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Synthesis and Antiandrogenic Activity of 16 β -Substituted-17 β -hydroxysteroids

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In order to examine the antiandrogenic activity, a series of 16 β -substituted-17 β -hydroxysteroids (**9** and **16**) were synthesized by stereoselective introduction of β -substituents at position 16 of steroids. The corresponding 6-chloro-16 β -substituted-17 β -hydroxysteroids (**20** and **28**) and 1,2 α -methylene derivative (**36**) were also prepared.

Among these new steroids synthesized, 17 β -hydroxy-16 β -ethylestr-4-en-3-one (**9b**: **TSAA-291**) was found to have the most potent antiandrogenic activity with very weak side effects and also found to be useful for a treatment of the benign prostatic hypertrophy.

Keywords—16 β -substituted-estrane; 16 β -substituted-androstane; 16 β -substituted-6-chloroandrostane; antiandrogen; structure-activity relationship; prostatic hypertrophy

During the course of endocrinological studies on synthetic steroids, 17 β -hydroxy-13 β -isopropylgon-4-en-3-one (**1**)²⁾ was found to have considerable antiandrogenic activity. The manifestation of the activity appeared to be correlated to a steric interaction between the 13 β -isopropyl group and the 17 β -hydroxyl group in **1**. As an extension of such steric interaction, we designed a series of 16 β -substituted-17 β -hydroxysteroids expecting a possible steric interaction between the 17 β -hydroxyl group and the 16 β -substituents and hence the antiandrogenic activity of these compounds. This paper described synthesis and antiandrogenic activity of 17 β -hydroxy-16 β -substituted-estr- and androst-4-en-3-ones together with the corresponding $\Delta^{4,6}$ -6-chloro and 1,2 α -methylene derivatives. These new antiandrogenic steroids might be useful for a treatment of the benign prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

Preparation of 16 β -substituted 17-oxo steroids (**2** and **3**) was achieved by the following methods: a) a kinetically controlled vinyl-dehydration of 16 α -substituted-16 β ,17 β -dihydroxysteroids;³⁾ b) the Serini reaction of 16 α -substituted-16 β ,17 β -dihydroxysteroid monoacetates;⁴⁾ c) a base catalyzed condensation of aldehydes and ketones with 17-ketosteroids,⁵⁾ followed by catalytic hydrogenation. The last one provides a useful method for the introduction of isopropyl and cyclohexyl groups at position 16 of the steroids. Thus aldol condensation of 17-ketosteroids (**4** and **5**) with acetone and cyclohexanone in the presence of potassium hydroxide in methanol afforded 16-isopropylidene-17-oxo steroids (**6a** and **7**) and 16-cyclohexylidene-17-oxo steroid (**6b**), respectively, in 70–85% yields. Catalytic hydrogenation of **6** and **7** over Raney-Ni in ethanol gave stereospecifically 16 β -isopropyl-17-oxo steroids (**2e** and **3d**) and 16 β -cyclohexyl-17-oxo steroid (**2f**), respectively, in good yields. No trace amount of the 16 α -isomers were detected by thin-layer chromatographic analyses and nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra.⁶⁾

Sodium borohydride reduction of 16 β -substituted-17-oxo steroids (**2**) in methanol gave 16 β -substituted-17 β -hydroxysteroid derivatives (**8**) in 90–96% yields. The configuration of

1) Location: Juso-Honmachi, Yodogawa-ku, Osaka 532, Japan.

2) K. Hiraga, T. Asako, and T. Miki, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* (Tokyo), **13**, 1294 (1965).

3) G. Goto, K. Yoshioka, K. Hiraga, and T. Miki, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* (Tokyo), **21**, 1393 (1973).

4) G. Goto, K. Yoshioka, and K. Hiraga, *Tetrahedron*, **30**, 2107 (1974).

5) W.C.J. Ross, *J. Chem. Soc.*, **1945**, 25.

6) The C₁₃-methyl proton signals of these 16 α -isomers are shifted downfield by ca. 0.02–0.03 ppm relative to those of the 16 β -isomers.

Birch reduction of **8** with lithium in liquid ammonia-tetrahydrofuran in the presence of ethanol as a proton donor afforded, after hydrolysis of the resulting enol ethers with 6 N hydrochloric acid in methanol, 17 β -hydroxy-16 β -substituted-estr-4-en-3-ones (**9**) in good yields. On Birch reduction of the 16 β -allyl derivative (**8d**), a concomitant reduction of the 16 β -allyl group occurred to give 17 β -hydroxy-16 β -propylestr-4-en-3-one (**9c**) in 73% yield. Under the same reduction conditions, the 16 β -phenyl derivative (**8g**) was also reduced to 17 β -hydroxy-16 β -cyclohexenyl-estr-4-en-3-one (**10**) in 77% yield. These greatly facile reduction of 16 β -allyl and 16 β -phenyl groups may be due to an intramolecular participation by the 17 β -hydroxyl group in a reduction intermediate.⁸⁾ Investigation of the detailed mechanism is under progress.

In order to avoid these undesirable reduction, the 17 β -hydroxyl group in **8d** and **8g** were converted into the tetrahydropyranyl ether.⁹⁾ On Birch reduction, followed by acid hydrolysis, **11** and **12** gave 17 β -hydroxy-16 β -allylestr-4-en-3-one (**9d**) in 50% yield and 17 β -hydroxy-16 β -phenylestr-4-en-3-one (**9g**) in 56% yield, respectively.

The 17 β -hydroxy-16 β -substituted-androstane derivatives were also prepared by the following methods. Oppenauer oxidation of **3** gave 16 β -substituted-3,17-diones (**13**) in 60–70% yields. Treatment of **13** with ethyl orthoformate afforded the corresponding 3-ethyl enol ethers (**14**). **14** was reduced by sodium borohydride in methanol to give the 17 β -hydroxy-16 β -substituted derivatives (**15**) in good yields. Acid hydrolysis of the resulting enol ethers (**15**) afforded 17 β -hydroxy-16 β -substituted-androst-4-en-3-ones (**16**) in good yields. The configurations of C-16 and C-17 of **16** was assigned on the basis of their NMR spectral data⁷⁾ together with the analogy with **9**. The physical data of **8**, **9** and **16** are shown in Tables I, II and III.

TABLE I. Physical Data of 17 β -Hydroxy-16 β -substituted-estrane Derivatives (**8**)

Steroid (8) ^{a)}	R	mp (°C)	Formula	Analysis (%)		¹ H-NMR (CDCl ₃)		Mass (<i>m/e</i>)	
				Calcd.		δ (ppm) ^{b,c)}			
				(Found)		O-Me	Others	M ⁺	Others
				C	H	(3H, s)			
a ^{d)}	Me	117–118	C ₂₀ H ₂₈ O ₂	79.95 (80.01)	9.39 (9.26)	3.73	1.07(3H, d, <i>J</i> = 7 Hz, Me)	300	285, 282
b	Et	97	C ₂₁ H ₃₀ O ₂	80.21 (79.96)	9.62 (9.83)	3.72	0.96(3H, t, <i>J</i> = 7 Hz, Me)	314	296, 286
c	CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₃	76	C ₂₂ H ₃₂ O ₂	80.44 (80.42)	9.83 (9.86)	3.73	0.92(3H, t, <i>J</i> = 6 Hz, Me)	328	313, 310
d	CH ₂ CH=CH ₂	99	C ₂₂ H ₃₀ O ₂	80.93 (80.85)	9.26 (9.31)	3.72	4.9–5.2(2H, m, =CH ₂), 5.6–6.0(1H, m, –CH=)	326	311, 308
e		136	C ₂₂ H ₃₂ O ₂	80.44 (80.16)	9.83 (9.95)	3.70	0.90, 1.03(each 3H, d, <i>J</i> = 6 Hz, Me)	328	313, 310
f		143–144	C ₂₅ H ₃₆ O ₂	81.47 (81.50)	9.85 (9.87)	3.74	—	368	350 —
g	C ₆ H ₅	174–176	C ₂₅ H ₃₀ O ₂	82.83 (83.00)	8.34 (8.28)	3.73	3.52(1H, m, 16 α -H), 7.3–7.4(5H, m, Ar)	362	344, 333

a) IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) data are as follows: **8a**–**e**: ν_{OH} 3450; **8f**: ν_{OH} 3550; **8g**: ν_{OH} 3400.

b) The other NMR data were reported in ref. 7.

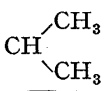
c) The signals (3H, m) of aromatic protons appear at 6.6–7.3 ppm for all compounds (**8a**–**g**).

d) F.A. Kincl and M. Garcia, *Ber.*, **92**, 595 (1959).

8) a) E. Fujita, M. Shibuya, S. Nakamura, Y. Okada, and T. Fujita, *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. I*, **1974**, 165; b) J. Fried and J.A. Edwards, "Organic Reactions in Steroid Chemistry," Vol. 2, van Nostrand Reinhold Company, New York, 1972.

9) a) T.B. Windholz, R.D. Brown, and A.A. Patchett, *Steroids*, **6**, 409 (1965); b) K. Yoshioka, G. Goto, T. Asako, K. Hiraga, and T. Miki, *Chem. Commun.*, **1971**, 336; c) K. Yoshioka, T. Asako, G. Goto, K. Hiraga, and T. Miki, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* (Tokyo), **21**, 2195 (1973).

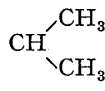
TABLE II. Physical Data of 17 β -Hydroxy-16 β -substituted-estr-4-en-3-ones (9)

Steroid (9) ^{a,b}	R	mp (°C)	Formula	Analysis (%)		¹ H-NMR (CDCl ₃) δ (ppm) ^c			Mass (<i>m/e</i>)		
				Calcd. (Found)							
				C	H	4-H (1H, s)	Others		M ⁺	Others	
a ^d	Me	228—229	C ₁₉ H ₂₈ O ₂	79.12 (79.17)	9.79 (9.77)	5.80	1.10(3H, d, <i>J</i> = 6 Hz, Me)		288	273, 270	
b	Et	152—153	C ₂₀ H ₃₀ O ₂	79.42 (79.53)	10.00 (10.01)	5.80	0.88(3H, t, <i>J</i> = 7 Hz, Me)		302	287, 284	
c	CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₃	149—151	C ₂₁ H ₃₂ O ₂	79.70 (79.80)	10.19 (10.03)	5.81	0.89(3H, t, <i>J</i> = 7 Hz, Me)		316	301, 298	
d	CH ₂ CH=CH ₂	137—138	C ₂₁ H ₃₀ O ₂	80.21 (80.01)	9.62 (9.69)	5.80	4.8—5.2(2H, m, =CH ₂), 5.6—5.9(1H, m, -CH=)		314	299, 296	
e		145—147	C ₂₁ H ₃₂ O ₂	79.70 (79.80)	10.19 (10.34)	5.80	0.88, 1.03(each 3H, d, <i>J</i> = 7 Hz, Me)		316	301, 298	
f		148—151	C ₂₄ H ₃₆ O ₂	80.85 (80.72)	10.18 (10.05)	5.80	—		356	341, 338	
g	C ₆ H ₅	160	C ₂₄ H ₃₀ O ₂	82.24 (82.19)	8.63 (8.64)	5.84	3.50(1H, q, <i>J</i> ₁ = 19 Hz, <i>J</i> ₂ = 10 Hz, 16 α -H), 7.29(5H, m, Ar)		350	332, 321	

a) IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) data are as follows: 9a—e, g: ν_{OH} 3450, $\nu_{4^4-3-one}$ 1660; 9f: ν_{OH} 3400, $\nu_{4^4-3-one}$ 1670.b) UV [EtOH, nm (ε)] data are as follows: 9a—c: λ_{max} 240 (16800); 9d—g: λ_{max} 240 (17000).

c) The other NMR data were reported in ref. 7.

d) F.A. Kincl and M. Garcia, *Ber.*, **92**, 595 (1959).TABLE III. Physical Data of 17 β -Hydroxy-16 β -substituted-androst-4-en-3-ones (16)

Steroid (16) ^{a,b}	R	mp (°C)	Formula	Analysis (%)		¹ H-NMR (CDCl ₃) δ (ppm) ^c			Mass (<i>m/e</i>)		
				Calcd. (Found)							
				C	H	19-H (3H, s)	4-H (1H, s)	Others	M ⁺	Others	
a ^d	Me	183—185	C ₂₀ H ₃₀ O ₂	79.42 (79.38)	10.00 (10.03)	1.21	5.71	1.10(3H, d, <i>J</i> = 6 Hz, Me)	302	284, 260	
b	Et	165—166	C ₂₁ H ₃₂ O ₂	79.70 (79.78)	10.19 (10.07)	1.18	5.71	0.89(3H, t, <i>J</i> = 6 Hz, Me)	316	298, 274	
c	CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₃	165—167	C ₂₂ H ₃₄ O ₂	79.95 (79.77)	10.37 (10.66)	1.17	5.70	0.89(3H, t, <i>J</i> = 6 Hz, Me)	330	312, 288	
d		144—145	C ₂₂ H ₃₄ O ₂	79.95 (79.94)	10.37 (10.32)	1.18	5.74	0.89, 1.03 (each 3H, d, <i>J</i> = 6 Hz, Me)	330	312, 288	
e	C ₆ H ₅	176—177	C ₂₅ H ₃₂ O ₂	82.37 (82.53)	8.85 (9.01)	1.21	5.72	3.48(1H, q, <i>J</i> ₁ = 19 Hz, <i>J</i> ₂ = 9 Hz, 16 α -H)	364	346, 305	

a) IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) data are as follows: 16a—c: ν_{OH} 3450, $\nu_{4^4-3-one}$ 1660; 16d, e: ν_{OH} 3500, $\nu_{4^4-3-one}$ 1670.b) UV [EtOH, nm (ε)] data are as follows: 16a—c: λ_{max} 240 (17000).

c) The other NMR data were reported in ref. 7.

d) F. Neumann, O. Mancera, G. Rosenkranz, and F. Sondheimer, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **77**, 5657 (1955).

On the other hand, cyproterone acetate (17),¹⁰ known as a strong antiandrogenic steroid, has a unique structural moiety such as 6-chloro-1,2 α -methylene- $\Delta^{4,6}$ -3-one. In order to investigate the antiandrogenic activity of the 16 β -substituted-17 β -hydroxysteroids having such a moiety of cyproterone acetate (17), 17 β -hydroxy-6-chloro-16 β -substituted- $\Delta^{4,6}$ -3-ones and the corresponding 1,2 α -methylene derivative were synthesized. The 3-ethyl enol ethers (15) were treated with N-chlorosuccinimide in aqueous acetone in the presence of 10% sodium acetate

10) R. Wiechert, *Angew. Chem.*, **82**, 331 (1970) and references cited therein.

to yield the 6 β -chloro- Δ^4 -3-one derivatives (**18**) in 70–75% yield. Since **18** was easily isomerized to thermodynamically more stable 6 α -isomers, **18** was converted to the corresponding 3-ethyl enol ethers (**19**) without purification. Dehydrogenation of **19** with 2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone (DDQ)¹¹⁾ in aqueous acetone afforded 17 β -hydroxy-6-chloro-16 β -substituted-androsta-4,6-dien-3-ones (**20**) in 40% yields. The physical data of **20** are shown in Table IV.

TABLE IV. Physical Data of 17 β -Hydroxy-6-chloro-16 β -substituted-androsta-4,6-dien-3-ones (**20**)

Steroid (20) ^{a, b}	R	mp (°C)	Formula	Analysis (%)					
				Calcd.			(Found)		
				C	H	Cl	C	H	Cl
a	Me	162–165	C ₂₀ H ₂₇ ClO ₂	71.73	8.13	10.59	71.23	8.37	10.42
b	Et	173–176	C ₂₁ H ₂₉ ClO ₂	72.41	8.33	10.21	72.43	8.36	10.07
c	CH(CH ₃) ₂	167–170	C ₂₂ H ₃₁ ClO ₂	72.93	8.56	9.68	72.81	8.71	9.43
d	C ₆ H ₅	258–260	C ₂₅ H ₂₉ ClO ₂	75.76	7.32	8.96	75.90	7.45	9.45

Steroid (20) ^{a, b}	¹ H-NMR (CDCl ₃) δ (ppm)				Mass (<i>m/e</i>)			
	19-H (3H, s)	4-H (1H, s)	7-H (1H, d, <i>J</i> = 2 Hz)	Others	M ⁺ (³⁷ Cl)	M ⁺ (³⁵ Cl)	Others	
a	1.12	6.25	6.29	1.01(3H, d, <i>J</i> = 7 Hz, Me)	336	334	318, 316, 211, 209, 191	
b	1.11	6.26	6.29	0.90(3H, t, <i>J</i> = 6 Hz, Me)	350	348	332, 330, 315, 313, 295	
c	1.14	6.30	6.35	0.92, 1.05(each 3H, d, <i>J</i> = 6 Hz, Me)	364	362	346, 344, 329, 327, 309	
d	1.16	6.30	6.36	3.52(1H, q, <i>J</i> ₁ = 16 Hz, <i>J</i> ₂ = 10 Hz, 16 α -H), 7.27(5H, m, Ar)	398	396	380, 378, 363, 361, 343	

a) IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) data are as follows: **20a–c**: ν_{OH} 3500, $\nu_{\Delta^4,6-3-one}$ 1650; **20d**: ν_{OH} 3550, $\nu_{\Delta^4,6-3-one}$ 1650.

b) UV [EtOH, nm (ϵ)] data are as follows: **20a,b**: λ_{max} 285 (21000); **20c,d**: λ_{max} 286 (21000).

In the same way, 17 β -hydroxy-16 β -isopropylestr-4-en-3-one (**9e**) was converted to 6-chloro 3-ethyl enol ether (**21**). When **21** was treated with DDQ in aqueous acetone, phenol derivatives (**22** and **23**) were obtained instead of the desired 6-chloro- $\Delta^4,6$ -3-one (**28**). On the other hand, the 3-ethyl enol ether (**24**), prepared from **9d** and ethyl orthoformate, was dehydrogenated with DDQ¹¹⁾ to give the corresponding $\Delta^4,6$ -3-one (**25**) in 15% yield. Epoxidation of **25** with *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid¹²⁾ in dichloromethane proceeded from less hindered α -side to give the 6 $\alpha,7\alpha$ -epoxy derivative (**26**) in 84% yield. Treatment of **26** with anhydrous hydrogen chloride in acetic acid¹³⁾ afforded, through the 6 β -chloro-7 α -acetoxy intermediate (**27**), the desired 17 β -hydroxy-6-chloro-16 β -isopropylestra-4,6-dien-3-one (**28**) in 13% yield.

The 1,2 α -methylene derivative of **20c** was also synthesized by the followings. Treatment of the acetate (**29**) of **16d** with chloranil¹⁴⁾ in *t*-butanol gave the corresponding $\Delta^4,6$ -3-one (**30**) in 92% yield. Subsequent dehydrogenation of **30** with DDQ¹⁵⁾ in dioxane gave the $\Delta^{1,4,6}$ -3-one derivative (**31**) in 91% yield. The direct dehydrogenation of **29** to **31** by DDQ proceeded in

11) S.K. Pradhan and H.J. Ringold, *J. Org. Chem.*, **29**, 601 (1964).

12) N.N. Schwartz and J.H. Blumbers, *J. Org. Chem.*, **29**, 1976 (1964).

13) L.H. Knox, J.A. Zderic, J.P. Ruelas, C. Djerassi, and H.J. Ringold, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **82**, 1230 (1960).

14) E. J. Agnello and G.D. Laubach, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **82**, 4293 (1960).

15) D. Burn, V. Petrow, and G. Weston, *J. Chem. Soc.*, **1962**, 29.

only low yield. Treatment of **31** with dimethylsulfoxonium methylide in dimethyl sulfoxide¹⁶⁾ gave the 1,2 α -methylene derivative (**32**) in 86% yield. The α -configuration of 1,2-methylene group of **32** derives from the analogy with cyproterone acetate (**17**).¹⁰⁾ Epoxidation of **32** with *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid¹²⁾ in dichloromethane afforded the 6 α ,7 α -epoxy compound (**33**) in good yield. The α -epoxidation of **33** was established by the NMR spectral data. Reaction of **33** with anhydrous hydrogen chloride in acetic acid induced ring-opening reaction¹⁰⁾ of the 1,2 α -methylene moiety to give the 1 α -chloromethyl-6-chloro- $\Delta^{4,6}$ -3-one derivative (**34**) in good yield. In order to reproduce the 1,2 α -methylene ring, **34** was treated with γ -collidine¹⁰⁾ under nitrogen to yield desired the 1,2 α -methylene-6-chloro derivative (**35**) in 67% yield. **35** was hydrolyzed under the mild conditions to give **36** in good yield.

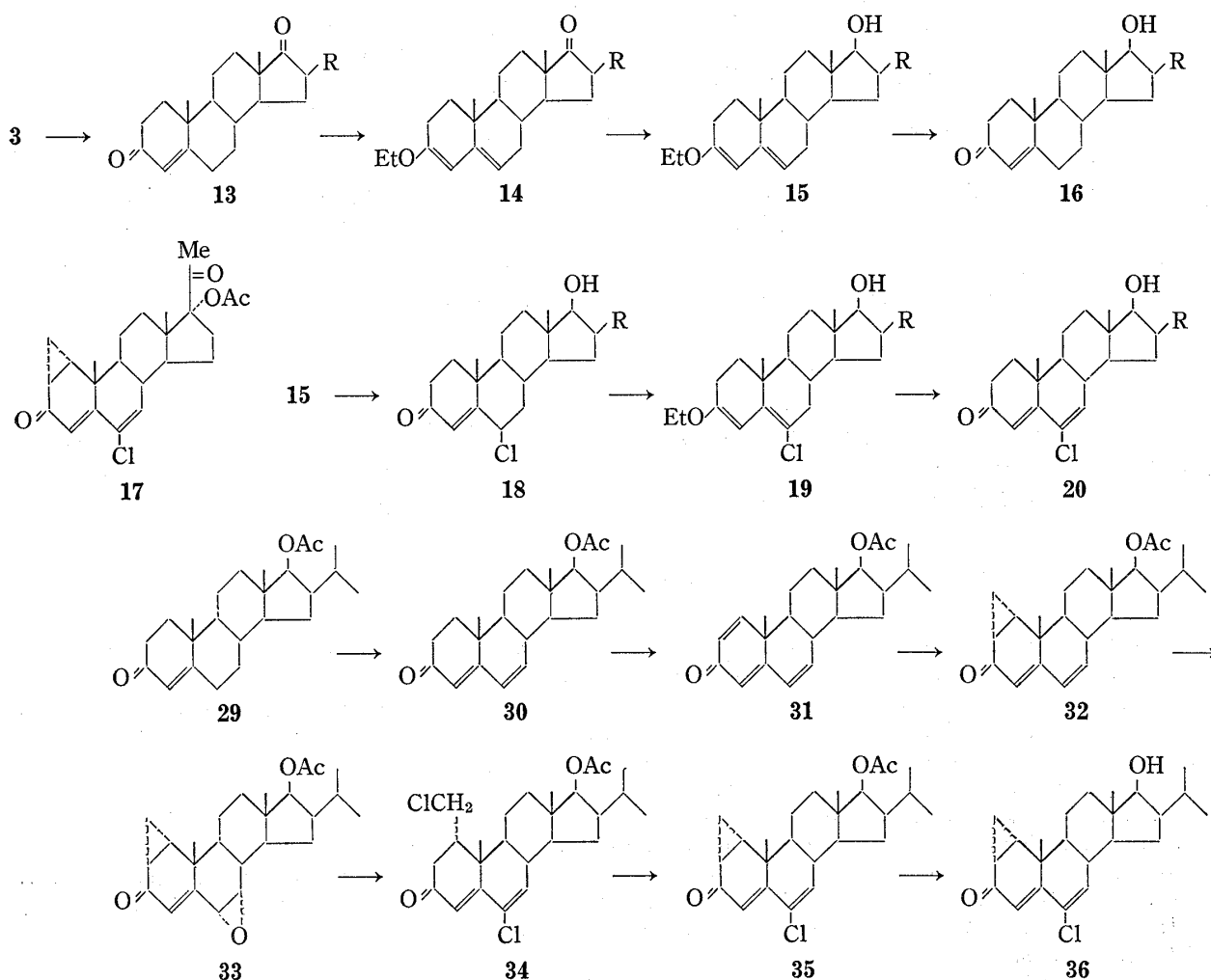


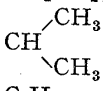
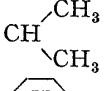
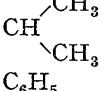
Chart 2

The antiandrogenic activity of these new steroids (**9**, **16**, **20** and **36**) synthesized as above was assessed in the immature castrated male rat.¹⁷⁾ Weight increase of the seminal vesicle, one of the androgen-target organs, caused by a given daily subcutaneous dose (0.15 mg) of testosterone propionate for 12 days was suppressed by the daily subcutaneous treatment with

- 16) a) R. Kuhn and H. Trischmann, *Ann. Chem.*, **611**, 117 (1958); b) E.J. Corey and M. Chaykovsky, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **84**, 867 (1962); c) E.J. Corey and M. Chaykovsky, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **87**, 1353 (1965).
 17) a) M. Masuoka, T. Masaki, and R. Nakayama, *Folia Endocrinologica Japonica*, **47**, 753 (1972); b) I. Yamazaki, T. Hori, Y. Kimura, and R. Nakayama, *ibid.*, **47**, 754 (1974).

these test steroids (2.4 mg) and rates of the inhibition (%) were used as indices of the antiandrogenic activity. The results are shown in Table V.

TABLE V. Antiandrogenic Activity of 16 β -Substituted-17 β -hydroxysteroids (9, 16, 20 and 36)

Steroids	R	Antiandrogenic activity inhibition rate (%)	Steroid	R	Antiandrogenic activity inhibition rate (%)
9a ^{a)}	Me	18.3	16c	CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₃	5.1
9b	Et	58.5	16d		23.0
9c	CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₃	18.3	16e	C ₆ H ₅	8.6
9d	CH ₂ CH=CH ₂	45.1	20a	Me	38.2
9e		58.5	20b ^{b)}	Et	31.2
9f ^{a)}		3.1	20c		25.9
9g	C ₆ H ₅	N.D.	20d	C ₆ H ₅	36.9
16a ^{a)}	Me	N.D.	36 ^{a, c)}	—	22.7
16b	Et	37.8			

N.D.: Not detectable.

a) Suspended in hydrophilic vehicle. The other steroids were dissolved in sesame oil containing 20% benzyl benzoate.

b) 1.2 mg/rat daily dose.

c) Oral administration of 4.8 mg/rat daily dose.

Among these steroids examined, 17 β -hydroxy-16 β -ethyl-estr-4-en-3-one (9b: TSAA-291) was found to have the most potent antiandrogenic activity in the detailed evaluations and also found to provide a useful remedy for the treatment of the benign prostatic hypertrophy.¹⁸⁾

Experimental¹⁹⁾

16-Isopropylidene-3-methoxyestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17-one (6a)—To a solution of 4 (10 g) in MeOH (200 ml) was added KOH (2.0 g) and acetone (200 ml). After refluxing for 3 hr, the reaction mixture was poured into water and the resulting crystals were recrystallized from MeOH to give 6a (9.6 g)⁵⁾ as colorless needles, mp 155°. *Anal.* Calcd. for C₂₈H₂₈O₂: C, 81.44; H, 8.70. Found: C, 81.64; H, 8.95. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm⁻¹: 1700, 1640, 1610. NMR δ ppm: 0.87 (3H, s, 13-Me), 1.87, 2.23 (each 3H, s, CH(Me)₂), 3.68 (3H, s, OMe), 6.5—7.3 (3H, m, Ar). MS *m/e*: 324 (M⁺), 309.

16-Cyclohexylidene-3-methoxyestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17-one (6b)—To a solution of 4 (2.5 g) in MeOH (100 ml) was added KOH (2.0 g) and cyclohexanone (8 g). After refluxing for 3 hr, the reaction mixture was poured into water and the resulting crystals were recrystallized from MeOH to give 6b (2.0 g) as colorless needles, mp 127—129°. *Anal.* Calcd. for C₂₅H₃₂O₂: C, 82.37; H, 8.85. Found: C, 82.23; H, 8.85. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm⁻¹: 1710, 1630. NMR δ ppm: 0.91 (3H, s, 13-Me), 3.73 (3H, s, OMe), 6.6—7.3 (3H, m, Ar). MS *m/e*: 364 (M⁺), 349, 336.

3 β -Hydroxy-16-isopropylidene-androst-5-en-17-one (7)—⁷⁵⁾ (14.6 g) was obtained from 5 (18 g) by the same procedure as used in 6a.

16 β -Isopropyl-3-methoxyestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17-one (2e)—6a (4.5 g) in EtOH (300 ml) was hydrogenated over Raney-Ni catalyst (W-3, 1.4 g) at room temperature under atmospheric pressure. After H₂ absorption ceased, the catalyst was filtered off and the filtrates were evaporated to give crystals. Recry-

18) Details of the antiandrogenic activity and effects on the benign prostatic hypertrophy of TSAA-291 will be reported elsewhere.

19) All melting points were determined on a micro hot stage apparatus and uncorrected. Ultraviolet (UV) spectra were measured in EtOH on a Hitachi EPS-3T spectrophotometer. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded with a Hitachi 215 spectrophotometer. NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian HA-100 (100 MHz) spectrometer using CDCl₃ as a solvent; chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm relative to internal tetramethylsilane (TMS). The mass spectra (MS) were determined on a Hitachi RMU-6D mass spectrometer equipped with a direct inlet system.

stallization from ether afforded **2e** (4.23 g) as colorless needles, mp 109–111°. *Anal.* Calcd. for $C_{22}H_{30}O_2$: C, 80.93; H, 9.26. Found: C, 80.70; H, 9.28. IR $\nu_{\max}^{KBr}$ cm^{-1} : 1740. NMR δ ppm: 0.76 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.83, 0.99 (each 3H, d, $J=7$ Hz, $CH(Me)_2$), 3.66 (3H, s, OMe), 6.5–7.3 (3H, m, Ar). MS m/e : 326 (M^+), 311, 298.

The other compounds (**2f** and **3d**) were similarly obtained from **6b** and **7**, respectively, by the same hydrogenation procedure described above. The physical data of **2f** and **3d** are as follows.

16 β -Cyclohexyl-3-methoxyestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17-one (2f)—Colorless needles, mp 117–119°. *Anal.* Calcd. for $C_{25}H_{34}O_2$: C, 81.92; H, 9.35. Found: C, 81.65; H, 9.24. IR $\nu_{\max}^{KBr}$ cm^{-1} : 1740. NMR δ ppm: 0.81 (3H, s, 13-Me), 3.74 (3H, s, OMe), 6.5–7.3 (3H, m, Ar). MS m/e : 366 (M^+), 338.

3 β -Hydroxy-16 β -isopropylandro-5-en-17-one (3d)—Colorless needles, mp 140–145°. *Anal.* Calcd. for $C_{22}H_{34}O_2$: C, 79.95; H, 10.37. Found: C, 79.96; H, 10.21. IR $\nu_{\max}^{KBr}$ cm^{-1} : 3300, 1740. NMR δ ppm: 0.87 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.84, 1.01 (each 3H, d, $J=6$ Hz, $CH(Me)_2$), 1.02 (3H, s, 10-Me), 3.2–3.6 (1H, m, 3 α -H), 5.30 (1H, d, $J=6$ Hz, 6-H). MS m/e : 330 (M^+), 315, 312.

16 β -Methyl-3-methoxyestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17 β -ol (8a)—To a solution of **2a** (5.8 g) in MeOH (120 ml) was added $NaBH_4$ (1.2 g). After stirring at room temperature for 1 hr, the reaction mixture was poured into water and the resulting crystals were recrystallized from ether–hexane (1:1) to give **8a** (5.4 g) as colorless needles.

The other compounds (**8b–g**) were similarly obtained by the reaction of **2b–g** with $NaBH_4$. The physical data of **8a–g** are given in Table I.

17 β -Hydroxy-16 β -methylestr-4-en-3-one (9a)—A solution of **8a** (1.2 g) in EtOH (5 ml), tetrahydrofuran (50 ml) was cooled at -50° by dry ice–acetone. To this solution was added liq. NH_3 (300 ml) at the same temperature. Li ribbon (2.3 g) in ca. 0.3 g portion was added dropwise at -50° during 2 hr with stirring. After stirring an additional 1 hr, NH_3 was evaporated in a slow stream of N_2 and the residue was extracted with ether. The extracts were washed with water, dried over Na_2SO_4 and the solvent was evaporated to give crude crystals (1.13 g). To a stirred solution of this material (1.13 g) in MeOH (25 ml) was added 6N HCl solution (3 ml). After stirring at room temperature for 30 min, the reaction mixture was extracted with ether. The extracts were washed with water, dried over Na_2SO_4 and the solvent was evaporated to give crude crystals. Recrystallization from ether–hexane (1:1) gave **9a** (0.98 g) as colorless needles.

The other compounds (**9b–g**) were similarly obtained by the Birch reduction of **8b–g**. The physical data of **9a–g** are given in Table II.

17 β -Tetrahydropyranyloxy-16 β -allyl-3-methoxyestra-1,3,5(10)-triene (11)—To a solution of **8d** (3.0 g) in CH_2Cl_2 (50 ml) was added dihydropyran (5 ml) and *p*-TsOH (0.2 g). After stirring at room temperature for 30 min, the reaction mixture was poured into 10% $NaHCO_3$ solution and the product was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The CH_2Cl_2 layer was washed with water and dried over Na_2SO_4 . The solvent was evaporated to give **11** (2.9 g) as a colorless oil. IR $\nu_{\max}^{Neat}$ cm^{-1} : 1635, no OH band. MS m/e : 410 (M^+), 325.

17 β -Tetrahydropyranyloxy-16 β -phenyl-3-methoxyestra-1,3,5(10)-triene (12)—Treatment of **8g** (1.03 g) with dihydropyran (2 ml) by the same procedure as used in **11** gave, after recrystallization from ether–hexane (1:1), **12** (1.0 g) colorless plates, mp 123–125°. IR $\nu_{\max}^{KBr}$ cm^{-1} : 1610, no OH band. NMR δ ppm: 0.98 (3H, s, 13-Me), 3.75 (3H, s, OMe), 4.05 (1H, d, $J=10$ Hz, 17 α -H), 4.74 (1H, s, pyran α -H), 6.5–7.5 (8H, m, Ar). MS m/e : 446 (M^+), 361.

Birch reduction of 11 and 12: Birch reduction of **11** and **12** were carried out by the same procedure as used in **9** to give **9d** (50%) and **9g** (56%), respectively.

16 β -Ethylandro-4-ene-3,17-dione (13b)—To a solution of **3b** (2.3 g) in dry benzene (100 ml) was added cyclohexanone (20 ml) and aluminum isopropoxide (5.0 g). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 1 hr. After cooling, the reaction mixture was extracted with ether. The ether layer was successively washed with 10% sodium potassium tartrate solution, water and saturated NaCl solution, followed by drying over Na_2SO_4 and then the solvent was evaporated to give crude crystals. Recrystallization from ether–hexane (1:1) afforded **13b** (1.47 g) as colorless needles, mp 163–164°. *Anal.* Calcd. for $C_{21}H_{30}O_2$: C, 80.21; H, 9.62. Found: C, 79.92; H, 9.71. IR $\nu_{\max}^{KBr}$ cm^{-1} : 1720, 1650, 1630. NMR δ ppm: 0.87 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.96 (3H, t, $J=6$ Hz, Me), 1.21 (3H, s, 10-Me), 5.74 (1H, s, 4-H). MS m/e : 314 (M^+).

The other compounds (**13c–e**) were similarly obtained by the same Oppenauer oxidation of **3c–e**. The physical data of **13c–e** were as follows.

16 β -Propylandro-4-ene-3,17-dione (13c)—Colorless needles, mp 140–142°. *Anal.* Calcd. for $C_{22}H_{32}O_2$: C, 80.44; H, 9.83. Found: C, 80.55; H, 9.94. IR $\nu_{\max}^{KBr}$ cm^{-1} : 1720, 1650, 1630. NMR δ ppm: 0.87 (3H, s, 13-Me), 1.21 (3H, s, 10-Me), 5.37 (1H, s, 4-H). MS m/e : 328 (M^+).

16 β -Isopropylandro-4-ene-3,17-dione (13d)—Colorless needles, mp 152–153°. *Anal.* Calcd. for $C_{22}H_{32}O_2$: C, 80.44; H, 9.83. Found: C, 80.66; H, 9.80. IR $\nu_{\max}^{KBr}$ cm^{-1} : 1730, 1660, 1630. NMR δ ppm: 0.80 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.86, 1.01 (each 3H, d, $J=6$ Hz, $CH(Me)_2$), 1.20 (3H, s, 10-Me), 5.58 (1H, s, 4-H). MS m/e : 328 (M^+).

16 β -Phenylandro-4-ene-3,17-dione (13e)—Colorless needles, mp 225–230°. *Anal.* Calcd. for $C_{25}H_{30}O_2$: C, 82.83; H, 8.34. Found: C, 82.88; H, 8.14. IR $\nu_{\max}^{KBr}$ cm^{-1} : 1730, 1660, 1630. NMR δ ppm: 0.96 (3H, s, 13-Me), 1.24 (3H, s, 10-Me), 3.38 (1H, q, $J_1=11$ Hz, $J_2=8$ Hz, 16 α -H), 5.76 (1H, s, 4-H). MS m/e : 362 (M^+).

17 β -Hydroxy-16 β -methylandrost-4-en-3-one (16a)—To a solution of 13a (2.1 g) in dioxane (100 ml) was added ethyl orthoformate (5 g) and *p*-TsOH (0.1 g). After stirring at room temperature for 2 hr, the reaction mixture was poured into 5% NaHCO₃ solution and the product was extracted with ether. The extracts were washed with water, dried over Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was evaporated to give 14a (2.1 g) as crude crystals. 14a (2.1 g) was dissolved in MeOH (40 ml) without purification. To this solution was added NaBH₄ (1.6 g). After stirring at room temperature for 1 hr, the reaction mixture was extracted with ether. The extracts were washed with water, dried over Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was evaporated to give 15a (2.0 g) as an oil. To a solution of 15a (2.0 g) in MeOH (20 ml) was added 6 N HCl solution (1 ml). After stirring at room temperature for 15 min, the reaction mixture was poured into water and the resulting crystals were recrystallized from ether-hexane (1:1) to give 16a (1.48 g) as colorless needles.

The other compounds (16b—e) were obtained from 13b—e by the same procedure described above. The physical data of 16a—e are given in Table III.

17 β -Hydroxy-6 β -chloro-16 β -methylandrost-4-en-3-one (18a)—To a solution of 15a (1.0 g) in acetone (34 ml) was added 10% sodium acetate solution (5.7 ml). Under ice cooling, N-chlorosuccinimide (0.5 g) and AcOH (0.57 ml) were added to this solution. After stirring at 5° for 5 min, the reaction mixture was extracted with ether. The extracts were washed with water and dried over Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of the solvent gave 18a (0.87 g) as crude crystals. The analytical sample of 18a was recrystallized from ether. Colorless needles, mp 125—128°. *Anal.* Calcd. for C₂₀H₂₉ClO₂: C, 71.30; H, 8.68; Cl, 10.53. Found: C, 71.22; H, 8.47; Cl, 10.64. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm⁻¹: 1690, 1640. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 239 (16500). NMR δ ppm: 0.82 (3H, s, 13-Me), 1.10 (3H, d, *J* = 6 Hz, Me), 1.44 (3H, s, 10-Me), 3.65 (1H, d, *J* = 10 Hz, 17 α -H), 4.71 (1H, m, 6 α -H), 5.82 (1H, s, 4-H). MS *m/e*: 338 and 336 (M⁺), 320, 318.

The other compounds (18b—d) were similarly obtained by the reaction of 15b—d with N-chlorosuccinimide. The physical data of 18b—d are as follows.

17 β -Hydroxy-6 β -chloro-16 β -ethylandrost-4-en-3-one (18b)—Colorless plates, mp 167—169°. *Anal.* Calcd. for C₂₁H₃₁ClO₂: C, 72.00; H, 8.85; Cl, 10.14. Found: C, 71.99; H, 8.87; Cl, 10.81. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm⁻¹: 1670, 1635. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 240 (16600). NMR δ ppm: 0.82 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.90 (3H, t, *J* = 6 Hz, Me), 1.45 (3H, s, 10-Me), 3.66 (1H, d, *J* = 10 Hz, 17 α -H), 4.72 (1H, m, 6 α -H), 5.84 (1H, s, 4-H). MS *m/e*: 352 and 350 (M⁺), 334, 332.

17 β -Hydroxy-6 β -chloro-16 β -isopropylandrost-4-en-3-one (18c)—Colorless needles, mp 185—188°. *Anal.* Calcd. for C₂₂H₃₃ClO₂: C, 72.55; H, 9.07; Cl, 9.62. Found: C, 72.79; H, 9.15; Cl, 9.90. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm⁻¹: 1690, 1630. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 240 (16800). NMR δ ppm: 0.84 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.90, 1.07 (each 3H, d, *J* = 6 Hz, CH(Me)₂), 1.47 (3H, s, 10-Me), 3.78 (1H, d, *J* = 9 Hz, 17 α -H), 4.74 (1H, m, 6 α -H), 5.86 (1H, s, 4-H). MS *m/e*: 366 and 364 (M⁺), 348, 346.

17 β -Hydroxy-6 β -chloro-16 β -phenylandrost-4-en-3-one (18d)—Colorless needles, mp 180—185°. *Anal.* Calcd. for C₂₅H₃₁ClO₂: C, 75.38; H, 7.79; Cl, 8.92. Found: C, 75.62; H, 7.85; Cl, 8.73. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm⁻¹: 1680, 1630. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 240 (16700). NMR δ ppm: 0.88 (3H, s, 13-Me), 1.48 (3H, s, 10-Me), 3.50 (1H, q, *J*₁ = 10 Hz, *J*₂ = 8 Hz, 16 α -H), 3.87 (1H, d, *J* = 10 Hz, 17 α -H), 4.74 (1H, m, 6 α -H), 5.86 (1H, s, 4-H), 7.28 (5H, m, Ar). MS *m/e*: 400 and 398 (M⁺), 382, 380.

17 β -Hydroxy-6-chloro-16 β -methylandrosta-4,6-dien-3-one (20a)—To a solution of 18a (1.0 g) in dioxane (20 ml) was added ethyl orthoformate (3 ml) and *p*-TsOH (50 mg). After stirring at room temperature for 2 hr, the reaction mixture was worked up by the usual way to afford 19a (1.02 g). The crude 19a (1.02 g) was dissolved in 95% aqueous acetone (100 ml). To this solution was added DDQ (0.8 g) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 min. After standing at room temperature for additional 1 hr, the reaction mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The extracts were washed with water and dried over Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of the solvent gave crude crystals. Recrystallization from ether-hexane (1:1) afforded 20a (0.74 g) as colorless needles.

The other compounds (20b—d) were similarly obtained from 18b—d by the same procedure described above. The physical data of 20a—d are given in Table IV.

3-Ethoxy-16 β -isopropylestra-3,5-dien-17 β -ol (24)—To a solution of 9e (1.5 g) in dioxane (50 ml) was added ethyl orthoformate (2 ml) and *p*-TsOH (0.1 g). After stirring at room temperature for 1 hr, the reaction mixture was poured into 5% NaHCO₃ solution and the product was extracted with ether. The extracts were washed with water, dried over Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was evaporated to give crude crystals. Recrystallization from MeOH gave 24 (1.4 g) as colorless needles, mp 100—105°. *Anal.* Calcd. for C₂₃H₃₆O₂: C, 80.18; H, 10.53. Found: C, 80.07; H, 10.49. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm⁻¹: 3500, 1640, 1620. MS *m/e*: 344 (M⁺), 326, 309.

17 β -Hydroxy-16 β -isopropylestra-4,6-dien-3-one (25)—To a solution of 24 (1.5 g) in 95% aqueous acetone (30 ml) was added DDQ (1.0 g). After stirring at room temperature for 10 min, the reaction mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The extracts were washed with water, dried over Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was evaporated to give crude crystals. Recrystallization from ether afforded 25 (0.17 g) as colorless needles, mp 170—172°. *Anal.* Calcd. for C₂₁H₃₀O₂: C, 80.21; H, 9.62. Found: C, 80.13; H, 9.70. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm⁻¹: 3550, 1670, 1620, 1600. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 281 (26800). NMR δ ppm: 0.79 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.89, 1.02 (each 3H, d, *J* = 6 Hz, CH(Me)₂), 3.75 (1H, d, *J* = 10 Hz, 17 α -H), 5.68 (1H, s, 4-H), 6.14 (2H, m, 6-H and 7-H). MS *m/e*: 314 (M⁺), 299, 296.

17 β -Hydroxy-6 α ,7 α -epoxy-16 β -isopropylestr-4-en-3-one (26)—To a solution of **25** (170 mg) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 ml) was added *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (110 mg). After standing at room temperature for 2 days, the reaction mixture was poured into 5% Na_2CO_3 solution and the product was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The extracts were washed with water, dried over Na_2SO_4 and the solvent was evaporated to yield **26** (150 mg) as a colorless oil. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 3450, 1660, 1620. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 235 (17000). MS m/e : 330 (M^+), 315, 314, 312.

17 β -Hydroxy-6-chloro-16 β -isopropylestra-4,6-dien-3-one (28)—A solution of **26** (150 mg) in glacial acetic acid (10 ml) was saturated with anhydrous hydrogen chloride and the reaction mixture was allowed to stand at room temperature for 4 hr. The solution was poured into ice-water and the product was extracted with ether. The extracts were washed with 5% NaHCO_3 solution, dried over Na_2SO_4 and the solvent was evaporated to give an oil (147 mg). The product was purified by chromatography on silica gel (15 g). The benzene-ether (5:1) fractions were concentrated to yield, after recrystallization from ether, **28** (21 mg) as colorless plates, mp 161–163°. Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{29}\text{ClO}_2$: C, 72.29; H, 8.38; Cl, 10.16. Found: C, 72.41; H, 8.21; Cl, 10.04. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 3500, 1650, 1600. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 284 (21400). NMR δ ppm: 0.80 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.90, 1.02 (each 3H, d, $J=6$ Hz, $\text{CH}(\text{Me})_2$), 3.79 (1H, d, $J=10$ Hz, 17 α -H), 6.37 (2H, m, 4-H and 7-H). MS m/e : 350 and 348 (M^+), 335, 333, 332, 330.

17 β -Acetoxy-16 β -isopropylandrosta-4-en-3-one (29)—Acetylation of **16d** (13.5 g) was performed by the usual way to afford **29** (13.1 g) as colorless needles (from ether), mp 128°. Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{36}\text{O}_3$: C, 77.37; H, 9.74. Found: C, 77.55; H, 9.66. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 1730, 1670, 1610. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 239 (17000). NMR δ ppm: 0.79 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.84, 0.87 (each 3H, d, $J=6$ Hz, $\text{CH}(\text{Me})_2$), 1.17 (3H, s, 10-Me), 2.06 (3H, s, OAc), 4.92 (1H, d, $J=10$ Hz, 17 α -H), 5.72 (1H, s, 4-H). MS m/e : 372 (M^+), 330.

17 β -Acetoxy-16 β -isopropylandrosta-4,6-dien-3-one (30)—To a solution of **29** (5.0 g) in *t*-BuOH (50 ml) was added chloranil (4.0 g) and the reaction mixture was heated to 80° for 4 hr. After cooling, the reaction mixture was poured into 10% Na_2CO_3 solution and the products were extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The extracts were washed with water, dried over Na_2SO_4 and the solvent was evaporated to afford crude crystals. Recrystallization from ether gave **30** (4.6 g) as colorless needles, mp 101–103°. Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_3$: C, 77.80; H, 9.25. Found: C, 77.58; H, 9.41. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 1715, 1650, 1615, 1580. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 282 (23500). NMR δ ppm: 0.85 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.89, 0.91 (each 3H, d, $J=6$ Hz, $\text{CH}(\text{Me})_2$), 1.13 (3H, s, 10-Me), 2.07 (3H, s, OAc), 3.98 (1H, d, $J=10$ Hz, 17 α -H), 4.67 (1H, s, 4-H), 5.12 (2H, m, 6-H and 7-H). MS m/e : 370 (M^+), 328.

17 β -Acetoxy-16 β -isopropylandrosta-1,4,6-trien-3-one (31)—To a solution of **30** (3.5 g) in dioxane (40 ml) was added DDQ (2.8 g) and the reaction mixture was refluxed for 5 hr. After cooling, the solution was treated in the same manner as used in **29**. Recrystallization from ether gave **31** (3.2 g) as colorless needles, mp 163–165°. Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{32}\text{O}_3$: C, 78.22; H, 8.75. Found: C, 78.03; H, 8.86. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 1710, 1650, 1600, 1580. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 222 (9800), 252 (9500), 296 (10500). NMR δ ppm: 0.86, 0.91 (each 3H, d, $J=6$ Hz, $\text{CH}(\text{Me})_2$), 0.88 (3H, s, 13-Me), 1.20 (3H, s, 10-Me), 2.07 (3H, s, OAc), 4.95 (1H, d, $J=10$ Hz, 17 α -H), 5.99 (1H, d, $J=2$ Hz, 4-H), 6.09 (1H, q, $J=2$ Hz, 6-H), 6.24 (1H, q, $J_1=10$ Hz, $J_2=2$ Hz, 2-H), 7.25 (1H, d, $J=10$ Hz, 1-H). MS m/e : 368 (M^+), 353, 326.

17 β -Acetoxy-1,2 α -methylene-16 β -isopropylandrosta-4,6-dien-3-one (32)—To a solution of trimethylsulfoxonium iodide^{16a)} (7.0 g) in dry dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) (10 ml) was added NaH (700 mg, oil free) at 5° under N_2 and the solution was stirred at the same temperature for 30 min. To this solution was added **31** (3.0 g) in dry DMSO (15 ml) at 5–10°. After stirring at 5–10° for 12 hr under N_2 , the reaction mixture was poured into 1N HCl solution and the resulting crystals were recrystallized from ether to give **32** (2.7 g) as colorless plates, mp 155–159°. Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_3$: C, 78.49; H, 8.96. Found: C, 78.58; H, 9.24. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 1730, 1640, 1620. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 280 (18000). NMR δ ppm: 0.85 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.88, 0.89 (each 3H, d, $J=6$ Hz, $\text{CH}(\text{Me})_2$), 1.19 (3H, s, 10-Me), 2.06 (3H, s, OAc), 4.95 (1H, d, $J=10$ Hz, 17 α -H), 5.51 (1H, s, 4-H), 6.01 (2H, m, 6-H and 7-H). MS m/e : 382 (M^+), 329.

17 β -Acetoxy-1,2 α -methylene-6 α ,7 α -epoxy-16 β -isopropylandrosta-4-en-3-one (33)—To a solution of **32** (1.5 g) in CH_2Cl_2 (30 ml) was added *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (0.9 g) and the solution was allowed to stand at room temperature for 24 hr. The reaction mixture was treated in the same manner as used in **26** to yield **33** (1.4 g) as an oil. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 1720, 1660, 1610. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 233 (16500). NMR δ ppm: 0.80 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.86, 0.90 (each 3H, d, $J=6$ Hz, $\text{CH}(\text{Me})_2$), 1.14 (3H, s, 10-Me), 2.03 (3H, s, OAc), 3.28 (1H, d, $J=4$ Hz, 7 β -H), 3.36 (1H, d, $J=4$ Hz, 6 β -H), 4.96 (1H, d, $J=10$ Hz, 17 α -H), 5.89 (1H, s, 4-H). MS m/e : 398 (M^+), 355.

17 β -Acetoxy-6-chloro-1,2 α -methylene-16 β -isopropylandrosta-4,6-dien-3-one (35)—A solution of **33** (2.0 g) in glacial acetic acid (20 ml) was saturated with anhydrous hydrogen chloride. After standing at room temperature for 20 hr, the reaction mixture was poured into ice-water and the product was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The extracts were worked up in the usual manner to give **34** (1.79 g) as an oil. Without purification, **34** (1.74 g) was dissolved in γ -collidine (15 ml) and refluxed under N_2 for 30 min. After cooling, the reaction mixture was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The extracts were washed with 5% HCl solution, water and dried over Na_2SO_4 . Evaporation of the solvent gave crude crystals. Recrystallization from ether gave **35** (1.4 g) as colorless needles, mp 168–169°. Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{33}\text{ClO}_3$: C, 72.01; H, 7.98; Cl, 8.50. Found: C, 72.30; H, 7.81; Cl, 8.43. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 1720, 1660, 1630, 1605. UV λ_{max} nm (ϵ): 283 (18100).

NMR δ ppm: 0.83 (3H, s, 13-Me), 1.07 (3H, s, 10-Me), 2.05 (3H, s, OAc), 4.90 (1H, d, $J=9$ Hz, 17 α -H), 5.98 (1H, s, 4-H), 6.16 (1H, d, $J=2$ Hz, 7-H). MS m/e : 418 and 416 (M^+), 403, 401.

17 β -Hydroxy-6-chloro-1,2 α -methylene-16 β -isopropylandrosta-4,6-dien-3-one (36)—To a solution of 35 (600 mg) in EtOH (30 ml) was added 1 N KOH-EtOH solution (5 ml) and the solution was heated to 60° under N₂ for 30 min. After cooling, the reaction mixture was poured into water and the resulting crystals were recrystallized from ether to give 36 (520 mg) as colorless needles, mp 177–178°. *Anal.* Calcd. for C₂₃H₃₁ClO₂: C, 73.67; H, 8.33; Cl, 9.46. Found: C, 73.61; H, 8.47; Cl, 9.44. IR $\nu_{\max}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm⁻¹: 3400, 1640, 1620, 1605. UV $\lambda_{\max}$ nm (ϵ): 283 (18000). NMR δ ppm: 0.84 (3H, s, 13-Me), 0.92, 1.05 (each 3H, d, $J=6$ Hz, CH(Me)₂), 1.23 (3H, s, 10-Me), 3.80 (1H, d, $J=9$ Hz, 17 α -H), 6.13 (1H, s, 4-H), 6.26 (1H, d, $J=2$ Hz, 7-H). MS m/e : 376 and 374 (M^+), 361, 359, 358, 357.

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