

1 **Designing Novel and Potent Inhibitors for Multi Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis: A**
2 **Computational Approach**

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23 **Abstract**

24 Tuberculosis is a major global health problem and is still among the top 10 causes of death. The
25 increasing rate of drug resistance to infectious agents has provoked an urgent need to discover
26 novel anti-tuberculosis agents with novel modes of action. In this study, small molecule
27 inhibitors of the proteins encoded by the drug resistant genes, i.e., katG, gyrA, pncA and rpoB of
28 *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (*M. tuberculosis*), were identified using computational methods. In
29 the ligand base pharmacophore, an already reported four ligands for the four proteins encoded by
30 the resistant genes of *M. tuberculosis* were selected for the generation of pharmacophores. The
31 validated pharmacophores model of all the four proteins, generated on the basis of ligand base,
32 were selected for further screening of ZINC drug like database. As screening results 486
33 structurally diverse hits for katG, 542 for PncA, 112 for rpoB and 365 for gyrA were mapped
34 and filtered via Lipinski's rule of five. Finally, on the basis of docking score and binding
35 interactions, ten small molecules were selected for each protein as novel inhibitors. These
36 selected novel inhibitors have significant interaction with the active site of the protein and a
37 strong possibility to act as an additional starting opinion in the development of new and potential
38 inhibitors. The result indicates that novel inhibitors could be a promising lead compound and be
39 effective in treating sensitive as well as multi drug resistant tuberculosis.

40 **Keywords:** *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*; Virtual screening; mutation; Molecular docking

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49 **Introduction**

50 Tuberculosis is a major global health concern and can be transmitted through droplet aerosol
51 from person to person (Khan et al., 2013). The causative agent of the disastrous tuberculosis
52 diseases *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex (MTBC). *Mycobacterium bovis* is another
53 mycobacterium that can cause TB disease in people. One of the studies performed to conclude
54 the prevalence and associated risk factors of bovine TB caused by *M. bovis* in most populated
55 and centrally located districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) in Pakistan (AsadUllah et al. 2019).

56 Multidrug resistant TB develops due to mutations in the genes or a change in the titration of the
57 drug (Migliori et al., 2007). The resistant strains are known as multiple drug resistance
58 tuberculosis (MDR-TB) strains when they develop resistance to at least two of the first line
59 treatment (isoniazid and rifampicin) (Prasad, 2005). When in addition to MDR, *M. tuberculosis*
60 strain develops resistance to at least one fluoroquinolone and at least one of the three second-line
61 injectable drugs, viz., amikacin, kanamycin, and capreomycin, is called extensively drug-
62 resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB)(Hamilton et al., 2007).

63 Isoniazid resistance is a complex process and develops as a result of mutations in *inhA*,
64 *katG*, *kasA*, *ahpC* and *ndh* genes (Da Silva and Palomino, 2011). *katG* codes for the enzyme
65 catalase/peroxidase, which is involved in the activation of isoniazid. The reduced or absent
66 activity of this enzyme occurs due to the mutations in *katG* gene, which is responsible for
67 isoniazid resistance (Zhang et al., 1992). Rifampicin works by binding with RNA polymerase β -
68 subunit encoded by *rpoB* gene and thus blocking the elongation of messenger RNA (Blanchard,
69 1996). Pyrazinamide is equivalent to nicotinamide in terms of structure and hence naturally gets
70 converted into an active form, pyrazinoic acid (POA) by pyrazinamidase/nicotinamidase that is
71 encoded by *pncA* gene. Mutations in *pncA* gene leads to the loss of PZase activity, thus
72 inhibiting the conversion of PZA to POA (Cheng et al., 2000; Jur en et al., 2008). Ofloxacin, a
73 synthetic antibiotic of the fluoroquinolone drug class, is the second line drug that works by
74 binding to gyrase-DNA complexes and inhibiting DNA replication. Ofloxacin resistant strains
75 develop through mutations in quinolone resistance-determining regions of *gyrA* and *gyrB* genes
76 (Maruri et al., 2012).

77 Identifying the disease causing target protein is very critical in an in silico drug designing
78 method. The method used for investigating the protein ligand interactions is molecular docking.
79 The insilico drug designing approach has been getting recognition as an important tool to
80 identify potential novel drugs for various diseases (Gore and Desai, 2014). Computer Aided
81 Drug Designing (CADD) has effectively been used in molecular biology, nanotechnology, and
82 biochemistry and sooner it will be a dominant and commonly used technique in modern medical
83 sciences.

84 The in-silico screening is also known as virtual screening (VS). It exploits computer aided
85 approaches to identify new ligands based on biological structures. The virtual screening is either
86 a docking method based on structural interactions or a ligand based screening. The ligand based
87 virtual screening techniques are based on comparing the molecular similarity of compounds with
88 known and unknown moiety irrespective of the used algorithm. Generally, the ligand-based
89 virtual screening employs searching molecules with structural similarity to known molecules
90 fitting well into the target binding site and hence increasing the chances of binding the target. In
91 the present study, an effort was made to find out powerful novel small molecule inhibitors of the
92 proteins encoded by drug resistant genes using an in-silico approach.

93 **Materials and Methods**

94 Computer aided drug designing tools were applied to find out the small molecule inhibitors of
95 the proteins encoded by drug resistant genes, i.e., katG, gyrA, pncA and rpoB of *M. tuberculosis*.
96 An HP Z620 Workstations with NVIDIA DDR5, 4GB GTX-980 graphics card was used on
97 Microsoft Windows 10 operating system. Molecular Operating Environment (MOE) software
98 was used for screening and molecular docking. MOE was used for constructing protein and side-
99 chain refinement. The mutants of katG, gyrA, pncA and rpoB gene of *M. tuberculosis* reported
100 previously were selected for designing novel small drug inhibitors (Ahmad et al.; Ahmad et al.,
101 2017).

102 **Proteins Crystal Structure Retrieving**

103 Crystal structure present in the RCSB PDB server was used as the basis for selecting all the four
104 proteins of *M. tuberculosis*. The catalase-peroxidase protein encoded by katG gene is associated

105 with isoniazid resistance. The crystal structure of the catalase-peroxidase protein was obtained
106 from the RCSB PDB server with PDB ID 2CCA at a resolution of 2.0 angstrom.

107 As follow the sequencing data reported previously, the mutations of katG gene as follows
108 Ser303Trp and Lys274Argin variant 1, Ser315Arg in variant 2, Ser315Thr mutation in variant 3
109 and Gly316Ser in variant 4(Ahmad et al., 2017). The mutated structures of the four variants were
110 observed to be created from 2CCA. In the first mutated structure, the observed alterations were
111 Lys274Arg and Ser303Trp in protein builder of MOE and the mutated residues were found to be
112 reduced. In the second mutated structure from 2CCA, the changes were Ser315Arg in protein
113 builder of MOE and the mutated residue was reduced. In the third mutated structure from 2CCA,
114 the change was Ser315Thr in the protein builder of MOE and the THR was minimized. In final
115 mutated structure from 2CCA, the change was Gly316Ser in protein builder of MOE. After auto
116 correction, all the structures were aligned and superposed. The pair wise RMSD plot was created
117 using MOE.

118 pncA gene codes for the enzyme associated with pyrazinamide drug processing,
119 nicotinamidase/pyrazinamidase. The crystal structure of nicotinamidase/pyrazinamidase was
120 obtained from the RCSB PDB server with PDB ID 3PL1 at a resolution of 2.2 angstrom. As
121 follow the sequencing data reported previously, the reported mutations were: Ser65Ser and
122 Cys138stop mutation in variant 1, double mutation of Ser65Ser* and Gly132Ser in variant 2,
123 insertion of G at position 131 positions in variant 3, a Gln141Pro mutation in variant 4(Ahmad et
124 al.). The structures of two mutated variants were created from the crystal structure 3PL1. The
125 protein builder in MOE2016 was applied to generate mutations. The first structural mutation
126 generated was the insertion of G at position 131 and the mutated residue was reduced. The
127 second structural mutation generated was Gly132Ser and Gln141Pro and the mutated residues
128 were reduced. MOE was used to autocorrect both the mutated structures by eliminating the bad
129 interactions. 3PL1 in MOE2016 was used to align and superimpose the mutated structures and
130 generate the pairwise RMSD plot.

131 The rpoB gene codes for a protein named DNA-directed RNA polymerase β -subunit, which is
132 linked to rifampicin resistance. The crystal structure of RNA polymerase β -subunit was obtained
133 from RCSB PDB with PDB ID 5UHC at a resolution of 3.8 angstrom.

134 As follow the sequencing data reported previously, the reported mutations were: Ser450Gln in
135 variant 1, Ser450Leu in variant 2, double mutation of Ser450Leu and Pro454His in variant 3,
136 double mutation of Ser450Leu and Gly455Asp in variant 4 and Asp435Gly in variant 5(Ahmad
137 et al.). 5UHC with protein builder of MOE 2016 was used to generate all mutated structures and
138 the mutated residues were reduced. All five mutated structures were autocorrected in MOE to get
139 rid of any bad interaction. The PDB ID 5UHC was used to align and superimpose crystal
140 structure with the five mutated structures and generate a pair wise RMSD plot in MOE.

141 The gyrA gene codes for DNA gyrase subunit A protein that is linked with ofloxacin
142 (fluoroquinolones) resistance. The gyrAprotein crystal structure was obtained from RCSB PDB
143 server with PDB ID 3IFZ at a resolution of 2.7 angstrom. The sequencing results of gyrA gene
144 reported previously were: Asp94Gly and Ser95Thr mutation(Ahmad et al., 2017). The 3IFZ
145 structural mutations were found to be at 94 and 95 amino acid positions by protein builder in
146 MOE and the mutated residues were minimized. The auto correction was applied to the mutated
147 structure to eliminate any bad interactions. The crystal structure 3IFZ was aligned and
148 superimposed with the mutated structure and a pair wise RMSD plot was created.

149 The missing loops in all structures were constructed by the loop modeling in MOE 2016 with
150 default parameters and Amber99 force field was applied for loop generation. All the structures
151 were auto-corrected in MOE to get rid of any bad contact or missing bonds.

152 **Ligand Base Pharmacophore Generation and Validation**

153 Pharmacophore is a group of steric and electronic features that is required for the action of the
154 drug (Khedkar et al., 2007). In the ligand base pharmacophore, an already reported four ligands
155 for the four proteins coded by the resistant genes of M. tuberculosis were selected for the
156 generation of pharmacophores. To evaluate the quality of a pharmacophore model it must be
157 validated. Two methods were used for the validation of the pharmacophoric model. First, a test
158 database of active ligands reported for the protein and non-active/ least active compounds were
159 scanned on the pharmacophoric features of the ligands. In the second procedure of ligand
160 validation, the presence of the important chemical features present in the pharmacophore which
161 interact with important amino acids in the active pocket of the corresponding receptor protein
162 was also used for the validation of the pharmacophore model (Wadood et al., 2017). Isoniazid is

163 a reported ligand for katG protein. The selected pharmacophoric features were three hydrogen
164 bond acceptors, two hydrogen bond donors, one aromatic ring interaction and one hydrophobic
165 interaction by MOE 2016 following the default protocol. The seven characteristics for katG were
166 selected as essential. A test database of 12 reported katG inhibitors were used for validation of
167 generated model (Vilchèze et al., 2011). The test database containing 12 active and 12 non-
168 active/ least active compounds were tested on the 7 featured pharmacophore and evaluated their
169 mapping modes. In the important features of ligand pharmacophore validation, the
170 pharmacophoric features were selected on the bases of interaction with the protein residues
171 present in the crystal structure of the katG protein. The reported ligand for pncA protein is
172 pyrazinamide. There are seven pharmacophoric characteristics present in pyrazinamide: three
173 hydrogen bond acceptors, one hydrogen bond donor, two hydrophobic interactions and one
174 aromatic interaction by MOE2016 following the default parameters. All the characteristics for
175 the pharmacophore of pncA gene were considered to be essential. For the validation of the
176 pharmacophore, a test database was selected with six active ligands and six non-active/ least
177 active compounds and the pharmacophore was screen on the test database (Seiner et al., 2010).
178 In the important features of pyrazinamide ligand pharmacophore validation, the pharmacophoric
179 features were selected on the bases of interaction with the protein residues present in the crystal
180 structure of the pncA protein. Rifampicin is the reported ligand for rpoB protein. The
181 pharmacophoric characteristics of rifampicin ligand contain three hydrogen bond acceptors, three
182 hydrogen bond donors, one aromatic interaction and one hydrophobic interaction by MOE2016
183 following the default protocols. In eight pharmacophoric characteristics five were selected as
184 essential. For the validation of the ligand model generated, all the features were selected those
185 which interact with the important residues of the active site residues atoms in the crystal
186 structure of rpoB protein. Ofloxacin (a fluoroquinolone) is the reported ligand for gyrA protein.
187 The pharmacophoric characteristics of ofloxacin are three hydrogen bond acceptors, one
188 hydrogen bond donor, two aromatic interactions and one hydrophobic interaction by MOE2016
189 following the default parameter. All features were selected as essential for the pharmacophore.
190 For the validation of the pharmacophore 22 known inhibitors were selected in a test database and
191 screened on the pharmacophore. The 11 actives and 11 non-active compounds were selected for
192 screening and all the 11 active compounds were selected by the pharmacophore modeled

193 (Anderle et al., 2008). The features selected for the pharmacophore were on the bases of the
194 ligand atom interaction with the active site residues atoms.

195 **Complexed base Pharmacophore Screening**

196 The pharmacophores of all the four proteins, generated on the basis of ligand base, were selected
197 for further screening of ZINC small molecule drug-like a database comprises of 17,900,742
198 small molecules. To confirm whether the hits retrieved from the database retain drug-like
199 properties, all the obtained hits in all the four output databases were scrutinized for Lipinski's
200 rules of five. All these pharmacophores were chosen for additional evaluation.

201 **Molecular Docking**

202 The retrieved outputs from the pharmacophore databases were docked in the proteins active site.
203 The katG encoded protein has the active site corresponding to the UniProt server accession
204 number P9WIE5. The residue positions 104, 108 and 321 are from the active site while 270 is a
205 metal binding site. The crystal structure of the katG protein with PDB ID 2CCA shows the
206 ligand bonded in the active site. These ligands bonded residue pockets were further evaluated for
207 docking of katG output screen database. The docked hits retrieved from katG output databases
208 were saved in a new database. For each ligand, five conformations were saved applying the
209 proxy triangle algorithm that followed the London dG scoring methodology for refinement in
210 MOE2016.

211 The crystal structure of pncA protein corresponding to UniProt accession number I6XD65 has
212 the active site residues, at 8, 96 and 138, while the metal-binding residues are positioned at 49,
213 51, 57, and 71. The crystal structure with PDB ID 3PL1 was evaluated for docking the
214 pharmacophore output database. The residues at 8, 96, and 138 were selected as an active pocket.
215 The output database was docked in the active pocket and the results were saved in a new output
216 database. For each ligand, five conformations were generated using the proxy triangle algorithm,
217 followed by London dG scoring methodology for refinement in MOE2016.

218 The DNA-directed RNA polymerase β -subunit protein with PDB ID 5UHC contains 429, 435,
219 438, 439, 451, 454 and 465 residues at the active pocket. The ligand rifampicin was docked in
220 the active pocket of crystal structure corresponding to 5HUC. The active site residues obtained

221 from the ligand base screening were selected for docking, and a fresh output database was
222 generated from the docked hits. For each ligand, five conformations were selected using the
223 proxy triangle algorithm, followed by London dG scoring methodology for refinement in
224 MOE2016.

225 In the DNA gyrase subunit A protein, the active site amino acid residue is positioned at 129. For
226 docking, a crystal structure (PDB ID 3IFZ) was selected. The new library was created from the
227 docking outputs. The active site amino acid residue (129) was selected for docking with the
228 output database. For each ligand, five conformations were selected using the proxy triangle
229 algorithm, followed by London dG scoring methodology for refinement in MOE2016.

230 **Binding Affinity and Energy Calculations**

231 The binding affinities were calculated using the generalized Born/volume integral (GB/VI)
232 implicit solvent algorithm implemented in the MOE2016. Generally, the non-bonded interaction
233 energy between ligand molecules and the protein residues is referred to as the generalized Born
234 interaction energy, which comes from the Van der Waals forces, Coulomb interaction, and
235 implicit solvent interaction energies. However, protein residues and ligand strain energy are not
236 ever taken into the calculations. After energy minimization, the binding affinity was calculated
237 for each hit and stated in the unit of Kcal/Mol.

238 **Results**

239 **Crystal Structures of M. Tuberculosis Resistant Gene's proteins**

240 The four different mutated structures were acquired from the crystal structure 2CCA (Figure.1).
241 All mutated structures were aligned and overlapped with the crystal structure to create the
242 RMSD plot. The reported RMSD value of katG is 0.031Å. The crystal structure of pncA protein
243 nicotinamidase/pyrazinamidase was obtained from RCSB PDB server corresponding to PDB id
244 3PL1 (Figure. 2). Two mutant structures were generated from 3PL1. The 3PL1 structure was
245 aligned and overlapped with the two mutant structures (Figure.2). The recorded RMSD value of
246 pncA was 0.082Å. rpoB protein DNA-directed RNA polymerase β -subunit was obtained from
247 the RCSB PDB server corresponding to PDB ID 5UHC (Figure.3). Five mutant structures were
248 generated corresponding to the 5UHC in respective positions. These obtained mutant structures

249 were aligned and overlapped with the crystal structure 5UHC (Figure.3). Pair wise RMSD plot
250 was created with 0.014Å in MOE. DNA gyrase subunit A protein is encoded by gyrA gene. The
251 mutated protein structure of crystal structure 3IFZ was created in protein builder (Figure.4). The
252 crystal and the mutant structure were aligned and pair wise RMSD plot was created in MOE.
253 Overlapping structures reported 0.002Å RMSD. Different mutations in genes could be linked to
254 multidrug resistance.

255 **Pharmacophore Generation**

256 Isoniazid is one of the reported ligands for the katG protein. The 3D structure of the ligand was
257 acquired from the PubChem database corresponding to CID number 3767. The obtained ligand
258 was protonated and reduced in MOE with an MMFF94x force field. The pharmacophore was
259 created in MOE. Figure–5 shows the pharmacophoric characters of isoniazid. For isoniazid, three
260 features are hydrogen bond acceptor and two features of hydrogen bond donor, one hydrophobic
261 interaction and the benzene ring interaction was also selected as aromatic interaction. The
262 reported ligand for pncA protein is pyrazinamide. The 3D structure of the pyrazinamide was
263 obtained from PubChem database corresponding to CID number 1046. The ligand was
264 minimized and protonated in MOE and the pharmacophoric properties were constructed on the
265 structure of pyrazinamide. The pharmacophoric properties of pyrazinamide are shown in Figure–
266 5. The pyrazinamide pharmacophore has 3 hydrogen bond acceptor features and 1 hydrogen
267 bond donor feature, two hydrophobic interactions and benzene ring was selected as an aromatic
268 interaction feature. The reported ligand for rpoB protein is rifadin. The 3D structure of rifadin
269 was obtained from the PubChem database corresponding to CID number 5381226. The ligand
270 was minimized and protonated and pharmacophoric properties were created on rifadin in MOE.
271 Figure–5 presents the pharmacophoric properties of Rifadin. The pharmacophoric features of
272 rifadin include three hydrogen bond acceptor features, one hydrophobic and one aromatic
273 interaction. The DNA gyrase subunit A already carries a reported ligand: ofloxacin. The 3D
274 structure of the ofloxacin was obtained from the PubChem database corresponding to CID
275 number 4583. The ligand was minimized and protonated and pharmacophoric features were
276 created on ofloxacin structure in MOE. Figure–5 represents the pharmacophoric properties of
277 ofloxacin. Three features were selected as hydrogen bond acceptor, one hydrophobic interaction,
278 one hydrogen bond donor and 2 aromatic interactions were generated with MOE2016.

279 **Complexed base Pharmacophore Screening**

280 The identified pharmacophoric features of all the 4 ligands were applied for screening the
281 database in order to find small molecules with equivalent properties. All pharmacophoric
282 features were set as essential for screening the ZINC small molecule drug like database, which
283 contains 17,900,742 small compounds, was chosen for pharmacophore base scan. Small
284 molecules, which qualify the set standards of the pharmacophore model, were elected for a new
285 database. Total hits of 486 small compounds for katG ligand pharmacophore were obtained from
286 ZINC database screening. The pncA protein ligand pharmacophore resulted in 542 hits of small
287 drug like compounds from ZINC database screening. The rpoB protein ligand pharmacophore
288 screening provided 112 hits of small compounds from the ZINC database. The gyrA protein
289 ligand pharmacophore screening resulted in 365 hits for small compounds from ZINC database.
290 Pharmacophore screening is a very useful and suitable tool for new drug discovery that enables
291 finding potent and novel compounds.

292 **Molecular Docking**

293 Molecular docking increases the probability of appropriate hits of molecules. Prior to docking
294 the output databases into the protein active sites, all the four output databases were subjected to
295 Lipinski's rule. All screening outputs from ZINC database were evaluated by London dG scoring
296 method in MOE2016 and resulting five conformations were selected for each ligand using the
297 proxy triangle algorithm. Of these docked conformers 15% were selected on the basis of docking
298 score, which was further analyzed for binding interactions. Finally, on the basis of docking score
299 and binding interactions, ten small molecules were selected for each protein as novel inhibitors.
300 Three-dimensional representation of the interactions of compounds with active pocket of
301 proteins is shown in Figure-6, 7, 8 and 9.

302 **Docking Score and Binding Energies**

303 Binding energies and binding affinities of all the four proteins and ligands, which were obtained
304 from ZINC databases docking score, were calculated by the MOE software and are reported in
305 kcal/mol in Table-1-4.

306 **Discussion**

307 In this study, proteins encoded by katG, pncA, rpoB and gyrA gene of M. tuberculosis were
308 selected and targeted by drug like small compounds from ZINC drug like databases using an in-
309 silico approach. The data analysis generated numerous novel and potent small molecules against
310 the proteins of katG, pncA, rpoB and gyrA gene.

311 Virtual screening based on the structure and ligand is an important tool in medicinal chemistry,
312 which plays a significant role in identification and chemo informatics. These virtual screening
313 methods are found to be widely applied to many therapeutic targets.

314 katG codes for the enzyme catalase/peroxidase, which is involved in activation of isoniazid. The
315 reduced or absent activity of this enzyme occurs due to the mutations in katG gene, which is
316 responsible for isoniazid resistance (Zhang et al., 1992). Pyrazinamide is a structural analogue of
317 nicotinamide. It is converted to active form of pyrazinamide i.e. pyrazinoic acid by the enzyme
318 pyrazinamidase that is encoded by pncA gene. Mutations in pncA gene contribute to
319 pyrazinamide resistance in M. Tuberculosis. Rifampicin works by binding with RNA
320 polymerase β -subunit encoded by rpoB gene and thus blocking the elongation of messenger RNA
321 (Blanchard, 1996). DNA gyrase is an enzyme involved in the super coiling of DNA and consists
322 of subunit A and subunit B. Ofloxacin, a synthetic antibiotic of the fluoroquinolone drug class, is
323 the second line drug that works by binding to gyrase-DNA complexes and inhibiting DNA
324 replication. Ofloxacin resistant strains develop through mutations in quinolone resistance-
325 determining regions of gyrA and gyrB genes (Maruri et al., 2012). Using in silico approach about
326 top 10 compounds were selected as potent and novel inhibitors on the basis of docking score and
327 interaction for each protein. A total of 40 compounds, 10 for each protein from ZINC database,
328 were chosen as promising lead compounds, which may act as novel, powerful, and structurally
329 diverse inhibitors for four drug-resistant mutant proteins of M. tuberculosis. One of the related
330 study was performed, targeting inhA and kasA genes and novel inhibitor was designed against
331 the proteins responsible for mycolic acid synthesis present in M. tuberculosis (Sharma et al.,
332 2015). Another related study was performed to discover novel inhibitors of M. tuberculosis inhA
333 enzyme using in silico approach (Pauli et al., 2013). The present study reveals that the
334 pharmacophore-based approach of screening base ligand can be convenient in the discovery of
335 structurally diverse hits. These hits were structurally diverse with significant docking score and
336 good binding affinity with the targeted proteins' 3D structures.

337 The purpose of this study was to obtain a ligand having superior characteristics to inhibit the
338 drug-resistant protein. The inhibitors generated as an outcome of molecular docking studies of
339 pharmacophore screening allowed predicting new, potent and structurally different inhibitors for
340 the mutant drug-resistant proteins of *M. tuberculosis*.

341 **Conclusion**

342 Forty small compounds, ten for each protein were selected as final hits. The docking score of
343 each novel inhibitor was found higher. The result indicates that novel inhibitors could be a
344 promising lead compound and be effective in treating sensitive as well as multi drug resistant
345 tuberculosis. We believe that these new scaffolds might be the good starting point for potential
346 novel drugs and surely help the experimental designing of the anti-tuberculosis drug in a short
347 time.

348 **Acknowledgments**

349 The authors are grateful to Professor Abdul Wadood (Department of Biochemistry, Abdul Wali
350 Khan University Mardan, Pakistan) for his useful suggestions and support during manuscript
351 preparation.

352 **Conflict of interest**

353 The authors declared that they have no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this
354 manuscript

355 **Funding**

356 This work did not receive financial support from any funding agencies

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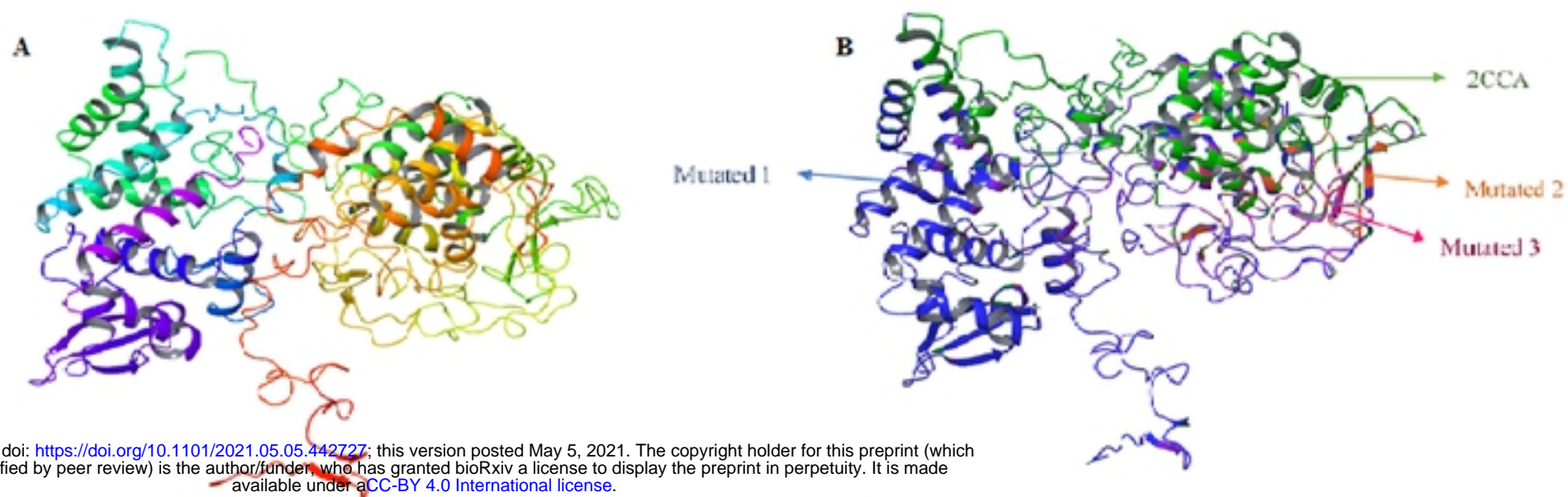


Figure. 1: [A] Crystal structure of 2CCA. [B] superpose structures of 2CCA and mutated structures

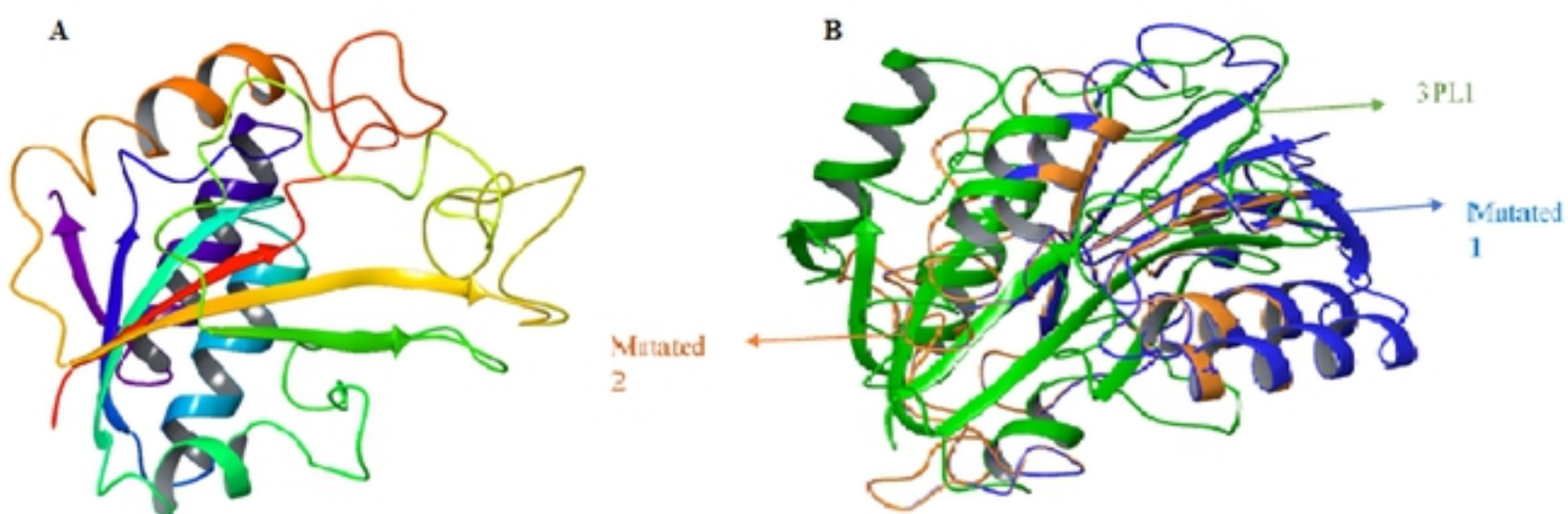
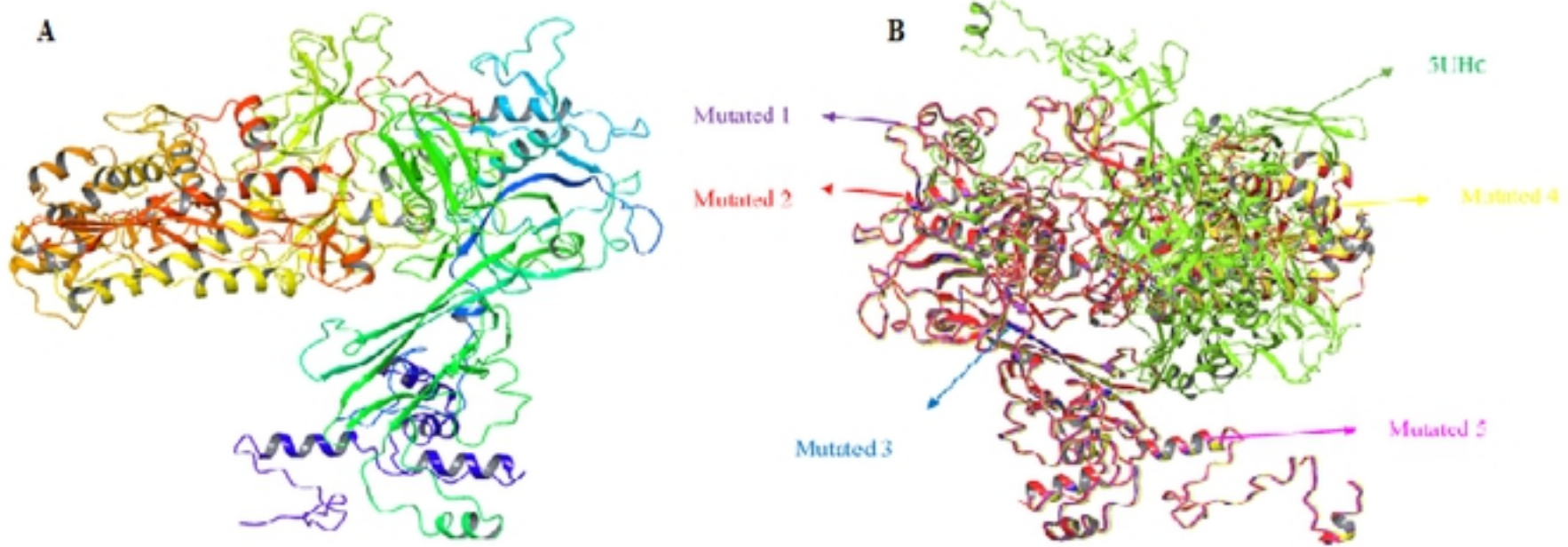


Figure. 2: [A] Crystal structure of 3PL1. [B] Superpose structure of 3PL1 with mutated structures



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Figure.3: [A] Crystal structure of 5UHC [B] Superposed structure of 5UHC with mutated 5UHC

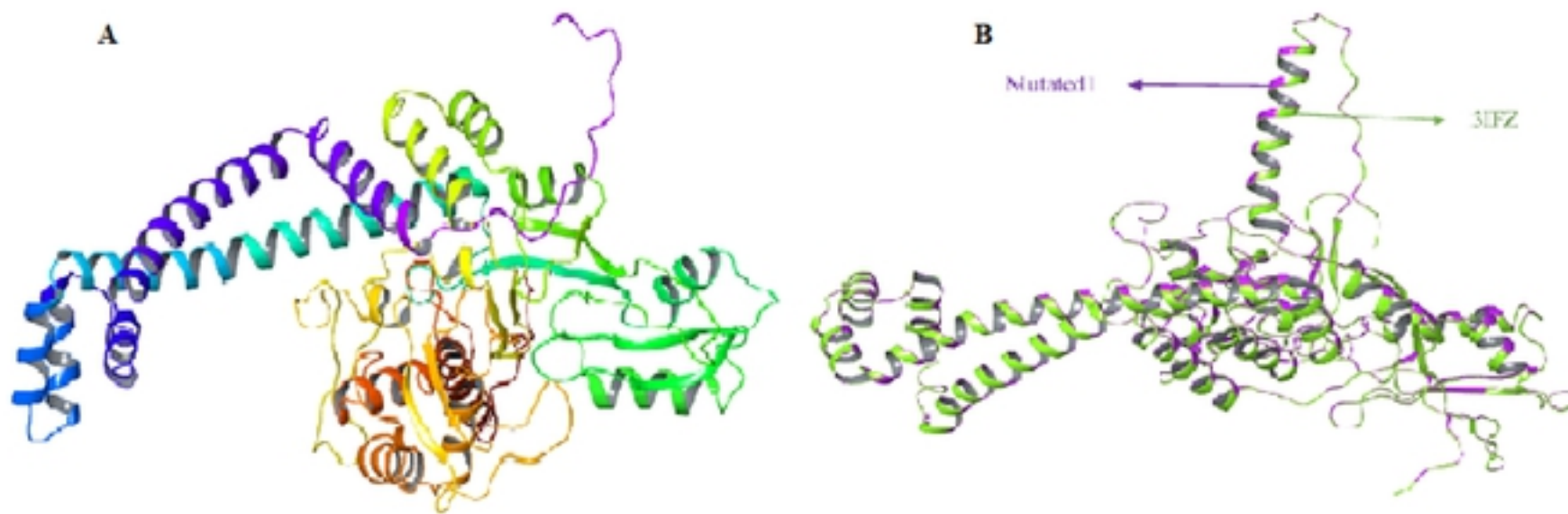


Figure.4: [A] Crystal structure of 3IFZ [B] 3IFZ crystal structure aligned and super posed with mutated 3IFZ

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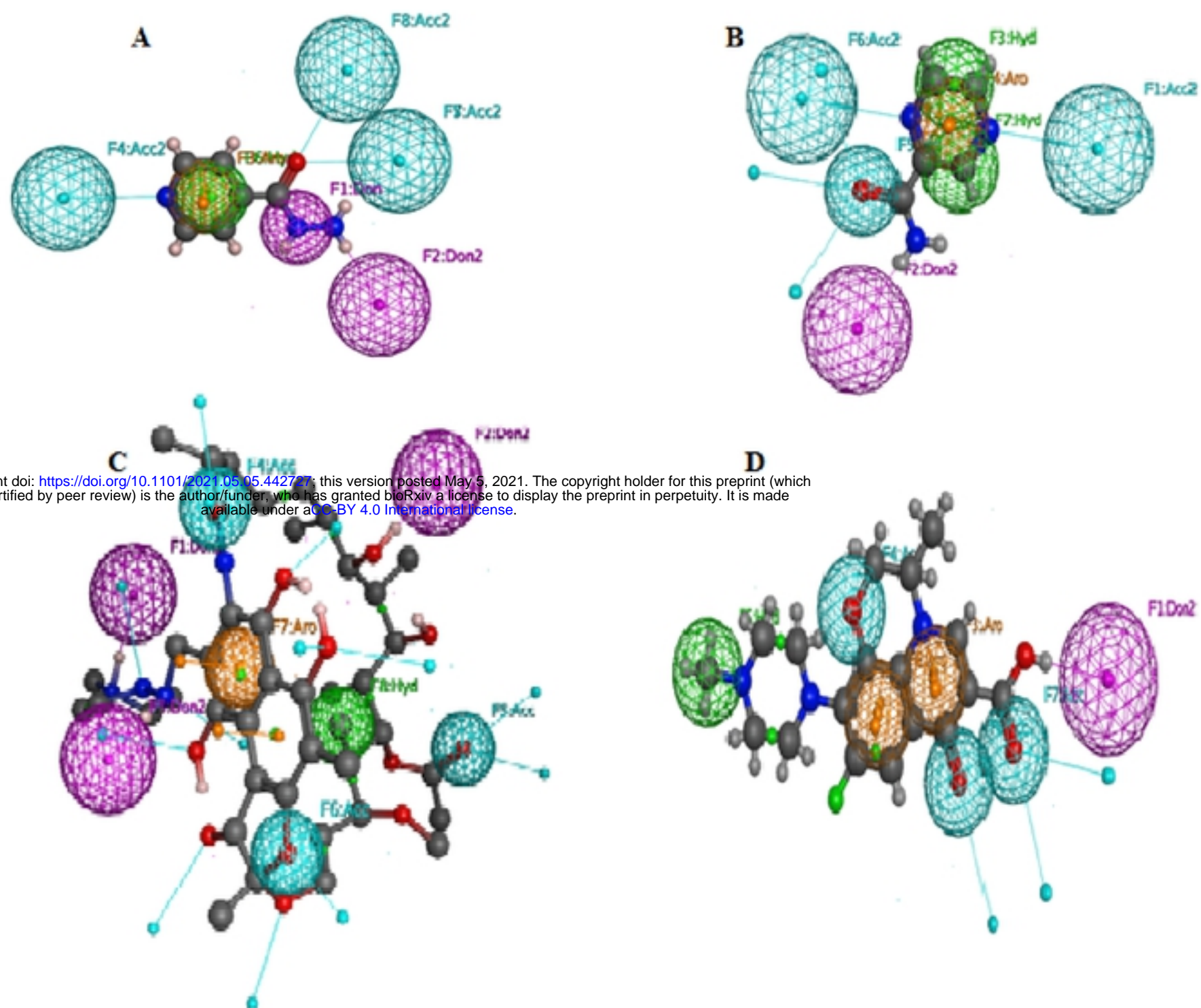
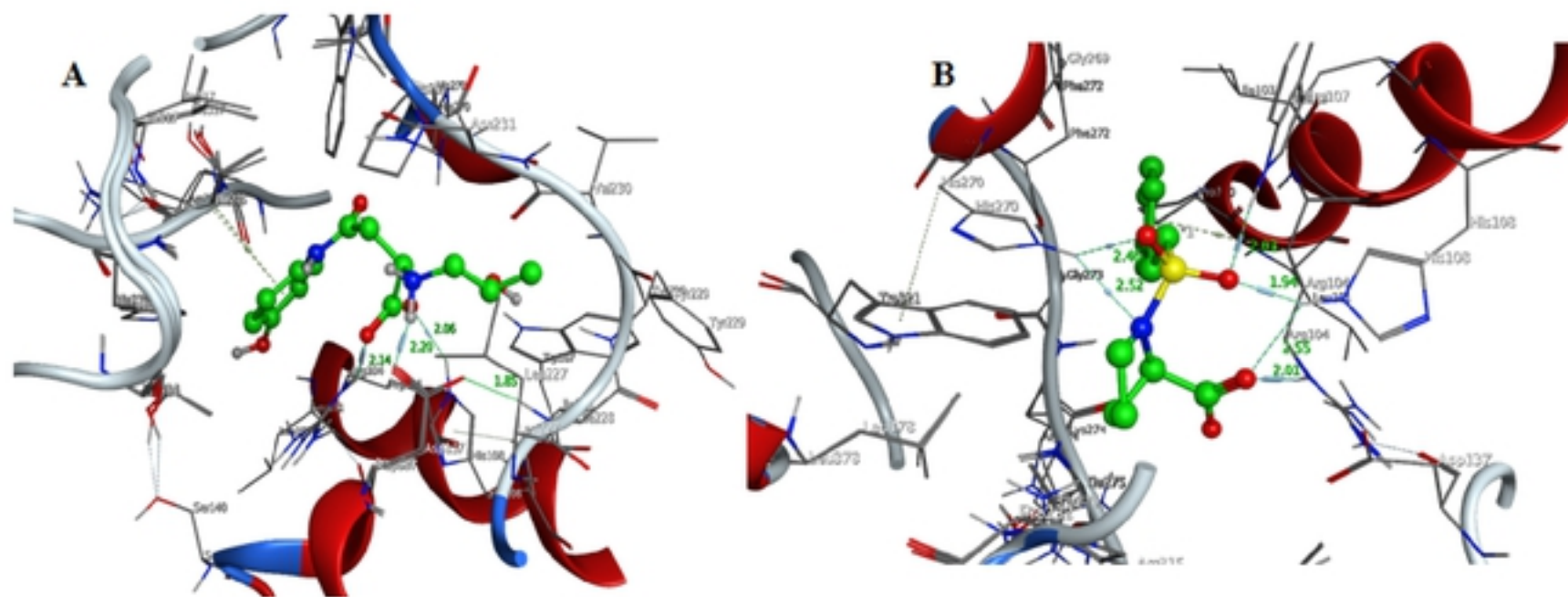


Figure 5: [A] Pharmacophoric features of isoniazid [B] Pharmacophoric features of pyrazinamide [C] Pharmacophoric feature of rifadin [D] Pharmacophoric features of ofloxacin



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Figure 6: Three-dimensional representation of the interactions of compound ZINC05257859 (A) and ZINC11891015 (B) with katG active pocket.

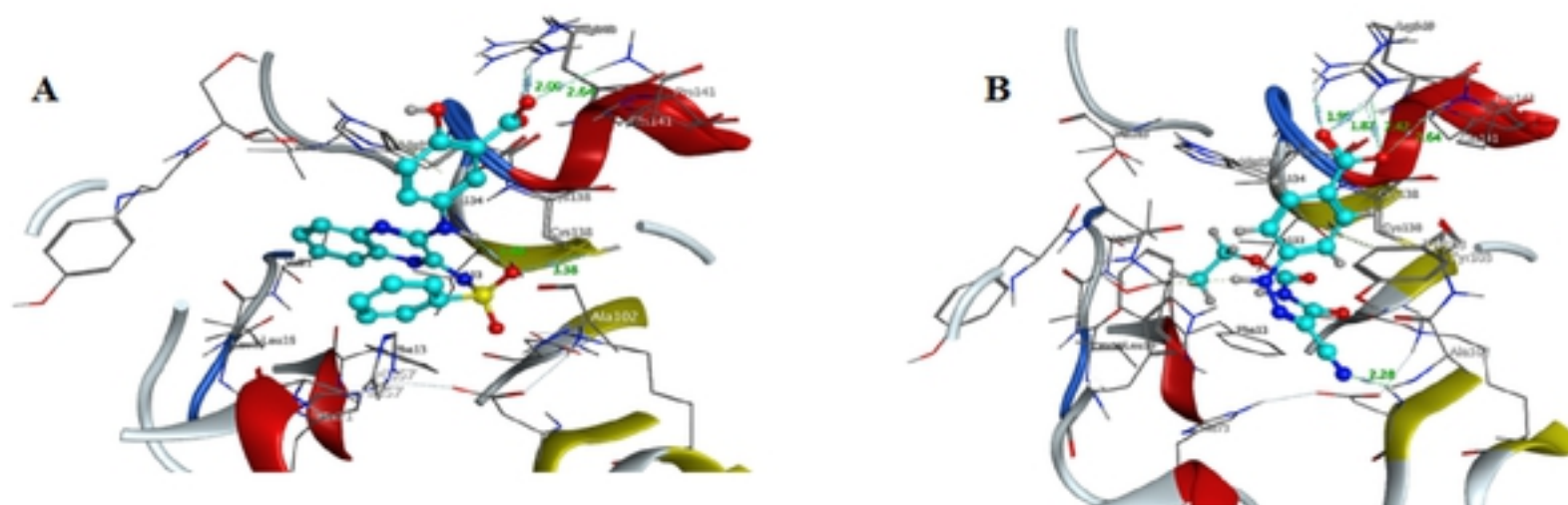
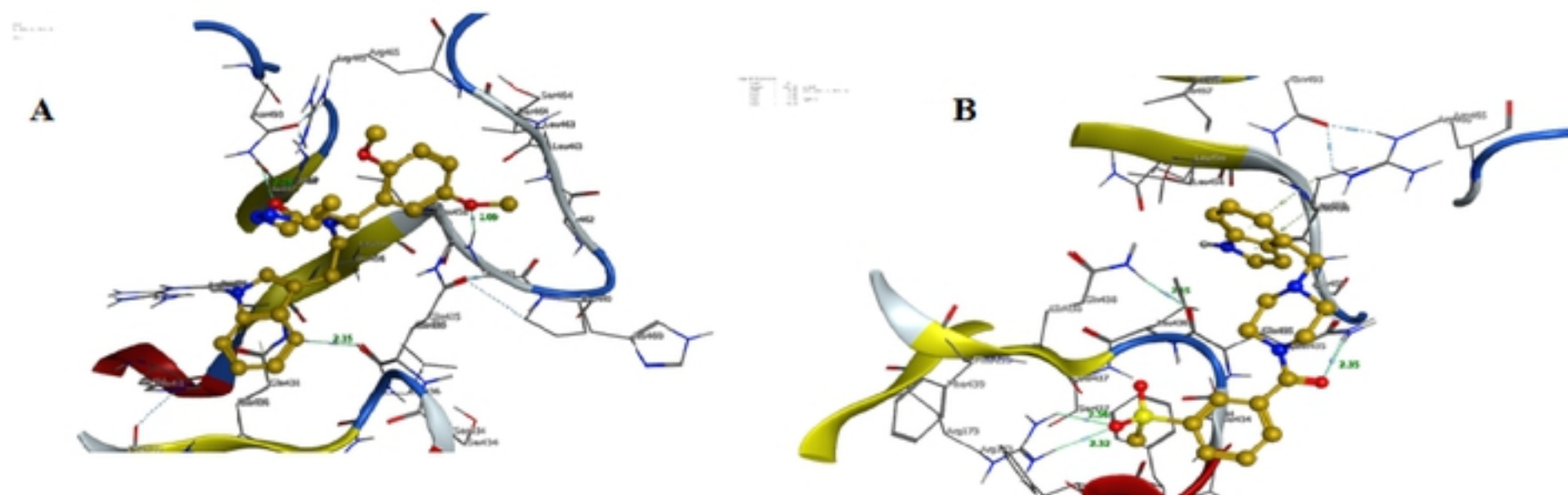


Figure 7: Three-dimensional representation of the interactions of compound ZINC20828864 (A) and ZINC05459404 (B) with pncA active pocket.



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Figure 8: Three-dimensional representation of the interactions of compound ZINC39272743 (A) and ZINC93480289 (B) with *rpoB* active pocket.

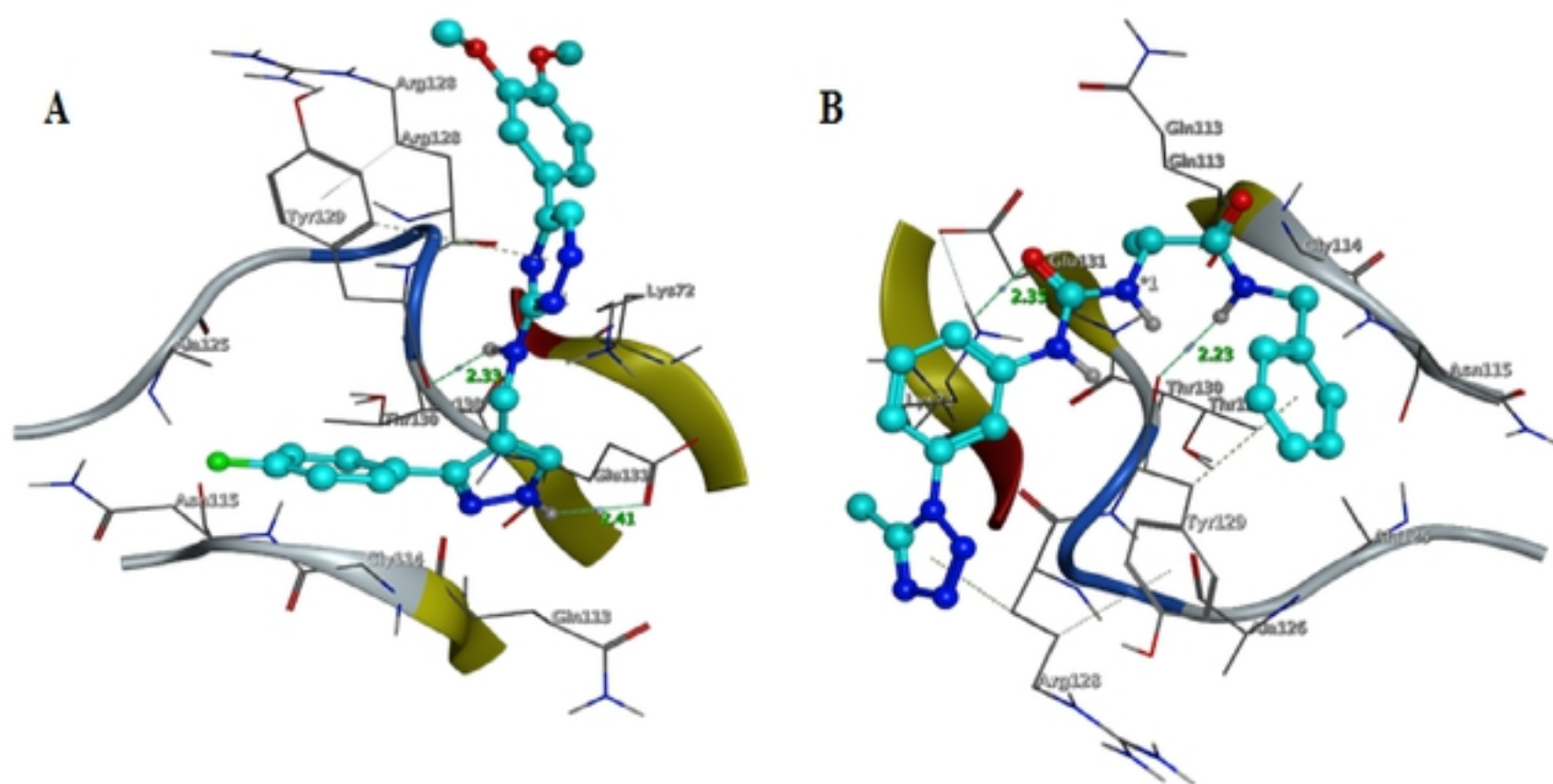


Figure 9: Three-dimensional representation of the interactions of compound ZINC12433306 (A) and ZINCS6640502 (B) with *gyrA* active pocket.

Table 1: *katG* final hits docking score and RMSD refine

S No	Name	Docking Score	RMSD Refine	E Score
1	ZINC88613615	-129.4315	1.6020	-17.3896
2	ZINC73694963	-111.2725	1.2888	-15.2426
3	ZINC13564131	-107.2721	1.9801	-22.0461
4	ZINC48331854	-105.8490	1.9397	-16.5574
5	ZINC92463385	-105.1475	1.1592	-12.3351
6	ZINC92479119	-101.8164	1.7324	-14.2246
7	ZINC00205908	-91.6005	1.1732	-14.7671
8	ZINC05257859	-91.2623	1.7630	-21.1987
9	ZINC35303163	-88.5217	1.9898	-15.0075
10	ZINC11891015	-83.6541	1.6294	-14.1690

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Table 2: *pncA* final hits docking score and RMSD refine

S No	Name	Docking Score	RMSD Refine	E Score
1	ZINC38290758	-91.8779	1.3383	-13.4888
2	ZINC03844927	-83.7522	1.1612	-15.9408
3	ZINC38290757	-83.7206	1.9661	-14.0429
4	ZINC03844926	-83.5078	1.4821	-14.6584
5	ZINC32095180	-83.2028	1.2798	-14.7901
6	ZINC13409428	-80.3618	1.4415	-14.7268
7	ZINC49474085	-79.1390	1.5748	-13.0041
8	ZINC20828864	-76.9627	1.6320	-10.7699
9	ZINC05459404	-76.6925	0.7688	-12.1186
10	ZINC00392982	-76.3667	1.3575	-12.5163

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Table 3: *rpoB* final hits docking score and RMSD refine

S No	Name	Docking Score	RMSD Refine	E Score
1	ZINC16927899	-761.3942	1.6372	-36.5957
2	ZINC40475355	-701.1836	2.0014	-35.2079
3	ZINC16735142	-691.0308	0.9966	-35.8693
4	ZINC05486285	-657.1195	1.2217	-30.9879
5	ZINC85412686	-572.2875	1.3451	-28.8134
6	ZINC40475335	-556.6644	2.7125	-40.8213
7	ZINC19762653	-514.9138	1.8795	-17.5004
8	ZINC15657726	-491.0989	1.1917	-20.4539
9	ZINC39272743	- 482.3535	2.1498	-16.1519
10	ZINC93480289	-446.7381	4.0505	-18.1358

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Table 4: *gyrA* final hits docking score and RMSD refine

S No	Name	Docking Score	RMSD Refine	E Score
1	ZINC72086818	-53.7750	4.2784	-32.1013
2	ZINC71892626	-53.7117	1.9045	-28.9632
3	ZINC11819004	-52.6137	1.6921	- 28.3720
4	ZINC89928930	-51.5949	1.7039	-28.4039
5	ZINC16955083	- 51.530	0.9361	- 29.1497
6	ZINC09576286	-51.4883	2.4492	-31.3807
7	ZINC13566986	-49.4356	2.1497	-31.3699
8	ZINC13164785	-48.4203	1.5245	- 29.6528
9	ZINC12433306	-47.4112	1.2365	-26.1476
10	ZINCS6640502	-44.3937	3.1432	-26.5130

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