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The first, highly efficient synthesis of spacer-armed *O*-glycans on GlyCAM-1 and PSGL-1: the counter-receptors for L- and P-selectin¹

Nobumasa Otsubo, Hideharu Ishida and Makoto Kiso * Department of Applied Bioorganic Chemistry, Gifu University, Gifu 501-1193, Japan

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Abstract

A pair of spacer-armed *O*-glycans containing sulfated/nonsulfated sialyl Le^x (sLe^x) determinant on GlyCAM-1 and PSGL-1, the counter-receptor glycoproteins for L- and P-selectin, were synthesized for the first time in a highly efficient manner employing a simultaneous glycosylation procedure. © 2000 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

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It has been shown^{2,3} that selectin–carbohydrate interactions mediate cell adhesions involved in lymphocyte homing, inflammation, thrombosis, and cancer metastasis.⁴ This has stimulated research activities not only for the endogenous carbohydrate ligands, but also their mimetics as therapeutic agents against reperfusion injury, chronic inflammatory diseases, allergy, autoimmunity, and cancer.⁵ One endothelium-derived counter-receptor for L-selectin is GlyCAM-1,⁶ a mucin-like glycoprotein with sulfated sLe^x sequences. P-Selectin glycoprotein ligand-1 (PSGL-1),⁷ a dimeric membrane mucin on leukocyte, has been suggested to be a counter-receptor for P-selectin. As a part of our studies to elucidate the structure and function of selectin ligands,^{8,9} a pair of novel nonasaccharides (1, 2) containing the sLe^x or 6-sulfo sLe^x determinant in the spacer-armed core 2 structure were constructed.

^{*} Corresponding author. Tel: +81-58-293-2916; fax: +81-58-293-2840; e-mail: kiso@cc.gifu-u.ac.jp (M. Kiso)

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The most important problems in the synthesis of the title compounds are: (i) α -stereoselective glycosylation of the GalNAc residue with the spacer part designed for further chemical modifications, (ii) selective protection of the 3- and 6-hydroxyl groups of the GlcNAc residue that undergo fucosylation and sulfation, respectively, and (iii) efficient construction of the GlcNAc β 1 \rightarrow 6GalNAc structure (core 6) and two sialyl- α (2 \rightarrow 3)-Gal structures.

The TMSOTf-promoted glycosylation of 3^{10} with 3,4,6-tri-*O*-acetyl-2-azido-2-deoxy- β -D-galactopyranosyl trichloroacetimidate¹¹ (**4**, 1.1 equiv.) in 1:1 CH₂Cl₂:Et₂O at 0°C gave the desired α -glycoside **5** in very high yield (94%) (Scheme 1). Conversion of the azido group to an acetamido group, and subsequent 3,4-*O*-isopropylidenation of the GalNAc residue afforded **7**, that was successfully coupled with **8**, promoted¹² by NIS and TfOH, to give **9** (85%) having the core 6 structure. Removal of the isopropylidene and phthaloyl groups, and subsequent *N*-, *O*-acetylation gave **10**, from which



Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: (a) TMSOTf, $CH_2Cl_2-Et_2O$, 0°C; (b) (i) Ph_3P , $C_6H_6-H_2O$, (ii) Ac_2O , Et_3N , CH_2Cl_2 , 50°C, (iii) NaOMe, MeOH; (c) 2,2-dimethoxypropane, CSA, DMF, 70°C; (d) NIS, TfOH, CH_2Cl_2 , -10°C; (e) (i) aq. 80% AcOH, 40°C, (ii) $NH_2NH_2 \cdot H_2O$, EtOH, reflux, (iii) Ac_2O , Pyr; (f) $SnCl_2$, TMSCl, anisole, CH_2Cl_2 , rt; (g) NIS, TfOH, C_6H_6 , 7°C

the *p*-methoxybenzyl (MBn) group in the GlcNAc residue was selectively cleaved by treatment with a mixture¹³ of SnCl₂, TMSCl and anisole in CH₂Cl₂ to afford **11** (87%). The resulting free hydroxyl at C-3 of the GlcNAc residue in **11** was then fucosylated with **12**¹⁴ by using the NIS/TfOH-promoted glycosylation procedure in benzene to give the desired pentasaccharide **13** (87%) (Scheme 2). This pentasaccharide was converted, by *O*-deacylation, 3,4-orthoester formation¹⁵ in the GalNAc residue, and the opening of the orthoester with aq. 80% AcOH, into the key glycosyl acceptor **14** (93%), which was then simultaneously glycosylated with the freshly prepared sialyl- α (2 \rightarrow 3)-galactose trichloroacetimidate donor **15**,¹⁶ giving the desired nonasaccharide **16** (45%).



Scheme 2. Reagents and conditions: (i) MeOMe, MeOH; (j) (i) MeC(OEt)₃, CSA, C_6H_6 , (ii) aq. 80% AcOH; (k) 50 mM TMSOTf, AW-300, CH_2Cl_2 ; (l) (i) H_2 , Pd(OH)₂, EtOH, (ii) Ac₂O, Pyr.; (m) (i) CAN, MeCN-H₂O, (ii) SO₃H·Pyr., DMF

Hydrogenolytic removal of the benzyl groups in **16** over $Pd(OH)_2$ in ethanol, followed by treatment with Ac₂O in pyridine, afforded the polyacylated nonasaccharide **17** (87%). For the preparation of the GlyCAM-1 oligosaccharide **2**, the *p*-methoxyphenyl (MP) group was first cleaved by treatment¹⁷ with ceric ammonium nitrate (CAN), and the resulting 6-OH of the GlcNAc residue was sulfated with a sulfur trioxide–pyridine complex in DMF.¹⁴ Finally, removal of all the protective groups in **18** under the basic conditions and column chromatography on Sephadex LH-20 furnished **2** in high yield. The PSGL-1 oligosaccharide **1** was prepared by treatment of **17** with CAN, followed by *O*-deacylation and saponification of the methyl ester in NeuAc. The selected physical data of **5–10**, **13**, **14**, **17**, **1** and **2** are shown in Ref. 18.

In conclusion, a highly efficient synthesis of the spacer-armed O-glycans containing the sLe^x and sulfated sLe^x determinants on PSGL-1 and GlyCAM-1 has been achieved for the first time.

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- 18. Selected physical data: Compound 5: $[\alpha]_D$ +56.8° (c 1.6, CHCl₃), ¹H NMR (400 MHz): 3.81 (dd, 1H, J=3.4, 8.6 Hz, H-2c), 5.27 (d, 1H, J=3.4 Hz, H-1c), v_{max} ; 2130 (N₃). Compound **6**: $[\alpha]_D$ +40° (c 1.0, CHCl₃), 1.32 (s, 3H, AcN), 4.29 (m, 1H, H-2c), 4.99 (d, 1H, J=3.6 Hz, H-1c), 5.78 (d, 1H, NH), ν_{max} , 1680, 1520 (NHAc). Compound 7: [α]_D +86.2° (c 1.0, CHCl₃), ¹H NMR: 1.42, 1.46 (2s, 6H, Me₂C). Compound 8: [α]_D +96.7° (c 1.2, CHCl₃), ¹H NMR: 2.10 (s, 3H, AcO), 3.61, 3.79 (2s, 6H, 2MeO), 4.33 (t, 1H, J=9.9 Hz, H-2). Compound 9: [α]_D +45.3° (c 1.6 CHCl₃), ¹H NMR (500 MHz): 1.06 (s, 3H, AcN), 1.31, 1.33 (2s, 6H, Me₂C), 2.02 (s, 3H, AcO), 3.52, 3.75 (2s, 6H, 2MeO), 4.77 (t, 1H, J=10.6 Hz, H-4d). Compound **10**: [α]_D +38.3° (c 1.3, CHCl₃), ¹H NMR: 3.71, 3.73 (2s, 6H, 2MeO), 4.84 (d, 1H, J=8.2 Hz, H-1d), 4.95 (d, 1H, J=2.3 Hz, H-4c), 4.99 (d, 1H, J=9.2 Hz, H-4d), 5.07 (d, 1H, J=3.6 Hz, H-1c), 5.47 (d, 1H, J=9.6 Hz, NH-c), 5.57 (d, 1H, J=7.3 Hz, NH-d). Compound **13**: $[\alpha]_{\rm D}$ +1.9° (c 1.1, CHCl₃), ¹H NMR: 1.00 (d, 3H, J=6.2 Hz, H-6e), 3.74 (s, 3H, MeO), 3.97 (dd, 1H, J=3.6, 9.3 Hz, H-2e). Compound 14: $[\alpha]_D = -1.1^{\circ}$ (c 1.8, CHCl₃), ¹H NMR: 1.03 (d, 3H, J=6.4) Hz, H-6e), 3.74 (s, 3H, MeO), 4.03 (dd, 1H, J=3.4, 10.3 Hz, H-2e), 4.51 (d, 1H, J=9.6 Hz, H-1d), 4.82 (d, 1H, J=2.1 Hz, H-4c), 4.87 (d, 1H, J=3.4 Hz, H-1e), 5.02 (d, 1H, J=3.6 Hz, H-1c). Compound **17**: $[\alpha]_{D}$ +9.9° (c 1.8, CHCl₃), ¹H NMR: 0.97, 1.27, 1.49, 1.53, 1.74, 1.78, 1.79, 1.91, 1.93, 1.96, 2.00, 2.16, 2.18 (13s, 39H, 4AcN, 9AcO), 1.15 (d, 3H, H-6e), 1.62, 1.70 (2t, 2H, J=12.3 Hz, H-3g_{ax}, H-3i_{ax}), 2.43 (dd, J_{vic}=4.1 Hz, H-3g_{eq}, H-3i_{eq}), 3.68 (s, 3H, MeO), 3.77, 3.79 (2s, 6H, 2CO₂Me), 5.43 (t, 2H, J=8.3 Hz, H-2f, H-2h). Compound 1: $[\alpha]_D + 1.7^{\circ}$ (c 0.3, MeOH), ¹H NMR (500 MHz, D₂O): 1.00 (m, 2H, TMSCH₂CH₂), 1.04 (d, 3H, J=5.5 Hz, H-6e), 1.77, 1.80 (2t, 2H, J=13.1 Hz, H-3g_{ax}, H-3i_{ax}), 2.00, 2.01 (2s, 12H, 4AcN), 2.72 (dd, 2H, J_{vic} =4.7 Hz, H-3 g_{eq} , H-3 i_{eq}), 4.35 (dd, 1H, J=4.4, 11.7 Hz, H-2c), 4.47, 4.49, 4.50, 4.51, 4.56 (5d, J=7.7–8.1 Hz, five β-anomeric), 5.01 (d, 1H, J=4.0 Hz, H-1e), 5.08 (d, 1H, H-1c), FABMS (M)⁻ 1944.7, (M-Na+H)⁻ 1922.7, $(M-Na)^{-1}$ 1921.7 $(C_{73}H_{122}N_4NaO_{51}Si)$. Compound **2**: $[\alpha]_D + 19.6^{\circ}$ (*c* 0.2, MeOH:H₂O=1:1), ¹H NMR (500 MHz, D₂O): 0.87 (m, 2H, TMSCH₂CH₂), 1.02 (d, 3H, J=5.5 Hz, H-6e), 1.62, 1.65 (2t, 2H, J=12.1 Hz, H-3g_{ax}, H-3i_{ax}), 1.85, 1.86 (2s, 12H, 4AcN), 2.69, 2.70 (dd, 2H, Jvic=4.3 Hz, H-3geq, H-3ieq), 4.22 (dd, 1H, J=3.8, 11.8 Hz, H-2c), 4.34, 4.38, 4.40, 4.43, 4.46 (5d, 5H, J=8.0–10.3 Hz, five β-anomeric), 4.88 (d, 1H, J=3.6 Hz, H-1e), 4.95 (d, 1H, H-1c), FABMS (M-Na)⁻ 2023.8 (C₇₃H₁₂₁N₄Na₂O₅₄SSi).