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Electrochemical evidence for inclusion complexes of thiotriazinone with cyclodextrins

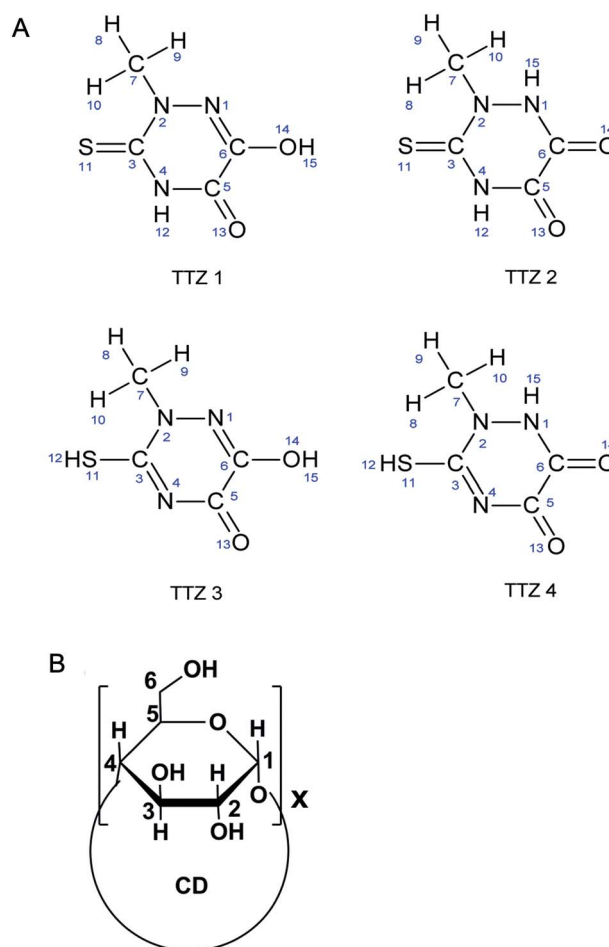
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The formation of the inclusion complexes of thiotriazinone (TTZ) with α -cyclodextrin and β -cyclodextrin was studied by cyclic voltammetry and ^1H -NMR. The oxidation and reduction reactions specific to thiotriazinone compounds are irreversible, diffusion controlled processes, and occur in a complex mechanism. The stable inclusion of thiotriazinone in β -cyclodextrin is proved by the significant changes of redox activity characteristic for TTZ and good electrochemical stability of the complex. Moreover, the present study demonstrates that β -cyclodextrin can serve as a carrier system, since the TTZ molecule can be gradually released from the inclusion complex with time.

1. Introduction

The chemistry of 1,2,4-triazinone ring derivatives has attracted an increasing amount of attention due to the intrinsic interest in their structures and their diverse applications in antibacterials,^{1,2} antidepressants, antiviral drugs,³ pesticides and herbicide dyes.^{4,5} Moreover, the chemistry of sulphur-containing 1,2,4-triazole ring systems with different biological activities has been well studied and comprehensively reviewed by Shaker.⁶ 1,2,4-Triazin-2-methyl-6-hydroxy-3-thio-5-one (TTZ) is widely used in the production of cephalosporin pharmaceutical intermediates, such as ceftriaxone sodium. Only a few papers available in the literature have reported its effects as an antibacterial agent and human leukocyte elastase inhibitor.⁷

Since sulphur groups are rapidly oxidized by biological oxidants within physiological fluids, the oxidation of sulphur-containing compounds such as TTZ is a potential problem and thus, new strategies for the stabilization of pharmacological species must be developed. Cyclodextrin complex has been successfully used to improve the chemical stability, solubility and bioavailability of a numerous compounds. Moreover, through appropriate chemical architecture design, toxic compounds can be transformed into pharmacologically active species. α - and β -cyclodextrin are macrocycles (Scheme 1B) composed of six or seven glucopyranose units, respectively attached by α -1,4-linkages.⁸ Their ability to include various guest molecules into their hydrophobic cavities, generating stable inclusion complexes has been exploited by our group.^{9,10} The formation of inclusion complexes could affect or influence the properties of the guest molecules and, therefore, the variation of the delivery system can be a method to improve/change the chemical behavior of the guest.



Scheme 1 (A) Structures of the four isomers of thiotriazinone: TTZ1, TTZ2, TTZ3 and TTZ4. (B) Structure of α -cyclodextrin (when x = 6) and β -cyclodextrin (when x = 7).

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