

# SYNTHESIS OF IMIDAZO[1,2-A]QUINOLINES USING Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> NANOPARTICLE CATALYST

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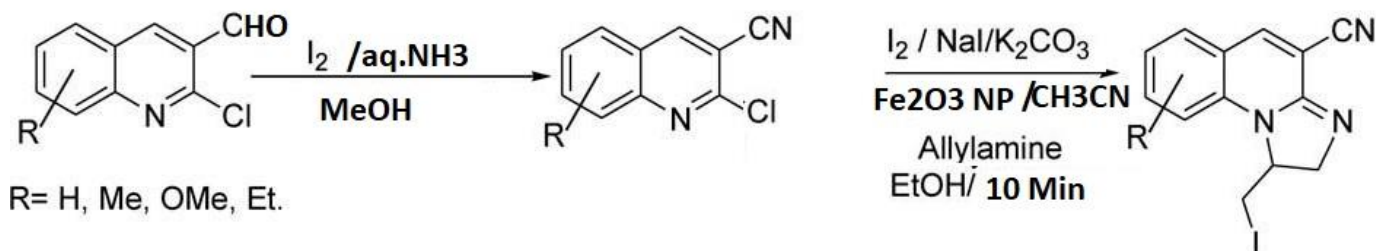
**Abstract:** A new and a facile route to the synthesis of imidazo[1,2-a]quinolines has been described via iodocyclization reaction of 2-allylaminoquinoline derivatives using Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticle catalyst.

**Key:** Nanoparticle, Imidazoquinoline, Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Iodocyclization

## INTRODUCTION

Imidazo[1,2-a]quinoline is a bridgehead nitrogen hetero-cycle with one ring junction and one extra nitrogen atom. Its derivatives possess a significant range of biological activities such as contraceptive, hypertensive, antiallergic, and antiasthmatic anxiolytic agents [1]. On the other hand, its affinity to GABA receptor in the brain has been studied to reveal the action of the subunits [2]. Consequently, numerous syntheses of imidazo[1,2-a]quinolines have been reported, which mostly utilize various quinoline derivatives as starting materials. For example, reactions of 2-aminoquinolines with  $\alpha$ -halo carbonyl compounds, related 1,2-bielectrophiles [3a] and from Strecker and Ugi reactions have lead to the synthesis of the imidazoquinolines [3b–d]. Similarly, other quinoline precursors such as 1-phenacylquinolinium salts and 2-chloro or 2-alkoxyquinolines are also used to the synthesis of target system [4]. However, 2-allylaminoquinoline derivatives have not been investigated to the synthesis of target system. Recently, Tu et al. [5] and Tver-dokhlebov and coworkers [6] have reported the domino approach to the synthesis of imidazo[1,2-a]quinolines

In recent years, iodocyclization of alkenes has emerged as one of the effective route to the synthesis of a variety of carbocyclic and heterocyclic ring systems[7]. Recently, we have reported an intramolecular iodo-cyclization of alkene moiety of 3-homoallyl-2-quinolones to the synthesis of pyranoquinolines using I<sub>2</sub> reagent [8]. In continuation of our recent interest in the synthesis of annulated quinolines [9], this observation has prompted us to investigate the iodocyclization of alkene moiety of 2-allylaminoquinoline-3-carbonitriles 2. We were delighted to observe after a series of trials of iodine reagent with different bases and solvents that a combination of I<sub>2</sub> with NaI could be used for the facile synthesis of imidazo[1,2-a]quinolines. Herein, we report I<sub>2</sub>-NaI reagent catalyzed iodocyclization of 2-allylamino quinoline-3-carbonitriles as an alternate route to the synthesis of 1-iodomethyl-1,2-dihydro imidazo[1,2-a]quinolines 3, an alternate route under mild conditions.



## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

To initiate our studies, we treat 2-chloro-3-cyanoquinolines [10] 2a–f (1 equiv) with allylamine (3 equiv) in ethanol (4 mL) followed by I<sub>2</sub> (1.2 equiv) NaI (1.2 equiv), Cat. Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> NP, and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (3.0 equiv) in acetonitrile (3–4 mL) under a nitrogen atmosphere at room temperature. for 10 min. The structures of compounds 3a–f were ascertained from spectroscopic data. I<sub>2</sub> (1.2 equiv) and NaI (1.2 equiv), Cat. Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> NP, and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (3.0 equiv) in acetonitrile (3–4 mL) under a nitrogen atmosphere at room temperature. The reaction mixture instantaneously changed color from yellow to green and then dark violet and thin layer chromatography (TLC) indicated the disappearance of starting compound in 10 min.

After work-up and chromatographic separation cyclized product was characterized as 1-iodomethyl-1,2-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]quinoline-4-carbonitrile 4a from its spectral and analytical data (90% yield). We optimize the reaction condition for iodocyclization using different conc of Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> Nano particle. In same reaction condition for iodocyclization using 1 eq. and 1.5 eq. of Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> Nano particle increases the time and reduces the yield of product.

(Table 1, entries 2-5)

### Table 1

Optimization of the reaction conditions for the synthesis of 1-iodomethyl-1,2-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]quinoline-4-carbonitrile with different conc. Of Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> NP

Entry	Substrate	Nanoparticle	Amount (eq.)	Time (Min)	Yield of 4a (%)
1	3a	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.5	10 min	90
2	3a	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1	20	75
3	3a	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.5	25	65
4	3a	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.5	25	30
5	3a	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.5	25	65

However, same reaction with-out K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> is completed in 20 min with 85% yield. Reaction was also carried out with molecular iodine yield decreased to 75%. The reaction was also attempted by changing the base and sol-vent to optimize the reaction conditions. The use of tetra-hydro furan (THF) as solvent lowered the yield of 3a (Table 2, entry 4), while the use of Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> as base pro-vided the same yield of cyclized product (Table 2, entry 5).

**Table 2**

Optimization of the reaction conditions for the synthesis of 1-iodomethyl-1,2-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a] quinoline-4-carbon-itrile with different base and solvent

Entry	Substrate	Reagent	Time (Min)	Yield of 4a (%)
1	3a	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> NP/I <sub>2</sub> /NaI/K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> /CH <sub>3</sub> CN	10 min	90
2	3a	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> NP/I <sub>2</sub> /NaI/CH <sub>3</sub> CN	20	85
3	3a	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> NP/K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> /CH <sub>3</sub> CN	25	75
4	3a	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> NP/I <sub>2</sub> /K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> /THF	25	35
5	3a	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> NP/I <sub>2</sub> /Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> /CH <sub>3</sub> CN	25	75

After all these we explore the scope of the reaction to other sub-strates 3b–f. The reactions proceeded smoothly to afford the desired products 4b–f in excellent yields (85–98%). The results are summarized in (Table 3).

Entry	Substrate	Product	Time	Yield
1	3a		10	90
2	3a		10	92
3	3a		5	85
4	3a		10	90
5	3a		5	80
6	3a		10	89

In summary, we have developed a new and an efficient route to the synthesis of biologically important imidazo[1,2-a]quinolines from 2-aminoquinoline-3-carbonitriles under very mild reaction conditions.

## EXPERIMENTAL

To a solution of 2-chloro-3-cyanoquinoline (1 mmol) in ethanol (4 mL) was added allylamine (3 mmol) followed by CH<sub>3</sub>CN (5 mL) were added I<sub>2</sub> (1.2 mmol), NaI (1.2 mmol) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (3 mmol) and 05 eq. Of Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> NP under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere the reaction mixture stirred at room temperature. After completion of the reaction, as indicated by TLC, a saturated aqueous solution of Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> (5 mL) was added, a dark violet color of resultant solution turns into yellow solution. Finally, the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3-4 mL), the organic layer was washed with brine (2–4 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum to yield a residue, which was purified via silica gel column chromatography employing Hexane-EtOAc (70:30, v/v) as eluent to afford product as a solid.

Yellow solid, Yield: 89%; mp: 105 °C; ir (KBr): CN 2225; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.32 (t, 1H, J ¼ 9.2 Hz), 3.34–3.44 (m, 1H), 3.96 (dd, 1H, J ¼ 3.6, 15.9 Hz), 4.23 (dd, 1H, J ¼ 10.2, 15.7 Hz), 4.68–4.74 (m, 1H), 6.83 (d, 1H, J ¼ 8.1 Hz), 7.04 (t, 1H, J ¼ 7.5 Hz), 7.38 (d, 1H, J ¼ 7.5 Hz), 7.49 (t, 1H, J ¼ 7.8 Hz), 7.7 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 6.33, 59.14, 60.46, 102.6, 111.4, 114.5, 119.2, 121.5, 129.1, 139.0, 146.0, 148.5, 152.6; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: C, 46.59; H, 3.01; N, 12.54; Found: C, 46.81; H, 2.95; N, 12.29

1-Iodomethyl-7-methyl-1,2-dihydro-imidazo[1,2-a]quinoline-4-carbonitrile(4b). Yellow solid, Yield: 93%; mp: 107 °C; ir (KBr): CN 2227; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.33 (s, 3H), 3.31 (t, 1H, J ¼ 9.9 Hz), 3.41–3.44 (m, 1H), 3.96 (dd, 1H, J ¼ 3.9, 15.6 Hz), 4.23 (dd, 1H, J ¼ 9.9, 15.6 Hz), 4.66–4.73 (m, 1H), 6.73 (d, 1H, J ¼ 8.4 Hz), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.30 (d, 1H, J ¼ 8.4 Hz), 7.65 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 6.3, 29.6, 59.1, 60.4, 102.6, 114.4, 114.5, 119.1, 122.5, 131.0, 134.1, 139.0, 146.0, 152.6; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>3</sub>I: C, 48.16; H, 3.46; N, 12.03; Found: C, 48.41; H, 3.35; N, 11.91.

1-Iodomethyl-7-methoxy-1,2-dihydro-imidazo[1,2-a]quinoline-4-carbonitrile(4c). Yellow solid, Yield: 89%; mp: 105 °C; ir (KBr): CN 2225; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.35 (t, 1H, J ¼ 9.9 Hz), 3.43–3.46 (m, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.97 (d, 1H, J ¼ 4.5 Hz), 4.24 (dd, 1H, J ¼ 15.3, 10.2 Hz), 4.70–4.77 (m, 1H), 6.30 (s, 1H), 6.63 (d, 1H, J ¼ 10.8 Hz), 7.3–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.6 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 6.0, 29.1, 55.7, 59.1, 96.4, 109.5, 111.4, 114.5, 122.2, 132.5, 141.1, 145.0, 153.0, 162.6; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>3</sub>IO: C, 46.03; H, 3.31; N, 11.51; Found: C, 46.27; H, 3.28; N, 11.39.

1-Iodomethyl-8-methyl-1,2-dihydro-imidazo[1,2-a]quinoline-4-carbonitrile(4d). Yellow solid, Yield: 92%; mp: 109 °C; ir (KBr): CN 2226; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.4 (s, 3H), 3.31 (t, 1H, J ¼ 9.9 Hz), 3.42–3.46 (m, 2H), 3.97 (dd, 1H, J ¼ 3.6, 15.7 Hz), 4.22 (dd, 1H, J ¼ 10.2, 15.6 Hz), 4.65–4.72 (m, 1H), 6.59 (s, 1H), 6.85 (d, 1H, J ¼ 7.8 Hz), 7.65 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 6.4, 22.3, 59.0, 60.4, 101.2, 111.7, 114.7, 117.1, 122.8, 130.3, 139.1, 145.7, 145.8, 152.8; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>3</sub>I: C, 48.16; H, 3.46; N, 12.03; Found: C, 47.78; H, 3.29; N, 12.35

1-Iodomethyl-8-methoxy-1,2-dihydro-imidazo[1,2-a]quinoline-4-carbonitrile(4e). Yellow solid, Yield: 84%; mp: 112 °C; ir (KBr): CN 2225; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.32 (t, 1H, J ¼ 9.9 Hz), 3.42–3.45 (m, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.97 (d, 1H, J ¼ 3.9 Hz), 4.23 (dd, 1H, J ¼ 10.5, 15.6 Hz), 4.63–4.70 (m, 1H), 6.26 (s, 1H), 6.61 (d, 1H, J ¼ 7.5 Hz), 6.30 (d, 1H, J ¼ 8.7 Hz), 7.63 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 6.3, 29.6, 56.2, 59.2, 97.1, 109.3, 113.6, 114.8, 121.4, 132.3, 140.4, 146.2, 153.1, 164.9; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>3</sub>IO: C, 46.03; H, 3.31; N, 11.51; Found: C, 46.16; H, 3.29; N, 11.42.

1-Iodomethyl-9-ethyl-1,2-dihydro-imidazo[1,2-a]quinoline-4-carbonitrile(4f). Yellow solid, Yield: 89%; mp: 117 °C; ir (KBr): CN 2224; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.24 (t, 3H, J ¼ 7.5 Hz), 2.76 (q, 2H, J ¼ 7.2 Hz), 3.05 (d, 1H, J ¼ 9.9 Hz), 3.14 (t, 1H, J ¼ 10.2 Hz), 4.01–4.04 (m, 2H), 4.91–4.97 (m, 1H), 7.03 (t, 1H, J ¼ 7.5 Hz), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.34 (d, 1H, J ¼ 7.5 Hz), 7.67 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 6.3, 14.7, 27.4, 58.0, 63.2, 102.5, 114.5, 121.5, 122.7, 128.2, 129.7, 136.7, 137.9, 147.1, 154.1; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>3</sub>I: C, 49.60; H, 3.89; N, 11.57; Found: C, 49.74; H, 3.84; N, 11.62

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