



Role of quinolones and quinoxaline derivatives in the advancement of treatment of tuberculosis

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Abstract

The need of new chemotherapeutic drugs to improve tuberculosis control and treatment particularly against multidrug-resistant (MDR) and extensively drug resistant (XDR) strains of Mycobacterium. The antitubercular drugs are used in current chemotherapy have different chemical moieties. In this review, we provide an overview of the quinolone drugs as an antitubercular drug. Generally quinolone drugs are mainly used against many gram-positive and gram-negative bacterial infections including resistance strains also. Various quinolones are being used to control and treatment of tubercular infections including MDR, XDR and atypical Mycobacterium strains. Fluoroquinolones are an important quinolones, especially for strains that are resistant to first-line agents.

Keywords: Chemotherapeutic Agents; Multidrug-Resistant; Extensively Drug Resistant; Tuberculosis; Quinolones.

1. Introduction

The first quinolone, nalidixic acid, was isolated as a by-product of the synthesis of chloroquine and has been used for the treatment of urinary tract infections (UTIs). The fluorinated 4-quinolones, such as ciprofloxacin, moxifloxacin, and gatifloxacin have important therapeutic effects. These agents have broad antimicrobial activity against wide variety of infectious diseases. These compounds have relatively few side effects and microbial resistance to their action does not develop rapidly [1], [2]. Rare and potentially fatal side effects, however, have resulted in the withdrawal from the market of temafloxacin (hemolytic anemia), trovafloxacin (hepatotoxicity), grepafloxacin (cardiotoxicity), and clinafloxacin (phototoxicity) [3]. The narrow antibacterial spectrum of nalidixic acid was first expanded through drugs such as norfloxacin, pefloxacin, ofloxacin and ciprofloxacin to improve the utility for treating gram-negative bacterial infections. These were followed by drugs e.g. temafloxacin, sparfloxacin, grepafloxacin and gatifloxacin, which, whilst maintaining gram-negative activity, had additional effects on gram-positive microbes. More recently the bacterial profile of the quinolones has been enlarged again by such drugs as clinafloxacin, trovafloxacin, gemifloxacin and moxifloxacin to encompass anaerobic bacteria. In general these drugs are well tolerated [4] but, in some cases, side effects have been sufficiently severe to cause withdrawal from the market [grepafloxacin (cardiotoxicity); trovafloxacin (hepatotoxicity)]. In line with the expanding indications for the quinolones, a number of these compounds have shown promise for the treatment of mycobacterial infections. Ciprofloxacin and ofloxacin are currently finding utility as second-line or alternative TB drugs. However, resistance to these drugs develops quickly when used as single agent treatments or as add-ons to other drugs which are already failing [5]. Consequently, in seeking to evaluate the potential of the latest generation of quinolones as TB treatments, the issue of cross resistance to the existing drugs needs to be addressed- possibly by pursuing compounds inherently more bactericidal than ofloxacin and ciprofloxacin. A further advance would be to select quinolones with increased half-lives to facilitate once daily dosing.

Nalidixic acid, the first antibacterial quinolone, was introduced in 1963. It is not fluorinated and is excreted too rapidly to be useful for systemic infections. Oxolinic acid and cinoxacin are similar in structure and function to nalidixic acid. Their mechanism of action is the same as that of the fluoroquinolones (FQs). These agents were useful only for the treatment of UTIs and are rarely used now, having been made obsolete by the more efficacious fluorinated quinolones.

The important quinolones are synthetic fluorinated analogs of nalidixic acid. They are active against a variety of gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria. Quinolones block bacterial DNA synthesis by inhibiting bacterial topoisomerase-II (DNA gyrase) and topoisomerase IV. Inhibition of DNA gyrase prevents the relaxation of positively supercoiled DNA that is required for normal transcription and replication. Inhibition of topoisomerase-IV interferes with separation of replicated chromosomal DNA into the respective daughter cells during cell division [6,7]. Fluorinated derivatives (ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin, etc), have greatly improved antibacterial activity. Some quinolones such as ciprofloxacin and levofloxacin inhibit strains of Mtb at concentrations less than 2 g/mL. They are also active against atypical mycobacteria. Ofloxacin was used in the past, but levofloxacin is preferred because it is the L-isomer of ofloxacin (racemic mixture). Levofloxacin tends to be slightly more active in vitro than ciprofloxacin against Mtb; ciprofloxacin is slightly more active against atypical mycobacteria. Serum concentrations of 2–4 g/mL and 4–8 g/mL are achieved with standard oral doses of ciprofloxacin and levofloxacin, respectively. The FQs are important drugs for TB, especially for strains that are resistant to first-line agents. Resistance, which may result from any one of several single point mutations in the gyrase A subunit, develops rapidly if a FQ is used as a single agent; thus, the drug must be used in combination with two or more other active agents [8-10]. Several newer quinolones have improved activity against gram-positive cocci. Methicillin-susceptible strains of *S. aureus* are generally susceptible to these FQs, but methicillin-resistant strains of staphylococci are often resistant. Streptococci and enterococci tend to be less susceptible than staphylococci, and efficacy in infections caused by these organisms is limited. Ciprofloxacin is the most active agent of this group against gram negatives, *P. aeruginosa* in particular. Levofloxacin, the L-isomer of ofloxacin and twice as potent, has superior activity against gram-positive organisms, including *S. pneumoniae*. Gatifloxacin, moxifloxacin, sparfloxacin, and trovafloxacin comprise a third group of FQs with improved activity against gram-positive organisms, particularly *S. pneumoniae* and to some extent staphylococci. The FQs also are active against agents of atypical pneumonia (eg, mycoplasmas and chlamydiae) and against intracellular pathogens such as legionella species and some mycobacteria, including Mtb and *M. avium* complex. Moxifloxacin and trovafloxacin, in addition to enhanced gram positive activity, also have good activity which other FQs lack against anaerobic bacteria [11-16].

The FQs are highly active against Mtb as well as nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM) and are important components of treatment regimens of MDR-TB [17]. The C-8-methoxy-fluoroquinolones, such as gatifloxacin and moxifloxacin, are the most active and therefore least likely to result in the development of quinolone resistance. Unfortunately, when resistance develops to one FQ in mycobacteria, cross-resistance develops within this entire class of antibiotics. Thus the most active FQs should be used, and only in combination with other anti-TB agents, to prevent resistance from developing [18]. The quinolones (e.g., ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin, moxifloxacin, and gatifloxacin) drugs have inhibitory activity against MAC bacteria in vitro (at concentrations of ≤ 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$). Minimal inhibitory concentrations (MIC) for *M. fortuitum* and *M. kansasii* are ≤ 3 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ for these quinolones but *M. chelonae* usually are resistant. Single-agent therapy of *M. fortuitum* infection with ciprofloxacin has been associated with the development of resistance. Ciprofloxacin has been used as part of a 4-drug regimen (with clarithromycin, rifabutin, and amikacin) as salvage therapy for *M. avium* Complex (MAC) infections in HIV-infected patients, with improvement in symptoms [19]. MDR-TB has been treated with ofloxacin, in combination with second-line agents. Moxifloxacin and gatifloxacin are more active in vitro than the older FQs and would be expected to be useful agents clinically.

1.1. Mechanism of action

The quinolones target bacterial DNA gyrase and topoisomerase IV [17]. For many gram-positive bacteria (such as *S. aureus*), topoisomerase IV is the primary activity inhibited by the quinolones. In contrast, for many gram-negative bacteria (such as *E. coli*), DNA gyrase is the primary quinolone target [20], [21]. The individual strands of double-helical DNA must be separated to permit DNA replication or transcription. The bacterial enzyme DNA gyrase is responsible for the continuous introduction of negative supercoils into DNA. This is an ATP-dependent reaction requiring that both strands of the DNA be cut to permit passage of a segment of DNA through the break; the break then is resealed. The DNA gyrase of *E. coli* is composed of two 105,000-dalton A subunits and two 95,000-dalton B subunits encoded by the *gyrA* and *gyrB* genes, respectively. The A subunits, which carry out the strand-cutting function of the gyrase, are the site of action of the quinolones. The drugs inhibit gyrase-mediated DNA supercoiling at concentrations that correlate well with those required to inhibit bacterial growth (0.1 to 10 mg/ml). Mutations of the gene that encodes the A subunit polypeptide can confer resistance to these drugs (Hooper, 2000a). Topoisomerase IV also is composed of four subunits encoded by the *parC* and *parE* genes in *E. coli* [2], [17]. Topoisomerase IV separates interlinked (catenated) daughter DNA molecules that are the product of DNA replication. Eukaryotic cells do not contain DNA gyrase. However, they do contain a conceptually and mechanistically similar type II DNA topoisomerase that removes positive supercoils from eukaryotic DNA to prevent its tangling during replication. This enzyme is the target for some antineoplastic agents. Quinolones inhibit eukaryotic type II topoisomerase only at much higher concentrations (100 to 1000 mg/ml) [22].

1.2. Antibacterial spectrum

The fluoroquinolones are potent bactericidal agents against *E. coli* and various species of *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Enterobacter*, *Campylobacter*, and *Neisseria* [23]. MIC of the FQs for 90% of these strains (MIC₉₀) usually are less than 0.2 mg/ml. Ciprofloxacin is more active than norfloxacin against *P. aeruginosa*; values of MIC₉₀ range from 0.5 to 6 mg/ml. The FQs also have good activity against staphylococci, but not against methicillin-resistant strains (MIC₉₀ = 0.1 to 2 mg/ml). Activity against streptococci is limited to a subset of the quinolones, including levofloxacin, gatifloxacin, and moxifloxacin [2], [23]. Several intracellular bacteria are inhibited by fluoroquinolones; these include species of *Chlamydia*, *Mycoplasma*, *Legionella*, *Brucella*, and *Mycobacterium* [6], [24]. Ciprofloxacin, ofloxacin, and pefloxacin have MIC₉₀ values from 0.5 to 3 mg/ml for *M. fortuitum*, *M. kansasii*, and *Mtb*; ofloxacin and pefloxacin are active in animal models of leprosy [2]. Several FQs have activity against anaerobic bacteria, including garenoxacin and gemifloxacin [25]. Resistance to quinolones may develop during therapy via mutations in the bacterial chromosomal genes encoding DNA gyrase or topoisomerase IV or by active transport of the drug out of the bacteria [26], [27]. Resistance has increased after the introduction of fluoroquinolones, especially in *Pseudomonas* and staphylococci [28], [29]. Increasing FQ resistance also is being observed in *C. jejuni*, *Salmonella*, *N. gonorrhoeae*, and *S. pneumoniae* [30-33].

1.3. Therapeutic uses

Nalidixic acid is useful only for UTIs caused by susceptible microorganisms. The FQs are significantly more potent and have a much broader spectrum of antimicrobial activity. The FQs are more efficacious than trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole for the treatment of UTIs and to be effective in those patients who are not responding [20], [34]. Norfloxacin, ciprofloxacin, and ofloxacin all have been effective in the treatment of prostatitis caused by sensitive bacteria [20]. The quinolones are contraindicated in pregnancy. The FQs lack activity for *Treponema pallidum* but have activity in vitro against *N. gonorrhoeae*, *C. trachomatis*, and *H. ducreyi*. For chlamydial urethritis/cervicitis, ofloxacin or sparfloxacin treatment with doxycycline or a single dose of azithromycin. A single oral dose of a FQ such as ofloxacin or ciprofloxacin is effective treatment for sensitive strains of *N. gonorrhoeae*, but increasing resistance to FQs has led to ceftriaxone being the first-line agent for this infection [35]. Pelvic inflammatory disease has been treated effectively with ofloxacin combined with an antibiotic with activity against anaerobes (clindamycin or metronidazole) [36]. Chancroid (infection by *H. ducreyi*) can be treated with ciprofloxacin. For traveler's diarrhea (frequently caused by enterotoxigenic *E. coli*), the quinolones are equal to trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole in effectiveness [37], [38]. Norfloxacin is superior to tetracyclines in decreasing the duration of diarrhea in cholera [39]. Ciprofloxacin and ofloxacin treatment cures most patients with enteric fever caused by *S. typhi*, as well as bacteremic nontyphoidal infections in AIDS patients, and it clears chronic fecal carriage. Shigellosis is treated effectively with either ciprofloxacin or azithromycin [40]. The quinolones should not be used for Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* [41]. The major limitation to the use of quinolones for the treatment of community-acquired pneumonia and bronchitis had been the poor in vitro activity of ciprofloxacin, ofloxacin, and norfloxacin against *S. pneumoniae* and anaerobic bacteria. However, many FQs, including gatifloxacin and moxifloxacin, have excellent activity against *S. pneumoniae*. Other quinolones also showed activity [42], [43]. The FQs have in vitro activity against respiratory pathogens, including *H. influenzae*, *Moraxella catarrhalis*, *S. aureus*, *M. pneumoniae*, *Chlamydia pneumoniae*, and *Legionella pneumophila*. Either a FQs (ciprofloxacin or levofloxacin) or azithromycin is the antibiotic of choice for *L. pneumophila* [44]. The FQs have been very effective at eradicating both *H. influenzae* and *M. catarrhalis* from sputum. The FQs are used for treatment of community-acquired pneumonia [2]. However, the possibility is a decreasing susceptibility of *S. pneumoniae* to FQs [45], [46]. The treatment of osteomyelitis requires prolonged antimicrobial therapy with agents active against *S. aureus* and gram-negative rods [47]. Ciprofloxacin should not be given to children or pregnant women [2]. Failures have been associated with the development of resistance in *S. aureus*, *P. aeruginosa*, and *Serratia marcescens*. In diabetic foot infections, which are commonly caused by a mixture of bacteria including gram-negative rods, anaerobes, streptococci, and staphylococci, the FQs in combination with an agent with antianaerobic activity are a reasonable choice. Ciprofloxacin as sole therapy is effective in 50% of diabetic foot infections. The prophylaxis of anthrax and has been shown to be effective for the treatment of tularemia [48,49]. The quinolones may be used as part of multiple-drug regimens for the treatment of MDR-TB, atypical mycobacterial infections as well as *M. avium* complex infections in AIDS.

1.4. Adverse effects

Quinolones and fluoroquinolones generally are well tolerated [50]. The common adverse reactions are in GI tract, mostly mild nausea, vomiting, and abdominal discomfort. Diarrhea and antibiotic-associated colitis have been unusual. CNS side effects are predominately mild headache and dizziness. Rarely, hallucinations, delirium, and seizures have occurred, predominantly in patients who also were receiving theophylline or a nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug. Ciprofloxacin and pefloxacin inhibit the metabolism of theophylline, and toxicity from elevated concentrations of the methylxanthine may occur [51]. Nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs may augment displacement of *g*-aminobutyric

acid (GABA) from its receptors by the quinolones [52]. Rashes, including photosensitivity reactions, also can occur. Achilles tendon rupture or tendinitis has occurred rarely. Renal disease, hemodialysis, and steroid use may be predisposing factors [50]. All these agents can produce arthropathy in several species of immature animals. Traditionally, the use of quinolones in children has been contraindicated for this reason. However, children with cystic fibrosis given ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin, and nalidixic acid have had few, and reversible, joint symptoms [53]. Therefore, in some cases the benefits may outweigh the risks of quinolone therapy in children. Leukopenia, eosinophilia, and mild elevations in serum transaminases occur rarely. After administration, the quinolones are well absorbed and distributed widely in body fluids and tissues. The FQs are relatively long half-lives of levofloxacin, moxifloxacin, sparfloxacin, and trovafloxacin permit once-daily dosing. Alatrovafloxacin is the inactive, prodrug form of trovafloxacin for parenteral administration. It is rapidly converted to the active compound. Concentrations in prostate, kidney, neutrophils, and macrophages exceed serum concentrations. Most FQs are eliminated by renal mechanisms, either tubular secretion or glomerular filtration. Nonrenally cleared FQs are contraindicated in patients with hepatic failure. The FQs are effective mainly in urinary tract infections even when caused by MDR bacteria, eg, pseudomonas. These agents are also effective for bacterial diarrhea caused by shigella, salmonella, toxigenic E coli, or campylobacter. The FQs (except norfloxacin) have been employed in infections of soft tissues, bones, and joints and in intra-abdominal and respiratory tract infections, including those caused by MDR organisms such as pseudomonas and enterobacter. Ciprofloxacin and ofloxacin are effective for gonococcal infection, including disseminated disease, and ofloxacin is effective for chlamydial urethritis or cervicitis. Ciprofloxacin is a second-line agent for legionellosis. Ciprofloxacin or levofloxacin is occasionally used for treatment of TB and atypical mycobacterial infections. They may be suitable for eradication of meningococci from carriers or for prophylaxis of infection in neutropenic patients. However, levofloxacin, gatifloxacin, and moxifloxacin, with their enhanced gram positive activity and activity against atypical pneumonia agents are likely to be effective and used increasingly for treatment of upper and lower respiratory tract infections. Fluoroquinolones are extremely well tolerated. The most common effects are nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Occasionally, headache, dizziness, insomnia, skin rash, or abnormal liver function tests develop. Trovafloxacin has been associated with acute hepatitis and hepatic failure, which has led to its restricted indications. Photosensitivity has been reported with lomefloxacin and pefloxacin. Ideally, these agents should be avoided or used with caution in patients Gatifloxacin has been associated with hyperglycemia in diabetic patients and with hypoglycemia in patients also receiving oral hypoglycemic agents. The FQs may damage growing cartilage and cause an arthropathy. Thus, they are not routinely recommended for use in patients under 18 years of age [54].

2. Chemotherapy of tuberculosis

Chemotherapy of TB is mainly depends on first-line anti-TB drugs, which include streptomycin (SM), isoniazid (INH), rifampicin (RIF), ethambutol (EMB) and pyrazinamide (PZA), they more effective and less toxic as compare to second-line anti-TB drugs. Six class of second line drugs that are used in the treatment of TB [54]. A drug may be classified as a second-line because of one of two possible reasons: it may be less effective than the first-line drugs or it may have toxic side-effects or. These comprise of different classes namely, aminoglycosides (amikacin, kanamycin), polypeptides (capreomycin, viomycin), fluoroquinolones (ciprofloxacin, moxifloxacin, etc), thioamides: (ethionamides, prothioamide), cycloserine and p-aminosalicylic acid [54], [55]. Fluoroquinolones such as ciprofloxacin, ofloxacin and moxifloxacin are second line drugs used in combination with first line drugs to treat MDR-TB. The MICs of these FQs are range from 0.12 to 2µg/mL. Levofloxacin, levoisomer of ofloxacin is twice as active as the parent drug. They cause side effects as gastrointestinal reactions, central nervous system disturbances, and skin reactions. While, gatifloxacin and moxifloxacin are new FQ DNA gyrase inhibitors that offer advantages over ofloxacin and ciprofloxacin. These new FQs moxifloxacin and gatifloxacin, are the most advanced anti-TB compounds in clinical development showing promise to be the first new anti-TB drugs in nearly 30 years [56-58].

3. Need of new antitubercular drugs

A new TB treatment should offer following three improvements over the existing regimens: shorten the total duration of treatment and/or significantly reduce the number of doses, improve the treatment of MDR-TB and XDR-TB, provide a more effective treatment of latent TB infection [15], [59]. In order to analyse useful to group drug candidates currently in two main categories: 1) Novel chemical entities and 2) Compounds originating from existing families of drugs, where innovative chemistry is used to optimise the compounds. Drug resistance (MDR and XDR) by Mtb is an important obstacle for the treatment and control of TB. The MDR-TB refers to simultaneous resistance to at least two or more of the five first-line anti-TB drugs (INH, RIF, PZA, EMB, and SM). Treatment for MDR-TB is long lasting, less effective, costly, and poorly tolerated [60]. The XDR-TB by definition is resistance to at least INH and RIF in addition to any quinolone and at least one injectable second-line agent (capreomycin, amikacin, and kanamycin). The principles of treatment for MDR-TB and XDR-TB are the same. The main difference is that XDR-TB is associated with a much higher mortality rate than MDR-TB, because of reduced number of effective treatment options [61-63]. Hence there is an urgent need for novel drugs that are active against Mtb in order to shorten the duration of TB therapy [55], [64].

4. Quinolones and fluoroquinolones

The introduction of nalidixic acid during 1962 has shown the new avenue for the patients with the bacterial infections. The continuous effort to increase the efficacy against bacteraemia has led to identify new prototype quinolone which is active only against gram-negative bacteria similar to that of nalidixic acid. But the introduction of norfloxacin, a FQ derivative during 1980s has changed the landscape of antibacterial chemotherapy being active against both gram-negative and gram-positive bacterial pathogens. Recently, the quinolone drugs; Ofloxacin, Gatifloxacin, Moxifloxacin and Levofloxacin, are serving as second line drugs for TB. In this concern, many researchers optimized the quinolones and evaluated for their anti-TB potency. The FQs were introduced into clinical practice in the 1980s, having broadspectrum antimicrobial activities and widely used for the treatment of bacterial infections. These FQs have been also found to have activity against Mtb [65] and are currently part of the recommended regimen as second-line drugs. Some quinolones (Ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin etc) inhibit strains of Mtb at concentrations less than 2 g/mL. Indeed, cross-resistance has been reported within the FQ class such that reduced susceptibility to one FQs likely confers reduced susceptibility to all FQs [66], [67]. The major concern is that widespread use of FQs for treatment of other bacterial infections may select for resistant strains of Mtb. The FQs susceptibility is not routinely assessed in clinical isolates of tubercle bacilli, so there is not much information available about the prevalence of FQ resistance in Mtb. They concluded that despite the widespread use of FQs for treatment of common bacterial infection, resistance to FQs remains rare and occurs mainly in MDR-TB strains [68].

In contrast, the incidence of Mtb FQ resistance in a small sample of patients with newly diagnosed TB was found to be high among patients with prior FQ exposure. Cross-resistance was observed among the different FQs tested (ofloxacin, levofloxacin, gatifloxacin, moxifloxacin, and ciprofloxacin) [67]. There are reasons for concerns about the rapid development of resistance particularly when FQs are administered as the only active agent in a failing multi-drug regimen. Moreover, the risk of selecting FQ-resistant Mtb strains by empirically treating with FQs other presumed infections before a diagnosis of TB is established is of great concern. For this reason some investigators in the TB field argue that the use of FQ might be better reserved for specific serious infection. FQs act by inhibiting DNA topoisomerase IV and DNA gyrase, enzymes that control DNA topology and are vital for cellular processes that involve duplex DNA, namely replication, recombination and transcription [69], [70]. By inhibiting these enzymes, FQs block DNA replication and induce DNA damage, triggering a set of still poorly defined events, which result in eventual cell death. The FQ dependent inhibition of RNA synthesis, and as a consequence protein synthesis, is also thought to contribute to the bactericidal activity of this class of drugs [69], [70]. Unlike most other bacterial species, Mtb lacks genes encoding for topoisomerase IV as revealed by the full genome sequence. Therefore, the main molecular target for FQs in Mtb is the DNA gyrase [71], [72]. Consistently, resistance to FQs in clinical isolates of Mtb occurs primarily due to mutations in the quinolone resistance determining region (QRDR) of the *gyrA* gene, which encodes for the A subunit of DNA gyrase [73]. Other mechanisms such as mutations in the B subunit of DNA gyrase, decreased cell permeability to the drug, and an active drug efflux pump mechanism could also be involved in triggering resistance. In particular, the expression or overexpression of energy-dependent efflux pumps that can actively remove antibacterial agents from the cell have been shown to play a role in determination of FQ resistance [74-76] TB rather than becoming the workhorse of antimicrobial treatment; however, given the current widespread use of quinolones this might not be realistic. Lately, the interest on FQs as anti-TB agent has focused on the new FQs moxifloxacin and gatifloxacin. Despite a lack of a comprehensive work comparing the activities of old and new classes of FQs in Mtb, what can be inferred from published results is that moxifloxacin and gatifloxacin are characterized by a higher activity against Mtb in vitro when compared to the old FQs ofloxacin and ciprofloxacin [77-80]. These new compounds are currently taken in consideration as anti-TB first-line drugs.

4.1. Quinolones PD 161148 and CS-940

The PD 161148 and CS-940 compounds, despite structural similarities [81], both have been selected on the basis of their potent broad-spectrum activity against gram-negative, -positive and anaerobic bacteria, and have been tested against a variety of mycobacteria in comparison to other quinolones. CS-940 was screened against 100 clinical isolates of Mtb and, along with sparfloxacin, was found to be have an average IC₅₀ of 0.25-0.5mcg/ml and to be more potent than ofloxacin, ciprofloxacin and balofloxacin (IC₅₀s of 0.5 to 2.0mcg/ml), with norfloxacin (IC₅₀s of 8 to 16 mcg/ml) being the least active. PD 161148 was also tested against various clinical isolates of Mtb where it was compared to the desmethoxy analogue and ciprofloxacin and found to be some 3-4-fold more active. Against ciprofloxacin-resistant strains, the presence of the C-8 methoxy group in PD 161148 enhanced lethality. Both PD 161148 and CS-940 are amongst the most active of all third-generation quinolones but unfortunately there are no in-vivo TB data in the public domain which would allow the two compounds to be further separated.

4.2. Sitafoxacin

The Daiichi quinolone Sitafoxacin (DU-6859a) has activity against a broad range of bacteria. The mechanistic basis for this potency is believed to reside with sitafoxacin's ability to equally inhibit both DNA gyrase and topoisomerase IV,

and its IC₅₀s against these enzymes were amongst the lowest of the quinolones [72]. Sitafloxacin was equipotent with gatifloxacin and sparfloxacin, and more active than levofloxacin and ofloxacin, when tested against Mtb -MICs at which 90% of strains of Mtb inhibited (MIC₉₀s) were ~ 0.2mcg/ml. No data appear to have been published for the activity of the compound against *M. tuberculosis* in vivo [82].

4.3. Gemifloxacin

Gemifloxacin is another quinolone for the treatment of respiratory infections [83]. The anti-TB potential of gemifloxacin appears to be limited. Gemifloxacin showed a MIC₉₀ value of 8mcg/ml, compared with 1mcg/ml for levofloxacin, trovafloxacin and gepafloxacin [61].

4.4. Gemifloxacin

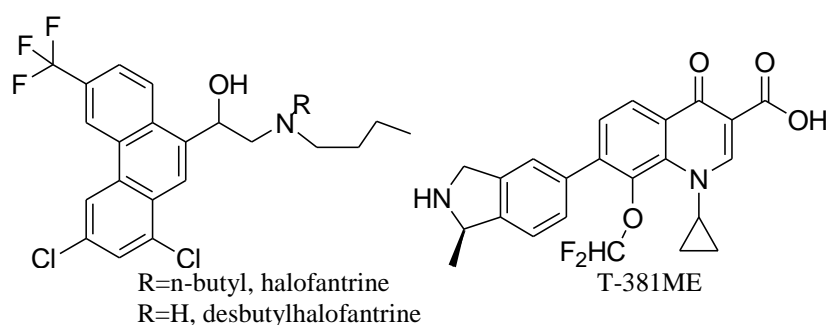
Gatifloxacin has been found to have in vitro and in vivo bactericidal activity against Mtb [77], [78]. Similar results were obtained when gatifloxacin was used in combination with INH or RIF: gatifloxacin was able to slightly increase the bactericidal activity of INH or RIF only during the first 2 days [78]. Thus, available data do not support the hypothesis that introduction of gatifloxacin in first-line regimen will impressively contribute to shorten TB treatment.

4.5. Moxifloxacin

Moxifloxacin is the most promising of the new FQs being tested against Mtb. In vitro, moxifloxacin appeared to kill a subpopulation of tubercle bacilli not killed by RIF, while the older FQs ciprofloxacin and ofloxacin did not have any significant bactericidal effect. One possibility is that moxifloxacin interferes with protein synthesis in slowly metabolising bacteria through a mechanism that differs from that used by RIF. In mouse models the activity of moxifloxacin against tubercle bacilli was comparable to that of INH [79]. Moreover, when used in combination with moxifloxacin and PZA, moxifloxacin has been reported to kill the bacilli more effectively than the INH+RIF+PZA combination [85], [87]. In vitro, moxifloxacin inhibitory activity of DNA gyrase is higher than ofloxacin but comparable to ciprofloxacin. In *S. pneumoniae*, moxifloxacin maintained clinically useful level of activity against bacterial strains that bore mutations in the QRDR region of *gyrA* genes, suggesting that MXF could target other key domains in the DNA-gyrase enzyme [87] complete culture conversion after 6 months of treatment [88]. Furthermore, no relapse was observed in mice treated for at least 4 months with the combination RIF's moxifloxacin-pyrazinamide, while mice treated with RIF-INH-PZA required 6 months of treatment before no relapse could be detected [89]. The authors explain the better activity of the rifampicin-moxifloxacin-PZA combination over the RIF-INH-PZA combination as the consequence of a possible synergism in the anti-TB activity of the three drugs RIF, moxifloxacin and PZA [90-92].

5. Mefloquine and analogues

The antimalarial drug mefloquine (a 4-aminoquinoline methanol), and several analogues, have been reported to have activity against a variety of bacteria including Mycobacterium [93]. From a series of quinolinemethanols obtained from WRAIR, two compounds, WR-3016 and WR-3017, showed potent inhibitory activity in vitro in the *M. avium* complex-1 (MAC) assay with MIC₅₀ values of 1 and 2 mcg/ml respectively, compared to 16µg/ml for mefloquine. However, these two compounds were not as active as the parent drug in an in vivo MAC assay. There is also interest in the anti-TB properties of the mefloquine analogue desbutylhalofantrine. This compound is in development for its antimalarial properties with the apparent advantage over the parent drug halofantrine of lower cardiotoxicity. In clinical trials, sufficient blood levels were reached to suggest that it would be effective in TB patients.



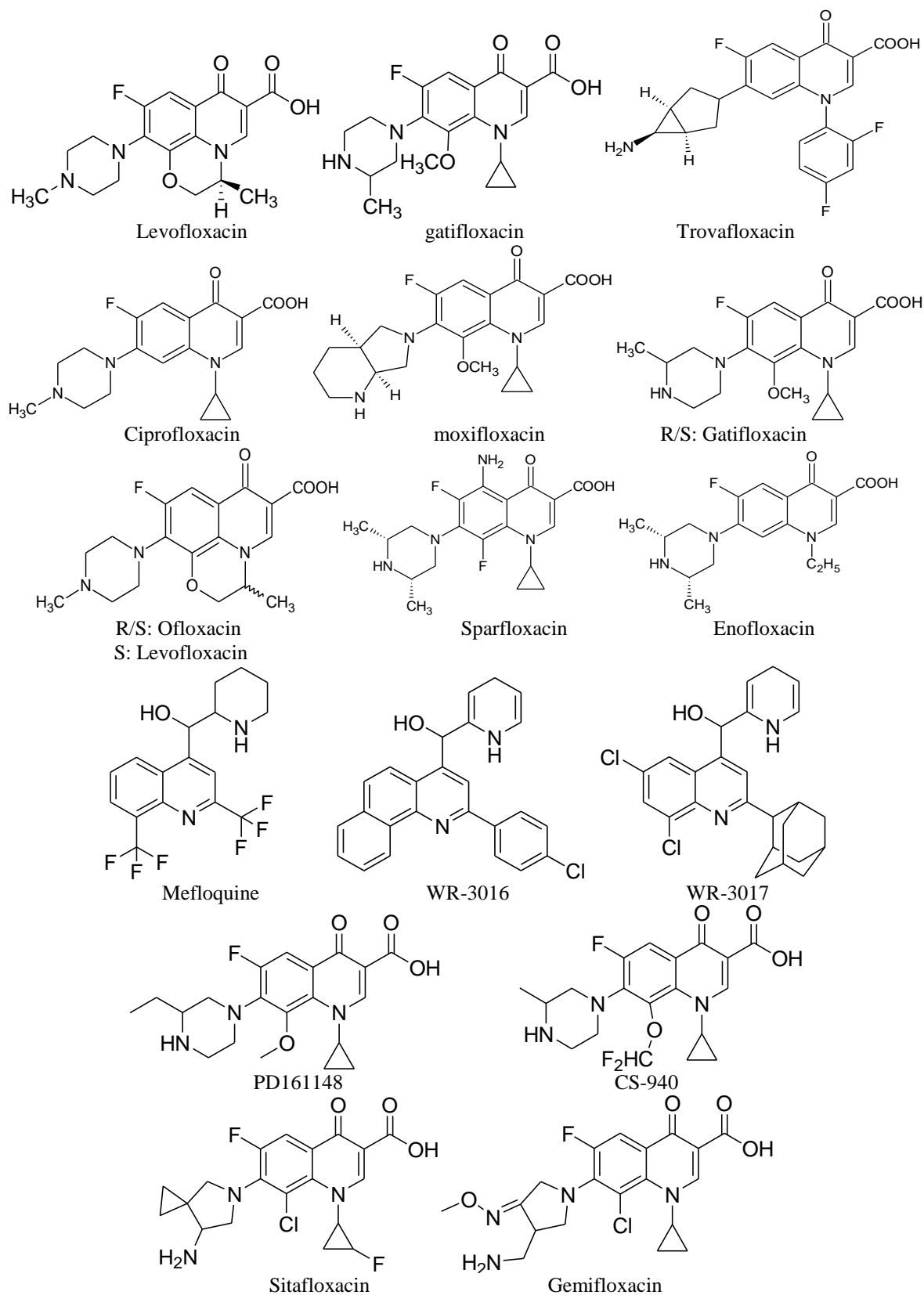


Fig. 1: Structures of Different Fluoroquinolones

6. Non-fluorinated quinolones

A series of 8-methoxy non-fluorinated quinolones (NFQs) have been developed. NFQs lack a 6-fluorine in their quinolone nucleus differentiating them from fluorinated quinolones such as gatifloxacin and moxifloxacin. NFQs target a broad spectrum of bacteria and they seem to act preferentially through inhibition of DNA gyrase [94]. NFQs are currently being tested against Mtb.

6.1. T-3811ME

T-3811ME is unique amongst the other broad-spectrum quinolones featured that it lacks the presence of a fluorine atom at the 6-position of the ring. Since the synthesis of norfloxacin, virtually all of the quinolones of interest have contained this structural feature. However, it shows similar broad spectrum and potent activity against bacteria as the best of the fluoroquinolones. Against ten strains of Mtb, T-3811ME has an MIC₉₀ value of 0.0625mcg/ml-comparable with ciprofloxacin and levofloxacin, and more active than trovafloxacin.

6.2. Diarylquinoline TMC207

Diarylquinoline TMC207 is an extremely promising member of a new class of anti-TB agents. Approximately 20 molecules of the diarylquinoline series have been shown to have a MIC below 0.5µg/ml against Mtb H37Rv. The most active compound of the class is TMC207 and its spectrum is unique to mycobacteria. The target and mechanism of action of diarylquinoline TMC207 is different from those of other anti-TB agents implying low probability of cross-resistance with existing-TB drugs. The diarylquinoline TMC207 is able to inhibit bacterial growth when tested on MDR-TB isolates. Diarylquinoline TMC207 seems to act by inhibiting the ATP synthase [95], leading to ATP depletion and pH imbalance. Moreover, diarylquinoline TMC207 has potent late bactericidal activity in the established infection in murine TB model. Substitution of RIF, INH or PZA with diarylquinoline TMC207 accelerated activity. In particular, the diarylquinoline- INH- PZA and diarylquinolinerifampicin-PZA combinations cleared the lungs of TB in all the mice after two months. Diarylquinoline TMC207 has been also tested in various combinations with the second line drugs amikacin, PZA, moxifloxacin and ethionamide in mice infected with the drug-susceptible virulent Mtb strain H37Rv. Diarylquinoline containing regimen were more active than the current recommended regimen for MDR-TB amikacin-PZA-moxifloxacin-ethionamide. A thorough assessment of diarylquinoline activity against MDR-TB in-vivo would however require testing of animal models infected with MDR bacterial strains.

In this direction, a series of 1-ethyl- and 1-aryl-6-fluoro-1,4-dihydroquinolin-4-one derivatives were evaluated for anti-TB and cytotoxic activities. Of these, once derivatives (1) exhibited the preeminent MIC of 1.56µg/mL against Mtb H37Rv and also a good selectivity index (SI=>40.06). Further, compound (1) also proved to be a potent anti-TB agent with an EC₉₀ value of 5.75µg/ml. Similarly, a number of fifty-one novel 1-(cyclopropyl/2,4-difluorophenyl/t-butyl)-1,4-dihydro-6-fluoro-7-(sub secondary amino)-4-oxoquinoline-3-carboxylic acids and found a potent anti-TB agent (2), which showed MIC of 0.09 µM against MTB and MDR-TB respectively. In the in vivo animal model (2) decreased the mycobacterial load in lung and spleen tissues with 2.53- and 4.88-log₁₀ protections respectively at a dose of 50 mg/kg body weight [96].

Recently, new quinolone antibacterial agents were observed for their potency against certain types of mycobacterial species in in vitro tests and in experimental animals. With this motivation, a series of pyridobenzoxazine derivatives by replacement of the N-methylpiperazinyl group of Levofloxacin with various basic substituents to investigate the structure-activity relationships between anti-TB activities and basic substituents at the C-10 position. Among the compounds, compound (3), which was a 2,8-diazabicyclo[4.3.0]nonanyl derivative with relatively low lipophilicity, showed the most potent activity against mycobacterial species: the activity was 4- to 32-fold more potent than that of levofloxacin. These results suggested that an increase in the lipophilicity of levofloxacin analogues in part contributed to enhancement of anti-TB activities but that lipophilicity of the compound was not a critical factor affecting the potency [97]. While in the investigation of potency against *M. kansasii* levofloxacin showed MIC in the range of 0.12-0.25 µg/ml while Moxifloxacin showed the range of MIC=≤0.06-0.12 µg/mL. Inspired with the above activity profile of quinolones, a series of Lamivudine prodrugs bearing FQs (4) were evaluated their efficacy against Mtb H37Rv. All the compounds exhibited an inhibition of 92-100% at a concentration of 6.25µg/ml. While in ciprofloxacin derivatives, one compound (5) showed in vivo anti-TB activity by reducing the bacterial load in spleen tissue with 0.76-log₁₀ protections and was considered to be moderately active in reducing bacterial count in spleen [98,99]. In continuation, Gatifloxacin derivatives and found a more potent compound (6) in comparison to compound (5). In the in vivo animal model compound (6) decreased the bacterial load in lung and spleen tissues with 3.62- and 3.76-log₁₀ protections, respectively. With this motivation, he was able to find out a most potent molecule (7) which decreased the bacterial load in lung and spleen tissues with 2.42- and 3.66-log₁₀ protections, respectively, at 25 mg/kg body weight [100,101]. Contrarily, 7-[4-(5-amino-1, 3, 4 thiadiazole-2-sulfonyl)]-1-piperazinyl fluoroquinolonic derivatives (8), showed moderate anti-TB activity at MIC of 10 µg/mL compared to INH [102].

In another approach, 3-unsubstituted 4-hydroxyquinolin-2(1H)-one potency against Mtb H37Rv, one compound (9) showed moderate activity of MIC 3.125 µg/mL [103]. Surprisingly, the series of 1-hydroxy-3-oxo-5, 6-dihydro-3H-pyrrolo [3, 2, 1-ij] quinoline-2-carboxylic acid hetarylamides exhibited excellent activity (MIC=0.39-6.25 µg/mL) in comparison to (9). The most active compound (10) showed MIC of 0.39µg/mL against Mtb H37Rv [104]. Whereas, the effect of nitro substitution on quinoline ring, a series of 2-(sub)-3-fluoro/nitro-5,12-dihydro-5-oxobenzothiazolo[3, 2-a]quinoline-6-carboxylic acid derivatives were evaluated for in-vitro and in-vivo anti-TB activities against Mtb H37Rv, MDR-TB, and *M. smegmatis* (MC2), and also tested for the ability to inhibit the supercoiling activity of DNA gyrase from *M. smegmatis*. Among the thirty-four compounds, 2-(3-(diethylcarbamoyl)piperidin-1-yl)-3-fluoro-5,12-

dihydro-5-oxobenzo thiazolo [3,2-a]quinoline-6-carboxylic acid (11) was found to be the most active compound with MIC of 0.18 and 0.08 μM against MTB and MDR-TB, respectively. In the in-vivo animal model (11) decreased the bacterial load in lung and spleen tissues with 2.78 and 3.12- log₁₀ protections, respectively, at the dose of 50 mg/kg body weight [105-107]. In another investigation, 6-nitroquinolone (12) was also found to be the most active compound in vitro with MIC of 0.08 and 0.16 μM against MTB and MDR-TB, respectively. In the in vivo animal model (12) decreased the bacterial load in lung and spleen tissues with 2.78 and 4.15-log₁₀ protections, respectively, at the dose of 50 mg/kg body weight [108]. In an effort to increase the potency of quinolones, a series of [1], [2], [3] Triazolo[4,5-h]quinolones were evaluated their anti-TB activity against Mtb H37Rv and further 11 clinically isolated strains of Mtb endowed with different drug resistance. Among all, compound (13) exhibited best activity against all strains with a MIC of 0.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ [109]. Whereas in another series of [1,2,3]Triazolo[4,5-h] quinolones, Compounds (14) and (15) exhibited better potency of MIC in the range 0.125-16.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ against H37Rv and 11 clinical isolates of MDR-TB. These results showed that [1], [2], [3]-triazolo[4,5-h] quinolones were endowed with an excellent activity against MDR-TB strains with no cytotoxicity [110].

In the process of investigating novel quinolones as anti-TB agents, many derivatives of quinolones were screened for their in vitro efficacy against MTB and MDR-TB. The most potent (in vitro) compound of the series was screened for in vivo potency too. Compound (16) exhibited MIC₉₉ of 0.19 μM and 0.09 μM against MTB and MDR-TB, respectively and decreased the bacterial load in lung and spleen tissues with 1.91 and 2.91-log₁₀ protections, respectively, in the in vivo animal model at a dose of 50 mg/kg body weight [105-107]. Compound (17) decreased the bacterial load in lung and spleen tissues with 2.54 and 2.92-log₁₀ protections [111], while (18) decreased the bacterial load by 30% and 42%, respectively, at a dose of 50 mg/kg body weight [105-107]. In an effort to increase the antitubercular potency of quinolones,

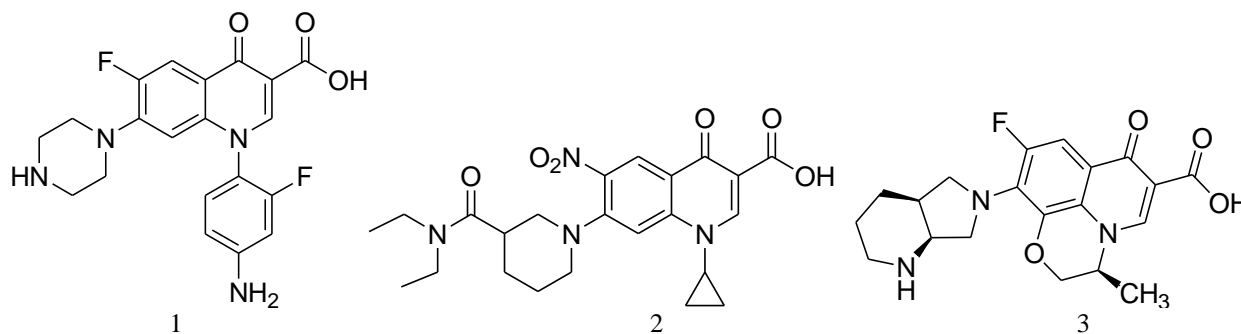
1-(cyclopropyl/2,4-difluorophenyl/tert-butyl)-1,4-dihydro-8-methyl-6-nitro-4-oxo-7-(substituted-secondary-amino)quinoline-3-carboxylic acids. The most active compound (19) of the series showed MIC of 0.42 μM and 0.09 μM against MTB and MDR-TB respectively [112]. While in an another series, 7-(3-(diethylcarbamoyl)piperidin-1-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1, 4-dihydro-4-oxoquinoline-3-carboxylic acid (20) exhibited promising MIC of 0.09 μM against MTB and MDR-TB respectively. In the in vivo animal model [20] also decreased the mycobacterial load in lung and spleen tissues with 2.53- and 4.88-log₁₀ protections respectively at a dose of 50 mg/kg body weight [108]. With the same motivation, de Moxifloxacin and Gatifloxacin derivatives and evaluated against Mtb H37Rv (MTB). The most active compound (21) exhibited a MIC of 0.31 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ [113]. Thus, developing quinolones as anti-TB agents is a worthy approach.

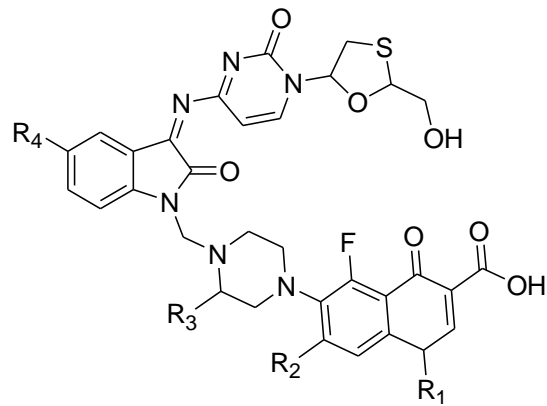
7. Quinoline and quinoxaline derivatives

The start point for the preparation of the quinoline derivatives to be evaluated against TB were quinoline based malaria drugs, such as quinine, chloroquine, mefloquine, primaquine, and amodiaquine which possessed moderate biological activity against TB. In addition, identification of new promising quinoline based anti-TB agents, 2, 8- dicyclopentyl-4-methylquinoline (DCMQ) [114] and Diarylquinoline (TMC207) [115] have definitely initiated the optimization of quinoline for antitubercular drugs. In this concern, 1-(5-isoquinolinesulfonyl)-2-methylpiperazine (22), a protein kinase inhibitor for its anti-TB profile and found to inhibit the growth of two different mycobacterial strains, the slow-growing *M. bovis* Bacille Calmette Guerin (BCG) and the fast-growing saprophyte *M. smegmatis* mc2 155, in a dose-dependent manner. While screening for the effect of kinase inhibitors on mycobacterial growth, millimolar concentrations of (22) induced a 40% decrease in the growth of *M. bovis* BCG when measured as a function of oxidative phosphorylation. This 1-induced decrease in growth was shown to involve a 2-log fold decrease in the viable counts of *M. smegmatis* within a 48h period and a 50% reduction in the number of BCG viable counts within a 10-day period. Micromolar concentrations of (22) induced a significant decrease in the activity of the *M. tuberculosis* protein serine/threonine kinase (PSTK) PknB. The inhibition of mycobacterial growth as well as the inhibition of a representative *M. tuberculosis* protein serine/threonine kinase PknB suggests that conventional PSTK inhibitors can be used to study the role that the mycobacterial PSTK family plays in controlling bacterial growth [116]. A series of quinolinyl hydrazones and majority of the tested compounds showed an inhibitory activity between 95 and 100%. The most potent compounds of the series (23a-c) were having a MIC of 0.78 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$. These results indicated that the activity was significantly affected by substituents both on the quinoline nucleus and hydrazinoic moiety. On quinoline nucleus the most effective substituents resulted were 6-cyclohexyl, 7-methoxy or ethoxy and 7-chloro groups. Similarly, for the hydrazinoic moiety greater effectiveness resulted for para and ortho-methoxynaphthyl substituents whereas disubstitution with chlorine resulted in inactive compounds [117]. Inspired with the activity profile of DCMQ, four new series of the ring-substituted quinolinecarbohydrazides, of these 3-quinolinehydrazides and N2-alkyl/N2,N2-dialkyl/N2-aryl-4-(1-adamantyl)-2-quinolinecarboxamides showed moderate activity of MIC in the range of 6.25-3.125 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ against *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv. The most active compounds (24a and 24b) were exhibited MIC value 3.125 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ [118]. Whereas, some quinoline derivatives based on TMC207 and a molecule (25) was active with MIC value 3.12 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ [119]. With the same interest, 3-benzyl-6-bromo-2-methoxy-quinolines and amides of 2-[(6-bromo-2-methoxy-quinolin-3-yl)-phenylmethyl]-malonic acid monomethyl ester, four compounds (26a-d) were showed moderate activity of MIC 6.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ against *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv [120]. Most recently, a series of substituted quinolinyl and substituted quinolinyl pyrimidines were evaluated for their in-vitro anti-TB activity against *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv.

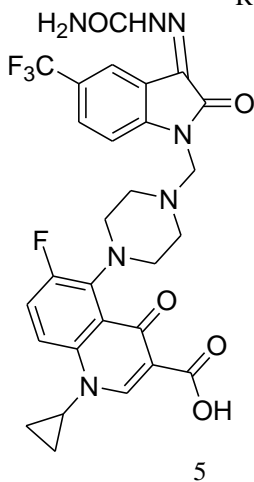
Among both the series, compounds (27a and 27b) have shown anti-TB activity of MIC 3.12 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ and were nontoxic against VERO, MBMDM cell lines [121]. The anti-TB potential of NAS-91 (28) and has multiple targets, which is particularly desirable for avoiding the emergence of resistant strains of *M. tuberculosis*. Therefore, NAS-91 represents a potent pharmacophore and appears to be a promising lead compound for future inhibitor development against TB [122]. The quinoline-3-carbohydrazone derivatives were screened for their anti-TB efficacy. Among all, two compounds (29a and 29b) have shown promising activity with a MIC 0.625, 2.5 and 1.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ against *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv, *M. smegmatis* and *M. fortuitum* respectively. These compounds have shown almost equal potency similar to that of standard rifampicin [123]. Whereas in the series of 4-quinolylhydrazones, the most active compound (30) displayed an anti-TB activity of MIC 0.6 μM and selectivity index 2.27 [124].

In a similar approach, 7-chloro-4-quinolylhydrazone derivatives and found three molecules (31a-c) with a moderate anti-TB activity with a MIC 2.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$. These compounds were found to be nontoxic against J774 cell line up to the concentration 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ [125]. In search of novel potent quinoline derivatives, quinoline derivatives consisting of triazolo, ureido and thioureido substituents at C-6 position, of these, ureido derivative (32a) and triazolo derivative (32b) have shown moderate activity of MIC 3.125 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ against *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv [126]. With the same motivation, a series of amino acid conjugates of 4-(adamantan-1-yl) group containing quinolines. The most active nontoxic compound (33) of the series exhibited increased potency of 1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ against *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv and 3.125 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ against drug-resistant strain, in comparison to former molecules (32a and 62b) [127]. In the same direction of approach, quinoline-based derivatives were evaluated for their anti-TB efficiency. Among all, compound (34) has shown remarkable activity of MIC 0.77 μM against *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv and 0.99-1.55 μM against drug-resistant strains [128]. In continuation the same group synthesized isoxazole based quinoline derivatives and found a lead molecule (35), which showed MIC of 0.2 μM and 2.6 μM in MABA and LORA assay against *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv [129]. Thus, optimization of quinolines for the development of anti-TB agents is a fruitful approach. The quinoxaline derivatives show very interesting antimicrobial properties and recently, some researchers have identified the anti-TB activities of various 2-methylquinoxaline 1,4-dioxides, confirming that the presence of a methyl (or halogenomethyl) group at 2(3) position of this ring (36a and 36b) is favourable for antimicrobial activity. In this context as contribution in the development of quinoxaline derivatives, a number of 6(7)-substituted-3-methyl- or 3-halogenomethyl-2-phenylthio-phenylsulphonyl-chloro-quinoxaline 1, 4-dioxides were screened for their in vitro anti-TB activity. Among all, two compounds (37a and 37b) exhibited great potency of MIC 0.39 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ against *M. tuberculosis*, which is comparable to Rifampicin (MIC=0.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$). In another series, four compounds (38a-d) have shown moderate activity of MIC 2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ [130]. In the series of quinoxaline derivatives, lack of 1, 4-dioxide showed reduction in the activity. Most active compound (39) showed MIC of 6.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ against MTB H37Rv and 0.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ against MTB H37Ra [131]. This prompted to continue the optimization of quinoxaline 1, 4-dioxide. Inspired with the activity profile, a series of quinoxaline-2-carboxamide 1, 4-di-N-oxide derivatives and evaluated for their in vitro anti-TB activity against *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv [132]. Among all, compound (40a) exhibited best MIC of 0.78 μM , has a solubility problem, while compound (40b) having MIC of 3.13 μM has a best selectivity index (SI=>40.06). Same group also synthesized a series of quinoxaline 1,4-di-N-oxide derivatives by varying the 2-position and found that 2-methylquinoxaline 1,4-di-N-oxides (41a and 41b) were most active of the series with a MIC of 0.39, 0.78 μM respectively and also have better selectivity index (8.46, 20.43) [133]. The compound (41b) is also active against resistant strains of *M. tuberculosis* [134]. In another series, 2-benzyl-3-(methoxycarbonyl) quinoxaline 1, 4-dioxide (42) has shown best potency above all, with a MIC=0.10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ and selectivity index SI=470 [135]. A new series of 3-phenylquinoxaline 1, 4-di-N-oxide having selectivity against *M. tuberculosis* have been prepared and evaluated. 34 out of the 70 tested compounds showed an MIC value less than 0.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$, a value on the order of the MIC of rifampicin. Furthermore, 45% of the evaluated derivatives showed a good in vitro activity/toxicity ratio. The most active compound was 7-methyl-3-(4'-fluoro) phenylquinoxaline-2-carbonitrile 1, 4-di-N-oxide (43) (MIC <0.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ and SI >500) [136]. In conclusion, the potency, low cytotoxicity and selectivity of these compounds make them valid lead compounds for synthesizing new anti-TB agents. These results prompted for optimization of other quinolone antibacterials to be investigated as anti-TB.

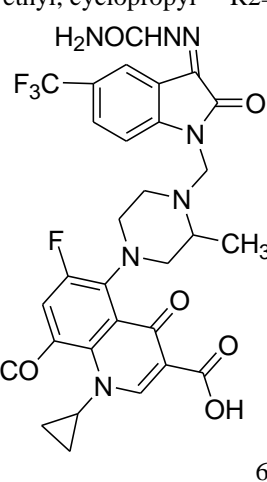




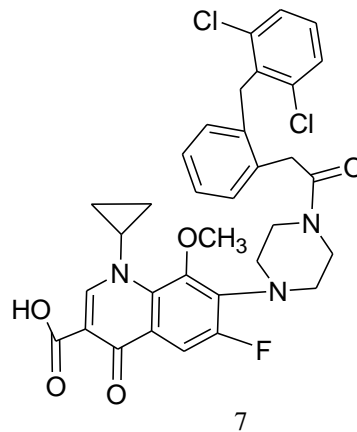
R1= ethyl, cyclopropyl R2=H, OCH3 R3=H, CH3 R4=H, Cl, F



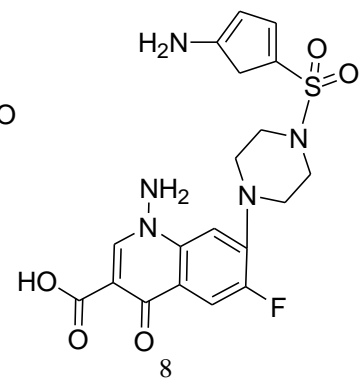
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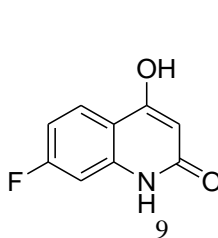
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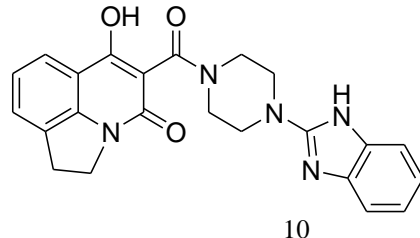
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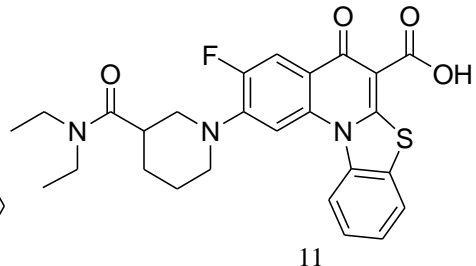
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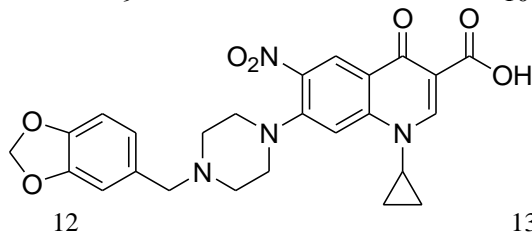
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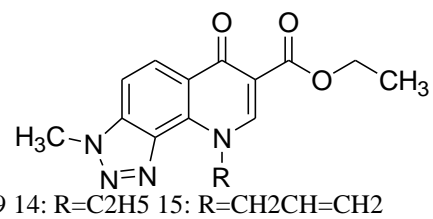
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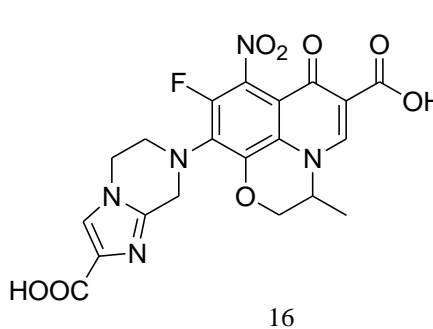
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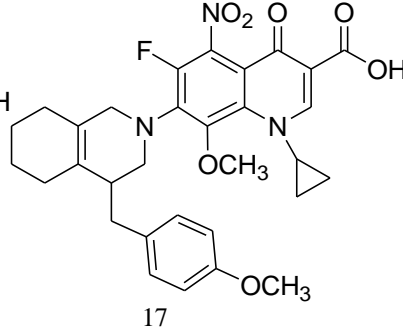
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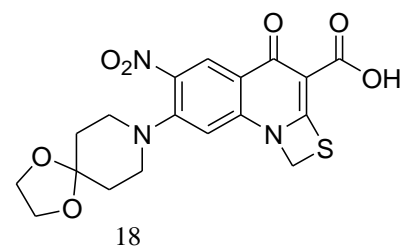
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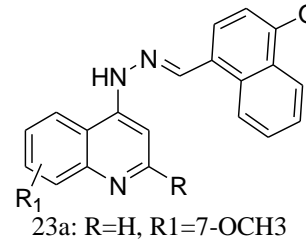
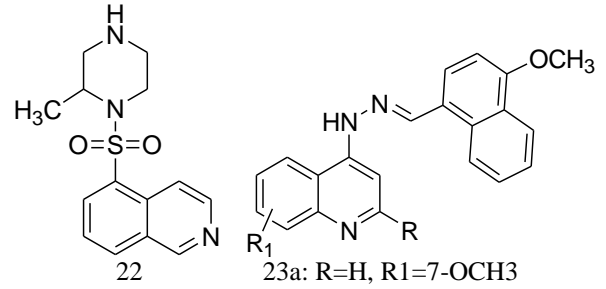
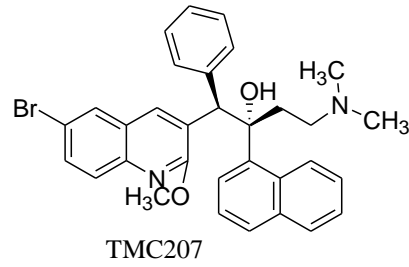
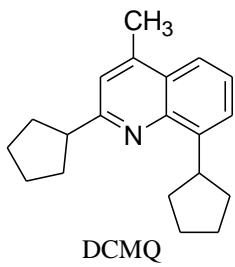
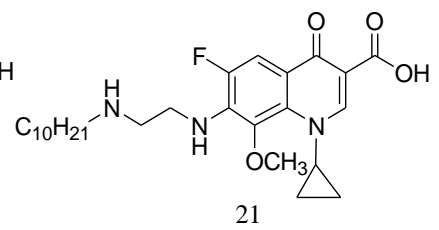
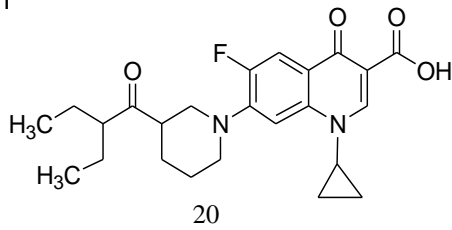
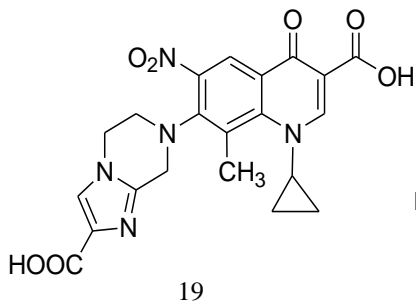
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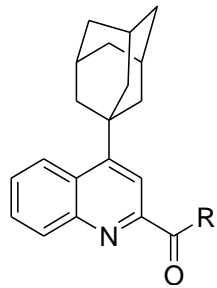
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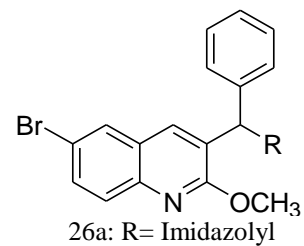
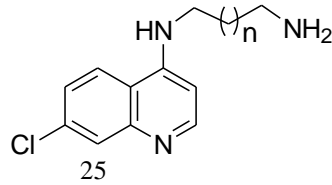
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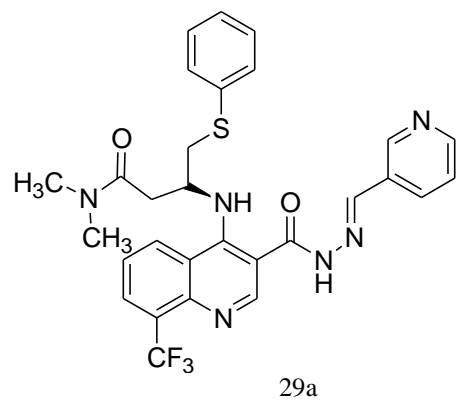
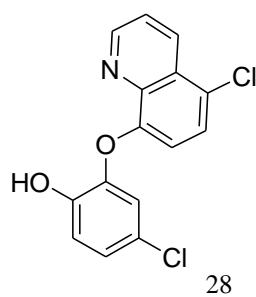
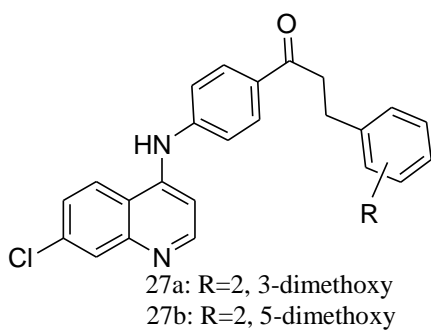
23b: R=CH3, R1=6-n.OC4H9
23c: R=CH3, R1=7-Cl

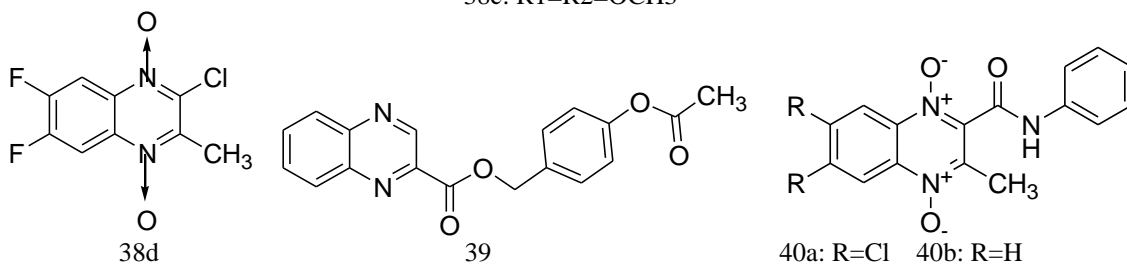
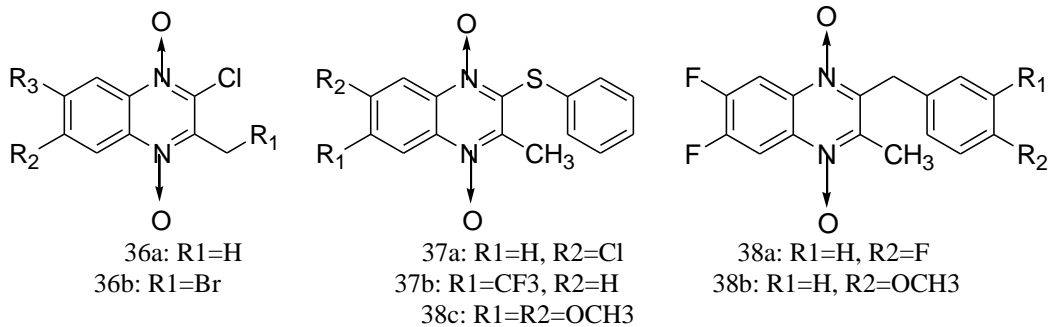
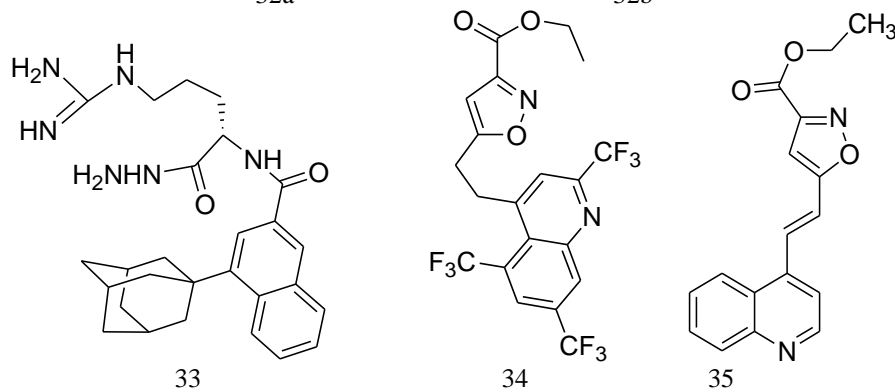
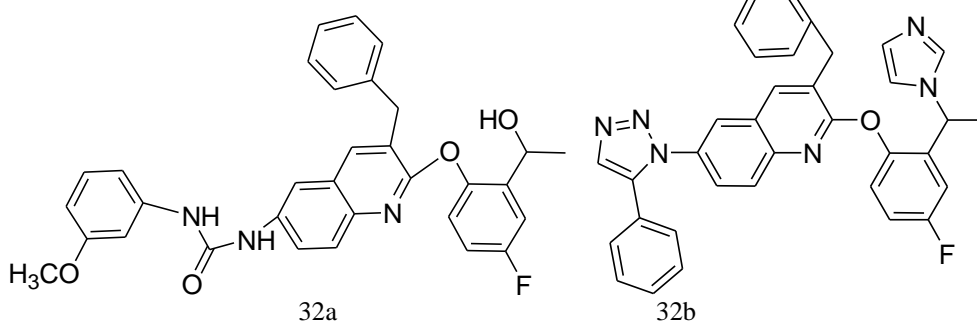
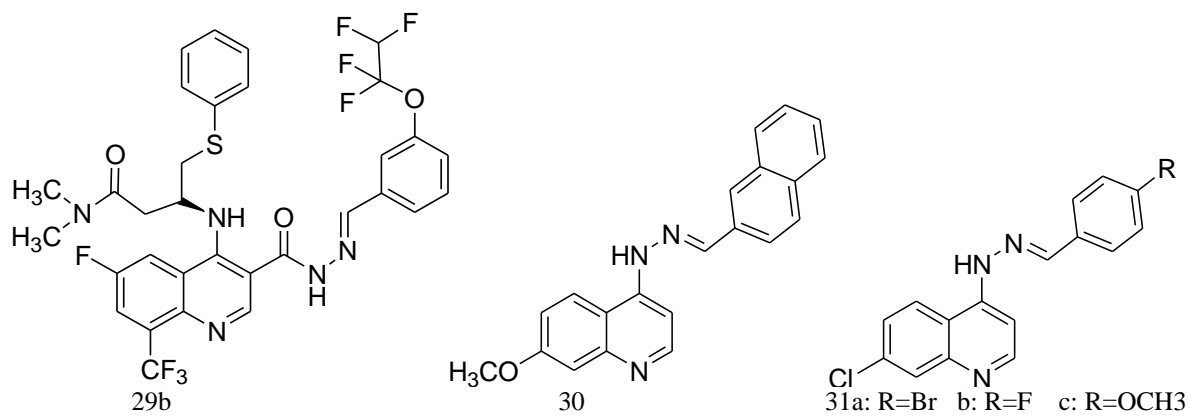


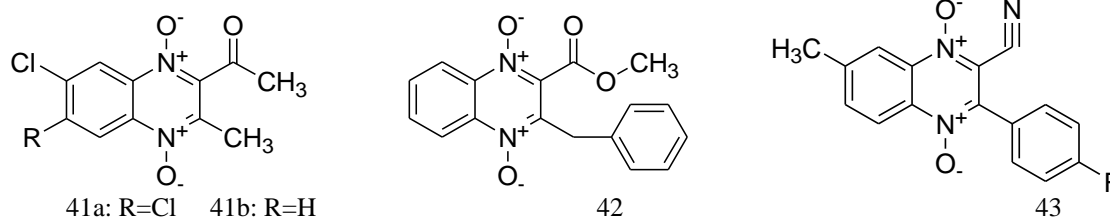
24b: R= Phenyl methaminy
26c: R=Pyrazolyl
26d: R=6-Amino-chromen-2-one



26b: R=C-(Thiophen-2-yl)-methylamine







8. Discussion

The current molecules in this series will have mainly been selected for further development on the basis of broad-spectrum antimicrobial efficacy in short-term treatment regimens. However, for TB chemotherapy it would be beneficial to progress representatives of the series which have a more selective action on mycobacteria at the expense of other microbes. This would help avoid the undesirable effect of severely depleting the beneficial gut fauna. Another approach to identifying a more appropriate anti-TB quinolone would be to select those members of the series concentrating in lung tissues. It would be highly desirable to compare all potential candidates for further progression in a standard series of tests - e.g. efficacy, ADME, toxicity studies in mice, in vitro tests v quinolone-sensitive and -resistant strains of *M. tuberculosis*. The side-effects of the quinolones- particularly the newer fluoroquinolones [137] are phototoxicity, neurotoxicity, and drug-drug interactions (possibly caused by the affinity of these compounds for cytochrome P450). Less frequently observed problems include renal, hepatic and cardiac toxicity. Since the treatment regimens for TB therapy are likely to be longer than for most other bacterial diseases, it is a cause of some concern that these toxicities might occur more frequently and blight a drug marketed for both TB and more commercially attractive diseases [138-142]. Consequently, the selection of a mycobacterial-disease specific drug is attractive despite the additional costs of developing this as a new chemical entity. During quinolone therapy, resistant organisms emerge with a frequency, especially among staphylococci and pseudomonas. Resistance is due to one or more point mutations in the quinolone binding region of the target enzyme or to a change in the permeability of the organism. DNA gyrase is the primary target in *E. coli*, with single-step mutants exhibiting amino acid substitution in the A subunit of gyrase. Topoisomerase IV is a secondary target in *E. coli* that is altered in mutants expressing higher levels of resistance. In staphylococci and streptococci, the situation is reversed: topoisomerase IV is usually the primary target, and gyrase is the secondary target. Resistance to one fluoroquinolone, particularly if of high level, generally confers cross-resistance to all other members of this class. With the increasing use of fluoroquinolones for a variety of infections, including respiratory tract infections, fluoroquinolone resistance has emerged among strains of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* [143-150].

9. Conclusion

Moreover, the opportunistic TB infection due to AIDs and emergence of drug resistant TB strains has made its chemotherapeutic strategies increasingly ineffective. Traditionally, it has relied heavily on a limited number of drugs such as isoniazid, rifampicin, ethambutol, streptomycin, ethionamide, pyrazinamide, etc. However, many of these drugs have different disadvantages such as prolonged treatment schedules, host toxicity, ineffectiveness against resistant strains etc. This has motivated for the search of new chemical prototypes capable of rapid mycobactericidal action with shortened duration of therapy, reduced toxicity and enhanced activity against drug resistant strains and also against the latent bacteria for its control. In spite of the availability of various chemotherapeutic agents, TB remains a leading infectious killer worldwide. This is mainly due to the lack of new drugs, particularly for effective treatment against the spread of MDR-TB and XDR-TB strains. Therefore, there is an urgent need for the development of new anti-TB drugs with lesser side-effects, improved pharmacokinetic properties to be effective against both the Gram positive and Gram negative bacteria including the resistant strains. More importantly, the newly developed drugs are required to reduce the overall duration of treatment. It is also important to note that while we pursue the development of new drugs based on inhibition of bacterial targets. In recent years, efforts are being made to develop new molecules based on different scaffolds that act on a number of drug targets. Hence, new molecules that are active against cell wall targets could provide valuable therapeutic options for the therapeutic application including drug resistance. It was also recommended that the family of antibacterial quinolones be further studied in the discovery research phase in an attempt to identify molecules with greater anti-TB potential than current candidates which have been discussed specifically in this report.

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