Preliminary communication

A new synthesis of lipid Y by the use of chemoselective debenzylation as a key step*

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Improved methods for chemoselective protection and deprotection of 2-amino-2deoxy-D-glucose derivatives remain important, especially in the field of lipid A syntheses¹⁻³. We describe here a chemoselective debenzylation of the glycosidic benzyl group of a 2amino-2-deoxy-D-glucose derivative that carries another benzyl group protecting a 3hydroxytetradecanoyl substituent at O-3, and the application of this strategy in an efficient synthesis (Scheme 1) of lipid Y (1, ref. 3), the lipid A component of Salmonella minnesota⁴.

Benzyl 2-amino-2-deoxy-4,6-O-isopropylidene- β -D-glucopyranoside¹ (2) was N-acylated with optically pure (R)-3-(hexadecanoyloxy)tetradecanoic acid-N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide in CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature for 20 h to afford 3[†] [97%, m.p. 72-74°, $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ -41.1° (c 1.13, CHCl₃)]. The 3-hydroxyl group was then acylated with (R)-3benzyloxytetradecanoic acid - N, N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide - N, N-dimethylaminopyridine in CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature for 20 h to afford 4[†] [79%, viscous oil, $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 21.2^\circ$ (c 1.80, CHCl₃)]. Selective hydrogenolysis of the glycosidic benzyl group was effected with 10% Pd-on-carbon at 1 bar 1:1 in THF-EtOH to afford the free aldose derivative 5^{\dagger} (64%, viscous oil) as a 3:1 $\alpha\beta$ anomeric mixture (¹H-n.m.r.). N.m.r. and t.l.c. analyses of this debenzylated product indicated high chemoselectivity. [However, a related experiment indicated that the benzyl group protecting a 2-(3-benzyloxy)tetradecanamido substituent was removed, under the same conditions, as readily as the glycosidic benzyl group.] Anomerization to the α from the β anomer could be accelerated by dissolving the mixture in 3:1 THF-AcOH at room temperature. The glycosidic hydroxyl group was phosphorylated by treatment initially with BuLi in THF at -70° , and then with dibenzylphosphorochloridate at the same temperature⁵. The mixture was immediately subjected to hydrogenolysis with 10% Pd-on-carbon to afford 6^{\dagger} [48%, viscous oil, $[\alpha]_{D}^{22}$ +17.4° (c 0.76, CHCl₃)], after purification with a column of silica gel (5:1 CHCl₃ $-CH_3OH$). Hydrogenolytic deprotection of the remaining benzyl group was effected with 30% Pd(OH)₂-on-carbon in 1:1 THF-MeOH to afford 7^{\dagger} [63%, m.p. 89-92° [α]_D²⁴ +15.0° (c

^{*}For Part I of the series: Lipid A and Related Compounds, see ref. 1.

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[†]Satisfactory analytical and spectral data were obtained for these compounds.





0.44, CHCl₃)]. The O-isopropylidene group was removed by heating in 90% AcOH for 15 min at 85°, and successive acidic precipitation (0.1M HCl at 0°), and lyophilization from 1,4-dioxane afforded 1^{\dagger} [90%, m.p. 85–90°, $[\alpha]_{D}^{25}$ +11.6° (c 0.38, CHCl₃) (lit.³ $[\alpha]_{D}^{13}$ +10.0° (c 0.53, CHCl₃))].

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