Molecular Mechanics and Computer Graphics. The coordinates for the atoms in 6a were calculated with the program MMII,¹⁷ These data were used with the Lederle molecular modeling system VAX 11/780 with an Evans and Sutherland Multi Picture System to graphically superimpose 6a with the morphine crystal structure¹⁸ so that the root mean square deviations in the nonbonded distances between the N, 1'-phenyl C, 1-C, and 7- β -methoxyl oxygen atoms of 6a and the N, C-12, C-13, and the ether oxygen of morphine were minimized.^{19,20} The

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phenyl ring of 6a was then rotated around the C-1–C-1' bond to align the ring and its oxygen atom with the corresponding features of morphine. The degree of superimposition of the molecules was then studied by rotating the structures around the various axes.

Acknowledgment. Maleimide 4d was originally synthesized by Dr. Patrick T. Izzo. We acknowledge G. Jordan, G. O. Morton, and group for spectral analyses and L. Gehrlein and group for the microanalyses.

Registry No. 3, 922-69-0; 4a, 66504-57-2; 4b, 64643-37-4; 4c, 54433-49-7; 4d, 716-00-7; 5a, 88905-19-5; 5b, 88905-20-8; 5c, 88905-21-9; 5d, 88905-22-0; 6a, 88905-31-1; 6a (base), 88905-23-1; 6b, 88905-32-2; 6b (base), 88905-24-2; 6c, 88905-33-3; 6c (base), 88905-25-3; 6d, 88905-34-4; 6d (base), 88905-26-4; 7, 88905-27-5; 8, 88905-28-6; 9, 88905-35-5; 9 (base), 88905-29-7; 10, 88905-36-6; 10 (base), 88905-30-0; $3-CH_3OC_6H_4NH_2$, 536-90-3; $3-CH_3OC_6H_4N_2^+Cl^-$, 19183-05-2; $C_6H_5NH_2$, 62-53-3; $C_6H_6N_2^+Cl^-$, 100-34-5; $4-CH_3NH_2$, 106-49-0; $4-CH_3C_6H_4N_2^+Cl^-$, 2028-84-4; HOCH₂C(CH₃)₂CH₂OH, 126-30-7; maleimide, 541-59-3; N-methylmaleimide, 930-88-1.

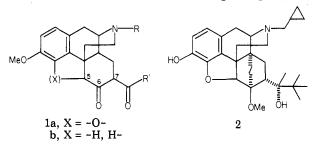
Novel Opiates and Antagonists. 6.¹ 7-Alkyl-6,7-didehydromorphinans

James Quick,* Patricia Herlihy,^{2a} and John F. Howes^{2b}

SISA Pharmaceutical Laboratories Inc., Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138. Received September 9, 1983

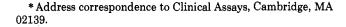
A method for preparing a variety of 7-alkyl-6,7-didehydromorphinans from the corresponding 6-morphinanones is described. The key intermediates in this sequence are the 7-formyl derivatives. The two epimeric B/C-trans-7-(1-hydroxypentyl)morphinans (16a,b) are stereochemically similar to the *endo*-ethanotetrahydrooripavines and are extremely potent in the mouse writhing test. The corresponding B/C-cis-7-(1-hydroxypentyl)morphinans are inactive in this test.

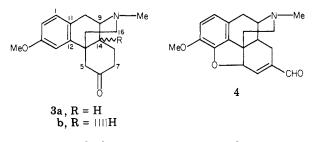
Recently, it was demonstrated that acyl group substitution at position 7 of hydromorphone afforded a series of compounds (1a) whose narcotic analgesic agonist and



antagonist activities paralleled those of the *endo*-ethanotetrahydrooripavines, e.g., buprenorphine (2).³ In order to further enhance the structural similarity of these 7-acyl derivatives to 2, we desired to make two further modifications on 1a. Removal of the furano ring would allow the preparation of B/C-trans-morphinans and, thus, yield compounds with the same stereochemistry as 2 at C-14. Secondly, removal of the carbonyl at position 6 would stabilize the desired α -hydroxyl group on the alkyl side chain.

Accomplishment of the first goal was initially attempted by preparation of diketone 1b from the morphinan enamine or enol. There have been no reports of enamine formation from the morphinanones 3; likewise, all our attempts failed.⁴ Our efforts were then turned to the development of a new methodology that might accomplish both goals simultaneously. We report here the details of



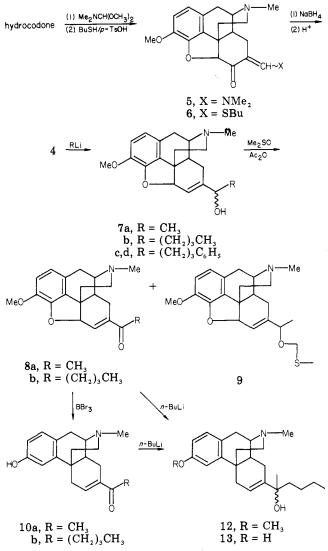


that method, which requires the 7-formyl derivatives 4 or 14 as key intermediates. The effects of such modifications on the analgesic activity are also reported.

Chemistry. The reduction of, or alkyllithium addition to, (alkylthio)methylene ketones, followed by acid hydrolysis, affords α,β -unsaturated aldehydes.⁵ The (alkylthio)methylene ketones may be prepared by treatment of either the α -formyl ketones⁵ or the (dimethylamino)methylene ketones⁶ with an alkanethiol. The latter route was attractive for the preparation of the key intermediates,

- For Part 5, see: Herlihy, P.; Dalzell, H. C.; Howes, J. F.; Razdan, R. K.; J. Med. Chem. 1982, 25, 986.
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- (4) The normal azetropic methods as described in ref 3 were attempted, as well as the method utilizing (trimethylsilyl)morpholine described by: Comi, R.; French, R. W.; Reitano, M.; Weinreb, S. M. Tetrahedron Lett. 1973, 3107.
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Scheme I



since the 7-(dimethylamino)methylene derivatives of opiates are readily prepared by treatment of the 6-keto precursors with an acetal of dimethylformamide.⁷

Thus, heating a toluene solution of hydrocodone and dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal afforded 5 in 84% yield (Scheme I). Subsequent treatment of a benzene solution of 5 with butanethiol and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid gave a 74% yield of 6. This thioenol ketone was reduced by treatment with NaBH₄, and the reaction mixture was hydrolyzed by acidification with 6 N hydrochloric acid. These latter steps afforded a 91% yield of the aldehyde 4. The structure of 4 was confirmed by examination of the NMR and IR spectra. In particular, the NMR spectrum showed a singlet at δ 8.78 and multiplets at δ 6.67 and 5.22. These are the resonances of the aldehyde, vinyl, and C-5 protons, respectively.

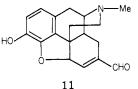
Addition of alkyllithium reagents to aldehyde 4, followed by oxidation of the resultant secondary alcohols, then afforded other 7-acyl derivatives. Treatment of a tetrahydrofuran (THF) solution of 4 with methyllithium afforded 7a in 76% yield as a mixture of epimers. The NMR spectrum showed two doublets of unequal intensity at δ 1.15 and 1.18 and a broad quartet at δ 4.07. These are due to the methyl group and the carbinol proton, respectively, of the epimeric hydroxyethyl groups. The vinyl proton

resonance has moved upfield to δ 5.67 as expected. Similar treatment of 4 with *n*-butyllithium or 3-phenyl-1-lithiopropane afforded **7b** (40% yield) and **7c** and **7d**, respectively. In the latter case, the epimers were separated; however, no assignment of the configuration was made.

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The best method for the oxidation of the alcohols 7 to the ketone 8 was found to be treatment with acetic anhydride and dimethyl sulfoxide.⁸ In this manner, 7a was oxidized to the 7-acetyl derivative 8a in 61% yield. An 18% yield of the thiol ether 9 was also isolated. Attempts to reduce the yield of this common side product or to hydrolyze it to 7a (HgCl₂-wet acetonitrile) were unsuccessful. A 68% yield of 8b was obtained from 7b by this procedure. The structures of all of these products were established by their NMR and mass spectra.

Although at each stage in this sequence (4, 7, and 8)demethylation was attempted, only with 8a was moderate success achieved. Treatment of a chloroform solution of 8a with BBr₃⁹ afforded a 34% yield of 10a. With the failure of the demethylation procedure to provide 10b, several attempts were made at the preparation of aldehyde 11 from hydromorphone. Treatment of hydromorphone



with dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal resulted in remethylation of the phenol¹⁰ to afford 5. Blocking the phenol was not successful, since acetyl groups were not stable to the remethylation conditions, and methoxymethyl ethers could be prepared only in low yields. The preparation of 10b was not further investigated.

Treatment of 8a and 10a with butyllithium as above afforded the tertiary alcohols 12 and 13, respectively. These tertiary alcohols showed none of the stability problems previously found with the β -hydroxy ketones.³ However, they were noncrystalline and strongly occluded solvent, making them difficult to purify.

This same sequence of reactions could be applied to the morphinan 3a to produce the desired B/C-trans-7-substituted derivatives. Thus, 14a was prepared from B/C-trans-morphinanone (3a) in 56% yield. Since the 7-(dimethylamino)methylene derivative was partially hydrolyzed during attempts at its purification, the entire sequence was carried out without purification of the intermediates. Similar treatment of the B/C-cis-morphinanone (3b) afforded 14b in only 12% yield. In this case, the low yield presumably resulted from an attempted acetic acid hydrolysis of the product of the NaBH₄ reduction.

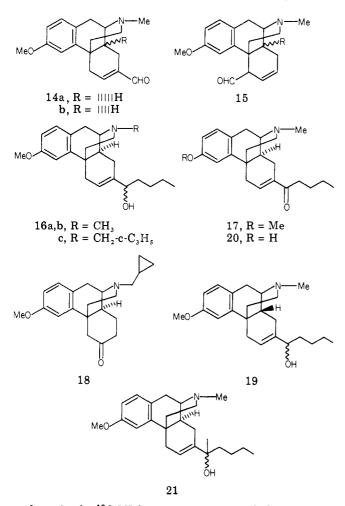
The structure of 14a was determined from its NMR and mass spectra. Comparison of its ¹H NMR spectra with those of 3a and the derived products 16 and 17 allowed distinction between the structures 14a and 15. Although the shape of the aryl proton multiplet changes from the 6-ketone 3a to the aldehyde 14a, there are no further changes as the aldehyde is converted to an alcohol (16) and back to a carbonyl compound (17). If structure 15 were correct, significant changes in the chemical shift of the H-4 resonance would be expected due to the proximity of the carbonyl group. The structure of 14b follows from that of 14a. The chemical shifts of the aldehyde and aryl

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carbons in the ¹³C NMR spectra are remarkably similar, indicating that the gross structural features are the same.

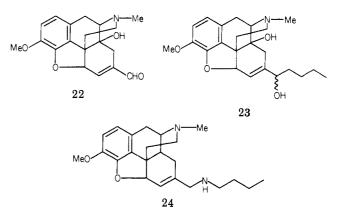
Treatment of a THF solution of 14a with *n*-butyllithium afforded the epimeric alcohols 16a,b, which were readily separated by column chromatography. The epimeric nature of these alcohols was established by their separate oxidation (Me₂SO-acetic anhydride) to the identical ketone 17. Reduction of 17 (NaBH₄-methanol) afforded a mixture of 16a,b. The configuration of these epimers was not determined. The N-(cyclopropylmethyl) analogue 16c was prepared as a mixture of isomers from morphinanone (18), without characterization of the intermediates. The epimeric alcohols 19 were prepared from the B/C-cisaldehyde 14b by the addition of *n*-butyllithium.

Ketone 17, which was most efficiently prepared by oxidation of the mixture 16a,b, could be demethylated (BBr₃-CHCl₃) to afford the 3-hydroxy derivative 20. The desired tertiary alcohol 21, which is analogous to the oripavine opiates, was prepared by treatment of 17 with methyllithium. This reaction sequence could also be used to prepare 14-hydroxy-substituted opiates. Thus, 22 was prepared from oxycodone in 65% yield. The tertiary alcohol is not alkylated by treatment with the DMF-acetal. The secondary alcohol 23 was prepared in the usual way.

Condensation reactions of these aldehydes were also attempted. The phenyl- and dinitrophenylhydrazones of 22 could not be prepared. However, the unique amino-substituted codeine analogue (24) was prepared from 4. Thus, reductive alkylation of 4 with *n*-butylamine afforded 24 in 17% yield.

Pharmacology. The preparation of these compounds was guided by assessment of their analgesic activity in the acetic acid mouse writhing test and the rat tail-flick test. These procedures have been described previously.¹¹ The

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results are listed in Table I.

The aldehydes that were tested (4, 14a, b, and 22) had approximately the same analgesic activity as the precursor ketones. However, the other derivatives of 4 with short side chains were much less active. The five-carbon secondary alcohols 7b had moderate activity in the writhing test. Hydromorphone derivatives bearing a phenylbutyl group at position 7 have been found to be very potent in the writhing test.¹² The analogous compounds in this series (7c,d) were equipotent to morphine. However, they were deemed not so potent as to warrant further development.

The 14-hydroxy derivatives of diketones 1a are extremely potent in the writhing test.¹³ However, the 14hydroxy-7-hydroxypentyl derivative 23 was only a weak analgesic.

Among those compounds without the furano ring, the B/C-trans-7-(hydroxypentyl) derivatives 16a,b are notable. These are among the most potent compounds that have been evaluated in the mouse writhing test in these laboratories. Although these two epimers were equipotent in this test, the faster eluting epimer 16a was clearly more potent in the rat tail-flick test. By contrast, the B/C-cis analogue 19 was inactive at 10 mg/kg in the writhing test.

The potency of the alcohols 16a,b led us to introduce nitrogen substituents that might lead to derivatives that possess morphine antagonist activity. However, the *N*cyclopropylmethyl derivative 16c had no antagonist activity in the rat tail-flick antagonist test¹² at a dose of 10 mg/kg. In comparison, the 6-keto precursor 18 had an AD₅₀ of 1.3 mg/kg in this test.¹

The 7-acyl compounds were found to be less active than the corresponding secondary alcohols. For example, 16a,b are 100 times as potent as 17 in the writhing test. The O-demethylation of 17 to afford 20 increased its potency by a factor of 20. The latter compound is unusual in being more active in the tail-flick test than in the writhing test. Conversion of the ketones to tertiary alcohols (12, 13, and 20) did not significantly recover the activity found in the secondary alcohols.

Discussion

This simple procedure allows the preparation of a variety of opiate derivatives containing a 7-formyl group and lacking an oxygen function at position 6. Each of these aldehydes may be further derivatized by addition reactions, but condensation reactions are very difficult. Thus, the structural goals of the project were achieved. As with the

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Table I. Narcotic Agonist Activities

	ED ₅₀ , mg/kg	
compound ^{<i>a</i>}	writhing ^b	tail flick ^c
morphine sulfate hydrocodone bitartrate hydromorphone hydrochloride 3a 3b 4 5 6 7a 7b 7c 7d 8a HCl 8b HCl 10a 12 13 14a HCl 14b	$\begin{array}{c} 0.79 \ (0.42-1.5) \\ 1.06 \ (0.7-1.6) \\ 0.08 \ (0.04-0.14) \\ 0.3 \ (0.21-0.42) \\ 1.58 \ (1.14-2.2) \\ 0.49 \ (0.26-0.92) \\ 1.45 \ (0.62-3.4) \\ Ia \\ > 10 \\ Ia \\ 3.13 \ (0.81-12.1) \\ 1.6 \ (0.67-3.8) \\ 0.72 \ (0.49-1.1) \\ Ia \\ Ia \\ > 10 \\ Ia \\ Ia \\ A.55 \ (2.2-9.5) \\ 0.28 \ (0.05-1.43) \end{array}$	7.32 > 20 0.66 Ia ^d Ia > 10 Ia Ia Ia Ia Ia Ia
16a 16b 16c 17·HCl 18 19 20 21 22 23·HCl 24·HCl	$\begin{array}{c} 0.0058\ (0.002-0.014)\\ 0.0062\ (0.002-0.022)\\ 0.21\ (0.001-6.44)\\ 0.82\ (0.6-1.04)\\ >10\\ Ia\\ 0.046\ (0.041-0.052)\\ 0.125\ (0.04-0.042)\\ 3.6\ (2.2-6.05)\\ 9.8\ (5.7-17)\\ Ia\end{array}$	0.3 (0.15-0.59) 1.8 (1.4-2.2) 0.0135 (0.008-0.021) 3.2 (1.3-7.7)

^a Compounds that were prepared as salts were administered in distilled water; free bases were dissolved by the addition of hydrochloric acid and then further diluted. All compounds were administered by the subcutaneous route. ^b Mouse acetic acid writhing test: ref 11; cf.: Whittle, B. A. Br. J. Pharmacol. 1964, 22, 246. 95% confidence limits. ^c Rat tail-flick test: Harris, L. S., Pierson, A. K. J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther. 1964, 143, 141. 95% confidence limits. ^d Ia = inactive at the highest dose tested (10 mg/kg).

endo-ethanotetrahydrooripavines (2), the derivatives in this series with the longer side chain were found to be the more potent analgesics. Of particular interest is the finding that the B/C-trans-morphinan derivatives, which correspond sterically to the oripavines, are very potent, while the analogous compound with opposite stereochemistry has no analgesic activity. Similarly, an exo-ethanodeoxyoripavine compound was recently found to have no analgesic activity.¹⁴ The similarity in the potencies of the epimers 16a,b is contrary to what is found in the tertiary alcohols such as 2. In the latter series, one diastereomer is much more active than the other.¹⁵ The similarity does, however, correspond to what is found for the secondary alcohols in the endo-ethanotetrahydrooripavine series.¹⁶ In this case, intramolecular hydrogen bonding is not an important factor.¹⁶ Thus, the side chain can be found in several low-energy conformations, and the configurational differences in the drug-receptor interactions are less pronounced.

Experimental Section

Melting points were determined on a Thomas-Hoover or Fisher-Johns melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian T-60 spectrometer, with

tetramethylsilane as an internal standard and in CDCl₃ solution unless otherwise stated. Infrared spectra were obtained on a Perkin-Elmer 700 spectrometer. Precoated TLC plates (silica gel 60F; EM Reagent) were used for TLC analysis. Column chromatographic separations used EM Reagent silica gel 60 (0.063-0.200 mm) and gradient elution with chloroform-methanol unless noted otherwise. Flash chromatography¹⁷ was performed with EM Reagent silica gel 60 (0.040-0.063 mm). Microanalyses were performed by Atlantic Microlab, Inc., Atlanta, GA. Where analyses are indicated only by symbols, analytical results obtained for those elements were within $\pm 0.4\%$ of the theoretical values. Mass spectra were obtained by the Mass Spectrometry Laboratory, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY and are reported as m/e (relative intensity). ¹³C NMR spectra were obtained by Miles Laboratories, Inc., Elkhart, IN. All organic layers were dried after extractions with Na₂SO₄. Except as noted, all reagents and solvents were used as obtained from the supplier. Tetrahydrofuran was distilled from sodium ketyl.

7-[(Dimethylamino)methylene]hydrocodone (5). A solution of hydrocodone (10.0 g, 33 mmol) and dimethylformamide diethyl acetal (6.0 g, 40 mmol) in toluene (125 mL) was heated at reflux for 16 h. While the solution was cooling, a precipitate slowly formed, which was filtered and washed with toluene to afford 6.2 g (52% yield) of 5: mp 212-215 °C (lit.⁷ mp 212-215 °C). The mother liquors were resubmitted to the reaction conditions to afford another 1.5 g (32%) of 5.

7-[(n-Butylthio)methylene]hydrocodone (6). A solution of the enaminone 5 (1.0 g, 2.8 mmol), *n*-butanethiol (0.4 mL, 3.7 mmol), and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid hydrate (5 mg) in benzene (25 mL) was heated at reflux for 20 h. After cooling, the solution was washed with saturated NaHCO₃ and water, dried, and concentrated. The resulting yellow solid was recrystallized from ethanol to afford pure 6 (0.83 mg, 74% yield): mp 136-137.5 °C; NMR

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 δ 0.7–3.3 (m's), 2.50 (s, \sim 3 H, NCH₃), 3.88 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 4.53 (s, 1 H, H-5), 6.75 (s, 2 H, aryl), 7.7 (2 s, 1 H, =CHS). Anal. (C₂₃H₂₉NO₃S) C, H, N, S. Yields of 90% have been obtained by crystallization of the mother liquors.

4,5 α -Epoxy-7-formyl-3-methoxy-17-methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (4). To a methanolic (30 mL) solution of 6 (0.50 g, 1.3 mmol) was added a solution of NaBH₄ (0.4 g, 12 mmol) in 0.25 N NaOH (5 mL). After 2 h, the reaction mixture was diluted with 10% H₂SO₄ (30 mL) and heated at reflux for 2 h. After cooling and being made basic with NH₄OH, the mixture was extracted with chloroform. The residue from the organic layer was subjected to chromatography to afford a 91% yield of crystalline 4: mp 146–152 °C; NMR δ 1.7–3.3 (m's), 2.43 (s, ~3, NCH₃), 3.87 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 5.22 (m, 1 H, H-5), 6.67 (m, ~1 H, vinyl), 6.72 (s, ~2 H, aryl), 8.78 (s, 1 H, CHO); IR (film) 1685 cm⁻¹; MS, *m/e* 311 (100, M⁺), 296 (17, M⁺ – CH₃), 282 (41, M⁺ – CHO). Anal. (C₁₉H₂₁NO₃) C, H, N.

4,5a-Epoxy-7-(1-hydroxyethyl)-3-methoxy-17-methyl-6,7dihydromorphinan (7a). An ether solution of methyllithium (1 mL, 1.5 mmol) was added to a THF (15 mL) solution of the aldehyde 4 (320 mg, 1.0 mmol), maintained in an ice bath. After 1 h, the mixture was quenched with aqueous NH₄Cl, diluted with water, and extracted with chloroform. The organic layers were dried, concentrated, and chromatographed to afford 252 mg of 7a (76% yield): mp 189–191 °C dec; NMR (CDCl₃-CD₃OD) δ 1.18 (d, J = 7 Hz, CHCH₃), 1.15 (d, ~20% of 1.18 signal, epimeric CHCH₃), 1.5–3.3 (m's), 2.40 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.82 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 4.07 (br q, ~1 H, >CHCH₃), 4.98 (m, 1 H, H-5), 5.67 (m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.68 (AB q, 2 H, aryl); IR (CHCl₃) 3750 (br) cm⁻¹; MS, m/e327 (100, M⁺), 312 (22, M⁺ – CH₃), 310 (8, M⁺ – OH), 382 [19, M⁺ – CH(OH)CH₃]. Anal. (C₂₀H₂₅NO₃·0.25CHCl₃) C, H, N.

4,5 α -Epoxy-7-(1-hydroxypentyl)-3-methoxy-17-methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (7b). A solution of 4 (1.06 g, 3.4 mmol) was treated with *n*-butyllithium (2 mL, 5 mmol) as described above. After chromatography, 500 mg (40% yield) of 7b was obtained: mp 176–178 °C; NMR δ 0.7–3.5 (m's), 2.23 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.83 (s and m, 4 H, OCH₃ and >CHO), 5.0 (br d, 1 H, H-5), 5.70 (br m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.67 (AB q, 2 H, aryl); IR (CHCl₃) 3200 (br), 2950 (s) cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₂₃H₃₁NO₃) C, H, N.

4,5α-Epoxy-7-(1-hydroxy-4-phenylbutyl)-3-methoxy-17methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (7c,d). A solution of 4 (502 mg, 1.6 mmol) was treated as described above with 1-lithio-3phenylpropane, which was prepared by the dropwise addition of a solution of 3-phenyl-1-bromopropane (639 mg, 3.2 mmol) in ether (10 mL) to a cooled (-78 °C) solution of *tert*-butyllithium (6.4 mmol) in ether (20 mL). Column chromatography afforded diasteriomers 7c (50% yield) and 7d (20% yield), each contaminated with a small amount of the product derived from the addition of *tert*-butyllithium with 4. Pure samples of these diastereomers were obtained by preparative TLC. 7c: mp 147-149 °C; NMR δ 1.3-3.2 (m's), 2.32 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.7-4.0 (m, ~1 H, >CHO), 3.76 (s, ~3 H, OCH₃), 4.9 (m, 1 H, H-5), 5.7 (m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.67 (s, 2 H, aryl), 6.9-7.3 (m, 5 H, C₆H₅); IR (KBr) 3400 (br), 3100 (br), 2950 cm⁻¹; MS, m/e 431 (100, M⁺), 416 (20, M⁺ - CH₃), 312 (16, M⁺ - C₃H₆C₆H₅), 282 [27, M⁺ - CH-(OH)C₃H₆C₆H₅]. Anal. (C₂₈H₃₈NO₃·0.5H₂O) C, H, N.

7d: mp 156–158 °C; NMR δ 1.1–3.2 (m's), 2.37 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.7–4.0 (m, ~1 H, >CHO), 3.75 (s, ~3 H, OCH₃), 4.9 (m, 1 H, H-5), 5.7 (m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.67 (s, 2 H, aryl), 6.9–7.3 (m, 5 H, C₆H₅); IR (film) 3700–3100 (br), 2970 (s) cm⁻¹; MS, m/e 431 (100, M⁺), 416 (18, M⁺ – CH₃), 312 (8, M⁺ – C₃H₆C₆H₅), 282 [19, M⁺ – CH(OH)C₃H₆C₆H₅]. Anal. (C₂₈H₃₃NO₃·0.5H₂O) C, H, N.

7-Acetyl-4,5 α -epoxy-3-methoxy-17-methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (8a) and 4,5 α -Epoxy-3-methoxy-17-methyl-7-[1-[(methylthio)methoxy]ethyl]-6,7-didehydromorphinan (9). A solution of the alcohol 7a (515 mg, 1.6 mmol) in acetic anhydride (3 mL) and dimethyl sulfoxide (5 mL) was heated at 60 °C for 3 h. After cooling, the mixture was diluted with methylene chloride (50 mL), washed five times with diluted NH₄OH (10 mL), dried, and concentrated. Column chromatography afforded 8a (61% yield), and the thioether 9 (18% yield).

8a: NMR δ 1.7–3.3 (m's), 2.27 [s, ~3 H, C(O)CH₃], 2.43 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.87 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 5.2 (br m, 1 H, H-5), 6.7 (m, 3 H, aryl and vinyl); IR (film) 1670 cm⁻¹; MS, m/e 325 (100, M⁺), 310 (21, M⁺ – CH₃), 282 [28, M⁺ – C(O)CH₃]. HCl salt (foam from chloroform). Anal. (C₂₀H₂₃NO₃·HCl·3H₂O) C, H, N, Cl.

9: NMR δ 1.05 and 1.17 (unequal d's, J = 7 Hz, 3 H, >CHCH₃), 1.7–3.2 (m's), 1.97 (s, ~3 H, 5-CH₃), 2.42 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.85 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 4.00 and 4.15 (s's, 2 H, >CHOCH₂S), 4.4 (m, 1 H, >CHO) 5.0 (br m, 1 H, H-5), 5.7 (br m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.67 (AB q, J = 9 Hz, 2 H, aryl); IR (film) 2940 (s) cm⁻¹; MS, m/e 387 (100, M⁺), 372 (13, M⁺ – CH₃), 326 (6, M⁺ – CH₂SCH₃), 310 (59, M⁺ – OCH₂SCH₃). Anal. (C₂₂H₂₉NO₃S·0.5H₂O) C, H, N, S.

4,5 α -Epoxy-3-methoxy-17-methyl-7-pentanoyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (8b). The alcohol 7b (300 mg, 0.8 mmol) was treated with Me₂SO and acetic anhydride, as described above, to afford 8b (68% yield) as an oil: NMR δ 0.8-3.3 (m's), 2.43 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.88 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 5.2 (br m, 1 H, H-5), 6.73 (m and s, 3 H, aryl and vinyl), IR (CHCl₃) 1685 cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₂₃-H₂₉NO₃·HCl) C, H, N, Cl.

7-Acetyl-4,5 α -epoxy-3-hydroxy-17-methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (10a). A solution of 8a (1.3 g, 4 mmol) in chloroform (20 mL) was slowly added to a stirred solution of BBr₃ (4.5 mL, 48 mmol) in chloroform (150 mL). After 1 h, the reaction mixture was poured into ice/NH₄OH, and the resulting mixture was stirred for 2 h. After separation of the layers and extraction of the aqueous layer with chloroform, the organic fractions were combined, dried, and concentrated in vacuo to afford 721 mg of a brown oil. Column chromatography afforded 10a (34% yield) as a solid: mp 250 °C dec; NMR δ 1.7-4.0 (m's), 2.27 [s, ~3 H, C(O)CH₃], 2.47 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 5.13 (br m, 1 H, H-5), 6.6 (m, 3 H, aryl and vinyl); IR (CHCl₃) 3500 (br), 1670 cm⁻¹; MS, m/e 311 (66, M⁺), 296 (12, M⁺ - CH₃), 268 [39, M⁺ - C(O)CH₃], 253 (10, 268 - CH₃), 43 (100). Anal. (C₁₉H₂₁NO₃·0.2CHCl₃) C, H, N.

4,5 α -Epoxy-7-(1-hydroxy-1-methylpentyl)-3-methoxy-17methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (12). To a cooled solution of enone 8a (140 mg, 0.4 mmol) in THF was added *n*-butyllithium (~2 mmol). After 2 h, the mixture was worked up as above (7a). Preparative TLC afforded 12 (50 mg, 33% yield) as an oil: NMR δ 0.7-3.2 (m), 1.22 (s, ~3 H, CCH₃), 2.38 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.83 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 5.0 (m, 1 H, H-5), 5.77 (m, 1-H, vinyl), 6.67 (AB q, 2 H, aryl); MS, *m/e* 383 (100, M⁺), 368 (33, M⁺ - CH₃), 366 (10, M⁺ - OH), 365 (14, M⁺ - H₂O), 326 (26, M⁺ - C₄H₉), 282 [43, M⁺ - C(CH₃)(OH)C₄H₉]. Anal. (C₂₄H₃₈NO₃·0.75H₂O·0.1CHCl₃) C, H, N, Cl.

4,5 α -Epoxy-3-hydroxy-7-(1-hydroxy-1-methylpentyl)-17methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (13). Treatment of the hydroxy enone 10 (120 mg, 0.4 mmol) with *n*-butyllithium as described above afforded 41 mg of 13 (28% yield): NMR δ 0.6-3.2 (m's), 1.20 (s, ~3 H, CCH₃), 2.42 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 5.0 (m, 1 H, H-5), 5.7 (m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.60 (AB q, 2 H, aryl). Anal. (C₂₃-H₃₁NO₃:0.5H₂O·0.1CHCl₃) C, H, N, Cl.

B/C-trans- and B/C-cis-3-Methoxy-17-methyl-6-morphinanone (3a,b). The morphinanones 3a,b were prepared as reported previously.¹ The resonance assignments below are based on those of Carroll et al.¹⁸

3a: ¹³C NMR δ 210.6 (s, C-6), 158.3 (s, C-3), 144.6 (s, C-12), 130.3 (s, C-11), 128.8 (d, C-1), 112.1 and 109.4 (d's, C-2 and C-4), 57.6 (d, C-9), 55.3 (q, OCH₃), 51.8 (t, C-16), 47.3 (br s, C-13), 42.9 (q, NCH₃), 40.8 (t, C-7), 40.3 (d, C-14), 33.5 (t, C-5), 28.3, 27.1, and 26.5 (t's), C-8, C-10, and C-15).

3b: 13 C NMR δ 208.7 (s, C-6), 158.4 (s, C-3), 138.9 (s, C-12), 128.7 (d, C-1), 128.5 (s, C-11), 112.6 and 111.5 (d's, C-2 and C-4), 57.3 (d, C-9), 55.3 (q, OCH₃), 51.6 (t, C-16), 46.1 (br s, C-13), 44.2 (d, C-14), 42.9 (q, NCH₃), 42.1 and 41.1 (t's, C-5 and C-7), 26.9 and 23.3 (t, C-8 and C-10).

B / *C*-trans -7-Formyl-3-methoxy-17-methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (14a). A solution of 3a (5.8 g, 0.02 mmol) in DMF dimethyl acetal (31 g, 0.26 mmol) was heated at 130 °C for 20 h, then cooled, and concentrated in vacuo. This crude product was heated sequentially with butanethiol, NaBH₄, and acid as above (see 6 and 4) to afford, after chromatography, pure 14a (3.4 g, 56% yield): ¹H NMR δ 0.9–1.3 (m, 1 H), 1.7–3.4 (m's), 2.33 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.80 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 6.7–7.2 (m, 4 H, aryl and vinyl), 9.57 (s, 1 H, CHO); ¹³C NMR δ 193.5 (d, CHO), 158.5 (s, C-3), 148.0 (d, C-6), 140.7 and 139.9 (s's, C-7 and C-12), 129.1 (d, C-1), 128.4 (s, C-11), 111.5 and 110.9 (d's, C-2 and C-4), 57.2 (d, C-9), 55.3 (q, OCH₃), 46.8 (br s, C-13), 42.5 (q, NCH₃), 40.6

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(t, C-16), 38.9 (d, C-14), 36.9 and 35.4 (t's, C-5 and C-15), 23.2 and 22.7 (t's, C-8 and C-10); IR (film 1675 cm⁻¹; MS, m/e 297 (32, M⁺), 268 (7, M⁺ – CHO), 59 (49), 43 (100). Hydrochloride (ethanol): mp 210 °C dec. Anal. (C₁₉H₂₃NO₂·HCl·0.5H₂O·0.5C₂H₅OH) C, H, N, Cl.

B / *C*-cis -7-Formyl-3-methoxy-17-methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (14b). Treatment of 3b (8.29 g, 29 mmol) with DMF dimethyl acetal, butanethiol, and NaBH₄ proceeded as above. Hydrolysis was attempted with acetic acid at room temperature, followed by retreatment with NaBH₄ and finally with 10% H₂SO₄. From this mixture was isolated by chromatography 1.0 g of 14b (12% yield), which could be recrystallized from ethanol: mp 161–163 °C; ¹H NMR δ 1.4–3.4 (m's), 2.40 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.75 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 6.6–7.1 (m, 4 H, aryl and vinyl), 9.30 (s, 1 H, CHO); ¹³C NMR δ 193.5 (d, CHO), 158.2 (s, C-3), 148.0 (d, C-6), 141.0 and 140.1 (s's, C-12 and C-7), 129.4 (s, C-11), 128.9 (d, C-1), 111.1 and 110.9 (d's, C-2 and C-4), 56.8 (d, C-9), 55.1 (q, OCH₃), 46.7 (br s, C-13), 42.9 (q, NCH₃), 41.4 (t, C-16), 39.7 (d, C-14), 37.3 and 35.7 (t's, C-5 and C-15), 23.0 and 22.8 (t, C-8 and C-10); IR (film) 1680 cm⁻¹; MS, m/e 297 (76, M⁺), 268 (16, M⁺ - CHO), 59 [100, C₂H₅NH(CH₃)]. Anal. (C₁₉H₂₃NO₂) C, H, N. *B* / *C*-trans-7-(1-Hydroxypentyl)-3-methoxy-17-methyl-

B/C-trans-7-(1-Hydroxypentyl)-3-methoxy-17-methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (16a,b). A solution of 14a (500 mg, 1.7 mmol) was treated with *n*-butyllithium (5 mmol) as above (7b). Chromatography afforded the two diasteriomers 16a (35% yield) and 16b (30% yield) in order of elution.

16a: NMR δ 0.8–3.1 (m's), 2.37 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 4.1 (br t, 1 H, >CHOH), 5.7 (m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.6–7.1 (m, 3 H, aryl); IR (film) 3400 (br) cm⁻¹; MS, m/e 355 (100, M⁺), 340 (18, M⁺ – CH₃), 338 (25, M⁺ – OH), 337 (15, M⁺ – H₂O), 298 (77, M⁺ – C₄H₉), 268 [40, M⁺ – CH(OH)C₄H₉]. Anal. (C₂₃H₃₃-NO₂·0.5H₂O) C, H, N.

16b: NMR δ 0.8–3.4 (m's), 2.47 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.82 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 4.1 (br t, 1 H, >CHOH), 5.7 (m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.7–7.2 (m, 3 H, aryl); IR (film) 3400 (br) cm⁻¹; MS, m/e 355 (100, M⁺), 340 (18), 338 (26), 337 (12), 298 (66), 268 (36). Anal. (C₂₃H₃₃N-O₂·H₂O) C, H, N.

B / C - trans -17-(Cyclopropylmethyl)-7-(1-hydroxypentyl)-3-methoxy-6,7-didehydromorphinan (16c). From 1.8 g (5.5 mmol) of 18 treated as before (see 4) was obtained 0.7 g (38% yield) of the 7-formyl derivative: NMR δ 0.0–0.7 (m's, 5 H, c-C₃H₅), 0.8–1.3 (m, 1 H), 1.7–3.3 (m's), 3.75 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 6.6–7.1 (m, 4 H, aryl and vinyl), 9.53 (s, 1 H, CHO). A solution of 44 mg (1.3 mmol) of this aldehyde was treated as above (see 7b). Flash chromatography (10% methanol in methylene chloride) afforded 50 mg (10% yield) of 16c as a mixture of epimers: NMR δ 0.0–0.7 (m's, 5 H, c-C₃H₅), 0.7–3.3 (m's), 3.80 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 4.07 (m, 1 H, >CHOH), 5.7 (m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.6–7.1 (m, 3 H, aryl); IR (CH₂Cl₂) 3700 (br) cm⁻¹; MS, *m/e* 395 (100, M⁺), 380 (17, M⁺ - CH₃), 378 (22, M⁺ - OH), 338 (42, M⁺ - C₄H₉), 308 [21, M⁺ - CH(OH)C₄H₉]. Anal. (C₂₆H₃₇NO₂·0.5CH₂Cl₂) C, H, N, Cl.

B/C-trans-3-Methoxy-17-methyl-7-pentanoyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (17). A mixture of alcohols 16a,b (obtained from the treatment of 1.2 g of 14a with *n*-butyllithium) was treated with Me₂SO-acetic anhydride as above (see 8a) to afford, after chromatography (benzene-ethyl acetate), 17 in 51% overall yield: NMR δ 0.8-3.1 (m's), 2.33 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.77 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 6.6-7.7 (m, 4 H, aryl and vinyl); IR (film) 1665 cm⁻¹; MS, m/e353 (100, M⁺), 338 (18, M⁺ - CH₃), 311 (14, M⁺ - CH₂=CHCH₃), 296 (26, 311 - CH₃), 268 [41, M⁺ - C(O)C₄H₉]. Anal. (C₂₃H₃₁N-O₂·HCl·0.5H₂O) C, H, N, Cl.

B/C-cis- $\overline{7}$ -(1-Hydroxypentyl)-3-methoxy-17-methyl-6,7didehydromorphinan (19). A solution of 14b (345 mg, 1.2 mmol) was treated with *n*-butyllithium (3 mmol) as above. Purification by flash chromatography (15% methanol in chloroform) afforded 19 (185 mg, 45% yield) as a light yellow solid: mp 126–128 °C (washed with ether); NMR δ 0.7–3.3 (m's), 2.33 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.73 (s and m, 4 H, OCH₃ and >CHOH), 5.5 (br m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.5–7.0 (m, 3 H, aryl); IR (CHCl₃) 3200 (br), 2950 cm⁻¹; MS, *m/e* 355 (55, M⁺), 338 (8, M⁺ – OH), 298 (24, M⁺ – C₄H₉), 268 [7, M⁺ – CH(OH)C₄H₉], 59 (100, C₂H₅⁺NHCH₃). Anal. (C₂₃H₃₃NO₂·

B/*C*-trans-3-Hydroxy-17-methyl-7-pentanoyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (20). A solution of 17 (271 mg, 0.76 mmol) was treated with BBr₃ as above (see 10) to afford a 63% yield of 20: mp 164–65 °C; NMR δ 0.8–3.1 (m's), 2.35 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 5.8 (br, OH), 6.6–7.1 (m, 4 H, aryl and vinyl); IR (KBr) 3750 (br), 3250 (s), 1640 cm⁻¹; MS, m/e 339 (100, M⁺), 324 (12, M⁺ – CH₃), 297 (14, M⁺ – CH₂=CHCH₃), 282 (24, 297 – CH₃), 254 [34, M⁺ – C(O)C₄H₉]. Anal. (C₂₂H₂₉NO₂·0.5H₂O) C, H, N.

B/C-trans-7-(1-Hydroxy-1-methylpentyl)-3-methoxy-17methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (21). A solution of 17 (150 mg, 0.4 mmol) was treated with methyllithium as above (see 7a) to afford 21 (50% yield): NMR δ 0.8-3.1 (m's), 1.33 (s, ~3 H, CCH₃), 2.33 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.78 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 5.7 (m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.6-7.1 (m, 3 H, aryl); IR (film) 3450 (br) cm⁻¹; MS, m/e369 (100, M⁺), 354 (18, M⁺ - CH₃), 352 (18, M⁺ - OH), 351 (23, M⁺ - H₂O), 312 (68, M⁺ - C₄H₉), 268 [53, M⁺ - C(OH)(CH₃)C₄H₉].

4,5 α -Epoxy-7-formyl-14-hydroxy-3-methoxy-17-methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (22). Treatment of 14-hydroxydihydrocodeinone (1 g, 3 mmol) with DMF dimethyl acetal in toluene (120 °C, 24 h), followed by butanethiol treatment, reduction, and hydrolysis as before, afforded 22 in 65% yield: mp 208–210 °C (ethanol); NMR δ 1.6–3.2 (m's), 2.40 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.85 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 4.6 (br, 1 H, OH), 5.20 (m, 1 H, H-5), 6.67 (s and m, 3 H, aryl and vinyl), 9.47 (s, 1 H, CHO); IR (KBr) 3350 (br), 1690 cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₁₉H₂₁NO₄) C, H, N.

4,5α-Epoxy-14-hydroxy-7-(1-hydroxypentyl)-3-methoxy-17-methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (23). From the treatment of the aldehyde 22 (1.03 g, 31 mmol) with *n*-butyllithium as above (see 7b) was obtained a 60% yield of 23 as an oil: NMR δ 0.7-3.4 (m's), 2.41 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.80 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 4.1 (m, 3 H, >CHOH and 2 OH's), 5.0 (m, H-5), 5.7 (m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.67 (AB q, 2 H, aryl); IR (oil) 3400 (br), 2950 (s) cm⁻¹; MS m/e 385 (100, M⁺), 370 (6, M⁺ - CH₃), 368 (12, M⁺ - OH), 367 (13, M⁺ - H₂O). Hydrochloride: mp 145 °C dec. Anal. (C₂₃H₃₁NO₄·HCl·2H₂O) C, H, N, Cl.

7-[(Butylamino)methyl]-4,5 α -epoxy-3-methoxy-17methyl-6,7-didehydromorphinan (24). By a modification of the Borch procedure,¹⁹ a mixture of 4 (315 mg, 1 mmol), *n*-butylamine (450 mg, 6 mmol), NaCNBH₃ (65 mg, 1 mmol), and 4 N HCl in dioxane (0.5 mL) in methanol (10 mL) was stirred under a nitrogen atmosphere for 4 days. The mixture was then made more acidic with 6 N HCl, diluted with water, made basic with NH₄OH, and extracted with chloroform. The chloroform layers were dried, concentrated in vacuo, and chromatographed (basic alumina; methylene chloride) to afford 24 in 17% yield: NMR δ 1.8-3.2 (m's), 2.43 (s, ~3 H, NCH₃), 3.87 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 5.0 (m, 1 H, H-5), 5.7 (m, 1 H, vinyl), 6.70 (AB q, 2 H, aryl); IR (film) 2950 (s), 1450 (s) cm⁻¹. Dihydrochloride (foam): mp 200 °C dec. Anal. (C₂₃H₃₂N₂O₂·2HCl·H₂O) C, H, N, Cl.

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Registry No. 3a, 55298-15-2; 3b, 2246-20-0; 4, 89178-23-4; 5, 79413-35-7; 6, 89178-22-3; (7S)-7a, 89178-24-5; (7R)-7a, 89178-49-4; (7S)-7b, 89178-25-6; (7R)-7b, 89178-50-7; (7S)-7c, 89196-37-2; (7R)-7d, 89178-26-7; 8a, 89178-27-8; 8a·HCl, 89178-47-2; 8b, 89178-29-0; 8b·HCl, 89178-45-0; 9, 89178-28-9; 10a, 89178-30-3; 12, 89178-31-4; 13, 89178-32-5; 14a, 89178-33-6; 14a·HCl, 89178-52-9; 14b, 89253-89-4; (7S)-16a, 89178-34-7; (7R)-16b, 89178-35-8; (7S)-16c, 89178-36-9; (7R)-16c, 89178-51-8; 17, 89178-37-0; 17.HCl, 89178-46-1; 18, 72747-66-1; 18 (7-formyl derivative), 89178-48-3; (7S)-19, 89253-90-7; (7R)-19, 89253-91-8; 20, 89178-38-1; 21, 89178-39-2; 22, 89178-40-5; 23, 89178-41-6; 23-HCl, 89178-43-8; 24, 89178-42-7; 24·HCl, 89178-44-9; Me₂NCH(OC₂H₅)₂, 1188-33-6; n-BuSH, 109-79-5; CH₃Li, 917-54-4; n-BuLi, 109-72-8; C₆H₅(C-H₂)₃Li, 64740-46-1; Me₂NCH(OCH₃)₂, 4637-24-5; n-BuNH₂, 109-73-9; hydrocodone, 125-29-1; 14-hydroxydihydrocodeinone, 76-42-6.

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