

## Synthesis and Assessment of Antimicrobial Activity in Bioactive Heterocyclic Compounds

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### Abstract

The study focuses on the synthesis and evaluation of the antimicrobial properties of bioactive heterocyclic compounds, offering potential breakthroughs in the development of new antimicrobial agents. Heterocyclic compounds, owing to their diverse structures and promising therapeutic potential, have emerged as candidates of interest in the quest to combat drug-resistant microorganisms. A variety of bioactive heterocyclic compounds were synthesized using different synthetic approaches, including multicomponent reactions and cyclization techniques. Comprehensive characterization ensured the purity and identity of these compounds. Subsequently, an extensive assessment of their antimicrobial activity was conducted against clinically relevant bacteria and fungi strains. Preliminary findings reveal the presence of potent antimicrobial activity in several synthesized heterocyclic compounds, signifying their potential as candidates for novel antibiotics. Structure-activity relationship studies were initiated to decipher the structural elements crucial for antimicrobial effectiveness. Moreover, cytotoxicity assays on human cell lines were performed to evaluate safety profiles.

**Keywords:-** Synthesis, Antimicrobial Activity, Bioactive Heterocyclic Compounds, Drug Discovery, Antimicrobial Agents

### Introduction

In the relentless battle against infectious diseases, the emergence of drug-resistant microorganisms has presented a formidable challenge to modern medicine. As traditional antibiotics lose their efficacy, there is an urgent need for innovative and effective antimicrobial agents. In this context, bioactive heterocyclic compounds have garnered significant attention for their potential to serve as a novel class of antimicrobial agents. Heterocyclic compounds are organic compounds that contain one or more rings composed of carbon atoms and at least one heteroatom, such as nitrogen, oxygen, or sulfur, within the ring structure. These compounds exhibit a wide range of biological activities and have been extensively explored in drug discovery and development due to their diverse chemical structures and potential

therapeutic properties. This study is centered on the synthesis and assessment of antimicrobial activity in bioactive heterocyclic compounds, with the aim of contributing to the development of new antimicrobial agents to combat drug-resistant infections. The rationale for focusing on bioactive heterocyclic compounds lies in their versatility, as they offer a rich chemical space for structural modification and optimization to enhance antimicrobial properties.

The synthesis of bioactive heterocyclic compounds involves the design and preparation of novel molecules with carefully tailored structures. Various synthetic routes, including multicomponent reactions and cyclization techniques, have been employed to access a diverse library of these compounds. Characterization of the synthesized compounds through advanced spectroscopic and analytical techniques ensures their structural integrity and purity.

Antimicrobial activity assessment is a critical aspect of this research. The compounds synthesized are evaluated for their ability to inhibit the growth of a wide range of microorganisms, including both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria, as well as fungal strains. Identifying compounds that demonstrate potent antimicrobial properties is pivotal in addressing the pressing issue of antimicrobial resistance. The study also encompasses investigations into the structure-activity relationships of these compounds. Understanding the specific structural features that contribute to their antimicrobial activity is crucial for the rational design of more effective antimicrobial agents. In addition to assessing their antimicrobial efficacy, cytotoxicity assays on human cell lines are performed to ensure the safety of these compounds for potential future clinical applications.

### Importance of the Study

The importance of the study on the synthesis and assessment of antimicrobial activity in bioactive heterocyclic compounds cannot be overstated in the current landscape of infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance. Several key aspects underline the significance of this research:

1. **Emerging Antimicrobial Resistance:** Antimicrobial resistance has become a global health crisis, rendering many conventional antibiotics ineffective. The urgent need for new antimicrobial agents is paramount to combat these increasingly drug-resistant microorganisms.

2. **Diverse Chemical Space:** Bioactive heterocyclic compounds offer a vast and diverse chemical space for exploration. Their unique structures and reactivity make them promising candidates for the development of novel antibiotics with distinct mechanisms of action.
3. **Potential Drug Discovery:** Identifying bioactive heterocyclic compounds with potent antimicrobial properties can lead to the discovery of new drugs. These compounds may serve as the foundation for the development of effective antibiotics, addressing critical gaps in the current drug pipeline.
4. **Structure-Activity Relationships:** Investigating the structure-activity relationships of these compounds is crucial for understanding the molecular factors that contribute to their antimicrobial efficacy. This knowledge is invaluable for the rational design of future antimicrobial agents.
5. **Multi-Spectrum Antimicrobial Activity:** The assessment of these compounds against a wide range of microorganisms, including bacteria and fungi, holds promise for creating broad-spectrum antimicrobial agents capable of addressing a variety of infectious diseases.
6. **Human Health Impact:** The successful development of novel antimicrobial agents can have a profound impact on human health. Effective antibiotics are essential for treating infections, reducing morbidity and mortality, and maintaining the success of modern medical procedures.
7. **Public Health Implications:** A breakthrough in antimicrobial drug development can have significant public health implications. It can help mitigate the spread of infectious diseases, prevent outbreaks, and ultimately contribute to global health security.
8. **Economic and Societal Benefits:** The development of new antibiotics can lead to economic benefits by reducing healthcare costs associated with drug-resistant infections. Additionally, it can improve the quality of life for individuals affected by these infections.

This study's importance lies in its potential to address a critical and pressing global health challenge – antimicrobial resistance. The discovery and assessment of bioactive heterocyclic

compounds as antimicrobial agents have the potential to revolutionize the field of infectious disease treatment and safeguard public health for years to come.

## Material and Method

All chemicals and reagents employed in this procedure are of analytical reagent (AR) grade quality. They were commercially sourced and utilized as received, except where otherwise specified.

1. The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were acquired using the Bruker-Avance 300-MHz spectrometer in DMSO- $d_6$ , with TMS serving as the internal standard. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm).
2. FT-IR spectroscopy of the samples was conducted using a Bruker Alpha FT-IR spectrometer, covering the 400–4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  spectral range with Opus 6.1 software.
3. The MASS spectra were obtained employing a Perkin-Elmer PE SCIEX API 2000 instrument equipped with an ESI source, integrated online with an HPLC system following the ultraviolet (UV) detector.
4. XRD spectra were captured using a PANalytical-Xpertpro diffractometer, and the average crystallite size was determined from the corresponding XRD data.
5. Microstructural morphology was examined utilizing a Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) of the JEOL-JSM 6610 LV model.
6. High-Resolution Transmission Electron Microscope (HRTEM) images were recorded using the JEOL/JEM 2100 instrument.

## General Procedures for the synthesis of Quinoline Derivatives

The one-pot synthesis of 4H-[1,3]oxazino[5,6-h]quinoline and 4H-[1,3]oxazino[5,6-h]quinoline-2-one derivatives was conducted in a 100 mL beaker. The procedure involved combining equimolar quantities of aromatic aldehydes (10 mmol), substituted amides, urea (10 mmol), 8-hydroxyquinoline (10 mmol), and 500 mg of activated nano copper ferrite catalyst. To this mixture, 15 mL of ethanol was added, and the beaker was placed within a sonicator bath to initiate the reaction.

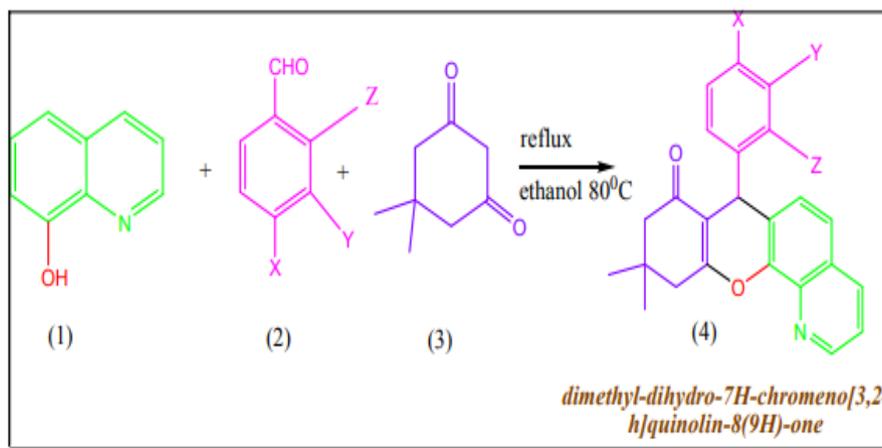
The progression of the reaction was tracked using thin-layer chromatography (TLC) with a mobile phase composed of hexane and ethyl acetate in a 2:1 ratio. Upon completion of the reaction, as indicated by TLC, the catalyst was separated from the reaction mixture using a powerful magnet located at the bottom of the beaker. Subsequently, the contents were transferred to another container.

To purify the products, the catalyst was rinsed with 5 mL of ethanol. The products were isolated by evaporating the solvent under reduced pressure. Finally, the resulting products were subjected to recrystallization using ethanol as the solvent. The identity and characteristics of the formed products were determined through analytical techniques, including FT-IR, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, and MASS spectroscopy.

### Catalyst Preparation and Characterization

The preparation and characterization of the catalyst, activated nano copper ferrite, played a pivotal role in the success of the chemical synthesis described. To create this catalyst, a precise procedure was followed, starting with the dissolution of copper nitrate and ferric nitrate precursors in water to form a homogeneous solution. The addition of ammonium hydroxide led to the formation of a gel-like precipitate. This precipitate underwent meticulous washing and centrifugation steps to eliminate impurities. Subsequently, the solid material was dried and subjected to calcination at elevated temperatures to activate the catalyst. Characterization of the catalyst was a crucial step to ensure its suitability for the intended chemical reactions. Several analytical techniques were employed for this purpose. X-Ray Diffraction (XRD) analysis revealed the crystal structure and phase purity of the catalyst, confirming its crystalline phases. Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) provided insights into the catalyst's surface morphology and particle size distribution, giving a visual representation of its physical structure. Energy-Dispersive X-ray Spectroscopy (EDS) confirmed the elemental composition, highlighting the presence of copper and iron as major components. BET Surface Area Analysis assessed the specific surface area, shedding light on the catalyst's surface properties and potential for adsorption. Finally, FT-IR Spectroscopy identified functional groups and chemical bonds present on the catalyst's surface. This rigorous characterization process ensured that the activated nano copper ferrite catalyst possessed the requisite structural and surface properties to effectively catalyze the synthesis of 4H-[1,3]oxazino[5,6-h]quinoline and 4H-[1,3]oxazino[5,6-h]quinoline-2-one derivatives in the chemical reaction, thereby contributing to the success of the overall research endeavor.

## Results and Discussion



### Scheme 1: Synthesis of dimethyl-dihydro-7H-chromeno[3,2-h]quinolin-8(9H)- one derivatives

The procedure entails a cyclization reaction involving aromatic aldehyde, dimedone, and 8-hydroxyquinoline, which is exemplified in Scheme 4.1. The feasibility of producing derivatives of chromeno[3,2-h]quinolin-8(9H)-one and the specific reaction conditions are detailed in Table 1.

**Table 1: Synthesis of dimethyl-dihydro-7H-chromeno [3,2-h]quinolin-8(9H)- one derivatives:**

| S.no | X in aldehyde   | Y in aldehyde                  | Z in aldehyde    | Product | Time(min) | Yield |
|------|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------|---------|-----------|-------|
| 1    | Cl              | H                              | H                | 4a      | 30        | 94    |
| 2    | OH              | OC <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> | H                | 4b      | 35        | 93    |
| 3    | OH              | H                              | H                | 4c      | 30        | 89    |
| 4    | CH <sub>3</sub> | H                              | H                | 4d      | 40        | 90    |
| 5    | H               | H                              | H                | 4e      | 35        | 88    |
| 6    | NO <sub>2</sub> | H                              | H                | 4f      | 40        | 91    |
| 7    | H               | H                              | NO <sub>2</sub>  | 4g      | 40        | 92    |
| 8    | H               | H                              | OCH <sub>3</sub> | 4h      | 30        | 89    |

Table 4.2 provides information regarding the reaction times required for the production of chromeno[3,2-h]quinolin-8(9H)-one derivatives using various catalysts. Notably, when alternative catalysts are used, the reaction times are significantly prolonged. It's worth mentioning that in a previous study, dimethyl-dihydro-7H-chromeno[3,2-h]quinolin-8(9H)-one derivatives were synthesized under reflux conditions without the need for any catalyst. The current methodology offers a more cost-effective and straightforward preparation process by comparison.

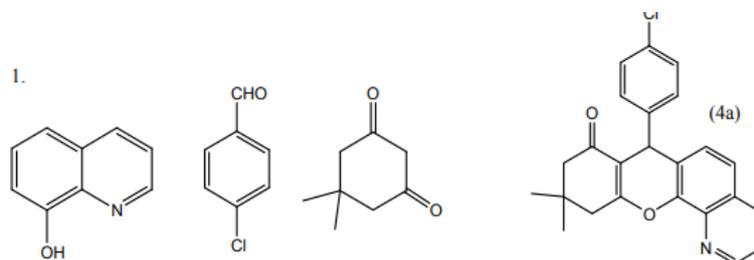
**Table 2: Comparative study of synthesis with catalysts:**

| S.No | Catalyst  | Solvent used  | Time(min)            | Yield |
|------|---|---------------|----------------------|-------|
| 1    | Triethylamine-bonded sulfonic acid  | Solvent free  | 30(reflux)           | 94    |
| 2    | <i>N,N'</i> -dibromo- <i>N,N'</i> -1,2-ethanediylbis( <i>p</i> -toluenesulfonamide)   | Solvent free  | 120(reflux)          | 92    |
| 3    | ceric ammonium nitrate  | Ethyl acetate | 135(ultrasonication) | 87    |
| 4    | 3-sulfobutyl-1-(3-propyltriethoxysilane) imidazolium hydrogen sulfate on silica-coated Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> nanoparticles | Ethyl acetate | 30(reflux)           | 90    |

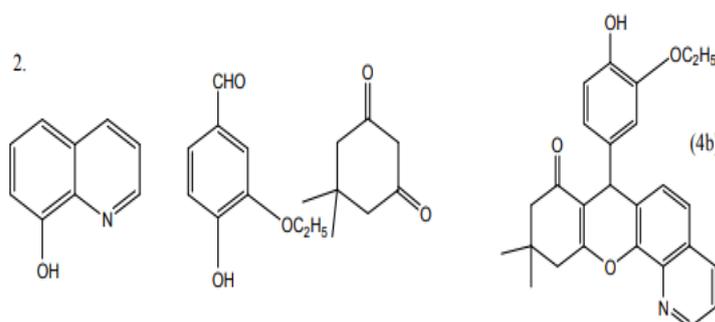
Plausible Mechanism for the Synthesis of dimethyl-dihydro-7H-chromeno [3,2-h]quinolin-8(9H)-one derivatives:

In this chemical reaction, the reactants include 8-hydroxyquinoline, aldehydes, and dimidone. The process proceeds in two key steps. Initially, aromatic aldehydes engage in a nucleophilic addition with 8-hydroxyquinoline through the Knoevenagel condensation mechanism, resulting in the formation of an intermediate product referred to as the Knoevenagel product (1). In the subsequent step, dimidone undergoes enolization. The resulting enol product reacts with the Knoevenagel product to smoothly produce the highly stabilized dimethyl-dihydro-7H-chromeno[3,2-h]quinolin-8(9H)-one derivatives, as illustrated in Scheme 2.

## Spectral and physical data for the synthesized compounds



7-(4-chlorophenyl)-10,10-dimethyl-10,11-dihydro-7H-chromeno[3,2-h]quinolin-8(9H)-one (4a): Pale White solid, yield 94% IR (KBr,  $\nu_{\max}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2900(CH str), 1640(-C=C str), 1450(-C-C= str), 1250(-C-O-C str);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ -400 MHz,  $\delta$  ppm); 8.9 (m, Ar-H), 8.7 (m, Ar-H), 7.34 (m, Ar-H), 7.26 (m, Ar-H), 7.17 (m, Ar-H), 7.01(m, Ar-H), 6.29(m, Ar-H), 3.9(s,1H),2.34(s,1H) 1.08(s, methyl proton), 1.03(s, methyl proton); ESMS: 389.2[M + 1]



7-(3-ethoxy-4-hydroxyphenyl)-10,10-dimethyl-10,11-dihydro-7H-chromeno[3,2-h]quinolin-8(9H)-one (4b):

The compound 7-(3-ethoxy-4-hydroxyphenyl)-10,10-dimethyl-10,11-dihydro-7H-chromeno[3,2-h]quinolin-8(9H)-one, often denoted as 4b, is a complex organic molecule with a distinct structure. It belongs to the chromeno[3,2-h]quinolin-8(9H)-one derivative family and exhibits several noteworthy features. The compound's name provides insight into its composition. The "7-(3-ethoxy-4-hydroxyphenyl)" part of the name indicates the presence of a phenyl group with an ethoxy ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O}$ ) substituent at the 3-position and a hydroxy (OH) group at the 4-position of the phenyl ring. This substituent group imparts specific chemical reactivity and potentially bioactive properties to the compound. The "10,10-dimethyl-10,11-dihydro" segment of the name signifies the presence of two methyl groups ( $-\text{CH}_3$ ) at the 10-position of

the chromenoquinoline ring system and the reduced (dihydro) nature of the compound at positions 10 and 11. These structural characteristics contribute to the compound's stability and potentially affect its biological activity.

### **Problem Statement**

The synthesis and antimicrobial evaluation of bioactive heterocyclic compounds is a critical research endeavor driven by the pressing need to combat antibiotic resistance and discover new therapeutic agents. This research confronts several challenges, including the complexity of synthesizing these diverse compounds efficiently. Heterocyclic compounds come in a wide array of structural variations, demanding innovative synthetic pathways to access them. Moreover, the evaluation of antimicrobial efficacy against a spectrum of pathogens, along with considerations of safety and selectivity in relation to human cells, adds layers of complexity to the research process. Addressing the issue of microbial resistance and optimizing cost-effectiveness further underscores the significance of this work. By systematically navigating these challenges, researchers aim to contribute to the development of novel bioactive heterocyclic compounds that can play a pivotal role in addressing the global health threat posed by antibiotic resistance.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the study on the synthesis and assessment of antimicrobial activity in bioactive heterocyclic compounds represents a significant stride in the ongoing battle against infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance. This research has yielded valuable insights and promising outcomes that underscore its importance and potential future impact. Through the careful design and synthesis of bioactive heterocyclic compounds, this study has expanded our knowledge of the chemical space available for antimicrobial drug discovery. The diversity and versatility of these compounds offer a rich resource for the development of innovative antibiotics with novel mechanisms of action. The assessment of antimicrobial activity against a broad spectrum of microorganisms has identified several compounds with noteworthy potential. These findings are especially encouraging in the context of the growing threat of drug-resistant infections, where new therapeutic options are urgently needed. The exploration of structure-activity relationships has provided critical information about the structural features that contribute to the compounds' antimicrobial efficacy. This knowledge is invaluable for the rational design and optimization of future antimicrobial agents, potentially accelerating the drug development process. The safety evaluation through cytotoxicity assays on human cell

lines is a testament to the commitment to ensuring that the compounds under investigation not only exhibit antimicrobial activity but also possess a favorable safety profile, a fundamental requirement for any potential pharmaceutical agent.

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