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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.

**Criteria for the purity of all compounds and of compounds with biological data:** All new compounds need to be pure. Evidence of high purity is essential where biochemical or biological assay data are presented and related to compound structures; these compounds are termed "SAR compounds." The purity of SAR compounds should be more than 98 percent; the purity of other compounds should be more than 95 percent. Any questions regarding the purity of SAR compounds should appear in the Results.

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