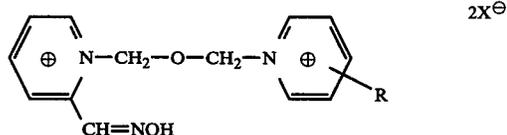


wherein R^4 is n-propyl, n-butyl, t-butyl, cyclohexyl, Ar or benzyl; Ar is phenyl, naphthyl or phenyl substituted by up to 5 of alkyl of 1-4 carbon atoms, methoxy or Cl; and X is Cl, Br or I.

4. A compound of claim 3 wherein $COOR^4$ is in the 3- or 4-position.

5. A compound of claim 4 wherein $-COOR^4$ is in the 3-position and R^4 is cyclohexyl.

6. A bis-quaternary pyridinium-2-aldoxime salt of the formula



wherein R is $-CO-R^1$; R^1 is alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, cyclohexyl, Ar or benzyl; Ar is phenyl, naphthyl or phenyl substituted by up to 5 of alkyl of 1-4 carbon atoms, methoxy or Cl; and X is Cl, Br or I.

7. 3-Benzoylpyridinium-1-methyl 2-hydroxyiminomethylpyridinium-1-methyl ether dichloride, dibromide or diiodide, a compound of claim 6.

8. 3-tert.-Butoxycarbonylpyridinium-1-methyl 2-hydroxyiminomethylpyridinium-1-methyl ether dichloride, dibromide or diiodide, a compound of claim 3.

9. 3-N-tert.-Butylcarbamoylpyridinium-1-methyl 2-hydroxyiminomethylpyridinium-1-methyl ether dichloride, dibromide or diiodide, a compound of claim 3.

10. 3-Cyclohexylcarbonylpyridinium-1-methyl 2-hydroxyiminomethylpyridinium-1-methyl ether dichloride, dibromide or diiodide, a compound of claim 6.

11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising, in admixture with a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier an antidotal amount of a compound of claim 6 effective to prophylactically or therapeutically treat intoxication in a person or animal produced by a phosphorus-containing cholinesterase inhibitor.

12. A prophylactic or therapeutic method of treating a person or animal for intoxication with a phosphorus-containing cholinesterase inhibitor, comprising administering to the person or animal a compound of claim 6 in an amount effective as an antidote for the cholinesterase inhibitor and in admixture with a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.

13. The method of claim 12, including a preliminary step of administering atropine.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the effective amount is 0.2-40 mg./kg. of body weight.

15. A compound of claim 6 wherein R is in the 3- or 4-position.

16. A compound of claim 15 wherein R^1 is alkyl of 1-4 carbon atoms, cyclohexyl, phenyl, alkylphenyl of 1-4 carbon atoms in the alkyl, methoxyphenyl, dichlorophenyl or benzyl.

17. A compound of claim 1 wherein $-CO-NR^2R^3$ is in the 3- or 4-position.

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