

# Synthesis and Antimicrobial Evaluation of Novel 4-phenylPyrrole-2-Carboxamides

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## ABSTRACT

Ten novel 4-phenylpyrrole-2-carboxamide derivatives (5a-j) were synthesized and evaluated for their in vitro antibacterial activity. Among the tested compounds, the most effective were 5c and 5e with MIC value in the range of 6.05-6.25 µg/mL against Gram-negative bacterial strains. Further, the synthesized compounds have been screened for their in vitro antifungal activity. In the present study, novel 1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamides as antibacterial agents have been disclosed.

**Keywords:** Pyrrole-2-Carboxamide; Antibacterial and Antifungal Activity

## Introduction

Drug resistance infection always creates a threat to healthcare. It becomes more acute due to the rapid development of resistance against conventional chemotherapy [1]. The necessity for more potent antimicrobial agents has become vital because of emerged resistance to the currently used antibiotics. In the last few decades, rapid scientific progress has been made in the treatment of infectious diseases. However, they still remain a serious and challenging health problem due to several factors which have led to the re-emergence of these diseases. Antibiotic resistance, population increase, international travel, migration, increase in the number of immune-suppressed patients, and climate change are some of the factors that play a significant role in the battle against infectious diseases [2-6]. In order to keep microorganisms resistance under control, careful use of existing antimicrobial drugs and the design of novel drugs with different modes of action e.g. linezolid [7-9] are required [10-13]. Pyrrole and its derivatives are ever present in nature. Pyrrole subunit has diverse applications in therapeutically active compounds including fungicides, antibiotics, anti-inflammatory drugs [14], antitumor agents [15], cholesterol reducing drugs [16] and many more. They are known to inhibit

reverse transcriptase [Human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1)] and cellular DNA polymerases protein kinases. Moreover, they are also a component of polymers [17], indigoid dyes and of larger aromatic rings [18]. In catalytic reactions, pyrroles are well utilized as catalyst for polymerization process [19], preservative [20], solvent for resin [21], corrosion inhibitor [22], terpenes and in metallurgical process [23].

One approach is to improve the activity of natural anti-microbial substances by synthesis of analog compounds of naturally produced organohalogens [24]. Our curiosity in halogenated pyrrole derivatives led to synthesis and antimicrobial evaluation of some analogues of pyoluteorin [25]. In continuation to this we found that bromopyrrole alkaloids; a family of marine alkaloids represents a fascinating example of the large variety of secondary metabolites formed by marine sponges. These compounds are involved in the sponge's defense mechanism against fishes. Also, several pharmacologically important bromopyrrole congeners have been previously described as having antihistaminic, antiserotonergic and antineoplastic activity. Furthermore, these natural products also possess antibacterial, antifungal and antibiofilm activity

[26-28]. Most of these compounds are defined by the signature of bromopyrrole carboxamide with oroidin as their prototype alkaloid reported for its antibiofilm activity [26]. Structure-activity relationship performed on synthetic library of oroidin derivatives indicated that N-methylation of the pyrrole ring led to increased antibiofilm activity against medically relevant Gram-negative c-proteobacterium *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, as indicated by the most active member of the library, Dihydrosventrin (DHS) [29].

The structural and therapeutic diversity coupled with the commercial viability of different types of small molecules has fascinated organic and medicinal chemists. The pyrrole-2-carboxamide moiety is a pharmacophore found as a core skeleton

in molecules with diverse biological activities such as insecticidal [30], antibiofilm [31], antibacterial [32], ATPase inhibitors of DNA gyrase [33], DNA binding, topoisomerase I inhibition [34], inducible nitric oxide synthase (nNOS and iNOS) inhibitors [35], antifungal [36], anticancer [37], JAK2 inhibitors [38], CB2 receptor antagonists [39], antitumor [40]. Representative biologically potent substituted pyrrole carboxamides are shown below (Figure 1). In continuation of research on pyrrole-2-carboxamide and to know the effect of lipophilic phenyl group on antibacterial potency of pyrrole-2-carboxamide [41] we report here the synthesis and antibacterial activity of novel 4-phenylpyrrole-2-carboxamide derived from corresponding carboxylic acid and different amines.

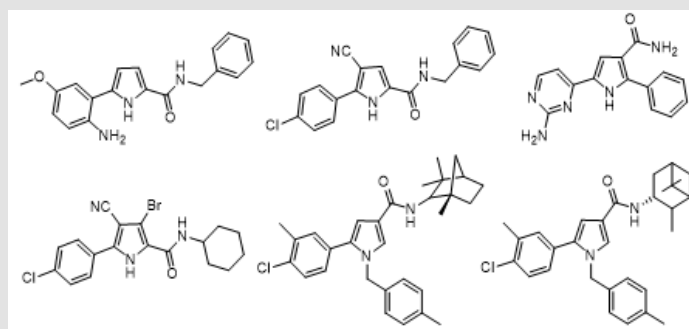


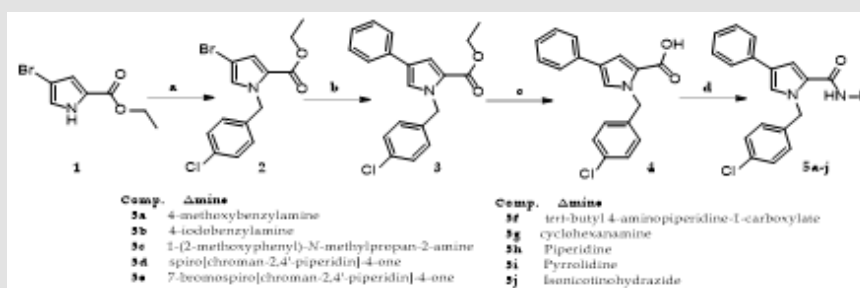
Figure 1: Reported pyrrole carboxamide based bioactive compounds.

## Results and Discussion

### Chemistry

The 4-phenylpyrrole-2-carboxamides (5a-j) have been synthesized following procedures sketched in the Scheme 1. The precursor ethyl 4-bromo-1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (2) has been prepared by N-benylation of commercially available ethyl 4-bromo-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (1) with 4-chlorobenzylchloride and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in DMF. Ethyl 4-bromo-1-(4-

chlorobenzyl)-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (2) on Suzuki coupling with phenylboronic acid in presence of Pd(dppf)Cl<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>Cl and KOAc in 1,4-Dioxane afford ethyl 1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (3) in low yield. Ester 3 on hydrolysis with LiOH in THF, H<sub>2</sub>O and EtOH system furnishes 1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylic acid (4). Carboxylic acid (4) on coupling with appropriate substituted or non substituted aryl and cycloaliphatic amines using EDC·HCl, HOBt and DIPEA/TEA in DMF affords the target carboxamides (5a-j) in good to excellent yields.



Scheme 1: Synthetic route of the 4-phenylpyrrole-2-carboxamides (5a-j).

Reagents and conditions: (a) 4-Chlorobenzyl Chloride, Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, DMF, 60°C, 16 h; (b) Phenylboronic acid, Pd(dppf)Cl<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, H<sub>2</sub>O, 80-90°C, 24 h; (c) LiOH, THF, H<sub>2</sub>O, EtOH, Stirr, rt, 3.5 h; (d) Amine, EDC·HCl, HOBt, DIPEA, DMF, 0°C to rt, 18-30 h.

The formation of compound 5a was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and mass spectral analysis. In the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 5a, N-H proton of amide group observed at δ 9.3 ppm. The methylene groups attached to nitrogen of pyrrole ring and amide amide functionality showed singlet at δ 4.2 and 4.8 ppm respectively. In addition to this, the signal observed at δ 3.7 ppm indicates the presence of the -OMe group on the benzene ring. In the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound 5a, the signal at δ 162.4 ppm is due to amide carbonyl carbon. The signals at δ 42.8 and 54.7 ppm indicate the presence of methylene carbon attached to the nitrogen of the pyrrole ring and amide nitrogen atom. The presence of [M]<sup>+</sup> signal at m/z 430 in EIMS also confirms formation of compound 5a. Furthermore, formation of 4-phenylpyrrole-2-carboxamides (5b-j) was also confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and mass spectral analysis.

### Biological Evaluation

**Antibacterial Activity:** The in vitro antimicrobial susceptibility of prepared compounds 5a-j against strains of pathogenic Gram-negative bacteria *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (ATCC 27736), *Escherichia coli* (ATCC 9637), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (ATCC BAA427) and *Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC 25923) were evaluated by broth microdilution technique described by Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI), 2012 (Formerly NCCLS) [42]. The minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC, µg/mL) was defined as the lowest concentration of an antimicrobial agent that will inhibit the visible growth of microbe. Gentamicin and Ciprofloxacin were used as standard drugs for comparison of antibacterial activity. Dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) was used as a solvent or negative control. To clarify any effect of DMSO on the antibacterial activity, separate studies were carried out with solutions alone of DMSO and these studies showed no activity against any microbial strains. The MIC of tested compounds was determined using the two fold serial dilution technique by assaying at 51.2, 25.6, 12.8, 6.4, 3.2, 1.6, 0.8, 0.4, 0.2, 0.1 and 0.05 µg/mL concentrations along with standards at the same concentrations.

### Antifungal Activity

The in vitro Antifungal Susceptibility (AFST) of prepared compounds 5a-j against strains of pathogenic fungi, for example, *Candida albicans*, *Cryptococcus neoformans*, *Aspergillus fumigatus* (all strains are patient's isolates) and *Candida parapsilosis* (ATCC 22019) were evaluated by broth microdilution technique described by Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI), 2012 [43,44]. Fluconazole and Oxiconazole were used as standard drugs for comparison of antifungal activity. DMSO was used as a solvent or negative control. To clarify any effect of DMSO on the antifungal activity, separate studies were carried out with solutions alone of DMSO and these studies showed no activity against any microbial strains. The MIC it is the lowest concentration of an antimicrobial agent that will inhibit the visible growth of microbe of tested compounds was determined using the two fold serial dilution technique by assaying at 64, 32, 16, 8, 4, 2, 1 and 0.5 µg/mL concentrations along with standards at the same concentrations. The results of antibacterial activity of the tested compounds (5a-j) are shown in Table 1. The antibacterial activities were tested using reference standards Gentamicin and Ciprofloxacin. The biological evaluation clearly exhibits that two of the synthesized compounds show considerable antibacterial activity against clinical isolates of *E.coli*, *P.aeruginosa* or *K. pneumoniae* with MIC values in the range of 6.05-6.25 µg/mL. Compound 5c showed considerable antibacterial activity against *E.coli*, and *P.aeruginosa* with MIC values of 6.05 µg/mL. Further, compound 5e also showed considerable antibacterial activity against *K. pneumoniae* with MIC values of 6.25 µg/mL. The results of antifungal activity of the tested compounds 5a-j are presented in Tables 1. The antifungal activities were tested using reference standards Fluconazole and Oxiconazole. Amongst series the only 5a and 5c was found to show moderate activity against the tested *C. neoformans* and *A. fumigatus* strains. Remaining derivatives does not show any significant antifungal activity against the tested strains.

**Table 1:** In vitro antimicrobial activity of compounds (5a-j) against pathogenic Gram-Negative bacteria & fungi.

Compd.	MIC (µg/mL)				MIC (µg/mL)			
	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	<i>P aeruginosa</i>	<i>Salmonella Typhi</i>	<i>C. albicans</i>	<i>C. neoformans</i>	<i>A. fumigatus</i>	<i>C. parapsilosis</i>
5a	50	25.5	12.05	>50	>50	25	50	>50
5b	12.5	25	12.25	>50	>50	>50	>50	>50
5c	50	6.05	6.05	>50	>50	25	25	>50
5d	25.5	12.25	12.25	>50	>50	>50	>50	>50
5e	6.25	12.5	50	>50	>50	>50	>50	>50
5f	25.5	12.5	50	>50	>50	>50	>50	>50
5g	12.5	25.5	12.2	50	>50	>50	>50	>50
5h	50	12.2	25.5	12.05	>50	>50	>50	>50
5i	25.5	12.05	12.5	>50	>50	>50	>50	>50

5j	>50	>50	>50	>50	>50	>50	>50	>50
Gentamicin (Fluconazole)	0.25	1.25	3.025	1.65	-0.5	-1	-2	-1
Ciprofloxacin (Oxiconazole)	0.5	1.05	1.25	3.01	-0.03	-1.4	-2	-0.01

## Experimental

### Material and Methods

Reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification unless otherwise specified. Melting points were determined in open capillary tubes and are uncorrected. Formation of the compounds was checked by TLC on silica gel-G plates of 0.5 mm thickness and spots were located by iodine and UV light. All compounds were purified by recrystallization/ silica gel (100-200 mesh) gravity column with suitable organic solvents. Mass spectra were recorded on Shimadzu GC-MS-QP-2010 model using direct inlet probe technique. <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR was determined in CDCl<sub>3</sub> and DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> solution on a Bruker Ac 200 or 400 MHz spectrometer. Satisfactory micro-analysis was obtained on Flash EA1112 CHN analyzer. Melting points were determined using digital melting point apparatus and were uncorrected.

### Experimental Procedures

General procedure for the synthesis of Ethyl 4-bromo-1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (2)

4-Chloro benzyl chloride (2.10 mL, 13.05 mmol) was added to a suspension of cesium carbonate (4.25 g, 13.05 mmol) and ethyl 4-bromo-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (1) (2.84 g, 13.05 mmol) in DMF (35 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 60°C for 6 h (monitored by TLC). The reaction mixture was poured into water (25 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3x20 mL). The organic layer was washed with saturated aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (1x20 mL), water (3x10 mL), brine (1x10 mL), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuum. The product was isolated by silica gel chromatography using Hexane: EtOAc (90:10) to afford 3.78 g (85%) of compound (2) as white solid. The product was confirmed by spectral analysis.

Ethyl 4-bromo-1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (2): White crystal, yield 85 %, mp 232-234°C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 7.5 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.3 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.1 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.0 (s, 1H, ArH), 4.8 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar), 3.7 (q, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.4 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 14.9, 54.2, 59.6, 96.7, 107.2, 120.8, 128.0, 130.4, 134.5, 135.1, 160.3; EIMS: m/z 341 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrClNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 49.08%, H, 3.82%, N, 4.09%; Found: C, 49.01%, H, 3.75%, N, 4.01%

General procedure for the synthesis of Ethyl 1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (3)

Potassium acetate (0.914 g, 13.98 mmol) in water (3 mL) was added to a solution of 2 (1.91 g, 05.59 mmol) and phenylboronic acid (0.82 g, 06.70 mmol) in 1,4-Dioxane (25 mL). The reaction mixture was degassed using argon and Pd(dppf)Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.228 g, 0.279 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 15 h at 120°C. After completion of the reaction, monitored by TLC, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Water (10 mL) was added to the residue and extracted with EtOAc (3x10 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine (1x10 mL), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and solvent was evaporated in vacuum. The product was purified by silica gel chromatography using Hexane: EtOAc (5:95) to afford 0.549 g (29 %) of compound (3) as white off solid. The product was confirmed by spectral analysis.

Ethyl 1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (3): White crystal, yield 29 %, mp 192-194 °C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 7.5 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.3-7.4 (m, 7H, ArH), 7.0 (m, 3H, ArH), 4.9 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar), 3.7 (q, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.3 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 13.8, 54.9, 60.2, 111.8, 114.7, 121.8, 126.6, 1128.1, 129.0, 129.7, 130.8, 134.9, 136.2, 159.8; EIMS: m/z 339 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>ClNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 70.69%, H, 5.34%, N, 4.12%; Found: C, 70.60%, H, 5.28%, N, 4.04%.

General procedure for the synthesis of 1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylic acid (4)

Ethyl 1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (3) (0.421 g, 01.24 mmol) was dissolved in THF (15 mL) and to that lithium hydroxide (0.044 g, 1.86 mmol), dissolved in 4 mL of water, was added drop wise. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. The pH of the reaction mixture was lowered to 2-3 with 1.0 M, HCl. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3x30 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and then concentrated in vacuum. The product was isolated by silica gel chromatography using Hexane: EtOAc (50:50) to obtain 0.367 g (95%) of compound (4) as white solid. The product was confirmed by spectral analysis.

1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylic acid (4): White crystal, yield 95 %, mp 223-225°C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 7.7 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.4-7.6 (m, 7H, ArH), 7.3 (m, 3H, ArH), 4.9 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 55.2, 112.1, 114.7, 123.3, 126.9, 128.4, 129.0, 130.4, 131.5, 135.2, 136.4, 162.4; EIMS: m/z 311 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 69.35%, H, 4.53%, N, 4.49%; Found: C, 69.27%, H, 4.48%, N, 4.41%.



General procedure for the synthesis of 1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamides (5a-j)

Compound 4 (0.1 g, 0.320 mmol) was dissolved in DMF/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL) and cooled to 0°C to rt. To that EDC·HCl (0.080 g, 0.42 mmol), HOBt (0.056 g, 0.42 mmol) and DIPEA/TEA (0.1 mL, 0.50 mmol) were added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 0.5 h and then appropriate amine (0.352 mmol) was added and it was stirred for 20-30 h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (20 mL) and washed with saturated aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (1x20 mL), water (1x20mL) and brine (1x20 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuum. The product was isolated by flash chromatography on silica gel using Hexane: EtOAc (95:5) to afford desired targets (5a-j) (70-94 %) as white to off white solids. In case of DMF, after completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured in to water and the obtained solids were filtered and washed thoroughly with water to afford the desired products. The products were confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR & EIMS.

1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-N-(4-methoxybenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (5a): Off white crystal, yield 82 %, mp 253-255°C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δH 9.3 (t, 1H, NH), 7.3-7.5 (m, 9H, ArH), 7.0-7.1 (m, 4H, ArH), 6.8-6.9 (m, 2H, ArH), 4.8 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar), 4.2 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-NH), 3.7 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 42.8, 54.7, 55.6, 113.6, 115.9, 122.2, 126.4, 127.1, 128.2, 129.4, 130.4, 130.8, 131.4, 135.2, 136.7, 157.2, 162.4; EIMS: m/z 430 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>23</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 72.47%, H, 5.38%, N, 6.50%; Found: C, 72.38%, H, 5.26%, N, 6.40%.

1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-N-(4-iodobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (5b): Off white crystal, yield 85 %, mp 272-274°C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δH 9.35 (t, 1H, NH), 7.65 (d, 2H, ArH), 7.44-7.55 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.39 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.26 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.21 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.12 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.00 (d, 2H, ArH), 5.52 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar), 4.16 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-NH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 43.2, 54.8, 91.7, 115.6, 121.3, 125.2, 126.8, 128.4, 129.3, 130.6, 131.4, 134.9, 136.7, 138.0, 139.4, 160.4; EIMS: m/z 526 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub>ClI<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O: C, 57.00%, H, 3.83%, N, 5.32%; Found: C, 56.91%, H, 3.74%, N, 5.23%.

1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-N-(1-(2-methoxyphenyl)propan-2-yl)-N-methyl-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (5c): Off white crystal, yield 85 %, mp 265-267°C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δH 7.48-7.57 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.40 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.32 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.24 (d, 2H, ArH), 7.13 (d, 2H, ArH), 6.80-7.10 (m, 4H, ArH), 5.56 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar), 4.10 (m, 1H, N-CH), 3.68 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.21 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>-N), 2.90 (d, 1H, CH), 2.60 (d, 1H, CH), 1.12 (d, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>-CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 17.6, 33.2, 35.5, 54.9, 56.3, 80.6, 111.9, 115.8, 121.0, 122.0, 126.2, 127.1, 128.3, 129.4, 130.2, 131.5, 135.7, 136.9, 158.2, 161.6; EIMS: m/z 472 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>29</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 73.64%, H, 6.18%, N, 5.92%; Found: C, 73.52%, H, 6.08%, N, 5.74%.

1'-(1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carbonyl)spiro[chromane-2,4'-piperidin]-4-one (5d): Off white crystal, yield 80 %, mp 284-286°C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δH 7.46-7.60 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.41 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.34 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.26 (d, 2H, ArH), 7.10 (d, 2H, ArH), 6.94-7.10 (m, 4H, ArH), 5.51 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar), 3.5-3.6 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.72 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>CO), 1.9-2.1 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 33.6, 37.4, 43.8, 54.3, 67.6, 113.8, 115.7, 119.5, 121.3, 125.9, 126.8, 127.6, 128.5, 130.2, 130.9, 132.8, 134.6, 135.7, 160.1, 164.6, 191.4; EIMS: m/z 510 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>27</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 72.86%, H, 5.33%, N, 5.48%; Found: C, 72.74%, H, 5.24%, N, 5.37%.

7-bromo-1'-(1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carbonyl)spiro[chromane-2,4'-piperidin]-4-one (5e): Off white crystal, yield 85 %, mp 291-293°C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δH 7.8 (d, 1H, ArH), 7.43-7.50 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.36 (d, 1H, ArH), 7.32 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.25 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.20 (s, 2H, ArH), 7.15 (d, 2H, ArH), 7.01 (d, 2H, ArH), 5.58 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar), 3.5-3.6 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.70 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>CO), 1.9-2.1 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 34.1, 38.2, 44.3, 55.4, 68.5, 115.4, 116.9, 119.8, 121.7, 122.6, 126.3, 127.2, 128.4, 129.1, 130.2, 131.0, 134.7, 135.6, 158.7, 164.8, 191.2; EIMS: m/z 588 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>26</sub>BrClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 63.12%, H, 4.44%, N, 4.75%; Found: C, 63.01%, H, 4.32%, N, 4.62%.

tert-butyl 4-(1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamido)piperidine-1-carboxylate (5f): Off white crystal, yield 79 %, mp 291-293 °C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δH 8.2 (s, 1H, NH), 7.40-7.52 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.34 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.27 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.19 (d, 2H, ArH), 7.10 (d, 2H, ArH), 5.58 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar), 3.7 (m, 1H, CH), 3.5-3.6 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.8-2.0 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.34 (s, 9H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 27.6, 28.4, 42.7, 46.3, 54.7, 78.4, 116.3, 121.2, 126.4, 127.8, 129.4, 131.0, 131.6, 134.9, 136.2, 159.2, 161.4; EIMS: m/z 493 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>32</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 68.07%, H, 6.53%, N, 8.51%; Found: C, 67.92%, H, 6.41%, N, 8.40%.

1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-N-cyclohexyl-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (5g): Off white crystal, yield 70 %, mp 210-212°C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δH 8.4 (b, 1H, NH), 7.38-7.50 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.31 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.24 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.17 (d, 2H, ArH), 7.07 (d, 2H, ArH), 5.53 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar), 3.6 (m, 1H, CH), 1.5-1.7 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.43 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.1-1.2 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 24.2, 25.4, 32.0, 50.6, 53.9, 115.7, 121.4, 125.8, 127.3, 129.1, 129.8, 130.4, 131.6, 135.2, 136.0, 160.6; EIMS: m/z 392 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>25</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O: C, 73.36%, H, 6.41%, N, 7.13%; Found: C, 73.24%, H, 6.30%, N, 7.04%.

(1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)(piperidin-1-yl) methanone (5h): Off white crystal, yield 79 %, mp 202-204°C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δH 7.41-7.56 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.36 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.29 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.23 (d, 2H, ArH), 7.11 (d, 2H, ArH), 5.51 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar), 3.74 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.7 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.6 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 23.8, 24.9, 46.7, 55.6, 115.8, 120.7, 125.4, 127.1, 128.2, 129.0, 130.3, 131.2, 134.9, 135.8, 164.7;

EIMS: m/z 378 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>23</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O: C, 72.91%, H, 6.12%, N, 7.39%; Found: C, 72.80%, H, 6.07%, N, 7.28%.

(1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)(pyrrolidin-1-yl) methanone (5i): Off white crystal, yield 74 %, mp 196-198°C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 7.46-7.59 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.32 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.27 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.21 (d, 2H, ArH), 7.09 (d, 2H, ArH), 5.49 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar), 3.5 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.9 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 25.4, 46.8, 55.7, 116.3, 122.1, 127.3, 128.1, 128.9, 129.0, 131.1, 131.6, 135.2, 136.3, 165.1; EIMS: m/z 364 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>21</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O: C, 72.91%, H, 6.12%, N, 7.39%; Found: C, 72.80%, H, 6.07%, N, 7.28%.

N'-(1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carbonyl)isonicotinohydrazide (5j): Off white crystal, yield 72 %, mp 236-238°C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 11.24 (b, 1H, NH), 10.72 (b, 1H, NH), 8.84 (d, 2H, ArH), 8.72 (d, 2H, ArH), 7.40-7.58 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.35 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.29 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.23 (d, 2H, ArH), 7.13 (d, 2H, ArH), 5.61 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ar); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 56.4, 116.3, 121.9, 125.8, 126.4, 128.3, 129.0, 131.2, 131.7, 135.8, 136.4, 140.2, 150.4, 161.6, 165.2; EIMS: m/z 430 [M]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. Calc. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>19</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 66.90%, H, 4.44%, N, 13.0%; Found: C, 66.78%, H, 4.32%, N, 12.89%.

## Conclusion

Ten novel 4-phenylpyrrole-2-carboxamide derivatives (5a-j) were prepared from corresponding carboxylic acid and different aromatic or aliphatic or cycloaliphatic amines by employing an efficient amide coupling protocol. The antibacterial and antifungal activity of these compounds (5a-j) was studied against pathogenic Gram-negative bacteria and fungi. The results exhibit that compounds 5c and 5e moderate antibacterial activity relative to standard drugs. The compound 5c displayed moderate antibacterial activity relative to standard against *Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* strains with MIC value of 6.05 µg/mL. None of these compounds show significant antifungal activity. These results note that presence of lipophilic phenyl group on pyrrole decreases antibacterial activity.

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