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(54) Titre : UTILISATION DE BIOMARQUEURS DANS L'IDENTIFICATION DE PATIENTS ATTEINTS D'UN CANCER
SENSIBLES A UN TRAITEMENT AVEC UN INHIBITEUR DE PRMT5
(54) Title: USE OF BIOMARKERS IN IDENTIFYING CANCER PATIENTS THAT WILL BE RESPONSIVE TO
TREATMENT WITH A PRMT5 INHIBITOR

(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

The present invention concerns a method of identifying a patient that is likely to be responsive to treatment with a protein arginine N-methyltransferase 5 (PRMT5) inhibitor comprising: evaluating a biological sample from the patient for the presence of a spliceosome alteration, wherein the presence of any said alteration indicates a higher likelihood for said patient to be responsive to treatment with said PRMT5 inhibitor than in the absence of any said mutation or alteration.

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(54) Title: USE OF BIOMARKERS IN IDENTIFYING CANCER PATIENTS THAT WILL BE RESPONSIVE TO TREATMENT WITH A PRMT5 INHIBITOR

(57) Abstract: The present invention concerns a method of identifying a patient that is likely to be responsive to treatment with a protein arginine N-methyltransferase 5 (PRMT5) inhibitor comprising: evaluating a biological sample from the patient for the presence of a spliceosome alteration, wherein the presence of any said alteration indicates a higher likelihood for said patient to be responsive to treatment with said PRMT5 inhibitor than in the absence of any said mutation or alteration.

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USE OF BIOMARKERS IN IDENTIFYING CANCER PATIENTS THAT WILL BE RESPONSIVE TO TREATMENT WITH A PRMT5 INHIBITOR

TECHNICAL FIELD

5 **[0001]** Provided herein are methods of identifying a patient with a high likelihood to be responsive to treatment with a protein arginine N-methyltransferase 5 inhibitor and methods of treating the same.

BACKGROUND

10 **[0002]** Protein arginine N-methyltransferase 5 (PRMT5), also described as Hsl7, Jbp1, Skb1, Capsuleen or Dart5, is one of the major methyltransferases responsible for mono- and symmetric dimethylation of arginines. PRMT5 belongs to the Sym Arg Dimethyltransferase enzyme family. Catalytic activity is linked to oncogenic lung driver pathway activation (splicing & WNT signalling) and epigenetic repression of tumour
15 suppressors as well as tumour immunogenic chemokines. Protein level and localisation correlate with higher cellular methylation, loss of the bronchial epithelial phenotype and poor disease progression.

[0003] Post-translational arginine methylation on histones and non-histone proteins is crucial for a variety of biological processes, like genome organization, transcription, differentiation, spliceosome function, signal transduction and regulation of
20 cell-cycle progression, stem cells and T-cell fate. Metazoan PRMT5 forms a functional complex with the methylosome protein 50 (MEP50) also named as Wdr77, androgen receptor coactivator p44 and Valois. Both, elevated PRMT5-MEP50 protein level and cytoplasmic accumulation are implicated in cancer tumorigenesis and have recently been
25 correlated with poor clinical outcome. Cellular rescue experiments that addressed both the catalytic and scaffold function of the PRMT5-MEP50 complex, beside comprehensive enzymological studies have substantiate the oncogenic link between protein level, localization and enzymatic function. This correlation turns PRMT5 into an essential small molecule drug target against cancer and other diseases.

30 **[0004]** PRMT5 is a member of the type II PRMT subfamily that utilizes S-adenosylmethionine (SAM) to generate symmetric dimethylated arginine on histones and non-histone protein substrates and S-adenosylhomocysteine (SAH). The regulation of

PRMT5 activity occurs through a vast number of different binding partners, post-translational modifications, miRNAs and subcellular localization. Methylation of histones H2A and H4 on Arg3 and histone H3 on Arg8 regulate chromatin organization for specific repression/activation of gene transcripts that are involved in differentiation, transformation, cell-cycle progression and tumor suppression. Furthermore, PRMT5-mediated methylation of histone H4 on Arg3 might recruit the DNA-methyltransferase DNMT3A to couple histone and DNA methylation for long-term gene silencing.

[0005] Non-histone methylation can occur either in the cytoplasm or nucleus dependent on the cellular localization of PRMT5. The methylation of the Sm proteins D1 and D3, which are required for the assembly of the nuclear spliceosome, takes place in the cytoplasm as part of the PRMT5 containing “methylosome”. Further evidence that PRMT5 is involved in splicing, was provided by the conditional PRMT5 knockout in mouse neural stem cells. Cells that lack PRMT5 showed a selective retention of introns and skipping of exons with weak 5' donor sites. In addition to a role in splicing, PRMT5 influences key pathways involved in cell fate and homeostasis by direct methylation of key signaling nodules like p53,³⁰ EGFR,²⁶ CRAF,³ PI3K/AKT,⁶⁴ and NFkB.

[0006] Since PRMT5 is one of the major sym-Arg methyltransferases and involved in a multitude of cellular processes, an increased protein expression appears to be an important factor in its tumorigenicity. Interestingly, the translation of PRMT5 in mantle cell lymphoma (MCL) seems to be regulated by miRNAs. Although MCL cells show less mRNA and a slower transcription rate of PRMT5 than normal B lymphocytes, the PRMT5 level and the methylation of H3R8 and H4R3 are significantly increased. Re-expression of miRNAs that binds the 3'UTR region of PRMT5 decreases PRMT5 protein level. Strikingly, a PRMT5 antisense RNA has been found within the human PRMT5 gene that supports the hypothesis of a specific translational regulation rather than high mRNA expression level.

[0007] Although PRMT5 is highly considered as a clinical relevant target, very few selective PRMT5 inhibitors have been published yet. Recently, a novel sub-nanomolar potent PRMT5 inhibitor (EPZ015666) with anti-tumor activity in multiple MCL xenograft models has been described to be the first chemical probe suitable for further validation of PRMT5's biology and role in cancer (Chan-Penebre E, Kuplast KG, Majer CR, et al. A selective inhibitor of PRMT5 with in vivo and in vitro potency in MCL models. Nat Chem Biol. Jun 2015;11(6):432-437).

[0008] WO2014100695A1 discloses compounds useful for inhibiting PRMT5 activity; Methods of using the compounds for treating PRMT5-mediated disorders are also described.

5 [0009] WO2014100730A1 discloses PRMT5 inhibitors containing a dihydro- or tetrahydroisoquinoline and uses thereof.

[0010] Devkota, K. et al., ACS Med Chem Lett, 2014. **5**: p. 293-297, describes the synthesis of a series of analogues of the natural product sinefungin and the ability of these analogues to inhibit EHMT1 and EHMT2.

10 [0011] WO2003070739 discloses partial and full agonists of A1 adenosine receptors, their preparation, and their therapeutic use.

[0012] WO2012082436 discloses compounds and compositions as modulators of histone methyltransferases, and for treating diseases influenced by modulation of histone methyltransferase activity.

[0013] WO2014100719 discloses PRMT5 inhibitors and uses thereof.

15 [0014] WO03074083 discloses combination therapies that selectively kill methylthioadenosine phosphorylase deficient cells. Analogs of MTA are described herein as anti-toxicity agents.

20 [0015] Kung, P.-P. et al., Bioorg Med Chem Lett, 2005. **15**: p. 2829-2833, describes the design, synthesis, and biological evaluation of novel human 5'-deoxy-5'-methylthioadenosine phosphorylase (MTAP) substrates.

[0016] WO2012075500 discloses 7-deazapurine modulators of histone methyltransferase.

[0017] WO2014035140 discloses compounds and compositions for modulating histone methyltransferase activity.

25 [0018] WO2015200680 describes PRMT5 inhibitors and uses thereof.

[0019] WO2017/032840 and WO2017/153186 also describe PRMT5 inhibitors and uses thereof and are incorporated by reference herein.

30 [0020] PRMT5 has been linked to lung cancer through multiple mechanisms. Elevated PRMT5 and MEP50 expression in NSCLC is highly correlated with poorer survival. Mechanistic insight into this elevated expression in lung adenocarcinoma was shown by studies in which high cytoplasmic expression of PRMT5 was directly correlated with poor prognosis, possibly mediated through the epithelial-to mesenchymal transition and histone methylation. In addition, PRMT5 overexpression causes the formation of tumors in nude mice. The mechanism behind the cell-transforming capabilities of PRMT5 is unclear, but the enzyme is postulated to have roles in cell death,
35 cell cycle progression, splicing, cell growth and proliferation.

[0021] Preclinical data demonstrates that PRMT5 inhibition causes lung cancer cell death of a subset of lung cancer population while different subsets are unaffected by long exposure to PRMT5 inhibitor. Therefore, there is a clear need for pharmacodynamic (PD) and/or predictive biomarkers to determine whether a particular patient's PRMT5 mediated disease has a high likelihood to respond to treatment with a PRMT5 inhibitor, or to measure pharmacodynamics effects of a treatment with a PRMT5 inhibitor in a patient with NSCLC or SCLC or other diseases mediated by PRMT5. No such biomarkers are currently known.

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SUMMARY

[0022] Disclosed herein are methods of identifying a patient that will have a high likelihood to be responsive to treatment with a protein arginine N-methyltransferase 5 (PRMT5) inhibitor.

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[0023] PRMT5 inhibitors may bind to the PRMT5 enzyme, competitively with natural substrate SAM (S-adenosyl-L-methionine), to inhibit such enzyme.

[0024] It is therefore anticipated that PRMT5 inhibitors or pharmaceutical compositions thereof may be useful for treating or preventing, in particular treating, diseases such as a blood disorder, metabolic disorders, autoimmune disorders, cancer, inflammatory diseases, cardiovascular diseases, neurodegenerative diseases, pancreatitis, multiorgan failure, kidney diseases, platelet aggregation, sperm motility, transplantation rejection, graft rejection, lung injuries and the like.

[0025] In particular, PRMT5 inhibitors or pharmaceutical compositions thereof may be useful for treating or preventing, in particular treating, of diseases such as allergy, asthma, hematopoietic cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer, melanoma, metabolic disorder, diabetes, obesity, blood disorder, sickle cell anemia, and the like.

[0026] PRMT5 inhibitors or pharmaceutical compositions thereof may be useful for treating or preventing, in particular treating, of diseases such as a proliferative disorder, such as an autoimmune disease, cancer, a benign neoplasm, or an inflammatory disease.

[0027] PRMT5 inhibitors or pharmaceutical compositions thereof may be useful for treating or preventing, in particular treating, of diseases such as a metabolic disorder comprising diabetes, obesity; a proliferative disorder comprising cancer, hematopoietic cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer, melanoma, or pancreatic cancer;

blood disorder; hemoglobinopathy; sickle cell anemia; β -thalassemia, an inflammatory disease, and autoimmune disease e.g. rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, Sjogren's syndrome, diarrhea, gastroesophageal reflux disease, and the like.

[0028] In some embodiments, the inhibition of PRMT5 may be useful in treating or preventing, in particular treating, the following non-limiting list of cancers: breast cancer, lung cancer, esophageal cancer, bladder cancer, hematopoietic cancer, lymphoma, medulloblastoma, rectum adenocarcinoma, colon adenocarcinoma, gastric cancer, pancreatic cancer, liver cancer, adenoid cystic carcinoma, lung adenocarcinoma, head and neck squamous cell carcinoma, brain tumors, hepatocellular carcinoma, renal cell carcinoma, melanoma, oligodendroglioma, ovarian clear cell carcinoma, and ovarian serous cystadenoma.

[0029] Examples of metabolic disorders which may be treated or prevented, in particular treated, include, but are not limited to, diabetes or obesity.

[0030] Examples of blood disorders which may be treated or prevented, in particular treated, include, but are not limited to, hemoglobinopathy, such as sickle cell disease or β -thalassemia.

[0031] Examples of cancers which may be treated or prevented, in particular treated, include, but are not limited to, acoustic neuroma, adenocarcinoma, adrenal gland cancer, anal cancer, angiosarcoma (e.g., lymphangio sarcoma, lymphangioendothelio sarcoma, hemangio sarcoma), appendix cancer, benign monoclonal gammopathy, biliary cancer (e.g., cholangiocarcinoma), bladder cancer, breast cancer (e.g., adenocarcinoma of the breast, papillary carcinoma of the breast, mammary cancer, medullary carcinoma of the breast), brain cancer (e.g., meningioma; glioma, e.g., astrocytoma, oligodendroglioma; medulloblastoma), bronchus cancer, carcinoid tumor, cervical cancer (e.g., cervical adenocarcinoma), chordoma, choriocarcinoma, craniopharyngioma, colorectal cancer (e.g., colon cancer, rectal cancer, colorectal adenocarcinoma), epithelial carcinoma, ependymoma, endothelio sarcoma (e.g., Kaposi's sarcoma, multiple idiopathic hemorrhagic sarcoma), endometrial cancer (e.g., uterine cancer, uterine sarcoma), esophageal cancer (e.g., adenocarcinoma of the esophagus, Barrett' s adenocarinoma), Ewing sarcoma, eye cancer (e.g., intraocular melanoma, retinoblastoma), familial hypereosinophilia, gall bladder cancer, gastric cancer (e.g., stomach adenocarcinoma), gastrointestinal stromal tumor (GIST), head and neck cancer (e.g., head and neck squamous cell carcinoma, oral cancer (e.g., oral squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC), throat cancer (e.g., pharyngeal cancer, laryngeal cancer, nasopharyngeal cancer, oropharyngeal cancer)), hematopoietic cancers (e.g., leukemia such as acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL) (e.g., B-cell ALL, T-cell ALL), acute

myelocytic leukemia (AML) (e.g., B-cell AML, T-cell AML), chronic myelocytic leukemia (CML) (e.g., B-cell CML, T-cell CML), and chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) (e.g., B-cell CLL, T-cell CLL); lymphoma such as Hodgkin lymphoma (HL) (e.g., B-cell HL, T-cell HL) and non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) (e.g., B-cell NHL such as diffuse large cell lymphoma (DLCL) (e.g., diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL)), follicular lymphoma, chronic lymphocytic leukemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma (CLL/SLL), mantle cell lymphoma (MCL), marginal zone B-cell lymphomas (e.g., mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (MALT) lymphomas, nodal marginal zone B-cell lymphoma, splenic marginal zone B-cell lymphoma), primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma, Burkitt lymphoma, lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma (i.e., "Waldenstrom's macro globulinemia"), immunoblastic large cell lymphoma, hairy cell leukemia (HCL), precursor B -lymphoblastic lymphoma and primary central nervous system (CNS) lymphoma; and T-cell NHL such as precursor T-lymphoblastic lymphoma/leukemia, peripheral T-cell lymphoma (PTCL) (e.g., cutaneous T-cell lymphoma (CTCL) (e.g., mycosis fungoides, Sezary syndrome), angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma, extranodal natural killer T-cell lymphoma, enteropathy type T-cell lymphoma, subcutaneous panniculitis-like T-cell lymphoma, anaplastic large cell lymphoma); a mixture of one or more leukemia/lymphoma as described above; and multiple myeloma (MM)), heavy chain disease (e.g., alpha chain disease, gamma chain disease, mu chain disease), hemangioblastoma, inflammatory myofibroblastic tumors, immunocytic amyloidosis, kidney cancer (e.g., nephroblastoma a.k.a. Wilms' tumor, renal cell carcinoma), liver cancer (e.g., hepatocellular cancer (HCC), malignant hepatoma), lung cancer (e.g., bronchogenic carcinoma, non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), squamous lung cancer (SLC), adenocarcinoma of the lung, *Lewis lung carcinoma*, lung neuroendocrine tumors: typical carcinoid, atypical carcinoid, small cell lung cancer (SCLC), and large cell neuroendocrine carcinoma), leiomyosarcoma (LMS), mastocytosis (e.g., systemic mastocytosis), myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS), mesothelioma, myeloproliferative disorder (MPD) (e.g., polycythemia Vera (PV), essential thrombocytosis (ET), agnogenic myeloid metaplasia (AMM) a.k.a. myelofibrosis (MF), chronic idiopathic myelofibrosis, chronic myelocytic leukemia (CML), chronic neutrophilic leukemia (CNL), hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES)), neuroblastoma, neurofibroma (e.g., neurofibromatosis (NF) type 1 or type 2, schwannomatosis), neuroendocrine cancer (e.g., gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine tumor (GEP-NET), carcinoid tumor), osteosarcoma, ovarian cancer (e.g., cystadenocarcinoma, ovarian embryonal carcinoma, ovarian adenocarcinoma), papillary adenocarcinoma, pancreatic cancer (e.g., pancreatic adenocarcinoma, intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasm (IPMN), Islet cell tumors), penile cancer (e.g., Paget's

disease of the penis and scrotum), pinealoma, primitive neuroectodermal tumor (PNT), prostate cancer (e.g., prostate adenocarcinoma), rectal cancer, rhabdomyosarcoma, salivary gland cancer, skin cancer (e.g., squamous cell carcinoma (SCC), keratoacanthoma (KA), melanoma, basal cell carcinoma (BCC)), small bowel cancer
 5 (e.g., appendix cancer), soft tissue sarcoma (e.g., malignant fibrous histiocytoma (MFH), liposarcoma, malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor (MPNST), chondrosarcoma, fibrosarcoma, myxosarcoma), sebaceous gland carcinoma, sweat gland carcinoma, synovioma, testicular cancer (e.g., seminoma, testicular embryonal carcinoma), thyroid cancer (e.g., papillary carcinoma of the thyroid, papillary thyroid carcinoma (PTC),
 10 medullary thyroid cancer), urethral cancer, vaginal cancer, and vulvar cancer (e.g., Paget's disease of the vulva).

[0032] Examples of neurodegenerative diseases which may be treated or prevented, in particular treated, include, but are not limited to, motor neurone disease, progressive supranuclear palsy, corticobasal degeneration, Pick's disease, Alzheimer's
 15 disease, AIDS-related dementia, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, retinitis pigmentosa, spinal muscular atrophy, and cerebellar degeneration.

[0033] Examples of cardiovascular diseases which may be treated or prevented, in particular treated, include, but are not limited to, cardiac hypertrophy, restenosis, atherosclerosis, and glomerulonephritis.

[0034] Examples of inflammatory diseases which may be treated or prevented, in particular treated, include, but are not limited to, inflammation associated with acne, anemia (e.g., aplastic anemia, haemolytic autoimmune anaemia), rhinitis, asthma, arteritis (e.g., polyarteritis, temporal arteritis, periarteritis nodosa, Takayasu's arteritis), arthritis (e.g., crystalline arthritis, osteoarthritis, psoriatic arthritis, gouty arthritis,
 25 reactive arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and Reiter's arthritis), upper respiratory tract disease, ankylosing spondylitis, amylosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, autoimmune diseases, allergies or allergic reactions, atherosclerosis, bronchitis, bursitis, chronic prostatitis, conjunctivitis, Chagas disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, diverticulitis, dermatomyositis, diabetes (e.g., type I diabetes mellitus, type 2 diabetes
 30 mellitus), a skin condition (e.g., psoriasis, eczema, eczema hypersensitivity reactions, burns, dermatitis, pruritus (itch)), endometriosis, Guillain-Barre syndrome, infection, ischaemic heart disease, Kawasaki disease, glomerulonephritis, gingivitis, hypersensitivity, headaches (e.g., migraine headaches, tension headaches), ileus (e.g., postoperative ileus and ileus during sepsis), idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura,
 35 interstitial cystitis (painful bladder syndrome), gastrointestinal disorder (e.g., selected from peptic ulcers, regional enteritis, diverticulitis, gastrointestinal bleeding, eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders (e.g., eosinophilic esophagitis, eosinophilic

gastritis, eosinophilic gastroenteritis, eosinophilic colitis), gastritis, diarrhea, gastroesophageal reflux disease (GORD, or its synonym GERD), inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) (e.g., Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, collagenous colitis, lymphocytic colitis, ischaemic colitis, diversion colitis, Behcet's syndrome, indeterminate colitis) and
 5 inflammatory bowel syndrome (IBS)), lupus, morphea, myasthenia gravis, myocardial ischemia, multiple sclerosis, nephrotic syndrome, pemphigus vulgaris, pernicious anaemia, peptic ulcers, polymyositis, primary biliary cirrhosis, neuroinflammation associated with brain disorders (e.g. , Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, and Alzheimer's disease), prostatitis, chronic inflammation associated with cranial radiation
 10 injury, pelvic inflammatory disease, reperfusion injury, regional enteritis, rheumatic fever, systemic lupus erythematosus, scleroderma, scleroderma, sarcoidosis, spondyloarthropathies, Sjogren's syndrome, thyroiditis, transplantation rejection, tendonitis, trauma or injury (e.g. , frostbite, chemical irritants, toxins, scarring, burns, physical injury), vasculitis, vitiligo and Wegener's granulomatosis.

15 [0035] In particular, the inflammatory disease can be an acute inflammatory disease (e.g., for example, inflammation resulting from infection). In particular, the inflammatory disease can be a chronic inflammatory disease (e.g., conditions resulting from asthma, arthritis and inflammatory bowel disease). PRMT5 inhibitors may also be useful in treating inflammation associated with trauma and non-inflammatory myalgia.
 20 The compounds may also be useful in treating inflammation associated with cancer.

[0036] Examples of autoimmune diseases which may be treated or prevented, in particular treated, include, but are not limited to, arthritis (including rheumatoid arthritis, spondyloarthropathies, gouty arthritis, degenerative joint diseases such as osteoarthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, Sjogren's syndrome, ankylosing
 25 spondylitis, undifferentiated spondylitis, Behcet's disease, haemolytic autoimmune anaemias, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, amylosis, multiple sclerosis, acute painful shoulder, psoriatic, and juvenile arthritis), asthma, atherosclerosis, osteoporosis, bronchitis, tendonitis, bursitis, skin condition (e.g., psoriasis, eczema, eczema hypersensitivity reactions, burns, dermatitis, pruritus (itch)), enuresis, eosinophilic
 30 disease, gastrointestinal disorder (e.g. , selected from peptic ulcers, regional enteritis, diverticulitis, gastrointestinal bleeding, eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders (e.g., eosinophilic esophagitis, eosinophilic gastritis, eosinophilic gastroenteritis, eosinophilic colitis), gastritis, diarrhea, gastroesophageal reflux disease (GORD, or its synonym GERD), inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) (e.g., Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, collagenous colitis, lymphocytic colitis, ischaemic colitis, diversion colitis, Behcet's
 35 syndrome, indeterminate colitis) and inflammatory bowel syndrome (IBS)), and disorders ameliorated by a gastroprokinetic agent (e.g. , ileus, postoperative ileus and

ileus during sepsis; gastroesophageal reflux disease (GORD, or its synonym GERD); eosinophilic esophagitis, gastroparesis such as diabetic gastroparesis; food intolerances and food allergies and other functional bowel disorders, such as non-ulcerative dyspepsia (NUD) and non-cardiac chest pain (NCCP, including costo-chondritis)).

5 **[0037]** In a particular embodiment, a PRMT5 inhibitor may be useful in somatic cell reprogramming, such as reprogramming somatic cells into stem cells. In a particular embodiment, a PRMT5 inhibitors may be useful in germ cell development, and are thus envisioned useful in the areas of reproductive technology and regenerative medicine.

10 **[0038]** Other diseases which may be treated or prevented, in particular treated, include, but are not limited to, ischemic injury associated myocardial infarctions, immunological diseases, stroke, arrhythmia, toxin-induced or alcohol related liver diseases, aspirin-sensitive rhinosinusitis, cystic fibrosis, cancer pain, and haematological diseases, for example chronic anemia and aplastic anemia.

15 **[0039]** The present invention thus comprises a method of identifying a patient that is likely to be responsive to treatment with a protein arginine N-methyltransferase 5 (PRMT5) inhibitor comprising evaluating a biological sample from the patient for the presence of any of the following:

- a PIC3CA activating mutation,
- 20 • a spliceosome alteration,
- a cyclin D1 pathway amplification, and/or
- a WNT pathway alteration

wherein the presence of any said mutation or alteration indicates a higher likelihood for said patient to be responsive to treatment with said PRMT5
25 inhibitor than in the absence of any said mutation or alteration.

[0040] In a preferred embodiment, the spliceosome alteration comprises a mutation in a gene selected from the group consisting of U2AF1, RBM10 and KIAA1429. In a specific embodiment, the gene is U2AF1 and the mutation is S34F.
30 In another specific embodiment, the gene is RBM10 and the mutation is selected from the group consisting of I696fs, I348N, G840fs. In yet another specific embodiment, the gene is KIAA1429 and the mutation is selected from the group consisting of L837V, F1260L, D251if, T1333M, V1548L, G397A and Q962E. Other

spliceosome alterations may also indicate a higher likelihood of the patient to be responsive to treatment with a PRMT5 inhibitor.

[0041] In another embodiment the PIC3CA activating mutation is selected from the group consisting of H1047R, PG106-R108del , T1025A and E542K.
5 However, other activating mutation may also indicate a higher likelihood of the patient to be responsive to treatment with a PRMT5 inhibitor.

[0042] In another embodiment, the cyclin D1 pathway amplification is an amplification of Cyclin D1, CDK4 or CDK6 expression. However, other cyclin D1 pathway amplifications may also indicate a higher likelihood of the patient to be
10 responsive to treatment with a PRMT5 inhibitor.

[0043] In another embodiment, the WNT pathway alteration comprises autocrine WNT signaling. Preferably, the WNT pathway alteration comprises a mutation in an APC or CTNNB1 gene. In a specific embodiment, the gene is APC and the mutation is selected from the group consisting of R213Q, R2673G, I1177M
15 and D2796G. In another specific embodiment, the gene is CTNNB1 and the mutation is selected from the group consisting of Y670*, S45F, and T41A. However, other WNT pathway alterations may also indicate a higher likelihood of the patient to be responsive to treatment with a PRMT5 inhibitor.

[0044] In a particular embodiment, the mutation or alteration according to
20 the invention comprises a spliceosome alteration, and the patient has NSCLC.

[0045] In another particular embodiment, the mutation or alteration according to the invention comprises a cyclin D1 pathway amplicifation or a WNT pathway alteration, and the patient has NSCLC.

[0046] In another particular embodiment, the mutation or alteration
25 according to the invention comprises a PIC3CA activating mutation and the patient has SCLC.

[0047] In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the PRMT5 inhibitor is compound 2 or compound 80.

[0048] The present application discloses a sensitivity link to PI3K-alpha
30 activating mutations in SCLC, and in spliceosome alterations and WNT pathway upregulation in NSCLC. Cyclin D1 pathway amplifications are associated with PRMT5 inhibitor response in NSCLC.

[0049] Kits and primers for identifying the presence of one or more mutation or alterations as described above in a biological sample are further provided herein.

[0050] The disclosed methods, kits, and primers may be understood more readily by reference to the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying figures, which form a part of this disclosure. It is to be understood that the disclosed methods, kits, and primers are not limited to the specific methods, kits, and primers described and/or shown herein, and that the terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing particular embodiments by way of example only and is not intended to be limiting of the claimed methods, kits, and primers.

[0051] Reference to a particular numerical value includes at least that particular value, unless the context clearly dictates otherwise. When a range of values is expressed, another embodiment includes from the one particular value and/or to the other particular value. Further, reference to values stated in ranges include each and every value within that range. All ranges are inclusive and combinable.

[0052] It is to be appreciated that certain features of the disclosed methods, kits, and primers which are, for clarity, described herein in the context of separate embodiments, may also be provided in combination in a single embodiment. Conversely, various features of the disclosed methods, kits, and primers that are, for brevity, described in the context of a single embodiment, may also be provided separately or in any subcombination.

[0053] As used herein, the singular forms “a,” “an,” and “the” include the plural.

[0054] As used herein, “treating” and like terms refer to reducing the severity and/or frequency of cancer symptoms, eliminating cancer symptoms and/or the underlying cause of said symptoms, reducing the frequency or likelihood of cancer symptoms and/or their underlying cause, and improving or remediating damage caused, directly or indirectly, by cancer.

[0055] “Biological samples” refers to any sample from a patient in which cancerous cells can be obtained and RNA can be isolated. Suitable biological samples include, but are not limited to, blood, lymph fluid, bone marrow, a solid tumor sample, or any combination thereof.

[0056] As used herein, “pre-amplification” refers to a PCR procedure that is performed prior to the amplifying step in order to increase the quantity of template cDNA for the amplification step. A pre-amplification step can be performed, for example, using the TaqMan® PreAmp Master Mix (Life Technologies/Applied Biosystems® product # 5 4391128).

[0057] As used herein, “amplifying,” “amplify,” and like terms refer to the generation of numerous identical copies of a nucleic acid sample. Suitable techniques for amplifying a nucleic acid sample include, but are not limited to, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR). In some 10 embodiments, the amplifying step comprises RT-PCR.

[0058] “Next-generation sequencing” or “NGS” refers to any sequencing method that determines the nucleotide sequence of either individual nucleic acid molecules (e.g., in single molecule sequencing) or clonally expanded proxies for individual nucleic acid molecules in a high throughput parallel fashion (e.g., greater than 15 103, 104, 105 or more molecules can be sequenced simultaneously). Exemplary next generation sequencing techniques include sequencing by synthesis, sequencing by ligation, and sequencing by hybridization. Exemplary next generations sequencing methods include Massively Parallel Signature Sequencing (Lynx Therapeutics); 454 pyro-sequencing (454 Life Sciences/Roche Diagnostics); solid-phase, reversible dye-terminator sequencing (Solexa/Illumina); SOLiD technology (Applied Biosystems); Ion 20 semiconductor sequencing (Ion Torrent); and DNA nanoball sequencing (Complete Genomics). Descriptions of certain NGS platforms can be found in the following: Shendure, et al, “Next-generation DNA sequencing,” Nature, 2008, vol. 26, No. 10, 1135-1145;

25

NGS Platforms

[0059] In some embodiments, high throughput, massively parallel sequencing employs sequencing-by-synthesis with reversible dye terminators. In other embodiments, sequencing is performed via sequencing-by-ligation. In yet other 30 embodiments, sequencing is single molecule sequencing. Examples of Next Generation Sequencing techniques include, but are not limited to pyrosequencing, Reversible dye-

terminator sequencing, SOLiD sequencing, Ion semiconductor sequencing, Helioscope single molecule sequencing etc.

[0060] The Ion Torrent™ (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA) amplicon sequencing system employs a flow-based approach that detects pH changes caused by the release of hydrogen ions during incorporation of unmodified nucleotides in DNA replication. For use with this system, a sequencing library is initially produced by generating DNA fragments flanked by sequencing adapters. In some embodiments, these fragments can be clonally amplified on particles by emulsion PCR. The particles with the amplified template are then placed in a silicon semiconductor sequencing chip. During replication, the chip is flooded with one nucleotide after another, and if a nucleotide complements the DNA molecule in a particular microwell of the chip, then it will be incorporated. A proton is naturally released when a nucleotide is incorporated by the polymerase in the DNA molecule, resulting in a detectable local change of pH. The pH of the solution then changes in that well and is detected by the ion sensor. If homopolymer repeats are present in the template sequence, multiple nucleotides will be incorporated in a single cycle. This leads to a corresponding number of released hydrogens and a proportionally higher electronic signal.

[0061] The 454™ GS FLX™ sequencing system (Roche, Germany), employs a light-based detection methodology in a large-scale parallel pyrosequencing system. Pyrosequencing uses DNA polymerization, adding one nucleotide species at a time and detecting and quantifying the number of nucleotides added to a given location through the light emitted by the release of attached pyrophosphates. For use with the 454™ system, adapter-ligated DNA fragments are fixed to small DNA-capture beads in a water-in-oil emulsion and amplified by PCR (emulsion PCR). Each DNA-bound bead is placed into a well on a picotiter plate and sequencing reagents are delivered across the wells of the plate. The four DNA nucleotides are added sequentially in a fixed order across the picotiter plate device during a sequencing run. During the nucleotide flow, millions of copies of DNA bound to each of the beads are sequenced in parallel. When a nucleotide complementary to the template strand is added to a well, the nucleotide is incorporated onto the existing DNA strand, generating a light signal that is recorded by a CCD camera in the instrument.

[0062] Sequencing technology based on reversible dye-terminators: DNA molecules are first attached to primers on a slide and amplified so that local clonal colonies are formed. Four types of reversible terminator bases (RT -bases) are added, and non-incorporated nucleotides are washed away. Unlike pyrosequencing, the DNA can
5 only be extended one nucleotide at a time. A camera takes images of the fluorescently labeled nucleotides, then the dye along with the terminal 3' blocker is chemically removed from the DNA, allowing the next cycle.

[0063] Helicos's single-molecule sequencing uses DNA fragments with added polyA tail adapters, which are attached to the flow cell surface. At each cycle, DNA
10 polymerase and a single species of fluorescently labeled nucleotide are added, resulting in template-dependent extension of the surface-immobilized primer-template duplexes. The reads are performed by the Helioscope sequencer. After acquisition of images tiling the full array, chemical cleavage and release of the fluorescent label permits the subsequent cycle of extension and imaging.

[0064] Sequencing by synthesis (SBS), like the "old style" dye -termination
15 electrophoretic sequencing, relies on incorporation of nucleotides by a DNA polymerase to determine the base sequence. A DNA library with affixed adapters is denatured into single strands and grafted to a flow cell, followed by bridge amplification to form a high-density array of spots onto a glass chip. Reversible terminator methods use reversible
20 versions of dye-terminators, adding one nucleotide at a time, detecting fluorescence at each position by repeated removal of the blocking group to allow polymerization of another nucleotide. The signal of nucleotide incorporation can vary with fluorescently labeled nucleotides, phosphate-driven light reactions and hydrogen ion sensing having all been used. Examples of SBS platforms include Illumina GA and HiSeq 2000. The
25 MiSeq® personal sequencing system (Illumina, Inc.) also employs sequencing by synthesis with reversible terminator chemistry.

[0065] In contrast to the sequencing by synthesis method, the sequencing by
ligation method uses a DNA ligase to determine the target sequence. This sequencing
method relies on enzymatic ligation of oligonucleotides that are adjacent through local
30 complementarity on a template DNA strand. This technology employs a partition of all possible oligonucleotides of a fixed length, labeled according to the sequenced position. Oligonucleotides are annealed and ligated and the preferential ligation by DNA ligase

for matching sequences results in a dinucleotide encoded color space signal at that position (through the release of a fluorescently labeled probe that corresponds to a known nucleotide at a known position along the oligo). This method is primarily used by Life Technologies' SOLiD™ sequencers. Before sequencing, the DNA is amplified by emulsion PCR. The resulting beads, each containing only copies of the same DNA molecule, are deposited on a solid planar substrate.

[0066] SMRT™ sequencing is based on the sequencing by synthesis approach. The DNA is synthesized in zero-mode wave-guides (ZMWs)-small well-like containers with the capturing tools located at the bottom of the well. The sequencing is performed with use of unmodified polymerase (attached to the ZMW bottom) and fluorescently labeled nucleotides flowing freely in the solution. The wells are constructed in a way that only the fluorescence occurring at the bottom of the well is detected. The fluorescent label is detached from the nucleotide at its incorporation into the DNA strand, leaving an unmodified DNA strand.

15

Primers for amplifying mutants

[0067] One skilled in the art knows that amplification of nucleic acid requires primers that are complementary, and bind to, a 5' and 3' region of the nucleic acid strand that flanks the region sought to be amplified. As used herein, "pair of primers" refers to the forward and reverse primers used in an amplifying step.

20

[0068] The person skilled in the art can identify suitable primers for amplification and detection of particular mutations as described above, using known methods.

25 *Genomics and analysis*

[0069] Functional genomics and transcription analysis can be used for analyzing amplification of pathways and genes, using standard techniques and protocols.

PRMT5 inhibitors for use in the disclosed methods

30 [0070] Suitable PRMT5 inhibitors for use in the disclosed methods are provided herein. In some embodiments, if one or more mutations or amplifications including a PIC3CA activating mutation, a spliceosome alteration, a cyclin D1 pathway

amplification, and/or a WNT pathway alteration are present in the sample, the patient can be treated with a PRMT5 inhibitor disclosed in PCT/EP2016/070097 (incorporated herein by reference), including any tautomeric or stereochemically isomeric form thereof, and a *N*-oxide thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, or a solvate thereof (suitable R groups are also disclosed in PCT/EP2016/070097). In some aspects, for example, the patient can be treated with compound 2 or compound 80, including any tautomeric or stereochemically isomeric form thereof, and a *N*-oxide thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof or a solvate thereof. In some aspects, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is a HCl salt.

10 **[0071]** In some embodiments, the patient can be treated with a PRMT5 inhibitor if one or more mutations or amplifications including a PIC3CA activating mutation, a spliceosome alteration, a cyclin D1 pathway amplification, and/or a WNT pathway alteration are present in the sample, wherein the PRMT5 inhibitor is an anti-PRMT5 antibody.

15 **[0072]** Salts can be synthesized from a parent compound that contains a basic or acidic moiety by conventional chemical methods such as methods described in *Pharmaceutical Salts: Properties, Selection, and Use*, P. Heinrich Stahl (Editor), Camille G. Wermuth (Editor), ISBN: 3-90639-026-8, Hardcover, 388 pages, August 2002, which is incorporated herein by reference. Generally, such salts can be prepared by reacting
20 the free acid or base forms of these compounds with the appropriate base or acid in water or in an organic solvent, or in a mixture of the two; generally, nonaqueous media such as ether, ethyl acetate, ethanol, isopropanol, or acetonitrile are used. The PRMT5 inhibitors for use in the disclosed methods may exist as mono- or di-salts depending upon the pKa of the acid from which the salt is formed.

25 **[0073]** Acid addition salts may be formed with a wide variety of acids, both inorganic and organic. Examples of acid addition salts include salts formed with an acid including, but not limited to, acetic, 2,2-dichloroacetic, adipic, alginic, ascorbic (e.g. L-ascorbic), L-aspartic, benzenesulphonic, benzoic, 4-acetamidobenzoic, butanoic, (+) camphoric, camphor-sulphonic, (+)-(1*S*)-camphor-10-sulphonic, capric, caproic,
30 caprylic, cinnamic, citric, cyclamic, dodecylsulphuric, ethane-1,2-disulphonic, ethanesulphonic, 2-hydroxyethanesulphonic, formic, fumaric, galactaric, gentisic, glucoheptonic, D-gluconic, glucuronic (e.g. D-glucuronic), glutamic (e.g. L-glutamic),

α -oxoglutaric, glycolic, hippuric, hydrobromic, hydrochloric, hydriodic, isethionic, lactic (e.g. (+)-L-lactic, ($\pm$)-DL-lactic), lactobionic, maleic, malic, (-)-L-malic, malonic, ($\pm$)-DL-mandelic, methanesulphonic, naphthalenesulphonic (e.g. naphthalene-2-sulphonic), naphthalene-1,5-disulphonic, 1-hydroxy-2-naphthoic, nicotinic, nitric, oleic, 5 orotic, oxalic, palmitic, pamoic, phosphoric, propionic, L-pyroglutamic, pyruvic, salicylic, 4-amino-salicylic, sebacic, stearic, succinic, sulphuric, tannic, (+)-L-tartaric, thiocyanic, toluenesulphonic (e.g. *p*-toluenesulphonic), undecylenic and valeric acids, as well as acylated amino acids and cation exchange resins.

[0074] One particular group of salts consists of salts formed from acetic, 10 hydrochloric, hydriodic, phosphoric, nitric, sulphuric, citric, lactic, succinic, maleic, malic, isethionic, fumaric, benzenesulphonic, toluenesulphonic, methanesulphonic (mesylate), ethanesulphonic, naphthalenesulphonic, valeric, acetic, propanoic, butanoic, malonic, glucuronic and lactobionic acids. Another group of acid addition salts includes salts formed from acetic, adipic, ascorbic, aspartic, citric, DL-Lactic, fumaric, gluconic, 15 glucuronic, hippuric, hydrochloric, glutamic, DL-malic, methanesulphonic, sebacic, stearic, succinic and tartaric acids.

[0075] If the compound is anionic, or has a functional group which may be anionic (e.g., -COOH may be -COO⁻), then a salt may be formed with a suitable cation. Examples of suitable inorganic cations include, but are not limited to, alkali metal ions 20 such as Na⁺ and K⁺, alkaline earth metal cations such as Ca²⁺ and Mg²⁺, and other cations such as Al³⁺. Examples of suitable organic cations include, but are not limited to, ammonium ion (i.e., NH₄⁺) and substituted ammonium ions (e.g., NH₃R⁺, NH₂R₂⁺, NHR₃⁺, NR₄⁺).

[0076] Examples of some suitable substituted ammonium ions are those 25 derived from: ethylamine, diethylamine, dicyclohexylamine, triethylamine, butylamine, ethylenediamine, ethanolamine, diethanolamine, piperazine, benzylamine, phenylbenzylamine, choline, meglumine, and tromethamine, as well as amino acids, such as lysine and arginine. An example of a common quaternary ammonium ion is N(CH₃)₄⁺.

[0077] Where the compounds contain an amine function, these may form 30 quaternary ammonium salts, for example by reaction with an alkylating agent according to methods well known to the skilled person. Such quaternary ammonium compounds are within the scope of the disclosed compounds. Compounds containing an amine

function may also form N-oxides. A reference herein to a compound that contains an amine function also includes the N-oxide. Where a compound contains several amine functions, one or more than one nitrogen atom may be oxidised to form an N-oxide. Particular examples of N-oxides are the N-oxides of a tertiary amine or a nitrogen atom of a nitrogen-containing heterocycle. N-Oxides can be formed by treatment of the corresponding amine with an oxidizing agent such as hydrogen peroxide or a per-acid (e.g. a peroxycarboxylic acid), see for example *Advanced Organic Chemistry*, by Jerry March, 4th Edition, Wiley Interscience, pages. More particularly, N-oxides can be made by the procedure of L. W. Deady (*Syn. Comm.* (1977), 7, 509-514) in which the amine compound is reacted with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (MCPBA), for example, in an inert solvent such as dichloromethane.

[0078] As used herein, the term “solvate” means a physical association of the compound with one or more solvent molecules. This physical association involves varying degrees of ionic and covalent bonding, including hydrogen bonding. In certain instances the solvate will be capable of isolation, for example when one or more solvent molecules are incorporated in the crystal lattice of the crystalline solid. The term “solvate” is intended to encompass both solution-phase and isolatable solvates. Non-limiting examples of suitable solvates include the disclosed compounds in combination with water, isopropanol, ethanol, methanol, DMSO, ethyl acetate, acetic acid or ethanolamine and the like. The compound may exert its biological effects while in solution.

[0079] Solvates are well known in pharmaceutical chemistry. They can be important to the processes for the preparation of a substance (e.g. in relation to their purification), the storage of the substance (e.g. its stability) and the ease of handling of the substance, and are often formed as part of the isolation or purification stages of a chemical synthesis. A person skilled in the art can determine by means of standard and long used techniques whether a hydrate or other solvate has formed by the isolation conditions or purification conditions used to prepare a given compound. Examples of such techniques include thermogravimetric analysis (TGA), differential scanning calorimetry (DSC), X-ray crystallography (e.g. single crystal X-ray crystallography or X-ray powder diffraction) and Solid State NMR (SS-NMR, also known as Magic Angle Spinning NMR or MAS-NMR). Such techniques are as much a part of the standard

analytical toolkit of the skilled chemist as NMR, IR, HPLC and MS. Alternatively the skilled person can deliberately form a solvate using crystallisation conditions that include an amount of the solvent required for the particular solvate. Thereafter the standard methods described above, can be used to establish whether solvates had formed. Also
5 encompassed are any complexes (e.g. inclusion complexes or clathrates with compounds such as cyclodextrins, or complexes with metals) of the PRMT5 inhibitor.

[0080] Furthermore, the compound may have one or more polymorph (crystalline) or amorphous forms.

[0081] The compounds include compounds with one or more isotopic
10 substitutions, and a reference to a particular element includes within its scope all isotopes of the element. For example, a reference to hydrogen includes within its scope ^1H , ^2H (D), and ^3H (T). Similarly, references to carbon and oxygen include within their scope respectively ^{12}C , ^{13}C and ^{14}C and ^{16}O and ^{18}O . The isotopes may be radioactive or non-radioactive. In one embodiment, the compounds contain no radioactive isotopes. Such
15 compounds are preferred for therapeutic use. In another embodiment, however, the compound may contain one or more radioisotopes. Compounds containing such radioisotopes may be useful in a diagnostic context.

[0082] In some embodiments, the patient is treated with a PRMT5 inhibitor if one or more U2AF1 mutants are present in the sample, wherein the PRMT5 inhibitor is
20 compound 2 or compound 80, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

Methods of treating cancer in a patient

[0083] Disclosed herein are methods of treating cancer in a patient comprising:
25 evaluating a biological sample from the patient for the presence of one or more mutations or amplifications including a PIC3CA activating mutation, a spliceosome alteration, a cyclin D1 pathway amplification, and/or a WNT pathway alteration; and treating the patient with a PRMT5 inhibitor if one or more mutations or amplifications including a
30 PIC3CA activating mutation, a spliceosome alteration, a cyclin D1 pathway amplification, and/or a WNT pathway alteration are present in the sample.

[0084] The disclosed methods can be used to treat a variety of cancer types including, but not limited to, bladder cancer, metastatic bladder cancer, ovarian cancer,

head and neck cancer, esophageal cancer, non-small-cell lung adenocarcinoma, non-small cell lung squamous cell carcinoma, prostate cancer, lung cancer, gastric cancer, urothelial carcinoma, small cell lung cancer, breast cancer, endometrial cancer, cholegiocarcinoma, glioblastoma, gliomas, colon carcinoma, sarcomas, solid tumors of squamous origin, and multiple myeloma.

[0085] In some embodiments, the evaluating step comprises: isolating RNA from a biological sample; synthesizing cDNA from the isolated RNA; pre-amplifying the cDNA; and amplifying the pre-amplified cDNA with a pair of primers that bind to and amplify one or more mutations including a PIC3CA activating mutation, a spliceosome alteration, a cyclin D1 pathway amplification, and/or a WNT pathway alteration.

[0086] Isolating RNA from the biological sample can be performed by a number of procedures known to one skilled in the art. In one embodiment, RNA can be isolated from the biological sample using an AllPrep DNA/RNA FFPE Kit from Qiagen (product # 80234)

[0087] Synthesizing cDNA from isolated RNA can be performed by a number of procedures known to one skilled in the art. In one embodiment, cDNA can be synthesized from isolated RNA using a High Capacity cDNA Reverse Transcriptase Kit with RNase Inhibitor from ABI (product # 4374966).

[0088] Pre-amplification of cDNA can be performed by a number of procedures known to one skilled in the art. Amplification procedures are well known in the art. In one embodiment, cDNA can be pre-amplified using a TaqMan® PreAmp Master Mix (Life Technologies/Applied Biosystems® product # 4391128).

[0089] Suitable PRMT5 inhibitors for use in the treatment methods include those previously described herein.

Methods of identifying a cancer patient that will be responsive to treatment with a are protein arginine N-methyltransferase 5 (PRMT5) inhibitor

Kits for identifying the presence of mutant or altered genes

[0090] Further disclosed are kits for identifying the presence of one or more mutations or amplifications including a PIC3CA activating mutation, a spliceosome

alteration, a cyclin D1 pathway amplicification, and/or a WNT pathway alteration in a biological sample comprising: pairs of primers having the sequences of combination thereof; and instructions for performing an assay to detect one or more mutations or amplifications including a PIC3CA activating mutation, a spliceosome alteration, a
 5 cyclin D1 pathway amplicification, and/or a WNT pathway alteration.

[0091] The summary, as well as the following detailed description, is further understood when read in conjunction with the appended drawings. For the purpose of illustrating the disclosed methods, kits, and primers, there are shown in the drawings
 10 exemplary embodiments of the methods, kits, and primers; however, the methods, kits, and primers are not limited to the specific embodiments disclosed.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ILLUSTRATIVE EMBODIMENTS

[0092] PRMT5 inhibitors compounds 2 and 80 as used in the examples are also
 15 exemplified in PCT/EP2016/070097.

[0093] Hereinafter, the term “rt”, “r.t.” or “RT” means room temperature; “Me” means methyl; “MeOH” means methanol; “Et” means ethyl; “EtOH” means ethanol; “NaH” means sodium hydride; “DEAD” means diethyl azodicarboxylate; “HMPT” means hexamethylphosphorous triamide; “Boc2O” means tert-butoxycarbonyl anhydride; “ButONO” means tert-butyl nitrite; “TosOH” means 4-methylbenzenesulfonic acid; “TosCl” means 4-methylbenzenesulfonyl chloride (also p-toluenesulfonyl chloride); “CMBP” means cyanomethylenetriethylphosphorane; “DBAD” means di-tert-butyl azodicarboxylate; “LAH” means lithium aluminum
 25 hydride; “NaBH(AcO)₃” or “NaBH(OAc)₃” means sodium triacetoxyborohydride; “EtOAc” means ethyl acetate; “TEA” or “Et₃N” means triethylamine; “DCM” means dichloromethane; “q.s.” means quantum sufficit; “Int.” Means intermediate; “MeCN” or “ACN” means acetonitrile; “DMF” means N,N-dimethyl formamide; “DMA” means N,N-dimethylacetamide; “DMF-DMA” means N,N-Dimethylformamide dimethyl
 30 acetal; “Pd(dppf)Cl₂” means [1,1'-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II); “THF” means tetrahydrofuran; “C₃₄H₂₈FeP₂.Cl₂Pd” means [1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(ii); “i-PrOH” or “iPrOH” means 2-propanol; “LC” means liquid

chromatography; “LCMS” means Liquid Chromatography/Mass spectrometry; “HPLC” means high-performance liquid chromatography; “int.” means intermediate; “prep-HPLC” means preparative high-performance liquid chromatography; “m-CPBA” means meta-Chloroperoxybenzoic acid; “TFA” means trifluoroacetic acid; “m.p.” means melting point; “RP” means reversed phase; “min” means minute(s); “h” means hour(s); “PE” means petroleum ether; “v/v” means volume per volume; “Celite®” means diatomaceous earth; “DMSO” means dimethyl sulfoxide; “SFC” means Supercritical Fluid Chromatography; “DIPE” means diisopropyl ether; “dppf” or “DPPF” means 1,1'-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene; “DIPEA” or “DIEA” means N,N-diisopropylethylamine; “PPh₃” means triphenylphosphine; “Et₂O” means diethyl ether; “Pd/C” means palladium on carbon; “Pt/C” means platina on carbon; “Pd(OH)₂/C” means palladium hydroxide on carbon; “CPME” means cyclopentyl methyl ether; “Pd₂(dba)₃ means Tris(dibenzylideneacetone)dipalladium; “DIAD” means diisopropyl azodicarboxylate; “TMSCF₃” means trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane; “TBAF” means tetrabutylammonium fluoride; “psi” means pound-force per square inch; “Et₄NCl” means tetraethylammonium chloride; “eq.” means equivalent(s); “Pd(OAc)₂” means palladium(II) acetate; “AcOH” means acetic acid; “DMAP” means 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine; “t-BuOK”, “tBuOK” or “KOtBu” means potassium tert-butoxide; “Dess-Martin periodinane” means 1,1,1-Triacetoxy-1,1-dihydro-1,2-benziodoxol-3(1H)-one; “TBDMSCl” means tert-Butyldimethylsilyl chloride; “PPh₃-polymer” or “PPh₃-pol” means triphenylphosphine polymer bound; “Ph₃PCH₃Br” means methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide; “Bn” means benzyl; “Bz” means benzoyl; “p-TSA” means 4-methylbenzenesulfonic acid; “BF₃.Et₂O” means Boron Trifluoride-Ethyl Ether Complex; “9-BBN” means 9-Borabicyclo[3.3.1]nonane; “Pd-118” means Dichloro[1,1'-bis(di-tert-butylphosphino)ferrocene]palladium(II); and “TLC” means thin layer chromatography; “prep-TLC” means preparative TLC;

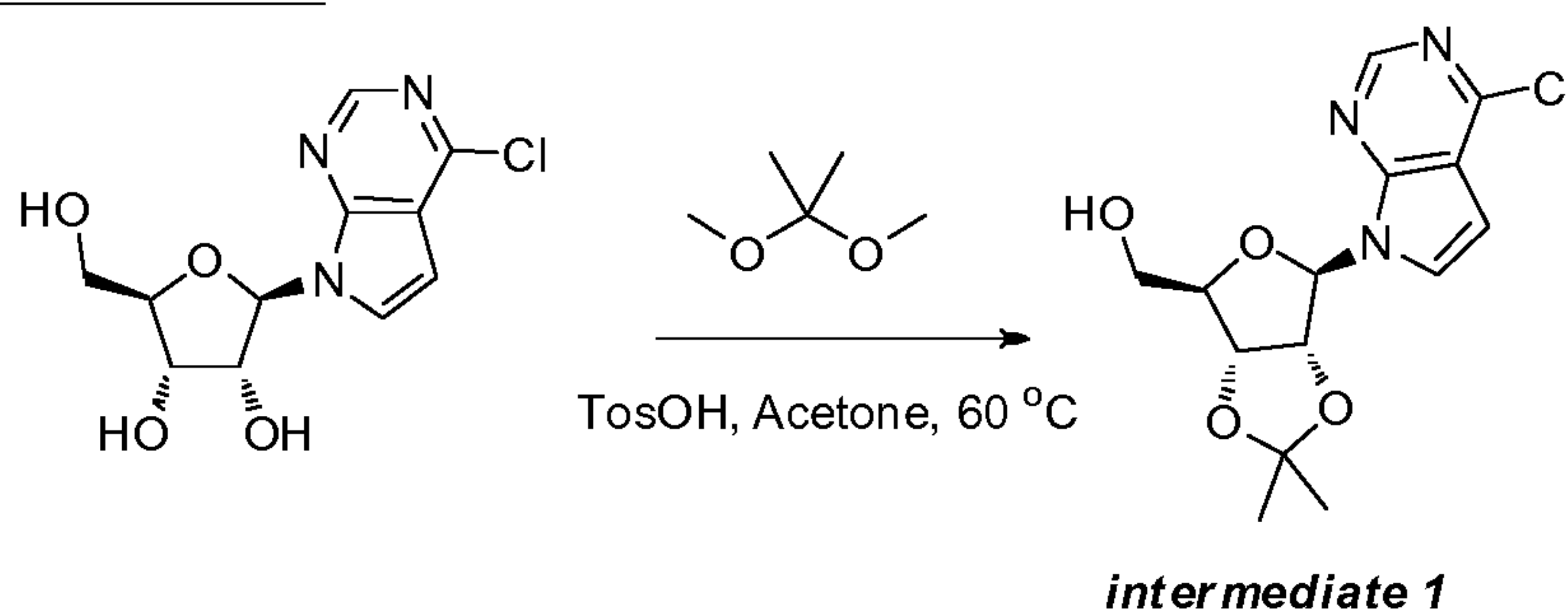
[0094] “p-MeC₆H₄SO₃H.H₂O” means para toluenesulfonic acid hydrate; “PMB” means para methoxybenzyl; “KOAc” means potassium acetate; “PTSA” para toluenesulfonic acid; “MTBE” means methyl tert. butyl ether; Rh(acac)(eth)₂” means Acetylacetonatobis(ethylene)rhodium(I); “(S)-MonoPhos” means (S)-N,N-dimethyldinaphtho[2,1-D:1',2'-F][1,3,2]dioxaphosphepin-4-amine; “Tf₂O” means

triflic anhydride; "MeI" means methyl iodide; "Me₂NH" means dimethylamine; "Me₂NH.HCl" means dimethylamine hydrochloric acid; "Me₄NCl" means tetramethylammonium chloride; "MeONa" means sodium methoxide; "Ts" means tosyl; "MsCl" means mesylchloride; "DIBAH" means Diisobutylaluminium hydride;

5 **[0095]** "TBDMS" means tertButyl dimethylsilyl; "Pd(dppf)Cl₂.CH₂Cl₂" means [1,1'-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II), complex with dichloromethane;; "PPA" means polyphosphoric acid;"NH₂Bn" means benzylamine; "Pd(PPh₃)₂Cl₂" means Dichlorobis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II).

10 **[0096]** For intermediates that were used in a next reaction step as a crude or as a partially purified intermediate, estimated mol amounts (in some cases indicated by ≈) are indicated in the reaction protocols described below, or alternatively theoretical mol amounts are indicated.

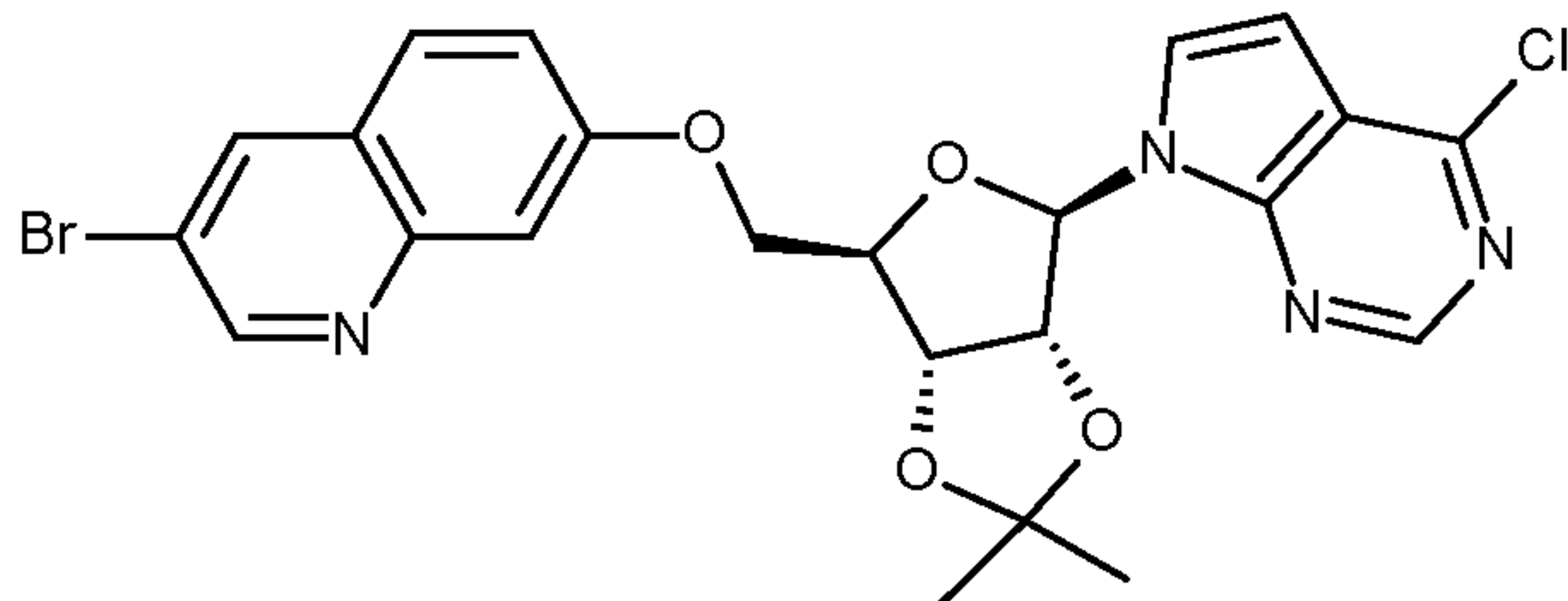
15 Preparation of intermediate 1



[0097] To a mixture of 6-chloro-7-deazapurine-beta-D-ribose (25.0 g, 87.5 mmol) in acetone (330 mL) was added 2,2-dimethoxypropane (18.2 g, 175 mmol) and 4-methylbenzenesulfonic acid (TosOH) (1.51 g, 8.75 mmol) in one portion at 25°C

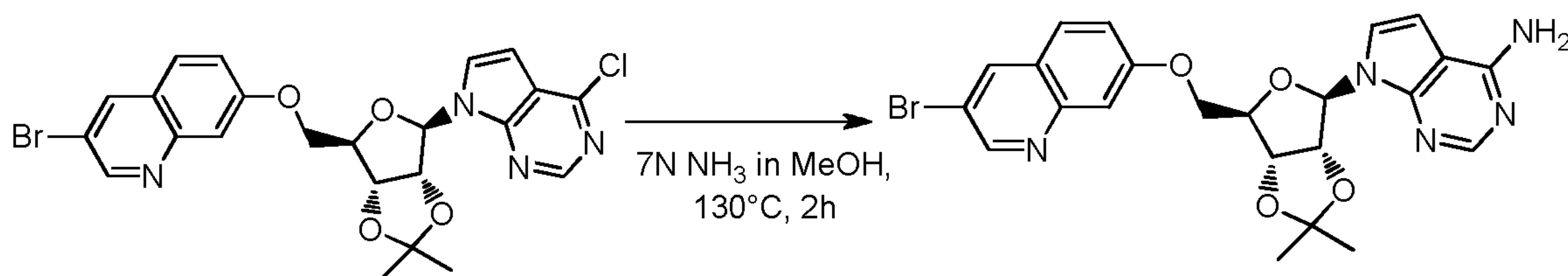
20 under N₂. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 2 hours. The mixture was cooled to 25°C. The reaction was quenched by adding saturated NaHCO₃ (100 mL) slowly and then extracted with ethyl acetate (125 mL x 5). The combined organic phase was washed with saturated brine (120 mL), dried with anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated in vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography

25 (gradient elution: DCM/Ethyl acetate from 1:0 to 2:1) to afford crude intermediate 1 (38.0 g) as light yellow gum.

Preparation of intermediate 59

[0098] Diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (0.221 mL, 1.125 mmol) was added dropwise to a stirred suspension of intermediate 1 (0.27 g, 0.80 mmol), 3-bromoquinolin-7-ol (0.18 g, 0.80 mmol) and triphenylphosphine resin (0.375 g, 3 mmol/g, 1.125 mmol) in THF (8 ml) at room temperature. After addition the reaction mixture was stirred for 18 hours. The reaction mixture was filtered over a pad of Dicalite®. The residue was washed with methanol. The solvents of the filtrate were evaporated. The residue was used as such in the next step.

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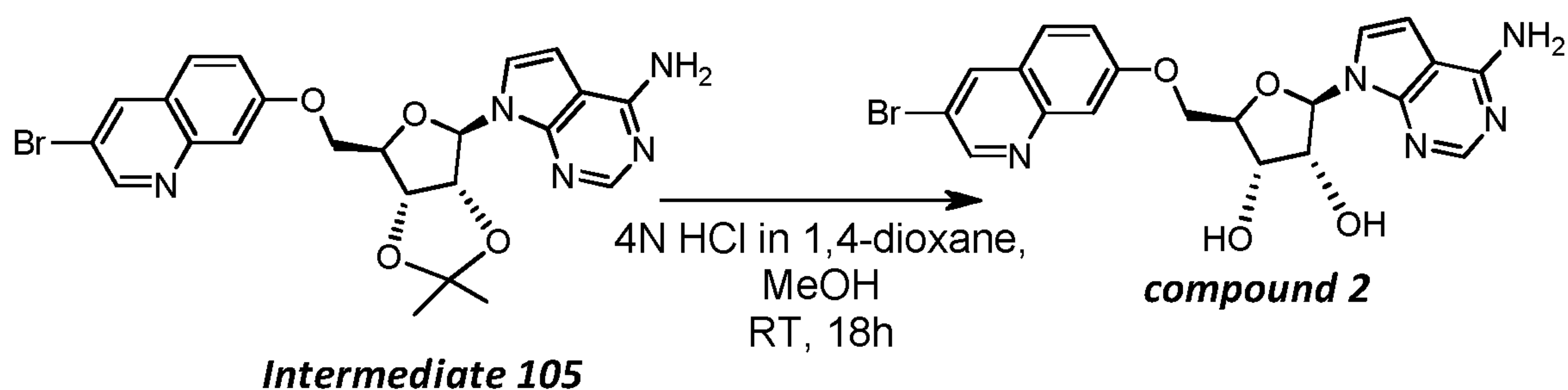
Preparation of intermediate 105

intermediate 59

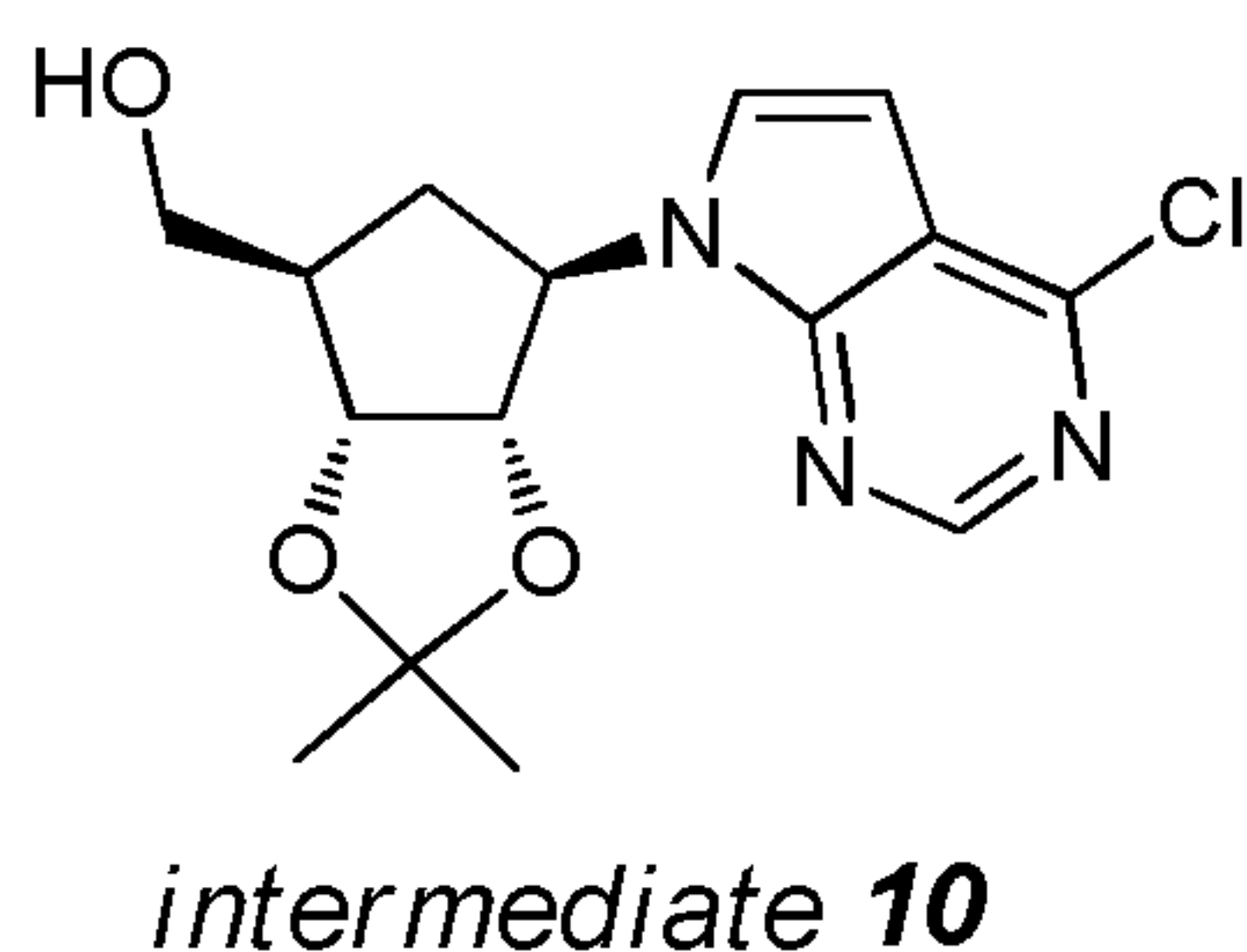
intermediate 105

[0099] The crude Intermediate 59 (q.s., theoretically 0.83 mmol) was dissolved in 7M NH₃ in MeOH (20 mL, 7 M, 140 mmol). The resulting solution was stirred and heated at 130°C using microwave irradiation for 2 hours. The solvents were evaporated. The residue was dissolved in dichloromethane and purified over a SiO₂ column, type Grace Reveleris SRC, 12 g, Si 40, on a Grace Reveleris X2 purification system using dichloromethane and methanol as eluents in a gradient starting from 100% DCM for 20 column volumes to 20% MeOH and 80% DCM over 20 column volumes. The fractions containing the product were combined and the solvents were evaporated yielding crude Intermediate 105 (175 mg) used as such in the next reaction step.

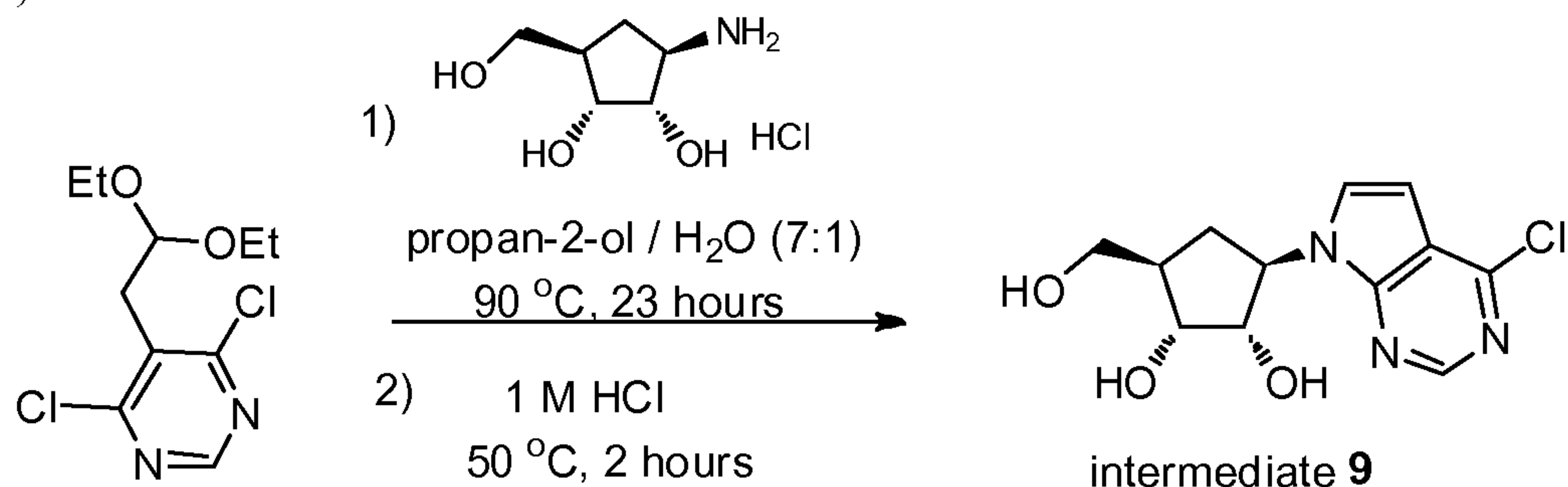
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Preparation of Compound 2

- [00100] 4M HCl in dioxane (0.7 mL, 2.9 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of intermediate 105 (175.1 mg, crude, ≈ 0.29 mmol) in MeOH (10 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 hours. The reaction was quenched by the addition of 1.5 mL of a 7 N solution of NH₃ in MeOH. The solvents were evaporated. The residue was dissolved in DCM. The precipitate was filtered off. The filtrate was purified over a SiO₂ column, type Grace Reveleris SRC, 12 g, Si 40, on an Armen Spot II Ultimate purification system using DCM and MeOH as eluents in a gradient starting from 100 % DCM and ending with 40 % MeOH and 60 % DCM. The fractions containing the product were combined and the solvents were evaporated yielding 24.5 mg of compound 2.

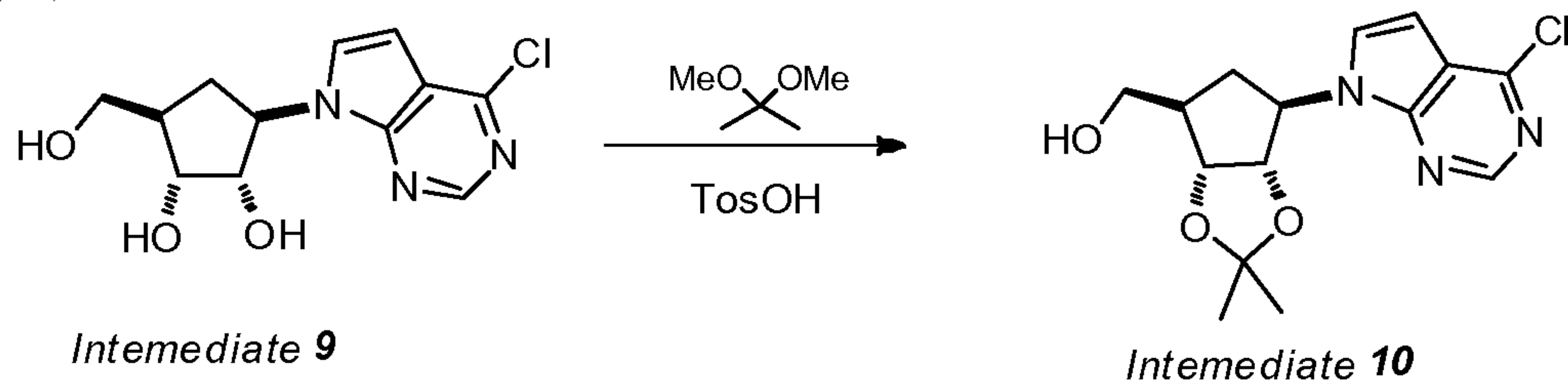
15 Preparation of intermediate 10

Step a)

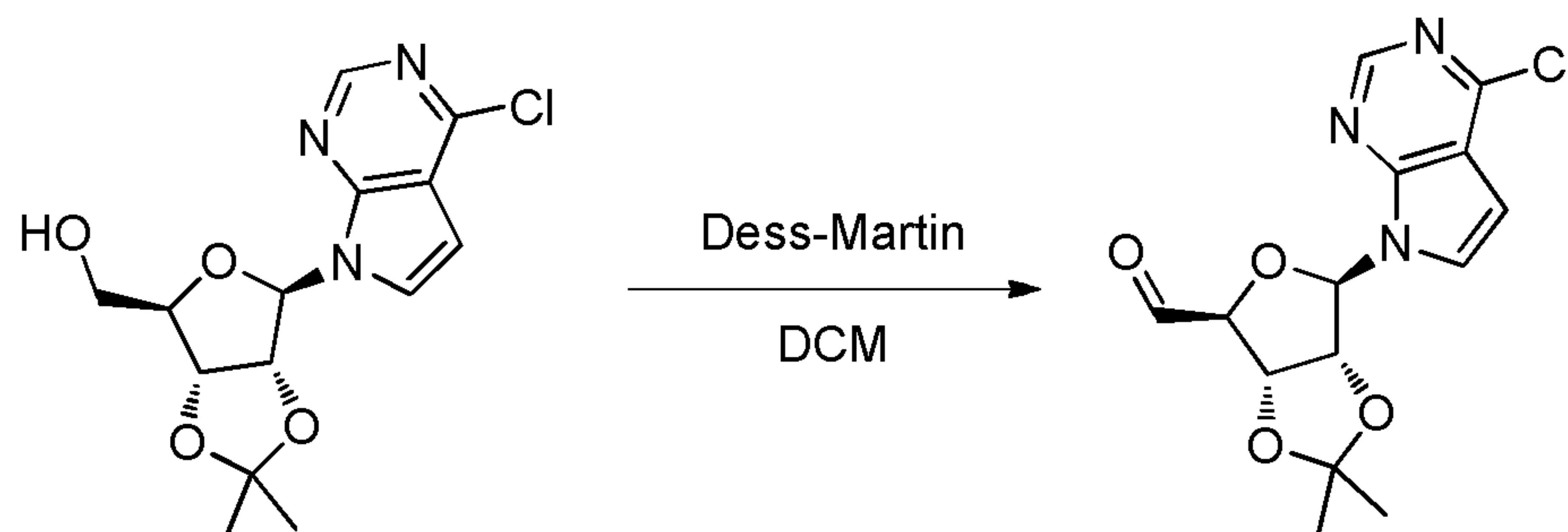


[00101] To a mixture of 4,6-dichloro-5-(2,2-diethoxyethyl)pyrimidine (14.0 g, 52.8 mmol) and (1R,2S,3R,5R)-3-amino-5-(hydroxymethyl)cyclopentane-1,2-diol hydrochloride (10.7 g, 58.1 mmol) in propan-2-ol/H₂O (208 mL, 7:1), was added Et₃N (13.4 g, 132 mmol) in one portion at 25°C under N₂. The mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 23 hours. The mixture was cooled to 50°C and 4M HCl (24 mL, 106 mmol) was added slowly. The residue was then stirred at 50°C for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to 25°C and NaHCO₃ (14 g, 100 mmol) was added slowly. Ethyl acetate (230 mL) was added, followed by the addition of a half-saturated NaHCO₃ solution (q.s.). The organic phase was isolated and the aqueous phase was extracted with ethyl acetate (230 mL x 2). The combined organic phase was dried with anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated in vacuum to afford intermediate 9 as yellow solid (17.4 g, quantitative yield in 2 steps). The crude product was directly used as such in the next reaction step without further purification.

15 Step b)



[00102] To a mixture of intermediate 9 (17.4 g, $\approx$ 52.7 mmol) in acetone (250 mL) was added 2,2-dimethoxypropane (11.0 g, 105 mmol) and TsOH.H₂O (908 mg, 5.27 mmol) in one portion at 25°C under N₂. The mixture was stirred at 60°C for 2 hours. The mixture was cooled to 25°C and the solution was concentrated in vacuum, quenched by saturated NaHCO₃ (100 mL) slowly and then extracted with ethyl acetate (100 mL x 3). The combined organic phase was washed with saturated brine (100 mL), dried with anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated in vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (gradient elution: DCM/Ethyl acetate from 1/0 to 2/1) to afford intermediate 10 as light yellow gum (15.5 g, 89 % yield).

Preparation of intermediate 33**intermediate 1****intermediate 33**

[00103] To a mixture of intermediate 1 (2.00 g, theoretically 6.18 mmol) in DCM (40 mL) was added Dess-Martin periodinane (5.24 g, 12.36 mmol) in one portion at 0°C under N₂. The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 3 hours. To the mixture was added Na₂S₂O₃ (4 g) in saturated NaHCO₃ (20 mL) and stirred for 10 min. The aqueous phase was extracted with DCM (20 mL x 3). The combined organic phase was washed with saturated brine (20 mL x 2), dried with anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated in vacuum to afford intermediate 33 (1.80 g, crude) as light yellow gum.

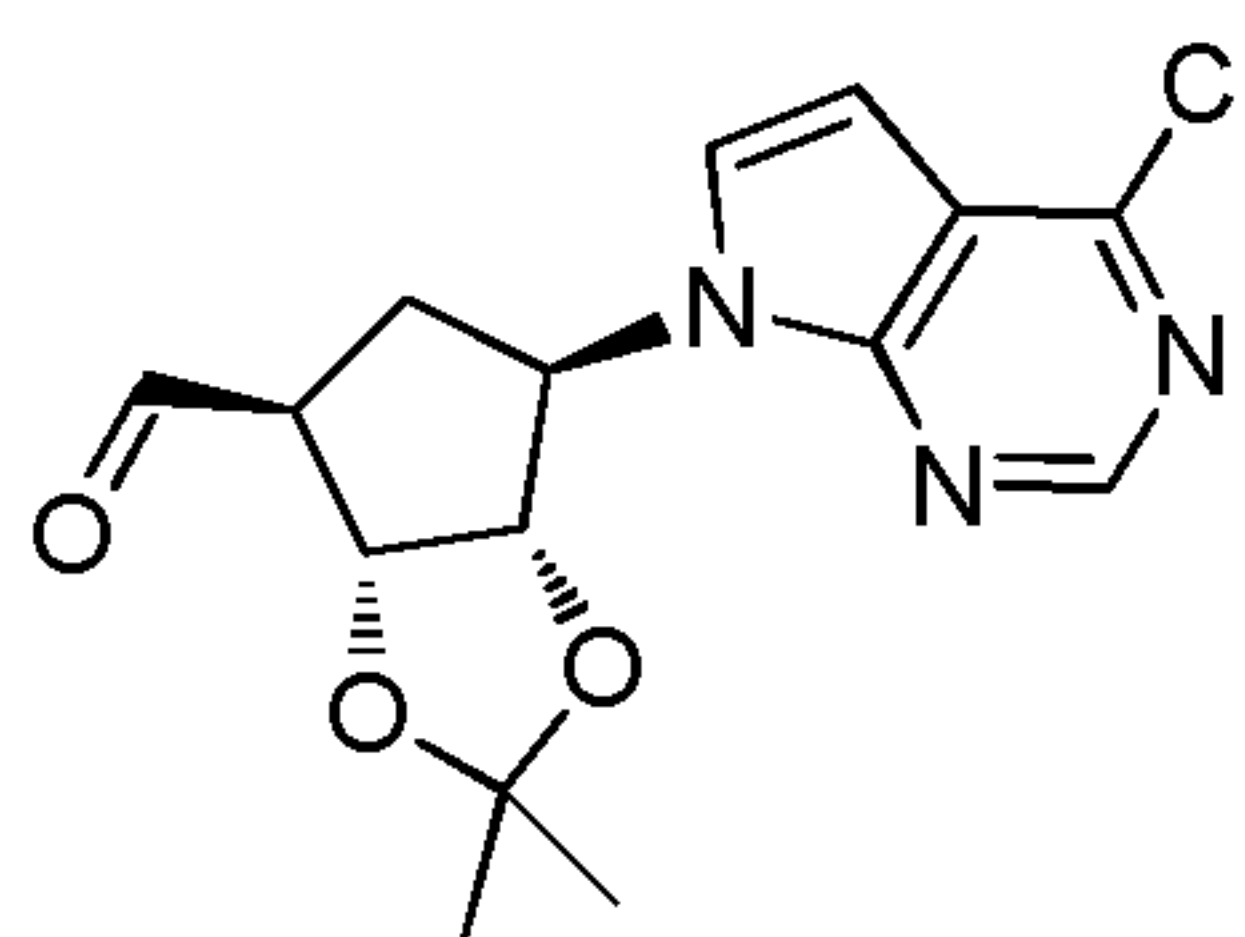
10 The crude product was directly used for the next reaction step without further purification.

[00104] Below intermediates were prepared by an analogous reaction protocol as was used for the preparation of intermediate 33 using the appropriate starting materials (Table 7).

15 Table7:

Int.
35

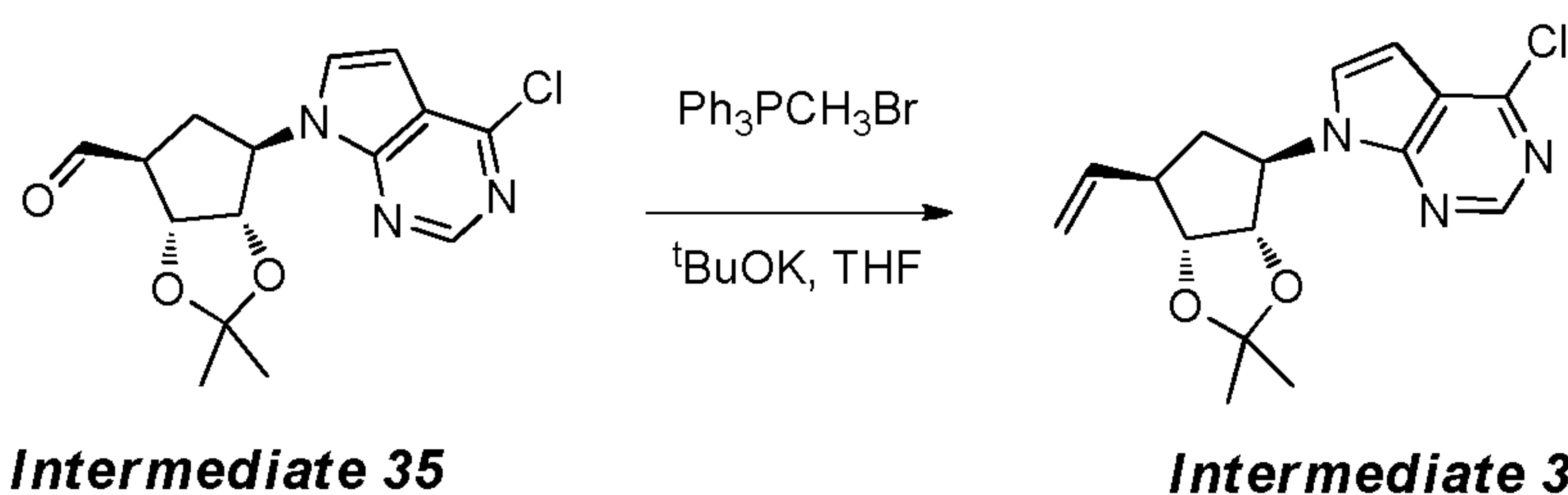
structure



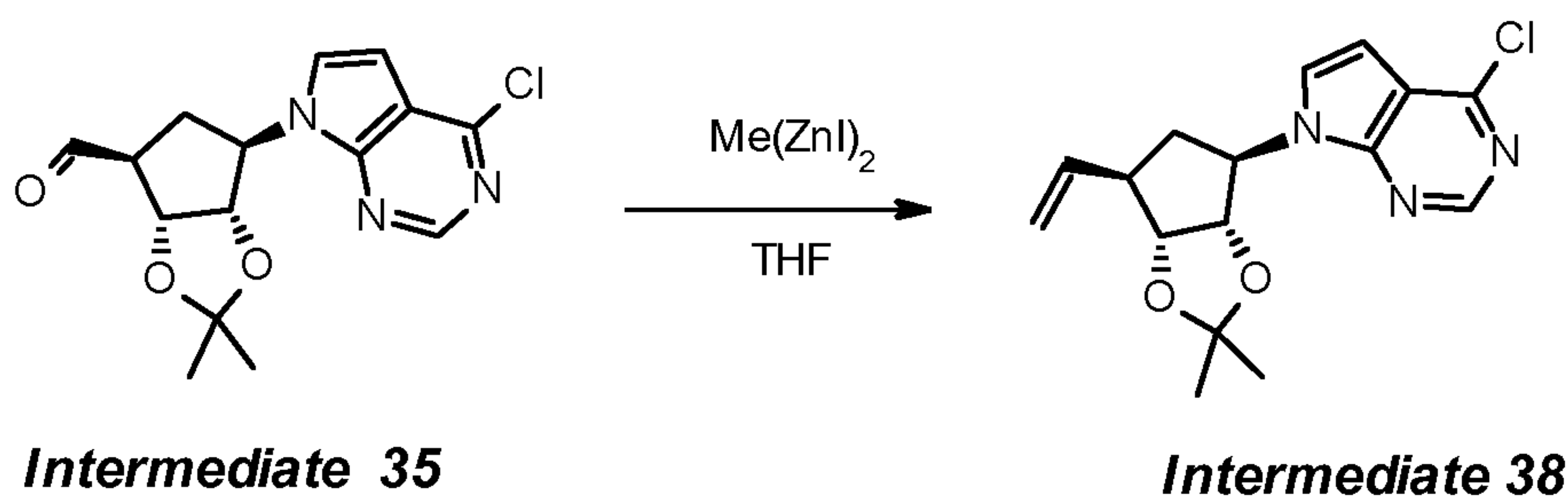
Starting material
intermediate 10

Preparation of intermediate 38**Method 1**

- 28 -



[00105] To a mixture of methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (4.87 g, 13.62 mmol) in THF (500 mL) was added t-BuOK (11.4 mL, 1 M in THF, 1.27g, 11.35 mmol,) dropwise at 0°C under N₂. The suspension was turned to bright yellow and stirred at 0 °C for 0.5 h and then warmed to 25°C for 0.5 h. The mixture was cooled to -40°C. The solution of Intermediate 35 (1.46 g, theoretically 4.54 mmol) in THF (130.0 mL) was added drop-wise and then stirred at -20°C for 1h, after this, the mixture was warmed to 25°C for 2h. To the mixture was added saturated NH₄Cl (300ml) and stirred for 10 min. Layers were separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with DCM (300 mL x 2). The combined organic phase was washed with saturated brine (500 mL), dried with anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated in vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (ISCO®; 80 g SepaFlash® Silica Flash Column, Gradient elution: From 0 to 15% of Ethyl acetate / Petroleum ether). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. Intermediate 38 was obtained as off-white solid (530 mg, 36% yield).

Method 2:**intermediate 38**

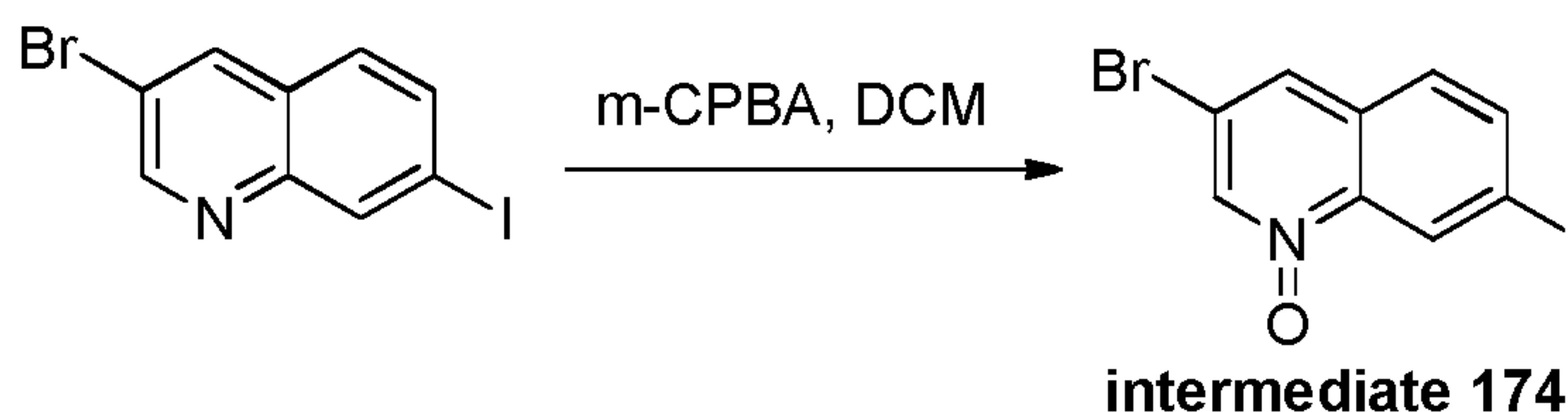
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[00106] A solution of Intermediate 35 (10.0 g, theoretically 31.1 mmol) in THF (100 mL) was added drop-wise under N₂ over a period of 30 minutes to a bis(iodozincio)methane solution in THF (180 mL, 0.31 M, 55.9 mmol, prepared according to the procedure described in Tetrahedron 2002, 58, 8255-8262), stirring was continued until complete conversion (approximately 2 hours). The reaction mixture was

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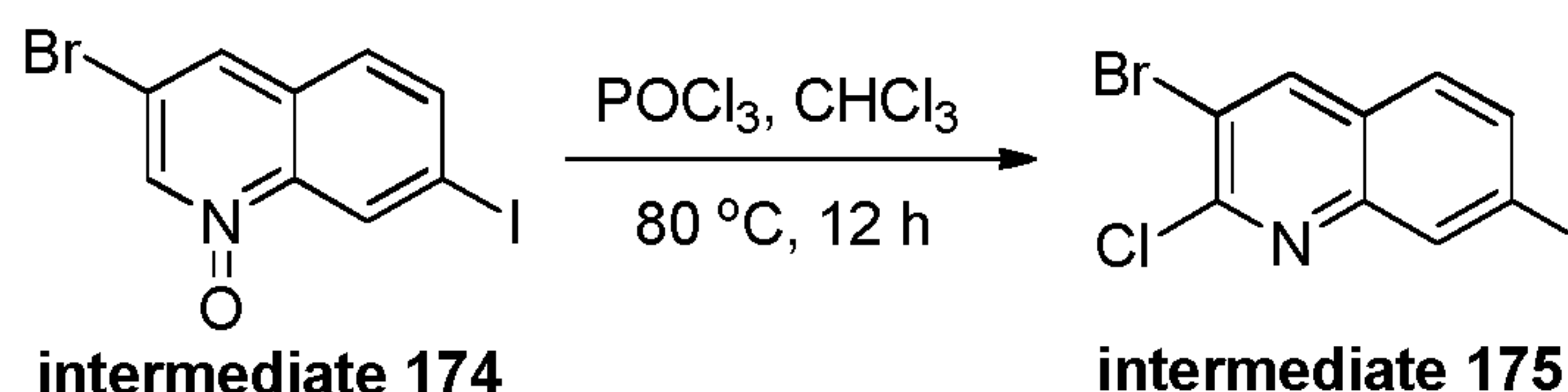
quenched by the slow addition of a saturated aqueous NH_4Cl solution, during which salt formation was observed. Prior to extraction (EtOAc , 2 x 200 mL), the salts were dissolved again by the addition of an aqueous ammonia solution (25%). The combined organic phases were washed with an aqueous sodium bisulfite solution and brine, dried with anhydrous MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated in vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (eluent: dichloromethane/ EtOAc 95/5) to provide Intermediate 38 as an off-white solid (6.9 g, 66%).

Preparation of intermediate 174



[00107] 3-Bromo-7-iodo-quinoline (5.99 g, 17.7 mmol) was dissolved in dichloromethane (60 mL), then m-CPBA (4.57 g, 26.5 mmol) was added in portions. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 days. The mixture was quenched by a saturated $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ aqueous solution (40 mL) and a saturated NaHCO_3 aqueous solution (PH to 6-7), then extracted by dichloromethane (50 mL x3). The organic phase was washed with H_2O (50 mL), dried with anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 to 1/1) to afford the desired product intermediate 174 (1.9 g, 14.1% yield) as a yellow solid.

Preparation of intermediate 175

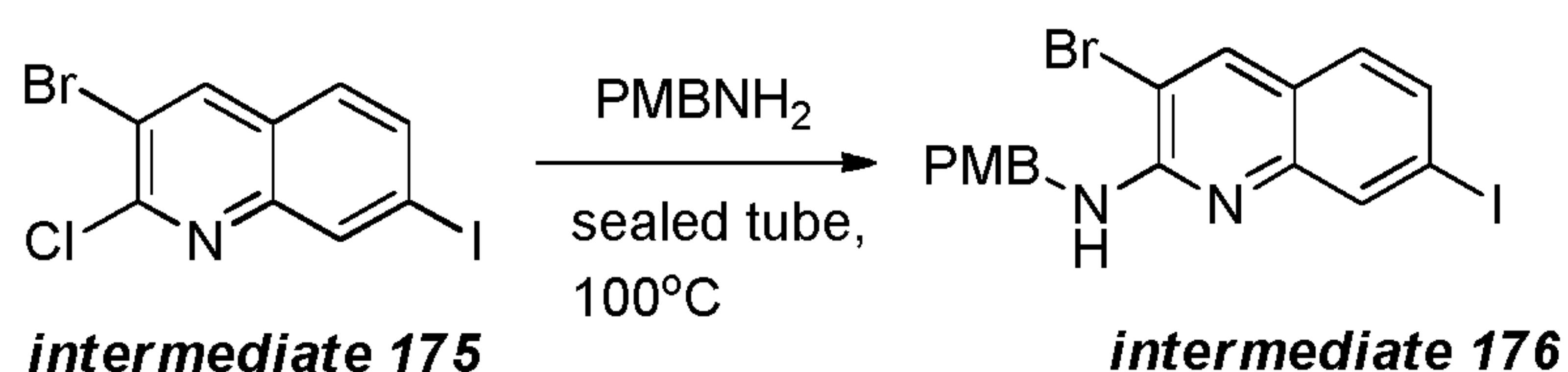


[00108] To a solution of intermediate 174 (2.9 g, 8.29 mmol) in chloroform (60 mL) was added phosphoryl trichloride (8.3 g, 54.1 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 80°C for 12 h. The mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure to obtain crude product. The crude product was purified by chromatography column (eluent: petroleum

ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 to 1/1). The desired fractions were collected and concentrated to give product intermediate 175 (1.3 g, 41.5% yield) as a white solid.

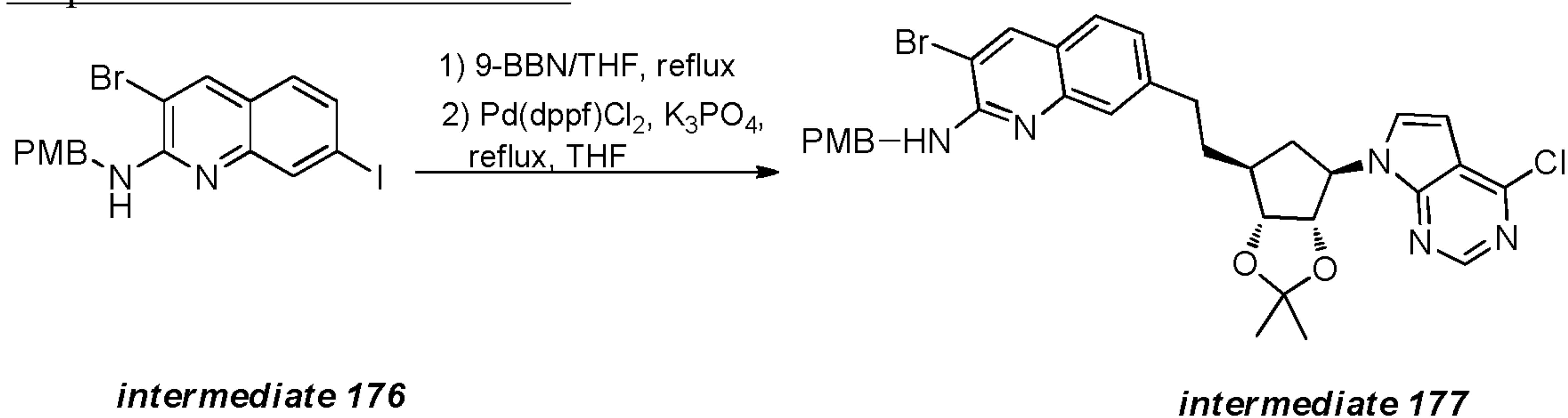
Preparation of intermediate 176

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[00109] 4-methoxybenzylamine (1.34 g, 9.78 mmol) was added into the mixture of intermediate 175 (0.8 g, $\approx$ 1.95 mmol) in ethanol (10 ml). The mixture was heated in a sealed tube at 100°C for 12h. The mixture was evaporated under vacuo to obtain the crude product. This was purified by chromatography column (gradient eluent: ethyl acetate/petroleum ether from 0/1 to 1/10). The desired fractions were collected and concentrated to give product intermediate 176 (600 mg, 51.6 % yield) as an oil.

15 Preparation of intermediate 177

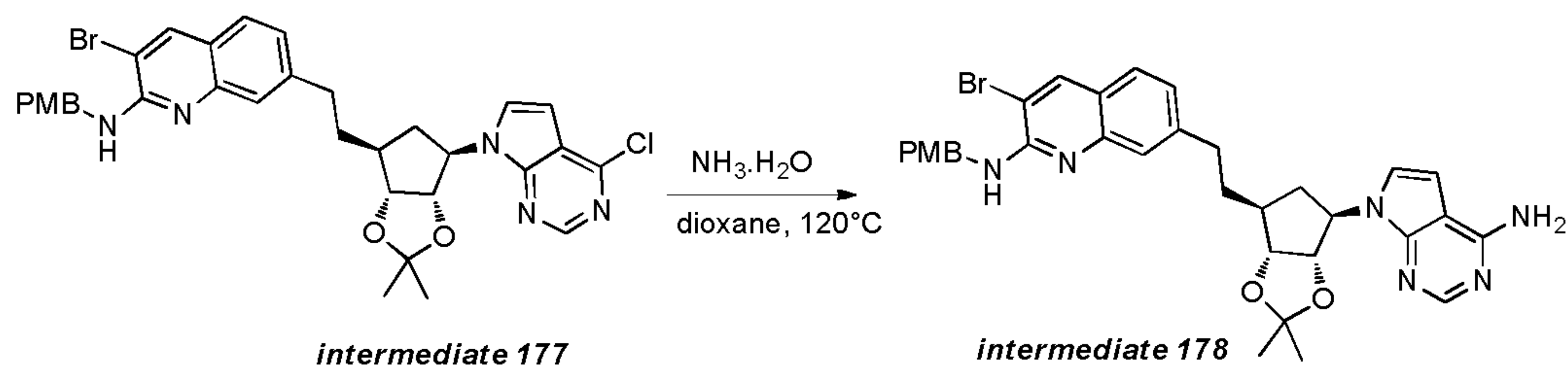


[00110] A mixture of intermediate 38 (44 mg, 0.138 mmol) in 9-BBN (1.3 ml, 0.69 mmol, 0.5M in THF) was refluxed for 1h under N₂. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, then K₃PO₄ (87 mg, 0.413 mmol) in H₂O (1mL) was added, followed by THF (5 ml), intermediate 176 (122.727 mg, $\approx$ 0.206 mmol) and [1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II) (4.48 mg, 0.007 mmol). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 3 hours. The mixture was concentrated. The residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate (40 ml), washed with water (6 ml), brine (6 ml). The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to give crude intermediate 177 fraction 1 (120 mg, 71.5% yield).

- [00111] A mixture of intermediate 38 (233.7 mg, 0.73 mmol) in 9-BBN (7.31 ml, 3.65 mmol, 0.5M in THF) was refluxed for 1h under N₂. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, then K₃PO₄ (87 mg, 0.413 mmol) in H₂O(1mL) was added, followed by THF (5 ml), intermediate 176 (478 mg, ≈0.80 mmol) and [1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II)(23.8 mg, 0.037 mmol). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 3 hours. The mixture was concentrated. The residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate (40 ml), washed with water (6 ml), brine (6 ml). The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to with crude intermediate 177 fraction 2 (600 mg, 63.1% yield).
- 10 The two fractions were combined and purified by chromatography column (gradient eluent: ethyl acetate/petroleum ether from 1/10 to 1/1). The desired fractions were collected and concentrated to give intermediate 177 (300 mg, 61.0 % yield) as a solid.

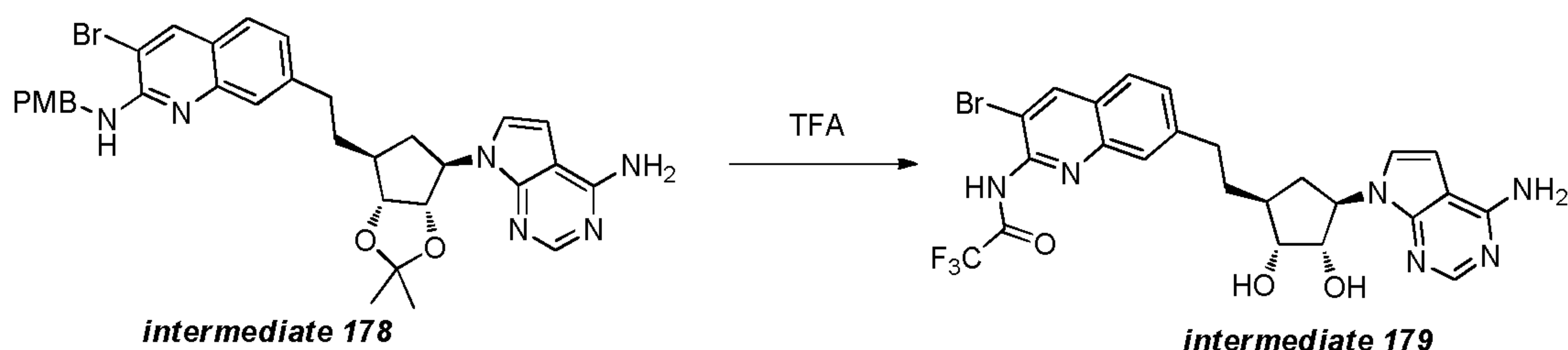
Preparation of intermediate 178

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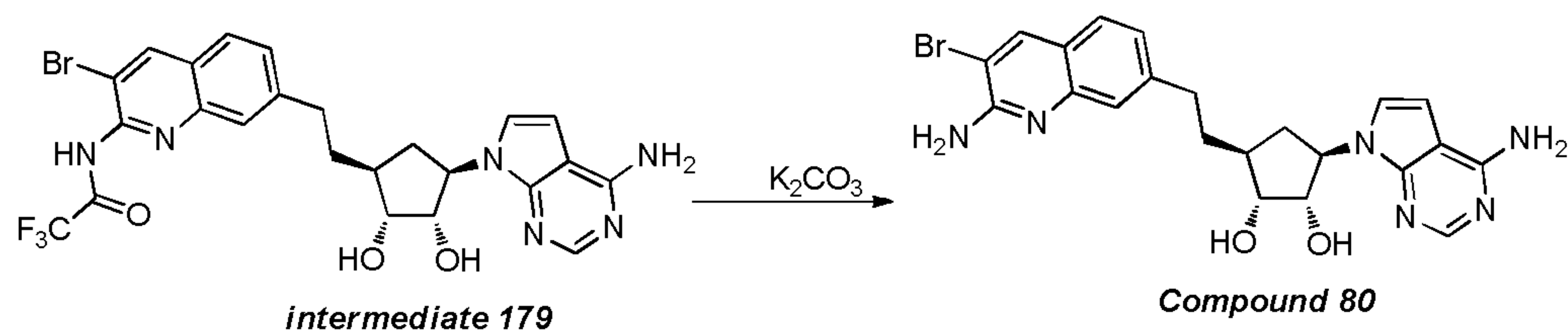
- [00112] A mixture of intermediate 177 (300 mg, ≈0.446 mmol) and NH₃.H₂O (10 ml) in dioxane (10 ml) was stirred in a sealed tube at 120°C for 14h. This reaction was evaporated under vacuo to obtain intermediate 178 (250 mg, 87.1% yield) as an oil.
- 20

Preparation of intermediate 179



[00113] The mixture of intermediate 178 (250 mg, ≈ 0.388 mmol) in TFA (5 ml) was stirred at 50°C for 1h. The mixture was evaporated under vacuo to obtain intermediate 179 (350 mg, 63.4% yield) as an oil.

5 Preparation of Compound 80



[00114] The mixture of intermediate 179 (350 mg) and K₂CO₃ (102 mg, 0.74 mmol) in methanol (3 mL) was stirred at 60°C for 1h. The mixture was filtered and evaporated under vacuo to obtain a crude product. The crude product was purified by prep-HPLC (Column: Waters Xbridge Prep OBD C18 150x30 mm, 5 μ m, Condition: gradient water (0.05% ammonia hydroxide v/v)-ACN). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated to give Compound 80 (113.3 mg, 94.9 % yield) as a white solid.

15

Analytical Part

NMR

[00115] For a number of compounds, ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DPX-360 operating at 360 MHz, on a Bruker Avance 600 operating at 600 MHz, on a Bruker Avance 400 operating at 400 MHz, or on a Varian 400MR spectrometer operating at 400MHz. As solvents CHLOROFORM-d (deuterated chloroform, CDCl₃), Methanol-d₄ or DMSO-d₆ (deuterated DMSO, dimethyl-d₆ sulfoxide) were used. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS), which was used as internal standard.

Co. 80: ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ ppm 1.50 - 1.56 (m, 1 H) 1.68 - 1.75 (m, 1 H) 1.85 - 1.92 (m, 1 H) 1.96 (ddt, *J*=13.0, 9.0, 6.5, 6.5 Hz, 1 H) 2.25 (dt, *J*=12.7, 7.9 Hz, 1 H) 2.69 - 2.80 (m, 2 H) 3.76 (br t, *J*=4.7 Hz, 1 H) 4.21 (dd, *J*=7.6, 6.0 Hz, 1 H) 4.57 (br s, 1 H) 4.72 (br s, 1 H) 4.80 (dt, *J*=10.5, 7.9 Hz, 1 H) 6.50 (br s, 2 H) 6.59 (d, *J*=3.5 Hz, 1 H) 7.07 (br s, 2 H) 7.12 (dd, *J*=8.2, 1.6 Hz, 1 H) 7.29 (d, *J*=3.6 Hz, 1 H) 7.34 (s, 1 H) 7.58 (d, *J*=8.1 Hz, 1 H) 8.07 (s, 1 H) 8.31 (s, 1 H).

EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES in vitro assay (assay 1a and 1b)**Reagents.**

5 **[00116]** PRMT5-MEP50 enzyme was purchased from Charles River (Argenta). The enzyme complex was produced in insect cells (Sf9) infected simultaneously with two baculoviruses. One virus expresses full length human PRMT5 with Flag-tag at N-terminus, the second virus expresses full length MEP50 with His6-TEV cleavage at N-terminus. The protein was affinity purified using anti-Flag (M2)
10 beads eluted with 3xFLAG peptide, followed by His-Select eluted with 0.5M imidazole. Eluted protein was then dialysed against tris-buffered saline (TBS) (pH 8.0) containing 20% glycerol and 3mM dithiothreitol (DTT).

[00117] Full-length untagged human recombinant histone H2A (residues 1-130, Genbank Accession# NM_021052, MW = 14.1 kDa) expressed in E. coli was
15 purchased from Reaction Biology Corporation, Cat# HMT-11-146. Reagents used for making reaction buffer or stopping reaction were purchased including Tris base (Sigma Cat# T-1503), NaCl (Sigma Cat# RGF-3270), MgCl₂ (Sigma Cat # M0250), DTT (Invitrogen Cat# 15508-013) and Formic Acid (Riedel deHaen, Cat# 33015)

20 High Throughput Mass Spectrometer Assay

[00118] PRMT5 catalyzes the sequential methylations of the terminal nitrogen atoms on the guanidine groups of arginine residues within proteins using co-substrate S-adenosyl-L-methionine (AdoMet, SAM), forming mono-methyl (MMA), symmetric-dimethyl arginine (sDMA) and S-adenosyl-L-homocysteine (AdoHcy,
25 SAH). The enzyme activity was determined by following the product SAH formation using high throughput mass spectrometry (Agilent Rapidfire 300 System coupled to a Sciex 4000 series QTrap® triple-quad MS/MS). The reaction buffer was 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.5, 50 mM NaCl, 5 mM MgCl₂ and 1 mM DTT. The reaction activity was stopped using 1% formic acid (final concentration).

30 **[00119]** Inhibition Studies. The IC₅₀ Studies were performed using eleven point dosing series made for each compound by serially diluted 1:2 in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), with point 12 being a DMSO control. Compounds were first

spotted to plates, and followed by addition of 2 μ M SAM and 0.6 μ M H2A (histone H2A) solution mixture. The same volume of enzyme solution was added to initiate the enzymatic reactions. The final concentrations of the reaction are at 1 μ M SAM, 0.3 μ M H2A and 10 nM enzyme (assay 1a) or or 1.25 nM enzyme (assay 1b). The reaction was incubated at 30 °C for 60 minutes (min) when 10 nM enzyme was used and for 120 min when 1.25 nM enzyme was used. Subsequently, the reaction was quenched by addition of formic acid to a final concentration of 1%. The inhibitions of SAH formation in the presence of compounds were calculated as a percentage of the control relative to the uninhibited reaction as a function of inhibitor concentration. The data were fit as follows:

$$[00120] \quad Y = \text{Bottom} + (\text{Top} - \text{Bottom}) / (1 + 10^{((\log \text{IC}_{50} - X) * h)})$$

[00121] where IC₅₀ is the inhibitor concentration (same unit as X) at 50% inhibition and h is the Hill slope. Y is percent of inhibition, X is log of compound concentration. Bottom and Top are the plateaus in same units as Y.

[00122] The pIC₅₀ values in Table 1 below are averaged values (Co. No. means compound number).

Co. No.	pIC ₅₀ Assay 1a	pIC ₅₀ Assay 1b
2	8.1	7.6
80	9.9	9.7

Table 1

Example 1: PIK3CA activating mutations are associated with PRMT5 inhibitor sensitivity in SCLC.

[00123] The cellular sensitivity profile of compound 2 was assessed in the SCLC sub-classification of a broad lung cancer cell line panel. Strikingly, some of the most sensitive cell lines harbor different gain-of-function mutations in the PIK3C α gene, and are mentioned in Table 2. Activation of the PI3K α pathway (gain-of-function mutations or pathway stimulation) as a tumor response towards standard-of-care

(cisplatin) or even towards targeted agents like the latest PARP inhibitor generation, implicates a crucial role in the process of resistance that might be linked with low overall survival of SCLC patient post-therapy.

Cell line	PIK3CA mutation	Histology subtype	GI50
NCI-H1048	H1047R	SCLC	94.62nM
LU99a	T1025A	SCLC	128.53nM
H69V	G106_R108del	SCLC	85.62nM

5 Table 2

Example 2: Spliceosome alterations are associated with PRMT5 inhibitor-sensitivity in NSCLC

[00124] Cancer-specific splicing events are known to initiate malignancy and
 10 also contribute to disease progression. So far, two proteins involved in splicing, U2AF1 and RBM10, have been described to be miss-regulated in NSCLC.

[00125] U2AF1, a well characterized splicing factor, harbors a gain-of-function hot-spot mutation (S34F) in 3-8% of NSCLC patients. Recently, the RNA binding protein RBM10, also crucial for the assembly of the spliceosome, has been
 15 classified as a tumor suppressor that is inactivated by loss-of-function mutations, predominantly in NSCLC patients (~8%) with a smoking history.

[00126] Sm proteins, crucial for spliceosome assembly, have been described as direct substrates of PRMT5 and therefore, PRMT5 function has been linked to modulate spliceosome activity.

20 [00127] Since the S34F gain-of-function mutation in U2AF1 has been confirmed as oncogenic, a small panel of all commercial available NSCLC cell lines, harboring the S34F mutation, was assembled to analyze the potential synthetic lethal relation between U2AF1-S34F and PRMT5 inhibition.

[00128] All (three out of three) NSCLC cells that harbor this hot-spot
 25 mutation are proliferation sensitive to the PRMT5 inhibitor compound 2, see Table 3.

Cell line	Gene / mutation	Histology subtype	GI50
NCI-H441	U2AF1-S34F	Adenocarcinoma	98.40nM
LC-2/ad	U2AF1-S34F	Adenocarcinoma	116.08nM
HCC78	U2AF1-S34F	Adenocarcinoma	107.65nM

Table 3

Example 3: Cyclin D1 pathway amplicifications are associated with PRMT5 inhibitor-sensitivity in NSCLC

5 **[00129]** Amplification and/or increased expression of the G1 cyclin family has been reported in multiple cancers, including NSCLC. A correlation has been observed between PRMT5 and the expression of modulators of the cell cycle, including Cyclin D1, CDK4 and CDK6, suggesting that PRMT5 may have a regulatory effect on the G1 phase. Analysis of the compound 2-treated lung cell line panel revealed a
10 significant association between Cyclin D1/CDK4/CDK6 amplification(s) and PRMT5i-sensitivity, indicating that cyclin pathway aberrations can be used as markers for patient selection. Table 4 shows that NSCLC cell lines harbouring such Cyclin D1/CDK4/CDK6 amplification(s) are sensitive to treatment with compound 2.

Cell line	Amplified gene	Histology subtype	GI50
EPLC272H	Cyclin D1	Adenocarcinoma	98.53nM
NCI-H226	CDK4	Adenocarcinoma	204.52nM
HLC1	CDK6	Squamous Cell Carcinoma	96.39nM

Table 4

15 Example 4: WNT pathway alterations are associated with PRMT5 inhibitor-sensitivity

[00130] Cell lines harboring mutations in key Wnt signaling genes, including β -catenin and APC, show sensitivity to PRMT5i treatment as shown in table 5

Cell line	Gene / mutation	Histology subtype	GI50
A427	CTNNB1/T41A	Adenocarcinoma	166.52nM
HCC15	CTNNB1/S45F, Y670*	Squamous Cell Carcinoma	266.07nM
LK2	APC/W685*, E1020K	Squamous Cell Carcinoma	114.53nM

Table 5

EXAMPLES

[00131] Those skilled in the art will appreciate that numerous changes and
5 modifications can be made to the preferred embodiments of the invention and that such
changes and modifications can be made without departing from the spirit of the
invention. It is, therefore, intended that the appended claims cover all such equivalent
variations as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

[00132] The disclosures of each patent, patent application, and publication
10 cited or described in this document are hereby incorporated herein by reference, in its
entirety.

What is claimed:

1. A method of identifying a patient that is likely to be responsive to treatment with a protein arginine N-methyltransferase 5 (PRMT5) inhibitor comprising:
evaluating a biological sample from the patient for the presence of a spliceosome alteration,
wherein the presence of any said alteration indicates a higher likelihood for said patient to be responsive to treatment with said PRMT5 inhibitor than in the absence of any said alteration.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the spliceosome alteration comprises a mutation in a gene selected from the group consisting of U2AF1, RBM10 and KIAA1429
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the gene is U2AF1 and the mutation is S34F.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein the gene is RBM10 and the mutation is selected from the group consisting of I696fs, I348N, G840fs
5. The method of claim 2, wherein the gene is KIAA1429 and the mutation is selected from the group consisting of L837V, F1260L, D251if, T1333M, V1548L, G397A and Q962E.
6. The method of any one of the previous claims 1-5, wherein the biological sample comprises a spliceosome alteration and the patient has NSCLC.
7. The method according to any of the previous claims, wherein the PRMT5 inhibitor is compound 2 or compound 80.