

## Synthesis and *in vitro* antiproliferative activity of new adamantlylthiazolyl-1,3,4-oxadiazoles

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### Abstract

A new series of adamantyl-1,3-thiazole and 1,3,4-oxadiazole derivatives (**6a-l**), bearing various aryl groups has been synthesized from adamantan-1-nitrile in four steps. All the compounds were evaluated, *in vitro*, for antiproliferative activity against a large panel of human tumor-derived cell lines. Compounds **6e** exhibited activity against human splenic B-lymphoblastoid (WIL-2NS) and human acute B-lymphoblastic leukemia (CCRF-SB) cell lines with  $CC_{50} = 68$  and  $42 \mu\text{M}$ , respectively. Compound **6l** showed activity against CCRF-SB cell lines with  $CC_{50} = 51 \mu\text{M}$ . All the other compounds were found inactive.

**Key words:** Adamantan-1-nitrile, antitumor activity, anti-HIV activity, thiazole, oxadiazoles.

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### Introduction

Amantadine hydrochloride **1** (1-adamantanamine hydrochloride, Symmetrel®) was the first adamantane derivative introduced in medicine as effective therapy<sup>1-3</sup> against Asian A influenza virus. Among various substituents a growing interest in adamantyl derivatives is gaining prominence because of well known drugs like Rimantadine, Memantine, Adapalene, Adatanserin and others in clinical trials.<sup>4,5</sup> The pronounced central nervous stimulant and cardiovascular effects of amantadine<sup>6</sup> necessitated the search for newer more potent and less toxic agents for the control of pandemic influenza viruses. *N*-1-adamantyl-4-aminophthalimide **2** was endowed with anti-HIV-1 and -HIV-2 activities in CEM cell cultures.<sup>6</sup> Potent anti-HIV-1 activity was recently observed for a series of ( $\pm$ )-2-(1-adamantyl-3-alkyl/aryl)thiazolidin-4-ones where these compounds behaved as

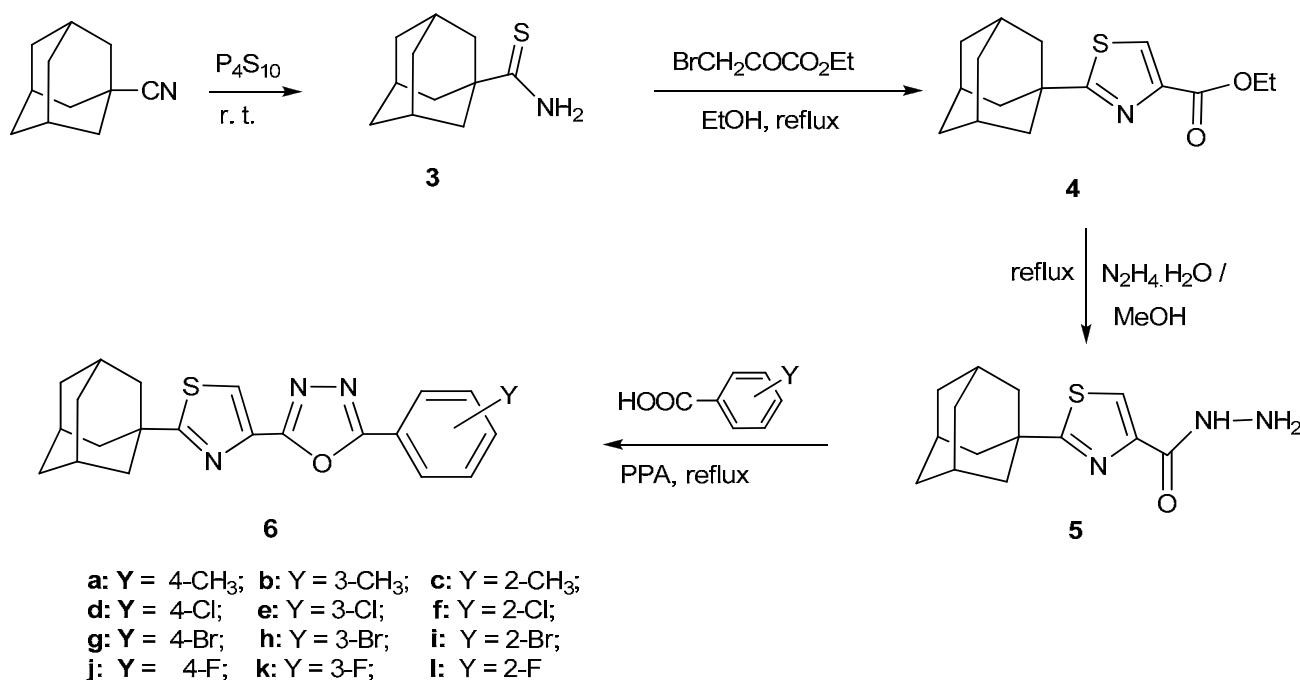


typical non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors.<sup>7,8</sup> Burstein *et al.*<sup>9</sup> developed adamantane derivatives, in which the adamantane moiety is chemically linked to a water soluble polyanionic matrix. These derivatives proved to be good inhibitors of replication in early stages of HIV-1. In addition, the activity of some adamantane derivatives has recently improved their use in clinical therapeutic efficacy of interferon/ribavirin combination against hepatitis C.<sup>10</sup> Some other adamantyl derivatives have been used as anti-inflammatory,<sup>11-14</sup> antimicrobial,<sup>15-17</sup> antimalarial<sup>18</sup> and antidepressant<sup>19</sup> agents as well as inhibitors of  $11\beta$ -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase type 1 ( $11\beta$ -HSD1).<sup>20</sup>

We have recently reported the synthesis and biological activities of various azoles.<sup>21-23</sup> In the present study, we selected three pharmacophores *i.e.* 1,3-thiazole, 1,3,4-oxadiazole and adamantyl precursors, to build up potent molecules possessing these three backbones, aiming to investigate their anticancer and antiviral activities.

## Results and Discussion

Adamantan-1-nitrile was selected as starting material for the synthesis of target compounds. The nitrile was converted into thioamide **3** (52%), using  $\text{P}_4\text{S}_{10}$  followed by its treatment with ethyl bromopyruvate to afford **4** (80%). Hydrazinolysis of **4** gave the carbohydrazide-1,3-thiazole **5** in 75% yield. Heating **5** with substituted benzoic acids in the presence of polyphosphoric acid (PPA) furnished 1,3,4-oxadiazole derivatives **6a-l** in 61-66% yield. The synthetic reactions are summarized in scheme 1.



**Scheme 1.** Synthesis of 2-(2-adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-aryl-1,3,4-oxadiazoles.

The synthesis of **3** was confirmed in the IR and NMR spectra. In the IR spectrum, the typical sharp absorptions at  $\nu_{\max}$  3424 and 3323 cm<sup>-1</sup> characteristic of the primary NH<sub>2</sub> group were observed. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum exhibited two singlets at  $\delta$  7.95 and 7.10 attributed to the NH<sub>2</sub> protons. In the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum, the downfield signal at  $\delta$  218.9 was assigned to the thiocarbonyl carbon. Additional support for the formation of **3** was obtained by appearance of the molecular ion peak in the mass spectrum at *m/z* 195. The structures of compounds **4** and **5** were also established using IR and NMR spectroscopy and the molecular mass confirmed by MS. The IR spectra of **4** and **5** exhibited absorptions corresponding to the carbonyl groups at  $\nu_{\max}$  1732 and 1663 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. In the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra, the signals at  $\delta$  161.7 and 162.2 were attributed to the carbonyl carbon atoms in compound **4** and **5**, respectively. In the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **5**, a broad singlet observed at  $\delta$  8.48 was assigned to the NH<sub>2</sub> group. Additional support for formation of **4** and **5** were obtained by appearance of the molecular ion peaks in the mass spectra at *m/z* 291 and 277, respectively.

The structures of **6a-l** were confirmed by the IR, NMR and mass spectra. The IR spectra were characterized by the C-O absorptions in the range  $\nu_{\max}$  1262-1102 cm<sup>-1</sup>, an indicative for the 1,3,4-oxadiazole ring formation. In the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra, four aromatic protons were appeared in the range of  $\delta$  7.33-8.33 ppm. The singlets in the range  $\delta$  7.88-8.12 were assigned to H-5 of the thiazole moiety. In the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra, the resonances in the region  $\delta$  ~161.0 and  $\delta$  ~163.0 were assigned to C-2 and C-5 of the oxadiazole ring, respectively. The carbons of the adamantane moiety were located at the region  $\delta$  28.5-43.1 ppm. Compound **6d** was selected for further NMR study. From the gradient<sup>24</sup> selected HMBC spectrum of **6d**, H-5 of the thiazole ring at  $\delta_H$  8.09 showed a <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C,H</sub>

couplings with C-2 of the thiazole ring at  $\delta_c$  183.8 and C-2 of the oxadiazole ring at 160.9 ppm. Furthermore, a  $^2J_{C,H}$  coupling of the same proton with C-4 of the thiazole ring at  $\delta_c$  139.2 ppm was also observed.

### ***In vitro* antiproliferative activity**

Compounds **6a-l** were tested, *in vitro*, against a large panel of human cell lines derived from hematological [CD4<sup>+</sup> human T-cells containing an integrated HTLV-1 genome (MT-4); CD4<sup>+</sup> human acute T-lymphoblastic leukemia (CCRF-CEM); human splenic B-lymphoblastoid cells (WIL-2NS); human acute B-lymphoblastic leukemia (CCRF-SB) and solid skin melanoma (SK-28); breast adenocarcinoma (MCF-7); lung squamous carcinoma (SK-MES-1); hepatocellular carcinoma (HepG-2); prostate carcinoma (DU-145)] or normal tissues [lung fibroblasts (MRC-5)]. For comparative purposes, we evaluated the cytotoxic activities of the compounds relative to Doxorubicin.

All compounds were inactive except **6e** which showed activity against human splenic B-lymphoblastoid cells (WIL-2NS) and human acute B-lymphoblastic leukemia (CCRF-SB) cell lines with  $CC_{50} = 68$  and 42  $\mu\text{M}$ , respectively. Compound **6l** exhibited activity against CCRF-SB cell lines with  $CC_{50} = 51 \mu\text{M}$ .

## **Experimental Section**

**General Procedures.** Melting points are uncorrected and were measured on a Gallenkamp melting point apparatus (MP-D). The elemental analysis was performed on Leco CHNS-932 Elemental Analyzer, Leco Corporation (USA). N MR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 300 MHz spectrometer with TMS as an internal standard and on the 75 MHz ( $^{13}\text{C}$ ) (scale in  $\delta$ ). The multiplicities are expressed as s = singlet, bs = broad singlet, d = doublet, dd = doublet of doublets, dt = doublet of triplets, t = triplet and m = multiplet. Mass spectra were recorded on Agilent technologies 6890N gas chromatograph and an inert mass selective detector 5973 mass spectrometer. The  $R_f$ -values were determined employing pre-coated silica gel aluminium plates, Kiesgel 60 F<sub>254</sub> from Merck (Germany), using *n*-hexane: ethyl acetate (7:3) as an eluent unless otherwise mentioned. Column chromatography was carried out using silica gel 60 (0.063-0.200 mm) purchased form Merck. The IR spectra were recorded on FTS 3000 MX, Bio-Rad Merlin (Excalibur Model) spectrophotometer.

**2-Adamantanethioamide (3).** P<sub>4</sub>S<sub>10</sub> (5.33 g, 12.00 mmol) was stirred at room temperature in EtOH (25 mL) for 2 h. Adamantane-1-nitrile (1.0 g, 6.20 mmol) was added to the above solution and the reaction mixture heated under reflux for 12 h. After completion of the reaction, the solution was concentrated *in vacuo*, diluted with water and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* and the yellow liquid was refrigerated. The resulting white crystals were filtered, dried and recrystallized from aq. EtOH to

give **3** (0.63 g, 52 %); mp 159-161 °C; R<sub>f</sub>. 0.54. IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3424, 3323, 2907, 2848, 1656, 1449, 1384, 1181. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.79 (m, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>-4, CH<sub>2</sub>-6, CH<sub>2</sub>-10), 2.18 (m, 9H, CH<sub>2</sub>-2, CH-3, CH-5, CH-7, CH<sub>2</sub>-8, CH<sub>2</sub>-9), 7.10 (bs, 1H, N-H), 7.95 (1H, bs, N-H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 28.4, 36.2, 41.7, 45.6 (C<sub>adamant</sub>); 218.9 (C=S). EI-MS (m/z, %): 195 (M<sup>+</sup>, 80), 135 (100), 121 (5), 107 (15), 93 (27), 60 (16). Anal. calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NS: C, 67.64; H, 8.77; N, 7.17. Found: C, 67.54; H, 8.72; N, 7.38.

**Ethyl 2-adamantyl-1,3-thiazole-4-carboxylate (4).** A mixture of 2-adamantanethioamide (**3**) (0.29 g, 1.5 mmol) and ethyl bromopyruvate (0.29 g, 1.5 mmol) in EtOH (25 mL) were heated under reflux for 8 h. After cooling, the reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*, diluted with water and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 25 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford **3** as a yellow oil (0.35 g, 80 %), R<sub>f</sub>. 0.73. IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3117, 2906, 2850, 1732, 1605, 1497, 1477, 1451, 1368, 1093. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.40 (t, 3H, J = 7.2 Hz, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.79 (m, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>-4, CH<sub>2</sub>-6, CH<sub>2</sub>-10), 2.18 (m, 9H, CH<sub>2</sub>-2, CH-3, CH-5, CH-7, CH<sub>2</sub>-8, CH<sub>2</sub>-9), 4.41 (2H, q, J = 7.2 Hz, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 8.05 (1H, s, H-12). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 14.4 (OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>); 28.5, 36.4, 39.8, 41.7 (C<sub>adamant</sub>); 61.2 (OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>); 125.9 (C<sup>5</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>); 146.6 (C<sup>4</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>); 161.7 (C=O); 182.3 (C<sup>2</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>). EI-MS (m/z, %): 291 (M<sup>+</sup>, 90), 246 (100), 135 (45), 121 (3), 107 (9), 93 (15), 71, (50), 45 (10).

**2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazole-4-carbohydrazide (5).** Hydrazine hydrate 80% (5.2 mmol) was added slowly to a stirred solution of ethyl 2-adamantyl-1,3-thiazole-4-carboxylate (**4**) (0.38 g, 1.3 mmol) in MeOH (5 mL) and the reaction mixture heated under reflux for 4 h. After cooling, the mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*, followed by addition of cold water. The precipitated solid was filtered, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and recrystallized from aq. EtOH to give (**5**) (0.27 g, 75%); mp 179-181 °C; R<sub>f</sub> 0.73 (petroleum ether : acetone; 2:3). IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3424, 3323, 3184, 1663, 1541, 1491. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.79 (m, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>-4, CH<sub>2</sub>-6, CH<sub>2</sub>-10), 2.04 (m, 9H, CH<sub>2</sub>-2, CH-3, CH-5, CH-7, CH<sub>2</sub>-8, CH<sub>2</sub>-9), 4.08 (bs, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.99 (s, 1H, H-12), 8.48 (bs, 1H, N-H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 28.4, 36.4, 39.6, 43.1 (C<sub>adamant</sub>); 121.8 (C<sup>5</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>); 147.9 (C<sup>4</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>); 162.2 (C=O); 182.1 (C<sup>2</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>). EI-MS (m/z, %): 277 (M<sup>+</sup>, 95), 246 (100), 219 (10), 179 (5), 135 (47), 121 (3), 107 (9), 93 (15). Anal. calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>3</sub>SO: C, 60.64; H, 6.88; N, 15.11. Found: C, 60.35; H, 6.66; N, 15.03.

### General procedure for the synthesis of 2-(2-adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-aryl-1,3,4-oxadiazoles (6a-l)

A mixture of **5** (0.50 g, 1.8 mmol) and substituted benzoic acid (1.8 mmol) was heated at 100-120 °C in presence of excess polyphosphoric acid (PPA) for 4 h. After cooling, the mixture was poured into crushed ice, and neutralized with 5% aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution. The precipitated solid was filtered and purified using column chromatography (petroleum ether : ethyl acetate; 9 : 1).

**2-(2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-(4-methylphenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (6a).** From 4-methylbenzoic acid (0.25 g). Yield: 0.45 g (66%); mp 187-189 °C, R<sub>f</sub>. 0.57. IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1600, 1497, 1261. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.84 (m, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>-4, CH<sub>2</sub>-6, CH<sub>2</sub>-10); 2.17 (m, 9H, CH<sub>2</sub>-2, CH-3, CH-5, CH-7, CH<sub>2</sub>-8, CH<sub>2</sub>-9); 2.46 (s, 3H, Ph-CH<sub>3</sub>); 7.35 (d, 2H, J<sub>2,3</sub> = J<sub>5,6</sub> = 9.0 Hz, Ar-H-3, Ar-H-5); 8.07 (s, 1H, H<sup>5</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>); 8.08 (d, 2H, Ar-H-2, Ar-H-6). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 21.7 (Ph-CH<sub>3</sub>);

28.5, 36.4, 39.9, 43.1 ( $C_{\text{adaman.}}$ ); 120.7 ( $C^5_{\text{thiazole}}$ ); 121.1, 127.1, 129.7 ( $C_{\text{arom}}$ ); 139.5 ( $C^4_{\text{thiazole}}$ ); 142.3 ( $C^1_{\text{arom.}}$ ); 160.6 ( $C^2_{\text{oxadiazole}}$ ); 164.6 ( $C^5_{\text{oxadiazole}}$ ); 183.5 ( $C^2_{\text{thiazole}}$ ). EI-MS (m/z; %): 377 ( $M^+$ , 100), 246 (10), 160 (33), 135 (15), 121 (10), 119 (25), 107 (3), 93 (7), 91 (27), 79 (15), 65 (10). Anal. calcd. for  $C_{22}H_{23}N_3SO$ : C, 69.90; H, 6.14; N, 11.10; S, 8.49; Found: C, 69.95; H, 6.29; N, 10.81; S, 8.39.

**2-(2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-(3-methylphenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (6b).** From 3-methylbenzoic acid (0.25 g). Yield: 0.43 g (63%); mp 153-155 °C; R<sub>f</sub>: 0.55. IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1590, 1549, 1263. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.83 (m, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>-4, CH<sub>2</sub>-6, CH<sub>2</sub>-10); 2.17 (m, 9H, CH<sub>2</sub>-2, CH-3, CH-5, CH-7, CH<sub>2</sub>-8, CH<sub>2</sub>-9); 2.47 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); 7.37 (d, 1H,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, Ar-H-4); 7.43 (t, 1H,  $J_{5,6} = 7.5$  Hz, Ar-H-5); 7.98 (s, 1H, Ar-H-2); 8.02 (s, 1H, H<sup>5</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>); 8.08 (d, 1H, Ar-H-6). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  22.3 (Ph-CH<sub>3</sub>); 28.6, 36.5, 39.9, 43.1 ( $C_{\text{adaman.}}$ ); 120.8 ( $C^5_{\text{thiazole}}$ ); 123.6, 124.3, 127.7, 128.9, 132.6 ( $C_{\text{arom.}}$ ); 139.5 ( $C^4_{\text{thiazole}}$ ); 160.7 ( $C^2_{\text{oxadiazole}}$ ); 164.5 ( $C^5_{\text{oxadiazole}}$ ); 183.7 ( $C^2_{\text{thiazole}}$ ). EI-MS (m/z; %): 377 ( $M^+$ , 100), 246 (10), 160 (20), 135 (10), 119 (15), 121 (3), 107 (2), 93 (6), 91 (17), 79 (10), 65 (5).

**2-(2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-(2-methylphenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (6c).** From 2-methylbenzoic acid (0.25 g). Yield: 0.43 g (64%); mp 151-153 °C; R<sub>f</sub>: 0.61. IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1601, 1536, 1261. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.84 (m, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>-4, CH<sub>2</sub>-6, CH<sub>2</sub>-10); 2.17 (m, 9H, CH<sub>2</sub>-2, CH-3, CH-5, CH-7, CH<sub>2</sub>-8, CH<sub>2</sub>-9); 2.78 (s, 3H, Ph-CH<sub>3</sub>); 7.34-7.45 (m, 3H, Ar-H-3, Ar-4, Ar-H-5); 8.07 (m, 2H, Ar-H-6, H<sup>5</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  22.1 (Ph-CH<sub>3</sub>); 28.5, 36.4, 39.9, 43.1 ( $C_{\text{adaman.}}$ ); 120.7 ( $C^5_{\text{thiazole}}$ ); 122.9, 126.1, 129.2, 131.2 ( $C_{\text{arom.}}$ ); 138.6 ( $C^2_{\text{arom.}}$ ); 139.5 ( $C^4_{\text{thiazole}}$ ); 160.4 ( $C^2_{\text{oxadiazole}}$ ); 164.6 ( $C^5_{\text{oxadiazole}}$ ); 183.6 ( $C^2_{\text{thiazole}}$ ). EI-MS (m/z; %): 377 ( $M^+$ , 100), 246 (13), 160 (10), 135 (17), 121 (4), 119 (15), 107 (2), 93 (2), 91 (20), 65 (8).

**2-(2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (6d).** From 4-chlorobenzoic acid (0.16 g). Yield: 0.26 g (64%); mp 181-183 °C; R<sub>f</sub>: 0.47. IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1596, 1543, 1262, 1019. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.83 (m, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>-4, CH<sub>2</sub>-6, CH<sub>2</sub>-10); 2.16 (m, 9H, CH<sub>2</sub>-2, CH-3, CH-5, CH-7, CH<sub>2</sub>-8, CH<sub>2</sub>-9); 7.52 (d, 2H,  $J_{2,3} = J_{5,6} = 8.7$  Hz, Ar-H-2, Ar-H-6); 8.09 (s, 1H, H<sup>5</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>); 8.13 (d, 2H, Ar-H-3, Ar-H-5). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  28.5, 36.4, 39.9, 43.1 ( $C_{\text{adaman.}}$ ); 121.1 ( $C^5_{\text{thiazole}}$ ); 122.3, 128.4, 129.4 ( $C_{\text{arom.}}$ ); 134.9 ( $C^4_{\text{arom.}}$ ); 139.2 ( $C^4_{\text{thiazole}}$ ); 160.9 ( $C^2_{\text{oxadiazole}}$ ); 163.6 ( $C^5_{\text{oxadiazole}}$ ); 183.8 ( $C^2_{\text{thiazole}}$ ). EI-MS (m/z; %): 399 ( $M+2$ , 33), 397 ( $M^+$ , 100), 246 (12), 217 (4), 182 (5), 180 (14), 141 (5), 139 (16), 135 (15), 121 (1), 113 (4), 111(12), 107 (2), 93 (12), 79 (15).

**2-(2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-(3-chlorophenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (6e).** From 3-chlorobenzoic acid (0.16 g). Yield: 0.24 g (61%); mp 165-168 °C; R<sub>f</sub>: 0.52. IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1576, 1547, 1262, 1086. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.83 (m, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>-4, CH<sub>2</sub>-6, CH<sub>2</sub>-10); 2.16 (m, 9H, CH<sub>2</sub>-2, CH-3, CH-5, CH-7, CH<sub>2</sub>-8, CH<sub>2</sub>-9); 7.31-7.55 (m, 2H, Ar-H-4, Ar-H-5), 8.00-8.21 (m, 3H, Ar-H-2, Ar-H-6, H<sup>5</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  28.6, 36.2, 39.9, 43.0 ( $C_{\text{adaman.}}$ ); 121.3 ( $C^5_{\text{thiazole}}$ ); 125.3, 125.4, 127.1, 130.4, 131.8, 135 ( $C_{\text{arom.}}$ ); 139.1 ( $C^4_{\text{thiazole}}$ ); 160.5 ( $C^2_{\text{oxadiazole}}$ ); 163.2, ( $C^5_{\text{oxadiazole}}$ ); 183.8( $C^2_{\text{thiazole}}$ ). EI-MS (m/z; %): 399 ( $M+2$ , 33), 397 ( $M^+$ , 100), 246 (10), 217 (2), 182 (2), 180 (7), 141 (5), 139 (16), 135 (15), 121 (1), 113 (4), 111(13), 107 (2), 93 (14), 79 (18).

**2-(2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-(2-chlorophenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (6f).** From 2-chlorobenzoic acid (0.16 g). Yield: 0.24 g (62%); mp 148-150 °C; R<sub>f</sub>: 0.50. IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>):

1596, 1532, 1262, 1088.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.82 (m, 6H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}4$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}6$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}10$ ); 2.16 (m, 9H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}2$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}3$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}5$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}7$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}8$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}9$ ); 7.44 (dt, 1H,  $J_{4,5} = J_{3,4} = 7.7$  Hz,  $J_{4,6} = 1.5$  Hz, Ar-H-4); 7.50 (m, 1H, Ar-H-5); 7.58 (dd, 1H,  $J_{3,4} = 7.7$  Hz,  $J_{3,5} = 1.5$  Hz, Ar-H-3), 8.09 (dd, 1H,  $J_{5,6} = 7.5$  Hz,  $J_{4,6} = 1.8$  Hz, H-6), 8.09 (s, 1H,  $\text{H}^5$  thiazole).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  28.5, 36.4, 39.9, 43.1 ( $\text{C}_{\text{adaman.}}$ ); 121.3 ( $\text{C}^5$  thiazole); 123.2, 127.1, 131.1, 131.5, 132.4 ( $\text{C}_{\text{arom.}}$ ); 133.3 ( $\text{C}^1$   $\text{arom.}$ ); 139.3 ( $\text{C}^4$  thiazole); 161.2 ( $\text{C}^2$  oxadiazole); 162.7 ( $\text{C}^5$  oxadiazole); 183.8 ( $\text{C}^2$  thiazole). EI-MS (m/z; %): 399 ( $\text{M}+2$ , 33), 397 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 100), 246 (14), 182 (3), 180 (10), 141 (5), 139 (16), 135 (15), 121 (1), 113 (3), 111(10), 107 (2), 93 (15), 79 (18).

**2-(2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-(4-bromophenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (6g).** From 4-bromobenzoic acid (0.20 g). Yield: 0.27 g (61%); mp 188-190 °C;  $R_f$ : 0.53. IR ( $v_{\text{max}}$ , KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1593, 1474, 1102, 1075;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.83 (m, 6H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}4$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}6$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}10$ ); 2.15 (m, 9H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}2$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}3$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}5$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}7$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}8$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}9$ ); 7.67 (d, 2H,  $J_{2,3} = J_{5,6} = 8.6$  Hz, Ar-H-2, Ar-H-6); 8.04 (s, 1H,  $\text{H}^5$  thiazol); 8.04 (d, 2H, Ar-H-3, Ar-H-5).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  28.5, 36.3, 39.9, 43.0, ( $\text{C}_{\text{adaman.}}$ ); 121.1 ( $\text{C}^5$  thiazole); 122.7, 126.4, 128.5 ( $\text{C}_{\text{arom.}}$ ); 132.3 ( $\text{C}^4$   $\text{arom.}$ ); 139.2( $\text{C}^4$  thiazole); 160.9 ( $\text{C}^2$  oxadiazole); 163.6 ( $\text{C}^5$  oxadiazole); 183.7 ( $\text{C}^2$  thiazole). EI-MS (m/z; %): 443 ( $\text{M}+2$ , 100), 441 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 100), 362 (5), 246 (12), 217 (2), 185 (14), 183 (15), 157 (10), 155 (9), 135 (20), 121 (5), 107 (7), 93 (18), 79 (25).

**2-(2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-(3-bromophenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (6h).** From 3-bromobenzoic acid (0.20 g). Yield: 0.28 g (63%); mp 171-173 °C;  $R_f$ : 0.57; IR ( $v_{\text{max}}$ , KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1590, 1545, 1260, 1084;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.84 (m, 6H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}4$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}6$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}10$ ); 2.16 (m, 9H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}2$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}3$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}5$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}7$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}8$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}9$ ); 7.42 (t, 1H,  $J_{5,6} = 7.8$  Hz, Ar-H-5); 7.69 (m, 2H, Ar-H-2, Ar-H-4); 8.10 (m, 1H, Ar-H-6); 8.12 (s, 1H,  $\text{H}^5$  thiazole).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  28.5, 36.4, 39.9, 43.0 ( $\text{C}_{\text{adaman.}}$ ); 121.2 ( $\text{C}^5$  thiazole); 123.0, 125.7, 129.9, 130.5, 134.6 ( $\text{C}_{\text{arom.}}$ ); 139.1 ( $\text{C}^4$  thiazole); 161.0 ( $\text{C}^2$  oxadiazole); 163.0 ( $\text{C}^5$  oxadiazole); 183.8 ( $\text{C}^2$  thiazole). EI-MS (m/z; %): 443 ( $\text{M}+2$ , 100), 441 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 100), 362 (5), 246 (10), 217 (10), 185 (10), 183 (10), 157 (12), 155 (12), 135 (18), 121 (3), 107 (10), 93 (19), 79 (25).

**2-(2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-(2-bromophenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (6i).** From 2-bromobenzoic acid (0.20 g). Yield: 0.28 g (64%); mp 186-188 °C;  $R_f$ : 0.51. IR ( $v_{\text{max}}$ , KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1592, 1489, 1262, 1013.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.83 (m, 6H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}4$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}6$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}10$ ); 2.16 (m, 9H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}2$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}3$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}5$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}7$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}8$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}9$ ); 7.41 (m, 1H, Ar-H-4); 7.49 (m, 1H, Ar-H-5); 7.78 (m, 2H, Ar-H-3, Ar-H-6); 8.09 (s, 1H,  $\text{H}^5$  thiazole).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  28.5, 36.4, 39.9, 43.0 ( $\text{C}_{\text{adaman.}}$ ),, 121.2 ( $\text{C}^5$  thiazole); 121.8 ( $\text{C}^2$   $\text{arom.}$ ); 125.3, 127.5, 131.8, 132.5 ( $\text{C}_{\text{arom.}}$ ); 134.4 ( $\text{C}^1$   $\text{arom.}$ ); 139.2 ( $\text{C}^4$  thiazole); 161.2 ( $\text{C}^2$  oxadiazole); 163.6 ( $\text{C}^5$  oxadiazole); 183.8 ( $\text{C}^2$  thiazole). . EI-MS (m/z; %): 443 ( $\text{M}+2$ , 98), 441 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 100), 362 (10), 246 (20), 217 (10), 185 (15), 183 (15), 157 (10), 155 (10), 135 (25), 121 (3), 107 (10), 93 (19), 79 (22).

**2-(2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (6j).** From 4-fluorobenzoic acid (0.14 g). Yield: 0.24 g (63%); mp 213-215 °C;  $R_f$ : 0.47. IR ( $v_{\text{max}}$ , KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1606, 1497, 1262, 1222.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.83 (m, 6H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}4$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}6$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}10$ ); 2.16 (m, 9H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}2$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}3$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}5$ ,  $\text{CH}\text{-}7$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}8$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-}9$ ); 7.23 (t, 2H,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, Ar-H-3, Ar-H-5); 8.08 (s, 1H,  $\text{H}^5$  thiazol); 8.20 (dd, 2H,  $J_{2',3'} = 9.0$  Hz,  $J_{2',6'} = 5.4$  Hz, Ar-H-2, Ar-H-6).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  28.5,

36.4, 39.9, 43.0 (C<sub>adaman.</sub>); 116.3 (d,  $J_{C,F} = 22.5$  Hz, C<sup>3,5</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 120.1 (C<sup>5</sup><sub>thiazol.</sub>); 129.8 (d,  $J_{C,F} = 9.0$  Hz, C<sup>2,6</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 139.3 (C<sup>4</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>); 161.0 (C<sup>2</sup><sub>oxadiazole</sub>); 163.1 (C<sup>5</sup><sub>oxadiazole</sub>); 163.7 (d,  $J_{C,F} = 252.2$  Hz, C<sup>4</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 183.8 (C<sup>2</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>). EI-MS (m/z; %): 381 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 246 (11), 217 (2), 164 (15), 135 (10), 121 (4), 107 (4), 95 (7), 93 (6), 79 (8).

**2-(2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-(3-fluorophenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (6k).** From 3-fluorobenzoic acid (0.14 g). Yield: 0.25 g (66%); mp 158-160 °C; R<sub>f</sub>: 0.52. IR ( $\nu_{max}$ , KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1587, 1551, 1259, 1225; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.82 (m, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>-4, CH<sub>2</sub>-6, CH<sub>2</sub>-10); 2.16 (m, 9H, CH<sub>2</sub>-2, CH-3, CH-5, CH-7, CH<sub>2</sub>-8, CH<sub>2</sub>-9); 7.26 (dt, 1H,  $J_{4,5} = 8.1$  Hz,  $J_{4,6} = 2.4$  Hz,  $J_{4,F} = 8.3$  Hz, Ar-H-4), 7.52 (m, 2H, Ar-H-2, Ar-H-5), 7.88 (s, 1H, H<sup>5</sup><sub>thiazol</sub>); 7.99 (m, 1H, Ar-H-6). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  28.5, 36.4, 39.9, 43.0 (C<sub>adaman.</sub>); 113.6 (C<sup>5</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>); 114.1 (d,  $J_{C2,F} = 24.0$  Hz, C<sup>2</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 115.3 (d,  $J_{C4,F} = 21.0$  Hz, C<sup>4</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 122.9 (d,  $J_{C6,F} = 3.0$  Hz, C<sup>6</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 125.6 (d,  $J_{C5,F} = 8.2$  Hz, C<sup>5</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 130.8 (d,  $J_{C1,F} = 7.1$  Hz, C<sup>1</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 161.1 (C<sup>2</sup><sub>oxadiazole</sub>); 162.8 (d,  $J_{C2,F} = 246.0$  Hz, C<sup>3</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 163.3 (C<sup>5</sup><sub>oxadiazole</sub>); 183.8 (C<sup>2</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>). EI-MS (m/z; %): 381 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 246 (11), 217 (2), 164 (15), 135 (10), 121 (4), 107 (4), 95 (7), 93 (6), 79 (8).

**2-(2-Adamantyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-5-(2-fluorophenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole (6l).** From 2-fluorobenzoic acid (0.14 g). Yield: 0.25 g (65%); mp 175-177 °C; R<sub>f</sub>: 0.53. IR ( $\nu_{max}$ , KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1596, 1467, 1256, 1228. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.82 (m, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>-4, CH<sub>2</sub>-6, CH<sub>2</sub>-10); 2.15 (m, 9H, CH<sub>2</sub>-2, CH-3, CH-5, CH-7, CH<sub>2</sub>-8, CH<sub>2</sub>-9); 7.24-7.34 (m, 2H, Ar-H-3, Ar-H-5); 7.59 (m, 1H, Ar-H-4), 8.09 (s, 1H, H<sup>5</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>); 8.17 (t, 1H,  $J_{H6,F} = 8.4$  Hz, Ar-H-6). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  28.5, 36.4, 39.9, 43.0, (C<sub>adaman.</sub>); 112.3 (C<sup>5</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>); 116.9 (d,  $J_{C3,F} = 21.0$  Hz, C<sup>3</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 124.6 (d,  $J_{C1,F} = 21.2$  Hz, C<sup>1</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 130.0 (d,  $J_{C5,F} = 3.7.0$  Hz, C<sup>5</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 133.5 (d,  $J_{C6,F} = 9.0$  Hz, C<sup>6</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 139.2 (d,  $J_{C4,F} = 9.2$  Hz, C<sup>4</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 160.0 (d,  $J_{C2,F} = 257.2$  Hz, C<sup>2</sup><sub>arom.</sub>); 161.0 (C<sup>2</sup><sub>oxadiazole</sub>); 161.1 (C<sup>5</sup><sub>oxadiazole</sub>); 183.7 (C<sup>2</sup><sub>thiazole</sub>). EI-MS (m/z; %): 381 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 246 (11), 217 (2), 164 (15), 135 (10), 121 (4), 107 (4), 95 (7), 93 (6), 79 (8).

### Cytotoxicity assays

Cell cultures were seeded at  $1 \times 10^5$  cells/mL in 96 multiwell plates in specific media supplemented (5%) atmosphere supplemented with 10% FCS and antibiotics then incubated at and antibiotics and incubated at 37 °C in a humidified CO<sub>2</sub> in the absence or presence of serial dilutions of test compounds. Cell viability was determined after 96 hrs at 37 °C by the 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyl-tetrazolium bromide (MTT) method.<sup>25</sup>

Compounds were dissolved in DMSO at 100 mM and then diluted into culture medium.

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