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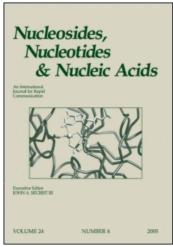
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SYNTHESIS OF IMIDAZO[1,2-a]PYRAZINE NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES

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Dept.of Chemistry, K.U. Leuven, Celestijnenlaan 200 F, B-3030 Leuven (Heverlee) Belgium SUMMARY - A synthesis of imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazine nucleoside analogues is described.

Using the recently developed halogenated 2(1H)-pyrazinones <u>3</u> (ref.1) some imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazine nucleosides 7b,c were synthesised.

While the condensation of a ribosylated α -haloaldehyde with a 3-amino-2(1H)-pyrazinon failed, a multistep synthesis via the α -amino-alcohol 2 was successful and yielded 6.

Removal of the photolabile R^1 -group (o-NO₂C₆H₄CH₂-) and the OH-protecting benzoyl groups, gave product 7b, which was further hydrogenolysed to yield 7c. Compounds 7b, which are analogues of ribavirine and formycin B, were tested for antiviral and antitumoral activity.

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