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Synthesis, Characterization and *In-Silico* ADMET Screening of Mono- and Di-carbomethoxylated 6,6'-Methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methylphenol) and Their Hydrazides and Hydrazones

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ABSTRACT

Mono-carboxymethylation and the dicarboxymethylation of 6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methylphenol) has been accomplished to give methyl-2- (2-cyclohexyl-6- (3-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxy-5-methyl benzyl)-4-methyl phenoxy) acetate (2) and dimethyl 2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1 phenylene) bis(oxy)diacetate (5), respectively. Their structures have been determined using spectroscopic methods. Hydrazinolysis of 2 and 5 gave the corresponding hydrazides, whose reactions with a number of aldehydes gave the Schiff bases. These hydrazones are of considerable interest as precursors for the synthesis of heterocyclic compounds of hybrid nature in addition to their potential biological activity. Pharmacophore elucidation of the compounds was performed based on ligand alignment. In addition, *in silico* ADMET analysis was done to predict the ADMET properties of the test compounds.

Keywords: Methylenebis-phenoles; Selective alkylation; Acylhydrazones; Pharmacophore; ADMET screening; Docking

INTRODUCTION

Heterocycles has a key role in pharmaceuticals, natural products, analytical reagents, agriculture products, and dyes. Much more attention has been paid to develop new methodologies to get these important heterocyclic compounds. To choose a suitable starting material has a pivotal role in the synthesis of novel heterocycles, substituted with unique functional groups. 2,2'-Methylenebis(4-methylphenol) has an important role in many synthetic processes not only because of its electrical and damping behaviours but also its role as precursor to get important heterocycles such as azacalixarenes [1,2], macro molecules like Calix arenes [3], bulky titanium bis(phenolate) complexes which act as initiators for living anionic polymerization of ϵ -caprolactone [4], stable oligomethylenephenolcyclophosphites containing 1-3 phosphorus atoms which allow design complex coordination systems holding promise for metal complex catalysis [5], dinuclear aluminum complexes supported by amino or imino-phenolate ligands [6], anion receptors based on acyclic phenol-formaldehyde oligomers bearing thiourea groups and has a role in complexation [7]. From the medicinal point of view, 2,2'-methylenebis(4-methylphenol) has a strong role such as inhibition of the sarco/endoplasmic reticulum calcium ATPase [8] and scolicidal effect against *Echinococcus granulosus* in vitro [9]. Undisputedly acyl hydrazones have also numerous applications in terms of their potential biological activities such as anticonvulsant [10], antidepressant [11], anti-inflammatory [12,13], antimalarial [14,15], antimycobacterial [16,17], anticancer [18,19], antimicrobial [20-23], trypanocidal [24], anti-HIV [25], antiviral and influenza virus agonists [26]. Due to the large number of applications of the products and their precursor both on synthetic as well as medicinal value, we have selected 2,2'-methylenebis(4-methylphenol) to synthesize a novel series of hydrazones for the exploration of interesting bioactive compounds based on diverse structural features, easy synthetic routes and the desired functionalities in the molecules.

The QSAR/QSPR community has, for a good number of years, developed models for the prediction of physicochemical properties of interest in ADMET (absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion, and toxicity). These include: the partition coefficient, aqueous solubility [27], absorption and permeability [28], BBB penetration [28], plasma protein binding [28], metabolism [29], hERG inhibition [30], excretion [28], P-glycoprotein (P-gp) efflux, physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) modelling and toxicity [31,32]. In addition, of course, pharmacophore and homology modelling have also proceeded, to allow improved prediction of metabolism and toxicity [33,34]. Today, the tests that make up ADMET evaluation are low throughput, and are apparently not informative or accurate enough to predict a drug's probability of success, given the high failure rate of compounds at all stages of development [35]. Drug discovery companies are therefore seeking to reorganize the ADMET process, advancing the chain of early discovery. The objective is to predict, early in the process, perhaps even before the compounds are synthesized, which compounds pass the test for a good drug. Over the past few years, many software have been developed for the properties and toxicity of ADME-based organisms. Software is now available for BBB penetration, human intestinal absorption, oral bioavailability, jejunum permeability, Caco-2 and Madin–Darby canine kidney cell permeability, serum protein binding, apparent volume of distribution, hERG potassium channel blockage, P-gp efflux, human hepatotoxicity, carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, skin sensitisation, developmental toxicity, metabolism, CYP inducers, substrates and inhibitors, and PBPK [36].

The present work was done on the selective and full carbethoxymethylation of 6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methylphenol) in order to use them as precursors for hydrazides and then heterocycles. The single crystal analysis of both the aromatic ester shows that the crystals are stabilized by Van der Waals forces. Since the *in vivo* and *in vitro* evaluations are costly and laborious, *in silico* techniques have been widely used to estimate these properties. In this research study, we would briefly describe the advances of *in silico* ADMET prediction, with emphasis on structure pattern recognition that was developed recently. The *in silico* ADMET, pharmacokinetics and drug-likeness prediction were discussed in details and the computational data could be used for prediction in drug discovery and hazard risk assessment.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

General methods and materials

Melting points were determined with a Mel-Temp apparatus (SMP10) in open capillaries and are uncorrected. TLC was performed on E. Merck Silica Gel 60 F₂₅₄ with detection by UV light absorption. FT-IR was done on Perkin Elmer Spectrometer. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on BrukerAvance AV NMR spectrometer at 300 or 400 MHz, whereas the ¹³C NMR was recorded on the same instrument at 75 or 100 MHz, respectively, with TMS as internal standard. Mass spectra were recorded on a Finnigan (MAT312) and Jeol (JMS.600H) instrument; HRMS were recorded with Thermo Finnigan (MAT 95XP). Solvents used were purified by simple distillation.

Methyl-2-(2-cyclohexyl-6-(3-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxy-5-methyl benzyl)-4-methyl phenoxy) acetate (2)

A stirred solution of 6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methylphenol) (1) (100mg, 0.239 mmole) in acetone (10 mL) was treated with potassium carbonate (165 mg, 1.2 mmole), and heated under reflux for 1 h. Methylchloroacetate (0.0313 mL, 0.389 mmole) was added and heating was continued for 4 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The dichloromethane solution (20 mL) of the resulting syrup was washed with water and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. It was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated to give yellowish oil. TLC showed a single spot of monomer 2. The product was purified by column chromatography to give the required product in 70% yield as white solid. m.p. 120-122°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm: 6.9(s, 1H, OH), 6.8(d, *J*_{HH}=11.2, 3H, Ar-H), 6.70(s, 1H, Ar-H), 4.44 (s, 2H, OCH₂), 3.85(s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.83(s, 2H, Ar-CH₂-Ar), 2.96 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.78 (s, 1H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.23 (d, *J*_{HH}=4Hz, 6H, Ar-CH₃), 1.79 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H), 1.38 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3420, 2923, 2850, 1755, 1471, 1207, 1055. Molecular ion peak (M⁺); 464, Major fragmentation peaks; 464, 446, 432, 291, 262, 203, 121, 83, 55, 41. HR-EIMS [M⁺], Calc. for C₃₀H₄₀O₄; 464.2927, found 464.2938.

2-(2-cyclohexyl-6-(3-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxy-5-methylbenzyl)-4-methyl phenoxy) acetohydrazide (3)

A stirred solution of methyl-2-(2-cyclohexyl-6-(3-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxy-5-methyl benzyl)-4-methyl phenoxy)acetate (50mg, 0.0933 mmole) in ethanol (10 mL) was heated under reflux for 10 minutes. Hydrazine hydrate (0.00521 mL

,0.01073 mmoles) was added and heating under reflux continued for 3 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature; the colorless liquid of reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, washed with hexane and dried to give the required product in 73% yield as a solid. m.p.138°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ ppm : 7.8(s, 1H, NH), 6.91(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.85(s, H, Ar-H), 6.80(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.72(s, 1H, Ar-H), 5.25(s, 1H, OH), 4.34 (s, 2H, OCH_2), 3.95(s, 2H, NH_2), 3.81(s, 2H, Ar- CH_2 -Ar), 2.73 (m,2H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.22 (s, 6H, Ar- CH_3), 1.82(m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H), 1.41(m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H). IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): 3400, 3197, 2923,1691, 1473, 1211, 1060. HR-EIMS [M^+], Calc. for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{40}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$; 464.3039, found 464.3043.

2-(2-cyclohexyl-6-(3-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxy-5-methylbenzyl)-4-methylphenoxy)-N'-(propan-2-ylidene) acetohydrazide (4)

The stirred solution of 2-(2-cyclohexyl-6-(3-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxy-5-methylbenzyl)-4-methyl phenoxy) acetohydrazide in acetone was reflux for 3 hours and then after cooling to room temperature the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and then the compound was recrystallized in ethanol to give the required product as in 90% yield. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ ppm : 7.8(s, 1H, NH), 6.91(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.85(s, H, Ar-H), 6.80(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.72(s, 1H, Ar-H), 5.25(s, 1H, OH), 4.34 (s, 2H, OCH_2), 3.81(s, 2H, Ar- CH_2 -Ar), 2.73 (m,2H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.22 (s, 6H, Ar- CH_3), 1.85 (s, 6H, 2-NHN- CH_3), 1.82(m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H), 1.41(m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H). HR-EIMS [M^+], Calc. for $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{44}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$; 504.3352, found 504.3349.

Dimethyl 2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1 phenylene) bis(oxy)diacetate (5)

A stirred solution of 6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methylphenol) (100mg,0.239 mmole) in acetone (10 mL) was treated with potassium carbonate (165 mg 1.2 mmole), and heated under reflux for 1 h. Methylchloroacetate (0.0627 mL, 0.778 mmole) was added and heating was continued for 10 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The dichloromethane solution (20 mL) of the resulting syrup was washed with water and dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate. It was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated to give yellowish oil. TLC showed a mixture of monomer and dimer, both separated by column chromatography. The product was purified by column chromatography to give the desired product in 75% Yield as a white solid m.p:123-125°C. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ , (ppm):6.8 (s, 2H, Ar-H), 6.633(s, 2H, Ar-H), 4.293 (s, 4H, COCH_2) 3.984(s, 2H, Ar- CH_2 -Ar), 3.775 (s, 6H, OCH_3), 2.873 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.199 (s, 6H, Ar- CH_3), 1.787 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H), 1.377 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H).IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): 2927, 2850, 1768, 1438, 1201, 1083. Molecular ion peak (M^+); 536, Major fragmentation peaks; 536, 504, 453, 373, 275, 261, 215, 185, 147, 135, 105, 81, 55, 45. HR-EIMS [M^+], Calc. for $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{44}\text{O}_6$; 536.3138, found 536.3129.

2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1phenylene))bis(oxy) diaceto hydrazide (6)

A stirred solution of Dimethyl 2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1-phenylene))bis(oxy) diacetate (50mg, 0.0933 mmole) in ethanol(10 mL) was heated under reflux for 10 minutes. Hydrazine hydrate, (0.01042 mL ,0.2146 mmoles) was added and heating under reflux continued for 3 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, the colorless liquid of reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, washed with hexane and dried to give the desired product in 85% yield as a white solid. m.p: 138 °C. ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$; 400 MHz) δ ppm: 9.28 (s, 2H, 2 NH), 6.91(s, 2H, Ar-H), 6.59(s, 2H, Ar-H), 4.32(s, 4H, NH_2) 4.07(s, 4H COCH_2), 3.92(s, 2H, Ar- CH_2 -Ar), 2.81 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.15(s, 6H, Ar- CH_3), 1.76(m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H), 1.36 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H). (KBr, cm^{-1}): 3400, 3199, 2923, 2848, 1691, 1469, 1213, 1060. Molecular ion peak (M^+); 536, Major fragmentation peaks; 536, 505, 464, 432, 392, 373, 243, 203, 190, 105, 44.HR-EIMS [M^+], Calc. for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{44}\text{N}_4\text{O}_4$; 536.3363, found 536.3364.

2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1-phenylene)) bis(oxy) bis(N-(4-chlorobenzylidene) acetohydrazide) (7a)

A stirred solution of 2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1phenylene)) bis(oxy) diacetohydrazide (50mg, 0.0933 mmole) in ethanol(10 mL) was heated under reflux for 10 minutes. Para chloro benzaldehyde (39.3 mg, 0.28 mmole),3 drops of acetic acid was added and heating under reflux continued for 10 h.The content of the flask was cooled to room temperature. The liquid reaction mixture showed 3 spots on TLC in 8:2 hexane ethyl acetate solvent system. The product was purified by column chromatography, condensed and recrystallized in ethanol as solid with 70% yield. m.p:147-149°C ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$; 400 MHz) δ ppm:11.56 (s, 1H, NH), 11.5:11.46 (d, 1H, NH), 8.44:8.38:8.3(3s, 1H, NCH), 7.9:7.7 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=5.6\text{Hz}$, 1H, NCH) 7.68 (t, $j_{\text{HH}}=8.4$,2H, Ar'-H), 7.38(d, $j_{\text{HH}}=8.4$, 2H, Ar'-H), 7.48(d, $j_{\text{HH}}=8.8$, 2H, Ar'-H),7.38(d, $j_{\text{HH}}=8.4$, 2H, Ar'-H), 6.93(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.89(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.73(s,

1H, Ar-H), 6.79(s, 1H, Ar-H), 4.63 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=12$, 2H, OCH₂), 4.24 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=8.4$, 2H, OCH₂), 4 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=4$, 2H, Ar-CH₂-Ar) 2.85 (s, 2H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.18(d, $j_{\text{HH}}=13.2$, 2H, 6H, Ar-CH₃), 1.71 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H), 1.34 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H).IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3427, 2925, 2850, 1683, 1600, 1465, 1201, 1056. 823. Molecular ion peak (M⁺); 780, Major fragmentation peaks; 780, 627, 585, 490, 444, 432, 413, 397, 373, 307, 243, 229, 201, 167, 121, 105, 81, 55. HR-EIMS [M⁺], Calc. for C₄₅H₅₀Cl₂N₄O₄; 780.3209, found 780.3140.

2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis (2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1-phenylene)) bis (oxy) bis(N'-benzylideneacetohydrazide) (7b)

A stirred solution of 2,2'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1phenylene)) bis (oxy)diacetohydrazide (50mg, 0.0933 mmole) in ethanol(10 mL) was heated under reflux for 10 minutes. Benzaldehyde (0.0216 mL, 0.2146 mmole), three drops of acetic acid was added and heating under reflux continued for 9 h. The content of the flask was cooled to room temperature, filtered. On condensation, white precipitate was collected, washed with ethanol and recrystallized in ethanol as solid to give 60% yield. m.p:166°C. ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆; 400 MHz) δ ppm:11.51 (s, 1H, NH), 11.44 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=12.4$ Hz, 1H, NH), 8.47:8.41(2s, 1H, NCH), 7.94:7.90 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=14$ Hz, 1H, NCH) 7.66 (s, 2H, Ar'-H), 7.48 (m, 8H, Ar'-H), 6.94:6.89(2s, 2H, Ar-H), 6.76:6.670 (2s, 2H, Ar-H), 4.63:4.58 (2s, 2H, OCH₂), 4.25:4.21 (2s, 2H, OCH₂), 4 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=8.8$, 2H, Ar-CH₂-Ar) 2.88 (s, 2H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.18(d, $j_{\text{HH}}=15.2$, 6H, Ar-CH₃), 1.68 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H), 1.37 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H).IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3406, 2923, 2850, 1689, 1470, 1203, 1056. Molecular ion peak (M⁺); 712, Major fragmentation peaks; 712, 593, 551, 534, 432, 373, 243, 201, 181, 161, 133, 119, 105, 81, 69, 55, 44. HR-EIMS [M⁺], Calc. for C₄₅H₅₂N₄O₄; 712.3989, found 712.3928.

2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis (2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1-phenylene)) bis (oxy) bis(N'-(3-bromobenzylidene) acetohydrazide) (7c)

A stirred solution of 2,2'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1phenylene)) bis (oxy)diacetohydrazide (50mg, 0.0933 mmole) in ethanol(10 mL) was heated under reflux for 20 minutes. 3-bromobenzaldehyde (0.0245 mL, 0.2146 mmole), 3 drops of acetic acid was added and heating under reflux continued for 9 h. The content of the flask was cooled to room temperature and filtered. White precipitate was collected, washed with ethanol and recrystallized from dichloromethane, ethanol in 75% yield as solid. m.p:213-215°C. ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆; 400 MHz) δ ppm:11.64 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=14.7$ Hz 1H, NH), 11.53 (s, 1H, NH), 8.81(d, $j_{\text{HH}}=14.1$ Hz, 1H, NCH), 7.85(s, 1H, NCH) 7.81 (s, H, Ar'-H), 7.69(m, 3H, Ar'-H), 7.53 (m, 2H, Ar'-H), 7.39(m, 2H, Ar'-H), 6.93(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.88(d, $j_{\text{HH}}=6.9$, 1H, Ar-H), 6.72(d, $j_{\text{HH}}=5.7$, 2H, Ar-H), 4.60 (s, 2H, OCH₂), 4.25 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=8.1$, 2H, OCH₂), 3.99 (s, 2H, Ar-CH₂-Ar) 2.82 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.18(s, 3H, Ar-CH₃), 2.16 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=4.8$, 3H, Ar-CH₃), 1.68 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H), 1.37 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3427, 2923, 2850, 1693, 1544, 1447, 1288, 1207, 1068. Molecular ion peak (M⁺); 870, Major fragmentation peaks; 870, 673, 631, 490, 432, 373, 243, 229, 203, 182, 102, 81, 55. HR-EIMS [M⁺], Calc. for C₄₅H₅₀Br₂N₄O₄; 868.2199, found 868.2110.

2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis (2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1-phenylene))bis (oxy) bisN'-(4-fluorobenzylidene) acetohydrazide) (7d)

A stirred solution of 2,2'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl -4-methyl-6,1 phenylene)) bis (oxy)diacetohydrazide (50mg, 0.0933 mmole) in ethanol(10 mL) was heated under reflux for 20 minutes. Para fluorobenzaldehyde (0.0232 mL, 0.215 mmole), three drops of acetic acid was added and heating under reflux continued for 9 h. The content of the flask was cooled to room temperature and filtered. White precipitate was collected, washed with ethanol and recrystallized from dichloro methane, ethanol as solid in 65% yield. m.p: 211-213°C. ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆; 400 MHz) δ ppm:11.50 (s, 1H, NH), 11.44 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=15.6$, 1H, NH), 8.45:8.39:(2s, 1H, NCH), 7.89(d, $j_{\text{HH}}=5.2$ Hz, 1H, NCH) 7.73 (m, 2H, Ar'-H), 7.55(m, 2H, Ar'-H), 7.24 (m, 2H, Ar'-H), 7.18 (m, 2H, Ar'-H), 6.93(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.89(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.73(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.69(s, 1H, Ar-H), 4.63 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=15.2$, 2H, OCH₂), 4.24 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=9.2$, 2H, OCH₂), 4.01 (d, $j_{\text{HH}}=7.2$, 2H, Ar-CH₂-Ar) 2.85 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.18(s, 3H, Ar-CH₃), 2.15 (s, 3H, Ar-CH₃), 1.71 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H), 1.37 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H).IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3421, 2925, 1689, 1234, 1028, 1002, 831. Molecular ion peak (M⁺); 748, Major fragmentation peaks; 748, 730, 690, 611, 569, 552, 444, 432, 414, 381, 373, 243, 203, 190, 121, 94, 55. HR-EIMS [M⁺], Calc. for C₄₅H₅₀F₂N₄O₄; 748.3800, found 748.4055.

2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis (2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1-phenylene)) bis (oxy) bis(N'-(2-chlorobenzylidene) acetohydrazide) (7e)

A stirred solution of 2,2'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1phenylene)) bis (oxy)diacetohydrazide (60mg, 0.1119 mmole) in ethanol(10 mL) was heated under reflux for 20 minutes. 2 chlorobenzaldehyde (0.036 g, 0.2578

mmole), 3 drops of acetic acid was added and heating under reflux continued for 12 h. The content of the flask was cooled to room temperature and filtered. On condensation, white precipitate was collected, washed with ethanol and recrystallized from dichloro methane, ethanol in 65% yield as solid. m.p:148-150°C. ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆; 400 MHz) δ ppm:11.71 (d, j_{HH}=15.2Hz, 1H, NH), 11.60 (s, 1H, NH), 8.84(d, j_{HH}=13.6Hz, 1H, NCH), 7.28(d, j_{HH}=4.8Hz, 1H, NCH) 7.96 (m, H, Ar'-H), 7.66(m, H, Ar'-H), 7.49 (m, 6H, Ar'-H), 6.94(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.87(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.83(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.75(s, 1H, Ar-H), 4.63 (d, j_{HH}=11.2, 2H, OCH₂), 4.26 (d, j_{HH}=7.2, 2H, OCH₂), 4.02 (m, 2H, Ar-CH₂-Ar) 2.84 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.19(s, 3H, Ar-CH₃), 2.14 (s, 3H, Ar-CH₃), 1.71 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H), 1.34 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3425, 2923, 2850, 1695, 1598, 1440, 1199, 1051. Molecular ion peak (M⁺); 781, Major fragmentation peaks; 781, 700, 397, 315, 260, 203, 167. HR-EIMS [M⁺], Calc. for C₄₅H₅₀C₁₂N₄O₄; 780.3209, found 780.3140.

2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis (2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1-phenylene)) bis (oxy) bis(N'-(4-methylbenzylidene) acetohydrazide) (7f)

A stirred solution of 2,2'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1 phenylene)) bis (oxy)diacetohydrazide (50mg, 0.0933 mmole) in ethanol(10 mL) was heated under reflux for 15 minutes. Para methyl Benzaldehyde (0.025 mL, 0.217 mmole), 3 drops of acetic acid was added and heating under reflux continued for 10 h. The content of the flask was cooled to room temperature. On condensation, yellowish precipitate was collected, washed with ethanol and recrystallized from dichloro methane, ethanol in 50% yield as solid. m.p:152°C. ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆; 400 MHz) δ ppm: 11.45 (s, 1H, NH), 11.38 (d, j_{HH}=5.7, 1H, NH), 8.42:8.35:(2s, 1H, NCH), 7.86(d, j_{HH}=3.6Hz, 1H, NCH) 7.81 (d, j_{HH}=8.1, 2H, Ar'-H), 7.56 (d, j_{HH}=6.9, 2H, Ar'-H), 7.42(m, 2H, Ar'-H), 7.23(d, j_{HH}=7.2, 2H, Ar'-H), 6.93(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.87(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.76(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.69(s, 1H, Ar-H), 4.61:4.55 (2s, 2H, OCH₂), 4.24 (d, j_{HH}=14.1, 2H, OCH₂), 4.00 (d, j_{HH}=6.3, 2H, Ar-CH₂-Ar) 2.85 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.31(s, 3H, Ar'-CH₃), 2.26 (s, 3H, Ar'-CH₃), 2.18(d, j_{HH}=2.1, 3H, Ar-CH₃), 2.15(s, 3H, Ar-CH₃), 1.67 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H), 1.30 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3419, 2923, 2854, 2543, 1679, 1606, 1417, 1286, 1178, 958. Molecular ion peak (M⁺); 740, Major fragmentation peaks; 740, 722, 607, 565, 548, 490, 432, 414, 391, 373, 201, 135, 117, 105, 91, 81, 55, 44. HR-EIMS [M⁺], Calc. for C₄₇H₅₆N₄O₄; 740.4302, found 740.5016.

2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis (2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1-phenylene)) bis (oxy) bis(N'-(4-(dimethylamino)benzylidene) acetohydrazide) (7g)

A stirred solution of 2,2'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-6,1phenylene)) bis (oxy)diacetohydrazide (50mg, 0.0933 mmole) in ethanol (10 mL) was heated under reflux for 20 minutes. 4-(dimethylamino) benzaldehyde (0.0320g, 0.215 mmole), 3 drops of acetic acid was added and heating under reflux continued for 8 h. The content of the flask was cooled to room temperature and filtered. White precipitate was collected, washed with ethanol and recrystallized from ethanol in 60% yield as solid. m.p:253-255°C. ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆; 400 MHz) δ ppm:11.22 (s, 1H, NH), 11.15 (d, j_{HH}=13.2, 1H, NH), 8.31:8.24:(2s, 1H, NCH), 7.77(d, j_{HH}=4.8Hz, 1H, NCH) 7.48 (d, j_{HH}=8.4, 2H, Ar'-H), 7.32:7.29:7.27(3s, 2H, Ar'-H), 6.94(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.90 d, j_{HH}=8.4, 1H, Ar-H), 6.77 (s, 1H, Ar'-H), 6.70(m, 3H, Ar'-H), 6.62(m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.62:4.54 (2s, 2H, OCH₂), 4.21:4.16 (2s, 2H, OCH₂), 4.00 (t, 2H, Ar-CH₂-Ar) 2.95 (d, j_{HH}=3.2, 6H, NCH₃), 2.90 (d, j_{HH}=10.46, 6H, NCH₃), 2.72(m, 2H, cyclohexyl-H), 2.19(d, j_{HH}=4, 3H, Ar-CH₃), 2.15(s, 3H, Ar-CH₃), 1.69 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H), 1.66 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl-H). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3431, 2923, 2854, 1678, 1604, 1431, 1236, 1174. Molecular ion peak (M⁺) 799, Major fragmentation peaks; 799, 406, 204, 176, 163, 147. HR-EIMS [M⁺], Calc. for C₄₉H₆₂N₆O₄; 798.4833, found 798.4830.

3D-pharmacophore-based ligand alignment, *in silico* ADMET screening and molecular docking study

3D-pharmacophore-based ligand alignment

The alignment rule was defined by a chemical function-mapping method and therefore based on a geometric fit of the chemical functions of the molecules to the chemical features of the pharmacophore. All generated conformations were developed in Discovery Studio (DS) 2.5 software (Accelrys software Inc.) using its accurate pattern-matching 3D alignment algorithm. The compounds were converted to 3D structure and minimized its MMFF94 energy with 200 iteration limit and energy threshold value of 15 kcal/mol above the global energy minimum until a local energy minimum was reached [37,38]. This algorithm allows all internal coordinates to vary and energetically analyzes all rings and chains. The conformation with highest fit value (i.e., best fitting the pharmacophore) was assumed as the bioactive conformation for each compound. The final aligned molecules (**Figure 1**) were used to generate the pharmacophore model of this class of compounds.

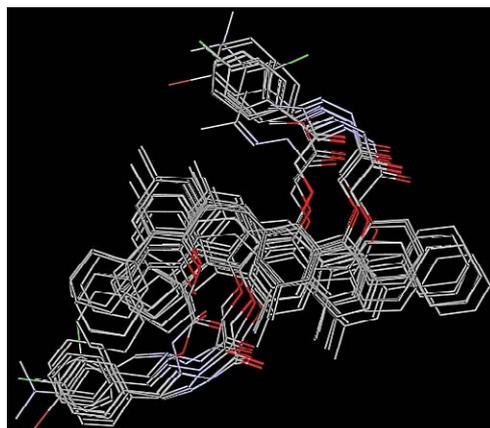


Figure 1: Molecular alignments of the training set molecules used in the present study.

The pharmacophore models were created for the aligned molecules using common feature pharmacophore generation in DS software. HipHop module of Catalyst which was popularly known for common feature pharmacophore generation is available in this program as Common Feature Pharmacophore Generation protocol [39]. The default value of 2.97Å for the Minimum Inter-feature Distance was changed to 2 during pharmacophore generation. Pharmacophore sites of a ligand are represented in the 3D space by a set of points. Other parameters, like the maximum number of 255 conformers and an energy threshold value of 20 kcal/mol above the global energy minimum, were chosen during conformation generation. During the pharmacophore hypothesis generation, pharmacophoric features such as hydrogen bond acceptor (HBA), hydrogen bond donor (HBD), hydrophobic feature (Hyd), and aromatic region (Ar) were used to create reliable pharmacophore sites for the energy calculated ligands for our experimental results. Hydrogen bond acceptor (HBA), hydrogen bond donor (HBD), hydrophobic feature (Hyd), and aromatic region (Ar) chemical features were chosen on the basis of the chemical characteristics of the compounds using Feature Mapping protocol available in DS. The standard functions can be effectively used in place of the metal bonding chemical function, as there are no special structures available for metal bonding in the DS feature dictionary [40,41].

In silico ADMET screening

The synthesized compounds were submitted to an *in silico* ADMET screening, using the DS 2.5 software to analyze their overall drug score and toxicity risks, compared to the available drugs used for chemotherapy [42]. The ADMET properties including aqueous solubility, blood brain barrier (BBB), plasma protein binding, CYP2D6 binding, intestinal absorption and hepatotoxicity were evaluated for these molecules within human. In addition, AlogP98 and PSA_2D were used in plotting the confidence ellipses. The models used to predict the ADMET properties in this protocol are derived from a variety of experimental data sources and are catalogued in the product documentation.

Screening for pharmacokinetics and drug-likeness

Pharmacokinetics and drug-likeness prediction for the synthesized compounds were also performed by online tool SwissADME [43] of Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics (<http://www.sib.swiss>) was used to evaluate individual ADME behaviors of those compounds [44]. 2D structural models were drawn in ChemBioDraw Ultra version 15.0 (Cambridge Software) and SMILES of each compound was translated into molfile by online SMILES translator and structure file generator found in Online tool SwissADME. The analysis task was done to check whether those compounds were inhibitor of isoforms of Cytochrome P450 (CYP) family such as CYP1A2 and CYP2D6. In addition, pharmacokinetics (such as gastro intestinal absorption, P-glycoprotein and Blood brain barrier) and drug-likeness prediction such as Lipinski, Ghose and Veber rules and bioavailability score [45-47]. The Lipinski, Ghose and Veber rules were applied to assess druglikeness to predict whether a compound is likely to be a bioactive according to some important parameters such as molecular weight, LogP, number of HPA and HBD. The Swiss ADME tool used vector machine algorithm (SVM) [48] with fastidiously cleaned large datasets of known inhibitors/non-inhibitors as well as substrates/non-substrates.

Principal component analysis

Principal component analysis (PCA) in DS 2.5 software (Accelrys, San Diego, CA) was used to predict models showed the molecular descriptor including AlogP; molecular weight; number of hydrogen bond donors (HBD); number of

hydrogen bond acceptors (HBA); number of rotatable; number of rings; number of aromatic rings and molecular polar surface area (PSA).

Molecular docking

A Molecular Operating Environment (MOE 2014.13, Chemical Computing Group Inc, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, <http://www.chemcomp.com>) software was used for molecular docking of the synthesized compounds on the target proteins [49]. The compounds were converted to 3D structure and minimized its MMFF94 energy with 200 iteration limit and energy threshold value of 15 kcal/mol above the global energy minimum until a local energy minimum was reached [37,38]. This algorithm allows all internal coordinates to vary and energetically analyses all rings and chains. A crystal structure of CYP1A2 (cytochrome P450 family 1 subfamily A member 2, PDB: 2HI4) and CYP2D6 (cytochrome P450 family 2 subfamily D member 6, PDB: 5TFT) as the selected inhibitors suggested from ADMET and SwissADME prediction were obtained at 3.58 Å and downloaded from the protein data bank (PDB)(<http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/home/home.do>). These structures were protonated in MOE software [49]. The active sites were defined with a radius of 4 Å around the bound inhibitor in the crystal structure of each protein. The triangle matching algorithm of MOE software was selected to dock selected identified compounds to the active site of the protein. The scoring function shall conform to the following parameters: (1) specify the ASE score to rank the poses exited by the placement step; (2) specifying the Force field refinement to release the poses and (3) specifying affinity ΔG scoring to classify the poses using the refinement step [38,50,51]. The free energy of the binding was calculated from the contributions of the hydrophobic, ionic, hydrogenated and van der Waals interactions between protein and ligand, intramolecular hydrogen bonds and ligand strains. We have observed that the docking poses were classified by the calculation of the free binding energy in the S field. Once the docked enzyme-ligand complexes were completed, an analysis of the binding sites was performed in order to create a ligand interaction 2D diagram for each compound.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Synthesis of compounds

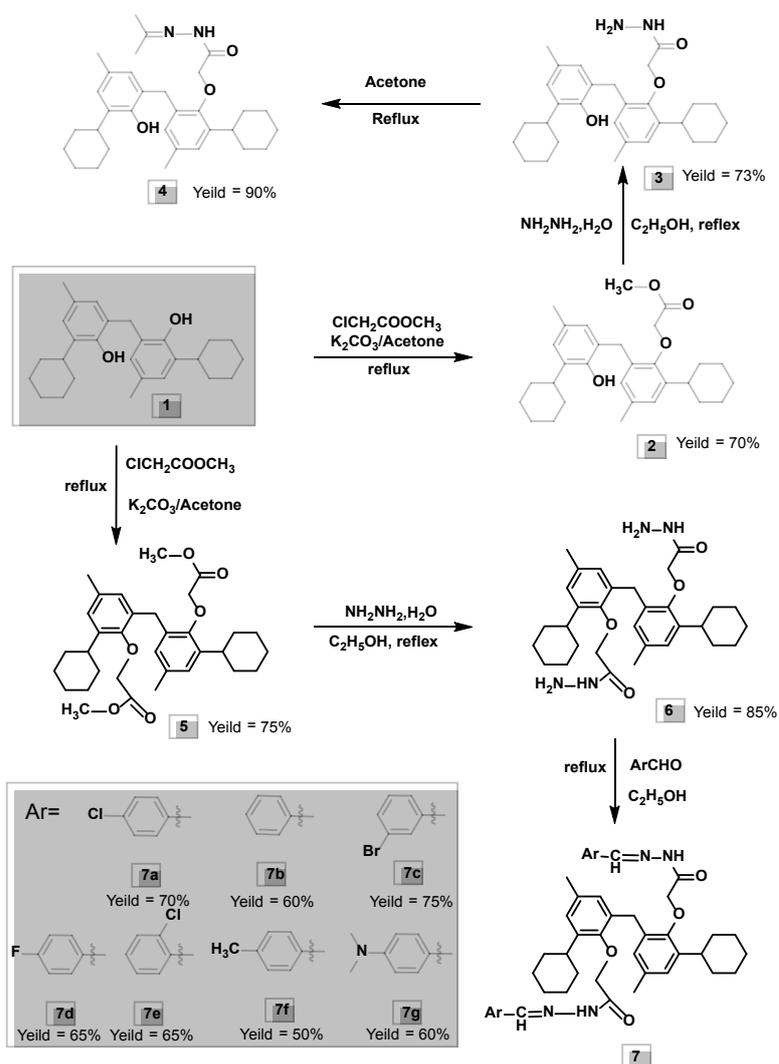
Methyl-2-(2-cyclohexyl-6-(3-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxy-5-methylbenzyl)-4-methylphenoxy) acetate (2) was prepared by treating 6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methylphenol) (1) with chloromethyl acetate (1 equivalent) and potassium carbonate using acetone as solvent under reflux condition. This has indicated the possible selectivity in the carbomethoxymethylation process to give good yield (**Scheme 1**). On the other hand, similar alkylation of 6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methylphenol) (1) using two equivalents of chloromethyl acetate gave dimethyl-2,2'-(6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-1phenylene))bis(oxy)diacetate (5).

Pharmacophore elucidation based on ligand alignment

In this study, the final aligned molecules as shown in **Figure 1** were used to generate the pharmacophore model of this class of compounds. The automatic construction and visualization of the 3D pharmacophore models from the structural data of mono- and di-carbomethoxylated 6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methylphenol) and their hydrazides and hydrazones was created by DS 2.5 software and the results are shown in **Figure 2**. The investigated pharmacophoric features included HBA, HBD, Hyd, and Ar. The basic structural requirements identified by DS software dependably consist of HBA, HBD, or both for metal binding.

In silico ADMET evaluation and comparison with current drugs

In this study, we submitted the synthesized compounds to *in silico* ADMET screening, using the DS 2.5 software, to predict their overall absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion, and toxicity risks. In the *in silico* evaluation, the analysis of different descriptors (calculated octanol/water partition coefficient, molecular weight, molecular volume, and number of hydrogen bond donor and acceptor groups) of all compounds revealed that they are highly hydrophobic to penetrate the biological membranes, as determined by the Lipinski "rule-of-five" ($cLogP < 5$, $MW > 500$, $HBD < 5$ and $HBA < 10$) [45,52]. The synthesized products have $cLogP > 5$ (ranged from 5.85 to 11.87) as shown in **Table 1**. Therefore, these results suggest that most of these compounds have a low theoretical oral bioavailability according to the Lipinski "rule-of-five".



Scheme 1: Selective methoxycarbonylmethylation of 6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methylphenol) (1) and subsequent hydrazinolysis.

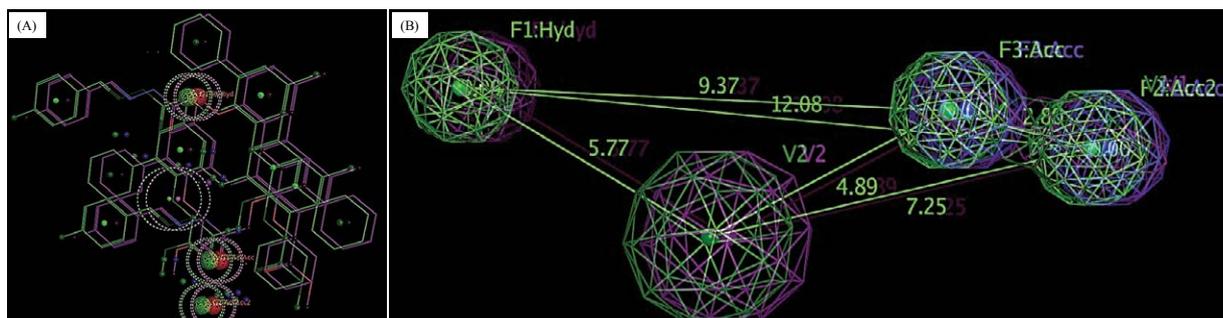


Figure 2: The MOE pharmacophore model obtained from the synthesized compounds. Chemical features present in the model (A) and 3D spatial relationship and geometric parameters (B). Pharmacophore features are color-coded: green, aromatic ring (Ar); cyan, hydrogen bond acceptor (HBA) and metal ligator (ML) and magenta, hydrogen bond donor (HBD).

An ADMET model was also generated to predict the human intestinal absorption (HIA) after oral administration of the inhibitors tested. The model includes 95% and 99% confidence ellipses in the ADMET_PSA_2D and ADMET_AlogP98 plane as shown in **Figure 3**. There are four prediction levels for the absorption of compounds as good

(0), moderate (1), poor (2) and very poor (3). These levels are defined by the 95% (red line) and 99% (green line) confidence ellipsoids (**Figure 3**). The upper limit of PSA_2D value for the 95% confidence ellipsoid is at 131.16 for compound 6, while the lower value is 41.63 for compound 1 (**Table 1**). All of these values for 95 and 99% confidence levels are higher than that standard range shown in **Figure 3**, which confirm that these compounds are very poor in the absorption through human intestinal (ADMET_AlogP98>5) as shown in **Figure 3** and **Table 1**. Based on the *in silico* ADMET analysis, it was found that the test compounds did not accomplish the ADMET descriptors criteria at the optimal level (**Table 1** and **Figure 3**).

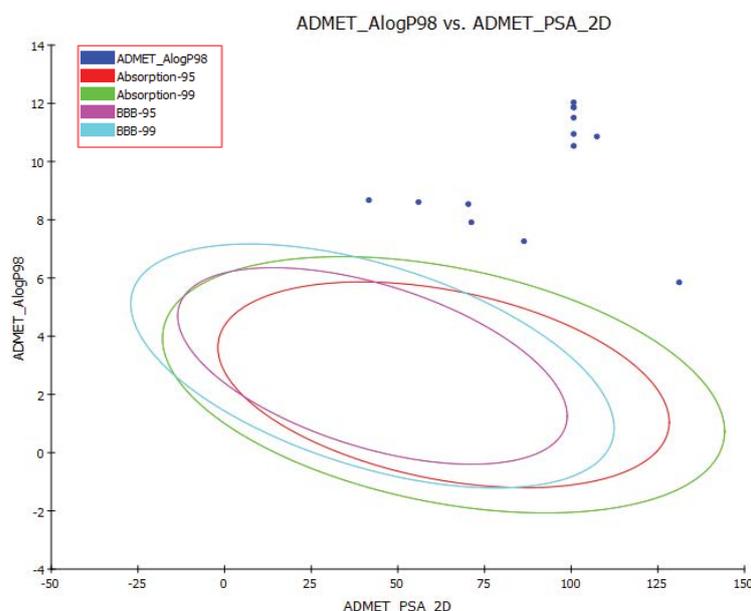


Figure 3: Plot of Polar Surface Area (PSA) vs. LogP for a standard and test set showing the 95% and 99% confidence limit ellipses corresponding to the Blood Brain Barrier and Intestinal Absorption models.

Table 1: *In silico* ADMET properties of the synthesized compounds.

Compound	<i>In silico</i> ADMET properties										
	BBB level	Absorption level	Water solubility (log s)	Solubility level	Hepatotoxicity	Hepatotoxicity probability	CYP2D6	CYP2D6 probability	PPB level	AlogP98	PSA 2D
1	4	3	-8.148	0	0	0.39	0	0.277	2	8.68	41.63
2	4	3	-8.463	0	0	0.483	0	0.415	2	8.61	55.98
3	4	3	-7.701	1	1	0.536	0	0.316	2	7.91	71.18
4	4	3	-7.637	1	0	0.476	0	0.415	2	7.26	86.4
5	4	3	-8.322	0	0	0.39	0	0.435	2	8.54	70.32
6	4	2	-7.683	1	0	0.403	0	0.316	2	5.85	131.16
7a	4	3	-9.213	0	0	0.456	0	0.089	2	11.87	100.73
7b	4	3	-8.196	0	0	0.476	0	0.108	2	10.54	100.73
7c	4	3	-9.407	0	1	0.536	0	0.128	2	12.03	100.73
7d	4	3	-8.412	0	0	0.483	0	0.089	2	10.95	100.73
7e	4	3	-9.308	0	1	0.529	0	0.118	2	11.87	100.73
7f	4	3	-8.564	0	0	0.483	0	0.089	2	11.51	100.73
7g	4	3	-6.567	1	1	0.576	0	0.069	2	10.86	107.43

Pharmacokinetics and drug-likeness prediction by SwissADME

The pharmacokinetic properties and drug-likeness prediction of the 13 compounds were performed by SwissADME online version and the data are shown in **Table 2**. According to the pharmacokinetic properties, all compound showed low Gastro intestinal absorption except compound 3 that has high absorption. All compounds have no BBB permeability however, most of them showed inhibition to Cytochrome P450 isomers (CYP1A2 and CYP2D6). The drug-likeness prediction was also conducted depending on the selected Lipinski, Ghose and Veber rules and bioavailability score.

The Lipinski (Pfizer) filter is the pioneer rule-of-five [53]. The Lipinski's Rule of Five states that the absorption or

permeation of a molecule is more likely when the molecular weight is under 500 g/mol, the value of log P is lower than 5, and the molecule has utmost 5 H-donor and 10 H-acceptor atoms. Ghose filter (Amgen) [46] defines drug-likeness constraints as follows: calculated log P is between -0.4 and 5.6, MW is between 160 and 480, molar refractivity is between 40 and 130, and the total number of atoms is between 20 and 70. Veber (GSK) [47], rule defines drug-likeness constraints as Rotatable bond count ≤ 10 and polar surface area (PSA) ≤ 140 . The Bioavailability score was implemented without changes from Martin *et al.*, and it is similar but seeks to predict the probability of a compound to have at least 10% oral bioavailability in rat or measurable Caco-2 permeability [54]. Screening process with Lipinski Rule of Five showed that there were only four compounds (1, 2, 3 and 6) meet the criteria of druglikeness assessment however, 9 compounds were rejected with two violations (**Table 2**). According to the screening process with Ghose rules showed that all compounds were rejected with one, three or four violations (**Table 2**). However, the screening process with Veber rules, compounds 1-4 meet the criteria of drug likeness assessment however, the other nine compounds (5-7 g) were rejected with two violations (**Table 2**).

Table 2: Pharmacokinetics and drug-likeness prediction for the synthesized compounds by SwissADME.

Compound	Pharmacokinetics						Drug-likeness			
	GI absorption	BBB permeant	P-gp	CYP1A2 inhibitor	CYP2D6 inhibitor	Log K_p (skin permeation), cm/s	Lipinski	Ghose	Veber	Bioavailability Score
1	Low	No	Yes	No	Yes	-2.35	Yes	No; 1 violation	Yes	0.55
2	Low	No	Yes	No	Yes	-2.62	Yes	No; 3 violations	Yes	0.55
3	High	No	Yes	No	Yes	-3.55	Yes	No; 3 violations	Yes	0.55
4	Low	No	Yes	No	Yes	-3.13	No; 2 violations	No; 4 violations	Yes	0.17
5	Low	No	Yes	No	Yes	-2.88	No; 2 violations	No; 4 violations	No; 1 violation	0.17
6	Low	No	No	No	No	-4.76	Yes	No; 3 violations	No; 1 violation	0.55
7a	Low	No	Yes	Yes	No	-1.98	No; 2 violations	No; 4 violations	No; 1 violation	0.17
7b	Low	No	Yes	Yes	No	-2.46	No; 2 violations	No; 4 violations	No; 1 violation	0.17
7c	Low	No	Yes	Yes	No	-2.44	No; 2 violations	No; 4 violations	No; 1 violation	0.17
7d	Low	No	Yes	Yes	No	-2.53	No; 2 violations	No; 4 violations	No; 1 violation	0.17
7e	Low	No	Yes	Yes	No	-1.98	No; 2 violations	No; 4 violations	No; 1 violation	0.17
7f	Low	No	Yes	Yes	No	-2.11	No; 2 violations	No; 4 violations	No; 1 violation	0.17
7g	Low	No	Yes	No	No	-2.8	No; 2 violations	No; 4 violations	No; 1 violation	0.17

GI: Gastro Intestinal; P-gp: P-glycoprotein; BBB: Blood Brain Barrier; CYP1A2: Cytochrome P450 family 1 subfamily A member 2 (PDB: 2HI4); CYP2D6: Cytochrome P450 family 2 subfamily D member 6 (PDB: 5TFT)

Prediction of principal component models

Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was conducted on the molecular descriptors of the input molecules by DS 2.5 software. According to the physicochemical characterizes (ALogP, molecular weight, HBA, HBD, rotatable bonds, rings, aromatic ring and polar surface area) of the synthesized molecules, three models were generated. The equation coefficients of the PCA Temp models are shown in **Table 3**. PCA is an orthogonal linear transformation technique that transforms the data into a new coordinate system such that the variance of the data is maximized on the first coordinate (called the first principal component), the rest of the variance maximized on the second coordinate, and so on. The

data in **Table 3** showed that the high coefficients values were obtained with ring and ring aromatics parameters for model PC1. HBD and Polar Surface Area have the highest coefficient values in model PC2 however; HBD, ring and ring aromatics parameters have the highest coefficient values in model PC3.

Table 3: Equation coefficients of the PCA models.

Equation term	Coefficient		
	Model PC1	Model PC2	Model PC3
Constant	-9.27223	-5.22024	-1.04444
ALogP	0.203272	-0.124654	0.140863
Molecular weight	0.0027689	0.00059164	0.00033117
HBD	-0.066076	0.702766	0.659005
HBA	0.238346	0.185972	-0.389919
Rotatable bonds	0.117164	0.0330708	-0.0945932
Rings	0.425499	0.0233489	0.257113
Aromatic rings	0.425499	0.0233489	0.257113
Polar surface area	-3.08878	21.3919	-5.34568

Molecular docking

In the present study, the automated docking was used to determine the orientation of mono- and di-carbomethoxylated 6,6'-methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methylphenol) and their hydrazides and hydrazones bound in the active site of the target enzymes of CYP1A2 (cytochrome P450 family 1 subfamily A member 2, PDB: 2HI4) and CYP2D6 (cytochrome P450 family 2 subfamily D member 6, PDB: 5TFT) as the selected inhibitors suggested from ADMET and SwissADME prediction (**Table 4**). The structures of the compounds as well as the enzymes were kept flexible to obtain different binding conformations and the best-docked complex obtained from it was analysed in detail. The molecular docking protocol was validated by extracting the native specific ligand of each enzyme from the binding site and then docking the conformations of the compounds to the binding site with less than 4°Å which validating the reliability and reproducibility of the docking procedure.

Table 4: Molecular docking, binding scores and binding reactions of compounds 1-13 within the active sites of CYP1A2 and CYP2D6. Residues/water molecules participating in hydrogen bonds and close van der Waals contacts (<4 Å) with the inhibitors are shown.

Compound	CYP1A2		CYP2D6	
	Docking score (ΔG, kcal/mol)	H-bonds	Docking score (ΔG, kcal/mol)	H-bonds
1	-11.49	-	-8.83	Ser304
2	-11.36	Ile459, Thr124	-7.13	Phe120
3	-12.46	Arg108, Ile335	-7.29	Glu215, Thr375
4	-11.56	Thr124	-6.05	Gly373, Thr309
5	-11.91	Arg105, Ile256, Gly480	-5.3	Arg221, Gln244, Val308
6	-9.42	Arg108, Gly316	-5.58	Cys443, Pro435
7a	-5.65	Arg105, Gln411	1.09	Arg101, Ala305
7b	-5.45	Phe225	0.82	Cys443, Ser204
7c	-4.62	Phe451, Thr124	2.01	Cys443, Gly306, Glu216
7d	-8.05	Leu455, Phe225, Phe451	1.21	Cys443, Phe120
7e	-6.37	Ala284, Ile255	2.31	Ala442, Leu302, Thr309
7f	-2.25	Gly318, Gly452	1.12	Glu215
7g	-4.02	Phe225, Phe451	4.25	Asp301

CYP1A2: Cytochrome P450 family 1 subfamily A member 2 (PDB: 2HI4); CYP2D6 (cytochrome P450 family 2 subfamily D member 6, PDB: 5TFT)

The results of the molecular docking have been analysed based on the docking score (ΔG, kcal/mol), hydrogen bonds and close van der Waals contacts and the data are shown in **Table 4**. The data show the intermolecular interaction energy values obtained from the docking calculation. Analysis of the docking poses showed that the thirteen products exhibited low to high binding affinity towards the sites of the target enzymes with docking energy ranging from -2.25 to -12.46 and from -8.83 to 4.25 kcal/mol for CYP1A2 and CYP2D6, respectively .

The docking of ligand molecules with enzymes reveals that all the derivatives are exhibiting the bonding with two or the other amino acids in the active pockets which is showed in **Figure 4**. From the resulting docking structures, it is clear that all products are attached to the active site of the target enzymes, subsequent in various close contacts with the amino acid residues that border the active site. Interaction analysis of the residues could also provide an elucidation of the difference observed in the binding affinity for these molecules. Compound 1 that showed the highest docking score (-8.83 kcal/mol) among the compounds that predicted an inhibition of CYP2D6 by SwissADME is stabilized within the active sites of the enzyme through extensive van der Waals contacts with many amino acids and hydrogen bond with Ser304 (**Figure 4A**). However, compound 7d that showed the highest docking score (-8.05 kcal/mol) among the compounds that predicted an inhibition of CYP1A2 by SwissADME link to the active sites of the enzyme through extensive van der Waals contacts with many amino acids and hydrogen bond with Leu455, Phe225 and Phe451 (**Figure 4B**).

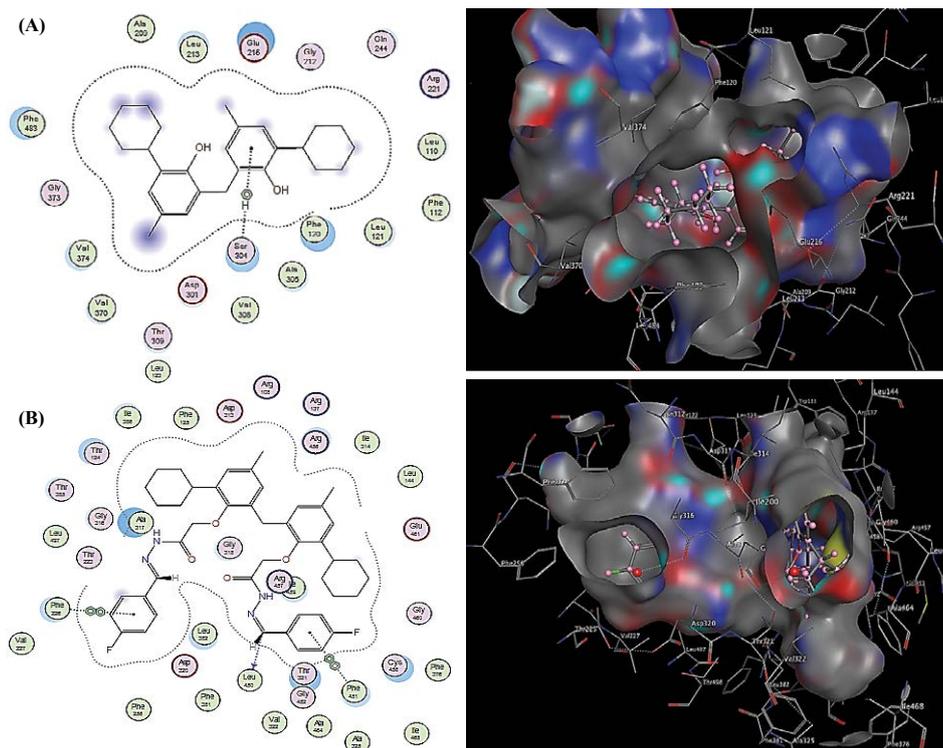


Figure 4: Docking view of compounds 1 in the binding sites of CYP2D6 (cytochrome P450 family 2 subfamily D member 6, PDB: 5TFT) (Upper) and compound 7d in the binding sites of CYP1A2: Cytochrome P450 family 1 subfamily A member 2 (PDB: 2H14) (Bottom). Left is the 2D interaction diagram structure and right is the complex structure in stereo view (3D). Hydrogen-bonding interactions between the receptor and the ligand are drawn with an arrowhead to denote the direction of the hydrogen bond. When the hydrogen bond is formed with the residue side chain, the arrow is drawn in green. Residues are annotated with their 3-letter amino acid code.

CONCLUSION

Thirteen compounds of mono- and Di-carbomethoxylated 6,6'-Methylenebis(2-cyclohexyl-4-methylphenol) and their Hydrazides and Hydrazones were synthesized and their structures were determined using X-ray crystallography and spectroscopic techniques. Pharmacophore elucidation of the compounds was performed based on ligand alignment and the *in silico* ADMET analysis was done to predict the ADMET properties of the test compounds. Screening process with drug-likeness rules showed that there were few compounds meet the criteria of drug likeness however; the other products did not meet the criteria. In addition, molecular docking studies revealed that the compounds exhibited low to high binding affinity towards the sites of target enzymes of cytochrome P450 isomers (CYP1A2 and CYP2D6) with docking energy ranging from -12.46 to 4.25 kcal/mol.

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