

The sodium enolate of formylacetic acid ethyl ester was chosen for conversion of the S^{35} -labeled thiourea after preliminary experiments had shown that it was superior to both ethyl β,β -diethoxypropionate⁵ and ethyl β -ethoxyacrylate⁵ for this purpose. The requisite sodium enolate of formylacetic acid ethyl ester was prepared by condensation of ethyl formate with ethyl acetate. The procedure was essentially that of Wislicenus⁶ except that commercially available sodium methoxide was substituted for metallic sodium as condensing agent. Conditions for the crucial second step of the synthesis of the labeled thiouracil were standardized by a series of condensations of the crude enolate of formylacetic acid ethyl ester with ordinary thiourea before proceeding to conversion of the labeled thiourea. A study of the fate of this labeled thiouracil in the rat indicated a high degree of concentration in the thyroid. Details will be published elsewhere.

EXPERIMENTAL

Sodium enolate of formylacetic acid ethyl ester. To a 1-l. 3-necked round-bottomed flask equipped with a reflux condenser (fitted with a calcium chloride tube), mechanical stirrer, and thermometer, was added 500 ml. of anhydrous ether and 27 g. (0.5 mole) of commercial sodium methoxide. With stirring, a mixture of 49 ml. (44.1 g.; 0.5 mole) of ethyl acetate, and 49 ml. (44.2 g.; 0.6 mole) of ethyl formate was added slowly. The resulting suspension was stirred for 6 hr., allowed to stand for 2 days without stirring and then stirred for 2 days more.

The solid was collected on a Büchner funnel with suction, washed well with anhydrous ether and dried *in vacuo*. The resulting crude product weighed 13.2 g. It was estimated to contain about 42% of the sodium enolate of formylacetic acid ethyl ester, based on the amount of 2-thiouracil isolated on condensation of a sample with an excess of thiourea.

2-Thiouracil- S^{35} . The reaction conditions described below are similar to those of Wheeler and Liddle.⁷

The S^{35} -labeled 2-thiourea was obtained from Tracerlab, Inc., 130 High Street, Boston 10, Mass. The sample used weighed 61 mg. (0.8 millimole) and was stated to contain 8 millicuries of S^{35} activity. It was prepared by Tracerlab to order and was delivered to our laboratory immediately after preparation and determination of activity. The experimental work described below was completed within one week after receipt of the thiourea.

The labeled thiourea was dissolved in 3 ml. of distilled water in a test tube and treated with 660 mg. (a large excess) of crude sodium enolate of formylacetic acid ethyl ester. The test tube was loosely stoppered and heated on the steam bath at 95–100° for 1.5 hr. The reddish solution was cooled to room temperature, filtered to remove a trace of insoluble material and acidified with glacial acetic acid. The precipitate was collected on a small Hirsch funnel with suction, washed with distilled water and ethanol and dried briefly on the steam bath. The product weighed 84 mg. (82% of the theoretical yield based on thiourea), dec. 315° (lit.⁷ m.p. ca. 340° dec.). A portion was converted to the known⁷ *S*-benzyl derivative by warming with benzyl chloride in dilute aqueous alcoholic sodium hydroxide solution. An 81%

yield of product was obtained, m.p. 196–199°. A mixture with an authentic, inactive specimen of 2-benzylthiouracil, m.p. 196–199° (lit.⁷ m.p. 192–193°), had m.p. 196–199°. Similar results were obtained when authentic, inactive thiouracil was benzylated. The labeled 2-thiouracil was estimated to contain (0.82 \times 8 mc. =) 6.6 mc. of S^{35} activity, and therefore to have a specific activity of (6.6 mc./84 mg. =) 0.079 mc./mg. A direct β -ray count on the substance recorded 2.15×10^7 counts/mg./min.

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Potential Purine Antagonists XIV. Synthesis of Some 4-(Substituted amino)pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidines¹

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Recent anti-tumor activity² exhibited by certain 4-amino- and 4-alkylaminopyrazolo [3,4-*d*]pyrimidines has prompted the preparation of additional derivatives in this series.

The new 4-(substituted amino)pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidines and 1-methyl-4-(substituted amino)pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidines which have been prepared are listed in Tables I and II. These compounds have been prepared by reaction of the corresponding 4-chloropyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidine^{3,4} with various primary and secondary amines in a manner similar to that previously described.^{3,4} When the higher homologs of the alkylamines were employed, it was found convenient to isolate these derivatives as the hydrochloride rather than the free base.

The anti-tumor activity of these compounds will be reported elsewhere at a later date.

EXPERIMENTAL

*General method of preparation of 1-methyl-4-(substituted amino)pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidines listed in Table I. Method (A).* Ten grams of 1-methyl-4-chloropyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidine⁴ was added to a solution of an equal molar amount of the amine dissolved in 150 ml. of absolute ethanol. The solution was heated on the steam bath for 2 hr., then boiled with charcoal and filtered. Dry hydrogen chloride gas was passed into the cooled filtrate for 20 min. The solution was then allowed to stand overnight and the precipitate filtered

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