



## Synthesis and Anticancer Activity of Mixed Ligand, Cobalt (II), Nickel (II), Manganese (II) Complexes of Tertiary Diphosphines with Dithizone (H<sub>2</sub>dz)

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### ABSTRACT

The one pot synthesis reaction of one mole  $MCl_2 \cdot nH_2O$ ; where  $[M = Co(II), Ni(II), Mn(II)]$  with one mole of 1,5-diphenylthiocarbazono (dithizone; H<sub>2</sub>dz), of 1,1-bis(diphenyl phosphine)ferrocene (dppf) and 1,2-bis(diphenyl phosphine) ethane (dppe) gave colored complexes of;  $[Co(Hdz)(k^2-dppf)]Cl$ ,  $[Ni(Hdz)(k^2-dppf)]Cl$ ,  $[Ni(Hdz)(k^2-dppe)]Cl$  and  $[Mn(Hdz)(k^2-dppf)]Cl$ . The synthesized complexes have been identified by using <sup>1</sup>HNMR, IR, UV-Vis spectroscopy, micro elemental analysis and molar conductance. All complexes were tested for their anticancer activities on Human Breast cancer cell line CAL5. The results showed that  $[Ni(Hdz)(k^2-dppe)]Cl$  and  $[Mn(Hdz)(k^2-dppf)]Cl$  have a highest activities than cisplatin in compared to;  $[Co(Hdz)(k^2-dppf)]Cl$ ,  $[Ni(Hdz)(k^2-dppf)]Cl$ .

**Keywords:** Dithizone, Tertiarydiphosphines, Cobalt, Nickel, Manganese Complexes, Anticancer activity.

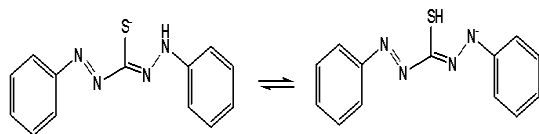
### INTRODUCTION

Extensive study of metal complexes as chemotherapeutic and drug agents is widely related to employment of cisplatin as a anticancer drug a above thirty years ago<sup>1</sup>. But all the cisplatin is suffering from several affects like individual drug resistance. Above six years ago the status of cisplatin has been updated<sup>2</sup>. The studies of N-heterocyclic Pt (II) complexes as reproducible of cisplatin have been showed that the planar substituted pyridine ligands in platinum complexes can be the mode of action of cisplatin<sup>3,4</sup>.

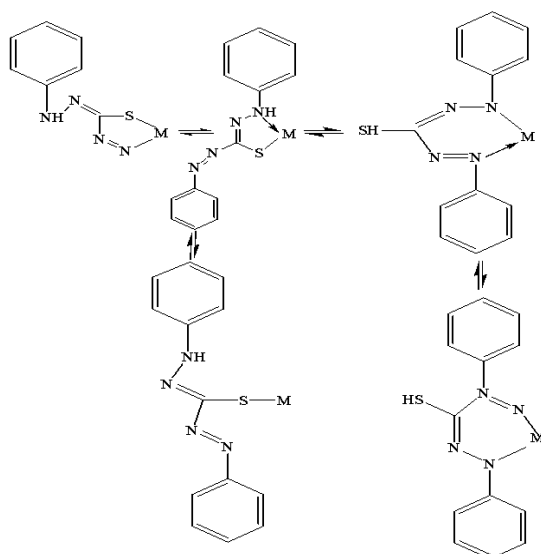
The medicinal uses and applicable of metals and metal coordination compounds are increasing drug and chemotherapeutic agents<sup>5,6</sup>. The anticancer abilities of the 10 elements; As, Sb, Bi, Au; V, Fe, Rh, Ti, Ga, Pt have been reported<sup>6</sup>.

Dithizone has Thione-Thiol tautomer (Scheme 1) and dithizonate has isomeric form (Scheme 2). Dithizone has been reported as a good ligand because of its ability to form colored complexes with different metal ions. Dithizone is also used in medical applications for the treatment of prostate cancer and pain due to metastases<sup>7,8</sup>.





**Scheme1. Thione –Thiol tautomers1,  
5-diphenylthiocarbazone (dithizone;H<sub>2</sub>dz)**



**Scheme 2. Isomeric forms of dithizonate ion and its metal complexes**

This work reports that the mixed ligand dithizone containing phenyl phosphine's with Cobalt(II), Nickel(II), Manganese(II) formulas; [Co(H<sub>2</sub>dz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)]Cl, [Ni(H<sub>2</sub>dz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)]Cl, [Ni(H<sub>2</sub>dz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppe)]Cl and [Mn(H<sub>2</sub>dz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)]Cl. The anticancer evaluation activities were obtained on Human Breast cancer cells, using cisplatin as a reference.

## EXPERIMENTAL

### Materials and Instrumentation

The compounds CoCl<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O, NiCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, MnCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O are obtained from BDH. Whereas dppm, dppp, dppf, were commercially available and obtained from Yacoo chem. China. Dithizone from Sigma Aldrich Company.

Micro elemental analyses were obtained using EuroEA 3000 instrument. The infra-red spectra in range (4000-400 cm<sup>-1</sup>) were measured as potassium bromide discs on Shimadzu, FT-IR spectroscopy Mod IR Affinity-1CE spectrophotometer. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker

400 MHz Ultra-shield. The electronic transition spectra were taken by using AE-UV1609 (UK) CO., LTD Shimadzu, in the range (200-800) nm. The magnetic moment values of the synthesized complexes were measured at 25°C using Bruker Magnet BM6. The metal analyses were obtained by using a Py-Unim SP9 atomic absorption spectrophotometer. The molar conductivities were recorded using a pH/Conductivity meter 901 (0.93 cell constant) (Turkey). Melting points of the complexes were carried out using Melting Point-MPD-100 Pixel Technology Co., Limited.

Human Breast cancer cell line CAL5 was maintained by MEM (US Biological, Salem, MA, USA) afforded with 10% fetal calf serum, penicillin and streptomycin at 37°C. Rat Embryo Fibroblast (REF) cells were kept in RPMI-1640 (US Biological, Salem, MA, USA) gained by penicillin/streptomycin and 10% fetal Bovine serum (Capricorn scientific, Germany). All cell lines were obtained from cell culture research lab, Iraqi Biotechnology Company, IRAQ Biotech (Baghdad, Iraq).

### Synthesis of [Co (Hdz) (k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)] Cl (1)

The solutions of a (0.0256 g, 0.1 mmol) of H<sub>2</sub>dz in 10 cm<sup>3</sup> of methanol, (0.1 mmol, 0.0273 g) of CoCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O in 10 cm<sup>3</sup> of methanol) and (0.0554 g, 0.1 mmol of 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphine) ferrocene (dppf) were mixed and refluxed at 55 °C for 2 h to give brown colored precipitate and the solutions was filtered and finally it was dried in an open air. Yield= 76%, d.p= 288°C. Anal. Calc.% for C<sub>47</sub>H<sub>41</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub>P<sub>2</sub>CoSFe: C, 62.30; H, 4.56; N, 6.18, S, 3.54, Co, 6.50, Cl, 3.91. Found %: C, 61.95; H, 4.62; N, 6.48, S; 3.85, Co; 6.73, Cl, 4.01. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO) δ: 7.78(4H,d), 7.42(4H,t), 7.28 – 7.38 (mH), 11.61(1H). The Proposed Geometrical Structure shown in Figure 1.

### Synthesis of [Ni (Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)]Cl (2)

The solutions of a (0.0256 g, 0.1 mmol) of H<sub>2</sub>dz in 10 cm<sup>3</sup> of methanol, (0.1 mmol, 0.0273 g) of NiCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O in 10 cm<sup>3</sup> of methanol) and (0.0554 g, 0.1 mmol of 1,1'-bis(diphenyl phosphine) ferrocene (dppf) were mixed and refluxed at 55°C for 2 h to give red-brown colored precipitate and the solutions was filtered and finally it was dried in an open air. Yield= 72%, d.p= 265°C. Anal. Calc. % for C<sub>47</sub>H<sub>41</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub>P<sub>2</sub>NiSFe: C, 62.32; H, 4.56; N, 6.19, S, 3.54, Ni, 6.48, Cl, 3.91. Found %: C, 61.83.7; H, 4.72; N, 5.94,

S; 2.89, Ni; 6.93, Cl, 3.98. The Proposed Geometrical Structure shown in Figure 1.

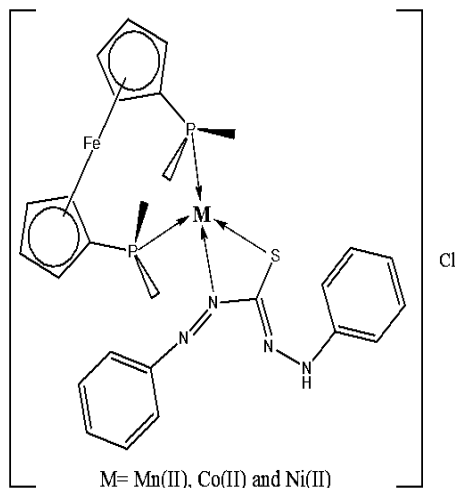


Fig. 1. The suggested Geometrical Shapes of [M (Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)]Cl Complex

#### Synthesis of [Ni (Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppe)]Cl (3)

The solutions of (0.0256 g, 0.1 mmol) of H<sub>2</sub>dz in 10 cm<sup>3</sup> of methanol, (0.1 mmol, 0.0273 g) of NiCl<sub>2</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O in 10 cm<sup>3</sup> of methanol and (0.0398 g, 0.1 mmol) of 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane (dppe) were mixed and refluxed at 55 °C for 2 h to give violet colored precipitate and the solutions was filtered and finally it was dried in an open air. Yield= 78, d.p= 198°C. Calc.% for C<sub>47</sub> H<sub>41</sub> Cl N<sub>4</sub> P<sub>2</sub> Ni S:C, 66.41; H, 4.86; N, 6.59, S, 3.77, Ni, 6.90, Cl, 4.71, Found %: C, 66.85; H, 4.92; N, 6.84, S; 3.87, Ni; 7.03, Cl, 4.83. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d6-DMSO) δ: 7.82(4H, d), 7.46 (4H, t), (mH) 7.36 – 7.44. The Proposed Geometrical Structure shown in Figure 2.

#### Synthesis of [Mn(Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)]Cl (4)

The solutions of (0.0256 g, 0.1 mmol) of H<sub>2</sub>dz in 10 cm<sup>3</sup> of methanol, (0.1 mmol, 0.0233 g) of MnCl<sub>2</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O in 10 cm<sup>3</sup> of methanol) and (0.0554 g, 0.1 mmol) of 1,1'-bis(diphenyl phosphine) ferrocene (dppf) were mixed and refluxed at 55 °C for 2 h to

give brown colored precipitate and the solutions was filtered and finally it was dried in an open air. Yield=81%, d.p= 238°C. Anal. Calc. % for C<sub>47</sub> H<sub>41</sub> Cl N<sub>4</sub> P<sub>2</sub> Mn S Fe:C, 62.58; H, 4.58; N, 6.21, S, 3.55, Mn, 6.09, Cl, 3.93. Found %: C, 62.87, H, 4.82; N, 6.53, S; 3.88, Mn; 6.27, Cl. 4.11. The Proposed Geometrical Structure shown in Figure 1.

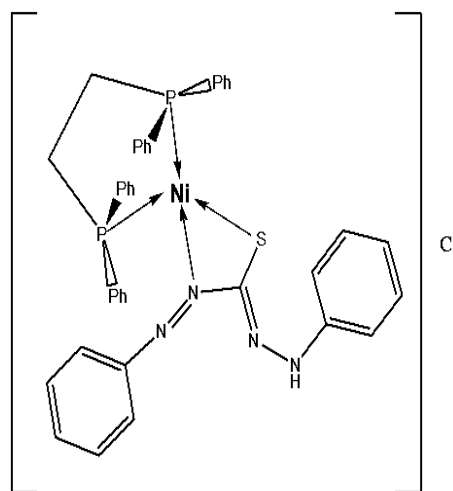
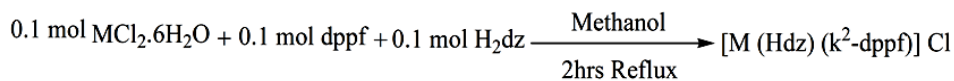


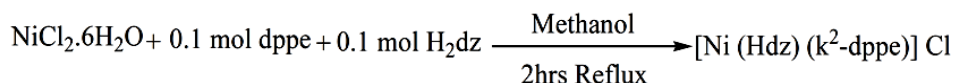
Fig. 2. The Proposed Geometrical Structure of [Ni(Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppe)]Cl Complex

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The complexes were prepared by one pot reaction (Scheme 3). This reaction consist of mixing of the solutions of H<sub>2</sub>dz ligand in methanol, MCl<sub>2</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O where M= Ni, Mn and Co in methanol and 1,1'-bis(diphenyl phosphine) ferrocene (dppf) or 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino) ethane (dppe) and refluxed at 55 °C for 2 hours. The properties of complexes are tabulated in Table (1), the proposed structural formula are approved by IR, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, UV-Visible spectra, CHNS analysis, magnetic susceptibility and molar conductivity measurement. The synthesized complexes have biological activity against breast cancer IC<sub>50</sub> cell line that have a significant difference from cisplatin.



Where M= Ni(II), Co(II) and Mn(II)



Scheme 3: one pot reaction for the synthesis of complexes

**Table 1: physical characteristics of synthesized metal Complexes**

Complex	Formula	Yield%	d.P(°C)	Color
[Co(Hdz)(k <sup>2</sup> -dppf)]Cl	C <sub>47</sub> H <sub>41</sub> ClN <sub>4</sub> P <sub>2</sub> CoSFe	76	288	Brown
[Ni(Hdz)(k <sup>2</sup> -dppf)]Cl	C <sub>47</sub> H <sub>41</sub> ClN <sub>4</sub> P <sub>2</sub> NiSFe	72	265	Red-Brown
[Ni(Hdz)(k <sup>2</sup> -dppe)]Cl	C <sub>47</sub> H <sub>41</sub> ClN <sub>4</sub> P <sub>2</sub> NiS	78	198	Violet
[Mn(Hdz)(k <sup>2</sup> -dppf)]Cl	C <sub>47</sub> H <sub>41</sub> ClN <sub>4</sub> P <sub>2</sub> MnSFe	81	238	Brown

**IR spectral studies**

The IR spectra of complexes exhibited a medium intensity peaks in the range 423 - 432 cm<sup>-1</sup> these bands are related to  $\nu(M-N)$ , The a bands between 507 - 510 cm<sup>-1</sup> are attributed to  $\nu(P-Ph)$  and bands in (744 - 750) cm<sup>-1</sup> region are related to  $\nu(C-S)$  and many other bands that shown in the 9 Table 2.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra**

The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra for, [Ni(Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)]Cl(2) and [Ni(Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppe)]Cl (3) Complexes showed many signals which attributed to aromatic rings<sup>10</sup>. See Table 3.

**Electronic spectra**

The electronic transition spectra in 10<sup>-3</sup> M

in methanol (Table 4) gave two peaks of complex (1), at( 1764, 30674 )cm<sup>-1</sup>, which are assigned to the <sup>4</sup>A<sub>2</sub>→<sup>1</sup>T<sub>1</sub>(P), and charge transfer(C.T) transitions respectively, which are indicated a tetrahedral geometry<sup>11</sup>. The spectrum of complex (2), exhibited two transitions at 15974 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and 29411 cm<sup>-1</sup> which are related to the <sup>3</sup>T<sub>1</sub>→<sup>1</sup>T<sub>1</sub>(p) and C.T respectively, these bands indicated tetrahedral geometry<sup>12</sup>. The spectrum of complex (3), gives two peaks at (16155, 30674) cm<sup>-1</sup> which are assigned to <sup>3</sup>T<sub>1</sub>→<sup>1</sup>T<sub>1</sub>(p) and C.T transitions respectively. These transitions value are approved the tetrahedral geometry<sup>13</sup>. The spectrum of complex(4), exhibits three peaks at (15384, 22371, 31250 ) cm<sup>-1</sup>. These transitions values approved a tetrahedral geometry<sup>14</sup>.

**Table 2: Selected IR stretching vibration bands in (cm<sup>-1</sup>) for the prepared complexes**

Complex	$\nu(N-H)$	$\nu(C-H)$ arom.	$\nu(C-H)$ aliph.	$\nu(N=N)$	$\nu(C=N)$	$\nu(C-S)$	$\nu(P-Ph)$	$\nu(M-N)$
1	3437w	3053w	-	1479m	1600m	746m	510m	423w
2	3439w	3053w	-	1463m	1591m	750s	508w	428w
3	3437w	3029w	3952w	1496m	1593m	744m	507w	432w
4	3410w	3103w	-	1489m	1602m	752s	515w	425w

**Table 3: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR signal for [Ni(Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)]Cl and [Ni(Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppe)]Cl**

Complex	4 protons			N-H
	Doublet (d)	Triplet (t)	Multiple protons	
[Ni(Hdz)(k <sup>2</sup> -dppf)]Cl	7.78	7.42	7.28 – 7.38	11.61
[Ni(Hdz)(k <sup>2</sup> -dppe)]Cl	7.82	7.46	7.36 – 7.44	-

**Magnetic moments**

The magnetic moments of complexes [Co (Hdz) (k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)] (1), [Ni (Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)]Cl (2), [Ni (Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppe)]Cl (3) and [Mn(Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)]Cl (4) are between (4.0- 5.20) B.M. (Table 4). These data are agreed with the tetrahedral geometrical

complexes. The Cl% has been determined after digestion 0.1g of the complexes in (3-5) cm<sup>3</sup> of 6M of HNO<sub>3</sub> and their titrations against 5% AgNO<sub>3</sub><sup>16</sup>.

**Conductivity measurement**

The molar conductivity of complexes

[Co (Hdz) (k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)] (1), [Ni (Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)]Cl (2), [Ni (Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppe)]Cl (3) and [Mn(Hdz)(k<sup>2</sup>-dppf)]Cl (4) in methanol are 46, 22, 28 and 60 ( $\Omega^{-1} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ mol}^{-1}$ ) respectively indicating that they are electrolytes complexes in the 1:1ratio<sup>17</sup>. See Table 4.

#### Methylthiazolyltetrazolium (MTT) Solution

Methylthiazolyltetrazolium (0.2g) (Bio-world,

USA) was dissolved in 100 ml of PBS in order to prepare a 2 mg/ml concentration of the dye. The resulted solution was filtered by 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  syringe filter to remove any produced blue formazan, and then kept in sterile, dark, screw-capped bottles at 4°C. The solution was used within no longer than two weeks of preparation.

**Table 4: Electronic spectra, magnetic moments and molar conductivities of Complexes**

Complex	$\lambda_{\text{max}}$ (nm)/ Methanol	assignments	$\mu_{\text{eff}}$ (BM) <sup>a</sup>	$\Delta m$ ( $\text{cm}^2 \cdot \text{Ohm}^{-1} \cdot \text{Mol}^{-1}$ )/ Methanol
1	586	$^4A_2 \rightarrow ^4T_1(P)$	4.0	46
	326	C.T	$T_d$	
2	273	C.T	4.20	22
	626	$^3T_1 \rightarrow ^3T_1(p)$	$T_d$	
3	326	C.T	4.22	28
	619	$^3T_1 \rightarrow ^3T_1(p)$	$T_d$	
4	320	C.T	5.2	60
	477	$^6A_1 \rightarrow ^6T_2(G)$		
	650	$^6A_1 \rightarrow ^6T_1(G)$		

#### Cytotoxicity assay

MTT cell viability assay was joined on 96-well plates (Santacruz Biotechnology, USA), CAL5 cells were planted at 10000 cells/well, 200  $\mu\text{l}$  of cells in growing medium were added to each well of a sterile 96-well micro titration plate. The plates were placed with a self-adhesive film, then put in incubator at 37°C.

The achievement of monolayer has been obtained after 24 h the medium was removed and serial dilutions of the extract were added to the wells at 2-fold serial dilutions (1000  $\mu\text{g}$ , 500  $\mu\text{g}$ , 250  $\mu\text{g}$  and 125  $\mu\text{g}$ ). Triplicates were used for each. Control cells treated with Serum Free Media only, and then the plates were put again in incubator at 37°C for 72 h (see Table 5).

**Table 5: Cytotoxic activities of the prepared complexes on the CAL5 cell line T/Ccorr. [%]b+(S.D)<sup>a</sup>**

Complex	1000 $\mu\text{g}$	500 $\mu\text{g}$	250 $\mu\text{g}$	125 $\mu\text{g}$
1	20.01 $\pm$ 0.007	12.05 $\pm$ 0.017	10.29 $\pm$ 0.009	8.18 $\pm$ 0,06
2	24.10 $\pm$ 0.013	20.89 $\pm$ 0.011	18.11 $\pm$ 0.51	17.45 $\pm$ 0.016
3	25.56 $\pm$ 0,0051	15.85 $\pm$ 0.000	14.75 $\pm$ 0.0035	13.51 $\pm$ 0.0014
4	28.12 $\pm$ 0.0056	10.05 $\pm$ 0.023	10.29 $\pm$ 0.0097	8.18 $\pm$ 0.0023
MLc	28.12 $\pm$ 0.018	31.48 $\pm$ 0.015	27.17 $\pm$ 0.01	24.76 $\pm$ 0.096
Cisplatin	34.91 $\pm$ 0.094	28.56 $\pm$ 0.00	27.83 $\pm$ 0.011	26.07 $\pm$ 0.05

<sup>a</sup>S.D standard Deviation, <sup>b</sup>Cytocidal effect, <sup>c</sup>ML Mixed ligand

Cell viability was recorded after 72 h of exposure by removing the medium, addition of 28  $\mu\text{l}$  of 2 mg/ml of MTT solution (Bio-World, USA) and then placing in incubator for 1.5 h at 37°C. The MTT solution was removed then the formed crystals

in the wells was solubilized by the addition of 50  $\mu\text{l}$  of DMSO (Santacruz Biotechnology, USA) sequenced by 37°C incubation for 15 min. with shaking. The absorbance was recorded on a micro plate reader (Biochrom, UK) at 584 nm. The process was carried out in 5 replicates.

The mentioned procedure leads to calculation of:

1- % of cell viability or % of cell proliferation (PR) = mean of treatment / mean of control.

2- Lowest concentration that kills 50% of cells (LC50).

**Cytotoxicity Results**

The protocol described was according to 18. Human Breast cancer cell line CAL5 was used for evaluation anticancer activities of prepared complexes using cisplatin as a reference, the results indicated that the Co(II) complex exhibited the highest cell viability Table 5. Table 6 showed the cytotoxic effects of complexes were exhibited as adjusted T/C regarding to the applicable relationship<sup>19</sup>.

$$T/C_{corr}[\%] = [(T-Co)/(C-Co)] \times 100$$

Cytocidal effect[%] = [(Co - T)/Co] x 100; if T < Co. (Where T: mean of the cell absorbance C: mean of the control Co: The absorbance of cell when t=0). The significant differences from cisplatin have been observed for all treatment complexes especially for and [Ni(Hdz)(K<sup>2</sup>-dppe)]Cl, Table 6, Figures (3- 8).

**Breast cancer cells 72 hour MTT assay**

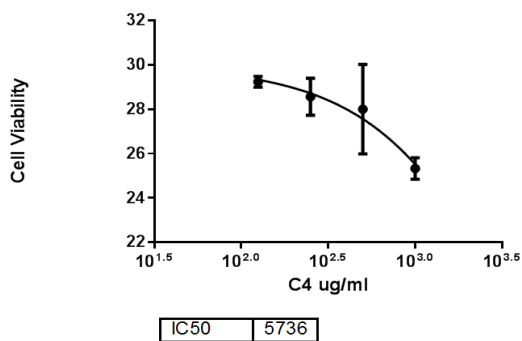


Fig. 3. Breast cancer cells 72 h MTT assay for [Co (H<sub>2</sub>dz)(dppf) ]Cl

**Breast cancer cells 72 hour MTT assay**

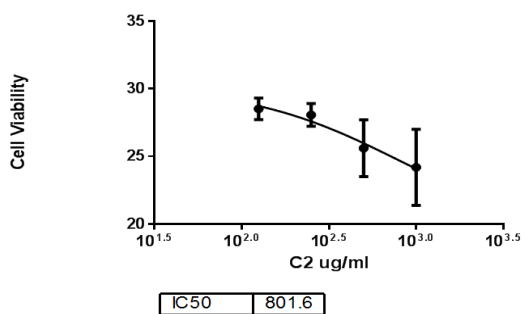


Fig. 4. Breast cancer cells 72 h MTT assay for [Ni(H<sub>2</sub>dz)(dppe)]Cl

**Breast cancer cells 72 hour MTT assay**

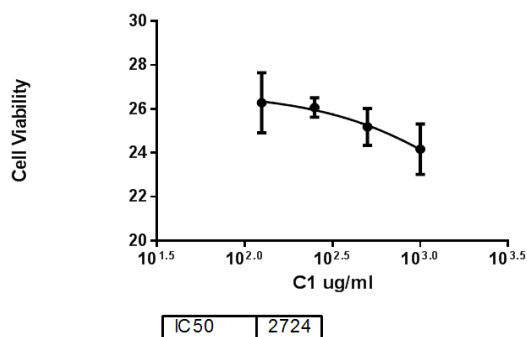


Fig. 5. Breast cancer cells 72 h MTT assay for [Ni(H<sub>2</sub>dz)(dppf) ]Cl

**Breast cancer cells 72 hour MTT assay**

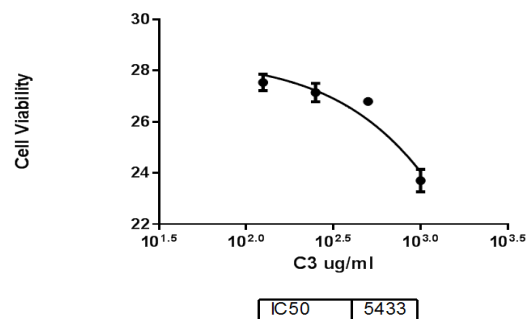


Fig. 6. Breast cancer cells 72 h MTT assay for [Mn(Hdz)(dppf)]Cl

Cytotoxicity on Breast cancer cells

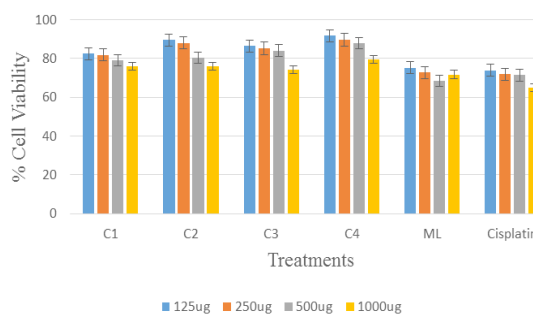


Fig. 7. Histogram of four concentration (125 µg, 250 µg, 500 µg, 1000 µg ) of IC<sub>50</sub> versus % cell viability

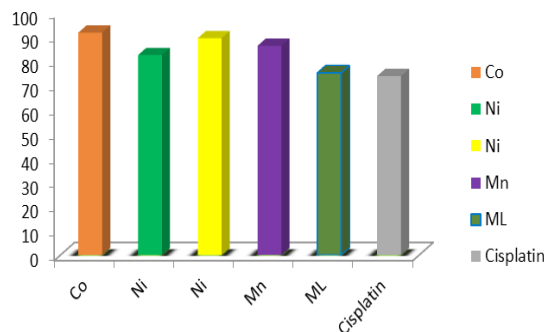


Fig. 8. Histogram of treatment compounds at 125µg IC<sub>50</sub> cell

**Table 6: % Cell viability of selected compounds versus IC<sub>50</sub> concentration.**

Compounds	125µg	250µg	500µg	1000µg
[Co(Hdz)(k <sup>2</sup> -dppf)]Cl	91.8	89.7	87.94	79.5
[Ni(Hdz)(k <sup>2</sup> -dppf)]Cl	82.54	81.88	79.10	75.96
Ni(Hdz)(k <sup>2</sup> -dppe)]Cl	89.55	88.10	80.42	75.96
[Mn(Hdz)(k <sup>2</sup> -dppf)]Cl	86.4	85.24	84.10	74.40
Mixed ligand(ML)	75.20	72.80	68.50	71.80
Cisplatin	73.90	72.00	71.43	65.00

### CONCLUSION

All complexes have been synthesized from one- pot reaction. The characterization of the

structure of the complexes shows a tetrahedral geometry around the metal center, Fig. (1,2). Cytocidal effect study versus different concentrations of breast cancer IC<sub>50</sub> cell line showed significant differences from cisplatin.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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