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DESIGN, MOLECULAR DOCKING OF SYNTHESIZED SCHIFF-BASED THIAZOLE/ PYRIDINE DERIVATIVES AS POTENT ANTIBACTERIAL INHIBITOR

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ABSTRACT

A series of *N*-(substituted benzylidene) thiazol-2-amines (3a-3d) and *N*-(substituted benzylidene) pyridyl-2-amines (3A-3D) were synthesized and individual structures were confirmed by several spectral techniques. Antibacterial activity of synthesized Schiff-base derivatives were performed by agar-diffusion method. These compounds were screened by *in vitro* antibacterial activity against uropathogenic bacteria, *Escherichia coli* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. The compounds 3a, 3B and 3d had the best inhibitory activity against *K. pneumonia*, whereas, the other derivatives had moderate activity. The compounds, 3A and 3D exhibited significant inhibitions against *E.coli*, while other compounds were resisted by both pathogens. It is probable that the presence of 4-nitrophenyl substituted and azomethine functionality having been connected either to thiazole or pyridine nucleus might have contributed to the antibacterial activities of the derivatives. Those were computationally assessed for drugable properties with molecular docking using *E.coli* DNA gyrase, PDBID-1KZN and Lipinski's rule of five (RO5).

Keywords: Thiazole/pyridine, schiffbase, antibacterial, spectral analysis

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, most antibiotics are resisted by bacterial pathogens, and the development of newer effective antibacterial drug candidates for controlling infections has become a dire necessity. Thiazole and pyridine are examples of nitrogenous heterocyclic organic compounds, thiazole and derivatives have showed with antimycobacterial¹ and anti-inflammatory² and analgesic activities³. Likewise, the nucleus pyridine and its derivatives have showed broad biological action⁴. The Schiff-based thiazole/pyridine compounds have potent synergistic antibacterial action. Compounds with –CH=N– azomethine functional group play a unique organic sython for the synthesis of new molecules. Those molecules have been known with a range of biological activities such as anticancerous⁵, anti-mycobacterial⁶⁻⁷ antiviral⁸, anti HIV⁹, antioxidant^{10,11} and antibacterial activities¹².

Schiff bases are important because of an inherent flexibility and structural similarity with some natural biological substances due to presence of imine (–N=CH–). Substitution at C-2 by thiazole/ pyridine is essential for bolstering biological actions from which, azomethine derivatives had been used in medicinal chemistry. The azomethine group has the ability to form stable complexes with transition metal ions. Moreover, recent medicinal chemistry approaches for synthesis of potent and novel biological active molecules are the call of the day¹³⁻¹⁴. Bacterial topoisomerases are vital enzymes and performing negative supercoiling of chromosome, which act as acting antibacterial inhibitor¹⁵.

It has been reported that, azomethine bearing heterocyclic moiety shows several biological activities. Thus, synthesis of thiazole/pyridine Schiff-base derivatives were validated by their binding affinity, prediction of biological actions, druglikeness properties and toxicity profiles by applying logistic computational tools. The

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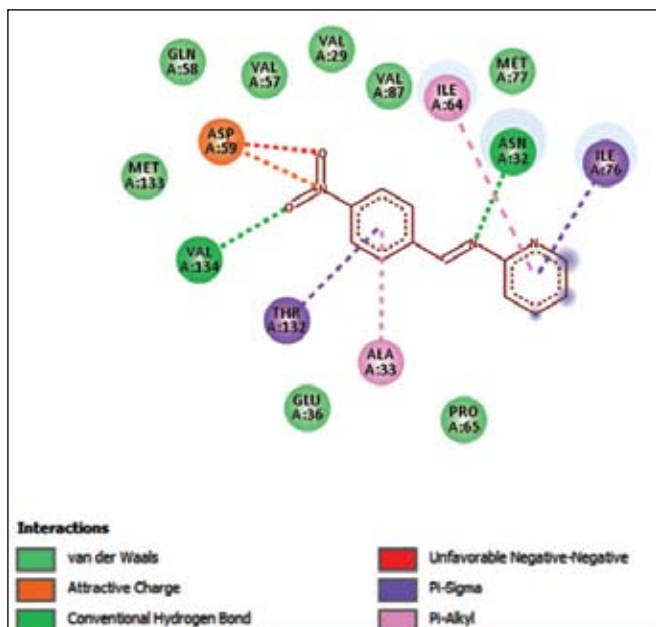


Fig.1: Ligand (3D) interactions of amino acids with target *E.coli* bacterial DNA gyrase

obtained molecules were monitored by *in vitro* antibacterial action against uropathogenic bacteria. Furthermore, those compounds were docked with bacterial DNA gyrase PDBID: 1KZN (*E.coli*).

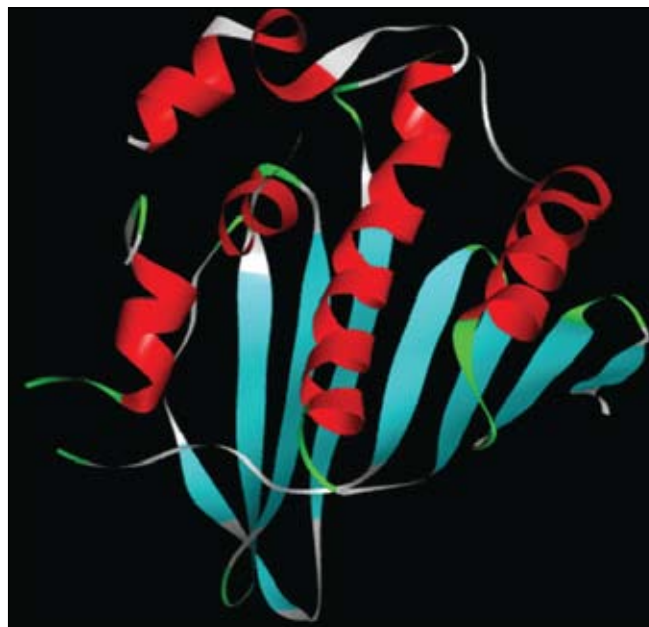
MATERIALS AND METHODS

Instruments

Synthetic grade chemicals (Merck) were used in the present studies. Functional groups of products were characterized by FT/IR with a JASCO FT/IR4100 spectrophotometer using KBr disc; the number of environmental protons also detected by ^1H NMR with Bruker ^1H NMR 400MHz using TMS is an internal standard. The melting points were measured by Ellico melting point apparatus.

Synthesis of *N*-(subst. benzylidene)thiazol-2-amine 3a-3d & *N*-(subst. benzylidene) pyridyl-2-amine 3A-3D

Schiff-base derivatives were prepared by the condensation of equimolar solutions of appropriate aldehyde (0.818 mol) with amines with both 2-amino thiazole or 2-amino pyridine (0.818 mol) separately in a 2 mL volume of glacial acetic acid and the reaction mixture was stirred at the ambient temperature and the mixture was kept under reflux for 2h. the reaction was monitored by TLC Plate with the solvent system (*n*-hexane: ethyl acetate) and the derivatives were recrystallized from hot ethanol.



Antibacterial evaluation by using disc agar diffusion method¹⁵

The antimicrobial activity of the synthesized molecules (3a-3d and 3A-3D) were monitored by agar well diffusion method. The lowest concentration of the test compounds inhibited the visible growth on the respective seeded medium for bacteria were termed as minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC). Test solutions of synthesized molecules were prepared by two-fold dilution method at a concentration level ranging from 20-100 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ to evaluate the MIC.

Computational study

Eight of thiazole/pyridine derivatives (3a-3d and 3A-3D) were virtually designed by employing the connect

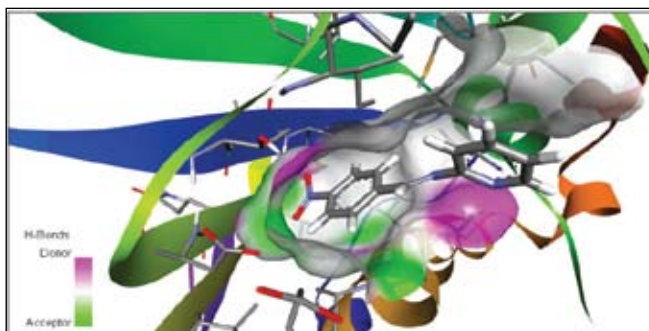


Fig. 2: Visualization during molecular docking on interaction of compound 3D with target bacterial DNA gyrase

between either thiazole or pyridine rings with some derivatives of aldehyde through azomethine functional group. Two dimensional (2D) structures of these designed derivatives were drawn and errors of the same was checked and optimized by Chemdraw Ultra software. Those structures were energy minimized by Open Babel Program. The druglikeness parameter of these derivatives were predicted with the Lipinski's Rule of five (RO5) by Molinspiration software, and possible biological action was assessed by PASS predictions. Furthermore, toxicity profile of each designed molecule was predicted with desired class and lethal doses₅₀ (LD₅₀) values were calculated by ProTox Software. Furthermore, these desired compounds were virtually subjected to molecular docking against the target, bacterial dihydrofolate synthetase, with crystal structure PDB ID: 1KZN (2.5 Å resolution) having been retrieved from protein data bank (www.rcsb.org/pdb). During molecular docking, deletion of nonproteinous and transitional metal ions and water molecules in the structure of protein was done. Furthermore, the molecular docking study was carried out using AUTO-DOCK Tools 4.2, protein-ligand interaction visualization by Discovery Studio R2 2017 and outcomes were interpreted by PyMOL program.

Spectral characterisation of Schiff-based thiazole/pyridine derivatives (3a-3d & 3A-3D)

(E)-N-(3,4-dimethoxybenzylidene)thiazol-2-amine (3a)

Colourless solid. (99%). m.p.: 192-94°C.; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3072 (CHstr.), 2875 (CH₂ str.), 1635 (C=NH str.) 1614,

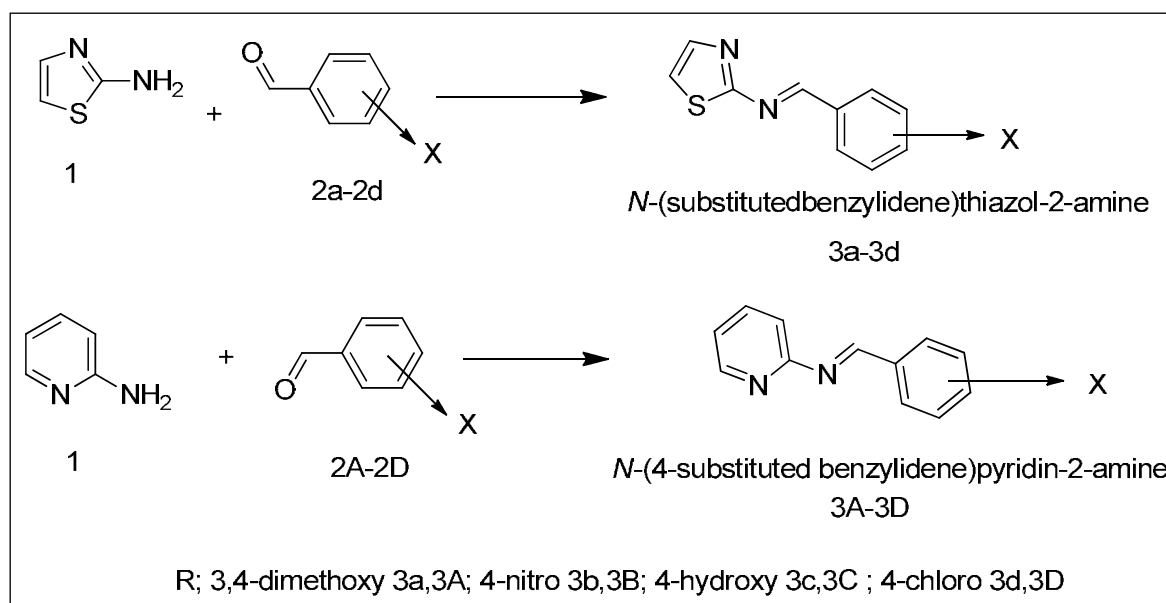
1558 (C=Cstr.), 1197, 1247 (C-OCH₃str.), 767 (Trisubst. of phenyl); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.37 (s, 1H, -N=CH), 6.98-7.42 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.87 (d, 1H, thiazole H-4), 7.65 (d, 1H, thiazole H-5), 3.91 (s, 6H, 2xOCH₃); ESI-HRMS (m/z): *Anal.* Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₂N₂O₂S [M + H]⁺ 248.067; found: 248.085; Elemental analytical Calcd. % for C₁₂H₁₂N₂O₂S : C, 58.05; H, 4.87; N, 11.28; S, 12.91. Found: C, 57.85; H, 4.93; N, 11.22; S, 13.54.

(E)-N-(4-nitrobenzylidene)thiazol-2-amine (3b)

Yellow solid. (95%). m.p.: 189-92 °C.; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3088 (CHstr.), 1455, 1532 (NO₂ str.), 1637 (C=NH str.) 1615, 1558 (C=Cstr.), 1066 (C-Sstr.), 752 (disubst. of phenyl); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.35 (s, 1H, -N=CH), 7.45-7.85 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.92 (d, 1H, thiazole H-4), 7.63 (d, 1H, thiazole H-5); ESI-HRMS (m/z): *Anal.* Calcd. for C₁₀H₇N₃O₂S [M + H]⁺ 233.067; found: 233.081; Elemental analytical Calcd. % for C₁₀H₇N₃O₂S : C, 51.49; H, 3.02; N, 18.02; S, 13.75; Found: C, 51.56; H, 2.95; N, 18.00; S, 13.77

(E)-4-((thiazol-2-ylimino)methyl)phenol (3c)

White solid. (98%). m.p.: 159-62 °C.; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3115 (OHstr.), 1638 (C=NH str.) 1615, 1558 (C=Cstr.), 1192 (C-Ostr.), 756 (disubst. of phenyl); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.42 (s, 1H, -N=CH), 6.98-7.63 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.86 (d, 1H, thiazole H-4), 7.77 (d, 1H, thiazole H-5); ESI-HRMS (m/z): *Anal.* Calcd. for C₁₀H₈N₂OS [M + H]⁺ 204.087; found: 204.091; Elemental analytical Calcd. % for C₁₀H₈N₂OS : C, 58.80; H, 3.95; N, 13.72; S, 15.70; Found: C, 58.75; H, 4.11; N, 13.77; S, 15.63



Scheme-1

Table I: Physiological activity related druglikness properties of thiazole/pyridine derivatives

Deriva- tives	Lipinski rule of five (RO5)						Predicted lethal doses, toxicity class		Docking Score Kcal/mol (1KZN)
	MW (\leq 500 g/mol)	No. of H-ba (≤ 10)	No. of H-bd (≤ 10)	cLogP value (≤ 5)	tPSA (\AA)	% ABS	LD ₅₀ (mg/ kg)	Class	
3a	248.06	5	0	2.78	34.11	97.23	1500	4	-6.2
3b	233.03	5	0	2.45	57.11	89.30	180	3	-6.7
3c	204.04	4	1	2.46	36.46	96.42	1000	4	-6.3
3d	222.00	3	0	3.43	18.84	102.50	300	3	-6.2
3A	242.11	4	0	2.59	33.24	97.53	2000	4	-6.8
3B	227.07	4	0	2.26	56.24	89.60	1500	4	-7.2
3C	198.08	3	1	2.27	35.60	96.72	2000	4	-6.9
3D	216.05	2	0	3.25	17.98	102.80	2000	4	-6.9

Table II: *In vitro* antibacterial activity of thiazole/pyridine derivatives with zone of inhibition (mm) and MIC ($\mu\text{g/mL}$) against both gram positive and negative bacterial strains.

Compound	<i>S. aureus</i> (MTCC7443)		<i>E. coli</i> (MTCC614)	
	(mm)	($\mu\text{g/mL}$)	(mm)	($\mu\text{g/mL}$)
3a	12	60	13	40
3b	09	100	10	80
3c	13	40	13	40
3d	11	80	12	60
3A	16	20	15	40
3B	10	80	10	80
3C	11	60	12	60
3D	17	20	16	20
Amoxycillin (Standard)	-	20	-	20

Table III: Aminoacid residues interaction with bacterial protein PDB ID:1KZN

Compound	Schiff base derivatives bearing two substract	Amino acid interactions of the bacterial protein target with ligand of Schiff base derivatives
3a	2-amino thiazole + veratraldehyde	Glu36,Ile64,Ala33,Val134, Val29,Thr132
3b	2-amino thiazole + 4-nitro benzaldehyde	Val134,Asp59,Ala33,Thr132,Asn32,Ile76,Ile64
3c	2-amino thiazole +4-hydroxy benzaldehyde	Val134,Val29,Ala33,Thr132,Val57,Glu36,Ile64
3d	2-amino thiazole + 4-chloro benzaldehyde	Val29,Ala33,Val57,Val134,Thr132,Ile76,Ile64
3A	2-amino pyridine + veratraldehyde	Ile64,Glu36,Ala33
3B	2-amino pyridine + 4-nitro benzaldehyde	Asp59,Val134,Thr134,Ala33,Asn32,Ile76
3C	2-amino pyridine + 4-hydroxy benzaldehyde	Ala33,Val134,Thr132,Asn32,Ile64,Ile76
3D	2-amino pyridine + 4-chloro benzaldehyde	Asn32,Ile76,Ile64,Thr132,Ala33,Val134,Val29.

(E)-N-(4-chlorobenzylidene)thiazol-2-amine (3d)

White solid. (98%). m.p.: 166-68 °C.; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3071 (CHstr.), 1634 (C=NH str.) 1615, 1558 (C=Cstr.), 742 (C-Clstr.), 753 (disubst. of phenyl); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.42 (s, 1H, -N=CH), 7.43-7.89 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.86 (d, 1H, thiazole H-4), 7.64 (d, 1H, thiazole H-5); ESI-HRMS (m/z): *Anal.* Calcd. for C₁₀H₇ClN₂S [M + H]⁺ 222.087; found: 222.103; Elemental analytical Calcd. % for C₁₀H₇ClN₂S: C, 53.93; H, 3.17; Cl, 15.92; N, 12.58; S, 14.40; Found: C, 53.99; H, 3.12; Cl, 15.88; N, 12.55; S, 14.32.

(E)-N-(3,4-dimethoxybenzylidene)pyridin-2-amine (3A)

Colourless solid. (99%). m.p.: 194-96 °C. ; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3072 (CHstr.), 2890 (CH₂ str.), 1638 (C=NH str.) 1619, 1555 (C=Cstr.), 1197, 1246 (C-OCH₃ str.), 764 (Trisubst. of phenyl); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.36 (s, 1H, -N=CH), 6.95-7.42 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.00-8.22 (m, 4H, pyridine H), 3.92 (s, 6H, 2xOCH₃); ESI-HRMS (m/z): *Anal.* Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₄N₂O₂ [M + H]⁺ 242.167; found: 242.185; Elemental analytical Calcd. % C₁₄H₁₄N₂O₂: C, 69.41; H, 5.82; N, 11.56; Found: C, 69.39; H, 5.85; N, 11.52

(E)-N-(4-nitrobenzylidene)pyridin-2-amine (3B)

Yellow solid. (97%). m.p.: 187-90 °C. ; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3076 (CHstr.), 1453, 1532 (NO₂ str.), 1636 (C=NH str.) 1615, 1558 (C=Cstr.), 1066 (C-Sstr.), 754 (disubst. of phenyl); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.34 (s, 1H, -N=CH), 7.45-7.85 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 6.95-8.43 (m, 4H, pyridine H-4); ESI-HRMS (m/z): *Anal.* Calcd. for C₁₂H₉N₃O₂ [M + H]⁺ 227.077; found: 227.081; Elemental analytical Calcd. % C₁₂H₉N₃O₂: C, 63.43; H, 3.99; N, 18.49; Found: C, 63.44; H, 4.09; N, 18.47.

(E)-N-4-((pyridin-2-ylimino)methyl)phenol (3C)

White solid. (98%). m.p.: 158-60 °C.; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3120 (OHstr.), 1635 (C=NH str.) 1615, 1558 (C=Cstr.), 1243 (C-Ostr.), 753 (disubst. of phenyl); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.42 (s, 1H, -N=CH), 6.94-7.55 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 6.87-7.86 (m, 4H, pyridine H); ESI-HRMS (m/z): *Anal.* Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₀N₂O [M + H]⁺ 198.097; found: 198.11; Elemental analytical Calcd. % C₁₂H₁₀N₂O: C, 72.71; H, 5.08; N, 14.13; Found: : C, 72.67; H, 4.88; N, 14.03.

(E)-N-(4-chlorobenzylidene)pyridin-2-amine (3D)

White solid. (98%). m.p.: 176-78 °C.; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3071 (CH str.), 1639 (C=NH str.) 1615, 1558 (C=Cstr.), 744 (C-Clstr.), 758 (disubst. of phenyl); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.42 (s, 1H, -N=CH), 7.43-7.89 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 6.87-7.86 (m, 4H, pyridine H); ESI-HRMS (m/z): *Anal.*

Calcd. for C₁₂H₉ClN₂ [M + H]⁺ 216.087; found: 216.103; Elemental analytical Calcd. % C₁₂H₉ClN₂: C, 66.52; H, 4.19; Cl, 16.36; N, 12.93; Found: C, 66.44; H, 4.22; Cl, 16.28; N, 12.88.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A series of compounds bearing thiazole or pyridine (**3a-3b** & **3A-3D**) with functional azomethine were synthesized by the reaction of individual appropriate amines with aldehydes in glacial acetic acid (**Scheme-1**). All the synthesized compounds have shown sharp absorption peaks in FTIR spectra at of the range of 1634-1643 cm⁻¹, which attributed to azomethine functional group. Several peaks too were observed in the range of 2990-3050 cm⁻¹ that are assigned to as aromatic hydrocarbon, thiazole and pyridine nucleus for those compounds with respective vibrational frequencies. The precursor amines (1a and 1A) appeared stretching frequency for the -NH₂ group, while reaction was completed those substituted amines frequency disappeared and appeared as new -N=CH stretching vibration that are assigned to as Schiff-base. Furthermore, ¹H NMR spectra of the synthesized compounds exhibited sharp singlets appearing at a range of δ 8.34-8.42 ppm corresponding to azomethine protons (**3a-3d** & **3A-3D**); thus the formation of Schiff-base derivatives was confirmed. Compounds **3a** and **3A** exhibited three singlets peaks at δ 3.92, 7.55 and 8.37 ppm, which were assigned to methoxy, azomethine and aromatic phenyl protons, respectively. These compounds were subjected to molecular docking with bacterial DNA gyrase with PDB ID:1KZN and the obtained results indicate that the compound **3D** had comparatively better binding affinity than the other derivatives. Other essential computational parameters were also carried out and their results are depicted in Table I & III. Consequently, *in vitro* antibacterial activities were performed and amongst all compounds, two compounds **3A** and **3D** were detected as more potent against both pathogenic bacterial *S. aureus* and *E. coli* with compare to standard drug Amoxycillin (Table II).

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, a series compounds containing thiazole or pyridine moiety with azomethine functionality were designed, synthesized and screened for inherent antibacterial activities. These compounds exhibited moderate controlling activity against both the pathogenic bacterial strains, *S. aureus* and *E. coli*, whereas the compounds **3b** and **3B** had significant antibacterial action

with the standard antibiotic amoxycillin. Concomitantly, those compounds were docked with bacterial DNA gyrase and virtually it could be proved that all these compounds had significant binding affinity and with their drugable characters assessed through advanced computational tools. Furthermore, studies on the antibacterial mechanism of action of these potent molecules against target could be developed in future.

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Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association (Event Calendar 2019-2020)

Sr. No.	Day & Date	Organizer	Event	Venue
1.	Saturday, 18 th January 2020	IDMA	"58th IDMA AGM & Annual Day Celebrations 2020"	Hotel St Regis, Mumbai

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