

STUDIES ON  $\beta$ -LACTAM ANTIBIOTICSIII. SYNTHESSES AND ANTIBACTERIAL ACTIVITIES OF NEW  
3-(1,3-DITHIOLAN-2-YL)CEPHALOSPORINS, YM-22508,  
YM-16457 AND THEIR PRODRUG-TYPE ESTERS

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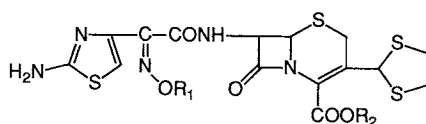
The syntheses and biological activities of new 7- $\beta$ -[(Z)-2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-hydroxyiminoacetamido]-3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid (YM-22508, **1a**), 7- $\beta$ -[(Z)-2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-methoxyiminoacetamido]-3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid (YM-16457, **1d**) and their prodrug-type esters are described. Among them, YM-22561 (**1c**), the 1-acetoxyethyl ester of **1a**, showed good *in vivo* efficacy in mice against infections of *Staphylococcus aureus* Smith, *Streptococcus pyogenes* S 23 and *Escherichia coli* NY-17 and a long plasma  $T_{1/2}$  in mice.

After the discovery of cefuroxime axetil<sup>1)</sup>, a series of prodrug-type cephalosporin esters<sup>2~6)</sup> bearing 2-aminothiazole-oxime moiety at the C-7 position of a cephem nucleus have been reported as orally active cephalosporins. They are mostly characterized by various functional groups at the C-3 position.

In the course of our research on cephalosporins possessing a unique C-3 side chain, we have synthesized new 3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)cephalosporins, YM-22508 (**1a**) and YM-16457 (**1d**), which showed a broad antibacterial spectrum against Gram-positive and Gram-negative organisms. This paper describes the syntheses and antibacterial activities of the new cephalosporins (**1**) as shown in Fig. 1.

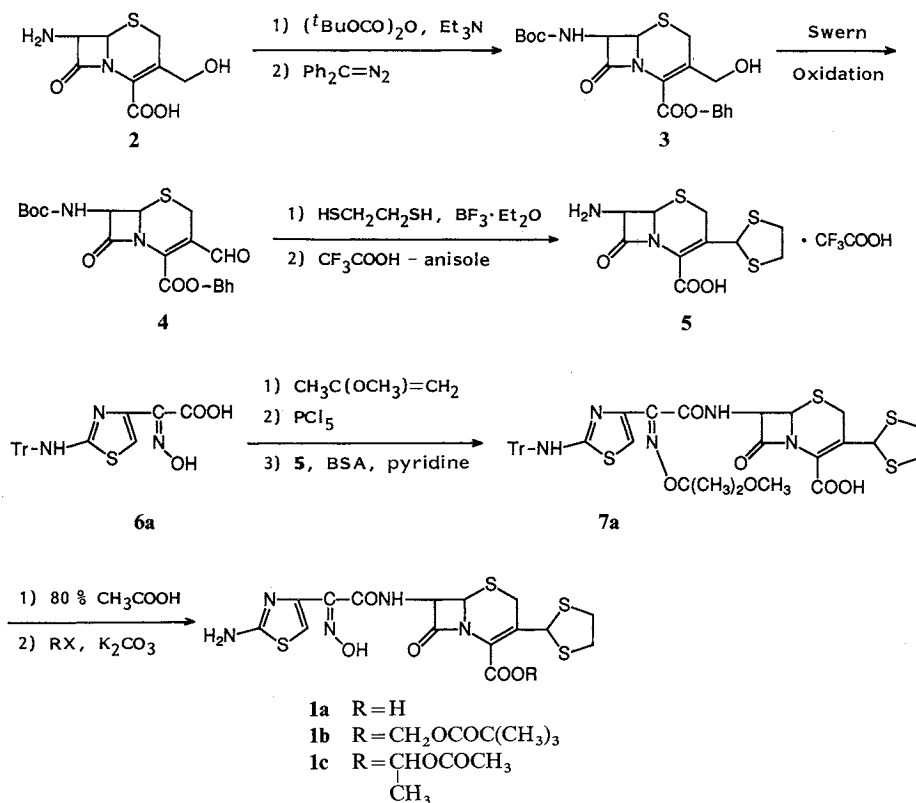
The new 3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)cephalosporins (**1a~1c**) were prepared by the procedure shown in Scheme 1. Diphenylmethyl 7-*tert*-butoxycarbonylamino-3-hydroxymethyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (**3**)<sup>7)</sup> was prepared as a crystalline material after stepwise protection of 7-amino-3-hydroxymethyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid (**2**). Swern oxidation of **3** gave the aldehyde (**4**). The reaction of **4** with ethanedithiol catalyzed by  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$  afforded the 3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl) compound (**5**) after deprotection by  $\text{CF}_3\text{COOH}$ -anisole. Compound **5** was acylated with (Z)-2-(2-tritylamino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(1-methoxy-1-methyl)ethoxyiminoacetic acid by the acid chloride method to afford compound **7a**. Removal of the pro-

Fig. 1. New 3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)cephalosporins.

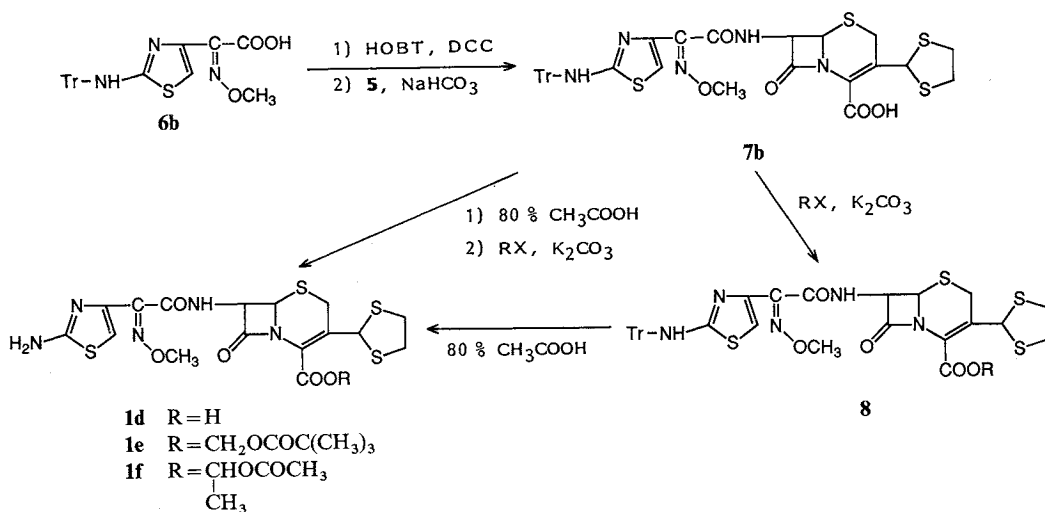


<b>1a</b>	$R_1 = \text{H}$	$R_2 = \text{H}$	<b>1d</b>	$R_1 = \text{CH}_3$	$R_2 = \text{H}$
<b>1b</b>	$R_1 = \text{H}$	$R_2 = \text{CH}_2\text{OCOC}(\text{CH}_3)_3$	<b>1e</b>	$R_1 = \text{CH}_3$	$R_2 = \text{CH}_2\text{OCOC}(\text{CH}_3)_3$
<b>1c</b>	$R_1 = \text{H}$	$R_2 = \text{CHOCOCCH}_3$	<b>1f</b>	$R_1 = \text{CH}_3$	$R_2 = \text{CHOCOCCH}_3$
		$\text{CH}_3$			$\text{CH}_3$

Scheme 1.



Scheme 2.



esters (**1b** and **1c**). Similarly, the methoxime-analogues (**1d**~**1f**) were prepared as shown in Scheme 2.

#### Biological Evaluation

The MICs of the new cephalosporins (**1a** and **1d**) against selected Gram-positive and Gram-negative

Table 1. Comparative antibacterial activity (MIC,  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ ) of the cepharosporins.

Organisms	YM-22508 (1a)	YM-16457 (1d)	CXM	CCL	CFTM
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> FDA 209P JC-1	0.39	1.56	1.56	0.78	3.13
<i>S. epidermidis</i> IID 866	0.2	0.39	0.2	0.78	1.56
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> Cook	0.013	$\leq 0.006$	0.1	0.2	0.1
<i>Escherichia coli</i> O-1	0.39	0.2	0.78	0.78	0.1
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> ATCC 10031	0.78	0.025	0.1	0.39	0.025
<i>Serratia marcescens</i> IID 620	6.25	0.2	12.5	> 100	0.39
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i> OXK US	0.05	0.013	0.025	0.2	$\leq 0.006$
<i>P. mirabilis</i> IFM OM-9	0.2	0.013	0.1	0.39	0.013
<i>Providencia rettgeri</i> IFO 3850	0.025	0.025	0.1	0.78	0.013
<i>Morganella morganii</i> Kono	0.78	0.2	12.5	100	0.1

CXM: Cefuroxime, CCL: cefaclor, CFTM: ceftoram.

Table 2. Therapeutic efficacy in experimental infections in mice.

Compound	Route of administration	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> Smith <sup>a</sup>		<i>Escherichia coli</i> NY-17 <sup>b</sup>		<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> S 23 <sup>c</sup>	
		MIC ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )	ED <sub>50</sub> (mg/kg)	MIC	ED <sub>50</sub>	MIC	ED <sub>50</sub>
YM-22508 (1a)	sc	0.39	0.69	0.78	<2.5	0.013	0.09
YM-22561 (1c)	po		3.1		6.1		0.39
YM-16457 (1d)	sc	1.56	10.2	0.78	1.1		
1e	po		17.1		3.4		
1f	po		29.6		5.1		
CXM	sc	0.78	0.85	1.56	9.1	0.025	0.06
CXM-AX	po		1.3		8.4		0.12
CCL	po	1.56	0.024	0.78	1.1	0.39	<0.36
CFTM-PI	po	3.13	7.5	0.2	1.1	$\leq 0.006$	<0.36
CFIX	po	12.5	67.8	0.05	1.1	0.2	1.4

<sup>a</sup>  $3.1 \times 10^6$  cfu/mouse, <sup>b</sup>  $3.6 \times 10^3$  cfu/mouse, <sup>c</sup>  $2.0 \times 10^5$  cfu/mouse.

CXM: Cefuroxime, CXM-AX: cefuroxime axetil, CCL: cefaclor, CFTM-PI: ceftoram pivoxil, CFIX: cefixime.

bacteria are listed in Table 1<sup>8)</sup>. For comparison, the MIC values of cefuroxime, cefaclor and ceftoram are also listed at the right side of the Table 1. It is clearly shown that compound **1d** has the most balanced spectrum among all the compounds, and the activities of compound **1a** against the Gram-positive test strains were eight times as strong as that of ceftoram.

The *in vivo* antibacterial activities of 3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl) derivatives (**1a**, **1c**~**1f**) against experimental infections with *Staphylococcus aureus* Smith, *Escherichia coli* NY-17 and *Streptococcus pyogenes* S 23 are shown in Table 2<sup>8)</sup>. Although methoxime-type compounds (**1d**~**1f**) had poor activities against the infection with *S. aureus* Smith contrary to its MIC value, oxime-type compounds (**1a** and **1c**) showed satisfactory results by subcutaneous and oral administration, respectively.

The urinary and biliary recovery rates in rats by oral administration of the compounds (**1a**~**1f**) are listed in Table 3. The prodrug esters of the methoxime derivative (**1e** and **1f**) were recovered in bile much more than in urine, while the esters of oxime derivative (**1b** and **1c**) showed an opposite tendency. Regarding the 1-acetoxyethyl esters (**1c**, **1f** and cefuroxime axetil), they showed similar recovery rates in total.

Finally, we investigated the concentration of **1c** in plasma after oral administration to mice<sup>9)</sup>. As

Table 3. Urinary and biliary excretion in rats.

Compound	Urinary recovery <sup>a</sup> (%)	Biliary recovery <sup>a</sup> (%)	Total (%)
YM-22508 ( <b>1a</b> )	4.5	4.4	8.9
<b>1b</b>	6.9	3.4	10.3
YM-22561 ( <b>1c</b> )	14.1	8.5	22.6
YM-16457 ( <b>1d</b> )	2.2	4.8	7.0
<b>1e</b>	4.5	21.5	26.0
<b>1f</b>	7.1	25.5	32.6
CXM-AX	24.9	1.2	26.1
CFIX	20.7	28.4	49.1

<sup>a</sup> After 50 mg/kg po.

CXM-AX: Cefuroxime axetil, CFIX: cefixime.

shown in Fig. 2, the plasma  $T_{1/2}$  of **1c** was 116 minutes, which was markedly longer than any other comparative cephalosporin derivatives such as cefixime, ceftam pivoxil and cefuroxime axetil.

### Experimental

MP's were determined with a Yanagimoto micro melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were taken on a Hitachi 270-30 spectrophotometer. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 90 MHz on a Jeol EX-90 and at 100 MHz on a Jeol EX-100 NMR spectrometer using TMS as an internal standard. MS was measured on a Jeol JMS DX-300 mass spectrometer. For column chromatography, silica gel (Kieselgel 60, Merck) was used.

#### Diphenylmethyl 7-*tert*-Butoxycarbonylamino-3-hydroxymethyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (**3**)

To a solution of 7-amino-3-hydroxymethyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid (**2**, 54.0 g, 0.23 mol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (60 ml) in dioxane-water (1:1, 420 ml) was added di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (90.8 g, 0.42 mol) at room temperature. After being stirred at 30°C for 48 hours, dioxane was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residual aqueous layer was washed with EtOAc (210 ml × 2) and acidified (pH 3.6) with 2N HCl. The resulting solid was collected by filtration and washed with water (100 ml). The solid was then dried over P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> under reduced pressure to give 62.4 g of 7-*tert*-butoxycarbonylamino-3-hydroxymethyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid. This acid was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (650 ml) and esterified with 50% diphenyldiazomethane solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (200 ml) at 20°C for 1 hour. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was crystallized by adding benzene-EtOAc (3:1, 120 ml). Filtration and washing of the resulting crystalline solid gave 68.5 g (60%) of **3**: MP 168~169°C; IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1755, 1720, 1690; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  1.40 (9H, s, *tert*-Bu), 3.58 (2H, br s, 2-H), 4.25 (2H, d,  $J=5$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 5.09 (1H, d,  $J=4$  Hz, 6-H), 5.48 (1H, dd,  $J=4$  and 8 Hz, 7-H), 6.88 (1H, s, CHPh<sub>2</sub>), 7.10~7.60 (10H, m, phenyl), 8.01 (1H, d,  $J=8$  Hz, CONH); FAB-MS  $m/z$  497 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>.

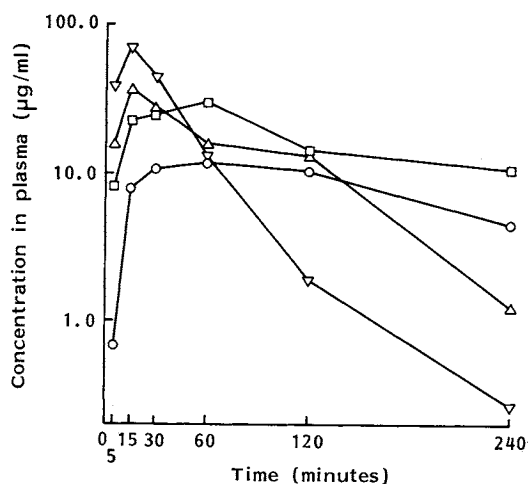
#### Diphenylmethyl 7-*tert*-Butoxycarbonylamino-3-formyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (**4**)

A solution of DMSO (1.76 g, 24.1 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 ml) was added dropwise to a solution of oxalyl chloride (1.53 g, 12.1 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 ml) at -70~-60°C and the mixture stirred for 15 minutes. A solution of **3** (5.00 g, 10.1 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 ml) was added dropwise at the same temperature. After being stirred for 15 minutes, a solution of Et<sub>3</sub>N (2.44 g, 24.1 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3.5 ml) was added at

Fig. 2. Concentration of cephalosporins in plasma after po administration of 50 mg/kg to mice.

□ **1c**, ○ cefixime (CFIX), △ ceftam pivoxil (CFTM-PI), ▽ cefuroxime axetil (CXM-AX).

	C <sub>max</sub> (μg/ml)	AUC (μg·hour/ml)	T <sub>1/2</sub> (minutes)
<b>1c</b>	29.9	69.3	116.0
CFIX	11.7	34.6	60.9
CFTM-PI	37.7	52.9	50.4
CXM-AX	67.2	47.1	15.4



–70°C over a period of 5 minutes. 2N HCl (12.7 ml) was added and the reaction mixture was diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 ml), washed with water, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel eluted with benzene-EtOAc (19:1) to give 3.62 g (73%) of **4**: MP 174~176°C; IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1785, 1720, 1690; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  1.40 (9H, s, *tert*-Bu), 3.69 (2H, ABq, *J*=18 Hz, 2-H), 5.25 (1H, d, *J*=5 Hz, 6-H), 5.75 (1H, dd, *J*=5 and 9 Hz, 7-H), 7.08 (1H, s, CHPh<sub>2</sub>), 7.20~7.60 (10H, m, phenyl), 8.14 (1H, d, *J*=9 Hz, CONH), 9.46 (1H, s, CHO); FAB-MS *m/z* 495 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>.

7-Amino-3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)-3-cephem-4-carboxylic Acid Trifluoroacetate (5)

BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (16.8 ml) was added to a mixture of **4** (49.5 g, 0.10 mol) and 1,2-ethanedithiol (19.0 g, 0.20 mol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (500 ml) at –40°C. After being stirred at –40~–30°C for 90 minutes, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel eluted with benzene-EtOAc (9:1). The concentrated eluate was converted to a powdery solid by triturating with *n*-hexane-Et<sub>2</sub>O (10:1) to give 49.1 g (86%) of the desired 3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl) derivative. To an ice-cooled mixture of the above compound (60.0 g, 0.11 mol) and anisole (12 ml) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 ml) was added TFA (50 ml) below 20°C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 15~20°C for 1 hour and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residual oil was triturated with Et<sub>2</sub>O (500 ml) to give 39.1 g (89%) of **5**: IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3360~3420, 1790; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  4.30~4.60 (4H, m, SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>S), 4.70 (2H, m, 2-H), 4.80~5.20 (2H, m, 6-H and 7-H), 5.96 (1H, s, SCHS); FAB-MS *m/z* 305 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>.

(Z)-3-(1,3-Dithiolan-2-yl)-7-[2-(1-methoxy-1-methyl)ethoxyimino-2-(2-tritylamino-4-thiazolyl)-acetamido]-3-cephem-4-carboxylic Acid (7a)

2-Methoxypropene (3.6 ml) was added to a suspension of (Z)-2-hydroxyimino-2-(2-tritylamino-4-thiazolyl)acetic acid (**6a**, 5.39 g, 12.5 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (105 ml) at 10°C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 minutes and concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (75 ml). PCl<sub>5</sub> (2.74 g, 13.2 mmol) was then added at –25°C and the mixture was stirred at –20~–15°C for 20 minutes to give a solution of (Z)-2-(1-methoxy-1-methyl)ethoxyimino-2-(2-tritylamino-4-thiazolyl)acetyl chloride.

To a suspension of **5** (3.50 g, 8.4 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (70 ml) was added bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide (4.13 ml) at 10°C. After being stirred at room temperature for 15 minutes, pyridine (3.38 ml) and the solution of the previously prepared acid chloride were successively added at –65°C. The reaction mixture was stirred at –40~–35°C for 30 minutes, poured into saturated aqueous KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (350 ml) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100 ml × 2). The combined organic extracts were washed with saturated aqueous KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (50 ml), dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel eluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>-2-PrOH-formic acid (100:3:0.3) to give 2.63 g (40%) of **7a**: IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3415, 1790, 1685; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  1.19 (6H, s, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.12 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.18~3.48 (4H, m, SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>S), 3.69 (2H, s, 2-H), 5.18 (1H, d, *J*=6 Hz, 6-H), 5.68 (1H, dd, *J*=6 and 8 Hz, 7-H), 5.99 (1H, s, SCHS), 6.72 (1H, s, thiazole H), 7.16~7.52 (15H, m, phenyl), 8.84 (1H, br s, NH), 9.47 (1H, d, *J*=8 Hz, CONH); FAB-MS *m/z* 788 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>.

(Z)-3-(1,3-Dithiolan-2-yl)-7-[2-methoxyimino-2-(2-tritylamino-4-thiazolyl)acetamido]-3-cephem-4-carboxylic Acid (7b)

A mixture of (Z)-2-methoxyimino-2-(2-tritylamino-4-thiazolyl)acetic acid (**6b**, 531 mg, 1.2 mmol), 1-hydroxybenzotriazole (162 mg, 1.2 mmol) and dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (250 mg, 1.2 mmol) in dioxane (10 ml) was stirred at room temperature for 30 minutes. The reaction mixture was filtered to give a solution of the corresponding activated ester. The filtrate was added to a solution of **5** (304 mg, 0.7 mmol) and NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (178 mg, 2.1 mmol) in water (4 ml). After being stirred at room temperature overnight, the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was treated with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (5 ml) and washed with EtOAc (20 ml × 2). The aqueous layer was then extracted with methyl ethyl ketone after acidification (pH 1) with 2N HCl. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated. The residue was triturated with 2-Pr<sub>2</sub>O (15 ml) to give 444 mg (84%) of **7b**: IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3360~3240, 1775, 1665; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  3.10~3.44 (4H, m, SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>S), 3.64 (2H, m, 2-H), 3.70 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.14 (1H, d, *J*=6 Hz, 6-H), 5.61 (1H, dd, *J*=6 and 8 Hz, 7-H), 5.93 (1H, s,

SCHS), 6.68 (1H, s, thiazole-H), 7.10~7.40 (15H, m, phenyl), 8.75 (1H, s, NH), 9.46 (1H, d,  $J=8$  Hz, CONH); FAB-MS  $m/z$  730 ( $M+1$ )<sup>+</sup>.

7 $\beta$ -[(Z)-2-(2-Amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-hydroxyiminoacetamido]-3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)-3-cephem-4-carboxylic Acid (1a)

To a solution of **7a** (9.01 g, 11.4 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (65 ml) was added 80% acetic acid (260 ml) and the mixture was stirred at 35~40°C for 1 hour. After removal of solvent under reduced pressure, EtOH (200 ml  $\times$  2) was added and evaporated. The residue was triturated with Et<sub>2</sub>O (485 ml) to give 1.31 g (92%) of **1a**: IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3450, 1770, 1670; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  3.20~3.57 (4H, m, SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>S), 3.70 (2H, s, 2-H), 5.20 (1H, d,  $J=6$  Hz, 6-H), 5.75 (1H, dd,  $J=6$  and 8 Hz, 7-H), 6.01 (1H, s, SCHS), 6.68 (1H, s, thiazole-H), 7.12 (2H, br s, NH<sub>2</sub>), 9.45 (1H, d,  $J=8$  Hz, CONH); FAB-MS  $m/z$  474 ( $M+1$ )<sup>+</sup>.

7 $\beta$ -[(Z)-2-(2-Amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-methoxyiminoacetamido]-3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid (**1d**) was similarly prepared from **7b** using the same procedure described for **1a** (yield, 64%): IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3320, 1770, 1660; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  3.20~3.60 (4H, m, SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>S), 3.71 (2H, s, 2-H), 3.85 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.22 (1H, d,  $J=6$  Hz, 6-H), 5.76 (1H, dd,  $J=6$  and 8 Hz, 7-H), 5.99 (1H, s, SCHS), 6.79 (1H, s, thiazole-H), 9.65 (1H, d,  $J=8$  Hz, CONH); FAB-MS  $m/z$  488 ( $M+1$ )<sup>+</sup>.

1-Pivaloyloxymethyl 7 $\beta$ -[(Z)-2-(2-Amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-hydroxyiminoacetamido]-3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (1b)

A solution of pivaloyloxymethyl chloride (40 mg, 0.3 mmol) in DMF (1 ml) was added to a solution of **1a** (113 mg, 0.2 mmol) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (18 mg, 0.1 mmol) in DMF (5 ml) at -10°C. The mixture was then stirred at -10~2°C for 20 hours. After removal of solvent under reduced pressure, Et<sub>2</sub>O (5 ml) was added to the residue. The resulting powder was filtered and purified by column chromatography eluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH-formic acid (90:10:2) to give 18 mg (13%) of **1b**: IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3370, 1790, 1750, 1680; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  1.20 (9H, s, *tert*-Bu), 3.50~3.52 (4H, m, SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>S), 3.77 (2H, ABq,  $J=15$  Hz, 2-H), 5.26 (1H, d,  $J=5$  Hz, 6-H), 5.81~5.84 (3H, m, COOCH<sub>2</sub>O and SCHS), 5.95 (1H, d,  $J=5$  Hz, 7-H), 6.69 (1H, s, thiazole-H), 9.46 (1H, d,  $J=5$  Hz, CONH); FAB-MS  $m/z$  588 ( $M+1$ )<sup>+</sup>.

The other prodrug-type esters (**1c**, **1e**, **1f**) were similarly prepared from **1a** or **1d** using the same procedure described for **1b**.

1-Acetoxyethyl 7 $\beta$ -[(Z)-2-(2-Amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-hydroxyiminoacetamido]-3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (1e)

IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3360, 1780, 1675; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  1.45 (1.5H, d,  $J=6$  Hz, CHCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.47 (1.5H, d,  $J=6$  Hz, CHCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.06 (3H, s, COCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.15~3.46 (4H, m, SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>S), 3.70 (2H, s, 2-H), 5.17 (0.5H, d,  $J=3$  Hz, 6-H), 5.22 (0.5H, d,  $J=3$  Hz, 6-H), 5.63~5.90 (2H, m, 7-H and SCHS), 6.63 (1H, s, thiazole-H), 6.90 (1H, m, CHCH<sub>3</sub>), 7.09 (2H, br s, NH<sub>2</sub>), 9.43 (1H, d,  $J=8$  Hz, CONH); FAB-MS  $m/z$  560 ( $M+1$ )<sup>+</sup>. The diastereoisomer ratio of the acetoxyethyl esters is 1:1 indicated by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum.

1-Pivaloyloxymethyl 7 $\beta$ -[(Z)-2-(2-Amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-methoxyiminoacetamido]-3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (1e)

IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3330~3290, 1775, 1745, 1670; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  1.15 (9H, s, *tert*-Bu), 3.10~3.60 (4H, m, SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>S), 3.75 (2H, s, 2-H), 3.84 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.24 (1H, d,  $J=5$  Hz, 6-H), 5.64~6.00 (4H, m, COOCH<sub>2</sub>O, SCHS and 7-H), 6.77 (1H, s, thiazole-H), 9.64 (1H, d,  $J=8$  Hz, CONH); FAB-MS  $m/z$  602 ( $M+1$ )<sup>+</sup>.

1-Acetoxyethyl 7 $\beta$ -[(Z)-2-(2-Amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-methoxyiminoacetamido]-3-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (1f)

IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2950, 1780, 1660; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  1.43 (1.5H, d,  $J=6$  Hz, CHCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.45 (1.5H, d,  $J=6$  Hz, CHCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.06 (3H, s, COCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.10~3.60 (4H, m, SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>S), 3.60~3.90 (2H, m, 2-H), 3.82 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.15 (0.5H, d,  $J=3$  Hz, 6-H), 5.20 (0.5H, d,  $J=3$  Hz, 6-H), 5.60~5.80 (2H, m, 7-H and SCHS), 6.68 (1H, s, thiazole-H), 6.72~7.00 (1H, m, CHCH<sub>3</sub>), 9.56 (1H, d,  $J=8$  Hz, CONH); FAB-MS  $m/z$  574 ( $M+1$ )<sup>+</sup>. The diastereoisomer ratio of the acetoxyethyl esters is 1:1 indicated by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum.

#### Determination of Antibacterial Activity

MICs ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ ) were determined by the standard 2-fold agar dilution method in Mueller-Hinton agar after incubation at 37°C for 18 hours with an inoculum size of  $10^6$  cfu/ml.

Antibacterial activity *in vivo* was tested using male mice (ICR, 4~5 weeks old,  $n=6$ ). Mice were individually given an antibiotic suspension in 0.5% methyl cellulose subcutaneously or orally 2 hours after the bacterial challenge.  $\text{ED}_{50}$  values (mg/kg) were calculated by the probit method for the number of mice surviving 7 days after infection.

Urinary and biliary excretion were tested using male rats (SD, 7 weeks old,  $n=3$ ). The test compounds were administered orally to rats at a dose of 50 mg/kg. Urinary and biliary recovery rates (%) were calculated from the urinary and biliary concentrations of drugs at 0 to 24 hours after administration. Concentrations were determined by bioassay (agar well method) using *E. coli* NIHJ as a test organism.

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