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Ciprofloxacin conjugated to diphenyltin(IV); A novel formulation with enhanced antimicrobial activity.

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Abstract

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The metalloantibiotic of formula Ph₂Sn(CIP)₂ (CIPTIN) (HCIP= ciprofloxacin) was synthesized by reacting ciprofloxacin hydrocloride (HCIP·HCl) (an antibiotic in clinical use) with the diphenyltin dichloride (Ph₂SnCl₂ **DPTD**). The complex was characterized in solid state by melting point, FT-IR, X-ray Powder Diffraction (XRPD) analysis, ¹¹⁹Sn Mössbauer spectroscopy, X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) spectroscopy, Thermogravimetry/Differential Thermal Analysis (TG-DTA) and in solution by UV-Vis, ¹H-NMR spectroscopic techniques and Electrospray Ionisation Mass Spectrometry (ESI-MS). The crystal structure of CIPTIN and its processor HCIP were also determined by X-ray crystallography.

The antibacterial activity of **CIPTIN**, **HCIP**·**HCI**, **HCIP** and **DPTD** was evaluated against the bacterial species *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (*P. aeruginosa*), *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*), *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*) and *Staphylococcus epidermidis* (*S. epidermidis*), by the means of Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MIC), Minimum Bactericidal Concentration (MBC) and Inhibition Zones (IZs). **CIPTIN** shows lower MIC values than those of **HCIP·HCI** (up to 4.2folds), **HCIP** (up to 2.7-folds) or **DPTD** (>135-folds), towards the tested microbes. **CIPTIN** is classified to bactericidal agents according to MBC/MIC values. The developing IZs are 40.8±1.5, 34.0±0.8, 36.0±1.1 and 42.7±0.8 mm, respectively which classify the microbe's *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli*, *S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis* to susceptible ones to **CIPTIN**. These IZ's are greater to the corresponding ones of the **HCIP·HCI** by 1.1 to 1.5-folds against both Gram negative and positive bacteria tested. **CIPTIN** eradicates the biofilm of *P. aeruginosa* and *S. aureus* more efficiently than **HCIP·HCI** and **HCIP**. The *in vitro* toxicity and genotoxicity of **CIPTIN** were tested against human skin keratinocyte cells (HaCaT) (IC₅₀= 2.33 µM). **CIPTIN** exhibits 2 to 9-folds lower MIC values against than its IC₅₀ against HaCaT, while its genotoxic effect determined by micronucleus assay is equivalent to the corresponding ones of **HCIP·HCI** or **HCIP**.

Keywords: Bioinorganic Chemistry; Organotin(IV) Compounds; Crystal Structure; Antibacterial Studies; Ciprofloxacin

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Introduction

Ciprofloxacin, a second-generation fluoroquinolone, is effective against both *Gram*-positive and *Gram*-negative pathogenic bacteria ^[1]. It exhibits good bioavailability or tissue permeability, low incidence of toxic effects and bacteriostatic activity ^[2]. Generally, the bacteriocidal agents are preferred than bacteriostatic ones, against infections, since they limit the development of resistance towards bacteria ^[3]. However, microbes such as *P. aeruginosa, E. coli, S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis* are reported to have developed resistance towards ciprofloxacin ^[4]. Hence efforts were made in recent years to modify ciprofloxacin with metal ions, in order to increase its antibacterial activity against resistant strains ^[5-8].

The conjugation of metals with drugs (CoMeDs), is a new research area being investigated for discovery of new synergistic therapeutic modalities. The term "conjugation" is used for polymeric drug formulations, to emphasize the synergistic effect of a metal with a drug ^[9-10]. CoMeDs combine metals with specific classes of drugs aiming to create new agents possessing altogether new properties than the drugs from which they were prepared ^[9-10]. From this point of view, organotin(IV) compounds which contain active drugs as ligands are expected to exhibit enhance effectiveness due to the synergy which is developing between the R_nSn(IV) (R= alkyl or aryl group; n=1 to 3) moiety and the drug. Besides, organotin compounds are commercially used as agricultural biocides ^[11-12]. Recently, Pokharia et.al have shown that triorganotin(IV) complexes of ciprofloxacin (R₃Sn(CIP) (R= Me-, Cy-)) exhibit better antibacterial effect than free ciprofloxacin against *E. faecalis, S. aureus, K. pneumoniae, E. coli, P. aeruginosa*, and *P. mirabilis* ^[13].

With the aim to develop new antimicrobial agents with enhanced activity capable of overcoming bacterial resistance ^[9,10,14-17], the metalloantibiotic of ciprofloxacin (**HCIP**, (Scheme 1)), having the formula $Ph_2Sn(CIP)_2$ (**CIPTIN**) was synthesized, characterized and evaluated against bacterial strains *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli*, *S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis*. Moreover, the combination of an antibiotic, ciprofloxacin, which possesses pharmacological significance and a

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metal with known biological activity, tin(IV), are expected to throw light on principles that govern View Article Online DOI: 10.1039/D0DT01665A the synergy between metals and drugs in these metallodrugs.



Scheme 1. The used ligand hydrocloride ciprofloxacin

Results and discussion

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General aspects: A solution of **HCIP·HCl** in water was initially treated with an excess of KOH in 1:1.5 molar ratio to form **KCIP**. A solution of **DPTD** (Ph_2SnCl_2 , diphenyltin dichloride) in MeOH (1:2 metal to **KCIP**) was added to the previous one under continues stirring for 30 min, (Scheme 2) and the suspension was filtered off.



Scheme 2. Preparation reaction of CIPTIN

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Crystals of **CIPTIN** were grown by slow evaporation of ddH₂O/MeOH solution. Besides, crystals of the **HCIP** were isolated from the filtrate of the intermediate solution (Scheme 2). **CIPTIN** is stable when it is stored at ambient condition and it is soluble in MeOH, CH₂Cl₂, DMSO and acetone.

Solid state studies

Crystal and molecular structure of **CIPTIN** *and* **HCIP**: Here we report the crystal structures of the zwitterionic form of **HCIP** (anhydrous) and that of **CIPTIN** using single crystal X-Ray crystallography for the first time. Unit cell parameters (only) of anhydrous **HCIP** was determined earlier from powder X-Ray diffraction data by Fabbiani et al. ^[18]. The reported unit cell parameters reveal **HCIP** crystallizes in P-1 space group with a = 7.9606(2), b = 8.5798(2) and c = 10.7739(3) Å, $\alpha = 87.868(4)$, $\beta = 87.868(4)$, $\gamma = 88.212(4)^{\circ}$, V = 732.43(4) Å³ ^[18]. In our study we found HCIP (anhydrous) crystallizes in P-1 space group with almost identical unit cell parameters: a = 7.8945(7), b = 8.5010(8) and c = 10.7522(9) Å and α = 87.440(7), β = 84.496(7) γ = 88.912(7)°, V= 717.47 Å³. Since synthesis of **CIPTIN** requires **HCIP** HCI as starting material, **HCIP** is an intermediate of the methodology for the preparation. For this reason, a complete refinement of the crystal structure of **HCIP** was attempted independently to clarify the route followed. ORTEP diagrams of **CIPTIN** and **HCIP** along with their selected bond distances and angles are shown in Figures 1-2.

Figures 1-2

CIPTIN is a covalent organotin compound. It consists of two ciprofloxacin ligands and one $Ph_2Sn(IV)$ moiety. Ciprofloxacin coordinates to tin(IV) through the anionic oxygen atom of its deprotonated carboxylic group and the oxygen atom of its keto group. Thus, two oxygen atoms from

each ciprofloxacin and two carbon atoms from the phenyl groups form a distorted octahedral (Oh) View Article Online DOI: 10.1039/DODT01665A arrangement around the Sn(IV) ion. The equatorial plane of the octahedron around the Sn(IV) is constituted by two keto oxygen atoms (O3, O3a) and two carbons of phenyl groups (O3-Sn1-O3a= 80.96(11)°, O3-Sn1-C18a= 166.12(15) °). The axial positions are occupied by the two carboxylic oxygen atoms (O1 and O1a) (O1-Sn1-O1a= 155.64(11)°). The final arrangement of the ligands in **CIPTIN** lead to the Δ -*cis*-[Ph₂Sn(CIP)₂] stereoisomer (Figure 1B). Only the Δ -*cis*-[Ph₂Sn(CIP)₂] isomer has been isolated in the crystal lattice indicating stereo-selectivity of the preparation reaction (Figure 1B).

The two C-O bond distances of the carboxylic group (O1-C6= 1.298(5) and O2-C6= 1.216(5) Å) are almost equivalent, in **CIPTIN**, confirming the deprotonation which it undergoes. The O1-C6 bind is slightly longer than the corresponding O2-C6 one due to the donation of O1 atom towards Sn(IV). The C-O bond length of keto group (O3-C2= 1.284(5) Å) suggesting the retention of the double nature of this bond.

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The Sn-O bond distances (Sn1-O1=2.135(3) and Sn1-O3=2.158(3) Å) are in accordance to the corresponding ones found previously in $[(n-Bu-)_2Sn(nap)_2]$ (napH= naproxen) (Sn1-O1= 2.136(7) and Sn1-O2= 2.506(6) Å) ^[19], in $[Me_2Sn(salH)_2]$ (salH₂= salicylic acid)) (Sn1-O171= 2.1069(18), Sn1-O271= 2.1087(15), Sn1-O172= 2.5145(15) and Sn1-O272= 2.5773(15) Å) ^[20] and in $[(n-Bu)_2Sn(salH)_2]$ (Sn1-O172= 2.121(3), Sn1-O272= 2.105(4), Sn1-O171= 2.565(4) and Sn1-O271= 2.632(4) Å) ^[20]. However, in the cases of $[(n-Bu-)_2Sn(nap)_2]$, $[Me_2Sn(salH)_2]$ and $[(n-Bu)_2Sn(salH)_2]$ the ligands chelate to Sn(IV), through their carboxylic groups.

Strong hydrogen bonding interactions N3[H3] \cdots O2= 2.733(6) Å lead to 2D layers (Figure 3). The layers are consisted of squares which are formed by four **CIPTIN** molecules (Sn \cdots Sn=13.969 Å and Sn-Sn=87.03°).

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The two C-O bond distances of the carboxylic group in anhydrous **HCIP** (O1-C14= Vew Article Online DOI: 10.1039/ODT01655A 1.247(3) and O2-C14 (1.266(3) Å) are equivalent suggesting its de-protonation (Figure 2). The corresponding C1-O1, C1-O2 bond lengths of the HCIP hexahydrate (**HCIP·6H₂O**) are 1.259(2) and 1.255(2) Å respectively ^[8]. Moreover, the O1-C14-O2 angle is 125.3(2)°. This is in accordance to the corresponding bond angle found in **HCIP·6H₂O** (125.11(12)°) ^[8]. The N3-C11 and N3-C12 bond distances, on the other hand, are 1.481(3) and 1.485(3) Å, respectively, suggesting single N-C bonds (Figure 2). This is further supported by the C11-N3-C12 bond angle of 109.0(2)°, which is close to the ideal 108° 28' of sp³ hybrid. Given that two hydrogen atoms are bind to this nitrogen, a positive charge is concluded for the ([-NH₂-])⁺ group. Therefore, the charge distribution of the zwitterionic anhydrous **HCIP** is shown in Scheme 2.

Hydrogen bonds N3[H3] \cdots O2= 2.623(3) Å and N3[H3] \cdots O1= 2.882(3) Å lead to 1D ribbon assembly (Figure 2B).

Vibrational spectroscopy: The characteristic vibration bands of the free ligand (**HCIP·HCI**) at 1710 cm⁻¹, 1620 cm⁻¹ and 1385 cm⁻¹ are assigned to the C=O, v_{asym} (COO) and v_{sym} (COO) vibrations, respectively (Figure S1). The absence of the vibration band at 1710 cm⁻¹ in the spectrum of **CIPTIN**, suggests the coordination of the ligand through the oxygen atom of the keto C=O group (Figure S1). The v_{asym} (COO) and v_{sym} (COO) vibration bands are shifted at 1622 cm⁻¹ and at 1381 cm⁻¹, respectively in the spectrum of **CIPTIN**. The presence of C=N band of **CIPTIN** at 1272 cm⁻¹, suggests that this N atom is not involving in the coordination sphere of the metal. The absence of (O-H) vibration at 3520 cm⁻¹ in **CIPTIN** spectrum indicates the deprotonation of the carboxyl group. Therefore ciprofloxacin is coordinated to the tin metal ion via the keto and the carboxyl oxygen atom (Figure S1).

X-ray Powder Diffraction (XRPD) analysis: The XRPD spectrum of the powder of **CIPTIN** is identical to the simulated one which is derived by using single crystal XRD data (Figure S2). This

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indicates that the formula of the molecular structure of **CIPTIN** remains unchanged throughout the View Article Online DOI: 10.1039/DDDT01665A sample.

¹¹⁹Sn Mössbauer spectroscopy: ¹¹⁹Sn Mössbauer spectrum at 77 K of **CIPTIN** is shown in Figure 4. The spectrum of **CIPTIN**, consists of one asymmetric Lorentzian doublet. The occurrence of one Lorentzian double, indicates either the existence of one type of Sn atom in **CIPTIN** or one structural isomer ^[11,21-22]. The value of the Isomer Shift (I.S.) of **CIPTIN** is +0.804 mm×s⁻¹ which corresponds to the (4+) oxidation state ^[11,21-22]. The I.S. for R₂Sn(IV) species lie between +0.737 to +1.777 mm×s⁻¹ ^[11,21-22]. The quadrupole splitting parameter (Δ Eq) value is 2.242 mm×s⁻¹. Therefore, cis-octahedral geometry should be concluded for tin(IV) ion in the case of **CIPTIN**, since Δ Eq value lies between 1.3-2.5 mm×s⁻¹ ^[11,21-22]. This value indicates an octahedral geometry with *cis*-R₂Sn(IV) (R= alkyl), around the tin atom of **CIPTIN** in accordance to X-ray structure.

Figure 4

X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) spectroscopy: The content of **CIPTIN** in Sn is $15.5 \pm 2.3\%$ wt, while the calculated for C₄₆H₄₄F₂N₆O₆Sn is 12.75 %.

Thermal analysis: The TG-DTA analysis of **CIPTIN** shows decomposition within 6 steps (112.6-617.4 °C) with total mass losses 57.92% (Figure S3). The remaining 42.08% is due to the $[(SnO_2)_2]$ (which corresponds to Sn: 13.68 %; calc for C₄₆H₄₄F₂N₆O₆Sn: 12.75 %).

Solution studies

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Stability studies: The stability of **CIPTIN** was tested in DMSO and DMSO/water solutions by UV spectroscopy (Figures S4–S5) and ¹H-NMR for a period of 96 h (Figure S6). This period was chosen for the stability testing, since the biological experiments require 24 or 48 h of incubation

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¹*H NMR studies:* A broad resonance signal in the ¹*H*-NMR spectrum of **HCIP·HCI** at 9.45 ppm is attributed to $H[N_{piperazine ring}]$ ^[8] (Figure S7). This signal is shifted at 8.87 ppm in **CIPTIN**. The resonance signals at 8.68, 7.97-7.92, 7.62-7.59 ppm, in the spectrum of **HCIP·HCI** are assigned to the H[²C], H[⁵C] and H[⁸C], respectively (Scheme 1) ^[8]. These signals are observed at 8.67, 7.95-7.92, 7.79-7.81 ppm in the spectrum of **CIPTIN**. The resonance signals of H[^aC], H[^bC], cyclopropyl (–CH₂–) in the spectrum of **HCIP·HCI** are appeared at 3.85, 3.47, 1.33-1.19 ppm, respectively ^[8]. These signals undergo no shift in the case of the **CIPTIN**. The resonance signals of **DPTD** at 8.05-7.80 and 7.42-7.28 ppm are shifted in the spectrum of **CIPTIN** at 7.72-7.58 and 7.31-7.16 ppm, respectively, indicates the coordination of tin to the antibiotic. Moreover, the resonance signal in the spectrum of **CIPTIN**, at 3.16 ppm is attributed to methanol, which was used as a solvent for the synthesis reaction.

Electrospray Ionisation Mass Spectrometry (ESI-MS): In order to confirm the retention of the formula of **CIPTIN** in methanol solution, its ESI-MS spectrum was recorded. The ESI-MS spectrum of **CIPTIN** is dominated by the fragment at m/z 600.0-609.0 which is attributed to the $[Ph_2Sn(CIP)]^+$ (calculated for $[C_{29}H_{27}N_3O_3FSn]^+$: m/z: 599.1 to 609.1) (Figure S8). The presence of this specie which is derived from **CIPTIN** by cleavage of the one Sn-C(Ph) bond as part of the decomposition pattern of $[Ph_2Sn(CIP)_2-H^+]$, assumes the existence of **CIPTIN** in the solution, initially.

Antimicrobial studies

Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC): The Gram-negative (P. aeruginosa and E. coli) and Gram-positive (S. aureus and S. epidermidis) are among the most concerning pathogens in human

with **CIPTIN**. No changes were observed between the initial UV or ¹H-NMR spectra and the View Article Online DOI: 10.1039/DODT01665A corresponding ones after 96 h, confirming the retention of **CIPTIN** in solution (Figures S4–S6).

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involved in antibiotic resistance ^[23-24]. The antimicrobial ability of **CIPTIN** was evaluated towards View Article Online DOI: 10.1039/DODT01665A these strains, in terms of MIC values. The MIC is defined as the lowest concentration for the bacterial growth inhibition ^[8-10,14-17].

The broth dilution method was used for the determination of the MIC values of **CIPTIN**, **HCIP·HCI**, **HCIP** and **DPTD**, upon incubation of Gram-negative (*P. aeruginosa* and *E. coli*) or Gram-positive (*S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis*) bacteria for 20 h (Table 1).

Table 1

The MIC values of **CIPTIN** lie in the range of nanomolar concentrations against *P*. *aeruginosa, E. coli, S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis*, $(0.741\pm0.035, 0.301\pm0.062, 1.179\pm0.083$ and $0.255\pm0.041 \mu$ M respectively) (Table 1, Figure S9). The corresponding MIC values of the drug in **HCIP·HCI** and **HCIP** are: $1.174\pm0.221 \mu$ M and $1.048\pm0.037 \mu$ M (*P. aeruginosa*), $0.938\pm0.347 \mu$ M and $0.443\pm0.041 \mu$ M (*E. coli*), $1.454\pm0.123 \mu$ M and $1.459\pm0.013 \mu$ M (*S. aureus*) and $1.079\pm0.121 \mu$ M and $0.699\pm0.025 \mu$ M (*S. epidermidis*), respectively (Figure S10-S11) ^[8]. The MIC values of **DPTD**, on the other hand, lie in the micromolar range of concentrations for the tested bacteria: >100 μ M, 25.713±1.535 μ M, 47.529±8.761 μ M and $13.743\pm0.263 \mu$ M towards *P. aeruginosa, E. coli, S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis*, respectively (Figure S12). Thus, **CIPTIN** shows 1.2 to 4.2-folds stronger antimicrobial activity than those of **HCIP·HCI** or **HCIP** towards both Gram negative and positive bacteria. The strongest antimicrobial effect of **CIPTIN** is observed towards *S. epidermidis*, which is 4.2-fold higher than that of **HCIP·HCI** and 2.7 fold than that of **HCIP**. Moreover **CIPTIN** activity rises up to 135-folds than **DPTD** stronger activity against these bacteria. Therefore, **CIPTIN** exerts superior activity than both its ingredients (antibiotic and **DPTD**).

Microbes are classified to susceptible (MIC< 50 μ M) or resistant (MIC> 100 μ M) towards an antimicrobial agent by their MIC values ^[8,10]. Thus, all tested strains here are considered as susceptible to **CIPTIN**. Table 1

Minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC): The MBC values for **CIPTIN** were also evaluated. MBC is defined as the lowest concentration of an antibacterial agent that kills the 99.9% of the initial bacterial inoculums ^[8,10,14-17].

The MBC values of **CIPTIN** for Gram negative *P. aeruginosa* and *E. coli* are 0.800 ± 0.195 μ M and 0.445 ± 0.040 μ M respectively, and against Gram positive bacteria *S. aureus*, and *S. epidermidis* are 1.600 ± 0.110 μ M and 0.667 ± 0.045 μ M, respectively (Table 1, Figure S13). The corresponding MBC values of **HCIP·HCl** and **HCIP** are 1.200-2.225 μ M against both Gram negative and positive bacteria (Table 1, Figures S14-S15). In the case of **DPTD**, the MBC values are higher than 100 μ M (Figure S16). Thus, **CIPTIN** exhibits higher bactericidal activity than those of free drugs which rises up to 3.6-fold in respect of **HCIP·HCl** or up to 2.8-fold for **HCIP**. **DPTD** has no bactericidal activity.

Since the MBC/MIC values of **CIPTIN** lie between 1.08-2.62, against the tested microbial strains, (Table 1) the **CIPTIN** is classified as bactericidal agent. This is because when the MBC/MIC value is ≤ 2 , an agent is considered as bactericidal one, while when MBC/MIC value is ≥ 4 , as bacteriostatic one [8,10,14-17]. The MBC/MIC values of **HCIP·HCI** and **HCIP** varied between 1.22-2.82 and they are bactericidal drugs.

Inhibition zone (IZ): The IZ was evaluated with agar disk-diffusion method $[^{8,10,14-17]}$. The calculated diameter of IZ is used to determine the effectiveness of an antibiotic. Therefore, the bacterial strains might be classified as susceptible to an agent based on the IZ developed $[^{8,10,14-17]}$. Thus, Shungu et.al $[^{25}]$ classified the microbes in three categories according to the size of IZ caused by antibiotics. (i) those strains where the antibiotic causes IZ ≥ 17 mm and they are consider as susceptible, (ii)

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those where the antibiotic creates IZ between 13 to 16 mm ($13 \le IZ \le 16$ mm) are intermediate, (iii) View Article Online DOI: 10.1039/DODT01665A those where the antibiotic causes IZ ≤ 12 mm, and they are considered as resistant strain ^[25].

The IZs caused by **CIPTIN** determined against *P. aeruginosa, E. coli, S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis* are 40.8 ± 1.5 , 34.0 ± 0.8 , 36.0 ± 1.1 and 42.7 ± 0.8 mm, respectively classifying these strains to susceptible ones towards **CIPTIN** (Figure 5). The ranges of IZs, which were caused by **HCIP·HCI** and **HCIP** lie between 32.0-35.5 mm (against Gram negative bacteria) and 24.0-39.2 mm (against Gram positive). These values are classifying the bacteria tested to susceptible ones against **HCIP·HCI** and **HCIP** (Table 1, Figure S17). The corresponding IZs developed by **DPTD** lie between 10.0-18.7 mm against the tested bacteria classifying them to the resistance or intermediate ones towards **DPTD**. Generally, **CIPTIN** causes greater inhibition zones than the commercial antibiotic or the **DPTD**, against both negative and positive bacterial strains.

Figure 5

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Effect on biofilm formation by CIPTIN: The effect of **CIPTIN** on biofilm eradication was tested against biofilm-positive strains (*P. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus*) by the Biofilm Elimination Concentration (BEC) values with crystal violet assay ^[8-10,14-17]. The BEC is the required concentration to reduce the viability of biofilm bacteria by 99.9%, at least ^[8-10,14-17]. The BEC value of **CIPTIN** for *P. aeruginosa* is 656 μ M and for *S. aureus* is 752 μ M (Figure 6). We have recently determined the BEC value of **HCIP·HCI** against *P. aeruginosa* (670 μ M) and *S. aureus* (952 μ M) ^[8]. The corresponding BEC values of **HCIP** are: 2140 μ M (*P. aeruginosa*) and 2463 μ M (*S. aureus*) (Figure S19). **CIPTIN** eliminates the biofilm of *P. aeruginosa* and *S. aureus* more efficiently than the neutral drug **HCIP**, while its BEC value is comparable with the corresponding one of **HCIP·HCI**.

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were used to test the *in vitro* cytotoxic effect of **CIPTIN**, **HCIP·HCI**, **HCIP** and **DPTD**, by sulforhodamine B (SRB) assay, upon their incubation with the agents by 48h. The IC₅₀ value of **CIPTIN** is $2.33\pm0.2 \mu$ M. The corresponding IC₅₀ values of H**CIP·HCI**, **HCIP** are >30 μ M, while that of **DPTD** is $1.09\pm0.1 \mu$ M.

The therapeutic window of an agent is defined by the selectivity index (SI)^[8,26]:

SI= IC_{50(against HaCaT cells)}/MIC (against tested bacteria)

The higher SI is, the greater antimicrobial effect and lower the cellular toxicity is. The SI values of **CIPTIN** values are 3.1 (*P. aeruginosa*) 7.7 (*E. coli*), 2.0 (*S. aureus*) and 9.1 (*S. epidermidis*). These values constitute a wide therapeutic window for **CIPTIN**. The SI values of **DPTD** are: >0.01, 0.04, 0.02 and 0.08 against *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli*, *S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis* respectively.

Evaluation of in vitro genotoxicity by micronucleus assay: The micronucleus assay is frequently used to evaluate the mutagenic, genotoxic or teratogenic effect of metallodrugs ^[27]. In the presence of a genotoxic factor, micronuclei (MN) appear as small membrane-bound DNA fragments in the cytoplasm of interphase cells and they are formed during the metaphase-anaphase transition of the mitotic cycle ^[28]. The micronucleus assay has been widely used in monitoring genetic damage in order to avoid the screening of drugs on animals.

In order to evaluate the genotoxicity of **CIPTIN**, **HCIP HCI**, **HCIP** and **DPTD**, HaCaT cells were treated by the agents at their IC₅₀ values (Figure 7). The corresponding frequency of micronucleus after treatment of HaCaT cells by **CIPTIN** is 2.60±0.15 %, while the frequency without treatment of the cells is 2.17 ± 0.05 %. Therefore **CIPTIN** exhibits negligible genotoxicity. The micronucleus frequencies of HaCaT cells after treatment by the **HCIP** (2.44±0.2)% or **HCIP** (2.48±0.1)% which is close to that of **CIPTIN**. The MN formed upon treatment of HaCaT cells by **DPTD** is (3.05±0.2) %, which is significantly higher than that of **CIPTIN**.

Evaluation of the in vitro toxicity of CIPTIN: Immortalized human keratinocytes (HaCaT) cells were used to test the *in vitro* cytotoxic effect of CIPTIN, HCIP·HCl, HCIP and DPTD, by

Figure 7

Conclusions

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The design and the development of antimicrobial agents are of great importance. The new metalloantibiotic **CIPTIN**, has been synthesized and characterized within this work. The crystal structure reveals that the geometry around the metal center is octahedral (Figure 1B). The stereoselective synthesis results to the Δ -*cis*-[Ph₂Sn(CIP)₂] isomer only (Figure 1B). 2D layers supramolecular assemblies are established based on strong hydrogen bonding interactions (Figure 3). Four molecules form squares planes with their tins atoms to occupy its acnes of each square. These constitute the building blocks of the layers (Figure 3). The area is covered by each square is 195.133 Å².

CIPTIN has been evaluated towards the Gram negative microbes *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli* and Gram positive ones *S. aureus*, *S. epidermidis*. **CIPTIN** is classified as a bactericidal agent against *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli*, *S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis* (Table 1), while these microbes, are ranked among the susceptible ones to it (IZ values) (Table 1).

The antibacterial activity of **CIPTIN** (Δ -*cis*-[Ph₂Sn(CIP)₂]) is compared with those of **CIPAG** with formula ({[Ag(HCIP)₂]NO₃·}) ^[8], [Me₃Sn(CIP)], [Cy₃Sn(CIP)] ^[13] and **PenAg** with formula [Ag(Pen)(CH₃OH)]₂, (HPen= penicillin) ^[9] and their ingredients **HCIP·HCI**, **HCIP**, **PenNa**, **DPTD** and AgNO₃ (Table 1, Figure 8).

CIPTIN exhibits stronger activity than ciprofloxacin against both Gram positive and negative bacteria tested as well as the [Me₃Sn(CIP)], [Cy₃Sn(CIP)] ^[13] suggesting that the presence of the tin(IV) ion enhances ciprofloxacin's effectiveness even more (Table 1, Figure 8). While **DPTC's** activity is significant lower than that of **CIPTIN**, this should be attributed to the synergistic effect of both the organotin moiety and ciprofloxacin. **CIPTIN** exerts superior activity than penicillin against Gram negative, as expected since penicillin is inactive against Gram negative.

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bacteria microbes (Figure 8). Against Gram positive microbes, CIPTIN exhibits stronger activity DOI: 10.1039/D0DT01665A against S. epidermidis while penicillin shows higher one on S. aureus (Figure 8). Given that ciprofloxacin exhibits stronger activity than penicillin against S. epidermidis, while penicillin against S. aureus, CIPTIN follows the relative efficiency of ciprofloxacin towards penicillin. Among the compounds of ciprofloxacin, CIPTIN exhibits higher activity from CIPAG against S. epidermidis, which however is more effective against S. aureus and P. aeruginosa (Figure 8). Therefore, the antibiotic activity is differentiated by the type of the metal ion which is coordinating on the drug. Moreover, among organotins, the $[Me_3Sn(CIP)]$ and the $[Cv_3Sn(CIP)]$ ^[13] show stronger activity than **CIPTIN** against *P. aeruginosa* and *S. aureus* (Table 1). However this should be assigned to the higher toxicity of tri- than di-organotin moieties. Although PenAg shows better activity against S. aureus, CIPTIN, however is more drastic against S. epidermidis and P. *aeruginosa* where ciprofloxacin itself shows better activity than free penicillin (Figure 8). Therefore the activity of the metallodrug is following the corresponding efficiency of the antibiotic, regardless the type of the metal ion Sn(IV) or Ag(I). Moreover **CIPTIN** shows superior activity than silver(I) nitrate against all microbes tested (Figure 8) confirming the conclusion which is already withdrawn for the synergy of the metal ion with the drug on the activity of the metallodrug. CIPTIN eliminates the biofilm in a similar manner with the drug (Table 1). The in vitro toxicity of the CIPTIN against HaCaT cells shows a selectivity index (SI) higher than 1 suggesting wide therapeutic window, while its in vitro genotoxicity is even lower than that of HCIP·HCI or HCIP.

In conclusion, the coordination of a drug on a metal ion strongly enhances its activity. The antimicrobial information which has been stored in a drug, affects the activity of the metallodrug and it is affected by the coordination demands stored in the metal ion, creating a combination of a new entity with enhance and novel biological properties.

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Experimental

Materials and instruments: All solvents used were of reagent grade. Tryptone tryptophan medium, beef extract powder, peptone bacteriological, soy peptone were purchased from Biolife. Agar and yeast extract were purchased from Fluka Analytical. Sodium chloride, D(+)-Glucose, di Potassium hydrogen phosphate trihydrate were purchased from Merck. Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium, (DMEM), fetal bovine serum, glutamine and trypsin were purchased from Gibco, Glasgow, UK. Phosphate buffer saline (PBS) was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Melting points were measured in open tubes with a Stuart Scientific apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra in the region of 4000-370 cm⁻¹ were obtained on Cary 670 FTIR spectrometer, Agilent Technologies. A UV-1600 PC series spectrophotometer of VWR was used to obtain electronic absorption spectra. The ¹H-NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AC 250, 400 MHFT-NMR instrument in DMSO-d₆. ESI-MS spectra were measured with an Agilent 1100/LC-MS system. ¹¹⁹Sn Mössbauer spectra were collected at various sample temperatures (85 K), with a constant-acceleration spectrometer equipped with a CaSnO₃ source kept at room temperature. The calibration of the spectrometer was carried out with a ⁵⁷Co source and an Fe absorber at room temperature. The line widths were very close to the natural width (0.28 mm/s). The content of the tin samples was calculated to be approximately 4 mg Sn in the 2-cm² area of the sample holder. XRF measurements were carried out using an Am-241 radio isotopic source (exciting radiation 59.5 keV). Thermal Gravimetric-Differential Thermal Analysis (TG-DTA) of CIPTIN was carried out on a Seiko SII TG/DTA 7200 apparatus under N₂ flow (40 cm³ min⁻¹) with a heating rate of 10 K min⁻¹.

Synthesis and crystallization of CIPTIN: A clear solution of 0.5 mmol ciprofloxacin hydrochloride (**HCIP·HCI**) (0.184 gr) in dd water (8 mL) was treated with 0.75 mmol KOH (750 μ L 1 N). A solution of 0.25 mmol diphenyltin dichloride (**DPTD**) (0.086 gr) in methanol (3 mL) was added to the previous one under continues stirring for 30 min and the resulting white precipitation was

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immediately filtered off. Crystals of **CIPTIN** suitable for X-ray analysis were grown from slow View Article Online DOI: 10.1039/DDDT01665A evaporation of the solution after one day.

CIPTIN: Yellowish crystal, melting point: > 300 °C; elemental analysis found: C: 59.55; H: 4.92, N: 9.23%; calculated for C₄₆H₄₄N₆O₆F₂Sn: C: 59.19; H: 4.75; N:9.00 %. IR (cm⁻¹), (KBr): 3906w, 2965w, 2698w, 2487w, 2111w, 1918w, 1604w, 1474w, 1265s, 1142s, 1025s, 944vs, 809s, 739vs, 628s, 446s; ¹H-NMR (ppm) in DMSO-*d*₆: 8.87 (s, H[Npiperazine ring]), 8.67 (s, H[²C]), 7.95-7.92 (d, H[⁵C]), 7.79-7.81 (d, H[⁸C]), 7.72-7.58 (m, Ph-), 7.31-7.16 (m, Ph-), 3.85 (s, H[^aC]), 3.47 (d, H[^cC]), 1.33 (m, cyclopropyl CH₂), 1.19 (m, cyclopropyl CH₂); UV-vis (DMSO): λ = 284 nm (logε= 4.68), λ = 320 nm (logε= 4.21), 331 nm, (logε= 4.20).

X-ray Structure Determination: Intensity data for the crystals of **CIPTIN** and **HCIP** were collected on an Oxford Diffraction CCD instrument, using graphite monochromated Mo radiation (λ =0.71073 Å). Cell parameters were determined by least-squares refinement of the diffraction data from 25 reflections. All data were corrected for Lorentz-polarization effects and absorption ^[29]. The structures were solved with direct methods with SHELXS97 ^[30] and refined by full-matrix leastsquares procedures on F² with SHELXL97 ^[31]. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically, hydrogen atoms were located at calculated positions and refined via the "riding model" with isotropic thermal parameters fixed at 1.2 (1.3 for CH₃ groups) times the Ueq value of the appropriate carrier atom.

CIPTIN: $C_{46}H_{44}N_6O_6F_2Sn$, MW= 933.612, monoclinic, space group I2/a, a= 14.7410(6), b= 20.2602(5), c= 18.8558(7) Å, α = 90, β = 111.400(4), γ = 90°, V= 5243.1(3) Å³, Z= 4, T= 100 K, ρ (calc)= 1.183 g cm⁻³, μ = 4.320 mm⁻¹, F(000)= 1912. 10180 reflections measured, 4682 unique (Rint = 0.052). The final R1= 0.0523 (for 3818 reflections with I > 2s(I)) and wR(F2)= 0.1428 (all data) S= 0.99.

HCIP: C₁₇H₁₈FN₃O₃, MW= 331.34, triclinic, space group P-1, a= 7.8945(7), b= 8.5010(7), c= 10.7522(9) Å, α = 87.440(7), β = 84.496(7), γ = 88.912(7)°, V= 717.47(11) Å³, Z= 2, T= 100 K, ρ

(calc)= 1.534 g cm⁻³, μ = 0.967 mm⁻¹, F(000)= 348. 4189 reflections measured, 2531unique (Rint = View Article Online Dol: 10.1039/D0DT01665A 0.041). The final R1= 0.0511 (for 1996 reflections with I > 2s(I)) and wR(F2)= 0.1440 (all data) S= 1.07.

Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structure reported in this paper has been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication nos. CCDC-1993746 (CIPTIN), CCDC-2002394 (HCIP). Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; e-mail: <u>deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk</u>).

Biological tests:

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Bacterial Strains: The strains used were: *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (*P. aeruginosa*), *Escherichia coli Dh5a (E. coli)*, *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*) subsp. aureus (ATCC® 25923TM) and *Staphylococcus epidermidis* (ATCC® 14990TM).

Solvents used: The biological experiments for antibacterial studies were carried in DMSO/Broth solutions of **CIPTIN**, **HCIP** and **DPTD** and in H₂O/Broth solutions for **HCIP·HCI**. The biological experiments for the cell viability and for the micronucleus assay were carried in DMSO/DMEM solutions 0.0005-0.03% v/v DMSO in DMEM for the tested compounds. Stock solutions of **CIPTIN**, **HCIP·HCI**, **HCIP** and **DPTD** (0.01 M) in DMSO were freshly prepared and diluted in broth or cell culture medium to the desired concentration.

Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) testing: This study was performed according standard procedure, as described previously ^[8-10,14-17]. Briefly, the bacterial strains were streaked onto in trypticase soy agar plates, which were incubated for 18-24 h at 37 °C. Then, three to five isolated colonies were selected of the same morphological appearance from the fresh agar plate using a sterile loop and transferred into a tube containing 2 mL of sterile saline solution. The optical density at 620 nm is 0.1, which corresponds in to 10⁸ cfu/mL. The final inoculum size for broth dilution is

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5×10⁵ cfu/mL. The total volume of the culture solution treated by **CIPTIN**, **HCIP·HCI**, **HCIP** or View Article Online DOI: 10.1039/DODT01665A **DPTD**, and the total volumes of the positive and negative controls, were 2 mL. The range of concentrations of **CIPTIN** was 100-1600 nM, of **HCIP·HCI** was 100-800 nM, of **CIPH** was 200-1600 nM and of **DPTD** was 5000-100000 nM. The growth was assessed after incubation for 20 h. The MIC value was determined as the concentration of the compound which inhibits the visible growth of the bacterium being investigated, while it confirmed by measuring the solution optical density at 620 nm *vs* concentrations ^[8-10,14-17].

Minimum bactericidal concentration testing: In order to determine MBC values of **CIPTIN**, the bacteria were initially cultivated in the presence of **CIPTIN**, **HCIP·HCI**, **HCIP** or **DPTD** in broth for 20 h. Afterwards, MBC value was determined in duplicate, by subculturing 4 μ L of the broth with bacteria and **CIPTIN**, **HCIP·HCI**, **HCIP** or **DPTD** in an agar plate. Bactericidal activity occurs when no colony formation is observed. The lowest concentration at which the tested compounds could give complete inhibition of microbes' growth was defined as MBC value ^[8-10,14-17].

Determination of the inhibition zone (IZ) through the agar disk-diffusion method: As described previously ^[8-10,14-17], agar plates were inoculated with a standardized inoculum (10⁸ cfu/mL) of the tested microorganism. Filter paper disks (9 mm in diameter), which had been previously soaked by **CIPTIN**, **HCIP·HCI**, **HCIP or DPTD** (10⁻³ M), were placed on the agar surface. The Petri dishes were incubated for 20 h, and then the diameters of the inhibition zones were measured.

Effects on biofilm formation: Bacterial strains of *P. aeruginosa* or *S. aureus* with a density of 6.7×10^6 cfu/mL were inoculated into LB medium (total volume= 1500 µL) and cultured for 24 h at 37 °C. Afterwards, the content of each tube was carefully removed and the tubes are washed with 1 mL dH₂O. Negative control contained broth only. Then, the bacteria were incubated with **CIPTIN** at concentrations between 25 to 500 µM (total volume= 2000 µL) for 20 hrs, at 37 °C. The content of each tube was washed three times with 1 mL methanol and 2 mL ddH₂O and left to dry. Then, the tubes were stained for 15 min with crystal violet solution (0.1% w/v).

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Excess stain was rinsed off with 1 mL methanol and 2 mL ddH₂O. The tubes are left to dry for 24 View Article Online DOI: 10.1039/DODT01665A hand the bounded crystal violet was released by adding 30% glacial acetic acid (2 mL) and after 3 mL ddH₂O. The optical density of the solution yielded is measured at 550 nm, to give the biofilm biomass ^[8-10,14-17].

In vitro toxicity evaluation

Sulforhodamine B Assay: These studies were performed in accordance with the previous reported method ^[10,15]. Briefly, HaCaT cells were seeded in 96-well plate in a density of 8000 cells and after 24 h of cell incubation, the compounds were added in the range of concentration 0.25-3 μ M (for **CIPTIN** and **DPTD**) and 0.5-30 μ M (for **HCIP·HCl** and **HCIP**). After of 48 h incubation of HaCaT cells with the compounds, the culture medium was aspirated and the cells were fixed with 50 μ L of 10% cold trichloroacetic acid (TCA). The plate was left for 30 min at 4 °C, washed five times with deionized water, and left to dry at room temperature for at least 24 h. Subsequently, 70 μ L of 0.4% (w/v) sulforhodamine B (Sigma) in 1% acetic acid solution was added to each well and left at room temperature for 20 min. SRB was removed, and the plate was washed five times with 1% acetic acid before air drying. Bound SRB was solubilised with 200 μ L of 10 mM un-buffered Tris-base solution. Absorbance was read in a 96-well plate reader at 540 nm.

Evaluation of genotoxicity by micronucleus assay: The micronucleus assay was carried out as previously described ^[27]. Briefly HaCaT cells were seeded (at a density of 240000 cells/well) in glass cover slips which were afterwards placed in six-well plates, with 3 mL of cell culture medium and incubate for 24 h. HaCaT cells exposed with compounds in IC_{50} values for a period of 48 h. The number of micronucleated cells per 1000 cells was determined.

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- Figure 1. (A) Molecular diagram together with the numbering scheme of CIPTIN. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles [°]: Sn1-O1= 2.135(3), Sn1-O3= 2.158(3), Sn1-C18= 2.120(5), Sn1-O1_a= 2.135(3), Sn1-O3_a= 2.158(3), Sn1-C18_a= 2.120(5), O3-C2= 1.284(5), O1-C6= 1.298(5), O2-C6= 1.216(5), O1-Sn1-O3= 79.93(11), O1-Sn1-O1_a= 155.64(11), O1-Sn1-O3_a= 81.60(11), O1_a-Sn1-O3= 81.60(11), O3-Sn1-O3_a= 80.96(11), O1_a-Sn1-O3_a= 79.93(11). (B) Δ-*cis*-[Ph₂Sn(CIP)₂] stereoisomer
 Figure 2. (A) Molecular diagram together with the numbering scheme of HCIP. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles [°]:O1-C14= 1.247(3), O2-C14= 1.266(3), C1-C2= 1.453(3), O3-C2= 1.241(3), N3-C11= 1.481(3), N3-C12= 1.485(3), O1-C14-O2= 125.3(2), O3-C2-C1= 125.0(2), C11-N3-C12= 109.0(2) (B) 1D ribbon assembly established by hydrogen bonds
- Figure 3 Strong hydrogen bonding interactions O2[H2]…N3 lead to 2D layer architecture.
- Figure 4 ¹¹⁹Sn Mössbauer spectrum of CIPTIN at 77 K.
- Figure 5. Inhibition zones of CIPTIN against *P. aeruginosa* (A), *E. coli* (B), *S. aureus* (C) and *S. epidermidis* (D)
- **Figure 6.** Crystal violet staining revealing biofilm *P. aeruginosa* (A) and *S. aureus* (B) with increasing concentrations of **CIPTIN**. Biofilm inhibition (%) of *P. aeruginosa* and *S. aureus* versus pC=-log(C) (M) of **CIPTIN** (C).
- Figure 7. Representative snapshots of micronucleus formed in untreated HaCaT cells (A) and upon their treatment with CIPTIN (B), HCIP·HCI (C), HCIP (D) or DPTD (E) at 2.33 μM for 48 h.
- Figure 8. Istogramm of pMIC (-log(MIC)) values of CIPTIN (Δ-cis-[Ph₂Sn(CIP)₂]), ({[Ag(HCIP)₂]NO₃·}) ^[8], PenAg [Ag(Pen)(CH₃OH)]₂, (HPen= penicillin) ^[9], HCIP·HCI, HCIP, PenNa, DPTD and AgNO₃, against *S. aureus, S. epidermidis, P. aeruginosa* and *E. coli*.

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 Table 1. MIC, MBC values, Inhibition Zones, of CIPTIN, CIPAG, PenAg, HCIP·HCl, HCIP,

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 DPTD and AgNO3 against P. aeruginosa, E. coli, S. aureus and S. epidermidis

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Compound	P. aeruginosa	E. coli	S. aureus	S. epidermidis	Ref.
		MIC (µ	ι M)		
Ph ₂ Sn(CIP) ₂ CIPTIN	0.741±0.035	0.301±0.062	1.179±0.083	0.255±0.041	*
Me ₃ SnCIP	0.253	1.012	0.125	-	[13]
Cy ₃ SnCIP	0.089	1.432	0.179	-	[13]
Ag(CIP) ₂ NO ₃ CIPAG	0.612±0.142	-	0.537±0.067	0.458±0.083	[8]
[Ag(Pen)](DMSO)] ₂	23.0±2.290	-	0.080±0.020	2.410±0.880	[9]
HCIP·HCl	1.174±0.221	0.938±0.347	1.454±0.123	1.079±0.121	[8]
HCIP	1.048±0.037	0.443±0.041	1.459±0.013	0.699±0.025	*
PenNa	>2000	-	0.140±0.020	3.760±1.140	[9]
Ph ₂ SnCl ₂ DPTD	> 100	25.713±1.535	47.529±8.761	13.743±0.263	*
AgNO ₃	60.0	-	79.500	39.400	[8]
MBC (µM)					
Ph ₂ Sn(CIP) ₂ CIPTIN	0.800±0.195	0.445 ± 0.040	1.600±0.110	0.667±0.045	*
Me ₃ SnCIP	0.506	1.012	0.506	-	[13]
Cy ₃ SnCIP	0.716	2.863	0.358	-	[13]
Ag(CIP) ₂ NO ₃ CIPAG	0.700	-	1.000	0.800	[8]
[Ag(Pen)](DMSO)] ₂	46.6	-	-	-	[9]
HCIP·HCl	1.6	1.624±0.127	2.000	1.600	[8]
HCIP	1.280±0.096	1.250±0.098	2.225±0.050	1.200±0.160	*
PenNa	2000	-	-	-	[9]
Ph ₂ SnCl ₂ DPTD	> 100	> 100	> 100	> 100	*
AgNO ₃	91.5		95.0	140.0	[8]
MBC/MIC					
Ph ₂ Sn(CIP) ₂ CIPTIN	1.08	1.48	1.36	2.62	*
Me ₃ SnCIP	2.0	1.0	4.05	-	[13]
Cy ₃ SnCIP	8.04	2.0	2.0	-	[13]
Ag(CIP) ₂ NO ₃ CIPAG	1.14	-	1.86	1.75	[8]
HCIP·HCl	1.36	1.73	1.38	1.48	[8]
HCIP	1.22	2.82	1.53	1.72	*
AgNO ₃	1.53		1.19	3.55	[8]
IZ (mm)					
Ph ₂ Sn(CIP) ₂ CIPTIN	40.8 ± 1.5	34.0 ± 0.8	36.0 ±1.1	42.7 ± 0.8	*
Ag(CIP)2NO3 CIPAG	32	-	28	34	[8]
[Ag(Pen)](DMSO)] ₂	17	-	57	34	[9]
HCIP·HCl	32.0	32.0 ± 0.8	24.0	36.0	[8]
HCIP	35.5 ± 0.6	33.0 ± 0.8	30.5 ± 0.6	39.2 ± 0.9	*
PenNa	10	-	60	34	[9]
Ph ₂ SnCl ₂ DPTD	10.0± 0.0	18.7 ± 0.9	13.1 ± 0.6	15.8± 0.4	*
AgNO ₃	13		12	14	[8]

* This study, **PenNa**= sodium salt of penicillin



(A)

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Figure 1

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(A)



(B)

Figure 2

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Figure 4









<u>В</u>

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Figure 6



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Figure 8

Dalton Transactions Accepted Manuscript

Graphical Abstract

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Ciprofloxacin conjugated to diphenyltin(IV); A novel formulation with enhanced antimicrobial activity.

M.P. Chrysouli, C.N. Banti, N. Kourkoumelis, E.E.Moushi, A.J. Tasiopoulos, A. Douvalis, C. Papachristodoulou, A.G. Hatzidimitriou, T. Bakas, S.K. Hadjikakou

The steroisomer Δ -*cis*-[Ph₂Sn(CIP)₂] (CIPTIN) was obtained from ciprofloxacin and DPTC. CIPTIN exhibits stronger activity than ciprofloxacin against Gram positive or negative bacteria

