

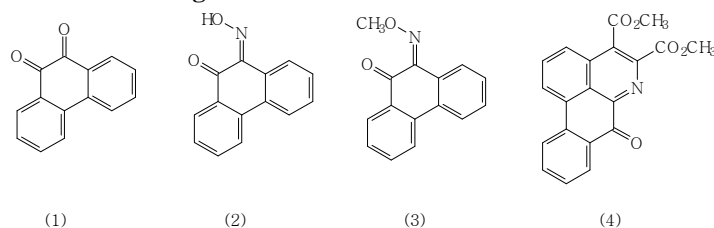
EVALUATION OF ANTIPROLIFERATIVE , MUTAGENIC AND ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITIES *IN VITRO* OF AN APORFINIC ALKALOID AND ITS INTERMEDIATES OF SYNTHESIS

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Purpose of study: The aporfinic alkaloids are a subtype of isoquinolínic alkaloids widely distributed in plants of Annonaceae family, among others [1], with many pharmacologic activities described, including antiproliferative activity [2]. The aim of this work was assess *in vitro* the antiproliferative, mutagenic and antioxidant activities of the aporfinic 7-oxo-7H-dibenzo-quinolina-4,5- dicarboxilato de dimetila (**4**) and its three synthetic precursors (**1-3**) (Figure 1) [3]. Methods and Results: The antiproliferative activity was assessed in tumor [U251 (glioma), UACC-62 (melanoma), MCF7 (breast), NCI/ADR-Res (ovarian, multidrug resistant), 786-0 (kidney), NCI-H460 (lung, NSC), PC-3 (prostate) and HT-29 (colon)] and no tumor human [HaCat (immortalized keratinocytes)] cell lines exposed for 48 h to **1-4** (0.25 - 250 µg/mL) and expressed as the concentration necessary to promote total growth inhibition (TGI). Considering mean TGI values against tumor human cell lines, compounds **1** (mean TGI < 0.71 µg/mL) and **2** (mean TGI < 0.53 µg/mL) showed the more promising antiproliferative activity followed by compound **3** (mean TGI = 3.96 µg/mL); showing that the precursors (**1-3**) of the alkaloid (**4**) were more active than the alkaloid (**4**) (Table 1). The antiproliferative effect after 4 h-exposure on the CHO-K1 cell line (hamster's ovary immortalized cells) pointed that the higher non cytostatic concentration to be used in the micronucleus induction assay (mutagenic activity) was 0.25 µg/mL. In comparison to untreated cells [negative (cells in the culture RPMI 1640)], the compounds **1** to **4** did not induce an increase on micronucleus (MN) frequency (0,82 ± 0,10 to 1,22 ± 0,22%) as it was observed for the positive group MMS (methylmethane sulfonate, 25 µg/mL, MN = 6,46 ± 4,56%). The antioxidant activity was assessed by the ability to scavenge DPPH radicals in EtOH solution. The alkaloid **4** showed the higher ability to scavenge free radicals (EC₅₀ = 1,6 ± 0,3 µg/mL), followed by **3** and **2**, while **1** showed inactive in the test conditions. Conclusions: Based on the results, compounds **1** to **3** showed a promising antiproliferative activity while **4** presented the best ability to scavenge free radicals. Moreover, compounds **1-4** did not show mutagenic effect.

Figure 1: Chemical structure of **1-4**.



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References

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