Synthesis of Novel IP Agonists via N-Aminoethyl Cyclic Amines Prepared by Decarboxylative Ring-Opening Reactions

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Abstract: An efficient synthesis of a highly potent and selective IP (PGI2 receptor) agonist that is not structurally analogous to PGI2 is described. This synthesis is accomplished through the following key steps: Nucleophilic ring-opening of 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-oxazolidin-2-one prepared by a one-pot procedure with 4-piperidinol and selective O-alkylation of 1-(2-(4-chlorophenylamino)ethyl)piperidin-4-ol. The obtained compound is a potent and selective IP agonist displaying a long duration of action.

Keywords: amines; anilines; piperidines; heterocycles; IP agonists

1. Introduction

Prostacyclin (PGI2; Figure 1) is an endogenous IP agonist generated in vascular endothelial cells, that has potent inhibitory effects on platelet adhesion and aggregation, as well as on vasoconstriction [1]. However, the therapeutic application of PGI2 itself is severely restricted by its chemical instability due to its chemically labile enol ether moiety. To date, orally active prostacyclin analogues [2–5] with improved stability of the enol ether moiety have been reported. Among them, beraprost sodium (1; Figure 1), which has a modified omega-side chain and a phenyl ether instead of an enol ether, is chemically and metabolically stable and hence was the first orally active prostacyclin analogue discovered by Toray Industries, Inc. [6]. This stable PGI2 analogue has been used to treat chronic occlusive disease since 1992 and primary pulmonary hypertension since 1999.
Beraprost sodium shows a wide variety of clinically useful pharmacological effects, such as antiplatelet effects [7,8], vasodilatory effects [9], inhibition of inflammatory cytokine production [10], and inhibition of proliferation of vascular smooth muscle cells [11], but also has some drawbacks including short duration of action. To overcome these drawbacks, some potent non-prostanoid IP agonists (Figure 2) were recently reported and provided a possible solution [12–19].
2.2. Decarboxylative Ring-Opening Reaction

On the basis of preceding work [23–28], we planned to prepare 6 by two synthetic routes (Figure 3). Route A is direct and simple, involving the reaction of an amine with a substituted aziridine or its precursor (e.g., N-substituted chloroethylamine) [23]. However, aziridines are not commercially available at present because of their toxic and carcinogenic properties [29,30], and thus we synthesized N-substituted chloroethyamines by a well-known route [31,32]. Although this route is attractive for preparing various substrates, multiple steps including a reduction step are required. The other route is the ring-opening reaction of a cyclic sulfamidates 7 or N-aryloxazolidin-2-ones 8 with a secondary amine (Figure 3, route B). Generally, primary and secondary amines react effectively with five-membered cyclic sulfamidates under mild reaction conditions to furnish the corresponding diamines in good yield. However, the utility of 7 as a substrate is limited since their preparation requires multiple steps, including oxidation [24]. This method using 8 has been previously reported by Poindexter and co-workers [25–27].

Figure 3. Possible synthetic routes to N-aminoethyl cyclic amines having scaffold 6.

This previous work makes clear that an improved decarboxylative ring-opening reaction would lead to a more direct synthesis of 6. However, an initial attempt using 5 (8, R¹ = 4-Cl) and 4-piperidinol hydrogen chloride salt yielded the desired product 3 in low HPLC yield (3%) using a modification (in DMSO; 100 °C, 24 h) of the conditions reported by Poindexter and co-workers [21,22]; therefore, we conducted extensive screening of amines (salt and/or free), solvents, and temperatures in order to improve the yield. We found that nucleophilic ring-opening using 8 with free cyclic amines proceeded under heating in DMSO. Furthermore, this reaction under the optimized conditions had a wide substrate scope (R¹, R², and n shown in Scheme 2), and furnished N-aminoethyl cyclic amines in moderate yield: 57–89% for 10 examples (Scheme 2) [22].
As mentioned above, we have successfully developed an efficient conversion of N-aryloxazolidin-2-ones 8 to N-aminoethyl cyclic amines 6 [22]. This method can be applied to the synthesis of novel IP agonists.

2.3. Synthesis of 2

Toward the total synthesis of target molecule 2 starting from 9, we first attempted to synthesize 5 to be used as substrate in the decarboxylative ring-opening reaction. Several methods for preparing 8 are known [33–37], and one typical and efficient method consisting of two steps: first, formation of N-aryl-2-chloroethyl carbamate from an aniline and 2-chloroethyl chloroformate in the presence of an organic base such as tertiary amine or an inorganic base such as sodium, potassium, or calcium carbonate; and second, strong-base-induced intramolecular cyclization of the isolated carbamate. While both weak and strong bases have been employed for N-acylation and intramolecular cyclization in this method, we attempted to improve the two-step reaction sequence to a one-pot method using one kind of base. In this study, we found the practical one-pot conditions shown in Scheme 3. Thus, aniline 9 was reacted with 2-chloroethyl chloroformate (1.25–2.0 equiv.) in the presence of potassium carbonate (2.5 equiv.) in acetonitrile at room temperature to give 2-chloroethyl substituted phenylcarbamate 10 in situ, which was then heated at reflux to induce intramolecular cyclization, affording the desired product 8 in satisfactory yield.

We next focused on the decarboxylative ring-opening of 5 toward 3. According to the protocol developed in our previous report (Scheme 2) [21,22], decarboxylative ring-opening of 1 mmol of 5 in a typical example with free amine 4-piperidinol (4) under heating in DMSO (1.0 M) gives 3 without any side reactions. In our ongoing studies, the required reaction time was investigated over a range of reaction temperatures (70 to 150 °C). The results of the temperature screening are summarized in Table 1. Compound 3 was obtained in good HPLC yield (>80%) at high reaction temperatures (>110 °C; entries 3, 4, 5). Under the reaction conditions of entry 3, we continued the reaction until 5 was
completely consumed, as determined by HPLC analysis. The reaction took 5 days to reach completion, giving the desired product 3 in 81% isolated yield (99.0% purity by HPLC peak area).

**Scheme 3.** One-pot preparation of 8.

| Entry | Temp. (°C) | Yield (%) of 3 at reaction time |
|-------|------------|--------------------------------|
|     |            | 1 day | 2 days | 3 days |
| 1    | 70         | 17    | 27     | 34     |
| 2    | 90         | 46    | 61     | 69     |
| 3    | 110        | 81    | 92     | 95     |
| 4    | 130        | 96    | 96     | 96     |
| 5    | 150        | 95    | 98     | 99     |

*Using N-(p-chlorophenyl) oxazolidin-2-one 5 (1 mmol); 8 HPLC yield by peak area at 254 nm: 100 × 3/[3+5].

Next, we turned our attention to the construction of the oxyacetic acid and piperonyl amide moieties. In our initial studies, we carried out N-acylation with piperonyloyl chloride. This reaction, however, produced several compounds including desired product 11, N- and O-acylated product 12, and decomposition products (Table 2).

**Table 2.** Construction of the piperonyl amide moiety.

| Entry | Temp. (°C) | Yield (%) of 3 at reaction time |
|-------|------------|--------------------------------|
|     |            | 1 day | 2 days | 3 days |
| 1    | 70         | 17    | 27     | 34     |
| 2    | 90         | 46    | 61     | 69     |
| 3    | 110        | 81    | 92     | 95     |
| 4    | 130        | 96    | 96     | 96     |
| 5    | 150        | 95    | 98     | 99     |

*Using N-(p-chlorophenyl) oxazolidin-2-one 5 (1 mmol); 8 HPLC yield by peak area at 254 nm: 100 × 3/[3+5].

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Since our initial attempt resulted in lower selectivity for introducing the piperonyl group to the aniline nitrogen atom of 3 because of the low nucleophilicity of the nitrogen atom, we next focused on the following synthetic sequence: \( O \)-Alkylation and then \( N \)-acylation. After thoroughly screening conditions for \( O \)-alkylation, we found that by using a phase transfer catalyst in a biphasic mixture of toluene and 50% NaOH aqueous solution, the reaction proceeded smoothly to afford the desired product 13 with no \( N \)-alkylated product (Scheme 4).

### Scheme 4. \( O \)-Alkylation of 3 under biphasic conditions.

Having obtained these successful results, we carried out the final steps of the synthesis of 2 on a 1.00 mol scale, and the synthesis of 2 from 13 was completed as illustrated in Scheme 5. \( N \)-Acylation of 13 with piperonyloyl chloride in the presence of pyridine as base, hydrolysis of tert-butyl ether with excess lithium hydroxide followed by pH adjustment and maintaining conditions of 25 °C and 70% humidity for 28 h furnished 15 as a stable dihydrate. Finally, the formation of its phosphoric acid salt and subsequent recrystallization gave 2 in 90% isolated yield with high purity (>99% by HPLC peak area).

### 2.4. Biological Activity

Competitive binding assays were performed with membrane fractions from CHO or COS-7 cells expressing each human EP receptor subtype. Compound 2 has good selectivity for human IP receptor. For 2, the \( K_i \) value for IP receptor was 310 nM and the \( K_i \) value for other prostanoid receptors was 100-fold the \( K_i \) value for IP receptor. Compound 2 also increased cyclic AMP production in COS-7 cells expressing human IP receptor in a concentration-dependent manner, and a significant increase was observed at concentrations of 2 greater than 10 nM. In addition, 2 possesses especially good pharmacokinetic properties. In intravenous administration to dog, the plasma half-life was calculated...
to be 3.26 h and bioavailability was 86.9%. Further experimental evaluation of the compound’s pharmacological properties is now in progress.

**Scheme 5.** Alternative synthesis of 2.

Reagents and conditions: (a) piperonyloyl chloride (1.10 equiv.), pyridine (1.32 equiv.), MeCN, 23 °C, 2 h; (b) LiOH·H₂O (3.5 equiv.), MeOH/H₂O, 32 °C, 3 h; (c) 5.0 N HCl aq. (to pH 6.4); (d) 70% RH, 25 °C, 28 h; (e) 85% H₃PO₄ aq. (1.06 equiv.), 2-PrOH, H₂O at 70 °C.

2.5. Preparing of Derivatives of 2 as Novel IP Agonists

The decarboxylative ring-opening reaction enabled preparation of a variety of N-aminoethyl cyclic amines derivatives for synthesizing novel IP agonists. Derivatives of 2 were prepared by applying the improved synthetic route consisting of the sequence shown in Scheme 6: (1) one-pot preparation of N-aryloxazolidin-2-one; (2) decarboxylative ring-opening reaction; (3) O-alkylation under biphasic conditions; (4) N-acylation; and (5) salt formation. Structure-activity relationship studies of these novel IP agonists will be published in the future.

**Scheme 6.** Preparation of derivatives.
3. Experimental

General

NMR \[^1H\text{-NMR} (400 \text{ MHz})\] spectra were determined on a JEOL-LA400 instrument unless otherwise noted. Chemical shifts for \[^1H\text{-NMR}\] are reported in ppm downfield from TMS (\(d\)) as the internal standard. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on a JEOL-FT/IR-410 and are reported in wavenumbers (cm\(^{-1}\)). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on a JEOL JMS DX-303 at Toray Research Center, Inc. Elemental analyses were performed with an AT-118 instrument at Toray Research Center, Inc. Melting points (mp), determined on a Yanaco Micro Melting Point Apparatus MP-500, are uncorrected. HPLC analyses were performed on a SHIMAZU LC-10A system with UV detection at a wavelength of 218 nm using YMC-Pack Pro C18 AS-303 (250 \times 4.6 \text{ mm I.D.}, S-5 \text{ \( \mu \)m}). As mobile phase was used a gradient consisting of CH\(_3\)CN and 20 mM H\(_3\)PO\(_4\)-KH\(_2\)PO\(_4\) buffer (pH = 2.3). All reagents and solvents were of commercial grades and were used without further purification.

2-Chloro-N-(4-chlorophenyl)acetamide. To a stirred mixture of 4-chloroaniline (600 g, 4.70 mol) in THF (2,126 g) under an Ar atmosphere was added pyridine (391 g, 4.95 mol) at 0 °C. To the mixture was added 2-chloroacetyl chloride (558 g, 4.94 mol) under an Ar atmosphere over 82 min. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature, and then was cooled to 0 °C. After the reaction was completed, distilled water (1,300 g) and 1 M HCl aq. (1,039 g) were added dropwise to the reaction mixture with cooling at 5 °C. After stirring for 95 min, the generated precipitate was collected by filtration, and then washed with distilled water (1,000 mL). After distilled water (3,000 mL) was added to the resulting precipitate, it was stored at room temperature for overnight. The resulting precipitate was collected by filtration, and washed with distilled water (3,000 mL), and dried to give a title compound (817 g, 85%). Mp 167.9–168.5 °C. IR (KBr): 3501, 3264, 3197, 3130, 3082, 3004, 2952, 2887, 2855, 2795, 2740, 1887, 1765, 1669, 1613, 1551, 1490, 1400, 1340, 1282, 1246, 1189, 1095, 1011, 962, 921, 861, 825, 774, 738 cm\(^{-1}\). \(^1H\text{-NMR} (\text{CDCl}_3): \delta = 8.23 (1H, \text{ br.s}), 7.51 (2H, \text{ m}), 7.33 (2H, \text{ m}), 4.19 (2H, \text{ s}).\) Elem. Anal. Calcd for C\(_9\)H\(_{10}\)ClNO: C, 47.09; H, 3.46; N, 6.86; Cl, 34.75. Found: C, 47.09; H, 3.48; N, 6.93; Cl, 34.78.

4-Chloro-N-(2-chloroethyl)aniline hydrochloride. To a stirred mixture of 2-chloro-N-(4-chlorophenyl)acetamide (786 g, 3.85 mol) in THF (6,921 g) under Ar atmosphere was added sodium borohydride (218 g, 5.77 mol) at −7 °C. Then, to the reaction mixture was added boron trifluoride–THF complex (1071 g, 7.65 mol) under Ar atmosphere over 4 h 15 min. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at 67 °C, and then was cooled to 0 °C. Distilled water (803 g) and 50% K\(_2\)CO\(_3\) aq. (4,997 g) were added dropwise to the reaction mixture at 5 °C. After additional distilled water (2,011 g) and EtOAc (5,440 g) were added, the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The resulting precipitate was separated by filtration. The resulting precipitate was washed with distilled water (899 g) and EtOAc (534 g) respectively. The organic layer was washed with distilled water (2,933 g) and 25% NaCl aq. (2,989 g) respectively. The aqueous layer extracted with EtOAc (2,766 g). Hydrogen chloride in MeOH (1.76 M: 447 g, 1.30 M: 354 g and 2.16 M: 1,332 g) was added dropwise to the combined organic layer at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The mixture was concentrated and residual MeOH was exchanged to EtOAc by evaporation. After EtOAc (3,669 g) was added to the
mixture, it was then stirred for 30 min. The resulting precipitate was collected by filtration washed with EtOAc (939 g and 934 g), and dried to give a title compound (826 g, 95%). Mp 123.0–124.0 °C. IR (ATR): 2898, 2831, 2766, 2676, 2589, 2455, 2357, 1489, 1435, 1373, 1275, 1266, 1203, 1173, 1099, 1059, 1017, 980, 816, 784, 753 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (CD₃OD): δ = 7.56 (2H, d, J = 9.0 Hz), 7.43 (2H, d, J = 9.0 Hz), 3.86–3.75 (4H, m). Elem. Anal. Calcd for C₈H₁₀Cl₃N: C, 42.42; H, 4.45; N, 6.18; Cl, 46.95. Found: C, 42.38; H, 4.40; N, 6.17; Cl, 47.19.

3.1. One-Pot Preparation of 5 (Scheme 3)

3-(4-Chlorophenyl)oxazolidin-2-one (5) [21,22]. To a stirred mixture of K₂CO₃ (5.32 g, 50.0 mmol) and 4-chloroaniline (2.56 g, 20.0 mmol) in MeCN (40.0 mL) under Ar atmosphere was added 2-chloroethyl chloroformate (2.59 mL, 25.0 mmol) over 5 min at room temperature. After stirring for 1 h, the reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 12 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, and then was poured into a mixture of EtOAc (50 mL) and distilled water (75 mL). After the layers were separated, the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (50 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with NaCl aq. (12%, 50 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure to give a crude material. Purifications by recrystallization with EtOAc (32 mL) and n-hexane (110 mL) at reflux afforded pure 11 as a solid (6.02 g, 78%). IR (film): 3456, 1735, 1500, 1479, 1425, 1406, 1322, 1219, 1128 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 4.05 (dd, J = 6.4, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.50 (dd, J = 6.4, 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (dt, J = 3.2, 10.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (dt, J = 3.2, 10.0 Hz, 2H).

3.2. Optimization of Reaction Conditions (Table 1)

1-(2-(4-Chlorophenylamino)ethyl)piperidin-4-ol (3) [22]. To a stirred solution of 5 (163 mg, 1.0 mmol) in DMSO (1.0 mL) under Ar atmosphere was added 4-piperidinol (4) (3.0 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated at 110 °C with stirring for 5 days, and then cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was partitioned between EtOAc (4 mL) and distilled water (2 mL). After the layers were separated, the organic layer was washed with 6% NaCl aq. (2 mL, three times), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure to give a crude material. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (AcOEt and then 10% MeOH in CHCl₃) afford 3 (208 mg, 81% yield and 99.0% purity by HPLC peak area) as a light-yellow solid. Mp 84.0–86.0 °C. IR (film): 3364, 3097, 2927, 2830, 1603, 1511, 1474, 1450, 1319, 1265, 1173, 1122, 1067 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 1.48 (br.s, 1H), 1.54–1.63 (m, 2H), 1.89–1.93 (m, 2H), 2.19 (br.t, J = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.76–2.79 (m, 2H), 3.12 (dd, J = 5.6, 16.8 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (m, 1H), 4.36 (br.s, 1H), 6.55 (dd, J = 3.2, 9.6 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (dd, J = 3.2, 10.0 Hz, 2H). HRMS (FAB): m/z [M+H]+ calcd for C₁₃H₂₀ON₂Cl: 255.1264; found: 255.1260.

3.4. O-Alkylation of 3 under Biphasic Conditions

tert-Butyl 2-((1-(2-((4-chlorophenyl)amino)ethyl)piperidin-4-yl)oxy)acetate (13) [21]. To a stirred mixture of 3 (5.00 g, 19.6 mmol) in toluene (100 mL) and 50% NaOH aq. (100 mL), tetrabutylammonium hydrogen sulfate (665 mg) as catalyst followed by tert-butyl bromoacetate (3.60 mL, 24.4 mmol) were added at room temperature. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 6 h, additional tert-butyl
bromoacetate (0.73 mL, 4.94 mmol) was added at room temperature. The reaction mixture was additionally stirred for 3 h. Distilled water (100 mL) and toluene (100 mL) were added dropwise to the reaction mixture at room temperature. The mixture was then stirred for 30 min. The layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with toluene (150 mL, three times). The combined organic layer was washed with sat. NaCl aq. (100 mL, three times). The mixture was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, evaporated to give a residue. To the residue was added EtOH (15.0 mL) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred at reflux, and then was cooled to 0 °C. The resulting precipitate was collected by filtration, and washed with 20 mL of the mixed solvent (n-hexane–EtOH = 1:1, v/v), and dried to give 13 (5.78 g, 80%). 1H-NMR (CDCl₃):  δ = 7.11 (2 H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.74 (2H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 4.35 (1H, br.s), 3.99 (2H, s), 3.43 (1H, ddt, J = 4.3, 4.3, 8.5 Hz), 3.10 (2H, dt, J = 5.4, 10.8 Hz), 2.76 (2H, dd, J = 5.6, 6.5 Hz), 2.59 (2H, t, J = 5.9 Hz), 2.17 (2H, br.t, J = 9.8 Hz), 1.92 (2H, m), 1.66 (2H, m), 1.48 (9H, s).

3.5. Alternative Synthesis of 2
tert-Butyl 2-((1-(2-(N-(4-chlorophenyl)benzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carboxamido)ethyl)piperidin-4-yl)oxy)acetate (14) [20]. To a stirred mixture of 13 (369.3 g, 1.00 mol) in MeCN (1548 g) under Ar atmosphere was added pyridine (104 g, 1.32 mol) at room temperature, and then was cooled to 0 °C. Piperinoyl chloride (203 g, 1.10 mol) in MeCN (785 g) was added dropwise to the reaction mixture over 19 min. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1.5 h at room temperature. To the reaction mixture was added EtOH (275 g), and then was stirred for 2 h at 60 °C. After additional stirring for overnight at room temperature, K₂CO₃ (332 g) in distilled water (6,274 g) and EtOAc (3,560 g) were added dropwise to the reaction mixture at room temperature. After the mixture was stirred for 30 min, the layers were separated. The organic layer was washed with 13% NaCl aq. (2,995 g). The mixture was concentrated and residual MeCN was exchanged to EtOAc (1,802 g and 1,790 g) by evaporation. To the resulting precipitate was added EtOAc (1,341 g) with stirring at room temperature. The resulting precipitate was filtered off and washed with EtOAc (478 g). The EtOAc layer was concentrated and residual EtOAc was exchanged to EtOH (942 g and 937 g) by evaporation. To the resulting precipitate was added EtOH (266 g) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred at 70 °C, and then was cooled at 60 °C. After addition of n-hexane (728 g), the mixture was stirred for overnight at room temperature. The resulting precipitate was collected by filtration, and washed with 333 g of the mixed solvent (n-hexane–EtOH = 9:1, v/v), and dried to give 14 (486 g, 94%), and the purity was 99.6% by HPLC peak area. Mp 111.8–113.8 °C. IR (KBr): 3069, 2957, 2935, 2895, 2863, 2809, 2781, 1739, 1652, 1591, 1577, 1506, 1491, 1443, 1409, 1391, 1368, 1350, 1307, 1295, 1245, 1174, 1159, 1147, 1134, 1116, 1094, 1061, 1039, 1015, 970, 936, 927, 870, 847, 824, 795, 782, 761, 743, 721, 679 cm⁻¹. 1H-NMR (CDCl₃):  δ = 7.20 ppm (2H, d, J = 8.5 Hz), 7.03 (2H, d, J = 8.5 Hz), 6.79 (2H, d, J = 1.5 Hz), 6.77 (1H, dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz), 5.92 (2H, s), 3.98 (2H, s), 3.96 (2H, d, J = 6.8 Hz), 3.38 (1H, tt, J = 8.8, 8.8, 4.4, 4.4 Hz), 2.77 (2H, dd, J = 5.8, 5.4 Hz), 2.54 (2H, t, J = 6.7 Hz), 2.15 (2H, br.t, J = 9.9 Hz), 1.88 (2H, m), 1.60 (2H, m), 1.48 (9H, s). Elem. Anal. Calcd for C₂₇H₃₃ClN₂O₆: C, 62.72; H, 6.43; N, 5.42; Cl, 6.86. Found: C, 62.82; H, 6.50; N, 5.34; Cl, 6.81.

2-((1-((N-(4-Chlorophenyl)benzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carboxamido)ethyl)piperidin-4-yl)oxy)acetic acid (15) [20]. To a stirred mixture of 14 (440 g, 0.851 mol) in MeOH (3,973 g) under an Ar atmosphere
was added the solution of lithium hydroxide monohydrate (125 g, 2.98 mol) in distilled water (660 g) at room temperature over 31 min. After the reaction was completed, the pH was adjusted to 6.4 by slow addition of 5.0 M HCl aq. (640 g) over 30 min. The mixture was stored for overnight at room temperature. The mixture was concentrated and residual MeOH was exchanged to distilled water (1,313 g) by evaporation. To the resulting precipitate was added distilled water (1,084 g) at room temperature with stirring. The mixture was stirred at 59 °C for 52 min, and then was cooled to 20 °C. The resulting precipitate was collected by filtration, and washed with distilled water (1,320 g and 1,321 g), and dried to give an anhydrous 15 (319 g, 81%). The anhydrous 15 (310 g, 0.673 mol) was kept at 25 °C under 70% humidity for 28 h to give 15 as a dihydrate (334 g, quant. yield), and the purity was 99.9% by HPLC peak area. Mp 147.3–148.0 °C. IR (KBr): 3367, 2911, 2842, 1644, 1621, 1590, 1504, 1487, 1459, 1441, 1401, 1377, 1311, 1292, 1254, 1218, 1177, 1147, 1113, 1093, 1043, 1012, 968, 953, 941, 930, 898, 870, 834, 817, 761, 740, 719 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ = 7.34 ppm (2H, d, J = 8.7 Hz), 7.19 (2H, d, J = 8.7 Hz), 6.79 (1H, d, J = 1.5 Hz), 6.76 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz), 6.72 (1H, dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz), 5.99 (2H, s), 3.98 (2H, s), 3.87 (2H, t, J = 6.6 Hz), 3.31 (1H, m), 2.64 (2H, m), 2.41 (2H, t, J = 8.0 Hz), 2.02 (2H, br.t, J = 9.9 Hz), 1.78 (2H, br.d, J = 9.8 Hz), 1.36 (2H, m). Elem. Anal. Calcd for C₂₃H₂₅ClN₂O₆·2H₂O: C, 55.59; H, 5.88; Cl, 7.13; N, 5.64. Found: C, 55.61; H, 5.89; Cl, 7.19; N, 5.59.

2-((1-(2-((N-(4-Chlorophenyl)benzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carboxamido)ethyl)piperidin-4-yl)oxy)acetic acid phosphoric acid salt (2) [20]. 2-PrOH (2,819 g) was added dropwise to 15 (280 g, 0.563 mol) in under Ar at room temperature. To the mixture was added phosphoric acid aq. prepared from 85% phosphoric acid (68.5 g) and distilled water (200 g) over 2 min at 70 °C. After addition of a small portion of seed crystal, the mixture was cooled to 20 °C, and then was stirred for overnight at room temperature. The resulting precipitate was collected by filtration, and washed with 2-PrOH (375 g and 373 g), and dried to give 2 (285 g, 90%), and the purity was 99.9% by HPLC peak area. Mp 193.8–195.3 °C. IR (ATR): 1768, 1642, 1489, 1444, 1378, 1332, 1306, 1292, 1260, 1243, 1221, 1157, 1138, 1090, 1069, 1039, 937, 859, 832, 822, 754, 740, 716 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ = 7.34 ppm (2H, d, J = 8.6 Hz), 7.20 (2H, d, J = 8.6 Hz), 6.79 (1H, d, J = 1.3 Hz), 6.76 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz), 6.73 (1H, dd, J = 8.0, 1.3 Hz), 5.99 (2H, s), 4.00 (2H, s), 3.91 (2H, t, J = 6.7 Hz), 3.36 (1H, m), 2.73 (2H, br.s), 2.53 (2H, m), 2.19 (2H, br.s), 1.81 (2H, br.d, J = 10.0 Hz), 1.42 (2H, m). Elem. Anal. Calcd for C₂₃H₂₅ClN₂O₆·H₃PO₄: C, 49.43; H, 5.05; Cl, 6.34; N, 5.01. Found: C, 49.46; H, 5.04; Cl, 6.65; N, 4.99.

4. Conclusions

In summary, an efficient synthetic method for preparing novel IP agonists was established. This method has the advantage that decarboxylative ring-opening of N-aryloxazolidin-2-ones with free cyclic amines in heating DMSO gives N-aminoethyl cyclic amines without side reactions. In addition, the subsequent selective O-alkylation is suitable for practical industrial scale preparation of 2. In biological evaluations, 2 exhibited potent and selective IP agonistic activity, and had good pharmacokinetic properties, namely, a long half-life and bioavailability in dog.
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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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Sample Availability: Not available.

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