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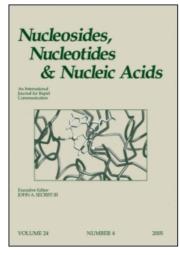
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Nucleosides, Nucleotides and Nucleic Acids

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information: http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713597286

Suppression of Transcription and Translation of the Influenza Virus RNAs by Oligonucleotide Derivatives

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To cite this Article Vlassov, V. V. , Frolova, E. I. , Godovikova, T. S. , Ivanova, E. M. , Koshkin, A. A. , Ledovskikh, N. B. , Nevinsky, G. A. , Yurchenko, L. V. and Zarytova, V. F.(1991) 'Suppression of Transcription and Translation of the Influenza Virus RNAs by Oligonucleotide Derivatives', Nucleosides, Nucleotides and Nucleic Acids, 10: 1, 645 - 647

To link to this Article: DOI: 10.1080/07328319108046559 URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/07328319108046559

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SUPPRESSION OF TRANSCRIPTION AND TRANSLATION OF THE INFLUENZA VIRUS RNAS BY OLIGONUCLEOTIDE DERIVATIVES

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ABSTRACT. Various derivatives of oligonucleotides have been found to be effective inhibitors of the enzymes of the influenza virus replicative complex.

Biosynthesis of the influenza virus (Fowl plague virus, Weybridge) mRNAs includes an unusual mechanism, incorporation of the 5'-terminal oligonucleotides cleaved from the cellular mRNAs to the viral messengers. This specific process may be suppressed by some oligonucleotide derivatives which may represent a new type of inhibitors of the virus multiplication. We have investigated the effect of various modified oligonucleotide derivatives on the synthesis of the virus specific proteins in infected cells. The oligonucleotides bore different residues at the 5'- or 3'-terminal phosphates: ethidium (Et), quinone (Qn), cholesterol (Chs), hemin (Hem), 5-a-hydroxy-testosterone (Hts), estrone (EsS), derivative of dimethyl ester 2,4-di[a-(2-hydroxyethyl)oxyethyl]deuteroporphyrin IX (DDP) and a complex of Fe(III) with DDP (DDP(Fe)). The above derivatives were synthesized as described earlier (1-3). The compounds do not affect the synthesis of the cellular proteins and they, in contrast to nonmodified cligos, suppress the synthesis of the viral proteins at concentrations of about 0.1-10 μM (see TABLE).

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TABLE. Suppression of the influenza virus (Fowl plague, Weybridge) proteins in infected chicken fibroblasts by oligonucleotide derivatives

Oligonucleotides and their	Suppression of viral proteins accumulation, %		
derivatives	10 μΜ	1 μΜ	0.1 μΜ
d(CCAAACA) d(pT)8	23 40	0 10	0
d(pT) ₁₀	30	5	0
DDP(Fe) Cholesterol Quinone	30 21 3	10 0 0	0 0 0
TGACCCTCpDDP(Fe) DDP(Fe)-pTTCCCATT (pT) ₁₀ -Hem	60 59 24	39 50 15	17 45 10
DDP-pTGACCCTCTTTCCCATT DDP(Fe)-pTGACCCTCTTCCCATT	63 37	50 1 2	12 0
d(pT) ₁₀ -Chs	75	38	25
CCAAACA-Chs Hts-(pT) ₈	81 46	20 31	8 29
EsS-(pT) ₈	57	16	0
(pT) ₈ p-Qn	61	10	0
Et-(pT) ₈ p-Et	54	43	39
Et-(pT) ₄ p-Et	53	10	0
(Tp) ₄ -Et	48	0	0
Et-(pT) ₃ p-Et	48	0	0
(Tp) ₃ -Et	35	0	0
Et-(pT) ₃	23	0	0

All the derivatives are not complementary to the virus RNA genome and inhibit the protein synthesis due to the interaction with the enzymes of the viral replicative complex. We suggest that the same oligomer derivatives will be efficient inhibitors of different mutant influenza viruses.

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