

QSAR MODELLING OF PEPTIDOMIMETIC DERIVATIVES TOWARDS

HKU4-CoV 3CL^{pro} INHIBITORS AGAINST MERS-CoV

Imad Hammoudan^{1,2}, *Soumaya Matchi*¹, *Driss Riffi Tamsamani*², *Mohamed Bakhouch*³,
Salah Belaidi^{4,5} and *Samir Chtita*^{1*}

¹Laboratory of Physical Chemistry of Materials, Faculty of Sciences Ben M'Sik, Hassan II University of Casablanca, Casablanca P.O. Box 7955, Morocco;

²Laboratory of Physical Chemistry, Faculty of Sciences of Tetouan, Universit Abdelmalek Essaadi, Tetouan P.O. Box 2117, Morocco

³Laboratory of Bioorganic Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Sciences, Chouaïb Doukkali University, P.O. Box 24, El Jadida M-24000, Morocco;

⁴Group of Computational and Medicinal Chemistry, LMCE Laboratory, University of Biskra, Biskra 7000, Algeria;

⁵Centre de Recherche en Sciences Pharmaceutiques (CRSP), La Nouvelle Ville Ali Mendjeli, Constantine 25000, Algeria

*Correspondence: samir.chtita@univh2c.ma or samirchtita@gmail.com

Abstract:

In this paper, we report the relationship between the anti-MERS-CoV activities of the HKU4 derived peptides for some peptidomimetic compounds and various descriptors using the quantitative structure activity relationships (QSAR) methods. The used descriptors were computed using ChemSketch, Marvin Sketch and ChemOffice software. The principal components analysis (PCA) and the multiple linear regression (MLR) methods were used to propose a model with reliable predictive capacity. The original data set of 41 peptidomimetic derivatives was randomly divided into training and test sets of 34 and 7 compounds, respectively. The predictive ability of the best MLR model was assessed by determination coefficient $R^2 = 0.691$, cross-validation parameter $Q^2_{cv} = 0.528$ and the external validation parameter $R^2_{test} = 0.794$.

Keywords: MERS-CoV; peptidomimetic; QSAR; PCA; MLR

Results and Discussion

Those descriptors remaining after PCA were used as an input for establishing MLR models. The best model obtained using MLR with the best statistical keys is represented by the following equation:[1-2-3]

$pIC_{50} = 1.017 + 0.699 O\% + 0.364 PC + 0.065 VD WV + 0.037 VD WSA + 2.158 NO$
 $R^2 = 0.691$; $R^2_{test} = 0.794$; $R^2_{adj} = 0.636$; $MSE = 0.108$; $RMSE = 0.328$; $F = 12.549$;
 $Pr < 0.0001$

Table. Various values obtained after testing of y-randomization.

Random Models	Original	Model	
R	0.380	R	0.831
R2	0.157	R2	0.691
Q2	0.278	Q2	0.528
CRP2	0.614		

Where CRP2 is the coefficient of γ -randomization.

Based on all these results obtained by MLR, we can conclude that the built model has a good predictive power.[4-5-6].

References

1. Memish, Z.A.; Zumla, A.I.; Al-Hakeem, R.F.; AlRabeeh, A.A.; Stephens, G.M. Family cluster of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus infections. *N. Engl. J. Med.* **2013**, *368*, 2487–2494.
2. Zaki, A.M.; Boheemen, S.V.; Bestebroer, T.M.; Osterhaus, A.D.; Fouchier, R.A. Isolation of a novel coronavirus from a man with pneumonia in Saudi Arabia. *N. Engl. J. Med.* **2012**, *367*, 1814–1820.
3. Bermingham, A.; Chand, M.A.; Brown, C.S.; Aarons, E.; Tong, C.; Langrish, C.; Hoschler, K.; Brown, K.; Galiano, M.; Myers, R.; et al. Severe respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus, in a patient transferred to the United Kingdom from the Middle East, September 2012. *Euro. Surveill* **2012**, *17*, 20290.
4. Sridhar, S.; Brouqui, P.; Parola, P.; Gautret, P. Imported cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome: An update. *Travel Med. Infect Dis.* **2015**, *13*, 106–109.
5. Bialek, R.; Allen, D.; Alvarado-Ramy, F.; Arthur, R.; Balajee, A.; Bell, D.; Best, S.; Blackmore, C.; Breakwell, L.; Cannons, A.; et al. First confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) infection in the United States, updated information on the epidemiology of MERS-CoV infection, and guidance for the public, clinicians, and public health authorities—May 2014. *MMWR. Morb. Mortal. Wkly. Rep.* **2014**, *63*, 431–436.
6. World Health Organization WHO. Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV). 2019. Available online: <https://www.who.int/health-topics/middle-east-respiratory-syndrome-coronavirus-merscom> (accessed on 9 March 2021)