

Supplementary Figure Legend

Photoactivation of two additional 3 α -OH NBD steroid conjugates. **a.** C2-NBD 3 α 5 α P (also shown in Figure 1a and Figure 4a). Of note, the NH group on the NBD substituent is 1.48 Å from carbon 2. **b.** An analogue (C2-NCO(CH₂)₂NBD 3 α 5 α P) in which the NBD is separated from carbon 2 by a longer linker. In the extended conformation, the NH group in the NBD substituent is 6.26 Å from carbon 2. **c.** An analogue in which the NBD is moved to the other end of the steroid backbone (C17-CH₂NBD 3 α 5 α A). The NH group on the NBD substituent is 10.59 Å from carbon 2. **d.** Summary bar graph of average responses to each analogue from panels a-c. Solid bars represent the potentiation prior to light exposure and open bars represent potentiation after 30 seconds of light exposure using the protocol shown in Figure 1d (n = 61, 3 and 4, respectively). The dotted line indicates the response to GABA alone. All analogues were tested at 100 nM and had similar fluorescence (data not shown). The robust photo-potentiation observed with all three compounds suggests tolerance for NBD placement at different distances from and positions the steroid and is consistent with the hypothesis that receptor proximity, rather than a specific site, may be most important for photo-potentiation.