

Utjecaj supstituenata na NMR značajke temeljnog bicikličkog prstenastog sustava fluorokinolonskih antibiotika, odnos između NMR kemijskih pomaka, molekulskih opisivača i parametara sličnosti s lijekovima

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Effects of substituents on the NMR features of basic bicyclic ring systems of fluoroquinolone antibiotics and the relationships between NMR chemical shifts, molecular descriptors and drug-likeness parameters

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In the present study, the NMR spectroscopic features of trovafloxacin (TVA) mesylate, pefloxacin (PFX) mesylate dihydrate and ciprofloxacin (CIP) hydrochloride monohydrate were studied in DMSO- d_6 solution with the aim of investigating the effects of substituents and the type of salt on the NMR parameters of basic bicyclic fluoroquinolone and fluoronaphthyridone ring systems. For this purpose, the ^1H - and ^{13}C - one- and two-dimensional homo- and heteronuclear NMR methods were used. The analysis of ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectra confirmed the structures of investigated fluoroquinolone salts. Relationships between ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts of fluoronaphthyridone and fluoroquinolone ring systems, calculated molecular descriptors (MDs) and drug-likeness scores (DLSs), computed for monoprotonic cations of investigated fluoroquinolone salts (TVAH $^+$, PFXH $^+$ and CIPH $^+$), were also explored. The topological polar surface area (TPSA), the parameter of lipophilicity (miLog P), the relative molecular mass (M_r) and the volume (V) of computed molecular descriptors (MDs), as well as the G protein-coupled receptor ligand-likeness (GPCR ligand-ls), the ion channel ligand-likeness (ICL-ls), the kinase inhibitor-likeness (KI-ls) and the nuclear receptor ligand-likeness (NRL-ls) were used in this study. The ^1H -NMR chemical shifts of protons in COOH, H5 and NH $_n^+$, as well as ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts of C4, C5 and C11 shown to be good parameters in exploration of property-property and property-drug-likeness relationships for investigated fluoroquinolone salts. Thus, collinear relationships of ^1H -NMR chemical shifts of protons in COOH, H5 and NH $_n^+$ with TPSA and miLog P , as well as with GPCR ligand-ls, KI-ls and NRL-ls were revealed (δ , ppm H in COOH *vs.* TPSA, $R = -0.9421$; δ , ppm H in COOH *vs.* NRL-ls, $R = -0.9216$; δ , ppm H5 *vs.*

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miLogP, $R = 0.9962$; δ , ppm H5 vs. KI-Is, $R = 0.9969$; δ , ppm NH_n^+ vs. TPSA, $R = -0.9875$ and δ , ppm NH_n^+ vs. NRL-Is, $R = -0.9948$). The collinearities between, ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts of C4, C5 and C11 with KI-Is and NRL-Is, as well as with TPSA, miLogP, M_r and V were also revealed (δ , ppm C4 vs. TPSA, $R = 0.9964$; δ , ppm C4 vs. miLogP, $R = 0.9487$; δ , ppm C4 vs. M_r , $R = 0.9629$; δ , ppm C4 vs. KI-Is, $R = 0.9461$; δ , ppm C4 vs. NRL-Is, $R = 0.9996$; δ , ppm C5 vs. miLogP, $R = 0.9994$; δ , ppm C5 vs. KI-Is, $R = 0.9990$; δ , ppm C5 vs. NRL-Is, $R = 0.9510$; δ , ppm C11 vs. TPSA, $R = -0.9958$; δ , ppm C11 vs. NRL-Is, $R = -0.9994$ and δ , ppm C11 vs. KI-Is, $R = -0.9481$).

Keywords: fluoroquinolone antibiotics, trovafloxacin, pefloxacin, ciprofloxacin, ^1H -NMR spectroscopy, ^{13}C -NMR spectroscopy, molecular descriptors, drug-likeness scores, QSAR

Fluoroquinolones are synthetic antibacterial agents, widely prescribed for the treatment of infections in humans, with a broad antibacterial spectrum of activity against Gram-positive, Gram-negative and mycobacterial pathogens as well as anaerobes. The bacterial effects of fluoroquinolones inhibit the function of bacterial DNA gyrase and topoisomerase IV (1–3). Trovafloxacin (TVA) is a fluoronaphthyridone derivative related to fluoroquinolones, and it belongs to the class of fourth generation quinolones with a broad spectrum of antibiotic activity. It has better Gram-positive bacterial coverage and less Gram-negative coverage than the previous fluoroquinolones, and in comparison with fluoroquinolones of the third generation, it possesses additional anaerobic coverage. Chemically, TVA is 7-[(1R,5S)-6-amino-3-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexan-3-yl]-1-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-6-fluoro-4-oxo-1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acid. It has been used to treat serious infections, including life-or-limb-threatening infections, pneumonia, complicated abdominal infections, as well as skin, gynecologic and pelvic infections (4, 5). In comparison with other fluoroquinolones, the pharmacokinetic data for TVA suggests significant differences in the metabolism and excretion of this agent. Phase II metabolic reactions for most fluoroquinolones were observed, and the metabolism occurs mainly by oxidative mechanisms [pefloxacin (PFX) and norfloxacin], or the drug is excreted unchanged in urine [ofloxacin and ciprofloxacin (CIP)], while fecal elimination is the primary route of TVA excretion in humans. TVA is metabolized primarily by the liver (*via* glucuronidation 13.2 %, *N*-acetylation 10.4 %, and *N*-sulfoconjugation 4.1 %), and the role of cytochrome P450 oxidative metabolism seems to be an insignificant route in its metabolism (6).

Marketing authorisations of TVA mesylate tablets, intended for oral use, and its prodrug alatrofloxacin mesylate, *i.e.*, L-alanyl-L-alanyl prodrug for infusion, were withdrawn in 2001, following restriction in 1999 due to hepatotoxicity risk (7). Thus, TVA shared similar fate at the market as some other fluoroquinolones, which were removed

or their clinical use was restricted in many countries, *e.g.*, enoxacin (fluronaphthyridone derivative), fleroxacin, temafloxacin, grepafloxacin, and newer fluoroquinolones, sparfloxacin and gatifloxacin. For instance, temafloxacin was withdrawn in 1992 because of serious adverse drug reactions, including allergic reactions and hemolytic anemia, and grepafloxacin was withdrawn in 1999 due to its side effect of lengthening the QT interval on the electrocardiogram, leading to cardiac events and sudden death. Like in the case of temafloxacin, the toxic effects of TVA were not evident until after the drug was in widespread clinical use.

Recently, the possible mechanisms of TVA hepatotoxicity were discussed in several papers (8–10). Thus Liguori *et al.* (2005) used a method of microarray analysis on isolated human hepatocytes by which they clearly distinguished between TVA and other marketed quinolone agents, and identified unique gene changes induced by TVA that are involved in mitochondrial damage, RNA processing, transcription, and inflammation, which may suggest a possible mechanism for the hepatotoxicity induced by this agent (8). Sun *et al.* (9, 10) suggested a model of a cyclopropylamine-containing system that implies oxidation of cyclopropylamine moiety to reactive ring-opened intermediates with a carbon-centered radical, which can be subsequently converted to α,β -unsaturated aldehyde. They suggested that TVA-induced hepatotoxicity may be mediated by reactive intermediates that may form covalent adducts to hepatic proteins, resulting in hepatocyte necrosis and damage to liver tissue. Another possible mechanism of TVA hepatotoxicity includes the *N*-acetyl metabolite formation at the primary amino group, since the site of *N*-acylation occurs in liver and the *N*7'-acetyl metabolite was found among major metabolites in humans together with *N*7'-sulfate and C11-ester glucuronide. Further metabolic reactions of *N*-acetyl metabolite may result in formation of the eventual toxin. The full mechanism of TVA hepatotoxicity still remains unresolved (9, 10).

There is a large amount of literature about fluoroquinolones addressing the effect of modifying each carbon in the molecules of the central bicyclic nucleus (11–13). Nowadays, fluoroquinolones with their unique structure and biological activity, as well as the TVA molecule, still attract the attention of researchers with regard to the synthesis of new derivatives, new pharmacological activities including antitumor activity, QSAR, salt formation and complexes with metal cations, clinical usefulness, and the possible mechanisms of toxicity and structure-side-effect-relationships (14–18). The structures of fluoroquinolones are directly reflected in their pharmacological effect and side-effect profiles. In addition to the β -keto-carboxylic group of the quinolone bicyclic ring system at positions 3 and 4, fluoroquinolones possess a fluorine atom at position C6. While the β -keto-carboxylic group is responsible for the basic pharmacological activity and acts as a binding site, the fluorine atom is responsible for cell penetration and gyrase affinity. Other substituents, positioned at N1 and C7, are responsible for the overall potency and antibacterial spectrum, and position X8 (X = N) for the antianaerobic spectrum. However, changes in the basic fluoroquinolone pharmacophore moiety as well as changes in substituents lead to unexpected adverse reactions, such as the CNS reactions, drug-drug interactions, phototoxicity, hepatotoxicity and cardiotoxicity such as QTc interval prolongation of electrocardiogram, which have been reported in clinical evaluations or the post-marketing surveillance of several new quinolones (7). Similarly, as found for the pharmacological effect, the relationships of the structure and adverse effects were observed and specific substituent side effects were revealed (11, 13).

The aim of this study was to investigate the substituent effects, as well as salt type, on the basic bicyclic ring systems of TVA mesylate in comparison with PFX mesylate, and CIP hydrochloride by ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectroscopies and to explore the possibility of NMR chemical shift use in fluoroquinolone antibiotics QSAR studies.

EXPERIMENTAL

Materials

Fluoroquinolones used in this study were donated as reference samples of analytical grade purity from manufacturers, pharmaceutical companies, *i.e.*, CIP hydrochloride monohydrate from Krka d.d. (Slovenia), PFX methanesulfonate (mesylate) dihydrate from Lek d.d. (Slovenia) and TVA mesylate from Pfizer Inc. (USA). For NMR spectroscopic measurements, deuterated dimethylsulfoxide- d_6 with tetramethylsilane (TMS) (0.03 %), (DMSO- d_6), with deuteration degree min. 99.8 % and analytical grade for spectroscopy (Merck, Germany), were used without further purification.

NMR studies

The ^1H - and ^{13}C - one- and two-dimensional NMR spectra were recorded using a Varian Gemini 300 spectrometer (Varian, USA) operating at 300 MHz and 75.5 MHz for the ^1H - and ^{13}C - nucleus, respectively. All samples were measured from DMSO- d_6 solutions at 20 °C in 5-mm NMR tubes. Chemical shifts (δ), in ppm, are referred to TMS as internal standard, and coupling constants (J) are given in Hz. Digital resolution in ^1H -NMR spectra was 0.20 Hz, while it was 0.63 Hz per point in ^{13}C -NMR spectra. The following spectra were recorded: standard ^1H - and ^{13}C - broadband proton decoupled, ^{13}C - gated proton decoupled, APT, COSY-45, NOESY and HECTOR. In all experiments, the proton decoupled spectrum was performed by Waltz-16 modulation. In two-dimensional experiments, the standard sequence pulse was used. The COSY-45 spectra and delayed COSY-45 spectra were measured in the magnitude mode and NOESY spectra in the »phase sensitive mode«. The COSY-45, the delayed COSY-45 and NOESY spectra were measured in the magnitude mode using 1024 points in F2 dimension and 256 increments in F1 dimension, subsequently zero-filled to 1024 points. Each increment was obtained with 16 scans, 3000 Hz spectral width and relaxation time delay of 1 s. The corresponding digital resolution was 5.9 Hz/point and 11.7 Hz/point for F2 and F1 dimensions, respectively. The NOESY spectrum was measured with several time lapses (0.45–1.2 s). The HECTOR spectrum was recorded with 2048 points in F2 dimension and 256 increments in F1 dimension, zero-filled to 512 points. Increments were recorded with 64 scans, relaxation time of 1 s and spectral width of 20000 Hz in F2 and 4500 Hz in F1 dimension. The corresponding digital resolution was 19.53 and 17.6 Hz/point in F2 and F1 dimensions, respectively.

Computation and data processing

Lipinski's rule-of-five analysis and parameters (miLogP, M_r , TPSA, n atoms, n ON, n OHNH, n rotatable bonds, volume) as well as drug-likeness scores for GPCR ligand, ion channel modulator, kinase inhibitor and nuclear receptor ligand were calculated using Molinspiration molecular processing engine, version 2007.10. (19–22). Molinspiration molecular processing data were calculated for the cationic part of each investigated fluoroquinolone salt, *i.e.*, trovafloxacin mesylate cation (TVAH⁺), pefloxacin mesylate cation (PFXH⁺) and ciprofloxacin hydrochloride cation (CIPH⁺) at the presumption that salt formation occurred on the nitrogen atom N4' in the piperazine ring of pefloxacin and ciprofloxacin molecule and at the amino group in TVA molecule. The simplified molecular input line entry system (SMILES) and calculated parameters (Table I) for each fluoroquinolone cation are as follows:

ciprofloxacin cation (CIPH⁺ or RR'NH₂⁺):

SMILES [H][N+](H)CCN(c1cc2c(cc1F)c(=O)c(C(=O)O)cn2C3CC3)CC4;

pefloxacin cation (PFXH⁺ or RR'R''NH⁺):

SMILES [H][N+](H)CCN(c1cc2c(cc1F)c(=O)c(C(=O)O)cn2CC)CC3;

trovafloxacin cation (TVAH⁺ or RNH₃⁺):

SMILES [H][N+](H)(H)C5C4CN(c1nc2c(cc1F)c(=O)c(C(=O)O)cn2c3ccc(F)cc3F)CC45.

All analyses were performed and data were graphed using the OriginPro 7.5 software (Origin Laboratories, USA).

Table I. Calculated molecular descriptors (MDs) and drug-likeness scores (DLSs) for investigated fluoroquinolone cations

	Calculated parameter	Ciprofloxacin cation (CIPH ⁺ or RR'NH ₂ ⁺)	Pefloxacin cation (PFXH ⁺ or RR'R''NH ⁺)	Trovafloxacin cation (TVAH ⁺ or RNH ₃ ⁺)
Molecular descriptors (MDs)	miLogP	-3.365	-3.255	-1.936
	TPSA	79.147	66.978	103.076
	n atoms (without H)	24	24	30
	Relative molecular mass (M_r)	332.355	334.371	417.367
	n ON	6	6	7
	n OHNH	3	2	4
	n violations	0	0	0
	n rotatable bonds	3	3	3
Drug-likeness scores (DLSs)	Volume (V)	286.436	299.289	328.708
	GPCR ligand	0.11	-0.07	-0.02
	Ion channel modulator	0.45	0.21	-0.23
	Kinase inhibitor	-0.30	-0.27	0.05
	Nuclear receptor ligand	-0.73	-0.81	-0.53

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this study, TVA mesylate, PFX mesylate and CIP hydrochloride belonging to the fourth, third and second generation of quinolone antibiotics, respectively, were investigated (Fig. 1).

The primary aim of this study was to explore in more detail the NMR spectroscopic features of these antibiotic structures, as well as the impact of different substituents on ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts of basic bicyclic ring systems as possible parameters in fluoroquinolone QSAR studies. For this purpose, the ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectra of TVA mesylate, PFX mesylate dihydrate and CIP hydrochloride monohydrate (Table I) were recorded in $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ solution.

Structures of the investigated fluoroquinolone salts were investigated by means of NMR spectroscopy, using ^1H - and ^{13}C - one- and two-dimensional homo- and heteronuclear NMR methods. Analyses of spectra were performed on the basis of NMR parameters, *i.e.* chemical shifts (δ/ppm) and coupling constants H-H, F-H, C-H and C-F (J/Hz), as well as using the NMR substituent effects, intensities and multiplicities of signals (splitting patterns) in their one-dimensional ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectra and contours in 2D spectra.

The ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectral data for each fluoroquinolone salt are displayed in Tables II and III, respectively. The NOESY spectrum of TVA mesylate is shown in Fig. 2, and the ^{13}C -NMR spectrum in Fig. 3. Obtained results are in good agreement with previously published data for these fluoroquinolones in the *zwitter-ion* or free base form (17, 24, 25).

In contrast to the PFX and CIP basic bicyclic ring system, *i.e.*, fluoroquinolone moiety, trovafloxacin is a fluoronaphthyridone derivative and it differs in the nitrogen atom at position 8, instead of a carbon atom in bicyclic ring system of the other two fluoroquinolones (Fig. 1). This change in the basic ring system contributes to the overall elec-

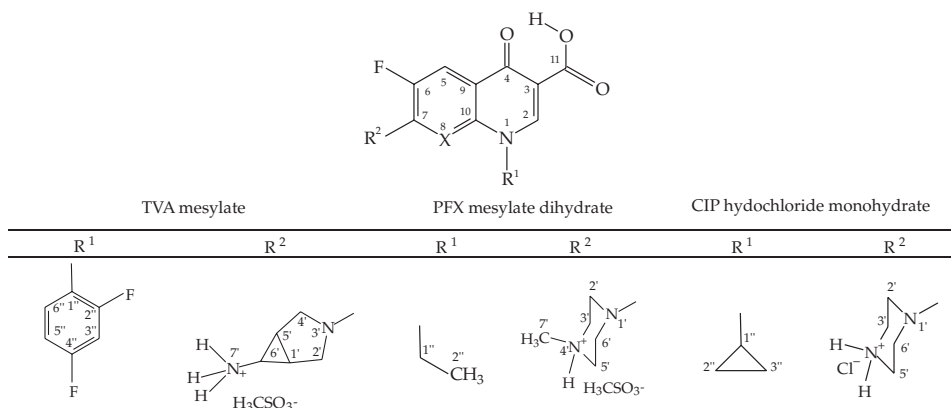


Fig. 1. Structures of investigated TVA mesylate, PFX mesylate and CIP hydrochloride.

tron distribution in trovafloxacin molecule, and not only to substituents at positions 1 and 7. The 2,4-difluoro-1-phenyl substituent at position N1 and 6-amino-3-azabicyclo-[3.1.0]hexan-3-yl substituent at position C7 in TVA molecule make additional differences compared to substituents at these positions in PFX (ethyl and 4'-methyl-1'-piperazinyl) and in CIP (cyclopropyl and piperazinyl) molecules. Furthermore, TVA possesses a primary amino group, which is not usually present in other fluoroquinolones either in clinical use or among the withdrawn drugs of this group.

Structural differences in TVA compared to PFX and CIP molecule influence in a specific way its physicochemical properties, pharmacological activity, pharmacokinetic and side-effect profile. Therefore, it is expected that these structural changes also affect the NMR spectroscopic features of basic bicyclic ring systems of investigated fluoroquinolone salts.

¹H-NMR spectroscopy

The ¹H-NMR spectra of investigated fluoroquinolones showed characteristic signals for aromatic and non-aromatic protons in their molecules. Carboxylic protons (COOH) in the spectra of TVA mesylate, PFX mesylate and CIP hydrochloride were observed downfield in the corresponding spectra as singlets (1H) at δ 15.06, 15.28 and 15.15 ppm, respectively. The decrease of chemical shifts was observed in the following order: PFX mesylate > CIP hydrochloride > TVA mesylate. It is interesting to note that in the spectrum of CIP (free base), also investigated in the broader frame of this study, the carboxylic proton was not observed up to δ 20 ppm, either in ¹H-NMR spectra of concentrated or diluted DMSO-*d*₆ solutions of CIP. These findings indicate that CIP in the free base form exists in the form of *zwitterion* in DMSO-*d*₆ solution, independently of CIP concentration.

For the aromatic part of ¹H-NMR spectra, the characteristic splitting pattern due to the presence of fluorine atom at C6, and additionally in TVA mesylate, at C2'' and C4'' in 2,4-difluorophenyl substituent, allowed a simple assignation of protons H5 and H8 of the basic fluoroquinolone ring system and protons H3'', H5'' and H6'' in TVA mesylate. The H5 protons in ¹H-NMR spectra of TVA mesylate, PFX mesylate and CIP hydrochloride were at δ 8.07, 7.97 and 7.95 ppm, respectively, and appear as doublets split by the fluorine atom through three bonds and with the corresponding coupling constants ³J_{H-F} = 12.3, ³J_{H-F} = 13.1 and ³J_{H-F} = 13.1 Hz. The signal of protons H8 in PFX mesylate and CIP hydrochloride were at δ 7.29 and 7.61 ppm, split through four bonds by the fluorine atom into doublets with coupling constants ⁴J_{H-F} = 7.1 and ⁴J_{H-F} = 7.3 Hz, respectively, while this signal was missing in the TVA mesylate ¹H-NMR spectrum due to the fluoronaphthyridone bicyclic ring system, where X at position 8 is represented by N atom.

The H2 protons in ¹H-NMR spectra of TVA mesylate, PFX mesylate and CIP hydrochloride were observed as singlets (1H) at 8.83, 8.98 and 8.69 ppm, respectively. The H2' and H4' protons in ¹H-NMR spectrum of TVA mesylate are observed as a broad multiplet signal (4H) at δ 3.67, while H1' and H5' protons are displayed as a singlet (2H) at 2.08 ppm.

The protons of protonated primary, secondary and tertiary amino moieties in the corresponding fluoroquinolone salts, *i.e.*, RNH₃⁺ in TVAH⁺, RR'NH₂⁺ in CIPH⁺, and

RR'R''NH⁺ in PFXH⁺, were observed as broad singlet (bs) signals in their ¹H-NMR spectra and are as follows: δ 8.18 ppm (3H) for RNH₃⁺ in TVA mesylate ¹H-NMR spectrum, δ 9.55 ppm (2H) in CIP hydrochloride ¹H-NMR spectrum and δ 9.87 ppm (1H) in PFX mesylate ¹H-NMR spectrum.

All non-aromatic protons were observed upfield in the corresponding ¹H-NMR spectra of related fluoroquinolone, and their chemical shifts, splitting patterns and coupling constants (³J_{H-H}) are shown in Table II.

¹³C-NMR spectroscopy

The ¹³C-NMR proton decoupled spectra of investigated fluoroquinolone salts recorded in DMSO-*d*₆ solutions showed the characteristic splitting pattern due to the presence of fluorine atom at C6, and additionally two fluorine atoms, C2'' and C4'', in the difluorophenyl substituent at N1 in TVA mesylate. The splitting of carbon signals with

Table II. ¹H-NMR spectral data, chemical shifts, multiplicities, number of protons and coupling constants of TVA mesylate, PFX mesylate and CIP hydrochloride, recorded in DMSO-*d*₆ solution

H-atom	¹ H-NMR chemical shifts (δ, ppm, multiplicity and coupling constants (ⁿ J _{H-F} and ⁿ J _{H-H} in Hz)		
	Trovafloxacin mesylate	Pefloxacin mesylate	Ciprofloxacin hydrochloride
COOH	15.06, s, 1H	15.28, s, 1H	15.14, bs, 1H
2	8.83, s, 1H	8.98, s, 1H	8.69, s, 1H
5	8.07, d, 1H, ³ J _{H-F} = 12.3	7.97, d, 1H, ³ J _{H-F} = 13.1	7.95, d, 1H, ³ J _{H-F} = 13.1
8	–	7.29, d, 1H, ⁴ J _{H-F} = 7.1	7.61, d, 1H, ⁴ J _{H-F} = 7.3
1'	2.08, s, 1H	–	–
2'	3.67, m, 2H	3.32, s, 2H	} H2', H6' 3.33, s, 4H H3', H5', 3.59, s, 4H H4'(N) – displayed under NH _n ⁺
3'	–	3.90, s, 2H	
4'	3.67, m, 2H	–	
5'	2.08, s, 1H	3.90, s, 2H	
6'	3.37, s, 1H	3.32, s, 2H	
NH _n ⁺	8.18, bs, 3H	9.87, bs, 1H	9.55, bs, 2H
CH ₃ -N4'	–	2.36, s, 3H	–
1''	–	4.63, q, 2H, ³ J _{H-H} = 6.8	3.88, bs, 1H
2''	–	1.43, t, 3H, ³ J _{H-H} = 6.9	1.34, d, 2H, ³ J _{H-H} = 6.4
3''	7.62, td, 1H, ³ J _{H-F} = 8.6	–	1.21, bs, 2H
4''	–	–	–
5''	7.37, td, 1H, ³ J _{H-F} = 8.6	–	–
6''	7.85–7.78, m, 1H	–	–
CH ₃ ^a	2.45, s, 3H	2.92, s, 3H	–

^a CH₃ in mesylate moiety, s – singlet, bs – broad singlet, d – doublet, t – triplet, td – triplet of doublets, q – quartet, m – multiplet

Table III. ^{13}C -NMR spectral data, chemical shifts, multiplicities of signals and coupling constants of TVA mesylate, PFX mesylate and CIP hydrochloride, recorded in DMSO- d_6 solution

C-atom	^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts (δ , ppm), multiplicity and coupling constants ($^nJ_{\text{C-H}}$ and $^nJ_{\text{C-F}}$ in Hz)		
	Trovafloxacin mesylate	Pefloxacin mesylate	Ciprofloxacin hydrochloride
C11	165.38, s	166.13, s	165.94, s
2	148.02, s	148.86, s	148.28, s
3	108.94, s	107.28, s	106.95, s
4	177.05, d, $^4J_{\text{C-F}} = 2.5$	176.24, s	176.45, d, $^4J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.4$
5	117.88, d, $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.2$	111.52, d t, $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 22.7$	111.27, d, $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 22.8$
6	162.65, d, $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 249.0$	152.81, d, $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 249.2$	152.97, d, $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 249.3$
7	148.86, d, $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 13.0$	144.02, d, $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 10.6$	144.24, d, $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 10.1$
8	–	106.80, t, $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 36.2$	106.97, $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.8$
9	130.95, d, $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 10.2$	120.12, d, $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 7.4$	119.42, d, $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 7.6$
10	146.07, s	137.19, s	139.20, s
1'	20.68, m	–	–
2'	49.97, s	C2',C6' 46.74, td, 2C, $^1J_{\text{C-H}} = 140.9$, $^4J_{\text{C-F}} = 4.7$ C3',C5' 42.38, s, 2C	C2',C6' 46.48, td, 2C, $^1J_{\text{C-H}} = 141.1$, $^4J_{\text{C-F}} = 4.8$ C3',C5' 42.59, t, 2C, $^1J_{\text{C-H}} = 139.9$
3'	–		
4'	49.97, s		
5'	21.11, m		
6'	49.73, s		
CH ₃ -N4'-	–	49.24, s	–
1''	124.20, dd, $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.7$ and 3.9	52.27, s	36.10, d, $^1J_{\text{C-H}} = 187.8$
2''	146.11, d, $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 259.1$	14.64, s	C2'',C3'' 7.73, t, 2C, $^1J_{\text{C-H}} = 165.9$
3''	104.88, dd, $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 24.2$ and 27.3	–	
4''	157.33, d, $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 252.55$	–	
5''	112.32, dd $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.3$	–	
6''	110.77, d, $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.4$	–	
CH ₃ ^a	31.33, s	35.31, s	–

^a CH₃ in mesylate moiety, s – singlet, d – doublet, dd – doublet of doublets, t – triplet, td – triplet of doublets, m – multiplet

ical shifts for the basic fluoroquinolone moiety, including the corresponding C11, was further used as an additional ^{13}C -NMR parameter in correlation with computed molecular descriptors (MDs) and drug-likeness scores (DLSs).

Correlation studies

The selected ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts (δ/ppm) of H and C atoms, belonging to basic fluoronaphthyridone and fluoroquinolone moieties, including atoms in COOH and NH_n^+ (Table IV), and the MDs, *i.e.*, the lipophilicity parameter (miLog P), the topological polar surface area (TPSA), the relative molecular mass (M_r) and the volume (V), as well as DLSs for specific biological activity, *i.e.*, the G protein-coupled receptor ligand likeness (GPCR ligand-ls), the ion channel modulator likeness (ICM-ls), the kinase inhibitor likeness (KI-ls) and the nuclear receptor ligand likeness (NRL-ls) (Table V), were used in the study.

MDs and DLSs were calculated for the monocharged cations of investigated fluoroquinolone salts, *i.e.*, the pefloxacin cation (PFXH $^+$), where tertiary N4' in methylpiperazine ring is protonated (RR'R''NH $^+$), the ciprofloxacin cation (CIPH $^+$) with positive charge at N4', where the secondary amino group in piperazine ring at N4' is protonated (RR'NH $_2^+$), and for trovafloxacin cation (TVAH $^+$), where the primary amino group at position C6' is protonated (RNH $_3^+$). Thus, the investigated fluoroquinolone salts were represented as primary, secondary or tertiary amine salts.

Relationships between the selected NMR chemical shifts (δ , ppm), MDs and DLSs, as well as the collinearity parameters are shown in Table VI. In general, the ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts (δ , ppm) showed collinearities with more investigated MDs and DLSs than the selected ^1H -NMR chemical shifts (δ , ppm).

^1H -NMR chemical shift correlations

Among investigated ^1H -NMR chemical shifts collinearities were revealed with δ/ppm of H5, H in COOH and NH_n^+ , while the H2 δ/ppm showed no collinearity with the investigated DSs and DLSs.

Chemical shifts of H5, increased in the order CIPH $^+$, PFXH $^+$ to TVAH $^+$ and collinear relationships with miLog P and KI-ls ($R = 0.9962$ and $R = 0.9969$, respectively), were revealed. However, the ^1H -NMR chemical shifts of protons in COOH and NH_n^+ showed the upfield chemical shift in the order PFXH $^+$, CIPH $^+$ to TVAH $^+$, which is in line with types of salts, *i.e.*, tertiary, secondary and primary amine salts, and collinearities between

Table IV. Selected ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts of the corresponding fluoroquinolone salts used in correlatons with molecular descriptors (MDs) and drug-likeness scores (DLSs)

Compd.	Selected NMR chemical shifts (δ , ppm)							
	^{13}C -NMR				^1H -NMR			
	C2	C4	C5	C11	COOH	NH_n^+	H2	H5
CIP HCl	148.28	176.45	111.27	165.94	15.14	9.55	8.69	7.95
PFX Mes	148.86	176.24	111.52	166.13	15.28	9.87	8.98	7.97
TVA Mes	148.02	177.05	117.88	165.38	15.06	8.18	8.83	8.07

Table V. Calculated molecular descriptors (miLogP, TPSA, M_r and V) and drug-likeness scores (GPCR ligand-ls, ICM-ls, KI-ls and NRL-ls) for monoprotonated cations of investigated fluoroquinolone salts

Cation	Molecular descriptors (MDs)				Drug-likeness scores (DLSs)			
	miLogP	TPSA	M_r	V	GPCR ligand-ls	ICM-ls	KI-ls	NRL-ls
CIPH ⁺	-3.365	79.147	332.355	286.436	0.11	0.45	-0.30	-0.73
PFXH ⁺	-3.255	66.978	334.371	299.289	-0.07	0.21	-0.27	-0.81
TVAH ⁺	-1.936	103.076	417.367	328.708	-0.02	-0.23	0.05	-0.53

miLogP – lipophilicity parameter, TPSA – total polar surface area, M_r – relative molar mass, V – volume, GPCR ligand-ls – G protein-coupled receptor ligand likeness score, ICM-ls – ion channel modulator likeness, KI-ls – kinase inhibitor likeness score

Table VI. Investigated collinearities between ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR chemical shifts (δ , ppm), molecular descriptors (TPSA, miLogP, M_r and V) and computed drug-likeness scores with drugs of known biological activity, GPCR ligand-ls, ICM-ls, KI-ls and NRL-ls

No.	Parameter 1	Parameter 2	Y = A + Bx	R	SD	P
1	miLogP	M_r	Y = 535.1466 + 60.9335X	0.9988	3.3219	0.0308
2	miLogP	TPSA	Y = 143.5583 + 21.2102X	0.9184	10.2792	0.2590
3	¹ H δ , ppm COOH	TPSA	Y = 15.6345 – 0.0057X	0.9421	0.0528	0.2178
4	¹ H δ , ppm COOH	NRL-ls	Y = 17.4042 – 1.1936X	-0.9216	0.0792	0.2539
5	¹³ C δ , ppm C11	TPSA	Y = 167.5729 – 0.0211X	-0.9958	0.0504	0.0503
6	¹³ C δ , ppm C11	ICM-ls	Y = -120.7745 + 0.7292X	0.8245	0.2760	0.3829
7	¹³ C δ , ppm C11	KI-ls	Y = 78.0452 – 0.4717X	-0.9481	0.0872	0.2060
8	¹³ C δ , ppm C11	NRL-ls	Y = 60.6051 – 0.3697X	-0.9994	0.0071	0.0222
9	¹³ C δ , ppm C4	TPSA	Y = 174.6856 + 0.0228X	0.9964	0.0506	0.0543
10	¹³ C δ , ppm C4	miLogP	Y = 178.0103 + 0.5015X	0.9487	0.1880	0.2048
11	¹³ C δ , ppm C4	M_r	Y = 173.5648 + 0.0083X	0.9629	0.1604	0.1740
12	¹³ C δ , ppm C4	V	Y = 171.6466 + 0.0162X	0.8547	0.3086	0.3475
13	¹³ C δ , ppm C4	KI-ls	Y = -77.27094 + 0.4366X	0.9461	0.0889	0.2100
14	¹³ C δ , ppm C4	NRL-ls	Y = -61.2489 + 0.3429X	0.9996	0.0058	0.0182
15	¹ H δ , ppm H5	miLogP	Y = 8.2264 + 0.0806X	0.9962	0.0079	0.0554
16	¹ H δ , ppm H5	KI-ls	Y = -24.2278 + 3.0081X	0.9969	0.0216	0.0502
17	¹³ C δ , ppm C5	miLogP	Y = 126.9841 + 4.7081X	0.9994	0.1899	0.0228
18	¹³ C δ , ppm C5	KI-ls	Y = -6.0481 + 0.0517X	0.9990	0.0121	0.0280
19	¹³ C δ , ppm C5	NRL-ls	Y = 130.6010 + 24.7019X	0.9510	1.6384	0.2002
20	¹ H δ , ppm NH _n ⁺	TPSA	Y = 13.2095 + 0.0483X	-0.9875	0.2004	0.1009
21	¹ H δ , ppm NH _n ⁺	NRL-ls	Y = 0.7804 – 0.1598X	-0.9948	0.0207	0.0648
22	¹ H δ , ppm NH _n ⁺	ICM-ls	Y = -2.8978 + 0.3306X	0.8605	0.2485	0.3403

TPSA – topological polar surface area, miLogP – logarithm of partition coefficient, M_r – relative molecular mass, G protein-coupled receptor-likeness score (GPCR ligand-ls), ion channel modulator-likeness (ICM-ls), kinase inhibitor-likeness (KI-ls) and nuclear receptor ligand-likeness (NRL-ls)

the ^1H -NMR chemical shift of H in COOH and NH_n^+ with TPSA ($R = -0.9421$ and $R = -0.9875$, respectively) and with NRL-ls ($R = -0.9216$ and $R = -0.9948$, respectively) were revealed (Table VI).

In the investigated relationships, using the selected ^1H -NMR chemical shifts, the influence of substituents at positions 1 (R^1) and 7 (R^2), as well as $X8 = \text{N}$, on the chemical shifts of H5 was observed, so that the experimental parameters are in collinear relationships with the $\text{miLog}P$ and KI-ls. Significant differences in TVAH $^+$ parameters, compared to PFXH $^+$ and CIPH $^+$ parameters, were also observed.

^{13}C -NMR chemical shift correlations

The ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts of selected C atoms, which belong to the basic bicyclic fluoronaphthyridone and fluoroquinolone systems, C4, C5 and C11 from the COOH group, showed collinearities with MDs and DLs. Thus, the ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts of C4, C5 and C11 showed collinearities with TPSA, $\text{miLog}P$, as well as with KI-ls and NRL-ls, while the C2 δ , ppm showed no collinearities in correlations with the investigated MDs and DLs.

In addition to findings for ^1H -NMR of H5, the ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts of C5 showed also collinearities with $\text{miLog}P$ and KI-ls ($R = 0.9994$ and $R = 0.9990$, respectively). Due to impact of substituents in TVAH $^+$, the δ , ppm of C5 significantly differs from C5 in PFXH $^+$ and CIPH $^+$, as well as in relative drug-likeness score for KI-ls. Similarly to findings for H5 and C5, in their collinearities with $\text{miLog}P$ and KI-ls, the H in COOH δ , ppm and C11 δ , ppm revealed collinearities with TPSA and NRL-ls ($R = -0.9958$ and $R = -0.9994$, respectively); however, the δ , ppm of H in COOH showed no significance in correlations with TPSA and NRL-ls (Table VI).

Among the chemical shifts used in this investigation, the C4 δ , ppm showed collinearities with different MDs and DLs, *i.e.*, TPSA, $\text{miLog}P$, M_v , NRL-ls and KI-ls. Thus, the following collinearities were revealed with TPSA and NRL-ls ($R = 0.9964$ and $R = 0.9996$, respectively) while the other collinear relationships were with $\text{miLog}P$, KI-ls and M_r ($R = 0.9487$, $R = 0.9461$ and $R = 0.9629$, respectively) (Table VI).

The investigated ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts in correlations with volume (V) and other DLs (ICM-ls and GPCR-ligand-ls) showed no collinearities. The only collinear relationship with GPCR ligand-ls was revealed with an average ^{13}C -NMR chemical shift of the basic bicyclic ring systems (FQbbrs), $R = 0.9873$. FQbbrs was obtained by sum-

Table VII. Investigated relationships of molecular descriptors (MDs) and drug-likeness scores (DLs) with the corresponding ^1H and ^{13}C chemical shifts

MDs or DLs	^1H -NMR	^{13}C -NMR
TPSA	NH_n^+ , H in COOH	C4 and C11
$\text{miLog}P$	H5	C4 and C5
NRL-ls	NH_n^+ and H in COOH	C4, C5 and C11
KI-ls	H in COOH and H5	C4, C5 and C11

ming up all signal lines that belong to fluoronaphthyridone or fluoroquinolone C atoms (C2 to C10) including C11 from carboxylic group, and by dividing the resulting sum by the number of lines (Σ of ppm of all signal lines C2-C10 and C11/ n of signal lines).

The overall findings of investigations of the relationships between MD and DLS with the corresponding ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts are given in Tables VI and VII, and schematically in Fig. 4, while the corresponding ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts in relationships with a particular fluoroquinolone salt (primary, secondary or tertiary amine salt) are displayed in Table VIII.

The change in TPSA of investigated fluoroquinolone salts affects the ^1H -NMR chemical shifts of NH_n^+ and H in COOH, as well as the ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts of C4 and C11, the atoms included in keto-carboxylic moiety responsible for the fluoroquinolone binding site. The order of chemical shifts, $\text{PFXH}^+ > \text{CIPH}^+ > \text{TVAH}^+$ was observed for NH_n^+ protons (*i.e.*, 9.87, 9.56 and 8.18, respectively) as well as for the corresponding proton in their COOH groups (*i.e.*, 15.28, 15.14 and 15.06), indicating upfield shifts of these protons from tertiary, secondary to primary amine salts. The same order, *i.e.*, $\text{PFXH}^+ > \text{CIPH}^+ > \text{TVAH}^+$ (tertiary > secondary > primary amine salt) was revealed for NRL-ls. In conclusion, the type of salt and TPSA have an important role for the fluoroquinolone binding site and NRL-ls of investigated fluoroquinolone salts.

Collinear relationships were also revealed between $\text{miLog}P$ and ^1H -NMR chemical shifts of H5 and ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts of C5. While the downfield shift was observed for H5, in the order $\text{TVAH}^+ > \text{CIPH}^+ > \text{PFXH}^+$ (*i.e.*, primary > secondary > tertiary amine salt), the ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts of C5 were in the order $\text{TVAH}^+ > \text{PFXH}^+ > \text{CIPH}^+$ (primary > tertiary > secondary amine salt). However, the ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts of H5 and C5 showed collinearities with KI-ls. Therefore, regardless of the order related to the type of salt, the NMR chemical shifts of H5 and C5 could be useful in further correlation studies with $\text{miLog}P$ and KI-ls of fluoroquinolone antibiotics.

Findings in this study showed differences in experimental and computed parameters for TVA mesylate in comparison with PFX mesylate and CIP hydrochloride, which could be related to different side-effect profiles of these fluoroquinolones.

Table VIII. Chemical shifts (δ , ppm) in relationships with fluoroquinolone type of amine salt

^1H - or ^{13}C -NMR δ , ppm	Chemical shift (δ , ppm) decreasing	Type of amine salt (RNH_3^+ , $\text{RR}'\text{NH}_2^+$, $\text{RR}'\text{R}''\text{NH}^+$)
NH_n^+	$\text{PFXH}^+ > \text{CIPH}^+ > \text{TVAH}^+$	tertiary > secondary > primary
H5	$\text{TVAH}^+ > \text{PFXH}^+ > \text{CIPH}^+$	primary > tertiary > secondary
H in COOH	$\text{PFXH}^+ > \text{CIPH}^+ > \text{TVAH}^+$	tertiary > secondary > primary
C4	$\text{TVAH}^+ > \text{CIPH}^+ > \text{PFXH}^+$	primary > secondary > tertiary
C5	$\text{TVAH}^+ > \text{PFXH}^+ > \text{CIPH}^+$	primary > tertiary > secondary
C11	$\text{PFXH}^+ > \text{CIPH}^+ > \text{TVAH}^+$	tertiary > secondary > primary

rithm of lipophilicity; M_r – relative molecular mass; NMR – nuclear magnetic resonance; NOESY – nuclear Overhauser and exchange spectroscopy; NRL – nuclear receptor ligand; NRL-Is – nuclear receptor ligand likeness score; PFX – pefloxacin; PFXH⁺ – monoprotonated pefloxacin cation; P – statistical parameter; R – coefficient correlation; RNA – ribonucleic acid; QSAR – quantitative structure activity relationship; QTc interval – a measure of the time between the start of the Q wave and the end of the T wave in the heart's electrical cycle; SD – standard deviation; TPSA – topological polar surface area; TVA – trovafloxacin; TVAH⁺ – monoprotonated trovafloxacin cation; V – volume.

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S A Ž E T A K

Utjecaj supstituenata na NMR značajke temeljnog bicikličkog prstenastog sustava fluorokinolonskih antibiotika i odnos između NMR kemijskih pomaka, molekulskih opisivača i parametara sličnosti s lijekovima

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U radu je opisano ispitivanje NMR spektroskopskih značajki trovafloksacin (TVA) mesilata, pefloksacin (PFX) mesilata i ciprofloksacin (CIP) hidroklorida u DMSO-*d*₆ otopini s ciljem da se istraži utjecaj supstituenata i tipa soli na NMR parametre bicikličkog

fluorokinolonskog i fluoronaftiridonskog prstenastog sustava. Analizom jedno- i dvo-dimenzijskih, homo- i hetero-nuklearnih ^1H - i ^{13}C -NMR spektara potvrđena je struktura ispitivanih fluorokinolonskih soli.

^1H - i ^{13}C -NMR kemijski pomaci temeljnih prstenastih sustava korelirani su s izračunatim molekulskim opisivačima (relativnom molekulskom masom, M_r , topologijskom polarnom površinom, TPSA, lipofilnošću, $\text{miLog}P$ i volumenom, V) te s parametrima sličnosti s lijekovima poznate biološke aktivnosti, tj. s ligandom G protein-spregnutog receptora (GPCR ligand), ligandom ionskih kanala (ICL), inhibitorom kinaze (KI) i ligandom nuklearnog receptora (NRL) koji su izračunati za monoprotone katione ispitivanih fluorokinolonskih soli (TVAH⁺, PFXH⁺ and CIPH⁺).

^{13}C -NMR kemijski pomaci C4, C5 i C11 atoma i ^1H -NMR kemijski pomaci protona u COOH, H5 i NH_n^+ ispitivanih fluorokinolonskih soli pokazali su se kao dobri parametri za istraživanje odnosa svojstvo-svojstvo i svojstvo-sličnost s lijekovima poznate biološke aktivnosti. Tako je otkriven kolinearan odnos između ^{13}C -NMR kemijskih pomaka C4, C5 i C11 atoma i izračunatih parametara za sličnost s KI-ls i NRL-ls, kao i kolinearnost s TPSA, $\text{miLog}P$, M_r i V (C4 δ , ppm s TPSA, $R = 0,9964$; C4 δ , ppm s $\text{miLog}P$, $R = 0,9487$; C4 δ , ppm s M_r , $R = 0,9629$; C4 δ , ppm s V , $R = 0,8547$; C4 δ , ppm s KI-ls, $R = 0,9461$ i C4 δ , ppm s NRL-ls, $R = 0,9996$; C5 δ , ppm s $\text{miLog}P$, $R = 0,9994$; C5 δ , ppm s KI-ls, $R = 0,9990$ i C5 δ , ppm s NRL-ls, $R = 0,9510$; C11 δ , ppm s TPSA, $R = -0,9958$; C11 δ , ppm s KI-ls, $R = -0,9481$ i C11 δ , ppm s NRL-ls, $R = -0,9994$).

^1H -NMR kemijski pomaci protona COOH, H5 i NH_n^+ pokazali su kolinearnost odnosa s TPSA i $\text{miLog}P$, te s izračunatim parametrima za KI-ls, NRL-ls i GPCR-ls (δ , ppm H u COOH s TPSA, $R = -0,9421$; δ , ppm H u COOH s NRL-ls, $R = -0,9216$; H5 δ , ppm s $\text{miLog}P$, $R = 0,9962$; δ , ppm H5 s KI-ls, $R = 0,9969$; δ , ppm NH_n^+ s TPSA, $R = -0,9875$; δ , ppm NH_n^+ s NRL-ls, $R = -0,9948$; δ , ppm NH_n^+ s GPCR ligandom, $R = 0,9873$).

Rezultati istraživanja pokazali su razliku u eksperimentalnim i izračunatim parametrima za TVA mesilat u usporedbi s PFX mesilatom i CIP hidrokloridom, te je nađena značajna kolinearnost među ispitivanim parametrima ovih fluorokinolonskih antibiotika.

Ključne riječi: fluorokinolonski antibiotici, trovafloksacin, pefloksacin, ciprofloksacin, ^1H -NMR spektroskopija, ^{13}C -NMR spektroskopija, molekulski opisivači, parametri sličnosti s lijekovima, QSAR

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