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## Design and Development of New Hydroxy Methyl Phosphine Based Bifunctional Chelating Agents (BFCAs) for Use in Radiopharmaceutical Applications

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# Design and Development of New Hydroxy Methyl Phosphine Based Bifunctional Chelating Agents (BFCAs) for Use in Radiopharmaceutical Applications

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Hydroxymethyl phosphine compounds are water-soluble and moderately air stable. This class of compounds have the potential for use in variety of catalytic and biomedical appliations.¹ As part of our ongoing program to utilize the hydroxymethyl phosphine ligands for applications in Nuclear Medicine, we are interested to develop tetradentate hydroxy methyl phosphine-based Bifunctional Chelating Agents (BFCAs) 1 and 2. Site-directed biomolecules such as receptoravid peptides and proteins modified with these BFCAs can be used as vehicles or specific delivery of diagnostic (e.g., 99mTc) and therapeutic radionuclides (e.g., 188Re and 186R) to target cancer cells.²

We have now developed a six step route for the synthesis of 1 from DL-Thioctic acid 3. The <sup>99m</sup>Tc complex of 1 was conjugated to a 14 amino acid peptide, Bombesin for which specific receptors were expressed on a variety of cancer cell lines.

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