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# **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

# Synthesis and Biological Evaluation of Novel Hybrid Molecules Containing Purine, Coumarin and Isoxazoline or Isoxazole Moieties

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### Abstract:

#### Introduction:

The 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reactions of nitrile oxides formed *in situ* (in the presence of NCS and Et<sub>3</sub>N) from the oximes of (purin-9-yl)acetaldehyde or (coumarinyloxy)acetaldehyde with allyloxycoumarins or 9-allylpurines, respectively resulted in 3,5-disubstituted isoxazolines. The similar reactions of propargyloxycoumarins or 9-propargylpurines led to 3,5-disubstituted isoxazoles by treatment with PIDA and catalytic amount of TFA.

#### Methods:

The new compounds were tested in vitro as antioxidant agents and inhibitors of soybean lipoxygenase LO, AChE and MAO-B.

#### Results:

The majority of the compounds showed significant hydroxyl radical scavenging activity. Compounds 4k and 4n presented LO inhibitory activity.

# Conclusion:

Compound 13e presents an antioxidant significant profile combining anti-LO, anti-AChE and anti-MAO-B activities.

Keywords: Modified Homo-*N*-nucleosides, Purines, Coumarins, 1,3-dipolar Cycloaddition Reaction, Antioxidant activity, Anti-lipid peroxidation activity, Alzheimer's Disease.

# **1. INTRODUCTION**

Modified nucleosides [1, 2], coumarin derivatives [3 - 5], isoxazolines [6] and isoxazoles [7] represent classes of compounds with interesting broad range biological activities. Some modified nucleotides have been studied for the therapy of neurodegenerative disorders [8]. Coumarin derivatives have also been tested as acetylcholinesterase/ monoamine oxidase inhibitors for the treatment of Alzheimer's Desease [9, 10].

In continuation to our recent studies on hybrid molecules with purine and coumarin moieties [11 - 13], on coumarin

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derivatives [3, 14, 15] and on modified nucleosides [16, 17], we present here the synthesis of new conjugated molecules as modified nucleosides, combining the coumarin and purine moieties through isoxazolines or isoxazoles as spacers. The new compounds were investigated for their antioxidant profile [free radical scavengers, lipid peroxidation and lipoxygenase (LO) inhibitors] as well as for their activity to ChEs and MAO enzymes searching for multipotent compounds.

### 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

#### 2.1. Chemistry

Some characteristic syntheses and selected data are given below:

# 2.1.1. General procedure. 1,3-Dipolar cycloaddition reactions of (purin-9-yl)acetaldehyde oximes with alkenyloxycoumarins. Synthesis of 4-methyl-6-({3-[(6-piperidin-1-yl-9H-purin-9-yl)methyl]-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl}methoxy)-2H-chromen-2-one (4a)

In the solution of oxime **2a** (41 mg, 0.16 mmol) in dry DMF (5 ml) NCS (32 mg, 0.22 mmol) was added under stirring in portions during 1 h. The resulted mixture was stirred for 30 min. The allyloxycoumarin **3a** (32 mg, 0.16 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.03 ml, 16 mg, 0.16 mmol) were then added and the mixture was stirred at r.t. for 24 h under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The mixture was filtered, the solid was washed with DCM and the filtrate was evaporated. The residue was chromatographed in a column [hexane/ethyl acetate (2:1)] and gave after the elution of starting coumarin **3a** (5 mg, 16%) the isoxazoline **4a**, 51 mg, (68% yield). White crystals, m.p.180-182°C (ethyl acetate); IR (Nujol): 3020, 1715, 1620, 1570 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  1.63-1.80 (m, 6H), 2.40 (d, 3H, *J*=1.2 Hz), 2.98 (dd, 1H, *J*<sub>1</sub>=7.2 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=17.1 Hz), 3.09 (dd, 1H, *J*<sub>1</sub>=11.2 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=17.1 Hz), 4.05 (d, 2H, *J*=4.3 Hz), 4.17-4.29 (m, 4H), 4.93-5.05 (m, 1H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 6.29 (d, 1H, *J*=1.2 Hz), 6.99-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.23 (d, 1H, *J*=8.8 Hz), 7.80 (s, 1H), 8.32 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  18.6, 24.7, 26.1, 37.5, 39.8, 45.6, 69.7, 78.6, 109.3, 115.7, 118.1, 119.2, 119.6, 120.6, 137.6, 150.6, 151.7, 152.6, 153.9, 154.3, 154.8, 160.7, 161.2; MS (ESI): *m/z* 475 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, 497 ;[M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calcd (%) for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 63.28; H, 5.52; N, 17.71. Found: C, 63.17; H, 5.47; N, 17.86.

# 2.1.2. General Procedure. 1,3-Dipolar Cycloaddition Reactions of (Purin-9-yl)Acetaldehyde Oximes with Coumarinyl Acrylates. Synthesis of 4-Methyl-2-oxo-2H-chromen-6-yl 3-[(6-piperidin-1-yl-9H-purin-9yl)methyl]-4,5-Dihydroisoxazole-5-Carboxylate (4k)

A solution of oxime **2a** (62 mg, 0.24 mmol) in methanol (2 ml) was added dropwise during 1.5 h at r.t. in a mixture of acrylate **3e** (60 mg, 0.26 mmol), PIDA (84 mg, 0.26 mmol) and TFA (4  $\mu$ l, 5.7 mg, 0.05 mmol) in methanol (3 ml). The mixture was stirred for 4 h at r.t.. Then, the solvent was evaporated and the residue was separated by column chromatography [hexane/ethyl acetate (2:1)] to give the aldehyde **1a** (10 mg, 17%) followed by the isoxazoline **4k**, 83 mg (71% yield). White crystals, m.p.179-181°C (ethyl acetate); IR (KBr): 3027, 2912, 2834, 1719, 1702, 1621, 1589 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  1.69-1.77 (m, 6H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 3.38-3.47 (m, 2H), 4.22-4.34 (m, 4H), 5.25 (s, 2H), 5.29 (dd, 1H, *J*<sub>1</sub>=6.9 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=10.7 Hz), 6.32 (s, 1H), 7.21-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.36 (d, 1H, *J*=8.7 Hz), 7.81 (s, 1H), 8.35 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  18.7, 24.5, 26.1, 39.4, 39.8, 46.6, 78.2, 116.0, 117.0, 118.2, 119.3, 120.7, 124.7, 137.8, 146.0, 149.1, 150.7, 151.3, 151.5, 153.3, 154.1, 160.1, 167.9; MS (ESI): *m/z* 489 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calcd (%) for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 61.47; H, 4.95; N, 17.20. Found: C, 61.58; H, 4.92; N, 17.12.

# 2.1.3. General procedure. 1,3-Dipolar cycloaddition reactions of (coumarinyl)acetaldehyde oximes with 9allylpurines. Synthesis of 4-methyl-6-({5-[(6-piperidin-1-yl-9H-purin-9-yl)methyl]-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3yl}methoxy)-2H-chromen-2-one (11a)

In the solution of oxime **9a** (37 mg, 0.16 mmol) in dry DMF (5 ml) NCS (32 mg, 0.22 mmol) was added under stirring in portions during 1 h. The resulted mixture was stirred for 30 min. The allylpurine **10a** (39 mg, 0.16 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.03 ml, 16 mg, 0.16 mmol) were then added and the mixture was stirred at r.t. for 24 h under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The mixture was filtered, the solid was washed with DCM and the filtrate was evaporated. The residue was chromatographed in a column [hexane/ethyl acetate (2:1)] and gave after the elution of starting purine **10a** (5 mg, 13%) the isoxazoline **11a**, 53 mg, (70% yield). White crystals, m.p.148-150°C (ethyl acetate); IR (Nujol): 3080, 1720, 1630, 1565 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  1.69-1.79 (m, 6H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 3.07 (dd, 1H,  $J_i$ =6.6 Hz,  $J_2$ =17.9 Hz), 3.24 (dd, 1H,  $J_i$ =10.9 Hz,  $J_2$ =17.9 Hz), 4.23-4.33 (m, 4H), 4.39 (dd, 1H,  $J_i$ =5.2 Hz,  $J_2$ =14.0 Hz), 4.46 (dd, 1H,  $J_i$ =5.4 Hz,

 $J_2$ =14.0 Hz), 4.76 (s, 2H), 5.03-5.14 (m, 1H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 6.97-7.03 (m, 2H), 7.25 (d, 1H, *J*=8.5 Hz), 7.88 (s, 1H), 8.37 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  18.7, 24.0, 26.3, 38.3, 45.6, 49.3, 63.2, 78.6, 109.4, 114.9, 116.0, 118.3, 119.0, 120.8, 124.4, 138.9, 145.6, 149.6, 151.8, 152.3, 154.0, 160.3, 162.1; MS (ESI): *m/z* 475 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, 497 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calcd (%) for  $C_{25}H_{26}N_6O_4$ : C, 63.28; H, 5.52; N, 17.71. Found: C, 63.35; H, 5.47; N, 17.59.

# 2.1.4. General procedure. 1,3-Dipolar cycloaddition reactions of (purin-9-yl)acetaldehyde oximes with propargyloxycoumarins. Synthesis of 4-methyl-6-({3-[(6-piperidin-1-yl-9H-purin-9-yl)methyl]isoxazol-5-yl}methoxy)-2H-chromen-2-one (13a)

TFA (4 μl, 5.7 mg, 0.05 mmol) was added to the solution of propargyloxycoumarin **12a** (56 mg, 0.26 mmol) and PIDA (84 mg, 0.26 mmol) in methanol (3 ml). Then, in the resulted mixture, a solution of oxime **2a** (62 mg, 0.24 mmol) in methanol (2 ml) was transferred dropwise during 1.5 h and the mixture was stirred at r.t. for 4 h. The solvent was evaporated and the solid residue was separated by column chromatography [hexane/ethyl acetate (2:1)] followed by PTLC (ethyl acetate) to give the aldehyde **1a** (5 mg, 9%) and the isoxazole **13a** (73 mg, 64%). White crystals, m.p.151-152°C (DCM); IR (Nujol): 3030, 1710, 1620, 1570 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) δ 1.68-1.82 (m, 6H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 4.21-4.38 (m, 4H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 5.48 (s, 2H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 7.06-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.29 (d, 1H, *J*=8.7 Hz), 7.83 (s, 1H), 8.40 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) δ 18.6, 26.2, 29.7, 38.9, 47.2, 62.1, 103.4, 109.8, 116.0, 118.3, 119.3, 119.6, 120.8, 138.1, 148.9, 150.1, 151.5, 152.2, 154.0, 159.6, 160.5, 160.7, 168.8; MS (ESI): *m/z* 473 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, 495 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calcd (%) for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 63.55; H, 5.12; N, 17.79. Found: C, 63.62; H, 5.17; N, 17.63.

# 2.1.5. General procedure. 1,3-Dipolar cycloaddition reactions of [(2-oxo-2H-chromen-7-yl)oxy]acetaldehyde oxime (9d) with propargylpurines. Synthesis of 7-({5-[(6-piperidin-1-yl-9H-purin-9-yl)methyl]isoxazol-3-yl}methoxy)-2H-chromen-2-one (15a)

TFA (4 µl, 5.7 mg, 0.05 mmol) was added to the solution of propargylpurine **14a** (63 mg, 0.26 mmol) and PIDA (84 mg, 0.26 mmol) in methanol (3 ml). Then, in the resulted mixture, a solution of oxime **9d** (53 mg, 0.24 mmol) in methanol (2 ml) was transferred dropwise during 1.5 h and the mixture was stirred at r.t. for 4 h. The solvent was evaporated and the solid residue was separated by column chromatography [hexane/ethyl acetate (2:1)] followed by PTLC (ethyl acetate) to give the aldehyde **8d** (5 mg, 11%) and the isoxazole **15a** (62 mg, 56%). White crystals, m.p. 140-142°C (DCM); IR (Nujol): 3040, 1725, 1595 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  1.65-1.77 (m, 6H), 4.18-4.35 (m, 4H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 5.52 (s, 2H), 6.25 (d, 1H, *J*=9.5 Hz), 6.41 (s, 1H), 6.80-6.93 (m, 2H), 7.36 (d, 1H, *J*=9.2 Hz), 7.60 (d, 1H, *J*=9.5 Hz), 7.85 (s, 1H), 8.37 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  24.7, 26.2, 38.7, 47.0, 62.0, 102.3, 103.1, 112.7, 113.5, 114.0, 119.6, 129.1, 137.8, 143.1, 149.7, 151.7, 153.4, 155.9, 160.4, 160.7, 161.0, 166.8; MS (ESI): *m/z* 459 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, 497 [M+K]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calcd (%) for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 62.87; H, 4.84; N, 18.33. Found: C, 62.93; H, 4.78; N, 18.17.

# 2.1.6. General procedure. 1,3-Dipolar cycloaddition reactions of [(2-oxo-2H-chromen-7-yl)oxy]acetaldehyde oxime (9d) with vinylpurines. Synthesis of 7-{[5-(6-piperidin-1-yl-9H-purin-9-yl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl]methoxy}-2H-chromen-2-one (18a)

TFA (4 µl, 5.7 mg, 0.05 mmol) was added to the solution of vinylpurine **17a** (60 mg, 0.26 mmol) and PIDA (84 mg, 0.26 mmol) in methanol (3 ml). Then, in the resulted mixture, a solution of oxime **9d** (53 mg, 0.24 mmol) in methanol (2 ml) was transferred dropwise during 1.5 h and the mixture was stirred at r.t. for 4 h. The solvent was evaporated and the solid residue was separated by column chromatography [hexane/ethyl acetate (2:1)] followed by PTLC (ethyl acetate) to give the aldehyde **8d** (7 mg, 15%) and the isoxazoline **18a** (71 mg, 66%). White crystals, m.p. 197-199°C (ethyl acetate); IR (Nujol): 3040, 1710, 1585 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  1.67-1.81 (m, 6H), 3.68-3.75 (m, 2H), 4.22-4.34 (m, 4H), 5.06 (d, 1H, *J*=12.8 Hz), 5.12 (d, 1H, *J*=12.8 Hz), 6.29 (d, 1H, *J*=9.6 Hz), 6.78-6.85 (m, 1H), 6.89-6.95 (m, 2H), 7.41 (d, 1H, *J*=9.1 Hz), 7.63 (d, 1H, *J*=9.6 Hz), 7.77 (s, 1H), 8.29 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  24.7, 26.2, 41.7, 46.9, 63.1, 84.4, 102.5, 112.4, 113.7, 114.3, 120.3, 129.2, 136.0, 143.0, 149.7, 152.0, 153.4, 155.8, 155.9, 160.6, 160.7; MS (ESI): *m/z* 447 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calcd (%) for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 61.87; H, 4.97; N, 18.82. Found: C, 61.95; H, 4.93; N, 18.72.

### 2.2. Biology

#### 2.2.1. Materials and Methods

All the reagents used were commercially available by Merck, 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH), nordihydroguairetic acid (NDGA) were purchased from the Aldrich Chemical Co. Milwaukee, WI, (USA). Soybean Lipoxygenase, linoleic acid sodium salt, were obtained from Sigma Chemical, Co. (St. Louis, MO, USA). Trolox were purchased by Fluka A.G. For *in vitro* determination a UV-Vis Shimadzu Spectrophotometer was used.

#### 2.2.2. In vitro

In the *in vitro* assays each experiment was performed at least in triplicate and the standard deviation of absorbance was less than 10% of the mean.

## 2.2.2.1. Determination of the reducing activity of the stable radical 1, 1-diphenyl-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) [14]

To a solution of DPPH ( $100\mu$ M) in absolute ethanol an equal volume of the compounds dissolved in ethanol was added. As control solution ethanol was used. The concentration of the solutions of the compounds was  $100\mu$ M. After 20 and 60 min at room temperature the absorbance was recorded at 517 nm (Table 5). NDGA was used as a standard.

### 2.2.2.2. Competition of the tested compounds with DMSO for hydroxyl radicals [37]

The hydroxyl radicals generated by the Fe <sup>3+</sup> /ascorbic acid system, were detected according to Nash, by the determination of formaldehyde produced from the oxidation of DMSO. The reaction mixture contained EDTA (0.1 mM), Fe <sup>3+</sup> (167  $\mu$ M), DMSO (33 mM) in phosphate buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4), the tested compounds (concentration 0.1mM) and ascorbic acid (10 mM). After 30 min of incubation (37°C) the reaction was stopped with CCl<sub>3</sub>COOH (17% w/v) (Table **5**). Trolox was used as a standard.

#### 2.2.2.3. Inhibition of linoleic acid lipid peroxidation [14]

Production of conjugated diene hydroperoxide by oxidation of linoleic acid sodium salt in an aqueous solution was monitored at 234 nm. 2,2'-Azobis(2-amidinopropane) dihydrochloride (AAPH) was used as a free radical initiator. 10  $\mu$ l of the 16 mM linoleic acid sodium salt solution was added to the UV cuvette containing 0.93 ml of 0.05 M phosphate buffer, pH 7.4 prethermostated at 37°C. The oxidation reaction was initiated at 37°C under air by the addition of 50  $\mu$ l of 40 mM AAPH solution. Oxidation was carried out in the presence of 10  $\mu$ l of the examined compounds (stock solution in DMSO). In the assay without antioxidant, lipid oxidation was measured in the presence of the same level of DMSO. The rate of oxidation at 37°C was monitored by recording the increase in absorption at 234 nm caused by conjugated diene hydroperoxides (Table 5). Trolox was used as a standard.

#### 2.2.2.4. Soybean lipoxygenase inhibition study in vitro [14]

In vitro study was evaluated as reported previously. The tested compounds dissolved in ethanol were incubated at room temperature with sodium linoleate (0.1 mM) and 0.2 ml of enzyme solution (1/9  $\times 10^{-4}$  w/v in saline). The conversion of sodium linoleate to 13-hydroperoxylinoleic acid at 234 nm was recorded and compared with the appropriate standard inhibitor nordihydroguaretic acid (IC<sub>50</sub> 5.5  $\mu$ M). Several concentrations were used for the determination of IC<sub>50</sub> values (Table **5**).

#### 2.2.2.5. Inhibition Study on ChEs in vitro

*In vitro* inhibition of electric eel acetylcholinesterase (eeAChE; 463 U/mg, Sigma) and equine serum butyrylcholinesterase (esBChE; 13 U/mg, Sigma) was investigated with a 96-well plate procedure based on the classical Ellman's spectrophotometric test, as already described [35].

### 2.2.2.6. Inhibition Study on MAOs in vitro

Inhibition of rat monoamine oxidase A and B was studied by means of a spectrofluorimetric method as previously detailed [38].

# **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### 3.1. Chemistry

The reactions studied and the title new compounds received are depicted in Schemes (1-5). The nitrile oxide, generated from the oxime 2a [18] by chlorination with NCS in DMF solution followed by addition of Et<sub>3</sub>N in an onepot procedure, was treated with the allyloxycoumarin 3a [19] under stirring for 24 h and Ar atmosphere (Scheme 1) to give the isoxazoline 4a in 68% yield (Table 1, entry 1). The isoxazoline 4a has the expected regiochemistry [18] as indicated by HMBC experiments. There is correlation between the protons of NCH<sub>2</sub> group [5.15 ppm (s, 2H)] with the carbon of 4-*C*H<sub>2</sub> (isoxazoline) (37.5 ppm in <sup>13</sup>C-NMR) and not with the 5-*C*H (isoxazoline) (78.6 ppm).



Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: (*i*)  $NH_2OH.HCl$  (1 equiv.),  $CH_3COONa$  (anh. 0.41 equiv.),  $H_2O$ , EtOH, 80C, 2.5 h; (*ii*) DMF (dry), NCS (1.4 equiv.) in portions during 1 h,  $N_2$ , r.t. 30 min, 3 (1 equiv.), Et<sub>3</sub>N (1 equiv.), r.t. 24 h, for 4a-k; (*iii*) TFA (0.2 equiv.), 3 (1.1 equiv.), PIDA (1.1 equiv.) in MeOH, 2 (1 equiv.) in MeOH (dropwise during 1 h), r.t. 4 h, for 4k-o.

Entry	Oxime	Alkenyloxycoumarin	Product (Yield %)
1	2a	3a	<b>4a</b> (68)
2	2b	3a	<b>4b</b> (68)
3	2a	3b	<b>4c</b> (66)
4	2b	3b	<b>4d</b> (71)
5	2c	3b	<b>4e</b> (69)
6	2a	3c	<b>4f</b> (73)
7	2b	3c	<b>4g</b> (70)
8	2a	3d	<b>4h</b> (64)
9	2b	3d	<b>4i</b> (65)
10	2c	3d	<b>4j</b> (67)
11	2a	Зе	<b>4k</b> (71)*, <b>1a</b> (17%)
12	2b	Зе	<b>4l</b> (68)*, <b>1b</b> (14%)
13	2c	<b>3</b> e	<b>4m</b> (65)*, <b>1c</b> (14%)
14	2a	3f	<b>4n</b> (65)*, <b>1a</b> (15%)
15	2b	3f	<b>4o</b> (67)*, <b>1b</b> (12%)

Table 1. Synthesis of the [3-(9H-purin-9-ylmethyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl]methoxy-2H-chromen-2-ones 4a-o.

\* By using PIDA, TFA and not NCS, Et<sub>3</sub>N.

The analogous reaction of the 6-allyloxycoumarin **3a** with the nitrile oxide formed *in situ* from the oxime **2b** (prepared by treatment of aldehyde **1b** [13] in ethanol-water with NH<sub>2</sub>OH.HCl in the presence of anhydrous CH<sub>3</sub>COONa at 80°C for 2.5 h) resulted in the isoxazoline **4b** in 68% yield (Table **1**, entry 2). The 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reactions of 7-allyloxycoumarin **3b** [37, 38] with nitrile oxides resulted from the oximes **2a,b** and **2c** (synthesized from the aldehyde **1c** [13]) gave the isoxazolines **4c,d,e** respectively (Table **1**, entries 3-5). The one-pot reactions of 4-allyloxycoumarin (**3c**) [12, 20] with the nitrile oxides of oximes **2a,b** led to the isoxazolines **4f,g** in 73% and 70% yield respectively (Table **1**, entries 6,7). The isoxazolines **4h-j** isolated from the reactions of 7-butenyloxycoumarin **3d** [12] with the nitrile oxides formed from oximes **2a-c** respectively (Table **1**, entries 8-10). The isoxazoline **4h** has the same regiochemistry, like the others, as the protons of NCH<sub>2</sub> group [5.16 ppm (s, 2H)] in HMBC experiments are correlated with the carbon of 4-*C*H<sub>2</sub> (isoxazoline) (38.7 ppm in <sup>13</sup>C-NMR) and not with the 5-*C*H (isoxazoline) (78.9 ppm). In all the above experiments none of the possible furoxans **5a-c** was detected.

In the case of (coumarin-6-yl)acrylate 3e [12] the one-pot procedure with NCS, Et<sub>3</sub>N and oxime 2a led to the isoxazoline 4k in only 34% yield along with the furoxan 5a (27%) [18]. When the reaction of acrylate 3e with the oxime 2a was performed with PIDA as oxidizing agent in the presence of catalytic amount of TFA in methanol under stirring for 4 h, the yield for the isoxazoline 4k increased to 71% (Table 1 entry 11). No furoxan 5a was detected. The reactions of acrylates 3e, f with the oximes 2b, c and 2a, b respectively in the presence of PIDA and TFA gave the isoxazolines 4l-0 (Table 1, entries 12-15). No furoxans 5b, c were detected by this method.

Another way is presented in Scheme (2) for the synthesis of the hybrid compounds **11a-g** using the 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reactions of nitrile oxides, formed *in situ* from the (coumarinyloxy)acetaldehyde oximes **9a-d**, with the 9-allylpurines **10a-d**. The oximes **9a-d** (84-88% yields) were prepared for first time from the corresponding substituted acetaldehydes **8a-d** [21, 22] by treatment with NH<sub>2</sub>OH.HCl in ethanol-water in the presence of anhydrous CH<sub>3</sub>COONa at 80° C for 1.5 h. The acetaldehydes **8a-d** were in turn prepared in 87-94% yields by refluxing a hydrochloric acid solution of the corresponding acetals **7a-d** for 1 h. The acetals **7a-d** were synthesized from the hydroxycoumarins **6a-d** after heating with 2-bromo-1,1-diethoxyethane and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in DMF at 90°C for 24 h.

The reaction of 9-allylpurine **10a** with the nitrile oxide, resulted from the oxime **9a**, was carried out by the above described one-pot procedure with NCS and  $Et_3N$  and led to the isoxazoline **11a** in 70% yield (Table **2**, entry 1). In the case of isoxazoline **11a** the coumarin moiety is connected in the 3-position of the isoxazoline ring and the purine moiety in the 5-position, differentiated from the isoxazoline **4a**. The regiochemistry of **11a** is demonstrated by HMBC experiments as there is correlation of the protons of OCH<sub>2</sub> group with the carbon of 4-*C*H<sub>2</sub> (isoxazoline) (38.3 ppm in <sup>13</sup>C-NMR) and not with the 5-*C*H (isoxazoline) (78.6 ppm).



Scheme 2. Reagents and conditions: (*i*) Anh.  $K_2CO_3$  (1 equiv.), DMF (dry), 2-bromo-1,1-diethoxyethane (1 equiv.), 90°C, 24 h; (*ii*) 1N HCl, reflux, 1 h; (*iii*) NH<sub>2</sub>OH.HCl (1 equiv.), CH<sub>3</sub>COONa (anh. 0.41 equiv.), H<sub>2</sub>O, EtOH, 80C, 1.5 h; (*iv*) DMF (dry), NCS (1.4 equiv.) in portions during 1 h, N<sub>2</sub>, r.t. 30 min, **10** (1 equiv.), Et<sub>3</sub>N (1 equiv.), r.t. 24 h.

The isoxazolines **11b,c** were isolated in 67% and 70% yields respectively from the reactions of 9-allylpurines **10b,a** with the nitrile oxides synthesized from the oximes **9a,b** (Table **2**, entries 2,3). The analogous reactions of the oxime **9c** with the purines **10a-c** in the presence of NCS and Et<sub>3</sub>N gave the isoxazolines **11d-f** (Table **2**, entries 4-6) (Scheme **2**). The isoxazoline **11g** was obtained from the reaction of nitrile oxide, produced from the oxime **9d**, with the purine **10a** (Table **2**, entry 7).

Table 2. Syr	thesis of the	[5-(9H	-purin-9-	ylmethy	l)-4,5-dih	ydroisoxazol	3-yl]meth	oxy-2H-chrom	en-2-ones 11a	I-g.
		• •								

Entry	(Coumarinyloxy)acetaldehyde oxime	9-Allylpurine	Product (Yield %)
1	9a	10a	<b>11a</b> (70)
2	9a	10b	<b>11b</b> (67)
3	9b	10a	<b>11c</b> (70)
4	9c	10a	<b>11d</b> (72)
5	9с	10b	<b>11e</b> (68)
6	9с	10c	<b>11f</b> (65)
7	9d	10a	<b>11g</b> (64)

#### Hybrid Molecules with Purine, Coumarin and Isoxazoline or Isoxazole

We examined next the reactions of nitrile oxides generated from the oximes 2a-c with the propargyloxycoumarins 12a-d in order to obtain the hybrids 13a-i with isoxazole ring (Scheme 3). The reaction of propargyloxycoumarin 12a [23] with the nitrile oxide, resulted from the oxime 2a under the above described one-pot procedure (NCS, Et<sub>3</sub>N), gave the expected product 13a only in 28% yield (Table 3, entry 1). In order to increase the yield of this 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction, we investigated the best reaction conditions using different oxidants and solvents under different temperatures (Table 3).



Scheme 3. Reagents and conditions: (i) TFA (0.2 equiv.), 12 (1.1 equiv.), PIDA (1.1 equiv.) in MeOH, 2 (1 equiv.) in MeOH (dropwise during 1 h), r.t. 4 h.

Table 3. Optimization of the conditions of 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction of oxime 2a (1 mmol) with the propargyloxycoumarin 12a (1.1 mmol).

Entry	Reactants (mmol)	Solvent	T (°C)	Products (Yield %)
1	NCS (1.4), Et <sub>3</sub> N (1)	DMF	25	<b>13a</b> (28), <b>5a</b> (25), <b>2a</b> (45)
2	PIDA (1.1)	MeOH	25	<b>13a</b> (37), <b>5a</b> (21), <b>1a</b> (12)
3	PIDA (1.1), TFA (0.2)	MeOH	25	<b>13a</b> (64), <b>5a</b> (16), <b>1a</b> (9)
4	PIDA (1.1), TFA (0.2)	MeOH	0	<b>13a</b> (32), <b>5a</b> (45)
5	PIDA (1.1), TFA (0.2)	MeOH	60	<b>13a</b> (19), <b>5a</b> (23), <b>1a</b> (42)
6	PIDA (1.1), TFA (0.2)	MeOH/H <sub>2</sub> O	25	<b>13a</b> (56), <b>5a</b> (19), <b>1a</b> (15)
7	PIDA (1.1), TFA (0.2)	DCM	25	<b>13a</b> (34), <b>5a</b> (48), <b>1a</b> (12)

(Table 3) contd....

Entry	Reactants (mmol)	Solvent	T (°C)	Products (Yield %)
8	PIDA (1.1), TFA (0.2)	THF	25	<b>13a</b> (25), <b>5a</b> (52), <b>1a</b> (19)
9	PIDA (1.1), TFA (0.6)	MeOH	25	<b>13a</b> (18), <b>5a</b> (27), <b>1a</b> (48)
10	PIDA (2), TFA (0.6)	MeOH	25	<b>13a</b> (14), <b>5a</b> (31), <b>1a</b> (37)
11	PIFA (1)	MeOH	25	<b>13a</b> (45), <b>5a</b> (39), <b>1a</b> (15)

PIDA as oxidant of oxime 2a, for the formation of the corresponding nitrile oxide in MeOH under r.t. gave a little better yield for the product 13a (37%) (Table 3, entry 2). The method with PIDA and a catalytic [18] amount of TFA was the best with the yield for 13a to increase (64%). By changing the temperature to 0°C or 60°C the yields for 13a were decreased, while the amount of furoxan 5a was increased and the hydrolysis product, aldehyde 1a, was the major product at 60°C (Table 3, entries 4,5). When MeOH/water was used as solvent, the yield of 13a was a little lower (Table 3, entry 6), while the DCM or the THF led to furoxan 5a as the major product (Table 3, entries 7 or 8 respectively). The increase in the amount of TFA or the PIDA gave a larger amount of the aldehyde 1a (Table 3, entries 9 or 10 respectively). The PIFA, which was the oxidant of choice for analogous reactions without solvent [18], led to lower yield of isoxazole 13a (Table 3, entry 11).

After the examination of suitable reaction conditions, the propargyloxycoumarins were reacted with the nitrile oxides generated from the oximes **2a-c** in the presence of PIDA and catalytic amount of TFA (Scheme **3**, Table **4**). The reactions of 4-methyl-6-propargyloxycoumarin (**12a**) with the oximes **2a,b** led to the isoxazoles **13a,b** respectively (Table **4**, entries 1,2). The isoxazole **13a** has the expected regiochemistry [18] as indicated by HMBC experiments. There is a correlation between the protons of NCH<sub>2</sub> group [5.48 ppm (s, 2H)] with the carbon of 4-CH (isoxazole) (103.4 ppm in <sup>13</sup>C-NMR) and not with the 5-C (isoxazole) (168.8 ppm). The isoxazoles **13c,d** were received from the reactions of 4-methyl-7-propargyloxycoumarin (**12b**) [24] with the oximes **2a,b** (Table **4**, entries 3,4). The analogous reactions of 7-propargyloxycoumarin (**12c**) [25] with the oximes **2a-c** led to the isoxazoles **13e-g** (Table **4**, entries 5-7). The isoxazoles **13h,i** were isolated from the reactions of 4-propargyloxycoumarin (**12d**) [26] with the oximes **2a,b** (Table **4**, entries **8**,9).

Table 4	Synthesis of the	[3-(9 <i>H</i> -nurin-9.	-vlmethvl)isoxazol	-5-vllmethoxy-	2H-chromen-2-ou	ies 13a-i.
1 4010 11	Synthesis of the	le () II puim >	JunctifyfyisoAu201	o jijmeenoxy		105 104 1

Entry	Oxime	Propargyloxycoumarin	Product (Yield %)
1	2a	12a	<b>13a</b> (64), <b>5a</b> (16), <b>1a</b> (9)
2	2b	12a	<b>13b</b> (62), <b>5b</b> (18), <b>1b</b> (9)
3	2a	12b	<b>13c</b> (57), <b>5a</b> (19), <b>1a</b> (10)
4	2b	12b	<b>13d</b> (54), <b>5b</b> (19), <b>1b</b> (12)
5	2a	12c	<b>13e</b> (56), <b>5a</b> (19), <b>1a</b> (10)
6	2b	12c	<b>13f</b> (53), <b>5b</b> (19), <b>1b</b> (11)
7	2c	12c	<b>13g</b> (53), <b>5c</b> (18), <b>1c</b> (11)
8	2a	12d	<b>13h</b> (60), <b>5a</b> (16), <b>1a</b> (10)
9	2b	12d	<b>13i</b> (58), <b>5b</b> (16), <b>1b</b> (10)

We studied also the reactions of oxime **9d** with the 9-propargylpurines **14a-c** (Scheme **4**) and the 9-vinylpurines **17a-c** (Scheme **5**) in the presence of PIDA and catalytic amount of TFA. From the reaction of purine **14a** the isoxazole **15a** (56%) was isolated along with the dimerization product, furoxan **16** (19%). The regiochemistry of **15a** is demonstrated by HMBC experiments as there is correlation of the protons of  $OCH_2$  group with the carbon of 4-CH (isoxazole) (103.1 ppm in <sup>13</sup>C-NMR) and not with the 5-C (isoxazole) (166.8 ppm). The reactions of purines **14b,c** led to the isoxazoles **15b** (59%) and **15c** (53%) respectively, while the furoxan **16** (19% and 17%) was also formed. The above resulted isoxazoles **15a-c** were formed despite the possibility for isomerization of alkynes **14a-c** to the corresponding allenes [27].

The 9-vinylpurine **17a** [28] reacted with the oxime **9d** to give the isoxazoline **18a** (66%) (Scheme **5**). No furoxan **16** was detected in the reaction mixture. The isoxazoline **18a** has the same regiochemistry, like the others, as the protons of  $OCH_2$  group [5.06 ppm (d, 1H)/5.12 ppm (d, 1H)] in HMBC experiments are correlated with the carbon of  $4-CH_2$  (isoxazoline) (46.9 ppm in <sup>13</sup>C-NMR) and not with the 5-*C*H (isoxazoline) (84.4 ppm). The reactions of purines **17b,c** gave the isoxazolines **18b** (62%) and **18c** (60%) respectively, along with the aldehyde **8d** (15%).



Scheme 4. Reagents and conditions: (i) TFA (0.2 equiv.), 14 (1.1 equiv.), PIDA (1.1 equiv.) in MeOH, 9d (1 equiv.) in MeOH (dropwise during 1 h), r.t. 4 h.



Scheme 5. Reagents and conditions: (i) TFA (0.2 equiv.), 17 (1.1 equiv.), PIDA (1.1 equiv.) in MeOH, 9d (1 equiv.) in MeOH (dropwise during 1 h), r.t. 4 h.

#### **3.2. Biological Evaluation**

The formation of Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) is a consequence of cell metabolism for aerobic organisms. Due to the extreme reactivity and tendency of ROS to initiate and participate in chain reactions, the role of antioxidants as a defense system is highly recognized. Epidemiological studies revealed the link between reactive oxygen species, inflammation, ischemia and stroke risk. A key strategy to prevent potential damage to cellular compounds such as DNA, proteins and lipids is to reduce the free radical load [29].

The compounds were studied for their antioxidant activity by the use of the stable 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl radical (DPPH) at concentration 0.1mM after 20 min. A freshly prepared DPPH solution exhibits a deep purple colour

with an absorption maximum at 517 nm. This purple colour generally disappears in the presence of an antioxidant. The reduction of absorbance is a measure of the free DPPH due to the action of the antioxidant. The antioxidant activity was expressed as the RA% (Reducing Activity). The RA(%) values for the tested compounds of groups **4**, **11**, **13**, **15** and **18** at 100 $\mu$ M, is very low, if any with the exception of compound **4j** presenting 44% (Table **5**) in comparison to the reference drug NDGA. Within the group of derivatives **4** the presence of the morpholinyl or piperidinyl rings at position A as well as the carbonyl group at position B, hinder the interaction of the compounds to the free stable radical DPPH. It seems that compound **4j** with the combination of pyrrolidinyl ring and (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub> chain (instead of a carbonyl group), present the structural features which support the interaction as well as the reducing ability and it does not face any stereochemical hindrance.

Compds	RA% @ 100µM	•ОН % @ 100µМ	LP % @ 100µM	%LOX @ 100µM or IC <sub>50</sub> µM	eeAChE % inhibn. @ 10 μM or IC <sub>50</sub> μM	esBChE % inhibn. @ 10 μM or IC <sub>50</sub> μM
4a	nt	nt	63	6%	nt	nt
4b	nt	nt	no	60 µM	2.3 μM	17%
4c	17	no	65	no	nt	nt
4d	nt	59	21	44.5%	nt	nt
4e	nt	nt	65	no	nt	nt
4f	3	no	62	53 µM	1.4 μM	36%
4g	nt	nt	16	10%	nt	nt
4i	nt	nt	54	2%	7.7 μΜ	15%
4j	44	no	32	37%	nt	nt
4k	12	27	57	10 µM	nt	nt
41	12	90	37.5	61 µM	nt	nt
4n	17	no	no	35μΜ	nt	nt
40	3	no	40	60 µM	nt	nt
11a	nt	nt	44	no	nt	nt
11b	5	no	no	no	5.9 µM	8%
11d	13	no	43	48μΜ	nt	nt
11e	nt	nt	63	no	7.8 μM	8%
11f	nt	nt	48	no	43%	14%
11g	nt	nt	no	no	nt	nt
13a	no	90	100	no	40%	23%
13b	no	95	90	44%	3.1 µM	13%
13d	no	79	no	no	nt	nt
13e	no	99	100	62 µM	1.73 μM	18 µM
13f	no	100	23	25%	nt	nt
13g	no	100	43	62 µM	nt	nt
13h	no	97	86	55 μΜ	nt	nt
13i	no	no	74	76 µM	5.0 μΜ	18%
15a	no	93	100	55 μΜ	nt	nt
15b	no	48	52	100 µM	nt	nt
15c	no	97	43	9%	nt	nt
18a	4	no	No	90 µM	nt	nt
18b	1	no	38	100 µM	nt	nt
NDGA	87			5.5 µM		
Trolox		83	76			
Galantamine					0.51 μΜ	8.7 μM

Table 5. *In vitro* antioxidant activity. Inhibitory activity of compounds on eeAcetylcholinesterase (eeAChE IC<sub>50</sub>  $\mu$ M) and on esButyrylcholinesterase (esBuChE IC<sub>50</sub>  $\mu$ M/%) of the tested compounds.

No: no activity under the reported conditions; nt: not tested

Superoxide ( $O_2^-$ ) anion and hydroxyl radical (OH) are free radical species of potential importance. In the acidic conditions of ischemic brain,  $O_2^-$  is probably protonated to give  $HO_2^-$  species. Iron released from damaged brain cells is more likely to be readily available to catalyze the generation of OH radicals. Among the ROS, the hydroxyl (*OH*) free radical is possibly the most toxic, as it reacts with a number of biological important molecules. *P*olyunsaturated fatty

acids are found in high concentrations in the CNS, and are particularly vulnerable by free radicals. Thus, we tried to test the ability of our compounds to scavenge hydroxyl radicals. The competition of compounds with DMSO for HO, generated by the  $Fe^{3+}$ /ascorbic acid system, expressed as percent inhibition of formaldehyde production, was used for the evaluation of their hydroxyl radical scavenging activity In this experiment, the **13f**, **13g**, **13e**, **13h**, **15c**, **15a**, **13b**, **13a** and **4l** showed remarkable activity at 100  $\mu$ M, with values higher than the well known antioxidant trolox (Table 5). A number of compounds like **4c**, **4f**, **4j**, **4n**, **4o**, **11b**, **11d**, **13i**, **18a**, **18b** did not present any activity whereas **4d**, **4k**, **13d** and **15d** showed lower response. Within the compounds **4a-4o** the most potent derivatives **4d** and **4j** contain a morpholinyl ring in their structure which seems to be correlated with their scavenging activity. All the derivatives of series **13** (except of **13i**) present high antioxidant activity (80-100%) which is not able to be correlated with any specific structural characteristic since all contain a coumarin, a purine and an isoxazolyl moiery. This observation is not followed within **15a-c** where both **15a** and **c** are almost equipotent whereas **15b** the morpholinyl analogue exhibits half of their activity (48%). It seems that the overall molar configuration influences the response. However, antioxidants with hydrophilic or lipophilic character are both needed to act as radical scavengers in the aqueous phase or as chainbreaking antioxidants in biological membranes.

Anti-lipid peroxidation activity. The water-soluble azo compound AAPH has been extensively used as a clean and controllable source of thermally produced alkyl peroxyl free radicals, through spontaneous thermal decomposition. The use of the free radical reactions initiator AAPH is recommended as more appropriate for measuring radical-scavenging activity *in vitro*, because the activity of the peroxyl radicals produced by the action of AAPH shows a greater similarity to cellular activities such as lipid peroxidation. In the AAPH assay, the highly reactive alkylperoxyl radicals are intercepted mainly by a hydrogen atom transfer (HAT) from the antioxidant. Compounds 13a, 13b, 13e, 15a presented high activity whereas 4a, 4c, 4e, 4f, 11e, 13i, 13h showed 62-86% inhibition of lipid peroxidation. The rest exhibited limited or no activity (Table 5).

LO is the key enzyme in leukotriene biosynthesis [30]. Leukotrienes derived from the biotransformation of arachidonic acid catalyzed by 5-lipoxygenase (5-LO), are important inflammatory mediators [31] implicated in several diseases. LOs play a role in membrane lipid peroxidation by forming hydroperoxides in the lipid bilayer. Inhibitors of LO have attracted attention initially as potential agents for the treatment of inflammatory diseases. Most of the LO inhibitors are antioxidants or free radical scavengers, since lipoxygenase LO was accomplished by the UV-based enzyme assay [34].

Study of LO inhibition values demonstrates that compound **4k** provided the best activity (IC<sub>50</sub> = 10 $\mu$ M) followed by **4n** (35 $\mu$ M), **11d** (48 $\mu$ M), **4f** (53 $\mu$ M), **13h** and **15a** (55 $\mu$ M), **4b** (60mM), **4l** (61mM), **13e** and **13g** (62.5 $\mu$ M), **13i** (76 $\mu$ M), **18a** (90 $\mu$ M), **15b** and **18b** (100 $\mu$ M). It seems that the ester **4k** is more interesting and potent hybrid compared to the corresponding ether **4a**. However, ester **4l** is almost equipotent to ether **4b**. Also the presence of a 4-methyl group enhances activity. Thus, **4k** is more potent inhibitor compared to the **4n** in which the methyl group is missing. The nature of A ring is a structural characteristic of importance. Thus, the piperidinyl derivative **4n** is more potent (35 $\mu$ M) compared to **4o** in which a morpholinyl group has replaced the piperidinyl group. The presence of pyrrolidinyl ring in compounds **4g** (10%), **11g** (no), **13g** (62.5  $\mu$ M) is correlated with no or low activity.

Within the compounds of **11a-g** subgroup no inhibitory activities were observed. The only exception was compound **11d.** Again a piperidinyl 6-substituted coumarin derivative was found to be more potent ( $IC_{50} = 48\mu M$ ).

Among the isoxazole coumarin derivatives 13a-i most interesting results were given by 13h (55  $\mu$ M), 13e (62.5 $\mu$ M), 13g (62.5  $\mu$ M), and 13i (76  $\mu$ M) (13h>13g, 13e>13i). The most potent 13h was a piperidinyl substituted derivative, whereas the replacement by a morpholinyl ring (13i) led to a decrease. Thus, the nature of the ring was implicated in the biological response. The equimolar response of 13e and 13i support the idea that the nature of A ring did not affect the inhibition.

Changing the attachment position of the isoxazole ring the analogues 15a-c were taken, from which 15a was more potent (55  $\mu$ M) followed by 15b (100  $\mu$ M) and 15c (9%). These findings follow the previous one supporting the significant role of the piperidinyl group. Also the piperidinyl derivative 18a was found slightly more active than the 18b.

Herein, the antilipid peroxidation activity does not go in parallel to the anti-LO activity (Table 5). Hydroxyl scavenging activity also was not found to be correlated with the above responses.

Considering the interesting results shown in Table 5 that clearly confirm the antioxidant potential of some of the new hybrid derivatives, we found interesting to test them as ChE inhibitors. Using already described protocols for the determination of the AChE [35] inhibition we obtained the  $IC_{50}$  values shown in Table 5. In Table 5 are only given the  $IC_{50}$  values for AChE inhibition of the more active compounds as well as the % inhibition for BChE. For comparative purposes some reference molecules have been incorporated.

Regarding the AChE inhibition (Table 5), hybrids 4f>13e>4b>13b>13i>11b>11e>4i showed significant eeAChE inhibition activity and they all are ethers of coumarin. The 4-, 6, or 7- position of attachment does not influence the result. For esBChE, most of the hybrids were poor inhibitors, with the exception of 13e, one of the two most potent AChE inhibitors (4f and 13e). All tested hybrids were less potent compared to the reference compound galantamine, but they retain fair AChE inhibitory activities in the low micromolar range.

For the MAO-A and B inhibition, we choose a subgroup consisted of the active anti-AChE compounds (Table 6). Only compound **11b** showed an interesting inhibition activity  $IC_{50} = 9.5 \mu M$  against MAO-B acting as a selective agent. All the others present low (%) or not any activity at 10  $\mu M$ . Hybrid **11b** showed very lower inhibitory potency compared with the reference clorgyline, a well-established MAO-A selective inhibitor used in the treatment of depression. Indeed, the interesting MAO-B selectivity can be considered a good starting point for a structure-based refinement, in view of the potential of MAO-B selective inhibitors as neuroprotective agents in the therapy of neurodegenerative diseases [36].

Compounds	MAO-A (%) @ 10µM	МАО-В (%) @ 10µМ от IC <sub>50</sub> µМ
4b	no	24
4f	no	no
4i	25	no
11b	15	$IC_{50} = 9.5 \ \mu M$
11e	no	9
11f	16	8
13a	47	33
13b	12	no
13e	18	15
13i	6	9
Clorgyline	$IC_{50} = 2.4 \text{ nM}$	$IC_{50} = 2.4 \ \mu M$

Table 6. In vitro Inhibitory activity (%) on MAO-A and on MAO-B (%).

No: no activity under the reported conditions

Considering the MAO inhibition data, we conclude that hybrid **11b** is a moderate, but selective inhibitor. Hybrids **4b**, **4f**, **4i**, **11b**, **11e**, **13b**, **13i** are potent and selective inhibitors for AChE, whereas **13e** is a dual AChE and BChE inhibitor.

# CONCLUSION

In summary, the observed antioxidant activity of the majority of the examined hybrids, allows us to propose them as templates in the design of compounds useful in treating of AD that involves reactive oxygen species (ROS). Eleven out of twenty one derivatives are potent hydroxyl radical scavengers and significant number of them inhibit *in vitro* lipid peroxidation. Compounds **4k** and **4n** present higher LO inhibitory activity among the tested derivatives. It should to be noticed that compound **13e** presents an antioxidant significant profile combining anti-LO, anti-AChE and anti-MAO-B activities. These results support the idea of a new lead compound. Overall the presented results would be possible to lead to a new multifunctional group of compounds.

## ETHICS APPROVAL AND CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE

Not applicable.

### HUMAN AND ANIMAL RIGHTS

No Animals/Humans were used for studies that are base of this research.

#### **CONSENT FOR PUBLICATION**

Not applicable.

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The authors declare no conflict of interest, financial or otherwise.

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# SUPPORTIVE/SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

The experimental data for all compounds are involved.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Supplementary material is available on the publishers Web site along with the published article.

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