

Acta Cryst. (2011). E67, o2471 [doi:10.1107/S1600536811033903]

## 4-(1,3-Benzodioxol-5-yl)-2-oxo-1,2,5,6-tetrahydrobenzo[h]quinoline-3-carbonitrile

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**Abstract:** In the molecule of the title compound,  $C_{21}H_{14}N_2O_3$ , the tetrahydrobenzo[h]quinoline fused-ring system is buckled owing to the ethylene - $CH_2CH_2$ - fragment, the benzene ring and the pyridine ring being twisted by 24.3 (1)°. The ring of the benzodioxol system is bent away from the pyridine ring by 61.4 (1)° in order to avoid crowding the cyanide substituent. Two molecules are linked by a pair of N-H<sub>--</sub> O hydrogen bonds to form a centrosymmetric dimer.