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Synthesis of 6-deoxy-6-phenylisofagomine derivatives.

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Abstract: 2-Benzyl-N-tert-butoxycarbonyl-1,5-imino-1,2,5-trideoxy-D-xylitol (4) and 5-amino-4-benzyl-4,5-dideoxy-L-xylose (13) were prepared in optically pure form. © 1997 Elsevier Science Ltd.

INTRODUCTION

Potent and selective glycosidase inhibitors have many interesting applications such as treatment of AIDS, diabetes or cancer as well as crop protection. It has recently been found that monosaccharide analogues with nitrogen in place of anomeric carbon are potent glycosidase inhibitors. For instance isofagomine (1), a substituted hydroxypiperidine that resembles glucose, is the most potent inhibitor known of almond β -glucosidase. Interestingly the disaccharide analogue 2 inhibits yeast α - and almond β -glucosidase at levels comparable to 1, but two α -glucosidases with specificity for the aglycon, glucoamylase and isomaltase, are inhibited much stronger or much weaker, respectively, by 2 than 1. This suggests that oligosaccharide analogues with one (or more) anomeric carbon atom replaced with a nitrogen atom would be more selective glycosidase inhibitors. We therefore decided to explore this, and realised that a flexible route to larger analogues of 2 could be through peptide synthesis using 3 followed by reduction of the amide bonds. In this paper we report our successful synthetic efforts to obtain a synthetic equivalent for 3, 2-benzyl-N-tert-butoxycarbonyl-1,5-imino-1,2,5-trideoxy-D-xylitol (4).

Fig 1

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

For synthesising 3 modification of the previous isofagomine synthesis was necessary. However as the carboxylic group was incompatible with many steps of the synthesis, it had to be masked. The phenyl group

is a useful synthetic equivalent for a carboxylic acid, as it can be converted into the latter by ozonolysis. ¹⁴ It was therefore decided to synthesise the phenyl equivalent of 3.

The synthesis started with known epoxide 5, available from starch in 5 steps. ¹⁵ Reaction of 5 with benzylmagnesium chloride in THF gave the 2-benzyl derivative 6, the expected product from epoxide opening in the 2-position, in 74 % yield. Opening of the epoxide with chloride was a side reaction giving the 2-chloride 7 in 16% yield. ¹⁶

Hydrolysis of the 1,6-anhydride gave considerable problems. Our previous experience with this reaction had revealed ambiguous results. Initially it was found that hydrolysis of the hydroxymethyl analogue **6a** (1,6-anhydro-4-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-2-hydromethyl- β -D-glucopyranose) in aqueous H₂SO₄ proceeded smoothly to the hemiacetal in good yield.⁵ However later studies showed that the corresponding perbenzylated compound **6b** (1,6-anhydro-3,4-di-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-2-benzoxymethyl- β -D-glucopyranose) during acidic hydrolysis underwent elimination reaction to give a complex mixture of products.¹⁷ Similarly **6**, when subjected to

Scheme 1

hydrolysis in dilute H₂SO₄, gave a complex mixture of products. An important difference between **6a** and **6** (or **6b**) was that the former was soluble in water, while the latter was not. Therefore hydrolysis of **6** (or **6b**) had to be carried out heterogeneously or with a cosolvent, which apparently affected the reaction pathway unfavorably. Little help could be obtained from the literature as the review by Czerny on levoglucosan chemistry only suggested use of dilute H₂SO₄ for hydrolysis of the 1,6-anhydro bond. ¹⁸ After some experimentation it was found however that careful hydrolysis of **6** with aqueous HCl/dioxane was possible giving 68 % of **9** together with 18 % of **10**. Prolonged hydrolysis time gave less of the desired product **9**. The

structure of 10 was elucidated by 2D NMR and confirmed by mass spectroscopy giving a molecular peak of 308. Hence the problems with hydrolysis of this type of structure, which we had also encountered earlier, were undoubtedly due to favorable elimination of the 3-substituent.

The search of the literature had revealed, that HCl catalysed methanolysis had been carried out successfully on the allyl analogue of 6 (2-allyl-1,6-anhydro-4-O-benzyl-2-deoxy- β -D-glucopyranose). ¹⁹ Since we expected the elimination reactions to be favored by the $^{1}C_{4}$ conformation of 6, a solution might be first methanolysis of 6, and then hydrolysis of the methyl glycoside. Methanolysis of 6 in HCl/MeOH did give in a smooth and fast reaction the methyl glycoside 8 in 84 % yield. Only the α -anomer was obtained as could be seen from a small J_{12} in the 1 H-NMR spectrum.

Scheme 2

Hydrolysis of **8** with aqueous HCl/dioxane at 100 °C for 1 h gave the hemiacetal **9** in 70 % yield. Thus the overall yield of direct hydrolysis of **6** to **9** was higher even though **10** was formed, and was therefore usually preferred.

Reductive amination of 9 with 2 equivalents of benzylamine, a catalytic amount of acetic acid and NaCNBH₃ in MeOH at 50 °C for 1 day gave 11 in 88 % yield.

Scheme 3

Now periodate cleavage of 11 was a tricky transformation. Treatment of 11 with excess $NaIO_4$ (5 equivalents) in water-THF followed by careful concentration of the solution with evacuation at low

temperature allowed isolation of the hemiaminal 12. Hydrogenolysis of the hemiaminal with H₂ and Pd/C gave surprisingly the unprotected hemiaminal 13.

However when the periodate cleavage product was subjected to concentration at elevated temperature and longer time the enamine 14 was obtained. Reduction of 14 was stereoselective giving the *trans*-isomer 15 in 78 % yield. Finally hydrogenolysis gave the unprotected piperidine 16, in 54 % yield. This compound was protected with a BOC-group to give 4 in 56% yield.

Fig 2

To investigate the effect of a bulky substituent inplace of the hydroxymethyl group in isofagomine, compound 13 was tested for inhibition of α -glucosidase (bakers yeast), β - glucosidase (almonds) and isomaltase (bakers yeast). No inhibition was observed at a concentration of 13 of 0.4 mM. We compared this biological activity with 1-deoxynojirimycin analogues (17) with bulky substituents in place of the hydroxymethyl group. A number of such compounds have been prepared, $^{20-24}$ but only glycosidase inhibition of one of these, the natural product 18, has been investigated. 24 It was found that 18 (like 13) did not inhibit bakers yeast α -glucosidase and almond β - glucosidase. This suggests that nojirimycin and isofagomine binds in a structurally similar manner.

In this paper we have synthesised a 6-deoxy-6-phenyl analogue of isofagomine as a precursor for a isofagomine based peptide. Future work will explore that possibility.

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EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

 $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ and $^{1}\text{H-NMR}$ spectra were recorded on a Varian Gemini 200 instrument. D_2O was used as solvent with DHO ($^{1}\text{H-NMR}$: δ 4.7 ppm) and acetone ($^{1}\text{H-NMR}$: δ 2.05 ppm; $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$: δ 29.8 ppm) as reference. With CHCl $_3$ as solvent TMS and CHCl $_3$ ($^{13}\text{C-NMR}$: δ 76.93 ppm) were used as references. Mass spectra were obtained on a VG TRIO-2 instrument. Melting points are uncorrected. Optical rotations were measured on a Perkin Elmer 141 polarimeter. Concentrations were performed on a rotary evaporator at a temperature below 40 °C. Dry tetrahydrofuran and diethyl ether were prepared by distillation from sodium and benzophenone.

2-Benzyl-4-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-1,6-anhydro-β-D-glucopyranose (6).

To a solution of 1,6:2,3-dianhydro-4-O-benzyl- β -D-mannopyranose (5, 3.75 g, 0.016 mol) in THF (20 ml), was added a solution of benzylmagnesium chloride (80 ml, 2 M) over a period of 5 min. The mixture was refluxed for 1 hour. After cooling NH₄Cl solution (1 M, 500 ml) was added carefully, followed by an

extraction with EtOAc (3 x 200 ml). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated under reduced pressure to give an yellow oil (5.81 g) containing **6** and **7**. The residue was purified by flash chromatography with 25% petroleum ether 75% ether as eluant to give first pure **6** (3.87 g, 74 %) and then the sideproduct **7** (0.69 g, 16 %). **6**: $[\alpha]_D^{22} = -43.3^\circ$ (c 1.35; MeOH), ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.2-7.5 (m, 10 H, Ar), 5.45 (s, 1H, H-1), 4.7 (m, 3H, Bn, H-4), 4.1 (d, 1H, H-6a), 3.7 (m, 2H, H-5, H-6b), 3.45 (s, 1H, H-3), 2.9 (d, 2H, H-2'), 2.1 (s, 1H, H-2). MS(EI): m/z 326.1518 (M⁺), calc. for $C_{20}H_{22}O_4$: 326.1518. **7**: $[\alpha]_D^{22} = +84.8^\circ$ (c 1.4; MeOH) ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.2-7.5 (m, 5H, Ar), 5.55 (s, 1H, H-1), 4.75 (d, 1H, Bn), 4.7 (d, 1H, Bn), 4.6 (m, 1H H-4), 4.1 (m, 1H, H-3), 4.0 (d, 1H, H-6a), 3.7 (m, 1H, H-5), 3.6 (d, 1H, H-6b) 3.4 (s, 1H, H-2). MS(EI): m/z 270.0659 (M⁺), calc. for $C_{13}H_{15}ClO_4$: 270.0659.

	C-1	C-2	C-3	C-4	C-5	C-6	C-2'	OBn	NBn	OMe	Ph
4	49.7*	37.4#	77.0 [†]	67.0 [†]	51.1*		40.4#	80.4 [€]	155.2 ^e	28.8 ^θ	126.0-129.5; 139.8
5	97.1	47.3*	53.9*	73.4*	71.1*	65.3		71.6#			127.4-128.1; 137.2
6	103.8	48.2	75.3*	79.1*	69.3*	65.9	35.8	72.0*			126.8-129.7; 138-9
7	102.8	58.6	75.9*	79.2*	73.0*	67.0		72.4*			128.5-129.2; 138.1
8	99.7	48.8	75.3*	80.2*	73.5*	62.5	34.0	71.5*			126.6-129.6; 138.8;
											140.3
9	92.9	48.7	75.4*	80.7*	73.0*	62.7	34.0	71.6*			126.6-130.7; 138.6,
	96.7	49.3	75.7*	79.9*	73.2*	62.2	32.5	71.6*			140.3
10	99.0	143.7	118.9	74.5*	73.8*	64.1	35.9	71.1*			127.0-129.9; 137.7;
							<u> </u>				139.9
11	50.0*	42.5*	73.5#	78.6#	72.7#	64.2	35.4	73.0#	53.6*		126.7-129.4; 137.5;
										L	138.3; 140.1
12	98.5	84.4*	77.7*	43.5	66.5		35.0 [‡]	74.9*	73.0*		126.7-129.5; 138.1;
	91.6	81.8*	77.6*	44.1	62.3		34.8‡	74.4*	72.0*		138.8; 139.3; 139.7
13	98.2	76.6*	74.8*	44.5	65.2		34.1 [‡]				126.1-129.1; 140.2
	93.2	74.2*	70.8*	44.8	61.0		34.2 [‡]	<u> </u>			
14	97.6	153.5	63.1*	42.0	55.0#		37.2 [‡]	69.4*	56.1#		126.4-129.9; 137.7;
	L				L					<u> </u>	138.7; 141.1
15	58.5*	41.4#	71.1	75.5 [†]	63.4*		37.1#		60.0*		126.6-130.0; 138.6;
											140.5
16	47.0*	38.3#	67.0 [†]	63.1 [†]	48.5		33.8#				126.5-129.2; 139.1

Table 1. ¹³C-NMR chemical shift in CDCl₃ (except for 13 and 16 which were in $(CD_3)_2SO$). * , # and † marked shifts may have the opposite assignment. θ marked shifts are from the *tert*-butyloxycarbonyl group. ‡ these shifts are C-4'.

Methyl 2-benzyl-4-O-benzyl-2-deoxy- α -D-gluc opyranoside (8).

To a solution of 1,6-anhydro-2-benzyl-4-O-benzyl-2-deoxy- β -D-glucopyranose (6, 2.30 g, 7.0 mmol) in methanol (125 ml) was added conc. HCl (10 ml). The mixture was refluxed for an hour, poured into saturated NaHCO₃ (200 ml) and extracted with CHCl₃ (3 x 100 ml). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. Recrystalisation of the solid residue from methanol/water afforded a white crystalline compound. Yield of 8: 2.11 g (84 %). Mp: 139-141°C. $[\alpha]_D^{22}$ = +95.3° (c 1.5; MeOH). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.2-7.5 (m, 10H, Ar), 4.8 (d, 1H, J 11 Hz, Bn), 4.7 (d, 1H, J 11 Hz, Bn), 4.2 (d, 1H, J 4 Hz, H-1), 3.8 (m, 3H, H-3, H-6a, H-6b), 3.7 (m, 1H, H-5), 3.4 (dd, 1H, J 9.5 and 8

Hz, H-4), 3.25 (s, 3H, Me), 3.15 (dd, 1H, J 12.5 and 4.5 Hz, H-2'a), 2.55 (d, 1H, J 12.5 and 11 Hz, H-2'b), 2.0 (bs, 2H, OH's), 1.95 (m, 1H, H-2).

2-Benzyl-4-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-αβ-D-glucopyranose (9). From 6.

1,6-Anhydro-2-benzyl-4-*O*-benzyl-2-deoxy- β -D-glucopyranose (6, 2.0 g, 6.1 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 1,4-dioxane and water (1:1, 125 ml). Conc. HCl (10 ml) was added, and the mixture was refluxed for an hour. The volume was reduced to 50 ml, saturated NaHCO₃ (100 ml) was added, and then an extraction with CHCl₃ (3 x 100 ml) was carried out. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated under reduced pressure to give an yellow oil. From flash chromatography of the crude product using 5 % methanol in CH₂Cl₂ as eluant two products were isolated. First 9 (white foam) was obtained (1.43 g, 68 %, $[\alpha]_D^{22} = +72.0^{\circ}$ (c 1.3; MeOH), ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.2-7.5 (m, 10H, Ar), 4.7 (m, 3H), 3.0-4.0 (m, 7H), 2.5-2.9 (m, 2H), 1.8-2.0 (m, 1H) and then 10 (clear oil, 0.34 g, 18 %, $[\alpha]_D^{22} = +127.4^{\circ}$ (c 1.3; MeOH), ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.2-7.5 (m, 10H, Ar), 5.4 (s, 1H, H-1), 5.35 (m, 1H, H-3), 4.8 (ddd, 1H, *J* 7, 3.5 and 2 Hz, H-5), 4.7 (s, 2H, Bn), 3.9 (dd, 1H, *J* 8 and 7 Hz, H-6a), 3.55 (m, 1H, H-4), 3.45 (s, 2H, H-2'), 3.4 (dd, 1H, *J* 8 and 2 Hz, H-6b). MS(EI): m/z 308 (M⁺)).

2-Benzyl-4-O-benzyl-2-deoxy-αβ-D-glucopyranose (9). From 8.

Methyl 2-benzyl-4-O-benzyl-2-deoxy- β -D-glucopyranoside (8, 3.00 g, 8.4 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 1,4-dioxane and water (1:1, 125 ml). Conc. HCl (10 ml) was addded, and the mixture was refluxed for an hour. The volume was reduced to 50 ml, saturated NaHCO₃ (100 ml) was added, and then an extraction with CHCl₃ (3 x 100 ml) was carried out. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated under reduced pressure to give an yellow oil. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography with 5 % methanol in CH₂Cl₂ as eluant. Yield of 9: 2.02 g (70 %).

1-Amino-2-benzyl-1-N-benzyl-4-Q-benzyl-1,2-dideoxy-D-glucitol (11).

To a solution of 2-benzyl-4-*O*-benzyl-2-deoxy-αβ-D-glucopyranose (9, 1.88 g, 5.4 mmol) in methanol (75 ml), benzylamine (1.17 g, 10.8 mmol), acetic acid (0.98 g, 16.3 mmol) and sodiumcyanoborhydride (0.68 g, 10.8 mmol) were added. The mixture was stired at 50° C for one day, poured into water (150 ml) and extracted with CHCl₃ (3 x 150 ml). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (300 ml), dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated to dryness. Flash chromatography of the crude product using a stepwise gradient of 5-20 % methanol in CH₂Cl₂ as eluant gave the pure product (11, 2.09 g, 88 %) as a thick clear oil. On standing the product crystalised to give a hard white solid. Mp: 65-70°C. $[\alpha]_D^{22} = +7.0$ ° (*c* 1.25; MeOH). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.0-7.4 (m, 15H, Ar), 4.8 (d, 1H, *J* 11.5 Hz, Bn), 4.6 (d, 1H, *J* 11.5 Hz, Bn), 3.5-4.1 (m, 11H, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6a, H-6b, NBn, OH's, NH), 2.9 (dd, 1H, *J* 12.5 and 8 Hz, H-1a), 2.8 (dd, 1H, *J* 12.5 and 4 Hz, H-1b), 2.55 (dd, 1H, *J* 12.5 and 3 Hz, H-2'a), 2.3 (m, 2H, H-2, H-2'b).). MS(FAB): m/z 436 (M+1)).

5-Amino-4-benzyl-5-N-benzyl-2-O-benzyl-4,5-dideoxy-L-xylose (12).

1-Amino-2-benzyl-1-*N*-benzyl-4-*O*-benzyl-1,2-dideoxy-D-glucitol (11, 50 mg, 0.11 mmol) was dissolved in a 1:1 mixture of THF and water (3:1, 20 ml) and sodium periodate (122 mg, 0.57 mmol) was added. After stirring for an hour the mixture was poured into saturated NaHCO₃ (20 ml) and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 15 ml). The combined organic phases were dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography using 5% methanol in CH₂Cl₂ as eluant. Yield of **12**: 34 mg (73 %). The product was a 1:1 mixture of α and β-anomers. It was used directly in the next step. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.1-7.4 (m, 30H, Ar), 5.2 (d, 1H, J 3.5 Hz, H-1α), 5.0 (d, 1H, J 11.5 Hz, OBn), 4.5-4.8 (m, 4H, 3 OBn, H-1β), 3.0-3.8 (m, 14H, H-2, H-3, H-5a, H-5b, NBn, OH), 2.6 (bs, 2H, OH), 2.3 (2dd, 2H, H-4'a), 2.0 (m, 4H, H-4, H-4'b).).

5-Amino-4-benzyl-4,5-dideoxy-L-xylose (13).

5-Amino-4-benzyl-5-*N*-benzyl-2-*O*-benzyl-4,5-dideoxy-L-xylose (**12**, 34 mg, 0.084 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (10 ml) and a catalytic amount of palladium (10 mg, 10 % Pd-Carbon) was added. The mixture was hydrogenated at atmospheric pressure for 48 hours, filtered through celite and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. Yield of **13**: 17 mg (90 %). The compound was a 1:2 mixture of α- and β-anomers. $[\alpha]_D^{22} = \pm 0^{\circ}$ (c 0.85, H₂O). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃), β-anomer: δ 7.1-7.4 (m, 5H, Ar), 6.5 (d, 1H, *J* 7 Hz, OH), 5.0 (d, 1H, *J* 6 Hz, OH), 4.9 (d, 1H, *J* 4 Hz, OH), 4.2 (t, 1H, *J* 7 Hz, H-1), 2.9-3.6 (m, 6H, H-2, H-3, H-4'a, H-5a, H-5b, NH), 2.2 (dd, 1H, *J* 13 and 10 Hz, H-4'b), 1.7 (m, 1H, H-4). α-anomer: δ 7.1-7.4 (m, 5H, Ar), 6.1 (d, 1H, *J* 4 Hz, OH), 4.9 (m, 1H, H-1), 4.8 (d, 1H, *J* 6 Hz, OH), 4.5 (d, 1H, *J* 7 Hz, H-1), 2.9-3.6 (m, 6H, H-2, H-3, H-4'a, H-5a, H-5b, NH), 2.3 (dd, 1H, H-4'b), 1.7 (m, 1H, H-4).

2-Benzyl-N-tert-butoxycarbonyl-1,5-imino-1,2,5-trideoxy-D-xylitol (4).

1-Amino-2-benzyl-1-*N*-benzyl-4-*O*-benzyl-1,2-dideoxy-D-glucitol (11, 1.0 g, 2.3 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of water and THF (1:3, 30 ml), and NaIO₄ (1.23 g, 5.7 mmol) was added. After stiring for 3 hours the mixture was poured into saturated NaHCO₃ (50 ml) and extracted with CHCl₃ (3 x 50 ml). The combined organic phases were dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated under reduced pressure (13 mm Hg, 40°C). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography using 5 % methanol in CH₂Cl₂ as eluant to give sirupy 14 (0.32 g, 35 %, 1 H-NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.3-7.5 (m, 15H, Ar), 7.2 (d, 1H, *J* 1.7 Hz, H-1), 4.8 (s, 2H, OBn), 3.7 (d, 1H, *J* 12 Hz, NBn), 3.6 (d, 1H, *J* 12 Hz, NBn), 3.1 (s, 1H, OH), 2.7 (m, 3H, H-3, H-5a, H-5b), 2.4 (m, 2H, H-4'a, H-4'b), 2.0 (m, 1H, H-4).).

The product **14** (0.20 g, 0.52 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (20 ml), and a catalytic amount of palladium (30 mg, 10 % Pd-Carbon) was added. The mixture was hydrogenated at 50 bar for 24 hours, filtered, and evaporated to dryness. The crude product, **15** was used without further purification in the next step.

To a solution of the crude 15 in methanol (20 ml) an equivalent of HCl (0.52 ml, 1 M HCl) was added together with with a catalytic amount of palladium (20 mg, 10 % Pd-Carbon). After hydrogenation for another 24 hours at 50 bar the mixture was filtered and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. Yield of 16: 40 mg (31 %, two steps).

The crude **16** (40 mg, 0.16 mmol) was dissolved in a 1:1 mixture of water and 1,4-dioxane (10 ml). NaOH (0.33 ml, 1.0 M) and di-*tert*-butyl-dicarbonate (43 mg, 0.20 mmol) were added and the mixture was stired over night. After addition of water (15 ml) the reaction mixture was extracted with CHCl₃ (2 x 15 ml). The combined organic phases were dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. Flash chromatography af the crude material with 5 % MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ as elutant gave 28 mg of pure product (4, 56 %). $\left[\alpha\right]_{D}^{22} = +5.5^{\circ}$ (*c* 1.3; MeOH). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.1-7.4 (m, 5H, Ar), 4.2 (dd, 1H, *J* 12.3 and 3.5 Hz, H-5a), 4.0 (bm, 1H, H-3), 3.5 (ddd, 1H, *J* 14, 10.5 and 3.5 Hz, H-4), 2.2-2.5 (m, 2H, H-1a, H-2'a), 2.4 (dd, 1H, *J* 12.3 Hz and 10.5 Hz, H-5b), 2.0 (bd, 1H *J* 12.3 Hz, H-2'b), 1.7 (m, 1H, H-1b), 1.4 (s, 9H, Me₃C), 1.0 (q, 1H, *J* 12.3 Hz, H-2).)

Measurements of glycosidase inhibition.

This was carried out as described previously. 10

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