

STUDIES ON NITROGEN AND OXYGEN CONTAINING HETEROCYCLIC COMPOUND: 1,3,4-OXADIAZOLE

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ABSTRACT

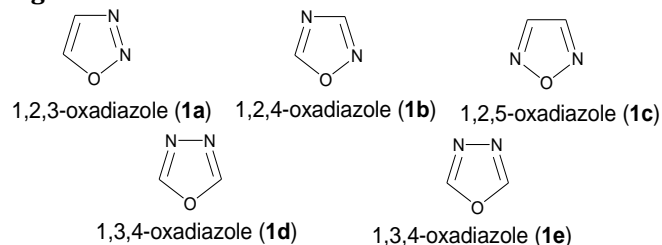
Oxadiazole, a heterocyclic nucleus has attracted a wide attention of the chemist in search for the new therapeutic molecules. Out of its four possible isomers, 1, 3, 4-oxadiazole is widely exploited for various applications. The 1, 3, 4-oxadiazole undergoes number of reactions including electrophilic substitution, nucleophilic substitution, thermal and photochemical. The present review attempts to summarize the various routes of synthesis and the reactions of 1, 3, 4-oxadiazole and its derivatives and focus on their biological potential.

Keywords: 1,3,4-Oxadiazole; Antibacterial; Antitubercular; Vasodialatory; antifungal; Cytotoxic; Antiinflammatory; Analgesic; Hypolipidemic; Anticancer; Ulcerogenic activities.

INTRODUCTION

Oxadiazoles belong to an important group of heterocyclic compounds having -N=C-O- linkage. It is well documented that oxadiazole system contains the following members which are numbered by designating the hetero atoms at particular position. There are Four known isomers: 1,2,3-oxadiazole, 1,2,4-oxadiazole, 1,2,5-oxadiazole and 1,3,4-Oxadiazole (Figure 1a, 1b, 1c and 1d). However, 1,3,4-oxadiazole and 1,2,4-oxadiazole are better known, and more widely studied by researchers because of their many important chemical and biological properties.¹

Figure 1. Four isomer of oxadiazole



1,3,4-Oxadiazole (Figure 1e) is a thermally stable aromatic molecule.² They have been known for about 80 years, it is only in the last decade that investigations in this field have been intensified. This is because of large number of applications of 1,3,4-oxadiazoles in the most diverse areas through drug synthesis, dye stuff industry, heat resistant materials, heat resistant polymers and scintillators. Reviews of the relevant literature prior to 1965 are available.³

Literature survey reveals that particularly 1, 3, 4-oxadiazole derivatives exhibit wide range of biological activities including Antibacterial⁴, Anti-inflammatory⁵,

fungicidal⁶, herbicidal, pesticide⁷, anti-leshminasis⁸, anticonvulsant^{7,8}, anti-HIV⁹, antibacterial and plant growth regulator activities¹⁰.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF OXADIAZOLE

Oxadiazole is a five membered heterocycle having two carbons, two nitrogens, one oxygen and two double bonds. The first monosubstituted 1,3,4-Oxadiazoles were reported in 1955 by two independent laboratories.^{2,11} Since 1955 other workers have extended this reaction 1,3,4-Oxadiazole boils at 150°C.^{12,13} The percentage of C, H, N present in 1,3,4-Oxadiazole is Calculated. (%) for C₂H₂N₂O: C; 34.29, H, 2.88; N, 39.99; O, 22.84 Found: C; 34.56, H; 3.19, N; 39.71, O; 22.63.^{3,15,16} Its Bond angle and bond length are shown in Table 1 determine with Marvin sketch and Chem Draw.

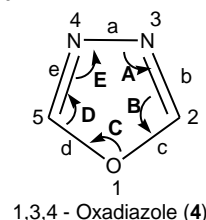


Table 1. Bond angle and Bond length of 1,3,4-Oxadiazole

Bond Angle		Bond Length	
Angle	Bond Angle (°)	Bonds	Bond Length (pm)
A	105.6	a	139.9
B	113.4	b	129.7
C	102.0	c	134.8
D	113.4	d	134.8
E	105.6	e	129.7

The IR spectra of 1, 3, 4-oxadiazole is characterized by the bonds at 1640-1560 cm⁻¹(C=N) and 1020 cm⁻¹(C=O).¹⁷ The position of both protons of 1, 3, 4-Oxadiazole in 1H-NMR is 1.27. The refractive index n^{25D}) of 1,3,4-Oxadiazole is 1.43.¹⁸⁻²⁰

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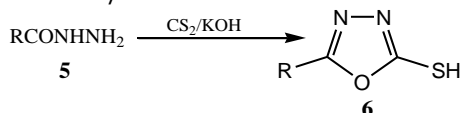
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CHEMISTRY OF OXADIAZOLE

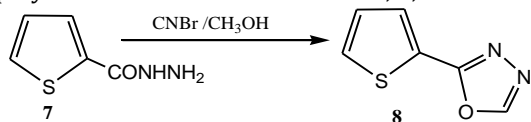
Oxadiazole is a very weak base due to the inductive effect of the extra heteroatom.²¹ The replacement of two -CH= groups in furan by two pyridine type nitrogen (-N=) reduces aromaticity of resulting oxadiazole ring to such an extent that the oxadiazole ring exhibit character of conjugated diene. The electrophilic substitutions in oxadiazole ring are extremely difficult at the carbon atom because of the relatively low electron density on the carbon atom which can be attributed to electron withdrawal effect of the pyridine type nitrogen atom. However the attack of electrophiles occurs at nitrogen, if oxadiazole ring is substituted with electron-releasing groups. Oxadiazole ring is generally resistant to nucleophilic attack. Halogen-substituted oxadiazole, however, undergo nucleophilic substitution with replacement of halogen atom by nucleophiles. Oxadiazole undergo nucleophilic substitution similarly as occurring at an aliphatic SP^2 carbon atom.²²

SYNTHETIC ASPECTS OF 1,3,4-OXADIAZOLES

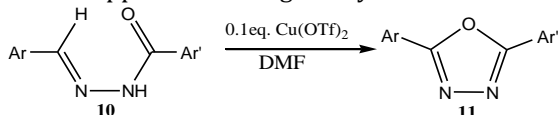
M C Hosur²³ reported synthesis of 2-mercapto-5-aryl-1,3,4-oxadiazole (**6**) from the properly substituted acid hydrazide (**5**) in presence of CS_2/KOH . This method is very popular since ease in workup and high yields are consistently observed. However, long reaction time is a limiting factor. Number of examples are cited in literature employing this methodology for synthesis of 1,3,4-oxadiazole thione / thiol derivatives.²⁴



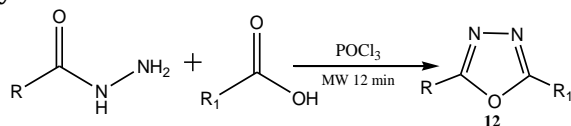
M A Elborai et al²⁵ reported synthesis of 2-amino-5-(2'-thienyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (**8**) by the condensation of 2-thienyl hydrazide (**7**) with $CNBr$. It is a convenient method of synthesis of amino-1,3,4-oxadiazole because of shorter reaction time. More reports are cited in literature, which employed this method to obtain the 1,3,4- amines.²⁶⁻²⁷



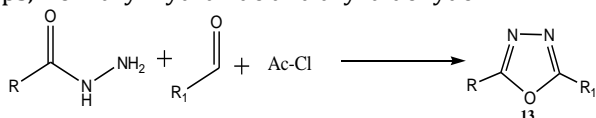
Guin²⁸ A direct access to symmetrical and unsymmetrical 2,5-disubstituted [1,3,4]-oxadiazoles (**11**) has been accomplished through an imine C-H functionalization of *N*-arylidenearylhydrazide (**10**) using a catalytic quantity of $Cu(OTf)_2$. These reactions can be performed in air atmosphere and moisture making it exceptionally practical for application in organic synthesis.



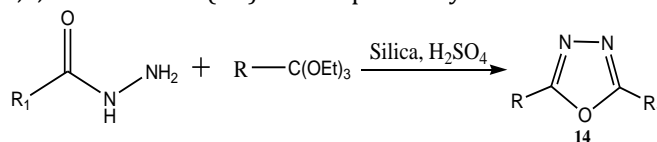
Yu Yuve have reported microwave assisted synthesis 2,5-disubstituted 1,3,4-oxadiazole (**12**) protocol with 91 % of the yield.²¹



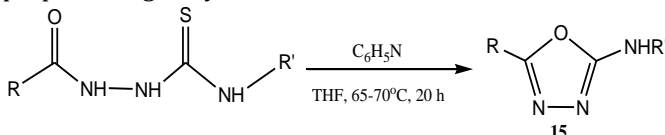
L. Somogyi synthesized 1,3,4-oxadiazole (**13**) from several steps, from aryl hydrazide and aryl aldehyde. [22]



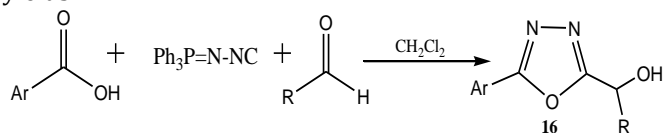
Silica sulfuric acid catalyst used for the rapid and ecofriendly synthesis of 1,3,4-oxadiazoles (**14**) at ambient temperature by M Dabiri et al.²³ Green chemistry and one-pot, solvent-free using microwave radiated synthesis of 1,3,4-oxadiazoles (**14**) were reported by V Polshettiwar.²⁴



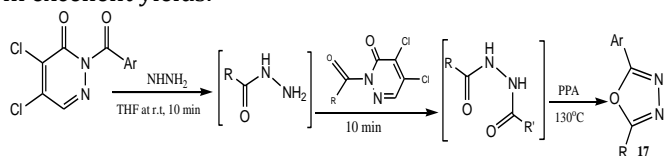
Dolman et al A facile and general protocol for the preparation of 2-amino-1,3,4-oxadiazoles relies on a tosyl chloride / pyridine - mediated cyclization of thiosemicarbazides that consistently outperforms the analogous semicarbazide cyclizations. Various 5-alkyl- and 5-aryl-2-amino-1,3,4-oxadiazoles (**15**) have been prepared in good yields.²⁵



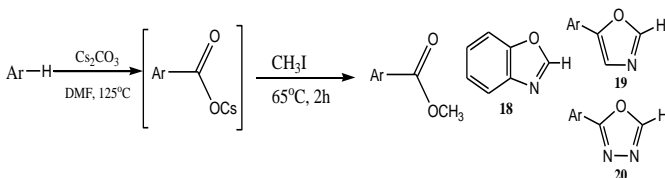
Adib et al *N*-Isocyaniminotriphenylphosphorane, aldehydes, and benzoic acids undergo a one-pot, three-component reaction under mild conditions to afford 2-aryl-5-hydroxyalkyl-1,3,4-oxadiazoles (**16**) in good yields.²⁶



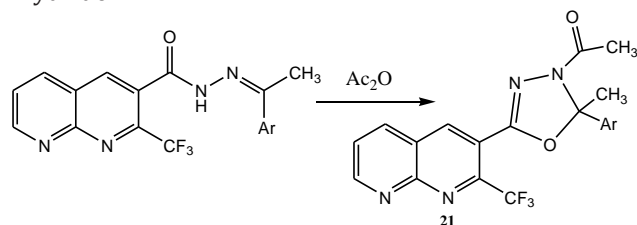
Park et al Symmetric and unsymmetric 1,3,4-oxadiazoles (**17**) were synthesized in situ from hydrazine hydrate and the corresponding 2-acyl-4,5-dichloropyridazin-3-ones as acylating agents in polyphosphoric acid (PPA) or $BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$ in excellent yields.²⁷



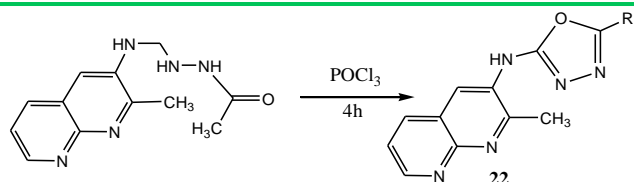
Vechorkin et al A simple and straightforward method for the direct carboxylation of aromatic heterocycles such as oxazoles (**18**), thiazoles (**19**), and oxadiazoles (**20**) using CO_2 as the C1 source requires no metal catalyst and only CS_2CO_3 as the base. A good functional group tolerance is achieved. [28]



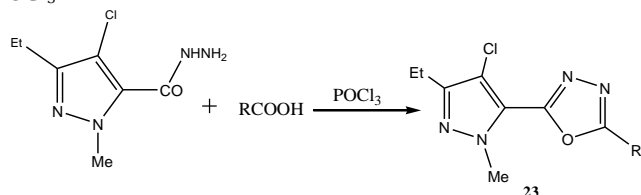
K Mogilaiah and B Sakram²⁹ have prepared 1,3,4-oxadiazole (**21**) from acetophenone-2-trifluoromethyl-1,8-naphthyridine-3-carbonyl hydrazone in presence of acetic anhydride.



D Ramesh and B Sreenivasan³⁰ have synthesised 1,3,4-oxadiazoles (**22**) from semi-carbazide in presence of $POCl_3$.



Hansong Chen et al³¹ have synthesised oxadiazoles (**23**) by the reaction of hydrazide and aromatic acid in presence POCl_3 .



REACTIONS OF 1, 3, 4-OXADIAZOLE³²⁻⁴¹

The substituted and unsubstituted 1,3,4-oxadiazole undergoes varieties of organic reactions. Due to very low electron density on the carbon atom, the attack of electrophile preferentially occurs at the position 3 with the formation of 1, 3, 4 -oxadiazolium salts (**24**) (Figure 2).^[32] However, the alkylation of 2-alkoxy-1, 3, 4- oxadiazole with alkyl halides produces labile oxadiazolium salt (**30**) which undergo O-dealkylation to provide 4-alkyl-oxadiazolin-5-ones (**31**) (Figure 3). 2,5-Diphenyl-1,3,4-oxadiazole can be nitrated or sulfonated by conc. HNO_3 and oleum. This result in to attack on phenyl ring itself.³³

Figure 2. attack of electrophile (R) at position 3rd.

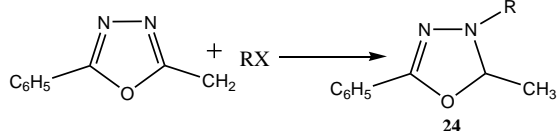
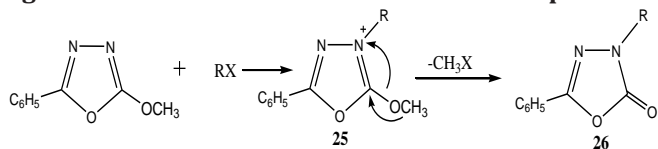
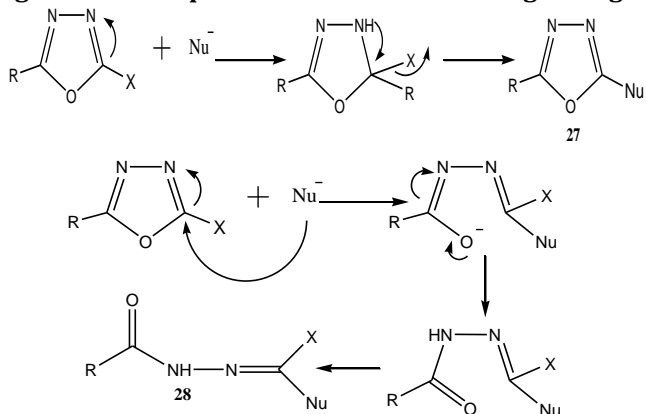


Figure 3. Mechanism of Reaction with electrophiles



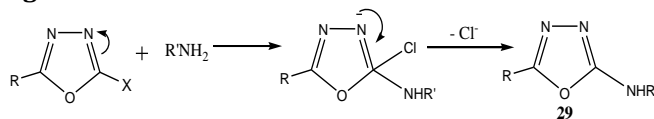
Reactions with nucleophiles are also reported. The carbon atoms in 1, 3, 4 -oxadiazole ring are relatively with low π electron density and therefore attack of nucleophiles occurs at this carbon atom. The reaction proceeds either with nucleophilic substitution (**27**) or with ring cleavage (**28**) (Figure 4). 1,3,4-oxadiazole substituted with halogen or sulfonyl group at the position-2 easily undergo nucleophilic substitution reaction.³⁴

Figure 4. Nucleophilic Substitution and Ring Cleavage



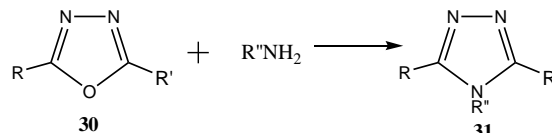
The reaction of 2-chloro-1, 3, 4-oxadiazole with nucleophiles such as amines, thiourea or azide proceeds with the substitution of chloro group by nucleophile and result in the corresponding 2-substituted-1, 3, 4-oxadiazoles (**29**) (Figure 5).³⁶

Figure 5. Reaction with amine



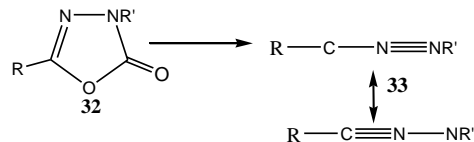
The reaction of alkyl or aryl- 1, 3, 4-oxadiazoles (**30**) with nucleophile involve the cleavage of 1, 3, 4-oxadiazole ring ending to the formation of hydrazine derivative which may cyclize to form 1,2,4-triazole (**31**) (Figure 6). Alkyl and aryl-1,3,4-oxadiazole undergo acid or base catalyzed ring opening reaction in aqueous solution with formation of diacylhydrazines. 1, 3, 4 -oxadiazole is thermally stable and the stability of the ring is increased with the substitution of the aryl groups.³⁷

Figure 6. Formation of 1,2,4-triazole from 1,3,4-oxadiazole



However, 1,3,4-oxadiazolin-5-one (**32**) undergo thermal and photochemical ring opening reaction with the loss of carbon dioxide to provide nitrilimines (**33**).³⁸⁻⁴⁰ It is well documented that diaryl 1, 3, 4-oxadiazole react with benzothiophene leading to formation of oxadiazepine as a major product. But irradiation of this molecule with benzophenone as sensitizer results in (2+2) cycloadduct product. 2,5-substituted-1,3,4-oxadiazole are greatly affected by strong acid or base. Cleavage of the ring is followed by hydrazine formation. In general aryl derivatives are less sensitive than alkyl substituted derivatives. (Figure 7)

Figure 7. Formation of nitrilimines



A special type of rearrangement known as 'Dimroth rearrangement' is exhibited by 1,3,4- oxadiazole having a substituents containing heteroatom like O,S,N at position 2 or 5 in presence of strong acid or strong alkali upon long duration heating.³⁸ If it is intended to carry out the reaction involving heteroatom at position 2 or 5 of 1,3,4-oxadiazole, the reaction should be carried out at lower temperature (<80°C) after mixing the reagent at room temperature. Otherwise, possibility of Dimroth rearrangement always exists which may yield mixture of both.⁴¹

POSSIBLE REACTION MECHANISM⁴²⁻⁴⁴

Step 1 In first step carboxylic acid is converted to ester group by Nucleophilic Addition elimination mechanism (Figure 8 & 10)

Step 2 In this step ester is converted to hydrazide in presence of hydrazine hydrate by nucleophilic substitution mechanism (Figure 9 & 11)

Step 3 In this step 1,3,4-oxadiazole is prepared by several methods by cyclization mechanism here, three methods are discussing with their reaction mechanism.

Figure 8. Formation of Ester from carboxylic acid

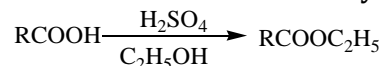


Figure 9. Formation of Hydrazide

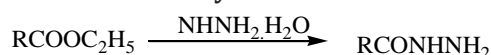
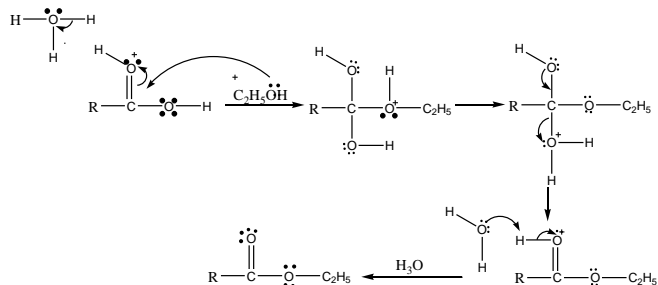
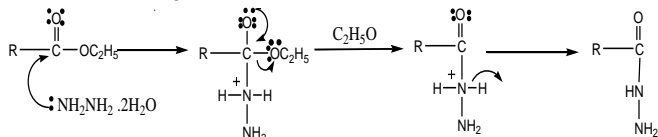
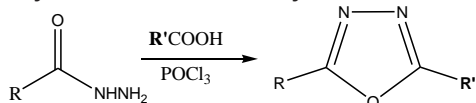
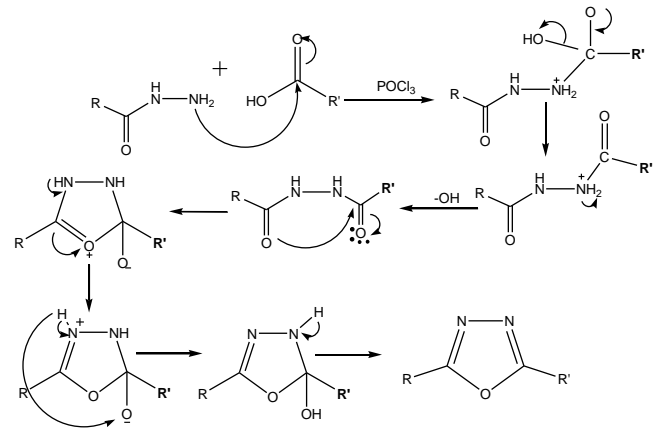


Figure 10. Nucleophilic Addition elimination mechanism for formation of ester**Figure 11. Nucleophilic substitution mechanism for formation of hydrazide**

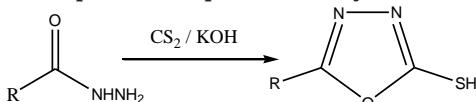
Method A Preparation of 1,3,4-Oxadiazole by using alkyl or aryl substituted carboxylic acid in presence of Phosphorus Trichloride (POCl_3) with substituted hydrazide (Figure 12).

Figure 12. Preparation of 1, 3, 4 - Oxadiazole by using alkyl or aryl substituted carboxylic acid

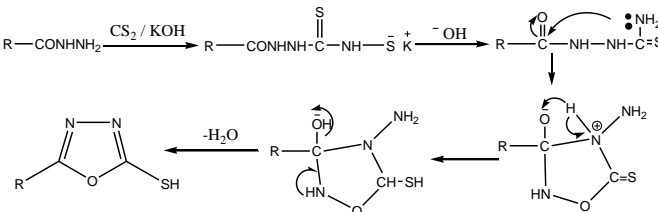
In this Step cyclization take place. (Figure 13).

Figure 13. Cyclization of substituted hydrazide 2,5-dialkyl or diaryl substituted-1,3,4-oxadiazole derivatives

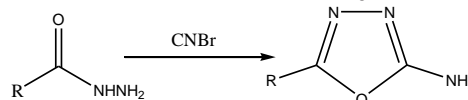
Method B Preparation of 1, 3, 4 - Oxadiazole by using Carbon-di-sulphide and potassium hydroxide with substituted hydrazide (Figure 14 & 15).

Figure 14. Preparation of 1,3,4-Oxadiazole by using Carbon-di-sulphide and potassium hydroxide

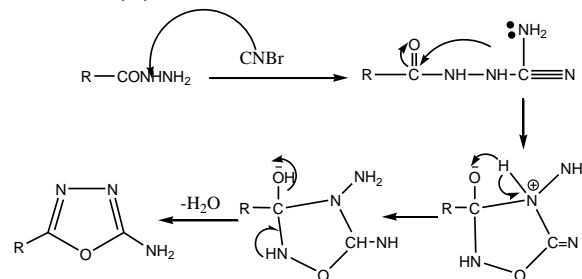
In this method same cyclization occur and hydrazide is converted to potassium thiosemicarbazide salt from which 2,5-disubstitued-1,3,4-oxadiazole-2-thiol is formed (Figure 15).

Figure 15. Cyclization of substituted hydrazide to form 2, 5-disubstitued-1,3,4-oxadiazole-2-thiol.

Method C Preparation of 1, 3, 4 - Oxadiazole by using Cyanogen Bromide with substituted hydrazide (Figure 16).

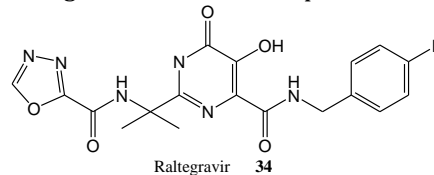
Figure 16. Preparation of 1, 3, 4 - Oxadiazole by using Cyanogen Bromide with substituted hydrazide.

In this method nitrilimines is formed from hydrazide which is converted to 5-substitued-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-amine. (Figure 17)

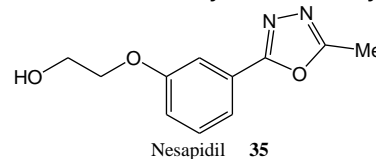
Figure 17. Cyclization of substituted hydrazide to 5-substitued-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-amine.

MODE OF ACTION OF 1,3,4-OXADIAZOLE⁴⁵⁻⁴⁹

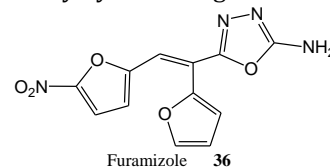
Raltegravir (**34**) an antiretroviral drug by Merck & Co, is used to treat HIV infection. HIV replication involves the conversion of viral RNA into DNA, which is then incorporated into the host cell genome through a process catalyzed by the HIV integrase enzyme. By blocking integrase, raltegravir inhibits HIV replication. [45]



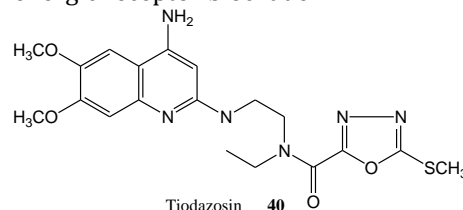
Nesapidil (**35**) is categorized as a Class IV antiarrhythmic drug. It is calcium channel blocker. Its major effect is to slow down Ca^{+2} channels. The result is a slowing of AV conduction and sinus rate. Nesapidil causes change in the preload, after load, contractility and coronary blood flow.⁴⁶



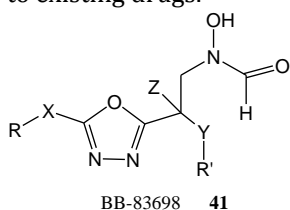
Furamizole (**36**) a nitrofuranyl derivative possesses a strong antibacterial activity by inhibiting beta lactamase.^[47]



Tiodazosin (**40**) is an antihypertensive drug. Under *in vitro* conditions, tiodazosin produced a noncompetitive antagonism of alpha adrenergic receptors in the portal vein, It did not show marked affinity for presynaptic alpha adrenergic receptors and lacked any measurable direct vasodilator effects (nonreceptor mediated) independent of alpha adrenergic receptor blockade.^[48]



BB-83698 (**41**) is an antibacterial agent. It is an inhibitor of metallo enzyme PDF (Peptide Deformylase). PDF is considered as the most promising bacterial targets in the search for novel mode of action of antibiotics that lacks cross-resistance to existing drugs.^[49]

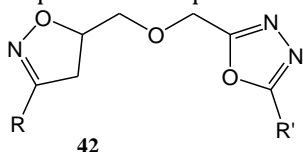


BIOLOGICAL ACTIVITY

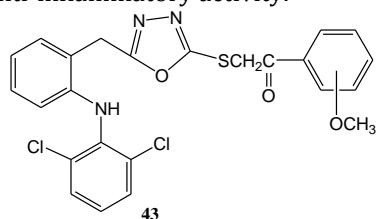
The capacity of 1,3,4-oxadiazole nucleus to undergo variety of chemical reaction have made it medicinal backbone on which number of potential molecules can be constructed. A few therapeutic agents were synthesized possessing of 1,3,4-oxadiazole nucleus are mentioned below.

Anti-Inflammatory Activity

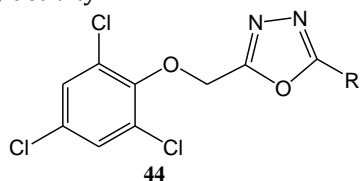
B Jayashankar et al⁵⁰ synthesized a series of novel ether-linked bis heterocycles (**42**). All the synthesized compounds were screened for anti-inflammatory and analgesic activities. Compound **42** showed excellent activity against ibuprofen and aspirin.



Shashikant V Bhandari et al⁵¹ synthesized a series of *S*-substituted phenacryl 1,3,4-oxadiazole and Schiff bases derived from 2-[(2,6-dichloroanilino) phenyl] acetic acid (diclofenac acid (**43**)). Total eighteen compounds were synthesized and out of those only eight were found to have significant anti-inflammatory activity with significant analgesic activity in acetic acid induced writhing models with no ulcerogenic activity. Among those eight active Compounds (**43**) found to have most prominent and consistent anti-inflammatory activity.

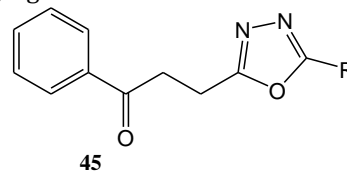


Mohd Amir et al⁵² synthesized a series of new 1,3,4-oxadiazole derivatives and 1,2,4-triazine-5-one derivatives (**44**). All the compounds were screened for their Anti-inflammatory activity by using carrageenin-induced rat paw edema method. Compounds **44** among all the synthesized compounds showed maximum anti-inflammatory activity.

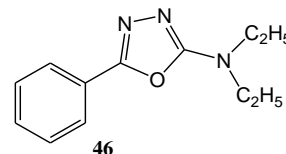


Mymoona et al⁵³ Various derivatives of aryl propanoic acid containing oxadiazole nucleus (**45**) were successfully synthesized and screened for anti-inflammatory, analgesic, ulcerogenic activities and lipid peroxidation studies. Some of the synthesized compounds were very safe with anti-inflammatory and analgesic activities comparable to ibuprofen. The results obtained support the statement that

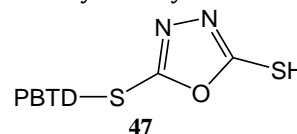
the synthesized compounds may be used as safer anti-inflammatory agents



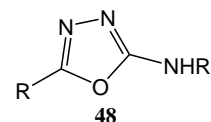
Raman et al⁵⁴; The Anti-inflammatory activity of the synthesized Diethyl-(5-phenyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)-amine (**46**) were evaluated in vivo by the carrageenan induced paw oedema method in rat. The compounds were tested at an oral dose of 100 mg/kg of body weight, and were compared with the standard drug (Indomethacin) at 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th hour of inflammation induction by carrageenan treatment.



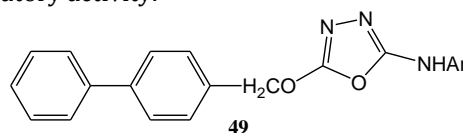
Kramer et al⁵⁵ Some 1,3,4-oxadiazole DTBP 1,3,4-oxadiazole (**47**) derivatives has found to exert their anti-inflammatory effect via cyclooxygenase and 5-lipoxygenase inhibitory activity.



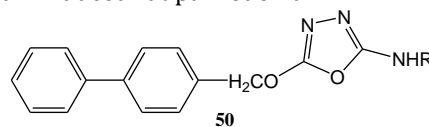
Omar et al⁵⁶ Anti-inflammatory potential of substituted oxadiazoles i.e. 2-aryl amino-5-(4-biphenoxymethyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazoles (**48**) were reflected by their ability to provide 36 to 76% protection in carrageenan induced rat paw edema method.



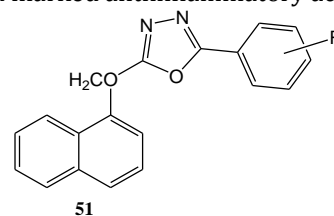
Salzman S et al,⁵⁷ A series of novel 2,5-disubstituted 1,3,4-oxadiazole derivatives were also evaluated for their anti-inflammatory activity.



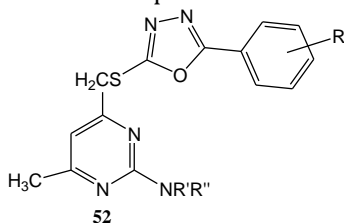
Rajak H et al⁵⁸, 2-arylamino-5-(4-biphenoxymethyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazoles (**50**) on pharmacological screening as anti-inflammatory activity exhibited 10 to 76% protection in carrageenan-induced rat paw edema.



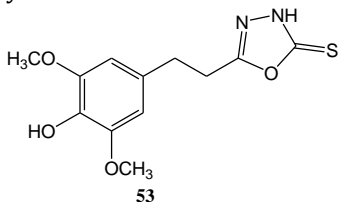
Burbuliene M et al,⁵⁹ Two novel series of compounds, 1,3,4-oxadiazole (**51**) analogues were synthesized for their potential antiinflammatory activities, using the carrageenan-induced rat paw edema method and cotton pellet-induced granuloma method. Some compounds demonstrated marked antiinflammatory activities.



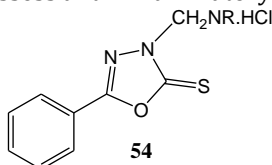
Mullican et al,⁶⁰ anti-inflammatory evaluation of derivatives of 5-[(2-disubstitutedamino-6-methylpyrimidin-4-yl)-sulfanylmethyl]-3H-1,3,4-oxadiazole-2-thiones (**52**) found that some of these derivative were much more potent than ibuprofen.



Singh et al,⁶¹ With the aim of discovering dual inhibitors of 5-lipoxygenase (LO) and cyclooxygenase (CO) with improved pharmacokinetic properties, a series of 5-(3,5-di-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazoles (**53**) were designed and synthesized

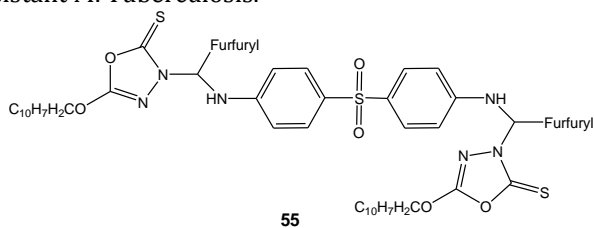


Kumar A et al, Some 5-(4-pyridyl)-4-(substituted methyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazoline-2-thione hydrochloride (**54**) has also been found to possess anti-inflammatory activity^[62]

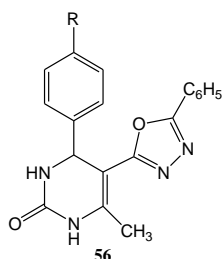


Anti-Microbial Activity

Mohamed Ashraf Ali et al,⁶³ synthesized a series of oxadiazole mannich bases by reaction between oxadiazole derivatives, dapsone, appropriate aldehydes and was evaluated against Mycobacterium Tuberculosis. Compound 3-{2-furyl[4-(4-{2-furyl [5-(2-naphthyl-oxymethyl)-2-thioxo-2,3-dihydro-1,3,4-oxadiazol-3-yl]methylamino} phenylsulfonyl) anilino]methyl]-5-(2-naphthyl-oxymethyl)-2,3-dihydro-1,3,4-oxadiazole-2-thione (**55**) from all the synthesized compounds have shown best activity against M. Tuberculosis and isoniazid resistant M. Tuberculosis.

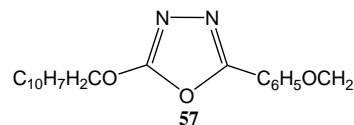


Manish Kumar Mishra et al.⁶⁴ synthesized 6-Methyl-4-aryl-5-(5-phenyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-2(1H)-one (**56**). It has significant effect against *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (+ve) and *Escheria coli* (-ve).

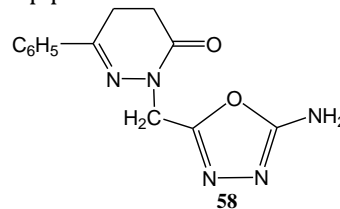


M Shahr Yar et al⁶⁵ synthesized a series of novel 2,5-disubstituted 1,3,4-oxadiazole derivatives and was tested

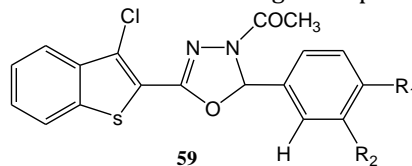
for *in-vitro* Anti-Microbial activity. 2-(2-naphthyl-oxymethyl)-5-phenoxymethyl-1,3,4-oxadiazole (**57**) exhibited > 90% inhibition among all the synthesized compounds.



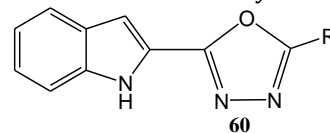
Mojahidul Islam et al⁶⁶ synthesized a series of 5-{3'-oxo-6'-(substituted aryl)-2',3',4',5'-tetrahydropyridazin-2-ylmethyl}-2-substituted 1,3,4-oxadiazole (**58**) and then final compounds were tested for their anti-bacterial activity using cup plate method.



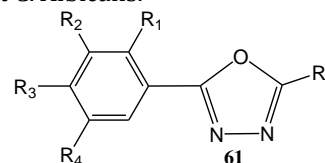
Rakesh Chawla et al,⁶⁷ synthesized some new 3-acetyl-5-(3-chloro-1 benzo[b]thiophen-2-yl)-2-substituted phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1,3,4-oxadiazoles (**59**) was evaluated for Antimicrobial activity. Compounds (**59**) were found to be most potent than the standard drugs i.e. ciprofloxacin.



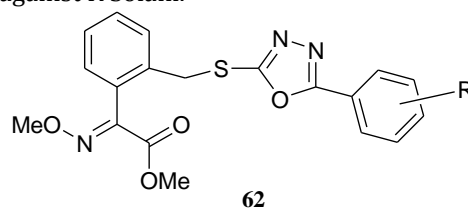
Nitin Bhardwaj et al⁶⁸ synthesized 2-substituted-(1,3,4-oxadiazole)-1H-indole (**60**) from different compounds and was tested for Anti-Microbial activity on different strains.



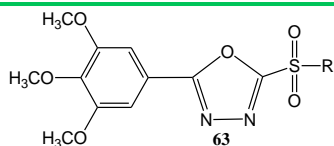
B Chandrakantha et al,⁶⁹ synthesized a series of new 1,3,4-oxadiazole with 2-fluoro-4-methoxy substitute 1,3,4-oxadiazole (**61**) moiety and are tested for Anti-Microbial activity. All synthesized compounds showed significant anti-bacterial activity against *Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and also showed anti-fungal activity against *C. Albicans*.



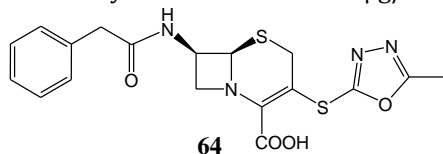
Yan Li et al⁷⁰ synthesized fifteen novel (E)-a-(methoxyimino)-benzeneacetate derivatives (**62**). Bioassays indicated that compound **62** showed potent fungicidal activity against *Rhizoctonia solani*, *Botrytis cinereapers*, *Gibberella zeae*, *Physalospora piricola* and *Bipolaris mayclis* and 1a-1o showed potent fungicidal activity against R Solani.



Bao-An Song et al⁷¹ synthesized compounds using the key intermediates 5-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole analogue (**63**) and tested for fungicidal activity.

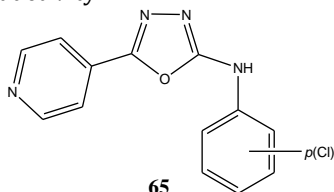


Yoshida et al,⁷² described the synthesis and optimization of anti-*Helicobacter pylori* activity for a new series of cephem derivatives. Compound **64** exhibited anti *Helicobacter pylori* (13001 and FP1757) activity at a minimum inhibitory concentration of 0.1 µg/mL.

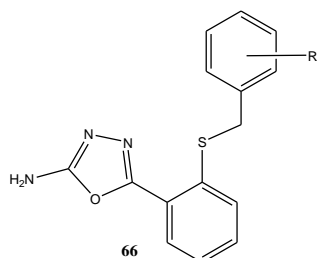


Anti- convulsant Activity

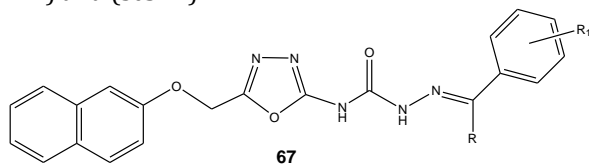
Bhat M A et al⁷³ synthesized a series of five membered heterocyclics and was tested for convulsion. 2-(4-chlorophenyl)amino-5-(4-pyridyl)-1, 3, 4oxadiazole (**65**) showed potent activity.



Zarghi A et al, A new series of 2-substituted-5-{2-[(2-halobenzyl)thio]phenyl}-1,3,4- oxadiazoles, (**66**) were designed, synthesized and investigated for anticonvulsant activities. The designed compounds contain the main essential pharmacophore for binding to the benzodiazepine receptors. Electroshock and pentyl enetetrazole induced lethal convulsion tests showed 5-{2-[(2-fluorobenzyl) thio] phenyl}-1,3,4- oxadiazol-2-amine had significant anticonvulsant activity in PTZ and MES models.⁷⁴

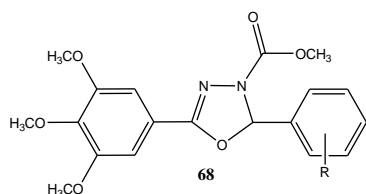


Rajak et al,⁷⁵ synthesized and evaluated semicarbazones (**67**) containing the 1,3,4-oxadiazole units for anticonvulsant potential in a three model test (MES), (scPTZ) and (scSTY).

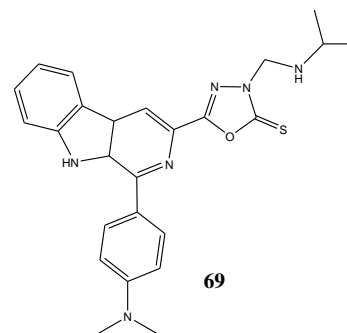


Anti-cancer Activity

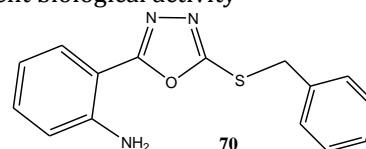
Baoan Song et al⁷⁶ synthesized some 3-acetyl-2-substituted phenyl-5-(3,4,5- trimethoxyphenyl)-2,3-dihydro-1,3,4- oxadiazole derivatives. Among the synthesized compound (**68**) highly active against PC3 cells and are moderately active against Bcap37 and BGC823 cells.



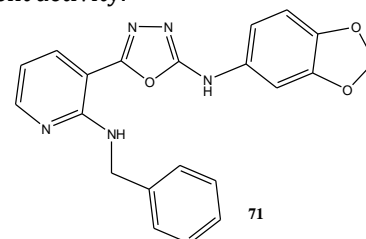
Savariz et al,⁷⁷ synthesized and evaluated the *in vitro* antitumor activity of new Mannich bases. Among the compounds studied, compound (**69**) showed potent activity against melanoma (UACC-62), and lung (NCI-460) cell lines with GI50 values of 0.88 and 1.01 mmol/L, respectively.



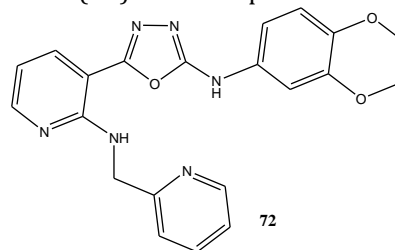
Liu et al,⁷⁸ synthesized and reported the anti-proliferative and EGFR inhibition properties of a series of 2-(benzylthio)-5-aryloxadiazole derivatives. Compound (**70**) showed potent biological activity



Xiaohu Ouyang et al⁷⁹ synthesized derivatives of oxadiazoles and are evaluated for their ability to inhibit tubulin polymerization and to arrest mitotic division of tumor cells. Among the synthesized compounds, (**71**) showed potent activity.

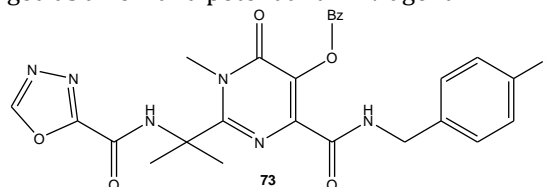


Ouyang et al,⁸⁰ Synthesized and evaluated various 1,3,4-oxadiazole derivatives as to their ability to inhibit tubulin polymerization and block the mitotic division of tumor cells. Compounds (**72**) exhibited potent activity.

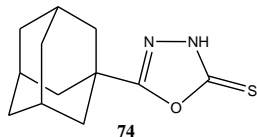


Antiviral Activity

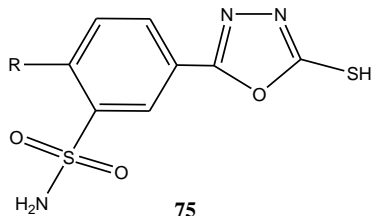
Wang and et al,⁸¹ synthesized a series of raltegravir derivatives by modifying the 5-hydroxyl group of the pyrimidine ring and evaluated them for anti-HIV activity. The 5-hydroxyl modification of raltegravir derivatives significantly increased their activity, which indicates the 5-hydroxyl group's dispensability. Compound (**73**) with a sub-picomol IC50 value was the most potent anti-HIV agent among all of the derivatives synthesized, and thus emerged as a new and potent anti-HIV agent



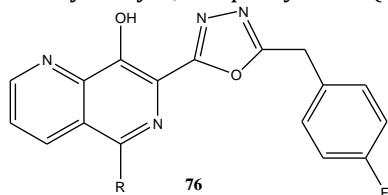
El-Emam et al, The inhibitory activity of the compounds (**74**) against the human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) was determined using the XTT assay on MT-4 cells.⁸²



Iqbal and et al,⁸³ reported inhibitory activity for compounds **75** against the human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) which was also determined using the XTT assay on MT-4 cells.

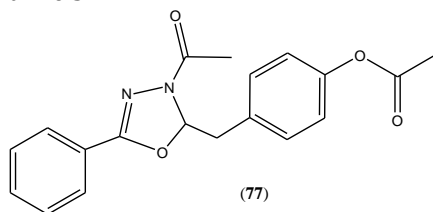


Johns and et al,⁸⁴ reported antiviral activity (through inhibition of viral DNA integration) for new derivatives containing the 1,3,4-oxadiazole unit in combination with a ring system of 8-hydroxy-1,6-naphthyridine (**76**).

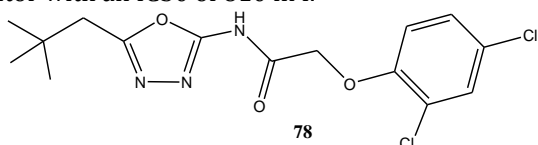


Antihypertensive Activity

Hypertension and cardiovascular disease are major causes of morbidity and mortality worldwide. Bankar and et. al, ^[85] reported the vasorelaxant effect of compound (**77**), 4-(3-acetyl-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-2,3-dihydro-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)phenyl acetate, in rat aortic rings by blocking L-type calcium channels.

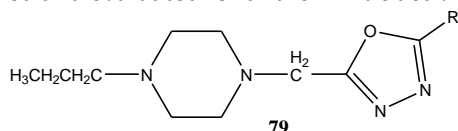


Bankar and et al,⁸⁶ also investigated whether the correction of endothelial dysfunction is dependent on high blood pressure normalization; in deoxycorticosterone acetate (DOCA-salt), and NG-nitro-L-arginine (L-NNA) in hypertensive rats. Compound (**78**) is a T type Ca²⁺ channel inhibitor with an IC₅₀ of 810 nM.⁸⁶



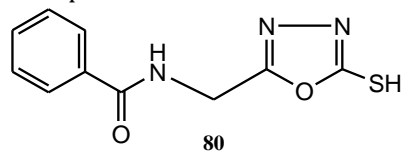
Anthelmintic Activity

A novel series of 1-[(5-substituted-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)-methyl]-4-propylpiperazines, (**79**) derivatives was synthesized and evaluated for anthelmintic activity.⁸⁷



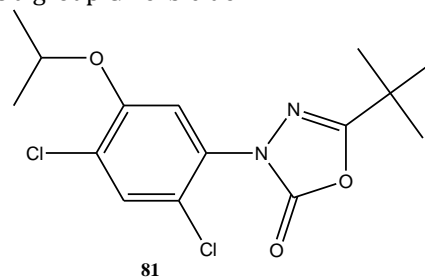
Shrivastava et al, 1,3,4-oxadiazole derivative of hippuric acid, N-((5-mercapto-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl) methyl) benzamide (**80**) synthesized and were found to possess potential anthelmintic activity against *Pheretima*

posthuma.as compared to albedazole. ^[88]

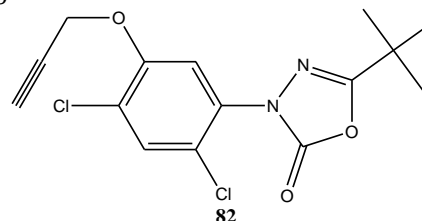


Herbicide activity

Murakami Y et al, Oxadiazon, 3-[2,4-dichloro-5-(1-methylethoxy) phenyl]-5-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2(3H)-one, **32** is a member of the oxadiazole group of herbicide. For weed resistance management, the product is a group G herbicide.⁸⁹

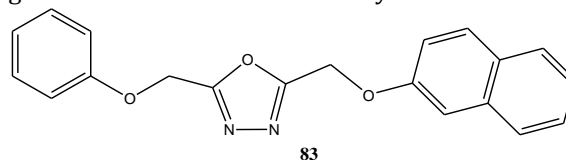


Nandihalli U. B. et. al, Oxadiargyl (TOPSTAR 80 WP), 3-[2,4-dichloro-5-(2-propynyloxy) phenyl]-5-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2(3H)-one, **33** is a broad spectrum weed control (international registrations approved).⁹⁰



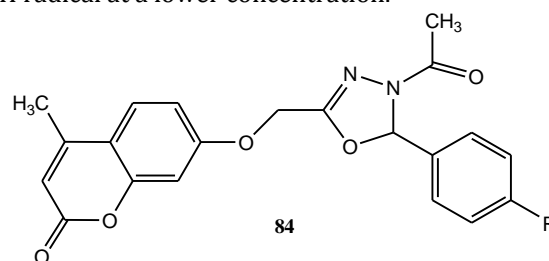
Antimycobacterial Activity

Tuberculosis is a serious health problem that causes the death of approximately 2-3 million of people every year worldwide. A literature survey also reveals that several 1,3,4-oxadiazole derivatives possess antimycobacterial activity against *M tuberculosis* H37Rv. Yar M et al; The result of the antimycobacterial activity tests revealed that 2-(2-naphthyl oxymethyl)-5-phenoxy methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazole, (**83**) exhibited > 90% inhibition at MIC ~6.25 using the BACTEC-460 radiometric system.⁹¹



Antioxidant Activity

Rajasekaran S et al, 1,3,4-oxadiazole nucleus are known to exhibit potential antioxidant activity. The search for antioxidant drugs led to the discovery of several 1,3,4-oxadiazol derivatives having antioxidant activity. A series of some 5-pyridyl-2-[(N-substituted phenyl) thioacetamido]-1,3,4-oxadiazoles, (**84**) has inhibited the DPPH radical at a lower concentration.⁹²



A novel series of 3-acetyl-2-(substituted phenyl)-5-(4-methylcoumarinyl-7-oxymethyl)-2,3-dihydro 1,3,4-

oxadiazoles, (**85**) were evaluated for antioxidant activity. The derivatives bearing H, CH₃ group showed more than 50 % antioxidant activity by the diphenylpicryl hydrazyl assay.⁹³

Some new oxadiazole drugs & derivatives under Preclinical/Phase clinical trials. (Table 2)

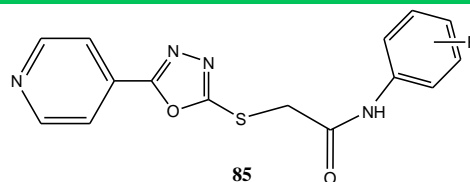
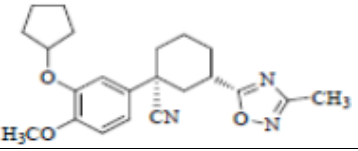
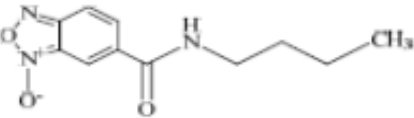
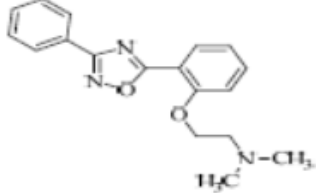


Table 2. Some new oxadiazole drugs & derivatives under Preclinical/Phase clinical trials.

S.No	Chemical Structure	Activity	Phase	Originator
1		Antitussive, Bronchodilator	Phase-I	Sanofi- Synthlabo
2		Antirhinoviral, Antiviral	Phase-III	Viro pharma
3		Antihypertensive, Antianginal, Antiglaucoma agent, Beta-adrenoceptor antagonist	Phase-II	Center for Chemistry of Drugs
4		Antidepressants, Anxiolytic, 5- HT1D Antagonist	Biological testing	Smithkline Beecham
5		Antidepressants, Anxiolytic, 5-HT1D Inverse agonist	Preclinical	Smithkline Beecham
6		Cognition enhancing drug, GABA(A) receptor modulator, GABA(A) B2 site inverse agonist	Preclinical	Dainoppon pharma
7		Analgesic	Preclinical	Universidade federal pernambuco
8		Antiobesity drug, Antidiabetic drug, Beta3 adrenoce tor agonist	Preclinical	Merck
9		Antiobesity drug, Antidiabetic drug, Beta3 adrenoceptor agonist	Preclinical	Merck

10		Bronchodilator, Phosphodiesterase Inhibitor	Preclinical	Smithkline Beecham
11		Antitrypanosomal	Preclinical	Universidad de la re publica
12		Antiepileptic drug, Neuronal Injury Inhibitor, AMPA antagonist, Sodium channel blocker	Preclinical	Boehringer Ingelheim

CONCLUSION

This review gives an overview of the various synthetic routes used to form a biologically rich oxadiazole moiety as well as the reactions the molecule undergoes to yield various other important molecules. It also highlights the

therapeutic properties of the oxadiazole ring and the availability of varied drugs in the market containing the ring. Thus this paper proves to be significant for further research work on the bioactive oxadiazole ring.

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