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2-Oxo-4-phenyl-1,2,5,6-tetrahydrobenzo[*h*]quinoline-3-carbonitrile

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Abstract: In the molecule of the title compound, C₂₀H₁₄N₂O, the tetrahydrobenzo[*h*]quinoline fused-ring system is buckled owing to the ethylene -CH₂CH₂- fragment, the benzene ring and the pyridine ring being twisted by 19.7 (1)°. The 4-substituted aromatic ring is bent away from the pyridine ring by 62.9 (1)° in order to avoid crowding the cyanide substituent. In the crystal, two molecules are linked by a pair of N-H...O hydrogen bonds to form a centrosymmetric dimer.