# Supplementary Material

## Thiol-reactive analogues of galanthamine, codeine and morphine as potential probes to interrogate allosteric binding within nAChRs

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#### 1. Synthesis and Characterisation:

#### **Synthesis of Ketones:**

**codeinone** [1, 2]:



Dess-Martin periodinane (100 mg, 234  $\mu$ mol) was added to a stirred solution of codeine (2, 50 mg, 166  $\mu$ mol) in dichloromethane (2 mL). The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 1 hour, turning orange over time. After 1 hour 2 M aq NaOH (2 mL) was added and the resulting two phase mixture stirred vigorously for a further hour. After this time the two phases were separated and the organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield the title compound **5** as a pale yellow solid (40 mg, 81 %).



**mp:** 163 °C (decomposes, literature [2] 182-183 °C)  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -207° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) literature [1] -218° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) **IR** (NaCl) 1675 (C=O), 1637, 1609 (C=C), 1279 (C-O) <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** ( $\delta$ , 400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.58-6.69 (3H, m, H<sub>1</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>8</sub>), 6.07 (1H, dd, J = 10.4 Hz, 2.8 Hz, H<sub>7</sub>), 4.69 (1H, s, H<sub>5</sub>), 3.83 (3H, s, H<sub>3a</sub>), 3.44 (1H, m, H<sub>9</sub>), 3.24 (1H, s, br, H<sub>14</sub>), 3.10 (1H, d, J = 18.4 Hz, H<sub>10α</sub>), 2.63 (1H, dd, J = 12.4 Hz, 4.4 Hz, H<sub>16eq</sub>), 2.46 (3H, s, H<sub>17a</sub>), 2.26-2.36 (2H, m, H<sub>10β</sub>, H<sub>16ax</sub>), 2.08 (1H, td, J = 12.4 Hz, 4.8 Hz, H<sub>15ax</sub>), 1.84 (1H, dd, J = 12.4 Hz, 2.0 Hz, H<sub>15eq</sub>), <sup>13</sup>C-NMR ( $\delta$ , 100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 194.6 (C<sub>6</sub>), 149.0 (C<sub>8</sub>), 145.0 (C<sub>4</sub>), 142.7 (C<sub>3</sub>), 132.7 (C<sub>7</sub>), 129.1 (C<sub>12</sub>), 126.0 (C<sub>11</sub>), 120.1 (C<sub>1</sub>), 115.0 (C<sub>2</sub>), 88.2 (C<sub>5</sub>), 59.2 (C<sub>9</sub>), 57.0 (C<sub>3a</sub>), 47.0 (C<sub>16</sub>), 43.2 (C<sub>13</sub>), 43.0 (C<sub>17a</sub>), 41.5 (C<sub>9</sub>), 34.0 (C<sub>15</sub>), 20.6 (C<sub>10</sub>)

#### morphinone:

3-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)morphine [3, 4]:



*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl triflate (160  $\mu$ L, 699  $\mu$ mol) was added to a solution of morphine (**3**, 100 mg, 352  $\mu$ mol) and triethylamine (140  $\mu$ L, 1.00 mmol) in dichloromethane (4 mL) and the resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. After 2 hours the reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane to a total volume of 10 mL and washed with saturated aq NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (10 mL). The remaining solution was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield a yellow oil, purified by flash chromatography (17:3 chloroform : methanol) to give the title compound **9** as a yellow solid (42 mg, 30%).



**mp:** 118-121 °C (literature [4] 122-123 °C)  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -77° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) **IR** (NaCl) 3369 (O–H), 1631, 1603 (C=C), 1273, 1254 (C–O) <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (δ, 400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.57 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>), 6.48 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>1</sub>), 5.67 (1H, dm, J = 10.0 Hz, H<sub>7</sub>), 5.28 (1H, dt, J = 10.0 Hz, 2.8 Hz, H<sub>8</sub>), 4.85 (1H, dd, J = 6.4 Hz, 1.2 Hz, H<sub>5</sub>), 4.16 (1H, m, H<sub>6</sub>), 3.34 (1H, dd, J = 6.0 Hz, 3.2 Hz, H<sub>9</sub>), 3.02 (1H, d, J = 18.8 Hz, H<sub>10α</sub>), 2.78 (1H, s, br, H<sub>6a</sub>), 2.65 (1H, m, H<sub>14</sub>), 2.58 (1H, dd, J = 12.4 Hz, 4.8 Hz, H<sub>16eq</sub>), 2.44 (3H, s, H<sub>17a</sub>) 2.41 (1H, td, J = 12.4 Hz, 3.6 Hz, H<sub>16ax</sub>) 2.29 (1H, dd, 18.8 Hz, 6.0 Hz, H<sub>10β</sub>), 2.05 (1H, td, J = 12.4 Hz, 5.2 Hz, H<sub>15ax</sub>), 1.85 (1H, dm, J = 12.4 Hz, H<sub>15eq</sub>), 0.99 (9H, s, H<sub>3c</sub>), 0.19 (3H, s, H<sub>3a</sub>), 0.16 (3H, s, H<sub>3a</sub>), 1<sup>3</sup>C-NMR (δ, 100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 148.4 (C<sub>4</sub>), 137.4 (C<sub>3</sub>), 133.4 (C<sub>7</sub>), 131.4 (C<sub>12</sub>), 128.6 (C<sub>8</sub>), 127.8 (C<sub>11</sub>), 121.1 (C<sub>2</sub>), 119.8 (C<sub>1</sub>), 91.1 (C<sub>5</sub>), 66.5 (C<sub>6</sub>), 59.0 (C<sub>9</sub>), 46.6 (C<sub>16</sub>), 43.3 (C<sub>17a</sub>), 43.1 (C<sub>13</sub>), 40.9 (C<sub>14</sub>), 36.0 (C<sub>15</sub>), 25.8 (C<sub>3c</sub>), 20.7 (C<sub>10</sub>), 18.4 (C<sub>3b</sub>), -4.22 (C<sub>3a</sub>), -4.48 (C<sub>3a</sub>) 3-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)morphinone [3, 4]:



Dess-Martin periodinane (60 mg, 140  $\mu$ mol) was added to a stirred solution of compound **9** (40 mg, 100  $\mu$ mol) in dichloromethane (4 mL). The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 1 hour, turning yellow over time. After 1 hour 2 M aq NaOH (4 mL) was added and the resulting two phase mixture stirred vigorously for a further hour. After this time the two phases were separated and the organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield the title compound **10** as a yellow solid (35 mg, 88 %).



**mp:** 99 °C (decomposes)  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -176° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) **IR** (NaCl) 1677 (C=O), 1634, 1606 (C=C), 1269 (C–O) <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (δ, 400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.59-6.65 (2H, m, H<sub>8</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>), 6.54 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>1</sub>), 6.07 (1H, dd, J = 10.0 Hz, 2.8 Hz, H<sub>7</sub>), 4.66 (1H, s, H<sub>5</sub>), 3.40 (1H, m, H<sub>9</sub>), 3.17 (1H, m, H<sub>14</sub>), 3.09 (1H, d, J = 18.4 Hz, H<sub>10α</sub>), 2.60 (1H, dd, J = 12.0 Hz, 4.8 Hz, H<sub>16eq</sub>), 2.45 (3H, s, H<sub>17a</sub>), 2.26-2.35 (2H, m, H<sub>10β</sub>, H<sub>16ax</sub>), 2.04 (1H, td, J = 12.4 Hz, 4.8 Hz, H<sub>15ax</sub>), 1.82 (1H, dm, J = 12.4 Hz, H<sub>15eq</sub>), 0.97 (9H, s, H<sub>3c</sub>), 0.18 (3H, s, H<sub>3a</sub>), 0.12 (3H, s, H<sub>3a</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, 100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 194.4 (C<sub>6</sub>), 149.3 (C<sub>8</sub>), 147.0 (C<sub>4</sub>), 137.8 (C<sub>3</sub>), 132.7 (C<sub>7</sub>), 129.2 (C<sub>12</sub>), 126.7 (C<sub>11</sub>), 122.3 (C<sub>2</sub>), 120.0 (C<sub>1</sub>), 88.1 (C<sub>5</sub>), 59.2 (C<sub>9</sub>), 46.9 (C<sub>16</sub>), 43.3 (C<sub>13</sub>), 43.1 (C<sub>17a</sub>), 41.7 (C<sub>14</sub>), 34.3 (C<sub>15</sub>), 25.8 (C<sub>3c</sub>), 20.7 (C<sub>10</sub>), 18.4 (C<sub>3b</sub>), -4.46, -4.61 (C<sub>3a</sub>)

morphinone [4]:



Compound **10** (10 mg, 25  $\mu$ mol) was dissolved in methanol (1 mL) and 1 M aq HCl (1 mL) was added. The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. After this time the solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue was redissolved in water (5 mL). The solution was basified to pH 9 using 2 M aq NaOH and the product was extracted with a 3:1 mixture of chloroform and isopropanol (3 × 5 mL). The combined extracts were dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield the title compound **6** as a pale yellow oil (5 mg, 70%).



[*α*]<sup>20</sup><sub>*D*</sub> -173° (*c* 0.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) **IR** (NaCl) 3600-2400 (O–H) 1672 (C=O), 1638, 1612 (C=C), 1246 (C–O) <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (δ, 400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.65-6.71 (2H, m, H<sub>8</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>), 6.54 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>1</sub>), 6.08 (1H, dd, J = 10.4 Hz, 2.8 Hz, H<sub>7</sub>), 4.72 (1H, s, H<sub>5</sub>), 3.49 (1H, m, H<sub>9</sub>), 3.27 (1H, s, br, H<sub>14</sub>), 3.11 (1H, d, J = 18.4 Hz, H<sub>10α</sub>), 2.67 (1H, dd, J = 12.4 Hz, 4.8 Hz, H<sub>16eq</sub>), 2.47 (3H, s, H<sub>17a</sub>), 2.29-2.37 (2H, m, H<sub>10β</sub>, H<sub>16ax</sub>), 2.12 (1H, td, J = 12.4 Hz, 4.8 Hz, H<sub>15ax</sub>), 1.85 (1H, dm, J = 12.4 Hz, H<sub>15eq</sub>), H<sub>3a</sub> not observed <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, 100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 195.2 (C<sub>6</sub>), 149.8 (C<sub>8</sub>), 143.5 (C<sub>4</sub>), 138.6 (C<sub>3</sub>), 132.5 (C<sub>7</sub>), 128.6 (C<sub>12</sub>), 125.4 (C<sub>11</sub>), 120.6 (C<sub>2</sub>), 117.7 (C<sub>1</sub>), 88.6 (C<sub>5</sub>), 59.1 (C<sub>9</sub>), 47.0 (C<sub>16</sub>), 43.5 (C<sub>13</sub>), 43.0 (C<sub>17a</sub>), 41.6 (C<sub>14</sub>), 33.9 (C<sub>15</sub>), 20.7 (C<sub>10</sub>)

#### narwedine [5, 6]:

Method A:



Galanthamine hydrobromide (100 mg, 272  $\mu$ mol) was dissolved in dichloromethane (40 mL) and the resulting solution was washed with 2 M aq, NaOH (40 mL), dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was redissolved in dichloromethane (4 mL) and Dess-Martin periodinane (160 mg, 376  $\mu$ mol) was added. The resulting solution was stirred for 1 hour before an additional 160 mg of Dess-Martin periodinane was added and the solution left to stir for a further hour. After this time 2 M aq NaOH (4 mL) was added and the resulting two phase mixture was stirred vigorously for 1 hour. The phases were then separated and the organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield the title compound **4** as a pale yellow oil (55 mg, 71 %).



 $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -7° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) literature [6] -408° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) **IR** (NaCl) 1684 (C=O), 1623 (C=C), 1284 (C=O) <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** ( $\delta$ , 400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.95 (1H, d, J = 10.4 Hz, H<sub>8</sub>), 6.69 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>), 6.64 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>1</sub>), 6.03 (1H, d, J = 10.4 Hz, H<sub>7</sub>), 4.72 (1H, m, H<sub>4a</sub>), 4.08 (1H, d, J = 15.6 Hz, H<sub>12β</sub>), 3.83 (3H, s, H<sub>3a</sub>), 3.73 (1H, d, J = 15.6 Hz, H<sub>12α</sub>), 3.09-3.28 (3H, m, H<sub>5β</sub>, H<sub>10α</sub>, H<sub>10β</sub>), 2.74 (1H, dd, J = 17.6 Hz, 3.6 Hz, H<sub>5α</sub>), 2.43 (3H, s, H<sub>11a</sub>), 2.26 (1H, td, J = 13.6 Hz, 3.6 Hz, H<sub>9β</sub>), 1.84 (1H, dm, J = 13.6 Hz, H<sub>9α</sub>) <sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** ( $\delta$ , 100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 194.6 (C<sub>6</sub>), 147.1 (C<sub>4</sub>) 144.5 (C<sub>8</sub>), 144.1 (C<sub>3</sub>), 130.7 (C<sub>14</sub>), 129.5 (C<sub>13</sub>), 127.3 (C<sub>7</sub>), 122.2 (C<sub>1</sub>), 112.0 (C<sub>2</sub>), 88.1 (C<sub>4a</sub>), 60.8 (C<sub>12</sub>), 56.1 (C<sub>3a</sub>), 54.2 (C<sub>10</sub>), 49.1 (C<sub>8a</sub>), 42.6 (C<sub>11a</sub>), 37.4 (C<sub>5</sub>), 33.4 (C<sub>9</sub>)

Method B:



Galanthamine hydrobromide (50 mg, 136  $\mu$ mol) was dissolved in dichloromethane (20 mL) and the resulting solution was washed with 2 M aq, NaOH (20 mL), dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was redissolved in dichloromethane (5 mL) and MnO<sub>2</sub> (250 mg, 2.88 mmol) was added. The resulting solution was stirred vigorously for 8 hours before the suspension was filtered to remove MnO<sub>2</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield the title compound **4** as a white solid (30 mg, 77 %).

**mp:** 188 °C (decomposes, literature [7] 184-190 °C)  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  –237° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) literature [6] –408° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). Spectral data were identical to those obtained for the product from method A.

#### **Synthesis of Codeine Mustard:**

norcodeine [8]:



 $\alpha$ -Chloroethyl chloroformate (250 µL, 1.32 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of codeine (**2**, 50 mg, 166 µmol) and NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (100 mg, 595 µmol) in dichloromethane (5 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred at reflux overnight, turning yellow over time. The following morning the mixture was cooled and washed with water (2 × 5 mL). The solution was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was redissolved in methanol (5 mL) and stirred at reflux overnight. The following morning the solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield a brown solid, purified by flash chromatography (90:10:1 chloroform : methanol : ammonia) to give the title compound **13** as a pale yellow solid (39 mg, 82%).



 $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ 181-183 (literature [8] 182-183 °C) -110° mp: °C (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) literature [8] -91° (c 0.22, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) IR (NaCl) 3311 (O-H, N-H), 1634, 1603 (C=C), 1282, 1261 (C–O) <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** ( $\delta$ , 400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.67 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>), 6.58 8.0 Hz, H<sub>1</sub>), 5.72 (1H, d, br, J = 10.0 Hz, (1H, d, J = H<sub>7</sub>), 5.25 (1H, dt, J = 10.0 Hz, 2.4 Hz, H<sub>8</sub>), 4.87 (1H, d, J = 6.4 Hz, H<sub>5</sub>), 4.18 (1H, m, H<sub>6</sub>), 3.84 (3H, s,  $H_{3a}$ ), 3.66 (1H, s, br,  $H_9$ ), 2.78-3.01 (4H, m,  $H_{10\alpha}$ ,  $H_{10\beta}$ ,  $H_{16ax}$ ,  $H_{16eq}$ ), 2.61 (1H, m, H<sub>14</sub>), 2.54 (2H, s, br, H<sub>6a</sub>, H<sub>17</sub>), 1.86-1.99 (2H, m, H<sub>15ax</sub>, H<sub>15eq</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR ( $\delta$ , 100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 146.5 (C<sub>4</sub>), 142.4 (C<sub>3</sub>), 133.9 (C<sub>7</sub>), 131.2 (C<sub>12</sub>), 128.1 (C<sub>8</sub>), 127.4 (C<sub>11</sub>), 119.7 (C<sub>1</sub>), 113.1 (C<sub>2</sub>), 92.0 (C<sub>5</sub>), 66.4 (C<sub>6</sub>), 56.5 (C<sub>3a</sub>), 52.1 (C<sub>9</sub>), 43.9 (C<sub>13</sub>), 41.2 (C<sub>14</sub>), 38.6 (C<sub>16</sub>), 36.6 (C<sub>15</sub>), 31.3 (C<sub>10</sub>)

N-(2-chloroethyl) codeine:



Sodium triacetoxyborohydride (120 mg, 566  $\mu$ mol) was added to a solution of norcodeine **13** (30 mg, 106  $\mu$ mol) and chloroacetaldehyde (20  $\mu$ L, 286  $\mu$ mol) in dichloromethane (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 minutes. After this time, the mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (5 mL) and washed with water (2 × 5 mL). The solution was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield the title compound **7** as a yellow oil (31 mg, 85%).



 $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -103° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) **IR** (NaCl) 3386 (O–H), 1635, 1604 (C=C), 1283, 1258 (C–O) <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** ( $\delta$ , 400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.66 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>), 6.56 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>1</sub>), 5.71 (1H, dm, J = 10.0 Hz, H<sub>7</sub>), 5.27 (1H, dt, J = 10.0 Hz, 2.8 Hz, H<sub>8</sub>), 4.89 (1H, dd, J = 6.4 Hz, 1.2 Hz, H<sub>5</sub>), 4.17 (1H, s, br, H<sub>6</sub>), 3.84 (3H, s, H<sub>3a</sub>), 3.58 (2H, t, J = 6.8 Hz, H<sub>17b</sub>), 3.43 (1H, m, H<sub>9</sub>), 2.77-2.97 (4H, m, H<sub>10a</sub>, H<sub>17a</sub>, H<sub>6a</sub>), 2.64-2.71 (2H, m, H<sub>14</sub>, H<sub>16eq</sub>), 2.53 (1H, td, J = 12.0 Hz, 3.6 Hz, H<sub>16ax</sub>), 2.42 (1H, dd, J = 18.4 Hz, 6.4 Hz, H<sub>10β</sub>), 2.05 (1H, td, J = 12.4 Hz, 5.2 Hz, H<sub>15ax</sub>), 1.86 (1H, dm, J = 12.4 Hz, H<sub>15eq</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR ( $\delta$ , 100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 146.4 (C<sub>4</sub>), 142.4 (C<sub>3</sub>), 133.6 (C<sub>7</sub>), 131.2 (C<sub>12</sub>), 128.3 (C<sub>8</sub>), 127.0 (C<sub>11</sub>), 119.7 (C<sub>1</sub>), 113.0 (C<sub>2</sub>), 91.5 (C<sub>5</sub>), 66.6 (C<sub>6</sub>), 58.1 (C<sub>9</sub>), 57.3 (C<sub>17a</sub>), 56.5 (C<sub>3a</sub>), 45.1 (C<sub>16</sub>), 43.4 (C<sub>13</sub>), 42.3 (C<sub>17b</sub>), 40.7 (C<sub>14</sub>), 35.9 (C<sub>15</sub>), 22.9 (C<sub>10</sub>) **LRMS (EI)**: m/z = 349 (M<sup>+</sup>, 20), 347 (M<sup>+</sup>, 50), 299 (20), 298 ([M–CH<sub>2</sub>Cl]<sup>+</sup>, 50) **HRMS (EI)**: 349.1257 (M<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>3</sub><sup>37</sup>Cl gives 349.1259), 347.1289 (M<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>3</sub><sup>35</sup>Cl gives 347.1288)

#### Synthesis of 3-chloromethyl-3-deoxymorphine:

3-(trifluoromethanesulfonyl)morphine [9, 10]:



Triethylamine (700  $\mu$ L, 5.02 mmol) was added to a solution of morphine (**3**, 500 mg, 1.76 mmol) and *N*-phenyltriflimide (700 mg, 1.96 mmol) in dichloromethane (20 mL) and the resulting solution was stirred at reflux overnight. The following morning the mixture was cooled and the solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield a yellow oil, purified by flash chromatography (9:1 chloroform : methanol) to give the title compound **16** as a pale yellow solid (598 mg, 82%).



**mp:** 113-115 °C (literature [9] 123-124 °C)  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  –145° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), –70° (*c* 1.0, CH<sub>3</sub>OH), literature [9] –78° (*c* 1.0, CH<sub>3</sub>OH) **IR** (NaCl) 3551 (O–H), 1623 (C=C), 1218 (C–O) <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (δ, 400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.89 (1H, d, J = 8.4 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>), 6.64 (1H, d, J = 8.4 Hz, H<sub>1</sub>), 5.70 (1H, dm, J = 10.0 Hz, H<sub>7</sub>), 5.27 (1H, dt, J = 10.0 Hz, 2.8 Hz, H<sub>8</sub>), 5.01 (1H, d, J = 6.4 Hz, H<sub>5</sub>), 4.21 (1H, m, H<sub>6</sub>), 3.40 (1H, m, H<sub>9</sub>), 3.08 (1H, d, J = 19.2 Hz, H<sub>10α</sub>), 3.02 (1H, s, br, H<sub>6a</sub>), 2.74 (1H, s, br, H<sub>14</sub>), 2.64 (1H, dd, J = 12.4 Hz, 4.4 Hz, H<sub>16eq</sub>), 2.45 (3H, s, H<sub>17a</sub>), 2.30-2.40 (2H, m, H<sub>10β</sub>, H<sub>16ax</sub>), 2.13 (1H, td, J = 12.4 Hz, 4.8 Hz, H<sub>15ax</sub>), 1.89 (1H, dm, J = 12.8 Hz, H<sub>15eq</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, 100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 149.7 (C<sub>4</sub>), 135.7 (C<sub>11</sub>), 133.9 (C<sub>7</sub>), 133.8 (C<sub>12</sub>), 130.8 (C<sub>3</sub>), 128.2 (C<sub>8</sub>), 121.3 (C<sub>2</sub>), 120.4 (C<sub>1</sub>), 118.8 (q, J = 319 Hz, C<sub>3a</sub>), 93.7 (C<sub>5</sub>), 66.6 (C<sub>6</sub>), 58.7 (C<sub>9</sub>), 46.2 (C<sub>16</sub>), 43.4 (C<sub>13</sub>), 43.1 (C<sub>17a</sub>), 40.5 (C<sub>14</sub>), 35.3 (C<sub>15</sub>), 21.2 (C<sub>10</sub>) **3**-(trifluoromethanesulfonyl)-6-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)morphine [11]:



*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl triflate (550  $\mu$ L, 2.40 mmol) was added to a solution of compound **16** (500 mg, 1.20 mmol) and 2,6-lutidine (400  $\mu$ L, 3.73 mmol) in dichloromethane (10 mL) and the resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 30 minutes. After this time, the mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (40 mL) and washed with saturated aq NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (50 mL). The solution was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield a pale yellow oil, purified by flash chromatography (9:1 chloroform : methanol) to give the title compound **17** as a white solid (570 mg, 90%).



**mp:** 76-77 °C (literature [11] 75 °C)  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  –111° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), literature [11] –128° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) **IR** (NaCl) 1623 (C=C), 1207, 1249 (C–O) <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (δ, 400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.90 (1H, d, J = 8.4 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>), 6.56 (1H, d, J = 8.4 Hz, H<sub>1</sub>), 5.62 (1H, d, br, J = 9.6 Hz, H<sub>7</sub>), 5.24 (1H, dt, J = 9.6 Hz, 2.8 Hz, H<sub>8</sub>), 4.81 (1H, d, J = 5.6 Hz, H<sub>5</sub>), 4.27 (1H, m, H<sub>6</sub>), 3.39 (1H, m, H<sub>9</sub>), 3.07 (1H, d, J = 19.2 Hz, H<sub>10α</sub>), 2.71 (1H, s, br, H<sub>14</sub>), 2.63 (1H, dd, J = 12.0 Hz, 4.4 Hz, H<sub>16eq</sub>), 2.45 (3H, s, H<sub>17a</sub>), 2.30-2.43 (2H, m, H<sub>10β</sub>, H<sub>16ax</sub>), 2.08 (1H, td, J = 12.4 Hz, 4.8 Hz, H<sub>15ax</sub>), 1.86 (1H, dm, J = 12.8 Hz, H<sub>15eq</sub>), 0.93 (9H, s, H<sub>6c</sub>), 0.14 (3H, s, H<sub>6a</sub>), 0.11 (3H, s, H<sub>6a</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, 100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 150.7 (C<sub>4</sub>), 135.1 (C<sub>11</sub>), 134.4 (C<sub>7</sub>), 133.5 (C<sub>12</sub>), 130.8 (C<sub>3</sub>), 127.7 (C<sub>8</sub>), 121.8 (C<sub>2</sub>), 119.3 (C<sub>1</sub>), 118.9 (q, J = 319 Hz, C<sub>3a</sub>) 94.2 (C<sub>5</sub>), 68.5 (C<sub>6</sub>), 58.8 (C<sub>9</sub>), 46.3 (C<sub>16</sub>), 43.9 (C<sub>13</sub>), 43.1 (C<sub>17a</sub>), 40.8 (C<sub>14</sub>), 35.6 (C<sub>15</sub>), 25.8 (C<sub>6c</sub>), 21.2 (C<sub>10</sub>), 18.3 (C<sub>6b</sub>), -4.60 (C<sub>6a</sub>), -4.72 (C<sub>6a</sub>)

#### 3-(methoxycarbonyl)-3-deoxy-6-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)morphine:



Carbon monoxide was bubbled through a solution of compound **17** (100 mg, 188  $\mu$ mol), Pd(dppf)Cl<sub>2</sub>·CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mg, 61  $\mu$ mol) and triethylamine (60  $\mu$ L, 430  $\mu$ mol) in a mixture of deoxygenated DMF (3 mL) and deoxygenated methanol (2 mL) for 10 minutes. The mixture was then sealed under an atmosphere of carbon monoxide and heated to 80 °C overnight, darkening over time. The following morning the mixture was vented for 30 minutes, then diluted with dichloromethane (50 mL). The resulting solution was washed with water (50 mL), then washed with brine (50 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield a brown oil, purified by flash chromatography (19:1 chloroform : methanol) to give the title compound **18** as a brown oil (60 mg, 72%).



[*α*]<sup>20</sup> -70° (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) **IR** (NaCl) 1709 (C=O), 1630 (C=C), 1256, 1287 (C-O) <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (δ, 400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.63 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>), 6.61 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>1</sub>), 5.63 (1H, dm, J = 10.0 Hz, H<sub>7</sub>), 5.27 (1H, dt, J = 10.0 Hz, 2.8 Hz, H<sub>8</sub>), 4.84 (1H, d, J = 6.0 Hz, H<sub>5</sub>), 4.30 (1H, m, H<sub>6</sub>), 3.87 (3H, s, H<sub>3b</sub>), 3.35 (1H, m, H<sub>9</sub>), 3.08 (1H, d, 19.2 Hz, H<sub>10α</sub>), 2.68 (1H, m, H<sub>14</sub>), 2.58 (1H, dd, J = 12.0 Hz, 4.0 Hz, H<sub>16eq</sub>), 2.44 (3H, s, H<sub>17a</sub>), 2.29-2.39 (2H, m, H<sub>10β</sub>, H<sub>16ax</sub>), 2.03 (1H, td, J = 12.4 Hz, 5.2 Hz, H<sub>15ax</sub>), 1.85 (1H, dm, 12.4 Hz, H<sub>15eq</sub>), 0.95 (9H, s, H<sub>6c</sub>), 0.16 (3H, s, H<sub>6a</sub>), 0.13 (3H, s, H<sub>6a</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, 100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 166.6 (C<sub>3a</sub>), 160.6 (C<sub>4</sub>), 140.6 (C<sub>11</sub>) 134.5 (C<sub>7</sub>), 131.5 (C<sub>12</sub>), 130.3 (C<sub>2</sub>), 128.0 (C<sub>8</sub>), 118.6 (C<sub>1</sub>), 110.4 (C<sub>3</sub>), 92.9 (C<sub>5</sub>), 68.6 (C<sub>6</sub>), 58.6 (C<sub>9</sub>), 51.9 (C<sub>3b</sub>), 46.3 (C<sub>16</sub>), 4.2.7 (C<sub>6a</sub>) **LRMS (EI):** m/z = 441 (M<sup>++</sup>, <1), 385 (40), 384 ([M-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 100), 342 (35), 341 (85), 73 (30) **HRMS (ESI):** 442.2416 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>36</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>Si gives 442.2414)

#### 3-(hydroxymethyl)-3-deoxy-6-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)morphine:



Lithium aluminium hydride (15 mg, 395  $\mu$ mol) was added to a solution of compound **18** (60 mg, 136  $\mu$ mol) in dry THF (5 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 hours. After this time the reaction is quenched by adding a 10% aq solution of sodium potassium tartrate (5 mL) and the mixture is stirred for a further hour. Then, the product was extracted with ethyl acetate (2 × 5 mL) and the combined extracts were dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield a brown oil, purified by flash chromatography (19:1 chloroform : methanol) to give the title compound **19** as a pale brown solid (47 mg, 84%).



IR (NaCl) 3363 (O–H), 1604 (C=C), 1251 (C–O) <sup>1</sup>H-NMR ( $\delta$ , 400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.94 (1H, d, J = 7.6 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>) 6.55 (1H, d, J = 7.6 Hz, H<sub>1</sub>) 5.56 (1H, dm, 10.0 Hz, H<sub>7</sub>) 5.22 (1H, dt, J = 10.0 Hz, 2.4 Hz, H<sub>8</sub>) 4.70-4.75 (2H, m, H<sub>3a</sub>, H<sub>5</sub>) 4.49 (1H, d, J = 12.4 Hz, H<sub>3a</sub>) 4.25 (1H, m, H<sub>6</sub>) 3.34 (1H, m, H<sub>9</sub>) 3.05 (1H, d, J = 18.8 Hz, H<sub>10a</sub>) 2.66 (1H, m, H<sub>14</sub>) 2.58 (1H, dd, J = 12.0 Hz, 3.6 Hz, H<sub>16eq</sub>) 2.35-2.44 (4H, m, H<sub>16ax</sub>, H<sub>17a</sub>) 2.37 (1H, s, br, H<sub>3b</sub>) 2.30 (1H, dd, J = 18.8 Hz, 6.4 Hz, H<sub>10β</sub>) 2.04 (1H, td, J = 12.4 Hz, 5.2 Hz, H<sub>15ax</sub>) 1.86 (1H, dm, J = 12.4 Hz, H<sub>15eq</sub>) 0.93 (9H, s, H<sub>6c</sub>) 0.15 (3H, s, H<sub>6a</sub>) 0.11 (3H, s, H<sub>6a</sub>) <sup>13</sup>C-NMR ( $\delta$ , 100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 157.9 (C<sub>4</sub>), 134.8 (C<sub>11</sub>), 133.9 (C<sub>7</sub>), 129.8 (C<sub>12</sub>), 128.1 (C<sub>8</sub>), 127.7 (C<sub>2</sub>), 120.2 (C<sub>3</sub>), 118.8 (C<sub>1</sub>), 92.3 (C<sub>5</sub>), 68.3 (C<sub>6</sub>), 61.2 (C<sub>3a</sub>), 59.0 (C<sub>9</sub>), 46.6 (C<sub>16</sub>), 43.2 (C<sub>17a</sub>), 42.8 (C<sub>13</sub>), 41.0 (C<sub>14</sub>), 35.7 (C<sub>15</sub>), 25.9 (C<sub>6c</sub>), 21.2 (C<sub>10</sub>), 18.4 (C<sub>6b</sub>), -4.51 (C<sub>6a</sub>), -4.71 (C<sub>6a</sub>) LRMS (EI): m/z = 413 (M<sup>++</sup>, < 1), 357 (40), 356 ([M–C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 100), 299 (35), 238 (20), 75 (20), 73 (30) HRMS (EI): 413.2386 (M<sup>++</sup>, C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Si gives 413.2386)

#### 3-(chloromethyl)-3-deoxy-6-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)morphine:



Thionyl chloride (4  $\mu$ L, 55  $\mu$ mol) was added to a solution of compound **19** (10 mg, 24  $\mu$ mol), and triethylamine (7  $\mu$ L, 50  $\mu$ mol) in dichloromethane (500  $\mu$ L) at 0 °C and the resulting solution was stirred at 0 °C for 10 minutes. After this time the mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (5 mL) and washed with saturated aq NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (5 mL). The solution was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield the title compound **15** as a brown oil (9 mg, 86%).



IR (NaCl) 1604, 1639 (C=C), 1251 (C–O) <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (δ, 400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ): 7.01 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>2</sub>), 6.55 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, H<sub>1</sub>), 5.60 (1H, dm, J = 10.0 Hz, H<sub>7</sub>), 5.24 (1H, dt, J = 10.0 Hz, 2.4 Hz,  $H_8$ ), 4.74 (1H, dd, J = 6.0 Hz, 1.2 Hz,  $H_5$ ), 4.66 (1H, d, J = 11.2 Hz,  $H_{3a}$ ), 4.49 (1H, d, J = 11.2 Hz,  $H_{3a}$ ), 4.25 (1H, m,  $H_6$ ), 3.34 (1H, m,  $H_9$ ), 3.06 (1H, d, J = 19.2 Hz,  $H_{10\alpha}$ ), 2.65 (1H, m,  $H_{14}$ ), 2.58 (1H, dd, J = 12.4 Hz, 4.4 Hz,  $H_{16eq}$ ), 2.43 (3H, s,  $H_{17a}$ ), 2.38 (1H, td, J = 12.4 Hz, 3.6 Hz,  $H_{16ax}$ ), 2.29 (1H, dd, J = 19.2 Hz, 6.0 Hz  $H_{10\beta}$ ), 2.02 (1H, td, J = 12.4 Hz, 5.2 Hz,  $H_{15ax}$ ), 1.86 (1H, dm, J = 12.4 Hz,  $H_{15eq}$ ), 0.94 (9H, s,  $H_{6c}$ ), 0.16 (3H, s, H<sub>6a</sub>), 0.11 (3H, s, H<sub>6a</sub>), <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (δ, 100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 158.2 (C<sub>4</sub>), 135.9 (C<sub>11</sub>), 134.3 (C<sub>7</sub>), 130.2 (C<sub>12</sub>), 129.0 (C<sub>8</sub>), 128.0 (C<sub>2</sub>), 118.8 (C<sub>1</sub>), 116.1 (C<sub>3</sub>), 92.4 (C<sub>5</sub>), 68.4 (C<sub>6</sub>), 58.9 (C<sub>9</sub>), 46.5 (C<sub>16</sub>), 43.3 (C<sub>17a</sub>), 43.1 (C<sub>13</sub>), 41.2 (C<sub>3a</sub>), 41.0 (C<sub>14</sub>), 35.9 (C<sub>15</sub>), 25.9 (C<sub>6c</sub>), 21.3 (C<sub>10</sub>), 18.4 (C<sub>6b</sub>), -4.35 (C<sub>6a</sub>), -4.63 (C<sub>6a</sub>) **LRMS** (EI): m/z = 431 (M<sup>++</sup>, < 1), 396 ([M-C1]<sup>+</sup>, 20), 376  $([M-C_4H_9]^+, 40), 374 ([M-C_4H_9]^+, 100), 332 (30), 331 (45), 330 (30), 238 (25), 75 (20), 73 (45)$ HRMS (EI): 433.2018 (M<sup>++</sup>, C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>34</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Si<sup>37</sup>Cl gives 433.2018) 431.2049 (M<sup>++</sup>, C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>34</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Si<sup>35</sup>Cl gives 431.2047)

### 2. Spectral Data:




















































\* Denotes peaks arising from intermolecular reaction between the benzyl chloride of one molecule and the amine of another































































\* Denotes cross-peaks resulting from traces of the other isomer in the sample



















## **3. Kinetics Data:**



S67



Codeinone - N-acetyl-L-cysteine methyl ester





Morphinone - N-acetyl-L-cysteine methyl ester Kinetics 25 µM Morphinone







Narwedine - N-acetyl-L-cysteine methyl ester Kinetics 10 mM Narwedine

## 4. Structural Assignment of Narwedine Adducts:



Based on steric considerations, the structures of the narwedine adducts were tentatively assigned as diastereomers arising from addition *cis* to the aromatic ring as shown above. Assuming this is correct, the cyclohexanone ring adopts a chair conformation with the cysteine side chain in an axial position as shown below. In the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra for both adducts, the C<sub>8</sub> proton appeared as a broad singlet suggesting that the coupling constants for coupling with the C<sub>7</sub> protons was small. Additionally, the C<sub>4a</sub> proton appeared as a triplet with very small coupling constants (2.8 Hz) corresponding to coupling with the C<sub>5</sub> protons. These coupling constants are consistent with gauche interactions in which the C<sub>8</sub> or C<sub>4a</sub> proton appears between the two adjacent protons when viewed along the C–C bond, consistent with the structure shown below.



Examination of the 2D-NOESY spectrum for both adducts enabled the assignment of the  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  protons at C<sub>5</sub> and C<sub>7</sub>, assuming the stereochemical outcome of the reaction is as predicted based on steric considerations. This was based on the two key nOe interactions shown below. An nOe interaction with the CH<sub>2</sub> protons of the cysteine side chain enabled the H<sub>7 $\beta$ </sub> proton to be assigned. An nOe interaction with H<sub>9 $\beta$ </sub> enabled the H<sub>5 $\alpha$ </sub> proton to be assigned. In addition to these interactions, nOe interactions were detected between H<sub>8</sub> and the C<sub>7</sub> protons as well as H<sub>4 $\alpha$ </sub> and the C<sub>5</sub> protons. While these nOe interactions were useful to differentiate the C<sub>5</sub> and C<sub>7</sub> protons, the interactions detected could be rationalised for either stereochemistry at C<sub>8</sub>. Thus the assignment of C8 stereochemistry remains tentative in the absence of other structural data..


5. Comparison of Experimental and Literature NMR Data for Compound 21:



	Compound 21		Literature Compound 21 [12]	
	1H-NMR	13C-NMR	1H-NMR	13C-NMR
1	6.67-6.69 (m, 1H)	120.4	6.63 (d, J = 7.9)	114.7
2	6.70-6.71 (m, 1H)	115.0	6.80 (d, J = 7.9)	120.1
3	-	143.1	-	142.7
3a	<b>3.89</b> (s)	57.0	3.54 (s)	52.5
4	-	145.2	-	144.8
5	4.69 (s)	91.5	4.72 (s)	91.1
6	-	204.8	-	204.6
7	2.53 (t, J = 13.2) 2.70 (dd, J = 13.2, 2.4)	47.5	2.20-2.54 (m)	51.3
8	2.30 (td, J = 12.8, 2.4)	41.6	2.91 (dd, J = 5.1, 2.7)	41.2
9	<b>3.63</b> (s, br)	56.9	<b>3.99</b> (m)	56.6
10	2.34 (dd, J = 18.4, 5.2) 3.01 (d, J = 18.8)	19.3	2.20-2.54 (m) 2.96-3.14 (m)	19.0
11	-	126.5	-	126.1
12	-	126.8	-	126.4
13	-	47.2	-	46.9
14	<b>2.44-2.49</b> (m)	47.4	<b>2.69-2.87</b> (m)	44.1
15	1.82 (d, br, J = 12.0) 2.06 (td, J = 12.0, 4.0)	35.7	1.91 (m) 2.20-2.54 (m)	35.2
16	2.20 (td, J = 12.0, 2.8) 2.57 (d, br, J = 11.6)	47.3	2.20-2.54 (m) <b>2.69-2.87 (m)</b>	47.1
17a	2.44-2.49 (m)	43.0	2.20-2.54 (m)	42.6
1'	-	170.9	-	170.6
1a'	<b>3.46</b> (s)	52.6	<b>3.66</b> (s)	52.3
2'	4.81 (m)	52.3	4.82 (m)	52.1
2a'	2.98 (dd, J = 14.0, 4.0) 3.04 (dd, J = 14.0, 4.4)	31.5	2.96-3.14 (m)	31.1
3'	6.32 (d, br, J = 6.8 Hz)	-	6.38 (s, br)	-
<b>3a'</b>	-	169.9	-	169.7
<b>3b'</b>	<b>1.97</b> (s)	23.2	<b>2.06</b> (s)	22.8

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