

SYNTHESIS AND ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITY OF SOME 3-SUBSTITUTED-2-OXINDOLE DERIVATIVES

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Abstract

A series of 1,3,5-trisubstituted-2-oxindole derivatives have been synthesized by reaction of 2,3-dihydro-2,3-dioxindol, 1-benzyl-2,3-dihydro-2,3-dioxindole and an appropriate benzoyl hydrazide. Structures of these compounds were established by IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, Mass spectroscopy. All the compounds were evaluated for their preliminary in vitro anti-tuberculosis activity against Mycobacterium tuberculosis H₃₇Rv strain using broth dilution assay method. The results show that compounds 3a, 3c, 4a, 4b and 4h exhibited anti-tubercular activity at 25 µg/mL. Some of the selected compounds were evaluated for their preliminary in vitro antibacterial activity against Bacillus subtilis and Staphylococcus aureus and displayed mild antibacterial activity on comparison to standard streptomycin.

Key words: Isatin, Antitubercular, Antibacterial.

Bazı 3-sübstitüe-2-oksindol Türevlerinin Sentezi ve Antimikrobiyal Aktiviteleri

2,3-dihidro-2,3-dioksindol, 1-benzil-2,3-dihidro-2,3-dioksindol ve uygun bir benzoil hidrazid reaksiyona sokularak bir seri 1,3,5-trisübstitüe-2-oksindol türevi sentezlenmiştir. Bu bileşiklerin yapısı IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR ve kütle spektroskopisi ile belirlenmiştir. Tüm bu bileşiklerin in vitro anti-tüberküloz aktiviteleri broth dilüsyon yöntemi ile Mycobacterium tuberculosis H₃₇Rv suşlarına karşı değerlendirilmiştir. Sonuçlar; 3a, 3c, 4a, 4b ve 4h bileşiklerinin 25 µg/mL konsantrasyonda anti-tüberküler aktiviteye sahip olduğunu göstermektedir. Seçilen bazı bileşiklerin in vitro olarak Bacillus subtilis ve Staphylococcus aureus'a karşı antibakteriyel aktiviteleri değerlendirilmiş ve streptomisin ile karşılaştırılacak olursa daha az bir antibakteriyel aktiviteye sahip olduğu gözlenmiştir.

Anahtar kelimeler: Isatin, Antitüberküler, Antibakteriyel.

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INTRODUCTION

Tuberculosis (TB) is a chronic necrotizing bacterial infection with wide variety of manifestations caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, which has been a scourge of humanity for thousands of years and remains one of the prevalent health tribulations in the world (1). Today, TB is among the top five causes of global mortality. World Health Organization (WHO) declared TB a global health emergency in 1993, for the first time an infectious disease achieved that dubious distinction (2,3). The active TB is currently treated with a four-drug regimen comprising isoniazid, rifampicin, pyrazinamide and ethambutol for a period of at least six months (4-6). The long treatment regimen can be difficult to fully complete, fueling the development of more infectious and virulent multidrug resistant (MDR) strains of TB, which shows very high mortality (7). Such MDR-TB is difficult and expensive to treat and is not always curable, alternative combination treatment of five-drug regimen is recommended initially, including both ethambutol and rifampicin. MDR-TB often requires prolonged treatment sometimes up to 24 months (8) and thus poses a major challenge to the control of the disease worldwide. There is now recognition that innovative drugs to combat TB are urgently required. With the completion of the genome of *M. tuberculosis* comes the promise of a new generation of potent drugs to combat the emerging epidemic of TB. In this regard, however, there have been few additions of some promising new anti-tuberculosis agents, such as the long acting rifamycins (9,10), fluoroquinolones (11-13), oxazolidinones (14,15), and nitroimidazopyrans (16).

Isatin (1H-indole-2,3-dione) is synthetically versatile substrates, where it can be used for the synthesis of a large variety of heterocyclic compounds, such as indoles and quinolines, and as raw material for drug synthesis. The synthetic versatility of isatin has led to the extensive use of this compound in organic synthesis. The synthetic versatility of isatin has stemmed from the interest in the biological and pharmacological properties of its derivatives (17).

Derivatives of 2,3-dihydro-2,3-dioxindole were reported as antibacterial (18-24), antipox virus agents (25), antifungal & antiviral (26), antioxidant & cytotoxic agents (27). In view of the above facts and in continuation of our search for various biologically active molecules (28, 29) has prompted us to synthesize some molecules of isatin with benzoyl hydrazide and carry out their preliminary anti-tubercular and antibacterial activity. In this paper we report the synthesis and spectral studies of a series of 2-oxindole derivatives and preliminary evaluation of in vitro anti-tuberculous and antibacterial activity.

EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were determined in open capillaries and were uncorrected. R_f values were obtained using silica gel thin layer chromatography plates and a solvent system of chloroform/methanol (9:1). 2,3-dihydro-2,3-dioxindoles/5-substituted 2,3-dihydro-2,3-dioxindoles and 1-benzyl-2,3-dihydro-2,3-dioxindoles were prepared according to literature (30,31). The infrared spectra of all compounds were determined by a diffuse reflectance technique using potassium bromide powder on a Jasco 460 FTIR machine (Jasco, Japan). ^{13}C NMR for and ^1H NMR spectra (400 MHz) of all compounds were generated in dimethylsulfoxide- d_6 /CDCl $_3$ on a Bruker Ultraspec spectrophotometer (Germany). LCMS for all compounds were taken on LCMS-2010A (Shimadzu, Japan).

Method for preparation of 5-substituted-indole-2,3-dione-3-benzoyl hydrazide (3a-c)

To a mixture of 2,3-dihydro-2,3-dioxindole (0.005 M) equimolar quantity of benzoyl hydrazide and 4-5 drops of glacial acetic acid was refluxed in 50 mL of ethanol for 2-4 hours on

water bath. The initial colored solution slowly change in to some fluffy solid crystals in the end of the reaction, which was verified by TLC on silica plates. The solid that precipitated was collected, washed with cold ethanol and purified by ethanol and chloroform.

Method for preparation of 5-substituted-1-(4'-substitutedbenzyl)-1-H-indole-2,3-dione-3-benzoyl hydrazide (4a-i)

To 0.00168 M of 1-benzyl-2,3-dihydro-2,3-dioxindole, equimolar quantity of benzoyl hydrazide and 4-5 drops of glacial acetic acid was added and refluxed in 50 mL of ethanol for 2-4 hours on water bath. The initial colored solution slowly changes in to some fluffy solid crystals at the end of the reaction, which was verified by TLC on silica plates. The compounds were purified by suitable solvents.

Biological activity

Antitubercular activity

The procedure we have followed for anti-Tb activity mainly involves the use of Middlebrook 7H-9 broth and standard strain of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* H₃₇Rv. The basal medium was prepared according to manufacture's instructions (Hi-Media) and sterilized by autoclaving. 4.5 mL of broth was poured into each one of the sterile bottles; 0.5 mL of ADC supplement was added. This supplement contains catalase, dextrose and bovine serum albumin fraction v. Then a stock solution of the compound was prepared (10 mg/mL). From this appropriate amount of solution was transferred to media bottles to achieve final concentrations of 25, 50, 75 µg/mL, finally 10 µL suspension of Mtb strain (100000 organisms/mL, adjusted by McFarland's turbidity standard) was transferred to each of the tubes and incubated at 37 °C. Along with this one growth control without compound and drug controls were also set up. The bottles were inspected for growth twice a week for a period of three weeks. The appearance of turbidity was considered as growth and indicated resistance to the compound. The growth was confirmed by making a smear from each bottle and performing a ZN stain.

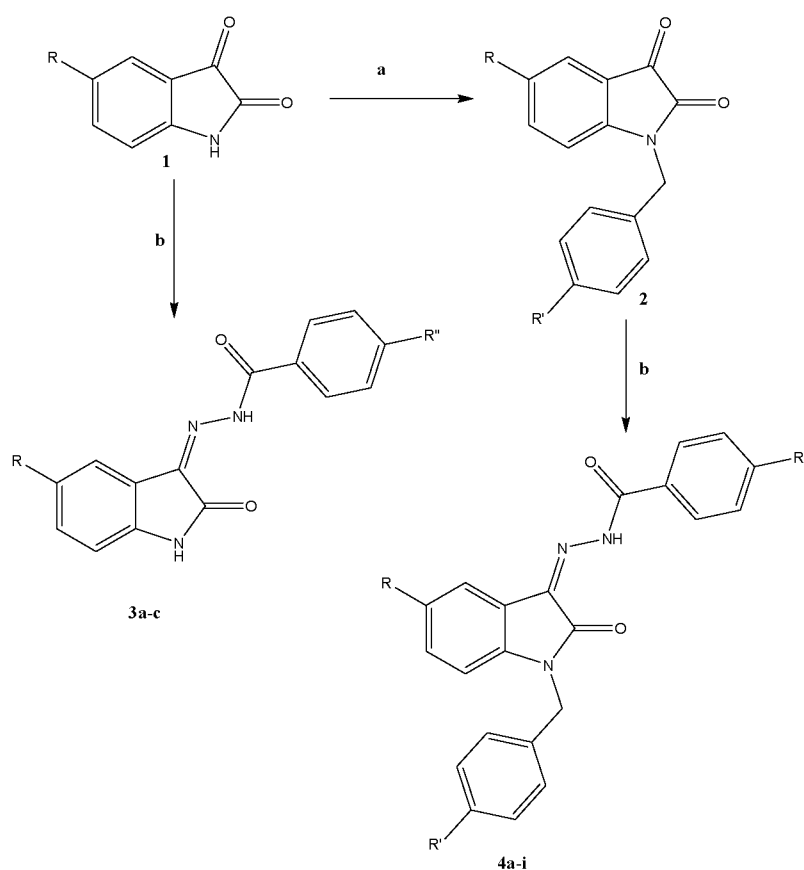
Antibacterial activity

A stock solution of compounds were 200 µg/mL was made in sterile water containing 5% DMF under aseptic conditions and further dilutions were made with the same solvent in a similar manner. All the dilutions and stock solutions were sterilized by membrane filtration. Solid agar and liquid broth culture media No. 1 were used for all the test organisms and the pH was adjusted to 7.2. Antimicrobial activity (32) of the selected compounds against different strains of bacteria was determined by cup-plate method, and activity was expressed in terms of diameters of zone of inhibition. Inoculum was prepared by washing a fresh 5 mL medium slant of test organisms with 5 mL sterile water and further diluting the 1 mL washing to 10 mL. This suspension (0.15 mL) was added to 15 mL melted medium at a temperature 45-50 °C and plates were prepared. Holes of diameter 6 mm were dug into the agar plates with a sterile borer and filled with the drug. The plates were incubated for at 35 °C for 24 h. The results were compared with that of standard streptomycin.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Chemistry

Substituted 2,3-dihydro-2,3-dioxindole was a versatile starting material for the synthesis of number of proposed compounds (Scheme, Table 1). The different 5-substituted-1-benzyl-2,3-dihydro-2,3-dioxindole (substituted benzyl isatins) were prepared by reacting the 4-substituted benzyl chloride with 5-substituted-2,3-dihydro-2,3-dioxindoles in DMF in presence of Na_2CO_3 (Scheme). These synthesized compounds (3a-c, 4a-i) showed absorption bands ranging from $3372\text{-}3190\text{ cm}^{-1}$ for N-H stretching, $3064\text{-}2848\text{ cm}^{-1}$ for C-H aromatic and aliphatic respectively, $1702\text{-}1683\text{ cm}^{-1}$ for C=O stretching; there were also some bands for C=C and C=N at $1599\text{-}1465\text{ cm}^{-1}$ respectively (Table 2). In ^1H NMR spectra, the presence of a singlet between δ 4.85-4.96 ppm was observed for the methylene group and multiplets were observed between δ 8.04-6.58 ppm for aromatic protons, while for NH, the singlet were observed between δ 13.84-14.08 ppm, and for the NH in case of compounds 3a-c, it was observed between δ 10.37-11.28 ppm and these protons were exchangeable with D_2O . In the ^{13}C NMR spectra, signals from δ 164.49 ppm to 111.33 ppm were observed for aromatic carbons and δ 43.51 & δ 30.19 ppm for alkyl carbons. Liquid chromatography mass spectra (LCMS) showed accurate molecular ion peaks (Table 2).



Scheme. Synthetic route of the title compounds 3a-c and 4a-i. [Reagents: a) Benzyl chloride, DMF, reflux, 2 h b) Benzoyl hydrazide, alcohol, CH_3COOH , reflux, 4 h]

Table 1. Physicochemical data of synthesized compounds

Compd.	R	R'	R''	Yield (%)	Mp [°C]	Mol. Formul (M _r)	R _f value
3a	Cl	-	H	81	280-282	C ₁₅ H ₁₀ N ₃ O ₂ Cl	0.61
3b	CH ₃	-	H	83	260-262	C ₁₆ H ₁₃ N ₃ O ₂	0.84
3c	H	-	H	82	270-272	C ₁₅ H ₁₁ N ₃ O ₂	0.78
4a	Cl	H	H	77	170-172	C ₂₂ H ₁₆ N ₃ O ₂ Cl	0.57
4b	CH ₃	H	H	79	230-233	C ₂₃ H ₁₉ N ₃ O ₂	0.60
4c	H	H	H	80	160-162	C ₂₂ H ₁₇ N ₃ O ₂	0.58
4d	Cl	Cl	H	76	188-190	C ₂₃ H ₁₅ N ₃ O ₂ Cl	0.60
4e	CH ₃	Cl	H	77	220-223	C ₂₃ H ₁₈ N ₃ O ₂ Cl	0.61
4f	H	Cl	H	79	214-216	C ₂₂ H ₁₆ N ₃ O ₂ Cl	0.65
4g	Cl	CH ₃	H	69	200-202	C ₂₃ H ₁₈ N ₃ O ₂ Cl	0.66
4h	CH ₃	CH ₃	H	65	210-212	C ₂₄ H ₂₁ N ₃ O ₂	0.61
4i	H	CH ₃	H	68	190-193	C ₂₃ H ₁₉ N ₃ O ₂	0.59

Table 2. Spectral data of synthesized compounds

Compd.	IR (ν, cm ⁻¹)	¹ H / ¹³ C NMR (δ, ppm) (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	MS
3a	3230, 2918, 2848, 1702, 1599, 1528, 1464	6.87-6.84 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.25-7.23 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.59-7.42 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.88-7.84 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 11.28 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O), 14.03 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O)	299
3b	3254, 3050, 2918, 2855, 1709, 1600, 1484	2.24 (s, 3H, CH ₃), 6.73 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.05 (d, 1H, J=12, Ar-H), 7.43 (t, 2H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.55-7.49 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.91 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H) 10.37 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O), 14.06 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O)	279
3c	3237, 3041, 2917, 2857, 1691, 1536, 1465	6.86 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.25 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.59-7.47 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.88 (dm, 3H, J=8, Ar-H), 11.28 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O), 14.03 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H)	265
4a	3363, 3196, 3029, 2923, 1683, 1489, 1344		389
4b	3248, 2921, 2851, 1702, 1600, 1535, 1469, 1265,	2.34 (s, 3H, CH ₃), 4.96 (s, 2H, CH ₂), 6.99 (d, 1H, J=8 Ar-H), 7.10 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.37-7.29 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 7.53 (t, 2H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.60 (t, 2H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.72 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 8.04 (d, 2H, J=8, Ar-	369

		H), 14.08 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O)	
4c	3372, 3195, 3059, 1703, 1678, 1612, 1538, 1488, 1255	4.92 (s, 2H, CH ₂), 6.75 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.07 (t, 1H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.28-7.18 (m, 6H, Ar-H), 7.54-7.46 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.83 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.97 (d, 2H, J=8, Ar-H), 14.03 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O)	355
4d	3370, 3245, 3064, 1692, 1594, 1531, 1489, 1341, 1252	4.86 (s, 2H, CH ₂), 6.58 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.21 (dm, 4H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.40 (t, 2H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.49 (t, 2H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.72 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.79 (d, 2H, J=8, Ar-H), 13.84 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O) 30.19 (s), 43.51 (s), 111.33 (s), 121.67 (s), 122.71 (s), 128.41 (s), 129.14 (s), 129.53 (s), 129.81 (s), 130.15 (s), 131.54 (s), 132.16 (s), 133.37 (s), 133.61 (s), 134.71 (s), 136.18 (s), 141.03 (s), 161.96 (s), 164.49 (s)	423
4e	3365, 3242, 3031, 2922, 1695, 1627, 1595, 1534, 1488,	2.27 (s, 3H, CH ₃), 4.85 (s, 2H, CH ₂), 6.59 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.05 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.25-7.17 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.46 (t, 1H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.54 (t, 1H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.66 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.96 (d, 2H, J=8, Ar-H), 13.95 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O)	403
4f	3190, 3060, 1695, 1610, 1537, 1488, 1362, 1255	6.74 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.11 (t, 1H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.29-7.21 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 7.48 (t, 1H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.57 (t, 1H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, 2H, J=8, Ar-H), 14.00 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O)	389
4g	3369, 3192, 3030, 1699, 1612, 1543, 1474, 1443, 1343,	2.25 (s, 3H, CH ₃), 4.87 (s, 2H, CH ₂), 6.76 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.25-7.04 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 7.46 (t, 2H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.54 (t, 1H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.82 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.97 (d, 2H, J=8, Ar-H), 14.04 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O)	403
4h	3365, 3242, 3030, 2923, 1695, 1595, 1535, 1488, 1253	2.26 (s, 6H, 2CH ₃), 4.85 (s, 2H, CH ₂), 6.63 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.25-7.01 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 7.45 (t, 2H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.53	383

(t, 1H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.64 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.97 (d, 2H, J=8, Ar-H), 14.02 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D₂O)

4i	3368, 3185, 3059, 2920, 1698, 1612, 1539, 1487, 1466	2.25 (s, 3H, CH ₃), 4.87 (s, 2H, CH ₂), 6.76 (d, 1H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.25-7.04 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 7.46 (t, 2H, J=16, Ar-H), 7.82 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.97 (d, 2H, J=8, Ar-H), 14.04 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O)	369
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Biological activity

The antitubercular activity for all compounds at concentration of 25, 50 and 100 µg/mL was tested against H₃₇Rv. The results of antitubercular activity have been presented in Table 3. Compounds namely 3a, 3c, 4a, 4b and 4h were capable of showing antitubercular activity at 25 µg/mL. While for the compound 3b exhibited antitubercular activity at 50 µg/mL and 4i at 75 µg/mL. Where as for remaining compounds (4c-4f) were failed to show activity in the concentrations tested.

Antibacterial activity has been done for some of the selected compounds namely 3a, 3b and 4b at lowest and highest concentrations against *Bacillus subtilis* and *Staphylococcus aureus* have been presented in Table 4. These compounds (3a, 3b and 4b) displayed mild antibacterial activity against both the tested organisms on comparison to streptomycin.

Table 3. Anti-tubercular activity of synthesized compounds (3a-c and 4a-i) against H₃₇Rv strain

Sl No.	Code No.	Concentration (µg/mL)
1	3a	25
2	3b	50
3	3c	25
4	4a	25
5	4b	25
6	4c	NA
7	4d	NA
8	4e	NA
9	4f	NA
10	4g	75
11	4h	25
12	4i	75
Std	Streptomycin	7.5
Std	Ciprofloxacin	10

NA - Not active

Table 4. Antibacterial activity

Compound code	Zone of inhibition, (cm), <i>B. subtilis</i>	Zone of inhibition, (cm), <i>S. aureus</i>
3a (lowest)	0.4	0.6
3a (highest)	0.9	1.2
3b (lowest)	0.6	0.7
3b (highest)	0.9	1.1
4b (lowest)	0.7	0.7
4b (highest)	1.0	1.3
Streptomycin (10 µg/mL)	3.2	3.4

CONCLUSION

We have prepared twelve compounds by reacting substituted/ unsubstituted 2,3-dihydro-2,3-dioxindole and various benzoyl hydrazide in alcohol in presence of glacial acetic acid. All synthesized compounds were characterized by TLC, MP, and spectral analysis. All compounds were screened for antitubercular, and 3a, 3b and 4b compounds for antibacterial activity. Compounds 3a, 3c, 4a, 4b and 4h were capable of exhibiting antitubercular activity against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* H₃₇Rv at 25 µg/mL. Compounds 3a, 3b and 4b displayed mild antibacterial activity against both the tested organisms on comparison to streptomycin.

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