In Silico Approach Towards the Prediction of Drug-likeness, in Vitro Microbial Investigation and Formation of Dihydropyrrolone Conjugates

Keyur Pandya a,*, Bhavesh Daveb, Rajesh Patlec, Piyush Desia

a Department of Chemistry, Arts, Science, and Commerce College, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat, Gujarat, India
b Department of Chemistry, M.B. Patel Science College, Sardar Patel University, Anand, Gujarat, India
c Department of Organic Chemistry, Shri A. N. Patel P.G. Institute of Research and Sciences, Anand, Gujarat, India

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ABSTRACT

In this research study, we have synthesized a library of 2-substituted-1-(2-(5-(5-benzoyl-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazole-1-yl)methyl)-2-thioxo-1,3,4-oxadiazol-3(2H)-yl)acetamido)-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acids from 1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazole-5-yl)(phenyl)methanone. The synthesized compounds were characterized using 1H NMR, 13C NMR, C,H,N elemental analysis and mass spectroscopy studies. All the compounds were investigated for their in silico ADME prediction properties, in vitro antibacterial activity against four bacterial strains, antifungal activity against two fungal strains, and antitybacterial activity against the H37Rv. All the compounds revealed good to moderate activity against the bacterial strain. Among all the compounds, 6b and 6f showed better antitybacterial agents compared with that of the standard drug ciprofloxacin and pyrazinamide, whereas 6a, 6b, and 6e were found to be excellent antifungal and antibacterial agent compared standard drugs clotrimazole and ciprofloxacin. The results of the in-silico analysis depicted that the synthesized compounds had excellent drug-likeness properties.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT

* Corresponding author’s E-mail address: scientistatwork@outlook.com
Introduction

Heterocyclic molecules are cyclic molecules, containing one or more heteroatoms besides the carbon atom. The most common heteroatoms are nitrogen, oxygen, and sulphur. The heterocyclic compounds containing three to six carbons in the ring are numerous; however, those containing five or six atoms are very important in the pharmaceutical world. Pyrroles demonstrate such flexibility (Figure 1) with valuable substructure in a collection of pharmaceuticals, involving products potent against HIV [1,2], influenza [3], cytomegalovirus [4], anticancer agents [5,6] and compounds effective against microbiological infections [7-9] such as bacterial and fungal. In addition, pyrroles are known as building blocks in the synthesis of alkaloids [10-13] and intermediates including, 2,2'-bipyroles, pyrroles, and pigments [14-19]. Structural alteration of the pyrrole ring to create more bioactive molecules has attracted great deal of attention from many researchers. Over the years much effort has been directed towards developing new strategies for 2-arylpyrrole and oligopyrrole synthesis [20–27].

Continuing interest in the development of the synthetic methodology of dihydropyrrole synthesis provides some impetus to initiate a project for developing a new and more expedient route for the pyrrole rings synthesis. Dihydropyrroles may be employed as important synthetic intermediates for synthesis of pyrroles. Substituted dihydropyrroles are a vital class of five membered nitrogen-containing heterocycles as they are present in numerous bioactive compounds and pharmaceuticals, such as sibiromycin [28], anthramycin [29], serotonin reuptake inhibitor [30], and thienamycin [31]. Furthermore, dihydropyrroles can be used as versatile synthetic intermediates for the synthesis of natural products [32]. Therefore, considerable efforts have been devoted to the synthesis of these heterocyclic motifs, establishing numerous synthetic methods. Among these techniques, the commonly used approaches are cyclization reactions. Related dihydropyrrol-2-one (DHP) analogues, which bear a nitrogen atom in place of the oxygen in the heterocyclic ring, are more hydrolytically stable under physiological conditions [33]. DHP is a common moiety in several classes of biologically active molecules such as pulchella lactam (1a-b, Figure 2), jatropham, and rolipram [34–36]. Novel dihydropyrrolole derivatives have been developed in our laboratory (Figure 3) and their bioactivities as well as in silico properties are discussed in this article.

Figure 1. Few biologically active compounds containing 1H-pyrrole derivatives

- **Atorvastatin**
  - use to control production of cholesterol the body

- **Tolmetin**
  - nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory

- **Amtolmetin**
  - use to treat arthritis

- **Ketorolac**
  - use to treat eye pain and itchiness
In Silico Approach towards the Prediction of...

Figure 2. Biologically active pyrrole-2-ones

![Figure 2](image1)

Figure 3. Design strategy for target compounds

![Figure 3](image2)

Experimental

Materials and methods

All the reactants were purchased from Sigma Aldrich, and used without further purification. All solvents were used without further drying or purification and were of ACS grade purchased from local suppliers. TLC plates (silica gel) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Melting points were determined in open capillary tubes on a Stuart SMP 10 melting point apparatus. Nuclear magnetic spectroscopy (NMR) spectra were produced using the Varian 300 MHz spectrophotometer. The instrument was maintained at 25 °C operating at 300 MHz for 1H NMR, and 75 MHz for 13C NMR. The deuterated solvent (DMSO-d6) used for each respective spectrum was referenced to the appropriate literature peak shift.

General procedure for synthesis of 2-(5-benzoyl-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-5-yl)(phenyl)methanone (22.4 mmol, 5 g) in absolute EtOH (60 cm³), methyl chloroacetate (22.4 mmol, 1.96 cm³), hydrazine monohydrate (22.4 mmol, 1.09 cm³) and anhydrous K₂CO₃ (26.9 mmol, 3.7g) were added and the reaction mixture was heated under reflux for 16 h. Progress of the reaction was noticed by TLC technique. After completion of the reaction, the potassium salt was filtered off and the excess of ethanol was removed. The residue solidified in cold water, dried and, recrystallized by EtOH to collect the final product 2 in good yields (5.3 g, 80.13%) mp 145-147 ºC, 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 9.14 (t, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.84 – 7.74 (m, 3H), 7.63 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 4.90 (s, 2H), 4.19 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 2H).

General procedure for the synthesis of phenyl(1-{(5-thioxo-4,5-dihydro-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)acetohydrazide. 2
A mixture of compound 2 (10.2 mmol, 3 g) was added to MeOH (100 cm³), potassium hydroxide (5.34 mmol, 0.3 g) and heated with CCl₄ (5.21 mmol, 0.38 cm³) and refluxed for about 12 h at 65 °C. Progress of the reaction was monitored using the TLC technique. After completion of the reaction, the separated solid was filtered, dried in vacuum, and purified over a column of silica gel, eluted with CH₂Cl₂ (2:8 v/v) mixture to give a final product 3 with yield of (2.81 g, 81.92%). mp 177-179 °C, ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 12.39 (s, 1H), 8.31 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.85-7.77 (m, 3H), 7.63-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.54-7.48 (m, 2H), 4.74 (s, 2H).

General procedure for the synthesis of 2-(5-(5-benzoyl-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)methyl)-2-thioxo-1,3,4-oxadiazol-3(2H)-yl)acetohydrazine. 4

To the solution of reactant 3 (7.11 mmol, 2.4 g) in absolute EtOH (60 cm³), methyl chloroacetate (7.11 mmol, 0.4 cm³), hydrazine monohydrate (7.11 mmol, 0.65 cm³) and anhydrous KC₃CO₃ (8.54 mmol, 1.2 g) were added and the reaction mixture was heated under reflux for 16 h. Progress of the reaction was noticed by TLC technique. After completing the reaction, the potassium salt was filtered off and the excess of ethanol was removed. The residue solidified in cold water, dried, and recrystallized using EtOH to collect the final product 4 in good yields (2.4 g 82.39%), mp 186-188 °C, ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 9.23 (t, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.83 - 7.75 (m, 3H), 7.63 - 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.54 - 7.46 (m, 2H), 4.82 (s, 2H), 4.32 (s, 2H), 4.23 - 4.10 (m, 2H).

General procedure for the synthesis of (E)-N'-(substituted methylene)-2-(5-(5-benzoyl-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)methyl)-2-thioxo-1,3,4-oxadiazol-3(2H)-yl)acetohydrazid. 5a-h

A mixture of compound 4 (0.01 mol) and maleic anhydride (0.01 mol) was made in absolute ethanol (100 mL) and was refluxed for about 4-8 h at 79 °C with a catalytic amount of glacial acetic acid (1-3 drops) on a water bath. The reaction was monitored using the TLC. The mixture was evaporated under the reduced pressure to give a residue. The residue was dissolved in DCM, and the organic layer were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified using the silica gel chromatography (PE/EtOAc=1:1) and recrystallized from PE/EtOAc to afford product 5a. Similarly, 5b-h was prepared using the same procedure and different aromatic aldehydes (as listed in Scheme 1).

General procedure for the synthesis of 2-substituted-1-(2-(5-(5-benzoyl-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)methyl)-2-thioxo-1,3,4-oxadiazol-3(2H)-yl)acetamido)-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid. 6a-h

A mixture of reactant 5a (0.135 mol) and maleic anhydride (0.15 mol) was dissolved in anhydrous toluene (150 mL) and stirred under nitrogen during 24 h at 35 °C. The mixture was cooled at room temperature and the solid was separated by filtration, and purified by extraction with ethyl acetate after addition of sodium carbonate. The aqueous layer was treated with phosphoric acid. The white solid product separated by filtration with ice-cold water, then dried and recrystallized in 45% ethanol to obtain white crystals of compound 6a. Similarly, other compounds 6b-h were prepared using the same procedure with different reactants 5b-h.

Reagents and conditions (a) EtOH, CH₂CO₂H, H₂O, Anhy. K₂CO₃, reflux, 16 hrs. (b) MeOH, KOH, CCl₄, reflux, 12 hrs. (c) EtOH, CH₂CO₂H, H₂O, Anhy. K₂CO₃, reflux, 16 hrs. (d) Aromatic aldehyde, EtOH, glacial acetic acid, reflux, 4-5 hrs (e) maleic anhydride, anhydrous toluene, under N₂, 24 hr, 35 °C, ~54-68%.
Scheme 1. General synthetic route of the title compounds

\[ \text{Spectral and physical data for compounds} \]

1-(2-(5-((5-benzoyl-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)methyl)-2-thioxo-1,3,4-oxadiazol-3(2H)-yl)acetamido)-5-oxo-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (6a)

Yield: 61%; white solid, m.p. 174 – 175 °C; \(^1\)H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-\(d_6\)) \(\delta\) (ppm) 10.30 (s, 1H), 8.44 – 8.40 (m, 1H), 8.12 – 8.06 (m, 1H), 7.89 (dd, \(J = 10.2, 2.3\) Hz, 1H), 7.84 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.63 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.54 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43 (s, 5H), 6.69 (d, \(J = 1.7\) Hz, 1H), 5.56 (d, \(J = 1.7\) Hz, 1H), 4.69 (d, \(J = 17.6\) Hz, 1H), 4.52 – 4.40 (m, 2H), 4.23 (d, \(J = 13.6\) Hz, 1H). \(^{13}\)C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-\(d_6\)), \(\delta\) (ppm) 197.9, 181.4, 169.0, 168.7, 167.4, 143.3, 142.6, 140.6, 137.6, 133.6, 133.3, 133.1, 131.9, 129.7, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.5, 118.1, 117.4, 110.1, 60.6, 48.0, 44.8; ESIMS: m/z calculated for C\(_{29}\)H\(_{21}\)N\(_7\)O\(_6\)S (M+H)\(^+\) 596.13 found 596.11, Anal. Calc. for C\(_{29}\)H\(_{21}\)N\(_7\)O\(_6\)S: C, 58.48; H, 3.55; N, 16.46%; found: C, 58.47; H, 3.53; N, 16.45%.

1-(2-(5-((5-benzoyl-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)methyl)-2-thioxo-1,3,4-oxadiazol-3(2H)-yl)acetamido)-5-oxo-2-(p-tolyl)-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (6b)

Yield: 67%; white solid, m.p. 182 – 183 °C; \(^1\)H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-\(d_6\)), \(\delta\) (ppm) 10.30 (s, 1H), 8.46 – 8.39 (m, 1H), 8.14 – 8.05 (m, 1H), 7.89 (dd, \(J = 10.2, 2.3\) Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.54 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.48 (dd, \(J = 13.6\) Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, \(J = 1.7\) Hz, 1H), 5.56 (d, \(J = 1.6\) Hz, 1H), 4.69
(d, J = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 4.53 – 4.39 (m, 2H), 4.23 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d6), δ (ppm) 197.9, 181.4, 169.0, 168.7, 167.4, 143.3, 142.6, 140.6, 137.6, 133.6, 133.3, 133.3, 132.1, 131.9, 129.7, 129.3, 128.9, 128.5, 127.8, 118.1, 117.4, 110.1, 60.6, 48.1, 44.8; ESIMS: m/z calculated for C25H22ClN2O6S (M+H) + 630.09 found 630.07 Anal. Calc. for C25H22ClN2O6S: C, 55.29%; H, 3.20%; N, 15.56%; found: C, 55.29; H, 3.19; N, 15.54%.

1-(2-(5-(5-benzoyl-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)methyl)-2-thioxo-1,3,4-oxadiazol-3(2H)-yl)acetamido)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (6e)

Yield: 56.1%; white solid, m.p. 180 – 181 °C; 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6), δ (ppm) 10.30 (s, 1H), 8.45 – 8.39 (m, 1H), 8.14 – 8.04 (m, 1H), 7.89 (dd, J = 10.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.53 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 6.82 – 6.72 (m, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.60 – 5.53 (m, 1H), 4.69 (d, J = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 4.52 – 4.39 (m, 2H), 4.23 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d6), δ (ppm) 197.9, 181.4, 169.0, 168.7, 167.4, 158.3, 143.3, 142.6, 140.6, 137.6, 133.6, 133.3, 131.9, 130.6, 129.7, 128.9, 128.5, 125.0, 118.1, 117.4, 114.2, 110.1, 60.6, 55.4, 48.1, 44.8; ESIMS: m/z calculated for C23H19N2O5S (M+H) + 627.14 found 627.12 Anal. Calc. for C23H19N2O5S: C, 57.60%; H, 3.71%; N, 15.67%; found: C, 57.59; H, 3.71; N, 15.66%.

1-(2-(5-(5-benzoyl-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)methyl)-2-thioxo-1,3,4-oxadiazol-3(2H)-yl)acetamido)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (6d)

Yield: 57.4%; white solid, m.p. 176 – 177 °C; 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6), δ (ppm) 10.30 (s, 1H), 8.45 – 8.39 (m, 1H), 8.14 – 8.04 (m, 1H), 7.89 (dd, J = 10.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.53 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 7.13 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.60 – 5.52 (m, 1H), 4.69 (d, J = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 4.52 – 4.39 (m, 2H), 4.23 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H). 13C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d6), δ (ppm) 197.9, 181.4, 169.0, 168.7, 167.4, 143.3, 142.6, 140.6, 137.6, 133.6, 133.3, 133.3, 132.1, 131.9, 129.7, 129.3, 128.9, 128.5, 127.8, 118.1, 117.4, 110.1, 60.6, 48.1, 44.8; ESIMS: m/z calculated for C23H23N2O5S (M+H) + 611.14 found 611.12 Anal. Calc. for C23H23N2O5S: C, 59.11%; H, 3.80%; N, 16.04%; found: C, 59.09; H, 3.80; N, 16.03%.

1-(2-(5-(5-benzoyl-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)methyl)-2-thioxo-1,3,4-oxadiazol-3(2H)-yl)acetamido)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (6c)

Yield: 54.7%; white solid, m.p. 181 – 182 °C; 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6), δ (ppm) 10.30 (s, 1H), 8.45 – 8.39 (m, 1H), 8.14 – 8.04 (m, 1H), 7.89 (dd, J = 10.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.53 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 6.82 – 6.72 (m, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.60 – 5.53 (m, 1H), 4.69 (d, J = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 4.52 – 4.39 (m, 2H), 4.23 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d6), δ (ppm) 197.9, 181.4, 169.0, 168.7, 167.4, 158.3, 143.3, 142.6, 140.6, 137.6, 133.6, 133.3, 131.9, 130.6, 129.7, 128.9, 128.5, 125.0, 118.1, 117.4, 114.2, 110.1, 60.6, 55.4, 48.1, 44.8; ESIMS: m/z calculated for C23H23N2O5S (M+H) + 627.14 found 627.12 Anal. Calc. for C23H23N2O5S: C, 57.60%; H, 3.71%; N, 15.67%; found: C, 57.59; H, 3.71; N, 15.66%.
133.3, 132.9, 131.9, 131.8, 131.2, 130.1, 129.7, 128.9, 128.5, 127.8, 118.1, 117.8, 110.1, 59.5, 48.1, 44.8.; ESIMS: m/z calculated for C_{29}H_{20}ClN_5O_4S (M+H)^+ 630.09 found 630.07 Anal. Calc. for C_{29}H_{20}ClN_5O_4S: C, 55.29; H, 3.20; N, 15.56%; found: C, 55.29; H, 3.19; N, 15.55%.

1-(2-((5-benzoyl-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)methyl)-2-thioxo-1,3,4-oxadiazol-3(2H)-yl)acetamido)-2-(4-ethylphenyl)-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (6g)

Yield: 68.4%; white solid, m.p. 204 – 206 °C; 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d_{6}), δ (ppm) 10.30 (s, 1H), 8.45 – 8.39 (m, 1H), 8.13 – 8.06 (m, 1H), 7.93 – 7.77 (m, 3H), 7.64 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.14 (dt, J = 8.2, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.07 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.59 – 5.54 (m, 1H), 4.69 (d, J = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 4.52 – 4.40 (m, 2H), 4.23 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dddd, J = 12.3, 6.1, 5.1, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (dqt, J = 12.3, 5.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 1.21 (t, J = 5.1 Hz, 3H).{C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d_{6}), δ (ppm) 197.9, 181.4, 169.0, 168.7, 167.4, 143.5, 143.3, 142.6, 140.6, 137.6, 134.7, 133.6, 133.3, 131.9, 129.7, 128.9, 128.5, 126.8, 118.1, 117.4, 110.1, 60.6, 48.1, 44.8, 28.4, 15.3.; ESIMS: m/z calculated for C_{29}H_{20}ClN_5O_4S (M+H)^+ 624.16 found 624.16 Anal. Calc. for C_{29}H_{20}ClN_5O_4S: C, 59.70; H, 4.04; N, 15.72%; found: C, 59.69; H, 4.04; N, 15.71%.

1-(2-((5-benzoyl-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)methyl)-2-thioxo-1,3,4-oxadiazol-3(2H)-yl)acetamido)-2-(4-ethoxyphenyl)-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (6h)

Yield: 64.7%; white solid, m.p. 198 – 200 °C; 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d_{6}), δ (ppm) 10.30 (s, 1H), 8.45 – 8.40 (m, 1H), 8.14 – 8.03 (m, 1H), 7.94 – 7.79 (m, 3H), 7.66 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.30 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 6.89 – 6.81 (m, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (d, J = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 4.53 – 4.39 (m, 2H), 4.23 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 4.12 – 3.92 (m, 2H), 2.7 (t, J = 4.6 Hz, 3H).{C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d_{6}), δ (ppm) 197.9, 181.4, 169.0, 168.7, 167.4, 158.6, 143.3, 142.6, 140.6, 137.6, 133.6, 133.3, 131.9, 130.8, 129.7, 128.9, 128.5, 128.2, 118.0, 117.4, 115.4, 110.1, 63.5, 60.6, 48.1, 44.8, 14.8.; ESIMS: m/z calculated for C_{29}H_{25}N_7O_6S (M+H)^+ 640.15 found 640.13 Anal. Calc. for C_{29}H_{25}N_7O_6S: C, 58.21; H, 3.94; N, 15.33%; found: C, 58.20; H, 3.93; N, 15.33%.

**Result and discussion**

**Biology**

**In vitro antimicrobial activity**

1 mg of each molecule was dissolved in 1 mL of DMSO then made up to 10 mL with sterile water to obtain a concentration of 100 μg/mL. The microorganisms were maintained on nutrient agar media. The agar media was incubated with the different tested bacteria. After 24 to 48 h of incubation at ~37 °C, dimethyl sulfoxide showed no inhibition zones. The diameters of the inhibition zones of the tested compounds were measured. This method was utilized to prove the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC). The outcomes are outlined in Table 1.

The Synthesised compounds under study were screened for their antimicrobial activity using the cup plate method [37]. The bacteria screened were Staphylococcus, Bacillus, Escherichia coli and Pseudomonas aeruginosa and the fungi screened were Aspergillus niger and Candida albicans. Ciprofloxacin and clotrimazole were used as standards for antibacterial studies and antifungal studies respectively. The details are given in Table 1. To analyze the impact of the nature of (R-), substitution on the antimicrobial activity, derivatives incorporating phenyl, p-chloro phenyl, p-methyl phenyl, p-methoxy phenyl, o-chlorophenyl, p-ethyl phenyl, p-ethoxy phenyl and 2-thienyl were synthesized. The synthesized compounds containing chloro and 2-thienyl group revealed excellent antimicrobial activity whereas the rest of the series showed good to moderate antimicrobial activity against the bacterial and fungal strain compared to standards.
Antibacterial and antifungal activity results

The synthesized compounds were screened for their antimicrobial activity using the cup plate method [38]. The bacteria screened were Staphylococcus, Bacillus, Escherichia coli and Pseudomonas aeruginosa and the fungi screened were Aspergillus niger and Candida albicans. Ciprofloxacin and clotrimazole were used as standard for the antibacterial and antifungal studies, respectively. The results are presented in Table 1. To analyze the effect of the nature of (Ar-) Substitution on the antimicrobial activity, derivatives incorporating phenyl, p-chloro phenyl, p-methyl phenyl, p-methoxy phenyl, o-chlorophenyl, p-ethyl phenyl, p-ethoxy phenyl and 2-thienyl were synthesized. The synthesized compounds containing chloro and 2-thienyl group revealed excellent antimicrobial activity whereas the rest of the series showed good to moderate antimicrobial activity against bacterial and fungal strain compared to standards (Figures 4 and 5).

Table 1. Results of in vitro antimicrobial activity

| Compound | Zone of inhibition (mm) |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
|          | Staphylococcus aureus    | Bacillus cereus | Escherichia coli | Pseudomonas aeruginosa | Aspergillus niger | Candida albicans |
| 6a       | 15                      | 16 | 13 | 16 | 17 | 13 |
| 6b       | 24                      | 16 | 24 | 17 | 19 | 13 |
| 6c       | 16                      | 17 | 18 | 15 | 16 | 15 |
| 6d       | 17                      | 18 | 13 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 6e       | 22                      | 15 | 22 | 20 | 25 | 27 |
| 6f       | 24                      | 17 | 23 | 11 | 17 | 14 |
| 6g       | 12                      | 10 | 15 | 14 | 16 | 19 |
| 6h       | 13                      | 11 | 16 | 11 | 18 | 20 |
| Ciprofloxacin | 25                 | 23 | 27 | 22 | -  | -  |
| Clotrimazole    | -                      | -  | -  | -  | 26 | 28 |  

Boldfaced values indicate the active compounds; ‘–’ indicates not tested

Figure 4. Antibacterial activity of synthesized compounds in comparison with the standard at the concentration of 100 µg/mL.
**Figure 5.** Antibacterial activity of synthesized compounds in comparison with the standard at the concentration of 100 µg/mL

*In vitro antimycobacterial assay*

The antimycobacterial activity was assessed against the H37Rv employing microplate alamar blue assay procedure [41]. This method is nontoxic, using a thermally stable reagent. This method is explained as follows, 200 µL of ultrapure water was added to whole outer perimeter wells of 96 sterile well plates to reduce drying up of the medium in the test wells while incubation. 96 plates taken 100 µL of the Middlebrook 7H9 broth and consecutive dilution of the compounds was generated directly on the plate. The end drug concentrations confirmed were 100 to 0.190 µg/mL. Plates were capped and sealed with parafilm and incubated at 37 ºC for 5 days. 25 µL of freshly made 1:1 mixture of alamar blue reagent and 10% tween 85 was then added to the plate and incubated for about 24 h. A blue color in the well was elucidated as no bacterial growth and a pink color was scored as growth. The potency is reported as MIC (minimum inhibitory concentration).

*Antimycobacterial activity result*

The developed molecules 6a-h were evaluated to in vitro antimycobacterial activity against MTB H37v employing the MABA method [40]. Ciprofloxacin and pyrazinamide were used as reference drugs. The outcomes of the *in vitro* antimycobacterial potency are outlined in Table 2 as MIC. Among all the synthesized molecules, 6b and 6f demonstrated a similar mycobacterial inhibitory potency at a MIC of 12.5 µM compared to the standard drug ciprofloxacin (Figure 6).

*In silico ADME studies*

The aqueous solubility [39-42] of a molecule undoubtebly change its absorption and distribution tendency. Generally, a low solubility goes along with a poor absorption and therefore the common intention is to filter out less soluble molecules. Our predicted logS number was measured in mol/liter unit. From the literature it is evident that more than 85% of the drugs in the market have a (predicted) logS number greater than -4. As a essential merits of matter, lipophilicity is a characteristic used by scientists to estimate and interpret the transit and effect of chemicals in physiological systems. LogP values are crucial to many companies and areas of research in evaluating how to transport chemical substances to particular sites. LogP is employed in the pharmaceutical or biotech companies to explain the action of drug candidates in the body. Drug molecules are usually screened conferring to logP, some other benchmark also help to guide drug selection and optimization.
Table 2. Antimycobacterial activity

| Entry | MIC (µM) MTB-H37v |
|-------|-------------------|
| 6a    | 25.5              |
| 6b    | 12.5              |
| 6c    | 25.5              |
| 6d    | 25.5              |
| 6e    | 20.5              |
| 6f    | 12.5              |
| 6g    | 25.5              |
| 6h    | 25.5              |
| Pyrazinamide | 3.15          |
| Ciprofloxacin | 12.5        |

Figure 6. Graph Showing the antibacterial activity of synthesized compounds in comparison with the standard drugs.

This is due to lipophilicity is a major determining key factor in a compound’s absorption, distribution in the body, penetration across membranes and biological barriers, metabolism and excretion (ADME properties). A drug targeting CNS (central nervous system) should admirably have a logP value around 2 for oral and intestinal absorption the ideal value is 1.35-1.8, while a drug intended for sub-lingual absorption may have a logP value >5. LogP help predict the likely transit of a molecule around the body, it also very useful in formulation, dosing, drug clearance, and toxicity. Though it is not the only deciding factor in these arguments, it plays a crucial role in helping scientists/researchers limit the liabilities of new drug molecules. There are many approaches around that assess a compound’s drug likeness partially based on topological descriptors, fingerprints of MDL structure keys or other properties as cLogP and molecular weights. The distribution of drug likeness values calculated from https://www.organic-chemistry.org/prog/. Positive values of these synthesized compound showed to be a good drug candidates in the drug development process.

Lipinski’s rule of five [42] also known as the Pfizer’s rule of five or simply the rule of five (RO5) is a rule of thumb to evaluate the drug-likeness and determine if a chemical compound with a certain pharmacological or biological activity has properties that would make it a likely orally active drug in humans. The rule describes molecular properties important for a drug’s pharmacokinetics in the human body, including their absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion (“ADME”) components of the Lipinski’s rule presented in Tables 3 and 4.
Table 3. Pharmacokinetic properties for good oral bioavailability for the compounds of 6a-h

| Entry | Mol/PSA A² | Mol/Vol A³ | HBA | HBD | C/LogP | Mol/LogP | Mol/LogS |
|-------|------------|------------|-----|-----|--------|----------|----------|
| 6a    | 133.69     | 573.99     | 10  | 2   | 0.35   | 2.67     | -7.24    |
| 6b    | 133.69     | 591.18     | 10  | 2   | 0.96   | 3.39     | -8.20    |
| 6c    | 133.69     | 594.93     | 10  | 2   | 0.7    | 3.07     | -7.70    |
| 6d    | 141.24     | 605.83     | 11  | 2   | 0.28   | 2.76     | -7.50    |
| 6e    | 134.25     | 586.00     | 11  | 2   | -0.44  | 2.50     | -7.04    |
| 6f    | 133.69     | 590.97     | 10  | 2   | 0.96   | 3.27     | -7.94    |
| 6g    | 133.69     | 613.07     | 10  | 2   | 1.11   | 3.57     | -8.27    |
| 6h    | 140.82     | 624.40     | 11  | 2   | 0.69   | 3.24     | -7.94    |

Table 4. Osiris calculation for bioavailability prediction of series 6a-h

| Entry | Solubility | Mol/Wt | Drug likeness | Drug score |
|-------|------------|--------|---------------|------------|
| 6a    | -5.28      | 595.13 | 1.21          | 0.24       |
| 6b    | -6.02      | 629.09 | 1.81          | 0.57       |
| 6c    | -5.63      | 609.14 | 0.01          | 0.30       |
| 6d    | -5.30      | 625.14 | 1.4           | 0.35       |
| 6e    | -5.48      | 605.12 | 2.02          | 0.44       |
| 6f    | -6.02      | 629.09 | 1.51          | 0.51       |
| 6g    | -5.78      | 623.16 | 1.01          | 0.63       |
| 6h    | -5.6       | 639.15 | 0.29          | 0.24       |

Result of in silico ADME studies

These properties were calculated and discussed on the basis of Lipinski’s rule [42] and its component. The compounds 6a-h fulfill Lipinski’s rule and revealed good drug likeness score which is positive values (Table 4). M logP of these compounds was found below 5 that means these shows good permeability across the cell membrane. The logS values are greater than -4 which predict that these molecules has good aqueous solubility. TPSA below 160 Å², n violations=1 or <0 it means compound easily bind to the receptor, molecular mass>500, No. hydrogen bond donors≤5 (The sum of OHs and NHs), No. hydrogen bond acceptor≤10 (The sum of Os and Ns).

Conclusion

In this work, a series of novel heterocyclic compounds incorporating Pyrrole and benzotriazole-1,3,4-oxadiazole moieties were synthesized and characterized using ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, mass spectroscopy and elemental analysis. The titled compounds were evaluated for their in vitro antimicrobial activity against six bacteria including two gram-positive, two gram-negative, and two fungal strains. All the compounds depicted good to moderate activity against the bacterial strain. Among all the compounds, 6b and 6f were found to be better antimycobacterial agents and 6a, 6b and 6e were found to be excellent antifungal and antibacterial agent compared to rest of the series. The synthesized compounds also studied for their in-silico properties and showed good drug likeness properties.
This article does not contain any studies with human and animal subjects performed by any of the authors.

Caution!

Thiophosgene (CSCl₂) may cause severe dermatitis if allowed to come in contact with the skin. This preparation should be carried out in a good hood, and rubber gloves should be worn throughout. 

Harmful if swallowed.

Causes skin irritation.

Causes serious eye irritation.

Toxic if inhaled.

May cause respiratory irritation.

Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.

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Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

ORCID

Keyur M. Pandya (ID: 0000-0002-1282-7078)

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