SYNTHESIS OF 2,3,8-TRISUBSTITUTED 7*H*-ISOINDOLO[5,6-*g*]QUINOXALINE-5,7,9,11(8*H*)-TETRAONES

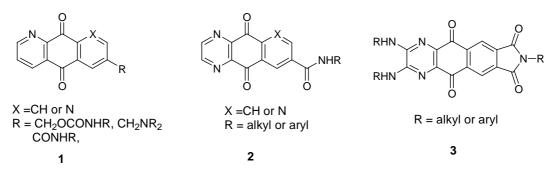
Heesoon Lee,* Sungmoon Cho, Byeonggil Choi, Kwon Namgoong, and Jae-Kyung Jung

College of Pharmacy, Chungbuk National University, Cheongju 361-763, Korea; <u>medchem@chungbuk.ac.kr</u>

Abstract – Oxidation of 3-methyl- or 7,8-dimethylbenzo[g]quinoxalinedione produced the unusual product, dihydroxybenezo[g]quinoxaline-5,10-dione-carboxylic acid or dicarboxylic acid. This process was used for the synthesis of a series of 2,3,8-trisubstituted isoindolo[5,6-g]quinoxalinetetraone derivatives.

INTRODUCTION

The azaanthraquinones are a new class of antitumor agents that exhibit promising *in vitro* and *in vivo* activity against a wide spectrum of tumor cell lines.¹⁻³ These are the chromophore-modified analogues of mitoxantrone, a synthetic analogue of doxorubicin. In an effort to develop novel antitumor agents that could overcome the shortcomings of anthracyclines, we recently reported the synthesis and biological evaluation of a series of azaanthraquinone derivatives (1).⁴⁻⁷ In continuation of developing novel azaanthraquinone derivatives, benzo- or pyridoquinoxalinedione carboxamides (2) were designed as potential intercalating agents. The target compounds (2) required benzo- or pyridoquinoxalinedione-carboxylic acid as penultimate precursors.

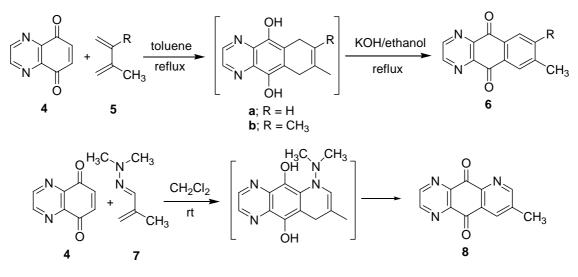


It was envisioned that the carboxylic acid intermediates could be obtained by an oxidation of methyl substituted benzo- or pyridoquinoxalinediones. Oxidation of benzylic methyl group with 18% HNO₃ is

known to give the corresponding arylcarboxylic acid.⁸ We also observed the formation of the azaanthraquinonecarboxylic acid from methyl substituted azaanthraquinones.^{9,10} However, the oxidation of the methyl substituted benzo- or pyridoquinoxalinediones did not give the desired product. In the present study, we described the formation of the unexpected direct ring oxidation product from the methyl substituted benzo- or pyridoquinoxalinediones and its application to the synthesis of a series of 2,3,8-trisubstituted isoindolo[5,6-*g*]quinoxalinetetraone derivatives (**3**) which would act as a potential intercalating agent.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

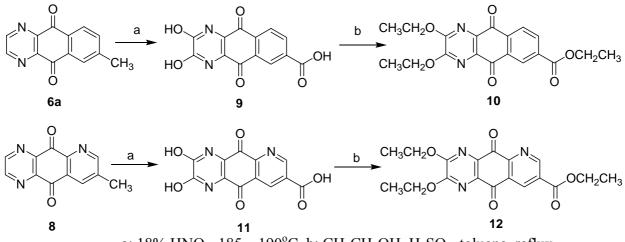
The starting compounds (**5a**, **5b** and **7**) were prepared as outlined in **Scheme 1**. Diels-Alder cycloaddition of quinoxaline-5,8-dione (**4**)¹¹ with isoprene (**5a**) or 2,3-dimethyl-1,3-butadiene (**5b**) followed by an aerial oxidation in ethanolic KOH solution afforded 7-methyl-5,10-dihydrobenzo[*g*]quinoxaline-5,10-dione (**6a**) or 7,8-dimethyl-5,10-dihydrobenzo[*g*]quinoxaline-5,10-dione (**6b**). Hetero Diels-Alder cycloaddition of quinoxaline-5,8-dione (**4**) with 1-dimethylamino-3-methyl-1-aza-1,3-butadiene (**7**) in dichloromethane provided 7-methyl-5,10-pyrido[2,3-*g*]quinoxaline-5,10-dione (**8**) in 67 % yield.



Scheme 1.

The treatment of the compounds (6a) and (8) with 18% HNO₃ in Parr type A-30397 titanium pressure reactor for 2 h at 185 - 190°C afforded the unexpected products (9) and (11) (Scheme2). The oxidation of the benzylic methyl group of the compounds (6a) and (8) accompanied with the ring oxidation of benzopyridoquinoxalinediones. The ring oxidation might proceed through a formation of or 2,3-dihydroxy-N,N-dinitro intermediate followed by a liberation of nitrous acid. In our previous study, the reaction condition with 3-methyl-6,7-dimethyl-1-azaanthraquinone afforded same and 1-azaanthraquinone-3-carboxylic acid and 6,7-dicarboxylic acid.^{9,10} It is rare that the direct ring oxidation of the quinoxaline to 2,3-dihydroxyquinoxaline proceeds without forming N-oxide intermediate.¹² The

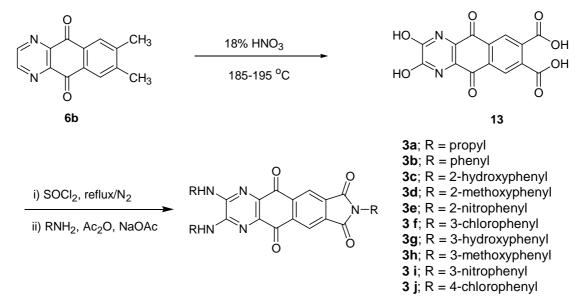
structures of the oxidation products were further elucidated by converting them to the ester products (10) and (12) (Scheme 2). The treatment of the carboxylic acid compounds with ethanol and a catalytic amount of H_2SO_4 afforded the ester products (10) and (12). Spectroscopic data of the ester products were consistent with the structure as shown in Scheme 2. ¹H-NMR spectrum which appeared at 1.25-1.45 ppm for the compound (10) and at 1.35-1.50 ppm for the compound (12) indicated the presence of the three methyl groups.



a: 18% HNO₃, 185 - 190°C, b: CH₃CH₂OH, H₂SO₄, toluene, reflux

Scheme 2. Oxidation of benzo- or pyridoquinoxalinediones.

Based on the above results, we attempted to prepare the 2,3,8-trisubstituted isoindolo[5,6g]quinoxalinetetraone derivatives that would show a promising cytotoxic activity. Thus, the 7,8-dimethylbenzo[g]quinoxalinedione (**6b**) was treated with 18% HNO₃ in Parr type A-30397 titanium pressure reactor for 2 h at 190°C to give the dicarboxylic acid (**13**). The crude product (**13**) was heated to reflux in SOCl₂ for 5 h. The subsequent treatment of the crude product with a number of alkyl- or arylamines afforded the target compounds (**3a - 3j**) in 20 – 35% yield.



Scheme 3.

EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were determined in an open capillary with Electrothermal IA9100 digital melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO FT-IR300E spectrophotometer. NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DPS300 spectrometer 300 MHz for ¹H-NMR and 125 MHz for ¹³C-NMR (tetramethylsilane as internal standard). Mass spectra were recorded on a LCQ (Finnigan) spectrometer. Elemental analyses were performed with an EA 1110 Automatic Elemental Analyzer, CE Instruments. Commercially available reagents and solvents were used without additional purification unless otherwise stated.

7-Methylbenzo[g]quinoxaline-5,10-dione (6a)

To a solution of 5,8-quinoxalinedione (4) (1.0 g, 6.3 mmol) in anhydrous toluene (50 mL) was added isoprene (5a) (10 mL) dropwise. The reaction mixture was heated to reflux for 48 h under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was then cooled to ambient temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was treated with 5*N*-KOH solution in ethanol (30 mL) and stirred at reflux for 5 h. The mixture was diluted with water (300 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (150 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with water (50mL x 3) and brine (50 mL x 2), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and concentrated *in vacuo*. Flash column chromatography (silica gel, 3% MeOH / CH₂Cl₂) of the residue afforded the compound (6a) (1.2 g, 86%) as a pale yellow solid (needles from EtOAc): mp 282-284 °C (decomp); IR (KBr) 3044, 1683, 1595 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 9.11 (s, 2H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (s, 3H); Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₈N₂O₂: C, 69.64; H, 3.60; N, 12.49. Found: C, 69.40; H, 3.75; N, 12.60.

7,8-Dimethylbenzo[g]quinoxaline-5,10-dione (6b)

Following the above procedure for the preparation of the compound (**6a**), from 5,8-quinoxalinedione (**4**) (1.0 g, 6.3 mmol) and 2,3-dimethyl-1,3-butadiene (**5b**) (1.4 mL, 13 mmol) was obtained **6b** (1.3 g, 86%) as a brown solid (needles from EtOAc): mp 247-256 °C (decomp); IR (KBr) 3047, 2925, 1683, 1590 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 9.09 (s, 2H), 8.14 (s, 2H), 2.56 (s, 6H); Anal. Calcd for C₁₄H₁₀N₂O₂: C, 70.58; H, 4.23; N, 11.76. Found: C, 70.34; H, 4.39; N, 11.62.

8-Methylpyrido[2,3-g]quinoxaline-5,10-dione (8)

To a solution of 5,8-quinoxalinedione (4) (0.10 g, 0.62 mmol) in anhydrous dichloromethane (5 mL) was added 1-(N,N-dimethylamino)-1-aza-1,3-butadiene (7) (83 mg, 0.74 mmol) dropwise. The mixture was stirred at rt for 24 h under nitrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was then diluted with dichloromethane (100 mL) and washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (50 mL x 3). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, 3% MeOH / CH₂Cl₂) to give

the compound (8) (95 mg, 67 %) as a red solid (needles from EtOAC): mp 242-244 °C; IR (KBr) 2924, 1698, 1588 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 9.16 (s, 2H), 9.05 (s, 1H), 8.56 (s, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H); Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₇N₃O₂: C, 64.00; H, 3.13; N, 18.66. Found: C, 64.24; H, 3.05; N, 18.46.

2,3-Dihydroxy-5,10-dioxobenzo[g]quinoxaline-7-carboxylic acid (9)

7-Methylbenzo[*g*]quinoxaline-5,10-dione (**6a**) (1.0 g, 4.5 mmol) was dissolved in 18 % HNO₃ (20 mL). The solution was placed in Parr type A-303971 titanium pressure reactor and stirred at 185-195 °C for 2 h. The mixture was cooled to ambient temperature and filtered to give the product (**9**) (1.0 g, 90%) as cream-colored needles after crystallization from EtOH: mp 205-207 °C; IR (KBr) 3500-2900, 1703, 1500 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 300 MHz) δ 8.23 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₆N₂O₆: C, 54.56; H, 2.11; N, 9.79. Found: C, 54.30; H, 2.25; N, 9.90.

2,3-Diethoxy-5,10-dioxobenzo[g]quinoxaline-7-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (10)

2,3-Dihydroxy-5,10-dioxobenzo[g]quinoxaline-7-carboxylic acid (9) (0.20 g, 0.79 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (25 mL) and treated with ethanol (1 mL) and H₂SO₄ (3 drop). The mixture was heated to reflux for 24 h. The resulting mixture was cooled and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was diluted with dichloromethane (200 mL) and washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (50 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, CH₂Cl₂) to give **10** as oil (0.18 g, 81%): IR (neat) 2983, 1729, 1465 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.45 – 4.30 (m, 6H), 1.45 – 1.25 (m, 9H).

2,3-Dihydroxy-5,10-dioxopyrido[2,3-g]quinoxaline-8-carboxylic acid (11)

Following the procedure for the preparation of the compound (9), from 8-methypyrido[2,3-*g*]quinoxaline-5,10-dione (8) (1.5 g, 6.6 mmol) and 18 % HNO₃ (30 mL) was obtained **11** (1.0 g, 58%) as a brown solid (needles from EtOH): mp 155-157 °C; IR (KBr) 3500-2900, 1729, 1635, 1577 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 300 MHz) δ 9.10 (s, 1H), 8.83 (s, 1H); Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₅N₃O₆: C, 50.19; H, 1.75; N, 14.63. Found: C, 50.34; H, 1.70; N, 14.47.

2,3-Diethoxy-5,10-dioxopyrido[2,3-g]quinoxaline-8-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (12)

Following the procedure for the preparation of the compound (10), from 2,3-dihydroxy-5,10-dioxopyrido[2,3-g]quinoxaline-8-carboxylic acid (11) (0.20 g, 0.78 mmol) was obtained 12 (0.11 g, 50 %) as oil: IR (neat) 2925, 1728, 1599 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 9.37 (s, 1H), 8.87 (s, 1H), 4.50 - 4.30 (m, 6H), 1.50 - 1.35 (m, 9H).

2,3-Dihydroxy-5,10-dioxobenzo[g]quinoxaline-7,8-dicarboxylic acid (13)

Following the procedure for the preparation of the compound (9), from 7,8-dimethylbenzo[g]quinoxaline-5,10-dione (6b) (1.0 g, 4.2 mmol) and 18 % HNO₃ (30 mL) was obtained 13 (0.79 g, 56 %) as a cream-colored solid (needles from EtOH): mp 264-265 °C; IR (KBr)

3500-2900, 1705, 1417 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ 8.96 (s, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 125 MHz) δ 167.2, 134.6, 128.5; MS m/z EI 331 (M⁺+1); Anal. Calcd for C₁₄H₆N₂O₈: C, 50.92; H, 1.83; N, 8.48. Found: C, 50.80; H, 1.70; N, 8.62.

General Procedure of Trisubstituted Isoindolo[5,6-g]quinoxaline-5,7,9,11-tetraone (3a - j)

2,3-Dihydroxy-5,10-dioxobenzo[g]quinoxaline-7,8-dicarboxylic acid (13) (0.15 g, 0.50 mmol) was treated with SOCl₂ (10 mL) and heated to reflux for 5 h under nitrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* to remove SOCl₂. The residue was suspended in anhydrous THF (10 mL) and a solution of a corresponding amine (0.55 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 2 h. The mixture was then concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was treated with acetic anhydride (1 mL, 2.90 mmol) and sodium acetate (26 mg, 0.32 mmol), and stirred in water bath (60-70 °C). The resulting mixture was diluted with ice-cold water to give the precipitate. The precipitate was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, CH₂Cl₂).

8-Propyl-2,3-dipropylamino-7*H*-isoindolo[5,6-*g*]quinoxaline-5,7,9,11(8*H*)-tetraone (3a)

Light brown solid (90 mg, 56%): mp 241–242 °C (needles from EtOAc); IR (KBr) 3456, 3038, 2966, 1703, 1402 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.46 (s, 2H), 3.91 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 1.94 (m, 6H), 1.18 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 9H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 166.3, 137.2, 118.1, 40.3, 21.8, 11.3; MS *m*/*z* EI 457 (M⁺+Na); Anal. Calcd for C₂₃H₂₅N₅O₄: C, 63.44; H, 5.79; N, 16.08. Found: C, 63.60; H, 5.85; N, 16.10.

2,3-Dianilino-8-phenyl-7*H*-isoindolo[5,6-*g*]quinoxaline-5,7,9,11(8*H*)-tetraone (3b)

Brown solid (48 mg, 30%): mp >300 °C (needles from EtOAc, decomp); IR (KBr) 3448, 3067, 2926, 1718, 1654, 1596 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CD₃OD, 300 MHz) δ 8.30 (s, 2H), 8.12 (s, 2H), 7.14-7.57 (m, 15H); MS *m*/*z* EI 538 (M⁺+1); Anal. Calcd for C₃₂H₁₉N₅O₄: C, 71.50; H, 3.56; N, 13.03. Found: C, 71.67; H, 3.65; N, 13.12.

2,3-Di(2-hydroxyanilino)-8-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-7*H*-isoindolo[5,6-*g*]quinoxaline-5,7,9,11(8*H*)-tetraone (3c)

Brown solid (79 mg, 32%): mp 276-277 °C (needles from EtOAc); IR (KBr) 3448, 3070, 2955, 1728, 1654, 1587 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CD₃OD, 300 MHz) δ 8.31(s, 2H), 8.26 (s, 2H), 7.50-7.66 (m, 12H); ¹³C-NMR (CD₃OD, 125 MHz) δ 169.1, 166.9, 148.0, 131.0, 130.8, 127.3, 125.2, 125.0, 124.6, 124.5; MS *m*/*z* EI 608 (M⁺+Na); Anal. Calcd for C₃₂H₁₉N₅O₇: C, 65.64; H, 3.27; N, 11.96. Found: C, 65.95; H, 3.15; N, 11.75.

2,3-Di(2-methoxyanilino)-8-(2-methoxyphenyl)-7*H*-isoindolo[5,6-*g*]quinoxaline-5,7,9,11(8*H*)-tetraone (3d)

Brown solid (86 mg, 33%): mp >300 °C (needles from EtOAc, decomp); IR (KBr) 3447, 3019, 2926, 1728, 1600 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.48 (s, 2H), 7.50 (m, 3H), 7.30 (m, 3H), 7.10 (m, 6H), 3.81 (s, 9H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 165.2, 155.1, 137.4, 131.2, 129.6, 121,0, 119.5, 119.1, 112.2,

55.8; MS *m/z* EI 649 (M⁺+Na); Anal. Calcd for C₃₅H₂₅N₅O₇: C, 66.98; H, 4.02; N, 11.16. Found: C, 67.15; H, 3.95; N, 11.02.

2,3-Di(2-nitroanilino)-8-(2-nitrophenyl)-7*H*-isoindolo[5,6-*g*]quinoxaline-5,7,9,11(8*H*)-tetraone (3e) Yellow solid (80 mg, 30%): mp 261-262 °C (needles from EtOAc, decomp); IR (KBr) 3447, 2958, 1731, 1583 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CD₃OD, 300 MHz) δ 7.38 (m, 3H), 8.48 (s, 2H), 8.45 (s, 2H), 7.89-8.20 (m, 6H), 7.76 (m, 3H); MS *m*/*z* EI 695 (M⁺+Na); Anal. Calcd for C₃₂H₁₆N₈O₁₀: C, 57.15; H, 2.40; N, 16.66. Found: C, 57.34; H, 2.16; N, 16.52.

2,3-Di(3-chloroanilino)-8-(3-chlorophenyl)-7*H*-isoindolo[5,6-*g*]quinoxaline-5,7,9,11(8*H*)-tetraone (3f) Brown solid (95 mg, 36%): mp >300 °C (needles from EtOAc, decomp); IR (KBr) 3473, 3097, 2924, 1725, 1588 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.48 (s, 2H), 7.63 (s, 3H), 7.45 (br s, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (CD₃OD, 125 MHz) δ 166.9, 150.0, 141.2, 132.8, 131.3, 128.7, 126.9, 119.8, 115.8; MS *m*/*z* EI 663 (M⁺+Na); Anal. Calcd for C₃₂H₁₆N₅O₄Cl₃: C, 59.97; H, 2.52; N, 10.93. Found: C, 60.23; H, 2.43; N, 10.85.

2,3-Di(3-hydroxyanilino)-8-(3-hydroxyphenyl)-7*H*-isoindolo[5,6-*g*]quinoxaline-5,7,9,11(8*H*)-tetraone (3g)

Light yellow solid (73 mg, 29%): mp >300 °C (needles from EtOH, decomp); IR (KBr) 3430, 3105, 2925, 1771, 1718, 1599 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ 8.31 (s, 2H), 7.53 (m, 3H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 7.28 (s, 3H), 7.21 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 125 MHz) δ 169.1, 165.2, 150.4, 137.0, 132.3, 129.6, 124.6, 122.0, 120.7, 117.9; MS *m*/*z* EI 608 (M⁺+Na); Anal. Calcd for C₃₂H₁₉N₅O₇: C, 65.64; H, 3.27; N, 11.96. Found: C, 65.89; H, 3.16; N, 11.78.

2,3-Di(3-methoxyanilino)-8-(3-methoxyphenyl)-7*H*-isoindolo[5,6-*g*]quinoxaline-5,7,9,11(8*H*)-tetraone (3h)

Brown solid (86 mg, 33%): mp 212-213 °C (needles from EtOAc); IR (KBr) 3307, 2955, 1721, 1665 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.35 (s, 2H), 7.27 (s, 3H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 3H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 3H), 6.63 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 2.1 Hz, 3H), 3.81 (s, 9H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 168.3, 160.1, 139.1, 129.6, 111.9, 110.0, 105.6, 55.2; MS *m*/*z* EI 534 (M⁺-3OCH₃); Anal. Calcd for C₃₅H₂₅N₅O₇: C, 66.98; H, 4.02; N, 11.16. Found: C, 67.12; H, 3.98; N, 11.05.

2,3-Di(3-nitroanilino)-8-(3-nitrophenyl)-7*H*-isoindolo[5,6-*g*]quinoxaline-5,7,9,11(8*H*)-tetraone (3i) Light brown solid (105 mg, 39%): mp >300 °C (needles from EtOAc, decomp); IR (KBr) 3448, 3103, 2955, 1729, 1532 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.66 (s, 2H), 8.28 (s, 2H), 8.01 (m, 6H), 7.80 (m, 3H), 7.53-7.60 (m, 3H); Anal. Calcd for C₃₂H₁₆N₈O₁₀: C, 57.15; H, 2.40; N, 16.66. Found: C, 57.30; H, 2.23; N, 16.50.

2,3-Di(4-chloroanilino)-8-(4-chlorophenyl)-7H-isoindolo[5,6-*g*]**quinoxaline-5,7,9,11(8H)-tetraone (3j)** Brown solid (95 mg, 36%): mp 271-272 °C (needles from EtOAc, decomp); IR (KBr) 3447, 2954, 1728,

1598 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.29 (s, 2H), 7.64 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 6H), 7.31 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 6H); MS m/z EI 663 (M⁺+Na); Anal. Calcd for C₃₂H₁₆N₅O₄Cl₃: C, 59.97; H, 2.52; N, 10.93. Found: C, 60.31; H, 2.37; N, 10.80.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work was supported by a grant of the Korea Health 21 R&D Project, Ministry of Health & Welfare, Republic of Korea. (01-PJ1-PG3-21500-0011)

REFERENCES

- A. P. Krapcho, M. Petry, E. Z. Getahun, J. J. Landi, Jr., J. Stallman, J. F. Polsenberg, C. E. Gallagher, M. J. Maresch, M. P. Hacker, F. C. Giuliani, G. Geggiolin, G. Pezzoni, E. Menta, C. Manzotti, A. Oliva, S. Spinelli, and S. Tognella, *J. Med. Chem.*, 1994, **37**, 828.
- 2. A. P. Krapcho, J. J. Landi, Jr., M. P. Hacker, and J. J. McCormack, J. Med. Chem., 1985, 28, 1124.
- 3. L. A. Hazlehurst, A. P. Krapcho, and M. P. Hacker, Biochem. Pharmacol., 1995, 50, 1087.
- 4. H. Lee, S. -S. Hong, and Y. H. Kim, Bioorg & Med. Chem. Lett., 1996, 6, 933.
- 5. H. Lee, J. -Y. Choi, S. -S. Hong, J. Cho, and Y. H. Kim, Arch. Pharm. Res., 1998, 21, 73.
- 6. H. Lee, S. -I. Lee, and S. -I. Yang, Bioorg. & Med. Chem. Lett., 1998, 8, 2991.
- 7. H. Lee, S. -I. Lee, J. Cho, S. U. Choi, and S. -I. Yang, Eur. J. Med. Chem., 2003, 38, 695.
- 8. J. Arient and J. Podstata, Coll. Czech.Chem. Comm., 1974, 39, 3117.
- 9. H. Lee, C. -W. Lee, and S. -I. Yang, Arch. Pharm. Res., 1999, 22, 380.
- 10. H. Lee, C. -W. Lee, I. Jeong, and S. -I. Yang, Arch. Pharm. Res., 2002, 25, 416.
- 11. Y. Kitahara, S. Nakahara, Y. Tanaka, and A. Kubo, *Heterocycles*, 1992, 34, 1623.
- 12. O. A. Charles, J. Heterocycl. Chem., 1980, 17, 149.