

Description

The present invention relates to novel compounds, method for the preparation of such compounds, pharmaceutical compositions containing them and their use in human and veterinary medicine as neuromuscular blocking agents of short duration.

In anesthesia, neuromuscular blocking agents are used to provide skeletal muscle relaxation during surgery and during intubation of the trachea. Neuromuscular blocking agents are used in practically every field of surgery.

In general there are two types of neuromuscular blocking agents in use, non-depolarizing and depolarizing.

The non-depolarizing agents include the long duration agents d-tubocurarine, pancuronium, gallamine, diallyltoxiferine, toxiferine, and the intermediate duration agents atracurium and vecuronium.

The depolarizing agents include succinylcholine and decamethonium. All the conventional non-depolarizing agents when used for producing skeletal muscle relaxation in surgery have a long duration of action, e.g. 60 to 180 minutes in humans. The conventional depolarizing agents, on the other hand, provide muscle relaxation with duration of action shorter than that of the non-depolarizing agents. For example, succinylcholine provides a short duration of action of about 5 to 15 minutes of muscle relaxation in humans.

The long-duration non-depolarizing agents have inherent side effects. For example, gallamine and pancuronium may cause tachycardia, and d-tubocurarine and diallyltoxiferine may cause hypotension. The intermediate duration and long duration non-depolarizing agents lack a rapid onset of neuromuscular paralysis.

While these non-depolarizing agents can be pharmacologically antagonized with anticholinesterase agents, this may necessitate the administration of a second drug which itself may have its own side effect, e.g., bradycardia, gut spasm and bronchorrhea. Thus, to overcome the aforementioned side effects of the anticholinesterase agents, a third drug, an anticholinergic agent, e.g., atropine, may also be given.

The only short-duration agent currently available for therapeutic use is the depolarizing agent, succinylcholine. The depolarizing agents to the best of the *applicants'* knowledge have no pharmacological antagonists and therefore cannot be reversed in patients who get into difficulty or if quicker recovery is desired. While in most cases there is no need to reverse the effects of the depolarizing agents, in certain patients the effects of succinylcholine are much prolonged because of abnormal metabolism of the agent by the patient.

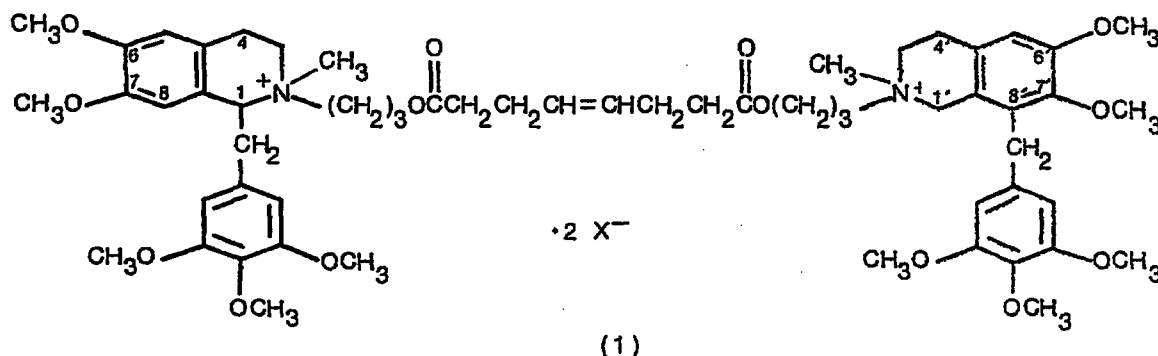
The depolarizing agents due to their mode of action initially cause skeletal muscle contraction and stimulation of smooth muscles also cause the following side effects in certain instances: increased intraocular pressure, and intragastric tension, cardiac arrhythmias, potassium release and muscle pain.

These side effects caused by the depolarizing agents are not caused by the non-depolarizing agents. It is, therefore, clearly evident, and indeed has been recognized by clinicians for over 25 years, that a neuromuscular blocking agent which would combine the short duration of the depolarizing agents with the relatively few side effects and the pharmacologic reversibility of the non-depolarizing agents would be beneficial.

Neuromuscular blocking agents containing a N,N-dialkyl-1-benzyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolinium moiety are disclosed in GB-A-2002758, GB-A-2061929, EP-A-010119 and Journal of the Chemical Society, 1982, pages 2067-2077.

It has now been discovered that novel compounds of the formula (1) are potent neuromuscular blocking agents of relatively short duration, e.g., about ten minutes in monkeys. These compounds have a non-depolarising mechanism of action, are pharmacologically reversible and have a relatively rapid onset of action, a feature which is of great importance in emergency surgical procedures.

Accordingly, the present invention provides compounds of the formula (1):



wherein X^- is an anion.

The compounds of formula (1) contain a chiral center at the C(1) and C(1') carbon atoms of the

isoquinolinium moieties and, therefore, may either the *R* or the *S* configuration exist at each center. The *R* configuration is that obtained using (–)-5'-methoxy-*laudanosine*, also identified as (*R*)-(–)-5'-methoxy-*laudanosine*, the preparation of which is described in the Example section. The compounds of formula (1) having the *R* configuration at both chiral centers are essentially free from significant side effects at the dosages that it is anticipated will be used clinically whereas the corresponding enantiomeric compounds, i.e., those having the *S* configuration at both centers, are likely to induce adverse cardiovascular effects, such as those associated with histamine release at clinically useful dosages.

Accordingly, the compounds of formula (1), wherein the configuration at both the C(1) and the C(1') carbon atoms is the *R* configuration, constitute a preferred sub-class.

The compounds of formula (1) also contain an alkenic double bond and may, therefore, exist in either the *E* or the *Z* configuration, for example the *E* configuration. Moreover, the substituents about each of the quaternary nitrogen atoms may exist in either the *R* or the *S* configuration as well. As a result, for each of the geometric isomers (*E* or *Z*) of the preferred sub-class of compounds of formula (1) wherein the configuration at the C(1) and C(1') carbon atoms is the *R* configuration there are three diastereomers, the *RR-RR*, *RS-RS* and *RR-RS*. The *RS-RR* diastereomer is equivalent to the *RR-RS*. Diastereomer thus, there are a total of six. The present invention extends to these six diastereoisomers individually and as mixtures.

Within each set of diastereomers, the most potent are those having the *RS-RS* and the *RS-RR* configurations and are surprisingly more potent than the *RR-RR* diastereomers. However, the preferred embodiment within the scope of formula (1) in terms of potency and cost of manufacture is not any single diastereomer but the mixture of all three diastereomers. Within such a mixture, it is preferred that the *RS-RS* and *RR-RS* diastereomers together constitute the greater part, especially greater than 70% or even 80% or 90% (w/w). In fact, it is even more preferred that the mixture comprises from 1 to 15% (w/w) of the *RR-RR* diastereomer, from 38 to 50% (w/w) of the *RR-RS* diastereomer and from 40 to 56% (w/w) of the *RS-RS* diastereomer.

Since the pharmacological activity of the compounds of the invention resides in the di-cation, the nature of the anion X^- is relatively unimportant, although for therapeutic purposes it is, preferably, pharmaceutically acceptable to the recipient of the compounds. Examples of pharmaceutically acceptable anions include iodide, mesylate, tosylate, bromide, chloride, hydrogen sulphate, sulphate/2, phosphate/3, hydrogen phosphate/2, acetate, benzenesulphonate, hemisuccinate, succinate/2, maleate, naphthalene-sulphonate and propionate. The pharmacologically acceptable salts together with the salts which are not thus acceptable have utility in the isolation and/or purification of the compounds of the invention, and the unacceptable salts are also useful in being convertible into the acceptable salts by techniques well known in the art.

The compounds of formula (1) are used as neuromuscular blocking agents in conjunction with surgery or for intubation of the trachea by conventional parenteral administration, e.g., intramuscular or intravenous administration in solution. Accordingly, the present invention also provides a method for producing muscle relaxation in a mammal, which comprises administering to the mammal an effective neuromuscular blocking amount of a compound of formula (1). In the alternative, there is provided a compound of formula (1) for use in human or veterinary medicine, especially for producing muscle relaxation in mammals. The compounds of the present invention are administered to subjects such as monkeys and humans and other mammals to achieve neuromuscular blockade. The dosage for each type of subject will vary because of the peculiarities of the species. However, a suitable intravenous amount or dosage of the compounds of formula (1) to obtain paralysis in mammals would be 0.01 to 0.50 mg/kg of body weight, and most preferably, 0.025 to 0.3 mg/kg of body weight, the above being based on the weight of the di-cation which is the active ingredient. The dosage for intramuscular administration is two to four times the intravenous dose. The compounds of this invention are reversible using conventional anticholinesterase agents such as neostigmine and edrophonium and appear to avoid the side effects associated with the conventional non-depolarizing agents.

The compounds of formula (1) are therefore useful for producing a short duration neuromuscular blockade in humans as well as in other mammals, and the present invention provides a method of producing such blockade in mammals by intravenously injecting a dose of 0.01 to 0.50 mg/kg to the mammal. It should be understood that the profile of neuromuscular blockade in a mammal such as monkey is similar to humans and the compounds of formula (1) are considered as a short duration agent for the monkey.

While it is possible for compounds of formula (1) to be administered as the bulk active chemicals, it is preferred to present them in the form of a pharmaceutical formulation, in particular a pharmaceutical formulation for parenteral administration. Accordingly, the present invention provides a pharmaceutical formulation which comprises a compound of formula (1), as herein defined, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

In the preferred case where the pharmaceutical formulation is for parenteral administration, the formulation may be an aqueous or non-aqueous solution or emulsion in a pharmaceutically acceptable liquid or mixture of liquids, which may contain bacteriostatic agents, antioxidants, buffers, thickening agents, suspending agents or other pharmaceutically acceptable additives. Alternatively the compounds may be presented as lyophilized solids for reconstitution with water (for injection) or dextrose or saline

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solutions. Such formulations are normally presented in unit dosage forms such as ampoules or disposable injection devices, or in multidose forms such as a bottle from which the appropriate dose may be withdrawn; all such formulations should be sterile.

The suitable unit dose to obtain a neuromuscular block for adult humans (~150 lbs or 70 kg) is 0.5 to 30 mg and most preferably 3.5 to 15 mg.

The compounds of this invention if desired may be administered in conjunction with depolarizing agents such as listed above.

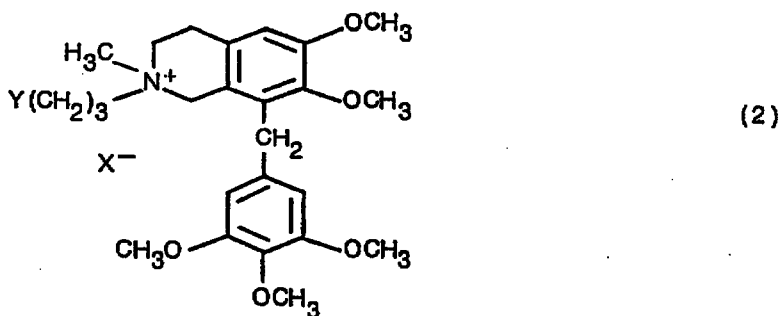
Thus a suitable pharmaceutical parenteral preparation for administration to humans will preferably contain 0.1 to 5 mg/ml of the compounds of formula (1) of this invention in solution or multiples thereof for multi-dose vials.

A simple and preferred formulation is a solution of the compound of formula (1) in water or dextrose solution which may be prepared by simply dissolving the compound in pyrogen-free water or water containing dextrose, with or without a preservative and sterilizing the solution, or by dissolving the sterile compound in pyrogen-free, sterile water or a sterile dextrose solution under aseptic conditions.

The compounds of formula (1) may also be administered as an infusion of a dextrose solution or a saline solution, e.g., Ringer's solution, in drip form.

The compounds may also be administered in other solvents (usually as a mixed solvent with water) such as alcohol, polyethylene glycol and dimethylsulphoxide. They may also be administered intramuscularly (as a drip if required) as a suspension or solution.

The compounds of formula (1) may be prepared by coupling a compound of formula (2):



wherein X^- is as defined hereinbefore and Y can be hydroxy, chloro, bromo, iodo, or tosyloxy, with a compound of formula (3):



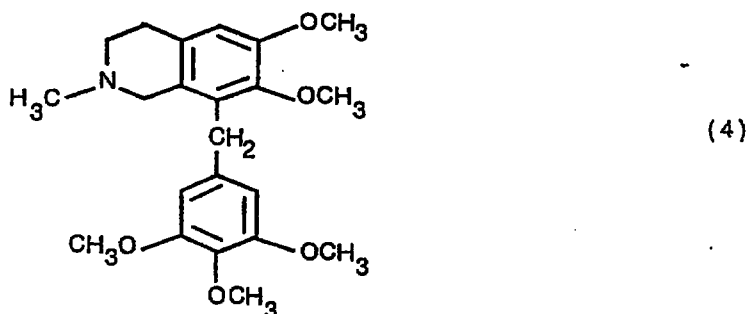
wherein Z is hydroxy, chloro, bromo or C_{1-4} alkylcarbonyloxy, preferably chloro and at least one of Y and Z is always hydroxy.

The coupling between the compounds of formulae (2) and (3) may be carried out conventionally, for example, by stirring a solution of the compounds, in which the compound of formula (2) is present in excess, in a solvent, such as 1,2-dichloroethane, at ambient or an elevated temperature.

The geometric configuration of the compound of formula (1) resulting from the coupling between the compounds of formulae (2) and (3) corresponds to the geometric configuration of the compound of formula (2). Thus, in order to obtain a compound of formula (1) with, say, the *E*-configuration, then the compound of formula (2) should also have the *E*-configuration.

The compound of formula (1), as obtained from the coupling between the compounds of formulae (2) and (3), is usually in the form of a mixture of optical isomers in which the *RS-RS* and the *RR-RS* optical isomers together account for the greater part of the mixture. If desired, one or more diastereomers can be separated from the mixture using conventional techniques for example chromatographic techniques.

The compound of formula (2) may be prepared by reacting a compound of formula (4):



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with a compound of formula (5):



wherein X corresponds to the anion, X^- , defined hereinbefore; and optionally converting the anion X^- in the resulting compound of formula (2) into another anion.

The reaction between the compounds of formulae (4) and (5) is, preferably, carried out conventionally, for example, under reflux in a solvent, such as 2-butanone, in the presence of a base, such as sodium carbonate.

Preferably, X, in the compound of formula (5), is iodo, the compound being formed *in situ* from the corresponding compound of formula (5), wherein X is chloro, and sodium iodide.

In the preferred case where X, in the compound of formula (5), is iodo, the anion X^- in the compound of formula (2), resulting from the reaction between the compounds of formulae (4) and (5), is an iodide anion. In this case, it is preferred subsequently to convert the iodide anion in the resulting compound of formula (2) into a pharmaceutically acceptable anion, such as the chloride anion, using conventional techniques.

The compounds of formulae (2), (3), (4) and (5) are commercially available, or may be obtained by carrying out a published process for their preparation, or by carrying out a process analogous to a published process for the preparation of structurally analogous compounds.

The present invention will now be described by reference to specific embodiments thereof.

General Comments

All solvents and chemicals used were reagent grade and used without further purification. Analytical HPLC, unless otherwise noted, was performed on a Whatman Partisil 10 w (25 cm x 4.6 mm) column using a 20 µl sampling loop. The mobile phase used was methanol:ethyl acetate:trifluoroacetic acid:sulfuric acid: 61.1:38.5:0.3:0.1 at a flowrate of 2 mL/min. Detection was at 280 nm. While retention times (RT) vary with a number of factors, the order of elution is:

	COMPOUNDS	RT
30	(E)-(1R,2R)-2-[3-[(7-Carboxyheptanoyl)oxy]propyl]-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium chloride	150 sec
35	(E)-(1R,2S)-2-[3[(7-Carboxyheptanoyl)oxy]propyl]-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium chloride	203 sec
40	cis-1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-2-(3-hydroxypropyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium chloride	250 sec
45	trans-1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-2-(3-hydroxypropyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium chloride	315 sec
50	2,2'[(E)-4-Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[1R,2R-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium] dichloride	357 sec
55	(E)-(1R,1'R,2R,2'S)-2,2'-[4-Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium] dichloride	519 sec
60	2,2'-[(E)-4-Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[(1R,2S)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium] dichloride	751 sec

All diesters were dried to constant weight at 0.1 mm Hg pressure and ambient temperature. Rotations are calculated on a volatiles-free basis.

Example 1

2,2'[(E)-4-Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[(trans)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium] dichloride

a. *Compound A: trans-1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-2-(3-hydroxypropyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl) isoquinolinium chloride (trans quaternary chloride)*

5 5'-Methoxylauidanosine (4.6 g), 3-chloropropanol (2.2 g), sodium iodide (3.5 g) and sodium carbonate (0.3 g) were refluxed in 2-butanone (45 mL) for 24 h. The white suspension was filtered hot and solvent was removed under vacuum. The resulting gum was triturated with diethyl ether to remove excess 3-iodopropanol. Residual solvent was removed under vacuum to give an amorphous solid which was
10 assayed by HPLC as 6.3/1, *trans/cis* quaternary iodide salt. The material was dissolved in H₂O (45 mL), cooled to 0°C and filtered to remove the precipitated *cis* isomer. Conversion to the chloride salt was accomplished by passing the *trans* enriched liquors through a column packed with Dowex® 1—X8 ion exchange resin (35 g). The eluant was concentrated under vacuum. Acetone trituration of the residual oil gave the chloride salt as a white solid. Slurrying the solids in dry *N,N*-dimethylformamide (20 mL) at 80°C
15 for 10 minutes removed the last traces of the *cis* isomer. The material was slurried in hot acetone to remove residual *N,N*-dimethylformamide and filtered to give 4.8 g (84%) of the quaternary chloride which was assayed by HPLC as 100% *trans* isomer: mp 212—213°C.

Confirmation of the *trans* orientation was obtained by X-ray crystallographic analysis of the perchlorate salt of *Compound A* and reported in J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans I, 2067 (1982).

20 Calculated for C₂₅H₃₆NO₆Cl: C, 62.30; H, 7.53; N, 2.90; Cl, 7.36.
Found: C, 62.35; H, 7.52; N, 2.91; Cl, 7.32.

b. *Compound B: cis-1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-2-(3-hydroxypropyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl) isoquinolinium iodide (cis quaternary iodide)*

25 5'-Methoxylauidanosine (47 g) and 3-iodopropanol (45 g) were refluxed in acetonitrile (500 mL) for 18 h. The solvent was removed under vacuum. The resulting gum was triturated with diethyl ether to remove excess 3-iodopropanol. Residual solvent was removed under vacuum to give an orange oil which was assayed by HPLC as 3/1, *trans/cis* quaternary iodide salt. The oil was dissolved in acetone (200 mL) and cooled at -5°C for 18 h. The solid was filtered and dried for 2 h at 50°C giving 37.1 g of the quaternary iodide
30 mixture (3:1 *trans/cis* by HPLC). The solid was triturated with water (200 mL) and filtered giving 10.5 g of purified *cis* quaternary iodide. Recrystallization from acetonitrile provided 7.7 g (11%) of white, crystalline solid: mp 142—144°C.

Confirmation of the *cis* orientation was obtained by x-ray crystallographic analysis of *Compound B* and reported in J. Chem. Soc., *Ibid*.

35 Calculated for C₂₅H₃₆NO₆I H₂O: C, 50.80; H, 6.42; N, 2.36.
Found: C, 50.74; H, 6.51; N, 2.34.

c. *Compound C: 2,2'[(E)-4-Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[(trans)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzene)isoquinolinium] dichloride*

40 *Trans-N*-3-hydroxypropyl-5'-methoxylauidanosinium chloride (100% *trans* by HPLC, 5.9 g) was suspended in 80 ml 1,2-dichloroethane at -70°C. (*E*)-4-octene-1,8-dioic acid chloride (1.2 g) (K. Sisido, K. Sei, H. Nozaki; *J. Org. Chem.*, 1962, 27, 2681) was added and the mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 72 h. The reaction mixture was filtered and solvent was removed under vacuum to give an amorphous solid which was suspended in 1% aqueous sodium chloride solution. The suspension was
45 adjusted to pH 8.0 with 1% sodium hydroxide and extracted with chloroform (3 × 200 mL). The combined chloroform extracts were evaporated to dryness. The residue was again suspended in 1% aqueous sodium chloride and the neutralization-extraction process was repeated as before. The combined chloroform portions were dried over anhydrous calcium chloride and filtered. The filtrate was evaporated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in 100 mL ethanol and evaporated to a foam which was further evaporated to
50 constant weight under high vacuum (0.5 mm Hg). The white solid (2.8 g, 41%) was found to be 95% pure by HPLC.

Calculated for C₅₈H₈₀N₂O₁₄Cl₂ 5.1 H₂O: C, 58.44; H, 7.63; N, 2.21; Cl, 5.95.
Found: C, 58.17; H, 7.34; N, 2.35; Cl, 6.07.

Example 2

55 (+-)-*trans, trans-2,2'-(Z)-4-Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis-(1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium dichloride Compound D*

Trans-N-3-hydroxypropyl-5'-methoxylauidanosinium chloride (*Compound A*, 100% *trans* by HPLC, 5.88 g) was suspended in 80 ml 1,2-dichloroethane at 70°C and (*Z*)-4-Octene-1,8-dioic acid chloride (1.2 g) was added. (A. Manzocchi, F. Astori, E. Sontaniello; *Synthesis*, 1983, 324. The diacid chloride was prepared
60 as in Example 1). The mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 16 h and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated to a foam and partitioned between water (65 mL) and nitromethane (15 mL). The aqueous portion was washed with diethyl ether and treated with sodium chloride (1.6 g). The brine solution was extracted with chloroform (40 mL). The chloroform extract was concentrated to a gum and subsequently
65 dissolved in 2.5% aqueous sodium chloride solution (65 mL). The pH was adjusted to 9.0 with 0.1M sodium

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hydroxide and the aqueous solution extracted with chloroform (40 mL). The chloroform solution was washed with 5% aqueous sodium chloride (20 mL), dried over anhydrous calcium chloride, filtered and evaporated to a residue under reduced pressure. The solid was dissolved in ethanol (95%) and evaporated back down to a foam under reduced pressure. The foam was brought to constant weight under vacuum (0.5 mm Hg) giving 4.0 g (57%) of *Compound D* (92.2% by HPLC).

Calculated for $C_{88}H_{80}N_2O_{14}Cl_2 \cdot 5.8 H_2O$: C, 57.78; H, 7.69; N, 2.33; Cl, 5.89.

Found: C, 57.83; H, 7.66; N, 2.33; Cl, 5.89.

Example 3

(E)-(1R,1'R)-2,2'-[4-Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis-[1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium] dichloride (*Compound G*)

a. *Compound E: (R)-(-)-5'-Methoxylaudanosine*

To ($\pm$)-5'-methoxylaudanosine (46.4 g) in methanol (240 mL) was added (-)-dibenzoyltartaric acid monohydrate (45.2 g). The mixture was heated to boiling, cooled at 5°C for 16 h and the (S-(-)-5'-methoxylaudanosinium dibenzoyltartrate salt (35.6 g, 80%) was filtered and discarded. The mother liquors were made basic with concentrated aqueous NaOH and evaporated under vacuum. The solid residue was partitioned between H_2O (200 mL) and diethyl ether (2 x 150 mL). The ether phase was dried and evaporated to an oil (24.9 g). To the oil in methanol (128 mL) was added (+)-dibenzoyltartaric acid monohydrate (26.6 g). The mixture was heated to boiling and cooled at 5°C for 16 h. Crystals were collected and recrystallized from methanol until a constant specific rotation of $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +17.7^\circ$ (1% EtOH) had been achieved. The yield of (R)-(+)-5'-methoxylaudanosinium dibenzoyltartrate as white crystals was 29.4 g (66%). A portion of the salt (15.0 g) in methanol (200 mL) was made basic with concentrated aqueous NaOH. The mixture was evaporated under vacuum and the residue was partitioned between H_2O (200 mL) and diethyl ether (2 x 200 mL). The combined ether layers were dried and evaporated under vacuum to yield 7.2 g (92%) of (R)-(-)-5'-methoxylaudanosine as an oil.

b. *Compound F: (R)-(-)-5'-Methoxylaudanosine* (7.2 g), 3-chloropropanol (3.5 g), sodium iodide (5.6 g) and sodium carbonate (0.5 g) were refluxed in 2-butanone (125 mL) for 16 h. The white suspension was filtered hot and solvent removed from the filtrate under vacuum. The residual gum was triturated with hot ethyl acetate to remove excess 3-iodopropanol, dissolved in 200 mL methanol and passed through a column packed with Dowex® 1-X8 ion exchange resin (80 g chloride form). The eluant was stripped of solvent under vacuum to give the quaternary chloride salt (8.4 g) as an amorphous solid. The material was assayed by HPLC as a 2.3/1 mixture of the *trans/cis* diastereomers.

c. *Compound G: N-3-Hydroxypropyl-1-(R)-5'-methoxylaudanosinium chloride* (2.3/1, *trans/cis* by HPLC, 2.5 g) was dissolved in 60 mL 1,2-dichloroethane at about 70°C. (E)-4-Octene-1,8-dioic acid chloride (0.5 g) (K. Sisido, K. Sei, and N. Nozaki, *J. Org. Chem.*, 1962, 27, 2681) was added and the mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 19 h. Solvent was removed under vacuum to give an amorphous solid which has dissolved in chloroform (25 mL) and washed with 5% aqueous sodium chloride solution (3 x 35 mL) to remove unreacted quaternary salts. The chloroform layer was dried and evaporated under vacuum to give an amorphous solid. The acid ester impurities were substantially removed by washing with hot 2-butanone. Residual solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the resulting amorphous solid was dissolved in methanol, filtered and lyophilized to give 1.9 g of (E) - (1R,1'R) - 2,2' - [4 - octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[1,2,4,3 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)-isoquinolinium] dichloride, *Compound G*, which was assayed by HPLC as 44.6% *RS-RS (trans-trans)* diester, 42.4% *RR-RS (cis-trans)* diester, 7.5% *RR-RR (cis-cis)* diester, 4.0% *RS (trans)* acid ester and 1.5% *RR (cis)* acid ester. $[\alpha]_D^{30} = -62.7^\circ$ (1.9% in H_2O).

Calculated for $C_{88}H_{80}N_2O_{14} \cdot 2Cl \cdot 4H_2O$: C, 59.44; H, 7.57; N, 2.39; Cl, 6.05.

Found: C, 59.36; H, 7.60; N, 2.36; Cl, 5.99.

Example 4

Chromatographic Separation of the Individual Components of *Compound G*

a. A Waters HPLC/System 500A (Waters Associates, Milford, MA 01757) fitted with two silica gel cartridges in tandem was employed in this separation. The columns were pre-equilibrated in the mobile phase (ethanol:methanol:tetra methyl ammonium chloride: 600:400:1) and the diester mixture (*Compound G*, 5 g) in ethanol (25 mL) was loaded on the column. The system was eluted with 13.2 l of mobile phase which was collected in 66 fractions (200 mL). The fractions were analyzed by analytical HPLC and combined as follows:

b. *Compound H: (E)-(1R,1'R,2R,2'R)-2,2'-[4-Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium] dichloride*

Fractions 26-30 were combined and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resultant residue was titrated with chloroform (200 mL) and filtered. The filtrate was washed with 5% aqueous sodium chloride and concentrated to an oil under reduced pressure. The oil was dissolved in ethanol (50 mL) and evaporated to a foam (0.4 g): $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -33.6^\circ$ (1.5% in H_2O); 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) from TMS: δ 6.64 (s, H5, 2H), 6.27 (s, H2' and 6', 4H), 5.75 (s, H8, 2H).

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Calculated for $C_{58}H_{80}N_2O_{14}Cl_2$, 3.7 H_2O , 0.9 C_2H_5OH , 0.3 $(CH_3)_4N^+Cl^-$:

C, 59.02; H, 7.88; N, 2.62; Cl, 6.61.

Found: C, 59.03; H, 7.83; N, 2.60; Cl, 6.57.

- Compound H (10 mg) in 1% aqueous phosphoric acid (10 mL) was heated for 18 h at 60—70°C and analyzed by HPLC. The *cis* quaternary salt was observed to the exclusion of the *trans* quaternary salt. This was verified by co-injections with Compound A and with Compound B.

Compound I: (E)-(1R,1'R,2R,2'S)-2,2'-[4-Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium] dichloride

- Fractions 34—46 were combined and the product isolated in a manner analogous to Compound H. From this was obtained 2.0 g of a white foam: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -54.0^\circ$ (1.5% in H_2O); 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) from TMS: δ 6.64 (s, H5, 2H), 6.42 and 6.25 (2s, H2' and 6', 4H), 5.75 (s, H8, 2H).

Calculated for $C_{58}H_{80}N_2O_{14}Cl_2$, 1.5 H_2O , 1.3 C_2H_5OH : C, 61.28; H, 7.76; N, 2.36; Cl, 6.01.

Found: C, 61.32; H, 7.71; N, 2.36; Cl, 5.97.

- Compound I (10 mg) in 1% aqueous phosphoric acid (10 mL) was heated at 60—70°C for 18 h and analyzed by HPLC. Equal amounts of the *cis* and *trans* quaternary salts were observed. This was verified by co-injections with Compound A and with Compound B.

Compound J: (E)-(1R,1'R,2S,2'S)-2,2'-[4-Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium] dichloride

- Fractions 56—66 were combined and the product isolated in a manner analogous to Compound H. From this was isolated 0.9 g of an off-white foam: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -76.7^\circ$ [1.5% in H_2O]; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) from TMS: δ 6.64 (s, H5, 2H), 6.42 (s, H2' and 6', 4H), 5.76 (s, H8, 2H).

Calculated for $C_{58}H_{80}N_2O_{14}Cl_2$, 3.3 H_2O , 1.7 C_2H_5OH , 0.4 $(CH_3)_4NCl$:

- C, 59.02; H, 7.99; N, 2.63; Cl, 6.63.

Found: C, 59.02; H, 7.99; N, 2.62; Cl, 6.64.

- Compound J (10 mg) in 1% aqueous phosphoric acid (10 mL) was heated at 60—70°C for 18 hours and analyzed by HPLC. The *trans* quaternary salt was observed to the exclusion of the *cis* quaternary salt. This was verified by co-injection with Compound A and with Compound B.

Example 5

Biological Activity

- The tests employed herein are described by J. J. Savarese (*Anesthesia and Analgesia*, Vol. 52, No. 6, Nov.—Dec., (1973). Cats were anesthetized with alpha-chloralose (80 mg/kg) and pentobarbital (10 mg/kg) i.p. Monkeys received thiopental (35—40 mg/kg) i.m. followed by halothane (0.5—10% inspired) nitrous oxide (60%) and oxygen (40%) in a nonrebreathing system. In all animals, the trachea was intubated and ventilation was controlled at 12—15 mL/kg, 18—24 breaths per minute. Animals not receiving inhalation anesthetics were ventilated with room air. The left femoral vein and artery were cannulated for drug administration and for recording of arterial pressure, respectively. Square-wave stimuli were applied at supramaximal voltage to the peroneal nerve at 0.15 Hz and the evoked twitches of the tibialis anterior muscle were recorded. Muscle and animal temperatures were maintained between 35° and 38°C. All recordings were made on a Grass Polygraph recorder. The results of these tests are shown in Table I and Table II below.

Table I

Direct Comparison of Compound G (Diastereomeric Mixture) and Compound I
(RS-RS Diastereomer of G) in Cats and Rhesus Monkey

COMPOUND	CAT ^a			RHESUS MONKEY ^a		
	dose ^c (mg/kg i.v.)	%block	duration ^b (min)	dose (mg/kg/ i.v.)	%block	duration ^b (min)
G (Example 3c)	0.04	56±12	10±2	0.02	27	6
	0.05	78±10	13±1	0.04	99	12
I (Example 4d)	0.04	79±4	12±2	0.02	83	11
	0.05	96±3	12±3	0.03	100	13

^a n = 3 for the cat and n = 1 for the monkey.

^b The time from intravenous injection to 95% recovery.

^c Intravenous dose producing 95% neuromuscular paralysis of the tibialis anterior twitch extrapolated from dose-response curves. The ED₉₅ neuromuscular blocking dose is determined because it is related to the degree of muscular paralysis needed to safely facilitate a rapid and easy intubation when neuromuscular blocking agents are used therapeutically.

Table II

ED₉₅ Values in Cats (intravenous)

5

	<u>Compound</u>	<u>Number of Animals</u>	<u>ED₉₅ mg/kg^b</u>
10	C	15	0.093 ± 0.005
	D	10	0.086 ± 0.010
15	G	12	0.057 ± 0.005
	H	5	>0.40
20	I	12	0.054 ± 0.004
	J	15	0.054 ± 0.005

25

^bThe time from intravenous injection to 95% recovery.

Table I shows that in the cat and rhesus monkey Compound G and Compound I have the same neuromuscular blocking profiles except that in both species Compound I is at least 20—25 percent more potent than Compound G.

30

Table II lists the dose needed to produce 95% neuromuscular blockade (ED₉₅) in the animals in the test group for the compounds of formula (1) exemplified herein.

Example 6

Toxicity

35

Three groups of four beagle dogs each were treated twice weekly for three weeks with vehicle, Compound G at five times the ED₁₀₀ or Compound G at fifteen times the ED₁₀₀. Each treatment session consisted of an initial bolus injection followed by a continuous infusion for two hours. All of the dogs were anesthetized with pentobarbital and artificially ventilated during the sessions. All of the dogs survived, and no deleterious effects were observed.

40

Example 7
Formulation

45

<u>Injection</u>	<u>Per 5 mL</u>
Compound G	11.0 mg
HCl	q.s. pH 4.8
Water (for Injection)	q.s. 5 mL

50

The Active Ingredient, i.e. Compound G, is dissolved in 4.8 mL of water (for Injection), aqueous HCl is added to obtain the proper pH and additional water is added to reach a total volume of 5 mL. The resulting solution is filtered through a 2.2 micro meter membrane and sealed in vials or ampules under sterile conditions. Preferably, the formulation is stored under refrigeration (5—10°C) until use. Optionally, a preservative may be added to extend shelf life.

60

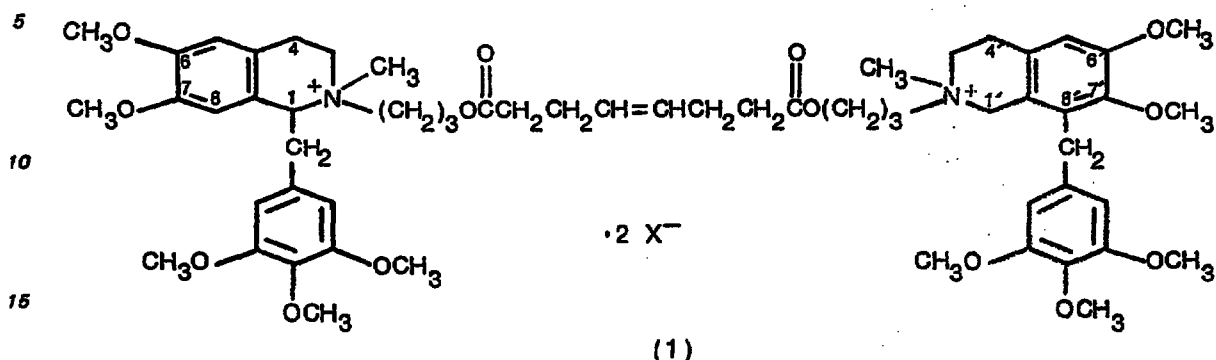
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Claims for the Contracting States: BE CH DE FR GB IT LI LU NL SE

1. A compound of formula (1):



wherein X^- is an anion.

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein the configuration at both the C(1) and the C(1') carbon atoms is the *R* configuration.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the configuration at the olefinic double bond is the *E* configuration.

4. A compound according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the configuration at the olefinic double bond is the *Z* configuration.

5. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims which is the *RS-RS* diastereoisomer.

6. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 4 which is the *RR-RS* diastereoisomer.

7. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 4 which is a mixture of the *RS-RS*, the *RR-RS* and the *RR-RR* diastereoisomer.

8. A compound according to claim 7, wherein the *RS-RS* and the *RR-RS* diastereoisomers together constitute greater than 80% (w/w) of the mixture.

9. A compound according to claim 8, wherein the *RS-RS* and the *RR-RS* diastereoisomers together constitute greater than 90% (w/w) of the mixture.

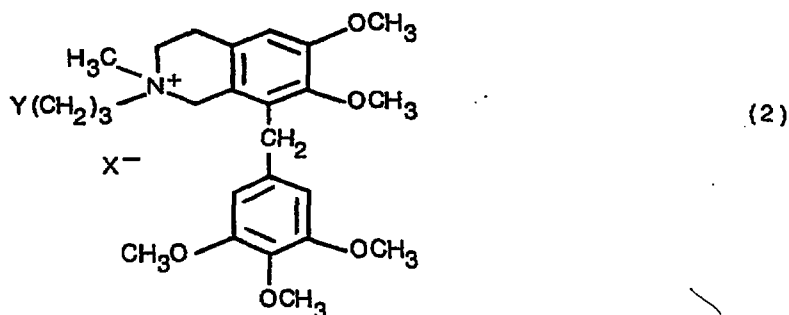
10. A compound according to claim 8, wherein the mixture comprises from 1 to 15% (w/w) of the *RR-RR* diastereoisomer, from 38 to 50% (w/w) of the *RR-RS* diastereoisomer, and from 40 to 56% (w/w) of the *RS-RS* diastereoisomer.

11. A compound or mixture according to any one of the preceding claims wherein X^- is a pharmaceutically acceptable anion.

12. A compound or mixture according to claim 11 wherein X^- is chloride.

13. A compound according to claim 1 which is 2,2' - [(*E*) - 4 - Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[1*R*,2*R* - 1,2,3,4 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium]dichloride, or (*E*) - (1*R*,1'*R*,2*R*,2'*S*) - 2,2' - [4 - Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[1,2,3,4 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium]dichloride, or 2,2' - [(*E*) - 4 - Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[(1*R*,2*S*) - 1,2,3,4 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium]dichloride.

14. A process for preparing a compound or mixture as defined in any one of claims 1 to 13 which comprises reacting a compound of formula (2):



60 where X^- is as defined in any one of claims 1, 11, or 12 and Y is hydroxy, chloro, bromo, iodo or tosyloxy, with a compound of formula (3):



65 where Z is hydroxy, chloro, bromo or C₁-C₄ alkylcarbonyloxy and at least one of Y and Z is always hydroxy.



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diastereoisomer, from 38 to 50% (w/w) of the *RR*—*RS* diastereoisomer, and from 40 to 56% (w/w) of the *RS*—*RS* diastereoisomer.

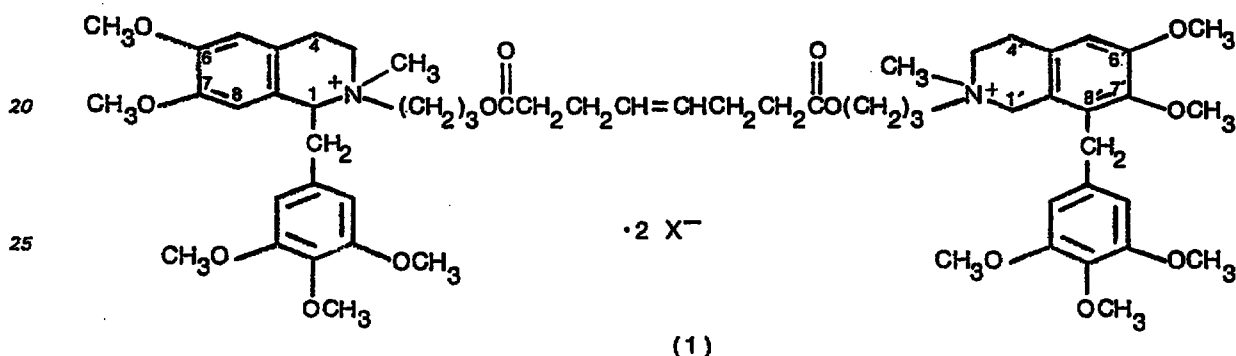
12. A process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein X^- is a pharmaceutically acceptable anion.

13. A process according to claim 12 wherein X^- is chloride.

14. A process according to claim 1 wherein there is prepared: 2,2' - [(*E*) - 4 - Octenediylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[1*R*,2*R* - 1,2,3,4 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium]dichloride, or (*E*) - (1*R*,1'*R*,2*R*,2'*S*) - 2,2' - [4 - Octenediylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[1,2,3,4 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium]dichloride, or 2,2' - [(*E*) - 4 - Octenediylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[(1*R*,2*S*) - 1,2,3,4 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium]dichloride.

Patentansprüche für die Vertragsstaaten: BE CH DE FR GB IT LI LU NL SE

1. Verbindung der Formel (1)



worin X^- ein Anion ist.

2. Verbindung nach Anspruch 1, worin die Konfiguration sowohl am Kohlenstoffatom C(1) als auch am Kohlenstoffatom C(1') die *R*-Konfiguration ist.

3. Verbindung nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, worin die Konfiguration an der olefinischen Doppelbindung die *E*-Konfiguration ist.

4. Verbindung nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, worin die Konfiguration an der olefinischen Doppelbindung die *Z*-Konfiguration ist.

5. Verbindung nach irgendeinem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, welche das *RS*—*RS*-Diastereomer ist.

6. Verbindung nach irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 4, welche das *RR*—*RS*-Diastereomer ist.

7. Verbindung nach irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 4, welche eine Mischung der *RS*—*RS*-, *RR*—*RS*- und *RR*—*RR*-Diastereomeren ist.

8. Verbindung nach Anspruch 7, worin das *RS*—*RS*-Diastereomer und das *RR*—*RS*-Diastereomer zusammen einen größeren Anteil an der Mischung als 80 Gew.-% ausmachen.

9. Verbindung nach Anspruch 8, worin das *RS*—*RS*-Diastereomer und das *RR*—*RS*-Diastereomer zusammen einen größeren Anteil an der Mischung als 90 Gew.-% ausmachen.

10. Verbindung nach Anspruch 8, worin die Mischung 1 bis 15 Gew.-% des *RR*—*RR*-Diastereomeren, 38 bis 50 Gew.-% des *RR*—*RS*-Diastereomeren und 40 bis 56 Gew.-% des *RS*—*RS*-Diastereomeren umfaßt.

11. Verbindung oder Mischung nach irgendeinem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, worin X^- ein pharmazeutisch annehmbares Anion ist.

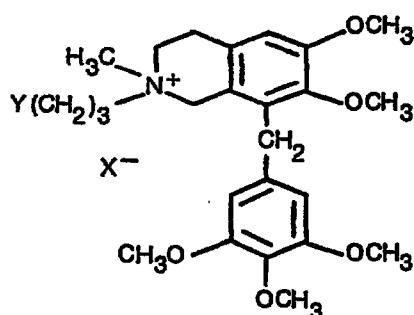
12. Verbindung oder Mischung nach Anspruch 11, worin X^- Chlorid ist.

13. Verbindung nach Anspruch 1, nämlich 2,2' - [(*E*) - 4 - Octenediylbis(oxytrimethylen-)]bis[1*R*,2*R* - 1,2,3,4 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium-]dichlorid, oder (*E*) - (1*R*,1'*R*,2*R*,2'*S*) - 2,2' - [4 - Octenediylbis(oxytrimethylen-)]bis - [1,2,3,4 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium-]dichlorid, oder 2,2' - [(*E*) - 4 - Octenediylbis(oxytrimethylen-)]bis[(1*R*,2*S*) - 1,2,3,4 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium-]dichlorid.

14. Verfahren zur Herstellung einer Verbindung oder Mischung, wie sie in irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 13 definiert ist, welches die Umsetzung einer Verbindung der Formel (2)



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(2)

in der X^- wie in irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1, 11 oder 12 definiert ist und Y Hydroxy, Chlor, Brom, Jod oder Tosyloxy ist, mit einer Verbindung der Formel (3) umfaßt



(3)

worin Z Hydroxy, Chlor, Brom oder eine C_1 - bis C_4 -Alkylcarbonyloxygruppe ist und wenigstens einer der beiden Reste Y und Z immer Hydroxy ist.

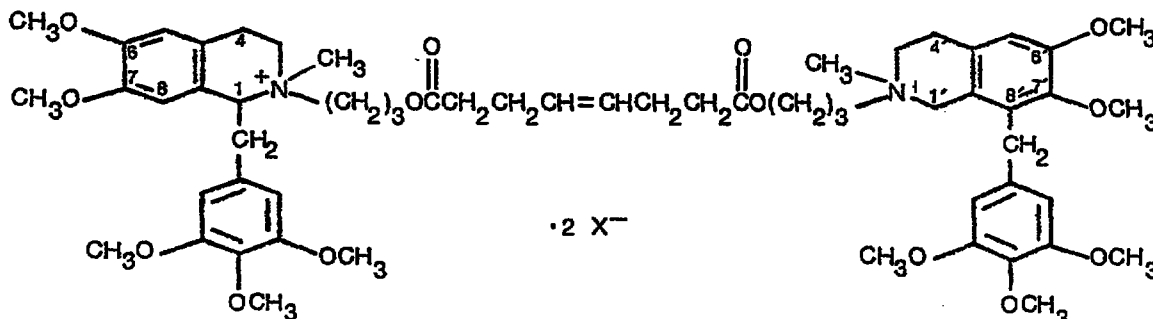
15. Verfahren nach Anspruch 14, worin eine Mischung hergestellt und durch Chromatographie in Diastereomere aufgetrennt wird.

16. Pharmazeutische Zusammensetzung, umfassend eine Verbindung oder Mischung nach irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 13, worin X^- ein pharmazeutisch annehmbares Anion ist, in Verbindung mit einem pharmazeutisch annehmbaren Träger.

17. Verbindung oder Mischung nach irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 13, worin X^- ein pharmazeutisch annehmbares Anion ist, oder Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 16 zur Verwendung in einem Verfahren zur Behandlung des menschlichen oder tierischen Körpers durch Chirurgie oder Therapie oder in einem diagnostischen Verfahren, das am menschlichen oder tierischen Körper durchgeführt wird.

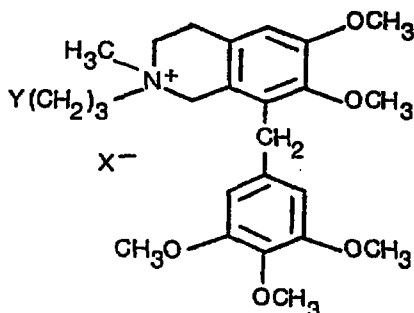
30 Patentansprüche für den Vertragsstaat: AT

1. Verfahren zur Herstellung einer Verbindung der Formel (1)



(1)

worin X^- ein Anion ist, welches die Umsetzung einer Verbindung der Formel (2)



(2)

in der X^- wie oben definiert ist und Y Hydroxy, Chlor, Brom, Jod oder Tosyloxy ist, mit einer Verbindung der Formel (3) umfaßt



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(3)

worin Z Hydroxy, Chlor, Brom oder eine C₁- bis C₄-Alkylcarbonyloxygruppe ist und wenigstens einer der beiden Reste Y und Z immer Hydroxy ist.

2. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1, worin eine Mischung hergestellt und durch Chromatographie in Diastereoisomere aufgetrennt wird.

3. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, worin die Konfiguration sowohl am Kohlenstoffatom C(1) als auch am Kohlenstoffatom C(1') die R-Konfiguration ist.

4. Verfahren nach irgendeinem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, worin die Konfiguration an der olefinischen Doppelbindung die E-Konfiguration ist.

5. Verfahren nach irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 3, worin die Konfiguration an der olefinischen Doppelbindung die Z-Konfiguration ist.

6. Verfahren nach irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 5, worin das RS-RS-Diastereomer hergestellt wird.

7. Verfahren nach irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 5, worin das RR-RS-Diastereomer hergestellt wird.

8. Verfahren nach irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 5, worin eine Mischung der RS-RS-, RR-RS- und RR-RR-Diastereomeren hergestellt wird.

9. Verfahren nach Anspruch 8, worin das RS-RS-Diastereomer und das RR-RS-Diastereomer zusammen einen größeren Anteil an der Mischung als 80 Gew.-% ausmachen.

10. Verfahren nach Anspruch 9, worin das RS-RS-Diastereomer und das RR-RS-Diastereomer zusammen einen größeren Anteil an der Mischung als 90 Gew.-% ausmachen.

11. Verfahren nach Anspruch 9, worin die Mischung 1 bis 15 Gew.-% des RR-RR-Diastereomeren, 38 bis 50 Gew.-% des RR-RS-Diastereomeren und 40 bis 56 Gew.-% des RS-RS-Diastereomeren umfaßt.

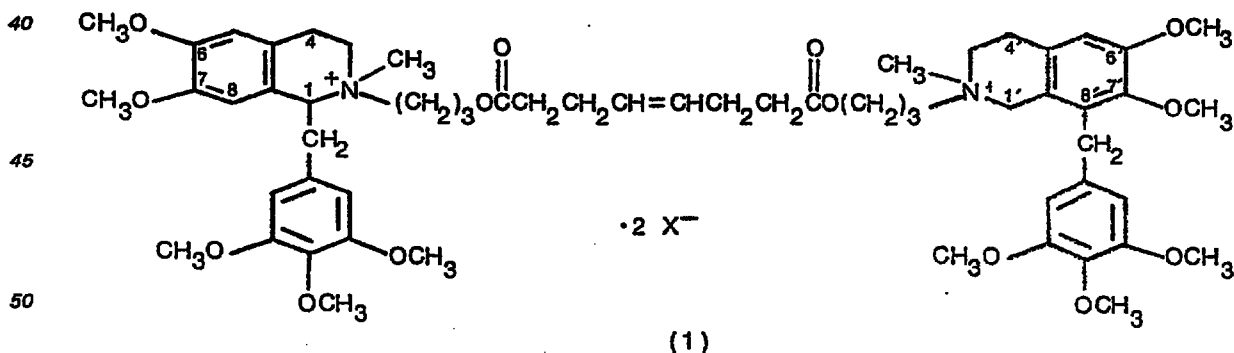
12. Verfahren nach irgendeinem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, worin X⁻ ein pharmazeutisch annehmbares Anion ist.

13. Verfahren nach Anspruch 12, worin X⁻ Chlorid ist.

14. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1, worin folgende Verbindungen hergestellt werden: 2,2' - [(E) - 4 - Octenedioylbis-(oxytrimethylen-)]bis[1R,2R - 1,2,3,4 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)-isochinolinium]dichlorid, oder (E) - (1R,1'R,2R,2'S) - 2,2' - [4 - Octenedioylbis-(oxytrimethylen-)]bis - [1,2,3,4 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)-isochinolinium]-dichlorid, oder 2,2' - [(E) - 4 - Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylen)]bis[(1R,2S) - 1,2,3,4 - tetrahydro - 6,7 - dimethoxy - 2 - methyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - trimethoxybenzyl)-isochinolinium]-dichlorid.

Revendications pour les Etats contractant: BE CH DE FR GB IT LI LU NL SE

1. Un composé de formule (1):



X⁻ désignant un anion.

2. Un composé selon la revendication 1 ayant la configuration R aux deux atomes de carbone C(1) et C(1').

3. Un composé selon la revendication 1 ou 2 ayant la configuration E à la double liaison oléfinique.

4. Un composé selon la revendication 1 ou 2 ayant la configuration Z à la double liaison oléfinique.

5. Un composé selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes qui est le diastéréo-isomère RS-RS.

6. Un composé selon l'une des revendications 1 à 4 qui est le diastéréo-isomère RR-RS.

7. Un composé selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 4 qui est un mélange des diastéréo-isomères RS-RS, RR-RS et RR-RR.

8. Un composé selon la revendication 7 dont les diastéréo-isomères RS-RS et RR-RS constituent à eux deux plus de 80% en poids du mélange.



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9. Un composé selon la revendication 8 dont les deux diastéréo-isomères RS—RS et RR—RS constituent plus de 90% en poids du mélange.

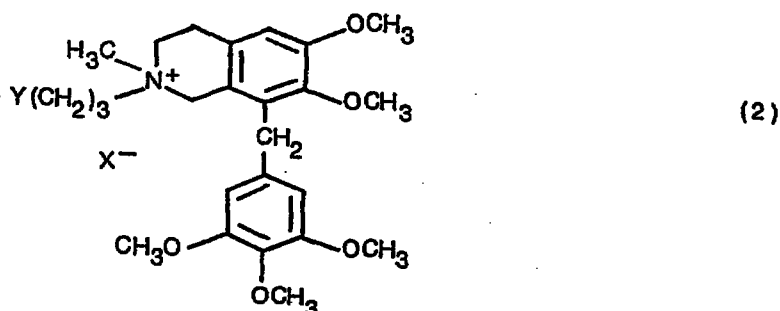
10. Un composé selon la revendication 8, le mélange comprenant de 1 à 15% en poids du diastéréo-isomère RR—RR, de 38 à 50% du diastéréo-isomère RR—RS et de 40 à 58% du diastéréo-isomère RS—RS.

11. Un composé ou mélange selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dont l'anion X^- est un anion à usage pharmaceutique.

12. Un composé ou mélange selon la revendication 11 dont l'anion X^- est l'anion chlorure.

13. Un composé selon la revendication 1 qui est le dichlorure de 2,2'[(E)-4-octène-dioylbis(oxytriméthylène)]bis[1R,2R-1,2,3,4-tétrahydro-6,7-diméthoxy-2-méthyl-1-(3,4,5-triméthoxybenzyl)-isoquinolinium], de (E)-{(1R,1'R,2R,2'S)-2,2'-[4-octène-dioylbis(oxytriméthylène)]bis[1,2,3,4-tétrahydro-6,7-diméthoxy-2-méthyl-1-(3,4,5-triméthoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium]} ou de 2,2'-[(E)-4-octènedioylbis(oxytriméthylène)]bis[(1R,2S)-1,2,3,4-tétrahydro-6,7-diméthoxy-2-méthyl-1-(3,4,5-triméthoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium].

14. Un procédé de préparation des composés ou mélanges selon l'une des revendications 1 à 13, procédé selon lequel on fait réagir un composé de formule (2):



Y représentant un hydroxyle, un atome de chlore, de brome ou d'iode ou le groupe tosyloxy, avec un composé de formule (3):



Z représentant un hydroxyle, un atome de chlore ou de brome ou un groupe alkylcarbonyloxy à alkyle en C_1-C_4 , et parmi Y et Z l'un d'eux au moins est un groupe hydroxyle.

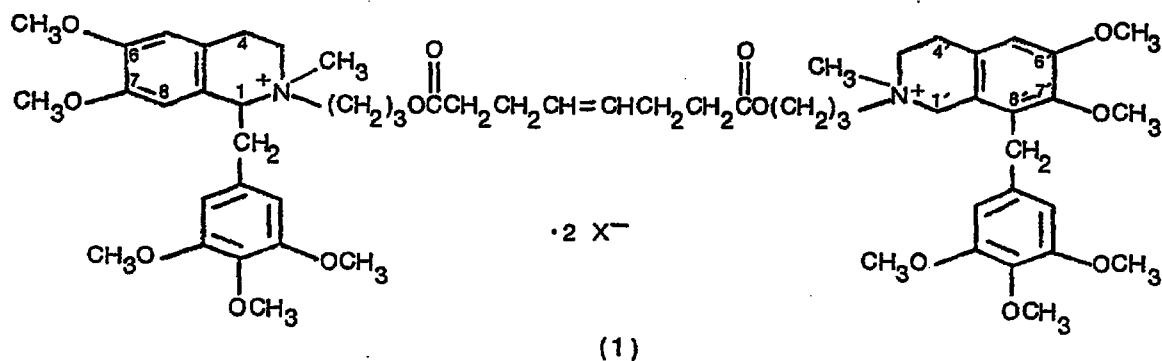
15. Un procédé selon la revendication 14 dans lequel on prépare un mélange dont on sépare ensuite les diastéréo-isomères par chromatographie.

16. Une composition pharmaceutique comprenant un composé ou mélange selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 13 dans lequel X^- est un anion à usage pharmaceutique, avec un véhicule pour usages pharmaceutiques.

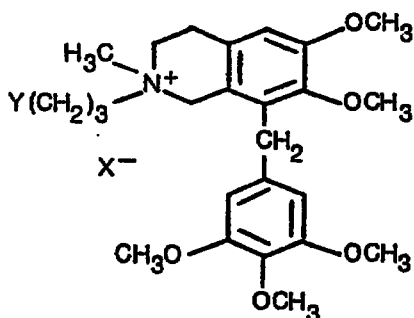
17. Un composé ou mélange selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 13 dans lequel X^- est un anion à usages pharmaceutiques ou une composition selon la revendication 16, pour le traitement de l'homme ou d'animaux en chirurgie ou en thérapie ou pour pratiquer des diagnostics chez l'homme ou l'animal.

Revendications pour l'Etat contractant: AT

1. Un procédé de préparation d'un composé de formule 1:

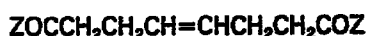


X^- désignant un anion, procédé selon lequel on fait réagir un composé de formule (2):



(2)

Y désignant un hydroxyle, un atome de chlore, de brome ou d'iode ou le groupe tosyloxy, avec un composé de formule (3):



(3)

Z désignant un hydroxyle, un atome de chlore ou de brome ou un groupe alkyle carbonyloxy à alkyle en C_1-C_4 , et parmi Y et Z l'un d'eux au moins est toujours un groupe hydroxyle.

2. Un procédé selon la revendication 1 dans lequel on prépare un mélange dont on sépare ensuite les diastéréo-isomères par chromatographie.

3. Un procédé selon la revendication 1 ou 2 dans lequel la configuration aux deux atomes de carbone C(1) et C(1') est la configuration R.

4. Un procédé selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes dans lequel la configuration à la double liaison oléfinique est la configuration E.

5. Un procédé selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 3 dans lequel la configuration à la double liaison oléfinique est la configuration Z.

6. Procédé selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 5 dans lequel on produit le diastéréo-isomère RS—RS.

7. Procédé selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 5 dans lequel on produit le diastéréo-isomère RR—RS.

8. Procédé selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 5 dans lequel on produit un mélange des diastéréo-isomères RS—RS, RR—RS et RR—RR.

9. Procédé selon la revendication 8 dans lequel les diastéréo-isomères RS—RS et RR—RS constituent à eux deux plus de 80% en poids du mélange.

10. Procédé selon la revendication 9 dans lequel les diastéréo-isomères RS—RS et RR—RS constituent à eux deux plus de 90% en poids du mélange.

11. Procédé selon la revendication 9 dans lequel le mélange comprend de 1 à 15% en poids du diastéréo-isomère RR—RR, de 38 à 50% du diastéréo-isomère RR—RS et de 40 à 56% du diastéréo-isomère RS—RS.

12. Procédé selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes dans lequel X^- est un anion à usages pharmaceutiques.

13. Procédé selon la revendication 12 dans lequel X^- est l'anion chlorure.

14. Procédé selon la revendication 1 dans lequel on prépare: le dichlorure de 2,2'[(E) - 4 - octène - dioylbis(oxytriméthylène)]bis[1R,2R-1,2,3,4 - tétrahydro - 6,7 - diméthoxy - 2 - méthyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - triméthoxybenzyl)isoquinoléinium], de (E)-(1R,1'R,2R,2'S)-2,2'-[4-octène-dioylbis(oxytriméthylène)]bis-[1,2,3,4 - tétrahydro - 6,7 - diméthoxy - 2 - méthyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - triméthoxybenzyl)isoquinoléinium] ou de 2,2' - [(E) - 4 - octène-dioylbis(oxytriméthylène)]bis[(1R,2S) - 1,2,3,4 - tétrahydro - 6,7 - diméthoxy - 2 - méthyl - 1 - (3,4,5 - triméthoxybenzyl)isoquinoléinium].