

# A Novel Synthesis Of Fused Pyrazolopyrimidine: Pyrazolo-Triazolo-Pyrimidine For Anticancer Evaluation.

A.Y. Hassan, Mona. S. Kadh, N.M. Saleh, E.S. Abou-Amra.

Prof. of Organic Chemistry,  
Faculty of Science (Girls), Al-Azhar University.  
*helali\_aisha@yahoo.com*

Prof. of Organic Chemistry,  
Faculty of Science (Girls), Al-Azhar University.  
*mkadh@yahoo.com*

Assist. Prof. of Organic Chemistry,  
Faculty of Science (Girls) Al-Azhar University.  
*drmashwamostafa@azhar.edu.eg*

Assist. lecturer of Organic Chemistry Department,  
Faculty of Science (Girls) Al-Azhar University.  
*eman.sadek.1612@gmail.com*

**Abstract:** Some novel fused pyrazolo-triazolo-pyrimidine (**2- 5**) were designed and prepared via reaction of 5-amino-6-hydrazineyl-1-phenyl-1,5-dihydro-4H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-one (**1**) with some electrophilic and nucleophilic reagents. The structures of target compounds were confirmed by elemental analyses and spectral data. The newly synthesized compounds were selected by the NCI – Maryland-U.S.A. and were tested for their anticancer activity in an initial single high dose in the full NCI 60 cell line panel.

**Keywords:** pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidine, pyrazolotriazolopyrimidine, anticancer activity.

## 1. Introduction

Pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidines and their correlating fused heterocycles are of significant chemical and pharmaceutical interest as purine parallel [1] and abundant of their derivatives were reported to have antiviral, [2,3] anticancer, [4] anti-inflammatory, [5,6] antimycobacterial, [7] antimicrobial, [8,9] activities and xanthine oxidase inhibitor [7] like allopurinol which was first synthesized by Robins in 1956,[10] and is still the drug for the treatment of hyperuricemia and gouty arthritic disease.[11] Moreover, pyrazolotriazolopyrimidines expected to possess notable chemical and pharmacological activities [8,12–15] and represented an attractive key intermediate for obtaining and selective human A3 adenosine receptors. [14] Therefore, based on the previous reports we interested in this paper on the synthesis of fused pyrazolo-triazolopyrimidine derivatives and exploring novel anticancer agents of some new compounds conserving the pyrazolopyrimidine nucleus.

## 2. Results and discussion

Synthesis of the objective compounds was carried out according to the proceedings light in schemes 1. As explained in Figure 1 treating of 5-aminopyrazole-4-carboxylate with thiocarbonylhydrazide (TCH) in ethanolic sodium ethoxide solution under reflux conferred compound 1 as the start of all preparations. <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectrum of **1** showed five deuterium exchangeable signals at  $\delta$  (5.29, 5.69, 6.29, 6.32, 8.19) ppm due to =NNH<sub>2</sub>(tautomer), NH-pyrimidine(tautomer), NH<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>2</sub>(tautomer) and NHHN<sub>2</sub> protons, respectively. Cyclocondensation of **1** with ethyl pyridine-2-carboxylate or 2,2,2-trichloro-acetamide under refluxing in ethanolic sodium ethoxide solution produced compound **2** with releasing molecules of H<sub>2</sub>O and EtOH,

while resulted compound **3** with elimination of H<sub>2</sub>O and NH<sub>3</sub> molecules, respectively. IR and <sup>1</sup>HNMR of **2** and **3** showed no signal for NH of 6-hydrazineyl pyrimidine and this an evidence on cyclization. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3** showed signals at  $\delta$  (87.0, 156.0) ppm assignable to CCl<sub>3</sub> and C=N triazole carbons, respectively besides the expected signals for aromatic carbons. The mass spectra of **2** and **3** also support their chemical formula and showed a molecular ion peak at  $m/z = 344$  (M<sup>+</sup>) and  $m/z = 383$  (M<sup>+</sup> - 1), respectively. Fusion of **1** with salicylaldehyde produced compound **4** after removal H<sub>2</sub>O molecule. IR spectrum of **4** showed peaks at (3424, 3320) cm<sup>-1</sup> for OH and NH<sub>2</sub> groups, its <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectrum revealed two deuterium exchangeable signals due to NH-triazole and OH moieties at  $\delta$  (8.70, 9.90) ppm, respectively, also displayed a singlet signals at  $\delta$  4.17 ppm for CH-triazole proton, its <sup>13</sup>CNMR spectrum showed signals at  $\delta$  85.3 ppm assignable to C<sub>12</sub> triazole carbon besides the expected signals for aromatic and others carbons. The mass spectrum of **4** also support its chemical formula and showed a molecular ion peak at  $m/z = 361$  (M<sup>+</sup>). The reaction of **1** with cyanamide by fusion can be occurred according to nucleophilic addition of cyanamide NH<sub>2</sub> on carbonyl oxygen of **1** and elimination of H<sub>2</sub>O molecule followed by nucleophilic attack of NH<sub>2</sub> pyrimidine on cyanamide C≡N which lead to cyclization and formation of compound **5**. The IR spectrum of **5** showed the absence of the amidic carbonyl group. Also, its <sup>13</sup>CNMR spectrum confirmed the structure as there are no signal for C=O and showed a signal assignable to C=N triazole carbon at  $\delta$  161.1 ppm besides the expected signals for aromatic carbons. The mass spectrum of **5** also support its chemical formula and showed a molecular ion peak at  $m/z = 281$  (M<sup>+</sup>). (Scheme 1)

### 3. Biological evaluation

#### 3.1. NCI results.

The synthesized Compounds were selected by the National Cancer Institute (NCI, Bethesda, USA) at one dose ( $10^{-5}$ M) in the full 60 human cancer cell lines orderly into subpanels derived from nine various human cancer forms: leukemia, melanoma, lung, colon, renal, ovarian, breast, prostate and CNS. The anticancer activity of the synthesized compounds is presented in Table (1).

#### 4. Conclusion

Compounds **2**, **3**, **4** and **5** were synthesized by the reaction of 5-amino-6-hydrazineyl-1-phenyl-1,5-dihydro-4H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-one **1** with some electrophilic and nucleophilic reagents by refluxing or fusion and they exerted mild anticancer activity against certain cancer cell lines.

### 5. Experimental

#### 5.1. Chemistry

Melting points were determined on Electro thermal LA 9000 SERIS. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on Shimadzu FT-IR Affinity-1 spectrometer.  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on Jeol spectrometer (500 MHz) and Bruker high performance digital FT-NMR spectrometer avance III (400 MHz) using deuterated dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO- $d_6$ ) as a solvent. The Mass spectra were carried out using a Shimadzu GC/MS-QP-5050A mass spectrometer at 70 eV in the regional center for mycology and biotechnology, at Al-Azhar University.

5.1.1.5-amino-6-hydrazineyl-1-phenyl-1,5-dihydro-4H-pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidin-4-one & (Z)-5-amino-6-hydrazineylidene-1-phenyl-1,5,6,7-tetrahydro-4H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-one (**1**,  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_7\text{O}$ ) An equimolar mixture of 5-amino pyrazole-4-carboxylate (2.31g, 10 mmol) and thio carbonylhydrazide (TCH) (1.06g, 10 mmol) in ethanolic sodium ethoxide solution [(prepared by dissolving sodium metal (0.24 g, 10 mmol) in absolute ethanol (30 ml)] was heated under reflux for 8 h. The reaction mixture was cooled, poured on to crushed ice, the precipitate was collected by filtration, washed with water, dried and crystallized from ethanol to afford compound **1** as white solid (1.93g, 75%). M.p.: 185-187°C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): 5.29 (s, 2H, =NNH<sub>2</sub>(tautomer), D<sub>2</sub>O exchangeable); 5.69 (s, 1H, NH-pyrimidine(tautomer), D<sub>2</sub>O exchangeable); 6.29, 6.32 (2s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>(tautomer), D<sub>2</sub>O exchangeable); 7.37-7.69 (m, 5H, Ar-H); 8.19 (s, 3H, NHNH<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>O exchangeable); 8.44 (s, 1H, =CH-pyrazole). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_7\text{O}$  (257.26); C, 51.36; H, 4.31; N, 38.11. Found: C, 51.47; H, 4.37; N, 38.33.

5.1.2. General method for preparation of compounds **2** and **3**. An equimolar mixture of compound **1** (2.57g, 10 mmol) and ethyl pyridine-2-carboxylate (1.51g, 1.34 ml) or 2,2,2-trichloro-acetamide (1.62g, 1.08ml) (10 mmol) in ethanolic sodium ethoxide solution [(prepared by dissolving sodium metal (0.24 g, 10 mmol) in absolute ethanol (30 ml)] was heated under reflux for 40 h. The reaction mixture was cooled, poured on to crushed ice, the precipitate was

collected by filtration to afford compounds **2** and **3**, respectively.

5.1.2.1. 8-amino-1-phenyl-7-(pyridin-2-yl)-1,8-dihydro-4H-pyrazolo[3,4-d][1,2,4]triazolo[1,5-a] pyrimidin-4-one (**2**,  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_8\text{O}$ ), white solid, crystallized from acetone (2.03g, 59%). M.p.: 234-236°C. IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3432, 3322 (NH<sub>2</sub>); 3049 (CH-aromatic); 1660 (C=O); 1619 (C=N); 1548 (C=C).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): 6.28 (s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>O exchangeable); 7.38-7.66 (m, 9H, Ar-H); 8.18 (s, 1H, =CH-pyrazole). MS (m/z, %): 344.04 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 17); 56.48 (100). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_8\text{O}$  (344.34); C, 59.30; H, 3.51; N, 32.54. Found: C, 59.41; H, 3.58; N, 32.63.

5.1.2.2. 8-amino-1-phenyl-7-(trichloromethyl)-1,8-dihydro-4H-pyrazolo[3,4-d][1,2,4]triazolo [1,5-a] pyrimidin-4-one (**3**,  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{Cl}_3\text{N}_7\text{O}$ ), off white crystals, crystallized from ethanol (1.99g, 52%). M.p.: 144-146°C. IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3431, 3322 (NH<sub>2</sub>); 3048 (CH-aromatic); 1660 (C=O-amidic); 1618 (2C=N); 1547 (C=C).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): 6.20 (s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>O exchangeable) 7.38-7.55 (m, 5H, Ar-H); 8.13 (s, 1H, =CH-pyrazole).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (500MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): 87.0 ( $\text{C}_{13}$ -Cl<sub>3</sub>); 110.2 ( $\text{C}_{11}$ -fused pyrazolopyrimidine); 124.1, 126.0, 129.6, 139.2 (phenyl  $\text{C}_{16-21}$ ); 140.0 ( $\text{C}_7$ -fused pyrazolopyrimidine); 152.2 ( $\text{C}_5$ =N-fused triazolopyrimidine); 156.0 ( $\text{C}_3$ =N triazole); 162.0 (C=O pyrimidine). MS (m/z, %): 383.52 ( $\text{M}^+$  - 1, 17); 185.08 (100). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{Cl}_3\text{N}_7\text{O}$  (384.61); C, 40.60; H, 2.10; Cl, 27.65; N, 25.49. Found: C, 40.63; H, 2.17; Cl, 27.74; N, 25.52.

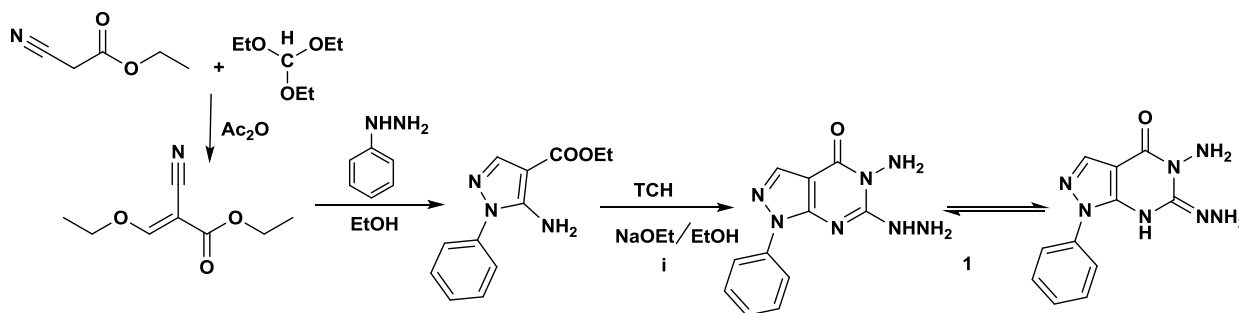
5.1.3. General method for preparation of compounds **4** and **5**. An equimolar mixture of compound **1** (2.57g, 10 mmol) and salicylaldehyde (1.22g, 1.06ml) or cyanamide (0.42g, 0.32 ml) (10 mmol) was heated until the contents melted, the reaction was maintained at temperature 200°C for 6 h. The fused mass thus obtained was treated with ethanol, collected by filtration and washed by ethanol, methanol, ethyl acetate, acetone and hexane to afford compound **4** and **5**, respectively.

5.1.3.1. 8-amino-7-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1,6,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-pyrazolo [3,4-d] [1,2,4] triazolo [1,5-a]pyrimidin-4-one (**4**,  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_7\text{O}_2$ ), brown powder (2.02g, 56%). M.p.: >360 °C. IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3424, 3320 (OH, NH<sub>2</sub>); 3220 (NH) 3068 (CH-aromatic); 2962 (CH-aliphatic); 1650 (C=O amidic); 1624 (2C=N); 1597 (C=C).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): 4.17 (s, 1H, CH-triazole); 4.42 (s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>O exchangeable) 7.02-7.63 (m, 9H, Ar-H); 8.35 (s, 1H, =CH-pyrazole); 8.70 (s, 1H, NH, D<sub>2</sub>O exchangeable); 9.90 (s, 1H, OH, D<sub>2</sub>O exchangeable).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (500MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): 85.3 ( $\text{C}_{12}$ -triazole); 110.0 ( $\text{C}_4$ -pyrazole); 115.5, 122.7, 129.0, 129.3, 141.0, 154.2 (phenyl  $\text{C}_{14-19}$ ,  $\text{C}_{21-26}$ ); 141.0 ( $\text{C}_5$ , pyrazole); 152.3 ( $\text{C}_{10}$ =N pyrimidine); 160.8 (C=O). MS (m/z, %): 361.23 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 9); 158.77 (100). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_7\text{O}_2$  (361.37); C, 59.83; H, 4.18; N, 27.13. Found: C, 59.89; H, 4.22; N, 27.18.

5.1.3.2. 5-hydrazineyl-7-phenyl-7H-pyrazolo[4,3-e][1,2,4]triazolo[1,5-c]pyrimidin-2-amine (**5**,  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_9$ ), off white solid (1.51g, 54%). M.p.: >360°C. IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3334, 3149, 3120 (NH<sub>2</sub>, NH); 3060 (CH-aromatic); 1631 (4C=N); 1540 (C=C).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): 6.15 (s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>O exchangeable); 6.97 (s, 3H, NHNH<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>O exchangeable); 7.12-7.91 (m, 5H, Ar-H); 8.04 (s, 1H, =CH-

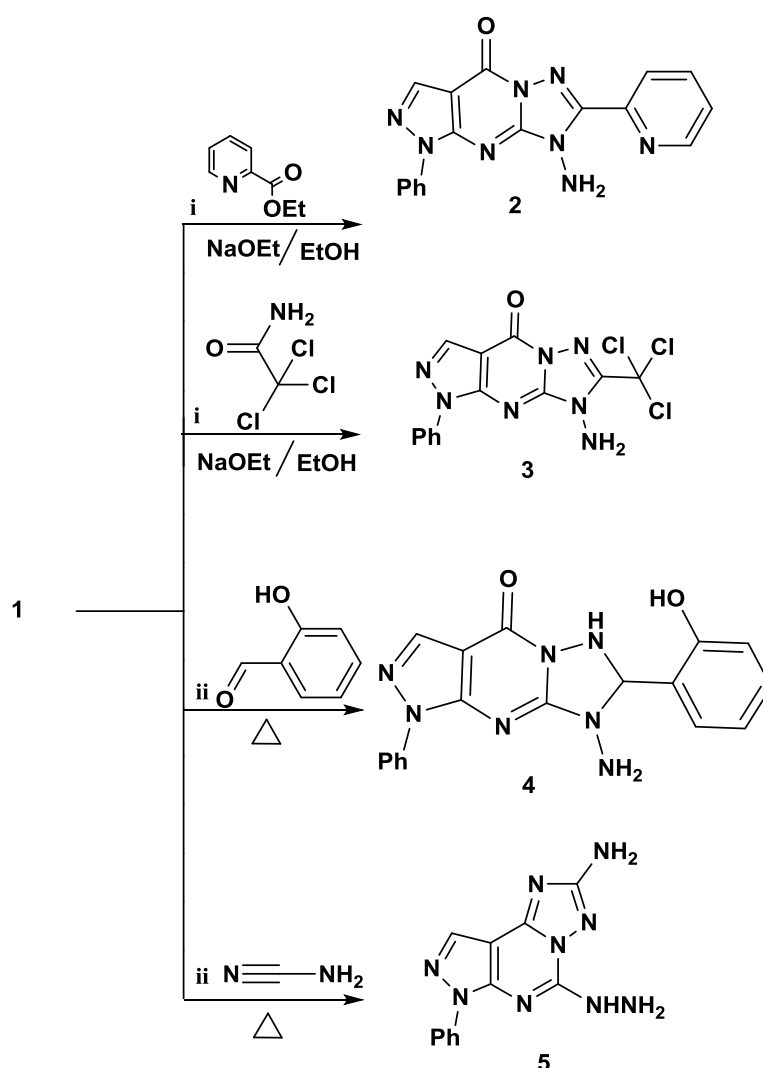
pyrazole); 10.40 (s,1H,NH(tautomer),D<sub>2</sub>O exchangeable). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): 104.2 (C<sub>6</sub>-fused pyrazolopyrimidine); 118.5, 126.1, 128.2, 139.4 (phenyl C<sub>14-19</sub>); 136.0 (C<sub>7</sub>=N pyrazole); 148.1(C<sub>10</sub>-fused

pyrazolopyrimidine); 161.1(C<sub>3</sub>=N triazole); 169.3(C<sub>12</sub>=N pyrimidine). MS (m/z, %): 281.04 (M<sup>+</sup>, 7); 43.14 (100). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>9</sub> (281.28); C, 51.24; H, 3.94; N, 44.82. Found: C, 51.31; H, 3.97; N, 44.85.



Conditions: (i) reflux 8h.

Figure 1.



Conditions:(i) reflux, 40h; (ii) fusion 6h.

Scheme (1)

## 5.2. NCI methodology

All compounds submitted to the NCI 60 Cell screen are tested at a single high dose ( $10^{-5}$  M) as previously reported[16].

## Acknowledgments

The authors wish to express all thanks to National Institute of Health (NIH), Bethesda, MD, USA, for the screening studies of anticancer activity reported in the paper.

**Table (1):** Evaluation of anticancer activity (Percentage of Growth inhibition) of the selected compounds from scheme 1 for most sensitive cell lines.

Comp. No.	NCI-No.	Mean Growth%	Range of Growth %	Panel Subpanel cell line (Growth inhibition percent)
2	812489	100.14	40.38 79.56 to 119.94	CNS Cancer: SNB-75 (20.44). Renal Cancer: CAKI-1 (16.88), UO-31 (17.30).
3	812490	100.05	55.26 81.01 to 136.27	CNS Cancer: SNB-75 (15.00). Ovarian Cancer: SK-OV-3 (15.39). Renal Cancer: CAKI-1 (16.09), UO-31 (18.99).
4	812486	94.84	43.19 70.44 to 113.63	Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: HOP-92 (25.80), NCI-H23 (15.42). CNS Cancer: SNB-75 (28.02). Melanoma: MALME-3M (14.70), UACC-62 (17.22). Ovarian Cancer: IGROV1 (29.56). Renal Cancer: CAKI-1 (22.39), UO-31 (22.62). Breast Cancer: MDA-MB-231/ATCC (16.63), HS 578T (25.16).
5	812438	100.37	54.55 68.58 to 123.13	Ovarian Cancer: IGROV1 (31.42). Renal Cancer: CAKI-1(16.08),UO-31(30.79).

Range: Variation in value between the most sensitive cell lines and the most inefficient one.

## References

- [1] M. Chauhan, & R. Kumar, "Medicinal attributes of pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidines: A review," *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry*, 21(18), 5657–5668, 2013.
- [2] E. R. El-Bendary, & F. A. Badria, "Synthesis, DNA-binding, and Antiviral Activity of Certain Pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine Derivatives," *Archiv Der Pharmazie*, 333(4), 99–103, 2000.
- [3] J.-H. Chern, K.-S. Shia, T.-A. Hsu, C.-L. Tai, C.-C. Lee, Y.-C. Lee, S.-R. Shih, "Design, synthesis, and structure–activity relationships of pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidines: a novel class of potent enterovirus inhibitors," *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters*, 14(10), 2519–2525, 2004.
- [4] L. Ballell, R.A. Field, G.A.C. Chung, & R.J. Young, *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters*, 17, 1736, 2007.
- [5] S. Alcaro, A. Artese, M. Botta, A.T. Zizzari, F. Orallo, F. Ortuso, M. Yáñez, "Hit Identification and Biological Evaluation of Anticancer Pyrazolopyrimidines Endowed with Anti-inflammatory Activity," *ChemMedChem*, 5(8), 1242–1246, 2010.
- [6] K. R. A. Abdellatif, & R.B. Bakr, "New advances in synthesis and clinical aspects of pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine scaffolds," *Bioorganic Chemistry*, 78, 341–357, 2018.
- [7] S. Gupta, L.M. Rodrigues, A.P. Esteves, A.M.F. Oliveira-Campos, M.S.J. Nascimento, N. Nazareth, H. Cidade, M.P. Neves, E. Fernandes, & M. Pinto, et al, "Synthesis of N-aryl-5-amino-4-cyanopyrazole derivatives as potent xanthine oxidase inhibitors." *European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*, 43(4), 771–780, 2008.
- [8] A. F. Eweas, S.A. Swelam, O.A. Fathalla, N.M. Fawzy, & S.I. Abdel-Moez, "Synthesis, anti-microbial evaluation, and molecular modeling of new pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine derivatives," *Medicinal Chemistry Research*, 21(11), 3848–3857, 2011.
- [9] S.B. Yewale, S.B. Ganorkar, K.G. Baheti, & R.U. Shelke, "Novel 3-substituted-1-aryl-5-phenyl-6-anilinopyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-ones: Docking, synthesis and pharmacological evaluation as a potential anti-inflammatory agents," *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters*, 22(21), 6616–6620, 2012.
- [10] S. Kobayashi, "The Synthesis and Xanthine Oxidase Inhibitory Activity of Pyrazolo[3, 4-d]pyrimidines," *CHEMICAL & PHARMACEUTICAL BULLETIN*, 21(5), 941–951, 1973.
- [11] N. Boechat, L.C.S. Pinheiro, T.S. Silva, A.C.C. Aguiar, A.S. Carvalho, M.M. Bastos, C.C.P. Costa, S. Pinheiro, A.C. Pinto, & J.S. Mendonça, et al, "New Trifluoromethyl Triazolopyrimidines as Anti-Plasmodium falciparum Agents," *Molecules*, 17(7), 8285–8302, 2012.
- [12] A. Rashad, M. Hegab, R. Abdel-Megeid, M. Ali, & F. Abdel-Megeid, "Synthesis and Antitumor Evaluation of Some Newly Synthesized Pyrazolopyrimidine and Pyrazolotriazolopyrimidine Derivatives," *Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements*, 185(1), 74–83, 2010.
- [13] M.M. Kandeel, A. M. Kamal, E.K.A. Abdelall, & H.A.H. Elshemy, "Synthesis of novel chromene derivatives of expected antitumor activity" *European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*, 59, 183–193, 2013.
- [14] B. Cacciari, C. Bolcato, G. Spalluto, K.-N. Klotz, M. Bacilieri, F. Deflorian, & S. Moro, "Pyrazolo-triazolopyrimidines as adenosine receptor antagonists: A complete structure–activity profile," *Purinergic Signalling*, 3(3), 183–193, 2006.

- [15] E. Al-Afaleq, & S. Abubshait, "Heterocyclic o-Aminonitriles: Preparation of Pyrazolo[3,4-d]-pyrimidines with Modification of the Substituents at the 1- Position," *Molecules*, 6(7), 621–638, 2001.
- [16] A. Monks, D. Scudiero, P. Skehan, R. Shoemaker, K. Paull, D. Vistica, H. Curtis, L. John, C. Paul, V-W. Anne, G-G. Marcia, C. Hugh, M. Joseph & M. Boyd, "Feasibility of a High-Flux Anticancer Drug Screen Using a Diverse Panel of Cultured Human Tumor Cell Lines" *JNCI Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 83(11), 757–766, 1991.