SYNTHESIS, CHARACTERIZATION AND ANTITUMOUR ACTIVITY OF DI-n-BUTYLTIN SALICYLOXAMATE

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Abstract

The synthesis and characterization of di-n-butyltin and dimethyltin salicyloxamate, respectively compounds 1 and 2, are reported. Compound 1 is more active than cisplatin, 5-fluorouracil and etoposide against seven tumoural cell lines of human origin, but less active than methotrexate and doxorubucin.

Diorganotin derivatives of salicylic acid and its substituted analogs exhibit antitumour activities *in vitro* against human tumoural cell lines^{1,2}. The phenolic hydroxy group of salicylic acid is not involved in its reaction with diorganotin oxides^{3,4}. In fact, salicylic acid behaves in this respect as benzoic acid, giving rise to diorganotin disalicylates with free hydroxy groups.

This report presents the synthesis and characterization of di-n-butyltin and dimethyltin salicyloxamate, respectively compounds 1 and 2, in order to find out whether the phenolic hydroxy group of salicyloxamic acid is involved when reacting with diorganotin oxides. The antitumour activity of compound 1 was determined for comparison with that of the corresponding di-n-butyltin salicylate⁵.

Compound 1, a viscous oil, and compound 2, a solid (m.p. 195-197°) were synthesized with 94% and 85% yield, respectively, by condensing the appropriate diorganotin oxide with salicyloxamic acid in a toluene/ethanol 4/1 mixture^{3,6,7}. They were purified by chromatography on Sephadex LH-20 with chloroform/ethanol 99/1 as eluent (compound 1) or crystallization from dichloromethane/hexane 50/50 (compound 2). ¹H and ¹³C NMR data (CDCl₃) are given in Table 1. The ¹¹⁷Sn NMR chemical shifts of compounds 1 and 2 are respectively -140.0 and -100.2 ppm. The cationic mode electrospray mass spectra of compounds 1 and 2 exhibit the fragment corresponding to $(M + H^+)$ (100%) at resp. m/z = 386 (C₁₅H₂₄NO₃Sn) and 302 (C₉H₁₂NO₃Sn) with the expected isotopic distribution.

Compound 1 was tested *in vitro* against seven tumoural cell lines of human origin: MCF-7 et EVSA-T, two mammary tumours, WiDr, a colon carcinoma, IGROV, an ovarian cancer, M19 MEL, a melanoma, A498, a renal cancer, and H226, a non-small cell lung cancer, as water/ethanol 99/1 solutions.

The results of the antitumoural tests are summarized in Table 2 and compared with the inhibition doses ID₅₀ found against MCF-7 and WiDr for di-n-butyltin disalicylate and bis(acetylsalicylate), as well as those obtained for some clinically used reference compounds^{8,9}, cis-platin, 5-fluorouracil, etoposide, methotrexate and doxorubicin. Compound 1 has, especially against WiDr, a markedly higher *in vitro* activity than di-n-butyltin disalicylate and bis(acetylsalicylate) as well as cisplatin, 5-fluorouracil and etoposide. Its activity is lower than that of methotrexate and doxorubicin, except for H-226 against which compound 1 exhibits a very low inhibition dose as compared to all other compounds.

	^I H			13C			
	1	2		1	2		
			C_1	162.7	162.1		
H_2	d: 6.54 [8]	d: 6.55 [8]	C_2	119.5	119.6		
H_3	dd: 6.79 [8,8]	dd: 6.80 [8,8]	C_3	116.8	116.2		
H_4	dd: 7.28 [8,8]	dd: 7.30 [8,8]	C_4	133.0	133.1		
H_5	d: 7.88 [8]	d: 7.90 [8]	C_5	129.6	129.6		
			C_6	116.3	116.2		
			C_7	163.3	163.4		
H_8	s: 13.62 (55)	s: 13.60 (55)					
H_{α}	-	s: 0.84 (76/73)	C_{α}	22.7 (590/564)	2.1 (639/611)		
$H_{\alpha-\beta}$	m: 1.75-1.52	-	C_{β}	26.8 (31)	-		
H_{γ}	tq: 1.37 [7,7]	-	$C_{\gamma}^{'}$	26.6 (88)	-		
H _δ	t: 0.87 [7]	-	C_{δ}'	13.6	-		

Table 1: ¹H and ¹³C NMR data of compounds 1 and 2 (CDCl₃). Chemical shifts in ppm vs. TMS; ⁿJ(¹H, ¹H) (between brackets), ⁿJ(¹H, ^{119/117}Sn) and ⁿJ(¹³C, ^{119/117}Sn) (bold in parentheses) coupling constants in Hz. d: doublet; t: triplet; tq: triplet of quartets; s: singlet; m: complex pattern.

	MCF-7	EVSA-T	WiDr	IGROV	M19 MEL	A498	H226
1	67	59	316	103	90	140	109
Di-n-butyltin disalicylate	540	-	2974	_	-	_	-
Di-n-butyltin bis(acetylsalicylate)	283	-	2495	-	-	_	-
Cisplatin	699	422	967	169	558	2253	3269
5-Fluorouracil	750	475	225	297	442	143	340
Etoposide	2594	317	150	580	505	1314	3934
Methotrexate	18	5	<3	7	23	37	2287
Doxorubicin	10	8	11	60	16	90	199

Table 2. Inhibition doses ID₅₀ of compound 1 as compared to di-n-butyltin disalicylate and bis(acetylsalicylate)⁵ and of some reference compounds^{8,9} against tumoural cell lines of human origin.

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