

Photophysical study and in vitro approach against *Leishmania panamensis* of dicloro-5,10,15,20-tetrakis(4-bromophenyl)porphyrinato Sn(IV)

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Abstract

Background: Photodynamic therapy activity against different biological systems has been reported for porphyrins. Porphyrin modifications through peripheral groups and/or by metal insertion inside the ring are main alternatives for the improvement of its photo-physical properties. In this study, we synthesized and characterized 5,10,15,20-tetrakis(4-bromophenyl)porphyrin and the dicloro-5,10,15,20-tetrakis(4-bromophenyl)porphyrinato Sn(IV). Methods: Metal-free porphyrin was synthesized using the Alder method, while the Sn(IV)-porphyrin complex was prepared by combining metal-free porphyrin with stannous chloride in DMF; the reaction yields were 47% and 64% respectively. Metal-free porphyrin was characterized by UV-Vis, FT-IR, ESI-mass spectrometry and ¹³C-NMR. Additionally, the Sn(IV) -porphyrin complex was characterized using UV-Vis and FT-IR. Cyclic voltammetry tests in four different solvents. The fluorescence quantum yield (f) was measured using fluorescein as a standard, the singlet oxygen quantum yield (D) was estimated using the standard 5,10,15,20-(tetraphenyl)porphyrin (H2TPP) and the quencher of singlet oxygen 1,3-diphenylisobenzofuran (DPBF). Results: UV-Vis assay showed typical Q and Soret bands for porphyrin and its metallo-porphyrin complex. Compounds showed photoluminescence at the visible range of electromagnetic spectrum. The inclusion of the metal in the porphyrin core changed the f from 0.15 to 0.05 and the D increased from 0.55 to 0.59. Finally, the effect of the compounds on the viability of *L. panamensis* was evaluated by means of the MTT test. The results showed that both compounds decreased the viability of the parasite; this inhibitory activity was greater under light irradiation; the porphyrin compound had IC₅₀ of 16.5 M and the Sn(IV)-porphyrin complex had IC₅₀ of 19.2 M. Conclusion: The compounds were synthesized efficiently, their characterization was carried out by different spectroscopy techniques and their own signals were evidenced for both structures, both compounds decreased the cell viability of *L. panamensis*. © 2021 Espitia-Almeida F et al.

Author keywords

In vitro; Leishmania panamensis; Photodynamic therapy; Photophysical study; Porphyrin; Porphyrinato