¹H and ¹³C Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Studies on the Tautomerism, Geometrical Isomerism, and Conformation of Some Cyclic Amidines, Guanidines, and Related Systems^{1a}

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Abstract: A general method is developed using ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts to determine unambiguously the predominant tautomeric form of many known aryl cyclic amidines and guanidines, 2-aminoimidazoles, 2-imino(amino)thiazines, and related tautomeric systems. In the case of 2-aryliminopyrrolidines, evidence for geometrical isomerism was found in both ¹H and ¹³C NMR experiments. These results support the conclusion that, in all these potentially tautomeric systems under the present studies, the predominant tautomer is in the *imino* form [ArN=C(NHR)R'] rather than the *amino* form [ArNHC(=NR)R'].

Many compounds containing an amidine moiety⁴ are known to possess interesting biological properties, particularly as antihypertensive agents.⁵ Structures of these compounds have usually been presented in the literature as a presumed, predominant tautomer without supporting evidence and, in general, distinction between the two tautomers is difficult. Tautomerism in cyclic amidines (1) has been extensively studied.⁶ In these systems, the problem is further complicated by the fact that the imino tautomer (1b)



can exist as two geometrical isomers, the interconversion of which is related to processes similar to those studied for certain imines,⁷ guanidines,⁸ and hydrazones.⁹

In this paper, we describe NMR studies of some aspects of tautomerism, geometrical isomerism, and conformational change in systems of type 1. In particular, we describe what appears to be a general method of distinguishing between 1a and 1b in the common and important cases where R is phenyl or substituted phenyl.

Cyclic Amidines. The 2-aminopyrroline-2-iminopyrrolidine tautomeric system was selected for investigation. The method of approach involved comparison of both 1 H and 13 C chemical shifts of the tautomeric system 2 with those of model compounds 3 and 4 in which the amino and imino



forms are established by appropriated N-methylation. The aromatic region of the proton spectra of models 8 and 9 are

shown in Figure 1, together with that of the parent compound 7, and chemical shift data are assembled in Table I. Two features of the spectra are particularly striking. First, the amino structure (e.g., 3) is characterized by a substantial deshielding (0.3 ppm) of the protons of the 5 position relative to the imino isomer. Secondly, the para protons of the imino form are abnormally shielded (ca. 0.5 ppm) relative to the meta protons and to those of benzene itself. The first feature is attributed to the fact that the 5-methylene group in 3 is adjacent to an sp² hybridized nitrogen atom, and its protons will experience additional deshielding analogous to that observed for allylic protons in alkenes. The second effect indicates an increase of electron density at the para position in the tautomer 4. Before considering the origin of this increased electron density, more direct evidence for its existence is presented from a consideration of ¹³C chemical-shift data.

The ¹³C chemical shifts for a series of cyclic amidines are presented in Table II. In the five-membered series, the assignments to the carbon atoms are straightforward. C(4), which experiences no serious perturbation of its charge density, is assigned to the resonance 18-22 ppm at highest field. It appears as a triplet in an off-resonance decoupled spectrum, as do the resonances in the region 28-30 and 44-56 ppm, the latter being assigned to C(5) since it is directly attached to a nitrogen atom. The resonances in the ranges 140-149 and 163-169 ppm are singlets in undecoupled spectra, and the latter is assigned to C(2) of the heterocyclic ring since oximes are known to absorb in the range 150-160 ppm,¹⁰ whereas the former is nearer the range for aromatic carbon attached to an amino- or acetamidonitrogen (Table III). The assignments of the signals to the remaining five carbon atoms are mostly unambiguous, being based on considerations of intensities and on the existence or absence of spin-spin coupling to directly bonded protons. Only in the case of the phenyl derivative 5 is there an ambiguity, and here the assignment is based on the reasonable assumption that the ortho- and para-carbon atoms will have closely similar chemical shifts. In the six-membered series, all resonances except those of C(4) and C(5) can be uniquely assigned.

The ¹³C chemical shifts clearly show that the para position of **9** has an electron density significantly in excess of that for the carbon atoms of benzene itself (δ 128.5)¹¹ and the para position of **8**. When due allowance for substituent

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Figure 1. Partial ¹H NMR spectra of compounds 7-9.

Table I. ¹H NMR Spectral Data of Cyclic Amidines

					δ			
		Solventa	H-3	H-4	H-5	CH3	m ^b	p ^b
	(5)	А	2.56 t	2.04 m	3.46 t			
	(6) (anti-6) ^c	A A	2.56 m 2.62 t	2.05 m	3.35 t	2.10	6.97	6.81
	(7)	A B C	(1.68– 2.50 m 2.04 t	-2.88)d 2.14 m 1.32 m	3.40 3.43 t 2.80 t		7.22	6.80
	(anti-7) ^c	Α	2.71 t					
$\overset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{H_{3}}{\underset{Cl}{\\Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\\Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\\Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\atopCl}{\\Cl}{\\Cl}{\\Cl}{\\Cl}{\\Cl}{\\Cl}{\\Cl}{\\$	(8)	А	(1.60–	.2.40) ^d	3.76 t	3.23	7.42	7.24
	(9)	А	(1.58-	.2.44) ^e	3.43 t	3.04	7.25	6.78

 ${}^{a}A = CDCl_{3}$; B = CH₃OH- d_{4} ; C = C₆D₆. ^bChemical shifts were determined by AB₂ analysis. ^cDetermined at -40° on a Perkin-Elmer R-32 90 MHz instrument. ^dUnresolved multiplet. ^eUnresolved multiplet remained unchanged at -35 and 60°.

effects is made,^{12,13} it is found that the ortho positions are similarly affected. This enhanced charge density could, in principle, arise from delocalization of the type shown in **13**,



but this is not feasible in the ortho, ortho'-disubstituted derivatives since the two participating π systems will be rendered orthogonal by steric effects. It is likely then that delocalization of the lone pair of the exocyclic nitrogen atom is responsible for the observed shieldings (cf. 14) of the ortho



and para positions, and that the two rings are orthogonal even in the unsubstituted case, 5. The hybridization of the exocyclic nitrogen atom must be between sp^2 and sp, although, as we shall see shortly, it certainly retains substantial sp^2 character. We conclude, therefore that shielding of the ortho and para carbon atoms results in the system Ar-N=C-N but not in Ar-N-C=N-. More convincing evidence in support of this statement is provided below where other classes of compounds are considered. Note that the use of this finding as a means of establishing the tautomeric structures of N-arylamidines does not require the presence of an unsubstituted para position, since the ¹³C chemical shift of this position can always be corrected for the presence of a directly attached substituent.¹²

Evidence for the existence of geometrical (syn and anti) isomers in most of the pyrrolidines is found in both the ¹H and ¹³C spectra, and the rates of their interconversion are comparable with the NMR time scales at room temperature. Figure 2 illustrates the temperature dependence of the proton spectrum of 7. The signals of H_a, H_b, and H_c appear

Journal of the American Chemical Society / 97:10 / May 14, 1975



^{*a*}In parts per million from internal Me₄Si in CDCl₃ at 31°. ^{*b*} Data for equilibrating mixture of syn and anti isomers. ^{*c*} Unobservable presumably because of exchange broadening. ^{*d*} Exchange broadened. ^{*e*} Determined at -60° . ^{*f*} Individual assignments cannot be made. ^{*g*} Determined at -70° .



as an unresolved multiplet at 37° in CDCl₃ solution. At 60°, this band is partially resolved into a broad singlet (two protons) overlapping with a two-proton multiplet at higher field (Figure 2a). The broad singlet corresponds to the coalesced H_a and H_b signals and the multiplet to the H_c signal. At -40° , the spectrum (Figure 2c) shows a new triplet at lower field (δ 2.80, J = 6 Hz) which integrates for 20% of a methylene group. This signal is assigned to H_b of the anti isomer which therefore constitutes 20% of the mixture. This assignment is based on the following considerations. The aromatic ring in the syn isomer must assume a conformation perpendicular to the plane of the pyrrolidine ring in order to minimize the steric interactions of the chlorine atoms with H_a. In this conformation, H_a is expected to be shielded by the aromatic ring current and therefore shifted to higher field. The observed downfield triplet (δ 2.80) is not consistent with this expectation and must therefore arise from H_b of the anti isomer. The triplet (at 60°) near δ

Table III. ¹³C Chemical Shifts^a for Some Anilines and Acetanilides

	s	0	т	р	ArCH3
C,H,NH,	147.9	116.3	130.0	119.2	
C,H,NHCOCH,	138.0	120.4	128.7	124.1	
2,6-(CH_),C,H_NH,	142.7	121.4	128.1	117.8	17.4
2,6-(CH,),C,H,NHCOCH,	135.5	128.5	128.0	127.2	18.3
2,6-C1,C,H,NH,	140.0	119.5	127.7	118.0	
2,6-Cl ₂ C ₆ H ₃ NHCOCH ₃	135.0	130.6	128.8	128.8	

^aSee footnote a, Table II.

3.50 becomes overlapping triplets at -40° indicating a small difference in the chemical shift of the C(5) protons in the two isomers. It was found that the population of isomers was influenced by solvent effects. In methanol- d_4 solution at -55° , the anti isomer constitutes 90% of the mixture and, in methanol- d_4 -CDCl₃ (1:15), the two isomers exist in equal proportions.

Two possible mechanisms for geometrical isomerization involving a doubly bonded nitrogen atom have been considered.⁷⁻⁹ One is referred to as the "lateral shift" mechanism involving a linear transition state. The second is termed the "internal rotation" mechanism and involves a rotation, of one-half of the molecule with respect to the other half, about an axis through the doubly bonded carbon and nitrogen atoms. In amidines, a third possibility, involving tautomerism, exists and may be referred to as the "tautomeric



Figure 2. Partial ¹H NMR spectra of compound 7 at various temperatures determined on a Perkin-Elmer R-32 90 MHz spectrometer.

rotation" mechanism. This process would involve prototropic tautomerization to the amino form 1a, rotation of the pyrroline ring about the exocyclic C-N bond, and a retrograde tautomerization to the other geometrical isomer, 1b. The first mechanism has been generally considered to be more favorable than the second for isomerization of the C=N-R moiety. The energetics of the third mechanism which we propose have not yet been defined. The second mechanism may be subject to acid catalysis and the third mechanism, depending as it does on a prototropic rearrangement, can involve either acid or base catalysis. In practice, the measurements were carried out in carefully purified chloroform, and we do not believe that acid catalysis is occurring. Although we have not carried out detailed line-shape analysis, it is clear that, at room temperature, the rate constants for isomerization are of the order of 10^2 sec^{-1} corresponding a free energy of activation of 15 kcal mol⁻¹ at room temperature. Such a low barrier is consistent with the lateral shift mechanism particularly in ortho, ortho'disubstituted phenyl derivatives in which we have clear evi-

Table IV. ¹H NMR Spectral Data of Cyclic Guanidines^a

			δ		
		H-4, H-5	CH3	mb	p ^b
$ \underset{H}{\overset{N}{\longrightarrow}} $	(15)	3.45 s			
$\overset{CH_3}{\swarrow}\overset{N}{\underset{H}{\overset{ }}}$	(16)	3.64 s	3.38		
	(17)	3.25 s	2.65	7.11¢	6.78 ^c
	(18)	3.41 s	2.16	7.00	6.83
$\left(\begin{array}{c} Cl \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ $	(19)	3.49 s		7.23	6.80
$\overset{Cl}{\underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}}_{Cl}^{N} \overset{N}{\underset{H}{}}_{H}^{CH_3}$	(20)	3.41 s	3.00d	7.28	6.82
$\overset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{l}{\underset{l}{\underset{l}{\underset{l}{\underset{l}{\underset{l}{\underset{l}{$	(21)	3.34 s	2.66	7.20	6.76

^{*a*}All spectra were determined in CDCl₃. ^{*b*} Chemical shifts were determined by AB₂ analysis. ^{*c*} Determined at 300 MHz. δ = 6.83 ppm for ortho H. ^{*d*} Unchanged at -40°.

dence for delocalization of the imino nitrogen lone pair into the aromatic ring. Such delocalization will be more highly developed in the linear transition state which will consequently be of lower energy. No evidence for the coexistence of both isomers was found in the spectra of 2-phenyliminopyrrolidine (5) itself. The chemical shift of the C(3) protons is 2.50 compared with 2.62 for the anti isomer of the o_io' dimethyl derivative. Absence of apparent isomerism in the phenyl system down to -30° could be a reflection of an extremely lower barrier, or merely because the anti isomer overwhelmingly predominates. The second alternative is at least plausible since the ratio of syn to anti changes from 4:1 in the dichloro derivative to 1:12 in the dimethyl system.

Of course, the very existence of geometrical isomerism in these systems constitutes firm proof that they have the imino structure, **1b**.

Cyclic Guanidines. Structures of potentially tautomeric cyclic guanidines have been generally expressed in the amino form as exemplified by the antihypertensive agent clonidine¹⁴ (19). We now show that this compound exists predominantly in the imino form.¹⁵ The proton chemical shifts for a series of cyclic guanidines are presented in Table IV. In the compounds 17 and 21, which are fixed in the imino structure, the para protons are substantially more shielded than the meta protons, in contrast to the "fixed" model 16 for the amino tautomer in which all five aromatic protons absorb in a narrow range (7.20–7.53 ppm). Thus, on the basis of the chemical shifts of the para protons, clonidine (19) together with 15, 18, and 20 is assigned the imino structure. These conclusions are confirmed by the ¹³C

Table V.	¹³ C Chemical	Shiftsa	for C	yclic	Guanidines
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		S	0	m	p	2	4	5	CCH ₃ or NCH ₃
	(15)	150.0	122.7	128.9	121.3	158.4	42.6	42.6	
$\overbrace{{}_{CH_3}^{CH_3}}^{CH_3} \stackrel{H}{\underset{H}{}_{H}}$	(18)	147.6	130.9	127.7	121.7	156.2	42.4	42.4	18.2
$\overset{Cl}{\underbrace{\displaystyle\bigwedge}_{Cl}} \overset{N}{\underset{H}{\overset{H}{}}} \overset{H}{\underset{H}{}}$	(19)	145.2	129.7	128.2	122.5	157.8	42.5	42.5	
$\overbrace{Cl}^{Cl} \underset{M}{\overset{H}{\underset{2} \underset{N_{T}}{\overset{N}{\underset{N_{T}}{\underset{N_{N}}{\underset{N}}{N_{N}}{N_{N}}{\underset{N_{N}}{N_{N}}{\underset{N_{N}}{\underset{N_{N}}{N_{N$	(20)	145.2	129.2	128.1	122.3	155.9	40.3	49.4	32.5
$\overbrace{Cl}^{Cl} \overbrace{H_3}^{CH_3}$	(21)	145.6	128.2	127.5	120.6	155.1	48.3	48.3	33.9

^aSee footnote a, Table II.

Table VI.	¹³ C Chemical Shifts ^a	of 2-Amino-1-a:	ryl- and 2-Arylaminoimidazoles
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 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	S	0	т	р	2	4	5
(23)	147.4	124.5	129.7	125.0	137.1	127.7	115.7
(24)	147.4	132.2	119.0	125.6	135.0	130.7	115.3
(25)¢	b	135.6	128.9	126.4	Ь	117.8	117.8
(26)	b	129.6	128.9	125.3	135.7	118.5	118.5



chemical shifts presented in Table V. As in the cyclic amidines, the imino tautomers are characterized by the shielded nature of the para carbon atom which fall in the same narrow range 120-123 ppm.

Further evidence for the predominant existence of the imino tautomer in this series is provided by a consideration of the chemical shifts of the methylene protons. In the imino forms, viz., **15**, **18**, and **19**, these protons absorb as singlets near δ 3.45. In contrast, those of the amino model **16** are found at 3.64 again as a singlet. In all probability this latter system is undergoing a rapid, degenerate tautomerism since no coupling between the NH and the methylene protons is observed. Thus the observed shift of 3.64 for **16** is presumably the average of 3.45 found for **15** and approximately 3.83. These predicted chemical shifts are in reasonable agreement with those found in the fixed model compound **22.**¹⁶

No evidence for geometrical isomerism has been observed in this series. It is known that the barriers to rotation



about the C = N in guanidines are substantially lower than in simple amidines.

2-Aminoimidazoles. Because the aromatic nature of the imidazole ring, both 1-aryl and 2-arylamino derivatives serve as models for the amino tautomer 1. In particular, the lone pair of electrons of the 1-nitrogen atom in 23 or 24 is a part of the aromatic π -electron system of the imidazole ring and is not expected to be available for delocalization into an 1-aryl substituent. ¹³C data for four compounds are recorded in Table VI. In all cases, the ortho and para protons are less shielded than the carbon atoms of the analogously substituted arylimino compounds discussed above.

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Table VII. ¹H NMR and Uv Spectral Data of 2-Amino(imino)thiazines

		NMR			δ				λ, mμ (ε)	
		vent ^a	H-4	н-5	H-6	CH₃	m ^b	pb	Observed ^c	Reported
	(27)	A B	3.35 t 3.44 t	2.00 m 2.02 m	2.92 t 3.04 t				260 (9575)	262 (8850) ^d
	(28)	A C	3.35 t 3.20 t	2.06 m 1.90 m	2.92 t 2.85 t	2.15 2.04	7.01	6.82	232 (13,830)	
$\left(\begin{array}{c} \left(\begin{array}{c} C \\ N \end{array} \right) \\ \left(\begin{array}{c} C \\ S \end{array} \right) \\ C \end{array} \right)$	(29)	С	3.31 t	2.00 m	3.00 t		7.45	7.02		
CH ₃										
	(30)	A B	3.38 t 3.38 t	2.18 m 2.13 m	2.90 t 2.87 t	3.17 3.12			232 (12,160) 270 (6040)	233 (14,000) ^d
	(31)	Α	3.73 t	1.83 m	2 .92 t	3.25			258 (5730)	260 (5650) ^e
	(32)									264 (4516) 288 (4300) ^e
$ \underbrace{ \overset{CH_{3}}{}_{CH_{3}}^{CH_{3}}}_{CH_{3}} \underbrace{ \overset{CH_{3}}{}_{S} }^{CH_{3}} $	(33)ſ	A	3.37 t	2.12 m	2.85 t	2.12 3.20				
$\overbrace{\overset{Cl}{\underset{Cl}{\overset{l}{\overset{l}{\overset{l}{\overset{l}{\overset{l}{\overset{l}{\overset{l}{$	(34) ^f	A	3.43 t	2.15 m	2.92 t	3.25	7.28	6.85		
	(35)f	A	3.70 t	1.78 m	2.90 t	2.22 3.12				
	(36)	A	3.70 t	1.80 m	2.96 t	3.14	7.36	7.18		

 a A = CDCL; B = CH₃OH- d_{4} ; C = Me₂SO- d_{6} . ^bChemical shifts were determined by AB₂ analysis. ^cUv spectra were obtained in EtOH on a Cary Model 14 instrument. d'Reference 19. e Reference 18. f¹H NMR data reported in ref 24.

2-Aryliminotetrahydro(arylaminodihydro)-1,3-thiazines. There has been as much interest and confusion in the recent literature concerning the predominant tautomeric form of compounds of the type 27 (Table VII). Compound 27 was first synthesized by Tisler,17 and the imino form was assigned to it on the basis of a comparison of its ir and uv spectral data with those of presumed 30 and 32. However, it was later shown by Najer and coworkers,18 by an unequivocal synthesis of 30, that Tisler's assignment of structure 30 was incorrect and should have been 31 instead. These workers, on the basis of additional ir and uv spectral data, reversed Tisler's assignment of tautomeric structure 27. They also reported¹⁹ their interpretation of pK_a determinations for a series of related compounds and claimed that these data supported the amino form as the predominant tautomer. More recently, Rabinowitz^{20,21} described NMR studies which he claimed to concur with Tisler's assignment. Toldy and coworkers²² also substantiated Rabinowitz's view.

A critical examination of these conflicting results and interpretations casts some doubt on the validity of the arguments in each case. Tisler's conclusion was apparently invalidated by the mistaken identity of the model compound 30. The argument of Najer and coworkers¹⁸ based on uv spectral data is inconsistent with other uv spectral data (Table VII). Although the uv absorption of 27 resembles that of the amino form 31 rather than the imino form 30, the fact that there is a qualitative difference between the uv absorptions of the two imino structures 30 and 32 and the remarkable resemblance of uv spectra between 28 and the imino form 30 casts serious doubt on the validity of the use of uv spectral data for determination of tautomeric structures under present consideration. The interpretation of NMR spectral data by Rabinowitz is not convincing. First of all, a suitable model compound (e.g., 31) to represent the amino form was not included. Secondly, the existence or absence of coupling between the C(4) methylene protons and an NH proton in the spectra of the protonated ions was unjustifiably claimed as a criterion for determining whether a free base exists in the imino form (i.e., coupling observed) or the amino form (i.e., coupling not observed). It is obvious

		S	0	m	р	2	4	5	6	CH3
$N \xrightarrow{H} S$	27	146.7	122.1	128.6	122.5	152.0	27.1	22.7	42.9	
(H_3)	28	145.5	130.8	127.5	122.7	152.4	26.9	23.5	42.0	18.0
	30	150.0	122.8	128.5	122.5	152.3	27.6	24.6	50.5	39.9
	31	145.1	128.8 ^b	128.3 ^b	126.5	150.6	27.4	20.6	46.3	39.3

^aSee footnote a, Table II. ^bThese assignments may be reversed.



that, in the protonated ion of a 3-unsubstituted derivative 37, each of the two nitrogen atoms is protonated permitting maximum delocalization of the positive charge. The protonated ions of the two tautomeric forms are therefore identical. However, in the protonated ion of the 3-substituted imino form 38, the proton is attached only to the imino nitrogen for the same reason. The rationalization of Rabinowitz undoubtedly could lead to erroneous conclusions in structural assignments such as 39. In contrast to the other



members of the series, the amino form was reportedly assigned, because no coupling between the C(4) protons and the NH proton was observed in the spectrum determined in TFA solution.²¹ The absence of NH coupling (in the absence of NH signal) is a consequence of the rate of NH exchange in such a system and does not reflect the position of the imino bond. In the particular case of **39**, the molecule most likely exists in the zwitterion, and the question of tautomerism does not arise.

The various reasons stated above prompted us to extend our investigations to this series of compounds. Model compounds 30, 31, and 40 were examined. Our uv spectral data for 27, 30, and 31 (Table VII) confirm the reported values and also the vulnerability of this method. The NMR spectral data show that the chemical shifts of the C(4) protons of 27 and 28 are similar to those of the imino form 30. Although the spectrum of 29 was determined in Me₂SO-d₆ rather than CDCl₃, the chemical shift of the C(4) protons is not expected to be greatly affected by solvents (Me₂SO vs. CHCl₃) as indicated by the case of 28. The NMR spectral data of additional model compounds²³ (33-36) are in agreement with the suggestion that the predominant tautomer is the imino form. Conformational differences between the endocyclic and exocyclic six-membered ring may affect the chemical shift of the C(4) protons (more likely than in the five-membered ring series) so that some uncertainty remains. ¹³C chemical shifts, however (Table VIII), provide a definitive means of establishing structure. Again, it is found that the ortho and para carbon atoms of the imino model **30** are abnormally shielded in contrast to the amino structure **31**. Thus it is clear that both **27** and **28** are the predominant tautomers.

The oxa analog **40** evidently also exists as the imino tautomer. The chemical shifts of the corresponding aromatic protons are indicated in parentheses.







signment of the aromatic carbon resonance was not possible, appears to be the imino isomer since at least one of the aromatic carbon atoms absorbs at 122.0 ppm.

Experimental Section

¹H NMR spectra were determined on a Varian T-60 instrument at 37° unless otherwise noted. ¹³C NMR spectral data were obtained with a JEOL PS-100-FT spectrometer. Chemical shifts are reported as parts per million from internal Me₄Si. Uv spectra were obtained on a Cary 14 spectrometer. Mass spectra were obtained on a Hitachi Perkin-Elmer RMU-6E spectrometer. All NMR samples were free bases. Salts were converted to the corresponding free bases by basifying the aqueous solutions and extracting with CH₂Cl₂ or Et₂O followed by evaporating the solvent and drying the residues.

Except for compound 16, the preparations, biological activities, and literature references of the compounds described in this paper are reported elsewhere.²

		S	0	m	p	1	NCH ₃	CCH3	ARCH3
$ \underset{Cl}{\overset{Cl}{\underset{CH_{3}}{\leftarrow}}} N = C \underset{CH_{3}}{\overset{NHCH_{3}}{\leftarrow}} $	41	146.2	128.2	127.9	122.6	158.6	28.5	18.2	
$ \underset{CH_3}{\overset{CH_3}{\underset{CH_3}{\longrightarrow}}} N = C \underset{CH_3}{\overset{NHCH_3}{\underset{CH_3}{\longrightarrow}}} $	42	149.0	128.9	127.7	121.5	155.5	28.4	17.2	18.2
	43	144.7	123.8	129.3	121.6	152.5	28.5		
CH ₃ N=C NHCH ₃ NHCH ₃	44	146.8	130.9	127.9	121.6	150.7	28.7		18.1
CI N=C NHCH ₃	45	144.2	129.7	128.2	122.1	152.9	28.7		

^aSee footnote a, Table II.

2-(N-Methyl)phenylamino-2-imidazoline (16). (a) To a stirred mixture of N-methylaniline (53.5 g, 0.5 mol) and NaSCN (81 g, 1.0 mol) in benzene (500 ml) at 35-40° was added dropwise a solution of trifluoroacetic acid (85.5 g) in benzene (250 ml). After refluxing the solution for 4 hr and stirring at 25° for 18 hr, the solid material was dissolved by stirring with water. The benzene solution was washed with water, dried, and evaporated to dryness. The solid residue was recrystallized from benzene-cyclohexane to give 1-methyl-1-phenylthiourea (62.2 g), mp 99-103°.

Anal. Calcd for C₈H₁₀N₂S: C, 57.80; H, 6.06; N, 16.85. Found: C, 57.48; H, 6.14; N, 16.79.

A solution of the thiourea (25 g, 0.157 mol) and CH₃I (32 g, 0.226 mol) in CH₃OH (50 ml) was refluxed for 18 hr. The solvent was evaporated to dryness to give the corresponding S-methylthiuronium iodide (43.4 g).

The thiuronium salt (15 g, 0.049 mol) was dissolved in CH₃OH (90 ml). The solution was refluxed with ethylenediamine (5.85 g, 0.097 mol) for 48 hr. After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was stirred with water. The mixture was basified with 10% NaOH solution and extracted with CH2Cl2. The CH2Cl2 solution was washed with brine and evaporated to an oil. The product $(16)^{24}$ was isolated by distillation as an oil (0.3 g): bp 114° (0.25 mm); mass spectrum m/e 175 (M⁺); NMR (Table IV) consistent with assigned structure.

(b) A mixture of 15 (0.32 g, 2 mmol) and dimethyl sulfate (1.26 g, 10 mmol) in C₆H₆ (10 ml) was refluxed for 4 hr. After cooling, the solvent was separated from the oil. The aqueous solution of the oil was basified (10 N NaOH) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The extract was washed with brine and dried (MgSO₄). Evaporation of the solvent gave the product as an oil. The NMR and mass spectral data are in agreement with those of 16 prepared by the previous method.

Acknowledgments. We thank Mr. Richard Warren and Ms. Helene Van Hoeven for their technical assistance. A grant from the National Science Foundation to The Pennsylvania State University which aided in the purchase of the 100-MHz NMR spectrometer used in the research described in this article is gratefully acknowledged.

References and Notes

- (1) (a) This paper is Part VII in the series Amidines² and Part XIII in the series Studies in Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy.³ (b) The Pennsylvania State University; (c) Smith Kline & French Laboratories.
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