Poster Session II

Herpesvirus Infections

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Synthesis and Antiviral Activity of Some New S-Adenosyl-L-Homocysteine Derivatives

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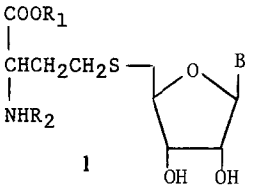
A series of new S-adenosyl-L-homocysteine (SAH) derivatives was synthesized *via* condensation of suitably protected L-homocysteine with unprotected nucleoside precursors in the presence of trialkyl phosphine.



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R_1 = alkyl, H R_2 = acyl, H

B = adenin-9-yl, 3-deazaadenin-9-yl, 7-deazaadenin-9-yl, other bases

Some of the carboxyl or amino protecting groups (R_1 or R_2, respectively) could be removed selectively so that SAH derivatives with a semi-protected amino-acid moiety were obtained. Several compounds displayed selective activity against vaccinia virus, vesicular stomatitis virus and herpes simplex virus. They may exert their antiviral effect via inhibition of the methylation reactions which are responsible for the 5'-capping of viral mRNA.