Slow-tight binding inhibition of enoyl-acyl carrier protein reductase from *Plasmodium falciparum* by triclosan

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SYNOPSIS
Triclosan is a potent inhibitor of enoyl-ACP reductase (FabI), that catalyzes the last step in a sequence of four reactions, that is repeated again and again with each elongation step in the type II fatty acid biosynthesis (FAS) pathway. Malarial parasite, *Plasmodium falciparum* also harbors the genes and is capable of synthesizing fatty acids by utilizing the enzymes of type II FAS. The basic differences in the enzymes of type I FAS, as present in humans, to type II FAS that is present in *Plasmodium* make the enzymes of this pathway a good target for antimalarials. The steady state kinetics revealed time dependent inhibition of FabI by triclosan demonstrating that triclosan is a slow-tight inhibitor of FabI. The inhibition followed a rapid equilibrium step to form a reversible enzyme-inhibitor complex (EI) that isomerizes to a second enzyme-inhibitor complex (EI*), which dissociates at a very slow rate. The rate constant for the isomerization of EI to EI* and the dissociation of EI* were $5.49 \times 10^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$ and $1 \times 10^{-4}$ s$^{-1}$ respectively. The $K_i$ for the formation of EI complex was 53 nM and the overall inhibition constant $K_{i*}$ was 96 pM. The data match well with the rate constants derived independently from fluorescence analysis of the interaction of FabI and triclosan.

PAGE HEADING TITLE: Slow-tight binding inhibition of enoyl-ACP reductase

KEY WORDS: Enoyl-ACP reductase; crotonoyl-coenzyme A; *Plasmodium falciparum*; triclosan; fatty acid biosynthesis; slow-tight binding inhibitor

ABBREVIATIONS: Crotonoyl-CoA: crotonoyl coenzyme A; FabI: enoyl-ACP reductase; ACP: acyl carrier protein; FAS: Fatty acid synthase
INTRODUCTION

The occurrence and spread of drug resistant strains of *Plasmodium falciparum* has lead to a resurgence of malaria, which claims 1 to 3 million lives annually and to which 40% of the world’s population remains at risk [1]. *P. falciparum* malaria has been primarily treated with chloroquine and pyrimethamine-sulphadoxine. However, the emergence of strains resistant to these drugs along with the reappearance of malaria in well-controlled areas has lead to increased efforts towards the development of newer antimalarials.

Due to the basic differences in the structure and organization of enzymes of fatty acid biosynthesis pathway between humans and bacteria, this pathway has attracted a lot of attention recently [2, 3]. The associative or type I fatty acid synthase (FAS) is present in higher organisms, fungi and many mycobacteria whereas the dissociative or type II FAS is present in bacteria and plants. In type I FAS, all the enzymes are present as part of a single large homodimeric, multifunctional enzyme containing many domains, each catalyzing a separate reaction step of the pathway. Pioneering studies of Heath, Rock and Cronan and their coworkers have established fatty acid biosynthesis pathway as an effective antimicrobial target [2-4]. The FAS-II enzymes have been identified as the targets of several widely used antibacterials including isoniazid [5], diazaborines [6] triclosan [7, 8] and thiolactomycin [9].

In the type II system, there are distinct proteins catalyzing the various reactions of the pathway. Enoyl-acyl carrier protein (ACP) reductase (FabI) catalyzes the final step in the sequence of four reactions during fatty acid biosynthesis and has a determinant role in completing cycles of elongation phase of FAS in *Escherichia coli* [3]. FabI catalyzes the NADH/NADPH dependent reduction of the double bond between C2 and C3 of enoyl-ACP. We recently demonstrated the presence of type II FAS in the malarial parasite, *Plasmodium falciparum* [10]. Triclosan inhibited the growth of *P. falciparum* cultures with an IC50 of 0.7 μM [10] and 150-2000 ng/ml [11]. Triclosan also inhibited *Plasmodium* growth in vivo and inhibited the activity of FabI isolated from *Plasmodium* cultures [10]. FabI has been earlier characterized from *E. coli* [12] *Brassica napus* [13], *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* [14] and *Bacillus subtilis* [15]. We have also cloned and expressed FabI from *P. falciparum* and studied its interaction with its substrates and inhibitors [16].

It has been observed that certain enzyme inhibitors do not show their effect instantaneously. Therefore, they have been divided into four categories according to the strength
of their interaction with the enzyme and the rate at which equilibrium involving enzyme and inhibitor is achieved [17]. The categories are classical, slow binding, tight binding and slow, tight-binding inhibitors. Historically classical inhibitors have been studied in greater detail. Only a few studies have been made on the behavior of tight-binding inhibitors [18, 19]. Some workers have studied the action of compounds that cause time-dependent inhibition of enzymes and have termed them as slow-binding inhibitors [17, 18, 20]. Recently, cerivastatin has been shown to inhibit 3-hydroxy-3-methyl-glutaryl CoA reductase from *Trypanosoma cruzi* in a biphasic manner and has been characterized as a slow-tight binding inhibitor [21]. Also, immucillins have been shown to be slow onset tight binding inhibitors of *P. falciparam* purine nucleoside phosphorylase [22]. Since in the case of tight binding inhibitors, there is a reduction in the concentration of the free inhibitor, Sculley et al have proposed ways for analyzing such data by using a pair of parametric equations that describe the progress curves at different inhibitor concentrations [23, 24].

Considering the importance of the fatty acid biosynthesis pathway and its inhibition by triclosan, it is imperative to study the inhibition kinetics of triclosan in greater detail. Triclosan follows tight binding kinetics, as the concentration of binding sites is similar to the concentration of compound added to the assay. Here, we have characterized the inhibition of FabI by triclosan as a slow tight binding mechanism. The results are consistent with a two-step time dependent inhibition.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

β-NADH, β-NAD⁺, crotonoyl-CoA, imidazole and SDS-PAGE reagents were obtained from Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO. Triclosan was obtained from Kumar organic products (Bangalore, India). All other chemicals used were of analytical grade.

**Expression and Purification of FabI**

FabI was expressed and purified as described earlier [16]. Briefly, the plasmid containing Pf fabI was transformed into BL21(DE3) cells. Cultures were grown at 37 °C for 12 hrs., followed by subsequent purification of the His-tagged FabI on an Ni-NTA agarose column using an imidazole gradient. PfFabI eluted at 400 mM imidazole concentration. The purity of the protein was confirmed by SDS-PAGE. Protein concentration was determined from the A₂₈₀, using a molar extinction coefficient E = 39560 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹, as calculated using the formula [25].

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Enzyme Assay

All experiments were carried out on a UV-Vis spectrophotometer at 25 °C in 20 mM Tris-Cl pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl. The standard reaction mixture in a total volume of 100 µl contained 20 mM Tris-Cl pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 200 µM crotonoyl-CoA, 100 µM NADH and 1% DMSO. The initial kinetic analysis for the inhibition of FabI by triclosan was done using Dixon plots. The activity of FabI was measured in the presence of 100 µM NADH and 200 µM crotonoyl-CoA as a function of triclosan concentration at two concentrations of NAD⁺ and Kᵢ was determined from the x-intercept of the Dixon plot.

The rate constant for association of triclosan to FabI was estimated in experiments where the onset of inhibition was monitored. The assay was started by the addition of 0.2 µM enzyme (subunit concentration) to various concentrations of (0-800 nM) triclosan, containing 100 µM NADH, 200 µM crotonoyl-CoA and 50 µM NAD⁺.

For the calculation of dissociation rate constant, experiments were conducted in which 10 µM enzyme was preincubated with 10 µM triclosan and 2 mM NAD⁺ for 30 min prior to 200 fold dilution into competing NADH and crotonoyl-CoA. The dissociation of triclosan was monitored by following the enzyme activity during the initial part of the time-course when the concentrations of substrate and NAD⁺ are relatively constant. The data were analyzed by fitting the amount of product formed as a function of time.

Evaluation of kinetic parameters

Initial rate studies were analyzed assuming uncompetitive kinetics in Dixon plot:

\[
\frac{1}{v} = \frac{[I]}{V_{\text{max}}K_i} + \frac{1}{V_{\text{max}}} \left(1 + \frac{K_m}{[S]}\right)
\]

(1)

Where, Kᵘ is the Michaelis constant, Vₘₐₓ is the maximal catalytic rate at saturating substrate concentration [S] in the absence of inhibitor, Kᵢ is the dissociation constant for the enzyme-inhibitor complex and [I] is the inhibitor concentration.

Three basic kinetic mechanisms have been described to account for the slow-binding inhibition of enzyme catalyzed reaction [26]. Mechanism A involves a single slow bimolecular interaction of an inhibitor with the enzyme leading to the formation of the enzyme-inhibitor complex.
where E stands for the free enzyme, I is the free inhibitor, EI is the rapidly forming preequilibrium complex, S is the free substrate and ES is the enzyme substrate complex. This mechanism assumes that the magnitude of $k_3 I$ is very small relative to the rate constants for the conversion of substrate to product [27]. In mechanism B, there is an initial rapid binding of the inhibitor to the enzyme forming the initial complex EI, followed by a slow isomerization of EI to the stable enzyme inhibitor complex EI*.

$$E + I \rightleftharpoons EI \quad (\text{single step}) \quad \text{Mechanism A}$$

where $K_i$ is the equilibrium inhibition constant for the formation of the initial complex EI and $k_5$ and $k_6$ are the forward and reverse rate constants for the slow conversion of initial EI complex into a tight complex EI*, respectively.

In mechanism C, the enzyme exists in two states undergoing a reversible, slow interconversion between two forms, E to E* of which only E* is able to bind the inhibitor.

$$E \rightleftharpoons E^* + I \quad \text{Mechanism C}$$

where $k_3$ and $k_4$ stand for the rate constants for forward and backward reaction, respectively, for the conversion of the enzyme to a form competent to bind the inhibitor. Various studies have attempted to distinguish between the different inhibition mechanisms by steady-state kinetic techniques. In each of the mechanisms the initial rate of substrate hydrolysis has a characteristic dependence on the inhibitor concentration, which can be used to distinguish between them experimentally.
The progress curves for the interaction between triclosan and FabI were nonlinear least squares fitted to equation 2.

\[ [P] = v_s t + \frac{[v_0 - v_s](1 - e^{-kt})}{k} \]  

(2)

where \( P \) is the product concentration at time \( t \), \( v_0 \) and \( v_s \) are the initial and final steady-state rates, \( k \) is the apparent first-order rate constant for the establishment of the final steady state equilibrium. The relationship between \( k \), the rate and the kinetic constants is given by the following equation:

\[ k = k_6 + k_5 \left[ \frac{(I/K_i)}{1 + [S]/K_m + I/K_i} \right] \]  

(3)

The progress curves were fitted to eqs 2 and 3 using nonlinear least-squares parameter estimation to determine the best-fit values. The overall inhibition constant, \( K_i^* \) is then defined as:

\[ K_i^* = K_i \left[ \frac{k_6}{k_5 + k_6} \right] \], where \( K_i = k_4/k_3 \)  

(4)

Fluorescence analysis

Fluorescence measurements were performed on a JobinYvon Horiba fluorimeter under computer control. The excitation and emission monochromator slit widths were 3 nm. Measurements were performed at 25 °C in 3 ml quartz cuvette and the solutions were mixed continuously with a magnetic stirrer. For fluorescence studies solutions containing FabI were excited at 295 nm and the emission recorded from 300 to 500 nm.

For inhibitor binding studies FabI (4 µM) in 20 mM Tris, 150 mM NaCl, pH 7.4 was titrated with different concentrations of triclosan. Time courses of the protein fluorescence following inhibitor addition were measured for 20 min with excitation and emission wavelengths of 295 and 340 nm, respectively. The magnitude of rapid fluorescence decrease (\( F_0 - F \)), upon addition of each triclosan concentration was fitted to equation 5 to determine the value of \( K_i \).

\[ (F_0 - F) = \Delta F_{max} \left\{ \frac{1 + K_i/I}{1 + K_i/I} \right\} \]  

(5)

For a tight binding inhibitor, \( k_6 \) can be considered negligible at the onset of the slow loss of fluorescence and hence \( k_5 \) was determined from using equation 6, where \( k_{obs} \) is the rate constant for the loss of fluorescence at each inhibitor concentration \( [I] \).

\[ k_{obs} = k_5[I]/(K_i + [I]) \]  

(6)

Corrections for the inner filter effect were performed according to equation 7 [28],

\[ F_c = F \text{ antilog } \left\{ \frac{(A_{ex} + A_{cm})}{2} \right\} \]  

(7)
Where $F_c$ and $F$ are the corrected and measured fluorescence intensities, respectively and $A_{ex}$ and $A_{em}$ are the solution absorbances at the excitation and emission wavelengths, respectively.

**RESULTS**

**Inhibition of FabI by triclosan**

During the course of the assay of FabI, there is an increase in the concentration of NAD$^+$ due to the oxidation of NADH, the cofactor of FabI and it is known that NAD$^+$ potentiates inhibition by triclosan [12, 16]. Thus, NAD$^+$ was included in all the assays so that the concentration of NAD$^+$ does not change significantly during the course of the assay, to maintain nearly to its steady state levels that are achieved during the course of the reaction. Triclosan inhibited FabI with an IC$_{50}$ of 66 nM (Figure 1). Triclosan appears to act at approximately stoichiometric concentrations to that of the enzyme. Thus, classifying it as a tight binding inhibitor. Examination of progress curves revealed that in the absence of triclosan, the steady state rate was reached, whereas in its presence, the rate decreased in a time dependent manner (Figure 2). We also observed a time range where the conversion of EI to EI* was minimal and the Dixon plot could be used to determine the $K_i$ of triclosan with respect to FabI. In the Dixon’s plot, the enzyme activity was determined at two concentrations of NAD$^+$ as a function of inhibitor concentration. NAD$^+$ was maintained at a high initial concentration so that it’s concentration does not vary during the time course of measurement. From such experiments $K_i$ was determined to be as 14 nM (Figure 3). The uncompetitive kinetics with respect to NAD$^+$ shows that prior binding of the oxidized coenzyme promotes association of the inhibitor.

The apparent rate of reaction $k_{app}$, from the progress curves when plotted versus the inhibitor concentration followed a hyperbolic curve (Figure 4) indicating a two-step mechanism. In agreement to mechanism B, the rate increased linearly with the inhibitor concentration and saturated as the inhibitor concentration increased from a value much lower than $K_i$ to a concentration greater than it.

$$
\begin{align*}
\text{E} + \text{I} & \quad \xrightarrow{K_i} \quad \text{E} \cdot \text{I} \\
& \quad \xleftarrow{k_5} \quad \text{E} \cdot \text{I}^* \\
& \quad \xrightarrow{k_6} \quad \text{Mechanism B}
\end{align*}
$$
where $K_i$ is the equilibrium inhibition constant for the formation of the initial complex $EI$ and $k_5$ and $k_6$ are the forward and reverse rate constants for the slow conversion of initial $EI$ complex into a tight complex $EI^*$, respectively. Therefore, the data were fitted to equation 3, which yielded a $K_i$ value of 53 nM and an overall inhibition constant $K_{i^*}$ of 96 pM, calculated using the following equation:

$$K_{i^*} = K_i \frac{k_6}{(k_5 + k_6)}, \text{ where } K_i = \frac{k_4}{k_3}$$

The rate constant for the dissociation of triclosan from FabI was determined in an independent experiment, wherein high concentrations of enzyme and inhibitor were preincubated for sufficient time to allow the system to reach equilibrium. This was followed by 200-fold dilution of the enzyme-inhibitor mix into a solution of crotonoyl-CoA and NADH and the regeneration of enzyme activity was studied (Figure 5). The value for $k_6$ as determined by using equation 2 was $1 \times 10^{-4}$ s$^{-1}$. The final steady state rate was determined from the control that was preincubated without the inhibitor. The value of the rate constant $k_5$, related to the isomerization of $EI$ to $EI^*$ was $5.49 \times 10^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$ as obtained from the fits of the equation 3 to the onset of inhibition data using the experimentally determined values of $K_i$ and $k_6$. On the basis of the various kinetic parameters (Table 1) we can rule out a kinetic model for the inhibition of FabI with triclosan in which a single slow step leads to the slow-tight binding of the inhibitor. Thus, FabI binds to triclosan in two steps, wherein the first step involves a rapid formation of an initial enzyme inhibitor complex $EI$, which slowly isomerizes to form a tightly bound complex $EI^*$ from which the inhibitor dissociates in a very slow manner.

**Fluorescence analysis**

The excitation of FabI at 295 nm, where tryptophan has maximum absorption resulted in an emission maximum at 340 nm. We have followed the intrinsic fluorescence of tryptophan to analyze the FabI-triclosan interactions. The binding of triclosan to FabI resulted in a concentration-dependent quenching of fluorescence, however no red or blue shift was observed. The magnitude of rapid fluorescence decrease ($F_0-F$) upon addition of various concentrations of triclosan followed a hyperbola. This is consistent with the earlier observation of two-step mechanism as observed by enzyme inhibition studies. The value of $K_i$ estimated from the data was 45 nM (Figure 6). The effect of triclosan on FabI fluorescence is both concentration and time dependent (Figure 7). Upon addition of 20 µM triclosan to a solution of FabI, there was an immediate decrease in fluorescence followed by a slow further decrease to a final stable value. It
would appear that the initial rapid and further slow decrease in intrinsic FabI fluorescence induced by triclosan corresponds with a two-step mechanism for inhibition of FabI. The value of $k_5$ determined from the slow decrease in fluorescence was $7 \times 10^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$. These values match well with those obtained from the analyses of enzyme inhibition studies. Thus, the initial rapid decrease in fluorescence corresponds to the formation of the reversible FabI-triclosan complex. The time dependent slow decrease reflects the formation of tightly bound slow dissociating EI* complex.

**DISCUSSION**

The reaction catalyzed by enoyl-ACP reductase during fatty acid elongation pathway has been validated as an antimicrobial drug target. Triclosan is a potent FabI inhibitor and we have previously reported the apparent inhibition parameters for the inhibition of *Plasmodium* FabI by triclosan [16].

In the case of classical inhibitors, the attainment of equilibrium between enzyme, inhibitor and enzyme-inhibitor complexes is rapid and requires a large excess of the inhibitor to the enzyme. In contrast, tight-binding inhibitors, the attainment of equilibrium might be rapid, but the total concentration of inhibitor needed to inhibit is similar to the total concentration of the enzyme [20]. Triclosan demonstrates a high potency against FabI and its 1:1 molar ratio for the inhibition of the enzyme indicates its tight binding nature.

As has been reported in the literature, certain enzymes do not show the effect of inhibitor instantaneously and inhibitor complexes take a long time to form (seconds to minutes) relative to the catalytic rate of the enzyme. This class of inhibitors are classified as slow binding inhibitors. This is due to the slow conformational isomerization of the enzyme-inhibitor complex from a state where the enzyme and drug are in rapid equilibrium to a state where the enzyme-inhibitor complex undergoes very slow dissociation.

As discussed in the Materials and Methods section, three basic kinetic mechanisms have been described to account for the slow-binding inhibition of enzyme catalyzed reaction. According to mechanism A, the rate of inhibition would increase linearly with inhibitor concentration. However, in mechanism B, the inhibition rate would increase linearly with the inhibitor concentration but would tend to saturate as the inhibitor concentration increases from a value much lower than $K_i$ to a concentration greater than it. Thus, the plot of rate versus inhibitor
concentration would be a hyperbola. In mechanism C, the inhibition rate would decrease with increasing inhibitor concentrations. An examination of Figure 4 shows that PfFabI-triclosan interaction follows mechanism B. Therefore, the kinetic data were analyzed assuming a two-step mechanism for binding and the equilibrium constant for the formation of both the initial (K_i) and the final (K_i*) complexes were calculated. The slow-binding nature of triclosan was observable when triclosan concentration was varied from 0 to 800 nM. A time-dependent decrease in the rate was seen that varied as a function of triclosan concentration. The kinetics were characteristic of enzyme-inhibitor interactions where the initial step involves rapid formation of a weak complex, followed by a slow conversion to the tight-binding complex. We obtained a value for the rate constant of this slow-binding process as it was noted to be analogous to enzyme inactivation by a slow, tight-binding inhibitor [29].

The progress curves were analyzed by assuming that the rates of inactivation reflected a pseudo-first order process. The pseudo-first order rate constant when plotted as a function of triclosan concentration fitted well to a hyperbolic equation. On the basis of this kinetic analysis of the inhibition data one can conclude that triclosan follows biphasic kinetics for its binding to FabI. This is also reflected in the fluorescence analysis of the interaction. Triclosan induced a rapid fluorescence quenching that followed a slower decline to a constant final value. The magnitude of initial rapid fluorescence quenching increased with the inhibitor concentration, which tended to reach saturation. That an isomerization step in the interaction of triclosan with PfFabI occurs is demonstrated when the change in the intrinsic protein fluorescence of the protein is followed as a function of time. As shown in Figure 7, a rapid fluorescence loss resulting from the formation of a reversible EI complex is observed initially followed a much slower decrease which corresponds to the isomerization of EI to EI* complex consistent with the above kinetic model. The kinetic constants (K_i and k_s) derived for the binding of triclosan to FabI, from the fluorescence changes are in good agreement with those obtained from the steady state kinetic analyses of the inhibition data.

Thus, the formation of a ternary complex of FabI-NAD\(^+\)-Triclosan along with the slow transition of this complex to a stable form appear to be the determining factors for the highly potent inhibition of FabI by triclosan. In this model (Scheme 1), triclosan forms a complex with NAD\(^+\) bound FabI, the complex being in rapid equilibrium with the free enzyme. This complex undergoes a slow conformational change to a final stable form, which dissociates very slowly.
Such tight binding inhibitors of FabI have important implications in the development of antimalarials.

In conclusion, we demonstrate that triclosan follows a two-step inhibition mechanism as shown by equilibrium binding studies of the enzyme and inhibitor. It has been proposed earlier that the ability of FabI inhibitors to form stable ternary complexes with the enzyme is the critical feature required for antibacterial activity [30]. The inhibition of FabI by triclosan becomes progressively stronger with time and is essentially irreversible after several minutes. Indeed this irreversible inhibition in the case of FabI can be correlated with the formation of a stable FabI-NAD$^+$-triclosan ternary complex that has been shown to be accompanied by a conformational change in the flexible loop in FabI in the case of *E. coli* FabI. The structure of triclosan-NAD$^+$-ENR complex has been solved from *E. coli* [31]. The diazaborines are another class of potent FabI inhibitors that act via the formation of a tight binding bisubstrate complex [32, 33]. In the case of Plasmodial FabI also superposition of binary (FabI-NAD$^+$) and ternary (FabI-NAD$^+$-triclosan) complex structures revealed subtle conformational changes in the protein upon inhibitor binding [34].

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REFERENCES


Table I

Inhibition constants of triclosan against FabI

Values of the rate constants for the inhibition of FabI by triclosan were calculated at 25 °C in 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer pH 7.4 as described in the text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inhibition Constants</th>
<th>Values</th>
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<tr>
<td>IC₅₀</td>
<td>66 nM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K₁</td>
<td>53 nM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K₁*</td>
<td>96 pM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k₅</td>
<td>$5.49 \times 10^{-2}$ s⁻¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k₆</td>
<td>$1 \times 10^{-4}$ s⁻¹</td>
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</tbody>
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Figure Legends

**Figure 1 Inhibition of FabI by triclosan.** The activity of FabI was determined in the presence of 100 µM NADH, 50 µM NAD⁺, 0.2 µM enzyme in 20 mM Tris-Cl pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl and increasing concentrations of triclosan (0-150 nM).

**Figure 2 Progress curves for the inhibition of enoyl-ACP reductase by triclosan.** The reaction mixture contained 100 µM NADH, 200 µM crotonoyl-CoA, 50 µM NAD⁺, 0.2 µM enzyme in 20 mM Tris-Cl pH 7.4 and varying concentrations of triclosan (0, 800 nM; from top to bottom) at 25 °C. The data were fit to equation 2 and the lines indicate the best fits of the data.

**Figure 3 Initial rate of enoyl-ACP reductase reaction in the presence of triclosan.** Enzyme activity was determined in the presence of 100 µM NADH, 200 µM crotonoyl-CoA and (●) 100 µM and (■) 150 µM NAD⁺. Value for Kᵢ was determined from the x-intercept of Dixon plot assuming uncompetitive inhibition.

**Figure 4 Dependence of initial rate of enoyl-ACP reductase reaction on triclosan concentration.** The apparent rate constant k was calculated from the progress curves analysis. The data fits well to equation 3 demonstrating a two step mechanism for the inhibition of FabI by triclosan.

**Figure 5 Determination of dissociation rate constant (k₆) for FabI-triclosan complex.** FabI was preincubated with or without equimolar concentrations of triclosan and 2 mM NAD⁺ for 30 min in Tris-Cl pH 7.4 at 25 °C. The preincubated sample was then diluted 200 fold into competing NADH and crotonoyl-CoA and the dissociation of triclosan was monitored by following the enzyme activity.

**Figure 6 Effect of triclosan concentration on the tryptophan fluorescence of FabI.** FabI (4 µM) was treated with increasing concentration of triclosan and the changes were measured at 25 °C. The change in fluorescence (F₀-F) was plotted against triclosan concentrations. The hyperbola indicates the best fit of the data.
Figure 7 Time dependent quenching of FabI fluorescence by triclosan. Triclosan (20 μM) was added to 4 μM FabI and fluorescence emission was followed for 20 min at 25 ºC. The excitation wavelength was fixed at 295 nm, whereas the emission wavelength was at 340 nm. (●) indicates in the absence and (■) indicates in the presence of triclosan. In the presence of triclosan a rapid decrease in fluorescence is followed by a slow change in the fluorescence intensity.
Figure 1

Percent inhibition

[Triclosan] (nM)

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Figure 2
Figure 3
Figure 4

**Figure 4**

A graph showing the relationship between [Triclosan] (nM) and $k$ (sec$^{-1}$). The graph plots the concentration of Triclosan on the x-axis and the rate constant on the y-axis.
Figure 5
Figure 6
Figure 7
Scheme 1 Triclosan binds to FabI more potently in the presence of NAD$^+$ leading to the formation of ternary complex. This complex undergoes a slow transformation to a final slowly dissociating complex. Thus, the formation of a ternary complex and the slow conversion of this complex to a final stable form make triclosan a potent inhibitor of FabI.