

**A REVIEW ON CINNOLINE SYNTHESIS, ITS DERIVATIVES AND THEIR  
BIOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES**

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**ABSTRACT**

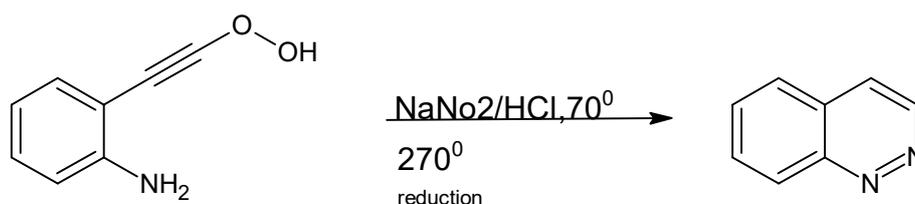
The cinnoline is a very significant bicyclic heterocycle that is used with its fascinating medicinal properties as the subunit of several compounds. The review represents its many pharmacological activities such as antihypertensive, antithrombotic, antitumor, antisecretory, anticancer, antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, antiparasitic, antimicrobial, antibacterial, cytotoxic, molluscicidal, antimalarial – anti-*Plasmodium falciparum*, antileukemic. In this review, an endeavor has been made to study the synthesis of cinnoline, its derivatives, and their biological activities that are reported in the scientific world.

**Keywords: Cinnoline, biological activity, derivatives**

**INTRODUCTION**

Cinnoline is the aromatic heterocyclic compound. The cinnoline solid is pale yellow in colour with melting point 24-25<sup>o</sup>C, and was first noticed by Von Richter

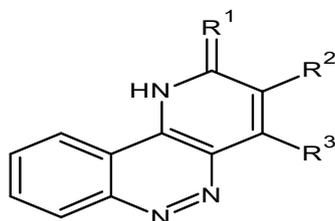
in the year 1883 [1]. Cinnoline synthesis can be done with o-aminophenyl-propanoic and NaNO<sub>2</sub>/HCl, by maintaining proper temperature conditions for reduction [10].



**Figure 1: Cinnoline synthesis**

Amer *et al* [2] studied derivatives of cinnoline in the different fields, cinnoline and benzo and heterocyclic analogs exhibit biological activity, including antihypertensive, antithrombotic, antitumor, antisecretory, and bactericidal [1a-f] activities. Due to their antibacterial, antihistamine and insecticide properties, 4-amino-cinnoline have recently

become essential. These derivatives were commonly used as intermediates for the synthesis of possible biological activity 1[aa-ae] of fused cinnoline. Previously, with a cinnoline ring as the central nucleus, these authors documented the synthesis of condensed tricyclic systems of potential biological activity.



1 a-f, 1 aa-ae,

1a:R<sup>1</sup>=NH<sub>2</sub>, R<sup>2</sup>=CN, R<sup>3</sup>=Ph

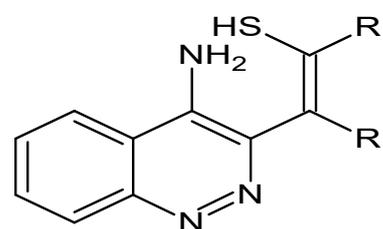
1b:R<sup>1</sup>=OH, R<sup>2</sup>=CN

1c:R<sup>1</sup>=CH<sub>3</sub>, R<sup>2</sup>=COCH<sub>3</sub>

1d:R<sup>1</sup>=CH<sub>3</sub>, R<sup>2</sup>=COOEt

1e:R<sup>1</sup>=OH, R<sup>2</sup>=COOEt

1f:R<sup>1</sup>=OH, R<sup>2</sup>=SH



R:COOH

R<sub>1</sub>:Ph

1aa:R<sup>1</sup>=H, R<sub>3</sub>=NH<sub>2</sub>

1ab:R<sup>1</sup>=H, R<sub>3</sub>=OH

1ac:R<sup>1</sup>=H, R<sub>3</sub>=NHCOCH<sub>3</sub>

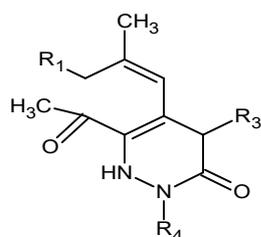
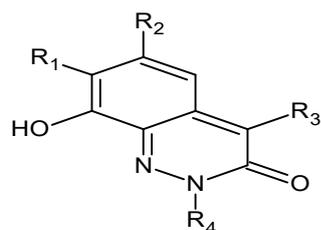
1ad:R<sup>1</sup>=SH, R<sub>3</sub>=NH<sub>2</sub>

1ae:R<sup>1</sup>=NHPh, R<sub>3</sub>=SH

Figure 2: Cinnoline Derivatives with different substituents

Nazmy, *et al* [3] reported that due to recurrent chemoresistance, there is an immediate continual need for novel anti-cancer agents. Newly synthesized cinnoline are examined for their potential anticancer activities and proposed mechanism in this context. In the current research, a simple and effective densely synthesized synthesis

of the multicomponent reaction of ethyl 5-cyano-4-methyl-1-aryl-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyridine-3-carboxylates with aromatic aldehydes and nitromethane in dioxane /piperidine under controlled microwave heating was developed using functionalized cannolis [3].



2a-v,

- 2a:  $R_2 = C_6H_5$ ,  $R_4 = \text{furfural}$   $R_3 = CN$   
 2b:  $R_2 = C_6H_5$ ,  $R_4 = C_6H_5$   $R_1 = NO_2$   
 2c:  $R_2 = C_6H_5$ ,  $R_4 = p\text{-Cl-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2d:  $R_2 = C_6H_5$ ,  $R_4 = p\text{-OCH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2e:  $R_2 = C_6H_5$ ,  $R_4 = p\text{-NO}_2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2f:  $R_2 = C_6H_5$ ,  $R_4 = m\text{-NO}_2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2g:  $R_2 = C_6H_5$ ,  $R_4 = o\text{-NO}_2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2h:  $R_2 = p\text{-CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = \text{furfural}$   
 2i:  $R_2 = p\text{-CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = C_6H_5$   
 2j:  $R_2 = p\text{-CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = p\text{-Cl-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2k:  $R_2 = p\text{-CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = o\text{-Cl-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2l:  $R_2 = p\text{-CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = 3,4,5(\text{OMe})_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_2$   
 2m:  $R_2 = p\text{-CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = p\text{-OCH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2n:  $R_2 = p\text{-CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_5$ ,  $R_4 = p\text{-NO}_2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2o:  $R_2 = p\text{-CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = m\text{-NO}_2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2p:  $R_2 = p\text{-CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = p\text{-NO}_2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2q:  $R_2 = p\text{-CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = \text{furfural}$   
 2r:  $R_2 = p\text{-CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = C_6H_5$   
 2s:  $R_2 = p\text{-CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = p\text{-Cl-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2t:  $R_2 = m\text{-Cl-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = \text{Furfural}$   
 2u:  $R_2 = m\text{-Cl-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = p\text{-Cl-C}_6\text{H}_4$   
 2v:  $R_2 = m\text{-Cl-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ,  $R_4 = p\text{-OCH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$

Figure 3: Derivatives of Cinnoline with Anticancer Property

Stefańska, *et al* [4] reported a sequence of derivatives of anthrapyridazone with one or two basic side chains were synthesized at different locations in the tetracyclic chromophore. In synthesis, the key intermediates are 2,7-5dihydro-3H-dibenzo[de,h]cinnoline-3,7-diones 1,12-dihydro-3H-dibenzo[de,h]cinnoline-3,7-diones 1, Monosubstituted and 15 monosubstituted with sufficient alkylaminoalkylamines at position 2 (3j,3m-q) or 6 (3a-f) or disubstituted at position 2

and 6 (4g-j) or 2 and 8 (3r-v). *In vitro* cytotoxic activity against murine leukemia (L1210) and humming was demonstrated in all analogs. The compound was also involved in the multidrug-resistant human leukemia (K562/DX) cell line with depending on the composition of the compound, the resistance was tested *in vivo* for murine P388 leukemia and demonstrated comparable antileukemic activity to that of mitoxantrone [4].

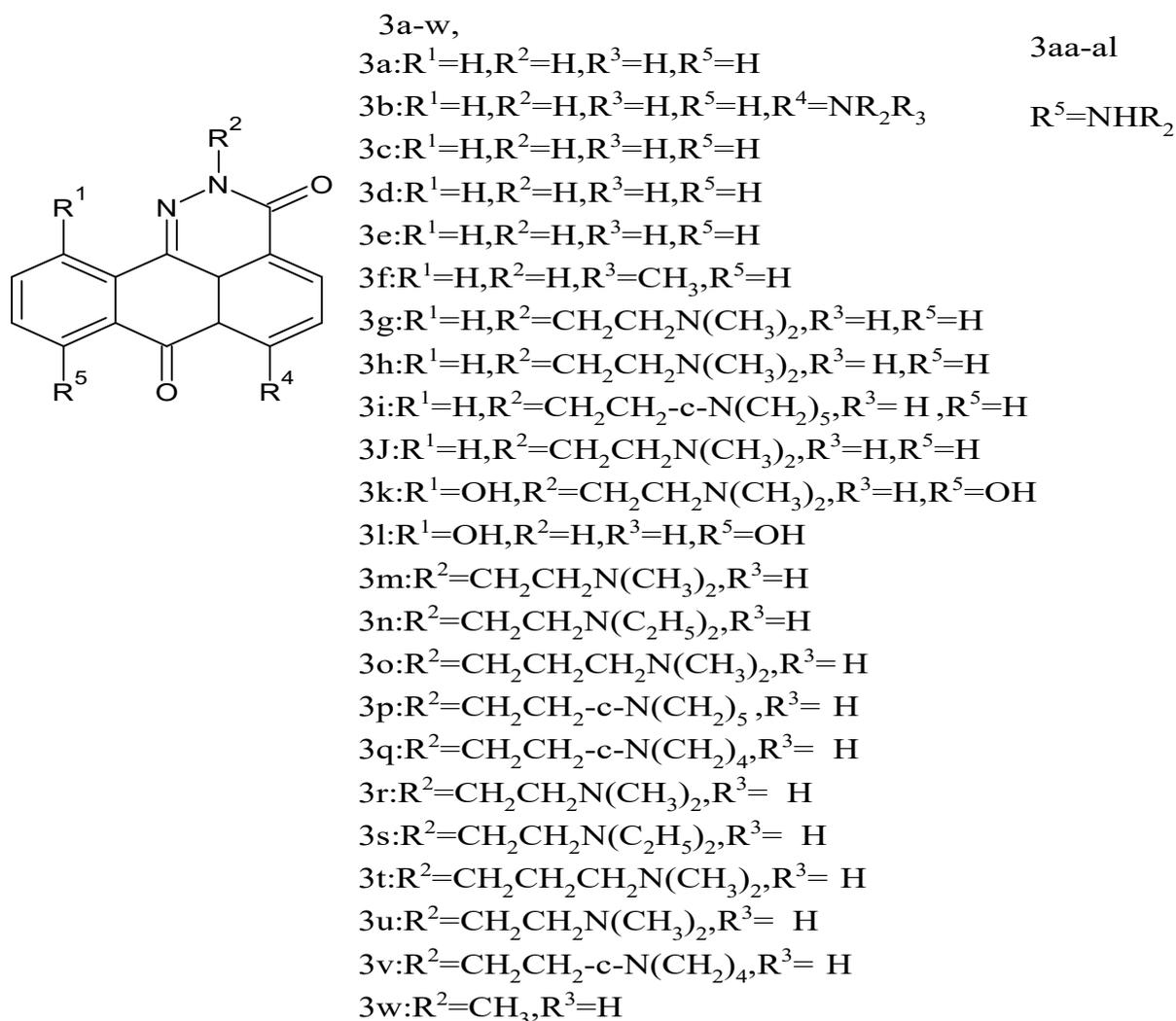


Figure 4: Derivatives of Cinnoline with Antileukemic Activity

Unnissa, et al [5], synthesized 4-methyl-3-acetylcholine-6-sulfonamide and hydrazine chalcones. Anti-malarial and anti-bacterial activity to obtain new congeners such as cinnoline-based pyrazole analogs the potent antimalarial and anti-microbial agents.

Both analogs exhibited antimalarial *in vitro* *Plasmodium falciparum* activity and all the analogs demonstrated strong antibacterial activity against different types of microorganisms [5].

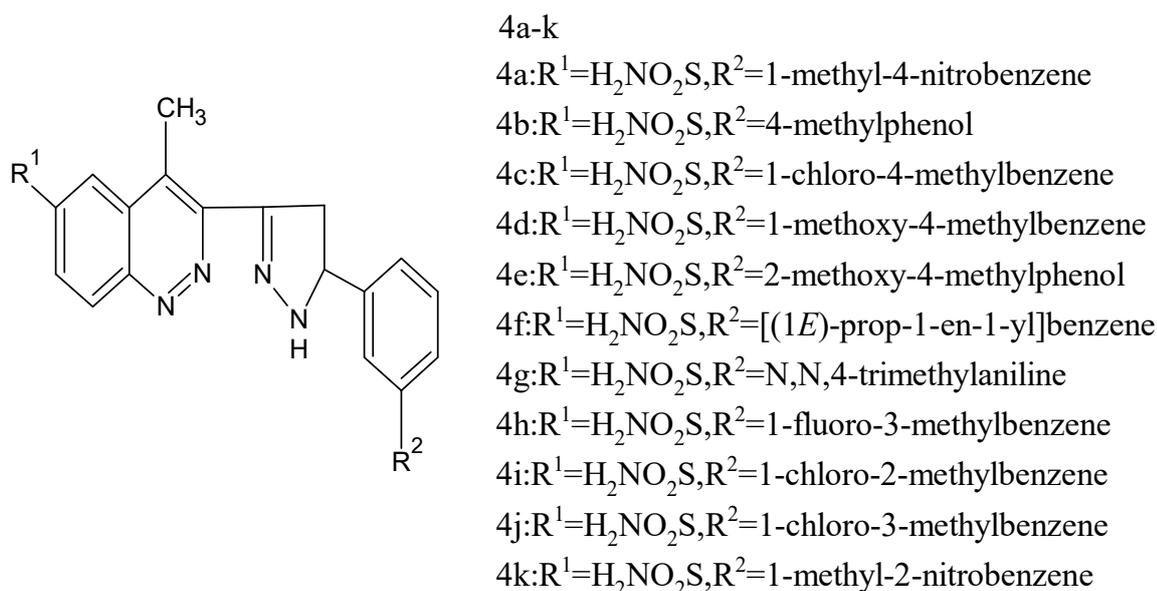


Figure 5: Derivatives with Antimalarial activity

Abdelrazek, *et al*, synthesized pyrano[2,3-c]pyrazole derivatives 5a-c,aa-ac,5a-d . In general, these newly synthesized compounds demonstrate a mild molluscicidal activity [6].

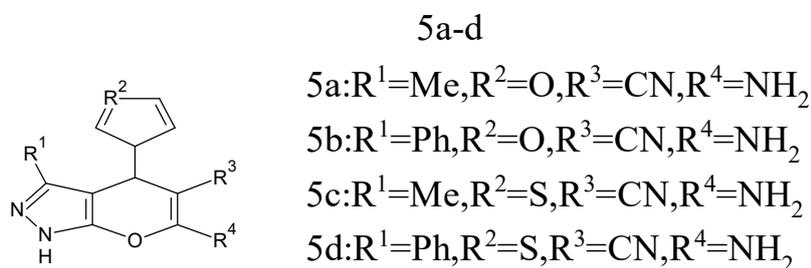
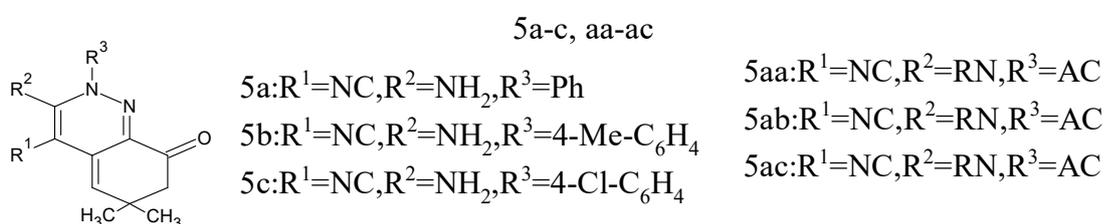


Figure 6: Derivatives with Molluscicidal activity

Al-zagameem, *et al*, synthesized antitumor activity on breast cancer, pyrano[2,3-f]cinnolines and studied the compounds are 6a-m [7].

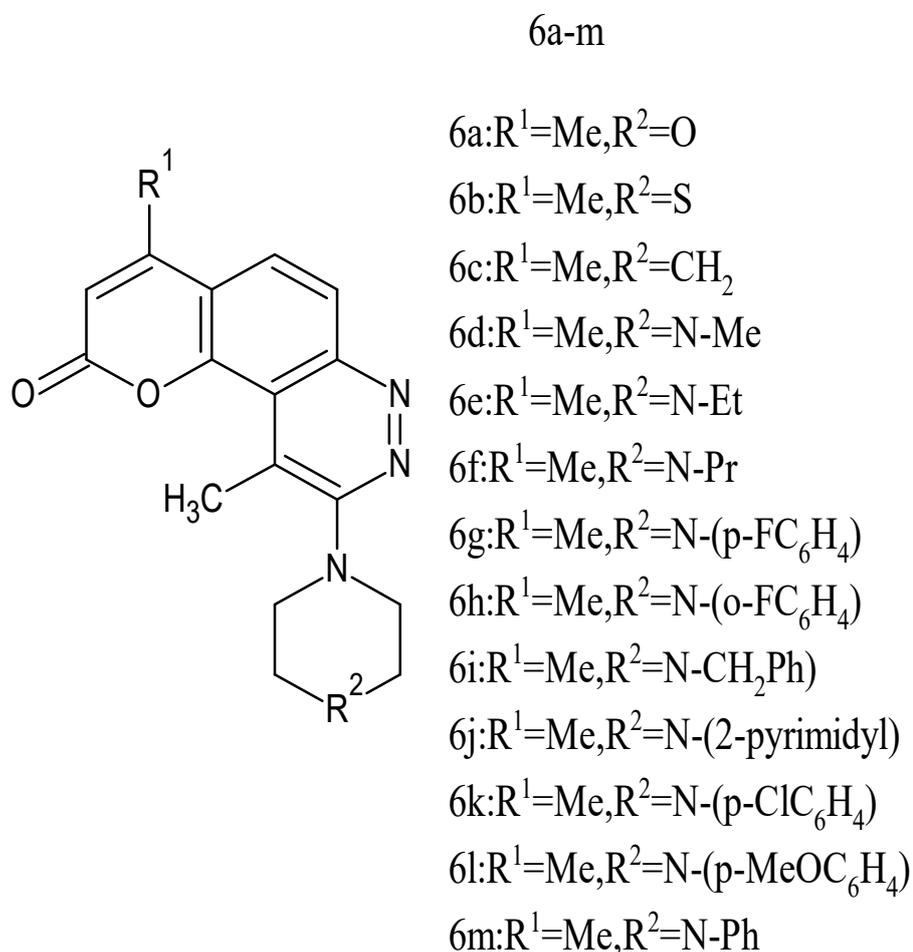
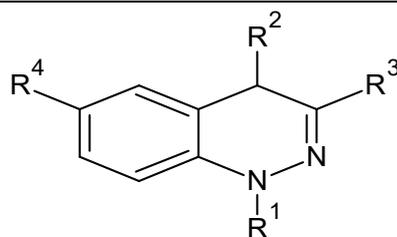


Figure 7: Antitumor Activity Derivatives

Giovannoni, M. P. *et al*, reported the therapeutics for inflammatory disease therapy. The compounds are (7a-s,7aa-

ae,7aaa-are,7A) that can effectively inhibit the human proteolytic activity of neutrophils elastase (HNE) [8].



7a-s, 7aa-ad, 7aaa-aae, 7A

- 7a:  $R^1 = \text{CO}_c\text{C}_3\text{H}_5$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{COOEt}$   
 7b:  $R^1 = \text{CH}_3$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{COOEt}$   
 7c:  $R^1 = \text{CH}_2\text{-m-CH}_3\text{-ph}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{COOEt}$   
 7d:  $R^1 = \text{CO-m-CH}_3\text{-ph}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{COOEt}$   
 7e:  $R^1 = \text{CO-m-CH}_3\text{-ph}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{COOH}$   
 7f:  $R^1 = \text{CO-m-CH}_3\text{-ph}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{Ph}$   
 7g:  $R^1 = \text{CO-m-CH}_3\text{-ph}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{C}_3\text{H}_5$   
 7h:  $R^1 = \text{CO-m-CH}_3\text{-ph}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{C}_3\text{H}_7$   
 7i:  $R^1 = \text{CO-m-CH}_3\text{-ph}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{CH}_2\text{OH}$   
 7j:  $R^1 = \text{CO-m-CH}_3\text{-ph}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{Cl}$   
 7k:  $R^1 = \text{CO-m-CH}_3\text{-ph}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{Br}$   
 7l:  $R^1 = \text{CO-m-CH}_3\text{-ph}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{i}$   
 7m:  $R^1 = \text{CO-m-CH}_3\text{-ph}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{H}$   
 7n:  $R^1 = \text{COCH}_3$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{H}$   
 7o:  $R^1 = \text{COC}_2\text{H}_5$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{H}$   
 7p:  $R^1 = \text{COC}_3\text{H}_7$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{H}$   
 7q:  $R^1 = \text{COC}_4\text{H}_9$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{H}$   
 7r:  $R^1 = \text{CO}_c\text{C}_3\text{H}_5$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{H}$   
 7s:  $R^1 = \text{CO}_c\text{C}_5\text{H}_9$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{H}$   
 7aa:  $R^2 = 3\text{-methylbenzoicacid}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{Cl}$ ,  $R^4 = \text{H}$   
 7ab:  $R^2 = 3\text{-methylbenzoicacid}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{Br}$ ,  $R^4 = \text{H}$   
 7ac:  $R^2 = 3\text{-methylbenzoicacid}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{i}$ ,  $R^4 = \text{H}$   
 7ad:  $R^2 = 3\text{-methylbenzoicacid}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{H}$ ,  $R^4 = \text{NO}_2$   
 7aaa:  $R^1 = 3\text{-methylbenzal}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^4 = \text{NO}_2$   
 7aab:  $R^1 = 3\text{-methylbenzal}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^4 = \text{Cl}$   
 7aac:  $R^1 = 3\text{-methylbenzal}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^4 = \text{Br}$   
 7aad:  $R^1 = 3\text{-methylbenzal}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^4 = \text{i}$   
 7aae:  $R^1 = 3\text{-methylbenzal}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $R^4 = \text{NHCO-m-CH}_3\text{-Ph}$   
 7A:  $R^1 = 3\text{-methylbenzal}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{ethanol}$

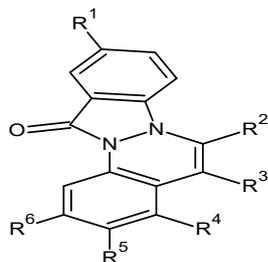
Figure 8: Derivatives with Anti-inflammatory Effect

Zhang, X., Bai *et al* synthesized the 12H-indazolo[2,1-a]cinnoline-12-ones compounds [B] Cytotoxic activity of these

skeleton compounds and found highly cytotoxic activity of certain compounds [9].

[A]

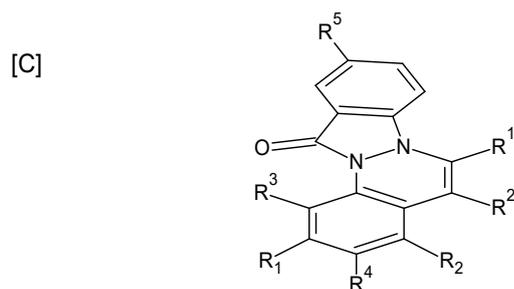
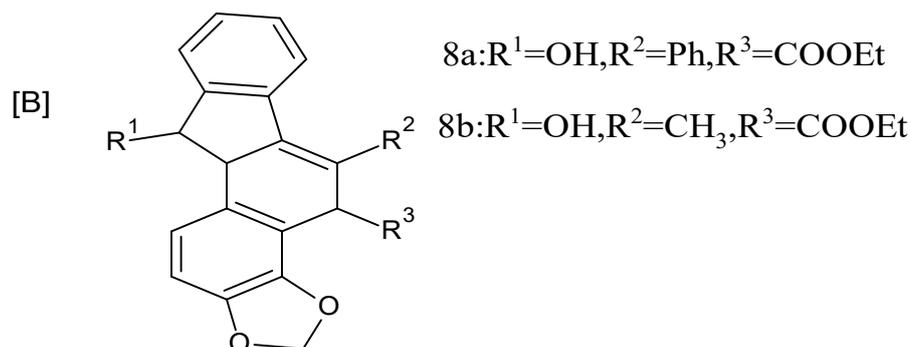
$R^2 = \text{Ph}$   
 $R^3 = \text{COOEt}$



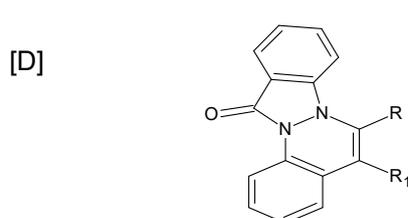
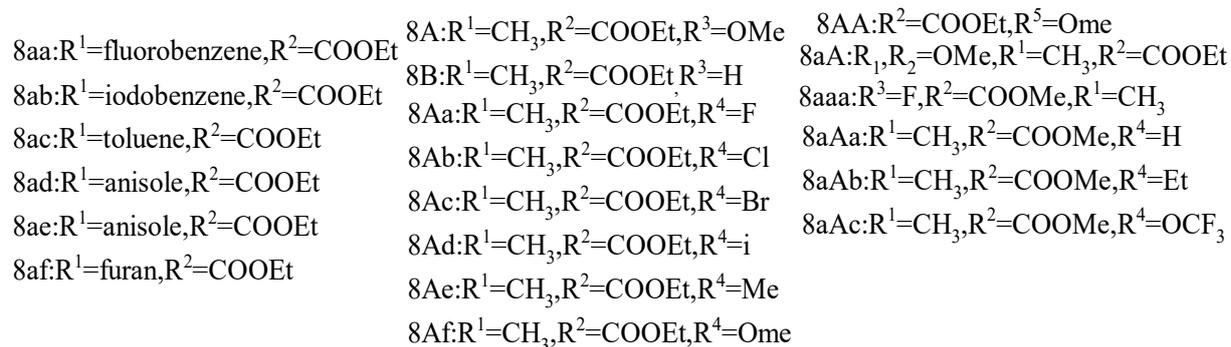
8a-c,

8a:  $R^1 = \text{H}$   
 8b:  $R^1 = \text{F}$   
 8c:  $R^1 = \text{OMe}$

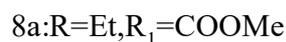
8A:  $R^5 = \text{F}$ 8B:  $R^5 = \text{Cl}$ 8C:  $R^5 = \text{Br}$ 8D:  $R^5 = \text{I}$ 8E:  $R^5 = \text{Me}$ 8F:  $R^5 = \text{OMe}$ 8aa:  $R^6, R^4 = \text{OMe}$



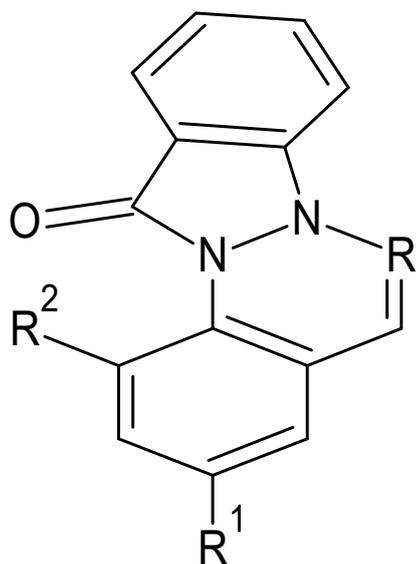
8aa-af, 8A-8B, 8Aa-Af, 8AA, 8aA, 8aaa, 8aAa-aAc



8a-b



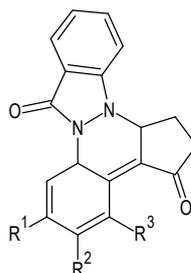
[E]



8a-c,8aa-ac,aaa-aae

8a:R=cyclohexanone,R<sup>1</sup>=H8b:R=cyclohexanone,R<sup>1</sup>=F8c:R=cyclohexanone,R<sup>1</sup>=OMe8aa:R=cyclopentanone,R<sup>2</sup>=F8ab:R=cyclopentanone,R<sup>2</sup>=OMe8aaa:R<sup>1</sup>=H,R=cyclopentanone8aab:R<sup>1</sup>=C,IR=cyclopentanone8aac:R<sup>1</sup>=Br,R=cyclopentanone8aad:R<sup>1</sup>=i,R=cyclopentanone8aae:R<sup>1</sup>=OMe,R=cyclopentanone

[F]



8a-aa

8a:R<sup>1</sup>=Ome,R<sup>3</sup>=Ome8aa:R<sup>1</sup>=Ome,R<sup>2</sup>=Ome,R<sup>3</sup>=Ome

8a-b,8aa-ab

[G]

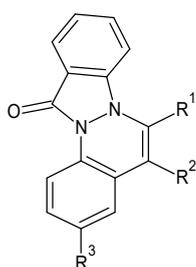
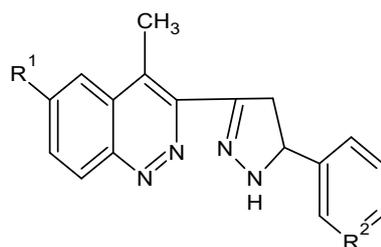
8a:R<sup>1</sup>=Ph,R<sup>2</sup>=COOEt,R<sup>3</sup>=Ph8a:R<sup>1</sup>=Ph,R<sup>2</sup>=COOEt,R<sup>3</sup>=CN8a:R<sup>1</sup>=Ph,R<sup>2</sup>=COOEt,R<sup>3</sup>=morphollnyl8aa:R<sup>1</sup>=Ph,R<sup>2</sup>=2-hydroperoxyethan-1-ol8ab:R<sup>1</sup>=Me,R<sup>2</sup>=2-hydroperoxyethan-1-ol

Figure 9: Highly Cytotoxic Derivatives of Cinnoline

Unnissa, S. H. *et al* synthesized 4-methyl - 3-acetylcinnoline-6-sulfonamido chalcones and hydrazines. Antimalarial and antibacterial agents are the compound 9a-j, both are analogous and exhibited

antimalarial *in vitro Plasmodium falciparum* activity, and all analogous demonstrated strong antibacterial activity against different pathogenic microbes [10].

## 9a-j



9a:  $R^1 = H_2NO_2S$ ,  $R^2 = 1$ -methyl-4-(nitromethyl)benzene

9b:  $R^1 = H_2NO_2S$ ,  $R^2 = 4$ -methylphenol

9c:  $R^1 = H_2NO_2S$ ,  $R^2 = 1$ -chloro-4-methylbenzene

9d:  $R^1 = H_2NO_2S$ ,  $R^2 = 1$ -methoxy-4-methylbenzene

9e:  $R^1 = H_2NO_2S$ ,  $R^2 = 2$ -methoxy-4-methylphenol

9f:  $R^1 = H_2NO_2S$ ,  $R^2 = 1$ -methyl-3-[(1Z)-prop-1-en-1-yl]benzene

9g:  $R^1 = H_2NO_2S$ ,  $R^2 = N,N,4$ -trimethylaniline

9h:  $R^1 = H_2NO_2S$ ,  $R^2 = 1$ -fluoro-3-methylbenzene

9i:  $R^1 = H_2NO_2S$ ,  $R^2 = 1$ -chloro-3-methylbenzene

9j:  $R^1 = H_2NO_2S$ ,  $R^2 = 1$ -methyl-2-(nitromethyl)benzene

Figure 10: Novel Antimalarial Derivatives

## CONCLUSION

From this review, it can be concluded that cinnoline and its derivatives are useful chemical entities for various biological activities. More scientific endeavors are required towards their formulation development and stability studies as per standard protocols.

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