



Synthesis and evaluation of antibacterial potential of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione against Gram positive and Gram negative bacteria

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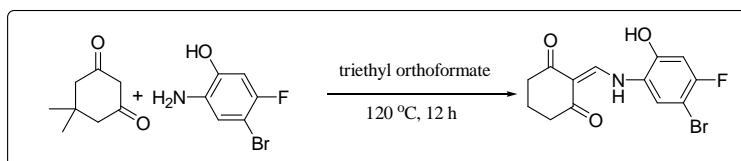
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ABSTRACT

In the present study 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione was synthesized and evaluated for antibacterial activity. Disc diffusion method revealed that the zone of inhibition of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione against *Acetobacter aceti*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Klebsiella pneumonia* and *Enterobacter aerogenes* bacterial strains was 18.5, 25, 19 and 28 mm, respectively at 5 μ M concentration. The compound also exhibited good antibacterial activity against *Acetobacter aceti*, *Klebsiella pneumonia* and *Enterobacter aerogenes* bacterial strains at 2.5 μ M concentration. The zone of inhibition of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione against *Enterobacter aerogenes*, *Klebsiella pneumonia* and *Acetobacter aceti* was 17, 19 and 22 mm, respectively. In summary, the present study demonstrates that 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione has potential as effective anti-bacterial agent.

Graphical Abstract:



Synthesis of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione.

Keywords: Condensation, Antibacterial activity, Zone of inhibition, Chemotherapy, Disc diffusion method.

INTRODUCTION

Presently the world is confronted with a serious challenge because of the evolution of bacterial and fungal infections having resistance to the available drugs. Development of drug-resistant bacterial and fungal strains related with the extensive use of available antimicrobial agents. Antimicrobial

resistance is harmful to mankind, because most of the infectious microorganisms understand the mechanism of drug action and develop tolerance to it [1-4]. Therefore discovery of new generation drugs against these infections either from synthetic or natural sources are highly desired. In concern to drawbacks of conventional medicine, the use of natural products as an alternate to the conventional treatment in healing and treatment of various diseases has been rise in the last few decades [5, 6]. Grams positive as well as Gram negative bacterial infections are the cause of various diseases/disorders in human beings. Nosocomial infections are the result of Staphylococcus aureus infection whileas food poisoning is caused by the Bacillus subtilis [7, 8]. Pseudomonas aeruginosa leads to urinary tract infections [9] and Escherichia coli causes diarrhea, food poisoning and sepsis [10-13].

1,3-cyclohexandione commonly known as dimedone has been used efficiently as pharmacophoric building block for the synthesis of various antimicrobial agents including, xanthenes [14, 15], substituted chromenes [16], macrocyclic metal complexes [17], quinazoline derivatives [18], tetrahydro quinolone diones [19] and acridine based compounds [20]. Dimedone acts as a versatile building block and because of its amicable functionality the molecules is extensively used by the synthetic organic chemists to synthesize libraries of the compounds for screening against various diseases. While working on the synthesis and modification of bioactive molecules for the development of drug candidates [21-31] we thought of synthesis and investigation of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5, 5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1, 3-dione for antibacterial activity (Figure 1).

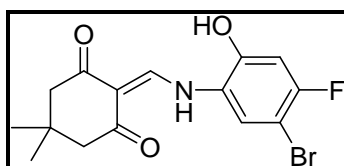


Figure 1. Structure of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

General: ^1H and ^{13}C NMR were recorded on 400 MHz Bruker Daltonics spectrometer. The chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard and coupling constants were measured in Hz. Mass spectra were recorded on Bruker Daltonics electro spray ionization apparatus. Column chromatography was carried out on silica gel (Qualigens, 60-120 mesh) and pre-coated silica gel thin layer chromatographic (TLC) plates were viewed with ultraviolet light at 254 nm for fluorescence quenching spots and at 366 nm for fluorescent spots. Ceric sulfate was used as visualizing agents. Retinoic acid was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (Sigma, St. Louis, MO, USA).

General procedure for the synthesis of compound: A clean and dry 50 mL round bottom flask fitted with reflux condenser was charged with dimedone (500 mg, 4.46 mmol), 5-bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-aniline (487 mg, 4.46 mmol) and triethylorthoformate (1.1 mL, 6.69 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at 120°C. The crude solid material formed was then purified by silica gel column chromatography to obtain the desired compound in 15% ethyl acetate: hexane.

Preparation of Inoculum: A single glycerol stock of the bacterial and fungal strains were thawed and added into 250 mL conical flasks containing 50 mL of respective broth media. The bacterial cultures were incubated at 37°C and grown to mid log growth phase. The exponentially grown bacterial cultures were appropriately diluted based on optical density measured at 600 nm and used for inoculation.

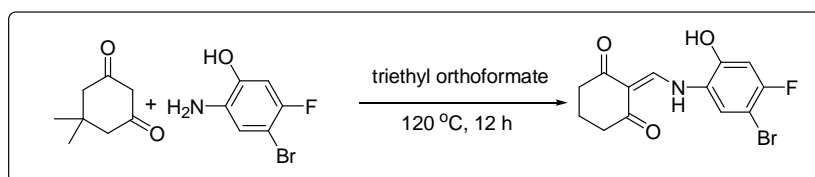
Test organism used: The antibacterial activity of *Pithecellobium dulce* root extract was evaluated against four strains. Among four tested strains one was Gram positive (*Staphylococcus aureus* (MTCC–3160) and three Gram negative (*Acetobacter acetii*, MTCC–2623; *Acetobacter acetii* MTCC–2623; *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (MTCC–3384). These bacterial strains were obtained from Boura Sagar Institute Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh-India. The cultural medium for the bacteria contained yeast extract (5 g L⁻¹), peptone (5 g L⁻¹) and mannitol (25 g L⁻¹).

Antibacterial Assay: The antimicrobial activity of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione was analyzed using Disc Diffusion Method [32-34]. In brief, the Mueller Hinton Agar (Himedia, Mumbai, India) plates were prepared by pouring into sterile petriplates 15 mL of the molten media. After 5 min, the dried plates were swabbed uniformly with 0.1 % of inoculum suspension and subsequently allowed to dry. The sterile individual discs loaded with 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione (at 0.75, 1.25, 2.5 and 5 μM concentrations) were put onto the medium surface (pH 6.8-7.2). After diffusion of the extracts into the medium plates were incubated for 24 h at 37°C. For negative control, the discs were loaded with dimethyl sulfoxide (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO, USA) alone whereas streptomycin (10 μg/disc; Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO, USA) was used as positive control. After incubation the zone of inhibition around the disc was measured in millimeter using a transparent ruler. The measurements were performed in triplicates to determine the mean of inhibition zone.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

At present development of resistance to antibiotic at almost geometric scale [35, 36] is associated with the confrontation of serious challenges by medical practitioners in the treatment of infectious diseases [37]. Therefore proper attention needs to be given to bioactive compounds and synthesis of organic compounds to reap the antimicrobial benefits inherited to these compounds. After screening of the bioactive compounds with therapeutic potential, the molecules should be subjected to structural modification to develop the compounds with more promising activity. Also its tolerable levels in the human body as well as any toxic effects have to be investigated.

In the present study, 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione was synthesized by the condensation reaction between dimedone and 5-bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-aniline (Scheme 1). The reaction was performed for 12 h under reflux at 120°C in triethyl orthoformate to obtain 5-bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-aniline. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using 15% ethyl acetate and petroleum ether solvent mixture. The product was characterized using the ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and MS spectral techniques.



Scheme 1. Synthesis of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione.

The synthesized compound was screened for antibacterial activity against the Gram positive and Gram negative bacterial strains. The data showed that 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione exhibits variable degrees of antimicrobial activity against the tested bacterial strains.

Disc diffusion method revealed that the compound showed good activity against *Acetobacter acetii*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Klebsiella pneumonia* and *Enterobacter aerogenes* bacterial strains (Figure 2). The zone of inhibition of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-

dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione against *Acetobacteraceti*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Klebsiella pneumonia* and *Enterobacter aerogenes* bacterial strains was 18.5, 25, 19 and 28 mm, respectively at 5 μ M concentration.

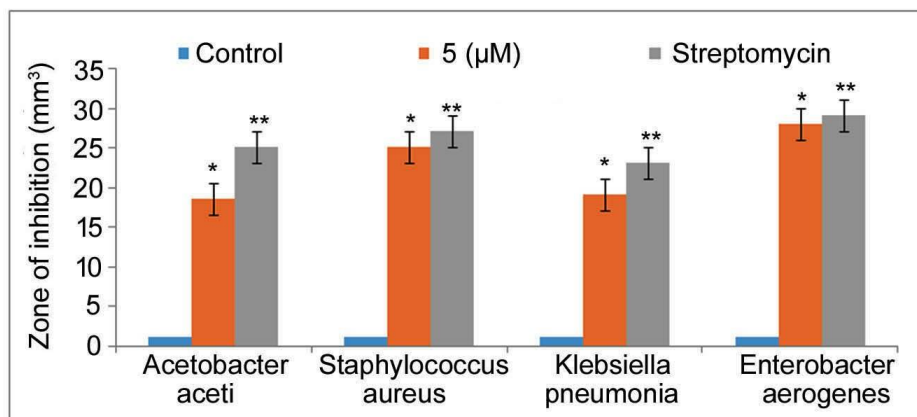


Figure 2. Antibacterial activity of 5 μ M concentration of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione against the indicated strains- Zone of inhibition in diameter (mm).

The 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione also exhibited good antibacterial activity against *Acetobacteraceti*, *Klebsiella pneumonia* and *Enterobacter aerogenes* bacterial strains at 2.5 μ M concentration. The zone of inhibition of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione against *Acetobacteraceti*, *Klebsiella pneumonia* and *Enterobacter aerogenes* was 17, 19 and 22 mm, respectively. The antibacterial activity of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione against *Staphylococcus aureus* was found to be negligible at 2.5 μ M concentration (Figure 3).

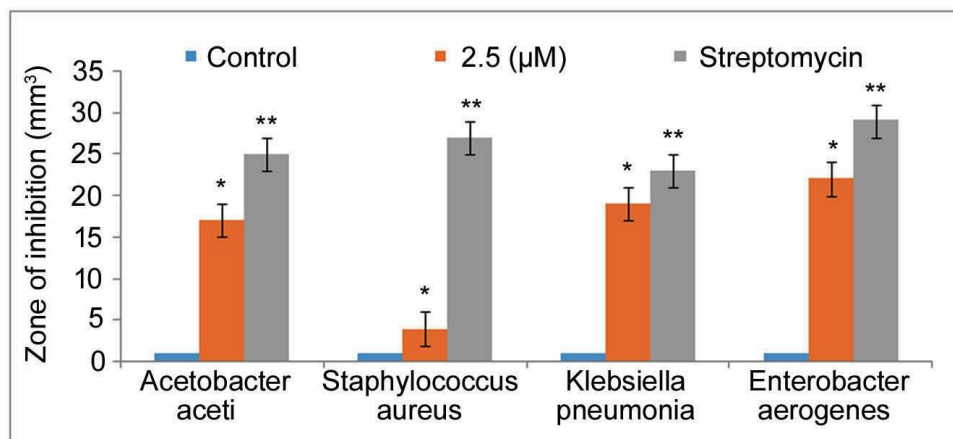


Figure 3. Antibacterial activity of 2.5 μ M concentration of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione against the indicated strains- Zone of inhibition in diameter (mm).

However, 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione at 0.75 and 1.25 μ M concentrations did not show any significant antibacterial activity against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Klebsiella pneumonia* and *Enterobacter aerogenes* bacterial strains but showed some activity against *Acetobacteraceti*. The zone of inhibition of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione against *Acetobacteraceti* was 11 and 9 mm, respectively on treatment with 1.25 and 0.75 μ M concentrations (Figure 4, 5).

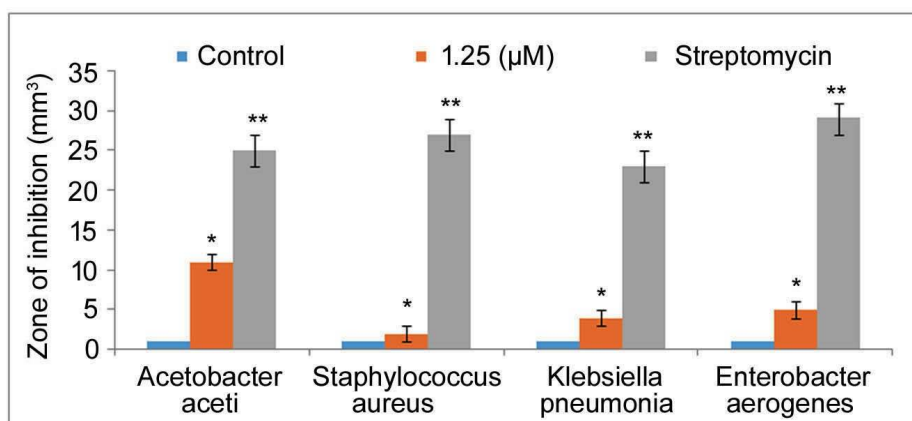


Figure 3. Antibacterial activity of 1.25 μM concentration of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione against the indicated strains- Zone of inhibition in diameter (mm).

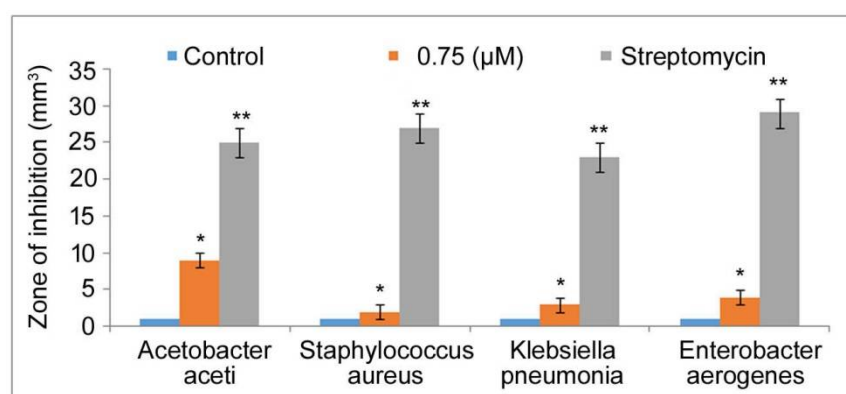


Figure 4. Antibacterial activity of 0.75 μM concentration of 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione against the indicated strains- Zone of inhibition in diameter (mm).

APPLICATION

The study identified 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione as an effective antibacterial agent. More studies are required to investigate the structure-activity-relationship of the synthesized compounds for development of novel and effective antibacterial agents.

CONCLUSION

In summary, 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione was found to possess antibacterial activity against Gram positive and Gram negative bacterial strains. Therefore, 2-[(5-Bromo-4-fluoro-2-hydroxy-phenylamino)-methylene]-5,5-dimethyl-cyclohexane-1,3-dione can be investigated further as antibacterial agent.

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