

Original Article

SYNTHESIS, CHARACTERIZATION AND EVALUATION OF 4-HYDROXY-1-PHENYL/METHYL-3-(3-SUBSTITUTED-1-(SUBSTITUTEDIMINO) PROPYL) QUINOLINE-2(1H)-ONE DERIVATIVES AND 4-HYDROXY-1-PHENYL/METHYL-3-(1-(SUBSTITUEDIMINO) ETHYL) QUINOLINE-2(1H)-ONE DERIVATIVES AS POSSIBLE ANTICANCER AGENTS

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ABSTRACT

Objective: Synthesis, characterization and evaluation of quinolin-2-one derivatives as possible anticancer agents.

Methods: A series of novel 4-hydroxy-1-phenyl/methyl-3-(3-substituted-1-(substitutedimino)propyl)quinolin-2(1H)-one derivatives IIa(1-5)/IIb(1-5) and 4-hydroxy-1-phenyl/methyl-3-(1-(substituedimino)ethyl)quinolin-2(1H)-one derivatives IIIa(1-3)/IIIb(1-3) were synthesised by nucleophilic addition of substituted anilines on 3-acetyl-4-hydroxy-1-phenyl/methylquinolin-2(1H)-one (a/b) and 4-hydroxy-3-(3-substitutedpropanoyl)-1-phenyl/methyl quinolin-2(1H)-one (Ia/Ib); respectively. The synthesised derivatives were characterised by spectral analysis and were tested for their *in vitro* anticancer activity against K562 and Hep 3b cell lines by 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT) assay method.

Results: The compounds were tested for their *in vitro* anticancer activity against K562 and Hep 3b cell lines at 10, 20, 25, 30 and 50 µg/ml concentration using MTT assay method. The compound 4-hydroxy-3-(3-morpholino-1-(phenylimino)propyl)-1-phenylquinolin-2(1H)-one (IIa-1) showed anticancer activity with IC₅₀ value 20 µg as compared to the control against K562 cell lines. The compound 4-hydroxy-1-phenyl-3-(1-(phenylimino) ethyl) quinolin-2(1H)-one (IIIa-1) showed anticancer activity with IC₅₀ value less than 10 µg.

Conclusion: The proposed method for the synthesis of novel derivatives is convenient and gives a good yield. Some of the synthesised compounds showed promising anticancer activity against K562 and Hep 3b cell lines. Compound IIa-1 (R=C₆H₅; R₁= morpholine; R₂= C₆H₅-NH-) exhibited most potent activity against K562 cell lines. Compound IIIa-1 (R=C₆H₅; R₃= C₆H₅-NH-) has been proved to be the most cytotoxic compound among the other derivatives against Hep 3b cell lines.

Keywords: Linomide, Quinolin-2-one, Anticancer, MTT assay

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INTRODUCTION

The alarming rise of cancer cases has put strains on individuals, families and the society in which they live. The number of cancer cases and related deaths worldwide is related to double over the next 20-40 y. As per a report by world health organisation (WHO), it is estimated the number of new cancer cases will rise by about 70% over the next two decades [1]. There is a significant advancement in drug discovery and the modern chemotherapy has helped to lower the mortality rates. However, there is a need to develop novel bioactive molecules which would overcome the side effects and toxicity caused by the existing antineoplastic agents; without compromising for any therapeutic efficacy.

The quinolin-2-one moiety exhibits a versatile range of biological activity. The natural compounds containing the quinolin-2-one nucleus such as flindersine, dictamnine as well as their synthetic analogues are found to possess pharmacological activity and therapeutic utility [2-5]. Clinical significance of quinolin-2-one is well established and documented in the form of treatment of psychosis, as a β-blocker in an ophthalmic preparation, as an antacid and in congestive cardiac failure [6-9].

Literature reviews have indicated linomide (fig. 1), a quinolin-2-one derivative as a lead molecule for the development of anticancer agents [10-12]. In continuation of our research works on linomide, we proposed the synthesis of novel linomide analogues by modifying substitutions on ring nitrogen, isosteric replacement of oxygen by substituted nitrogen and preparing mannich bases by exploiting the

acidic hydrogen of the acetyl group. The present study aims at evaluating the anticancer activity of the synthesised novel compounds.

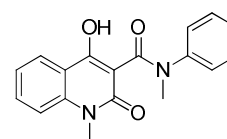
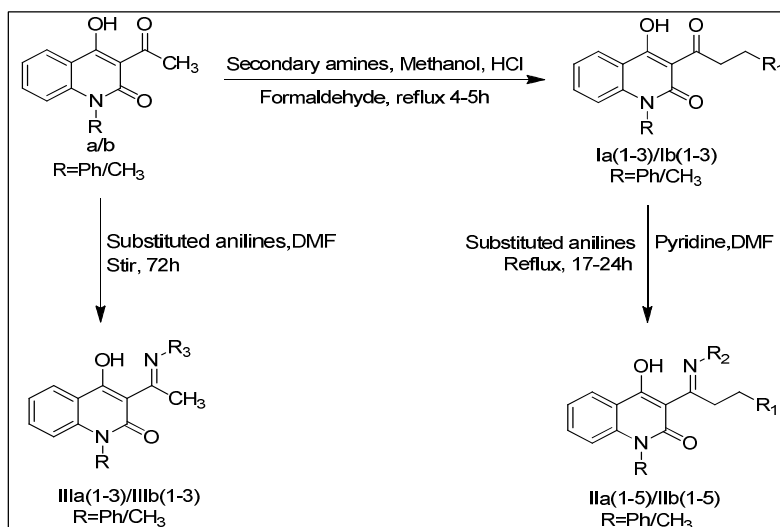


Fig. 1: Linomide [13]

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

Chemicals used for the synthesis were purchased from Molychem-Mumbai and SD-Fine Chem Ltd; Mumbai. All the reagents and solvents were of laboratory grade. Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectra were recorded on Shimadzu IR affinity-1 spectrophotometer by using KBr pellets. The ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR was recorded on Bruker Avance II 400 NMR spectrometer using deuterated chloroform (CDCl₃) or deuterated dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO-*d*₆) as solvents and tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. Chemical shifts are expressed as delta (δ) values in parts per million (ppm). The mass spectra (MS) were recorded on Waters, Q-TOF Micromass.



Scheme 1: Synthesis of compounds IIa(1-5)/IIb(1-5) and IIIa(1-3)/IIIb(1-3)

Synthesis of 4-hydroxy-3-(3-substituted propanoyl)-1-phenyl/methyl quinolin-2(1H)-one (Ia/Ib)

A solution of secondary amine (1 mmol) and formaldehyde (10 mmol) was stirred for five minutes. To this, a solution of compound 3-acetyl-4-hydroxy-1-phenyl/methyl quinolin-2(1H)-one (a/b, synthesized as per literature) (0.01 mol) in methanol was added with 0.05 ml of 1N HCl and refluxed for 4-5 h [14]. The progress of the reaction was monitored by thin layered chromatography (TLC). The reaction was kept overnight for precipitation to take place. The compounds thus obtained were separated by filtration, washed with water and further recrystallized using a suitable solvent.

Synthesis of 4-hydroxy-3-(3-substituted-1-(substituted amino) propyl)-1-phenyl/methyl quinolin-2(1H)-one (II-a/II-b)

Compound I-a/I-b (1 mmol) was added to a solution of dimethylformamide (DMF) (0.2 mmol) and pyridine (0.2 mmol). To this mixture, substituted aniline (0.3 mmol) was added and refluxed for 17-24 h. The solution obtained was poured in ice cold water and kept overnight. The solid separated was filtered and recrystallized using a suitable solvent.

Synthesis of 4-hydroxy-1-phenyl/methyl-3-(1-(substituted amino) ethyl) quinolin-2(1H)-one (IIIa/IIIb)

To a solution of the compound, a/b (3 mmol) in DMF, substituted anilines (3.6 mmol) were added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 20 °C for 72 h. The completion of the reaction was monitored by TLC. The solution thus obtained was poured in ice cold

water and stirred till crystallization took place. The product was filtered and recrystallized using a suitable solvent.

Anticancer activity

The synthesized derivatives were screened for their *in vitro* anticancer activity against K562 and Hep 3b cell lines by MTT assay method. The cell lines for the anticancer activity were procured from the national centre for cell science (NCCS), Pune. The cell lines were maintained in 96 wells microtiter plate containing minimum essential medium (MEM) and were supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated foetal calf serum (FCS) containing 5% of a mixture of gentamicin (10 µg), penicillin (100 U/ml) and streptomycin (100 µg/ml); in presence of 5% CO₂ at 37 °C for 48-72 h.

The cell lines were treated with 10, 20, 25, 30 and 50 µg/ml solutions of the test compounds in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO). After incubation at 37 °C in a humidified atmosphere of 5% CO₂, 20 µl of a stock solution of MTT (5 mg in 1 ml of sterile phosphate buffered saline) was added to each well and plates were further incubated for 4 h. DMSO was used as a control. The supernatant was carefully aspirated, the precipitated crystals of formazan blue were solubilized by adding DMSO (100 µl) and optical density (OD) was measured at a wavelength of 570 nm by using LISA plus microplate reader. The percentage of surviving cells was calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Percentage of surviving cells (\%)} = \frac{\text{Mean OD of test compound}}{\text{Mean OD of control}} \times 100$$

Table 1: List of derivatives IIa/IIb and IIIa/IIIb synthesized in scheme 1

Compound	R	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	% yield
IIa-1	-C ₆ H ₅	Morpholine	C ₆ H ₅ -NH-	-	90.0
IIa-2	-C ₆ H ₅	Morpholine	4-Cl-C ₆ H ₄ -NH-	-	88.35
IIa-3	-C ₆ H ₅	N-Methylpiperazine	4-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ -NH-	-	86.93
IIa-4	-C ₆ H ₅	N-Methylpiperazine	4-Cl-C ₆ H ₄ -NH-	-	79.36
IIa-5	-C ₆ H ₅	Piperidine	C ₆ H ₅ -NH-	-	81.12
IIb-1	-CH ₃	Morpholine	C ₆ H ₅ -NH-	-	81.12
IIb-2	-CH ₃	Morpholine	4-Cl-C ₆ H ₄ -NH-	-	93.0
IIb-3	-CH ₃	N-Methylpiperazine	C ₆ H ₅ -NH-	-	84.09
IIb-4	-CH ₃	N-Methylpiperazine	4-Cl-C ₆ H ₄ -NH-	-	88.65
IIb-5	-CH ₃	Piperidine	C ₆ H ₅ -NH-	-	92.25
IIIa-1	-C ₆ H ₅	-	-	C ₆ H ₅ -NH-	82.91
IIIa-2	-C ₆ H ₅	-	-	4-Cl-C ₆ H ₄ -NH-	79.03
IIIa-3	-C ₆ H ₅	-	-	4-Br-C ₆ H ₄ -NH-	84.26
IIIb-1	-CH ₃	-	-	C ₆ H ₅ -NH-	85.25
IIIb-2	-CH ₃	-	-	4-Cl-C ₆ H ₄ -NH-	89.12
IIIb-3	-CH ₃	-	-	4-Br-C ₆ H ₄ -NH-	78.03

RESULTS

Spectral data of 4-hydroxy-3-(3-morpholinopropanoyl)-1-phenylquinolin-2(1H)-one (Ia-1)

IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3032.10 (aromatic C-H); 2927.94, 2854.65 (aliphatic C-H); 1629.85 (C=O acetyl); 1606.70 (C=O cyclic amide); 1267.23 (C-O-C).

Spectral data of 4-hydroxy-3-(3-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)propanoyl)-1-phenylquinolin-2(1H)-one (Ia-2)

IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3041.74 (aromatic C-H); 2891.30, 2762.06 (aliphatic C-H); 1629.85 (C=O acetyl); 1606.70 (C=O cyclic amide).

Spectral data of 4-hydroxy-1-methyl-3-(3-morpholino-propanoyl) quinolin-2(1H)-one (Ib-1)

IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3076.46 (aromatic C-H); 2887.44, 2777.50 (aliphatic C-H); 1631.78 (C=O acetyl); 1606.70 (C=O cyclic amide); 1269.16 (C-O-C).

Spectral data of 4-hydroxy-1-methyl-3-(3-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)propanoyl) quinolin-2(1H)-one (Ib-2)

IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 2912.51, 2762.06 (aliphatic C-H); 1631.78 (-C=O acetyl); 1606.70 (-C=O cyclic amide).

Spectral data of 4-hydroxy-3-(3-morpholino-1-(phenylimino)propyl)-1-phenylquinolin-2(1H)-one (IIa-1)

IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3442.94 (O-H stretch); 3099.16 (aromatic C-H); 2922.16 2852.72 (aliphatic C-H); 1643.35 (-C=N); 1610.56 (-C=O cyclic amide); 1271.09 (C-O-C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, δ ppm): 12.50 (s, 1H, OH); 8.27-6.64 (m, 14H, Ar-H); 4.03 (t, 4H, 2,6-CH₂ of morpholine); 3.79 (t, 2H, -CH₂ of 3-propyl); 2.43 (t, 4H, 3,5-CH₂ of morpholine); 1.20 (t, 2H, -CH₂ of 2-propyl); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, δ ppm): 166.17(1C, C=N); 160.63 (1C, C=O amide); 158.28 (1C, C-OH); 132.17-116.02 (19C, aromatic carbon); 75.92 (1C, -CH₂ of 3-propyl); 66.02 (2C, 2,6-CH₂ of morpholine); 54.85 (2C, 3,5-CH₂ of morpholine); 21.03 (1C, -CH₂ of 2-propyl); Mass (m/z) = 453 [M⁺].

Spectral data of 3-(1-((4-chlorophenyl) imino)-3-morpholinopropyl)-4-hydroxy-1-phenylquinolin-2(1H)-one (IIa-2)

IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3089.96 (aromatic C-H); 2983.88, 2875.86 (aliphatic C-H); 1645.33 (C=N); 1612.49 (C=O cyclic amide); 744.52 (C-Cl).

Spectral data of 4-hydroxy-1-methyl-3-(3-morpholino-1-(phenylimino)propyl) quinolin-2(1H)-one (IIb-1)

IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3012.81 (aromatic C-H); 2887.44, 2752.42 (aliphatic C-H); 1644.15 (C=N); 1610.56 (-C=O cyclic amide); 1273.02 (C-O-C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, δ ppm): 12.61 (s, 1H, OH); 8.13-6.53 (m, 9H, Ar-H); 4.13 (t, 4H, 2,6-CH₂ of morpholine); 3.72 (t, 2H, -CH₂ of 3-propyl); 2.61 (s, 3H, N-CH₃); 2.29 (t, 4H, 3,5-CH₂ of morpholine); 1.20 (t, 2H, CH₂ of 2-propyl).

Spectral data of 4-hydroxy-1-methyl-3-(3-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-1-(phenylimino)propyl) quinolin-2(1H)-one (IIb-3)

IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3039.81 (aromatic C-H); 2891.30 2779.42 (aliphatic C-H); 1646.27 (C=N); 1612.49 (-C=O cyclic amide); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, δ ppm): 12.41 (s, 1H, OH); 8.26-7.21 (m, 9H, Ar-H); 3.72 (s, 3H, N-CH₃); 3.21 (t, 2H, CH₂ of 3-propyl); 2.51 (t, 8H, 2,3,5,6-CH₂ of N-Methyl piperazine); 2.01 (s, 3H, N-CH₃); 1.63 (t, 2H, CH₂ of 2-propyl).

Spectral data of compound 3-(1-((4-chlorophenyl)imino)ethyl)-4-hydroxy-1-phenylquinolin-2(1H)-one (IIIa-2)

IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3055.24 (aromatic C-H); 2924.09, 2850.35 (aliphatic C-H); 1656.85 (-C=N); 1612.49 (-C=O cyclic amide); 759.95 (C-Cl); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, δ ppm): 16.35 (s, 1H, OH); 8.20-6.51 (m, 13H, Ar-H); 2.24 (s, 3H, -CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, δ ppm): 175.40 (1C, C=N); 167.36 (1C, C=O amide); 161.30 (1C, C-OH); 149.64-110.37 (19C, aromatic carbon); 31.43 (1C, aliphatic carbon); Mass (m/z) = 389 [M+1].

Spectral data of compound 3-(1-((4-bromophenyl)imino)ethyl)-4-hydroxy-1-methylquinolin-2(1H)-one. (IIIa-3)

IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3057.17 (aromatic C-H); 2902.87 (aliphatic C-H); 1654.92 (-C=N), 1600.92 (-C=O cyclic amide); 704 (C-Br); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, δ ppm): 16.23 (s, 1H, OH), 8.17-6.68 (m, 13H, Ar-H); 2.09 (s, 3H, -CH₃).

Table 2: Results for anticancer activity on K562 cell line

S. No.	Sample	Concentration (µg)	Absorbance	Results as observed	IC ₅₀ (µg)
1.	IIa-1	10	0.350	<50% lysis	20 µg
2.		20	0.347	50% lysis	
3.		25	0.336	50% lysis	
4.		30	0.327	50% lysis	
5.		50	0.323	>50% lysis	
6.	IIa-2	10	1.766	No lysis	-
7.		20	1.699	No lysis	
8.		25	0.801	No lysis	
9.		30	0.742	No lysis	
10.		50	0.457	<50% lysis	
11.	IIa-3	10	0.816	No lysis	50 µg
12.		20	0.718	No lysis	
13.		25	0.544	No lysis	
14.		30	0.453	<50% lysis	
15.		50	0.352	50% lysis	
16.	IIb-1	10	0.634	No lysis	50 µg
17.		20	0.443	<50% lysis	
18.		25	0.418	<50% lysis	
19.		30	0.403	<50% lysis	
20.		50	0.399	50% lysis	
21.	IIb-3	10	0.266	>50% lysis	-
22.		20	0.252	>50% lysis	
23.		25	0.252	>50% lysis	
24.		30	0.248	>50% lysis	
25.		50	0.191	>50% lysis	
26.	IIb-5	10	1.521	No lysis	-
27.		20	0.825	No lysis	
28.		25	0.694	No lysis	
29.		30	0.468	No lysis	
30.		50	0.411	<50% lysis	
96	Control	00	0.688	No lysis	-

Table 3: Results for anticancer activity on Hep 3b cell line

S. No.	Sample	Concentration (μg)	Absorbance	Results as observed	IC ₅₀ (μg)
1.	IIIa-1	10	0.397	>50% lysis	<10 μg
2.		20	0.388	>50% lysis	
3.		25	0.325	>50% lysis	
4.		30	0.287	>50% lysis	
5.		50	0.281	>50% lysis	
6.	IIIb-1	10	0.721	<50% lysis	20 μg
7.		20	0.570	50% lysis	
8.		25	0.488	>50% lysis	
9.		30	0.423	>50% lysis	
10.		50	0.359	>50% lysis	
11.	IIIa-2	10	0.606	<50% lysis	20 μg
12.		20	0.527	50% lysis	
13.		25	0.303	>50% lysis	
14.		30	0.299	>50% lysis	
15.		50	0.260	>50% lysis	
16.	IIIb-2	10	0.822	<50% lysis	25 μg
17.		20	0.672	<50% lysis	
18.		25	0.585	50% lysis	
19.		30	0.571	50% lysis	
20.		50	0.486	>50% lysis	
21.	IIIa-3	10	0.698	<50% lysis	20 μg
22.		20	0.558	50% lysis	
23.		25	0.425	>50% lysis	
24.		30	0.360	>50% lysis	
25.		50	0.335	>50% lysis	
26.	IIIb-3	10	0.995	No lysis	25 μg
27.		20	0.613	<50% lysis	
28.		25	0.591	50% lysis	
29.		30	0.477	>50% lysis	
30.		50	0.472	>50% lysis	
96.	Control	00	1.079	No lysis	-

Spectral data of 4-hydroxy-1-methyl-3-(1-(phenylimino) ethyl) quinolin-2(1H)-one. (IIIb-1)

IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): 3078.39, (aromatic C-H); 2983.88, 2852.93 (aliphatic C-H); 1655.29(-C=N); 1612.49 (-C=O cyclic amide).

Spectral data of 3-(1-((4-chlorophenyl) imino) ethyl)-4-hydroxy-1-methylquinolin-2(1H)-one. (IIIb-2)

IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): 3078.39 (aromatic C-H); 2941.44, 2924.09 (aliphatic C-H); 1651.07 (-C=N); 1563.60 (C=O cyclic amide).

Anticancer activity

The 4-hydroxy-3-(3-substituted-1-(substituted amino)propyl-1-phenyl/methyl quinolin-2(1H)-one derivatives and 4-hydroxy-1-phenyl/methyl-3-(1-substituted imino) methyl quinolin-2(1H)-one derivatives were tested for their *in vitro* anticancer activity against K562 and Hep 3b cell lines by MTT assay method and the results are presented in table 2 and table 3.

DISCUSSION

The synthetic routes of the compounds are outlined in scheme-1. The compounds were satisfactorily characterized by IR and NMR spectral data. The presence of -C=N stretch between 1660-1640 cm^{-1} in the IR spectra of compounds from series IIa/IIb and IIIa/IIIb and also the presence of signals such as two triplets at δ 4.13 and 2.29 respectively for eight protons of morpholine substituent in ^1H NMR spectrum of compound IIb-1; and singlet at 16.35 for one proton of -OH, multiplet at 8.20-6.51 for thirteen aromatic protons and singlet at 2.2 for three protons of methyl group in ^1H NMR spectrum of compound IIIa-2 confirmed the synthesis of the derivatives. Similarly, results from the ^{13}C NMR spectra and mass spectra of the compounds also proved the completion of reactions.

Selected compounds from the IIa/IIb series were tested for their *in vitro* anticancer activity against K562 cell line and those from the IIIa/IIIb series were evaluated for their *in vitro* anticancer activity against Hep 3b cell line. Compound IIa-1 (R=-C₆H₅ and R₁=morpholine; R₂=C₆H₅-NH-) showed the least IC₅₀ value of 20 μg and

thus was the most potent compound against K562 cell line. Compounds IIa-3 and IIb-1 had moderate potencies with an IC₅₀ value of 50 μg . The compounds IIa-2, IIb-3 and IIb-5 showed no cell lysis and were inactive. When evaluated for *in vitro* anticancer activity against Hep 3b cell line, all of the tested derivatives from IIIa/IIIb series exhibited cell lysis. The compound IIIa-1 (R=-C₆H₅ and R₃=C₆H₅-NH-) was found to be most cytotoxic with an IC₅₀ of less than 10 μg . The compounds IIIb-2, IIIb-3 (IC₅₀ value of 25 μg) and IIIb-1, IIIa-2, IIIa-3 (IC₅₀ value of 20 μg) were found to be moderately potent.

CONCLUSION

The proposed method for the synthesis of novel quinolin-2-one derivatives is convenient and gives a good yield. Some of the synthesised compounds showed significant *in vitro* anticancer activity against K562 and Hep 3b cell lines. Compound IIa-1 (R=-C₆H₅; R₁=morpholine; R₂=C₆H₅-NH-) exhibited most potent activity against K562 cell lines. Compound IIIa-1 (R=-C₆H₅; R₃=C₆H₅-NH-) was proved to be the most cytotoxic compound among the other derivatives against Hep 3b cell lines.

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AUTHORS CONTRIBUTION

Ms. Saili S. Desai (Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, P. E. S.'s Rajaram and Tarabai Bandekar College of Pharmacy, Farmagudi, Ponda-Goa) was in charge of the synthetic bench work. Mr. Rudrax N. S. Priolkar (Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, P. E. S.'s Rajaram and Tarabai Bandekar College of Pharmacy, Farmagudi, Ponda-Goa) and Mr. Harshank A. Naik Karmali (Department of

Pharmaceutical Chemistry, P. E. S.'s Rajaram and Tarabai Bandekar College of Pharmacy, Farmagudi, Ponda-Goa) were responsible for interpretation of the spectra. Mr. Prabhav D. Ambe (Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, P. E. S.'s Rajaram and Tarabai Bandekar College of Pharmacy, Farmagudi, Ponda-Goa) and Mr. B. S. Biradar (Department of Pharmacology, P. E. S.'s Rajaram and Tarabai Bandekar College of Pharmacy, Farmagudi, Ponda-Goa) assisted in the anticancer activity studies. Dr. S. N. Mamle Desai (Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, P. E. S.'s Rajaram and Tarabai Bandekar College of Pharmacy, Farmagudi, Ponda-Goa) is the research guide and supervised the overall research work.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

Declared none

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