

Research Article

Reaction of Nitrilimines with Pyruvaldehyde Hydrazones: Synthesis and Antimicrobial Evaluation of Some New 1,2,4-Triazole Derivatives

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A new series of 1,3,4,5,5-pentasubstituted-1,2,4-triazoles (**4a–j**, **6a–j**) have been synthesized by the 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of suitable nitrilimines **2** to pyruvaldehyde (2-oxopropanal) hydrazones having (COPh, COOMe, COOEt, Me/Me, and Me/Ph) groups **3** and **5**. Both analytical and spectroscopical data of all the synthesized compounds are in full agreement with the proposed structures. The microbial features of the synthesized compounds were studied by a known method.

1. Introduction

The synthesis of heterocycles has received considerable attention in recent years. 1,2,4-Triazoles and their derivatives constitute an important class of organic compounds with diverse agricultural, industrial, and biological activities [1–3] including antimicrobial [4, 5] sedative, anticonvulsant [6], and anti-inflammatory properties [7], and, consequently, the synthesis of compounds containing 1,2,4-triazole rings in their structure has attracted widespread attention. 1,3-Dipolar cycloaddition is one of the most versatile methods for the construction of five-membered heterocycles [8, 9]. Recently, we have described a versatile and efficient one-pot synthesis of dispiroheterocycles containing 1,2,4-triazole moieties utilizing available ketooximes, hydrazones, and hydrazonoyl halides [10]. Keeping this observation in view and in continuation of our study on the synthesis of biologically active nitrogen containing heterocycles [11-16], this paper presents the synthesis of a series of some new substituted 1,2,4-triazoles via reaction of nitrilimines 2 with different pyruvaldehyde hydrazones 3 and 5, in anticipation of expected interesting biological activities.

2. Experimental

2.1. Instruments and Reagents. Melting points were determined on an A. Krüss Melting Point Meter and are uncorrected. The IR spectra were measured as potassium bromide pellets using a Satellite 3000 Mid infrared spectrophotometer. The ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AM 300 MHz spectrometer at room temperature in DMSO-d₆ solution using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal reference. Chemical shifts were recorded as δ values in parts per million (ppm) downfield from internal TMS. Electron impact (EI) mass spectra were run on Shimadzu GCMS-QP1000 EX spectrometer at 70 eV. Elemental analyses were performed at the Microanalytical Center of Cairo University, Egypt. The hydrazonoyl halides 1 [17-19] and pyruvaldehyde hydrazones 3 and 5 [20] were prepared according to literature procedures. Pyruvaldehyde, tetrahydrofuran (THF), and triethylamine were purchased from Avocado Research Chemicals, England, and used without further purification.

2.2. Reaction of Nitrilimine 2 with Pyruvaldehyde Hydrazones3 (General Procedure). Triethylamine (1.5 g, 15 mmol) was added to the stirred mixture of pyruvaldehyde hydrazones

3 (7.5–10 mmol) and the appropriate hydrazonoyl halides 1 (5 mmol) in dioxane (50 mL) at room temperature and stirring was continued or refluxed for 12–16 hours. The precipitated salt was filtered off and the solvent was then evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was washed with water (3×20 mL), and in few cases the oily or gummy products were triturated with ethanol or methanol (10 mL). The crude solid product was then collected and recrystallized from ethanol or methanol to give the desired compounds 4a–j.

The following compounds were synthesized using this method.

2.2.1. 3-Acetyl-4-benzoylamino-5-methyl-1-phenyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (4a). Yield 64%; mp. 163–165°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 9.73 (1H, s, NH), 8.64 (1H, s, H-C=O), 7.76–7.14 (10H, m, arom. H), 2.56 (3H, s, COCH₃), 1.92 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 193.6 (C=O acetyl), 168.8 (N-C=O), 162.7 (H-C=O), 147.6 (C=N), 143.7–117.9 (8 arom. C.), 90.1 (C-5), 24.2 (CH₃), 23.8 (CH₃ acetyl); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 3256 (NH), 1691 (C=O), 1682 (H-C=O), 1676 (N-C=O), 1622 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: *m*/*z* = 350 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₁₉H₁₈N₄O₃ (Mw 350.38) C: 65.13/65.45, H: 5.18/4.90, N: 15.99/16.15.

2.2.2. 3-Acetyl-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-ethoxycarbonylamino-5methyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (4b). Yield 65%; mp. 146–148°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 8.72 (1H, s, H-C=O), 6.96 (1H, s, NH), 7.39–7.17 (4H, m, arom. H), 2.69 (2H, q, J 7.5, CH₂), 2.54 (3H, s, COCH₃), 1.90 (3H, s, CH₃), 1.08 (3H, t, J 7.5, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 193.3 (C=O acetyl), 162.8 (H-C=O), 158.1 (N-C=O), 147.5 (C=N), 143.4–121.3 (4 arom. C.), 89.9 (C-5), 63.2 (CH₂), 24.2 (CH₃), 23.8 (CH₃ acetyl), 14.8 (CH₃ ethyl); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 3255 (NH), 1730 (O-C=O), 1694 (C=O), 1687 (H-C=O), 1629 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: *m*/*z* = 352/354 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₁₅H₁₇ClN₄O₄ (Mw 352.87) C: 51.07/50.85, H: 4.86/4.70, N: 15.88/16.05.

2.2.3. 3-Acetyl-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-methoxycarbonylamino-5-methyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (4c). Yield 70%; mp. 152–154°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 8.71 (1H, s, H-C=O), 6.93 (1H, s, NH), 7.30–7.12 (4H, m, arom. H), 3.68 (3H, s, OCH₃), 2.56 (3H, s, COCH₃), 1.91 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 193.8 (C=O acetyl), 162.5 (H-C=O), 158.3 (N-C=O), 147.3 (C=N), 142.9–120.9 (4 arom. C.), 90.0 (C-5), 53.4 (OCH₃), 24.2 (CH₃), 23.5 (CH₃ acetyl); IR (KBr) ν/cm^{-1} 3275 (NH), 1735 (O-C=O), 1692 (C=O), 1682 (H-C=O), 1626 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: m/z = 338/340 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₁₄H₁₅ClN₄O₄ (Mw 338.875) C: 49.64/49.40, H: 4.46/4.60, N: 16.54/16.40.

2.2.4. 3-Benzoyl-4-benzoylamino-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-methyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (4d). Yield 66%; mp. 189– 191°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 9.43 (1H, s, NH), 8.55 (1H, s, H-C=O), 8.12–7.15 (14H, m, arom. H), 1.86 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 184.3 (C=O benzoyl), 168.8 (N-C=O), 162.6 (H-C=O), 147.1 (C=N), 141.3–118.7 (12 arom. C.), 89.1 (C-5), 24.2 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν/cm^{-1} 3257 (NH), 1682 (H-C=O), 1673 (N-C=O), 1656 (C=O), 1612 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: m/z = 446/448 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₂₄H₁₉ClN₄O₃ (Mw 446.90) C: 64.50/64.25, H: 4.29/4.45, N: 7.60/7.45.

2.2.5. 4-Methoxycar bonylamino-5-methyl-1-phenyl-3-phenylaminocarbonyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (4e). Yield 71%; mp. 199–201°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 10.43 (1H, s, PhNH), 8.53 (1H, s, H-C=O), 7.72–7.18 (10H, m, arom. H), 6.93 (1H, s, NH), 3.67 (3H, s, OCH₃), 1.91 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 166.4 (PhNH-C=O), 162.6 (H-C=O), 158.4 (N-C=O), 147.6 (C=N), 143.2–115.7 (8 arom. C.), 89.2 (C-5), 53.4 (OCH₃), 24.3 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 3362 (PhNH), 3257 (NH), 1682 (H-C=O), 1732 (O-C=O), 1655 (C=O), 1618 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: *m*/*z* = 365 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₁₉H₁₉N₅O₃ (Mw 365.39) C: 62.46/62.25, H: 5.24/5.35, N: 19.17/19.05.

2.2.6. 1-(4-Bromophenyl)-4-benzoylamino-5-methyl-3-phenylaminocarbonyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (**4f**). Yield 74%; mp. 204–206°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 10.46 (1H, s, PhNH), 9.53 (1H, s, NH), 8.52 (1H, s, H-C=O), 7.76–7.21 (14H, m, arom. H), 1.87 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 168.5 (N-C=O), 166.4 (PhNH-C=O), 162.6 (H-C=O), 147.3 (C=N), 143.1–120.7 (12 arom. C.), 88.7 (C-5), 24.2 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 3365 (PhNH), 3270 (NH), 1689 (H-C=O), 1675 (N-C=O), 1650 (C=O), 1619 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: *m*/*z* = 506/508 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₂₄H₂₀BrN₅O₃ (Mw 506.36) C: 56.93/57.20, H: 3.98/4.15, N: 13.83/13.70.

2.2.7. 4-Benzoylamino-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-3-phenylaminocarbonyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (4g). Yield 72%; mp. 216–218°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 10.71 (1H, s, PhNH), 9.62 (1H, s, NH), 8.65 (1H, s, H-C=O), 7.76–7.16 (14H, m, arom. H), 1.93 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 168.8 (N-C=O), 166.7 (PhNH-C=O), 162.6 (H-C=O), 147.5 (C=N), 143.4–115.7 (12 arom. C.), 89.6 (C-5), 24.5 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν 3360 (PhNH), 3258 (NH), 1691 (H-C=O), 1678 (N-C=O), 1655 (C=O), 1622 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: m/z = 445/447 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₂₄H₂₀FN₅O₃ (Mw 445.46) C: 64.71/64.45, H: 4.53/4.70, N: 15.72/15.55.

2.2.8. 4-Benzoylamino-1-(4-clorophenyl)-3-(2-furoyl)-5-methyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (**4h**). Yield 65%; mp. 165– 167°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 9.35 (1H, s, NH), 8.68 (1H, s, H-C=O), 8.31–7.20 (12H, m, arom. H), 1.86 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 173.7 (C=O), 169.0 (N-C=O), 162.6 (H-C=O), 146.8 (C=N), 144.4–115.4 (12 arom. C.), 89.7 (C-5), 24.1 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 3272 (NH), 1686 (H-C=O), 1676 (N-C=O), 1660 (C=O), 1609 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: *m*/*z* = 436/438 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₂₂H₁₇ClN₄O₄ (Mw 436.86) C: 60.49/60.25, H: 3.92/4.10, N: 12.82/13.70. 2.2.9. 4-Benzoylamino-1-(4-clorophenyl)-5-methyl-3-(2-thenoyl)-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (**4i**). Yield 63%; mp. 176– 178°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 9.23 (1H, s, NH), 8.53 (1H, s, H-C=O), 8.26–7.15 (12H, m, arom. H), 1.88 (3H, s, COCH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 174.6 (C=O), 168.7 (N-C=O), 162.6 (H-C=O), 146.6 (C=N), 144.6–114.9 (12 arom. C.), 89.4 (C-5), 24.0 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν/cm^{-1} 3275 (NH), 1687 (H-C=O), 1678 (N-C=O), 1665 (C=O), 1612 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: m/z = 452/454 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₂₂H₁₇ClN₄O₃S (Mw 452.92) C: 58.34/58.60, H: 3.78/3.65, N: 12.37/12.50.

2.2.10. 4-Benzoylamino-1-(4-clorophenyl)-5-methyl-3-(2-naphthoyl)-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (4j). Yield 58%; mp. 186–188°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 9.62 (1H, s, NH), 8.64 (1H, s, H-C=O), 8.76–7.24 (16H, m, arom. H), 1.82 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 184.5 (C=O naphthoyl), 168.8 (N-C=O), 162.6 (H-C=O), 146.8 (C=N), 141.4–119.3 (18 arom. C.), 88.7 (C-5), 23.8 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν/cm^{-1} 3225 (NH), 1687 (H-C=O), 1675 (N-C=O), 1640 (C=O), 1621 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: m/z = 496/498 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₂₈H₂₁ClN₄O₃ (Mw 496.96) C: 68.67/68.40, H: 4.26/4.45, N: 11.27/11.15.

2.3. Reaction of Nitrilimine 2 with Pyruvaldehyde Hydrazones 5 (General Procedure). Triethylamine (10 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was slowly added to the stirred mixture of pyruvaldehyde hydrazones 5 (5 mmol) and the appropriate hydrazonoyl halides 1 (5 mmol) in THF (50 mL) at room temperature and then refluxed for 12 hours. The cooled and precipitated salt was filtered off, and the solvent was then evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was washed with water (2×25 mL), and in few cases the oily or gummy products were triturated with ethanol or methanol (10 mL). The crude solid product was collected and recrystallized from ethanol or methanol to give the desired compounds.

The following compounds were synthesized using this method.

2.3.1. 3-Acetyl-4-dimethylamino-5-methyl-1-phenyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (**6a**). Yield 77%; mp. 133–135°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 8.63 (1H, s, H-C=O), 7.76–7.14 (4H, m, arom. H), 3.25 (6H, s, 2CH₃) 2.56 (3H, s, COCH₃), 1.92 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 193.6 (C=O acetyl), 162.8 (H-C=O), 147.8 (C=N), 142.7–117.9 (4 arom. C.), 90.1 (C-5), 43.2 (2CH₃), 24.2 (CH₃), 23.8 (CH₃ acetyl); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 1696 (C=O), 1686 (H-C=O), 1628 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: m/z = 274 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₁₄H₁₇N₄O₂ (Mw 274.33) C: 61.30/61.45, H: 6.61/6.77, N: 20.42/20.25.

2.3.2. 3-Acetyl-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-dimethylamino-5-methyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (**6b**). Yield 75%; mp. 141–143°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 8.62 (1H, s, H-C=O), 7.39–7.17 (4H, m, arom. H), 3.25 (6H, s, 2CH₃), 2.54 (3H, s, COCH₃), 1.90 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 193.3 (C=O acetyl), 162.8 (H-C=O), 148.0 (C=N), 142.4–120.9 (4 arom. C.), 89.9 (C-5), 43.2 (2CH₃), 24.1 (CH₃), 23.6 (CH₃ acetyl); IR (KBr) ν/cm^{-1} 1696 (C=O), 1688 (H-C=O), 1630 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: $m/z = 308/310 \text{ [M}^+\text{]}$; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₁₅H₁₇ClN₄O₂ (Mw 308.77) C: 54.46/54.75, H: 5.55/5.38, N: 18.15/18.05.

2.3.3. 3-Acetyl-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-methylphenylamino-5methyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (6c). Yield 76%; mp. 122–124°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 8.60 (1H, s, H-C=O), 7.30–7.12 (9H, m, arom. H), 3.18 (3H, s, CH₃), 2.56 (3H, s, COCH₃), 1.91 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 193.8 (C=O acetyl), 162.5 (H-C=O), 147.9 (C=N), 142.6–120.5 (8 arom. C.), 90.0 (C-5), 43.4 (CH₃), 24.3 (CH₃), 23.1 (CH₃ acetyl); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 1697 (C=O), 1684 (H-C=O), 1628 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: m/z = 370/372 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₁₉H₁₉ClN₄O₂ (Mw 370.84) C: 61.54/61.27, H: 5.16/4.98, N: 15.11/14.95.

2.3.4. 3-Benzoyl-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-dimethylamino-5methyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (6d). Yield 71%; mp. 159–161°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 8.52 (1H, s, H-C=O), 8.12–7.15 (9H, m, arom. H), 3.21 (6H, s, 2CH₃), 1.86 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 184.3 (C=O benzoyl), 162.6 (H-C=O), 147.1 (C=N), 141.3–118.7 (8 arom. C.), 89.7 (C-5), 43.5 (2CH₃), 24.2 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 1685 (H-C=O), 1660 (C=O), 1623 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: *m*/*z* = 370/372 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₁₉H₁₉ClN₄O₂ (Mw 370.84) C: 61.54/61.35, H: 5.16/5.30, N: 15.11/15.25.

2.3.5. 4-Dimethylamino-5-methyl-1-phenyl-3-phenylaminocarbonyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (6e). Yield 66%; mp. 189–181°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 10.43 (1H, s, PhNH), 8.55 (1H, s, H-C=O), 8.12–7.15 (10H, m, arom. H), 3.12 (6H, s, 2CH₃), 1.86 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 167.8 (N-C=O), 166.6 (PhNH-C=O), 162.6 (H-C=O), 147.1 (C=N), 142.3–118.7 (8 arom. C.), 88.7 (C-5), 43.0 (2CH₃), 24.4 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 3363 (PhNH), 1687 (H-C=O), 1655 (C=O), 1622 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: *m*/*z* = 351 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₁₉H₂₁N₅O₂ (Mw 351.41) C: 64.94/65.22, H: 6.02/5.92, N: 19.93/20.05.

2.3.6. 1-(4-Bromophenyl)-4-dimethylamino-5-methyl-3phenylaminocarbonyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (6f). Yield 64%; mp. 194–196°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 10.42 (1H, s, PhNH), 8.52 (1H, s, H-C=O), 7.76–7.21 (9H, m, arom. H), 3.14 (6H, s, 2CH₃), 1.87 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 167.5 (N-C=O), 166.5 (PhNH-C=O), 162.6 (H-C=O), 147.6 (C=N), 143.1–120.9 (8 arom. C.), 89.8 (C-5), 43.1 (2CH₃), 24.3 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 3365 (PhNH), 1689 (H-C=O), 1650 (C=O), 1629 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: *m*/*z* = 392/394 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₂₄H₂₂BrN₅O₂ (Mw 492.38) C: 58.55/58.37, H: 4.50/4.35, N: 14.22/14.30.

2.3.7. 1-(4-Flourophenyl)-5-methyl-4-methylphenylamino-3-phenylaminocarbonyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (**6g**). Yield 68%; mp. 176–178°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 10.35 (1H, s, PhNH), 8.57 (1H, s, H-C=O), 7.76–7.16 (14H, m, arom. H), 3.20 (3H, s, CH₃), 1.93 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR

Comp. number	Antibacterial activity					Antifungal activity	
	Enterococci	E. coli	Staph. aureus	Klebsiella spp.	Proteus spp.	Candida albicans	Aspergillus niger
4a	12	16	14	13	9	13	11
4b	16	16	11	5	12	14	16
4c	17	12	10	12	14	16	15
4d	15	17	15	15	11	14	10
4e	14	15	14	17	10	17	7
4f	12	11	12	16	6	15	8
4g	17	14	10	13	17	13	12
4h	16	12	16	15	7	14	14
4i	14	13	15	11	12	12	10
4j	11	10	13	12	6	11	7
6b	12	12	11	10	11	15	12
6d	9	14	8	12	13	8	14
6g	18	17	16	17	16	17	16
6i	15	13	12	14	12	11	9
DMF	_	_	_	_	_	_	_

TABLE 1: Antimicrobial screening results of the tested compounds*.

* Calculated as average of three values.

(DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 168.8 (N-C=O), 166.7 (PhNH-C=O), 162.6 (H-C=O), 148.7 (C=N), 143.8–116.1 (12 arom. C.), 89.3 (C-5), 43.7 (N-CH₃), 24.6 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 3366 (PhNH), 1687 (H-C=O), 1650 (C=O), 1626 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: *m*/*z* = 431/433 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₂₄H₂₂FN₅O₂ (Mw 431.47) C: 66.81/66.65, H: 5.14/5.05, N: 16.23/16.34.

2.3.8. 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-dimethylamino-3-(2-furoyl)-5methyl-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (**6h**). Yield 76%; mp. 145–147°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 8.61 (1H, s, H-C=O), 8.31–7.20 (7H, m, arom. H), 3.28 (6H, s, 2CH₃), 1.86 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 174.6 (C=O), 162.6 (H-C=O), 147.8 (C=N), 144.9–115.4 (8 arom. C.), 89.7 (C-5), 43.0 (2CH₃), 23.7 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 1688 (H-C=O), 1655 (C=O), 1619 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: *m*/*z* = 360/362 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₁₇H₁₇ClN₄O₃ (Mw 360.80) C: 56.59/56.33, H: 4.75/4.63, N: 15.53/15.70.

2.3.9. 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-dimethylamino-5-methyl-3-(2thenoyl)-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (**6***i*). Yield 73%; mp. 156–158°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 8.58 (1H, s, H-C=O), 8.26–7.15 (7H, m, arom. H), 3.25 (6H, s, 2CH₃), 1.88 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 176.2 (C=O), 162.6 (H-C=O), 147.6 (C=N), 144.6–115.3 (8 arom. C.), 89.4 (C-5), 43.2 (2CH₃), 23.8 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν /cm⁻¹ 1686 (H-C=O), 1660 (C=O), 1620 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: *m*/*z* = 376/378 [M⁺]; Analysis (% Calculated/found) for C₁₇H₁₇ClN₄O₂S (Mw 376.87) C: 54.18/54.40, H: 4.55/4.65, N: 14.87/14.75.

2.3.10. 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-5-methyl-4-methylphenylamino-3-(2-naphthoyl)-1,2,4-triazole-5-carbaldehyde (**6***j*). Yield 68%; mp. 202–204°C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 8.60 (1H, s, H-C=O), 8.76–7.24 (16H, m, arom. H), 3.06 (3H, s, CH₃), 1.82 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ /ppm 183.9 (C=O naphthoyl), 162.2 (H-C=O), 146.8 (C=N), 142.4–120.3 (18 arom. C.), 88.7 (C-5), 42.9 (NCH₃), 23.8 (CH₃); IR (KBr) ν/cm^{-1} 1685 (H-C=O), 1645 (C=O), 1622 (C=N) cm⁻¹; MS: $m/z = 482/486 \text{ [M^+]};$ Analysis (% Calculated/found) for $C_{28}H_{23}\text{ClN}_4\text{O}_2$ (Mw 482.97) C: 69.63/69.40, H: 4.80/4.91, N: 11.60/11.48.

2.4. Antimicrobial Activity Screening. Antimicrobial activity screening of the synthesized compounds was determined by the agar dilution technique as recommended by the Clinical and Laboratory Standard Institute (CLSI) [21]. The tested compounds were dissolved in dimethyl formamide (DMF). An inoculum of about 1.5×10^8 colony forming units per spot was applied to the surfaces of Mueller-Hinton agar plates containing graded concentrations of the respective compounds; plates were incubated at 37°C for 18 h. The spot with the lowest concentration of compound showing no growth was defined as the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC). All organisms used in this study were standard strains obtained from the Microbiology Laboratory (Al-Aqsa University) and included bacterial strains such as Enterococci, Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Klebsiella spp., and Proteus spp. and fungi strains such as Aspergillus niger and Candida albicans. The MIC of tetracycline and fluconazole was determined concurrently as reference for antibacterial and antifungal activities, respectively (Table 1). Control DMF was carried out with each experiment.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Chemistry. 1,3-Dipolar cycloaddition of nitrilimines 2, generated in situ from hydrazonoyl halides 1 in tetrahydrofuran or 1,4-dioxane in the presence of triethylamine, to 2-oxopropanal hydrazones 3 (Y = COPh, COOMe, and COOEt) was carried out at room temperature for 12 h, leading to the formation of 1,2,4-triazole derivatives 4a-j as



SCHEME 1: Synthetic pathway for the preparation of 1,2,4-triazoles 4a-j.

cycloaddition products rather than the cyclocondensation 1,2,4,5-tetrazines 4'a-j (Scheme 1). It is worth mentioning that the latter products 4'a-j were obtained from the reaction of hydrazonoyl halides with methyl hydrazones of aliphatic aldehydes and ketones [22]. This can be explained on the basis of the weak nucleophilicity of the nitrogen atom of the hydrazones carrying the electron withdrawing groups in comparison to that of the nitrogen atom carrying methyl group in methyl hydrazones. The purity of obtained compounds was controlled by TLC and elemental analyses. Both the analytical and spectral data (IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and mass spectra) of the synthesized triazoles 4a-j were in full agreement with the proposed structures and were depicted in Experimental.

The electron impact (EI) mass spectra displayed the correct molecular ions in accordance with the suggested structures. Their IR spectra showed absorption bands in the regions 3275-3225 cm⁻¹, 1690-1680 cm⁻¹, and 1620-1610 cm⁻¹ assignable to NH, formyl, and C=N groups, respectively. Their 1H NMR spectra revealed aromatic protons at 8.3-7.1 ppm and singlet signal at 8.7-8.5 ppm assigned to H-C=O proton and singlet signal in the region 1.9-1.8 ppm assignable to the CH₃ proton at quaternary carbon. The detailed ¹H NMR data is shown in Experimental. Their 13C NMR spectra showed all the signals corresponding to the proposed structures, especially C-5 (quaternary carbon) which was found to resonate at about 90-85 ppm. This is similar to reported values of quaternary carbon flanked by two nitrogen atoms in five-membered heterocycles [22-24], which provide strong evidence in support of the structures 4a-j rather than the six-membered heterocyclic structures 4'a-j which is expected to have a C-6 signal at about 70–65 ppm. The complete ¹³C NMR data are presented in Experimental.

On the other hand, the reaction of the same nitrilimines 2 with 2-oxopropanal hydrazones 5 having N,N-dimethyl or N-methyl-N-phenyl substituents, under ambient temperature, affords only one isolable product in each case. On the bases of their spectroscopical data, the structures of the reaction products were identified as 1,3,4,5,5-substituted-1,2,4-triazoles **6a-j** (Scheme 2) in good yields.

The synthesized compounds **6a**-**j** gave satisfactory analysis for the proposed structures which are confirmed on the bases of their spectroscopical data. The electron impact (EI) mass spectra displayed the correct molecular ions (M) in accordance with the suggested structures. Their IR spectra showed absorption bands in the region $1695-1950 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ assignable to carbonyl and formyl group. The absorption band of C=N appeared in 1630-1620 cm⁻¹ region. Their ¹H NMR spectrum revealed characteristic signals for the N-CH₃ at about δ 3.3–3.1 ppm in addition to the signals resulting from the formyl and aromatic hydrogens. ¹³C NMR spectrum exhibited the characteristic signals of the suggested structures. The signal for quaternary carbon (C-5) appeared around δ 90 ppm. The signal at δ 37.8–37.2 ppm is attributed to the N-CH₃ carbon. The entire ¹³C NMR data are presented in Experimental.

3.2. Antimicrobial Activity. Most of the synthesized compounds were screened in vitro for their antimicrobial activity against a variety of bacterial strains such as *Enterococci*, *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Klebsiella* spp., and *Proteus* spp. and fungi such as *Aspergillus niger* and *Candida albicans*, employing the nutrient agar disc diffusion method [25, 26] at 10 mg/mL concentration in dimethyl formamide (DMF) used as solvent control, by measuring the average diameter of the inhibition zone in mm. The results showed that all the tested compounds exhibited weak to moderate



 $\label{eq:result} \begin{aligned} & \text{Ar} = 4\text{-X-C}_{6}\text{H}_{4}\text{-} \\ & \text{R/Y/X} = \textbf{6a: Me/Me/H; 6b: Me/Me/Cl; 6c: Me/Ph/Cl; 6d: Ph/Me/Cl; } \\ & \textbf{6e: PhNH/Me/H; 6f: PhNH/Ph/Br; 6g: PhNH/Ph/F; } \\ & \textbf{6h: 2-C}_{4}\text{H}_{3}\text{O/Me/Cl; 6i: 2-C}_{4}\text{H}_{3}\text{S/Me/Cl; 6j: 2-C}_{10}\text{H}_{7}\text{/Ph/Cl} \end{aligned}$

SCHEME 2: Synthetic pathway for the preparation of triazoles 6a-j.

degree of activity against bacteria and fungi compared with well-known antibacterial and antifungal substances such as tetracycline and fluconazole, respectively. The results are given in Table 1. According to NCCLS (2004), zones of inhibition for tetracycline and fluconazole <14 mm were considered resistant, between 15 and 18 mm were considered weakly sensitive, and >19 mm were considered sensitive. Also, the results showed the degree of inhibition varied with the tested compounds.

4. Conclusion

In conclusion, the reaction of several nitrilimines with pyruvaldehyde hydrazones having electron withdrawing or electron releasing groups leads to formation of pentasubstituted-1,2,4-triazoles and some of them were found to possess various antimicrobial activities towards all the microorganisms tested. The results confirm that the antimicrobial activity is strongly dependent on the nature of the substituents on triazole rings.

Conflict of Interests

The author declares that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

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