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Studies on synthesis of novel pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives, evaluation of their antimicrobial activity and molecular docking

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ABSTRACT

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Key words: Grignard's reaction; cyclization; coupling reaction; antimicrobial activity. A series of novel pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives **6** were prepared starting from 2-amino-3-cyano-4-trifluoromethyl-6-phenyl pyridine **3** via Grignard's reaction, cyclization followed by coupling with aliphatic and cyclic amines. All the compounds **6** were screened for antibacterial, minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC), biofilm inhibition activity as well as antifungal and minimum fungicidal concentration (MFC) activities. Among the screened compounds, the compounds **6e**, **6f**, and **6m** which showed exhibiting promising activity have been identified. The results reveal that the compound pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivative **6e** altered the sterol profile which may exert its antifungal activity through inhibition of ergosterol biosynthesis and could be an ideal candidate for antifungal therapy. The molecular docking results also validated the antifungal results.

In most ecological niches, bacterial cells grow on inert or living surfaces as single or multiple-species communities enclosed by a self-produced polymeric matrix, which are so-called the biofilms. The bacterial growth is very poor when floating in water or low in nutrients and show better growth when adherent to surfaces, where they can find a protective and nutrient-rich environment. Biofilms formed by potentially pathogenic bacteria which are commonly encountered in chronic and nosocomial infections provide the bacteria the ability to resist against stress, antibiotics, biocides and host-immunological defenses² and in the medical sector where they colonize through bacterial adhesion and biofilm formation on several biomedical implants such as stents, heart valves, vascular grafts and catheters.³ In this context, the discovery of novel compounds that can specifically target and inhibit the biofilm formation would be of great interest in comparison to the rational use of antibiotics and/or biocides. Such biofilm inhibitors would prove to be of significance for use in the prevention of biofilm formation in various industrial and medical environments. Current biofilm preventive strategies are essentially aimed at the discovery of potential natural antibiofilm compounds such as 2-aminoimidazole containing alkaloids isolated from marine sponges⁴ and Kocuranfunctionalized silver glyconanoparticles for use as anti-biofilm coatings on silicone urethral catheters.⁵ In this regard, we were interested to explore the anti-biofilm and anti-Candida activities against some of the novel molecules having the pyrido [2,3-d]

pyrimidine framework. In our earlier studies, we also identified novel pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine and pyrimidine functionalized 1,2,3-triazole derivatives exhibiting promising antimicrobial and anti-biofilm activities. 6

In the present context, pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives were identified to display promising biological activities,^{7,8} and was found to be more specific to exhibit dihydrofolate reductase inhibition, anti-tumor, ⁹⁻¹¹ as well as diuretic properties.¹² Some of these compounds also possessed antimicrobial¹³⁻¹⁶ and cytotoxic activities.^{17,18} The strategically positioned fluorine¹⁹ or trifluoromethyl^{20,21} group in the molecule basically influenced the change in the reactivity and the properties of molecule in terms of lipid solubility, oxidative thermal stability and the oral bioavailability. Considering these above facts, the trend is driving more towards the synthesis of fluorinated molecules and the objective of the present study is to identify the promising molecules exhibiting anti-biofilm and anti-Candida activities. Keeping in view, the importance of pyrido[2,3-d] pyrimidine derivatives and in continuation of our efforts,²²⁻²⁴ we have synthesized a series of novel pyrido[2,3-d] pyrimidine derivatives and screened for antibacterial, minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC), biofilm inhibition, and anti-Candida activities. Minimum fungicidal concentration (MFC), and inhibition of ergosterol biosynthesis aspects were also investigated. Sterol 14 alpha-demethylase (CYP51) is one of the enzymes involved in ergosterol biosynthesis pathway, catalyzing C₁₄-demethylation of lanosterol which is critical for ergosterol biosynthesis. It transforms lanosterol into 4,4'-dimethyl cholesta-

8,14,24-triene-3-beta-ol, which is the target of therapeutic importance for anti-fungal drug development.²⁵ The compounds which showed promising activity have been identified in each case.

The 2(1H) pyridone 1 was reacted with 2-chloroacetamide in acetone using K₂CO₃ as base under reflux condition for 6 h to obtain exclusively 2-((3-cyano-6-phenyl-4-(trifluoromethyl) pyridin-2-yl)oxy)acetamide 2, and was treated with potassium carbonate in N,N-dimethylformamide at 110-120 °C to form 2- 3^{26} amino-3-cyano-4-trifluoromethyl-6-phenyl pyridine Compound 3 was further reacted with freshly prepared different aryl magnesium bromides in diethyl ether at room temperature and obtained the 3-(imino(aryl)methyl)-6-phenyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-amine 4. The compound 4 was independently reacted with ethyl 2-chloro-2-oxoacetate in DCM using triethylamine as base at room temperature for 1 h which resulted in the formation of ethyl 4-aryl-7-phenyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidine-2-carboxylate 5 and was coupled with different primary aliphatic amines, cyclic secondary amines to obtain products 6a-p. The reactions are outlined in Scheme 1 and the products are tabulated in Table 1.



Reagents and conditions : (a) 2-Chloroacetamide, NaI, acetone, K_2CO_3 , reflux, 6h; (b) K_2CO_3 , DMF, 110-120^oC, 2h; (c) RMgX, Et₂O, rt, 1h; (d) Ethyl-2-chloro-oxo-acetate, Et₃N, DCM, rt, 1h; (e) amines, 50-60^oC, 2-3h

| Scheme 1. Preparation | of pyrido[2,3-d]py | rimidine derivatives. |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|

| S. No. | Comp ound | NR ¹ R ² | R | M.P (°C) | Yield ^a (%) |
|-----------|--------------|--|--|-------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | 6a | NHC ₂ H ₅ | C ₆ H ₅ | 240 | 47.39 |
| 2 | 6b | NHC ₂ H ₄ OH | C_6H_5 | 248 | 68.49 |
| 3 | 6c | NHC ₃ H ₇ | C_6H_5 | 224 | 72.63 |
| 4 | 6d | N | C_6H_5 | 206 | 78.12 |
| 5 | бе | N N N Me | C ₆ H ₅ | 117 | 52.41 |
| 6 | 6f | | C_6H_5 | 142 | 46.02 |
| 7 | 6g | | C ₆ H ₅ | 202 | 77.35 |
| 8 | 6h | C ₆ H ₅ CH ₂ NH | C_6H_5 | 236 | 79.2 |
| 9 | 6i | NHC ₂ H ₄ OH | 4-MeO C ₆ H ₄ | 219 | 71.22 |
| 10 | 6j | NHC ₃ H ₇ | 4-MeO | 184 | 57.22 |



^a-Isolated yield of the final reaction (i.e., **5** to **6**).

Table 1. Physical properties of compounds 6a-p

Compounds 6a-p were screened for antibacterial activity²⁷ in vitro against different Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacterial strains. Among all the compounds screened, compound 6e, 6f and 6m showed promising activity against all the bacterial species. Compounds 6g and 6k exhibited promising activity specifically towards Staphylococcus aureus MTCC 96, while compound 61 and 6a showed promising to moderate activity towards Klebsiella planticola MTCC 530. The structure-activity relationship studies revealed that these compounds 6e, 6f and 6m have piperazine moiety with alkyl groups in para-position adjacent to carbonyl promoting activity due to enhancement of electron density on carbonyl oxygen which binds to the organism. However, all other compounds (6c, 6d, 6i, 6j, 6n, 6o and 6p) did not show antibacterial activity up to the maximum tested concentration of 125 µg/mL. The antibacterial activity results to this regard are tabulated in table 2.

Table 2. Antibacterial activity of the pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives

| Com | Minimum inhibitory concentration (µg/mL) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|--|------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| pd | BS MTCC 121 | SA MTCC 96 | SA MTCC 2940 | <i>ML</i> MTCC 2470 | <i>КР</i> МТСС 530 | <i>ЕС</i> МТСС 739 | РА МТСС 2453 | | | | | |
| 6a | - | - a | - | - | 31.2 | - | - | | | | | |
| 6b | - | 31.2 | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | |
| 6с | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | |
| 6d | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | |
| 6e | 15.6 | 7.8 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 31.2 | 15.6 | 31.2 | | | | | |
| 6f | 31.2 | 7.8 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 15.6 | | | | | |

| 6g | - | 7.8 | - | - | 15.6 | - | - |
|----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| 6h | - | 31.2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 6i | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 6j | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 6k | - | 7.8 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 61 | - | - | - | - | 15.6 | - | - |
| 6m | 7.8 | 7.8 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 7.8 |
| 6n | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 60 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 6р | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| С | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| | | | | | | | |

^a-No activity

BS, Bacillus subtilis MTCC 121; SA, Staphylococcus aureus MTCC 96; Staphylococcus aureus MLS16 MTCC 2940; ML, Micrococcus luteus MTCC 2470; KP, Klebsiella planticola MTCC 530; EC, Escherichia coli MTCC 739; PA, Pseudomonas aeruginosa MTCC 2453; C Ciprofloxacin (Standard).

Compounds **6b**, **6e**, **6f**, **6g**, **6h**, **6k**, **6l** and **6m** were further evaluated for the minimum bactericidal concentration²⁸ against all the seven bacterial species in comparison to ciprofloxacin as standard. Compounds **6e**, **6f** and **6m** consistently showed promising minimum bactericidal concentration activity. The activity data is tabulated in Table 3.

Table 3. Minimum bactericidal concentration of compound 5a-r,6a-h and 7a-f

| Test | | Mini | mum bacte | ricidal conce | entration (µ | ıg/ml) | |
|-------------------|------|------|-----------|---------------|--------------|--------|------|
| Compd | BS | SA | SA | ML | KP | EC | PA |
| | MTCC | MTCC | MLS16 | MTCC | MTCC | MTCC | MTCC |
| | 121 | 96 | MTCC | 2470 | 530 | 739 | 2453 |
| | | | 2940 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| 6b | _a | 62.4 | - | - | - | | - |
| | | | | | | | |
| 60 | 31.2 | 15.6 | 31.2 | 15.6 | 62.4 | 31.2 | 62.4 |
| u | 51.2 | 15.0 | 51.2 | 15.0 | 02.4 | 51.2 | 02.4 |
| <i>(</i> P | 21.2 | 15.0 | 21.2 | 21.0 | 21.0 | 21.2 | 21.0 |
| 01 | 51.2 | 15.0 | 51.2 | 51.2 | 51.2 | 31.2 | 51.2 |
| | | | | | | | |
| 6g | - | 15.6 | | - | 31.2 | - | - |
| | | | | | | | |
| 6h | - | 31.2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| | | | | | | | |
| 6k | - | 7.8 | V | - | - | - | - |
| | | | | | | | |
| 61 | - | | _ | - | 15.6 | - | - |
| | | | | | | | |
| 6m | 15.6 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 31.2 | 31.2 | 31.2 | 15.6 |
| om | 15.0 | 13.0 | 15.0 | 51.2 | 51.2 | 51.2 | 15.0 |
| C . | 0.50 | 0.50 | 1.17 | 1.17 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 1.17 |
| C | 0.58 | 0.58 | 1.17 | 1.17 | 0.58 | 0.58 | 1.1/ |
| | | | | | | | |

^aNot active; BS. Bacillus subtilis MTCC 121; SA, Staphylococcus aureus MTCC 96; Staphylococcus aureus MLS16 MTCC 2940; ML, Micrococcus luteus MTCC 2470; KP, Klebsiella planticola MTCC 530; EC, Escherichia coli MTCC 739; PA, Pseudomonas aeruginosa MTCC 2453; C Ciprofloxacin (Standard).

Biofilms are structured consortia of bacteria embedded in a selfproduced polymeric matrix causing chronic infections in humans *via* hospital and community environments, especially due to the high antibiotic resistance associated with them as well as the ability to resist phagocytosis and other components of the body's defense system. In several biomedical implants such as stents, heart valves, vascular grafts and catheters, the bacteria colonize through adhesion mechanism and forms biofilms due to the contamination of these biomedical implants during post-surgical infections.²⁹ Considering these facts, the further step undertaken was to investigate whether these compounds exhibited a specific anti-biofilm activity or whether this observation was simply related to a general toxic effect on the bacterial strains. Thus, the compounds 6b, 6e, 6f, 6g, 6h, 6k, 6l and 6m were screened for anti-biofilm activity³⁰ against five bacterial species such as Bacillus subtilis MTCC 121, Staphylococcus aureus MTCC 96, Staphylococcus aureus MLC 16 MTCC 2940, Pseudomonas aeruginosa MTCC 2453 and Klebsiella planticola MTCC 530 which are important nosocomial pathogens and have the ability to form biofilms. The results summarized in Table 4, clearly confirmed that the promising activity is related to the presence of piperazine moiety in compounds 6e, 6f and 6m with IC₅₀ values between $2.7 - 21.6 \,\mu\text{g/mL}$ towards all the tested bacterial species. Among them, compounds (6e, 6f, 6g, 6k and 6m) showed promising activity (IC₅₀ values ranging between 2.7–5.4 μ g/mL) against Staphylococcus aureus MTCC 96, while compounds (6f, 6g, 6l and 6m) showed promising activity (IC₅₀ values ranging between 5.4-10.8 µg/mL) specifically against Klebsiella planticola MTCC 530.

In medical environments, the use of contaminated medical devices and prolonged intensive care units showed increased prevalence of fungal diseases. Under such episodes, the most commonly associated fungal strains belong to the genus Candida, most notably Candida albicans, which causes both superficial and systematic candidiasis.³¹ Based on these facts and the observed antibacterial results, Candida species are important opportunistic pathogens frequently encountered in infections of immunocompromised patient groups comprising those on cancer chemotherapy, broad-spectrum antibiotics and HIV-infected individuals. Among the many pathogenic Candida species, Candida albicans is the major fungal pathogen of importance to humans. Due to its versatility, it can behave as a commensal organism posing a major problem from a clinical perspective resulting in infections.³² Different *Candida* strains have the ability to produce extracellular polymeric substances (EPS) and get encased on this matrix to form biofilms which are known to develop on the surfaces of prosthesis and medical devices, and exhibit resistance to both antifungal and host immune defenses as compared to their free-living planktonic counterparts. This is most likely to be the cause of recalcitrant persistence of Candida albicans on inert, inserted surfaces or, superficial mucosae.^{33,34} Considering these above facts, we screened some of the selected compounds 6b, 6c, 6d, 6e, 6f, 6h and 6m for anti-Candida activity against different Candida strains. More specifically, compounds 6d, 6e, 6f and 6m showed promising activity (MIC values ranging between 3.9-31.2 µg/mL) against C. albicans MTCC 3017 and was comparable to the standard miconazole drug. The results on the anti-Candida activity are tabulated in Table 5.

Compounds **6b**, **6c**, **6d**, **6e**, **6f**, **6h** and **6m** were also evaluated for minimum fungicidal concentrations against different *Candida* strains in comparison to the standard miconazole drug. All the compounds showed minimum fungicidal concentration (MFC) values ranging between $3.9 - 62.5 \ \mu g/mL$). However, the standard miconazole drug exhibited minimum fungicidal concentration values ranging between $7.8 - 15.6 \ \mu g/mL$. Among them, compound **6e** proved promising and exhibited a lower MFC value of $3.9 \ \mu g/mL$. The activity data is tabulated in Table 6.

Candida albicans is now recognized as a major cause of hospitalacquired infections.³⁵ Most of the antifungal drugs currently available to treat *Candida* infections target the ergosterol biosynthetic pathway or its end product ergosterol. Considering this fact, we further investigated the promising test compound **6e** in comparison to the standard miconazole drug to delineate its mode of action in the ergosterol biosynthetic pathway for one of the highly susceptible strain of *C. albicans* MTCC 183. In this

regard, the UV spectral scans of the sterol profiles for one of the representative strain of C. albicans MTCC 183³⁶ was determined (Figure 1), and later the total ergosterol content was quantified from the data obtained on culturing the C. albicans MTCC 183 strain with different concentrations (0, 2, 4, and 16 µg/mL) of the test compound 6e and the standard miconazole drug (see Table 7). It was noticed that the ergosterol content decreased significantly with an increase in the concentration of test compound 6e. Similarly, a dose-dependent decrease in ergosterol content was observed when the C. albicans MTCC 183 strain was cultured in presence of miconazole. Our findings suggest that the pyrido [2,3-d] pyrimidine derivative **6e** altered the sterol profile which may exert its antifungal activity through inhibition of ergosterol biosynthesis. The selective cytotoxic behaviour of this compound hints at its affinity to the specific target site in the ergosterol biosynthetic pathway. The Candida-cidal activity of the compound 6e might also be due to the direct damage to the cell membrane. However, the exact mechanism of action of this compound needs to be further elucidated.



UV spectrophotometric scans of the sterol profiles of *C. albicans* MTCC 183. The culture was grown for 20 h in Sabouraud dextrose broth containing different concentrations of the (I) test compound, **6e** and (II) Miconazole per mL, such as 0 (curve A), 2 (curve B), 4 (curve C) and 16 (curve D) µg. The sterols were extracted from the cells, and the spectral profiles were recorded at the wavelength between 240 and 300 nm

Figure 1

Molecular docking study was performed to validate the antifungal activity results and to explain the binding mode of proteins and ligand complexes. The compound was docked by using Autodock 4.2 software.^{37,38} The modeled three dimensional structure of lanosterol 14-alpha demethylase protein was imported to Autodock 4.2 and structurally optimized by adding hydrogens to protein allocated with Kollman charges. After adding the hydrogens, the model was saved in PDBQT format, later ligands were prepared by optimizing the torsion angles and saved them in PDBQT format. Potential binding site for the lanosterol 14-alpha demethylase modeled protein was identified. A grid was generated around active site pocket amino acids

(X=25.874, Y=18.831 and Z= 15.131). Lamarckian genetic algorithm (LGA) was selected for freezing, docking and default parameters used in Autodock 4.2.

The amino acid sequence of lanosterol 14-alpha demethylase was retrieved from Uniprot.39 A three dimensional model was generated for lanosterol 14-alpha demethylase. A sequence similarity search was performed to identify the structural similarity of the query sequence by using Protein BLAST ⁴⁰ tool by selecting database against Protein Data Bank (PDB) for identifying template for homology model building. 4K0F protein was selected as a template for modeled protein. The template protein was downloaded from RCSB.⁴¹ Comparative sequence alignment studies were performed with query and template structure using Clustal X tool and online Clustal W tools. MODELLER 9.17 software was used to develop the model. It is an automated approach for comparative modeling by satisfaction of spatial restrains.⁴³ After generating the files, the best model was selected on the basis of Lowest Objective Function. It is also known as normalized Discrete Optimized Molecule Energy (DOPE) score. The generated model was validated by Ramachandran plot and Psi/Phi angles using PROCHECK. Active Site Prediction: Active site was predicted for the developed model by Sybyl Siteid module. The models showed 18 active site pockets. The pocket which is having higher value was selected as active site. The molecule 6e was sketched in SYBYL version 6.7⁴⁵ and energetically minimized by adding Gasteiger-Huckel charges. The molecules were then saved in .mol2 format for molecular docking purpose.

Docking of the **6e** synthesized compound is summarized in Table 8. The derivative **6e** was selected for molecular docking has some collective structural features. The comparison of free energies corresponding to binding of title compounds with target protein revealed that maximum of the compounds interacted with the receptor. Compound **6e** exhibited binding energy of -10.70 kcal/mol. It showed interaction with Asp233.

In conclusion, a series of novel pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives **6a-p** were prepared and screened for antibacterial, minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC), anti-biofilm, anti-*Candida*, minimum *Candida*-cidal concentration (MFC) and ergosterol inhibition activities. Compounds **6e**, **6f**, and **6m** which showed promising activity have been identified. The promising pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivative **6e** exhibited an important inhibitory role in the ergosterol biosynthetic pathway and it was also validated through modeling studies. Further, optimization of structural modification on the pyridopyrimidine derivatives is in progress.

Table 4: Biofilm inhibition assay of the selected pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives

| Compound | IC ₅₀ values (in µg/ml) ^h | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| - | BS MTCC 121 ^a | SA MTCC 96 ^b | SA MLS-16 MTCC 2940 ^c | PA MTCC 2453 ^d | KP MTCC 530 ^e | | | | | | | |
| 6b | - | 21.6 ± 0.42 | _f | - | - | | | | | | | |
| 6e | 10.8 ± 0.15 | 5.4 ± 0.12 | 10.8 ± 0.32 | 21.6 ± 0.33 | 21.6 ± 0.41 | | | | | | | |
| 6f | 21.6 ± 0.26 | 2.7 ± 0.11 | 10.8 ± 0.28 | 10.8 ± 0.32 | 5.4 ± 0.22 | | | | | | | |
| 6g | - | 2.7 ± 0.20 | - | - | 5.4 ± 0.26 | | | | | | | |

^a BS, Bacillus subtilis MTCC 121; ^bSA, Staphylococcus aureus MTCC 96; ^cSA Staphylococcus aureus MLS16 MTCC 2940; ^d PA, Pseudomonas aeruginosa MTCC 2453; ^cKP, Klebsiella planticola MTCC 530; -^fno activity ^aC Ciprofloxacin (Standard). ^bBiofilm inhibition assay was performed using crystal violet method. All the biofilms were treated with different concentrations of test compounds and the respective IC₅₀ values were interpreted from the dose-response curves. Each experiment was performed in triplicate and the results are represented as mean ± S.D (n = 3).

| | | | | | | Minimu | m inhibitor | y concent | ration (µg/ | /mL) | 0 | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| compd | C. a MT CC 183 | C. a MTCC 227 | <i>C. a</i> MTCC 854 | <i>C. a</i> MTCC 1637 | <i>C. a</i> MT CC 3018 | <i>C. a</i> MTCC 3017 | <i>C. a</i> MTCC 3958 | <i>C. a</i> MTC C 4748 | C. a MTC C 7315 | C. parapsi losis MTCC 1744 | C. aaseri MTCC 1962 | C. glabrat a MTCC 3019 | C. krusei MTC C 3020 | Issatchen kia hanoiensi s MTCC 4755 |
| 6b | 31.2 | _a | - | - | 15.6 | 31.2 | 31.2 | 62.5 | 31.2 | - | 31.2 | 15.6 | 31.2 | 15.6 |
| 6c | 15.6 | 31.2 | 31.2 | - | - | 15.6 | - | - | 15.6 | - | 15.6 | 7.8 | 15.6 | 31.2 |
| 6d | 7.8 | 15.6 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 31.2 | 7.8 | 31.2 | 62.5 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 7.8 | 31.2 | - | 31.2 |
| 6e | 3.9 | 3.9 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 15.6 | 3.9 | 7.8 | 15.6 | 31.2 | 31.2 | 7.8 | - | - | 15.6 |
| 6f | 3.9 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 15.6 | - | 3.9 | - | - | 62.5 | 31.2 | 31.2 | 15.6 | - | 15.6 |
| 6h | 31.2 | - | - | - | - | 31.2 | - | 62.5 | 62.5 | 31.2 | 31.2 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 31.2 |
| 6m | 3.9 | 31.2 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 31.2 | 3.9 | 62.5 | 62.5 | 31.2 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 7.8 | - | 7.8 |
| Miconazole (Standard) | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 |

 Table 5: Anti-Candida activity of the pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives.

^a- No activity

Table 6: Minimum Fungicidal Concentration (MFC) of the selected pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives

| Candida strains | | | Minii | num fungicida | al concentration | on (µg/mL) | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|------|-------|---------------|------------------|------------|------|--------------------------|
| | 6b | 6с | 6d | 6e | 6f | 6h | 6m | Miconazole (Standard) |
| Candida albicans MTCC 183 | 62.5 | 31.2 | 15.6 | 3.9 | 7.8 | 62.5 | 7.8 | 7.8 |
| C. albicans MTCC 227 | _ ^a | 31.2 | 31.2 | 7.8 | 15.6 | - | 31.2 | 7.8 |
| C. albicans MTCC 854 | - | 62.5 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 15.6 | - | 31.2 | 15.6 |
| C. albicans MTCC 1637 | - | - | 15.6 | 15.6 | 31.2 | - | 31.2 | 7.8 |
| C. albicans MTCC 3017 | 62.5 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 62.5 | 7.8 | 7.8 |
| C. albicans MTCC 3018 | 31.2 | - | 62.5 | 31.2 | - | - | 62.5 | 15.6 |
| C. albicans MTCC 3958 | 62.5 | - | 62.5 | 15.6 | - | - | 62.5 | 7.8 |
| C. albicans MTCC 4748 | 62.5 | - | 62.5 | 31.2 | - | 62.5 | 62.5 | 7.8 |
| C. albicans MTCC 7315 | 62.5 | 31.2 | 31.2 | 62.5 | 62.5 | 62.5 | 62.5 | 15.6 |

| C. parapsilosis MTCC 1744 | - | - | 15.6 | 62.5 | 62.5 | 62.5 | 31.2 | 7.8 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| C. aaseri MTCC 1962 | 31.2 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 62.5 | 62.5 | 31.2 | 15.6 |
| C. glabrata MTCC 3019 | 31.2 | 15.6 | 31.2 | - | 31.2 | 31.2 | 15.6 | 7.8 |
| C. krusei MTCC 3020 | 62.5 | 31.2 | - | - | - | 31.2 | - | 15.6 |
| Issatchenkia hanoiensis MTCC 4755 | 15.6 | 62.5 | 62.5 | 31.2 | 31.2 | 62.5 | 15.6 | 15.6 |

^a- No activity

Table 7: Inhibition of ergosterol biosynthesis in C. albicans MTCC 183 by compound 6e

| Test compounds | Mean ergosterol content of cells grown with test compounds at different concentrations (µg/mL) | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------|-----------------|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 0 | 2 | 4 | 16 | | | | | |
| бе | 2.27 ± 0.11 | 1.75 ± 0.12 | 1.08 ± 0.08 | 0.41 ± 0.06 | | | | | |
| Miconazole (Standard) | 2.27 ± 0.11 | 1.81 ± 0.09 | 1.12 ± 0.10 | 0.53 ± 0.04 | | | | | |

Table 8: Interacting amino acids and their binding energy of compound 6e with modeled lanosterol 14-alpha demethylase protein

| No. of | Interacting amino acids | Grid X-Y-Z coordinates | Binding energy ΔG | Dissociation |
|--------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| ligand | | | (Kcal/Mol) | constant (kl) |
| 6e | Asp233 | 25.874, 18.831, 15.131 | -10.70 | 14.42 nM |



Figure 3. Molecular docking interactions of compound **6e** with lanosterol 14-alpha demethylase protein

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