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# Synthesis of new β-lactams contain anthraquinone and their molecular docking

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#### Abstract

 $\beta$ -Lactam antibiotics are the most important antibacterial agents for human health and it began with the discovery of penicillin by Alexander Fleming in 1914. In addition,  $\beta$ lactams are an important class of heterocyclic compounds due to their wide range of applications in other biological activities. With the alarming trends in bacterial resistance to many  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics it has become necessary to synthesize novel  $\beta$ -lactams for bioassay of antibacterial activity and the need for drugs with more specific antibacterial activity. Therefore, the synthesis of the new  $\beta$ -lactams is the subject of extensive study. The anthraquinone and related compounds have been represented as a broad and growing family of bioactive molecules. Novel β-lactams contain anthraquinone on C-<sup>π</sup> position were synthesized by ketene-imine cycloaddition and characterized by spectral data. Molecular docking studies were carried out by Autodoc software. Penicillin-binding protein <sup>Y</sup>a (PDB ID: <sup>1</sup>VQQ) from methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus strain used as a target which good binding interactions were observed. In silico molecular docking studies of novel  $\beta$ -lactam-anthraquinone hybrids showed moderate to excellent interactions. Some of the synthesized  $\beta$ -lactams have lower binding energy than penicillin G. The overall interaction may be attributed to the presence of  $\beta$ -lactam ring and anthraquinone moiety.

Key words: β-lactam, anthraquinone, antibacterial, bacterial resistance, molecular docking

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