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Author	浦野, 四郎(Urano, Shiro) 小谷, 郁子(Otani, Ikuko) 松尾, 光芳(Matsuo, Mitsuyoshi)
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**The Synthesis of C-13 Labeled Vitamin E,
[6'-¹³C]all-rac- α -Tocopherol***

Shiro URANO**, Ikuko OTANI, and Mitsuyoshi MATSUO**

浦野四郎**, 小谷郁子, 松尾光芳**

The stabilizing effect of biomembranes by vitamin E is presumed to arise from a physicochemical interaction between the isoprenoid side chain of α -tocopherol and the polyunsaturated fatty acid moieties of the phospholipids in biomembranes, though no definite evidence has been obtained. One of possible techniques for the verification of the hypothesis would be measurement of ¹³C-relaxation time on vitamin E in biomembranes.

In order to examine the hypothesis, we synthesized a vitamin E with a ¹³C-labeled isoprenoid side chain, [6'-¹³C]all-rac- α -tocopherol, using 6-methoxymethoxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-2-[(*E*)-4-methyl-5-(thiazolin-2-yl)thio-3-penten-1-yl]chroman as a key intermediate and ethyl [1-¹³C]bromoacetate as a ¹³C source. The overall yield based on [1-¹³C]bromoacetate was 19.2%.

* 本報告は *Heterocycles*, 23, 2793 (1985) に発表.

** 東京都老人総合研究所.