

Proceeding Paper

Development of Easy and Practical Access of Novel Imidazo[2,1-*b*]thiazole Derivatives [†]

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Abstract: The scientific discoveries exposed the privileged skeleton of the imidazo[2,1-*b*]thiazole heterocycles for the development of pharmacological compounds. Imidazo[2,1-*b*]thiazoles showed interesting potency against a broad range of biological activities such as antibacterial, antifungal, antiviral, anti-inflammatory, antihypertensive, anticancer and antioxidant, also used as drug that has significant immunomodulatory properties (Levamisole). Encouraged by these bioactivities, we report herein a new, easy and efficient procedure for the preparation of imidazo[2,1-*b*]thiazole derivatives under green chemistry conditions.

Keywords: Imidazo[2,1-*b*]thiazoles; Heterocycles; Green Chemistry

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1. Introduction

Heterocyclic compounds with atoms of nitrogen, and sulfur constitute a class of interesting products with attractive biological and chemical properties [1,2]. Imidazo[2,1-*b*]thiazoles (Figure 1) which is a substantial heterocycle have a great of interest in many fields, especially in medicinal chemistry due to their large spectrum of bioactivities, such as anti-inflammatory [1], antimicrobial [2], antioxidant [3], antitumor [6,7], and antitubercular activities [4].

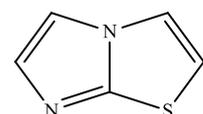


Figure 1. structure of imidazo[2,1-*b*]thiazole skeleton.

Levamisole, which is an imidazo[2,1-*b*]thiazole moiety-containing component, is a drug with significant immunomodulatory properties [5] in addition to its anthelmintic activity [6] (Figure 2).

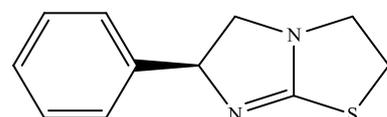


Figure 2. structure of Levamisole.

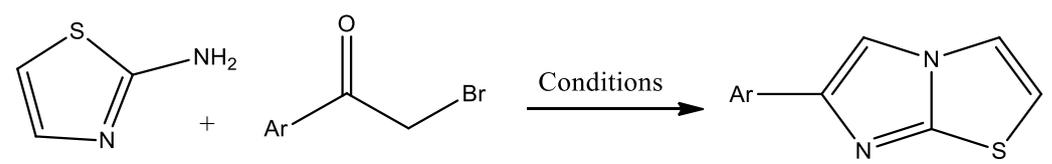
Considering their high pharmaceutical benefits, the development of new strategies for the synthesis of imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole derivatives attracted the attention of researchers for a long time ago [11–15].

In order to set up synthetic strategies sustainable and ecofriendly, the development of green synthetic protocols have gained importance lately. Therefore, attempts are being made to promote a catalytic protocol that is ecological and environmentally safe for the synthesis of imidazo[2,1-b]thiazoles [7].

In the light of this, we describe here a facile and practical aluminum catalyst synthesis of imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole derivatives.

2. Results and Discussion

In the continuation of our interest in the synthesis of heterocycles with biological importance [17–26], the preparation of the title compounds was deemed of interest. Thus, we describe here a new and practical method for the synthesis of new imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole derivatives from 2-aminothiazole and 2-bromoketones under refluxed ethanol firstly without catalyst, then catalysed by basic alumina in the same reaction conditions (Table 1).

Table 1. Synthesis of imidazo[2,1-b]thiazoles.


Product	1	2	3
Ar	Ph	4-MeC ₆ H ₄	4-OMeC ₆ H ₄
Yield	80 ^a ; 67 ^b	91 ^a ; 76 ^b	88 ^a ; 80 ^b
Reference	[27–30]	[27–29]	[27–30]

Reaction conditions: ^a 2-aminothiazole (0.01 mol) and α -bromoketones (0.01 mol); ^b 2-aminothiazole (0.01 mol) and α -bromoketones (0.01 mol), Al₂O₃ (30% w/w).

3. Experimental Procedure

Experimental procedure for the synthesis of imidazo[2,1-b]thiazoles without catalyst

A mixture of 2-aminothiazole (0.01 mol) and α -bromoketones (0.01 mol) was refluxed in ethanol. After completion of the reaction, as indicated by TLC (8–12 h), the crude product was cooled to room temperature and washed several times with diethylether and ethanol. The product was filtered to give the corresponding imidazo[2,1-b]thiazoles.

Experimental procedure for the synthesis of imidazo[2,1-b]thiazoles with Al₂O₃

A mixture of 2-aminothiazole (0.01 mol) and α -bromoketones (0.01 mol), a catalytic amount of Al₂O₃ (30% w/w) was added and the mixture was refluxed in ethanol (10 mL). After completion of the reaction, as indicated by TLC (6–8 h), the residue was cooled to room temperature and washed several times with diethylether and ethanol. The product was filtered to give the corresponding imidazo[2,1-b]thiazoles.

Product 3: Yield: ^a 80%; ^b 88%; white solid; m.p. 256 °C; IR (KBr): 3000, 1678, 1635, 1245; ¹H NMR (91 MHz, (CD₃)₂SO): δ 9.54 (s, 1H), 7.92–7.00 (m, 6H), 3.80 (s, 1H); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₂H₁₀N₂OS [M+H]⁺ 230,29; found 231.

4. Conclusion

In summary, a new simple and easily synthesized imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole derivatives, was designed and synthesized based on condensation of two components in a single reaction under green chemistry conditions. The structure of prepared heterocycles was characterized by NMR, FTIR and ESI-MS spectroscopy. This strategy includes some merits like simplicity, high yields, benign reaction conditions and ecofriendly process which reflect the activity of the catalyst.

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