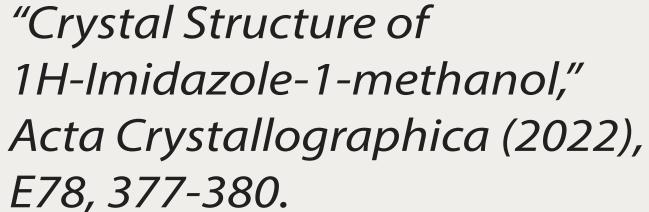
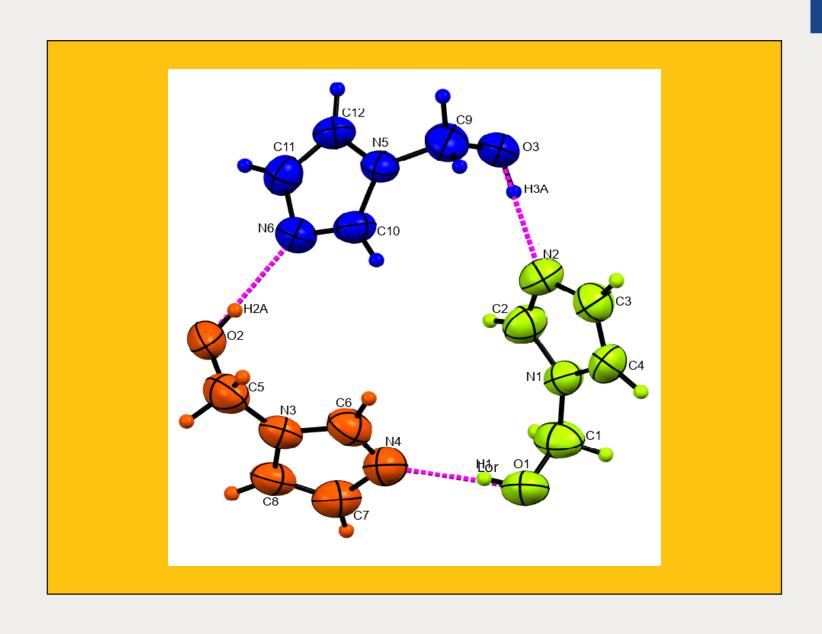


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Five-membered cyclic compounds containing nitrogen atoms allow for relatively easy derivation of the molecule and position a carbon between two nitrogen atoms to be activated to bond with a metal. A carbon-metal bond typically is not a favorable type of bond. 1H-imidazole-1-methanol, the molecule highlighted in this article is a precursor to form the N-heterocyclic carbene moiety of a larger molecule that will be able to bind threefold to a single metal creating a unique metal complex for catalysis. The crystal structure of this precursor molecule was not known and exhibits interesting hydrogen-bonding behavior between three adjacent molecules forming rings.