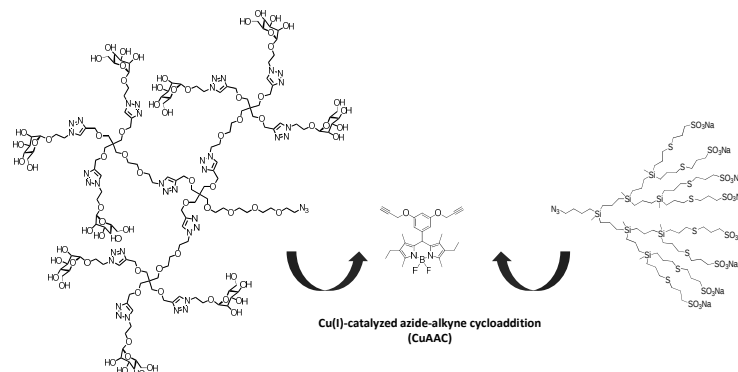


Development of BODIPY-labeled sulphated carbosilane and mannose dendrons as topical microbicides to prevent HIV-1 sexual transmission

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The concept of a ‘microbicide’ product has been born out due to the unavailability of a vaccine against HIV-1 and the problems of women in negotiating the use of preventive prophylaxis by their partners, especially in developing countries. Different strategies has been followed for the development of HIV-1 microbicides. Two important examples are: the non-specific polyanionic polymers that interact with positive areas of HIV surface and the multivalent systems based on carbohydrates that block dendritic cell receptors like DC-SIGN, mediating HIV infection through recognition of viral envelope glycoprotein gp120.



We have developed two sulphated carbosilane dendrons and two mannose dendrons with different valency labeled with a BODIPY fluorescent tag using “click chemistry” to evaluate their ability to block HIV infection. Additionally, we have developed a compound that combine a sulphate carbosilane dendron and a mannose dendron in a single entity with the objective of producing a synergetic effect, blocking simultaneously some important mechanism used by HIV-1 to achieve its target cells, the T-Cells. This strategy could produce a new combinatorial therapy with two efficient microbicides that prevent HIV infection and dissemination in the early stages of the infection process.

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