

## Full Paper

## Synthesis of Monomeric and Dimeric Acridine Compounds as Potential Therapeutics in Alzheimer and Prion Diseases

René Csuk<sup>1</sup>, Alexander Barthel<sup>1</sup>, Christian Raschke<sup>1</sup>, Ralph Kluge<sup>1</sup>, Dieter Ströhl<sup>1</sup>, Lothar Trieschmann<sup>2</sup>, and Gerald Böhm<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Organische Chemie, Halle (Saale), Germany

<sup>2</sup> Scil Proteins Production GmbH, Halle (Saale), Germany

<sup>3</sup> IGZ BioMed/ZmK Würzburg, Würzburg, Germany

Starting from substituted 9-chloroacridines, a series of quinacrine and spaced dimeric acridine compounds was prepared. Their ability to interrupt the protein association of prion- and Alzheimer-specific proteins and Ab peptides was explored using a fast screening system based on FACS analysis. The bis-acridines displayed a higher activity than the corresponding monomers. Among these derivatives, best results were obtained with the 2,4-dimethoxy-6-nitro compound **7h** for A $\beta$ -peptides and the 2-methoxy-6-nitro compound **7f** for PrP.

**Keywords:** Acridines / Anti-Alzheimer / Antiprion / FACS analysis / Quinacrine

Received: March 26, 2009; Accepted: August 12, 2009

DOI 10.1002/ardp.200900065

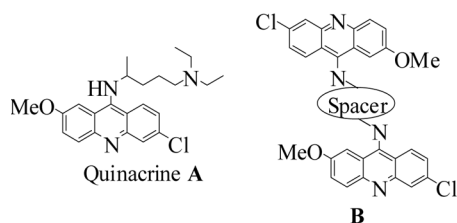
## Introduction

Alzheimer's disease (AD) and prion diseases like the Creutzfeldt-Jakob-Disease (CJD) or Kuru in humans and bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in cattle are most prominent examples of neurodegenerative disorders. They are mainly characterized by depositions in the central nervous system. The peptides and proteins are deposited as fibrils with enriched  $\beta$ -sheets and have a high tendency to associate and aggregate. In AD, the fibrils contain A $\beta$  peptides, which are peptides of 39–43 amino acids. These A $\beta$  peptides are released from the amyloid precursor protein (APP) by the action of  $\beta$ - and  $\gamma$ -secretase. The prion protein PrP<sup>Sc</sup> consists of 209 amino acids and is expressed mainly in neurons and follicular dendritic cells. It can be metabolized by proteinase K but undergoes a conformational transformation during the process of establishing a prion disease into the Scrapie form PrP<sup>Sc</sup>, which is resistant against cleavage by proteases.

Different approaches to inhibit the deposition of amyloid proteins are in the focus of scientific research. As for AD, by inhibition of  $\beta$ - and  $\gamma$ -secretases the production of A $\beta$  [1] is significantly lowered. However, these proteases also act on other substrates *e.g.*, NOTCH1 in the case of  $\gamma$ -secretase [2]. Thus, other detrimental effects are also possible by inhibiting them. In addition, the deposition of proteins can be prevented by interrupting the association process of the monomers to form oligomers and fibrils by the addition of  $\beta$ -sheet breakers [3]. Following this theory, quinacrine (Fig. 1, A) and related compounds were investigated and shown to give *in vitro* promising results against prion diseases [4–7].

Furthermore, Zahn *et al.* identified the binding site of quinacrine at the C-terminal helix of PrP [8]. Consequently, dimeric acridine compounds (Fig. 1, B) were synthesized and they exhibited a ten-fold higher activity than the respective monomeric quinacrine [9]. The best results were obtained using 1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine spacers between the acridine units. Additional QSAR studies suggest the importance of these spacers and the acridine moiety. So far, however, only few data are available to establish possible effects for the substituents of the acridine heterocycle.

**Correspondence:** Prof. Dr. René Csuk, Bereich Organische Chemie, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Kurt-Mothes-Strasse 2, D-06120 Halle (Saale), Germany.  
**E-mail:** rene.csuk@chemie.uni-halle.de  
**Fax:** +49 345 552-7030



**Figure 1.** Structures of quinacrine **A** and dimeric acridine **B**.

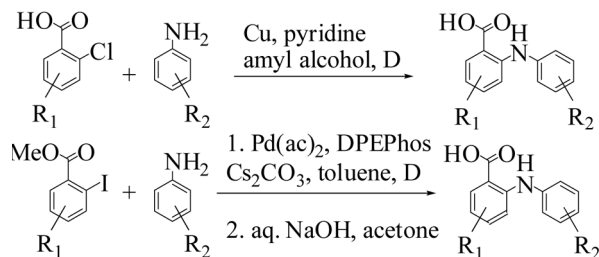
In this study, we synthesized several quinacrine and spacers bis-compounds with various different substituted acridines. An *in-vitro* assay based on FACS analysis was used for examining the ability of the substances to inhibit the association process of amyloid proteins and peptides. Using this method, we extended the screening of acridine derivatives to Alzheimer's disease-specific A $\beta$ -peptides.

## Results and discussion

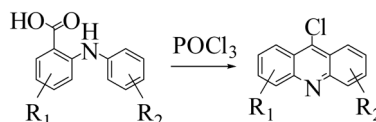
For the synthesis of substituted 9-chloroacridines, a synthetic route starting with the synthesis of the corresponding anthranilic acids by applying either Ullmann–Jourdan reaction or by using a modified Buchwald–Hartwig amination was established (Scheme 1) [10].

Starting materials for the copper-catalyzed Ullmann–Jourdan reaction [11] were substituted 2-chlorobenzoic acids and the corresponding aniline derivatives. The use of 3% copper bronze and 15% pyridine in amyl alcohol were the most suitable conditions and yielded the anthranilic acids in moderate yields. However, the scope of the reaction is limited to electron-rich anilines and electron-deficient benzoic acids, otherwise yields decreased or no reaction took place at all (e.g., for fluorinated aniline derivatives). A more reliable and robust synthesis of anthranilic acids was found by using a palladium-catalyzed Buchwald–Hartwig amination starting from methyl 2-iodobenzoates and anilines using Pd(ac)<sub>2</sub>, DPEPhos and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> as the base. The products were isolated in high yields and subsequent hydrolysis gave the corresponding acids. These anthranilic acids could be transformed into the corresponding 9-chloroacridines easily on reaction with POCl<sub>3</sub> (Scheme 2). According to this procedure, the synthesis of two novel compounds was performed (Table 1).

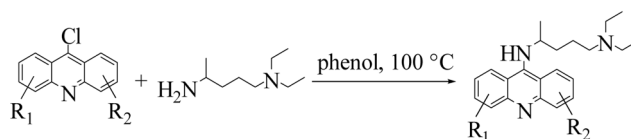
Starting from the 9-chloroacridines, the synthesis of several quinacrine and spacers bis-acridines was performed according to established procedures [9]. The reactions were carried out in phenol, which acts as catalyst for the accumulation of the product by formation of 9-



**Scheme 1.** Synthetic routes to *N*-phenylanthranilic acids.



**Scheme 2.** Ring-closure procedure.



**Scheme 3.** Synthesis of quinacrine compounds.

phenoxyacridine. The quinacrine compounds **4a–4i** (Table 2) were obtained by conversion of the 9-chloroacridines with an excess of 2-amino-5-diethylaminopentane (Scheme 3).

The synthesis of the dimeric acridine compounds was achieved in a quite similar way (Scheme 4). These reaction afforded the bis-acridine derivatives **5a–5e** from 1,8-diaminooctane, whereas compounds **6a–6i** were obtained using 1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane, and compounds **7a–7r** could be accessed from 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (Table 3).

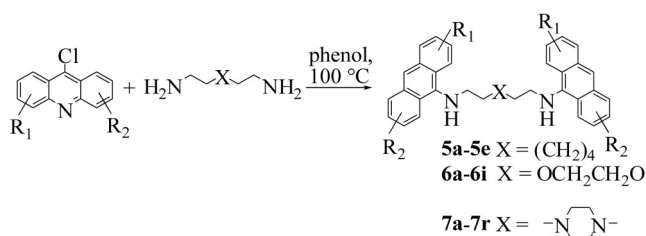
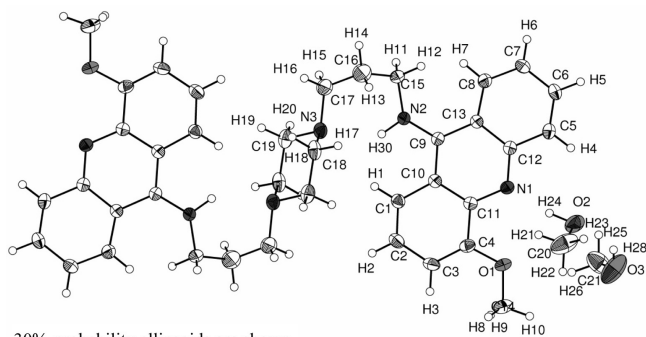
Several of these compounds, especially those carrying a piperazine spacer, displayed only poor solubility in most organic solvents. Thus, purification of these substances was tedious resulting in lowered yields. The NMR spectra of the compounds had to be recorded in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> at higher temperatures applying prolonged recording time. Nevertheless, for several carbons in the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra significant line broadening was observed. An unambiguous proof-of-structure was obtained by a single-crystal X-ray analysis. An ORTEP plot for compound **7o** is depicted in Fig. 2.

The quinacrine and bis-acridines were investigated for their ability to inhibit the addition of monomeric Ab-peptide or prion proteins to fibrils. The screening of the substances was performed by an *in-vitro* assay using FACS analysis [12, 13]. In order to compare the results from the FACS analysis with data from the well-established ScN2a

**Table 1.** Inhibition of Ab-peptide and prion-proteins at 0.1, 1.0, and 4.0  $\mu\text{M}$ .

| Compound                           | % of control Ab proteins<br>( $\mu\text{M}$ ) |     |     | % of control PrPsc<br>( $\mu\text{M}$ ) |      |      |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------------------------|------|------|
|                                    | 0.1                                           | 1.0 | 4.0 | 0.1                                     | 1.0  | 4.0  |
| <b>Quinacrine</b>                  |                                               |     |     |                                         |      |      |
| 4a                                 | 92                                            | 77  | 54  | 98                                      | 82   | 76   |
| 4b                                 | >100                                          | 97  | 95  | >100                                    | 98   | 98   |
| 4c                                 | >100                                          | 98  | 91  | >100                                    | 99   | >100 |
| 4d                                 | 98                                            | 85  | 67  | 88                                      | 88   | 89   |
| 4e                                 | 99                                            | 90  | 73  | 95                                      | 96   | 94   |
| 4f                                 | 87                                            | 41  | 16  | >100                                    | 81   | 52   |
| 4g                                 | 96                                            | 92  | 52  | >100                                    | >100 | >100 |
| 4h                                 | 95                                            | 34  | 24  | 92                                      | 95   | 58   |
| 4i                                 | 63                                            | 22  | 11  | >100                                    | 76   | 68   |
| <b>1,8-Diaminooctane</b>           |                                               |     |     |                                         |      |      |
| 5a                                 | 87                                            | 54  | 34  | 62                                      | 52   | 43   |
| 5b                                 | 64                                            | 6   | 4   | >100                                    | 41   | 23   |
| 5c                                 | >100                                          | 61  | 32  | 66                                      | 58   | 50   |
| 5d                                 | 97                                            | 87  | 74  | 97                                      | 89   | 87   |
| 5e                                 | 93                                            | 71  | 72  | 60                                      | >100 | 86   |
| <b>1,8-Diamino-3,6-dioxooctane</b> |                                               |     |     |                                         |      |      |
| 6a                                 | 85                                            | 56  | 14  | 70                                      | 48   | 35   |
| 6b                                 | 88                                            | 80  | 56  | 96                                      | 84   | 76   |
| 6c                                 | 87                                            | 50  | 8   | 64                                      | 43   | 36   |
| 6d                                 | 82                                            | 74  | 38  | >100                                    | 98   | 92   |
| 6e                                 | 90                                            | 81  | 64  | >100                                    | 96   | 94   |
| 6f                                 | 80                                            | 50  | 12  | >100                                    | 73   | 89   |
| 6g                                 | 87                                            | 12  | 3   | 74                                      | 88   | 68   |
| <b>1,4-Bis-(3-aminopropyl)</b>     |                                               |     |     |                                         |      |      |
| 7a                                 | 48                                            | 2   | 6   | 86                                      | 46   | 28   |
| 7b                                 | >100                                          | 93  | 58  | 92                                      | 68   | 37   |
| 7c                                 | 85                                            | 7   | 0,3 | 72                                      | 25   | 14   |
| 7d                                 | 80                                            | 51  | 4   | 61                                      | 56   | 49   |
| 7e                                 | >100                                          | 53  | 12  | 96                                      | 79   | 77   |
| 7f                                 | 58                                            | 10  | 5   | 50                                      | 16   | 5    |
| 7g                                 | 52                                            | 24  | 11  | 87                                      | 63   | 60   |
| 7h                                 | 80                                            | 6   | 0,6 | 51                                      | 32   | 21   |
| 7i                                 | 20                                            | 9   | 4   | 59                                      | 29   | 26   |
| 7j                                 | 83                                            | 50  | 19  | 93                                      | 62   | 35   |
| 7k                                 | 87                                            | 74  | 12  | 79                                      | 72   | 57   |
| 7l                                 | 77                                            | 12  | 10  | 96                                      | 54   | 49   |
| 7m                                 | 81                                            | 48  | 38  | 65                                      | 81   | 47   |
| 7n                                 | 69                                            | 65  | 4   | >100                                    | >100 | 81   |
| 7o                                 | 61                                            | 7   | 6   | >100                                    | 81   | 46   |
| 7p                                 | 73                                            | 26  | 3   | 93                                      | 85   | 36   |
| 7q                                 | 68                                            | 8   | 3   | 90                                      | 77   | 43   |
| 7r                                 | 98                                            | 51  | 8   | 83                                      | 88   | 58   |

cell-based assay, the 6-chloro-2-methoxy derivatives **4a**–**7a** were used as standards. Analysis of the data revealed a dose-dependent inhibition of the association process for prion proteins as well as for the Alzheimer-specific Ab-peptides. In general, the monomeric quinacrine derivatives were less active than the spacers bis-acridines. The best results for AD-specific Ab-peptides were observed with the 2-nitro-5-thiomethyl derivative **4i**. For the dimeric compounds, activity was shown to depend on

**Scheme 4.** Synthesis of bis-acridines**Figure 2.** ORTEP diagram of compound **7o**.

the used spacer. For the 2-methoxy-6-chloro derivatives the 1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane spacer exhibited a higher activity than the 1,8-diaminooctane analogue. An even higher inhibitory effect was observed for the 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine compound **7a**. In order to evaluate relationships between the substituents and the activity, a broad variety of derivatives was prepared and screened. In summary, the attachment of a methoxy group proved to be beneficial, whereas the Cl substituent seems to be redundant. Also, the addition of fluor substituents is unfavorable. However, an improved inhibitory effect was observed when a nitro group was introduced into the molecule additionally to the methoxy substituents. Therefore, the best compounds in this study were the 2,4-dimethoxy-6-nitro compound **7h** for AD-specific Ab-peptides and the 2-methoxy-6-nitro compound **7f** for PrP. The low cytotoxicity of these compounds associated with the inhibitory effect makes them interesting as starting point to develop new lead compounds, since the potential of 9-aminoacridines related to quinacrine has been demonstrated quite recently [14] and the safety and efficacy of quinacrine in human prion disease has been investigated [15] in some detail. As far as their mode-of-action is concerned, one might reason that the identification of chemical chaperones binding to the PrP structure and stabilizing it is one efficient strategy for antiprion drug discovery. However, some compounds have been shown to possess antiprion activities with low affinities

to PrP [16] indicating a mechanism involving additional modulation factors.

## Experimental

### General

Melting points are uncorrected (Leica hot stage microscope, Leica Microsystems, Germany), nmR spectra were recorded using the Varian spectrometers Gemini 200, Gemini 2000 or Unity 500 (Varian, USA;  $\delta$  given in ppm,  $J$  in Hz, internal Me<sub>4</sub>Si or internal CCl<sub>3</sub>F), IR spectra (film or KBr pellet) on a Perkin-Elmer FT-IR spectrometer Spectrum 1000 (Perkin-Elmer, USA), MS spectra were taken on a Intectra GmbH AMD 402 (electron impact, 70 eV; Intectra GmbH, Harpsted, Germany) or on a Finnigan MAT TSQ 7000 (Thermo Electron Corporation, Bremen, Germany; electrospray, voltage 4.5 kV, sheath gas nitrogen) instrument. TLC was performed on silica gel (Merck 5554 – Merck, Darmstadt, Germany; detection by UV absorption). The solvents were dried according to usual procedures.

### Crystal data of **7o**

Crystals of **7o** were obtained by slow evaporation from a methanolic solution. C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>44</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>,  $M = 612.80$ , monoclinic, space group P2<sub>1</sub>/n,  $a = 8.5505(19)$  Å,  $b = 21.083(3)$  Å,  $c = 11.274(3)$  Å,  $\alpha = 90.00^\circ$ ,  $\beta = 93.73(3)^\circ$ ,  $\gamma = 90.00^\circ$ ,  $V = 2028.1(7)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $D_x = 1.213$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>, and  $Z = 4$ . A single crystal was used for X-ray diffraction data collection on an IPDS Stadi IV employing graphite monochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation. 14351 reflections measured, 3399 unique, 2357 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma$ .  $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.0781$ ,  $wR(F^2) = 0.2059$ ,  $GoF = 1.072$ . The structure was solved by direct method using the SHELX-97 program. Hydrogens were solved by mixed modes. Lists of atomic coordinates, anisotropic thermal parameters, and bond lengths and angles have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystal Crystallographic Data Centre, UK. CCDC No. 687482.

### Chemistry

#### General procedure for the synthesis of monomeric acridine compounds GP1

A mixture of 9-chloroacridine (3.6 mmol) in phenol (5 g) was heated to 100°C for 15 min. Then, 2-amino-5-diethylaminopentane (0.6 g, 3.8 mmol) was added and stirring continued for 30 min. After cooling to 25°C, the mixture was chromatographed (SiO<sub>2</sub>, gradient ethyl acetate, ethyl acetate / methanol / ammonium hydroxide, 80:20:1)

#### *N*<sup>4</sup>-(6-Chloro-2-methoxy-9-acridinyl)-*N*<sup>1</sup>,*N*<sup>1</sup>-diethyl-1,4-pentanediamine **4a**

Compound **4a** (0.9 g, 63%) was obtained from 6,9-dichloro-2-methoxyacridine (1.0 g, 3.6 mmol) and 2-amino-5-diethylaminopentane (0.30 g, 1.85 mmol) following GP1 as a yellow oil. IR (film)  $\nu$ : 3318br, 2968s, 1633s, 1606m, 1563s, 1520m, 1470s, 1435s, 1383m, 1233s, 1071m cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 0.92 (t, 6H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.24 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>(1')), 1.50–1.70 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3',4')), 2.34 (t, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>(5')), 2.41 (q, 4H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.94 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.95–4.04 (m, 1H, CH(2')), 4.39 (d, 1H,  $J = 10.4$  Hz, NH), 7.19 (d, 1H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, H-C(1)), 7.30 (dd, 1H,  $J = 9.1, 2.1$  Hz, H-C(7)), 7.40 (dd, 1H,  $J = 9.5, 2.5$  Hz, H-

C(3)), 7.97 (d, 1H,  $J = 9.1$  Hz, H-C(8)), 7.98 (d, 1H,  $J = 9.5$  Hz, H-C(4)), 8.06 (d, 1H,  $J = 2.1$  Hz, H-C(5)) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 11.6, 22.3, 24.2, 37.0, 46.9, 52.8, 55.5, 55.9, 99.3, 117.2, 119.2, 123.7, 124.4, 124.8, 128.3, 131.5, 134.5, 146.8, 148.1, 149.0, 156.0 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 287 nm (4.72); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 400.3 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (100%).

#### *N*<sup>4</sup>-9-Acridinyl-*N*<sup>1</sup>,*N*<sup>1</sup>-diethyl-1,4-pentanediamine **4b** [17]

Compound **4b** (1.0 g, 65%) was obtained from 9-chloroacridine (1.0 g, 4.7 mmol) and 2-amino-5-diethylaminopentane (0.80 g, 5.00 mmol) following GP1 as a yellow oil. IR (film)  $\nu$ : 3300br, 3060m, 2968s, 2808m, 1615s, 1558s, 1520s, 1488s, 1422s, 1366m, 1259s, 1213w, 1133m, 1022w cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 0.93 (t, 6H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.30 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>(1')), 1.55–1.75 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3',4')), 2.35 (t, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>(5')), 2.42 (q, 4H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.10–4.20 (m, 1H, CH(2')), 4.78 (br s, 1H, NH), 7.38 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 8.7, 6.7, 1.2$  Hz, H-C(2)), 7.67 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2$  Hz, H-C(3)), 8.06–8.11 (m, 4H, H-C(1,4)) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 11.5, 22.2, 23.9, 37.1, 46.8, 52.7, 56.1, 118.1, 122.6, 123.4, 129.8, 129.9, 149.5, 150.9 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 280 nm (4.74); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 168.8 [M + 2H]<sup>2+</sup> (100%), 336.4 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (40%); HRMS for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>3</sub> calcd.: 335.2361; found: 335.2362.

#### *N*<sup>4</sup>-(2-Methoxy-9-acridinyl)-*N*<sup>1</sup>,*N*<sup>1</sup>-diethyl-1,4-pentanediamine **4c**

Compound **4c** (0.9 g, 60%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-methoxyacridine (1.0 g, 4.1 mmol) and 2-amino-5-diethylaminopentane (0.7 g, 4.5 mmol) following GP1 as a yellow oil. IR (film)  $\nu$ : 3301br, 3061m, 2967s, 2870m, 2805m, 1922w, 1633s, 1562s, 1524s, 1487s, 1469s, 1434s, 1368s, 1337m, 1282m, 1266m, 1232s, 1130m, 1104m, 1032s cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 0.93 (t, 6H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.25 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>(1')), 1.53–1.73 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3',4')), 2.35 (t, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>(5')), 2.42 (q, 4H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.94 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.99–4.07 (m, 1H, CH(2')), 4.78 (d, 1H,  $J = 10.4$  Hz, NH), 7.25 (d, 1H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, H-C(1)), 7.37–7.43 (m, 2H, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 7.62 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2$  Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 8.01–8.06 (m, 2H, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 8.09 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, H-C(4)) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 11.5, 22.2, 23.9, 36.9, 46.8, 52.8, 55.5, 55.7, 99.4, 119.2, 119.3, 122.0, 124.1, 124.2, 128.8, 130.3, 131.6, 146.4, 147.9, 148.9, 155.9 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 279 nm (4.75); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 183.8 [M + 2H]<sup>2+</sup> (30%), 366.4 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (100%); HRMS for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O calcd.: 365.2467; found: 365.2466.

#### *N*<sup>4</sup>-(2-Trifluoromethoxy-9-acridinyl)-*N*<sup>1</sup>,*N*<sup>1</sup>-diethyl-1,4-pentanediamine **4d**

Compound **4d** (0.4 g, 57%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-trifluoromethoxyacridine (0.50 g, 1.68 mmol) and 2-amino-5-diethylaminopentane (0.30 g, 1.85 mmol) following GP1 as a yellow oil. IR (film)  $\nu$ : 3244br, 2969s, 1633m, 1603m, 1563s, 1494s, 1456s, 1384m, 1258s, 1219s, 1166s cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 0.93 (t, 6H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.25 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>(1')), 1.50–1.80 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3',4')), 2.37 (t, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>(5')), 2.42 (q, 4H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.05–4.15 (m, 1H, CH(2')), 4.80 (d, 1H,  $J = 10.4$  Hz, NH), 7.43 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2$  Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 7.53 (dd, 1H,  $J = 9.5, 2.5$  Hz, H-C(3)), 7.70 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2$  Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 7.92 (d, 1H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, H-C(1)), 8.02–8.14 (m, 3H, H<sub>arom.</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 11.5, 22.3, 24.0, 37.0, 46.8, 52.7, 56.2, 113.6, 117.4, 118.3, 120.7 (q,  $J_{C,F} = 263.2$  Hz), 122.0, 124.3, 124.4, 130.0, 130.1, 132.1, 144.4, 147.7, 149.5, 150.9 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (188 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : -58.5 (s, OCF<sub>3</sub>) ppm; UV-

VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 282 nm (4.67); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 210.8  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (15%), 420.3  $[M + H]^+$  (100%); HRMS for  $C_{23}H_{28}F_3N_3O$  calcd.: 335.2361; found: 335.2362.

***N*<sup>4</sup>-(2,4-Difluoro-9-acridinyl)-*N*<sup>1</sup>,*N*<sup>1</sup>-diethyl-1,4-pentanediamine **4e****

Compound **4e** (0.57 g, 57%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2,4-difluoroacridine (1.0 g, 2.7 mmol) and 2-amino-5-diethylaminopentane (0.5 g, 3.1 mmol) following GP1 as a yellow oil. IR (film)  $\nu$ : 3317br, 3042m, 2969s, 2871m, 2806m, 2360w, 1645s, 1567s, 1531s, 1486s, 1433s, 1383m, 1337s, 1280s, 1230m, 1126s, 1055m  $cm^{-1}$ ; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 0.94 (t, 6H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.29 (d, 3H,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>(1')), 1.52–1.76 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3', 4')), 2.37 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>(5')), 2.42 (q, 4H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.05–4.15 (m, 1H, CH(2')), 4.74 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 10.4 Hz, NH), 7.23 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 10.4, 8.3, 2.5 Hz, H-C(3)), 7.44 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 7.50 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 10.4, 2.5, 1.6 Hz, H-C(1)), 7.69 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 8.05 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 8.19 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 11.5, 22.3, 24.0, 37.0, 46.9, 52.7, 55.9, 101.4 (dd,  $J_{C,F}$  = 23.0, 5.0 Hz), 105.3 (dd,  $J_{C,F}$  = 30.7, 23.0 Hz), 118.6 (d,  $J_{C,F}$  = 6.0 Hz), 118.8, 122.1, 124.8, 130.0, 130.7, 138.1 (d,  $J_{C,F}$  = 13.0 Hz), 148.8, 150.4, 157.0 (dd,  $J_{C,F}$  = 245.0, 12.0 Hz), 159.0 (dd,  $J_{C,F}$  = 260.5, 12.0 Hz) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (188 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : -113.8 (m, F), -118.4 (m, F) ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 280 nm (4.73); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 186.8  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (100%), 372.3  $[M + H]^+$  (90%); HRMS for  $C_{22}H_{29}F_2N_3$  calcd.: 371.2173; found: 371.2173.

***N*<sup>4</sup>-(5-Methoxy-3-nitro-9-acridinyl)-*N*<sup>1</sup>,*N*<sup>1</sup>-diethyl-1,4-pentanediamine **4f****

Compound **4f** (0.9 g, 63%) was obtained from 9-chloro-5-methoxy-3-nitroacridine (1.0 g, 3.5 mmol) and 2-amino-5-diethylaminopentane (0.6 g, 3.8 mmol) following GP1 as an orange-colored oil. IR (film)  $\nu$ : 3313br, 2968s, 2361w, 1673m, 1624m, 1568s, 1515s, 1463s, 1421m, 1345s, 1256s, 1137m, 1073m  $cm^{-1}$ ; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 0.93 (t, 6H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.32 (d, 3H,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>(1')), 1.50–1.80 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3', 4')), 2.36 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>(5')), 2.42 (q, 4H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.10–4.22 (m, 4H, OCH<sub>3</sub>, CH(2')), 5.06 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 9.9 Hz, NH), 7.04 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, H-C(6)), 7.40 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 8.7, 7.5 Hz, H-C(7)), 7.62 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, H-C(8)), 8.06 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 9.5, 2.5 Hz, H-C(2)), 8.20 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 9.5 Hz, H-C(1)), 9.18 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 2.5 Hz, H-C(4)) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 11.3, 22.2, 23.8, 37.0, 46.8, 52.6, 56.2, 56.3, 107.4, 113.8, 116.0, 119.7, 120.0, 125.1, 127.2, 127.5, 143.7, 147.0, 148.0, 150.9, 155.7 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 297 nm (4.48); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 411.6  $[M + H]^+$  (100%), 843.3  $[M_2 + Na]^+$  (15%); HRMS for  $C_{23}H_{30}NO_3$  calcd.: 410.2318; found: 410.2319.

***N*<sup>4</sup>-(4-Thiomethyl-9-acridinyl)-*N*<sup>1</sup>,*N*<sup>1</sup>-diethyl-1,4-pentanediamine **4g****

Compound **4g** (1.0 g, 68%) was obtained from 9-chloro-4-thiomethylacridine **3a** (1.0 g, 3.9 mmol) and 2-amino-5-diethylaminopentane (0.7 g, 4.6 mmol) following GP1 as a yellow oil. IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3057m, 2967s, 2869m, 2808m, 1671w, 1618m, 1599s, 1553m, 1487s, 1418s, 1381s, 1359s, 1256m, 1200m, 1124s, 1036w  $cm^{-1}$ ; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 0.94 (t, 6H,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.26 (d, 3H,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>(1')), 1.50–1.70 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3', 4')), 2.35 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>(5')), 2.43 (q, 4H,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.56 (s, 3H, SCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.08–4.18 (m, 1H, CH(2')), 4.72 (br s, 1H, NH), 7.28–7.34 (m,

2H, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 7.30 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 7.9, 7.5 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 7.65 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 7.9, 7.5 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 7.77–7.83 (m, 1H, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 8.04 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 8.17 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 11.3, 14.5, 22.1, 23.6, 36.9, 46.7, 52.6, 56.0, 117.6, 118.1, 118.5, 122.1, 122.3, 123.1, 123.8, 129.4, 130.4, 140.4, 146.6, 148.3, 150.9 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 288 nm (4.72); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 191.7  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (100%), 382.3  $[M + H]^+$  (80%); HRMS for  $C_{23}H_{31}N_3S$  calcd.: 381.2239; found: 381.2238.

***N*<sup>4</sup>-(3-Chloro-5-methoxy-9-acridinyl)-*N*<sup>1</sup>,*N*<sup>1</sup>-diethyl-1,4-pentanediamine **4h** [18]**

Compound **4h** (1.0 g, 70%) was obtained from 3,9-dichloro-5-methoxyacridine (1.0 g, 3.6 mmol) and 2-amino-5-diethylaminopentane (0.6 g, 3.8 mmol) following GP1 as a yellow oil. IR (film)  $\nu$ : 3288br, 2968s, 1669m, 1606s, 1564s, 1520m, 1456s, 1435s, 1388s, 1252s, 1132m, 1076s  $cm^{-1}$ ; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 0.94 (t, 6H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.26 (d, 3H,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>(1')), 1.50–1.73 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3', 4')), 2.37 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>(5')), 2.46 (q, 4H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.08 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.09–4.14 (m, 1H, CH(2')), 4.80 (br s, 1H, NH), 6.96 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 7.26–7.32 (m, 2H, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 7.58 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 8.00 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 9.1 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 8.21 (br s, 1H, H-C(3)) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 11.1, 22.1, 23.5, 36.8, 46.6, 52.4, 56.1, 55.9, 106.9, 114.1, 116.6, 119.1, 123.5, 124.5, 124.7, 129.5, 135.4, 148.4, 151.0 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 290 nm (4.76); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 400.2  $[M + H]^+$  (100%); HRMS for  $C_{23}H_{30}ClN_3O$  calcd.: 399.2077; found: 399.2079.

***N*<sup>4</sup>-(2-Nitro-5-thiomethyl-9-acridinyl)-*N*<sup>1</sup>,*N*<sup>1</sup>-diethyl-1,4-pentanediamine **4i****

Compound **4i** (0.12 g, 11%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-nitro-5-thiomethylacridine **3b** (0.8 g, 2.6 mmol) and 2-amino-5-diethylaminopentane (0.5 g, 3.2 mmol) following GP1 as a red solid. M.p.: 93–95°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2967s, 2923s, 1617s, 1600m, 1572s, 1510s, 1493s, 1432m, 1310s, 1233m, 1204w, 1130w, 1076w  $cm^{-1}$ ; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 0.93 (t, 6H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.40 (d, 3H,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>(1')), 1.54–1.84 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3', 4')), 2.40 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>(5')), 2.44 (q, 4H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.55 (s, 3H, SCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.26–4.36 (m, 1H, CH(2')), 5.66 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 10.4 Hz, NH), 7.36–7.39 (m, 2H, H-C(6,7)), 7.75 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 7.3, 2.4 Hz, H-C(8)), 8.13 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, H-C(4)), 8.31 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 9.2, 2.4 Hz, H-C(3)), 9.15 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 2.4 Hz, H-C(1)) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 11.8, 14.6, 22.5, 24.3, 37.2, 46.9, 52.5, 56.5, 114.5, 116.0, 116.9, 117.5, 122.7, 124.1, 124.5, 131.5, 141.5, 142.5, 148.2, 150.1, 153.9 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 268 nm (4.45); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 427.2  $[M + H]^+$  (100%); HRMS for  $C_{23}H_{30}NO_2S$  calcd.: 426.2089; found: 426.2088.

**General procedure for the synthesis of dimeric acridine compounds GP2**

A mixture of 9-chloroacridine (3.6 mmol) in phenol (5 g) was heated to 100°C for 15 min. Then, 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.28 g, 1.4 mmol) was added and stirring continued for 30 min. After cooling to 25°C, methanol (10 mL) was added and the resulting solution poured into diethyl ether under vigorous stirring. The product was collected by filtration and purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, dichloromethane / methanol / ammonium hydroxide, 80 : 20 : 1).

### *N,N*-Bis-(6-chloro-2-methoxy-9-acridinyl)-1,8-octanediamine **5a** [9]

Compound **5a** (0.8 g, 80%) was obtained from 6,9-dichloro-2-methoxyacridine (1.0 g, 3.6 mmol) and 1,8-octanediamine (0.23 g, 1.60 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 165°C (lit: 166.5–167.5°C [19]); IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2929s, 1631s, 1563s, 1525s, 1437s, 1258s, 1234m, 1077w cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 1.05–1.21 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3', 4', 5', 6')), 1.55–1.64 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(2', 7')), 3.60–3.70 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(1', 8')), 3.87 (s, 6H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 6.90 (br s, 2H, NH), 7.28 (dd, 2H, *J* = 9.1, 2.1 Hz, H-C(7)), 7.37 (dd, 2H, *J* = 9.5, 2.5 Hz, H-C(3)), 7.57 (d, 2H, *J* = 2.5 Hz, H-C(1)), 7.75–7.84 (m, 4H, H-C(5, 8)), 8.26 (d, 2H, *J* = 9.5 Hz, H-C(4)) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 26.0, 28.5, 30.4, 49.3, 55.5, 100.8, 114.4, 117.0, 122.3, 123.9, 126.4, 133.4, 147.7, 150.4, 154.9 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 299 nm (4.94); MS (ESI, MeOH + TFA) *m/z*: 314.4 [M + 2H]<sup>2+</sup> (100%), 627.6 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (40%).

### *N,N*-Bis-9-acridinyl-1,8-octanediamine **5b**

Compound **5b** (1.0 g, 82%) was obtained from 9-chloroacridine (1.0 g, 4.7 mmol) and 1,8-octanediamine (0.30 g, 2.10 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 195°C (lit: 197–200°C [20], 165°C [21]); IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3055m, 2930s, 2855s, 1614s, 1558s, 1520s, 1506s, 1468s, 1448m, 1426s, 1397w, 1371m, 1339s, 1288w, 1265m, 1222w, 1136m, 1122m, 1024w cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 1.25–1.30 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(4', 5')), 1.33–1.40 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3', 6')), 1.67–1.77 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(2', 7')), 3.78 (t, 4H, *J* = 7.3 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>(1', 8')), 7.33 (ddd, 4H, *J* = 8.7, 6.4, 0.9 Hz, H-C(2)), 7.63 (ddd, 4H, *J* = 8.7, 6.4, 0.9 Hz, H-C(3)), 8.03–8.10 (m, 8H, H-C(1, 4)) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> + CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$ : 26.4, 28.8, 31.1, 50.2, 115.7, 122.5, 122.7, 127.5, 130.1, 148.2, 152.0 ppm; UV-VIS [22] (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 282 nm (5.32); MS (ESI, MeOH) *m/z*: 250.3 [M + 2H]<sup>2+</sup> (100%), 499.4 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (20%); HRMS for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N calcd.: 498.2783; found: 498.2784.

### *N,N*-Bis-(2-methoxy-9-acridinyl)-1,8-octanediamine **5c**

Compound **5c** (0.9 g, 92%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-methoxyacridine (1.0 g, 4.1 mmol) and 1,8-octanediamine (0.26 g, 1.80 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 190°C (lit: 186–187.5°C [23]); IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3252m, 2962s, 2919s, 2822s, 1734w, 1633s, 1613s, 1555s, 1513s, 1459s, 1435s, 1386m, 1357s, 1341s, 1312s, 1272m, 1256m, 1229m, 1211m, 1176m, 1132s, 1085m, 1057m, 1028s, 1019m cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 1.20–1.28 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(4', 5')), 1.30–1.40 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3', 6')), 1.62–1.72 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(2', 7')), 3.60–3.70 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(1', 8')), 3.94 (s, 6H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.71 (br s, 2H, NH), 7.26 (d, 2H, *J* = 2.9 Hz, H-C(1)), 7.35–7.42 (m, 4H, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 7.62 (ddd, 2H, *J* = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 8.00–8.10 (m, 6H, H<sub>arom.</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 26.8, 29.2, 31.8, 50.6, 55.5, 117.8, 118.0, 121.9, 123.6, 123.9, 128.1, 128.7, 129.8, 131.5, 146.2, 147.9, 149.4, 155.6 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 278 nm (5.09); MS (ESI, MeOH) *m/z*: 280.3 [M + 2H]<sup>2+</sup> (100%), 559.4 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (30%); HRMS for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>38</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> calcd.: 558.2995; found: 558.2996.

### *N,N*-Bis-(2-trifluoromethoxy-9-acridinyl)-1,8-octanediamine **5d**

Compound **5d** (0.5 g, 50%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-trifluoromethoxyacridine (1.0 g, 3.4 mmol) and 1,8-octanediamine (0.23 g, 1.60 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow oil. IR (film)  $\nu$ : 3063w, 2931m, 2857w, 1618w, 1591m, 1565s, 1506s, 1475s, 1431m, 1357m, 1258s, 1218s, 1163s, 1024w cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 1.27–1.32 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(4', 5')), 1.34–1.41 (m,

4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3', 6')), 1.67–1.77 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(2', 7')), 3.70–3.80 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(1', 8')), 5.00 (br s, 2H, NH), 7.39 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 7.51 (dd, 1H, *J* = 9.5, 2.5 Hz, H-C(3)), 7.67 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2 Hz, H<sub>arom.</sub>), 7.92 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.5 Hz, H-C(1)), 8.01–8.12 (m, 3H, H<sub>arom.</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 26.6, 29.0, 31.6, 50.7, 113.9, 115.8, 116.7, 119.8, 120.7 (q, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 257.8 Hz), 121.8, 124.0, 124.5, 129.6, 130.3, 144.1, 147.8, 149.4, 151.3, 155.6 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (188 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : -58.5 (s, OCF<sub>3</sub>) ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 282 nm (5.42); MS (ESI, MeOH) *m/z*: 334.2 [M + 2H]<sup>2+</sup> (20%), 667.4 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (100%); HRMS for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>32</sub>F<sub>6</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> calcd.: 666.2429; found: 666.2430.

### *N,N*-Bis-(2,4-difluoro-9-acridinyl)-1,8-diaminooctane **5e**

Compound **5e** (0.42 g, 37%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-trifluoromethoxyacridine (1.0 g, 4.0 mmol) and 1,8-diaminooctane (0.27 g, 1.80 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow oil. IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3050m, 2934s, 2853m, 1647m, 1605m, 1592m, 1570m, 1537s, 1511s, 1476s, 1458s, 1437s, 1395m, 1356m, 1282s, 1244s, 1124s, 1070w, 1000m cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$ : 1.42–1.53 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>(3', 4', 5', 6')), 1.95–2.04 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(2', 7')), 4.12–4.18 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(1', 8')), 5.00 (br s, 2H, NH), 7.59 (ddd, 2H, *J* = 8.7, 6.2, 1.3 Hz, H-C(6)), 7.81 (ddd, 2H, *J* = 11.2, 8.3, 2.5 Hz, H-C(3)), 7.98 (ddd, 2H, *J* = 8.7, 6.2, 1.3 Hz, H-C(7)), 8.02 (dd, 2H, *J* = 8.7, 2.5 Hz, H-C(1)), 8.14–8.25 (m, 2H, H-C(5)), 8.02 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3, H-C(8)) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$ : 27.7, 30.1, 30.4, 50.6, 111.1, 119.9, 122.7 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 18.9 Hz), 125.3 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 29.2 Hz), 136.8, 153.5 (dd, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 254.0, 12.7 Hz), 159.0 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (188 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : -115.1 (br s, F), -125.4 (m, F) ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 279 nm (5.05); MS (ESI, MeOH) *m/z*: 571.4 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (100%); HRMS for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>28</sub>F<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> calcd.: 570.2407; found: 570.2407.

### *N,N*-Bis-(6-chloro-2-methoxy-9-acridinyl)-1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane **6a** [9]

Compound **6a** (0.8 g, 80%) was obtained from 6,9-dichloro-2-methoxyacridine (1.0 g, 3.6 mmol) and 1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane (0.23 g, 1.60 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 170°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2924s, 1629s, 1560s, 1465s, 1230m, 1130m, 1030m cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 3.48 (s, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(4', 5')), 3.64 (t, 4H, *J* = 4.5 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>(2', 7')), 3.77–3.82 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(1', 8')), 3.85 (s, 6H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 7.23 (dd, 2H, *J* = 9.1, 2.1 Hz, H-C(7)), 7.32 (dd, 2H, *J* = 9.5, 2.5 Hz, H-C(3)), 7.54 (d, 2H, *J* = 2.5 Hz, H-C(1)), 7.65 (d, 2H, *J* = 9.1 Hz, H-C(8)), 7.70 (d, 2H, *J* = 2.1 Hz, H-C(5)), 8.26 (d, 2H, *J* = 9.5 Hz, H-C(4)) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, 50°C, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 49.0, 55.4, 69.5, 69.8, 101.2, 114.8, 117.3, 122.5, 123.9, 125.0, 127.3, 129.0, 133.7, 144.4, 146.7, 150.7, 154.9 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 283 nm (5.00); MS (ESI, MeOH + TFA) *m/z*: 316.5 [M + 2H]<sup>2+</sup> (100%), 631.5 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (90%).

### *N,N*-Bis-9-acridinyl-1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane **6b**

Compound **6b** (0.4 g, 38%) was obtained from 9-chloroacridine (1.0 g, 4.7 mmol) and 1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane (0.31 g, 2.10 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 154°C (lit: 150–153°C [24]); IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3166m, 3058m, 2889s, 1625s, 1595s, 1561s, 1521s, 1488s, 1471s, 1418m, 1396w, 1350s, 1288w, 1256s, 1121s, 1090m, 1028w cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 3.64–3.72 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>(2', 4', 5', 7')), 3.87–3.95 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>(1', 8')), 5.65 (br s, 2H, NH), 7.29 (ddd, 4H, *J* = 8.7, 6.4, 0.9 Hz, H-C(2)), 7.60 (ddd, 4H, *J* = 8.7, 6.4, 0.9 Hz, H-C(3)), 7.99–8.12 (m, 8H, H-C(1, 4)) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 50.4, 70.3, 70.6, 117.6, 122.8, 123.2, 128.1, 129.8, 150.5, 151.3 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 277 nm (4.94); MS (ESI, MeOH) *m/z*: 252.3 [M + 2H]<sup>2+</sup> (15%), 503.3

$[M + H]^+$  (100%); HRMS for  $C_{32}H_{30}NO_2$  calcd.: 502.2369; found: 502.2368.

***N,N*-Bis-(2-methoxy-9-acridinyl)-1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane 6c**

Compound **6d** (0.8 g, 77%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-methoxyacridine (1.0 g, 4.1 mmol) and 1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane (0.28 g, 1.90 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 181–182°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3384s, 2991m, 2897m, 2869m, 1633s, 1561s, 1524w, 1488s, 1472s, 1456m, 1436m, 1421s, 1395w, 1370w, 1334w, 1320w, 1280w, 1257w, 1236s, 1150w, 1124s, 1114s, 1103s, 1032s  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ : 3.60 (t, 4H,  $J = 4.5$  Hz,  $CH_2(2', 7')$ ), 3.68 (s, 4H,  $CH_2(4', 5')$ ), 3.87–3.95 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(1', 8')$ ), 3.90 (s, 6H,  $OCH_3$ ), 5.25 (br s, 2H, NH), 7.30–7.40 (m, 6H,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.59 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.99–8.14 (m, 6H,  $H_{arom.}$ ) ppm;  $^{13}C$ -NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ : 49.9, 55.5, 70.4, 70.6, 99.5, 119.0, 119.1, 122.0, 124.0, 128.7, 129.9, 131.6, 146.3, 147.9, 149.1, 155.9 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 279 nm (4.96); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 282.3  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (100%), 563.4  $[M + H]^+$  (99%); HRMS for  $C_{34}H_{34}NO_4$  calcd.: 562.2580; found: 562.2580.

***N,N*-Bis-(2-trifluoromethoxy-9-acridinyl)-1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane 6e**

Compound **6e** (0.36 g, 36%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-trifluoromethoxyacridine (1.0 g, 3.4 mmol) and 1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane (0.22 g, 1.50 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow oil. IR (film)  $\nu$ : 3386m, 2922m, 1631s, 1563s, 1522s, 1478s, 1431s, 1338m, 1259s, 1219s, 1162s  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ : 3.62–3.80 (m, 8H,  $CH_2(2', 4', 5', 7')$ ), 3.84–3.87 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(1', 8')$ ), 5.50 (br s, 2H, NH), 7.34 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.51 (dd, 2H,  $J = 9.5, 2.5$  Hz, H-C(3)), 7.64 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.95 (d, 2H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, H-C(1)), 8.02–8.14 (m, 6H,  $H_{arom.}$ ) ppm;  $^{13}C$ -NMR (125 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ : 49.9, 70.3, 113.6, 117.1, 117.8, 120.6 (q,  $J_{C,F} = 257.8$  Hz) 122.1, 124.2, 124.5, 129.5, 130.2, 132.2, 144.4, 147.7, 149.6, 151.3 ppm;  $^{19}F$ -NMR (188 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ : -58.4 (s,  $OCF_3$ ) ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 280 nm (5.00); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 336.3  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (100%), 671.4  $[M + H]^+$  (45%); HRMS for  $C_{34}H_{28}F_6NO_4$  calcd.: 670.2015; found: 670.2016.

***N,N*-Bis-(2,4-difluoro-9-acridinyl)-1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane 6f**

Compound **6f** (0.36 g, 16%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-trifluoromethoxyacridine (1.0 g, 4.0 mmol) and 1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane (0.27 g, 1.80 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 115–116°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3056m, 2926m, 2873m, 1643m, 1604w, 1592m, 1565s, 1533s, 1514s, 1473s, 1433s, 1394m, 1334m, 1282m, 1240m, 1126s, 1514s, 1082m, 1031w  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ : 3.69 (t, 4H,  $J = 4.5$  Hz,  $CH_2(2', 7')$ ), 3.73 (s, 4H,  $CH_2(4', 5')$ ), 3.85–3.95 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(1', 8')$ ), 5.45 (br s, 2H, NH), 7.18–7.25 (m, 2H,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.36 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 8.3, 6.6, 0.9$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.56 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 10.7, 2.1, 2.1$  Hz, H-C(1)), 7.64 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 8.3, 6.6, 0.9$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 8.05–8.20 (m, 4H,  $H_{arom.}$ ) ppm;  $^{13}C$ -NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ : 49.9, 70.3, 101.4, 105.3 (dd,  $J_{C,F} = 31.0, 23.1$  Hz), 118.3, 118.4, 122.3, 124.6, 130.1, 131.1, 137.7, 148.8, 150.4, 155.8, 158.1 ppm;  $^{19}F$ -NMR (188 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ : -113.7 (m, F), -118.2 (m, F) ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 278 nm (4.92); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 575.5  $[M + H]^+$  (100%); HRMS for  $C_{32}H_{28}F_2NO_2$  calcd.: 538.2180; found: 538.2182.

***N,N*-Bis-(4-thiomethyl-9-acridinyl)-1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane 6g**

Compound **6g** (1.0 g, 80%) was obtained from 9-chloro-4-thiomethylacridine **3a** (1.2 g, 4.6 mmol) and 1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane (0.31 g, 2.10 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 95–97°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2914s, 1622s, 1597s, 1565s, 1509s, 1457s, 1419s, 1336m, 1256m, 1123s  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 2.47 (s, 6H,  $SCH_3$ ), 3.70 (s, 4H,  $CH_2(4', 5')$ ), 3.74–3.80 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(2', 7')$ ), 3.90–3.96 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(1', 8')$ ), 7.16 (dd, 2H,  $J = 7.5, 7.1$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.21–7.26 (m, 2H,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.29 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.53 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 7.5, 7.1, 1.3$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.90–8.03 (m, 4H,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 8.17 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.7$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ) ppm;  $^{13}C$ -NMR (100 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 15.6, 50.0, 70.0, 70.2, 116.2, 116.8, 120.0, 122.9, 123.4, 130.4, 144.6, 146.1, 152.8, 154.9 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 285 nm (4.88); MS (ESI, MeOH + TFA)  $m/z$ : 298.3  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (100%), 595.3  $[M + H]^+$  (75%); HRMS for  $C_{34}H_{34}NO_2S_2$  calcd.: 594.2123; found: 594.2124.

***N,N*-Bis-(2-nitro-5-thiomethyl-9-acridinyl)-1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane 6h**

Compound **6h** (0.26 g, 80%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-nitro-5-thiomethylacridine **3b** (1.2 g, 3.9 mmol) and 1,8-diamino-3,6-dioxaoctane (0.23 g, 1.60 mmol) following GP2 as a red solid. M.p.: 205–207°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2921s, 1618s, 1598s, 1571s, 1515s, 1492s, 1435m, 1331s, 1309s, 1230m, 1130m, 1104m  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 2.43 (s, 6H,  $SCH_3$ ), 3.55 (s, 4H,  $CH_2(4', 5')$ ), 3.73 (t, 4H,  $J = 5.3$  Hz,  $CH_2(2', 7')$ ), 3.90–3.94 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(1', 8')$ ), 7.25 (dd, 2H,  $J = 8.3, 7.5$  Hz, H-C(7)), 7.33 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, H-C(6)), 7.77 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.2$  Hz, H-C(4)), 7.98 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, H-C(8)), 8.14 (dd, 2H,  $J = 9.2, 2.4$  Hz, H-C(3)), 9.26 (d, 2H,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, H-C(1)) ppm;  $^{13}C$ -NMR (125 MHz, 50°C,  $DMSO-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 13.4, 48.7, 69.2, 69.7, 114.7, 118.5, 122.0, 122.7, 123.7, 128.9, 130.0, 131.1, 139.6, 140.6, 146.8, 148.8, 154.1 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 266 nm (4.53); MS (ESI, MeOH + TFA)  $m/z$ : 346.3  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (100%), 685.4  $[M + H]^+$  (100%); HRMS for  $C_{34}H_{32}N_6O_6S_2$  calcd.: 684.1825; found: 684.1827.

***N,N*-Bis-(6-chloro-2-methoxy-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis(3-aminopropyl)piperazine 7a [9], [25]**

Compound **7a** (0.5 g, 52%) was obtained from 6,9-dichloro-2-methoxyacridine (1.0 g, 3.6 mmol) and 1,4-bis(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.28 g, 1.4 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 233–235°C (lit: 231–234°C [19]); IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3284s, 2922s, 2819s, 1633s, 1606m, 1560s, 1516s, 1463s, 1442m, 1427s, 1375w, 1346m, 1307w, 1254s, 1238s, 1141m, 1071w, 1035w, 1002w  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR (500 MHz, 80°C,  $DMSO-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 1.80–1.88 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(2')$ ), 2.23 (s, 8H,  $CH_2(pip.)$ ), 2.34 (t, 4H,  $J = 6.9$  Hz,  $CH_2(3')$ ), 3.75–3.82 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(1')$ ), 3.92 (s, 6H,  $OCH_3$ ), 7.25 (dd, 2H,  $J = 9.1, 2.1$  Hz, H-C(7)), 7.40 (dd, 2H,  $J = 9.5, 2.5$  Hz, H-C(3)), 7.60 (d, 2H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, H-C(1)), 7.78–7.85 (m, 4H, H-C(5,8)), 8.31 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.5$  Hz, H-C(4)) ppm;  $^{13}C$ -NMR (125 MHz, 80°C,  $DMSO-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 27.2, 47.7, 52.3, 54.9, 55.4, 101.4, 114.4, 116.9, 122.1, 123.3, 124.0, 126.0, 129.3, 133.2, 147.3, 150.3, 154.8 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 285 nm (4.23); MS (ESI, MeOH + TFA)  $m/z$ : 342.5  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (100%), 683.6  $[M + H]^+$  (40%).

***N,N*-Bis-9-acridinyl-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine 7b [20], [26]**

Compound **7b** (0.84 g, 72%) was obtained from 9-chloroacridine (1.0 g, 4.7 mmol) and 1,4-bis(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.42 g,

2.1 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 250–251°C. IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2935m, 2821s, 1616s, 1561s, 1519s, 1436m, 1396m, 1338m, 1310w, 1267m, 1139m, 1023w  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 2.00–2.05 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(2')$ ), 2.65–2.85 (m, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2(11,12)$ ), 4.03–4.09 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(1')$ ), 7.32 (ddd, 4H,  $J = 8.7, 6.4, 0.9$  Hz, H-C(2)), 7.66 (ddd, 4H,  $J = 8.7, 6.4, 0.9$  Hz, H-C(3)), 8.05–8.12 (m, 4H, H-C(4)) 8.24 (dd, 4H,  $J = 8.7, 0.9$  Hz, H-C(1)) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (125 MHz, 45°C,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 27.2, 48.7, 52.6, 55.6, 112.4, 122.0, 123.5, 125.6, 131.2, 145.9, 152.1 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 281 nm (4.93); MS (ESI, MeOH + TFA)  $m/z$ : 278.4  $[\text{M} + 2\text{H}]^{2+}$  (100%), 555.5  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  (18%); HRMS for  $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{38}\text{N}_6$  calcd.: 554.3158; found: 554.3157.

***N,N*-Bis-(2-methoxy-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine 7c**

Compound **7c** (0.67 g, 61%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-methoxyacridine (1.0 g, 4.1 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.26 g, 1.8 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 191–192°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2924s, 2815s, 1632s, 1561s, 1517s, 1488s, 1467m, 1426s, 1352m, 1308w, 1270m, 1233s, 1139m, 1034m  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 1.76–1.86 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(2')$ ), 2.18 (br s, 8H,  $\text{CH}_2(\text{pip.})$ ), 2.29 (t, 4H,  $J = 6.6$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2(3')$ ), 3.70–3.80 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(1')$ ), 3.90 (s, 6H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 6.73 (br s, 2H, NH), 7.30 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 7.8, 7.0, 1.2$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.37 (dd, 2H,  $J = 8.7, 2.1$  Hz, H-C(3)), 7.55–7.62 (m, 4H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.78–7.88 (m, 4H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 8.29 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, H-C(4)) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 27.5, 47.9, 52.6, 55.3, 55.5, 100.3, 116.4, 116.8, 120.0, 121.7, 122.2, 122.7, 123.3, 123.8, 128.5, 147.9, 150.0, 154.5 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 289 nm (4.81); MS (ESI, MeOH + TFA)  $m/z$ : 308.4  $[\text{M} + 2\text{H}]^{2+}$  (100%), 615.6  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  (20%); HRMS for  $\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_6\text{O}_2$  calcd.: 614.3369; found: 614.3370.

***N,N*-Bis-(2-trifluoromethoxy-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine 7d**

Compound **7d** (0.14 g, 15%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-trifluoromethoxyacridine (1.0 g, 3.4 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.30 g, 1.5 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 200–201°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2925m, 2825m, 1618m, 1561s, 1517s, 1439m, 1356m, 1266s, 1218s, 1143s, 1004w  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (500 MHz, 80°C,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 1.82–1.90 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(2')$ ), 2.27 (br s, 8H,  $\text{CH}_2(\text{pip.})$ ), 2.37 (t, 4H,  $J = 6.6$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2(3')$ ), 3.80–3.90 (t, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(1')$ ), 7.25–7.32 (m, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.50–7.90 (m, 8H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 8.20–8.30 (m, 4H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (125 MHz, 80°C,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 27.2, 48.3, 52.3, 55.2, 115.3, 120.7 (q,  $J_{\text{C,F}} = 263.2$  Hz), 121.8, 123.2, 129.7, 142.2, 151.3 ppm;  $^{19}\text{F-NMR}$  (188 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : –57.5 (s,  $\text{OCF}_3$ ) ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 285 nm (4.77); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 362.3  $[\text{M} + 2\text{H}]^{2+}$  (100%), 723.5  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  (30%); HRMS for  $\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{36}\text{F}_6\text{N}_6\text{O}_2$  calcd.: 722.2804; found: 722.2805.

***N,N*-Bis-(2,4-difluoro-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine 7e**

Compound **7e** (0.08 g, 7%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2,4-difluoroacridine (1.0 g, 4.0 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.36 g, 1.8 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 220–221°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 1626s, 1593s, 1540m, 1472m, 1329m, 1290m, 1199w, 1138m, 1006w  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 2.28–2.34 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(2')$ ), 3.25 (t, 4H,  $J = 6.6$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2(3')$ ), 3.47 (br s, 8H,  $\text{CH}_2(\text{pip.})$ ), 4.10–4.20 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(1')$ ), 7.49 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 8.7, 6.6, 0.9$  Hz, H-C(6 oder 7)), 7.62 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 10.7, 8.7, 2.1$  Hz, H-C(3)), 7.75 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.7$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.83–7.91 (m, 4H,

$\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 8.23 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.7$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (125 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 23.9, 45.7, 49.1, 53.9, 109.9 (ddd,  $J_{\text{C,F}} = 30.5, 21.2$  Hz), 111.9, 113.4, 118.4, 124.6, 135.9, 136.2, 139.4, 151.6 (dd,  $J_{\text{C,F}} = 253.3, 13.3$  Hz), 156.8 (dd,  $J_{\text{C,F}} = 254.0, 13.3$  Hz), 157.4 ppm;  $^{19}\text{F-NMR}$  (188 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : –115.7 (m, F), –119.6 (m, F) ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 284 nm (4.88); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 314.3  $[\text{M} + 2\text{H}]^{2+}$  (70%), 627.5  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  (100%); HRMS for  $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{36}\text{F}_2\text{N}_6$  calcd.: 590.2970; found: 590.2971.

***N,N*-Bis-(5-methoxy-3-nitro-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine 7f**

Compound **7f** (0.22 g, 17%) was obtained from 9-chloro-5-methoxy-3-nitro-acridine (1.2 g, 4.2 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.38 g, 1.9 mmol) following GP2 as a red solid. M.p.: 250°C (dec.); IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2925s, 1626s, 1577s, 1542s, 1473m, 1350s, 1268s, 1101s  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (500 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 2.31–2.45 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(2')$ ), 3.40–3.60 (m, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2(3', \text{pip.})$ ), 4.15 (s, 6H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 4.19–4.29 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(1')$ ), 7.55 (dd, 2H,  $J = 8.5, 7.9$  Hz, H-C(7)), 7.60 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, H-C(1)), 8.15 (dd, 2H,  $J = 7.9, 2.4$  Hz, H-C(2)), 8.18–8.34 (m, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 8.84–9.00 (m, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 9.20 (d, 2H,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, H-C(4)) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (125 MHz, 80°C,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 29.0, 48.3, 53.0, 56.0, 56.4, 113.3, 114.5, 114.6, 117.0, 121.6, 121.9, 123.3, 128.2, 132.3, 140.3, 148.0, 150.0, 157.8 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 289 nm (4.75); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 353.3  $[\text{M} + 2\text{H}]^{2+}$  (100%), 700.5  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  (45%); HRMS for  $\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{40}\text{N}_8\text{O}_6$  calcd.: 704.3071; found: 704.3072.

***N,N*-Bis-(2-methoxy-6-nitro-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine 7g**

Compound **7g** (0.22 g, 17%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-methoxy-6-nitro-acridine (1.2 g, 4.2 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.38 g, 1.90 mmol) following GP2 as a red solid. M.p.: 262°C (dec.); IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2925s, 2830m, 1634s, 1573s, 1540s, 1515s, 1482m, 1430m, 1342s, 1236s, 1139m, 1077m, 1030m  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (500 MHz, 80°C,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 1.84–1.97 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(2')$ ), 2.25 (br s, 8H,  $\text{CH}_2(\text{pip.})$ ), 2.37 (t, 4H,  $J = 6.6$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2(3')$ ), 3.80–3.90 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(1')$ ), 3.96 (s, 6H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 7.42 (dd, 2H,  $J = 7.5, 2.5$  Hz, H-C(3)), 7.66 (d, 2H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, H-C(1)), 7.86–7.98 (m, 4H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 8.51 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.1$  Hz, H-C(4)), 8.60–8.70 (m, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (125 MHz, 45°C,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 28.4, 47.8, 52.0, 55.4, 55.7, 101.1, 105.0, 113.3, 113.7, 114.0, 114.6, 119.4, 124.5, 125.0, 125.9, 126.6, 150.0, 155.8 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 287 nm (4.85); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 353.3  $[\text{M} + 2\text{H}]^{2+}$  (100%), 700.5  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  (25%); HRMS for  $\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{40}\text{N}_8\text{O}_6$  calcd.: 704.3071; found: 704.3072.

***N,N*-Bis-(2,4-dimethoxy-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine 7h**

Compound **7h** (1.1 g, 65%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2,4-dimethoxy-acridine (1.5 g, 5.5 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.50 g, 2.50 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 224°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2934s, 1628s, 1570m, 1530s, 1466s, 1422s, 1343m, 1285s, 1209m, 1159s, 1056w  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.92–2.00 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(2')$ ), 2.55–2.65 (m, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2(3', \text{pip.})$ ), 3.73–3.83 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(1')$ ), 3.94 (s, 6H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 4.07 (s, 6H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 6.69 (d, 2H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 6.95 (d, 2H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.37 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.60 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 8.7, 6.6, 1.2$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 8.16 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.7$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 8.21 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.7$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 27.3, 50.0, 53.5, 55.5, 56.2, 57.4, 92.3, 101.2, 118.2, 118.3, 122.3, 123.8, 128.4, 130.15,



139.2, 146.6, 150.1, 155.5, 156.1 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 286 nm (4.82); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 339.0  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (25%), 675.7  $[M + H]^+$  (100%); HRMS for  $C_{40}H_{46}N_6O_4$  calcd.: 674.3581; found: 674.3582.

***N,N*-Bis-(2,4-dimethoxy-6-nitro-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine **7i****

Compound **7i** (0.6 g, 42%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2,4-dimethoxy-6-nitro-acridine (1.3 g, 4.2 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.38 g, 1.90 mmol) following GP2 as a red solid. M.p.: 155°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2935s, 2832s, 1630s, 1615s, 1568s, 1519s, 1466s, 1432s, 1373m, 1341s, 1292s, 1209s, 1165s, 1148s, 1108s, 1048m, 1006m  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $CD_3OD$ )  $\delta$ : 2.42–2.52 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(2')$ ), 3.30 (br s, 8H,  $CH_2(pip.)$ ), 3.40 (t, 4H,  $J = 6.6$  Hz,  $CH_2(3')$ ), 3.98 (s, 6H,  $OCH_3$ ), 4.14 (s, 6H,  $OCH_3$ ), 4.24–4.33 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(1')$ ), 7.14 (d, 2H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.38 (d, 2H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 8.16 (dd, 2H,  $J = 9.5, 2.5$  Hz, H-C(7)) 8.64 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.5$  Hz, H-C(8)), 9.00 (d, 2H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, H-C(5)) ppm;  $^{13}C$ -NMR (125 MHz, 45°C, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 29.6, 48.5, 53.3, 56.3, 56.7, 57.4, 92.8, 103.4, 114.8, 115.5, 119.6, 127.0, 127.4, 140.4, 145.6, 147.6, 155.7, 156.9, 157.4 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 287 nm (4.85); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 383.3  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (100%), 765.5  $[M + H]^+$  (20%); HRMS for  $C_{40}H_{44}N_8O_8$  calcd.: 764.3282; found: 764.3284.

***N,N*-Bis-(3-fluoro-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine **7j****

Compound **7j** (0.74 g, 36%) was obtained from 9-chloro-3-fluoro-acridine (2.0 g, 8.6 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.70 g, 3.50 mmol) following GP2 as a red solid. M.p.: 270°C (dec.); IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3238m, 3045m, 2938m, 2823m, 2610m, 1639s, 1591s, 1540s, 1477s, 1362m, 1270s, 1189m, 1161m, 1142m, 1116w, 1098w, 1082w  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR (500 MHz, 80°C, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 1.92–2.02 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(2')$ ), 2.38 (br s, 8H,  $CH_2(pip.)$ ), 3.22–3.31 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(3')$ ), 3.99–4.07 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(1')$ ), 7.25 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 9.5, 7.5, 2.5$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.37–7.44 (m, 2H,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.50 (dd, 2H,  $J = 10.4, 2.5$  Hz, H-C(4)), 7.75–7.82 (m, 4H,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 8.41 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.5$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 8.50 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.1, 6.1$  Hz, H-C(1)) ppm;  $^{13}C$ -NMR (125 MHz, 80°C, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 27.5, 49.5, 52.2, 55.1, 105.3, 121.1, 122.0, 122.5, 124.2, 124.8, 127.7, 129.3, 129.8, 130.3, 151.2, 158.5 (d,  $J_{C,F} = 250.9$  Hz), 160.7 ppm;  $^{19}F$ -NMR (188 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : –112.0 (m, F) ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 283 nm (4.99); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 296.3  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (100%), 591.5  $[M + H]^+$  (30%); HRMS for  $C_{36}H_{36}F_2N_6$  calcd.: 590.2970; found: 590.2970.

***N,N*-Bis-(1-fluoro-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine **7k****

Compound **7k** (0.71 g, 47%) was obtained from 9-chloro-1-fluoro-acridine (1.5 g, 6.5 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.52 g, 2.60 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 182°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3252s, 2919s, 2822s, 1633m, 1613m, 1555s, 1513s, 1461s, 1435m, 1386m, 1357m, 1341m, 1312m, 1272w, 1229w, 1210w, 1131m, 1028w, 1019m  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR (500 MHz, 80°C, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 1.74–1.84 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(2')$ ), 2.22 (s, 8H,  $CH_2(pip.)$ ), 2.32 (t, 4H,  $J = 6.7$  Hz,  $CH_2(3')$ ), 3.63–3.73 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(1')$ ), 6.93 (dd, 2H,  $J = 12.8, 7.9$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.23 (dd, 2H,  $J = 7.3, 7.3$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.40–7.64 (m, 8H,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 8.13 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.9$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ) ppm;  $^{13}C$ -NMR (125 MHz, 45°C, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 23.1, 45.7, 47.7, 52.9, 55.4, 102.9, 109.2, 111.4, 112.9, 118.2, 123.7, 125.7, 135.1, 135.7, 139.3, 141.6, 157.4, 165.1 (d,  $J_{C,F} = 251.6$  Hz) ppm;  $^{19}F$ -NMR (188 MHz, 50°C, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : –101.8 (m, F) ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ):

282 nm (5.03); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 296.3  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (100%), 591.5  $[M + H]^+$  (40%); HRMS for  $C_{36}H_{36}F_2N_6$  calcd.: 590.2970; found: 590.2969.

***N,N*-Bis-(2-trifluoromethoxy-7-nitro-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine **7l****

Compound **7l** (0.07 g, 12%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-trifluoromethoxy-7-nitroacridine (0.6 g, 1.8 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.14 g, 0.70 mmol) following GP2 as a red solid. M.p.: 221°C (dec.); IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2944m, 2822m, 1618m, 1578s, 1524s, 1490s, 1450m, 1324s, 1253s, 1222s, 1205s, 1170s, 1102m, 1011w  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR (400 MHz, 50°C,  $CD_3OD$ )  $\delta$ : 2.03–2.13 (m, 4H,  $J = 6.6$  Hz,  $CH_2(2')$ ), 2.48 (br s, 8H,  $CH_2(pip.)$ ), 2.50–2.60 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(3')$ ), 4.02–4.12 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(1')$ ), 7.63 (dd, 2H,  $J = 9.5, 2.5$  Hz, H-C(3)), 7.75 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.5$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.85 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.5$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 8.20 (d, 2H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, H-C(1)), 8.33 (dd, 2H,  $J = 9.5, 2.5$  Hz, H-C(6)), 9.27 (d, 2H,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, H-C(8)) ppm;  $^{13}C$ -NMR (125 MHz, 90°C, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 28.9, 49.9, 53.5, 56.2, 114.0, 115.7, 121.1 (q,  $J_{C,F} = 250.0$  Hz), 123.1, 123.9, 125.4, 126.6, 141.2, 143.9, 149.8, 154.5 ppm;  $^{19}F$ -NMR (188 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : –60.0 (s,  $OCF_3$ ) ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 262 nm (4.65); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 407.3  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (10%), 813.4  $[M + H]^+$  (100%); HRMS for  $C_{36}H_{34}F_6N_8O_6$  calcd.: 812.2506; found: 812.2505.

***N,N*-Bis-(3-chloro-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine **7m****

Compound **7m** (0.66 g, 44%) was obtained from 3,9-dichloroacridine (1.5 g, 6.0 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.48 g, 2.40 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 182°C (dec.); IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3287s, 2925m, 2824m, 1607s, 1563s, 1521s, 1449s, 1383w, 1355m, 1343m, 1310m, 1252m, 1140m, 1080m, 1028w  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR (400 MHz, 50°C,  $CD_3OD$ )  $\delta$ : 2.42–2.52 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(2')$ ), 3.50–3.59 (m, 12H,  $CH_2(3', pip.)$ ), 4.27–4.38 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(1')$ ), 7.55 (d 2H,  $J = 8.7$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.61 (dd, 2H,  $J = 7.9, 7.1$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.79–7.85 (m, 4H,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 7.99 (dd, 2H,  $J = 7.9, 7.1$  Hz,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 8.57 (m, 4H,  $H_{arom.}$ ) ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 289 nm (4.54); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 312.4  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (100%), 623.4  $[M + H]^+$  (40%); HRMS for  $C_{36}H_{36}Cl_2N_6$  calcd.: 622.2379; found: 622.2379.

***N,N*-Bis-(2,3,4-trifluoro-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine **7n****

Compound **7n** (0.26 g, 17%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2,3,4-trifluoroacridine (1.5 g, 5.6 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.46 g, 2.30 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 224°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2925m, 1629s, 1596s, 1544m, 1518m, 1481m, 1402m, 1300m, 1262m, 1150m, 1065m  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $CD_3OD$ )  $\delta$ : 2.42–2.52 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(2')$ ), 3.34 (br s, 4H,  $CH_2(3')$ ), 3.58 (br s, 8H,  $CH_2(pip.)$ ), 4.30–4.40 (m, 4H,  $CH_2(1')$ ), 7.62–7.68 (m, 2H,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 8.00–8.05 (m, 4H,  $H_{arom.}$ ), 8.44–8.57 (m, 4H,  $H_{arom.}$ ) ppm;  $^{13}C$ -NMR (125 MHz, 80°C, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 25.5 (t,  $CH_2(2')$ ), 47.9 (t,  $CH_2(1')$ ), 50.7 (t,  $CH_2(pip.)$ ), 55.1 (t,  $CH_2(3')$ ), 108.5, 110.1, 114.0, 117.1, 119.9, 126.0, 130.3, 131.1, 137.3, 141.7 (dd,  $J_{C,F} = 254.0, 15.7$  Hz), 147.0, 144.6 (dd,  $J_{C,F} = 250.4, 12.0$  Hz), 146.5 (dd,  $J_{C,F} = 250.1, 10.7$  Hz), 149.6, 159.5 ppm;  $^{19}F$ -NMR (188 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : –139.4 (m, F), –150.6 (m, F), –151.8 (m, F) ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 283 nm (4.81); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 332.3  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  (20%), 663.4  $[M + H]^+$  (100%); HRMS for  $C_{36}H_{32}F_6N_6$  calcd.: 662.2593; found: 662.2593.

### *N,N*-Bis-(4-methoxy-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine **7o**

Compound **7o** (1.23 g, 82%) was obtained from 9-chloro-4-methoxyacridine (1.5 g, 6.2 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.50 g, 2.50 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 194°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3252s, 2914s, 2826s, 1614m, 1570s, 1524s, 1467s, 1431s, 1331m, 1312m, 1269s, 1249s, 1134s, 1083s, 1025w  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 1.80–1.88 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(2')$ ), 2.31 (br s, 8H,  $\text{CH}_2(\text{pip.})$ ), 2.38 (t, 4H,  $J = 6.7$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2(3')$ ), 3.81–3.86 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(1')$ ), 3.96 (s, 6H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 7.06 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.5$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.18 (dd, 2H,  $J = 7.9$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.27 (dd, 2H,  $J = 7.9$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.80–7.88 (m, 4H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 8.28 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.7$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (125 MHz,  $80^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 27.3, 48.8, 52.4, 55.5, 55.6, 108.1, 116.0, 116.7, 117.3, 120.9, 121.4, 124.3, 125.7, 129.1, 138.7, 145.4, 151.3, 152.7 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 284 nm (5.25); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 308.4  $[\text{M} + 2\text{H}]^{2+}$  (100%), 615.5  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  (40%); HRMS for  $\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{42}\text{N}_6\text{O}_2$  calcd.: 614.3369; found: 614.3369.

### *N,N*-Bis-(4-thiomethyl-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine **7p**

Compound **7p** (0.84 g, 62%) was obtained from 9-chloro-4-thiomethylacridine **3a** (1.2 g, 4.6 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.42 g, 2.10 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 177–178°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2921s, 2819s, 1618s, 1599m, 1557m, 1511s, 1456m, 1437s, 1336m, 1306m, 1257m, 1137s  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $50^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 1.80–1.94 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(2')$ ), 2.34 (s, 6H,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 2.40–2.54 (m, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2(3', \text{pip.})$ ), 3.81–3.90 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(1')$ ), 7.23–7.40 (m, 6H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.65 (dd, 2H,  $J = 7.9$ , 7.5 Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.89 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.9$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 8.08 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.7$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 8.35 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.7$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (125 MHz,  $90^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 17.6, 26.3, 47.9, 51.7, 54.8, 114.9, 115.8, 119.2, 121.6, 122.0, 123.2, 123.6, 128.0, 129.4, 138.0, 145.2, 146.9, 151.8 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 287 nm (4.00); MS (ESI, MeOH)  $m/z$ : 325.1  $[\text{M} + 2\text{H}]^{2+}$  (100%), 647.5  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  (20%); HRMS for  $\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{42}\text{N}_6\text{S}_2$  calcd.: 646.2912; found: 646.2910.

### *N,N*-Bis-(3-chloro-5-methoxy-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine **7q**

Compound **7q** (1.0 g, 57%) was obtained from 3,9-dichloro-5-methoxyacridine (1.5 g, 6.1 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.50 g, 2.50 mmol) following GP2 as a yellow solid. M.p.: 224–225°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2930s, 2826s, 1618s, 1564s, 1522s, 1458s, 1437s, 1348m, 1310m, 1250s, 1147m, 1084s  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $45^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.92–2.00 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(2')$ ), 2.66–2.74 (m, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2(3', \text{pip.})$ ), 3.94–3.98 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(1')$ ), 4.08 (s, 6H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 6.97 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.5$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.17–7.23 (m, 4H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 7.73 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.7$  Hz,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 8.11–8.16 (m, 4H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ );  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (125 MHz,  $50^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 27.2, 47.7, 52.3, 54.9, 56.3, 101.4, 114.4, 116.9, 122.1, 123.3, 124.0, 126.0, 129.3, 133.2, 147.3, 150.3, 154.8 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 288 nm (4.64); MS (ESI, MeOH + TFA)  $m/z$ : 342.4  $[\text{M} + 2\text{H}]^{2+}$  (40%), 683.6  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  (100%); HRMS for  $\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{40}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_6\text{O}_2$  calcd.: 682.2590; found: 682.2591.

### *N,N*-Bis-(2-nitro-5-thiomethyl-9-acridinyl)-1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine **7r**

Compound **7r** (0.5 g, 45%) was obtained from 9-chloro-2-nitro-5-thiomethylacridine **3b** (1.2 g, 3.9 mmol) and 1,4-bis-(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (0.30 g, 1.50 mmol) following GP2 as an orange-colored solid. M.p.: 246–248°C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 2923s, 1631s, 1598s,

1545s, 1521s, 1478s, 1437s, 1336s, 1240m, 11182m, 1137m, 1102w  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $50^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 2.40–2.44 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(2')$ ), 2.63 (s, 6H,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 3.20–3.40 (m, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2(3', \text{pip.})$ ), 4.22–4.28 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2(1')$ ), 7.56 (dd, 2H,  $J = 8.3$ , 7.5 Hz,  $\text{H-C}(7)$ ), 8.06 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.5$  Hz,  $\text{H-C}(6)$ ), 8.43–8.62 (m, 6H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom.}}$ ), 9.42 (br s, 2H,  $\text{H-C}(1)$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (125 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 17.6, 22.9, 46.7, 53.0, 56.0, 113.0, 119.2, 120.3, 121.2, 122.4, 123.0, 124.8, 125.7, 127.2, 136.1, 139.1, 141.2, 144.5 ppm; UV-VIS (methanol)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ): 283 nm (4.64); MS (ESI, MeOH + TFA)  $m/z$ : 369.3  $[\text{M} + 2\text{H}]^{2+}$  (25%), 737.4  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  (100%); HRMS for  $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{40}\text{N}_8\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$  calcd.: 736.2614; found: 736.2615.

The authors are grateful to Miki Tachibana for assistance in the synthesis. Many thanks are due to Dr. C. Wagner for performing the crystal structure analysis.

The authors have declared no conflict of interest.

## References

- [1] M. Citron, *Nat. Rev. Neurosci.* **2004**, 5, 677–685.
- [2] B. Zhao, M. Yu, M. Neitzel, J. Marugg, *et al.*, *J. Biol. Chem.* **2008**, 238, 2927–2938.
- [3] Y. Nakagami, S. Nishimura, T. Murasugi, I. Kaneko, *et al.*, *Brit. J. Pharmacol.* **2002**, 137, 676–682.
- [4] A. Aguzzi, M. Heikenwalder, *Nature* **2003**, 423, 127–129.
- [5] C. Korth, B. C. H. May, F. E. Cohen, S. B. Prusiner, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A.* **2001**, 98, 9836–9841.
- [6] C. Ryou, G. Legname, D. Peretz, J. C. Craig, *et al.*, *Lab. Invest.* **2003**, 83, 837–843.
- [7] S. Turnbull, B. J. Tabner, D. R. Brown, D. Allsop, *Neuroreport* **2003**, 14, 1743–1745.
- [8] M. Vogtherr, S. Grimme, B. Elshorst, D. M. Jacobs, *et al.*, *J. Med. Chem.* **2003**, 46, 3563–3564.
- [9] B. C. H. May, A. T. Fafarman, S. B. Hong, M. Rogers, *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A.* **2003**, 100, 3416–3421.
- [10] R. Csuk, A. Barthel, C. Raschke, *Tetrahedron* **2004**, 60, 5737–5750.
- [11] J. Hassan, M. Sevignon, C. Gozzi, E. Schulz, M. Lemaire, *Chem. Rev.* **2002**, 102, 1359–1469.
- [12] A. N. Santos, S. Torkler, D. Nowak, C. Schlittig, *et al.*, *J. Alzheimer Dis.* **2007**, 11, 117–125.
- [13] L. Trieschmann, A. N. Santos, K. Kaschig, S. Torkler, *et al.*, *BMC Biotechnol.* **2005**, 5, 26.
- [14] H. T. Thi, C.-Y. Lee, K. Teruya, W.-Y. Ong, *et al.*, *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2008**, 16, 6737–6746.
- [15] J. Collinge, M. Gorham, T. Hudson, A. Kennedy, *et al.*, *Lancet Neurol.* **2009**, 8, 334–344.
- [16] J. Hosokawa-Muto, Y. Kamatari, H. K. Nakamura, K. Kuwata, *Antimicrob. Agents Chemother.* **2009**, 53, 765–771.
- [17] J. Lim, N. Stock, R. Pracitto, J. K. Boueres, *et al.*, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **2004**, 14, 1913–1916.
- [18] E. R. Shepard, H. A. Shonle, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1948**, 70, 1979–1980.
- [19] S. Girault, P. Grellier, A. Berecibar, L. Maes, *et al.*, *J. Med. Chem.* **2000**, 43, 2646–2654.

- [20] E. S. Canellakis, Y. H. Shaw, W. E. Hanners, R. A. Schwartz, *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* **1976**, 418, 277–289.
- [21] A. K. Singh, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* **1975**, 23, 1869–1873.
- [22] L. P. G. Wakelin, M. Romanos, T. K. Chen, D. Glaubiger, *et al.*, *Biochemistry* **1978**, 17, 5057–5063.
- [23] T. K. Chen, R. Fico, E. S. Canellakis, *J. Med. Chem.* **1978**, 21, 868–874.
- [24] R. M. Acheson, E. C. Constable, R. G. Wright, G. N. Taylor, *J. Chem. Res.* **1983**, 1, 101–132.
- [25] J. Markovits, C. Garbay-Jaureguiberry, B. P. Roques, J. Le Pecq, *Eur. J. Biochem.* **1989**, 180, 359–366.
- [26] W. A. Denny, G. J. Atwell, B. C. Baguley, L. P. G. Wakelin, *J. Med. Chem.* **1985**, 18, 1568–1574.