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Synthesis and Evaluation of Novel Prenylated Chalcone Derivatives as Antileishmanial and Anti-trypanosomal Compounds

Thais Gaban Passalacqua, Luiz Antonio Dutra, Letícia de Almeida, Angela Maria Arenas Velásquez, Fabio Aurelio Esteves Torres, Paulo Renato Yamasaki, Mariana Bastos dos Santos, Luis Octavio Regasini, Paul A.M. Michels, Vanderlan da SilvaBolzani, Marcia A.S. Graminha

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

1 Synthesis and Evaluation of Novel Prenylated Chalcone

2 Derivatives as Anti-leishmanial and Anti-trypanosomal

3 Compounds

- 4 Thais Gaban Passalacqua^{a; b†}, Luiz Antonio Dutra^{c; d†}, Letícia de Almeida^{a; b}, Angela Maria
- 5 Arenas Velásquez^{a; b}, Fabio Aurelio Esteves Torres^{a; b}, Paulo Renato Yamasaki^c, Mariana Bastos
- dos Santos^e, Luis Octavio Regasini^e, Paul A. M. Michels^f, Vanderlan da Silva Bolzani^a and
- 7 Marcia A. S. Graminha^{c*}
- 8 a Instituto de Química, UNESP/ Araraquara-SP. 14800-060, Brazil.
- 9 b Programa de Pós Graduação em Biotecnologia
- ^c Faculdade de Ciências Farmacêuticas, Universidade Estadual Paulista, UNESP, Araraquara-SP
- 11 14801-902, Brazil.
- 12 d Programa de Pós Graduação em Ciências Farmacêuticas
- 13 ^e Instituto de Biociências, Letras e Ciências Exatas, Universidade Estadual Paulista, UNESP, São
- José do Rio Preto-SP, 15054-000, Brazil.
- 15 f Institute of Structural and Molecular Biology, University of Edinburgh, UK
- † These two authors have equally contributed to this work.
- * Author to whom correspondence should be addressed: graminha@fcfar.unesp.br;
- 18 Tel.: +55-16-3301-6957; Fax: +55-16-3301-6940.
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Abstract: Chalcones form a class of compounds that belong to the flavonoid family and are widely distributed in plants. Their simple structure and the ease of preparation make chalcones attractive scaffolds for the synthesis of a large number of derivatives enabling the evaluation of the effects of different functional groups on biological activities. In this paper, we report the successful synthesis of a series of novel prenylated chalcones via Claisen – Schmidt condensation and the evaluation of their effect on the viability of the Trypanosomatidae parasites *Leishmania amazonensis*, *Leishmania infantum* and *Trypanosoma cruzi*.

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Keywords: Prenylated chalcone; leishmanicidal activity; trypanocidal activity; *Leishmania amazonensis*; *Leishmania infantum*; *Trypanosoma cruzi*; drug discovery

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Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) have a higher prevalence in tropical and subtropical regions and affect more than one billion people worldwide¹. A list of 17 NTDs² includes the insect vectorborne diseases leishmaniasis and Chagas´ disease. Leishmaniasis is a widespread disease caused by parasites belonging to more than 20 species of *Leishmania*, which are transmitted by phlebotomine sandflies after injection of promastigote forms into mammals during feeding. These infective stages

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