

SYNTHESIS AND ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITY OF A NEW MANNICH BASE: 2, 3'-DIHYDROXY-3-PYRROLIDINOMETHYLCHALCONE

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ABSTRACT

Flavonoids form a family of well known natural products present in most of the plant families. The structural variations of the flavonoids are associated with different biological and pharmacological activities, including anticancer, antioxidant, antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral activity, beside cardiovascular and hepatic protection. The biological activity of Mannich bases is well known. In this study a flavonoid substituted by a Mannich side chain - 2,3'-dihydroxy-3-pyrrolidinomethylchalcone – has been synthesized by the Mannich reaction of 2,3'-dihydroxychalcone with pyrrolidine. The intermediate flavonoid - 2,3'-dihydroxychalcone-was synthesized by the reaction of 3-hydroxyacetophenone with salicylaldehyde. The flavonoid: 2,3'-dihydroxychalcone(I) and its Mannich base:2,3'-dihydroxy-3-pyrrolidinomethylchalcone(II) were evaluated for antimicrobial activity against six standard human pathogens. Compound (I) exhibited significant activity against all test organisms at 200 and 100mg/ml. It also showed significant activity at 50mg/ml against all test organism –except for *Bacillus subtilis*. At a concentration of 200mg/ml, compound (II) showed significant activity against all test organisms with the exception of *Bacillus subtilis*.

KEYWORDS: Synthesis, New Mannich base, Antimicrobial Activity.

INTRODUCTION

Flavonoids form a family of well known natural products present in most of the plant families. More than 8000 different flavonoids have been isolated from their natural source to date. The structural variations of these flavonoids are associated with many different biological and pharmacological activities, including anticancer activity, protection against cancer formation (chemo-protection), antioxidant activity, cardiovascular and hepatic protection, antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral activity. Flavonoids have also been reported to play an important role in hormone-related female diseases, such as breast cancer and menopausal syndrome. Natural flavonoids have therefore been subjected to many chemical modifications in order to improve their activity.^[1,2,3]

Flavonoids appear to provide defense against fungal infection.^[4] In addition to pollen germination, fertilization, and seed set, flavonoids also function in the attraction of animal pollinators.^[5,6] In plants, flavonoids are inducible and constitutive components of the defense mechanism against infection.^[7,8] Flavonoids have long been recognized to possess anti-inflammatory,

antioxidant, ant-allergic, antimicrobial and hepatoprotective properties.^[9-13]

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

Test organisms

The synthesized compounds were screened for antibacterial and antifungal activities using the standard microorganisms shown in Table (1).

Chemicals and Solvents

Analytical grade reagents (Table 2) were used. They were purchased from Sigma – Aldrich company (UK).

Instruments

The UV spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Lambda 2 UV-Visible Spectrophotometer. Infra red spectra were measured on a Perkin-Elmer1310 Infra red Spectrophotometer. ¹HNMR were recorded on EM-360 NMR Spectrophotometer. Mass spectra were measured on a Krates MS 80 RF Mass Spectrometer.

Table 1: Test organisms.

No	Micro organism	Type
1	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	G+ve
2	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	G+ve
3	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	G-ve
4	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	G-ve
5	<i>Aspergillusniger</i>	fungus
6	<i>Candida albicans</i>	fungus

Table 2: Chemicals and solvents.

No.	Chemical
1	Absolute ethanol
3	Formalin
7	Pyrrolidine
8	2-Hydroxyacetophenone
9	Salicylaldehyde

Methods

Synthesis protocols

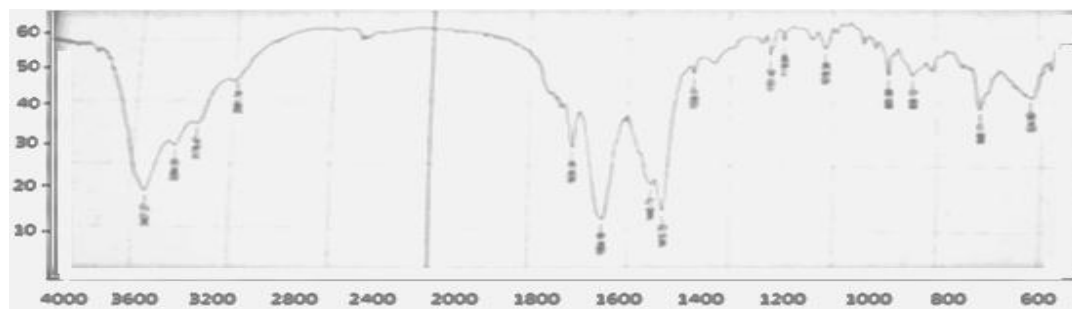
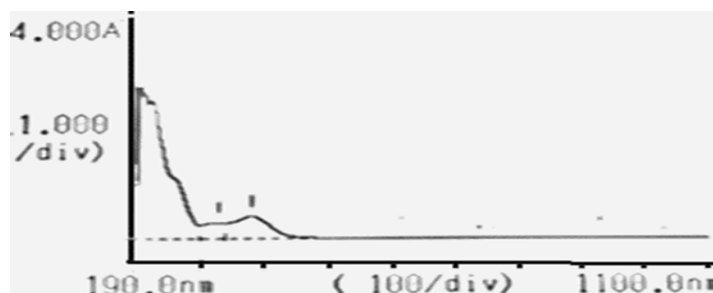
Synthesis of 2,3'-dihydroxychalcone(I)

3-Hydroxyacetophenone (2.72g, 20mmol) was added to salicylaldehyde (2.44g,20mmol) in 20% ethanolic sodium hydroxide (20ml). The mixture was stirred for 24 hours at room temperature and left overnight. Removal of the solvent under reduced pressure gave the product.

Synthesis of 2,3'-dihydroxy-3-pyrrolidinomethylchalcone (II)

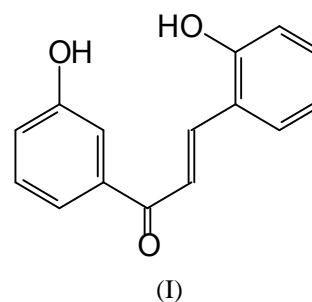
Formalin (0.8g,10mmol) was added dropwise with stirring to a mixture of compound (I) (2.39gm,10mmol) and pyrrolidine (1.7gm,10mmol) in absolute ethanol (10ml) at 0°C. The mixture was stirred for 1 hour and left overnight. Removal of the solvent in *vacuo* gave the product.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Fig. 1: IR spectrum of compound (I).****Fig. 2: UV spectrum of the compound.**

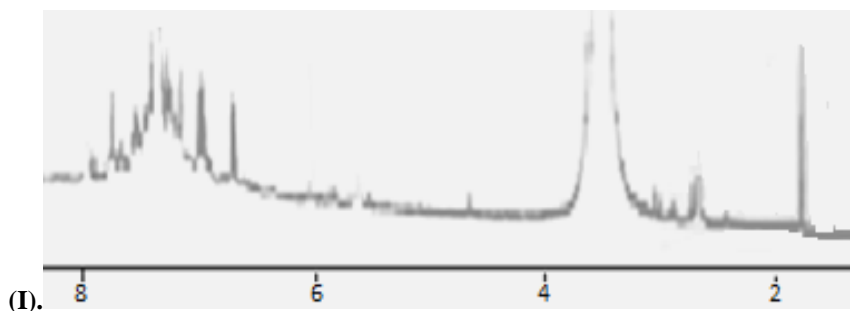
A Mannich base: 2,3'-dihydroxy-3-pyrrolidinomethylchalcone(II) has been synthesized via a Mannich reaction of 2,3'-dihydroxychalcone with pyrrolidine and formalin. The intermediate flavonoid: 2,3'-dihydroxychalcone(I) was synthesized by the reaction of 3-hydroxyacetophenone with salicylaldehyde. The structures of the Mannich base(II) and the intermediate flavonoid(I) have been characterized by spectral tools (UV,IR ,¹HNMR).

Compound I (2,3'-dihydroxychalcone)



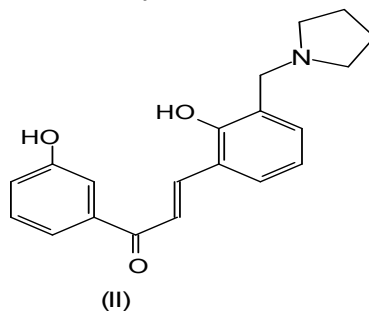
The IR spectrum of (I) (Fig. 1) gave ν (KBr) 646,808, 865 (C-H, Ar bending), 1413 (C=C Ar), 1664 (C=O) and 3427 (OH stretching). The UV spectrum of compound (I) showed (Fig.2) λ_{\max} (MeOH) 322,374 nm which is due to a carbonyl chromophore extended by phenyl and hydroxyl auxochromes.

The ¹HNMR spectrum of (I) gave(Fig.3) a signal at δ 3.45 assigned for two vinylic protons (overlapping the solvent (DMSO) residual water protons).The multiplet at δ 6.8 – 7.8 is due to the aromatic protons.The resonance at δ 2.50 is due to solvent residual protons.



(I). **Fig. 3: ^1H NMR spectrum of the compound (I).**

Compound II (2,3'-dihydroxy-3-pyrrolidinomethylchalcone)



The IR spectrum of (II) (Fig. 4) gave ν (KBr) 678,754,864 (C-H, Ar. bending), 1253 (C-N), 1482 (C=C, Ar), 1652 (C=O), and 3386 (OH stretching). The UV spectrum showed (Fig.5) λ_{max} (MeOH) 319nm which corresponded to a carbonyl chromophore extended by a phenyl and hydroxyl auxochromes.

The ^1H NMR spectrum of compound II showed (Fig.6) a resonance at δ 3.62 assigned for five methylene moieties. The aromatic protons resonated at δ 6.2, 7.1 and 7.2ppm. The mass spectrum (Fig. 7) gave the ion m/z 325 corresponding: $M^+ + 2$.

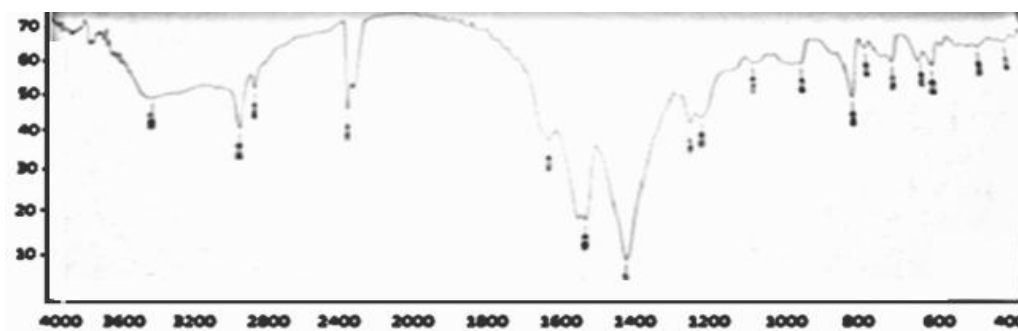


Fig. 4: IR spectrum of compound (II).

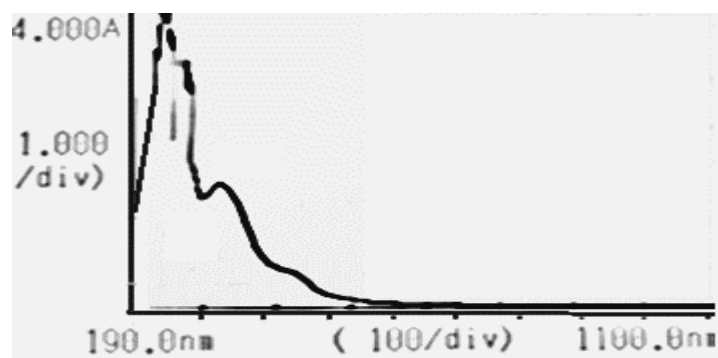


Fig. 5: UV spectrum of compound II.

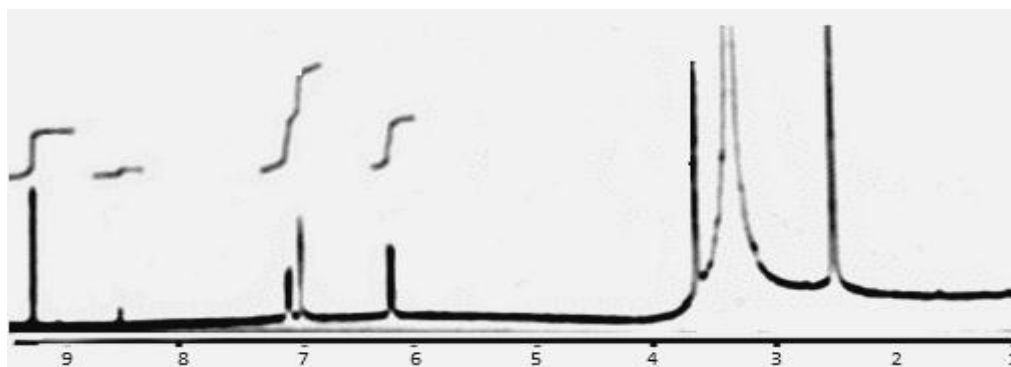
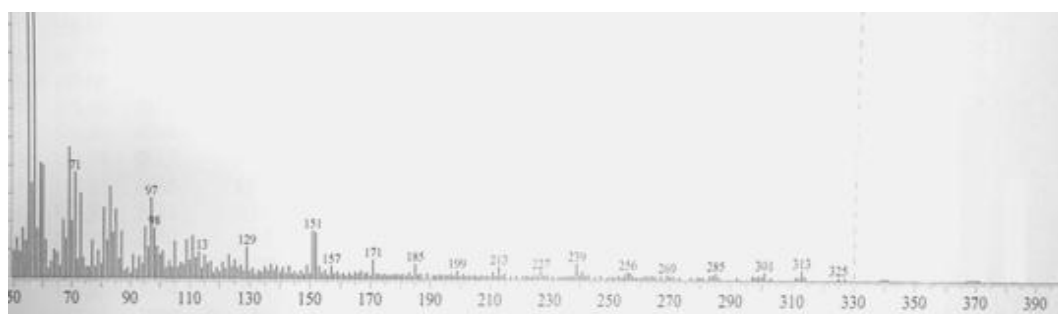
Fig. 6: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound (II).

Fig. 7: Mass spectrum of the compound (II).

Antimicrobial activity

The synthesized compounds (I and II) were screened for their antimicrobial activity against six standard human pathogens. The averages of the diameters of the growth inhibition zones are shown in Table (3). The results were interpreted in commonly used terms: less than 9mm (inactive); 9 -12mm (weak); 13-18 (active); more than 18 (very active). Tables (4) and (5) represent the antimicrobial activity of standard antibacterial and

antifungal chemotherapeutic agents against standard bacteria and fungi respectively.

Compound (I) exhibited significant activity against all test organisms at 200 and 100mg/ml. It also showed significant activity at 50mg/ml against all test organism – except for *Bacillus subtilis*. At a concentration of 200mg/ml, compound (II) showed significant activity against all test organisms with the exception of *Bacillus subtilis*.

Table 3: Inhibition zones (mm/mg sample) of compounds I and II.

Sample	Conc. mg/ml	Ec.	Pa.	Bs.	Sa.	Ca.	An.
Compound I	200	28	24	22	21	25	24
	100	25	21	20	19	23	22
	50	21	18	16	17	21	18
Compound II	200	17	17	15	17	20	17
	100	16	17	15	17	18	15
	50	16	16	14	16	16	14

Table 4: Inhibition zones (mm/mg sample) of standard antibacterial agents.

Drug	Conc. mg/ml	B.s.	S.a.	E.c.	P.a.
Ampicillin	40	15	30	-	-
	20	14	25	-	-
	10	11	15	-	-
Gentamicin	40	25	19	22	21
	20	22	18	18	15
	10	17	14	15	12

Table 5: Inhibition zones (mm/mg sample) of standard antifungal agent.

Drug	Conc. mg/ml	A.n	C.a
Clotrimazole	30	22	38
	15	17	31
	7.5	16	29

- S.a: *Staphylococcus aureus*
- E.c: *Escherichia coli*
- P.a: *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
- A.n: *Aspergillus niger*
- C.a: *Candida albicans*
- S.t: *Salmonella typhi*
- B.a: *Bacillus subtilis*

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