

Experimental report

12/02/2017

Proposal: 9-10-1465

Council: 4/2016

Title: Effect of surfactant head group on the location of steroidal drugs into monolayers of surfactant

Research area: Chemistry

This proposal is a continuation of 9-10-1348

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Samples: SDS
testosterone heptanoate
4-cholesterone
adrenosterone

| Instrument | Requested days | Allocated days | From | To |
|------------|----------------|----------------|------------|------------|
| FIGARO | 5 | 4 | 08/07/2016 | 13/07/2016 |

Abstract:

Many drug molecules are very water insoluble which limits their commercialization and use by patients. Solubilisation in surfactant micelles is an attractive means of increasing the apparent aqueous solubility of a drug and thereby ensuring its successful delivery and ultimate use by patients. Surprisingly, however, very little is known about the relationship between surfactant and drug structure and the micelle's ability to solubilise drugs. As a drug's incorporation into surfactant monolayers mirrors its distribution in surfactant micelles, here focus on the study of drug distribution into surfactant monolayers. The present study aims to determine the level of incorporation and the extent of penetration of 3 hydrophobic steroidal drugs, 4-cholesten-3-one, testosterone enanthate and adrenosterone, into monolayers formed by the surfactant dodecyltrimethylammonium bromide using neutron reflectivity in combination with contrast variation. The results will be correlated with SANS and MD studies determining the location of the drugs in the micelles and thereby aid a better understanding of the relationship between surfactant and drug structure and micelle solubilisation capacity.

Experiment 9-10-1465 examined the amount and site of solubilisation of 2 steroidal, drug-like molecules (i.e. 4-cholesten-3-one (4-chol) and adrenosterone (ADRENO) in the monolayers formed by a range of surfactants, namely the anionic surfactant, sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS), the cationic surfactant, (dodecyltrimethylammonium bromide (DTAB)) and the zwitterionic surfactants (dodecylphosphorylcholine (DPC) and dodecyltrimethylammoniumpropylsulphate (DDAPS). All the surfactants were available both their protiated and deuterated forms, the latter courtesy of a custom synthesis from the Oxford Deuteration Facility. During these studies, the detailed structure of the various surfactant monolayers in the absence and presence of drug was determined. All experiments are performed at only one surfactant concentration, namely 2 times the cmc as our previous studies have shown that surfactant concentrations above the cmc are the most relevant for understanding drug solubilisation in micelles. 4 contrasts were used, namely d-SDS in acmw and in D₂O, and h-SDS in acmw and in D₂O). The results of the analysis of the neutron reflectivity for the surfactant monolayers in the absence of drug as two layers consisting of the surfactant tails (L1) and surfactant heads (L2) are given in

| surfactant (2xcmc) | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | DDAO | DDAPS | DPC | DTAB | SDS |
| chain L1 = | 11.2 | 8.4 | 7.2 | 8.0 | 8.5 |
| Vf= | 0.53 | 0.92 | 0.66 | 0.77 | 0.41 |
| SP= | 64.0 | 34.0 | 34.5 | 44.0 | 58.6 |
| head L2 = | 4.07 | 4.58 | 5.33 | 4 | 3.5 |
| SE (Γ) SAA | 5.22 | 3.93 | 3.37 | 3.76 | 3.97 |
| α | 31.82 | 42.31 | 49.36 | 44.20 | 41.81 |

Table 1. SP is the penetration of solvent into the head group region while Vf is the volume fraction of chains, SE SAA is the surface excess of surfactant and α is the area per surfactant molecule.

The neutron reflectivity data in the presence of drug were analysed assuming that a variety of possible locations of the drug, specifically it was present as an additional layer below the surfactant monolayer (Model 1), it was present in the head group region of the surfactant monolayer (Model 2), or it was present in the tail region of the monolayer (Model 3). The neutron reflectivity data best fit the model whereby 4-CHOL and ADRENO both resided in surfactant tail region. Table 2 (4-CHOL) and Table 3 (ADRENO) shows the results of the analysis obtained using Model 3. The analysis of the data is on-going.

| surfactant and 4-CHOL(2xcmc) | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| SAA | DDAO | DDAPS | DPC | DTAB | SDS |
| chain L1 | 10.52 | 9.30 | 9.22 | 9.10 | 13.86 |
| head L2 | 4.07 | 4.58 | 5.33 | 6.00 | 4.00 |
| SLD-1 tail | 6.20 | 6.01 | 3.87 | 5.91 | 3.92 |
| Vf SAA tail | 0.89 | 0.86 | 0.53 | 0.84 | 0.54 |
| Vf drug tail | 0.11 | 0.14 | 0.47 | 0.16 | 0.46 |
| SP head | 0.48 | 0.35 | 0.37 | 0.49 | 0.70 |
| SE SAA | 4.36 | 3.73 | 2.30 | 3.58 | 3.50 |
| SE drug | 0.32 | 0.36 | 1.17 | 0.39 | 1.73 |
| Stoichiometry | 13.45 | 10.38 | 1.97 | 9.22 | 2.03 |
| α | 38.11 | 44.55 | 72.18 | 46.35 | 47.40 |
| roughness | 3.5 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 4.5 |

| surfactant and adreno (2xcmc) | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| SAA | DDAO | DDAPS | DPC | DTAB | SDS |
| d1 tail | 11.00 | 8.74 | 7.43 | 8.71 | 9.20 |
| d2 head | 4.07 | 4.58 | 5.33 | 6.00 | 4.00 |
| SLD-1 tail | 6.10 | 6.26 | 5.47 | 5.98 | 5.80 |
| Vf SAA tail | 0.85 | 0.88 | 0.74 | 0.83 | 0.80 |
| Vf drug tail | 0.15 | 0.12 | 0.26 | 0.17 | 0.20 |
| SP head | 0.64 | 0.28 | 0.63 | 0.55 | 0.63 |
| SE SAA | 4.37 | 3.59 | 2.57 | 3.38 | 3.43 |
| SE drug | 0.64 | 0.42 | 0.76 | 0.58 | 0.73 |
| Stoichiometry | 6.80 | 8.58 | 3.40 | 5.84 | 4.71 |
| α | 37.99 | 46.32 | 64.71 | 49.19 | 48.44 |
| Roughness | 4.06 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.5 |