## Communications to the Editor

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EFFICIENT SYNTHESIS OF NOVEL MONOSACCHARIDE ANALOGS OF LIPIDS A1)

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The efficient synthesis of the monosaccharide analogs of lipids A bearing two 3-acyloxytetradecanoyl and phosphoryl groups at the C-2,3 and C-4 positions of the glucosamine skeleton is described. Also a preliminary analysis of their biological activities is presented.

KEYWORDS —— lipid A analog; glucosamine derivative; 4-phosphorylated monosaccharide; endotoxic lethal activity; antitumor activity

Although many attempts have been made to synthesize lipids A and related analogs according to their wrongly assigned structures. Few synthetic and biological works based on the reversed structure of lipids  $A^{3}$  (la-d) have been reported. 1,4)

We describe here a new synthesis of the monosaccharide analogs (2a-d) of lipids A according to the corrected structures, and the preliminary results of their biological activities.

la; 
$$R^1 = C_{14} - O - C_{14}$$
,  $R^2 = C_{14} - O - C_{12}$ ,  $R^3 = R^4 = C_{14} - O H$   
lb;  $R^1 = C_{14} - O - C_{14}$ ,  $R^2 = C_{14} - O - C_{12}$ ,  $R^3 = C_{14} - O H$ ,  $R^4 = C_{14} - O - C_{16}$   
lc;  $R^1 = C_{14} - O - C_{14}$ ,  $R^2 = C_{14} - O - C_{14}$ ,  $R^3 = R^4 = C_{14} - O H$   
ld;  $R^1 = C_{14} - O - C_{14}$ ,  $R^2 = C_{14} - O - C_{14}$ ,  $R^3 = C_{14} - O H$ ,  $R^4 = C_{14} - O - C_{16}$ 

In the previously reported synthesis of the monosaccharide analogs of lipids A, the only method developed was the introduction of the desired fatty acid moiety at the C-2 and C-3 positions of the glucosamine skeleton in the early stage of the synthesis process.<sup>5)</sup>

Our present strategy includes the introduction of optically active fatty acid moieties at the desired positions in the last stage. Thus, the monosaccharide 4-phosphate (8) bearing one amino and one hydroxyl group at the C-2 and C-3 positions of the glucosamine skeleton was exploited as the key common intermediate. Efficient conversion of 8 into several 4-phosphorylated monosaccharides (2a-d) substituted with suitable fatty acid groups proceeded as shown below.

The compound  $(4)^{6}$  [96%, mp 65-68°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{22}$  -32.5° (c=1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)] was readily prepared by treating the free amino and hydroxyl groups of benzyl 2-amino-2-deoxy-4,6-isopropylidene- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside  $(3)^{6}$ ) with 2,2,2-trichloroethoxycarbonyl chloride in the presence of a catalytic amount of 4-dimethylaminopyridine at room temperature for 2 h. 7) Subsequent removal of the isopropylidene group of 4 was accomplished by hydrolysis with aqueous 90% acetic acid at 90°C for 15 min to yield  $\frac{5}{6}$  [98%, mp 102-103°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{18}$  -26.2° (c=1.20, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)]. Treatment of the diol (5) with benzyloxymethyl chloride and tetramethylurea in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature for 16 h followed by purification with silica gel column chromatography afforded the 6-benzyloxymethyl ether  $(6)^{6}$  [85%, amorphous,  $[\alpha]_D^{23}$  -24.2° (c=0.28, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)]. Phosphorization of 6 was carried out with diphenyl phosphorochloridate,

pyridine and 4-dimethylaminopyridine in benzene. 4b) The reaction was complete in 2 h at room temperature to give  $7^6$ ) [87%, mp 119-120°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{23}$  -8.57° (c=0.98, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)]. Deprotection of the 2,2,2-trichloroethoxycarbonyl group by treatment with zinc powder in acetic acid at room temperature for 5 h<sup>8)</sup> afforded 8<sup>6)</sup> [96%, amorphous,  $[\alpha]_D^{21}$  -9.50° (c=1.14, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)]. Acylation of this common intermediate with the desired acyl groups proceeded smoothly. Thus the amino-hydroxy-compound (8) was first acylated at the amino group with (R)-3-dodecanoyloxytetradecanoic acid in the presence of dicyclohexylcarbodiimide in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at 0-5°C to yield 9a<sup>6)</sup> [68%, mp 97-99°C, [ $\alpha$ ] $_D^{23}$  -13.1° (c=0.61, CHCl $_3$ )] and then at the hydroxyl group with (R)-3-tetradecanoyloxytetradecanoic acid, dicyclohexylcarbodiimide, and 4dimethylaminopyridine in the same solvent<sup>9)</sup> to give  $10a^{6)}$  [70%, mp 71-73°C, [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> -8.94° (c=0.94, CHCl3)]. The protective benzyl and phenyl groups of 10a were removed stepwise by hydrogenolysis catalyzed by 10% Pd-on-carbon at 45°C for 5 h and PtO<sub>2</sub> at room temperature for 16 h in methanol<sup>8)</sup> to yield 2a<sup>6)</sup> [56%, mp 116-118°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +33.5° (c=0.40, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)]. Similarly, the diacylated compounds (10bd) 6,9) were obtained by simultaneous acylation of the amino and hydroxyl groups of 8 with the corresponding fatty acids in the presence of dicyclohexylcarbodiimide and 4-dimethylaminopyridine in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature for 16 h and the respective monosaccharide analogs of lipids A (2b-d) 6,10) were afforded by hydrogenolysis as described above for 2a.

Preliminary studies of the biological activity of 2a-d revealed that the order of potency of the endotoxic lethal activity was 2a>2c>2b>2d. The antitumor effect on the ascites form of Ehrlich carcinoma in mice was also observed. 11)

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- 9) 10b: mp 55-57°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{21}$  -6.36° (c=0.88, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).
- 9) 10b: mp 55-57°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{2^1}$  -6.36° (c=0.88, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). 10c: mp 62-64°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{2^1}$  -9.75° (c=0.80, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). 10d: mp 60-63°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{2^0}$  -11.5° (c=1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). 10) 2b: mp 172-174°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{2^5}$  +5.65° (c=0.46, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). 2c: mp 155-157°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{2^4}$  +10.5° (c=0.40, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). 2d: mp 157-159°C,  $[\alpha]_D^{2^4}$  +19.5° (c=1.24, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).
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