ORIGINAL SCIENTIFIC PAPER



Croat. Chem. Acta **2020**, *93*(2), 139–146 Published online: February 3, 2021 DOI: 10.5562/cca3700



Synthesis and Biological Assessment of Carbazole Linked Pyrazole Schiff bases and Diarylthiourea Derivatives

Gopinath D. Shirole,¹ Gajanan R. Pandhare,² 💿 Anil G. Gadhave,² 💿 Bhagawat K. Uphade,² Dilip S. Aute,³ Vijay A. Kadnor^{3,*}

 $^{\rm 1}\,$ Department of Chemistry, A. S. C. College Rahata, Ahmednagar, MS 423107, India

² Padmashri Vikhe Patil College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Pravaranagar, MS, 413713, India

- ³ Department of Chemistry, A. C. S. College Satral, Rahuri, Ahmednagar, MS 413711, India
- * Corresponding author's e-mail address: vijaykadnor11@gmail.com

RECEIVED: September 30, 2020 * REVISED: January 22, 2021 * ACCEPTED: January 25, 2021

Abstract: In this study, (*E*)-9-ethyl-*N*-((1,3-diphenyl-1*H*-pyrazol-4-ylmethylene)-9*H*-carbazol-3-amine **(3a–f)** and 1-(9-ethyl-9*H*-carbazol-6-yl)-3-phenylthiourea **(5a–f)** derivatives were synthesized and their *in vitro* antimicrobial and antimalarial activities were evaluated. The structures of the synthesized compounds were elucidated and confirmed by using IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and mass spectra.

Keywords: antimicrobial, antimalarial activities, carbazole, diarylthiourea, Schiff base.

INTRODUCTION

T HE carbazole skeleton is a key structural motif possesses desirable electronic and charge-transport properties as well as large π conjugated system. Due to this, the various functional groups are easily introduced into the structurally rigid carbazolyl ring. These characteristics result in the extensive potential applications of carbazole-based derivatives in the field of medicinal,^[1–5] organic^[6,7] and material chemistry.^[8,9]

Aminocarbazoles and its derivatives have gained much attraction due to their prominent biological activities.^[10–15] They have been identified as Bcl-2 protein inhibitors^[16] NPY5 antagonists^[17] and anion receptors.^[18] They are also useful intermediates for the synthesis of various amino derivatives, dyes and pigments, stabilizers for polymers, pesticides, photographic materials and diagnostic reagents in cytochemical studies.^[19]

Pyrazole derivatives represent one of the most active class of compounds and possess a wide spectrum of biological activities.^[20–25] Schiff bases have also been shown

a broad range of biological activities, including antifungal, antibacterial, antimalarial, anti-inflammatory, antiviral, and antipyretic properties.^[26,27] The new tacrine carbazole hybrids having imines moiety reported to possess multifunctional agents for the treatment of AD and potent activity against AChE inhibitory and antioxidant action.^[28,29] Although some drugs containing pyrazole and Schiff bases exhibit antiviral activities,^[30,31] carbazole based diarylthiourea, pyridopyrimidine-substituted urea and thiourea derivatives have been reported as potent anticancer agents [32] and polyphenol oxidase inhibitors.^[33] Inhibitory activities of carbazole-linked urea and thiourea derivatives on lipopolysaccharide-induced NO production have been also reported.^[34] Also *p*-nitrodiarylthiourea derivative contains carbazole core have been evaluated on breast (MCF-7, T-47D, MDA-MB-453) and prostate (DU-145, PC-3, LNCaP) cancer cell lines.[35]

Based on the above information, we inferred that carbazole frame linked at 4-position in the pyrazole ring and aryl thiourea core could lead to significant increase in the potency and improve physicochemical properties.



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Chemistry

The synthetic route is shown in schemes **1** and **2**. Carbazole Schiff bases (**3a–f**) were prepared in accordance with the literature procedure,^[36] starting from the condensation of 9-ethyl-9*H*-carbazol-3-amine **1** with substituted **1**,3-diaryl pyrazole aldehyde **2** in ethanol and a catalytic amount of glacial acetic acid. The substituted **1**,3-diaryl pyrazole aldehydes were synthesized by the well-known Vilsmeier-Haack formylation reaction.^[37] Carbazole-based thiourea derivatives (**5a–f**) were synthesized by the reaction of 9-ethyl-9*H*-carbazol-3-amine **1** with various substituted phenylisothiocynate **4** in ethanol. The synthesis of compound **5e** has been previously reported.^[38]

The formation of carbazole linked Schiff bases (**3a**–**f**) were confirmed by various spectral methods. The FT-IR spectra clearly indicates that the IR band at 1596–1599 cm⁻¹ appeared due to the typical azomethine (–CH=N) group and, thus, confirmed the formation of carbazole Schiff bases. Also the bands due to $-NH_2$ group of *N*-alkylated carbazolyl amine at 3390 cm⁻¹ and the carbonyl (C=O) group of pyrazole aldehyde at 1890 cm⁻¹ completely disappeared.

In ¹H NMR spectra, aldehyde (CHO) and NH₂ proton of amine peaks expected at δ 9.89 and 6.55 disappeared. In the ¹H NMR spectra of representative compound **3f**, one new singlet that appeared at δ 9.18 due to the CH=N of azomethine confirmed the formation of Schiff bases. Similarly, in the ¹³C NMR, carbonyl group (CHO) expected at δ 190 disappeared. The formation of Schiff base was confirmed by observing (–CH=N) carbon atom in the range of δ 152.10–162.56 for azomethine. The mass spectrum of **3f** displayed a molecular ion peak at m/z 447.16 due to (M+1)⁺ mode. Also the high resolution mass spectrum (HRMS) of compound **3f** showed a molecular ion peak at m/z 447.1646, which confirmed the formation of compound **3f**.

The thiourea derivatives (**5a–f**) were confirmed by the absence of characteristic IR absorption band at 2000– 2200 cm⁻¹ (N=C=S group). The IR band at 3100-3370 cm⁻¹ appeared due to NH stretching, while the characteristic region of the high frequency for thiocarbonyl (C=S) in the aromatics thioureas appeared at 1530-1549 cm⁻¹. For example, the ¹H NMR spectrum of compound **5a** showed two characteristic downfield singlets at δ 9.65 and 9.81 assigned to the protons of two NH groups, while in ¹³C NMR spectrum, the peak due to thiocarbonyl group in thiourea moiety of **5a** was observed at δ 180.76 because thiocarbonyl



Scheme 2. Synthetic route of carbazole diarylthiourea derivative (5a-f).

	Microorganisms							
Compd. No.	Gram – ve bacteria		Gram + ve bacteria		Fungi			
	Escherichia Coli	Proteus mirabilis	Streptococcus faecalis	Bacillus subtilis	Candida albicans	Penicillium chrysogenum	Aspergillus niger	
3a	25	25	25	20	20	25	25	
Зb	10.5	20	11.5	10.5	12.5	20.5	13.5	
Зc	12.5	25	15.5	13.5	14.5	20	15.5	
3d	15	25	20	15.5	20	15.5	15	
Зe	20.5	25	20	20.5	20	20.5	20	
3f	11.5	25	14.5	14.5	10.5	20	15.5	
Streptomycin	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.25	_	_	_	
Fluconazole	_	_	_	_	6.25	6.25	6.25	

Table 1. Antimicrobial activities of the synthesized compounds **3a-f** against pathological organisms expressed as minimal inhibition concentration (MIC, μ g/mL)

group have a greater magnetic anisotropy compared to the carbonyl group. Furthermore, the mass spectrum shows the molecular ion peak at (m/z) 346.13 (M+H)⁺ which confirmed the formation of **5a**.

Antibacterial and Antifungal Evaluations

The antimicrobial activity of the synthesized compounds **3** and **5** was evaluated against two gram-negative (*E. coli*, *P. mirabilis*), two gram-positive (*S. faecalis, B. subtilis*) bacterial strains, and three (*C. albicans, P. chrysogenum, A. niger*) fungal strains using streptomycin and fluconazole as a standard drugs. The minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) values of carbazole linked pyrazole Schiff base derivatives were presented in Table 1.

It was found that among the **3a–f** derivatives **3b**, **3c**, **3d** and **3f** showed stronger antibacterial efficacies and broader bioactive spectrum against *E. coli*, *S. faecalis*, and *B. subtilis* with the MIC values in the range of 10.5–15.5 μ g/mL comparable to that of the positive control. Compounds **3a** and **3e** exhibited moderate to good inhibitory activities (20 and 25 μ g/mL) against all tested bacterial strains. Furthermore, compounds **3b**, **3c** and **3f** showed a broad spectrum of antifungal activities (10.5–15.5 μ g/mL) against *C. albicans* and *A. niger* as compared with standard drug fluconazole, while compounds **3a**, **3d**, **3e** and **3f** showed satisfactory activities (20–25 μ g/mL).

MIC values of carbazole based thiourea derivatives **(5a–f)** as shown in Table 2 revealed that compounds **5b** and **5e** exhibited highest inhibition activities (8.5–12.5 µg/mL) against *E. coli, S. faecalis* and *B. subtilis* bacterial strains. Compounds **5b, 5c, 5d** and **5e** displayed remarkable inhibition activities with a MIC value ranging from 10.5 to 12.5 µg/mL against *P. chrysogenum* fungal strains, while compounds **5a-f** showed to be less active on *C. albicans and A. niger* fungal strains relative to standard drug fluconazole. Most of the compounds **3** and **5** did not inhibit the growth of *P. mirabilis* bacterial strain satisfactorily, as compared with positive control streptomycin.

Table 2. Antimicrobial activities of the synthesized compounds **5a–f** against pathological organisms expressed as minimal inhibition concentration (MIC, μ g/mL)

	Microorganisms							
Compd. No.	Gram – ve bacteria		Gram + ve bacteria		Fungi			
	Escherichia coli	Proteus mirabilis	Streptococus faecalis	Bacillus subtilis	Candida albicans	Penicillium chrysogenum	Aspergillus niger	
5a	20	25	25	20	20	20	25	
5b	9.5	25	10.5	12.5	25	10.5	20	
5c	10	20	12.5	20	20	12.5	20	
5d	15	25	15.5	20	25	12.5	25	
5e	8.5	20	10.5	12.5	20	11.5	20	
5f	20	25	20	25	20	20	25	
Streptomycin	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.25	—	_	—	
Fluconazole	_	_	_	_	6.25	6.25	6.25	

DOI: 10.5562/cca3700

Croat. Chem. Acta 2020, 93(2), 139–146



Table 3. Antimalarial activities of the synthesized compounds **3a–f** and **5a–f** against *P. falciparum* expressed as IC₅₀ (μg/mL)

	P. falciparum		P. falciparum
Compd. No.	IC50 (µg/mL)	Compd. No.	IC₅₀ (µg/mL)
3a	1.50	5a	1.65
3b	0.90	5b	0.95
3c	1.00	5c	1.10
3d	1.15	5d	1.25
3e	1.55	5e	1.00
3f	0.95	5f	1.75
Quinine	0.268	_	0.268
Chloroquine	0.020	_	0.020

3d and **3e** and standard drug quinine. Compounds **3a**, **3c**, **3d** and **3e** exhibited satisfactory antimalarial activity with IC_{50} value ranging from 1.00 to 1.55 µg/mL. Compound **3f** with thiophene substituent showed considerable inhibition activities with IC_{50} value of 0.95 µg/mL. In case of carbazole bearing diarylthiourea derivatives (**5a–f**), **5b** and **5e** showed the strong growth inhibition activities (with IC_{50} values of 0.95 and 1.00 µg/mL) as compared with standard drug quinine, while compounds **5a**, **5c**, **5d** and **5f** showed moderate to good inhibition activities against *P. falciparum* comparable to that of the reference compounds.

CONCLUSIONS

Antimalarial Evaluation

The synthesized compounds **3** and **5** were also screened for their *in vitro* antimalarial activity against *Plasmodium falciparum* strain using chloroquine and quinine as reference drugs. The mean IC_{50} (µg/mL) values of test compounds against the test microbe are presented in Table 3. The results revealed that the majority of the synthesized compounds showed significant degrees of inhibition against *P. falciparum* as compared with standard drugs.

Among the carbazole linked pyrazole Schiff bases (3a–f), compound 3b with fluorine substituent attached exhibited a respectable antimalarial spectrum with IC_{50} value of 0.90 µg/mL, as compared with compounds 3a, 3c,

To summarize, syntheses of a series of (*E*)-9-ethyl-*N*-((1,3diphenyl-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-9*H*-carbazol-3-amine (**3a-f**) and 1-(9-ethyl-9*H*-carbazol-6-yl)-3-phenylthiourea (**5a-f**) were carried out in which some electron withdrawing, donating as well as bulky functional groups were introduced to the phenyl ring. Also, it is known that the presence of halides (F, Cl, Br) increases the lipophilic properties of the compounds. Antimicrobial study of the synthesized compounds indicated that some of the compounds displayed moderate to potent antibacterial and antifungal activities which will be further helpful for the development of new antimicrobial compounds. As structure-activity relationship (SAR) study of all the compounds was taken into account (Figure 1), it was observed that the



Figure 1. Structure-activity relationship of target compounds 3 and 5.

Croat. Chem. Acta 2020, 93(2), 139-146



combination of carbazole moiety to various pyrazole aldehyde and substituted phenylisothiocynate in new derivatives caused increased activities against most of the tested organisms. The results also suggested that the antimicrobial activities of the carbazole derivatives were influenced by the aromatic substituent. Compounds with electron-withdrawing substituent 3b, 3c, 3d, 5b, 5c, 5d and 5e in the phenyl ring were more potent against most of the tested microorganisms than compounds 3e and 5f with electron-donating groups. Furthermore, compounds 3a and 5a without substituent in the phenyl ring showed satisfactory activities against all tested bacterial and fungal strains. It was observed that, the sulphur containing Schiff base and diarylthiourea derivatives showed remarkably increments in the antibacterial, antifungal and antimalarial activities. In case of diarylthiourea derivatives, compound 5b with fluorine substituent increased the antimalarial activity of the molecule, as compared with compounds containing chlorine, bromine and methyl groups. High potency and promising antimicrobial activity of the synthesized compounds 3a-f and 5a-f suggest that these compounds could serve as good leads for further optimization and development.

EXPERIMENTAL

The recorded melting points were determined in an open capillary and are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on Perkin Elmer Fourier-transform infrared (FTIR) spectrophotometer with ATR. The ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance II (500 MHz) and Bruker (125 MHz) spectrometer respectively, using TMS as internal standard. Mass spectra were recorded on a Waters Q-TOF micromass spectrophotometer. The thin layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on precoated silica gel aluminum plates to check compounds purity. The starting materials 9-ethyl-9H-carbazol-3-amine and substituted phenylisothiocynate of Sigma Aldrich make were purchased from local chemical providers. The antimicrobial activity was evaluated by the agar well diffusion method.^[39] The in vitro antimalarial assay was carried out in 96 well plates according to the micro assay protocol of Rieckmann, and co-workers with minor modifications.[40]

Minimal Inhibitory Concentration (MIC) Measurement

The potato dextrose broths used for microorganism susceptibility tests in nutrient media for the determination of MIC. The tested compound stock 1000 μ g/mL solutions, Streptomycin and Fluconazole were prepared in DMSO followed by dilutions to 100–6.25 μ g/mL concentrations. Inoculated microorganism suspensions were incubated at 37 °C for 1–5 days for MIC determination.

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Compounds 3a-f

9-Ethyl-9*H*-carbazol-3-amine **1** (1.5 mmol) and substituted 1,3-diphenyl-1*H*-pyrazole-4-carbaldehyde **2** (1.5 mmol) were dissolved in ethanol (10 mL) and refluxed in reaction flask for 1h. After that, 2-3 drops of acetic acid was added to solvent as a catalyst. As a result of condensation reaction reddish brown color was observed. After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled and light yellow colored spongy solid separated. The obtained solid was filtered and purified by recrystallization from DMF to afford compounds **3a–f**.

(E)-9-ethyl-N-((1,3-diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-

9*H***-carbazol-3-amine (3a)** Yellow colored solid; Yield (71 %); m.p. 124–125 °C; IR $\tilde{\nu}_{max}/cm^{-1}$: 3060 (=CH), 1599 (–CH=N), 1504 (C=C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 1.42 (t, 3H, *J*=7.1 Hz, CH₃), 4.41 (q, 2H, *J*=7.1 Hz, N–CH₂), 7.20–7.26 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.30–7.35 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.41–7.48 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.50–7.55 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.60–7.75 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.85–8.10 (m, 2H, ArH), 8.75 (s, 1H, –CH=N), 8.89 (s, 1H, pyrazole ring); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 13.80, 37.75, 108.71, 108.80, 112.38, 118.83, 119.42, 119.71, 120.65, 120.73, 122.98, 123.55, 125.99, 127.38, 127.50, 129.64, 130.42, 131.45, 131.90, 138.70, 139.55, 140.59, 143.90, 150.15, 152.59; MS (*m/z*): 441.05 (M+H)⁺.

(*E*)-9-ethyl-*N*-((3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazol-4yl)methylene)-9*H*-carbazol-3-amine (3b) Yellow colored solid; Yield (67 %); m.p. 116–117 °C; IR $\tilde{\nu}_{max}$ /cm⁻¹: 3048 (=CH), 1596 (–CH=N), 1504 (C=C), 1216 (Ar–F); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 1.42 (t, 3H, *J*=7.0 Hz, CH₃), 4.42 (q, 2H, *J*=7.0 Hz, N–CH₂), 7.20–7.29 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.38–7.45 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.49–7.56 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.59–7.75 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.80–7.95 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.99–8.20 (m, 3H, ArH), 8.68 (s, 1H, –CH=N), 8.75 (s, 1H, pyrazole ring); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 13.85, 37.70, 108.72, 108.85, 112.49, 118.90, 119.47, 119.70, 120.68, 120.79, 122.95, 123.59, 125.90, 127.36, 127.50, 129.60, 130.45, 131.47, 131.90, 138.70, 139.53, 140.55, 143.92, 150.10, 152.66; MS (*m*/*z*): 459.10 (M+H)⁺.

(*E*)-*N*-((3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-9-ethyl-9*H*-carbazol-3-amine (3c) Yellow colored solid; Yield (70 %); m.p. 138–139 °C; IR $\tilde{\nu}_{max}/cm^{-1}$: 3048 (=CH), 1598 (–CH=N), 1503 (C=C), 1089 (Ar–Cl); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ/ppm : 1.44 (t, 3H, *J*=7.1 Hz, CH₃), 4.37 (q, 2H, *J*=7.1 Hz, N–CH₂), 7.21–7.34 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.36–7.50 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.52–7.77 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.81–7.85 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.89–8.13 (m, 2H, ArH), 8.65 (s, 1H, –CH=N), 8.71(s, 1H, pyrazole ring); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ/ppm : 13.84, 37.70, 108.69, 108.85, 112.36, 118.90, 119.37, 119.70, 120.58, 120.64, 122.94, 123.50, 125.96, 127.31, 127.57, 128.97, 129.59, 130.11, 134.71, 138.72, 139.46, 140.53, 143.91, 150.14, 152.51, 162.56; MS (*m*/*z*): 475.23 (M+H)⁺.



(*E*)-*N*-((3-(4-bromophenyl)-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-9-ethyl-9*H*-carbazol-3-amine (3d) Yellow colored solid; Yield (68 %); m.p. 130–131 °C; IR $\tilde{\nu}_{max}/cm^{-1}$: 3051 (=CH), 1598 (–CH=N), 1504 (C=C), 698 (Ar–Br); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 1.44 (t, 3H, *J*=7.1 Hz, CH₃), 4.38 (q, 2H, *J*=7.1 Hz, N–CH₂), 7.21–7.25 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.34–7.37 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.41–7.46 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.49–7.55 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.62–7.77 (m, 4H, ArH), 7. 83–7.85 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.95–8.10 (m, 2H, ArH), 8.65 (s, 1H, –CH=N), 8.96 (s, 1H, pyrazole ring); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 13.88, 37.73, 108.70, 108.85, 112.39, 118.93, 119.40, 119.74, 120.63, 120.70, 122.99, 123.54, 125.98, 127.34, 127.55, 129.62, 130.41, 131.46, 131.95, 138.75, 139.50, 140.56, 143.96, 150.11, 152.56; MS (*m*/*z*): 519.16 (M+H)⁺.

(*E*)-9-ethyl-*N*-((1-phenyl-3-p-tolyl-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-9*H*-carbazol-3-amine (3e) Yellow colored solid; Yield (70 %); m.p. 122–123 °C; IR $\tilde{\nu}_{max}/cm^{-1}$: 3051 (=CH), 1598 (–CH=N), 1531 (C=C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 1.39 (t, 3H, *J*=7.1 Hz, CH₃), 2.30 (s, 3H, ArCH₃), 4.44 (q, 2H, *J*=7.1 Hz, N–CH₂), 7.20–7.27 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.42–7.50 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.55–7.69 (m, 5H, ArH), 8.03–8.12 (m, 4H, ArH), 8.18–8.28 (m, 2H, ArH), 8.89 (s, 1H, –CH=N), 9.17 (s, 1H, pyrazole ring); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 13.84, 20.89, 37.78, 108.65, 108.88, 112.40, 118.92, 119.36, 119.72, 119.80, 120.46, 120.73, 123.13, 123.58, 125.97, 126.50, 127.10, 127.38, 127.67, 127.70, 129.68, 134.40, 138.70, 139.39, 140.58, 144.60, 147.68, 150.18; MS (*m*/*z*): 455.08 (M+H)⁺.

(E)-9-ethyl-N-((1-phenyl-3-(thiophen-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-4-

yl)methylene)-9*H*-carbazol-3-amine **(3f)** Yellow colored solid; Yield (72 %); m.p. 109–110 °C; IR $\tilde{\nu}_{max}/cm^{-1}$: 3054 (=CH), 1597 (–CH=N), 1510 (C=C), 1185 (C–S),¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ/ppm: 1.34 (t, 3H, *J*=7.1 Hz, CH₃), 4.45 (q, 2H, *J*=7.1 Hz, N–CH₂), 7.19–7.23 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.40–7.51 (m, 3H, thiophenen ring), 7.57–7.69 (m, 5H, ArH), 8.00–8.10 (m, 3H, ArH), 8.16–8.24 (m, 2H, ArH), 8.88 (s, 1H, –CH=N), 9.15 (s, 1H, pyrazole ring); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ/ppm: 13.88, 37.74, 108.69, 108.85, 112.43, 118.91, 119.37, 119.71, 119.82, 120.51, 120.63, 123.03, 123.56, 125.96, 126.51, 127.15, 127.28, 127.65, 127.75, 129.58, 134.42, 138.75, 139.38, 140.56, 144.10, 147.69, 150.14; MS (*m/z*): 447.16 (M+H)⁺.

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Compounds 5a-f Substituted phenylisothiocynate **4** (1 mmol) was added dropwise to a well stirred solution of 9-ethyl-9*H*-carbazol-3-amine **1** (1 mmol) in ethanol (5 mL), with constant stirring. A light yellow colored solid precipitated, which after 30 min was filtered off and crude compounds were recrystallized from ethanol to afford the target compounds **5a-f**.

1-(9-ethyl-9*H***-carbazol-6-yl)-3-phenylthiourea (5a)** Light yellow colored solid; Yield (68 %); m.p. 158–159 °C; IR $\tilde{\nu}_{max}/cm^{-1}$: 3357 (NH), 3173 (NH), 2965 (=CH), 1534 (C=S); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ/ppm: 1.33(t, 3H, J=6.2 Hz, CH₃), 4.45

(q, 2H, J=6.7 Hz, N–CH₂), 7.12–7.22 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.33–7.36 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.45–7.54 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.59–8.15(m, 2H, ArH), 9.65 (s, 1H, NH), 9.81 (s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 13.87, 37.78, 108.87, 109.40, 118.79, 119.39, 120.76, 122.37, 123.62, 124.45, 125.18, 126.52, 126.63, 127.68, 129.24, 137.76, 138.99, 140.58, 180.76; MS (*m*/*z*): 346.13 (M+H)⁺.

1-(9-ethyl-9*H***-carbazol-6-yl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl) thiourea (5b)** Light yellow colored solid; Yield (65 %); m.p. 161–162 °C; IR $\tilde{\nu}_{max}$ /cm⁻¹: 3366 (NH), 3183 (NH), 2964 (=CH), 1530 (C=S); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ/ppm: 1.44(t, 3H, *J*=7.0 Hz, CH₃), 4.44 (q, 2H, *J*=6.7 Hz, N–CH₂), 7.15–7.17 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.20–7.28 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.32–7.37 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.40–7.45 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.48–7.53 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.56–7.65 (m, 1H, ArH), 8.07 (s, 1H, NH), 8.21 (s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ/ppm: 14.28, 37.76, 110.22, 110.29, 117.30, 120.33, 121.14, 122.47, 122.75, 122.99, 123.15, 123.25, 123.91, 125.73, 127.00, 128.38, 129.11, 135.44, 140.65, 142.21, 149.72, 157.45, 192.98; MS (*m*/*z*): 364.15 (M+H)⁺.

1-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(9-ethyl-9H-carbazol-6-yl) thiourea (5c) Light yellow colored solid; Yield (69 %), m.p. 121–122 °C; IR $\tilde{\nu}_{max}$ /cm⁻¹: 3321 (NH), 3120 (NH), 2973 (=CH), 1529 (C=S); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 1.33(t, 3H, *J*=6.2 Hz, CH₃), 4.47 (q, 2H, *J*=6.7 Hz, N–CH₂), 7.16–7.22 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.33–7.37 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.43–7.49 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.60–8.17 (m, 2H, ArH), 9.75 (s, 1H, NH), 9.99 (s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 13.87, 37.82, 108.96, 109.69, 118.94, 119.56, 120.78, 122.24, 123.01, 123.83, 124.34, 124.86, 126.35, 126.76, 129.86, 134.43, 139.19, 140.63, 180.63; MS (*m*/*z*): 380.04 (M+H)⁺.

1-(4-bromophenyl)-3-(9-ethyl-9/H-carbazol-6-yl)thiourea (5d) Light yellow colored solid; Yield (65 %); m.p. 132–133 °C; IR $\tilde{\nu}_{max}$ /cm⁻¹: 3330 (NH), 3128 (NH), 2975 (=CH), 1525 (C=S); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 1.34 (t, 3H, *J*=6.4 Hz, CH₃), 4.45 (q, 2H, *J*=6.8 Hz, N–CH₂), 7.18–7.25 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.32–7.39 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.45–7.55 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.65–8.10 (m, 2H, ArH), 9.60 (s, 1H, NH), 9.70 (s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 13.82, 37.79, 108.84, 109.65, 118.90, 119.55, 120.70, 122.22, 123.20,123.85, 124.38, 124.89, 126.32, 126.75, 129.85, 134.40, 139.29, 140.53, 180.60; MS (*m*/*z*): 424.10(M+H)⁺.

1-(9-ethyl-9*H***-carbazol-6-yl)-3-p-tolylthiourea (5f)** Light yellow colored solid; Yield (65 %); m.p. 143–144 °C; IR $\tilde{\nu}_{max}/cm^{-1}$: 3366 (NH), 3179 (NH), 2970 (=CH), 1531 (C=S); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 1.44 (t, 3H, *J*=6.3 Hz, CH₃), 2.34 (s, 3H, ArCH₃), 4.35 (q, 2H, *J*=6.3 Hz, N–CH₂), 7.18–7.29 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.34–7.48 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.52–7.69 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.75–7.95 (m, 2H, ArH), 8.05 (s, 1H, NH), 8.25 (s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ /ppm: 13.81, 37.89, 108.84, 109.68, 118.92, 119.79, 120.59, 122.28, 123.35, 123.80, 124.39, 124.84, 126.38, 126.64, 129.70, 135.48, 139.39, 140.75, 180.69; MS (*m/z*): 360.06 (M+H)⁺.

Acknowledgment. V. A. Kadnor is grateful to UGC, WRO, Pune for providing a teacher fellowship under the faculty development programme of the UGC's 12th plan. The authors are also grateful to the Central Instrumentation Facility (CIF), SPPU, Pune for providing the characterization.

Supplementary Information. Supporting information to the paper is attached to the electronic version of the article at: https://doi.org/10.5562/cca3700.

PDF files with attached documents are best viewed with Adobe Acrobat Reader which is free and can be downloaded from Adobe's web site.

REFERENCES

- H. J. Knolker, K. R. Reddy, Chem. Bio. 2008, 65, pp. 1–430. https://doi.org/10.1016/S1099-4831(07)00001-6
- [2] A. Kuwahara, K. Nakano, K. Nozaki, J. Org. Chem. 2005, 70, 413–419. https://doi.org/10.1021/jo048472+
- [3] K. Thevissen, A. Marchand, P. Chaltin, E. M. K. Meert,
 B. P. A. Cammue, *Curr. Med. Chem.* 2009, *16*, 2205–2211. https://doi.org/10.2174/092986709788612701
- [4] A. Gluszynska, Eur. J. Med. Chem. 2015, 94, 405–426. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejmech.2015.02.059
- [5] A. Caruso, A. S. Voisin-Chiret, J. C. Lancelot, M. S. Sinicropi, A. Garofalo, S. Rault, *Heterocycles*, 2007, 71, 2203–2210. https://doi.org/10.3987/COM-07-11113
- [6] J. Li, A. C. Grimsdale, *Chem. Soc. Rev.* 2010, *39*, 2399–2410. https://doi.org/10.1039/b915995a
- [7] A. Murat, A. S. Sarac, Prog. Org. Coat. 2009, 66, 337–358. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.porgcoat.2009.08.014
- [8] H. J. Jiang, S. Jian, J. L. Zhang, Curr. Org. Chem. 2012, 16, 2014–2025.
 - https://doi.org/10.2174/138527212803251604
- [9] G. Yaqub, E. A. Hussain, M. A. Rehman, M. Bateen, Asian J. Chem. 2009, 21, 2485–2520.
- [10] R. Joyeeta, J. Amit Kumar, M. Dipakranjan, *Tetrahedron* 2012, 68, 6099–6121.
- https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tet.2012.05.007 [11] A. W. Schmidt, K. R. Reddy, H.-J. Knölker, *Chem. Rev.*
- **2012**, *112*, 3193–3328. https://doi.org/10.1021/cr200447s
- [12] S. L. Rodriguez, G. E. Zaballos, R. E. Gonzalez, M. L. Testa, A. J. Sepulveda, A. R. Jones, *Tetrahedron* 2000, 56, 4511–4514. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0040-4020(00)00290-8
- [13] R. L. Hudkins, N. W. Johnson, T. S. Angeles, G. W. Gessner, J. P. Mallamo, *J. Med. Chem.* **2007**, *50*, 433– 441. https://doi.org/10.1021/jm051074u
- [14] M. Prudhomme, Eur. J. Med. Chem. 2003, 38, 123– 140. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0223-5234(03)00011-4
- [15] L. Ackermann, A. Althammer, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.
 2007, 46, 1627–1629. https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.200603833

- [16] I. J. Enyedy, Y. Ling, K. Narcho, Y. Tomita, X. Wu, Y. Cao, R. Guo, B. Li, X. Zhu, Y. Huang, Y. Q. Long, P. P. Roller, D. Yang, S. Wang, *J. Med. Chem.* 2001, *44*, 4313–4324. https://doi.org/10.1021/jm010016f
- [17] M. H. Block, S. Boyer, W. Brailsford, D. R. Brittain, D. Carroll, S. Chapman, S. D. Clarke, C. S. Donald, K. M. Foote, L. Godfrey, A. Ladner, P. R. Marsham, J. D. Masters, C. D. Mee, M. R. Donovan, J. E. Pease, A. G. Pickup, J. W. Rayner, A. Roberts, P. Schofield, A. Suleman, A. V. Turnbull, *J. Med. Chem.* 2002, *45*, 3509–3523. https://doi.org/10.1021/jm011125x
- [18] J. R. Hiscock, C. Caltagirone, M. E. Light, M. B. Hursthouse, P. A. Gale, Org. Biomol. Chem. 2009, 7, 1781–1783. https://doi.org/10.1039/b900178f
- [19] J. B. Shi, W. J. Tang, X. B. Qi, R. Li, X. H. Liu, *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 2015, *90*, 889–896.
 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejmech.2014.12.013
- [20] H. V. Chavan, B. P. Bandgar, L. K. Adsul, V. D. Dhakane,
 P. S. Bhale, V. N. Thakare, V. Masand, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2013, *23*, 1315–1321.
 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bmcl.2012.12.094
- [21] A. M. Vijesh, A. M. Isloor, S. Prashant, K. Sundershan,
 H. Fun, *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 2013, *62*, 410–415. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejmech.2012.12.057
- [22] S. A. H. El-Feky, K. A. Zakeria, A. O. El-Samii Nermine, J. Lashine, A. K. Mohemad, H. K. Thabet, *Bioorg. Chem.* 2015, *58*, 104–116. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bioorg.2014.12.003
- [23] C. B. Sangani, D. C. Mungra, M. P. Patel, R. G. Patel, *Chin. Chem. Lett.* **2012**, *23*, 57–60. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cclet.2011.09.012
- [24] O. I. El-Sabbagh, M. M. Baraka, S. M. Ibrahim, C. Pannecouque, G. Andrei, R. Snoeck, A. A. Balzarini Rashad, Eur. J. Med. Chem. 2009, 44, 3746–3753. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejmech.2009.03.038
- [25] B. Insuasty, A. Tigreros, F. Orozco, J. Quiroga, R. Abonía, M. Nogueras, A. Sanchez, J. Cobo, *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* 2010, *18*, 4965–4974. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bmc.2010.06.013
- [26] P. Przybylski, A. Huczynski, K. Pyta, B. Brzezinski, F. Bartl, Curr. Org. Chem. 2009, 13, 124–148. https://doi.org/10.2174/138527209787193774
- [27] J. Janockova, J. Plsikova, J. Kasparkova, V. Brabec, R. Jendzelovsky, J. Mikes, J. Koval, S. Hamulakova, P. Fedorocko, K. Kuca, M. Kozurkova, *Eur. J. Pharm. Sci.* 2015, *76*, 192–202.
 - https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejps.2015.04.023
- [28] S. Thiratmatrakul, C. Yenjai, P. Waiwut, O. Vajragupta, P. Reubroycharoen, M. Tohda, C. Boonyarat, *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 2014, 75, 21–30. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejmech.2014.01.020
- [29] A.G. Blackman, Che-minform. 2005, 24, 1–39. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.poly.2004.10.012



- [30] F. Marchetti, C. Pettinari, R. Pettinari, A. Cingolani, D. Leonesi, A. Lorenzotti, *Polyhedron* **1999**, *18*, 3041– 3050. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0277-5387(99)00230-2
- [31] D. Guo, K. Li, Y. Li, H. Tan, L. Wang, Chem. Eng. Comm.
 2013, 200, 1503–1512. https://doi.org/10.1080/00986445.2012.756395
- [32] A. R. Nixha, A. Ergun, N. Gencer, O. Arslan, M. Arslan, Arch. Physiol. Biochem. 2018, 3, 263–269. https://doi.org/10.1080/13813455.2018.1453523
- [33] Y. J. Kim, J. H. Ryu, Y. J. Cheon, H. J. Lim, R. Jeo, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2007, 17, 3317–3321. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bmcl.2007.04.005
- [34] A. R. Nixha, M. Arslan, Y. Atalay, N. Gencer, A. Ergun, O. Arslan, J. Enzyme Inhib. Med. Chem. 2013, 28, 808–815. https://doi.org/10.3109/14756366.2012.688040
- [35] S. Liu, M. C. Louie, V. Rajagopalan, G. Zhou, E. Ponce, T. Nguyen, L. Green, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **2015**, *25*, 1301–1315. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bmcl.2015.01.042

[36] A. P. Keche, G. D. Hatnapure, R.T. Tale, A. H. Rodge, S. S. Birajdar, V. M. Kamble, *Med. Chem. Res.* 2013, 22, 1480–1487.

https://doi.org/10.1007/s00044-012-0144-5

- [37] V. A. Chornous, M. K. Bratenko, M. K. Vovk, Chem. Heterocycl. Compd. 2006, 42, 1242–1243. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10593-006-0233-9
- [38] S Liu, M. C. Louie, V. Rajagopalan, G. Zhou, E. Ponce, T. Nguyen, L. Green, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **2015**, *25*, 1301–1305.

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bmcl.2015.01.042

- [39] B. Boyan, H. James, P. Judicael, J. Antimicrob. Chemother. 2008, 61, 1295–1301. https://doi.org/10.1093/jac/dkn090
- [40] K. H. Rieckmann, G. H. Campbell, L. J. Sax, J. E. Mrema, Lancet, 1978, 311, 22–23. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(78)90365-3