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Synthesis, structural characterization, antimicrobial activity of complexes of Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II), Zn(II), Cd(II) with 7-((2-aminoethyl)amino)-5-bromo-6-hydroxy-1methylquinolin-1- ium-3-sulfonate

Mai Phuong Chi¹, Nguyen Thi Quy¹, Le Thi Hong Hai^{*1}

¹Chemistry Faculty, Hanoi National University of Education, Hanoi, Vietnam.

*Corresponding author:Le Thi Hong Hai, Chemistry Faculty, Hanoi National University of Education, Hanoi, Vietnam; Email:<u>hailth@hnue.edu.vn</u>

ABSTRACT

In this research, a new quinoline derivative, 7-((2-aminoethyl)amino)-5-bromo-6-hydroxy-1- methylquinolin-1-ium-3-sulfonate (QEt) as well as six complexes of Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II), Cn(II), Cd(II) and Hg(II) with this ligand $[M(QEt-1H)_2]$.nH2O (M: Co, Cu, Zn, Cd, Hg), [Ni(QEt-1H)Cl].2H2O were synthesized. The molecular formulas and structures of the complexes were determined using measurement as IR, EDX, ESI-MS, ¹H NMR spectra and thermal analysis. The bioactivity tests shown that the ligand and CuQEt complex have limiting effects to microorganisms, complexes CoQEt, ZnQEt, CdQEt and HgQEt exhibit antibacterial activities with low IC₅₀ values, from 0.5 to 56.0 μ g/mL and be most effective to Bacillus subtilis. Especially HgQEt inhibits effectively to almost types of bacteria.

Keywords: quinolinesulfonate, transition-metal complexes, antimicrobial activity

INTRODUCTION

Quinoline is one of the popular heterocyclic compounds that have been utilized in variety fields like energy industry [1], environmental analysis [2], and especially applied pharmaceutical industry [3]. These compounds have attracted the large attention of scientists due to the potential biological properties and show excellent antifungal, antivirus and antibacterial activities [4-6]. In addition, they have been used in the therapies of malaria disease, cancers, Alzheimer, Parkinson etc [7-9].

The complexes of quinoline derivatives with metal ions such as Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II), Cd(II), Zn(II), Hg(II) have been reported to exhibit considerable antimicrobial activities, some complexes are better inhibitors than the ligands [10,11]. For instance, other complexes between (quinolin-2- yl)benzenediamine and Co(II), Cu(II) show the greater antibacterial activity than standard agents, ciprofloxacin, as well as the excellent antifungal ability compared to fluconazole [12]. Besides, quinoline complexes show the low toxicity to human, high cytotoxicity that have potential application in future [13].

Differently from quinoline compounds completely synthesized by artificial chemicals, a series of quinoline derivatives have been synthesized from Eugenol extracted from certain essential oils of plants such as tulsi (Ocimum sanctum L.) or clove (Syzygiumaromaticum) [14]. From key compound, 7-carboxymethoxy-6-hydroxyquinolin-1-ium-3-sulfonate (Q), many new derivatives were synthesized and studied about fluorescent property, structure and bioactivity of their complexes with transition metal ions [14,15]. Here in, we report the synthesis, structure and antimicrobial activity of complexes of a new quinoline derivative - 1-methyl-5-bromo-6-hydroxy-7-ethylendiamin-3- sulfoquinoline (QEt) with transition metal ions such as Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II), Cd(II), Hg(II). In this ligand, there are aromatic rings, hydroxyl group (-OH), amine group (NH, NH₂) that can coordinate with metal ions to form new complexes showing the potential antimicrobial activity.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

All commercially available reagents and chemicals were of analytical grade purity and used without purification. The molecular formulas and structures of the complexes were determined by spectrometric methods. IR spectra were recorded from KBr pellets by an IMPACK-410 NICOLET IR spectrometer. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded by a Bruker XL-500 MHz spectrometer in DMSO. Absorbance spectra were measured by UV-Vis Cary 60 spectrometer in distilled water. Mass spectra (ESI-MS) were measured by LC-MSD-Trap-SL spectrometer in DMSO or CHCl₃. Thermal analysis was made on a DTG-60H detector in Argon with heating rate of 10°C min⁻¹ in the range of temperature from 25 to 800°C. Energy-dispersive X-ray spectra (EDX) were recorded by FE-SEM instrument.

Synthesis of 7-((2-aminoethyl)amino)-5-bromo-6-hydroxy-1-methyl quinolin-1-ium-3-sulfonate (QEt)

7-((2-aminoethyl)amino)-5-bromo-6-hydroxy-1-methyl quinolin-1-ium-3-sulfonate (QEt) was synthesized from eugenol, the main constituent of *Ocimum sanctum L*. oil, after 6 steps displayed in Scheme 1. The process to synthesize MeQBr from eugenol have been described in [15], in here the detail of the last step from MeQBr to QEt was presented.



Scheme 1: Synthesis QEt from Eugenol

5-bromo-7-(carboxymethoxy)-6-hydroxy-1-methylquinolin-1-ium-3-sulfonate (MeQBr) (0,392 g, 1 mmol) and ethylenediamine (3.0 mL, 0.045 mol) were solved in 10 mL water then refluxed for 3 hours at 80-90°C. After cooling by cold water, a large amount of appreciate appeared. The resulting solid was washed with cold water and acetone before being recrystallized in HCl 1M. 7-((2-aminoethyl)amino)-5- bromo-6-hydroxy-1-methylquinolin-1-ium-3-sulfonate (QEt) was afforded as needle-shaped yellow crystals. Yield of synthesis process was about 60%. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3436, 3257 (v_{OH}), 3086 (v_{CH}), 1608, 1544 ($v_{C=C,C=N}$), 1199 ($v_{C-C,C-O,C-N}$). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, δ , ppm): 9.13s (1H, Ar-H), 8.78s (1H, Ar-H), 8.19s (3H, N⁺H₃), 7.85t (1H, J=6,5, N-H), 7.01s (1H, Ar-H), 4.44 s (3H, N-CH₃), 3.79m (2H,CH₂), 3.11m (2H, CH₂).

Synthesis of complex CoQEt

To an aqueous solution (20 mL) of QEt(0.09 g, 0.2 mmol) was added solution of CoCl₂.6H₂O (0.029 g,0.12 mmol) (CoQEt). The mixture was added drop wise the solution of NH₃ (4mL, 0.5M), stirring at room temperature for 3 hours. Appeared precipitate was filtered, washed by cold water and ethanol and dried at 50°C. The obtained solid was darkred, soluble in DMSO and slightly soluble in acetone, ethanol and methanol. Yield of synthesis process was about 75%. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3355, 3252, 3177 ($\nu_{OH, NH}$), 1586, 1535 ($\nu_{C=C, C=N}$), 1327 (ν_{SO3}), 445, 524, 575 ($\nu_{M-O, M-N}$). ESI-MS (m/z): + MS, 807.06, {Co(QEt1H)₂ + H⁺} + . Selected EDX (Energy dispersive X-ray spectra) (atomic %), S: Br: Co = 4.82: 4.49: 2.25 (Found.) \approx 2: 2:1 (Calc.).

Synthesis of complex NiQEt

To an aqueous solution (20 mL) of QEt (0.09 g, 0.2 mmol) was added solution of NiCl_{2.6}H₂O (0.029 g, 0.12 mmol) (NiQEt). The mixture was added dropwise the solution of NH₃ (4mL, 0.5 M), stirring at room temperature for 3 hours. Appeared precipitate was filtered, washed by cold water and ethanol and dried at 50°C. The resulting solid was dark red, soluble in DMSO and slightly soluble in acetone, ethanol and methanol. Yield of synthesis process was about 80%. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3319, 3250, 3140 ($\nu_{OH, NH}$), 1585, 1553 ($\nu_{C=C, C=N}$), 1332 (ν_{SO3}), 437, 534, 577 ($\nu_{M-O, M-N}$). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, δ , ppm): 8.54s (1H, Ar-H), 8.41s (1H, Ar-H), 7.86 (2H, NH₂), 7.66s (1H, N-H), 6.62 (1H, Ar-H), 4.29 (3H, N-CH₃). ESI-MS (m/z): -MS, 433.9, {Ni (QEt-1H)-2H⁺} - . Selected EDX spectra (atomic %), S: Br: Ni = 1.02: 1.05: 1.49 (Found.) \approx 1: 1:1 (Calc.).

Synthesis of complex CuQEt

QEt (0.090 g, 0.20 mmol) was dissolved in acetate buffer solution (20 mL, 50°C). To the solution was added salt of Cu (CH₃COO)₂.2H₂O (0.026 g, 0.12 mmol) and stirred for 3h at room temperature. Appeared precipitate was filtered, washed by cold water and ethanol and dried at 50°C. The resulting solid was green, soluble in DMSO and slightly soluble in acetone, ethanol and methanol. Yield of synthesis process was about 70%. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹⁾: 3574, 3337, 3257 (ν OH, NH), 1586 (ν C=C, C=N), 1336 (ν SO3), 540, 557 (ν MO, M-N). ESI-MS (m/z): -MS, 910.6, {Cu (QEt-1H)₂ + Br⁻ + H₂O}⁻.

Synthesis of complex ZnQEt

To an aqueous solution (20mL) of QEt (0.09 g, 0.2 mmol) was added solution of ZnCl₂.6H₂O (0.029 g, 0.12 mmol) (ZnQEt). The mixture was added dropwise the solution of NH₃ (4 mL, 0.5 M), stirring at room temperature for 3 hours. Appeared precipitate was filtered, washed by cold water and ethanol and dried at 50°C. The resulting solid was yellow, soluble in DMSO and slightly soluble in acetone, ethanol and methanol. Yield of synthesis process was about 75%. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3680-3100 ($\nu_{OH, NH}$), 1594, 1548, 1518 ($\nu_{C=C, C=N}$), 1320 (ν_{SO3}), 451, 525 ($\nu_{M-O, M-N}$). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, δ , ppm): 8.41s (1H, Ar-H), 8.32s (1H, Ar-H), 7.88 (2H, NH₂), 7.68s (1H, N-H), 6.57 (1H, Ar-H), 4.27s (3H, N-CH₃), 3.97 (2H, CH₂), 3.67 (2H, CH₂). Selected EDX spectra (atomic %), S: Br: Zn = 3.30: 3.22: 1.30 (Found.) $\approx 2 : 2 : 1$ (Calc.).

Synthesis of complex CdQEt

To a water solution (20 mL) of QEt (0.09 g, 0.2 mmol) was added solution of CdCl_{2.2},5H₂O (0.027 g, 0.012 mmol) (CdQEt). The mixture was added drop wise the solution of NH₃ (4mL, 0.5 M), stirring at room temperature for 3 hours. Appeared precipitate was filtered, washed by cold water and ethanol and dried at 50°C. The resulting solid was yellow, soluble in DMSO and slightly soluble in acetone, ethanol and methanol. Yield of synthesis process was about 70%. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): $3600\div3100$ ($\nu_{OH, NH}$), 1591 ($\nu_{C=C, C=N}$), 1316 (ν_{SO3}), 464 ($\nu_{M-O, M-N}$). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, δ , ppm): 8.41s (1H, Ar-H), 8.32s (1H, ArH), 7.88 (2H, NH₂), 7.68s (1H, N-H), 6.57 (1H, Ar-H), 4.26s (3H, N-CH₃), 3.67m (2H, CH₂), 3.19m (2H, CH₂).

Synthesis of complex HgQEt.

To an aqueous solution (20mL) of QEt (0.09 g, 0.2 mmol) was added a solution of Hg(CH₃COO)₂.H₂O (0.031 g, 0.12 mmol). The mixture was added drop wise the solution of NH₃ (4mL, 0.5 M), stirring at room temperature for 3 hours. Appeared precipitate was filtered, washed by cold water and ethanol and dried at 50°C. The resulting solid was orange, soluble in DMSO and slightly soluble in acetone, ethanol and methanol. Yield of synthesis process was about 60%. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3600-3100 ($\nu_{OH, NH}$), 1591, 1547 ($\nu_{C=C, C=N}$), 1318 (ν_{SO3}), 559 ($\nu_{M-O, M-N}$). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, δ , ppm): 8.40s (1H, Ar-H), 8.33s (1H, Ar-H), 7.66d (N-H), 6.57 (1H, Ar-H), 4.26s (3H, N-CH₃), 3.66 (2H, CH₂), 3.13 (2H, CH₂). EDX spectra (atomic %): C, 51.39; O, 24.97; S, 2.13; Br, 1.89; N, 17.73; Hg, 1.42. Selected EDX spectra (atomic %), S: Br: Hg = 2.13:1.89: 1.42 (Found.) \approx 2:2:1 (Calc.).

Antimicrobial activity

Antimicrobial activity of QEt and the complexeswere tested by Broth microdilution method [16, 17, 18] for 7 types of microorganisms: Gram (+) (Staphylococcus aureus, Bacillus subtilis, Lactobacillus 5 fermentum), Gram (-) (Salmonella enterica, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Pseudomonas aeruginosa) and Candida albicans fungus. The microorganisms are stored at -80oC. Before the experiment, the bacteria and fungus were activated in germination medium and reached the concentration of $5x10^5$ CFU/mL to bacteria and $1x10^3$ CFU/mL to fungus. The testing mixture was incubated for 16 - 24 hours at 37° C. The IC₅₀ value is determined via the percentage of inhibition and by the Rawdata computation program.

% Inhibition =
$$\frac{\text{sample} - \text{blank}}{\text{control} - \text{blank}} \times 100$$

(sample - serial diluted test compound incubated for 18 h, control – stock solution with pure organic solvent, blank – control with ungerminated conidia suspension)

% Inhibition =
$$High_{conc} - \frac{(High_{Inh\%} - 50)(High_{conc} - Low_{conc})}{(High_{Inh\%} - Low_{Inh\%})}$$

(Highconc/Lowconc: maximum/minimum value of the concentration, Highinh% / Lowinh%: the maximum/minimum value of the inhibition percentage).

Reference substances: Ampicillin antibiotics for Gram (+) bacterial strains with MIC values between 0.004-1.2 μ g/mL, Cefotaxime antibiotics for Gram (-) bacterial strains with MIC values between 0.07- 19.23 μ g/mL, Nystatin antifungal resistance for fungal strains with MIC value between 2.8-5.0 μ g/mL.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Electrospray Ionization Mass Spectra (ESI-MS)

The obtained products were characterized by ESI-MS method and the ESI-MS spectrum of NiQEt complex is shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1:The +MS of CoQEt complex

In the mass spectrum of CoQEt, there is 100% peak atm/z=807.06 in positive-ion mode corresponded to the species of {Co(QEt-1H)2+H⁺} to show the 1:2 ratio of metal: ligand. Similarly, in mass spectrum of CuQEt, the 100% signal at m/z = 910.6 was assigned to {Cu(QEt-1H)2 + Br⁺ + H₂O}⁻, shows that the ratio between metal-ligand is 1:2. Besides, the mass spectrum of NiQEt shows the present of one intense peak at 433.9 attributed to [Ni(QEt-1H)]⁺ion, confirming the metal-ligand radio of 1:1.

Infrared spectra (IR)

IR spectra of ligand and complexes display all of functional groups such as C=C,C=N bonds inaromatic rings, amine(-NH,NH₂), phenol(-OH), sulfate(-SO₃),that are assigned and showed in Table 1.

Compound	IR	absorption data (Thermal analysis			
	ט, ט, ט OH NH NH2	υυ C=C C=N	υ SO3	υ υ M-O M-N	%weight water (exp/calc)	%weight oxide (exp/calc)
QEt	3436, 3257	1608, 1544	1336	-	-	-
CoQEt	3355, 3252, 3177	1586, 1535	1327	575, 524, 445	9.27/10.01	10.97/9.56
NiQEt	3600÷3200 (broad)	1585, 1553	1332	577, 534, 437	8.43/7.12	15.42/14.84
CuQEt	3574, 3337, 3257	1586	1336	540, 557	7.61/8.13	5.29/8.14
ZnQEt	3680-3000 (broad)	1594, 1548 1518	1320	525, 451	5.78/6.20	10.60/9.32
CdQEt	3600-3090 (broad)	1591,1552	1316	464	9.46/8.59	13.46/11.88
HgQEt	3600-3000 (broad)	1591,1547	1318	559	-	-

Table 1:	IR absorption	and thermal	analysis	data of ligand	and complexes`

In IR spectrum of QEt, there are absorption bands in 3400-3100 cm⁻¹ area presented to the vibration of amine and hydroxyl groups. In addition, the intense absorptions at 1608 cm⁻¹, 1544 cm⁻¹ were assigned to the double bonds in aromatic rings and the vibration of $-SO_3^-$ group was observed at 1336 cm⁻¹ in the ligand IR spectrum [19]. In complex spectra, the broad signals at 3600 – 3100 cm⁻¹ were caused by crystalized water, so the distinct peaks of -OH, NH groups did not be shown clearly in the IR spectra [20]. Besides, the C= C, C=N bond in aromatic rings, sulfate groups produce the IR absorption at 1590 cm⁻¹, 1550 cm⁻¹ and 1320 cm⁻¹ areas, respectively [21]. These signals of similar vibrations of complexes slightly decrease in wave number compared to the ligand, which explained by the formation of coordinated bonds. Especially, the appearance of several M-O, M-N characteristic absorption at 400-600 cm⁻¹ confirms the existence of complexes and the ligands coordinate with metal ion through -OH and -NH, -NH₂ group [22].



Figure 2: Thermal analysis (a) of NiQEt and IR spectrum (b) of CuQEt

Thermal analysis

By studying the thermal decomposition process of the compound, the number of crystalline and coordinated waters were determined, the data are presented in Table1 and the thermal analysis curve of NiQEt complex is shown in Figure 2. In the DTA curve of this complex, there is one endothermal peak at about 95°C, combining with the first mass loss occurring from 50°C to 200°C in the TGA curve and the minimum peak in DrTGA curve at 92°C, corresponding to the release of two crystalline water molecules in [Ni(QEt-1H)Cl].2H₂O. The mass loss of 8.43% is in good agreement with the calculated result of 7.12%. In the next stages, two exothermic peaks at 317°C and 481°C in the DTA curve correspond to decomposition reactions and oxidation processes of the complex to finally form nickel (II) oxide, it is acceptably stable at 800°C. After 800°C, the

complex completely decomposes and the experimental percentage mass of the final residue (NiO) is 15.42%, the data is consistent with the calculated percentage (14.84%). The results of the thermal analysis confirms the composition of the obtained compound that it is [Ni(QEt-1H)Cl].2H₂O. Similarly, the results of thermal analysis (Table 1) further ascertain that the molecule composition of complexes is suitable with the predicted structures, the metal-ligand ratio in CoQEt, CuQEt, CnQEt, CdQEt complexes are 1:2, and this ratio in NiQEt complex is 1:1.

Proton nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (¹H NMR)

All spectral data were assigned to protons of the compounds and presented in Table 2, the ¹H NMR spectra of QEt and HgQEt complexes are showed in Figure 3. In the spectrum of the ligand, the resonance signals at 8.19, 7.89 ppm of amine protons are evident that -OCH₂COOH of MeQBr was replaced by -NH(CH₂)₂NH₂. The directly nucleophile substitution occurring easily were explained as the strong electron withdrawing group – imine (N⁺-CH₃) and sulfate (-SO₃⁻) in the quinoline ring that increasing positive charge in benzene ring. The aromatic signals at 9.13, 8.78 and 7.01 ppm were assigned to three protons - H2, H4, H6 in quinoline ring. In upfield area, the signals were resolved into the protons bonding with three saturated carbon, which is consistent with the relative intensities of the signals.

	Chemical shift, δ (ppm)							
	H7b, H7c	H1	H2, H4	NH	NH2	H8		
QEt	3.10m, 3.80m	4.44 s	9.13s, 8.78s	7.85t	8.19s	7.01s		
NiQEt		4.29	8.54s, 8.41s	7.66s	7.86	6.62		
ZnQEt	3.14m, 3.70m	4.26s	8.41s, 8.32s	7.68s	7.88	6.57		
CdQEt	3.13m, 3.66m	4.26s	8.40s	7.66s		6.57		
HgQEt	3.20m, 3.70m	4.26s	8.40s, 8.32s	7.61	7.82	6.56		

Table 2: Chemical shift values of QEt and complexes

In the ¹H NMR spectra of complexes, the proton resonances have the same pattern with the ligand, but the chemical shifts change slightly (Table 3). The decrease in chemical shift of almost protons was explained as the impact of bonding between the metal center and ligands through -OH phenol and -NH amine.



Figure 3:¹H NMR spectrum of QEt.

The strong decrease of chemical shift from 8.19 ppm (equivalent to $-NH_3^+$ group) to about 7.90 ppm and from 7.85 ppm (-NH, triplet) to about 7.70 ppm (singlet) are evident that QEt coordinates with metal ion through -NH and -NH₂. Additionally, the ¹H NMR spectra of ZnQEt, CdQEt and HgQEt appearing only one set of signals indicates that two ligands in the complexes are similar and symmetry. In ¹H NMR spectrum of NiQEt complex, only one set of signals appears clearly and based on the dark red color of the compound, which shows that NiQEt complex is diamagnetic so that confirms the Ni(II) complex is square planar (Figure 4).



Figure 4: Proposal structure of complexes CoQEt, NiQEt, CuQEt, ZnQEt, CdQEt, HgQEt

The combination of IR, ¹H NMR, EDX, ESI-MS spectra and thermal analysis, the structure of complexes were proposed: CoQEt, ZnQEt, CdQEt, CuQEt, HgQEt have same structure with ratio of metal : ligand is 1:2 while NiQEt complex is square planar with the ratio 1:1.

Antimicrobial activity

The ligand and six complexes were tested the antimicrobial activity to both Gram positive and Gram negative strains like *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Lactobacillus fermentum*, *Salmonella enterica*, *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Candida albicans* fungus. The results show that the ligand, NiQEt and CuQEt have no effect on the microorganisms. In contrast, the CoQEt, ZnQEt complexes show a great inhibition to Gram (+) Bacillus subtilis (IC₅₀ = 0.69 and 0.50 µg/mL) while the complex of CdQEt has ability to inhibit Gram (+) *Bacillus subtilis*, *Candida albican* fungus and Gram (+) *Lactobacillus fermentum* with the moderate to low IC₅₀ values are 21.94, 34.21 and 1.87 µg/mL respectively. Especially, the complex HgQEt exhibits the excellent activities against six types of microorganism, (IC₅₀ = 0.69 ÷ 56.0 µg/mL), most effectively inhibits Gram (+) Bacillus subtilis with the value of IC₅₀ is 0.69 µg/mL. (**Table 3**).

	IC50 Values (µg/mL)						
	Gram (+)				Fungus		
	Staphylococcus aureus	Bacillus subtilis	Lactobacillus fermentum	Salmonella enterica	Escherichia coli	Pseudomonasaeruginosa	Candida albican
Qet	>128	>128	>128	>128	>128	>128	>128
CuQEt	>128	>128	>128	>128	>128	>128	>128
NiQEt	>128	>128	>128	>128	>128	>128	>128
CoQEt	>128	$\textbf{0.69} \pm \textbf{0.02}$	>128	>128	>128	>128	>128
ZnQEt	>128	$\textbf{0.5} \pm \textbf{0.03}$	>128	>128	>128	>128	>128
CdQEt	>256	21.94 ± 2.59	1.87 ± 0.13	>256	>256	>256	34.21 ± 1.90
HgQEt	15.5 ± 0.35	$\textbf{0.69} \pm \textbf{0.02}$	$\textbf{6.00} \pm \textbf{0.17}$	$\textbf{56.0} \pm \textbf{1.05}$	18.45 ± 0.33	>128	$\textbf{8.0} \pm \textbf{0.19}$

Fable 3:	Antimicrobial	activities	of	compounds
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CONCLUSION

In this work, we have successfully synthesized an ewquinoline derivative, 1-methyl-5-bromo-6-hydroxy- 7-ethylendiamin-3-sulfoquinoline(QEt) as well as six complexes of Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II), Zn(II), Cd(II) and Hg(II) with this ligand: [M(QEt-1H)2].nH₂O (M is Co, Cu, Cd, Zn, Hg) and [Ni(QEt-1H)Cl].2H₂O. Based on physical measurement such as IR, ESI-MS, ¹HNMR, EDX, thermal analysis, the structure of six complexes was initiatively determined. In most complexes, the mole ratio between metal center: ligand is 1: 2, exceptionally, the ratio is 1:1 in NiQEt complex. The center metals coordinate with the ligand through -OH and -NH,NH₂.

The bioactivity tests show that QEt, CuQEt, NiQEt have no bioactivity to microorganisms while CoQEt, ZnQEt show effective impact on Bacillus subtilis with IC₅₀ value <1.0 μ g/mL, CdQEt possesses the antimicrobial activity to Gram (+) Bacillus subtilis, Candida albican fungus and Gram (+) Lactobacillus fermentum with IC₅₀ value is 1.87 ÷ 34.51 μ g/mL, HgQEt shows further great antimicrobial activity that inhibits six types of microorganisms with IC₅₀ = 0.6 ÷ 56 μ g/mL.

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