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Synthesis of Salicylate and Salicylamide Alcohols for the Preparation of Phosphorodiamidates and Ifosfamide Prodrugs

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ABSTRACT

Prodrugs are derivatives of drugs which gives parent drug or release drug when it breaks inside the body by the presence of suitable enzyme, and then exert desired pharmacological effect. For many years, prodrug strategy has been developed enormously to solve many unwanted drug properties. In drug discovery and development, prodrugs have well-known pharmacokinetic effects of pharmacologically nimble products. Almost 10% of drugs permitted whole world are classified as prodrugs, where the application of a prodrug method during initial stages of development is an emergent fashion. Phosphorodiamidates prodrugs are well known anticancer agents particularly against leucomia. To improve the selectivity of the chemotherapeutic agents and reduce systemic toxicity, I herein report different types of salicylate and salicylamide alcohols for the preparation of phosphorodiamidates and ifosfamide prodrugs.

Keywords: Prodrugs, Drugs, Suitable enzyme, Phosphorodiamidates, Ifosfamide prodrugs, Salicylate, Salicylamide alcohols.

INTRODUCTION

Prodrugs are precursors of drug substances which are pharmacologically inactive it necessary either enzymatic alteration or chemically transformation to the main drug in vivo so order as to achieve a pharmacological consequence. Prodrug is more potent than parent drug just like nascent hydrogen. Sometimes parent drug molecule becomes less delivery properties than its prodrug molecule¹. The concept of prodrug is justified due to it allow the proper functioning drug to surpass better of barrier that would obstruct it from reaching the site of action to exercise the necessary pharmacological activity. At present due to unwanted side effects of maximum drugs like poor bioavailability, incomplete absorption, short period of action, non-specificity, organoleptic properties, less solubility in water, high first-pass metabolism or other adversarial effects (propranolol); short half-life arise due to metabolic instability, bad permeability or absorption (ampicillin); (dopamine); site specificity is not properly (anticancer agents); unfriendly organoleptic properties (chloramphenicol); incomplete absorption (epinephrine); cause difficult during formulation and disadvantageous effects and toxicity²⁻⁴ that hamper their therapeutic effectiveness.

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In the maneuver of drug delivery process the prodrug approach is quickly taking a crucial part during treatment of patient. The implementation of prodrug strategy in the past 30 years has accelerated a firm progress in the biopharmaceutical, physicochemical and/or pharmacokinetic attributes of the pharmacologically active substances. It is measured the success of the prodrug approach from the survey that the number of prodrugs are presently on the market. About 10 to 15% of promoted drugs can be categorized as prodrugs now and up to year 2008, 30% of approved minor molecular weight drugs were prodrugs⁵⁻⁷. During the period of 2008-2017, 12% of drugs molecules approved by the FDA were prodrugs⁸⁻¹⁰.

Though enormous advances have occurred in the field of cancer, it still remains a major health problem and it has been reported that cancer is the cause of death up to 25% in USA. At the present time, cyclophosphamide (CPA) is the most frequently used agent of the alkylating agent class in medical oncology¹¹⁻¹⁷. Two congeners, ifosfamide (IPM) and trotosfamide are also in clinical cancer treatment. CPA has better therapeutics index (particularly in the treatment of ovarian and breast cancer) than other mustard drugs like nitrogen mustard and exhibit broad area of clinical efficacy though the main biotransformation pathway of phosphamide drug is well designed, its appliance of tumoridical selectivity remains controversial¹⁸⁻²².

This article presents two types alcohols on which first type approach is ester form so that the prodrug can cleave by the presence of esterase and release ifosphoramide mustard with physically healthy compound salicylic acid and the second type that is amide form should fail to cleave by the esterase enzyme because these are amide derivatives which should not cleaved and release drug by the presence of esterase.

Chemistry

The synthesis of the target alcohols was carried out as shown in Scheme. 2 to 4 and phosphorodiamidates can be easily synthesized by the reaction of alcohol and phosphorous oxychloride followed by the treatment of chloroethylamine hydrochloride as in Scheme 1¹⁵.

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{R} \longrightarrow \mathsf{POCl}_3, \, \mathsf{Et}_3\mathsf{N}, \, \mathsf{ClCH}_2\mathsf{CH}_2\mathsf{NH}_2.\mathsf{HCl}, \mathsf{CH}_2\mathsf{Cl}_2 \\ \mathsf{R} \longrightarrow \mathsf$$

Scheme 1. Synthesis procedure of phosphorodiamidates

Compounds **4a-b**, **10** and **14a-b** those have not been reported previously, were prepared by stirring with the mixture of phenyl salicylate and the corresponding aldehyde²³ using DABCO as base in absence of solvent²⁴ as shown in Scheme 2.



Scheme 2. Synthesis of salicylate alcohols

The synthetic approach to **10** is based on **6**, and **7**. But in that case aldehyde was nitro substituted and salicylate was 4-benzyloxy substituted (Scheme 3). Molecules **14a-b** were generated from N-methyl salicylamide and the corresponding alcohol in presence of *ortho* phosphoric acid in tetrahydofuran at refluxing temperature²⁵ shown in Scheme 4. Hydrogenelysis of **3a-b** and **13a-b** were carried out over 10% Pd/C under pressure using ethyl acetate as solvent and the trace of 70% perchloric acid as catalyst yielded corresponding alcohols. Alcohol 10 was synthesized by photolysis²⁶ from compound 9.



Scheme 3. Synthesis of substituted salicylate alcohols





Cyclic acetal phosphorodiamidates derivatives were synthesized as the test reaction to confirm the formation of mustard using those alcohols. Alcohols **4a-b** were converted into phosphorodichloridates by $POCI_3$ and $(C_2H_5)_3N$ in dichloromethane at–20°C which in situ, were converted to phosphorodiamidates by the treatment with 2-fold molar equivalent of 2-chloroethylamine hydrochloride Scheme 1.

EXPERIMENTAL

All NMR spectra were drawn from IBM-Brucker Model NR/200 AF spectrometer in the FT model, in deutero chloroform where tetramethyl sillane used as an internal standard. The chemical shift represents δ ppm and coupling constant represents J in hertz and using by Hoover capillary apparatus melting points of the compounds were checked. Reactions in this article were carried out in dry glass apparatus and inert atmosphere using nitrogen and helium as inert gas. Dry and analytical solvents were used for all reactions. The reaction progress and homogeneity of the reaction mixture were checked by TLC coated with silica gel that was run in glass plates using the following solvent mixtures (a), CHCl₂/MeOH (19:1 to 9.5:0.5 v/v); (b), hexane/EtOAc (9:1 to 1:1) and (c), 100% diethyl ether. TLC plates were visualized under a UV lamp (254nm) and spraying agent used as anisaldehyde solution in 95% ethanol and heated to 100°C for 5 min appeared as different coloured spots. Pure products were obtained by chromatography with neutral alumina or on silica gel with the solvent mixture of hexane/EtOAc or CH₂Cl₂/MeOH. The reactions mixture were extracted with diethyl ether, ethyl acetate, dichloromethane or trichloromethan and ranched with aqua, brine solution, saturated sodium bicarbonate whenever necessary and then dried with anhydrous MgSO,. Solutions were concentrated using rotary evaporator under reduced pressure and dried.

3-Benzyloxypropionaldehyde (2a)

In a mixture of phenyl methanol (61.5 mL, 64.25 g, 0.595 mol), 2-chloroethanoic acid (3.36 g), and NaOH (1.425 g) in 7.50 mL water added slowly with gentle shaking for 15 min to acroline (50 mL,

42.95 g, 0.75 mol). At 40°C 15 mL aceteic acid drop wise added to the reaction system and maintained it at 40°C during 80 hours. The crude reaction mixture was worked up with EtOAc and acid was removed by wash with agua (75 mL x 3) and passed through anhydrous MgSO,. After work up the organic solvent was dried and crude product made pure by vacuum distillation at 100°C (0.3 mm Hg) pressure followed by the removal of volatile starting materials and side products. The residue remained as viscous oil was aldehyde 2a confirmed from NMR studies. The raw material was taken for subsequent steps and there is no necessary for purication. Crude yield was 33 g (32%). Proton NMR values were determined by deuterium chloroform; Proton-NMR & 9.78 (-CHO), 7.29 (Ar-H), 4.52 (C₆H₅CH₂), 3.80 (-O-CH₂), 2.68 (-CH₂); C-13 NMR (CDCl₂) δ: 200.87, 137.70, 127.50 and 127.34 (aromatic), 72.92 (benzylic), 66.57, 43.58; MS (C₀H₁₀O₂) calcd. 150.068 found MH⁺ 151.1.

2-(2´-Benzyloxyethyl)-4H-1,3-benzdioxin-4-one (3a)

This reaction was performed with a mixture DABCO (1.1g, 10 mmol), (2.15 g) phenyl salicylate and (1.518 g) of 3-benzyloxypropionaldehyde without solvent and was warmed to 40°C during 12 min then it continued during overnight at normal warmth condition where suspension formed which was extracted by EtOAc and was washed thoroughly with 30 mL 2% NaOH solution two times and aqua (30 mL x 2) and passed through drying agent. The crude compound was achieved after removal of organic solvent which made pure by chromatography (ca. 200 g) taking hexane/EtOAc (98:2, v/v) as solvent mixture to yield 3a clear liquid form (880 mg, 68%): R, 0.55 (95:5, hexane/EtOAc). Proton NMR δ : 7.98 (Ar-H), 7.55 (Ar-H), 7.30 (Ar-H)), 7.16 (Ar-H), 7.00 (Ar-H)), 5.81 (-O-CH-O-), 4.52 (C₆H₅CH₂), 3.76 (-O-CH₂-CH₂-), 2.35 (-O-CH₂-CH₂-). Mass spectroscopy (C₁₆H₁₄O₄) calcd. 270.089 found MH⁺ 271.2.

2-(2'-Hydroxyethyl)-4H-1,3-benzdioxin-4-one (4a)

(1.0 g, 3.52 mmol) 2-(2´-benzyloxyethyl)-4H-1, 3-benzdioxin-4-one 3a in 10 mL ethyl acetate containing 10 μ L of percholoric acid (70%) was reduced with gaseous hydrogen with150 mg 10% palladium on carbon under pressure during 25 minute. Percholoric acid was then neutralized with finely powdered 800 mg of CaCO₃. After the reaction it was filtered through glass wool and dried, the residue was got pure after chromatography using hexaneethyl acetate (80:20) mixture to yield 4a as oil (628 mg, 92%). Proton-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 7.94 (Ar-H), 7.56 (Ar-H), 7.16 (Ar-H), 7.04 (Ar-H), 5.83 (-O-CH-O-), 3.95 (-O-CH₂-CH₂-), 2.89 (bs, 1H, OH), 2.30 ((-O-CH₂-CH₂-); C-13 NMR δ : 162.24, 158.16, 136.22, 130.01, 123.33, 116.66, 114.22, 99.73, 56.71, 36.21; MS (C_aH_aO₄) calcd. 180.042 found MH⁺ 181.1.

4-Benzyloxy-1-butanal (2b)

Butane-1,4-diol (5.91 g, 66mmol) and powdered potassium hydroxide (1.78 g, 32 mmol) was warmed at 120°C and after that the diol made free from water by vacuum distillation. Benzyl bromide (4.44 g, 26 mmol) was then added slowly at 100°C from the dropping funnel. The reaction was continued to stirr for another 2 h at 100°C. The product was stirred with 20 mL water after cooling it at room temperature. The crude product was extracted and dried with anhydrous MgSO₄, concentrated and distilled to give 9.57 g (81%) of the monoprotected alcohol (4-benzyloxy-1-butanol).

4-Benzyloxy-1-butanol (3.89 g) was taken in a dropping funnel and added slowly to a mixtute of PCC (7.28 g) and dry CH_3COONa (30 mg) dissolved in 50 mL of dichloromethane and stirred at room temperature for 2 h and the solution was rapidly passed through a small silica gel column. The filtrate part was concentrated and distilled quickly to give 4-benzyloxy-1-butanal as oil, 2.62 g (68%). Proton-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 9.78 (-CHO), 7.30 (Ar-H), 4.49 (s, 1H, benzylic), 3.35 (-O-CH₂), 2.55 (-O-CH₂-CH₂), 1.95 (C-3H). C-13 NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 202.0, 128.35, 128.30. 127.80 and 127.50 (aromatic), 72.90 (benzylic), 69.10, 41.00, 22.60. MS (C₁₀H₁₂O₂) calcd. 164.084 found MH⁺ 165.1.

2-(3´-Benzyloxypropyl)-4H-benz-1,3-dioxin-4-one (3b)

Compound **2b** was converted into **3b** as described for the synthesis of **3a** (5.76 mmol scale except benzyloxypropanaldehyde was used as aldehyde). After complete the reaction and purification the product benzodioxinone **3b** was obtained, as liquid (1.13 g, 67%). ¹H NMR δ : 7.97 (Ar-H), 7.54 (Ar-H), 7.32 (Ar-H), 7.15(Ar-H), 7.01(Ar-H), 5.64 (-O-CH-O-), 4.52 (s, 2H, benzylic), 3.57 (-O-CH₂), 2.15 (O-CH₂-CH₂),), 1.92 (O-CH₂-CH₂),); MS (C₁₇H₁₆O₄) calcd. 284.105 found MH⁺ 285.2.

2-(3´-Hydroxypropyl)-4H-benz-1,3-dioxin-4-one (4b)

Compound 2-(3´-benzyloxypropyl)-4Hbenz-1,3-dioxin-4-one (2.0 g) was taken in 20 mL ethyl acetate containing 10 µL of percholoric acid (70%) was reduced with gaseous hydrogen with 150 mg 10% palladium on carbon under pressure during 25 min same as the transformation from **3a** to **4a**. Solvent was dried and concentrated using pump (0.03 mm Hg) to yield **4b** (1.37 g, 94%) as a clear oil. The colourless oily substance was crystallized on storage at –13°C. m.p: 44°C. Proton-NMR δ : 7.99 (Ar-H), 7.57 (Ar-H), 7.18 (Ar-H), 7.04 (Ar-H), 5.69 (-O-CH-O-), 3.65 (-O-CH₂), 2.21(O-CH-O-), 2.11 (-O-CH-O-). C-13 NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 162.76, 158.76, 136.66, 130.59, 123.77, 117.04 and 114.79 (aromatic), 101.82, 62.33, 30.53, 26.33; MS (C₁₀H₁₀O₄) calcd. 194.058 found MH⁺ 195.2.

2,4-Dihydroxyphenylbenzoate (6)

Phenol (6.1 g,.065 mol), 2,4-dihydroxybenzoic acid (11 g) and trifluoroacetic anhydride (20 g) were mixed in ether (50 mL) and it was heated to refluxed at 65°C for 2 hours. 200 mL ether was added to the solution and ether layer was shaken well with saturated bicarbonate, brine solutions and concentrated. The crude product was treated with Norit in toluene and filtered. Hexane was added to it to get a white powder that was free of phenol. The compound was purified by crystalization from toluene-hexane mixture (6:4, v/v) provided white prisms (10.2 g, 67%). m.p: 147-149°C. Proton-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 10.73 (OH at C-2), 7.95 (Ar-H), 7.43 (Ar-H), 7.28 (Ar-H), 7.18 (Ar-H), 6.43 (m, 2H), 6.09 (bs, 1H, OH); MS ($C_{13}H_{10}O_4$) calcd. 230.058 found MH⁺ 231.2.

Phenyl-2-hydroxy-4-benyloxybenzoate (7)

A solution of phenyl-2,4-dihydroxybenzoate (1 g), benzyl bromide (744 mg), K_2CO_3 (684 mg) in 30 mL acetone was heated to refluxed for a day and night. Acetone was removed from the reaction mixture and the crude product was work-up with CHCl₃, washed with 10% (v/v) HCl/H₂O and then brine, passed through anhydrous MgSO₄ and evaporated. The pure white solid was obtained by flash chromatography yielded phenyl-2-hydroxy-4-benzyloxybenzoate (0.64 g, 46%). m.p: 108-109°C. Proton-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 10.69 (OH at C-2), 7.97 (Ar-H), 7.29 (Ar-H), 6.59 (Ar-H), 5.10 (s, benzylic); MS ($C_{20}H_{16}O_4$) calcd. 320.105 found MH⁺ 321.3.

2-nitrobenzyl alcohol (11.0 g, 0.072 mol), chloroacetic acid (1.68 g) and NaOH (0.713 g) in water (4 mL) was added slowly from dropping funnel

with stirring over 20 min to acrolein (25 mL, 20.98 g). The solution was acidified with CH_3COOH (7.5 mL, 0.13 mol) and warmed at 40°C for 80 hours. The solution was chilled, shaken with water (40x3 mL), and dried. The crude residue was then purified by chromatography furnished yellow oily product (7 g, 46.6 %). Proton NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 9.83 (-CHO), 8.04 (Ar-H), 7.74 (Ar-H), 7.64 (Ar-H), 7.44 (Ar-H), 4.90 (s, 2H, benzylic), 3.93 (-O-CH-O-), 2.76 (m, -O-CH₂-CH₂). C-13 NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 201.1, 147.6, 134.9, 134.0, 129.0, 128.5, 125.0, 70.0, 65.1, 44.1; MS (C₁₀H₁₁NO₄) calcd. 209.069 found MH⁺ 210.2.

2-[2⁻-(o-Nitrobenzyloxyethyl)-4H-1,3-benzdioxin-4-one (9)

A mixture of 3-(2'-nitrobenzyloxy) propionaldehyde (670 mg, 3.2 mmol), 4-benzyloxy-2-hydroxy phenyl benzoate (1.1 g) and DABCO (380 mg) was warmed 40°C for 20 min and stirred it during 72 h at rt without solvent. Reaction mixture was then extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with 2% NaOH solution (30x3 mL), then with water and concentrated. Pure product then obtained by flash chromatography to yield 9 (610 mg, 41%) as a viscuss oily substance. Proton NMR (CDCl₂) δ : 8.03 (Ar-H), 7.89 (Ar-H), 7.73 (Ar-H), 7.61 (Ar-H), 7.39 (Ar-H), 6.77 (Ar-H), 6.57 (Ar-H), 5.80 (Ar-H), 5.11 (s, CH₂C₆H₅), 4.90 (s, 2H, NO₂C₆H₄CH₂), 3.85 (-O-CH-O-), 2.37 (q, 2H, -O-CH₂-CH₂). C-13 NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.2 (C-4'), 161.9, 160.2, 147.3, 135.6, 134.6, 133.6, 131.8, 128.7, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 128.1, 127.4, 127.4, 124.6, 111.9, 107.3 and 101.3 (aromatic) 99.3, 70.5 and 69.7 (benzylic), 65. 2 and 34.1 (methylene); MS (C₂₄H₂₁NO₇) calcd. 435.132 found MH⁺ 436.3.

2-(2⁻Hydroxyethyl)-4H-7-benzyloxy-1,3-benzdioxin-4-one (10)

In a 200 mL rb was charged with 9 (300 mg, mmol), in 35 mL of dry THF. Reaction vessel was then purged with argon during half an hour and was stirred by keeping outside in ACE photochemical UV power supplies and murcurry vapour lamp for 7 hours. The solution was concentrated after the reaction yielded dark orange-red oil. The crude alcohol was purified by chromatograpy to yield white crystalline solid 160 mg (77%), m.p: 110 –111°C. Proton- NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 7.85 (Ar-H), 7.36 (Ar-H), 6.75 (Ar-H), 6.55 (Ar-H), 5.78 (Ar-H), 5.07 (Ar-H), 3.92 (-O-CH-O-), 2.56 (bs, 1H, OH), 2.26 (q, 2H, -O-CH₂-CH₂). C-13 NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 165.6 (C-4), 162.6, 160.6, 135.9, 132.2,

129.2, 129.2, 128.8, 127.9, 127.9, 112.4, 107.5 and 101.8 (aromatic), 100.3, 70.9 (benzylic), 57.4, 36.8; MS $(C_{17}H_{16}O_5)$ calcd. 300.100 found MH⁺ 301.1.

2-(2⁻Benzyloxyethyl)-3-methyl-4H-1,3-benzoxazin-4-on (13a)

Benzyloxy-propanaldehyde (4.5 g, 0.027 mol) and 5 mL *ortho*-phosphoric acid was mixed N-methyl salicylamide (4.14 g, 0.027 mol) in THF. The reaction vessel was refluxed for 14 h (TLC control). Then THF was removed from the system and work up with ethyl acetate and concentrated. The pure product was obtained by flash chromatographed to give **13a** as an oily substance (2.4 g, 31.6%). Proton NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 7.93 (Ar-H), 7.33 (Ar-H), 7.02 (Ar-H), 6.86 (Ar-H), 5.49 (Ar-H), 4.49 (s, 2H, benzylic), 3.54 (-O-CH-O-), 3.03 (s, N-CH₃), 2.08 (m, O-CH₂-CH₂); MS (C17H17NO3) calcd. 283.121 found MH⁺ 284.3.

2-(2⁻Hydroxyethyl)-3-methyl-4H-1,3-benzoxazin-4-one (14a)

Substance 2-(2´-benzyloxyethyl)-4H-1,3benzoxazin-4-one **13a** was converted to **14a** as reported for the synthesis of **13a** (1.5 mmol scale). The pure compound was obtained by flash chromatography to yield **14a** as an oily substance (300 mg, 96%), Proton NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 7.93 (Ar-H), 7.42 (Ar-H), 7.08 (Ar-H), 6.9 (Ar-H), 5.53 (Ar-H), 3.8 (m, -O-CH-O-), 3.10 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.1 (m, -O-CH₂-CH₂); C-NMR NMR (CDCl₃): δ 162.2, 155.7, 134.72, 127.5, 122.5, 118.2, 117.2, 87.0, 57.1, 34.5, 30.5 (NCH₃); MS (C₁₀H₁₁NO₃) calcd. 193.074 found MH⁺ 194.2.

2-(3´-Benzyloxypropyl)-3-methyl-4H-benz-1,3dioxin-4-one (13b)

Product **13b** was prepared from **12b** as described for the synthesis of **13a** (13.2 mmol scale except benzyloxy-propanaldehyde was used as aldehyde). The pure compound was obtained by flash

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chromatography to efford the benzodioxinone **13b**, as an oily substance (1.4 g, 37%). R_f = 0.45 (hexane/EtOAc, 6.5 : 3.5). Proton NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 7.90 (Ar-H), 7.31 (Ar-H), 6.97 (Ar-H), 7.15 (Ar-H), 6.85 (Ar-H), 5.26 (Ar-H), 4.47 (s, 2H, benzylic), 3.50 (m, -O-CH-O-), 3.05 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 1.85 (m, -O-CH₂-CH₂-), MS (C₁₈H₁₉NO₃) calcd. 297.137 found MH⁺ 298.3.

2-(2⁻Hydroxypropyl)-3-methyl-4H-1,3-benzoxazin-4-one (14b)

2-(2'-benzyloxypropyl)-4H-1,3-benzoxazin-4-one **13b**, was converted to **14b** as mentioned for the synthesis of **13a** (1.5 mmol scale). The pure compound was obtained by flash column chromatography on silica using CHCl₃/MeOH (97:3 to 95:5, v/v) as eluent to afford **14b** as a colorless oil (310 mg, 97%): R_f 0.41 (9:1 CHCl₃:MeOH). Proton NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.9 (Ar-H), 7.41 (Ar-H), 7.06 (Ar-H), 6.90 (Ar-H), 5.29 (Ar-H), 3.64 (m, -O-CH-O-), 3.07 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 1.86 (m, -O-CH₂-CH₂-); C-NMR NMR (CDCl₃): δ 161.4, 155.1, 134.1, 127.7, 122.2, 118.0, 116.7, 89.3, 61.6, 31.0 (NCH3), 28.6, 27.6; MS (C₁₁H₁₃NO₃) calcd. 207.090 found MH⁺ 208.3.

CONCLUSION

In this work different types of salicylate and salicylamide alcohols were synthesized for the preparation of phosphorodiamidates and ifosfamide prodrugs.

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Conflicts of Interest None

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