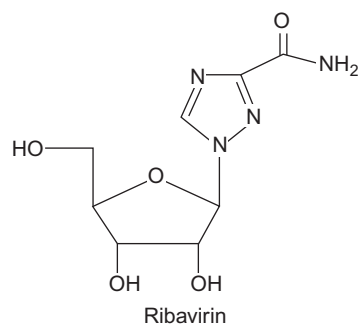


c. Origin of Ribavirin

Ribavirin was discovered by synthesizing analogs of a compound participating in the pathways of nucleotide biosynthesis. In designing, synthesizing, and testing a variety of analogs of intermediates in nucleotide biosynthetic pathways, the result was the discovery of ribavirin, also known as virazole (19,20).

Ribavirin, in combination with one or more drugs, is used to treat HCV infections (21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29). The other drugs in this combination include sofosbuvir, dasabuvir, and pegylated interferon-alfa. Ribavirin alone has been used to treat hepatitis E virus (30).



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