

I. α -HOMOLOGS OF 11-DEOXYPROSTAGLANDIN E₁

G. A. Tolstikov, L. M. Khalilov,
A. A. Panasenko, F. A. Valeev,
and M. S. Niftakhov

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The ¹³C NMR spectra of a number of α -homologs of 11-deoxyprostaglandin E₁ have been investigated and a stereochemical assignment has been made of the diastereomeric pairs of isomers with lengths of the α -chain from seven to twelve carbon atoms. The most informative characteristics for the separation of the classes of epimers have been determined; these are differences in the chemical shifts of the C₁₃ and C₁₅ carbon atoms.

At the present time, exceptionally great attention is being devoted to the study of the "structure-activity" relationship in a number of biologically active compounds. It is generally known that the spectrum of biological activity of a compound depends not only on the presence in the molecule of fragments responsible for a definite type of activity but also on the stereochemical features of the individual parts of the molecule. Thus, among the α and β epimers of the prostaglandins differing only by the spatial arrangement of the 15-OH group the more active are the 15 α epimers [1]. Consequently, in the performance of a successful correlation of the "structure-activity" relationship one must use analytical methods permitting the individuality and fine differences among diastereomeric compounds to be taken into account. One of the useful approaches to the investigation of the structures of biologically active compounds and their synthetic analogs is the use of the ¹³C NMR method [2-5].

In the present paper the results of a study of the ¹³C NMR spectra of a number of α -homoanalogs of 11-deoxyprostaglandin E₁ are given, a relationship is found between the values of the chemical shifts (CSs) of the carbon atoms on the configuration of the C₁₅ hydroxy group, and a stereochemical assignment of the 15 α and 15 β isomers is made.

Table 1 gives the values of the ¹³C NMR CSs of homologs of 11-deoxy-PGE₁ studied by other workers (I-III) [5] and by ourselves (IV-XIV) with numbers of carbon atoms in the α -chains of from seven to twelve. For convenience of comparing the spectral characteristics, the numbering of the carbon atoms of the initial 11-deoxy-PGE₁ (n = 0) has been retained as shown in the scheme given below. The remaining carbon atoms of the α -chain are numbered according to the increase in the chain length (C₂₁-C₂₅).

The assignment of the signals in the spectra of the prostanoids studied was made in accordance with literature information for 11-deoxyprostaglandin E₁, and also on the basis of an analysis of the spectra on an SM-4 minicomputer [6]. The CSs calculated by additive schemes show satisfactory agreement with the experimental CSs.

For a comparative analysis of the spectral characteristics of the 15 α and 15 β epimers Table 1 also gives the difference between the CSs of the corresponding signals. As was to be expected, the greatest changes in the CSs are observed for the carboxylic, C₁, and the carbonyl, C₉, carbon atoms, and the C₁₂-C₁₅ atoms of the ω -chain. It must be mentioned that the variations in the difference in the CSs of the carboxylic and carbonyl atoms are irregular for different pairs of epimers, amounting to from -0.70 to +0.70 ppm. The observed changes are caused by the conditions of the medium and the concentration dependences of the CSs of carbon atoms attached to oxygen atoms by multiple bonds [4].

Characteristic features permitting the spectral identification of the 15 α and 15 β epimers of a concrete prostaglandin are the CSs of the carbon atoms located between the C₁₂ and C₁₅ chiral centers. In the series of epimeric pairs of prostaglandins that we have studied -

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TABLE 1. ^{13}C Chemical Shifts of Homologs of 11-Deoxyprostaglandin E_1 (11-Deoxy-PGE $_1$, $n = 0-5$) (δ , ppm, CDCl_3 , TMS)

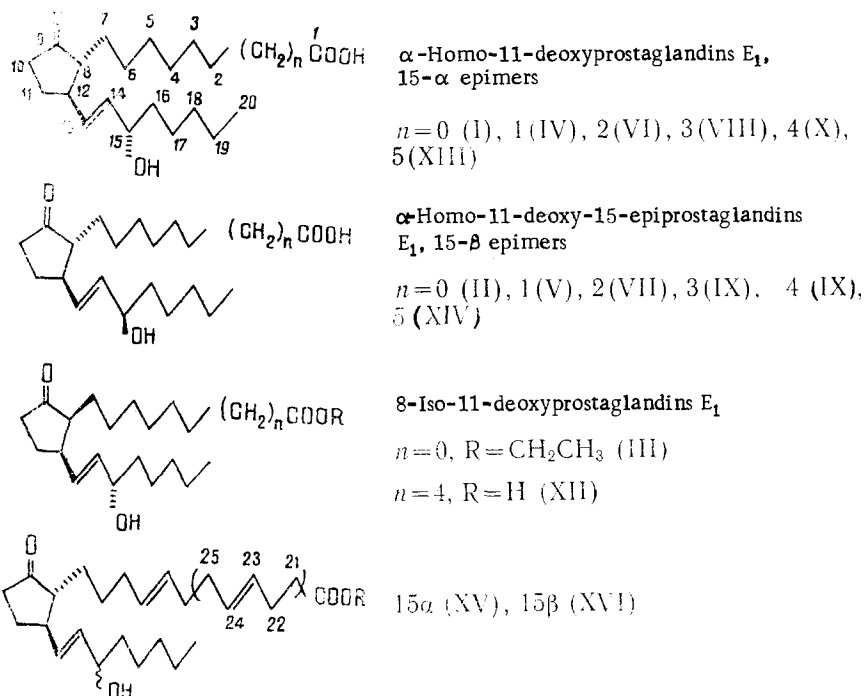
Compound	$\delta\text{C}_8 - \delta\text{C}_9$	C_1	C_2	C_3	C_4	C_5	C_6	C_7	C_8	C_9	C_{10}	C_{11}	C_{12}
I. 11-Deoxy-PGE $_1$, 15 S(α)OH, $n = 0$		177.5	24.7	34.0	28.8	29.3	26.6	27.7	54.6	219.7	37.3	28.0	45.6
II. 11-Deoxy-PGE $_1$, 15 R(β)OH, $n = 0$	$\delta\text{I} - \delta\text{II}$	177.4	24.5	34.0	28.6	29.1	26.4	27.6	54.6	219.7	37.3	28.0	45.6
III. Ethyl ester of 8-iso-11-deoxy-PGE $_1$, $n = 0$		173.7	24.6	34.0	28.6	29.0	26.6	25.1	53.5	219.6	35.1	26.9	42.2
IV. 11-Deoxyhomo-PGE $_1$, 15S(α)OH, $n = 1$		177.97	29.21	24.51	28.49	28.49	26.27	27.54	54.67	219.31	37.30	28.07	45.46
V. 11-Deoxyhomo-PGE $_1$, 15R(β)OH, $n = 1$	$\delta\text{IV} - \delta\text{V}$	178.52	29.34	24.51	28.69	28.69	26.47	27.52	54.47	218.81	37.24	27.93	45.43
VI. 11-Deoxydihomo-PGE $_1$, 15S(β)OH, $n = 2$		178.99	29.15	28.98	29.15	29.73	26.76	27.71	54.67	220.04	37.31	27.94	45.53
VII. 11-Deoxydihomo-PGE $_1$, 15R(α)OH, $n = 2$		179.18	29.21	29.05	29.51	29.86	26.86	27.84	54.70	220.07	37.27	27.97	45.37
VIII. 11-Deoxytrihomo-PGE $_1$, 15S(β)OH, $n = 3$	$\delta\text{VI} - \delta\text{VII}$	178.89	29.28	29.15	29.28	29.70	26.76	27.71	54.67	219.98	37.31	27.94	45.53
IX. 11-Deoxytrihomo-PGE $_1$, 15R(β)OH, $n = 3$		179.25	29.24	29.05	29.24	29.73	26.76	27.74	54.67	220.04	37.24	27.97	45.40
X. 11-Deoxytetrahomo-PGE $_1$, 15S(α)OH, $n = 4$	$\delta\text{VIII} - \delta\text{IX}$	178.89	29.34	29.34	29.34	29.844	26.81	27.78	54.70	219.89	37.34	27.96	45.58
XI. 11-Deoxytetrahomo-PGE $_1$, 15S(β)OH, $n = 4$	$\delta\text{X} - \delta\text{XI}$	179.25	29.37	29.37	29.14	29.83	26.80	27.81	54.70	220.15	37.24	27.97	45.37
XII. 11-Deoxytetrahomo-PGE $_1$, 8-iso, $n = 4$		179.25	29.34	29.34	29.34	29.84	27.96	25.44	53.85	218.18	35.43	27.37	42.41
XIII. 11-Deoxypentahomo-PGE $_1$, 15S(α)OH, $n = 5$		178.56	29.29	29.29	29.29	29.78	26.80	27.75	54.66	219.81	37.36	27.96	45.56
XIV. 11-Deoxypentahomo-PGE $_1$, 15R(α)OH, $n = 5$	$\delta\text{XIII} - \delta\text{XIV}$	179.25	29.47	29.42	29.53	29.85	26.87	27.87	54.70	219.95	37.33	27.99	45.41
XV. 3-trans,23-trans-Diene-PGE $_2$, 11-deoxy-pentahomo, 15S(α)OH, $n = 3$		-0.69	-0.18	-0.23	-0.24	-0.07	-0.07	-0.12	-0.04	-0.14	0.03	-0.03	0.15
XVI. 3-trans,23-trans-Diene-PGE $_2$, 11-deoxy-pentahomo, 15R(β)OH, $n = 3$	$\delta\text{XV} - \delta\text{XVI}$ $\delta\text{XVI calc}$	178.08	129.83	31.72	130.19	32.70	26.73	27.61	54.57	220.15	37.24	27.94	45.40
		-0.49	0.07	+0.04	-0.06	0.07	0.03	0.10	0.03	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.13
		-	131.40	32.98	131.40	32.98	28.23	26.55	58.25	-	40.34	26.18	41.11

TABLE 1 (continued)

Compound	$\delta C_{\alpha} - \delta C_{\beta}$	C_{14}	C_{15}	C_{16}	C_{17}	C_{18}	C_{19}	C_{20}	C_{21}	C_{22}	C_{23}	C_{24}	C_{25}	Literature
I. 11-Deoxy-PGE ₁ , 15 S(α)OH, n = 0	133.0	134.1	72.8	37.7	25.1	31.8	22.6	14.0						[5]
II. 11-Deoxy-PGE ₁ , 15 R(β)OH, n = 0	132.7	134.0	72.7	37.7	25.1	31.8	22.6	14.0						[5]
III. Ethyl ester of 8-iso-11-deoxy-PGE ₁ , n = 0	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						[5]
IV. 11-Deoxyhomo-PGE ₁ , 15S(α)OH, n = 1	128.9	135.2	72.4	37.2	24.9	31.5	22.4	14.0	60.0	13.8				
V. 11-Deoxyhomo-PGE ₁ , 15R(β)OH, n = 1	133.45	133.82	72.75	37.66	25.03	31.69	22.58	14.00	33.72					
VI. 11-Deoxydihomo-PGE ₁ , 15S(α)OH, n = 2	133.23	133.98	72.58	37.47	25.07	31.69	22.55	13.97	33.78					
VII. 11-Deoxydihomo-PGE ₁ , 15R(α)OH, n = 2	0.22	-0.16	0.17	0.13	-0.04	0.0	0.03	0.03	-0.06					
VIII. 11-Deoxytrihomo-PGE ₁ , 15S(α)OH, n = 3	133.69	133.85	72.95	37.70	25.13	31.76	22.62	14.03	34.04	24.71				
IX. 11-Deoxytrihomo-PGE ₁ , 15R(β)OH, n = 3	133.20	133.75	72.59	37.73	25.07	31.76	22.62	14.03	34.02	24.71				
X. 11-Deoxytetrahomo-PGE ₁ , 15S(α)OH, n = 4	0.49	0.10	0.36	-0.03	0.06	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.02	0.0				
XI. 11-Deoxytetrahomo-PGE ₁ , 15R(β)OH, n = 4	133.71	133.84	72.95	37.70	25.10	31.72	22.62	14.00	33.98	24.71	29.02			
XII. 11-Deoxytetrahomo-PGE ₁ , 8-iso, n = 4	133.22	133.78	72.62	37.73	25.07	31.72	22.62	14.03	33.98	24.64	28.92			
XIII. 11-Deoxypentahomo-PGE ₁ , 15S(α)OH, n = 5	0.49	0.06	0.33	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.03	0.0	0.07	0.10			
XIV. 11-Deoxypentahomo-PGE ₁ , 15R(β)OH, n = 5	133.82	133.91	72.99	37.71	25.12	31.75	22.63	14.04	33.98	24.71	29.02	29.20		
XV. 3-trans,23-trans-Diene-PGE ₃ , 11-deoxy-pentahomo, 15S(α)OH, n = 5	133.19	133.72	72.58	37.73	25.03	31.72	22.62	14.00	34.01	24.67	28.98	29.34		
XVI. 3-trans,23-Diene-PGE ₃ , 11-deoxy-pentahomo, 15R(β)OH, n = 5	0.63	0.19	0.41	-0.2	0.09	0.03	0.01	0.01	-0.06	0.04	0.04	-0.13		
	129.75	134.95	73.10	37.71	25.12	31.75	22.63	14.04	33.98	24.71	29.02	29.20		
	133.69	133.91	72.94	37.71	25.13	31.75	22.61	14.02	33.92	24.67	29.00	29.14	29.29	
	133.23	133.82	72.62	37.73	25.06	-0.01	22.61	14.02	34.01	24.71	29.03	29.17	29.34	
	+0.46	0.09	0.32	-0.02	0.07	31.76	-0.0	0.0	-0.09	-0.04	-0.03	-0.03	-0.05	
	133.56	133.82	72.82	37.66	25.13		22.62	14.07	34.14	27.35	131.11	128.21	32.47	
	133.13	133.75	72.55	37.70	25.07	31.72	25.59	14.00	34.07	27.42	131.21	128.11	32.51	
	+0.43	0.07	0.27	-0.03	0.06	0.04	0.03	0.07	0.07	-0.07	-0.10	-0.10	-0.04	
	133.80	134.80	74.23	37.98	23.73	32.41	22.66	13.85	34.85	28.66	132.99	129.90	32.98	

(I) and (II), (IV) and (V), (VI) and (VII), (VIII) and (IX), (X) and (XI), and (XIII) and (XIV) - the differences in the CSs of the carbon atoms mentioned on passing from the 15S(α) to the 15R(β) epimers are positive magnitudes.

This fact shows the existence of spatial interactions in the molecules of the erythro (15 β) epimers for the groups and atoms bound to the C₁₂ and C₁₅ chiral centers which lead to a definite screening of these nuclei as compared with the CSs for threo (15 α) epimers.



The most powerful characteristic of the separation of the classes of diastereomeric pairs is formed by the diamagnetic shifts of the C₁₅ and C₁₃ signals in the intervals from 0.2 to 1.3 ppm and from 0.1 to 0.4 ppm, respectively, for the 15 β epimers as compared with the 15 α epimers. It is precisely on the basis of this characteristic that the diastereoisomers (XV) and (XVI) with two double bonds in the α -chain and to some extent falling outside the series of homologues of 11-deoxy-PGE₁ were assigned. The position and the E,E configuration of the double bonds in the α -chain were shown by a calculation of the CSs using the minicomputer [6] (see Table 1).

In the spectrum of compound (X) additional weak signals were observed relating to the isomeric product (XII) with the cis arrangement of the α - and ω -chains relative to the cyclopentane ring. A similar phenomenon has been observed by Pekhk et al. [5] (compound (III)). Characteristic features of the isomeric compounds (III) and (XII) are the upfield shift of the signals of the C₈ and C₁₂ atoms of the ring and the C₇ and C₁₃ atoms of the α - and ω -chains through the interaction of the 1,2-cis-oriented substituents in the five-membered ring [7].

EXPERIMENTAL

¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL FX-90Q spectrometer (22.50 MHz). Field scanning at 6024 and 2000 Hz, resolution of the analog-digital converter 0.74 and 0.24, respectively. The samples were prepared in CDCl₃ (30-10 mg/ml) with TMS as internal standard. The analysis of the ¹³C spectra was performed on an SM-4 minicomputer using a program for calculating CSs by additive schemes [6].

The synthesis of the (\pm)- α -homoanalogs of 11-deoxyprostaglandin E₁ that were investigated has been described in [8].

SUMMARY

The structures of diastereomeric pairs of α -homoanalogues and 11-deoxy-PGE₁ with lengths of the α -chain from seven to twelve carbon atoms have been shown and their stereochemical assignment has been made by means of ¹³C NMR spectroscopy. It has been shown that

the most informative characteristics of the separation of the class of epimers are differences in the CSs of the C₁₃ and C₁₅ carbon atoms due to stereochemical interactions of the groups of atoms at the C₁₂ and C₁₅ chiral centers in the 15 β epimers. Characteristic features of the cis isomers of the α - and ω -chains relative to the cyclopentane ring in the homologues of 11-deoxy-PGE₁ are upfield shifts of the signals of the C₈ and C₁₂ atoms of the ring and of the C₇ and C₁₃ atoms of the α - and ω -chains.

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PREPARATION OF TRITIUM-LABELED PROSTAGLANDIN E₃

V. P. Shevchenko, I. V. Fetisova,
T. Yu. Lazurkina, I. Yu. Nagaev,
and N. F. Myasoedov

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Conditions for the biosynthesis of PGE₃ from eicosa-5,8,11,14,17-pentaenoic acid using an enzyme system isolated from ram seminal vesicles have been worked out. Tritium-labeled PGE₃ has been obtained in good yield with a molar radioactivity sufficient for performing many biological investigations.

The possibility of obtaining tritium-labeled prostaglandin E₂ has been shown previously [1]. Enzyme systems converting eicosa-5,8,11,14,17-pentaenoic acid into various prostaglandins of the 3 series are known [2, 3]. The aim of the present work was to obtain tritium-labeled prostaglandin E₃ (PGE₃) from [³H]eicosa-5,8,11,14,17-pentaenoic acid using an enzyme system isolated from ram seminal vesicles. To optimize the conditions for the biosynthesis of PGE₃ we performed a series of experiments at various concentrations of enzyme, polyunsaturated acid, epinephrine, hemin and hydroquinone, and we also investigated the kinetics of the conversion of the polyunsaturated acid into PGE₃. In each case the yield of prostaglandin was determined after alkaline isomerization [1] and measurement of the absorption at λ 278 nm. With increases in the concentrations of polyenic acid, enzyme, and hemin and with a lengthening of the time of incubation the yield of PGE₃ rose to a definite value and then did not change further, while the curves reflecting the dependence of the yield of product on the concentrations of epinephrine and of hydroquinone had maxima. In the investigation of the stability of the enzyme with time it was found that the enzyme did not lose its initial activity for a period of two months.

As a result of the experiments performed, the following conditions were selected for biosynthesis using the enzyme system in the form of an unpurified supernatant (per 2 ml of supernatant with a concentration of 22 mg of protein/ml): 0.5 mg (1.65 μ mole) of eicosa-5,8,11,14,17-pentaenoic acid, 0.56 mg (3.06 μ mole) of epinephrine or 0.32 mg (2.9 μ mole) of hydroquinone, 1 μ g (1.5 nmole) of hemin, and 1.2 mg (3.9 μ mole) of reduced glutathione, the reaction being performed at 32°C for 8 min. If 50-100 mg of eicosa-5,8,11,14,17-pentaenoic acid was used in the reaction with observance of the same ratios of the other ingredients

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