

# Methodology for the Preparation of *N*-Guanidino-Modified Arginines and Related Derivatives

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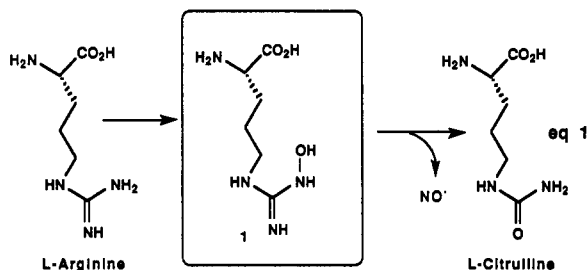
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Methods for the preparation of  $N^G$ -modified arginines and  $N^{\delta}$ -heterocyclic ornithines are described. The reactive cyanamide intermediate *tert*-butyl  $N^{\alpha}$ -Boc- $N^{\delta}$ -cyano-L-ornithinate (**2**), prepared either by treatment of *tert*-butyl  $N^{\alpha}$ -Boc-L-ornithinate (**5**) with cyanogen bromide or by dehydration of *tert*-butyl  $N^{\alpha}$ -Boc-L-citrullinate (**6**), was utilized to prepare  $N^G$ -hydroxy-L-arginine,  $N^G$ -amino-L-arginine, and  $N^G$ -methoxy-L-arginine. Intermediates **3a** and **3b**, derived from treatment of **5** with diphenyl cyanocarbonimidate (**19**), reacted with nitrogen nucleophiles to produce novel  $N^G$ -cyano-L-arginine and  $N^{\delta}$ -heterocyclic L-ornithine analogs.

## Introduction

While there has been much research on the synthesis of guanidines there has been little research on the modification of the guanidino group in arginine. Our interest in modified arginines stems from the recent discovery of nitric oxide synthases (NOS) in vascular tissues, neuronal cells, and macrophages.<sup>1-8</sup> A few prototypical NOS inhibitors have been identified:  $N^G$ -methyl-L-arginine (NMA),  $N^G$ -nitro-L-arginine (NNA), and  $N^G$ -amino-L-arginine (NAA).<sup>9-12</sup>  $N^G$ -Hydroxy-L-arginine (NHA, **1**) had been proposed to be an intermediate in the biosynthesis of EDRF/nitric oxide (NO), eq 1,<sup>13</sup> recently,



the intermediacy of NHA in the biosynthesis of NO from L-arginine has been demonstrated.<sup>14</sup> Since L-arginine is utilized as a substrate by all of the known NOS isoenzymes, we hoped to derive modified arginines which would be

selective inhibitors of the NOS isoenzymes. We sought to apply methodologies for the preparation of substituted guanidines to the synthesis of modified arginine derivatives.

Because of the biochemical and pharmacological importance of NHA and NAA we sought a synthetic route to these compounds and other analogs. Several reports of the synthesis of NAA,<sup>15</sup> NHA,<sup>16,17</sup> and  $N^G$ -hydroxy- $N^G$ -methyl-L-arginine<sup>17,18</sup> have appeared. The protected cyanornithine **2** has been utilized to prepare NHA<sup>17,19,20</sup> and  $N^G$ -hydroxy- $N^G$ -methyl-L-arginine<sup>17</sup> for use as mechanistic probes. Our synthetic efforts also centered on the use of **2** for the preparation of NHA and NAA as well as other analogs.

We also sought to explore **3a** and **3b**, derived from protected ornithine and diphenyl cyanocarbonimidate (**19**) as versatile intermediates to various modified arginines. Reagent **19** has been used to produce novel cyano-guanidines,<sup>21</sup> heterocycles,<sup>21,22</sup> and cyanoarginine-containing peptides.<sup>23</sup> The unique reactivity of **3a** and **3b** should allow modification of the guanidino position to provide a diverse range of arginine analogs and heterocyclic isosteres of arginine.

## Results and Discussion

The preparation of NHA, NAA, and other  $N^G$ -alkyl and  $N^G$ -aminoarginine analogs relied on the reaction of the cyanamide function of **2** with the appropriate amines and hydrazines.

Compound **2** was obtained by the two methods in Scheme I. First, *tert*-butyl  $N^{\alpha}$ -Boc- $N^{\delta}$ -Cbz-L-ornithinate<sup>16</sup> was hydrogenated with Pd/C under 1 atm of H<sub>2</sub> to afford **5** in 98% yield. As previously reported for a similar

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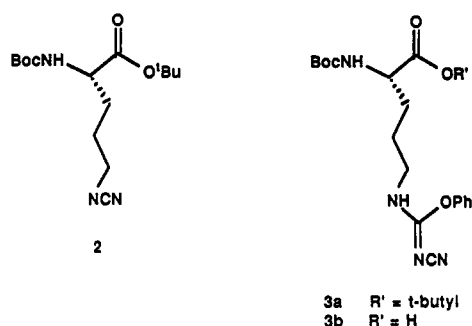
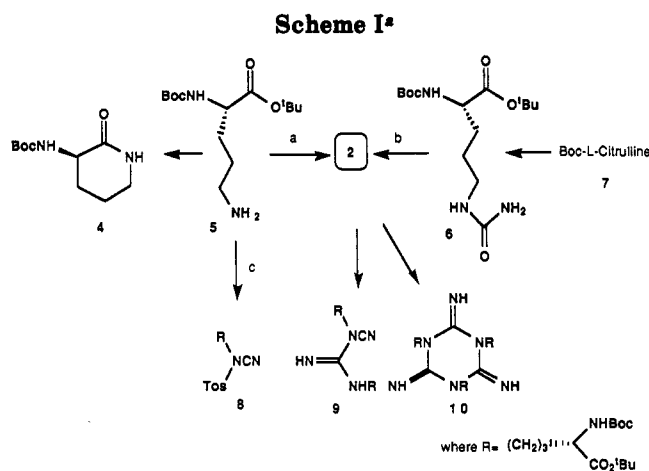


Figure 1.



<sup>a</sup> Key: (a) CNBr/TEA; (b) TsCl/pyridine; (c) TsCl/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

compound,<sup>24</sup> 5 readily cyclized to the lactam 4, and therefore, the hydrogenolysis was generally done immediately prior to utilization.

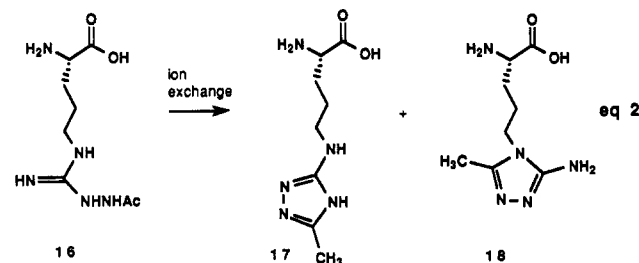
Using a method similar to Pufahl et al.,<sup>17</sup> treatment of 5 with solid cyanogen bromide (BrCN) or, more conveniently, as a solution of BrCN in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> led to the formation of 2 within minutes providing a 57% yield after chromatography.

A second method to prepare 2 utilized the dehydration of protected L-citrullines in pyridine.<sup>25</sup> Treatment of L-citrulline with di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate provided compound 7 in 65% yield. Reaction of 7 with *O*-*tert*-butyldicyclohexylisourea provided 6 in 80% yield. Dehydration of 6 with *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride (TsCl) was complete within 1 h to afford the cyanamide 2 in 68% yield after chromatography. When 2 prepared by this route was stored neat, a large proportion was converted to the dimeric material 9 and cyclic trimer 10.<sup>26</sup> This instability prompted the storage of 2 in ethanolic solution which was stable indefinitely (>1 year) at -20 °C. Alternatively, a nucleophile could be added to the crude reaction mixture in excess. When the dehydration with TsCl was performed in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> the only isolable product was the tosylated cyanoornithine 8.<sup>27</sup>

Treatment of 2 with Me<sub>3</sub>SiONH<sub>2</sub> in EtOH at room temperature (Scheme II) provided the protected NHA 11a wherein the Me<sub>3</sub>Si group had been cleaved under the reaction conditions. Direct treatment of compound 2 with NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl in EtOH provided 11a in 62–83% yield. To

confirm the structure of 11a, compound 2 was treated with <sup>15</sup>NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl to yield 11b which displayed a <sup>15</sup>N–<sup>13</sup>C coupling constant of 17.3 Hz, consistent with the product 11b.<sup>28</sup> Treatment of 2 with BzI<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> overnight at room temperature provided 11c in 67% yield. Hydrogenation of 11c provided 11a in quantitative yield. The Boc and *tert*-butyl ester protecting groups of compounds 11a and 11b were then removed by acid treatment with HCl–dioxane to provide NHA (1a, b).

The reaction of 2 with NH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>·HCl in refluxing EtOH provided the protected NAA 12 in 88% yield. Deprotection of compound 12 in 6 N HCl followed by ion exchange provided 13 in 61% yield. The preparation of NAA by this method does not generate L-arginine as with reductive methods using zinc<sup>29</sup> or PtO<sub>2</sub><sup>15</sup> nor N<sup>G</sup>-(acetyl-amino)-L-arginine (16) which forms when NNA is reduced in the presence of HOAc.<sup>29</sup> In our hands, reduction of NAA was best performed in H<sub>2</sub>O with 1 equiv of HCl to aid in solubility. Compound 16 further dehydrated to form 17 and 18 during ion-exchange purification (eq 2).



Intermediate 2 was also reacted with MeNH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl in EtOH at 60 °C to afford 14 in 97% yield. Subsequent treatment of 14 with 4 N HCl in dioxane provided a 65% yield of N<sup>G</sup>-methoxy-L-arginine (15).

To establish the enantiomeric purity of NHA and NAA produced by these methods, samples of the D-enantiomer of each compound were prepared using the same methodology, and the products were analyzed using chiral HPLC. The enantiomeric excesses observed were 97.8% and >98% for L-NHA and L-NAA, respectively.

Initial efforts to prepare N<sup>G</sup>-cyano-L-arginine utilized the intermediate 3a derived from 5 and diphenyl *N*-cyanoanocarbonylimidate (19) (Scheme III). The reaction of *tert*-butyl *N*<sup>α</sup>-Boc-L-ornithinate and 19 proceeded smoothly to provide a 76% yield of product. Compound 3a was recrystallized from hexane–EtOAc and was stable at room temperature.

Compound 3a was treated with NH<sub>4</sub>OH in EtOH at 60 °C overnight or, alternatively, with a saturated solution of NH<sub>3</sub> in EtOH to yield the protected parent cyano-L-arginine 20a. Deprotection was attempted with a variety of acidic reagents: TFA/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 6 N HCl, 4 M HCl in dioxane or HOAc, and Me<sub>3</sub>SiI. Regardless of the method, two product spots were always detected by TLC, and the crude product was difficult to characterize unambiguously. In several instances an ion at *m/e* 218 was observed indicating hydrolysis of the *N*-cyano function to the N<sup>G</sup>-carboxamide 21, consistent with a recent literature report.<sup>28</sup>

Compound 3a reacted with 40% aqueous CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> to provide the protected N<sup>G</sup>-cyano-N<sup>G</sup>-methylarginine 22a

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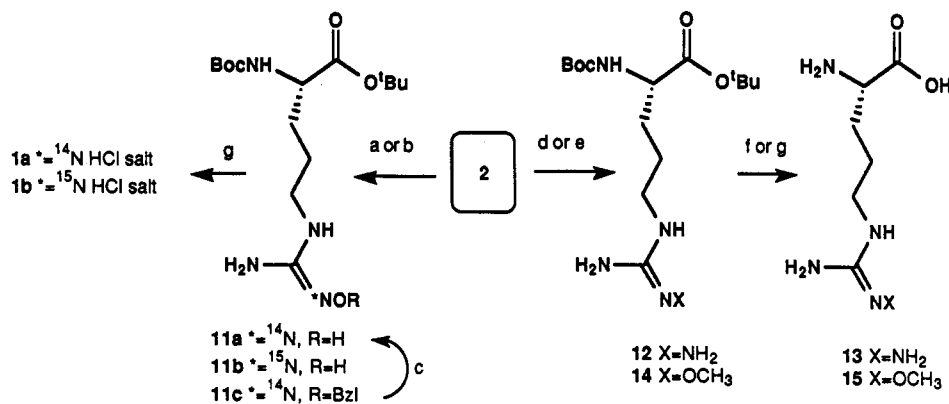
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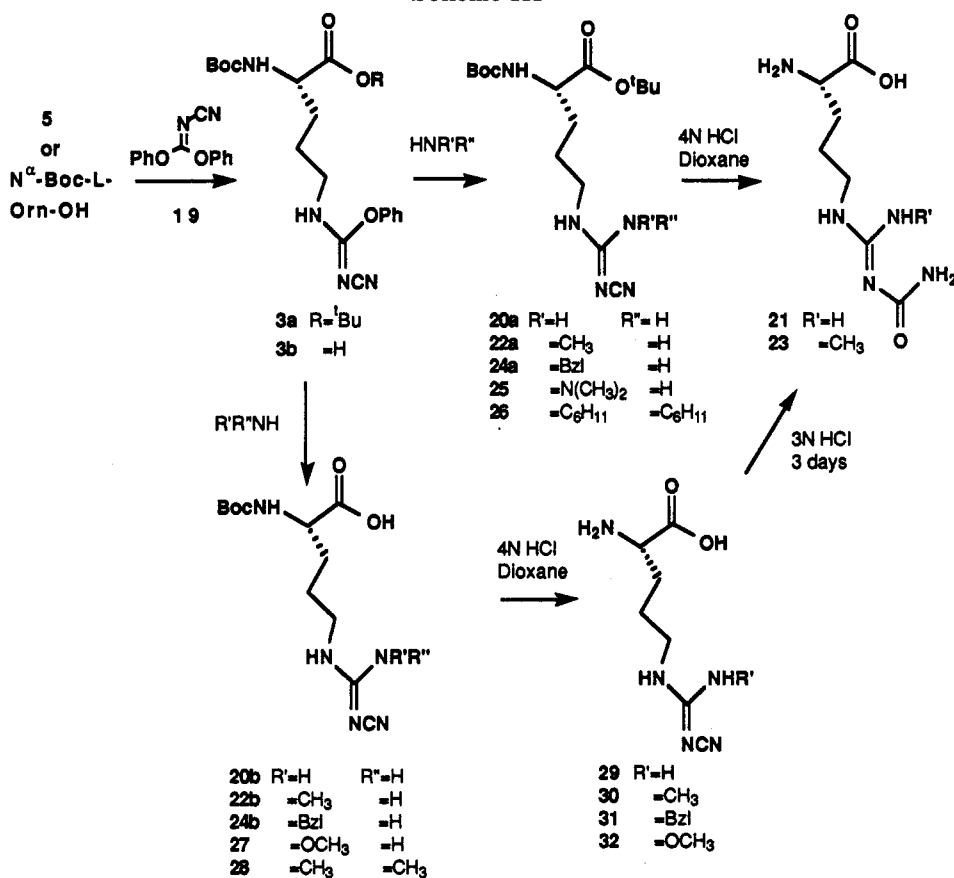
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Scheme II\*



\* Key: (a) TMSONH<sub>2</sub> or HO $\ast$ NH<sub>2</sub>HCl/TEA; (b) BzlONH<sub>2</sub>; (c) H<sub>2</sub>/Pd/C; (d) NH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>·HCl; (e) MeONH<sub>2</sub>·HCl; (f) 6 N HCl; (g) 4 N HCl/dioxane.

Scheme III



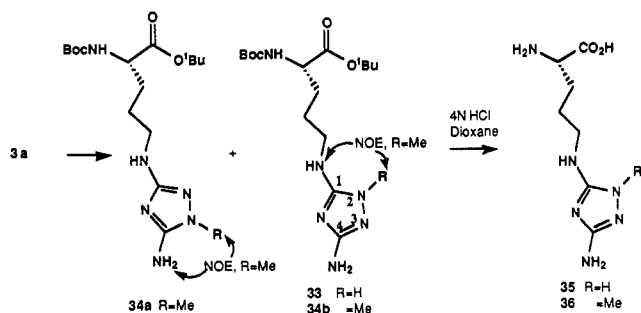
in 96% yield. Removal of the Boc protecting group with 4 N HCl yielded 15% of 23. Reaction of 3a with BzlNH<sub>2</sub> in refluxing EtOH for 3 h gave a quantitative yield of 24a. Treatment with Me<sub>2</sub>NNH<sub>2</sub> at room temperature provided a 70% yield of 25. Compound 3a could also be reacted with the secondary amine dicyclohexylamine to provide a 31% yield of 26.

Due to hydrolysis of the cyano function of 20a and 22a, an alternative intermediate 3b was prepared from Boc-L-ornithine and 19 in 79% yield. Treatment of 3b with NH<sub>3</sub> in EtOH at room temperature yielded the 20b in 84%. TFA treatment of 20b in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> for 5 min resulted in complete deprotection providing 29 in 90% purity. A sample of 29, dissolved in 1 N HCl, slowly transformed to compound 21. Treatment of 20b with Me<sub>3</sub>SiI yielded only 21. Deprotection of 20b with HCl in dioxane at room

temperature for 5 min yielded homogeneous 29 as a very hygroscopic solid. Compound 29 was neutralized by dissolution in 1 M NH<sub>4</sub>HCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by ion exchange to provide a nonhygroscopic solid after lyophilization. Reaction of 3b with CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> in EtOH resulted in 22b in 55% yield. Compound 22b when treated with HCl provided a quantitative yield of 30. Similarly, 3b was reacted with BzlNH<sub>2</sub> to provide 24b in 55% yield and with CH<sub>3</sub>ONH<sub>2</sub>·HCl and Et<sub>3</sub>N in a sealed tube at 60 °C to provide 27 in 75% yield. Compounds 24b and 27 were deprotected by HCl in dioxane to provide 31 in 62% yield and 32 in 50% yield, respectively. Treatment of 3b with saturated ethanolic solution of (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>NH provided a 32% yield of 28.

Treatment of 3a with hydrazines lacking 1,1-disubstitution resulted in cyclic products arising from attack of

Scheme IV



the intermediate aminoguanidine at the cyano function. Reaction of **3a** with  $\text{NH}_2\text{NH}_2$  yielded 62% of **33** (Scheme IV). Treatment of **3a** with  $\text{MeNHNH}_2$  resulted in **34a** and **34b**. The regiochemistry of the methylhydrazine addition was determined by a 2D-ROESY NMR study. An NOE was observed between  $^1\text{NH}$ – $^2\text{NCH}_3$  in **34b** but not in **34a**; similarly, an NOE between the  $^4\text{NH}_2$ – $^3\text{NCH}_3$  was observed in **34a** and not in the other isomer. The cyclized compounds **33** and **34b** could be deprotected to provide **35** and **36** in 78% and 79% yield, respectively.

The D-enantiomer of compound **35** was also synthesized using the same methodology, and analysis by chiral HPLC demonstrated an enantiomeric excess for L-**35** of >98%.

In conclusion, NHA and NAA have been prepared by the aminolysis of *tert*-butyl  $N^{\alpha}$ -Boc- $N^{\delta}$ -cyano-L-ornithinate (**2**). Intermediate **2** has been prepared by two routes in good yield and can be reacted with nitrogen nucleophiles directly in situ or after purification. Use of intermediate **2** provides an attractive avenue for NHA synthesis and allows for convenient preparation of a variety of additional derivatives in good yields. The methodology provides significant advantages over the direct reduction of NNA for NAA preparation in ease of synthesis and purification and in the versatility which should allow for the synthesis of a wide range of NAA derivatives. Methodology utilizing intermediates **3a** and **3b** allows for the preparation  $N^{\text{G}}$ -cyano-L-arginine and a variety of related analogs and, when ring closure on the cyano function is possible,  $N^{\delta}$ -heterocyclic ornithine derivatives. Hydrolysis of the  $N^{\text{G}}$ -cyano function under the acidic conditions used to remove protecting groups was minimized by using intermediate **3b** which allowed for isolation of nonhygroscopic products after ion-exchange chromatography. Both methods, from intermediates **2** or **3a**, have been demonstrated to provide product without loss of enantiomeric purity and should be applicable to a wide variety of amines and hydrazines. The biological data for these compounds will be reported elsewhere.

### Experimental Section

Melting points (uncorrected) were determined in a Thomas-Hoover capillary melting point apparatus or a Buchi 510 capillary melting point apparatus. TLC was performed on Merck pre-coated silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> plates. Silica gel (E. Merck; 230–400 mesh) was used for flash chromatography eluting with 5–10 psi of air pressure. EtOAc–PAW elution solvent was the specified ratio of EtOAc to a stock solution of 10:3:5 pyridine–HOAc–H<sub>2</sub>O. Chiral HPLC was performed using a Daicel Crownpack CR(+) 4.6 × 150-mm column and 0.01 M perchloric acid mobile phase at 0.5 mL/min flow rate at 5 °C and UV detection at 200 nm. Ion exchange was performed with commercial Dowex 50 × 8–100 resin (50–100 mesh) washed with 1 N  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  and H<sub>2</sub>O and used immediately ( $\text{NH}_4$  form) or reprotonated with 1 N HCl and H<sub>2</sub>O for storage or use ( $\text{H}^+$  form). Optical rotations were

determined in a Perkin-Elmer 241 polarimeter using the sodium D line. Proton NMR spectra were obtained at 300 MHz in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  referenced to  $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}$  at room temperature unless otherwise indicated; spectra obtained in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  were referenced to  $\text{Me}_3\text{SiCD}_2\text{-CD}_2\text{CO}_2\text{Na}$  (TSP).  $^{15}\text{N}$  NMR spectra utilized  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_2$  in 10%  $\text{HNO}_3$  as an external standard with  $\text{NH}_4$  at 21.6 ppm. Mass spectra were obtained using desorption chemical ionization (DCI), fast atom bombardment ( $\text{FAB}^+$ ) or plasma desorption MS (PDMS). Solvents and other reagents were reagent grade and were used without further purification unless otherwise noted.

**$N^{\alpha}$ -Boc-L-citrulline (7)**.<sup>30,31</sup> L-Citrulline (12 g, 69 mmol) was dissolved in 150 mL of 2:1 EtOH–H<sub>2</sub>O and treated with di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (18 g, 82 mmol) and  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (11.4 mL, 82 mmol) at room temperature. After 1 h, the reaction became homogeneous. The reaction was acidified with 1 M  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  after 3 h, and the product was extracted into  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The organic extracts were dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , filtered, and evaporated to provide 12.5 g, 45 mmol, 65% yield. Further extraction of the aqueous layer yielded an additional 3.4 g of desired product (12.4 mmol, 18%):  $R_f$  0.2 (80:20:1  $\text{CHCl}_3$ –MeOH– $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$  1.38 (s, 1H), 1.47–1.69 (m, 2H), 2.88–2.96 (m, 2H), 3.80–3.87 (m, 1H), 5.40 (s, 2H), 5.96 (t,  $J$  = 5 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 1H), 11.5 (bs, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$  26.8, 28.2, 28.3, 38.8, 53.4, 77.9, 155.5, 158.8, 174.2; MS ( $\text{FAB}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5$   $m/e$  276.1559, found 276.1560; MS (DCI) 276 ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup>, 293 ( $\text{M} + \text{NH}_4$ )<sup>+</sup>, 237;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  –0.9° ( $c$  = 1.03, MeOH).

***tert*-Butyl  $N^{\alpha}$ -Boc-L-citrullinate (6)**. Compound **7** (10 g, 36 mmol) was dissolved in 200 mL of 1:1  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ –dioxane and *O-tert*-butyl dicyclohexylisourea (13 mL, 54 mmol) added. After 1 day, an additional 7 mL of the isourea was added and the reaction was stirred for 3 days. After filtration of the precipitate, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo and the resulting residue purified by preparative HPLC (silica gel eluted with EtOAc) to yield 9.6 g, 29 mmol, 80%:  $R_f$  0.15 (1:2 hexane–EtOAc); oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.43 (s, 9H), 1.47 (s, 9H), 1.53–1.85 (m, 4H), 3.14–3.21 (m, 2H), 4.08–4.17 (m, 1H), 4.88 (s, 2H), 5.38 (d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 1H), 5.59 (bs, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  27.7, 28.3, 28.7, 30.0, 40.5, 55.7, 80.4, 82.5, 158.0, 162.2, 173.6; MS (DCI) 332 ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup>, 276, 232, 220;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  –19.3° ( $c$  = 1.18, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5$  0.2 H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 53.78; H, 8.85; N, 12.54. Found: C, 53.83; H, 8.56; N, 12.55.

***tert*-Butyl  $N^{\alpha}$ -Boc- $N^{\delta}$ -cyano-L-ornithine (2)**. Compound **6** (2.2 g, 6.6 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of pyridine, and  $\text{TsCl}$  (3.8 g, 20 mmol) in pyridine (10 mL) was added dropwise over 5 min at 5 °C. After 30 min, the solvent was evaporated and the resulting crude residue chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 4:1 hexanes–EtOAc to yield 1.41 g, 4.5 mmol, 68%. When stored neat as an oil, the product dimerized to give after chromatography 112 mg of monomer **2** and 563 mg of dimer **9**. The monomer could be stored indefinitely in EtOH at –20 °C. For **2**:  $R_f$  0.6 (1:1 hexane–EtOAc);  $R_f$  0.6 (9:1  $\text{CHCl}_3$ –MeOH);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.45 (s, 9H), 1.48 (s, 9H), 1.68–1.74 (m, 3H), 1.81–1.92 (m, 1H), 3.13–3.20 (m, 2H), 4.10–4.19 (m, 2H), 5.16–5.19 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  25.2, 28.0, 28.3, 30.0, 45.6, 53.1, 80.0, 82.4, 116.3, 155.5, 171.3; IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) 2220  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS ( $\text{FAB}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4$   $m/e$  314.2080, found 314.2081; MS (DCI) 314 ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup>, 331 ( $\text{M} + \text{NH}_4$ )<sup>+</sup>, 275. For **9**: purified by column chromatography on silica gel eluted with 2:1 hexane–EtOAc;  $R_f$  0.25 (1:1 hexanes–EtOAc);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.44 (s, 9H), 1.47 (s, 9H), 1.60–1.70 (m, 2H), 1.72–1.86 (m, 2H), 3.07–3.18 (m, 1H), 3.21 (bs, 2H), 3.56–3.63 (m, 1H), 4.13 (bs, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  23.8, 24.7, 25.8, 28.0, 28.3, 29.3, 29.7, 30.4, 31.2, 41.6, 46.1, 46.5, 47.0, 53.3, 53.6, 60.3, 79.7, 81.9, 82.2, 111.6, 143.8, 151.4, 155.4, 171.4, 172.0; IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) 2218  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (DCI) 627 ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup>;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  –16.4° ( $c$  = 0.7, MeOH). For **10**: also purified by column chromatography eluted with 1:1 hexane–EtOAc; mp 67–70 °C;  $R_f$  0.2 (1:2 hexanes–EtOAc);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.45 (s, 9H), 1.47 (s, 9H), 1.63–1.9 (m, 4H), 3.9–4.0 (m, 2H), 4.18–4.26 (m, 1H), 5.33 (d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  22.4, 27.9, 28.3, 30.1, 43.8, 53.3, 79.6, 81.9, 146.4, 155.5, 171.6; MS ( $\text{FAB}^+$ ) 940 ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup>;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  –13.2° ( $c$  = 1.3, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for

(30) Eisele, K. *Hoppe-Seyler's Z. Physiol. Chem.* 1975, 356, 845–54. Previous preparations utilized Boc acids.

(31) Visser, S.; Kerling, K. E. T. *Recl. Trav. Chim. Pays-Bas* 1970, 89, 880–4.

$C_{45}H_{81}N_9O_{12}$ : C, 57.49; H, 8.68; N, 13.41. Found: C, 57.20; H, 8.74; N, 13.17.

**Synthesis of 2 from 5.** Prepared by modification of the literature method<sup>17</sup> wherein compound 5 (5.8 g, 20 mmol) was dissolved in 250 mL of Et<sub>2</sub>O and BrCN (7.3 mL, 22 mmol, 3 M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) was added in one portion, followed by Et<sub>3</sub>N (3.1 mL, 22 mmol) added over 10 min. A precipitate formed immediately. After 1 h, the crude reaction mixture was placed on silica gel and eluted with 2:1 hexanes–EtOAc to yield 2.90 g, 9.2 mmol, 46%: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.5 (1:1 hexanes–EtOAc); *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.8 (Et<sub>2</sub>O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.48 (s, 9H), 1.54–1.93 (m, 4H), 3.13–3.20 (m, 2H), 4.13–4.25 (m, 2H), 5.14–5.21 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 25.2, 28.0, 28.3, 30.1, 45.6, 53.0, 80.0, 82.4, 116.2, 155.6, 171.3; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 2224 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (DCI) 314 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 331 (M + NH<sub>4</sub>)<sup>+</sup>, 275; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -19.6° (c = 0.85, EtOH).

**tert-Butyl *N*<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-*N*<sup>ε</sup>-(*p*-toluenesulfonyl)-*N*<sup>ε</sup>-cyano-L-ornithinate (8).** Compound 6 (106 mg, 0.32 mmol) was dissolved in 5 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, treated with Et<sub>3</sub>N (167 μL, 1.2 mmol) and TsCl (122 mg, 0.64 mmol), and then refluxed for 3 h. Additional TsCl (122 mg) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (167 μL) were added, and reflux was continued overnight. After cooling, the crude reaction mixture was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 3:1 hexanes–EtOAc to yield 149 mg, 0.305 mmol, 96%: mp 60–70 °C; *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.6 (2:1 hexanes–EtOAc); <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ (s, 9H), 1.46 (s, 9H), 1.6–1.85 (m, 4H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 3.41 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 4.16 (m, 1H), 5.06 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.84 (dt, *J* = 8, 1 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 21.7, 23.8, 27.9, 28.3, 29.5, 49.8, 53.0, 79.9, 82.5, 108.3, 127.8, 130.5, 133.4, 146.3, 155.8, 172.1; MS (DCI) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S *m/e* 468.2168, found 468.2167; MS (DCI) 468 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 485 (M + NH<sub>4</sub>)<sup>+</sup>, 429, 412, 373; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -12.3° (c = 1.15, MeOH).

**tert-Butyl *N*<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-*N*<sup>ε</sup>-hydroxy-L-arginate (11a).** In a modification of the literature method,<sup>17</sup> intermediate 2 (500 mg, 1.6 mmol) was dissolved in 4 mL of EtOH and treated with NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl (222 mg, 3.2 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (223 μL, 1.6 mmol) for 1 h. The solvents were evaporated and the residue chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 6:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–EtOH to yield 379 mg, 1.1 mmol, 66%: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.3 (5:1 EtOAc–PAW); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 1.43 (s, 9H), 1.46 (s, 9H), 1.62–1.83 (m, 4H), 3.21–3.27 (m, 2H), 3.93–3.98 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 26.5, 28.3, 28.8, 29.8, 41.9, 55.4, 80.6, 82.8, 158.1, 160.3, 173.3; MS (DCI) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> *m/e* 347.2294, found 347.2285; MS (DCI) 347 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -18.2° (c = 1.1, MeOH).

**Synthesis of 11a from 6.** Compound 6 (674 mg, 2.0 mmol) was dissolved in 20 mL of pyridine and treated with TsCl (763 mg, 4.0 mmol). After 1 h, NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl (278 mg, 4.0 mmol) was added and the reaction stirred overnight. After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 10:1 EtOAc–PAW to yield 447 mg, 1.29 mmol, 65%: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.3 (5:1 EtOAc–PAW).

**Synthesis of 11a from 11c.** Compound 11c (260 mg, 0.60 mmol) was dissolved in 50 mL of MeOH and treated with 50 mg of 10% Pd/C and 1 atm of hydrogen gas overnight. The reaction mixture was filtered through Celite and concentrated, and the crude product was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 10:1 EtOAc–PAW to yield 158 mg, 0.46 mmol, 77%: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.3 (5:1 EtOAc–PAW); <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were consistent with previously prepared material; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> *m/e* 347.2294, found 347.2296; MS (DCI) 347 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 331; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -15.6° (c = 0.57, MeOH).

**Synthesis of 11a via Me<sub>3</sub>SiONH<sub>2</sub>.** Intermediate 2 (200 mg, 0.64 mmol) was dissolved in 20 mL of EtOH and treated with Me<sub>3</sub>SiONH<sub>2</sub> (135 mg, 1.28 mmol) at ambient temperature overnight. The crude residue from solvent evaporation was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 5:1 EtOAc–PAW to provide 183 mg, 0.53 mmol, 83%: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.3 (5:1 EtOAc–PAW); <sup>1</sup>H NMR was consistent with previously prepared material; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) 347 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 331.

**Synthesis of D-Isomer of 11a.** The D-isomer of compound 5 (300 mg, 1.0 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of Et<sub>2</sub>O and treated with BrCN (381 mL, 1.14 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (294 μL, 2.1 mmol). After 10 min, the reaction was diluted with 10 mL of EtOH and treated with NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl (102 mg, 1.6 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (223 μL, 1.6 mmol). After 2 h, the crude reaction mixture was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 5:1 EtOAc–PAW to provide 217 mg, 0.62 mmol, 62% yield: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.3 (5:1 EtOAc–PAW); <sup>13</sup>C NMR

was consistent with the spectrum of 11a; MS (DCI) 347 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 331; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +18.0° (c = 1.1, MeOH).

**tert-Butyl *N*<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-*N*<sup>ε</sup>-hydroxy-L-arginate (11b).** Compound 6 (155 mg, 0.47 mmol) was dissolved in 2 mL of pyridine and treated with TsCl (95 mg, 0.50 mmol) for 45 min at room temperature. NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl (70 mg, 1.0 mmol) was then added and the reaction warmed to 60 °C for 2 h. The crude residue after concentration was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 5:1 EtOAc–PAW to yield 87 mg, 0.25 mmol, 53%: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.3 (5:1 EtOAc–PAW); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.48 (s, 9H), 1.59–1.70 (m, 3H), 1.80–1.86 (m, 1H), 3.08–3.13 (m, 1H), 3.19 (bs, 1H), 4.18 (bs, 1H), 5.25–5.28 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 25.0, 27.9, 28.3, 30.0, 40.7, 53.5, 79.8, 82.0, 156.1, 157.9 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz), 171.9; <sup>15</sup>N NMR (30.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 205.0; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>31</sub><sup>14</sup>N<sub>3</sub><sup>15</sup>O<sub>5</sub> *m/e* 348.2265, found 348.2265; MS (DCI) 348 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 332, 292; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -16.7° (c = 0.15, MeOH).

**tert-Butyl *N*<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-*N*<sup>ε</sup>-(benzyloxy)-L-arginate (11c).** Compound 6 (115 mg, 0.35 mmol) was dissolved in 2 mL of pyridine and treated with TsCl (66 mg, 0.35 mmol) followed, after 45 min, by the addition of BzONH<sub>2</sub>·HCl (560 mg, 3.5 mmol). After stirring overnight, the crude residue after solvent evaporation was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 10:1 EtOAc–PAW to yield 103 mg, 0.24 mmol, 67%: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.75 (9:1 CHCl<sub>3</sub>–MeOH); *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.75 (5:1 EtOAc–PAW); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.46 (s, 9H), 1.53–1.66 (m, 3H), 1.72–1.78 (m, 1H), 3.12 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 3.92–3.96 (m, 1H), 4.83 (s, 2H), 7.32–7.46 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 26.4, 28.3, 28.7, 29.8, 41.8, 55.4, 79.2, 80.5, 82.7, 126.9, 129.5, 129.7, 129.8, 130.5, 136.8, 158.1, 159.4, 173.3; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>37</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub> *m/e* 437.2724, found 437.2733; MS (DCI) 437 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 381, 325; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -7.2° (c = 2.23, MeOH).

***N*<sup>ε</sup>-Hydroxy-L-arginine Dihydrochloride Salt (1a).** In a similar manner to that of Feldman,<sup>16</sup> compound 11a (1.1 g, 3.18 mmol) was treated with 10 mL of 4 N HCl in dioxane for 24 h. The resulting solid was collected and rinsed with Et<sub>2</sub>O and then dried in vacuo to yield 0.7 g, 2.9 mmol, 91%: mp 178–80 °C dec; *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.4 (6:2:2 CH<sub>3</sub>CN–AcOH–H<sub>2</sub>O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O) δ 1.64–1.88 (m, 2H), 1.91–2.11 (m, 2H), 3.32 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 4.10 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O) δ 26.7, 29.9, 43.2, 55.6, 161.6, 174.8; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub> *m/e* 191.1144, found 191.1144; MS (DCI) 191 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +21.1° (c = 1.07, MeOH).<sup>32</sup> Anal. Calcd for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub>·2HCl·0.1pyridine: C, 28.05; H, 6.05; N, 20.63. Found: C, 28.04; H, 6.00; N, 20.64.

**Synthesis of the D-Enantiomer of 1a.** Compound D-11a (100 mg, 0.28 mmol) was treated with 2 mL of 4 N HCl in dioxane in a manner similar to that for the L-isomer to provide 60 mg, 0.23 mmol, 82% yield: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.4 (6:2:2 CH<sub>3</sub>CN–HOAc–H<sub>2</sub>O); <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR correlated with L-1a; MS (DCI) 191 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -17.8° (c = 1.16, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub>·2HCl: C, 27.39; H, 6.13; N, 21.29. Found: C, 27.29; H, 5.89; N, 20.91.

**Chiral HPLC results:** D-1a, *t*<sub>R</sub> = 4.9 min, L-1a, *t*<sub>R</sub> = 7.7 min. For L-1a: peak area ratio L/D 98.9/1.1 = 97.8% ee. For D-1a: no L-isomer detected, >98% ee.

**<sup>15</sup>N<sup>ε</sup>-Hydroxy-L-arginine (1b).**<sup>17</sup> Compound 11b (92 mg, 0.27 mmol) was treated with 10 mL of 4 N HCl in dioxane for 23 h. The resulting solid was filtered under N<sub>2</sub> and rinsed with Et<sub>2</sub>O to yield 58.3 mg, 0.22 mmol, 81%: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.5 (6:2:2 CH<sub>3</sub>CN–AcOH–H<sub>2</sub>O); *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.5 (1:2 EtOAc–PAW); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O) δ 1.68–1.92 (m, 2H), 1.96–2.16 (m, 2H), 3.36 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 4.16 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O) δ 26.7, 29.9, 43.2, 55.6, 161.6 (d, *J* = 17.3 Hz), 174.8; <sup>15</sup>N NMR (30.4 MHz) δ 135.2; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>15</sub><sup>14</sup>N<sub>3</sub><sup>15</sup>O<sub>3</sub> *m/e* 192.1114, found 192.113; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) 192 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +21.6° (c = 0.55, MeOH).

**tert-Butyl *N*<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-*N*<sup>ε</sup>-amino-L-arginate (12).** Intermediate 2 (462 mg, 1.5 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of EtOH and treated with NH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>·HCl (103 mg, 1.5 mmol) at reflux. After 1 day, additional NH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>·HCl (206 mg) was added and reflux continued for 3 h. After the solution was cooled to room temperature, the solvent was evaporated and the residue was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 5:1 EtOAc–PAW to yield 503 mg, 1.32 mmol, 88%: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.15 (5:1 EtOAc–PAW); <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 1.43 (s, 9H), 1.47 (s, 9H), 1.56–1.83 (m, 4H), 3.1 (bs, 1H), 3.32–3.43 (m, 1H),

(32) The residual pyridine was carried from the purification of 11a (from 5) and was also observed in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR.

4.12 (bs, 1H), 5.32 (bs, 0.5H), 5.79 (bs, 1H), 6.0 (bs, 0.5H), 6.45 (bs, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  25.0, 27.9, 28.3, 30.2, 40.4, 53.1, 79.9, 82.2, 158.7, 171.8, 178.1; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$  *m/e* 346.2454, found 346.2452; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) 346 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 290, 234;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  -16.7° (*c* = 0.70, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4 \cdot 2.0\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot 0.25\text{HCl} \cdot 0.75\text{Pyr} \cdot 1.0\text{HOAc}$ : C, 48.87; H, 8.50; N, 15.79. Found: C, 48.79; H, 8.82; N, 15.45.

**Synthesis of the D-Enantiomer of 12.** In a manner similar to that for the L-12, compound D-5 (150 mg, 0.52 mmol) was treated with BrCN (173  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.52 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (145  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.04 mmol) followed by NH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>·HCl to provide, after chromatography, 91 mg, 0.26 mmol, 50% yield: *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.3 (5:3 EtOAc-PAW); MS (DCI) 346 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 317, 289;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +16.5 (*c* = 0.77, MeOH).

**N<sup>G</sup>-Amino-L-arginine (13).** Compound 12 (100 mg, 0.263 mmol) was treated with 5 mL of 6 N HCl for 30 min. The crude reaction mixture was purified by ion exchange (NH<sub>4</sub> form) eluted with 0.5 M NH<sub>4</sub>OAc to yield 50 mg, 0.19 mmol, 72%: *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.4 (6:2:2 CH<sub>3</sub>CN-AcOH-H<sub>2</sub>O);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  1.56–1.80 (m, 2H), 1.88–1.95 (m, 2H), 1.92 (s, 3H, acetate), 3.37 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  26.9, 30.4, 43.0, 57.2, 160.8, 177.3; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) 188;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +7.4 (*c* = 0.46, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot 1.5\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot 1.25\text{HOAc}$ : C, 35.05; H, 7.96; N, 24.04. Found: C, 34.92; H, 7.41; N, 24.29.

**Synthesis of the D-Enantiomer of 13.** The D-enantiomer of 12 (29 mg, 0.08 mmol) was treated with 5 mL of 4 N HCl for 4 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with H<sub>2</sub>O and lyophilized to provide 8.3 mg, 0.03 mmol, 40% yield: *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.4 (6:2:2 CH<sub>3</sub>CN-HOAc-H<sub>2</sub>O);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectral data correlated with L-13 previously prepared; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) 190 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>; crude product was used directly for chiral HPLC.

**Chiral HPLC results:** D-13, *t<sub>R</sub>* = 6.6 min; L-13, *t<sub>R</sub>* = 9.9 min. For L-13: no D-enantiomer detected, >98% ee. For D-13: no L-enantiomer detected, >98% ee.

**tert-Butyl N<sup>G</sup>-Boc-N<sup>G</sup>-methoxy-L-arginate (14).** Intermediate 2 (310 mg, 1.0 mmol) in 30 mL of EtOH was treated with MeONH<sub>2</sub>·HCl (417 mg, 5.0 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (697  $\mu\text{L}$ , 5.0 mmol). No reaction was noted after 12 h at 23 °C, and the reaction was heated to reflux for 5 h. After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 5:1 EtOAc-PAW. The product fractions were combined, concentrated, mixed with H<sub>2</sub>O, and lyophilized to give 407 mg, 0.97 mmol, 97%: *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.25 (5:1 EtOAc-PAW);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  1.44 (s, 9H), 1.46 (s, 9H), 1.6–1.88 (m, 4H), 3.17–3.22 (m, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.94–3.99 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  26.3, 28.2, 28.7, 29.8, 41.8, 55.4, 64.8, 80.5, 82.7, 158.1, 159.4, 173.3; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_5\text{O}_6$  *m/e* 361.2451, found 361.2445; MS (DCI) 361 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  -10.4° (*c* = 1.12, MeOH).

**N<sup>G</sup>-Methoxy-L-arginine (15).** Compound 14 (230 mg, 0.64 mmol) was treated with 10 mL of 4 N HCl in dioxane for 2 h during which time the reaction mixture became heterogeneous. The reaction mixture was concentrated, and the residue was purified by ion exchange (NH<sub>4</sub> form) eluted with 0.1 M NH<sub>4</sub>-HCO<sub>3</sub> to give 100.5 mg, 0.42 mmol, 65% yield. A portion (80 mg) was further purified by recrystallization from EtOH to yield 17 mg of crystalline product: mp 175–80 °C dec; *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.3 (6:2:2 CH<sub>3</sub>CN-HOAc-H<sub>2</sub>O);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  1.53–1.73 (m, 2H), 1.82–1.94 (m, 2H), 3.10 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 3.73 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  27.3, 30.9, 43.2, 57.4, 64.1, 161.7, 177.9; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_4\text{O}_3$  *m/e* 205.1301, found 205.1313; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) 205 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +8.7° (*c* = 0.23, MeOH).

**tert-Butyl N<sup>G</sup>-Boc-N<sup>G</sup>-((cyanoimino)phoxymethyl)-L-ornithinate (3a).** Compound 5 (2.4 g, 8.32 mmol) was dissolved in 50 mL of 2-propanol and treated with Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.17 mL, 8.4 mmol) and 19 (2.0 g, 8.4 mmol). After 1 h, the solvent was evaporated and the residue chromatographed on silica gel (4:1 hexane-EtOAc) to provide 1.6 g, 3.70 mmol, 44% yield: mp 92–4 °C; *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.15 (2:1 hexane-EtOAc);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.42 (s, 9H), 1.48 (s, 9H), 1.6–1.95 (m, 4H), 3.46–3.54 (m, 2H), 4.17–4.27 (m, 1H), 5.14 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.23–7.29 (m, 1H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (bs, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  25.4, 27.9, 28.2, 30.0, 42.0, 53.4, 79.7, 82.0, 115.6, 121.4, 126.4, 129.4, 151.0, 155.3, 163.8, 171.5; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 2180  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) 433 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 377, 321, 303, 277, 214;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  -11.8 (*c* = 1.06, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_5\text{O}_5$ : C, 61.09; H, 7.46; N, 12.95. Found: C, 61.10; H, 7.40; N, 12.82.

**N<sup>G</sup>-Boc N<sup>G</sup>-((cyanoimino)phoxymethyl)-L-ornithine (3b).** N<sup>G</sup>-Boc-L-ornithine (5.0 g, 21.5 mmol) in 2-propanol (100 mL) was treated with 19 (5.1 g, 21.5 mmol) at reflux for 3 h. The solvent was evaporated, and the residue was chromatographed on flash silica gel eluted with 80:20:1 CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH-NH<sub>4</sub>OH to yield 6.3 g, 17 mmol, 79%: mp 119–124 °C dec; *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.3 (80:20:1 CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH-NH<sub>4</sub>OH);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  1.38 (d, *J* = 5 Hz, 9H), 1.48–1.78 (m, 4H), 3.13–3.22 (m, 1H), 3.26–3.32 (m, 1H), 3.62–3.72 (m, 1H), 6.18 (dd, *J* = 7, 17 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H), 7.25–7.31 (m, 1H), 7.39–7.48 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  24.4, 25.5, 28.2, 29.9, 42.1, 42.5, 54.5, 77.5, 114.4, 114.8, 119.6, 121.7, 125.9, 126.2, 129.5, 130.2, 151.3, 151.8, 154.9, 159.5, 162.6, 174.9; MS (DCI) 377 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 394 (M + NH<sub>4</sub>)<sup>+</sup>, 338, 321, 271;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +15.7 (*c* = 1.00, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$ : C, 53.91; H, 8.48; N, 19.65. Found: C, 53.88; H, 8.25; N, 19.37.

**tert-Butyl N<sup>G</sup>-Boc-N<sup>G</sup>-cyano-L-arginate (20a).** Compound 3a (432 mg, 1.0 mmol) in EtOH (10 mL) was treated with concentrated NH<sub>4</sub>OH (2 mL) at 60 °C overnight. The solvents were evaporated, and the residue was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 5% EtOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> to yield 316 mg, 0.89 mmol, 89%: mp 68–72 °C; *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.2 (20:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-EtOH);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.44 (s, 9H), 1.48 (s, 9H), 1.56–1.7 (m, 2H), 1.73–1.85 (m, 1H), 3.23 (br s, 2H), 4.12 (br s, 1H), 5.38 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H), 5.92 (br s, 3H), 6.47 (br s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  25.0, 28.1, 28.4, 30.5, 41.1, 50.6, 80.2, 82.5, 123.8, 156.1, 161.4, 171.7; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 2170  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (DCI) 356 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 373 (M + NH<sub>4</sub>)<sup>+</sup>, 300;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  -15.6 (*c* = 1.09, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4 \cdot 0.25\text{H}_2\text{O}$ : C, 53.39; H, 8.26; N, 19.46. Found: C, 53.37; H, 8.40; N, 19.22. Alternatively, intermediate 3a (537 mg, 1.24 mmol) was dissolved in 25 mL of EtOH, and the solution was saturated with NH<sub>3</sub>(g). After 3 days, the solvent was evaporated and the residue was chromatographed on flash silica gel eluted with 20:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-EtOH to provide 337 mg, 0.95 mmol, 77% yield: *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.2 (20:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-EtOH); oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  1.45 (s, 9H), 1.47 (s, 9H), 1.54–1.82 (m, 4H), 3.17 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 3.94–3.98 (m, 1H); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 2170  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$  *m/e* 356.2298, found 356.2310; MS (DCI) 356 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 373 (M + NH<sub>4</sub>)<sup>+</sup>, 300;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  -15.0 (*c* = 0.50, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$ : C, 54.07; H, 8.22; N, 19.70. Found: C, 53.88; H, 8.25; N, 19.37.

**N<sup>G</sup>-Boc-N<sup>G</sup>-cyano-L-arginine (20b).** Intermediate 3b (376 mg, 1.0 mmol) in EtOH (15 mL) was cooled to 4 °C and saturated with NH<sub>3</sub>(g) by bubbling for 1 min. The flask was sealed and stirred at room temperature for 24 h. The solvent was evaporated and the residue dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with EtOAc. The aqueous layer was then lyophilized to yield 250 mg, 0.84 mmol, 84%: mp 120 °C dec; *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.2 (70:30:1 CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH-NH<sub>4</sub>OH);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  1.33 (s, 9H), 1.38–1.63 (m, 4H), 2.92–2.98 (m, 2H), 3.59–3.66 (m, 1H), 6.31 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  26.7, 28.8, 31.1, 42.1, 56.1, 88.8, 120.5, 157.9, 163.1, 178.8; IR (film) 2180  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$  298.1515, found 298.1516; MS (FAB<sup>-</sup>) 298 (M - H)<sup>-</sup>;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +7.88 (*c* = 1.46, MeOH).

**N<sup>G</sup>-Carbamoyl-L-arginine (21).** Compound 20a (143 mg, 0.40 mmol) was treated with 5 mL of 4 N HCl in dioxane for 6 h. The reaction mixture, which had some precipitate present, was mixed with Et<sub>2</sub>O, and the solid was collected to yield 102 mg, 0.36 mmol, 91%: mp 127 °C dec; *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.2 (1:1 EtOAc-PAW); *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.75 (6:2:2 CH<sub>3</sub>CN-HOAc-H<sub>2</sub>O);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  1.67–2.1 (m, 4H), 3.37 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 4.08 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  26.3, 29.9, 43.4, 55.6, 156.6, 158.9, 174.9; MS (DCI) 200 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 175, 157;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +20.0 (*c* = 1.45, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_5\text{O}_2 \cdot 2\text{HCl} \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ : C, 28.10; H, 6.06; N, 23.41. Found: C, 28.33; H, 6.12; N, 23.35.

**tert-Butyl N<sup>G</sup>-Boc-N<sup>G</sup>-cyano-N<sup>G</sup>-methyl-L-arginate (22a).** Intermediate 3a (432 mg, 1.0 mmol) was dissolved in 5 mL of EtOH and treated with 40% aqueous MeNH<sub>2</sub> (344  $\mu\text{L}$ , 10 mmol) overnight at room temperature. The crude residue after solvent evaporation was chromatographed on flash silica gel eluted with 10:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-EtOH to yield 356 mg, 0.96 mmol, 96%: *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.5 (2:1 hexane-EtOAc); *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.3 (20:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-EtOH); *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.8 (5:1 EtOAc-PAW);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  1.43 (s, 9H), 1.46 (s, 9H), 1.56–1.68

(33) The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR for 3b displayed two conformational isomers whose signals did not coalesce when heated to 90 °C in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>.

(m, 3H), 1.73–1.82 (m, 1H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 3.21 (t, 2H), 3.44–4.0 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  26.8, 28.3, 28.7, 29.2, 42.1, 55.4, 80.5, 82.6, 120.2, 158.0, 161.9, 173.5; MS (DCI) 370 (M + H) $^+$ , 387 (M + NH $_4$ ) $^+$ ;  $[\alpha]^{25}_{\text{D}}$  –13.8 (c = 1.35, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4 \cdot 0.25\text{H}_2\text{O}$ : C, 54.60; H, 8.49; N, 18.73. Found: C, 54.99; H, 8.44; N, 18.73.

***N*<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-*N*<sup>α</sup>-cyano-*N*<sup>ω</sup>-methyl-L-arginine (22b).** Intermediate 3b (300 mg, 0.80 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of EtOH and saturated with  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_2$  (g). The solution was resaturated after 6 h and left sealed overnight at room temperature. The crude residue after concentration was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 75:25:1  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ -MeOH-NH $_4\text{OH}$  to yield 138 mg, 0.44 mmol, 55%:  $R_f$  0.2 (5:1 EtOAc-PAW);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  1.43 (s, 9H), 1.56–1.69 (m, 3H), 1.73–1.86 (m, 1H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 3.21 (t,  $J$  = 6 Hz, 2H), 3.98–4.04 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  27.9, 30.5, 30.8, 31.9, 43.9, 58.5, 83.9, 123.8, 160.3, 163.1, 182.4; IR (film) 2170  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (DCI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$   $m/e$  314.1828, found 314.1804; MS (DCI) 314 (M + H) $^+$ , 331 (M + NH $_4$ ) $^+$ ;  $[\alpha]^{25}_{\text{D}}$  +7.7 (c = 1.1, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4 \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot 0.2\text{NH}_3$ : C, 47.93; H, 7.61; N, 22.36. Found: C, 48.05; H, 7.62; N, 22.38.

***N*<sup>α</sup>-Carbamoyl-*N*<sup>ω</sup>-methyl-L-arginine (23).** Compound 22a (250 mg, 0.68 mmol) was treated with 5 mL of 4 N HCl in dioxane. After 1 day, the reaction was mixed with Et $_2\text{O}$  and the resulting solid was filtered to yield 219 mg of semisolid. The crude product was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 6:1:1  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ -HOAc-H $_2\text{O}$  to provide first 30 (75 mg, 0.26 mmol, 39%), followed by mixed fractions (36 mg) and finally 23 (28 mg, 0.093 mmol, 14%). For 30:  $R_f$  0.6 (6:2:2  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ -AcOH-H $_2\text{O}$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ ) $^{\text{a}}$   $\delta$  27.2, 30.4, 30.8, 43.6, 57.2, 163.2, 177.3; MS (PDMS) 214 (M + H) $^+$ ;  $[\alpha]^{25}_{\text{D}}$  –0.24 (c = 1.26, MeOH). For 23:  $R_f$  0.4 (6:2:2  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ -AcOH-H $_2\text{O}$ );  $R_f$  0.25 (1:2 EtOAc-PAW);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  1.68–2.12 (m, 4H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 3.35–3.46 (m, 2H), 4.12 (t,  $J$  = 5 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  26.8, 29.8, 30.8, 43.5, 55.5, 156.2, 159.1, 174.8; MS (DCI) 232 (M + H) $^+$ , 215, 185;  $[\alpha]^{25}_{\text{D}}$  +9.4 (c = 1.24, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_5\text{O}_2 \cdot 1.0\text{HCl} \cdot 1.4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ : C, 34.95; H, 6.89; N, 25.47. Found: C, 35.31; H, 7.06; N, 25.08.

**Synthesis of *N*<sup>α</sup>-Cyano-*N*<sup>ω</sup>-methyl-L-arginine (30) from 22b.** Compound 22b (60 mg, 0.19 mmol) was treated with 4 N HCl in dioxane and then sonicated for 5 min. The reaction mixture was filtered, and the resulting hygroscopic solid was dissolved in H $_2\text{O}$  and purified by ion exchange (NH $_4$  form) eluted with 0.25 M NH $_4\text{HCO}_3$  to provide 48 mg (0.098 mmol, 51%). Further elution provided an additional 15 mg (0.03 mmol, 15%):  $R_f$  0.4 (6:2:2  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ -HOAc-H $_2\text{O}$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  1.52–1.74 (m, 2H), 1.79–1.97 (m, 2H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 3.25 (t,  $J$  = 6 Hz, 2H), 3.76 (t, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , pH 6.4)  $\delta$  27.2, 30.4, 30.7, 43.6, 57.3, 124 (CN, very broad), 163.4, 177.3;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , pH 8) $^{\text{b}}$   $\delta$  30.6, 30.7, 43.6, 123.7, 163.4; IR (KBr) 2165  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (FAB $^+$ ) 214 (M + H) $^+$ ;  $[\alpha]^{25}_{\text{D}}$  –2.1 (c = 0.63, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_5\text{O}_2 \cdot 4.75\text{NH}_4\text{Cl} \cdot 1.25\text{H}_2\text{O}$ : C, 19.62; H, 7.51; N, 27.88. Found: C, 19.74; H, 7.37; N, 27.98.

**Synthesis of 23 from 30.** Compound 30 (10 mg, 0.05 mmol) was treated with 3 mL of 3 N HCl for 2 days. The solution was diluted with H $_2\text{O}$  and lyophilized to provide 13 mg, 0.05 mmol, quantitative yield:  $R_f$  0.4 (6:2:2  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ -AcOH-H $_2\text{O}$ );  $R_f$  0.25 (1:2 EtOAc-PAW);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  1.68–2.12 (m, 4H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 3.35–3.46 (m, 2H), 4.12 (t,  $J$  = 5 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  26.8, 29.8, 30.8, 43.5, 55.5, 156.2, 159.1, 174.8; MS (DCI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_5\text{O}_3$   $m/e$  232.1410, found 232.1398;  $[\alpha]^{25}_{\text{D}}$  +6.4 (c = 0.28, MeOH).

***tert*-Butyl *N*<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-*N*<sup>α</sup>-benzyl-*N*<sup>ω</sup>-cyano-L-arginate (24a).** Intermediate 3a (432 mg, 1.0 mmol) and BzI-NH $_2$  (240  $\mu\text{L}$ , 2.2 mmol) were refluxed in 5 mL of EtOH for 3 h. The residue after concentration was dissolved in EtOAc and washed with 0.1 M citric acid, brine, 0.5 M NaHCO $_3$ , and brine. The organic layer was dried over MgSO $_4$  to yield after filtration and evaporation of the volatiles 486 mg, 1.09 mmol, quantitative:  $R_f$  0.5 (1:1 hexane-EtOAc);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.41 (s, 9H), 1.45 (s, 9H), 1.52–1.78 (m, 4H), 3.16–3.34 (m, 2H), 4.06 (bs, 1H), 4.34–4.52 (m, 2H), 5.25

(d,  $J$  = 7 Hz, 1H), 5.77 (s, 1H), 6.26–6.31 (m, 1H), 7.27–7.36 (m, 5H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) $^{\text{a}}$   $\delta$  25.0, 27.9, 28.3, 30.8, 41.2, 45.6, 52.8, 80.2, 82.5, 115.4, 118.7, 120.1, 127.4, 127.8, 128.8, 129.5, 137.0, 155.9, 156.3, 160.0, 171.4; IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) 2162  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (FAB $^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$   $m/e$  446.2767, found 446.2753; MS (DCI) 446 (M + H) $^+$ , 463 (M + NH $_4$ ) $^+$ ;  $[\alpha]^{25}_{\text{D}}$  –9.95 (c = 2.2, MeOH).

***N*<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-*N*<sup>α</sup>-benzyl-*N*<sup>ω</sup>-cyano-L-arginine (24b).** Intermediate 3b (200 mg, 0.86 mmol) was dissolved in 5 mL of EtOH and treated with BzI-NH $_2$  (942  $\mu\text{L}$ , 8.6 mmol) for 1 day. The crude residue after solvent evaporation was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 10:1 EtOAc-PAW to provide 183 mg, 0.47 mmol, 55% yield:  $R_f$  0.5 (5:1 EtOAc-PAW);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  1.44 (s, 9H), 1.55–1.67 (m, 3H), 1.73–1.82 (m, 1H), 3.23 (t,  $J$  = 7 Hz, 2H), 4.03–4.1 (m, 1H), 4.43 (s, 2H), 7.25–7.36 (m, 5H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  26.9, 28.7, 30.1, 42.2, 46.1, 54.6, 80.5, 128.1, 128.4, 129.6, 138.7, 158.0, 161.3, 176.0; IR (KBr) 2168  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (FAB $^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$   $m/e$  390.2141, found 390.2130; MS (DCI) 390 (M + H) $^+$ , 407 (M + NH $_4$ ) $^+$ , 347;  $[\alpha]^{25}_{\text{D}}$  +4.5 (c = 1.0, MeOH).

***tert*-Butyl *N*<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-*N*<sup>α</sup>-cyano-*N*<sup>ω</sup>-(dimethylamino)-L-arginate (25).** Intermediate 3a (129 mg, 0.3 mmol) in EtOH (3 mL) was treated with Me $_2\text{NNH}_2$  (60  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.8 mmol) for 7 h. The crude residue after solvent evaporation was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 20:1  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ -EtOH to yield 83 mg, 0.21 mmol, 70%:  $R_f$  0.2 (1:1 hexane-EtOAc);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.38 (s, 9H), 1.40 (s, 9H), 1.48–1.78 (m, 4H), 2.51 (s, 6H), 3.17–3.24 (m, 2H), 4.06–4.14 (m, 1H), 5.04–5.10 (m, 1H), 6.26 (t,  $J$  = 5 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  25.2, 27.9, 28.2, 30.0, 40.2, 47.2, 53.4, 79.7, 82.1, 117.4, 155.3, 158.8, 171.4; IR (film) 2175  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (DCI) 399 (M + H) $^+$ , 384, 343;  $[\alpha]^{25}_{\text{D}}$  –11.1 (c = 1.08, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_6\text{O}_4$ : C, 54.25; H, 8.60; N, 21.09. Found: C, 54.08; H, 8.75; N, 20.80.

***tert*-Butyl *N*<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-*N*<sup>α</sup>-cyano-*N*<sup>ω</sup>-dicyclohexyl-L-arginate (26).** Intermediate 3a (500 mg, 1.16 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL) was treated with dicyclohexylamine (DCHA, 460  $\mu\text{L}$ , 2.31 mmol), and the solution was heated to reflux. After 4 h, additional DCHA (460  $\mu\text{L}$ ) was added and reflux was continued overnight. The residue after evaporation of solvent was dissolved into EtOAc and washed with 0.1 M citric acid, brine, 0.5 M NaHCO $_3$ , and brine. The organic layer was dried (MgSO $_4$ ), filtered, and concentrated to yield 567 mg, 1.09 mmol, 94% of crude product oil:  $R_f$  0.6 (1:1 hexane-EtOAc);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.13 (tt,  $J$  = 2, 13 Hz, 2H), 1.3–1.4 (m, 6H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.46 (s, 9H), 1.6–1.75 (m, 12H), 1.78–1.88 (m, 4H), 3.23–3.32 (m, 1H), 3.43–3.64 (m, 2H), 4.16 (bs, 1H), 4.92 (t,  $J$  = 3 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (d,  $J$  = 7 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  25.3, 26.0, 26.1, 28.0, 28.3, 30.4, 31.7, 31.8, 43.2, 53.6, 57.9, 60.4, 79.9, 82.3, 117.7, 156.3, 159.4, 171.5; IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) 2160  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (FAB $^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{50}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$   $m/e$  520.3863, found 520.3849; MS (DCI) 520 (M + H) $^+$ ;  $[\alpha]^{25}_{\text{D}}$  –3.5 (c = 1.0, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{49}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4 \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ : C, 63.61; H, 9.53; N, 13.25. Found: C, 63.74; H, 9.37; N, 13.50;

***N*<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-*N*<sup>α</sup>-cyano-*N*<sup>ω</sup>-dimethylarginine (28).** Compound 3b (155 mg, 0.67 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL) was saturated with  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}$  (g) and sealed overnight at room temperature. After solvent evaporation, the crude residue was chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 5:1 EtOAc-PAW to provide 71 mg, 0.22 mmol, 32% yield:  $R_f$  0.2 (5:1 EtOAc-PAW);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  1.43 (s, 9H), 1.62–1.73 (m, 3H), 1.8–1.88 (m, 1H), 3.03 (s, 6H), 3.42 (t,  $J$  = 6 Hz, 2H), 4.03–4.08 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz, methanol- $d_4$ )  $\delta$  27.6, 28.7, 30.3, 39.0, 43.5, 55.1, 80.4, 120.0, 158.0, 161.0, 176.8; IR (KBr) 2169  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (DCI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$   $m/e$  328.1985, found 328.1979; MS (DCI) 328 (M + H) $^+$ , 345 (M + NH $_4$ ) $^+$ , 384, 285, 272;  $[\alpha]^{25}_{\text{D}}$  +10.4 (c = 1.4, MeOH).

***N*<sup>α</sup>-Cyano-L-arginine (29).** Compound 20b (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) was treated with 4 mL of 4 N HCl in dioxane for 5 min. The reaction solution was mixed with Et $_2\text{O}$  and filtered to provide a hygroscopic solid. The semisolid was dissolved into 2 mL of 1 M NH $_4\text{HCO}_3$  and purified by ion exchange (NH $_4$  form) eluted with H $_2\text{O}$  to provide 50 mg, 0.13 mmol, 40%: mp >250  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $R_f$  0.7 (6:2:2  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ -AcOH-H $_2\text{O}$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  1.53–1.78 (m, 2H), 1.78–2.0 (m, 2H), 3.23 (t,  $J$  = 6 Hz, 2H), 3.74 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  27.2, 30.8, 43.8, 57.3, 123.3, 164.2, 177.9; IR (KBr) 2180  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (DCI) 200 (M + H) $^+$ , 217 (M + NH $_4$ ) $^+$ ;

(34) For complete  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data see 30 from 22b below.

(35) At pH 7, the remaining resonances were not observable although the cyano resonance was sharp; at pH 6.4, all peaks were sharp except the cyano resonance.

(36) The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR for 24a displayed two geometric isomers whose signals did not coalesce when heated to 130  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  in DMSO- $d_6$ .

MS (FAB<sup>-</sup>) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub> *m/e* 198.0991, found 198.0990; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> 2.1° (*c* = 1.0, H<sub>2</sub>O). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>·1.0H<sub>2</sub>O·3.0NH<sub>4</sub>Cl: C, 22.26; H, 7.21; N, 29.67. Found: C, 22.22; H, 6.80; N, 29.72.

**N<sup>ε</sup>-Benzyl-N<sup>α</sup>-cyano-L-arginine (31).** Compound 24b (50 mg, 0.13 mmol) was treated with 4 N HCl in dioxane for 5 min. The reaction mixture was diluted with 3 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O and immediately placed onto ion exchange (H<sup>+</sup> form) and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The product was eluted from the column with 0.5 N NH<sub>4</sub>OH to provide 32 mg, 0.08 mmol, 62% yield; *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.4 (1:1 EtOAc-PAW); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O) δ 1.66–2.0 (m, 4H), 3.23 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 4.09–4.13 (m, 1H), 4.64 (s, 2H), 7.36–7.48 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O) δ 26.8, 29.5, 43.8, 47.7, 55.2, 129.9, 131.1, 132.0, 138.0, 155.6, 158.7, 174.1; IR (KBr) 2170 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub> *m/e* 290.1617, found 290.1610; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) 290 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 247; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -0.93° (*c* = 0.75, 3:1 MeOH-H<sub>2</sub>O).

**N<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-N<sup>α</sup>-cyano-N<sup>α</sup>-methoxy-L-arginine (27).** Intermediate 3b (100 mg, 0.26 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL) was treated with CH<sub>3</sub>ONH<sub>2</sub>·HCl (217 mg, 2.6 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (840 μL, 6 mmol) at 60 °C in a sealed tube overnight. After solvent evaporation, the crude residue was chromatographed on silica eluted with 5:1 EtOAc-PAW to yield 64 mg, 0.19 mmol, 75% yield; *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.3 (5:1 EtOAc-PAW); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.6–1.7 (m, 3H), 1.78–1.87 (m, 1H), 3.27 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.98–4.06 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 14.5, 22.0, 26.8, 28.8, 30.7, 41.6, 52.9, 55.7, 80.4, 158.0, 162.4; IR (KBr) 2178 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>5</sub> *m/e* 330.1777, found 330.1768; MS (DCI) 330 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>, 347 (M + NH<sub>4</sub>)<sup>+</sup>, 233; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +6.8° (*c* = 0.22, MeOH).

**N<sup>α</sup>-Cyano-N<sup>α</sup>-methoxy-L-arginine (32).** Compound 27 (24 mg, 0.073 mmol) was treated with 4 N HCl in dioxane (2 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> for 5 min. The reaction was mixed with Et<sub>2</sub>O, and the resulting solid was collected by vacuum filtration. The crude product was dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O, purified by ion exchange (H<sup>+</sup> form), and eluted with 0.5 N NH<sub>4</sub>OH to provide 8.3 mg, 0.036 mmol, 50% yield; *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.2 (1:1 EtOAc-PAW); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O) δ 1.55–1.74 (m, 2H), 1.78–1.94 (m, 2H), 3.25–3.31 (m, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.73 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H); IR (KBr) 2175 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (DCI) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>3</sub> *m/e* 230.1253, found 230.1251; MS (DCI) 230 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +1.4° (*c* = 0.22, H<sub>2</sub>O).

**tert-Butyl N<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-N<sup>ε</sup>-(5-amino-2H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)-L-ornithinate (33).** Intermediate 3a (250 mg, 0.58 mmol) in EtOH (2 mL) was treated with NH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O (150 μL, 3.0 mmol). After 2 h, the solvent was evaporated and the residue chromatographed on silica gel eluted with 90:10:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-EtOH-NH<sub>4</sub>OH to yield 134 mg, 0.36 mmol, 62% yield; *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.5 (80:20:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-EtOH-NH<sub>4</sub>OH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 1.46 (s, 9H), 1.48 (s, 9H), 1.6–1.74 (m, 3H), 1.77–1.88 (m, 1H), 3.16–3.26 (m, 1H), 3.3–3.42 (m, 1H), 4.15–4.23 (m, 1H), 5.38 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 25.8, 28.0, 28.4, 30.1, 42.9, 53.8, 79.9, 82.0, 155.9, 158.9, 159.1, 172.1; MS (DCI) 371 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -12.5 (*c* = 1.15, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>·0.8 H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 49.93; H, 8.28; N, 21.84. Found: C, 50.07; H, 8.16; N, 21.49.

**tert-Butyl N<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-N<sup>ε</sup>-(5-amino-2-methyl-2H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)-L-ornithinate (34b).** Intermediate 3a (340 mg, 0.79 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL) was treated with MeNHNH<sub>2</sub> (82 μL, 1.5 mmol) for 3 days. After solvent evaporation, the residue was chromatographed on flash silica gel eluted with 20:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-EtOH to yield 34b, 223 mg, 0.58 mmol, 74%. For 34b: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.3 (9:1 CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.46 (s, 9H), 1.66–1.78 (m, 3H), 1.80–1.90 (m, 1H), 3.32–3.42 (m, 5H), 3.40 (bs, 2H), 4.16–4.23 (m, 1H), 4.56–4.62 (m, 1H), 5.37 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 25.2, 28.0, 28.2, 30.5, 32.5, 43.3, 53.2, 79.7, 82.0, 154.8, 155.6, 159.7, 171.6; MS (DCI) 385 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -15.0

(*c* = 0.40, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>·0.5 H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 51.89; H, 8.45; N, 21.36. Found: C, 51.88; H, 8.25; N, 21.22. Further elution from the column provided a mixture of 34b and *tert*-Butyl N<sup>ε</sup>-Boc-N<sup>ε</sup>-(5-amino-1-methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)-L-ornithinate (34a) (89 mg, 0.23 mmol, 29%). For 34a: *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.25 (9:1 CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.45 (s, 9H), 1.6–1.74 (m, 3H), 1.8–1.9 (m, 1H), 3.18–3.22 (m, 2H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 4.18 (bs, 2H), 4.54 (bs, 1H), 5.21 (d, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H), 5.33 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 25.8, 28.0, 28.3, 30.3, 33.1, 43.1, 53.8, 79.5, 81.7, 153.0, 155.4, 161.1, 171.9.

**N<sup>ε</sup>-(5-Amino-2H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)-L-ornithine (35).** Compound 33 (100 mg, 0.27 mmol) was treated with 5 mL of 1.4 M HCl in HOAc. After 1 h a solid had formed that was collected and rinsed with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The crude product was chromatographed on neutral alumina eluted with 1:1 EtOAc-PAW to give 53 mg, 0.21 mmol, 78% yield. The product was then purified by ion exchange (H<sup>+</sup> form) eluted with 0.25 N NH<sub>4</sub>OH to remove any alumina that might be present. The yield from the ion-exchange column was 30 mg; mp 250–5 °C; *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.2 (1:2 EtOAc-PAW); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O-CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 1.55–1.73 (m, 2H), 1.79–1.97 (m, 2H), 3.17 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 3.70 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O/CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 25.7, 29.2, 43.2, 55.6, 159.6, 160.6, 176.1; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub> *m/e* 215.1269, found 215.1266; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) 215 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +16.4 (*c* = 1.17, MeOH).

**Synthesis of the D-Enantiomer of 35.** The D-enantiomer of 5 (100 mg, 0.35 mmol) was dissolved in 5 mL of 2-propanol and treated with 19 (91 mg, 0.38 mmol). After 2 h, the solvent was evaporated, and the resulting residue was dissolved in 5 mL of EtOH and treated with hydrazine hydrate (34 μL, 0.70 mmol) for 1 day. After solvent evaporation, chromatography of the residue on silica gel eluted with 80:20:1 CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH-NH<sub>4</sub>OH provided D-33, 121 mg, 0.33 mmol, 94% yield; *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.5 (80:20:1 CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH-NH<sub>4</sub>OH); MS (DCI) 371 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +13.0 (*c* = 1.19, MeOH). Compound D-33 was treated with 5 mL of 4 N HCl in dioxane for 3 h, and the resulting solid was collected and rinsed with Et<sub>2</sub>O to provide D-35, 4.9 mg, 0.02 mmol, 37% yield; *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.2 (1:2 EtOAc-PAW); MS (DCI) 215 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -14.5 (*c* = 0.38, MeOH).

**Chiral HPLC Results:** D-35, *t*<sub>R</sub> = 5.6 min; L-35, *t*<sub>R</sub> = 10.1 min. For L-35: peak area ratio L/D 99.25:0.75 = 98.5% ee. For D-35: no L-isomer detected, >98% ee.

**N<sup>ε</sup>-(5-Amino-2-methyl-2H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)-L-ornithine (36).** Compound 34b (92 mg, 0.24 mmol) was treated with 5 mL of 1:1 TFA-CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> for 2 h. The reaction was mixed with Et<sub>2</sub>O, and the resulting solid was filtered to yield 44 mg, 0.13 mmol, 54%, of very hygroscopic solid; *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.25 (6:2:2 CH<sub>3</sub>CN-AcOH-H<sub>2</sub>O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O) δ 1.51–2.03 (m, 4H), 3.36 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 3.43 (s, 3H), 3.88 (t, *J* = 5 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O) δ 27.2, 30.2, 36.2, 45.9, 56.7, 151.6, 153.8, 176.4; MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub> *m/e* 229.1413, found 229.1396; MS (DCI) 229 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +8.7° (*c* = 0.94, MeOH).

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**Supplementary Material Available:** <sup>1</sup>H spectra for compounds 1a, b, 6, 7, 11b, 11c, 14, 15, 20b, 24a, b, 27, 28, 29, 31–32, 35, and 36, <sup>13</sup>C spectra for compounds 1b, 2, 11a, c, and 12, ROESY spectrum for the mixture of compounds 34a, b, and NOE data for compounds 17 and 18 (27 pages). This material is contained in libraries on microfiche, immediately follows this article in the microfilm version of the journal, and can be ordered from the ACS; see any current masthead page for ordering information.