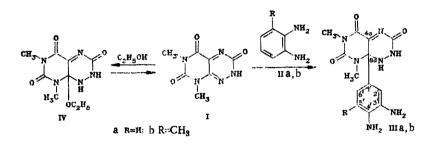
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We have found that in the reaction of equimolar amounts of 2,3,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-6,8dimethylpyrimido[5,4-e][1,2,4]triazine-3,5,7-trione (phervenulin-3-one) (I) and o-phenylenediamines IIa, b in boiling ethanol for 3 h in the presence of hydrochloric acid, 8a-derivatives of phervenulin-3-one hydrochloride IIIa, b form. Treatment of aqueous solutions of these hydrochlorides with sodium acetate can yield the free bases IIIa, b . The yield of 1,2,3,5,6, 7,8,8a-octahydro-6,8-dimethyl-8a-(3,4-diaminophenyl)pyrimido[5,4-e][1,2,4]triazine-3,5,7trione (IIIa) is 55-60%, mp 270-272°.



PMR spectrum (DMSO-D<sub>6</sub>): 3.08 (s, N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.28 (s, N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 4.59 (br. s, 1- and 2-NH<sub>2</sub>); 6.33 (d.d, 6'-H,  $J_{6's'} = 8.2 \text{ Hz}$ ,  $J_{6'2'} = 2.2 \text{ Hz}$ ); 6.43 (d, 2'-H,  $J_{2'6'} = 2.2 \text{ Hz}$ ); 6.51 (d, 5-H,  $J_{5'6'} = 8.2 \text{ Hz}$ ); 7.80 (d, 1-NH,  $J_{12} = 1.90 \text{ Hz}$ ); 9.84 ppm (d, 2-NH,  $J_{21} = 1.90 \text{ Hz}$ ). <sup>13</sup>C MR spectrum (DMSO-D<sub>6</sub>): 28.4 (N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 29.8 (N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 59.7 C<sub>(8a)</sub>); 110.2 (C<sub>(2</sub>); 113.8 (C'<sub>(6</sub>)); 114.0 (C'<sub>(5')</sub>); 125.5 (C'<sub>(1</sub>)); 135.1 (C<sub>(4a</sub>)); 136.0 (C'<sub>(3</sub>)); 138.5 (C'<sub>(4</sub>)); 149.7 (C<sub>(7</sub>)); 151.4 (C<sub>(3</sub>)); 165.9 (C<sub>(5</sub>)). IR spectrum (in mineral oil): 1670, 1696, 1738 (CO); 3063, 3190, 3308, 3373, 3427 cm<sup>-1</sup> (NH and NH<sub>2</sub>). Yieled of 1,2,3,5,6,7,8,8a-octahydro-6,8-dimethyl-8a-(3,4-diamino-5-methylphenyl)pyrimido[5,4-e][1,2,4]triazine-3,5,7-trione (IIIb), 65-70%, mp 297-298°. PMR spectrum (DMSO-D<sub>6</sub>): 1.96 (sm, CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.00 (s, N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.21 (s, N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 4.31 (br. s, NH<sub>2</sub>); 4.50 (br. s, NH<sub>2</sub>); 6.24 (s, CH<sub>arom</sub>); 7.83 (d, 1-NH, J<sub>12</sub> = 1.80 Hz); 9.90 ppm (d, 2-NH, J<sub>21</sub> = 1.80 Hz). IR spectrum (in mineral oil): 1685, 1696, 1742, (CO), 3056, 3158, 3193, 3395, 3428 cm<sup>-1</sup> (NH and NH<sub>2</sub>).

4-Chloro-, 4-methyl-, 4,5-dimethyl-, and 3,6-dimethoxy-o-phenylene diamines do not add to phervenulin-3-one because of steric hindrance. In these cases 1,2,3,5,6,7,8,8a-octahydro-6,8-dimethyl-8a-ethoxypyrimido[5,4-e][1,2,4]triazine-3,5,7-trione (IV) was isolated from the reaction mixture in 65-70% yield; heating it at 153° for 3-4 h gives phervenulin-3-one in quantitative yield. PMR spectrum of IV (DMSO-D<sub>6</sub>): 1.06 (t, CH<sub>3</sub>, J = 6.7 Hz); 3.11 (s, N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.21 (s, N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.37 (q, CH<sub>2</sub>, J = 6.7 Hz); 8.78 (d, 1-NH, J = 1.90 Hz); 10.55 ppm (d, 2-NH, J= 1.90 Hz). The C(sa) signal in the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum appears at 58.2 ppm. IR spectrum (in mineral oil): 1686, 1699, 1710, 1742 (CO), 3100, 3150, 3235, 3310 cm<sup>-1</sup> (NH).

In the absence of acid, formation of III was not observed. Apparently because of salt formation, acid not only activates phervenulin-3-one with respect to nucleophiles, but also determines the orientation of the o-phenylenediamine molecule in the reaction.

This reaction, which is the first example of nucleophile addition at the nodal  $C_{(8a)}$  atom in pyrimidotriazine antibiotics, opens up a new route to the modification of these compounds.

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