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**X-RAY STRUCTURE OF AN AMIDE-APPENDED  
CHLOROMERCURATED DERIVATIVE OF 2-PHENYLQUINOLINE****C.-Y. Lin, W. Henderson, B.K. Nicholson***Department of Chemistry, School of Science, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand*  
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Reaction of the morpholine amide derivative of 2-phenyl-4-quinolinecarboxylic acid with mercury(II) acetate and lithium chloride results in chloromercuration at the *ortho* position on the phenyl ring; the complex was characterised by ESI mass spectrometry and an X-ray structure determination.

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**Keywords:** synthesis, mercury complexes, orthometallation reactions, crystal structure.**INTRODUCTION**

Organomercury compounds have found to be versatile reagents for the synthesis of a wide range of cycloaurated gold(III) complexes through transmetallation reactions [ 1 ]. The transmetallation synthesis of cycloaurated gold complexes has been applied to a wide range of systems, including substituted pyridines, azobenzenes, oxazolines, and *N,N*-dimethylbenzylamines among others [ 1, 2 ]. One of the precursors that has been orthomercurated and converted to a cycloaurated gold complex is the methyl ester of 2-phenyl-4-quinolinecarboxylic acid **1** [ 3 ]. We are interested in the chemistry of this precursor because it offers an opportunity to easily modify the solubility characteristics *via* the carboxylic acid functionality. This is significant because some cycloaurated gold(III) complexes can have relatively poor solubilities in common solvents. To date, only the methyl ester of 2-phenyl-4-quinolinecarboxylic acid has been converted (*via* orthomercurated precursor **2**) into cycloaurated gold(III) complex **3**. In this paper, the feasibility of orthomercurating amide derivatives is exemplified by the synthesis and structural characterization of a mercurated morpholine derivative of 2-phenyl-4-quinolinecarboxylic acid **1**.

**EXPERIMENTAL**

Electrospray mass spectra were recorded in a dichloromethane-methanol solution using a Bruker MicrOTOF instrument, calibrated with NaHCO<sub>2</sub>, and employing a capillary exit voltage of 150 V. NMR spectra were recorded in a CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution on Bruker AVIII400 using the Topspin 3.0 software. Elemental microanalyses were from the Campbell Microanalytical Laboratory, University of Otago. 2-Phenyl-4-quinolinecarboxylic acid (Aldrich), mercury(II) acetate (BDH), lithium chloride (BDH), morpholine (Aldrich), and thionyl chloride (Riedel de H en) were used as supplied.

**Synthesis of 4.** The following reaction was carried out using a Schlenk line with a supply of dry nitrogen gas. 2-Phenyl-4-quinolinecarboxylic acid **1a** (3.28 g, 13.2 mmol) was refluxed in thionyl chloride (5 ml, excess) for 1 h. The resulting bright yellow solution was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure to give carboxylic acid chloride as a bright yellow solid which was used without fur-

ther purification. The acid chloride was cooled in an ice bath and morpholine (5 ml) was added dropwise with stirring. After the addition, hexane (5 ml) and dichloromethane (5 ml) were added with stirring, followed by an additional portion of morpholine (5 ml). The mixture was stirred for 5 days, giving a milky white solution, which was then evaporated to dryness in the air; subsequent operations were carried out in the air. The product was crystallized from a hot ethanol-water mixture (70:30), with excess sodium chloride added to aggregate the milky precipitate formed. A second recrystallization from the hot ethanol-water mixture (70:30) produced an off-white solid of **4** (3.24 g, 77 %). Found (%): C 75.19, H 5.71, N 8.76.  $C_{20}H_{18}N_2O_2$  requires (%) C 75.46, H 5.70, N 8.80. M.p. 128–130 °C. Positive-ion ESI MS,  $[MH]^+$  ( $m/z$  319.227, calculated 319.144),  $[MNa]^+$  ( $m/z$  341.214, calculated 341.126),  $[M_2Na]^+$  ( $m/z$  659.418, calculated 659.263).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ),  $\delta$  3.22–3.26 (m, 2H,  $CH_2$ ), 3.53–3.58 (m, 2H,  $CH_2$ ), 3.86–3.92 (m, 2H,  $CH_2$ ), 4.03–4.06 (m, 2H,  $CH_2$ ), 7.47–7.61 (m, 5H), 7.76–7.86 (m, 5H), 8.15–8.18 (m, 1H), 8.21–8.23 (m, 1H).

**Synthesis of 5.** To compound **4** (2.00 g, 6.29 mmol) in ethanol (40 ml) was added mercury(II) acetate (2.00 g, 6.28 mmol), and the mixture was refluxed for 14 h to give a milky-white cloudy solution. The hot mixture was filtered into a solution of lithium chloride (0.38 g, 8.90 mmol) in ethanol (5 ml), immediately giving a white solid. The mixture was refluxed for 2 h, cooled to room temperature and allowed to stand for 16 h. Water (200 ml) was added and the white solid filtered and washed with water. Recrystallization by vapour diffusion of pentane into a dichloromethane solution gave solid product **5** (1.93 g, 55 %). M.p. 226–230 °C. Positive-ion ESI MS,  $[MNa]^+$  ( $m/z$  577.064, calculated 577.057). Found (%): C 44.55, H 3.04, N 5.11.  $C_{20}H_{17}N_2O_2HgCl$  requires (%) C 43.41, H 3.10, N 5.06.  $^1NMR$ ,  $\delta$  3.23–3.27 (m, 2H,  $CH_2$ ), 3.54–3.59 (m, 2H,  $CH_2$ ), 3.87–3.92 (m, 2H,  $CH_2$ ), 4.05–4.07 (m, 2H,  $CH_2$ ), 7.43–7.66 (m, 4H), 7.77–7.86 (m, 5H), 8.14–8.17 (m, 1H), 8.24–8.25 (m, 1H).

**X-ray crystal structure determination of 5.** The compound was recrystallized by vapour diffusion of diethyl ether into a chloroform solution at room temperature, giving colourless single crystals suitable for an X-ray diffraction study. Data (21919 reflections collected, 4825 independent reflections,  $R_{int}$  0.0391) were collected on a crystal with dimensions of 0.60×0.13×0.06 mm at 89(2) K on a Bruker SMART CCD diffractometer and processed using the standard software. An absorption correction was carried out using SADABS [4]. The structure was solved using SHELX-97 and refined on  $F^2$  using SHELXL-97 [5] operated under WinGX [6], giving final  $R$  indices  $R_1$  0.0360,  $wR_2$  0.0656 for data with  $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$  and  $R_1$  0.0335,  $wR_2$  0.0694 (all data). All non-hydrogen atoms were treated anisotropically and hydrogen atoms were included with a riding model with  $d(C-H)$  0.95 Å,  $U_{iso} = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$  for aromatic hydrogen atoms. Residual electron density ( $e/\text{Å}^3$ ) max/min: 2.496/–1.712.

Crystal data:  $C_{20}H_{17}ClHgN_2O_2$ ,  $M = 553.40$ , triclinic, space group  $P-1$ ,  $a = 9.5893(4)$  Å,  $b = 9.8519(4)$  Å,  $c = 10.1798(5)$  Å,  $\alpha = 107.494(2)^\circ$ ,  $\beta = 92.149(2)^\circ$ ,  $\gamma = 102.002(2)^\circ$ ,  $V = 892.01(7)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 2$ ,  $D_c = 2.060$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>,  $\mu(MoK\alpha) = 8.794$  mm<sup>–1</sup>,  $F(000) = 528$ .

A CIF file containing complete information on the studied structure was deposited with CCDC, deposition number 976914, and is freely available from the web page [http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\\_request/cif](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

2-Phenyl-4-quinolinecarboxylic acid **1** was converted into its morpholine amide derivative **4** by a two-step procedure involving conversion to the acid chloride, followed by reaction with excess morpholine, as summarised in Scheme 1. The compound shows unexceptional spectroscopic features; the  $CH_2$  protons of the morpholine group appear as four distinct multiplets, due to the typical restricted rotation about the  $C(O)-N$  moiety. Although compound **4** has been previously prepared [7] it has not been orthomercurated. Mercuration was achieved by the standard procedure, involving a reaction with mercury(II) acetate in refluxing ethanol, followed by conversion to the chloride complex with LiCl (Scheme 1), giving **5** as a white solid. The complex gave the expected NMR spectroscopic properties, and the positive ion ESI mass spectrum showed  $[MNa]^+$  ions, with good agreement between the observed and calculated  $m/z$  values, with the expected isotopic pattern due to the presence of polyisotopic mercury.



The Hg(1)—C(11) mercury-carbon bond distance is 2.066(4) Å, which is typical, compared to, e.g., chloromercurated 2-phenylpyridine **6** (2.069(13) Å and 2.070(13) Å), in two independent Hg centres [ 8, 9 ]. In **5** the Hg(1)—Cl(1) bond is 2.3166(10) Å, compared to the distances of 2.314(4) Å and 2.335(4) Å in **6**. There is the typical weak interaction between the quinoline nitrogen N(1) atom and the mercury atom, with Hg(1)⋯N(1) being 2.635(3) Å. The phenyl and quinoline ring systems are not coplanar, with an interplanar angle of 15.30°; by comparison, the two independent molecules in **6** have interplanar angles between the phenyl and pyridyl rings of 9.00° and 23.68° [ 8, 9 ]. As a consequence, the mercury atom in **5** is displaced only by 0.016 Å from the phenyl ring plane, but by 0.799 Å out of the least-squares plane of the quinoline ring system, though this does not appear to change the Hg⋯N distance compared to **6** (2.673(12) Å and 2.627(12) Å in the two independent molecules) [ 8, 9 ]. The C(11)—Hg(1)—Cl(1) bond angle is 175.01(10)°, with the chloride being displaced away from the quinoline ring as a result of the Hg⋯N interaction.

The amide substituent is approximately planar, with an angle of only 4.4° between the C(31)—N(2)—C(34) and O(1)—C(1)—C(23) planes, however the amide is not coplanar with the quinoline ring, which can be demonstrated by the O(1)—C(1)—C(23)—C(22) torsion angle of 123.1(5)°. This distortion presumably minimizes steric interactions between the CH<sub>2</sub> group and the hydrogen atom on carbon C(25) on the quinoline ring. The morpholine ring system has the typical puckered *chair* conformation.

A previous structure determination of orthomercurated 2-phenylpyridine **6** [ 8, 9 ] showed dimeric units assembled through weak Hg⋯Cl interactions, these then further assembling to form a tetramer. However, the examination of the structure of **5** reveals that the molecules of **5** do not form the same aggregates, with the closest intermolecular Hg⋯Cl contact being very long, at 5.880(1) Å. In **5** the molecules stack on top of each other in a head-to-tail fashion, with a distance of about 3.7 Å between the adjacent stacked molecules. The difference is presumably due to the larger aromatic systems of **5**, which promote π⋯π interactions at the expense of Hg⋯Cl interactions.

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