

\$0957-4166(96)00124-3

## Enantioselective Synthesis of 1,2-Acetonide of (2S,3R)-3-N-Boc-3-Amino-4-Phenyl-1,2-Butanediol

Philippe Remuzon,\* Christian Dussy, Jean-Pierre Jacquet, Pascale Roty and Daniel Bouzard

Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Research Institute, Chemical Process Research, Lognes, BP 62, 77422 Marne-La-Vallée Cedex 2, France

**Abstract:** An efficient and stereocontrolled preparation of the (2S,3R)-1,2-acetonide **15**, from hydrazone **10**, leading to a (D)-phenylalaninol derivative, potentially useful for the design of HIV protease inhibitors, is described. Copyright © 1996 Elsevier Science Ltd

In a search for new HIV-1 protease inhibitors,<sup>1</sup> BMS scientists have discovered that 5,<sup>2</sup> is a powerful agent of this class. Compound 5 was synthesized from 3, obtained from N-protected natural (S)-phenylalanine derivative 1 via the diazo derivative 2. In order to prepare (R,S) and/ or (R,R) diol-analogues of 3, avoiding hazardous reagents such as diazomethane, used to prepare intermediate 2, we searched for an alternative pathway.



As a model, we first tried to synthesize 3 through the chloromethylketone  $6^3$  (Scheme 2). Substitution of 6 by an acetoxy group gave derivative 7. Hydrolysis of 7 afforded the corresponding 1-hydroxymethylketone 8 in good yield. However, reduction of this ketone with NaBH<sub>4</sub> was not diastereoselective (3a/3b: 54/46). The same reduction in presence of CeCl<sub>3</sub><sup>4</sup> was not shown to increase significantly the diastereoselectivity (3a/3b: 70/30). Indeed, we discovered that partial racemization took place at C-3 during acetoxy substitution of the halogen atom of 6.5



Scheme 2, Reagents and conditions: i, NaI, AcOK, DMF, rt, 18h; ii, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O, 3h, rt; iii, NaBH<sub>4</sub>, THF/MeOH: 50/50, 0 °C, 1h, quant.

We therefore envisaged the preparation of a diol analogue of 3 via addition of a nucleophile to a hydrazone of type 10. It has been reported that cyclohexylmethyllithium when reacted with hydrazone 10b, afforded a mixture (3:1) of *anti* and *syn* isomers.<sup>6</sup> Other authors stated that when 10b was reacted with MeLi at low temperature, the same kind of diastereoselectivity (3:1, *anti/syn*) was obtained, whereas in the presence of 0.1 equivalent of CuI, in the same conditions, a reverse ratio of 3:1 in favor of the *syn* adduct was encountered.<sup>7</sup>



Scheme 3, Reagents and conditions: i, ii, see ref. 9; iii, N,N-dimethylhydrazine or SAMP, MgSO<sub>4</sub>, Et<sub>2</sub>O, 0°C then rt; iv, PhCH<sub>2</sub>Li 1.5 eq., Et<sub>2</sub>O, -75 °C then rt, 3h; v, ClCO<sub>2</sub>Me, 4 eq., - 10°C.

Compounds 10a and 10b were obtained from the 1,2-acetonide of (R)-glyceraldehyde 9,8 the latter synthesized from (D)-mannitol according to known methods,<sup>9</sup> in the presence of MgSO<sub>4</sub> in 87% and 98% yield

respectively. Nucleophilic addition of benzyllithium, prepared from phenyllithium and triphenylbenzyltin,<sup>6</sup> to these hydrazones, followed by quenching with an excess of methyl chloroformate, gave exclusively, in the crude reaction mixture, the *anti* carbazates **11a** or **11b** in good yield (Scheme 3). Attempts to obtain *syn* carbazates **12b**, or a mixture of **11b** and **12b**, in the same conditions, by addition of a 10% catalytic amount of CuI resulted only in loss of yield, while with addition of an equimolar quantity of CuI, ZnCl<sub>2</sub> or Ti(OiPr)<sub>4</sub> to the reaction, no benzylation was observed. It is noteworthy that no real difference was seen for the benzyllithium addition between SAMP-hydrazone **10a** and *N*,*N*-dimethylhydrazone **10b**. As a matter of fact, the SAMP hydrazone route did not show any advantage when compared to the *N*,*N*-dimethyl hydrazone **10b**, an excellent *anti* diastereoselectivity was encountered towards the approach of benzyllithium.

Finally, cleavage of the hydrazine moiety of **11a** or **11b** was performed with Li in liquid ammonia<sup>10</sup> to give the methyl carbamate **13** in 25% and 51% yield respectively (Scheme 4).



Scheme 4, Reagents and conditions: i, Li, NH<sub>3</sub>, THF, -33 °C; ii, 2N NaOH/ EtOH, reflux, 18 h; iii, Boc<sub>2</sub>O, DIPEA, MeOH, rt, 18h; iv, PTSA, MeOH, rt, 3h.

Compound 13 was hydrolyzed in the presence of sodium hydroxide to furnish 14 in 86% yield. Protection of 14 with a Boc group afforded 15 in 75% yield. To check the enantiomeric purity of 15, we prepared 16 which enantiomer was known in the literature.<sup>11</sup> The acetonide protecting group was cleaved with one equivalent of p-toluenesulfonic acid in MeOH to give 16 in 70% yield. Compound 16 was found to display a similar absolute optical rotation than that of its enantiomer.<sup>12</sup>

Recently other authors<sup>13</sup> reported that noncoded (D)-aminoacids derivatives might be incorporated into efficient HIV-protease inhibitors. Therefore, preparation of pure 15, a (D)-phenylalaninol derivative could lead to powerful inhibitors of this type.

In conclusion, the methodology described in this paper offered an efficient and enantiospecific route to unnatural (D)-phenylalaninol derivatives as 14 and 15, potentially useful for HIV-1 protease inhibitors synthesis, starting from the cheap material (D)-mannitol.

### **EXPERIMENTAL**

Unless otherwise noted, starting materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Melting points were taken in a Büchi 510 capillary apparatus and are uncorrected. Elemental analysis were performed by the Bristol-Myers Squibb Analytical Department. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> or DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> solutions on a Bruker ARX 500 spectrometer at 500 Mhz. The <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts are reported in ppm from H<sub>2</sub>O as external signal. Infra-red spectra were recorded on a Nicolet FT-IR SXC spectrophotometer. Optical rotations were measured in a 1-dm cell with a Perkin-Elmer model 241 polarimeter. Concentrations were given in g/mL. Positive electrospray ionisation, electron impact and chemical ionization mass spectra were obtained using a Fisons VG-Quattro, with an analyzer of quadripolar type. Merck silica gel 60 was used in the chromatographic purification of all specified products.

## Chloromethylketone pathway:

## 1-Acetoxy-3-[[(1,1-dimethylethoxy)carbonyl]amino]-4-phenyl-2-Butanone 7

To a solution of 4 g (13.4 mmoles) of chloromethylketone  $6^{3a,3b}$  in 20 mL of dry DMF, under nitrogen, was added 2.01 g (13.4 mmoles) of NaI, and 2.63 g (26.8 mmoles) of AcOK. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 hrs, and poured into 40 mL of an aqueous sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The resulting precipitate was filtered, washed 4 times with 10 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O to give 4.02 g of **7**. Yield 97%; m.p. 98°C. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>: C, 63.53%; H, 7.21%; N, 4.36%. Found: C, 63.32%; H, 6.99.%; N, 4.55%. IR (KBr) v 3348, 2985, 1756, 1692, 1518, 1226, 1168 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (dmso-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.36 (s, 9H, CO<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); 2.13 (s, 3H, CH<sub>2</sub>OCOCH<sub>3</sub>); 2.78 (dd, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 14 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 10.5 Hz, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 3.07 (dd, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 14 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 4.5 Hz, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 4.32 (m, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 4.87 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 17 Hz, 1H, COCH<sub>2</sub>-OAc); 4.93 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 17 Hz, 1H, COCH<sub>2</sub>-OAc); 7.30 (m, 5H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>).

### 1-Hydroxy-3-[[(1,1-dimethylethoxy)carbonyl]amino]-4-phenyl-2-Butanone 8

To a solution of 4.03 g (12.54 mmoles) of 7 in 100 mL of a mixture of MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O 4:1 was added 0.4 g (32.6 mmoles) of solid K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. After 30 mn an additional 40 mg (3.26 mmoles) of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> was added. After 3 hours and five other additions of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and taken up with 20 mL of EtOAc. The organic layer was washed three times with H<sub>2</sub>O, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and chromatographed over silica gel (heptane/EtOAc:70/30) to provide 2.52 g of 8 in 72% yield. M.p. 81-82 °C; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 64.50%; H, 5.01%; N, 7.58%. Found: C, 64.41%; H, 4.75%; N, 7.60%. IR (KBr) v 3448, 3363, 2982, 2931, 1730, 1686, 1515, 1171 cm <sup>-1</sup>; MH<sup>+</sup> (ESP): 280. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (dmso-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.36 (s, 9H, CO<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); 2.72 (dd, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 14 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 10 Hz, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 3.05 (dd, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 14 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 4.5 Hz, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 4.16 (dd, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 18.7 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 15.9 Hz, 1H, COCH<sub>2</sub>-OH); 4.31 (dd, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 18.7 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 5.9Hz, 1H, COCH<sub>2</sub>-OH); 4.36 (m, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 5.14 (m, 1H, NH-CO); 7.27 (m, 5H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>).

#### [2,3-Dihydroxy-1-(phenylmethyl)propyl]carbamic Acid, 1,1-Dimethylethyl Ester 3a + 3b

To a solution of 2.4 g (8.6 mmoles) of **8** in 80 ml of a mixture of THF/MeOH: 50/50 cooled to  $-10^{\circ}$ C was added 0.325 g (8.6 mmoles) of NaBH<sub>4</sub> while maintaining the temperature below 0°C. The solution was stirred for 1 hr at 0°C. The solution was then poured into 100 ml of EtOAc, which was washed successively

with 80 ml of an aqueous solution of 2N KHSO<sub>4</sub>, 80 ml of 10 % NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, and finally 80 ml of brine. The organic layer was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure to leave 2.39 g of **3a** + **3b** (54/46 mixture of dias). Yield 99%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (mixture of dias in dmso-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.31and 1.36 (2s, 18H, CO<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); 2.60 (dd, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 14 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 4.5 Hz, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH, cis isomer); 2.71 and 2.82 (dd, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.5Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7 Hz, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH, trans isomer ); 2.99 (dd, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 14 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 10 Hz, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH, cis isomer); 3.35 and 3.45 (2m, 6H, 2 CH<sub>2</sub>-OH, 2 CH-NH); 3.63 and 3.76 (2m, 2H, 2 CH-OH); 4.40 and 4.45 (2m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-OH); 4.70 and 4.75 (2m, 2H, CH-OH); 6.29 and 6.56 (2m, 2H, NH-CO); 7.24 (m, 10H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>).

Acetonide pathway:

## N-[[[(4S)-2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]-methylidene]amino]-N-methyl]Methylamine 10b

To a solution of 0.581 g (4.5 mmoles) of isopropylidene-D-glyceraldehyde 9,<sup>9</sup> in 8 ml Et<sub>2</sub>O cooled to 0°C was added 1.37 mL (18 mmoles) of *N*,*N*-dimethylhydrazine and 1.08 g (9 mmoles) of MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After 1 hr at room temperature; the suspension was filtered and the filtrate concentrated under reduced pressure to furnish 0.7 g of **10b** as a colorless oil. Yield 87 %.  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -84 (c 1.7, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (dmso-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.35 and 1.4 (2s, 6H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C); 2.8 (s, 6H, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>); 3.75 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8 Hz, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 4.1 (dd, 1H, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 4.55 (dd, 1H, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 13.7 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-C=N); 6.45 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz, 1H, -CH=N-).

## [1-[[[(4S)-2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]-methylidene]amino]-2-(2S)-methoxymethyl]Pyrrolidine 10a

The synthesis of **10a** was performed according to the same procedure described for **10b**. Yield 98 %. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (dmso-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.81 and 1.82 (2s, 6H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C); 2.05 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-N); 2.15 (m, 3H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-N and CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>N); 2.72 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>-N); 2.99-3.02 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-N and CH<sub>2</sub>-OCH<sub>3</sub>); 3.00 (s, 3H, CH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub>); 3.12 (m, 3H, CH<sub>2</sub>-OCH<sub>3</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub>OCH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 3.25 and 3.50 (2dd, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 5.0 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 4.5 Hz, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 3.76 (m, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 4.89 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 4 Hz, 1H, N=CH-CH).

## [[[(1R)-1-[(4S)-2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]-2-phenyl]ethyl]-N-[N,N-dimethylamino]]carbamic Acid, Methyl Ester 11b

To a solution of 0.7 g (4.07 mmoles) of **10b** in 10 ml of Et<sub>2</sub>O cooled to -75°C was added 102 ml (733 mmoles) of a 0.072 M solution of benzyllithium<sup>6</sup> in Et<sub>2</sub>O, the temperature being kept below -60°C. The solution was allowed to reach room temperature for 3 hrs. The solution was cooled to -10°C and quenched with 1.26 ml (16.3 mmoles) of ClCO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> in 5 ml of Et<sub>2</sub>O. After stirring at room temperature for 17 hrs, brine was poured to the reaction mixture. The organic layer was decanted and washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, then brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). After evaporation under reduced pressure, a crude oil was obtained which was chromatographed (heptane/EtOAc) to furnish 1.31 g of **11b** in 87.6 % yield.  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  +12.6 (c 2, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (KBr) v 3062, 3028, 2986, 2947, 1704, 1439, 1374, 1326, 1219, 1068, 859 cm <sup>-1</sup>; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 63.33%; H, 8.13%; N, 8.69%. Found: C, 63.06%; H, 8.04%; N, 8.64%; MH<sup>+</sup> (ESP): 323; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (mixture of conformers in CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.35 and 1.38 (2s, 6H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>); 2.52 and 2.66 (2s, 6H, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>); 2.71 (m, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 3.01 (m, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 3.60 (s, 3H, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.76 (m, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 3.93 (m, 1H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 4.28 (m, 1H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 4.40 (m, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 7.2-7.28 (m, 5H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>).

## [[[(1R)-1-[(4S)-2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]-2-phenyl]ethyl]-N-[(2S)-2-methoxymethylpyrrolidin-1-yl]]carbamic Acid, Methyl Ester 11a

Using the same methodology as for 11b, and after silica gel chromatography (heptane/EtOAc: 90/10), derivative 11a was obtained in 62 % yield. MH<sup>+</sup> (ESP): 393.5; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (dmso-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.35 and 1.37 (2s, 6H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>); 1.58, 1.65, 1.76 and 2.0 (4m, 4H, CH-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 2.68 (dd, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 2.98 (m, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 3.12 (s, 3H, CH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub>); 3.32 (m, 1H, N-CH<sub>2</sub> pyrrolidine); 3.25 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>-OCO); 3.45 (m, 1H, N-CH-pyrrolidine); 3.58 (m, 3H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O + CH<sub>2</sub>-OCH<sub>3</sub>); 4.09 (m, 1H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 4.28 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O + N-CH-CH<sub>2</sub>Ph); 7.28 (m, 5H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>).

## [[(1R)-1-[(4S)-2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]-2-phenyl]ethyl]carbamic Acid, Methyl Ester 13

To a solution of 1.1 g (3.4 mmoles) of **11b** dissolved in 10 ml of THF and 50 ml of ammonia at - 78 °C was added 0.10 g (14.4 mmoles) of lithium. The resulting blue solution was stirred for 30 mn at - 70 °C, then 1h 30 mn at - 33 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to reach - 20 °C and the reaction was quenched with 0.74 g (13.8 mmoles) of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The solution was taken up in 15 ml of H<sub>2</sub>O, and extracted four times with 15 ml of tert-butylmethylether. The organic layer was dried (Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) then filtered on a celite pad. Concentration of the organic layer under reduced pressure and chromatography of the residue on silica gel (heptane/EtOAc: 80/20) gave 0.49 g of **13** as an oil. Yield 51 %;  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  +26.8 (c 4, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 64.50%; H, 5.01%; N, 7.58%. Found: C, 64.26%; H, 4.92%; N, 7.37%; MH<sup>+</sup> (ESP): 280; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.34 and 1.47 (2s, 6H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C); 2.86 (dd, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 2.94 (dd, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 3.66 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>-OCO-); 3.92 (m, 2H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 4.11 (m, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 4.96 (m, 1H, OCH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 7.3 (m, 5H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>).

Using the same procedure, the carbazate 11a gave carbamate 13 in 25% chromatographed yield.

## [[(1R)-1-[(4S)-2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]-2-phenyl]ethyl]Amine 14

To a solution of 0.140 g (0.5 mmole) of **13** in a mixture of 4 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O/EtOH: 75/25 was added 2.5 ml (5 mmoles) of aqueous 2N NaOH and the reaction mixture was brought to reflux for 3 hrs. An additional 2.5 ml (5 mmoles) of 2N NaOH was added and the reflux was continued for 17 hrs. To complete the hydrolysis 1.25 ml (2.5 mmoles) of 2N NaOH and 5 hrs of reflux were necessary. Most of EtOH was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was extracted twice with EtOAc. The organic layer was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), evaporated to dryness to furnish 0.095 g of **14** as an oil which was used as it for the next step. Yield 86 %. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (dmso-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.30 and 1.38 (2s, 6H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C); 2.60 (dd, 1H, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 13.0 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 9 Hz, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 2.69 (dd, 1H, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 13.0 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 5 Hz, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 2.90 (m, 1H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-NH<sub>2</sub>); 3.74 (m, 1H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 3.90 (m, 1H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 3.93 (m, 1H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 7.29 (m, 5H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>).

# [[(1R)-1-[(4S)-2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl]-2-phenyl]ethyl]carbamic Acid, 1,1-Dimethylethyl Ester 15

To a solution of 0.184 g (0.835 mmole) of 14 in 6 mL of MeOH was added 0.182 g (0.835 mmole) of di-*tert*butyldicarbonate, followed by 0.29 mL (1.66 mmoles) of DIPEA. After 3 hrs an additional 0.0182 g (0.085 mmole) of di-*tert*-butyldicarbonate was added. After 2 hrs, the reaction mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was partitioned between *tert*-butylmethylether and 0.2N aqueous HCl. The organic layer was washed with 15 ml of sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and finally 15 ml of brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to obtain 0.294 g of crude material which was purified over silica gel (heptane/EtOAc: 80/20) to furnish 0.201 g of **15**. Yield 75 %. M.p. 89-90 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  +35.8 (c 1.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (KBr) v 3401, 2982, 2929, 1695, 1517, 1250, 1175, 1058 cm<sup>-1</sup>; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 67.26%; H, 8.46%; N, 4.35%. Found: C, 66.79%; H, 8.30%; N, 4.02%; MH<sup>+</sup> (ESP): 322; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.13 (s, 3H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C); 1.16 (s, 9H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>C-OCO); 1.27 (s, 3H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C); 2.68 (m, 2H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 3.46 (m, 1H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 3.70 (m, 3H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O + CH-NH-Boc); 3.89 (m, 1H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH-O); 4.60 (m, 1H, NH-CO); 7.06 (m, 5H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>).

## [(1R, 2S)-2,3-dihydroxy-1-(phenylmethyl)propyl]carbamic Acid, 1,1-Dimethylethyl Ester 16

To a solution of 0.132 g (0.41 mmole) of **15** in 6 mL of MeOH was added 3 mL of a 0.068 M solution (0.204 mmole) of *p*-toluenesulfonic acid, hydrate in MeOH. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hrs at room temperature. To complete the reaction 3 mL (0.204 mmole) of an additional PTSA 0.068 M solution in MeOH was added and the reaction mixture stirred for one more hour. The reaction was quenched with 0.057 g (0.41 mmole) of solid K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. The reaction mixture was diluted with 15 mL of EtOAc and washed three times with 15 mL of brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) to furnish after silica gel chromatography (EtOAc/heptane: 40/.60) 0.08 g of **16** in 70% yield. M.p. 90-91 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  +35.6 (c 3, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) (Lit.<sup>11</sup>  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  +36.8 (c 1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.40 (s, 9H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>C-OCO); 2.9 (d, 2H, J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.5 H, Ph-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH); 3.33 (m, 1H, CH-NH-Boc); 3.50 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>-OH); 3.55 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>-OH); 3.67 (m, 1H, HO-CH-CH<sub>2</sub>OH); 3.91 and 4.99 (2m, 2H, OH); 7.21-7.28 (m, 5H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>).

## **REFERENCES AND NOTES**

- 1. For a recent review of anti-HIV drugs, see: De Clerq, E. J. Med. Chem., 1995, 38, 2491.
- Barrish, J.C.; Gordon, E.; Alam, M.; Lin, P-F.; Bisacchi, G.S.; Chen, P.; Cheng, P.T.W.; Fritz, A.W.; Greytok, J.A.; Hermsmeier, M.A.; Humphreys, W.G.; Lis, K.A.; Marella, M.A.; Merchant, Z.; Mitt, T.; Morrison, R.A.; Obermeier, M. T.; Pluscec, J.; Skoog, M.; Slusarchyk, W.A.; Spergel, S.H.; Stevenson, J.M.; Sun, C-q.; Sundeen, J.E.; Taunk, P.; Tino, J.A.; Warrack, B.M.; Colonno, R.J.; Zahler, R. J. Med. Chem., 1994, 37, 1758.
- a) Rich, D.H.; Vara Prasad J.V.N.; Sun, C-Q.; Green, J.; Mueller, R.; Houseman, K.; MacKenzie, D.; Malkovsky, M. J. Med. Chem., 1992, 35, 3803.
  b) Ng, J.S.; Przybyla, C.A.; Liu, C.; Yen, J.C.; Muellner, F.W.; Weyker, C.L. Tetrahedron 1995, 51, 6397.
- 4. Luche, J.L.; Rodriguez-Hahn, L.; Crabbe, P. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun., 1978, 14, 601.
- It is likely that dehydrohalogenation first took place to give an intermediate similar to 17, followed by a Michael addition of the acetoxy anion to provide racemic 7. An intermediate analogous to 17 has already been described, see Gordon, E.W.; Pluscec, J.; Delaney, N.G.; Natarajan, S.; Sundeen, J. *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 1984, 25, 3277.



- 6. Baker W.R.; Condon, S.L. J. Org. Chem., 1993, 58, 3277.
- 7. Claremon, D.A.; Lumma, P.K.; Phillips, B.T. J. Am. Chem. Soc., 1986, 108, 8265.
- 8. (R)-Isopropylidene glyceraldehyde 9 is now commercially available from Chemi (Milano, Italy).
- 9. Schmid, C.R.; Bryant, J.D.; Dowlatzedah, M.; Phillips, J.L.; Prather, D.E.; Schantz, R.D.; Sear, N.L.; Vianco, C.S. J. Org. Chem., 1990, 56, 4056.
- 10. Denmark, S.E.; Nicaise, O.; Edwards, J.P. J. Org. Chem., 1990, 55, 6219.
- 11. Hanson, G.J.; Lindberg, T. J. Org. Chem., 1985, 50, 5399.
- 12. Compound **16** (25,3*R*) displayed a specific rotation of  $[\alpha]_D^{20} + 35.6$  (c= 1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) which is in good agreement with literature data:  $[\alpha]_D^{20} 36.8$  (c= 1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) for the (2*R*,3*S*) enantiomer.<sup>11</sup>
- Jungheim L.N., Shepherd, T.A., Baxter, A.J., Burgess, J., Hatch, S.D., Lubbhusen, P., Wiskerchen, MA., Muesing, M. A. J. Med. Chem. 1996, 39, 96.

(Received in UK 12 February 1996)