

Eighteen amino acid esters of acyclovir were synthesized as potential prodrugs intended for oral administration and the hydrolytic activation of these prodrugs was shown to be catalyzed by biphenyl hydrolase; an enzyme exists in epithelial cells [25]. This is corresponding to 54% of absolute acyclovir [27], after its liberation by an extensive enzymatic hydrolysis in the blood. Valacyclovir hydrochloride is the L-valyl amino acid ester of the anti viral agent acyclovir [26].