STEROIDS

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

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DESCRIPTION

Steroids is an international journal devoted to original research on all aspects of **steroids**. Its focus is on both experimental and theoretical studies in chemistry and physiochemistry, biosynthesis, metabolism, molecular biology, physiology, pharmacology, analytical techniques, comparative endocrinology, clinical research, mode of action (including that of related peptides), and the role of steroids on growth and differentiation.

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Many naturally occurring steroids are isolated as glycoside derivatives. In such cases, the structures and absolute configuration of the individual sugar residues should be determined after hydrolysis. The absolute configuration of an individual sugar can be determined by comparing its optical rotation with the literature value for sugars of well-established absolute configuration. Another approach is direct comparison with authentic samples of the D and L sugars, or their derivatives, by high-pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC) or by gas chromatography (GC) on columns containing suitable chiral adsorbents, provided it is demonstrated that the enantiomeric compounds give separate peaks on the chiral columns.

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The methods used to establish the purity of steroids subjected to biochemical or biological assays must be described in the Experimental Section. Most steroids obtained in pure form will be crystalline. Thus, there should be an attempt to purify and crystallize all products of chemical reactions or compounds

isolated from plant extracts. Melting points should be recorded and reported for all crystalline compounds. It is strongly recommended that optical rotations be reported for new compounds. The weights and % yields should be reported for products isolated from chemical transformations.

Evidence for purity can take many forms: Combustion analyses for carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen are adequate. These data should appear in the Experimental Section and should agree with the calculated data within 0.4 percent. A recommended form for presentation is: C18H23NO4: calcd. C, 68.12; H, 7.30; N, 4.41. Found. C, 68.50; H, 7.18; N, 4.26. When satisfactory combustion analyses are not available, evidence of purity should be provided by HPLC chromatograms run in two divergent solvent systems (typically normal and reversed phase) or by high quality proton NMR spectra obtained at high signal-to-noise. These chromatograms or spectra should be included as supplementary data.

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