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Article

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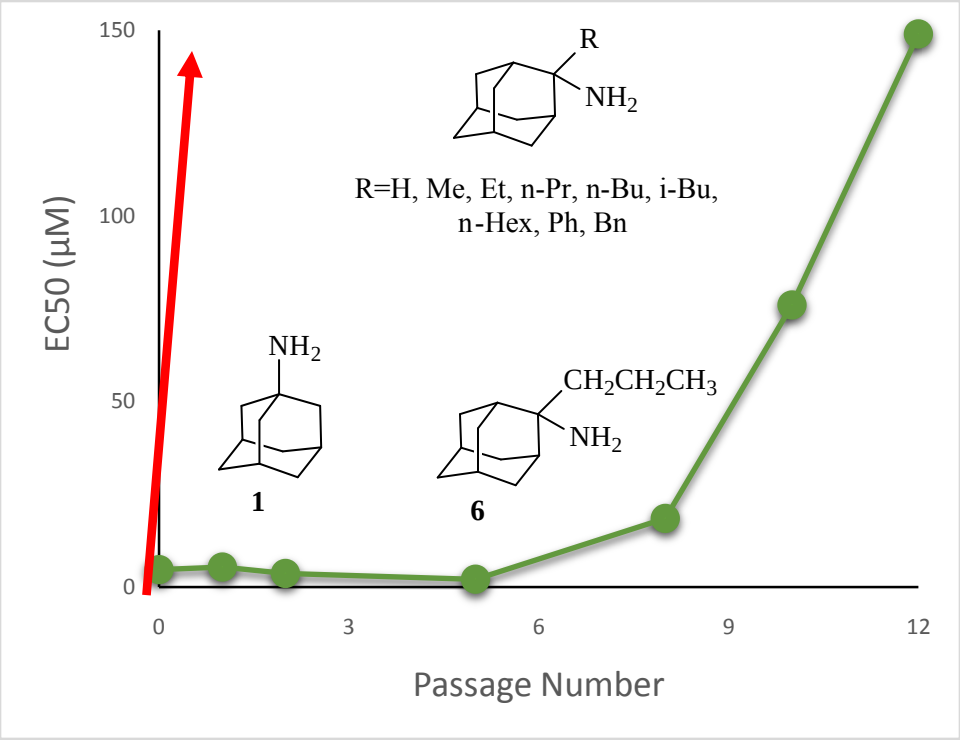

Properties: 1. Influenza A with WT M2 quickly adapts to amantadine (red) via M2 mutations, while 2009 pandemic Influenza A with M2 S31N does not readily adapt to **6** (green) and undergoes no M2 changes. 2. ssNMR was positive for M2 S31N TMD binding but electrophysiology was negative for M2 S31N ion channel block.

Aminoadamantanes with Persistent *in vitro* EfficacyAgainst H1N1 (2009) Influenza A

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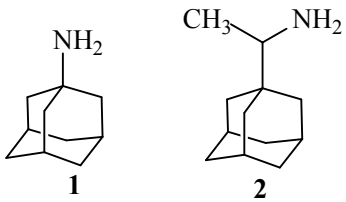
ABSTRACT. A series of 2-adamantanamines with alkyl adducts of various lengths were examined for efficacy against strains of influenza A including these having an S31N mutation in M2 proton channel which confer resistance to amantadine and rimantadine. The addition of as little as one CH_2 group to the methyl adduct of the amantadine/rimantadine analog, 2-methyl-2-aminoadamantane, led to activity *in vitro* against two M2 S31N viruses A/Calif/07/2009 (H1N1) and A/PR/8/34 (H1N1), but not to a third A/WS/33 (H1N1). Solid state NMR of the transmembrane domain (TMD) with a site mutation corresponding to S31N shows evidence of drug binding. But electrophysiology using the full length S31N M2 protein in HEK cells showed no blockade. A wild type strain, A/Hong Kong/1/68 (H3N2) developed resistance to representative drugs within one passage with mutations in M2 TMD, but A/Calif/07/2009 S31N was slow (>8 passages) to develop resistance *in vitro*, and the resistant virus had no mutations in M2 TMD. The results indicate that 2-alkyl-2-aminoadamantane derivatives with sufficient adducts can persistently block p2009 influenza A *in vitro* through an alternative mechanism. The observations of an HA1 mutation, N160D, near the sialic acid binding site in both **6**-resistant A/Calif/07/2009(H1N1) and the broadly resistant A/WS/33(H1N1) and of an HA1 mutation, I325S, in the **6**-resistant virus at a cell-culture stable site suggest that the drugs tested here may block infection by direct binding near these critical sites for virus entry to the host cell.

INTRODUCTION

Since 2005[1], the amantadine/rimantadine-insensitive S31N mutation has become prevalent globally[2], abrogating clinical usefulness of amantadine **1** and rimantadine **2**[3] and possibly previously developed M2 blocking compounds.[4] If the replacement of Ser31 with the larger Asn in M2 S31N splays the helix bundle at the drug binding site,[5] as suggested by solution state NMR studies,[5d,6] then drugs larger than rimantadine might be expected to be effective blockers. However, initial attempts to identify larger, adamantane-based compounds that block amantadine-resistant viruses were unsuccessful.[7] Further efforts identified spiranamine

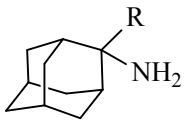
analogues based on BL-1743[8] that were effective against V27A and L26F mutants[9a] but not against S31N, while other large templates could inhibit V27A,[9b-d] but not S31N. Subsequently, reports of successful adamantane- and pinanamine-based M2 S31N blockers have appeared.[6,10] The design of these molecules was not based on the enlargement of the amantadine WT-M2 binding site and the structural analysis of one active compound, comprised by an amantadine linked through a methylene bridge to an isoxazole having an aryl substituent, showed that its heterocyclic ring may be trapped by the V27 side chains at the mouth of the channel.[6] Triggered by previous efforts aimed at adequately filling the empty expanded pore region due to the S31N mutation and to determine progressively the minimal variation of amantadine required to block influenza A (H1N1, M2 S31N), we evaluated drug efficacy and mechanism for variations of amantadine **1** with alkyl adducts ranging from small to moderate and larger sizes (Scheme 1) as represented by the 2-alkyl-2-aminoadamantane derivatives **3-11,** which are simpler than previously reported aminoadamantane derivatives active against S31N viruses,[10e] and the larger of which have increased volume compared to amantadine.

Scheme 1. Amantadine **1**, rimantadine **2** and 2-alkyl-2-aminoadamantane derivatives **3-11**.



1

2



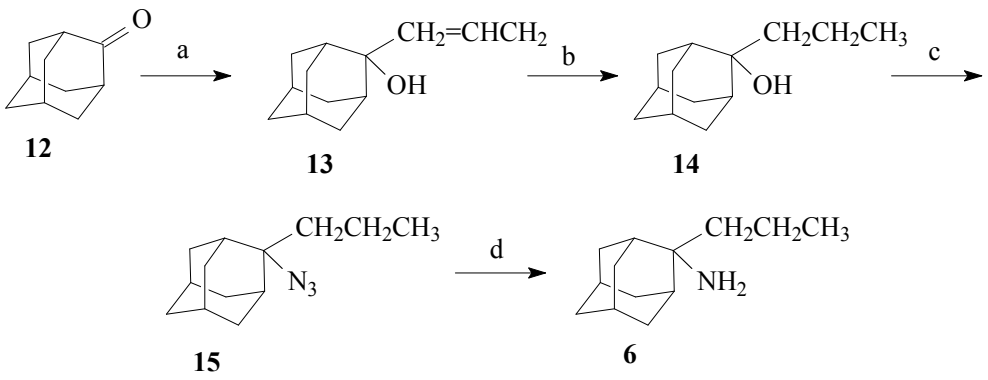
3: R = H
4: R = CH_3
5: R = C_2H_5
6: R = n-C_3H_7
7: R = n-C_4H_9
8: R = i-C_4H_9
9: R = n-C_6H_{13}
10: R = Ph
11: R = CH_2Ph

We found with **5** that the addition of as little as one CH_2 group to the methyl adduct of the amantadine/rimantadine analog, 2-methyl-2-aminoadamantane **4** (Scheme 1), recovers activity *in vitro* against the amantadine-resistant A/Calif/07/2009. However, the mechanism of action is not M2-block, but a second aminoadamantane target.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Chemistry. Compounds **3**-**11** belong to the class of 2-alkyl-2-aminoadamantanes, which thus bear a substitution at adamantane C2 carbon. Compounds **3**-**6**[4b] and **10**[11] were previously synthesized but re-synthesized with slightly modified procedures in this work. Tertiary alcohol **13** was obtained by treating 2-adamantanone **12** with allyl magnesium bromide (Scheme 2). The unsaturated alcohol **13** was converted to the *n*-propyl derivative **14** through catalytic hydrogenation over PtO_2. After experiments with tertiary alcohols in the adamantane series and an acyclic series (unpublished data), we concluded that the conversion of tertiary alcohols to the corresponding azides through NaN_3/H_2SO_4(various concentrations)/$CHCl_3$[4b,12] or NaN_3/TFA/$CHCl_3$[11] can result in unreacted alcohol and found that the transformation proceeds efficiently using NaN_3/TFA 1M in CH_2Cl_2. The amine **6** was prepared by means of $LiAlH_4$ reduction of the azide **15** in refluxing ether.

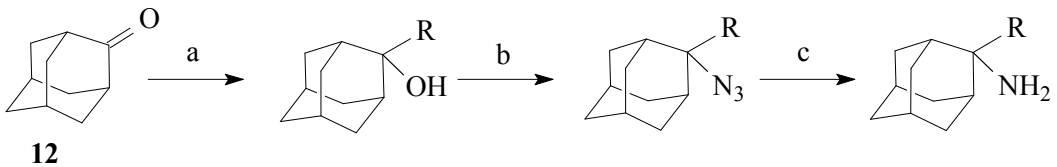
Scheme 2. Preparation of 2-*n*-propyl-2-aminoadamantane **6**.



Reagents and conditions: a) CH_2=$CHCH_2MgBr$, ether, THF, r.t., 2 h then NH_4Cl/H_2O (quant.); (b) H_2/PtO_2 (quant.); (c) NaN_3, TFA, CH_2Cl_2, 0 °C then r.t. (quant.). c) $LiAlH_4$, ether, r.t., 5 h (74%).

The amines **4**, **5, 7-11** were synthesized according to Scheme 3. Tertiary alcohols **16-22** were obtained by treating 2-adamantanone **12** with an oganolithium (R = Et, n-Bu, i-Bu, n-hexyl) or organomagnesium reagent (R = Me,[4b] Ph or $PhCH_2$) (Scheme 3). While 2-methyl-2-adamantanol **16** was obtained after treating 2-adamantanone **12** with CH_3MgI, this is not an efficient method for the preparation of alcohols **17-22**, due to the bulky 2-adamantanone **12** and to the soft carbanion character of the Grignard reagent making the β-hydride transfer a competitive reaction to the alkyl addition and leading to a mixture of the desired tertiary alcohol with 2-adamantanol. The conversion of tertiary alcohols **16-22** to the corresponding azides **23-29** was accomplished efficiently through treatment with NaN_3/TFA 1M in dichloromethane or dichloroethane for 24 h at room temperature. The primary tert-alkyl amines **4, 5**, **7-11** were prepared by means of $LiAlH_4$ reduction of the azides **23-29** in refluxing ether for 5 h.

Scheme 3. Preparation of 2-alkyl-2-aminoadamantane derivatives **4, 5, 7-11**.



12

16: R = CH_3
17: R = C_2H_5
18: R = n-C_4H_9
19: R = i-C_4H_9
20: R = n-C_6H_{13}
21: R = Ph
22: R = CH_2Ph

23: R = CH_3
24: R = C_2H_5
25: R = n-C_4H_9
26: R = i-C_4H_9
27: R = n-C_6H_{13}
28: R = Ph
29: R = CH_2Ph

4: R = CH_3
5: R = C_2H_5
7: R = n-C_4H_9
8: R = i-C_4H_9
9: R = n-C_6H_{13}
10: R = Ph
11: R = CH_2Ph

Reagents and Conditions: (a) RLi, Ar, ether, THF, 0 ^{0}C, 2 h r.t. for **17-20** or RMgCl, ether, THF, 2 h r.t., for **16, 20**, **21** then NH_4Cl/H_2O (85-96%); (b) NaN_3, TFA, CH_2Cl_2, 0 °C then r.t. (50-96%). (c) $LiAlH_4$, ether, r.t., 5 h (23-65%).

Solid State NMR of the M2 TMD Tetramer. PISA wheel analysis gives a direct readout of helix tilt relative to the membrane normal for membrane proteins in uniformly oriented lipid bilayer preparations from solid state NMR PISEMA experiments.[13] ^{15}N anisotropic chemical shifts and ^{15}N-^{1}H dipolar interactions observed in these spectra are very sensitive to the orientation of the peptide planes relative to the bilayer normal. Binding of compound **6** shifts the signals for three pertinent backbone amides that were isotopically labeled (Figure 1).

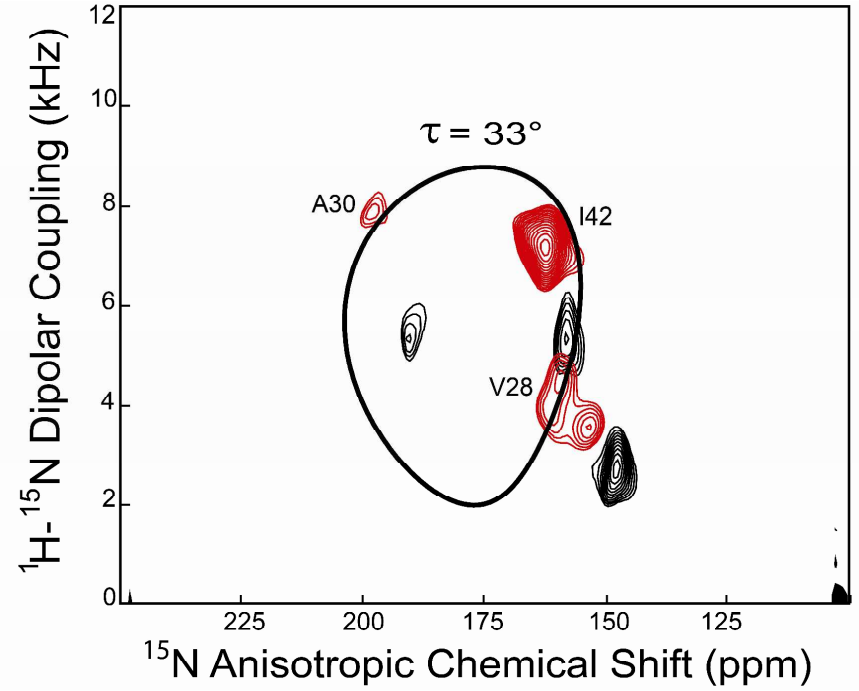


Figure 1. Superimposed PISEMA spectra of the S31N M2 transmembrane domain (residues 22-46), ^{15}N labeled at residues V28, A30, & I42, in dimyristoylphosphatidylcholine bilayers uniformly aligned on glass slides with (red) and without (black) compound **6**. Assignments were made based on the known structure and spectra of WT M2 TMD.[15] The assignments with drug follow based on the rotational orientation of the helices.

Binding of amantadine **1** to WT M2 TMD (A/Udorn/307/72 sequence) produces an 11° kink near G34 in each helix of the tetramer.[5e] When drug-bound, the helix tilt for the N-terminal half (residues 22-34) is 31° and, in the C-terminal half (residues 35-46) just 20°.[14] Here, the S31N M2 TMD is labeled at two sites in the N-terminal half (residues V28 & A30) and one site in the C-terminal half (residue I42) of the TMD helix. The S31N data without drug suggests a helical tilt of approximately 36°, similar to that seen in the WT structure.[5] The shifts in the anisotropic spin interactions upon drug binding demonstrate a significant change in the structure

of the tetrameric complex. With compound **6**, there is a uniform tilt of ~33°. Thus the **6**-induced changes in the resonance frequencies of these three sites indicate that the tilt angle for the entire TMD helix is decreased by 3° while maintaining a similar rotational orientation for the helices. Unlike the response of the WT to amantadine **1**, with **6** the S31N TMD helices do not appear to have kinked the helix at G34. Instead, the entire helix-helix interface changes with the ~3° reduction in tilt of the four helices. Similar results from ssNMR experiments and proteoliposome assays were obtained with two related aminoadamantanes that are not included in Scheme 1.

Electrophysiology results using full-length M2. Representative compounds **3** and **6** were subsequently tested for block of proton currents through full-length M2 having the same amino-acid sequence as A/California/07/2009 (*viz.* S31N) using transiently transfected, voltage-clamped HEK cells[16] and found not to block inward proton currents on the 3-minute time scale with any improvement over amantadine **1** (Table 1, Figure S1). Prolonged exposure (30 minutes) yielded but little increase in net block over 3-minute exposure for the two drugs. When the M2 protein was reverted to the S31 WT sequence (through an N31S mutation), inward proton currents in M2-transfected HEK cells were well blocked by **1**, **3**, and **6**. This electrophysiology result suggests (a) that these two drugs do not block the M2 S31N channel in full length A/Calif/07/2009 and must have a different target; and (b) that biophysical models for the M2 protein should be based on the whole protein rather than segments. This conclusion supports other studies suggesting another target of aminoadamantane compounds.[7,10e,g] Similar results were also obtained with a few other related aminoadamantanes not included in this work**.**

Table 1. Proton Channel Block Measured in Transfected HEK Cells for compounds tested.[a]

Compound	A/England/195/2009 (H1N1)[b] M2: N31		A/England/195/2009 (H1N1) M2: S31	
	% Block after 3m	% Block after 30m	%Block after 3m	IC50
1	14±2% (100μM; 26)	(N/A)	75±9% (10μM; 4)	1.6±2.7 (3)
3	13±3% (100 μM; 2)	16% (100μM; 1)	95±8% (10μM; 2)	2.5±0.5μM (2)
6	0±5% (100 μM; 2)	9.4±10% (100μM, 3)	63±5% (10μM; 2)	7±2 μM (2)

[a]For each compound, % block of pH-dependent M2 current at 10 or 100μM (+/- s.e.m.) or the IC50 (μM) is shown. Number of replicates is shown in parenthesis. [b]The M2 sequence for this strain is identical to that of A/Calif/07/2009 M2.

Biological Evaluation. a) Antiviral evaluation. EC_{50}s from dose-response tests against five strains of influenza A in Madin-Darby canine kidney (MDCK) cells were measured using a primary infection assay (Table 2). This assay detects block at the early stages of viral replication, from endocytotic uptake to protein synthesis.

Table 2. *In vitro* efficacy (EC_{50}, μM) of Scheme 1 compounds against initial MDCK cell infection

#	A/Calif/07/09 (H1N1)	A/PR/8/34 (H1N1)	A/WS/33 (H1N1)	A2/Taiwan/1/64 (H2N2)	A/Victoria/3/75 (H3N2)
M2	S31N	V27T/S31N	S31N	WT	WT
1	**240 ± 90 (13)**	**24 ± 3.5 (21)**	**24 ± 1.1 (21)**	0.34 ± 0.01 (21)	2.8 ± 0.3 (16)

2	**110 ± 40 (13)**	3.3 ± 0.5 (2)	**310 ± 140 (2)**	1.6 ± 0.3 (2)	0.53 ± 0.07 (18)
3	**150 ± 30 (20)**	3.8 ± 1.0 (2)	**110 ± 15 (2)**	0.8 ± 0.3 (2)	3.3 ± 0.9 (2)
4	**54 ± 2 (20)**	0.4 ± 0.4 (2)	19 ± 4 (2)	0.5 ± 0.5 (2)	2.0 ± 0.4 (2)
5	**25±3 (21)**	1.8 ± 0.9 (2).	23 ± 3 (2)	0.8 ± 0.3 (2)	2.0 ± 0.4 (2)
6	4.7 ± 0.9 (20)	0.5 ± 0.2 (2)	**390 ± 8 (2)**	<0.24 (2)	23 ± 8 (2)
7	8.5 ± 0.6 (20)	0.3 ± 0.3 (2)	**355 ± 4 (2)**	1.5 ± 0.3 (2)	4 ± 1 (2)
8	8.0 ± 0.3 (21)	0.3 ± 0.5 (2)	**210 ± 40 (2)**	0.4 ± 0.1 (2)	13 ± 2 (2)
9	0.13 ± 0.02 (2)	0.07 ± 0.09 (2)	13.0 ± 3.6 (2)	1.5 ± 0.3 (2)	1.1 ± 0.1 (2)
10	21 ± 2 (21)	<0.3 ± 0.5 (2)	**86 ± 20 (2)**	0.2 ± 0.2 (2)	8 ± 1 (21)
11	8.6 ± 0.8 (21)	1.2 ± 1.1 (2)	**280 ± 150 (2)**	0.2 ± 0.3 (2)	18 ± 2 (21)

[a]EC_{50} ± its standard error (N) from mini-plaque testing for dose-response or single-dose screens, using cultured MDCK cells, based on least-squares fitting of single-site binding curves. N is the number of assay counts fitted. Experiments with N=2 are based on replicate 50 μM screens (except for **9**, which were based on replicate 5 μM screens), with a single control (N=4) for each virus. Row M2 gives variations from the WT amantadine-binding site (i.e. L26, V27, A30, S31 and G34), for the specific strain listed, WT if none. (See Tables S3, S4, and S5 for the M2 sequences of the isolates used here). No microscopic evidence of cytotoxicity to MDCK cells was detected after 18 hour exposure at 50 μM except with compound **9**, where a 5 μM dose was used instead. The EC_{50}s of amantadine **1** and rimantadine **2**, known to be inactive against H1N1 (2009), and other cases where $EC_{50} \geq 24$ μM are highlighted.

All compounds except **1-5** display potent antiviral activity against the pandemic 2009 strain (arbitrarily designated as <24 μM based on the amantadine insensitivities observed here). It is striking that the addition of as little as one CH_2 group to the methyl adduct of the amantadine/rimantadine analog, 2-methyl-2-aminoadamantane **4**, essentially recovers activity *in vitro* against this amantadine-resistant form of influenza A.

Likewise, the amantadine-resistant H1N1 strain from 1934 (second column), containing a double-mutant M2 (T27+N31), is highly sensitive to these compounds. But, the drugs don't block all M2(S31N)-bearing nor all H1N1 strains[10e] as shown by the third column, which shows that the 1933 Wilson Smith H1N1 isolate is insensitive to most of these compounds. Furthermore, the M2 pore region (residues 22-46) of A/WS/33 and A/Calif/2009 are identical except for the L43T variation at the C-terminus (Supplemental Table 1). These observations are consistent with the negative electrophysiology results for the A/Calif/2009/M2, further suggesting that the antiviral effects observed against the A/Calif/2009 strain are independent of M2 and that instead they attack a second target.[7,10g] This second target is most likely present in A/Calif/07/2009 and probably in A/PR/8/34, but not in A/WS/33. Strains with WT M2 are very sensitive to these compounds (fourth and fifth columns), suggesting that, like amantadine, these drugs also block M2. However, from the structure-activity point of view, differences between the sequence and optimal efficacies vary, suggesting that non-binding site residue differences in the M2 may alter efficacy. For instance **6** is the one of the most potent in the set against A2/Taiwan/1/64 H2N2 but the least potent of the set against A/Victoria/3/75 H3N2, even though both have WT-M2 amantadine-binding sites. They differ in only two residues, 13 and 56, neither of which is in the pore region (Supplemental Table 1). This suggests that extra-pore residues may

affect M2 block. On the other hand, **9** is the most effective from the set against all of the strains tested except A2/Taiwan/1/64, where it is among the least effective, which may suggest that the relative impacts of M2 block and any alternative mechanisms of action are also dependent on drug structure.

b) Resistance experiments – sequencing of resistant strains. Resistance testing with semi-weekly passages in MDCK cell cultures was performed for amantadine **1** against an amantadine-sensitive H3N2 virus; and, for compound **6** against amantadine-resistant H1N1 (2009) (Table 3).

Table 3. Resistance testing of amantadine **1** and 2-*n*-propyl-2-aminoadamantane **6**

Passage #	**1** (5 μM) A/Victoria/3/75 (H3N2, M2 WT) EC_{50} ± S.E. (μM)	**6** (5 μM) A/Calif/07/2009 (H1N1, M2 S31N) EC_{50} ± S.E. (μM)
0	2.77 ± 0.29	4.71 ± 0.92
1	Inactive	5.4 ± 1.4
2	Inactive	3.7 ± 0.5
5	N.D.	2.1 ± 1.6
8	N.D.	18.5 ± 1.0
10	N.D.	76 ± 9
12	N.D.	149 ± 115

EC_{50} ± SE (μM) (N=21) after designated passage (incubation) stages. Drug concentration in medium as specified, except that for **6** passages 1 and 2 were done in 10 μM. Inactive: No miniplaque reduction by 50 μM amantadine. N.D. Not done.

In the amantadine-H3N2 system, drug resistance appeared after one passage in the presence of drug, with no detectable activity of amantadine **1** against the progeny from passage 1 or passage 2 at 50 μM, but normal amantadine **1** activity against the original virus *post hoc* (EC_{50} 3.0 ± 0.5 μM N=9). In contrast, in the **6**-H1N1 system, virus progeny produced in the presence of drug at passages 1-5 maintained full drug sensitivity (EC_{50} 2.1-5.4 μM). Resistance to **6** developed steadily between passage 6 and passage 12, becoming significant after passage 10. Without any drug in the medium, the development of viral resistance to compound **6** was negligible, i.e. the EC_{50} retested at passage 0 was 4.7 ± 0.7 μM, at passage 10: 3.0 ± 0.3, and at passage 30: 7.7 ± 0.6 μM. Resistance to amantadine develops rapidly *in vitro,*[17] in mice,[18] and in the clinical setting[19] through a small set of mutations, primarily L26F, V27A, V27T, A30T, S31N, and G34E.[20] These are residues whose side chains are near the 4-fold symmetric amantadine binding site.[5] No changes from the parent A/California/07/2009 were observed for the amino-acid translation of the M-segment of the passage-12 **6**-resistant strain for residues sequenced, 10-73. Hence, resistance did not develop by selection of additional amantadine-resistance mutations in M2. Sequencing of segment 4 (HA gene), however, revealed three amino acid substitutions (Figure 2, Table S1) compared to the parental A/California/07/2009 sequence, i.e. N160D, S187P, and I325S (numbering started after the 13-residue HA signal sequence).

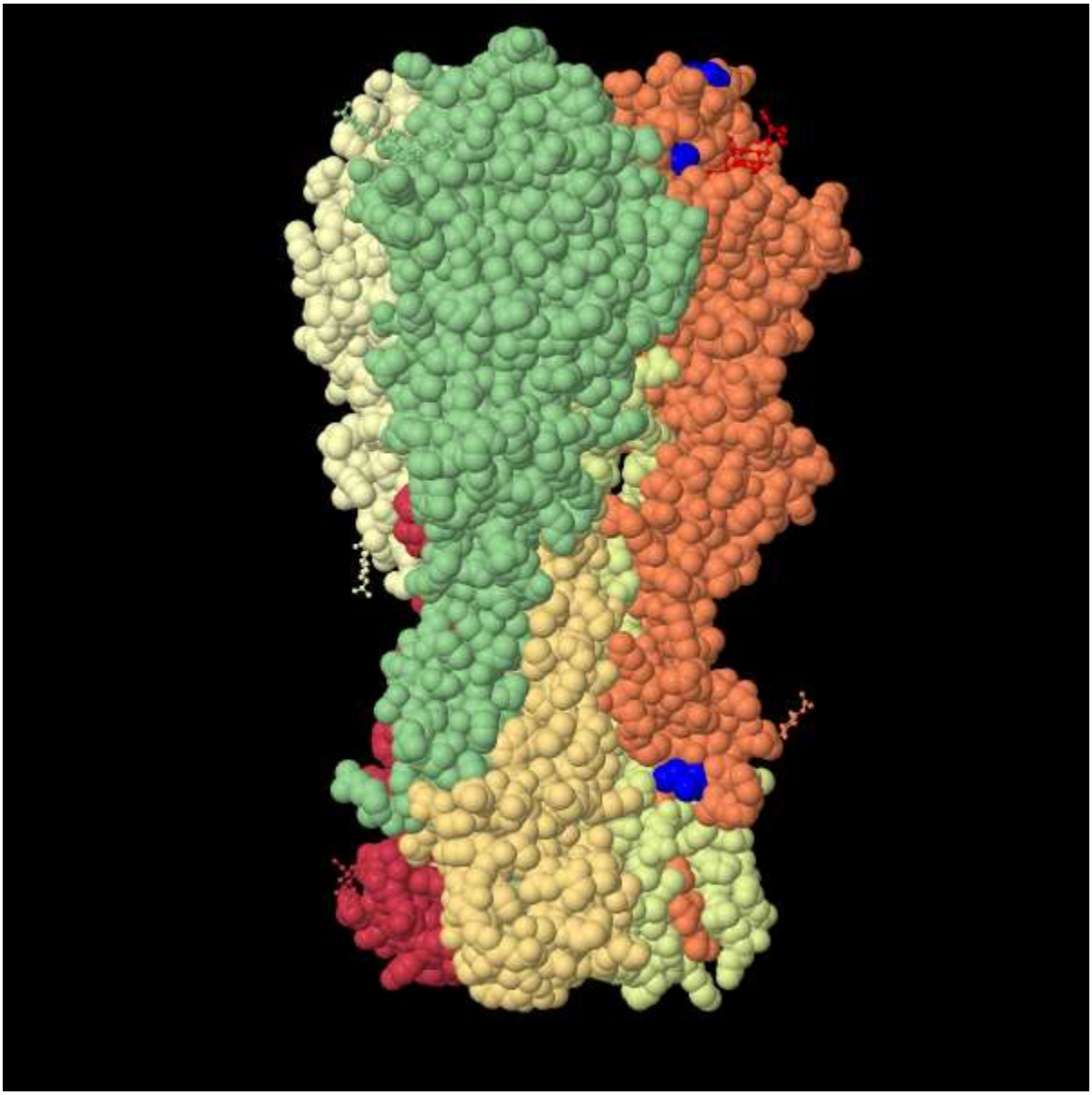


Figure 2. The CPT structure of the HA trimer, produced by Gamblin et al., (1RVX, A/Puerto Rico/8/1934)[21] with a bound NAG-GAL-SIA ligand as ball-and-stick (red), and the two nearby **6-**resistance sites highlighted in blue, residues 159 (above ligand) and 186 (left of ligand). The third **6-**resistance site, 324, also in blue, is near the bottom of the structure. Due to a common insertion after residue 133 found in A/Calif/07/2009 (H1N1), these correspond to N160, S187, and I325, respectively in the A/Calif/07/2009 **6**-resistant mutants.

To evaluate whether these mutations were merely due to adaptation to MDCK cell culture growth, we also sequenced the M (Tables S2 and S3) and HA segments (Table S1) from the parent virus after 30 passages in MDCK culture without drug. For the M segment of these drug-free controls, no changes were found in M1, while 2 of 5 plaques had an E14G substitution in M2, which is outside of the transmembrane domain.

Substitution S187P, located near the N-terminus of the 190 sialic acid binding helix, is frequent in pandemic H1N1 and was observed previously by Torres et al. in resistance development using a related set of aminoadamantanes.[10g] In the drug-free controls, 2 out of 5 plaques showed this mutation, as well as one of four previously sequenced isolates of A/California/07/2009 (KF00954, Table S1).

N160 is located on the tip of a nearby loop that is very close to the 190 helix, the region where sialic acid residues of the host cell receptor bind. Among 1750 HA sequences of pandemic H1N1 deposited in the GenBank only four sequences with D160 were observed. Substitution of N160 by an aspartic acid residue would modify the local charges, and may thus affect receptor interactions. Interestingly, D160 is also observed in A/WS/33, which may account for the insensitivity of this strain to the compounds tested here (Table 1). However, in the drug-free controls, one of five plaques tested had this mutation (Table S1). Three other plaques had the G159E mutation, suggesting that an acidic group in that neighborhood is advantageous for the pandemic virus replication in MDCK culture. On the other hand that mutation is also present in our sample of the highly **6**-sensitive A/PR/8/34 strain (Table S1), suggesting that if D160 is critical for drug inhibition, an acid group at position 159 isn't sufficient for drug resistance. The possibility that N160D is important to escape from **6** cannot be ruled out.

S325 is close to the HA0 processing site at R331 and the corresponding residue, 324, was also found to be modified in the aminoadamantane resistance development study by Torres et al.[10g] None of the 1750 HA sequences of pandemic H1N1 in GenBank has a serine at position 325. This substitution may affect maturation cleavage or pH stability of HA. Although was pointed out[10g] that a mutation to T at this site is found in one sequence of A/Puerto Rico/8/1934 and that this site may be polymorphic, we found seven sequences for that strain without the mutation and no I325T substitution was observed in our GenBank set of 1750 pandemic H1N1 strains. Furthermore, no instances of an I325 mutation were observed in the drug-free control virus plaques (Table S1). This suggests that drugs inhibit an important function at this site such as enzyme binding or cleavage.

To examine the resistance development pathways of the H3N2 M2 WT virus to these compounds in more detail, passaging experiments were carried out with plaque sequencing analysis in the presence of active compounds **4** or **6** (Table 4). The WT virus rapidly develops resistance to both compounds through mutation at Ala30, especially to Thr, suggesting that these drugs block the M2 WT, but do not block A30T. Conversely, the lack of sequence changes for M2(S31N)-bearing virus in the presence of compound **6** mentioned above indicates that M2(S31N)-bearing virus has a different escape route than M2(WT)-bearing virus. In the latter case changes inside the M2 pore confer resistance while in the former no mutations were observed in the M2 channel amantadine binding-site and therefore some other change in the virus is implicated.

Table 4. Mutations developing in influenza A (M2 WT)[a] after passaging in aminoadamantane derivatives **4** and **6**

	Comp[b] #	4	6
P#[c]	Plaque #	1 µg/ml	5 µg/ml
2	1	WT	A30T
	2	WT	A30T
	3	WT	A30T
5	1	A30T	A30T
	2	A30V	A30T
	3	A30T	A30T
		2 µg/ml	5 µg/ml
10	1	A30T	A30T
	2	A30T	A30T
	3	A30T	A30T

Sequences of resistant progeny of WT induced by compounds in the top row. MDCK cells were bathed in media containing the concentrations specified. Three separate plaques were sampled and sequenced at passages 2, 5, and 10. [a]Parent strain: A/Hong Kong/1/1968 (H3N2 M2 WT). [b]Compound number from Scheme 1. [c]Passage number.

CONCLUSION

The addition of as little as one CH_2 group to the methyl adduct of the amantadine/rimantadine analog, 2-methyl-2-aminoadamantane **4**, has been discovered to largely recover activity in vitro against the amantadine-resistant 2009 H1N1 influenza A. The apparent simplicity of the synthetic schemes is a virtue of 2-alkyl-2-aminoadamantane derivatives. Resistance development in cell culture is markedly reduced for one representative compound **6** (R=*n*-Pr) compared to amantadine **1**. These compounds found to be active against two of three S31N strains, (A/Calif/07/009 and A/PR/8/34, but not A/WS/33) did not block M2 judging by the lack of transfected HEK cell current block and the lack of M2 changes in the **6-**resistant A/Calif/07/2009, and therefore must have acted on a second target. The ssNMR study which confirmed that drugs with large alkyl adducts were sterically suited to fit in the amantadine binding site in M2, were done at effectively high drug concentrations and using truncated M2 protein (22-46), and do not indicate the potential of drugs to block the S31N variant of M2.

A few alternative candidate mechanisms of action for these drugs include pH buffering of the endosome, pH buffering of the viral interior, stabilization of hemagglutinin against acid-activation, and mechanical stabilization at lipid-water interfaces against envelope-endosomal membrane fusion. The observations of an HA1 mutation, N160D, near the sialic acid binding site in both **6**-resistant A/Calif/07/2009(H1N1) and the broadly resistant A/WS/33(H1N1) and of an HA1 mutation, I325S in the **6-**resistant virus at a cell-culture stable site suggest that the drugs tested here may block infection by direct binding near these critical sites. The region near residue 160 is critical for binding virus to the cell surface and the region near residue 325 is critical for HA activation by proteolytic cleavage, both necessary for the virus entry into the host cell. It is also possible that the drugs neutralize the endosome and that these sites, individually or in combination, affect pH sensitivity of HA, as has been suggested in similar situations

previously.[7,10g] However, miniplaque assays with compounds **3-6** against influenza B/Russia/69 in MDCK cells and compound **6** against bovine parvovirus in bovine embryonic cells respectively, both of which are chloroquine sensitive[22,23] showed no effect of **3-6** or **6**, respectively on virus growth with 50 μM drug in the medium (data not shown), suggesting that these compounds are less potent endosome neutralizers than chloroquine. Further experiments are needed to explore these and other possibilities.

Continued outbreaks of amantadine-resistant viruses like H7N9 merit the urgency to develop new antivirals with persistent efficacy in global preparations for pandemic threats.[24] The new observation of persistent efficacy of these amantadine-like drugs via second targets, while retaining potency (albeit resistance vulnerable) to WT M2, make this family of compounds intriguing starting points for further studies on resistance and mechanism of action against influenza A.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

A) Chemistry. Melting points were determined using a Buchi capillary apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 833 spectrometer. ^{1}H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX 400 and AC 200 spectrometer at 400 and 50 MHz, respectively, using $CDCl_3$ as solvent and TMS as internal standard. Carbon multiplicities were established by DEPT experiments. The 2D NMR techniques (HMQC and COSY) were used for the elucidation of the structures of intermediates and final products.

Microanalyses were carried out by the Service Central de Microanalyse (CNRS) France, and by the Microanalyses lab of the National Center for Scientific Research, Demokritos, Athens, and the results obtained had a maximum deviation of ± 0.4% from the theoretical value.

All tested synthesized compounds possess a purity above 95% as determined through elemental C, H, N analysis.

Full experimental details which were not given previously for compounds **4, 5**[4b] are included in this paper.

2-Ethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.1^{3,7}]decan-2-amine (5): 2-Ethyl-2-adamantanol **17** was obtained after treating a solution of 2-adamantanone **12** (500 mg, 3.34 mmol) in dry THF (10 mL, 30 % solution w/v) with n-ethyllithium at 0 °C in a 3.7-molar excess (25 mL, 12.5 mmol, 0.5 M in benzene) and stirring the mixture overnight; yield 94%; ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 0.86 (t, J = 7 Hz, $CH_2C\underline{H}_3$), 1.40 - 1.70 (m, 10 H, 1′,3′-H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H, 6′-H, 8′eq,10′eq-H, $C\underline{H}_2CH_3$), 1.75 - 1.83 (m, 2H, 5′,7′-H), 1.94 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 8′ax, 10′ax-H), 2.07 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 6.4 ($CH_2\underline{C}H_3$), 27.4, 27.5 (5′,7′-C), 30.6 ($\underline{C}H_2CH_3$), 33.0 (8′,10′-C), 34.6 (4′,9′-C), 36.6 (1′,3′-C), 38.5 (6′-C), 74.9 (2′-C).

To a stirred mixture of NaN_3 (0.195 g, 3.0 mmol) and dry dichloromethane (5 mL) at 0 °C, TFA (1.14 g, 10.0 mmol) was added. To the stirred mixture, a solution of 2-ethyl-2-adamantanol **17** (0.180 g, 1.0 mmol) in dry dichloromethane (5 mL) was added and stirring was maintained at 0 °C for 4 h. The mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 24 h and then was treated with NH_3 12% (30 mL) at 0 °C. The organic phase was separated and the aqueous phase was extracted twice with an equal volume of dichloromethane. The combined organic phase was washed with water and brine, dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated to afford oily 2-ethyl-2-adamantyl azide **24**; IR (Nujol) $\nu(N_3)$ 2100 cm^{-1}; yield 0.160 g (80%).

To a stirred suspension of $LiAlH_4$ (0.120 g, 0.78 mmol) in dry ether (10 mL) was added, drop-wise at 0 °C, a solution of the 2-ethyl-2-adamantylazide **24** (0.160 g, 3.12 mmol) in dry

ether (5 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 5 h (TLC monitoring) and then hydrolyzed with water and NaOH (15%) and water under ice cooling. The inorganic precipitate was filtered off and washed with ether, and the filtrate was extracted with HCl (6 %). The aqueous layer was made alkaline with solid Na_2CO_3 and the mixture was extracted with ether. The combined ether extracts were washed with water and brine and dried (Na_2SO_4). After evaporation of the solvent the oily amine **5** was obtained; yield 100 mg (71%); ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 0.85 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.55 (br s, 2H, 1′,3′-H), 1.58 - 1.68 (m, 6H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H, 8′eq 6′-H), 1.78 (br s, 1H, 5′-H), 1.81 (br s, 1H, 7′-H), 1.93 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 8′ax, 10′ax-H), 2.06 (d, J ~ 12 Hz, 2H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 6.5 ($CH_2\underline{C}H_3$), 27.2, 27.6 (5′,7′-C), 30.7 ($\underline{C}H_2CH_3$), 33.0 (4′,9′-C), 33.8 (8′,10′-C),36.6 (1′,3′-C), 38.5 (6′-C), 74.9 (2′-C). Hydrochloride: mp > 250 ºC (EtOH-Et_2O); Anal. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{22}NCl$: C, 66.80; H, 10.28; N, 6.49. Found: C, 66.93; H, 10.42; N, 6.87.

2-*n*-Propyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.1^{3,7}]decan-2-amine (6): Tertiary alcohol **13** was obtained after treating adamantanone **12** (1.0 g, 6.67 mmol) with $CH_2CH=CH_2MgBr$ in 1:2 ratio (obtained from $CH_2CH=CH_2Br$ (1.61 g, 13.3 mmol), 1.5 molar excess of Mg (486 mg, 20.01 mmol) in 20 mL of dry ether / g bromobenzene); yield 89 %; δ 1.52 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H), 1.53 - 1.90 (m, 10H, adamantane-H), 2.15 (d, J = 12 Hz, 1H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H), 2.40 (d, J = 6 Hz, 2H, $C\underline{H}_2CH=CH_2$), 5.05 - 5.15 (m, 2H, $CH_2CH=C\underline{H}_2$), 5.75 - 6.0 (m, 1H, $CH_2C\underline{H}=CH_2$); the unsaturated alcohol **13** (890 mg, 4.64 mmol) was hydrogenated under PtO_2 (45 mg) (catalyst was used in 1/20 percentage to the weight of the unsaturated compound) to afford the n-propyl analogue **14**; yield quant.; ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 0.92 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.30 - 1.40 (m, 2H, $CH_2C\underline{H}_2CH_3$), 1.52 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H), 1.58 - 1.61 (m, 2H, $C\underline{H}_2CH_2CH_3$),

1.68 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 8′eq, 10′eq-H), 1.67 (br s, 2H, 6′-H), 1.68 (br s, 2H, 1′, 3′-H), 1.79 (m, 2H, 5′, 7′-H), 1.83 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 8′ax, 10′ax-H), 2.16 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 14.9 (CH_3), 15.4 ($CH_2\underline{C}H_2CH_3$), 27.4, 27.6 (5, 7-C), 33.1 ($\underline{C}H_2CH_2CH_3$) 34.7 (4, 9-C), 37.1 (8, 10-C), 38.5 (1, 3-C), 40.9 (6-C), 75.2 (2-C).

The alcohol **14** (700 mg, 4.22 mmol) was added to a stirred mixture of H_2SO_4 70% w/w (10 mL) and chloroform (25 mL) at 0 °C. Sodium azide was added in small portions at 0 °C and the mixture was stirred for 48 h at ambient temperature. The mixture was poured into an ice-water mixture and was extracted with dichloromethane. The organic phase was washed with water, saturated $NaHCO_3$ and brine, dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated under vacuum at room temperature. The oily residue (650 mg) was flash chromatographed on silical gel (35 - 70 μm) with hexane-AcOEt 5/1 as an eluent to give the pure azide **15**: yield 530 mg (66 %); the azide **15** was found to formed quantitatively using TFA/CH_2Cl_2/NaN_3 system (1 mmol of alcohol **14** was treated with 10 mmol TFA and 4 mmol NaN_3 in 40 mL CH_2Cl_2, see experimental procedure for ethyl or 2-*n*-butyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.1^{3,7}]decan-2-azides **24** or **25**): ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 0.96 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.42 (m, 2H, $CH_2C\underline{H}_2CH_3$), 1.59 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H), 1.68 – 2.03 (m, 12H, $C\underline{H}_2CH_2CH_3$, adamantane-H), 2.10 (d, J = 12 Hz, 1H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 14.7 (CH_3), 16.4 ($CH_2\underline{C}H_2CH_3$), 27.2, 27.4 (5, 7-C), 33.8 ($\underline{C}H_2CH_2CH_3$) 34.4 (4, 9-C), 37.9 (8, 10-C), 38.5 (1, 3-C), 40.0 (6-C), 69.7 (2-C).

To a stirred suspension of $LiAlH_4$ (390 mg, 10.3 mmol) in dry ether (20 mL) was added, drop-wise at 0 °C, a solution of the azide **15** (490 mg, 2.57 mmol) in dry ether (10 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 5 h (TLC monitoring) and then hydrolyzed with water and NaOH (15%) and water under ice cooling. The inorganic precipitate was filtered off and washed with ether, and the filtrate was extracted with HCl (6 %). The aqueous layer was made alkaline

with solid Na_2CO_3 and the mixture was extracted with ether. The combined ether extracts were washed with water and brine and dried (Na_2SO_4). After evaporation of the solvent the oily amine **6** was obtained; yield 350 mg (74%); ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 0.92 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.29 - 1.40 (m, 2H, $CH_2C\underline{H_2}CH_3$), 1.52 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H), 1.58 - 1.61 (m, 2H, $C\underline{H_2}CH_2CH_3$), 1.67 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 8′eq, 10′eq-H), 1.66 (br s, 2H, 6′-H), 1.68 (br s, 2H, 1′, 3′-H), 1.78 (br s, 2H, 5′, 7′-H), 1.83 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 8′ax, 10′ax-H), 2.16 (d, J = 12 Hz, 1H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H); Hydrochloride: mp> 250 ºC (EtOH-Et_2O); Anal. Calcd for $C_{13}H_{24}NCl$: C, 67.95; H, 10.53; N, 6.10. Found: C, 68.02; H, 10.63; N, 5.95.

2-*n*-Butyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.1^{3,7}]decan-2-amine (7): Tertiary alcohol **18** was obtained after treating solution of adamantanone **12** (500 mg, 3.34 mmol) in dry THF (30% solution w/v) with 3-molar excess of n-butyllithium (6 mL, 10.02 mmol, 1.6 M in hexanes) at 0 °C and stirring the mixture overnight; yield 96%; ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 0.91 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.25 - 1.38 (m, 4H, $CH_3C\underline{H_2}C\underline{H_2}CH_2$), 1.54 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H), 1.58 - 1.72 (m, 8H, 1′,3′,5′,7′,8′eq,10′eq-H, $CH_3CH_2CH_2C\underline{H_2}$), 1.78 - 1.90 (m, 4H, 8′ax,10′ax-H, 5′,7′-H), 2.16 (d, J = 12 Hz, 1H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 14.3 (CH_3), 23.5 ($CH_2CH_2\underline{C}H_2CH_3$), 24.4 ($CH_2\underline{C}H_2CH_2CH_3$), 27.4, 27.6 (5′,7′-C), 34.7 (4′,9′-C), 33.1 (8′,10′-C), 37.1 (1′,3′-C), 38.2 ($\underline{C}H_2CH_2CH_2CH_3$), 38.5 (6′-C), 75.2 (2′-C).

To a stirred mixture of NaN_3 (280 mg, 4.32 mmol) and dry dichloromethane (20 mL) at 0 °C, TFA (1.6 mg, 14.4 mmol) was added. To the stirred mixture, a solution of tertiary alcohol **18** (300 mg, 1.44 mmol) in dry dichloromethane (10 mL) was added and stirring was maintained at 0 °C for 4 h. The mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 24 h and then was treated with NH_3 12% (30 mL) at 0 °C. The organic phase was separated and the aqueous phase was

extracted twice with an equal volume of dichloromethane. The combined organic phase was washed with water and brine, dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated to afford oily azide **25**; yield 96%; IR (Nujol) $\nu(N_3)$ 2088 cm^{-1}; ^1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 0.96 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.32 - 1.42 (m, 4H, $CH_3C\underline{H_2}C\underline{H_2}$ CH_2), 1.62 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H), 1.70 - 1.93 (m, 12H, adamantane-H, $CH_3CH_2CH_2C\underline{H_2}$), 2.14 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 14.2 (CH_3), 23.3 ($CH_2CH_2\underline{C}H_2CH_3$), 24.9 ($CH_2\underline{C}H_2CH_2CH_3$), 27.2, 27.4 (5′,7′-C), 33.8 (4′,9′-C),33.7 (8′,10′-C), 34.4 (1′,3′-C), 35.2 ($\underline{C}H_2CH_2CH_2CH_3$), 38.5 (6′-C), 69.7 (2′-C).

To a stirred suspension of $LiAlH_4$ (163 mg, 4.29 mmol) in dry ether (15 mL) was added, drop-wise at 0 °C, a solution of the azide **25** (250 mg, 1.07 mmol) in dry ether (10 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 5 h (TLC monitoring) and then hydrolyzed with water and NaOH (15%) and water under ice cooling. The inorganic precipitate was filtered off and washed with ether, and the filtrate was extracted with HCl (6%). The aqueous layer was made alkaline with solid Na_2CO_3 and the mixture was extracted with ether. The combined ether extracts were washed with water and brine and dried (Na_2SO_4). After evaporation of the solvent the oily amine **7** was obtained; yield 50 mg (23%); ^1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 0.88 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.18 - 1.32 (m, 4H, $CH_3C\underline{H_2}C\underline{H_2}CH_2$), 1.45 - 165 (m, 10H, adamantane-H, $CH_3CH_2CH_2C\underline{H_2}$), 1.77 (br s, 2H, 5′,7′-H), 1.93 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 8′ax, 10′ax-H), 2.03 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H), 2,13 (br s, 2H, NH_2); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 14.3 (CH_3), 23.7 ($CH_2CH_2\underline{C}H_2CH_3$), 24.6 ($CH_2\underline{C}H_2CH_2CH_3$), 27.5, 27.8 (5′,7′-C), 34.1 (4′,9′-C), 33.2 (8′,10′-C), 37.5 (1′,3′-C), 38.6 (6′-C), 39.1 ($\underline{C}H_2CH_2CH_2CH_3$), 54.5 (2′-C). Fumarate: mp 220 ºC (EtOH-Et_2O); Anal. Calcd for $C_{18}H_{29}NO_4$: C, 66.86; H, 9.26; N, 4.32. Found: C, 66.91; H, 9.30; N, 4.29.

2-*i*-Butyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.1^{3,7}]decan-2-amine (8): Tertiary alcohol **19** was obtained after treating a solution of 2-adamantanone **12** (500 mg, 3.34 mmol) in dry THF (5mL) with *i*-butyl lithium (8 mL, 10.02 mmol, 1.6 M in hexanes) at 0 °C in a 1:3 ratio as before; yield 85%; ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 0.96 (d, J = 7 Hz, 6H, 2 x CH_3), 1.52 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H), 1.57 (d, J = 6 Hz, 2H, C$\underline{H}_2$CHMe$_2$), 1.66 (1′,3′,6′-H), 1.68 - 1.74 (m, 2H, 8′eq,10′eq-H), 1.78 (br s, 2H, 5′,7′-H), 1.76 - 1.87 (m, 1H, $CH_2C\underline{H}Me_2$), 1.82 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 8′ax,10′ax-H), 2.16 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′ax,9′ax-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 23.2 (2 x CH_3), 25.3 ($CH_2\underline{C}HMe_2$), 27.5 (5′,7′-C), 35.1 (4′,9′-C),33.1 (8′,10′-C), 37.6 (1′,3′-C),38.5 (6′-C), 46.5 ($\underline{C}H_2CHMe_2$), 75.9 (2′-C). The corresponding azide **26** was prepared from the alcohol **19** (300 mg, 1.44 mmol) according to the same procedure followed for azide **25** using CH_2Cl_2 (30mL)/NaN_3 (280 mg, 4.32 mmol)/TFA (1.6 mg, 14.4 mmol); yield 95%; IR (Nujol) ν(N_3) 2095 cm^{-1}; ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) 23.4 (2 x CH_3), 24.5 ($CH_2\underline{C}HMe_2$), 27.3 (5′,7′-C), 33.9 (4′,9′-C), 33.6 (8′,10′-C), 34.7 (1′,3′-C), 38.5 (6′-C), 43.0 ($\underline{C}H_2CHMe_2$), 69.7 (2′-C).

The corresponding oily amine **8** was prepared through $LiAlH_4$ (183 mg, 4.80 mmol) reduction of azide **25** (280 mg, 1.20 mmol) in refluxing ether for 5 h according to the same procedure followed for amine **7**; yield 65%; ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 0.94 (d, J = 7 Hz, 6H, 2 x CH_3), 1.49 (d, J = 6 Hz, 2H, C$\underline{H}_2$CHMe$_2$), 1.52 - 1.65 (m, 2H, 1′,3′,6′,4′eq,9′eq-H), 1.73 - 1.83 (m, 1H, $CH_2C\underline{H}Me_2$), 1.75 (br s, 2H, 5′,7′-H), 1.95 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 8′ax, 10′ax-H), 2.05 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 23.4 (2 x CH_3), 25.7 ($CH_2\underline{C}HMe_2$), 27.6 (5′,7′-C), 34.3 (4′,9′-C), 33.1 (8′,10′-C), 38.0 (1′,3′-C), 39.1 (6′-C), 47.4 ($\underline{C}H_2CHMe_2$), 55.4 (2′-C). Fumarate: mp 225 ºC (EtOH-Et_2O); Anal. Calcd for $C_{18}H_{29}NO_4$: C, 66.86; H, 9.26; N, 4.32. Found: C, 66.91; H, 9.30; N, 4.29.

2-*n*-Hexyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.1^{3,7}]decan-2-amine (9): Tertiary alcohol **20** was obtained after the reaction of n-hexyl lithium with 2-adamantanone **12** (500 mg, 3.34 mmol) in dry THF (5mL) with *n*-hexyl lithium (4 mL, 10.02 mmol, 2.47 M in hexanes) at 0 °C in a 1:3 ratio as before; yield 97%; IR (Nujol) ν(OH) 3391 cm^{-1}; ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 0.87 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.24 - 1.33 (m, 8H, $CH_2(C\underline{H}_2)_4CH_3$), 1.51-154 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H), 1.60 - 1.64(m, 2H $C\underline{H}_2(CH_2)_4CH_3$) 1.66 - 1.69 (m, 6H, 1′,3′,6′, 5′,7′-H), 1.78 - 1.81(d, J ~ 11 Hz, 2H, 8′ax, 10′ax-H), 2.14 - 2.17 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 14.2 ($(CH_2)_5\underline{C}H_3$), 22.1 ($(CH_2)_4\underline{C}H_2CH_3$), 22.7 ($(CH_2)_3\underline{C}H_2CH_2CH_3$), 27.4-27.6(5′,7′-C), 30.1 ($CH_2CH_2\underline{C}H_2(CH_2)_2CH_3$), 32.0 ($CH_2\underline{C}H_2(CH_2)_3CH_3$), 33.1 (4′,9′-C), 34.7 (8′ ,10′-C), 37.1 (1′ ,3′-C), 38.4 ($\underline{C}H_2(CH_2)_4CH_3$), 38.5 (6′-C), 75.1 (2′-C).

The corresponding azide **27** was prepared from the alcohol **20** (400 mg, 1.69 mmol) according to the same procedure followed for azide **25** using CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL)/ NaN_3 (330 mg, 5.07 mmol) / TFA (1.9 mg, 16.9 mmol); Yield 91%; IR (Nujol); ν(N_3) 2088 cm^{-1}; ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 14.2 ($(CH_2)_5\underline{C}H_3$), 22.6 ($(CH_2)_4\underline{C}H_2CH_3$), 22.7 $(CH_2)_3\underline{C}H_2CH_2CH_3$), 27.2-27.4(5′,7′-C), 29.9 ($CH_2CH_2\underline{C}H_2(CH_2)_2$ CH_3), 31.9 ($CH_2\underline{C}H_2(CH_2)_3$ CH_3), 33.7 (4′,9′-C), 33.8 (8′,10′-C), 34.4 (1′,3′-C), 35.4 ($\underline{C}H_2(CH_2)_4$ CH_3), 38.5 (6′-C), 69.7 (2′-C).

The corresponding oily amine **9** was prepared through $LiAlH_4$ (233 mg, 6.13 mmol) reduction of azide **27** (400 mg, 1.53 mmol) in refluxing ether for 5 h according to the same procedure followed for amine **7**; Yield 97% ; ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 0.87 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.24 - 1.30 (m, 8H, $CH_2(C\underline{H}_2)_4CH_3$), 1.51 - 156 (m, 4H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H, $C\underline{H}_2(CH_2)_4CH_3$), 1.57 - 1.67 (m, 6H, 1′,3′,6′,8′eq,10′eq-H), 1.79 (br s, 2H, 5′,7′-H), 1.93 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 8′ax, 10′ax-H), 2.04 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 14.2 (CH_3), 22.3 ($(CH_2)_4\underline{C}H_2CH_3$), 22.8 ($(CH_2)_3\underline{C}H_2CH_2CH_3$), 27.4-27.8(5′,7′-C), 30.3

($CH_2CH_2\underline{C}H_2(CH_2)_2CH_3$), 32.0 ($CH_2\underline{C}H_2(CH_2)_3CH_3$), 33.1 (4′,9′-C), 34.1 (8′ ,10′-C), 37.4 (1′ ,3′-C), 38.8 ($\underline{C}H_2(CH_2)_4\ CH_3$), 39.1 (6′-C), 54.6 (2′-C). Fumarate: mp 225 ºC (EtOH-Et_2O); Anal. Calcd for $C_{20}H_{33}NO_4$: C, 68.94 H; H, 9.46; N, 3.99. Found: C, 68.59; H, 9.55; N, 3.79.

2-Phenyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.1^{3,7}]decan-2-amine (10): Tertiary alcohol **21** was obtained after treating a solution of adamantanone **12** (500 mg, 3.34 mmol) in dry THF (30% solution w/v) with 2-molar excess PhMgBr (obtained from bromobenzene (1.05 g, 6.68 mmol), 1.5-molar excess of Mg (240 mg, 10.02 mmol), in 20 mL of dry ether / g bromobenzene) and stirring the mixture overnight; yield 95%; ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 1.67 - 1.77 (m, 8H, adamantane-H), 1.89 (br s, 2H, 5′,7′-H), 2.14 (s, 1H, OH), 2.40 (d, J = 12 Hz, 1H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H), 2.56 (br s, 2H, 1′,3′-H), 7.20 - 7.60 (m, 5H, phenyl-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 27.0, 27.5 (5′,7′-C), 33.1 (4′,9′-C), 34.9 (8′,10′-C), 35.7 (1′,3′-C), 37.8 (6′-C), 75.8 (2′-C), 125.5, 127.1, 127.2, 128.8, 143.0 (Ph).

The corresponding azide **28** was prepared from alcohol **21** (300 mg, 1.31 mmol) according to the same procedure followed for azide **25** using CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL) / NaN_3 (256 mg, 3.94 mmol) / TFA (1.49 mg, 13.1 mmol); yield 95%; IR (Nujol) $\nu(N_3)$ 2098 cm^{-1}; ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 26.8, 27.4 (5′,7′-C), 33.1 (4′,9′-C), 33.4 (8′,10′-C), 34.1 (1′,3′-C), 37.7 (6′-C), 70.3 (2′-C), 125.6, 127.3, 127.8, 128.9, 140.3 (Ph).

The corresponding oily amine **10** was prepared through $LiAlH_4$ (175 mg, 4.58 mmol) reduction of azide **28** (290 mg, 1.15 mmol) in refluxing ether for 5 h according to the same procedure followed for amine **7;** yield 55%; ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 1.53 (br s, 2H, 6′-H), 1.61 - 1.80 (m, 6H, adamantane-H), 1.90 (br s, 2H, 5′,7′-H), 2.33 (d, J = 12 Hz, 1H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H), 2.45 (br s, 2H, 1′,3′-H), 7.18-7.25 (m, 5H, phenyl-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ

27.2, 27.6 (5′,7′-C), 32.9 (4′,9′-C), 34.6 (8′,10′-C), 35.8 (1′,3′-C), 38.2 (6′-C), 57.8 (2′-C), 125.2, 126.2, 128.8, 148.7 (Ph). Hydrochloride: mp> 265 ºC (EtOH-Et_2O); Anal. Calcd for $C_{16}H_{22}NCl$: C, 72.85; H, 8.41; N, 5.31. Found: C, 72.81; H, 8.63; N, 5.29.

2-Benzyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.1^{3,7}]decan-2-amine (11): Tertiary alcohol **22** was obtained after treating a solution of adamantanone **12** (500 mg, 3.34 mmol) in dry THF (30% solution w/v) with 2-molar excess $PhCH_2MgCl$ (obtained from $PhCH_2Cl$ (846 mg, 6.68 mmol) and 1.5-molar excess of Mg (243 mg, 10.02 mmol)) in 20 mL of dry ether / g bromobenzene) and stirring the mixture overnight; yield 95%; ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 1.51 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H), 1.65 (br s, 1H, 6′-H), 1.69 (br s, 1H, 5′,7′-H), 1.77 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 8′eq, 10′eq-H), 1.78 (br s, 1H, 3′-H), 1.90 (br s, 1H, 1′-H), 2.07 (d, J = 12 Hz, 1H, 8′ax, 10′ax-H), 2.12 (d, J = 12 Hz, 1H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H), 2.97 (s, 2H, CH_2Ph), 7.10 - 7.32 (m, 5H, phenyl-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 27.4, 27.5 (5′,7′-C), 33.1 (4′,9′-C), 34.7 (8′,10′-C), 36.9 (1′,3′-C), 38.5 (6′-C), 43.9 (CH_2Ph), 74.7 (2′-C), 126.5, 128.3, 130.7, 137.4 (Ph).

The corresponding azide **29** was prepared from alcohol **22** (300 mg, 1.24 mmol) according to the same procedure followed for azide **25** using CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL) / NaN_3 (241 mg, 3.71 mmol) / TFA (1.41 mg, 12.4 mmol); yield 50%; IR (Nujol) $\nu(N_3)$ 2096 cm^{-1}; ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ27.1, 27.4 (5′,7′-C), 33.7 (4′,9′-C), 33.8 (8′,10′-C), 34.1 (1′,3′-C), 38.4 (6′-C), 41.4 (CH_2Ph), 69.8 (2′-C), 126.7, 128.2, 130.3, 136.6 (Ph).

The corresponding oily amine **11** was prepared through $LiAlH_4$ (130 mg, 3.45 mmol) reduction of azide **29** (230 mg, 0.861 mmol) in refluxing ether for 5 h according to the same procedure followed for amine **7;** yield 45%; ^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 1.61 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 4′eq, 9′eq-H), 1.61 (br s, 1H, 6′-H), 1.73 (br s, 1H, 5′,7′-H), 1.78 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, 8′eq,

10′eq-H), 1.87 (br s, 1H, 3′-H), 1.97 (br s, 1H, 1′-H), 2.09 (d, J = 12 Hz, 1H, 8′ax, 10′ax-H), 2.29 (d, J = 12 Hz, 1H, 4′ax, 9′ax-H), 2.97 (s, 2H, CH_2Ph), 7.10 - 7.32 (m, 5H, phenyl-H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 50 MHz) δ 27.6, 27.8 (5′,7′-C), 33.2 (4′,9′-C), 34.3 (8′,10′-C), 37.3 (1′,3′-C), 39.2 (6′-C), 44.2 (CH_2Ph), 55.1 (2′-C), 126.3, 128.1, 130.7, 138.4 (Ph). Fumarate: mp 205 ºC (EtOH-Et_2O); Anal. Calcd for $C_{20}H_{33}NO_4$: C, 70.56; N, 3.92. Found: C, 70.99; N, 3.89.

B) Biological Testing Methods

Cells and media. Tissue used for preparation of virus stock cultures, virus infectivity titrations, and miniplaque drug assays were Madin-Darby Canine Kidney (MDCK) cells (ATCC CCL 34). The cell culture growth medium used was Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium (DMEM, Sigma-Aldrich) supplemented with 0.11% sodium bicarbonate, 5% Cosmic calf serum (Hyclone), 10 mM HEPES buffer, and 50 µg/ml of gentamycin. For culture of virus stocks and virus infectivity assays, 0.125% bovine serum albumin (BSA, Sigma-Aldrich) was substituted for the Cosmic calf serum.

Virus. Influenza A virus, the 2009 pandemic strain (A/California/07/2009), was provided by Dr. Don Smee, Utah State University. Trypsin added to BSA-supplemented media for virus activation was TPCK-treated bovine pancreas trypsin (Sigma-Aldrich). A virus stock culture (passage 1) was prepared in MDCK cells in a 150 cm^2 culture flask. The cells were planted in growth medium and incubated until the cell monolayer was at 90% confluency. The monolayer was washed with medium containing no serum, then renewed with BSA medium containing 2.5 µg/ml of trypsin. The culture was infected with 1 mL of the virus inoculum obtained from Dr. Smee, then incubated at 33^0 C. At 2 days post-infection the culture had reached complete

cytopathic effect. Detached cells and cell debris were removed by low speed centrifugation (600 x g for 5 min.), the supernate aliquoted in 1 ml quantities, then frozen at -80^0 C for storage. For virus titration, aliquots of the stock were thawed and dilution series were inoculated in MDCK cultures in shell vials and virus-infected cells detected by immunofluorescence. Other virus strains were obtained from American Type Culture Collection (ATCC): Influenza A (H3N2) Victoria/3/75 (ATCC VR-822), Influenza A (H1N1) A/PR/8/34 (ATCC VR-95), Influenza A (H1N1) A/WS/33 (ATCC VR-1520), and Influenza A (H2N2) A2/Taiwan/1/64 (ATCC VR-480). Virus stock cultures were prepared in MDCK cells grown in BSA-supplemented media, processed and stored as described above.

For resistance studies with A/Hong Kong/1/1968 (H3N2) (Table 4), Petri dishes with MDCK cells (Federal Research Institute for Animal Health, Greifswald-Insel Riems, cat. no. RIE328) were preincubated overnight in Eagle minimum essential medium (EMEM) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum, 100 U/mL penicillin, 100 µg/mL streptomycin and the assay compound at concentrations corresponding to 5-10x EC_{50} determined using the CPE assay.[25]

Miniplaque assay. In cell culture, mini-plaques consist of single infected cells, double or multiple infected cells contiguously linked, that are observed microscopically and identified by immunofluorescence using FITC-labeled monoclonal antibody against viral protein. Antiviral activity of test drugs were detected in cultures exposed to drug by assessing inhibition of viral protein synthesis (virus replication) as measured by reduction in number of mini-plaques. The tests were performed in MDCK cells. Cells were grown on 12-mm glass cover slips in shell vials (Sarstadt) to a cell density of 80-99% confluency in 1 ml of DMEM growth medium per vial. Prior to infection the cultures were washed with serumless media. The serumless medium was

replaced with 1 ml per vial of DMEM containing BSA at a concentration of 0.125%. Test drugs at appropriate concentrations were added to the cultures and allowed to equilibrate with the media. Stock virus was thawed and appropriate concentrations of virus (contained in BSA media) were then exposed to 1.0 µg /ml of trypsin for 30 min at room temperature, then added to the cultures. Replicate cultures were included at each dilution step of test chemical. Control cultures containing no antiviral drug were included in each assay. The cultures were then incubated at 33^0 C overnight. Cultures were washed with phosphate buffered saline (PBS) within the shell vials, fixed in -80^0 C acetone, then stained with anti-Influenza A, FITC-labeled monoclonal antibody (Millipore, Billerica, MA, USA). Possible drug toxicity in culture was assessed by microscopic observation of cytologic changes and cell multiplication rates. EC_{50} determinations were carried out with a fluorescence microscope by counting miniplaques (clusters of infected cells), in confluent MDCK monolayers on a coverslip at drug concentrations of 50 µM, 20 µM, 10 µM, 5 µM, and, if necessary, 2 µM. From two to four replicate cultures were included at each drug concentration step. Plaque counts, C(D), (including controls and weighted by the standard error of the count for each concentration), were fitted, using the Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm (in KaleidaGraph from Synergy Software, Reading, PA, USA), to the sigmoidal function:

$$C(D) = \frac{C_0}{1 + \frac{D}{EC_{50}}}$$

With D being the drug concentration and C_0 and EC_{50} being free parameters. The standard error of the EC_{50}, used as reported by the software, reflects the uncertainties due to variances in the counts at all concentrations, including the controls. The value of C_0 was constrained by the four independent controls. For the replicate screens, where the value of EC50 was based only on

the four controls and a pair of tests at a fixed concentration, the formal standard errors of the parameters may not adequately represent the uncertainty associated with extrapolating or interpolating the 50% reduction dose from the miniplaque reduction at the assay dose, which would probably be greater the greater the difference between the assay dose and the EC_{50}. Nevertheless, in spite of this limitation, we found reproducibility of EC_{50} values to be high (i.e. within factors of ~2) on several occasions where experiments were repeated – either screens repeated by screens, or screens compared to complete dose-response curves.

Resistance testing: For Table 4, cultured MDCK cells bathed in a concentration corresponding to approximately the EC_{50} concentration, were exposed to the usual quantities of virus for 3-4 days (5-7 virus replication cycles). After that time, the cultures developed cytopathic effects and the cultures were terminated. The medium, containing virus, was then collected by low speed centrifugation. Dose-response tests utilizing the mini-plaque technique were performed on the recovered virus for determination of the EC_{50} against the potentially mutated virus. An increase in the EC_{50} above the original value represents resistance development. A crude sequence on the passage-12 virus developed in **6** (see text) was carried out by extracting the virus directly with the RNaqueous Kit (Life Technologies), transcribed with the Superscript III First-strand Synthesis Kit (Life Technologies), amplified by PCR, and sequenced with an Applied Biosystems 3730xl DNA Analyzer.

Resistance test plaque sequencing: For the more detailed sequencing in (Supplemental Table 1), MDCK cells were washed and incubated with influenza virus (multiplicity of infection = 1) for 1 hour to allow virus adsorption. Then, excessive virus was washed off and cells were

incubated with EMEM supplemented with the assay compound for 3-4 days. If no cytopathic effect was visible, 0.5 mL supernatant were centrifuged (2000 rpm) to remove cell detritus and transferred to Petri dishes with confluent MDCK monolayers (blind passage). Cells were incubated again up to 4 days in EMEM supplemented with the assay compound. If CPE was visible, 1 mL supernatant was stored at -80°C and 0.5 mL was passaged. Up to ten passages were executed. For sequencing of resistant viruses, serial dilution (10-fold) of the stocks of the 1st, 4th and 9th passages were used for plaque assays. Three to five arbitrarily selected plaques of each tested passage and compound were picked, amplified in MDCK cells (yielding 2^{nd}, 5^{th}, and 10^{th} passage virus), and used for RNA preparation as described.[26] Briefly, total RNA was prepared from virus-infected MDCK cells using the RNeasy Mini kit and Qiashredder kit (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany). Reverse transcription was conducted with a primer specific to the 3'-end of genomic RNA (5'-RGCRAAAGCAGG-3'), 20 units reverse transcriptase (Fermentas, St. Leon-Rot, Germany) and 5 µg of RNA in a final reaction volume of 20 µl. Specific oligonucleotide primers Bm-M-1 and Bm-M-1027R and Bm-HA-1 and Bm-HA-rev[27] were used for the amplification of the M and HA segments from cDNA. Amplified DNA fragments were analyzed by agarose gel electrophoresis and gel-extracted employing the QIAquick Gel Extraction kit (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany). Purified DNA fragments were sequenced by cycle sequencing using the CEQ DTCS Quick Start kit (Beckman Coulter, Krefeld, Germany) and analyzed on a CEQ8000 sequencer (Beckman Coulter, Krefeld, Germany).

Electrophysiology Methods. cDNA sequences encoding the full-length A/California/04/09 M2 protein containing an N-terminal FLAG-tag plus 3(Gly) repeat linker and either N31 or an S31 mutation were cloned into pcDNA3 and transiently co-transfected with a pcDNA3 vector

encoding eGFP into TSA-201 cells using standard transfection protocols (Lipofectamine 2000, Life Technologies). Single GFP-positive transfected cells were then used for electrophysiological experiments.

Macroscopic ionic currents were recorded in the whole-cell configuration 24-48 hours after transfection. Cells were perfused continuously at 3-5 mL/min with external (bath) solution containing (in mM): 150 NMG, 10 HEPES, 10 D-glucose, 2 CaCl2, 1 MgCl2 buffered at pH 7.4 with HCl. For low pH (5.5) solution, HEPES was replaced by MES. Solutions containing either K+ or Na+ were prepared by replacing NMG with the corresponding ion. Patch electrodes were pulled from thin-walled borosilicate glass (World Precision Instruments, Fl) and fire-polished before filling with standard pipette solution containing (in mM): 140 NMG, 10 EGTA, 10 MES, and 1 MgCl2 buffered at pH 6.0 with HCl. Pipettes typically had a resistant of 3-5 M□. Voltage-clamp experiments were performed with an Axopatch 200B amplifier (Molecular Devices, CA) connected to a Digidata1322A 16-bit digitizer. Data were acquired with the pCLAMP8.0 software (Molecular Devices, CA) sampled at 10 kHz and low-pass filtered at 5 kHz. Cells were held at -40 mV. The standard voltage protocol consisted of a 100-ms pulse to -80 mV followed by a 300-ms ramp to +40 mV and a 200-ms step to 0 mV before stepping back to -40 mV repeated every 4 s. All experiments were performed at room temperature (20-22°C). All drugs were prepared as DMSO stocks (50 or 100 mM) and diluted with external solution to the desired concentration. To measure block of M2 currents by compounds, cells were recurrently treated with pH 7.4 and pH 5.5 solutions until stable, pH-dependent inward currents were reproducibly observed, followed by treatment with compound and concentration of interest at pH 5.5 for 2-30m. At the end of each experiment, cells were then treated with 100μM amantadine.

C) NMR Spectroscopy and Molecular Dynamics Simulation Methods

Peptide Synthesis and Sample Preparation for Solid State NMR. S31N M2 TM (22-46) (A/Udorn/307/72) with 15N labeled V28, A30 and I42 was synthesized using Fmoc (9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl) chemistry. Fmoc-[^{15}N]-Val, fmoc-[^{15}N]-Ala and fmoc-[^{15}N]-Ile were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratory (Andover, MA). Solid-phase 0.25 mmol syntheses of M2 TMD were performed on an Applied Biosystems 430A peptide synthesizer as previously described.[28] The peptide was cleaved from the resin by the treatment with ice cold 95% TFA, 2.5% H_2O, 1.25% ethanedithiol, 1.25% thioanisole and precipitated from TFA using ice cold ether. Following centrifugation, the supernatant was discarded and the pellet was washed with cold ether again. The precipitated peptide was dried under vacuum. Peptide purity and identity was confirmed using ESI mass spectrometry (positive ion mode).

^{15}N-$V_{28}A_{30}I_{42}$ S31N M2 TMD was co-dissolved in trifluoroethanol (TFE) with 1,2-dimyristoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine (DMPC) in a 1:30 molar ratio. The solvent was removed under a stream of nitrogen gas to yield a lipid film, and then dried to remove residual organic solvent under vacuum for 12 hours. Thoroughly dried lipid film was hydrated with 8 mL of 10 mM HEPES buffer at pH 7.5 to form multilamellar vesicles containing M2 TMD in tetrameric state. This suspension was bath sonicated, dialyzed against 2L HEPES 10 mM pH 7.5 buffer for 1 day and centrifuged at 196,000xg to harvest unilamellar proteoliposomes. The pellet was re-suspended in a 1 mL aliquot of the decanted supernatant containing compound **6**, resulting in a 1:6 molar ratio of the M2 TMD tetramer to drug. Following overnight incubation at 37°C, the pellet was deposited on 5.7x10mm glass strips (Matsunami Trading, Osaka, Japan). The bulk of the water from the sample was removed during a two day period in a 98% relative

humidity environment at 298K. Rehydration of the slides, before stacking and sealing into a rectangular sample cell, generated 40-50% by weight water in the sample. The final sample composition is 1 mg drug : 60 mg lipid : 8 mg peptide (mole ratio 1:20:0.7) with 40-50% hydration.

Solid State NMR Experiments. PISEMA spectra were acquired at 720 MHz utilizing a low-E $^{1}H/^{15}N$ double resonance probe.[28,29] Acquisition took place at 303K, above the gel to liquid crystalline phase transition temperature of DMPC lipids. Experimental parameters included a 90° pulse of 5 μs and cross-polarization contact time of 1 ms, a 4 s recycle delay and a SPINAL decoupling sequence;[30] Sixteen t_1 increments were obtained for the spectrum of ^{15}N-$V_{28}A_{30}I_{42}$ S31N M2 TMD with compound **6**, and nine t_1 increments for the sample without compound. Spectral processing was done with NMRPIPE[31] and plotting with SPARKY. ^{15}N chemical shifts were referenced to a concentrated solution of $N_2H_8SO_4$, defined as 26.8 ppm relative to liquid ammonia.

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Author Contributions. A.K. and C.T. synthesized compounds. F.B.J., R.Z. did dose-response and resistance tissue-culture testing. T.A.C. and A.K.W. did solid state NMR. I.T. and D.F. did electrophysiology tests. A.K. and D.D.B. conceived and supervised the project and wrote the paper with input from the co-authors.

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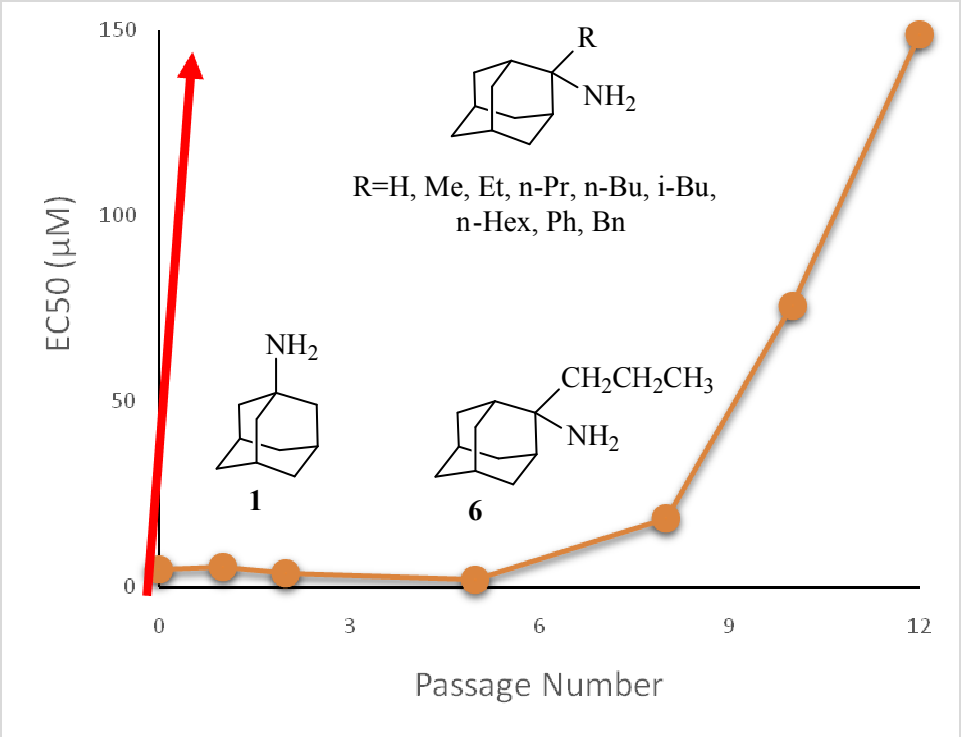
TABLE OF CONTENTS GRAPHIC



Properties: 1. Influenza A with WT M2 quickly adapts to amantadine (red) via M2 mutations, while 2009 pandemic Influenza A with M2 S31N does not readily adapt to **6** (green) and undergoes no M2 changes. 2. ssNMR was positive for M2 S31N TMD binding but electrophysiology was negative for M2 S31N ion channel block.