Drug design based on pentaerythritol tetranitrate reductase: synthesis and antibacterial activity of Pogostone derivatives

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1. Molecular docking

Molecular docking was performed using the CDOCKER program embedded in the Accelrys Discovery Studio 3.5 package (DS 3.5). The Pogostone structure was generated by DS 3.5, and then minimized using the CHARMM27 force field. The crystal structure of PETNR (scPDB: P71278) was used for docking. The binding site was defined to be the interaction residues Thr24, Leu26, Tyr66, Trp100, His182, Tyr184 and Tyr349; the radius was 10 Å. Automated molecular docking was performed using the "partial flexibility" CDOCKER tool in DS 3.5 in the presence of zinc cofactor. The best molecular docking results were identified based on docking scores and binding free energy. DS 3.5 was used to identify and visualize hydrogen bonds as well as hydrophobic, hydrophilic and coordination interactions with amino acid residues in the enzyme active site.

2. Chemistry

2.1 General Information

NMR data were obtained for ¹H at 400 MHz and for ¹³C at 100 MHz, or for ¹H at 600 MHz and for ¹³C at 150 MHz. Chemical shifts were reported in parts per million (ppm) using tetramethylsilane as internal standard with solvent resonance in CDCl₃. Mass spectra were recorded using electrospray ionization on a Q-TOF instrument. Column chromatography was performed on a silica gel (200-300 mesh) using an eluent of ethyl acetate and petroleum ether. TLC was performed on glassbacked silica plates; products were visualized using UV light. Melting points were determined on a Mel-Temp apparatus.

2.2 General Procedure for the Synthesis of Pogostone derivatives 3



To dehydroacetic acid 1 (50.4 mg, 0.3 mmol), amine catalyst C5 (35.9 mg, 0.06 mmol), benzoic acid (14.7mg, 0.12 mmol) and MeCN (1.5 mL) in a standard glass vial with stir bar was added α,β -unsaturated aldehyde 2 (0.36 mmol in 0.5 mL MeCN). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature until the reaction was completed based on TLC. The reaction mixture was concentrated, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on a silica gel (Petroleum ether / Ethyl Acetate = 7:1) to give the Pogostone derivatives **3** which were dried under vacuum and further analyzed by ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and high-resolution mass spectrometry.



4-hydroxy-6-methyl-3-((2*E*,4*E*)-5-phenylpenta-2,4-dienoyl)-2*H*-pyran-2-one (3a): yellow solid, 72.6 mg, 86% yield, m.p. 168-172 °C. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.84 (d, J = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dd, J = 15.0, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d,

J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (dd, J = 15.6, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H) ppm . ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 192.3$, 183.4, 168.4, 161.2, 146.7, 143.4, 135.9, 129.6, 128.9, 127.6, 127.4, 126.3, 102.6, 99.3, 20.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₇H₁₄O₄+Na: 305.0790, found: 305.0792.



(1'S,2'S,3'S)-2'-(4-hydroxy-6-methyl-2-oxo-2*H*-pyran-3carbonyl)-1',2',3',6'-tetrahydro-[1,1':3',1''-terphenyl]-4'carbaldehyde (4a): white solid, 11.2 mg, 9% yield, m.p. 121-124 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 9.52 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J*

S3

= 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (dd, J = 15.2, 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.08 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 5.86 (s, 1H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 4.26 (s, 1H), 3.37-3.31 (m, 2H), 3.01-2.95 (m, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 207.6, 192.7, 181.7, 169.1, 160.8, 152.8, 141.5, 141.3, 139.9, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 127.6, 126.8, 126.7, 101.7, 99.7, 53.0, 40.0, 36.7, 31.1, 20.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₂₆H₂₂O₅+Na: 437.1365, found: 437.1364.



3-((2*E***,4***E***)-5-(2-fluoro-phenyl)penta-2,4-dieno-yl)-4hydroxy-6-methyl-2***H***-pyran-2-one (3b): yellow solid, 72.9 mg, 81% yield, m.p. 189-192 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.86 (d,** *J* **= 15.2 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd,** *J* **= 14.8,**

9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.06 (m, 4H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 192.4$, 183.3, 168.5, 161.2, 160.9 (d, $J_{CF} = 251.3$ Hz), 146.5, 135.3 (d, $J_{CF} = 3.3$ Hz), 130.9 (d, $J_{CF} = 8.6$ Hz), 129.6 (d, $J_{CF} = 5.6$ Hz), 127.9 (d, $J_{CF} = 3.0$ Hz), 127.1, 124.4 (d, $J_{CF} = 3.5$ Hz), 124.0 (d, $J_{CF} = 11.7$ Hz), 116.1 (d, $J_{CF} = 21.9$ Hz), 102.5, 99.4, 20.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₇H₁₃FO₄+Na: 323.0696, found: 323.0700.



3-((2*E***,4***E***)-5-(2-chloro-phenyl)penta-2,4-dieno-yl)-4hydroxy-6-methyl-2***H***-pyran-2-one (3c**): yellow solid, 74.6 mg, 79% yield, m.p. 154-156 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.87 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, *J* = 15.2,

10.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd, J = 7.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd, J = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.08 (dd, J = 15.6, 10.4Hz, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 192.3$, 183.3, 168.6, 161.2, 146.1, 138.5, 134.4, 133.9, 130.3, 130.1, 129.5, 127.4, 127.1, 127.0, 102.5, 99.4, 20.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₇H₁₃ClO₄+Na: 339.0400, found: 339.0397.



4-hydroxy-6-methyl-3-((2*E*,4*E*)-5-(2-nitrophenyl)penta-2,4-dienoyl)-2*H*-pyran-2-one (3d): yellow solid, 78.4 mg, 80% yield, m.p. 193-196 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.00$ (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 14.8 Hz, 1H),

7.78-7.71 (m, 2H), 7.64 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.06 (dd, J = 15.6, 11.2 Hz, 1H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 192.4$, 183.1, 168.8, 161.2, 148.1, 145.0, 136.8, 133.3, 132.0, 131.5, 129.5, 128.8, 128.4, 125.0, 102.4, 99.5, 20.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₇H₁₃NO₆+Na: 350.0641, found: 350.0638.



3-((2E,4E)-5-(3-fluorophenyl)penta-2,4-dienoyl)-4-

hydroxy-6-methyl-2*H*-pyran-2-one (3f): yellow solid, 73.8 mg, 82% yield, m.p. 199-202 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.86 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, *J*

= 15.2, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (dd, J = 15.6, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 192.4$, 183.3, 168.6, 163.1 (d, $J_{CF} = 245.0$ Hz), 161.2, 145.8, 141.6 (d, $J_{CF} = 2.8$ Hz), 138.2 (d, $J_{CF} = 7.6$ Hz), 130.4 (d, $J_{CF} = 8.3$ Hz), 128.6, 127.3, 123.4 (d, $J_{CF} = 2.8$ Hz), 116.3 (d, $J_{CF} = 21.3$ Hz), 113.8 (d, $J_{CF} = 21.9$ Hz), 102.5, 99.4, 20.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₇H₁₃FO₄+Na: 323.0696, found: 323.0698.



3-((2*E***,4***E***)-5-(3-chlorophenyl)penta-2,4-dienoyl)-4hydroxy-6-methyl-2***H***-pyran-2-one (3f): yellow solid, 76.8 mg, 81% yield, m.p. 165-168 °C. ¹H NMR (400**

MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.86 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J*

= 14.8, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.38-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.09 (dd, J = 15.2, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz,

CDCl₃): $\delta = 192.3$, 183.3, 168.6, 161.2, 145.7, 141.3, 137.8, 134.9, 130.1, 129.3, 128.7, 127.4, 127.4, 125.6, 102.5, 99.4, 20.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₇H₁₃ClO₄+Na: 339.0400, found: 339.0401.



3-((2*E***,4***E***)-5-(4-fluorophenyl)penta-2,4-dienoyl)-4hydroxy-6-methyl-2***H***-pyran-2-one (3g**): yellow solid, 75.6 mg, 84% yield, m.p. 189-192 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.85-7.70 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.47 (m, 2H),

7.08-7.00 (m, 4H), 5.94 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.3, 183.3, 168.5, 163.4 (d, J_{CF} = 249.3 Hz), 161.2, 146.4, 141.9 (d, J_{CF} = 0.9 Hz), 132.2 (d, J_{CF} = 3.4 Hz), 129.3 (d, J_{CF} = 8.2 Hz), 127.2 (d, J_{CF} = 2.4 Hz), 126.4 (d, J_{CF} = 0.8 Hz), 116.0 (d, J_{CF} = 21.8 Hz), 102.6, 99.3, 20.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₇H₁₃FO₄+Na: 323.0696, found: 323.0701.



3-((2*E*,4*E*)-5-(4-chlorophenyl)penta-2,4-dienoyl)-4hydroxy-6-methyl-2*H*-pyran-2-one (3h): yellow solid, 82.8 mg, 87% yield, m.p. 174-176 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.84 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, *J*

= 15.2, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (dd, J = 15.6, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.3, 183.3, 168.5, 161.2, 146.1, 141.6, 135.3, 134.5, 129.2, 128.7, 127.9, 126.9, 102.5, 99.4, 20.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₇H₁₃ClO₄+Na: 339.0400, found: 339.0399.



3-((2*E***,4***E***)-5-(4-bromophenyl)penta-2,4-dienoyl)-4hydroxy-6-methyl-2***H***-pyran-2-one (3i): yellow solid, 92.1 mg, 85% yield, m.p. 179-182 °C. ¹H NMR (400** MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.84 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 15.2, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 5.94 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.3, 183.3, 168.5, 161.2, 146.1, 141.7, 134.9, 132.1, 128.9, 128.0, 127.0, 123.6, 102.5, 99.4, 20.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₇H₁₃BrO₄+Na: 382.9895, found: 382.9893.



4-hydroxy-6-methyl-3-((2*E*,4*E*)-5-(*p*-tolyl)penta-2,4dienoyl)-2*H*-pyran-2-one (3j): yellow solid, 66.4 mg, 75% yield, m.p. 180-182 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.81$ (d, J = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, J =

14.4, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.09-6.99 (m, 2H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta =$ 192.2, 183.4, 168.3, 161.2, 147.2, 143.7, 140.0, 133.3, 129.7, 127.6, 126.5, 125.7, 102.6, 99.3, 21.3, 20.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₈H₁₆O₄+Na: 319.0946, found: 319.0941.



4-hydroxy-3-((2*E*,4*E*)-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)penta-2,4dienoyl)-6-methyl-2*H*-pyran-2-one (3k), yellow solid,
70.1 mg, 75% yield, m.p. 153-155 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz,
CDCl₃): δ = 7.80 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.53

(dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.13 (m, 1H), 6.96 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 192.2, 183.5, 168.2, 161.3, 157.8, 148.2, 139.0, 130.9, 128.1, 128.0, 125.4, 124.9, 120.8, 111.1, 102.7, 99.3, 55.5, 20.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): <math>m/z$ calculated for C₁₈H₁₆O₅+Na: 335.0895, found: 335.0897.



4-hydroxy-3-((2*E***,4***E***)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)penta-2,4-dienoyl)-6-methyl-2***H***-pyran-2-one (3l):** yellow solid, 71.7 mg, 77% yield, m.p. 152-155 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.80-7.72 (m, 2H), 7.45 (d, *J*

= 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.03-6.93 (m, 2H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.0, 183.5, 168.1, 161.3, 161.0, 147.5, 143.5, 129.3, 128.8, 125.4, 125.0, 114.4, 114.4, 102.7, 99.2, 55.4, 20.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₈H₁₆O₅+Na: 335.0895, found: 335.0894.



3-((2E,4E)-5-(furan-2-yl)penta-2,4-dienoyl)-4-hydroxy6-methyl-2H-pyran-2-one (3m), yellow solid, 59.5 mg,
73% yield, m.p. 178-181 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃):
δ = 7.82 (d, J = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, J = 15.2, 11.2 Hz,

1H), 7.48 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, J = 15.2, 11.2 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.47 (q, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 192.0$, 183.4, 168.3, 161.2, 152.3, 146.3, 144.4, 129.5, 126.1, 125.8, 113.2, 112.5, 102.6, 99.3, 20.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₅H₁₂O₅+Na: 295.0582, found: 295.0580.



4-hydroxy-6-methyl-3-((2*E***,4***E***)-6-methylhepta-2,4dienoyl)-2H-pyran-2-one (3n):** pale yellow, 36.7 mg, 49% yield, m.p. 79-81 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 5.91

(s, 1H), 5.47 (dd, J = 15.6, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (dd, J = 15.6,

8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (dd, J = 10.4, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (dd, J = 17.6, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 2.11 (dq, J = 13.6, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 0.79 (dd, J = 12.4, 6.8 Hz, 6H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 205.5$, 180.6, 168.9, 160.4, 140.9, 124.4, 101.3, 100.2, 51.1, 37.3, 30.8, 22.4, 22.3, 20.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₄H₁₆O₄+Na: 271.0946, found: 271.0948.



3-((2E,4E)-hexa-2,4-dienoyl)-4-hydroxy-6-methyl-2H-pyran -**2-one (3o):** yellow solid, 29.3 mg, 44% yield, *Z/E* ratio 2.5:1, m.p. 85-87 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.72-7.53 (m, 2H), 6.51-6.29 (m, 2H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.92 (d, *J* =

6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.84 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 192.9$, 183.3, 168.3, 161.2, 147.2, 143.1, 131.2, 124.2, 102.5, 99.2, 20.6, 19.1 ppm. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₂H₁₂O₄+Na: 243.0633, found: 243.0634.

3. Procedure for in vitro minimum inhibitory concentration assay

Bacteria

E. coli ATCC, 25922, *E. coli* CMCC 44102, *S. aureus* ATCC 25923, *S. aureus* CMCC 26003, MRSA ATCC 43300 and MRSA ATCC 33591 were cultured in the trypticase soy broth at 37 °C.

In vitro MIC assay

The MIC of each compound was determined using a standard broth microdilution assay consistent with the guidelines of the Clinical Laboratory Standards Institute. Stock solutions of test compounds were diluted in a 2-fold series to achieve the desired concentrations. The MIC was defined as the lowest concentration of the chemical that inhibited the development of visible bacterial growth after incubation at 37 °C for 18-24 h.

4. Crystal Data of 3a





ORTEP Drawing of compound **3a**.

Empirical formula	$C_{17}H_{13}O_4$
Formula weight	281.27
Temperature/K	293(2)
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	6.9865(17)
b/Å	8.511(2)
c/Å	11.9757(18)
$\alpha/^{\circ}$	88.053(17)
β/°	77.077(18)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	84.50(2)
Volume/Å ³	690.8(3)
Z	2
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.352
μ/mm^{-1}	0.797
F(000)	294.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.1 imes 0.1 imes 0.05
Radiation	Cu Ka ($\lambda = 1.5418$)
2Θ range for data collection/°	7.58 to 134.48
Index ranges	$-8 \le h \le 7, -10 \le k \le 9, -12 \le l \le 14$
Reflections collected	4008
Independent reflections	2420 [$R_{int} = 0.0291$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0588$]
Data/restraints/parameters	2420/0/192
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	0.999
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0789, wR_2 = 0.2226$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1414, wR_2 = 0.2941$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.29/-0.28

5. NMR Spectra of the Pogostone derivatives 3































S20









S23







