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PO-017 Oxorhenium(V) complexes in the drug combination study

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Rhenium complexes merit particular attention in the area of metallodrug design due to rhenium's broad spectrum of oxidation states and consequently, the possibility to design compounds of a great structural diversity. Thus, the synthesis, chemical characterization and antitumor activity in vitro of the three Re(V) complexes is described. Novel compounds were obtained via reaction of $[\text{ReOCl}_3(\text{PPh}_3)_2]$ with corresponding ligands (pyridine-2-carboxylic acid, 3-methylpyridine-2-carboxylic acid and 6-methylpyridine-2-carboxylic acid) in acetonitrile at 78 °C for 3h. The complexes were fully characterized using NMR, IR, MS and elemental analysis. Their octahedral geometry with bidentate N[^]O ligand was confirmed by X-ray diffraction analysis. Antiproliferative effect was determined by MTT assay and only the complex with pyridine-2-carboxylic acid (**1**) showed dose-dependent cytotoxic potential, particularly toward triple-negative breast adenocarcinoma cells MDA-MB-231 with IC_{50} $68.90 \pm 1.73 \mu\text{M}$ and pancreatic adenocarcinoma cells PANC-1 with IC_{50} $69.8 \pm 2.3 \mu\text{M}$. Drug combination studies in PANC-1 cells with **1** and Verapamil hydrochloride (VRP) showed slight arrest of cell cycle in the S phase and also it increase its antiproliferative potential to IC_{50} $51.4 \pm 2.8 \mu\text{M}$. Part of the research included a depletion of the glutathione (GSH) level by L-buthionine-sulfoximine (L-BSO) at sub-toxic concentrations (100 μM) in PANC-1 cells which caused an increase of activity of **1** to the IC_{50} $57.67 \pm 6.51 \mu\text{M}$.