The hydrochloride became finally crystalline when it was prepared from its purified picrate, as colorless and hygroscopic needles, m.p. 182~183°. **Anal.** Calcd. for C₄₃H₇₈N₆Cl₄: C, 42.12; H, 8.25; N, 8.19. Found: C, 41.95; H, 8.31; N, 8.35.

N,N'-Bis(2-chloroethyl)-N,N'-dimethylanilenediamine dipicrate (from EtOH): m.p. 147~148°. Yield, 70%. **Anal.** Calcd. for C₇₇H₁₇₁₂N₁₂Cl₂: C, 42.13; H, 4.94; N, 14.56. Found: C, 42.42; H, 5.02; N, 14.57. The hydrochloride was prepared from the purified picrate as colorless and hygroscopic needles, m.p. 161° (from Me₆CO-EtOH). **Anal.** Calcd. for C₁₃H₂₄N₂Cl₁₂: C, 46.87; H, 8.85; N, 7.29. Found: C, 46.83; H, 8.77; N, 7.11.

Bis(N-2-chloroethyl-N-methylaminoethyl) ether: In this case, the hydroxy compound should be kept with SOCl₂ at room temperature without any solvent for 1 day, otherwise the ether bond is cleaved and N-methyl-bis(2-chloroethyl)amine alone is formed. The picrate of the product could be purified by recrystallization from Me₆CO of the crude picrate obtained from the reaction mixture. m.p. 175°. Yield, a few %. Hydrochloride could not be obtained in crystalline state.

**Determination of Cl⁻ and H⁺ Liberation**—An aq. solution of hydrochloride of the base (0.02 m, mole/cc.) was neutralized with 2 mol. equiv. of NaOH and incubated at 37°. An aliquot of the solution was successively taken out at every 1-hr. intervals. Cl⁻ and H⁺ were titrated with 0.01N AgNO₃ (indicator: Na–salt of tetrabromophenolphthalein ethyl ester) and 0.01N NaOH (indicator, thymol–phthalein) respectively.

**Determination of Cl⁻ in NaHCO₃-buffered Solution**—A sample solution of the same concentration as above, but containing 0.08 m, mole/cc. of NaHCO₃, was titrated with 0.01N AgNO₃ by the same procedure as described above.

**Determination of Thiocarbonate Consumption in NaHCO₃-buffered Solution**—The sample (0.5 m, mole) was added with 10% aq. NaHCO₃ (2 cc.) and 0.1N Na₂S₂O₃ (10 cc.), and immediately diluted to 50 cc. with H₂O. It was incubated at 37° and 10-cc. portion was taken out after 10 mins., 2 hrs., and 24 hrs., if necessary from the beginning of incubation, and titrated with 0.02N I₂.

**Determination of Rate of Viscosity Depression of Polyacetate Solution**—Experiment was carried out after the description published by one of the authors.3)

**Summary**

Preparation, chemical properties, and carcinostatic activity on the Yoshida sarcoma of N,N'-bis(2-chloroethyl)-N,N'-dimethylpolyphenylenediamines were discussed. It was concluded that the derivatives of hexamethylenediamine and nonamethylenediamine were more promising than the corresponding lower homologs with respect to chemotherapeutic indices.

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(Iatrochemical Institute of Pharmacological Research Foundation**)

In the preceding paper, the authors reported on some derivatives of N,N'-bis(2-chloroethyl)-N,N'-dimethylpolyenyleneamines. The present report deals with the preparation of the N,N'-dioxides (I) of those compounds.

\[
\text{CH₂CH₂} \downarrow \text{N} \downarrow \text{CH₃} \quad \text{CH₃CH₂Cl} \\
\text{CH₃} \quad \text{CH₃} \\
\text{O} \quad \text{O} \quad (I) \quad n=2, 4, 6, 9
\]

The ordinary oxidation process using peracids was successful in most of the cases.

* Part XVII: This Bulletin, 6, 164(1958).
** 26, Nishigahara, 1-chome, Kita-ku, Tokyo (石賀守三，桜井幹夫，丸山幸三).
These N,N'-dioxides were however more unstable if anything and there were some
difficulties in their purification.

In 1953 the author\(^1\) presented a transformation process of nitrogen mustard N-
oxides in a dilute aqueous solution and pointed out that the final stage of this reaction
was deemed to be a kind of alkylation of acid residues, viz. carboxylic, phosphoric,
and sulfonic acids.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{CH}_2\text{N} & \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Cl} \quad \text{RCOO}^- \\
\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Cl} & \quad \text{CH}_2\text{N} - \text{CH}_2 \\
\text{O} & \quad \text{O} - \text{CH}_2 \\
\end{align*}
\]

A main object of our study was to find whether the known characteristic reaction
of tertiary 2-chloroethylamine N-oxides \textit{in vitro} could take part in exhibiting an anti-
cancer activity of these compounds \textit{in vivo} through this transformation reaction.

It has however been proved by one of the authors that the mode of alkylation by
such a reaction of the ordinary bifunctional nitrogen mustard N-oxide was of mono-
functional character. In order to make the reaction bifunctional, two 2-chloroethyl
groups of a compound should be attached to each of the two different nitrogens such
as in compounds herein presented.

The chemical reactions of these N,N'-dioxides were first investigated. The titration
of Cl\(^-\) and H\(^+\), liberating gradually from the bases when their dilute aqueous solutions
were kept at 37° for some period, proved that the two kinds of liberation did not
proceed in parallel with each other and a delay of H\(^+\) over Cl\(^-\) liberation even after
24 hours of incubation should have been induced by the formation of a quaternary base
in the solution and not by a simple hydrolysis as shown in Fig. 1.

\[\text{Fig. 1.}\]

The final transformation to the hydroxylamine derivative, however, was not proved,
either by titrations or by an analytical survey of an extract of the reaction mixture.

In an earlier experience, it was found that this final transformation product of
methyl-bis(2-chloroethyl)amine N-oxide could be more easily recognized if an excess of
sodium benzoate was added into the reaction solution, because the less soluble N-(2-
chloroethyl)-N-methyl-O-benzoyloxylethylhydroxylamine thus formed could be easily
separated from an aqueous layer. However, as will be described in the experimental
part, when N,N'-bis(2-chloroethyl)-N,N'-dimethylethlyenediamine was dissolved in water
with or without an excess of sodium benzoate, no ether-soluble amine was identified.

The reaction mixture with benzoate was continuously extracted for 24 hours with
ether in order to promote the transformation, by removing the expected final product,
because only the hydroxylamine derivative among the amines existing in the solution
would be transferred into the ether extract. However, no amine-like substance was
detected in the residue remaining after evaporation of the ether extract and the
bicyclic intermediate alone, viz. 2,2'-ethylene-bis(2-methyl-1,2-oxazetidinium) base, was

\(^1\) S. Owari : This Bulletin, 1, 353(1953).
obtained as its picrylsulfonate from the aqueous layer in a good yield.

From this fact, it was deemed improbable that the characteristic transformation reaction might contribute, at least in part, to the exhibition of carcinostatic activity of these compounds. Moreover, these bifunctional di-N-oxides were completely inactivated if they were reduced after transformation in vivo into the corresponding cyclic intermediates, because they lost all of their reactive chlorines by reductive cleavage of the rings.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ClCH}_2\text{CH}_3 & \quad \text{N-CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N} \quad \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl} \\
\text{CH}_3 & \quad \text{N-CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N} \quad \text{CH}_3 \\
\text{O} & \quad \text{O} \\
\text{red.} & \quad \longrightarrow \\
\text{HOCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N-CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N-CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH} & \quad \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COO-CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O-N-CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N-O-CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCOC}_6\text{H}_5 \\
\text{CH}_3 & \quad \text{CH}_3 \\
\text{CH}_3 & \quad \text{CH}_3 \\
\text{O} & \quad \text{O}
\end{align*}
\]

The anti-cancer action of the compounds (1) on the Yoshida sarcoma was observed to be far less potent than the corresponding tertiary amines discussed in the preceding report, as can be seen in Table I.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>n</th>
<th>MTD mg/kg</th>
<th>MED mg/kg</th>
<th>LD_{50} mg/kg</th>
<th>C.E.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td>75</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is true that the lower homologs seemed to be still somewhat effective, but the highest homolog (n=9) hardly maintained its activity. A major portion of the active homolog changed into the intermediate of transformation instantly after administration and was then reduced to inactive chlorine-free compound, but some amount of the compound, small as it was, showed biological activity, yielding the corresponding tertiary amine by reduction before its transformation reaction began to start. The biological inactivity of transformed intermediate of these compounds was also clearly demonstrated by the fact that an analytically pure sample of 2,2'-ethylene-bis(2-methyl-1,2-oxazetidinium) dipicrylsulfonate caused no morphological aberration on the nuclei or cytoplasm of Yoshida sarcoma cells when it was subjected to the so-called in vitro test with the Yoshida sarcoma even in a concentration of 100 μg./cc. With this test method, a detectable minimum concentration of N-methyl-bis(2-chloroethyl)amine N-oxide hydrochloride was determined to be 0.05 μg./cc. In the case of the inactive compound (n=9), it is supposed that, on account of the extreme stability of the cyclic intermediate, the transformation reaction proceeds so fast that a sufficient amount of the original N-oxide does not remain in the tissue to show biological activity after it was injected. In conclusion, the N-oxide of this type of structure was deemed to be not promising as carcinostatic agents.

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3) The experiment was carried out by Miss H. Komai of the Iatrochemical Institute.
Experimental

Oxidation of N,N'-Bis(2-chloroethyl)-N,N'-dimethylpolymethylene diamine N,N'-Dioxide—N,N'-Bis(2-chloroethyl)-N,N'-dimethylpolymethylene diamine (6 m. mol.) was dissolved in Et₂O (6 cc.) and added with 2.7% H₂O₂—Et₂O solution. Ac₂O (2.8 cc.) was dropped into the mixture under vigorous stirring and, after 40 mins., it was shaken with 10% HCl (10 cc.). The aqueous layer was separated, washed once with fresh ether, evaporated, and exsiccated in vacuo. From the residues, picrates were obtained and purified by recrystallization from Me₂CO—EtOH. Yield, ca. 30% in most cases. Hydrochlorides were very hygroscopic and could not be obtained in crystalline state without a preliminary purification as picrates.


N,N'-Bis(2-chloroethyl)-N,N'-dimethyltetramethylene diamine N,N'-dioxide : Picrylsulfonate. Colorless needles, m.p. 93° (from H₂O). Anal. Calcd. for C₇₂H₈₄O₄N₂Cl₂ : C, 34.87; H, 4.09; N, 12.05. Found : C, 34.95; H, 4.46; N, 12.15. The hydrochloride and picrate were not obtained in crystalline state. The hydrochloride, which was obtained as an exsiccated syrupy residue from the aqueous layer of the reaction mixture, developed one spot on paper chromatogram and was believed to be fairly pure. This was used for animal experiment.

Determination of Cl⁻ and H⁺ Liberation in Unbuffered or NaHCO₃-buffered Solution—Titration were carried out by the procedures completely analogous to those described by the authors in the preceding report.*

Reaction between N,N'-Bis(2-chloroethyl)-N,N'-dimethylhydrazine diamine N,N'-Dioxide and Sodium Benzoate in Dilute Aq. Solution—Ten cc. of an aq. solution of the base of N,N'-bis(2-chloroethyl)-N,N'-dimethylhydrazine diamine N,N'-dioxide (0.02 m. mole/cc.), which was prepared from the hydrochloride solution with Ag₂CO₃, was added with 4 times the equivalent amount of Na benzoate and kept for 24 hrs. at a room temperature with automatic extraction with Et₂O. Nothing was found in the Et₂O extract after being washed with NaHCO₃ solution. From the aq. layer in the extracting apparatus, an unknown amine was obtained as a picrylsulfonate, which was recrystallized from Me₂CO. It did not decompose below 300°. The analytical data agreed well with those for 2,2'-ethylene-bis(2-methyl-1,2-oxazetidinium) dipicrylsulfonate. Anal. Calcd. for C₆₀H₃₀O₃₂N₄S₂ : C, 31.66; H, 2.90; N, 14.77. Found : C, 32.01; H, 2.51; N, 15.07.

Summary

Preparation of N,N'-bis(2-chloroethyl)-N,N'-dimethylpolymethylene diamine N,N'-dioxides was described and the relation between the process of characteristic transformation reaction and biological action of these compounds was discussed.

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