Inhibitory effect of cytotoxic nitrogen-containing heterocyclic stilbene analogues on the VEGF protein secretion and the expression of the VEGF, hTERT and c-Myc genes

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Supporting Information

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General features. NMR spectra were measured at 25 °C. The signals of the deuterated solvent (CDCl₃, CD₃OD or DMSO-d₆) were taken as the reference. Multiplicity assignments of ¹³C signals were made by means of the DEPT pulse sequence. High resolution mass spectra were run by the electrospray mode (ESMS). IR data were measured with oily films on NaCl plates (oils) or KBr pellets (solids) and are given only for molecules with relevant functional groups (OH, C=O, NH₂). Melting points are not corrected. Experiments which required an inert atmosphere were carried out under dry N₂ in a flame-dried glassware. THF was freshly distilled from sodium/benzophenone ketyl and transferred via syringe. Dimethylformamide was freshly distilled from CaH₂. Commercially available reagents were used as received. Where solutions were filtered through a Celite pad, the pad was additionally washed with the same solvent used, and the washings incorporated to the main organic layer. Acronyms used hereafter: DMF = *N*,*N*-dimethylformamide, TBAB = tetra-*n*-butylammonium bromide.



General reaction conditions of Heck couplings

Heck coupling - Conditions A¹

The appropriate brominated heterocycle (1 mmol) was placed in a 10-mL glass tube together with the corresponding styrene (1 mmol), tri-*n*-butylamine (0.22 mL, 1.2 mmol), TBAB (0.387 g, 1.2 mmol) and water (3 mL). The mixture was stirred until homogeneity and then treated with Pd(NH₃)₂Cl₂ (2 mg, 0.01 mmol). The vessel was sealed with a septum, shaken, and placed into the microwave cavity. Microwave irradiation was initiated with a potency of 70 W, the temperature being then increased from room temperature to 140 °C. Once this value was reached, the reaction mixture was held at this temperature for 1.5 h. After allowing the mixture to cool down to room temperature, the reaction vessel was opened and the mixture was poured into a separation funnel. Water (10 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL) were added and the organic material was extracted. After further extraction of the aqueous layer with EtOAc, the organic layers were combined and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure to afford an oily residue, which was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel (hexane-EtOAc mixtures) to yield the desired stilbene derivative.

Yields: 1, 65%; 2, 67%; 3, 61%; 4, 78%; 5, 79%; 6, 82%; 7, 80%; 8, 79%; 9, 78%; 16, 64%; 17, 60%; 18, 51%; 19, 62%; 20, 59%; 21, 60%.

Heck coupling - Conditions B²

The appropriate bromo aniline or bromo phenol (1 mmol) was placed in a 10-mL glass tube together with 4-vinylpyridine (1 mmol), piperidine (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol), $Pd(NH_3)_2Cl_2$ (8.4 mg, 0.04 mmol) and DMF (4 mL). The vessel was sealed with a septum, shaken, and placed into the microwave cavity. Microwave irradiation was initiated with a potency of 70 W, the temperature being then increased from room temperature to 140 °C. Once this value was reached, the reaction mixture was held at this temperature for 1.5 h. After allowing the mixture to cool down to room temperature, the reaction vessel was opened and the reaction mixture was filtered through a Celite pad with EtOAc. The filtrate was poured into a separating funnel, and washed with ammonium chloride (2 x 10 mL) and then with brine (2 x 10 mL). After desiccation of the organic layer over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. This afforded an oily material which was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel (hexane-EtOAc mixtures) to yield the desired stilbene derivative.

Yields: 10, 45%; 11, 47%; 12, 40%; 13, 71%; 14, 72%; 15, 61%.

¹ N. Sharma, D. Mohanakrishnan, A. Shard, A. Sharma, Saima, A. K. Sinha, D. Sahal, *J. Med. Chem.*, 2012, **55**, 297-311. ² S.-H. Huang, J.-R. Chen, F.-Y. Tsai, *Molecules*, 2010, **15**, 315-330.

Analytical data of nitrogen-containing stilbene derivatives

For the biological assays, samples of synthetic resveratrol analogues have been carefully purified by means of preparative HPLC.



(E)-2-(2-Methoxystyryl)pyridine (1)

Colorless oil. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.59 (1H, br d, $J \sim 4.5$ Hz), 7.93 (1H, d, J = 16.1 Hz), 7.62 (2H, m), 7.42 (1H, br d, $J \sim 7.5$ Hz), 7.26 (1H, partially overlapped signal), 7.23 (1H, d, J = 16.1 Hz), 7.10 (1H, dd, J = 8, 4.5 Hz), 6.96 (1H, t, J = 7.3 Hz), 6.90 (1H, d, J = 8.3 Hz), 3.87 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.5, 156.4, 125.6 (C), 149.5, 136.3, 129.3, 128.7, 127.8, 127.3, 121.7, 121.6, 120.7, 110.9 (CH), 55.4 (CH₃); HR ESMS *m/z* 212.1075 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₄NO, 212.1075.



(*E*)-2-(3-Methoxystyryl)pyridine (2)

Colorless oil. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.60 (1H, br d, $J \sim 4.5$ Hz), 7.63 (1H, td, J = 7.8, 2 Hz), 7.60 (1H, td, J = 16.1 Hz), 7.40 (1H, d, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.29 (1H, t, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.20-7.10 (4H, br m), 6.86 (1H, dd, J = 8.3, 2.5 Hz), 3.82 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.8, 155.5, 138.1 (C), 149.6, 136.5, 132.6, 129.6, 128.2, 122.0, 121.9, 119.8, 114.2, 112.1 (CH), 55.2 (CH₃); HR ESMS *m/z* 212.1077 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₄NO, 212.1075.



(E)-2-(4-Methoxystyryl)pyridine (3)

White solid, mp 73-75 °C, lit.¹ mp 74-76 °C. Spectral data consistent with those reported.¹

¹ M. Annapurna, P. V. Reddy, S. P. Singh, M. L. Kantam, Tetrahedron 2013, 69, 10940-10945.



(E)-3-(2-Methoxystyryl)pyridine (4)

Colorless oil. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.72 (1H, br s), 8.46 (1H, dd, *J* = 5, 1.5 Hz), 7.84 (1H, br d, *J* ~ 8.5 Hz), 7.58 (1H, br d, *J* ~ 7.5 Hz), 7.52 (1H, d, *J* = 16.5 Hz), 7.30-7.25 (2H, m), 7.08 (1H, d, *J* = 16.5 Hz), 6.98 (1H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 6.92 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 3.79 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.1, 133.6 (C)*, 148.6, 148.3, 132.6, 129.3, 126.7, 125.8, 125.3, 123.4, 120.8, 111.0 (CH), 55.4 (CH₃); HR ESMS *m*/*z* 212.1077 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₄NO, 212.1075.

*The missing quaternary signal is overlapped with another signal and has not been allocated.



(*E*)-3-(3-Methoxystyryl)pyridine (5)

Colorless oil. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.70 (1H, br s), 8.48 (1H, dd, J = 5, 1.5 Hz), 7.78 (1H, dt, J = 8.3, 1.5 Hz), 7.30-7.25 (2H, m), 7.15-7.00 (4H, br m), 6.84 (1H, dd, J = 8, 2.5 Hz), 3.83 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 138.0, 132.8 (C), 148.5, 148.4, 132.5, 130.6, 129.6, 125.1, 123.4, 119.3, 113.8, 111.8 (CH), 55.2 (CH₃); HR ESMS *m/z* 212.1074 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₄NO, 212.1075.



(E)-3-(4-Methoxystyryl)pyridine (6)

White solid, mp 105-107 °C, lit.¹ mp 96-98 °C. Spectral data consistent with those reported.¹

¹ M. Annapurna, P. V. Reddy, S. P. Singh, M. L. Kantam, Tetrahedron 2013, 69, 10940-10945.



(E)-4-(2-Methoxystyryl)pyridine (7)

Colorless oil. Spectral data consistent with those reported.¹

¹ C. Shi, J. Ding, J. Jiang, J. Chen, H. Wu, M. Liu, J. Chem. Res. 2012, 36, 322-325.



(*E*)-4-(3-Methoxystyryl)pyridine (8)

Colorless oil, lit.¹ mp 56-57 °C. Spectral data consistent with those reported.¹

¹ C. Shi, J. Ding, J. Jiang, J. Chen, H. Wu, M. Liu, J. Chem. Res. 2012, 36, 322-325.



(*E*)-4-(4-Methoxystyryl)pyridine (9)

Yellowish solid, mp 138-140 °C, lit.¹ mp 122-125 °C. Spectral data consistent with those reported.¹

¹ C. Shi, J. Ding, J. Jiang, J. Chen, H. Wu, M. Liu, J. Chem. Res. 2012, 36, 322-325.



(E)-2-[2-(Pyridin-4-yl)vinyl]phenol (10)

Yellow solid, mp 173-175 °C, lit.¹ mp 192-194 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.52 (2H, d, *J* = 5 Hz), 7.66 (1H, d, *J* = 16.5 Hz), 7.60 (1H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.50 (2H, d, *J* = 5 Hz), 7.21 (1H, d, *J* = 16.5 Hz), 7.16 (1H, t, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 6.90 (1H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 6.85 (1H, t, *J* = 7.8 Hz) (a distinct OH signal not detected, perhaps merged with the solvent signal); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 155.6, 144.9, 122.8 (C), 150.0 (x 2), 129.7, 128.4, 127.3, 125.4, 120.6 (x 2), 119.3, 116.0 (CH); IR v_{max} (cm⁻¹) 3500-3200 (br, OH); HR ESMS *m/z* 198.0919 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₂NO, 198.0915. ¹D. Papa, E. Schwenk, E. Klingsberg, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1951, 73, 253-255.



(E)-3-[2-(Pyridin-4-yl)vinyl]phenol (11)

White solid, mp 210-212 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.46 (2H, d, *J* = 5.8 Hz), 7.55 (2H, d, *J* = 5.8 Hz), 7.40 (1H, d, *J* = 16.1 Hz), 7.20 (1H, t, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.10-7.05 (2H, m), 7.04 (1H, br s), 6.77 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.8, 2.5 Hz) (a distinct OH signal not detected, perhaps merged with the solvent signal); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 159.0, 147.6, 139.0 (C), 150.4 (x 2), 135.5, 130.8, 126.4, 122.5 (x 2), 120.0, 117.1, 114.6 (CH); IR v_{max} (cm⁻¹) 3500-3200 (br, OH); HR ESMS *m/z* 198.0919 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₂NO, 198.0919.



(E)-4-[2-(Pyridin-4-yl)vinyl]phenol (12)

Yellow solid, mp 265-268 °C, lit.¹ mp 280-282 °C. Spectral data consistent with those reported.²

¹ D. Papa, E. Schwenk, E. Klingsberg, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1951, 73, 253-255.

² C. Koopmans, H. Ritter, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2007, 129, 3502-3503.



(E)-2-(2-(Pyridin-4-yl)vinyl)aniline (13)

Yellowish solid, mp 180-182 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.50 (2H, br d, $J \sim 5.8$ Hz), 7.70 (1H, d, J = 16.2 Hz), 7.58 (2H, br d, $J \sim 5.8$ Hz), 7.48 (1H, d, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.01 (1H, t, J = 7.6 Hz), 6.97 (1H, d, J = 16.2 Hz), 6.67 (1H, d, J = 7.6 Hz), 6.57 (1H, t, J = 7.6 Hz), 5.50 (2H, br s, NH₂); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 147.1, 145.3, 119.9 (C), 149.9 (x 2), 129.7, 129.2, 126.1, 124.1, 121.0 (x 2), 116.6, 116.1 (CH); IR v_{max} (cm⁻¹) 3420, 3320, 3200 (br, NH₂); HR ESMS *m/z* 197.1076 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃N₂, 197.1079.



(E)-3-(2-(Pyridin-4-yl)vinyl)aniline (14)

Yellowish solid, mp 174-176 °C, lit.¹ mp 191-192 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.52 (2H, br d, $J \sim 5.8$ Hz), 7.52 (2H, br d, $J \sim 5.8$ Hz), 7.37 (1H, d, J = 16.2 Hz), 7.05-7.00 (2H, m), 6.85-6.80 (2H, m), 6.57 (1H, br d, $J \sim 8$ Hz), 5.10 (2H, br s, NH₂); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 149.0, 144.5, 136.7 (C), 150.0 (x 2), 134.1, 129.4, 125.0, 120.9 (x 2), 115.3, 114.8, 112.3 (CH); IR v_{max} (cm⁻¹) 3400-3200 (br, NH₂); HR ESMS *m*/*z* 197.1079 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃N₂, 197.1079.

¹ B. R. Baker, R. E. Gibson, J. Med. Chem. 1971, 14, 315-322.



(E)-4-(2-(Pyridin-4-yl)vinyl)aniline (15)

Yellow solid, mp 270-272 °C, lit.¹ mp 279-281 °C (dec.), lit.² mp 270-274 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.45 (2H, br d, $J \sim 5.8$ Hz), 7.43 (2H, br d, $J \sim 5.8$ Hz), 7.35-7.30 (3H, m), 6.86 (1H, d, J = 16.2 Hz), 6.58 (2H, br d, $J \sim 8.3$ Hz), 5.50 (2H, br s, NH₂); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 145.2, 123.6 (C),* 149.8 (x 2), 133.7, 128.4 (x 2), 120.2 (x 2), 119.8, 113.8 (x 2) (CH); IR v_{max} (cm⁻¹) 3400-3200 (br, NH₂); HR ESMS *m/z* 197.1076 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃N₂, 197.1079.

*The missing quaternary signal is overlapped with another signal and has not been allocated.

¹ B. R. Baker, R. E. Gibson, J. Med. Chem. 1971, 14, 315-322.

² S. J. Lord, H. D. Lee, R Samuel, R Weber, N. Liu, N. R. Conley, M. A. Thompson, R. J. Twieg, W. E. Moerner, J. Phys. Chem. B 2010, 114, 14157-14167.



(*E*)-2-(2-Methoxystyryl)pyrimidine (16)

Yellowish oil. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.72 (2H, d, J = 5 Hz), 8.32 (1H, d, J = 16.5 Hz), 7.66 (1H, dd, J = 7.8, 1.5 Hz), 7.35-7.30 (2H, m), 7.08 (1H, t, J = 5 Hz), 7.00 (1H, t, J = 7.6 Hz), 6.94 (1H, d, J = 8.3 Hz), 3.92 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.5, 158.0, 125.0 (C), 157.0 (x 2), 133.5, 130.2, 128.2, 128.0, 120.7, 118.3, 111.1 (CH), 55.5 (CH₃); HR ESMS m/z 213.1025 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃N₂O, 213.1028.



(E)-2-(3-Methoxystyryl)pyrimidine (17)

Yellowish oil. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.72 (2H, d, *J* = 5 Hz), 7.96 (1H, d, *J* = 16 Hz), 7.31 (1H, t, *J* = 8 Hz), 7.30-7.20 (2H, m), 7.16 (1H, br s), 7.10 (1H, t, *J* = 5 Hz), 6.90 (1H, dd, *J* = 8, 2 Hz), 3.85 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.8, 159.9, 137.3 (C), 157.0 (x 2), 138.1, 129.7, 127.6, 120.4, 118.5, 115.2, 112.4 (CH), 55.2 (CH₃); HR ESMS *m/z* 213.1024 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃N₂O, 213.1028.



(E)-2-(4-Methoxystyryl)pyrimidine (18)

Off-white solid, mp 103-105 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.68 (2H, d, J = 5 Hz), 7.96 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.56 (2H, d, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.12 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.05 (1H, t, J = 5 Hz), 6.92 (2H, d, J = 8.3 Hz), 3.82 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.2, 160.5, 128.7 (C), 157.0 (x 2), 137.7, 129.1 (x 2), 125.2, 118.1, 114.2 (x 2) (CH), 55.3 (CH₃); HR ESMS *m/z* 213.1030 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃N₂O, 213.1028.



(E)-5-(2-Methoxystyryl)pyrimidine (19)

Yellowish oil. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.07 (1H, s), 8.86 (2H, s), 7.59 (1H, d, *J* = 16.5 Hz), 7.57 (1H, dd, *J* = 8, 1 Hz), 7.31 (1H, td, *J* = 7.8, 1.5 Hz), 7.05-6.95 (2H, m), 6.94 (1H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 3.91 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.3, 131.6, 125.1 (C), 156.9, 154.2 (x 2), 129.9, 128.0, 127.0, 121.5, 120.8, 111.1 (CH), 55.5 (CH₃); HR ESMS *m/z* 213.1027 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃N₂O, 213.1028.



(E)-5-(3-Methoxystyryl)pyrimidine (20)

Yellowish solid, mp 75-77 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.08 (1H, s), 8.82 (2H, s), 7.30 (1H, t, J = 8 Hz), 7.16 (1H, d, J = 16.5 Hz), 7.10 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz), 7.05 (1H, t, J = 1.5 Hz), 6.94 (1H, d, J = 16.5 Hz), 6.88 (1H, dd, J = 8, 1.5 Hz), 3.82 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.8, 137.2, 130.7 (C), 157.0, 154.1 (x 2), 132.5, 129.7, 121.2, 119.3, 114.2, 112.0 (CH), 55.1 (CH₃); HR ESMS *m/z* 213.1032 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃N₂O, 213.1028.



(E)-5-(4-Methoxystyryl)pyrimidine (21)

Yellowish solid, mp 96-98 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.95 (1H, s), 8.91 (2H, s), 7.54 (2H, d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 7.36 (1H, d, *J* = 16.5 Hz), 6.98 (1H, d, *J* = 16.5 Hz), 6.94 (2H, d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 3.81 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 161.8, 133.7, 130.4 (C), 156.9, 155.2 (x 2), 134.2, 129.5 (x 2), 119.4, 115.3 (x 2) (CH), 55.8 (CH₃); HR ESMS *m/z* 213.1023 (M+H)⁺. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃N₂O, 213.1028.

NMR spectra of nitrogen-containing stilbene derivatives



























































