



The stereospecific synthesis of mixed-acid phospholipids with polyunsaturated fatty acid from D-mannitol

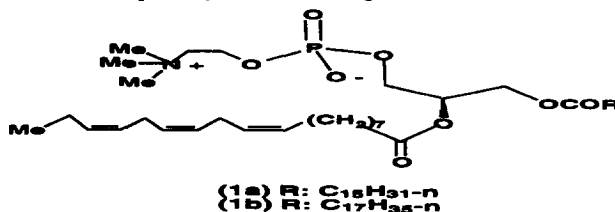
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Abstract: The polyunsaturated mixed-acid phosphatidylcholine, 1-palimoyl-2-linolenoyl-sn-glycerophosphocholine **1a** and 1-stearoyl-2-linolenoyl-sn-glycerophosphocholine **1b** prepared from D-mannitol as an optically active starting material is described. © 1997 Published by Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

Introduction

Current investigations of the structure of biological membranes require efficient methods for the preparation of phospholipids. In particular, there is a growing need for mixed acid phospholipids with defined fatty acid composition,¹ for example as components of artificial membranes for physicochemical studies,² fluorescent,³ radiolabelled⁴ and spin-labelled probes⁵ for the study of membrane motion, and as photoactivatable probes for investigation of protein–lipid interactions.^{4a,c,d,6} A commonly employed method for synthesis involves specific deacylation of phospholipase A₂ and reacylation of the resulting 2-lysophospholipids with the desired acid.⁷ At the same time, liposome technology has provided a powerful tool for efficient drug delivery and targeting,⁸ as a number of pharmaceuticals have been encapsulated in liposome form or attached to the surface of liposomes by a labile bond,⁹ and (z,z,z)-9,12,15-linolenic acid has been known as an essential fatty acid for humans; its deficiency will alter membrane function, both in the brain as well as in the peripheral nerve,^{10,11} and furthermore, it has also been reported capable of reducing the incidence and multiplicity of chemically-induced colon tumors,^{12–14} decreasing the yield of chemically-induced mammary tumors^{15–17} and inhibiting the hairlessness of mice.¹⁸ These exciting resulting inspired us to re-investigate efficient methods for preparation of mixed-acid phosphocholines, with polyunsaturated fatty acid in the 2-position of glycerophospholipid containing glycerol, in which polyunsaturated fatty acid is desired to be released by hydrolysis with phospholipase A₂. Herein, we report the total synthesis of mixed-acid glycerophosphocholines with α -linolenic acid in the 2-position of glycerophospholipids containing glycerol from D-mannitol as the optically active starting material.

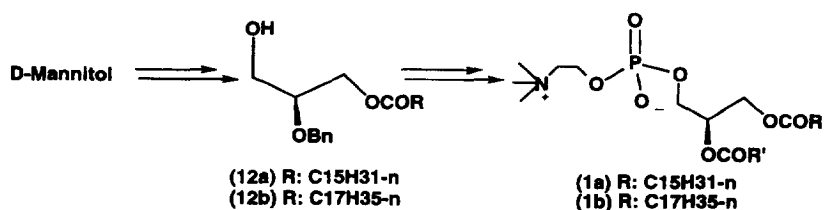


Results and discussion

As natural phospholipids are in general compounds with optical activity, we synthesized the key intermediate compounds **12a-b** through 9 reaction steps using D-mannitol as the optically active

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Scheme 1.

starting material. The strategy for synthesis of the key intermediate compounds **12a-b**,¹⁹ 1-acyl-2-benzyl-*sn*-glycerol **12a-b**, and target molecules is outlined in Scheme 1.

Thus, we attempted to ditritylate 3,4-isopropylidene-D-mannitol **3**, with 1,2;3,4;5,6-triisopropylidene-D-mannitol **2** prepared from D-mannitol by reaction with acetone/H₂SO₄ being converted into compound **3** with dry trityl chloride in anhydrous pyridine, but the main product we obtained was monotrityl derivate **4**, which was then benzylated resulting in compound **5**. The trityl group was selectively removed from compound **5** in methanol/2-propanol/H₂SO₄ to obtain 2,5,6-tribenzyl-3,4-isopropylidene-D-mannitol **6**, which was then esterified in dry dichloromethane with saturated fatty acid-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC) and catalytic amount of 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine to produce 2,5,6-tribenzyl-1-acyl-3,4-isopropylidene-D-mannitol **7a-b**. Acidic deacetonation of 2,5,6-tribenzyl-1-acyl-3,4-isopropylidene-D-mannitol **7a-b** in dichloromethane-trifluoroacetic acid 70% HClO₄ afforded 2,5,6-tribenzyl-1-acyl-D-mannitol **8a-b**, the vicinal diol moiety of which, in positions 3 and 4, was cleaved with lead tetraacetate in dry ethyl acetate, and the resulting aldehyde **10a-b** was then reduced with NaBH₄ to the key intermediate compounds **12a-b** (Scheme 2), with chloroethylphosphoric acid dichloride in dry dichloromethane and anhydrous triethylamine yielding the *sn*-3-phosphoric acid **13a-b** which had the natural configuration, outlined in Scheme 3. The key intermediate compounds **13a-b** were aminated by trimethylamine in chloroform-ethanol to obtain the compounds **14a-b**, which were debenzylated to lysophosphocholine **15a-b** with Pd-C(10%)-H₂. Esterification of lysophosphocholine **15a-b** in dry dichloromethane with linolenic acid anhydride/DMAP²⁰ afforded the target molecule **1a-b**.

In conclusion, we, for the first time, described a convenient method to totally synthesize the mixed-acid phosphatidylcholine **1a** and **1b** using D-mannitol as optically starting material.

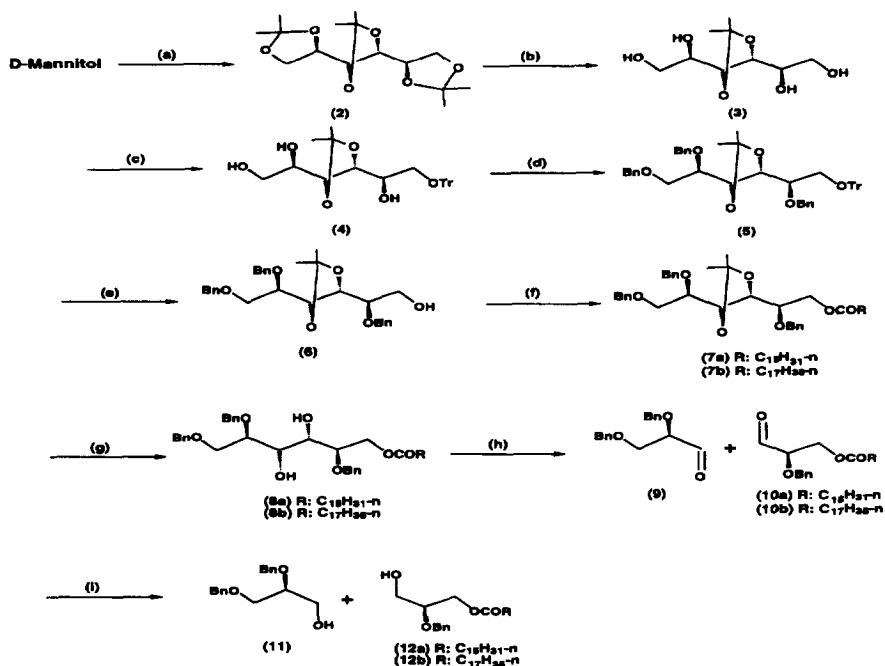
Experimental

General methods and materials

Dichloromethane was distilled from calcium hydride, triethylamine was distilled from calcium hydride, glass-backed silica gel TLC plates (silica gel F254, 0.2 mm thickness) were supplied by Qing Dao, China. Chromatography was performed on silica gel H, 400 mesh, from Qing Dao, China. ¹H NMR spectra were measured on a Bruker AMX-300 MHz spectrometer with tetramethylsilane as internal standard, hexadeuterioacetone and deuteriochloroform as solvent. EI mass spectra were obtained on a VG Quattro-MS/MS spectrometer. IR was measured on Shimadzu IR-440, optical rotations were measured on Perkin-Elmer 241c Polarimeter.

1,2;3,4;5,6-Triisopropylidene-D-mannitol **2**²¹

To a stirred solution of D-mannitol (40 g) in dry acetone (500 ml), conc. H₂SO₄ (4 ml) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction was then poured into potassium hydroxide solution. The acetone was removed under reduced pressure resulting in a solution which was extracted with dichloromethane. The organic phase was separated and washed with water, dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate. Organic phase was then concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude white solid which was crystallized with petroleum ether-ethyl ether to give a white solid



Reagents and conditions:

- (a) Acetone, Conc. H₂SO₄, r.t., 24hrs, Yield: 74%
 (b) HOAc (70%), 40–45 °C, 1.5hrs, Yield: 84.5%
 (c) TrC₆H₅pyridine, r.t., 4hrs, Yield: 73.3%
 (d) BnCl/KOH, 120–140 °C, 4hrs, Yield: 100%
 (e) H₂BO₃-C₆H₅-OH-CH₂OH, r.t., 3hrs, Yield: 72.9%
 (f) RCOOH/DCC-DMAP/CH₂Cl₂, r.t., 12hrs, 84.5–84.6%
 (g) CF₃COOH/70% HClO₄/CH₂Cl₂-CH₂OH, Yield: 54%–70.0%
 (h) Ph(OAc)₃/ethyl acetate, r.t., 4hrs, Yield 80–85%
 (i) NaBH₄/CH₂OH, r.t., 12hrs, Yield: 85–88%

Scheme 2.

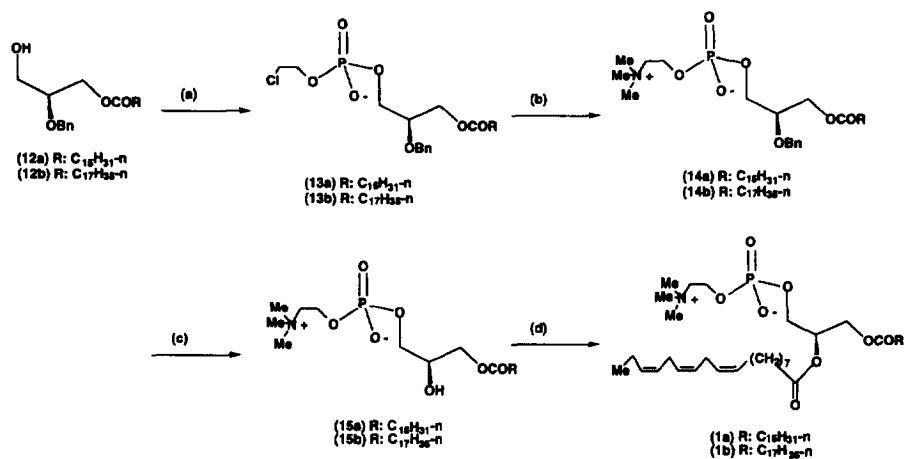
(47.2 g), yield 74%, m.p. 74–75 °C (lit: 60–70 °C). EIMS (m/e): 287 (M⁺-OCH₃), 43 (100%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 4.30–4.15 (m, 2H, CH₂O), 4.10–4.00 (m, 2H, CH₂O), 3.95–3.80 (m, 4H, 2CH₂O), 1.40–1.30 (m, 18H, 6CH₃).

3,4-Isopropylidene-D-mannitol 3²¹

To a stirred solution of 70% HOAc (956 ml) at 40 °C was added 1,2;3,4;5,6-isopropylidene-D-mannitol (48 g) and kept at this temperature for 1.5 h. The reaction mixture was then concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude oil which was crystallized with anhydrous benzene resulting in compound 3, yield: 84.5%. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 4.00–3.90 (m, 2H, 2CHO), 3.80–3.70 (dd, 2H, J=2.9 Hz, J=10.8 Hz, CH₂O), 3.70–3.62 (m, 2H, CH₂O), 3.62–3.50 (dd, 2H, J=5.1 Hz, J=10.8 Hz, CH₂O), 1.40–1.30 (dd, 6H, 2CH₃).

1-Trityl-3,4-isopropylidene-D-mannitol 4

To a stirred solution of 3,4-isopropylidene-D-mannitol (1.947 g, 8.77 mmol) in anhydrous pyridine (58 ml) was added trityl chloride (5.383 g, 19.29 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature. The solution was then concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude product which was purified on silica gel column eluting with petroleum ether–ethyl acetate–methanol (4:1:0.6) resulting in compound 4 (1.43 g), yield: 73.3%. [α]_D²⁰ = +18.0 (C=1.10 CH₃OH). IR (film): 3500–3400 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (acetone-d₆): δ 7.60–7.50 (m, 15H, 3Ph), 4.40–4.20 (dd, 1H, J=5.1 Hz, J=6.9 Hz,



Reagents and Conditions:
 (a) (i) Cl CH₂CH₂OP(O)Cl₂/Et₃N-CH₂Cl₂, 0-5°C, 4hrs, yield 86.3%
 (ii) H₂O, r.t. 30 min.
 (b) Me₃NEtOH-CHCl₃, sealed, 60-70°C, 60hrs, yield 80%
 (c) Pd-C(10%)-H₂O/CH₂OH-CHCl₂, r.t. 4hrs, yield 100%
 (d) Linolenic acid anhydride-DMAP-CH₂Cl₂, r.t. 3days, yield 66%

Scheme 3.

CHO), 4.10–4.00 (m, 1H, CHO), 3.90–3.80 (m, 2H), 3.70–3.60 (m, 2H), 3.30–3.20 (d, 2H), 1.30–1.20 (2s, 6H, 2CH₃). Anal. Calcd for C₂₈H₃₂O₆: 72.18 (C%), 7.36 (H%). Found: 72.59 (C%), 7.80 (H%).

1-Tributyl-2,5,6-tribenzyl-3,4-isopropylidene-D-mannitol 5

To a stirred solution of potassium hydroxide (13.48 g) in benzyl chloride (15 ml) was added compound 4 (1.7 g, 3.66 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 h at 130–140°C and poured into iced water. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane, organic phase was separated, washed with water and dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate. The dichloromethane was removed under reduced pressure to give a crude product which was purified on silica gel column (petroleum ether–ethyl acetate 20:1) resulting in a yellow oil (2 g), yield: 100%. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +15.0$ (C=1.0 CHCl₃). EIMS (m/e): 491, 243 (Ph₃C) (100%), 91 (PhCH₂) (92%), 43. ¹H NMR (acetone-d₆): δ 7.60–7.50 (m, 5H, Ar), 7.40–7.20 (m, 35H, Ar), 4.85–4.70 (dd, 2H, J=11.7 Hz, J=12.0 Hz), 4.65–4.55 (dd, 2H, J=11.6 Hz, J=11.8 Hz), 4.50–4.40 (s, 2H), 4.30–4.20 (dd, 1H, J=5.1 Hz, J=6.9 Hz), 4.20–4.10 (dd, 1H, J=4.9 Hz, J=6.9 Hz), 4.00–3.85 (dt, 2H), 3.85–3.70 (dt, 2H), 3.70–3.60 (m, 1H), 3.40–3.30 (m, 2H), 1.30–1.20 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.20–1.10 (s, 3H, CH₃). Anal. Calcd for C₄₉H₅₆O₆: 76.56 (C%), 8.57 (H%). Found: 76.40 (C%), 8.60 (H%).

2,5,6-Tribenzyl-3,4-isopropylidene-D-mannitol 6

To a stirred solution of compound 5 (370 mg, 0.63 mmol) in *i*-propanol (50 ml) and methanol (50 ml) was added conc. H₂SO₄ (0.05 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred for 4–6 h at room temperature. The solution was then poured into a solution of potassium hydroxide and extracted with dichloromethane. The organic phase was separated, washed with water and dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate. The dichloromethane was removed under reduced pressure to give a crude product which was purified on silica gel column eluting with petroleum ether–ethyl acetate (4:1) resulting in compound 6 (270 mg), yield: 73%. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +16.0$ (C=0.80 CHCl₃). IR (film): 3500–3400 cm⁻¹. EIMS (m/e): 475 (M⁺-OH), 474 (M⁺-H₂O), 91 (PhCH₂) (100%), 57, 43. ¹H NMR (acetone-d₆): δ 7.50–7.30 (m, 15H, Ar), 4.80–4.70 (dd, 2H, J=11.6 Hz, J=11.7 Hz), 4.75–4.55 (dd, 2H, J=11.6 Hz,

$J=11.8$ Hz), 4.50–4.40 (s, 2H), 4.40–4.30 (m, 2H), 3.90–3.80 (m, 3H), 3.75–3.40 (m, 3H), 1.40–1.30 (2s, 6H, 2CH₃). HR EIMS (m/e): 475.3665 (M⁺–OH) Calcd: 475.3655.

The general procedure for esterification of compound 6 with fatty acid under DCC–DMAP system

To a stirred solution of compound **6** (1 mmol), fatty acid (2.5–3 mmol) and DMAP (0.09 mmol) in dry dichloromethane was added DCC (2.5–3 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The precipitate was filtered off and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude product which was purified on silica gel column eluting with petroleum ether–ethyl acetate (25:1 and 10:1) resulting in an oil.

1-Palimoyl-2,5,6-tribenzyl-3,4-isopropylidene-D-mannitol 7a

Yield: 84.6%. $[\alpha]_D^{20}=+6.4$ (C=0.25 CHCl₃). IR (film): 1730 cm⁻¹. EIMS (m/e): 401, 310, 239 (C₁₅H₃₁CO⁺), 91 (PhCH₂) (100%), 57, 43. ¹H NMR (acetone-d₆): δ 7.50–7.30 (m, 15H, Ar), 4.90–4.60 (m, 6H), 4.40–4.20 (dd, 2H), 3.90–3.70 (m, 3H), 3.60–3.50 (m, 3H), 2.40–2.20 (t, 2H), 1.70–1.50 (m, 2H), 1.40–1.20 (s, 30), 1.00–0.80 (t, 3H, CH₃, $J=7.5$ Hz, $J=7.6$ Hz.). Anal. Calcd for C₄₆H₇₂O₇: 75.95 (C%), 9.30 (H%). Found: 76.20 (C%), 9.80 (H%).

1-Stearoyl-2,5,6-tribenzyl-3,4-isopropylidene-D-mannitol 7b

Yield: 84.5%. $[\alpha]_D^{20}=+8.00$ (C=0.70 CHCl₃). IR (film): 1750–1740 cm⁻¹. EIMS (m/e): 401, 310, 267 (C₁₇H₃₅CO⁺), 91 (PhCH₂) (100%), 57, 43. ¹H NMR (acetone-d₆): δ 7.40–7.20 (m, 15H, Ar), 4.80–4.50 (m, 6H), 4.40–4.20 (dd, 2H), 3.80–3.70 (m, 3H), 3.60–3.50 (m, 3H), 2.40–2.20 (t, 2H, CH₂CO), 1.70–1.50 (m, 2H), 1.40–1.20 (s, 34H), 1.00–0.80 (t, 3H, CH₃). Anal. Calcd for C₄₈H₇₆O₇: 75.95 (C%), 9.30 (H%). Found: 76.20 (C%), 9.80 (H%).

The general procedure for removal of isopropylidene from compound 7a or 7b with TFA and 70% HClO₄

To a stirred solution of compound **7a** or **7b** (1 mmol) and TFA (6–7 ml) in dry dichloromethane (20 ml) at 0–5°C was added 70% HClO₄ (5 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at this temperature and poured into a mixture of methanol and water. The dichloromethane was separated, washed with water and dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate. The dichloromethane was removed under reduced pressure to give a crude product which was purified on silica gel column eluting with petroleum ether–ethyl acetate–methanol (4:1:0.6) resulting in compound **8a** or **8b**.

1-Palimoyl-2,5,6-tribenzyl-D-mannitol 8a

Yield: 70.0%. $[\alpha]_D^{20}=+35.4$ (C=0.25 CHCl₃). IR (film): 3500–3400, 1740 cm⁻¹. EIMS (m/e): 430, 339, 239 (C₁₅H₃₁CO⁺), 181, 91 (PhCH₂) (100%), 57, 43. ¹H NMR (acetone-d₆): δ 7.40–7.20 (m, 15H, Ar), 4.80–4.60 (m, 6H), 4.30–4.20 (dd, 2H), 3.80–3.70 (m, 3H), 3.60–3.50 (m, 3H), 2.20 (t, 2H), 1.70–1.50 (m, 2H), 1.40–1.20 (s, 24), 1.00–0.80 (t, 3H, CH₃, $J=7.5$ Hz, $J=7.6$ Hz.). Anal. Calcd for C₄₃H₆₈O₇: 74.40 (C%), 9.58 (H%). Found: 75.00 (C%), 10.00 (H%).

1-Stearoyl-2,5,6-tribenzyl-D-mannitol 8b

Yield: 54.0%. $[\alpha]_D^{20}=+8.00$ (C=0.70 CHCl₃). IR (film): 1750–1740 cm⁻¹. EIMS (m/e): 451, 361, 267 (C₁₇H₃₅CO⁺), 91 (PhCH₂) (100%), 57, 43. ¹H NMR (acetone-d₆): δ 7.40–7.20 (m, 15H, Ar), 4.80–4.60 (m, 6H), 4.40–4.20 (dd, 2H), 3.80–3.70 (m, 3H), 3.60–3.50 (m, 3H), 2.40–2.20 (t, 2H, CH₂CO), 1.70–1.50 (m, 2H), 1.40–1.20 (s, 28H), 1.00–0.80 (t, 3H, CH₃). Anal. Calcd for C₄₅H₇₂O₇: 75.17 (C%), 9.25 (H%). Found: 75.60 (C%), 9.65 (H%).

1-Palimoyl-2-benzylglycerol 12a

To a stirred solution of compound **8a** (475 mg, 0.58 mmol) in dry ethyl acetate (20 ml) was added lead tetraacetate (301 mg, 0.69 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature. The solution was filtered and filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude product which was purified on silica gel column eluting with petroleum ether–ethyl acetate (4:1) resulting in

compound **9** and compound **10a**. To a stirred solution of the compound **10a** (648 mg, 1.55 mmol) in methanol (15 ml) was added NaBH₄ (71 mg, 1.86 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature. The solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude product which was then purified on silica gel column eluting with petroleum ether–ethyl acetate (6:1 and 4:1) resulting in compound **12a** (538 mg), yield: 83%. [α]_D²⁰ = -7.50 (C=0.38 CHCl₃). IR (film): 3500–3300, 1740 cm⁻¹. EIMS (m/e): 449 (M⁺+1), 267 (C₁₇H₃₅CO⁺), 91 (PhCH₂) (100%), 57, 43. ¹H NMR (acetone-d₆): δ 7.40–7.20 (m, 5H, Ar), 4.70–4.60 (s, 2H), 4.40–4.30 (dd, 1H, J=3.6 Hz, J=11.7 Hz), 4.20–4.10 (dd, 1H, J=5.6 Hz, J=11.7 Hz), 3.70–3.65 (m, 3H), 2.50–2.30 (t, 2H, J=7.5 Hz, J=7.5 Hz, CH₂CO), 1.60–1.40 (t, 2H), 1.40–1.20 (s, 28H), 1.00–0.80 (t, 3H, CH₃).

1-Stearoyl-2-benzylglycerol 12b

To a stirred solution of compound **8b** (1.44 g, 1.62 mmol) in dry ethyl acetate (20 ml) was added lead tetraacetate (2.87 g, 7.16 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature. The solution was filtered and filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude product which was purified on silica gel column eluting with petroleum ether–ethyl acetate (4:1) resulting in compound **9** and compound **10b**. To a stirred solution of the compound **10b** (570 mg, 1.28 mmol) in methanol (15 ml) was added NaBH₄ (36 mg, 1.5 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature. The solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude product which was then purified on silica gel column eluting with petroleum ether–ethyl acetate (6:1 and 4:1) resulting in compound **12b** (484–502 mg), yield: 85–88%. [α]_D²⁰ = -7.80 (C=0.38 CHCl₃). IR (film): 3500–3300, 1740 cm⁻¹. EIMS (m/e): 449 (M⁺+1), 267 (C₁₇H₃₅CO⁺), 91 (PhCH₂) (100%), 57, 43. ¹H NMR (acetone-d₆): δ 7.40–7.20 (m, 5H, Ar), 4.70–4.60 (s, 2H), 4.40–4.30 (dd, 1H, J=3.6 Hz, J=11.7 Hz), 4.20–4.10 (dd, 1H, J=5.6 Hz, J=11.7 Hz), 3.70–3.65 (m, 3H), 2.50–2.30 (t, 2H, J=7.5 Hz, J=7.5 Hz, CH₂CO), 1.60–1.40 (t, 2H), 1.40–1.20 (s, 28H), 1.00–0.80 (t, 3H, CH₃). HR EIMS (m/e): 449.4069 (M⁺+1) Calcd: 449.4062.

The general procedure for preparation of 1-acyl-2-benzylglycerophosphocholine 14a and 14b from 1-acyl-2-benzylglycerol 12a and 12b

To a stirred solution of compound **12a** or **12b** (0.07–0.09 mmol) and triethylamine (1 ml) in dry dichloromethane (10 ml) at 0–5°C was added β -chloroethylphosphoric dichloride (0.3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction mixture was then poured into water and extracted with dichloromethane. The combined organic phase was washed with water and dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate. The dichloromethane was removed under reduced pressure to give a crude product which was purified on silica gel column eluting with trichloromethane–methanol–water (60:35:4) resulting in a little yellow oil.

1-Palimoyl-2-benzylglycerophosphocholine 14a

Yield: 68.0%. [α]_D²⁰ = -3.50 (C=1.1 CHCl₃). IR (film): 3500–3300, 1740 cm⁻¹. EIMS (m/e): 449 (M⁺+1), 267 (C₁₇H₃₅CO⁺), 91 (PhCH₂) (100%), 57, 43. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.40–7.20 (m, 5H, Ar), 4.70–4.50 (s, 2H), 4.40–3.4 (m, 18H), 2.40–2.20 (t, 2H), 1.70–1.50 (t, 2H), 1.40–1.20 (s, 24H), 1.00–0.80 (t, 3H, J=6.3 Hz, J=6.9 Hz, CH₃).

1-Stearoyl-2-benzylglycerophosphocholine 14b

Yield: 60.0%. [α]_D²⁰ = -3.30 (C=0.2 CHCl₃). IR (film): 1740 cm⁻¹. EIMS (m/e): 614 (M⁺), 267 (C₁₇H₃₅CO⁺), 91 (PhCH₂) (100%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.40–7.20 (m, 5H, Ar), 4.70–4.50 (s, 2H, CH₂Ph), 4.40–3.4 [m, 18H, OCH₂CHCH₂OPOCH₂CH₂N(CH₃)₃], 2.40–2.20 (t, 2H), 1.70–1.50 (t, 2H), 1.40–1.20 (s, 28H), 1.00–0.80 (t, 3H, J=6.4 Hz, J=6.9 Hz, CH₃).

The general procedure for preparation of 1-acyl-2-[(z,z,z)-9,12,15-octadecatrienoyl]-glycerophosphocholine 1a and 1b from 1-acyl-2-benzylglycerophosphocholine 14a and 14b

Hydrogen was flowed through a stirred solution of compound **14a** or **14b** (15–36 mg) in dry trichloromethane (10 ml) and Pd–C (10%) (15 mg) for 4 h at room temperature. The solution was

filtered and filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude product (10–24 mg) which was dissolved in dry dichloromethane (10 ml) to which were added linolenic anhydride (150–200 mg) and DMAP (8–10 mg). The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 days at room temperature. The precipitate was filtered off and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude product which was purified on silica gel column eluting with petroleum ether–ethyl acetate (4:1) and trichloromethane–methanol–water (60:35:4) resulting in a little yellow oil.

1-Palimoyl-2-[(z,z,z)-9,12,15-octadecatrienoyl]-sn-glycerophosphocholine 1a

Yield: 46%. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -2.9$ (C=0.9 CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.4–5.30 (m, 6H, 3CH=CH), 5.00–4.90 (m, 1H, CHOCO), 4.40–4.25 (m, 4H, CH₂CH₂O), 4.10–4.00 (m, 4H, CH₂CH₂N), 3.20–3.00 (s, 9H, NMe₃), 2.90–2.70 (m, 4H, 2=CCH₂C=), 2.40–2.30 (dt, 4H, RCH₂CO, R'CH₂CO), 2.20–2.00 (m, 4H, 2CH₂C=), 1.70–1.20 (s, 38H), 1.00–0.90 (t, 3H, J=7.5 Hz, J=7.5 Hz, CH₃), 0.90–0.80 (t, 3H, J=6.5 Hz, J=6.8 Hz, CH₃) ³¹P NMR (CDCl₃): –2.54 ppm.

1-Stearoyl-2-[(z,z,z)-9,12,15-octadecatrienoyl]-sn-glycerophosphocholine 1b

Yield: 65%. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -6.4$ (C=0.25 CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.4–5.30 (m, 6H, 3CH=CH), 5.00–4.90 (m, 1H, CHOCO), 4.40–4.20 (m, 4H, 2CH₂O), 4.00–3.80 (m, 4H, CH₂CH₂N), 3.20–3.00 (s, 9H, NMe₃), 2.90–2.70 (m, 4H, 2=CCH₂C=), 2.40–2.30 (dt, 4H, RCH₂CO, R'CH₂CO), 2.20–2.00 (m, 4H, CH₂C=), 1.70–1.20 (s, 42H), 1.00–0.90 (t, 3H, J=7.4 Hz, J=7.5 Hz, CH₃), 0.90–0.80 (t, 3H, J=6.4 Hz, J=7.0 Hz) ³¹P NMR (CDCl₃): –1.04 ppm.

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