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Received May 12, 1997

The reaction of 6-aminopyrimidines **1a,b** with dimedone (**2**) and *p*-substituted benzaldehydes **3a-d** in ethanol afforded in all cases new regiospecific synthesis of tricyclic, linear 5-aryl-5,6,7,8,9,10-hexahydropyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinolines **4a-h** in good yields. The linear structures and hence the regiospecificity of the reaction were established by nmr measurements.

J. Heterocyclic Chem., **35**, 231 (1998).

Introduction.

The research on the dihydropyridine systems is of current interest due to their exceptional properties as calcium antagonists [1-3] and as powerful arteriolar vasodilators [4,5]. Our recent works has provided an efficient method for the synthesis of various fused heterocyclic compounds containing the dihydropyridine moiety [6-9].

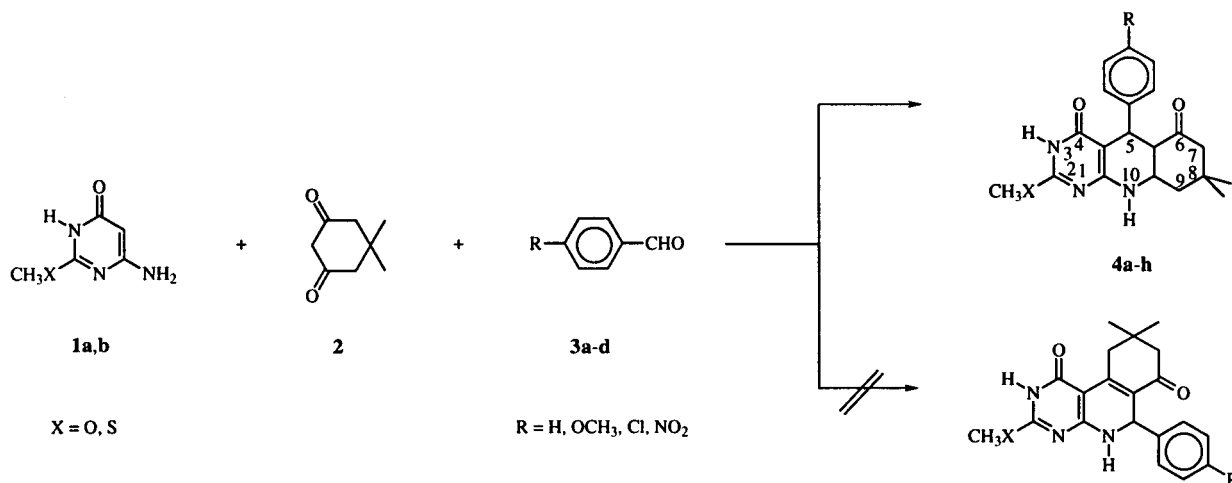
In this paper we describe a versatile synthesis of novel 5-aryl-5,6,7,8,9,10-hexahydropyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinoline derivatives as dihydropyridine containing ring systems. There was reported a significant inhibition of dihydrofolate reductase by 5-deazafoolic acid lends further support for the synthesis of this system as an analog of 5-deaza-

folic acid [10-12]. The work has resulted in development of a new direct and simple synthetic entry into the pyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinoline ring system.

Results and Discussions.

The preparation of pyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinolines **4a-h** have been carried out by refluxing for 20-30 minutes equimolecular amounts of 6-aminopyrimidine **1** in absolute ethanol with dimedone **2** and the appropriate benzaldehyde derivative **3**. The new compounds were obtained in good yields (see Scheme 1) as stable crystalline solids and easy purified by recrystallization from ethanol. The one-step cyclocondensation reaction can afford linear and/or angular products **4/4'**.

Scheme 1



	4a	4b	4c	4d	4e	4f	4g	4h
X	O	O	O	O	S	S	S	S
R	H	OCH ₃	Cl	NO ₂	H	OCH ₃	Cl	NO ₂
mp, C°	316	307	319	282	366	345 (d)	350	346 (d)
Yield, %	75	78	80	85	78	80	85	88

The cyclocondensation of amines **1a,b** with **2** and **3** gave regiospecifically the linear isomer, hexahydropyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinoline **4**. In each case the reaction gave a single product as determined on tlc. The support for the linear structures of **4a-h** was provided from ^1H -nmr spectra in particular with respect to the chemical shift of the 5-H and singlet of 10-H.

The ^1H -nmr spectra of compounds **4a-h** (dimethyl sulfoxide- d_6 , see Table 1) contain three relatively sharp singlets at 11.90-12.33, 4.81-5.00 and 9.71-9.98 ppm for 3-H, 5-H and 10-H. We have synthesized several 5,7-diaryl-5,8-dihydropyrido[2,3-*a*]pyrimidines and reported the 5-H and 10-H protons at δ 4.50-4.70 and 8.20-8.50 ppm respectively [7,8]. The fact that 5-H and 10-H are not coupled is a evidence for the linear structure **4** and discard the angular **4'**. In the last one, coupling between methinic proton and NH must be observed.

In the ^{13}C -nmr spectra, the number of signals belonging to quaternary, tertiary, secondary and primary carbon atoms for compounds **4a-h** could be determined (DEPT experiment, see Table 2). It is worth mentioning that these compounds showed in their ^{13}C -nmr spectra signals for C-9a and C-10a at higher δ values 150-156 ppm. In contrast, carbon atoms C-4a and C-5a appeared at unusually lower δ values, 94.8-98.1 and 108.5-109.9 ppm respectively. These findings could be accounted for by the strong push-pull effect of the amino and carbonyl groups linked to the C-4a C-10a and C-5a C-9a double bonds.

The assignment of the signals in the ^1H - and ^{13}C -nmr spectra of **4a-h**, is supported by ^1H , ^1H COSY technique and ^1H , ^{13}C shift correlation, as well as by comparison with data previously published for similar systems [7-9,13].

Table 1

 ^1H NMR Data of **4a-h**, δ Values in DMSO- d_6 , TMS as Internal Standard

Compound	CH_3X s	CH_3 s	3-NH s	5-H s	7- CH_2 dd	9- CH_2 dd	10-NH s	Phenyl m			
4a	3.92	1.00	1.09	11.96	4.88	2.09	2.11	2.46	2.51	9.77	7.11-7.21
4b	3.90	1.00	1.09	11.90	4.81	2.09	2.17	2.43	2.50	9.71	6.73-7.08
4c	3.88	0.89	1.01	12.02	4.86	2.01	2.18	2.41	2.48	9.82	7.19-7.26
4d	3.90	0.90	1.09	12.10	5.00	2.04	2.24	2.41	2.51	9.98	7.32-8.12
4e	2.50	0.91	1.01	12.29	4.90	2.00	2.17	2.46	2.50	9.76	7.10-7.19
4f	2.51	0.91	1.01	12.29	4.88	2.00	2.17	2.44	2.50	9.79	6.74-7.10
4g	2.50	0.90	1.09	12.33	4.90	2.01	2.37	2.47	2.53	9.82	7.18-7.26
4h	2.51	0.90	1.03	12.30	5.00	2.03	2.22	2.51	2.55	9.93	7.48-8.10

Table 2

 ^{13}C NMR Data of **4a-h**, δ values in DMSO- d_6 , TMS as Internal Standard

Compound	CH_3X	CH_3	C-2	C-6	C-4a	C-5	C-5a	C-4	C-7	C-8	C-9	C-9a	C-10a	Phenyl <i>i</i> <i>o</i> <i>m</i> <i>p</i>			
4a	54.6	26.6 28.8	156.5	193.9	95.9	32.0	109.7	162.0	50.2	33.5	39.9	150.9	152.3	146.8	125.6	127.5	129.4
4b	54.8	26.7 28.9	157.2	193.9	96.2	32.0	109.9	162.0	50.2	32.6	40.0	152.2	156.4	139.2	128.3	113.0	150.6
4c	54.6	26.7 28.8	156.6	193.9	95.5	32.0	109.3	162.0	50.1	33.3	40.0	151.1	152.4	145.7	127.5	129.3	130.1
4d	54.7	26.7 28.8	154.2	193.9	94.8	31.1	108.7	161.8	50.0	34.5	40.0	151.6	152.6	145.6	123.1	128.8	145.4
4e	12.6	26.7 28.9	159.5	193.8	97.9	33.5	109.5	161.5	50.1	33.5	40.5	150.9	152.1	146.7	127.4	127.6	125.7
4f	12.6	26.7 28.8	157.3	193.8	98.1	32.5	109.7	161.5	50.1	33.0	39.6	151.2	153.5	138.9	128.4	113.1	150.6
4g	12.7	26.7 28.8	160.0	193.8	97.5	32.0	109.2	161.5	50.1	33.3	39.6	151.1	151.8	145.4	127.6	129.3	130.2
4h	12.6	26.7 28.7	153.9	193.8	96.8	32.0	108.5	162.8	49.9	34.5	39.6	151.6	151.8	145.7	123.0	128.8	140.0

EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were determined in a Buchi Melting Point Apparatus and are uncorrected. The ^1H - and ^{13}C -nmr spectra were run on a Bruker DPX 300 spectrometer operating at 300 MHz and 75 MHz respectively, using dimethyl sulfoxide- d_6 as solvent and tetramethylsilane as internal standard. The mass spectra were scanned on a Hewlett Packard HP Engine-5989 spectrometer (equipped with a direct inlet probe) operating at 70 or 30 eV. The elemental analysis have been obtained using LECO CHNS-900 equipment.

General Procedure for the Preparation of the Substituted Pyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinolines 4.

A solution of 1 mmole of 6-aminopyrimidine 1, 1 mmole of dimedone 2 and 1 mmole of benzaldehyde 3 in 15 ml of absolute ethanol was stirred at reflux for 20-30 minutes. The cyclized products 4 were isolated by cooling, followed by filtration, washing with ethanol, drying and recrystallized from ethanol.

8,8-Dimethyl-5,6,7,8,9,10-hexahydro-2-methoxy-5-phenylpyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinoline-4,6-dione 4a.

This compound was obtained according to general procedure as white crystals. The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ms: (30 eV) m/z (%) 351 (M^+ , 15), 336 (2), 274 (100), 242 (7), 218 (8), 190 (6), 147 (3), 83 (5), 43 (4).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$: C, 68.36; H, 6.02; N, 11.96. Found: C, 68.45; H, 6.13; N, 11.90.

8,8-Dimethyl-5,6,7,8,9,10-hexahydro-2-methoxy-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinoline-4,6-dione 4b.

This compound was obtained according to general procedure as white crystals. The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ms: (30 eV) m/z (%) 381 (M^+ , 24), 366 (4), 296 (4), 274 (100), 42 (6), 218 (8), 190 (5), 149 (22), 83 (25), 57 (52), 43 (57).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4$: C, 66.13; H, 6.08; N, 11.02. Found: C, 66.05; H, 6.13; N, 11.09.

5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-8,8-dimethyl-5,6,7,8,9,10-hexahydro-2-methoxy pyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinoline-4,6-dione 4c.

This compound was obtained according to general procedure as white crystals. The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ms: (30 eV) m/z (%) 385 (M^+ , 16), 275 (18), 274 (100), 83 (12), 57 (16), 45 (27), 44 (56), 43 (33).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{Cl}$: C, 62.26; H, 5.22; N, 10.89. Found: C, 62.35; H, 5.26; N, 10.80.

8,8-Dimethyl-5,6,7,8,9,10-hexahydro-2-methoxy-5-(4-nitrophenyl)pyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinoline-4,6-dione 4d.

This compound was obtained according to general procedure as pale yellow crystals. The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ms: (70 eV) m/z (%) 396 (M^+ , 2), 274 (17), 218 (2), 141 (4), 83 (13), 43 (100).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_4\text{O}_5$: C, 60.60; H, 5.09; N, 14.13. Found: C, 60.05; H, 5.13; N, 14.20.

8,8-Dimethyl-5,6,7,8,9,10-hexahydro-2-methylthio-5-phenylpyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinoline-4,6-dione 4e.

This compound was obtained according to general procedure as white crystals. The mass spectrum shows the following peaks:

ms: (30 eV) m/z (%) 367 (M^+ , 9), 313 (8), 290 (34), 264 (8), 236 (10), 152 (8), 83 (49), 57 (93), 43 (100).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}$: C, 65.37; H, 5.76; N, 11.40. Found: C, 65.45; H, 5.73; N, 11.44.

8,8-Dimethyl-5,6,7,8,9,10-hexahydro-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylthiopyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinoline-4,6-dione 4f.

This compound was obtained according to general procedure as white crystals. The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ms: (30 eV) m/z (%) 397 (M^+ , 34), 382 (10), 290 (100), 242 (16), 206 (6), 186 (6), 158 (6), 83 (24), 57 (38), 43 (52).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{S}$: C, 63.46; H, 5.83; N, 10.57. Found: C, 63.41; H, 5.73; N, 10.50.

5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-8,8-dimethyl-5,6,7,8,9,10-hexahydro-2-methylthiopyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinoline-4,6-dione 4g.

This compound was obtained according to general procedure as white crystals. The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ms: (30 eV) m/z (%) 386 (M^+ -15, 4), 290 (100), 242 (13), 83 (16), 43 (20).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}\text{Cl}$: C, 59.77; H, 5.02; N, 10.46. Found: C, 59.71; H, 5.10; N, 10.40.

8,8-Dimethyl-5,6,7,8,9,10-hexahydro-2-methylthio-5-(4-nitrophenyl)pyrimido[4,5-*b*]quinoline-4,6-dione 4h.

This compound was obtained according to general procedure as pale yellow crystals. The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ms: (30 eV) m/z (%) 290 (M^+ - $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2$, 14), 83 (10), 71 (10), 69 (12), 57 (23), 55 (21), 44 (100), 43 (50).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_4\text{O}_4\text{S}$: C, 58.24; H, 4.89; N, 13.58. Found: C, 58.31; H, 4.83; N, 13.50.

Acknowledgment.

The authors thank the COLCIENCIAS and Universidad del Valle for financial support of this work.

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