

# Oxovanadium Complexes in Bio Medical Applications



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## Abstract

Coordination chemistry of Vanadium is largely dependent on the oxidation reduction characteristics of metal center. Vanadium and its oxo-ions ie, vanadium (IV) and (V) are used as efficient inhibitors of phosphate metabolizing enzymes and also perform as activators. Vanadium oxo-ions are very crucial agents as insulin enhancing agents and anti-tumor agents. These oxo-ions exhibit redox properties under physiological conditions. They are very efficient and act as a cofactor for enzymes in blood sugar metabolism, lipid and cholesterol metabolism and hormone production. Advancements in the medicinal applications of oxovanadium complexes have stimulated their design and synthesis.

**Keyword:** Insulin Enhancing Agents; Anti-Tumor Agents; Blood sugar metabolism

## Introduction

Oxovanadium complexes are known as potential inhibitors of different enzymes. Oxovanadium complexes have a variety of application in biological, clinical and analytical fields. Oxovanadium complexes with Schiff based ligands have wide application in catalysis, antibacterial properties, medicine and anti-oxidative properties [1,2]. Complexes with Schiff based ligands attracted many researchers due to its chelating properties and change in biological characteristics [3]. Different types of oxovanadium complexes were synthesized, characterized and analyzed recently. Increased importance of oxovanadium complexes are due to its significance in biological systems and affinity towards the donor ligands. Vanadyl ion is less harmful to the environment than vanadate ion [4]. Oxovanadium complexes can activate many signaling pathways and transcription factors which help in therapeutic applications. Oxovanadium complexes with strong chelating ligands are very efficient in living system because of its ability to uptake and transport of metals inside the cells [5].

## Anti-Microbial Agents

Oxovanadium complexes are found to be highly active against microbes. Chohan et al. [6] had synthesized oxovanadium complex of triazole derived Schiff bases and studied the antimicrobial properties of the compounds. They found out the complexes *in vitro* activity against four gram negative and two gram positive bacteria [6]. Schiff based ligands have the capacity to coordinate varying elements and to stabilize them in different oxidation states. Sahani et al had synthesized nano sized oxovanadium complexes where indoline -2,3-dione was the prepared ligand. They studied

the anti-fungal activity and result showed higher activity against *Aspergillus niger* [7]. The existence some bacteria against antibiotics caused. The emergence of new antibacterial agents which provides satisfactory results microbes.

Heidari et al. [8] had prepared oxovanadium (IV) dimer complexes with methoxy bridging and applied it against *E-Coli* [8]. Bishayee et al have synthesized Schiff based oxovanadium complexes and studied antifungal activity against *A. niger* and *A. Flavus* [9]. Amoebiasis is a disease caused by protozoan parasite *Entamoeba histolytica*. Many studies were done to prevent the growth and spread of the parasite. Maurya et al had synthesized thiohydrazone based oxovanadium complexes and analyzed its result. The result showed the effectiveness of complexes against the microbes [10]. Panchal have prepared oxovanadium complexes containing thiophene-o-carboxaldene aniline and thiophene-o-carboxaldene-p-anisidine shows octahedral geometry. The compound are good bactericidal under experimental conditions. Disc diffusion method was used to test the complexes for their antimicrobial activities against salmonella typhi and e-coli [11].

## Anti-Diabetic Agents

Vanadium complexes were used as therapeutic agents to cure diabetes mellitus for the last few years. Takino et al had synthesized bis (5-iodopicolinato) oxovanadium complexes and used for the treatment of in-vitro and in-vivo insulinometric analysis, they discovered the ability of the complex as an anti-microbial drug [12]. It is very essential to prepare orally effective drugs to substitute insulin injection for diabetic treatment. Oxovanadium complexes

with insulin mimetic properties have been recently suggested as a candidate for antidiabetic drug preparation. Adachi et al prepared bis (allixinato) oxovanadium (IV) complex and used against DM. Result showed the effectiveness of the complexes towards antidiabetic therapy [13]. Glucose lowering potential of oxovanadium complexes is very unique as compared with the therapeutics of other drugs for diabetics. Xie et al. had synthesized bis (2-furan carboxylato) oxovanadium (IV) a tested its activity as insulin enhancing agents. The result showed that the complex exerted antidiabetic effect in STZ-diabetic rats which boost up the sensitivity to insulin [14]. Vanadyl complexes showed antidiabetic effects in experimental animals. Many complexes proved efficient candidates for Type I and II DM. Recent studies showed that oxovanadium complexes mimic most of the physiological actions of insulin.

### Anti-Tumor Agents

Vanadium complexes possess antitumor characteristics when administered at right concentrations in experimentally induced tumors. Novel therapeutic and diagnostic oxovanadium complexes are now having an impact on medical practices. Hazari et al synthesized oxovanadium (IV) Schiff base from C-substituted diamines and pyridoxal-5-phosphate [15]. The study discovered the ability of complex as antitumor agents. Oxovanadium complexes exhibit anticancer properties both *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Oxovanadium complexes displayed inhibitory effects on cancer cells metastases and reverse antineoplastic drug resistance [16,17].

### Conclusion

Oxovanadium complexes have the ability as anticancer agents against human cancer cells. Development of oxovanadium complexes increased the positive effects by testing it as oral therapeutic adjunct in diabetic control. Oxovanadium complexes undergo wide variety of chemistry due to the electronic and steric nature of the ligands attached to it. The biological and medicinal properties of vanadium complexes and their effects in biological systems have provided the fuel to the studies of vanadium science.

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