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SYNTHESIS AND ANTIBACTERIAL ACTIVITY OF CEPHALOSPORINS HAVING HYDROXAMIC ACID AT C-7 POSITION

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Abstract: The synthesis and *in vitro* activity of cephalosporins with hydroxamic acid at the 7-position are described. Anti-pseudomonal activity of the compound 11a was shown to be comparable to that of ceftazidime. Especially, the compound 11a exhibited good activity against Gram-positive bacteria including *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and *Staphylococcus aureus*. Copyright © 1996 Elsevier Science Ltd

Cephalosporin antibiotics are still among the most effective drugs for the treatment of various infectious diseases. The opportunistic infectious diseases caused by Gram-negative bacteria such as *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* have become a serious problem in clinical use¹. In the course of the investigation of antipseudomonal agents, we have recently developed cephalosporins bearing benzotriazolium methyl group at the 3-position².

On the other hand, it has been reported that the enhancement of anti-pseudomonal activity depends on the penetration of the outer membrane³. The catechol-substituted cephalosporins have potent antipseudomonal activity by utilizing a unique transport pathway⁴. These results have been based on the background that most microbes utilizing hydroxamic acids, catechols, and α -hydroxy acids as metal-binding components of siderophore⁵. However, most of the catecholic cephalosporins and related compounds were exhibited to be ineffective for Gram-positive bacteria such as *S. aureus* especially *in vitro* potency⁶.

Thus, our studies have been concerned to synthesize non-catecholic cephalosporins through modification of the 7-position, which are expected to give the enhancement of broad spectrum and anti-pseudomonal activity. In this paper, we wish to describe the synthesis and antimicrobial activity of cephalosporins having hydroxamic acid at the 7-position.

The protected hydroxylamine 8 was synthesized by the procedure as shown in Scheme I. First, the conversion of N-hydroxyphthalimide to the protected hydroxamate 3 was performed by protection of the alcohol followed by sequential deprotection of the phthaloyl group and protection of the resulting amine. Second, N-hydroxy phthalimide was treated with 2-bromoethanol in Mitsunobu condition to afford 4, followed by introduction of 3 to give 5. After deprotection of BOC group, the resulting amine 6 was acetylated and



Reagents: i) *p*-methoxybenzyl chloride / DMSO / K_2CO_3 , rt, 3h (99 %), ii) $H_2NNH_2.H_2O$ / CH_3OH , rt, 10h and then 6N HCl / CH₃OH, rt, 1h (79 %), iii) Di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate / THF / H_2O / Et_3N , rt, 1.5h (95 %), iv) 2-bromoethanol / Ph₃P / THF / diethyl azodicarboxylate, $0^{\circ}C$ - rt, 4h (70 %), v) 3 / DMF / NaH, 0 - $10^{\circ}C$, 15h (52 %), vi) 4M HCl / ethyl acetate, $0^{\circ}C$ - rt, 10h (85 %), vii) Ac₂O / CH₂Cl₂/ Et_3N , $0^{\circ}C$ - rt, 1.5h (98 %), viii) H₂NNH₂.H₂O / CH₃OH, rt, 14h (100 %).



Reagents: i) 8 / C_2H_5OH / CHCl₃, rt, 10h (78 %), ii) ACLE / CH₂Cl₂ / dimethylamine / 2,6-lutidine, -30^oC, 0.5h and then POCl₃ / CH₂Cl₂, -30 - -15^oC, 4h (55 %), iii) heterocycles / acetone / KI, rt, 3 - 5h and then TFA / anisole, 0^oC - rt, 5h.

subsequently deprotected the phthaloyl group with hydrazine monohydrate to furnish 8.

The cephalosporins synthesized were outlined as shown in Scheme II. The protected hydroxylamine **8** was introduced with glyoxylic acid⁷ to give the iminoacetic acid **9**. The compound **9** was coupled with *p*-methoxy benzyl 7 β -amino-3-chloromethyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylate (ACLE)⁸ in the presence of POCl₃ to afford chloromethyl cephem **10**. The compound **10** was reacted with various heterocycles⁹ and deprotection of the resulting products was performed by TFA in the presence of anisole to afford TFA salts. These TFA salts were neutralized by NaHCO₃ solution and purified by column chromatography on Diaion HP-20 to give **11a-e** (**11a**¹⁰, 18 %; **11b**, 11 %; **11c**, 10 %; **11d**, 12 %; **11e**, 15 %, respectively).

Organisms	11a	11b	11c	11d	11e	CAZ
S. pyogenes A77	0.007	0.025	0.013	0.007	0.004	0.098
S. pneumoniae type I	0.049	0.025	0.049	0.049	0.025	0,195
S. aureus Smith	3.125	1,563	12.5	12.5	0.781	6.25
S. aureus C2379 (MRSA)	12.5	12.5	100	50	6.25	50
E. coli DC 0	0.781	1.563	0.781	12.5	0.391	0.195
E. coli DC 2	0.195	1,563	0.098	0.391	0.195	0.098
K. pneumoniae NCTC 9632	0.098	0.025	0.098	0. 78 1	0.195	0.049
S. marcescens IFO 12648	0.391	3.125	1.563	12.5	0.781	0.098
P. aeruginosa 9027	6.25	12.5	12.5	50	6.25	3.125
P. aeruginosa 1 7 71	0.781	3.125	3.125	25	1.563	0.781
P. aeruginosa 1771M	0.391	3.125	0.391	6.25	0.781	0.391
P. aeruginosa C-1198	25	50	50	>100	50	>100
E. cloacae P99	25	50	50	50	25	>100
P. vulgaris GN76	0.781	3.125	0.049	6.25	1.563	0.049

Table I. Antibacterial Activity of the Cephalosporin Analogues 11 (MICs : µg/ml, Inoculum size : 10⁷ cfu/ml).

Abbreviation: MRSA, Methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus



In vitro activity of cephalosporins 11a-e¹¹ along with comparative data for the ceftazidime (CAZ) are listed in Table I. Antibacterial activity of 11a-e was generally better than that of CAZ against Gram-positive

bacteria including *S. pneumoniae* and *S. aureus*. Although the compound **11e** showed the most potent activity against Gram-positive bacteria compared to **11a-d** and CAZ, it showed less active than that of CAZ in anti-pseudomonal activity. The compound **11a** exhibited better activity than CAZ against Gram-positive bacteria and its anti-pseudomonal activity was shown to be as good as that of CAZ. However, most of the analogues **11** except for **11a** were less active than CAZ against *P. aeruginosa*.

In conclusion, we have found that the compound **11a** with hydroxamic acid at C-7 showed antipseudomonal activity and contributed to the enhancement of the activity against Gram-positive bacteria. The further functional optimization of C-3 substituents including the introduction of hydroxamic acid at the C-3 position are under research.

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- 8. ACLE is available from Otsuka Chemical Co. Ltd., Japan.
- 9. The heterocycles of 11a, 11c and 11e were purchased from Aldrich Chemical Company. The heterocycle of 11b was prepared from 2,6-dichloropyridine by 3 steps in 65% yield and that of 11d was synthesized in 60% yield by condensing 4-pyridylcarbinol with 3 possessing acetyl group instead of BOC in Mitsunobu condition.
- 10. 11a : ¹H-NMR (200 MHz, DMSO- d_6 + D₂O) δ : 2.05(s, 3H), 3.45(d, 1H, J=18.8Hz) 3.72(d, 1H, J= 18.8Hz), 3.95(t, 2H, J=6.1Hz), 4.48(t, 2H, J=5.5Hz), 5.31(m, 2H), 5.80(d, 1H, J=4.8Hz), 7.18(s, 1H), 8.15(t, 2H, J=7.7Hz), 8.65(t, 1H, J=9.2Hz), 9.01(d, 2H, J=5.8Hz).
- 11. All the new compounds gave satisfactory spectroscopic data consistent with the proposed structures.

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