

Abstract

New *N*-Benzenesulfonylguanidine Derivatives and Their Selective Growth Inhibition of Human Breast Cancer Cell Line MCF-7 and Colon Carcinoma HCT-116 [†]

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Abstract: Our previous research proved that benzenesulfonylguanidine derivatives display significant cytotoxic activity against human cancer cells. Here, we describe new 1-(2-alkylthio-4-chloro-5-methylbenzenesulfonyl)guanidines with cytotoxic activity against HCT-116 and MCF-7 cells. The planned derivatives were obtained by a two-step synthesis. The starting substrates were 1-(2-alkylthio-4-chloro-5-methyl)benzenesulfonyl-3-aminoguanidines **1–4**, which were transformed into 1-(2-alkylthio-4-chloro-5-methylbenzenesulfonyl)-3-[(2-chloroacetyl)amino]guanidines **5–8** by a reaction with chloroacetyl chloride. In the next step, the derivatives **5–8** were reacted with potassium thiocyanate, yielding 1-(2-alkylthio-4-chloro-5-methylbenzenesulfonyl)-3-(2-imino-4-oxothiazolidine-3-yl)guanidines **9–12**. The synthesized derivatives **5–12** were evaluated in vitro by MTT assays for their activity against three human cancer cell lines: colon cancer HCT-116, breast cancer MCF-7, and cervical cancer HeLa. The activity against non-cancerous human epidermal keratinocyte line HaCaT was also examined. The data indicate that compounds **5–8** inhibit the growth of cancer cells more strongly than derivatives **9–12**. The selective cytotoxic effect against HCT-116 cells was found for benzenesulfonylguanidine **6** containing a 2-(trifluoromethyl)benzylthio group at position two of the benzenesulfonyl scaffold. The IC₅₀ value was 13 μM, while IC₅₀ for HaCaT cells, it was 48 μM. Good selectivity was also observed for compound **7**, with a 2-chloromethylbenzylthio substituent, against HCT-116 and MCF-7 cells (IC₅₀ = 12 and 19 μM, respectively, for HCT-116 and MCF-7 cells, IC₅₀ = 47 μM for HaCaT cells). Among compounds **9–12**, only compound **9** showed moderate but selective cytotoxicity against MCF-7 cells, with IC₅₀ = 18 μM compared with IC₅₀ = 54 μM for HaCaT cells.

Keywords: sulfonamides; benzenesulfonylguanidines; cytotoxic activity; anticancer



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