

Preliminary communication

Synthesis of *O*-{2-deoxy-2-[(3*R*)-3-hydroxytetradecanamido]- β -D-glucopyranosyl 4-phosphate}-(1 \rightarrow 6)-2-deoxy-2-[(3*R*)-3-hydroxytetradecanamido]-D-glucose The monosaccharide route

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Endotoxins, lipopolysaccharides according to their composition, are major components of the outer membrane of Gram-negative bacteria. They exert numerous biological, in particular immunological, activities, and are widely used, in immunological studies, as B-cell mitogens, adjuvants, polyclonal activators, etc. Their general structure, the biosynthetic pathways of both of the hydrophilic regions, and detailed structures of a great number of repeating units present in the O-specific chains are known; data concerning the hydrophilic "core" region and the hydrophobic "Lipid A" region are, however, less abundant.

Analyses of numerous preparations of "Lipid A" by Hase and Rietschel¹ established the presence, in many of them, of the structure *O*-(2-amino-2-deoxy- β -D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 6)-2-amino-2-deoxy-D-glucose. On the basis of previous studies, it was concluded that, in "Lipid A" preparations of enterobacterial origin, the amino groups of this disaccharide were substituted by d-(3*R*)-3-hydroxytetradecanoic acid residues and that the disaccharide carried two phosphate groups; one of these was glycosidically bound, but the chirality of the anomeric center carrying the phosphate group could not be established for any endotoxin preparation. According to Gmeiner *et al.*^{2,3}, in the "Lipid A" fragment of *Salmonella minnesota* Re mutant, the second phosphate group is located at C-4'. A similar assignment was made for the "Lipid A" fragment of the endotoxin of the *Escherichia coli* K 12, D31m4 strain by Rosner *et al.*⁴.

In connection with work aimed at establishing the structure of the *Bordetella pertussis* endotoxin⁵, and because of our current interest in the mechanism of the adjuvant effect exerted by this substance⁶, compounds of known chemical structure were required. The synthesis of *O*-{2-deoxy-2-[(3*R*)-3-hydroxytetradecanamido]- β -D-glucopyranosyl 4-phosphate}-(1 \rightarrow 6)-2-deoxy-[(3*R*)-3-hydroxytetradecanamido]-D-glucose (**11**) was, therefore, attempted. Syntheses of analogous structures have been reported recently by Kiso *et al.*⁷, and Inage *et al.*⁸.

2-Benzylideneamino-2-deoxy-D-glucopyranose⁹ (**1**) was converted into the 4,6-*O*-benzylidene derivative **2** with benzaldehyde–zinc chloride¹⁰, and then into the 1,3-diacetate

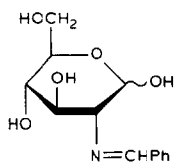
3 [^1H -n.m.r. (90 MHz, chloroform- d): δ 6, $J_{1,2}$ 8 Hz, H-1] with acetic anhydride–pyridine (0 to 20°, 16 h). Treatment of 3 in acetone with 5M hydrochloric acid at 4° gave the ammonium salt 4, which was condensed with 3-hydroxytetradecanoic acid* in pyridine in the presence of 1 mol equiv. of triethylamine and dicyclohexylcarbodiimide. In preliminary experiments, the racemic acid was used, but in final experiments the pure D isomer¹¹. Acetylation with acetic anhydride–sodium acetate (100°, 1 h) of the isolated, crude product gave the fully protected amide 5 [5:1 dichloromethane–ethyl acetate; yield 70% from 4; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$ -23.6° (c 1, chloroform)]. Removal of the benzylidene group from 5 by acid hydrolysis failed, but could be accomplished by hydrogenolysis in ethanol in the presence of palladium on charcoal (50°, 1 bar) to yield the diol 6 (99:1 ethyl acetate–ethanol, yield 60%), m.p. 125–128°, $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$ -6.8° (c 1, chloroform). A portion of 6 was selectively acetylated at O-6 by acetyl chloride in dichloromethane in the presence of 1 mol equiv. of pyridine from -50 to 20° for 16 h to give the tetraacetate 7 (ethyl acetate; yield 60%), m.p. 124–125°, $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$ -20.8° (c 1, chloroform). Phosphorylation in benzene solution with diphenylphosphoryl chloride (2 mol. equiv.), in the presence of pyridine and of 4-dimethylaminopyridine (1.2 mol. equiv. each) for 16 h at 20°, of the remaining hydroxyl group led to the diphenyl phosphate 8 (3:1 dichloromethane–ethyl acetate; yield 80%), m.p. 79–81°, $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$ -1.1° (c 1, chloroform). In the absence of 4-dimethylaminopyridine, phosphorylation was very slow, did not go to completion, and gave highly colored products; under the conditions just described, phosphorylation was rapid, the yield was high, and the product was colorless. Inage *et al.*¹² noted that introduction of a benzyl phosphate group at C-4' of an otherwise completely protected 2-amino-6-*O*-(2-amino-2-deoxy- β -D-glucopyranosyl)-2-deoxy-D-glucopyranoside required “forced reaction conditions”.

Whereas transformation of the phosphate 8 to the corresponding oxazoline derivative was easily accomplished, condensation of this with alcohols, including diol 6, was always accompanied by simultaneous elimination of the acetoxy group of the amide-bound fatty acid.

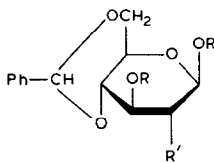
The diphenyl phosphate 8 was, therefore, treated with hydrogen bromide–acetic acid in dry chloroform (~ 5 mol. equiv., 20°, 2 h) to give bromide 9 which, because of its instability, was not purified. After removal of the solvents (*in vacuo*, codistillation with dry toluene) it was immediately condensed with diol 6 in 1:1 nitromethane–toluene in the presence of mercury dicyanide and molecular sieve 4A, for 18 h at 20° to give disaccharide 10 [(3:1 ethyl acetate–dichloromethane), $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20}$ -7.1° (c 1, chloroform); ^1H -n.m.r. (400 MHz, chloroform- d): δ 4.70 and 5.46 ($J_{1,2} = J_{1',2'} 9$ Hz, H-1 and -1')], in 20% yield when 6 and 8 contained the DL acid, but only 7% with derivatives of the D acid; the reasons for the differences in yields is not clear, but it could be due to the lesser solubility, in nitromethane–toluene, of the diol 6 derived from the D acid.

Finally, deprotection of disaccharide 10 by hydrogenolysis in ethanol in the pre-

*All compounds containing 3-hydroxytetradecanoic acid were purified by column chromatography on silica gel with the mixtures of eluent (v/v) indicated; yields and optical rotations are given for the purified products containing the D acid.

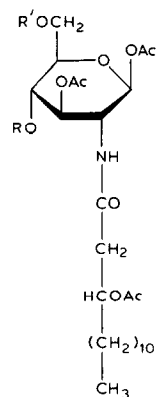


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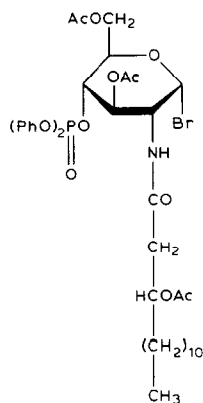
2 R = H, R' = N=CHPh

3 R = Ac, R' = N=CHPh

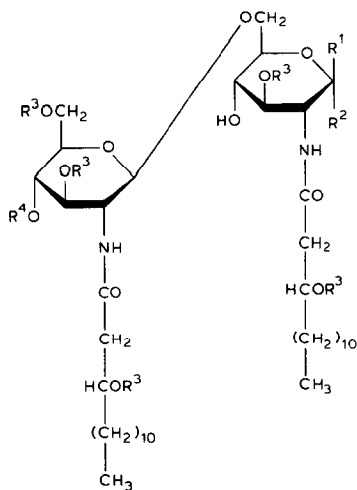
4 R = Ac, R' = NH₃⁺ Cl⁻5 R = Ac, R' = NHCOCH₂CHOAc(CH₂)₁₀CH₃

6 R = R' = H

7 R = H, R' = Ac

8 R = OP(OPh)₂, R' = Ac

9

10 R¹ = OAc, R² = H, R³ = Ac, R⁴ = OP(OPh)₂11 R¹, R² = H, OH; R³ = H; R⁴ = OPO₂²⁻

sence of platinum, followed by *O*-deacetylation with ammonia in methanol gave **11**, which was recovered by precipitation from its methanolic solution with acetone and isolated as the monoammonium salt in 55% yield, $[\alpha]_D^{25} +21^\circ$ (c 0.255, 1:1 pyridine-methanol). The disaccharide phosphate **11** has the structure assigned to "Compound II" isolated, by Rosner *et al.*⁴, from the endotoxin of the heptoseless *E. coli* K12, D31m4 strain¹³, and had similar R_F value⁴ (t.l.c. on DEAE-cellulose: 66:1:33, v/v, isobutyric acid-conc. ammonia-water). ¹H-n.m.r. spectra and elementary analyses of all compounds agreed with the proposed structures. Starting from 2-amino-2-deoxy-D-glucose hydrochloride, **4** was obtained with an overall yield of about 55% by use of the crude products.

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