MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY

Manuscript Evaluation Form

Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Dimitra Hadjipavlou-Litina, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

PAPER TITLE	Synthesis, Antiviral Evaluation and Molecular Docking Studies of Azo Compounds
AUTHOR(S) NAME	Muhammad Ashfaq, Mirza Imran Shahzad, Tehreem Tahir

Sec. A: REFEREE'S ASSESSMENT *(cross as appropriate)*

Criterion	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality of the topic	x			
Technical Quality		x		
Importance in its Field	x			
Style & Overall Representation		x		
Readily Understandable	x			
Suitability for the Journal	x			
Adequate Illustrations or Drawings	x			
English language		x		

Description	Yes	No	Comments/ Suggestions
Does the title represent manuscript's contents?	x		
Is the Abstract accurate and concise?	x		
Are the approach/ methods properly described?	x		
Are the conclusions and interpretations sound?	x		
Are the references properly cited?	x		
Is this a new/ original/ contribution?	x		
Is it within the scope of the journal?	x		

Overall the Paper is Rated:	**(Excellent 8---------- Poor)** 10 9 **8** 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Sec. B: REFEREE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

		OTHER SPECIFIC CRITICISMS	
Accept with minor changes	x	Imperfect style	x
Accept with major changes		Too long	
Reject in current form, but may be resubmitted		References incorrectly presented	
Reject, with no resubmission		Typographical and Grammatical errors	x

PAPER TYPE: **Research article** ☐ **Review article** ☐ **Letter article** ☐

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Confidential Comments to the Editor (not for Transmission to Authors):

Comments for the Authors *(continue on another sheet, if necessary)*:

Review of the article entitled
Synthesis, Antiviral Evaluation and Molecular Docking Studies of Azo Compounds,
by Muhammad Ashfaq, Mirza Imran Shahzad, Tehreem Tahir

This study describes the synthesis of a series of azo compounds, the antiviral evaluation against avian influenza virus (AIV) H9N2 strain and newcastle disease virus (NDV) Lasota strain, and molecular docking study of the most potent compound of this series. Based on the results of bioactivity and computational studies, it was inferred that this compound can be further analyzed against other influenza viral strains and can serve as a structural template in designing of novel antiviral agents.

The manuscript is within the scope of the journal and suitable for publication after some revision.

The English language, spelling, grammar and punctuation have to be improved.

In Section 2.1., replace magnetic stirrer instead of Magnetic stirrer

Scheme and Figure legends should end with the point.
Azo compound should be used instead of azo ligand in Scheme and Figure legends.

In Section 2.2., add space before the beginning of the second sentence and between 25 and mM, state 25 mM instead of 25mM. Move (1,3- to the next row beside dioxolane

In Section 2.3., the first paragraph should end with the next sentences

The ^{1}H NMR spectra of the synthetized azo compounds are presented in Figures 1 to 5. The ^{13}C NMR spectra are given in the supplementary file.

Move ^{1}H to the next row beside NMR, as follows ^{1}H NMR
Move 206 to the next row beside g/mol, as follows 206 g/mol

In Section 2.4.2., move 0,1 to the next row beside mL, as follows 0,1 mL

In Section 2.4.4., replace 1 % instead of 1%

In Section 3.1., the last sentence of the first paragraph should be
The ^{13}C NMR spectra are given in the supplementary file.
instead of
The spectra of ^{13}C NMR are given in supplementary file
This has already been stated in section 2.3. and can be deleted.

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In Section 3.3., replace
The small structural molecule with the active ligand (5)
instead of
The small structural molecule of ligand (5)

In Conclusion, the azo compound (**5**) is more suitable and should be replaced instead of the azo ligand (**5**)

Move Acknowledgments for one raw

In the legend of Fig. 7. (B), replace capital letter Key residues, instead of lowercase letter, key residues
In the legend of Fig. 8. (C) and (D), replace capital letters Key instead of key and Structural instead of structural

FIELD OF EXPERTISE OF REFEREE: Materials and chemical technologies, nanotechnologies, biomedical engineering, chemistry**,** medicinal chemistry

Name & Affiliation of referee: Tamara Jovanović, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, University of Belgrade, Kraljice Marije 16, 11120 Belgrade, Serbia

Dr Tamara Jovanović / November 25, 2018
SIGNATURE OF REFEREE / DATE