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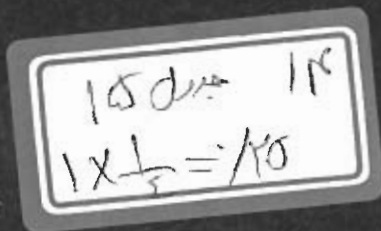
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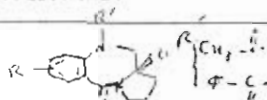


ed out external validation by removing 5 compounds randomly, QSAR on the remaining 17 compounds and using the QSAR to predict the activity of the 5 test compounds. This procedure was carried out 4 times and the mean errors found each time were: 0.181, 0.167, 0.208 and 0.196. The standard error of the mean from equation 1 is 0.182, these errors indicate that the model has good predictivity. We further carried out 100 randomisations of the data, to check for chance correlations; the mean r^2 found was 0.186, the mean r^2 found was 0.520. Thus the risk that equation 1 is due to chance

is not put a precise physicochemical meaning on the descriptors selected but they can be interpreted as modelling molecular bulk and weak attractive forces. This accords with the conclusions of a previous study (Mackay et al 2001) of P-glycoprotein-associated ATPase activity of a range of drugs.

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سینتیز و فعالیت



Design and synthesis of inhibitors of *Leishmania* NAD-glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase

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Leishmaniasis are parasitic diseases caused by different species belonging to the genus *Leishmania*, a protozoa transmitted by the phlebotomine sandfly. Therapeutic treatments for the disease have appreciable toxicity and in some areas, up to 40% of the parasites exhibit some degree of resistance. Currently available therapies involve either intravenous or intramuscular injections and the need for an orally active agent has led to the development of new drugs. However, there is still a need for alternative oral treatments that are effective and safe (TDR News 2000).

Leishmaniasis parasites are highly dependent on glycolysis as a source of ATP (Oppenheimer 1987). The glycolytic enzyme glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (G3PDH) is common to both parasite and host, and uses the same active site. On comparison of the three-dimensional structures of human and *Leishmania* GAPDH, there are exploitable differences for rational drug design. The NAD binding region is well conserved around the nicotinamide moiety, whereas the adenosine binding region shows structural differences between parasite and host enzymes, particularly in the vicinity of the adenosine moiety (Mackay et al 2000).

Previous studies have shown that the topology of the NAD binding channel in *Leishmania* is compatible with the R-isomeric analogues of pyrrolizidine. The benzodiazepine moiety occupies the adenine region of the binding site, the fused pyrrole ring is positioned in the ribosyl region, and a phosphate group binds to the phosphate binding region of the cofactor. The R-isomers of these antibiotics are known cytotoxic agents (Jenkins et al 1997). The stereochemistry at position 11a, coupled with the presence of a substituent at position 10, is compatible with the NAD binding channel and binding with DNA thus overcoming potential host cytotoxicity (Thurston et al 1988). Subsequent reduction of the α -ester to the aldehyde and the amine results in spontaneous intramolecular cyclisation to the benzodiazepine isomer (Kamal et al 1997).

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Synthesis and calcium channel antagonist activity of 2-imidazolyl-substituted dihydropyridines

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Structurally diverse groups of compounds are known to be effective as calcium channel antagonists (Goldmann & Stoltefuss 1991). The most potent class of antagonists comprises derivatives of 1,4-dihydropyridine. The effect of various C-4 imidazolyl substituents in conjunction with different C-3, C-5 diesters on calcium channel antagonist activity have been previously reported (Shafiee et al 1998; Hadizadeh et al 2002). We now report synthesis (Hantzsch 1882; Archibald et al 1990) and calcium channel antagonist activity of 12 new methyl and ethyl diester analogues of nifedipine in which the o-nitrophenyl group at 4 position is replaced by 1-benzyl-2-alkylthio-5-imidazolyl substituent, and its methyl group at 2 position is replaced by 2-(1H-imidazol-1-yl)ethyl or 2-(dimethylamino)ethyl substituent. Guinea-pig ileum contractile response to KCl, acetylcholine (ACh) and electrical stimulations of title compounds were determined according to Bolger et al (1983) and Rovnyak et al (1992). The IC50 values were determined as concentration needed to produce 50% relaxation of contracted guinea-pig ileum in different tests. The IC50 (μ M) values of the lead compound were 67.0, 66.1 and 16.0 in acetylcholine, KCl and electrical stimulation tests. The IC50 (nM) for nifedipine was 14.0 in the KCl test.

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Synthesis of S-nitroso captopril

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Angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors are a group of drugs developed during the 1970s. They are currently used extensively in the treatment of hypertension and cardiac failure and have recently been shown to improve prognosis after myocardial infarction.

Captopril is an ACE-inhibitor that has until recently dominated clinical practice. During the last few years, other new long-acting members have become available, including perindopril, lisinopril, cilazapril, quinopril, fosinopril, ramipril, trandolapril and zofenopril. None of these possess significantly different clinical properties to captopril. This study describes the synthesis of potential analogues of captopril, and is part of a wider study, which aims to enhance the therapeutic profile of this drug, particularly with regard to specific routes of administration.