Benzimidazole Derivatives and Its Biological Importance: A Review

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ABSTRACT

Benzimidazole is a heterocyclic aromatic organic compound. This bicyclic compound consists of the fusion of benzene and imidazole. Heterocyclic compounds are occupied prominent place among various class of aromatic organic compounds. Benzimidazole are having a variety of therapeutic uses including antitumor, antifungal, antiparasitic, analgesics, antiviral, antihistamine, as well as use in cardiovascular disease, neurology, endocrinology, and ophthalmology.

Keywords: Benzimidazoles, Chemistry, Medicinal Drugs, Importance.

INTRODUCTION

Benzimidazole is a heterocyclic aromatic organic compound. Benzimidazole moieties are a very important class of heterocyclic compounds that have many applications in pharmaceutical chemistry. This compound is bicyclic in nature which consists of the fusion of benzene and imidazole. Nowadays is a moiety of choice which possesses many pharmacological properties. The most prominent benzimidazole compound in nature is N-ribosyl-dimethylbenzimidazole, which serves as an axial ligand for cobalt in vitamin B12. In 1991 benzimidazole derivatives were synthesized by derivatization at N-H of benzimidazole by electron donating group and substitution with long chain of propyl, acetamido, thio, thiazole-amino, tetramethyl piperidine on pyridine resulting in good antiulcer activity. Based on their broad biological functions, they are used in clinical medicine as anti-ulcer, anti-tumor and anti-viral agents. Nowadays Infectious microbial diseases are causing problems world-wide, because of resistance to number of antimicrobial agents (β-lactam antibiotics, macrolides, quinolones, and vancomycin). A variety of clinically significant species of microorganisms has become an important health problem globally. One way to fight with this challenge is the appropriate

How to cite this article: V Yerragunta, P Patil, S Srujana, R Devi, R Gayathri, Srujana, D Aary, Benzimidazole Derivatives and Its Biological Importance: A Review, PharmaTutor, 2014, 2(3), 109-113
usage of the available marketed antibiotics the other is the development of novel antimicrobial agents \[5\]. Hence, there will always be a vital need to discover new chemotherapeutic agents to overcome the emergence of resistance and ideally shorten the duration of therapy. Due to the structural similarity to purine, antibacterial ability of benzimidazoles are explained by their competition with purines resulting in inhibition of the synthesis of bacterial nucleic acids and proteins \[6,7\].

**SYNTHESIS OF BENZIMIDAZOLE**

Several synthetic methodologies are available for the synthesis of benzimidazoles. Generally, the condensation of o-phenylene diamine with carboxylic acids and their nitrile, imidates and orthoester\[8\] derivatives have been widely used for benzimidazole synthesis.

Direct condensation of o-aryl diamine with aldehyde is not a good synthetic route for these molecules as it yields a complex mixture of 1,2-disubstituted benzimidazole and bis dihydrobenzi-midazole as side products\[9\]. But the use of transition metal catalysts namely copper (II) acetate\[10\] and lead tetra-acetate in these reactions afforded better results. Ruthenium\[11\], palladium\[12\] and rhodium\[13\] catalysts have also been used.

Benzimidazole is commercially available. The usual synthesis involves condensation of o-phenylenediamine with formic acid,\[14\] or the equivalent trimethyl orthoformate:

\[
C_6H_4(NH)_2 + HC(OCH_3)_2 \rightarrow C_6H_4N(NH)CH + 3 CH_3OH
\]

**REVIEW OF LITERATURE**


2. Canan KUS, Synthesis of New Substituted 6-(morpholin-4-yl)-1H-Benzimidazole Derivatives \[16\].

3. KUS Canan, Synthesis of Some New Benzimidazole Carbamate Derivatives for Evaluation of Antifungal Activity \[17\].

4. Hasan KUCUKBAY, Ulku YILMAZ , Nihat S,ET AL., Synthesis and antimicrobial activities of some bridgedbis-benzimidazole derivatives \[18\].

5. Michile tonilli et.al., synthesized antiviral activity of Benzimidazole derivatives. II antiviral activity of 2-phenylbenzimidazole derivatives \[19\].
6. B. Guruswamy* and R. Arul et.al., have synthesized A micro-wave assisted synthesis of benzimidazole derivatives using solid support [20].

R= H, Fluoro, Chloro, Bromo, Trifluoro methyl, Cyano, Methoxy.


8. Balram Soni, Mahendra Singh Ranawa et.al., synthesis and in vitro antitumor activity of benzimidazole derivatives [22].

### PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES OF BENZIMIDAZOLE DERIVATIVES

Drugs in this class differ from all other in that they are designed to inhibit/kill the infecting microorganism. Treatment of systemic infections with specific drugs that selectively suppress the infecting microorganism without significantly affecting the host. From this they are referred as bacteriostatic and bactericidal respectively.

1. **Anthelmintic**

These are the drugs that either kill or expel infesting helminthes. Some drugs containing benzimidazole nucleus are Thiabendazole, Mebendazole, and Albendazole etc.

2. **Anti-ulcer drugs:**

These are the drugs which inhibit both basal and stimulated gastric acid secretion. Some drugs containing benzimidazole nucleus are Pantoprazole, Rabeprazole, Lansoprazole, Omeprazole etc.

3. **Anti-psychotic agents**

In psychosis thinking of patient becomes illogical, bizarre and loosely organized. Patient has difficulty in understanding reality and their own conditions. Some drugs containing benzimidazole nucleus are droperidol, pimozide, and benperidol.
4. Anti protozoal agents
These are the drugs which are used to treat the amoebiasis caused by E.histolytica. They exert cytotoxicity by damaging DNA and result in DNA helix destabilization strand breakage. The antiprotozoal drugs containing imidazole nucleus are metronidazole, benznidazole.

5. Antifungal
These are the drugs used for superficial and deep fungal infections. Fungal infections are termed mycoses and in divided in to superficial infections (skin, nails, and scalp) and systemic infections (deeper tissues and organs) some conditions are blastomycosis, histoplasmosis, candidiasis, coccidiomycosis etc.

Most common antifungal agents containing imidazole nucleus are Clotriamazole, Miconazole, Ketoconazole

CONCLUSION
The benzimidazole ring is an important pharmacophore in drug discovery. Some substituted benzimidazole derivate drugs are more potent activity. The synthesis of benzimidazole derivatives is a privileged scaffold, having a variety of therapeutic uses including antitumor, antifungal, antiparasitic, analgesics, antiviral, antihistamine, as well as use in cardiovascular disease, neurology, endocrinology.

REFERENCES