

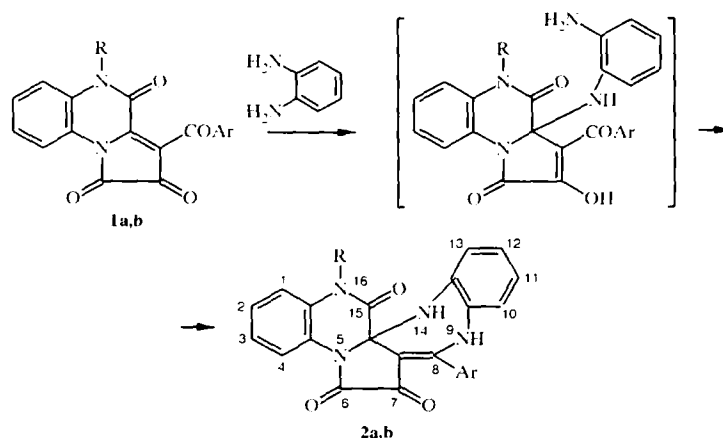
UNUSUAL REACTION OF CONDENSED 2,3-DIHYDRO-2,3-PYRROLEDIONES WITH *o*-PHENYLENEDIAMINE

I. V. Mashevskaya, A. V. Duvalov, S. V. Kol'tsova, and A. N. Maslivets

Keywords: 2,3-dihydro-2,3-pyrroledione, pyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoxaline, *o*-phenylenediamine, quinoxalino-[1,2-*a*]pyrrolo[2,3-*b*][1,5]benzodiazepine.

4-Unsubstituted 4-dialkylaminocarbonyl-2,3-dihydro-2,3-pyrrolediones, condensed at the [*a*] side with an isoquinoline ring, react with *o*-phenylenediamine with initial addition of the amino group of the reagent to the carbon atom in the 3 position of the pyrroledione ring, followed by recyclization to 2-quinoxalones and then to pyrroloquinoxalines or cyclization to pyrrolospirobenzimidazolines [1]. 4-Aroyl-2,3-dihydro-2,3-pyrrolediones condensed at the [*a*] side with a 1,4-benzoxazin-2-one ring react with *o*-phenylenediamine with initial addition of the amino group of the reagent to the carbon atom in the 5 position of the pyrroledione ring, followed by recyclization with opening of the benzoxazine ring [2].

Reaction of 4-aryl-2,3-dihydro-2,3-pyrrolediones condensed at the [*a*] side with a 2-quinoxalone ring (the 3-aryl-5-unsubstituted and 5-phenyl-1,2,4,5-tetrahydropyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoxaline-1,2,4-triones (**1a,b**) [3]) with *o*-phenyldiamine proceeds in an unusual way, with sequential nucleophilic attack by the amino groups of the reagent on the carbon atoms in the 5 position and the carbonyl group of the aroyl moiety in the 4 position of the pyrroledione ring, i.e., with closure of the benzodiazepine ring, and formation of 16-unsubstituted and 8-aryl-16-phenyl-6,7,9,14,15,16-hexahydroquinoxalino[1,2-*a*]pyrrolo[2,3-*b*][1,5]-benzodiazepine-6,7,15-triones (**2a,b**).



1, 2 a R = H. Ar = Ph; **b** R = Ph. Ar = *p*-MeC₆H₄

This reaction is the first method reported for making the previously unavailable functionalized condensed heterocyclic system of quinoxalino[1,2-*a*]pyrrolo[2,3-*b*][1,5]benzodiazepine.

8-Phenyl-6,7,9,14,15,16-hexahydroquinoxalino[1,2-*a*]pyrrolo[2,3-*b*][1,5]benzodiazepine-6,7,15-trione (2a). A solution of *o*-phenylenediamine (1.08 g, 10 mmol) in absolute dioxane (20 ml) was added to a solution of compound **1a** (3.18 g, 10 mmol) in absolute dioxane (50 ml). The reaction mixture was boiled for 3 min and then cooled down. The precipitate was filtered off. Yield 3.88 g (95%); mp 385-387°C (with decomposition, from DMF). IR spectrum: 3060 br. (N—H), 1685 ($C_{(6)}=O$), 1670, 1656 cm^{-1} ($C_{(7)}=O$, $C_{(15)}=O$). 1H NMR spectrum (250 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 6.90 (1H, s, $N_{(14)}H$); 7.15-7.80 (11H, m, $2C_6H_4 + C_6H_3$); 7.96 (2H, d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2 *o*-CH in the C_6H_5 group); 12.58 (2H, br. s, $N_{(9)}H + N_{(16)}H$). UV spectrum, nm (log ϵ): 341 (3.83), 432 (3.81). Mass spectrum, m/z : 408 [M^+]. Found, %: C 70.56; H 3.90; N 13.72. $C_{24}H_{16}N_4O_3$. Calculated, %: C 70.58; H 3.95; N 13.72.

16-Phenyl-8-*p*-tolyl-6,7,9,14,15,16-hexahydroquinoxalino[1,2-*a*]pyrrolo[2,3-*b*][1,5]benzodiazepine-6,7,15-trione (2b). *o*-Phenylenediamine (1.08 g, 10 mmol) in absolute dioxane (20 ml) was added to a solution of compound **1b** (4.08 g, 10 mmol) in absolute dioxane (50 ml). The reaction mixture was boiled for 3 min and then cooled down. The precipitate was filtered off. Yield 3.98 g (80%); mp 315-317°C (with decomposition, from DMSO). IR spectrum: 3070 br. (N—H), 1686 ($C_{(6)}=O$), 1665 cm^{-1} ($C_{(7)}=O$, $C_{(15)}=O$). 1H NMR spectrum (250 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 2.36 (3H, s, CH_3); 6.65 (1H, d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, *o*-CH in the C_6H_5 group); 6.90 (1H, s, $N_{(14)}H$); 7.10-7.67 (14H, m, $3C_6H_4 + C_6H_2$); 7.90 (2H, d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2 *o*-CH in the *p*- $C_6H_4CH_3$ group); 12.55 (1H, br. s, $N_{(9)}H$). Mass spectrum, m/z : 498 [M^+]. Found, %: C 74.67; H 4.40; N 11.23. $C_{31}H_{22}N_4O_3$. Calculated, %: C 74.69; H 4.45; N 11.24.

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