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## The Derivatives of Phosphorothioate Oligonucleotides

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# THE DERIVATIVES OF PHOSPHOROTHIOATE OLIGONUCLEOTIDES

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**ABSTRACT** Derivatives of phosphorothioate oligonucleotide analogues bearing alkylating N-methyl-4-(N-2-chloroethyl)-N-methylamino)benzylamine or stabilizing complementary complexes N-(2-hydroxyethyl)phenazinium residues at the 3'-terminal phosphate group were synthesized and investigated.

Phosphorothioate (PS) oligonucleotide analogues are extensively studied as promising therapeutic agents in the antisense approach<sup>1,2</sup>. Various chemical groups such as reactive, complementary complex stabilizing and other ones may be attached to PS oligonucleotides to enhance their antisense effect. The well-known methods of preparation of the PS oligonucleotide derivatives on polymer supports<sup>1,2</sup> do not allow to attach active chemical groups to PS oligonucleotides. In this case the reactive residues may be deactivated by the removing of blocked PS oligonucleotides from the support.

Previously we have described the simple and effective method of the synthesis of PS oligonucleotide derivatives<sup>3,4</sup> bearing alkylating N-methyl-4-(N-2-chloroethyl-N-methylamino)benzylamine (*RCI*) or N-(2-hydroxyethyl)phenazinium (*Phn*) residues at the 3'-end.

In the present work the synthesis of these PS oligonucleotide derivatives is fulfilled and the some properties of these compounds are examined with the use of the model complexes 1 and 2:

1) 
$$\frac{5!}{T} \frac{DNA \ target}{CCCTGGAAGCTTGCTTGATGCT} = \frac{20}{3!} \frac{3!}{X-pGp_SAp_SCp_STp_SAp_SCp_SG^5!}$$

$$\frac{5!}{T} \frac{DNA \ target}{CCTTGGATGCT} = \frac{20}{3!} \frac{3!}{X-pGp_SAp_SAp_SCp_STp_SAp_SCp_SG^5!}$$

$$\frac{3!}{X-pGp_SAp_SAp_SCp_STp_SAp_SCp_SG^5!}$$

$$\frac{(l)}{(l)}$$

T G C C T G G A G C T G C T T G A T G C<sup>3'</sup>

2) 
$$X-pCp_sGp_sAp_sCp_sGp_sAp_sCp_sTp_sAp_sCp_sG^5'$$
 $X-=$  a) HO-; b) Phnl-; c) RCl-

(II)

$$p_{S} = -O - P - O - HO + NH(CH_{2})_{3}NH - CICH_{2}CH_{2} CH_{2}CH_{$$

It was shown that PS oligonucleotide derivatives *Ib* and *IIb* bearing *Phnl*-residuues formed complexes 1 and 2 more stable than parental PS oligonucleotides *Ia* and *IIa* did (melting points were 11°C and 6°C higher, respectively). Thus, *Phnl*-residue linked to 3'-terminal phosphate group of PS oligonucleotide stabilizes its complementary complexes.

Reactive derivative of PS oligonucleotide *IIc* was found to modify the DNA-target site-specifically. The extent of target modification was 25% at 20°C (G6 and G7).

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