



Molecular Design and Synthesis of Benzoheterocyclic Compounds with Anticipated Anticancer Activity

Thesis

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Synthesis, ADMET Properties, and Biological Evaluation of Benzothiazole Compounds Targeting Chemokine Receptor 2 (CXCR2)

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Herein we describe the synthesis and biological evaluation of a series of novel benzothiazoles based on a diaryl urea scaffold previously reported in some allosteric chemokine receptor 2 (CXCR2) inhibitors. From a library of 41 new compounds, 17 showed significant inhibition of CXCR2, with IC_{50} values less than 10 μ M and selectivity over CXCR4. Our ADMET simulations

suggest favorable drug-like properties for the active compounds. Importantly, we developed a predictive model that can distinguish active from inactive compounds; this will serve as a valuable tool to guide the design of optimized compounds to be evaluated in preclinical models.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements.....	i
List of Figures;.....	vi
List of Tables;	ix
List of Abbreviations;.....	x
Abstract.....	XIII
1. Introduction.....	1
1.1. Cancer.....	1
1.2. What causes cancer?.....	1
1.3. Types of cancer treatment [3].....	2
1.4. Inflammation as the seventh hallmark of cancer	3
1.5 Chemokines.....	7
CXC chemokines	7
CC chemokines	8
C chemokines.....	9
CX3C chemokines.....	9
1.6. Chemokine receptors	9
1.7. Chemokines and their GPCRs in human diseases.....	11
1.8. CXC Chemokines in Cancer Angiogenesis and Metastases	13
1.9. CXCR2	16
CXCR2 signaling pathways	16
CXCR2 and its ligands in cancer	17
CXCR2 Antagonists	19
2. Rationale and Design.....	34
3. Results and Discussion	42
3.1. Chemistry	42
3.2. Biological Evaluation	57
3.2.1 CXCR2 and CXCR4 Tango Assay	57
3.2.2 Proliferation and Cytotoxicity Assays (MTT assay)	59

3.2.3	<i>In vitro</i> characterization and structure activity relationship analysis of synthesized compounds	61
3.3.	Molecular Modeling.....	66
3.3.1.	Pharmacophore Modeling	66
3.3.2.	Molecular docking	76
3.3.3.	ADMET properties calculation.....	79
4.	Conclusion	83
5.	Experimental	84
5.1.	Chemistry	84
5.1.1	Materials and instrumentation.....	84
5.1.2	Synthesis	85
5.2.	Biological evaluation:	106
5.2.1	Cell Culture	106
5.2.2	Compounds and Reagents	107
5.2.3	Cell Proliferation	107
5.2.4	CXCR2 and CXCR4 Tango Assay	108
5.3.	Molecular Modeling.....	110
5.3.1.	Pharmacophore Modeling	110
5.3.1.1.	Generation of the shape-based pharmacophore.....	110
5.3.1.2.	Validation of the shape-based pharmacophore.....	110
5.3.2.	Molecular docking.	111
5.3.3.	ADMET properties calculation.....	111
5.3.4.	Field alignment (using Fieldalign Software):.....	113
6.	Supplementary Data	114
7.	References	156

List of Figures;

Figure 1. The hallmarks of cancer as it should be[1].	3
Figure 2. The tumor microenvironment and characteristics of cancer [9].	4
Figure 3. Pathways that connect inflammation and cancer [4].	6
Figure 4. Structures of (A) CXC chemokine CXCL8 (Interleukin-8, PDB access code 1IL8, [43]) and (B) CC chemokine CCL5 (RANTES, PDB access code 5COY, [44]).	8
Figure 5. General structure of chemokine receptors [64].	10
Figure 6. Chemokine ligand–receptor binding relationships [65]. Both the common names and systematic nomenclature for chemokine ligands are shown in the figure.	11
Figure 7. The role of chemokines and their GPCRs in homeostasis and disease [99].	12
Figure 8. Chemokines and their receptors in tumor development [64].	15
Figure 9. CXCR2 signalling pathway [117].	17
Figure 10. The roles of CXCR2 in cancer . The various roles of CXCR2 are indicated with respect to multiple cancer types (Adapted from ref. [117]).	19
Figure 11. Rational design of the target compounds.	35
Figure 12. 2D alignment pattern of the designed compounds (IVa-p and VIIa-y) with lead compounds (SB 656933 and Danirixin).	36
Figure 13. Field points of SB 656933. Negative field points are represented as blue sphere, positive field points are represented as red spheres and hydrophobic points as light orange sphere.	38
Figure 14. 3D alignment pattern of the designed molecule IVk (colored in grey) with lead SB 656933 (colored in green). Blue sphere represents negative field points, red sphere represent positive field points and light orange spheres represent hydrophobic points.	38
Figure 15. 3D alignment pattern of the designed molecule VIIr (colored in grey) with lead SB 656933 (colored in green). Blue sphere represents negative field points, red sphere represent positive field points and light orange spheres represent hydrophobic points.	39
Figure 16. N-acetylation of arylamine using acetonitrile and TMSI.	43
Figure 17. N-acetylation of arylamine using DMAc and CDI.	43
Figure 18. N-acetylation of arylamine under MW using acetic acid.	44

Figure 19. Various methods for reduction of nitro compounds into amines.	45
Figure 20. H-bonds within the diaryl urea scaffold.	46
Figure 22. Synthesis of diaryl ureas by <i>in situ</i> generation of carbonylimidazolid in water.	48
Figure 23. Synthesis of diaryl ureas from carboxylic acid.	48
Figure 24. Plausible reaction mechanism for the synthesis of hydroxamic acids by 4- NBsOXY.	49
Figure 25. Plausible reaction mechanism for synthesis of urea by 4-NBsOXY.	49
Figure 26. Different pathways for synthesis of diaryl urea, starting with an arylamine.	50
Figure 27. General method for the preparation of 2-aminobenzothiazoles.	52
Figure 28. Preparation of 2-aminobenzothiazoles using thiocyanogen generated from Br ₂ and alkaline thiocyanates.	52
Figure 29. Cyclization of arylthiourea with bromine in chloroform.	53
Figure 30. Direct synthesis of 2-aminobenzothiazoles from arylthiourea using (PhCH ₂ NMe ₃ Br ₃).	53
Figure 31. Preparation of 2-aminobenzothiazoles by oxidation of arylthiourea with Br ₂ in chloroform.	54
Figure 32. Cyclization of p-substituted anilines with sodium thiocyanate and sulphuric acid.	54
Figure 33. Formation of 2-anilinobenzothiazole by heating O-aminothiophenol and phenyl isothiocyanate.	55
Figure 34. Preparation of 2-aminobenzothiazole nucleus by the use of di(imidazole-1- yl)methanimine reagent.	55
Figure 35. Synthesis of 2-aminobenzothiazoles by condensation of thiourea and benzoquinone.	56
Figure 36. Schematic overview of the Tango Assay system for CXCR2 and CXCR4 [256].	58
Figure 37. Illustration of the β -lactamase reporter system [255].	59
Figure 38. Cellular reduction of MTT into strongly colored and lipophilic formazan product.	60
Figure 39. A) Compounds IVd, IVe, IVf, and IVk inhibit IL-8-mediated CXCR2 β -arrestin-2 recruitment. B) Compounds VIIm, VIIn, and VIIo inhibit IL-8-mediated CXCR2 β -arrestin-2	

recruitment. CXCR2-bla U2OS Tango cells were pretreated with various concentrations of test compounds or SB265610 for 30 min. Cells were stimulated with IL-8 (15 nm) for an additional 5 h.	62
Figure 40. Pharmacophore model generation and screening.....	68
Figure 41. ROC score plot for the pharmacophore model screening. Red: ROC curve for the screening of actives vs. inactives reported in this work (AUC value = 0.832); Green: ROC curve for the screening of actives from this work vs. inactives from this work and various other sources (AUC value = 0.967); Blue: ROC curve for the random model (AUC value = 0.5).....	69
Figure 42. Molecular docking of compounds VIIo, VIIr and VIIs in the allosteric site of CXCR2. A, C, & E. 3D binding poses of compounds VIIo, VIIr and VIIs, respectively, were generated using PyMol. B, D, & F. 2D protein-ligand interactions of compounds VIIo, VIIr and VIIs, respectively, were generated using Biovia Discovery Studio 2016 client and redrawn in ChemBioDraw Ultra 14.0.....	78
Figure 43. Star plots generated within ADMET predictor 8.0 for calculated risks for all active compounds. Red (Toxicity risks); Green (ADMET risks); Blue (Absorption risks);	82

List of Tables;

Table 1. Chemokine receptors in human diseases [100]	13
Table 2. CXC Chemokine Ligands and Receptors Involved in Cancer Angiogenesis and Metastasis (Adapted from ref. [105])	14
Table 3. Affinities of N,N'-diarylcyanoguanidines for CXCR1 and CXCR2 [146].....	24
Table 4. Affinities of 3,4-diamino-2,5-thiadiazole-1-oxides for CXCR2 and CXCR1 [147].....	25
Table 5. Inhibition of CXCR2 and CXCR4, and cytotoxicity evaluation of compounds IVa-p.....	63
Table 6. Inhibition of CXCR2 and CXCR4, and cytotoxicity evaluation of compounds VIIa-y.....	64
Table 7. RefTverskyCombo Score of compounds IVa-p.	71
Table 8. RefTverskyCombo Score of compounds VIIa-y.	73
Table 9. ADMET properties of active compounds calculated using ADMET Predictor 8.0.	81

List of Abbreviations:

ADMET: Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism, Excretion and Toxicity

Arg: Arginine

Asp: Aspartic acid

BRAK: Breast and Kidney-expressed chemokine

CADD: Computer-aided drug design

cAMP: Cyclic adenosine monophosphate

CF: Cystic fibrosis

COPD: Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

COX2: Cyclooxygenase 2

CXCL: Chemokine CXC ligand

CXCR: Chemokine CXC receptor

DCM: Dichloromethane

DIPEA: *N,N*-Diisopropylethylamine

DMAP: 4-Dimethylaminopyridine

DMB: 2,4-Dimethoxybenzyl

DMF: Dimethylformamide

DMSO: Dimethyl sulfoxide

2D: Two-dimensional

3D: Three-dimensional

ENA-78: Epithelial-derived neutrophil-activating peptide 78

equiv: Equivalent

ESI: Electrospray ionization

EtOAc: Ethyl acetate

FACS: Fluorescence-activated cell sorting

FDA: Food and drug administration

FRET: Fluorescence resonance energy transfer

GA: Genetic algorithm

GCP-2: Granulocyte chemotactic protein 2

Glu: Glutamic acid

GOLD: Genetic Optimization for Ligand Docking

GPCR: G-protein coupled receptor

Gro: Growth-regulated oncogene

GTPase: Guanosine triphosphate hydrolase enzyme

h: Hour

H-bond: Hydrogen bond

HCC: Hepatocellular carcinoma

HIF1 α : Hypoxia-inducible factor 1-alpha

HIV: Human immunodeficiency virus

HTS: High throughput screening

^1H NMR: Proton Nuclear Magnetic Resonance

IBD: Inflammatory bowel disease

IC₅₀: Half maximal inhibitory concentration

IL-8: Interleukin 8

IP-10: Interferon gamma-induced protein 10

I-TAC: Interferon-inducible T-cell alpha chemoattractant

kDa: Kilodalton

LC/MS: Liquid chromatography–mass spectrometry

Leu: Leucine

LPS: Lipopolysaccharide

MAPK: Mitogen-activated protein kinase

MHz: Mega hertz

Mig: Monokine induced by gamma interferon

min: Minute

mL: Milliliter

mmol: Millimole

MS: Mass spectrometry

MTT: 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyl-2H-tetrazolium bromide

m/z: Mass-to-charge ratio

μM : Micromole

NAP-2: Neutrophil activating peptide 2
NEAA: Nonessential amino acids
NF- κ B: Nuclear factor- κ B
NMR: Nuclear magnetic resonance
nm: Nanometer
nM: Nanomole
PDB: Protein data bank
Pd-C: Palladium on carbon
PDGF: platelet-derived growth factor receptor
PF-4: Platelet factor 4
PI3K: Phosphoinositide 3-kinase
PLC: Phospholipase C
PMB: p-Methoxybenzyl
ppm: Part per million
 t_R : Retention time
Raf : Rapidly growing fibrosarcoma
ROCS: Rapid Overlay of Chemical Structures
SDF-1: Stromal cell-derived factor 1
STAT3: Signal transducer and activator of transcription 3
TEA: Triethylamine
THF: Tetrahydrofuran
TLC: Thin-layer chromatography
Tyr: Tyrosine
UV: Ultraviolet
VEGF: Vascular endothelial growth factor
WHO: World Health Organization

Abstract

Cancer is a term for a wide scope of diseases that can affect any part of the body. Other terms used are malignant tumors and neoplasms. One distinctive attribute of cancer is the expeditious formation of aberrant cells that grow beyond their usual boundaries, and which can then invade neighboring parts of the body and spread to other organs, the latter process is recognized as metastasizing. Metastasis is a significant cause of death from cancer.

Recently, multiple studies indicate that CXCR2 and its associated ligands have universally important roles in cancer cell biology and that CXCR2 inhibition offers a promising therapeutic avenue for a number of different diseases, including cancer.

In this study, guided by SAR studies and molecular modeling, two new series of diaryl urea compounds based on a benzothiazole scaffold were designed and synthesized.

The synthesized compounds were purified and structurally confirmed by different analytical and spectral techniques.

In vitro characterization and SAR analysis to assess selectivity of the compounds for CXCR2 over CXCR4 was accomplished using a Tango assay.

Out of 41 compounds, 17 showed significant inhibition of CXCR2 with IC₅₀ values less than 10 μ M and selectivity against CXCR2 over CXCR4.

Finally, a thorough molecular docking studies were performed using the GOLD (Genetic Optimization for Ligand Docking) software package, version 5.2. Moreover, ADMET properties and associated risk values were calculated using ADMET Predictor 8.0 from Simulation Plus, Inc.

The synthesized compounds have reasonable calculated ADMET properties and are suitable candidates for further optimization.