

## Evolution in Medicinal Chemistry of Prazolopyrimidine Derivatives as Anticancer Agents

Azhar Iqbal<sup>1</sup>, Asif Husain<sup>2</sup>, Mohammad Rashid<sup>3</sup>, Mohammad Taha Kazmi<sup>4</sup>, Aftab Ahmad<sup>5</sup>, Khursheed A. Ansari<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1,3,4</sup>Research Scholar <sup>2</sup>Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, School of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi 110062, India, <sup>5</sup>Associate Professor, Health Information Technology Department, Jeddah Community College, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah 21589, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. <sup>6</sup>Associate Professor, Department of Tashreehul Badan, School of Unani Medical Education and Research, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi 110062, India.

### How to cite this article:

Azhar Iqbal, Asif Husain, Mohammad Rashid et al. Evolution in Medicinal Chemistry of Prazolopyrimidine Derivatives as Anticancer Agents. J Pharmaceut Med Chem. 2019;5(1):27-39.

### Abstract

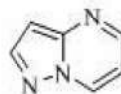
Pyrazolopyrimidines are the fused heterocyclic ring systems which structurally resemble with purines, and exhibit important biological actions. Pyrazolopyrimidines derivatives have great importance in the field of chemical synthesis, agriculture and pharmaceutical industries due to their wide range of applications. Over the past few decades, researchers have focused their research on the synthesis of novel pyrazolopyrimidine derivatives. The pyrazolopyrimidines heterocyclic ring is an integral part of various synthetic compounds with wide range of therapeutic and pharmacological potentials like anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, anticancer, antifungal, antiviral, anticonvulsant, anti-tubercular, etc. Many marketed drugs are pyrazolopyrimidine derivatives like antiviral drugs which include acyclovir, ganciclovir, didanosine, abacavir and adefovir. Due to the wide scope of pharmacological potentials of pyrazolopyrimidine

derivatives, research community has shown great interest to discover new pyrazolopyrimidines having potent bioactivities with no or lesser side effects. This review summarizes the recent developments on the synthetic approaches, mechanism of action and anticancer activity of pyrazolopyrimidines.

**Keywords:** Pyrazolopyrimidines, Anticancer

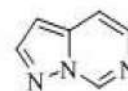
### Introduction

There are several systems of pyrazolopyrimidine; two (1,2) do not display tautomerism, four NH-tautomers (3-6) present in [3,4-d]-system, and CH-tautomers (7). The [4,3-d]-system possesses two uncharged(8,9) and three zwitterionic NH- (10) and CH-forms (11) [1].



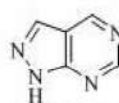
pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidine

1



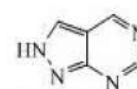
pyrazolo[1,5-c]pyrimidine

2



1H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine

3



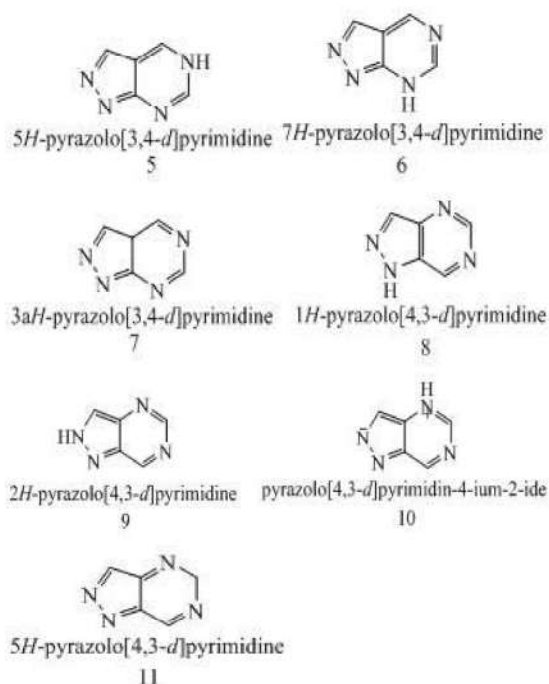
2H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine

4

**Corresponding Author: Asif Husain**, Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, School of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi 110062, India.

**Email:** drasifhusain@yahoo.com

**Received on** 25.05.2019, **Accepted on** 18.06.2019

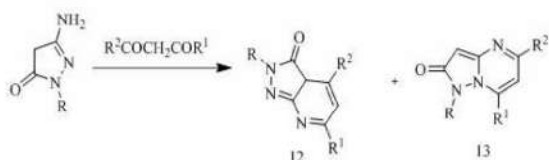


## Chemistry

### Preparation of pyrazolopyrimidines

A number of methods of synthesis of pyrazolopyrimidines are reported in the literature.

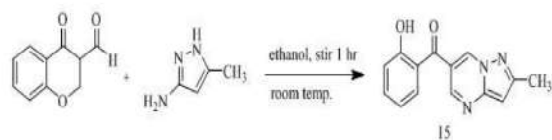
Cyclocondensation of 3-amino-2-pyrazolin-5-ones with P-diketones produces either pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyridines or pyrazolo [1,5-a] pyrimidines. In acid **13** is produced, whereas under alkaline conditions **12** is the major product [1].



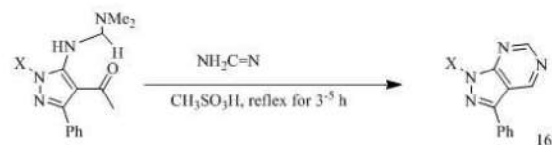
By reaction of the perchlorate with semi- and thiosemicarbazides, Pyrazolo [1,5-c] pyrimidine derivatives were obtained [1].



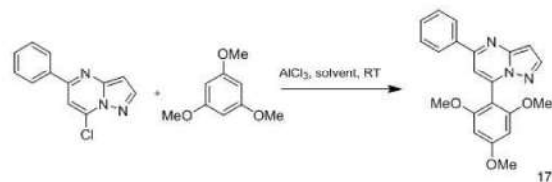
4-oxochromane-3-carbaldehyde stir in ethanol for 1 hour with aminopyrazole to produce (2-hydroxyphenyl)(2-methylpyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-6-yl) methanone (95% yield) [2].



Pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidine products **2aej** were obtained from the reaction of 1H-pyrazol-5-yl-N, N-dimethylformamides with cyanamide ( $\text{NH}_2\text{C}=\text{N}$ ). [3]

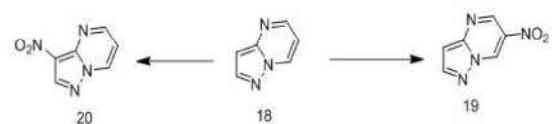


7-Chloro-5-phenylpyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidine (1.0 equiv), 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (1.0 equiv) in the presence of  $\text{AlCl}_3$  (1.2 equiv) in dichloroethane (5 ml) was stirred at room temperature to obtain 5-phenyl-7-(2,4,6-trimethoxy-phenyl)pyrazolo[1,5-a] pyrimidine [4].

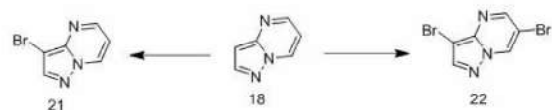


### Reactions with Electrophiles

Nitration of pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidine in the presence of nitric acid and sulphuric acid gives 3-nitropyrazolo [1,5-a]pyrimidine **19**, whereas in the presence of nitric acid in acetic anhydride gives the 6-nitro compound **20**. [5]

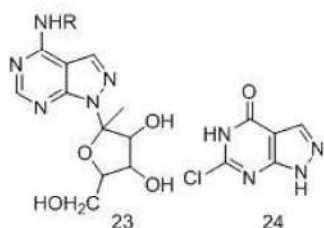


Bromination of pyrazolo [1,5-a]-pyrimidine gives either the 3-bromo derivative or the C-3, C-6 dibromo derivative. C-6 bromination didn't occur in any case [6].

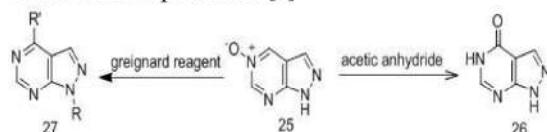


### Reactions with Nucleophiles

Allopurinol gives the nucleoside upon trimethylsilylation and ribosylation with tetra-0-acetylribofuranose, chlorination at C-4, and amination [7].

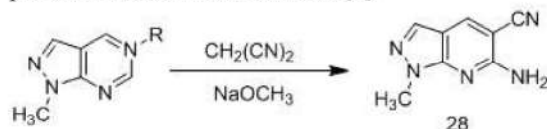


The compound **25** reacts with acetic anhydride to yield allopurinol **26**, and with Grignard reagents furnishes compound **27**. [8]



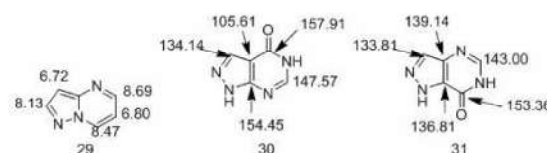
#### Rearrangements and Ring Cleavage

N-methyl ammonium salts converted into upon treatment with active methylene reagents in the presence of sodium methoxide [9].



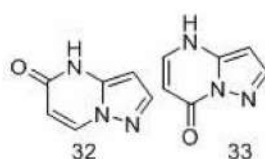
#### Spectral Properties

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR shifts of pyrazolo[1,5-a] pyrimidine are shown in **29**. [13] C-NMR data of pyrazolo-[3,4-d] pyrimidine-6-one and of pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-7-one are shown in **30** and **31**. [10-12]



IR and UV spectra of pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-5-one and the isomeric 7-one are shown in **32** and **33**. A difference of 20 cm<sup>-1</sup> is observed between the CO absorption in the two isomers.

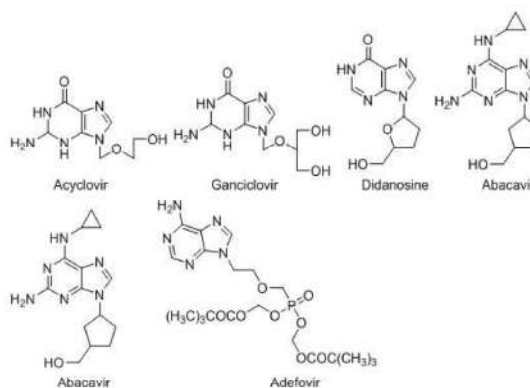
Several other pairs of isomeric pyrazolo[1,5-a] pyrimidines were prepared. Since differences in CO absorption are used to distinguish between the two isomers, structures that are assigned on these bases should be rechecked [14-16].



UV:  $\lambda_{\max}$  (MeOH), 230 nm    UV:  $\lambda_{\max}$  (MeOH), 211 nm;

IR: (KBr) 1738, 1672, 1578 cm<sup>-1</sup> IR: (KBr), 1682, 1624, 1583 cm<sup>-1</sup>

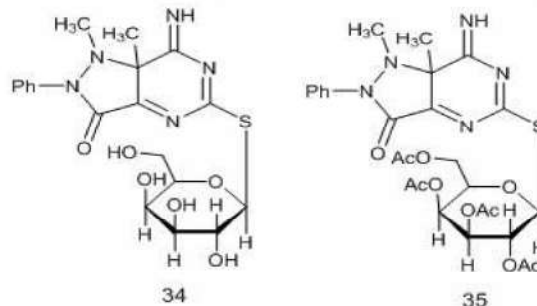
Several currently available drugs containing pyrazolopyrimidine nucleus are used for different clinical conditions [17].



## Biological activity of Pyrazolopyrimidines

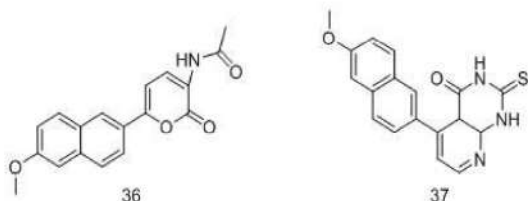
### Anticancer activity

Galal *et al.* [18] synthesized a novel series of 4-aminoantipyrines and their corresponding pyrazolopyrimidine thioglycosides and pyrazolopyridine thioglycosides. All the synthesized compounds were analysed by spectral data. The compounds were evaluated for antitumor activity against human cancer cell lines; liver (HEPG2), breast (MCF-7) and colon (HCT116). Out of all, compound **34** was the most cytotoxic drug, inhibiting replication of human liver cancer cells in vitro, while compound **35** was effective onto human cancer cells (liver cancer and colon cancer).

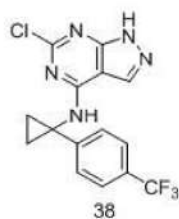


Mardia *et al.* [19] have been reported the novel Pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidines and Pyrido [2,3-d] pyrimidines that can inhibit tyrosine kinase in cancer cells. Compound **36** reported as most active against MCF-7 with GI% 62.5 whereas compound **37** proved

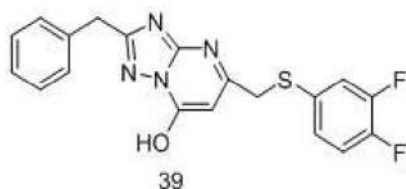
to be the most active one among the synthesized series with GI% 81.72 at 25 nM concentrations and  $IC_{50}$  8.4 nM which is very close to the reference drug Sorafenib. *in vitro* cytotoxicity activity was also performed using the MCF-7 breast cell line.



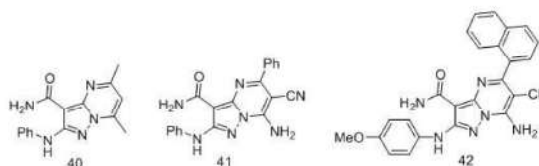
Ashley *et al.* [20] have identified a novel PDE2 inhibitor series using fragment-based screening. By the use of molecular modeling and X-ray crystallography, this fragment was developed into a series of potent PDE2 inhibitors with good physicochemical properties. Compound 38, a PDE2 selective inhibitor, was identified that exhibited favourable rat pharmacokinetic properties.



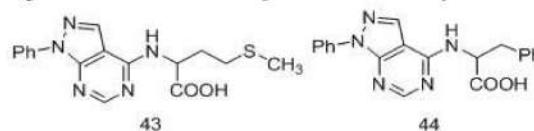
David *et al.* [21] were synthesized and evaluated, pyrazolopyrimidine 2-methyl-5-((phenylthio) methyl) pyrazolo [1,5-a] pyrimidin-7-ol, resulting in the discovery of CXCR2 receptor antagonist 2-benzyl-5-(((2,3-difluorophenyl)thio) methyl)-[1,2,4]triazolo[1,5-a] pyrimidin-7-ol 39. Favourable biological and pharmacokinetic properties were reported when pyrazolopyrimidine core was replaced by triazolopyrimidine alternative.



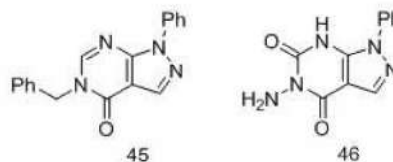
Taghrid *et al.* [22] synthesized many series of compounds. The newly synthesized compounds were characterized by analytical and spectroscopic data. All the compound were screened for their *in vitro* antitumor activities against different human cancer cell lines and found that 4a, 7e, and 7f were most active among all.



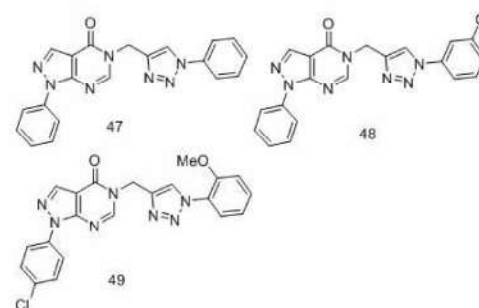
Mostafa *et al.* [23] have been synthesized numerous purine analogues possessing the pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidine ring containing amino acid residue. All the structures of the synthesized analogue were evaluated by spectral data. All the compounds were tested for anticancer activity, out of all compound 43 and 44 were the most active compounds. Moreover, compounds 3e exhibited significant *in vivo* radioprotective activity.



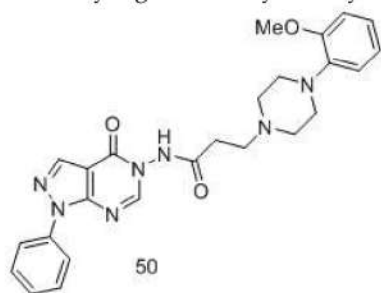
Mostafa *et al.* [24] were synthesized a new hybrids of pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidine derivatives and evaluated for *in-vitro* anticancer activity against Ehrlich Ascites Carcinoma (EAC) cell line. All the synthesized compounds were confirmed by microanalyses, IR, NMR, and mass spectral data. Intermediate anticancer activity exhibited by compounds 45 and 46 compared to doxorubicin with  $IC_{50}$  values of 90 and 100 mg/ml, respectively.



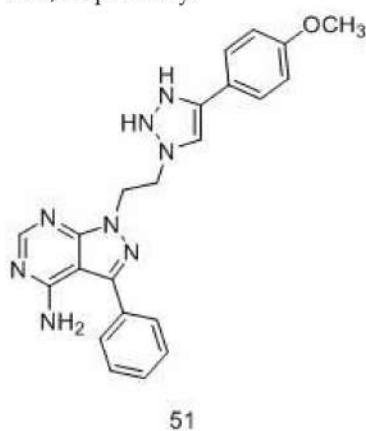
Muralidhar *et al.* [25] were synthesized a series of hybrid azaheterocycles containing pyrazolo [3,4-d]pyrimidin-4(5H)-ones and evaluated for their anticancer efficacy *in vitro* against C6 rat and U87 human glioma cell lines. *In silico* docking studies reveal that the compounds 47, 48 and 49 were more effective in binding with TGFBR2 than other compounds.



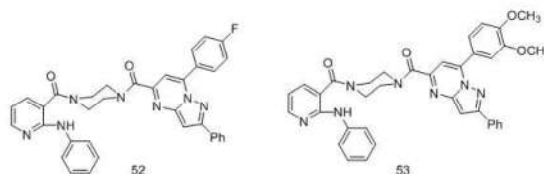
Heba *et al.* [26] were synthesized and reported new purine bioisosteres comprising a pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidine scaffold linked to piperazine moiety through different amide linkages. The newly synthesized compounds were evaluated for anticancer activity against four cell lines (MDA-MB-231, MCF-7, SF-268, B16F-10), and cyclooxygenase (COX-2) protein expression inhibition in lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-activated rat monocytes. Out of all, the compound **50** exhibited relatively high inhibitory activity.



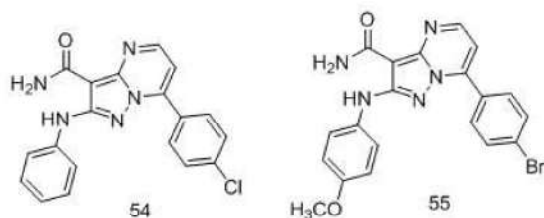
Anil *et al.* [27] were synthesized 3-phenylpyrazolopyrimidine-1,2,3-triazole hybrids using click chemistry approach. All compounds were tested for inhibition of Src kinase and breast carcinoma (MDA-MB-361), human ovarian adenocarcinoma (SK-Ov-3) and colon adenocarcinoma (HT-29). Compound **51** at a concentration of 50  $\mu$ M inhibited the cell proliferation of HT-29 and SK-Ov-3 by 73% and 58%, respectively.



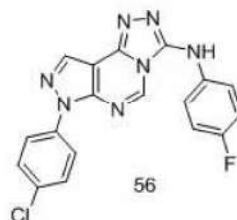
Ahmed *et al.* [28] were synthesized a series of anilonicotinyl linked pyrazolo [1,5-a] pyrimidine conjugates and evaluated for their antiproliferative activity. Among all, **52** and **53** exhibited significant effects, apart from G2/M cell cycle arrest. Interestingly they showed profound effects on cyclin D1, Bcl-2 and survivin proteins that regulate breast cancer cell proliferation.



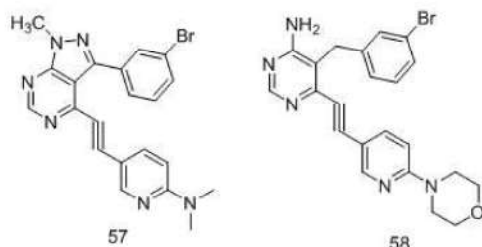
Ashraf *et al.* [29] were synthesized and reported a novel series of pyrazolo [1,5-a] pyrimidines and pyrazolo [1,5-a] quinazolines. Structures of the synthesized compounds were confirmed by their spectral data. These compounds were evaluated for their *in vitro* antiproliferative activities against human cancer cell lines (MCF-7 and HepG-2) using MTT assay. The compounds **54** and **55** were found to be the most potent in comparison with doxorubicin.



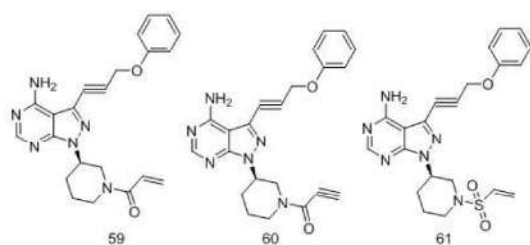
Heba *et al.* [30] were synthesized of some novel pyrazolopyrimidines and fused pyrazolopyrimidines and evaluated for their anticancer on three human cancer cell lines: cervical carcinoma HeLaS3, hepatocellular carcinoma HepG2 and colon carcinoma CaCo. and antimicrobial activity. Out of all, the compound **56** found to be the most active. All the newly synthesized compounds were evaluated for *in vitro* antibacterial and antifungal activity and found that all the compound possess variable degrees of antimicrobial activities.



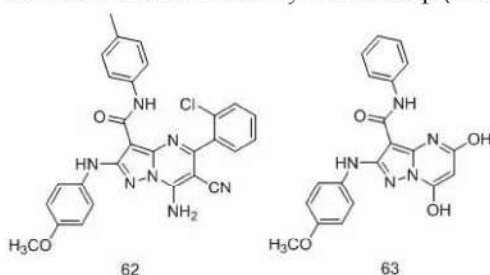
Arthur *et al.* [31] synthesized a novel compound and evaluated for their anticancer activity approaches have been tested to modify existing pyridopyrimidine and alkynyl pyrimidine classes of non nucleoside adenosine kinase inhibitors 2 and 3. 4-Amino-substituted pteridines 8a-e were generally less active than corresponding 5- and 6-substituted pyridopyrimidines 2. Pyrazolopyrimidine **57** with  $IC_{50}$ =7.5nM was superior to its open chain alkynyl pyrimidine analog **58** ( $IC_{50}$ =22 nM).



Nan *et al.* [32] were synthesized 1-substituted pyrazolopyrimidine derivatives as potent BTK inhibitors and compounds were tested by enzyme-based assay and *in vitro* cytotoxic against multiple B-cell lymphoma cell lines. Among all, compound **61** exhibited the highest potency against enzyme BTK, with  $IC_{50}$  value of 4.2 nM. The compound **59** and **60** found to be most potent which act against the proliferation of B lymphoma cell lines DOHH2 and WSU-DLCL2 compare with ibrutinib.

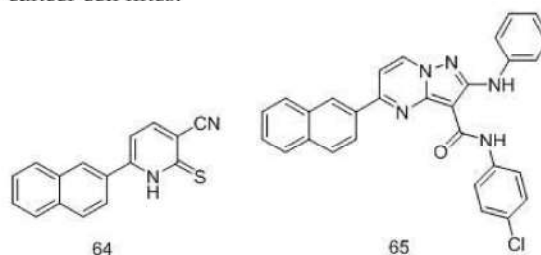


Ashraf *et al.* [33] were synthesized and reported a novel series of pyrazolo [1,5-a] pyrimidine derivatives and evaluated for their *in vitro* anticancer activity against three human cancer cell lines, namely prostate adenocarcinoma (PC-3), colorectal carcinoma (HCT116), and liver carcinoma (HepG-2) using MTT assay. Among these compounds, **62** and **63** showed better antitumor activity against reported cell lines. structures of the newly synthesized compounds were confirmed by different spectral data and elemental analysis and discussed structure-activity relationship (SAR).

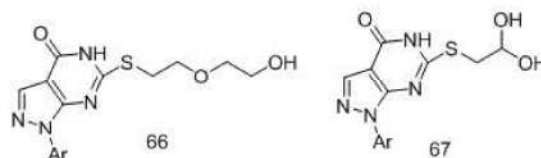


Osama *et al.* [34] were synthesized pyridin-2(1H)-thione, pyrazolo [1,5-a] pyrimidine and pyridin-2-one, derivatives. All the compounds were evaluated for their antitumor activity. Among all tested compound, **5b** and **9f** showed potent

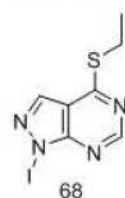
cytotoxic activity *in vitro* using different human cancer cell lines.



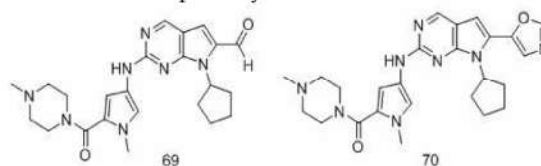
Aymn *et al.* [35] were synthesized 6-Mercapto-1-(9-Methyl-5,6-dihydro-naphtho[1',2':4,5]thieno[2,3-d]pyrimidin-11-yl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-one and evaluated for cytotoxicity against breast MCF-7 cancer and liver HepG2 cancer cell lines. The results stated that, compounds **66** and **67** revealed promising anticancer activity compared to the activity of the commonly used anticancer drug, doxorubicin with inhibiting the expression of uPA.



Aymn *et al.* [36] were synthesized a series of novel substituted pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidines derivatives and evaluated *in vitro* cytotoxicity against human breast adenocarcinoma (MCF-7) cell lines. Compound **68** revealed the highest anticancer activity among the other tested compounds against MCF-7 cell line.

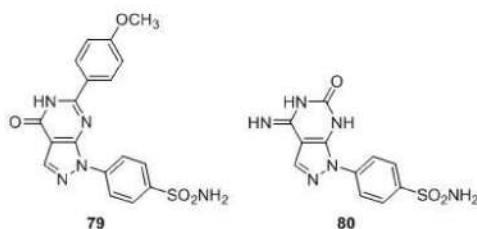


Jean-Yves *et al.* [37] introduced the optimization a series of pyrrolopyrimidine as dual inhibitors of Aurora A/B kinases. Pyrazolopyrimidine series inhibits both of aurora kinases and CDKs. The intermediates **69** and **70** which led to analogues with both accessible activity against CDK1 and maintained cell potency

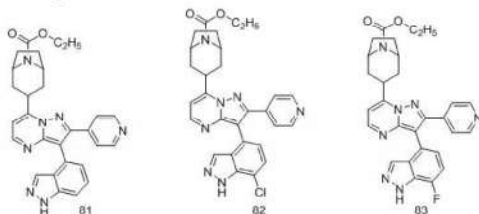




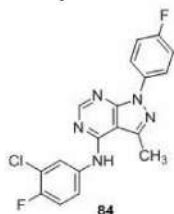
Ghaneya *et al.* [44] were synthesized a series of novel pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidines bearing benzenesulfonamide moiety. Cytotoxic activity was evaluated against MCF-7 and HepG2. The compound **79** and **80** were found to be potent cytotoxic activity with  $IC_{50}$  1.4 mM (MCF-7) and 0.4  $\mu$ M (HepG2), respectively compared to that of doxorubicin, ( $IC_{50}$  = 1.02  $\mu$ M and 0.9  $\mu$ M, respectively). Compounds **79** and **80** were subjected to cell cycle analysis and apoptosis assay after 24 h and 48 h treatment. Compound **79** arrested cell at G1 phase, while **80** arrested cell at S and G2/M phases, respectively.



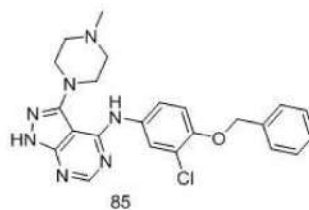
Martin *et al.* [45] have been reported series of pyrazolo [1,5-a] pyrimidines as potent B-Raf inhibitors. Compounds **81**, **82**, and **83** strongly inhibited cell proliferation at very low concentrations in the A375 and WM266 cell lines, and these compounds also showed better therapeutic indices.



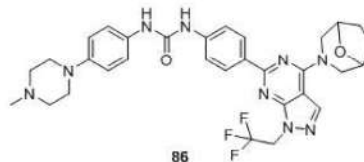
Maher *et al.* [46] were synthesised a series of novel pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidines and revealed for their anticancer activity against 60 human tumour cell lines by NCI (USA). Among all, the compound **84** proved to be most prominent anticancer activity. It showed 1.6-fold more potent anti-proliferative activity against OVCAR-4 cell line with  $IC_{50}$  = 1.74  $\mu$ M, and  $IC_{50}$  value 5.53  $\mu$ M against ACHN cell line, representing 2.2-fold more potent than Erlotinib. It showed accumulation of cells in pre-G1 phase and cell cycle arrest at G2/M phase.



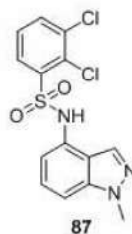
Richard *et al.* [47] have been synthesized a Novel 4-anilino-1H-pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidines and evaluated in vitro for erbB2 and EGFR kinase inhibition. Compound **85** potential of this series to provide orally active erbB2 inhibitors.



David *et al.* [48] were synthesized and reported a new series of potent and selective pyrazolopyrimidinem TOR inhibitors. Compound **86** ( $IC_{50}$  = 0.6 nM) showed elevated cellular potency and notably improved stability towards human microsomes.

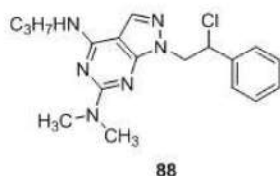


Afjal *et al.* [49] have been synthesized novel hybrid of 4-aminoindazole sulphonamide. Out of all, compound **87** was recognised as human CCR4 antagonists. Introduction of a methoxy group adjacent to the sulfonamide substituent and replacement the indazole core with a pyrazolopyrimidine, and resulted in the identification of pyrazolopyrimidine, which exhibited good binding affinity in the high solubility (CLND solubility 581  $\mu$ M, low lipophilicity (clogP = 2.2, GTPcS assay ( $pIC_{50}$  = 7.2), chromlogD<sub>7.4</sub> = 2.4) and high LE (0.41).

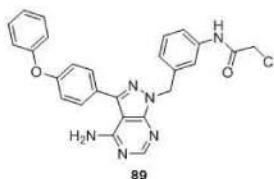


Stefano *et al.* [50] have been reported that antiproliferative pyrazolopyrimidines also exert anti-inflammatory effects comparable to known COX inhibitors. Even through the anti-inflammatory potency of these compounds was not as high as the known COX-2-selective inhibitor DuP 697, compound **88** discovered an interesting COX-2 activity and selectivity compared with the other three reference drugs.

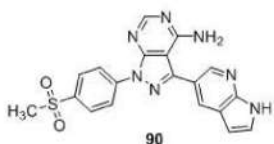




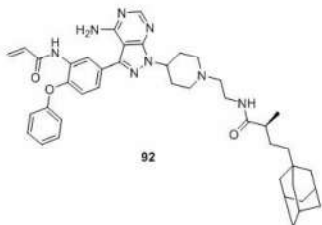
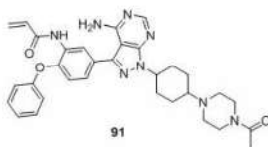
Fansheng *et al.* [51] have been synthesized a novel series of pyrazolopyrimidine derivatives capable of potent inhibition of BTK. Compound **89** showed higher selectivity against BTK and exhibited robust antiproliferative effects in both mantle cell lymphoma cell lines and primary patient tumor cells. Low micromolar doses of **89** induced strong cell apoptosis in Jeko-1 and Z138 cells.



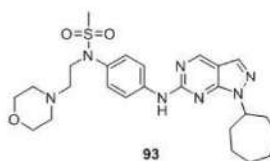
Sreekanth *et al.* [52] have been reported compound **90**, a pyrazolopyrimidine-containing ATR inhibitor targeting PI3K. In divergent proliferating cancer cells, it can help to maintain adequate genomic integrity for the progression of cancer cell.



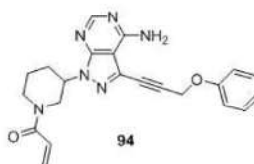
Sang *et al.* [53] Her3 have been reported on the development of the first selective irreversible Her3 ligand **91** that forms a covalent bond with cysteine 721 which is unique to Her3 among all kinases and a bi-functional compound **92** containing a hydrophobic moiety and the same warhead of **91** that is capable of inhibiting Her3-dependent signalling and growth.



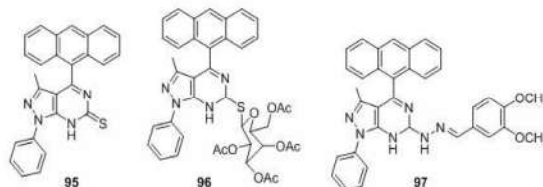
Lin *et al.* [54] have been synthesized and reported a novel class of pyrazolopyrimidine-sulfonamides. These compounds act as selective inhibitors of aurora kinase A (AKA) and cyclin-dependent kinase 1 (CDK1). The compound **93** has been reported for good efficacy in HCT116 colon cancer xenograft model.



Nan *et al.* [55] were designed and synthesized a novel series of 3-substituted pyrazolopyrimidine derivatives by structure based drug design. All the compounds were evaluated for anti-proliferation against Ramos and Raji cells. Among all, compound **94** exhibited excellent potency ( $IC_{50} = 7.95$  nM against BTK enzyme,  $8.91$   $\mu$ M against Ramos cells and  $1.80$   $\mu$ M against Raji cells), with a better hydrophilicity ( $ClogP = 3.33$ ). Synthesis of 3-substituted pyrazolopyrimidine derivatives provided new clues to discover as novel and potent antitumor agents.

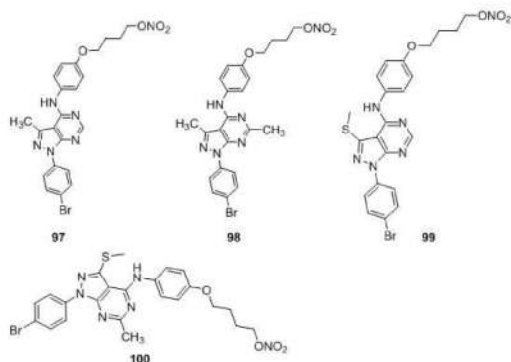


Ibrahim *et al.* [56] have been synthesized a number of *S*- and *N*-glycosides. All the synthesized compounds were evaluated for their antitumor activity against three different tumor cell lines HEPG2 (liver), HCT116 (colon) and MCF-7 (breast) with a docking study against CDK2. Compounds **95**, **96**, and **97** are the most potent against HEPG-2, HCT116, MCF-7 cell lines.

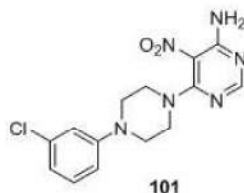


Yaseen *et al.* [57] have been designed and synthesized a new hybrid of pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidines tethered with nitric oxide (NO). All the compounds were evaluated for Anti-proliferative activity against HepG2 cell line and identified that compounds **97**, **98**, **99** and **100** as the most cytotoxic compounds in the series of  $IC_{50} = 3, 5, 3$  and  $5 \mu$ M, respectively, compared to erlotinib as a reference

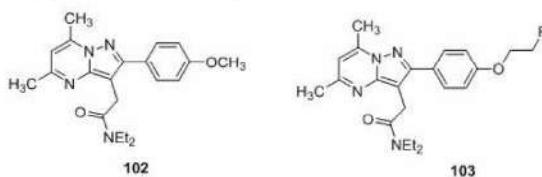
drug ( $IC_{50} = 25 \mu M$ ). Compound **97** arrested the cells cycle in G0/G1 phase while **98** arrested the cell cycle in S phase. Docking study also support the synthesized compounds, which have done on EGFR (PDB code: 1M17).



Joerg *et al.* [58] have been reported the 70-kDa ribosomal protein S6 kinase (p70S6K) which is present in PI3K/AKT/mTOR pathway. Screening results in the identification of aminopyrimidine **101** as potent inhibitor. Lead optimization of **101** resulted in highly potent, selective, and orally bioavailable pyrazolopyrimidines. Compound **101** act as lead which was eventually advanced into clinical development.

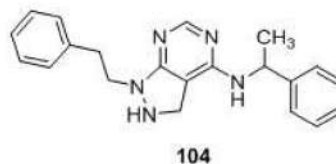


Eryn *et al.* [59] reported the potential anti-glioblastoma activity of **102** and **103** analogues, and explored the effect of alkyl ether chain on TSP0 affinity and its potential. Out of all, the synthesized compounds were showed diverse functional activity. The compound **102** and **103** did not affect the proliferation of human T98G glioblastoma cells, while the decreased proliferation of T98G cells in hexyl ether and benzyl ether derivatives.

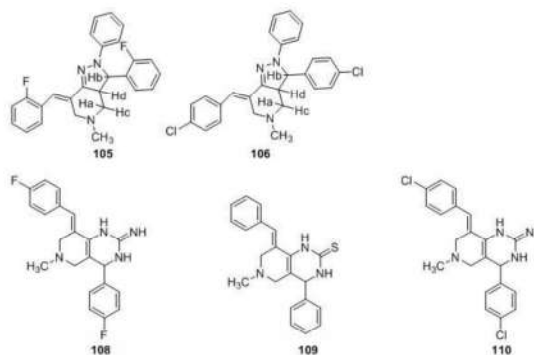


Guido *et al.* [60] have been reported the strong effect on antiproliferative and pro-apoptotic activity of CLM3 on endothelial and cancer cells.

After CLM3 treatments in activated endothelial Phospho-VEGFR-2, phospho-EGFR and phospho-RET levels significantly decreased. The expression of the cyclin D1 gene was mostly inhibited by CLM3 treatment in endothelial and cancer cells.



Ashraf *et al.* [61] were synthesized a series of pyrazolopyridine and pyridopyrimidine derivatives. All the compounds were evaluated using 59 different human tumor cell lines, representing cancers of CNS, ovary, renal, breast, colon, lung, leukemia, and melanoma, prostate as well as kidney. Compound **105**, **106**, **107**, **108**, **109** and **110** were the most active derivatives against all tested cell lines.



## Conclusion

Cancer is a devastating disease that causes hundreds of thousands of mortality across the world each year. It is one of the major health problems that inflict a heavy socio-economic burden. Anti-cancer drugs are the main weapon to tackle this disease but emergence of resistance to current therapy, limited availability of alternatives warrants discovery and development of new, affordable, safer and effective anti-cancer drug candidates. Pyrazolopyrimidine derivatives offer vast opportunity to develop lead chemotherapeutic molecules for cancer. To accomplish this task, an integrated approach should be adopted which focus on the synthesis of the novel heterocyclic compounds having pyrazolopyrimidine core that are capable of acting at multiple targets during various stages of cancer development.

## References

- Elnagdi MH, Elmoghayar MRH. Chemistry of Pyrazolopyrimidines. *Adv. Het. Chem.* 1987;41: 319-76.
- Zimmerman JR, Myers BJ, Bouhall S, McCarthy A, JohnTony O, Manpadi M. A two-step, single pot procedure for the synthesis of substituted dihydropyrazolo-pyrimidines. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2014;55:936-40.
- Tsai SE, Yen WP, Tseng CC, Xie JJ, Liou MY, Li YT, Uramaru N, Wong FF. Efficient acid catalytic synthesis of pyrazolopyrimidines from 1Hpyrazol-5-yl-N, N-dimethylformamidines with cyanamide. *Tetrahedron.* 2018;74:2787-91.
- Kodimuthali A, Nishad T C, Prasunamba PL, Pal M. Reactivity of the -C(Cl)=C-C=N- moiety towards AlCl<sub>3</sub>-induced C-C bond forming reactions: a new synthesis of 7-(hetero) aryl-substituted pyrazolo [1,5-a] pyrimidines *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2009;50: 354-58.
- Lynch BM, Khan MA, Sharma SC, Teo HC. *Can. J. Chem.* 1975;53:119.
- Elmoghayar MRH, Ibraheim MKA, Elsakka I, Elghandour AH, Ehnagdi MH. *Adv.Het.Chem. Arch. Pharm.* 1983;316:697.
- Hamilton HW, Bristol JA. C4-substituted 1-beta-D-ribofuranosylpyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidines as adenosine agonist analogues. *J. Med. Chem.* 1983; 11:1601-6.
- Higashino T, Iwai Y, Hayashi E, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* 1976;24:3120.
- Higashino T, Iwai Y, Hayashi E. *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* 1977;25:535.
- Chenon MT, Pugmire RJ, Grant DM, Panzika RP, Townsend LB. *Advance in heterocyclic chemistry, J. Het. Chem.* 1973;10:431.
- Greenhill JV. *Comprehensive Heterocyclic Chemistry.*
- Katritzky AR, Rees CW. *Academic Press, New York,* 1984; 308.
- Reimlinger H, Peiren MA, Merenyi R, *Advance in heterocyclic chemistry. Chem. Ber.* 1970;103:32-52.
- Elmoghayar MRH, Ibraheim MKA, Elsakka I, Elghandour AH, Ehnagdi MH, *Arch. Pharm.* 1983;316:697.
- Kandeel EM, Baghos VB, Mohareb IS, Elnagdi MH, *Arch. Pharm.* 1983;316:713.
- Mourad AFE, Shehata KU, Elnagdi MH, *Arch. Pharm.* 1984;317:241.
- Rashad AE, Shamroukh AH, Osman DAA, Gaballah ST, Hashem AI, Ali HS, Abdel-Megeid FME. Synthesis and anticancer evaluation of some fused pyrazolopyrimidines and their S-acyclic nucleosides *Der. Pharma. Chem.* 2015; 5:243-50.
- Elgemeie GH, Abu-Zaied MA, Loutfy SA, 4-Aminoantipyrine in carbohydrate research: Design, synthesis and anticancer activity of thioglycosides of a novel class of 4- aminoantipyrines and their corresponding pyrazolopyrimidines and pyrazolopyridine thioglycosides *Tetrahedron.* 2017; 73:5853-61.
- El Sayed MT, Hussein HAR, Elebiary NM, Hassan GS, Elmessery SM, Elsheakh AR, Nayel M, Abdel-Aziz HA. Tyrosine kinase inhibition effects of novel Pyrazolo [1,5-a] pyrimidines and Pyrido[2,3-d] pyrimidines ligand: Synthesis, biological screening and molecular modeling studies. *Bioorg. Chem.* 2018;78:312-23.
- Forster AB, Abeywickrema P, Bunda J, Cox CD, Cabalu TD, Egbertson M, Fay J, Getty K, Hall D, Kornienko M, Lu J, Parthasarathy G, Reid J, Sharma S, Shipe WD, Smith SM, Soisson S, Stachel SJ, Su HP, Wang D, Berger R. The identification of a novel lead class for phosphodiesterase 2 inhibition by fragment-based drug design. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2017;27(23):5167-71.
- Porter DW, Bradley M, Brown Z, Canova R, Charlton S, Cox B, Hunt P, Kolarik D, Lewis S, O'Connor D, Reilly J, Spanka C, Tedaldi L, Watson SJ, Wermuth R, Press NJ. The discovery of potent, orally bioavailable pyrazolo and triazolopyrimidine CXCR2 receptor antagonists. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2014;24(1):72-76.
- Hafez TS, Osman SA,A. Yosef HA, Abd EL-ALL AS, Hassan AS, El-Sawy AA, Abdallah MM, Youns M. Synthesis, Structural Elucidation, and *In Vitro* Antitumor Activities of Some Pyrazolopyrimidines and Schiff Bases Derived from 5-Amino-3-(arylamino)-1 Af-pyrazole-4-carboxamides *Sei. Pharm.* 2013;81:339-57.
- Ghorab MM, Ragab FA, Noaman E, Heiba HI, Aboulmagd SA. Synthesis, anticancer and radioprotective activities of some new pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidines containing amino acid moieties. *Arzneimittelforschung.* 2009;59(2):96-103.
- Ghorab MM, Ragab FA, Alqasoumi SI, Alafeefy AM, Aboulmagd SA. Synthesis of some new pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidine derivatives of expected anticancer and radioprotective activity. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 2010;45(1):171-78.
- Allam M, Bhavani AKD, Mudiraj A, Ranjan N, Thippana M, Babu PP. Synthesis of pyrazolo[3,4-d] pyrimidin-4(5H)-ones tethered to 1,2,3-triazoles and their evaluation as potential anticancer agents. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 2018;156:43-52.
- Abd El Razik HA, Mroueh M, Faour WH, Shebaby WN, Daher CF, Ashour HMA, Ragab HM. Synthesis of new pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidine derivatives and evaluation of their anti-inflammatory and anticancer activities. *Chem. Biol. Drug Des.* 2017; 90(1):83-96.

27. Kumar A, Ahmad I, Chhikara BS, Tiwari R, Mandal D, Parang K. Synthesis of 3-phenylpyrazolopyrimidine-1,2,3-triazole conjugates and evaluation of their Src kinase inhibitory and anticancer activities. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2011;21(5):1342-6.
28. Kamal A, Faazil S, Hussaini SM, Ramaiah MJ, Balakrishna M, Patel N, Pushpavalli SN, Pal-Bhadra M. Synthesis and mechanistic aspects of 2-anilino nicotiny-pyrazolo [1,5-a] pyrimidine conjugates that regulate cell proliferation in MCF-7 cells via estrogen signaling. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2016;26(8):2077-83.
29. Hassan AS, Moustafa GO, Awad HM. Synthesis and in vitro anticancer activity of pyrazolo[1,5-a] pyrimidines and pyrazolo[3,4-d][1,2,3]triazines. *Syn. Commun.* 2017;47:1963-72.
30. Abd El Razik HA, Wahab AE. Synthesis and biological evaluation of some novel fused pyrazolopyrimidines as potential anticancer and antimicrobial agents. *Arch. Pharm. (Weinheim)*. 2011;344(3):184-96.
31. Gomtsyan A, Didomenico S, Lee CH, Stewart AO, Bhagwat SS, Kowaluk EA, Jarvis MF. Synthesis and biological evaluation of pteridine and pyrazolopyrimidine based adenosine kinase inhibitors. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2004;14(16):4165-8.
32. Zheng N, Hao Q, Lin K, Pan J, Li Y, Zhou W. Synthesis and biological evaluation of novel 1-substituted 3-(3-phenoxyprop-1-yn-1-yl)-1H-pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidin-4-amines as potent Bruton's tyrosine kinase (BTK) inhibitors. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2019;29(2):225-29.
33. Hassana AS, Mady MF, Awadd HM, Hafeza TS. Synthesis and antitumor activity of some new pyrazolo[1,5-a] 3 pyrimidines. *Chin. Chem. Lett.* xxx (2016) xxx-xxx.
34. Ahmed OM, Mohamed MA, Ahmed RR, Ahmed SA. Synthesis and anti-tumor activities of some new pyridines and pyrazolo [1,5-a] pyrimidines. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 2009;44(9):3519-23.
35. Rashad AE, Shamroukh AH, Osman DAA, Gaballah ST, Hashem AI, Ali HS, Abdel-Megeid FME. Synthesis and anticancer evaluation of some fused pyrazolopyrimidines and their S-acyclic nucleosides. *Der. Pharma. Chem.*, 2015;7(5):243-250.
36. Rashad AE, Mahmoud AE, Ali MM. Synthesis and anticancer effects of some novel pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidine derivatives by generating reactive oxygen species in human breast adenocarcinoma cells. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 2011;46(4):1019-26.
37. Le Brazidec JY, Pasis A, Tam B, Boykin C, Wang D, Marcotte DJ, Claassen G, Chong JH, Chao J, Fan J, Nguyen K, Silvian L, Ling L, Zhang L, Choi M, Teng M, Pathan N, Zhao S, Li T, Taveras A. Structure-based design of 2,6,7-trisubstituted-7H-pyrrolo [2,3-d] pyrimidines as Aurora kinases inhibitors. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2012;22(12):4033-7.
38. Shamroukh AH, Rashad AE, Abdel-Megeid RE, Ali HS, Ali MM. Some Pyrazole and Pyrazolo[3,4-d] pyrimidine Derivatives: Synthesis and Anticancer Evaluation. *Arch. Pharm. Chem. Life Sci.* 2014;347:1-7.
39. Quintela JM, Peinador C, Moreira MJ, Alfonso A, Botana LM, Riguera R. Pyrazolopyrimidines: synthesis, effect on histamine release from rat peritoneal mast cells and cytotoxic activity. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 2001;36(4):321-32.
40. Curran KJ, Verheijen JC, Kaplan J, Richard DJ, Toral-Barza L, Hollander I, Lucas J, Ayral-Kaloustian S, Yu K, Zask A. Pyrazolopyrimidines as highly potent and selective, ATP-competitive inhibitors of the mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR): optimization of the 1-substituent. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2010;20(4):1440-4.
41. Rice KD, Kim MH, Bussenius J, Anand NK, Blazey CM, Bowles OJ, Canne-Bannen L, Chan DS, Chen B, Co EW, Costanzo S, DeFina SC, Dubenko L, Engst S, Franzini M, Huang P, Jammalamadaka V, Khoury RG, Klein RR, Laird AD, Le DT, Mac MB, Matthews DJ, Markby D, Miller N, Nuss JM, Parks JJ, Tsang TH, Tshako AL, Wang Y, Xu W. Pyrazolopyrimidines as dual Akt/p70S6K inhibitors. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2012;22(8):2693-7.
42. Burchat AF, Calderwood DJ, Friedman MM, Hirst GC, Li B, Rafferty P, Ritter K, Skinner BS. Pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidines containing an extended 3-substituent as potent inhibitors of Lck -- a selectivity insight. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2002;12(12):1687-90.
43. Ding M, Wang H, Qu C, Xu F, Zhu Y, Lv G, Lu Y, Zhou Q, Zhou H, Zeng X, Zhang J, Yan C, Lin J, Luo HR, Deng Z, Xiao Y, Tian J, Zhu MX, Hong X. Pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidine TRPC6 antagonists for the treatment of gastric cancer. *Cancer. Lett.* 2018;432:47-55.
44. Hassan GS, Abdel Rahman DE, Nissan YM, Abdelmajeed EA, Abdelghany TM. Novel pyrazolopyrimidines: Synthesis, in vitro cytotoxic activity and mechanistic investigation. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 2017;138:565-76.
45. Di Grandi MJ, Berger DM, Hopper DW, Zhang C, Dutia M, Dunnick AL, Torres N, Levin JL, Diamantidis G, Zapf CW, Bloom JD, Hu Y, Powell D, Wojciechowicz D, Collins K, Frommer E. Novel pyrazolopyrimidines as highly potent B-Raf inhibitors. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2009;19(24):6957-61.
46. Maher M, Kassab AE, Zaher AF, Mahmoud Z. Novel pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidines: design, synthesis, anticancer activity, dual EGFR/ErbB2 receptor tyrosine kinases inhibitory activity, effects on cell cycle profile and caspase-3-mediated apoptosis. *J. Enzyme Inhib. Med. Chem.* 2019;34(1):532-46.
47. Ducray R, Ballard P, Barlaam BC, Hickinson MD, Kettle JG, Ogilvie DJ, Trigwell CB. Novel 3-alkoxy-

- 1H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidines as EGFR and erbB2 receptor tyrosine kinase inhibitors. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2008;18(3):959-62.
48. Richard DJ, Verheijen JC, Curran K, Kaplan J, Toral-Barza L, Hollander I, Lucas J, Yu K, Zask A. Incorporation of water-solubilizing groups in pyrazolopyrimidinemTOR inhibitors: discovery of highly potent and selective analogs with improved human microsomal stability. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2009;19(24):6830-5.
49. Miah AH, Champigny AC, Graves RH, Hodgson ST, Percy JM, Procopiou PA. Identification of pyrazolopyrimidine aryl sulfonamides as CC-chemokine receptor 4 (CCR4) antagonists. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* 2017;25(20):5327-40.
50. Alcaro S, Artese A, Botta M, Zizzari AT, Orallo F, Ortuso F, Schenone S, Brullo C, Yáñez M. Hit identification and biological evaluation of anticancer pyrazolopyrimidines endowed with anti-inflammatory activity. *Chem. Med. Chem.* 2010;5(8):1242-6.
51. Ran F, Liu Y, Liu M, Zhang D, Wang P, Dong J, Tang W, Zhao G. Discovery of pyrazolopyrimidine derivatives as potent BTK inhibitors with effective anticancer activity in MCL. *Bioorg. Chem.* 2019;25: 1029-43.
52. Ramachandran SA, Jadhavar PS, Singh MP, Sharma A, Bagle GN, Quinn KP, Wong PY, Protter AA, Rai R, Pham SM, Lindquist JN. Discovery of pyrazolopyrimidines derivatives as novel inhibitors of ataxia telangiectasia and rad3 related protein (ATR). *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2017;27(4):750-54.
53. Lim SM, Xie T, Westover KD, Ficarro SB, Tae HS, Gurbani D, Sim T, Marto JA, Jänne PA, Crews CM, Gray NS. Development of small molecules targeting the pseudokinase Her3. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2015;25(16):3382-9.
54. Zhang L, Fan J, Chong JH, Cesena A, Tam BY, Gilson C, Boykin C, Wang D, Aivazian D, Marcotte D, Xiao G, Le Brazidec JY, Piao J, Lundgren K, Hong K, Vu K, Nguyen K, Gan LS, Silvian L, Ling L, Teng M, Reff M, Takeda N, Timple N, Wang Q, Morena R, Khan S, Zhao S, Li T, Lee WC, Taveras AG, Chao J. Design, synthesis, and biological evaluation of pyrazolopyrimidine-sulfonamides as potent multiple-mitotic kinase (MMK) inhibitors (part I). *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2011;21(18):5633-7.
55. Zheng N, Pan J, Hao Q, Li Y, Zhou W. Design, synthesis and biological evaluation of novel 3-substituted pyrazolopyrimidine derivatives as potent Bruton's tyrosine kinase (BTK) inhibitors. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* 2018;26(8):2165-72.
56. Nassar IF, El Farargy AF, Abdelrazek FM, Ismail NSM. Design, synthesis and anticancer evaluation of novel pyrazole, pyrazolo [3,4-d] pyrimidine and their glycoside derivatives. *Nucleosides Nucleotides Nucleic Acids.* 2017;36(4):275-91.
57. Elshaier YAMM, Shaaban MA, Abd El Hamid MK, Abdelrahman MH, Abou-Salim MA, Elgazwi SM, Halaweish F. Design and synthesis of pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidines: Nitric oxide releasing compounds targeting hepatocellular carcinoma. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* 2017;25(12):2956-70.
58. Bussenius J, Anand NK, Blazey CM, Bowles OJ, Bannen LC, Chan DS, Chen B, Co EW, Costanzo S, DeFina SC, Dubenko L, Engst S, Franzini M, Huang P, Jammalamadaka V, Khoury RG, Kim MH, Klein RR, Laird D, Le DT, Mac MB, Matthews DJ, Markby D, Miller N, Nuss JM, Parks JJ, Tsang TH, Tshako AL, Wang Y, Xu W, Rice KD. Design and evaluation of a series of pyrazolopyrimidines as p70S6K inhibitors. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2012; 22(6):2283-6.
59. Werry EL, King VA, Barron ML, Banister SD, Sokias R, Kassiou M. Derivatives of the pyrazolo[1,5-a] pyrimidine acetamide DPA-713 as translocator protein (TSPO) ligands and pro-apoptotic agents in human glioblastoma. *Eur. J. Pharm. Sci.* 2017;96: 186-92.
60. Bocci G, Fioravanti A, La Motta C, Orlandi P, Canu B, Di Desidero T, Mugnaini L, Sartini S, Cosconati S, Frati R, Antonelli A, Berti P, Miccoli P, Da Settimo F, Danesi R. Antiproliferative and proapoptotic activity of CLM3, a novel multiple tyrosine kinase inhibitor, alone and in combination with SN-38 on endothelial and cancer cells. *Biochem. Pharmacol.* 2011;81(11):1309-16.
61. Mohamed AM, El-Sayed WA, Alsharari MA, Al-Qalawi HR, Germoush MO. Anticancer activities of some newly synthesized pyrazole and pyrimidine derivatives. *Arch. Pharm. Res.* 2013;36(9):1055-65.