**ORIGINAL PAPER** 



# Synthesis of new types of pyrrolo/pyrido[1,2-*a*][1,3]diazepines based on seven-membered ring HKA *via* a one-pot three-component reaction

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#### Abstract

An efficient one-pot synthesis of new types of pyrrolo/pyrido[1,2-*a*][1,3]diazepines by using the seven-membered ring HKA, an activated methylene compound, and either arylglyoxal monohydrates or salicylaldehyde is described. This method has the advantages of mild reaction conditions and absence of catalyst and provides an entry point to pyrrolo/pyrido and diazepine ring structures.

#### **Graphical Abstract**



Keywords Pyrrolodiazepines · Pyridodiazepines · Seven-membered ring HKA · Multi-component reaction · Catalyst-free

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# Introduction

The diazepine nucleus is a pharmacophoric scaffold, and many diazepines have recently received great attention, because of their wide range of therapeutic and pharmacological properties [1-3]. Among them, pyrrolo[1,2-a] [1,3]diazepines have attracted much attention as substances with pronounced central nervous system activity and anxiolytic, sedative and antiepileptic activities [4–7].

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A number of pyrrolo[1,2-a][1,3]diazepinone derivatives possess analgesic action and act as antibacterial and antifungal agents with high specificity towards dermatophytes [8–10]. Selected bioactive compounds consisted of pyrrolodiazepinone and pyridodiazepines are shown in Fig. 1 [11]. The main approach to this structure includes a cyclization to the diazepine cycle with the pyrrole ring being already present. The popularity of this method can be explained by a facile electrophilic substitution in a pyrrole ring. An interesting method for the synthesis of the pyrrolo[1,2-a][1,3]diazepine fragment was recently reported by Ivachtchenko et al. [12]. They used bifunctional 1-(2-carboxyaryl) pyrrolecarbaldehyde and Ugi reaction conditions for this purpose.

Heterocyclic ketene aminals (HKAs) are push–pull alkenes with the electron-withdrawing  $NO_2$  and electron-donating amino groups [13, 14]. They are important building blocks in organic chemistry for synthesizing heterocyclic or fused heterocyclic compounds [15–26]. They have been used for the synthesis of a wide variety of heterocyclic systems and natural products, and precursors of chiral amines in asymmetric transformations [27–30].

We have recently started investigations on the one-pot reactions involving various ring sizes of HKAs for the synthesis of pyrido/pyrrolo[1,2-a][1,3]diazepines. To further explore the potentials of such kind of strategy for pyrido/ pyrrolo[1,2-a][1,3]diazepines synthesis, we report our study on the one-pot reactions involving seven-membered ring HKA, an activated methylene compound, and either

arylglyoxal monohydrates or salicylaldehyde under catalystfree conditions in ethanol.

#### **Results and discussion**

Our studies were initiated by heating a solution of HKA 1, salicylaldehyde 2 and Meldrum's acid 3 or malononitrile 4 in EtOH at reflux for 3 h. The reactions proceeded smoothly providing the new kinds of pyrido[1,2-*a*][1,3]diazepine 6 and 7. When we applied methyl cyanoacetate 5 instead of malononitrile 4, new chromene-3-carbonitrile derivatives 8 were obtained in the same condition. The yield of product 8b was very low in different conditions (Table 1).

To achieve the optimal conditions for the synthesis of pyrido[1,2-a][1,3]diazepine derivatives, we chose the reaction of **1**, salicylaldehyde **2a** and Meldrum's acid **3** or malononitrile **4** as a model reaction to optimize the reaction conditions. Various solvents and catalysts were examined to develop standard reaction condition. The reaction proceeded with excellent yields when ethanol was used as the solvent at reflux. The results are summarized in Table 2.

The structures of compound **6** were deduced from their IR, <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR and elemental analysis. In the IR spectrum of **6**, absorption bands at 3450, 3055, 1724, 1451 and 1378 cm<sup>-1</sup> were attributed to the OH, NH, C=O and NO<sub>2</sub> stretching frequencies, respectively, indicating of the functional groups in the product. In this molecule, the CH<sub>2</sub> protons are diastereotopic; the methine and methylene protons



Fig. 1 Bioactive and medicinally important compounds containing pyrrolo/pyridodiazepine skeleton

#### Table 1 Synthesis of new pyrido[1,2-a][1,3]diazepine 6, 7 and 8



Table 2 Optimization of reaction conditions

Entry	Solvent	Catalyst	T(°C)	Time (h)	Yield (%)
1	EtOH	_	rt	6	n.r.
2	EtOH	-	Reflux	3	90
3	EtOH	AcOH	Reflux	5	75
4	EtOH	Et <sub>3</sub> N	Reflux	5	70
5	EtOH	Piperidine	Reflux	5	69
6	CH <sub>3</sub> OH	-	Reflux	6	82
7	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	-	Reflux	6	80
8	$H_2O$	-	Reflux	10	56
9	Toluene	-	reflux	13	45
10	DMF	-	120	13	trace

The optimum reaction conditions are 1(1.0 mmol), 2a(1.0 mmol), 3(1.0 mmol) and 4(1.0 mmol), refluxed in the solution of EtOH without any catalyst

n.r. no reaction, rt room temperature

<sup>a</sup>Isolated yield

appear as an AMX system ( ${}^{2}J_{AM} = 15.9$  Hz,  ${}^{3}J_{AX} = 6.9$  Hz,  ${}^{3}J_{MX} = 1.5$  Hz,  $\delta_{A} = 2.66$  ppm,  $\delta_{M} = 3.14$  ppm,  $\delta_{X} = 4.78$  ppm). Thus, the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **6** exhibited three *dd* ( $\delta$  (H) 4.78, 3.14, 2.66) for the CH and CH<sub>2</sub> protons. The <sup>1</sup>H-decoupled <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **6** showed 15 distinct resonances, in agreement with the proposed structure [31].

The structures of compounds **7a** and **7b** were deduced from their <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and IR spectroscopy as well

as mass spectrometry. For example, the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **7a** clearly showed five singlets identified as amino groups ( $\delta = 10.65$  and 6.13), hydroxy ( $\delta = 9.47$ ), methine proton ( $\delta = 4.85$ ), along with characteristic multiplets for four CH<sub>2</sub> groups ( $\delta 3.65$ –4.05 and 1.48–2.05), and multiplets for the aromatic region ( $\delta 6.66$ –6.98). The <sup>1</sup>H-decoupled <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **7a** indicated 16 distinct resonances, which confirmed the suggested structure. The OH and amino protons resonance (at  $\delta 10.65$ , 9.47 and 6.13), disappeared after addition of D<sub>2</sub>O to the DMSO solution of **7a**.

The mechanism of these pyrido[1,2-a][1,3]diazepines is shown in Scheme 1. The reaction started with the condensation of Meldrum's acid **3** or malononitrile **4** with the salicylaldehyde [32]. The resulting intermediate **9** reacted with HKA possibly via the aza-ene reaction and then imine–enamine tautomerization to form **10**. This intermediate could cyclization by two paths. Product **7** is generated via attack of the NH group to the CN group, in path I. The NH group attacks carbonyl group or imino group to afford **11** which is decarboxylated to generate **6** or imine–enamine tautomerization to produce **7** in path II. Based on these results, Michael addition of **1–9** gives intermediate **12**, followed by air oxidation to afford product **8** (Scheme 2).

The potential of this protocol for the synthesis of pyrrolo[1,2-a][1,3]diazepine was explored by using the barbiturates **13** as an activated methylene compound in a four-component reaction (Scheme 3). The reaction between diamines (1,2-ethanediamine, 1,3-propanediamine, 1,4-butanediamine), 1,1-bis(methylthio)-2-nitroethene,



Scheme 1 Plausible mechanism for the formation of 6 and 7



Scheme 3 Synthesis of new dihydropyrazine 13, hydroxy dihydropyrrole 14 and pyrrolodiazepines 15 and 16

barbiturates **13** and arylglyoxal **14** in ethanol under reflux condition leads to the formation of dihydropyrazine **15**, hydroxy dihydropyrrole **16** and pyrrolodiazepines **17a** and **17b** in good yields, respectively. In this reaction, two new kinds of pyrrolo[1,2-*a*][1,3]diazepine (**17a** and **17b**) were isolated by column chromatography in same condition. The total yield of them was 80% (**17a**, 35% and **17b**, 45%).

It was interesting that when we used 1,2-ethanediamine, the 1,1-bis(methylsulfanyl)-2-nitroethene was not participated in this reaction. A number of efficient approaches for bicyclic pyrrole derivatives through sixmembered ring of HKAs have been explored [33–35]. Depending on the various diamines that used in this reaction, diverse new hydroxy dihydropyrrole and dihydropyrazine rings have been prepared. The effect of ring size of HKAs appears in further reactivity of nitrogen lone pairs in six, or seven membered ring over the five-membered ring.

The structure of the product 13-17 was identified by their IR, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and mass spectra. For example, the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **15** showed two singlets for the NMe<sub>2</sub>  $(\delta = 2.95 \text{ ppm})$  and one signal for the OH group  $(\delta = 11.82)$ , they can be exchanged with deuterium, along with characteristic signals for the phenyl moiety (Fig. 2). The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 15 showed 14 resonances in agreement with the proposed structure. The C=C–CO appeared at  $\delta = 90.7$ and C=N appeared at  $\delta = 155.9$  ppm as key signals (Fig. 3). The C=N of 15 showed strong absorption band at about 1692 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the IR spectrum. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 16 showed three multiplets for the methylene protons at  $\delta = 1.76 - 1.88$  and 2.85 - 2.70 and four singlets for the CH, OH, NH and OH groups at  $\delta = 4.02, 8.07, 9.86$  and 10.39, respectively, with characteristic signal for the aromatic moiety. The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **16** showed 15 distinct resonances which was consistent with the proposed structure.

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **17b** exhibited three multiplets for the methylene protons at  $\delta = 1.92-2.04$  and 3.46-3.71and three singlets for NMe<sub>2</sub>, CH and NH groups at  $\delta = 3.31$ , 4.35 and 7.81 with characteristic signal for the aromatic moiety (Fig. 4). The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **17b** showed 16 distinct resonances due to C–H, C–NO<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>ipso</sub>–CH and CNN appearing at  $\delta = 45.9$ , 107.3, 133.0 and 151.7 ppm, respectively (Fig. 5). The mass spectrum of **17b** displayed the molecular ion peak at m/z 411, in agreement with the proposed structure. The IR spectrum of this compound showed absorption bands due to the NH, CO, NO<sub>2</sub>, C–N groups at 3344, 1674, 1367, 1268 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

A plausible mechanism for the formation of compound 16 and pyrrolo[1,2-*a*][1,3]diazepine 17a and 17b is proposed in Scheme 4. The HKA can react with the arylglyoxal monohydrate 14 via an aza-ene reaction. Thereafter, 18 tautomerizes to 19 by an imine–enamine process, and then, the NH group attacks the intramolecular carbonyl group to afford 20. Subsequently, 21 is generated through the addition of 13–20. This intermediate can lose  $H_2O$  to generate the stabilized pyrrol 17b or undergoes enolization to give 17a.

### Conclusion

We concluded, when seven-membered ring HKA was used, various pyrido/pyrrolo[1,2-*a*][1,3]diazepines have been prepared. The reaction was shown to have attractive features and molecular diversities. These types of heterocycles contain a number of functional groups with possible biological activities. These one-pot reactions involving HKAs and



Fig. 2 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 300 MHz) spectrum of 15



Fig. 3  ${}^{13}$ C NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 75.4 MHz) spectrum of 15



Fig. 4 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) spectrum of 17b



Fig. 5  ${}^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75.4 MHz) spectrum of 17b



Scheme 4 Mechanism for the formation of 17a and 17b

other kinds of active methylene compounds are extendable for producing of other heterocyclic compounds and synthesis of different types of pyrrolo/pyrido[1,2-*a*][1,3]diazepines.

## Experimental

General. All commercially available reagents were purchased from *Fluka* (Switzerland) and *Merck* (Germany) chemical Co. and used without further purification unless otherwise stated. NMR spectra were recorded with a *Bruker DRX-300 AVANCE* instrument (300 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 75.4 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C) with CDCl<sub>3</sub> and DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> as solvent. Chemical shifts are given in ppm ( $\delta$ ) relative to internal TMS, and coupling constant (*J*) is reported in hertz (Hz). Melting points were measured with an *electrothermal 9100* apparatus. Mass spectra were recorded with an *Agilent 5975C VL MSD* with Triple-Axis Detector operating at an ionization potential of 70 eV. IR spectra were measured with Bruker Tensor 27 spectrometer. Compound **1** was prepared according to the literature [21].

General procedure for the preparation of compounds 6, 7 and 8. A mixture of HKA 1 (1 mmol), salicylaldehyde 2 (1 mmol) was heated in EtOH (10 mL) at reflux. Then Meldrum's acid 3 or malononitril 4 (1 mmol) was added to the reaction solution, and the mixture was stirred at reflux. After 3 h, the precipitate was filtered and washed with ethanol to afford the pure product.

General procedure for the preparation of compounds **15**, **16** and **17**. HKAs (1 mmol), arylglyoxal monohydrates **12** (1 mmol) and 1,3-dimethyl barbituric acid **11** (1 mmol) were dissolved in EtOH (10 mL), and the mixture was refluxed in a round-bottomed flask for 3 h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by silica gel (Merck 60, 70–230 mesh) column chromatography using hexane–ethyl acetate (5:1).

9-(2-Hydroxyphenyl)-10-nitro-2,3,4,5,8,9-hexahydropyrid o[1,2-a][1,3]diazepin-7(1H)-one (6) Yield: 0.203 g (67%). White powder. M.p. 265-267 °C. IR: 3450 (OH), 3055 (NH), 2990 (C-H), 1724 (C=O), 1599 (C=C), 1451, 1378 (NO<sub>2</sub>), 1268 (C–N), 1118 (C–O). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 1.58–1.95 (m, 2CH<sub>2</sub>); 2.66 (dd,  ${}^{2}J = 15.9$  Hz,  ${}^{3}J = 1.5$  Hz, 1H); 3.14 (*dd*,  ${}^{2}J = 15.9$  Hz,  ${}^{3}J = 6.9$  Hz, 1H); 3.41–3.84  $(m, 2 \text{ CH}_2\text{NH}); 4.21-4.25 (m, \text{CH}_2\text{N}); 4.78 (dd, {}^{3}J = 6.9 \text{ Hz},$  ${}^{3}J = 1.5$  Hz, 1H); 6.64 (*t*,  ${}^{3}J = 7.8$  Hz, 1 arom. H); 6.70 (*d*,  ${}^{3}J = 7.8$  Hz, 1 arom. H); 6.81 (*d*,  ${}^{3}J = 7.8$  Hz, 1 arom. H); 7.03 (t,  ${}^{3}J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1 arom. H); 9.69 (s, OH); 11.23 (brs, NH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 24.8, 25.2 (2CH<sub>2</sub>); 32.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 37.6 (CH); 45.2, 45.7 (2 CH<sub>2</sub>N); 112.2 (C–NO<sub>2</sub>); 115.8 (1 arom. CH); 119.5 (1 arom. CH); 126.1 (1 arom. CH); 126.5 (C<sub>ipso</sub>); 128.5 (1 arom. CH); 155.5 (C<sub>ipso</sub>-OH); 158.9 (CNN); 170.3 (C=O). Anal. calc. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>

(303.31): C 59.40, H 5.65, N 13.85; found: C 59.1, H 5.9, N 13.6.

**7-Amino-9-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-10-nitro-1,2,3,4,5,9-hexahy dropyrido[1,2-***a***][1,3]diazepine-8-carbonitrile (<b>7a**) Yield: 0.294 g (90%); yellow powder; mp 236–238 °C (dec.). IR (KBr)  $\bar{v}$  = 3465, 3358, 3300, 2179, 1645, 1494, 1345, 1211, 1101 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 10.65 (1H, *s*, NH), 9.47 (1H, *s*, OH), 6.98–6.66 (4H, *m*, ArH), 6.13 (2H, *s*, NH<sub>2</sub>), 4.85 (1H, *s*, CH), 4.05–3.65 (4H, *m*, 2 CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 2.05–1.48 (4H, *m*, 2 CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.4 MHz, DMSO*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 158.6 (CNN), 155.6 (C–OH), 154.9 (NCNH<sub>2</sub>), 129.3 (C of Ar), 129.2 (CH of Ar), 128.1 (CH of Ar), 121.1 (CN), 119.2 (CH of Ar), 115.9 (CH of Ar), 112.6 (CNO<sub>2</sub>), 64.1 (*C*CN), 53.3, 45.7 (2 CH<sub>2</sub>N), 36.9 (CH), 26.8, 25.7 (2 CH<sub>2</sub>); MS: *m/z* = 327 (M<sup>+</sup>, 4), 281 (12), 236 (3), 170 (94), 143 (100), 115 (40), 70 (20), 41 (16). Anal. calc. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (327.34): C 58.71, H 5.23, N 21.39.

**7-Amino-9-(2-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-10-nitro-2,3,4,5-tetrahydropyrido**[**1,2-a**][**1,3**]diazepine-8-car**bonitrile (7b)** Yield: 0.216 g (61%); light brown powder; mp > 350 °C (dec.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 8.49 (1H, *m*, ArH), 7.70–7.56 (2H, *m*, ArH), 7.41 (2H, *s*, NH<sub>2</sub>), 6.98 (1H, *br s*, OH), 3.94 (3H, *s*, OMe), 3.70– 3.60 (2H, *m*, 2 CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 2.25–1.53 (4H, *m*, 2 CH<sub>2</sub>); MS: *m*/*z* = 355 (M<sup>+</sup>, 2), 330 (100), 315 (16), 287 (94), 143 (22), 259 (12), 205 (12), 165 (13), 137 (9), 115 (5), 70 (18), 44 (32). Anal. calc. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (355.35): C 57.46, H 4.82, N 19.71.

**6-Hydroxy-1,3-dimethyl-5-(3-phenyl-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyrazin-2-yl)pyrimidine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (13)** Yield 78%; cream powder; mp 267–269 °C. IR (KBr):  $\bar{v}$  = 3448, 3100, 2883, 1692, 1595, 1444, 1344, 1137 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 11.82 (1H, *s*, OH), 7.50 (2H, *d*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 6.9 Hz, ArH), 7.28–7.20 (3H, *m*, ArH), 3.75–3.69 (2H, *m*, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.30–3.36 (2H, *m*, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.95 (6H, 2NMe); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.4 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 163.1 (=C–OH), 155.9 (2C=N), 151.6 (C=O), 139.3 (C<sub>ipso</sub>), 129.3 (CH<sub>para</sub>), 128.1 (2CH<sub>ortho</sub>), 125.7 (2CH<sub>meta</sub>), 90.7 (C=C–OH), 46.7, 37.5 (2CH<sub>2</sub>N), 28.0, 27.7 (2NMe).

**4** - ( ( **1** , **3** - **d** i **a** z e p a n - 2 - y l i d e n e ) ( n i t r o ) methyl)-2-oxo-2H-chromene-3-carbonitrile (**8a**) Yield: 0.192 g (69%); brown powder; mp > 300 °C (dec.). IR (KBr):  $\bar{v} = 3938, 2145, 1639, 1422, 1316, 1211, 1150 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta = 10.65$  (2H, br s, 2 NH), 8.99 (1H, d,  ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}} = 8.4 \text{ Hz}$ , Ar), 7.73 (1H, t,  ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}} = 8.1 \text{ Hz}$ , Ar), 7.45–7.42 (2H, m, Ar), 3.10–2.95 (4H, m, 2CH<sub>2</sub>N), 1.99–1.75 (4H, m, 2CH<sub>2</sub>) ppm. 6-Hydroxy-5-(6-hydroxy-8-nitro-6-phenyl-1,2,3,4,6,7-hexa hydropyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrimidin-7-yl)-2-thioxo-2,3-dihydropyrimidin-4(1H)-one (16) Yield (60%); light brown powder; mp 310 °C (dec.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta = 10.39$  (1H, *s*, NH), 9.86 (1H, *s*, OH), 8.07 (1H, *s*, OH), 7.39–7.04 (5H, *m*, ArH), 4.02 (1H, *s*, CH), 2.85–2.70 (4H, *m*, 2CH<sub>2</sub>N), 1.88–1.76 (2H, *m*, CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.4 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta = 165.0$  (C=O), 163.7 (=C–OH), 163.5 (CNN), 153.5 (C=O), 139.2 (C<sub>ipso</sub>), 129.6 (2CH<sub>meta</sub>), 128.8 (CH<sub>para</sub>), 128.5 (2CH<sub>ortho</sub>), 103.9 (=C–NO<sub>2</sub>), 96.2 (C–OH), 86.7 (C=C–OH), 38.8 (CH), 38.5 (2CH<sub>2</sub>N), 36.7 (2CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 18.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>).

6-Hydroxy-5-(7-hydroxy-9-nitro-7-phenyl-2,3,4,5,7,8-hexa-hydro-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-*a*][1,3]diazepin-8-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (17a) Yield 76%; yellow paste; mp 250–252 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 10.33 (1H, *s*, NH), 8.01 (1H, *s*, OH), 7.45–7.20 (5H, *m*, ArH), 7.26 (1H, *s*, CH), 3.32, 3.22 (6H, *s*, 2 NMe), 3.62–2.95 (4H, *m*, 2CH<sub>2</sub>N), 1.75–1.57 (2H, *m*, 2CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 166.5 (C=O), 164.2 (=C–OH), 163.9 (CNN), 151.9 (C=O), 138.7 (C<sub>ipso</sub>), 29.2 (CH<sub>para</sub>), 128.3 (2CH<sub>meta</sub>), 125.6 (2CH<sub>ortho</sub>), 107.5 (=C–NO), 100.1 (C–OH), 87.9 (C=C–OH), 45.5 (CH), 44.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>N), 41.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 29.7, 28.0 (2NMe), 27.4, 26.5 (2CH<sub>2</sub>); MS (70 eV): *m*/*z* = 429 (M<sup>+</sup>, 0.2), 411 (20), 365 (93), 285 (3), 251 (14), 182 (13), 149 (19), 117 (9), 84 (100), 43 (65).

**1,3-Dimethyl-5-(9-nitro-7-phenyl-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-***a***][1,3]diazepin-8-yl)pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (17b) Yield: 89%; yellow paste; mp 264–266 °C; IR (KBr): \bar{v} = 3344, 2922, 1674, 1521, 1367, 1268 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): \delta = 7.81 (1H,** *s***, NH), 7.44–7.42 (5H,** *m***, ArH), 4.35 (1H,** *s***, CH), 3.71–3.46 (2H,** *m***, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 3.31 (6H,** *s***, 2NMe), 2.04–1.92 (2H,** *m***, CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): \delta = 167.0 (2C=O), 151.7 (CNN), 150.5 (C=O), 133.0 (=C-N), 130.4 (2CH<sub>ortho</sub>), 129.3 (CH<sub>ara</sub>), 129.2 (2CH<sub>meta</sub>), 128.5 (C<sub>ipso</sub>), 116.6 (C–NO<sub>2</sub>), 107.3 (C=C–N), 48.2 (CH), 47.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>N), 45.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 28.9 (2NMe), 28.8, 26.8 (2CH<sub>2</sub>); MS (70 eV):** *m/z* **= 411 (M<sup>+</sup>, 54), 365 (100), 308 (1), 251 (17), 182 (5), 142 (2), 104 (11), 55 (11).** 

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