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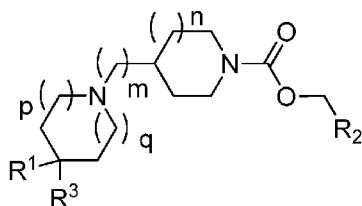
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(54) Title: PIPERIDIN-1 -YL AND AZEPIN-1 -YL CARBOXYLATES AS MUSCARINIC M4 RECEPTOR AGONISTS



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides muscarinic M4 receptor agonists of formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein m, n, p, q, R, R² and R³ are as defined in the specification, processes for their preparation, pharmaceutical compositions containing them and their use in the treatment of diseases such as schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease and various cognitive disorders as well as in the treatment or alleviation of pain.

PIPERIDIN-1-YL AND AZEPIN-1-YL CARBOXYLATES AS MUSCARINIC M4 RECEPTOR AGONISTS

This invention relates to novel piperidine compounds that are agonists of the muscarinic M4 receptor and which are useful in the treatment of muscarinic M4 receptor mediated diseases such as schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease and various cognitive disorders as well as in the treatment or alleviation of pain. Also provided are pharmaceutical compositions containing the compounds and the therapeutic uses of the compounds.

Background of the Invention

Muscarinic acetylcholine receptors (mAChRs) are members of the G protein-coupled receptor superfamily which mediate the actions of the neurotransmitter acetylcholine in both the central and peripheral nervous system. Five mAChR subtypes have been cloned, M₁ to M₅. The M₄ mAChR is predominantly expressed in the striatum, but also in the hippocampus and cortex; M₂ mAChRs are located predominantly in the brainstem and thalamus, though also in the cortex, hippocampus and striatum where they reside on cholinergic synaptic terminals (Langmead *et al.*, 2008 *Br J Pharmacol*). However, M₂ mAChRs are also expressed peripherally on cardiac tissue (where they mediate the vagal innervation of the heart) and in smooth muscle and exocrine glands. M₃ mAChRs are expressed at relatively low level in the CNS but are widely expressed in smooth muscle and glandular tissues such as sweat and salivary glands (Langmead *et al.*, 2008 *Br J Pharmacol*).

Muscarinic receptors in the central nervous system play a critical role in mediating higher cognitive processing and control of dopamine release. Schizophrenia is a neuropsychiatric disease consisting of multiple symptom domains (positive, negative, cognitive and mood). One of the hypotheses of the disease is that various symptom domains are due to alterations in dopamine signalling, including hyperactivity of the mesolimbic dopamine pathway and hypoactivity of the mesocortical pathway. Muscarinic M₄ receptors are expressed pre-synaptically on cholinergic pathways originating in the laterodorsal, subpretectal and pedunculo-pontine tegmental nuclei which innervate the substantia nigra and ventral tegmental area (and control dopamine release in the striatum and nucleus accumbens). The absence of the M₄ receptor in the KO mouse causes an increase in

dopamine efflux in the nucleus accumbens. M₄ receptors are also thought to regulate dopamine transmission in the mesocortical pathway.

Furthermore, preclinical studies have suggested that mAChR agonists display an atypical antipsychotic-like profile in a range of pre-clinical paradigms. The mAChR agonist, xanomeline, reverses a number of dopamine driven behaviours, including amphetamine induced locomotion in rats, apomorphine induced climbing in mice, dopamine agonist driven turning in unilateral 6-OH-DA lesioned rats and amphetamine induced motor unrest in monkeys (without EPS liability). It also has been shown to inhibit A10, but not A9, dopamine cell firing and conditioned avoidance and induces c-fos expression in prefrontal cortex and nucleus accumbens, but not in striatum in rats. These data are all suggestive of an atypical antipsychotic-like profile (Mirza *et al.*, 1999 *CNS Drug Rev*).

Xanomeline, sabcomeline, milameline and cevimeline have all progressed into various stages of clinical development for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease and/or schizophrenia. Phase II clinical studies with xanomeline demonstrated its efficacy versus various cognitive symptom domains, including behavioural disturbances and hallucinations associated with Alzheimer's disease (Bodick *et al.*, 1997 *Arch Neurol*). This compound was also assessed in a small Phase II study of schizophrenics and gave a significant reduction in positive and negative symptoms when compared to placebo control (Shekhar *et al.*, 2008 *Am J Psych*). However, in all clinical studies xanomeline and other related mAChR agonists have displayed an unacceptable safety margin with respect to cholinergic side effects, including nausea, gastrointestinal pain, diarrhoea, diaphoresis (excessive sweating), hypersalivation (excessive salivation), syncope and bradycardia.

Diseases associated with cognitive impairments, such as Alzheimer's disease, are accompanied by loss of cholinergic neurons in the basal forebrain (Whitehouse *et al.*, 1982 *Science*). In schizophrenia, which is also characterised by cognitive impairments, mAChR density is reduced in the pre-frontal cortex, hippocampus and caudate putamen of schizophrenic subjects (Dean *et al.*, 2002 *Mol Psychiatry*). Furthermore, in animal models, blockade or lesion of central cholinergic pathways results in profound cognitive deficits and non-selective mAChR antagonists have been shown to induce psychotomimetic effects

in psychiatric patients. Cholinergic replacement therapy has largely been based on the use of acetylcholinesterase inhibitors to prevent the breakdown of endogenous acetylcholine. These compounds have shown efficacy versus symptomatic cognitive decline in the clinic, but give rise to dose-limiting side effects resulting from stimulation of peripheral M₂ and M₃ mAChRs including disturbed gastrointestinal motility, bradycardia, nausea and vomiting (<http://www.drugs.com/pro/donepezil.html>; <http://www.drugs.com/pro/rivastigmine.html>).

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is the most common neurodegenerative disorder (26.6 million people worldwide in 2006) that affects the elderly, resulting in profound memory loss and cognitive dysfunction. The aetiology of the disease is complex, but is characterised by two hallmark brain sequelae: aggregates of amyloid plaques, largely composed of amyloid- β peptide (A β), and neurofibrillary tangles, formed by hyperphosphorylated tau proteins. The accumulation of A β is thought to be the central feature in the progression of AD and, as such, many putative therapies for the treatment of AD are currently targeting inhibition of A β production. A β is derived from proteolytic cleavage of the membrane bound amyloid precursor protein (APP). APP is processed by two routes, nonamyloidogenic and amyloidogenic. Cleavage of APP by γ -secretase is common to both pathways, but in the former APP is cleaved by an α -secretase to yield soluble APP α . The cleavage site is within the A β sequence, thereby precluding its formation. However, in the amyloidogenic route, APP is cleaved by β -secretase to yield soluble APP β and also A β . *In vitro* studies have shown that mAChR agonists can promote the processing of APP toward the soluble, non-amyloidogenic pathway. *In vivo* studies showed that the mAChR agonist, AF267B, altered disease-like pathology in the 3xTgAD transgenic mouse, a model of the different components of Alzheimer's disease (Caccamo *et al.*, 2006 *Neuron*). Finally, the mAChR agonist cevimeline has been shown to give a small, but significant, reduction in cerebrospinal fluid levels of A β in Alzheimer's patients, thus demonstrating potential disease modifying efficacy (Nitsch *et al.*, 2000 *Neurol*).

Muscarinic agonists have also been disclosed as being useful in the treatment or management of pain, see for example WO2005/030188. The mAChR agonist, xanomeline,

has shown to be active in preclinical models of both inflammatory and neuropathic pain (Martino *et al.*, 2012, Pain).

WO2009/108117 and WO2009/034380 (both AstraZeneca) disclose 4-substituted-
5 piperidinylpiperidine carboxylates as muscarinic receptor agonists. The data presented in the two documents indicate that the compounds are selective for the muscarinic M1 receptor and, in most cases, have little or no activity at the M4 receptor.

WO96/13262 (Merck), WO01/21590 (Schering), US6294554 (Schering) and US5889006
10 (Schering) each disclose 4-substituted-piperidinylpiperidines having muscarinic receptor antagonist activity.

WO98/05292 (Schering) discloses 4-substituted-piperidinylpiperidine carboxylates wherein the 4-substituent can be a phenyl-substituted saturated heterocyclic ring. The
15 compounds are described as having muscarinic antagonist activity.

WO98/46599 (Uriach) discloses piperidinylpiperidinylthiazole carboxamides as platelet aggregation inhibitors.

20 WO99/32481 (Alcon) discloses piperidinylpiperidinyl carboxylates as muscarinic agents for use in treating glaucoma, myopia and other conditions.

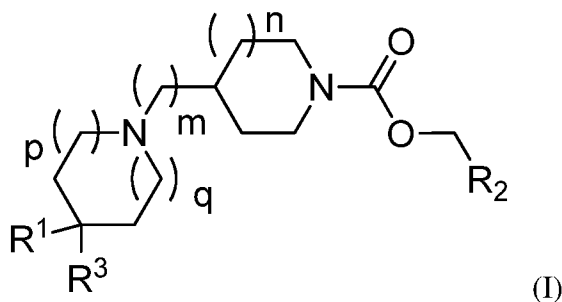
WO2005/117883 (Vertex) discloses muscarinic receptor modulator compounds containing a bridged bicyclic group.

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Summary of the Invention

The present invention provides compounds having activity as muscarinic M4 receptor agonists. More particularly, the invention provides compounds that exhibit selectivity for the M4 receptor relative to the M2 receptor subtype which, as previously mentioned, is
30 expressed peripherally on cardiac tissue. Accordingly, the muscarinic M4 receptor agonists of the invention are advantageous in that they possess a lower cardiovascular risk profile.

In accordance with the present invention, there is therefore provided a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof



5 wherein

m, p and q each independently represent 0 or 1;

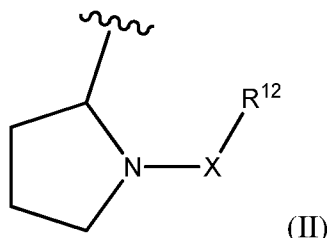
n represents an integer 1 or 2;

R^1 is selected from hydrogen, fluorine, cyano, hydroxyl, amino ($-NH_2$), and a C_1 - C_9 non-aromatic hydrocarbon group which is optionally substituted with from one to six fluorine atoms and wherein one, two or three carbon atoms of the hydrocarbon group may optionally be replaced by one, two or three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur;

R^2 is hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 non-aromatic hydrocarbon group which is optionally substituted with from one to six fluorine atoms and wherein one, two or three carbon atoms of the hydrocarbon group may optionally be replaced by one, two or three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur;

R^3 represents a 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group containing 1, 2, 3 or 4 ring heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, which heterocyclic group may be optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from halogen, cyano, oxo, $-NR^4R^5$, $-C(O)NR^6R^7$, C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, C_1 - C_6 haloalkoxy, $-R^8$, $-OCH_2R^8$, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl and C_1 - C_6 alkyl, the alkyl substituent itself being optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from cyano, $-C(O)NR^9R^{10}$, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy and $-NHC(O)R^{11}$, or

R^3 represents a group of formula (II)



in which X represents a bond, C(O), C(O)O, C(O)NR¹³ or SO₂, and R¹² represents a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or a 3- to 10-membered saturated or unsaturated carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system, each of which may be optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, oxo, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₁-C₆ haloalkyl, C₁-C₆ hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, C₁-C₆ haloalkoxy, C₁-C₆ alkylthio, C₁-C₆ alkylsulphinyl, C₁-C₆ alkylsulphonyl, C₁-C₆ alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₆ alkylcarbonyloxy, C₁-C₆ alkoxy carbonyl, -N(R¹⁴)₂, -CON(R¹⁵)₂, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyloxy and C₃-C₆ cycloalkylmethyl;

R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl or C₃-C₆ cycloalkylmethyl;

R⁸ represents a 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic group optionally containing 1, 2, 3 or 4 ring heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, the aromatic group being optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from halogen and C₁-C₆ alkyl;

R⁹, R¹⁰ and R¹¹ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, C₁-C₆ alkyl or C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl; and

each R¹³, R¹⁴ and R¹⁵ independently represents a hydrogen atom or C₁-C₆ alkyl group;

but not including the following compounds:

- (1) 4-(4-isobutyl-[1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-1'-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,
- (2) 4-(4-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-1'-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,
- and
- (3) methyl 4-(3-aminopyridin-2-yl)-[1,4'-bipiperidine]-1'-carboxylate.

In the context of the present specification, unless otherwise stated, an “alkyl”, “alkenyl” or “alkynyl” substituent group or an alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl moiety in a substituent group may be linear or branched. Examples of C₁-C₆ alkyl groups/moieties include methyl, ethyl, propyl, 2-methyl-1-propyl, 2-methyl-2-propyl, 2-methyl-1-butyl, 3-methyl-1-butyl, 2-methyl-3-butyl, 2,2-dimethyl-1-propyl, 2-methyl-pentyl, 3-methyl-1-pentyl, 4-methyl-1-pentyl, 2-methyl-2-pentyl, 3-methyl-2-pentyl, 4-methyl-2-pentyl, 2,2-dimethyl-1-butyl, 3,3-dimethyl-1-butyl, 2-ethyl-1-butyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl, isopentyl, neopentyl and n-hexyl. Examples of C₂-C₆ alkenyl groups/moieties include ethenyl, propenyl, 1-butenyl, 2-butenyl, 1-pentenyl, 1-hexenyl, 1,3-butadienyl, 1,3-pentadienyl, 1,4-pentadienyl and 1-hexadienyl. Examples of C₂-C₆ alkynyl groups/moieties include ethynyl, propynyl, 1-butyne, 2-butyne, 1-pentyne and 1-hexyne.

The term “non-aromatic hydrocarbon group” refers to a group consisting of carbon and hydrogen atoms and which contains no aromatic rings. The hydrocarbon group may be fully saturated or may contain one or more carbon-carbon double bonds or carbon-carbon triple bonds, or mixtures of double and triple bonds. The hydrocarbon group may be a straight chain or branched chain group or may consist of or contain a cyclic group.

In the definitions of R¹ and R² above, one, two or three, but not all, carbon atoms of the hydrocarbon group may optionally be replaced by a heteroatom selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur. It will be appreciated that when a carbon atom is replaced by a heteroatom, the lower valencies of the heteroatoms compared to carbon means that fewer atoms will be bonded to the heteroatoms than would have been bonded to the carbon atom that has been replaced. Thus, for example, replacement of a carbon atom (valency of four) in a CH₂ group by oxygen (valency of two) will mean that the resulting molecule will contain two less hydrogen atoms and replacement of a carbon atom (valency of four) in a CH₂ group by nitrogen (valency of three) will mean that the resulting molecule will contain one less hydrogen atom.

Examples of heteroatom replacements for carbon atoms include replacement of a carbon atom in a $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-$ chain with oxygen or sulphur to give an ether $-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-$ or thioether $-\text{CH}_2-\text{S}-\text{CH}_2-$, replacement of a carbon atom in a group $\text{CH}_2-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-\text{H}$ with nitrogen to give a nitrile (cyano) group $\text{CH}_2-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$, and replacement of a carbon atom in a
5 $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-$ chain with nitrogen to give an amine $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-$. In each such replacement, at least one carbon atom of the hydrocarbon group must remain.

If R^1 or R^2 are heterocyclic, it should be understood that the invention does not encompass any unstable ring structures or any O-O, O-S or S-S bonds and that a substituent, if
10 present, may be attached to any suitable ring atom. Similar comments apply to the optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group of R^3 , the optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic group of R^8 and the optionally substituted 3- to 10-membered saturated or unsaturated carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system of R^{12} .

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A "cycloalkyl" substituent group/moiety is a saturated hydrocarbyl ring containing, for example, from 3 to 8 carbon atoms, examples of which include cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl.

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A " C_1-C_6 haloalkyl" or " C_1-C_6 haloalkoxy" substituent group/moiety will comprise at least one halogen atom, e.g. one, two, three, four or five halogen atoms, examples of which include fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, fluoromethoxy, difluoromethoxy, trifluoromethoxy or pentafluoroethyl.

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A " C_1-C_6 hydroxyalkyl" substituent group/moiety will comprise at least one hydroxyl group, e.g. one, two, three or four hydroxyl groups, examples of which include $-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, $-\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{OH}$ and $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_2$.

When any chemical moiety or group in formula (I) is described as being optionally substituted, it will be appreciated that the moiety or group may be either unsubstituted or substituted by one or more of the specified substituents. It will be appreciated that the number and nature of substituents will be selected so as to avoid sterically undesirable combinations.

In an embodiment of the invention, p is 1.

In an embodiment of the invention, q is 1.

In an embodiment of the invention, m is 0.

In an embodiment of the invention, n is 2.

Preferred values for p, q, m and n are shown in the following table:

p	q	m	n
1	1	0	1
1	1	0	2
0	0	1	1
0	1	1	1

R^1 is selected from hydrogen, fluorine, cyano, hydroxyl, amino, and a C_1-C_9 , or C_1-C_6 , or C_1-C_4 , non-aromatic, preferably acyclic, hydrocarbon group which is optionally substituted with from one to six fluorine atoms and wherein one, two or three carbon atoms of the hydrocarbon group may optionally be replaced by one, two or three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur. Preferred such hydrocarbon groups include alkyl and alkoxy groups optionally substituted with from 1 to 6, or 1 to 4, or 1 to 3, fluorine atoms.

In an embodiment of the invention, R^1 is selected from hydrogen, fluorine, hydroxyl, C_1 - C_4 alkyl and C_1 - C_3 alkoxy.

In another embodiment, R^1 is selected from hydrogen and methoxy.

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R^2 is hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 , or C_1 - C_4 , or C_1 - C_2 , non-aromatic, preferably acyclic, hydrocarbon group which is optionally substituted with from one to six fluorine atoms and wherein one, two or three carbon atoms of the hydrocarbon group may optionally be replaced by one, two or three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur. Preferred such hydrocarbon groups include alkyl and alkynyl groups optionally substituted with from 1 to 6, or 1 to 4, or 1 to 3, fluorine atoms.

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In an embodiment of the invention, R^2 is selected from hydrogen, a C_1 - C_3 alkyl group and a C_2 - C_3 alkynyl group.

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In another embodiment of the invention, R^2 is selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, ethynyl and 1-propynyl.

In a further embodiment, R^2 is methyl.

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In one aspect of the invention, R^3 may represent a 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group containing 1, 2, 3 or 4 ring heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, which heterocyclic group may be optionally substituted by at least one substituent (e.g. one, two, three or four substituents independently) selected from halogen (e.g. fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine), cyano, oxo, $-NR^4R^5$, $-C(O)NR^6R^7$, C_1 - C_6 , or C_1 - C_4 , or C_1 - C_2 haloalkyl, C_1 - C_6 , or C_1 - C_4 , or C_1 - C_2 haloalkoxy, $-R^8$, $-OCH_2R^8$, C_1 - C_6 , or C_1 - C_4 , or C_1 - C_2 alkoxy, C_3 - C_8 , or C_3 - C_6 , cycloalkyl and C_1 - C_6 , or C_1 - C_4 , or C_1 - C_2 alkyl, the alkyl substituent itself being optionally substituted by at least one substituent (e.g. one, two or three substituents

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independently) selected from cyano, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^9\text{R}^{10}$, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$, or $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$, or $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2$ alkoxy and $-\text{NHC}(\text{O})\text{R}^{11}$.

In particular, R^3 may represent a 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group containing 1, 2, 3 or 4 ring heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, which heterocyclic group may be optionally substituted by one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from fluorine, chlorine, cyano, oxo, $-\text{NR}^4\text{R}^5$ (e.g. dimethylamino), $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^6\text{R}^7$ (e.g. dimethylaminocarbonyl), $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2$ haloalkyl (e.g. trifluoromethyl), $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2$ haloalkoxy (e.g. difluoromethoxy or trifluoromethoxy), $-\text{R}^8$, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{R}^8$, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2$ alkoxy, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_6$ cycloalkyl (e.g. cyclopropyl) and $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ alkyl (e.g. methyl, ethyl, n-propyl and isopropyl), the alkyl substituent itself being optionally substituted by one, two or three substituents independently selected from cyano, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^9\text{R}^{10}$, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2$ alkoxy and $-\text{NHC}(\text{O})\text{R}^{11}$.

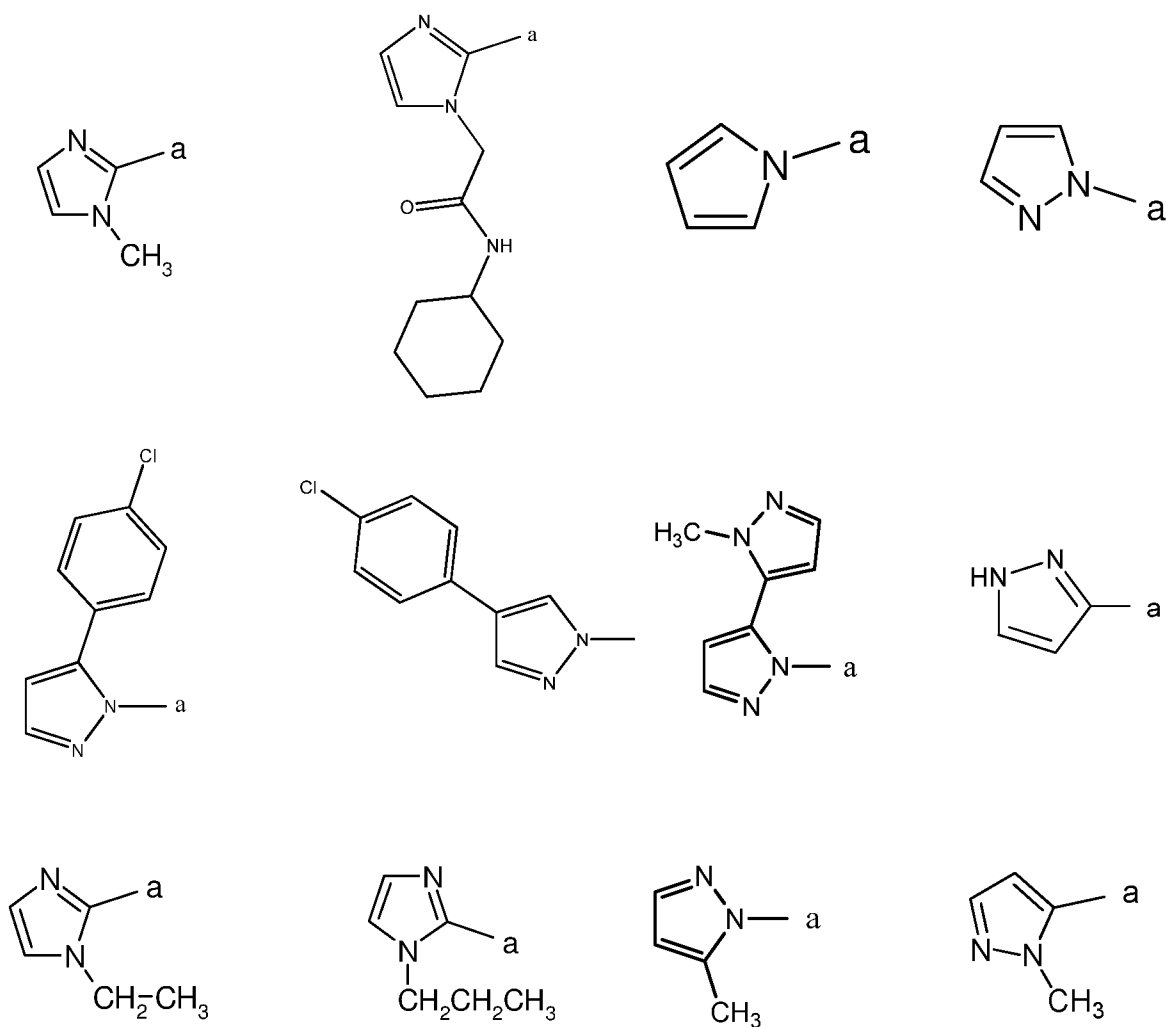
In an embodiment of the invention, R^3 represents a 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group containing 1 or 2 nitrogen ring atoms and optionally one further ring heteroatom selected from oxygen and sulphur, the heterocyclic group being optionally substituted as hereinbefore described.

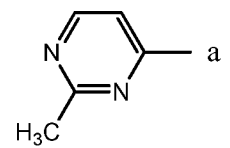
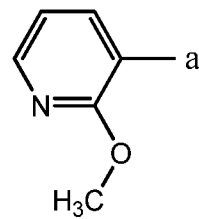
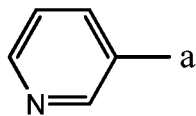
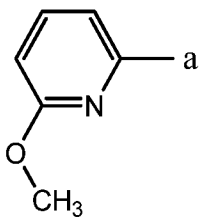
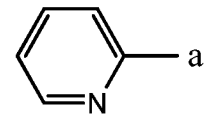
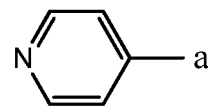
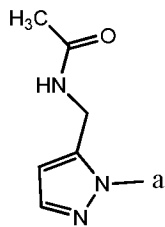
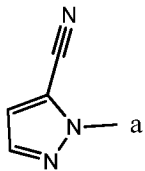
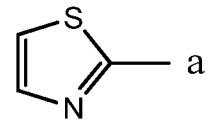
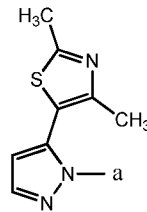
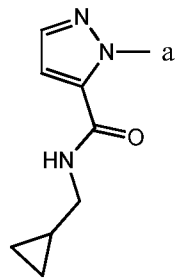
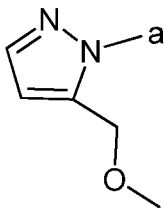
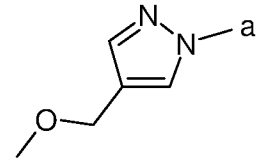
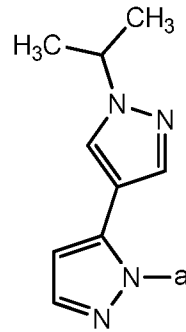
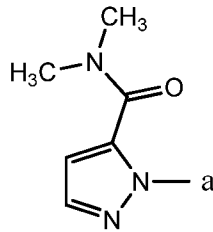
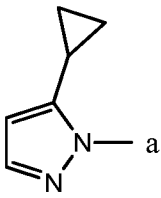
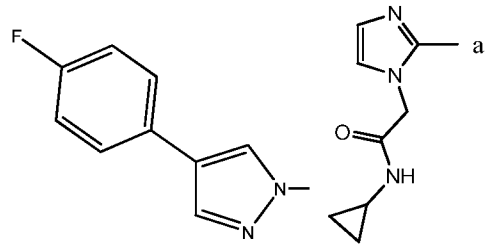
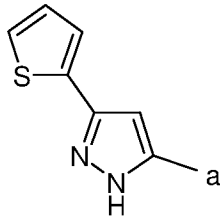
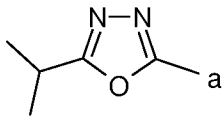
In one embodiment, R^3 represents pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl or pyrazinyl, each of which is optionally substituted as hereinbefore described.

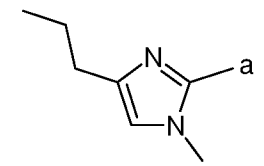
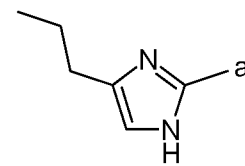
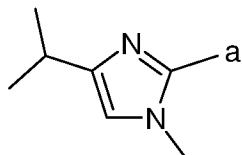
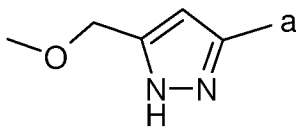
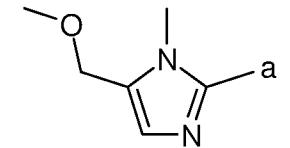
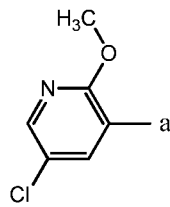
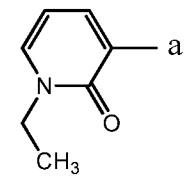
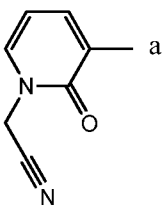
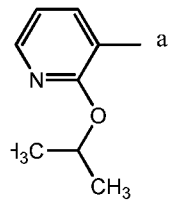
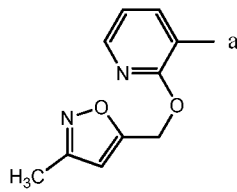
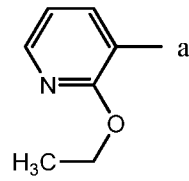
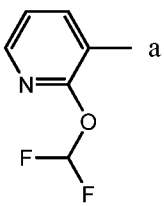
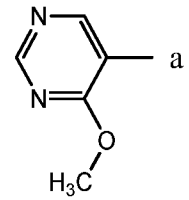
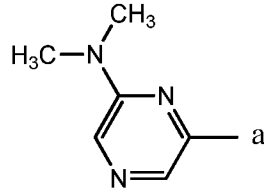
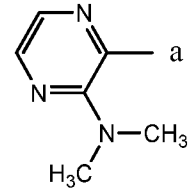
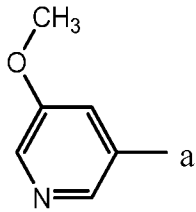
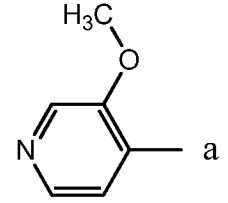
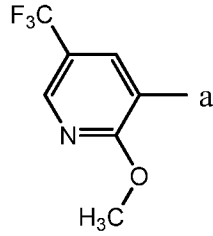
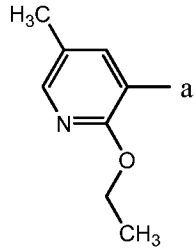
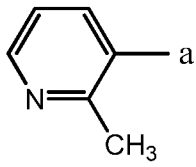
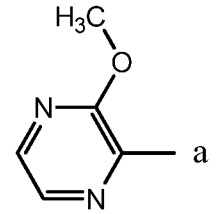
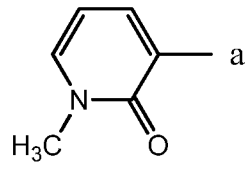
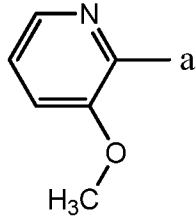
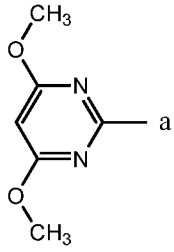
In another embodiment, R^3 represents pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl or pyrazinyl, each of which is optionally substituted as hereinbefore described.

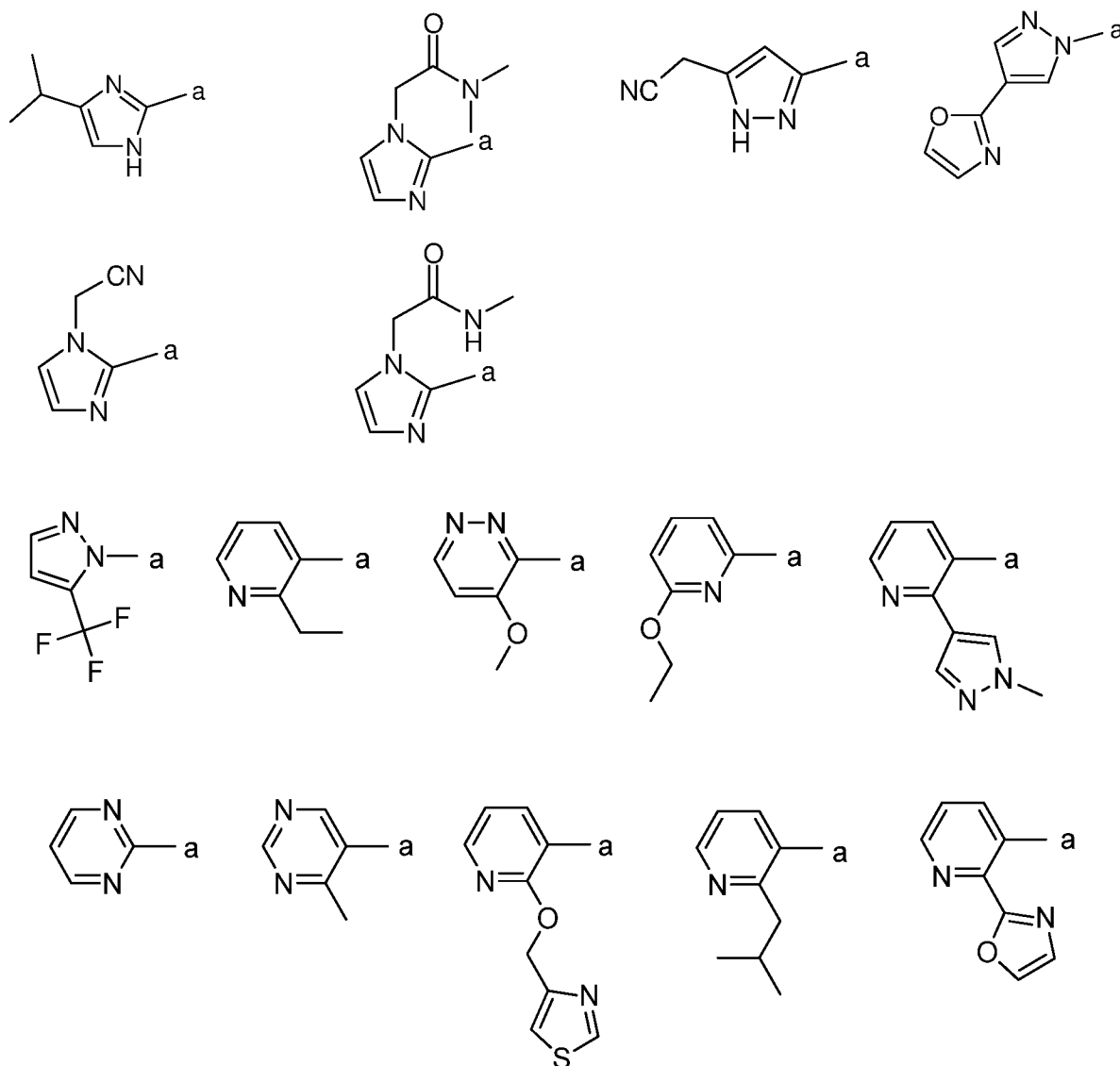
In another embodiment, R^3 represents pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl or pyrazinyl, each of which is optionally substituted as hereinbefore described.

- 5 Specific examples of R^3 substituents include one or more of the following substituents in any combination, in which "a" denotes the point of attachment of R^3 to the saturated nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring:

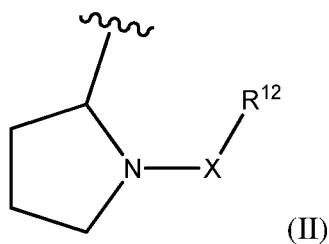








In another aspect of the invention, R^3 may represent a group of formula (II)



- 5 in which X represents a bond, C(O), C(O)O, C(O)NR¹³ or SO₂ and R¹² represents a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or a 3- to 10-membered (e.g. 3-, 4-, 5- or 6- to 7-, 8-, 9- or 10-membered) saturated or unsaturated carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system, each of which may be optionally substituted by at least one substituent (e.g. one, two, three or four

substituents independently) selected from halogen (e.g. fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine), hydroxyl, cyano, oxo, C₁-C₆, or C₁-C₄, or C₁-C₂ alkyl, C₂-C₆ or C₂-C₄ alkenyl, C₁-C₆, or C₁-C₄, or C₁-C₂ haloalkyl, C₁-C₆, or C₁-C₄, or C₁-C₂ hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₆, or C₁-C₄, or C₁-C₂ alkoxy, C₁-C₆, or C₁-C₄, or C₁-C₂ haloalkoxy, C₁-C₆, or C₁-C₄, or C₁-C₂ alkylthio, C₁-C₆, or C₁-C₄, or C₁-C₂ alkylsulphinyl, C₁-C₆, or C₁-C₄, or C₁-C₂ alkylsulphonyl, C₁-C₆, or C₁-C₄, or C₁-C₂ alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₆, or C₁-C₄, or C₁-C₂ alkylcarbonyloxy, C₁-C₆, or C₁-C₄, or C₁-C₂ alkoxy carbonyl, -N(R¹⁴)₂, -CON(R¹⁵)₂, C₃-C₆ or C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₆ or C₃-C₅ cycloalkyloxy and C₃-C₆ or C₃-C₅ cycloalkylmethyl.

10

The heterocyclic ring system will comprise at least one ring heteroatom (e.g. one, two, three or four ring heteroatoms independently) selected from nitrogen, sulphur and oxygen.

15

Examples of saturated or unsaturated 3- to 10-membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring systems that may be used, which may be monocyclic or polycyclic (e.g. bicyclic) in which the two or more rings may be fused, bridged or spiro include one or more (in any combination) of cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, bicyclo[2.2.1]heptyl, cyclopentenyl, cyclohexenyl, phenyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, oxadiazolyl (e.g. 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl), tetrahydrofuranyl, diazabicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-yl, naphthyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, benzodioxolyl, benzoxazolyl, quinolinyl, oxazolyl, thiadiazolyl (e.g. 1,2,3-thiadiazolyl), 2,3-dihydrobenzofuranyl, tetrahydropyranyl, pyrazolyl, imidazo[1,2-a]pyridinyl, pyrazinyl, thiazolidinyl, indanyl, thienyl, isoxazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyrrolyl, furanyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, imidazolyl, pyrimidinyl, benzimidazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl and pyridinyl.

25

Preferred ring systems include phenyl, pyridinyl, oxazolyl, pyrazinyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, thienyl, tetrahydropyranyl, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuranyl, pyrimidinyl, imidazo[1,2-a]pyridinyl, pyrazolyl, thiazolyl and piperidinyl.

In one embodiment of the invention, R^{12} represents a C_1 - C_6 or C_1 - C_4 alkyl group or a 5- to 6-, 7-, 8- or 9-membered saturated or unsaturated carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system, each of which may be optionally substituted by at least one substituent (e.g. one, two, three or four substituents independently) selected from halogen (e.g. fluorine, chlorine or bromine), hydroxyl, cyano, oxo, C_1 - C_4 alkyl (e.g. methyl or ethyl), C_2 - C_4 alkenyl (e.g. ethenyl), C_1 - C_2 haloalkyl (e.g. difluoromethyl or trifluoromethyl), C_1 - C_2 hydroxyalkyl (e.g. hydroxymethyl), C_1 - C_4 alkoxy (e.g. methoxy or ethoxy), C_1 - C_2 haloalkoxy (e.g. difluoromethoxy or trifluoromethoxy), C_1 - C_4 alkylthio (e.g. methylthio or ethylthio), C_1 - C_4 alkylsulphinyl (e.g. methylsulphinyl or ethylsulphinyl), C_1 - C_4 alkylsulphonyl (e.g. methylsulphonyl or ethylsulphonyl), C_1 - C_4 alkylcarbonyl (e.g. methylcarbonyl or ethylcarbonyl), C_1 - C_4 alkylcarbonyloxy (e.g. methylcarbonyloxy), C_1 - C_4 alkoxy carbonyl (e.g. methoxycarbonyl), $N(R^{14})_2$, $-CON(R^{15})_2$, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyloxy and C_3 - C_6 cycloalkylmethyl.

R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, C_1 - C_6 , or C_1 - C_4 , or C_1 - C_2 alkyl (preferably methyl), C_3 - C_6 or C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl (e.g. cyclopropyl) or C_3 - C_6 or C_3 - C_5 cycloalkylmethyl (e.g. cyclopropylmethyl).

In an embodiment of the invention, R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, C_1 - C_2 alkyl, C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl or C_3 - C_5 cycloalkylmethyl.

In another embodiment, R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, or a methyl or cyclopropylmethyl group.

R^8 represents a 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic group optionally containing 1, 2, 3 or 4 ring heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, the aromatic group being optionally substituted by at least one substituent (e.g. one, two, three or four substituents independently) selected from halogen (e.g. fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine) and C_1 - C_6 , or C_1 - C_4 , or C_1 - C_2 alkyl.

In one embodiment, R^8 represents a 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic group optionally containing 1, 2, 3 or 4 ring heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, the aromatic group being optionally substituted by at least one substituent (e.g. one, two, three or four substituents independently) selected from fluorine, chlorine and C_1 - C_4 alkyl (e.g. methyl, ethyl, n-propyl and isopropyl, preferably methyl).

In a further embodiment, R^8 represents pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxazolyl, thienyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, phenyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl or pyrazinyl, each of which is optionally substituted as hereinbefore described.

In a still further embodiment, R^8 represents a 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic group optionally containing 1 or 2 ring heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur (such as phenyl, pyrazolyl, thienyl, thiazolyl or oxazolyl), the aromatic group being optionally substituted as hereinbefore described.

R^9 , R^{10} and R^{11} each independently represent a hydrogen atom, C_1 - C_6 , or C_1 - C_4 , or C_1 - C_2 alkyl (preferably methyl) or C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl (e.g. cyclopropyl or cyclohexyl).

25

In one embodiment, R^9 , R^{10} and R^{11} each independently represent a hydrogen atom, or a methyl, cyclopropyl or cyclohexyl group.

Each R^{13} , R^{14} and R^{15} independently represents a hydrogen atom or a C₁-C₆, or C₁-C₄, or C₁-C₂ alkyl (preferably methyl) group.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, subject to the above provisos:

5 m, p and q each independently represent 0 or 1;

n represents an integer 1 or 2;

R^1 is selected from hydrogen and methoxy;

R^2 is hydrogen or methyl;

10 R^3 represents a 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group containing 1, 2 or 3 ring heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, which heterocyclic group may be optionally substituted by at least one substituent (e.g. one, two, three or four substituents independently) selected from fluorine, chlorine, cyano, oxo, $-NR^4R^5$, $-C(O)NR^6R^7$, trifluoromethyl, difluoromethoxy, trifluoromethoxy, $-R^8$, $-OCH_2R^8$, C₁-C₂ alkoxy, cyclopropyl and C₁-C₄ alkyl, the alkyl substituent itself being
 15 optionally substituted by one, two or three substituents independently selected from cyano, $-C(O)NR^9R^{10}$, C₁-C₂ alkoxy and $-NHC(O)R^{11}$;

R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, or a methyl or cyclopropylmethyl group;

20 R^8 represents a 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic group optionally containing 1 or 2 ring heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, the aromatic group being optionally substituted by at least one substituent (e.g. one or two substituents independently) selected from fluorine, chlorine and C₁-C₃ alkyl; and

R^9 , R^{10} and R^{11} each independently represent a hydrogen atom, or a methyl, cyclopropyl or cyclohexyl group.

25

Examples of compounds of the invention include:

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-(4-{1-[(cyclohexylcarbamoyl)methyl]-1H-imidazol-2-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

5 Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-5-yl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

10 Ethyl 4-{4-[4-(4-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-ethyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-propyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

15 Ethyl 4-[4-(5-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-methoxy-4-(1-methyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-5-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-(4-(5-isopropyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

20 Ethyl 4-[4-(3-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[3-(thiophen-2-yl)-1*H*-pyrazol-5-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

25 Ethyl 4-(4-{1-[(cyclopropylcarbamoyl)methyl]-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(5-cyclopropyl-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(dimethylcarbamoyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

30 Ethyl 4-(4-{5-[1-(propan-2-yl)-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl]-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(methoxymethyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-(4-{5-[(cyclopropylmethyl)carbamoyl]-1H-pyrazol-1-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(dimethyl-1,3-thiazol-5-yl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

5 Ethyl 4-[4-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(5-cyano-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(acetamidomethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[[3-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)azetid-1-yl]methyl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

10 Ethyl 4-[4-(pyridin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(pyridin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(6-methoxypyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(6-methoxypyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

15 Ethyl 4-[4-(2-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-methylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(4,6-dimethoxypyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

20 Ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(3-methoxypyrazin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-methylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethoxy-5-methylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

25 Ethyl 4-{4-[2-methoxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(3-methoxypyridin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(5-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-methylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethoxy-5-methylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

30 Ethyl 4-[4-(4-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[3-(dimethylamino)pyrazin-2-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[6-(dimethylamino)pyrazin-2-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(4-methoxypyrimidin-5-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(difluoromethoxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-(4-{2-[(3-methyl-1,2-oxazol-5-yl)methoxy]pyridin-3-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(propan-2-yloxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[1-(cyanomethyl)-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-ethyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(5-chloro-2-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(3,6-dimethylpyrazin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-methoxy-2-(trifluoromethyl)pyrimidin-4-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-(4-{2-[1-(propan-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]pyridin-3-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(methylamino)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(5-methoxy-2-methylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(dimethylamino)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-cyclopropylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-(4-{2-[(cyclopropylmethyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(4-methoxypyridazin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(6-ethoxypyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(pyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(4-methylpyrimidin-5-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-ylmethoxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

5 Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(2-methylpropyl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Methyl 4-{[3-(3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]methyl}piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{[3-(3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]methyl}piperidine-1-carboxylate,

10 Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1,3-oxazol-2-yl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl (4S)-4-[4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl (4R)-4-[4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl (4S)-4-[4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl (4R)-4-[4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

15 Ethyl (4S)-4-[4-(2-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl (4R)-4-[4-(2-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

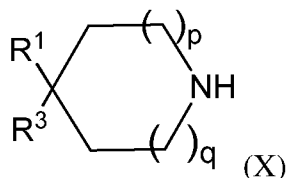
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of any one thereof.

20 It should be noted that each of the chemical compounds listed above represents a particular and independent aspect of the invention.

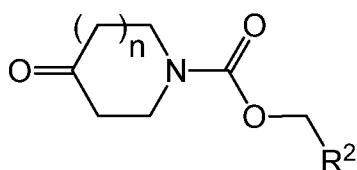
The present invention further provides a process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as defined above which comprises

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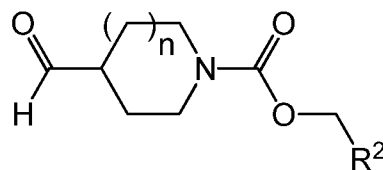
(i) reacting a compound of formula (X),



wherein p , q , R^1 and R^3 are as defined in formula (I), with a compound of formula (XIa) or (XIb),



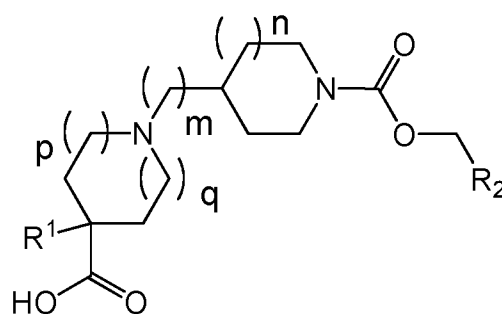
(XIa)



(XIb)

wherein n and R^2 are as defined in formula (I), under reductive amination conditions; or

(ii) when R^3 represents a 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl-2-yl group, reacting a compound of formula (XII),



(XII)

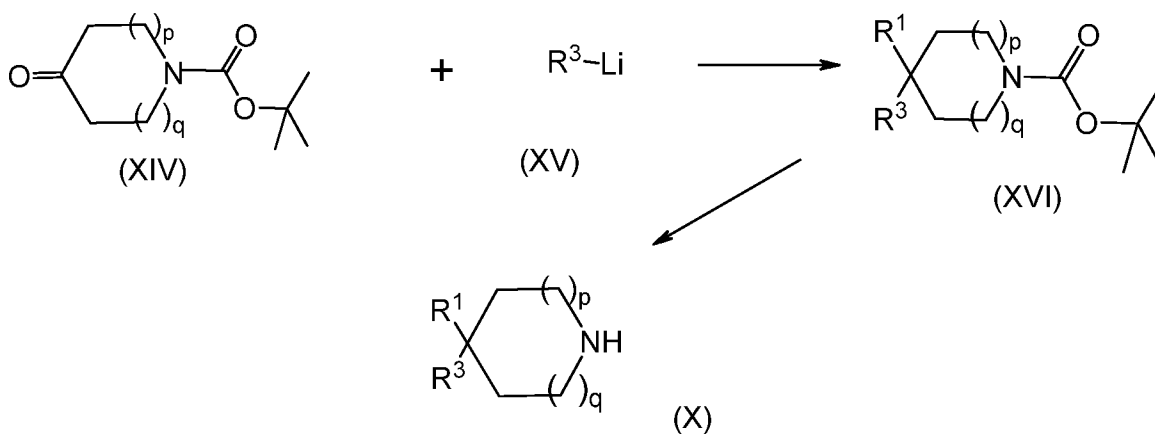
wherein m , n , p , q , R^1 and R^2 are as defined in formula (I), with a compound of formula (XIII), $R-C(O)-NH-NH_2$, wherein R represents hydrogen or an R^3 substituent as hereinbefore defined, in the presence of a base followed by reaction with a dehydrating agent such as Burgess's reagent;

and optionally thereafter carrying out one or more of the following procedures:

- converting a compound of formula (I) into another compound of formula (I)
- removing any protecting groups
- forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

In process variant (i), the reductive amination reaction is typically carried out at ambient temperature using a borohydride reducing agent such as sodium triacetoxy-borohydride in a solvent such as dichloromethane or dichloroethane containing acetic acid.

- 5 Intermediate compounds of formula (X) can be prepared by the series of reactions shown in Scheme 1 below.

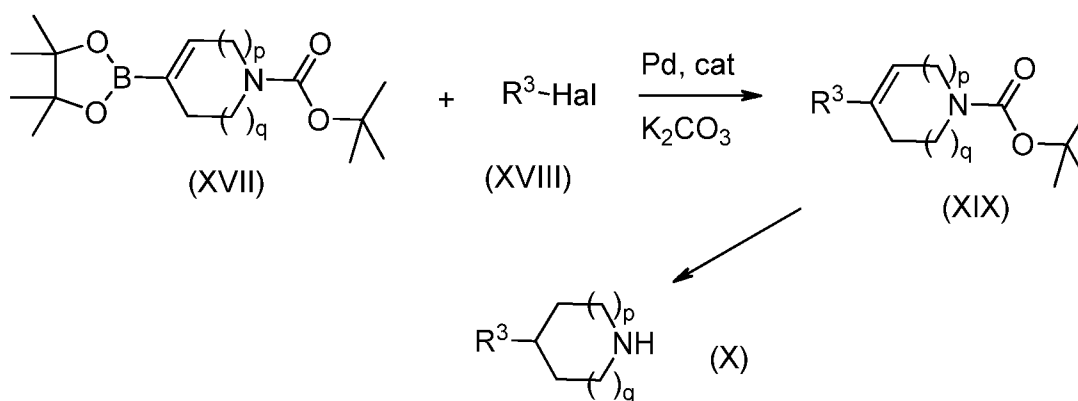


Scheme 1

- 10 In Scheme 1, a heterocycle R³-H (e.g. 1-methyl imidazole) is metallated using a reagent such as lithium diisopropylamide (LDA) or n-butyl lithium (n-BuLi) in an inert solvent such as hexane or tetrahydrofuran (THF), and the resulting intermediate of formula (XV), R³-Li, is then reacted with a compound of formula (XIV) in which p and q are as defined in formula (I), e.g. N-Boc piperidin-4-one, to give a hydroxyl compound (formula (XVI), R¹ = hydroxy). The hydroxyl compound (formula (XVI), R¹ = hydroxy) can then be modified further by: (a) reacting it with a base such as sodium hydride and then an alkyl halide such as iodomethane in a solvent such as DMF to give the corresponding methoxy compound (formula (XVI), R¹ = OCH₃); or (b) reacting it with a fluorinating agent such as diethylaminosulphur trifluoride (DAST) in a solvent such as dichloromethane to give the fluoro compound (formula (XVI), R¹ = F). The compound of formula (XVI) (R¹ = OH, OCH₃ or F) is then deprotected by removal of the Boc group using an organic acid such as trifluoroacetic acid in dichloromethane or an inorganic acid such as HCl in dioxane to give the compound, e.g. substituted piperidine, of formula (X).
- 15
- 20

Intermediate compounds of the formula (XVI) wherein R³ contains an N-H ring member can be alkylated to give the corresponding compound wherein the hydrogen atom has been replaced by an alkyl group. The alkylation step is typically accomplished using a base such as sodium hydride or potassium carbonate in an inert solvent such as DMF or acetonitrile and then reacting it with an alkyl halide. Thereafter, the alkylated compound of formula (XVI) can be deprotected using an inorganic acid such as hydrochloric acid in dioxane or an organic acid such as trifluoroacetic acid in dichloromethane to give the compound of formula (X).

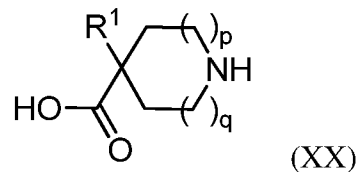
Intermediate compounds of formula (X) may also be prepared by the series of reactions shown in Scheme 2 below.



Scheme 2

In Scheme 2, the boronate ester (XVII) is reacted under Suzuki reaction conditions with the heteroaryl halide of formula (XVIII) (e.g. bromide or iodide) to give the Boc-protected intermediate of formula (XIX). The reaction is typically conducted in the presence of a palladium catalyst such as PdCl₂(DPPF) (1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]-dichloropalladium(II)) or Pd(Amphos)₂ (bis(di-tert-butyl(4-dimethylaminophenyl)-phosphine)dichloropalladium(II)) and a base such as potassium carbonate in a polar solvent such as aqueous dioxane. The intermediate compound of formula (XIX) can be hydrogenated using hydrogen and a catalyst such as palladium on carbon prior to deprotection by treatment with an acid such as hydrochloric acid to give the compound of formula (X).

Compounds of formula (XII) can be prepared by the reaction of a compound of formula (XIa) or (XIb) with a compound of formula (XX):



under reductive amination conditions as described above in relation to process variant (i).

5

In an alternative sequence of reactions, an ester (e.g. the ethyl ester) of the carboxylic acid of formula (XX) is reacted with the compound of formula (XIa) or (XIb) in the presence of either sodium cyanoborohydride in combination with zinc chloride or sodium triacetoxyborohydride in combination with titanium isopropoxide to give an intermediate ester compound (not shown) which is then selectively hydrolysed under mild conditions
10 using lithium hydroxide or sodium hydroxide to give the compound of formula (XII).

In process variant (ii), in an initial step, an intermediate compound of formula (XII) is reacted with a compound of the formula (XIII), R-C(O)-NH-NH₂, in the presence of a
15 reagent suitable for promoting the formation of an amide bond to give an intermediate product which undergoes a cyclodehydration in the presence of a dehydrating agent such as Burgess's reagent (methyl N-(triethylammoniumsulphonyl)carbamate) to give the oxadiazole.

20 Examples of reagents suitable for promoting the formation of an amide bond include 1,3-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC) (Sheehan *et al*, *J. Amer. Chem Soc.* 1955, 77, 1067), 1-ethyl-3-(3'-dimethylaminopropyl)-carbodiimide (referred to herein either as EDC or EDAC) (Sheehan *et al*, *J. Org. Chem.*, 1961, 26, 2525), uronium-based coupling agents such as O-(7-azabenzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate
25 (HATU) and phosphonium-based coupling agents such as 1-benzo-triazolyloxytris-(pyrrolidino)phosphonium hexafluorophosphate (PyBOP) (Castro *et al*, *Tetrahedron Letters*, 1990, 31, 205). Carbodiimide-based coupling agents are advantageously used in combination with 1-hydroxy-7-azabenzotriazole (HOAt) (L. A. Carpino, *J. Amer. Chem.*

Soc., 1993, 115, 4397) or 1-hydroxybenzotriazole (HOBt) (Konig *et al*, *Chem. Ber.*, 103, 708, 2024-2034). A preferred amide coupling agent is HATU.

The amide coupling reaction is typically carried out in a non-aqueous, non-protic solvent such as acetonitrile, dioxane, dimethylsulphoxide, dichloromethane, dimethylformamide or N-methylpyrrolidinone, or in an aqueous solvent optionally together with one or more miscible co-solvents. The reaction can be carried out at room temperature or, where the reactants are less reactive at an appropriately elevated temperature, for example a temperature up to about 100 °C, e.g. from 50 °C to 80 °C . The reaction may optionally be carried out in the presence of a non-interfering base, for example a tertiary amine such as triethylamine or *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine.

As an alternative, a reactive derivative of the carboxylic acid of formula (XII), e.g. an anhydride or acid chloride, may be used. The acid chloride is typically reacted with the compound of formula (XIII), $R-C(O)NHNH_2$, in the presence of a base such as sodium bicarbonate. The acid chloride can be prepared using standard methods, for example by treatment of the acid with oxalyl chloride in the presence of a catalytic amount of dimethylformamide.

Compounds of formulae (XIa), (XIb), (XIII), (XIV), (XV), (XVII), (XVIII) and (XX) are either commercially available, are well known in the literature or may be prepared using known techniques.

It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that in the processes of the present invention certain functional groups such as phenol, hydroxyl or amino groups in the reagents may need to be protected by protecting groups. Thus, the preparation of the compounds of formula (I) may involve, at an appropriate stage, the removal of one or more protecting groups.

The protection and deprotection of functional groups is described in 'Protective Groups in Organic Chemistry', edited by J.W.F. McOmie, Plenum Press (1973) and 'Protective

Groups in Organic Synthesis', 3rd edition, T.W. Greene and P.G.M. Wuts, Wiley-Interscience (1999).

The compounds of formula (I) above may be converted to a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, preferably an acid addition salt such as a hydrochloride, hydrobromide, benzenesulphonate (besylate), saccharin (e.g. monosaccharin), trifluoroacetate, sulphate, nitrate, phosphate, acetate, fumarate, maleate, tartrate, lactate, citrate, pyruvate, succinate, valerate, propanoate, butanoate, malonate, oxalate, 1-hydroxy-2-napthoate (xinafoate), methanesulphonate or *p*-toluenesulphonate salt.

In one aspect of the invention, compounds of formula (I) may bear one or more radiolabels. Such radiolabels may be introduced by using radiolabel-containing reagents in the synthesis of the compounds of formula (I), or may be introduced by coupling the compounds of formula (I) to chelating moieties capable of binding to a radioactive metal atom. Such radiolabeled versions of the compounds may be used, for example, in diagnostic imaging studies.

Compounds of formula (I) and their salts may be in the form of hydrates or solvates which form an aspect of the present invention. Such solvates may be formed with common organic solvents, including but not limited to, alcoholic solvents e.g. methanol, ethanol or isopropanol.

Where compounds of formula (I) are capable of existing in stereoisomeric forms, it will be understood that the invention encompasses the use of all geometric and optical isomers (including atropisomers) of the compounds of formula (I) and mixtures thereof including racemates. The use of tautomers and mixtures thereof also form an aspect of the present invention. Enantiomerically pure forms are particularly desired.

The compounds of formula (I) and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts have activity as pharmaceuticals, in particular as M4 receptor agonists, and thus may be used in the treatment of schizophrenia, schizophreniform disorder, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorders including bipolar I and II, bipolar mania and bipolar depression, cognitive

disorders (such as dementia and impaired learning), disorders usually first diagnosed in infancy, childhood, or adolescence (*e.g.*, attention-deficit disorder and disruptive behaviour disorders), pain (*e.g.* neuropathic pain), neurodegenerative disorders (*e.g.* Alzheimer's disease), drug abuse (such as cocaine abuse) and autism.

5

Thus, the present invention provides a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as hereinbefore defined for use in therapy, in particular for the treatment of conditions whose development or symptoms are linked to M4 receptor activity.

10

The present invention also provides the use of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as hereinbefore defined for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of conditions whose development or symptoms are linked to M4 receptor activity.

15

In the context of the present specification, the term "therapy" also includes "prophylaxis" unless there are specific indications to the contrary. The terms "therapeutic" and "therapeutically" should be construed accordingly.

20

Prophylaxis is expected to be particularly relevant to the treatment of persons who have suffered a previous episode of, or are otherwise considered to be at increased risk of, the disorder or condition in question. Persons at risk of developing a particular disorder or condition generally include those having a family history of the disorder or condition, or those who have been identified by genetic testing or screening to be particularly

25

susceptible to developing the disorder or condition or those in the prodromal phase of a disorder.

30

In particular, the compounds of the invention (including pharmaceutically acceptable salts) may be used in the treatment of the positive symptoms of schizophrenia, schizophreniform disorder or schizoaffective disorder (*e.g.* voices or hallucinations), cognitive disorders (such as dementia and impaired learning), pain (such as neuropathic pain), drug abuse (such as cocaine abuse) and bipolar disorders.

The invention also provides a method of treating at least one symptom or condition associated with schizophrenia, schizophreniform disorder, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorders including bipolar I and II, bipolar mania and bipolar depression, cognitive disorders (such as dementia and impaired learning), disorders usually first diagnosed in 5 infancy, childhood, or adolescence (*e.g.*, attention-deficit disorder and disruptive behaviour disorders), pain (*e.g.* neuropathic pain), neurodegenerative disorders (*e.g.* Alzheimer's disease), drug abuse (such as cocaine abuse) and autism which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) 10 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as hereinbefore defined.

Such symptoms and conditions include, but are not limited to, anxiety, agitation, hostility, panic, an eating disorder, an affective symptom, a mood symptom, a negative and positive psychotic symptom commonly associated with psychosis and neurodegenerative disorder. 15

For the above-mentioned therapeutic uses the dosage administered will, of course, vary with the compound employed, the mode of administration, the treatment desired and the disorder indicated. For example, the daily dosage of the compound of the invention, if inhaled, may be in the range from 0.05 micrograms per kilogram body weight ($\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$) to 20 100 micrograms per kilogram body weight ($\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$). Alternatively, if the compound is administered orally, then the daily dosage of the compound of the invention may be in the range from 0.01 micrograms per kilogram body weight ($\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$) to 100 milligrams per kilogram body weight (mg/kg).

25 The compounds of formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof may be used on their own but will generally be administered in the form of a pharmaceutical composition in which the formula (I) compound/salt (active ingredient) is in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

30 Therefore the present invention further provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as hereinbefore defined, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

The invention still further provides a process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition of the invention which comprises mixing a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as hereinbefore defined with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

Conventional procedures for the selection and preparation of suitable pharmaceutical formulations are described in, for example, "Pharmaceutics - The Science of Dosage Form Design", M. E. Aulton, Churchill Livingstone, 1988.

10

Pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvants, diluents or carriers that may be used in the pharmaceutical compositions of the invention are those conventionally employed in the field of pharmaceutical formulation, and include, but are not limited to, sugars, sugar alcohols, starches, ion exchangers, alumina, aluminium stearate, lecithin, serum proteins, such as human serum albumin, buffer substances such as phosphates, glycerine, sorbic acid, potassium sorbate, partial glyceride mixtures of saturated vegetable fatty acids, water, salts or electrolytes, such as protamine sulphate, disodium hydrogen phosphate, potassium hydrogen phosphate, sodium chloride, zinc salts, colloidal silica, magnesium trisilicate, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, cellulose-based substances, polyethylene glycol, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, polyacrylates, waxes, polyethylene- polyoxypropylene-block polymers, polyethylene glycol and wool fat.

15

The pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention may be administered orally, parenterally, by inhalation spray, rectally, nasally, buccally, vaginally or via an implanted reservoir. Oral administration is preferred. The pharmaceutical compositions of the invention may contain any conventional non-toxic pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvants, diluents or carriers. The term parenteral as used herein includes subcutaneous, intracutaneous, intravenous, intramuscular, intra-articular, intrasynovial, intrasternal, intrathecal, intralesional and intracranial injection or infusion techniques.

25

30

The pharmaceutical compositions may be in the form of a sterile injectable preparation, for example, as a sterile injectable aqueous or oleaginous suspension. The suspension may be

formulated according to techniques known in the art using suitable dispersing or wetting agents (such as, for example, Tween 80) and suspending agents. The sterile injectable preparation may also be a sterile injectable solution or suspension in a non-toxic parenterally acceptable diluent or solvent, for example, as a solution in 1,3-butanediol.

5 Among the acceptable diluents and solvents that may be employed are mannitol, water, Ringer's solution and isotonic sodium chloride solution. In addition, sterile, fixed oils are conventionally employed as a solvent or suspending medium. For this purpose, any bland fixed oil may be employed including synthetic mono- or diglycerides. Fatty acids, such as
10 natural pharmaceutically acceptable oils, such as olive oil or castor oil, especially in their polyoxyethylated versions. These oil solutions or suspensions may also contain a long-chain alcohol diluent or dispersant such as that described in Pharmacopoeia Helvetica or a similar alcohol.

15 The pharmaceutical compositions of this invention may be orally administered in any orally acceptable dosage form including, but not limited to, capsules, tablets, powders, granules, and aqueous suspensions and solutions. These dosage forms are prepared according to techniques well-known in the art of pharmaceutical formulation. In the case of tablets for oral use, carriers which are commonly used include lactose and corn starch.

20 Lubricating agents, such as magnesium stearate, are also typically added. For oral administration in a capsule form, useful diluents include lactose and dried corn starch. When aqueous suspensions are administered orally, the active ingredient is combined with emulsifying and suspending agents. If desired, certain sweetening and/or flavouring and/or colouring agents may be added.

25 The pharmaceutical compositions of the invention may also be administered in the form of suppositories for rectal administration. These compositions can be prepared by mixing the active ingredient with a suitable non-irritating excipient which is solid at room temperature but liquid at the rectal temperature and therefore will melt in the rectum to release the
30 active ingredient. Such materials include, but are not limited to, cocoa butter, beeswax and polyethylene glycols.

The pharmaceutical compositions of this invention may be administered by nasal aerosol or inhalation. Such compositions are prepared according to techniques well-known in the art of pharmaceutical formulation and may be prepared as solutions in saline, employing benzyl alcohol or other suitable preservatives, absorption promoters to enhance
5 bioavailability, fluorocarbons, and/or other solubilising or dispersing agents known in the art.

Depending on the mode of administration, the pharmaceutical composition will preferably comprise from 0.05 to 99 %w (per cent by weight), more preferably from 0.05 to 80 %w,
10 still more preferably from 0.10 to 70 %w, and even more preferably from 0.10 to 50 %w, of active ingredient, all percentages by weight being based on total composition.

The compounds of the invention (that is, compounds of formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof) may also be administered in conjunction with other compounds
15 used for the treatment of the above conditions.

The invention therefore further relates to combination therapies wherein a compound of the invention or a pharmaceutical composition or formulation comprising a compound of the invention is administered with another therapeutic agent or agents, for the treatment of one
20 or more of the conditions previously indicated. Such therapeutic agents may be selected from the following:

- (i) **antidepressants** such as, for example, amitriptyline, amoxapine, bupropion, citalopram, clomipramine, desipramine, doxepin duloxetine, elzasonan, escitalopram, fluvoxamine,
25 fluoxetine, gepirone, imipramine, ipsapirone, maprotiline, nortriptyline, nefazodone, paroxetine, phenelzine, protriptyline, reboxetine, robaizotan, sertraline, sibutramine, thionisoxetine, tranlycypromaine, trazodone, trimipramine, venlafaxine, and equivalents and pharmaceutically active isomer(s) and/or metabolite(s) thereof;
- (ii) **antipsychotics** including, for example, quetiapine, amisulpride, aripiprazole,
30 asenapine, benzisoxidil, bifeprunox, carbamazepine, clozapine, chlorpromazine, debenzapine, divalproex, duloxetine, eszopiclone, haloperidol, iloperidone, lamotrigine,

loxapine, mesoridazine, olanzapine, paliperidone, perlapine, perphenazine, phenothiazine, phenylbutylpiperidine, pimozide, prochlorperazine, risperidone, sertindole, sulpiride, suproclone, suriclone, thioridazine, trifluoperazine, trimetozine, valproate, valproic acid, zopiclone, zotepine, ziprasidone, and equivalents and pharmaceutically active isomer(s) and/or metabolite(s) thereof;

(iii) **anxiolytics** including, for example, alnespirone, azapirones, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, and equivalents and pharmaceutically active isomer(s) and/or metabolite(s) thereof. Example anxiolytics include adinazolam, alprazolam, balezepam, bentazepam, bromazepam, brotizolam, buspirone, clonazepam, clorazepate, chlordiazepoxide, cyprazepam, diazepam, diphenhydramine, estazolam, fenobam, flunitrazepam, flurazepam, fosazepam, lorazepam, lormetazepam, meprobamate, midazolam, nitrazepam, oxazepam, prazepam, quazepam, reclazepam, tracazolate, trepipam, temazepam, triazolam, uldazepam, and zolazepam; and equivalents and pharmaceutically active isomer(s) and/or metabolite(s) thereof;

(iv) **anticonvulsants** including, for example, carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine, valproate, lamotrigine, and gabapentin, and equivalents and pharmaceutically active isomer(s) and/or metabolite(s) thereof;

(v) **Alzheimer's therapies** including, for example, donepezil, memantine, tacrine, and equivalents and pharmaceutically active isomer(s) and/or metabolite(s) thereof;

(vi) **neuropathic pain therapies** including, for example, gabapentin, lidoderm, and pregablin, and equivalents and pharmaceutically active isomer(s) and/or metabolite(s) thereof;

(vii) **nociceptive pain therapies** such as, for example, celecoxib, etoricoxib, lumiracoxib, rofecoxib, valdecoxib, diclofenac, loxoprofen, naproxen, and paracetamol, and equivalents and pharmaceutically active isomer(s) and/or metabolite(s) thereof;

(viii) **mood stabilizers** including, for example, carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine, divalproex,

gabapentin, lamotrigine, lithium, olanzapine, quetiapine, valproate, valproic acid, and verapamil, and equivalents and pharmaceutically active isomer(s) and/or metabolite(s) thereof; and

5 (ix) alpha 7 nicotinic agonists such as, for example, compounds disclosed in WO 96/006098, WO 97/030998, WO 99/003859, WO 00/042044, WO 01/029034, WO 01/60821, WO 01/36417, WO 02/096912, WO 03/087102, WO 03/087103, WO 03/087104, WO 2004/016617, WO 2004/016616, and WO 2004/019947;

10 Such combination products employ the compounds of this invention within the dosage range described herein and the other pharmaceutically active agent within approved dosage ranges and/or the dosage such as described in the publication reference.

In a further aspect the present invention provides a combination (for example for the
15 treatment of schizophrenia, cognitive disorders or pain) of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as hereinbefore defined and one or more agents selected from carbamazepine, olanzapine, quetiapine, verapamil, lamotrigine, oxcarbazepine, risperidone, aripiprazole, ziprasidone and lithium.

20 The invention also provides a pharmaceutical product comprising, in combination, a preparation of a first active ingredient which is a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as hereinbefore defined, and a preparation of a second active ingredient which is carbamazepine, olanzapine, quetiapine, verapamil, lamotrigine, oxcarbazepine, risperidone, aripiprazole, ziprasidone or lithium,
25 for simultaneous, sequential or separate use in therapy.

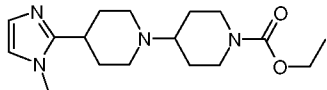
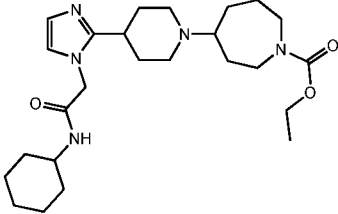
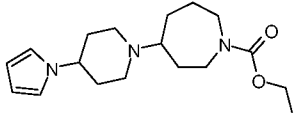
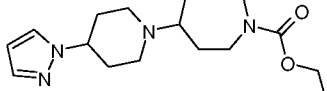
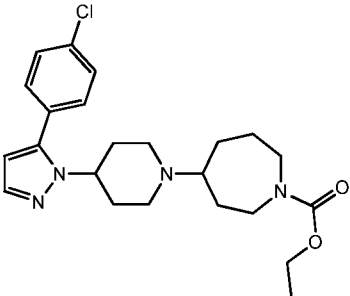
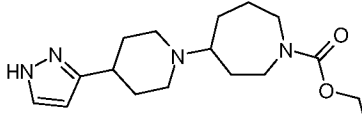
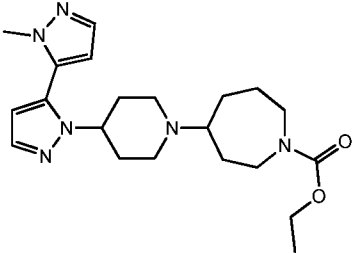
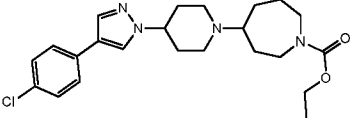
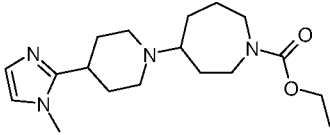
In another aspect, the invention provides a kit comprising a preparation of a first active ingredient which is a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as hereinbefore defined, and a preparation of a second active ingredient which is
30 carbamazepine, olanzapine, quetiapine, verapamil, lamotrigine, oxcarbazepine, risperidone, aripiprazole, ziprasidone or lithium, and instructions for the simultaneous, sequential or separate administration of the preparations to a patient in need thereof.

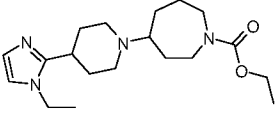
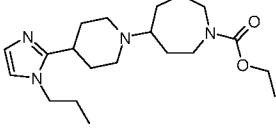
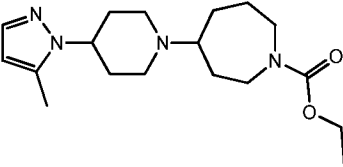
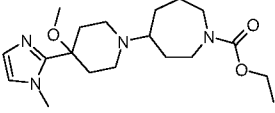
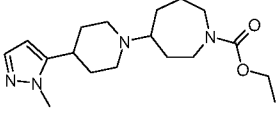
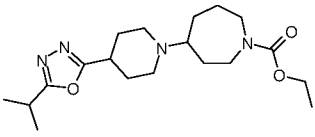
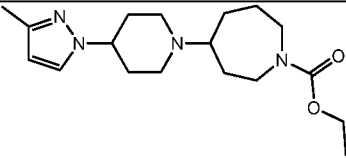
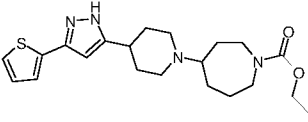
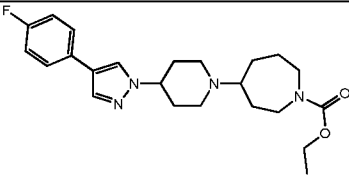
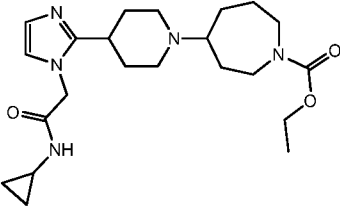
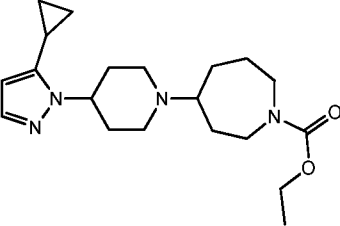
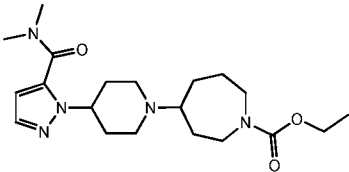
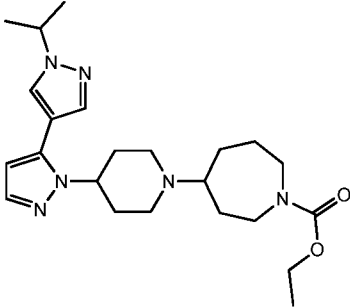
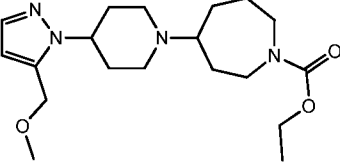
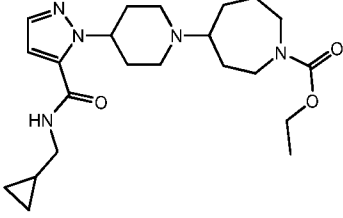
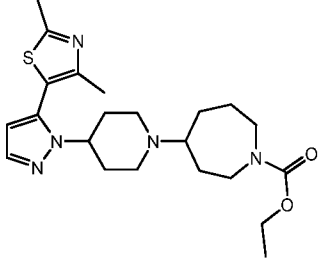
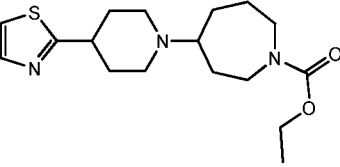
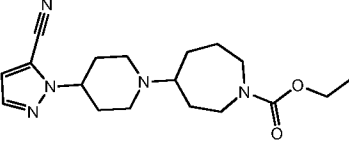
The invention will now be illustrated, but not limited, by reference to the specific embodiments described in the following examples.

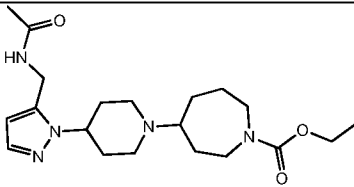
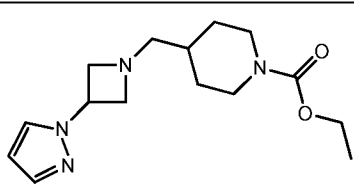
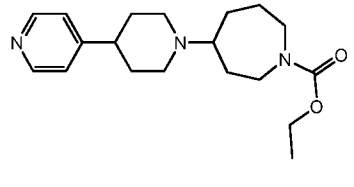
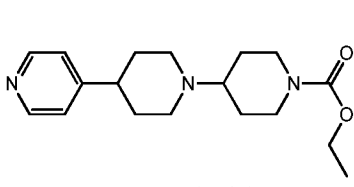
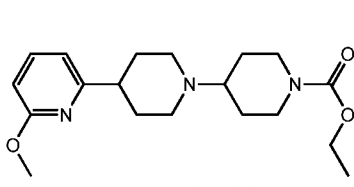
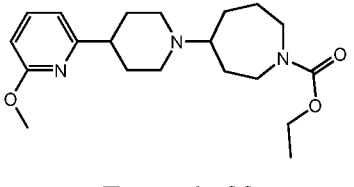
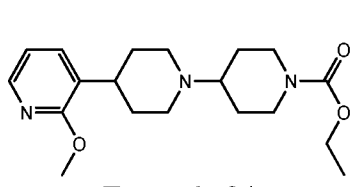
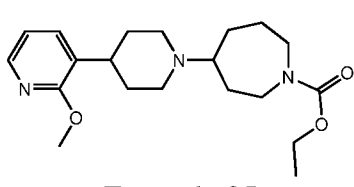
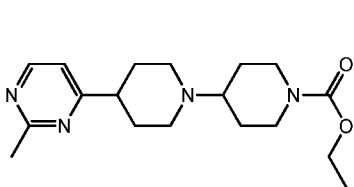
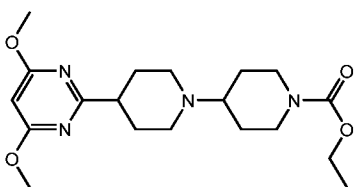
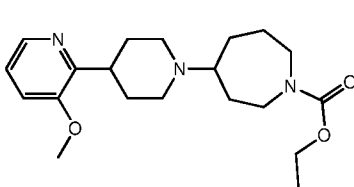
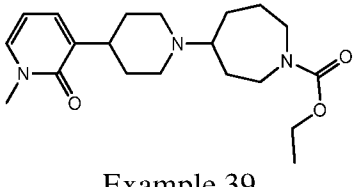
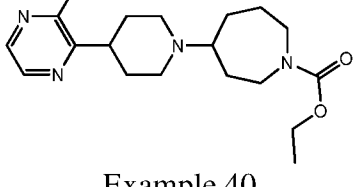
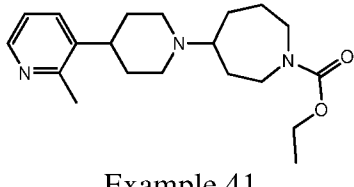
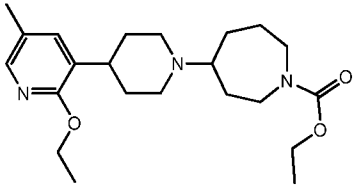
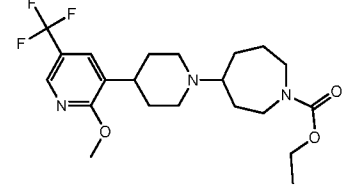
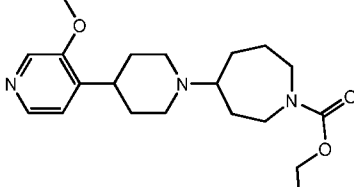
5 **Examples 1 to 86**

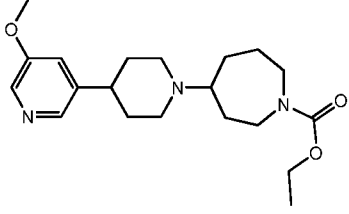
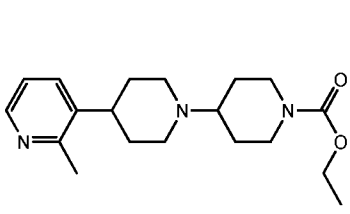
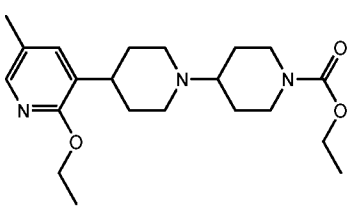
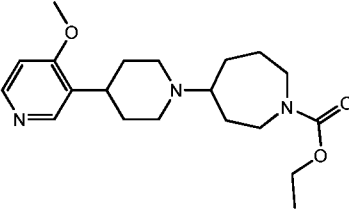
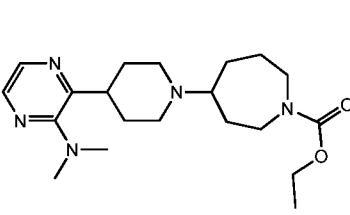
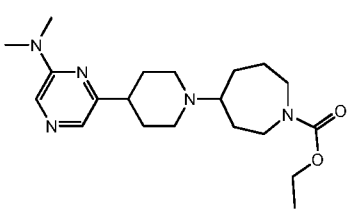
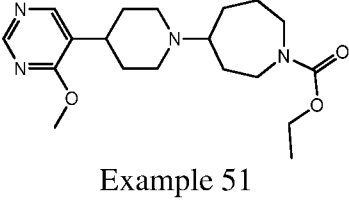
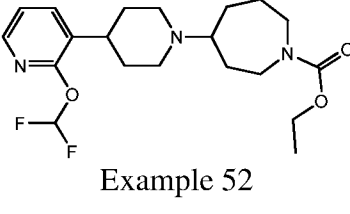
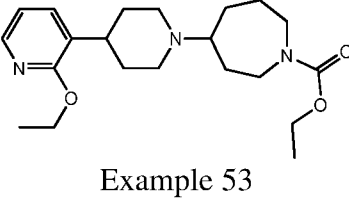
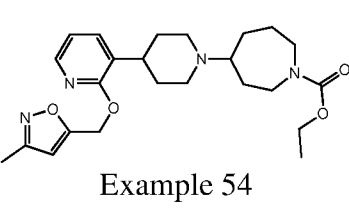
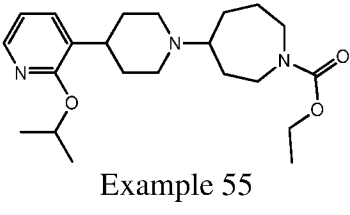
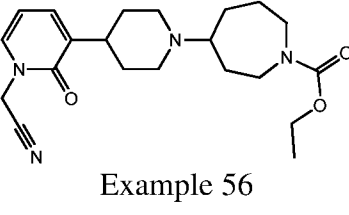
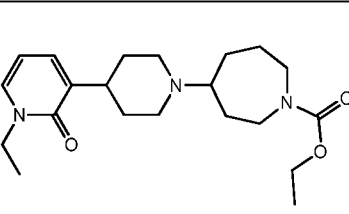
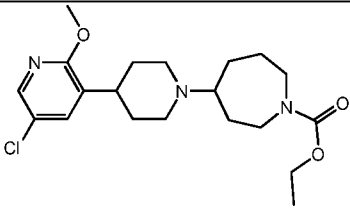
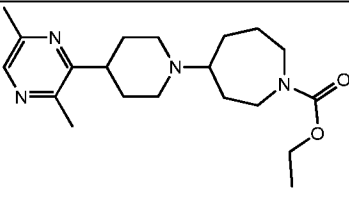
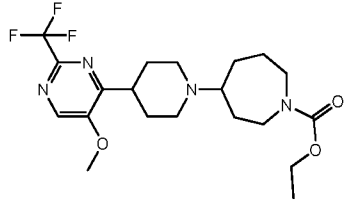
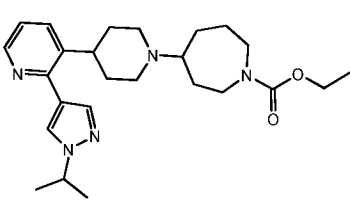
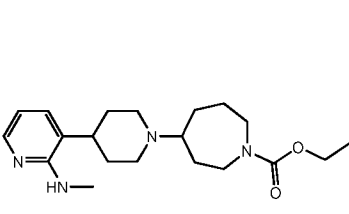
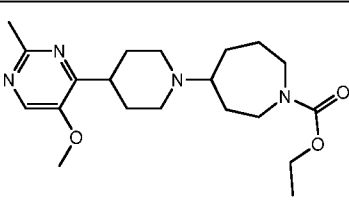
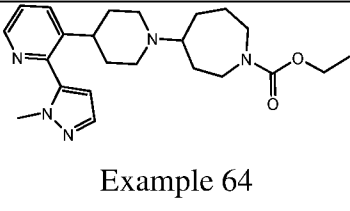
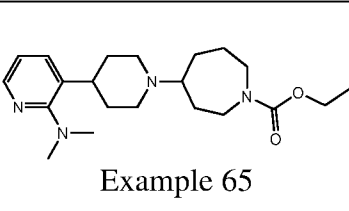
The compounds of Examples 1 to 86 shown in Table 1 below have been prepared. Their NMR and LCMS properties and the methods used to prepare them are set out in Table 2.

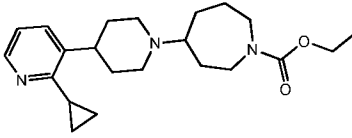
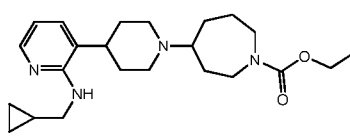
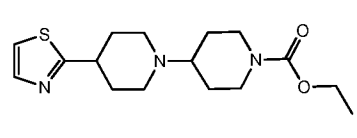
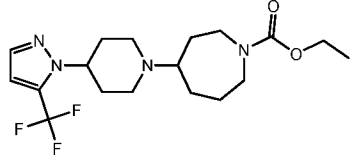
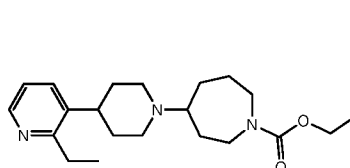
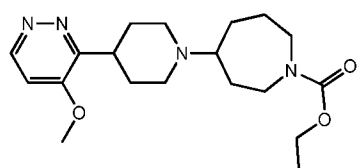
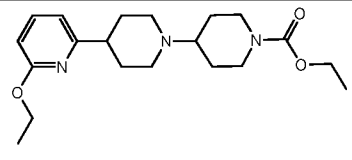
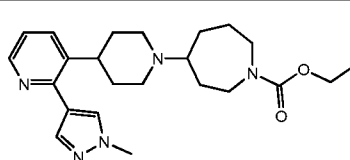
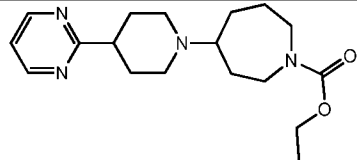
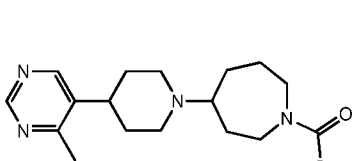
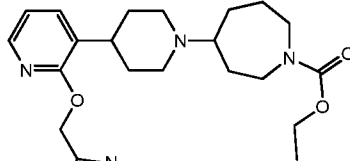
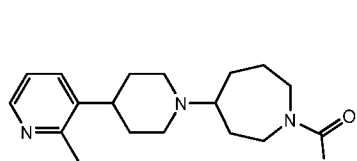
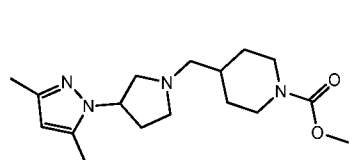
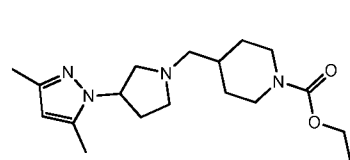
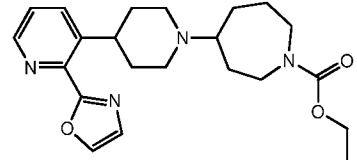
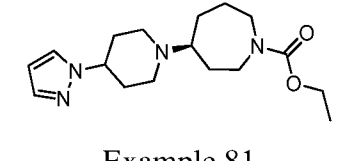
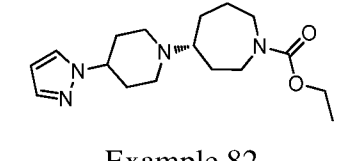
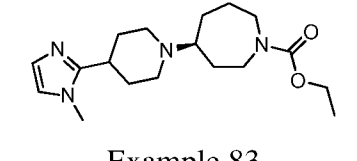
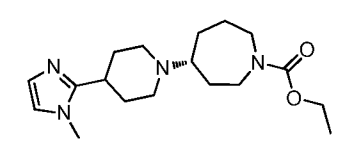
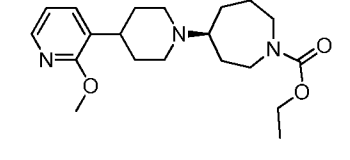
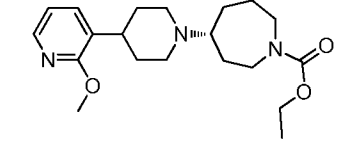
Table 1

 <p>Example 1</p>	 <p>Example 2</p>	 <p>Example 3</p>
 <p>Example 4</p>	 <p>Example 5</p>	 <p>Example 6</p>
 <p>Example 7</p>	 <p>Example 8</p>	 <p>Example 9</p>

 <p>Example 10</p>	 <p>Example 11</p>	 <p>Example 12</p>
 <p>Example 13</p>	 <p>Example 14</p>	 <p>Example 15</p>
 <p>Example 16</p>	 <p>Example 17</p>	 <p>Example 18</p>
 <p>Example 19</p>	 <p>Example 20</p>	 <p>Example 21</p>
 <p>Example 22</p>	 <p>Example 23</p>	 <p>Example 24</p>
 <p>Example 25</p>	 <p>Example 26</p>	 <p>Example 27</p>

 <p>Example 28</p>	 <p>Example 29</p>	
 <p>Example 30</p>	 <p>Example 31</p>	 <p>Example 32</p>
 <p>Example 33</p>	 <p>Example 34</p>	 <p>Example 35</p>
 <p>Example 36</p>	 <p>Example 37</p>	 <p>Example 38</p>
 <p>Example 39</p>	 <p>Example 40</p>	 <p>Example 41</p>
 <p>Example 42</p>	 <p>Example 43</p>	 <p>Example 44</p>

 <p>Example 45</p>	 <p>Example 46</p>	 <p>Example 47</p>
 <p>Example 48</p>	 <p>Example 49</p>	 <p>Example 50</p>
 <p>Example 51</p>	 <p>Example 52</p>	 <p>Example 53</p>
 <p>Example 54</p>	 <p>Example 55</p>	 <p>Example 56</p>
 <p>Example 57</p>	 <p>Example 58</p>	 <p>Example 59</p>
 <p>Example 60</p>	 <p>Example 61</p>	 <p>Example 62</p>
 <p>Example 63</p>	 <p>Example 64</p>	 <p>Example 65</p>

<p>Example 63</p>		
 <p>Example 66</p>	 <p>Example 67</p>	 <p>Example 68</p>
 <p>Example 69</p>	 <p>Example 70</p>	 <p>Example 71</p>
 <p>Example 72</p>	 <p>Example 73</p>	 <p>Example 74</p>
 <p>Example 75</p>	 <p>Example 76</p>	 <p>Example 77</p>
 <p>Example 78</p>	 <p>Example 79</p>	 <p>Example 80</p>
 <p>Example 81</p>	 <p>Example 82</p>	 <p>Example 83</p>
 <p>Example 84</p>	 <p>Example 85</p>	 <p>Example 86</p>

General procedures

Where no preparative routes are included, the relevant intermediate is commercially available. Commercial reagents were utilized without further purification.

Room temperature (rt) refers to approximately 20-27 °C.

5

Microwave-mediated reactions were performed in Biotage Initiator or CEM Discover microwave reactors.

¹H NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz on either a Bruker or Jeol instrument.

10

Chemical shift values are expressed in parts per million (ppm), i.e. (δ)-values. The following abbreviations are used for the multiplicity of the NMR signals: s=singlet, br=broad, d=doublet, t=triplet, q=quartet, quint=quintet, td=triplet of doublets, tt= triplet of triplets, qd=quartet of doublets, ddd=doublet of doublet of doublets, ddt=doublet of doublet of triplets, m=multiplet. Coupling constants are listed as *J* values, measured in Hz.

15

Mass spectroscopy was carried out on Shimadzu LC-2010 EV, Waters ZQ-2000, UPLC-Mass SQD-3100 or Applied Biosystem API-2000 spectrometers or Waters SQD single quadrupole mass spectrometer using atmospheric pressure ionisation.

20

Compounds were purified using normal phase chromatography on silica or alumina, or by reverse phase chromatographic methods, using Biotage or Isolute KPNH Cartridge, SCX cartridge and SCX-2 solid phase extraction cartridges..

Preparative HPLC was typically carried out under the following conditions, (Waters

25

HPLC): Column: XSelect CSH Prep C-18, 19 x 50 mm, 5 μm; Mobile phase: Gradients of water and MeCN (each containing 0.1% Formic Acid); gradient 5% MeCN in 0.1 HCOOH in water (30 sec), 5% to 40% (over 7 min) then 95% MeCN in 0.1 HCOOH in water (1 min) then 5% MeCN in 0.1 HCOOH in water (1.5 min) at 28 mL / min; or performed using either an Agilent Technologies 1100 Series system or a Waters FractionLynx system

30

typically using Waters 19mm id x 200mm long C18 columns such as XBridge or SunFire 5μm materials at room temperature. Mobile phases typically consisted of acetonitrile or methanol mixed with water containing either 0.1% formic acid or 0.1% ammonia.

Abbreviations

	acac	= acetylacetonate
	BINAP	= 2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-binaphthyl
5	BOC	= <i>N</i> - <i>tert</i> -butoxycarbonyl
	Burgess	= methyl <i>N</i> -(triethylammoniumsulphonyl)carbamate reagent
	t-BuX-Phos	= 2-Di- <i>tert</i> -butylphosphino-3,4,5,6-tetramethyl-2',4',6'-triisopropyl-1,1'-biphenyl
10	d	= day(s)
	dba	= dibenzylideneacetone
	dppf	= 1,1'-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene
	dppp	= 1,3-Bis(diphenylphosphino)propane
	DBU	= 1,8-Diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene
15	DCE	= dichloroethane
	DCM	= dichloromethane
	DIPEA	= diisopropylethylamine
	DMF	= dimethylformamide
	DMSO	= dimethylsulphoxide
20	EDAC	= <i>N</i> -(3-dimethylaminopropyl)- <i>N</i> '-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride
	ES	= electro spray ionisation
	Et	= ethyl
	EtOAc	= ethyl acetate
	h	= hour(s)
25	Hermann's Catalyst	= <i>trans</i> -Di-(μ -acetate)bis[<i>o</i> -(di- <i>o</i> -tolylphosphine)benzyl]dipalladium(II)
	HATU	= 2-(7-Aza-1H-benzotriazole-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate
30	HOBt	= 1-hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate
	HPLC	= high performance liquid chromatography
	LC	= liquid chromatography
	Me	= methyl

	MeCN	=	acetonitrile
	min	=	minute(s)
	mm	=	millimetre
	MsCl	=	Methanesulphonyl chloride
5	MS	=	mass spectrometry
	NMP	=	N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone
	NMR	=	nuclear magnetic resonance
	Ph	=	Phenyl
	rt	=	room temperature
10	sat.	=	saturated
	sec	=	second
	sol.	=	solution
	STAB	=	sodium triacetoxyborohydride
	TBAB	=	tetra-n-butyl ammonium bromide
15	TBAI	=	tetra-n-butyl ammonium iodide
	TEA	=	triethylamine
	TFA	=	trifluoroacetic acid
	THF	=	tetrahydrofuran
	TLC	=	thin layer chromatography

20

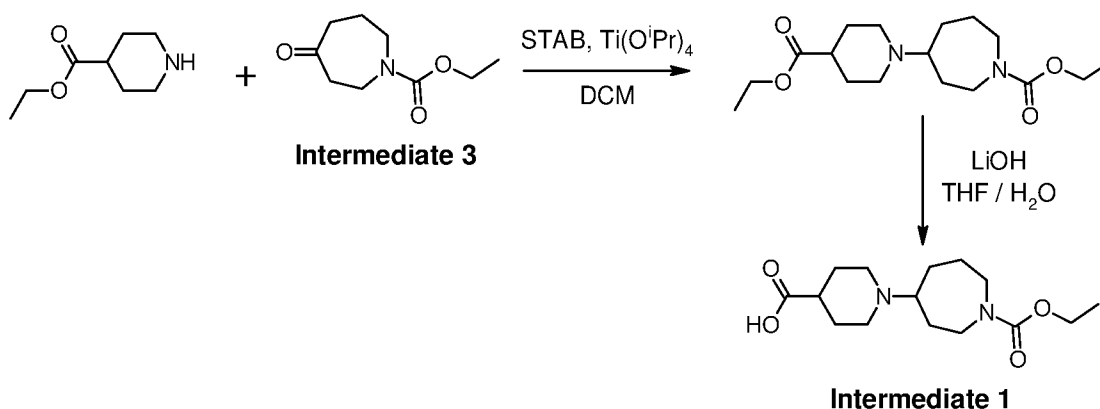
Prefixes *n*-, *s*-, *i*-, *t*- and *tert*- have their usual meanings: normal, secondary, *iso*, and tertiary.

Synthesis of intermediates:

25

Intermediate 1:

Preparation of 1-(1-(ethoxycarbonyl)azepan-4-yl)piperidine-4-carboxylic acid



Ethyl isonipecotate (2.54 g, 2.50 mL, 16.2 mmol) and 4-oxoazepane-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (3.00 g, 16.2 mmol) were dissolved in DCM (100 mL) at rt and titanium isopropoxide (5.07 g, 5.40 mL, 17.8 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at
 5 rt for 1 h. STAB (13.7 g, 32.4 mmol) and acetic acid (0.5 mL) were added and the reaction mixture was stirred at rt overnight under nitrogen. The reaction mixture was quenched with the addition of water (5 mL) and stirred for 5 minutes. The reaction mixture was diluted with DCM and filtered through a pad of diatomaceous earth (commercially sold under the trade mark "Celite"). The filtrate was washed with sat. NaHCO₃ sol., sat. NaCl sol. and
 10 dried over MgSO₄. The solvents were removed *in vacuo*, and the residue was purified by column chromatography (normal phase, [Biotage SNAP cartridge KP-sil 50 g, 40-63 μm, 60 Å, 50 mL per min, gradient 2% to 4% MeOH in DCM]) to give ethyl 4-[4-(ethoxycarbonyl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate (2.56 g, 48%) as a pale yellow oil.
MS: m/z 327 (M+H)⁺ (ES⁺)

15 **¹H NMR:** (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 1.17 (t, *J*=7.07 Hz, 6 H) 1.27 - 1.61 (m, 3 H) 1.76 (m, *J*=11.10 Hz, 5 H) 2.10 - 2.45 (m, 4 H) 2.58 - 2.76 (m, 2 H) 3.08 - 3.25 (m, 2 H) 3.30 - 3.35 (m, 2 H) 3.38 - 3.51 (m, 2 H) 3.91 - 4.10 (m, 4 H)

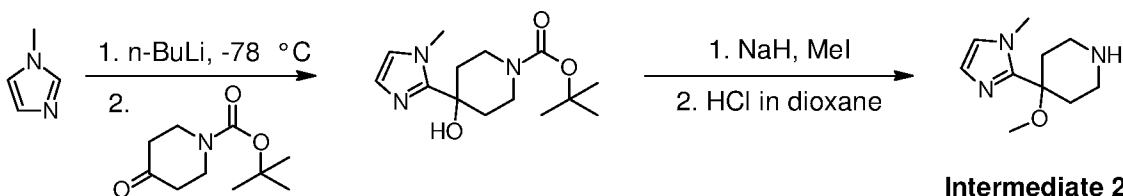
20 Ethyl 4-[4-(ethoxycarbonyl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate (1.10 g, 3.4 mmol) was dissolved in THF (60 mL) at rt and 1M LiOH sol. (10 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 5d. The pH was carefully adjusted to pH 6 by addition of concentrated hydrochloric acid, the solvents were removed *in vacuo*, to give 1-(1-(ethoxycarbonyl)azepan-4-yl)piperidine-4-carboxylic acid (1.5g) as a viscous pale yellow oil, **Intermediate 1**, which was used crude in subsequent reactions.

25 **MS:** m/z 299 (M+H)⁺ (ES⁺)

¹H NMR: (400MHz, CD₃OD) δ 1.22 – 1.32 (m, 3H), 1.60 – 2.38 (m, 11H), 2.08 - 2.22 (m, 1H), 3.13 – 3.26 (m, 2H), 3.33 – 3.51 (m, 2H), 3.52 – 3.76 (m, 2H), 4.08 - 4.18 (m, 2H), OH proton not observed

5 **Intermediate 2:**

Preparation of 4-methoxy-4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidine



1-Methyl imidazole (6.0 g, 73.0 mmol) was dissolved in THF (100 mL) at rt and the reaction mixture was cooled to -78°C under nitrogen, *n*-BuLi in hexane (45.4 mL, 73.0 mmol) was slowly added. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to 40°C and stirred for 4 h, then cooled to -78°C. *tert*-Butyl 4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxylate (14.56 g, 73.0 mmol) in THF (100 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to 40°C and stirred for 10 h, then quenched with water (50 mL). The reaction mixture was partitioned between EtOAc (200 mL) and water (150 mL), the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 200 mL) and the organic layers were combined and dried (Na₂SO₄). The solvents were removed *in vacuo*, and the residue was washed with methanol to give *tert*-butyl 4-hydroxy-4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (14.0 g, 68.1%) as a solid which was used crude in the subsequent reaction.

MS: m/z 282 (M+H)⁺ (ES⁺)

A portion of *tert*-butyl 4-hydroxy-4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (3.0 g, 10.6 mmol) was dissolved in DMF (50 mL) at rt and the reaction mixture was cooled to 0°C under nitrogen, NaH (0.64 g, 16.0 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0°C for 1 h and then iodomethane (1.8 g, 128 mmol) was slowly added. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to 30°C and stirred for 10 h, then quenched with water (50 mL). The reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 200 mL), and the organic layers were combined and dried (Na₂SO₄). The solvents were removed *in vacuo*, and the residue was purified by column chromatography (normal phase, silica, 60-120

mesh, gradient 0% to 50% EtOAc in Hexane) to give *tert*-butyl 4-methoxy-4-(1-methyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (1.3 g, 41.3 %) as a solid.

MS : m/z 296 (M+H)⁺ (ES⁺).

¹H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ : 1.40 (s, 9H), 1.87 - 1.94 (m, 2H), 1.97 - 2.06 (m, 2H),
5 2.91 (s, 3H), 3.12 – 3.19 (m, 2H), 3.60 – 3.66 (m, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 7.13 (s,
1H).

tert-Butyl 4-methoxy-4-(1-methyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (1.3 g, 3.3
mmol) was dissolved in 1,4 dioxane (30 mL) at rt and the reaction mixture was cooled to
10 0°C under nitrogen, HCl in dioxane (15 mL, 3M sol.) was slowly added. The reaction
mixture was stirred at rt for 6 h, the solvents were removed *in vacuo*, and the residue
purified by trituration from pentane (10 mL) and diethyl ether (10mL) to afford 4-
methoxy-4-(1-methyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidine, **Intermediate 2**, (0.80 g, 94.1 %) as a
solid.

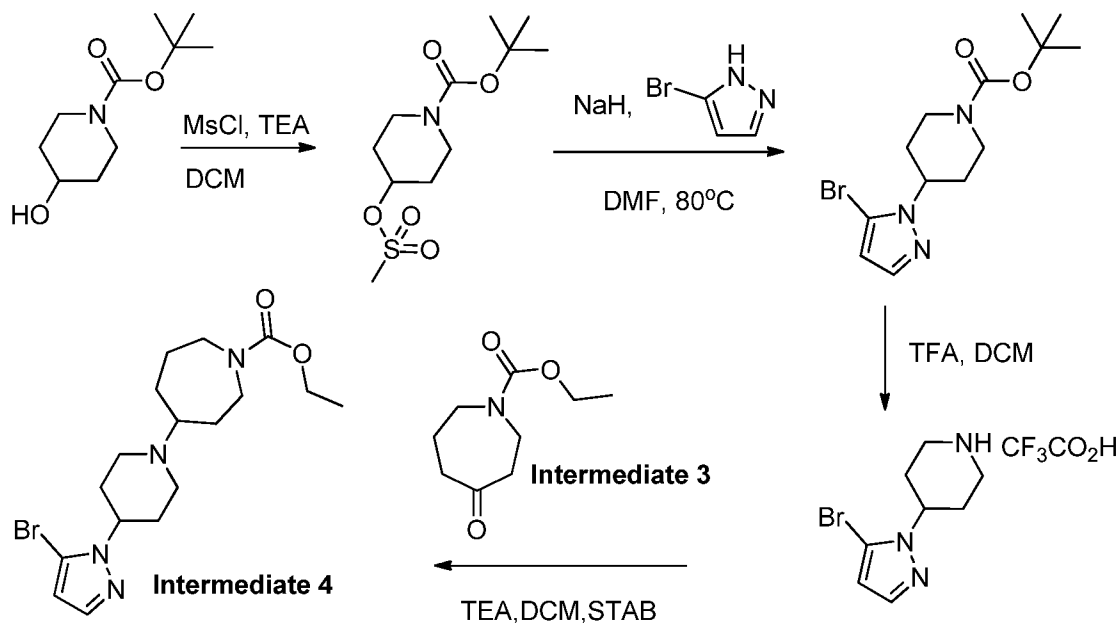
15 **MS**: 196 [M+H]⁺.

Intermediate 3

4-Oxoazepane-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester commercially available, CAS: 56515-89-0.

20 **Intermediate 4**

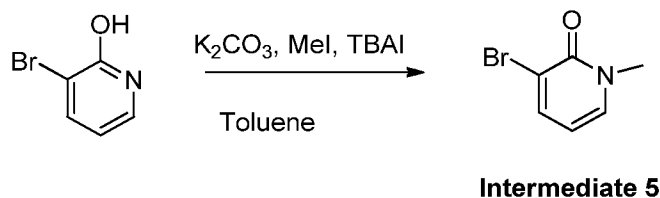
**Preparation of ethyl 4-(4-(5-bromo-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-
carboxylate**



As described hereinafter in general synthetic procedure, route q.

Intermediate 5

5 Preparation of 3-bromo-1-methylpyridin-2(1H)-one



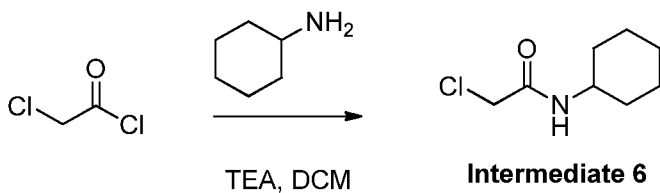
Methyl iodide (1.5 mL, 24.14 mmol) was added to a suspension of potassium carbonate (1668 mg, 12.07 mmol), TBAI (89 mg, 0.24 mmol) and 3-bromopyridin-2-ol (420 mg, 2.414 mmol) in toluene (15 mL). The reaction mixture was heated to 40°C for 17 hours.

The mixture was partitioned between DCM and water and the combined extracts dried (hydrophobic frit) and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica, eluted with 0-70% petrol/ethyl acetate to afford 3-bromo-1-methylpyridin-2(1H)-one, **Intermediate 5** (390 mg, 86 %).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) δ : 3.50 (s, 3 H) 6.17 (t, $J=7.07$ Hz, 1 H) 7.78 (dd, $J=6.82, 1.77$ Hz, 1 H) 7.90 (dd, $J=7.33, 1.77$ Hz, 1 H)

Intermediate 6

Preparation of 2-chloro-N-cyclohexylacetamide

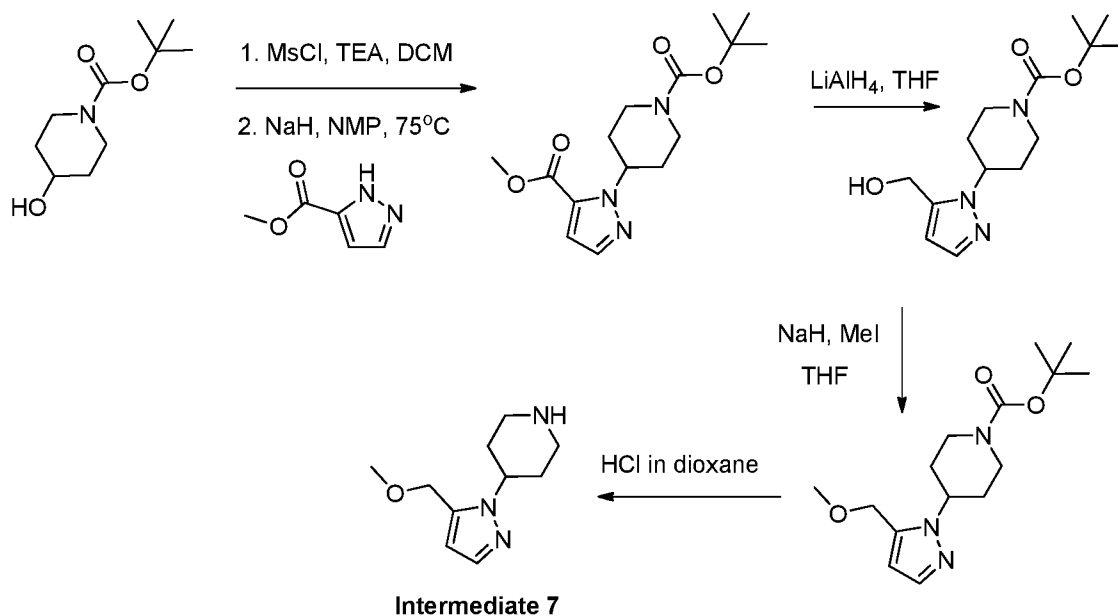


- 5 To an ice cold solution of chloroacetyl chloride (0.7 mL, 8.85 mmol) in DCM (10 mL) was added cyclohexanamine (878mg, 8.85 mmol) and TEA (1.36 mL, 9.74 mmol) in DCM (10 mL) in a drop-wise fashion. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The mixture was diluted with DCM, washed with water, dried (hydrophobic frit) and concentrated *in vacuo* yielding 2-chloro-N-cyclohexylacetamide, **Intermediate 6** (1.73g, 10 quantitative yield)

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3) δ : 6.35 (br. s., 1H), 3.96 (s, 2H), 3.64 - 3.83 (m, 1H), 1.81 - 1.94 (m, 2H), 1.49 - 1.70 (m, 3H), 1.24 - 1.40 (m, 2H), 1.04 - 1.22 (m, 3H)

Intermediate 7

- 15 **Preparation of 4-(5-(methoxymethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine**



Methanesulphonyl chloride (1.123 g, 9.8 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of tert-butyl 4-hydroxypiperidine-1-carboxylate (1.409 g, 7 mmol) and TEA (0.992 g, 9.8 mmol)

in DCM (35 mL) under nitrogen. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 3 hours. The reaction mixture was then washed with water, dried (hydrophobic frit) and concentrated *in vacuo* to yield tert-butyl 4-((methylsulphonyl)oxy)piperidine-1-carboxylate (1955 mg, 7 mmol). The crude product was used without further purification in the next
5 step.

Sodium hydride (252 mg, 10.5 mmol) was added to a solution of methyl 1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate (883 mg, 7.00 mmol) in NMP (17.5 mL) in a microwave vial. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 0.5 hours. tert-Butyl 4-((methylsulphonyl)oxy)-
10 piperidine-1-carboxylate (1955 mg, 7 mmol) was added and the vial sealed. The reaction was heated to 75°C overnight. The reaction mixture was partitioned between DCM and water, dried (hydrophobic frit) and the organic phase concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by reverse phase chromatography on C18 silica eluted with 5-95% water (with 0.05% ammonia)/acetonitrile to afford tert-butyl 4-(5-(methoxycarbonyl)-1H-
15 pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (337 mg, 1.089 mmol, 15.6 %)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ: 1.41 (s, 9 H) 1.71 - 1.96 (m, 4 H) 3.19 - 3.37 (m, 2 H) 3.84 (s, 3 H) 4.07 (m, *J*=12.60 Hz, 2 H) 5.11 - 5.30 (m, 1 H) 6.89 (d, *J*=2.02 Hz, 1 H) 7.61 (d, *J*=1.77 Hz, 1 H)

Lithium aluminium hydride (28.3 mg, 0.75 mmol) was added to a solution of tert-butyl 4-(5-(methoxycarbonyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (330 mg, 1.07 mmol) in THF (5mL) under nitrogen, with ice bath cooling. The reaction was stirred, with warming to room temperature over 1 hour. The reaction was quenched with water and 2M NaOH, stirred for 15 minutes and then extracted with DCM, dried (hydrophobic frit) and the
25 solvent removed *in vacuo* to afford tert-butyl 4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (300 mg, 1.07 mmol, quantitative yield) as product. This was used without further purification in the next step.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ: 1.42 (s, 9 H) 1.84 (d, *J*=3.03 Hz, 4 H) 2.74 - 3.01 (m, 2 H) 4.05 (d, *J*=12.13 Hz, 2 H) 4.33 - 4.57 (m, 3 H) 5.25 (m, *J*=5.60, 5.60 Hz, 1 H) 6.13 (d, *J*=1.00 Hz, 1 H) 7.35 (d, *J*=1.00 Hz, 1 H)
30

Sodium hydride (51.2 mg, 1.28 mmol) was added to a solution of tert-butyl 4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (300 mg, 1.07 mmol) in THF (2 mL) under nitrogen. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 0.5 hours. Methyl iodide (0.067 mL, 1.07 mmol) was added and stirring continued for 17 hours. More methyl iodide (0.067 mL, 1.07 mmol) was added and stirring continued for 5 hours. The reaction mixture was partitioned between DCM and water and the organic phase dried (hydrophobic frit). The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the resulting residue purified by column chromatography on silica (10g), eluted with 0-100% petrol/ethyl acetate to afford tert-butyl 4-(5-(methoxymethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (174 mg, 55.2%) as a colourless liquid.

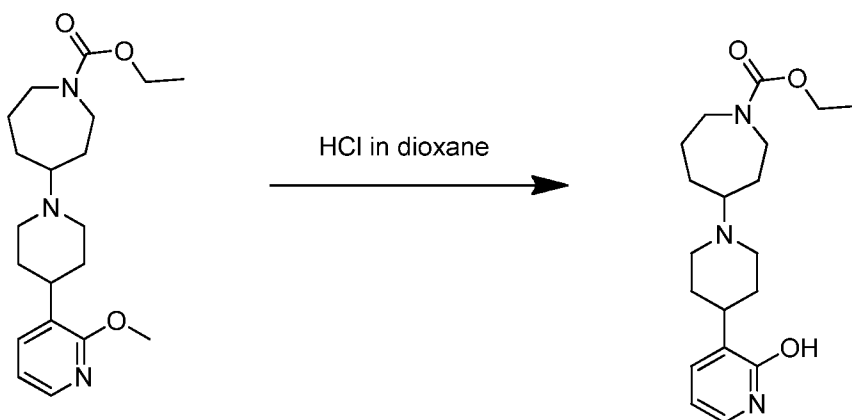
¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ: 1.42 (s, 9 H) 1.81 (d, *J*=3.54 Hz, 4 H) 2.73 - 3.01 (m, 1 H) 3.24 (s, 3 H) 3.91 - 4.12 (m, 2 H) 4.28 - 4.52 (m, 3 H) 6.23 (d, *J*=1.26 Hz, 1 H) 7.40 (d, *J*=1.26 Hz, 1 H)

4M Hydrochloric acid in dioxane (0.719 mL, 2.88 mmol) was added to a solution of tert-butyl 4-(5-(methoxymethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (170 mg, 0.576 mmol) in dioxane (2 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 20 hours after which the solvent removed *in vacuo* to afford 4-(5-(methoxymethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine hydrochloride, **Intermediate 7** (133 mg, quantitative yield)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ: 1.98 (m, *J*=12.10 Hz, 2 H) 2.14 - 2.29 (m, 2 H) 2.93 - 3.17 (m, 2 H) 3.25 (s, 3 H) 3.40 (m, *J*=12.60 Hz, 2 H) 4.40 - 4.62 (m, 3 H) 6.27 (d, *J*=1.52 Hz, 1 H) 7.45 (d, *J*=1.26 Hz, 1 H)

Intermediate 8

Preparation of ethyl 4-(4-(2-hydroxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate

**Example 35****Intermediate 8**

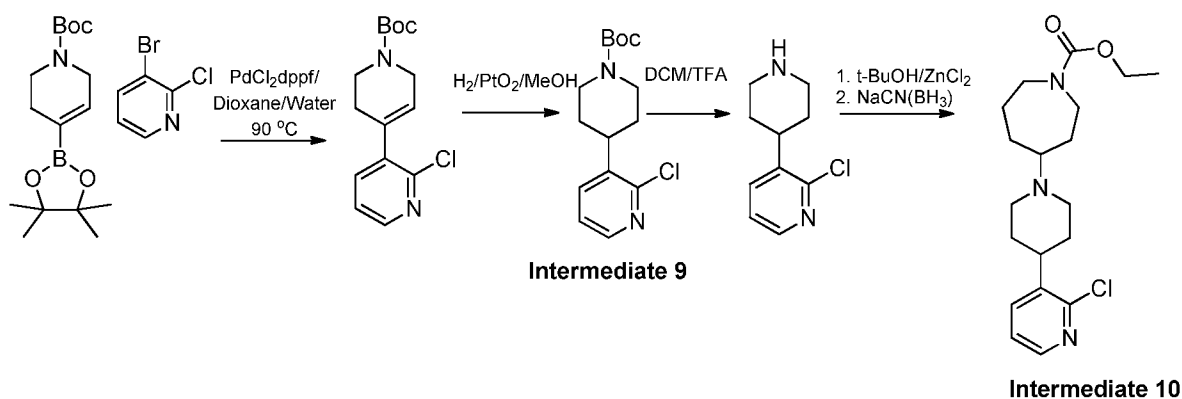
A suspension of ethyl 4-(4-(2-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (Example 35, 50 mg, 0.138 mmol) and 4M HCl in dioxane (0.173 mL, 0.692 mmol) in Dioxane (1 mL) was heated under microwave irradiation at 100 °C for 0.5 hours. Solvent removed *in vacuo* and residue purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC eluted with acetonitrile / water (with 0.1% ammonia) to afford ethyl 4-(4-(2-hydroxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (21 mg, 44 %), **Intermediate 8**, as a white solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, acetonitrile-*d*₃) δ 1.24 (t, *J*=6.82 Hz, 3 H) 1.39 - 1.94 (m, 8 H) 2.08 - 2.23 (m, 2 H) 2.35 (m, *J*=11.00, 11.00, 11.00 Hz, 2 H) 2.46 - 2.56 (m, 1 H) 2.61 - 2.74 (m, 1 H) 2.79 - 2.94 (m, 2 H) 3.20 - 3.32 (m, 2 H) 3.43 - 3.59 (m, 2 H) 4.09 (q, *J*=6.82 Hz, 2 H) 6.16 (t, *J*=6.69 Hz, 1 H) 7.15 (dd, *J*=6.57, 1.52 Hz, 1 H) 7.26 (d, *J*=6.57 Hz, 1 H)

ES+ = 348.4

Intermediates 9 and 10

Preparation of tert-butyl 4-(2-chloropyridin-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate and ethyl 4-(4-(2-chloropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate



3-Bromo-2-chloropyridine (3.11 g, 16.17 mmol), tert-butyl 4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-5,6-dihydropyridine-1(2H)-carboxylate (5 g, 16.17 mmol) and K_3PO_4 (10.284 g, 48.51 mmol, 3 eq.) were added to Dioxane : Water (60 mL : 15 mL). Reaction mixture was degassed by purging with N_2 gas for 10 min. $PdCl_2(dppf)$ (0.591 g, 0.80 mmol, 0.05 Eq.) was added to above reaction mixture at room temperature under N_2 and stirred for 3 h at 100 °C. The reaction mixture was poured onto water (150 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 50 mL), combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography using neutral silica gel of 60-120 mesh size. 5-10 % EtOAc in Hexane was used as gradient for elution of tert-butyl 2-chloro-5',6'-dihydro-[3,4'-bipyridine]-1'(2'H)-carboxylate (4.35 g, 91%).

tert-Butyl 2-chloro-5',6'-dihydro-[3,4'-bipyridine]-1'(2'H)-carboxylate (4.35 g, 14.7 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH (50 mL) and Platinum oxide (20 %) was added at RT. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 2 h under 50-70 psi hydrogen pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography using neutral silica gel of 100-200 mesh size. 0-25 % EtOAc in Hexane was used as gradient for elution of tert-butyl 4-(2-chloropyridin-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate, **Intermediate 9** (3.7 g, 75 %).

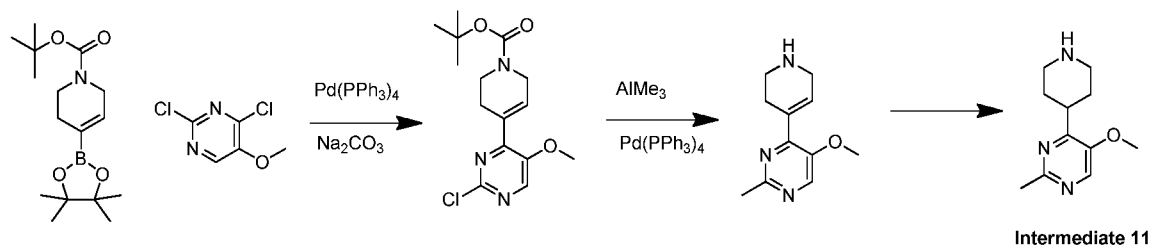
Trifluoroacetic acid (30 mL) was added to a solution of tert-butyl 4-(2-chloropyridin-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (3.7 g, 12.47 mmol) in DCM (35 mL) at 0-5 °C. Reaction mixture was stirred at RT for 1 h. The reaction mixture was poured into cold water (100 mL) and neutralized with solid K_2CO_3 . Aq. phase was extracted with DCM (3 x 50 mL), combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated *in vacuo* to obtain 2-chloro-3-(piperidin-4-yl)pyridine (2.0 g, 82%). 2-chloro-3-(piperidin-4-yl)pyridine was directly used in next step without any further purification.

2-Chloro-3-(piperidin-4-yl)pyridine (1.8 g, 9.15 mmol), ethyl 4-oxoazepane-1-carboxylate (2.03 g, 10.98 mmol) and Zinc Chloride (0.5 M solution in THF, 18.3 mL) were added to dry t-Butanol (50 mL). The reaction was flushed with N₂ gas and heated at vigorous reflux (external temp 120 °C) for 5 h. Reaction mixture was cooled down to 0 °C and Sodium cyanoborohydride (1.15 g, 18.3 mmol) was added portion wise. The reaction was stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured onto water (100 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 30 mL), combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated *in vacuo*.

The crude product was purified by column chromatography using neutral silica gel of 100-200 mesh size. 0-40 % Acetone in DCM was used as gradient for elution of ethyl 4-(4-(2-chloropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate, **Intermediate 10** (1.5 g, 45%).

Intermediate 11

Preparation of 5-methoxy-2-methyl-4-(piperidin-4-yl)pyrimidine



A solution of 2,4-dichloro-5-methoxypyrimidine (0.579 g, 3.23 mmol), tert-butyl 4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-5,6-dihydropyridine-1(2H)-carboxylate (1 g, 3.23 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.037 g, 0.032 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ solution (4 mL) in Dioxane (8 mL) was heated under microwave irradiation at 100 °C for 0.5 hours. Reaction mixture was partitioned between DCM and water and organic phase dried (hydrophobic frit) and concentrated *in vacuo*. Synthesis was continued without further purification.

ES+ = 270.2/272.2 (-tBu)

Trimethylaluminium (1.615 ml, 3.23 mmol) was added to a suspension of tert-butyl 4-(2-chloro-5-methoxypyrimidin-4-yl)-5,6-dihydropyridine-1(2H)-carboxylate (0.526 g, 1.615 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.093 g, 0.081 mmol) in THF (3 mL) under nitrogen. The reaction was heated to 70°C for 17 hours. Reaction mixture was added dropwise to ice water which was then acidified to pH~6 with 2M HCl and the solution loaded onto a cation exchange

cartridge, washed with methanol and eluted with 2M ammonia/methanol solution then concentrated *in vacuo*.

ES+ = 206.2

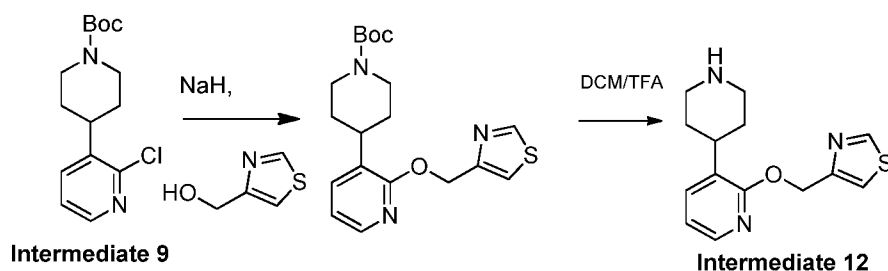
A solution of 5-methoxy-2-methyl-4-(1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridin-4-yl)pyrimidine (331 mg, 1.615 mmol) in Methanol (32 mL) was passed through a 10% Pd/C catcart in the H-cube (1ml/min, full H₂, room temperature). The solution was cycled through with temperature at 40°C, for 3 hours. The solution was passed through a fresh 10% Pd/C catcart (1ml/min, 20 bar hydrogen, 40°C), then cycled through under these conditions for ~3hours. Solvent removed *in vacuo* yielding 5-methoxy-2-methyl-4-(piperidin-4-yl)pyrimidine,

Intermediate 11 (207mg, 62%).

ES+ = 208.2

Intermediate 12

Preparation of 4-(((3-(piperidin-4-yl)pyridin-2-yl)oxy)methyl)thiazole



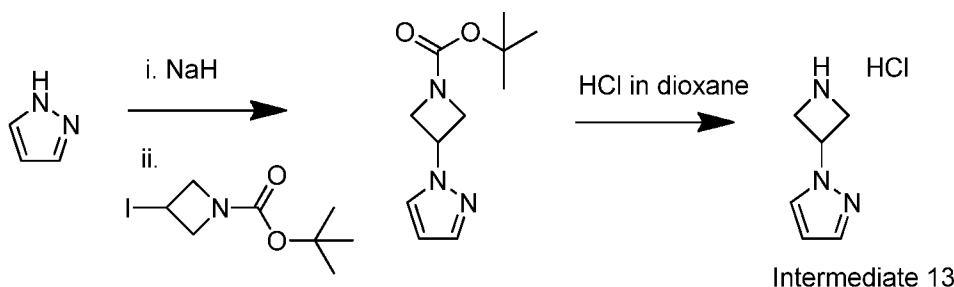
Sodium hydride (29.6 mg, 0.741 mmol) was added to a solution of thiazol-4-ylmethanol (78 mg, 0.674 mmol) in dioxane (1.5 mL) under nitrogen. The reaction was warmed to 65 °C. A solution of tert-butyl 4-(2-chloropyridin-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (**Intermediate 9**, 100 mg, 0.337 mmol) in dioxane (1.5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was heated to reflux for 19 hours. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool, diluted with water (10 mL) and extracted with DCM (3 x 10 mL), then EtOAc (2 x 10 mL). The combined organics were concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica, eluted with 0-50% ethyl acetate/petrol to afford tert-butyl 4-(2-(thiazol-4-ylmethoxy)pyridin-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (84 mg, 66.4%).

ES+ = 376.3

TFA (172 μ l, 2.233 mmol) was added to an ice bath-cooled solution of tert-butyl 4-(2-(thiazol-4-ylmethoxy)pyridin-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (84 mg, 0.224 mmol) in DCM (1 mL). The reaction was stirred in the ice bath for 30 minutes, then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for a further hour. The mixture was diluted with water (25 mL), basified by addition of solid K_2CO_3 and extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 25 ml). The combined organics were concentrated under a stream of dry nitrogen to afford 4-(((3-(piperidin-4-yl)pyridin-2-yl)oxy)methyl)thiazole, **Intermediate 12** (28 mg, 45.5%)
 ES+ = 276.3

10 **Intermediate 13**

Preparation of 1-(azetidin-3-yl)-1H-pyrazole hydrochloride



Sodium hydride (106 mg, 2.65 mmol) was added to a solution of 1H-pyrazole (120 mg, 1.766 mmol) in NMP (5 mL) in a microwave vial. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 0.5 hours. tert-Butyl 3-iodoazetidine-1-carboxylate (500mg, 1.77 mmol) was added and the vial sealed. The reaction was heated to 75°C overnight. The reaction mixture was partitioned between DCM and water, and the organics purified by column chromatography on silica (25g), eluting with 0-100% petrol/ethyl acetate to afford tert-butyl 3-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)azetidine-1-carboxylate (250 mg, 63%) as a colourless oil.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 1.41 (s, 9 H) 4.05 - 4.17 (m, 2 H) 4.28 (m, *J*=8.30, 8.30 Hz, 2 H) 5.06 - 5.30 (m, 1 H) 6.29 (t, *J*=1.89 Hz, 1 H) 7.57 (d, *J*=1.00 Hz, 1 H) 7.86 (d, *J*=2.27 Hz, 1 H)

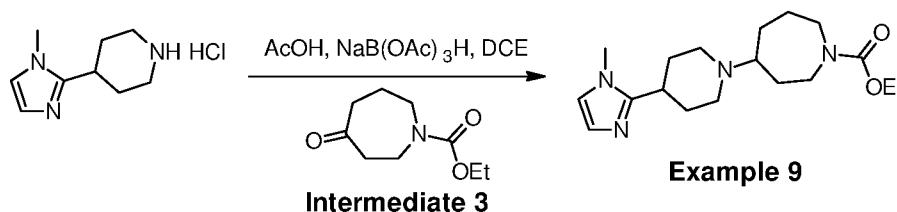
4M HCl in dioxane (1.400 mL, 5.60 mmol) was added to a solution of tert-butyl 3-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)azetidine-1-carboxylate (250 mg, 1.120 mmol) in dioxane (5 mL) and stirred for 17 h. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and crude product, 1-(azetidin-3-yl)-1H-

pyrazole hydrochloride, **Intermediate 13**, was used without further purification in the next step of synthesis (see general route i).

General Synthetic Procedures

5 Route a

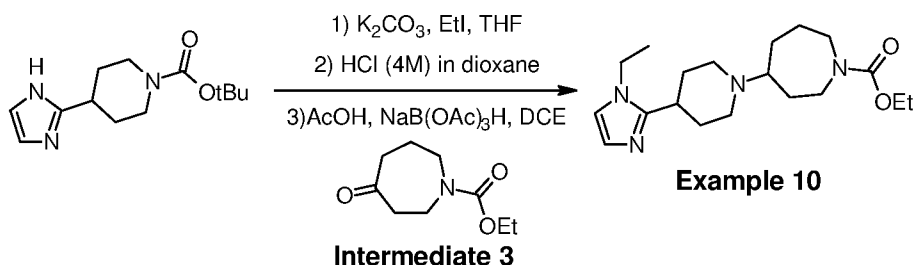
Typical procedure for the preparation of amines via reductive alkylation with **Intermediate 3**, as exemplified by the preparation of **Example 9**, ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-*1H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate



10 To a solution of ethyl 4-oxoazepane-1-carboxylate (222 mg, 1.2 mmol) in 1,2-dichloroethane (10 mL) was added 4-(1-methyl-*1H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidine hydrochloride (200 mg, 1.0 mmol) and acetic acid (69 μ L, 1.2 mmol). The resultant reaction mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for a further 30 minutes. Sodium triacetoxyborohydride (254 mg, 1.2 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture. The reaction was then stirred until the
15 reaction was complete (usually after 24 hours). The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (normal phase, [Biotage SNAP cartridge KP-sil 25g, 40-63 μ m, 60 \AA , 25 mL per min, gradient 0% to 10% MeOH in DCM, then 7.5% (7N NH_3 in MeOH) in DCM] as eluent to give ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-*1H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate as a colourless oil (110 mg, 33%). The data for the title compound are in
20 Table 2 below.

Route b

Typical procedure for the preparation of amines via the alkylation of heterocycles, deprotection and then reductive alkylation with **Intermediate 3**, as exemplified by the
25 preparation of **Example 10**, ethyl 4-[4-(1-ethyl-*1H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate



To a mixture of *tert*-butyl-4-(1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (250 mg, 1.0 mmol) and potassium carbonate (207 mg, 1.5 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added iodoethane (96 μ l, 1.2 mmol). The reaction mixture was then heated at 50 °C for 24 hours.

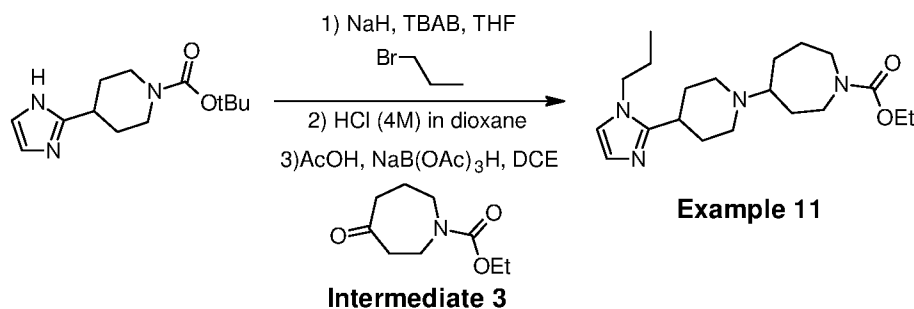
5 Further iodoethane (200 μ l, 2.5 mmol) was added and then heated at 50 °C for a further 24 hours. The reaction mixture was partitioned between DCM and water. The layers were separated using a phase separator, the solvent evaporated *in vacuo* from the organic phase to give a pale yellow oil (270 mg) which was used crude in the next step.

10 The crude material was dissolved in HCl in dioxane (4M, 10 mL) and then stirred at ambient temperature for 24 hours. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*, and then azeotroped using a solvent mixture of methanol:toluene (1:1) twice to give a yellow solid (210 mg) which was taken through to the next step without further purification.

15 The crude material was then reacted using the procedure described in route a to give ethyl 4-[4-(1-ethyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate as a light brown oil (130 mg, 37% over the 3 steps). The data for the title compound are in Table 2 below.

Route c

20 **Typical procedure for the preparation of amines via the alkylation of heterocycles, deprotection and then reductive alkylation with Intermediate 3, as exemplified by the preparation of Example 11, ethyl 4-[4-(1-propyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate.**



To a mixture of *tert*-butyl-4-(1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (200 mg, 0.8 mmol) and tetra *n*-butyl ammonium bromide (258 mg, 0.8 mmol) in THF (10 mL, anhydrous) under an atmosphere of nitrogen was added sodium hydride (64 mg, 1.6 mmol). The resultant mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 10 minutes. 1-Bromopropane (109 μ l, 1.2 mmol) was added and then the reaction mixture was heated at 60°C for 24 hours. The reaction mixture was partitioned between DCM and water. The layers were separated using a phase separator, the solvent evaporated *in vacuo* from the organic phase to give an orange oil (210 mg) which was used without purification in the next step.

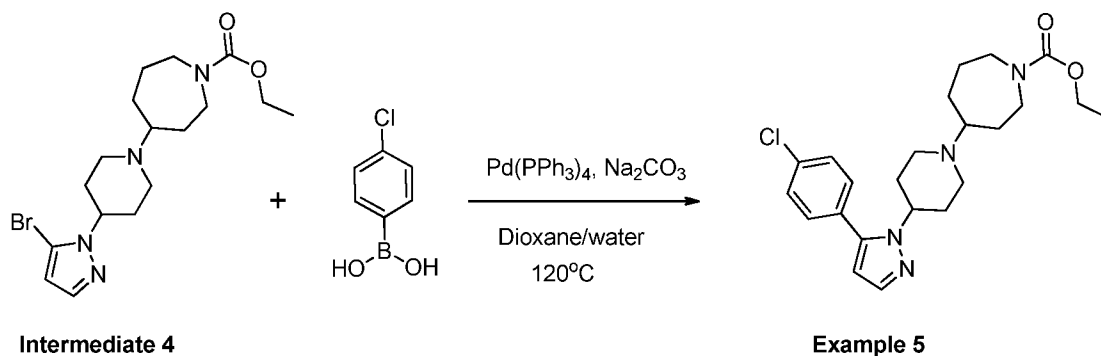
The crude material was dissolved in HCl in dioxane (4M, 10mL) and then stirred at ambient temperature for 24 hours. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*, and then azeotroped using a solvent mixture of methanol:toluene (1:1) twice to give a yellow solid (210mg) which was taken through to the next step without purification.

The crude material was then reacted using the procedure described in route a to give ethyl 4-[4-(1-propyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate as a light brown oil (30 mg, 10% over the 3 steps). The data for the title compound are in Table 2 below.

20

Route d

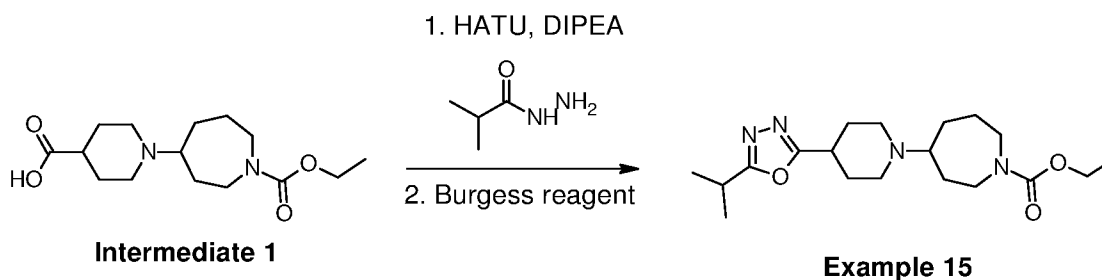
Typical procedure for the preparation of biaryl compounds by Suzuki reaction of boronic acids with Intermediate 4, as exemplified by the preparation of Example 5, ethyl 4-(4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate



A suspension of ethyl 4-(4-(5-bromo-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (54 mg, 0.14 mmol), 4-chlorophenylboronic acid (25.4 mg, 0.16 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (7.81 mg, 6.76 μmol) and Na₂CO₃ (0.25 mL, 0.14 mmol) in dioxane (0.5 mL) was heated under microwave irradiation at 120 °C for 0.5 hours. The reaction mixture was then partitioned between DCM and water and the extracts dried (hydrophobic frit) and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC eluted with acetonitrile/water (with 0.1% ammonia) to afford ethyl 4-(4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (27 mg, 45.4 %) as a yellow glass. The data for the title compound are in Table 2 below.

Route e

Typical procedure for the preparation of oxadiazoles via Intermediate 1 as exemplified by the preparation of Example 15, ethyl 4-(4-(5-isopropyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate

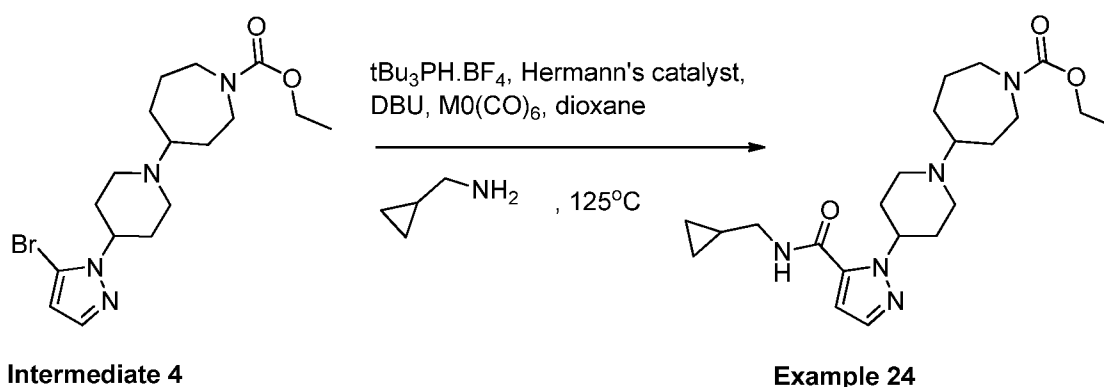


1-(1-(Ethoxycarbonyl)azepan-4-yl)piperidine-4-carboxylic acid (200 mg, assumed 0.67 mmol), HATU (178 mg, 0.74 mmol), isobutyramidoxime (68.5 mg, 0.670 mmol) and DIPEA (128 μl, 0.74 mmol) in DMF (4 mL) were stirred at room temperature for 5 hours. The reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*. Burgess reagent (259 mg, 1.09 mmol)

was added and the reaction was heated at 80°C for 3 days. A second amount of Burgess Reagent (164 mg, 0.69 mmol) was added and heating was continued at 80°C for 1 day. A further portion of Burgess Reagent (100 mg, 0.42 mmol) was added and heating was continued at 80°C for 1 day. The reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by reverse phase column chromatography acidic 10 min [reverse phase HPLC (XSELECT CSH Prep 5 μm, 19 x 50 mm, 28 mL per min, gradient 5% MeCN in 0.1 HCOOH in water (30 secs), 5% to 40% (over 7 min) then 95% MeCN in 0.1 HCOOH in water (1 min) then 5% MeCN in 0.1 HCOOH in water (1.5 min)]. The residue was dissolved in DCM (10 mL) and washed with sat. NaHCO₃ sol. (2 x 2 mL). The phases were separated using a phase separation cartridge and the organic layer was concentrated *in vacuo*. The product was loaded onto a column of SCX (1 g) in 5% AcOH in MeOH. The column was washed with MeOH and then the product was eluted with 0.7 M ammonia in MeOH. The resultant mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* to afford ethyl 4-(4-(5-isopropyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (21.7 mg, 4% yield) as a brown oil. The data for the title compound are in Table 2 below.

Route f

Typical procedure for aminocarbonylation reaction of Intermediate 4, as exemplified by the preparation of Example 24, ethyl 4-(4-(5-((cyclopropylmethyl)carbamoyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate

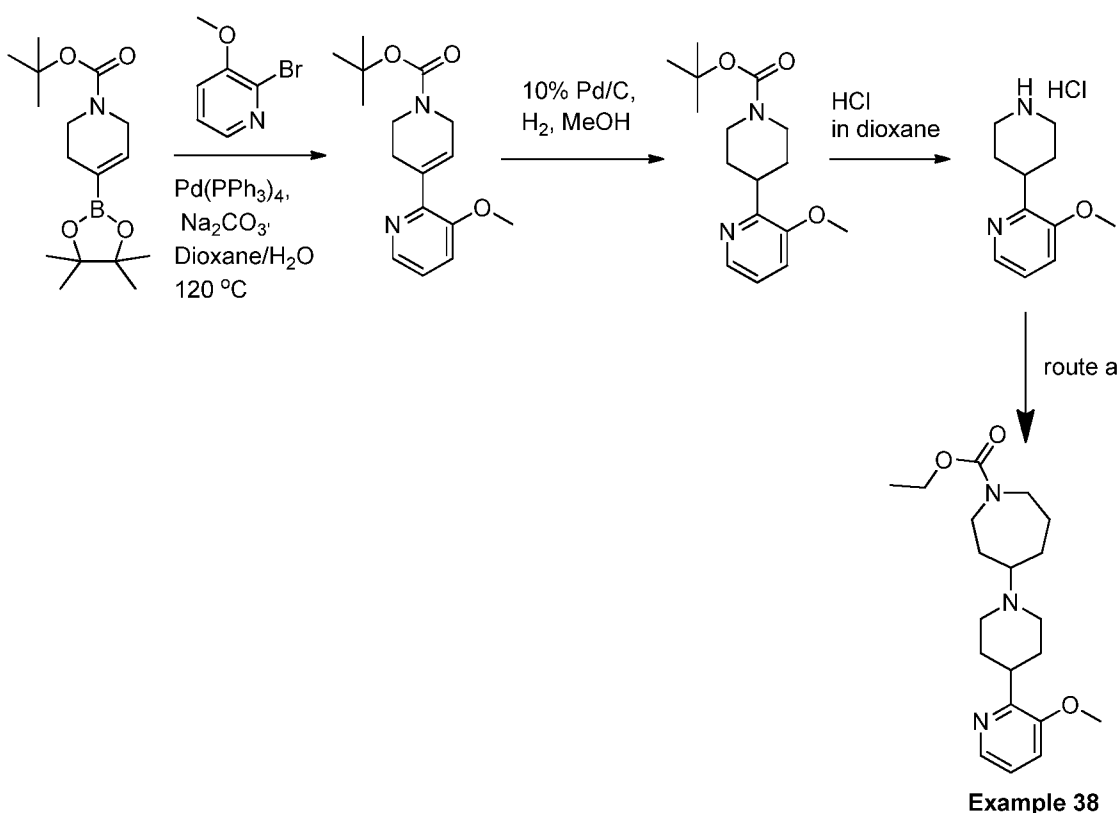


A suspension of tBu₃PH.BF₄ (1.090 mg, 3.76 μmol), Hermann's catalyst (1.174 mg, 1.25 μmol), DBU (12.77 mg, 0.084 mmol), Mo(CO)₆ (16.53 mg, 0.063 mmol), ethyl 4-(4-(5-bromo-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (50 mg, 0.125 mmol) and cyclopropylmethanamine (9 mg, 0.125 mmol) in dioxane (0.5 mL) was heated under

microwave irradiation at 125 °C for 20 minutes. The reaction mixture was partitioned between DCM and water and combined organics dried (hydrophobic frit) and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC eluted with acetonitrile / water (with 0.1% ammonia) to afford ethyl 4-(4-(5-((cyclopropylmethyl)-
 5 carbamoyl)1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (10mg, 19%). The data for the title compound are in Table 2 below.

Route g

Typical procedure for Suzuki reaction, hydrogenation of double bond, removal of *N*-
 10 *tert*-butoxycarbonyl protecting group to give piperidine intermediate for use in route a, as exemplified by the preparation of Example 38 , ethyl 4-[4-(3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate



15 A suspension of tert-butyl 4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-5,6-dihydropyridine-1(2H)-carboxylate (250 mg, 0.81 mmol), Pd(Ph₃P)₄ (9.34 mg, 8.09 μmol) and Na₂CO₃ (1.5 mL, 0.81 mmol) in dioxane (3 mL) with 2-bromo-3-methoxypyridine (152 mg, 0.81 mmol)) was heated under microwave irradiation at 120 °C for 0.5 hours.

The reaction mixture was partitioned between DCM and water. The organics were dried (hydrophobic frit) and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica, eluted with 0-50% petrol/ethyl acetate to afford tert-butyl 4-(3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine-1-carboxylate (215mg, 92%)

5 ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 1.44 (s, 9 H) 2.55 (m, *J*=1.80 Hz, 2 H) 3.30 (s, 3 H) 3.50 (t, *J*=5.56 Hz, 2 H) 3.95 - 4.11 (m, 2 H) 6.52 (br. s., 1 H) 7.25 (dd, *J*=8.34, 4.55 Hz, 1 H) 7.45 (d, *J*=7.58 Hz, 1 H) 8.03 - 8.27 (m, 1 H)

A solution of tert-butyl 4-(3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine-1-
10 carboxylate (220 mg, 0.76 mmol) in methanol (15.2 mL) was passed through a 10% Pd/C catcart in the H-cube (1mL/min, full hydrogen mode, room temperature and atmospheric pressure). The solvent was removed *in vacuo* yielding tert-butyl 4-(3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (200mg, 90%)

15 ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 1.35 - 1.44 (m, 9 H) 1.52 - 1.78 (m, 4 H) 3.11 - 3.27 (m, 1 H) 3.75 - 3.87 (m, 5 H) 4.05 (d, *J*=12.38 Hz, 2 H) 7.21 (m, *J*=8.30, 4.80 Hz, 1 H) 7.36 (m, *J*=7.60 Hz, 1 H) 8.08 (m, *J*=4.70, 0.90 Hz, 1 H)

4M HCl in dioxane(1 mL, 4.00 mmol) was added to a solution of tert-butyl 4-(3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (200 mg, 0.68 mmol) in dioxane (5 mL).
20 The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 17 hours after which the solvent was removed *in vacuo*, yielding 3-methoxy-2-(piperidin-4-yl)pyridine (132mg, 100%)

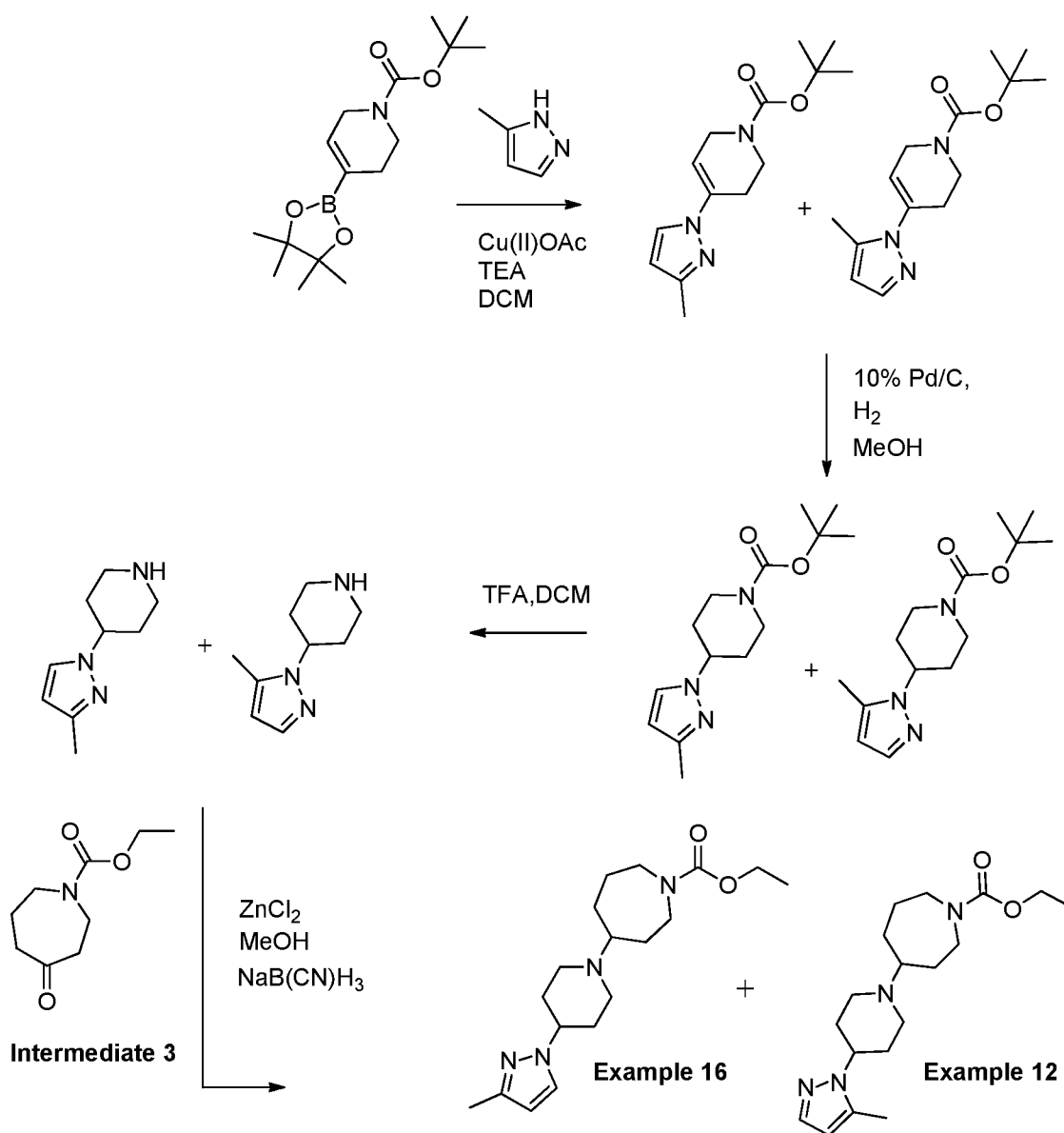
25 ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 1.91 (d, *J*=13.39 Hz, 2 H) 2.02 - 2.20 (m, 2 H) 2.92 - 3.11 (m, 2 H) 3.28 - 3.51 (m, 3 H) 3.90 (s, 3 H) 7.43 - 7.59 (m, 1 H) 7.75 (d, *J*=7.83 Hz, 1 H) 8.21 (d, *J*=4.80 Hz, 1 H) 9.18 (br. s., 2 H)

3-Methoxy-2-(piperidin-4-yl)pyridine was then used in route a to give the title compound, ethyl 4-[4-(3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate, The data for the title compound are in Table 2 below.

30

Route h

Typical procedure for copper coupling of substituted pyrazole with *tert*-butyl 4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-5,6-dihydropyridine-1(2H)-carboxylate, hydrogenation of double bond, removal of *N-tert*-butoxycarbonyl protecting group to give piperidine intermediate for use in reductive amination and separation of regioisomers as exemplified by the preparation of Examples 12 and 16, ethyl 4-[4-(3-methyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate and ethyl 4-[4-(5-methyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate



10 *tert*-Butyl 4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-5,6-dihydropyridine-1(2H)-carboxylate (2 g, 6.47 mmol), 3-methyl-1H-pyrazole (0.584 g, 7.12 mmol), Cu(II)OAc

(1.76 g, 9.7 mmol) and TEA (1.96 g, 19.4 mmol) were combined in anhydrous DCM (60 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h and then poured into water (100 mL). The aqueous layer was separated and extracted with (3 x 30 mL) of DCM. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over sodium sulphate and
5 concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography using neutral silica gel of 60-120 mesh size. 0-50 % EtOAc in hexane was used as gradient for elution of the mixture of regioisomers (0.8g, 47 %).

The residue was dissolved in methanol (50mL) and 10% Pd/C (80 mg) was added.
10 Hydrogen gas was bubbled through the stirred solution for 3 h. The reaction mixture was filtered through a "Celite" (trade mark) pad and washed with excess of ethyl acetate. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue used in the next step.

The residue (0.6 g, 2.26 mmol) was dissolved in DCM (50 mL) and cooled to 0 °C under a
15 nitrogen atmosphere. TFA (6 mL) was added to the solution and the reaction mixture was allowed to attain room temperature and stirred for 45 min. The reaction mixture was poured into cold water (70 mL), neutralized with solid potassium carbonate and extracted with (3 x 30 mL) of DCM. The combined organic phase was washed with brine, dried over sodium sulphate and concentrated *in vacuo*. DCM (20 mL) was added and the residual
20 solvent co-distilled with DCM to obtain crude product that was used in the next step without further purification.

The residue from the preceding step (0.25 g, 1.51 mmol) and 1-carbethoxyazepan-4-one (0.336 g, 1.81 mmol) were dissolved in dry MeOH (50 mL). Zinc chloride (1 eq. 0.5 M in
25 THF) was added and heated at 90 °C for 3 h under a nitrogen atmosphere. Sodium cyanoborohydride (0.19 g, 3.03 mmol) was added portion wise at 0 °C and allowed to stir at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture was poured into water (100 mL) and extracted with (3 x 30 mL) of EtOAc. The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over sodium sulphate. The volatiles were evaporated under vacuum to obtain a
30 mixture of crude products.

Product was purified by prep HPLC to give ethyl 4-[4-(3-methyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate (0.085g, 16.7% yield) and ethyl 4-[4-(5-methyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate (0.04 g, 7.9 %).

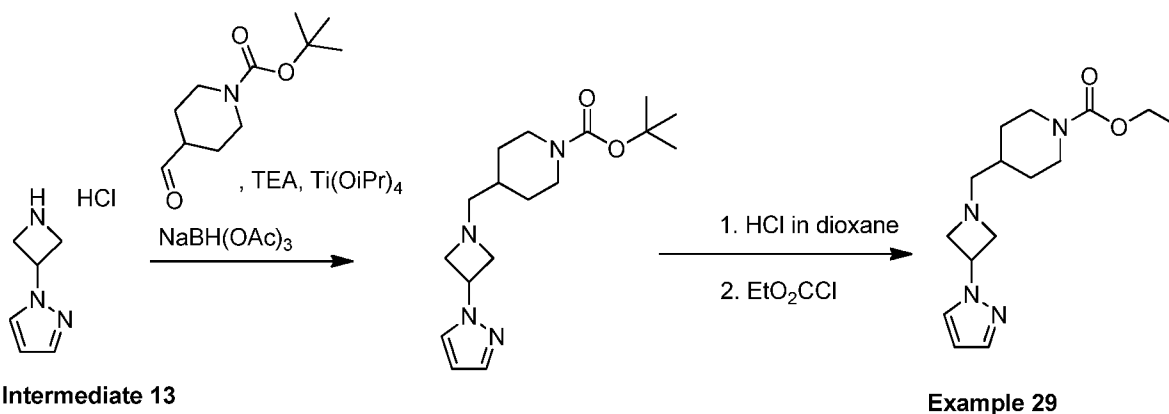
The data for the title compounds are in Table 2 below.

5

Route i

Typical procedure for reductive amination of amine with *tert*-butyl 4-formylpiperidine-1-carboxylate, *N*-*tert*-butoxycarbonyl deprotection and ethyl carbamate formation, as exemplified by the preparation of Example 29, ethyl 4-[[3-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)azetid-1-yl]methyl]piperidine-1-carboxylate

10



Titanium(IV) isopropoxide (0.788 ml, 2.69 mmol) was added to a solution of 1-(azetid-3-yl)-1H-pyrazole hydrochloride (1.12 mmol), TEA (0.187 ml, 1.344 mmol) and *tert*-butyl 4-formylpiperidine-1-carboxylate (239 mg, 1.120 mmol) in DCM (5 mL) under nitrogen. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. Sodium triacetoxyborohydride (1187 mg, 5.60 mmol) was added and stirring continued for 72 hours. Reaction mixture was quenched with sodium bicarbonate solution and washed with EtOAc. The aqueous phase was filtered and the filtrate was purified by reverse phase chromatography on C18 silica eluted with 5-95% water (with 0.05% ammonia)/acetonitrile to afford *tert*-butyl 4-((3-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)azetid-1-yl)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (28 mg, 8 % yield). **ES+** = 321.4

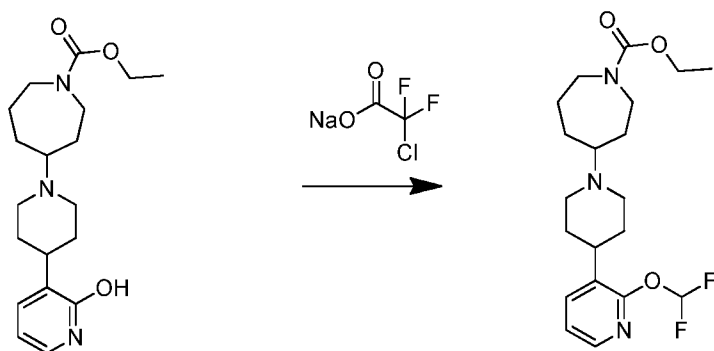
4M HCl in dioxane (0.109 mL, 0.437 mmol) was added to a solution of *tert*-butyl 4-((3-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)azetid-1-yl)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (28 mg, 0.087 mmol) in

25

dioxane (1 mL) and stirred at room temperature for 17 hours. Solvent was removed *in vacuo*. Residue was dissolved in DCM (1 mL) and TEA (0.5 ml, 3.59 mmol) and ethyl chloroformate (0.013 ml, 0.131 mmol) were added. After stirring for 2 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with DCM and washed with water. The crude product was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC eluted with acetonitrile / water (with 0.1% ammonia) to afford ethyl 4-((3-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)azetid-1-yl)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (6 mg, 22 %) as a colourless oil. The data for the title compound is in Table 2 below.

Route j

10 **Typical procedure for O-alkylation of Intermediate 8 with sodium 2-chloro-2,2-difluoroacetate, as exemplified by the preparation of Example 52 , ethyl 4-{4-[2-(difluoromethoxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate**



Intermediate 8

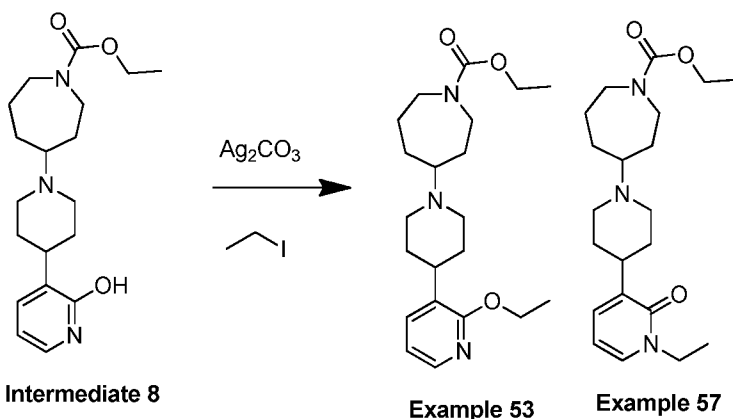
Example 52

A suspension of ethyl 4-(4-(2-hydroxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate hydrochloride (50 mg, 0.130 mmol) and sodium 2-chloro-2,2-difluoroacetate (39.7 mg, 0.260 mmol) in acetonitrile (0.5 mL) was heated to 90°C for 3 hours. Reaction mixture was partitioned between DCM and water and the organic phase was dried (hydrophobic frit) before purification by reverse phase preparative HPLC eluted with acetonitrile / water (with 0.1% ammonia) to afford ethyl 4-(4-(2-(difluoromethoxy)pyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (8 mg, 14%) as a yellow oil. The data for the title compound is in Table 2 below.

Route k

25 **Typical procedure for O- and N-alkylation of Intermediate 8 with alkyl halide, as exemplified by the preparation of Example 53 , ethyl 4-(4-(2-ethoxypyridin-3-**

yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate, and Example 57, ethyl 4-(4-(1-ethyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate



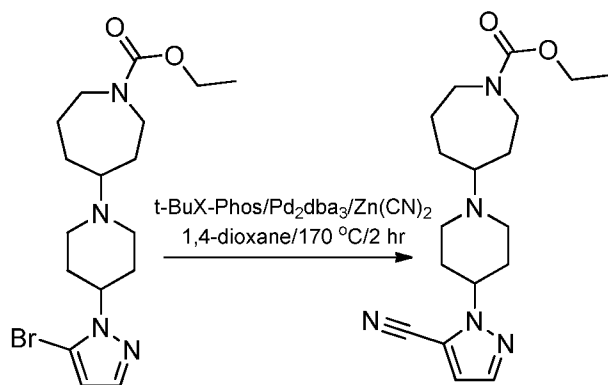
Ethyl 4-(4-(2-hydroxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate hydrochloride (59mg, 0.154mmol), ethyl iodide (72mg, 0.461mmol), silver carbonate (127mg, 0.461mmol) and THF (1ml) were combined in a microwave vial, sealed and heated to 70°C for 17 hours. Reaction mixture was partitioned between DCM and water and organics dried (hydrophobic frit) and concentrated *in vacuo* before purification by reverse phase preparative HPLC eluted with acetonitrile / water (with 0.1% ammonia) to afford ethyl 4-(4-(2-ethoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (13mg, 22%) and ethyl 4-(4-(1-ethyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (9mg, 16%). The data for the title compounds are in Table 2 below.

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Route 1

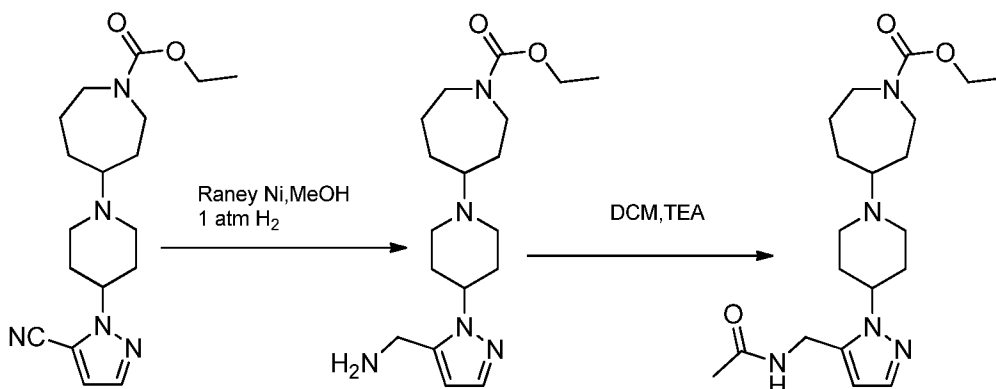
Typical procedure for replacement of bromo with nitrile, as exemplified by the preparation of Example 27, ethyl 4-[4-(5-cyano-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate

**Intermediate 4****Example 27**

Intermediate 4 (0.95 g, 2.37 mmol) was dissolved in 1,4-dioxane (25 mL) and degassed for 10 min. Pd₂(dba)₃ (0.108 g, 0.12 mmol), t-BuX-Phos (0.101 g, 0.23 mmol), and Zn(CN)₂ (0.419 g, 3.56 mmol) were added to the reaction mixture and heated under microwave irradiation at 170 °C for 2 h. The reaction mixture was poured in water (100 mL) and extracted with (3 x 30 mL) of EtOAc. Combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over sodium sulphate and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography using neutral silica gel of 100-200 mesh size. 0-5 % MeOH in DCM was used as gradient yielding ethyl 4-[4-(5-cyano-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate (0.64 g, 77.8 %). The data for the title compound is in Table 2 below.

Route m

Typical procedure for reduction of nitrile, followed by amide formation, as exemplified by the preparation of Example 28, ethyl 4-[4-[5-(acetamidomethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate

**Example 27****Example 28**

Activated Raney Ni 200 mg (20 % by wt) was added to solution of ethyl 4-[4-(5-cyano-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate (0.95 g, 2.74 mmol) in MeOH (40 mL). Reaction mixture was stirred at RT overnight under 50 mm atmosphere H₂ pressure.
5 Reaction mixture was filtered through "Celite" (trade mark) pad and washed with MeOH. Filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* to give ethyl 4-(4-(5-(aminomethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (0.65 g, 67.6 %).

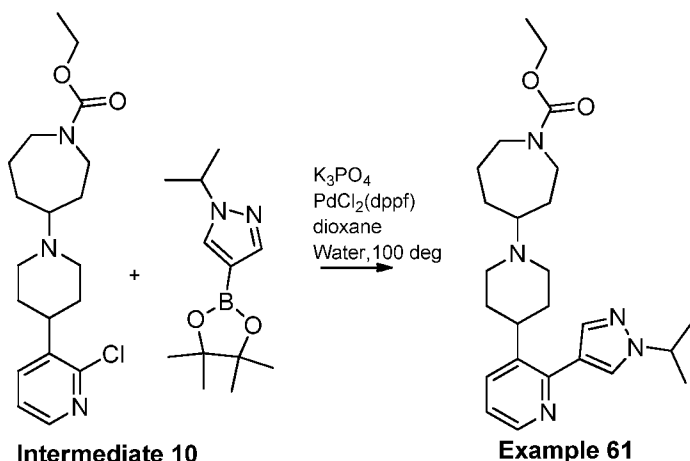
¹H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 1.3 (t, 3H), 1.5-1.6 (m, 2H), 1.75 (m, 1H), 1.9-2.1 (m, 5H), 2.2 (m, 2H), 2.5-2.6 (m, 3H), 2.95 (b, 2H), 3.35 (m, 2H), 3.6 (m, 2H), 3.9 (s, 2H), 4.15 (m,
10 3H), 6.25 (d, 1H), 7.42 (d, 1H)

Acetyl chloride (0.026 g, 0.34 mmol) in DCM (0.5 mL) was added drop wise to a solution of ethyl 4-(4-(5-(aminomethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (0.1 g, 0.28 mmol) and TEA (0.086 g, 0.85 mmol) in DCM (20 mL) at 0 °C under nitrogen.

15 Reaction mixture was then stirred at rt for 45 min, before dilution with DCM (100mL). Organic layer was washed with water (2 X 50 mL), brine, dried over sodium sulphate and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography using neutral silica gel of 100-200 mesh size. 0-8 % MeOH (4 mL Aq. NH₃ in 100 mL MeOH) in DCM was used as gradient yielding ethyl 4-{4-[5-(acetamidomethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate (0.06 g, 53.5 %). The data for the title compound
20 is in Table 2 below

Route n

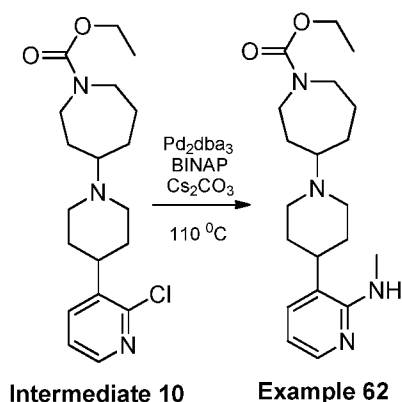
25 **Typical procedure for Suzuki reaction with pyridyl chloride, as exemplified by the preparation of Example 61, ethyl 4-(4-{2-[1-(propan-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]pyridin-3-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate**



1-isopropyl-4-boronic acid, pinacol ester (0.387 g, 1.63 mmol) was added to a mixture of ethyl 4-(4-(2-chloropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (0.15 g, 0.409 mmol) and K_3PO_4 (0.695 g, 3.27 mmol) in Dioxane: Water (8mL: 2mL). Reaction mixture was degassed using N_2 gas for 10 min. $\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dppf})$ (0.029 g, 0.0409 mmol) was added to a reaction mixture at RT under N_2 . Reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at 100 °C. The reaction mixture was poured onto water (70 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 30 mL), combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography using neutral silica gel of 100-200 mesh size. 3-6 % MeOH in DCM was used as gradient for elution of ethyl 4-(4-{2-[1-(propan-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]pyridin-3-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (0.085 g, 47%). The data for the title compound is in Table 2 below

15 Route p

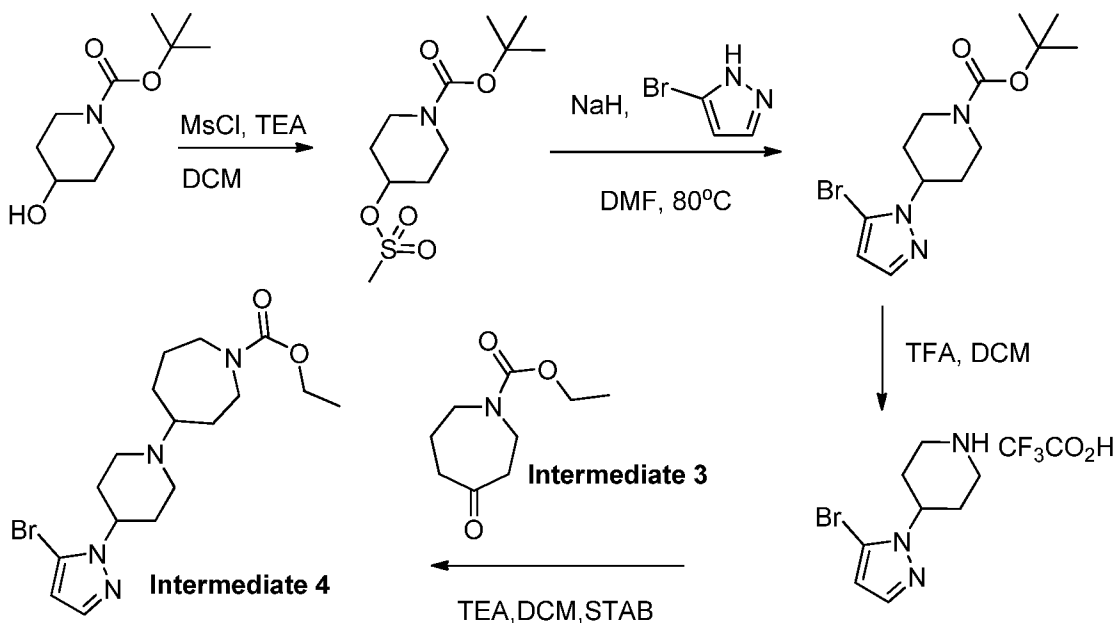
Typical procedure for Buchwald reaction of pyridyl chloride with amine, as exemplified by the preparation of Example 62, ethyl 4-{4-[2-(methylamino)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate



Ethyl 4-(4-(2-chloropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (0.1 g, 0.27 mmol) and Cesium carbonate (0.356 g, 1.09 mmol) were added to dry Dioxane (5 mL). Reaction mixture was degassed under N₂ for 10 min. Methylamine hydrochloride (0.036 g, 0.54 mmol), Pd₂dba₃ (0.012 g, 0.0135 mmol) and BINAP (0.017 g, 0.027 mmol) were added under N₂. Reaction mixture was heated to 110 °C for 5 hr in sealed tube. The reaction mixture was poured onto water (70 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 30 mL), combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography using neutral silica gel of 100-200 mesh size. 0-8 % MeOH (4 mL Aq. NH₃ in 100 mL MeOH) in DCM was used as gradient yielding ethyl 4-{4-[2-(methylamino)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate (0.03 g, 35%). The data for the title compound is in Table 2 below.

Route q

Typical procedure for mesylation of *N-tert*-butoxycarbonyl 4-hydroxypiperidine, displacement of mesyl group with substituted pyrazole, *N-tert*-butoxycarbonyl deprotection and reductive amination as exemplified by preparation of intermediate 4, ethyl 4-(4-(5-bromo-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate



To a solution of tert-butyl 4-hydroxypiperidine-1-carboxylate (500 mg, 2.5 mmol) and TEA (0.346 mL, 2.5 mmol) in DCM (10 mL) was added methanesulphonyl chloride (0.2 mL, 2.5 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. The reaction was diluted with DCM, washed with water, dried (hydrophobic frit) and the organic phase concentrated *in vacuo*, yielding the crude product. This was used without further purification in the next reaction.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ: 4.77 - 4.89 (m, 1H), 3.66 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.12 - 3.20 (m, 2H), 2.88 - 3.02 (m, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 1.86 - 1.98 (m, 2H), 1.40 - 1.42 (m, 9H)

To a stirred solution of 3-bromo-1H-pyrazole (365 mg, 2.5 mmol) and sodium hydride (149 mg, 3.7 mmol) in DMF (5 mL) was added tert-butyl 4-((methanesulphonyloxy)-piperidine-1-carboxylate (694 mg, 2.5 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C overnight. The reaction mixture was poured into water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (hydrophobic frit) and concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography (0-50% EtOAc in petrol) yielding the product tert-butyl 4-(5-bromo-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (120 mg, 15%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ: 7.58 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.43 - 4.58 (m, 1H), 4.03 - 4.10 (m, 2H), 2.83 - 3.08 (m, 2H), 1.73 - 1.91 (m, 4H), 1.38 - 1.46 (m, 9H)

ES+ = 256.5 (MS-tBu)

A solution of tert-butyl 4-(5-bromo-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (120 mg, 0.36 mmol) and TFA (0.56 mL, 7.3 mmol) in DCM (10 mL) were stirred at rt for 2 hours.

5 The reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* yielding the product 4-(5-bromo-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)-piperidine 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate as a colourless oil which was used in the next step without further purification.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ: 7.59 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.42 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (tt, J = 10.6, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (dt, J = 13.2, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 3.26 (td, J = 12.7, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 2.12 - 2.43 (m, 4H)

10 ES+ = 230.5[M+H]⁺

To a stirred solution of the 4-(5-bromo-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)-piperidine 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate (125 mg) and TEA (0.152 mL, 1.09 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added ethyl 4-oxoazepane-15 1-carboxylate (67.3 mg, 0.36 mmol) and ethyl 4-oxoazepane-1-carboxylate (67.3 mg, 0.36 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 5 min. Sodium triacetoxyborohydride (123 mg, 0.58 mmol) was added and the reaction was stirred at rt overnight. The reaction

was quenched with 2M NaOH and extracted with EtOAc. The organics were collected, dried (hydrophobic frit) and conc *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was taken up in THF (5 20 mL) and acetic acid (0.025 mL, 0.436 mmol) and sodium triacetoxyborohydride (123 mg, 0.581 mmol) were added and stirred at rt overnight. The reaction was quenched with 2M NaOH and extracted with EtOAc. The organics were collected, dried (hydrophobic frit) and concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was purified by reverse phase preparative

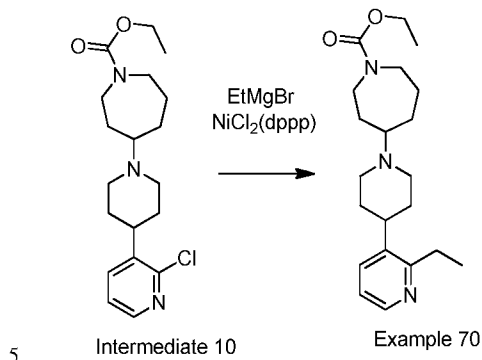
HPLC eluted with acetonitrile / water (with 0.1% ammonia) yielding ethyl 4-[4-(5-bromo-25 1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate (18 mg, 12%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d₃) δ: 7.45 - 7.59 (m, 1H), 6.29 - 6.41 (m, 1H), 4.27 (s, 1H), 4.04 - 4.15 (m, 2H), 3.44 - 3.58 (m, 2H), 3.21 - 3.37 (m, 2H), 2.91 (br. s., 2H), 2.54 (br. s., 1H), 2.33 - 2.48 (m, 2H), 2.00 - 2.11 (m, 2H), 1.81 - 1.93 (m, 6H), 1.44 - 1.74 (m, 2H), 1.16 - 1.28 (m, 3H)

30 ES+ = 399.6 [M+H]⁺

Route r

Typical procedure for Negishi reaction with pyridyl chloride, as exemplified by the preparation of Example 70, ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate



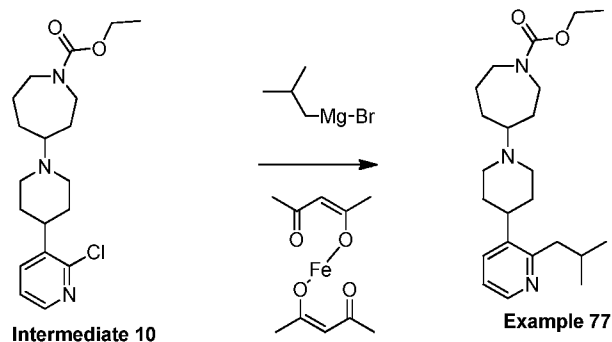
10 Ethyl 4-(4-(2-chloropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (0.1 g, 0.273 mmol) was dissolved in mixture of THF (3 mL) and diethyl ether (5 mL). Reaction mixture was degassed by nitrogen and cooled to 0 °C. Catalyst NiCl₂(dppp) (0.007 g, 0.013 mmol) was added under nitrogen. After 10 min, ethylmagnesium bromide (1M in THF, 0.328 mL, 0.328 mmol) was added to reaction mixture at 0 °C. The reaction temperature was raised to

rt over 30 min. The reaction mixture was quenched by addition of a saturated solution of sodium bicarbonate (30 mL) and extracted by dichloromethane (2 x 25 ml). Organic phase was washed with brine, dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated *in vacuo*.

15 The residue was purified by column chromatography using neutral silica gel of 100-200 mesh size eluting with 0-5 % MeOH (4 mL Aq. NH₃ in 100 mL MeOH) in DCM, yielding ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate (0.04 g, 36.59 %). The data for the title compound is in Table 2 below.

Route s

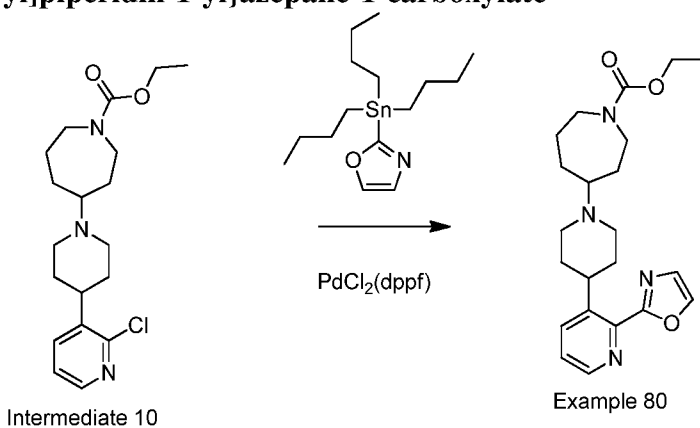
20 Typical procedure for Grignard reaction with pyridyl chloride, as exemplified by preparation of Example 77, ethyl 4-{4-[2-(2-methylpropyl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate



Isobutylmagnesium chloride (2M in Et₂O, 0.273 ml, 0.547 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of ethyl 4-(4-(2-chloropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (100 mg, 0.273 mmol) and Fe(acac)₂ (69.4 mg, 0.273 mmol) in THF (2 mL) and N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone (0.2 mL) under nitrogen. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction was quenched by addition of water (5 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (5 x 10 mL). The combined organics were filtered through a pad of diatomaceous earth and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC eluted with acetonitrile / water (with 0.1% ammonia) to afford ethyl 4-(4-(2-isobutylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (9 mg, 7.9%). The data for the title compound is in Table 2 below.

Route t

Typical procedure for Stille coupling of stannane with pyridyl chloride, as exemplified by preparation of Example 80, Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1,3-oxazol-2-yl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate



PdCl₂(dppf) (20.00 mg, 0.027 mmol), then 2-(tributylstannyl)oxazole (0.167 ml, 0.547 mmol) were added to a degassed solution of ethyl 4-(4-(2-chloropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-

yl)azepane-1-carboxylate (100 mg, 0.273 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (2 mL). The mixture was heated under microwave irradiation at 140 °C for 30 minutes. The mixture was filtered through a pad of diatomaceous earth, washing with ethyl acetate and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC eluted with acetonitrile / water (with 0.1% ammonia) to afford ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1,3-oxazol-2-yl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate (46 mg, 40%). The data for the title compound is in Table 2 below.

Example 1 was prepared by route a using 4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidine, (CAS:1084976-68-0) and ethyl 4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxylate (CAS: 29976-53-2).

Example 2 was prepared by route c using Intermediates 6 and 3.

Example 3 was prepared by route a using 4-(1H-pyrrol-1-yl)piperidine (CAS: 169751-01-3) and Intermediate 3.

Example 4 was prepared by route a using 4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine (CAS:762240-09-5) and Intermediate 3.

Example 5 was prepared by route d as described above.

Example 6 was prepared by route a using 4-(1H-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidine (CAS:278798-08-6) and Intermediate 3

Example 7 was prepared by route d using (1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)boronic acid, (CAS:720702-41-0) and Intermediate 4.

Example 8 was prepared by route a using 4-(4-(4-chlorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine CAS:902836-38-8 and Intermediate 3.

Example 9 was prepared by route a as described above.

Example 10 was prepared by route b as described above.

Example 11 was prepared by route c as described above.

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Example 12 was prepared by route h as described above.

Example 13 was prepared by route a using Intermediates 2 and 3.

10 **Example 14** was prepared by route a using 4-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)piperidine (CAS:640270-01-5) and Intermediate 3.

Example 15 was prepared by route e as described above.

15 **Example 16** was prepared by route h as described above.

Example 17 was prepared by route a using 4-(3-(thiophen-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)piperidine (CAS:321848-28-6) and Intermediate 3.

20 **Example 18** was prepared by route a using 4-(4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine (CAS:1205747-45-0) and Intermediate 3.

Example 19 was prepared by route c using 2-chloro-N-cyclopropylacetamide (CAS:19047-31-5) and Intermediate 3.

25

Example 20 was prepared by route d using cyclopropylboronic acid (CAS:411235-57-9) and Intermediate 4.

Example 21 was prepared by route f using dimethylamine (CAS:124-40-3) and
30 Intermediate 4.

Example 22 was prepared by route d using (1-isopropyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)boronic acid (CAS:1201643-90-4) and Intermediate 4.

Example 23 was prepared by route a using Intermediates 7 and 3.

5

Example 24 was prepared by route f as described above.

Example 25 was prepared by route d using (2,4-dimethylthiazol-5-yl)boronic acid (CAS:936361-37-4) and Intermediate 4.

10

Example 26 was prepared by route a using 2-(piperidin-4-yl)thiazole (CAS: 788822-03-7) and Intermediate 3.

Example 27 was prepared by route l as described above.

15

Example 28 was prepared by route m as described above.

Example 29 was prepared by route i as described above.

20 **Example 30** was prepared by route a using 4-(piperidin-4-yl)pyridine (CAS:581-45-3) and Intermediate 3.

Example 31 was prepared by route a using 4-(piperidin-4-yl)pyridine (CAS:581-45-3) and ethyl 4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxylate (CAS: 29976-53-2).

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Example 32 was prepared by route g using 2-bromo-6-methoxypyridine (CAS:40473-07-2) and ethyl 4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxylate (CAS: 29976-53-2).

30 **Example 33** was prepared by route g using 2-bromo-6-methoxypyridine (CAS:40473-07-2) and Intermediate 3.

Example 34 was prepared by route g using 3-bromo-2-methoxypyridine (CAS:13472-59-8) and ethyl 4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxylate (CAS: 29976-53-2).

Example 35 was prepared by route g using 3-bromo-2-methoxypyridine (CAS:13472-59-8) and Intermediate 3.

Example 36 was prepared by route a using 2-methyl-4-(piperidin-4-yl)pyrimidine (CAS:949100-33-8) and ethyl 4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxylate (CAS: 29976-53-2).

Example 37 was prepared by route a using 4,6-dimethoxy-2-(piperidin-4-yl)pyrimidine (CAS:849924-99-8) and ethyl 4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxylate (CAS: 29976-53-2).

Example 38 was prepared by route g as described above.

Example 39 was prepared by route g using Intermediates 5 and 3.

Example 40 was prepared by route g using 2-bromo-3-methoxypyrazine (CAS:1209905-41-8) and Intermediate 3.

Example 41 was prepared by route g using 3-bromo-2-methylpyridine (CAS:38749-79-0) and Intermediate 3.

Example 42 was prepared by route g using 3-bromo-2-ethoxy-5-methyl-pyridine (CAS:760207-82-7) and Intermediate 3.

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Example 43 was prepared by route g using 3-bromo-2-methoxy-5-trifluoromethyl-pyridine (CAS:124432-63-9) and Intermediate 3.

Example 44 was prepared by route g using 4-bromo-3-methoxypyridine (CAS:109911-38-8) and Intermediate 3.

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Example 45 was prepared by route g using 3-bromo-5-methoxypyridine (CAS:50720-12-2) and Intermediate 3.

Example 46 was prepared by route g using 3-bromo-2-methylpyridine (CAS:38749-79-0) and ethyl 4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxylate (CAS: 29976-53-2).

Example 47 was prepared by route g using 3-bromo-2-ethoxy-5-methyl-pyridine (CAS:760207-82-7) and ethyl 4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxylate (CAS: 29976-53-2).

Example 48 was prepared by route g using 3-bromo-4-methoxypyridine (CAS:82257-09-8) and Intermediate 3.

Example 49 was prepared by route a using N,N-dimethyl-3-(piperidin-4-yl)pyrazin-2-amine (CAS:1316220-75-3) and Intermediate 3.

Example 50 was prepared by route a using N,N-dimethyl-6-(piperidin-4-yl)pyrazin-2-amine (CAS:1316227-13-0) and Intermediate 3.

Example 51 was prepared by route g using 5-bromo-4-methoxypyrimidine (CAS:4319-85-1) and Intermediate 3.

Example 52 was prepared by route j as described above.

Example 53 was prepared by route k as described above.

Example 54 was prepared by route k using 3-methyl-5-bromomethylisoxazole (CAS:36958-61-9) and Intermediate 8.

Example 55 was prepared by route k using 2-iodopropane (CAS:75-30-9) and Intermediate 8.

Example 56 was prepared by route k using 2-bromoacetonitrile (CAS:590-17-0) and Intermediate 8.

Example 57 was prepared by route k as described above.

5

Example 58 was prepared by route g using 3-bromo-5-chloro-2-methoxypyridine (CAS:102830-75-1) and Intermediate 3.

Example 59 was prepared by route g using 3-chloro-2,5-dimethylpyrazine (CAS:95-89-6) and Intermediate 3.

10

Example 60 was prepared by route g using 4-chloro-5-methoxy-2-(trifluoromethyl)pyrimidine (CAS:808770-41-4) and Intermediate 3.

Example 61 was prepared by route n using, 1-(1-methylethyl)-4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-1*H*-pyrazole (CAS:879487-10-2) and Intermediate 10.

15

Example 62 was prepared by route p using methanamine hydrochloride (CAS:593-51-1) and Intermediate 10.

20

Example 63 was prepared by route a using Intermediates 3 and 11.

Example 64 was prepared by route n using 1-methyl-5-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-1*H*-pyrazole (CAS:847818-74-0) and Intermediate 10.

25

Example 65 was prepared by route p using N-methylmethanamine hydrochloride (CAS:506-59-2) and Intermediate 10.

Example 66 was prepared by route n using *B*-cyclopropylboronic acid (CAS:411235-57-9) and Intermediate 10.

30

Example 67 was prepared by route p using cyclopropanemethanamine (CAS:2516-47-4) and Intermediate 10.

Example 68 was prepared by route a using 4-(2-thiazolyl)piperidine (CAS:788822-03-7) and 4-oxo-1-piperidinecarboxylic acid, ethyl ester (CAS:29976-53-2).

Example 69 was prepared by route q using 3-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-pyrazole (CAS:20154-03-4) and Intermediate 3.

Example 70 was prepared by route r using bromoethylmagnesium (CAS:925-90-6) and Intermediate 10.

Example 71 was prepared by route g using 3-chloro-4-methoxypyridazine (CAS:1677-81-2) and Intermediate 3.

Example 72 was prepared by route g using 2-chloro-6-ethoxypyridine (CAS:42144-78-5) and Intermediate 3.

Example 73 was prepared by route n using *B*-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)boronic acid (CAS:847818-55-7) and Intermediate 10.

Example 74 was prepared by route g using 2-chloropyrimidine (CAS:1722-12-9) and Intermediate 3.

Example 75 was prepared by route g using 5-bromo-4-methylpyrimidine (CAS:1439-09-4) and Intermediate 3.

Example 76 was prepared by route a using Intermediates 3 and 12.

Example 77 was prepared by route s using bromo(2-methylpropyl)magnesium (CAS:926-62-5) and Intermediate 10.

Example 78 was prepared by route i using 3,5-dimethyl-1-(3-pyrrolidinyl)-1*H*-pyrazole (CAS:1177347-39-5), 4-formyl-1-piperidinecarboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (CAS:137076-22-3) and carbonochloridic acid, methyl ester (CAS:79-22-1).

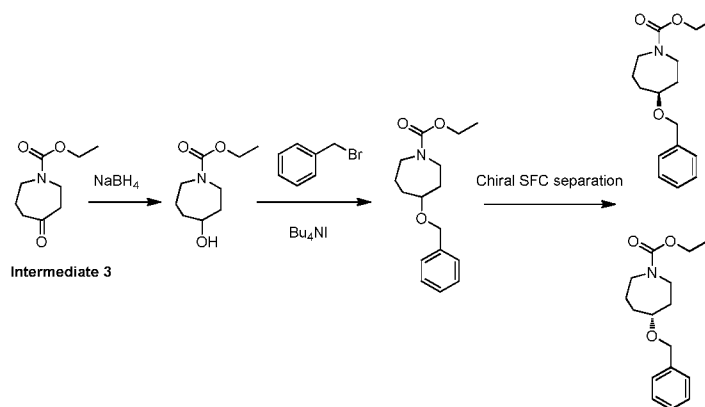
5 **Example 79** was prepared by route i using 3,5-dimethyl-1-(3-pyrrolidinyl)-1*H*-pyrazole (CAS:1177347-39-5), 4-formyl-1-piperidinecarboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester (CAS:137076-22-3) and carbonochloridic acid, ethyl ester (CAS:541-41-3).

10 **Example 80** was prepared by route t using 2-(tributylstannyl)oxazole (CAS:145214-05-7) and Intermediate 10.

Examples 81 and 82

Enantiomers of the compound of Example 4 were prepared according to the following procedure:

15 (i)



Sodium borohydride (0.837 g, 22.11 mmol) was added to an ice/water cooled solution of ethyl 4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxylate (2.048 g, 11.06 mmol) in methanol (10 mL). After stirring under nitrogen for 2 h, reaction mixture was partitioned between water and EtOAc.
 20 The organic phase dried over MgSO₄ and solvent removed *in vacuo* yielding ethyl 4-hydroxypiperidine-1-carboxylate (1.937g, 94%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ ppm 1.18 (t, *J*=1.00 Hz, 3 H) 1.37 - 1.59 (m, 3 H) 1.60 - 1.70 (m, 1 H) 1.72 - 1.86 (m, 2 H) 3.07 - 3.31 (m, 2 H) 3.32 - 3.44 (m, 2 H) 3.64 (m, *J*=7.10, 3.50 Hz, 1 H) 3.94 - 4.09 (m, 2 H) 4.50 (m, *J*=3.40, 3.40 Hz, 1 H)

Sodium hydride (2.476 g, 61.9 mmol) was added to a suspension of ethyl 4-hydroxyazepane-1-carboxylate (1.932g, 10.32mmol) and TBAI (0.762 g, 2.064 mmol) in THF (50 mL) with ice/water cooling. After stirring for 30 minutes, (bromomethyl)benzene (5.29 g, 31.0 mmol) was added and the reaction left stirring for 16 hours. Solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue partitioned between DCM and water. The organics were concentrated *in vacuo* prior to purification by column chromatography on silica eluted with 0 - 30% petrol/ethyl acetate to afford ethyl 4-(benzyloxy)azepane-1-carboxylate (2.1g, 73%).

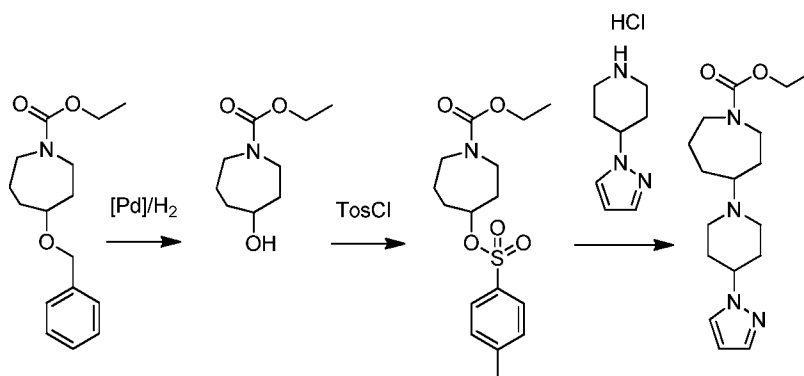
¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ ppm 1.16 (t, *J*=1.00 Hz, 3 H) 1.44 - 1.93 (m, 6 H) 3.20 - 3.46 (m, 4 H) 3.50 - 3.64 (m, 1 H) 4.03 (q, *J*=1.00 Hz, 2 H) 4.47 (s, 2 H) 7.15 - 7.47 (m, 5 H)

1.95g of Ethyl 4-(benzyloxy)azepane-1-carboxylate was separated by chiral SFC.

The crude material was dissolved to 100 mg/ml and was then purified by SFC. Each injection was 0.4 mL (40 mg). The column used was a Lux Amylose 2 21.2 x 250mm 5μm. The eluent was IPA 15%. No modifier was added and the flow rate was 60 ml/min. The fractions were concentrated *in vacuo* yielding Isomer 1 (689.8 mg, 71%, retention time = 2.7 min) and Isomer 2 (704.2 mg, 72%, retention time = 3.7 min).

The final analysis was performed by SFC using a Lux Amylose-2 4.6 x 250mm 5μm. The eluent was IPA 15%. No modifier was added and the flow rate was 4 ml/min.

(ii)



A solution of Isomer 2, ethyl 4-(benzyloxy)azepane-1-carboxylate (700 mg, 2.52 mmol) in MeOH (3 mL) was passed through a 10% Pd/C catcart in the H-cube (1ml/min, 60°C, full

H₂). The solvent was removed *in vacuo* yielding Isomer 2a, ethyl 4-hydroxyazepane-1-carboxylate (478mg, 100%).

Mosher's esters ethyl 4-(((R)-3,3,3-trifluoro-2-methoxy-2-phenylpropanoyl)oxy)azepane-1-carboxylate and ethyl 4-(((S)-3,3,3-trifluoro-2-methoxy-2-phenylpropanoyl)oxy)azepane-1-carboxylate were prepared and analysed according to literature procedures (ref. Nature protocols, vol. 2, no. 10, 2007, 2451) which showed that Isomer 2a had the R configuration.

10 4-Methylbenzene-1-sulfonyl chloride (0.580 g, 3.04 mmol), (R)-ethyl 4-hydroxyazepane-1-carboxylate (0.475 g, 2.54 mmol) and pyridine (2 mL) were combined and stirred at room temperature for 3h. The reaction mixture was partitioned between DCM and water and organics concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by column chromatography, silica, eluting with petrol to EtOAc yielded (R)-ethyl 4-(tosyloxy)azepane-1-carboxylate (444 mg, 51%)
15 ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ ppm 1.16 (t, *J*=1.00 Hz, 3 H) 1.37 - 1.90 (m, 6 H) 2.43 (s, 3 H) 3.19 - 3.44 (m, 4 H) 4.02 (q, *J*=1.00 Hz, 2 H) 4.54 - 4.79 (m, 1 H) 7.48 (d, *J*=8.08 Hz, 2 H) 7.79 (d, *J*=1.00 Hz, 2 H)

(R)-ethyl 4-(tosyloxy)azepane-1-carboxylate (50 mg, 0.146 mmol) and 4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidine hydrochloride (55.0 mg, 0.293 mmol) were combined with KOH (41.1 mg, 0.732 mmol) in Acetonitrile (0.3 mL) in a sealed vial and heated to reflux for 4 hours. The reaction mixture was partitioned between DCM and water and the organic phase concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC eluted with acetonitrile / water (with 0.1% ammonia) to afford ethyl (4S)-4-[4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate (7 mg, 13%).
25

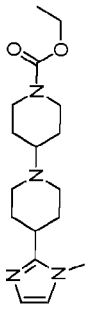
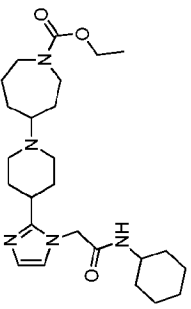
Ethyl (4R)-4-[4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate was prepared in the same way from (S)-ethyl 4-(tosyloxy)azepane-1-carboxylate.

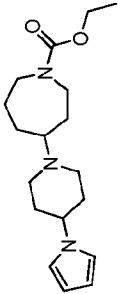
30 **Examples 83 and 84:** the enantiomers of the compound of Example 9 were prepared by processes analogous to those described above for the enantiomers of Examples 81 and 82.


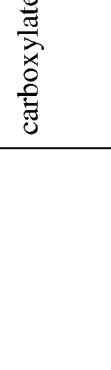
Examples 85 and 86: the enantiomers of the compound of Example 35 were prepared by processes analogous to those described above for the enantiomers of Examples 81 and 82.

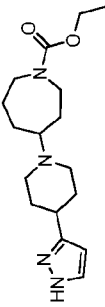
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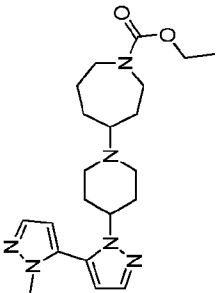
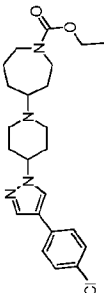
Table 2

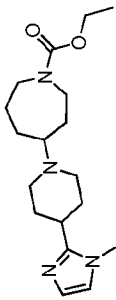
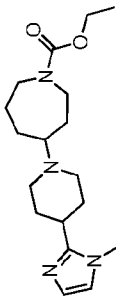
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
1		ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS:1084976-68-0 and CAS: 29976-53-2	a	¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 1.15 (t, J=6.9, 3H), 1.21-1.35-m, 2H), 1.58-1.75 (m, 4H), 2.15-2.29 (m, 2H), 2.31-2.44 (m, 1H), 2.60-2.76 (m, 4H), 2.81-2.89 (m, 2H), 3.45-3.60 (m, 3H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.98 (q, J=6.9, 2H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H)	ES+ 321.2
2		ethyl 4-(4-[(1-cyclohexylcarbamoyl)methyl]-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate	Intermediates 6 and 3	c	¹ H NMR (CDCl ₃) δ 0.93 - 1.19 (m, 3H), 1.26 - 1.51 (m, 6H), 1.60 - 1.72 (m, 5H), 1.75 - 1.85 (m, 4H), 1.87 - 2.04 (m, 5H), 2.25 - 2.42 (m, 2H), 2.46 - 2.57 (m, 2H), 2.83 - 2.98 (m,	ES+ 460.8

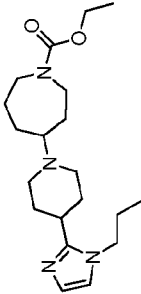
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					2H), 3.22 - 3.38 (m, 2H), 3.48 - 3.69 (m, 2H), 3.75 - 3.87 (m, 1H), 4.11 - 4.22 (m, 2H), 4.58 (s, 2H), 5.02 - 5.16 (m, 1H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H)	
3		ethyl 4-[4-(1H-pyrrol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 169751-01-3 and Intermediate 3	a	¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 1.08-1.20 (m, 3H), 1.36-1.47 (m, 2H), 1.52-1.63 (m, 2H), 1.71-1.80 (m, 4H), 2.24-2.36 (m, 1H), 2.51-2.61 (m, 1H), 2.73-2.84 (m, 1H), 3.16-3.22 (m, 1H), 3.28-3.35 (m, 2H), 3.36-4.43 (m, 1H), 3.45-3.49 (m, 1H), 3.51-3.65 (m, 2H), 3.72-3.84 (m, 1H), 3.91-4.04 (m, 2H), 5.90-5.94 (m, 2H), 6.68-6.80 (m, 2H)	ES+ 320.1

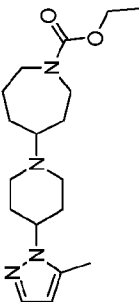
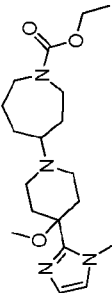
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
4		ethyl 4-[4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:762240-09-5 and Intermediate 3	a	¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 1.15 (t, J=7.3, 3H), 1.33-1.45 (m, 2H), 1.50-1.62 (m, 1H), 1.77-1.89 (m, 4H), 1.91-1.96 (m, 2H), 2.29-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.75-2.87 (m, 2H), 3.20 (m, 2H), 3.30-3.35 (m, 2H), 3.37-3.43 (m, 2H), 3.96- 4.08 (m, 4H), 6.18 (m, 1H), 7.30- 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.71 (m, 1H)	ES+ 321.1
5		ethyl 4-{4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 1679-18-1 and Intermediate 4	d	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d3) δ 1.23 (t, J=7.07 Hz, 3H) 1.40 - 1.68 (m, 1 H) 1.81 (d, J=8.08 Hz, 5 H) 2.09 - 2.33 (m, 6 H) 2.41 - 2.60 (m, 1H) 2.85 (br. s., 2 H) 3.28 (dd, J=9.47, 4.17 Hz, 2	ES+ 431.4

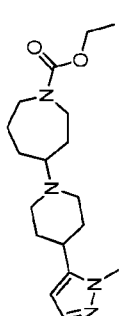
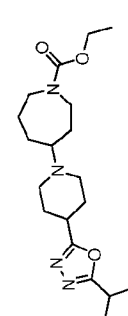
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					H) 3.49 (br. s., 2 H) 3.92 - 4.27 (m, 3 H) 6.30 (d, J=1.52 Hz, 1 H) 7.41 (d, J=8.59 Hz, 2 H) 7.47 - 7.58 (m, 3 H)	
6		ethyl 4-[4-(1H-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:278798-08-6 and Intermediate 3	a	¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 1.15 (t, J=7.3, 3H), 1.32-1.42 (m, 2H), 1.45-1.57 (m, 2H), 1.70-1.83 (m, 4H), 2.17-2.29 (m, 2H), 2.33-2.45 (m, 2H), 2.48-2.60 (m, 2H), 2.66-2.77 (m, 2H), 3.12-3.22 (m, 1H), 3.34-3.46 (m, 2H), 3.94-4.03 (q, J=7.3, 2H), 4.04-4.09 (m, 1H), 5.94-6.04 (br. s, 1H), 7.31-7.43 (br. s, 1H), 12.31-12.42 (br. s, 1H)	ES+ 321.2
7		ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl)-1H-	CAS:720702-41-0		¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-	

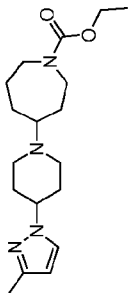
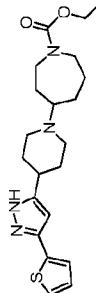
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
		pyrazol-5-yl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate	and Intermediate 4	d	d3) δ 1.23 (t, J=6.69 Hz, 3 H) 1.70 - 1.90 (m, 6 H) 2.03 - 2.10 (m, 1 H) 2.16 - 2.32 (m, 8 H) 2.75 - 2.93 (m, 1 H) 3.19 - 3.32 (m, 2 H) 3.41 - 3.56 (m, 2 H) 3.73 (s, 3 H) 4.08 (m, J=6.10 Hz, 2 H) 6.40 (m, J=4.80, 1.80 Hz, 2 H) 7.55 (d, J=1.77 Hz, 1 H) 7.60 (d, J=1.00 Hz, 1H)	ES+ 401.4
8		ethyl 4-({4-[4-(4-chlorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:902836-38-8 and Intermediate 3	a	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CD ₂ Cl ₂) δ 1.24 (t, J=7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.40-1.70 (m, 4H), 1.82-2.05 (m, 4H), 2.11 (m, 2H), 2.35-2.60 (m, 3H), 2.92 (m, 2H), 3.28 (m, 2H), 3.52 (m, 2H), 4.09 (q, J=7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.42 (m, 2H)	ES+ 431, 433

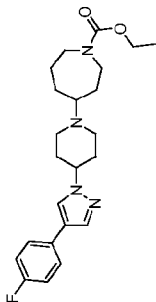
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
9		ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:1084976-68-0 and Intermediate 3	a	¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 1.15 (t, J=7.3, 3H), 1.32-1.45 (m, 2H), 1.61 (m, 1H), 1.66-1.78 (m, 3H), 2.18-2.31 (m, 2H), 2.33-2.45 (m, 1H), 2.60 (m, 1H), 2.67-2.79 (m, 2H), 3.11-3.23 (m, 3H), 3.41 (m, 2H), 3.47-3.55 (m, 3H), 4.02 (q, J=7.3, 2H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H)	ES+ 335.2
10		ethyl 4-[4-(1-ethyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 75-03-6, CAS: 158654-96-7 and Intermediate 3	b	¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 1.00 (t, J=7.3, 3H), 1.15 (t, J=6.9, 3H), 1.33-1.45 (m, 2H), 1.57 (m, 1H), 1.65-1.75 (m, 4H), 1.96-2.08 (m, 1H), 2.25-2.33 (m, 2H), 2.35-2.45 (m, 2H), 2.49-2.54	ES+ 349.2

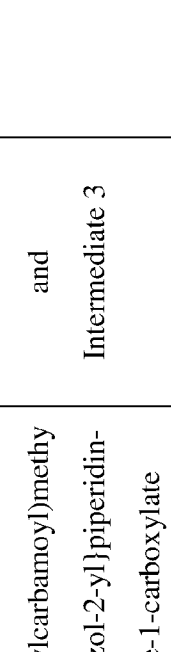

Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					(m, 2H), 2.55-2.67 (m, 1H), 2.71-2.81 (m, 2H), 2.89-3.00 (m, 1H), 3.37-3.49 (m, 2H), 3.87 (q, J=6.9, 2H), 4.00 (q, J=7.3, 2H), 6.62-7.01 (br. s, 1H), 6.90-7.01 (br. s, 1H)	
11		ethyl 4-[4-(1-propyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 106-94-5, CAS: 158654-96-7 and Intermediate 3	c	¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 0.81 (t, J=7.3, 3H), 0.92 (t, J=7.1, 3H), 1.10-1.20 (m, 2H), 1.24-1.35 (m, 2H), 1.51-1.58 (m, 2H), 1.59-1.69 (m, 3H), 1.71-1.80 (m, 2H), 2.19-2.31 (m, 2H), 2.34-2.45 (m, 2H), 2.52-2.64 (m, 2H), 2.74 (m, 1H), 3.10-3.22 (m, 2H), 3.33-3.45 (m, 2H), 3.78 (t, J=7.3, 2H), 3.99 (q, J=7.1, 2H), 6.70 (s,	ES+ 363.2

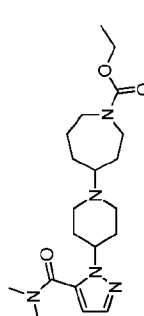
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
12		ethyl 4-[4-(5-methyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:286961-14-6, CAS : 88054-14-2 and Intermediate 3	h	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 1.3 (t, 3H), 1.6 (m, 2H), 1.75 (m, 1H), 1.9-2.1 (m, 5H), 2.2 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 3.65 (b, 3H), 3.1 (b, 2H), 3.4 (m, 2H), 3.6 (m, 2H), 4.1-4.3 (m, 3H), 6.05 (d, 1H), 7.38 (d, 1H)	ES+ 335.2
13		ethyl 4-[4-methoxy-4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	Intermediates 2 and 3	a	¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d ₆) δ 1.17 (td, J = 7.0, 1.4 Hz, 3H), 1.33 – 1.46 (m, 2H), 1.54 – 1.63 (m, 1H), 1.76 – 1.79 (m, 3H), 1.95 – 2.05 (m, 4H), 2.39 – 2.48 (m, 3H), 2.86 (s, 3H), 3.17 – 3.24 (m, 4H), 3.41 – 3.48	ES+ 365.2

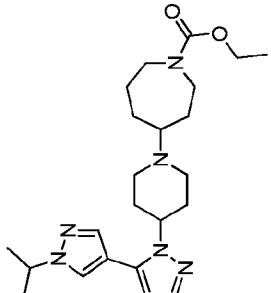
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
14		ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:640270-01-5 and Intermediate 3	a	(m, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 4.03 (qd, J = 7.0, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H) ¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 1.17 (t, J=7.4, 3H), 1.35-1.51 (m, 3H), 1.72-1.83 (m, 3H), 2.22-2.35 (m, 2H), 2.38-2.51 (m, 4H), 2.68-2.82 (m, 3H), 3.14-3.25 (m, 2H), 3.31-3.47 (m, 6H), 3.98 (q, J=7.4, 2H), 5.86-6.03 (br. s, 1H), 7.08-7.25 (br. s, 1H)	ES+ 335.2
15		ethyl 4-(4-(5-isopropyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 3619-17-8 and Intermediate 1	e	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CD ₃ OD) δ 1.29 (td, J = 7.1, 3.3 Hz, 3H), 1.39 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 2.20 – 1.46 (m, 10H), 2.73 – 2.47 (m, 3H), 3.06 – 2.93 (m, 3H), 3.21	ES+ 365.2

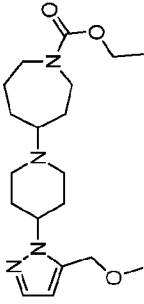
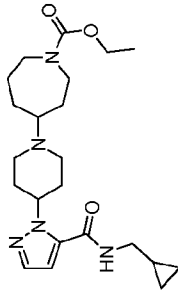
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					(dt, J = 13.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.44 – 3.35 (m, 2H), 3.59 (dt, J = 10.1, 4.9 Hz, 2H), 4.15 (qd, J = 7.1, 3.0 Hz, 2H)	
16		ethyl 4-[4-(3-methyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:286961-14-6, CAS : 88054-14-2 and Intermediate 3	h	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 1.3 (t, 3H), 1.6 (m, 2H), 1.75 (m, 1H), 1.9- 2.17 (m, 7H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.5-2.7 (m, 3H), 3 (b, 2H), 3.4 (m, 2H), 3.6 (m 2H), 4- 4.2 (m, 3H), 6.06 (d, 1H), 7.54 (d, 1H)	ES+ 335.2
17		ethyl 4-{4-[3-(thiophen-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:321848-28-6 and Intermediate 3	a	¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO- d6) δ 1.15 (t, J=7.3, 3H), 1.32-1.44 9m, 2H), 1.48- 1.61, (m, 3H), 1.73-1.79 (m, 2H), 1.81-1.88 (m, 6H),	ES+ 403.2

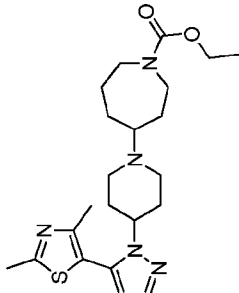
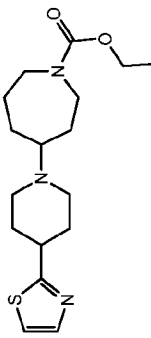
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					2.19-2.31 (m, 2H), 2.39-2.51 (m, 2H), 2.70-2.80 (m, 2H), 3.99 (q, J=7.3, 2H), 6.30 (s, 1H), 6.92-7.04 (m, 1H), 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.36 (m, 1H)	
18		ethyl 4-(4-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:1205747-45-0 and Intermediate 3		¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃) δ 1.24 - 1.34 (m, 3H), 1.43 - 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.63 - 1.74 (m, 1H), 1.85 - 2.09 (m, 5H), 2.16 - 2.28 (m, 2H), 2.37 - 2.65 (m, 3H), 2.88 - 3.03 (m, 2H), 3.31 (br. s, 2H), 3.49 - 3.72 (m, 2H), 4.06 - 4.24 (m, 3H), 6.99 - 7.12 (m, 2H), 7.39 - 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.73 (s, 1H)	ES+ 415.7
19		ethyl 4-(4-{1-	CAS:19047-31-5	c	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-	ES+

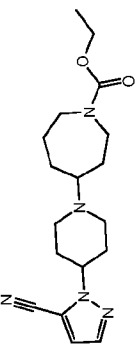
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
		[(cyclopropylcarbonyl)methyl]-1-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	and Intermediate 3		d3) δ 0.38 - 0.50 (m, 2 H) 0.60 - 0.72 (m, 2 H) 1.24 (t, J=6.32 Hz, 3 H) 1.36 - 1.92 (m, 10 H) 2.25 - 2.38 (m, 2 H) 2.42 - 2.57 (m, 2 H) 2.66 (td, J=7.20, 3.54 Hz, 1 H) 2.76 - 2.90 (m, 2 H) 3.28 (m, J=14.00, 9.50, 4.00 Hz, 2 H) 3.44 - 3.60 (m, 2 H) 4.09 (q, J=6.57 Hz, 2 H) 4.48 (s, 2 H) 6.61 (br. s., 1 H) 6.84 (d, J=8.84 Hz, 2 H)	418.4, ES- 416.4
20		ethyl 4-[4-(5-cyclopropyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:411235-57-9 and Intermediate 4	d	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d3) δ 0.63 (dd, J=5.05, 1.77 Hz, 2 H) 0.82 - 1.03 (m, 2 H) 1.24 (t, J=6.06 Hz, 3 H) 1.41 - 1.75 (m, 2 H) 1.77 - 1.92 (m, 5 H) 2.08 (d,	ES+ 361.4

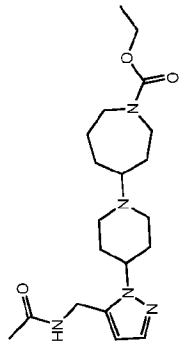
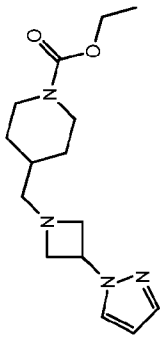
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					J=11.87 Hz, 2 H) 2.13 - 2.15 (m, 2 H) 2.42 (d, J=11.37 Hz, 2 H) 2.49 - 2.63 (m, 1 H) 2.91 (br. s., 2 H) 3.31 (dd, J=9.47, 4.17 Hz, 2 H) 3.46 - 3.60 (m, 2 H) 4.10 (d, J=5.31 Hz, 2 H) 4.32 (s, 1 H) 5.84 (d, J=1.26 Hz, 1 H) 7.28 (d, J=1.26 Hz, 1 H)	
21		ethyl 4-({4-[5-(dimethylcarbamoyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:124-40-3 and Intermediate 4	f	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 1.3 (t, 3H), 1.4-1.6 (m, 2H), 1.7 (m, 1H), 1.9-2.05 (m, 5H), 2.2 (m, 2H), 2.48 (m, 2H), 2.6 (t, 1H), 2.95 (b, 2H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 3.35 (m, 2H), 3.6 (m, 2H), 4.12 (q, 2H), 4.3 (m, 1H), 6.45 (d, 1H),	ES+ 392.2

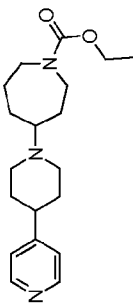
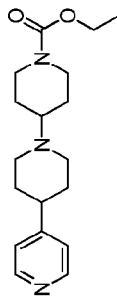
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
22		ethyl 4-(4-(5-[1-(propan-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:1201643-90-4 and Intermediate 4	d	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.57 Hz, 3 H) 1.37 - 1.73 (m, 8 H) 1.78 - 1.92 (m, 6 H) 2.12 (m, J=4.30 Hz, 2 H) 2.37 (d, J=11.62 Hz, 2 H) 2.48 - 2.62 (m, 1 H) 2.79 - 2.96 (m, 2 H) 3.17 - 3.37 (m, 2 H) 3.51 (m, J=5.60 Hz, 2 H) 4.09 (q, J=6.57 Hz, 2 H) 4.13 - 4.27 (m, 1 H) 4.48 - 4.65 (m, 1 H) 6.25 (d, J=1.77 Hz, 1 H) 7.45 (d, J=1.26 Hz, 1 H) 7.59 (s, 1 H) 7.74 (s, 1 H)	ES+ 429.4
23		ethyl 4-(4-[5-(methoxymethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-	Intermediates 7 and 3	a	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.18 - 1.29 (m, 3 H) 1.40 - 1.92 (m, 8 H) 2.01 -	ES+ 365.4

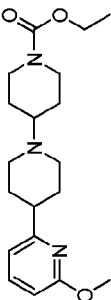
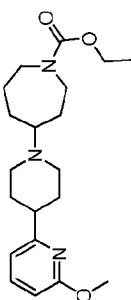
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
		carboxylate			2.22 (m, 3 H) 2.27 - 2.45 (m, 2 H) 2.49 - 2.62 (m, 1 H) 2.90 (br. s., 2 H) 3.20 - 3.38 (m, 5 H) 3.42 - 3.62 (m, 2 H) 4.01 - 4.19 (m, 3 H) 4.47 (s, 2 H) 6.20 (d, J=1.52 Hz, 1 H) 7.39 (d, J=1.00 Hz, 1 H)	
24		ethyl 4-(4-{5-[(cyclopropylmethyl)carbamoyl]-1H-pyrazol-1-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 2516-47-4 and Intermediate 4	f	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 0.02 (d, J=5.05 Hz, 2 H) 0.26 (d, J=6.57 Hz, 2 H) 0.99 (s, 3 H) 1.65 (d, J=11.37 Hz, 5 H) 1.76 - 1.87 (m, 3H) 1.90 (s, 10 H) 2.02 - 2.21 (m, 2 H) 2.94 (t, J=6.32 Hz, 2 H) 2.99 - 3.11 (m, 2 H) 3.72 - 3.94 (m, 2 H) 6.38 (d, J=1.77 Hz, 1 H) 7.21 (d,	ES+ 418.8, ES- 416.8

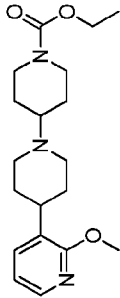
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
25		ethyl 4-[4-[5-(dimethyl-1,3-thiazol-5-yl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:936361-37-4 and Intermediate 4		¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.23 (t, J=6.95 Hz, 3 H) 1.37 - 1.91 (m, 7 H) 2.11 (dd, J=11.49, 5.68 Hz, 3 H) 2.19 - 2.34 (m, 5 H) 2.41 - 2.57 (m, 1 H) 2.68 (s, 3 H) 2.79 - 2.95 (m, 2 H) 3.28 (m, J=9.50, 4.20 Hz, 2 H) 3.42 - 3.60 (m, 2 H) 3.85 - 4.01 (m, 1 H) 4.08 (q, J=6.80 Hz, 2 H) 6.33 (d, J=1.77 Hz, 1 H) 7.55 (d, J=1.52 Hz, 1 H)	ES+ 432.4
26		ethyl 4-[4-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 788822-03-7 and Intermediate 3	a	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.95 Hz, 3 H) 1.41 - 1.58 (m, 2 H) 1.59 - 1.79 (m, 3 H) 1.81 - 1.94	ES+ 338.3

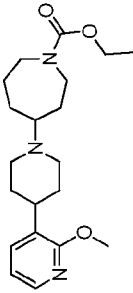
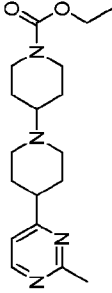
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					(m, 3 H) 2.07 (m, J=12.60 Hz, 2 H) 2.38 (q, J=11.45 Hz, 2 H) 2.51 (m, J=8.80, 8.80 Hz, 1 H) 2.87 (m, J=9.50, 9.50 Hz, 2 H) 2.93 - 3.10 (m, 1 H) 3.28 (m, J=14.00, 9.50, 4.00 Hz, 2 H) 3.43 - 3.59 (m, 2 H) 4.09 (q, J=6.99 Hz, 2 H) 7.36 (d, J=3.28 Hz, 1 H) 7.68 (d, J=3.03 Hz, 1 H)	
27		ethyl 4-[4-(5-cyano-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 557-21-1 and Intermediate 4	1	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 1.3 (t, 3H), 1.6 (m, 2H), 1.75 (m, 1H), 1.9-2.1 (m, 5H), 2.25 (m, 2H), 2.5-2.7 (m, 3H), 3.0 (b, 2H), 3.35 (m, 2H), 3.6 (m, 2H), 4.15 (q, 2H), 4.45 (m, 1H),	ES+ 346.1

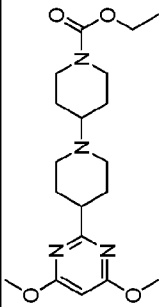
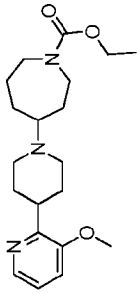
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
28		ethyl 4-({4-[5-(acetamidomethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate	Example 27 and CAS: 75-36-5		6.95 (d, 1H), 7.65 (d, 1H) ¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 1.3 (m, 4H), 1.4-1.6 (m, 2H), 1.7 (m, 1H), 1.9 (m, 2H), 2.0 (s, 3H), 2.1 (m, 2H), 2.2 (m, 2H), 2.45-2.65 (m, 3H), 2.95 (b, 2H), 3.35 (m, 2H), 3.6 (m, 2H), 4.15 (q, 2H), 4.25 (m, 1H), 4.47 (d, 2H), 6.22 (d, 1H), 7.41 (d, 1H)	ES+ 392.2
29		ethyl 4-({3-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)azetidino-1-yl}methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS: 288-13-1, CAS: 254454-54-1, CAS: 137076-22-3 and CAS: 541-41-3	i	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 0.93 - 1.13 (m, 2 H) 1.23 (t, J=7.07 Hz, 3 H) 1.43 - 1.61 (m, 1 H) 1.67 - 1.78 (m, 2 H) 2.41 (m, J=7.10 Hz, 2 H) 2.68 - 2.84 (m, 1 H) 3.32 - 3.45 (m, 2 H) 3.72	ES+ 293.3

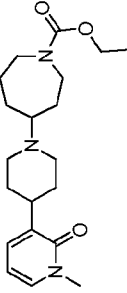
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					(m, J=7.50, 7.50 Hz, 2 H) 3.95 - 4.14 (m, 4 H) 4.85 - 5.02 (m, 1 H) 6.21 - 6.33 (m, 1 H) 7.49 (d, J=1.00 Hz, 1 H) 7.67 (d, J=2.02 Hz, 1 H)	
30		ethyl 4-[4-(pyridin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:581-45-3 and Intermediate 3	a	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CD ₂ Cl ₂) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.3 Hz, 3H), 1.54 (m, 3H), 1.67 (m, 3H), 1.85 (m, 5H), 2.3-2.5 (m, 3H), 2.87 (m, 2H), 3.26 (m, 2H), 3.53 (m, 2H), 4.09 (q, J=6.3 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (brs, 2H), 8.46 (brs, 2H)	ES+ 332
31		ethyl 4-[4-(pyridin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS:581-45-3 and CAS:29976-53-2	a	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃) δ 1.23 (t, J=7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.42-1.93 (m, 8H), 2.26-2.54 (m, 4H), 2.73 (m, 2H), 3.01	ES+ 318

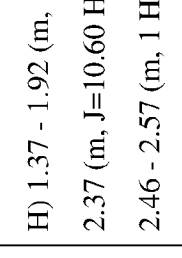
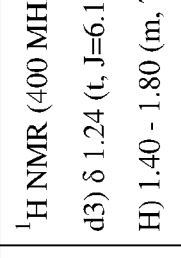
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					(brs, 2H), 4.08 (q, J=7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.16 (brs, 2H), 7.15 (d, J=5.5 Hz, 2H), 8.46 (d, J=5.5 Hz, 2H)	
32		ethyl 4-[4-(6-methoxyppyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS:40473-07-2 and CAS:29976-53-2	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CD ₂ Cl ₂) δ 1.24 (t, J=7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.41-1.96 (m, 8H), 2.31-2.64 (m, 4H), 2.75 (m, 2H), 3.03 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 4.08 (q, J=7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.17 (m, 2H), 6.53 (d, J=8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, J=7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (m, 1H)	ES+ 348
33		ethyl 4-[4-(6-methoxyppyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:40473-07-2 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CD ₂ Cl ₂) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.40-1.72 (m, 6H), 1.75-2.05 (m, 5H), 2.32-2.60 (m, 3H), 2.91 (m, 2H), 3.27	ES+ 362

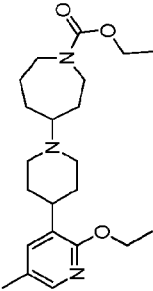
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					(m, 2H), 3.54 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 4.09 (q, J=6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.53 (d, J=8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, J=7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, J=7.7 Hz, 1H)	
34		ethyl 4-[4-(2-methoxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS:13472-59-8 and CAS:29976-53-2	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CD ₂ Cl ₂) δ 1.23 (t, J=7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.45 (dd, J=12, 4.2 Hz, 2H), 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.82 (m, 4H), 2.34 (t, J=11.2, 2H), 2.48 (m, 1H), 2.76 (m, 3H), 3.00 (d, J=11.1, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 4.08 (q, J=7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.16 (m, 2H), 6.84 (dd, J=7.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, J=7.2, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (dd, J=4.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H)	ES+ 348
35		ethyl 4-[4-(2-methoxy)pyridin-	CAS:13472-59-8	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz,	ES+

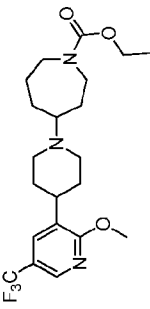
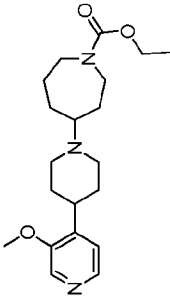
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
		3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	and Intermediate 3		CD ₂ Cl ₂) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.41-1.71 (m, 6H), 1.77-2.01 (m, 4H), 2.33-2.55 (m, 3H), 2.71-2.93 (m, 3H), 3.26 (m, 2H), 3.54 (m, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 4.09 (q, J=6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (dd, J=7.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J=7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (dd, J=4.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H)	362
36		ethyl 4-[4-(2-methylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS:949100-33-8 and CAS:29976-53-2	a	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CD ₂ Cl ₂) δ 1.23 (m, 3H), 1.45 (qd, J=12.1, 4.3 Hz, 2H), 1.71-1.84 (m, 4H), 1.87-1.95 (m, 2H), 2.33 (t, J=11 Hz, 2H), 2.44-2.65 (m, 5H), 2.75 (m, 2H), 3.02 (d, J=11 Hz, 2H), 4.13-4.20 (m,	ES+ 333

Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
37		ethyl 4-[4-(4,6-dimethoxy-pyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS:849924-99-8 and CAS:29976-53-2	a	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CD ₂ Cl ₂) δ 1.23 (t, J=7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.44 (dd, J=12, 4.2 Hz, 2H), 1.76-1.92 (m, 4H), 1.94-2.15 (m, 2H), 2.32 (m, 2H), 2.46 (m, 1H), 2.63 (m, 1H), 2.74 (m, 2H), 2.97 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 6H), 4.08 (q, J=7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.16 (m, 2H), 5.84 (s, 1H)	ES+ 379
38		ethyl 4-[4-(3-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 24100-18-3 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d ₆) δ 1.68 - 1.92 (m, 3 H) 2.01 - 2.47 (m, 8 H) 2.62 - 2.75 (m, 4 H) 2.80 - 2.99 (m, 2 H) 3.00 - 3.14 (m, 1 H) 3.30 - 3.50 (m, 2 H)	ES+ 362.4

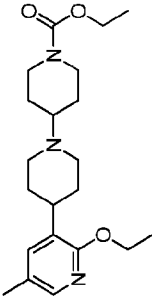
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					3.53 - 3.68 (m, 1 H) 3.85 (ddd, J=13.96, 9.41, 4.17 Hz, 2 H) 4.39 (s, 3 H) 4.58 - 4.73 (m, 2 H) 7.62 - 7.75 (m, 1 H) 7.82 (d, =8.34 Hz, 1 H) 8.65 (d, J=4.55 Hz, 1 H)	
39		ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	Intermediates 5 and 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.14 - 1.30 (m, 3 H) 1.38 - 1.58 (m, 2 H) 1.71 - 1.91 (m, 4 H) 1.98 - 2.03 (m, 4 H) 2.27 - 2.90 (m, 3 H) 3.30 (s, 3 H) 3.46 (s, 4 H) 4.08 (d, J=6.82 Hz, 2 H) 6.14 (s, 1 H) 7.15 - 7.23 (m, 1 H) 7.28 - 7.37 (m, 1 H)	, ES+ 362.4
40		ethyl 4-[4-(3-methoxypyrazin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-	CAS:1209905-41-8 and	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.19 Hz, 3	ES+ 363.0

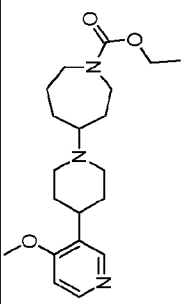
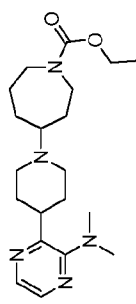
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
		carboxylate	Intermediate 3		H) 1.37 - 1.92 (m, 10 H) 2.37 (m, J=10.60 Hz, 2 H) 2.46 - 2.57 (m, 1 H) 2.81 - 3.02 (m, 3 H) 3.29 (m, J=13.80, 9.40, 4.00 Hz, 2 H) 3.44 - 3.60 (m, 2 H) 3.95 (s, 3 H) 4.09 (q, J=6.74 Hz, 2 H) 7.95 (d, J=2.78 Hz, 1 H) 8.05 (d, J=2.78 Hz, 1 H)	
41		ethyl 4-[4-(2-methylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:38749-79-0 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.19 Hz, 3 H) 1.40 - 1.80 (m, 7 H) 1.88 (d, J=10.86 Hz, 3 H) 2.30 - 2.60 (m, 6 H) 2.64 - 2.78 (m, 1 H) 2.90 (m, J=9.20, 9.20 Hz, 2 H) 3.20 - 3.35 (m, 2 H) 3.52 (m, J=9.20, 9.20, 4.70 Hz, 2 H) 4.10 (q,	ES+ 346.0

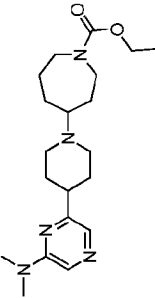
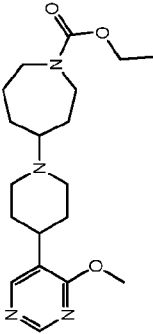
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					J=6.65 Hz, 2 H) 7.14 (dd, J=7.83, 4.80 Hz, 1 H) 7.58 (d, J=6.82 Hz, 1 H) 8.28 (dd, J=4.67, 1.39 Hz, 1 H)	
42		ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethoxy-5-methylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:760207-82-7 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.19 Hz, 3 H) 1.34 (t, J=6.95 Hz, 3 H) 1.40 - 1.92 (m, 10 H) 2.22 (s, 3 H) 2.27 - 2.56 (m, 3 H) 2.65 - 2.77 (m, 1 H) 2.88 (m, J=9.10, 9.10 Hz, 2 H) 3.22 - 3.38 (m, 2 H) 3.43 - 3.62 (m, 2 H) 4.09 (q, J=6.65 Hz, 2 H) 4.33 (q, J=7.07 Hz, 2 H) 7.36 (d, J=1.52 Hz, 1 H) 7.77 (s, 1 H)	ES+ 390.0
43		ethyl 4-[4-[2-methoxy-5-	CAS:124432-63-9	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-	ES+

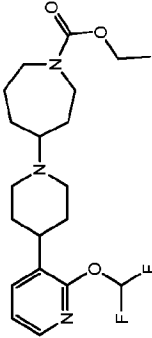
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
		(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	and Intermediate 3		d3) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.44 Hz, 3 H) 1.38 - 1.93 (m, 10 H) 2.37 (q, J=10.95 Hz, 2 H) 2.47 - 2.57 (m, 1 H) 2.70 - 2.83 (m, 1 H) 2.86 - 2.96 (m, 2 H) 3.19 - 3.37 (m, 2 H) 3.52 (m, J=9.20, 9.20, H) 4.50 Hz, 2 H) 4.00 (s, 3 H) 4.09 (q, J=6.82 Hz, 2 H) 7.75 (s, 1 H) 8.36 (s, 1 H)	430.4
44		ethyl 4-[4-(3-methoxy-pyridin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:109911-38-8 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d3) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.32 Hz, 3 H) 1.38 - 1.93 (m, 10 H) 2.37 (m, J=10.90, 10.90, 10.90 Hz, 2 H) 2.46 - 2.59 (m, 1 H) 2.72 - 2.98 (m, 3 H) 3.14 - 3.35 (m, 2 H) 3.43 - 3.60 (m, 2 H) 3.92 (s, 3 H)	ES+ 362.3

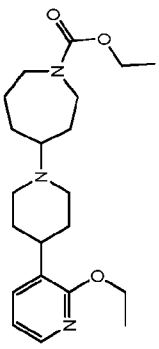
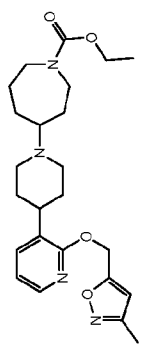
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
45		ethyl 4-[4-(5-methoxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:50720-12-2 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.44 Hz, 3 H) 1.40 - 1.93 (m, 8 H) 2.11 - 2.19 (m, 4 H) 2.24 - 2.43 (m, 2 H) 2.46 - 2.61 (m, 2 H) 2.80 - 2.98 (m, 2 H) 3.20 - 3.37 (m, 2 H) 3.86 (s, 3 H) 4.09 (q, J=7.10 Hz, 2 H) 7.17 (s, 1 H) 8.03 - 8.17 (m, 2 H)	ES+ 362.3
46		ethyl 4-[4-(2-methyl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS:38749-79-0 and CAS:29976-53-2	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=7.07 Hz, 3 H) 1.34 - 1.50 (m, 2 H) 1.52 - 1.70 (m, 2 H) 1.78 (m,	ES+ 332.4

Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					J=6.80 Hz, 4 H) 2.36 (s, 2 H) 2.43 - 2.59 (m, 4 H) 2.63 - 2.88 (m, 2 H) 2.95 - 3.08 (m, 2 H) 3.96 - 4.23 (m, 4 H) 7.07 - 7.23 (m, 1 H) 7.49 - 7.65 (m, 1 H) 8.22 - 8.34 (m, 1 H)	
47		ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethoxy-5-methylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS:760207-82-7 and CAS:29976-53-2	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=7.07 Hz, 3 H) 1.29 - 1.50 (m, 5 H) 1.59 (m, J=12.30, 3.40 Hz, 2 H) 1.73 - 1.85 (m, 4 H) 2.26 - 2.38 (m, 2 H) 2.42 - 2.56 (m, 1 H) 2.68 - 2.89 (m, 3 H) 3.00 (d, J=11.37 Hz, 2 H) 3.96 - 4.16 (m, 4 H) 4.33 (q, J=6.91 Hz, 2 H) 7.38 (s, 1 H) 7.78 (s, 1 H)	ES+ 376.4

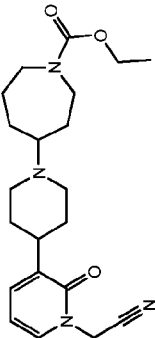
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
48		ethyl 4-[4-(4-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:82257-09-8 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (s, 3 H) 1.56 - 1.92 (m, 4 H) 2.07 - 2.23 (m, 12 H) 2.30 - 2.60 (m, 2 H) 2.73 - 3.01 (m, 1 H) 3.17 - 3.61 (m, 1 H) 3.87 (s, 3 H) 4.10 (q, J=1.00 Hz, 2 H) 6.78 - 6.93 (m, 1 H) 8.23 - 8.36 (m, 2 H)	ES+ 362.4
49		ethyl 4-[4-[3-(dimethylamino)pyrazin-2-yl]piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:1316220-75-3 and Intermediate 3	a	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.69 Hz, 3 H) 1.40 - 1.92 (m, 10 H) 2.35 (d, J=11.37 Hz, 2 H) 2.44 - 2.60 (m, 2 H) 2.88 (m, J=9.00, 9.00 Hz, 2 H) 3.09 (s, 6 H) 3.29 (m, J=9.30 Hz, 2 H) 3.43 - 3.62 (m, 2 H) 4.09 (q, J=7.10 Hz, 2 H)	ES+ 376.4

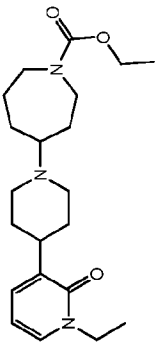
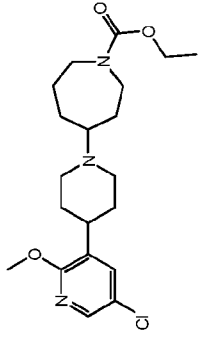
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
50		ethyl 4-([4-(6-(dimethylamino)pyrazin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:1316227-13-0 and Intermediate 3	a	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=1.00 Hz, 3 H) 1.42 - 1.93 (m, 10 H) 2.37 (m, J=11.60 Hz, 2 H) 2.47 - 2.58 (m, 1 H) 2.74 - 3.07 (m, 9 H) 3.31 (m, J=9.30, 4.00 Hz, 2 H) 3.52 (m, J=13.90, 4.50 Hz, 2 H) 4.10 (q, J=1.00 Hz, 2 H) 7.98 (d, J=2.53 Hz, 1 H) 8.05 (d, J=2.53 Hz, 1 H)	ES+ 376.4
51		ethyl 4-([4-(4-methoxy-pyrimidin-5-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:4319-85-1 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.44 Hz, 3 H) 1.38 - 1.92 (m, 10 H) 2.35 (q, J=10.86 Hz, 2 H) 2.51 (m, J=9.90, 9.90 Hz, 1	ES+ 363.4

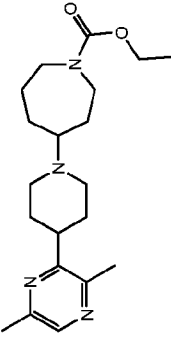
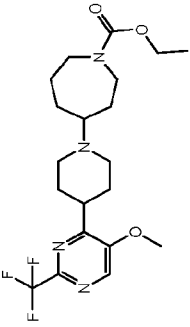
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					H) 2.61 - 2.76 (m, 1 H) 2.83 - 2.99 (m, 2 H) 3.16 - 3.38 (m, 2 H) 3.44 - 3.61 (m, 2 H) 3.98 (s, 3 H) 4.09 (q, J=6.65 Hz, 2 H) 8.32 (s, 1 H) 8.59 (s, 1 H)	
52		ethyl 4-({4-[2-(difluoromethoxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 76-04-0 and Intermediate 8	j	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.06 Hz, 3 H) 1.37 - 1.93 (m, 10 H) 2.31 - 2.45 (m, 2 H) 2.48 - 2.56 (m, 1 H) 2.70 - 2.84 (m, 1 H) 2.85 - 2.97 (m, 2 H) 3.21 - 3.35 (m, 2 H) 3.44 - 3.61 (m, 2 H) 4.09 (q, J=6.82 Hz, 2 H) 7.18 (dd, J=7.45, 4.93 Hz, 1 H) 7.28 - 7.80 (m, 2 H) 8.06 (dd, J=4.93, 1.64 Hz, 1 H)	ES+ 398.4

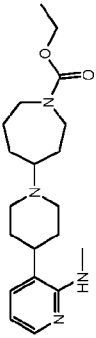
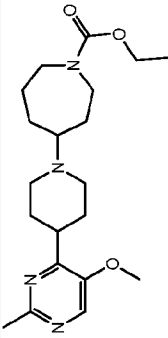
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
53		ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethoxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 75-03-6, and Intermediate 8		¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.44 Hz, 3 H) 1.36 (t, J=7.07 Hz, 3 H) 1.44 - 1.74 (m, 5 H) 1.75 - 1.92 (m, 5 H) 2.37 (m, J=11.10 Hz, 2 H) 2.46 - 2.57 (m, 1 H) 2.70 - 2.82 (m, 1 H) 2.84 - 2.97 (m, 2 H) 3.19 - 3.36 (m, 2 H) 3.45 - 3.60 (m, 2 H) 4.09 (q, J=6.80 Hz, 2 H) 4.37 (q, J=6.99 Hz, 2 H) 6.88 (dd, J=7.33, 5.05 Hz, 1 H) 7.52 (d, J=6.06 Hz, 1 H) 7.87 - 8.00 (m, 1 H)	ES+ 376.4
54		ethyl 4-(4-{2-[(3-methyl-1,2-oxazol-5-yl)methoxy]pyridin-3-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 36958-61-9 and Intermediate 8	k	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=1.00 Hz, 3 H) 1.72 - 1.94 (m, 9 H) 2.07 - 2.13 (m, 3 H) 2.27 (s, 3 H)	ES+ 443.4

Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					2.31 - 2.58 (m, 3 H) 2.69 - 2.81 (m, 1 H) 2.83 - 2.97 (m, 2 H) 3.21 - 3.39 (m, 2 H) 4.08 (q, J=1.00 Hz, 2 H) 5.47 (s, 2 H) 6.27 (s, 1 H) 6.88 - 7.06 (m, 1 H) 7.59 (d, J=1.00 Hz, 1 H) 8.00 (d, J=1.00 Hz, 1 H)	
55		ethyl 4-({4-[2-(propan-2-yloxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate)	CAS:75-30-9 and Intermediate 8	k	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.32 Hz, 3 H) 1.33 (d, J=6.06 Hz, 6 H) 1.44 - 1.93 (m, 10 H) 2.36 (m, J=11.40 Hz, 2 H) 2.46 - 2.59 (m, 1 H) 2.66 - 2.80 (m, 1 H) 2.83 - 2.96 (m, 2 H) 3.17 - 3.35 (m, 2 H) 3.50 (m, J=4.30 Hz, 2 H) 4.09 (q, J=6.80 Hz, 2 H) 5.23 - 5.41	ES+ 390.4

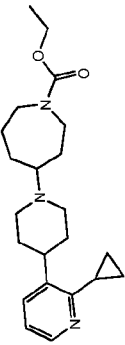
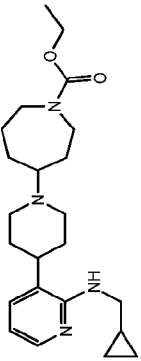
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					(m, 1 H) 6.86 (dd, J=7.33, 5.05 Hz, 1 H) 7.50 (d, J=7.33 Hz, 1 H) 7.95 (d, J=4.80 Hz, 1 H)	
56		ethyl 4-[4-[1-(cyanomethyl)-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS:590-17-0 and Intermediate 8	k	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.57 Hz, 3 H) 1.41 - 1.92 (m, 10 H) 2.37 (m, J=11.40 Hz, 2 H) 2.46 - 2.56 (m, 1 H) 2.66 - 2.78 (m, 1 H) 2.80 - 2.95 (m, 2 H) 3.19 - 3.35 (m, 2 H) 3.44 - 3.60 (m, 2 H) 4.09 (q, J=6.80 Hz, 2 H) 4.79 (s, 2 H) 6.26 (t, J=1.00 Hz, 1 H) 7.29 (d, J=6.82 Hz, 1 H) 7.35 (d, J=1.00 Hz, 1 H)	ES+ 387.4
57		ethyl 4-[4-(1-ethyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-	CAS: 75-03-6, and Intermediate 8	k	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.15 - 1.33 (m, 6 H)	ES+ 376.4

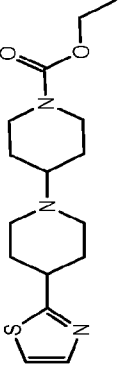
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
		1-y]]azepane-1-carboxylate			1.36 - 1.93 (m, 10 H) 2.36 (m, J=11.40 Hz, 2 H) 2.46 - 2.57 (m, 1 H) 2.65 - 2.78 (m, 1 H) 2.80 - 2.92 (m, 2 H) 3.29 (m, J=10.10 Hz, 2 H) 3.50 (m, J=4.00 Hz, 2 H) 3.95 (q, J=7.16 Hz, 2 H) 4.09 (q, J=7.10 Hz, 2 H) 6.16 (t, J=6.82 Hz, 1 H) 7.20 (d, J=6.82 Hz, 1 H) 7.32 (d, J=6.57 Hz, 1 H)	
58		ethyl 4-[[4-(5-chloro-2-methoxy-3-pyridinyl)methyl]piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS:102830-75-1 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=1.00 Hz, 3 H) 1.39 - 1.92 (m, 8 H) 1.90 - 1.96 (m, 2 H) 2.43 (m, J=11.10 Hz, 2 H) 2.53 - 2.66 (m, 1 H) 2.70 - 2.82 (m, 1 H) 2.86 - 3.02 (m, 2 H) 3.17	ES+ 396.3

Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
59		ethyl 4-[4-(3,6-dimethylpyrazin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 95-89-6 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ ppm 1.13 - 1.29 (m, 3 H) 1.52 (d, J=9.60 Hz, 2 H) 1.64 - 1.93 (m, 8 H) 2.28 - 2.57 (m, 9 H) 2.73 - 2.99 (m, 3 H) 3.19 - 3.37 (m, 2 H) 3.52 (m, J=14.10 Hz, 2 H) .01 - 4.17 (m, 2 H) 8.14 (s, 1 H)	ES+ 361.4
60		ethyl 4-[4-[5-methoxy-2-(trifluoromethyl)pyrimidin-4-yl]piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 808770-41-4 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ ppm 1.24 (t, J=6.95 Hz, 3 H) 1.40 - 1.93 (m, 10 H) 2.37 (m, J=9.30 Hz, 2 H)	ES+ 431.4

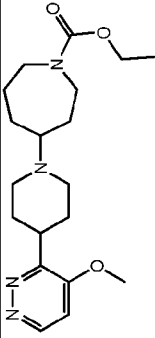
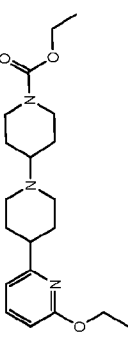
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
62		ethyl 4-[4-[2-(methylamino)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 593-51-1 and Intermediate 10	p	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 1.3 (t, 3H), 1.5 - 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.7 (m, 3H), 1.85 - 1.95 (m, 2H), 2.0-2.15 (m, 3H), 2.5 (m, 1H), 2.6-2.7 (m, 3H), 2.9 (d, 3H), 3.0 (d, 2H), 3.4 (m, 2H), 3.6 (m, 2H), 4.15 (m, 2H), 6.6 (t, 1H), 7.35 (d, 1H), 7.85 (d, 1H)	ES+ 361.1
63		ethyl 4-[4-(5-methoxy-2-methylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	Intermediate 11 and Intermediate 3	a	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d3) δ ppm 1.25 (t, J=1.00 Hz, 3 H) 1.38 - 1.92 (m, 9 H) 2.34 (m, J=11.60 Hz, 2 H) 2.43 - 2.53 (m, 1 H) 2.47 - 2.61 (m, 4 H) 2.89 (m, J=9.50, 9.50 Hz, 2 H) 2.95 - 3.11 (m, 1 H) 3.22 - 3.39 (m, 2 H) 3.51 (m, J=14.00,	ES+ 377.4

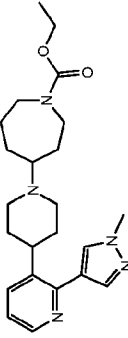
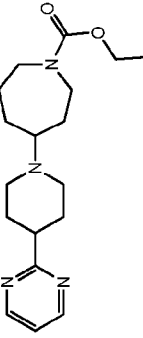
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
64		ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 847818-74-0 and Intermediate 10	n	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CD ₃ CN) δ 1.3 (t, 3H), 1.5 (m, 3H), 1.7 (m, 4H), 1.85 (d, 3H), 2.2 (m, 2H), 2.5 (m, 1H), 2.65 (m, 1H), 2.8 (m, 2H), 3.25 (t, 2H), 3.5 (m, 2H), 3.7 (s, 3H), 4.1 (m, 2H), 6.35 (s, 1H), 7.4 (dd, 1H), 7.5 (s, 1H), 7.85 (dd, 1H), 8.55 (d, 1H)	ES+ 412.2
65		ethyl 4-{4-[2-(dimethylamino)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 506-59-2 and Intermediate 10	p	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 1.3 (m, 3H), 1.5-1.65 (m, 3H), 1.7-1.85 (m, 5H), 1.95-2.15 (m, 3H), 2.5-2.65 (m, 3H), 2.8 (s, 6H), 3.0 (t, 2H),	ES+ 375.2

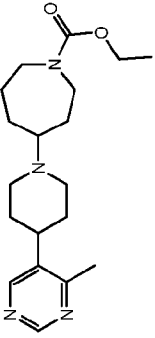
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
66		ethyl 4-[4-(2-cyclopropylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 411235-57-9 and Intermediate 10	n	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CD ₃ CN) δ 0.9 -1.0 (m, 2H), 1.05 (m, 2H), 1.25 (m, 3H), 1.45 -1.55 (m, 2H), 1.85-1.95 (m, 5H), 2.15-2.35 (m, 3H), 2.35-2.5 (m, 2H), 2.5-2.6 (m, 1H), 2.85-3.0 (m, 3H), 3.3 (t, 2H), 3.5 (m, 2H), 4.1 (d, 2H), 7.05 (t, 1H), 7.55 (d, 1H), 8.25 (d, 1H)	ES+ 372.1
67		ethyl 4-(4-{2-[(cyclopropylmethyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 2516-47-4 and Intermediate 10	p	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 0.35 (m, 2H), 0.5 (m, 2H), 1.2 (m, 1H), 1.35 (m, 3H), 1.5 -1.65 (m, 2H), 1.7-1.8	ES+ 401.2

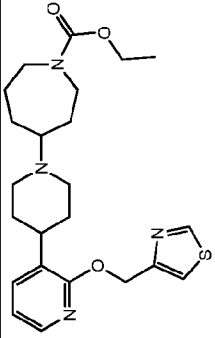
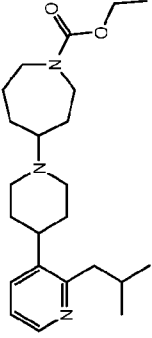
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					(m, 3H), 1.85-2.0 (d, 3H), 2.0-2.15 (m, 2H), 2.5-2.7 (q, 4H), 2.9-3.0 (s, 2H), 3.25 (d, 2H), 3.35-3.5 (m, 2H), 3.55-3.65 (m, 2H), 4.15 (m, 2H), 6.6 (t, 1H), 7.35 (dd, 1H), 7.85 (dd, 1H)	
68		ethyl 4-[4-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS: 788822-03-7 and CAS:29976-53-2	a	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ ppm 1.23 (t, J=7.07 Hz, 3 H) 1.41 (m, J=12.10, 12.10, 12.10, 4.40 Hz, 2 H) 1.60 - 1.85 (m, 4 H) 2.09 (d, J=12.38 Hz, 2 H) 2.35 (m, J=11.60, 11.60, 1.90 Hz, 2 H) 2.49 (m, J=11.30, 11.30, 3.40, 3.40 Hz, 1 H) 2.78 (m, J=11.60, 11.60 Hz, 2 H) 2.90 - 3.12 (m, 3 H) 3.84 - 4.19 (m, 4 H) 7.36 (d,	ES+ 324.4

Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
69		ethyl 4-({4-[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate)	CAS: 20154-03-4 and Intermediate 3	q	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ ppm 1.3 (t, 3H), 1.7 -1.5 (m, 2H), 1.75 (m, 1H), 2.1-1.9 (m, 5H), 2.2-2.4 (m, 2H), 2.5-2.7 (m, 3H), 3.0 (m, 2H), 3.4 (m, 2H), 3.6 (m, 2H), 4.15 (m, 2H), 4.3 (m, 1H), 6.75 (d, 1H), 7.6 (d, 1H)	ES+ 389.1
70		ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS : 925-90-6 and Intermediate 10	r	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ ppm 1.25 (t, 3H), 1.5 -1.7 (m, 2H), 1.75 (m, 1H), 1.8 (m, 4H), 1.95 (m, 1H), 2.1-2.0 (m, 2H), 2.5-2.7 (m, 3H), 2.9-2.8 (m, 3H), 3.0 (m, 2H), 3.4 (m, 2H), 3.6 (m, 2H), 4.15 (m, 2H), 7.25	ES+ 360.1

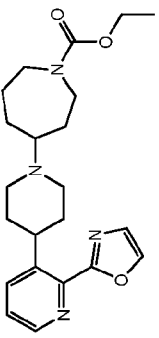
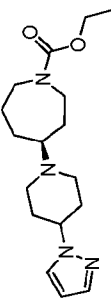
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
71		ethyl 4-[4-(4-methoxy-1H-pyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 1677-81-2 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d ₆) δ ppm 1.07 - 1.22 (m, 3 H) 1.31 - 1.98 (m, 10 H) 2.20 - 2.48 (m, 3 H) 2.73 - 2.92 (m, 2 H) 2.95 - 3.11 (m, 1 H) 3.15 - 3.27 (m, 2 H) 3.39 - 3.57 (m, 2 H) 3.89 (s, 3 H) 4.04 (q, J=1.00 Hz, 2 H) 7.17 (d, J=6.06 Hz, 1 H) 8.88 (d, J=5.81 Hz, 1 H)	ES+ 363.3
72		ethyl 4-[4-(6-ethoxy-1H-pyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS: 42144-78-5 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ ppm 1.24 (t, J=7.07 Hz, 3 H) 1.29 - 1.50 (m, 5 H) 1.67 - 1.92 (m, 6 H) 2.31 (td, J=11.62, 2.27 Hz, 2 H) 2.40 - 2.63 (m, 2 H) 2.79	ES+ 362.4

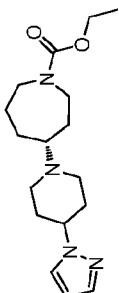
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					(m, J=11.60, 11.60 Hz, 2 H) 3.00 (d, J=11.62 Hz, 2 H) 3.94 - 4.18 (m, 4 H) 4.36 (q, J=7.07 Hz, 2 H) 6.54 (d, J=8.34 Hz, 1 H) 6.79 (d, J=7.07 Hz, 1 H) 7.56 (t, J=7.71 Hz, 1 H)	
73		ethyl 4-[4-[2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 847818-55-7 and Intermediate 10	n	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 1.25 (t, 3H), 1.45-1.8 (m, 3H), 1.85 (m, 4H), 1.9 -2.1 (m, 3H), 2.5(m, 2H), 2.7 (m, 1H), 3.0 (m, 3H), 3.4 (m, 2H), 3.6 (m, 2H), 4.0 (s, 3H), 4.15 (m, 2H), 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.7 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, 1H), 7.9 (s, 1H), 8.4 (d, 1H)	ES+ 412.2
74		ethyl 4-[4-(pyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 1722-12-9 and Intermediate 3	g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d3) δ ppm 1.24 (t, J=6.32 Hz, 3 H) 1.40 - 1.92 (m, 8	ES+ 333.4

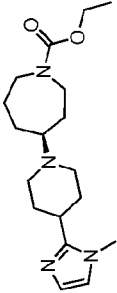
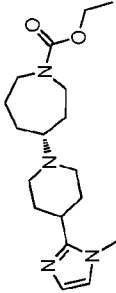
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					H) 2.10 - 2.21 (m, 2 H) 2.29 - 2.61 (m, 3 H) 2.69 - 3.00 (m, 3 H) 3.29 (m, J=13.90, 9.50, 4.20 Hz, 2 H) 3.52 (m, J=13.40 Hz, 2 H) 4.09 (q, J=6.60 Hz, 2 H) 7.21 (m, J=4.90, 4.90 Hz, 1 H) 8.68 (m, J=4.80 Hz, 2 H)	
75		ethyl 4-[4-(4-methylpyrimidin-5-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS: 1439-09-4 and Intermediate 3	8	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, ACETONITRILE-d ₃) δ ppm 1.24 (t, J=6.06 Hz, 3 H) 1.41 - 1.93 (m, 10 H) 2.29 - 2.47 (m, 2 H) 2.48 - 2.57 (m, 4 H) 2.62 - 2.78 (m, 1 H) 2.84 - 2.98 (m, 2 H) 3.20 - 3.37 (m, 2 H) 3.44 - 3.63 (m, 2 H) 4.10 (q, J=6.30 Hz, 2 H) 8.53 (s, 1 H) 8.83 (s, 1 H)	ES+ 347.4

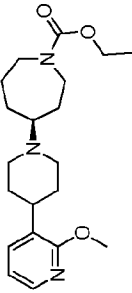
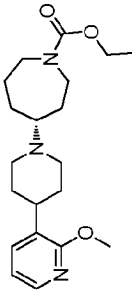
Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
76		ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)methoxy]pyridin-3-yl}piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate	Intermediate 12 and Intermediate 3	a	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ 1.24 (t, J=1.00 Hz, 3 H) 1.55 (m, 2H) 1.6 - 1.9 (m, 8 H) 2.4 - 3.2 (m, 6 H) 3.3 (m, 2 H) 3.55 (m, 2H) 4.1 (q, J=1.00 Hz, 2 H) 5.55 (s, 2 H) 6.95 (m, 1 H) 7.55 (s, 1 H) 7.6 (m, 1 H) 8.05 (m, 1 H) 8.9 (s, 1H)	ES+ 445.4
77		ethyl 4-{4-[2-(2-methylpropyl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS : 926-62-5 and Intermediate 10	s	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ ppm 0.94 (d, J=6.57 Hz, 6 H) 1.18 - 1.29 (m, 3 H) 1.42 - 1.94 (m, 7 H) 2.08 - 2.12 (m, 2 H) 2.38 - 3.06 (m, 8 H) 3.19 - 3.37 (m, 2 H) 3.44 - 3.67 (m, 2 H) 3.97 - 4.18 (m, 2 H) 7.08 - 7.20 (m, 1 H) 7.58 - 7.67 (m, 1 H) 8.22 - 8.39 (m, 1 H)	ES+ 388.5

Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
78		methyl 4-({[3-(3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]methyl}piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS: 1177347-39-5, CAS: 137076-22-3 and CAS: 79-22-1	i	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ ppm 1.05 (qd, J=12.04, 3.79 Hz, 2 H) 1.53 - 1.83 (m, 3 H) 2.15 - 2.41 (m, 10 H) 2.54 - 2.87 (m, 5 H) 3.01 (m, J=8.60, 8.60 Hz, 1 H) 3.63 (s, 3 H) 4.05 (m, J=11.10 Hz, 2 H) 4.63 - 4.86 (m, 1 H) 5.78 (s, 1 H)	ES+ 321.4
79		ethyl 4-({[3-(3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]methyl}piperidine-1-carboxylate	CAS: 1177347-39-5, CAS: 137076-22-3 and CAS: 541-41-3	i	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, MeCN-d ₃) δ ppm 1.05 (qd, J=12.00, 3.92 Hz, 2 H) 1.23 (t, J=7.07 Hz, 3 H) 1.57 - 1.86 (m, 3 H) 1.98 - 2.00 (m, 2 H) 2.15 - 2.43 (m, 8 H) 2.52 - 2.85 (m, 5 H) 3.01 (m, J=8.60, 8.60 Hz, 1 H) 4.08 (m, J=7.10, 7.10, 7.10 Hz, 4 H) 4.60 - 4.83 (m, 1	ES+ 335.5

Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
80		ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1,3-oxazol-2-yl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS : 145214-05-7 and Intermediate 10	t	¹ H NMR (300 MHz, MeCN-d3) δ ppm 1.21 (t, J=6.99 Hz, 3 H) 1.39 - 1.55 (m, 1 H) 1.58 - 1.73 (m, 2 H) 1.73 - 1.90 (m, 5 H) 2.24 - 2.39 (m, 2 H) 2.43 - 2.54 (m, 1 H) 2.86 (br. s., 2 H) 3.18 - 3.33 (m, 2 H) 3.41 - 3.66 (m, 3 H) 4.07 (q, J=6.99 Hz, 2 H) 7.32 (s, 1 H) 7.42 (dd, J=7.93, 4.53 Hz, 1 H) 7.89 (d, J=8.12 Hz, 1 H) 7.96 (s, 1 H) 8.52 (dd, J=4.53, 1.51 Hz, 1 H)	ES+ 399.4
81		ethyl (4S)-4-[4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS : 690261-87-1 and (R)-ethyl 4-(tosyloxy)azepane-1-carboxylate		¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 1.15 (t, J=7.3, 3H), 1.33-1.45 (m, 2H), 1.50-1.62 (m, 1H), 1.77-1.89 (m, 4H),	ES+ 321.1

Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					1.91-1.96 (m, 2H), 2.29-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.75-2.87 (m, 2H), 3.20 (m, 2H), 3.30-3.35 (m, 2H), 3.37-3.43 (m, 2H), 3.96- 4.08 (m, 4H), 6.18 (m, 1H), 7.30- 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.71 (m, 1H)	
82		ethyl (4R)-4-[4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS : 690261-87-1 and (S)-ethyl 4-(tosyloxy)azepane-1-carboxylate		¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 1.15 (t, J=7.3, 3H), 1.33-1.45 (m, 2H), 1.50-1.62 (m, 1H), 1.77-1.89 (m, 4H), 1.91-1.96 (m, 2H), 2.29-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.75-2.87 (m, 2H), 3.20 (m, 2H), 3.30-3.35 (m, 2H), 3.37-3.43 (m, 2H), 3.96- 4.08 (m, 4H), 6.18 (m, 1H), 7.30- 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.71 (m, 1H)	ES+ 321.1
83		ethyl (4S)-4-[4-(1-methyl-1H-	CAS : 1084976-68-		¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-	

Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
		imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	O and (R)-ethyl 4-(tosyloxy)azepane-1-carboxylate		¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 1.15 (t, J=7.3, 3H), 1.32-1.45 (m, 2H), 1.61 (m, 1H), 1.66-1.78 (m, 3H), 2.18-2.31 (m, 2H), 2.33-2.45 (m, 1H), 2.60 (m, 1H), 2.67-2.79 (m, 2H), 3.11-3.23 (m, 3H), 3.41 (m, 2H), 3.47-3.55 (m, 3H), 4.02 (q, J=7.3, 2H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H)	ES+ 335.2
84		ethyl (4R)-4-[4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS : 1084976-68-O and (S)-ethyl 4-(tosyloxy)azepane-1-carboxylate		¹ H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 1.15 (t, J=7.3, 3H), 1.32-1.45 (m, 2H), 1.61 (m, 1H), 1.66-1.78 (m, 3H), 2.18-2.31 (m, 2H), 2.33-2.45 (m, 1H), 2.60 (m, 1H), 2.67-2.79 (m, 2H), 3.11-3.23 (m, 3H), 3.41 (m, 2H), 3.47-3.55 (m, 3H), 4.02 (q, J=7.3, 2H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H)	ES+ 335.2

Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
85		ethyl (4S)-4-[4-(2-methoxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS : 171425-45-9 and (R)-ethyl 4-(tosyloxy)azepane-1-carboxylate		¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CD ₂ Cl ₂) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.41-1.71 (m, 6H), 1.77-2.01 (m, 4H), 2.33-2.55 (m, 3H), 2.71-2.93 (m, 3H), 3.26 (m, 2H), 3.54 (m, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 4.09 (q, J=6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (dd, J=7.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J=7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (dd, J=4.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H)	ES+ 362
86		ethyl (4R)-4-[4-(2-methoxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate	CAS : 171425-45-9 and (S)-ethyl 4-(tosyloxy)azepane-1-carboxylate		¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CD ₂ Cl ₂) δ 1.24 (t, J=6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.41-1.71 (m, 6H), 1.77-2.01 (m, 4H), 2.33-2.55 (m, 3H), 2.71-2.93 (m, 3H), 3.26 (m, 2H), 3.54 (m, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 4.09 (q, J=6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (dd, J=7.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J=7.2 Hz, 1H)	ES+ 362

Ex. No.	Structure	Name	Intermediate	Synthetic method	¹ H NMR	LCM S data
					1H), 7.96 (dd, J=4.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H) 1H)	

Biological efficacy of compounds of the invention**In Vitro M4 & M2 Functional Assay**

The functional activity of compounds at the M4 and M2 receptors was determined by measuring changes in the level of intracellular calcium ions caused by signalling cascades mediated by the receptor. Intracellular Calcium levels were measured using a calcium sensitive fluorescent dye, calcium 5 (Molecular Devices) The changes in fluorescence were monitored by a fluorescent imager, FLiPR Tetra (Molecular devices). Increases in intracellular calcium were readily detected upon activation of both receptors by the muscarinic receptor agonist Acetylcholine.

CHOK1 cells stably expressing human M4 or M2 receptor and co-expressing the accessory g-protein G α 16 were routinely grown as monolayers in Hams-F12 medium (Invitrogen) supplemented with 10% foetal bovine serum (FBS) (Hyclone), 500ug/mL Geneticin and 250ug/mL zeocin (both invitrogen) in 5% CO₂ at 37°C. Once confluent cells cryopreserved by freezing at -186°C in freezing solution (90% FBS 10% DMSO) (Sigma-Aldrich Co.). Twenty-four hours prior to testing cells resuscitated and freezing media removed via centrifugation, cells then seeded in a black walled clear bottom 384 well plates (Corning) at a density of 15,000 cells/well in Hams F12 media supplemented with 10% FBS. On the day of assay, growth media was removed and replaced with 63 μ l of Calcium 5 dye solution (Molecular Devices) in assay buffer (HBSS, 20mM HEPES, 0.1% BSA, 1mM Probenecid pH7.4 (Sigma-Aldrich Co.)) per well (each vial of Calcium 5 resuspended in 27 mL of assay buffer). Cells were then incubated for 45 minutes at 37°C, 5% CO₂. Compound was serially diluted in DMSO (log/half log) before being diluted 1:20 with assay buffer. 7 μ l of compound diluted in assay buffer was then added to cells on FLiPR tetra and fluorescence intensity measured for 5 minutes.

EC₅₀ values for compounds were determined from ten point half log scale dose-response studies and represent the concentration of compound required to prevent 50% inhibition of its own maximal response. Curves were generated using the average of duplicate wells for each data point and analyzed using non-linear regression of four parameter dose response. Percentage Relative efficacy (RE) to an EC₁₀₀ concentration of acetylcholine was reported for all compounds. The results are set out in Table 3 below in which the term “No

Response” means that there was no significant response of calcium flux in the assay indicative of agonism.

Table 3

Example no.	M4 EC₅₀ (μM)/ M4 % RE	M2 EC₅₀ (μM)/ M2 % RE
1	2.36 / 49	> 10μM / 34% @ 10μM
2	1.87 / 51	No Response
3	0.33 / 59	1.54 / 38
4	0.14 / 74	No Response
5	0.25 / 49	> 10μM / 25% @ 10μM
6	0.19 / 53	No Response
7	0.26 / 75	> 10μM / 26% @ 10μM
8	0.32 / 59	No Response
9	1.05 / 62	No Response
10	1.74 / 44	No Response
11	0.96 / 41	No Response
12	0.52 / 82	> 10μM / 28% @ 10μM
13	2.88 / 24	No Response
14	0.75 / 55	No Response
15	1.28 / 44	No Response
16	0.40 / 72	> 10μM / 24% @ 10μM
17	0.81 / 50	No Response
18	0.41 / 45	No Response
19	1.51 / 64	No Response
20	0.19 / 77	2.26 / 37
21	2.68 / 45	No Response
22	0.20 / 68	0.68 / 38
23	0.75 / 67	No Response
24	1.37 / 45	No Response
25	0.27 / 46	No Response

Example no.	M4 EC₅₀ (μM)/ M4 % RE	M2 EC₅₀ (μM)/ M2 % RE
26	0.13 / 51	No Response
27	0.32 / 55	No Response
28	1.48 / 59	No Response
29	1.83 / 29	No Response
30	1.66 / 27	No Response
31	2.26 / 30	No Response
32	0.22 / 73	No Response
33	0.18 / 61	No Response
34	0.09 / 90	No Response
35	0.03 / 102	No Response
36	6.73 / 25	No Response
37	3.34 / 39	No Response
38	0.03 / 92	0.16 / 75
39	0.74 / 41	No Response
40	0.14 / 62	No Response
41	0.26 / 54	No Response
42	0.02 / 82	No Response
43	0.02 / 94	0.18 / 62
44	0.37 / 52	No Response
45	0.46 / 25	No Response
46	1.55 / 31	No Response
47	0.16 / 72	No Response
48	0.25 / 63	No Response
49	0.21 / 53	No Response
50	0.46 / 50	No Response
51	0.31 / 69	No Response
52	0.01 / 96	> 10μM / 25% @ 10μM
53	0.06 / 80	No Response
54	0.02 / 94	No Response

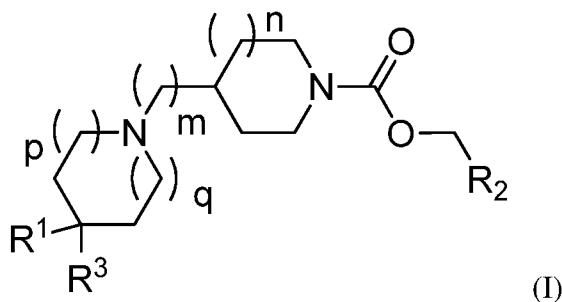
Example no.	M4 EC₅₀ (μM)/ M4 % RE	M2 EC₅₀ (μM)/ M2 % RE
55	0.13 / 67	> 10μM / 26% @ 10μM
56	2.35 / 24	No Response
57	0.89 / 37	No Response
58	0.002 / 95	No Response
59	0.53 / 30	No Response
60	0.18 / 68	No Response
61	0.15 / 66	No Response
62	0.36 / 53	No Response
63	0.56 / 43	No Response
64	3.14 / 35	No Response
65	0.19 / 87	No Response
66	0.12 / 84	No Response
67	0.99 / 37	No Response
68	0.54 / 45	No Response
69	0.63 / 63	> 10μM / 21% @ 10μM
70	0.21 / 64	No Response
71	1.05 / 45	No Response
72	0.27 / 63	2.02/ 20
73	0.65 / 53	No Response
74	1.05 / 61	> 10μM / 20% @ 10μM
75	1.01 / 52	No Response
76	0.022 / 84	No Response
77	0.67 / 58	No Response
78	2.68 / 36	No Response
79	0.34 / 50	No Response
80	0.85 / 43	No Response
81	0.085 / 83	No response
82	0.46 / 80	Not tested

Example no.	M4 EC₅₀ (μM)/ M4 % RE	M2 EC₅₀ (μM)/ M2 % RE
83	1.5 / 55	No response
84	No response	Not tested
85	0.026 / 91	No response
86	0.31 / 67	No response

These results indicate that compounds of the invention are potent M4 receptor agonists and possess a greater than 5-fold selectivity for the M4 receptor compared to the M2 receptor. Accordingly, the compounds of the invention are expected to have usefulness in the prevention or treatment of conditions, such as those discussed above, in which M4 receptor agonism is considered to be beneficial, and moreover are particularly advantageous in view of their lower risk profile with respect to unwanted cardiovascular side-effects associated with M2 receptor agonism.

CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof



5 wherein

m, p and q each independently represent 0 or 1;

n represents an integer 1 or 2;

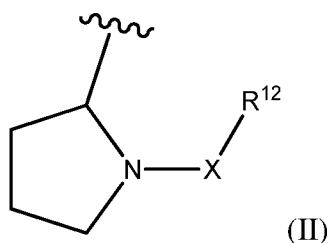
R^1 is selected from hydrogen, fluorine, cyano, hydroxyl, amino, and a C_1 - C_9 non-aromatic hydrocarbon group which is optionally substituted with from one to six fluorine atoms and wherein one, two or three carbon atoms of the hydrocarbon group may optionally be replaced by one, two or three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur;

R^2 is hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 non-aromatic hydrocarbon group which is optionally substituted with from one to six fluorine atoms and wherein one, two or three carbon atoms of the hydrocarbon group may optionally be replaced by one, two or three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur;

R^3 represents a 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group containing 1, 2, 3 or 4 ring heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, which heterocyclic group may be optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from halogen, cyano, oxo, $-NR^4R^5$, $-C(O)NR^6R^7$, C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, C_1 - C_6 haloalkoxy, $-R^8$, $-OCH_2R^8$, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl and C_1 - C_6 alkyl, the alkyl substituent itself being optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from cyano, $-C(O)NR^9R^{10}$, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy and $-NHC(O)R^{11}$, or

R^3 represents a group of formula (II)

147



in which X represents a bond, C(O), C(O)O, C(O)NR¹³ or SO₂, and R¹² represents a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or a 3- to 10-membered saturated or unsaturated carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system, each of which may be optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, oxo, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₁-C₆ haloalkyl, C₁-C₆ hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, C₁-C₆ haloalkoxy, C₁-C₆ alkylthio, C₁-C₆ alkylsulphinyl, C₁-C₆ alkylsulphonyl, C₁-C₆ alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₆ alkylcarbonyloxy, C₁-C₆ alkoxy carbonyl, -N(R¹⁴)₂, -CON(R¹⁵)₂, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyloxy and C₃-C₆ cycloalkylmethyl;

R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl or C₃-C₆ cycloalkylmethyl;

R⁸ represents a 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic group optionally containing 1, 2, 3 or 4 ring heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, the aromatic group being optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from halogen and C₁-C₆ alkyl;

R⁹, R¹⁰ and R¹¹ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, C₁-C₆ alkyl or C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl; and

each R¹³, R¹⁴ and R¹⁵ independently represents a hydrogen atom or C₁-C₆ alkyl group;

but not including the following compounds:

- (1) 4-(4-isobutyl-[1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,
- (2) 4-(4-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,
- and
- (3) methyl 4-(3-aminopyridin-2-yl)-[1,4'-bipiperidine]-1'-carboxylate.

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein, in R^3 , the 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group contains from 1 to 3 ring heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur.
- 5 3. A compound according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein, in R^3 , the 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group contains 1 or 2 nitrogen ring atoms and optionally one further ring heteroatom selected from oxygen and sulphur.
- 10 4. A compound according to claim 3, wherein the 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group is selected from pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl and pyrazinyl.
- 15 5. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein, in R^3 , the 5- or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group is optionally substituted by one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from fluorine, chlorine, cyano, oxo, $-NR^4R^5$, $-C(O)NR^6R^7$, C_1-C_2 haloalkyl, C_1-C_2 haloalkoxy, $-R^8$, $-OCH_2R^8$, C_1-C_2 alkoxy, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl and C_1-C_4 alkyl, the alkyl substituent itself being optionally substituted by one, two or three substituents independently selected from cyano,
- 20 $-C(O)NR^9R^{10}$, C_1-C_2 alkoxy and $-NHC(O)R^{11}$.
6. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein R^1 is selected from hydrogen and methoxy.
- 25 7. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein R^2 is ethyl.
8. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein p and q are each 1.
- 30 9. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein m is 0 and n is 2.

10. A compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

5 Ethyl 4-(4-{1-[(cyclohexylcarbamoyl)methyl]-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

10 Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-5-yl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

15 Ethyl 4-{4-[4-(4-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-ethyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-propyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(5-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

20 Ethyl 4-[4-methoxy-4-(1-methyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-5-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-(4-(5-isopropyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(3-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

25 Ethyl 4-{4-[3-(thiophen-2-yl)-1*H*-pyrazol-5-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-(4-{1-[(cyclopropylcarbamoyl)methyl]-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

30 Ethyl 4-[4-(5-cyclopropyl-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(dimethylcarbamoyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-(4-{5-[1-(propan-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-1-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(methoxymethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

5 Ethyl 4-(4-{5-[(cyclopropylmethyl)carbonyl]-1H-pyrazol-1-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(dimethyl-1,3-thiazol-5-yl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

10 Ethyl 4-[4-(5-cyano-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(acetamidomethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[[3-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)azetidino-1-yl]methyl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(pyridin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

15 Ethyl 4-[4-(pyridin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(6-methoxypyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(6-methoxypyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

20 Ethyl 4-[4-(2-methylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(4,6-dimethoxypyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(3-methoxypyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-methyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

25 Ethyl 4-[4-(3-methoxypyrazin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-methylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethoxy-5-methylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-methoxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

30 Ethyl 4-[4-(3-methoxypyridin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(5-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-methylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethoxy-5-methylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(4-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[3-(dimethylamino)pyrazin-2-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[6-(dimethylamino)pyrazin-2-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

5 Ethyl 4-[4-(4-methoxypyrimidin-5-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(difluoromethoxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-(4-{2-[(3-methyl-1,2-oxazol-5-yl)methoxy]pyridin-3-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

10 Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(propan-2-yloxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[1-(cyanomethyl)-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1-ethyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

15 Ethyl 4-[4-(5-chloro-2-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(3,6-dimethylpyrazin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[5-methoxy-2-(trifluoromethyl)pyrimidin-4-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

20 Ethyl 4-(4-{2-[1-(propan-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]pyridin-3-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(methylamino)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(5-methoxy-2-methylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

25 Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(dimethylamino)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-cyclopropylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-(4-{2-[(cyclopropylmethyl)amino]pyridin-3-yl}piperidin-1-yl)azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

30 Ethyl 4-{4-[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(2-ethylpyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(4-methoxypyridazin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(6-ethoxypyridin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

5 Ethyl 4-[4-(pyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-[4-(4-methylpyrimidin-5-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-ylmethoxy)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(2-methylpropyl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

10 Methyl 4-{[3-(3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]methyl}piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{[3-(3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]methyl}piperidine-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl 4-{4-[2-(1,3-oxazol-2-yl)pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}azepane-1-carboxylate,

15 Ethyl (4S)-4-[4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl (4R)-4-[4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl (4S)-4-[4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl (4R)-4-[4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

Ethyl (4S)-4-[4-(2-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

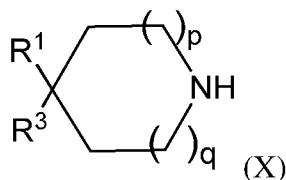
20 Ethyl (4R)-4-[4-(2-methoxypyridin-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]azepane-1-carboxylate,

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

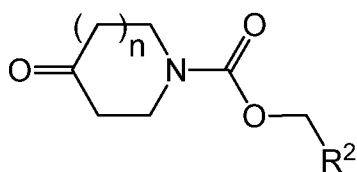
11. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as defined in claim 1 which comprises

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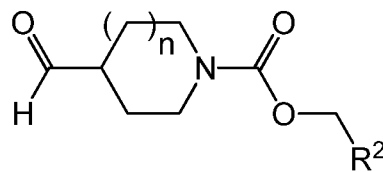
(i) reacting a compound of formula (X),



wherein p , q , R^1 and R^3 are as defined in formula (I), with a compound of formula (XIa) or (XIb),



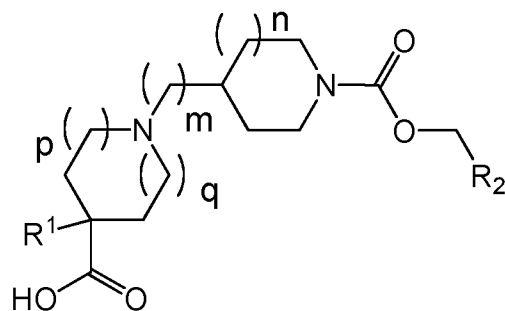
(XIa)



(XIb)

wherein n and R^2 are as defined in formula (I), under reductive amination conditions; or

(ii) when R^3 represents a 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl-2-yl group, reacting a compound of formula (XII),



(XII)

wherein m , n , p , q , R^1 and R^2 are as defined in formula (I), with a compound of formula (XIII), $R-C(O)-NH-NH_2$, wherein R represents hydrogen or an R^3 substituent as defined in formula (I), in the presence of a base followed by reaction with a dehydrating agent;

and optionally thereafter carrying out one or more of the following procedures:

- converting a compound of formula (I) into another compound of formula (I)
- removing any protecting groups
- forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

13. A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 for use in treating a condition whose development or symptoms are linked to M4 receptor activity.

5 14. A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 for use in treating schizophrenia, schizophreniform disorder, schizoaffective disorder, cognitive disorders, pain, drug abuse and bipolar disorders.

10 15. A combination of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 and one or more agents selected from carbamazepine, olanzapine, quetiapine, verapamil, lamotrigine, oxcarbazepine, risperidone, aripiprazole, ziprasidone and lithium.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/GB2014/050371

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
INV.	C07D401/14 A61K31/506	C07D413/14 A61K31/55
	C07D409/14 A61P25/18	C07D417/14 A61K31/4545
ADD.		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) C07D A61K A61P		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, BEILSTEIN Data, BIOSIS, CHEM ABS Data		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 2006/058294 A2 (VERTEX PHARMA [US]; HURLEY DENNIS J [US]; BERGERON DANIELE M [US]; DRU) 1 June 2006 (2006-06-01) claims; table 3; compounds 14, 39, 43, 65, 94, 106, 177, 264, 364, 392 -----	1-15
Y	WO 2004/069828 A1 (MITSUBISHI PHARMA CORP [JP]; ONO SHINICHIRO [JP]; HAMAGUCHI SEIJI [JP]) 19 August 2004 (2004-08-19) tables 1-7; compounds ----- -/--	1-15
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents :		
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention	
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report	
11 March 2014	19/03/2014	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Stroeter, Thomas	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/GB2014/050371

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>WO 99/32481 A1 (ALCON LAB INC [US]; NAMIL ABDELMOULA [US]; HOFFMAN ANDREW [US]; HELLBE) 1 July 1999 (1999-07-01) product of example 1 (free base and HCl salt thereof); activity: see page 4, lines 28-30 and page 11, lines 18-19.; claims 1, 2, 6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	1-15
A	<p>EP 1 221 443 A1 (BANYU PHARMA CO LTD [JP]) 10 July 2002 (2002-07-10) ref. example 7: intermediate product of paragraph 255</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	1
A	<p>CHAPMAN K L ET AL: "The muscarinic M4 receptor is the functionally predominant subtype in rat and mouse striatum as demonstrated using [³⁵S] GTPgammaS binding", EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY, ELSEVIER SCIENCE, NL, vol. 652, no. 1-3, 10 February 2011 (2011-02-10), pages 1-6, XP027582101, ISSN: 0014-2999 [retrieved on 2010-12-31] the whole document</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	1-15

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/GB2014/050371

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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			JP 2008521821 A 26-06-2008
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			WO 0127104 A1 19-04-2001
