

# Synthesis of the C8-Deoxyguanosine Adduct of the Food Mutagen IQ

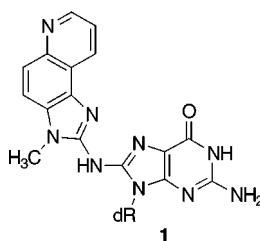
Zhiwei Wang and Carmelo J. Rizzo\*

Department of Chemistry, Vanderbilt University, VU Station B 351822,  
Nashville, Tennessee 37235-1822

c.j.rizzo@vanderbilt.edu

Received December 6, 2000

## ABSTRACT



The C8-2'-deoxyguanosine adduct of the food mutagen 2-amino-3-methylimidazo[4,5-f]quinoline (IQ) has been synthesized. The key step is a palladium-catalyzed N-arylation of a suitably protected 8-bromo-2'-deoxyguanosine derivative.

Covalent modification of DNA by electrophiles is the initial step in chemical carcinogenesis.<sup>1</sup> If these modifications are not repaired, they compromise the fidelity of DNA replication, leading to mutations and possibly cancer. Many such electrophiles are generated only after metabolic activation of a procarcinogen. Examples of such procarcinogens include polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, vinyl chloride, and arylamines. To properly study the mutagenic effects, structure, and repair of these lesions, strategies for the site-specific incorporation of DNA–carcinogen adducts into oligonucleotides must be developed. The adducted nucleosides are of value as potential building blocks for modified oligonucleotides as well as for analytical standards.

A growing number of mutagenic compounds from cooked meats have been identified.<sup>2</sup> These compounds are believed to arise from the pyrolysis of amino acids and proteins. One class, shown in Figure 1, possesses a common 2-amino-3-methylimidazole subunit fused to a heteroaromatic ring system. These compounds are highly mutagenic in the Ames *Salmonella* test system. The most potent food mutagens are IQ (2) and MeIQ (3), which are 15 and 24 times more mutagenic than aflatoxin b1, respectively.<sup>1b</sup> The ultimate

carcinogenic species is an arylnitrenium ion generated by cytochrome P450 oxidation to the corresponding hydroxylamine, followed by esterification and solvolysis. The predominant site of reaction is the C8-position of deoxyguanosine, although N<sup>2</sup>-adducts have also been isolated as minor products (Figure 2).

Oligonucleotides containing a site-specific C8-dG adduct

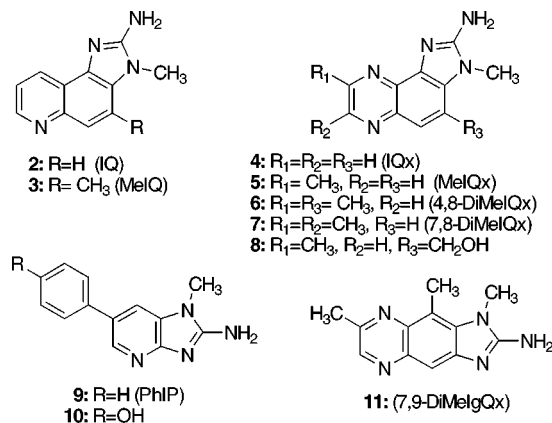


Figure 1. Aminoimidazoazaarene (AIA) food mutagens.

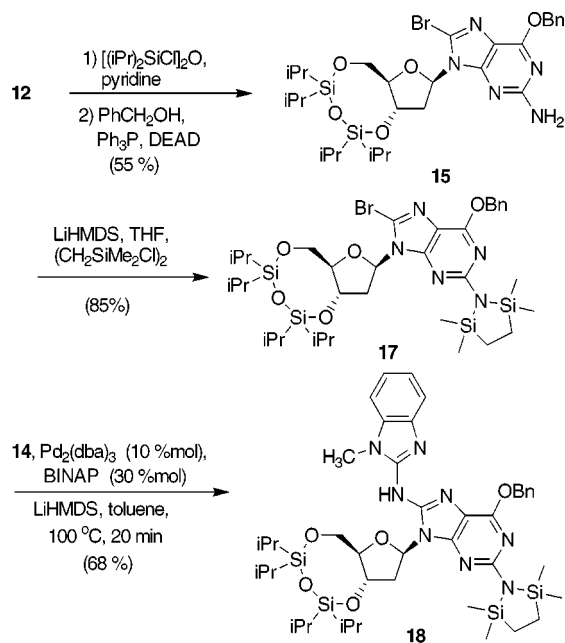
(1) Garner, R. C. *Mutat. Res.* **1998**, 402, 67.

(2) (a) Schut, H. A. J.; Snyderwine, E. G. *Carcinogenesis* **1999**, 20, 353.

(b) Sugimura, T. *Mutat. Res.* **1997**, 376, 211.

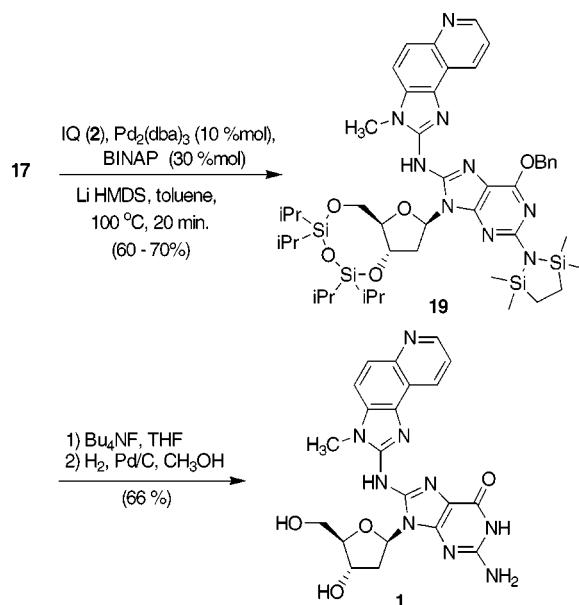


Scheme 2

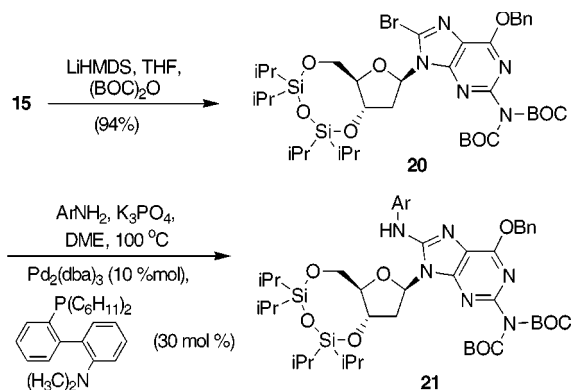


**19** with fluoride followed by hydrogenolysis of the O<sup>6</sup>-benzyl group gave the desired C8–IQ adduct of dG (**1**) in 66% overall yield. The synthesis of **1** required six steps from commercially available 8-bromo-2'-deoxyguanosine and proceeded in 32% overall yield. The key to the successful coupling of **17** with **14** or **2** is the use of lithium hexamethyldisilazide (LiHMDS) as the base, which is much stronger than is typically used for the N-arylation reaction. Hartwig has reported the use of lithium amides or amines with LiHMDS in the cross-coupling with bromoarenes in high yield and short reaction times.<sup>13</sup> It is possible

Scheme 3



Scheme 4



that LiHMDS is generating an appreciable concentration of the corresponding lithium amide of **14** or **2** which is the reactive substrate.

To examine the generality of this approach for the synthesis of C8-dG arylamine adducts, the N-arylation of **17** with benzylamine, 4-aminobiphenyl, 2-aminofluorene, and 2-naphthylamine was attempted. However, the optimal conditions for the Buchwald–Hartwig reaction of **17** with **14** and **2** shown Schemes 2 and 3 gave largely decomposition with these simple arylamines; less than 10% of the desired product was observed. We concluded that the STABASE group was not satisfactory for the N-arylation of other amines. Protection of the N<sup>2</sup>-position as a bis-BOC derivative (**20**) improved the results.<sup>14</sup> The bis-BOC group is sensitive to strong base. When the coupling was attempted with LiHMDS or sodium *tert*-butoxide, the desired product could be obtained in 30–40% yields as a mixture of di-BOC and mono-BOC protected products. The optimal conditions for N-arylation of **20** are shown in Scheme 4, providing the C8–arylamine products (**21**) in 50–60% yields (Table 1). These conditions were as described by Lakshman for the N-arylation of 6-bromopurine. Comparable yields were obtained when 2-dicyclohexylphosphino-2'-(*N,N*-dimethylamino)biphenyl and BINAP were used as the catalyst.

In conclusion, we have demonstrated the feasibility of the Buchwald–Hartwig palladium-catalyzed N-arylation reaction

Table 1. N-Arylation of **20** with Mutagenic Arylamines

Ar-NH <sub>2</sub>	Yield of <b>21</b>
	56 %
	54 %
	61 %
	56 %

for the synthesis of C8-dG amine adducts. Using this method, we synthesized the C8-dG adduct of the food mutagen IQ. In the process, we introduced the use of the STABASE and bis-BOC protecting groups for N<sup>2</sup> of dG. This strategy appears to be general and should be applicable to the synthesis of other C8-dG food mutagen adducts. Work on the conversion of **1** into a phosphoramidite reagent suitable for solid-phase oligonucleotide synthesis as well as the synthesis of other C8-adducts of food mutagens is currently underway.

**Acknowledgment.** This work was supported by Grant RPG-96-061-04-CDD from the American Cancer Society. Mr. C. Eric Elmquist is gratefully acknowledged for the preparation of IQ.

**Supporting Information Available:** Experimental procedures for the preparation of **1** and copies of all <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

OL006968H