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Title: DNA binding, antitubercular, antibacterial and anticancer studies of newly designed piano-stool

ruthenium(ii) complexes

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Abstract:

The chemotherapeutic potential of ruthenium(II) complexes has recently attracted researchers' interest as antibacterial and anticancer agents. In this study, two novel half-sandwich imine-based $Ru\;complexes\;([Ru(p\text{-cymene})Cl(L\text{-}1)][PF6]\;(Ru\text{-}1)\;and\;[Ru(p\text{-cymene})Cl(L\text{-}2)][PF6]\;(Ru\text{-}2))\;were\;([Ru(p\text{-cymene})Cl(L\text{-}2)][PF6]\;(Ru\text{-}2))$ reported for their deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) binding and antitubercular, antibacterial, and anticancer activities. The molecular structure of Ru-2 was obtained by single-crystal X-ray crystallography. DNA interaction studies were conducted by UV-Vis absorbance and fluorescence spectral titration which gave rise to DNA binding constants (Kb) of 1.32 × 106 and 1.82 × 106 for Ru-1 and Ru-2, respectively and the Stern-Volmer binding constant (KSV) values for Ru-1 and Ru-2 were 1.7763 \times 104 M-1 and 7.6 \times 103 M-1, respectively. The in vitro antitubercular activity was evaluated against Mycobacterium tuberculosis H37Ra. The antibacterial potential of both the Ru-complexes was examined against Gram-negative (Escherichia coli and Pseudomonas aeruginosa) and Gram-positive (Staphylococcus aureus and Bacillus subtilis) bacteria. The halfmaximal inhibitory concentration (IC50) values for the antitubercular activity of Ru-1 and Ru-2 were $4.87 \pm 1.32 \,\mu\text{M}$ and $5.78 \pm 0.54 \,\mu\text{M}$, respectively. A cytotoxic study of these complexes was performed against the human breast cancer cell line (MCF-7) and the human embryonic kidney cell line (HEK293) (normal cells). The study revealed meaningful activity of the Ru-1 complex against (cancer) MCF-7 cells, while the viability of HEK293 (normal) cells in the presence of Ru-2 was higher as compared to a reference drug 5FU. We suggest that these kinds of Ru-complexes could have potential for application in metallopharmaceuticals.

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