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The Synthesis and Antiherpetic Activity of DHBG and Some Analogs

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THE SYNTHESIS AND ANTIHERPETIC ACTIVITY OF DHBG AND SOME ANALOGS

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<u>Summary</u>. Several acyclic guanosine analogs have been synthesized and tested for antiviral activity.

The synthesis involves a reaction under basic conditions between 2-amino-6-chloropurine and ω -halo alkyl derivatives. Subsequent separation of the 7 and 9 isomers and hydrolysis gave the actual compounds.

R(+) 9-(3,4-dihydroxybutyl)guanine is a potent inhibitor of Herpes virus type 1 and 2 multiplication.

R(+) DHBG requires HSV thymidine kinase (TK) for activiton. It has a good affinity for HSV-1 TK ($\rm K_i=1.5$) and for HSV-2 TK ($\rm K_i=5.7$) and a phosphorylation rate relative to tymidine of 0.73 and 1.65, respectively.

R(+) DHBG has a very good antiherpetic effect against systemic HSV-1 and HSV-2 infection in mice, despite moderate ED $_{50}$ values in the plaque reduction assay (2 μ M and 8 μ M, respectively).