

Publication

Antimalarial versus cytotoxic properties of dual drugs derived from 4-aminoquinolines and Mannich bases: interaction with DNA

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The synthesis and biological evaluation of new organic and organometallic dual drugs designed as potential antimalarial agents are reported. A series of 4-aminoquinoline-based Mannich bases with variations in the aliphatic amino side chain were prepared via a three-steps synthesis. These compounds were also tested against chloroquine-susceptible and chloroquine-resistant strains of Plasmodium falciparum and assayed for their ability to inhibit the formation of beta-hematin in vitro using a colorimetric beta-hematin inhibition assay. Several compounds showed a marked antimalarial activity, with IC(50) and IC(90) values in the low nM range but also a high cytotoxicity against mammalian cells, in particular a highly drug-resistant glioblastoma cell line. The newly designed compounds revealed high DNA binding properties, especially for the GC-rich domains. Altogether, these dual drugs seem to be more appropriate to be developed as antiproliferative agents against mammalian cancer cells than Plasmodium parasites

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