

# Synthesis and Structural Analysis of Some Isotopically Labeled Amadori Products



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### Introduction

Amadori rearrangements are milestone reactions of carbohydrate chemistry, mainly because these products combine the structural characteristics that derived from both core units, an amino acid unit and a carbohydrate unit. The aim of this work was the synthesis of some Amadori products following a multi-step strategy and using some isotopically labeled amino acids, which further, could act as building-blocks in synthesis of some biocompatible systems, specially adapted for the monitoring of specific biological processes.

#### Results

The proposed route to obtain a labeled Amadori product involves the reaction between a labeled carbohydrate and a labeled amino

acid moieties. In order to develop the most efficient reaction conditions (in terms of yields), we initiated the tests starting from unlabeled reagents, in our case D-Glucose and Glycine (Scheme 1)<sup>1</sup>. For product **3**, we have obtained a good yield ( $\eta = 65$  %), and the structure of final product was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 500 MHz) and mass-spectrometry (ESI+) (Figure 1).



Further we initiate the synthesis of the corresponding labeled Amadori product, starting from commercially available D-Glucose- $D_{12}$  and Glycine- $D_2$ -<sup>15</sup>N. The final product was obtained also in good yield ( $\eta = 72,8 \%$ ) and the absence of signals in <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $D_2O$ ) demonstrates the lack of protons and confirms the presence of deuterons in all the corresponding positions; the mass-spectrometry analysis is currently underway.



Simultaneously, we tried to develop some methods to obtain labeled aminoacids, which will be reacted further with a carbohydrate, in order to obtain another labeled Amadori products. One of the proposed strategies involves a Strecker-type reaction, a two-step

procedure for synthesis of amino acids. In our case, it begins with the addition of a labeled cyanide to acetone to form an  $\alpha$ -aminonitrile (5) (Scheme 2) which was further hydrolyzed (in acidic conditions) to give a salt of  $\alpha$ -aminoacid (6)<sup>2</sup>. The next step was to obtain the salt of ester 7<sup>3</sup>, which will be used in the future in the reaction with D-Glucose to obtain the corresponding <sup>15</sup>N labeled Amadori product<sup>4</sup>. The structure of derivative **6** was confirmed by NMR spectra (Figure 2, Figure 3) and the structure for compound **7** was confirmed by NMR spectroscopy and mass-spectrometry (Figure 4).



**Figure 2.** Fragment of <sup>1</sup>H NMR for derivative **6** (dmso-*d<sub>6</sub>*, 500 **Figure 3.** Fragment of <sup>15</sup>N NMR for derivative **6** (dmso-*d<sub>6</sub>*, 500 MHz)

Figure 4. Fragment of ESI-MS for ester 7

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