

Piperidino Groups in Antitussive Activity

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Additional evidence supporting a hypothesis previously presented by the authors¹ that a piperidino group strengthens and increases antitussive activity is presented. The role of pyrrolidino groups in antitussive activity has also been studied.

In a study of structure-activity relationship in antitussive agents, a working hypothesis has been presented¹ that the introduction of a piperidino group into a compound showing any actions on the central nervous system, can produce antitussive activity if the activity has been latent, or strengthen it if such activity is already manifest. This is more pronounced than in the case of monomethylamino, dimethylamino, di-

mined with the same animals, minimizing errors arising from individual differences in animals.

Results.—The results obtained are shown in Tables I–X. A description such as “ineffective at 20 mg./kg.” in the Tables means that no effect was observed with various doses up to 20 mg./kg., because of shortages of drug supply or of serious side-effects at increased doses. When it was impossible to calculate the AtD_{50} because

TABLE I
SERIES I. ANALGESIC TYPES. GROUP A.^a ETHYL N-(2-*tert*-AMINOALKYL)-CARBANILATE HYDROCHLORIDES^b

Compl.	R ₁	R ₂	NR	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity	
					Animals used	AtD_{50} (mg./kg.) dog, i.v.
I	CH ₃	H	N(CH ₃) ₂	163–165	2	Ineffective at 20.0
II	CH ₃	H	N(C ₂ H ₅) ₂	118	2	Ineffective at 20.0
III	CH ₃	H	Morpholino	176–178	20	21.8 (18.5–25.8)
IV	CH ₃	H	Piperidino	183–185	25	18.6 (16.3–21.2) ^c
V	H	CH ₃	N(CH ₃) ₂	156–158 ^c	3	Ineffective at 10.2
VI	H	CH ₃	N /CH ₃ \ C ₂ H ₄ —C ₆ H ₅	135–137 ^c	2	Ineffective at 8.0
VII	H	CH ₃	Morpholino	178–180 ^c	20	16.9 (14.6–19.6)
VIII	H	CH ₃	Piperidino	170–172 ^c	24	7.3 (6.2–8.6)


^a The A group was synthesized and supplied by N. Shigematsu.^{4,5} ^b Convulsion with AtD_{50} . ^c Oxalate.

ethylamino, morpholino, methylpiperazino and N- β -hydroxyethylpiperazino groups.

In this paper the results obtained with 73 compounds in five series, such as analgesics, antitussives in the phenothiazine series, adrenergic amines, antihistaminics and camphor derivatives, are described. The antitussive activities of piperidino compounds were found to be the highest of all the amino compounds tested, and the hypothesis was thus consolidated as a guide for further studies on antitussive agents.

Methods.—Antitussive effects were evaluated by Kasé's method² in unanesthetized dogs and/or in slightly pentobarbitalized cats (20 mg./kg. intraperitoneally). Changes in respiration by coughing, caused by mechanical stimulation with a bristle stimulator on the mucosa of the tracheal bifurcation through a chronic tracheal fistula, were recorded. The antitussive effect of each test drug was determined from the decreases in both amplitude and frequency of cough curves, and from the duration of such an effect. The effective dose was taken as that necessary to decrease amplitude and/or frequency of coughing by more than 20% as compared with the control, and the duration of such an effect for more than 20 min. The 50% antitussive dose (AtD_{50}) was calculated by the Li(Chfield-Wilcoxon method³ ($p = 0.05$). As the same animals can be used by this method repeatedly for the experiment after 2 or 3 days rest, the antitussive effect of each drug belonging to the same group was deter-

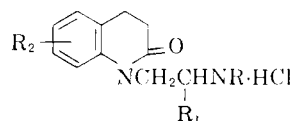
TABLE II
GROUP B.^a N-(1-METHYL-2-*tert*-AMINOETHYL)-4-HYDROXY-PROPIONANILIDE HYDROCHLORIDES^b

Compl.	NR	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity	
			Animals used	AtD_{50} (mg./kg.) dog i.v.
IX	N(CH ₃) ₂	240–242	20	19.2 (16.4–21.7)
X	N(C ₂ H ₅) ₂	218–220	2	Ineffective at 20.0
XI	Morpholino	245–247	2	20.0 ^b
XII	N  2HCl	214–216	2	Ineffective at 20.0
XIII	Piperidino	245–246	30	14.8 (12.8–17.2)

^a Group B was synthesized and supplied by N. Shigematsu.^{4,5} ^b Minimal effective dose (MED).

- (1) Y. Kasé and T. Yuizono, *Chem. Pharm. Bull. (Tokyo)*, **7**, 378 (1959).
 (2) Y. Kasé, *ibid.*, **2**, 298 (1954); *Japan. J. Pharmacol.*, **4**, 130 (1955).
 (3) J. T. Littlefield and F. W. Wilcoxon, *J. Pharmacol. Exptl. Therap.*, **96**, 99 (1949).
 (4) N. Shigematsu, *Fakkyoku Zasshi*, **81**, 123 (1960).
 (5) N. Shigematsu, *ibid.*, **81**, 815 (1961).

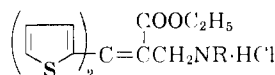
TABLE III
GROUP C.^a 1-(2-*tert*-AMINOALKYL)-3,4-DIHYDRO-2-QUINOLONE HYDROCHLORIDES



Compd.	R ₁	R ₂	NR	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity	
					Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) dog i.v.
XIV	H	None	N(CH ₃) ₂	193-195	24	14.2 (11.7-17.2)
XV	H	None	N(C ₂ H ₅) ₂	122-124 ^e	2	20.0 ^{a,b}
XVI	H	None	Morpholino	220-222	2	Ineffective at 20.0
XVII	H	None	Piperidino	142-144	25	6.8 (5.3-8.9)
XVIII	CH ₃	None	N $\begin{cases} \text{C}_2\text{H}_4-\text{C}_6\text{H}_5 \\ \text{CH}_3 \end{cases}$	179-181 ^f	20	10.5 (8.3-13.3)
XIX	CH ₃	None	Piperidino	168-170	24	5.2 (4.4-6.0)
XX	H	7-OH	Piperidino	187-189	25	6.2 (4.9-7.9)
XXI	CH ₃	7-OH	N $\begin{cases} \text{C}_2\text{H}_4-\text{C}_6\text{H}_5 \\ \text{CH}_3 \end{cases}$	153-155 ^f	25	6.8 (5.6-8.8)
XXII	CH ₃	7-OH	Piperidino	238-240	30	3.2 (2.7-3.8) ^c
XXIII	H	6-OH	Piperidino	229-231	20	8.2 (5.9-11.3) ^d
XXIV	CH ₃	6-OH	Piperidino	200-202	30	3.4 (2.7-4.2)

^a Minimal effective dose (MED). ^b Convulsion with MED. ^c Convulsion with AtD₅₀. ^d Respiratory excitation with AtD₅₀. ^e Picrate. ^f Oxalate. ^g Synthesized and supplied by N. Shigematsu.⁷

TABLE IV
GROUP D.^a ETHYL 2-*tert*-AMINOMETHYL-3,3-DI-(2-THIENYL)ACRYLATE HYDROCHLORIDES



Compd.	NR	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity			
			Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) Dog i.v.	Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) Cat i.v.
XXV	N(CH ₃) ₂	110-112 ^b	4	Ineffective at 20.0	2	Ineffective at 20.0
XXVI	N(C ₂ H ₅) ₂	130-132	4		2	
XXVII	Morpholino	121-123	4	Ineffective at 20.0	20	9.5 (7.6-11.7)
XXVIII	N $\begin{cases} \text{C}_2\text{H}_4-\text{C}_6\text{H}_5 \\ \text{CH}_3 \end{cases}$	189-191	4		20	10.3 (8.1-13.1)
XXIX	Piperidino	127-129 ^b	25	7.8 (6.4-9.6)	20	5.8 (4.7-7.1)

^a Synthesized and supplied by N. Shigematsu and G. Hayashi.⁹ ^b Picrate.

of insufficient amounts of drug, the minimal effective dose (MED) was determined.

In groups A and B of series I, ethyl N-(2-*tert*-aminoalkyl) carbanilate⁴ and N-(1-methyl-2-*tert*-aminoalkyl)-4'-hydroxypropionanilide,⁵ which may be regarded as containing a tertiary nitrogen atom in place of the quaternary C-atom in methadone,⁶ show meperidine-like analgesic activity. The piperidino compounds IV, VIII and XIII are more potent than others which have groups such as dimethylamino, diethylamino, morpholino, N-methylphenethylamino and N-methylpiperazino. Group C lists 1-(2-*tert*-aminoalkyl)-3,4-dihydro-2-quinolone derivatives,⁷ which have the same order of antipyretic and analgesic activity as aminopyrine and may be regarded as cyclization products of the compounds of group B; here the piperidino compounds are the most potent in antitussive activity. Among the piperidino compounds, the three with methyl side chain (XIX, XXII, XXIV) are 1.3 to

2.4 times more potent than the unbranched derivatives (XVII, XX, XXIII). Analgesic, antitussive and other pharmacological activities of isopropylamino-type drugs are, in general, stronger than those of ethylenamino-type compounds in the methadone series.⁸ The piperidino group neither abolishes or reduces such a tendency. The antitussive activities of two compounds (XXII and XXIV) are superior to that of codeine phosphate.

In groups D,⁹ E, and F,¹⁰ some of which show thiambutene-like structure and weak analgesic activity, piperidino compounds are definitely superior to the others in antitussive activity. The piperidino compound XXXVI, an amide of benactyzine,¹¹ which possesses weak analgesic as well as antispasmodic actions,¹² is also more potent than the dimethylamino analog, and

(8) O. J. Braenden, N. B. Eddy, and H. Halbach, *Bull. World Health Org.*, **13**, 969 (1955).

(9) N. Shigematsu and G. Hayashi, *Yakugaku Zasshi*, **81**, 421 (1961).

(10) R. Kimura, unpublished.

(11) A. H. Ford-Moore and H. R. Ing, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 55 (1947).

(12) I. Fujimura, T. Ueshima, I. Tomono, T. Koyazu, and Y. Yamakawa, *Nippon Yakugaku Zasshi*, **51**, 70 (1955).

(6) W. B. Wright, I. J. Brabander, and R. A. Hardy, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **81**, 1518 (1959).

(7) N. Shigematsu, *Chem. Pharm. Bull. (Tokyo)*, **9**, 970 (1961).

TABLE V
GROUP E.^a β -*tert*-AMINOETHYL 3-PHENYL-3-(2-THIENYL)-
ACRYLATE HYDROCHLORIDES

$$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$$

$$\text{C}=\text{C}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)\text{COO}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NR}\cdot\text{HCl}$$

Compd.	NR	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity	
			Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) Dog i.v.
XXX	N(CH ₃) ₂	179-180	20	7.20 (6.31-8.21)
XXXI	Morpholino	172	20	7.35 (6.74-8.01)
XXXII	Piperidino	160-161	30	4.12 (3.12-5.40)

GROUP F.^a β -*tert*-AMINOMETHYL 3-HYDROXY-3-PHENYL-3-(2-THIENYL)-PROPIONATE HYDROCHLORIDES

$$\text{OH}$$

$$\text{C}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)\text{COO}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NR}\cdot\text{HCl}$$

Compd.	NR	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity	
			Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) Dog i.v.
XXXIII	N(CH ₃) ₂	128-129	3	Ineffective at 15.0
XXXIV	Piperidino	168-169	24	9.80 (8.75-11.0)

GROUP G. N-(2'-*tert*-AMINOETHYL)-BENZILIC ACID AMIDE HYDROCHLORIDES^{11,12} (C₆H₅)₂-C(OH)(C₆H₅)-CCONH(CH₂)₂NR·HCl

Compd.	NR	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity			
			Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) dog i.v.	Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) cat i.v.
XXXV	N(CH ₃) ₂	213.8	3	5.0 ^b	30	4.80 (3.90-5.90)
XXXVI	Piperidino	204.8	20	2.84 (2.45-3.30)	20	3.40 (2.81-4.12)

^a Groups E and F were synthesized and supplied by Dr. R. Kimura.¹⁰ ^b Minimal effective dose (MED).

TABLE VI

GROUP H.^a 1,2-DIPHENYL-2-*tert*-AMINOETHANE
HYDROCHLORIDES C₆H₅CH₂CH(C₆H₅)·HCl

$$\text{NR}$$

Compd.	NR	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity	
			Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) dog i.v.
XXXVII	N(CH ₃) ₂ (±)	187-210	20	3.50 (2.92-4.20)
XXXVIII	N(CH ₃) ₂ (-)	218-219	20	1.28 (1.06-1.55)
XXXIX	N(CH ₃) ₂ (+)	218-219	25	10.2 (8.5-12.3)
XL	Morpholino (±)	211	3	Ineffective at 6.2
XLI	Piperidino (±)	207	30	1.98 (1.68-2.34)
XLII	Pyrrolidino (±)	212	24	1.92 (1.55-2.38)
XLIII	Pyrrolidino (-)	242	30	1.18 (1.05-1.32)
XLIV	Pyrrolidino (+)	242	24	3.00 (2.56-3.51)

^a Synthesized and supplied by Dr. K. Yamakawa.¹⁴

its antitussive activity is even superior to that of codeine phosphate in the dog.

Among the compounds of group H, *i.e.*, 1,2-diphenyl-1-*tert*-aminoethane derivatives, regarded as fragments of the morphine nucleus,¹³ the *levo*-isomer of 1-dimethylamino-1,2-diphenylethane (XXXVIII) was reported recently¹⁴ to be effective clinically for lumbago and muscular pain, and also as an antitussive in animals. It has now been found that the antitussive activity of the racemic piperidino compound (XLI) is 1.8 times greater than that of the racemic dimethylamino com-

ound (XXXVII). The racemic pyrrolidino compound (XLII) shows almost the same degree of activity as the piperidino compound (XLI), and even the weakest one of the series, the *d*-isomer (XLIV) is more potent than codeine phosphate. In the series of phenothiazine antitussives,¹⁵ adrenergic amines¹⁶ and antihistaminics,¹⁷ the piperidino compounds are always more potent as antitussives in dogs and cats. However, in the series of fluorinated diphenhydramine antihistaminics (LXII) as well as that of 1,2-diphenyl-1-*tert*-aminoethane (XLII) described above, the pyrrolidino group deepens activity more than the piperidino group although the latter is the most effective in increasing activity.

Among camphor derivatives,¹⁸ similar results also were seen in two types of derivatives. However, quaternization of the piperidino group completely abolishes activity (LXIX, LXXIII).

Discussion

The results which are shown in both the previous¹ and present paper emphasize an important role of the piperidino group in manifesting and strengthening antitussive activity in various structures. Lindner¹⁹ also recognized the same tendency in the depressing effect of 2-alkylamino-1,1-diphenylpropanol derivatives on cough induced by electric stimulation of the superior

(15) M. Nakanishi, unpublished.

(16) Z. Horii, J. Tsujii, and T. Inoi, *ibid.*, **77**, 248, 256, 1095 (1957); **78**, (1958).

(17) K. Takatori, *ibid.*, **80**, 1759 (1960).

(18) M. Nakanishi, *ibid.*, **79**, 1359, 1363, 1367, 1371 (1959).

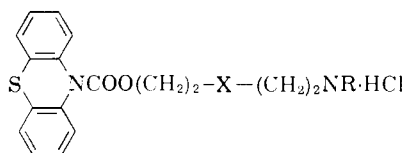
(19) E. Lindner and L. Stein, *Arzneimittel-Forsch.*, **9**, 94 (1959); E. Lindner, personal communication (1960).

(13) (a) E. L. May, in "Medicinal Chemistry," A. Burger, ed., Interscience Publishers Inc., New York, N. Y., 1960, p. 321; (b) E. C. Dodds, *Brit. Med. Bull.*, **4**, 88 (1946).

(14) K. Ogiu, H. Fujimura, and K. Yamakawa, *Yakugaku Zasshi*, **80**, 283, 286, 289, 292, 295, 298 (1960).

TABLE VII

SERIES 2. ANTITUSSIVE TYPES IN THE PHENOTHIAZINE SERIES. 2-*tert*-AMINOETHOXYETHYL AND 2-*tert*-AMINOETHYLTHIOETHYL PHENOTHIAZINE-N-CARBOXYLATE HYDROCHLORIDES^a

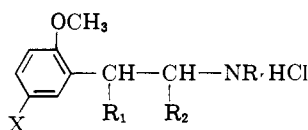


Compd.	X	NR	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity			
				Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) dog i.v.	Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) cat i.v.
XLV	O	N(CH ₃) ₂	165.5	20	5.2 (4.4-6.1)	20	7.5 (6.2-9.0)
XLVI	O	Piperidino	158	24	4.8 (3.9-5.9)	25	4.5 (3.9-5.2)
XLVII	S	N(CH ₃) ₂	145	24	8.2 (7.5-9.0)	20	7.7 (6.1-9.8)
XLVIII	S	N(C ₂ H ₅) ₂	128	20	12.5 (11.1-14.1)	20	10.0 (7.8-12.8)
XLIX	S	Piperidino	174.6	30	4.6 (3.7-5.2)	20	4.0 (3.2-5.0)

^a Synthesized and supplied by Dr. M. Nakanishi.¹⁵

TABLE VIII

SERIES 3.^a ADRENERGIC AMINE TYPES. 2-(2-*tert*-AMINOETHYL)-ANISOLE HYDROCHLORIDES

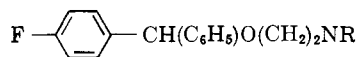


Compd.	X	R ₁	R ₂	NR	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity			
						Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) dog i.v.	Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) cat i.v.
L	H	H	CH ₃	NHCH ₃	129-131	2	Ineffective at 20.0	2	Ineffective at 20.0
LI	H	H	CH ₃	N(CH ₃) ₂	157-158	2	20.0 ^{b,c}	2	15.0 ^b
LII	H	H	CH ₃	Morpholino	178	20	6.4 (5.4-7.6)	20	4.4 (3.6-5.2)
LIII	H	H	CH ₃	Piperidino	197	24	3.6 (3.0-4.3)	25	2.4 (2.0-2.9)
LIV	H	CH ₃	H	Morpholino	195-196		...	2	Ineffective at 20.0
LV	H	CH ₃	H	Piperidino	165-167		...	20	11.3 (10.0-13.7)
LVI	CH ₃	H	CH ₃	NHCH ₃	136-137	1	Ineffective at 20.0	2	20.0 ^b
LVII	CH ₃	H	CH ₃	N(CH ₃) ₂	184	20	5.3 (4.2-6.8) ^d	25	4.9 (3.9-6.0)
LVIII	CH ₃	H	CH ₃	Piperidino	188	25	4.8 (3.7-6.5) ^e	36	1.6 (1.3-1.9)

^a Synthesized and supplied by Z. Horii, J. Tsujii, and T. Inoi.¹⁶ ^b Minimal effective dose (MED). ^c Convulsion with MED. ^d Excitation. ^e Marked excitation.

TABLE IX

SERIES 4.^a ANTIHISTAMINIC TYPES. PHENYL-(4-FLUOROPHENYL)-METHYL β-*tert*-AMINOETHYL ETHER HYDROCHLORIDES



Compd.	NR	Salt	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity			
				Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) Dog i.v.	Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) Cat i.v.
LIX	N(CH ₃) ₂	Citrate	140	25	6.25 (5.38-7.19)	20	3.68 (3.12-4.27)
LX	N(C ₂ H ₅) ₂	Citrate	119	20	12.2 (10.2-14.5)	20	7.40 (6.12-8.81)
LXI	Morpholino	HCl	151-155	20	5.84 (4.98-6.83)	20	5.23 (4.46-6.11)
LXII	Pyrrolidino	HCl	142-144	25	2.90 (2.59-3.25)	20	2.58 (2.32-3.01)
LXIII	Piperidino	HCl	162	25	3.20 (2.83-3.62)	24	2.85 (2.52-3.23)

^a Synthesized and kindly supplied by Dr. K. Takatori.¹⁷

laryngeal nerve of cats. Recently, Takagi, *et al.*,²⁰ reported that antitussive potency of antihistaminics of the type C₆H₅CHRO(CH₂)₂₋₃NR₂ decreased from piperidino, *via* dimethylamino, to morpholino, when tested by mechanical and chemical (SO₂) stimulations on the tracheal mucosa of the guinea pig. We found a greater effect for piperidino derivatives in spite of

differences of stimulation or species used for the experiment. Pyrrolidino groups increased antitussive activity more potently than piperidino groups in both an analgesic and an antihistaminic type tested. If this should hold more generally, it could be assumed that five- and six-membered nitrogenous rings are necessary for the production or strengthening of antitussive activity.

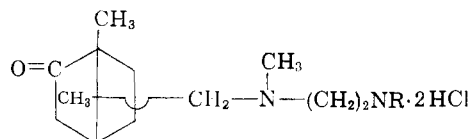
The piperidino group does not always increase other

(20) K. Takagi, H. Fukuda, K. Fujie, K. Matsui, and M. Sato, *Nippon Yakurigaku Zasshi*, **56**, 180§ (1960); *Yakugaku Zasshi*, **81**, 261 (1961).

pharmacological activities such as toxicity, analgesia,¹ general CNS depressant and local anesthetic action in connection with cough depression resulting from stretch receptor anesthesia,²¹ although it definitely increases antitussive activity. It appears that piperidino compounds depress predominantly the central respiratory mechanisms^{22,23} and definitely inhibit the respiration of brain tissue slices in a glucose medium when tested by Warburg's manometric technique. More detailed mechanisms are now under investigation and will be reported in the near future.

TABLE X

SERIES 5.^a CAMPHOR DERIVATIVES. α -9-(*N*-*tert*-AMINOETHYL-N-METHYLAMINO)-CAMPHOR DIHYDROCHLORIDES



Compd.	NR	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity	
			Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) cat i.v.
LXIV	N(C ₂ H ₅) ₂	165	3	Ineffective at 20.0
LXV	Piperidino	220.4	5	10.7 ^b

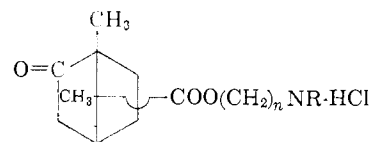
(21) K. Bucher, *Schweiz. Med. Wochenschr.*, **86**, 10 (1956); *Pharmaz. Rev.*, **10**, 43 (1958).

(22) Y. Kasé and T. Yuizono, *Nippon Yakurigaku Zasshi*, **56**, 181 (1960).

(23) Y. Kasé, *Yakkyoku (J. Practical Pharmacy)* (Tokyo), **12**, 65 (1961).

TABLE X (continued)

dl-tert-AMINOALKYL ISOKETOPINATE HYDROCHLORIDES



Compd.	n	NR	M.p., °C.	Antitussive activity	
				Animals used	AtD ₅₀ (mg./kg.) cat i.v.
LXVI	2	N(CH ₃) ₂	191	3	Ineffective at 20.0
LXVII	2	N(CH ₃) ₃ ·I ⁻	208	3	Ineffective at 20.0
LXVIII	2	Piperidino	247	20	5.2 (4.4-6.2)
LXIX	2	⁺ N(CH ₃) ₂ ·I ⁻	208	2	Ineffective at 20.0
LXX	3	N(CH ₃) ₂	162	2	Ineffective at 20.0
LXXI	3	N(CH ₃) ₃ ·I ⁻	181	2	Ineffective at 20.0
LXXII	3	Piperidino	203	20	10.5 (8.8-11.6)
LXXIII	3	⁺ N(CH ₃) ₂ ·I ⁻	190	2	Ineffective at 20.0
Control				Dog	Cal
				3.76 (3.38-4.19)	2.53 (2.24-2.86)

phosphate

^a Synthesized and supplied by Dr. M. Nakanishi.¹⁸ ^b Minimal effective dose (MED).

Antihypertensive Agents. I. Non-diuretic 2H-1,2,4-Benzothiadiazine 1,1-Dioxides

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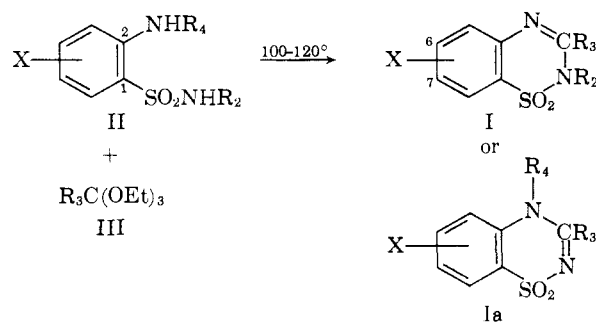
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Certain substituted 2H-1,2,4-benzothiadiazine 1,1-dioxides have been synthesized which show antihypertensive but not diuretic activity. The effect on activity of some structural modifications in this series has been examined.

Sulfamoyl substituted 2H-1,2,4-benzothiadiazine 1,1-dioxides, including the 3,4-dihydro compounds, are a well known class of orally effective diuretic agents.¹ Many of them also show an antihypertensive effect and are used clinically in the treatment of mild hypertension.² Although the precise mechanism of this action is not known, it has generally been assumed to be related to the diuretic and natriuretic properties of the compounds.³ However, it has been shown recently that the non-diuretic 7-chloro-3-methyl-2H-1,2,4-benzothiadiazine 1,1-dioxide⁴ (I, X = 7-Cl, R₂ = H, R₃ = CH₃) exerts a pronounced antihypertensive effect which is thought to be due to the direct action of the compound at the vascular level.⁵ This paper reports the synthesis of I

(X = 7-Cl, R₂ = H, R₃ = CH₃) and of related compounds as part of a study to determine the effect of certain structural modifications in this series on biological activity.

The synthesis of the 2H-1,2,4-benzothiadiazine 1,1-dioxides (I) was accomplished by the condensation of a substituted *o*-aminobenzenesulfonamide (II) with the appropriate orthoester (III).⁶



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(4) Generic name, diazoxide.

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