Research Article

NMR study of the inclusion complexes of β -cyclodextrin with diphenhydramine, clonidine and tolperisone



Symbat Zhumakova¹ · Assel Ten^{1,2} · Tolganay Zharkynbek¹ · Valentina Yu^{1,2} · Tulegen Seilkhanov³ · Anna Basharimova² · Sarah Bayazit² · Murat Aydemir⁴ · Alexey Zazybin²

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Abstract

Forming complexes with β -cyclodextrin can enhance stability, dissolution rate, solubility, and bioavailability of an active pharmaceutical ingredient. In this study, the inclusion behavior between β -cyclodextrin (β -CD) and diphenhydramine, clonidine, and tolperisone in DMSO-d₆ was investigated using NMR spectroscopy. ¹H, ¹³C, COSY, HMQC, and ROESY data were applied to determine the structure of inclusion complexes, and molecular docking analysis was engaged to identify the most favorable host–guest interactions in the inclusion complexes. Complexation of β -CD with diphenhydramine, clonidine, and tolperisone is accompanied by the insertion of a molecular fragment of the guest molecule, one molecule of diphenhydramine and tolperisone, and two molecules of clonidine, into the inner sphere of one host molecule. The reported study provides useful information for the potential application of the complexation of β -CD with diphenhydramine, clonidine, and tolperisone. This may be a good strategy for the development of solid pharmaceutical dosage forms based on β -CDs as a drug delivery system.

Article highlights

- The inclusion complexes of β-CD and diphenhydramine, clonidine, and tolperisone were synthesized and analyzed using 1H, 13C, COSY, HMQC, and ROESY spectroscopy.
- Diphenhydramine, clonidine, and tolperisone interact with β-CD with the formation of stable 1:1 stoi-

chiometric complexes for β -CD:diphenhydramine and β -CD:tolperisone, and 1:2 stoichiometric complex for β -CD:clonidine.

 Possible structures of the inclusion complexes between β-CD and diphenhydramine, clonidine, and tolperisone were determined using molecular docking in the software AutoDock 4.0.

Keywords Diphenhydramine \cdot Clonidine \cdot Tolperisone $\cdot \beta$ -Cyclodextrin \cdot Inclusion complexes \cdot NMR Spectroscopy

Alexey Zazybin, azazybin@yahoo.com | ¹Institute of Chemical Sciences Named After A.B.Bekturov, Walikhanov Str., 106, Almaty 050010, Kazakhstan. ²Department of Chemical Engineering, Kazakh-British Technical University, 59 Tole-bi Str, Almaty 050000, Kazakhstan. ³Laboratory of Engineering Profile NMR Spectroscopy, Sh. Ualikhanov Kokshetau State University, Abay Str., 76, Kokshetau 020000, Kazakhstan. ⁴Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Dicle University, 21280 Diyarbakir, Turkey.



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1 Introduction

Currently, due to the intensive development of the pharmaceutical industry, the search for new forms of drugs has great significance [1]. In the modern pharmaceutical industry, great prospects are associated with the encapsulation of drugs with effective receptors, which make it possible to obtain solid dosage forms from liquid ones, help to stabilize active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) toward the action of light and heat, increase the solubility of the drug, improve its bioavailability, and mask unwanted odors and taste [2]. The encapsulation of pharmaceuticals allows obtaining drugs with prolonged action and increases the possibility of targeted drug transport in the body directly to the site of its action. In this regard, the development of supramolecular forms of APIs diphenhydramine 1, clonidine 2, and tolperisone **3** with β -cyclodextrin (β -CD) and the investigation of their structure is an urgent task of modern chemistry and medicine.

The choice of APIs diphenhydramine, clonidine, and tolperisone can be explained by their high pharmaceutical activity and the importance of searching for longterm action forms of these APIs [3–5]. Diphenhydramine, an antihystamine with a bitter taste, is mainly used to relieve symptoms of allergy, insomnia, and fever, to treat tremor and nausea. This drug has a bitter taste due to the amino groups. Studies [6] have shown that the inclusion of diphenhydramine inside the cavity of β -CD masks the bitter taste of the drug due to the interaction between the amino groups of diphenhydramine and the hydrogen atom of β -CD. Clonidine is known as an adjuvant to local anesthetics, which prolongs their action, reducing the dosage required for anesthesia. In vitro studies have shown that complexation of clonidine with β -CD increases clonidine's adjuvant effect of clonidine without changing the intrinsic toxicity of clonidine [7]. Tolperisone is a centrally acting muscle relaxant, which is used to treat increased muscle tone caused by neurological diseases. Side effects include body weakness, nausea, dizziness, increase in liver enzymes and muscle pain. According to the studies [6, 7], the inclusion of the APIs into the β -CD cavity may result in reduced side effects of the APIs. Presumably, the same effect may be obtained in the complex between tolperisone and β -CD (Fig. 1).

As for the host molecule, β -CD has been chosen because among the currently known encapsulating receptors for APIs, it stands out in several remarkable properties due to its structure [8]. β -CD is a cyclic oligosaccharide composed of seven D-glucopyranose units. The β -CD molecule has a shape of a truncated cone. Protons H-3 and H-5 are located in the inner hydrophobic bonding surface, and H-2 and H-4 are located in the outer one. The most important feature of β -CD is its ability to bind the guest molecule in its cavity in the aqueous environment (Fig. 2).

One of the main methods of studying supramolecular inclusion complexes is NMR spectroscopy [8, 9]. We used this method to study new complexes of APIs diphenhydramine, clonidine, and tolperisone with β -CD.

According to [9], the ¹H NMR spectrum of β -CD, obtained in DMSO-d₆, consists of six groups of signals in the range 3.23-3.32; 3.45-3.53; 3.56-3.60; 4.47-4.49; 4.77–4.78; 5.66–5.73 ppm. Herein, we study the formation of inclusion complexes of β -CD with APIs **1–3** by determining the difference in the values of ¹H and ¹³C chemical shifts of substrates (1-3) and the receptor $(\beta$ -CD) in the free state and as a part of complexes due to the intermolecular interaction. By the magnitude of the chemical shifts of the internal or external protons of β-CD, it is possible to reveal the formation of, respectively, internal, external, or mixed complexes. Changes in the ¹H and ¹³C chemical shifts in the spectra of the substrate make it possible to determine the direction of entry of the latter into the β -CD cavity or interaction with the outer segment of the cavity [12, 13].

Firstly, we explored the NMR data for compounds **1–3**. In the ¹H NMR spectrum of **1** (Table 1), methyl protons H-12 and H-19 appeared as a six-proton singlet signal at 2.29 ppm. The alicyclic protons H-10 and H-9 resonated



Fig. 1 Structures of (1) diphenhydramine, (2) clonidine and (3) tolperisone. Drawn in ChemDraw

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Fig. 2 Structure of β-CD. Drawn in ChemDraw



| Number of atom | Group CH _x | δ ₀ , ppm | | δ, ppm | | $\Delta \delta = \delta - \delta_0$ | |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| | | ¹ H | ¹³ C | ¹ H | ¹³ C | ¹ H | ¹³ C |
| Compound 1 | | | | | | | |
| 1,13 | C _{Ar} | - | 142.40 | - | 143.15 | - | 0.75 |
| 2,6,14,18 | CH _{Ar} | 7.32 | 127.12 | 7.26 | 127.02 | -0.06 | -0.90 |
| 3,5,15,17 | CH _{Ar} | 7.38 | 128.49 | 7.30 | 128.86 | -0.08 | 0.37 |
| 4,16 | CH _{Ar} | 7.25 | 127.54 | 7.19 | 127.78 | -0.06 | 0.24 |
| 7 | >CH- | 5.39 | 84.14 | 5.40 | 83.09 | 0.01 | - 1.05 |
| 9 | -CH ₂ - | 3.59 | 67.60 | Signal overlay | 67.17 | - | -0.53 |
| 10 | -CH ₂ - | 2.63 | 59.07 | 2.45 | 58.87 | -0.20 | -0.20 |
| 12,19 | $-CH_3$ | 2.29 | 46.13 | 2.11 | 46.08 | -0.18 | -0.05 |
| β-CD | | | | | | | |
| 1 | >CH- | 4.77 | 102.40 | 4.78 | 102.45 | 0.01 | 0.05 |
| 2 | >CH- | 3.26 | 72.81 | 3.27 | 72.90 | 0.01 | 0.09 |
| 3 | >CH- | 3.57 | 73.53 | 3.51 | 73.56 | -0.06 | 0.03 |
| 4 | >CH- | 3.29 | 81.95 | 3.32 | 82.02 | 0.03 | 0.07 |
| 5 | >CH- | 3.49 | 72.49 | 3.51 | 72.54 | 0.02 | 0.05 |
| 6 | -CH ₂ - | 3.57 | 60.39 | 3.59 | 60.40 | 0.02 | 0.01 |

Table 1 ¹H μ ¹³C NMR chemical shift changes (ppm) for **1** and β -CD before (δ_0) and after the formation of complex **4** (δ)

with two-proton quadruplets at 2.63 and 3.59 ppm., respectively, with a spin–spin coupling constant of ³ J 6.0 Hz. The tertiary proton H-7 appeared as a single-proton singlet at 5.39 ppm. In the aromatic region, one two-proton (7.22–7.27 ppm) and two four-proton multiplets (7.30–7.34 and 7.37–7.39 ppm) reflect resonation of aromatic protons H-4,16, H-2,6,14,18 and H-3,5,15,17, respectively.

In the ¹³C NMR spectrum (Table 1), aliphatic carbon atoms appeared at 46.13 (C-12, 19), 59.07 (C-10), 67.60 (C-9) and 84.14 (C-7). Aromatic carbon atoms resonated at 127.12 (C-2,6,14,18), 127.54 (C-4.16), 128.49 (C-3,5,15,17) and 142.40 (C-1,13) ppm.

The structure of **1** was also confirmed by two-dimensional NMR spectroscopy COZY ($^{1}H-^{1}H$) and HMQC ($^{1}H-^{13}C$), which make it possible to establish spin-spin

interactions of homo- and heteronuclear nature. The observed correlations in the molecule are shown in Fig. 3. In the COZY ¹H–¹H spectra of the compound, spin–spin correlations are observed for the neighboring protons H9–H10 of the methylene groups of the aliphatic fragment through three bonds (cross-peaks at 3.59, 2.63 and 2.63, 3.59 ppm). Heteronuclear interactions of protons with carbon atoms through one bond were established using HMQC ¹H–¹³C spectroscopy for the following pairs present in the compound: H12,19–C12,19 (2.29, 46.13), H10-C10 (2.63, 59.08), H9-C9 (2.63, 59.08), H7–C7 (5.38, 84.00) and H2-6.14–18–C2-6.14–18 (7.33, 128.52) ppm.

Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectra of compound **1** and supramolecular complex **4** showed (Table 1) that most of the protons change chemical shifts during complexation. Moreover, the greatest screening (-0.18 - (-0.20) ppm)

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Fig. 3 Correlations in the COZY (a) and HMQC (b) spectra of 1. Drawn in ACD/ChemSketch

is observed for two methyl-group protons H-12, H-19, and aliphatic protons H-10. Due to the superposition of the chemical shifts of the H-9 protons with more intense signals from the cyclodextrin molecule, aliphatic protons could not be detected in the supramolecular complex. All the aromatic protons undergo a significant shift to the upfield region (-0.06 - (-0.08) ppm) as a result of supramolecular interaction. The smallest change in the chemical shifts of the spectra is recorded for the tertiary proton H-7.

The supramolecular interaction of β -CD with **1** was accompanied by a shift of 5 of 6 considered cyclodextrin signals to the weak field region (0.01-0.03 ppm). The greatest difference (-0.06 ppm) in the values of chemical shifts of protons was observed for the intracavitary proton H-3, located in the middle of the cyclodextrin cone. A significant change in the chemical shifts of the intracavitary H-5 proton located in the narrow side of the cyclodextrin rim, as well as the position of adjacent H-6 protons, confirms the formation of inclusion complexes. It can be assumed that the formation of inclusion complexes is accompanied by the entry of two hydrophobic phenyl radicals into the β-CD cavity. Changes in the chemical shifts of the intracavity protons of β -CD can also occur when methyl and methylene aliphatic protons of dimethylaminoethoxy fragment enter its cavity. The supramolecular interaction of 1 with external protons of β -CD is accompanied by a change in the chemical shifts of the latter and the formation of external complexes. Comparison of the integral intensities of the signals of protons 1 and β -CD in the composition of supramolecular complex 4 showed that supramolecular ensembles are mainly formed with the composition of one molecule **1** per one molecule of β -CD.

The study of the ¹H NMR spectrum of **2** showed (Table 2) the presence of an intense four-proton singlet signal at 3.48 ppm (protons of the five-membered heterocycle H-2 and H-3). Heterocyclic and bridging amine

| Number of atom | Group CH _x | δ ₀ , ppm | | δ, ppm | | $\Delta\delta\!=\!\delta\!-\!\delta_0$ | |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| | | ¹ H | ¹³ C | ¹ H | ¹³ C | ¹ H | ¹³ C |
| Compound 2 | | | | | | | |
| 2 | -CH ₂ - | 3.48 | 42.57 | 3.26 | 42.34 | -0.22 | -0.23 |
| 3 | -CH ₂ - | 3.48 | 42.57 | 3.26 | 42.34 | -0.22 | -0.23 |
| 4 | >NH | 5.33 | - | 6.05 | - | 0.72 | - |
| 5 | >C= | - | 158.08 | - | 157.59 | - | -0.49 |
| 6 | >NH | 7.32 | - | 6.05 | - | 1.27 | - |
| 7 | C _{Ar} | - | 145.16 | - | 146.61 | - | 1.45 |
| 8,12 | C _{Ar} | - | 129.76 | - | 129.44 | - | -0.32 |
| 9,11 | CH _{Ar} | 7.23 | 128.34 | 7.25 | 128.55 | 0.02 | 0.21 |
| 10 | CH _{Ar} | 6.79 | 122.74 | 6.80 | 122.28 | 0.01 | -0.46 |
| β-CD | | | | | | | |
| 1 | >CH- | 4.77 | 102.40 | 4.78 | 102.45 | 0.01 | 0.05 |
| 2 | >CH- | 3.26 | 72.81 | 3.27 | 72.90 | 0.01 | 0.09 |
| 3 | >CH- | 3.57 | 73.53 | 3.59 | 73.56 | 0.02 | 0.03 |
| 4 | >CH- | 3.29 | 81.95 | 3.32 | 82.04 | 0.03 | 0.09 |
| 5 | >CH- | 3.49 | 72.49 | 3.51 | 72.55 | 0.02 | 0.06 |
| 6 | -CH ₂ - | 3.57 | 60.39 | 3.59 | 60.41 | 0.02 | 0.02 |

 $\begin{array}{ll} \textbf{Table 2} \quad {}^{1}\text{H} \: \mu \: {}^{13}\text{C} \: \text{NMR chemical} \\ \text{shift changes (ppm) for $\textbf{2}$ and} \\ \beta\text{-CD before } (\delta_0) \: \text{and after the} \\ \text{formation of complex $\textbf{5}} \: (\delta) \end{array}$

protons H-4 and H-6 appeared as single-proton singlets at 5.33 and 7.32 ppm, respectively. The protons of the aromatics resonated with a one-proton triplet at 6.79 (H-10, ³ J 8.0 Hz) and a two-proton doublet at 7.23 (H-11 and H-9, ³ J 7.6 Hz), respectively.

In the carbon NMR spectrum of **2** (Table 2), the carbon atoms of the heterocyclic fragment appeared at 42.57 (C-2, C-3) and 158.08 (C-5) ppm. Aromatic carbon atoms appeared at 122.74 (C-10), 128.34 (C-9, C-11), 129.76 (C-8, C-12) and 145.16 (C-7) ppm.

The study of two-dimensional NMR spectra COZY (¹H-¹H) and HMQC (¹H-¹³C) shows correlations in molecule **2** shown in Fig. 2. In the ¹H-¹H COZY spectra of the compound, spin–spin correlations are observed through three bonds of protons of neighboring methine groups H9 and H11 with H10 of the benzene ring by cross-peaks with coordinates at 7.23, 6.80 and 6.80, 7.23 ppm. Heteronuclear interactions of protons with carbon atoms through one bond were established using ¹H-¹³C HMQC spectroscopy for the pairs present in the compound: H2 and H3 with C2 and C3 (3.48, 42.58) and H9 and H11 with C9 and C11 (7.22, 128.41) ppm (Fig. 4).

The supramolecular interaction of β -CD with **2** was accompanied by a shift of all considered cyclodextrin 6 signals to the weak field region (0.01–0.03 ppm), and the greatest shift of proton signals is observed in both external (H-4, H-6) and internal (H-3, H-5) cyclodextrin protons. Significant changes in chemical shifts in complex **5** compared



Fig. 4 Correlations in the COZY (**a**) and HMQC (**b**) spectra of 2. Drawn in ACD/ChemSketch

to molecule **2** occurred for the amine protons H-4 and H-6. The hydrophilic nature of the pyrazole fragment of molecule 2 allows us to conclude that this fragment cannot enter the inner cavity of β -CD. Therefore, there is a high probability of the formation of external supramolecular complexes of molecules 2 with β -CD. Changes in chemical shifts in the process of supramolecular complexation of aromatic protons H-9 and H-11 of 2 are much less noticeable than those of the analogous aromatic protons of molecule 1 in complex 4. This may indicate a lower complexation activity of the dichlorophenyl fragment during the formation of an internal complex. Comparison of the integral intensities of the signals of protons $\mathbf{2}$ and β -CD in the composition of supramolecular complex 5 showed that predominantly supramolecular ensembles with the composition of two molecules of 2 per one molecule of β-CD are formed.

The study of the ¹H NMR spectrum of **3** showed (Table 3) the presence of a multiplet signal at 1.10–1.13 ppm with an integrated intensity of 3H of protons of the methyl group H-9. Piperidine protons appeared as multiplet signals at 1.30–1.31 (2H, H-3ax, H-5ax), 1.40–1.44 (4H, H-3 eq, H-4ax, H-4 eq, H-5 eq), 2.31–2.35 (4H, H-2ax, H-2 eq, H-6ax, H-6 eq) ppm. Aliphatic methylene protons H-7ax and H-7 eq appeared as single-proton multiplets at 2.31–2.35 and 2.75–2.81 ppm. The tertiary proton H-8 resonated with a single-proton multiplet at 3.62–3.70 ppm. Methyl protons H-18 resonated as a multiplet at 2.31–2.35 ppm. The equivalent aromatic protons H-14 and H-16 and H-13 and H-17 appeared as two-proton doublets with ³J 7.6 Hz at 7.19 and 7.81 ppm, respectively.

In the ¹³C NMR spectrum of **3** (Table 3), the carbon atoms of the methyl groups appeared at 17.00 (C-9) and 21.68 (C-18) ppm. The carbon atoms of the piperidine fragment appeared at 24.28 (C-4), 25.97 (C-3, C-5), and 54.94 (C-2, C-6) ppm. Alicyclic carbon atoms C-7 and C-8 appeared at 62.30 and 38.69 ppm, respectively. Aromatic carbon atoms appeared at 128.51 (C-13, C-17), 129.33 (C-14, C-16), 134.29 (C-12) and 143.66 (C-15) ppm. Carbonyl carbon atoms C-10 appeared in the lowest-field part of the spectrum at 203.63 ppm.

The structure of compound **3** was also confirmed by two-dimensional NMR spectroscopy COZY ($^{1}H-^{1}H$) and HMQC ($^{1}H-^{13}C$). The observed correlations in the molecule are shown in Fig. 5. In the $^{1}H-^{1}H$ COZY spectra, spin–spin correlations are observed through three bonds of protons of neighboring methylene groups H-3ax, H-5ax with H-4ax, H-4eq (1.31, 1.44 and 1.44, 1.31), H-3eq, H-5eq with H-2eq, H-6eq (1.43, 2.31 and 2.31, 1.43), H-2eq, H-6eq with H-7eq (2.34, 2.75 and 2.75, 2.34) of the piperidine and methylene fragments, methyl-methine groups H9–H8 (1.12, 3.68 and 3.68, 1.12) and methine groups H-14, H-16 with H-13, H-17 (7.20, 7.84 and 7.84, 7.20) of the aromatic substituent. (2022) 4:75

Table 3 ¹H μ ¹³C NMR chemical shift changes (ppm) for **3** and β-CD before (δ_0) and after the formation of complex **6** (δ)

| Number of atom | Group CH _x | δ ₀ , ppm | | δ, ppm | | $\Delta \delta = \delta - \delta_0$ | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| | | ¹ H | ¹³ C | ¹ H | ¹³ C | ¹ H | ¹³ C |
| Compound 3 | | | | | | | |
| 2ах,бах | -CH ₂ - | 2.37 | 54.94 | 2.33 | 54.99 | 0.04 | 0.05 |
| 2 eq,6 eq | | 2.45 | | 2.53 | | 0.08 | |
| 3ax,5ax | CH ₂ | 1.31 | 25.97 | 1.26 | 26.10 | -0.05 | 0.13 |
| 3 eq,5 eq | | 1.44 | | 1.33 | | -0.11 | |
| 4ax | -CH ₂ - | 1.40 | 24.28 | 1.38 | 24.49 | -0.02 | 0.21 |
| 4 eq | | 1.44 | | 1.45 | | -0.01 | |
| 7ax | CH ₂ | 2.35 | 62.30 | 2.26 | 62.75 | -0.11 | 0.45 |
| 7 eq | | 2.79 | | 2.75 | | -0.04 | |
| 8 | >CH- | 3.67 | 38.69 | 3.76 | 38.10 | 0.09 | -0.59 |
| 9 | $-CH_3$ | 1.11 | 17.00 | 0.99 | 16.68 | -0.22 | -0.32 |
| 10 | >C=0 | - | 203.63 | - | 203.52 | - | -0.09 |
| 12 | C _{Ar} | - | 134.29 | - | 134.45 | - | 0.16 |
| 13,17 | CH _{Ar} | 7.82 | 128.51 | 7.83 | 128.75 | 0.01 | 0.24 |
| 14,16 | CH _{Ar} | 7.20 | 129.33 | 7.28 | 129.85 | 0.08 | 0.52 |
| 15 | C _{Ar} | - | 143.66 | - | 143.73 | - | 0.07 |
| 18 | $-CH_3$ | 2.35 | 21.68 | 2.33 | 21.65 | -0.02 | -0.03 |
| β-CD | | | | | | | |
| 1 | >CH- | 4.77 | 102.40 | 4.78 | 102.45 | 0.01 | 0.05 |
| 2 | >CH- | 3.26 | 72.81 | 3.27 | 72.90 | 0.01 | 0.09 |
| 3 | >CH- | 3.57 | 73.53 | 3.59 | 73.55 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| 4 | >CH- | 3.29 | 81.95 | 3.31 | 82.02 | 0.03 | 0.07 |
| 5 | >CH- | 3.49 | 72.49 | 3.51 | 72.53 | 0.03 | 0.04 |
| 6 | -CH ₂ - | 3.57 | 60.39 | 3.59 | 60.39 | 0.02 | 0 |



Fig. 5 Correlations in the COZY (**a**) and HMQC (**b**) spectra of 3. Drawn in ACD/ChemSketch

Heteronuclear interactions of protons with carbon atoms through one bond were established using ${}^{1}H{}^{-13}C$ HSQC spectroscopy for the following pairs present in the compound: H-9 with C-9 (1.12, 17.44), H-3ax and H-5ax with C-3 and C-5 (1.31, 25.81), H-3 eq and H-5 eq with C-3 and C-5 (1.44, 25.81), H-18 with C-18 (2.36, 22.09), H-2ax and H-6ax with C-2 and C-6 (2.32, 55.22), H-7ax with C-7 (2.35,

SN Applied Sciences A SPRINGER NATURE journal 62.11), H-7 eq with C-7 (2.79, 62.11), H-8 with C-8 (3.67, 38.65), H-13 and H-17 with C-13 and C-17 (7.83, 128.56), H-14 and H-16 with C-14 and C-16 (7.21, 129.49) ppm.

The supramolecular interaction of β -CD with **3** was accompanied by a shift of all the considered six cyclodextrin signals to the weak field region (0.01–0.03 ppm), and the greatest shift of proton signals is observed in both external (H-4, H-6) and internal (H-3, H-5) cyclodextrin protons. Significant changes in chemical shifts in molecule 3 of complex 6 occurred in the piperidine protons H-2, H-6, and H-3, H-5. The equatorial components exhibit a more significant shift in comparison with the axial ones. In the aromatic fragment, the greatest change in chemical shifts is observed for the H-14, H-16 protons. Large chemical shifts also occur in the methyl protons H-9 and protons H-7ax and H-8. These results may indicate the formation of both internal and external complexes of β -CD with **3**. There is a high probability of the formation of internal complexes with the entry of aromatic and piperidine fragments into the internal cavity of β -CD. In this case, aliphatic protons of molecule 3 can interact with external protons of cyclodextrin. Comparison of the integrated intensities of the signals of protons **3** and β -CD in the composition of supramolecular complex 6 showed that supramolecular assemblies are



Fig. 6 Possible structures with lowest docked energies of the inclusion complex between β -CD and (a) diphenhydramine (1:1); (b) clonidine (1:2); (c) tolperisone (1:1). Drawn in AutoDock 4.0

mainly formed with a composition of slightly less than one molecule **3** per one molecule of β -CD.

In order to construct the inclusion complexes, molecular docking was used. The binding mode of a guest to its host was investigated by the software AutoDock 4.0 [14]. The 3D structure of the host (β-CD molecule) was downloaded from the Protein Data Bank (PDB ID: 2V8L) [15]. In the downloaded.pdb file β -CD molecule is located in the "A" chain, the chain "B" was deleted. 3D structures of quest molecules (ligands)—diphenhydramine [16], clonidine [17], and tolperisone [18] were downloaded from PubChem databases in.sdf format and then converted into.pdbgt format in Open Babel software [19]. Gasteiger method was used to assign partial charges of host and guests molecules. The grid spacing was set at 0.0375 nm in each dimension, and each grid map consisted of 40^40^40 grid points. To find a globally optimized conformation and model the interaction between docked molecules (quest and host), the Lamarckian genetic algorithm (LGA) was implied. Fifteen runs were performed during each docking experiment. As for the inclusion complex between β -CD and clonidine (1:2), two docking processes were run consequently. Cluster analysis to docking results was performed to select a complex as a representative binding mode. Complexes were selected by the lowest docking energy.

Possible structures of the inclusion complexes between β -CD and diphenhydramine (1a), clonidine (1b), and tolperisone (1c) are presented below in Fig. 6.

2 Experimental part

99% purity β-CD (manufactured by Fluka) was used in the experiment. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of substrates (1–3) and β-CD and their supramolecular complexes (4–6) were recorded in DMSO-d₆ and d-chloroform on a JNM-ECA 400 spectrometer (400 MHz for ¹H and 100 MHz for ¹³C nuclei) by Jeol (manufactured in Japan). Chemical shifts were measured relative to residual protons or carbons of deuterated dimethyl sulfoxide. In all experiments, the temperature was maintained at 298 K, and standard 5 mm NMR tubes were used.

To obtain inclusion complexes of **1–3** with β -CD, the method of coprecipitation from a water–ethanol solution was implied. An ethanol solution of API (0.5 g) was added dropwise to an aqueous solution of β -CD (1:1 mol ratio) at 40–50 °C, at a dropping rate of 1 drop per minute, the mixture was stirred for 20–30 min and then left to evaporate naturally to produce inclusion complexes.

3 Conclusion

In this study, we have shown that diphenhydramine, clonidine, and tolperisone interact with β -CD with the formation of stable 1:1 stoichiometric complexes for β -CD:diphenhydramine and β -CD:tolperisone, and 1:2 stoichiometric complex for β -CD:clonidine. The chemical shifts in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of the inclusion complexes showed similar characteristics with slight differences compared to their parent molecules. This study provides the idea to support the application of β -CD as a key tool to enhance the pharmaceutical and pharmacological aspects of diphenhydramine, clonidine, and tolperisone and to turn these widely available APIs into more effective drug forms.

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Data availability All data generated or analysed during this study are included in this published article.

Declarations

Conflict of interest The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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