

Synthesis, Biological Evaluation and Molecular Docking Studies of Novel 1,8-Naphthyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Derivatives as Potential Antimicrobial Agents (Part-1)

V. K. GURJAR, D. PAL*, A. MAZUMDER¹ AND R. MAZUMDER¹

Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (A Central University), Koni, Bilaspur-495 009, ¹Institute of Pharmacy, Noida Institute of Engineering and Technology, 19 Knowledge Park II, Institutional Area, Greater Noida-201 306, India

Gurjar *et al.*: Synthesis and Biological Evaluation of 1,8-Naphthyridines

Synthesis and investigation of antimicrobial activity of 6 novel 1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acid derivatives are presented. Among the derivatives, compounds 4a–5b2 showed a broad-spectrum antimicrobial activity against all reference Gram-positive, Gram-negative bacteria and fungi. These compounds exhibited remarkable bactericidal activity against *Staphylococcus* and *Bacillus* sps. The tested substances 4a–5b2 were found also found to be active against *Escherichia coli*, *Salmonella* and *Shigella* sps. The chlorine substituted compounds 4a and 5a2 were found to be the most active towards the tested microorganisms. Compounds 4a–5b2 were found to be fungicidal against *Candida* sp. with a MIC values in the range of 400-2000 µg/ml. Docking studies of these compounds with *Salmonella typhi* OmpF complexed with ciprofloxacin using PDB-4KRA revealed that the compounds acted as covalent crosslinker on the DNA gyrase B of the former and intercalate the latter both with higher C score values. Thus, the antibacterial activity against tested strains suggested 1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acid derivatives warrant further evaluation as potential novel anti-infective agents. The antifungal activity of these compounds was comparable to that of griseofulvin. The drug-likeness data of synthesized compounds made them promising leads for the future development as antifungal agents.

Key words: 1,8-Naphthyridine, antimicrobial activities, antifungal action, ADMET, molecular docking

Microbes are causative agents for various types of diseases like pneumonia, amoebiasis, typhoid, malaria, common cold, cough and other infections^[1]. Infectious diseases are a major health problem in the third world countries. These diseases are treated with drugs of synthetic to natural origin including antibacterial, quorum sensing, antiviral, antifungal and antiparasitic agents^[2,3]. Infectious diseases caused by bacterial pathogens have become the main public health problem due to extensive occurrence of drug resistance. Resistance to antimicrobial agents has increased health concerns and resulted in mortality and morbidity from treatment failures^[4]. Quinolones are potent antibacterial agents used in the treatment of a wide range of bacterial infections. The history of quinolones started with the discovery of nalidixic acid in 1962. Later, first-generation quinolones such as enoxacin, lomefloxacin and norfloxacin, were discovered^[5]. The second, third, and fourth-generation quinolones are called fluoroquinolones since they have a fluorine

atom attached to the central ring system^[6]. Although fluoroquinolones are extremely successful antibacterial agents, due to their extensive usage, fluoroquinolone-resistant bacteria have inevitably emerged. According to WHO report 2014, high rates of resistance observed in bacteria that cause common health-care-associated and community-acquired infections such as the urinary tract infection and pneumonia in all WHO regions.

Despite their success against infectious diseases, fluoroquinolone type antibacterials have some problems. Multidrug resistance, in some cases, has been attributed to mutations leading to decreased drug permeability of fluoroquinolones^[7]. In addition, the effects of

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*Address for correspondence
E-mail: drdilip2003@yahoo.co.in

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quinolones such as plasmid curability and promotion of reverse and forward mutations and positive results in genotoxicity assays^[8,9] suggest the possible bacterial mutagenicity of quinolones. Furthermore, the induction of DNA damage in both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells and the induction of mutations in DNA has been reported as an essential risk for fluoroquinolones^[10]. To overcome this challenge, extensive research being conducted on the synthesis of novel antibacterials. Research is also being carried out to introduce structural modifications in existing antibacterials. Based on these strategies, several drugs have been synthesized and improved^[11,12]. In drug designing programs, an essential component of the search for new leads is the synthesis of molecules, which are novel yet resemble known biologically active molecules by virtue of the presence of critical structural features^[13,14]. New quinolones that do not possess mutagenic potency might help eliminate some of those problematic issues. Based on the above information, a novel series of compounds in this class were synthesized with an objective to obtain effective yet non-mutagenic derivatives. The 1,8-naphthyridine nuclei are found in well-known antibacterial

compounds^[15] called quinolones (fig. 1), which act as DNA gyrase inhibitors^[16].

The 1,8-naphthyridine scaffolds have produced great interest in medicinal and organic chemistry fields. These derivatives are reported to possess a wide range of biological activities like A2A adenosine receptor ligands^[17], antimycobacterial^[18], A1 adenosine antagonists^[19], antiinflammatory^[20], cannabinoid receptor ligands^[21] and antibacterial^[22,23]. In the present work, efforts were made to synthesize 1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acid derivatives, which are modified at the terminal carboxylic acid end.

The synthesized compounds were evaluated for antimicrobial activity against a panel of reference strains of 21 microorganisms, including Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria and fungi belonging to yeasts. The microbial strains were procured from American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), routinely used for the evaluation of antimicrobials, and from clinical isolates. For comprehensive testing, molecular modeling and docking studies were performed on all compounds on the active sites often selected antimicrobial enzymes,

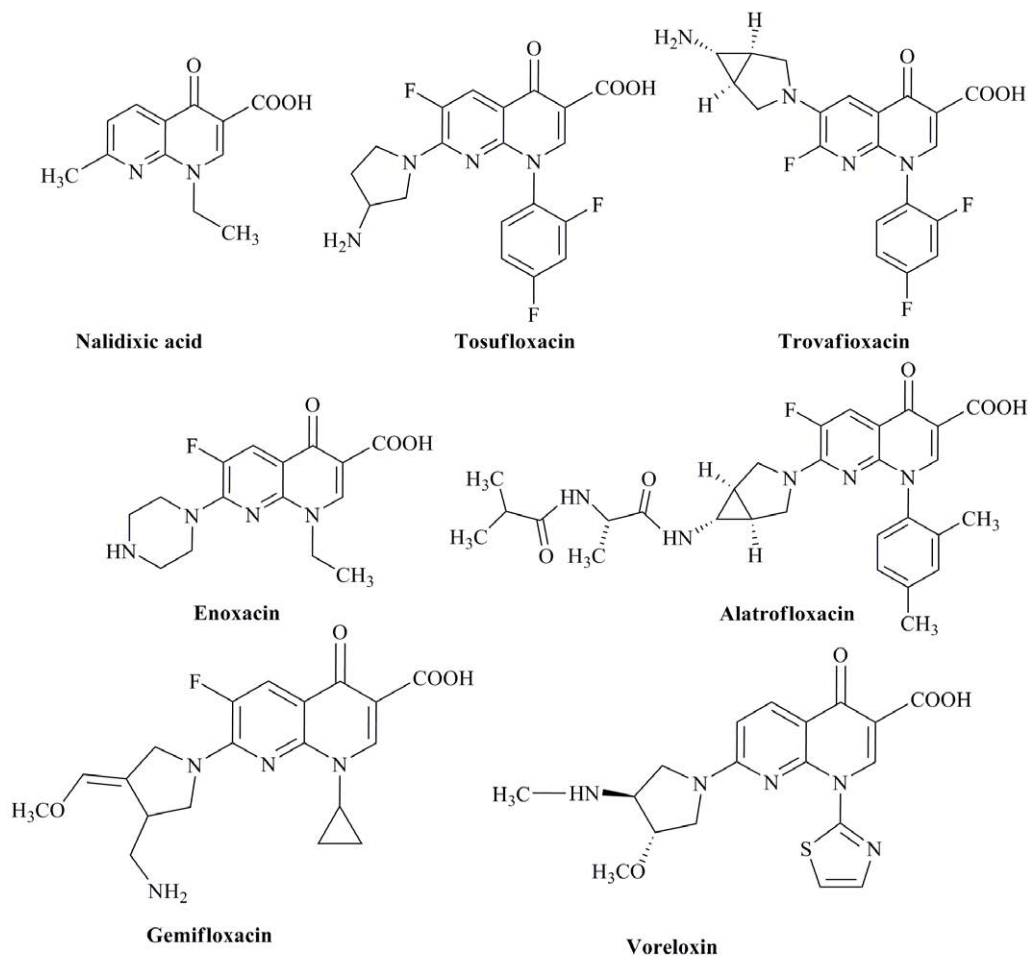


Fig. 1: Marketed antibacterials with 1,8-naphthyridine nucleus

in order to find possible targets. In the present study, synthesis, microbiological, and anticonvulsant evaluation of a group of 1,8-naphthyridine derivatives as potential hybrid compounds with antimicrobial and antifungal properties is being reported.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

All experiments were carried out under air atmosphere unless stated otherwise. Reactants were generally the best quality commercial-grade products and were used without further purification. Melting points were measured with a laboratory melting point apparatus and were uncorrected. Proton nuclear magnetic resonance (^1H NMR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance II 400 MHz system (BrukerBioSpin AG, Fällanden, Switzerland). Chemical shifts were reported in parts per million (ppm) relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. The spin multiplicities were given as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet) or br (broad). MS and high-resolution mass spectra were obtained using electrospray ionization technique on a Bruker Mass spectrometry. The purity of the compounds was checked using thin layer chromatography analysis performed on silica gel GF254 purchased from Himedia using chloroform:methanol (4:1) as eluent.

Chemistry:

The target compounds were synthesized according to the reported method^[17,19] (fig 2). 2-Aminopyridine (0.01 mol) and diethyl methoxy methylene malonate (0.01 mol) was heated at 120-130° for 2 h, the resulting

ethanol was evaporated to obtain crude malonate (1), which was purified by recrystallization from light petroleum ether. Crude ester (1) 0.017 mol and diphenyl ether in excess were heated at 240-250° for 1 h and the resultant solution was cooled to room temperature and washed with petroleum ether. The resulted white malonate (2) powder was collected and recrystallized from dimethylformamide. Sodium hydride, 1.81 mmol, 50 % in mineral oil and a solution of malonate (2) 1.5 mmol in 10 ml of dry dimethylformamide were stirred at room temperature. After 1 h, 4-chlorobenzyl chloride (for 3a) 0.01 mol and chlorobenzyl chloride (for 3b) 0.01 mol were added and the mixture was stirred for 24 h. The resultant solution was evaporated *in vacuo* and the addition of ethyl ether caused the carboxylate 3a and 3b to precipitate as a pure solid. The 1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acid ethyl ester 3a and 3b 4.13 mmol and a mixture of 5 ml 10 % sodium hydroxide and 5 ml ethyl alcohol were refluxed for 2 h. After cooling, the solution was adjusted to pH 4 with 10 % aqueous hydrochloric acid. The resulting precipitate was filtered and washed with water. A mixture of 1,8-naphthyridine acid 4a and 4b 0.01 mol and 2-aminopyridine or 2-chloroaniline or cyclohexane amine or n-phenyl piperazine 0.1 mol heated in a sealed tube at 120° for 24 h. After cooling the reaction mixtures were treated with ethyl ether to yield the pure titled compounds.

Physicochemical characteristics of 1,8-naphthyridines (5a1, 5a2, 5b1 and 5b2):

1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-oxo-N-(pyridin-2-yl)-1,4-dihydro-1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxamide (5a1);

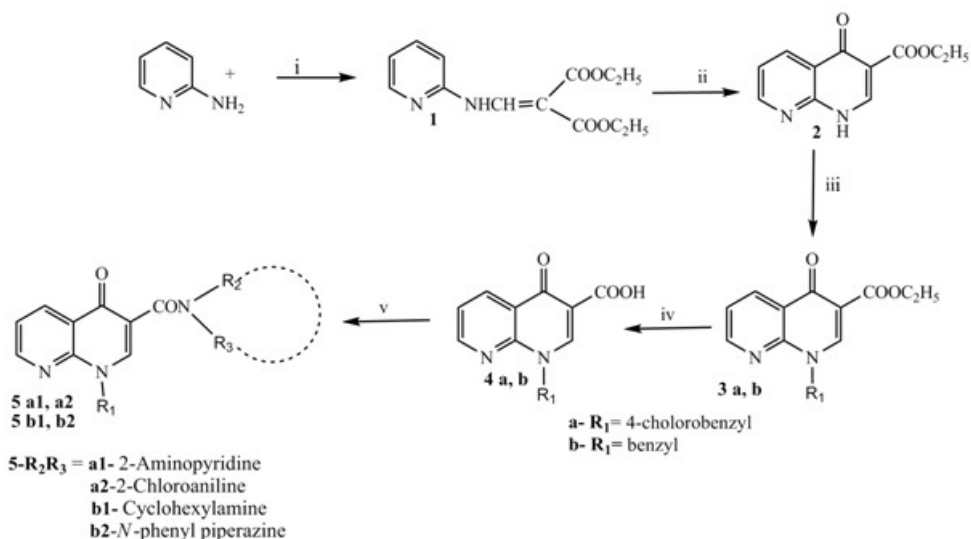


Fig. 2: Representative scheme for the preparation of 1,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acid derivative (4a-5b1)
Reagents and conditions: (i) diethyl ethoxy methylene malonate, 120° 1h (ii) diphenyl ether, 250° reflux; 4h (iii) DMF, p-chlorobenzyl chloride/benzyl chloride RT 24 h (iv) NaOH, EtOH, 100° reflux; 2h (v) appropriate Amine, heat in sealed tube 24 h

yield- 76.6 %; melting point (mp)- >300°; ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆ δ, ppm): 5.32 (s, 2H CH₂), 7.02 (d, 1H, H), 7.11 (d, 1H, H), 7.36 (d, 4H, Ph), 7.42 (d, 2H, H), 7.66 (d, 1H, H), 7.76 (d, 2H, H), 851 (1H, s), IR (ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3112.7, 3086.0 (C-H aromatic) 1686.4 (C=O amide), 1651.1 (C=O ring), 734 (C-Cl); mass (*m/z*): 390.09 (M⁺), chemical formula: C₂₁H₁₅ClN₄O₂, molecular weight (MW) 390.82, anal: C, 64.54; H, 3.87; N, 14.34.

1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-N-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxamide (5a2); yield- 76 %; mp- 193-195°; ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆ δ, ppm): 9.80 (d, 1H, NH), 9.15 (s, 1H, H₂), 8.90 (dd, 1H, H₇), 8.67 (dd, 1H, H₅), 7.62 (m, 1H, H₆), 7.37 (m, 2H, Ph), 7.15 (m, 2H, Ph), 5.81 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.85 (m, 1H, CH),), 8.66 (d, 1H, Ph), 8.60 (d, 2H, Ph), IR (ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3112.7, 3086.0 (C-H aromatic) 1686.4 (C=O amide), 1651.1 (C=O ring), 737 (C-Cl); mass *m/z* 423 (M⁺), chemical formula: C₂₂H₁₅Cl₂N₃O₂, MW 424.28, anal: C, 62.28; H, 3.56; N, 9.90.

1-benzyl-N-cyclohexyl-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxamide (5b1); yield- 55 %; mp- 181-183°; ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆ δ, ppm): 9.95 (d, 1H, NH), 9.12 (s, 1H, H₂), 8.90 (d, 1H, H₇), 8.70 (d, 1H, H₅), 7.70 (m, 1H, H₆), 7.29 (m, 5H, Ar), 5.84 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.85 (m, 1H, CH), 1.86-1.30 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl). IR (ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3069.1, 2998.7 (C-H), 1714.0 (C=O keto), 1692.1 (C=O ring), 1081 (C-Cl); mass (*m/z*): 361 (M⁺), chemical formula: C₂₂H₂₃N₃O₂, MW: 361.44, anal: C, 73.11; H, 6.41; N, 11.63.

1-benzyl-3-(4-phenylpiperazine-1-carbonyl)-1,8-naphthyridin-4(1H)-one (5b2); yield- 76.6 %; mp- 147-149°; ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆ δ, ppm): 9.87 (d, 1H, NH), 8.94 (s, 1H, H₂), 8.53 (d, 1H, H₅), 7.46 (d, 1H, H₆), 7.18 (m, 2H, Ar), 6.90-6.71 (m, 3H, Ar), 4.70 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.03 (m, 4H, piperazinyl), 2.73 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.60 (m, 4H, piperazinyl), 1.85-1.08 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl). IR (ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3069.1, 2998.7 (C-H), 1714.0 (C=O keto), 1692.1 (C=O ring), 1081(C-Cl); mass (*m/z*): 424 (M⁺), chemical formula: C₂₆H₂₄N₄O₂, MW: 424.49, anal: C, 71.01; H, 7.45; N, 14.79.

Antimicrobial activity:

The synthesized 1,8-naphthyridine derivatives (4a-5b2) were screened *in vitro* for antibacterial and antifungal activities using the broth microdilution method against reference strains of microorganisms including Gram-negative bacteria, *Escherichia coli* NCTC 5933, *E. coli* K88, *E. coli* NCTC 7360, *E. coli* LT37, *E. coli* 872, *E. coli* ROW 7/12, *E. coli* 3:37C, *E. coli* CD/99/1, *Salmonella typhi* Ty2, *S. enterica* TD 01, *Shigella dysentery* 8,

*S. sonnei*1, *S. boydii* D13629, *S. flexneri* Type 6, *Vibrio cholerae* NCTC 4693, *V. cholerae* NCTC5596, *V. cholerae* NCTC 10732 and *V. cholerae* NCTC 11501, Gram-positive bacteria, *Staphylococcus aureus* ML 267, *Bacillus pumilus* 82 and *B. subtilis* ATCC 6633 and fungi, *Candida albicans* ATCC 10231, *Aspergillus niger* ATCC 6275, *Penicillium notatum* ATCC 11625 and *P. funiculosum* NCTC 287. All microbial cultures were first subcultured on nutrient agar or Sabouraud agar for bacteria and fungi, respectively^[24,25].

Reference preparations of derivatives were in dimethyl sulphoxide (DMSO) at 10X concentrations and covered a full range of 50-2000 µg/ml. This method was convenient and economical for pipette use. Bacto agar was used as a medium for bacterial screening. The compounds were added to liquefied agar medium at 45-50°, mixed and poured into Petri dishes and allowed to solidify. A series of Petri plates were prepared with increasing concentrations of the test sample. With the help of inoculating applicator, as many as 4 different strains were spot inoculated on each plate. After overnight incubation, minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) endpoint was determined by placing a plate against a dark background and observing the lowest concentration of samples inhibiting visible growth^[26]. The MIC of each derivative was recorded in µg/ml, wherever two or more colonies persisted beyond the endpoint or growth was present in higher concentration and not in lower concentration, the test was repeated. The inhibition of microbial growth was judged by comparison with a control culture prepared without any sample tested. Ciprofloxacin and griseofulvin were used as a reference antibacterial and antifungal compound, respectively.

The minimal bactericidal concentration (MBC) or minimal fungicidal concentrations (MFC) are defined as the lowest concentration of the compounds that are required to kill a particular bacterial or fungal species. MBC or MFC was determined by removing the culture using for MIC determinations from each well and spotting onto the appropriate agar medium. The plates were incubated. The lowest concentrations with no visible growth observed were assessed as a bactericidal or fungicidal concentration. All experiments were repeated thrice and representative data are presented^[27].

In this study, no bioactivity was defined as a MIC > 1000 µg/ml, mild bioactivity as a MIC in the range 501-1000 µg/ml, moderate bioactivity with MIC from 126 to 500 µg/ml, good bioactivity as a MIC in the range 26-125 µg/ml, strong bioactivity with MIC between

10 and 25 µg/ml and very strong bioactivity as a MIC <10 µg/ml. The MBC/MIC or MFC/MIC ratios were calculated in order to determine bactericidal/fungicidal (MBC/MIC≤4, MFC/MIC≤4) or bacteriostatic/fungistatic (MBC/MIC>4, MFC/MIC>4) effect of the tested compounds^[28].

Absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion, and toxicity (ADMET) and molecular docking:

The toxicological properties of these compounds was predicted using the PreADMET Toxicity server. The compounds (4a-5b2) were predicted for Caco-2 cell permeability, MDCK cell and blood-brain barrier (BBB), human intestinal absorption, skin permeability and plasma protein binding^[29,30]. Compounds containing the chlorine atom exhibited improved oral absorption, skin penetration, and membrane permeability^[31].

To find a better explanation of the data of microbial inhibitory potency of the synthesized compounds at a molecular level and to shed light on the structural determinants for activity, docking studies were carried out against one of the prominent microbial targets, *S. typhi* OmpF complex with ciprofloxacin. Molecular docking is a vital tool applied for carrying out structure-based drug design by finding interactions of small ligands in the active site of target receptor/proteins^[32]. The docked ligands can be ranked on the basis of their binding affinity and docking poses in the target site. The comparison between the docked ligands and the reference ligand on the basis of their docking score can be made easily. The ligands were drawn in Chem Draw Ultra 12.0 followed by MM2 minimization of ligands (using ChemBio3D Ultra 12.0) by keeping a check on the connection error in the bonds. Ligand preparation was done by adding Gasteiger charges; the different conformation of ligands was built by allowing rotation of all torsions during docking. Protein and Grid preparation was done using Autodock tools and Autodock Vina 1.1.2^[33] was used to perform molecular docking. The active site was defined to include all atoms within 6.0 Å radius of the native ligand. The first ten top-ranked docking poses were saved for each docking run. To validate the molecular docking protocol, the respective reference/ligands were initially docked into the crystal structure of the enzymes.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The proposed 1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acid derivatives were prepared via multi-step reactions and the synthetic process was outlined in fig. 2.

The intermediate ethyl 4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylate (2) was prepared by refluxing malonate in diphenyl ether. The carboxylate, ethyl 1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylate and ethyl 1-benzyl-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylate (3a and 3b) were prepared by refluxing 1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylate and p-chlorobenzyl chloride and benzyl chloride, respectively. Acid hydrolysis of 1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylate gave 1-substituted 1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acids (4a and 4b). The title compounds were synthesized by heating the appropriate amine and N1-substituted 1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acids in a sealed tube. The title compounds were obtained in fair to good yields.

All new compounds were characterized using IR, ¹H NMR and MS spectra. Their spectral analyses were consistent with the assigned structures and listed in the experimental section. The mass spectra for compounds gave a major fragment of [M+H]⁺ according to their molecular formula. As per the spectral data of compound, FTIR and ¹H NMR showed the presence of characteristic peak at 1650-1692 and 3300 cm⁻¹ (for CO and -NH stretching), 3100-3000 cm⁻¹ (phenyl group), and 1380 cm⁻¹ (for ether linkage) and δ around 9.87, 7.18, 4.70, 3.03, 2.60, and 1.85-1.08 ppm due to existence of aromatic. -NH, aromatic. -CH, piperazinyl, and cyclohexyl. In the case of compounds 3-5 as per the ¹H NMR spectroscopy, spectral data at 8.70 and 8.90 ppm indicated the presence of p-chlorobenzyl and benzyl moiety. Further, the structures were established by mass spectral data in accordance with their molecular formula.

All synthesized compounds were screened for antibacterial and antifungal activities in an agar diffusion well method^[34] and it was found that the 1,8-naphthyridines 4a-5b2, exhibited significant antibacterial and antifungal activity against both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria and fungal strains at various concentrations as shown in Tables 1 and 2. The agar diffusion assay method indicated that bacterial growth was inhibited by 1,8-naphthyridine derivatives to produce concentration-dependent inhibition zones^[35].

The bacterial inhibition zones produced by the synthesized 1,8-naphthyridine derivatives ranged between 14-20 mm. The degree of the antibacterial activities of the synthesized compounds were also assayed by serial double dilution method to determine the MIC. Minimum concentrations, which inhibited the growth of these microorganisms ranged from

TABLE 1: COMPARISON OF ZONES OF INHIBITION OF COMPOUNDS 4a-5b2

Compounds	<i>S. aureus</i> ML 267	<i>B. pumilus</i> 82	<i>B. subtilis</i> ATCC 6633	
4a	13.5, 13.5, 13.5	6.0, 6.0, 6.0	6.0, 6.0, 6.0	
4b	14.0, 13.5, 13.0	6.0, 6.0, 6.5	6.0, 6.5, 6.0	
5a1	13.5, 14.5, 15.5	6.0, 6.0, 6.0	6.0, 6.0, 6.0	
5a2	14.5, 15.0, 14.0	7.0, 6.5, 7.0	7.0, 6.0., 6.5	
5b1	14.0, 14.5, 15.5	6.0, 6.0, 6.0	6.0, 6.0, 6.0	
5b2	13.5, 11.5, 12.0	6.0, 6.0, 6.0	6.0, 6.0, 6.0	
Ciprofloxacin	18.0, 18.0, 18.0	19.0, 18.0, 19.5	18.0, 18.5, 17.5	
Compounds	<i>C. albicans</i> ATCC 10231	<i>A. niger</i>	ATCC 6275	<i>P. notatum</i> ATCC 11625
4a	14.5	12.5	12.5	13.5
4b	14.0	12.0	12.5	13.0
5a1	11.5	11.0	10.0	9.5
5a2	10.0	9.0	8.0	8.0
5b1	13	12	12.5	13.5
5b2	12.5	11	12	12.5
Griseofulvin	16.0	15.0	13.5	14.0

Diameters of zones of inhibition in mm around discs of diameter 6 mm at a concentration of 200 µg/ml. Diameters of zones of inhibition in mm around discs of diameter 6 mm at a concentration of 2000 µg/ml of coded drug in saborauds dextrose agar media

TABLE 2: COMPARISON OF ZONES OF INHIBITION OF COMPOUNDS 4a-5b2 (GRAM -Ve)

Comp.	<i>E. coli</i> NCTC 5933	<i>E. coli</i> K88	<i>E. coli</i> NCTC 7360	<i>E. coli</i> LT37	<i>E. coli</i> 872	<i>E. coli</i> ROW 7/12	<i>E. coli</i> 3:37C	<i>E. coli</i> CD/99/1	<i>S. typhi</i> Ty2
4a	15, 15, 15	14.5, 14.5, 16.5	15.5, 15.5, 15.5	14.5, 14.6, 14.4	14.5, 14.5, 14.5	15, 15, 15	15, 15, 15	15, 14, 14.5	15, 15, 15
4b	14.5, 14.5, 14.5	15.5, 15.5, 16	14.5, 14.5, 14.5	14.5, 15.5, 14	14.5, 15.5, 13.5	15, 14., 16.	15, 15, 15	15.0, 14, 16	14, 14, 14.5
5a1	15, 15, 15	15.5, 15.5, 15	15.5, 15.5, 15.5	14.5, 13.5, 15.5	14.5, 14.5, 14.5	15, 15, 15	15, 14.5, 14.5	15, 15, 15	15, 14, 16
5a2	15.5, 15.5, 15.5	16.5, 15.5, 14.5	16.5, 15.5, 15	15.5, 15.5, 15	15.15, 15	15.5, 15.5, 15.5	15.0, 14.0, 5.5	15, 16, 14.5	15, 15, 15
5b1	15, 15, 15	15.5, 15, 15	15.5, 15.5, 15.5	15.5, 13.5, 15.5	15.5, 14.5, 14.5	16, 15, 15	15.5, 14.5, 14.5	15., 15, 15	12, 12.5, 13
5b2	15, 15, 15	14.5, 14.5, 16.5	15.5, 15.5, 15.5	14.5, 14.6, 14.4	14.5, 14.5, 14.5	15, 15, 15	15.0, 15.0, 15.0	15.0, 14.0, 14.5	12, 12.5, 12.5
Cipro- floxacin	16, 17, 15	17, 17, 17	16, 18, 17.	16, 16, 16	16., 15., 16.5	16.5, 16.5, 16.5	16.5, 17.5, 15.5	17.0, 16., 17.5	16, 16, 16.
Comp.	<i>S. enterica</i> TD 01	<i>S. dysentery</i> 8	<i>S. soneii</i> 1	<i>S. boydii</i> D13629	<i>S. flexneri</i> Type 6	<i>V. cholerae</i> NCTC 4693	<i>V. cholerae</i> NCTC5596	<i>V. cholerae</i> NCTC 10732	<i>V. cholerae</i> NCTC 11501
4a	16, 17, 15	13.5, 13.5, 13.5	16.5, 16.5, 16	15.5, 15.5, 15.5	15.5, 16, 15.	14.5, 14, 15	15, 15, 16	15.5, 14.5, 1 6.5	15.5, 14.5, 16.5
4b	13.5, 14.5, 12.5	13.5, 14.5, 12.5	14.5, 15.5, 13.5	15.0, 15.5, 16.	15.5, 15.5, 15.5	14.5, 14.5, 15.5	15, 15, 15	15.5, 16.5, 14.5	15.5, 15.5, 15.5
5a1	15, 14, 16	14, 4, 14	15.5, 15.5, 15.5	15.5, 16.5, 14.5	15.5, 16.5, 14.5	14.5, 15.5, 13.5	15, 15, 15	15.5, 14.5, 16.5	15.5, 16.5, 14.5
5a2	16.5, 16.5, 16	14.5, 14.5, 14.5	15, 15, 14.5	15, 15, 15	15, 14, 14.5	13.5, 14.5, 12.5	14, 13.5, 14.5	14, 3.5, 14.5	14.5, 14.5, 14.5
5b1	15, 14, 16	14, 14, 14	16, 16.5, 16	15.5, 16.5, 14.5	15.5, 16.5, 14.5	14.5, 15.5, 13.5	15, 15, 15	15.5, 14.5, 16.5	15.5, 16.5, 14.5
5b2	16, 17, 15.	13, 11.5, 12.5	16.5, 16.5, 16	15.5, 15.5, 15.5	15.5, 16, 15	14.5, 14, 15	15, 15, 16	15.5, 14.5, 16.5	15.5, 14.5, 16.5
Cipro- floxacin	19.0, 19.5, 18.5	20, 20, 20	19.5, 19.5, 19.5	20, 20, 20	20.5, 20.5, 20.5	17.5, 17.5, 17.5	18.5, 18, 19.5	18.5, 19, 19.5	18.5, 18, 19

Diameters of zones of inhibition in mm around discs of diameter 6 mm at a concentration of 200 µg/ml

5-8 µg/ml for both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria (Tables 3 and 4).

Compound 4a with *para*-chlorobenzyl at C1 was most active against *E. coli*, *Vibrio*, *Salmonella*, moderately active against *S. aureus*, *Shigella* sp. and resistant against *Bacillus* sp. 4b was most active against *E. coli*, *Vibrio*, moderately active against *S. aureus*, *Shigella* sp., *Salmonella* and resistant against *Bacillus* sp. 5a1 was most active against *E. coli*, *Vibrio*, moderately active against *S. aureus*, *Shigella* sp., *Salmonella* and resistant against *Bacillus* sp. 5a2 with chlorine substituted aniline was most active against *Salmonella*, *Shigella* sp., *Vibrio* sp., *E. coli* and moderately sensitive to, *Bacillus* sp. 5b1 was most active against *E. coli*, *Vibrio*, moderately active against *S. aureus*, *Shigella* sp., *Salmonella* and resistant against *Bacillus* sp. 5b2 was most active against *E. coli*, *Vibrio*, *Salmonella*, moderately active against *S. aureus*, *Shigella* sp. and resistant against *Bacillus* sp. The all tested compounds had no activity towards *B. pumilus* 82 and *B. subtilis* ATCC 6633. On the basis of MIC values, it was shown also that tested compounds

have a wide spectrum of anticandidal activity (Table 5). The fungicidal effects of compounds were very strong or strong against *Candida* sp. with MIC of 50-2000 µg/ml.

The toxicity was predicted using the PreADMET Toxicity server and the result shown in Table 6. The compounds were found non-mutagenic. The compounds were predicted to give negative Ames test and these parameters indicated that the synthesized compounds were safe. Also, the hERG inhibition prediction indicated medium cardiotoxic potential. According to the results of lipophilicity-activity relationship analysis, log P is not the main factor that influences cholinesterase inhibitory activity of this set of compounds. However, the lack of significant correlation does not diminish the importance of determined ClogP values, as log P is an essential physicochemical parameter related to drug intestinal absorption and BBB permeation. The lipophilicity of these compounds is within the range defined by the rule-of-five, thus predicting good intestinal permeability. The lipophilicity indicated that

TABLE 3: DETERMINATION OF MIC OF THE SAMPLES 4a-5b2

Comp.	Concentrations of compounds (µg/ml)	<i>S. aureus</i> ML 267	<i>B. pumilus</i> 82	<i>B. subtilis</i> ATCC 6633	Comp.	Growth in nutrient agar with different concentrations of compounds (µg/ml)	<i>S. aureus</i> ML 267	<i>B. pumilus</i> 82	<i>B. subtilis</i> ATCC 6633
4a	0*	+	+	+	5a2	0*	+	+	+
	5	+	+	+		5	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+		10	+	+	+
	25	+	+	+		25	+	+	+
	50	+	+	+		50	+	+	+
	100	-	+	+		100	-	+	+
	200	-	+	+		200	-	+	+
	400	-	+	+		400	-	+	+
	800	-	+	+		800	-	-	-
4b	0*	+	+	+	5b1	0*	+	+	+
	5	+	+	+		5	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+		10	+	+	+
	25	+	+	+		25	+	+	+
	50	+	+	+		50	+	+	+
	100	-	+	+		100	+	+	+
	200	-	+	+		200	+	+	+
	400	-	+	+		400	-	+	+
	800	-	+	+		800	-	+	+
5a1	0*	+	+	+	5b2	0*	+	+	+
	5	+	+	+		5	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+		10	+	+	+
	25	+	+	+		25	+	+	+
	50	-	+	+		50	+	+	+
	100	-	+	+		100	+	+	+
	200	-	+	+		200	+	+	+
	400	-	+	+		400	-	+	+
	800	-	+	+		800	-	+	+

0 Control (sterile DMSO); '+' growth; '-' no growth; '±' inhibited growth

TABLE 4: DETERMINATION OF MIC OF THE SAMPLES 4a-5b2

Comp.	Concentrations of compounds ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	<i>E. coli</i> NCTC 5933	<i>E. coli</i> K88	<i>E. coli</i> NCTC 7360	<i>E. coli</i> LT37	<i>E. coli</i> 872	<i>E. coli</i> ROW 7/12	<i>E. coli</i> 3:37C	<i>E. coli</i> CD/99/1	<i>S. typhi</i> Ty2
	0*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
4a	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	0*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
4b	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	25	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+
	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	0*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
5a1	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	25	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	0*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
5a2	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	25	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	0*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
5b1	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	25	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	0*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
5b2	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Comp	Concentrations of compounds (µg/ml)	<i>S. enterica</i> TD 01	<i>S. dysenteriae</i> 8	<i>S. sonnei</i> 1	<i>S. boydii</i> D13629	<i>S. flexneri</i> Type 6	<i>V. cholerae</i> NCTC 4693	<i>V. cholerae</i> NCTC 5596	<i>V. cholerae</i> NCTC 10732	<i>V. cholerae</i> NCTC 11501
4a	0*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	25	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4b	0*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	25	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
	50	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5a1	0*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	25	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5a2	0*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	25	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5b1	0*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	25	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5b2	0*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	25	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
	50	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

'0*' Control (sterile DMSO); '+' growth; '-' no growth; '±' inhibited growth

TABLE 5: DETERMINATION OF MICs OF THE SAMPLES 4a-5b

Comp.	Different concentrations of compounds (µg/ml)	C. albicans ATCC 10231	A. niger	ATCC 6275	P. notatum ATCC 11625	Comp.	Different concentrations of compounds (µg/ml)	C. albicans ATCC 10231	A. niger	ATCC 6275	P. notatum ATCC 11625
4a	0*	+	+	+	+	5a2	0*	+	+	+	+
	50	+	+	+	+		50	+	+	+	+
	100	+	+	+	+		100	+	+	+	+
	200	+	+	+	+		200	+	+	+	+
	400	-	+	-	-		400	+	+	+	+
	800	-	+	-	-		800	-	+	+	+
	1000	-	-	-	-		1000	-	+	-	-
	1500	-	-	-	-		1500	-	-	-	-
	2000	-	-	-	-		2000	-	-	-	-
4b	0*	+	+	+	+	5b1	0*	+	+	+	+
	50	+	+	+	+		50	+	+	+	+
	100	+	+	+	+		100	+	+	+	+
	200	+	+	+	+		200	+	+	+	+
	400	-	+	+	+		400	+	+	+	+
	800	-	+	-	-		800	-	-	+	+
	1000	-	-	-	-		1000	-	-	-	-
	1500	-	-	-	-		1500	-	-	-	-
	2000	-	-	-	-		2000	-	-	-	-
5a1	0*	+	+	+	+	5b2	0*	+	+	+	+
	50	+	+	+	+		50	+	+	+	+
	100	+	+	+	+		100	+	+	+	+
	200	+	+	+	+		200	+	+	+	+
	400	-	+	+	+		400	+	+	+	+
	800	-	+	-	-		800	+	+	+	+
	1000	-	-	-	-		1000	-	-	-	-
	1500	-	-	-	-		1500	-	-	-	-
	2000	-	-	-	-		2000	-	-	-	-

0 Control (sterile DMSO); '+' growth; '-' no growth; '±' inhibited growth

TABLE 6: PREDICTION OF ADMET PROPERTIES OF COMPOUNDS (4a-5b2)

SN ADME/T properties	Compounds					
	4a	4b	5a1	5a2	5b1	5b2
<i>In vivo</i> blood-brain barrier penetration (C. brain/C. blood)	0.34	0.74	0.05	0.08	0.35	0.05
Water solubility in buffer system (SK atomic types, mg/l)	2.9	0.16	0.38	0.65	0.42	21.56
<i>In vitro</i> Caco-2 cell permeability (nm/s)	23.13	24.63	49.40	26.32	31.014	20.21
Human intestinal absorption (HIA, %)	95.94	94.54	97.52	96.34	97.13	93.83
<i>In vitro</i> MDCK cell permeability (nm/s)	34.26	12.65	0.39	5.96	0.38	61.28
<i>In vitro</i> plasma protein binding (%)	87.45	86.98	95.12	99.324	92.82	77.54
<i>In vitro</i> skin permeability (logKp, cm/h)	-3.56	-3.29	-2.94	-3.94	-2.89	-4.16
Ames test	mutagen	mutagen	mutagen	mutagen	mutagen	mutagen
<i>In vitro</i> hERG inhibition	medium risk	medium risk	medium risk	medium risk	medium risk	medium risk

ADMET prediction carried out by using preADMET server

ClogP values ranged from 0.73 to 4.09. The chlorine atom at position-2 of the 1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-N-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxamide (5a2) core was enhanced the overall hydrophobic nature and this might have enabled these molecules to penetrate the complex mycobacterial cell wall. As the target molecules' values are less than 5, it indicated a reasonable probability that these compounds would be well absorbed.

Molecular docking studies were carried out to understand the binding profile of synthesized 1,8-naphthyridine derivatives (4a-5b2) and to support their *in vitro* antimicrobial activity. One of the established targets for antimicrobial therapy is DNA gyrase. The fluoroquinolone class of antimicrobial agents act through inhibiting DNA gyrase. DNA gyrase binding pocket for fluoroquinolones is available from recently reported data (protein crystal structure complexes) originating from different microorganisms (*S. pneumoniae* topo IV-DNALFX (levofloxacin) [pdb code: 3K9F], *A. baumannii* topo IV-DNAMOX (moxifloxacin) [pdb code: 2XKK] and *S. typhi* OmpF complex with ciprofloxacin [pdb code: 4KRA]). Among these structures, *S. typhi* OmpF complex with ciprofloxacin^[36] was used in our docking studies. Automated docking was used to determine the orientation of inhibitors bound in the active site. The docking of series of ligands indicated that all the

synthesized compounds have the potential of binding with one or the other amino acids in the active pocket as evident from the docking scores provided in (Table 7). The docked ligands were found to have similar binding poses to the co-crystallized ligands. Theoretically, the entire synthesized compounds showed moderate to good binding scores ranging from -7.1 to -8.4 kcal/mol. Most of the ligands are showing better docking scores in comparison to nalidixic acid, which is used as a reference for biological interpretations. Among these compounds, 5b1 show highest docking score of -8.4 kcal/mol (fig. 3).

According to the obtained data from docking studies, it could be concluded that 5b1 might act as an effective antimicrobial agent similar to ciprofloxacin. But, further experimental investigation procedures are needed to confirm this prediction. Compound 4a, 4b, and 5a1 were active against *E. coli*, *Vibrio*, *Salmonella*. Compound

TABLE 7: ClogP VALUES AND DOCKING SCORE

Compounds	ClogP	Docking score kcal/mol
4a	3.51	-7.1
4b	3.74	-7.5
5a1	1.59	-7.4
5a2	3.63	-7.7
5b1	4.09	-8.4
5b2	0.99	-7.2
Ciprofloxacin	-0.73	-10.5

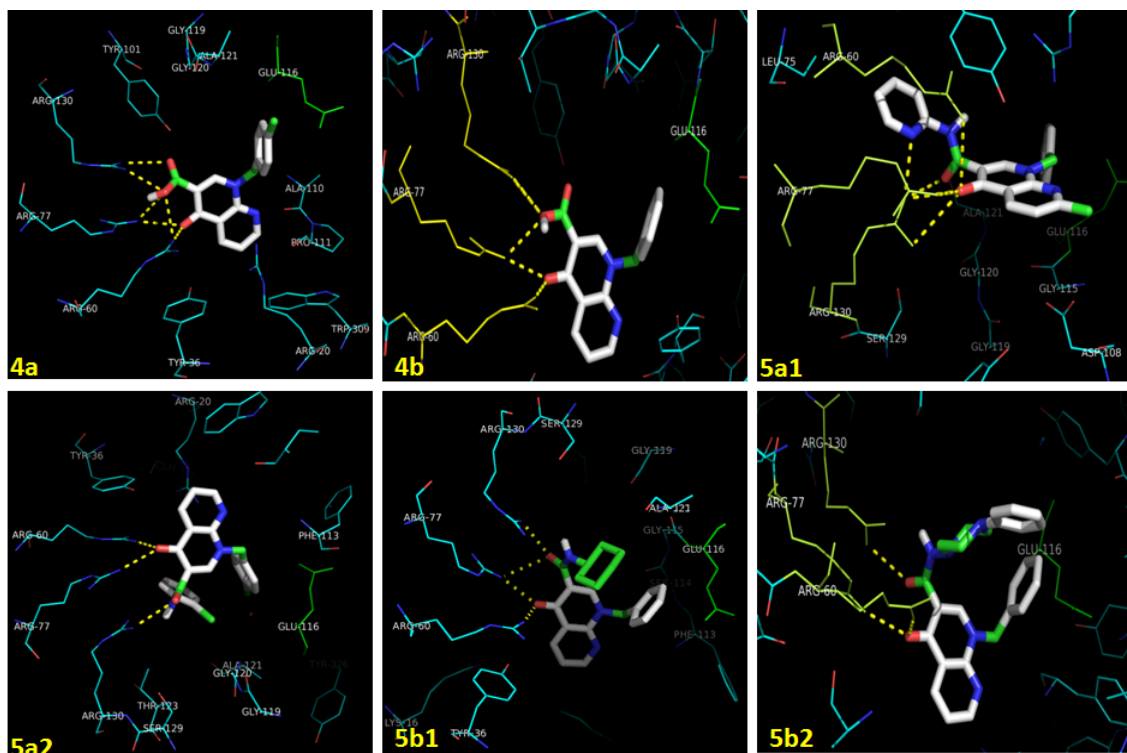


Fig. 3: Docked pose of compound 4a, 4b, 5a1, 5a2, 5b1 and 5b2 in the binding pocket with *Salmonella typhi* OmpF (PDB: 4KRA) Dashed lines represents hydrogen bonding interaction

5a2 was active against *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Vibrio* spp., and *E. coli*. The fungicidal effects of compounds were either very strong or strong against *Candida* sp. Compounds showed moderate to good binding scores. Most of the ligands have shown better docking scores in comparison to nalidixic acid.

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Conflicts of interest:

There are no conflicts of interests in this manuscript.

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