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Corrigendum

Corrigendum to "The Structure of McN-5652" [Bioorg. Med. Chem. 9 (2001) 2105]☆

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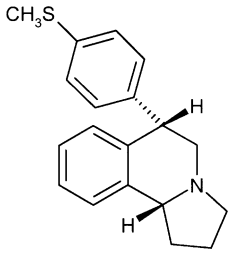
In our paper, cited in the title, we have assigned the descriptor ***cis*** to the physiologically most efficient stereoisomer **1** with 6*S*,10b*R* configuration in terms of absolute configurations.



(6*S*,10b*R*) - **1**

This was contradictory to the denomination ***trans*** isomer in the literature and, in particular, to the fundamental and deciding publications of B. E. Maryanoff and coworkers, who undoubtedly are the pioneers in the field of research on pyrroloisoquinoline type alkaloids. Maryanoff's and other authors' descriptors were correctly based on the *Chemical Abstract* rules (valid until 1999) for the nomenclature of condensed bicyclic compounds with bridgeheads, which we were not aware of. Not knowing, at that time, that a stringent *IUPAC* rule for such cases did not exist, we instead assumed that the regular *R*/*S*-based *cis*/*trans* denomination of monocyclic compounds could be applied. Consequently we came to our divergent assignment and called the isomer in question a ***cis*** isomer.

In addition, we would like to point out that Maryanoff et al. have supplied ample evidence for the correct structure of McN-5652 and its stereoisomers. In so far we retract the statement in our paper "...there is still a lack of information about the correct stereochemistry of the individual isomers". The intention of our paper was to provide new high resolution NMR spectroscopic data including all coupling constants and, in particular, NOE results, which are relevant for the assignment of configuration of the two diasteroisomers. Furthermore, we presented an X-ray structure of racemic McN-5655, which, to the best of our knowledge, represents the first X-ray diffraction analysis of a free base, and not of a salt, for a 4-(methylthio)phenyl derivative in the series.

We regret that, through the premature conclusion in our publication, we have raised the legitimate concern of Dr. Maryanoff.†

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†See Letter to the Editor, *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2002**, *10*, 3367.

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