Supporting Information

for

3α , 5α -Cyclocholestan- 6β -yl ethers as donors of the cholesterol moiety for the electrochemical synthesis of cholesterol glycoconjugates

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Experimental section including ¹H, ¹³C NMR, and mass spectra

for all new compounds

Experimental

Cyclic voltammograms were recorded with iR compensation at 25 °C using a three-electrode potentiostat (Princeton Applied Research, model Parstat 2273). The experiments were conducted in a 3-mL electrochemical cell with an argon-purge system. The working electrode was a Bioanalytical Systems platinum inlay (1 mm in diameter), the auxiliary electrode was a platinum mesh (contained in a glass tube with a medium porosity glassfrit), and the reference electrode was Ag/0.1 M AgNO₃ in acetonitrile. The latter was contained in a Pyrex tube with a cracked softglass tip which was placed inside a Luggin capillary. Before each experiment, the working electrode was polished using Buehler Micropolish Alumina Gamma 3B and a Buehler Microcloth polishing cloth, rinsed with dichloromethane and dried. In all of the measurements, 0.2M solution of tetrabutylammonium tetrafluoroborate (TBABF₄) from Aldrich in dichloromethane was used as a supporting electrolyte.

The preparative electrolyses were performed with a potentiostat/galvanostat (Princeton Applied Research, model Parstat 2273) under galvanostatic conditions using a current that was equal in a typical experiment to 7.5 mA and a reaction time of 4000 s. The current applied was the maximum current available for the electrolysis set-up being used (power supply and ohmic resistance). The reactions were monitored by TLC and stopped when no further increase in the concentration of the glycosylation products was observed. A divided H-cell was used in which the cathodic and anodic compartments (3.5 mL of electrolyte each) were separated by a glass frit. In all measurements, 0.1 M solution of tetrabutylammonium tetrafluoroborate (TBABF₄) from Aldrich in dichloromethane was used as a supporting electrolyte. The steroid (0.30 mmol) and sugar (0.36 mmol) substrates were introduced into the anodic compartment together with 0.3 g of 3 Å molecular sieves added to eliminate traces of water, whereas anionite $(1.5-2 \text{ g}, \text{ Dowex } 2 \times 8, 200-400 \text{ mesh}, \text{ perchlorate form})$ was placed in the cathodic compartment to eliminate chloride ions that are formed by the reduction of dichloromethane. The solutions in both compartments were stirred during electrolysis and, additionally, a continuous flow of argon was applied in the anodic compartment. A platinum mesh was used as a cathode and a platinum plate $(2 \times 1.5 \text{ cm})$ was used as an anode. All measurements were performed at 25 °C.

The sugar (1,2:3,4-di-*O*-isopropylidene- α -D-galactopyranose; **7**) [1] and steroidal substrates, 3α , 5α -cyclocholestan- 6β -ol (*i*-cholesterol; **6a**) [2], 6β -methoxy- 3α , 5α -cyclocholestane (**6b**) [3], and 6β -ethoxy- 3α , 5α -cyclocholestane (**6c**) [4], were prepared according to known procedures.

Melting points were determined on a Toledo Mettler-MP70 apparatus. ¹H and ¹³C NMR (400 and 100 MHz, respectively) spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance II spectrometer in CDCl₃ solutions with TMS as the internal standard (only selected signals in the ¹H NMR spectra are reported; sugar protons are marked with the 'prime' index). Infrared spectra were recorded on a Nicolet series II Magna-IR 550 FTIR spectrometer in chloroform solutions. Mass spectra were recorded at 70 eV with a time-of-flight (TOF) AMD-604 spectrometer with electrospray ionization (ESI) or AutoSpec Premier (Waters) (EI).

Merck Silica Gel 60, F 256 TLC aluminum sheets were applied for thin-layer chromatographic analysis. For a visualization of the products, a 5% solution of phosphomolybdic acid in ethanol was used. The reaction products were separated by column chromatography performed on a 70–230 mesh silica gel (J. T. Baker).

Synthesis of 6β -benzyloxy- 3α , 5α -cyclocholestane (**6e**)

To cholesteryl *p*-tosylate (1 g; 1.9 mmol) dissolved in dioxane (50 mL) freshly dried potassium acetate (0.8 g; 5.7 mmol; 3 equiv.) and benzyl alcohol (6.2 g; 57 mmol; 30 equiv.) were added. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 24 h. After cooling it was poured into water (200 mL) and extracted with benzene (3 × 100 mL). The extract was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness *in vacuo*. The residue was subjected to silica gel column chromatography. Elution with CH₂Cl₂/hexane (1:9) afforded 6β-benzyloxy-3α,5α-cyclocholestane (**6e**; 0.43 g; 48%).

6e: Colorless oil; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ +37.0 (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃); Rf = 0.31 (hexane-AcOEt 98:2); IR, v_{max} (cm⁻¹): 3064, 1496, 1093, 1067; ¹H NMR (ppm), δ : 7.35 (m, 4H, H-Ar), 7.27 (m, 1H, H-Ar), 4.66 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz, O-CH₂Ph), 4.50 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz, O-CH₂Ph), 2.98 (m, 1H, H-6), 1.11 (s, 3H, H-19), 0.93 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz, H-21), 0.887 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-26 or H-27), 0.883 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-26 or H-27), 0.72 (s, 3H, H-18), 0.67 (dd, 1H, *J* = 4.9 Hz, *J* = 4.1 Hz, H-4 α), 0.41 (dd, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz, *J* = 4.9 Hz, H-4 β); ¹³C NMR (ppm), δ : 140.1 (C), 128.2 (CH), 127.1 (CH), 126.9 (CH), 80.2 (CH), 70.0 (CH₂), 56.6 (CH), 56.4 (CH), 48.1 (CH), 43.3 (C), 42.8 (C), 40.4 (CH₂), 39.5 (CH₂), 36.2 (CH₂), 35.8 (CH), 35.7 (C), 35.4 (CH₂), 33.4 (CH₂), 30.6 (CH), 28.3 (CH₂), 28.0 (CH), 25.0 (CH₂), 24.2 (CH₂), 23.9 (CH₂), 22.84 (CH₂), 22.81 (CH₃), 22.6 (CH₃), 21.8 (CH), 19.5 (CH₃), 18.7 (CH₃), 13.2 (CH₂), 12.3 (CH₃); EI MS, *m/z*: 476 (M⁺, 35%), 461 [(M-Bn⁺, 7%], 385 [(M-Bn)⁺, 77%], 370 [(M-Bn-Me)⁺, 67%], 91 (100%).

6β-Isopropyloxy- 3α , 5α -cyclocholestane (**6d**) was obtained in a similar way (compound **6d** was eluted with hexane).

6d: Colorless oil; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ +43.4 (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃); Rf = 0.39 (hexane-AcOEt 98:2); IR, v_{max} (cm⁻¹): 1138, 1124, 1041; ¹H NMR (ppm), δ : 3.74 (h, 1H, *J* = 6.1 Hz, O-CH(Me)₂), 2.93 (m, 1H, H-6), 1.08 (d, 6H, *J* = 6.2 Hz, (CH₃)₂CH), 1.02 (s, 3H, H-19), 0.93 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-21), 0.881 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-26 or H-27), 0.877 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-26 or H-27), 0.73 (s, 3H, H-18), 0.58 (dd, 1H, *J* = 4.9 Hz, *J* = 3.9 Hz, H-4 α), 0.33 (dd, 1H, *J* = 7.9 Hz, *J* = 4.9 Hz, H-4 β); ¹³C NMR (ppm), δ : 76.9 (CH), 67.1 (CH), 56.6 (CH), 56.4 (CH), 48.2 (CH), 43.2 (C), 42.8 (C), 40.4 (CH₂), 39.6 (CH₂), 36.4 (C), 36.2 (CH₂), 35.9 (CH), 35.8 (CH₂), 33.4 (CH₂), 30.4 (CH), 28.4 (CH₂), 28.0 (CH), 25.1 (CH₂), 24.3 (CH₂), 23.9 (CH₂), 22.9 (CH₂), 22.8 (CH₃), 22.6 (CH₃), 22.52 (CH₃), 22.47 (CH₃), 22.3 (CH), 19.6 (CH₃), 18.7 (CH₃), 12.8 (CH₂), 12.2 (CH₃); EI MS, *m/z*: 428 [M⁺, 56%], 413 [(M-Me)⁺, 20%], 386 [(M-propene)⁺, 17%], 371 [(M-Me-propene)⁺, 81%], 43 (100%).

 6β -(4-Hydroxyphenyloxy)- 3α , 5α -cyclocholestane (**6g**) was obtained in a similar way (compound **6g** was eluted with a hexane-ethyl acetate (93:7) mixture).

6g: Beige crystalline material, mp 54-56 °C (CH₂Cl₂-hexane); [α] $_{D}^{20}$ +24.4 (*c* 0.33, CHCl₃); Rf = 0.27 (hexane-AcOEt 9:1); IR, v_{max}(cm⁻¹): 3601, 3340, 1601, 1507, 1175, 827; ¹H NMR (ppm), δ: 6.79 (d, 2H, *J* = 9.0 Hz, H-Ar), 6.72 (d, 2H, *J* = 9.0 Hz, H-Ar), 4.36 (s, 1H, -OH), 3.64 (m, 1H, H-6), 1.16 (s, 3H, H-19), 0.93 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz, H-21), 0.876 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-26 or H-27), 0.872 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-26 or H-27), 0.73 (s, 3H, H-18), 0.60 (dd, 1H, *J* = 5.1 Hz, *J* = 3.9 Hz, H-4α), 0.34 (dd, 1H, *J* = 7.9 Hz, *J* = 5.1 Hz, H-4β); ¹³C NMR (ppm), δ: 152.4 (C), 150.1 (C), 119.2 (CH), 116.0 (CH), 82.5 (CH), 56.39 (CH), 56.35 (CH), 47.7 (CH), 43.2 (C), 42.7 (C), 40.2 (CH₂), 39.5 (CH₂), 36.6 (C), 36.2 (CH₂), 35.8 (CH), 34.5 (CH₂), 33.4 (CH₂), 30.3 (CH), 28.2 (CH₂), 28.0 (CH), 25.0 (CH₂), 24.1 (CH₂), 23.8 (CH₂), 23.5 (CH), 22.8 (CH₃), 22.7 (CH₂), 22.5 (CH₃), 19.9 (CH₃), 18.7 (CH₃), 12.6 (CH₂), 12.1 (CH₃); EI MS, *m/z*: 478 (M⁺, 1%), 369 [(M-*p*-OH-PhO)⁺, 100%].

Synthesis of 6β -phenyloxy- 3α , 5α -cyclocholestane (6f)

Phenol (10 g; 0.1 mol, 36 equiv.) was melted at 42 °C. Then cholesteryl *p*-tosylate (1.5 g; 2.8 mmol) and freshly dried potassium acetate (0.8 g; 8.2 mmol, 3 equiv.) were added. The stirred reaction mixture was maintained at this temperature for 2 h. After cooling it was poured into 100 mL of 1 M NaOH solution and extracted with benzene (3 × 100 mL). The extract was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness *in vacuo*. The reaction products were separated by silica gel column chromatography. 6β -Phenyloxy- 3α , 5α -cyclocholestane (**6f**; 0.27 g, 21%) was eluted with hexane. Further elution with a hexane/ethyl acetate (99:1) mixture afforded cholesteryl phenyl ether **12f** (0.41 g; 32%).

6f: White crystals, mp 58-61 °C (AcOEt-hexane); $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ +36.5 (*c* 0.33, CHCl₃); Rf = 0.28 (hexane); IR, v_{max} (cm⁻¹): 3064, 1597, 1243; ¹H NMR (ppm), δ : 7.26 (m, 2H, H-Ar), 6.91 (m, 3H, H-Ar), 3.82 (m, 1H, H-6), 1.19 (s, 3H, H-19), 0.94 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz, H-21), 0.893 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-26 or H-27), 0.889 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-26 or H-27), 0.74 (s, 3H, H-18), 0.62 (dd, 1H, *J* = 5.2 Hz, *J* = 3.9 Hz, H-4 α), 0.36 (dd, 1H, *J* = 7.9 Hz, *J* = 5.2 Hz, H-4 β); ¹³C NMR (ppm), δ : 158.6 (C), 129.2 (CH), 120.5 (CH), 116.9 (CH), 80.7 (CH), 56.4 (CH), 56.3 (CH), 47.7 (CH), 43.2 (C), 42.7 (C), 40.2 (CH₂), 39.5 (CH₂), 36.7 (C), 36.2 (CH₂), 35.8 (CH), 34.3 (CH₂), 33.3 (CH₂), 30.4 (CH), 28.2 (CH₂), 28.0 (CH), 25.1 (CH₂), 24.1 (CH₂), 23.9 (CH₂), 23.6 (CH), 22.81 (CH₃), 22.76 (CH₂), 22.6 (CH₃), 19.8 (CH₃), 18.7 (CH₃), 12.6 (CH₂), 12.2 (CH₃); EI MS, *m/z*: 462 (M⁺, 1%), 369 [(M-PhO)⁺, 100%].

Synthesis of 6β -*t*-butyldimethylsilyloxy- 3α , 5α -cyclocholestane (**6h**)

i-Cholesterol (1 g; 2.6 mmola), TBDMSCI (584 mg; 3.88 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), imidazole (530 mg; 7.8 mmol; 3 equiv.), and DMAP (64 mg; 0.52 mmol; 0.2 equiv.) were dissolved in 16 mL of anhydrous DMF. The reaction was carried out for 5 h (TLC control) at 80 °C under argon. The reaction was poured into water and extracted with benzene. The extract was dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was subjected to flash column chromatography with hexane as an eluent. Yield of 6β -*t*-butyldimethylsilyloxy- 3α , 5α -cyclocholestane (**6h**) - 688 mg (53%).

6h: White crystals, mp 70-71 °C (AcOEt-hexane); $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ +27.0 (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃); Rf = 0.84 (hexane); IR, v_{max} (cm⁻¹): 1254, 1065; ¹H NMR (ppm), δ : 3.20 (m, 1H, H-6), 1.02 (s, 3H, H-19), 0.93 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz, H-21), 0.89 (s, 9H, *t*-Bu), 0.881 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-26 or H-27), 0.877 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-26 or H-27), 0.72 (s, 3H, H-18), 0.48 (dd, 1H, *J* = 4.9 Hz, *J* = 3.8 Hz, H-4 α), 0.18 (dd, 1H, *J* = 7.9 Hz, *J* = 4.9 Hz, H-4 β), 0.01 (s, 3H, Si-CH₃), -0.01 (s, 3H, Si-CH₃); ¹³C NMR (ppm), δ : 74.4 (CH), 56.4 (CH), 56.3 (CH), 47.9 (CH), 43.3 (C), 42.7 (C), 40.4 (CH₂), 39.6 (CH₂), 39.1 (CH₂), 38.3 (C), 36.3 (CH₂), 35.9 (CH), 33.4 (CH₂), 30.0 (CH), 28.4 (CH₂), 28.1 (CH), 25.8 (CH₃), 25.2 (CH₂), 24.3 (CH₂), 23.9 (CH₂), 23.6 (CH), 22.9 (CH₃), 22.8 (CH₂), 22.6 (CH₃), 20.2 (CH₃), 18.8 (CH₃), 18.0 (C), 12.8 (CH₂), 12.0 (CH₃), -4.5 (CH₃), -4.8 (CH₃); ESI MS, *m/z*: 523 [(M+Na)⁺, 20%].

Typical electrochemical experiment. Anodic oxidation of 6β -phenyloxy- 3α , 5α -cyclocholestane (**6f**) in the presence of 1,2:3,4-di-*O*-isopropylidene-D-galactopyranose (**7**)

 6β -Phenyloxy-3α,5α-cyclocholestane (138 mg; 0.30 mmol) and 1,2:3,4-di-*O*-isopropylidene-D-galactopyranose (94 mg; 0.36 mmol) were dissolved in a 0.1 M solution of tetrabutylammonium-tetrafluoroborate in dichloromethane (3.5 mL) and introduced into the anodic compartment together with 0.5 g 3 Å molecular sieves to eliminate traces of water. The same supporting electrolyte was placed in the cathodic compartment with anionite (2 g, Dowex 2x8, 200–400 mesh,

perchlorate form) added. Preparative electrolysis was carried out in a divided H-cell in which the cathodic and anodic compartments (3.5 mL of electrolytes each) were separated by a glass frit under galvanostatic conditions. A direct current 7.5 mA was run for 4000 s. A platinum mesh was used as a cathode and a platinum plate (2 × 1.5 cm) was used as an anode. Ag/0.1 M AgNO₃ in acetonitrile electrode was used as a reference. When the electrolysis was completed, the solvent was removed from the reaction mixture and the products were separated by silica gel column chromatography. The hexane elution afforded diene **13** (1 mg; 1%) and cholesteryl chloride **14** (1 mg; 1%). With the hexane-ethyl acetate mixture (96:4), cholesteryl phenyl ether **12f** (31 mg; 22%) was eluted. Further elution with hexane-ethyl acetate (93:7) afforded 3β -O-(1',2':3',4'-di-O-isopropylidene- α -D-galactopyranos-6'-yl)-cholest-5-ene **11** (108 mg; 58%), followed by cholesterol **1** (5 mg, 4%) eluted with hexane/ethyl acetate (9:1).

Glycosylation product **11** was described in our previous report [5]. Also, other products of the electrochemical reactions (compounds **2**, **13**, **14**, and **15**) were described in our previous papers [6-9]. The isomerization products, i.e., 3β -cholesteryl ethers **12b** [10], **12c** [11], **12e** [12], **12f** [12], **12g** [9], and **12h** [13], are known compounds, except for **12d** which was obtained during electrochemical reaction of 3α , 5α -cyclocholestan- 6β -yl isopropyl ether (**6d**).

12d: White crystals, mp 122-124 °C (AcOEt-hexane); $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ -24.1 (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃); Rf = 0.44 (hexane-AcOEt 95:5); IR, v_{max} (cm⁻¹): 1125, 1064; ¹H NMR (ppm), δ : 5.35 (m, 1H, H-6), 3.73 (h, 1H, *J* = 6.1 Hz, O-CH(Me)₂), 3.22 (m, 1H, H-6) 1.151 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.1 Hz, CH₃-isopropyl), 1.148 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.1 Hz, CH₃-isopropyl), 1.01 (s, 3H, H-19), 0.93 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-21), 0.877 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-26 or H-27), 0.873 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-26 or H-27), 0.67 (s, 3H, H-18); ¹³C NMR (ppm), δ : 141.4 (C), 121.3 (CH), 76.3 (CH), 68.5 (CH), 56.8 (CH), 56.2 (CH), 50.3 (CH), 42.3 (C), 40.0 (CH₂), 39.8 (CH₂), 39.5 (CH₂), 37.5 (CH₂), 36.9 (C), 36.2 (CH₂), 35.8 (CH), 32.0 (CH₂), 31.9 (CH), 29.3 (CH₂), 28.2 (CH₂), 28.0 (CH), 24.3 (CH₂), 23.8 (CH₂), 23.03 (CH₃), 22.95 (CH₃), 22.8 (CH₃), 22.6 (CH₃), 21.1 (CH₂), 19.4 (CH₃), 18.7 (CH₃), 11.9 (CH₃); EI MS, *m/z*: 428 [M⁺, 15%], 370 [(M-*i*-Pr-Me)⁺, 63%], 329 (100%).

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