

TABLE II
KNOWN COMPOUNDS

No.	Structure	Formula	LD ₅₀ ^a		CNS ^b activity	Anti- inflammatory ^c activity	Endocrine effects ^d				
			Po	Ip			T	Th	C	B wt	L
25	CF ₃ CH(OH) ₂	C ₂ H ₃ F ₃ O ₂ ⁷	600	600	Depression	x	56	60	...	84	...
26	CF ₃ CH(OH)(OCH ₃)	C ₃ H ₃ F ₃ O ₂ ⁵	750	550	Depression	x	46	54	...	...	...
27	CF ₃ CH(OH)(OC ₂ H ₅)	C ₄ H ₇ F ₃ O ₂ ⁵	600	600	Depression	73	45	...	77	...	...
28	CF ₃ CH(OC ₂ H ₅) ₂	C ₆ H ₁₁ F ₃ O ₂ ⁵	>1000	600	Depression	x	...	...	...	...	...
29	C ₂ F ₅ CH(OH) ₂	C ₃ H ₃ F ₅ O ₂ ⁷	600	600	Depression	x	...	...	...	...	...
30	C ₂ F ₅ CH(OH)(OC ₂ H ₅)	C ₅ H ₇ F ₅ O ₂ ⁵	1200	800	Depression	x	...	...	...	...	...
31	CF ₃ (CF ₂) ₆ CH(OH) ₂	C ₈ H ₃ F ₁₅ O ₂ ⁷	>1000	>800	Depression	x	...	...	...	...	...
32	CF ₃ CH(OCOCH ₃) ₂	C ₆ H ₇ F ₃ O ₄ ⁸	>1000	>1000		x	...	...	...	...	...

^a The LD₅₀ was determined in mice. ^b CNS effects were observed in normal mice. ^c Figures refer to the per cent reduction in edema, induced by carrageenin, relative to controls.⁹ ^d Endocrine tests were performed on rats given 12 daily doses of 50 mg/kg subcut: T = testes; Th = thymus; C = cholesterol levels; B wt = body weight; L = liver; x = results not available; ... = not significantly different from controls. Figures refer to per cent wt relative to controls.

(50 ml). H₂O (1.8 g, 0.1 mole) was collected in a Dean-Stark trap in 2 hr. Excess C₆H₆ was removed by evapn and the residual oil was distd to give a colorless oil (5.0 g, 56%), bp 144–146°.

Method C. 2-Trifluoromethylimidazolidine (7).—Ethylenediamine (6.0 g, 0.1 mole) and trifluoroacetaldehyde hydrate (12 g, 0.104 mole) were refluxed in C₆H₆ (100 ml) for 2 hr. H₂O (2.5 ml) was collected in a Dean-Stark trap during this time. Solvent was removed by evapn under reduced pressure leaving an oil, which was dissolved in CHCl₃ and chromatographed on neutral Al₂O₃. Concn of the eluted material gave **7** as a white crystalline solid (11.8 g, 79%), mp 72–75°. Elemental analyses corresponded to a hemihydrate C₄H₇F₃N₂·0.5H₂O, and this structure was supported by nmr and mass spectral measurements.

Method D. 2-Trifluoromethyl-4-ethylloxazolidine (11).—Trifluoroacetaldehyde hydrate (13.0 g, 0.11 mole) and 2-amino-1-butanol (8.9 g, 0.1 mole) in C₆H₆ (100 ml) were heated under reflux for 1.5 hr. A Dean-Stark trap was connected and the reaction was allowed to proceed until H₂O no longer collected in the trap. H₂O (3.6 g, 0.2 mole) was collected in 24 hr. C₆H₆ was removed by evapn under reduced pressure and the oily residue dissolved in CHCl₃ was purified by passage through a short neutral Al₂O₃ column. The purified solution was coned to give an oil which was distd to give a colorless oil (10.65 g, 63%), bp 148–153°.

Method E. Methyl 2-Trifluoromethyl-4,4-dimethylthiazolidine-5-carboxylate (18).—Trifluoroacetaldehyde hydrate (12 g, 0.104 mole) and penicillamine Me ester (16.3 g, 0.1 mole) in C₆H₆ (150 ml) were refluxed for 18 hr under a Dean-Stark trap. Solvent was removed by evapn to leave an oil which was distd to give a colorless oil (10.6 g, 44%), bp 68–72° (30 mm).

Method F. 1-Trifluoromethyl-4-ethyl-2,6,7-trioxabicyclo-[2.2.2]octane (19).—Trifluoroacetic acid (12 g, 0.105 mole) and 2-ethyl-2-hydroxymethylpropane-1,3-diol (13.4 g, 0.1 mole) in *p*-xylene (100 ml) were refluxed together under a Dean-Stark trap for 6 hr. Xylene was removed by evaporation under reduced pressure and the residue in CHCl₃ was purified by passage through neutral Al₂O₃. The CHCl₃ soln was then coned to give a solid which was recrystd from petr ether (40–60°). Compd **19** was obtained as a white crystalline solid, mp 84° (15.0 g, 71%).

Acknowledgment.—We wish to express our appreciation to members of our Spectroscopy Laboratory for the determination of physicochemical properties and to many members of our Biology Department for carrying out the biological tests reported in this paper.

Perfluoroalkyl Carbonyl Compounds. 2. Derivatives of Hexafluoroacetone

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Received January 16, 1970

Seventeen derivatives of hexafluoroacetone (HFA), 9 of them novel compounds, have been synthesized and subjected to chemical and biological study. Some interesting chemical properties of these compounds are described. Significant activity against the parasite *Trypanosoma rhodesiense* was found for HFA and some of its simple derivatives. It is suggested that HFA is the active agent, and that its derivatives owe their activity to the release of HFA *in situ*. Other biological activities were also observed.

Following our work on the perfluoroalkyl aldehydes¹ we now present a study of hexafluoroacetone. The objective was the examination of the biological properties of masked hexafluoroacetone (HFA), and as a consequence some simple derivatives of the ketone, with limited stability have been synthesized. The arguments presented in part 1¹ for this approach are also relevant to the present study.

The systems chosen for study were (a) X(CH₂)_nYC (CF₃)₂ where X or Y = O, S, NH and (b) (CF₃)₂C(OH)R where R = N< or CH<

Chemistry.—The imidazolidines **1** and **2** (Table I) were prepared by the reaction of the diamine with hexafluoroacetone or with hexafluoroacetone sesquihydrate (HFAS). They were isolated as crystalline solids with 1 mole of H₂O firmly bound. This could not be removed by drying or by sublimation *in vacuo*. An nmr study of **1** showed that an equilibrium between the

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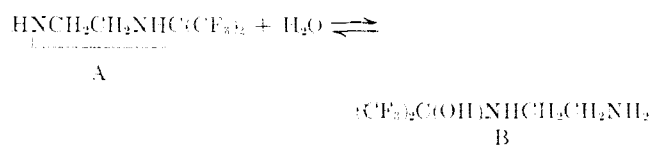
(1) G. Crank, D. R. K. Harding, and S. S. Szinai, *J. Med. Chem.*, **13**, 1212 (1970).

TABLE I: NOVEL COMPOUNDS

No.	Structure	Yield, %	Mp, °C	Formula	Analyses	LD ₅₀ ^a		Antipyretic effect ^b		Anti-inflammatory effect ^c	CNS effects ^d		Endocrine effects ^e		
						Oral	Ip	Oral	Ip		T	Th	S.V.	B wt	
1	$\text{HNCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NHC}(\text{CF}_3)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	59	109-111	$\text{C}_7\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_6\text{N}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	C, H, F, N	300	300	65	47	13	Depression and analgesia	60	56	63	88
2	$\text{HNCH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{NHC}(\text{CF}_3)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	60	95-97	$\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}\text{F}_6\text{N}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	C, H, F, N	300	260	85	48	12	Depression	56	37	60	87
3	$\text{HN}(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{C}(\text{CF}_3)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	36	108-112	$\text{C}_7\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_6\text{N}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	C, H, F	300	290	85	35	38	Depression	x	x	x	x
4	$\text{SCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NHC}(\text{CF}_3)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons (\text{CF}_3)_2\text{C}(\text{OH})\text{NHC}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{SH}$	51	115-117	$\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}\text{F}_6\text{NS} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	C, H, F, N	300	300	39	41	11	Depression	69	37	72	78
5	$\text{HNCH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)\text{OC}(\text{CF}_3)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons (\text{CF}_3)_2\text{C}(\text{OH})\text{NHC}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)\text{OH}$	35	116	$\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_6\text{NO} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	C, H, N	200	300	25	37	0	Depression	x	x	x	x
6	$(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{C}(\text{OH})\text{NHC}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$	61	107-109	$\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}\text{F}_6\text{NO}_2$	C, H, N	300	300	0	0	0	Depression				
7	$(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{C}(\text{OH})\text{NHC}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$	93	97	$\text{C}_9\text{H}_{20}\text{F}_6\text{N}_3\text{O}$	C, H, F, N	300	300	32	43	16	Depression				
8	$(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{C}(\text{OH})\text{N}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{N}(\text{H}) \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	48	135-135	$\text{C}_7\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_6\text{N}_3\text{O} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	C, H, N	300	300	33	40	18	Depression				
9	$(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{C}(\text{OH})\text{N}(\text{H})\text{Ad} \cdot 1.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, Ad = 1-adamantan(y)	25	145-148	$\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{22}\text{F}_6\text{NO} \cdot 1.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$	C, H, F, N	300	300	18	29		Depression				

^a The LD₅₀ was determined in mice. ^b Compounds were tested against *Trypanosoma rhodesiense* infection in mice. Doses were 4 daily doses of 100 mg/kg by the oral route and 4 daily doses of 0.2 of the ip LD₅₀ by the ip route. ^c Figures given refer to the per cent survival of the animals—controls have 0% survival. ^d The figures refer to the per cent reduction of edema produced by carrageenan relative to controls. Doses were 100 mg/kg (0.5 and 2 hr before carrageenan) in the rat. ^e CNS effects were observed in mouse behavior test. ^f 50 mg/kg per day given sc for 12 days to Wistar rats weighing 80 g; T = testes; S.V. = seminal vesicles; Th = thymus; B wt = body weight; C₁ = weight relative to controls; x = results not available; x not significantly different from control.

two forms A and B existed, and that in polar solvents (D₂O, CD₃OD) the ring form A was predominant (>99%) whereas in nonpolar solvent (CCl₄) the open chain form B was predominant (>99%)




Compounds **1**, **2**, and **3** were found to be stable in aq solutions between pH 1-9 for up to 24 hr. However, in the presence of electrophilic reagents they rapidly decomposed to HFA and substituted ethylenediamine, e.g., acylation or alkylation caused this breakdown. Compounds **4** and **5** displayed similar properties but in these cases the equilibrium between the two structural forms contained appreciable amounts of both isomers. Compound **6** was present entirely in the noncyclic isomer.

A few examples (**6**, **7**, **8**, **9**) of the structural type $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{C}(\text{OH})(\text{N} <)$ were made by action of HFA on amines.² These compounds, while more stable than the cyclic compounds, were also reconverted into HFA fairly readily. In order to obtain more complete biological data we prepared some known derivatives of the type $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{C}(\text{OH})(\text{CH} <)$ by reaction of HFA with the appropriate carbanion (pyridine as solvent).² It is an interesting feature of these compounds that when pyridine is used as solvent they are obtained as the pyridine complex. The required products were formed by treating the complexes with HCl.

Biological Activity.—The most interesting biological activity observed for the HFA derivatives was their effect on the parasitic infection caused by *Trypanosoma rhodesiense*. The activity was highly specific for this particular organism, other species of trypanosomes being unaffected. From the pattern of activity it is considered that the compounds were acting by releasing HFA, which we postulate to be the active agent. For activity it seemed necessary to fulfil two conditions, (1) the derivatives of HFA must be fat-soluble, and, (2) the derivatives must not be too stable. HFAS was therefore submitted for testing and found to be significantly active when dosed by the ip route but barely active when given orally. This fact is probably due to HFAS being a highly polar molecule, which would be poorly absorbed orally and is therefore unlikely to reach the parasites. Most of our active derivatives, which show approximately equal activity by both dosage route, are fat-soluble molecules, and readily absorbed. Our hypothesis is further strengthened by the finding that some of the more chemically stable derivatives of HFA (**11**, **13**, **16**) were inactive. These compounds, although likely to be easily absorbed and transported are less likely to release HFA.

Other activities were also observed. Some members of the series showed moderate response on the anti-inflammatory screen. In rats, 12-day treatment with selected compounds caused marked reduction in growth rate suggesting some toxic effects and there was reduction in the size of certain endocrine organs.

TABLE II
KNOWN COMPOUNDS

No.	Structure	Formula	LD ₅₀ ^a		Antitrypanosomal effect ^b		Anti-inflammatory effect ^c	CNS effects ^d	Endocrine effects ^e			
			Oral	Ip	Oral	Ip			T	Th	S.V.	B wt
10	(CF ₃) ₂ C=O · 1.5H ₂ O	C ₃ F ₆ O · 1.5H ₂ O ^f	300	250	5	55	21	Depression	81	77	53	88
11	(CF ₃) ₂ C(OCH ₃) ₂	C ₃ H ₆ F ₆ O ₂ ^g	>800	>800	0	0		Depression	x	x	x	x
12	(CF ₃) ₂ C(OH)N  H ₂ O	C ₈ H ₁₁ F ₆ NO · H ₂ O ^h	300	300	37	40	0	Depression	...	...	...	...
13	(CF ₃) ₂ C(OH)CH(COOC ₂ H ₅) ₂	C ₁₀ H ₁₂ F ₆ O ₃ ⁱ	1600	800	0	0	0	Mild depression	...	...	...	...
14	(CF ₃) ₂ C(OH)CH(COCH ₃)COOC ₂ H ₅	C ₉ H ₁₀ F ₆ O ₄ ^j	800	500	68	66	0	Depression	...	...	...	...
15	(CF ₃) ₂ C(OH)CH(COCH ₃) ₂	C ₈ H ₈ F ₆ O ₃ ^k	400	300	55	87	0	Depression	...	...	...	...
16	(CF ₃) ₂ C(OH)CH ₂ COOH	C ₈ H ₄ F ₆ O ₃ ^l	1600	600	0	0	22	Depression	x	x	x	x
17	(CF ₃) ₂ CHOH	C ₃ H ₂ F ₆ O ^m	600	300	0	0	0	Depression	x	x	x	x

^a The LD₅₀ was determined in mice. ^b Compounds were tested against *Trypanosoma rhodesiense* infection in mice. Doses were 4 daily doses of 100 mg/kg by the oral route and 4 daily doses of 0.2 of the ip LD₅₀ by the ip route. Figures given refer to the per cent survival of the animals—controls have 0% survival. ^c The figures refer to the per cent reduction of edema produced by carrageenin relative to controls. Doses were 100 mg/kg (0.5 and 2 hr before carrageenin) in the rat. ^d CNS effects were observed in mouse behavior test. ^e 50 mg/kg per day given sc for 12 days to Wistar rats weighing 80 g: T = testes; S.V. = seminal vesicles; Th = thymus; B wt = body weight; % weight relative to controls; ... results not available; x not significantly different from control. ^f See ref 2. ^g J. J. Drysdale, U. S. Patent, 2,901,514 (1959); *Chem. Abstr.* **54**, 1320f (1960). ^h N. P. Gambaryan, E. M. Rokhlin, Yu. V. Ziefman, Cheng, Ching-Yun, and I. L. Kimmuyants, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.*, **5**, 947 (1966). ⁱ I. L. Kimmuyants, Tsin-Yun Cheu, and N. P. Gambaryan, *V. Khim. Obschest. D. I., M.*, **5**, 112 (1960); *Chem. Abstr.*, **54**, 20872g (1960). ^j I. K. Kimmuyants and M. P. Krasuskaya, U.S.S.R. Patent 138,604 (1960), *Chem. Abstr.*, **56**, 8563g (1962).

Experimental Section

Microanalytical figures for new compounds given in Table I agree with theoretical values to within 0.4%. The structures of all new compounds were confirmed by ir and nmr spectroscopy. Known compounds listed in Table II were prepared by established methods. Melting points are uncorrected and were measured in sealed capillary tubes. All compounds were prepared by similar methods, two representative preparations are given below.

2,2-Bis(trifluoromethyl)imidazolidine Monohydrate (1).—HFAS (5.8 g, 0.03 mole) and ethylenediamine (1.8 g, 0.03 mole) were mixed in C₆H₆ (150 ml). The mixture was refluxed for 0.5 hr, then for 6 hr under a Dean-Stark trap. During this period 1 ml of H₂O was collected. The C₆H₆ was removed by evapn leaving a white solid which was recrystd from Et₂O. The material was further purified by sublimation at 0.5 mm. The product, 4.0 g (59%), was a white crystalline solid, mp 109–111°.

2,2-Bis(trifluoromethyl)thiazolidine Monohydrate (4).—2-Mercaptoethylamine · HCl (10 g, 0.088 mole) in EtOH (100 ml) was deoxygenated by passage of dry N₂. The solution was neutralized by NaOEt. HFAS (17 g, 0.088 mole) was added and the mixture was boiled for 2 hr with passage of N₂. Solvent was removed and the residue was extracted with dry Et₂O. The ethereal extract was concd to give a crystalline solid, which was purified by recrystn from Et₂O. The product, 10.9 g (51%), was a white crystalline solid, mp 115–117°.

Acknowledgment.—We wish to express our appreciation to members of our Spectroscopy Laboratory for the determination of physicochemical properties and to many members of our Biology Department for carrying out the biological tests reported in this paper.

Structure-Taste Relationships of Aspartic Acid Amides

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Received January 12, 1970

It has been discovered that many α -amides of L-aspartic acid are sweet. The most potent products are derived from L-1-methyl-2-substituted-ethylamines where the substituent is Ph, cyclohexyl, *n*-Pr, *n*-Bu, or *i*-Bu.

During the synthesis of gastrin C-terminal tetrapeptide, tryptophylmethionylaspartylphenylalaninamide, one of us (J. M. S.) discovered that an intermediate, L-Asp-L-Phe Me ester, was intensely sweet.¹ Subsequent organoleptic evaluation has shown that the compound is 100–150 times as sweet as sucrose and free of unpleasant aftertaste.² Structural variations¹ in the Asp, Phe, and Me ester parts of the molecule were made. The presence of both the free, unsubstituted NH₂ and one CO₂H of Asp as well as the distance be-

tween them and the absolute configuration of the asymmetric C were completely critical for sweetness; the requirement of absolute L configuration also held for Phe. Sweetness fell off rapidly with increasing size of the ester radical. For example, the *n*-Pr ester had about 1% the potency of the Met ester. It was also found that Phe could be replaced by Met or Tyr to give dipeptide esters retaining substantial sweetening power.

At the present time the phenomenon of taste seems best explained by selective adsorption of chemical compounds onto a taste receptor.³ The receptor is probably a site on the surface of a cell and is therefore a

* To whom correspondence should be addressed.

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(3) L. M. Beidler, *Advan. Chem. Ser.*, **56**, 1 (1966). We would like to thank a referee for calling our attention to Dr. Beidler's work.