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# Clarithromycin hydrochloride 3.5-hydrate

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The absolute configuration was determined for the title compound,  $C_{38}H_{70}NO_{13}^+ \cdot Cl^- \cdot 3.5H_2O$ . The cation contains a 14-membered macrocyclic lactone and two sugars, namely cladinose and desosamine. The six-membered rings of the sugars adopt chair conformations. The structure is stabilized by strong hydrogen bonds, with  $O \cdots O$  distances in the range 2.486 (9)–2.830 (5) Å; other distances are  $N \cdots O = 2.860$  (5),  $N \cdots Cl = 3.134$  (4) and  $O \cdots Cl = 3.303$  (4) Å.

## Comment

Clarithromycin (6-O-methylerythromycin) is an antibiotic widely used in the treatment of acute sinusitis (Clifford et al., 1999), toxoplasmosis, encephalitis (Saba et al., 1993), diarrhea due to cryptosporidium (Rehg, 1991), and H. pyloria infection associated with peptic ulcer (Al-Assi et al., 1994). Drug interactions of clarithromycin are circumstantial to its oral absorption as well as with the concomitant use of other drugs (Hassan et al., 1999). A number of drug interactions of clarithromycin with several drugs have been reported (Cederbrant et al., 1994; Hill et al., 1996). There have been no clarithromycin-metal interactions reported in the literature although the interactions of erythromycin with antacids containing di- and trivalent metal cations have been reported (Arayne & Sultana, 1993). Our attempts to prepare Mg and Mn complexes of clarithromycin, using metal chlorides, in ethylacetate, lead to the formation of clarithromycin hydrochloride 3.5-hydrate, (I). In this article, we report the absolute structure of (I). The asymmetric unit of (I) contains clarithromycin hydrochloride and 3.5 water molecules of solvation. The clarithromycinium cation is composed of a 14-membered macrocyclic lactone, aglycone, wherein the asymmetric centers have 2R, 3S, 4R, 5R, 6R, 8R, 10R, 11R, 12S and 13R configurations, which are the same as those established for erythromycin A (Harris et al., 1965) with the exception of the configuration at C4 which is 4S in the latter. The same relative configurations of these centers have been observed in the structure of clarithromycin methanol solvate (Iwasaki *et al.*, 1993), although the authors have assigned the 4*S* configuration in this case. The absolute configuration of the sugar moieties, namely cladinose and desosamine, attached at C3 and C5, respectively, agree with the previously established configurations of these sugars (Lemal *et al.*, 1962; Richardson, 1963)



with the asymmetric centers being 17R, 19R, 20S, 21S, 26S, 27R, 28S and 30R in (I). The carbonyl groups, the hydroxyl groups and the methoxyl group attached to the macrocyclic ring lie on the same side of the ring forming a hydrophilic region.

The bond distances and angles in (I) are in excellent agreement with the corresponding dimensions reported for the structures of similar antibiotics, *e.g.* erythromycin·HI·2H<sub>2</sub>O (Harris *et al.*, 1965), 11-4"-bis[*O*-(*p*-bromobenzoyl)]oleandomycin (Ogura *et al.*, 1978), 23672RP – a macrolide antibiotic (Arnoux *et al.*, 1980), the Zn complex of erythromycin A (Oliver & Strickland, 1986), clarithromycin methanol solvate (Iwasaki *et al.*, 1993), and erythromycin A, erythromycin B and clarithromycin (Stephenson *et al.*, 1997). The mean vaules of the bond distances in (I) are:  $Csp^3 - Csp^3$  1.524 (16),  $Csp^3 - Csp^2$  1.512 (4),  $N - Csp^3$  1.503 (16),  $O - Csp^3$  1.426 (16) and C=O 1.202 (18) Å; the  $O - Csp^2$  bond is 1.348 (5) Å.

The six-membered rings of the sugars cladinose and desosamine in (I) adopt chair conformations with puckering parameters (Cremer & Pople, 1975): Q = 0.521 (5) and 0.578 (5) Å,  $\theta = 170.0$  (6) and 3.6 (5)°, and  $\varphi = 62$  (3) and 304 (8)°.

The structure is stabilized by extensive hydrogen bonding, with  $O \cdots O$  distances in the range 2.486 (9)–2.830 (5) Å; other distances are  $N \cdots O = 2.860$  (5),  $N \cdots Cl = 3.134$  (4) and  $O \cdots Cl = 3.303$  (4) Å (Table 2).

## **Experimental**

Clarithromycin (0.5  $\times$  10<sup>-3</sup> moles) was dissolved in ethyl acetate (20 ml) and mixed with metal chloride (MgCl<sub>2</sub>/MnCl<sub>2</sub>, 1.0  $\times$  10<sup>-3</sup> moles) solution in ethyl acetate (10–15 ml) and a few drops of water. The solution was refluxed for 3 h. Colorless crystals formed over a period of 2–3 weeks.

Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} C_{38}H_{70}NO_{13}^{+}\cdot Cl^{-}\cdot 3.5H_2O\\ M_r = 847.46\\ Orthorhombic, P2_12_12_1\\ a = 14.409 (2) Å\\ b = 16.489 (3) Å\\ c = 19.267 (3) Å\\ V = 4577.6 (13) Å^3\\ Z = 4\\ D_x = 1.228 \text{ Mg m}^{-3} \end{array}$ 

#### Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer  $\omega$ -2 $\theta$  scans Absorption correction: empirical  $\psi$ scan (3 reflections; North *et al.*, 1968)  $T_{\rm min} = 0.56, T_{\rm max} = 0.66$ 8735 measured reflections 8291 independent reflections

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.058$   $wR(F^2) = 0.150$  S = 1.058291 reflections 532 parameters H-atom parameters constrained

#### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å,  $^{\circ}$ ).

O1-C1	1.348 (5)	O8-C26	1.407 (5)
O1-C13	1.458 (5)	O8-C30	1.437 (5)
O2-C1	1.184 (5)	O9-C27	1.421 (5)
O3-C17	1.416 (5)	O10-C35	1.400 (6)
O3-C3	1.438 (5)	O10-C6	1.434 (5)
O4-C17	1.410 (5)	O11-C9	1.220 (5)
O4-C21	1.448 (5)	O12-C11	1.431 (5)
O5-C23	1.426 (5)	O13-C12	1.424 (5)
O5-C19	1.431 (5)	N1-C31	1.490 (6)
O6-C20	1.422 (5)	N1-C32	1.493 (6)
O7-C26	1.396 (5)	N1-C28	1.525 (5)
O7-C5	1.446 (5)		, í
C1-O1-C13	118.9 (3)	C26-O8-C30	112.0 (3)
C17-O3-C3	115.2 (3)	C35-O10-C6	120.4 (4)
C17-O4-C21	116.3 (3)	C31-N1-C32	110.5 (4)
C23-O5-C19	116.2 (4)	C31-N1-C28	114.9 (4)
C26-O7-C5	116.6 (3)	C32-N1-C28	111.6 (4)

#### Table 2

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdots A$	$D-\mathrm{H}$	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - H \cdots A$
$O6-H6\cdots O13^{i}$	0.82	1.86	2.660 (4)	164
$O13-H13\cdots O16^{ii}$	0.82	2.05	2.767 (5)	146
O9−H9···O17	0.82	2.03	2.486 (9)	114
O13-H13···O12	0.82	2.27	2.683 (5)	111
O12-H12···O11	0.82	2.14	2.830 (5)	142
O9−H9···Cl1	0.82	2.61	3.303 (4)	143
$N1 - H1 \cdots O9$	0.91	2.40	2.860 (5)	112
$N1-H1\cdots Cl1$	0.91	2.29	3.134 (4)	154

Symmetry codes: (i) x - 1, y, z; (ii) 1 - x,  $y - \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2} - z$ .

Cu  $K\alpha$  radiation Cell parameters from 25 reflections  $\theta = 20.0-30.0^{\circ}$  $\mu = 1.30 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 293 (2) K Block, colorless  $0.50 \times 0.38 \times 0.35 \text{ mm}$ 

5541 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   $R_{int} = 0.062$   $\theta_{max} = 68.^{\circ}$   $h = 0 \rightarrow 17$   $k = 0 \rightarrow 19$   $l = -23 \rightarrow 23$ 3 standard reflections every 200 reflections intensity decay: 12.6%

$$\begin{split} &w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.047P)^2 \\ &+ 3.56P] \\ &where \ P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3 \\ (\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001 \\ \Delta\rho_{max} = 0.20 \ e^{\Lambda^{-3}} \\ \Delta\rho_{min} = -0.25 \ e^{\Lambda^{-3}} \\ Absolute \ structure: \ Flack \ (1983) \\ Flack \ parameter = -0.01 \ (3) \end{split}$$

H atoms were ignored. Friedel pairs (3666) were collected and were not merged. The Flack (1983) parameter for the inverted structure was 1.01 (3).
Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf–Nonius, 1989); cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*; data reduction: *TEXSAN* (Molecular Structure Corporation, 1994); program(s) used to solve structure: *SAPI*91 (Fan, 1991); program(s) used to refine structure:

for publication: SHELXTL97.

In the lattice, there were three molecules of water of solvation with

full and one with partial occupancy. Most of the H atoms and

specifically the hydroxyl H atoms were located from difference maps

and all H atoms were placed at geometrically idealized positions (O-

H 0.82, N-H 0.91 and C-H 0.96-0.98 Å) utilizing a riding model,

and a torsional parameter was refined for each methyl group. Water

SHELXTL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); software used to prepare material

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