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CONTENTS

PREFACE	
LIST OF CON	TRIBUTORS
FERROCENE- Vishu Mei	RECENT SYNTHETIC AND BIOLOGICAL ADVANCES IN ANTI-CANCER -ANALOGUES AND HYBRIDS
	DDUCTION
	ENE-BASED CONJUGATES HAVE ANTIPROLIFERATIVE POTENTIAL UDING REMARKS
	NCES
INTRAMOLE	SYNTHESIS OF FUSED NITROGENATED HETEROCYCLES; CULAR POVAROV REACTION
	asdeu, Jesus M. de los Santos, Francisco Palacios and Concepcion Alonso
1. INTRO	DDUCTION
	HESIS OF TRICYCLIC FUSED HETEROCYCLES
	Formation of the Acridine Skeleton
	Formation of Quinoline Derivatives Fused with Carbo- and Heterocycles HESIS OF TETRACYCLIC FUSED HETEROCYCLES
	Formation of Quinolines Fused with Carbocycles
	Formation of Quinolines Fused with Nitrogen-Containing Heterocycles
3.2.	Formation of Quinolines Fused with Netrocycles Containing Oxygen or Sulfur Atoms
	Formation of Naphthyridines Fused with Heterocycles Containing Oxygen of Suntai Atoms
	Formation of Naphthyridines Fused with Heterocycles Containing Nitrogen Atoms
	Formation of Naphthyridines Fused with Fretelocycles Containing Oxygen Atoms Formation of other Tetracyclic Heterocycles
	HESIS OF PENTACYCLIC FUSED HETEROCYCLES
	Formation of Quinolines Fused with Carbocycles
4.1.	Formation of Quinolines Fused with Heterocycles Containing Nitrogen Atoms
	Formation of Quinolines Fused with Heterocycles Containing Oxygen Atoms
	Formation of Quinolines Fused with Heterocycles Containing Oxygen Atoms
	ms
4.5	Formation of Quinolines Fused with Heterocycles Containing Nitrogen and Sulfur
	ms
	Formation of other Pentacyclic Heterocycles
5. SYNTI	HESIS OF HEXA- HEPTA- AND OCTACYCLIC FUSED HETEROCYCLES
CONCLU	UDING REMARKS
	WLEDGEMENTS
LIST OF	ABBREVIATIONS
REFERE	NCES
the same of the sa	USE OF BARBITURIC ACID AS A PRECURSOR FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF COMPOUND
INTROD	s Singh and Savita Kumari
SYNTHE	SIS AND PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF BARBITURIC ACID
	thesis of Barbituric Acid
Phy	sical Properties of Barbituric Acid
Che	Tautomerization and Acid-Base Properties
Circ	Reactions at the C-5 Position



CHAPTER 1

Recent Synthetic and Biological Advances in Anticancer Ferrocene-Analogues and Hybrids

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Abstract: Cancer is among the most severe risks to the global human population. The enduring crisis of drug-resistant cancer and the limited selectivity of anticancer drugs are significant roadblocks to its control and eradication, requiring the identification of new anticancer entities. The stable aromatic nature, reversible redox properties, and low toxicity of ferrocene revolutionized medicinal organometallic chemistry, providing us with bioferrocene compounds with excellent antiproliferative potential, which has been the focus of persistent efforts in recent years. Substituting the aryl/heteroaryl core for ferrocene in an organic molecule alters its molecular characteristics, including solubility, hydro-/lipophilicity, as well as bioactivities. Ferrocifen (ferrocene analogues of hydroxytamoxifen) has shown antiproliferative potential in both hormone-dependent (MCF-7) and hormone-independent (MDA-MB-231) breast cancer cells. It is now in pre-clinical trials against malignancies. These entities operate through various targets, some of which have been revealed and activated in response to product concentrations. They also react to the cancer cells by diverse mechanisms that can work in concert or in isolation, depending on signaling pathways that promote senescence or death. The behavior of ferrocene-containing hybrids with a range of anticancer targets is explained in this chapter.

Keywords: Anti-proliferative Potential, Azide-alkyne Cycloaddition, Biological Activities, Bio-organometallic, Bioferrocene Compounds, Cancer, Cytotoxicity, Ferrocene Compounds, Ferrocifen, Ferrociphenols.

1. INTRODUCTION

Organometallic chemistry and biochemistry have recently been combined to form a new subject known as bioorganometallic chemistry. This new research topic has piqued scientists' interest because of the unusual chemical structure and biological activity of organometallic compounds. These carbon-metal linkage compounds

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