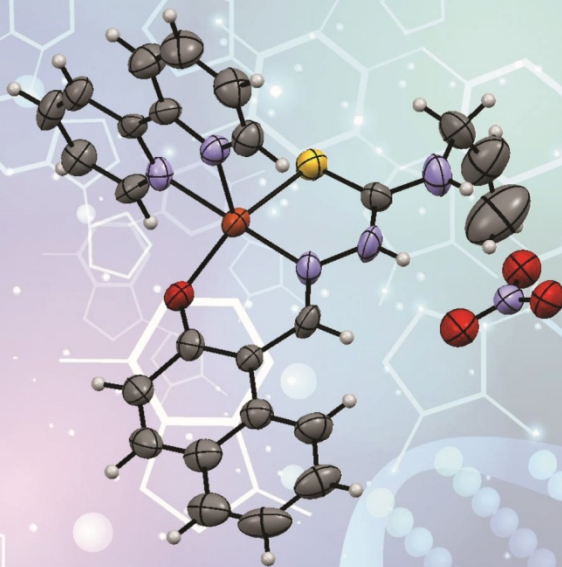


PhD Vasiliu GRAUR
Acad. Aurelian GULEA

**NOVEL BIOLOGICAL AGENTS BASED ON
METAL COMPLEXES OF
N⁴-ALLYLTHIOSEMICARBAZONES AND THEIR
DERIVATIVES**

MONOGRAPH



Chişinău, 2024

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
MOLDOVA STATE UNIVERSITY**

**PhD. Vasiliu GRAUR,
Acad. Aurelian GULEA**

**Novel Biological Agents Based on Metal Complexes of
*N*⁴-Allylthiosemicarbazones and Their Derivatives**

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Agenți biologici noi pe bază de complecși metalici ai N^4 -aliltiosemicarbazonei și derivaților lor.

Monografia conține date originale importante despre sinteza și structura a compușilor coordinativi în baza 4-aliltiosemicarbazidei, 4-aliltiosemicarbazonei și 4-alilizotiosemicarbazonei *S*-substituie precum și proprietățile antimicrobiene, antifungice, antioxidative și antiproliferative a acestor substanțe. Un rol deosebit este acordat corelației între compoziția/structura compușilor coordinativi și proprietăților lor biologice. Monografia prezintă interes pentru specialiștii din domeniul chimiei, chimiei medicinale, biofarmaceuticii. Este recomandată studenților de la ciclul I (studii superioare de licență), ciclul II (studii superioare de master) și doctoranzilor inclusiv pentru programele de studii Chimie, Chimie biofarmaceutică, Materiale avansate în chimie și biofarmaceutică, FCTC, USM.

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În loc de prefață

Tiosemicarbazidele au o poziție semnificativă în chimia medicinală. Studiul derivaților hidrazinei, inclusiv a tiosemicarbazidei și a tiosemicarbazonelor, reprezintă interes din punct de vedere al proprietăților analitice și biologice. Tiosemicarbazidele și derivații lor prezintă activități biologice interesante, inclusiv proprietăți anticancer, antibacteriene, antivirale, insecticide și antioxidante. Ele joacă un rol important în reglarea creșterii plantelor. În ultimele decenii, o serie de tiosemicarbazone, derivații lor și complexii metalici cu acest tip de ligand au fost brevetati ca substanțe antibacteriene împotriva microorganismelor Gram-pozitive și Gram-negative, substanțe antifungice, antioxidanți și substanțe anticancer. Fragmentul tiosemicarbazidic coordonează la ionii de metal prin intermediul atomilor donori de azot și sulf. Activitatea biologică a compușilor coordinativi se atribuie și capacității lor de a penetra prin membrana celulelor. Activitatea sporită poate fi cauzată de lipofilitatea ridicată a complexilor în comparație cu ligandul. Prin urmare, sinteza și studiul noilor tiosemicarbazide, derivaților lor, precum și a compușilor coordinativi rămân o direcție relevantă în chimia compușilor cu activitatea biologică.

Această monografie este dedicată N^4 -aliltiosemicarbazidei, N^4 -aliltiosemicarbazonelor diferitor aldehide și cetone, precum și N^4 -alilizotiosemicarbazonelor S -substituite și compușilor coordinativi cu acești liganzi. N^4 -Aliltiosemicarbazida poate fi obținută ușor din izotiocianatul de alil, care reprezintă o substanță naturală. Izotiocianatul de alil este un compus responsabil pentru aroma și gustul diferitor plante cum ar fi muștarul, hreanul, wasabi și varza. Este cunoscut pentru gustul său puternic, condimentat și a fost folosit pe scară largă în aplicații culinare ca agent de aromatizare. În afara utilizărilor sale culinare, izotiocianatul de alil prezintă și câteva beneficii potențiale pentru sănătate: izotiocianatul de alil manifestă anumite proprietăți biologice interesante, prezintă activitate antimicrobiană împotriva diferitelor bacterii și fungi, poate manifesta proprietăți anticancer prin inhibarea creșterii celulelor canceroase și inducerea apoptozei, s-a demonstrat că prezintă proprietăți antioxidante, care pot reduce stresului oxidativ și preveni daunele celulare cauzate de radicalii liberi. Izotiocianatul de alil poate avea efecte antiinflamatorii și a fost studiat pentru proprietățile sale insecticide și poate avea potențial ca pesticid natural.

Această monografie se bazează în principal pe rezultatele originale obținute în Laboratorul de Cercetări Științifice “Materiale Avansate în Biofarmaceutică și Tehnică”, Universitatea de Stat din Moldova, în colaborare cu Institutul de Fizică Aplicată, Institutul de Zoologie, Universitatea de Stat de Medicină și Farmacie “N. Testemițanu” ș.a.

Autorii

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1. Introduction

Thiosemicarbazide (Figure 1.1) is the simplest hydrazine derivative of thiocarbamic acid [1]. The chemical properties of thiosemicarbazide is alike to its correspondent semicarbazide, however, the thione group in thiosemicarbazide exhibits greater chemical flexibility compared to the keto group, leading to a more varied range of behaviors [2,3]. These compounds serve as advantageous precursors for crafting nitrogen- and sulfur-containing heterocyclic compounds, including but not limited to pyrazoles, thiazoles, thiadiazoles, thiadiazines, triazoles, pyrimidines, triazines, pyrazolotriazines, thiazolotriazines, and similar structures [4]. Because thiosemicarbazide has the ability to create complexes with zinc, iron, nickel, copper, and various other metal cations, it plays an important role in biological processes [5-7].

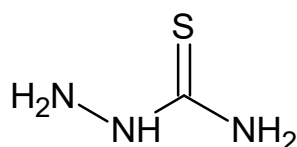


Figure 1.1. Structural formula of thiosemicarbazide

Thiosemicarbazides hold a significant position in medicinal chemistry [8-11]. The study of hydrazine derivatives, including thiosemicarbazide and its hydrazones, is highly notable due to their broad range of synthetic and analytical applications [12-14], as well as their biological activities [15-17]. Thiosemicarbazides and their derivatives display interesting biological activities [18], including anticancer [19-22], antibacterial [23, 24], anti-HIV [25], antiviral [26, 27], insecticidal, antisclerotic, antioxidant, and antiparasitic activities. They play an important role in the regulation of plant growth. These ligands with sulfur and nitrogen donors and their coordination complexes have garnered considerable interest for their effectiveness against the smallpox virus and protozoal influenza. In the past decades a number of thiosemicarbazones, their derivatives and metal complexes with this type of ligands were patented as antibacterial substances against both Gram-positive [28-38] and Gram-negative [39-42] microorganisms, antifungal substances [43-48], antioxidants [49-50] and perspective anticancer substances [51-65].

Thiosemicarbazide moiety coordinates to the metal ions via N(1) and S donor atoms. The biological activity of their metal complexes is also attributed to their capacity to permeate through the semipermeable membrane of cell lines. The heightened impact could result from the elevated lipophilicity of the complexes in comparison to the ligand. Therefore, the synthesis and study of

new thiosemicarbazides and their complexes remains a relevant direction in the chemistry of biologically active coordination compounds.

This monograph is dedicated to the N^4 -allylthiosemicarbazide, N^4 -allylthiosemicarbazones of different aldehydes and ketones [66], as well as S -substituted N^4 -allylthiosemicarbazones [67] and the coordination compounds with these proligands.

N^4 -Allylthiosemicarbazide can be easily produced from allyl isothiocyanate, which is a natural substance. Allyl isothiocyanate is a colorless to pale yellow volatile liquid compound that is responsible for the pungent flavor and aroma found in various mustard plants and cruciferous vegetables such as mustard, horseradish, wasabi, and cabbage. It is known for its strong, spicy taste and has been widely used in culinary applications as a flavoring agent. Besides its culinary uses, allyl isothiocyanate also possesses several potential health benefits. Allyl isothiocyanate manifests some interesting biological properties. Allyl isothiocyanate exhibits antimicrobial activity against various bacteria and fungi [68]. Allyl isothiocyanate may have anticancer properties by inhibiting the growth of cancer cells and inducing apoptosis [69-70]. It has been shown to possess antioxidant properties [71], which can help reduce oxidative stress and prevent cellular damage caused by free radicals. Allyl isothiocyanate may have anti-inflammatory effects [72], potentially beneficial for conditions like arthritis and inflammation-related disorders. It has been studied for its insecticidal properties and may have potential as a natural pesticide.

This monograph is mainly based on the original results that were obtained in the Scientific Research Laboratory of Advanced Materials in Biopharmaceutics and Technics, Moldova State University. If not otherwise mentioned, antibacterial and antifungal activities of the studied substances (in form of MICs, MBCs) were obtained by Greta Balan, Carolina Lozan-Tirsu and Olga Burduniuc from the State University of Medicine and Pharmacy; antiradical activity was determined by Olga Garbuz, antiproliferative activity were performed by Prof. Donald Poirier et al and Olga Garbuz, crystal structures were determined by Peter Petrenko, Yurii Chumakov, and Pavlina Bourosh from the Institute of Applied Physics, Moldova State University.

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