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General Methods for the Preparation of 4-Amido-2*H*-benzo[*b*]pyran-3-ols 5.

Method A

trans 6-Acetyl-4*S*-amino-3,4-dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-2*H*-benzo[*b*]pyran-3*R*-ol **4b** (0.61g; 2.6mmol) and dry triethylamine (2ml) in CH₂Cl₂ (70ml) were cooled to 0°C and treated with benzoyl chloride (0.4ml; 3.4mmol) according to the published procedure.^{4a} Recrystallization from ethyl acetate/*n*-pentane gave compound **5m** (0.61g; 70%)

m.p. 188-91°C; [α_D]²⁰ + 20.5° (c.0.89% in MeOH); NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.34 [s, 3H, CMe₂], 1.54 [s, 3H, CMe₂], 2.50 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.78 [d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H, H-3], 4.62 [br, 1H, OH], 5.27 [t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-4], 6.68 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NHCO], 6.90 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.36 - 7.62 [m, 3H, aromatic], 7.73 - 7.90 [m, 3H, aromatic], 7.97 (d, *J* = 1 Hz, 1H, H-5)

Method B

8-Acetyl-3,4-epoxy-3,4-dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-2*H*-benzo[*b*]pyran (0.60g; 2.8mmol) and 4-fluorobenzamide **2e** (0.77g; 5.5mmol) in *t*-butanol (18ml) was stirred at 25° and treated with potassium *t*-butoxide (0.62g; 5.5mmol) under argon. After 3h, the mixture was heated to 45°C for 5h and then allowed to cool. The mixture was poured into saturated NH₄Cl solution and extracted with EtAc (×2). The organic extracts were washed with water, brine and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Filtration and evaporation gave the crude product as a beige solid (1.15g). Chromatography on Kieselgel 60 using an ethyl acetate-*n*-pentane gradient elution, followed by recrystallization from ethyl acetate gave compound **5e** as off white crystals (0.26g; 26%).

m.p. 263-4°C; NMR [(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.27 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.51 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 2.56 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.82 [dd, *J* = 10,5 Hz, 1H, H-3], 5.11 [t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-4], 5.73 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 6.96 [t, *J* = 7

Hz, 1H, H-6], 7.31 [m, 3H, H-7 + aromatic, overlapping], 7.46 [dd, $J = 7, 1$ Hz, 1H, H-5], 8.02 [m, 2H, aromatic], 8.84 [d, 8, 1H, CONH].

Anticonvulsant Properties in the Mouse MEST Test⁷

In this model, groups of 10-20 naive mice (male CD1-Charles River, 25-30g) were lightly restrained. The threshold current (*ca.*12mA, applied *via* corneal electrodes) for the induction of tonic hindlimb extension seizures in 50% (CC₅₀) of the animals was determined using a Hugo Sachs Elektronik stimulator which delivered a constant current (0.1s duration, 50Hz, sinewave form, fully adjustable between 1-300mA). Mice were assessed for production of a tonic hindlimb extension seizure following a single corneal electroshock using an "up and down" method of shock titration.⁷ The effects of drug treatment were expressed as a percentage change from vehicle control values and statistical comparisons between groups were made according to the method of Litchfield and Wilcoxon.¹² The compounds were administered orally as a fine suspension in 1% methylcellulose one hour before electroshock application.

Radioligand Binding Studies

[³H] SB 204269 selectively labels a novel class of CNS receptor sites. Displacement of this specific binding *in vitro* by novel compounds in well-washed, frozen rat whole forebrain membranes was as described by Herdon *et al.*⁶ K_i values were determined by using the Cheng-Prusoff equation and all determinations were performed in triplicate.

Analytical Data for 4-Amido-2*H*-benzo[*b*]pyran-3-ols in Table 1

Cpd No.	Found			Theoretical			Formula	[α_D] ²⁰ (c.1% in MeOH)
	C	H	N	C	H	N		
5a	- Nd	-	-	-	-	-	C ₂₀ H ₂₀ FNO ₄ ^a	(±)
5b	65.32	5.55	3.90	65.57	5.74	3.83	C ₂₀ H ₂₀ FNO ₄ · 0.5H ₂ O	+25.7°
5c	65.53	5.79	3.91	65.57	5.74	3.83	C ₂₀ H ₂₀ FNO ₄ · 0.5H ₂ O	-25.9°
5d	- Nd	-	-	-	-	-	C ₂₀ H ₂₀ FNO ₄ ^b	(±)
5e	66.99	5.67	3.99	67.22	5.64	3.92	C ₂₀ H ₂₀ FNO ₄	(±)
5f	67.05	5.07	8.35	67.05	5.03	8.23	C ₁₉ H ₁₇ FN ₂ O ₃	+39.2°
5g	60.05	4.78	7.89	60.00	4.76	7.77	C ₁₈ H ₁₇ FN ₂ O ₅	(±)
5h	62.23	4.97	3.23	63.28	4.87	3.07	C ₂₄ H ₂₂ FNO ₅ S	(±)
5i	55.64	4.04	3.29	55.43	3.95	3.23	C ₂₀ H ₁₇ F ₆ NO ₄	+71.2°
5j	64.47	5.12	4.22	64.86	5.14	4.20	C ₁₈ H ₁₇ F ₂ NO ₃	(±)
5k	69.83	6.50	4.07	69.29	6.12	4.25	C ₁₉ H ₂₀ FNO ₃ ^c	(±)
5l	67.82	6.00	3.53	67.91	5.97	3.77	C ₂₁ H ₂₂ FNO ₄	(±)
5m	71.53	5.38	3.66	71.59	5.29	3.34	C ₂₅ H ₂₂ FNO ₄	(±)
5n	63.95	5.66	4.03	64.34	5.40	3.75	C ₂₀ H ₂₀ FNO ₅	(±)
5o	63.62	5.32	7.84	63.68	5.34	7.82	C ₁₉ H ₁₉ FN ₂ O ₄	(±)
5p	70.39	6.29	4.12	70.78	6.19	4.13	C ₂₀ H ₂₁ NO ₄	+20.5°
5q	64.01	5.43	3.93	64.26	5.39	3.75	C ₂₀ H ₂₀ ClNO ₄	(±)
5r	64.08	5.24	4.08	64.26	5.39	3.75	C ₂₀ H ₂₀ ClNO ₄	+6.8°
5s	64.13	5.44	3.87	64.26	5.39	3.75	C ₂₀ H ₂₀ ClNO ₄	+21.9°
5t	51.71	4.40	3.05	51.63	4.33	3.01	C ₂₀ H ₂₀ I ₂ NO ₄	+15.5°
5u	69.32	7.65	4.17	69.54	7.88	4.05	C ₂₀ H ₂₇ NO ₄	(±)

a CIMS m/z 358.1346 (MH⁺)

b EIMS m/z 357.1379 (M⁺)

c EIMS m/z 329(M⁺; 2%), 311 (10), 296 (60), 123 (100)

Nd: Not determined.

250MHz ¹H NMR Data for 4-Amido-2*H*-benzo[*b*]pyran-3-ols 5

- 5a NMR[(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.22 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.41 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 2.29 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.68 [m, 1H, H-3], 5.16 [m, 1H, H-4], 5.45 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 6.88 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.27 [m, 3H, aromatic], 7.89 [m, 2H, aromatic], 8.68 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NHCO]
- 5b NMR[(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.24 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.44 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 2.44 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.78 [m, 1H, H-3], 5.08 [m, 1H, H-4], 5.72 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 6.90 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.35 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.70 [s, 1H, aromatic H-5], 7.80 [m, 1H, aromatic], 8.03 [m, 2H, aromatic], 8.82 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NHCO]
- 5c NMR [(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.30 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.52 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 2.50 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.85 [m, 1H, H-3], 5.26 [m, 1H, H-4], 5.80 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 6.90 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.43 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.77 [s, 1H, aromatic H-5], 7.85 [m, 1H, aromatic], 8.10 [m, 2H, aromatic], 8.90 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NHCO]
- 5d NMR(CDCl₃) δ 1.31 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.52 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 2.54 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.79 [dd, *J* = 10, 5 Hz, 1H, H-3], 4.31 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 5.29 [t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-4], 6.55 [d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, CONH], 7.17 [t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, aromatic], 7.38 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.50 [d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H, aromatic], 7.86 [m, 2H, aromatic]
- 5e NMR [(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.27 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.51 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 2.56 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.82 [dd, *J* = 10, 5 Hz, 1H, H-3], 5.11 [t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-4], 5.73 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 6.96 [t, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H, H-6], 7.31 [m, 3H, aromatic], 7.46 [dd, *J* = 6, 1 Hz, 1H, H-5], 8.02 [m, 2H, aromatic], 8.84 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NHCO]
- 5f NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.34 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.55 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 3.77 [dd, *J* = 10, 5 Hz, 1H, H-3], 4.13 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 5.28 [t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-4], 6.33 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NHCO], 6.94 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, aromatic H- 8], 7.18 [t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, aromatic], 7.51 [dd, *J* = 8, 1 Hz, 1H, H-7], 7.62 [d, *J* = 1 Hz, 1H, H-5], 7.86 [m, 2H, aromatic]
- 5g NMR[(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.34 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.56 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 3.91 [dd, *J* = 10, 5Hz, 1H, H-3], 5.18 [t, *J* = 8Hz, 1H, H-4], 5.96 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 7.10 [d, *J* = 8Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.44 [m, 2H, aromatic], 8.04 [m, 1H, aromatic], 8.14 [m, 3H, aromatic], 9.02 [d, *J* = 8Hz, CONH]
- 5h NMR[(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.29 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.50 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 3.82 [dd, *J* = 9, 6Hz, 1H, H-3], 5.12 [t, *J* = 8Hz, 1H, H-4], 5.90 [d, *J* = 6Hz, 1H, OH], 7.08 [d, *J* = 8Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.48 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.60-7.95 [m, 7H, aromatic], 8.08 [dd, *J* = 8, 5Hz, 2H, aromatic], 8.92 [d, *J* = 8Hz, 1H, CONH]
- 5i NMR[(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.22 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.45 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 3.79 [dd, *J* = 10, 5Hz, 1H, H-3], 5.07 [t, *J* = 8Hz, 1H, H-4], 5.78 [d, *J* = 5Hz, 1H, OH], 7.01 [d, *J* = 8Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.35 [m, 3H, aromatic], 7.45 [m, 1H, aromatic], 7.99 [m, 2H, aromatic], 8.86 [d, *J* = 8Hz, 1H, CONH]
- 5j NMR(CDCl₃) δ 1.30 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.49 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 3.75 [d, *J* = 10, 5 Hz, 1H, H-3], 4.33 [br, s, 1H, OH], 5.21 [t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-4], 6.40 [d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, NHCO], 6.83 [dd, *J* = 8,

- 1 Hz, 1H, H-8], 6.96 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.17 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.85 [m, 2H, aromatic]
- 5k** NMR(CDCl₃) δ 1.28 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.50 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 2.30 [s, 3H, Me], 3.74 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-3], 4.45 [br, s, 1H, OH], 5.18 [t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-4], 6.44 [d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, NHCO], 6.78 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.05 [d, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, aromatic], 7.17 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.86 [m, 2H, aromatic]
- 5l** NMR(CDCl₃) δ 1.15 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.32 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.53 [s, 3H, COMe], 2.88 [q, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H, CH₂Me], 3.25 - 4.00 [br, 1H, OH], 3.82 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-3], 5.30 [t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-4], 6.86 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.13 [m, 2H, NHCO and aromatic], 7.79 [dd, *J* = 8, 1 Hz, 1H, aromatic], 7.91 [narrow m, 1H, aromatic], 8.03 [m, 2H, aromatic], 8.18 [d, *J* = 1 Hz, 1H, H-5].
- 5m** NMR[(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.25 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.45 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 3.81 [dd, *J* = 10, 5 Hz, 1H, H-3], 5.08 [t, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, H-4], 5.75 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 6.94 [d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.29-7.50 [m, 4H, aromatic], 7.50-7.70 [m, 5H, aromatic], 7.96 [m, 2H, H-5 + aromatic], 8.86 [d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, CONH]
- 5n** NMR[(CD₃)₃SO] δ 1.21 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.42 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 3.72 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.76 [m, 1H, H-3], 5.06 [m, 1H, H-4], 5.69 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 6.87 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.32 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.71 [m, 2H, aromatic], 8.00 [m, 2H, H-5 + aromatic], 8.79 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NHCO].
- 5o** NMR[(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.23 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.46 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 3.73 [m, 1H, H-3], 5.12 [m, 1H, H-4], 5.66 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 6.82 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.15 [br, 1H, CONH], 7.36 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.71 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.84 [br, 1H, CONH], 8.06 [m, 2H, aromatic], 8.78 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NHCO].
- 5p** NMR(CDCl₃) δ 1.34 [s, 3H, CMe₂], 1.54 [s, 3H, CMe₂], 2.50 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.78 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-3], 4.62 [br, 1H, OH], 5.27 [t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-4], 6.68 [d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, NHCO], 6.90 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.36-7.62 [m, 3H, aromatic], 7.73-7.90 [m, 3H, aromatic], 7.97 [d, *J* = 1 Hz, 1H, H-5]
- 5q** NMR[(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.22 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.45 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 2.43 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.77 [m, 1H, H-3], 5.08 [m, 1H, H-4], 5.73 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 6.98 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.59 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.68 [s, 1H, H-5], 7.89 [m, 1H, aromatic], 7.96 [m, 2H, aromatic], 8.88 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, CONH]
- 5r** NMR[(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.31 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.53 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 2.57 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.76 [s, 1H, H-3], 5.14 [s, 1H, H-4], 5.88 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 6.96 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.30 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.72 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.88 [m, 1H, H-7], 8.09 [s, 1H, H-5], 8.95 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, CONH]
- 5s** NMR[(CD₃)₂SO] δ 1.22 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.47 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 2.45 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.78 [m, 1H, H-3], 5.08 [m, 1H, H-4], 5.73 [d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H, OH], 6.89 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.56 [m, 1H, aromatic], 7.65 [m, 1H, aromatic], 7.68 [m, 1H, aromatic], 7.80 [m, 1H, aromatic], 7.92 [m, 1H, aromatic], 7.99 [m, 1H, H-5], 8.81 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, CONH]

- 5t NMR (CD₃) δ 1.30 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.52 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 2.41 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.79 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-3], 5.28 [t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-4], 6.85 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, aromatic], 7.01 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NHCO], 7.15 [t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, aromatic], 7.72 [m, 1H, aromatic], 7.84 [m, 2H, aromatic], 7.94 [narrow m, 1H, aromatic], 8.24 [narrow m, 1H, aromatic].
- 5u NMR(CDCl₃) δ 1.28 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.51 [s, 3H, C(Me)₂], 1.60 - 2.10 [m, 10H, cyclohexyl], 2.30 [m, 1H, COCH cyclohexyl], 2.53 [s, 3H, COMe], 3.65 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-3], 4.55 [s, 1H, OH], 5.06 [t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-4], 5.90 [d, *J* = 9Hz, 1H, CONH], 6.89 [d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, H-8], 7.80 [dd, *J* = 8,1 Hz, 1H, H-7], 7.88 [br, 1H, H-6]