Supporting Information

Highly Efficient Synthesis of HIV NNRTI Doravirine

Donald R. Gauthier, Jr.^{*}, Benjamin D. Sherry^{*}, Yang Cao, Michel Journet, Guy Humphrey, Tetsuji Itoh, Ian Mangion and David M. Tschaen

Department of Process Chemistry, Merck & Co., Inc., P.O. Box 2000, Rahway, NJ 07065, United States

Table of Contents

1.	Optimization of Aldol reaction in Batch Mode	S1
2.	Micro-Batch Screening of Aldol Reaction	S2
3.	Development of Continuous Aldol Reaction	S3
4.	HPLC assay conditions	S4
5.	Experimental Procedures and Compound Characterization	S5
6.	X-ray Crystal data and Structure Refinement for Compound 8a	S8
7.	Copies of NMR Spectra	S11

1. Optimization of Aldol Reaction in Batch Mode:

Aldol execution in batch mode requires pre-formation of an ester enolate, a reactive intermediate with inherent instability. Enolates derived from bulky esters are more stable and can be handled at higher temperatures, therefore our initial efforts focused on *tert*-butyl ester **7c**. A screen of solvent, temperature and base identified NaHMDS in toluene at -10 °C as a set of robust reaction conditions when conducted on gram scale (Table 1). However, upon scale-up to >10g the exotherm produced by the enolate formation required modifying the conditions to include slower NaHMDS addition rate and a lower initial batch temperature of -30 °C. In preparation for executing the aldol reaction on kilogram scale where NaHMDS addition rate would be extended even further, enolate stability over time was measured by evaluating the reaction performance after a hold period. The enolate generated from **7c** was found to degrade over time, showing ~7-9% lower yield in the aldol reaction per 1 hour of additional hold time at -10 °C.

Identical conditions were used to conduct the aldol reaction with ethyl ester 7a and iPr ester 7b, except that these substrates required -40 °C to produce aldol adduct yields comparable to 7c. However, subsequent conversion of 8a was found to be a much higher yielding pathway to pyridone 10. In all cases, transformation of aldol adducts to dienes 8a-c went smoothly using TFAA with triethylamine and the bulky ester intermediates were more prone to non-productive pathways upon exposure to the cycloamination conditions. Consequently, we focused efforts to improve the aldol yield of ethyl ester 7a. Unfortunately, further investigation showed that preformation of the enolate derived from ethyl ester 7a was not suitable for scale-up as aldol yields worsened on attempts to scale. Our next approach was to investigate Barbier conditions with 7a thereby avoiding preformation of the unstable enolate; however, this approach met with significantly diminished yields of aldol product 8a.

Due to enolate instability and robustness issues with the aldol reaction upon scale-up, tert-butyl ester 7c was deemed the only viable enolate precursor suitable for scale-up in batch mode, even though the overall conversion of 7c to pyridone 10 occurred in the lowest overall yield. However, the tert-butyl ester 7c derived enolate was not free of instability and robustness issues and would require significant development before scale-up. Therefore we began to look at alternate processing technologies such as Continuous Flow to avoid generation of the enolate at scale.



R	Base	Solvent	Temp	Conversion	1,2 : 1,4
			(°C)	(assay yield)	
^t Bu	LiHMDS	THF	-78	91%	2.5 : 1
^t Bu	NaHMDS	THF	-78	83%	8.5 : 1
^t Bu	KHMDS	THF	-78	43%	ND
^t Bu	NaHMDS	DME	-60	72%	1.3 : 1
^t Bu	NaHMDS	Toluene	-30	89% (72%)	13:1
^t Bu	KO ^t Amyl	Toluene	-30	80% (23%)	ND
^t Bu	NaHMDS	Toluene	-10	95% (77%)	13:1
^t Bu	NaHMDS	Toluene	-10	$95\% (63\%)^l$	13:1
^t Bu	NaHMDS	Toluene	0	98% (49%)	13:1
Et	NaHMDS	Toluene	-40	87% (65%)	12:1
Et	NaHMDS	Toluene	-10	65% (26%)	ND
Et	NaHMDS	Toluene	-40	$79\% (43\%)^l$	ND
^{<i>i</i>} Pr	NaHMDS	Toluene	-40	93% (70%)	13:1
^{<i>i</i>} Pr	NaHMDS	Toluene	-10	60% (35%)	13:1

Table 1. Selected results from aldol optimization studies (all reactions run on ≤ 1 g scale unless noted)

¹ Reaction run on 10g scale.

2. Micro-Batch Screening of the Aldol Reaction

The following procedure is representative of the micro-batch experimentation reactions described in this publication. Micro-batch experiments were conducted directly in 1.5mL HPLC vials equipped with magnetic stir-bars. Stock solutions of 0.5M ester **7a** with the indicated ratio of enone **3** were prepared and the dispensed directly into the HPLC vials. Further dilutions were made if necessary to obtain the desired solvent composition. The HPLC vials were loaded into a stainless steel HPLC 100-well auto-sample rack which was placed in a cooling bath at the indicated temperature. With vigorous stirring, the bases were added in a single quick injection. Reaction age times were monitored accurately with a stopwatch timer ranging between 5 and 60 seconds with the intention to simulate resonance time in a flow reactor. After the allotted age period, each reaction was quenched by quickly adding 1mL 10% aqueous H₃PO₄. Note: each reaction was handle individually and completed to quench before moving to the next vial. The completed reaction set was analyzed using an Agilent Technologies 1200 series HPLC. To alleviate concerns of decomposition while in queue to be analyzed, a typical quenched micro-batch aldol reaction was measured by comparison of HPLC peak area of starting ester **7a** vs. product aldol adduct **8a** (Table 2). Reactions that provided >80% conversion were diluted up to 10mL with MeCN in a volumetric flask and assay yield was calculated vs. reference standard of **8a** (~0.2 mg/mL in MeCN).





3 / 7a	Time	Temp	solvent	Base (equiv.)	% conv
	(seconds)	°C			(% yield 8a)
1.0	20	23	toluene	NaHMDS (1.5)	50 (28)
1.25	20	23	toluene	NaHMDS (1.5)	89 (53)
1.5	20	23	toluene	NaHMDS (1.5)	99 (57)
1.2	20	-20	toluene	NaHMDS (1.3)	91 (72)
1.2	60	-20	toluene	NaHMDS (1.3)	95 (73)

1.3	20	0	toluene	NaHMDS (1.3)	98 (73)
1.2	20	-20	THF	NaHMDS (1.3)	75 (66)
1.2	20	23	THF	NaHMDS (1.3)	95 (67)
1.2	20	-20	THF	nBuLi (1.0)	7
1.2	20	-20	MTBE	NaHMDS (1.3)	75 (70)
1.2	60	50	toluene or THF	various amine bases	No rxn
1.2	20	-20	toluene	$LiO^{t}Bu(1.3)$	5
1.2	20	-20	toluene	$NaO^{t}Bu(1.3)$	67 (45)
1.2	20	-20	toluene	$\mathrm{KO}^{t}\mathrm{Bu}\left(1.3\right)$	97 (85)
1.2	20	-20	THF	$\mathrm{KO}^{t}\mathrm{Bu}\left(1.3\right)$	94 (77)
1.2	20	-50	toluene	$\mathrm{KO}^{t}\mathrm{Am}\left(1.3\right)$	94 (86)
1.2	20	-20	toluene	$\mathrm{KO}^{t}\mathrm{Am}\left(1.3\right)$	97 (85)
1.2	20	0	toluene	$\mathrm{KO}^{t}\mathrm{Am}\left(1.3\right)$	94 (79)
1.2	5	-20	toluene	$\mathrm{KO}^{t}\mathrm{Am}\left(1.3\right)$	96 (84)
1.2	60	-20	toluene	$\mathrm{KO}^{t}\mathrm{Am}\left(1.3\right)$	98 (85)

3. Development of Continuous Aldol Reaction

After using small-scale experiments to establish viable conditions for the continuous aldol addition, the reaction was evaluated in a continuous fashion. A 4.4 mL reactor was constructed from 1/8" stainless steel tubing as shown pictorially below:



A solution of ester **7a**, enone **3** in toluene was prepared to a final concentration of 1 M in ester. This solution was pumped into one reactor inlet at 9.35 mL/min. A commercial solution of potassium *tert*-amylate in toluene (1.7 M) was pumped into the second reactor inlet at 8.25 mL/min. The reactor up to the second T-Mixer was submerged in a dry ice acetone batch maintained at -25 °C. At the second T-mixer the aqueous quench was introduced at a rate of 6.7 mL/min. The residence time (τ) in the reactor was 15 seconds. At completion of the reaction the aqueous phase was removed and the organic solution assayed by quantitative HPLC to determine yield of aldol adduct.

Initially the aqueous quench was evaluated to identify conditions which would deliver an organic solution with sufficient stability for downstream processing. Using a 10 wt% solution of potassium phosphate dibasic in 5 wt% aqueous phosphoric acid delivered an aqueous pH after quench of 8-11. The organic solution obtained showed no degradation as measured by quantitative HPLC after 3 days at 40 °C and 8 days at room temperature. In comparison an aqueous quench solution of 15 wt% potassium phosphate monobasic delivered an organic solution that showed 3% degradation after 3 days at 40 °C.

Though viable conditions to quench the aldol reaction were identified there was a desire to simplify the process through direct elimination of the aldol reaction stream. Attempts to include the trifluoroacetic anhydride in the receiver vessel required an additional 1-2 equiv of TFAA to push the reaction to complete conversion. As such a protocol where trifluoroacetic acid was added continuously to the receiver vessel was adopted.

This procedure was evaluated on kilogram scale using a reactor constructed from $\frac{1}{4}$ " stainless steel tubing shown schematically below. The reactor volume was 82.2 mL, corresponding to a residence time (τ) of 53 seconds (see experimental procedure for flow rates) and a total processing time for a 1 kg batch of 1 h 45 min.



To assist with scale-up of the flow process the impact of temperature on the yield of the aldol reaction and subsequent cyclization to pyridone 10 was evaluated as shown in the table below.

Table 5. Impact of Dath Temperature on Continuous Aluoi Reactio	Table 3: Im	pact of Bath	Temperature on	Continuous	Aldol Reaction
---	-------------	--------------	-----------------------	------------	-----------------------

Aldol Reaction						Н	eterocycliza	ntion				
Solution KF	Bath T (°C)	Reactor T (°C)	Diene (LCAP)	Rel. Assay	NH3 P (psi)	NH3 P (equiv)	T (°C)	Time (h)	Pyridone (LCAP)	Assay (g)	AY	
353	-25	-20	78.56	"Standard"	50	35	60	6	75.36	23.51	72%	
537	-25	-20	79.52	100%	50	34	60	6	71.39	24.37	74%	
228	-10	0	78.61	97%	48	36	60	6	71.54	21.87	67%	
233	0	10	77.41	95%	70	43	60	6	67.72	22.49	69%	
234	9	20	76.29	94%	52	38	60	6	68.44	21.53	66%	
226	14	26	73.60	90%	55	38	60	6	64.94	20.18	61%	

4. HPLC Conditions

Fused-core C-18 (4.6x100 mm, 2.7 μ m particle); 210 + 280 nm; 1.8 mL/min; 40 °C, solvent channel A: CH₃CN; solvent channel B: aqueous 0.1% H₃PO₄). 10% A to 95% A over 8 min, hold 2min.

Peak	Retention time
Enone 3 :	3.74 min (absorbs only at 280 nm)
Ethyl ester 7a:	4.45 min
Toluene:	4.66 min
Aldol product 8a:	5.26 min
Diene 9a	5.96 min
Pyridone 10	4.13 min

5. Experimental Procedures and Compound Characterization



Ethyl 2-(3-chloro-5-cyanophenoxy)acetate (7a). A 1L round bottom flask equipped with overhead stirring was charged with 3-chloro-5-hydroxybenzonitrile (50.0 g, 98 wt% purity, 319 mmol) and 15% aqueous DMF (200 mL DMF + 35.5 mL H₂O). To the resulting

solution was added diisopropylethylamine (61.3 mL, 99.0% purity, 1.1 equiv) and ethyl 2-bromoacetate (35.7 g, 1.15 equiv) at ambient temperature. The resulting solution was warmed to 50 °C and aged for 12 h. Upon completion of the reaction the mixture was cooled to 0-5 °C. To the clear to slightly cloudy solution was added 5% seed crystals of product (3.8g, 16.0 mmol) to induce crystallization. Water (64.5mL) was added to the thin suspension *via* syringe pump over 3 h while maintaining the temperature at 0-5 °C. Additional water (200mL) was added over 1 h while maintaining the temperature at 0-5 °C. The final DMF/water ratio was 1:1.5. The resulting slurry was aged for 1 h at 0-5 °C and filtered. The cake was washed with 2:1 DMF/water (150 mL) and water (200 mL). The wet cake was dried under a nitrogen stream at ambient temperature to afford 73.4 g of **7a** as a light tan solid, 96% yield, 99.5% purity. *Characterization Data:* ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.06 (m, 1H), 4.67 (s, 2H), 4.32 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ = 167.5, 158.6, 136.2, 125.2, 120.3, 117.2, 116.4, 114.4, 65.5, 61.8, 14.1 ppm. HRMS (ESI) cald for C₁₁H₁₁NO₃CI [M+H]⁺ 240.0427, found 240.0418. Melting point: 41-42 °C.



Isopropyl 2-(3-chloro-5-cyanophenoxy)acetate (7b). To a solution of 3-chloro-5-hydroxybenzonitrile (20 g, 129 mmol) in acetone (200 mL) was added K_2CO_3 (27.0 g, 195 mmol) and isopropyl 2-bromoacetate (27.1 g, 150 mmol). The mixture was warmed to 50 °C and aged for 4h. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to 23 °C and then filtered to remove inorganic precipitate. The filter cake was washed with acetone (70 mL). The combined filtrate and wash was concentrated to a volume of ~80mL. Heptane (200 ml)

was charged over 4h. The resulting slurry was filtered, washed with heptane and dried under N₂ to give 29.75g (90% yield) of white crystalline solid (99% purity). *Characterization Data:* ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.16 (m, 1H), 7.07 (m, 1H), 5.17 (p, J = 6.5 Hz, 1 H), 4.62 (s, 2H), 1.30 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ = 167.0, 158.7, 136.1, 125.1, 120.3, 117.2, 116.5, 114.4, 69.8, 65.7, 21.7 ppm. HMRS (ESI) calcd for C₁₂H₁₃NO₃Cl [M+H]⁺ 254.0584, found 254.0581.



tert-Butyl 2-(3-chloro-5-cyanophenoxy)acetate (7c). To a 2L round bottom flask equipped with an overhead mechanical stirrer was charged 3-chloro-5-hydroxybenzonitrile (80 g, 505 mmol), followed by acetone (800 ml), K_2CO_3 (92 g, 667 mmol) and *tert*-butyl 2-bromoacetate (85 ml, 561 mmol). The reaction was warmed to 50-55 °C and aged 4h. The reaction mixture was filtered and then washed with acetone

(240 mL). The filtrate was concentrated on a rotovap to ~half the volume (~400mL) during which time the product began to crystallize. To the resulting slurry was added heptane (400 mL) over 2h, then aged at RT over night. Under mechanical stirring, n-heptane (400 mL, 5 vol) was added slowly over 2h, then stirred at RT overnight. The batch was filtered, washed with n-heptane (160 mL x 2) and dried under N₂. Isolated 128.6g (94.0 % yield) of a white crystalline solid (99.0% purity). *Characterization Data:* ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ = 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.06 (m, 1H), 4.56 (s, 2 H), 1.52 (s, 9H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ = 166.6, 158.7, 136.1, 125.0, 120.2, 117.2, 116.4, 114.3, 83.3, 65.9, 28.0 ppm. HMRS (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₅NO₃Cl [M+H]⁺ 268.0740, found 268.0736.

Procedure for the Synthesis of Pyridone 10 via Aldol Run in Batch Mode:



3-Chloro-5-((2-oxo-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl)oxy)benzonitrile (10). To a -15 °C solution of 0.6M sodium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide in toluene (7.47 ml, 4.48 mmol) was added a solution of *tert*-butyl 2-(3-

chloro-5-cyanophenoxy)acetate (1.0 g, 3.74 mmol) in toluene (5.0 ml) dropwise via an addition funnel over 15 min with internal temp <-10 °C. The resulting suspension was aged at -10 °C for 15min. Neat (E)-4-ethoxy-1,1,1-trifluorobut-3-en-2-one (**3**) (0.646 ml, 4.48 mmol) was added over 15min while maintaining the internal reaction temp to < -10 °C. The mixture was aged 15min at -10 °C then allowed to warm to 0 °C. The reaction was quenched with H₂O (10 mL), and the layers were allowed to settle. The organic layer was washed again with H₂O (10 mL). The org layer was next azeotropically dried by distillation. The volume was adjusted to 5 mL and the final water content was determined to be < 300ppm by Karl Fisher coulometric titration. The solution was assayed against an authentic reference and found to contain 1.26g (77% yield) of **8c**.

The solution of **8c** (1.26 g, 2.89 mmol) in toluene at 23 °C was treated triethylamine (1.21 ml, 8.67 mmol) followed by dropwise addition of trifluoroacetic anhydride (0.613 ml, 4.34 mmol) over 15 min. The temperature was maintained at <30 °C during the TFAA addition. The resulting heterogeneous mixture was aged 1h.

The crude reaction mixture of diene **9c** in toluene was added MeOH (6.5 mL) and the inorganic precipitate dissolved to give a clear yellow solution. The solution of **9c** was found to be exceptionally stable; however, attempts to isolate by chromatography resulted in decomposition. The reaction was transferred to a pressure vessel, anhydrous ammonia (2.5 ml, 107.2 mmol) was charged and the vessel was aged 12h @ 80 °C. The resulting dark solution was concentrated in vacuo to remove ammonia and during the ammonia distillation pyridone **10** precipitated out of solution. The distillation continued to remove most of the MeOH while maintaining a relatively constant volume by replenishing with toluene. The mixture was filtered, washed with 4:1 toluene/MeOH (2.0mL) and dried over a N₂ stream to afford 0.576g (49% overall yield from **7c**) of a white crystalline solid. *Characterization Data:* ¹H NMR (DSMO-*d*₆, 500 MHz) δ = 13.13-12.33 (br s, 1H), 7.71 (t, 1H, *J* = 1.56 Hz), 7.60 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.72 Hz), 7.57 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.4, 1.2 Hz), 7.51 (t, 1H, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 6.46 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.86 Hz) ppm. ¹³C (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ = 157.4, 156.9, 140.7 (q, *J* = 1.77 Hz), 134.9, 134.1, 130.8 (q, *J* = 31.43 Hz), 126.4, 121.9 (q, *J* = 275.79 Hz), 121.2, 118.3, 117.0, 113.7, 100.0 (q, *J* = 4.37 Hz) ppm. HMRS (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₇N₂O₂F₃Cl [M+H]⁺ 315.0148, found 315.0152. Melting point: 272 °C.



Procedure for the Synthesis of Pyridone 10 via Continuous Aldol Reaction (TEA added via mode A):

3-Chloro-5-((2-oxo-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl)oxy)benzonitrile (10). A solution of ethyl ester **7a** (1.00 kg, 4.17 mol, 1.00 equiv) and enone **3** (1.05 kg, 6.27 mol, 1.50 equiv) in toluene (1.74 kg, 2.00 L) transferred at a rate of 35 mL/min was combined with triethylamine (2.33 L, 16.7 mol, 4.00 equiv) transferred at a rate of 22.5 mL/min and pumped to one reactor inlet. The commercial solution of 1.7 M potassium *tert*-amylate in toluene (3.56 L, 6.05 mol, 1.45 equiv) was pumped to the second reactor inlet at a rate of 35 mL/min. The receiver vessel was a 30 L cylindrical jacketed vessel charged with toluene (1.2 L) and potassium trifluoroacetate¹ (44 g, 0.292 mol, 5 wt% of theoretical). Trifluoroacetic anhydride (1.74 L, 12.5 mol, 3.00 equiv) was added to the receiver vessel at a rate of 17.2 mL/min. The reactor was submerged in a dry ice/acetone batch maintained at -30 to -42 °C for the course of the run. The receiver vessel was maintained at 6 to 8 °C. At completion of the reaction the receiver vessel was warmed to room temperature and methanol (2.7 L) was added. Qualitative HPLC analysis showed the desired diene was generated in 83.55 LCAP.

The resulting solution was transferred to a 10 gallon stainless steel autoclave using methanol (0.861 kg) as a forward rinse of the transfer line. The vessel was charged with ammonia (1.9 kg, 117 mol, 28 equiv) to a pressure of 6 psi. The mixture was warmed to 60 °C resulting in a pressure increase to 51 psi and aged for 6 h. The reaction was

cooled to room temperature and the system vented. The solution was transferred out of the stainless steel autoclave using methanol (8 L) as a forward rinse of the transfer line.

A 22 L four neck round bottom flask was equipped with a thermocouple, vacuum adapter, distillation head and overhead stirrer. The batch and methanol rinse were transferred to the round bottom flask in portions to maintain a volume of 8-12 L while concentrating at 19 inHg and 40 °C. During concentration the product crystallized from solution. At completion of the concentration the system was vented and cooled to room temperature. Methanol (1.5 L) was added to bring the final reaction volume to 9.5 L and aged overnight.

The resulting slurry was filtered and the cake washed with methanol (8 L). The solid was dried on the frit under a nitrogen stream. Obtained 0.909 kg (68% corrected yield) of pyridone **10** as an off-white solid with 99.04 HPLC LCAP and 98.5 LCWP. *Characterization Data*: ¹H NMR (DSMO-*d*₆, 500 MHz) δ = 13.13-12.33 (br s, 1H), 7.71 (t, 1H, *J* = 1.56 Hz), 7.60 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.72 Hz), 7.57 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.4, 1.2 Hz), 7.51 (t, 1H, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 6.46 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.86 Hz) ppm. ¹³C (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ = 157.4, 156.9, 140.7 (q, *J* = 1.77 Hz), 134.9, 134.1, 130.8 (q, *J* = 31.43 Hz), 126.4, 121.9 (q, *J* = 275.79 Hz), 121.2, 118.3, 117.0, 113.7, 100.0 (q, *J* = 4.37 Hz) ppm. HMRS (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₇N₂O₂F₃Cl [M+H]⁺ 315.0148, found 315.0152. Melting point: 272 °C.



Phenyl methylcarbamate (12). Aqueous methylamine (500 g, 6.44 mol, 40 wt%) was charged to a 2 L vessel equipped with heat/cool jacket, overhead stirrer, temperature probe and nitrogen inlet. The solution was cooled to -5 °C. Phenyl chloroformate (500.0 g, 3.16 mol) was added over 2.5 h maintaining the reaction temperature

between -5 and 0 °C. On complete addition the white slurry was stirred for 1 h at 0 °C. The slurry was filtered, washed with water (500 mL) and dried under N₂ sweep overnight to afford 465g (96% yield) of the desired product as a white crystalline solid. *Characterization Data:* ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.36 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 7.19 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.13 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 5.23 (br s, 1H), 2.82 (d, 3H, *J* = 4.63 Hz) ppm. ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ = 155.4, 151.1, 129.3, 125.3, 121.7, 27.7 ppm. HMRS (ESI) calcd for C₈H₁₀NO₂ [M+H]⁺ 152.0712, found 152.0709. Melting point: 66 °C.



2-(2-Hydroxyacetyl)-*N***-methylhydrazinecarboxamide** (14). Phenyl methylcarbamate (300 g, 1.95 mol) was charged to a 2 L vessel with cooling jacket,

overhead stirrer, temperature probe, reflux condenser and nitrogen inlet. Charged IPA (390 mL) and hydrazine hydrate (119 g, 2.33 mol). The resulting slurry was warmed to 75 °C and aged for 6 h. Charged IPA (810 mL) and glycolic acid (222 g, 2.92 mol) and the resulting solution was aged at 83-85 °C for 10-12 h. The mixture was seeded with product (0.5 g) after 4 h at 83-85 °C. The slurry was slowly cooled to 20 °C over 2 h and aged for 1 h. The slurry was filtered and washed with IPA (600 mL). The cake was dried under nitrogen sweep to afford 241.8g (81% yield) of the desired product as a white crystalline solid. *Characterization data:* ¹H NMR (D₂O, 400 MHz): $\delta = 4.10$ (s, 2H), 2.60 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (D₂O, 100 MHz) $\delta = 175.1$, 160.4, 60.5, 26.0 ppm. HMRS (ESI) calcd for C₄H₁₀N₃O₃ [M+H]⁺ 148.0722, found 148.0719.



3-(Hydroxymethyl)-4-methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5(4H)-one (15). Compound 14 (130 g, 0.84 mol, 95 wt%), *n*-propanol (130 mL) and water (130 mL) were charged to a 1 L vessel with jacket, overhead stirrer, temperature probe, reflux condenser and nitrogen inlet. Sodium hydroxide (16.8 g, 0.42 mol) was added and the slurry warmed to reflux and

aged for 3 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to 20 °C and the pH adjusted to 6.5 (+/- 0.5) using concentrated aqueous hydrochloric acid (28.3 mL, 0.34 mol). Water was azeotropically removed under vacuum at 40-50 °C by reducing the volume to ~400 mL and maintaining that volume by the slow addition of n-propanol (780 mL). The final water content should be <3000 ug/mL. The resultant slurry (~ 400 mL) was cooled to 23 °C and heptane (390 ml) was added. The slurry was aged for 1 h at 23 °C, cooled to 0 °C and aged 2 h. The slurry was filtered, the cake washed with 1:2 n-PrOH/heptane (100 mL) and dried to provide 125g (85% yield) of an off-white crystalline solid. The solid was ~73 wt% due to residual inorganics (NaCl). *Characterization data:* ¹H NMR (D₂O, 400 MHz): $\delta =$

4.43 (s, 2H), 3.16 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (D₂O, 100 MHz) δ = 156.3, 148.2, 54.4, 27.0 ppm. HMRS (ESI) calcd for C₄H₈N₃O₂ [M+H]⁺ 130.0617, found 130.062.



3-(Chloromethyl)-4-methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5(4H)-one (16). A mixture of **15** (54 g, at 73wt%, 307 mmol) in ethyl acetate (540 mL) was stirred at 45 °C. Thionyl chloride (26.9 mL, 369 mmol) was added over 30-45 min and the mixture aged at 50 °C for 2 h. The warm suspension was filtered and the filter cake (mainly NaCl) was washed with ethyl acetate (108 mL). The combined

filtrate and wash were concentrated at 50-60 °C under reduced pressure to approximately 150 mL. The resulting slurry was cooled to -10 °C and aged for 1 h. The slurry was filtered and the filter cake washed with ethyl acetate (50 mL). The cake was dried under a nitrogen sweep to afford 40.1g (86% yield) of the desired product as a bright yellow solid. *Characterization Data:* ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz): $\delta = 3.18$ (s, 3H), 4.72 (s, 2H), 11.83 (s, 1H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125.7 MHz) $\delta = 26.7$, 35.5, 143.8, 154.9 ppm. HMRS (ESI) calcd for C₄H₇N₃OCl [M+H]⁺ 148.0278, found 148.0279.



Doravirine (1). A 75 L flask was charged a 9.63 wt% solution of **16** in NMP (11.6 kg, 7.55 mol). Charged **10** (2.00 kg, 6.29 mol), NMP (3.8 L) and 2-methyl-2-butanol (6.0 L). To the resulting suspension was

slowly added *N*,*N*-diisopropylethylamine (4.38 L, 25.2 mol) over 4 h. The reaction was aged for 18 h at ambient temperature. The tan solution was quenched with acetic acid (1.26 L, 22.0 mol) and aged at ambient temperature overnight. The tan solution was warmed to 70 °C. Water (2.52 L) was added and the batch was seeded with crystalline **1** (134 g) to induce crystallization. The thin suspension was aged 1 h at 70 °C. Additional water (14.3 L) was added over 7 h. The slurry was aged for 2 h at 70 °C and slowly cooled to 20 °C over 5 h. The slurry was filtered and washed with 2:1 NMP/water (6 L), followed by water (6 L x 2). The filter cake was dried under nitrogen to give 2.53 kg (85% yield) of **1** as a white solid. *Characterization Data* : ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz): δ 3.11 (s, 3H), 5.17 (s, 2H), 6.66 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.61 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.4, 1.3 Hz), 7.74 (dd, 1H, *J* = 1.8, 1.4 Hz), 7.89 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 11.68 (s, 1H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125.7 MHz): δ 26.7, 43.3, 100.2, 113.6, 116.8, 118.4, 121.1, 121.6, 126.5, 129.9, 134.9, 137.3, 140.1, 143.2, 155.0, 156.0, 157.2 ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 470.5 MHz): δ -62.3 ppm. HMRS (ESI) calcd for C₁₇H₁₂N₅O₃F₃Cl [M+H]⁺ 426.0581, found 426.0588.

6. X-Ray Crystal Data and Structure Refinement for Compound 8a

A single crystal was grown by vapor diffusion of n-heptane into a concentrated isopropyl acetate solution of Compound **8a**. The crystal was a small colorless plate with dimensions of 0.07 mm x 0.27 mm x 0.31mm. Data collection was performed on a Bruker Apex II system at 100K. The unit cell was determined to be monoclinic in space group $P_{1/n}$. Crystallographic data is summarized in **Table 3**. The compound crystallized as a racemate (2R,3R / 2S,3S) and the C4-C5 double bond is in the trans configuration. **Figure 1** shows an ORTEP representation of Compound **8a** with thermal ellipsoids set at the 30% probability level. Full structural details have been deposited with Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC 1044760).

Figure 1: ORTEP representation of Compound 8a with thermal ellipsoids set at the 30% probability level.



Table #. Crystal data and structure refinement for Compound 8a

Empirical formula	C ₁₇ H ₁₇ Cl F ₃ N O ₅	
Formula weight	407.76	
Temperature	100(2) K	
Wavelength	1.54178 Å	
Crystal system	Monoclinic	
Space group	$P2_1/n$	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 11.9780(8) Å	a= 90°.
	b = 7.5434(5) Å	$b = 94.087(3)^{\circ}$
	c = 20.4174(13) Å	$g = 90^{\circ}$.
Volume	1840.1(2) Å ³	
Z	4	
Density (calculated)	1.472 g/cm ³	
Absorption coefficient	2.384 mm ⁻¹	
F(000)	840	
Crystal size	0.312 x 0.272 x 0.066 mm	n ³

Theta range for data collection	4.154 to 66.448°.
Index ranges	-14<=h<=14, -7<=k<=8, -24<=l<=24
Reflections collected	26879
Independent reflections	3201 [R(int) = 0.0403]
Completeness to theta = 66.500°	98.9 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.854 and 0.630
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²
Data / restraints / parameters	3201 / 0 / 247
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.027
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0304, wR2 = 0.0815
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0331, wR2 = 0.0836
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.339 and -0.243 e.Å ⁻³

7. Copies of ¹H and ¹³C Spectra



















¹ Potassium trifluoroacetate seed is added to aid in the precipitation of the inorganic by-product. In the absence of seed potassium trifluoroacetate precipitates as a gummy, gelatinous solid.