Synthesis of Isomelamines and Isocyanurates and Their Biological Evaluation

Ryuji Niwa,*,a Hitoshi Kamada,a Eiki Shitara,b Jiro Horiuchi,b Nobuyuki Kibushi,b and Tetsuzo Katob

Institute for Life Support Technology, Yamagata Technopolis Foundation, 683 Kurumanomae, Numagi, Yamagata 990, Japan and MECT Co., 1780 Kitano, Tokorozawa, Saitama 359, Japan.
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The reaction of cyanogen bromide (1) with primary amines (2a—p), including arylmethylamines (2l—p), gave the corresponding cyanamides (3a—p). Trimerization of 3a—p gave 1,3,5-trisubstituted 2,4,6-triiminohexahydro-1,3,5-triazines (isomelamines) (4a—p), which were treated with hydrochloric acid to give the corresponding 1,3,5-trisubstituted 2,4,6-trioxohexahydro-1,3,5-triazines (isocyanurates) (5a—c, f) and 1,3,5-trisubstituted 2-imino-4,6-dioxohexahydro-1,3,5-triazines (5b'—e'). Biological evaluation of 4a—p, 5a—c, f, and 5b'—e' was carried out, and some of these compounds showed bronchodilator and positive inotropic activities.

Key words cyanamide; trimerization; isomelamine; isocyanurate; bronchodilator; positive inotropic activity

Extensive studies have been done on the reaction of cyanogen bromide (1) with alkylamines (2) to give alkyl-cyanamides (3), (3), some of which trimerize to give the corresponding 1,3,5-trialkyl-2,4,6-triiminohexahydro-1,3,5-triazines (trialkylisomelamines) (4).2,6,7) In 1885, Hofmann²⁾ obtained ethylcyanamide (3b) from the reaction of mercury(II) oxide (or lead(II) oxide) with ethylthiourea, and reported that 3b thus obtained trimerized readily to triethylisomelamine (4b) at room temperature. Mukaiyama et al.7) and Kitawaki and Sugino8) reported independently that cyanogen bromide (1) reacted with amines (2a, b) to give cyanamide (3a, b). Compounds 3a, b trimerized in the presence of a basic catalyst to give 4a, b. It has also been reported⁹⁾ that **4a** is obtained in 40% yield by treating 10% cyanamide with 40% caustic soda and dimethyl sulfate. However, only a few reports 10,11) are available concerning such reactions with arylmethylcyanamides. For example, Friedrich and Heimut¹⁰⁾ synthesized tribenzylisomelamine (41) from N-cyano-Nbenzylacetamide.

In view of the above results, we have investigated the trimerization of cyanamides (3), in particular those derived from hetarylmethylamines. Compounds 3 were subjected to further reaction without purification (Chart 1). First, according to the procedure reported by Hofmann, 20 we carried out the conversion of 3a to 4a. When 3a was allowed to stand at room temperature in ethanol, it was easily transformed to 4a in a good yield. Similarly, triazines (4b—p) were also obtained by the same treatment of cyanamides (3b—p). The results are summarized in Table 1. The IR spectra showed the absorption band due to

the imino group at 1590—1620 cm⁻¹. In the ¹H-NMR spectra, the signals due to imino protons were observed at 6.06—7.68 ppm (3H, brs). The ¹³C-NMR spectra of 4a—p also supported the triazine structures. Elemental analyses and spectral data for triazines (4a—p) are shown in Table 3. Compounds 4a—p were treated with an acidic catalyst such as hydrochloric acid in water to give the corresponding 1,3,5-trisubstituted 2,4,6-trioxohexahydro-1,3,5-triazines (isocyanurates) (5a-c, f), and 1,3,5trisubstituted 2-imino-4,6-dioxohexahydro-1,3,5-triazines (5b'—e'). The above results are summarized in Table 2. The IR spectra of 5a-c, f, and 5b'-e' showed the absorption band at 1660—1690 cm⁻¹. The ¹³C-NMR spectra of 5a-c, f, and 5b'-e' also supported the structures. Elemental analyses and spectral data for 5a-c, f, and 5b'—e' are shown in Table 3.

The biological activities of the above products were investigated. Compounds **4b**, **c**, and **5b**, **c**, **c'** were found to show both bronchodilator and positive inotropic activities. The biological data for these products are summarized in Tables 4 and 5.

Experimental

Melting points were determined on a Yanaco model MP apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were taken with a JASCO IR-810 spectrophotometer. $^1\text{H-}$ and $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ spectra were recorded by using tetramethylsilane as an internal standard on JEOL JNM FX-60 spectrometers at 60 MHz. Chemical shifts (δ) are quoted in parts per million, and signals are expressed as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet), or br s (broad singlet). Mass spectra were recorded with a JEOL JMS-OISG-2 mass spectrometer. Wako gel (C-200) was employed for silica gel column chromatography.

Br-C
$$\equiv$$
N

1

R-NH₂ 2a-p

2.2 eq.

R-NH-C \equiv N

with or without solvent

R-NH-R

NH

HCI

NH

HCI

NH

R

NH

R

Sa-c, f: X= O

Sb'-e': X=NH

Chart 1

Table 1. Synthesis of Isomelamines (4) from Cyanamides (3)

Compd.	R	Reaction conditions					(0.0)	37' 11
		Solvent	Temp.	Time (h)	Compd.	Appearance (Recryst. solvent)	mp (°C) [lit. mp (°C)]	Yield (%)
3a	Me	EtOH	r.t.	12	4 a	Colorless needles (H ₂ O)	179—180 [178] ⁹⁾	85
3b	Et	H ₂ O	60	2	4 b	Colorless needles (H ₂ O)	94—95 [92] ²⁾	74
3c	n-Pr	EtOH-H ₂ O	50	3	4c	Colorless needles (EtOH-H ₂ O)	8789	61
3d	n-Bu	EtOH-H ₂ O	50	2	4d a)	Colorless oil		73
3e	iso-Bu	EtOH-H ₂ O	50	3	4e	Colorless needles (Benzene-n-hexane)	95—96 [91—93] ¹⁰⁾	78
3f	$CH_2 = CHCH_2$	EtOH-H ₂ O	50	2	4f ^{b)}	Colorless powder	46—49 [bp 105—115°C/ 0.026 mmHg] ¹⁰⁾	75
3g	CH ₂ CF ₃	EtOH-H ₂ O	50	3	4 g	Colorless prisms (EtOH-H ₂ O)	163	56
3h	$(CH_2)_2CN$	EtOH-H ₂ O	50	1	4h	Pale yellow prisms (Acetone)	160(dec.)	33
3i	(CH ₂) ₂ OEt	EtOH-H ₂ O	50	8	4i	Colorless prisms (AcOEt-n-hexane)	56—58	26
3j	$CH_2CH(OMe)_2$	EtOH-H ₂ O	50	4	4 j ^{c)}	Colorless oil		86
3k	Ph	EtOH	Reflux	12	4k	Colorless prisms (EtOH)	214—215 [210] ¹²⁾	73
31	PhCH ₂	EtOH-H ₂ O	50	2	41	Colorless needles (Toluene-cyclohexane)	131—132 [129—130] ¹¹⁾	75
3m		MeOH	Reflux	5	4m	Colorless needles (MeOH)	199—200	52
3n	~ \^\	EtOH-H ₂ O	50	3	4n	Colorless needles (Benzene-n-hexane)	123—125	78
30	~\s__________________\	EtOH-H ₂ O	50	3	40	Colorless needles (Benzene-ether)	136—137	94
3 p		EtOH-H ₂ O	50	3	4p	Pale yellow needles (H ₂ O)	157—158	10

a) Purified by column chromatography [n-hexane-ethyl acetate (7:3)]. b) Purified by column chromatography [n-hexane-ethyl acetate (1:1)]. c) Purified by column chromatography [chloroform-MeOH (99:1)].

Table 2. Synthesis of Isocyanurates (5) from Isomelamines (4)

Compd.	R	Reaction conditions		Compd.	X	Appearance	mp (°C)	Yield (%)
		Temp. (°C)	Time (h)	Compu.	Λ	(Recryst. solvent)	[lit. mp (°C)]	11010 (70)
4a	Me	Reflux	4	5a	О	Colorless prisms (H ₂ O)	173—175 [175—176] ¹⁾	87
4b	Et	Reflux	24	5b	0	Colorless needles (EtOH)	94—95 [95] ²⁾	58
4b′	Et	80	6	5b'a)	NH	Colorless needles (MeOH-ether)	247—249	64
4c	<i>n</i> -Pr	Reflux	5	5c ^{b)}	0	Colorless oil		52
4c′	n-Pr	Reflux	5	5c'	NH	Colorless needles (Benzene-n-hexane)	41	33
4d ′	n-Bu	Reflux	6	5d'a)	NH	Colorless needles (Benzene-n-hexane)	220—222	71
4e ′	iso-Bu	Reflux	5	5e ′	NH	Colorless prisms (Benzene-n-hexane)	79—80	80
4f	$CH_2 = CHCH_2$	Reflux	5	$5f^{b)}$	O	Colorless oil		77

a) Isolated as the hydrochloride. b) Purified by column chromatography [n-hexane-ethyl acetate (9:1)].

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Cyanamides (3a—p) To a solution of cyanogen bromide (1) (10.0 g, 94 mmol) in anhydrous ether (200 ml) was added dropwise 2.2 eq of the appropriate amine (2a—p) in anhydrous ether (100 ml) at -5 °C. The mixture was stirred for 1 h under a nitrogen atmosphere at the same temperature, then the precipitate (amine hydrobromide) was filtered off, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo below 15 °C. The residual cyanamides (3a—p) were used without purification for the next reaction.

General Procedure for the Synthesis of 1,3,5-Trisubstituted 2,4,6-Triiminohexahydro-1,3,5-triazines (4a—p) A solution of a cyanamide (3) in the solvent indicated in Table 1 was stirred. The solvent was evaporated off under reduced pressure. The residue was subjected to silica gel column chromatography, and the resulting crystalline product was recrystallized to give 4. The results are summarized in Table 1.

1,3,5-Trisubstituted 2,4,6-Trioxohexahydro-1,3,5-triazine (5a,b) A solution of 4a, b (20 mmol) in water (20 ml) was treated with 10 ml of

Table 3. Analytical and Spectral Data for 4a-p, 5a-c, f and 5b'-e'

Compd.	Formula	Analysis (%) Calcd (Found)		IR	1 H-NMR (DMSO- d_{6}) δ	$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (DMSO- d_6) δ	MS m/z	
	-	С	Н	N	(KBr) cm ⁻¹	(2.3.2.2.3.6)		
4a	$C_6H_{12}N_6$	42.84 (42.48	7.19 7.22	49.97 50.07)	3320, 1620	3.28 (9H, s), 6.44 (3H, br s)	31.2 (q), 147.0 (s)	168 (M ⁺)
4b	$C_9H_{18}N_6$	51.40 (50.99	8.63	,	3340, 1600	1.09 (9H, t), 3.68—4.20 (6H, m), 6.37 (3H, br s)	11.8 (q), 38.2 (t), 144.6 (br s)	210 (M ⁺)
4c	$C_{12}H_{24}N_6$	57.11 (57.12	9.59	33.30 33.40)	3380, 1590	0.86 (9H, t), 0.91—1.83 (6H, m), 3.93—4.26 (6H, m), 6.39 (3H, br s)		253 (M ⁺ + 1)
4d	$C_{15}H_{30}N_6$		10.27 10.43	28.55 28.53)	3395, 1600	0.88—0.97 (9H, m), 1.38 (12H, m), 3.90 (6H, m), 6.31 (3H, br s)		294 (M ⁺)
4e	$C_{15}H_{30}N_6$	•	10.27	28.55 28.19)	3350, 1600	0.84 (18H, d), 1.67—2.33 (3H, m), 3.50—4.00 (6H, m), 6.46 (3H, br s)		295 (M ⁺ +1)
4f	$C_{12}H_{18}N_6$	58.51 (58.34		34.12 34.05)	3375, 1600	4.64 (6H, br s), 5.00—5.26 (6H, m), 5.49—6.15 (3H, m), 6.32 (3H, br s)	45.5 (t), 115.9 (t), 132.7 (d), 145.3 (s)	246 (M ⁺)
4g	$C_9H_9N_6F_9$	29.04 (29.03		22.58 22.55)		5.04 (6H, br s), 7.68 (3H, br s)	43.3—44.6 (m), 121.3—128.0 (m), 143.7 (br s)	372 (M ⁺)
4h	$C_{12}H_{15}N_9$	50.51 (50.78	5.30	44.19 43.99)		2.50 (6H, m), 4.22 (6H, m), 7.14 (3H, brs)		285 (M ⁺)
4i	$C_{15}H_{30}N_6O_3$	52.61 (52.70	8.83	24.54 24.70)	3350, 1610	1.09 (9H, t), 3.38 (6H, q), 3.51 (6H, m), 4.05 (6H, m), 6.64 (3H, br s)	15.1 (q), 44.3 (t), 65.8 (t), 67.3	342 (M ⁺)
4j ^{a)}	$C_{15}H_{30}N_6O_6$	46.14 (46.33		21.53 21.73)	3350, 1620	3.46 (18H, s), 4.03 (6H, br s), 4.38 (3H, t), 6.65 (3H, br s)	48.9 (t), 54.5 (q), 103.2 (d), 148.1 (s)	390 (M ⁺)
4k	$C_{21}H_{18}N_6$	71.16 (71.15	5.12	23.72 23.92)	3350, 1620	5.05 (3H, brs), 7.49 (15H, brs)	128.8 (d), 129.7 (d), 129.9 (d), 136.8 (s), 148.1 (s)	354 (M ⁺)
41	$C_{24}H_{24}N_6$	72.70 (72.77		21.20 21.39)	3380, 1600	5.30 (6H, s), 6.59 (3H, br s), 7.28 (15H, br s)	46.9 (t), 126.6 (d), 126.8 (d), 128.3 (d), 137.2 (s), 146.3 (s)	396 (M ⁺)
4m	$C_{27}H_{24}N_6O_6$	61.36 (61.26	4.58 4.57	15.90 16.05)	3375, 1600	3.40 (6H, s), 5.05, 5.18 (6H, s), 5.39—6.00 (3H, br s), 6.29—6.87 (9H, m)	_	528 (M ⁺)
4n ^{b)}	$C_{18}H_{18}N_6O_3$	59.01 (59.04		22.94 23.02)	3380, 1610	5.16 (6H, s), 6.06 (3H, br s), 6.37 (6H, br s), 7.37 (3H, br s)	41.3 (t), 109.0 (d), 110.6 (d), 142.2 (d), 146.8 (s), 149.8 (s)	366 (M ⁺)
40°)	$C_{18}H_{18}N_6S_3$	52.15 (52.11	4.38	23.20 23.01)	3380, 1600	5.36 (6H, s), 6.21 (3H, br s), 6.95 (3H, br s), 7.08 (3H, br s), 7.23 (3H, br s)		414 (M ⁺)
4p	$C_{21}H_{21}N_9$	63.14 (63.37		31.56 31.42)	3350, 1600	5.33 (6H, s), 6.71 (3H, br s), 7.34 (3H, m), 8.49 (3H, m), 8.54 (3H, m)		399 (M ⁺)
5a ^{b)}	$C_6H_9N_3O_3$	42.10 (42.33		24.55 24.51)	3420, 1670	<u></u>	28.8 (q), 149.4 (s)	171 (M ⁺)
5b ^{b)}	$C_9H_{15}N_3O_3$	50.69 (50.53	7.09 7.31	19.71 19.43)	1680	1.12 (9H, t), 3.78 (6H, q)	12.7 (q), 37.4 (t), 148.7 (s)	213 (M ⁺)
5b ' d)	$C_9H_{17}ClN_4O_2$	43.46 (43.39	6.89 6.89	22.53 22.54)	1760, 1700, 1660, 1590	1.26, 1.32 (9H, t), 3.98, 4.10 (6H, q), 4.86 (2H, s)	147.8 (s), 153.3 (s)	212 (M ⁺ – HC
5c ^{e)}	$C_{12}H_{21}N_3O_3$	56.45 (56.13	8.29 8.30	16.46 16.37)	1690	0.94 (9H, t), 1.33—2.07 (6H, m), 3.87 (6H, t)	(s)	255 (M ⁺)
5c'b)	$C_{12}H_{22}N_4O_2$	56.67 (56.44	8.72 8.75	22.03 21.95)		0.84—1.08 (9H, m), 1.48—1.91 (6H, m), 3.83—4.03 (6H, m), 5.51 (1H, br s)	11.2 (q), 20.5, 21.3 (t), 44.3, 45.0 (t), 146.7 (s), 148.9 (s)	254 (M ⁺)
5d'b)	$C_{15}H_{29}CIN_4O_2$	54.12 (54.19	8.78 8.85	16.83 16.84)		0.90—2.03 (21H, m), 3.93, 4.49 (6H, t), 11.08 (2H, brs)	13.8 (q), 19.5, 19.9 (t), 29.2 (t), 44.1, 45.9 (t), 146.6 (s), 150.7 (s)	296 (M ⁺ – HC
5e ′ ^{b)}	$C_{15}H_{28}N_4O_2$	60.78 (60.76	9.52	18.90	3360, 1730,	0.93 (18H, d), 1.85—2.43 (3H, m), 3.70, 3.82 (6H, d), 6.10 (1H, br s)	20.0 (q), 26.6, 27.3 (d), 49.5, 50.0 (t), 147.1 (s), 149.6 (s)	296 (M ⁺)
5f ^{e)}	$C_{12}H_{15}N_3O_3$	57.82 (57.46		16.86 16.83)	3075, 1680	4.45, 4.54 (6H, s), 5.10—5.35 (6H, m), 5.59—6.30 (3H, m)	45.0 (t), 119.0 (t), 131.1 (d), 148.5 (s)	249 (M ⁺)

a) ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃-CD₃OD). b) ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃). c) ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃). In the ¹³C-NMR spectra, one signal of the thiophene ring overlapped with the other one. d) ¹H-NMR (CD₃OD). e) ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃). IR (neat).

concentrated hydrochloric acid, and the solution was heated to reflux. It was allowed to stand at room temperature overnight, and the precipitate was recrystallized to give the product (5a, b).

1,3,5-Triethyl-2-imino-4,6-dioxohexahydro-1,3,5-triazine (5b') Employing the procedure described for the above run (**5a, b**), concentrated hydrochloric acid (10 ml) was added to a solution of **4b** (4.20 g, 20 mmol)

in water (10 ml), and the mixture was heated under reflux. It was allowed to stand at room temperature overnight, and the precipitate (5b) (0.85 g, 20%) was filtered off. The filtrate was extracted with chloroform (50 ml \times 3), washed with water (50 ml \times 2), and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. The solvent was evaporated off under reduced pressure, and the crystalline residue was purified by recrystallization from

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Table 4. Bronchodilation and Positive Inotropic Activities of 4a-p

Compound	D		Bronchodilation	on	Positive inotropic activity			
	R -	g/ml		Inhibition (%)	g/ml		Inhibition (%)	
4a	Me		None			None		
4b	Et	5×10^{-6}		50	1×10^{-5}		70	
4c	<i>n</i> -Pr	3×10^{-5}		50	3×10^{-5}		55	
4d	n-Bu	1×10^{-5}		50		None		
4e	iso-Bu	3×10^{-5}		50		None		
4f	$CH_2 = CHCH_2$		None			None		
4 g	CH ₂ CF ₃		None			None		
4h	$(CH_2)_2CN$		None			None		
4i	$(CH_2)_2OEt$		None			None		
4j	$CH_2CH(OMe)_2$		None			None		
4k	Ph		None			None		
41	PhCH ₂		None			None		
4m	√∅ ;		None			None		
4n	~\cdot\)		None			None		
40	γ^s		None			None		
4 p	$\sim \bar{}$		None			None		

Table 5. Bronchodilation and Positive Inotropic Activities of 5b, c, f, and 5b'-e'

Compound	R	v	Bronchodilation			Positive inotropic activity		
		Α	g/ml		Inhibition (%)	g/ml		Inhibition (%)
5b	Et	0	1×10 ⁻⁶		50	3×10^{-5}		50
5c	n-Pr	О	5×10^{-5}		50	3×10^{-6}		70
5f	$CH_2 = CHCH_2$	О	5×10^{-6}		50		None	. •
5b ′	Et -	NH		None			None	
5c′	n-Pr	NH	3×10^{-5}		50	3×10^{-6}		50
5 d ′	n-Bu	NH	1×10^{-4}		50		None	
5e′	iso-Bu	NH		None			None	

ethanol to give 3.20 g (64%) of 5b'.

2,4,6-Trioxo-1,3,5-tripropylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazine (5c) and 2-Imino-4,6-dioxo-1,3,5-tripropylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazine (5c') Employing the procedure described for the preparation of compounds 5a, b, concentrated hydrochloric acid (4 ml) was added to a solution of 4c (2.00 g, 7.9 mmol) in water (10 ml), and the mixture was heated under reflux. It was allowed to stand at room temperature for 1 h, then extracted with chloroform (50 ml \times 3). The organic solution was washed with water (50 ml \times 3), and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. The solvent was evaporated off *in vacuo*, and the residue was subjected to silica gel (100 g) column chromatography. Elution with *n*-hexane–ethyl acetate (9:1) gave 5c (1.05 g, 52%) and 5c' (0.67 g, 33%).

1,3,5-Tributyl-2-imino-4,6-dioxohexahydro-1,3,5-triazine (5d') According to the procedure described above, concentrated hydrochloric acid (4ml) was added to a solution of 4d (2.00 g, 6.8 mmol) in water (10 ml), and the solution was heated under reflux. Work-up as above gave 5d' (1.43 g, 71%).

1,3,5-Triisobutyl-2-imino-4,6-dioxohexahydro-1,3,5-triazine (5e') Following the same procedure described above, concentrated hydrochloric acid (4 ml) was added to a solution of 4e (2.00 g, 6.8 mmol) in water (10 ml), and the solution was heated under reflux. Work-up as above gave 5e' (1.60 g, 80%).

1,3,5-Triallyl-2,4,6-trioxohexahydro-1,3,5-triazine (5f) Employing a similar procedure to that used for the preparation of compound 5e', concentrated hydrochloric acid (4 ml) was added dropwise to a solution of 4f (2.00 g, 8.1 mmol) in water (10 ml), and the solution was heated under reflux. Work-up as above gave 5f (1.56 g, 77%).

Measurement of Bronchodilator and Positive Inotropic Activity These compounds were tested on isolated guinea pig right atrium and on isolated

guinea pig trachea by the usual methods. ^13.14) They were suspended separately in organ baths which contained 10 ml of Krebs-bicarbonate solution (37 $^{\circ}$ C) to measure bronchodilator and positive inotropic activity.

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