

**Studies on Viomycin. IX.<sup>1)</sup> Amino Acid Derivatives of Viomycin<sup>2)</sup>**TSUNEHIRO KITAGAWA, TAKAKO MIURA, CHIEKO TAKAISHI  
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The limited acylations of I on the two amino functions of  $\beta$ -lysine residue with protected amino acid active esters followed by de-protection by catalytic hydrogenolyses resulted  $N_1$ -amino acid acylated viomycins. While, the limited carbobenzoxylation followed by the reaction with dicarbobenzoxylysine active ester and the decarbenzoxylation gave  $N_6$ -acylated product VI. Antimicrobial assay of the above obtained derivatives result that neutral amino acid derivatives of I have reduced potencies while, basic amino acid derivatives possess almost the similar potencies with I *in vitro* and *in vivo* tests. Thus, one of the provable reason for the importance of the two free amino functions of  $\beta$ -lysine residue for the exhibition of the potency of I is concluded to be due to their basicity.

Previously, we reported that both of the free amino groups of  $\beta$ -lysine residue in viomycin have important role for the exhibition of antimicrobial activities of viomycin.<sup>1,4)</sup> To find out the reason for the importance of these two amino groups, we have now introduced some amino acids especially basic amino acids selectively to the positions 1 and 6. The present paper describes the syntheses and antimicrobial activities of the selectively acylated viomycins with neutral and basic amino acids, and also one of the probable reason for the necessity of these two amino functions of  $\beta$ -lysine residue for the expression of antimicrobial activities of viomycin is due to their basicity.

**Syntheses of Amino Acid Derivatives of Viomycin**

For the protecting groups of the  $\alpha$ -amino function of amino acids and guanidino group of arginine, carbobenzoxy group and nitro function which can removed by catalytic hydrogenation were chosen, since, parent part of viomycin has proved to be stable at the de-protecting condition.<sup>1)</sup>

Coupling reactions of viomycin with protected amino acid have to be done as quickly and moderately as possible in aqueous solution, since viomycin is soluble in water and practically insoluble in most organic solvents and also it is very unstable toward acid and base.<sup>4a)</sup> For this reason, active ester method of N-hydroxysuccinimide<sup>5)</sup> was applied. Each N-hydroxysuccinimide esters of carbobenzoxy amino acids were prepared according to the method of Anderson, *et al.*<sup>5)</sup> using dicyclohexylcarbodiimide or the mixed anhydride of ethylchlorocarbonate.<sup>6)</sup>

The selective acylation of the  $N_1$ -amino function of  $\beta$ -lysine residue with carbobenzoxy amino acid active esters was performed by modified methods described in the preparation of

- 1) Part VIII: T. Kitagawa, T. Miura, M. Takaishi and H. Taniyama, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* (Tokyo), **23**, 2124 (1975).
- 2) A part of this work was presented at the 94th Annual Meeting of Japanese Pharmaceutical Society Held at Sendai, April 6th 1974.
- 3) Location: *Bunkyo-machi, Nagasaki.*
- 4) a) T. Kitagawa, T. Miura and H. Taniyama, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* (Tokyo), **20**, 2176 (1972); b) T. Kitagawa, T. Miura, S. Tanaka and H. Taniyama, *J. Antibiotics*, **25**, 429 (1972).
- 5) G.W. Anderson, J.E. Zimmerman and F.M. Callahan, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **86**, 1839 (1964).
- 6) R.A. Boissonnas, *Helv. Chim. Acta*, **34**, 874 (1951); T. Wieland and H. Bernhard, *Ann. Chem.*, **572**, 190 (1951); J.R. Vaughan, Jr., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **73**, 3547 (1951).



The other selective monoacylation product N<sub>6</sub>-lysylviomycin (VI) was obtained by reacting N<sub>1</sub>-carbobenzyviomycin<sup>1)</sup> with N-hydroxysuccinimide ester of dicarbobenzylysine followed by the catalytic decarboxylations by the similar procedures used for the preparation of N<sub>6</sub>-acetyl derivatives.

### Characterizations and Confirmations of Structures of Amino Acid Derivatives of Viomycin

All of the amino acid derivatives show positive ninhydrin, Sakaguchi and Rydon-Smith color tests like as I.<sup>4a,9)</sup>

Elemental analyses of them showed good correspondences to the each calculated values as given in Table II. They have the same ultraviolet (UV) absorption maxima with original

TABLE I. Physical Properties of Viomycin and Its Amino Acid Derivatives

Compound	mp (decomp.)(°C)	R <sub>f</sub> <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>m</sub>	[α] <sub>D</sub> <sup>20</sup> (c=1%, H <sub>2</sub> O)
I	258	0.30	1.00	-29.5°
II	270	0.27	1.02	-27.8°
III	253	0.27	1.04	-25.6°
IV	275	0.30	1.04	-21.4°
V	275	0.32	0.95	-20.2°
VI	260	0.23	1.06	-33.3°
VII	285	0.39	1.00	-31.2°

TABLE II. Elemental Analyses of Viomycin Derivatives

Formula		Anal.				
		C	H	N	S	
II	C <sub>35</sub> H <sub>73</sub> O <sub>20</sub> N <sub>15</sub> (C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>42</sub> O <sub>10</sub> N <sub>13</sub> ·C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub> ON <sub>2</sub> ·4CH <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> H·H <sub>2</sub> O)	Calcd.	43.69	6.86	19.60	
	Found	43.65	7.01	19.30		
III	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>61</sub> O <sub>21</sub> N <sub>15</sub> S <sub>2</sub> (C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>42</sub> O <sub>10</sub> N <sub>13</sub> ·C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>11</sub> ON <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O)	Calcd.	34.91	5.95	20.36	6.21
	Found	34.95	6.08	20.40	6.09	
IV	C <sub>35</sub> H <sub>75</sub> O <sub>21</sub> N <sub>17</sub> (C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>42</sub> O <sub>10</sub> N <sub>13</sub> ·C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub> ON <sub>4</sub> ·4CH <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> H·2H <sub>2</sub> O)	Calcd.	41.89	6.76	21.30	
	Found	42.01	7.09	21.48		
V	C <sub>27</sub> H <sub>49</sub> O <sub>17</sub> S <sub>1.5</sub> (C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>42</sub> O <sub>10</sub> N <sub>13</sub> ·C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ON·3/2H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> )	Calcd.	36.44	5.55	22.04	5.40
	Found	36.51	5.70	21.00	5.27	
VI	C <sub>35</sub> H <sub>73</sub> O <sub>20</sub> N <sub>15</sub> (C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>42</sub> O <sub>10</sub> N <sub>13</sub> ·C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub> ON <sub>2</sub> ·4CH <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> H·H <sub>2</sub> O)	Calcd.	43.69	6.86	19.60	
	Found	43.84	7.07	19.23		

TABLE III. UV Absorptions of Viomycin Derivatives

Derivative	λ <sub>m</sub> <sup>μ</sup> (log ε)		
	in 0.1N HCl	in H <sub>2</sub> O	in 0.1N NaOH
I	268(4.4)	268(4.4)	284(4.2)
II	268(4.3)	268(4.3)	282(4.1)
III	268(4.4)	268(4.4)	282(4.2)
IV	268(4.2)	268(4.2)	282(4.0)
V	268(4.3)	268(4.3)	282(4.1)
VI	268(4.4)	268(4.4)	283(4.2)
VII	268(4.2)	268(4.2)	282(4.0)

9) A. Finlay, G.L. Hobby, F.A. Hochstein, T.M. Lees, T.F. Lenert, J.A. Means, S.Y. P'An, P.P. Regna, J.B. Routien, B.A. Sobin, K.B. Tate and J.H. Kane, *Am. Rev. Tuberc.*, **63**, 1 (1951); Q.R. Bartz, J. Ehrlich, J.D. Mold, M.A. Penner and R.M. Smith, *ibid.*, **63**, 4 (1951).

TABLE IV. Spectroscopic Sakaguchi Tests of Viomycin Derivatives at 510 m $\mu$  According to the Method of Weber<sup>7)</sup>

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII
log $\epsilon$	3.41	3.41	3.79	4.40	3.34	3.45	3.24

antibiotic in acidic, neutral and basic conditions, showing the very unstable chromophoric 3-ureidodehydroalanine residue<sup>10)</sup> is intact during the synthetic procedures.

Quantitative Sakaguchi colorimetric measurement of the newly synthesized derivatives according to the method of Weber<sup>7)</sup> indicated that all of them possess almost the same molar absorption coefficient with parent antibiotic except N<sub>1</sub>-arginylviomycin (IV) which showed a large  $\epsilon$  value owing to the other guanidino group in arginine residue. Also every derivatives showed NMR signals of C<sub>31</sub> protons at *ca.* 5.18 ppm as shown in Table V and no proton resonance peak at 5.4—5.6.<sup>8)</sup> Therefore, these artificials are proved to possess an intact tuberactidine residue.

TABLE V. NMR Data of Viomycin Derivatives ( $\delta$  value: ppm from DSS in D<sub>2</sub>O)

	C <sub>2</sub> -H <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>3,4</sub> -H <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>7</sub> -H <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>31</sub> -H
I	3.04	1.78	2.76	5.18
II	3.21	1.64	2.76	5.18
III	3.28	1.68	2.74	5.18
IV	3.21	1.64	2.68	5.16
V	3.26	1.66	2.72	5.18
VI	3.00	1.62	2.50	5.18
VII	3.22	1.62	2.70	5.17

The location of the each aminoacylations were confirmed by NMR spectroscopic studies. Assigned NMR shift values of C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>7</sub>, and C<sub>31</sub> proton resonances of  $\beta$ -lysine residue in I and its acylated derivative determined on 100 MHz instrument in heavy water using sodium 4,4-dimethyl-4-silapentane sulfonate (DSS) as the internal standard are summarized in Table V.

As reported already,<sup>1)</sup> acetylation of N<sub>1</sub>-amino group resulted C<sub>2</sub> proton shift values about 3.20 ppm while, those of free amino groups possess the values of *ca.* 3.04 ppms. All of the compounds except VI possess the C<sub>2</sub> proton shift values of 3.21—3.28 ppm and determined as N<sub>1</sub>-acylated compounds. The compound VI having the C<sub>7</sub> proton shift value of 2.50 ppm<sup>1)</sup> was assigned as N<sub>6</sub>-lysyl derivative.

From these results every amino acid derivatives of I are deduced to be the desired acylated product on  $\beta$ -lysine residue without affecting the other reactive part of viomycin such as the chromophoric group or tuberactidine residue.

### Antimicrobial Activities

The antimicrobial activities of I sulfate and its amino acid derivatives against gram positive and gram negative bacteria were investigated. The obtained minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values determined by the two hold tube dilution method are summarized in Table VI.

10) B.W. Bycroft, D. Cameron, L.R. Croft, A. Hassanali-Walji, A.W. Johnson and T. Webb, *J.C.S. Perkin I.*, 1972, 827.

TABLE VI. Antimicrobial Spectra of Viomycin and Its Derivatives

	Minimum inhibitory concentration (mcg/ml)						
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII
A							
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	10	30	100	30	500	100	100
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> TERAJIMA	30	10	30	10	500	30	100
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> TSUCHIJIMA	500	>100	>500	1000	>500	>100	1000
<i>Shigella flexneri</i> 2a EW-10	100	100	>100	30	>500	100	500
B							
<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> H <sub>37</sub> Rv	3	3	3	3	30	3	10
<i>M. tuberculosis</i> INH, PAS, SM-rH <sub>37</sub> Rv	3	3	10	3		3	
<i>M. tuberculosis</i> KURONO	3	3	3	3		3	

method: Bouillon dilution method

culture: A; Bouillon pH 7.0, 37°, 48 hr, B; Kirchner medium containing 0.2% bovine albumin, pH 7.0, 37°, 21 days

abbreviations: INH, isonicotinic acid hydrazide; PAS, *p*-amino salicylic acid; SM, streptomycin; r-, resistance

Concerning the modification products of N<sub>1</sub>-amino group of I, basic amino acid derivatives such as lysyl, arginyl and ornithyl derivatives possess almost the same MIC values with viomycin against the tested bacteria, while, the neutral amino acid derivatives possess very reduced potencies against gram positive and gram negative bacteria and only one third to one tenth activities against acid fast strain of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

Modification products on the N<sub>6</sub>-amino group of viomycin, the acetyl derivative showed almost nullified antimicrobial activities,<sup>1)</sup> while, a basic amino acid lysyl derivative again shows the similar potencies with those of viomycin and N<sub>1</sub>-lysylviomycin. Thus, it is concluded that acylations of N<sub>1</sub>- and N<sub>6</sub>-amino functions with basic amino acid residues maintain almost the same biological activities with the original antibiotic but the derivatives of neutral amino acids or acetyl residue results inactivation of the potency.

Judging from the results obtained above, the reason for necessity of free amino groups of  $\beta$ -lysine residue for the potency of viomycin could be deduced for their basicity.

Besides *in vitro* tests, *in vivo* activity of N<sub>1</sub>-lysylviomycin was investigated to compare the original antibiotic, using female mice and the results are summarized in Table VII.

TABLE VII. Antituberculostatic Activity of N<sub>1</sub>-Lysylviomycin *in Vivo*.  
Efficacy against *M. tuberculosis* KURONO Infection in Mice

Sample	Route	Dose (mg/kg/dose)	Survival Total	Symptom positive <sup>a)</sup> Survival	Efficacy
II	sc	100	6/6	0/6	+
	sc	50	6/6	2/6	+
	sc	25	5/6	5/5	-
I	sc	100	6/6	0/6	+
	sc	50	6/6	0/6	+
	sc	25	6/6	2/6	+
	sc	12.5	5/5	5/5	-
Control	untreated		12/12	12/12	-

a) Symptoms: emaciation and fur ruffling

mice: ddY, female mice weighing 18 to 20 g

infection: intravenous infection with 0.5 ml of a bacterial suspension (O.D.=1.0 at 525 nm) in modified Kirchner medium without albumin per mouse (LD<sub>50</sub> was about 1)

medication: once a day for 20 days from the next day of infection

observation of mortality: 21 days

II shows almost the same activity against *M. tuberculosis* in *in vitro* test, while about half efficacy is observed with *in vivo* test compared with I.

### Experimental

All melting points were taken on Yanagimoto micromelting point apparatus and were uncorrected. NMR spectra were determined on a JEOL JNM-PS-100 type instrument (100 MHz) and are given in part per million (ppm) down field shift from the internal standard DSS in heavy water and optical rotations (O.D.) on Yanagimoto direct recording polarimeter model OR-20 ( $c=1\%$ , cell length 5 cm, in  $H_2O$ ). Paper partition chromatographies (PPC) were performed with Toyo filter paper No. 51 UH.  $Rf_1$  values refer to the  $n$ -BuOH:  $t$ -BuOH: pyridine: AcOH:  $H_2O$  (15: 4: 10: 3: 12). Electrophoreses were performed at 430 V, 1.3–3 mA using Toyo C type instrument.  $Rm$  values were obtained with reference to viomycin defining the electrophoresis distance of viomycin as 1, using pyridine: AcOH:  $H_2O$  (36: 4: 964, pH 6.14) for the solvent and ninhydrin, Sakaguchi and Rydon-Smith reagents for detections. Physico-chemical properties as well as the results of elemental analyses of the modified viomycins are summarized in Table I–V.

**Materials**—N-(and N<sup>7</sup>-) protected amino acids used are the products of Protein Research Foundations, Mino Osaka, Japan. Viomycin,<sup>4a)</sup> N<sub>1</sub>-carboboxyviomycin<sup>1)</sup>, dicarboboxyornithine<sup>11)</sup> and N-hydroxysuccinimide esters of carboboxyglycine<sup>5)</sup> and dicarboboxylysine<sup>12)</sup> were prepared according to the methods given in the corresponding references.

**N<sub>1</sub>-Lysylviomycin (II)**—Sulfate of I (2 g) was dissolved in 0.1 M TEA buffer (30 ml, pH 9.0) containing dioxan (8.5 ml). To the stirring and ice cooling above solution, pyridine solution of N-hydroxysuccinimide ester of dicarboboxylysine (0.98 g, in 6 ml) was added dropwise with occasional addition of 0.5 M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution to maintain its pH at 8.5–9.5. After stirring for one hr, the mixture was condensed *in vacuo* and the residue was chromatographed on cellulose powder column (2.5 × 20 cm) using the solvent system  $n$ -BuOH: AcOH: pyridine:  $H_2O$ :  $t$ -BuOH (15: 3: 10: 12: 4) as an eluent. The fractions (3 g/fract.) positive to Rydon-Smith test (No. 8–40) were pooled and condensed to dryness *in vacuo* to give N<sub>1</sub>-dicarboboxylysylviomycin ( $Rf_1$  0.71, positive to ninhydrin, Sakaguchi and Rydon-Smith tests). The product was dissolved in 30% AcOH (20 ml) and the solution was stirred for 5 hr under hydrogen atmosphere with the presence of paradium black<sup>13)</sup> which was prepared from 1% PdCl<sub>2</sub> solution (20 ml). After catalyst was removed by filtration and the filtrate was condensed *in vacuo*, the residue was chromatographed with Sephadex LH-20 column (2 × 150 cm) using  $H_2O$  as the eluent. Fractions positive to ninhydrin test (No. 19–22, 10 g/fract.) were pooled and lyophilized to give II as white amorphous, (150 mg), positive to ninhydrin, Rydon-Smith and Sakaguchi test, IR  $\nu_{max}^{KBr}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3360, 3240, 1660, 1540 (broad), 1400, 1220, 1150.

**N<sub>1</sub>-Ornithylviomycin (III)**—To a cooling THF solution (20 ml, -15°) containing TEA 0.2 g and 0.8 g of dicarboboxyornithine, THF solution (0.22 g in 5 ml) was added with vigorous stirring. After 5 min the reaction mixture was removed into ice bath and a solution of N-hydroxysuccinimide (0.23 g) in THF (5 ml) was added to the solution dropwise during 30 min with stirring. Then, above solution was added dropwise to a solution of I sulfate (1.68 g) in  $H_2O$  (30 ml) containing 0.4 g of TEA with occasional further addition of TEA to maintain pH of the mixture at about 9. After addition of the solution, the ice bath was taken off and the mixture was kept stirring for 1 hr at room temperature and then kept it in a refrigerator for overnight. After neutralization with AcOH, the solution was condensed *in vacuo* and the residue was chromatographed with the tower of Sephadex LH-20 (2 × 150 cm) using 5% AcOH as an eluent. Fractions (8 g/tube) positive to Rydon-Smith test (No. 38–43) were pooled and condensed to give almost purified N<sub>1</sub>-dicarboboxyornithylviomycin ( $Rf_1$  0.78). The product, without further purification, was catalytically decarboboxylylated and purified by the similar procedures used for the preparation of II to give III as white amorphous (240 mg), positive to ninhydrin, Sakaguchi and Rydon-Smith tests, IR  $\nu_{max}^{KBr}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3360, 3120, 1660, 1540 (broad), 1395, 1220, 1100.

**N<sub>1</sub>-Arginylviomycin (IV)**—N<sup>α</sup>-Carboboxy-N<sup>G</sup>-nitroarginine (0.88 g) was converted to its N-hydroxysuccinimide ester and the ester was reacted with I followed by deprotective groups by catalytic hydrogenolysis by the similar procedures used for preparation of II yielded IV as white amorphous (220 mg), positive to ninhydrin, Sakaguchi and Rydon-Smith tests, IR  $\nu_{max}^{KBr}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3380, 1630, 1520 (broad), 1220; very soluble in water, insoluble in CH<sub>3</sub>OH, dioxan.

**N<sub>1</sub>-Glycylviomycin (V)**—N-Hydroxysuccinimide ester of carboboxyglycine (0.68 g) was reacted with I by the similar method used for the preparation of II. An intermediate N<sub>1</sub>-carboboxyglycylviomycin was purified by column chromatography of Sephadex LH-20 tower (2 × 150 cm) with eluents of first with 5% AcOH solution (90 ml) followed by  $H_2O$ , instead of using cellulose powder chromatography as used for the preparation method of II. Tubes containing N<sub>1</sub>-carboboxyglycylviomycin ( $Rf_1$  0.73) were pooled, condensed to dryness and then decarboboxylylated by the same procedures as II gave V as white amorphous (230 mg), positive to ninhydrin, Sakaguchi and Rydon-Smith tests, IR  $\nu_{max}^{KBr}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3400, 3260, 1665, 1500, 1325, 1225.

11) R.L.M. Synge, *Biochem. J.*, **42**, 99 (1948).

12) R.A. Boissonas, S. Guttman, R.L. Huguenin, P.A. Jaquenoud and Ed. Sandrin, *Helv. Chim. Acta*, **41**, 1867 (1958).

13) R. Willstätter and E. Waldschmidt-Leitz, *Ber.*, **54**, 113 (1921).

**N<sub>6</sub>-Lysylviomycin (VI)**—A solution of N<sub>1</sub>-carboboxyviomycin (1.8 g) in 13% THF (22 ml) was added to a solution of N-hydroxysuccinimide ester of dicarboboxylysine (0.78 g) in 90% THF solution (20 ml) and pH of the reaction mixture was kept at ca. 8 with occasional addition of TEA under stirring at room temperature for 5 hr. After the mixture was neutralized with AcOH and condensed *in vacuo*, the resulting sirupy residue was (chromatographed on cellulose powder column (2.5 × 53 cm) using the solvent system *n*-BuOH: pyridine: H<sub>2</sub>O (5: 3: 2). Fractions (5 g/tube) No. 3—16 contained N<sub>1</sub>-carboboxy N<sub>6</sub>-dicarboboxylysylviomycin (white amorphous, 1.6 g, *R*<sub>f1</sub> 0.71). The product on catalytic hydrogenation and working up by the same procedures as II yielded VI as white amorphous (190 mg), IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3360, 3120, 1660, 1540 (broad), 1395, 1220, 1150; positive to ninhydrin, Sakaguchi and Rydon-Smith tests.

**N<sub>1</sub>-Citrylviomycin (VII)<sup>14</sup>**—Carboboxy-citrulline (1 g) was converted to its N-hydroxysuccinimide ester by the same procedure used for III. Condensation of the ester with I followed by the decarboboxylation and purification by the similar procedure used for III gave VII as white amorphous (100 mg), positive to ninhydrin, Sakaguchi and Rydon-Smith tests, IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3240, 3060, 2920, 1650, 1510 (broad), 1400, 1325, 1220, 1155.

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14) VII obtained above was PPC and electrophoretically a pure compound. Physico-chemical properties as shown in Tables indicate VII is also a pure compound. Although elemental analyses of VII has not done.