

## Synthesis of new 2,3-diphenyl-3-oxo-propanamide derivatives as selective COX-2 inhibitors

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**Background and Aims:** NSAIDs are among the most frequently prescribed pharmaceutical categories as analgesic and anti-inflammatory agents. Since the classic groups of these drugs that inhibit both COX-1 and COX-2 isoenzymes, cause a number of adverse effects, efforts for discovery of new selective COX-2 inhibitors with fewer side effects continue. In this research, based on docking studies, we designed and synthesized a number of new 2,3-Diphenyl-3-oxo-propanamide derivatives as selective COX-2 inhibitors.

**Methods:** Methyl 3-(4-(methylsulfonyl) phenyl)-3-oxo-2-phenylpropanoate was synthesized from 1-(4-(methylsulfonyl) benzoate and methyl 2-phenylacetate through Claisen condensation. New amide derivatives were synthesized from the reaction of above ester with corresponding amines in xylene.

**Results:** Some new molecules were designed based on the SAR of the selective COX-2 inhibitors. They were docked in COX-2 and COX-1 and showed favorable selectivity for COX-2. The designed compounds were synthesized and their structures were approved using instrumental methods including IR, NMR and Mass spectrometry.

**Conclusions:** In this research, new 2,3-Diphenyl-3-oxo-propanamide derivatives as selective COX-2 Inhibitors were designed, synthesized and approved by IR, NMR and Mass spectra. The docking studies showed that the designed compounds had good selectivity for COX-2 isoenzyme.

**Keywords:** Synthesis; 2,3-diphenyl-3-oxo-propanamide derivatives; COX-2 inhibitors