Table S2. Kinetic parameters for the reductive half-reaction of xanthine oxidase with purine substrates. For faster substrates, the anaerobic reaction of enzyme with substrate in pseudo-first order excess was followed at 450 nm (following the bleaching of enzyme upon reduction) by stopped-flow spectrophotometry, with the data were fit to single exponentials to obtain k_{obs} . For slower substrates, the reaction was followed in a dioade array spectrophotometer, with rate constants obtained from linear fits to a semilogarithmic plot of $\ln(\Delta A / \Delta A)$ versus time. The reaction conditions were 0.1 M MES buffer, 0.1 N K Cl pH 7.0, 25 °C. Plots of k_{obs} versus [substrate] were fitted using the hyperbolic relationship $k_{\text{obs}} = k_{\text{red}}[S]/(K_d + [S])$ to obtain the limiting rate of reduction, k_{red} , and substrate dissociation constant, K_d [4c]. (b) In the case of 2-hydroxy-6-methylpurine, 2-thioxanthine and 6-thioxanthine there was no substrate concentration dependence observed in the reductive half-reaction. For these three substrate the relevant kinetic parameters given in Table 2 were followed under conditions of a pseudo first-order excess of enzyme rather than substrate under a erobic conditions, following the reaction by the small spectral changes arising from the molybdenum center itself.

HN N O H	x an thin e	$k_{red} (s^{-1})$	Κ _d (μΜ)	$k_{red}/K_d (M^{-1}s^{-1})$
H		7.0	0.54	
H ₃ C N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N		13.9	4.5	3.1 x 10 ⁶
CH ₃	3-methylx anthine	(0.0005)	no reaction detected	
O N N	1 ₃ 7-m ethyl xan thine			2.0 x 10 ³
H ₃ C N N CH ₃	1,3-dimethylxanthine (theophylline)	(0.00005)	no reaction detected	
H ₃ C N N N	1,7-dimethylxanthine	0.070	1200	56
$\begin{array}{ccc} & & & & & H \\ & & & & & N \\ & & & & & N \end{array}$	gua ni ne	0.0 001	59	1.7
NH ₂ H N N N N	2,6-dia min op uri ne	0.001	52	17
CI H N N H ₂ N N	2-ami no -6-ch lo ro- purin e	0.013	133	100
Н	2-hydro xy- 6-me thyl xan thin e	0.133	1.15	1.2 x 10 ⁵
HN N S N N	2-thioxanthine	3.0		
HN N ON N H	6-thiox anthine	1.4	0.95	1.5 x 10 ⁶