

Design and Synthesis of Molecular Candidates for Kinase Inhibition as Potential Antiproliferative Agents

Thesis

Presented by

Monia Hossam Hassan

BSc. In Pharmaceutical Sciences (May 2010)

Instructor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Faculty of Pharmacy-Ain Shams University

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the

Master Degree

In Pharmaceutical Sciences

(Pharmaceutical Chemistry)

Under the supervision of

Prof. Dr. Khaled A. M. Abouzid

Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry &

Head of the Pharmaceutical Chemistry Department

Faculty of Pharmacy- Ain Shams University

Dr. Nasser Saad Ismail

Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Faculty of Pharmacy- Ain Shams University

Dr. Deena S. Lasheen

Lecturer of Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Faculty of Pharmacy- Ain Shams University

Faculty of Pharmacy

Ain Shams University

2016

Acknowledgements

*Thanks to **Almighty Allah** for giving me strength and ability to understand, learn and complete this work.*

*First and foremost I would like to express my deepest sense of gratitude to **Professor Dr. Khaled Abouzid**, Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Head of the Pharmaceutical Chemistry Department, who has the attitude and the substance of a genius. I am sincerely grateful to his devotion to his students' education and success. The door to Dr. Khaled's office was always open whenever I ran into a trouble spot or had a question about my research. He was the one who taught me how to be multitasking. I owe him a huge debt of gratitude for his guidance, endless support and immense knowledge.*

*I would like also to express my sincere thanks to **Dr. Nasser Saad**, Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, for his kindness, indispensable assistance, valuable guidance and constant support throughout the whole practical work.*

*It is my genuine pleasure to express my heartiest thanks to **Dr. Deena Lasheen**, Lecturer in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, for her fruitful opinion, untiring help, valuable assistance and constant encouragement during writing this thesis. Thank you for believing in me when I didn't believe in myself.*

Immeasurable appreciation to all my colleagues in Pharmaceutical Chemistry Department for their friendly cooperation, support and their unconditional aid.

Also I would like to express my appreciation to the National Cancer Institute, Maryland, U.S.A for performing the in-vitro anticancer assay of the synthesized compounds.

Finally, I am profoundly indebted to my parents and my family for their unconditional love and aid, endless patience, understanding, encouragement and full support all throughout the whole long way.

Besides the work presented in this thesis, the candidate successfully passed general and special postgraduate courses in Pharmaceutical Chemistry for one year during academic year 2011/2012 with the following grades

1) Statistics	Excellent
2) Instrumental Analysis	Excellent
3) Computer Sciences	Excellent
4) Physical Chemistry	Excellent
5) Pharmaceutical Chemistry	Excellent
6) Drug spectroscopy	Excellent
7) Selected Topics in Pharmaceutical Chemistry	Excellent
8) Drug Stereochemistry	Excellent

Table of Contents:

Acknowledgements.....	I
Table of Contents.....	III
List of Figures.....	VI
List of Tables.....	VIII
List of Abbreviations	IX
Abstract.....	XII
1. Introduction	1
1.1 Cancer	1
1.1.1 Overview	1
1.1.2 Development.....	1
1.1.3 Hallmarks of cancer	2
1.1.4 Etiology and carcinogenic factors	3
1.1.5 Epidemiology.....	3
1.1.6 Treatment	4
1.2 Protein kinases as cancer targeted therapy	10
1.2.1 Overview on Protein kinases.....	10
1.2.2 Tyrosine Kinases:.....	10
1.2.3 Tyrosine Kinase Domain Structure.....	11
1.2.4 Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors.....	15
1.2.5 The HER family	21
1.2.6 EGFR and HER2 inhibitors	23
2. Rationale & Design.....	34
2.1 Consideration of the previously explored SAR and determination of the key interactions between the binding site and type I and II inhibitors	35
2.2 Design of novel furo[2,3- <i>d</i>]pyrimidine based EGFR and HER2 inhibitors.....	37

2.3	Primary evaluation of some selected compounds using Molecular docking	40
2.4	Synthetic schemes for synthesis of the designed compounds	46
2.4.1	Scheme 1: Preparation of 4-(substituted benzyloxy)aniline intermediates (Ia-i)	46
2.4.2	Scheme 2: Preparation of Ethyl 6-methyl-4-substituted-furo[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylates (VIa-i) (VIIa-i)	47
2.4.3	Scheme 3: Preparation of N-substituted -6-methyl-4-(substitutedanilino)-furo[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxamides	48
2.4.4	Scheme 4: Preparation of 5-hydroxymethyl-6-methyl-4-(substitutedanilino)-furo[2,3-d]pyrimidines (XIIIa-c)	49
3.	Results & Discussion	50
3.1.	Chemistry.....	50
3.1.1	Scheme 1	50
3.1.2	Scheme 2	51
3.1.3	Scheme 3	55
3.1.4	Scheme 4	59
3.2	Biological Evaluation.....	60
3.2.1	In vitro EGFR/HER2 tyrosine kinase inhibitory activity.....	60
3.2.2	In vitro antiproliferative activity against NCI 60-cell line	64
3.2.3	In vitro cytotoxic activity against MCF-7 and A549 cancer cell lines	69
3.3	Molecular modeling study.....	71
3.3.1	Docking study.....	71
3.3.2	In silico ADMET study	100
4.	Conclusion.....	103
5.	Experimental.....	105
5.1.	Chemistry.....	105
5.1.1.	Materials and instrumentation.....	105
5.1.2.	Synthesis	106

5.2	Biological evaluation:.....	137
5.2.1	In vitro EGFR and HER2 tyrosine kinase activity.....	137
5.2.2	In vitro Anti-proliferative activity against 60 cell line panel.....	138
5.2.3	In vitro cytotoxic activity against MCF-7 and A549 cancer cell lines.....	140
5.3	Molecular docking study.....	140
5.3.1.	Protien preparation for docking.....	140
5.3.2.	Ligand preparation for docking	141
5.3.3.	Docking process	141
6.	References	142

List of Figures:

Figure 1. Carcinogenesis phases.	2
Figure 2. The Hallmarks of Cancer	3
Figure 3. Structure of the conserved protein kinase core.....	13
Figure 4. Diagram of the known interactions between the protein kinase catalytic core, ATP and a substrate.....	14
Figure 5. (A) Ribbon diagram of ATP binding site with a DFG-in/ DFG-out activation-loop conformation	15
Figure 6. Sites of binding of RTK inhibitors types I-IV	15
Figure 7. Chemical structure of type I kinase inhibitors approved by the FDA.....	16
Figure 8. (A) Imatinib (27) and its depicted binding mode with BCR-Abl. (B) Imatinib (27) co-crystal structure with BCR-Abl.....	17
Figure 9. (A) Sorafenib (28) and its depicted binding mode with VEGFR2. (B) Sorafenib (28) co-crystal structure with VEGFR2	17
Figure 10. MEK1 inhibitor PD318088 binding site	18
Figure 11. (A) Bisubstrate inhibitors (type Va) (B) Mixed bivalent inhibitors (type Vb)	20
Figure 12. Schematic representation of the covalent bond formation between EGFR and an irreversible TKI.....	20
Figure 13. Chemical structure of irreversible kinase inhibitors approved by the FDA.....	21
Figure 14. Structure of HER family receptors and their cognate ligands.....	21
Figure 15. ErbB receptor dimerization and activation.....	22
Figure 16. EGFR and HER2 structure and therapeutic targets.....	23
Figure 17. (A) Erlotinib (35) and its depicted binding mode with EGFR. (B) Lapatinib (36) and its depicted binding mode with EGFR.	35
Figure 18. SAR and Binding Mode of 4-anilinoquinazolines with EGFR and HER2.	37
Figure 19. Reported binding mode of (A) Erlotinib (35) (B) Lapatinib (36) to EGFR.	38
Figure 20. Design of EGFR inhibitors based on Erlotinib (35) lead compound.....	39

Figure 21. Design of EGFR/HER2 inhibitors based on Lapatinib (36) lead compound.	39
Figure 22. Mechanism of cyclization of compound (III)	51
Figure 23. Activation of carboxylic acids using ethyl chloroformate.....	56
Figure 24. Activation of carboxylic acids using carbodiimides.....	56
Figure 25. Mechanism of the LiAlH_4 reduction of carboxylic esters to alcohols	60
Figure 26. Example of mean graph produced from NCI 60 cell line screening program. Mean graph of compound (XII) colour codes are given for each cell line.	66
Figure 27. The alignment between the co-crystallized bioactive conformer of the Erlotinib (35) and the docked pose of the same compound at EGFR binding site.	73
Figure 28. The alignment between the co-crystallized bioactive conformer of the Lapatinib (36) and the docked pose of the same compound at EGFR binding site.	73
Figure 29. The alignment between the co-crystallized bioactive conformer of the TAK-285 (47) and the docked pose of the same compound at HER2 binding site.....	74

List of Tables:

Table 1. Docking energy and amino acids involved in the binding interactions of some of the designed compounds with the active EGFR conformation.....	40
Table 2. Docking energy and amino acids involved in the binding interactions of some of the designed compounds with the inactive EGFR conformation	42
Table 3. Docking energy and amino acids involved in the binding interactions of some of the designed compounds with HER2.....	44
Table 4. Percentage inhibition of EGFR enzymatic activity showed by compounds VI(a-i). 61	
Table 5. Percentage inhibition of EGFR enzymatic activity achieved by compounds VIII(a-e), IX(a-g), X(a,b), XIII(a-c)	61
Table 6. Percentage inhibition of EGFR/HER2 enzymatic activity achieved by compounds VII(a-i), XI and XII	62
Table 7. The IC ₅₀ values for compounds (XI, VIIIId, VIIIc and IXc).....	64
Table 8. Cell growth percentage of NCI 60 cancer cell lines exhibited by some of the investigated final compounds (VIh, VIIIb, IXa, IXe, IXf, XII and XIIIa)	67
Table 9. Cytotoxic activity of the remaining compounds against MCF-7 and A549 cancer cell lines	70
Table 10. Molecular docking investigational study of series VI, VIII, IX, X and XIII in EGFR active site compared to Erlotinib (35).....	75
Table 11. Molecular docking investigational study of series VII, XI and XII in EGFR inactive conformation compared to Lapatinib (36)	88
Table 12. Molecular docking investigational study of series VII, XI and XII in HER2 active site compared to TAK-285 (47):	94
Table 13. Computer aided ADMET screening of the synthesized compounds.....	101

List of Abbreviations:

Abl: Abelson

ADMET: absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion and toxicity study

ATP: adenosine triphosphate

BCR: breakpoint cluster region protein

DCC: dicyclohexylcarbodiimide

DEE: diethyl ether

DIBAL: diisobutylaluminum hydride

DIPEA: N,N- Diisopropylethylamine

DMAP: 4- (Dimethylamino)pyridine

DMF: dimethyl formamide

DMSO: dimethyl sulfoxide

EDC.HCl: N-(3-Dimethylaminopropyl)-N'-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride

EGF: epidermal growth factor

EGFR: epidermal growth factor receptor

EtOAc: ethyl acetate

EtOH: ethanol

EU: European union

FDA: food and drug administration

FGFR: fibroblast growth factor receptor

FT-IR: fourier transform infrared spectroscopy

HATU: 1-[bis(dimethylamino)methylene]-1H-1,2,3-triazolo[4,5-b]pyridinium 3-oxid hexafluorophosphate

HBA: hydrogen bond acceptor

HBD: hydrogen bond donor

HBTU: N,N,N',N'-tetramethyl-O-(1H-benzotriazol-1-yl)uronium hexafluorophosphate

HDAC: histone deacetylases

HER2: human epidermal growth factor receptor 2

HOBT: hydroxybenzotriazole

hrs: hours

IRK: insulin receptor protein tyrosine kinase

JAK: janus kinase

KDR: kinase insert domain receptor

KRAS: kirsten rat sarcoma

MAPK: mitogen activated protein kinase

MEK: mitogen-activated protein kinase/extracellular signal-regulated kinase kinase

MeOH: methanol

NaOEt: sodium ethoxide

NIH: national institute of health

NRTKs: non-receptor tyrosine kinases

NSCLC: non-small cell lung cancer

PDB: protein data bank

PDGFR: platelet derived growth factor receptor

Ph : pleckstrin homology

PI3K: phosphoinositide 3 kinase

RMSD: root mean square deviation

rt: room temperature

RTKs: receptor tyrosine kinases

SCC: squamous cell carcinoma

SFDA: state food and drug administration

TEA: triethylamine

TGF: tumor growth factor

THF: tetrahydrofuran

TKI: tyrosine kinase inhibitor

TLC: thin layer chromatography

US: united states

VEGFR: vascular endothelial growth factor receptor

WT: wild type

Abstract:

Title of thesis:

**“Design and Synthesis of Molecular Candidates for
Kinase Inhibition as Potential Antiproliferative Agents”**

Name of candidate:

Monia Hossam Hassan

Instructor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Ain Shams University

Thesis supervised by:

Prof. Dr. Khaled A. M. Abouzid (PHD)

*Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry &
Head of the Pharmaceutical Chemistry Department
Faculty of Pharmacy- Ain Shams University*

Dr. Nasser Saad Ismail (PHD)

*Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry
Faculty of Pharmacy- Ain Shams University*

Dr. Deena S. Lasheen (PHD)

*Lecturer of Pharmaceutical Chemistry
Faculty of Pharmacy- Ain Shams University*

Cancer is characterized by the rapid creation of abnormal cells that grow beyond their usual boundaries and can then metastasize to other organs. Cancer is one of the leading causes of death worldwide, with approximately 14 million new cases and 8.2 million cancer related deaths in 2012.

The HER family plays important roles in normal physiology and in cancer because of their essential role for intracellular signaling and cell transformation. Among this family, two members are particularly involved in cancer development; EGFR and HER2. EGFR overexpression is notable in many types of human cancers and it is responsible for poor prognosis. In particular, overexpression of EGFR has been found in 40-80% of NSCLC cases. NSCLC accounts for approximately 85% of primary malignant lung tumors and it remains the leading cause of cancer-related death worldwide. Meanwhile, HER2 has been identified as a prognostic and predictive factor in breast cancer (18-25%). Therefore, the HER family represents an attractive class of rational targets for anticancer drug development.

The current study aimed to design novel furo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives targeting EGFR and HER2. The design focused on exploration of the previously revealed SAR studies and bioisosteric modifications of the lead compounds both in market and in clinical studies. Synthesis of the designed compounds was then accomplished & their structures were confirmed by various spectral and microanalytical data.

This study involved the synthesis of the following unavailable reported intermediates:

- 1) 1-(benzyloxy)-4-nitrobenzene (**Ia**)
- 2) 1-fluoro-3-((4-nitrophenoxy)methyl)benzene (**Ib**)
- 3) 1-chloro-3-((4-nitrophenoxy)methyl)benzene (**Ic**)
- 4) 1-chloro-4-((4-nitrophenoxy)methyl)benzene (**Ie**)
- 5) 1-methyl-4-((4-nitrophenoxy)methyl)benzene (**If**)
- 6) 1,2-dichloro-4-((4-nitrophenoxy)methyl)benzene (**Ig**)
- 7) 2-chloro-1-((3-fluorobenzyl)oxy)-4-nitrobenzene (**Ih**)
- 8) 2-((2-chloro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl)pyridine (**Ii**)
- 9) 4-(benzyloxy)aniline (**IIa**)
- 10) 4-((3-fluorobenzyl)oxy)aniline (**IIb**)
- 11) 4-((3-chlorobenzyl)oxy)aniline (**IIc**)

- 12) 4-((4-chlorobenzyl)oxy)aniline (**IIe**)
- 13) 4-((4-methylbenzyl)oxy)aniline (**IIf**)
- 14) 4-((3,4-dichlorobenzyl)oxy)aniline (**IIg**)
- 15) 3-chloro-4-((3-fluorobenzyl)oxy)aniline (**IIh**)
- 16) 3-chloro-4-(pyridin-2-ylmethoxy)aniline (**IIIi**)
- 17) Ethyl 5-amino-4-cyano-2-methylfuran-3-carboxylate (**III**)
- 18) Ethyl 6-methyl-4-oxo-3,4-dihydrofuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**IV**)
- 19) Ethyl 4-chloro-6-methylfuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**V**)

Also, it comprised the following new intermediates:

- 1) 1-methyl-3-((4-nitrophenoxy)methyl)benzene (**Id**)
- 2) 4-((3-methylbenzyl)oxy)aniline (**IIId**)

And finally, the study involved the synthesis and the characterization of the following new-targeted compounds:

- 1) Ethyl 6-methyl-4-(phenylamino)furo[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**VIa**)
- 2) Ethyl 4-((3-fluorophenyl)amino)-6-methylfuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**VIb**)
- 3) Ethyl 4-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-6-methylfuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**VIc**)
- 4) Ethyl 4-((3-bromophenyl)amino)-6-methylfuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**VIId**)
- 5) Ethyl 6-methyl-4-(*m*-tolylamino)furo[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**VIe**)
- 6) Ethyl 4-((3-methoxyphenyl)amino)-6-methylfuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**VIIf**)
- 7) Ethyl 4-((3-ethynylphenyl)amino)-6-methylfuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**VIg**)
- 8) Ethyl 4-((4-fluorophenyl)amino)-6-methylfuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**VIh**)
- 9) Ethyl 4-((3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)amino)-6-methylfuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**VIi**)
- 10) Ethyl 4-((4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)amino)-6-methylfuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**VIIa**)
- 11) Ethyl 4-((4-((3-fluorobenzyl)oxy)phenyl)amino)-6-methylfuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**VIIb**)
- 12) Ethyl 4-((4-((3-chlorobenzyl)oxy)phenyl)amino)-6-methylfuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5-carboxylate (**VIIc**)