SYNTHESIS AND BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF NOVEL SERIES OF 1, 2, 4 TRI AZOLE DERIVATIVES AS ANTIMICROBIAL AGENTS

Kolluri Ramesh* and P. Thriveni

1Department of Chemistry, Vikrama Simhapuri University, Nellore-524003, A.P., India.

ABSTRACT

An innovative progression of synthetic 1,2,4-Triazole Derivatives (5 a-g) have been synthesized via usual process producing high-quality yield in methanol through cyclization reaction of N-Cyanoimidates (3a-g), by means of phenyl hydrazine. All the new compounds have been characterized by spectral data and subsequently evaluated for their anti-bacterial and anti fungal activity by using Disc Diffusion Method. Those prepared compounds had been screened for their antimicrobial activities which give an idea about reasonable to good activity against a variety of strains of bacteria and fungi employed. These prepared compounds had been established with IR, 1HNMR and mass spectral statistics.

KEYWORDS: N-Cyanoimidates, Tri Azoles, antibacterial, antifungal agents.

INTRODUCTION

Heterocyclic chemistry is a chemistry involving the heterocyclic compounds, which has atoms of at least one different element as number of ring. The heterocyclic atoms may be inorganic, through the compound contains carbon atoms in the ring. The word hetero means “different from carbon and hydrogen”. Heterocyclic chemistry comprises at least half of all organic chemistry research worldwide. Among five membered Heterocycles triazoles occupies significant position and is commonly found in a wide variety of natural products, synthetic pharmaceutical molecules and other function materials.

1,2,4-Triazole is one of a pair of Isomeric chemical compounds with molecular formula C₃H₃N₃, called Tri azoles (Fig:1), which have a five-membered ring of two carbon atoms and three nitrogen atoms. 1,2,4-Triazole is a basic aromatic Heterocycle.
derivatives find use in a wide variety of applications, most notably as Antifungals such as Flucanazole and Itraconazole (Fig:2).

![1,2,4 Tri Azole](Fig:1 Structure of 1, 2, 4 Triazole)

![Flucanazole and Itraconazole](Fig:2 Structures of Flucanazole, Itraconazole Drugs Containing 1, 2, 4 Triazole Core Unit)

Triazolic nucleus is now a day’s considered an important moiety in the design and synthesis of bioactive compounds that are associated with numerous biological activities\cite{1} such as antibacterial, antifungal\cite{2}, anti-inflammatory,\cite{3}, anticonvulsant\cite{4}, anti-HIV\cite{5}, antineoplastic and antiproliferative\cite{1,6-13}. Additionally, there are review studies that indicate the fact that 1,2,4-triazoles occupy a distinctive place in the field of medicinal and pharmaceutical chemistry\cite{14,15}, as well as in industry.\cite{16} Also, synthesis and complete characterization by both spectroscopic and thermal techniques were reported in literature for numerous derivatives bearing 1,2,4- Triazole moieties.\cite{17-20}

In search of bio active molecules and in continuation of our previous work in developing synthesis of poly functionally substituted Heterocyclic compounds, we report an efficient synthesis of some novel 1, 2, 4 Triazole amine derivatives 5 (a-g). All The synthesised compounds 5 (a-h) were evaluated for antimicrobial activity.
MATERIALS AND METHODS
Melting points were determined in open-end capillaries and are uncorrected. Compounds were checked for their purity by TLC on silica gel G plates and spots were located by iodine vapors. $^1$H NMR spectra were recorded on BRUKER ADVANCE II 400 NMR Spectrometer using TMS as internal standard. The mass spectra were obtained on a JEOL 5x102/DA-6000 mass spectrometer. The IR spectra were recorded on Perkin-Elmer spectrum RX IFT-IR System using KBr pellets.

All reactions were carried out under argon in oven-dried glassware with magnetic stirring. Unless otherwise noted, all materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and were used without further purification. All solvents were reagent grade. THF was distilled from sodium benzophenone ketyl and degassed thoroughly with dry argon directly before use. Unless otherwise noted, organic extracts were dried with anhydrous Na$_2$SO$_4$, filtered through a fritted glass funnel and concentrated with a rotary evaporator (20–30 Torr). Flash chromatography was performed with silica gel (200–300 mesh) by using the mobile phase indicated. The NMR spectra were measured with a 400 MHz Bruker Avance spectrometer at 400.1 and 100.6 MHz, for $^1$H for $^{13}$C, respectively, in CDCl$_3$ solution with tetramethylsilane as internal standard. Chemical shifts are given in ppm (δ) and are referenced to the residual proton resonances of the solvents. Proton and carbon magnetic resonance spectra ($^1$H NMR and $^{13}$C NMR) were recorded using tetramethylsilane (TMS) in the solvent of CDCl$_3$-d or DMSO-$_d6$ as the internal standard ($^1$H NMR: TMS at 0.00 ppm, CDCl$_3$ at 7.26 ppm, DMSO at 2.50 ppm; $^{13}$C NMR: CDCl$_3$ at 77.16 ppm, DMSO at 40.00 ppm.

Scheme I
The synthetic route was depicted in scheme I.

The title compounds 5(a-g) were synthesised in two sequential steps using different reagents and reaction conditions, the 5(a-g) were obtained in moderate yields. The structure were established by spectral (IR, $^1$H-NMR, $^{13}$C-NMR and mass) and analytical data.
Synthetic Scheme I

Scheme I

Reagents and Reaction conditions:
(a) Methanol, t-BuONa, RT, Then NBS, 50°C
(b) Methanol, Reflux

EXPERIMENTAL Section

All reactions were carried out under argon in oven-dried glassware with magnetic stirring. Unless otherwise noted, all materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and were used without further purification. All solvents were reagent grade. THF was distilled from sodium benzophenone ketyl and degassed thoroughly with dry argon directly before use. Unless otherwise noted, organic extracts were dried with anhydrous Na$_2$SO$_4$, filtered through a fritted glass funnel and concentrated with a rotary evaporator (20–30 Torr). Flash chromatography was performed with silica gel (60–120 mesh) by using the mobile phase indicated. The NMR spectra were measured with a 400 MHz Bruker Avance spectrometer at 400.1 and 100.6 MHz, for $^1$H, for $^{13}$C, respectively, in CDCl$_3$ solution with tetra methyl silane as internal standard. Chemical shifts are given in ppm (δ) and are referenced to the residual proton resonances of the solvents.

Synthesis of Cyno amidate derivatives 3 (a-g)

To a 25 ml flask with a mixture of 4-Substituted benzaldehyde (1 m.mol) and H$_2$NCN (4 m.mol) and t-BuONa(4 m.mol) in MeOH (8 ml), the mixture was stirred for 0.5h at room temperature, then NBS (4 m.mol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for 12 h at 50°C. The mixture was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:4) as eluent to give compounds 3 (a-g).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compound Name</th>
<th>Structure</th>
<th>Yield (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>methyl N-cyanobenzimidate</td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Structure" /></td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>methyl 4-chloro-N-cyanobenzimidate</td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Structure" /></td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>methyl N-cyano-4-methoxybenzimidate</td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Structure" /></td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>methyl N-cyano-4-nitrobenzimidate</td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Structure" /></td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>methyl 4-bromo-N-cyanobenzimidate</td>
<td><img src="image5" alt="Structure" /></td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N-cyano-2-fluorobenzimidate</td>
<td><img src="image6" alt="Structure" /></td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>methyl N-cyano-4-methylbenzimidate</td>
<td><img src="image7" alt="Structure" /></td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analytical data of Compounds 3 (a-g)
methyl N-cyanobenzimidate (3a)
$^1$H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$) δ 8.10-8.08 (d, J = 8.4Hz, 2H), 7.65-7.61 (t, J = 7.6Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.50 (t, J = 7.6Hz, 2H), 4.07(s,3H).

$^{13}$C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$) δ 175.1, 133.9, 129.5, 129.0, 128.8, 113.5, 57.0.
methyl 4-chloro-N-cyanobenzimidate (3b)
$^1$H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$) δ 8.06-8.04 (d, J = 8.4Hz, 2H), 7.50-7.48 (d, J = 8.4Hz, 2H), 4.06 (s, 3H); $^{13}$C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$) δ 173.6, 140.4, 130.1, 129.3, 127.6, 113.1, 57.0.
methyl N-cyano-4-methoxybenzimidate (3c)
$^1$H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$) δ 8.17-8.15 (d, J = 8.8Hz, 2H), 6.99-6.97 (d, J = 8.8Hz, 2H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H);

$^{13}$C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$) δ 173.7, 163.9, 131.1, 121.6, 114.1, 113.9, 56.5, 55.6.
methyl N-cyano-4-nitrobenzimidate (3d)
$^1$H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$) δ 8.39-8.37 (d, J = 8.8Hz, 2H), 8.27-8.24 (d, J = 8.8Hz, 2H), 4.15 (s, 3H).

$^{13}$C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$) δ 173.0, 150.4, 134.3, 130.0, 124.0, 112.4, 57.6.
methyl 4-bromo-N-cyanobenzimidate (3e)
$^1$H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$) δ 7.99-7.97 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.68-7.66 (d, J = 8.4Hz, 2H), 4.06 (s, 3H).

$^{13}$C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$) δ 173.7, 132.3, 130.1, 129.0, 128.1, 113.0, 57.0.
N-cyano-2-fluorobenzimidate (3f)
$^1$H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$) δ δ 7.63-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.18 (m, 2H), 4.06(s,3H).

$^{13}$C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$) δ 174.7, 160.6, 158.0, 134.8, 134.7, 129.6, 124.6, 124.5, 118.6, 118.5, 117.1, 116.8, 112.7, 57.3.
methyl N-cyano-4-methylbenzimidate (3g)

$^1$H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$) $\delta$ 8.02-8.00 (d, 2H, J = 8.0Hz), 7.32-7.30(d, 2H, J = 8.0Hz), 4.04(s, 3H), 2.43(s, 3H);

$^{13}$C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$) $\delta$ 173.6, 143.8, 128.5, 127.7, 125.5, 112.5, 55.6, 20.7.

**General procedure of 3-amino-1, 2, 4-triazole derivatives 4 (a-g)**

A mixture of N-Cyanoimidates (1m.mol), phenylhydrazine (1.2 m.mol) and methanol (5ml) was refluxed for 5h. Then the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography to obtain the final product.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compound Name</th>
<th>Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,3-diphenyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-amine (4a)</td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Structure" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-amine (4b)</td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Structure" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-amine (4c)</td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Structure" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-(4-nitrophenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-amine (4d)</td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Structure" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-(4-bromophenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-amine (4e)</td>
<td><img src="image5" alt="Structure" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-(2-fluorophenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-amine (4f)</td>
<td><img src="image6" alt="Structure" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-phenyl-3-p-tolyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-amine (4g)</td>
<td><img src="image7" alt="Structure" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANTI-MICROBIAL ACTIVITY

Media and chemicals
Nutrient Broth, Nutrient agar and 5 mm diameter antibiotic assay were obtained from Hi-Media Laboratories Limited, India. Barium chloride dehydrate GR, concentrated sulphuric acid GR, Dimethyl sulphoxide GR, Sodium chloride AR and Potassium dichromate were obtained from Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd, Chemical Division, India. The standard bacterial and fungal strains were procured from National Centre from Cell Science (NCCS), Pune, India. The bacterial included two Gram positive bacterial isolates Staphylococcus aureus NCCS 2079 and Bacillus cereus NCCS 2106 and two Gram negative bacterial isolates Escherichia coli NCCS2065 and Pseudomonas aeruginosa NCCS 2200. The fungicidal organisms included were Aspergillus nigeri NCCS 1196 (AN) and Candida albicans NCCS 3471 (CA). The bacteria were grown and maintained on nutrient agar (Hi-Media, Mumbai) and were subculture when needed.

Glass wares and Apparatus
Glass petridish, Glass tubes, Beakers, Erlenmeyer flasks, Bacterial loop and measuring cylinder. All the glass wares were of Borosilicate grade. Digital electronics balance (Shankar Scientific supplies, India), Yorco Horizontal Laminar air flow bench (Yorco sales Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi, India), Ausco incubator, Zone reader (Cintex industrial Corporation, India), hot air oven, autoclave and UV/Visible spectrophotometer (Shimadzu corporation, Japan).

Antibacterial activity
The antibacterial activity of synthesized compounds was studied by the disc diffusion method against the following pathogenic organisms. The gram-positive bacterial screened were Staphylococcus aureus NCCS 2079 (SA) and Bacillus cereus NCCS 2106 (BC). The gram negative bacterial screened were Escherichia coli NCCS 2065 (EC) and Pseudomonas aeruginosa NCCS 2200 (PA). The synthesized compounds were used at the concentration of 250 µg/ml and 500 µg/ml using DMSO as a solvent. The amoxicillin 10 µg/disc and Streptomycin 30 µg/disc were used as a standard (Himedia laboratories limited, Mumbai).

Disc Diffusion Method
A suspension of Staphylococcus aureus (SA) was added to sterile nutrient agar at 45°C. The mixture was transferred to sterile petridishes to give a depth of 3 to 4 mm and allowed to solidify. Precautions were observed to reduce uniform layer of medium on the plate. Sterile discs 5mm in diameter (made from Whatman Filter paper) were immersed in the solutions of
synthesized compounds (250µg/ml) and maintain an untreated control sample for comparison. Leave the plates to stand for 1 hour at room temperature as a period of preincubation diffusion to minimize the effects of variations in different time. Then the plates were incubated at 37°C for 24 hours and observed for antibacterial activity. The diameter of the zone of inhibition was measured for each plate in which the zone of inhibition was observed. The average zone of inhibition was calculated and compared with that of standard. A similar procedure was adopted for studying the antibacterial activity against the other organisms.

**Antifungal activity**

The antifungal activity of synthesized compounds were studied by disc diffusion method against the organisms of Aspergillus nigeri NCCS 1196 (AN) and Candida albicans NCCS 3471(CA). Compounds were treated at the concentrations of 250 µg/ml using DMSO as a solvent. The standard used was Ketoconazole 50 µg/ml and Griseofulvin 50 µg/ml against both the organisms.

**Disc Diffusion Method**

A suspension of Aspergillus nigeri NCCS 1196 (AN) was added to a sterile sabouraud dextrose agar at 45°C. The mixture was transferred to sterile petridishes and allowed to solidify. Sterile discs 5 mm in diameter (made from Whatmann Filter paper) immersed in the solutions of synthesized comopounds and control were placed on the surface of agar medium with forceps and pressed gently to ensure even contact. Leave the plates to stand for 1 hour at room temperature as a period of preincubation diffusion to minimize the effects of variation at 37°C for 13 hours and observed for antibacterial activity. The diameters of the zone of inhibition were measured for the plates in which the zone of inhibition was observed. The average zone of inhibition was calculated with that of standard. The order of activity was 4f>4d>4e>4b>4c>4g>4a.
Antimicrobial evaluation of Novel compounds 4(a-h)

Table 3. Antimicrobial activity and antifungal activity of synthesized compounds 4(a-h)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compound No</th>
<th>Antibacterial activity</th>
<th>Zone of inhibition in mm</th>
<th>Antifungal activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>S.aureus</td>
<td>E.coli</td>
<td>P.aeruginosa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4a</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4b</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4c</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4d</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4e</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4f</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4g</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ampicillin</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flucanazole</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Characterization

The IR spectrum of the title Compounds 4(a-h) has given stretching vibration at 3100 cm\(^{-1}\), due to the stretching vibration corresponding to Ar-H Stretching vibrations. The absorption peak at 2935 cm\(^{-1}\) is due to The stretching vibration corresponding to the SP\(^3\) C-H (methyl gp). The strong Intensity absorption at 1350 & 1530 cm\(^{-1}\) is due to The stretching vibration of -N-O Stretching in Nitro group, 1360 cm\(^{-1}\) is due to The stretching vibration of C-F bond. 760 cm\(^{-1}\) is due to The stretching vibration of C-Cl bond. 560 cm\(^{-1}\) is due to The stretching vibration of C-Br bond. The weak Intensity absorption at 1620 cm\(^{-1}\) corresponds to a C=N Stretching vibration.1150cm\(^{-1}\) corresponding to C-O Stretching.

It has been observed from chemical structure of compound 4(a-h) that different pair of protons. The protons of Methyl group which is attached to benzene ring appeared as a singlet at δ =2.3 ppm, The protons of Methoxy group appeared as a Singlet at δ =3.8 ppm,. The protons attached benzene ring appeared between δ =7.2-8.03 ppm respectively.

The chemical shifts of the final compound carbon vary from δ = 175 to 23 ppm. The carbon nucleus under the influence of a strong electronegative environment appeared down field, The carbon chemical shift of the methyl group at δ= 23 ppm. The carbon chemical shift of the Methoxy group at δ= 55 ppm.

Readily available starting materials and simple synthesizing procedures make this method very attractive and convenient for the synthesis of 1,2,4 tri azole derivatives. Formation of
products was confirmed by recording their Elemental analysis, $^1$H NMR, $^{13}$C, FT-IR, mass spectra.

**Biological Activity screening**

The results of biological studies of newly synthesized compounds reveal that the compounds possess significant anti-bacterial and anti-fungal activities. The results of these studies are given in **Table 3**. From Anti-bacterial and Anti-fungal activity screening results, it has been observed that compounds **4f, 4d** possess good activity.

**CONCLUSION**

We have described an efficient procedure for the preparation of 2-amino-1,2,4-triazoles from cynamidates and Phenyl hydrazine in Methanol. The conditions are simple, mild, non-toxic, environmentally benign, scalable and thus it is one of the Good method available for the preparation of 2-amino-1,2,4-triazoles. From Anti-bacterial and Anti-fungal activity screening results, it has been observed that compounds **4f, 4d** possess good activity compared to Standard Drugs.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Authors are thankful to our Research Supervisor Dr. P. Thriveni for providing us required facilities and motivation for completion of the research work. We also extend our gratitude towards Department of Chemistry, Sri Vikrama simhapuri University for providing us facilities of IR Spectra, $^1$H NMR for characterization of synthesized compounds.

**REFERENCES**


