Quinazoline Antifolate Thymidylate Synthase Inhibitors: Bridge Modifications and Conformationally Restricted Analogues in the C2-Methyl Series

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Several C2-methylquinazoline-based antifolates (14-26) have been prepared in which the C9,N10 bridge has been replaced by the reversed N9,C10 unit. This series was extensively studied by incorporating further substituents at N9 and C10 as well as by modifications to the p-aminobenzoate ring. The C2-methylquinazoline analogues 29, 30, and 31 containing the methyleneoxa, methylenethia, and thia bridge units were also synthesized. In general these isosteric replacements of the bridge unit in the parent C2-methyl-N10-propargylquinazoline antifolate 2 were much less potent as inhibitors of isolated thymidylate synthase (TS) but several were at least as potent as inhibitors of L1210 cell growth in culture. The fusion of the p-aminobenzoate ring into the bicyclic systems 75 and 76 also reduced activity against TS but again gave highly cytotoxic compounds. The cytotoxicities were largely prevented by thymidine, confirming that TS is the major locus.

Introduction

Several recent investigations have demonstrated that quite diverse structural modifications to the folic acid molecule can produce potent antitumor agents that act through inhibition of thymidylate synthase (TS, EC 2.1.1.45) alone with no effect on other folate-dependent enzymes. One of these agents, the quinazoline-based antifolate N10-propargyl-5,8-dideazafolic acid (1)1,2 is a potent inhibitor of mouse¹ and human³ TS which has shown potent antitumor activity in vitro, 1,3 in animal models,4 and in the clinic.⁵⁻⁷ However its renal toxicity and hepatotoxicity8 cause its eventual withdrawal from the clinic and stimulated the search for TS inhibitors that would be as effective as 1 as antitumor agents but without the unacceptable toxic effects which result from its poor aqueous solubility. 9,10 We have recently reported 11-16 a number of modifications to the structure of 1 that have given potent antitumor agents that are considerably more water soluble than 1 and have the inhibition of TS as their sole locus of action, as confirmed by protection experiments with thymidine. The C2-methyl analogue 213 was the most potent antitumor agent of a series where the C2-amino group of 1 was replaced by small lipophilic substituents. although hydrogen (3), 11 fluoromethyl (4), 13 hydroxymethyl (5), 13 and methoxy (6) 12 C2 substituents also gave potent compounds. Studies 17 with 2-5 in mice have confirmed our hypothesis that more soluble TS inhibitors would lack the hepatic and renal toxicity of 1. More recently we have discovered 14-16 that the antitumor activity in the C2-methyl series is enhanced even further when the p-aminobenzoate moiety either contains fluorine substituents or is replaced by certain heterocyclic rings. Indeed the best compounds 7a-c, 15 8a-c, 16 and 9a-c 16 showed enhancements of 50-500-fold in potency over 1 as inhibitors of L1210 cell growth. Of particular interest from a structure-activity point of view is the observation that in these benzene ring variants the N10-propargyl group no longer gives significantly better inhibitory activity than N10-methyl or N10-ethyl against isolated L1210 TS or against L1210 cell growth. Indeed in the thiophene (8) and thiazole (9) containing molecules the smaller N10 substituents confer enhanced potency over propargyl as inhibitors of L1210 cell growth in culture. 16 These observations suggested that it would be of interest to investigate alternative bridge

$$CO_{2}H$$

$$CH_{2}-N-Ar-CO\cdot NH\cdot \overset{C}{C}=H$$

$$CH_{2}CH_{2}CO_{2}H$$

$$CH_{2}CH_{2}CO_{2}H$$

$$CH_{2}CH_{2}CO_{2}H$$

$$R = CH_{3}$$

$$R = CH_{3}$$

$$R = CH_{2}C = CH$$

$$R = CH_{2}C = CH$$

units between the 2-methylquinazolinone and the benzoylglutamate moiety. A number of isosteric replacements

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of the CH2N bridge have been synthesized by Hynes and his colleagues in the C2-amino series 18-20 and more recently in the C2-desamino series.²¹ The prototype in this class IAHQ (13)^{18,22} has the reversed N9,C10 bridge between the two aromatic rings rather than the normal C9,N10 configuration. IAHQ is a potent cytotoxic agent in a number of cell lines^{23,24} despite having only 1% of the potency of 1 as an inhibitor of TS.²¹ As with 1 and its C2-methyl analogues, thymidine alone protects against this cytotoxicity and there is now considerable evidence^{23,24} that IAHQ is extensively metabolized intracellularly to poly- γ glutamate derivatives that are the potent TS inhibitors responsible for the cytotoxic activity. The isosteric 10-oxa (27) and 10-thia (28) analogues were also highly cytotoxic to L1210 cells and effective substrates for mammalian folylpolyglutamate synthetase (FPGS).21 In general the C2-desamino derivatives of these C9,N10 isosteres are 3-6-fold more cytotoxic than their C2-amino counterparts despite being less potent against TS itself.21 We were encouraged by these reports to incorporate isosteric replacements for the bridge region into some of our recent quinazoline antifolate structures where C2-methyl and benzoyl ring modifications have given extremely potent cytotoxic agents.

We have also studied the effect of incorporating the p-aminobenzoate moiety into bicyclic ring systems. This would have the effect of restricting the conformations available to whichever of the two substituents on this central benzene ring is incorporated into the bicycle. It may even have the effect of forcing a substituent into a conformation which would normally be unfavorable but which may be advantageous for interaction with the TS enzyme. For instance the incorporation of a chlorine substituent into the 3'-position (i.e. ortho to the propargylamino substituent) reduces the affinity for TS by approximately 150-fold.²⁵ This bulky 3'-Cl atom would

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strongly disfavor the ability of the tertiary amine to adopt a conformation in which it eclipses the benzene ring. Such an eclipsed conformation may be sterically preferred for interaction with the enzyme, but it also has the subsidiary effect of allowing the lone pair of electrons on N10 to delocalize into the ring. A similarly favorable effect could apply if the glutamate nitrogen atom were locked into an eclipsed conformation. In the 2'-F series 14,15 there is NMR evidence that such an eclipsed conformation is favored and these molecules show enhanced inhibition of TS.

Chemistry

The overall strategy for the synthesis of the reversed bridge compounds 14-26 was the sequential alkylation of 6-amino-2-methylquinazolinone (33)²⁶ with the appropriate alkyl halides in N,N-dimethylformamide (DMF) using CaCO₃ to scavenge HBr (Scheme I). The reduction of the nitro compound 32 by hydrogen over 10% Pd-C gave 33

in high yield and was more convenient than the literature procedure.26 The second component required for the synthesis of 14 was the [(chloromethyl)benzoyl]glutamate diester 35, which was isolated when 4-(bromomethyl)-

Table I. Preparation of the Quinazoline Glutamate Esters

compde	bridge unit	aromatic ring	method	temp, °C	% yield
36	-NHCH ₂ -	1,4-benzene	A	86	48
37	-N(CH ₃)CH ₂ -	1,4-benzene	C	65	11
	$-N(CH_2C=CH)CH_2-$	1,4-benzene	Α	100	28
42	-NHCH ₂ -	2,5-thiophene	G	0→20	ь
45	-N(CH ₃)CH ₂ -	2,5-thiophene	G	0→20	55
	-N(CH ₂ CH ₃)CH ₂ -	2,5-thiophene	G	0→20	78
	-N(CH ₂ CH ₂ F)CH ₂ -	2,5-thiophene	G	0→20	95
	-N(CH2CH2OH)CH2-	2.5-thiophene	G	0→20	60
48	$-N(CH_2CH=CH_2)CH_2-$	2,5-thiophene	G	0→20	51
	-NHCH-	2,5-pyridine	G	0→20	90
	-NHCH-	2-F-1.4-benzene	G	0→20	ь
	-NHCH(CH ₃)-	1.4-benzene	G	0→20	48
	-N(CH ₃)CH(CH ₃)-	1,4-benzene	G	0→20	72
	-CH ₂ O-	1.4-benzene	G	0→20	72
67	-CH ₂ S-	1,4-benzene	I	20	46
	-S-	1,4-benzene	G	0→20	31

Compounds not numbered were prepared by the same methods as those shown in the appropriate schemes. All the antifolate diesters had NMR spectra consistent with the assigned structures. bThe pure diesters were not isolated.

Scheme I^a

(a) H₂, 10% Pd-C, MeOH; (b) (COCl)₂, DMF, CH₂Cl₂; (c) diethyl glutamate-HCl, 2,6-lutidine, CH₂Cl₂; (d) CaCO₃, DMF (method A); (e) 1 N aqueous NaOH, EtOH (method B); (f) MeI, CaC-O₃, DMF (method C).

benzoyl chloride was condensed with diethyl glutamate. Condensation of 33 and 35 (method A; Table I) afforded the diethyl ester 36, which on saponification with 1 N aqueous NaOH in EtOH (method B) yielded the target 2-methyl-5,8-dideazaisofolate 14. Direct methylation of 36 to the precursor 37 of the N9-methyl analogue 15 could be achieved with MeI-CaCO₃ (method C) but only in 11% yield. For the N9-propargyl compound 16 the preferred method was to make the monopropargylated derivative 38 (method D, 84%) and to react this with 35 according to method A. This approach failed for 15 as the direct methylation of 33 with MeI gave only the N,N-dimethyl derivative. The thiophene analogues 17-22 were all prepared with use of the (bromomethyl)thiophene ester 3927 as the alkylating agent (Scheme II). Condensation of 39 and 33 (method E) and saponification (method F) of the resulting ester 40 gave the thiophenecarboxylic acid derivative 41 in high yield. This was coupled via the in situ generated

a(a) CaCO₃, DMF (method E); (b) 1 N aqueous NaOH, EtOH (method F); (c) diethyl glutamate-HCl, diphenyl phosphorazidate Et₈N, DMF (method G); (d) 1 N aqueous NaOH, EtOH (method B); (e) CH₈I (method C); (f) allyl bromide (method C).

azide (method G) with diethyl glutamate to yield the diethyl ester (42) of 17. All of the N9-alkyl analogues 18-22 were made with the glutamate incorporation as the penultimate step but the precursor monomethyl esters were assembled by two basic sequences: either direct alkylation of 40 (N9-methyl, N9-allyl; method C) or alkylation of 33 to 49-51 (method D) followed by condensation with 39 (N9-ethyl, N9-fluoroethyl, N9-acetoxyethyl; method A).

⁽²⁷⁾ Fujirebio Kabushiki Kaisha, Eur. Patent Appl. 214 823 A2, 1987.

Scheme IIIa

^a (a) Methyl 4-(1-bromoethyl)benzoate, CaCO₃, DMF; (b) HCH-O, NaCNBH₃, HOAc, MeCN, DMF; (c) 1 N aqueous NaOH, EtOH (method F).

The pyridine isostere 23 and the 2'-fluoro analogue 24 were synthesized exactly as for 17 starting from the bromomethyl compounds 58²⁸ and 59.²⁹ Two examples, 25 and 26, of C10-methyl analogues were prepared as 10(R,S) mixtures essentially by the standard route (Scheme III). However the N9-methyl group was incorporated via the reductive methylation (aqueous HCHO, NaCNBH₃; method H) of 60 to afford 62.

The 10-oxa (29) and 10-thia (30) isosteres of 2 were synthesized from the (bromomethyl)quinazolinone 64¹³ by approaches similar to those used by Hynes et al.²¹ for the C2-desamino analogues. Condensation of 64 with methyl 4-hydroxybenzoate using CaCO₃ as base yielded 65. For this reaction CaCO₃ is obviously inferior to the CsHCO₃ used by Hynes et al. as this latter reagent gives much higher yields of the ether derivative. Coupling of the derived carboxylic acid 66 to diethyl glutamate (method G) and saponification of the product yielded 29. The sodium salt of diethyl (4-mercaptobenzoyl)-L-glutamate was generated and reacted with 64 according to the literature procedure²¹ to give a modest (46%) yield of the diester 67

of the 2-methyl-10-thia analogue 30 (method I). A de novo synthesis of the 2-methylquinazolinone system was required in the route to the direct thia-linked analogue 31 (Scheme IV). The sodium salt 69 of methyl 4-

(29) Smith, D. G. Eur. Patent Appl. 61 907 A1, 1982.

Scheme IVa

MeO₂C
$$\longrightarrow$$
 SS \longrightarrow CO₂Me \longrightarrow 69

68

MeO₂C \longrightarrow CI \longrightarrow 70

XOC \longrightarrow S \longrightarrow COX \longrightarrow C \longrightarrow 71 \longrightarrow X \longrightarrow CMe, Y $=$ NO₂ \longrightarrow 72 \longrightarrow 2 \longrightarrow CMe, Y $=$ NH₂ \longrightarrow 73 \longrightarrow X $=$ OH, Y $=$ NH₂ \longrightarrow 14

 a (a) NaBH4, DMA; (b) DMA; (c) Fe, FeSO4*7H2O, MeOH; (d) 1 N aqueous NaOH, EtOH; (e) Ac2O, reflux; (f) aqueous NH3, 60 °C.

mercaptobenzoate was generated in situ in N_1N -dimethylacetamide (DMA) from the disulfide diester 68 (NaBH₄) and reacted with methyl 5-chloro-2-nitrobenzoate (70) to afford the thioether 71. Reduction of the nitro group of 71 (Fe, FeSO₄, MeOH) followed by saponification gave the amino diacid 73. The anthranilic acid moiety of 73 readily underwent ring closure to the quinazoline 74 via the corresponding 2-methylbenzoxazinone on refluxing with Ac_2O followed by treatment with aqueous NH_3 . Final elaboration of 74 to 31 was achieved by using methods G and B.

The antifolate diacid 75 in which the nitrogen atom in the 10-position is incorporated into an indole ring system was prepared by the standard procedures (methods G and B) from the indole 5-carboxylic acid derivative 81. The

synthesis of this key intermediate was achieved by N-alkylation of the sodium salt of methyl indole-5-carboxylate with the (bromomethyl)quinazolinone 79^{31} followed by saponification (Scheme V). The (pivaloyloxy)methyl group was used here to protect the quinazolinone N3-atom from alkylation under the anionic conditions of the coupling and was then conveniently removed during the hydrolysis of the methyl ester 80. The location of the quinazolinylmethyl moiety on N1 of the indole in 81 was confirmed by the presence of a pair of doublets at δ 6.67 and 7.65 (J = 3.4 Hz, indole 3-H and 2-H, respec-

R = CH₃

76b 76c

⁽²⁸⁾ Buyuk, G.; Hardegger, E. Helv. Chim. Acta 1975, 58, 682.

⁽³⁰⁾ Armarego, W. L. F. In Fused Pyrimidines: Part I, Quinazolines; Brown, D. J., Ed.; John Wiley & Sons: New York, 1967; p. 83

⁽³¹⁾ Hughes, L. R. Eur. Patent Appl. 239 362 A2, 1987.

Scheme Va

POM = pivaloyloxymethyl

$$H_3C$$
 H_3C
 H_3

^a(a) MeI, NaHCO₃, DMF; (b) NaH, DMF; (c) 1 N aqueous NaOH, EtOH; (d) diethyl glutamate·HCl, diphenyl phosphorazidate, Et₃N, DMF (method G).

tively) in the 400-MHz NMR spectrum.

Three antifolates analogues 76a-c were synthesized with the benzoate ring and the glutamic acid nitrogen atom incorporated into the phthalimidine system (Scheme VI). The required nucleus 85 was achieved in 50% overall yield when methyl 2-methyl-4-nitrobenzoate (83)32 was brominated (NBS, CCl₄) and the product 84 treated with diethyl glutamate hydrochloride in the presence of K₂CO₃. The reduction of 85 to the aniline 86 was effected in almost quantitative yield by catalytic hydrogenation over 10% Pd-C. The N-propargylation of 86 (propargyl bromide, 2,6-lutidine) actually gave a 3:1 mixture of the required amine 87 and its N,N-dipropargyl derivative, but this mixture could be reacted with the bromomethyl compound 64 (method E) to afford 88. Similarly, 86 was coupled with 64 to obtain 89. The N10-methyl analogue 76c in this series utilized the 3-(pivaloyloxy)methyl derivative 90, which was efficiently converted to 91 under reductive methylation conditions (method H).

POM N CH₂·N
$$=$$
 CH₂·CH₂CO₂Et $=$ 90 R = H 91 R = CH₃

Results and Discussion

The IC₅₀ values of compounds 14-26, 29-31, 75, and 76a-c for the inhibition of partially purified L1210 TS and for the growth inhibition of L1210 cells were obtained as described previously¹⁴ and are shown in Tables II and III. In the C2-methyl isofolate series the unsubstituted analogue 14 has comparable potencies to its folate isomer 10 as an inhibitor of the isolated TS enzyme and of L1210 cell growth. However in the pair of N-methyl compounds 15 and 11 reversal of the bridge causes a 10-fold reduction in inhibition of TS despite the same level of potency of both compounds against L1210 cells. Reversing the bridge of the highly potent N10-propargyl compound 2 to give 16 causes an even more dramatic (>200-fold) decrease in TS affinity, which is accompanied by a 26-fold drop in potency against L1210 cells. The effects of these bridge modifications in the C2-methyl series on TS inhibition are qualitatively similar to those resulting from the corre-

Scheme VI

^a(a) NBS, (PhCOO)₂, CCl₄; (b) diethyl glutamate-HCl, K₂CO₃, DMA; (c) H₂, 10% Pd-C, EtOAc; (d) propargyl bromide, 2,6-lutidine, DMF, 80 °C; (e) bromomethyl compound 64 (method E).

sponding modifications in the C2-amino series. 19,24 Also, as for IAHQ (13),23 TS alone is the cytotoxic locus of action of these three C2-methyl reversed bridge analogues (14-16) since thymidine (10 μ M) protects against L1210 growth inhibition at high concentrations (10 \times IC₅₀) of each antifolate. The derivatives of 17 and 18 where the central benzene ring is replaced by a thiophene nucleus show comparable activity to 14 and 15 against TS but are \sim 2.5-fold more potent inhibitors of L1210 cell growth. Four further examples (19-22) were synthesized in the N9-alkyl reversed bridge thiophene series. Here there appears to be a steady drop in the affinity for TS as the size of the substituent on N9 increases although only the hydrophilic N9-hydroxyethyl group in 21 markedly diminishes the potency against L1210 cells. Replacement of the benzene ring of 14 with either a pyridine (23) or a 2'-fluorobenzene (24) has no significant effect on either property. Because of the well-established 13,33 preference of TS for small alkyl groups at N10 of the quinazoline antifolate we prepared two examples, 25 and 26, of C10-methyl reversed bridge antifolates. Although this modification produces a slight (\sim 2-fold) enhancement of affinity for TS, there is no improvement against the L1210 cells, indeed the C10methylation (25) of the parent compound 24 decreases potency here by 10-fold.

The 10-oxa (29) and 10-thia (30) isosteres of 2 are also poor inhibitors of isolated TS but do show significant inhibition of cell growth. The high level of potency of the 10-oxa analogue 29 against L1210 cells (IC_{50} 0.04 μ M) appears to be mainly due to a TS locus since thymidine will protect the cells from this growth inhibition. In contrast the analogue 31 with the direct sulfur link between the two aromatic rings has very poor cytotoxicity.

The above observations suggest that the inhibition of TS by these bridge-modified analogues is not the only factor in the observed cytotoxicities. Efficient transport into cells by the reduced folate/methotrexate carrier mechanism (RFC) and conversion of folylpolyglutamate synthetase to highly cytotoxic polyglutamylated species are probably involved and, in this class of antifolates, are particularly important. These factors are known to markedly affect the cytotoxic potencies of similar com-

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Table II. Preparation and in Vitro Activities of Antifolate Diacids 14-26 and 29-31

compd	bridge unit	aromatic ring	% yield	mp, °C	formula ^b	mass spectra (FAB), m/z	inhibn of TS: IC ₅₀ , μM	inhibn of L1210 cell growth in culture: IC ₅₀ , µM	L1210 cell growth in the presence of dThd (% of control)
2 ^c	-CH ₂ N(CH ₂ C=CH)-	1,4-benzene		165 ^d	C ₂₅ H ₂₄ N ₄ O ₆ ·2H ₂ O		0.04	0.09	
10°	-CH ₂ NH-	1,4-benzene		197-201	C ₂₂ H ₂₂ N ₄ O ₆ -H ₂ O		4.5	0.07	
11°	-CH ₂ N(CH ₃)-	1,4-benzene		254-257	C ₂₃ H ₂₄ N ₄ O ₆ -0.75H ₂ O		0.25	0.11	
12*	-CH ₂ NH-	2,5-thiophene		183-189 ^d	C ₂₀ H ₂₀ N ₄ O ₆ S-3H ₂ O		24.8	3.00	
8a°	-CH ₂ N(CH ₃)-	2,5-thiophene		180-184	C ₂₁ H ₂₂ N ₄ O ₆ S·H ₂ O		0.67	0.007	
14	-NHCH ₂ -	1,4-benzene	70	193-196	C ₂₂ H ₂₂ N ₄ O ₆ ·H ₂ O	437 (8.28	0.07	93
15	-N(CH ₃)CH ₂ -	1,4-benzene	44	167-170	C ₂₃ H ₂₄ N ₄ O ₆ ·2H ₂ O	451 ^f	2.62	0.7	93
16	$-N(CH_2C=CH)CH_2-$	1,4-benzene	64	172-176	C ₂₅ H ₂₄ N ₄ O ₆ -2H ₂ O	475 f	9.52	2.4	89
17	-NHCH ₂ -	2,5-thiophene	$\sim 20^h$	168-172	C ₂₀ H ₂₄ N ₄ O ₆ S-1.5H ₂ O	443 ^f	6.98	0.026	88
18	-N(CH ₃)CH ₂ -	2,5-thiophene	81	158-161	C ₂₁ H ₂₂ N ₄ O ₆ S-1.8H ₂ O	457 ^f	3.82	0.3	-
19	-N(CH ₂ CH ₃)CH ₂ -	2,5-thiophene	57	140-150 ^d	C ₂₂ H ₂₄ N ₄ O ₆ S-0.75H ₂ O	473	8.42	0.66	94
20	-N(CH ₂ CH ₂ F)CH ₂ -	2,5-thiophene	75	147-150 ^{d,i}	C ₂₂ H ₂₃ FN ₄ O ₆ S-2H ₂ O	491	9.90	0.38	95
21	-N(CH ₂ CH ₂ OH)CH ₂ -	2,5-thiophene	66	224-227	C ₂₂ H ₂₄ N ₄ O ₇ S·H ₂ O ⁷	489*	13.28	6.20	91
22	-N(CH ₂ CH=CH ₂)CH ₂ -	2,5-thiophene	$\sim 55^h$	145-148	C ₂₃ H ₂₄ N ₄ O ₆ S-0.8NH ₄ HCO ₃	485*	14.12	0.54	95
23	-NHCH ₂ -	2,5-pyridine	14	182-185*	$C_{21}H_{21}N_5O_6\cdot 2H_2O$	438 f	16.66	0.06	-
24	-NHCH ₂ -	2-F-1,4-benzene	~30h	213-216	C ₂₂ H ₂₁ FN ₄ O ₆ ·1.3H ₂ O	455 ^f	6.73	0.053	94
25	-NHCH(CH ₃)-	1,4-benzene	82	$227 - 229^{d}$	C ₂₃ H ₂₄ N ₄ O ₆ ·1.3H ₂ O	451 /	4.30	0.80	93
26	-N(CH ₃)CH(CH ₃)-	1,4-benzene	59	165–175 ^t	$C_{24}H_{26}N_4O_6 \cdot H_2O$	465 /	1.07	0.35	-
29	-CH ₂ O-	1,4-benzene	82	$247 - 250^d$	$C_{22}H_{21}N_3O_7O.25H_2O$	438 f	21.48	0.04	75
30	-CH ₂ S-	1,4-benzene	65	160-162	$C_{22}H_{21}N_3O_6S-0.75H_2O$	454 /	4.66	0.42	99
31	-S-	1,4-benzene	83	247-248	$C_{21}H_{19}N_3O_6S-1.5H_2O$	440 ^f	10.3	>20.	_

[&]quot;All compounds were prepared by method B. bAnal. C, H, N except where stated otherwise. See ref 13. Decomposes at this temperature. See ref 16. [M - H]. [MH]+. Prepared from the impure diethyl ester and purified by chromatography on DE52 DEAE-cellulose. Softens > 130 °C. N: calcd, 11.0; found, 10.4. Softens > 158 °C. Softens > 160 °C.

Table III. Preparation^a and in Vitro Activities of Antifolate Diacids 75 and 76a-c

compd	% yield	mp, °C	formula ^b	mass spectra (FAB), m/z [M - H] ⁻	inhibn of TS: IC ₅₀ , μM	inhibn of L1210 cell growth in culture: IC ₅₀ , μM	L1210 cell growth in the presence of dThd (% of control)
75	92	176-180	C24H22N4O6-1.67H2O	461	3.27	0.036	90
76a	92	201-205	C ₂₆ H ₂₄ N ₄ O ₆ ·2.25H ₂ O	487	0.15	0.17	96
76b	62	211-214	C ₂₃ H ₂₂ N ₄ O ₆ ·1.5H ₂ O	449	8.27	3.00	-
76c	80°	186-189	$C_{24}H_{24}N_4O_6\cdot 1.25H_2O$	463	0.72	1.30	90

^a All compounds were prepared by method B. ^b Anal. C, H, N. ^c Prepared from the 3-pivaloyloxy-protected diethyl ester 91.

Table IV. Comparison of Representative Antifolates in the L1210 and L1210:1565 Cell Lines

	bridge unit		inhibn of TS: IC ₅₀ , µM	inhibn of cell growth in culture: IC_{50} , μM		L1210:1565 ICm/
compd		aromatic ring		L1210	L1210:1565	L1210 IC ₅₀
15	-N(CH ₈)CH ₂ -	1,4-benzene	2.62	0.7	7.7	11
18	$-N(CH_3)CH_2-$	2,5-thiophene	3.82	0.3	2.1	7
11	$-CH_2N(CH_3)-$	1,4-benzene	0.25	0.11	4.2	38
8a	$-CH_2N(CH_3)-$	2,5-thiophene	0.67	0.007	0.96	137

pounds as illustrated by a number of 10-alkyl-2-methyl-5,8-dideazafolic acid analogues where the benzene ring has been replaced by heterocyclic isosteres (thiophene, thiazole, and pyridine). Although compound availability has limited such a comprehensive study of the compounds described here, experiments performed with the L1210:1565 cell line (impaired uptake of compounds that require the RFC) have demonstrated that N9,C10 compounds such as 15 and 18 use the RFC, but less efficiently than their C9,N10 isosteres 11 and 8a (Table IV).

The incorporation of the nitrogen atom at N10 into an indole ring to give the analogue 75 causes an 80-fold drop in potency against TS compared to the N10-propargyl compound 2. On the other hand 75 is 2.5-fold more potent against L1210 cell growth. Since thymidine effectively prevents this growth inhibition in the presence of 0.36 μ M 75, it can be concluded that the locus of action is predominantly against TS and that the compound is transported and/or polyglutamylated very efficiently by the cells. The poor potency of 75 against TS was a disappointment since the C=C substituent on N10 is sterically less bulky than propargyl. Presumably the fusion of this substituent onto the benzene ring forces it into a conformation which is less favorable for interaction with TS but which may be highly favored for substrate activity for FPGS. The glutamate nitrogen atom has been incorporated into a phthalimidine ring, thereby locking it into a conformation where it eclipses the aminobenzoate ring. The resulting N10-propargyl (76a) and N10-methyl (76c) analogues are only slightly (2-4-fold) less active against TS, supporting our earlier view¹⁵ that such an eclipsed conformation is highly favored for enzyme binding. The poor inhibition of cell growth by 76c was surprising in this light but underlines the interplay of other factors in the observed cytotoxicity of these antifolates. In parallel with our earlier observations in related series^{13,15,16} a hydrogen substituent on N10, i.e. 76b, gives very poor inhibition of

In conclusion we have shown that in the series of 2-methylquinazolinone TS inhibitors isosteric modifications of the C9,N10 bridge and restriction of conformations around the p-aminobenzoate moiety in general give analogues with decreased affinity for the TS enzyme. However a number of these analogues are highly potent cytotoxic agents, and moreover this cytotoxicity has TS as its major locus.

Experimental Section

The general procedures used were described in the earlier paper 12 in this series. All evaporations of solutions were carried out in vacuo with a Büchi Rotavapor. The 400-MHz NMR spectrum was obtained on a Bruker AM400. All NMR spectra were run in Me₂SO- d_6 .

6-Amino-3,4-dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxoquinazoline (33). A

solution of 32^{26} (19.67 g, 0.096 mol) in MeOH (350 mL) was stirred for 6.5 h with 10% Pd-C (2.0 g) in an atmosphere of H₂. The reaction mixture was filtered through Celite and the filter cake was washed sequentially with MeOH and DMF. The combined filtrates were evaporated to dryness: 16.0 g (95%); MS (EI) m/z 175 [M]⁺.

Diethyl N-[4-(Chloromethyl)benzoyl]-L-glutamate (35). Oxalyl chloride (6.07 mL, 0.07 mol) was added over 20 min to a stirred mixture of 4-(bromomethyl)benzoic acid (34) (10.0 g, 0.047 mol) and DMF (4 mL) in CH_2Cl_2 (70 mL). After stirring for a further 30 min the solution was evaporated to dryness below 30 °C and the crude acid chloride, a sticky solid, was dried over 20 min under vacuum (0.1 mmHg).

This acid chloride was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (70 mL) and the solution was added over 30 min to a stirred solution of diethyl glutamate hydrochloride (11.13 g, 0.046 mol) and 2,6-lutidine (14.6 mL, 0.125 mol) in CH₂Cl₂ (90 mL) at 0–5 °C. Stirring was continued for 2 h below 5 °C and at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture was washed with 0.5 M aqueous H₂SO₄ and brine (50 mL of each), dried, and evaporated. The product was recrystallized from EtOAc-hexane: 12.70 g (78%); mp 109–110 °C; NMR δ 1.15, 1.2 (2 t, 6 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 2.05 (m, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 2.45 (t, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 4.05, 4.1 (2 q, 4 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 4.45 (m, 1 H, CH), 4.8 (s, 2 H, CH₂Cl), 7.55 (d, 2 H, Ar 3-H and 5-H), 7.9 (d, 2 H, Ar 2-H and 6-H), 8.7 (d, 1 H, CONH). Anal. (C₁₇H₂₂ClNO₅) C, H, N; Cl: calcd, 10.0; found, 9.5.

Diethyl N-[4-[[N-(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)amino]methyl]benzoyl]-L-glutamate (36). Method A. A mixture of the amine 33 (2.36 g, 13.5 mmol), the chloromethyl compound 35 (4.77 g, 13.41 mmol) and powdered CaCO₃ (2.01 g, 20.1 mmol) in DMF (16 mL) was stirred for 4.5 h at 86 °C under argon. The cooled reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness below 40 °C. The residue was purified by chromatography using a gradient of 0-5% v/v CH₂Cl₂ as eluent to give a gum: 3.18 g (48%); NMR δ 1.15, 1.2 (2 t, 6 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 2.0 (m, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 2.25 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.4 (t, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 4.05, 4.1 (2 q, 4 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 4.4 (d and m, 3 H, NCH₂ and CH), 6.75 (t, 1 H, NH), 7.0 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H), 7.15 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.3 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.45 (d, 2 H, 3'-H and 5'-H), 7.8 (d, 2 H, 2'-H and 6'-H), 8.6 (d, 1 H, CONH), 11.8 (s, 1 H, quinazoline 3-H)

N-[4-[[N-(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)amino]methyl]benzoyl]-L-glutamic Acid (14). Method B. The diester 36 (372 mg, 0.75 mmol) was stirred for 2 h under argon in a mixture of 1 N aqueous NaOH (4.5 mL, 4.5 mmol), EtOH (8 mL), and H₂O (8 mL). The resulting solution was evaporated below 30 °C to ca. 8 mL, filtered into a centrifuge tube, and brought to pH 3.0 with 2 N aqueous HCl. The precipitate was isolated by centrifugation and freed from inorganic ions by repeated cycles of aqueous suspension-centrifugation-decantation until the supernatant was free of chloride ions (AgNO₃ test). The damp product was freeze-dried to give a pale yellow amorphous solid: 239 mg (70%); mp 193-196 °C; NMR δ 2.05 (m, 2 H, $CHCH_2CH_2CO_2H)$, 2.3 (s, 3 H, CH_3), 2.35 (t, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂H), 4.4 (m, 1 H, CH), 4.4 (br s, 2 H, NCH₂), 6.85 (t, 1 H, NH), 7.0 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H), 7.15 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.35 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.45 (d, 2 H, 3'-H and 5'-H), 7.85 (d, 2 H, 2'-H and 6'-H), 8.5 (d, 1 H, CONH); MS

(FAB) m/z 437 [M - H]⁻. Anal. ($C_{22}H_{22}N_4O_6\cdot H_2O$) C, H, N. Diethyl N-[4-[[N-(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)-N-methylamino]methyl]benzoyl]-L-glutamate (37). Method C. A mixture of 36 (2.52 g, 5.1 mmol), MeI (0.64 mL, 10.2 mmol), and powdered CaCO₃ (1.02 g, 10.2 mmol) in DMF (8 mL) in a stoppered flask was stirred for 2 h at 65 °C. The cooled

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⁽³⁵⁾ Fry, D. W.; Besserer, J. A.; Borizki, T. J. Cancer Res. 1984, 44, 3366. The L1212:1565 cell line was the generous gift of Dr. D. W. Fry, Warner-Lambert, Ann Arbor, MI.

mixture was filtered and the filter cake was washed with DMF (4 mL). The filtrate was evaporated to dryness and the residue was chromatographed with a gradient of 0–8% v/v EtOH in CH₂Cl₂ as eluent to give 37 as a gum: 275 mg (11%); NMR δ 1.15, 1.2 (2 t, 6 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 2.05 (m, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 2.3 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.4 (t, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 3.15 (s, 3 H, NCH₃), 4.05, 4.1 (2 q, 4 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 4.4 (m, 1 H, CH), 4.7 (br s, 2 H, NCH₂), 7.15 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H), 7.25 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.3 (d, 2 H, 3'-H and 5'-H), 7.4 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.8 (d, 2 H, 2'-H and 6'-H), 8.6 (d, 1 H, CONH), 11.9 (s, 1 H, quinazoline 3-H).

3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-(N-prop-2-ynylamino)-quinazoline (38). Method D. A mixture of the amine 33 (500 mg, 2.86 mmol), propargyl bromide (0.64 mL of an 80% w/w solution in toluene, 5.75 mmol), and powdered $CaCO_3$ (580 mg, 5.8 mmol) in DMF (4 mL) was stirred for 3 h at 70 °C under argon. The cooled reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness. Chromatography of the crude product using a gradient of 0-10% v/v EtOH in CH_2Cl_2 as eluent afforded a gum: 513 mg (84%); NMR δ 2.3 (s, 3 H, CH_3), 3.05 (t, 1 H, C=CH), 4.25 (d, 2 H, CH_2C =C), 6.45 (br, 1 H, C NH), 7.15 (d and dd, 2 H, quinazoline 5-H and 7-H), 7.45 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H).

The procedure was repeated using EtI, BrCH₂CH₂F, and BrCH₂CH₂OAc as the alkylating agents to yield 49-51.

Methyl 5-[[N-(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)amino]methyl]thiophene-2-carboxylate (40). Method E. A mixture of the amine 33 (1.18 g, 6.74 mmol), methyl 5-bromomethylthiophene-2-carboxylate (39)²⁷ (1.59 g, 6.76 mmol), and powdered CaCO₃ (1.02 g, 10.2 mmol) in DMF (6 mL) was stirred for 1 h at 80 °C under argon. The cooled reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness below 40 °C. The crude product was purified by chromatography using a gradient of 0-8% v/v EtOH in CH₂Cl₂ as eluent: 1.31 g (59%); NMR δ 2.3 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 3.8 (s, 3 H, CO₂CH₃), 4.6 (d, 2 H, NCH₂), 6.85 (t, 1 H, NH), 7.1 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H), 7.15 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.15 (d, 1 H, thiophene 4-H), 7.35 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.7 (d, 1 H, thiophene 3-H).

The procedure was repeated using the amines 49-51 in the reaction with 39 to give 52, 54, and 56 and using the bromomethyl compounds 58²⁸ and 59²⁹ in the reaction with 33.

5-[[N-(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)-amino]methyl]thiophene-2-carboxylic Acid (41). Method F. The methyl ester 40 (1.24 g, 3.78 mmol) was stirred in a mixture of 1 N aqueous NaOH (11.3 mL, 11.3 mmol) and EtOH (15 mL) for 30 min at 52 °C under argon. The resulting solution was cooled, evaporated to ca. 10 mL, and brought to pH 3.0 with 2 N aqueous HCl. The precipitate was isolated by centrifugation, washed with H_2O , and vacuum dried: 951 mg (78%); 285–287 °C dec. Anal. ($C_{16}H_{13}N_3O_3S$ -0.5 H_2O) C, H, N.

N-[5-[[N-(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)-amino]methyl]-2-thenoyl]-L-glutamic Acid (17). Method G. A solution of the acid 41 hemihydrate (945 mg, 2.92 mmol) and diethyl glutamate hydrochloride (2.27 g, 9.46 mmol) in DMF (14 mL) was stirred at 0 °C during the dropwise addition over 15 min of diphenyl phosphorazidate (DPPA) (2.04 mL, 9.46 mmol) followed by $\rm Et_3N$ (3.30 mL, 24 mmol) again over 15 min. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h, poured into ice- $\rm H_2O$ (100 mL), and extracted with $\rm CH_2Cl_2$ (2 × 100 mL). The combined $\rm CH_2Cl_2$ solutions were washed with $\rm H_2O$, dried, and evaporated to dryness. The crude product was chromatographed with a gradient of 0-8% v/v $\rm EtOH$ in $\rm CH_2Cl_2$ as eluent to give a gum (1.52 g) which by NMR was the required product 42 contaminated with diphenyl phosphate impurities.

A portion (727 mg) of this impure 42 was hydrolyzed according to method B. The crude diacid (318 mg) was dissolved in 0.1 M aqueous NH_4HCO_3 (5 mL) and applied to a column of DE 52 DEAE-cellulose (30 mL) which had been preequilibrated with the same solvent. The column was eluted with a gradient of 0.1–0.4 M aqueous NH_4HCO_3 . Fractions containing pure product by HPLC were pooled and lyophilized to a white solid (199 mg). A portion (147 mg) of this solid was redissolved in the minimum volume of H_2O . The solution was brought to pH 3.0 with 2 N aqueous HCl. The precipitated solid was isolated by centrifugation, washed (4×) with H_2O , and vacuum dried: 103 mg (~20%); mp 168–172 °C; NMR δ 1.9 (m, 2 H, CHC $H_2CH_2CO_2H$), 2.2 (t, 2 H, CHC $H_2CH_2CO_2H$), 2.25 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 4.2 (m, 1 H,

CH), 4.5 (d, 2 H, NCH₂), 6.8 (t, 1 H, NH), 7.05 (d, 1 H, thiophene 4-H), 7.1 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H), 7.15 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.35 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.6 (d, 1 H, thiophene 3-H), 8.05 (br s, 1 H, CONH); MS (FAB) m/z 443 [M - H]⁻. Anal. (C₂₀-H₂₀N₄O₆S·1.5H₂O) C, H, N.

Methyl 5-[[N-(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)-N-methylamino]methyl]thiophene-2-carboxylate (43). The secondary amine 40 (11.0 g, 33.4 mmol) was treated with MeI (12.5 mL, 0.20 mol) at 50 °C according to method C to yield 43 as a gum: 9.67 g (84%); NMR δ 2.3 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 3.05 (s, 3 H, NCH₃), 3.75 (s, 3 H, CO₂CH₃), 4.9 (br s, 2 H, NCH₂), 7.1 (d, 1 H, thiophene 4-H), 7.2 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H), 7.4 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.4 (d, 1 H, thiophene 3-H).

Methyl 5-[[N-(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)-N-allylamino]methyl]thiophene-2-carboxylate (46). 40 (1.00 g, 3.04 mmol) was treated with allyl bromide (1.32 mL, 15.2 mmol) at 70 °C according to method C to yield 46 as a gum: 473 mg (42%); NMR δ 2.3 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 3.75 (s, 3 H, CO₂CH₃), 4.1 (d, 2 H, NCH₂CH=CH₂), 4.85 (br s, 2 H, NCH₂), 5.2 (m, 2 H, CH=CH₂), 5.9 (m, 1 H, CH=CH₂), 7.1 (d, 1 H, thiophene 4-H), 7.15 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H), 7.4 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.4 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.65 (d, 1 H, thiophene 3-H).

(RS)-4-[1-[N-(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)amino]ethyl]benzoic Acid (61). A solution of methyl 4-ethylbenzoate (3.00 g, 18.3 mmol) in CCl₄ (30 mL) was stirred under reflux for 3.5 h with NBS (3.59 g, 20.2 mmol) and benzoyl peroxide (480 mg, 2.0 mmol). The warm reaction mixture was filtered and the precipitate was washed with CCl₄. The combined filtrates were evaporated to afford crude methyl 4-(1-bromoethyl)benzoate (4.83 g) as a pale yellow oil: NMR δ 2.0 (d, 3 H, CH₃CBr<), 3.85 (s, 3 H, CO₂CH₃), 5.55 (q, 1 H, CHBr), 7.65 (d, 2 H, 3'-H and 5'-H), 7.95 (d, 2 H, 2'-H and 6'-H).

This crude bromoethyl compound was reacted with amine 33 (3.85 g, 22.0 mmol) at 95 °C according to method E to give 11.8 g of 60 as a brown gum which was used without purification.

A portion (9.14 g) of this sample of **60** was hydrolyzed according to method F to afford **61** (3.83 g); NMR δ 1.45 (d, 3 H, CHC H_3), 2.3 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 4.65 (m, 1 H, CH), 6.8 (br d, 1 H, NH), 6.9 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H), 7.15 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.35 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.5 (d, 2 H, 3'-H and 5'-H), 7.9 (d, 2 H, 2'-H and 6'-H). Anal. (C₁₈H₁₇N₃O₃·NaCl) C, H; N: calcd, 11.0; found, 10.5; Na: calcd, 6.0, found, 6.5.

(RS)-4-[1-[N-(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6quinazolinyl)-N-methylamino]ethyl]benzoic Acid (63). Method H. NaCNBH₃ (900 mg, 14.3 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of 60 (2.17 g of the above material) in a mixture of MeCN (90 mL), DMF (3.6 mL), and 37% aqueous HCHO (3.6 mL). Glacial HOAc (3.6 mL) was then added dropwise over 15 min while the temperature was kept below 20 °C (ice bath). The reaction mixture was stirred for a further 40 h at room temperature with additional portions of aqueous HCHO (3.6 mL), NaCNBH₃ (900 mg), and HOAc (3.6 mL) being added at 16 h. The reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness. The residue was partitioned between EtOAc and H₂O. The EtOAc solution was dried and evaporated. Purification of the crude product by chromatography using a gradient of 0-100% v/v EtOAc in CH₂Cl₂ afforded 62 as a golden gum: 550 mg. This was hydrolyzed to 63 by using method F: 447 mg (70%); mp 190-194 °C; NMR δ 1.55 (d, 3 H, CHCH₃), 2.3 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.75 (s, 3 H, >NCH₃), 5.3 (br q, 1 H, CH), 7.25 (2 d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H), 7.4 (m, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H and 8-H), 7.4 (d, 2 H, 3'-H and 5'-H), 7.9 (d, 2 H, 2'-H and 6'-H). Anal. (C₁₉H₁₉N₃O₃·NaCl·H₂O) C, H, N.

4-[(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)methoxy]benzoic Acid (66). A mixture of 64^{31} (8.31 g, 32.85 mmol), methyl 4-hydroxybenzoate (5.00 g, 32.85 mmol), and powdered CaCO₃ (4.93 g, 49.3 mmol) in DMA (30 mL) was stirred for 2 h at 60 °C and 1 h at 100 °C under argon. HPLC indicated only 13% conversion of 64 to 65. Powdered K_2CO_3 (6.81 g, 49.3 mmol) was therefore added. After a further 4 h at 100 °C, HPLC indicated that all of 64 had been consumed. The cooled reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness. The residue was triturated with EtOAc to a buff solid. Purification by chromatography using a gradient of 0-8% v/v EtOH in CH₂Cl₂

as eluent yielded 65: 524 mg (5%); mp 281-284 °C.

Hydrolysis of 65 (506 mg, 1.56 mmol) according to method F afforded the acid 66: 426 mg (81%); mp >300 °C; NMR δ 2.45 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 5.35 (s, 2 H, ArCH₂O), 7.1 (d, 2 H, 3'-H and 5'-H), 7.7 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.9 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.9 (d, 2 H, 2'-H and 6'-H), 8.2 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H). Anal.

 $(C_{17}H_{14}N_2O_4\cdot 1.5H_2O)$ C, H, N.

N-[4-[[(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-Diethyl quinazolinyl)methyl]thio]benzoyl]-L-glutamate (67). Method I. NaBH₄ (380 mg, 10 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of tetraethyl 4,4'-dithiobis(N-benzoyl-L-glutamate)36 (2.27 g, 3.36 mmol) in EtOH (30 mL). After 10 min the EtOH was evaporated below 40 °C and the residue was suspended in DMF (10 mL). The (bromomethyl)quinazolinone 64 was added, and the mixture was stirred 16 h and partitioned between H₂O and EtOAc. A solid which remained in suspension between the two layers was filtered off and combined with the residue from evaporation of the dried EtOAc solution. Purification of this crude product by chromatography was achieved with use of a gradient of 0-8% EtOH in CH_2Cl_2 : 1.58 g (46%); mp 179.5–185 °C; NMR δ 1.2, 1.3 (2 t, 6 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 2.05 (m, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 2.35 (s, 3 H, CH_3), 2.4 (t, 2 H, $CHCH_2CH_2CO_2Et$), 4.1, 4.2 (2 q, 4 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 4.4 (m, 1 H, CH), 4.5 (s, 2 H, CH₂SAr), 7.4 (d, 2 H, 3'-H and 5'-H), 7.5 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.7 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.7 (d, 2 H, 2'-H and 6'-H), 8.1 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 8.65 (d, 1 H, CONH). Anal. (C₂₆H₂₉N₃O₆S) C, H,

Dimethyl 4,4'-Dithiobis(benzoate) (68). A mixture of 4,4'-dithiobis(benzoic acid)⁸⁷ (4.94 g, 16.1 mmol), MeI (8.7 mL, 0.14 mol), and powdered NaHCO₃ (8.7 g, 0.13 mol) in DMA (25 mL) was stirred for 5 days under argon. The reaction mixture was diluted with H₂O (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 × 50 mL). The combined EtOAc extracts were washed with H₂O, dried, and evaporated. Chromatography of the resulting dark brown oil using CH₂Cl₂ as eluent gave a tan solid: 4.77 g (89%); mp 105–107 °C. Anal. (C₁₆H₁₄O₄S₂) C, H.

Methyl 4-[[3-(Methoxycarbonyl)-4-nitrophenyl]thio]benzoate (71). NaBH₄ (960 mg, 25.3 mmol) was added to a stirred suspension of 68 (4.26 g, 12.75 mmol) in DMA (50 mL) at 0 °C under argon. A brief vigorous effervescence was observed. After 25 min at 0 °C powdered methyl 5-chloro-2-nitrobenzoate (70) (5.51 g, 25.5 mmol) was added. The ice bath was removed and the reaction mixture was stirred for 40 h at room temperature. The DMA was removed by rotary evaporation below 40 °C, the residue was dissolved in EtOAc (100 mL), and this solution was washed with H₂O, brine, dried, and evaporated to dryness. Chromatography of the crude product using 25% v/v CH₂Cl₂ in toluene as eluent afforded an oil: 3.82 g (43%); NMR δ 3.85, 3.9 (2 s, 6 H, OCH₃), 7.6 (dd, 1 H, Ar 6-H), 7.65 (d, 2 H, Ar 3'-H and 5'-H), 7.68 (d, 1 H, Ar 2-H), 8.02 (d, 2 H, Ar 2'-H and 6'-H), 8.07 (d, 1 H, Ar 5-H).

Methyl 4-[[4-Amino-3-(methoxycarbonyl)phenyl]thio]benzoate (72). A mixture of 71 (3.82 g, 11.0 mmol), Fe powder (activated by sequential washing with 2 N aqueous HCl, $\rm H_2O$, and acetone; 6.15 g, 0.22 g-atom), FeSO₄·7H₂O (3.06 g, 11.0 mmol), and H₂O (5 mL) in MeOH (300 mL) was stirred for 4 h under reflux with the addition of a second portion of Fe powder (6.15 g) at 2.5 h. The reaction mixture was filtered through Celite and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness to give a brown oil. Traces of MeOH and H₂O were removed by azeotropic rotary evaporation in the presence of added toluene and the resulting product was purified by chromatography (0–2% v/v EtOAc in CH₂Cl₂): 2.42 g (69%); mp 97–100 °C. Anal. (C₁₆H₁₅NO₄S) C, H, N.

4-[(4-Amino-3-carboxyphenyl)thio]benzoic Acid (73). The diester 72 (1.76 g, 5.54 mmol) was stirred in a mixture of 1 N aqueous NaOH (28 mL, 28 mmol) and EtOH (50 mL) for 40 h under argon. The resulting solution was evaporated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in H_2O (10 mL), and the solution was filtered into a centrifuge tube and brought to pH 3.0 with 2 N aqueous HCl. The precipitated solid was isolated by centrifugation, washed with H_2O , and vacuum dried: 1.48 g (93%);

4-[(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)thio]-benzoic Acid (74). A suspension of 73 (1.46 g, 5.0 mmol) in Ac₂O (25 mL) was stirred under reflux for 40 min to give a clear solution. The Ac₂O was removed by distillation at atmospheric pressure followed by the distillation of added xylene (2 × 25 mL). The resulting solid was vacuum dried and stirred for 1 h in aqueous NH₃ (sp gr 0.9; 50 mL) at 60 °C (bath temperature). The solution was cooled, filtered to remove a small amount of insoluble solid, and brought to pH 2.0 with 2 N aqueous HCl. The precipitate was filtered off, washed with H₂O, and vacuum dried: 1.04 g (67%); mp >300 °C; NMR δ 2.6 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 7.4 (d, 4 H, Ar 3,5-H₂ and quinazoline 8-H), 7.9 (d, 2 H, Ar 2,6-H₂), 7.9 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H).

Methyl 1-[[3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-3-[(pivaloyloxy)-methyl]-6-quinazolinyl]methyl]indole-5-carboxylate (80). A mixture of indole-5-carboxylic acid (3.57 g, 22.17 mmol), powdered NaHCO₃ (5.95 g, 87 mmol), and MeI (5.95 mL, 96 mmol) in DMF (25 mL) was stirred for 72 h under argon. The reaction mixture was diluted with H₂O (200 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 200 mL). The combined EtOAc solutions were washed with aqueous NaHCO₃, dried, and evaporated to give methyl indole-5-carboxylate (78): 3.67 g (94%); mp 127-128 °C (lit.³⁸ mp 127-128

NaH (51 mg of a 55% dispersion in oil, 1.17 mmol) was added to a stirred cooled (ice bath) solution of 78 (178 mg, 1.02 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) under argon. After 1 h the bromomethyl compound 79 (424 mg, 1.15 mmol) was added in one portion and the ice bath was removed. The reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h, diluted with H_2O , and extracted with EtOAc. The EtOAc solution was washed with H2O, dried, and evaporated to an oil which was purified by chromatography using a gradient of 0-5% v/v EtOAc in CH₂Cl₂ as eluent: 131 mg (28%); mp 137-140 °C; NMR δ 1.1 (s, 9 H, t-Bu), 2.6 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 3.85 (s, 3 H, CO₂CH₃), 5.65 (br s, 2 H, ArCH₂N<), 6.0 (s, 2 H, OCH₂N), 6.7 (d, 1 H, indole 3-H), 7.55 (d, 1 H, indole 7-H), 7.6 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.65 (dd, 1 H, indole 6-H), 7.7 (d, H, indole 2-H), 7.75 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.9 (d, 1 H, indole 4-H), 8.3 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H). Anal. (C₂₆H₂₇N₃O₅·0.5H₂O) C; H: calcd, 6.0; found, 6.5; N: calcd, 8.9; found, 8.4.

1-[(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)methyl]-indole-5-carboxylic Acid (81). The methyl ester 80 (538 mg, 1.17 mmol) was stirred for 48 h under argon in a mixture of 1 N aqueous NaOH (5.85 mL, 5.85 mmol) and EtOH (10 mL). The resulting solution was evaporated below 30 °C to ca. 2 mL, brought to pH 3.0 with 2 N aqueous HCl, and cooled to 0 °C. The precipitate was filtered off, washed with H₂O, and vacuum dried: 346 mg (83%); mp >300 °C; 400-MHz NMR δ 2.30 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 5.60 (br s, 2 H, ArCH₂N<), 6.67 (d, 1 H, indole 3-H), 7.52 (d, 1 H, indole 7-H), 7.53 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.62 (dd, 1 H, indole 6-H), 7.65 (d, H, indole 2-H), 7.70 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.81 (d, 1 H, indole 4-H), 8.24 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H); MS (FAB) m/z 334 [MH]⁺. Anal. (C₁₉H₁₅N₃O₃·1.4H₂O) C, H, N.

Diethyl N-[1-[(3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)methyl]indol-5-ylcarbonyl]-L-glutamate (82). The acid 81 (317 mg of the 1.4 hydrate, 0.89 mmol) was condensed with diethyl glutamate hydrochloride according to method G to yield 82: 300 mg (61%); mp 192-197 °C; NMR δ 1.15, 1.2 (2 t, 6 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 2.1 (m, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 2.3 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.45 (t, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 4.05, 4.1 (2 q, 4 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 4.45 (m, 1 H, CH), 5.6 (br s, 2 H, ArCH₂N<), 6.65 (d, 1 H, indole 3-H), 7.52 (d, 1 H, indole 7-H), 7.54 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.6 (dd, 1 H, indole 6-H), 7.62 (d, H, indole 2-H), 7.65 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.85 (d, 1 H, indole 4-H), 8.2 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H), 8.65 (d, 1 H, CONH); MS (EI) m/z 518 [M]⁺. Anal. (C₂₈H₃₀N₄O₆·1.75H₂O) C, H, N. Diethyl (S)-2-(2,3-Dihydro-5-nitro-1-oxo-2-1H-iso-

Diethyl (S)-2-(2,3-Dihydro-5-nitro-1-oxo-2-1*H*-iso-indolyl)glutarate (85). A mixture of methyl 2-methyl-4-nitro-benzoate³² (9.37 g, 48 mmol), NBS (8.55 g, 48 mmol), and benzoyl peroxide (350 mg, 1.5 mmol) in CCl₄ (200 mL) was stirred under reflux for 16 h, cooled, and filtered. The filtrate was evaporated to give 84 as an oil: 13.5 g.

^{261-263 °}C dec. Anal. (C₁₄H₁₁NO₄S-0.2H₂O) C, H, N.

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Without purification, this oil was stirred for 16 h with diethyl glutamate hydrochloride (23.6 g, 98.5 mmol) and powdered K₂CO₃ (27.2 g, 0.02 mol) in DMA (50 mL) under argon. The reaction mixture was diluted with H₂O (200 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 × 200 mL). The combined EtOAc solutions were washed twice with brine, dried, and evaporated to an oil. This oil was chromatographed with 2:1 hexane-EtOAc as eluent to yield 85 as an orange waxy solid: 9.36 g (50%); mp 73-74 °C; NMR δ 1.15, 1.2 (2 t, 6 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 2.25 (m, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 2.4 (t, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 4.0, 4.15 (2 q, 4 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 4.65 (s, 2 H, isoindolinone CH₂), 4.95 (m, 1 H, CH), 7.95 (d, 1 H, isoindolinone 7-H), 8.35 (dd, 1 H, isoindolinone 6-H), 8.5 (d, 1 H, isoindolinone 4-H); MS (CI) m/z 365 [MH]⁺. Anal. (C₁₇- $H_{20}N_2O_7\cdot 0.75H_2O)$ C, H, N.

Diethyl (S)-2-(5-Amino-2,3-dihydro-1-oxo-2-1H-isoindolyl)glutarate (86). A solution of 85 (9.36 g of 0.75 hydrate, 24.8 mmol) in EtOAc (50 mL) was stirred with 10% Pd-C in an atmosphere of H₂ until complete reduction was indicated by HPLC (ca. 10 h). The mixture was filtered through Celite and the filtrate was evaporated to an orange oil: 8.10 g (94%). Anal.

 $(C_{17}H_{22}N_2O_5\cdot 0.67H_2O)$ C, H, N.

Diethyl (S)-2-[2,3-Dihydro-5-[N-[(3,4-dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)methyl]-N-prop-2-ynylamino]-1-oxo-2-1H-isoindolyl]glutarate (88). A mixture of 86 (1.00 g, 2.9 mmol), 2,6-lutidine (0.70 mL, 6.0 mmol), and propargyl bromide (0.67 mL of an 80% v/v solution in toluene, 6.0 mmol) in DMF (10 mL) was stirred for 4 h at 80 °C under argon. The cooled reaction mixture was evaporated to dryness and the residue was partitioned between H_2O (20 mL) and EtOAc (3 × 25 mL). The combined EtOAc solutions were washed with H2O, dried, and evaporated. The crude product was purified by chromatography using a gradient of 0-10% v/v EtOAc in CH₂Cl₂ as eluent to yield a golden oil (718 mg) which was shown by NMR and HPLC to be a mixture of 75% of 87 and 25% of the corresponding N,Ndipropargyl derivative.

The bromomethyl compound 64 (354 mg, 1.40 mmol) and the above impure sample of 87 (700 mg) were reacted at 90 °C according to method E: 270 mg (35%); mp 90.5–92.5 °C; NMR δ 1.1, 1.15 (2 t, 6 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 2.15 (m, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 2.3 (t, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 2.35 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 3.2 (t, 1 H, C=CH), 3.95, 4.1 (2 q, 4 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 4.3 (s, 2 H, isoindolinone CH_2), 4.35 (t, 2 H, $CH_2C = C$), 4.8 (br s, 2 H, $ArCH_2N <$), 4.8 (m, 1 H, CH), 6.9 (dd, 1 H, isoindolinone 6-H), 6.95 (d, 1 H, isoindolinone 4-H), 7.5 (d, 1 H, isoindolinone 7-H), 7.55 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.7 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 8.0 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H); MS (CI) m/z 545 [MH]⁺. Anal. (C₃₀H₃₂N₄-

O₆·1.5H₂O) C, H, N.

Diethyl (S)-2-[2,3-Dihydro-5-[N-[(3,4-dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)methyl]amino]-1-oxo-2-1H-isoindolyl]glutarate (89). The bromomethyl compound 64 (760 mg, 3.0 mmol) and the above amine 86 (1.00 g) were reacted according to method E: 429 mg (27%); mp 74-78 °C; NMR δ 1.1, 1.15 (2 t, 6 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 2.1 (m, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 2.25 (t, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 2.35 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 4.05, 4.1 (2 q, 4 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 4.25 (s, 2 H, isoindolinone CH₂), 4.5 (br s, 2 H, ArCH₂N<), 4.8 (m, 1 H, CH), 6.65 (d, 1 H, isoindolinone 4-H), 6.7 (dd, 1 H, isoindolinone 6-H), 7.1 (br s, 1 H, NH), 7.35 (d, 1 H, isoindolinone 7-H), 7.55 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.75 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 8.05 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H); MS (CI) m/z 507 [MH]⁺. Anal. (C₂₇H₃₀N₄O₆·H₂O) C, H; N: calcd, 10.7; found, 9.9.

Diethyl (S)-2-[2,3-Dihydro-5-[N-[[3,4-dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-3-[(pivaloyloxy)methyl]-6-quinazolinyl]methyl]-Nmethylamino]-1H-1-oxo-2-isoindolyl]glutarate (91). A mixture of 86 (1.11 g, 3.20 mmol), the bromomethyl compound 79 (1.22 g, 3.32 mmol), and powdered CaCO₃ (660 mg, 6.6 mmol) in DMA (10 mL) was stirred for 3 h at 65 °C under argon. The cooled reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness below 40 °C in the presence of added xylene. The crude dark brown oily 90 was purified by chromatography using a gradient of 0-60% v/v EtOAc in CH₂Cl₂ as eluent: 1.032 g (51%); mp 136-138 °C. Anal. $(C_{33}H_{40}N_4\tilde{O}_8\cdot 0.5H_2O)$ C, H, N.

Methylation of 90 hemihydrate (223 mg, 0.35 mmol) with aqueous HCHO and NaCNBH3 according to method H afforded 91, a pale yellow gum: 191 mg (83%); NMR δ 1.1 (s, 9 H, t-Bu), 1.15, 1.2 (2 t, 6 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 2.15 (m, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 2.3 (t, 2 H, CHCH₂CH₂CO₂Et), 2.6 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 3.2 (s, 3 H, NCH₃), 4.0, 4.1 (2 q, 4 H, 2 OCH₂CH₃), 4.3 (s, 2 H, isoindolinone CH₂), 4.78 (m, 1 H, CH), 4.82 (br s, 2 H, ArCH₂N<), 6.05 (s, 2 H, OCH₂N), 6.8 (dd, 1 H, isoindolinone 6-H), 6.85 (d, 1 H, isoindolinone 4-H), 7.45 (d, 1 H, isoindolinone 7-H), 7.55 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 8-H), 7.65 (dd, 1 H, quinazoline 7-H), 7.9 (d, 1 H, quinazoline 5-H); MS (CI) m/z 635 [MH]⁺. Anal. (C₃₄H₄₂N₄-O₈·H₂O) C, H, N.

Registry No. 14, 133446-45-4; 15, 133446-46-5; 16, 133446-47-6; 16 (diethyl ester), 133447-10-6; 17, 133446-48-7; 18, 133446-49-8; 19, 133446-50-1; 19 (diethyl ester), 133447-07-1; 20, 133446-51-2; 20 (diethyl ester), 133447-08-2; 21, 133446-52-3; 21 (diethyl ester), 133447-09-3; 22, 133446-43-2; 22·NH₃·H₂CO₃, 133446-44-3; 23, 133446-53-4; 23 (diethyl ester), 133447-11-7; 24, 133446-54-5; 24 (diethyl ester), 133447-12-8; 25, 133446-55-6; 25 (diethyl ester), 133447-13-9; 26, 133446-56-7; 26 (diethyl ester), 133447-14-0; 29, 133446-57-8; 29 (diethyl ester), 133447-15-1; 30, 133446-58-9; 31, 133446-59-0; 31 (diethyl ester), 133447-16-2; 32, 24688-36-6; 33, 17329-24-7; 34, 6232-88-8; 35, 133446-60-3; 36, 133446-61-4; 37, 133446-62-5; 38, 133446-63-6; 39, 108499-32-7; 40, 133446-64-7; 41, 133446-65-8; 42, 133446-66-9; 43, 133446-67-0; 44, 133446-68-1; 45, 133446-69-2; 46, 133446-70-5; 47, 133446-71-6; 48, 133446-72-7; **49**, 133446-73-8; **50**, 133446-74-9; **51**, 133446-75-0; **52**, 133446-76-1; 53, 133446-77-2; 54, 133446-78-3; 55, 133446-79-4; 56, 133446-80-7; 57, 133446-81-8; 58, 55876-86-3; 59, 133446-82-9; 60, 133446-83-0; 61, 133446-84-1; 62, 133446-85-2; 63, 133446-86-3; 64, 112888-43-4; 65, 133446-87-4; 66, 133446-88-5; 67, 133446-89-6; 68, 35190-68-2; 70, 51282-49-6; 71, 133446-90-9; 72, 133446-91-0; 73, 133446-92-1; 74, 133446-93-2; 75, 133446-94-3; 76a, 133446-95-4; 76b, 133446-41-0; 76c, 133446-42-1; 77, 1670-81-1; 78, 1011-65-0; 79, 112888-39-8; 80, 133446-96-5; 81, 133446-97-6; 82, 133446-98-7; 83, 62621-09-4; 84, 133446-99-8; 85, 133447-00-4; 86, 133447-01-5; 87, 133447-02-6; 88, 133447-03-7; 89, 133447-04-8; 90, 133447-05-9; 91, 133447-06-0; TS, 9031-61-2; H-Glu(OEt)-OEt-HCl, 1118-89-4; $BrCH_2C=Ch$, 106-96-7; EtI, 75-03-6; $BrCH_2CH_2F$, 762-49-2; BrCH₂CH₂OAc, 927-68-4; 4-EtC₆H₄COOMe, 7364-20-7; (±)-4-(CH₃CHB₇)C₆H₄COOMe, 133446-40-9; 4-HOC₆H₄COOMe, 99-76-3; (S-p-C₆H₄CO-Glu(OEt)-OEt), 56527-28-7; (S-p-C₆H₄COOH)₂, 1155-51-7; thymidine, 50-89-5.