X-100 (1.0%, w/v), approx. 50% of the sulphamidase originally applied to the column was recovered early in the elution. An overall purification of the sulphamidase of approx. 60-fold was achieved, although the preparation was still contaminated with *O*-sulphatase activity.

This work was supported by a generous grant from the Nuffield Foundation. B.A.L. is a Medical Research Council Scholar.

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The Linkage of Corneal Keratosulphate to Protein

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After exhaustive digestion with proteolytic enzymes, corneal keratosulphate contains aspartic acid as the predominant remaining amino acid. In view of the known alkali-stability of the linkage to protein, this finding led to the suggestion that the polysaccharide chains are linked *N*-glycosidically through the amide group of asparagine (Seno, Meyer, Anderson & Hoffman, 1965). Our aim has been to isolate the linkage fragment and determine its structure.

Corneal keratosulphate was hydrolysed in 1M-HCl at 100° for 15 min. After removal of the acid, the hydrolysate was adjusted to pH 2 and passed over Dowex 50 (X2). The material eluted by 0.25M-HCl was subjected to high-voltage electrophoresis at pH 6.5 and 1.9, permitting the isolation of a compound with the same mobility and ninhydrin-staining properties as 2-acetamido-1-(*L*- β -aspartamido)-1,2-dideoxy- β -D-glucose. The isolated and authentic compounds migrated identically on t.l.c. in two solvent systems and electrophoresis in borate buffer, pH 10. Incubation with glycopeptide amidohydrolase (Makino, Kojima & Yamashina, 1966), which specifically cleaves 2-acetamido-1-(*L*- β -aspartamido)-1,2-dideoxy- β -D-glucose, yielded *N*-acetylglucosamine and aspartic acid in the molar ratio 1.0:1.0. Further, the 1-dimethylaminonaphthalene-5-sulphonyl derivatives of the isolated and authentic compounds were electrophoretically indistinguishable.

The yield of isolated linkage fragment was approx. 10% of keratosulphate-bound aspartic acid.

Such a yield is consistent with the view that all aspartic acid residues are similarly linked to polysaccharide chains.

This work was supported by U.S. Public Health Service Grant no. AM-05996 and by a grant from the American Heart Association.

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Observations on the Enzymic Sulphurylation of Tyrosyl Derivatives

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An enzyme catalysing the sulphurylation of derivatives of *L*-tyrosine has been partially purified from rat liver and is believed to be separate from the enzyme responsible for the sulphurylation of simple phenols (Dodgson, Basford, Jones & Mattock, 1967). Kinetic experiments have now been carried out on this enzyme with adenosine 3'-phosphate 5'-sulphatophosphate and various derivatives of *L*-tyrosine as sulphuryl donor and acceptors respectively.

At pH 7.5 the K_m values for *L*-tyrosine methyl ester and adenosine 3'-phosphate 5'-sulphatophosphate were 0.3 mM and 0.007 mM respectively. The two values of K_m were independent of one another, and analysis of the experimental results (Dalziel, 1957) shows that the data are consistent with a rapid-equilibrium random Bi Bi reaction. A similar mechanism has been postulated for phenol sulphotransferase from guinea-pig liver (Banerjee & Roy, 1968).

Variation with pH in the K_m for *L*-tyrosine methyl ester and tyramine, with a fixed concentration of adenosine 3'-phosphate 5'-sulphatophosphate, shows that the enzyme is specific for an unprotonated α -amino group on the acceptor molecule. The ionization of this group is also apparent in the enzyme-substrate complexes and affects both K_m and V_{max} . *N*-Acetyl-*L*-tyrosine ethyl ester is not a good substrate for this enzyme, and the low rate of its sulphurylation is independent of pH in the range 7.0-8.2. Hence the enzyme appears to be specific for compounds having a free and unprotonated amino group. This suggestion had already been made on the basis of some preliminary investigations by Segal & Mologne (1959). Variations in K_m for adenosine 3'-phosphate 5'-sulphatophosphate with pH at a fixed concentration

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