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# SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF MIXED LIGAND COMPLEX OF CIMETIDINE AND ALLYLTHIOUREA WITH Cu (Ii) ION

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**Abstract**: Mixed-ligand complexes of cimetidine (Cim) and a selected thiourea derivative (Allylthiourea) with Cu(II) hydrated salt were prepered. The complex was characterised using infrared, UV/Visible (electronic spectra), melting point, solubility and conductivity. The IR data showed that the compounds formed by the metal (II) ion (Cu) coordinated through v(C=N) of imidazole, v(C-N), v(C=S), v(M-N) and v(M-S) stretching of the ligand. The complex decomposed at high temperatures. The complex was soluble in ethanol and DMSO. The anti-ulcer (anti- histamine) activity of cimetidine and its mixed ligand metal(II) complexes showed that complex of Cu(cim)(thio)Cl<sub>2</sub> have higher effect than that of cimetidine on the histamine induced contraction on the guinea pig ileum.

Keywords: Allylthioure; Cimetidine, Copper II, Ligand.

#### INTRODUCTION

The field of knowledge concerned with the application of inorganic chemistry to therapy or diagnosis of disease is medicinal inorganic chemistry. The introduction of metal ions or metal ion binding components into a biological system for the treatment of diseases is bioinorganic chemistry (Saddam *et al.*, 2018). *In vitro* refers to biological studies that are carried out in test tube (i.e., in a glass vessel) rather than in a human or animal. *In vitro* studies allow scientists to isolate specific cells, bacteria and viruses and study them without the distractions of having to look at a whole organism. However, as compared to *in vivo* studies, *in vitro* studies are substantially faster, and can be done with fewer ethical and safety concerns (Sumia *et al.*, 2018). In context to this, the present study is thus to perform the evaluation of in vitro antiulcer potency of the mixed-ligand complexes of Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) ions with cimetidine and selected thiourea derivatives by assessing its H<sub>2</sub> receptor antagonist activity.

Mixed-ligand (or ternary) complexes are compounds made of a central metal ion and two or more different ligand molecules (Osunlaja, 2008). Cimetidine is a potent histamine receptor antagonist which inhibits excessive acid secretion caused by histamine, and is used for treatment of "peptic ulcer disease", they are also called H<sub>2</sub> blockers (Kanumfre *et al.*, 2010).

Thiourea, is an organo-sulphur compound with the formula SC(NH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (Alkan *et al.*, 2011). Derivatives of thiourea are classified into categories on the basis of number of substituents attached to thiourea moiety. 1,3-diphenylthiourea or N,N-diphenylthiourea, is a 1, 3-disubstituted thiourea, which occurs if the hydrogen atom of NH<sub>2</sub> group is replaced by phenyl group and another hydrogen atom of the other NH<sub>2</sub> group is replaced by another phenyl group (Azeem *et al.*, 2016). Methylthiourea or 1-methylthiourea is a mono substituted thiourea, which occurs if one hydrogen atom of NH<sub>2</sub> group is replaced by a methyl group. Allylthiourea is also a mono substituted thiourea derivative in which one hydrogen atom of the NH<sub>2</sub> group is replaced by CH=CHCH<sub>2</sub> group. Thiourea having a considerably wide range of applications, is a functional organic compound, it is a versatile reagent in inorganic synthesis. Complexes of thioureas are used as precursors and antibacterial agents (Azeem *et al.*, 2016). It is also a very common industrial material used in dyes, photographic film, elastomers, plastics and textiles (Musa, 2000).

Peptic ulcer disease (PUD) are sores that develop in the lining of the stomach, lower oesophagus or small intestine. They are usually formed as a result of erosion of inner linning of stomach caused by acids or inflammation caused by bacteria (*Helicobacter-pylori*). PUDs are common health problems, and are of three types, which are; Peptic or stomach ulcer: ulcer that develop inside the stomach. Oesophageal ulcer; ulcer that develop inside the oesophagus. Duodenal ulcer; ulcer that develop in the upper section of small intestines called duodenum (Valencia, 2017). Most common symptoms of PUD is burning, abdominal pain that extends from the navel to the chest which can range from mild to severe. In some cases, the pain may wake a person up at night (Rao, 2014). Small ulcers may not produce any symptoms in the early phases. Other common signs of a PUD include change in appetite, nausea, bloody or dark stools, un-explained weight loss, indigestion, vomiting and chest pain (Najm, 2011).

The medication used to decrease acid is usually either a proton pump inhibitor (PPI) or a  $H_2$  blocker with four weeks of treatment initially recommended (Najm, 2011).

The presence of more than one type of ligand in a complex increases chances of variation in properties expected for the complex. Synthesis and characterisation of mixed-ligand is gaining attention day-by-day. The increased interest in this research area has motivated many researchers to get involved in this field (Valencia, 2017). One of the main goals of the present day inorganic coordination chemists and pharmaceutical investigation is the discovery and development of better drugs to fight diseases and this has led to numerous studies on drug-metal complexes (Dnyaneshwar *et al.*, 2014).

Mixed-ligand (or ternary) complexes are compounds made up of a central metal ion and two or more different ligands molecules, Such metal ions are essentially d-block transition metals, especially the first row elements, whose characteristic feature enables them to form complexes with a variety of neutral molecules; such as dienes, CO, H<sub>2</sub>O, isocyanides, amines, substituted

phosphine, arsine, Schiff base etc. Atoms such as N, O and S which are of prime importance in biological systems, molecules which act as the ligand, possess lone pairs of electrons through which they covalently coordinate to the central metal ion/ions (Osunlaja, 2008).

Mixed-ligand complexes are characterized by their extreme stability. Mixed-ligand complexes formation are the most general and probable form of existence of elements in solution. Studies of mixed-ligand complex formation makes it possible to estimate the characteristics of the intermediate and final forms of the complexes, and therefore to comprehend the mechanism and kinetics of analytical reaction. Certain peculiarities of elements, which are most pronounced in mixed-ligand complexes, as well as the physical phenomena accompanying the process of mixed-ligand complex formation, open new prospects for the development of selective and sensitive method for the determination, separation and concentration of elements. They have been used to reveal wide range of biological activities, including anti-bacteria, anti-cancer, anti-fungal and anti-inflammatory, anti-viral, and antipyretic properties (Alimarin and Shlenskaya, 1969).

Mixed-ligand metal complexes were found to be particularly useful because of their potential to bind DNA via a multitude of intrinsic chemical, electro chemical and photochemical reactivities (Al-Obaidi, 2012). Mixed-ligand complexes are used as important intermediates in many reactions in analytical chemistry such as analytical methods based on complex formation-separations involving liquid-liquid extraction, titrimetric and gravimetric analysis (Rajkumar and Natarajan, 2016). Stabilities of mixed-ligand are of great importance in the biological systems as many metabolic and toxicological functions depends on this stability (Sunil *et al.*, 2009).

Ulcer disease or peptic ulcer disease (PUD) is the disease that develops in the form of sores in the lining of the stomach, oesophagus or small intestine. The most common symptom of this disease is abdominal pain that occurs from stomach region to chest part. If the ulcer is left untreated then it may result in other adverse health conditions such as haemorrhage, perforation, or obstruction in 20-25% of patients. Among these complications, upper gastrointestinal (UGI) bleeding is the most frequently encountered, accounting for about 70% of cases (Huang and Lee, 2014). The peptic ulcer usually occurs as a result of imbalance of acid secretion and mucosal defences that resist the acid digestion, accounting to the developments in the medical treatment of (PUD), some times surgical intervention is confined to the treatment of the complicated disease (Joshita, 2016).

Generally, when the ulcerative condition is left untreated then it may result in further complications like, internal bleeding: Which can occur as slow blood that leads to anaemia or as severe blood loss that may require hospitalization or blood transfusion. Severe blood loss may cause black or bloody vomit or black or bloody stool. Infection: Peptic ulcer can form a hole through perforating the wall of the stomach or small intestine, causing serious infection of the abdominal cavity. Obstruction: Peptic ulcer can lead to swelling, inflammation or scarring that may block passage of food through the digestive tract. A blockage can/may cause vomitting and lose of weight (Valencia, 2017).

#### **Materials and methods**

All reagents used were of analytical grade (AR) and were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, through Ibra Hadad limited, Lagos, Nigeria without further purification. The metal salt was used as chlorides (CuCl<sub>2</sub>.2H<sub>2</sub>O). Cimetidine (anti-ulcer drug) and Allylthiourea (Thio) were used as ligands. Solvents that were used during the synthesis and subsequent analysis are: ethanol, methanol, acetone, ethyl acetate, chloroform, hexane, benzene, DMSO, and distilled water, including other reagents such as glucose, MgCl<sub>2</sub>, NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, CaCl<sub>2</sub>, KCl and NaCl.

#### Synthesis of the Complexes

The complex was prepared following a reported procedure (Adediji *et al.*, 2009 and Waziri, 2014). The metal salt: CuCl<sub>2</sub>.2H<sub>2</sub>O (0.008 mmol), was dissolved in 10 ml distilled water in a round bottom flask. Cimetidine (Cim) (0.008 mmol, 2.02g), was dissolved in 20ml of ethanol, thio (0.008 mmol. 1.83g) was also dissolved in 10ml of ethanol then they were mixed together. The solution of the metal salt was added to the dissolved ligands, in 1:1:1 mole ratio. Methanolic ammonia solution 10% was used to maintain the pH (two to three drops). The solution was refluxed for 3 hours at 35 °C. The resulting solution was kept for about one week. The precipitate formed was then filtered and washed with ethanol to remove unreacted ligand and metal salts (Adediji, *et al.*, 2009; Ibrahim, 2014).

#### **Melting Point Determination**

Melting point of all the complexes and their ligands were determined using Gallenkamp melting point apparatus at the Research Laboratory in the Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry, University of Maiduguri, Borno state, Nigeria.

#### Solubility

The solubility of the complexes and their ligands were determined at room temperature in some polar and non-polar solvents.

#### Conductivity

Molar conductivity of the complexes and the ligands were measured using DDS-307 conductivity meter, at room temperature (10<sup>-3</sup> Scm<sup>2</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>) at the Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry, University of Maiduguri, Borno state, Nigeria.

#### Infrared Spectra

The infrared (IR) spectra were recorded as KBr disc on SHIMADZU FTIR-8400S TRANSFORM INFRARED SPECTROPHOTOMETER at National Research Institute for Chemical Technology (NARICT) Zaria, Kaduna State, Nigeria.

#### **Electronic spectra**

Electronic spectra of all the ligands and their complexes were measured in ethanol at

(10<sup>-3</sup>M) concentration in the wavelength range of 200-700 nm at National Research Institute for chemical technology (NARICT) Zaria, Kaduna State, Nigeria.

#### In vitro Anti-ulcer (anti-Histamine) Investigation

Animal and Drugs: A healthy guinea pig was obtained from animal house of Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Maiduguri. The Guinea pig was killed through humane killing at which the ileum was removed for experimental purpose. Promethazine were purchased at Zaima Pharmacy, Maiduguri, Borno State. The ileum was prepared and experiment were carried out following a reported procedure (Timothy *et al.*, 2015; Jeannot *et al.*, 2016). **Guinea Pig Ileum:** A piece of guinea pig ileum, 10-20cm long, about 15 cm proximal to the ileocecal junction, was removed from the abdominal chamber. The proximal ileum was washed and placed in tyrode solution and the mesenteric residuor 5 min after each administration of either the standard drug or test drugs. The isolated ileum was contracted with 0.1ml, 0.2ml, 0.4ml and 0.8ml (final concentration in the bath) of histamine (5µg/ml) for 2min for the viability test. The organ was rinsed three times and allowed to rest and return to its initial tension. After washing, the tissue was pretreated with 0.1ml cimetidine (10µg/ml) and 0.4ml histamine (5µg/ml), 0.1ml promethazine (10mg/ml) and 0.4ml histamine (5µg/ml) followed by 0.1ml test drug (each synthesized complex A-I) (10µg/ml) and 0.4ml histamine. The effects of the drugs were recorded on a kymograph by means of an isotonic frontal writing lever (Timothy *et al.*, 2015; Jeannot *et al.*, 2016).

In case of competitive inhibition (the extract applied was epected to compete about the occupation of  $H_2$  type histaminic receptors within the intestine smooth muscles of the guinea pig isolated ileum). In case of non-competitive inhibition, the extract  $EC_{50}$  value is the parameter to be evaluated (extract concentration which inhibits up to 50% of the maximum contraction induced by the histamine without complex) (Timothy *et al.*, 2015).

#### Statistical Analysis

Data obtained for anti-ulcer study were expressed in mean ± SEM and subjected to inferential statistics (ANOVA followed by fisher) using SPSS version 20. P less than 0.05 was considererd significant.

#### RESULTS

#### 4.1. Physical properties of the Ligands and their Metal(II) Complexes

The physical properties of ligand and its synthesised metal complexes are presented in Table 1. **4.2 Solubility of the Ligand and its Metal (II) complexes** 

The solubility tests carried out on the ligands and metal complexes at room temperature showed that they are soluble or slightly soluble in most of the organic solvents used but dissolved more readily in DMSO as shown in Table 2.

#### Infrared spectra

The relevant infrared spectra bands of the ligand and their metal(II) complex was obtained in the 400 - 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> range and the results are presented in Table 3.

#### **Electronic spectra**

The result for UV/Visible absorption spectra in wavelength (nm) together with band assignments are presented in Table 4.4.

#### Effect of Histamine on the Guinea Pig Ileum

The agonistic effect of histamine at the concentrations of 20, 40, 80 and 160 ng/ml produced dose dependent contraction of the guinea pig ileum for 10mm (37%), 12mm (44%), 20mm (74%) and 27mm (100%) respectively (Table 4.5; Appendix 1). The extrapolated  $EC_{50}$  was found to be 50.1 ng/ml (Figure 4.5).

# Effect of Cimetidine and its Mixed Ligand Metal (II) Complexes on Histamine Induced Contraction

The antagonistic effect of cimetidine and its mixed ligand complex on the isolated tissue of guinea pig ileum is shown in Table 4.6 Cimetidine and promethazine were able to reduce contractions due to histamine by 60 and 25% respectively. However, when cimetidine and promethazine were

combined together, the effect of histamine was completely blocked. The complex of  $Cu(cim)(thio)Cl_2$  reduced the contraction induced by histamine up by 75%.

Table 1 Physical Properties of the Ligands and then Metal(h) complexes												
Compound	Molar mass of	Metal %	Colour	M.P (°C)	Yield	Conductivity						
	Ligand & complex	found			(%)	(Scm² mol ²)						
	(g/mol)	(cal)										
Cim	252.11		White	105		4						
Thio	116.19		White	72		4						
Cu(cim)(Thio)Cl <sub>2</sub> 502.98		13.6(12.6)	Light green	110	70.0	10						

#### Table 1 Physical Properties of the Ligands and their Metal(II) Complexes

#### Table 2 Solubility of the Ligands and their Metal (II) complexes

Compouns	Wate	er	Meth	nanol	Etha	anol	Acet	one	Ethyl	-	Chlo	roform	n- Ha	axane	Benz	zene	DM	SO
									ace	tate								
	Н	С	Н	С	Н	С	Н	С	Н	С	Н	С	Н	С	Н	С	Н	С
Cim	S	SS	S	SS	S	S	S	SS	is	is	is	is	S	SS	SS	SS	S	S
Thio	SS	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	SS	S	S
Cu(cim)(T hio)Cl₂	S	SS	SS	SS	S	SS	S	SS	SS	SS	is	is	SS	SS	S	SS	S	S

Cim

Key: C= cold, H= hot, IS= insoluble, SS=Slightly soluble, S=Soluble

#### Discussion

Table 4.1 shows some of the physical properties of the ligand and its metal (II) complex. The mixed-ligand complexes of cimetidine (cim) and a selected thiourea derivative (thio) was subsequently directly reacted with hydrated salt of Cu(II). The mixed ligand metal (II) complex decomposed at high temperatures, with a yield which ranges between 43.0 - 70.0 %.

The complex prepared is light green in colour. This indicates the typical properties of transition metal compounds. The molar conductance values measured in ethanol solution

 $(10^{-3}M)$  for the complexes were in the range "4-12" Scm<sup>2</sup>mol<sup>-1</sup>. This reveals that the complex was non-electrolytes (Osowole, 2008).

The relevant vibrational bands of the free ligands and the complexes were recorded in the region  $400 - 4000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (Raman *et al.*, 2001). Comparative studies of IR spectra of each ligand and its metal (II) complexes indicate that several peaks found in the ligands are shifted, either to higher (blue shift) or lower (red shift) frequencies respectively. To ascertain the bonding in the mixed ligand complex of cimetidine and a selected thiourea derivativ (allylthiourea) with metal(II) ion (Cu), a careful comparison of the infrared spectroscopy of the ligand and complex was done.

Cimetidine has several potential donor atoms and can donate to any of the metal center. The donor atoms are sulphur atom in the thiol group, nitrogen atom of imidazole ring and the nitrogen atom of the secondary amine (Adedibu *et al.*, 2011). The infrared of cimetidine, selected thiourea derivative and its complex as shown in Table 4.3 have been assigned mainly for those specific

Thio1

frequencies directly involved in complex formation. The vibrational frequency at 1597cm<sup>-1</sup> in the free cimetidine ligand which was assigned to v(C=N) stretching shifted to higher frequencies in the metal (II) complexes (1641-1651 cm<sup>-1</sup>) region, which suggests the coordination of metal (II) ion through nitrogen of the imidazole group of cimetidine ligand (Adedibu *et al.*, 2011; Daniela *et al.*, 2013; Hussaini, 2017; Habila *et al.*, 2018; Osunlaja *et al.*, 2019,). The principle behind the phenomena is due to donation of the unpaired electrons from one of the nitrogen to the metal (II) ion (Adedibu *et al.*, 2011).

The band observed in the free cim ligand at  $1388 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  which was assigned to v(C-N), shifted to higher frequency in the range of  $1402-1419 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for all the metal (II) complexes. This is an indication that there was a metal to nitrogen bonding on the N-H group of cimetidine in all the metal (II) complex (Adedibu, *et al.*, 2011; Daniela *et al.*, 2013; Jacquline *et al.*, 2015; Habila *et al.*, 2018; Osunlaja *et al.*, 2019). The frequencies of the free thioureas ( thio at 1433 cm<sup>-1</sup>) attributed to v(C-N), was compared to that of the metal(II) complex. It was observed that all the frequencies of the metal complex are in lower frequency range, which is an indication that there is a bond between the metal and the nitrogen of N-H group of the thio metal (II) complexes. (Eltayeeb, 2000; Santha and Riswana, 2012; Rayees 2013; Bushan, 2013).

In the cimetidine, the frequency at 756 cm<sup>-1</sup> was observed to have found a negative shift for all the frequency of the metal(II) complexes, indicating no bond between the metal to sulphur of cimetidine ligand (Eltayeeb, 2000; Netnapa, 2010; Santha and Rizwana, 2012; Bushan, 2013; Rayees 2013). The frequency of the free thio ligand, for thio at 1433 cm<sup>-1</sup> which was assigned to v(C=S) band, the metal to nitrogen v(M-N) stretching vibrational frequency band were indicated by appearance of new bands observed around 511-630cm<sup>-1</sup> region. Metal to sulphur v(M-S) stretching coordination frequency appeared within the range 420-499cm<sup>-1</sup> (Santha and Rizwana 2012; Ratha Krishnan *et al.*, 2014; Lawal, 2017;Osunlaja *et al.*, 2019; Habila 2020).

## Proposed structure of Complex;

Electronic spectra of the ligands Cim (cimetidine), thio (allylthiourea), have bands that fall within the range 40832 – 25075 cm<sup>-1</sup>. In the metal (II) complexes, some of the bands shifted to higher or lower wave lengths due to coordination (Aderoju and Sharifah, 2015).

## 5.1.3.3 Cu(II) Complexes.

The electronic spectra of Cu(cim)(thio)Cl<sub>2</sub> show an absorption band at 14587 cm<sup>-1</sup> which is attributed to  ${}^{2}E_{g} \rightarrow {}^{2}T_{2g}$  also corresponding to octahedral geometry (Adedibu *et al.*, 2011, Daniela *et al.*, 2013, Eltayeeb, 2000, Netnapa, 2010, Habila *et al.*, 2018, Husaini, 2017).

#### Anti- ulcer Activity of Cimetidine and Its Mixed-Ligand Metal (II) Complexes

The dose dependent contractile effect of histamine on the guinea pig ileum at varying concentrations observed in the present study agrees with several literature reports in which similar observations were made (Maria-jose *et al.*, 1986; Margaret and Vane, 1963; Arul *et al.*, 2004; Saba and Tomori, 2007). The ability of histamine to stimulate  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  receptors found on the smooth muscles of the guinea pig ileum may be responsible for the observed contractions. The extrapolated EC<sub>50</sub> which was found to be 50.1 ng/ml was lower than those reported by Barka and Hough (1983) and Luiz *et al* (2015), this signifies that the histamine used in the present study

was more potent than those earlier reported (Barka and Hough, 1983; Luiz *et al.*, 2015). However, the  $EC_{50}$  of the present study was found to be higher than 1.2 ng/ml as previously reported by Winbery and Barker (1986). The antagonistic effect of cimetidine observed in this research work is in agreement with several literature reports in which similar observations were made (Brimblecombe *et al.*, 2010; Wallace and Sharkey, 2011, Thimoty *et al.*, 2019).

#### Conclusion

The mixed-ligand metal (II) complexes derived from Cimetidine and some selected thiourea derivatives and their *in vitro* antiulcer activity have been described. The result shows that the mixed ligand metal (II) complexes have colours which indicates that the metals used in complexation are of transition types. The result of the conductivity suggested that the synthesized compounds are nonelectrolytes which was proved by their low conductivity value. The melting points of the ligands and their mixed ligand complexes decomposed at high temperature. The IR data indicated that the ligands have coordinated to the central metal ion through the imidazole nitrogen, amines and sulphur atoms of the ligands. The electronic spectral bands observed are consistent with an octahedral geometry for all the complexes. The *in vitro* anti-ulcer result demonstrated that cimetidine and its complexes may antagonize contraction against Histamine on the tissue (isolated guinea pig ileum) and compare the anti-ulcer activity of cimetidine and its metal (II) complexes.

It is highlighted that cimetidine reduced Histamine induced contraction on the guinea pig ileum by 60 percent. In comparison, the complex  $Cu(cim)(thio)Cl_2$  with 75 percent is competing with cimetidine since it is a bit higher than the percent reduction response of cimetidine. This indicates that its anti-ulcer effect is more potent to that of cimetidine (60 percent).

#### **5.3 Recommendations**

Relative to the experiments and studies conducted, the following recommendations are drown; X-ray diffraction, Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) and Mass spectroscopy are recommended to confirm the structure of the complexes. Magnetic susceptibility is recommended in order to ascertain the geometry of the complexes. Micro analysis should be carried out in order to determine exact percentage of C, H, N and S. Anti-bacteria activity on Helicobacter pylori should be carried out on the mixed ligand complex. Further studies to determine the toxicity of the complexes should be done to know the level of safety of the complex.

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