REACTION OF CEPHALOSPORIN 3'-TRIPHENYLPHOSPHONIUM YLIDE. SYNTHESIS OF NOVEL TRICYCLIC CEPHALOSPORIN DERIVATIVES

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The reaction of cephalosporin 3'-triphenylphosphonium ylide (i) with aldehyde is a useful method for the carbon-elongation at C-3' of cephalosporin. However, utilization of the ylide in the synthesis of cephalosporin derivatives is considerably limited due to its poor reactivity and attendant formation of the C_2 -and C_4 -substituted products. Here we report regionselective reaction of the ylide with bifunctional aldehydes, such as glyoxal and acrylaldehyde, leading to unique cephalosporin derivatives bearing tricyclic skeletons. Glyoxal or methyl glyoxal reacted with the ylide to give the compound (ii) which was bridged by a cyclopentene ring between C_2 and C_3 . The ylide also reacted with acrylaldehyde to give the C_3 , C_4 -tricyclic compound (iii), while the 1-sulfoxide of the ylide afforded the C_2 , C_3 -tricyclic compound (iv) upon similar treatment.

Furthermore, the compound (iv) could be converted by treatment with $(CF_3CO)_2O$ -pyridine into the ring-fused analogue (v) of the monocyclic β -lactam antibiotics, nocardicins. Desulfuration of this compound with Raney nickel furnished a transformation of cephalosporin to the nocardicin nucleus.

$$R^{1}NH$$
 O
 $COOCH Ph_{2}$
 $COOCH$