

CONTENTS

Title	Page No.
Certificate	iii
Declaration by the Candidate	iv
Copyright Transfer Certificate	v
Acknowledgments	vi-vii
Contents	viii-xi
List of Figures	xii-xvi
List of Schemes	xvii
List of Tables	xviii
List of Abbreviations	xix-xx
PREFACE	xxi-xxiii
CHAPTER 1: Introduction and Literature Review	01-47
1.1. Alzheimer's Disease: A Progressive Neurodegenerative Disease	01-03
1.2. Prevalence of AD	03-05
1.3. Pathophysiology of AD	05-12
1.3.1. Cholinergic Hypothesis	06-08
1.3.2. Amyloid Cascade Hypothesis	08-10
1.3.3. Tau Hypothesis	10-12
1.4. Current Diagnostics for AD	12-14
1.5. Need of New and Effective Diagnostic Biomarker for AD	15-17
1.6. Choline Acetyltransferase as a Potential Biomarker	17-18
1.7. Structure of Choline Acetyltransferase	19-20
1.8. Previously Reported Choline Acetyltransferase Inhibitors	21-25
1.9. Computational Modeling in Drug Design	25-30
1.9.1. Molecular Docking	27-28
1.9.2. Molecular Dynamics	28
1.9.3. Artificial Intelligence in Drug Discovery	29-30
1.10. Piperidine: a versatile heterocyclic compound	31-40
1.10.1. Role of Piperidines in Neurodegenerative disease	31-36
1.10.2. Biological importance of Piperidine based molecules in other disease	36-40
1.11. References	40-47
CHAPTER 2: Research Envisaged	48-51
CHAPTER 3: Mechanistic insight into the inhibition of choline acetyltransferase by proton pump inhibitors	52-94
3.1. Introduction	52-54
3.2. Objectives	54-55
3.3. Results and Discussions	55-85
3.3.1. Molecular Docking Study	55-60
3.3.2. Molecular Dynamics Study	60-70
3.3.2.1. Principal Component Analysis	70-73
3.3.2.2. Free-Energy Landscape Analysis	73-76

	Title	Page No.
3.3.3	Residue Interaction Network (RIN) Analysis	76-78
3.3.4	Molecular Mechanics Poisson–Boltzmann Surface Area (MM-PBSA) Analysis	78-83
3.3.5	In Silico BBB Permeability Analysis	83-84
3.3.6	Molecular Docking Study	84-85
3.4.	Materials and Methods	86-90
3.4.1.	Molecular Docking Study	86-87
3.4.2.	Molecular Dynamics Simulation	87-88
3.4.3.	Residue Interaction Network Analysis	88
3.4.4.	MM-PBSA Calculation	88-89
3.4.5.	In-Silico BBB Predictions	89-90
3.5.	Conclusion	90-91
3.6	References	91-94
	CHAPTER 4: Design, Synthesis and Characterization of Piperidine Based Novel Derivatives for Choline Acetyltransferase Inhibitory Activity	95-143
4.1.	Introduction	95-96
4.2.	Objectives	96
4.3.	Results and Discussion	97-119
4.3.1.	Rationale of the design	97
4.3.2	Chemistry	97-101
4.3.3.	In vitro ChAT inhibition screening assay of the synthesized compounds A1 to A52	101-103
4.3.4.	ChAT inhibition kinetics analyses provided the inhibition constant and the mode of inhibition for A1	103-105
4.3.5.	In Vitro Cytotoxicity Assay	105-106
4.3.6.	Solubility and percentage purity analysis of the Hit Compound	106-107
4.3.7.	In Vivo studies of compound A1 in Sprague-Dawley rats	107
4.3.7.1.	A1 did not affect motor coordination post i.v. administration in rats in Rotarod test	107-108
4.3.7.2.	In-vivo pharmacokinetic study of compound A1	108-111
4.3.7.3.	In-vivo brain kinetic study of compound A1	111-113
4.3.8.	In Silico Molecular Docking Study	113-114
4.3.9.	Molecular Dynamics Simulation Study	114-119
4.4.	Materials and Methods	119-141
4.4.1.	Chemistry	119-134
4.4.1.1.	General procedure for the synthesis of Boc protected isonipecotic acid (Intermediate-1)	120
4.4.1.2.	General procedure for the synthesis of Piperidine Based amide substituted compounds (A1 to A52)	120-134
4.4.2.	In Vitro Assay	134-137
4.4.2.1.	Production and purification of recombinant human ChAT protein	134
4.4.2.2.	In vitro fluorometric ChAT activity inhibition assay	134-135

	Title	Page No.
4.4.2.3.	In vitro colorimetric AChE and BChE activity inhibition assay	135-136
4.4.2.4.	Enzyme inhibition kinetics for determination of K_i , IC_{50} , and mode of action of hits compounds	136-137
4.4.2.5.	In Vitro Cytotoxicity Assay	137
4.4.3.	In Vivo Studies of Compound A1 in Sprague Dawley rats	138-139
4.4.3.1.	Experimental animals	138
4.4.3.2.	Motor coordination	138
4.4.3.3.	In vivo pharmacokinetics	138-139
4.4.3.4.	In vivo brain kinetics	139
4.4.4.	Solubility and percentage purity assay	139-140
4.4.5.	Computational Details	139-141
4.4.5.1.	Molecular Docking	140
4.4.5.2.	Molecular Dynamics	141
4.5.	Conclusion	142
4.6.	References	142-143
	CHAPTER 5: Discovery and characterization of novel pyridine and furan substituted ligands of choline acetyltransferase	144-184
5.1.	Introduction	144-145
5.2.	Objectives	146
5.3.	Results and Discussion	146-172
5.3.1.	Structure based virtual screening identified several potential ChAT inhibitors	146-151
5.3.2.	Selection of compound V6 and V15 with in vitro ChAT inhibition screening assay	151-154
5.3.2.1.	ChAT inhibition kinetics analyses provided the inhibition constant and the mode of inhibition for V6 and V15	154-159
5.3.2.2.	V6 and V15 did not exhibit cell toxicity at as high as 50 μ M concentration	159-160
5.3.3.	Hit compounds V6 and V15 interacts well with the binding pocket of ChAT	160-163
5.3.4.	Molecular Dynamics Simulation	163-168
5.3.5.	Similarity Index Analysis	168-170
5.3.6.	Solubility study	170-172
5.4.	Materials and Methods	172-180
5.4.1.	Virtual screening protocol	172-174
5.4.1.1.	Protein structure preparation	172-173
5.4.1.2.	VitasM screening library acquisition and preparation	173
5.4.1.3.	Virtual Screening	173
5.4.1.4.	Post screening rescoring and MM/GBSA analysis	174
5.4.2.	Production and purification of recombinant human ChAT protein	174
5.4.2.1.	In vitro fluorometric ChAT activity inhibition assay	174-175
5.4.2.2.	In vitro colorimetric AChE and BChE activity inhibition	175-176

	Title	Page No.
	assay	
5.4.2.3.	Enzyme inhibition kinetics for determination of K_i , IC_{50} , and mode of action of hits compounds	176-177
5.4.2.4.	Cell viability assay	177-178
5.4.3.	Molecular Dynamics simulation	178-179
5.4.4.	Similarity Index Analysis	179
5.4.5.	Solubility and parentage purity assay	179-180
5.5.	Conclusion	180-181
5.6.	References	182-184
	CHAPTER 6: AI-Enabled Ultra-large Virtual Screening Identifies Potential Inhibitors of Choline Acetyltransferase for Theranostic Purposes	185-226
6.1.	Introduction	184-186
6.2.	Objective	186
6.3.	Results and discussion	186-217
6.3.1.	AI-Enabled Virtual Screening Using Deep Docking	186-189
6.3.2.	Molecular Mechanics Poisson–Boltzmann Surface Area (MMPBSA) Rescoring of the Docking Poses	189-202
6.3.3.	In Silico Pharmacokinetic Study	202-203
6.3.4.	Molecular Dynamics Simulation	203-213
6.3.5.	Molecular Mechanics Poisson–Boltzmann Surface Area Analysis	213-216
6.3.6.	Similarity Index Analysis	216-217
6.4.	Material and methods	218-223
6.4.1.	Deep Docking Protocol	218-220
6.4.1.1.	Preparation of the Ligand Database	218
6.4.1.2.	Molecular Docking	218-219
6.4.1.3.	Deep Docking Iterations	219-220
6.4.2.	MMPBSA Rescoring of the Docking Poses	220
6.4.3.	In Silico Pharmacokinetic Study	221
6.4.4.	Molecular Dynamics Simulation	221
6.4.4.1.	H-Bond Occupancy Analysis	221
6.4.4.2.	Molecular Mechanics Poisson–Boltzmann and Surface Area (MMPBSA) Analysis	221-222
6.4.4.	Similarity Index Analysis	222-223
6.5.	Conclusion	223-225
6.6.	References	225-226
	CHAPTER 7: Summary & Conclusion	227-232
	Annexure I: List of NMR, HRMS, HPLC Data for Chapter 4	233-292
	Annexure II: List of Publication	293-298