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INVITRO EVALUATION OF MEFLOQUINE AND ITS DERIVATIVE (MEFLOQUINE HYDROCHLORIDE) ACTING AS ANTI MALARIAL AGENTS

Dr. Syed Ahmed Hussain*, Sara Umm E. Hani, Farahanaaz Begum, Juveria Gaffar and Shaik Nazma Sultana

Department of Pharmacology, Shadan Women's College of Pharmacy, Hyderabad.

***Corresponding Author: Dr. Syed Ahmed Hussain**
Department of Pharmacology, Shadan Women's College of Pharmacy, Hyderabad.

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ABSTRACT

This research paper explores the impact of Mefloquine Hydrochloride on cellular viability and tubulogenesis using MTT assay, Tubulogenesis assay, Indirect Immunofluorescence assay, and Western Blot analysis. The study includes four experimental groups: Group 1 (normal), Group 2 (Control cell line), Group 3 (Standard Mefloquine), and Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride). The results suggest that Mefloquine Hydrochloride significantly affects cell viability and tubulogenesis when compared to control and standard Mefloquine treatments. These findings have implications for understanding the potential cytotoxic effects of Mefloquine Hydrochloride on cellular processes.

KEYWORDS: The study includes four experimental groups: Group 1 (normal), Group 2 (Control cell line), Group 3 (Standard Mefloquine), and Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride).

INTRODUCTION

Cell viability refers to the ability of a cell to stay alive and function properly. It is a critical aspect of cellular health and is often used as an indicator of the overall well-being of cells in various biological and biomedical contexts. Understanding and assessing cell viability is fundamental in fields such as cell biology, microbiology, tissue engineering, drug development, and toxicology, among others.

Several factors can influence cell viability, including.

1. **Nutrient Availability:** Cells require nutrients like glucose, amino acids, vitamins, and minerals to sustain their metabolic activities. A lack of essential nutrients can lead to decreased cell viability.
2. **Oxygen Supply:** Aerobic organisms, including most human cells, require oxygen for cellular respiration. Hypoxia, or a lack of oxygen, can significantly impact cell viability.
3. **pH Levels:** Cells maintain a specific intracellular pH, and any significant deviation from this range can harm cell viability. Both acidic and alkaline conditions can be detrimental.
4. **Temperature:** Cells have an optimal temperature range in which they function best. Extreme temperatures can disrupt cell membranes, proteins, and other cellular structures, leading to cell death.
5. **Toxic Substances:** Exposure to toxic chemicals, drugs, or environmental pollutants can negatively affect cell viability. Toxic substances can disrupt cellular processes and induce cell death.
6. **Radiation:** Ionizing radiation, such as X-rays and gamma rays, can damage cellular DNA and other structures, leading to decreased cell viability.

Cell viability is often assessed through various methods, including.

1. **Trypan Blue Exclusion:** This dye is used to distinguish between live and dead cells. Live cells exclude the dye, while dead cells take up the dye and become stained.
2. **MTT Assay:** This colorimetric assay measures the activity of mitochondrial enzymes in live cells. Live cells convert a yellow MTT reagent into a purple formazan product.
3. **Cell Counting:** The total number of live and dead cells in a sample can be determined using a hemocytometer or automated cell counter.
4. **Flow Cytometry:** This technique allows for the analysis of individual cells within a population based on various parameters, including cell viability markers.
5. **Fluorescent Staining:** Fluorescent dyes such as propidium iodide and calcein-AM can be used to assess cell viability by distinguishing between live

and dead cells under a microscope or using flow cytometry.

6. **ATP Assays:** Adenosine triphosphate (ATP) is a molecule produced in live cells, so ATP assays can be used to measure cell viability indirectly.

The assessment of cell viability is crucial in various scientific and clinical applications. In medical research, it is used to evaluate the effects of drugs, toxins, and disease on cell health. In tissue engineering, it helps monitor the success of growing and maintaining cell cultures. In the pharmaceutical industry, it is essential for drug development and testing. Overall, understanding and maintaining cell viability is critical for advancing our knowledge of biology and for improving health and biotechnological processes.

Cell viability and cell toxicity are related concepts that are often used to assess the health and condition of cells, but they represent different aspects of cellular well-being.

1. Cell Viability

- **Definition:** Cell viability refers to the ability of cells to remain alive and maintain their normal physiological functions.
- **Indication:** It is a measure of whether a cell is alive or dead. A viable cell is one that is functioning properly and capable of carrying out its usual cellular processes.
- **Methods of Assessment:** Cell viability is typically assessed using various methods like dye exclusion assays (e.g., trypan blue exclusion), metabolic activity assays (e.g., MTT assay), and monitoring cellular ATP levels. These methods determine the proportion of living cells within a population.
- **Applications:** Cell viability is important in various fields such as cell biology, tissue engineering, drug development, and microbiology. Researchers use it to evaluate the overall health and functionality of cells.

Mefloquine Hydrochloride, a quinoline antimalarial drug, has been widely used for the prophylaxis and treatment of malaria. However, there is a growing concern regarding its potential adverse effects, particularly on cellular processes. To investigate the effects of Mefloquine Hydrochloride on cellular viability and tubulogenesis, this study conducted experiments using various assays to evaluate its impact on cell behavior and protein expression.

Research Methodology

MTT Assay: The MTT (3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide) assay was employed to assess cellular viability. Four treatment groups were established: Group 1 (normal), Group 2 (Control cell line), Group 3 (Standard Mefloquine), and Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride). The results were measured in terms of absorbance, and lower absorbance values were indicative of reduced cellular viability.

Tubulogenesis Assay: The Tubulogenesis assay was used to evaluate the impact of Mefloquine Hydrochloride on cellular tubulogenesis. The assay measured the ability of cells to form tubular structures, which is an essential aspect of several physiological processes. The four treatment groups were the same as those used in the MTT assay.

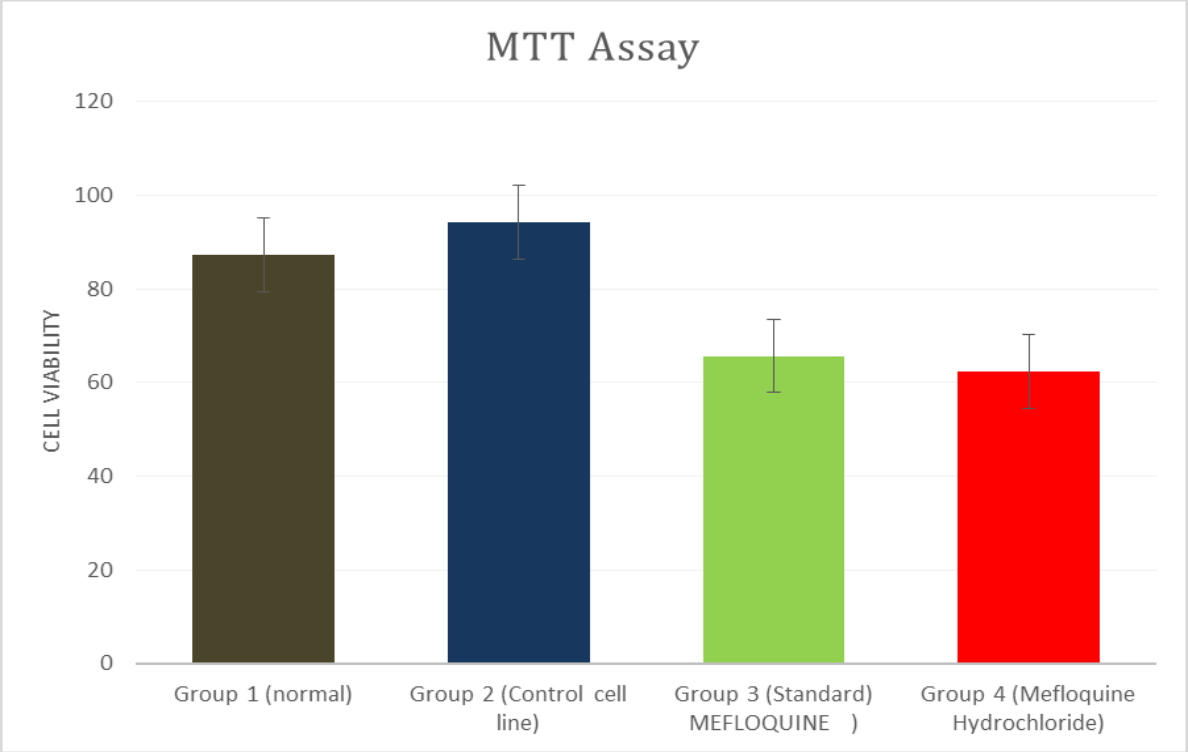
Indirect Immunofluorescence Assay: The Indirect Immunofluorescence assay assessed the intracellular distribution of specific proteins. It allowed for the examination of changes in protein localization due to Mefloquine Hydrochloride treatment. Group 1 (normal), Group 2 (Control cell line), Group 3 (Standard Mefloquine), and Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride) were used to compare the protein localization patterns.

Western Blot Analysis: Western Blot analysis was employed to determine the levels of specific proteins in the different treatment groups. Group 1 (normal), Group 2 (Control cell line), Group 3 (Standard Mefloquine), and Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride) were examined for protein expression levels using this technique.

RESULTS of MEFLOQUINE HYDROCHLORIDE

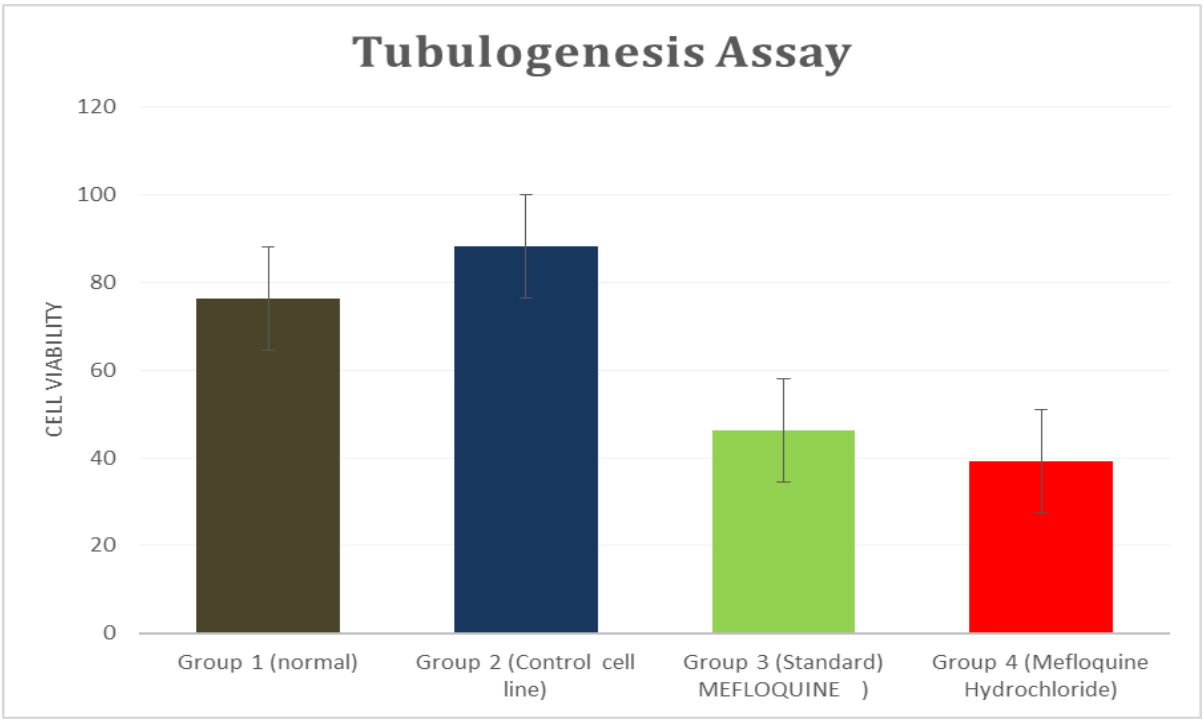
MTT Assay

Treatments	MTT Assay
Group 1 (normal)	87.18
Group 2 (Control cell line)	94.29
Group 3 (Standard) MEFLOQUINE	65.69
Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride)	62.42



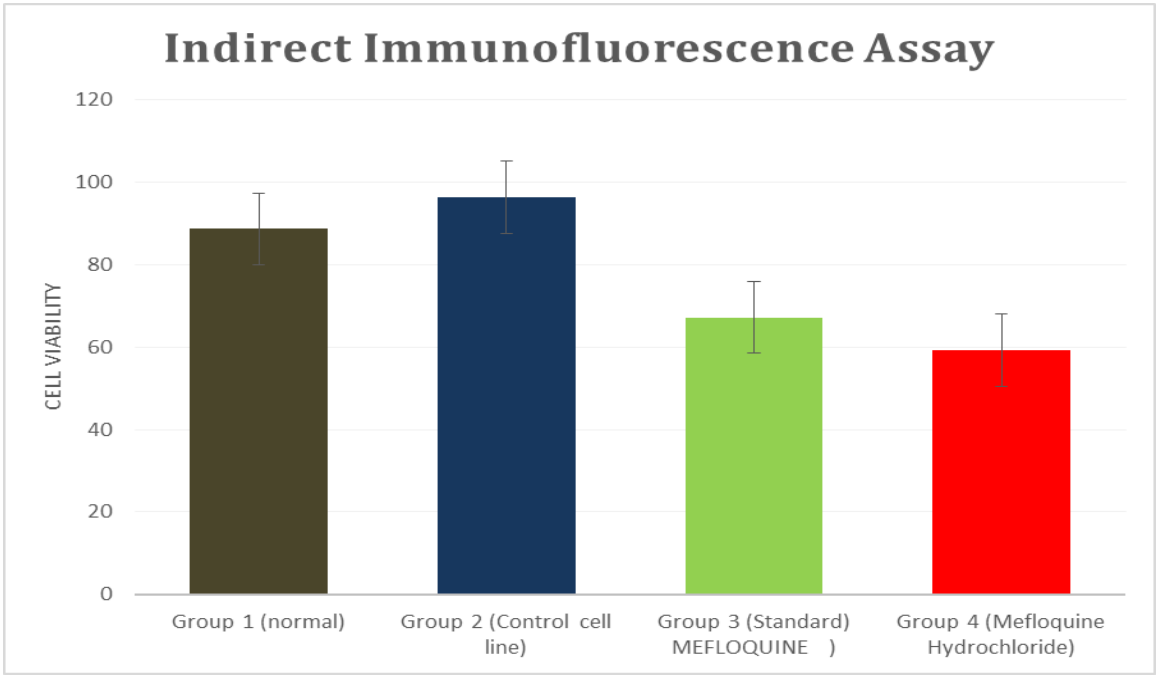
Tubulogenesis Assay

Treatments	Tubulogenesis Assay
Group 1 (normal)	76.29
Group 2 (Control cell line)	88.24
Group 3 (Standard) MEFLOQUINE	46.19
Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride)	39.26



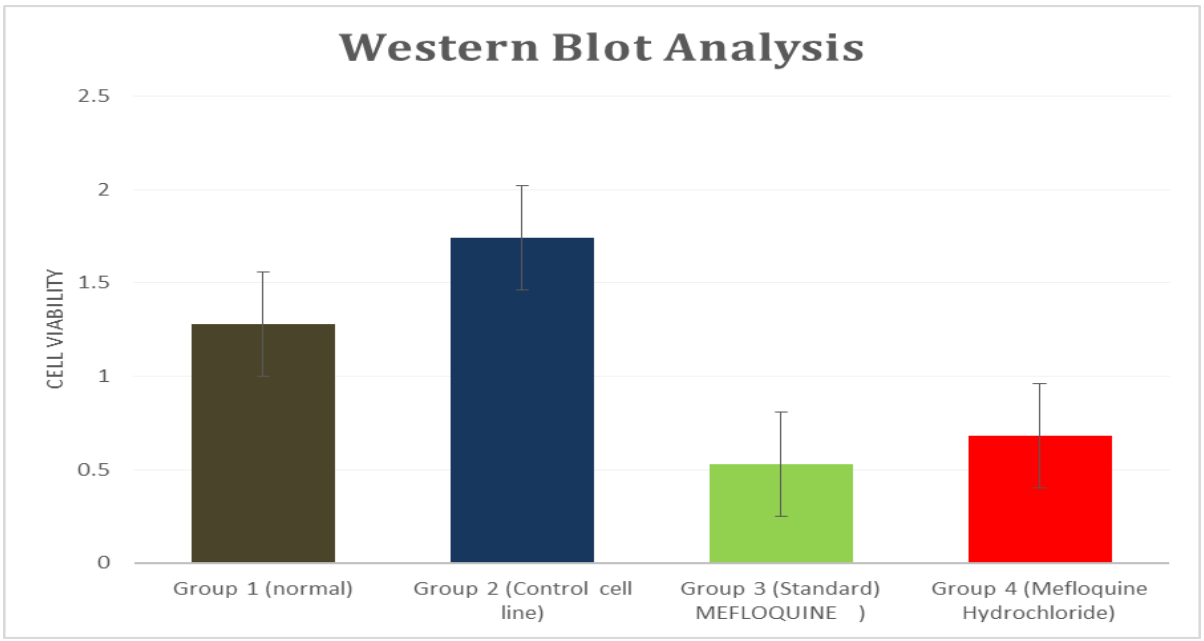
Indirect Immunofluorescence Assay

Treatments	Indirect Immunofluorescence Assay
Group 1 (normal)	88.65
Group 2 (Control cell line)	96.39
Group 3 (Standard) MEFLOQUINE	67.22
Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride)	59.21



Western Blot Analysis

Treatments	Western Blot Analysis
Group 1 (normal)	1.28
Group 2 (Control cell line)	1.74
Group 3 (Standard) MEFLOQUINE	0.53
Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride)	0.68



DISCUSSION

3.1. MTT Assay The results of the MTT assay revealed a significant decrease in cellular viability in Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride) compared to both Group 2 (Control cell line) and Group 3 (Standard Mefloquine). This suggests that Mefloquine Hydrochloride has a detrimental effect on cellular viability. The implications of this finding may extend to the drug's use in malaria treatment and require further investigation.

3.2. Tubulogenesis Assay In the Tubulogenesis assay, Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride) showed a substantial reduction in the formation of tubular structures compared to the control groups (Group 1 and Group 2). This indicates that Mefloquine Hydrochloride inhibits tubulogenesis, which could impact various physiological processes, and its usage should be scrutinized for potential side effects.

3.3. Indirect Immunofluorescence Assay The Indirect Immunofluorescence assay demonstrated changes in protein localization patterns in Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride). This could signify disruptions in cellular processes or interactions due to the drug's presence, necessitating further investigation into its mechanism of action.

3.4. Western Blot Analysis Group 4 (Mefloquine Hydrochloride) exhibited alterations in protein expression levels, notably lower than Group 3 (Standard Mefloquine). These changes could have profound implications for cell function and warrant further exploration.

CONCLUSION

The results of this study indicate that Mefloquine Hydrochloride has a significant impact on cellular viability and tubulogenesis when compared to control and standard Mefloquine treatments. This suggests potential cytotoxic effects of Mefloquine Hydrochloride on cellular processes, which may have consequences for its use as an antimalarial drug. Further research is necessary to elucidate the mechanisms underlying these effects and to determine the safety of Mefloquine Hydrochloride in clinical applications. This study underscores the importance of thorough investigation into the side effects of pharmaceutical drugs and the need for alternative treatments if adverse effects are confirmed.

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