The antiviral effect of jiadifenoic acids C against coxsackievirus B3

Miao Ge\textsuperscript{a}, Huiqiang Wang\textsuperscript{a}, Guijie Zhang\textsuperscript{b}, Shishan Yu\textsuperscript{b}, Yuhuan Li\textsuperscript{a,*}

\textsuperscript{a}Institute of Medicinal Biotechnology, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College, Beijing 100050, China
\textsuperscript{b}State Key Laboratory of Bioactive Substance and Function of Natural Medicines, Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College, Beijing 100050, China

Received 20 May 2014; revised 11 June 2014; accepted 19 June 2014

Abstract  Coxsackievirus B type 3 (CVB3) is one of the major causative pathogens associated with viral meningitis and myocarditis, which are widespread in the human population and especially prevalent in neonates and children. These infections can result in dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) and other severe clinical complications. There are no vaccines or drugs approved for the prevention or therapy of CVB3-induced diseases. During screening for anti-CVB3 candidates in our previous studies, we found that jiadifenoic acids C exhibited strong antiviral activities against CVB3 as well as other strains of Coxsackie B viruses (CVBs). The present studies were carried out to evaluate the antiviral activities of jiadifenoic acids C. Results showed that jiadifenoic acids C could reduce CVB3 RNA and proteins synthesis in a dose-dependent manner. Jiadifenoic acids C also had a similar antiviral effect on the pleconaril-resistant variant of CVB3. We further examined the impact of jiadifenoic acids C on the synthesis of viral structural and non-structural proteins, finding that jiadifenoic acids C could reduce VP1 and 3D protein production. A time-course study with Vero cells showed that jiadifenoic acids C displayed significant antiviral activities at 0–6 h after CVB3 inoculation, indicating that jiadifenoic acids C functioned at an early step of CVB3 replication. However, jiadifenoic acids C had no prophylactic effect against CVB3. Taken together, we show that jiadifenoic acids C exhibit strong antiviral...
activities against all strains of CVB, including the pleconaril-resistant variant. Our study could provide a significant lead for anti-CVB3 drug development.

© 2014 Chinese Pharmaceutical Association and Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences. Production and hosting by Elsevier B.V. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

1. Introduction

Coxsackie B viruses, belonging to the Enterovirus genus of the Picornaviridae family, can cause a broad spectrum of human diseases, and are especially prevalent in neonates and children

Although the diseases they induce are often mild, such as the common cold, or remain asymptomatic at early stages, they can develop into severe and fatal diseases like aseptic meningitis, acute and chronic myocarditis, paralytic diseases, rhabdomyolysis, pleurisy (Bornholm’s disease), pancreatitis, hepatitis, insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, and severe septic disease

Among these, CVB3 is a frequent subtype. It is also one of the major causative agents of chronic, sub-acute, acute, and fulminant myocarditis as well as pancreatitis and aseptic meningitis. It has been reported that more than 50% of human myocarditis is attributable to CVB3 infection. It is estimated that about 10%–20% of people (approximately 20,000–40,000 patients/year in the USA) with symptoms of acute myocarditis induced by CVB3 infection will develop chronic disease, and chronic myocarditis accounts for CVB3 internalization since some CVB3 strains do not use DAF as a co-receptor

Receptors interacting with the virus induce the release of the pocket factor and conformational changes in the capsid, which allows the viral RNA to enter host cells. This step can be blocked by capsid inhibitors, such as the ‘WIN’ compounds. They may replace the pocket factor and occupy the hydrophobic pocket to prevent virus attachment to cell receptors and prevent conformational changes in the viral capsid, thus preventing the release of the viral RNA from the capsid. However, replacement of Ile-1092 with Leu or Met in the hydrophobic pocket of VP1 results in drug resistance. So far, in spite of extensive efforts, there is no approved vaccine or antiviral drug for prevention or therapy of CVB3-induced diseases

Moreover, no single enterovirus serotype is exclusively associated with a particular disease, and enterovirus serotypes are numerous. Thus, searching for drugs with a broad antiviral spectrum especially effective on the pleconaril-resistant CVB3 strain is important and necessary.

In a large-scale screening for novel drug candidates against CVB3, we found jiadifenoic acids C (Fig. 1) were able to prevent CVB3 replication. Jiadifenoic acid C, an abietane-type diterpene, was first isolated from the roots of Illicium jiadifengpi which is used as a traditional Chinese medicine for the treatment of rheumatism

In the present study, we have demonstrated the antiviral effect of jiadifenoic acids C against the wild-type strain and the pleconaril-resistant variant of CVB3 as well as other strains of CVBs. We also evaluated its effect on reducing CVB3 RNA and protein synthesis as well as its action phase of inhibiting CVB3 replication. Finally, we examined the effect of jiadifenoic acids C on the structural and non-structural viral proteins.
American Type Culture Collection and propagated in Vero cells.

The pleconaril-resistant variant of CVB3 (strain Nancy) was produced by our lab. Briefly, Vero cells (3 × 10^5 cells/well) were plated into 24-well culture plates and incubated for 16 h. Cells infected with 200 μL CVB3 (Nancy) at 1000 TCID50 and 100 TCID50, respectively, for 1 h were supplemented with suitable concentrations of jiadifenoic acids C during incubation. When the CPE of cells treated with jiadifenoic acids C reached 4, the virus was collected by centrifugation at 5000 rpm for 15 min at 4°C after freezing and thawing in −80°C for three times. The pleconaril-resistant variant of CVB3 was isolated after repeating these steps three-fold.10

The plasmids, including pEGFP-VP1, pEGFP-VP4-VP2-VP3 (pEGFP-VP4-3), pEGFP-2C, pEGFP-3A, pEGFP-3B, pEGFP-3C and pEGFP-3D, were all kindly provided by Professor Zhaohua Zhong, Department of Microbiology, Harbin Medical University.

2.2. Compounds

Jiadifenoic acids C were kindly provided by Professor Shishan Yu, State Key Laboratory of Bioactive Substance and Function of Natural Medicines, Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College. Pleconaril was kindly provided by Professor Xianjin Luo, School of Chemistry of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College. Ribavirin (pEGFP-VP4-3), pEGFP-2C, pEGFP-3A, pEGFP-3B, pEGFP-3C and pEGFP-3D, were all kindly provided by Professor Zhaohua Zhong, Department of Microbiology, Harbin Medical University.

2.3. Cytotoxicity assay

The cytotoxic effect of jiadifenoic acids C on Vero cells was assayed by CPE. Briefly, cells (3 × 10^4 cells/well) were seeded into 96-well culture plates and incubated overnight at 37°C under 5% CO2. The medium was removed and different concentrations (0.82, 2.47, 7.41, 22.22, 66.67 and 200 μg/mL) of jiadifenoic acids C were applied. The result was measured with three repeats and the experiment performed in triplicate. After 3 days' incubation, the cytotoxicity of jiadifenoic acids C was determined by CPE assay. TC50 was defined as the concentration that inhibits 50% cellular growth in comparison with untreated controls, and calculated by the Reed and Muench method.

2.4. CPE inhibition assay for anti-CVB3

The anti-CVB3 activity of jiadifenoic acids C was also assayed by the CPE method. Briefly, cells (3 × 10^4 cells/well) were plated into 96-well culture plates and incubated for 16 h. The medium was removed and cells were infected with 100 μL CVB3 of 100 TCID50 for 1 h, after which various concentrations of jiadifenoic acids C were added immediately for incubation until the CPE of the control group cells reached 4. Each experiment was tested in triplicate and performed at least thrice separately. The 50% inhibitory concentration (IC50) was determined by the Reed and Muench method. The selectivity index (SI) was calculated as the ratio of TC50/IC50.

2.5. RT-PCR quantification of CVB3 RNA

Vero cells (9 × 10^5 cells/well) were plated into 6-well culture plates and incubated for 16 h. The medium was removed and cells were infected with 600 μL CVB3 (Nancy) of 100 TCID50 for 1 h, after which various concentrations of jiadifenoic acids C were added immediately for incubation for another 24 h. Cellular and total viral RNA were extracted from infected cells using the RNeasy Mini kit (QIAGEN) according to the manufacturer's instructions.

One-step quantitative real-time polymerase chain reaction (qRT-PCR) was carried out using the ABI 7500 Fast Real-Time PCR system (Applied Biosystems) with SuperScript III Platinum SYBR Green One-step RT PCR Kit (invitrogen) and CVB3 forward primer (5'-TGCTCCGCAGTTAGTAGGC-3') and reverse primer (5'-ACATGGTGCGAAGACTTGTGAG-3') targeting a conserved region of the VP1 gene, using β-actin as internal control with the forward primer (5'-TGACGGGGTTCACCCACACTGTGCCCATCTA-3') and reverse primer (5'-CTAAGACATTGGGAGGAGATG-3').

The PCR assay was carried out in a volume of 25 μL consisting of 12.5 μL of 2x SYBR Green Reaction Mix, 0.5 μL of 10 μmol/L of each oligonucleotide primer, 0.5 μL of SuperScript III RT/ Platinum Tap Mix, 1 μL ROX Reference and 1 μL of RNA extracted from the samples. The target fragment amplification was carried out as follows: reverse transcription at 50°C for 3 min; initial activation of HotStar Taq DNA Polymerase at 95°C for 5 min; 40 cycles in two steps: 95°C for 15 s, 60°C for 30 s. At the end of the amplification cycles melting temperature analysis was carried out by a slow increase in temperature (0.1°C/s) up to 95°C.

2.6. Western blot analysis of CVB3 protein

Vero cells (9 × 10^5 cells/well) were plated into 6-well culture plates for incubation for 16 h. The medium was removed and the cells were infected with 600 μL CVB3 (Nancy) of 100 TCID50 for 1 h, after which various concentrations of jiadifenoic acids C were added immediately for incubation for 36 h. After incubation, the cells were rapidly washed with ice-cold PBS and ice-cold M-PER mammalian protein extraction reagent (Thermo) containing half protease inhibitor single-use cocktail (Thermo) was added. The cells were scraped, collected and lysed for 30 min. The cell lysates were centrifuged at 12,000 × g for 15 min at 4°C to yield the whole cell extract. The protein concentration was determined by the BCA assay (Thermo) according to the instructions of the manufacturer. Samples from these supernatant fractions (10 μg protein) were denatured and subjected to SDS-PAGE using a 10% (w/v) running gel. Proteins were transferred to a PVDF membrane and the membrane was incubated successively at room temperature with 5% (w/v) non-fat milk in TBST for 1 h. Membranes were then incubated at room temperature using an mouse anti-coxsackie virus B3 monoclonal antibody (Millipore) and an anti-β-actin (Cell Signaling) antibody used at a dilution of 1:3000 in 3% (w/v) non-fat milk for 2 h.

The membranes were washed with TBST 3 times for 10 min each and incubated with a 1:5000 dilution of anti-mouse horseradish peroxidase antibody (Cell Signaling) for 1 h. Following each incubation, the membrane was washed extensively with TBST.

2.7. Time course assay

The antiviral activity of jiadifenoic acids C was also examined at different time periods before and after viral infection. Briefly, cells (3 × 10^5 cells/well) were seeded and incubated for 16 h as previously described. The cell monolayer was then infected with 100 μL CVB3 (Nancy) at a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 1 for 1 h. 80 μg/mL jiadifenoic acids C in 100 μL were added following
the protocol. The cells were incubated until the CPE of the control group cells reached 4 and then assayed with the CPE assay.

2.8. Western blot analysis of CVB3's structural and non-structural proteins

Vero cells (9 × 10^5 cells/well) were plated into 6-well culture plates for incubation for 16 h. The medium was removed and cells were transfected with 4 μg of plasmids expressing the EGFP-tagged VP1, VP4-3, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 3C, and 3D, respectively (pEGFP-VP1, pEGFP-VP4-VP2-VP1 (pEGFP-VP4-3), pEGFP-2C, pEGFP-3A, pEGFP-3B, pEGFP-3C and pEGFP-3D), using Lipofectamine 2000 Reagent (invitrogen) and opti-MEM (1 × ) Reduced Serum Medium (Gibco) according to the instructions of the manufacturer. After 48 h, the medium was removed and the cells were treated with various concentrations (0, 10, 20, 40 and 80 μg/mL) of jiadifenoic acids C for incubation for another 36 h. The cells were harvested for western blot assay as described above.

2.9. CPE inhibition assay for anti-coxsackievirus B type

The anti-coxsackievirus activity of jiadifenoic acids C also was assayed by the CPE method. Briefly, cells (3 × 10^5 cells/well) were plated into 96-well culture plates and incubated for 16 h. The medium was removed and the cells were infected with 100 μL coxsackievirus at 100 TCID₅₀ for 1 h, after which various concentrations of jiadifenoic acids C were added immediately for incubation until the CPE of the control group cells reached 4. Each experiment was measured in triplicate and performed at least thrice separately. The IC₅₀ was determined by the Reed and Muench method. The SI was calculated as the ratio of TC₅₀/IC₅₀.

3. Results

3.1. Inhibition of CVB3 replication by jiadifenoic acids C in vitro

The cytotoxic effect of jiadifenoic acids C on Vero cells was measured with a conventional CPE method, and the TC₅₀ was 115.47 μg/mL. We used a CPE reduction assay to study the anti-CVB3 activities of jiadifenoic acids C. As shown in Fig. 2, jiadifenoic acids C significantly reduced CVB3-induced CPE in a dose-dependent manner. The IC₅₀ and selectivity index of jiadifenoic acids C for CVB3 infection in Vero cells are shown in Table 1.

3.2. Inhibition of viral RNA synthesis by jiadifenoic acids C

To examine the effect of jiadifenoic acids C on the synthesis of CVB3 RNA, the CVB3 (Nancy)-infected cells were treated with jiadifenoic acids C and the viral RNA in cells was extracted and analyzed using the RT-PCR assay. As shown in Fig. 3, jiadifenoic acids C inhibited viral RNA synthesis in a dose-dependent manner.

3.3. Inhibition of viral protein synthesis by jiadifenoic acids C

To examine the effect of jiadifenoic acids C on the synthesis of CVB3 proteins, the CVB3 (Nancy)-infected cells were treated with jiadifenoic acids C and the viral proteins in the cells were analyzed using western blotting. As shown in Fig. 4, jiadifenoic acids C inhibited the viral protein synthesis in a dose-dependent manner.

![Figure 2](image-url) Inhibition of CVB3-induced CPE by jiadifenoic acids C. Confluent Vero cultures were inoculated with 100 TCID₅₀ CVB3 (Nancy). After 1 h of adsorption at 37 °C, the monolayers were washed with PBS and incubated at 37 °C in the maintenance medium (MEM plus 2% FBS) with or without various concentrations of jiadifenoic acids C. The morphological changes in Vero cells were observed until the CPE of the control group cells reached 4.
3.4. Time course assay

To examine the action phase of jiadifenoic acids C in inhibiting CVB3, the CVB3 (Nancy)-infected cells were treated with 80 μg/mL jiadifenoic acids C and the viral suppression rate in cells was analyzed using CPE. As shown in Fig. 5, treatment with jiadifenoic acids C at 0–6 h after CVB3 infection inhibited viral replication, while they were ineffective at 8 h and to 1 h of CVB3 infection.

3.5. Inhibition of the synthesis of various viral structural proteins and non-structural proteins by jiadifenoic acids C

To examine which viral components are affected by jiadifenoic acids C, Vero cells were transfected with plasmids expressing the EGFP-tagged VP1, VP4-3, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 3C and 3D, respectively. After 48 h the medium was removed and cells were treated with various concentrations of jiadifenoic acids C for incubation for another 36 h, and the cells were harvested for western blot assay. As shown in Fig. 6, jiadifenoic acids C could reduce the EGFP-VP1 and EGFP-3D production in a dose-dependent manner.

3.6. Inhibition of coxsackievirus B-type replication by jiadifenoic acids C in vitro

The CPE reduction assay was used to study anti-coxsackievirus B-type activities of jiadifenoic acids C. Indeed, jiadifenoic acids C exhibited activities against CVB1, B2, B3, B4, B5 and B6 in Vero cells. The IC₅₀ and selectivity index of jiadifenoic acids C for CVBs infections are shown in Table 2.

---

### Table 1: Antiviral activities of jiadifenoic acids C against CVB3 in vitro.

| CVB3 (Nancy) | Jiadifenoic acids C | Pleconaril | RBV |
|--------------|---------------------|------------|-----|
|              | TC₅₀ (μg/mL) | IC₅₀ (μg/mL) | SI | TC₅₀ (μg/mL) | IC₅₀ (ng/mL) | SI | TC₅₀ (mg/mL) | IC₅₀ (μg/mL) | SI |
| Standard strain | 115.47 | 18.63 ± 10 | 6.19 | 15.41 | 0.38 ± 0.1 | 40553 | > 10 | 366 ± 74 | > 27.3 |
| Resistant strain | 115.47 | 52.58 ± 19.9 | 2.2 | 15.41 | 13.8 ± 3.55 | 1117 | > 10 | 515 ± 75 | > 19.4 |

---

![Figure 3](image3.png)

**Figure 3** Jiadifenoic acids C reduce CVB3 viral RNA synthesis in Vero cells. Vero cells (9 × 10⁵ cells/well) were plated into 6-well culture plates for incubation for 16 h. The medium was removed and cells were infected with 600 μL CVB3 of 100 TCID₅₀ for 1 h, after which various concentrations of jiadifenoic acids C were added immediately and the incubation continued for 24 h. The cells were harvested for one-step qRT-PCR assay. *P < 0.001 vs control.

![Figure 4](image4.png)

**Figure 4** Jiadifenoic acids C reduce CVB3 viral proteins (VP1) synthesis in Vero cells by western blot assay. Vero cells (9 × 10⁵ cells/well) were plated into 6-well culture plates for incubation for 16 h. The medium was removed and cells were infected with 600 μL CVB3 (Nancy) of 100 TCID₅₀ for 1 h, after which various concentrations of jiadifenoic acids C were added and incubation continued for 36 h. The cells were harvested for western blot assay.

![Figure 5](image5.png)

**Figure 5** Time course assay of jiadifenoic acids C against CVB3. (a) An illustration of the treatment with jiadifenoic acids C. Confluent Vero cells were inoculated with CVB3 (Nancy) at a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 1 for 1 h. Jiadifenoic acids C (80 μg/mL) were added at the designated times. (b) The morphological changes in Vero cells were observed until the CPE of the control group cells reached 4. The results show CPE induced by CVB3 infection with or without jiadifenoic acids C treatment, and the virus control group is set as 100%.
4. Discussion

Myocarditis is inflammation of the myocardium which most frequently follows enterovirus (picornavirus family) infection. CVBs represent the most commonly identified infectious agents associated with acute and chronic myocarditis. CVB3 is one of the most common viral etiologic variants. It can induce severe infections towards heart, pancreas and brain. In recent years the incidence rate appears to be rising in China. However, its specific pathogenesis has not been fully understood yet. And to date there is no approved vaccine or antiviral drug for prevention or therapy of CVB3-induced diseases. Moreover, there are large numbers of enterovirus serotypes and no single enterovirus serotype is exclusively associated with a particular disease. Thus, the search for drugs with a broad antiviral spectrum to prevent and treat myocarditis is timely.

**Table 2** Antiviral activities of jiadifenoic acids C against coxsackievirus in vitro.

| Virus | Jiadifenoic acids C | Pleconaril | RBV |
|-------|---------------------|-----------|-----|
|       | TC<sub>50</sub> (μg/mL) | IC<sub>50</sub> (μg/mL) | SI | TC<sub>50</sub> (μg/mL) | IC<sub>50</sub> (μg/mL) | SI | TC<sub>50</sub> (μg/mL) | IC<sub>50</sub> (μg/mL) | SI |
| CVB1  | 115.47              | 5.05 ± 1.46 | 22.87 | 15.41 | 0.885 ± 0.095 | 17.412 | >10 | 515 ± 75 | >19.42 |
| CVB2  | 115.47              | 10.9 ± 4.3  | 10.59 | 15.41 | 0.5 ± 0.16 (μg/mL) | 30.82 | >10 | 554 ± 37 | >18.05 |
| CVB4  | 115.47              | 25.16 ± 15.8 | 4.59 | 15.41 | 2.81 ± 1.5 | 5484 | >10 | 331 ± 109 | >30.21 |
| CVB5  | 115.47              | 6.03 ± 1.9  | 19.15 | 15.41 | 1.13 ± 0.75 | 13.637 | >10 | 605 ± 15 | >16.53 |
| CVB6  | 115.47              | 13.9 ± 1.5  | 8.31 | 15.41 | 6.46 ± 1 | 2385 | >10 | 366 ± 74 | >29.76 |

**Figure 6** Jiadifenoic acids C reduce CVB3 viral proteins (VP1 and 3D) synthesis in Vero cells by western blot assay. Vero cells (9 × 10<sup>5</sup> cells/well) were plated into 6-well culture plates for incubation for 16 h. The medium was removed and cells were transfected with 4 μg plasmids pEGFP-VP1, pEGFP-VP4-VP2-VP3 (pEGFP-VP4-3), pEGFP-2C, pEGFP-3A, pEGFP-3B, pEGFP-3C and pEGFP-3D. After 48 h cells were treated with various concentrations of jiadifenoic acids C and incubation continued for 36 h. The cells were harvested for western blot assay.
Diterpenes forms a large and structurally diverse class of secondary metabolites isolated from plants and have a wide spectrum of useful biological activities. Jiadifenoc acid C, an abietane-type diterpene, was first isolated from the roots of *Illicium jiadifenpi* which is used as a traditional Chinese medicine for the treatment of rheumatism. In our previous study, jiadifenoc acid C was reported to exhibit antiviral activities against CVB2, B3, B4, and B6. In order to evaluate jiadifenoc acids C in a more systematic manner, we carried out a series of experiments.

In this study, the antiviral effects of jiadifenoc acids C against all strains of CVBs have been demonstrated. Jiadifenoc acids C could reduce CVB3 RNA and protein synthesis in a dose-dependent manner. It could also prevent the replication of a pleconaril-resistant CVB3 variant. A time-course study showed that jiadifenoc acids C functions at an early step of CVB3 replication but has no prophylactic effect against CVB3, suggesting that it most likely does not inhibit CVB3 entry and uncoating, but suppresses viral RNA/protein biosynthesis. Moreover, the initial analysis of the effect of jiadifenoc acids C on VP1, VP2-4, 2C, 3A, 3B, 3C, and 3D showed that jiadifenoc acids C could inhibit viral protein VP1 and 3D expression in plasmid-transfected cells, indicating that jiadifenoc acids C's antiviral effects may be associated with structural protein VP1 and non-structural protein 3D. However, as the viral proteins’ expression in the plasmid-transfected cells did not rely on viral replication, but depended on host cellular transcription and translation machinery, it was unclear how the selective reduction of the two viral proteins was accomplished. Perhaps it is because jiadifenoc acids C could promote the degradation of these viral proteins. Since jiadifenoc acids C have a similar effect on both the pleconaril-resistant variant of CVB3 and the wild-type strain, we suppose that it most likely inhibits CVB3 replication in a different way than does pleconaril. The 3D protein is the viral RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp), which plays an essential role in the replication machinery of RNA viruses. How jiadifenoc acids C promote viral 3D protein degradation in a dose-dependent manner remains unresolved, and requires further exploration.

Although CVB3 is known to be a potent pathogen that can cause acute or chronic cardiac-related diseases as defined by the Dallas criteria, CVB3-specific prophylactic or therapeutic procedures are lacking. Jiadifenoc acids C can actively inhibit replication of CVBs as well as the pleconaril-resistant CVB3. Our findings may provide a significant lead for anti-CVB3 drug optimization and development as well as DCM therapy. We will continue to clarify the mechanism by which jiadifenoc acids C mediate their antiviral effects.

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by the National Science and Technology Major Project of the Ministry of Science and Technology of China (2012ZX09301002-001-015 and 2012ZX10004501-004-001).

References

1. Kim DS, Nam JH. Characterization of attenuated coxsackievirus B3 strains and prospects of their application as live-attenuated vaccines. Expert Opin Biol Ther 2010;10:179–90.

2. Huber M, Selinka HC, Kandolf R. Tyrosine phosphorylation events during coxsackievirus B3 replication. J Virol 1997;71:595–600.

3. Fechner H, Pinkert S, Geisler A, Poller W, Rurreck J. Pharmacological and biological antiviral strategies for cardiac coxsackievirus infections. Molecules 2011;16:4875–503.

4. Keh T, Koivunen MR, Oikarinen S, Kummola L, Makinen S, Mäkinen AJ, et al. Coxsackievirus B3 VLPs purified by ion exchange chromatography elicit strong immune responses in mice. Antiviral Res 2014;104:93–101.

5. Martin U, Jarassch N, Nestler M, Rassmann A, Munder T, Seitz S, et al. Antiviral effects of pan-caspase inhibitors on the replication vector system for vaccines and gene therapy. Human Vaccines 2011;7:410–6.

6. Hwang HY, Kim JY, Lim JY, Chung SK, Nam JH, Park SL. Coxsackievirus B3 modulates cell death by downregulating activating transcription factor 3 in HeLa cells. Virus Res 2007;130:10–7.

7. Huber SA. Autoimmunity in coxsackievirus B3 induced myocarditis. Autoimmunity 2006;39:55–61.

8. Wang T, Yu B, Lin L, Zhai X, Han Y, Qin Y, et al. A functional nucleolar localization sequence in the VP1 capsid protein of coxsackievirus B3. Virology 2012;433:513–21.

9. Makarov VA, Raiobova OB, Granik VG, Wutzler P, Schmidtke M. Novel [(biphenyloxy)propyl]isoxazole derivatives for inhibition of human rhinovirus 2 and coxsackievirus B3 replication. J Antimicrob Chemother 2005;55:483–8.

10. Zhang QM, Song WQ, Li YJ, Qian J, Zhai AX, Wu J, et al. Over-expression of mitochondrial antiviral signaling protein inhibits coxsackievirus B3 infection by enhancing type-I interferons production. Virology 2012;9:312.

11. Romero JR. Pleconaril: a novel antipicornaviral drug. Expert Opin Investig Drugs 2001;10:69–79.

12. Rothbart HA, Webster AD. Treatment of potentially life-threatening enterovirus infections with pleconaril. Clin Infect Dis 2001;32:228–35.

13. Groarke JM, Pevear DC. Attenuated virulence of pleconaril-resistant coxsackievirus B3 variants. J Infect Dis 1999;179:1538–41.

14. Desmond RA, Accortt NA, Talley L, Villano SA, Soong SJ, Whitley RJ. Enteroviral meningitis: natural history and outcome of pleconaril therapy. Antimicrob Agents Chemother 2006;50:2409–14.

15. Schmidtke M, Wutzler P, Zieger R, Riabova OB, Makarov VA. New pleconaril and [(biphenyloxy)propyl]isoxazole derivatives with substratistics in the central ring exhibit antiviral activity against pleconaril-resistant coxsackievirus B3. Antiviral Res 2009;81:56–63.

16. Schmidtke M, Hammenschmidt E, Schüler S, Zell R, Birch-Hirschfeld E, Makarov VA, et al. Susceptibility of coxsackievirus B3 laboratory strains and clinical isolates to the capsid function inhibitor pleconaril: antiviral studies with virus chimeras demonstrate the crucial role of amino acid 1092 in treatment. J Antimicrob Chemother 2005;56:648–56.

17. Zhang GJ, Li YH, Jiang JD, Yu SS, Qu J, Ma SG, et al. Anti-coxsackievirus B diterpenes from the roots of *Illicium jiadifenpi*. Tetrahedron 2013;69:1017–23.

18. Sarisky RT, Quail MR, Clark PE, Nguyen TT, Halsey WS, Wintrock RJ, et al. Characterization of herpes simplex viruses selected in culture for resistance to penciclovir or acyclovir. J Virology 2001;75:1761–9.

19. Ahn J, Ko A, Jun EJ, Won M, Kim YK, Ju ES, et al. Antiviral effects of small interfering RNA simultaneously inducing RNA interference and type 1 interferon in coxsackievirus myocarditis. Antimicrob Agents Chemother 2012;56:3516–23.

20. Wang HQ, Meng S, Li ZR, Peng ZG, Han YX, Guo SS, et al. The antiviral effect of 7-hydroxyisoflavone against Enterovirus 71 in vitro. J Asian Nat Prod Res 2013;15:382–9.

21. Gazina EV, Smidiansky ED, Holien JK, Harrison DN, Cromer BA, Arnold JJ, et al. Amiloride is a competitive inhibitor of coxsackievirus B3 RNA polymerase. J Virol 2011;85:10364–74.

22. Gruza A, Selisko B, Roberts M, Bricogne G, Bussetta C, Jabahi I, et al. The crystal structure of coxsackievirus B3 RNA-dependent RNA polymerase in complex with its protein primer VPg confirms the existence of a second VPg binding site on Picornaviridae polymerases. J Virol 2008;82:9577–90.