EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

New use of 1alpha-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yn-cholecalciferol

Neue Verwendung von 1Alpha-fluor-25-hydroxy-16-en-23-yn-cholecalciferol

Nouvelle utilisation du 1alpha-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-en-23-yn-cholécaciférol

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Description

The compound, 1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yn-cholecalciferol, which can be further characterized by the formula:

\[
\text{HO} 
\]

has been found to be useful as an agent for the treatment of sebaceous gland diseases, such as acne or seborrheic dermatitis.

Accordingly, the invention relates to the use of this compound for the manufacture of medicaments for the treatment of the above diseases.

1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yn-cholecalciferol, biological properties of which are described in Proc. Workshop Vitamin D, 1988, 433-4; Cancer Res. 1990, 6857-64 and Endocrinology 1991, 1876-84, can be prepared by the following reaction Scheme.
In the above reaction scheme, the compound of formula 1 is converted to a compound of formula 3 by reaction with a corresponding compound of formula:
The reaction is carried out at -60°C-90°C, preferably -75°C, in a polar, aprotic organic solvent, such as dry ether or more preferably dry tetrahydrofuran, in the presence of a strong base such as an alkyllithium like butyl lithium. The compound of formula 2 is known (J. Org. Chem. 1990, 55, 243) or can be prepared in accordance with known methods.

The protecting groups of a compound of formula 3 is removed by reaction with a fluorine salt, such as tetrabutylammonium fluoride in a polar, organic solvent such as ether, or more preferably tetrahydrofuran, to yield a corresponding compound of formula 1.

1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yno-cholecalciferol is useful as an agent for the treatment of sebaceous gland diseases such as acne or seborrhoeic dermatitis.

1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yno-cholecalciferol can be administered topically, for the treatment of sebaceous gland diseases such as acne or seborrhoeic dermatitis, to hosts which need such treatment. More specifically, 1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yno-cholecalciferol can be administered topically to a human in dosages that are in the range of 0.01 to 100 µg per gram of topical formulation per day for the treatment of sebaceous gland diseases such as acne or seborrhoeic dermatitis.

1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yno-cholecalciferol can be administered orally, for the treatment of sebaceous gland diseases such as acne or seborrhoeic dermatitis to hosts which need such treatment. More specifically, 1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yno-cholecalciferol can be administered orally in dosages that are in the range of about 0.01 to 10 µg per day for the treatment of sebaceous gland diseases such as acne or seborrhoeic dermatitis.

The useful activity of 1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yno-cholecalciferol as an agent for the treatment of sebaceous gland diseases such as acne or seborrhoeic dermatitis can be demonstrated by the following test procedures which are known in the art.

**Methods**

1. **In Vitro**

Sebaceous cells were isolated from adult human sebaceous glands as in J. Invest. Dermatol. 96:341-348 (1991) and cultured on a layer of growth-arrested 3T3 mouse fibroblasts.

The cells were cultured in Iscove's medium containing 10% fetal calf serum and 4 µg/ml dexamethasone.

Cells were plated in medium without 1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yno-cholecalciferol. 24-48 hours after the initial plating, the cultures were given fresh medium containing the compound of the invention. Every 48 hours, the cultures were given fresh medium containing the compound of the invention. On the day of harvesting, the cultures were rinsed with a 0.03% EDTA in PBS, to remove only the 3T3 fibroblasts. The remaining sebocyte colonies were incubated in 0.05% trypsin/0.03% EDTA to create a single cell suspension of sebocytes. The cells were diluted, mixed vigorously to maintain a single cell suspension, and counted in a hemocytometer.

The compounds tested were handled in the following manner. Stock solutions were made up as 10⁻²M solutions in degassed 100% ethanol and stored at -20°C in the dark. Solutions were never used after storage of more than one month. During experimental use the solutions, which were aliquoted, were thawed once and used by diluting directly into complete medium to the appropriate concentration, at 10⁻⁶, 10⁻⁷, 10⁻⁶M and 10⁻⁵. The compounds tested were

1. 1,25-dihydroxycholecalciferol; and
2. 1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yno-cholecalciferol.
Results

The compounds were tested for the inhibition of proliferation of sebaceous cells in vitro at the following concentrations: 10^{-6}, 10^{-7}, 10^{-8} and 10^{-9}M. 1,25-dihydroxycholecalciferol is an agent reducing the size of sebaceous glands in ears of the male Syrian hamster.

The results are summarized in table 1 as the amount of compound necessary to inhibit the proliferation of the sebaceous cells by 50% as compared to a control (ED_{50}). The control was a culture treated with diluent only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compound</th>
<th>ED_{50}(\mu M)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,25-dihydroxycholecalciferol</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yne cholecalciferol</td>
<td>0.001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The results demonstrate that the inventive compound inhibits human sebocyte proliferation in vitro. Therefore, the inventive compound is useful as an agent for the treatment of acne.

2. In Vivo Hamster Ear Model

a. Topical Study

The compound was evaluated for topical anti-acne activity in the hamster ear sebaceous gland model. For these studies, the compound was dissolved in acetone. Fifty (50) \mu l of the drug-containing solution was applied daily (5 days per week) to the dorsal side of the right ear of the hamster. Control hamsters received 50 \mu l of acetone. The animals were sacrificed after 4 weeks. The ears were removed and processed for histological evaluation. The ventral surface was separated from the rest of the ear. A 2 mm punch was removed 5 mm from the tip of the ear and stained in 0.1% Sudan Black B dissolved in 100% propylene glycol overnight. After destaining, the areas of the sebaceous glands were determined from the cross sections by image analysis using a Donsato Image Analysis System. The data was expressed as a percentage change from control animals for 80-120 sebaceous glands per dose. The results are summarized in table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EFFECT OF 4 WEEKS TOPICAL DOSING ON HAMSTER FOR SEBACEOUS GLAND SIZE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yne-cholecalciferol</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ns = not statistically significant from controls</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b. Oral Study

The purpose of the test was to evaluate the effect of the inventive compound on the sebaceous glands of the hamster ear after oral administration of the compound. 200 \mu l of the compound of the invention dissolved in Tween 20/water/ethanol (50/40/100) administered daily (5 days per week) by gavage to male Golden Syrian hamsters. The animals were sacrificed at 4 weeks and the ears were processed for histological evaluation. One ear was fixed with 10% buffered formalin, processed for paraffin embedding, sectioned, and stained with hematoxyline and eosin. The area of the sebaceous glands was measured on histologically prepared cross-sections of the ear by image analysis using a
Leitz TAS Plus system. The data obtained from this study is presented below. Data is given as the average areas of 48 sebaceous glands per dose.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 3</th>
<th>EFFECT OF 4 WEEKS ORAL DOSING ON HAMSTER FOR SEBACEOUS GLAND SIZE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Compound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yne-cholecalciferol</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The above data demonstrates that the inventive compound is useful as an agent in the treatment of sebaceous gland diseases such as acne or seborrheic dermatitis.

Oral dosage forms comprising 1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yne-cholecalciferol may be incorporated in capsules, tablets and the like with pharmaceutically acceptable carrier materials.

Illustrative of the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier materials which may be incorporated into capsules, and the like are the following: a binder such as gum tragacanth, acacia, corn starch, or gelatin; an excipient such as dicalcium phosphate; a disintegrating agent such as corn starch, potato starch, algenic acid, and the like; a lubricant such as magnesium stearate, a sweetening agent such as sucrose, lactose, or saccharin; a flavoring agent such as peppermint, oil of wintergreen or cherry. Various other materials may be present as coating or to otherwise modify the physical form of the dosage unit. For instance, tablets may be coated with shellac, sugar, or both. A syrup or elixir may contain the active compound, sucrose as a sweetening agent, methyl and propyl parabens as preservatives, a dye, and a flavoring such as cherry or orange flavor.

Topical dosage forms comprising 1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yne-cholecalciferol include: ointments and creams encompassing formulations having oleaginous, absorbable, water-soluble and emulsion-type bases such as petrolatum, lanolin, polyethylene glycols and the like.

Lotions are liquid preparations and vary from simple solutions to aqueous or hydroalcohol preparations containing finely divided substances. Lotions can contain suspending or dispersing agents, for example, cellulose derivatives such as ethyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, and the like; gelatin or gums, which incorporate the active ingredient in a vehicle made up water, alcohol, glycerin and the like.

Gels are semi-solid preparations made by gelling a solution or suspension of the active ingredient in a carrier vehicle. The vehicle, which can be hydrous or anhydrous, are gelled using a gelling agent, such as, carboxy polymethylene, and neutralized to a proper gel consistency with the use of alkalies, such as, sodium hydroxide and amines, such as polyethylenecococamine.

As used herein, the term "topical" denotes the use of the active ingredient, incorporated in a suitable pharmaceutical carrier, and applied at the site of the inflammation for the exertion of local action. Accordingly, the topical compositions include those pharmaceutical forms in which the compound is applied externally by direct contact with the skin. The topical dosage forms comprise gels, creams, lotions, ointments, powders, aerosols and other conventional forms for applying medication to the skin obtained by admixing a compound of formula I with known pharmaceutical topical carrier materials. In addition to application to the skin, the topical compositions of this invention can also be employed in the treatment of inflammations of mucous membranes, where such membranes are accessible to topical application of medication. For example, the topical composition can be applied to the mucous lining of the mouth or lower colon.
### Oral Dosage Form Soft Gelatin Capsules A and B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>mg/capsule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yne-cholecalciferol</td>
<td>0.00001-0.010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butylated Hydroxytoluene (BHT)</td>
<td>0.016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butylated Hydroxyanisole (BHA)</td>
<td>0.016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myglykol®-812 or Polyethylene Glycol 400 qs</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yne-cholecalciferol</td>
<td>0.00001-0.010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>α-Tocopherol</td>
<td>0.016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myglykol®-812 or Polyethylene Glycol 400 qs</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Claims

1. The use of the compound, 1α-fluoro-25-hydroxy-16-ene-23-yne-cholecalciferol, for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of sebaceous gland diseases, specially of acne or seborrheic dermatitis.