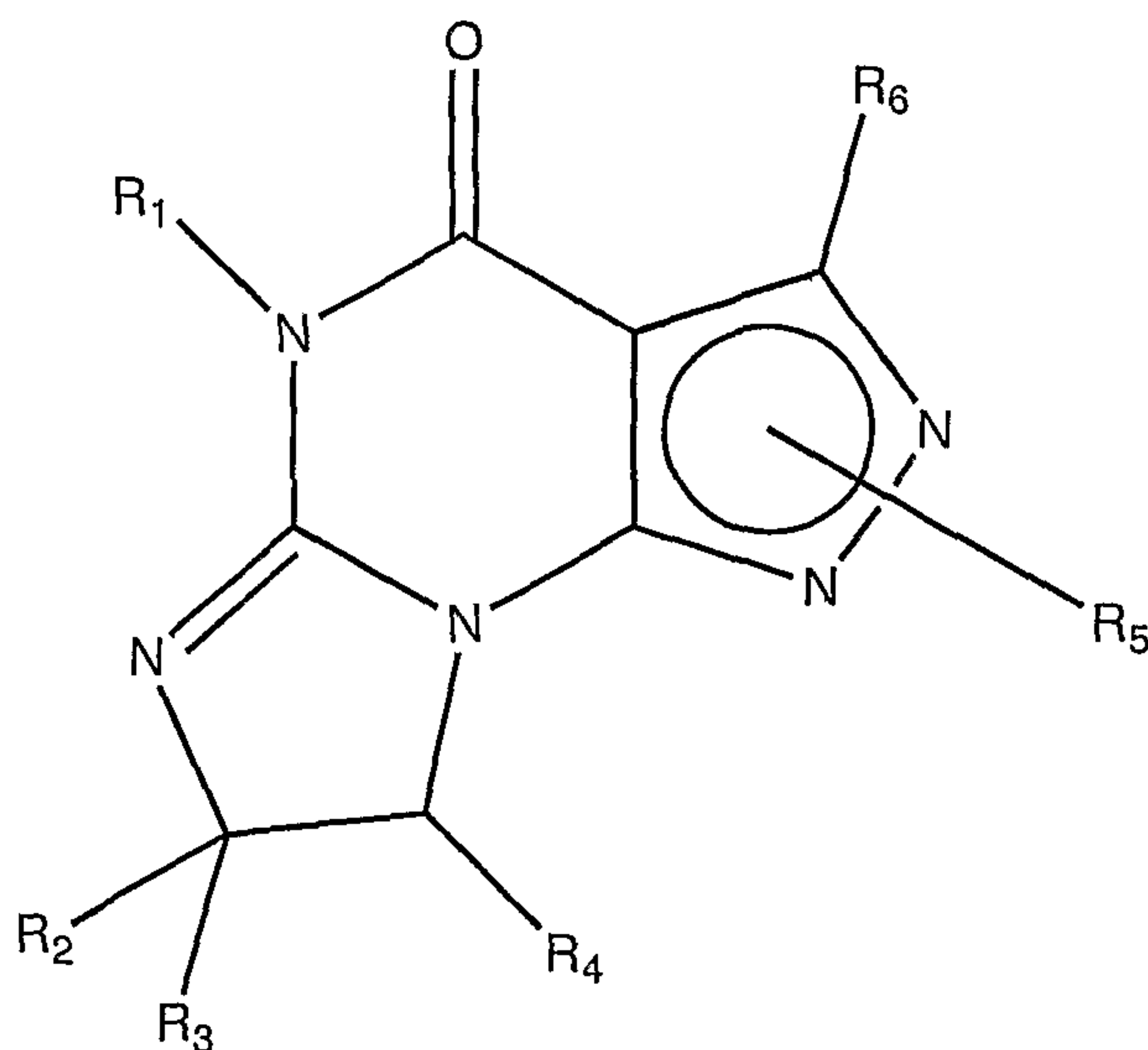
1.15 any of the preceding formulae wherein X, Y, and Z are all C;

10 1.16 any of the preceding formulae wherein X, Y, and Z are all C and R_{10} is phenyl or 2-pyridyl; and/or

1.17 any of the preceding formulae wherein the compounds inhibit phosphodiesterase-mediated (e.g., PDE1-mediated, especially PDE1B-mediated) hydrolysis of cGMP, e.g., with an IC_{50} of less than $1\mu M$, preferably less than 25 nM in an immobilized-metal affinity particle reagent PDE assay, for example, as described in Example 24;

in free or salt form.

[0010] For example, the Compounds of the Invention include 7,8-dihydro-[1*H* or 2*H*]-imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-ones of Formula Ia



Formula Ia

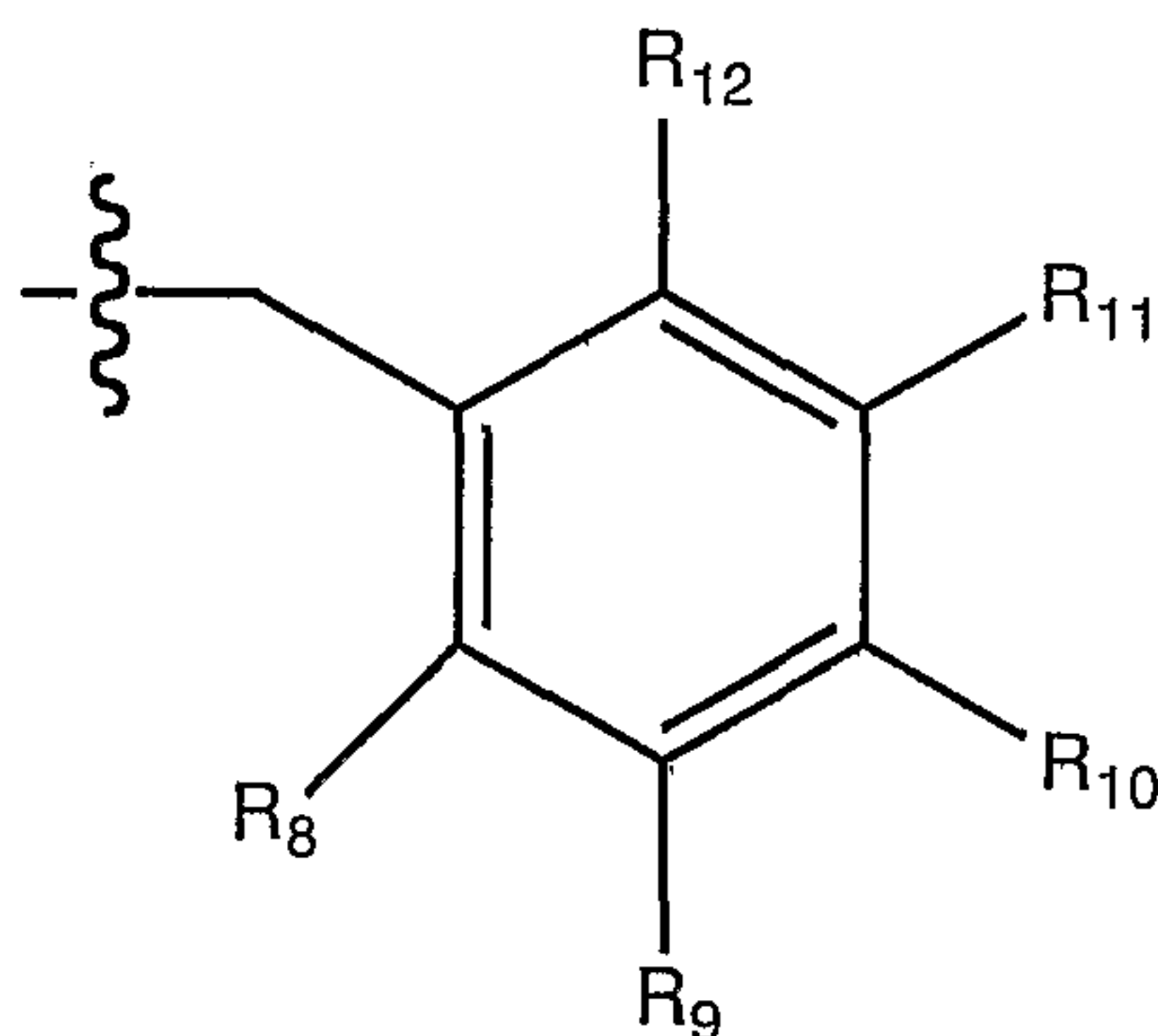
wherein

5 (i) R_1 is H or C_{1-4} alkyl [e.g., methyl];

(ii) R_4 is H and R_2 and R_3 are, independently, H or C_{1-4} alkyl [e.g., R_2 and R_3 are both methyl, or R_2 is H and R_3 is isopropyl], aryl, or arylalkyl;

10 or R_2 is H and R_3 and R_4 together form a di-, tri- or tetramethylene bridge [pref. wherein the R_3 and R_4 have the *cis* configuration, e.g., where the carbons carrying R_3 and R_4 have the R and S configurations respectively];

15 (iii) R_5 is attached to one of the nitrogens on the pyrazolo portion of formula I and is a substituted benzyl of formula B



Formula B

20 wherein R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} and R_{12} are independently H or halogen (e.g., Cl or F); and R_{10} is halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, haloalkyl (e.g., trifluoromethyl) aryl (e.g., phenyl), heteroaryl (e.g., pyridyl (for example pyrid-2-yl), or thiadiazolyl (e.g., 1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl)), arylcarbonyl (e.g., benzoyl), alkyl sulfonyl or heteroarylcarbonyl; and

25

(iv) R_6 is H, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl [e.g., benzyl], arylamino [e.g., phenylamino], heteroarylamino, arylalkylamino, N,N-dialkylamino, N,N-

diaryl-amino, or N-aryl-N-(arylalkyl)amino [e.g. N-phenyl-N-(1,1'-biphen-4-ylmethyl)amino];

in free, salt or prodrug form.

5

[0011] The invention further provides compounds of Formula Ia as follows:

1.1: Formula Ia wherein R₁ is methyl;

1.2: Formula Ia or 1.1 wherein R₄ is H and at least one of R₂ and R₃ is lower alkyl, such that when the carbon carrying R₃ is chiral, it has the R configuration, e.g., wherein both R₂ and R₃ are methyl, or wherein one is hydrogen and the other isopropyl;

10

1.3: Formula Ia or 1.1 wherein R₂ is H and R₃ and R₄ together form a tri- or tetramethylene bridge, having the *cis* configuration, preferably wherein the carbons carrying R₃ and R₄ have the R and S configurations respectively;

15

1.4: Formula Ia, 1.1, 1.2 or 1.3 wherein R₅ is a moiety of formula A wherein R₈, R₉, R₁₁, and R₁₂ are H and R₁₀ is phenyl;

1.5: Formula Ia, 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 wherein R₅ is a moiety of formula A wherein R₈, R₉, R₁₁, and R₁₂ are H and R₁₀ is pyridyl or thiadiazolyl;

1.6: Formula Ia, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, or 1.5 wherein R₅ is attached to the 2-position nitrogen on the pyrazolo ring;

20

1.7: Formula Ia, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 or 1.6 wherein R₆ is benzyl;

1.8: Formula Ia, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 or 1.6 wherein R₆ is phenylamino or phenylalkylamino (e.g., benzylamino); and/or

1.9: Formula Ia, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, or 1.8 wherein the compounds inhibit phosphodiesterase-mediated (e.g., PDE1-mediated, especially PDE1B-mediated) hydrolysis of cGMP, e.g., with an IC₅₀ of less than 1 μM, preferably less than 25 nM in an immobilized-metal affinity particle reagent PDE assay, for example, as described in Example 15; in free or salt form.

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30

[0012] In another embodiment, the Compounds of the Invention are compounds of Formula I wherein

- (i) R_1 is methyl;
 - (ii) R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are H;
 - (iii) $n=1$ and R_a and R_b are, independently, H or methyl;
 - (iv) R_5 is a moiety of Formula A wherein R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} and R_{12} are H and R_{10} is phenyl, pyridyl (for example pyrid-2-yl), or thiadiazolyl (e.g., 1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl);
 - (v) R_6 is benzyl, phenylamino or benzylamino;
- in free or salt form.

[0013] In another embodiment, the Compounds of the Invention are

10 compounds of Formula I wherein

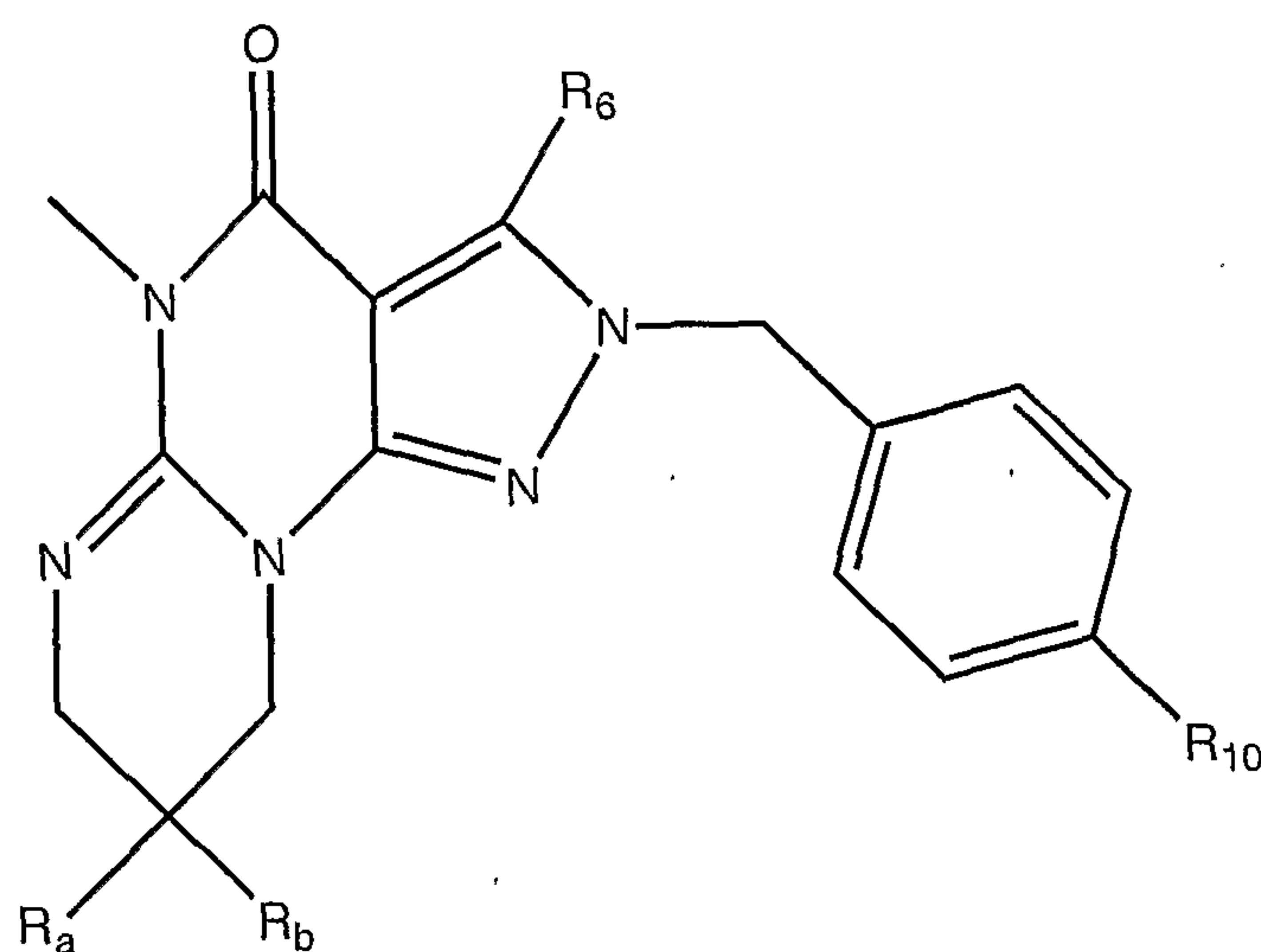
- (i) R_1 is methyl;
 - (ii) $n=0$;
 - (iii) R_2 is H and R_3 and R_4 together form a tri- or tetra-methylene bridge [pref. with the carbons carrying R_3 and R_4 having the R and S configuration respectively]; or at least one of R_2 and R_3 is methyl, isopropyl or arylalkoxy and R_4 is H; or R_2 and R_3 are H and R_4 is a C_{1-4} alkyl;
 - (iv) R_5 is a substituted heteroarylmethyl, e.g., para-substituted with haloalkyl; or
- R_5 is a moiety of Formula A wherein R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} and R_{12} are H or halogen and R_{10} is haloalkyl, phenyl, pyridyl (for example pyrid-2-yl), or thiadiazolyl (e.g., 1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl); and
- (v) R_6 is benzyl, phenylamino or benzylamino;
- in free or salt form.

25 **[0014]** In another embodiment, the Compounds of the Invention are compounds of Formula Ia wherein

- (i) R_1 is methyl;
- (ii) R_2 is H and R_3 and R_4 together form a tri- or tetra-methylene bridge [pref. with the carbons carrying R_3 and R_4 having the R and S configuration respectively]; or R_2 and R_3 are each methyl and R_4 is H; or R_2 and R_4 are H and R_3 is isopropyl [pref. the carbon carrying R_3 having the R configuration];

- (iii) R_5 is a moiety of Formula A wherein R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} , and R_{12} are H and R_{10} is haloalkyl, phenyl, pyridyl (for example pyrid-2-yl), or thiadiazolyl (e.g., 1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl); and
- (iv) R_6 is benzyl, phenylamino or benzylamino;
- in free or salt form.

[0015] For example, Compounds of the Invention include compounds according to Formulae II, III and IV.



Formula II

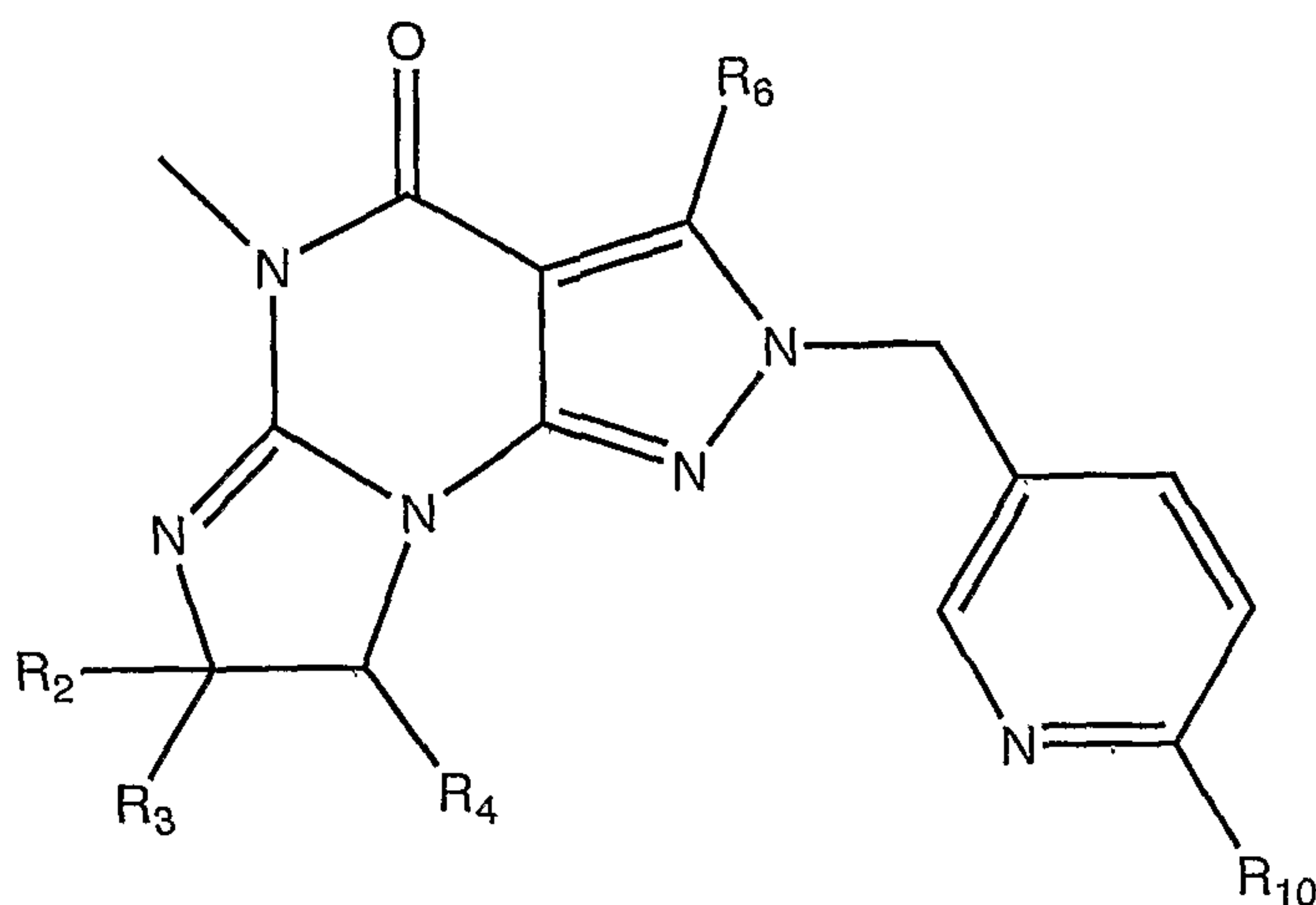
wherein

R_a and R_b are, independently, H or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R_6 is phenylamino or benzylamino;

R_{10} is phenyl, pyridyl (for example pyrid-2-yl), or thiadiazolyl (e.g., 1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl);

in free or salt form.



Formula III

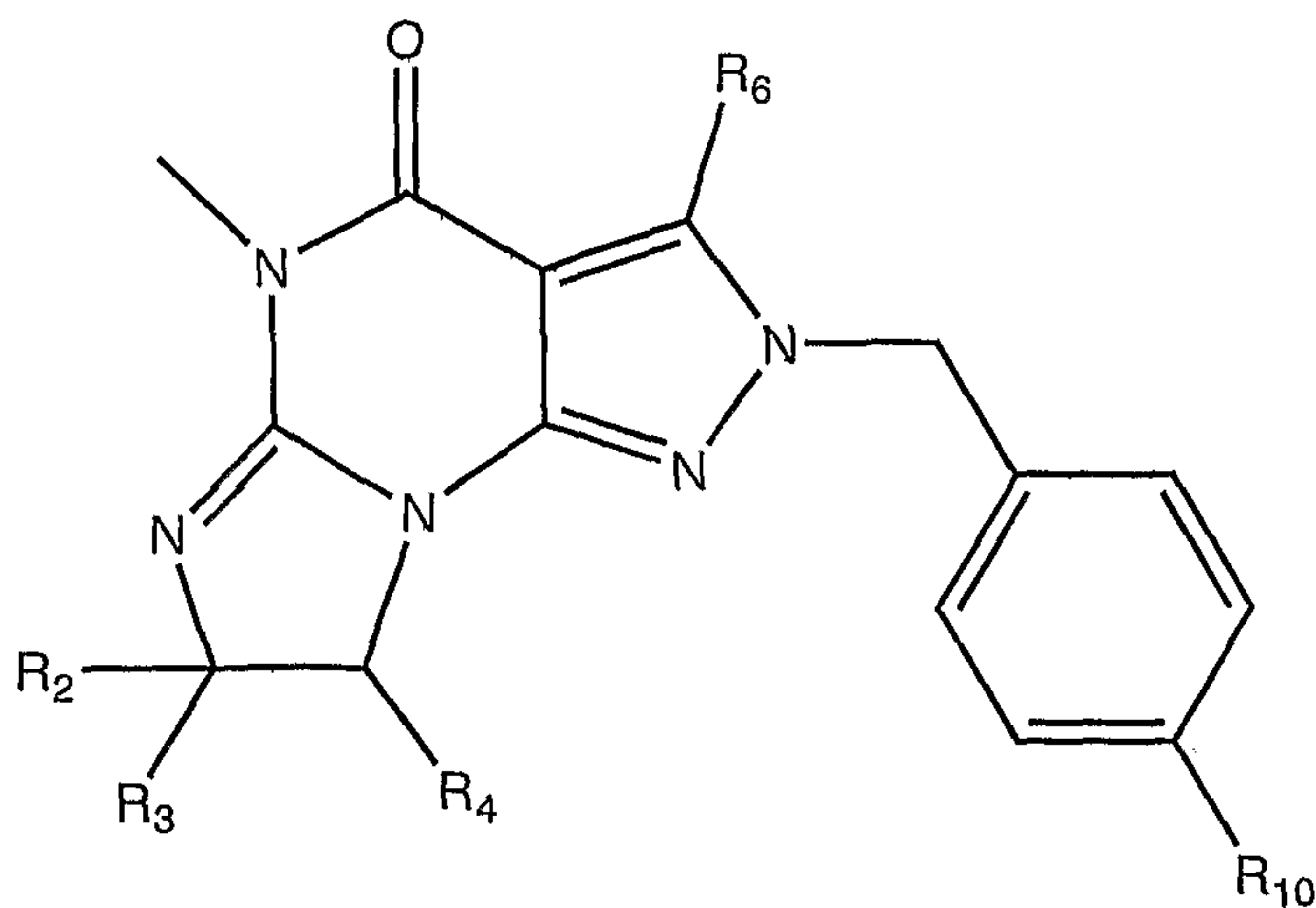
5 wherein

R_2 is H and R_3 and R_4 together form a tri- or tetra-methylene bridge [pref. with the carbons carrying R_3 and R_4 having the R and S configuration respectively]; or at least one of R_2 and R_3 is methyl, isopropyl or arylalkoxy and R_4 is H; or R_2 and R_3 are H and R_4 is a C_{1-4} alkyl;

10 R_6 is phenylamino or benzylamino;

R_{10} is haloalkyl, phenyl, pyridyl (for example pyrid-2-yl), or thiadiazolyl (e.g., 1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl);

in free or salt form.



Formula IV

wherein

R₂ is H and R₃ and R₄ together form a tri- or tetra-methylene bridge [pref. with the carbons carrying R₃ and R₄ having the R and S configuration respectively]; or at least one of R₂ and R₃ is methyl, isopropyl or arylalkoxy and R₄ is H; or R₂ and R₃ are H and R₄ is a C₁₋₄ alkyl;

R₆ is phenylamino or benzylamino;

R₁₀ is phenyl, pyridyl (for example pyrid-2-yl), or thiadiazolyl (e.g., 1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl);

in free or salt form.

[0016] Compounds of the Invention include, for example, the title compounds of Examples 1-23 below.

[0017] If not otherwise specified or clear from context, the following terms as used herein have the following meanings:

a. "Alkyl" as used herein is a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon moiety, preferably saturated, preferably one to four carbon atoms in length, which may be linear or branched, and may be optionally substituted, e.g., mono-, di-, or tri-substituted, e.g., with halogen (e.g., chloro or fluoro), hydroxy, or carboxy.

b. "Cycloalkyl" as used herein is a saturated or unsaturated nonaromatic hydrocarbon moiety, preferably saturated, preferably comprising three to nine carbon atoms, at least some of which form a nonaromatic mono- or bicyclic, or bridged cyclic structure, and which may be optionally substituted, e.g., with halogen (e.g., chloro or fluoro), hydroxy, or carboxy.

c. "Aryl" as used herein is a mono or bicyclic aromatic hydrocarbon, preferably phenyl, optionally substituted, e.g., with alkyl (e.g., methyl), halogen (e.g., chloro or fluoro), haloalkyl (e.g., trifluoromethyl), hydroxy, carboxy, or an additional aryl or heteroaryl (e.g., biphenyl or pyridylphenyl).

d. "Heteroaryl" as used herein is an aromatic moiety wherein one or more of the atoms making up the aromatic ring is sulfur or nitrogen rather than carbon, e.g., pyridyl or thiadiazolyl, which may be optionally substituted, e.g., with alkyl, halogen, haloalkyl, hydroxy or carboxy.

[0018] Compounds of the Invention may exist in free or salt form, e.g., as acid addition salts. In this specification unless otherwise indicated language such as Compounds of the Invention is to be understood as embracing the compounds in any form, for example free or acid addition salt form, or where the compounds contain acidic substituents, in base addition salt form. The Compounds of the Invention are intended for use as pharmaceuticals, therefore pharmaceutically acceptable salts are preferred. Salts which are unsuitable for pharmaceutical uses may be useful, for example, for the isolation or purification of free Compounds of the Invention or their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, are therefore also included.

[0019] Compounds of the Invention may in some cases also exist in prodrug form. For example when the compounds contain hydroxy or carboxy substituents, these substituents may form physiologically hydrolysable and acceptable esters. As used herein, "physiologically hydrolysable and acceptable ester" means esters of Compounds of the Invention which are hydrolysable under physiological conditions to yield acids (in the case of Compounds of the Invention which have hydroxy substituents) or alcohols (in the case of Compounds of the Invention which have carboxy substituents) which are themselves physiologically tolerable at doses to be administered. As will be appreciated the term thus embraces conventional pharmaceutical prodrug forms.

[0020] The invention also provides methods of making the Compounds of the Invention, novel intermediates useful for making Compounds of the Invention, and methods of using the Compounds of the Invention for treatment of diseases and disorders as set forth below (especially treatment of diseases characterized by reduced dopamine D1 receptor signaling activity, such as Parkinson's disease, restless leg syndrome, depression, and cognitive impairment of schizophrenia).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Methods of Making Compounds of the Invention

[0021] The compounds of the formula I and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts may be made using the methods as described and exemplified herein and by methods similar thereto and by methods known in the chemical art. Such methods include, but not limited to, those described below. If not commercially available, starting materials for these processes may be made by procedures, which are selected

from the chemical art using techniques which are similar or analogous to the synthesis of known compounds.

[0022] Some individual compounds within the scope of this invention may contain double bonds. Representations of double bonds in this invention are meant to include both the E and the Z isomer of the double bond. In addition, some compounds within the scope of this invention may contain one or more asymmetric centers. This invention includes the use of any of the optically pure stereoisomers as well as any combination of stereoisomers.

10 [0023] Melting points are uncorrected and (dec) indicated decomposition. Temperature are given in degrees Celsius (°C); unless otherwise stated, operations are carried out at room or ambient temperature, that is, at a temperature in the range of 18-25 °C. Chromatography means flash chromatography on silica gel; thin layer chromatography (TLC) is carried out on silica gel plates. NMR data is in the delta values of major diagnostic protons, given in parts per million (ppm) relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. Conventional abbreviations for signal shape are used. Coupling constants (J) are given in Hz. For mass spectra (MS), the lowest mass major ion is reported for molecules where isotope splitting results in multiple mass spectral peaks Solvent mixture compositions are given as volume percentages or volume ratios. In cases where the NMR spectra are complex, only diagnostic signals are reported.

[0024] Terms and abbreviations:

Bu^tOH = *tert*-butyl alcohol,
 CAN = ammonium cerium (IV) nitrate,
 25 DIPEA = diisopropylethylamine,
 DMF = N,N-dimethylformamide,
 DMSO = dimethyl sulfoxide,
 Et₂O = diethyl ether,
 EtOAc = ethyl acetate,
 30 equiv. = equivalent(s),
 h = hour(s),
 HPLC = high performance liquid chromatography,

K_2CO_3 = potassium carbonate,

MeOH = methanol,

$NaHCO_3$ = sodium bicarbonate,

NH_4OH = ammonium hydroxide,

5 PMB = p-methoxybenzyl,

$POCl_3$ = phosphorous oxychloride,

$SOCl_2$ = thionyl chloride,

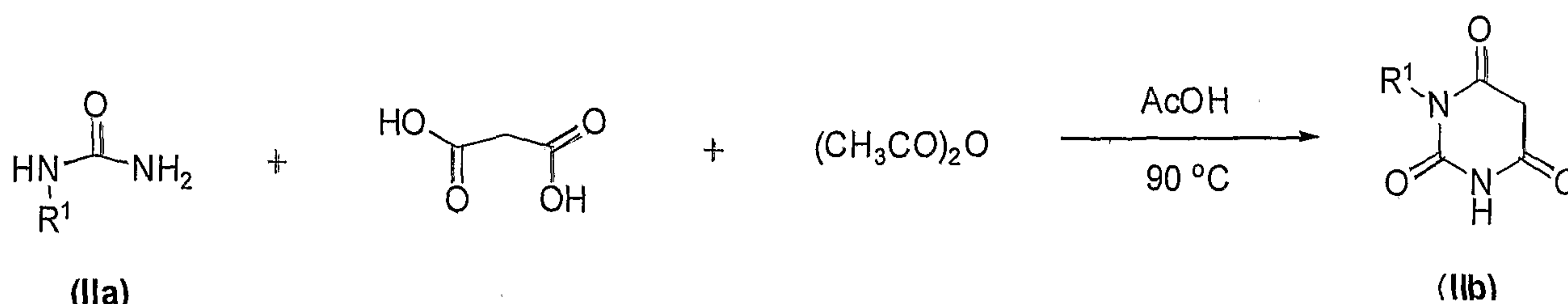
TFA = trifluoroacetic acid,

THF = tetrahydrofuran.

10

[0025] The synthetic methods in this invention are illustrated below. The significances for the R groups are as set forth above for formula I unless otherwise indicated.

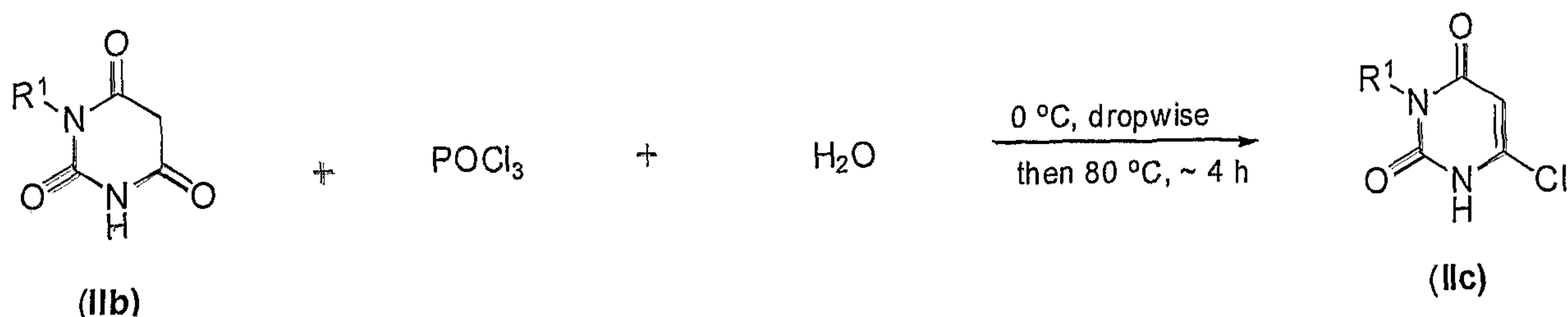
15 [0026] In an aspect of the invention, intermediate compounds of formula **IIb** can be synthesized by reacting a compound of formula **IIa** with a dicarboxylic acid, acetic anhydride and acetic acid mixing with heat for about 3 hours and then cooled:



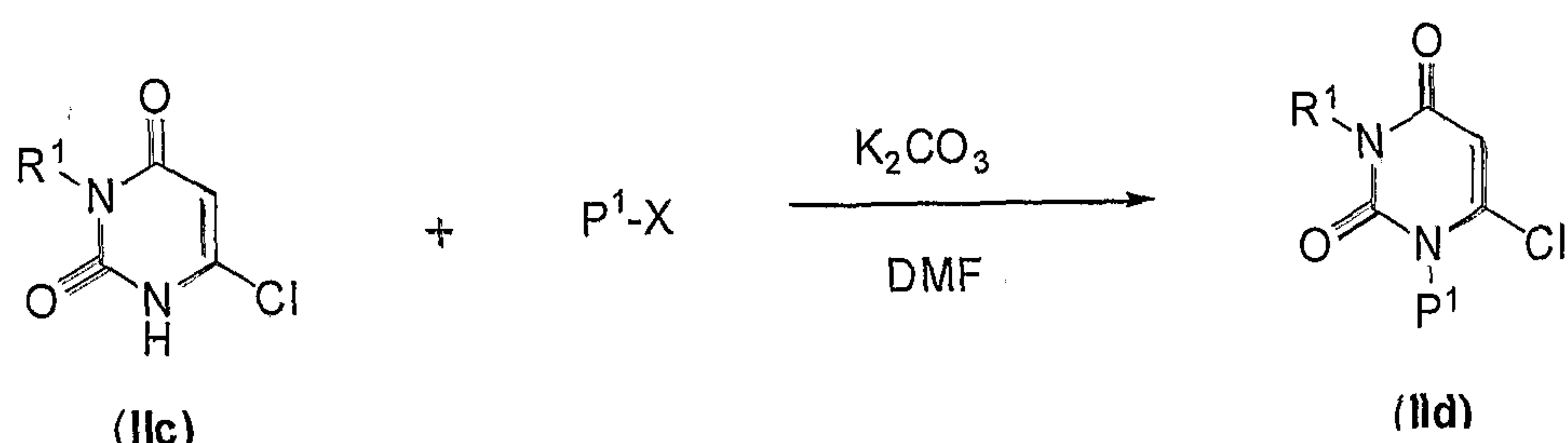
20

wherein R^1 is H or C_{1-4} alkyl [e.g., methyl].

[0027] Intermediate **IIc** can be prepared by for example reacting a compound of **IIb** with for example a chlorinating compound such as $POCl_3$, sometimes with small
 25 amounts of water and heated for about 4 hours and then cooled:



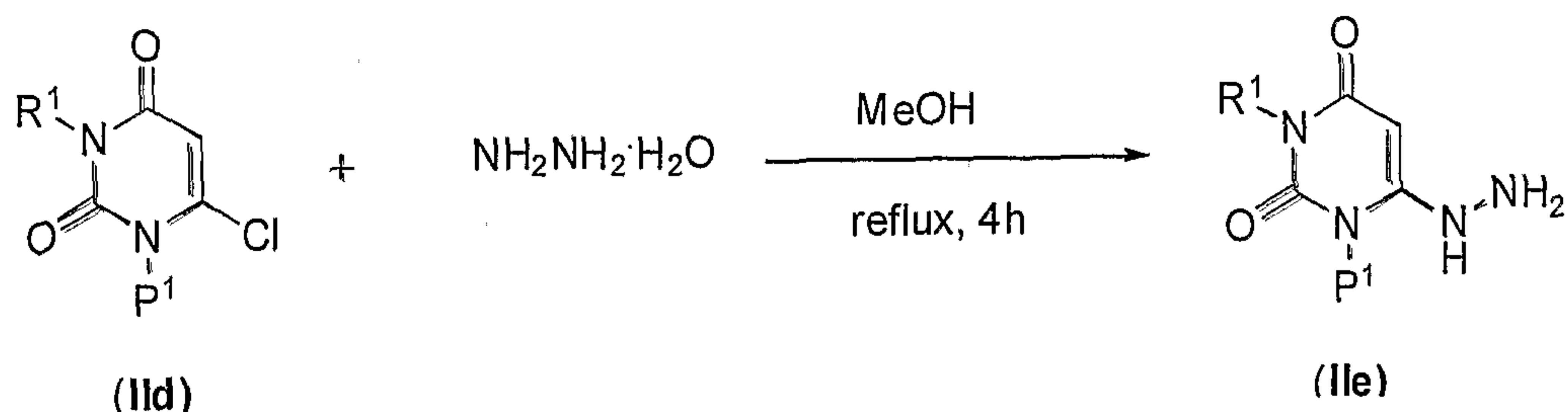
[0028] Intermediate **IIc** may be formed by reacting a compound of **IIc** with for
 5 example a $\text{P}^1\text{-X}$ in a solvent such as DMF and a base such as K_2CO_3 at room
 temperature or with heating:



wherein P^1 is a protective group [e.g., *p*-methoxybenzyl group (PMB)]; X is a leaving
 group such as a halogen, mesylate, or tosylate.

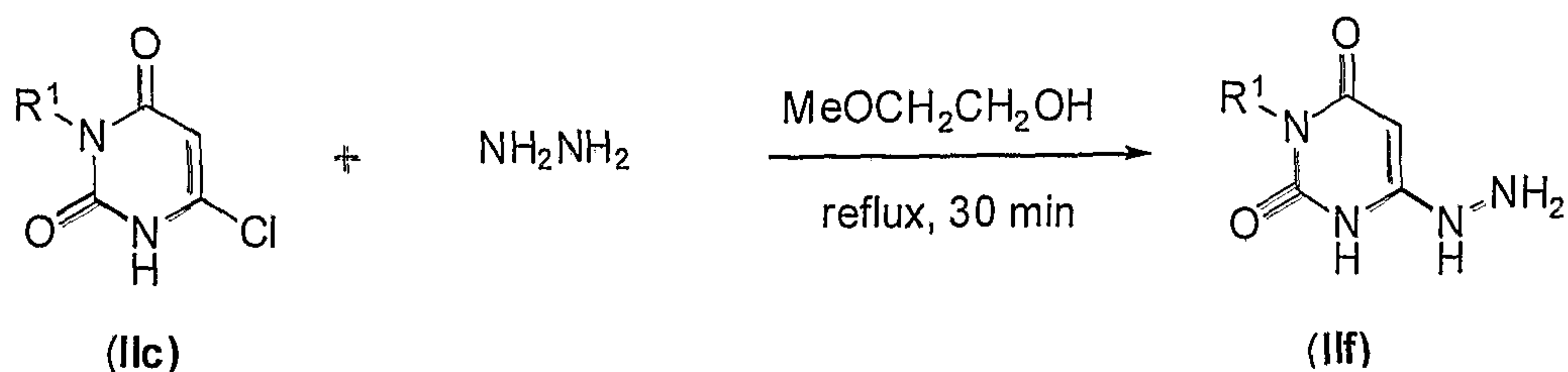
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[0029] Intermediate **IId** may be prepared by reacting a compound of **IId** with
 hydrazine or hydrazine hydrate in a solvent such as methanol and refluxed for about 4
 hours and then cooled:

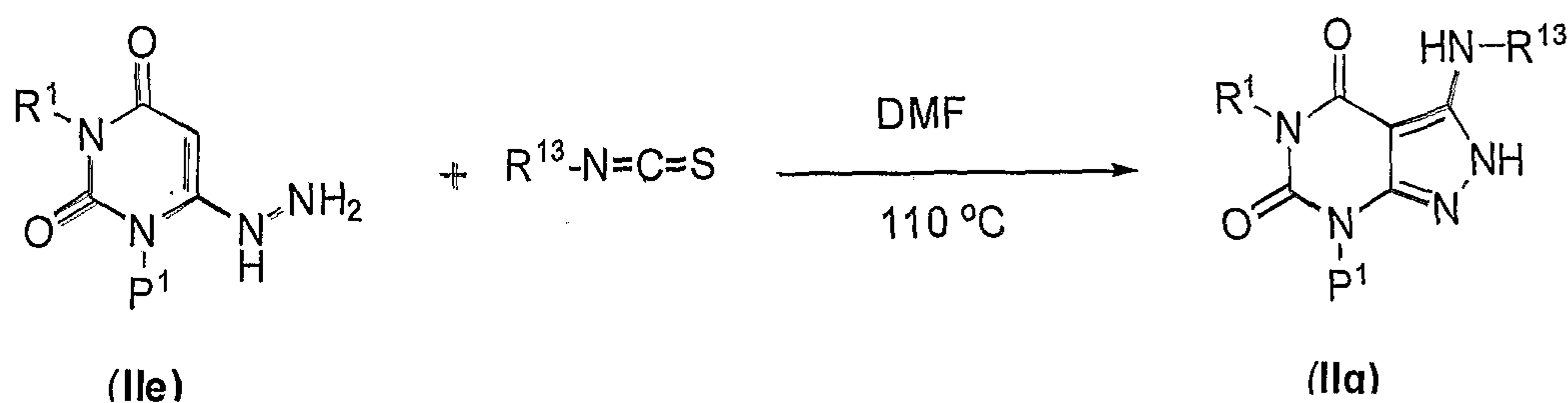


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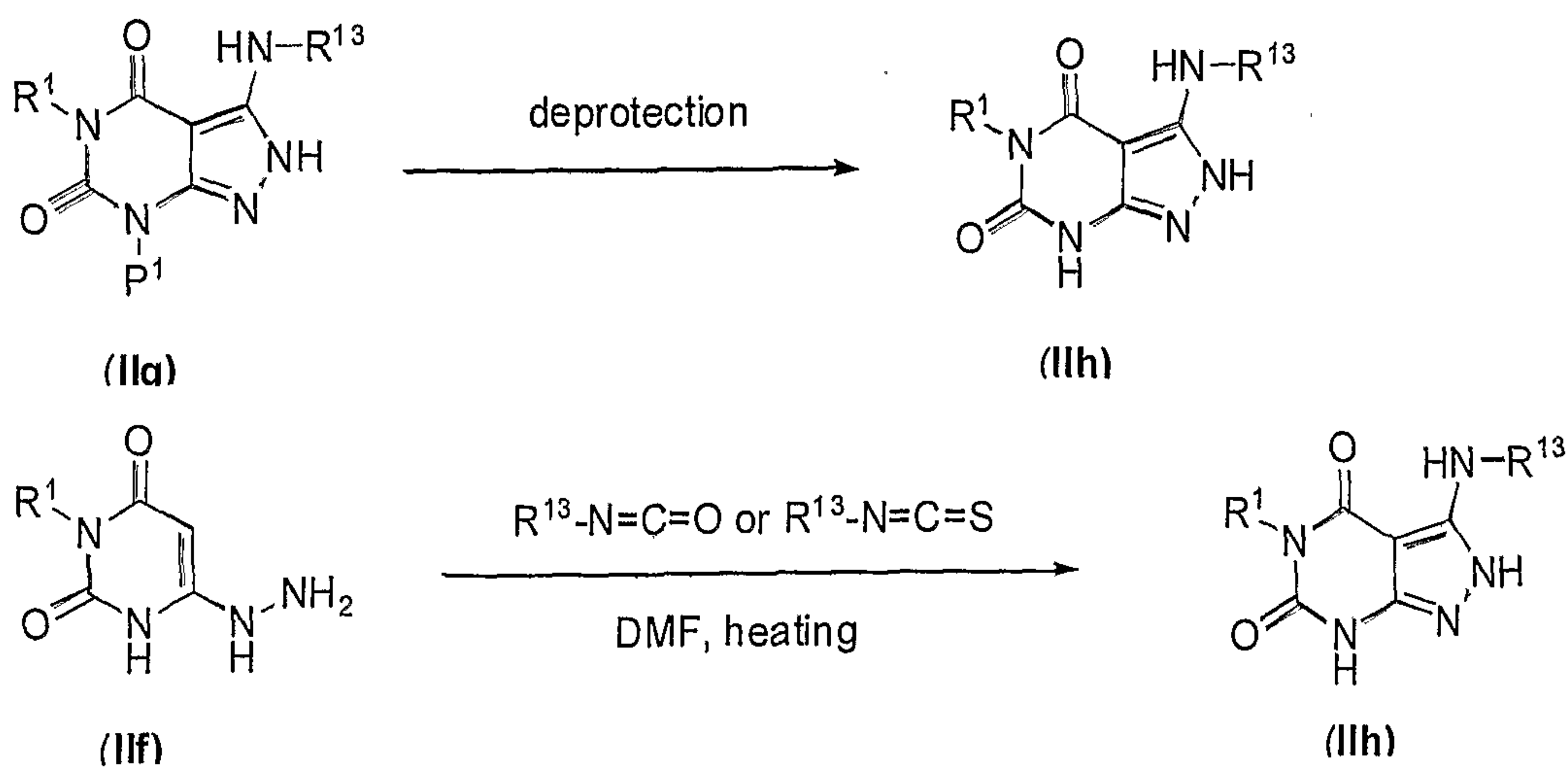
[0030] Intermediate **IIe** can be synthesized by reacting a compound of **IIc** with
 hydrazine or hydrazine hydrate in a solvent such as methoxymethanol and refluxed for
 about 30 min and then cooled:



[0031] Intermediate **IIg** (wherein R^{13} is alkyl, aryl [e.g., phenyl], heteroaryl, arylalkyl, or heteroarylalkyl), can be synthesized by reacting a compound of **IIe** with
 5 for example an aryl isothiocyanate or isocyanate in a solvent such as DMF and heated at 110 °C for about 2 days and then cooled:

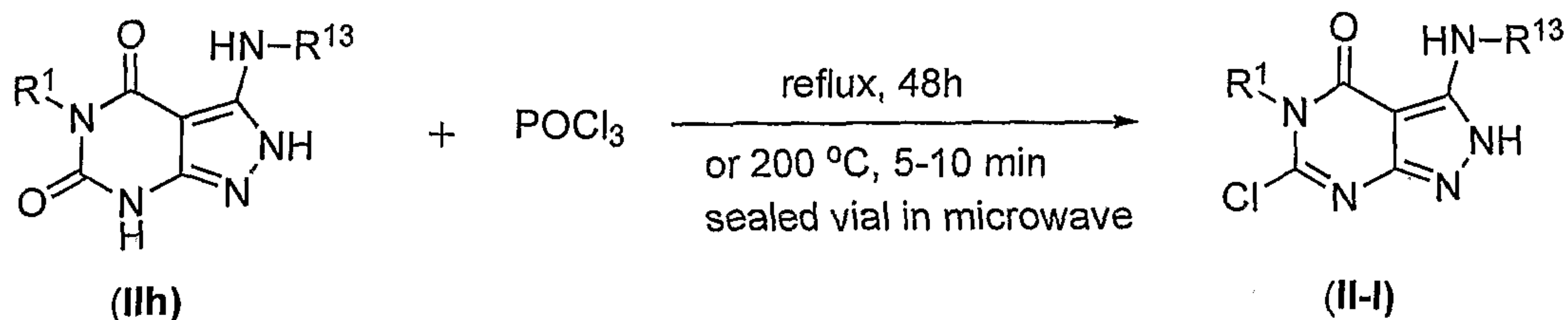


10 [0032] Intermediate **IIh** may be synthesized from a compound of **IIg** by removing the protective group P^1 with an appropriate method. For example, if P^1 is a *p*-methoxybenzyl group, then it can be removed with AlCl_3 at room temperature or with TFA under heated conditions. Intermediate **IIh** may also be prepared directly from a compound of **IIf** using the similar methods, but the yields are relatively low.



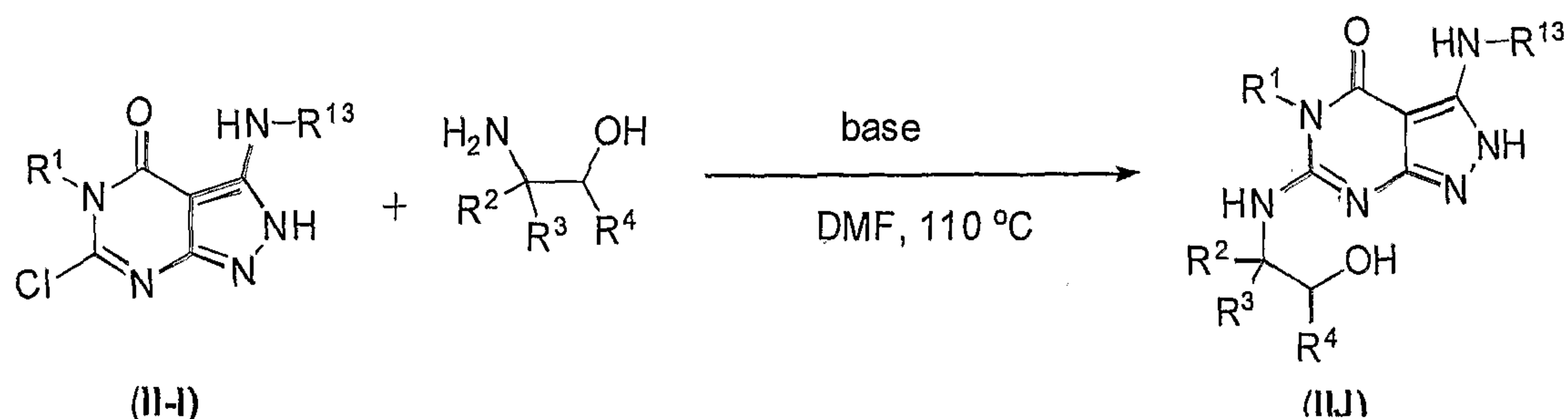
[0033] Intermediate **II-I** can be prepared by for example reacting a compound of **IIIh** with for example a chlorinating compound such as POCl_3 . The reaction may be carried out at atmospheric pressure and refluxed for about 2 days, or heated at 150~200 °C for about 10 min in a sealed vial with a microwave

5 instrument.



[0034] Intermediate **IIJ** can be prepared by reacting a compound of **II-I** with an amino alcohol under basic condition in a solvent such as DMF. The reaction may be heated overnight and then cooled:

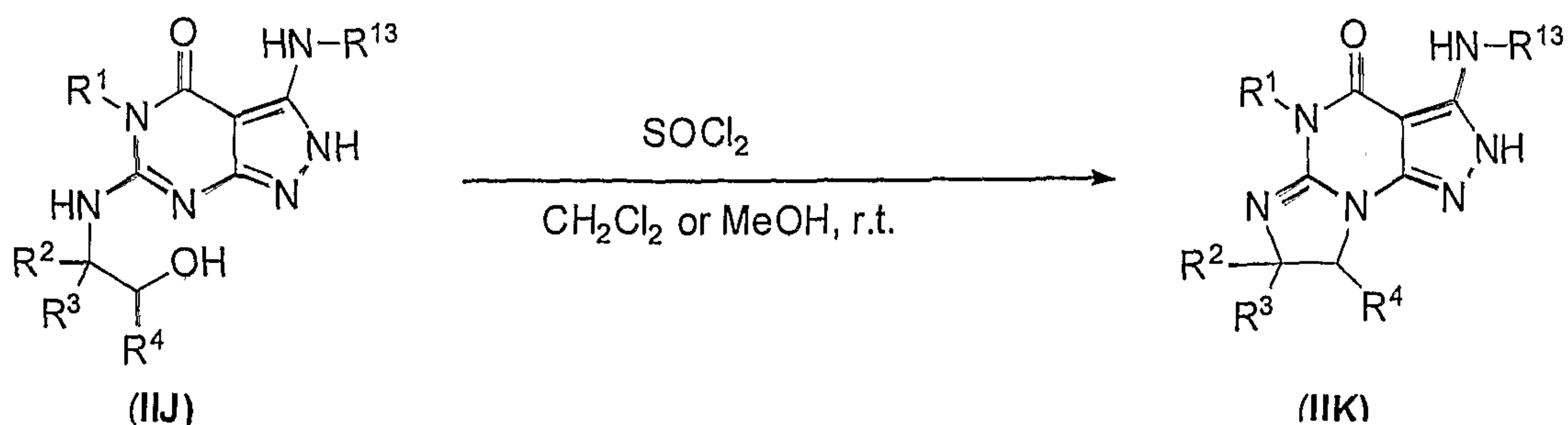
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[0035] Unless otherwise specified or defined, R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are the same as those defined previously, e.g., with respect to Formula 1.

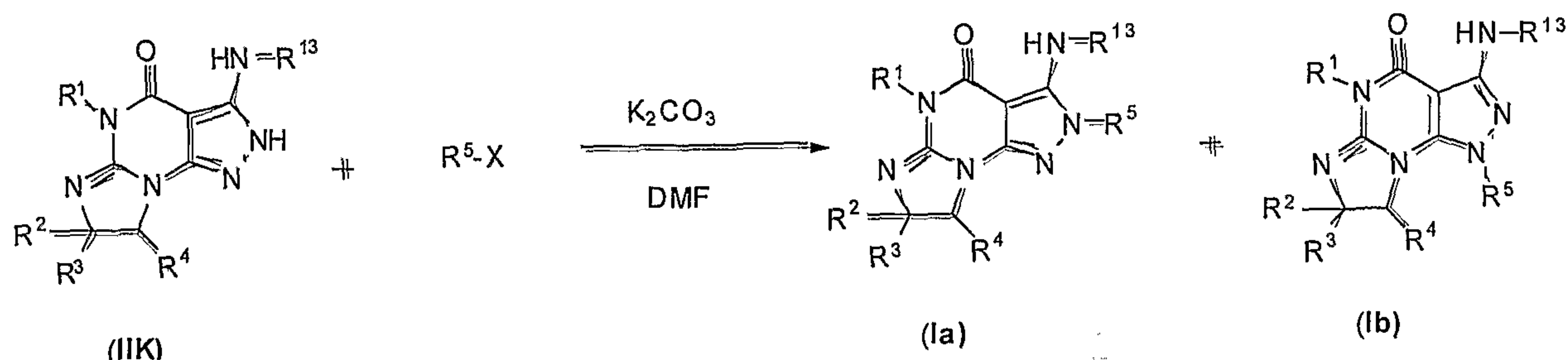
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[0036] Intermediate **IIK** can be formed by reacting a compound of **IIJ** with for example a dehydrating agent such as SOCl_2 in a solvent such as CH_2Cl_2 at room temperature overnight or heated at 35 °C for about 4 hours, and then cooled:



20

[0037] Compound **Ia** and **Ib** may be formed by reacting a compound of **IIIk** with for example a R^5 -X in a solvent such as DMF and a base such as K_2CO_3 at room temperature or with heating:



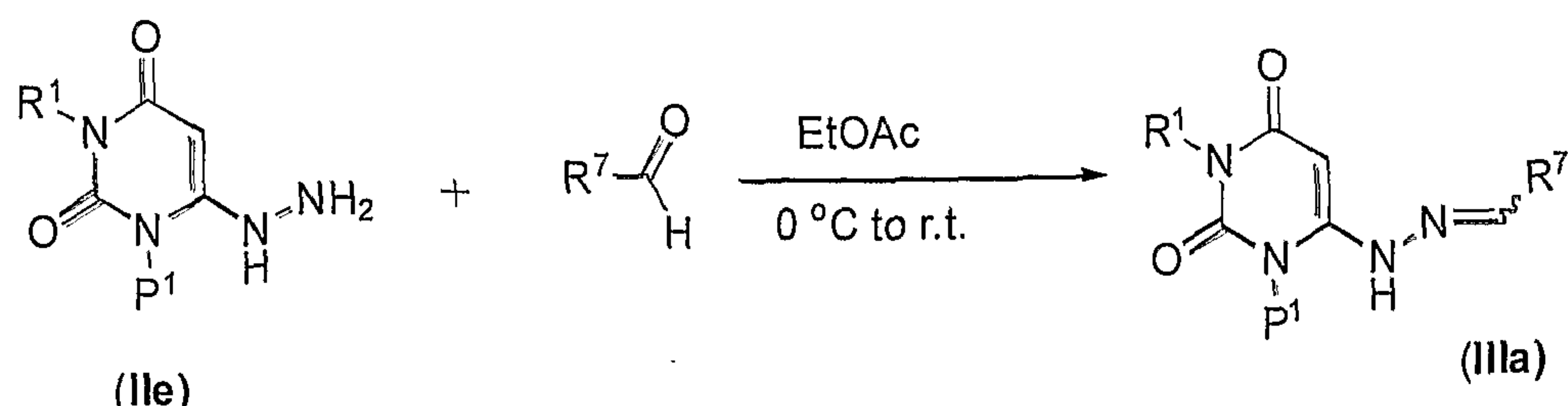
wherein R^5 is as defined previously [e.g. an optionally substituted benzyl group]; X is a leaving group such as a halogen, mesylate, or tosylate.

10 [0038] R^5 may also be introduced earlier by for example reacting **Ilg** with R^5X and then perform similar procedure as described above to form compound **Ia** and **Ib**, as long as R^5 will not be cleaved off in the P^1 deprotection step.

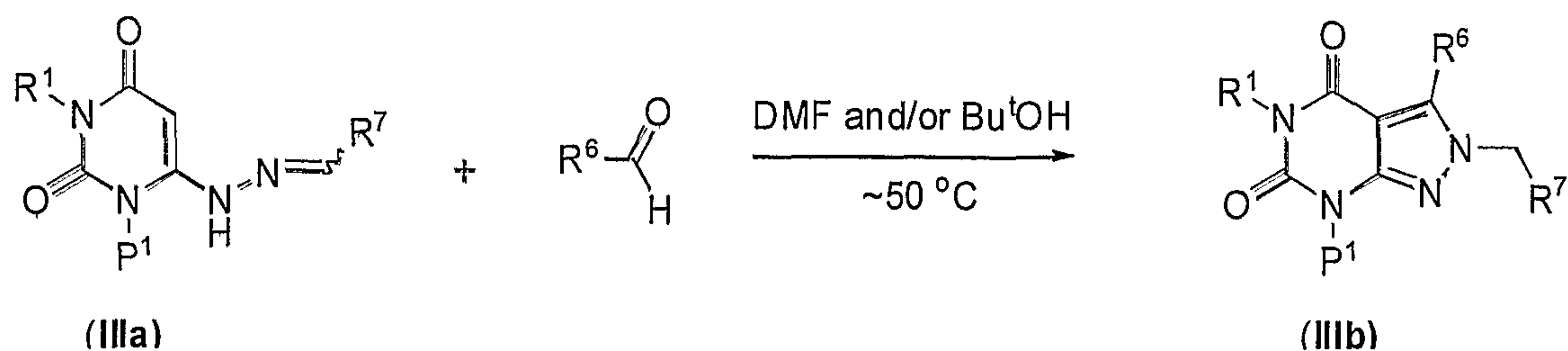
[0039] The second synthetic route is designated for the preparation of compound **Ia** and **Ib** wherein R^6 is an alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group.

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[0040] Intermediate **IIIa** (wherein R^7 is aryl, preferably phenyl substituted with R_{8-12} corresponding to the substituted benzyl of Formula A supra) may be formed by reacting a compound of **Ile** with an aldehyde R^7CHO in a solvent such as EtOAc at $0^\circ C$ or room temperature:

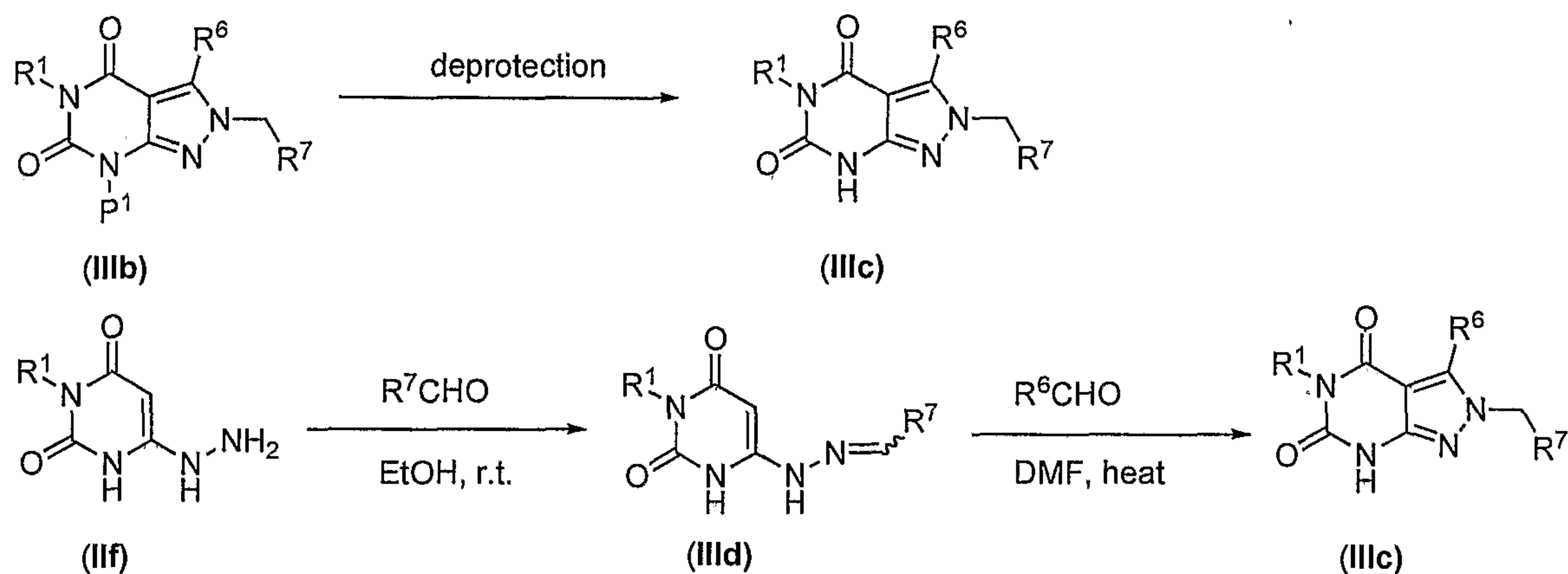


[0041] Intermediate **IIIb** can be prepared by for example reacting a compound of **IIIa** with for example an aldehyde in a solvent such as DMF and heated overnight and then cooled:

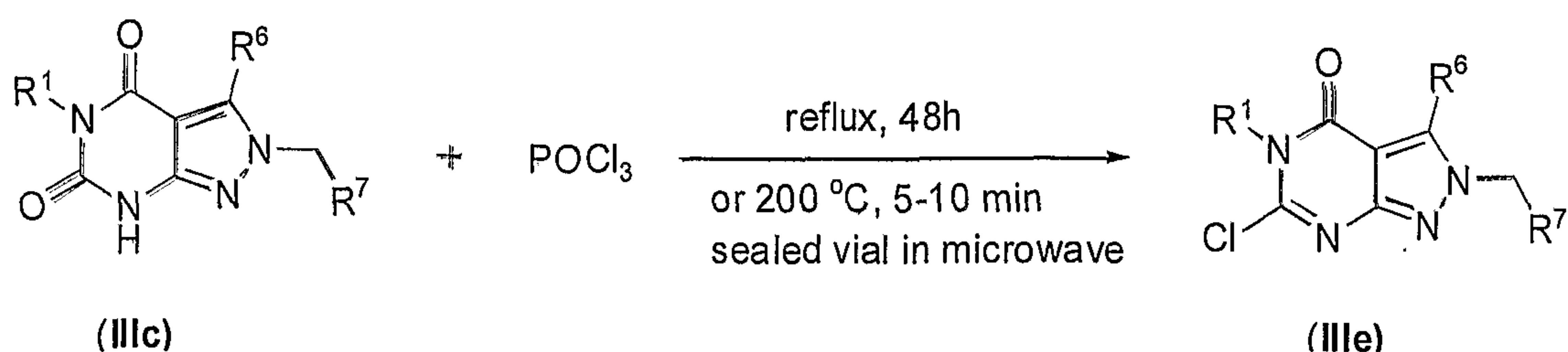


[0042] Intermediate **IIIc** may be synthesized from a compound of **IIIb** by removing the protective group P^1 with an appropriate method. For example, if P^1 is a *p*-methoxybenzyl group, then it can be removed with CAN at room temperature.

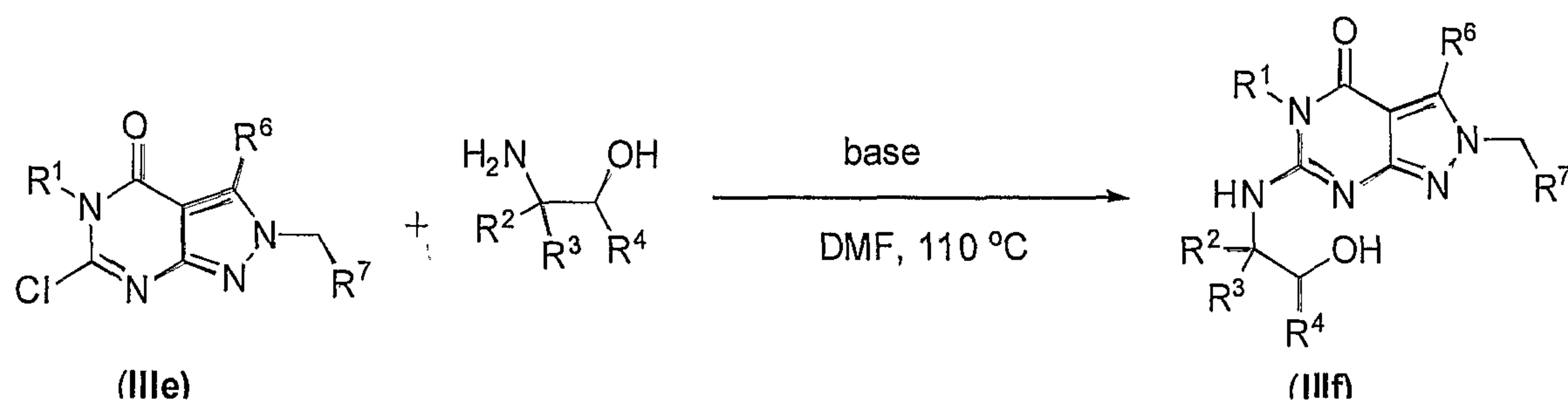
Intermediate **IIIc** may also be prepared directly from a compound of **IIIf** using similar methods, but the yields are relatively low.



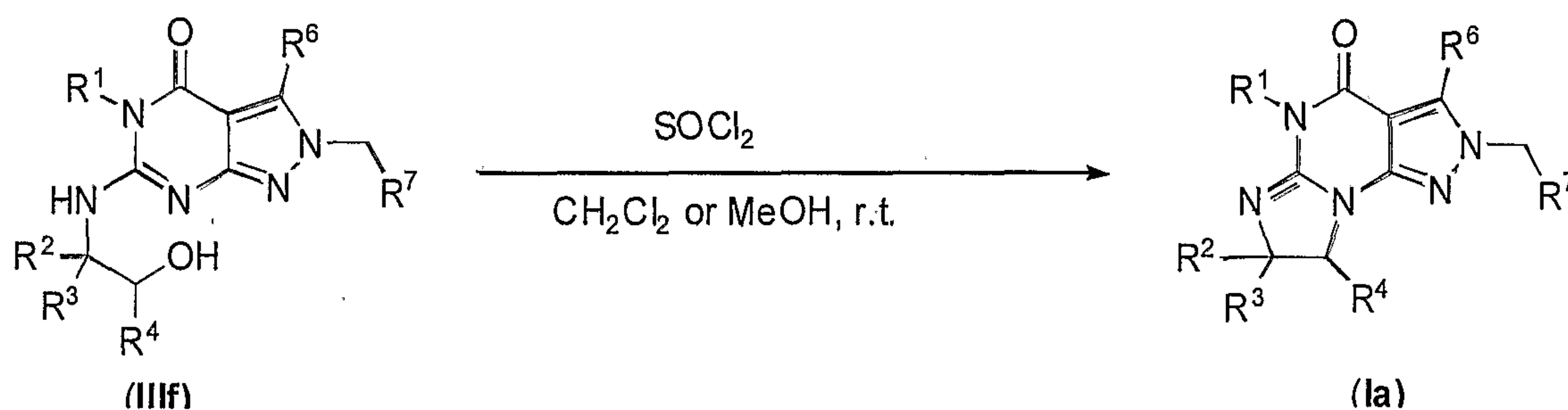
[0043] Intermediate **IIIe** can be prepared by reacting a compound of **IIIc** with for example a chlorinating compound such as POCl_3 . The reaction may be carried out at atmospheric pressure and refluxed for about 2 days, or heated at 150~200 °C for about 10 min in a sealed vial with a microwave instrument.



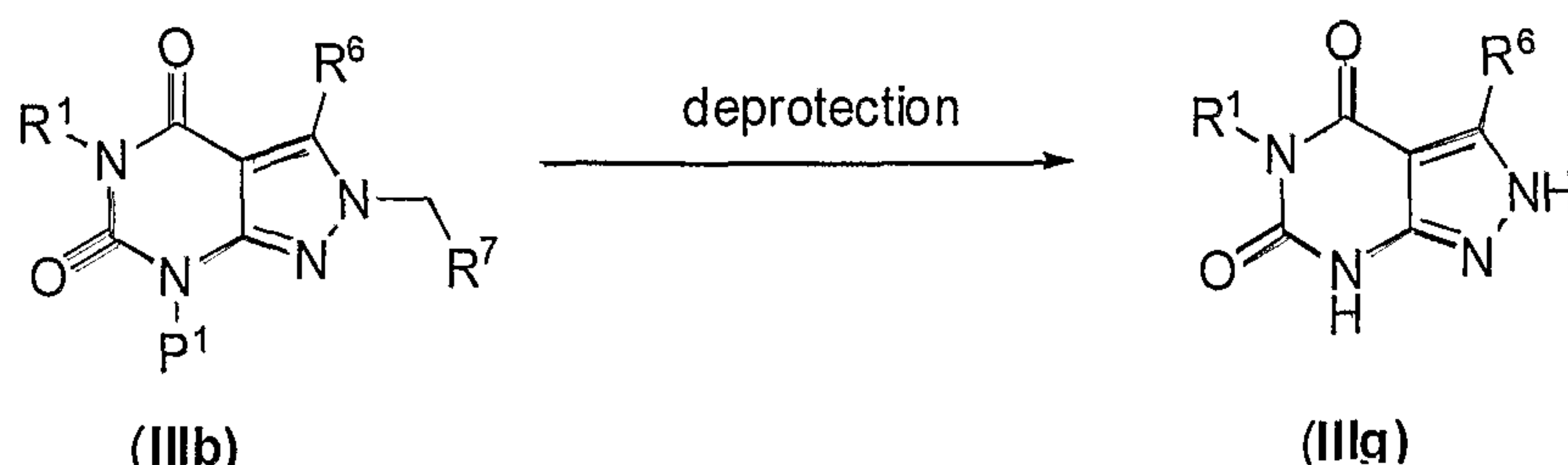
[0044] Intermediate **IIIf** can be formed by reacting a compound of **IIIe** with an amino alcohol under basic condition in a solvent such as DMF and heated overnight and then cooled:



[0045] Compound **Ia** can be formed by reacting a compound of **III f** with for example a dehydrating agent such as SOCl₂ in a solvent such as CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature overnight or heated at 35 °C for about 4 hours, and then cooled:

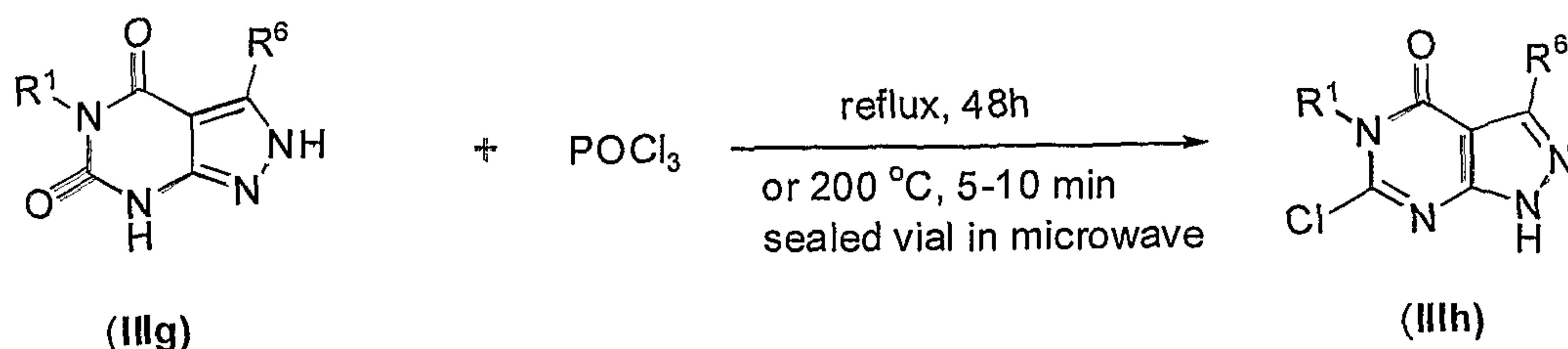


[0046] There is an alternative approach for the synthesis of compound **Ia** and **Ib** wherein R⁶ is an alkyl or aryl group. If a harsher condition is employed for the deprotection of **III b**, then the R⁷CH₂ group can be cleaved off too. For instance, if P¹ is a *p*-methoxybenzyl group and R⁷ is a substituted phenyl group, then both P¹ and R⁷CH₂ can be cleaved with AlCl₃ at room temperature. Thus, Intermediate **III g** may be formed with this approach:

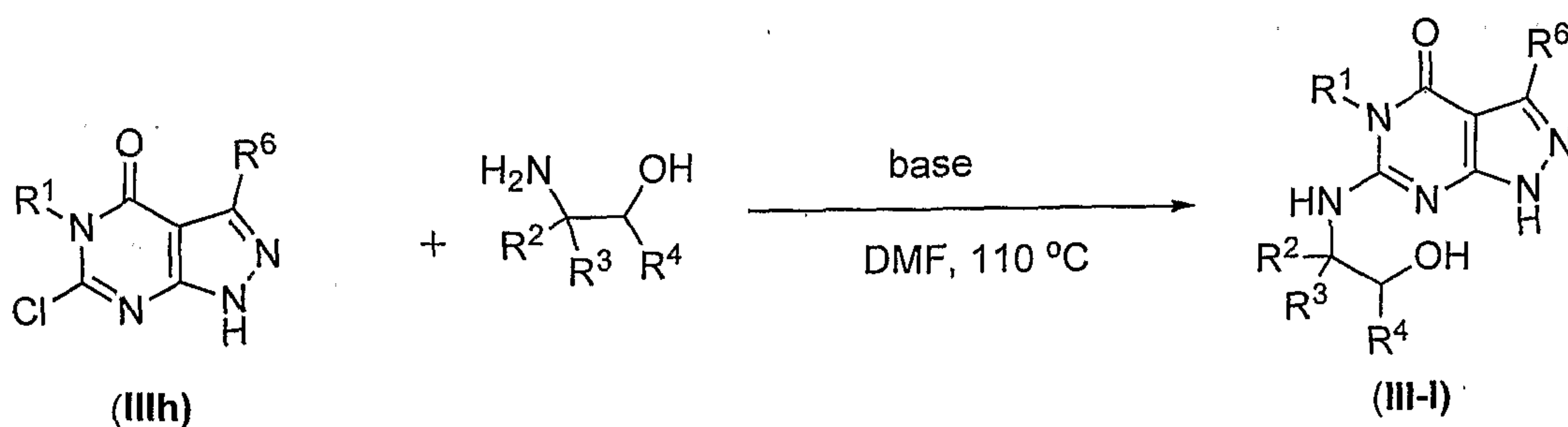


[0047] Intermediate **III h** can be prepared by reacting a compound of **III g** with for example a chlorinating compound such as POCl₃. The reaction may be carried out

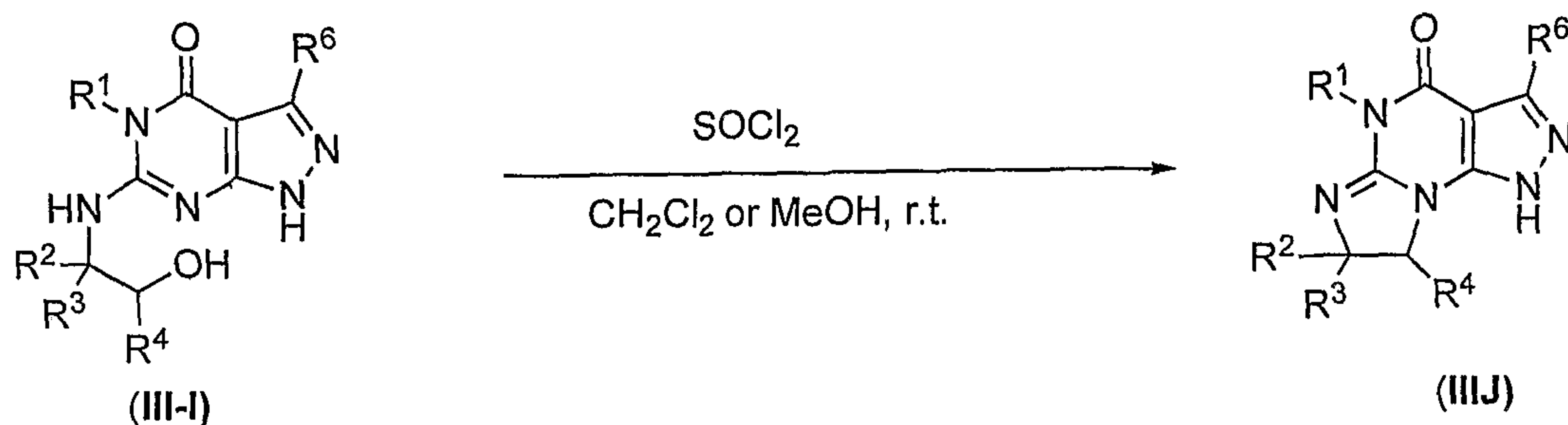
at atmospheric pressure and refluxed for about 2 days, or heated at 150~200 °C for about 10 min in a sealed vial with a microwave instrument.



- 5 [0048] Intermediate **III-I** can be formed by reacting a compound of **IIIh** with an amino alcohol under basic condition in a solvent such as DMF and heated overnight and then cooled:

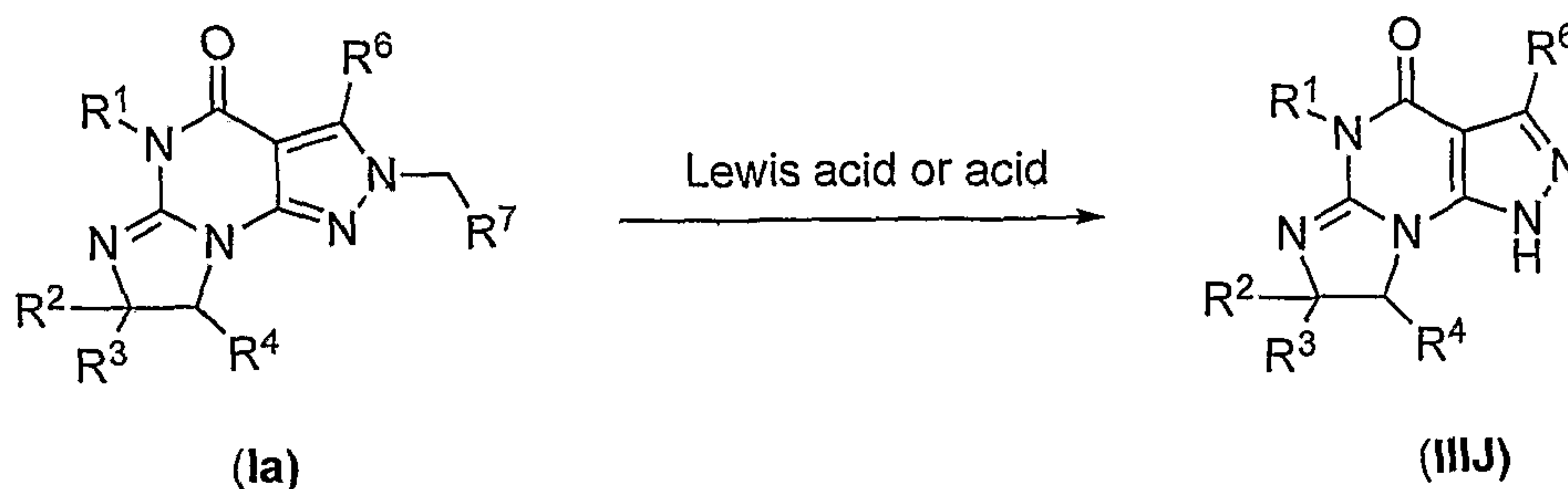


- 10 [0049] Intermediate **IIIJ** may be formed by reacting a compound of **III-I** with for example a dehydrating agent such as SOCl_2 in a solvent such as CH_2Cl_2 or methanol at room temperature overnight or heated at 35 °C for about 4 hours, and then cooled:

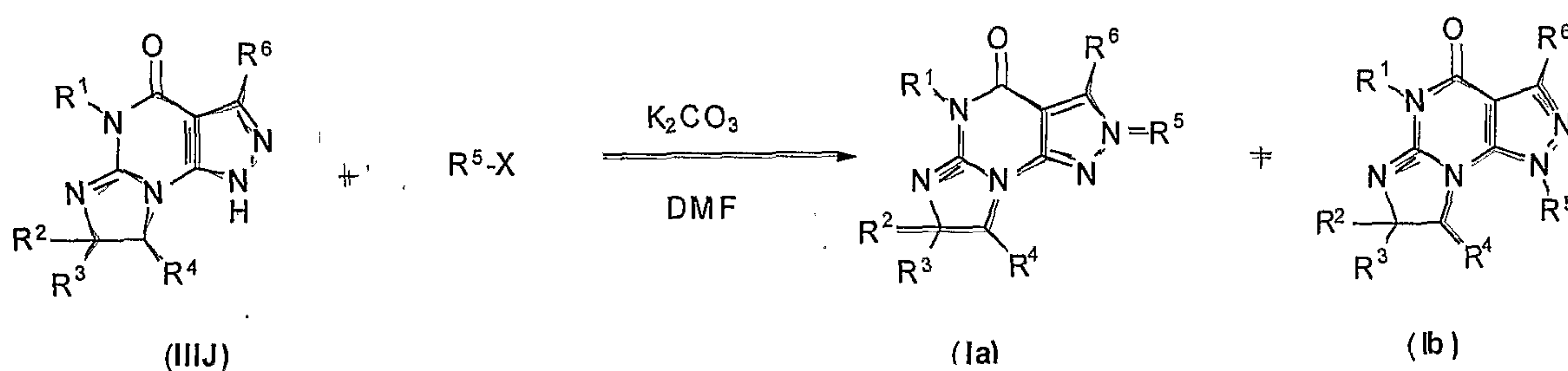


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- [0050] Intermediate **IIIJ** may also be formed by reacting a compound of **Ia** with for example a strong acid or Lewis acid such as AlCl_3 :

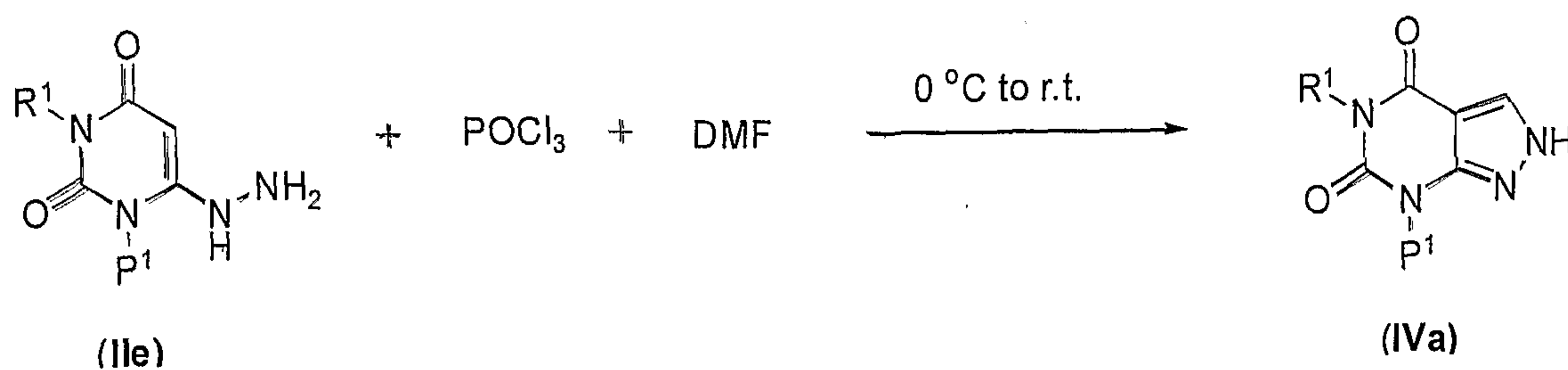


[0051] Compound **Ia** and **Ib** may be formed by reacting a compound of **IIIJ** with for example a R^5-X in a solvent such as DMF and a base such as K_2CO_3 at room temperature or with heating:

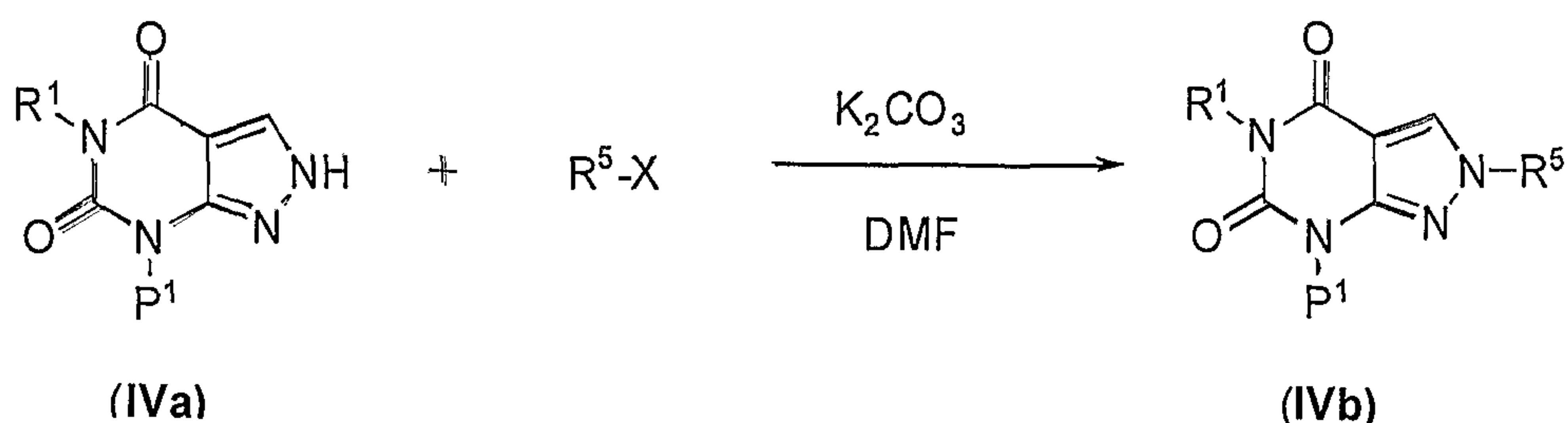


[0052] The third synthetic route is designated for the preparation of compound **Ia** and **Ib** wherein R^6 is hydrogen.

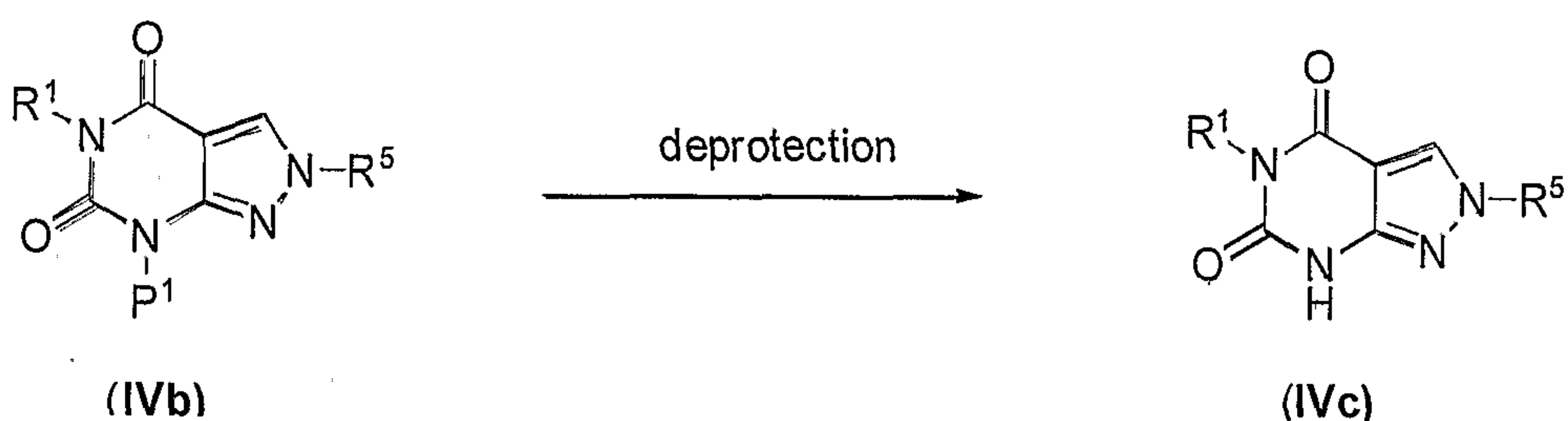
[0053] Intermediate **IVa** may be formed by for example reacting a compound of **Ile** with $POCl_3$ and DMF:



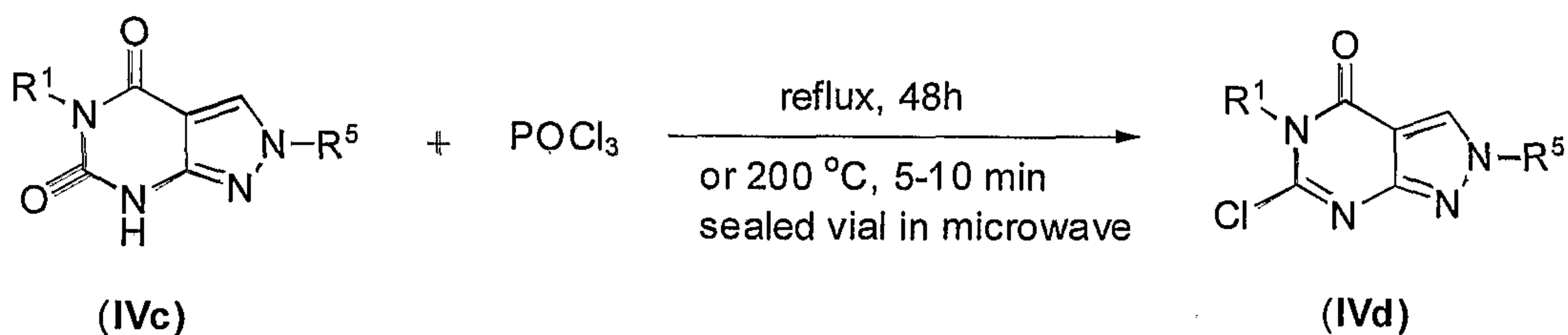
[0054] Intermediate **IVb** may be formed by reacting a compound of **IVa** with for example a R^5-X in a solvent such as DMF and a base such as K_2CO_3 at room temperature or with heating:



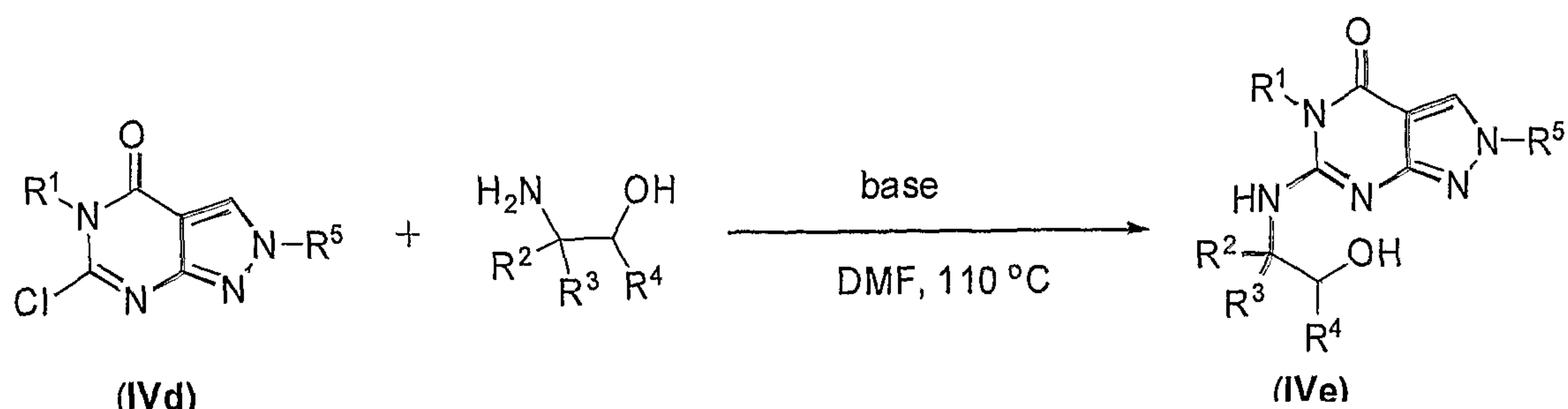
[0055] Intermediate **IVc** may be synthesized from a compound of **IVb** by removing the protective group P^1 with an appropriate method. For example, if P^1 is a PMB group, then it can be removed with CAN at room temperature:



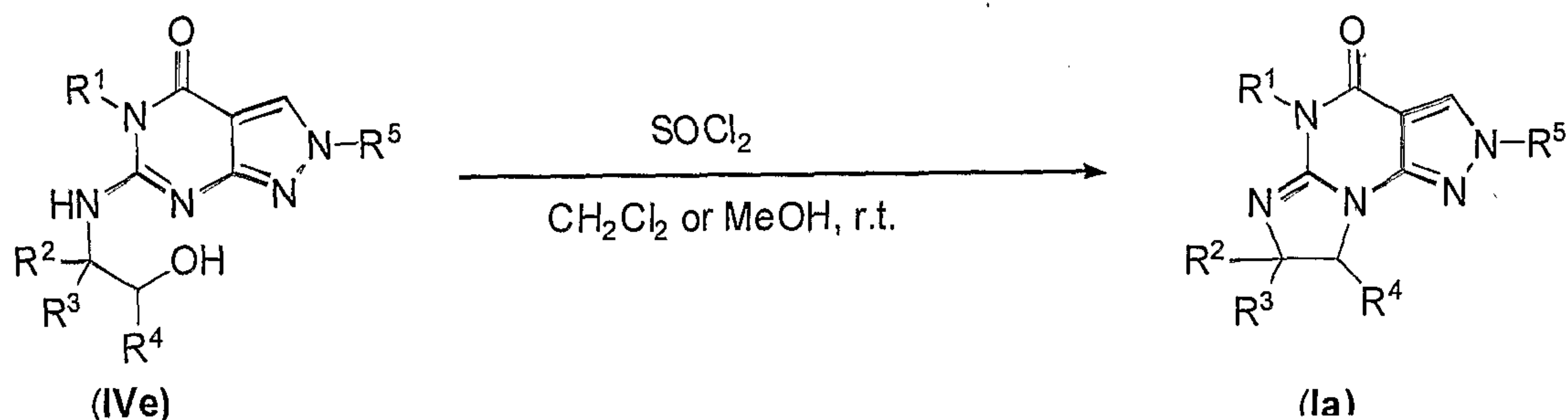
[0056] Intermediate **IVd** can be prepared by reacting a compound of **IVc** with for example a chlorinating compound such as POCl_3 and refluxed for about 2 days, or heated at 150~200 °C for about 10 min in a sealed vial with a microwave instrument and then cooled:



[0057] Intermediate **IVe** can be formed by reacting a compound of **IVd** with an amino alcohol under basic condition in a solvent such as DMF and heated overnight then cooled:

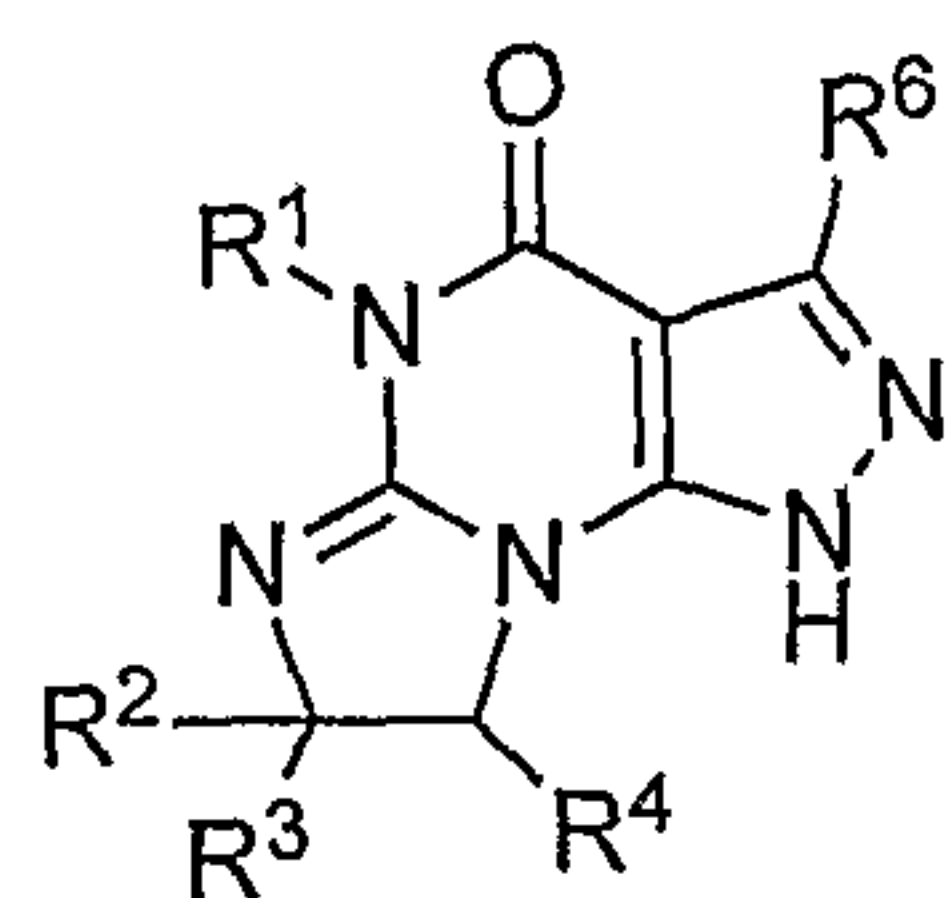


[0058] Compound **Ia** may be formed by reacting a compound of **IVe** with for example a dehydrating agent such as SOCl₂ in a solvent such as CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature overnight or heated at 35 °C for about 4 hours, and then cooled. Similar to the methods described above, the R⁵ group in a compound of **Ia** can be cleaved off using an appropriate method, and then the obtained intermediate can react with another R⁵X to give compound **Ia** and **Ib**.



[0059] The invention thus provides methods of making Compounds of the Invention as described above, for example, comprising

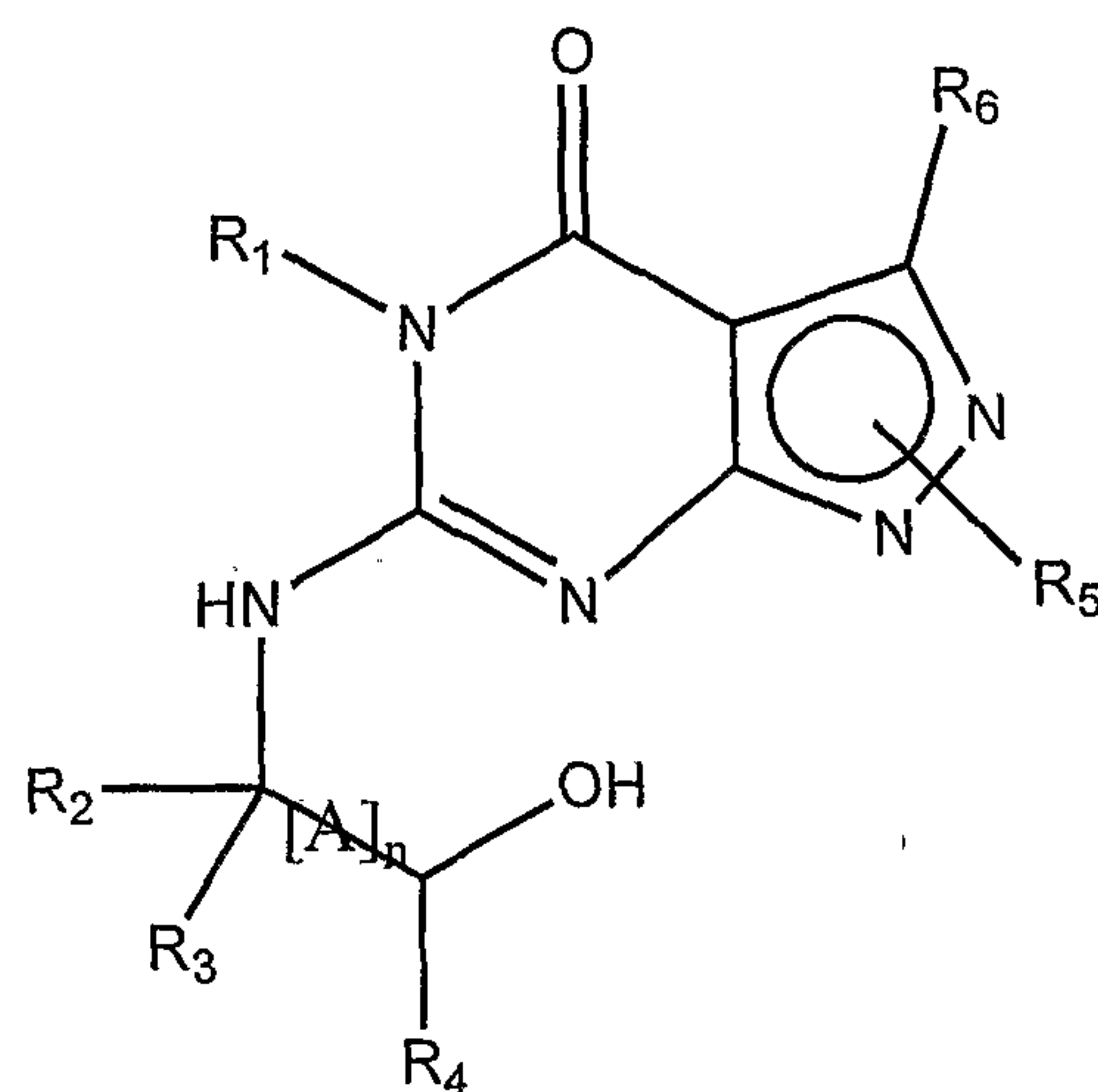
- (i) reacting a 7,8-dihydro-imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one or a 7,8,9-trihydro-[1*H* or 2*H*]-pyrimido [1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one with a compound of formula X-R₅ wherein X is a leaving group, e.g., halogen, mesylate, or tosylate, and R₅ is C₂₋₉ alkyl, C₃₋₉ cycloalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, or substituted arylalkyl, for example wherein R₅ is a substituted benzyl of formula A as defined above, e.g., under basic conditions, for example wherein the 7,8-dihydro-imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one is a compound of Formula IIIJ:



(IIIJ)

wherein R_{1-6} are as defined above, e.g., with reference to Formula I; and /or

(ii) dehydrating a compound of Formula V



V

- 5 wherein R_{1-6} and $[A]_n$ are as defined above, e.g., with reference to Formula I, e.g.,
 using a dehydrating agent, for example thionyl chloride;
 and isolating the Compound of the Invention thus obtained.

Methods of using Compounds of the Invention

[0060] The Compounds of the Invention are useful in the treatment of diseases characterized by disruption of or damage to cAMP and cGMP mediated pathways, e.g., as a result of increased expression of PDE1 or decreased expression of cAMP and cGMP due to inhibition or reduced levels of inducers of cyclic nucleotide synthesis, such as dopamine and nitric oxide (NO). By preventing the degradation of cAMP and cGMP by PDE1B, thereby increasing intracellular levels of cAMP and cGMP, the Compounds of the Invention potentiate the activity of cyclic nucleotide synthesis inducers.

[0061] The invention provides methods of treatment of any one or more of the following conditions:

- (i) Neurodegenerative diseases, including Parkinson's disease, restless leg, tremors, dyskinesias, Huntington's disease, Alzheimer's disease, and drug-induced movement disorders;
- (ii) Mental disorders, including depression, attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, bipolar illness, anxiety, sleep disorders, cognitive impairment, dementia, psychostimulant withdrawal, and drug addiction;
- (iii) Circulatory and cardiovascular disorders, including cerebrovascular disease, stroke, congestive heart disease, hypertension, pulmonary hypertension, and sexual dysfunction;
- (iv) Respiratory and inflammatory disorders, including asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and allergic rhinitis, as well as autoimmune and inflammatory diseases; and/or
- (v) Any disease or condition characterized by low levels of cAMP and/or cGMP (or inhibition of cAMP and/or cGMP signaling pathways) in cells expressing PDE1.

comprising administering an effective amount of a Compound of the Invention to a human or animal patient in need thereof.

[0062] The invention also provides a method for enhancing or potentiating

dopamine D1 intracellular signaling activity in a cell or tissue comprising contacting said cell or tissue with an amount of a Compound of the Invention sufficient to inhibit PDE1B activity.

[0063] The invention also provides a method for treating a PDE1-related, especially PDE1B-related disorder, or a dopamine D1 receptor intracellular signaling pathway disorder, in a patient in need thereof comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a Compound of the Invention that inhibits PDE1B, wherein PDE1B activity modulates phosphorylation of DARPP-32 and/or the GluR1 AMPA receptor.

[0064] The present invention also provides

- (i) a Compound of the Invention for use as a pharmaceutical, for example for use in any method or in the treatment of any disease or condition as hereinbefore set forth,
- (ii) the use of a Compound of the Invention in the manufacture of a medicament for treating any disease or condition as hereinbefore set forth, and
- (iii) a pharmaceutical composition comprising a Compound of the Invention in combination or association with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

[0065] The words "treatment" and "treating" are to be understood accordingly as embracing prophylaxis and treatment or amelioration of symptoms of disease as well as treatment of the cause of the disease

[0066] Compounds of the Invention are in particular useful for the treatment of Parkinson's disease.

[0067] Compounds of the Invention may be used as a sole therapeutic agent, but may also be used in combination or for co-administration with other active agents. For example, as Compounds of the Invention potentiate the activity of D1 agonists, such as dopamine, they may be simultaneously, sequentially, or contemporaneously administered with conventional dopaminergic medications, such as levodopa and

levodopa adjuncts (carbidopa, COMT inhibitors, MAO-B inhibitors), dopamine agonists, and anticholinergics, e.g., in the treatment of a patient having Parkinson's disease.

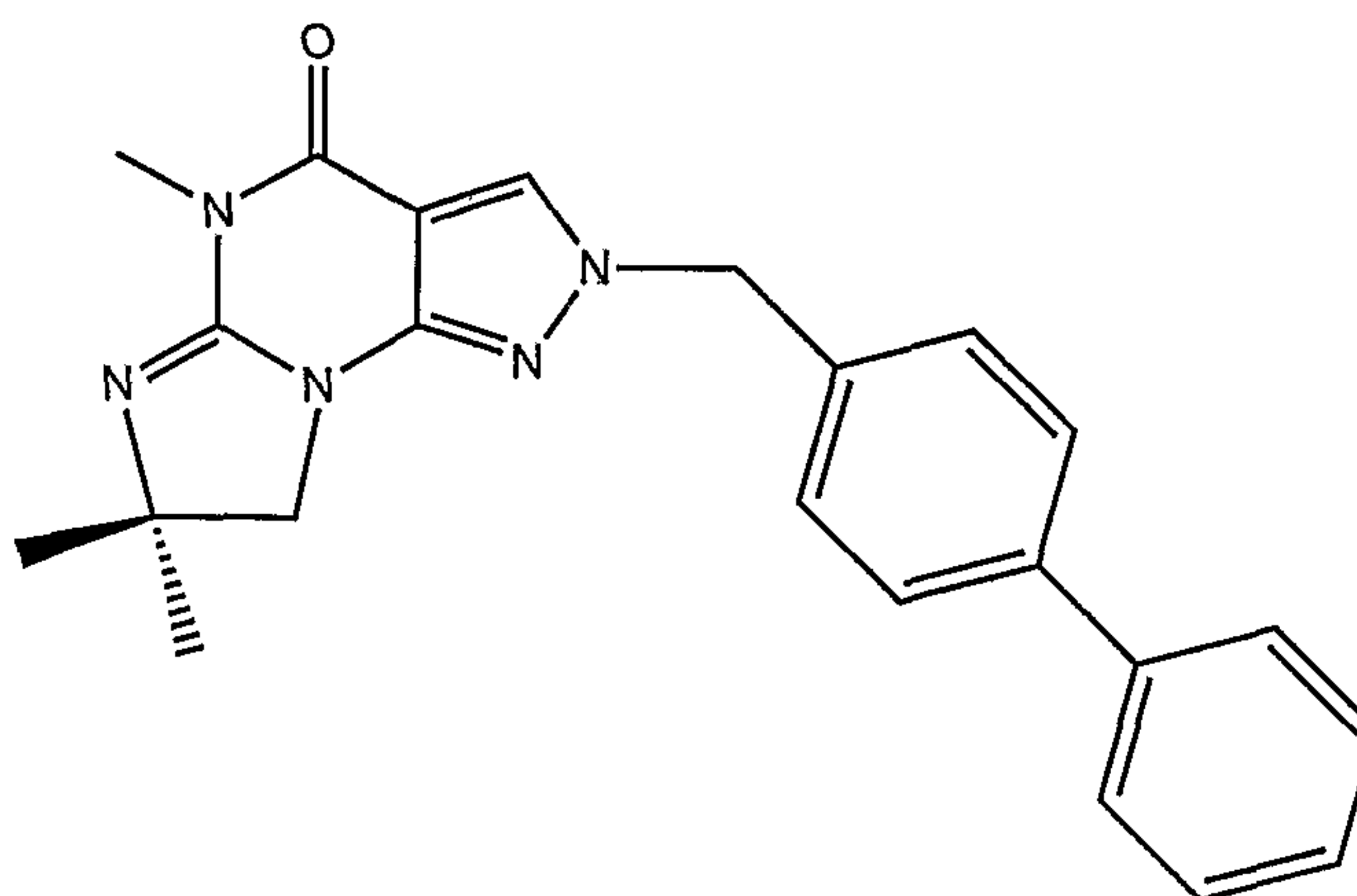
5 **[0068]** Dosages employed in practicing the present invention will of course vary depending, e.g. on the particular disease or condition to be treated, the particular Compound of the Invention used, the mode of administration, and the therapy desired. Compounds of the Invention may be administered by any suitable route, including orally, parenterally, transdermally, or by inhalation, but are preferably administered
10 orally. In general, satisfactory results, e.g. for the treatment of diseases as hereinbefore set forth are indicated to be obtained on oral administration at dosages of the order from about 0.01 to 2.0 mg/kg. In larger mammals, for example humans, an indicated daily dosage for oral administration will accordingly be in the range of from about 0.75 to 150 mg, conveniently administered once, or in divided doses 2 to 4 times, daily or
15 in sustained release form. Unit dosage forms for oral administration thus for example may comprise from about 0.2 to 75 or 150 mg, e.g. from about 0.2 or 2.0 to 50, 75 or 100 mg of a Compound of the Invention, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier therefor.

20 **[0069]** Pharmaceutical compositions comprising Compounds of the Invention may be prepared using conventional diluents or excipients and techniques known in the galenic art. Thus oral dosage forms may include tablets, capsules, solutions, suspensions and the like.

25 EXAMPLES

Example 1:

2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-[2H]-imidazo-[1,2-a]pyrazolo[4,3-e]pyrimidin-4(5H)-one



[0070] (a) 1-Methylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-trione

To a solution of malonic acid (80 g, 0.79 mol) and methylurea (50 g, 0.68 mol) in 180
 5 ml of acetic acid at 70 °C, acetic anhydride (130 ml, 1.37 mol) is added slowly. After
 the completion of the addition, the reaction mixture is stirred at 90 °C for 3 hours, and
 then cooled to room temperature. The solvent is removed under reduced pressure, and
 the residue is treated with 350 mL of ethanol to precipitate out yellowish solid. The
 solid is recrystallized from ethanol to give 63.1 g product as crystalline solids (Yield:
 10 65.8%). m.p. = 131.2-133.1 °C [Lit.¹: m.p. = 130-131.5 °C].

[0071] (b) 6-Chloro-3-methylpyrimidine-2,4(1*H*,3*H*)-dione

Water (2.7 mL) is added dropwise to a suspension of 1-methylpyrimidine-
 2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-trione (14.2 g, 100 mol) in POCl₃ (95 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction
 15 mixture is then heated at 80 °C for 5 hours. The resulting brownish solution is cooled,
 and POCl₃ is evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue is treated with MeOH,
 and the obtained solid is recrystallized from ethanol to give 11.5 g product (Yield:
 71.6%). m.p. = 279-282 °C (dec) [Lit.²: 280-282 °C]. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆)
 δ 3.10 (s, 3H), 5.90 (s, 1H), 12.4 (br, 1H).

20

[0072] (c) 6-Chloro-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-3-methylpyrimidine-2,4(1*H*,3*H*)-
 dione

A mixture of 6-chloro-3-methylpyrimidine-2,4(1*H*,3*H*)-dione (16.2 g, 101 mmol), *p*-
 methoxybenzyl chloride (16.5 mL, 122 mmol) and potassium carbonate (7.0 g, 50.7
 25 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (200 mL) is heated at 60 °C for 3 hours. Additional

potassium carbonate (3.0 g, 21.7 mmol) is added, and the reaction mixture heated at 60 °C for another 3 hours. After hot filtration, the filtrate is evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The obtained oil is directly used for the synthesis in the next step. A small amount of product is further purified by silica-gel flash chromatography to give
 5 pure product as crystals. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, MeOH-d₄) δ 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 5.24 (s, 2H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 6.91 and 7.32 (AB, 4H, *J* = 6.8 Hz). MS (FAB) *m/z* 281.23 [M+H]⁺.

[0073] (d) 6-Hydrazinyl-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-3-methylpyrimidine-
 10 2,4(1H,3H)-dione

To a solution of 6-chloro-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-3-methylpyrimidine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (2.4 g 8.6 mmol) in EtOH (25 mL) and MeOH (50 mL), anhydrous hydrazine (1.2 mL) is added slowly. The reaction mixture is refluxed for three hours, and then cooled. A large amount of ether is added into the reaction mixture, and then filtered to give 2.0 g
 15 of product as crystalline solids (Yield: 84%). ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ 3.13 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 4.42 (br, 1H), 5.03 (s, 2H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 6.88 and 7.15 (AB, 4H, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 8.08 (br, 1H). MS (FAB) *m/z* 277.28 [M+H]⁺.

[0074] (e) 7-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-5-methyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine-
 20 4,6(5H,7H)-dione

To a solution of 6-hydrazinyl-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-3-methylpyrimidine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (0.45 g, 1.6 mmol) in DMF (2 mL), POCl₃ (0.3 mL, 3.3 mmol) is added dropwise at 0 °C. After the reaction mixture is stirred at 0 °C for 1 hour, the mixture is treated with methanol carefully to give white solid. The solid is further purified by
 25 chromatography to give 0.4 g product (Yield: 85%). ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ 3.23 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 5.05 (s, 2H), 6.85 and 7.31 (AB, 4H, *J* = 11.6 Hz), 8.47 (s, 1H), 13.5 (br, 1H). MS (FAB) *m/z* 287.21 [M+H]⁺.

[0075] (f) 2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-methyl-2H-
 30 pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine-4,6(5H,7H)-dione

A mixture of 7-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-methyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine-4,6(5H,7H)-dione (0.312 g, 1.09 mmol), *p*-biphenylmethyl bromide (0.296g, 1.20

mmol) and potassium carbonate (0.151 g, 1.09 mmol) in acetone (20 mL) is stirred at room temperature overnight. The solvent is evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue is directly purified by chromatography to give 0.382 g product as white solids (Yield: 77.5). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 5.34 (s, 2H), 6.81 (m, 2H), 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.47 (m, 4H), 7.60 (m, 4H), 7.87 (s, 1H). MS (FAB) m/z 453.3 [M+H]⁺.

[0076] (g) 2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-5-methyl-2H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine-4,6(5H,7H)-dione

To a solution of 2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-methyl-2H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine-4,6(5H,7H)-dione (300 mg, 0.663 mmol) in THF (9 mL), a solution of ammonium cerium (IV) nitrate (1.82 g, 3.32 mmol) in water (3 mL) is added. The resulting orange solution is stirred at room temperature overnight. Another batch of CAN (1.82 g, 3.32 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred for 6 hours, and then the third batch of CAN (1.82 g) is added, and the mixture is stirred at r.t. overnight. The reaction mixture is evaporated to dryness. The residue is treated with brine, and extracted with methylene chloride five times. The organic phase is combined and concentrated. The residue is purified by chromatography to give product as white solids with a high yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 3.16 (s, 3H), 5.37 (s, 2H), 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.65 (m, 4H), 8.59 (s, 1H), 11.6 (s, 1H). MS (FAB) m/z 333.3 [M+H]⁺.

[0077] (h) 2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-6-chloro-5-methyl-2H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4(5H)-one

2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-5-methyl-2H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine-4,6(5H,7H)-dione (25 mg, 0.075 mmol) is refluxed in POCl₃ (10 mL) for 60 hours, and the mixture is evaporated to dryness. The residue is purified by silica gel flash chromatography to give 26 mg product as white solids (Yield: 98.5%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.68 (s, 3H), 5.45 (s, 2H), 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.59 (m, 4H), 8.01 (s, 1H). MS (FAB) m/z 351.2 [M+H]⁺.

[0078] (i) 2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-6-(1-hydroxy-2-methylpropan-2-ylamino)-5-methyl-2H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4(5H)-one

A solution of 2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-6-chloro-5-methyl-2H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4(5H)-one (26 mg, 0.074 mmol) and 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol (71 μ L, 0.74 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) is heated at 110 °C overnight. The reaction mixture is then purified by chromatography to give 21.1 mg product (Yield: 71%). MS (FAB) m/z 404.2 $[M+H]^+$.

[0079] (j) 2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-[2H]-imidazo-[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5H)-one

To a solution of 2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-6-(1-hydroxy-2-methylpropan-2-ylamino)-5-methyl-2H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4(5H)-one (17 mg, 0.042 mmol) in methylene chloride (1 mL), is added 2.0 M CH_2Cl_2 solution of thionyl chloride (63 μ L, 0.126 mmol) under argon. The reaction mixture is stirred at r.t. overnight. The reaction is quenched with 5% $NaHCO_3$, and the resulting mixture is purified by chromatography to give 11 mg of the final product as white solids (Yield: 68%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $DMSO-d_6 + CDCl_3$) δ 1.36 (s, 6H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 2H), 5.30 (s, 2H), 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.58 (m, 4H), 8.10 (s, 1H). MS (FAB) m/z 386.1 $[M+H]^+$.

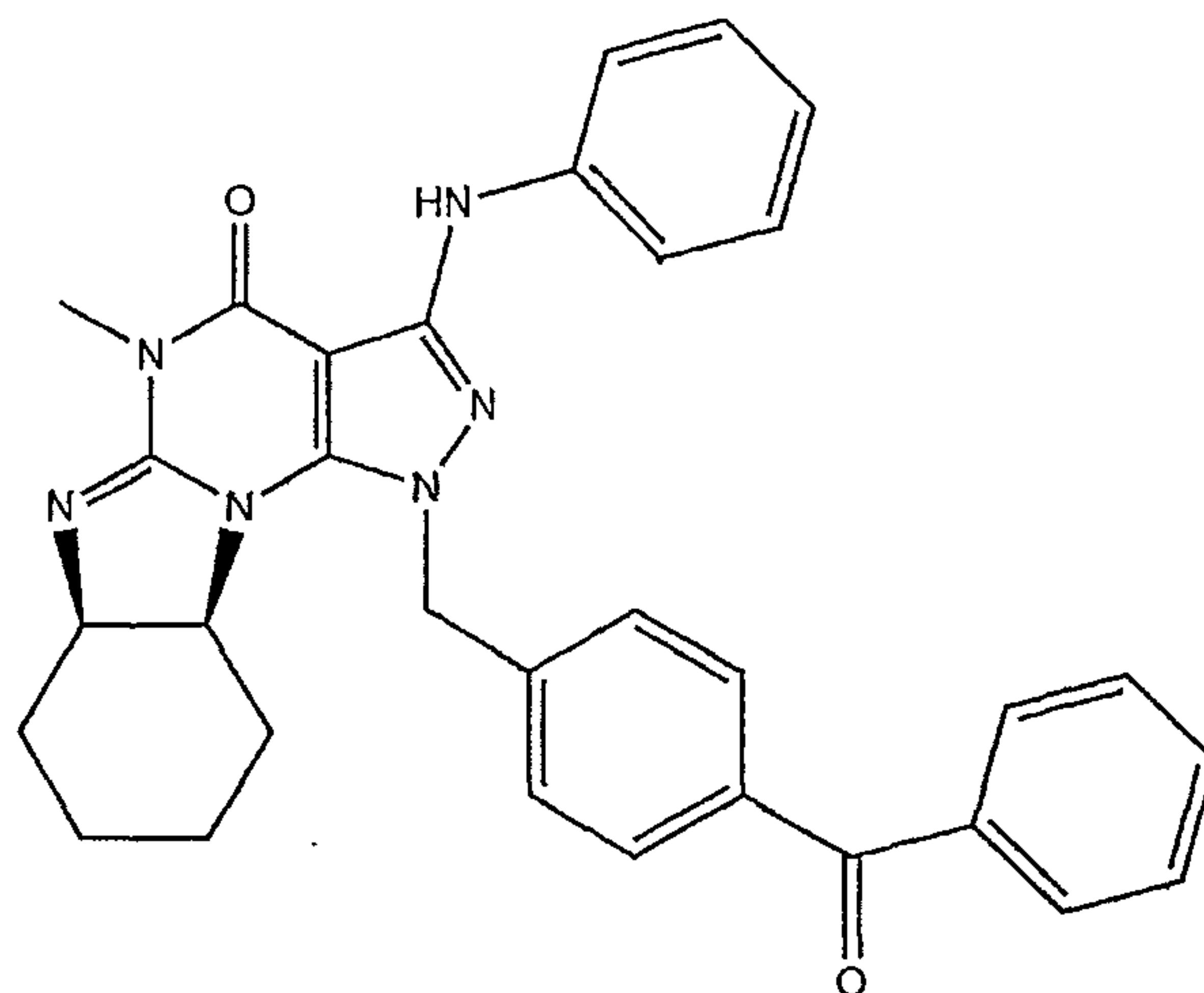
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Example 2

Cis-(6a*R**,10a*S**)-1-(4-Benzoylbenzyl)-5,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-heptahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(1H)-one

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[0080] (a) 7-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine-4,6(5*H*,7*H*)-dione

- 5 Phenyl isothiocyanate (3.9 mL, 32.7 mmol) is added to a suspension of 6-hydrazinyl-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-3-methylpyrimidine-2,4(1*H*,3*H*)-dione (0.45 g, 1.6 mmol) in DMF (12 mL). The reaction mixture is heated at 120 °C for 40 hours, and then evaporated to remove solvent under reduced pressure. The residue is washed with hexanes, and then treated with MeOH (125 mL), and stored at -15 °C for 2 days to give a crystalline solid.
- 10 The solid is recrystallized from CH₃OH-EtOAc to afford 2.5 g product (Yield: 61%).
¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 3.21 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 5.01 (s, 2H), 6.88-7.36 (m, 9H). MS (FAB) *m/z* 378.3 [M+H]⁺.

[0081] (b) 5-Methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine-4,6(5*H*,7*H*)-dione

- 15 AlCl₃ (0.733 g, 5.50 mmol) is added to a solution of 7-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine-4,6(5*H*,7*H*)-dione (0.692g, 1.83 mmol) and anisole (40 μL, 0.367 mmol) in 1,2-dichloroethane (10 mL) under argon. The reaction mixture is stirred at room temperature for 30 min, and then quenched with
- 20 water with cooling. The resulting suspension is filtered through a layer of CeliteTM and the celite is washed with MeOH (20 mL). The product is eluted from the celite with a large amount of THF. The THF eluent is evaporated to afford 0.47 g of product (Yield: 99%). MS (FAB) *m/z* 258.2 [M+H]⁺.

[0082] (c) 6-Chloro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one

5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidine-4,6(5*H*,7*H*)-dione (450 mg, 1.75 mmol) is refluxed in POCl₃ (20 mL) for 60 hours, and the mixture is evaporated to dryness. The residue is purified by silica gel flash chromatography to give 122 mg product as white solids and 207 mg starting material is recovered (Yield: 47%). MS (FAB) *m/z* 276.1 [M+H]⁺.

[0083] (d) 6-((1*R**,2*R**)-2-Hydroxycyclohexylamino)-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one

10 A solution of 6-chloro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one (75.8 mg, 0.275 mmol), *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol hydrochloride (83.4 mg, 0.55 mmol) and DIPEA (144 μL, 0.825 mmol) in DMF (3 mL) is heated at 110 °C overnight. The reaction mixture is evaporated to remove DMF under reduced pressure. 15 The residue is then purified by chromatography to give 63.1 mg product (Yield: 64.7%). MS (ESI) *m/z* 355.0 [M+H]⁺.

[0084] (e) *Cis*-(6*aR**,10*aS**)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,10,10*a*-heptahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(1*H*)-one

20 [0085] 2.0 M solution of thionyl chloride in CH₂Cl₂ (267 μL, 0.534 mmol) is added to a solution of 6-((1*R**,2*R**)-2-hydroxycyclohexylamino)-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one (63.1 mg, 0.178 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (6 mL) and THF (4 mL). The reaction mixture is stirred at r.t. overnight, and then quenched with 100 μL of 28% NH₄OH. The resulting mixture is concentrated and 25 purified by chromatography to give 25 mg product as white solids (Yield: 42%). MS (ESI) *m/z* 337.1 [M+H]⁺.

[0086] (f) *Cis*-(6*aR**,10*aS**)-1-(4-Benzoylbenzyl)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,10,10*a*-heptahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(1*H*)-one

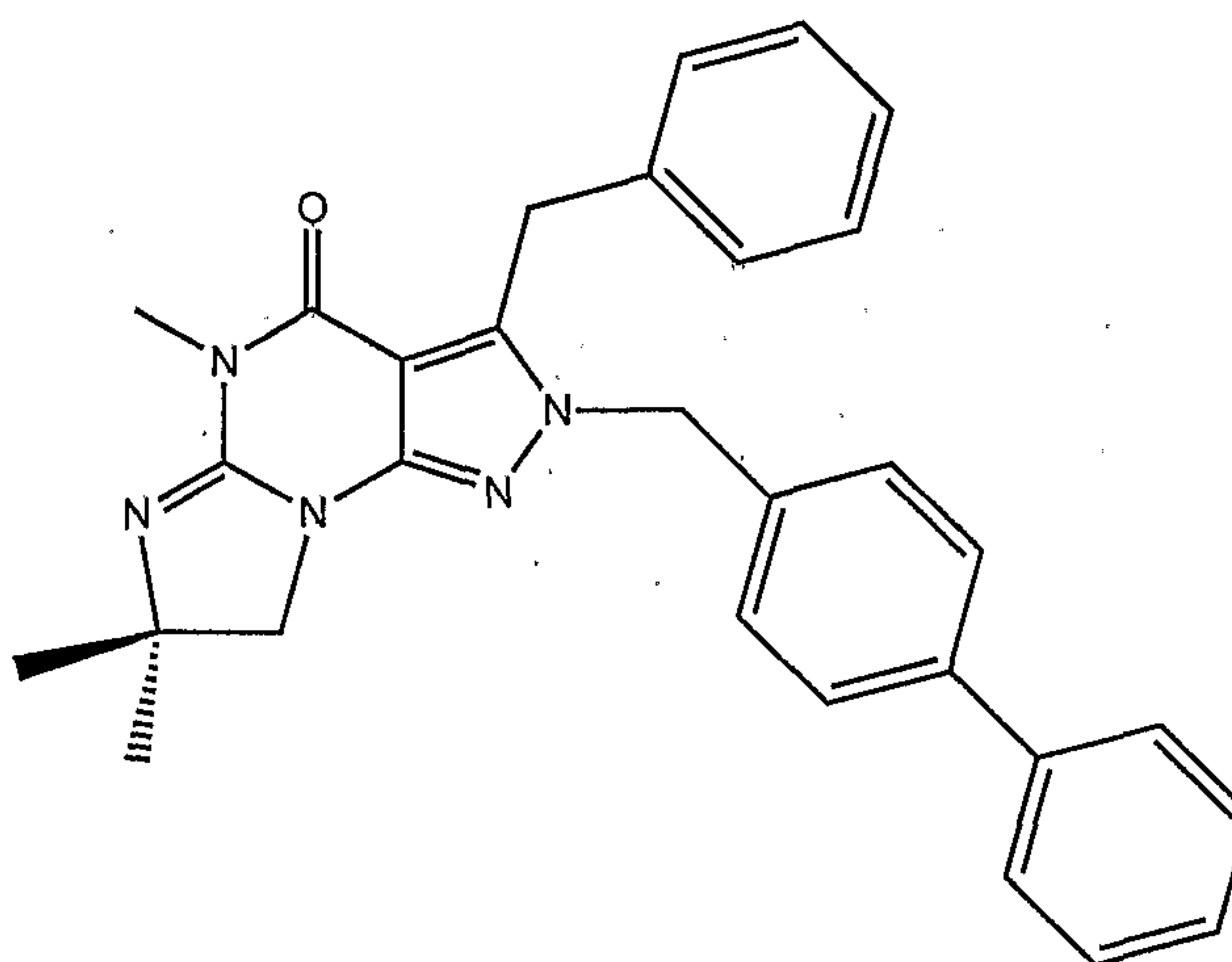
30 A mixture of *Cis*-(6*aR**,10*aS**)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,10,10*a*-heptahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(1*H*)-one (7.1

mg, 0.021 mmol), 4-benzoylbenzyl bromide (5.8 mg, 0.021 mmol), and K₂CO₃ (2.92 mg, 0.021 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) is stirred at room temperature overnight under argon. The reaction mixture is purified by a semi-preparative HPLC to give 3.5 mg of the final product (Yield: 31%). MS (ESI) m/z 531.1 [M+H]⁺.

5

Example 3

3-Benzyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-[2H]-imidazo-[1,2-a]pyrazolo[4,3-e]pyrimidin-4(5H)-one



10

[0087] (a) 6-(2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethylene)hydrazinyl)-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-3-methylpyrimidine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione

A solution of 4-phenylbenzaldehyde (395 mg, 2.17 mmol) in EtOAc is slowly added into a dry ice cooled slurry of 6-hydrazinyl-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-3-methylpyrimidine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (200 mg, 0.724 mmol) in EtOAc. After the addition, the reaction mixture is stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. The solvent is evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue is triturated with MeOH, followed by filtration to give 256 mg product as pale yellow solids (Yield: 80.3%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 3.17 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 5.22 (s, 2H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 6.91 and 7.21 (AB, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.37-7.81 (m, 9H), 8.36 (s, 1H), 10.67 (s, 1H). MS (FAB) m/z 441.4 [M+H]⁺.

[0088] (b) 3-Benzyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-methyl-2H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine-4,6(5H,7H)-dione

25

Acetic acid (4.4 mL) is added in to a solution of 6-(2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethylene)hydrazinyl)-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-3-methylpyrimidine-2,4(1*H*,3*H*)-dione (3.2 g, 7.26 mmol) in DMF (50 mL) and Bu^tOH (25 mL) at 50 °C. Piperidine (8.7 mL) is mixed with a solution of 2-phenylacetaldehyde (8.5 mL, 72.6 mmol) in DMF (20 mL), and the resulting greenish solution is added in to the above solution. The reaction mixture is stirred at 40-45 °C for 36 hours under argon, and the solvent is evaporated under high vacuum. The residue is treated with MeOH (200 mL) to precipitate out 1.23 g product as sandy solids (Yield: 31.4%). MS (FAB) *m/z* 543.4 [M+H]⁺.

10 **[0089]** (c) 3-Benzyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-5-methyl-2*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidine-4,6(5*H*,7*H*)-dione

A solution of ammonium cerium (IV) nitrate (204 mg, 0.371 mmol) in water (0.6 mL) is added to a solution of 3-benzyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-methyl-2*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidine-4,6(5*H*,7*H*)-dione (40.3 mg, 0.0743 mmol) in THF (2 mL). The resulting orange solution is stirred at room temperature overnight. Another batch of CAN (204 mg, 0.371 mmol) is added and the mixture is stirred for 3 hours, and then the third batch of CAN (204 mg) is added, and the mixture is stirred at r.t. overnight. The reaction mixture is evaporated to dryness. The residue is treated with brine, and extracted with methylene chloride five times. The organic phase is combined and concentrated. The residue is purified by chromatography to give 11.6 mg product as white solids (Yield: 36.9%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, acetone-*d*₆) δ 3.27 (s, 3H), 4.51 (s, 2H), 5.33 (s, 2H), 7.13-7.62 (m, 14H), 10.26 (s, 1H). MS (FAB) *m/z* 423.2 [M+H]⁺.

25 **[0090]** (d) 3-Benzyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-6-chloro-5-methyl-2*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one
3-benzyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-5-methyl-2*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidine-4,6(5*H*,7*H*)-dione (10 mg, 0.024 mmol) is refluxed in POCl₃ (10 mL) for 4 days, and then the mixture is evaporated to dryness. The residue is purified by silica gel flash chromatography to give 10.4 mg product as white solids (Yield: 100%). MS (FAB) *m/z* 441.2 [M+H]⁺.

[0091] (e) 3-Benzyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-6-(1-hydroxy-2-methylpropan-2-ylimino)-5-methyl-6,7-dihydro-2*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one

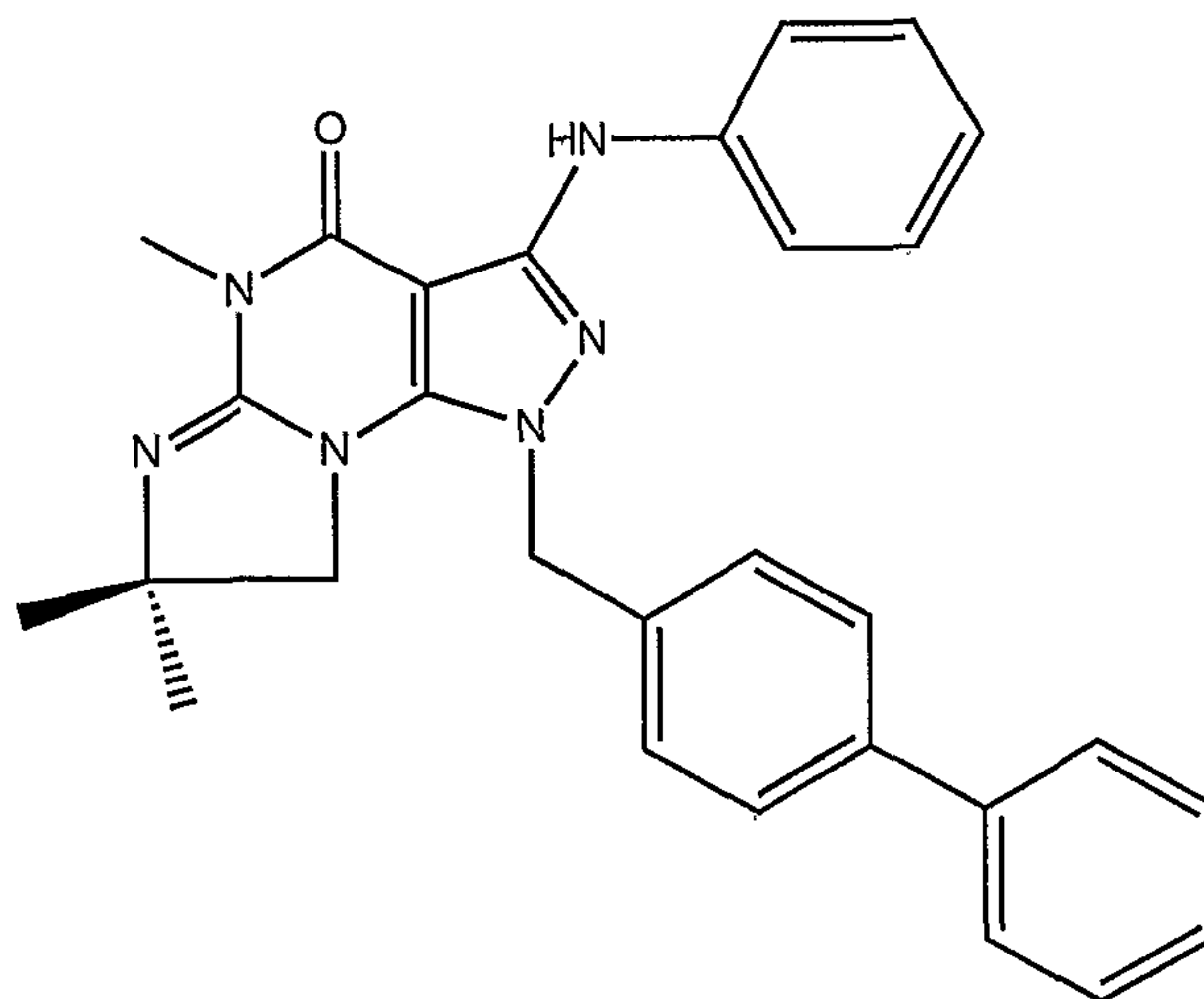
A solution of 3-Benzyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-6-chloro-5-methyl-2*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one (9.5 mg, 0.022 mmol) and 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol (21 μ L, 0.22 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) is heated at 110 °C overnight. The reaction mixture is then purified by chromatography to give 5.5 mg product (Yield: 52%). MS (FAB) *m/z* 494.4 [M+H]⁺.

[0092] (f) 3-Benzyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one

A 2.0 M solution of thionyl chloride (25 μ L, 0.050 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ is added into a solution of 3-benzyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-6-(1-hydroxy-2-methylpropan-2-ylimino)-5-methyl-6,7-dihydro-2*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one (5.0 mg, 0.010 mmol) in methylene chloride (1 mL). The reaction mixture is stirred at r.t. overnight, and then quenched with 5% NaHCO₃. The resulting mixture is purified by chromatography to give 3.2 mg of the final product (Yield: 67%). MS (FAB) *m/z* 476.4 [M+H]⁺.

Example 4

20 1-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[1*H*]-imidazo-[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one

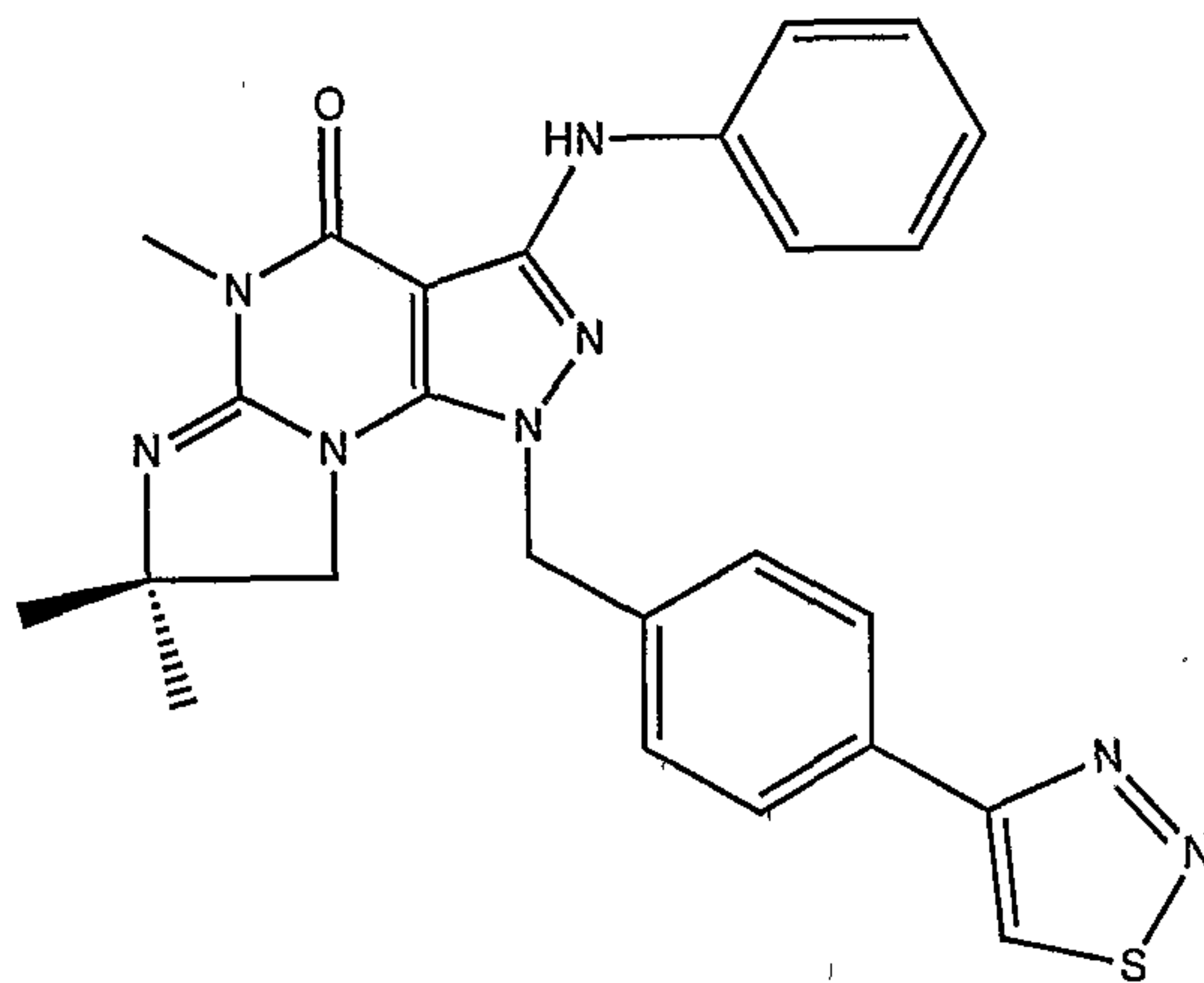


[0093] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol

hydrochloride; and *p*-biphenylmethyl bromide is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

Example 5

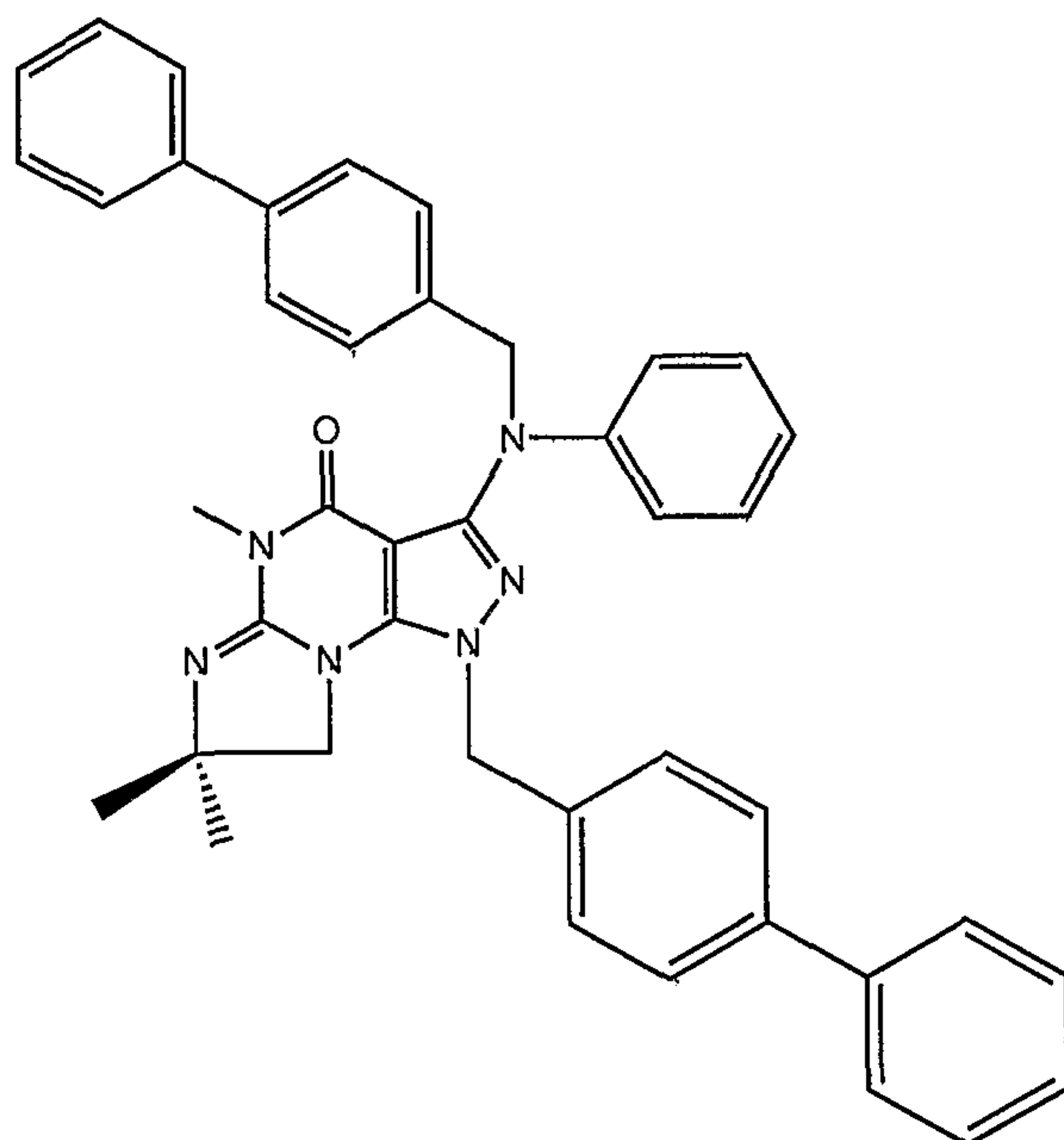
- 5 1-(4-(1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl)benzyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[1*H*]-imidazo-[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one



- [0094] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol
 10 hydrochloride; and 4-(1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl)benzyl bromide is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

Example 6

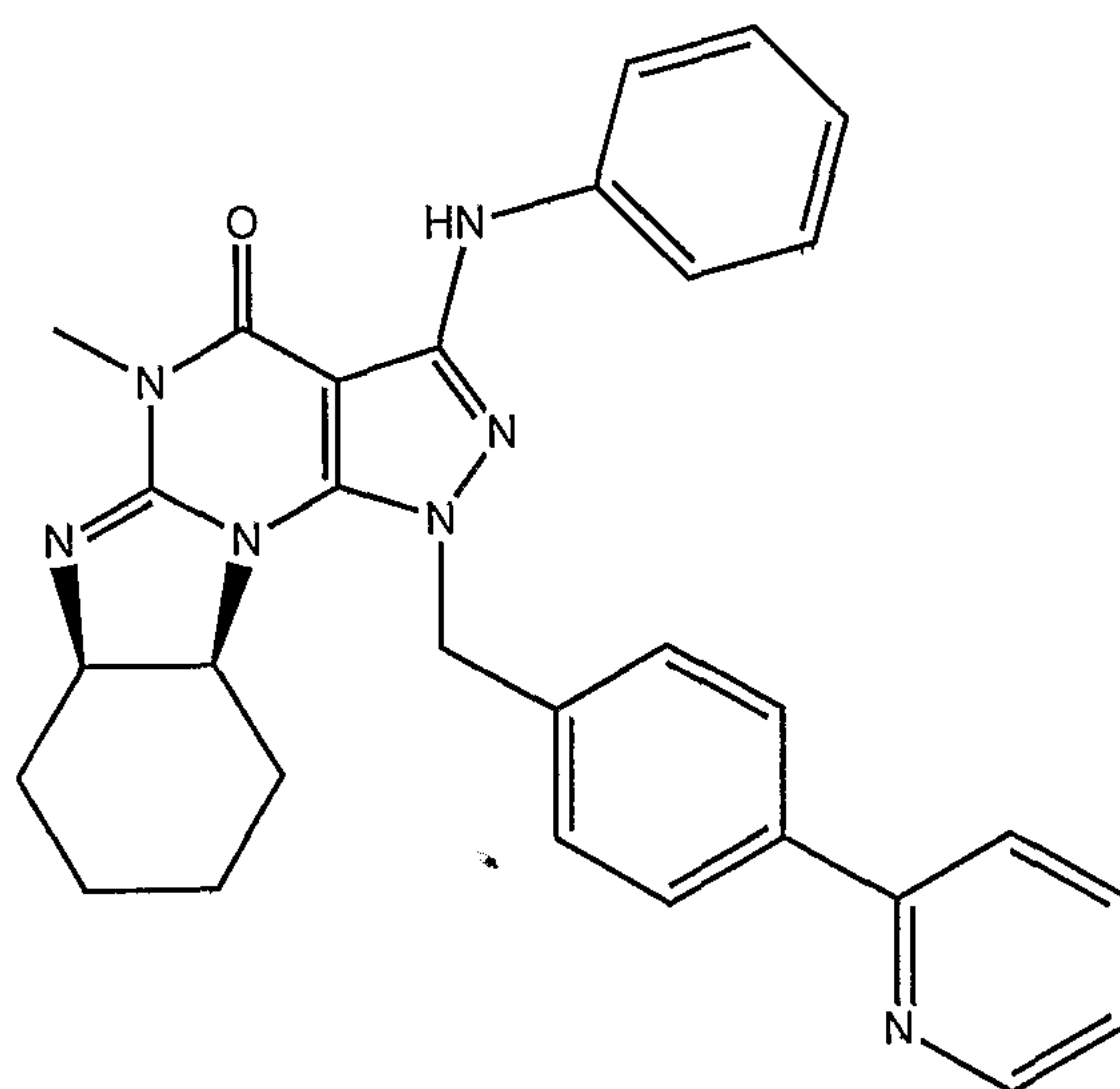
- 15 1-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-3-((biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)(phenyl)amino)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-[1*H*]-imidazo-[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one



[0095] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol hydrochloride; and *p*-biphenylmethyl bromide is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

Example 7

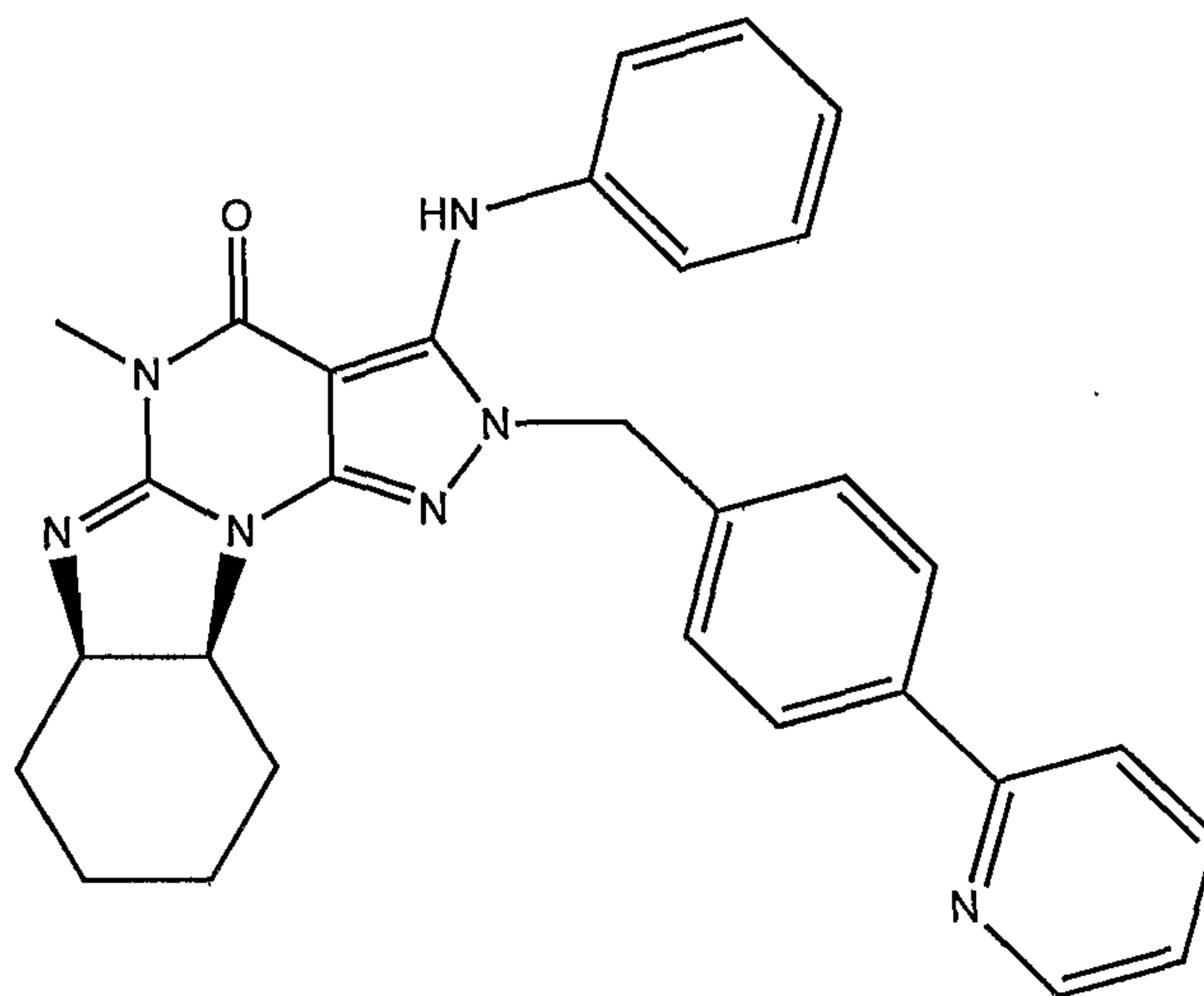
***Cis*-(6a*R**,10a*S**)-5,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-heptahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1-(4-(pyridin-2yl)benzyl)-cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4-(1*H*)-one**



[0096] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein 2-(4-(bromomethyl)phenyl)pyridine is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

Example 8

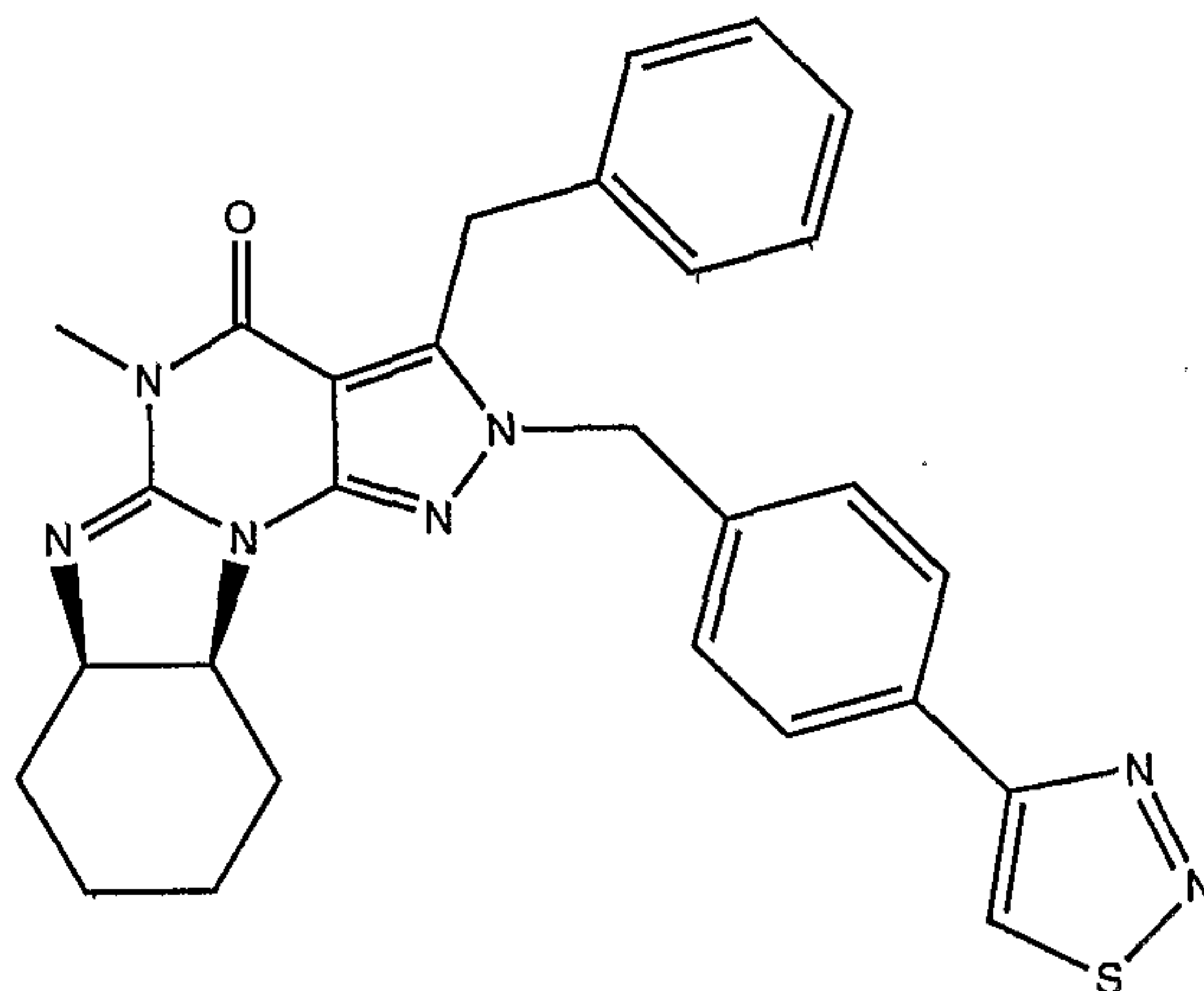
***Cis*-(6a*R**,10a*S**)-2-(4-(Pyridin-2yl)benzyl)-5,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-heptahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one**



[0097] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein 4-pyrid-2-ylbenzyl bromide is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

10 **Example 9**

***Cis*-(6a*R**,10a*S**)-3-(Benzyl)- 5,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-heptahydro-5-methyl-2-(4-(1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl)benzyl)- cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one**

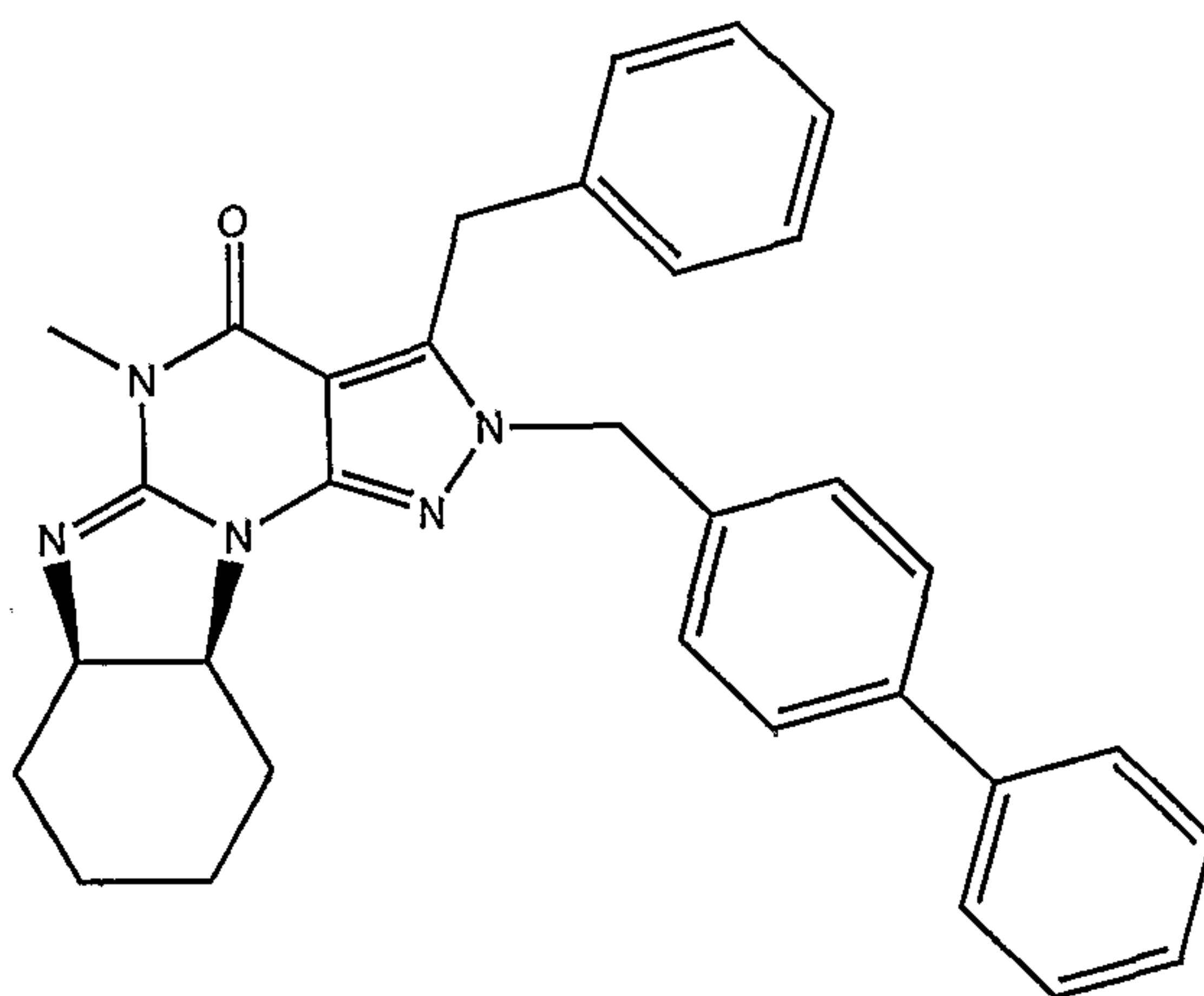


15 [0098] The synthesis method is analogous to example 3 wherein 4-(1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl)benzaldehyde and DMF is added in step (a) instead of 4-

phenylbenzaldehyde and heated overnight; and *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol hydrochloride is added in step (e) instead of 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol.

Example 10

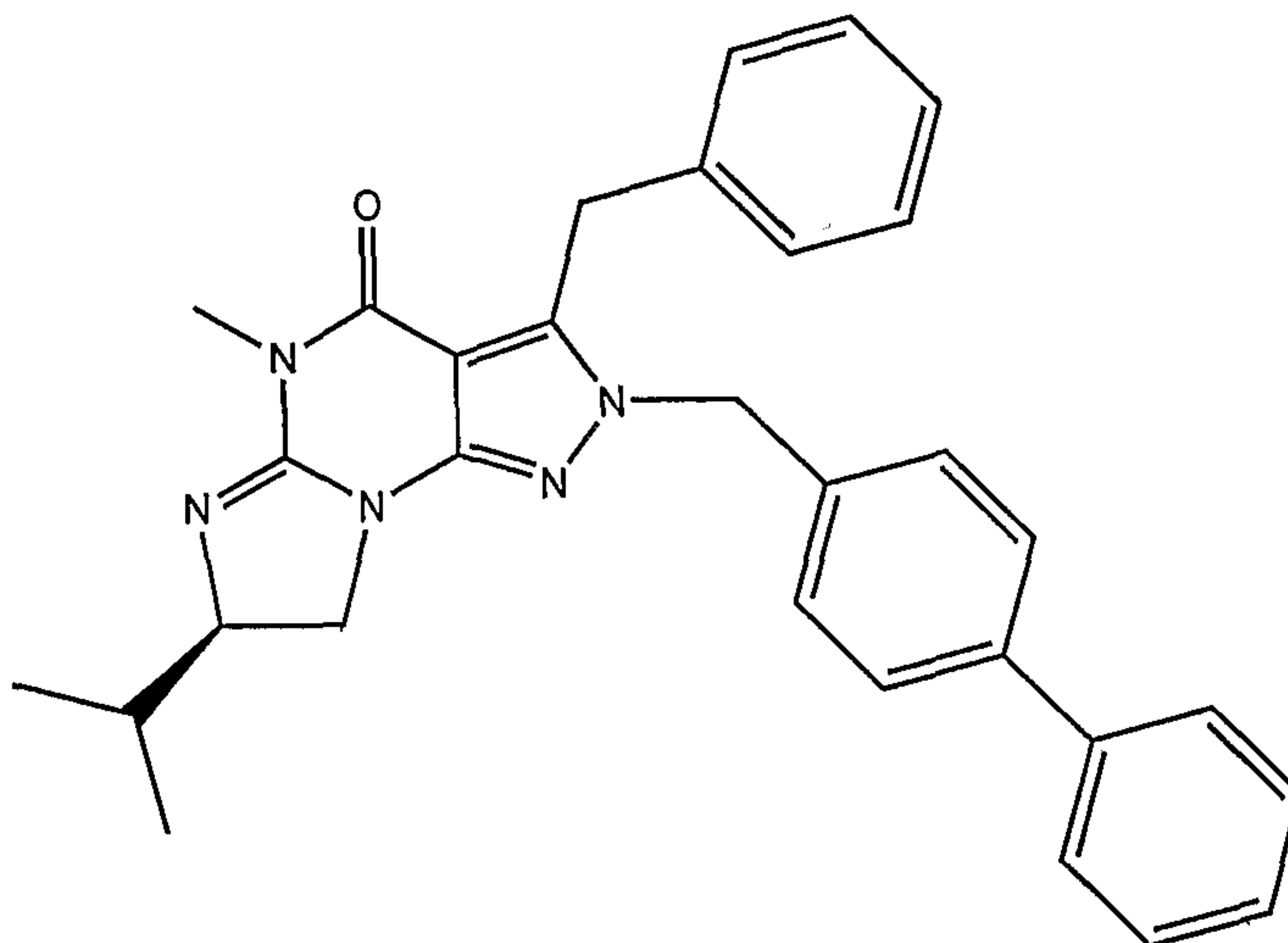
- 5 ***Cis*-(6a*R**,10a*S**)-3-(Benzyl)-2-(4-Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-5,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-heptahydro-5-methyl-cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one**



- [0099] The synthesis method is analogous to example 3 wherein *trans*-2-amino-
10 cyclohexanol hydrochloride is added in step (e) instead of 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol.

Example 11

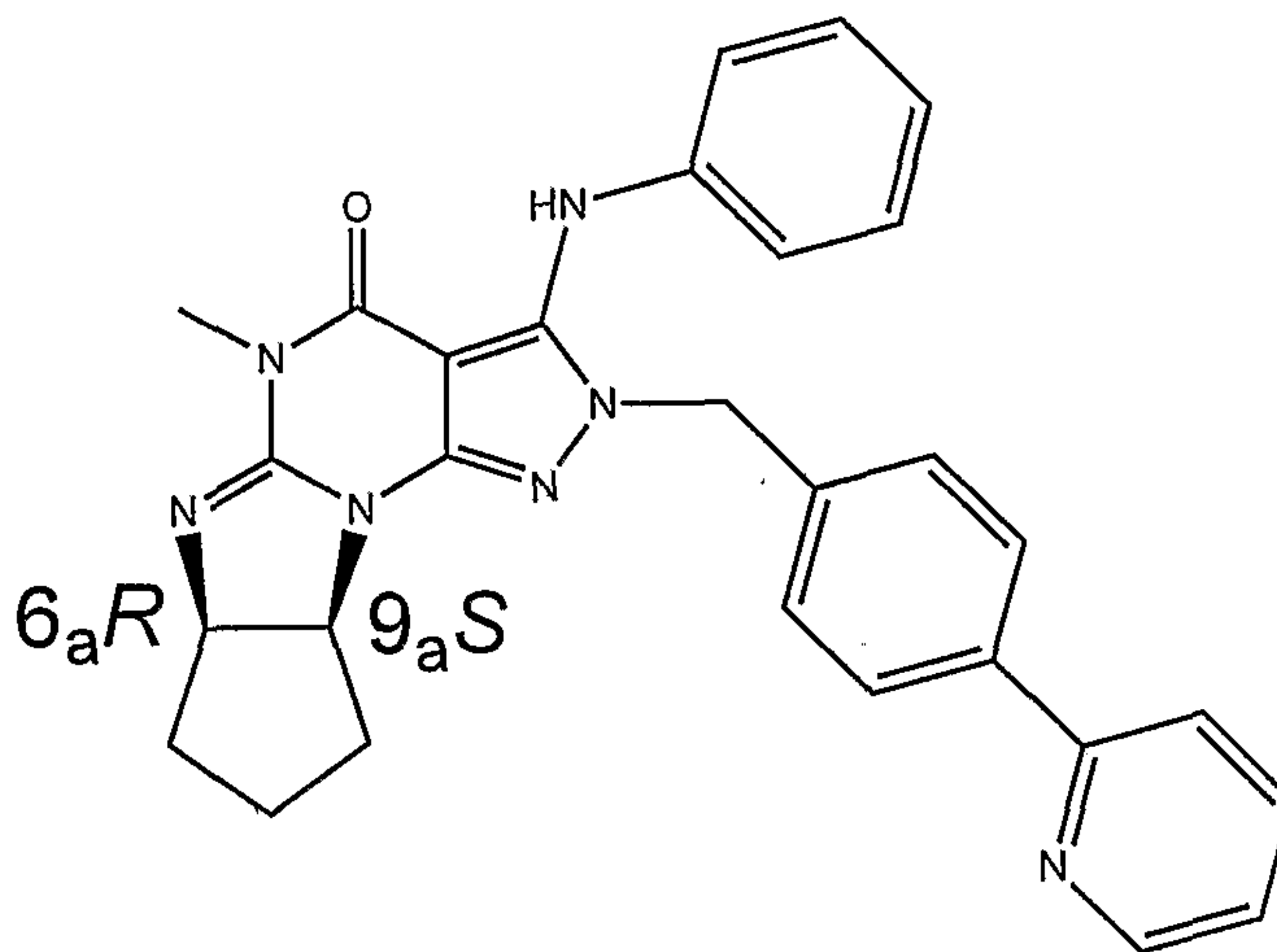
- 15 **(*R*)-3-(Benzyl)-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-7-isopropyl-5-methyl-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one**



[0100] The synthesis method is analogous to example 3 wherein (R)-2-amino-3-methylbutan-1-ol is added in step (e) instead of 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol.

Example 12

5 (6a*R*,9a*S*)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-2-(4-Pyridin-2yl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one

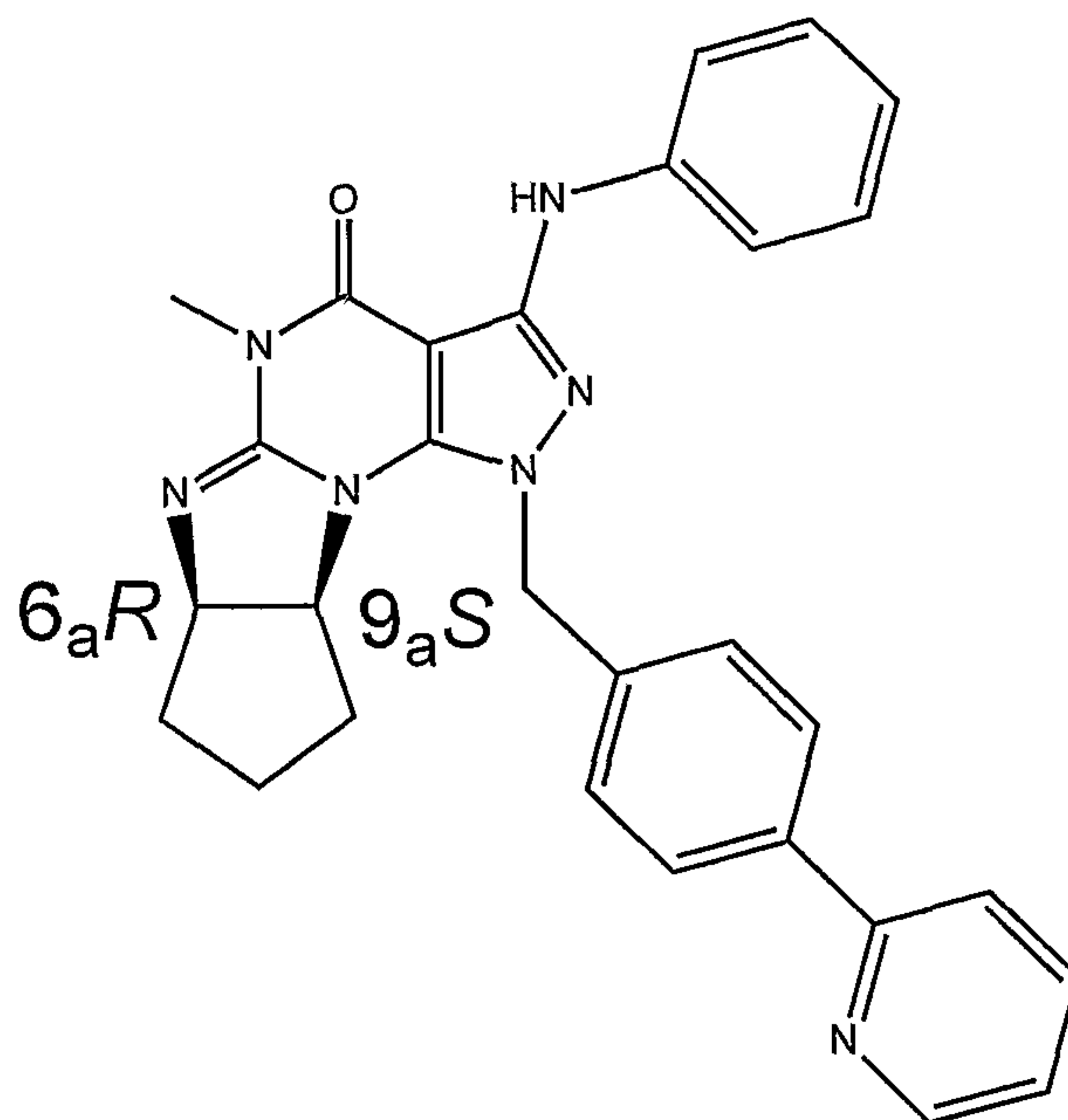


[0101] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein (1*R*,2*R*)-2-amino-cyclopentanol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol hydrochloride; and 2-(4-(bromomethyl)phenyl)pyridine is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

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Example 13

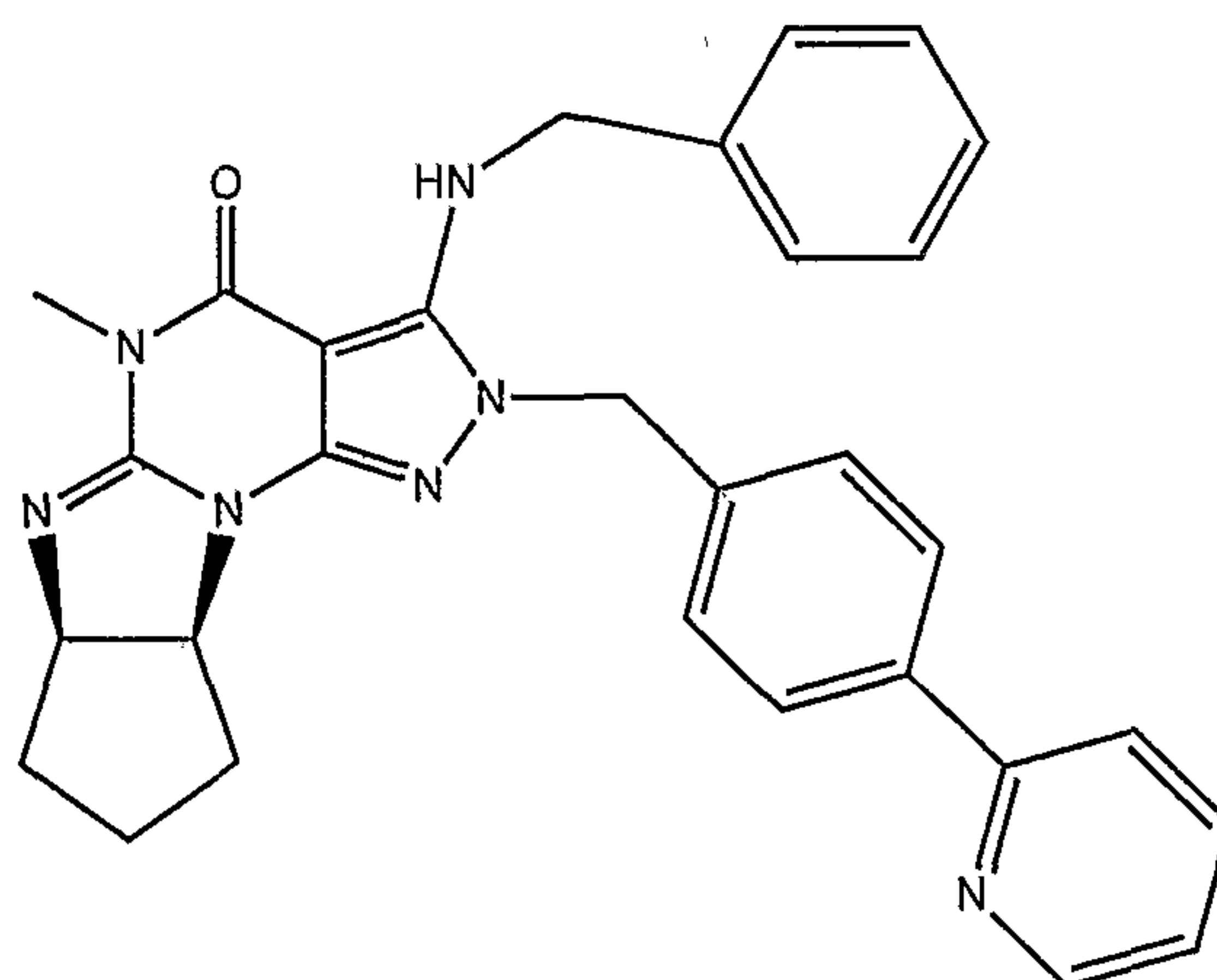
15 (6a*R*,9a*S*)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1-(4-Pyridin-2yl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(1*H*)-one



[0102] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein (1*R*,2*R*)-2-amino-cyclopentanol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol hydrochloride; and 4-pyrid-2-ylbenzyl bromide is added in step (f) instead of
5 benzoylbenzyl bromide.

Example 14

(6a*R*,9a*S*)- 3-(benzylamino)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(4-Pyridin-2yl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one

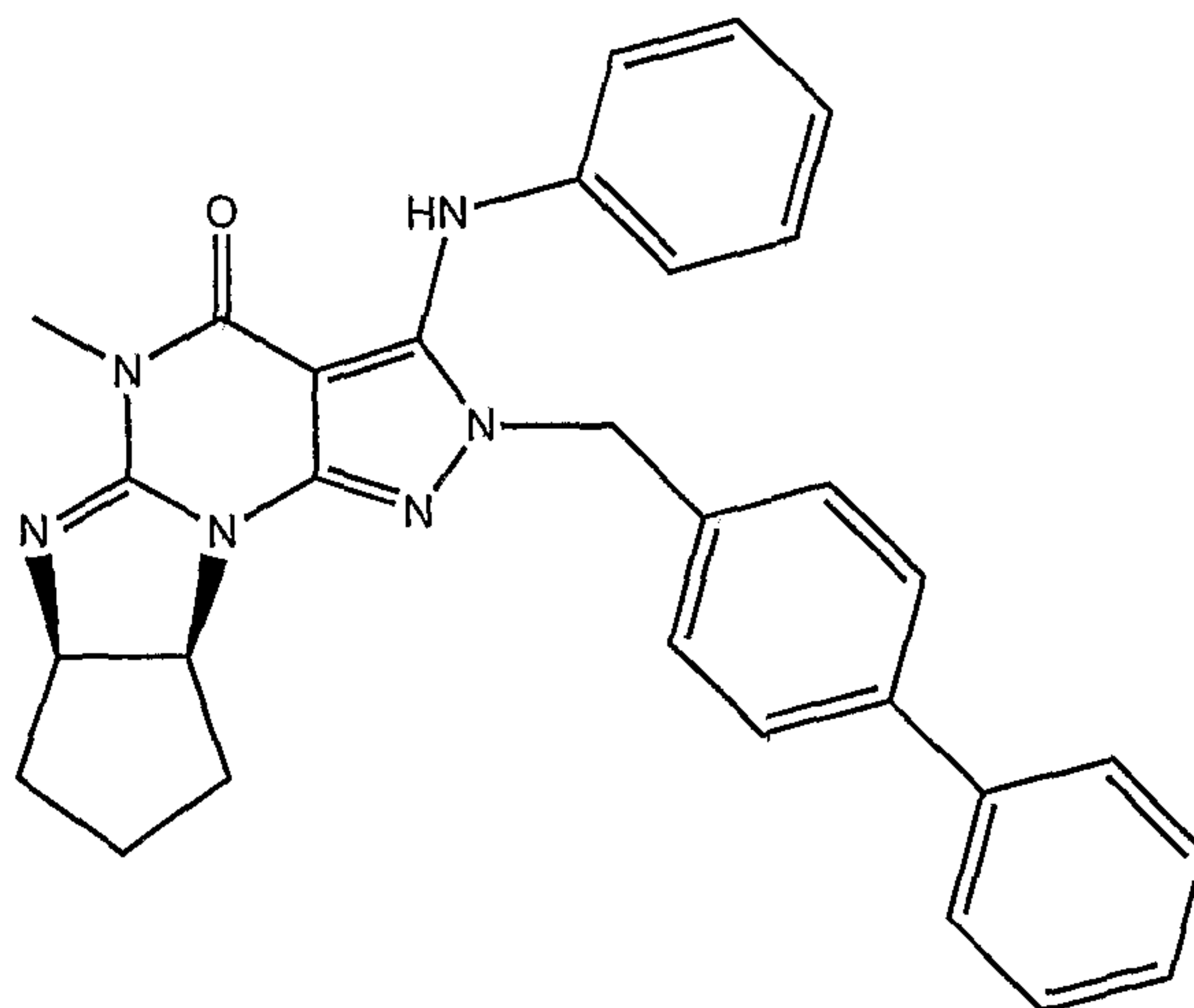


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[0103] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein benzyl isothiocyanate is added in step (a) instead of phenyl isothiocyanate; (1*R*,2*R*)-2-amino-cyclopentanol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol hydrochloride; and 4-pyrid-2-ylbenzyl bromide is added in step (f) instead of
15 benzoylbenzyl bromide.

Example 15

(6a*R*,9a*S*)- 3-(phenylamino)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one



5

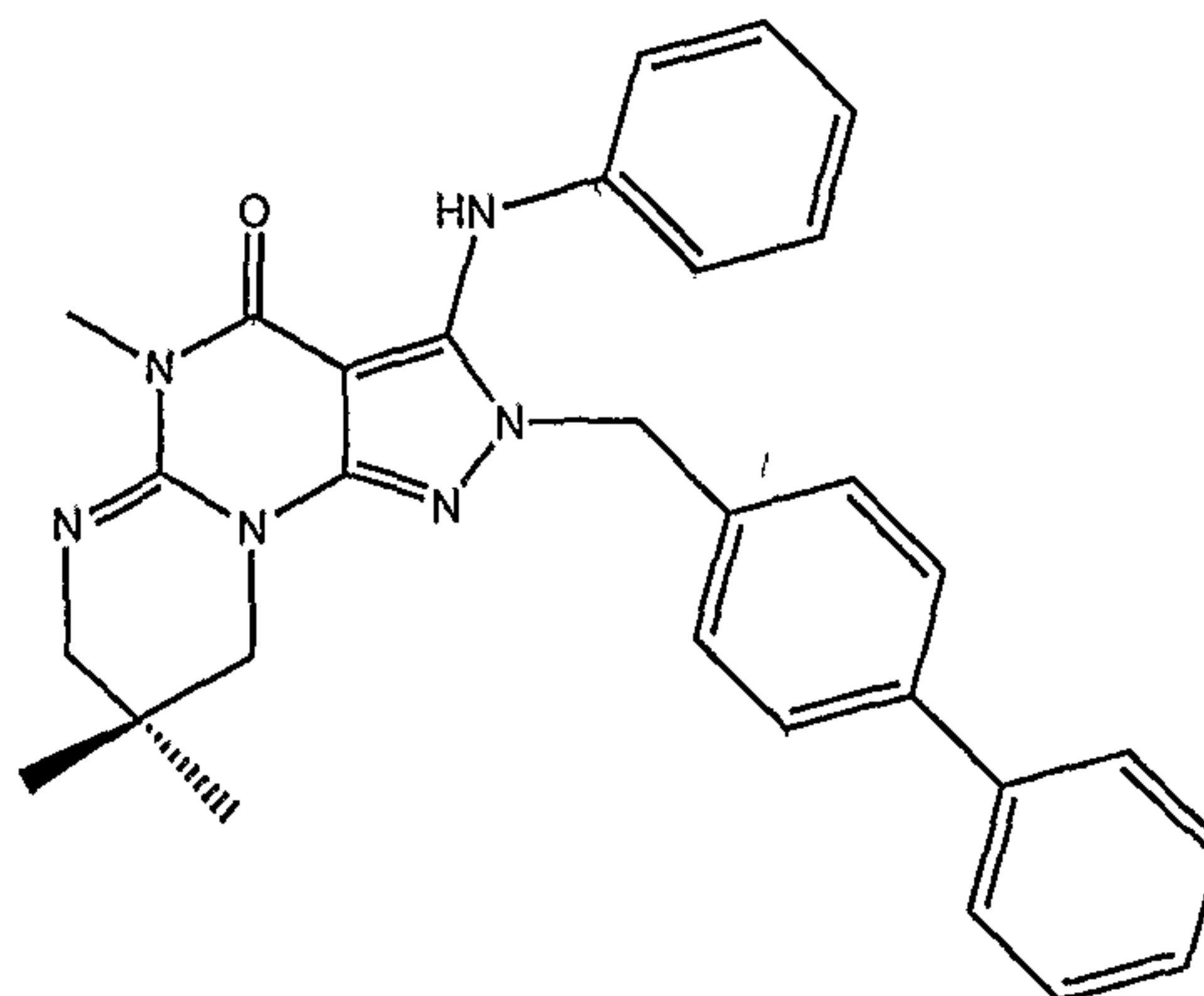
[0104] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein (1*R*,2*R*)-2-amino-cyclopentanol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol hydrochloride; and 4-(bromomethyl)biphenyl is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

10

Example 16

2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8,9-trihydro-5,8,8-trimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[2*H*]-pyrimido-[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one

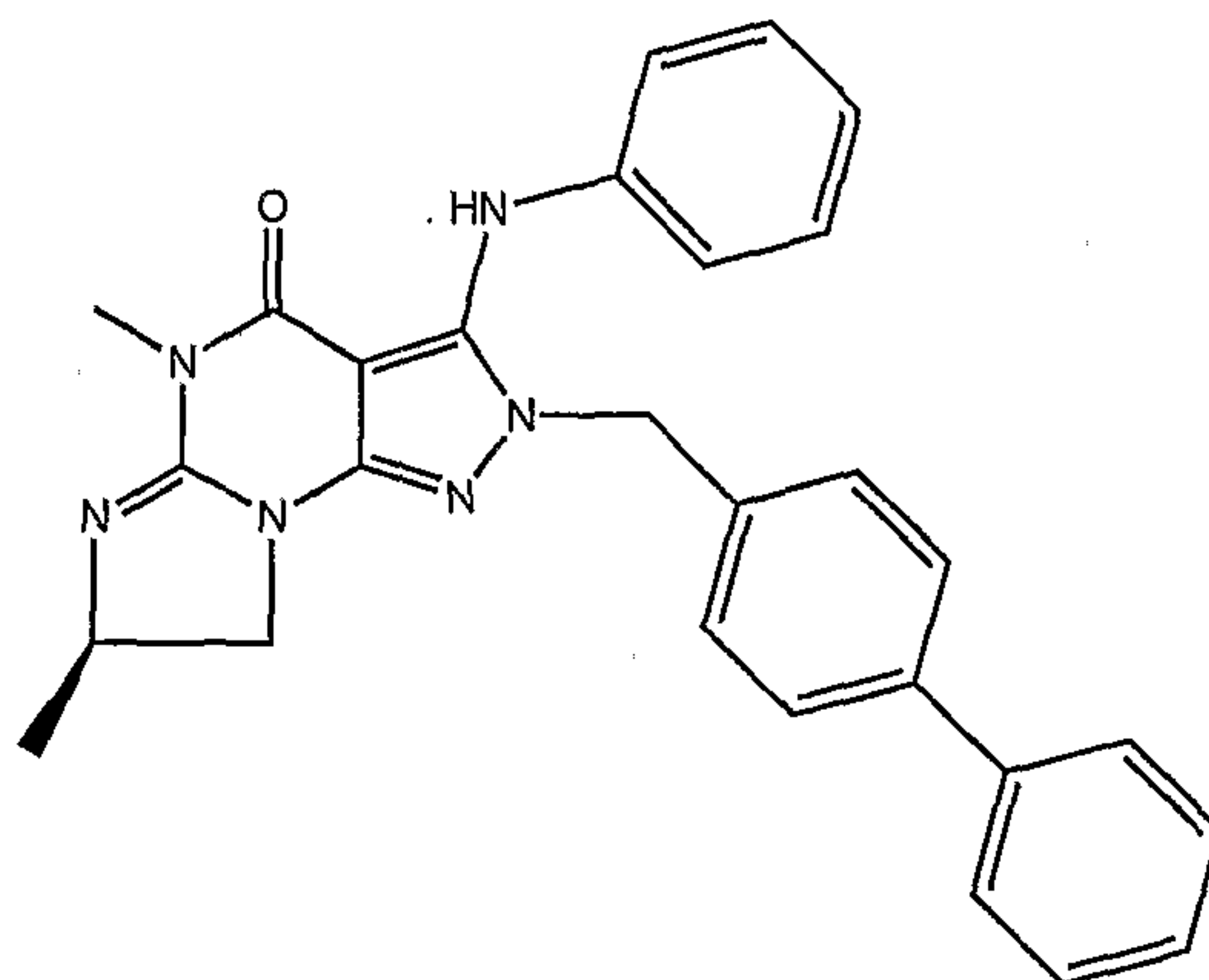
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[0105] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein 3-amino-2,2-dimethyl-1-propanol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol hydrochloride; and 4-(bromomethyl)biphenyl is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

5 Example 17

(7R)-2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7-dimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[2H]-imidazo-[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one

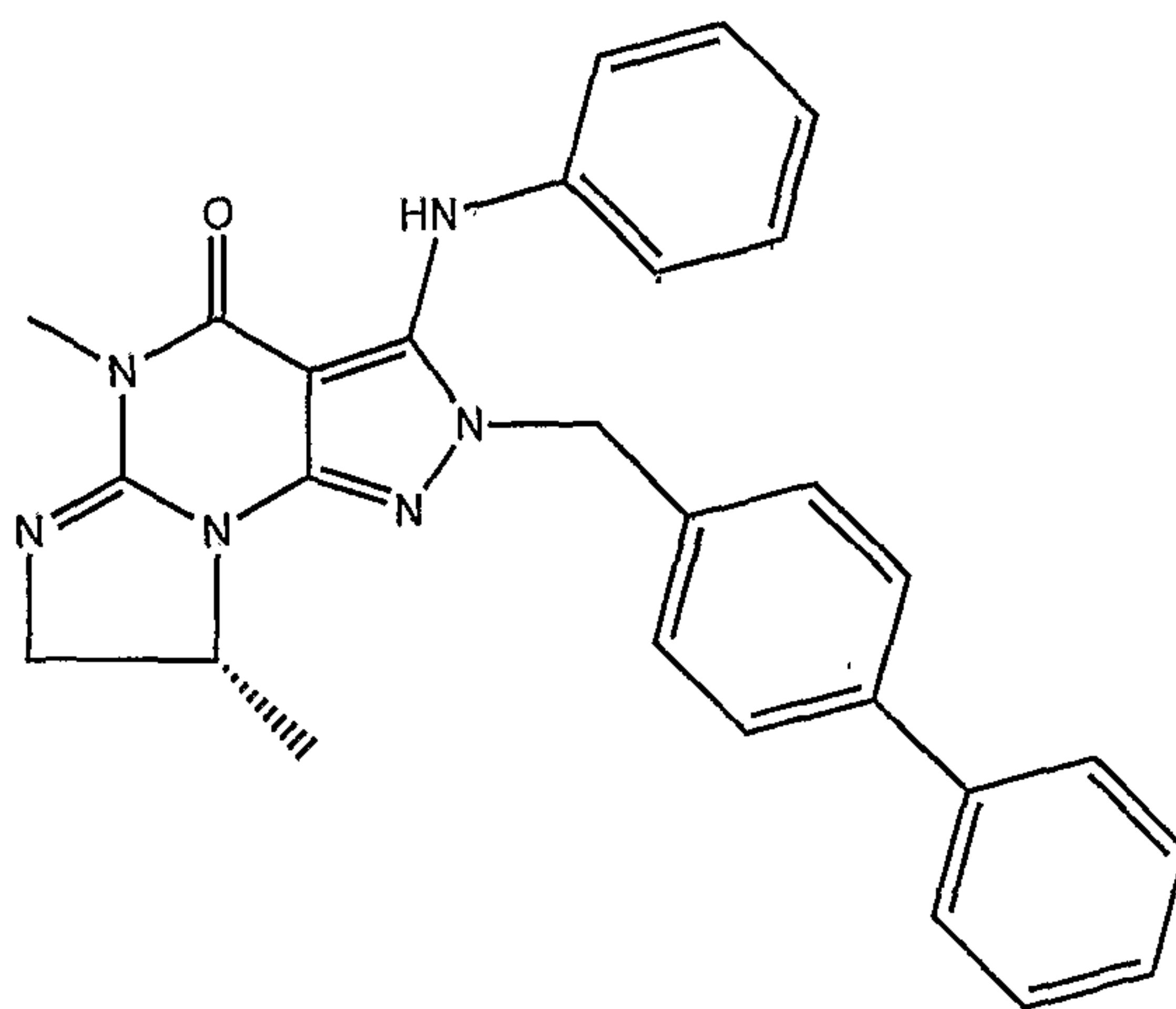


10 [0106] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein (R)-2-aminoprop-1-ol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol hydrochloride; and 4-(bromomethyl)biphenyl is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

15

Example 18

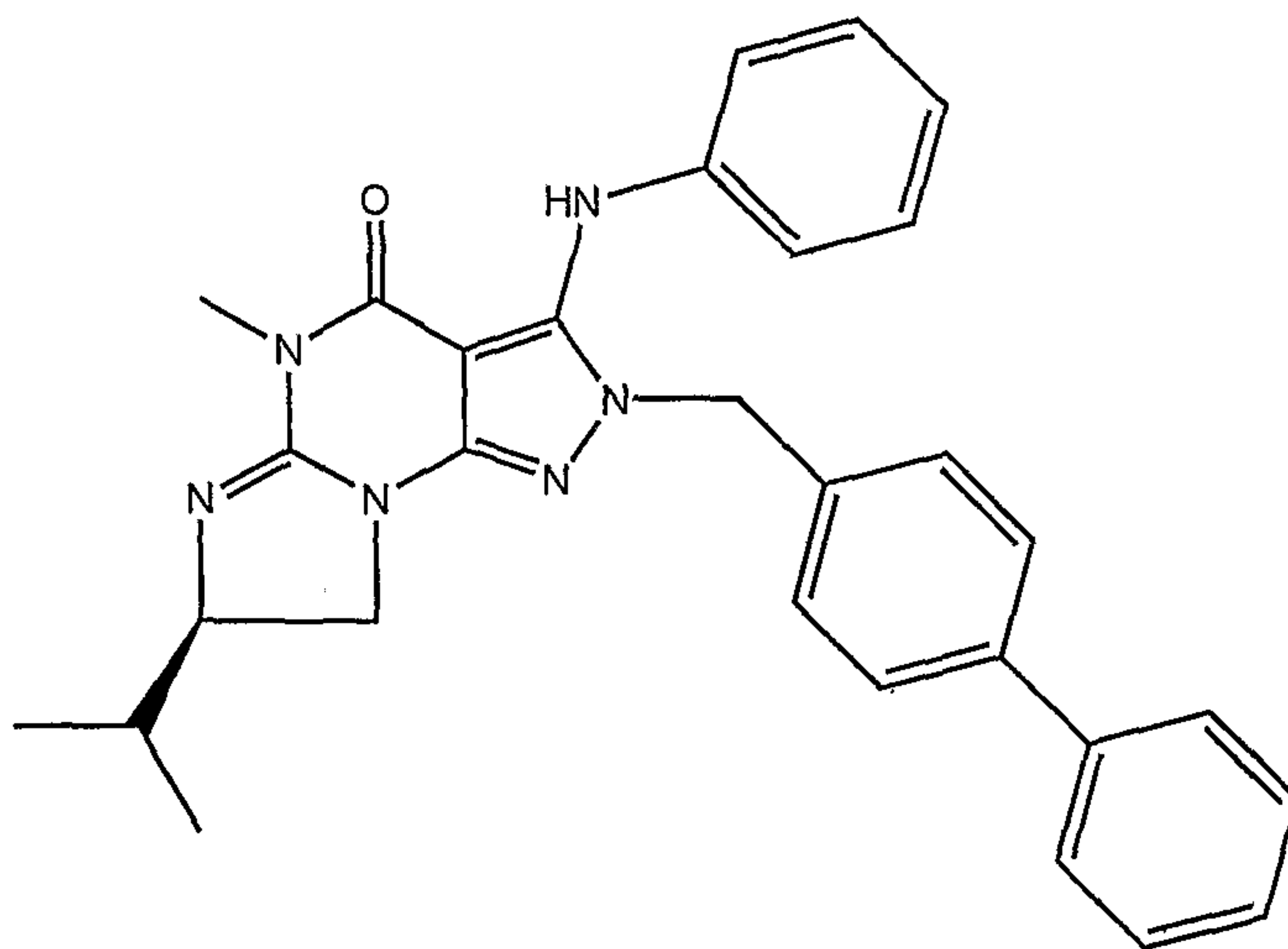
(8R)-2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,8-dimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[2H]-imidazo-[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one



[0107] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein (R)-1-aminopropan-2-ol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol hydrochloride; and 4-(bromomethyl)biphenyl is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbiphenyl bromide.

Example 19

10 (7R)-2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-3-(phenylamino)-5-methyl-7-(1-methylethyl)-[2H]-imidazo-[1,2-a]pyrazolo[4,3-e]pyrimidin-4(5H)-one

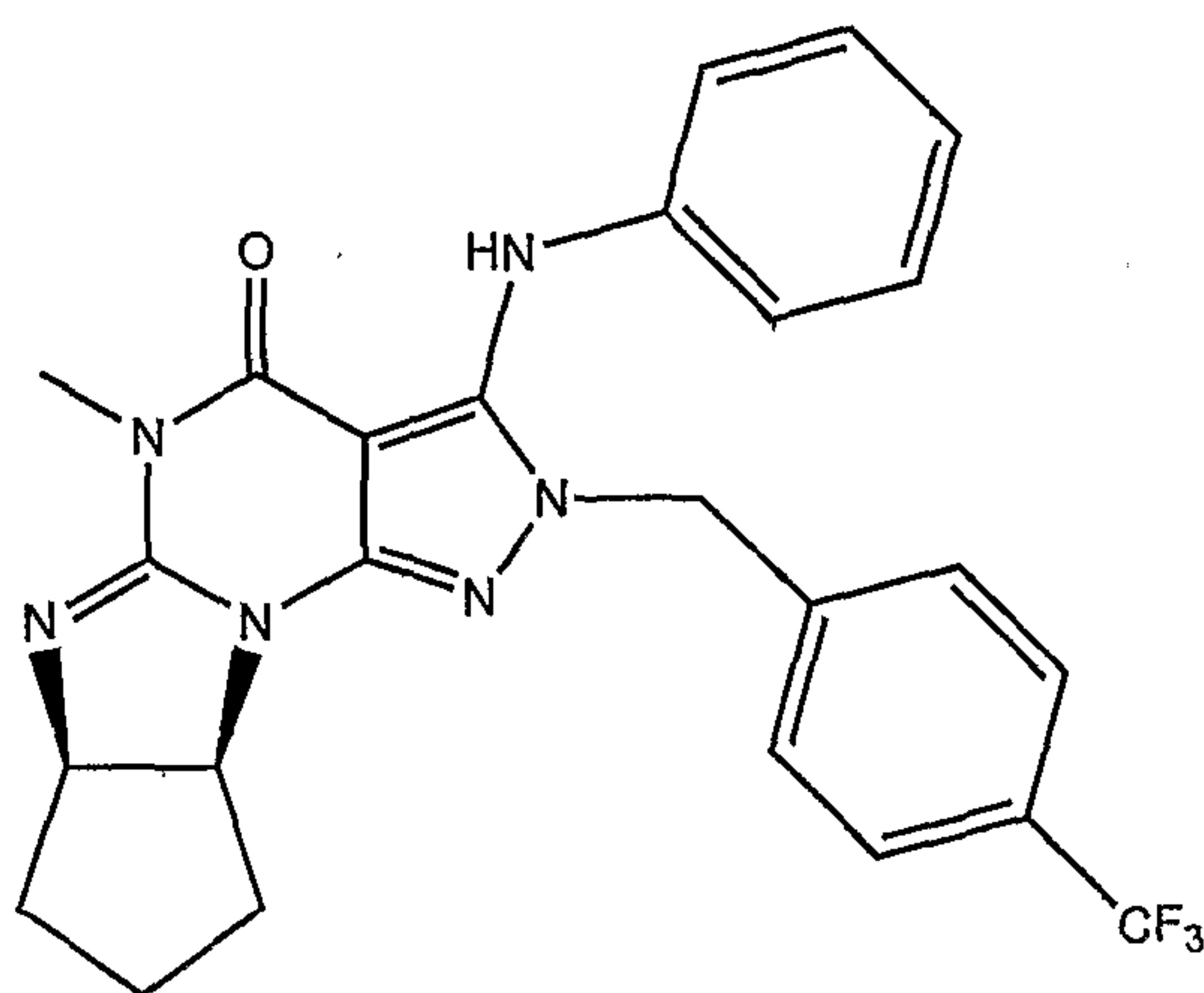


15 [0108] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein (R)-2-amino-3-methylbutan-1-ol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol

hydrochloride; and 4-(bromomethyl)biphenyl is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

5 Example 20

(6a*R*,9a*S*)- 3-(phenylamino)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one



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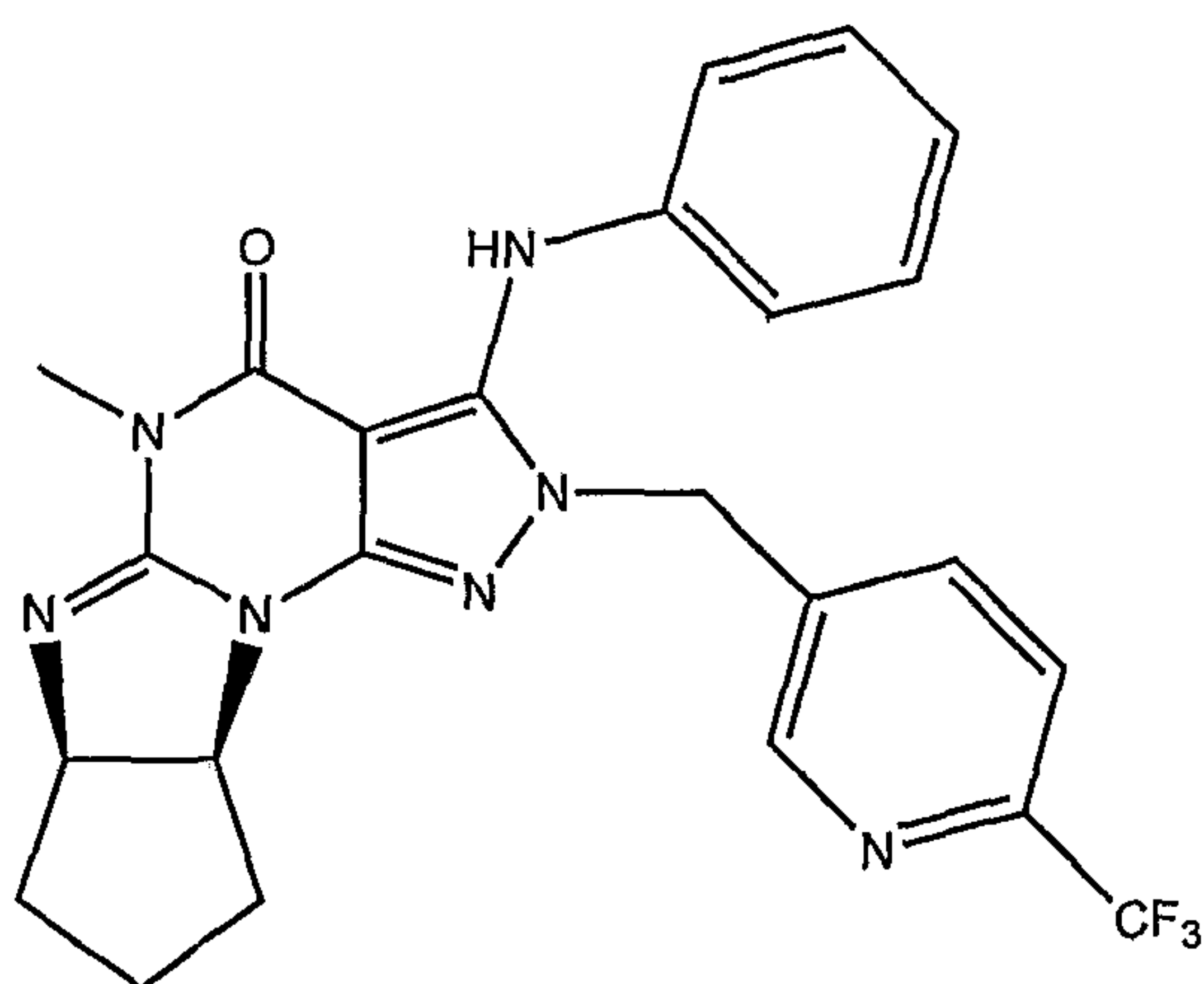
[0109] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein (1*R*,2*R*)-2-amino-cyclopentanol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol hydrochloride; and *p*-trifluoromethylbenzyl bromide is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

15

Example 21

(6a*R*,9a*S*)- 3-(phenylamino)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-((6-trifluoromethyl)-pyridin-3-yl)methyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one

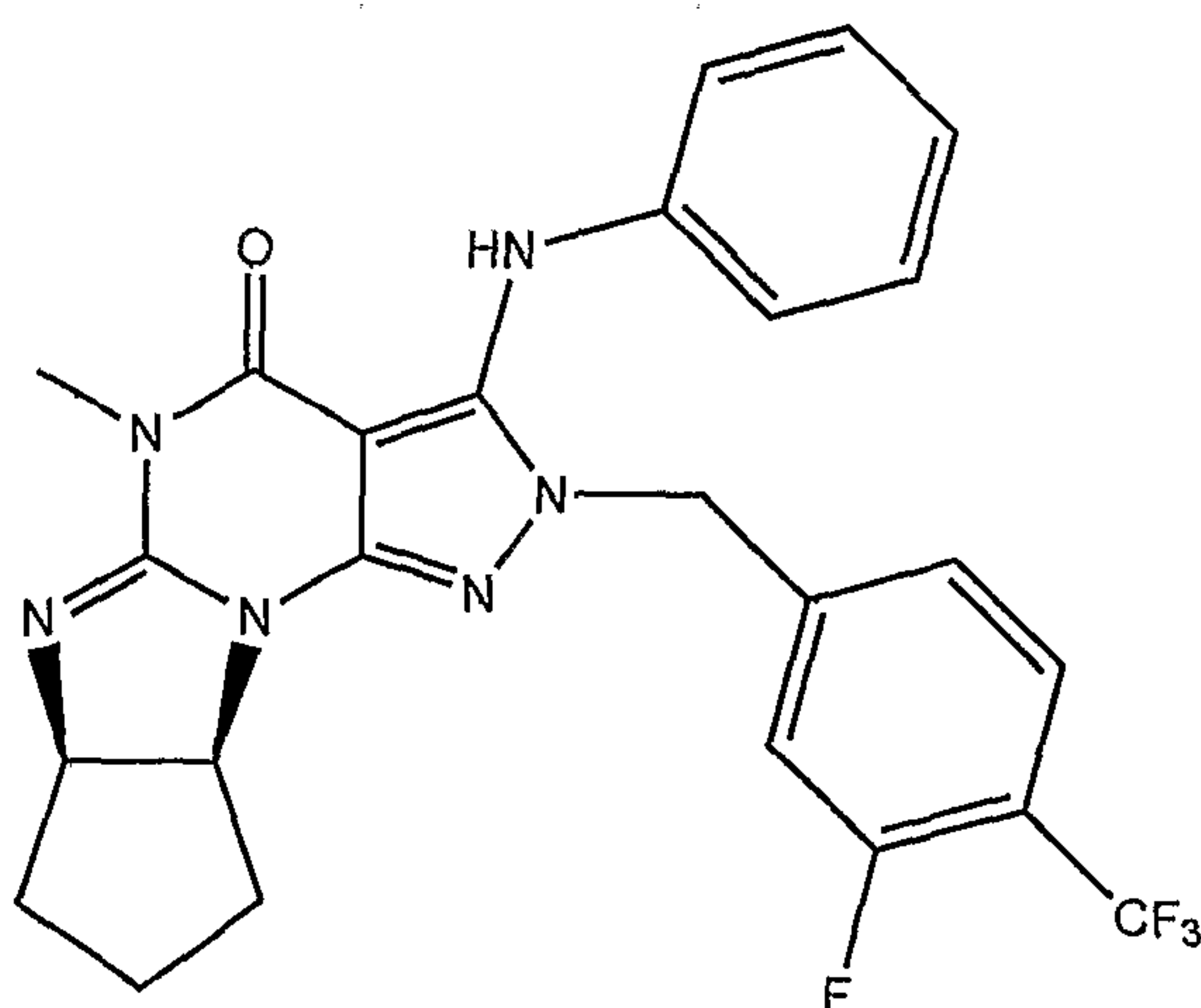
20



[0110] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein (1*R*,2*R*)-2-amino-cyclopentanol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol
 5 hydrochloride; and 5-(bromomethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

Example 22

10 (6*aR*,9*aS*)- 3-(phenylamino)-5,6*a*,7,8,9,9*a*-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(3-fluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one



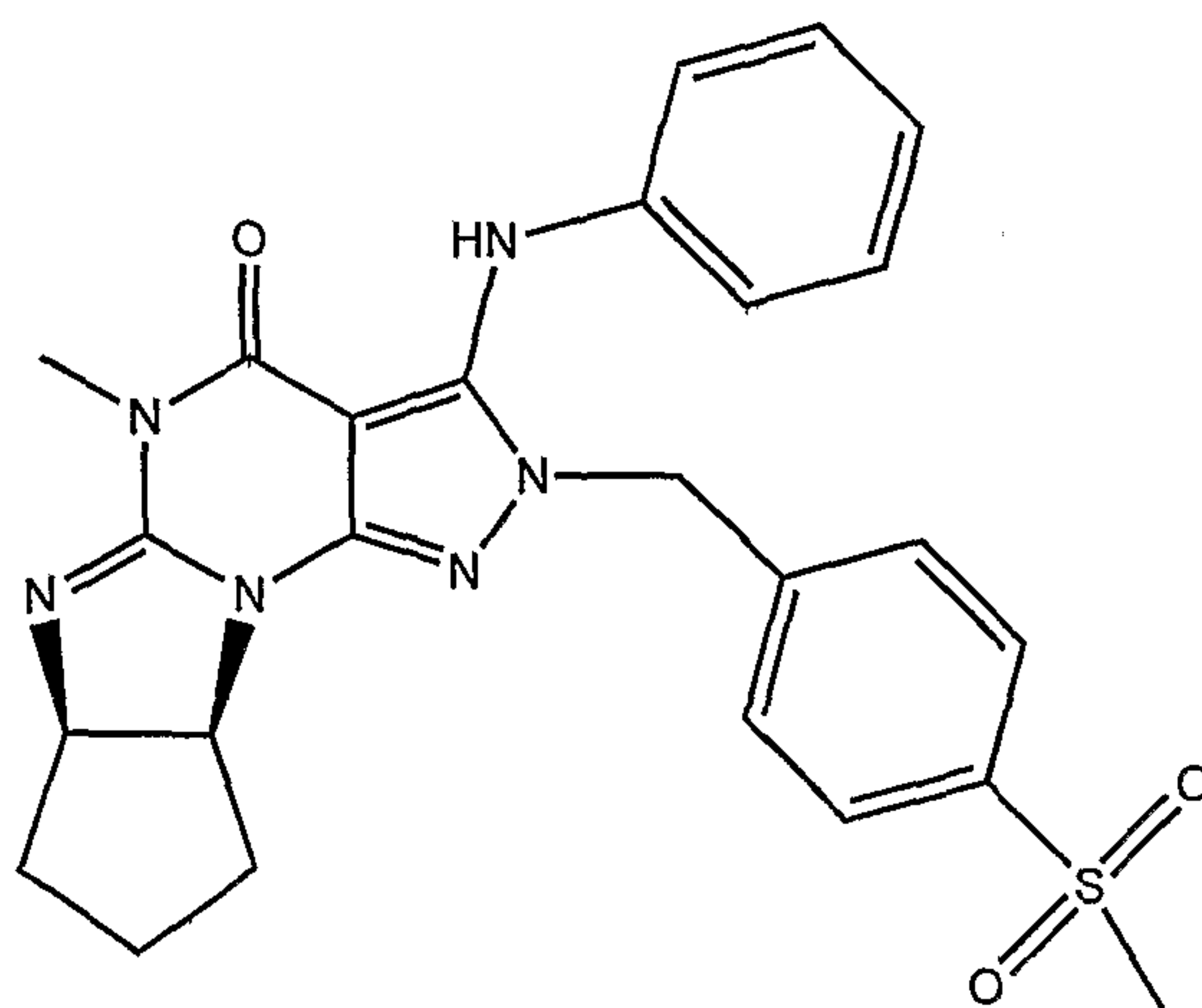
15

[0111] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein (1*R*,2*R*)-2-amino-cyclopentanol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol

hydrochloride; and 3-fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-benzyl bromide is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

5 Example 23

(6a*R*,9a*S*)- 3-(phenylamino)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(4-methylsulfonyl-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one



10

[0112] The synthesis method is analogous to example 2 wherein (1*R*,2*R*)-2-amino-cyclopentanol is added in step (d) instead of *trans*-2-amino-cyclohexanol hydrochloride; and *p*-methylsulfonyl-benzyl bromide is added in step (f) instead of benzoylbenzyl bromide.

Example 24

20 Measurement of PDE1B inhibition *in vitro* using IMAP Phosphodiesterase Assay Kit

[0113] Phosphodiesterase 1B (PDE1B) is a calcium/calmodulin dependent phosphodiesterase enzyme that converts cyclic guanosine monophosphate (cGMP) to 5'-guanosine monophosphate (5'-GMP). PDE1B can also convert a modified cGMP substrate, such as the fluorescent molecule cGMP-fluorescein, to the corresponding

25

GMP-fluorescein. The generation of GMP-fluorescein from cGMP-fluorescein can be quantitated, using, for example, the IMAPTM (Molecular Devices, Sunnyvale, CA) immobilized-metal affinity particle reagent.

5 [0114] Briefly, the IMAP reagent binds with high affinity to the free 5'-phosphate that is found in GMP-fluorescein and not in cGMP-fluorescein. The resulting GMP-fluorescein – IMAP complex is large relative to cGMP-fluorescein. Small fluorophores that are bound up in a large, slowly tumbling, complex can be distinguished from unbound fluorophores, because the photons emitted as they fluoresce retain the same polarity as the photons used to excite the fluorescence.

10 [0115] In the phosphodiesterase assay, cGMP-fluorescein, which cannot be bound to IMAP, and therefore retains little fluorescence polarization, is converted to GMP-fluorescein, which, when bound to IMAP, yields a large increase in fluorescence polarization (Δmp). Inhibition of phosphodiesterase, therefore, is detected as a decrease in Δmp .

15 [0116] Enzyme assay

Materials: All chemicals are available from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO) except for IMAP reagents (reaction buffer, binding buffer, FL-GMP and IMAP beads), which are available from Molecular Devices (Sunnyvale, CA).

20 Assay: 3',5'-cyclic-nucleotide-specific bovine brain phosphodiesterase (Sigma, St. Louis, MO) is reconstituted with 50% glycerol to 2.5 U/ml. One unit of enzyme will hydrolyze 1.0 μ mole of 3',5'-cAMP to 5'-AMP per min at pH 7.5 at 30°C. One part enzyme is added to 1999 parts reaction buffer (30 μ M CaCl₂, 10 U/ml of calmodulin (Sigma P2277), 10mM Tris-HCl pH 7.2, 10mM MgCl₂, 0.1% BSA, 0.05% NaN₃) to yield a final concentration of 1.25mU/ml. 99 μ l of diluted enzyme solution is added
25 into each well in a flat bottom 96-well polystyrene plate to which 1 μ l of test compound dissolved in 100% DMSO is added. The compounds are mixed and pre-incubated with the enzyme for 10 min at room temperature.

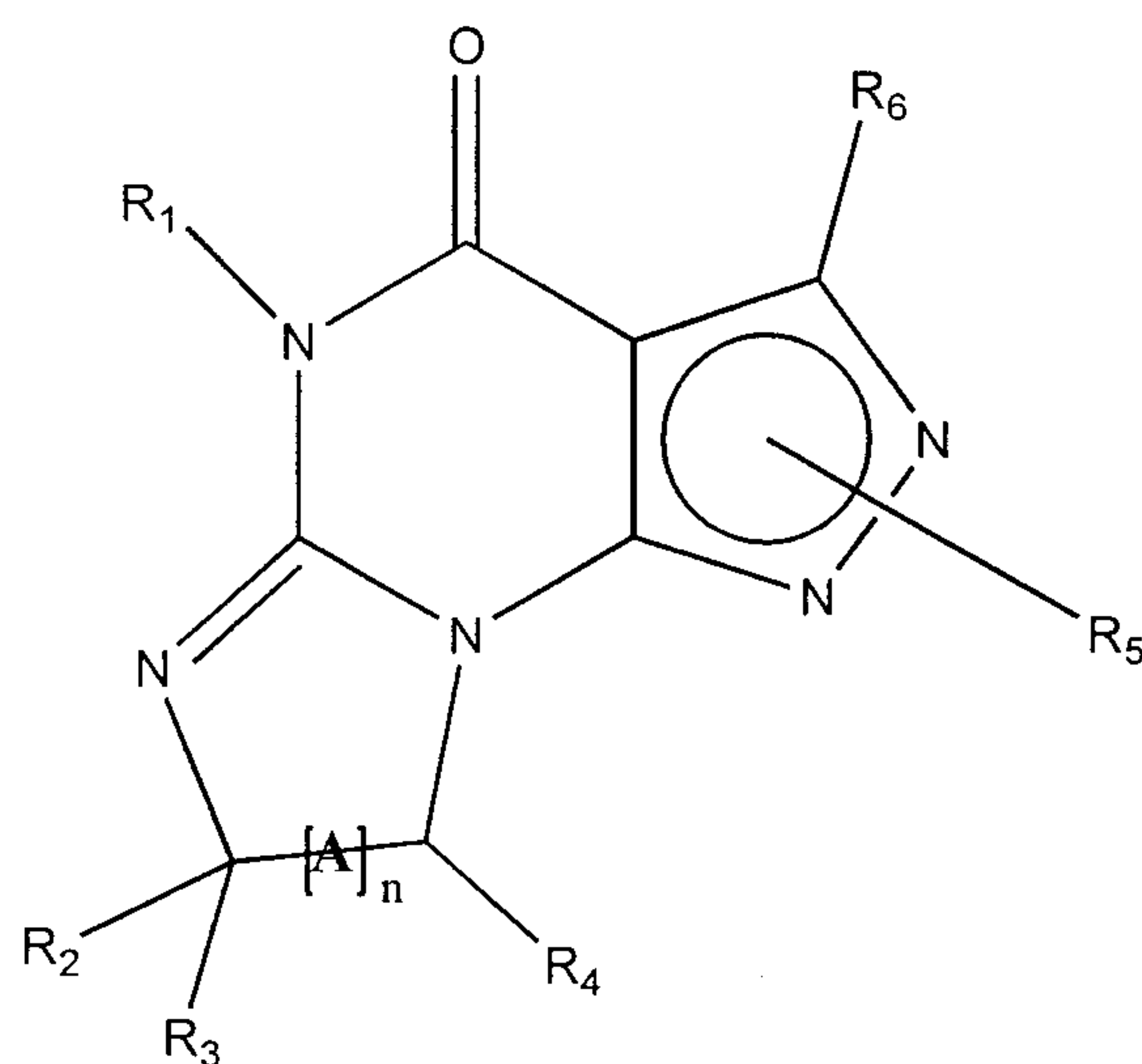
[0117] The FL-GMP conversion reaction is initiated by combining 4 parts enzyme and inhibitor mix with 1 part substrate solution (0.225 μ M) in a 384-well
30 microtiter plate. The reaction is incubated in dark at room temperature for 15 min. The reaction is halted by addition of 60 μ l of binding reagent (1:400 dilution of IMAP beads in binding buffer supplemented with 1:1800 dilution of antifoam) to each well of the 384-well plate. The plate is incubated at room temperature for 1 hour to allow

IMAP binding to proceed to completion, and then placed in an Envision™ multimode microplate reader (PerkinElmer, Shelton, CT) to measure the fluorescence polarization (Δmp).

- 5 [0118] A decrease in GMP concentration, measured as decreased Δmp , is indicative of inhibition of PDE activity. IC_{50} values are determined by measuring enzyme activity in the presence of 8 to 16 concentrations of compound ranging from 0.0037 nM to 80,000 nM and then plotting drug concentration versus Δmp , which allows IC_{50} values to be estimated using nonlinear regression software (XLFit™, IDBS, Cambridge, MA).
- 10 [0119] The compounds of Examples 1- 14 have IC_{50} values of less than 1 μM in this assay, generally less than 10 nM.

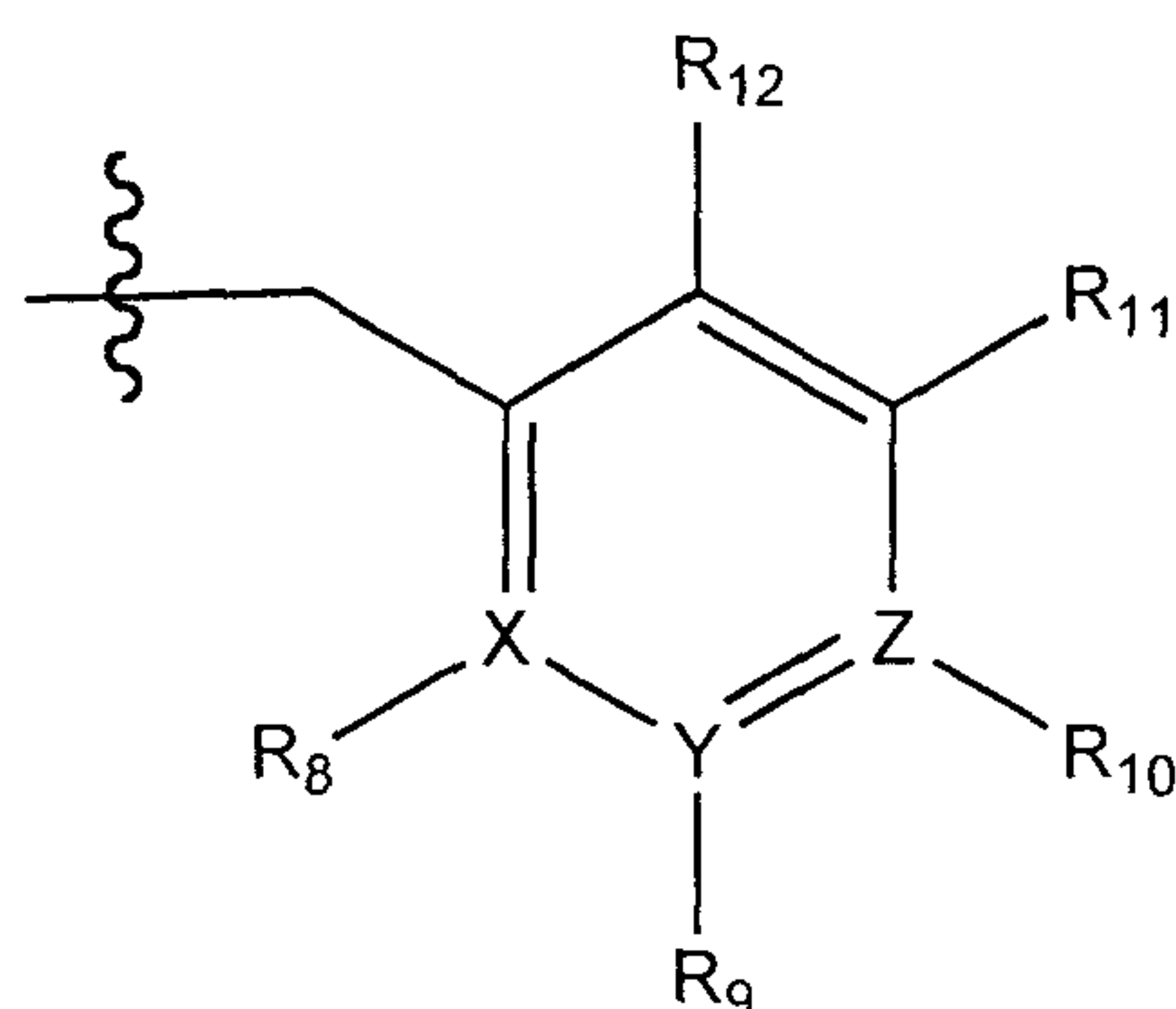
CLAIMS

1. A 7,8-dihydro-[1*H* or 2*H*]-imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one or 7,8,9-trihydro-[1*H* or 2*H*]-pyrimido [1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one, substituted at the 1 or 2 position with C₂₋₉ alkyl, C₃₋₉ cycloalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, or substituted arylalkyl, in a free form, a salt form, or a physiologically hydrolysable and acceptable ester prodrug form thereof.
2. A compound of Formula I



wherein

- (i) R₁ is H or C₁₋₄ alkyl;
- (ii) R₄ is H or C₁₋₄ alkyl and R₂ and R₃ are, independently, H or C₁₋₄ alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkoxy, arylalkoxy, heteroarylalkyl, or arylalkyl;
- or R₂ is H and R₃ and R₄ together form a di-, tri-, or tetra-methylene bridge;
- (iii) R₅ is a substituted heteroarylalkyl, optionally substituted with haloalkyl or R₅ is attached to one of the nitrogens on the pyrazolo portion of Formula A and is a moiety of Formula A

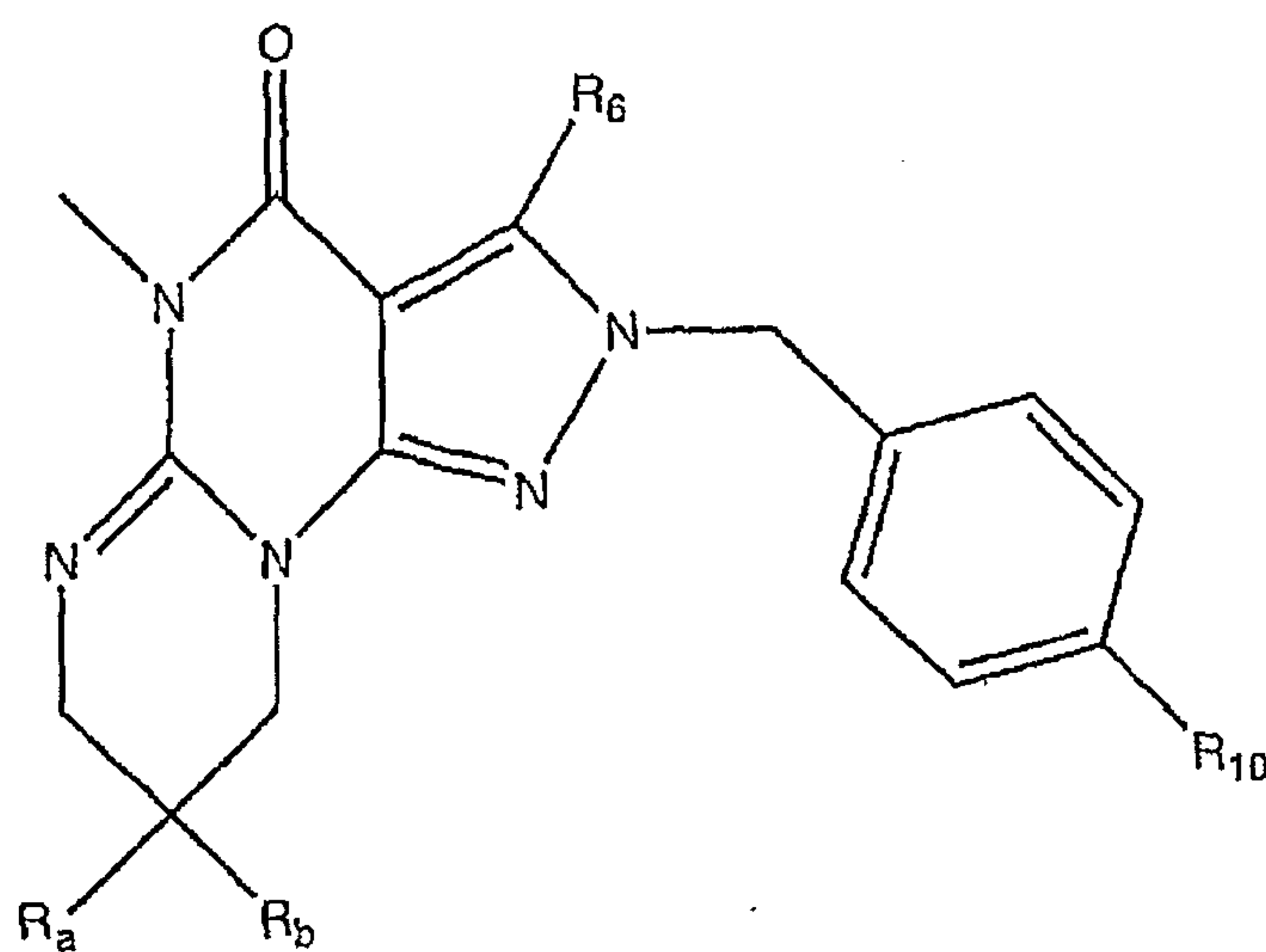


Formula A

- 5 wherein X, Y and Z are, independently, N or C; R₈, R₉, R₁₁ and R₁₂ are independently H or halogen; and R₁₀ is halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, haloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, or thiadiazolyl, diazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylsulfonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, or alkoxy carbonyl; provided that when X, Y, or Z is nitrogen, R₈, R₉, or R₁₀, respectively, is not present;
- 10 (iv) R₆ is H, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, arylamino, heteroarylamino, N,N-dialkylamino, N,N-diarylamino, or N-aryl-N-(arylalkyl)amino; and
- (v) n=0 or 1;
- (vi) when n=1, A is -C(R₁₃R₁₄)-
- 15 wherein R₁₃ and R₁₄, are, independently, H or C₁₋₄ alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkoxy, arylalkoxy, heteroarylalkyl or arylalkyl;
- in a free form, a salt form, or a physiologically hydrolysable and acceptable ester prodrug form thereof, wherein said aryl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy, carboxy or an additional aryl or heteroaryl; or said heteroaryl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen,
- 20 haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy or carboxy.
3. The compound according to claim 2, wherein R₁₀ is:
- aryl substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy, carboxy or an additional aryl or heteroaryl; or

heteroaryl substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy or carboxy.

4. The compound according to claim 2, wherein R₆ is:
 5 phenylamino wherein said phenyl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy, carboxy or an additional aryl; in free or salt form.
5. The compound according to claim 2, wherein R₁₀ is pyridyl substituted
 10 with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy or carboxy in free or salt form.
6. The compound according to claim 2 which is a compound of Formula II



Formula II

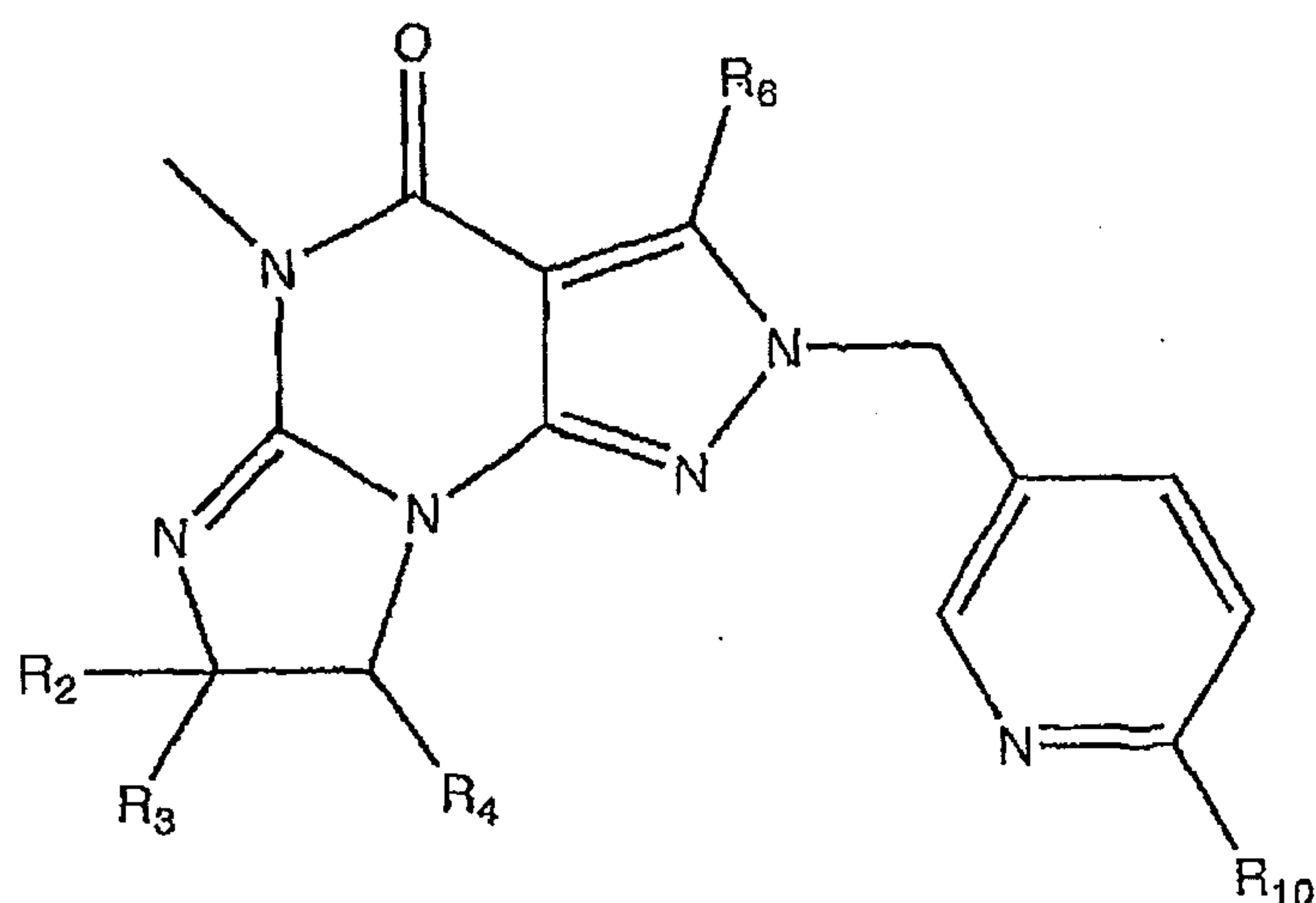
wherein

- 20 R_a and R_b are, independently, H or C₁₋₄ alkyl;
 R₆ is phenylamino or benzylamino;

R₁₀ is phenyl, pyridyl, or thiadiazolyl;

wherein said phenyl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy, carboxy or an additional aryl or heteroaryl; and said pyridyl and thiadiazolyl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy or carboxy in free or salt form.

7. The compound according to claim 2 which is a compound of Formula III



Formula III

wherein

R₂ is H and R₃ and R₄ together form a tri- or tetra-methylene bridge optionally with the carbons carrying R₃ and R₄ having the R and S configuration respectively;

or at least one of R₂ and R₃ is methyl, isopropyl or arylalkoxy and R₄ is H; or R₂ and R₃ are H and R₄ is a C₁₋₄ alkyl;

R₆ is phenylamino or benzylamino;

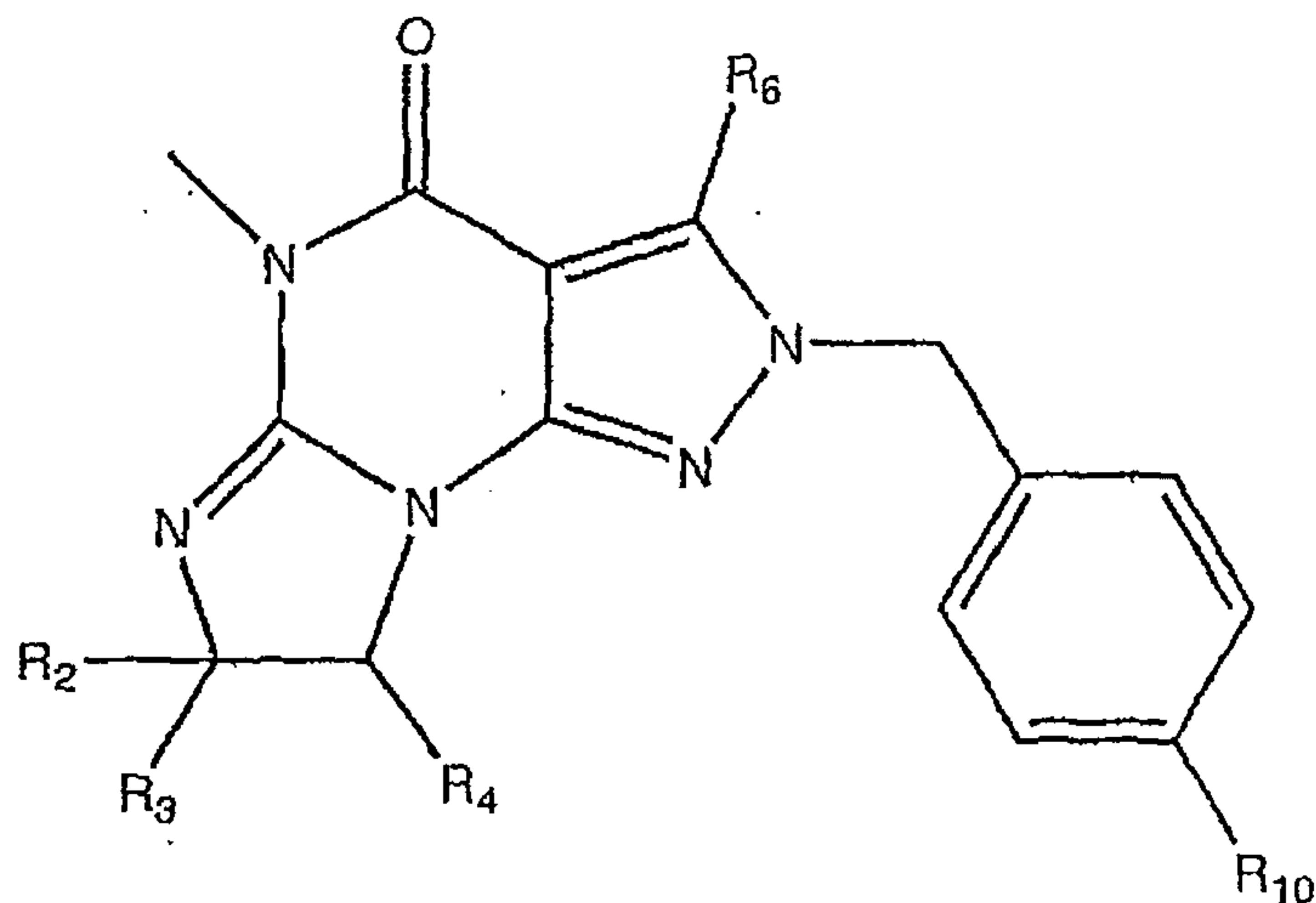
R₁₀ is haloalkyl, phenyl, pyridyl, or thiadiazolyl;

wherein said phenyl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy, carboxy or an additional aryl or heteroaryl; and said

pyridyl and thiadiazolyl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy or carboxy in free or salt form.

8. The compound according to claim 2 which is a compound of Formula IV

5



Formula IV

10 wherein

R₂ is H and R₃ and R₄ together form a tri- or tetra-methylene bridge optionally with the carbons carrying R₃ and R₄ having the R and S configuration respectively;

or at least one of R₂ and R₃ is methyl, isopropyl or arylalkoxy and R₄ is H; or

15 R₂ and R₃ are H and R₄ is a C₁₋₄ alkyl;

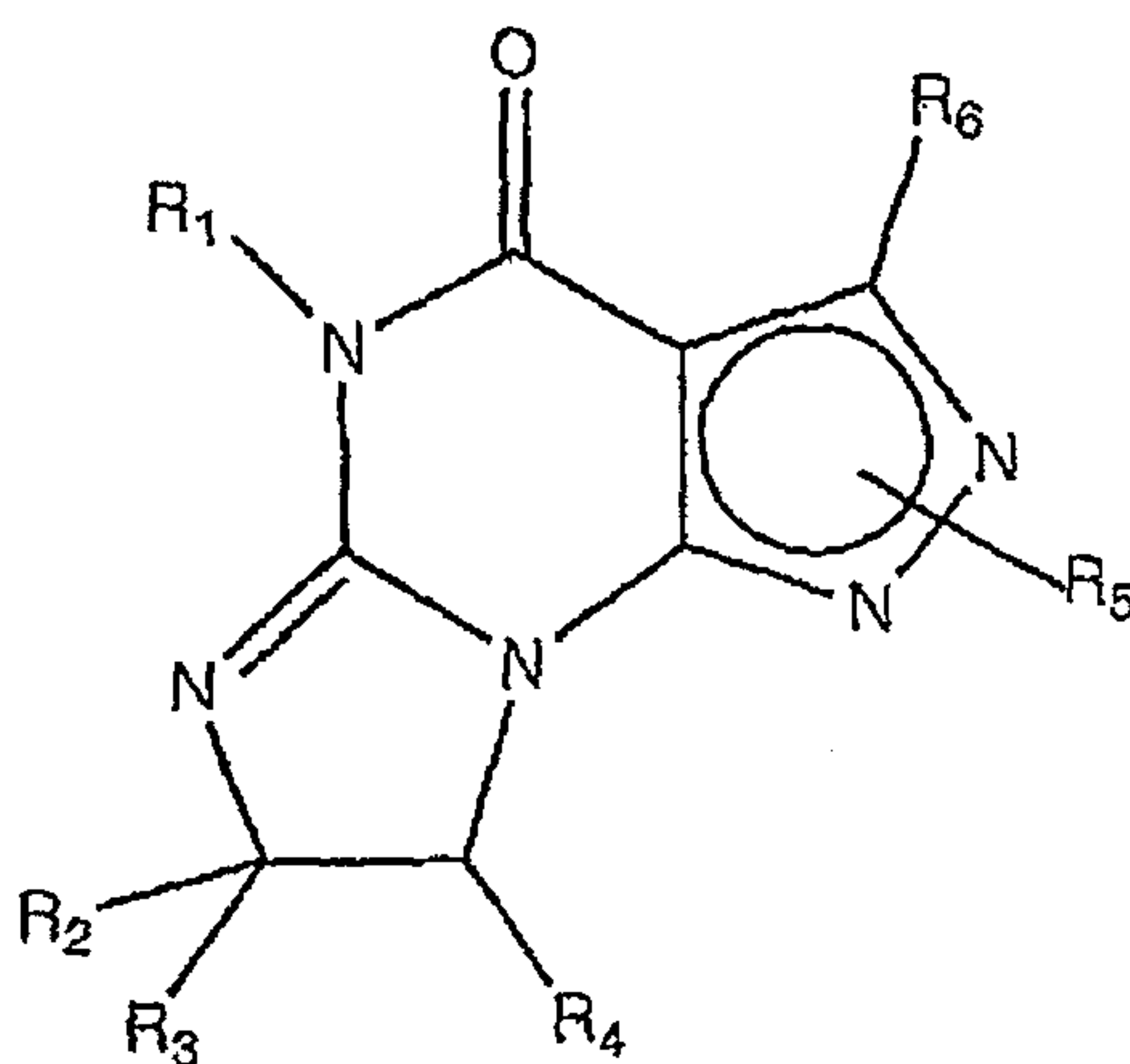
R₆ is phenylamino or benzylamino;

R₁₀ is phenyl, pyridyl, or thiadiazolyl;

wherein said phenyl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy, carboxy or an additional aryl or heteroaryl; and said pyridyl

20 and thiadiazolyl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy or carboxy in free or salt form.

9. The compound according to claim 1 of Formula Ia

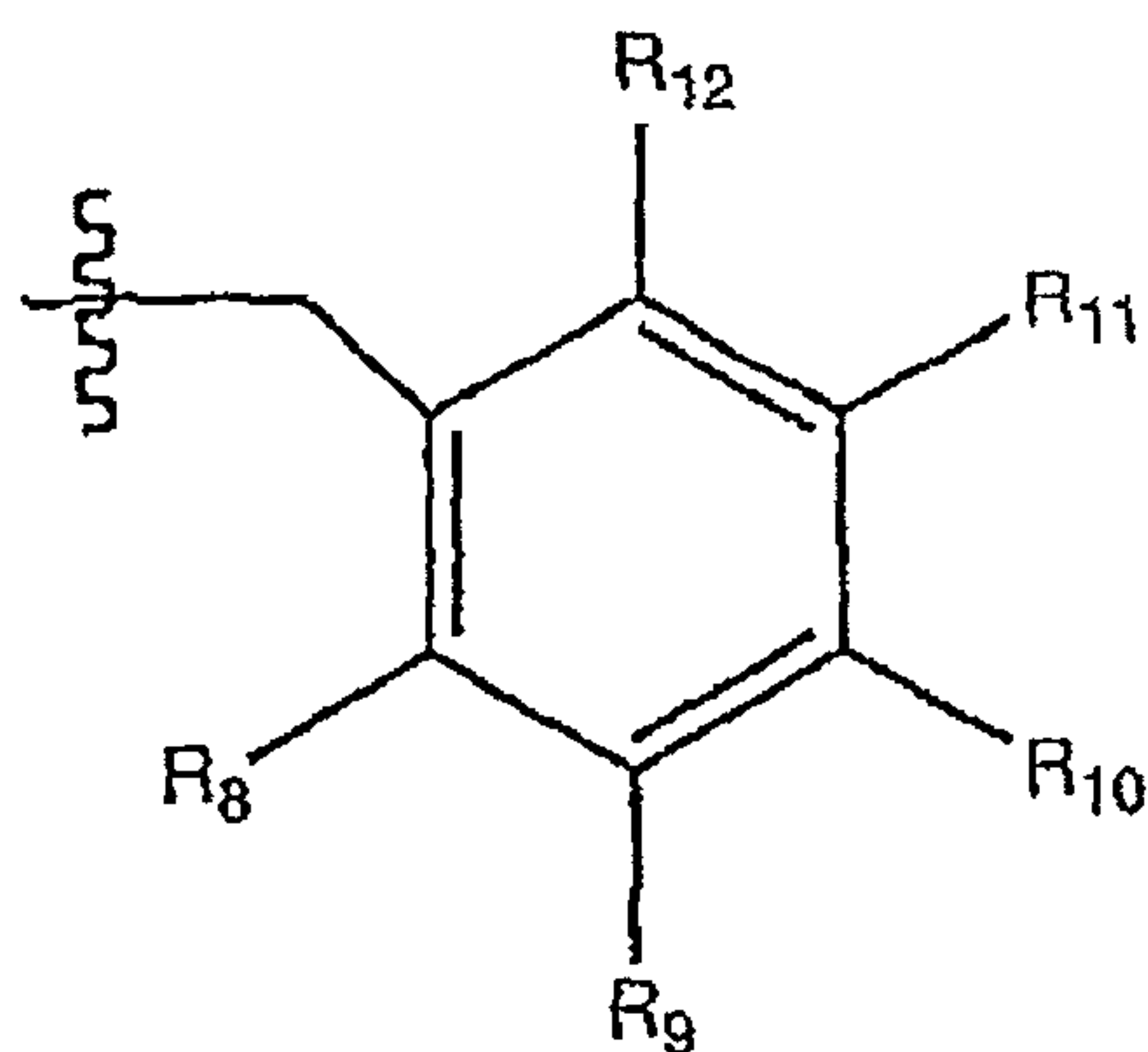


Formula Ia

5 wherein

(i) R_1 is H or C_{1-4} alkyl;
 (ii) R_4 is H and R_2 and R_3 are, independently, H or C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl, or arylalkyl; or R_2 is H and R_3 and R_4 together for a di-, tri- or tetramethylene bridge;

10 (iii) R_5 is attached to one of the nitrogens on the pyrazolo portion of Formula I and is a substituted benzyl of Formula B



Formula B

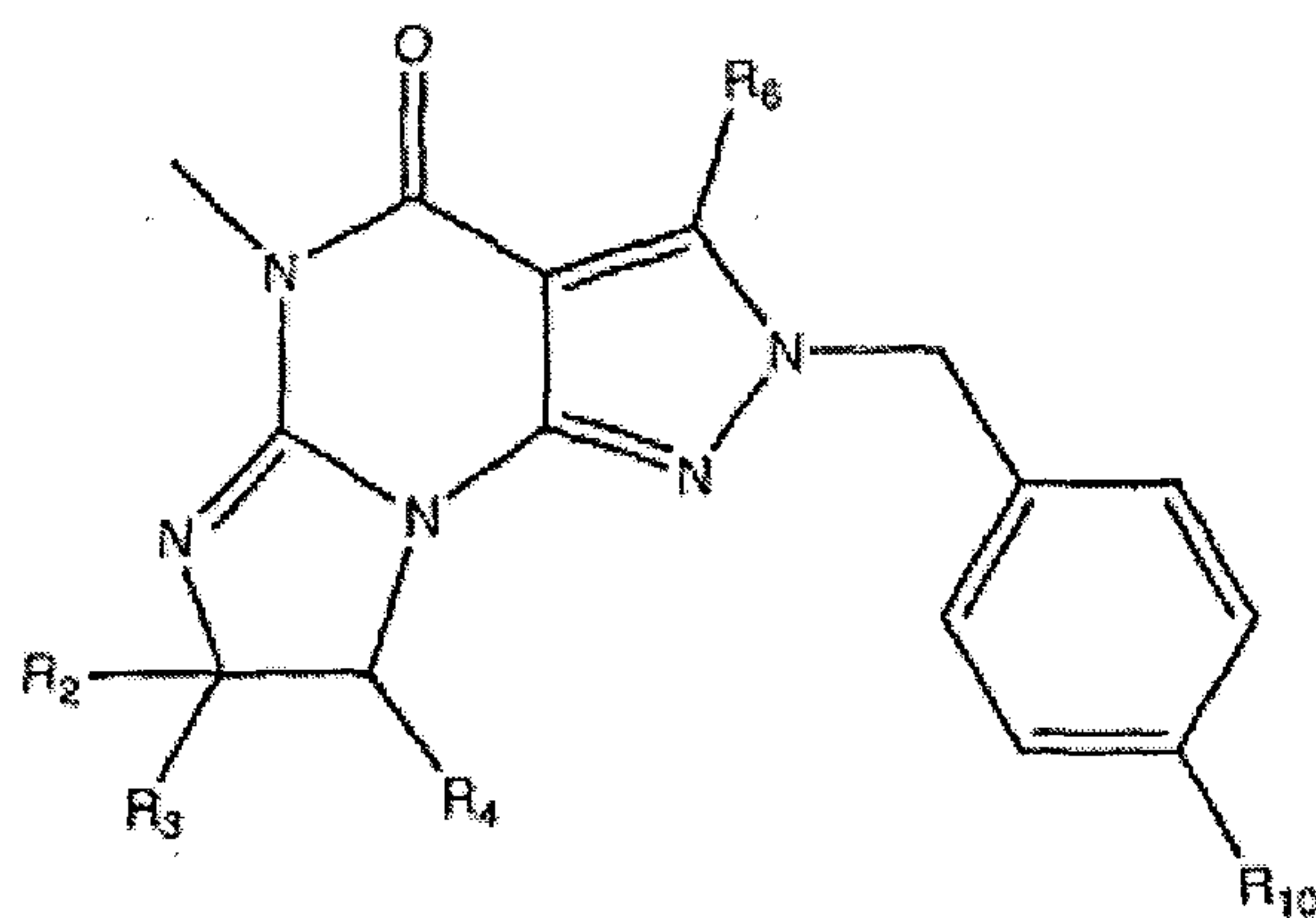
wherein R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} and R_{12} are independently H or halogen; and R_{10} is halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, haloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylcarbonyl, or heteroarylcarbonyl, and

(iv) R_6 is H, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, arylamino, heteroarylamino, arylalkylamino, N,N-dialkylamino, N,N-diarylamino, or N-aryl-N-(arylalkyl)amino;

wherein said aryl is optionally substituted with C_{1-4} alkyl, halogen, halo C_{1-4} alkyl, hydroxy, carboxy or an additional aryl or heteroaryl; and said heteroaryl is optionally substituted with C_{1-4} alkyl, halogen, halo C_{1-4} alkyl, hydroxy or carboxy;

in a free form, a salt form, or a physiologically hydrolysable and acceptable ester prodrug form thereof.

10. The compound according to claim 9 which is a compound of Formula IV



Formula IV

20 wherein

R_2 is H and R_3 and R_4 together form a tri- or tetra-methylene bridge optionally with the carbons carrying R_3 and R_4 having the R and S configuration respectively;

or R_2 and R_3 are each methyl and R_4 is H; or R_2 and R_4 are H and R_3 is isopropyl optionally the carbon carrying R_3 having the R configuration;

R₆ is phenylamino or benzylamino;

R₁₀ is phenyl, pyridyl, or thiadiazolyl;

wherein said phenyl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy, carboxy or an additional aryl or heteroaryl; and said
 5 pyridyl and thiadiazolyl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, haloC₁₋₄alkyl, hydroxy or carboxy in free or salt form.

11. A compound selected from the following:

- 10 2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one;
- Cis*-(6*aR**,10*aS**)-1-(4-Benzoylbenzyl)-5,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-heptahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(1*H*)-one;
- 15 3-Benzyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one;
- 1-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[1*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one;
- 1-(4-(1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl)benzyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[1*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one;
- 20 1-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-3-((biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)(phenyl)amino)-7,8-dihydro-5,7,7-trimethyl-[1*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one;
- Cis*-(6*aR**,10*aS**)-5,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-heptahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1-(4-(pyridin-2yl)benzyl)benzyl)-cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4-(1*H*)-one;
- 25 *Cis*-(6*aR**,10*aS**)-2-(4-(Pyridin-2yl)benzyl)-5,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-heptahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one;

- Cis*-(6a*R**,10a*S**)-3-(Benzyl)-5,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-heptahydro-5-methyl-2-(4-(1,2,3-thiadiazol-4-yl)benzyl)-cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one;
- 5 *Cis*-(6a*R**,10a*S**)-3-(Benzyl)-2-(4-Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-5,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-heptahydro-5-methyl-cyclohex[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one;
- (*R*)-3-(Benzyl)-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-7-isopropyl-5-methyl-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one;
- 10 (6a*R*,9a*S*)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-2-(4-Pyridin-2yl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one;
- (6a*R*,9a*S*)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-3-(phenylamino)-1-(4-Pyridin-2yl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(1*H*)-one;
- 15 (6a*R*,9a*S*)-3-(benzylamino)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(4-Pyridin-2yl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one;
- (6a*R*,9a*S*)-3-(phenylamino)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one;
- 20 2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8,9-trihydro-5,8,8-trimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[2*H*]-pyrimido-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one;
- (7*R*)-2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,7-dimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one;
- 25 (8*R*)-2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-5,8-dimethyl-3-(phenylamino)-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one;
- (7*R*)-2-(Biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydro-3-(phenylamino)-5-methyl-7-(1-methylethyl)-[2*H*]-imidazo-[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one;

(6a*R*,9a*S*)-3-(phenylamino)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one;

(6a*R*,9a*S*)-3-(phenylamino)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-((6-trifluoromethyl)-pyridin-3-yl)methyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one;

(6a*R*,9a*S*)-3-(phenylamino)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(3-fluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one; and

(6a*R*,9a*S*)-3-(phenylamino)-5,6a,7,8,9,9a-hexahydro-5-methyl-2-(4-methylsulfonyl-benzyl)-cyclopent[4,5]imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyrimidin-4(2*H*)-one;

in free or salt form, or in pure enantiomeric form.

12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 11 in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

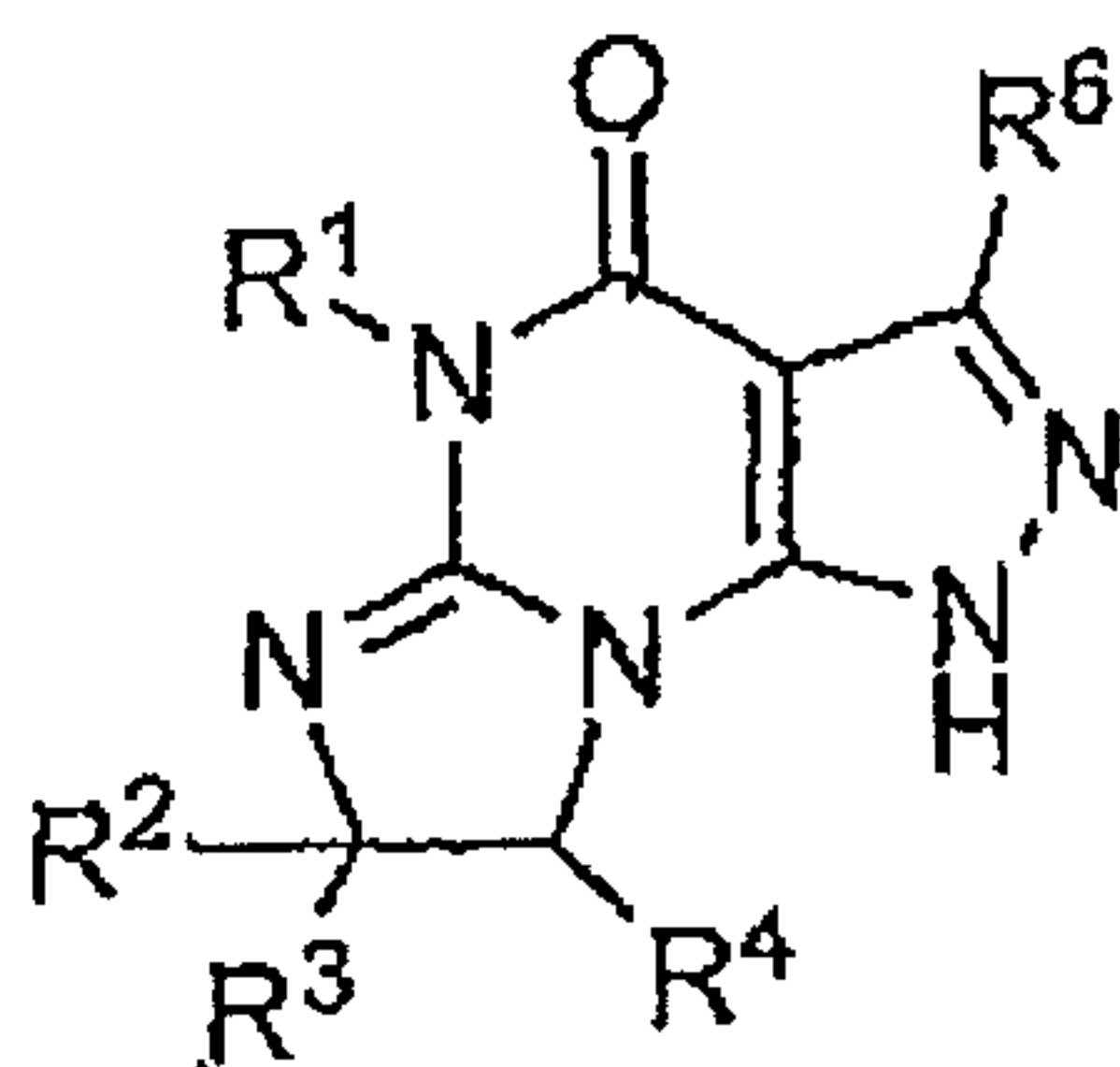
13. Use of an effective amount of a compound as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 or a pharmaceutical composition as defined in claim 12 for the treatment of a condition selected from Parkinson's disease, restless leg, tremors, dyskinesias, Huntington's disease, Alzheimer's disease, drug-induced movement disorders; depression, attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, bipolar illness, anxiety, sleep disorder, cognitive impairment, dementia, psychostimulant withdrawal, drug addiction; cerebrovascular disease, stroke, congestive heart disease, hypertension, pulmonary hypertension, sexual dysfunction; asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, allergic rhinitis, autoimmune and inflammatory diseases.

14. The use of claim 13 wherein the condition is Parkinson's disease.

15. The use of claim 13 wherein the condition is cognitive impairment.

5 16. A method of making the compound as defined in claim 1 comprising reacting
a 7,8-dihydro-imidazo[1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3- e]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one or a 7,8,9-
trihydro-[1*H* or 2*H*]-pyrimido [1,2- α]pyrazolo[4,3- e]pyrimidin-4(5*H*)-one
with a compound of formula X-R₅ wherein X is a leaving group and R₅ is C₂₋₉
alkyl, C₃₋₉ cycloalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, or substituted arylalkyl, and isolating
10 the compound according to claim 1, thus obtained.

17. A method of making the compounds as defined in any one of claims 2-10,
comprising reacting a compound of Formula IIIJ:

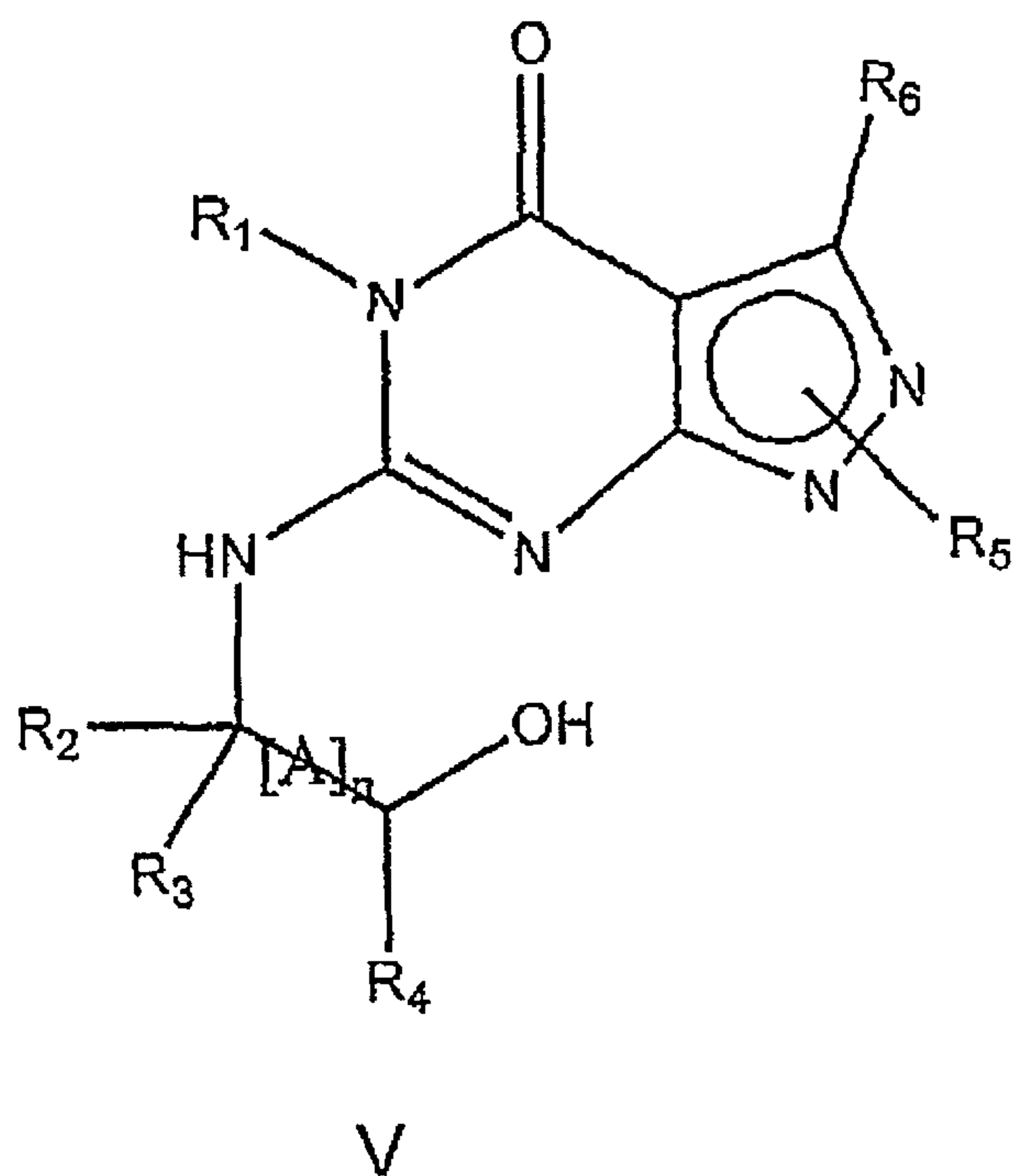


(IIIJ)

15 with X-R₅ wherein X is a leaving group,

wherein R₁₋₆ are as defined in any one of claims 2 to 10.

18. A method of making the compound as defined in any one of claims 2 to 8
20 comprising dehydrating a compound of Formula V



wherein R_{1-6} and $[A]_n$ are as defined in any one of claims 2 to 8, and recovering the compound as defined in claim 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8.

5

19. A method of making a compound as defined in claim 9 or 10 comprising dehydrating a compound of Formula V as defined in claim 18 wherein n is 0 and wherein R_{1-6} are as defined for Formula Ia in claim 9 or 10, and recovering the compound as defined in claim 9 or 10.

10

20. The compound according to claim 8, wherein R_2 is H and R_3 and R_4 together form a tri- or tetra-methylene bridge wherein the carbons carrying R_3 and R_4 have the R and S configuration respectively, in free or salt form.

15

21. The compound according to claim 8, wherein R_6 is phenylamino optionally substituted with C_{1-4} alkyl, halogen, halo C_{1-4} alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-4} carboxy or an additional aryl or heteroaryl, in free or salt form.