

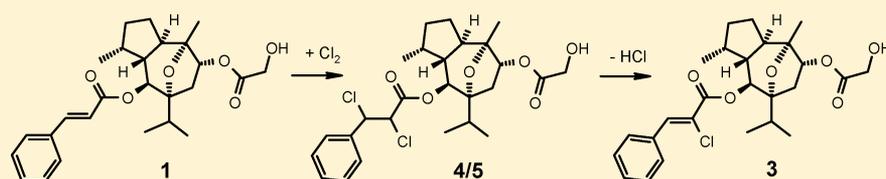
Chlorinated Englerins with Selective Inhibition of Renal Cancer Cell Growth

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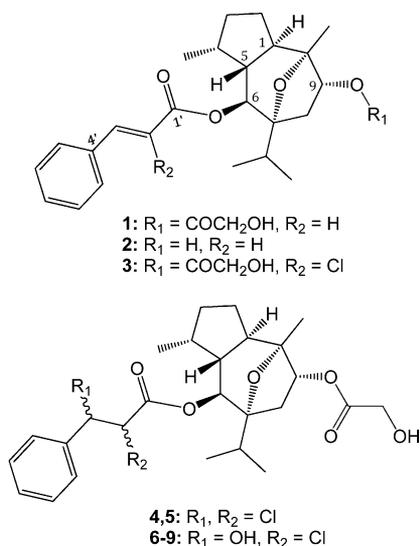
S Supporting Information



ABSTRACT: The chlorinated englerins (3–9) were isolated from *Phyllanthus engleri* and shown to selectively inhibit the growth of renal cancer cells. The compounds were shown to be extraction artifacts produced by exposure to chloroform decomposition products during their isolation. The most active compound, 3, was synthesized from englerin A (1).

Our group recently reported the isolation of two new sesquiterpenes, englerins A (1) and B (2), from the root bark and stem bark of *Phyllanthus engleri* Pax (Euphorbiaceae).¹ Englerin A displayed remarkable potency and selectivity in its inhibition of renal cancer cell line growth. Consequently, englerin A (1) has been under intensive preclinical investigation at the National Cancer Institute, and several groups have published the synthesis of englerin A^{2–7} and analogues.^{8,9}

At an early stage of this project, seven related bioactive compounds (3–9) were isolated, with these considered to be artifacts produced during the isolation procedure. Reported here are their structures and biological activity and the synthesis from 1 of the most active compound.



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

An organic extract of stem bark was separated using batch elution from a diol-bonded phase medium to give five fractions of increasing polarity. The methylene chloride-soluble fraction was separated via flash chromatography over silica gel, using mixtures of chloroform and methanol, to yield three fractions, which potently inhibited the growth of UO-31 renal cancer cells, but were inactive against SF-295 CNS cancer cells. It was determined that it was at this stage when the natural compounds were modified by chloroform that had apparently spontaneously generated Cl₂ on standing, since later attempts to purify the same fractions with newly purchased chloroform yielded only 1 and 2.

The modified fractions still possessed the selectivity of the parent extract toward renal cancer cells and were therefore subjected to HPLC to yield a total of seven compounds, 3–9. The structures were elucidated by spectroscopic techniques in comparison to data obtained for 1.

HRMS established the molecular formula of 3 as C₂₆H₃₃O₆Cl. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR data (Tables 1 and 2) differed only slightly from 1, with the only differences being replacement of the C-2', C-3' vinyl doublet with a 1H singlet at 7.94 ppm and alterations of the corresponding shifts for the three carbons of the cinnamate. This argued for substitution of chlorine at the C-2' position, which was confirmed by HMBC correlation of H-3' with C-4', C-5', and C-6'. The Z configuration of the double bond was established by analogy with the chemical shift of H-3' being δ 7.91 for Z-ethyl α-chlorocinnamate,¹⁰ while for 3 it was δ 7.94. In addition, ACD

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Table 1. ^{13}C NMR Data for 3–9 (125 MHz, d_4 -methanol)

carbon no.	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	48.9	48.9	48.9	48.6	49.0	48.8	48.8
2	25.5	25.3	25.2	25.5	25.4	25.2	25.3
3	32.0	31.7	31.9	31.9	32.0	31.7	31.9
4	32.4	31.8	31.9	32.3	32.4	31.8	31.3
5	47.9	47.4	47.5	47.8	47.9	47.5	47.6
6	74.8	74.3	74.3	73.9	73.9	73.9	73.8
7	86.5	86.2	86.0	86.5	86.5	86.3	86.2
8	40.8	40.1	39.9	40.3	40.2	40.2	39.9
9	76.6	76.4	76.4	76.5	76.6	76.5	76.5
10	86.2	85.9	85.1	86.1	86.0	86.0	85.9
11	17.2	17.0	16.8	17.2	17.2	17.1	18.2
12	34.1	31.9	31.2	32.7	32.2	32.4	32.2
13	17.7	17.5	17.3	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.0
14	18.6	18.2	18.1	18.4	18.3	18.3	17.3
15	19.2	19.1	18.6	19.2	19.2	19.1	19.1
1'	163.5	167.2	167.1	169.1	169.1	168.3	168.2
2'	122.9	62.9	62.8	61.4	60.9	63.5	63.5
3'	138.9	64.7	64.6	76.5	76.3	76.1	76.0
4'	134.2	138.7	138.6	141.7	141.6	141.1	141.0
5'	131.8	129.3	129.3	128.4	128.3	128.7	128.7
6'	129.7	130.0	130.0	129.3	128.5	129.6	129.6
7'	131.6	130.6	130.7	129.4	129.4	129.7	129.8
8'	129.7	130.0	130.0	129.3	128.5	129.6	129.6
9'	131.8	129.3	129.3	128.4	128.3	128.7	128.7
1''	174.0	173.9	174.0	174.0	174.0	174.0	174.0
2''	61.1	61.0	61.0	61.0	61.0	61.0	61.0

Table 2. ^1H NMR Data for 3–9 (500 MHz, d_4 -methanol, δ_{H} (m, J in Hz))

position	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	1.76 (m)	1.58 (m)	1.61 (m)	1.72 (m)	1.74 (m)	1.61 (m)	1.62 (m)
2a	1.75 (m)	1.63 (m)	1.66 (m)	1.72 (m)	1.74 (m)	1.18 (m)	1.67 (m)
2b	1.34 (m)	1.20 (m)	1.25 (m)	1.28 (m)	1.33 (m)	1.60 (m)	1.21 (m)
3a	2.02 (m)	1.77 (m)	1.85 (m)	1.98 (m)	2.00 (m)	1.76 (m)	1.86 (m)
3b	1.28 (m)	1.09 (m)	1.16 (m)	1.26 (m)	1.29 (m)	1.05 (m)	1.18 (m)
4	2.14 (m)	1.34 (m)	1.63 (m)	2.19 (m)	2.23 (m)	1.32 (m)	1.27 (m)
5	1.75 (m)	1.34 (m)	1.39 (m)	1.55 (m)	1.64 (m)	1.25 (m)	1.47 (m)
6	5.14 (d, 9.5)	4.80 (d, 9.5)	4.79 (d, 10.0)	5.02 (d, 10.0)	5.07 (d, 10.0)	4.81 (d, 7.0)	4.81 (d, 9.5)
8a	2.73 (dd, 14.5, 8.0)	2.44 (dd, 14.5, 8.0)	2.43 (dd, 14.5, 8.0)	2.45 (dd, 15.0, 8.0)	2.57 (dd, 15.0, 8.0)	2.42 (dd, 15.0, 8.0)	2.40 (dd, 14.5, 8.0)
8b	1.89 (dd, 14.5, 3.0)	1.80 (dd, 14.5, 3.0)	1.82 (dd, 14.5, 3.0)	1.81 (dd, 15.0, 3.0)	1.90 (dd, 15.0, 3.0)	1.81 (dd, 15.0, 3.0)	1.75 (dd, 14.5, 3.0)
9	5.27 (dd, 8.0, 3.0)	5.12 (dd, 8.0, 3.0)	5.15 (dd, 8.0, 3.0)	5.18 (dd, 8.0, 3.0)	5.23 (dd, 8.0, 3.0)	5.11 (dd, 8.0, 3.0)	5.15 (dd, 8.0, 3.0)
11	0.93 (d, 7.0)	0.56 (d, 6.5)	0.72 (d, 7.0)	0.89 (d, 7.0)	0.93 (d, 7.0)	0.62 (d, 7.0)	0.64 (d, 7.0)
12	1.87 (m)	1.46 (m)	1.27 (m)	1.87 (m)	1.88 (m)	1.66 (m)	1.82 (m)
13	0.97 (d, 7.0)	0.84 (d, 7.0)	0.64 (d, 7.0)	0.95 (d, 7.5)	0.99 (d, 6.5)	0.89 (d, 7.0)	0.77 (d, 6.5)
14	1.02 (d, 6.5)	0.89 (d, 7.0)	0.80 (d, 6.5)	0.98 (d, 7.0)	1.01 (d, 6.5)	0.92 (d, 6.5)	0.78 (d, 7.0)
15	1.19 (s)	1.10 (s)	1.11 (s)	1.16 (s)	1.19 (s)	1.11 (s)	1.11 (s)
2'		5.02 (d, 9.5)	4.98 (d, 10.0)	4.40 (d, 9.0)	4.36 (d, 9.0)	4.58 (d, 8.5)	4.54 (d, 9.0)
3'	7.94 (s)	5.31 (d, 9.5)	5.27 (d, 10.0)	4.88 (d, 9.0)	4.90 (d, 9.0)	4.93 (d, 8.5)	4.92 (d, 9.0)
5'	7.87 (brd, 7.5)	7.47 (brdd, 8.0, 3.0)	7.48 (brdd, 7.5, 2.0)	7.43 (d, 7.0)	7.44 (dd, 8.0, 2.0)	7.39 (dd, 8.0, 2.0)	7.40 (dd, 8.0, 1.5)
6'	7.45 (m)	7.37 (m)	7.37	7.36 (dd, 8.0, 7.0)	7.36 (dd, 8.0, 7.0)	7.36 (dd, 8.0, 7.0)	7.35 (m)
7'	7.45 (m)	7.37 (m)	7.37	7.31 (brd, 8.0)	7.33 (d, 7.0)	7.31 (d, 7.0)	7.35 (m)
8'	7.45 (m)	7.37 (m)	7.37	7.36 (dd, 8.0, 7.0)	7.36 (dd, 8.0, 7.0)	7.36 (dd, 8.0, 7.0)	7.35 (m)
9'	7.87 (brd, 7.5)	7.47 (brdd, 8.0, 3.0)	7.48 (brdd, 7.5, 2.0)	7.43 (d, 7.0)	7.44 (dd, 8.0, 2.0)	7.39 (dd, 8.0, 2.0)	7.40 (dd, 8.0, 1.5)
2''	4.15 (s)	4.12 (s)	4.12 (s)	4.13 (s)	4.13 (s)	4.12 (s)	4.11 (s)

predictions of shifts for this proton were δ 7.13 (*E*) and 7.85 (*Z*), respectively. The UV maximum at 284 nm was consistent with an intact cinnamate moiety, showing only a small shift from the 279 nm maximum of **1**. Thus, **3** was assigned as [*Z*]-2'-chloroenglerin A.

Compounds **4** and **5** gave identical molecular formulas of $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_6\text{Cl}_2$, as determined by HRMS. The isotope abundances for the $M + H + 1$, $M + H + 2$, and $M + H + 3$ ions were indicative of a formula with two chlorine atoms. As with **3**, the core sesquiterpene signals in the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were very similar to those of **1**, with the only

substantive differences at C-1', C-2', and C-3', where the ^{13}C NMR signals for C-2' and C-3' were changed to δ 62.9 and 64.7 for **4** and δ 62.8 and 64.6 for **5**, respectively, with a pair of corresponding ^1H NMR doublets at δ 5.02 and 5.31 for **4** and δ 4.98 and 5.27 for **5** also observed, each with ca. 10 Hz couplings. This suggested compounds **4** and **5** to be a pair of epimeric dichloro derivatives, namely, 2',3'-dichlorodihydroenglerin A. The absolute configuration of the C-2' and C-3' centers was not determined for either of these compounds.

Compounds **6–9** were found to all share the same molecular formula, $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{35}\text{O}_7\text{Cl}$, based on HRMS measurements. The chemical shifts of the carbon signals for C-3' were observed from ca. δ 64 to ca. δ 76 for these four compounds. This information, coupled with the addition of water compared to **3**, indicated that these compounds are epimeric chlorohydrins. As with the previous compound **3**, HMBC correlations of H-3' with carbons C-4', C-5', and C-6' established that the hydroxy group was at C-3', thereby locating the chlorine at C-2'. The absolute configurations of these epimers were not determined.

All of the compounds were tested in the NCI 60-cell assay, and most showed some selectivity for renal cancer cell lines, with **3** having the best potency and renal cancer selectivity, being approximately 2.5-fold less active than **1**. The mean GI_{50} values and individual GI_{50} values for eight renal cancer cell lines are tabulated in Table 3. It is notable that the pairs of epimers **4**

Table 3. Selected NCI 60-Cell-Line Data for Compounds **3–7**

	1 , <i>n</i> = 3	3 , <i>n</i> = 1	4 , <i>n</i> = 1	5 , <i>n</i> = 1	6 , <i>n</i> = 1	7 , <i>n</i> = 1
mean GI_{50} (μM)	3.7	5.6	8.3	12	6.9	12
range at GI_{50} (log units)	3.30	3.48	2.65	3.42	3.42	2.43
Individual Renal Cancer Cell Line GI_{50} Values (μM)						
786–0	1.1	10	12	12	1.7	11
A498	0.011	0.028	0.14	0.067	0.18	0.66
ACHN	0.017	0.041	0.14	0.049	0.32	1.4
CAKI-1	16	0.39	0.42	0.16	0.46	5.0
RXF 393	0.011	0.059	n.t. ^a	n.t. ^a	0.51	0.39
SN12C	1.1	0.56	0.93	1.0	0.63	4.7
TK-10	1.9	21	18	25	17	27
UO-31	0.015	0.035	0.39	0.16	0.25	1.9

^aAssay failure; no data for this cell line.

and **5**, as well as **6** and **7**, showed significant differences in potency for many of the cell lines. Compounds **8** and **9** were less potent and did not meet criteria in the one-dose NCI 60-cell test for further testing in the full screen.

The identity and likely origin of **3** was confirmed by synthesis from englerin A (**1**), using a known method, wherein molecular chlorine is generated from HCl by treatment with oxone.

Following dichlorination, dehydrohalogenation with Et_3N yielded **3** in modest yield.¹⁰ While it is not possible to specify the conditions that inadvertently led to dehydrohalogenation, it is likely that molecular chlorine was generated in stored CHCl_3 and reacted with the biosynthetic product englerin A (**1**) to form the dichloro products **4** and **5**, which then yielded **3** (Scheme 1). The generation of molecular chlorine by photo-oxidation has long been recognized due to chloroform's importance in 19th century anesthesia, with phosgene and hydrochloric acid among the other major products generated.^{11–13}

In support of this mechanism, new ^1H NMR peaks were observed in samples of **4** and **5** stored dry at -20°C for extended periods, which precisely matched those of **3**, indicating that spontaneous conversion of both **4** and **5** to **3** can occur. These new peaks were ca. 30% of the area of the parent. A UV absorbance maximum at 284 nm was also observed in the stored samples of **4** and **5**, which may be accounted for by the formation of **3**. It is also possible that the bioactivity observed for **4** and **5** may be due to in situ production of **3** in cell culture. In contrast, the chlorohydrins **6–9**, as well as **3**, were stable under the storage conditions used.

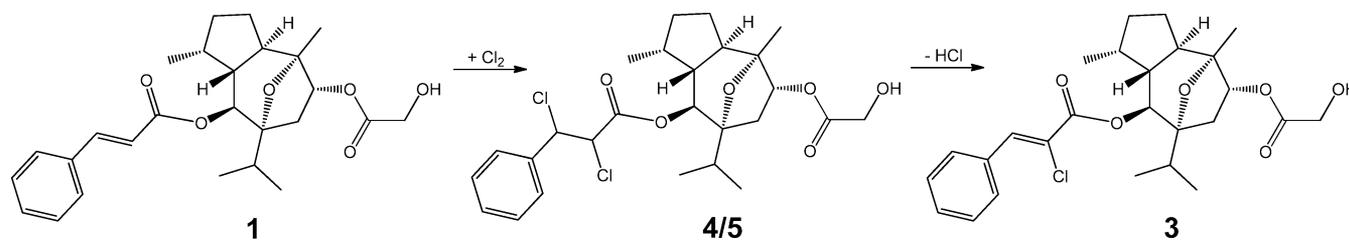
Our group is attempting to produce other 2'-halogenated products via this route, since direct iodination or fluorination could be used to synthesize isotopically labeled tracer compounds that may be useful in understanding the distribution and metabolism of englerin A (**1**) in animals and humans.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Experimental Procedures. Solvents were of HPLC grade, with chloroform stabilized with a hydrocarbon (amylene) stabilizer. Optical rotations ($[\alpha]_D$) were obtained on a Perkin-Elmer 241 polarimeter in a 100 by 2 mm cell (units $10^{-1} \text{ deg cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$), while ultraviolet (UV) absorption spectra were obtained using a Varian Cary 50 Bio UV–visible spectrophotometer. NMR experiments were performed on a Varian INOVA 500 MHz NMR spectrometer. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were referenced to the deuterated solvent peaks. High-resolution mass spectrometric measurements were acquired on an Agilent 6520 Accurate Mass Q-TOF instrument with internal reference masses at 121.05087 and 922.00979, both to within 5 ppm.

High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was performed using a Varian ProStar 210/215 solvent delivery module equipped with a Varian ProStar 325 UV–vis detector, operating under Star 6.41 chromatography workstation software. HPLC-DAD-MS(\pm) analysis was carried out on an Agilent 1100 series separation module binary pump system with a vacuum degasser, thermostat control (40°C) column compartment, well-plate autosampler, diode array detector, and quadrupole mass detector. Equipment was under the control of Agilent ChemStation (Revision A.10.02) software. Standard HPLC-DAD-MS gradient conditions were 0.5 mL/min gradient elution from 90% H_2O (5% $\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H}$)–MeCN to 100% MeCN over 20 min

Scheme 1



followed by a 5 min flush with 100% MeCN, using a Phenomenex Jupiter C₁₈ 150 × 2 mm, 5 μm column.

Plant Material. Specimens of *Phyllanthus engleri* were collected on February 6, 1989, by Roy Gereau and James Lovett of the Missouri Botanical Garden and C. O. Kyalawa and Z. H. Mbwambo near Ilembula, Njombe District, Iringa Region, Tanzania (longitude 8°50' S, latitude 34°31' E), at an elevation of 1380 m. The plant (voucher specimen Q66T-3055, <http://www.tropicos.org/Specimen/149907>) was identified definitively by A. Radcliffe-Smith of the Royal Botanical Garden, Kew, Richmond, UK. The specimen collected was a 3 m tall tree of 15 cm dbh in a *Brachystegia-Combretum* woodland. Leaf (377 g dry wt.), stem bark (387 g), stem wood (255 g), root bark (201 g), and root wood (312 g) samples were collected separately and dried in the field.

Extraction and Isolation. Dried plant material was ground and extracted using the standard NCI extraction protocol.¹⁴ The root bark yielded 14.85 g of an organic solvent extract (N042029). A 2.61 g portion of this material was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂–CH₃OH (1:1) and coated on 27 g of diol-bonded phase media using a rotary evaporator. The medium was resuspended in hexane and evaporated to remove all of the initial solvent to produce a dry flowable powder, which was packed in a Buchner funnel over an equal amount of uncoated diol medium, then eluted batchwise with 150 mL of hexane, CH₂Cl₂, EtOAc, acetone, and CH₃OH in succession. Evaporation gave 612 mg of a CH₂Cl₂ fraction.

A subsample of 515 mg of the CH₂Cl₂ fraction was chromatographed on a 5 × 14 cm flash column of silica gel. The sample was dissolved in CHCl₃ and eluted with increasing amounts of CH₃OH in CHCl₃ [CHCl₃, CHCl₃–CH₃OH (4:1, v/v), CHCl₃–CH₃OH (1:1), CH₃OH]. Fractions were combined on the basis of TLC, and fraction E (194 mg) was found to have excellent selective activity in the two-cell assay (IC₅₀ 0.18 μg/mL in UO-31, 93 μg/mL in SF-295). Adjacent fractions had lesser activity (D: 187 mg, IC₅₀ 0.91 μg/mL in UO-31, >100 μg/mL in SF-295; F: 57 mg, IC₅₀ 14 μg/mL in UO-31, >100 μg/mL in SF-295). Recovery of biological activity was judged acceptable within the limits of assay precision. To guard against loss of activity in the next step, C₁₈ HPLC, an experiment was conducted wherein 10 mg of the active fraction from a parallel separation fraction from the stem bark was applied to a prewashed Bondesil C₁₈ SPE cartridge and eluted with CH₃OH, 50% CH₃OH–THF, and then THF. The fractions were tested in the tracking assay, and the methanol eluate was found active against UO-31 cells (IC₅₀ 0.03 μg/mL), but not against SF-295 cells (IC₅₀ >100 μg/mL), while the THF eluates were entirely inactive against either cell line. The parent fraction, tested in tandem, was also extremely active against UO-31 but not SF-295 (IC₅₀'s 0.04 μg/mL, >100 μg/mL, respectively). This established that the bioactive compounds could be eluted from a C₁₈ column and that the conditions of separation were unlikely to alter the active compounds in such a way that activity would be destroyed.

The active fraction E was then chromatographed by HPLC using a Varian Microsorb 60–8 C₁₈ column (250 × 21.4 mm) using a CH₃OH–H₂O gradient starting at 75% CH₃OH for 5 min, linearly to 85% at 32 min, to 100% CH₃OH at 36 min, held, and returned to original conditions at 40 min, with a flow rate of 32 mL/min. Injections were made with 40 mg of sample in 400 μL of DMSO per injection. Detection was at 225 nm. Consistent separations were obtained, with three groups of peaks separated (see Supporting Information). The first, earliest eluting peaks appeared at 7–12 min, while a larger series of more abundant peaks eluted from 20 to 30 min, and the third group eluted after 35 min. This late group of peaks showed no cytotoxic activity and by ¹H NMR spectroscopy appeared to be composed of phytosterols, consistent with the report of phyllanthol from the plant many years ago.¹⁵ The peaks in the two earlier eluting clusters were subjected to HPLC-MS and ¹H NMR spectroscopic analysis and appeared to be a related series of C₂₆ compounds.

Eluting at 27 min was compound 3 (8.9 mg), well separated from other peaks (chromatogram in Supporting Information). At 25 min, the first of a poorly resolved set of three compounds was further purified by rechromatography in the same solvent without the 100%

CH₃OH step in the gradient to give 4.3 mg of 4. The middle peak was rechromatographed on a 10 × 250 mm C₈ Dynamax column, isocratic at 80% aqueous MeCN for 25 min, to 100% MeCN at 30 min to give 4.8 mg of 5, eluting at 16 min. The earliest cluster of peaks in the primary HPLC separation yielded 6 (3.6 mg, 10 min), 7 (3.5 mg, 12 min), 8 (3.8 mg, 8 min), and 9 (4.0 mg, 9 min).

[Z]-2'-Chloroenglerin A (3). NSC#746567: white solid; [α]_D –60 (c 0.1, EtOH); UV (EtOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 284 (4.14) nm; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data in d₄-MeOH, see Tables 1 and 2; in CDCl₃, see Supporting Information; ESIMS m/z 477 [M + H]⁺ 477 (100%), 478 (27%), 479 (35%), 480 (9%); HRESIMS m/z 477.2054 (calcd for C₂₆H₃₄ClO₆, 477.2038).

2',3'-Dichlorodihydroenglerin A (epimer 1) (4). NSC#746565: white solid; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data in d₄-MeOH, see Tables 1 and 2; in d₆-DMSO, see Supporting Information; ESIMS m/z 513 [M + H]⁺ 513 (100%), 514 (29%), 515 (65%), 516 (19%); HRESIMS m/z 513.1771 (calcd for C₂₆H₃₅Cl₂O₆, 513.1805).

2',3'-Dichlorodihydroenglerin A (epimer 2) (5). NSC#746566: white solid; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data in d₄-MeOH, see Tables 1 and 2; in d₆-DMSO, see Supporting Information; ESIMS m/z 513 [M + H]⁺ 513 (100%), 514 (33%), 515 (80%), 516 (15%); HRESIMS m/z 513.1814 (calcd for C₂₆H₃₅Cl₂O₆, 513.1805).

2'-Chloro-3'-hydroxydihydroenglerin A (epimer 1) (6). NSC#746563: white solid; [α]_D –47 (c 0.3, EtOH); ¹H and ¹³C NMR data in d₄-MeOH, see Tables 1 and 2; in d₆-DMSO, see Supporting Information; ESIMS m/z 495 [M + H]⁺ 495 (100%), 496 (31%), 497 (35%), 498 (11%); HRESIMS m/z 495.2138 (calcd for C₂₆H₃₅ClO₇, 495.2144).

2'-Chloro-3'-hydroxydihydroenglerin A (epimer 2) (7). NSC#746564: white solid; [α]_D –10 (c 0.3, EtOH); ¹H and ¹³C NMR data in d₄-MeOH, see Tables 1 and 2; in d₆-DMSO, see Supporting Information; ESIMS m/z 495 [M + H]⁺ 495 (100%), 496 (30%), 497 (35%), 498 (10%); HRESIMS m/z 495.2134 (calcd for C₂₆H₃₅ClO₇, 495.2144).

2'-Chloro-3'-hydroxydihydroenglerin A (epimer 3) (8). NSC#746858: white solid; [α]_D –37 (c 0.3, EtOH); ¹H and ¹³C NMR data in d₄-MeOH, see Tables 1 and 2; ESIMS m/z 495 [M + H]⁺ 495 (100%), 496 (26%), 497 (36%), 498 (10%); HRESIMS m/z 495.2149 (calcd for C₂₆H₃₅ClO₇, 495.2144).

2'-Chloro-3'-hydroxydihydroenglerin A (epimer 4) (9). NSC#746859: white solid; [α]_D –28 (c 0.4, EtOH); ¹H and ¹³C NMR data in d₄-MeOH, see Tables 1 and 2; ESIMS m/z 495 [M + H]⁺ 495 (100%), 496 (25%), 497 (34%), 498 (8%); HRESIMS m/z 495.2112 (calcd for C₂₆H₃₅ClO₇, 495.2144).

Synthesis of (Z)-2'-Chloroenglerin A (3). To a mixture of englerin A (1) (26 mg, 58 μmol) and oxone (178 mg, 292 μmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.5 mL) was added 2 N aqueous HCl (64 μL, 128 μmol of HCl(aq)), in a single portion at room temperature. After stirring for 2 h at rt, Et₃N (49 μL, 350 μmol) was added, and the solution was left on the magnetic stir pad overnight, ~12 h. The reaction mixture was partitioned against 10 mL of CH₂Cl₂ and 10 mL of water, and the aqueous layer was washed two more times with 10 mL of CH₂Cl₂. The CH₂Cl₂ layers were combined and partitioned against a concentrated brine solution. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and the supernatant was dried under vacuum. The crude product was passed through a silica gel column to give a fraction containing a mixture of Z and E isomers of 2'-chloroenglerin A as a clear oil (0.14 g, 40% yield, Z:E ratio of 9:1 by HPLC/ELSD). Purification of (Z)-2'-chloroenglerin A by reversed-phase C₁₈ preparative HPLC, using methanol–water, gave 2 mg of the Z isomer 3 as well as several products with molecular mass corresponding to the chlorohydrins 6–9.

(Z)-2'-Chloroenglerin A (3): ¹H NMR (d₄-MeOH) δ 7.96 (1H, s, H-3'), 7.89 (2H, m, H-5', H-9'), 7.46 (3H, m, H-6', H-7', H-8'), 5.29 (1H, dd, J = 3.0, 8.0 Hz, H-9), 5.15 (1H, d, J = 9.3 Hz, H-6), 4.16 (2H, s, H-2''), 2.75 (1H, dd, J = 8.0, 14.6 Hz, H-8a), 2.15 (1H, m, H-4), 2.03 (1H, m, H-3a), 1.90 (1H, m, H-8b), 1.88 (1H, m, H-12), 1.76 (3H, m, H-1, H-2a, H-5), 1.32 (2H, m, H-2b, H-3b), 1.20 (3H, s, H-15), 1.03 (3H, d, J = 6.8 Hz, H-14), 0.98 (3H, d, J = 7.1 Hz, H-13), 0.94 (3H, d, J = 7.1 Hz, H-11); ¹³C NMR (d₄-MeOH) δ 174.0 (C-1'), 163.5 (C-

1'), 138.9 (C-3'), 134.2 (C-4'), 131.8 (C-9'), 131.8 (C-5'), 131.6 (C-7'), 129.7 (C-8'), 129.7 (C-6'), 122.8 (C-2'), 86.5 (C-7), 86.2 (C-10), 76.6 (C-9), 74.7 (C-6), 61.0 (C-2"), 49.0 (C-1), 47.8 (C-5) 40.8 (C-8), 34.1 (C-12), 32.4 (C-4), 32.0 (C-3), 25.5 (C-2), 19.2 (C-15), 18.6 (C-13), 17.7 (C-14), 17.2 (C-11).

Biological Assays. Fractionation was guided by a 48 h cell growth assay using either XTT or SRB end points with the UO-31 or A498 renal cancer cell lines. NCI 60-cell tests were conducted as described previously.¹⁶

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

● Supporting Information

Full NMR data for 3–9, NCI 60-cell testing data for 3–9, and an HPLC chromatogram. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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■ DEDICATION

Dedicated to Dr. Gordon M. Cragg, formerly Chief, Natural Products Branch, National Cancer Institute, Frederick, Maryland, for his pioneering work on the development of natural product anticancer agents.

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