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# Antipseudomonal, Antioxidant, Anticoagulant, and Cytotoxic Activities of Novel Synthesized Heterocyclic Molecules

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## Abstract

In this work, we evaluate the antipseudomonal, antioxidant, anticoagulant, and cytotoxic activities of new spirooxindolopyrrolizidine-linked 1,2,3-triazole were investigated for their antipseudomonal, antioxidant, anticoagulant and cytotoxic activities. The antipseudomonal activity of these novel molecules was tested by the microdilution method. DPPH, ABTS, and  $\beta$ -Carotene tests were used to estimate the antioxidant properties. Prothrombin time (PT) and activated partial thromboplastin time (aPTT) tests were measured to evaluate the anticoagulant potential and cytotoxic activity was assessed by MTT test. This study revealed that compounds P3 and P7 displayed excellent antipseudomonal activity against all tested *P. aeruginosa* Imp/R. with MIC values of 15.62 $\mu$ g/ml. the antioxidant activity demonstrated that all tested heterocyclic compounds exhibited important antioxidant activity by ABTS methods with IC<sub>50</sub> ranging between, 25.5 and 35.84 $\mu$ g/ml. In addition, these new compounds were not toxic on the viability of macrophage cells J774A.1 at a concentration of 1  $\mu$ M and the only non-toxic compound was P7.

**Keywords:** Molecules, Heterocyclic, Anticoagulant, Cytotoxic, Antipseudomonal, Activities

## INTRODUCTION

Antibiotic resistance is a growing issue in public health. The spread of resistance to current antibiotics is a global concern [1]. While resistance to bacteria-fighting medication is a normal occurrence, different factors lead to this problem such as the social factor which raised transmission of infections, as well as inappropriate use of antibiotics. People may use antimicrobials for any infection, whether real or perceived, in varying dosages and for extended periods without medical guidance [2, 3]. Many antibiotic-resistant bacteria have no known treatments, and there is a continuous rise in the prevalence of resistance to commonly used antibiotics [4, 5]. In long-term care facilities, multiple drug-resistant organisms are frequently the cause of infections. Specifically, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* accounts for 16% of pneumonia cases in hospitals [6, 7].

In the past decade, it has become apparent that bacteria are growing more resistant to antibiotics, making them less effective [8, 9]. This issue is compounded by the slow rate at which new drugs are introduced into the market [10, 11]. Additionally, many existing antifungal and antibacterial medications have undesirable side effects [12, 13]. Therefore, pharmaceutical companies are putting a lot of effort into developing new, more effective molecules [14, 15].

One particularly intriguing aspect is the potential of these molecules to combat *P. aeruginosa*, the main perpetrator of hospital-acquired infections. This bacterium has developed resistance to commonly used classes of antibiotics [16].

Heterocycles are vital biomolecules with a wealth of promising targets for organic synthesis due to their significant biological activities [17], Examples include spiro oxindole-pyrrolidines and triazoles, known for their antimicrobial, and antitumoral properties [18, 19], amongst others. These molecules have also shown potential in fighting inflammation

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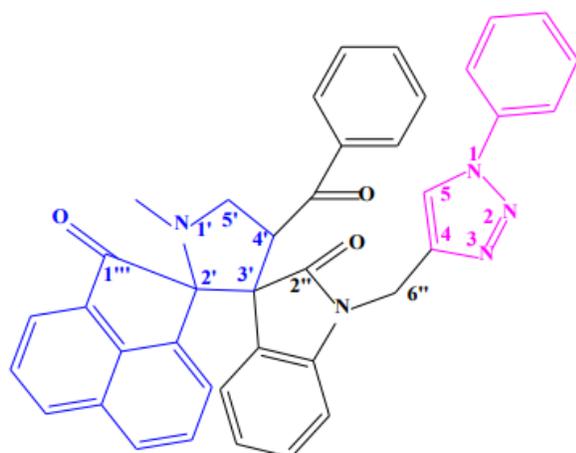
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[20], and cancer [21, 22], as well as tuberculosis. Notably, similar properties can be found in existing drugs like fluconazole for fungal infections [18, 23], Metioprime for bacterial infections, and Flucytosine for fungal infections. With this in mind, our goal was to explore the capabilities of novel heterocyclic molecules, specifically regarding their activity against *P. aeruginosa*, as well as their antioxidant, anticoagulant, and cytotoxic properties.

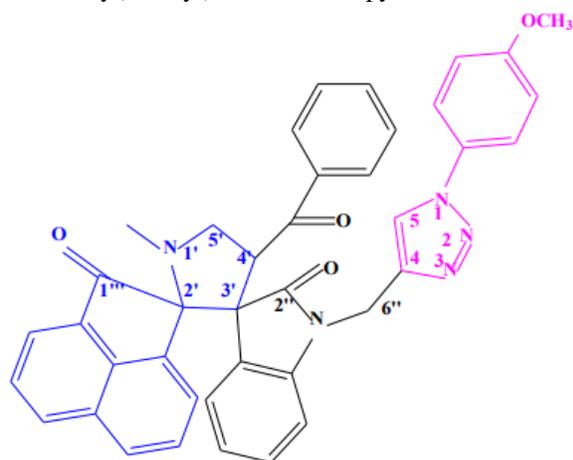
## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Compounds

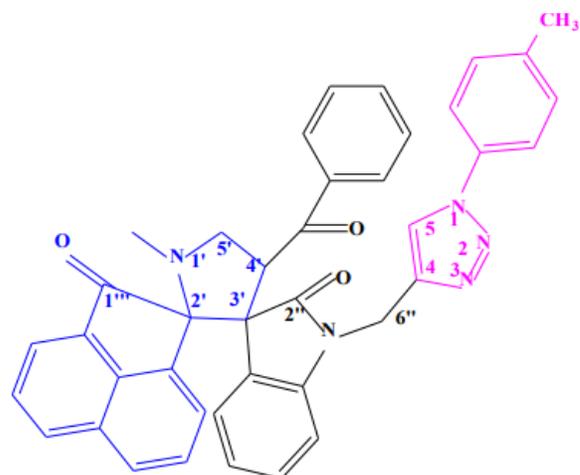
Seven novel spiro oxindole-pyrrolidine coupled with triazol (Figure 1) were synthesized by Sakly *et al.* (2018) [24] and we have continued to test their biological activities.



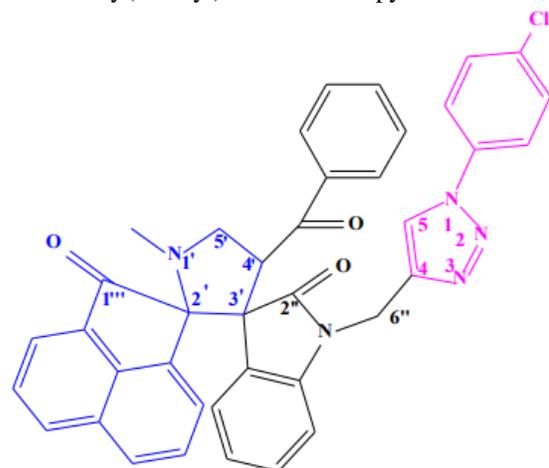
P1: 1-N-méthyl-spiro [2.3'] oxoacénaphthylen-2yl)-spiro[3.5'']-3''-N-((1-(4-phényl))- 1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)méthyl)indolin-2-one-pyrrolidine



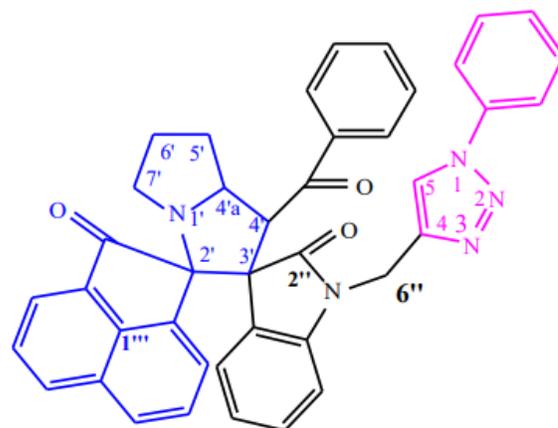
P2: 1-N-méthyl-spiro[2.3']oxoacénaphthylen-2yl)-spiro[3.5'']-3''-N-((1-(4-méthoxyphényl))-1H-1, 2, 3-triazol-4-yl)méthyl)indolin-2-one-pyrrolidine



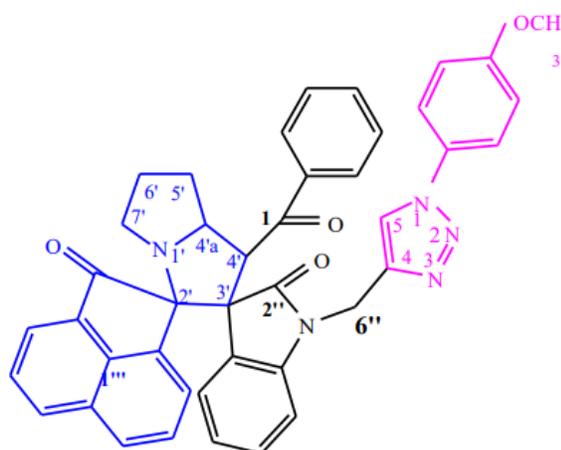
P3: 1-N-méthyl-spiro[2.3']oxoacénaphthylen-2yl)-spiro[3.5'']-3''-N-((1-(4-méthylphényl))- 1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)méthyl)indolin-2-one-pyrrolidine



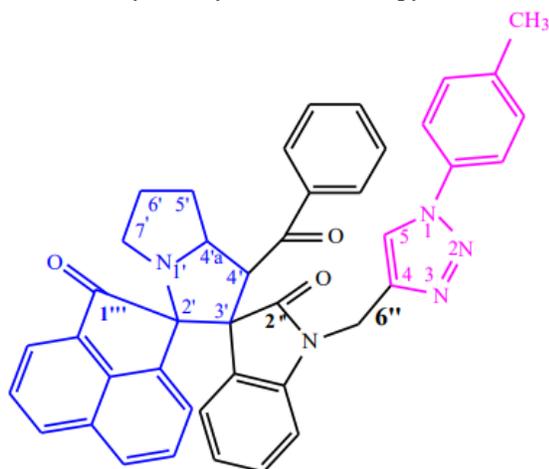
P4: 1-N-méthyl-spiro[2.3']oxoacénaphthylen-2yl)-spiro[3.5'']-3''-N-((1-(4-chlorophényl))- 1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)méthyl)indolin-2-one-pyrrolidine



P5: 1-N-méthyl-spiro[2.3']oxoacénaphthylen-2yl)-spiro[3.5'']-3''-N-((1-(4-phényl))-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)méthyl)indolin-2-one-pyrrolidine



P6. 1-N-méthyl-spiro[2.3]oxoacénaphthylen-2-yl)-spiro[3.5'']-3''-N-((1-(4-méthoxyphényl))-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)méthyl)indolin-2-one-pyrrolizidine



P7. 1-N-méthyl-spiro[2.3]oxoacénaphthylen-2-yl)-spiro[3.5'']-3''-N-((1-(4-méthylphényl))-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)méthyl)indolin-2-one-pyrrolizidine

**Figure 1.** Molecules structure

### Antipseudomonal Activity

#### Origin of *Pseudomonas Aeruginosa* Strains

The isolates of *P. aeruginosa* (PA) were obtained from *Pseudomonas* infections and *P. aeruginosa* ATCC 27853 was provided from our laboratory in the faculty of pharmacy of Monastir.

#### Micro-Well Dilution Assay

To determine the Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) we used a microdilution method [25]. Briefly, tested molecules are first dissolved in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO, 10%). Then, they were diluted to an initial concentration of (250 µg/mL) and Cascade dilutions were carried out in 100 L of brain-heart broth which was placed in a 96-well plate.

20 L of bacterial suspension of the overnight culture was adjusted to a McFarland turbidity of 0.5 was added. finally,

the plates were incubated for 24 h at 37°C. The MIC was defined as the lowest concentration that inhibits all growth visible.

### Anticoagulant Activity

#### Prothrombin Time (PT) Test

According to Edziri *et al.* (2018), in the coagulometer cuvettes, 50 µl of citrated normal plasma pool containing 1 µl of buffer (control) or a sample at different concentrations are incubated for 2 minutes at 37°C. 100 µl of thromboplastin calcium tissue previously heated for 20 minutes at 37°C is then added and the clotting time is measured by the coagulometer. Heparin (1 IU/mL) was used as a positive control.

#### Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time (Aptt) Test

Concerning the aPTT test, based on Edziri *et al.* (2012) [26], 10µl of molecules are added to 100µl of platelet-poor plasma which is then incubated at 37°C for variable times. After incubation, 50 µl of a cephalin-Kaolin solution is added then the mixture is reincubated at 37°C for 3 minutes. Coagulation is then triggered by the addition of 50 µl of an aqueous solution of 0.025M CaCl<sub>2</sub>. The clotting time is then determined using an optical coagulometer based on the change in light transmission from the addition of calcium (starting the stopwatch) to the formation of the fibrin clot (stopping the stopwatch).

### Antioxidant Activities

#### ABTS+• Cation Radical Scavenging Assay

The ABTS test was performed according to Edziri *et al.* (2018) [27]. The ABTS (2,2'-azinobis-3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6sulfonic acid) solution was diluted in ethanol and the OD was adjusted to 0.708 at 734 nm. Then 900 µL of the ABTS solution was mixed with 100 µL of different concentrations of molecules diluted in methanol. The IC<sub>50</sub> represents the concentration that reduces 50% of the ABTS radical.

#### DPPH Assay

According to Ben Hsouna *et al.* (2017) [28], the DPPH solution was prepared by diluting 19.7 mg of DPPH in 50 ml of ethanol, then the solution was stored at 4°C. 100 µl of each dilution of the tested molecules previously diluted in ethanol were mixed with 100 µl of 0.1 mM DPPH in wells of 96-well plates. Then, the plate was incubated for 30 minutes in the dark and then the absorbance was read at 515 nm. BHT was used as a positive control. the percentage of DPPH radical inhibition was calculated according to the following formula:

$$\text{DPPH scavenging (\%)} = [1 - (A_s - A_b/A_c)] \times 100 \quad (1)$$

IC<sub>50</sub> is the concentration that reduces 50% of the DPPH radical.

#### β-Carotene Bleaching Assay (BCB)

Briefly, the  $\beta$ -carotene bleaching method (BCB) was used according to the technique of Edziri *et al.* (2018) [27]. 950  $\mu$ L of the  $\beta$ -carotene emulsion was mixed with 50  $\mu$ L of the sample at 1.00 mg/mL. 250  $\mu$ L of mixture was transferred to a 96-well plate. The wells were previously filled with 250  $\mu$ L of water. The microplate was placed at 50 °C for 3 h and the absorbance was measured at 470 nm. The obtained results are calculated as a percentage of inhibition of  $\beta$ -carotene bleaching (% antioxidant activity).

### Antiproliferative Activity of Tested Molecules in J774A.1 Cells

The cell viability test was evaluated by the MTT test (3-(4,5-dimethyl-2-thiazyl)-2,5-diphenyl-2H-tetrazolium bromide according to Havrylyuk *et al.* (2011). Indeed, the cells were cultured in 96-well plates (104 / well) for 4 h at 37 °C in an atmosphere of 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. Different dilutions of the tested molecules (200 100–50  $\mu$ g/ml) are incubated for 24 h. Then 50  $\mu$ l of MTT was added and the cells were reincubated for 3 h. 100  $\mu$ l of a solution containing 50% (v: v) of N, N-dimethylformamide, and 20% (w: v) SDS (pH of 4.5) was added, which solubilizes the lysed cells. Finally, the optical density (OD) of the plate was measured at 620 nm (Titertek Multiskan MCC/340). The percentage of viability was calculated as follows: % of dead cells = 100  $\times$  (treated OD/control OD).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Antipseudomonal Activity

The results of the anti-pseudomonal activity of the tested compounds are summarized in **Table 1**. As shown all tested compounds exhibited important antipseudomonal activity with MIC ranging between 125 and 15.62  $\mu$ g/ml. The result showed that compounds P3 and P7 displayed excellent antipseudomonal activity against all tested *P. aeruginosa* with MIC values of 15.62  $\mu$ g/ml, compared to the standard antibiotic ampicillin. On the other hand, P5 displayed important anti-bacterial activity against *P. aeruginosa* imipenem resistant with MIC of 31.25  $\mu$ g/ml. we can conclude that compounds containing a nitro group at the triazol ring for example P3 and P7 contain a methyl group at the triazole ring. They were very active against *P. aeruginosa* imipenem resistant. the obtained results showed that the presence of certain substituents on the aryl ring of the triazole ring increases the antibacterial activity against *pseudomonas* strains. This is consistent with Kandsi *et al.* (2022) [2].

**Table 1.** Antipseudomonal activity of new molecules

Molecules	MIC( $\mu$ g/ml)				
	<i>P.aeruginosa</i>				
	ATCC 9027	IMP/R 210	IMP/R 232	IMP/R 432	IMP/R 765
P1	125	62.4	62.4	62.4	62.4
P2	125	62.4	62.4	62.4	62.4
P3	250	15.62	15.62	15.62	15.62

P4	125	62.4	62.4	62.4	62.4
P5	250	31.25	31.25	31.25	31.25
P6	250	62.4	62.4	62.4	62.4
p7	125	15.62	15.62	15.62	15.62

### Antioxidant Activity

The results of the antioxidant of the tested compound for DPPH, ABTS, and  $\beta$ -Carotene Bleaching Assay were summarized in **Table 2**. According to the DPPH test P1, P2, P4, P5, and P6 showed the best antioxidant activity. They exhibited promising antiradical capacity when compared with the positive control BHT (IC<sub>50</sub> = 18.64  $\mu$ g/mL). Furthermore, P3 and P7 had almost the same IC<sub>50</sub> as the positive control BHT. The ABTS assay demonstrated that all tested heterocyclic compounds exhibited important antioxidant activity with IC<sub>50</sub> ranging between, 25.5 and 35.84 $\mu$ g/ml more active than reference standard drug BHT(IC<sub>50</sub> = 50.31  $\mu$ g/ml).

**Table 2.** Anticoagulant activity of leaves extract of *Ruscus hypophyllum*

Sample	Dose	PT (seconds)	aPTT (seconds)
Control	Saline	14.1 $\pm$ 1.87	34.1 $\pm$ 2
Heparin	1 IU/mL	42.18 $\pm$ 2.17	132.18 $\pm$ 1.48
P1	250	90.5 $\pm$ 2.9	120.94 $\pm$ 1.49
P2	250	82.8 $\pm$ 3.21	122.5 $\pm$ 2.21
P3	250	44.6 $\pm$ 4.15	109.4 $\pm$ 1.01
P4	250	50.9 $\pm$ 4.16	120.7 $\pm$ 3.16
P5	250	44.6 $\pm$ 3.15	114.6 $\pm$ 2.15
P6	250	40.9 $\pm$ 1.16	120.6 $\pm$ 3.16
P7	250	34.6 $\pm$ 2.15	114.6 $\pm$ 1.45

aPTT-Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time, PT- PT-PT-Prothrombin Time

The  $\beta$ -carotene-linoleic bleach inhibition test affects membrane lipid oxidation. The oxidation of linoleic acid by heat causes the production of free radicals. These free radicals cause a whitening effect of beta-carotene, which will be blocked by the free radicals. To test the antiradical capacity of the tested molecules our results are summarized in **Table 3**. In this assay, we can conclude that compounds P3, P4, P5, P6, and P7 expressed the best antioxidant activity by comparing with the BHT inhibition percentage (80.5%). They exhibited good anti-oxidant capacity by comparing them with the positive controls (ascorbic acid, trolox, and BHT), suggesting that the presence of a hydroxyl group in their skeletons increases the antiradical capacity of the molecules this is consistent with Edziri *et al.* (2018) [27].

**Table 3.** Antioxidant activity of new molecules

Molecules	DPPH test (IC <sub>50</sub> ) ( $\mu$ g/ml)	ABTS (IC <sub>50</sub> ) $\mu$ M	% $\beta$ - Carotene linoleic acid
P1	14.8 $\pm$ 1.54	26.26 $\pm$ 0.80	75.17 $\pm$ 0.20
P2	17.98 $\pm$ 0.80	35.84 $\pm$ 0.70	69.32 $\pm$ 0.40

P3	18.78 ± 1.00	25.5±2.12	85±1.32
P4	17.5±1.12	37.7 ± 0.63	87.7±1.23
P5	15.23±1.98	31.7±1.12	87.5 ± 2.20
P6	25±1.21	24.5±2.13	90.3±2.31
P7	18±1.23	20.22±2.3	87.4±2.32
BHT	18.64±0.02	50.31±0.01	80.5±2.6

DPPH radical scavenging assay, ABTS Anti-Oxidant Scavenging Assay, Total antioxidant activity by the  $\beta$ -carotene-linoleic acid method.

### Macrophage Viability

To explicate the effect of synthesized heterocyclic compounds on the viability of J774A.1 The latter were treated with these compounds (100–1  $\mu$ M) for 24h. The obtained results showed that the macrophage viability was not altered by compound P7 in any concentration, but compounds P2 and P5 were not toxic only at a concentration of 1 $\mu$ M. P2 at a concentration upper than 10 $\mu$ M is toxique. So, we can conclude that the only non-toxic concentration of all tested compounds on J774A.1 cell was 1  $\mu$ M. **Table 4.**

**Table 4.** Antiproliferative activity of new heterocycle

J774A.1 cells	MEAN±SEM of % of antiproliferative activity			
	Dose	P7	P2	P5
100 $\mu$ M	16,00±1,15	26,00±0,06 #	24,70±1,86 #	31,00±4,36 ##
50 $\mu$ M	13,67±3,76	27,00±1,00 #	25,70±1,20 #	32,67±1,67 ##
10 $\mu$ M	5,00±5,00	22,00±2,60 #	9,33±0,88	20,67±2,60 #
1 $\mu$ M	1,67±1,67	14,70±1,20	0,00±0,00	14,67±9,33

### CONCLUSION

In summary, these newly synthesized heterocycles showed good antibacterial activity against *pseudomonas aeruginosa multiresistant drug bacteria* and important anti-oxidant activity by dpph, Abts, and betacarotene assays. In addition, these newly synthesized heterocycles possess good anticoagulant activity by pt and aptt assays but p6, p4, p2, and p1 had important anti-coagulant activity by aptt assays compared to positive control heparine. Furthermore, these new compounds were not toxic to the viability of macrophage cells j774a.1 at a concentration of 1  $\mu$ m and the only non-toxic compound was p7. For this reason, spirooxindolopyrrolizidine-linked 1,2,3-triazole conjugates can be used as new anti-microbial drugs for the treatment of antibiotic resistance which represents a major public health problem, and may be used as a source of anticoagulants in the pharmaceutical industry.

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**CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** None

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:** None

**ETHICS STATEMENT:** None

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