Conformationally Constrained Butyrophenones with Affinity for Dopamine (D_1, D_2) D₂, D₄) and Serotonin (5-HT_{2A}, 5-HT_{2B}, 5-HT_{2C}) Receptors: Synthesis of Aminomethylbenzo[b]furanones and Their Evaluation as Antipsychotics[§]

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A series of novel conformationally restricted butyrophenones (6-aminomethyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[b]furan-4-ones bearing 4-(6-fluorobenzisoxazolyl)piperidine, 4-(p-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine, 4-(o-methoxyphenyl)piperazine, 4-(2-pyridyl)piperazine, 4-(2-pyrimidinyl)piperazine, or linear butyro(or valero)phenone fragments) were prepared and evaluated as antipsychotic agents by in vitro assays for affinity for dopamine receptors (D_1 , D_2 , D_4) and serotonin receptors (5-HT_{2A}, 5-HT_{2B}, 5-HT_{2C}), by neurochemical studies, and by in vivo assays for antipsychotic potential and the risk of inducing extrapyramidal side effects. Potency and selectivity depended mainly on the amine fragment connected to the cyclohexanone structure. Compounds **20b**, with a benzoylpiperidine moiety, and **20c**, with a benzisoxazolyl fragment, were selective for 5- HT_{2A} receptors. The in vitro and in vivo pharmacological profiles of N-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo-[b]furan-6-yl)methyl]-4-(p-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine (20b, QF1003B) and N-[(4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[b]furan-6-yl)methyl]-4-(6-fluorobenzisoxazol-3-yl)piperidine (20c, QF1004B) suggest that they may be effective as antipsychotic (neuroleptic) drugs.

Introduction

Schizophrenia is a complex disorder affecting approximately 1% of the population.¹ Classical neuroleptics used in its treatment, such as haloperidol (1, Chart 1), are poorly effective against its negative symptoms (apathy, motor retardation, flat affectivity, poor speech, etc.). Furthermore, the use of these classical antipsychotics is associated with severe side effects, notably acute extrapyramidal symptoms (EPS),² that appear to be an unavoidable consequence of their mechanism of action. Indeed, both their induction of EPS and their antipsychotic efficacy originate from blockade of dopamine (DA) receptors: striatal receptors in the case of EPS induction³⁻⁵ and mesolimbic receptors in the case of antipsychotic activity.6-8

Clozapine (2) was the first of a new group of "atypical" or nonclassical antipsychotics that cause no EPS and are effective against negative symptoms.⁹⁻¹² Since clozapine blocks not only DA receptors but also subtype 5-HT_{2A} serotonin receptors, it is thought that its atypical activity profile may be due to its effects on interaction between the serotonin and DA systems;^{13–15} more specifically, it is believed that blockade of $5-HT_{2A}$ receptors in the limbic and cortical areas favors efficacy against negative symptoms and that their blockade in the striatal area reduces EPS, in both cases due to

pharmacological deconnection of serotoninergic projections from the midline nuclei.¹⁶ Hence Meltzer et al.^{17,18} suggested that the profiles of clozapine and other atypical antipsychotics, such as risperidone (3), olanzapine (4), and quetiapine (5), depend largely on their relative affinities for D₂ and 5-HT_{2A} receptors.¹⁹ They proposed that the ratio pK_i 5-HT_{2A}/D₂ (between pK_i for 5-HT_{2A} and pK_i for D₂) may be used to discriminate atypical antipsychotics, having a ratio > 1.12, from classical antipsychotics, which have a ratio < 1.09. Note that this latter finding raises the question of whether there is a D₂ affinity threshold, below which there is no antipsychotic activity even if the pK_i 5-HT_{2A}/D₂ ratio is high: clozapine has only moderate affinity for D₂, and the 5-HT_{2A}-selective serotonin antagonist MDL 100907 (6), which has no specific affinity for DA receptors, has shown antipsychotic potential in experiments with neurochemical, electrophysiological, and behavioral models.^{20–22} Nevertheless, the "5-HT_{2A}/D₂ concept" has contributed to the development not only of atypical antipsychotics with a close chemical similarity to clozapine, such as olanzapine (4), quetiapine (5), and zotepine (9), but also of others of an apparently different chemical nature, such as risperidone (3), ocaperidone (7), and sertindole (8).

As well as to 5-HT_{2A}, atypical antipsychotics also bind to other subtype 2 serotonin receptors $(5-HT_{2B}$ and 5-HT_{2C}),²³ and they are implicated not only in schizophrenia but also in anxiety, depression, anorexia nervosa, migraine, and cardiovascular disorders, including hypertension.²⁴ The subtypes of this family (5-HT_{2A}, 5-HT_{2B}, and 5-HT_{2C}) are defined on the basis of primary structure, secondary messengers, and operational pro-

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file^{24,25} and have different distributions in the body: $5-HT_{2A}$ is found both in the brain and in peripheral tissues, 26 5-HT_{2B} is mainly peripheral, 27 and 5-HT_{2C} has only been found in the central nervous system (CNS) (mainly in the choroid plexus, limbic structures, and basal ganglia, a distribution different from that of $5-HT_{2A}$).²⁸ It is now thought that some pathologies or pharmacological effects previously attributed to dysfunction or action at 5-HT_{2A} may in fact be due to dysfunction or action at other subtype 2 receptors. In particular, it has been suggested that 5-HT_{2C} plays a role in anxiety, depression, and affective disorders,^{29,30} and more recently the noninduction of EPS by atypical antipsychotics has also been attributed to blockade of 5-HT_{2C}.³¹ Unfortunately, elucidation of these possibilities has been hindered by the lack of any 5-HT₂-blocking compounds with high specificity for one or another subtype, especially as regards differentiation of 5-HT_{2B} and 5-HT_{2C}.

An alternative approach to the development of improved antipsychotics originated from the discovery and characterization of new types of DA receptors. Specifically, it has been reported that schizophrenia is associated with high levels of D₄ receptor,³² leading to the hypothesis that it is this receptor rather than D_2 that should be blocked by an antipsychotic.³³ Furthermore, the affinities of clozapine and some other atypical antipsychotics for D₄ are several times their affinities for D_2 , raising the possibility that their superiority to classical antipsychotics is due to more precise targeting of the relevant DA receptor, rather than or in addition to their action at the 5-HT_{2A} receptor. However, compounds such as L 745870³⁴ (10, Chart 2) or CP 293019³⁵ (11), which block D_4 almost exclusively, have proved ineffective in clinical trials (despite excellent performance in preclinical trials, including experiments on live animal models);³⁶ the D_2 antagonist remoxipride (12), which has little affinity for D₄, behaves like the least EPS-inducing classical antipsychotics, and Meltzer et al.^{17,18} found that 13 atypical antipsychotics were distinguished from 12 classical antipsychotics by pK_i 5-HT_{2A}/D₂ ratios but not by pK_i 5-HT_{2A}/D₄ or pK_i D₂/D₄ ratios. In short, more work must be done to clarify the role of D₄ in cerebral activity.

Chart 2



Despite the uncertainty about its mechanism of action, clozapine is still the most widely used atypical antipsychotic, and no other currently available agent appears to have an equal or superior spectrum of efficiency. However, its therapeutic use is severely limited by its being associated with increased risk of agranulocytosis and seizures;³⁷ likewise several cases of myocarditis and cardiomyopathy associated with clozapine treatment have been recently reported.³⁸ Accordingly, development of new antipsychotic agents remains a great challenge today.

In previous papers we have described the synthesis and atypical antipsychotic activities of 3-aminomethyltetralones (13, Chart 3) and 2-aminoethylbenzocycloalkanones (14),³⁹⁻⁴² which are conformationally restricted butyrophenone analogues of haloperidol; 5-aminoethyl- and 6-aminomethyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydroindol-4ones (15, 16), $^{43-45}$ the former of which are butyrophenone homologues of the antipsychotic molindone; and 2-aminomethyl-1,2,3,9-tetrahydro-4H-carbazol-4ones (17).^{46,47} In all these series, the conformation of the butyrophenone butyl chain is restricted by its partial incorporation in a cycloalkanone ring fused to a benzene ring or a heterocycle. We have also recently described the synthesis, pharmacology, 3D QSARs, and molecular modeling of some aminoalkylthienocycloalkanones (18, 19).48

In continuation of this work, we have now synthesized and pharmacologically evaluated some 6-aminomethyl-

Chart 3



4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[b]furan-4-ones (20; see Scheme 3 and Table 1). One of these compounds (20b) has two butyrophenone pharmacophores: the semirigid aminoalkyl furanone moiety and a 4-(*p*-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine fragment. The latter has been described as an antipsychotic pharmacophore with potency similar to that of linear butyrophenones,49 and a SAR study of ketanserin analogues has suggested that the benzoyl carbonyl (present in 20b,h,i) may be important for anchorage or orientation at the 5-HT_{2A} receptor.⁵⁰ Compound **20c** has the 4-(6-fluorobenzisoxazol-3-yl)piperidine moiety of risperidone; 1,2-benzisoxazole is bioisosteric to benzoyl,⁵¹ and 3-(4-piperazinyl)-6-hydroxybenzisoxazoles have also recently been reported to have potential as atypical antipsychotics.⁵² The new compounds were all characterized pharmacologically by determination of their affinities for D_2 , 5-HT_{2A}, and 5-HT_{2C} (in radioligand binding studies) and for 5-HT_{2B} (in functional studies); the most active were further characterized regarding their affinities for D_1 and D_4 and their effects on the behavior of experimental animals and on the levels of DA and its major metabolites in striatal tissue.

Chemistry

For preparation of the 6-aminomethyl-4-oxo-4,5,6,7tetrahydrobenzo[*b*]furans **20a**-**i** we initially considered the routes shown in Schemes 1 and 2. Those shown in Scheme 1 all start from furfural: Route A involves Stobbe condensation with diethyl succinate, reduction of the double bond, cyclization, formation of an amide with the relevant –NRR moiety (Table 1), protection of the ketone carbonyl, and reduction of the amide carbonyl. Route B consists of conversion of furfural to β -(2-

furoyl)propionic acid, formation of the Mannich base corresponding to the relevant -NRR, and final cyclization. Route C involves condensation of β -(2-furoyl)propionic acid with formaldehyde, reduction of the resulting β -(2-furoyl)- γ -butyrolactone, opening of the lactone ring to obtain γ -bromo- β -furfurylbutyric acid, nucleophilic substitution of the bromine for the relevant -NRR moiety, and final cyclization. In the route shown in Scheme 2, the furan ring is constructed on a substituted cyclohexanone obtained by Birch reduction of 3,5dimethoxybenzoic acid, subsequent reduction of the carboxyl group with a hydride, and acid hydrolysis of the resulting 1,4-dihydro-3,5-dimethoxybenzoic alcohol; condensation of the cyclohexanone with chloroacetaldehyde then affords a 6-substituted benzofuranone that can be transformed into amino ketones 20 by tosylation and nucleophilic substitution.

Route A was ruled out chiefly because of the long reaction times that in our experience have been needed for protection of the carbonyl in similar compounds, and routes B and C because of the difficulty in obtaining the common intermediate β -(2-furoyl)propionic acid. This latter cannot be prepared by straightforward succinovlation of furan or by reaction of diethyl malonate with 2-bromoacetylfuran because these procedures afford intractable resins. Although it can be obtained by hydrolysis of the corresponding nitrile or ester, which according to the literature (and in accordance with Scheme 1) is afforded by addition of acrylonitrile or methyl acrylate to furfural in the presence of sodium or potassium cyanide^{53,54} or thiazolium salts,⁵⁵ the cyanide method has been reported to have moderate yields at best,54 and our attempts at using 3-benzyl-5-(2-hydroxyethyl)-4-methylthiazolium as per Stetter and Kuhlmann⁵⁴ have provided very low yields of the target compound, the major product being furoin.

We accordingly decided to pursue the route shown in Scheme 2, which has the further advantage that 1,4dihydro-3,5-dimethoxybenzoic alcohol (**21**)⁵⁶ is also a key intermediate in the preparation of a series of heterocyclic butyrophenones based on indole⁴⁵ and carbazole.^{46,47} Alcohol 21 was hydrolyzed with 1 N HCl in tetrahydrofuran, the resulting cyclohexanone (22) was condensed with chloroacetaldehyde in the presence of NaHCO₃, and subsequent acid dehydration afforded the key intermediate 6-hydroxymethyl-4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[*b*]furan (23) in 60% yield from 21 (Scheme 3). Compound 23 was tosylated in 60% yield with ptoluenesulfonyl chloride in anhydrous pyridine, and reaction of the tosylate 24 with the amines of Table 1 in N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (NMP) afforded 70-85% yields of compounds **20a** [HNRR = morpholine], **20b** [HNRR = 4-(*p*-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine], **20c** [HNNR = 4-(6-fluorobenzisoxazol-3-yl)piperidine], **20d** [HNNR = *N*-phenylpiperazine], **20e** [HNNR = N-(*o*-methoxyphenyl)piperazine], **20f** [HNNR = *N*-(2-pyridyl)piperazine], **20g** [HNNR = N-(2-pyrimidinyl)piperazine], and **25** [HNNR = *N*-*tert*-butoxycarbonylpiperazine] (Scheme 3). Cleavage of the *tert*-butoxycarbonyl group of **25** with trifluoroacetic acid in anhydrous dichloromethane then afforded piperazine 26 in 75% yield, and alkylation of **26** with 4-chloro-1,1-ethylenedioxy-1-(*p*-fluorophenyl)butane in methyl isobutyl ketone containing potassium carbonate and catalytic amounts of potassium iodide,

Scheme 1



Scheme 2



Scheme 3^a



^a Reagents: (i) HCl; (ii) ClCH₂CHO, NaHCO₃; (iii) Ts-Cl, Py; (iv) HNRR.

followed by acid hydrolysis of the ketal, afforded 20h in 50% yield from **26**. Similarly, alkylation of **26** with 5-bromo-1-(p-fluorophenyl)-1-pentanone gave, via the same procedure, valerophenone 20i, again in 50% yield.

Results and Discussion

The results of the in vitro experiments are summarized in Table 2 and illustrated in Figures 1 and 2. The salient finding is that, regarding their interactions with serotonin receptors, both 20c,d were selective for 5-HT_{2A}: the affinity of **20c** for 5-HT_{2A} was >23 times its affinity for 5-HT_{2B} and >1000 times its affinity for 5-HT_{2C} and **20d** had an affinity for 5-HT_{2A} >150 times its affinity for 5-HT_{2C} and was inactive for 5-HT_{2B} (pA_2 < 4). In addition, the affinities of **20i** for 5-HT_{2A} and 5-HT_{2B} were higher than for 5-HT_{2C}.

20c was the new compound with greatest affinity for D_1 , D_2 , 5-HT_{2A}, and 5-HT_{2B} (in this last case, jointly with **20b**), while the greatest affinity for 5-HT_{2C} was shown by the pyridylpiperazine **20f**. Affinity for D_1 , D_2 , and 5-HT_{2A} was reduced by replacing the benzisoxazolyl moiety of 20c with the fluorobenzoyl group of 20b and for D₂ and 5-HT_{2A} was reduced further by interpolating a flexible carbon chain between the nitrogenated ring and the benzoyl group as in 20h, which also showed slightly reduced affinity for 5-HT_{2B}. The affinities for 5-HT_{2A}, D₂, and in most cases 5-HT_{2B} fell further still upon lengthening the benzoyl-bearing chain, as in 20i, or on replacing the benzoylalkyl moiety with pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, or *o*-methoxyphenyl groups, as in **20e**-**g**, respectively (in particular, **20g** was inactive at 5-HT_{2A}, $pK_i < 4$). It appears that affinity for the D₂ subtype correlates with the presence of a piperidine moiety (compounds **20b**, **c**), while introduction of a piperazine (compounds **20d**–**i**) is associated with loss of affinity.

The affinity of **20c** for D_2 (p $K_i = 8.02$) was similar to that of risperidone (8.09), greater than that of clozapine (6.58), and less than that of haloperidol (8.48); see Figure 2. Its affinity for D_4 (p $K_i = 7.68$) was similar to that of clozapine (7.42), slightly smaller than that of haloperidol (8.20), and slightly greater than that of **20b**,

Scheme 4^a



^a Reagents: (i) TFA; (ii) (1) Na₂CO₃, KI, (2) HCl; (iii) Na₂CO₃, KI.

(7.04) (affinity for D_4 was only assayed for the new compounds with greatest affinity for D_2 and 5-HT_{2A}). Neither **20c** nor **20b** were as selective as haloperidol for D_2 versus D_1 .

None of the new compounds had a pK_i 5-HT_{2A}/D₂ ratio greater than the Meltzer et al.^{14,17} threshold for atypical antipsychotic activity.^{1,12} It is also noteworthy that, like haloperidol, they all had low affinity for 5-HT_{2C}, for which the atypical antipsychotics clozapine and risperidone have high affinity. This result is in keeping with recent suggestions that it is 5-HT_{2C} blockade rather than 5-HT_{2A} blockade that can prevent the EPS induced by haloperidol (see Introduction).³¹

Experiments with rats or mice were carried out to evaluate the new compounds with greatest affinity for DA receptors (**20b**, **c**) for possible antipsychotic activity and induction of EPS. Antipsychotic potential was assayed in terms of reduction of spontaneous motor activity, *d*-amphetamine-induced hypermotility, and apomorphine-induced climbing behavior. Spontaneous activity was reduced, as expected,⁵⁷ by reference drugs haloperidol (2 mg/kg), clozapine (5 mg/kg), and risperidone (0.16-5.0 mg/kg) (Figure 3A) and also, dosedependently, by both **20b,c** (ED₅₀ = 1.21 and 0.48 mg/ kg, respectively; see Figure 4A,B) which like risperidone generally exerted maximum effect within 20-30 min of administration (Figure 3B,C). The reference drugs and new compounds 20b,c also slowed movement and inhibited rearing (data not shown).

The behavior of **20b**,**c** in the spontaneous activity tests correlates with their affinities for D_1 , D_2 , and D_4 but without further evidence is not necessarily attributable to action at these receptors; although D_1 and D_2 are known to be involved in the rapidity of initiation of movement and speed,⁵⁸ a reduction in spontaneous motor activity can be caused by many substances that are not DA antagonists including, for example, H_1 -

blockers, α_1 -blockers, and reserpine (by induction of DA depletion), and is therefore by itself indicative only of general CNS depression. However, haloperidol (2 mg/ kg), clozapine (5 mg/kg), risperidone (5.0 mg/kg), 20b (4 mg/kg), and 20c (0.5 mg/kg) also caused statistically significant reductions in amphetamine-induced hypermotility (Figure 5), speed, and rearing (data not shown). Amphetamine-induced hypermotility is attributed to the activation of D₂ receptors in the nucleus accumbens by DA released due to amphetamine-induced reversal of the DA re-uptake system.^{59,60} However, effects on behavior are dose-dependent: while doses in the range 4.5-5 mg/kg induced maximum increase in hypermotility,⁶¹ higher doses cause a predominance of stereotyped activity by inducing the release of DA in other pathways.⁶² Results obtained with the *d*-amphetamine dosage used in this work (5 mg/kg) is a more specific sign of in vivo D₂-blocking activity, and although the hypermotility induced by low amphetamine doses (0.5 mg/kg) can be inhibited by both D2 antagonist and 5-HT_{2A} antagonist,^{63,64} which appear to prevent the 5-HT_{2A}-mediated activation of DA synthesis, $^{65-68}$ 5-HT_{2A} blockers are ineffective against amphetamine dosages $> 2 \text{ mg/kg.}^{64}$

Further corroboration of the in vivo DA antagonism of **20b**,**c** was provided by experiments in which they inhibited the effects of the direct D_1 and D_2 agonist apomorphine, which at low dosages causes hypomotility and yawning (due to activation of autoreceptors^{69,70}) and at the high dosages used in this work (2 mg/kg) induces climbing by simultaneous activation of postsynaptic D_1 and D_2 receptors.^{71–80} In keeping with the in vitro binding results on affinity for D_2 (Table 2), **20b**,**c** inhibited apomorphine-induced climbing more efficiently than clozapine but less efficiently than haloperidol or risperidone, and **20c** was more potent than **20b** (see Figure 6 and Table 3). However, the involvement

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compd	-NRR	base ^a	hydrochlor salt ^{b}	formula
20a	N N	133-134	138-139	C ₁₃ H ₁₇ NO ₃
20Ь	N F	113-114	244-245	$C_{21}H_{22}FNO_3$
20c	N-O F	131-132	271-272	$C_{21}H_{21}FN_2O_3$
20d		121-122	198-199	$C_{19}H_{22}N_2O_2$
20e		135-136	201-203	$C_{20}H_{24}N_2O_3$
20f		108-109	128-130	$C_{18}H_{21}N_3O_2$
20g		112-113	241-243	$C_{17}H_{20}N_4O_2$
20h		112-114	202-204	C ₂₃ H ₂₇ FN ₂ O ₃
20i	N N F	92-94	235-240	C ₂₄ H ₂₉ FN ₂ O ₃

^a Recrystallized from *i*-PrOH. ^b Recrystallized from AcOEt.

Table 2. In Vitro Assays

			p <i>K</i> i			p <i>K</i> _i ratio	pA_2
compd	5-HT _{2A}	5-HT _{2C}	D_1	D_2	D_4	$\overline{5-HT_{2A}/D_2}$	5-HT _{2B}
20b (QF 1003B)	$\textbf{7.29} \pm \textbf{0.20}$	33.3% (10 ⁻⁶ M)	6.71 ± 0.11	7.02 ± 0.14	7.04 ± 0.03	1.03	6.71 ± 0.57
20c (QF 1004B)	7.97 ± 0.03	4.74 ± 0.15	7.54 ± 0.06	8.02 ± 0.11	7.68 ± 0.19	0.99	6.61 ± 0.38
20d (QF 1007B)	7.66 ± 0.05	5.47 ± 0.08		<5			<4
20e (QF 1006B)	5.64 ± 0.11	4.89 ± 0.04		<5			6.19 ± 0.20
20f (QF 1008B)	5.08 ± 0.10	6.64 ± 0.02		<5			5.46 ± 0.03
20g (QF 1010B)	<4	<4		5.14 ± 0.25			5.74 ± 0.24
20h (QF 1005B)	6.02 ± 0.03	3.7% (10 ⁻⁶ M)		6.39 ± 0.12		0.94	6.36 ± 0.12
20i (QF 1011B)	5.90 ± 0.04	44.3% (10 ⁻⁶ M)		<5			6.23 ± 0.08
haloperidol	7.28 ± 0.03	5.34 ± 0.03	6.70 ± 0.08	8.48 ± 0.12	8.20 ± 0.03	0.93	
clozapine	7.56 ± 0.07	8.30 ± 0.02	6.77 ± 0.13	6.58 ± 0.05	7.42 ± 0.07	1.19	6.90 ± 0.2
risperidone	9.51 ± 0.03	$\textbf{7.38} \pm \textbf{0.03}$		$\textbf{8.09} \pm \textbf{0.29}$		1.20	

of factor(s) other than D_1 and D_2 blockade is suggested by the finding that risperidone was more potent than haloperidol despite having less affinity for both D_1 and D_2 , and furthermore, risperidone was 4 times more potent than **20c** despite having quite similar affinity for D_2 and less affinity for $D_1.^{81}$ The putative additional factor is unlikely to be $5\text{-}HT_{2A}$ blockade, because although risperidone has at least 30 times more affinity for $5\text{-}HT_{2A}$ than any of the other drugs used, the selective $5\text{-}HT_{2A}$ blocker MDL 100907 has no effect on



Figure 1. (A) Inhibition by **20c** (\bullet) and risperidone (\bigcirc) of [³H]ketanserin binding by rat frontal cortex membrane preparations. (B) Inhibition by **20c** of serotonin-induced contrations of rat stomach fundus (curves from a single representative of 3–4 replicate experiments; vertical bars indicate SEM). (C) Inhibition by **20c** (\bullet) and risperidone (\bigcirc) of [³H]mesulergine binding by bovine choroid plexus membrane preparations. Graphs A and C show triplicate points from a single experiment; a total of two replicate experiments were performed in each case.



Figure 2. Inhibition by reference drugs and new compound **20c** of $[^{3}H]$ spiperone binding by striatal D_{2} .

apomorphine-induced climbing at dosages at which it inhibits amphetamine-induced hypermotility,⁸² whereas the ED_{50} value of **20c** for apomorphine-induced climb-

ing, 0.34 mg/kg, was lower than the dose assayed in amphetamine-induced hypermotility (0.5 mg/kg). Additionally, clozapine, with affinity for 5-HT_{2A} similar to the new compounds, was less potent that **20c**.

If it is accepted that apomorphine-induced climbing is mediated chiefly by activation of mesolimbic DA receptors^{83,84} and that blocking these receptors has antipsychotic effects because it blocks the mesolimbic dopaminergic system, which is functionally altered in schizophrenics, then the above results suggest that **20b**,**c** may have antipsychotic activity. To evaluate the risk of any such activity being accompanied by EPS, we assayed their ability to induce catalepsy in mice, catalepsy being attributed, like EPS, to blockade of striatal DA receptors.^{85–87} Neither **20b** nor **20c** induced catalepsy at dosages lower than 2 mg/kg, but when higher dosages were assayed they exhibited ED₅₀ values of respectively 3.44 mg/kg (95% CL 2.78–4.25) and 3.84



Figure 3. Time dependence of the effects of various drug dosages on the spontaneous activity of mice (means \pm SEM): (A) risperidone, p < 0.01 with respect to vehicle at all dosages and times except after 10 min with 0.63 and 0.16 mg/kg, for which the difference was not significant; (B) **20b**, p < 0.01 with respect to vehicle with 10, 5, 3.5, and 2.5 mg/kg (except after 40 min with 2.5 mg/kg, not significant), not significant with 1 mg/kg except after 50 min (p < 0.01) and 60 min (p < 0.05), not significant with 0.5 mg/kg except after 20 and 50 min (p < 0.05 in both cases), not significance with respect to vehicle, *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01.

mg/kg (95% CL 2.78–5.30) (Figure 7); these values are respectively 3.6 and 11.3 times the corresponding ED_{50} for inhibition of apomorphine-induced climbing (Table 3). The ED_{50} catalepsy/ ED_{50} climbing ratio for haloperidol was 4.8, and the atypical antipsychotics used as reference drugs, clozapine and risperidone, induced no catalepsy even at dosages 20 times their ED_{50} values for climbing inhibition.

The action of **20c** in the striatum was confirmed by determination of the concentrations of DA and of its two major metabolites, DOPAC and HVA, in striatal tissue 2 h after administration. DA levels were not signifi-

cantly affected by the reference drugs haloperidol and risperidone or the new compound **20c**. Clozapine, at the highest dosage used, increased the DA level. Metabolites, DOPAC and HVA, were significantly increased by all four compounds, risperidone especially (see Figure 8). These changes are thought to be due to the blockade of DA receptors giving rise to a compensatory increase in DA turnover that is reflected in the raised levels of the metabolites.^{88–91}

Although **20c** fails to meet the Meltzer et al. criterion for a ypical antipsychotic activity (pK_i 5-HT_{2A}/D₂ > 1.12), it nevertheless has a relative high ED₅₀ catalepsy/ ED₅₀ climbing ratio. The cause may be its poor selectivity for D₂ versus D₁ (see above), since cataleptogenic potency may be favored by a high D₂ selectivity like that of haloperidol.⁹² Likewise, the similarity between the D₂:D₁ selectivities of **20b**,**c** may explain their having very similar ED₅₀ values for induction of catalepsy. Since neither 20b nor 20c have high affinities for 5-HT_{2C} or high pK_i 5-HT_{2A}/D₂ ratios, their being less cataleptogenic than haloperidol is thus attributable to a combination of lower affinity and lower selectivity for D₂, while their being more cataleptogenic than clozapine or risperidone may be attributed to their low affinity for 5-HT_{2C}.

In conclusion, the new compounds **20b**, **c** have moderate-to-high affinity for 5-HT_{2A}, D_1 , D_2 , and D_4 (**20c**) especially), moderate affinity for 5-HT_{2B}, and low affinity for 5-HT_{2C}. In behavioral experiments with rats and mice they caused effects compatible with blockade of DA receptors in the limbic region (reduction of *d*-amphetamine-induced hypermotility and apomorphine-induced climbing) and the striatum (induction of catalepsy), and the striatal activity of **20c** was confirmed by determination of its effect on striatal levels of DA and its major metabolites. These results are in keeping with their pK_i 5-HT_{2A}/D₂ ratios, which are in the range of that for typical or classical antipsychotics. However, their induction of catalepsy less potently than haloperidol, which is also in keeping with their pK_i 5-HT_{2A}/D₂ ratios (1.03) and 0.99) and with their relatively poor selectivity for D₂ versus D₁, suggests relatively low capacity to induce EPS. The high selectivity of 20b,c for 5-HT_{2A} and 5-HT_{2B} versus 5-HT_{2C} and of **20d** for 5-HT_{2A} and 5-HT_{2C} versus 5-HT_{2B} may make these compounds useful for researching the physiological and pharmacological roles of these receptors.

Experimental Section

Chemistry. Melting points were determined with a Kofler hot stage instrument or a Gallenkamp capillary melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. Infrared spectra were recorded with a Perkin-Elmer 1600 FTIR spectrophotometer; the main bands are given, in cm⁻¹. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker WM AMX apparatus (300 MHz); chemical shifts are given in parts per million (δ) downfield from tetramethylsilane, and J values are given in hertz (Hz). Mass spectra were recorded on Kratos MS-50 or Varian Mat-711 mass spectrometer in fast atom bombardment (FAB) mode (with 2-hydroxyethyl disulfide as matrix) or by electron impact (EI). Optical rotations at the sodium D-line were determined in MeOH solutions of the indicated concentrations using a Perkin-Elmer 241 polarimeter. Flash column chromatography was performed using Kieselgel 60 (60-200 mesh; E. Merck AG, Darmstadt, Germany). Reactions were monitored by thinlayer chromatography (TLC) on Merck 60 GF₂₅₄ chromatogram sheets using iodine vapor and/or UV light for detection; unless

Dosage (mg/kg)

0.5

0.25

Figure 4. Total distance travelled in 1 h by mice treated with **20b** (A) or **20c** (B) and corresponding percent reduction in spontaneous locomotor activity. The data shown are means \pm SEM. Significant differences with respect to controls are indicated by *p < 0.05 or **p < 0.01.

1

10

0

Vehicle

Figure 5. Inhibition of *d*-amphetamine-induced hypermotility in mice by haloperidol, clozapine, risperidone, **20b**, and **20c**: distances travelled in 1 h (means \pm Sem) and percent reductions with respect to controls. All differences with respect to controls are statistically significant (p < 0.01).

otherwise stated the purified compounds each showed a single spot. Elemental combustion analyses were performed on a Perkin-Elmer 240B apparatus at the Microanalysis Service of the University of Santiago de Compostela; unless otherwise stated all reported values are within $\pm 0.4\%$ of the theoretical

0.1

Figure 6. Dose–effect curves for inhibition of apomorphineinduced climbing by reference drugs and selected new compounds.

compositions. Solvents were purified as per Vogel⁹³ by distillation over the drying agent under an argon atmosphere and were used immediately. The drying agents used were Na/ benzophenone for THF, ether and toluene; P_2O_5 for CH_2Cl_2 ; K_2CO_3 for acetone and ethyl acetate; KOH for pyridine and

Tab	le	3.	In	Vivo	Assays	
					- /	

	ED ₅₀ (mg/k	<u>g</u>)	rel potency (ED ₅₀ ha	aloperidol/ED ₅₀ drug)	
compd	climbing (95% CL)	catalepsy	climbing	catalepsy	ED_{50} catalepsy/ ED_{50} climbing
20b (QF 1003B)	0.95 (0.80-1.14)	3.44	0.15	0.19	3.62
20c (QF 1004B)	0.34(0.18 - 0.61)	3.84	0.41	0.17	11.29
haloperidol	0.14 (0.13-0.15)	0.67	1.00	1.00	4.79
clozapine	2.21 (2.03-2.41)	>50.0	0.06		
risperidone	0.09 (0.08-0.09)	>2.0	1.56		

Catalepsy

Figure 7. Results of catalepsy test, showing the time for which initial posture was maintained by mice treated with vehicle or new compounds (means \pm SEM). Significant differences with respect to controls are indicated by **p* < 0.05, ***p* < 0.01, or ****p* < 0.001.

TEA; and CaSO₄/4 Å molecular sieves for DMF. Hydrochlorides were prepared by dropwise addition, with cooling, of a saturated solution of HCl in anhydrous ether to a solution of the amine in anhydrous ether or absolute ethanol/ether.

6-Hydroxymethyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[b]furan-4one (23). A solution of alcohol 21⁵⁶ (1 g, 6.84 mmol) in a mixture of THF (30 mL) and 1 N HCl (6 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 2 h and then concentrated in vacuo, giving 0.9 g of a yellow oil that was identified as alcohol 22 and was used without further purification in the next step, as follows. A solution of 22 (0.9 g, 6.33 mmol) in 6 mL of water was added at a rate of 0.4 mL/min, with stirring, to a mixture of 50% chloroacetaldehyde (1.01 mL), NaHCO₃ (0.63 g, 7.53 mmol) and water (5 mL) maintained at 0-5 °C. Stirring was continued at room temperature for 12 h, AcOEt (5 mL) was added, followed by enough 10% HCl to bring the mixture to pH 1, and after stirring for a further 1 h the organic layer was separated, washed with 10% K₂CO₃, dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated to dryness, affording 0.73 g of an oil that upon column chromatography with 4:1 AcOEt/hexane as eluant gave 0.61 g of an oil identified as the hydroxy ketone 23: yield 60%. IR: 3394, 2935, 1668, 1598. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.37-2.43 (m, 1H, 1H₅); 2.50-2.60 (m, 2H, 1H₅, 1H₇); 2.75 (dd, 1H, J =17.2, 9.4, $1H_7$; 3.01 (dd, J = 17.2, 4.8, H_6); 3.66-3.70 (m, 2H, CH₂-OH); 6.63 (d, 1H, J = 1.9, H₂); 7.31 (d, 1H, J = 1.8, H₃). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 26.6 (C₇); 38.4 (C₆); 40.9 (C₅); 65.8 (-CH₂-OH); 106.7 (C₃); 121.2 (C_{3a}); 143.6 (C₂); 167.3 (C_{7a}); 194.8 (-CO-). MS (FAB, m/z): 167 (MH+). Anal. (C₉H₁₀O₃) C, H.

6-(*p*-Toluenesulfonyl)oxymethyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[*b*]furan-4-one (24). *p*-Toluenesulfonyl chloride (2.3 g, 12 mmol) was added to a solution of alcohol **23** (1.6 g, 9.64 mmol) in dry pyridine (30 mL) at 0 °C, and the mixture was stirred at this temperature for 24 h. After addition of water (20 mL) and extraction with CH_2Cl_2 , the organic layer was washed with water, dried over Na_2SO_4 and concentrated to dryness, affording 2 g of a brown dark oil that upon column chromatography with 1:1 AcOEt/hexane as eluant gave 1.84 g of a white solid identified as the tosylate **24**: yield 60%, mp 104–105 °C (*i*-PrOH). IR: 2957, 1679, 1593. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.27–3.24 (m, 1H, 1H₅); 2.47 (s, 3H, -CH₃); 2.50–2.52 (m, 1H, 1H₅); 2.69–2.78 (m, 2H, 1H₇, H₆); 3.01 (dd, 1H, *J* = 15.6, 3.7, 1H₇); 3.99–4.10 (m, 2H, -CH₂-OTs); 6.62 (d, 1H, *J* = 2 Hz, H₂); 7.32 (d, 1H, *J* = 1.9, H₃); 7.35 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.22, H₃, H₅ Ph), 7.78 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3, H₂, H₆ Ph). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 22.1 (-CH₃); 26.4 (C₇); 35.5 (C₆); 40.4 (C₅); 72.1 (-CH₂-OTs); 106.8 (C₃); 121.4 (C_{3a}); 128.3 (C₃ Ph); 130.4 (C₂ Ph); 132.9 (C₁ Ph); 143.7 (C₂); 145.6 (C₄ Ph); 165.5 (C_{7a}); 192.06 (-CO-). MS (FAB, *m/z*): 321 (MH⁺). Anal. (C₁₆H₁₆O₅S) C, H, S.

6-Morpholinylmethyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[b]furan-4-one (20a). A solution of tosylate 24 (0.6 g, 1.87 mmol) and morpholine (0.33 g, 3.75 mmol) was stirred in NMP (15 mL) for 16 h at 85 °C. The solvent was removed in vacuo, and the residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂. This solution was washed twice with water, dried (Na₂SO₄), and the solvent was removed in vacuo, affording an orange solid that upon column chromatography with AcOEt as eluant gave 20a (0.33 g, 75%) as a white crystalline solid of mp 133-134 °C (i-PrOH). IR: 2958, 1673. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.21-2.30 (m, 1H, 1H₅); 2.36-2.51 (m, 6H, 1H₅, 1H₇, -N(CH₂-CH₂)₂O); 2.52-2.68 (m, 3H, H6, 1H₇, -HCH-N<); 3.03–3.08 (m, 1H, -HCH-N<); 3.69 (t, 4H, J = 4.6, $-N(CH_2-CH_2)_2O$; 6.65 (d, 1H, $J = 1.7, H_2$); 7.30 (d, 1H, J =1.7, H₃). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 28.4 (C₇); 33.3 (C₆); 42.9 (C₅); 54.4 (-N(*C*H₂-CH₂)₂O); 63.6 (-CH₂-N<); 67.4 (-N(CH₂-*C*H₂)₂O); 106.8 (C₃); 121.4 (C_{3a}); 143.3 (C₂); 166.9 (C_{7a}); 194.1 (-CO-). MS (FAB, m/z): 236 (MH+). Anal. (C13H17NO3) C, H, N. Hydrochloride: mp 138-139 °C (AcOEt).

Compounds 20b-g and 25 were prepared similarly, with the following results.

6-[4-(p-Fluorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-4,5,6,7tetrahydrobenzo[b]furan-4-one (20b): yield 75%, mp 113-114 °Č (i-PrOH). IR: 2949, 2768, 1671, 1595. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.81–1.83 (m, 4H, -N(CH₂-CH₂)₂C-); 2.05–2.46 (m, 5H, 1H₇, -CH₂-N<, -N(HCH-CH₂)₂CH-); 2.51-2.99 (m, 5H, 1H₅, 1H₆, 1H₇, -N(HCH-CH₂)₂CH-); 3.04-3.21 (m, 2H, H₅, -N(HCH- $CH_2_2CH_2$; 6.4 (d, 1H, J = 2.02, H_2); 7.13 (t, 2H, J = 6.6, o-F-Ph); 7.3 (d, 1H, J = 1.9, H₃); 7.96 (dd, 2H, J = 5.3, 2, *m*-F-Ph). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 28.4 (C₇); 29.1 (-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂CH-); 29.2 (-N(CH2-CH2)2CH-); 33.9 (C6); 43.1 (C5); 43.9 (-N(CH2-CH2)2CH-); 53.4 (-N(CH2-CH2)2CH-); 54.6 (-N(CH2-CH2)2CH-); 63.4 $(-CH_2-N<)$; 106.8 (C₃); 116.2 (d, 2C, J = 21.8, o-F-Ph); 121.4 (C_{3a}) ; 131.2 (d, 2C, J = 9.3, *m*-F-Ph); 132.8 (*p*-F-Ph); 143.3 (C₂); 167.2 (C_{7a}); 166.0 (d, 1C, J = 250.7, C-F); 194.2 (-CO-); 201.4 (-CO-). MS (FAB, m/z): 356 (MH+). Anal. (C21H22FNO3) C, H, N. Hydrochloride: mp 244-245 °C (AcOEt).

6-[4-(6-Fluorobenzisoxazol-3-yl)piperidin-1-ylmethyl] 4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[b]furan-4-one (20c): yield 85%, mp 131–132 °C (*i*-PrOH). IR: 2927, 2739, 1665, 1610. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.03–2.38 (m, 8H, -C H_2 -N(CH₂-C H_2)₂CH-, 1H₇, H₆); 2.40–2.59 (m, 1H, 1H₇); 2.61–2.99 (m, 3H, 1H₅, -N(*H*CH-CH₂)₂CH-); 3.04–3.51 (m, 4H, 1H₅, -N(HCH-CH₂)₂CH-); 6.67 (d, 1H, $J_{C-F} = 1.9, H_2$); 7.11 (dt, 1H, $J_{C-F} = 8.8, 2.5, H_5$); 7.23– 7.26 (m, 1H, 1H₇); 7.33 (d, 1H, $J = 1.9, H_3$); 7.69 (dd, 1H, $J_{C-F} = 8.7, 5.1, H_4$). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 28.5 (C₇), 30.9 (-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂CH-); 31.4 (-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂CH-); 33.9 (C₆); 34.9 (-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂CH-); 63.5 (-CH₂-N<); 97.8 (d, $J_{C-F} = 26.8, C_7$); 106.8 (C₃); 112.7 (d, $J_{C-F} = 25.3, C_5$); 117.7 (C_{3a}); 121.5 (C_{3a}); 122.9 (d, $J_{C-F} = 11.1, C_4$); 143.3 (C₂); 161.5 (C₃); 164.5 (d, $J = 250.7, C_6$); 164.3 (d, $J = 13.8, C_{7a}$); 167.2 (C_{7a}); 194.3 (-CO-). MS (FAB,

Figure 8. Effects of reference drugs and **20c** on striatal DA, DOPAC, and HVA levels (means \pm SEM): (A) DA, only for clozapine (20 mg/kg) is the difference with respect to vehicle statistically significant (p < 0.01); (B) DOPAC, p < 0.01 with respect to vehicle for all drugs; (C) HVA, p < 0.01 with respect to vehicle for all drugs.

m/z): 369 (MH⁺). Anal. (C₂₁H₂₁FN₂O₃) C, H, N. Hydrochloride: mp 271–272 °C (AcOEt). Anal. (C₂₁H₂₁FN₂O₃·HCl) C, H, N.

6-(4-Phenylpiperazin-1-ylmethyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[*b*]furan-4-one (20d): yield 75%, mp 121–122 °C (*i*-PrOH). IR: 3852, 1673. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.24–2.62 (m, 9H, 2H₅, 1H₇, -N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-, -CH₂-N<;) 2.68 (dd, 1H, *J* = 15, 3.6, 1H₇); 3.08–3.15 (m, 1H, 1H₆); 3.19 (t, 4H, *J* = 5, -N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 6.67 (d, 1H, *J* = 2, H₂); 6.83–6.94 (m, 3H, *o*-Ph, *p*-Ph); 7.23–7.29 (m, 2H, *m*-Ph); 7.3 (d, 1H, *J* = 2, H₃). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 28.5 (C₇); 33.7 (C₆); 43.0 (C₅); 49.6 (-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 53.9 (-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 63.2 (-CH₂-N<;); 106.8 (C₃); 116.8 (C₄); 120.1 (C₃); 121.5 (C_{3a}); 129.5 (C₂); 143.3 (C₂); 151.6 (C_{7a}); 167.1 (C₁); 194.2 (-CO-). MS (FAB, *m*/*z*): 311 (MH⁺). Anal. (C₁₉H₂₂N₂O₂): C, H, N. Hydrochloride: mp 198–199 °C (AcOEt). Anal. (C₁₉H₂₂N₂O₂·2HCl·H₂O) C, H, N.

6-[4-(*a*-Methoxyphenyl)piperazin-1-ylmethyl]-4,5,6,7tetrahydrobenzo[*b*]furan-4-one (20e): yield 70%, mp 135136 °C (*i*-PrOH). IR: 2934, 2811, 1656, 1591. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.27–2.33 (m, 1H, 1H₅); 2.43–2.47 (m, 2H, 1H₅, 1H₇); 2.58–2.70 (m, 8H, 1H₇, 1H₆, -*CH*₂-N(*CH*₂-CH₂)₂N-); 3.85 (s, 4H, -N(CH₂-C*H*₂)₂N-); 3.85 (s, 3H, -OCH₃); 6.66 (d, 1H, *J*= 2.01, H₂); 6.91–6.99 (m, 4H, Ph); 7.32 (d, 1H, *J*= 1.9, H₃). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 28.5 (C₇); 33.7 (C₆); 43.0 (C₅); 51.1 (-N(*CH*₂-CH₂)₂N-); 54.2 (N(CH₂-*CH*₂)₂N-); 55.7 (-OCH₃); 63.3 (-CH₂-N<; 106.8 (C₃); 111.6 (C₆); 118.6 (C₃); 121.4 (C₅); 121.5 (C_{3a}); 123.3 (C₄); 141.7 (C₁); 143.2 (C₂); 152.7 (C₂); 167.2 (C_{7a}); 194.2 (-CO-). MS (FAB, *m*/*z*): 341 (MH⁺). Anal. (C₂₀H₂₄N₂O₃): C, H, N. Hydrochloride: mp 201–203 °C (AcOEt). Anal. (C₂₀H₂₄N₂O₃: 2HCl) C, H, N.

6-[4-(2-Pyridyl)piperazin-1-ylmethyl]-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[*b***]furan-4-one (20f): yield 80%, mp 108–109 °C (***i***-PrOH). IR: 2826, 1677, 1592. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): \delta 2.24– 2.64 (m, 9H, 2H₅, 1H₇, -CH₂-N(CH₂-CH₂) ₂N-); 2.67 (dd, 1H, J = 13.4, 4.5, 1H₇); 3.04–3.15 (m, 1H, H₆), 3.51 (t, 4H, J = 5.1, -N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 6.61 (d, 1H, J = 2.2, H₂); 6.63–6.66 (m, 2H,**

Conformationally Constrained Butyrophenones

H₃, H₅); 7.32 (d, 1H, J = 2.0, H₃); 7.46 (dd, 1H, J = 8.5, 5.1, H₄); 8.17 (dd, 1H, J = 4.8, 1.2, H₆). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 28.5 (C₇); 33.6 (C₆); 42.9 (C₅); 45.6 (-N(*C*H₂-CH₂)₂N-); 53.7 (-N(CH₂-*C*H₂)₂N-); 63.3 (-CH₂-N<); 106.8 (C₃); 107.4 (C₃); 113.7 (C₅); 121.5 (C_{3a}); 137.8 (C₄); 143.3 (C₂); 148.34 (C₆); 159.9 (C₂); 167.1 (C_{7a}); 194.1 (-CO-). MS (FAB, *m/z*): 312 (MH⁺). Anal. (C₁₈H₂₁N₃O₂) C, H, N. Hydrochloride: mp 128–130 °C (AcOEt).

6-[4-(2-Pyrimidinyl)piperazin-1-ylmethyl]-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[*b***]furan-4-one (20g):** yield 70%, mp 112–113 °C (*i*-PrOH). IR: 2826, 1677, 1592. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.23– 2.69 (m, 10H, 2H₅, 2H₇, -CH₂-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 3.04–3.14 (m, 1H, H₆), 3.80 (t, 4H, *J* = 5.1, -N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 6.46 (t, 1H, *J* = 4.7, H₅); 6.65 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.0, H₂); 7.32 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.0, H₃); 8.28 (d, 2H, *J* = 4.7, H₆', H₄). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 28.5 (C₇); 33.7 (C₆); 43.0 (C₅); 44.1 (-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 53.8 (-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 63.3 (-CH₂-N<); 106.8 (C₃); 110.2 (C₅); 121.5 (C_{3a}); 143.3 (C₂); 158.1 (C₄', C₆); 162.0 (C₂); 167.0 (C_{7a}); 194.1 (-CO). MS (FAB, *m/z*): 313 (MH⁺). Anal. (C₁₇H₂₀N₄O₂) C, H, N. Hydrochloride: mp 241–243 °C (AcOEt). Anal. (C₁₇H₂₀N₄O₂· 2HCl) C, H, N.

6-[**4**-(*tert*-Butoxycarbonyl)piperazin-1-ylmethyl]-**4**,5,6,7tetrahydrobenzo[*b*]furan-4-one (25): yield 70%, mp 86– 87 °C (*i*-PrOH). IR: 2918, 1693, 1681. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.45 (s, 9H, 3x -CH₃); 2.30–2.38 (m, 7H, -N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-, 2H₅, 1H₇); 2.40–2.67 (m, 3H, -CH₂N <, 1H₇); 3.03–3.08 (m, 1H, H₆); 3.40 (t, 4H, J = 5, N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 6.65 (d, 1H, J = 2, H₂); 7.31 (d, 1H, J = 2, H₃). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 28.4 (C₇); 28.8 (3x -CH₃); 33.6 (C₆); 42.9 (C₅); 44.2 (-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 53.7 (-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 63.2 (-CH₂N <); 80.1 (-C(CH₃)₃); 106.8 (C₃); 121.5 (C₃₃); 143.3 (C₂); 155.1 (-COO-); 166.9 (C₇₃); 194.1 (-CO-). MS (FAB, *m*/*z*): 335 (MH⁺). Anal. (C₁₈H₂₆N₂O₄) C, H, N.

6-Piperazin-1-ylmethyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[b]furan-4-one (26). Trifluoroacetic acid (2.87 mL, 37.4 mmol) was added to a solution of amine 25 (1.25 g, 3.74 mmol) in dry CH2-Cl₂ (10 mL), the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 min, and the solvent was then removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, and this solution was washed with 10% NaHCO₃ (2 \times 20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄, and the solvent was removed in vacuo, affording 26 (0.65 g, 75%) as a white crystalline solid: mp 128-130 °C (i-PrOH). IR: 3342, 2938, 1681, 1596. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.25-2.53 (m, 10H, 2H₇, 2H₅, $-CH_2-N(CH_2-CH_2)_2NH$; 2.75 (t, 4H, J = 4.9, $-N(CH_2-CH_2)_2NH$); 2.93 (m, 1H, H₆); 6.4 (d, 1H, J = 2, H₂); 7.3 (d, 1H, J = 2, H₃); 8.25 (s, 1H, -NH). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 28.4 (C₇); 33.3 (C₆); 42.9 (C₅); 43.8 (-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂NH); 54.0 (-N(CH₂-CH₂)₂NH); 63.7 (-CH₂-N<); 106.8 (C₃); 121.4 (C_{3a}); 142.3 (C₂); 165.7 (C_{7a}); 198 2 (-CO-). MS (FAB, m/z): 235 (MH⁺). Anal. (C₁₃H₁₈N₂O₂) C, H, N. Hydrochloride: mp 213-214 °C (AcOEt).

6-{4-[4-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-oxobutyl]piperazin-1-ylmethyl}-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[b]furan-4-one (20h). A solution of 4-chloro-1,1-ethylenedioxy-1-(4-fluorophenyl)butane (0.55 g, 2.23 mmol) in methyl isobutyl ketone (15 mL) was added under argon, with stirring, to a solution of the amine 26 (0.5 g, 2.13 mmol), anhydrous Na_2CO_3 (0.65 g) and KI (0.17 g) in the same solvent (45 mL), and the mixture was refluxed for 36 h. The precipitate was filtered out, the solvent was removed from the filtrate under reduced pressure, and a solution of the resulting residue in 10% HCl was refluxed for 1 h (100 °C). Once cool, this solution was brought to basic pH with 10% NaOH and extracted with AcOEt $(3 \times 50 \text{ mL})$. The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄, and removal of the solvent under reduced pressure left 0.88 g of a dark brown oil that upon column chromatography with 1:1 AcOEt/hexane as eluant afforded **20h** (0.35 g, 42%) as a white solid: mp 112-114 °C (*i*-PrOH). IR: 2810, 1682, 1669. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.85-1.92 (m, 2H, -CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-CO-); 2.34-2.52 (m, 11H, H₅, 2H₇, -CH2-N(CH2-CH2)2N-CH2-); 2.83-2.98 (m, 8H, 1H6, -N(CH2-CH₂)₂N-, -CH₂-CO-Ph, H₅); 6.96-7.02 (m, 1H, H₂); 7.29-7.34 (m, 1H, 1H₃); 7.56-7.63 (m, 2H, H₃ Ph); 7.84-7.89 (m, 2H, H₂ del Ph). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 22.6 (-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-CO-); 28.4 (C7); 36.2 (C6); 38.6 (-CH2-CO-Ph); 46.2 (C5); 46.5 (2C, -N(CH2-CH2)2N-); 52.4 (2C,-N(CH2-CH2)2N-); 57.6 (RRN-CH2-); 63.2 $(-CH_2-NRR)$; 106.7 (C₃); 115.8 (d, 2C, $J_{C-F} = 21.8$, *m*-F-Ph);

121.4 (C_{3a}); 129.9 (*p*-F-Ph); 130.8 (d, 2C, $J_{C-F} = 9.3$, *o*-F-Ph); 143.2 (C₂); 165.9 (d, $J_{C-F} = 251$, C-F); 167.1 (C_{7a}); 194.2 (-CO-); 198.9 (-CO-Ph). Anal. (C₂₃H₂₇FN₂O₃) C, H, N. Hydrochloride: mp 202–204 °C (AcOEt).

6-{4-[5-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5-oxopentyl]piperazin-1-ylmethyl}-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[b]furan-4-one (20i). A solution of 5-bromo-1-(p-fluorophenyl)-1-pentanone94 (0.35 g, 1.37 mmol) in methyl isobutyl ketone (15 mL) was added under argon, with stirring, to a mixture of piperazine **26** (0.32 g, 1.37 mmol), anhydrous Na₂CO₃ (0.43 g) and KI (0.1 g) in 15 mL of the same solvent, and the mixture was refluxed for 24 h. The precipitate was filtered out, and removal of the solvent from the filtrate under reduced pressure left 0.56 g of a dark brown oil that upon column chromatography with 19:1 CH₂Cl₂/CH₃OH as eluent afforded amino ketone 20i (0.28 g, 50%) as a white solid: mp 92-94 °C (*i*-PrOH). IR: 2810, 1682, 1669. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.56–1.63 (m, 2H, -CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-CO-); 1.70–1.80 (m, 2H, -CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-CO-); 2.20-2.67 (m, 16H, H₅, 1H₆, 2H₇, $-CH_2-N(CH_2-CH_2)_2N-CH_2-$; 2.96 (t, $J = 7.2, 2H, -CH_2-CO-Ph$); 3.01-3.08 (m, 1H, 1H₅); 6.65 (d, J = 2.0, 1H, H₂); 7.12 (t, J =8.6, 2H, H₃ Ph); 7.32 (d, 1H, H₃); 7.98 (dd, J = 8.9, 5.4, 2H, H₂ Ph). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 22.7 (-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-CO-); 26.8 (-CH2-CH2-CH2-CO-); 28.5 (C7); 33.7 (C6); 38.6 (-CH2-CO-Ph); 43.0 (C₅); 53.6 (2C, -N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 53.8 (2C, -N(CH₂-CH₂)₂N-); 58.6 (RRN-CH₂-); 63.2 (-CH₂-NRR); 106.8 (C₃); 116.0 (d, 2C, $J_{C-F} = 21.8$, *o*-F-Ph); 121.5 (C_{3a}); 131.0 (d, 2C, $J_{C-F} = 9.4$, *m*-F-Ph); 133.8 (d, 2C, $J_{C-F} = 2.9$, *p*-F-Ph); 143.2 (C₂); 165.9 (d, J_{C-F} = 251, C-F); 167.1 (C_{7a}); 194.2 (-CO-); 198.9 (-CO-Ph). Anal. (C24H29FN2O3) C, H, N. Hydrochloride: mp 235-240 °C (AcOEt). Anal. ($C_{24}H_{29}FN_2O_3$ ·HCl·H₂O) C, H, N.

Pharmacological Test Methods. D₁ and D₂ Binding Assays. Male Sprague–Dawley rats were killed by decapitation and their brains were rapidly removed and dissected on an ice-cold plate. Striatal membrane preparations were obtained by homogenization (Polytron homogenizer, setting 6, 10 s) in 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.7 at 25 °C; about 100 μ L/mg of tissue) containing 5 mM EDTA; the homogenates were centrifuged (49000g for 15 min at 4 °C; Sorvall RC-26 plus), resuspended in 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.4 at 25 °C) and centrifuged again (same conditions), and the final pellets were stored at -80 °C pending use. All drugs were stored in 1 mM solutions at -20 °C and diluted to the required concentrations on ice immediately before binding assays. Just before binding assays, the striatal membrane pellets were resuspended (1.25 mg original wet weight/750 μ L for D₂ assays, 1.00 mg/750 μ L for D₁) in 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.4 at 25 °C) containing 120 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 2 mM CaCl2 and 1 mM MgCl2. For D_2 binding assays, 750- μ L aliquots of striatal membrane preparation were added to ice-cold tubes containing (a) 100 μ L of [³H]spiperone, (b) 50 μ L of ketanserin (final concentration 50 nM) to block 5-HT_{2A} receptors, and (c) either 100 μ L of buffer (for total binding assay) or 100 μ L of sulpiride (final concentration 10 μ M) to allow quantification of unspecific binding of [³H]spiperone or 100 μ L of the compounds to be tested. For D₁ binding assays, the same procedure was followed except that [3H]spiperone was replaced by [3H]SCH23390, ketanserin by buffer, and sulpiride by nonradiolabeled SCH23390 (final concentration 1 μM) to allow quantification of nonspecific binding by [3H]SCH23390. The final assay volume was thus 1 mL in all cases. All assays were performed in duplicate. Incubations (15 min at 37 °C) were stopped by rapid vacuum filtration through GF-52 glass fiber filters (Schleicher and Schuell) in a Brandel M-30 cell harvester. The filters were rinsed three times with 3 mL of ice-cold 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.4), and radioactivity was determined by liquid scintillation counting in a Beckman LS-6000LL apparatus.

D₄ **Binding Assays.** Radioreceptor binding studies with [³H]YM-09-151-2 (emonapride, a D₂-like receptor antagonist, 81–87 Ci/mmol) were performed in membrane preparations from bovine retina. Retinae were homogenized in a saline solution (1:20 w/v) containing in mM: Tris, 50; EDTA, 1; CaCl₂, 1.5; MgCl₂, 4; KCl, 5; NaCl, 120; pH 7.4. The homogenate was centrifuged at 48000*g* for 20 min at 4 °C, resuspended 1:20,

recentrifuged and resuspended at a final dilution of about 4 mg original wet tissue/mL of saline (1:250 w/v) for use in the binding assay. For competition experiments, membranes were incubated at 30 °C in the presence of 0.1 nM [³H]YM-09-151-2 for 60 min. For [³H]YM-09-151-2 binding, duplicate test tubes contained in a final volume of 1.5 mL: 0.5 mL membranes, 0.15 tracer, and drug. The affinity of [³H]YM-09-151-2 was measured by saturation experiments in similar conditions and was 0.4 nM. Nonspecific binding was assessed by 2 mM DA. At the end of the incubation period, the radioactivity bound to the receptor was separated from the free ligand by rapid vacuum filtration through glass fiber filters (GF/C) in a Brandel 30-well filtration apparatus. Filters were counted by liquid scintillation spectroscopy in a Packard LS-1600 apparatus and converted from te dpm.

5-HT_{2A} Binding Assays. Male 200-250-g Sprague-Dawley rats were asphyxiated with CO₂ and decapitated. The frontal cortex, containing 5-HT_{2A} receptors,^{95,96} was dissected free on ice, frozen on dry ice and stored at -70 °C until use (generally less than 1 week later). All membrane preparation procedures were carried out at 4 °C. The tissue was thawed on ice and homogenized with 10 volumes of 0.32 M sucrose in a Polytron homogenizer (Brinkmann Instruments, Westbury, NY). The homogenate was centrifuged twice at 4 °C (900g for 10 min followed by 40000g for 30 min), the supernatant was discarded, and the pellet was resuspended in Tris HCl-buffer (pH 8.07) in a Teflon/glass homogenizer (10 strokes by hand). This suspension was incubated at 37 °C for 15 min to remove endogenous 5-HT and centrifuged for 30 min at 40000g, and the final pellet was resuspended in Tris-HCl buffer of pH 8.07 containing 4 mM CaCl₂ and 0.1% ascorbic acid. Competition at [3H]ketanserin binding sites was assayed in triplicate in assay mixtures consisting of 750 µL of membrane homogenate, 50 μ L of [³H]ketanserin, 50 μ L of either buffer or the compound under test, 50 μ L of masking ligand solution (1 μ M methysergide) as required, and buffer to a final volume of 1 mL. Mixtures were incubated for 30 min at 37 °C. The assay was terminated by rapid filtration through Whatman GF/C filter strips (presoaked in 3% polyethylenimine) in a Brandel cell harvester (Gaithersburg, MD) followed by washing with icecold Tris-HCl buffer (pH 6.6) to remove unbound radioligand. The radioactivity retained on filters was determined by liquid scintillation counting in a beta counter (Beckman, LS-6000LL).

5-HT_{2C} Binding Assays. Bovine choroid plexus containing $5-HT_{2C}$ receptors⁹⁷ was treated as described in the $5-HT_{2A}$ binding assay. A suspension of the resulting pellet in the same buffer was stored on ice while not being manipulated. Competition at [³H]mesulergine binding sites was determined by a protocol analogous to that described above for the $5-HT_{2A}$ binding assay, using a final [³H]mesulergine concentration of 2 nM and 1 mM mianserine as $5-HT_{2A}$ masking ligand. The mixtures were incubated for 1 h at room temperature. Membranes were harvested on Whatman GF/B filters.

Functional Experiments. Male Sprague–Dawley rats (250–300 g) were asphyxiated with CO₂ and decapitated. The stomach was dissected free from the abdomen and immersed in modified Krebs solution of the following composition (mM): NaCl, 119; KCl, 4.7; MgSO₄·7H₂O, 1.2; CaCl₂·2H₂O, 2.5; KH₂-PO₄, 1.18; NaHCO₃, 25; glucose, 11. Strips of stomach fundus were prepared by Vane's method⁹⁸ and mounted in organ baths containing 10 mL of the same Krebs solution as above, maintained at 37 °C and aerated with carbogen (95% O₂, 5% CO₂). Before addition of drugs, the tissue strips were equilibrated for 1 h under a 1-g load. Isometric contractions were recorded during cumulative addition of serotonin using a Grass FTO3C transducer and a Grass 7D polygraph.

Concentration–response curves for serotonin were constructed as per Van Rossum.⁹⁹ In the initial control runs, stable contractions were achieved over the concentration range 0.01 nM–10 μ M. Following the initial control run, each tissue strip was run alternately with and without antagonist. Between runs, the tissues were washed and allowed to rest for 60 min. Antagonist potency was measured as per Mackay¹⁰⁰ in terms of pA_2 (-log concentration of antagonist required to maintain a constant response when the agonist concentration is doubled).

Behavioral Assays. Mice weighing 25 ± 5 g and rats weighing 250 ± 50 g were housed in groups of 12 (mice) or 4 (rats) under regulated conditions (light/dark cycle between 8.00 and 20.00 h at 21 ± 2 °C) in standard Makrolon cages ($215 \times 465 \times 145$ mm). The animals received standard laboratory chow and tap water ad libitum until the beginning of the experiments.

Locomotor Activity. The locomotor activity of animals in square arenas ($50 \times 50 \times 30$ cm) under a video camera suspended from the ceiling was recorded over a 1-h period between 10.00 and 14.00 h and analyzed, using a computerized animal observation system (EthoVision V. 1.90, Noldus Information Technology, Wageningen, The Netherlands) located in a separated room. The variables considered were distance travelled (in cm), rearing (reduction of vertical projection area by 15% or more), and velocity.

Amphetamine-Induced Hypermotility. Animals were treated with 5 mg/kg dextroamphetamine sulfate 30 min after pretreatment with vehicle, haloperidol, clozapine, risperidone, **20b** or **20c**, and each animal was then immediately placed in its experimental arena.

Apomorphine-Induced Climbing. The method of Protais et al.¹⁰¹ was used, with a minor modification. Vehicle, haloperidol, clozapine, risperidone, **20c** (0.25-0.5 mg/kg) or **20b** (0.6-4 mg/kg) was administered to mice (6 for drug and dosage, 12 for vehicle) that 30 min later were treated subcutaneously with 2 mg/kg apomorphine. The mice were then placed in individual cylindrical wire cages (diameter, 12 cm; height, 14 cm), and over the next 30 min their climbing activity was recorded every 10 min using the following scale: 0, four paws on the floor; 1, one or two paws against the cage wall; 2, three or four paws used to cling to the grid wall. The scores recorded 20 and 30 min post-apomorphine were added for use in further calculations.

Catalepsy. Thirty minutes after administration of vehicle, haloperidol, clozapine, risperidone, **20c** (0.5–8 mg/kg) or **20b** (0.5–6 mg/kg), mice (n = 6-12) were placed with their forepaws on one horizontal wire and their hindpaws on another 6 cm away and 2 cm lower. The time during which the mouse maintained this position was recorded; maintenance for more than 30 s was considered to indicate catalepsy.

Neurochemical Assays. Sprague-Dawley rats were killed by decapitation 120 min after injection of vehicle, reference drugs haloperidol (0.5 mg/kg), clozapine (20 mg/kg), risperidone (10 mg/kg) or 20c (10 mg/kg). Within 1 min of decapitation the brain was removed and the striatum dissected free on an ice-cold plate as described by Glowinski and Iverssen.¹⁰² Samples of striatal tissue were weighed in 1.5-mL conical test tubes and 20 μ L/mg of PCA solution (0.1 M perchloric acid and 4×10^{-5} M sodium bisulfite) was then added. The mixture was homogenized (Ultra-turrax T8, position 5, 10 s), and the homogenate was centrifuged twice for 15 min at 13 000 rpm (Heraeus Biofugue-13). The supernatant was filtered (Millipore HV 0.45 μ m) and stored at -80 °C prior to HPLC, which was performed using 20-µL samples, a Tracer RP-18 column (15 \times 0.4 cm, 5 μ m Spherisorb), a Waters pump 616 pump with a 600S controller, a Waters 717 plus autosampler refrigerated at 4 °C and a Coulochem 5100 A detector with a 5021 conditioning cell and a 5011 analytical cell. The mobile phase (an 88:12 mixture of citrate buffer (pH 4.0) and methanol containing 0.83 mM sodium octanesulfonate) was filtered (0.22- μ m pore size) and degassed with ultrasound before use. The flow rate was 1 mL/min and ambient temperature was maintained. HPLC operations were controlled and the detection data processed using Waters Millenium software (V 2.10).

Drugs and Chemicals. [³H]Spiperone (104 Ci/mmol), [³H]-SCH23390 (81 Ci/mmol) and [³H]mesulergine (76 Ci/mmol) were obtained from Amersham International (England), [³H]-ketanserin (60.08 Ci/mmol) from DuPont NEN (Boston, MA), [³H]YM-09-151-2 from New England Nuclear (Boston, MA), unlabeled (*R*)-(+)-SCH23390·HCl, mianserine and methysergide from Research Biochemicals Inc., and unlabeled spiper-

one, sulpiride·HCl and 5-hydroxytryptamine·HCl from Sigma (St. Louis, MO). In behavioral and neurochemical experiments, all compounds were administered in 0.01 mL/g injections (apomorphine subcutaneously and all others intraperitoneally). Haloperidol (Sigma) was dissolved in 1% lactic acid in water. Apomorphine hydrochloride (R.B.I.), dextroamphetamine sulfate (Sigma), risperidone (Janssen), clozapine (Sandoz) and the new drugs were prepared in saline (apomorphine with 1% ascorbic acid (w/v) to prevent oxidation). Methanol, citric acid monohydrate, perchloric acid and sodium chloride were all of reagent grade. DA·HCl, 3,4-dihydroxyphenylacetic acid (DOPAC), 3-methoxytyramine·HCl (3-MT), homovanillic acid (HVA) and 1-octanesulfonic acid (sodium salt) were purchased from Sigma. All other reagents were of analytical grade and supplied by Sigma or Merck (Darmstadt, Germany).

Calculations and Statistical Analysis. The nonlinear curve-fitting programs Kaleidagraph (Synergy Software, Reading, PA) and Graphpad Prism version 2.1 (GraphPad, San Diego, CA) were used to fit the equation: $E = E_{\text{max}} - [E_{\text{max}} - E_{\text{max}}]$ E_{\min} /[1 + (IC₅₀/*C*)^{*n*}], where E_{\max} and E_{\min} are dpm at the beginning and end of the competition experiment, respectively, C is the concentration of the inhibitor, IC₅₀ is the inhibitor concentration required to inhibit binding by 50%, and n is the slope of the decay. Nonspecific binding was determined independently in the presence of an unlabeled masking ligand. In D₄ binding assays, specific binding was obtained by subtracting nonspecific binding from totals and normalized to specific binding in the absence of drugs. In preliminary experiments, normalized data from 10-12 concentrations were fitted by either a single-site model (eq 1) or a two-site model (eq 2) by nonparametric fitting using a modified Lowenberg-Marquardt algorithm implemented in the data analysis program Microcal Origin version 3.5 (Microcal Software, Inc., Northampton, MA). pK_i values were calculated from IC₅₀ values using the equation $K_i = IC_{50}/(1 + D/K_d)$, where K_d is the equilibrium dissociation constant of the radioligand (determined by saturation binding studies) and D is the concentration of radioligand used. Other pharmacological calculations were performed using the Pharmacologic Calculation System¹⁰³ or Prism version 2.1 (GraphPad, San Diego, CA). The statistical significance of differences between means was determined by Student's test for unpaired data, and differences with probabilities lower than 0.05 were considered statistically significant. Percentage change in locomotor activity (%LC) was calculated as %LC = $100 \times [(\text{mean cm/h control animals}) -$ (mean cm/h treated animals)]/(mean cm/h control animals). ED₅₀ values for inhibition of apomorphine-induced climbing were calculated by nonlinear regression, and ED₅₀ values for induction of catalepsy were calculated by Litchfield and Wilcoxon's method.

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