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Bicyclic Organophosphorus Fluoridates as Inhibitors of Acetylcholinesterase

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Received: 29 July 2000 / Uploaded: 31 July 2000

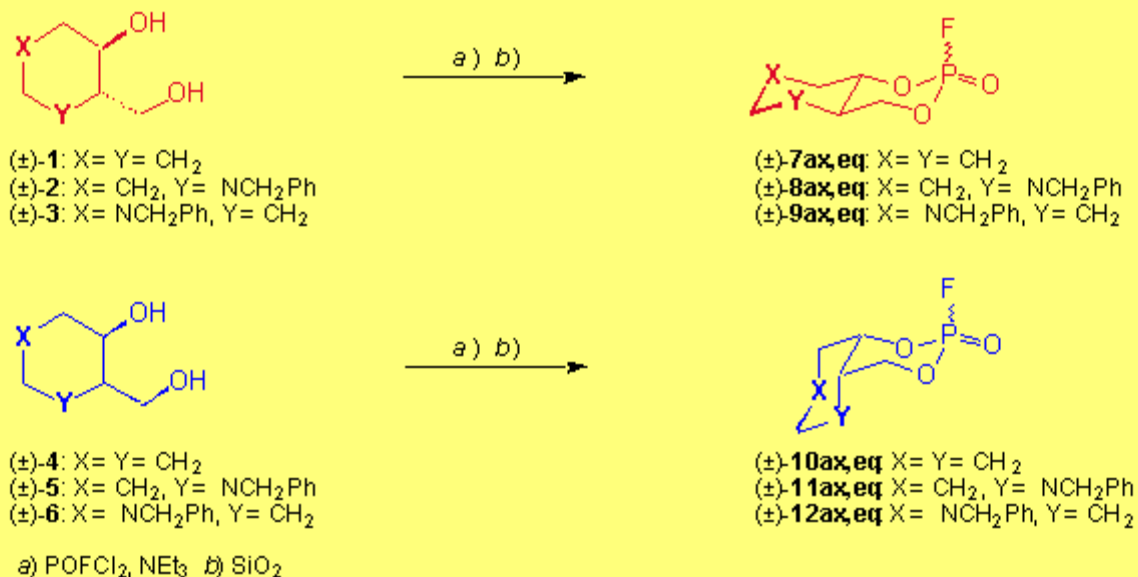
Introduction

Continuing our investigations ([poster1](#), [2](#)) concerning the irreversible inhibition of serine-hydrolases (acetylcholinesterase, chymotrypsin) by organophosphates [1][2] we have prepared the racemic 3-fluoro-2,4-dioxo-3 λ^5 -phosphabicyclo[4.4.0]decan-3-ones (\pm)-**7**-(\pm)-**12**. Being conformationally restricted, these *cis*- and *trans*-decaline-type congeners with the F-substituent in the *axial* and *equatorial* position fit differently into the active site of acetylcholinesterase (AChE) as represented by their k_{ass} -values.

Synthesis

The bicyclic organophosphates were synthesized from the corresponding diols ((\pm)-**1**-(\pm)-**6**) with POFCl₂ in the presence of triethylamine. Chromatographic separation yielded the *axially* and *equatorially* F-substituted epimers. The starting diols have been prepared by reduction of the corresponding oxo-esters: (\pm)-**1**/(\pm)-**4** from ethyl 2-oxocyclohexanecarboxylate [2], (\pm)-**3**/(\pm)-**6** from ethyl (1-benzyl-3-oxopiperidin-4-yl)carboxylate [3] and chromatographic separation of the *cis*- and *trans*-isomers. The piperidine diols (\pm)-**2**/(\pm)-**5** were obtained from 3-hydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)pyridine after several reaction steps [4].

The X-ray structures of (\pm)-**8ax,eq**/(\pm)-**11ax,eq** (see the separate [Poster A0048](#)) show the influence of the anomeric effect on the *equatorially* substituted congeners, where the F-substituent adopts a pseudo-axial position.



Inhibitory activity

Irreversible organophosphorous inhibitors form a covalent bond between the activated Ser²⁰⁰ of AChE and the P-atom, F being the leaving group [5]. The resulting tetrahedral phosphate is regarded as a stable transition state analogue of AChE and its natural substrate acetylcholine (ACh) [6].

The k_{ass} -values of the irreversible inhibitors were measured according to the method of Baici [7] in the presence of substrate. Some of the compounds seem not to bind covalently to AChE but they interact weakly in a reversible manner. The corresponding K_I -values were determined by Lineweaver-Burk plots [8].

As the organophosphates represent *N*-benzylated, uncharged ACh-mimetics we tentatively conclude that the strongest irreversible inhibitor (\pm)-**8ax** is closest to the conformation of ACh during the inhibition.

k_{ass} [M ⁻¹ min ⁻¹]	axial	equatorial		axial	equatorial
K_I [mM]					
(\pm)- 7	$k_{ass} = 1100$	$k_{ass} = 350$	(\pm)- 10	$K_I = 225$	$k_{ass} = 490$
(\pm)- 8	$k_{ass} = 2100$	$k_{ass} = 360$	(\pm)- 11	$k_{ass} = 325$	$K_I = 1000$
(\pm)- 9	$k_{ass} = 570$	$k_{ass} = 1200$	(\pm)- 12	$k_{ass} = 470$	$K_I = 500$

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