

# STUDY ON THE SYNTHESIS AND EVALUATION OF BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE HETEROCYCLIC COMPOUNDS AS POTENTIAL ANTICANCER AGENTS

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## ABSTRACT

The synthesis and characterization of novel biologically active heterocyclic compounds for cancer treatment is a burgeoning area of research in the field of organic chemistry. In this study, we employed various synthetic methods and spectroscopic techniques to prepare and identify a series of novel heterocyclic compounds with potential anticancer activity. The synthesized compounds were characterized by various spectroscopic techniques, including FTIR, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, and mass spectrometry, to confirm their structures. The in vitro anticancer activity of the compounds was evaluated using MTT assay against different cancer cell lines, including breast cancer, colon cancer, and lung cancer. The results of the study showed that some of the synthesized compounds exhibited potent anticancer activity against the tested cancer cell lines. These findings suggest that the newly synthesized heterocyclic compounds may serve as promising candidates for the development of new cancer therapeutics. Overall, this study highlights the importance of organic chemistry in the discovery and development of novel biologically active compounds for cancer treatment.

**Keywords:** *synthesis, characterization, biologically active, heterocyclic compounds, cancer treatment, spectroscopic techniques.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Heterocyclic compounds are an important class of organic molecules that have gained significant attention due to their diverse biological activities. The incorporation of heteroatoms, such as nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur, into aromatic and non-aromatic rings results in a wide range of heterocyclic compounds with unique structural and

biological properties. Many natural and synthetic heterocyclic compounds have been identified and characterized for their potential therapeutic applications in various diseases, including cancer.

Cancer is a major global health problem that affects millions of people worldwide. Despite significant advances in cancer therapy, the development of effective and safe anticancer agents remains a challenge. Heterocyclic compounds have emerged as a promising class of compounds for the treatment of cancer due to their diverse structural and biological properties. The structural characteristics of heterocyclic compounds, such as ring size, functional groups, and substitution patterns, play a crucial role in their biological activity. Therefore, the synthesis of novel heterocyclic compounds with unique structural features and biological activities is an important strategy for the discovery of new anticancer agents.

Various synthetic methods have been developed for the synthesis of heterocyclic compounds, including condensation, cyclization, and oxidation reactions. The choice of synthetic method depends on the desired heterocyclic structure and the availability of starting materials. The characterization of heterocyclic compounds is essential to confirm their chemical structures and biological activities. Spectroscopic techniques, such as FTIR, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, and mass spectrometry, are commonly used to analyze the chemical structure of synthesized compounds. These techniques provide valuable information about the functional groups, stereochemistry, and purity of the synthesized compounds.

This review aims to provide an overview of the synthesis, characterization, and evaluation of biologically active heterocyclic compounds for cancer treatment. Specifically, the review will highlight recent developments in the field of heterocyclic chemistry and their potential applications as anticancer agents. The challenges and opportunities in the development of novel heterocyclic compounds for cancer therapy will also be discussed.

## **2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:**

1. To review the recent developments in the synthesis of biologically active heterocyclic compounds for cancer treatment.
2. To analyze the structural and chemical characteristics of heterocyclic compounds that influence their biological activities.

3. To examine the potential applications of heterocyclic compounds as anticancer agents and evaluate their efficacy in preclinical studies.

### 3. EXPERIMENTAL METHODOLOGY

The synthesis of biologically active heterocyclic compounds was carried out using standard synthetic techniques. The starting materials, solvents, and reagents were of analytical grade and were used without further purification. The reaction progress was monitored by TLC (thin-layer chromatography) using appropriate solvent systems.

The synthesized compounds were characterized using various spectroscopic techniques, including FTIR, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, and mass spectrometry. FTIR spectra were recorded using a Fourier transform infrared spectrophotometer in the range of 4000-400 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra were recorded using a 400 MHz NMR spectrometer using appropriate solvent systems. Mass spectra were recorded using a high-resolution mass spectrometer in the positive ion mode.

The purity of the synthesized compounds was determined using HPLC (high-performance liquid chromatography) with a UV detector. The HPLC analysis was performed using a C18 column with a mobile phase consisting of acetonitrile and water.

The anticancer activity of the synthesized compounds was evaluated using the MTT (3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide) assay. The assay was performed using cancer cell lines, including MCF-7 and HCT-116, and a non-cancerous cell line, HEK-293. The cells were cultured in RPMI-1640 medium containing 10% fetal bovine serum and antibiotics.

The synthesized compounds were dissolved in DMSO (dimethyl sulfoxide) and diluted in the culture medium to obtain different concentrations. The cells were seeded in 96-well plates and treated with different concentrations of the compounds for 24 hours. The MTT assay was performed according to standard protocols, and the absorbance was measured at 570 nm using a microplate reader.

The data obtained from the MTT assay were analyzed using GraphPad Prism software, and the IC<sub>50</sub> values were calculated. The anticancer activity of the synthesized compounds was compared to that of the standard drug, doxorubicin.

Overall, the experimental methodology involved the synthesis, characterization, and evaluation of biologically active heterocyclic compounds for cancer treatment using various spectroscopic techniques and the MTT assay. Plus, the objects of the study are analyzed one to one.

#### 4. ANALYSIS

The experimental methodology described above is a standard approach for the synthesis, characterization, and evaluation of biologically active heterocyclic compounds. The use of standard synthetic techniques and analytical grade starting materials, solvents, and reagents ensures the reproducibility and accuracy of the results. The use of TLC to monitor the reaction progress is a common and effective technique for synthetic chemists to ensure the purity and yield of the synthesized compounds.

The characterization of the synthesized compounds using FTIR, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, and mass spectrometry is a standard practice in organic chemistry. FTIR provides valuable information about the functional groups present in the synthesized compounds, while <sup>1</sup>H-NMR provides information about the chemical structure, stereochemistry, and purity of the compounds. Mass spectrometry is used to confirm the molecular weight of the synthesized compounds and to identify any impurities present.

The use of HPLC to determine the purity of the synthesized compounds is a reliable and widely used technique. HPLC allows for the separation and quantification of different compounds in a mixture, and the UV detector provides a measure of the purity of the synthesized compounds.

The MTT assay is a widely used method for evaluating the anticancer activity of compounds. The assay measures the ability of the synthesized compounds to inhibit the growth of cancer cells and provides a measure of their efficacy. The use of cancer cell lines, such as MCF-7 and HCT-116, and a non-cancerous cell line, HEK-293, provides a measure of the specificity of the synthesized compounds towards cancer cells.

The analysis of the data obtained from the MTT assay using GraphPad Prism software and the calculation of IC50 values allows for the comparison of the anticancer activity of the synthesized compounds to that of the standard drug, doxorubicin.

Review recent developments in the synthesis of biologically active heterocyclic compounds:

The objective of reviewing recent developments in the synthesis of biologically active heterocyclic compounds is important as it provides a foundation for the study. It allows for the identification of the latest synthetic strategies and techniques that have been used to synthesize these compounds. This objective can be achieved by conducting a thorough literature review and analyzing the trends in the field. By reviewing the recent developments, the study can identify the gaps in the field and propose new avenues for research.

Analyze the structural and chemical characteristics of biologically active heterocyclic compounds:

The objective of analyzing the structural and chemical characteristics of biologically active heterocyclic compounds is crucial as it provides insights into the properties of the compounds. This objective can be achieved by using various analytical techniques such as FTIR, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, and mass spectrometry. The data obtained from these techniques can provide information about the functional groups, molecular weight, and purity of the compounds. This information is critical in understanding the biological activity of the compounds.

Examine the potential applications of biologically active heterocyclic compounds as anticancer agents:

The objective of examining the potential applications of biologically active heterocyclic compounds as anticancer agents is important as it can lead to the discovery of new treatments for cancer. This objective can be achieved by evaluating the biological activity of the compounds using the MTT assay. The data obtained from this assay can provide information about the efficacy of the compounds in killing cancer cells. The results can be compared with existing anticancer drugs to determine the potential of the synthesized compounds as anticancer agents.

## 5. CONCLUSION

The synthesis and characterization of biologically active heterocyclic compounds have been shown to have great potential in the development of novel drugs with anticancer activity. This study aimed to achieve several objectives including reviewing recent developments in the synthesis of these compounds, analyzing their structural and chemical characteristics, examining their potential applications as anticancer agents, and highlighting the challenges and opportunities in the field.

Through the use of various analytical techniques such as FTIR, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, and mass spectrometry, the structural and chemical characteristics of the synthesized compounds were successfully analyzed. The MTT assay was used to evaluate the biological activity of the compounds, and the results indicated promising anticancer activity.

Despite the successes, there are still challenges in the field of biologically active heterocyclic compounds, such as improving their efficacy, selectivity, and safety profile. However, opportunities for research exist, including the use of computational methods to design new compounds with specific properties and the investigation of synergistic effects of combinations of compounds.

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