Supporting Information

Evaluation of synthetic substituted 1,2-dioxanes as novel agents against

human leishmaniasis.

M. Ortalli,^{a,§} S. Varani,^{a,b,§} C. Rosso,^c A. Quintavalla,^{c,*} M. Lombardo,^c C. Trombini^{c,*}

^a Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna, Department of Experimental, Diagnostic and Specialty Medicine, Via Massarenti 9, 40138 Bologna, Italy

^b Unit of Clinical Microbiology, Regional Reference Centre for Microbiological Emergencies (CRREM), St. Orsola-Malpighi University Hospital, Via Massarenti 9, 40138 Bologna, Italy

^c Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna, Department of Chemistry "G. Ciamician", Via Selmi 2, 40126 Bologna, Italy

[§] These authors equally contributed to this work.

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A. Comparison Assays.

As carried out for C6-butyl endoperoxides (Table 1 in the manuscript), the C6-phenyl-substituted synthetic intermediates 3,4-*cis* **3e**, 3,4-*cis* **4e**, and 3,4-*cis* **5e** were tested on promastigotes of *L*. *donovani*. This study was aimed to confirm the crucial role played by the C4-side chain also in the presence of phenyl groups on C6. As already demonstrated for C6-butyl endoperoxides (Table 1 in the manuscript), the C6-phenyl derivatives resulted inactive (at 40 μ M) when substituted on C4 with a methyl ester (**3e** and **4e**, Table S1) or with a hydroxymethyl group (**5e**, Table S1).

Compound ^a	<i>L. donovani</i> promastigotes IC ₅₀ (μM) ^b	Vero CC₅₀ (μM) ^c	SI ^d
Ph Ph O-O OH 3e	>40	nd	nd
Ph Ph O-O OMe 4e	>40	nd	nd
Ph O-O OMe 5e	>40	nd	nd
Ph Ph O-O OMe 8g	7.5	50.0	6.7
Ph Ph O-O OMe 8h	4.2	9.5	2.3
Ph Ph O-O OMe Br Ph PPh Br PPh PPh Br PPh Br PPh Br PPh PPh Br PPh Br PPh PPh Br PPh PPh Br PPh PPh PPh PPh	11.5	280.0	24.3

Table S1.

^a Compounds tested as racemates. ^b IC₅₀ represents the concentration of a compound that causes 50% growth inhibition. The experimental error was in the range $1 - 2.5 \mu$ M. See Section B (pag. S3) for details. ^c CC₅₀ represents 50% cytotoxic concentration. ^d Selectivity index (SI) = CC₅₀/IC₅₀. nd = not determined due to the low antileishmanial potency.

B. Experimental Error Evaluation.

To evaluate the experimental error associated to IC_{50} results, we carried out three independent experiments for each selected compound for both *L. donovani* promastigotes (Table S2) and *L. donovani* amastigotes (Table S3). The experimental error associated to the bioassay protocol was in the range $1 - 2.5 \mu$ M. The evaluated experimental error allowed us to usefully compare the IC_{50} values obtained for the endoperoxides library that resulted significantly different.

Table S2.

Compound ^a	<i>L. donovani</i> promastigotes IC ₅₀ (μM) ^b			SD ^c	IC ₅₀ (mean) ± SD (μM)
Ph O O O M N Br PPh PPh O O Me 8p	11.5	16.0	14.0	2.25	13.8 ± 2.3
N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	4.0	4.7	6.8	1.46	5.2 ± 1.5
N-Bu n-Bu O-O OMe 8b	5.5	8.7	8.2	1.72	7.5 ± 1.7

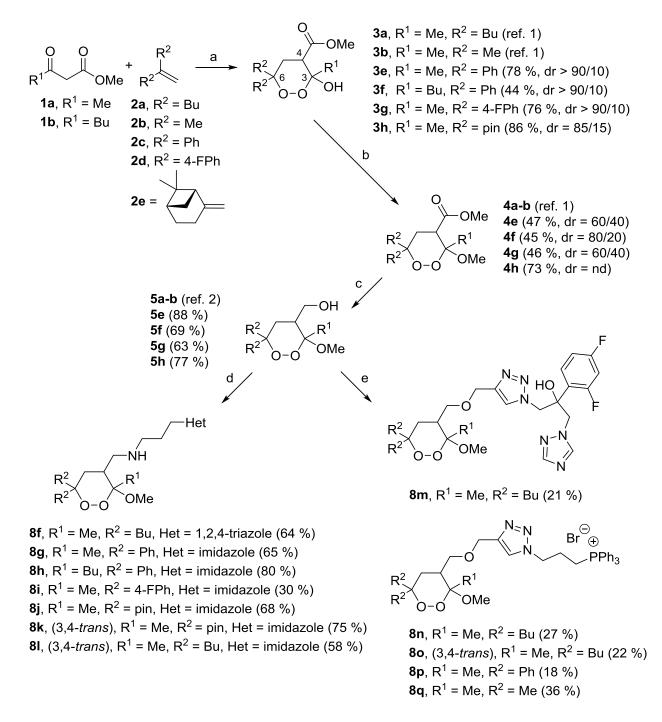
^a Compounds tested as racemates. ^b IC₅₀ represents the concentration of a compound that causes 50 % growth inhibition. ^c SD = standard deviation.

Table	S3 .
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Compound ^a	<i>L. donovani</i> amastigotes IC ₅₀ (μM) ^b			SD ^c	IC ₅₀ (mean) ± SD (μM)
$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & $	15.0	18.0	16.5	1.50	16.5 ± 1.5
N Bu Bu O-O OMe 81	10.3	12.0	8.0	2.01	10.1 ± 2.0
Bu NH Bu O-O OMe 8b	12.0	13.5	11.0	1.26	12.2 ± 1.3

v8ba Compounds tested as racemates. b IC50 represents the concentration of a compound that causes 50 % growth inhibition.c SD = standard deviation.

C. Synthetic Procedures.

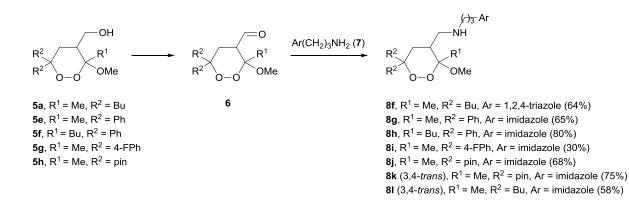


Scheme S1.

M. Persico, A. Quintavalla, F. Rondinelli, C. Trombini, M. Lombardo, C. Fattorusso, V. Azzarito, D. Taramelli, S. Parapini, Y. Corbett, G. Chianese, E. Fattorusso, O. Taglialatela-Scafati, A New Class of Antimalarial Dioxanes Obtained through a Simple Two-Step Synthetic Approach: Rational Design and Structure–Activity Relationship Studies, J. Med. Chem. 54 (2011) 8526–8540. http://dx.doi.org/10.1021/jm201056j.

²⁾ M. Persico, S. Parapini, G. Chianese, C. Fattorusso, M. Lombardo, L. Petrizza, A. Quintavalla, F. Rondinelli, N. Basilico, D. Taramelli, C. Trombini, E. Fattorusso, O. Taglialatela-Scafati, Further optimization of plakortin pharmacophore: Structurally simple 4-oxymethyl-1,2-dioxanes with promising antimalarial activity, Eur. J. Med. Chem. 70 (2013) 875-886. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ejmech.2013.10.050.

The general procedures for the synthesis of 3-hydroxy-1,2-dioxanes **3** (step a, Scheme S1), 3methoxy-1,2-dioxanes **4** (step b, Scheme S1), 4-hydroxymethyl-1,2-dioxanes **5** (step c, Scheme S1), 4-aminopropyl derivatives **8f-1** (step d, Scheme S1), 4-triazolyl ether derivatives **8m-q** (step e, Scheme S1) were described in the experimental section of the manuscript. Herein, further details concerning the synthesis of intermediate 4-carbaldehyde-1,2-dioxanes **6** (Scheme S2), amines **7** (Schemes S2-S3), 4-propargyl ethers **9** (Scheme S4) and azides **10** (Schemes S4-S6) were provided.





cis-6a, 89% yield.

trans-6a, 83% yield.

6e, 83% yield.

6f, 93% yield.

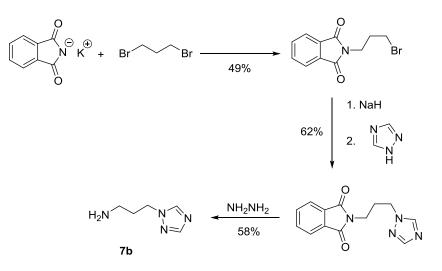
6g, 75% yield.

cis-6h, 89% yield.

trans-6h, 83% yield.

Aminopropyl imidazole 7a was commercially available.

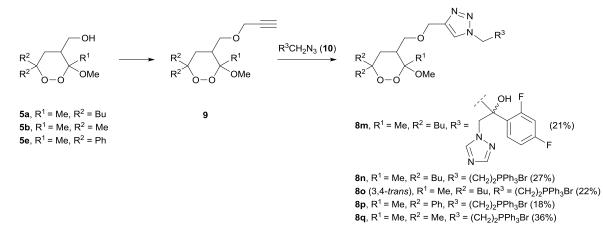
Aminopropyl 1,2,4-triazole **7b** was synthesized following a literature procedure³ (Scheme S3) and the spectroscopic data and physical properties of the obtained product were identical to the reported ones.⁴



Scheme S3.

V. Gauchot, M. Branca, A. Schmitzer, Encapsulation of a Catalytic Imidazolium Salt into Avidin: Towards the Development of a Biohybrid Catalyst Active in Ionic Liquids, Chem. Eur. J. 20 (2014) 1530-1538. <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/chem.201303865</u>.

⁴⁾ P. Gaillard, J.-P. Gotteland, I. Jeanclaude-Etter, M. Schwarz, R. J. Thomas, Azole methylidene cyanide derivatives and their use as protein kinase modulators, WO03/106455A1 (2003).



Scheme S4.

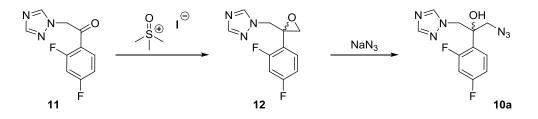
cis-9a, 47% yield.

trans-9a, 50% yield (DMF used as solvent).

9b, 52% yield.

9e, 30% yield.

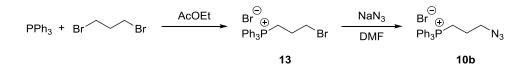
Azide 10a was synthesized as follows (Scheme S5):



Scheme S5.

Commercially available ketone 11 was first converted into epoxide 12^{5} , which was then transformed in the azidoalcohol $10a^{6}$ following literature procedures and the spectroscopic data and physical properties of the obtained products were identical to the reported ones.

Azide 10b was synthesized as follows (Scheme S6):





Triphenylphosphine (10 mmol) was dissolved in AcOEt (10 mL) and dibromopropane (4 equiv.) was added. The mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature and a white solid was observed. The mixture was refluxed for 8 h and, then, quenched by adding AcOEt with the aim to favor the phosphonium salt precipitation. The desired product **13** was isolated by filtration (75 % yield).

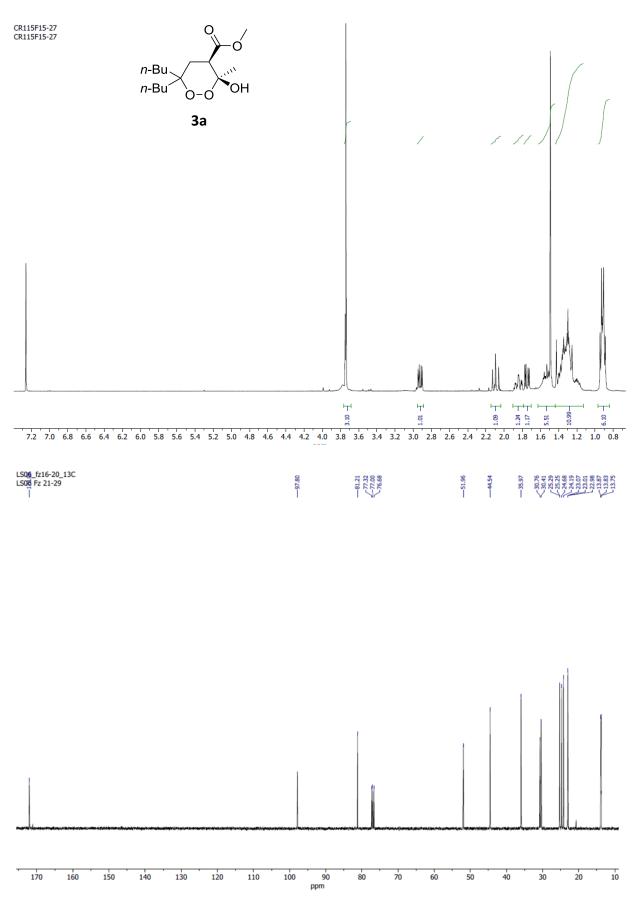
The obtained phosphonium salt **13** (2.5 mmol) was dissolved in DMF (5 mL) and NaN₃ (1.1 equiv.) was added. The mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. Then, CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) was added and the organic phase was repeatedly washed with water (5 x 7 mL) to eliminate DMF. Lastly, Et_2O was added to the organic phase to favor the product precipitation. The desired product **10b** was isolated by filtration (85 % yield). The spectroscopic data and physical properties of the obtained product were identical to the reported ones.⁷

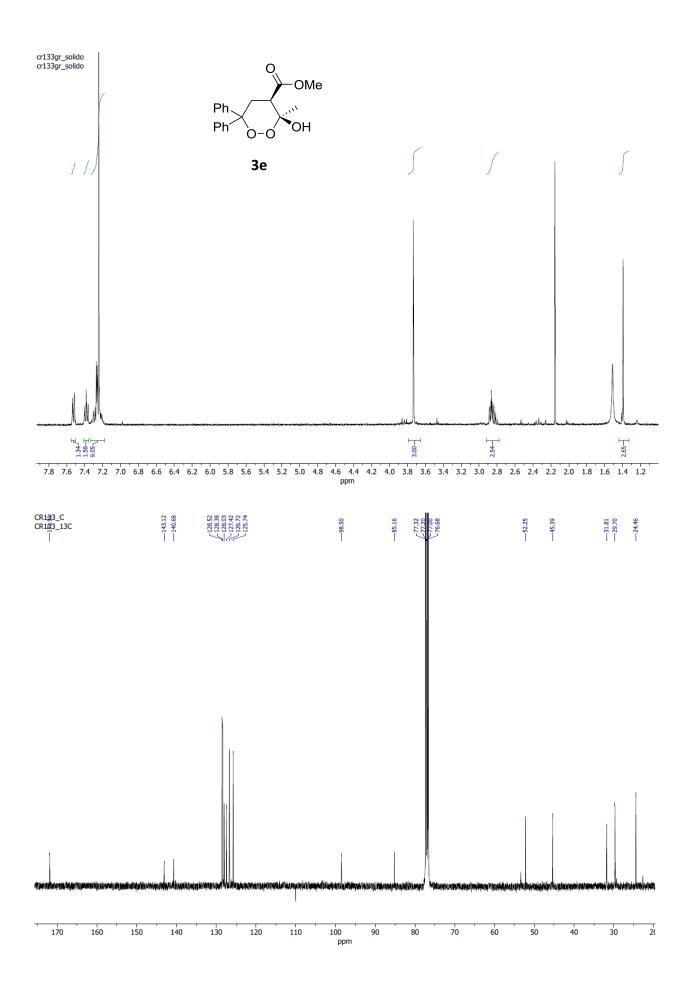
R. S. Upadhayaya, S. Jain, N. Sinha, N. Kishore, R. Chandra, S. K. Arora, Synthesis of novel substituted tetrazoles having antifungal activity, Eur. J. Med. Chem. 39 (2004) 579–592. <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ejmech.2004.03.004</u>.

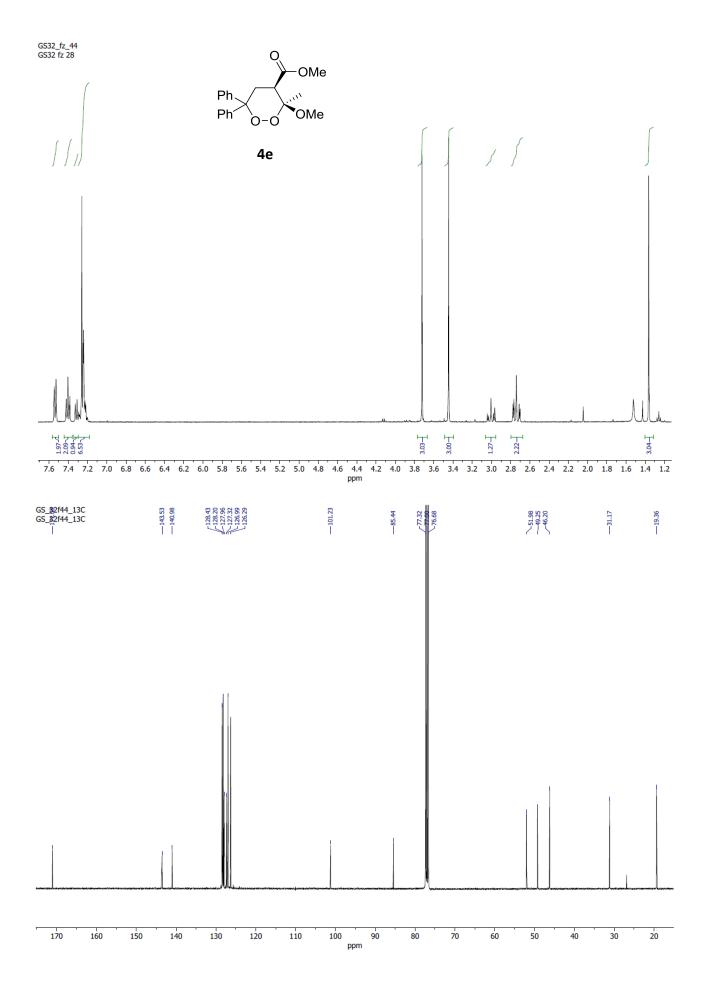
⁶⁾ T. Konosu, Y. Tajima, N. Takeda, T. Miyaoka, M. Kasahara, H. Yasuda, S. Oida, Triazole antifungals. II. Synthesis and antifungal activities of 3-acyl-4-methyloxazolidine derivatives, Chem. Pharm. Bull. 38 (1990) 2476-2486.

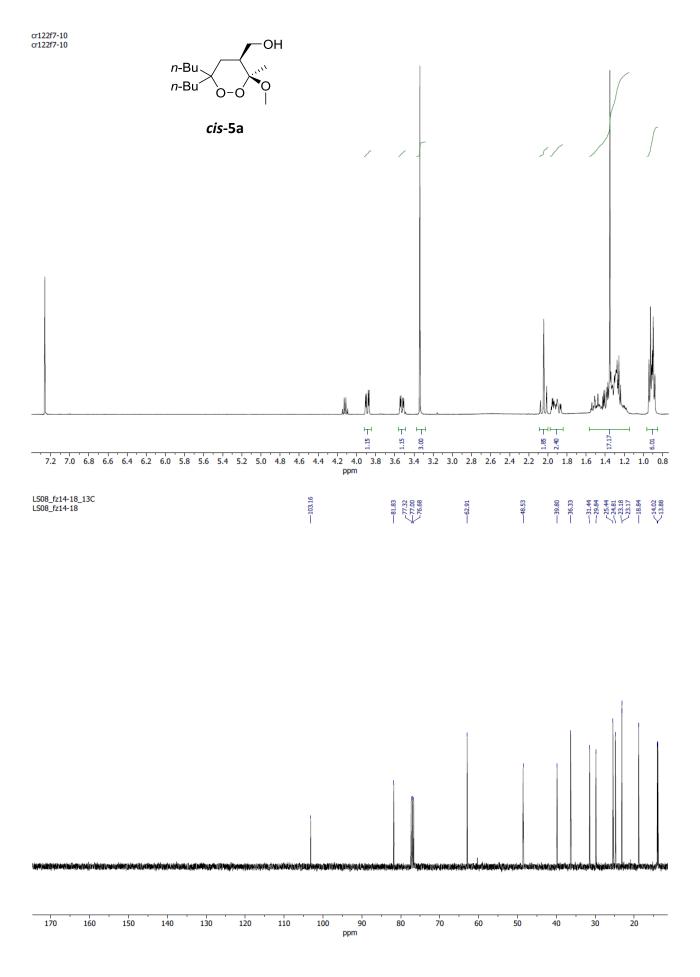
⁷⁾ J. D. Knight, S. J. Sauer, D. M. Coltart, Asymmetric Total Synthesis of the Antimalarial Drug (+)-Mefloquine Hydrochloride via Chiral N-Amino Cyclic Carbamate Hydrazones, Org. Lett. 13 (2011) 3118–3121. <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.1021/ol2010193</u>.

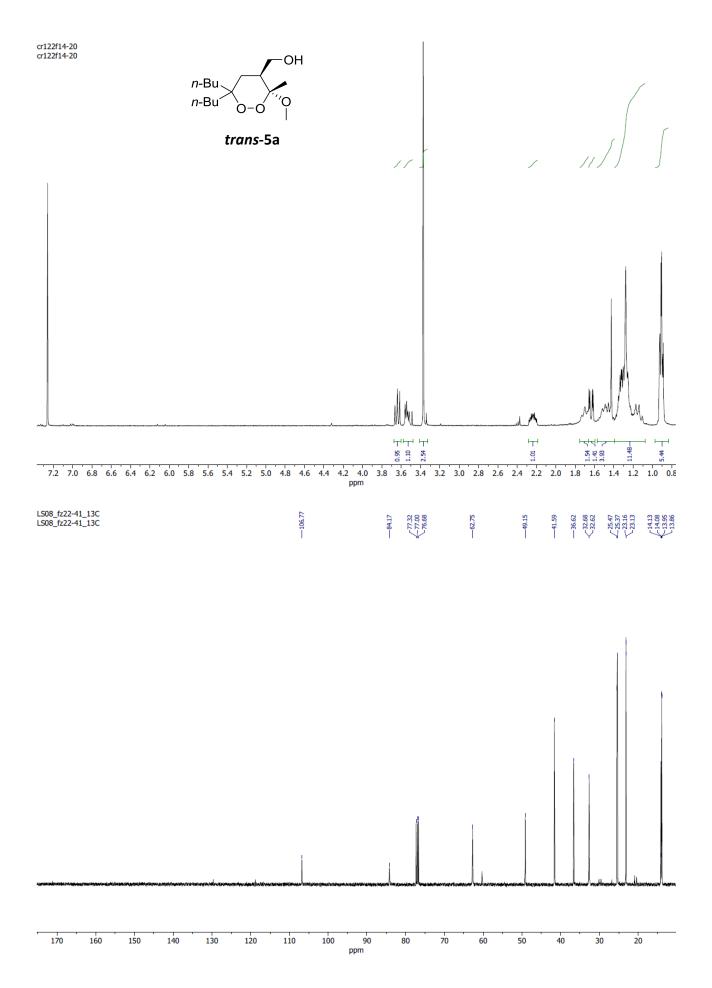
D. NMR Spectra.

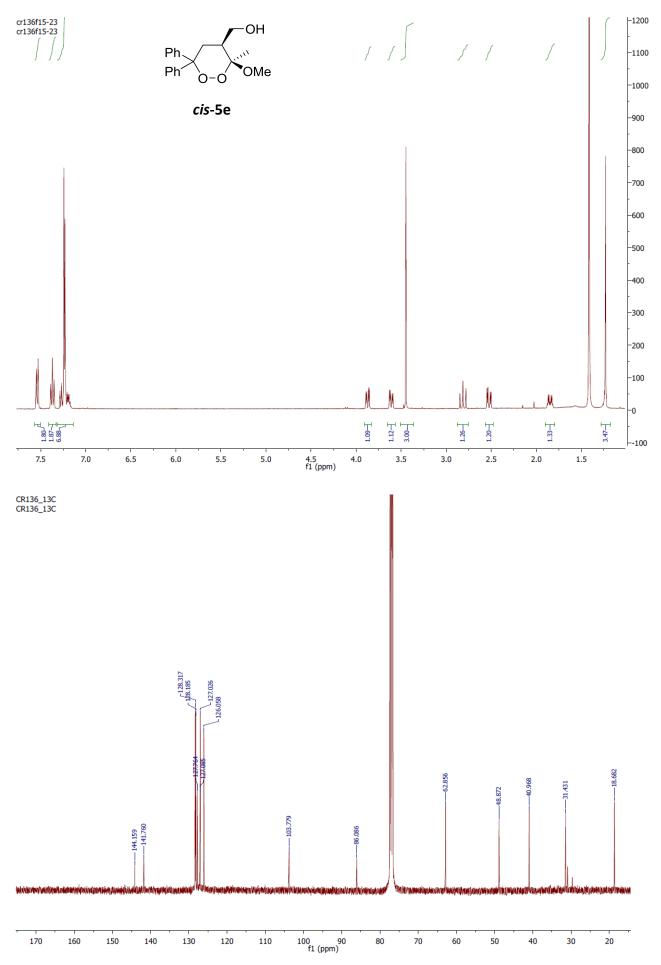


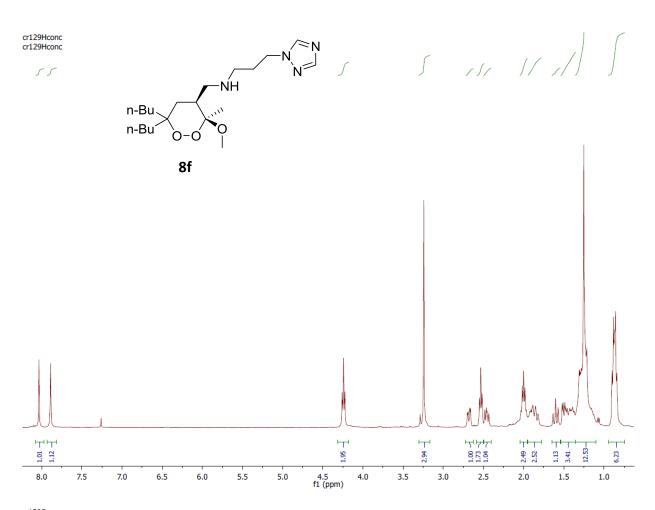




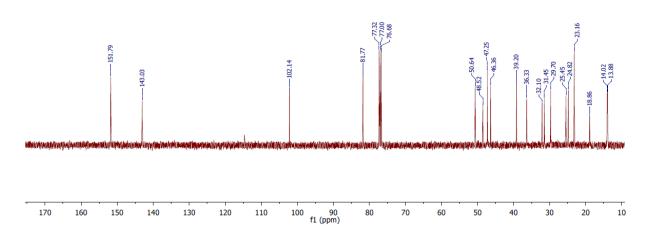


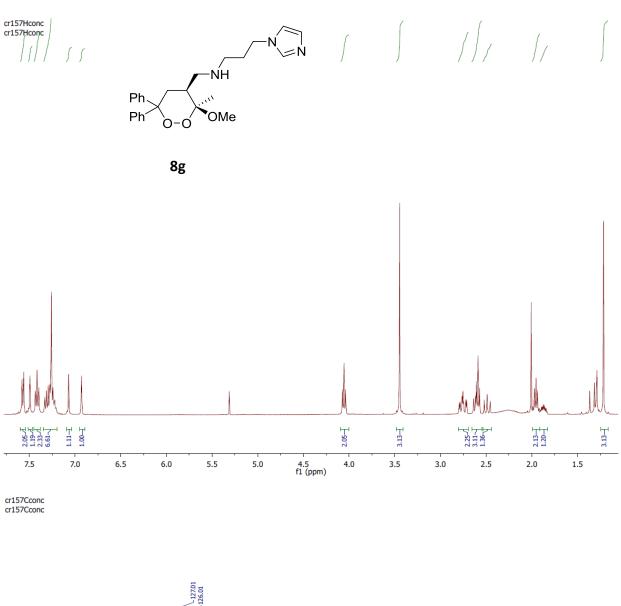


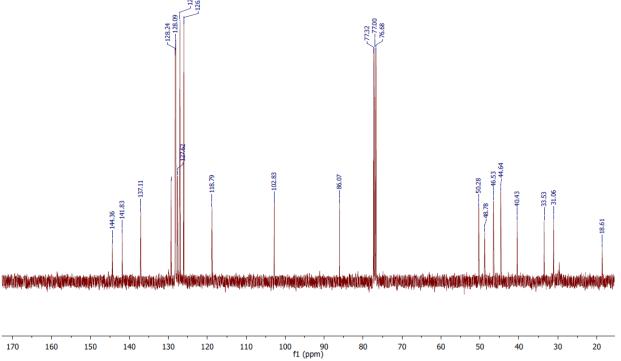


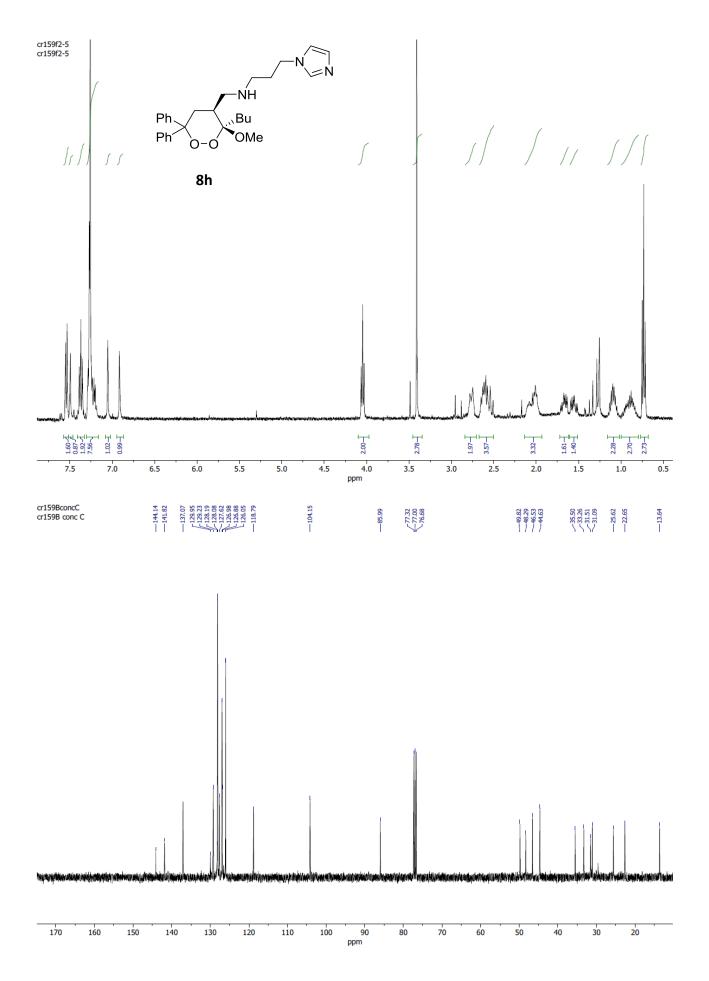


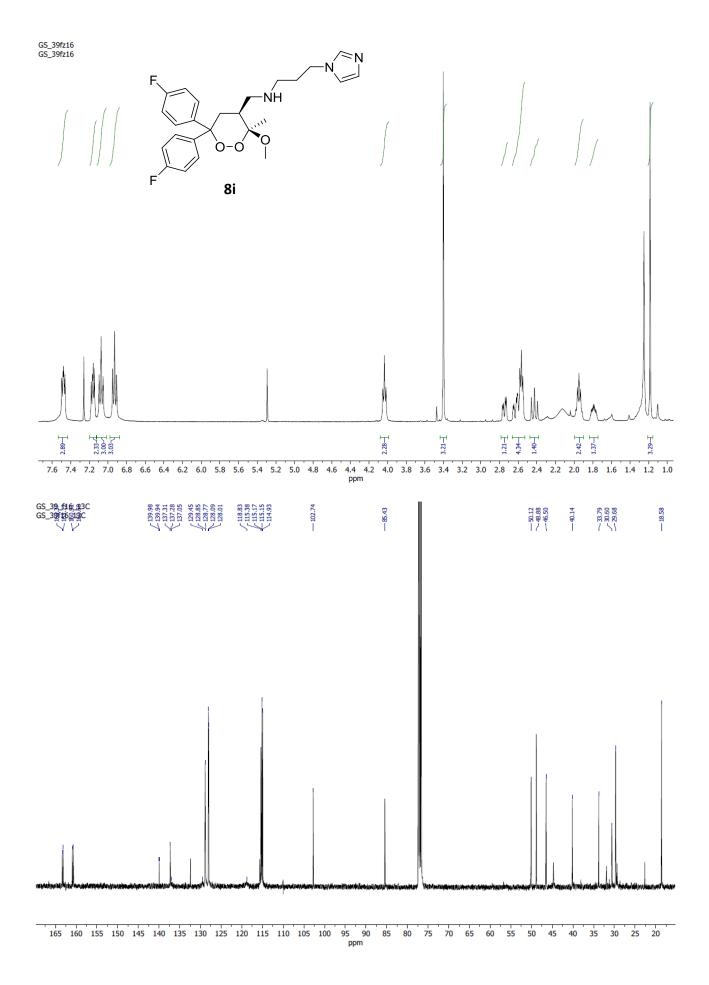
cr129Cconc cr129Cconc

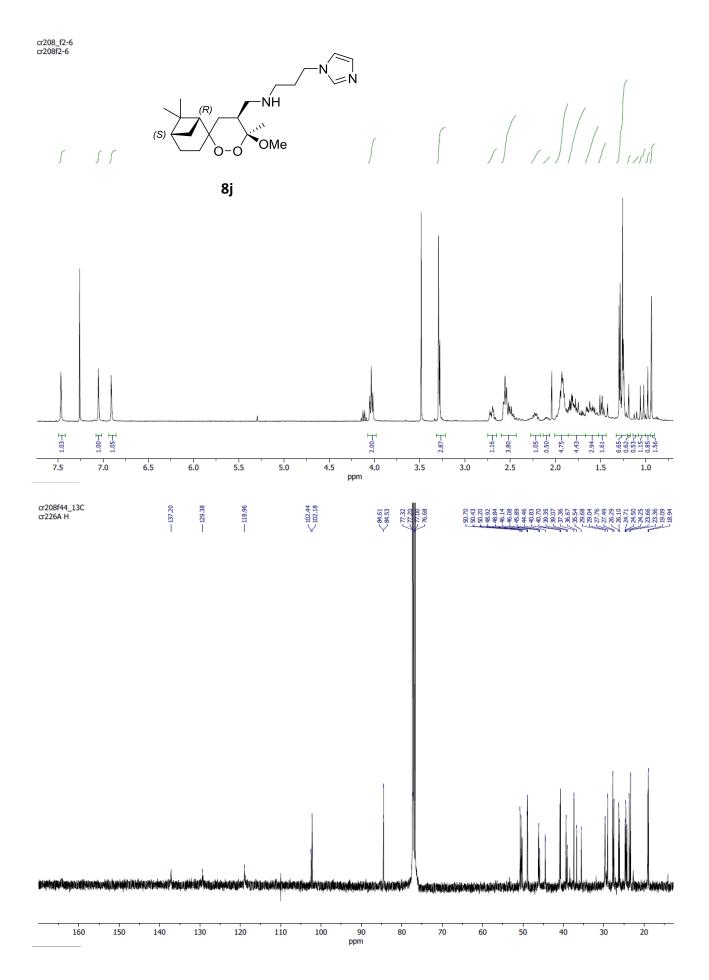


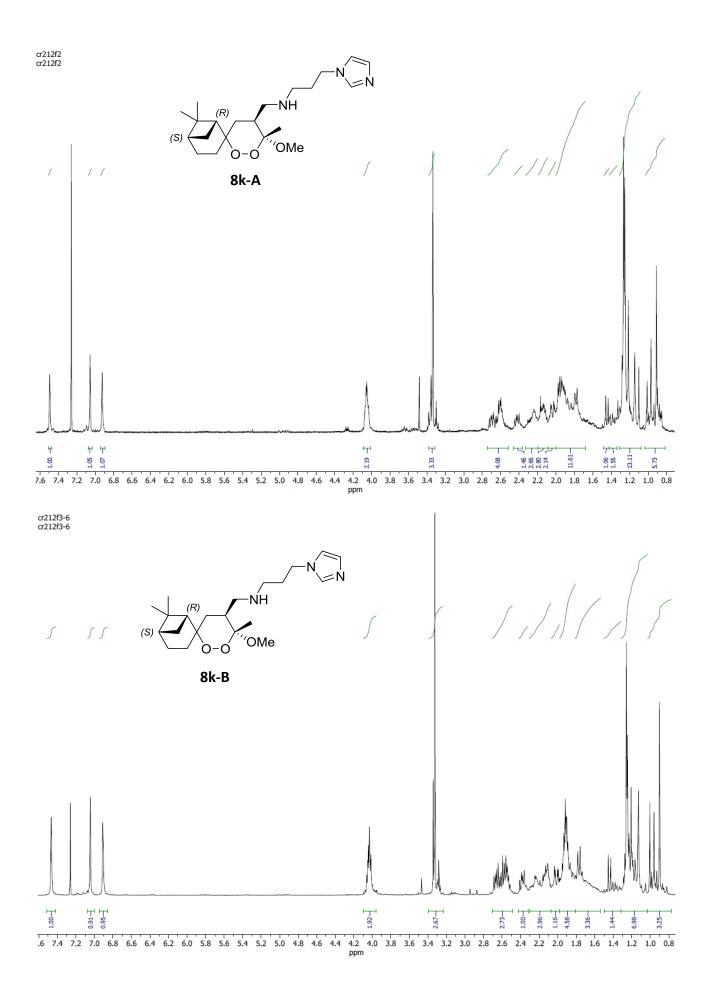


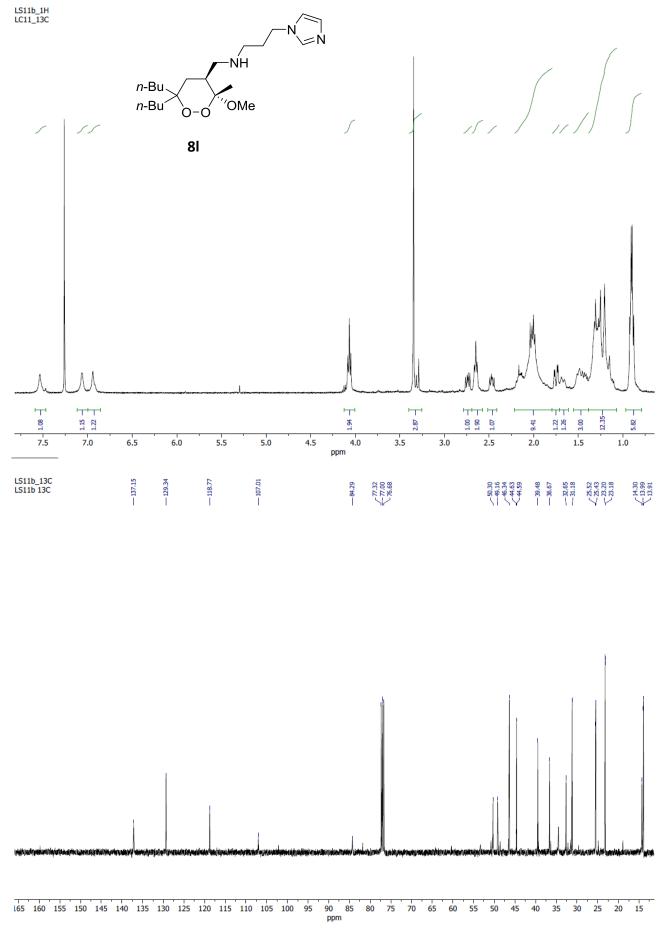


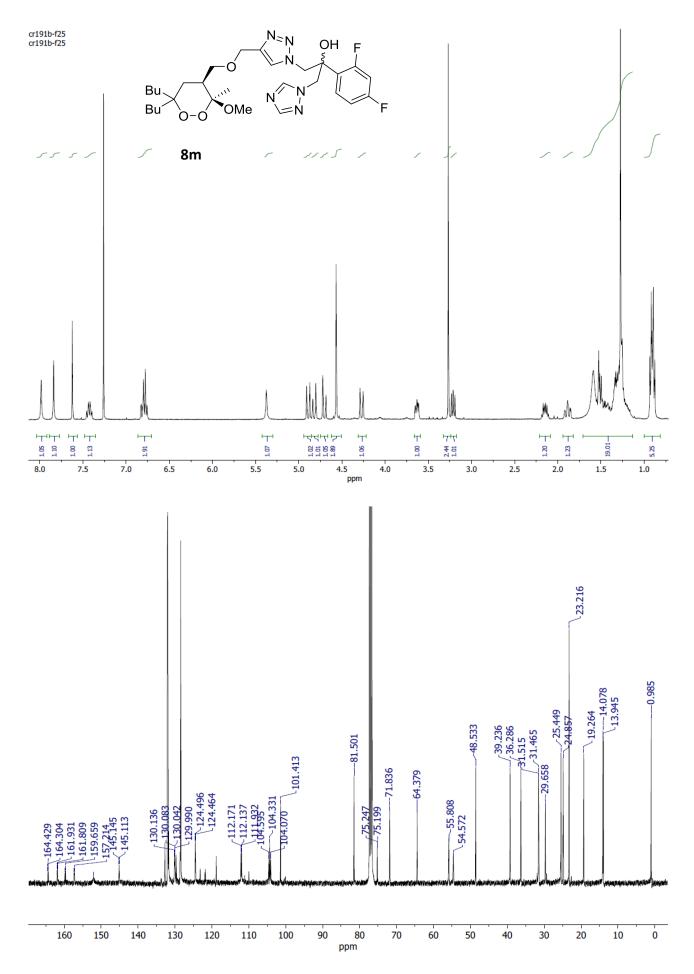












The purification of product **8m** from $Ph_3P=O$ was very difficult. We obtained a small amount of pure **8m** (see ¹H NMR spectrum) to be assayed against *Leishmania* spp.. However, to record the ¹³C NMR spectrum in a reasonable time, we employed a sample of **8m** contaminated by $Ph_3P=O$ (see ¹³C NMR spectrum).

