

# 2-Substituted Quinolines as Leishmanicidal Drugs

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**Preclinical Research of New Treatments for Visceral Leishmaniasis  
Promising Results and Ongoing Challenges**

DNDi parallel session symposium: early-stage R & D effort  
WorldLeish4 - Lucknow, India - 4 February 2009



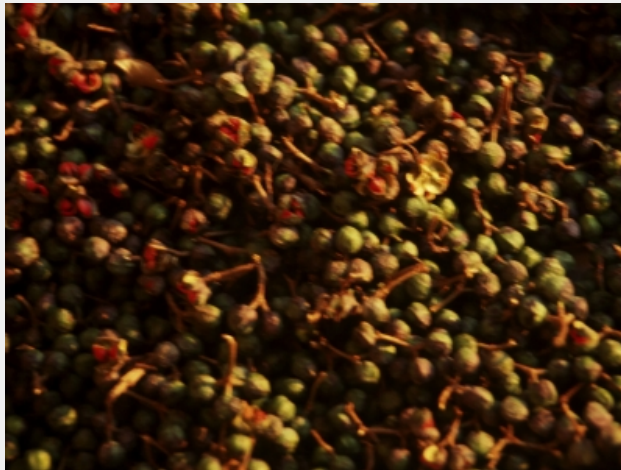
# Some Bolivian plants used in traditional medicine to treat the cutaneous leishmaniasis - IRD investigations with South American partners (Bolivia)



sebastian » (*Oxalis* sp.)

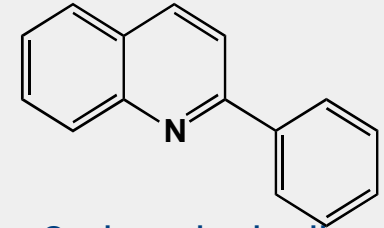
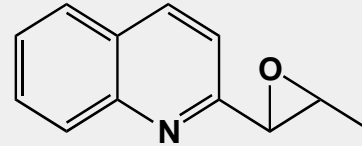
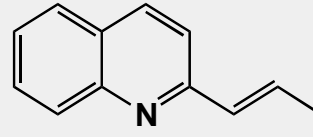
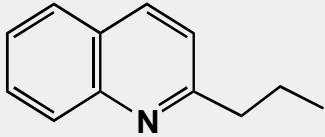


Chimanes



« apainiki » *Pera benensis* Rusby  
(Euphorbiaceae)

# *In vivo* active quinolines alkaloids isolated from *G. longiflora*



2-*n*-propylquinoline

Chimanin B

Chimanine D

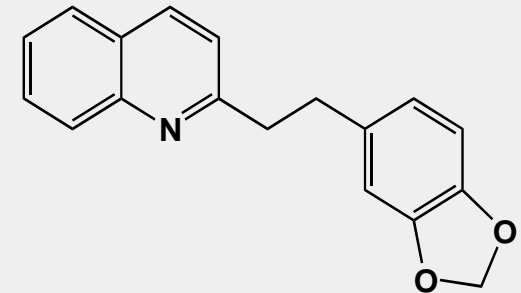
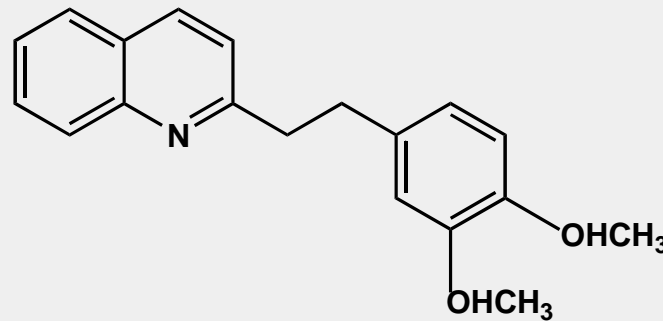
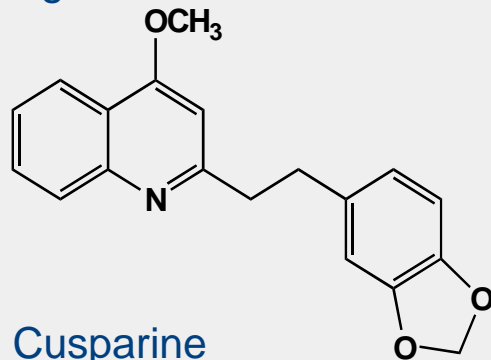
2-phenylquinoline

Active against CL and VL

Active against CL

Active against CL

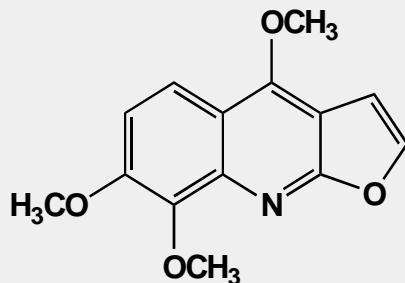
Active against CL



Cusparine  
Active against CL

2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenylethyl)  
quinoline  
Active against CL

2-(3,4-methylenedioxyethyl)  
quinoline  
Active against CL



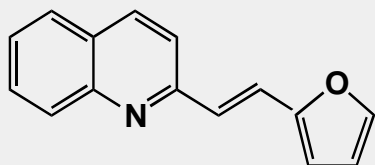
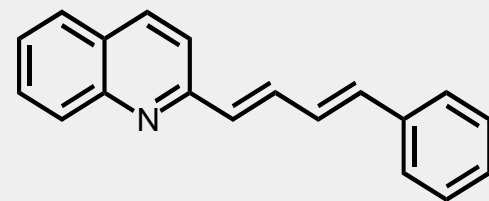
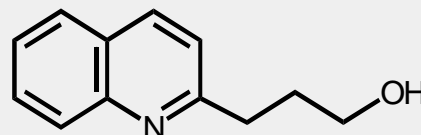
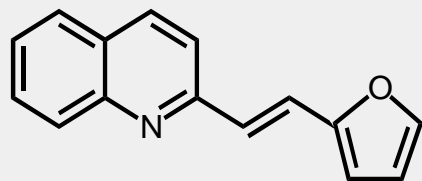
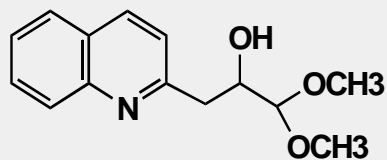
skimmianine  
Active against CL

Fournet A. et al. *J. Antimicrob. Chemother.* 1994, **33**, 537-544.

Fournet A. et al. *Antimicrob. Agents Chemother.* 1993, **37**, 859-863

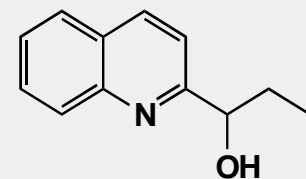
Fournet A. et al. *Antimicrob. Agents Chemother.* 1996, **40**, 2447-2451

# Pharmacomodulation of substituted quinolines

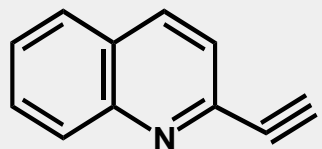


Fakhfakh M.A. *et al.*, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2001**, 42, 3847

Fakhfakh M.A. *et al.*, *J. Organomet. Chem.* **2001**, 624, 131

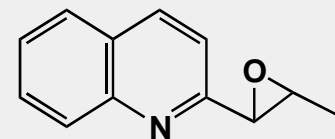


Fakhfakh M.A. *et al.*, *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2003**, 11, 5013

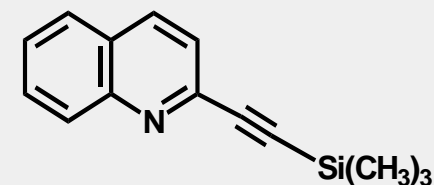
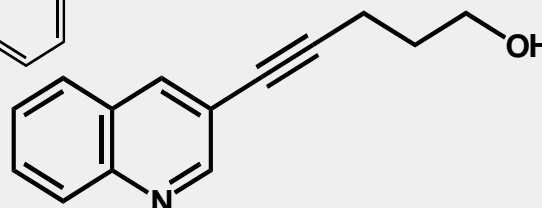
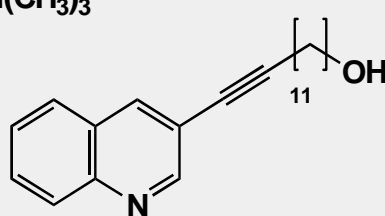
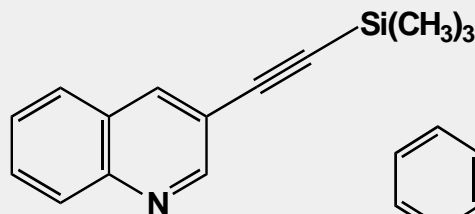
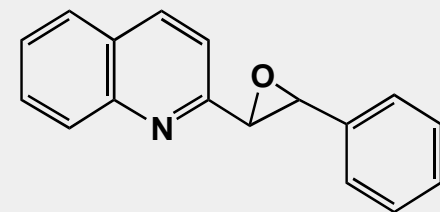
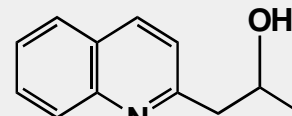
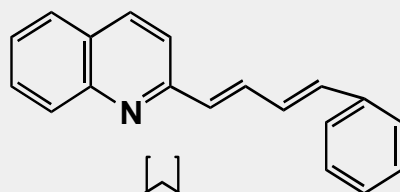
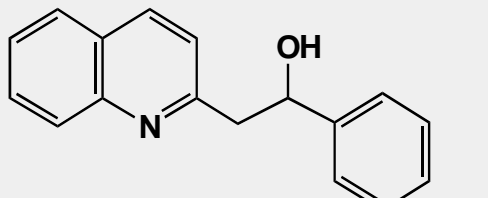


Quintin J. *et al.*, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2002**, 43, 3547

Seck M. *et al.*, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2004**, 45, 1881

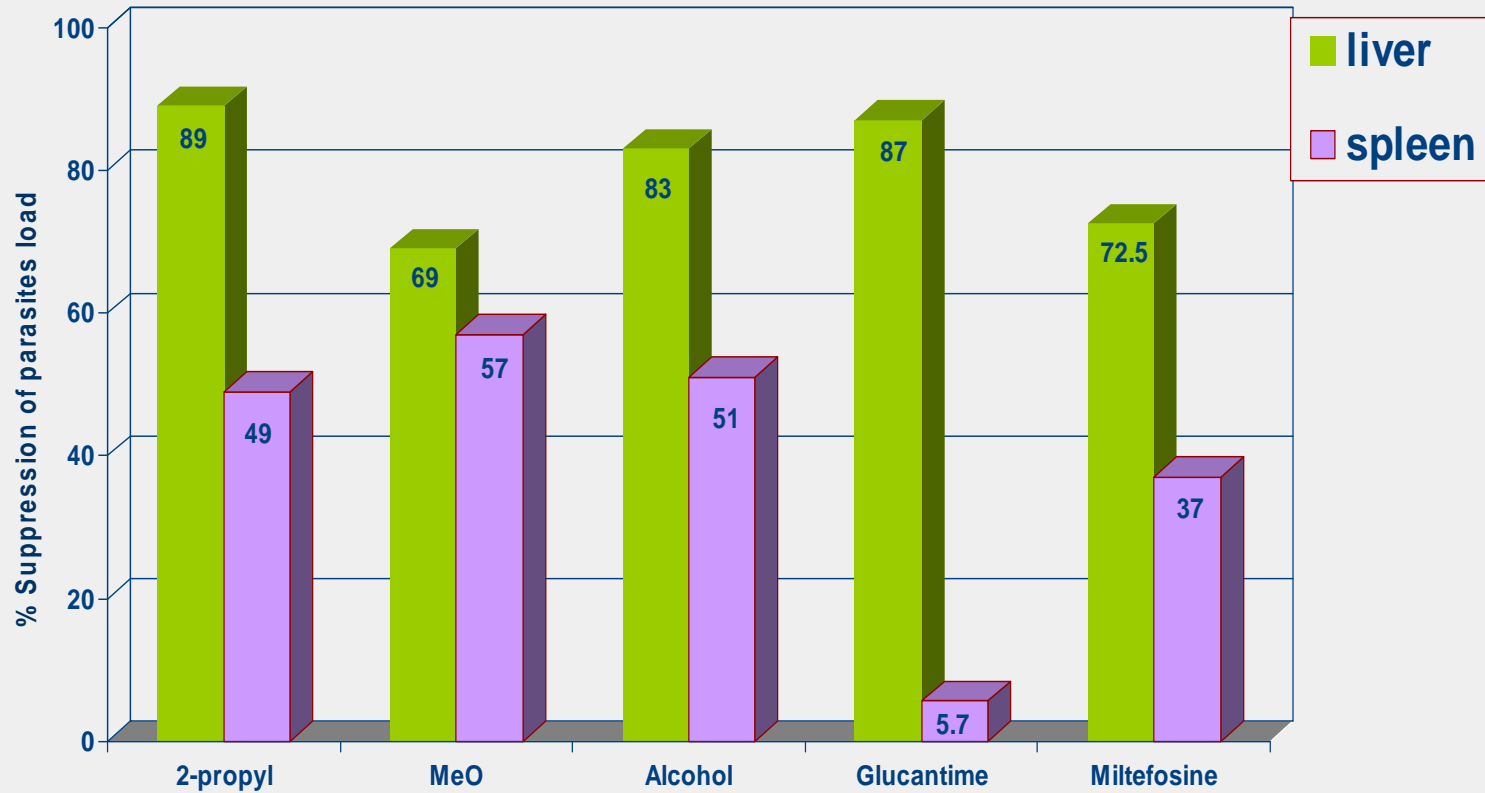


Dos Santos M. *et al.*, *Synlett.* **2004**, 15, 2697



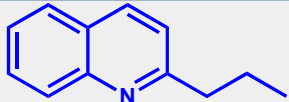
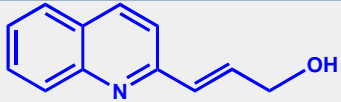
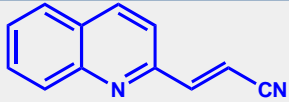
➤ Synthesis of more than 150 quinolines substituted on carbons 2 or 3

# *In vivo* activity in experimental visceral leishmaniasis

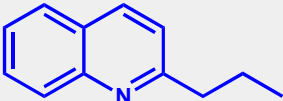
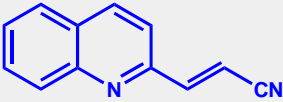


Efficacy of a 15-day treatment course with Glucantime® (28 mg of Sb<sup>v</sup> per kg per day) or with quinolines (propyl, aldehyde, alcohol and nitril) administered orally at 12.5 mg/kg daily during the course of infection of BALB/c mice with *L.donovani*

# Pharmacological evaluation

			
<i>In vitro</i> activity	0	+++	+
<i>In vivo</i> activity	+++	+++	+++
<b><u>Analytical methods</u></b>	Good resolution, retention time : acceptable		
Solubility pH 7,4	1.5 mM	3.5 mM	0.6 mM
pKa	3.7	3.5	<2
Log P at pH 7.4	3.15	2.04	2.37
Log P at pH 2	- 0.62	- 1.20	1.46
<b><u>Plasmatical affinity proteins</u></b>	87.2%	53.2% at t0 32.1% at 24h	70.1%
Albumin affinity	79.4%	69.4% at t0 11.1% at 24h	62.7%
Red blood cells affinity	0	+++	+
Reativity with SH	0	+++	+

# ACUTE ORAL TOXICITY

Compound (mg/kg)	Dose	Apparent toxicity	Creati ne ( $\mu$ M)	Cholesterol (mM)	AST (U/L)	ALT (UL)	Granulocytes (%)	Lymphocytes (%)
 Compound 1	1000	$t_{15mn}$ - 3 lethargic $T_{4h}$ - no signs	<18	3.8	422	199	25	75
	100	No signs	<18	4.1	515	168	34	65
	10	No signs	<18	3.9	410	215	35	65
 Compound 2	1000	$t_{15mn}$ - 1 lethargic	21	3.4	388	260		
	100	No signs	<18	4.6	397	247		
	10	No signs	<18	3.9	337	223		
Control	CMC/ tween80	No signs	<18	3.5	456	304	27	72

$n= 5$

ASAT = aspartate amino transferase

ALAT = alanine amino-transferase

# INTERACTION BETWEEN LEISHMANICIDAL DRUGS AND 2-QUINOLINES (*IN VITRO* LEISHMANIA DONOVANI)

COMPOUND	PARTNER DRUG	FIC*	RESULTS
Compound 1	Compound 2	0.71 $\pm$ 0.21	Indifferent interaction
	Compound 3	0.57 $\pm$ 0.27	
	Sitamaquine	0.75 $\pm$ 0.19	
	Miltefosine	0.65 $\pm$ 0.26	
	Amphotericin B	0.52 $\pm$ 0.08	

\*FIC = Fractional inhibitory concentration

- FIC < 0.5 = synergistic interaction
- 0.5 < FIC < 4 = indifferent interaction
- FIC > 4 = antagonistic interaction



# ***IN VITRO* BEHAVIOUR OF QUINOLINES WITH BIOLOGICAL ELEMENTS**

Desrivot J, Herrenknecht C, Ponchel G, Garbi N, Prina E, Fournet A, Bories C, Figadère B, Hocquemiller R, Loiseau PM. Antileishmanial 2-substituted quinolines: *in vitro* behaviour towards biological components. *Biomedicine and Pharmacotherapy* 2007, 61, 441.

# Erythrocyte membrane affinity vs antileishmanial activity

The three quinolines are all active *in vivo* but have different *in vitro* activities.

	<i>In vitro</i> activity on <i>L. donovani</i> promastigotes		Binding to erythrocyte membranes
	IC <sub>50</sub>	MIC	
PROPYL (PQ)	> 100 µM		No
NITRILE (CN)	3.9 µM	8.9 µM	97% in 6 h
ALCOHOL	0.3 µM	1.0 µM	100% in 45 min

- ⇒ Alcohol is the most active *in vitro* and binds the most rapidly to membranes.
- ⇒ Propyl does not bind to membranes and does not show *in vitro* activity.
- ⇒ Is the **affinity for the membranes** related to **antileishmanial activity** ?

# Red blood cells as vector ?



**Hypothesis of quinoline targeting to the parasite**

**Erythrophagocytosis = phagocytosis of red blood cells by macrophages**



**Erythrophagocytosis of quinoline-loaded red blood cells:  
Targeting of quinolines in macrophages, liver and spleen**

**Could protect the body against quinolines toxicity**

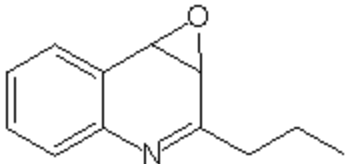
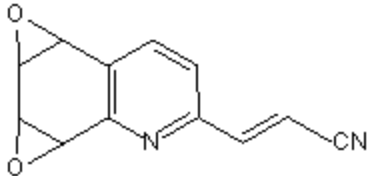
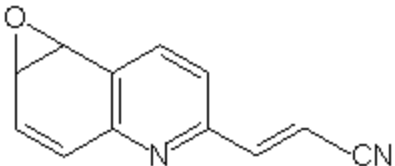
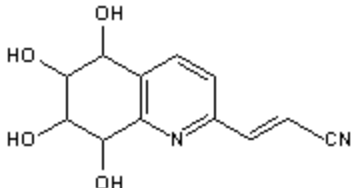
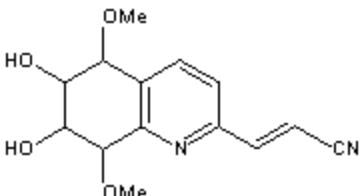
# PRESENT STUDIES WITH SELECTED QUINOLINES

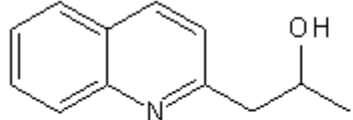
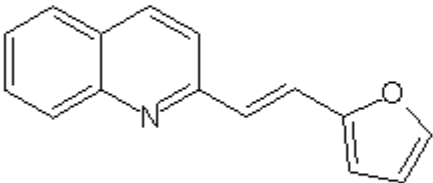
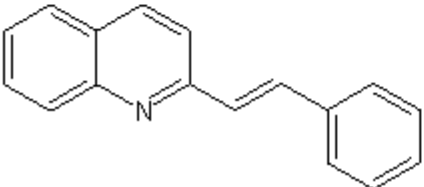
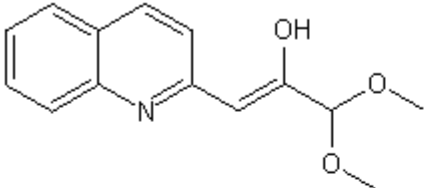
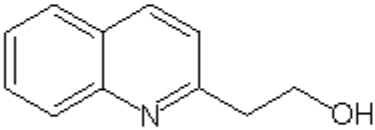
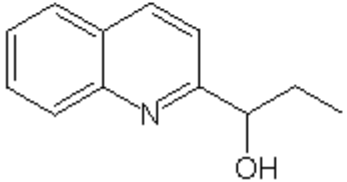
- **Pharmaceutical drugability assessment**
- **Salt screening and active pharmaceutical ingredient recrystallization assays for quinolines**
- **Physicochemical profile and formulation for animal experiments**
- **Physical and chemical stability under stress of the selected compound and polymorphism**
- **Suitable physical forms (salts) for each active**
- **Relevant formulation**
- **Supplies of one useful salt of compounds for pharmacological evaluation**
- **Delivery of acceptable iv and po formulation to initiate *in vivo* experiments**

# Consortium « quinolines »

- **IRD, CNRS, Paris 11** (France): Networks and hits suppliers
- **Advinus** (India): Medicinal Chemistry, ADMET (administration, distribution, metabolism excretion and toxicology), safety evaluation
- **CDRI** (Central Drug Research Institute): anti parasitic tests (*in vitro* and *in vivo*)
- **LSHTM** (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine): formation, bioassays
- **Drugabilis** (France): ad hoc preclinical preformulation
- **Alpha Chimica** (France): synthesis of metabolites

# Synthesis of more than 180 quinolines substituted on carbon 2 prepared by Advinus (India)

LSHTM Structure	Code	MW	In vitro activity against <i>L. donovani</i>					95% c.i.	CC50
			40 $\mu$ M	13.3 $\mu$ M	4.4 $\mu$ M	1.5 $\mu$ M	IC <sub>50</sub>		
	4a	187.2	30.33	18.58	9.56	3.83	>40	0	
	2AC-NMH-4b	212.2	toxic/+	1.64	0.55	-1.09	40>x>13.33	>100	
	2AC-NMH-3c	196.2	toxic/+	20.49	19.13	13.93	40>x>13.33	>100	
	2AC-NMH-4c	248.2	toxic/+	11.75	3.28	2.19	40>x>13.33	0	
	9a	276	toxic/+	42.01	30.90	32.29	40>x>13.3		

LSHTM Structure	Code	MW	In vitro activity against <i>L. donovani</i>						
			40 $\mu\text{M}$	13.3 $\mu\text{M}$	4.4 $\mu\text{M}$	1.5 $\mu\text{M}$	IC <sub>50</sub>	95% c.I.	CC50
	BS-71	187	13.20	7.36	5.33	7.36	>40		>100
	BS-260F-4-6	221	12.69	10.15	5.58	4.82	>40		>100
	BS-38	231	15.74	3.55	0.51	0.25	>40		>100
	XF-751-755	244	12.18	8.88	5.33	4.57	>40		>100
	BS-321-F6-7	187	5.33	3.05	0.25	-0.76	>40		0
	BS-409	187	13.20	6.60	4.57	2.54	>40		0

The IRD and the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) have entered into two **synergistic agreements** to identify and develop new promising drug candidates against visceral leishmaniasis, Chagas disease and sleeping sickness.

This collaboration will allow the optimization and development of two chemical series of molecules first identified by IRD scientific teams :

- quinolines** for VL
- canthin-6-one alkaloids** for Chagas disease



Institut de recherche  
pour le développement

**DNDi**

Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative*  
*Iniciativa* Medicamentos para Enfermedades Olvidadas



# Partners since the beginning

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