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in Sasakawa A

Dibenz[a,h]acridine

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The mutagenicities of dibenz[a,h]acridine and dibenz[a,h]acridine-1,2-, -3,4-, -8,9-, and -10,11-dihydrodiols were assessed in *Salmonella typhimurium* TA100, in the presence of hepatic microsomes from immature Long Evans male rats pretreated with Aroclor 1254. Dibenz[a,h]acridine-10,11-dihydrodiol, the precursor of the bay region dibenz[a,h]acridine-10,11-diol-8,9-epoxides, was ca. 3-fold more active than dibenz[a,h]acridine-3,4-dihydrodiol at 125  $\mu$ M, and approximately 12-fold more active than dibenz[a,h]acridine-3,4-dihydrodiol, the metabolic precursor of the dibenz[a,h]acridine-3,4-diol-1,2-epoxides. Activation of the dibenz[a,h]acridine-1,2- and dibenz[a,h]acridine-8,9-dihydrodiols to mutagenic products in TA100 was almost negligible. The mutagenic activities of the four bay-region diol epoxides from dibenz[a,h]acridine (racemic *cis*- and *trans*-3,4-diol-1,2-epoxide; racemic *cis*- and *trans*-10,11-diol-8,9-epoxide) were assessed in both bacterial and mammalian cells. The diastereomeric 10,11-diol-8,9-epoxides were 20-40-fold more mutagenic than the corresponding 3,4-diol-1,2-epoxides in *Salmonella typhimurium* TA98 and TA100, with the *trans* 10,11-diol-8,9-epoxide being ca. 2.5-fold more active in either strain than its *cis* diastereomer. In the Chinese hamster V79-6 cell line....., (Wood *et al.*, 1989).

17 carcinogenic PAHs. In the case of .....  
18 monooxygenation pathway, rather than one-electron oxidation (Xue *et al.* 1999).

19 An earlier study reported that the <sup>reliable</sup> tumorigenicity of dibenz[a,h]acridine (induction of  
20 sarcomas following subcutaneous administration of the compound in paraffin to female Wistar  
21 albino rats) was directly proportional to their electron donation (*i.e.*, ability to undergo oxidation)  
22 and inversely proportional to their electron acceptance, assessed by polarography (Bahna *et al.*,  
23 1978).

and then aza analogues  
DB[a,h]  
anthracene  
and  
DB[a,h]  
phenazine  
to discuss  
later