

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Synthesis and evaluation of cytotoxic activities of some 1,4-disubstituted thiosemicarbazides, 2,5-disubstituted-1,3,4-thiadiazoles and 1,2,4-triazole-5-thiones derived from benzilic acid hydrazide

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ABSTRACT: This study describes the synthesis of novel 1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-substitutedthiosemicarbazide (2a-k), [5-(substitutedamino)-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-yl](diphenyl) methanol (3a-b) and 3-[hydroxy(diphenyl)methyl]-4-(nonsubstituted/substituted)-2,4-dihydro-5H-1,2,4-triazole-5-thione derivatives (4a-c) and evaluation of their cytotoxic activities. In the course of the syntheses benzilic acid methyl ester was reacted with hydrazine hydrate in absolute ethanol to afford benzilic acid hydrazide (1). Reaction of 1 with appropriate alkyl/ arylisothiocyanates gave 1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-substitutedthiosemicarbazide (2a-k). [5-(substitutedamino)-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-yl](diphenyl)methanol derivatives (3a-b) were obtained by cyclization of 2a and 2c with concentrated sulphuric acid. On the other hand, 3-[hydroxy(diphenyl)methyl]-4-(nonsubstituted/substituted)-2,4-dihydro-5H-1,2,4-triazole-5-thione (4a-c) were obtained by cyclization of 2c, 2d and 2g with 2N NaOH. The structures of the new compounds were confirmed by the data obtained from elemental analysis, HPLC, UV, IR, ¹H-NMR, ¹³C-NMR, HSQC and MS spectra. Compounds 2a, 2c-k, 3b and 4b were selected for cytotoxic screening by using HEK293 cell line of MTT assay. The highest inhibition were confirmed as 50.23% at 10 mg/ml for the compound 1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-cyclohexylmethylthiosemicarbazide (2e).

KEY WORDS: thiosemicarbazide, thiadiazole, 1,2,4-triazole-5-thione, cytotoxic activity.

INTRODUCTION

The use of thiosemicarbazide in organic synthesis has become a classical strategy for the synthesis of several heterocycles. Among the increasing number of heterocyclic sulphur and nitrogen containing compounds, which are being pursued in both industry and academia, 1,3,4-thiadiazole and 1,2,4-triazole derivatives are also interesting targets for drug design. Therefore, there have been intense investigations on 1,4-disubstituted-thiosemicarbazide, 1,3,4-thiadiazole and 1,2,4-triazole-thione compounds.

1,4-Disubstituted-thiosemicarbazide are biologically versatile compounds displaying a variety of biological effects which include anti-inflammatory (1), antimycobacterial (2, 3), antimicrobial (4-6), antifungal (7), antibacterial (8, 9) and antiviral (3) activities. 2,5-Disubstituted 1,3,4-thiadiazoles,

synthesis of which frequently include the reaction of acylthiosemicarbazides with acidic reagents such as concentrated sulfuric acid, possess various biological properties such as anticonvulsant (10), antifungal (11, 12), antituberculosis (13-15), antimicrobial (16, 17), anti-inflammatory (18), cytotoxic (19), and antiproliferative (20), antioxidant (21-22) activities. In addition, 1,2,4-triazole-thiones which possess important pharmacological activities such as anticonvulsant (23), anti-inflammatory (24-28), antibacterial (29), cytotoxic (30, 31), antimicrobial (32), anticancer (33,34), and antiviral (35) have found wide use in medicinal chemistry as common structures.

The present communication deals with the synthesis of 1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy) acetyl-4-substitutedthiosemicarbazide (2a-k), [5-(substi-

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tutedamino)-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-yl] (diphenyl) methanol (**3a-b**) and 3-[hydroxy (diphenyl) methyl]-4-(nonsubstituted/substituted)-2,4-dihydro-5H-1,2,4-triazole-5-thione derivatives (**4a-c**). Their structures were confirmed by means of UV, IR, ¹H-NMR, Mass spectral data and elemental analysis. All the synthesized compounds were screened for their cytotoxic activities by using HEK293 cell line of MTT assay.

EXPERIMENTAL

Chemistry

All solvents and chemicals used in this study were supplied from Aldrich, Merck and Fluka and used without purification. Melting points (°C) were measured using Schmelzpunktbestimmer SMP II melting point apparatus, uncorrected. The reactions were monitored on Merck pre-coated aluminium TLC plates 60F-254 and the products were visualized by UV-light using ethyl acetate and ether (50:50, v/v) as solvent system. The UV spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu UV-1601 spectrophotometer. The Infrared spectra were recorded on Shimadzu FTIR-8400S Spectrophotometer and expressed in wave number ν (cm⁻¹). ¹H-NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AVANCE-DPX 400 and Varian Mercury Spectrometer at 400 MHz, using DMSO-*d*₆ as a solvent; tetramethylsilane (TMS) was used as internal standard. All NMR chemical shifts are reported as δ values in parts per million (ppm) and coupling constant (*J*) are given in hertz (Hz). Mass spectra were obtained by using Agilent 1100 LC-MS and Waters 2695 Alliance Micromass. ¹H-NMR and Mass analyses were provided by Faculty of Pharmacy Center Laboratory (Ankara University) and the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey, TÜBİTAK (Ankara).

Preparation of benzilic acid hydrazide (1)

Hydrazine hydrate (0.03 mol, 80%) was added to **benzilic acid methyl ester** (0.01 mol). The mixture was refluxed at 100°C for 30 minutes. After adding ethanol (10.0 mL), the mixture was heated in a water steam bath for two hours. The residue was filtered, washed with water and recrystallized from ethanol. mp: 171–172 °C, (lit. [36] mp. 169–170 °C).

General procedure for the synthesis of 1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-(substituted)thiosemicarbazide (2a-k)

Equimolar amounts of benzilic acid hydrazide (0.01 mol) and appropriate alkyl/aryl isothiocyanates were refluxed in ethanol (30 mL) for 2-3 hours. The crystalline product was filtered and recrystallized from ethanol to obtain 1,4-disubstituted-thiosemicarbazides.

1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-(2-chloroethyl)thiosemicarbazide (2a): White crystals, yield 86%, mp 260–262 °C; IR (ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3248 (NH), 1707 (C=O), 1244 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 3.51 (-CH₂Cl, protons are shadowed with solvent), 3.97 (2H, t, NHCH₂), 7.08 (1H, s, OH), 7.21–7.63 (10H, m, Ar-H), 10.80 (1H, N⁴-H), 11.09 (1H, s, N²-H), 12.00 (1H, s, N¹-H). Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₁₈ClN₃O₂S (363.86): C, 56.12; H, 4.99; N, 11.55; S, 8.81%. Found: C, 56.23; H, 4.85; N, 11.48; S, 8.99%. (API-ES⁺, m/z, %): 328 [M⁺-35.5] (100), 310, 282, 210, 209, 208, 178, 150, 143.

1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-(4-cyanophenyl)thiosemicarbazide (2b): White crystals, yield 85%, mp 169–173 °C; IR (ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3363 and 3300 (NH), 1687 (C=O), 1282 (C=S). ¹H

NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 6.82 (1H, s, OH), 7.24–7.78 (14H, m, Ar-H), 9.34 (1H, N²-H), 10.12 (1H, s, N¹-H), 10.50 (1H, s, N⁴-H). Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₁₈N₄O₂S (402.46): C, 65.65; H, 4.51; N, 13.92; S, 7.97%. Found: C, 65.33; H, 4.34; N, 14.08; S, 8.38%. (API-ES⁺, m/z, %): 403 [M⁺], 388, 386, 385 (100), 379, 366, 355, 347, 342, 307, 301, 294, 268, 264, 254, 246.

1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-benzoylthiosemicarbazide (2c): White crystals, yield 42%, mp 189–190 °C; IR (ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3232 (NH), 1674 (C=O), 1251 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 7.28 (1H, s, OH), 7.13–8.04 (15H, m, Ar-H), 10.86 (1H, N⁴-H), 11.93 (1H, s, N²-H), 13.17 (1H, s, N¹-H). Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₁₉N₃O₃S (405.46): C, 65.17; H, 4.72; N, 10.36; S, 7.91%. Found: C, 64.91; H, 4.60; N, 10.36; S, 7.16%. (API-ES⁺, m/z, %): 407 (M⁺+H)⁺, 389 (100), 388, 338, 276, 247, 229, 199, 157.

1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-(4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl)thiosemicarbazide (2d): White crystals, yield 48%, mp 145–146 °C; IR (ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3300 and 3142 (NH), 1653 (C=O), 1261 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 6.78 (1H, s, OH), 7.65–7.14 (12H, m, Ar-H), 9.28 (1H, N⁴-H), 9.97 (1H, s, N²-H), 10.50 (1H, s, N¹-H). Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₁₈F₃N₃O₃S (461.45): C, 57.26; H, 3.93; N, 9.11; S, 6.95%. Found: C, 57.37; H, 4.00; N, 9.08; S, 6.63%. (API-CI⁺, m/z, %): 462 [M⁺], 446, 445, 444 (100), 252, 225, 223, 208, 79.

1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-cyclohexylmethylthiosemicarbazide (2e): White crystals, yield 94%, mp 194–196 °C; IR (ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3162 (NH), 1687 (C=O), 1294 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 0.65–1.84 (11H, m, cyclohexyl), 3.28 (2H, m, -CH₂), 6.76 (1H, s, OH), 7.09–7.59 (11H, m, Ar-H and N⁴-H), 9.34 (1H, s, N²-H), 10.26 (1H, s, N¹-H). Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₇N₃O₂S (397.53): C, 66.47; H, 6.85; N, 10.57; S, 8.07%. Found: C, 66.32; H, 6.84; N, 10.51; S, 8.04%. (API-ES⁺, m/z, %): 398 [M⁺], 381, 342, 304, 292, 264, 263, 225, 208, 188, 173.

1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-(3-pyridyl)thiosemicarbazide (2f): White crystals, yield 85%, mp 184–186 °C; IR (ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3182 (NH), 1651 (C=O), 1257 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 6.75 (1H, s, OH), 7.17–7.38 ve 7.45–7.60 (10H, m, Ar-H), 7.40 (1H, dd, *J*=8.07 Hz, 8.08 Hz, pyridine-H5), 7.93 (1H, d, pyridine-H4), 8.36 (1H, d, pyridine-H6), 8.53 (1H, s, pyridine-H2) 9.33 (1H, N⁴-H), 10.02 (1H, s, N²-H), 10.56 (1H, s, N¹-H). Anal. Calcd for C₂₀H₁₈N₄O₂S (378.44): C, 63.47; H, 4.79; N, 14.80; S, 8.47%. Found: C, 63.26; H, 4.83; N, 14.58; S, 8.15%. (API-CI⁺, m/z, %): 379 [M⁺] (100), 243, 226, 225, 197, 139, 138, 137.

1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-(3,5-bistrifluoromethylphenyl)thiosemicarbazide (2g): White crystals, yield 29%, mp 166–168 °C; IR (ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3252 and 3186 (NH), 1651 (C=O), 1273 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 6.79 (1H, s, OH), 7.22–7.75 (10H, m, Ar-H), 7.88 (1H, s, Ar-H4), 8.26 (2H, s, Ar-H2, Ar-H6), 9.64 (1H, s, N²-H), 10.27 (1H, s, N¹-H), 10.55 (1H, N⁴-H). Anal. Calcd for C₂₃H₁₇F₆N₃O₂S (513.45): C, 53.80; H, 3.34; N, 8.18; S, 6.24%. Found: C, 54.44; H, 3.39; N, 8.29; S, 6.24%. (APCI⁺, m/z, %): 512 (M⁺+H)⁺, 511 (100), 286, 252.

1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-(2-chloro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl)thiosemicarbazide (2h): White crystals, yield 58%, mp 152–154 °C; IR (ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3302 and 3180 (NH), 1693 (C=O), 1261 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 6.65 (1H, s, OH), 7.27–7.86 (13H, m, Ar-H), 10.75 (1H, N⁴-H),

9.06 (1H, s, N²-H), 10.09 (1H, s, N¹-H). Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₁₇ClF₃N₃O₂S (479.90): C, 55.06; H, 3.57; N, 8.76; S, 6.68%. Found: C, 55.21; H, 3.58; N, 8.72; S, 6.82%.

1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-(2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)thiosemicarbazide (2i): White crystals, yield 64%, mp 168–170 °C; IR (ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3271 and 3194 (NH), 1651 (C=O), 1278 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 6.64 (1H, s, OH), 7.14–7.82 (14H, m, Ar-H), 9.02 (1H, N⁴-H), 9.94 (1H, s, N²-H), 10.55 (1H, s, N¹-H). Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₁₈F₃N₃O₂S (445.45): C, 59.32; H, 4.07; N, 9.43; S, 7.20%. Found: C, 58.36; H, 4.51; N, 8.73; S, 6.80%. (API-ES⁺, m/z, %): 446 [M⁺] (100), 428, 368, 302, 296, 279, 257, 225, 192.

1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-(2-methylsulphanyl-phenyl)thiosemicarbazide (2j): White crystals, yield 63%, mp 164–166 °C; IR (ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3325 and 3261 (NH), 1651 (C=O), 1255 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 2.34 (3H, s, S-CH₃), 6.72 (1H, s, OH), 7.11–7.60 (14H, m, Ar-H), 9.00 (1H, N⁴-H), 9.82 (1H, s, N²-H), 10.53 (1H, s, N¹-H). Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₁N₃O₂S₂ (423.55): C, 62.39; H, 5.00; N, 9.92; S, 15.14%. Found: C, 62.21; H, 4.93; N, 9.89; S, 14.92%.

1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-(1-adamantyl)thiosemicarbazide (2k): White crystals, yield 83%, mp 160–162 °C; IR (ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3313 and 3180 (NH), 1651 (C=O), 1282 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 1.06 (3H, t, -CH₃ of ethanol), 1.48–2.59 (16H, m, adamantyl-H), 3.40–3.53 (2H, m, -CH₂ of ethanol), 4.36 (1H, t, OH of ethanol), 6.12 (1H, N⁴-H), 6.92 (1H, s, OH), 7.23–7.48 (10H, m, Ar-H), 9.13 (1H, s, N²-H), 10.26 (1H, s, N¹-H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 19.21, 29.64, 36.58, 39.51, 39.72, 39.93, 40.14, 40.35, 40.55, 40.77, 41.54 (adamantyl), 53.68 (solvent), 56.76 (NH-adamantyl carbon), 81.05 (C-OH), 128.10, 128.32 (Ar), 144.21 (C=O), 180.00 (C=S). Anal. Calcd for C₂₅H₂₉N₃O₂S.C₂H₅OH (481.65): C, 67.33; H, 7.32; N, 8.72; S, 6.66%. Found: C, 67.14; H, 7.07; N, 8.79; S, 6.51%. (API-ESI⁺, m/z, %): 436 [M⁺] (100), 418, 226, 225, 243.

General procedure for the synthesis of [5-(substitutedamino)-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-yl](diphenyl)methanol (3a-b)

A sample of corresponding 1,4-disubstituted-thiosemicarbazides (0.001 mol) was treated with concentrated sulphuric acid at room temperature with constant stirring for 1-2 h. The reaction mixture was poured into ice water. The product was precipitated, filtered and washed with water to afford **3a-b** in quantitative yield.

[5-(ethenylamino)-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-yl](diphenyl)methanol (3a): White powder, yield 81%, mp 202–203 °C; IR (ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3257 (NH), 1614 (C=N). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 3.66 (t, 2H, =CH₂, J = 6.86 Hz, 13.77 Hz), 4.76 (s, 1H, OH), 6.79 (d, 1H, -CH=, J = 7.70 Hz), 6.93–7.42 (m, 10 H, ArH), 7.81 and 8.18 (2s, 1H, NH). Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₁₅N₃O₂S (309.38): C, 66.00; H, 4.89; N, 13.58; S, 10.36%. Found: C, 65.12; H, 4.86; N, 13.11; S, 10.13%. (API-ESI⁺, m/z, %): 310 [M⁺] (100), 256, 208, 192.

[5-(benzoylamino)-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-yl](diphenyl)methanol (3b): Yellow crystals, yield 87%, mp 206–208 °C; IR (ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3250 and 3165 (NH), 1600 (C=N). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 7.04–8.17 (m, 16 H, ArH and OH), 12.44 (s, 1H, -NHCO). Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₁₇N₃O₂S (387.45): C, 68.20; H, 4.42; N, 10.85; S, 8.28%. Found: C, 68.20; H, 4.61; N, 10.91; S, 8.90%.

General procedure for the synthesis of 3-[hydroxy(diphenyl)methyl]-4-(nonsubstituted/substituted)-2,4-dihydro-5H-1,2,4-triazole-5-thione (4a-c)

Sodium hydroxide (2N, 15-20 mL) was added to corresponding 1,4-disubstituted-thiosemicarbazides and refluxed on water bath for 4h. The reaction mixture was neutralized with hydrochloric acid (10%). The precipitate was filtered, washed with water and crystallized from ethanol.

3-[hydroxy(diphenyl)methyl]-2,4-dihydro-5H-1,2,4-triazole-5-thione (4a): White crystals, yield 49%, mp 258 °C; IR (ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3107 (NH), 1577, 1487 (C=N, NH), 1260 (C-N), 1180 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 6.95 (1H, s, OH), 7.11–7.58 (10H, m, Ar-H), 13.20 (1H, s, NH), 13.40 (1H, s, NH). Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₁₃N₃OS.1/2 H₂O (292.35): C, 61.62; H, 4.83; N, 14.37; S, 10.97%. Found: C, 60.97; H, 4.60; N, 13.84; S, 10.64%.

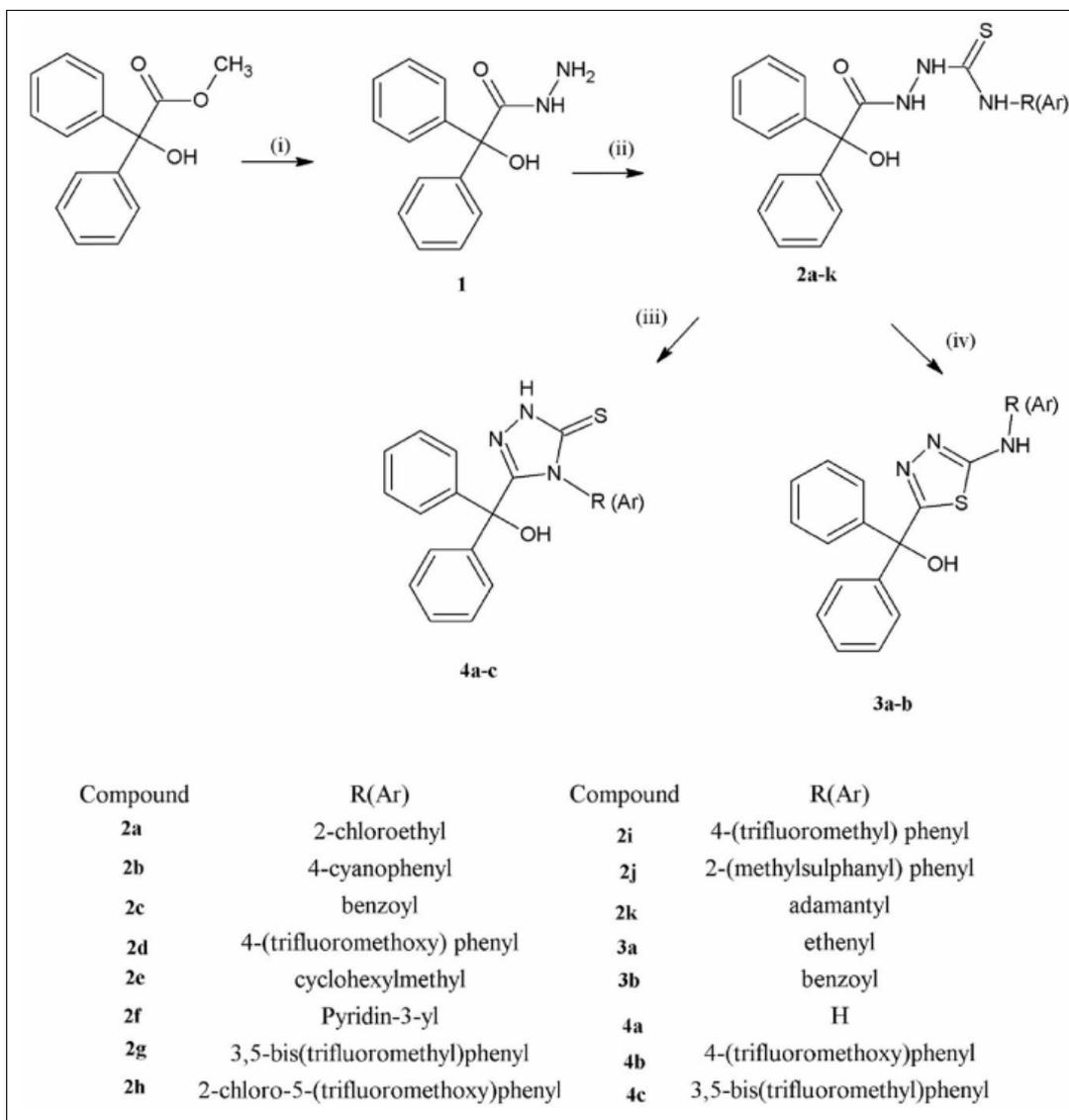
3-[hydroxy(diphenyl)methyl]-4-[4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]-2,4-dihydro-5H-1,2,4-triazole-5-thione (4b): White crystals, yield 84%, mp 235–237 °C; IR (ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3169 (NH), 1510, 1558 (C=N, NH), 1271 (C-N), 1155 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 6.91 (2H, d, Ar-H, J = 8.9 Hz), 7.00 (1H, s, OH), 7.15 (2H, d, Ar-H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.18–7.35 (10H, m, Ar-H), 13.49 (1H, s, NH). Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₁₆F₃N₃O₂S.H₂O (461.46): C, 57.26; H, 3.93; N, 9.11; S, 6.95%. Found: C, 58.04; H, 4.03; N, 9.05; S, 6.34%. (API-ESI⁺, m/z, %): 444 [M⁺], 443, 426, 425, 388, 314, 261, 79.

4-[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-[hydroxy(diphenyl)methyl]-2,4-dihydro-5H-1,2,4-triazole-5-thione (4c): White crystals, yield 78%, mp 215–216 °C; IR (ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3365 (NH), 1556, 1492 (C=N, NH), 1276 (C-N), 1120 (C=S). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 7.12 (1H, s, OH), 7.18–7.34 (10H, m, Ar-H), 7.52 (2H, s, triazole ArC₂-H, ArC₆-H), 8.07 (1H, s, triazole ArC₄-H), 14.14 (1H, s, NH). Anal. Calcd for C₂₃H₁₅F₆N₃OS (495.44): C, 55.76; H, 3.05; N, 8.48; S, 6.47%. Found: C, 55.86; H, 2.86; N, 8.55; S, 6.19%.

Cytotoxic Activity

The synthesized compounds were tested for their cytotoxic activities. Cell viability and cytotoxic activity profile of the compounds were analyzed using the Cell Proliferation Kit I (MTT) [Roche, Germany]. MTT [3-(4,5-dimethylthiazole-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide] is cleaved to formazan crystals by the “succinate-tetrazolium reductase” system which belongs to the mitochondrial respiratory chain and is active only in viable cells (37-38). HEK293 cell line was used for the determination of cytotoxic activity. The MTT metabolic assay was carried out in 96-well flat-bottom cell culture plates seeded with 5x10³ cells/well. HEK293 cells in 100mM containing L-Glutamine without antibiotic Eagle's MEM (Minimum Essential Medium) and RPMI 1640MEM with 10% FBS (Fetal Bovine Serum).

The following day, media was aspirated and the compounds were solved in DMSO and diluted with medium before they were added to the cell cultures at the concentrations of 5.0 μ g/mL and 10.0 μ g/mL. Cells were incubated for 48 hrs at 37°C, 5.0% CO₂. After the incubation period add 10 μ L of the MTT labeling reagent (final concentration 0.5 mg/mL) to each well. Incubate the microplate for 4-12 hrs in a humidified atmos-



Scheme 1. Reactions and conditions; (i) hydrazine hydrate; (ii) (Ar)R-N=C=S; (iii) 2N NaOH, 10% HCl; (iv) concentrated H₂SO₄, room temperature.

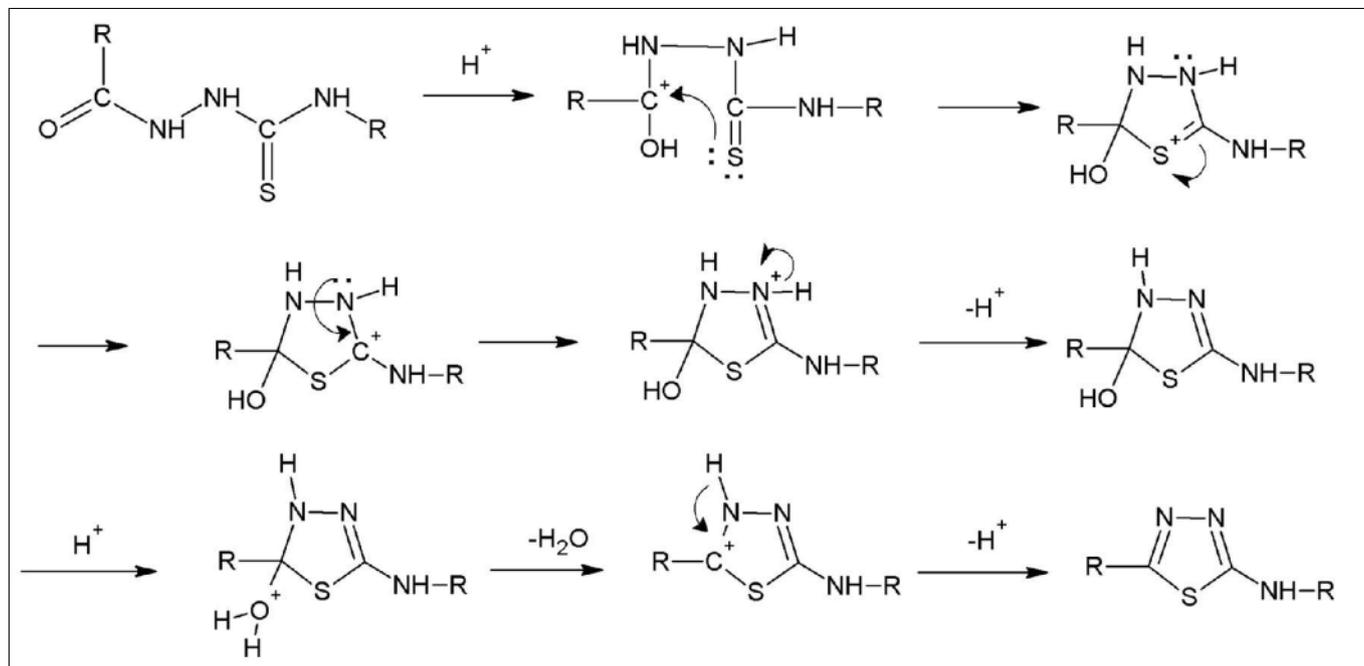
phere (e.g. 37°C, 5.0% CO₂) and add 100 µL of the solubilization solution into each well. Allow the plate to stand overnight in the incubator in a humidified atmosphere (e.g. 37°C, 5.0% CO₂), the formazan crystals solubilized. Absorbance of formazan product was measured with spectrophotometrically at 550 and 690 nm.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this research, 1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-substitutedthiosemicarbazide (**2a-k**), [5-(substitutedamino)-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-yl](diphenyl)methanol (**3a-b**) and 3-[hydroxy(diphenyl)methyl]-4-(nonsubstituted/substituted)-2,4-dihydro-5H-1,2,4-triazole-5-thione derivatives (**4a-c**) were synthesized. In the first part of the study, benzoic acid methyl ester was reacted with hydrazine hydrate in absolute ethanol to afford benzoic acid hydrazide (**1**). Reaction of **1** with appropriate alkyl/arylisothiocyanates gave 1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-(substituted)thiosemicarbazide

(**2a-k**). [5-(Substitutedamino)-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-yl](diphenyl)methanol derivatives (**3a-b**) were obtained by cyclization of **2a** and **2c** with concentrated sulphuric acid. On the other hand, 3-[hydroxy(diphenyl)methyl]-4-(nonsubstituted/substituted)-2,4-dihydro-5H-1,2,4-triazole-5-thione (**4a-c**) were obtained by cyclization of **2c**, **2d** and **2g** with NaOH (2N) (Scheme 1). During the cyclization of **2a**, 2-chloroethyl group converted to ethenyl group in the acidic media. Unexpectedly, **4a** was obtained from the cyclization reaction of **2c** by missing the benzoyl group. Ergenç et. al. (39) reported different methodology for the synthesis of the compound **4a** therefore it was necessary to elucidate the structure of this compound.

The preference formation of the 1,3,4-thiadiazole ring under acidic condition can be due to the loss of nucleophilicity of N-4 as a result of its protonation leading to a comparable increase in the nucleophilicity of the sulphur atom towards the attack of the carbonyl carbon. On the other hand, when cyclization



Scheme 2. Proposed mechanism for the synthesis of 2,5-disubstituted-1,3,4-thiadiazoles.

was carried out under alkaline conditions, the nucleophilicity of N-4 was enhanced and led to cyclization the carbonyl carbon atom to give 1,2,4-triazole-5-thiones. Because of the alkaline media, the nitrogen atom of acylthiosemicarbazides is more nucleophilic than either the oxygen of the carbonyl group or the sulphur of the thiocarbonyl group. The reaction mechanism of 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives (**3a-b**) is shown in Scheme 2 and a possible mechanism for the synthesis of 1,2,4-triazole-5-thiones (**4a-c**) is shown in Scheme 3 (40,41).

All the synthesized compounds have been characterized by means of both analytical and spectroscopic methods. The IR spectra of the 1,4-disubstituted thiosemicarbazide derivatives (**2a-k**) have C=O stretching bands at 1651–1707 cm^{-1} and C=S bands at 1244–1294 cm^{-1} . The $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectra of compounds **2a-k** showed signals at 10.09–13.17, 9.06–11.93 and 6.12–10.86 ppm, attributed to N¹H, N²H and N⁴H-Ar(R), respectively (42). On the other hand, $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ spectra of the compound **2k** exhibited resonance at 180.00 and 144.21 ppm assigned for C=S and C=O moieties, respectively. For compounds **4a-c** the IR spectra showed bands around 1120–1180 cm^{-1} characteristics for C=S bending vibrations and around 1260–1276 cm^{-1} characteristics for C-N vibrations, providing evidence for ring closure. In the IR spectra of compounds **3a-b** and **4a-c** no absorption bands were detected about 1651–1707 cm^{-1} indicating the absence C=O group of compounds **2a-k** which is an evidence for the conversion of thiosemicarbazides to thiadiazoles and triazoles. From cyclization of compounds **2a-k** under alkaline conditions, only the thione type compounds **4a-c** were observed by the presence of absorption maxima at 1120–1180 cm^{-1} belonging to C=S group. (43). The $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (DMSO- d_6) spectrum of compound **3b** displayed NH resonance in 12.44 ppm (44). Further structural confirmation was provided by the HSQC spectrum of compound **3a** which showed the expected $^{13}\text{C-}^1\text{H}$ correlations. ($\text{M}^+\text{-H}^-$) ions with 100% abundance ob-

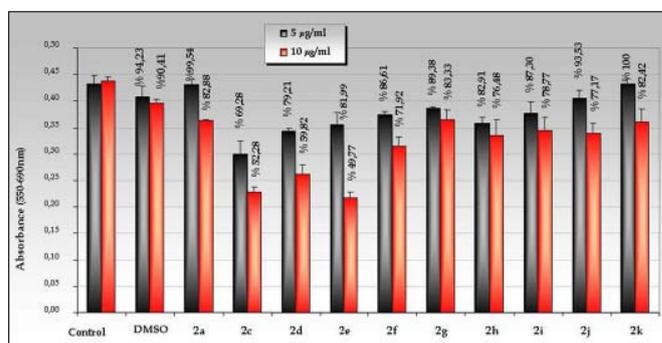


Figure 1. Absorbance values of after MTT assay formazan crystals of 1,4-disubstituted thiosemicarbazides.

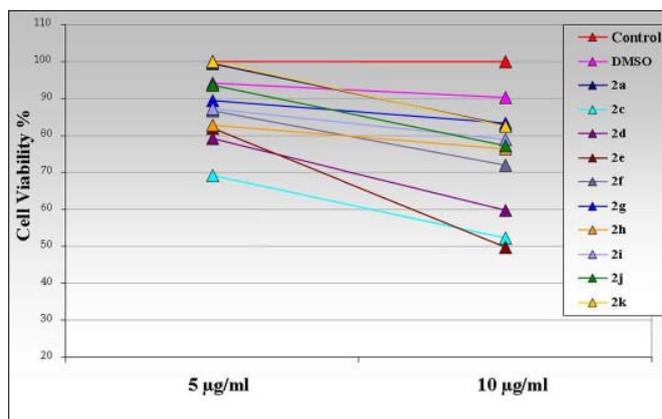
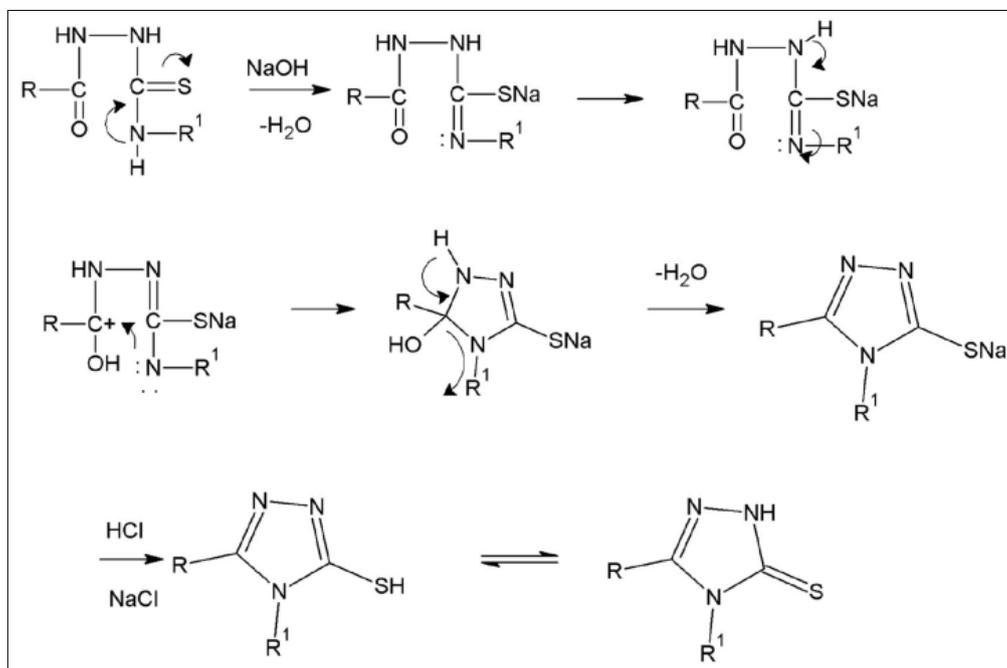


Figure 2. Cell viability (%) of compounds **2a, 2c-k**.

served in the atmospheric pressure chemical ionization [APCI] was spectra of compound **2g**, [M^+] ions observed in [API-ES⁺]



Scheme 3. Proposed mechanism for the synthesis of 1,2,4-triazole-5-thiones.

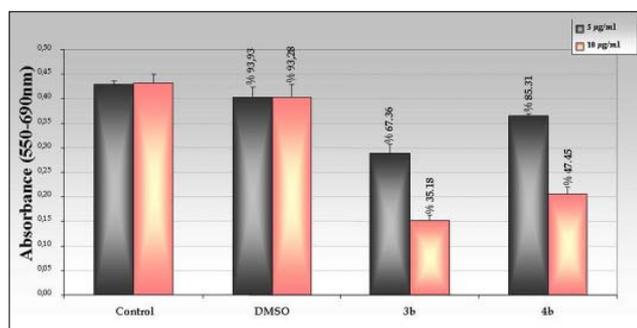


Figure 3. Absorbance values of after MTT assay formazan crystals of thiadiazole and triazoles.

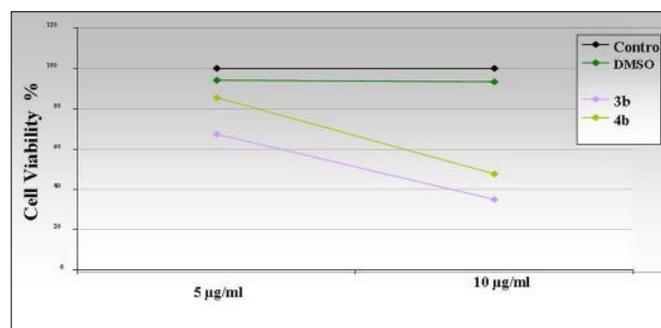


Figure 4. Cell viability (%) of compounds 3b and 4b.

and $[\text{API-Cl}^+]$ were spectra of compounds **2a-f**, **2i**, **2k**, **3a**, **4b** provided further confirmation for the formation of the expected structures. Mass spectra of these compounds gave molecular ion peaks except compound **2a**, however, with different intensities. Because of the loss of H_2O and isothiocyanate molecules, the major fragmentation pathway in the 1,4-disubstituted thiosemicarbazide derivatives formation of $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_2^+$ (m/z 225) ion is observed. Besides, some compounds undergo specific fragmentations.

Cytotoxicity of the selected compounds were evaluated by using HEK293 cell line according to procedures of MTT [3-(4,5-dimethylthiazole-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide] assay. All the compounds were dissolved in dimethylsulfoxide (2.5%) and no cytotoxic effect on the cells was observed when compared to the control group. 5.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ and 10.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ were used in two different doses and dose-dependent cytotoxic activity was investigated. Cell viability and cytotoxic activity profile of the compounds were analyzed using the MTT assay.

Cytotoxic activity results were presented in Figures 1-4. The cytotoxic activity range of 1,4-disubstituted-thiosemicarbazides is 0-30.72% at 5.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ concentration. Even these values are below 50% for the 5.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ concentrations, we could not mention about cytotoxic compounds. The cytotoxic activity range is 9.59-50.23% at 10.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ concentration. Based on the gained data 4 compounds which belong to our set of ten 1,4-disubstituted thiosemicarbazide derivatives demonstrated inhibition between 5-20%, the other four compounds 20-30%, whereas the other two compounds demonstrated inhibition between 40-50% (Figure 1). Only one compound which have cytotoxicity with the value of 50.23% at 10.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ is 1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy)acetyl-4-cyclohexylmethylthiosemicarbazide (**2e**). We have also made comparison of cytotoxic activity of thiosemicarbazides with their cyclic derivatives, thiadiazoles and triazoles (Figure 3). [5-(Benzoylamino)-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-yl](diphenyl)methanol (**3b**), which is derivative of compound **2c** and 3-[hydroxy(diphenyl)methyl]-4-[4-(trifluoromethoxy)

Benzilik asid hidrazidinden elde edilen bazı 1,4-disübstitüe tiyosemikarbazidler, 2,5-disübstitüe-1,3,4-tiyadiazoller ve 1,2,4-triazol-5-tiyonların sentezi ve sitotoksik aktivitelerinin değerlendirilmesi

ÖZET

Bu çalışmada 1-(α,α -difenil- α -hidroksi)asetil-4-sübstitüetiyosemikarbazid (2a-k), [5-(sübstitüe-amino)-1,3,4-tiyadiazol-2-il] (difenil)metanol (3a-b) ve 3-[hidroksi(difenil)metil]-4-(nonsübstitüe/sübstitüe)-2,4-dihidro-5H-1,2,4-triazol-5-tiyon (4a-c) yapısındaki yeni bileşikler sentez edilmiş ve bileşiklerin sitotoksik etkinlikleri araştırılmıştır. Bu amaçla benzilik asit metil esterinin hidrazin hidrat ile etanolü ortamda reaksiyonu ile benzilik asit hidrazidi (1) elde edilmiş, 1'in uygun alkil/aril isotiyosiyanatlarla katımı ile 1-(α,α -difenil- α -hidroksi)asetil-4-sübstitüetiyosemikarbazid (2a-k) kazanılmıştır. [5-(sübstitüe-amino)-1,3,4-tiyadiazol-2-il](difenil)metanol türevi (3a-b) bileşikler, 2a ve 2c' nin derişik sülfürik asit ile siklizasyonu sonucu elde edilmiştir. 3-[hidroksi(difenil)metil]-4-(nonsübstitüe/sübstitüe)-2,4-dihidro-5H-1,2,4-triazol-5-tiyon türevi (4a-c) bileşikler ise 2c, 2d ve 2g'nin 2N NaOH ile reaksiyonundan kazanılmıştır. Bileşiklerin yapıları elemental analiz, HPLC, UV, IR, ¹H-NMR, ¹³C-NMR, HSQC ve MS verileri ile doğrulanmıştır. Bileşik 2a, 2c-k, 3b ve 4b HEK293 hücre hattı kullanılarak MTT yöntemiyle sitotoksik etkinlikleri araştırmak üzere seçilmiştir. Özellikle 1-(α,α -difenil- α -hidroksi)asetil-4-sikloheksilmetiltiyosemikarbazid (2e) bileşiğinde 10 mg/ml konsantrasyonda % 50.23 sitotoksik aktivite saptanmıştır.

ANAHTAR KELİMELER: tiyosemikarbazid, tiyadiazol, 1,2,4-triazol-5-tiyon, sitotoksik aktivite

phenyl]-2,4-dihidro-5H-1,2,4-triazole-5-thione (4b), which is derivative of 2d have not showed any cytotoxic activity at the dose of 5.0 µg/mL. As statistically significant results, the cytotoxic activity of the three heterocyclic compounds that were used in the synthesis, increases depending on the dose ($p < 0.05$), which means they showed a dose-related effect at these concentrations.

CONCLUSIONS

A series of 1,4-disubstituted-thiosemicarbazides, 2,5-disubstituted-1,3,4-thiadiazoles and 1,2,4-triazole-5-thiones were syn-

thesized and screened for their cytotoxic activities against HEK293 cell line. The cytotoxicity screening indicated that among the tested compounds 1-(α,α -diphenyl- α -hydroxy) acetyl-4-cyclohexylmethylthiosemicarbazide (2e) exhibited cytotoxic activity.

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