

Synthesis, Characterization and Anti Tuberculosis Activity of Substituted Indole-3-Carboxaldehyde Thiosemicarbazones and Their Ni(II) Complexes

Dharmender Sharma¹ and Rekha Sharma^{1*}

¹Department of Chemistry, Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, 144411, India.

Email: rekha.pardeep78@gmail.com

Abstract: Nickel acetate reacted with two moles of substituted indole-3-carboxaldehyde thiosemicarbazones (H¹L; H²L and H³L) to form complexes of stoichiometry, [Ni(L)₂] (¹L, **1**; ²L, **2**; ³L, **3**). All the complexes (**1-3**) have been characterized using elemental analysis, IR, ¹H NMR spectroscopy. Spectroscopic data is suggesting binding of ligand to nickel center through azomethine nitrogen and thiolate and formation of square planar geometry in **1-3**. Ligands and their complexes have been tested for anti-TB activity using Micro Plate Alamar Blue assay method. Ligands (H¹L and H²L) are active at MIC 12.5 µg/ml and H³L at MIC 25 µg/ml. Complexes **1-3** showed less activity than their corresponding ligands.

Keywords: Indole-3-carboxaldehyde, Ligand, Thiosemicarbazones, Nickel acetate, ¹H NMR, Anti-tuberculosis

Introduction:

Tuberculosis (TB) is one of the deadly infectious diseases mainly caused by the bacteria named Mycobacterium tuberculosis. This deadly bacterium has infected large population worldwide per year [1-3]. According to World Health Organization (WHO) this number will increase drastically between 2000 and 2020 [4]. Looking at this scenario, it is the need of hour to make new anti-mycobacterial drugs which will be effective against multidrug resistance, having less toxicity, quick action and many more [5-7].

Thiosemicarbazones are among such molecules that have wide range of applications such as antiviral [8-9], antifungal [10], antibacterial [11-12], antitumor [13-14], anticarcinogenic [15-16], antioxidant [17] activities, insulin mimetic effects [18] and antiamebic activity [19].

Looking at the biological application of thiosemicarbazones, in present research work focused on synthesis of three thiosemicarbazones, indole-3-carboxaldehyde thiosemicarbazone (HIntsc, H¹L), indole-3-carboxaldehyde-N¹-methyl thiosemicarbazone (HIntscN¹Me, H²L), indole-3-carboxaldehyde-N¹-phenyl thiosemicarbazone (HIntscN¹Ph, H³L) (Scheme 1) and their complexes with nickel(II). Structure establishment of these compounds has been done through elemental analysis, IR and ¹H NMR spectroscopy.

Experimental:

Chemicals:

Ni(OAc)₂, Indole-3-Carboxaldehyde, thiosemicarbazide, N-methylthiosemicarbazide and N-phenyl thiosemicarbazides are of AR grades and purchased from Aldrich Chemicals Ltd. SHIMADZU FTIR 8400S spectrophotometer was used to take Infrared spectra of ligands and their complexes. The base used to make pellets is KBr. Electrically heated Gallenkamp apparatus was used to check the melting point of compounds. For recording ¹H NMR AV500 FT spectrometer was used at a frequency of 500 MHz. Solvent used is d⁶-dmsO/CDCl₃ with TMS as the internal standard. Thermoelectron FLASHEA1112 CHNS analyzer was used for C, H and N analysis of complexes.

Synthesis:

Indole-3-carboxaldehyde thiosemicarbazones (HIntsc, H¹L):

To a solution of Indole-3-carboxaldehyde (1.59 g, 10.9 mmol) in 50ml methanol was added thiosemicarbazide (1g, 10.9 mmol). The reaction contents was refluxed for 6-7 hrs and filtered to remove any insoluble impurity. After 2-days brown precipitates thus obtained were separated out and dried in vacuo. M.P. 138-140°C; yield, 87%; Main IR peaks: $\nu(\text{N-H})$, 3448, 3331; $\nu(-\text{NH-})$, 3146; $\nu(\text{C=C})+\nu(\text{C=N})+\delta(\text{NH}_2)$, 1614, 1539, 1442; $\nu(\text{C=S})$, 839; ¹H NMR signal: 10.07s (1H, N²H), 7.86s (1H, C⁴H), 7.83s (2H, N¹H), 8.33s (1H, C²H), 7.46d (2H, C^{6,9}H, 8 Hz), 7.29d (2H, C^{7,8}H, 8 Hz).

Indole-3-carboxaldehyde-N¹-Me thiosemicarbazones (HIntsc-N¹-Me, H²L):

To a solution of Indole-3-carboxaldehyde (1.38g, 9.5 mmol) in 50ml methanol was added N¹-methylthiosemicarbazide (1g, 9.5 mmol). The contents were refluxed for 6-7 hrs and filtered to remove any insoluble impurity. After 2-days brown precipitates obtained were separated out and dried in vacuo. M.P. 150-152°C, yield, 84%. IR peaks: $\nu(\text{N-H})$, 3362; $\nu(-\text{NH-})$, 3155; $\nu(\text{C=C})+\nu(\text{C=N})+\delta(\text{NH}_2)$, 1608, 1546, 1498; $\nu(\text{C=S})$, 833. ¹H NMR: 11.24s (1H, N⁴H), 10.95s (1H, N²H), 8.12s (1H, C²H), 7.83s (1H, C⁴H), 7.46d (2H, C^{7,8}H, 7.2 Hz), 7.39s (1H, N¹H), 7.14d (2H, C^{6,9}H, 8 Hz), 3.16m (3H, CH₃).

Indole-3-carboxaldehyde-N¹-Ph thiosemicarbazones (HIntsc-N¹-Ph, H³L):

To a solution of Indole-3-carboxaldehyde (0.86g, 5.9 mmol) in 50 ml methanol was added N¹-phenyl thiosemicarbazide (1g, 5.9 mmol). The contents were refluxed for 6-7 hrs and then filtered to remove any insoluble impurity. After 2-days brown precipitates thus obtained were separated out and dried in vacuo. M.P. 166-168°C, yield, 82%. IR peaks: $\nu(\text{N-H})$, 3410, 3317; $\nu(-\text{NH-})$, 3139; $\nu(\text{C=C})+\nu(\text{C=N})+\delta(\text{NH}_2)$, 1600, 1543, 1496; $\nu(\text{C=S})$, 845. ¹H NMR: 11.71s (1H, N²H), 11.62s (1H, N⁴H), 9.63s (1H, C²H), 8.42s (1H, N¹H), 8.24d (2H, C^{6,9}H, 8 Hz), 7.93s (1H, C⁴H), 7.66d (2H, C^{7,8}H, 8Hz), 7.15-7.46m (5H, phenyl ring)

Synthesis of complexes:

[Ni(¹L)₂] 1:

Nickel acetate (0.05g, 0.20 mmol) was dissolved in 20 ml ethanol and to it was added HIntsc,(0.08g, 0.38 mmol). The contents were refluxed for 3 hrs and filtered to remove any insoluble impurity. After 2-days Dark red microcrystals were obtained. M.P. 237- 240 °C, yield 76%. Analysis found: C, 48.70; H, 3.67; N, 22.74 %. Calculated for C₂₀H₁₈N₈S₂Ni: C, 48.71; H, 3.65; N, 22.73 %; IR peaks:ν(N-H), 3255; ν(C=C)+ν(C=N)+δ(NH₂), 1615, 1567, 1532; ν(C=S), 816.¹H NMR: 12.00s (N⁴H), 8.63s (C²H), 7.60s(C⁴H), 7.46d (2H, C^{7,8}H), 7.22d (2H, C^{6,9}H),6.92s (2H, NH₂)

[Ni(²L)₂] 2:

Nickel acetate (0.05 g, 0.20 mmol) was dissolved in 20 ml ethanol and to it was added HIntsc-N¹-Me(0.09 g, 0.38 mmol). Contents were refluxed for 3 hrs. and filtered to remove any insoluble impurity. After 2-days dark red microcrystal were obtained.M.P. 248- 250°C; yield 73%; Analysis found: C, 50.68; H, 4.23; N, 21.51 %. Calculated for C₂₂H₂₂N₈S₂Ni: C, 50.70; H, 4.22; N, 21.52 %. IR peaks: ν(N-H), 3340; ν(C=C)+ν(C=N)+ δ(NH₂), 1588, 1545, 1483; ν(C=S), 812.¹H NMR: 12.16s (N⁴H), 9.94s (C²H), 8.30s(C⁴H), 7.51d (C^{7,8}H),7.24d (C^{6,9}H), 3.16m (3H, CH₃).

[Ni(³L)₂] 3:

Nickel acetate (0.05 g, 0.20 mmol) was dissolved in 20 ml ethanol and to it was added HIntsc-N¹-Ph(0.05 g, 0.20 mmol). The contents were refluxed for 3 hrs. and filtered to remove any insoluble impurity. After 2-days dark red microcrystal were obtained. M.P. 265- 267 °C; yield 71%; Analysis found: C, 59.54; H, 4.04; N, 17.38 %. Calculated for C₃₂H₂₆N₈S₂Ni: C, 59.56; H, 4.03; N, 17.37 %. IR peaks: ν(N-H), 3315; ν(C=C)+ν(C=N)+ δ(NH₂), 1691, 1618, 1599; ν(C=S), 804.¹H NMR: 11.59s (N⁴H), 8.10s (C²H), 7.36s(C⁴H), 6.87-7.20m (Ring protons).

Anti-tuberculosis activity H¹L-H³L, 1-3:

Anti-tubercular assay of all synthesized compounds were carried out using Micro Plate Alamar Blue assay. A standard solution containing 1000 ppm of each compound was prepared. From standard solution, test solutions were prepared in the increasing concentration from 0.8 µg/ml to 100 µg/ml. In sterile 96 well plate, mixture of test solution, de-ionized water (200 µl) and

Middlebrook 7H9 Broth (100 μ l), were taken. This plate was sealed and hatched at 37°C over a period of five days. Further, 25 μ l of Tween 10% and 80% and Almar Blue (1:1 ratio) was dispensed in each well and incubated for one day. Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MIC) was reported as pink coloration for the growth of Mycobacterium while blue coloration was considered as no bacterial growth in the well.

Results and Discussion

Reaction of indole-3-carboxaldehyde thiosemicarbazones (H^1L) or indole-3-carboxaldehyde- N^1 -methyl thiosemicarbazones (H^2L) or indole-3-carboxaldehyde- N^1 -phenyl thiosemicarbazones (H^3L) with nickel(II) acetate in 1:2 (M:L) molar ratio yielded complexes of stoichiometry, $[Ni(L)_2]$ (1L , **1**; 2L , **2**; 3L , **3**) (Scheme 2).



Discussion on IR Spectrum

Table 1 shows characteristic bands (stretching and bending) obtained in IR spectra of ligands and their complexes. The IR band due to asymmetric and symmetric stretching of N-H obtained between 3450–3315 cm^{-1} . The amide (-NH-) stretching appeared in the ranges, 3130–3160 cm^{-1} . The absence of band in the range, 3130–3160 cm^{-1} in the complexes **1-3**, suggested that acidic proton at nitrogen (N^2H) atom get removed thus thiosemicarbazone ligand is in the anionic form [20, 21]. The thio $\nu(C=S)$ band appeared at 816 cm^{-1} (**1**), 812 cm^{-1} (**2**), and 804 cm^{-1} (**3**) showed shifted to low energy as compare to free ligands (H^1L - H^3L). This low energy shift of C=S band suggests decrease in double bond character and binding of ligand in thiolate form [20, 21].

Table 2. Characteristic IR peaks of ligands (H^1L - H^3L) and complexes (**1-3**)

Compounds	$\nu(N-H)$	$\nu(-NH-)$	$\nu(C=C)$	$\nu(C=N)$	$\delta(NH_2)$	$\nu(C=S)$
H^1L	3448, 3331	3146	1614	1539	1442	839
1	3255		1615	1567	1532	816
H^2L	3362	3155	1608	1546	1498	833
2	3340		1588	1545	1483	812
H^3L	3410, 3317	3139	1600	1543	1496	845
3	3315		1691	1618	1599	804

Discussion on 1H NMR spectra

Important signals in 1H NMR of ligands and their complexes are table 2. The $-N^2H-$ proton in ligands appeared at δ 10.07 ppm (H^1L), δ 10.95 ppm (H^2L) and δ 11.71 ppm (H^3L). The disappearance of this peak in complexes **1-3**, ensures deprotonation of $-N^2H-$ and binding of ligand in anionic form [20, 21]. The C^2H proton in complexes **1-3** appeared in the range, δ 8.10-9.94 ppm and has shown downfield shift vis-à-vis free ligands except in **3** [20]. Signal due to methyl protons at N^1 atom appeared at δ 3.16 ppm and δ 3.22 ppm in H^2L and complex **2** respectively.

Table 3. Important 1H NMR peaks of ligands (H^1L - H^3L) and their complexes (**1-3**).

Compounds	N^4H	N^2H	C^2H	Ring Protons	CH_3	Phenyl Group
H^1L	-	10.07s	8.33s	7.46d($C^{6,9}H$) 7.29d($C^{7,8}H$)		
1	12.00s	-	8.63s	7.22d($C^{6,9}H$) 7.46d($C^{7,8}H$)		
H^2L	11.24s	10.95s	8.10s	7.14d($C^{6,9}H$) 7.51d($C^{7,8}H$)	3.16m	

2	12.16s	-	9.94s	7.24d(C ^{6,9} H) 7.46d(C ^{7,8} H)	3.22m	
H³L	11.62	11.71s	9.63s	8.24d(C ^{6,9} H) 7.66d(C ^{7,8} H)		7.15-7.46m
3	11.59	-	8.10s	6.87-7.20m		Obscured by ring proton

Antitubercular Activities

Anti TB activity of compounds H¹L-H³L and complexes **1-3** was evaluated and MIC was given in Table 3. Standard drugs taken are Pyrazinamide (MIC = 3.125 µg/ml), ciprofloxacin (3.125 µg/ml) and streptomycin (6.25 µg/ml. All compounds were found active against M. tuberculosis as shown in Table 3. It is observed that ligands H¹L and H²L exhibit more anti-TB activity (12.5 µg/ml) as compare to H³L (25 µg/ml). Low activity of H³L may be attributed to the increase in hydrophobicity at N¹ atom of thiosemicarbazone due to presence of phenyl ring. The activity of H¹L-H³L was found to decreased on formation of complexes, which is in contrast to complexation of the ligands with copper (I) [22].

Table 3. Anti-TB activity of H¹L-H³L and complexes **1-3**

Compound	H37RV Strain							
	MIC(µg/ml)							
	100	50	25	12.5	6.25	3.12	1.6	0.8
H ¹ L	S	S	S	S	R	R	R	R
1	S	S	R	R	R	R	R	R
H ² L	S	S	S	S	R	R	R	R
2	S	S	R	R	R	R	R	R
H ³ L	S	S	S	R	R	R	R	R
3	S	S	R	R	R	R	R	R

Conclusion

Three Indole-3-carboxaldehyde substituted thiosemicarbazones and their Ni(II) complexes were synthesized and characterized by various spectroscopic techniques. The physical and spectral

data revealed monobasic bidentate nature of Schiff base and ligand to metal ratio of 2:1 for complex chelates. Square planar geometry for nickel complexes has been predicted. Ligands (H^1L-H^3L) exhibit more anti-tubercular activity than its complexes (**1-3**).

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