



## An *In Silico* Comparative Study of Eleven Wasp Venom Allergens: An Arena for Therapeutic Approach

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Article History	Abstract:
CC License CC-BY-NC-SA 4.0	<p>Peptide toxins in animals as part of the chemical arsenal for predation and/or protection that can also safeguard the host from pathogenic infections. Insects including the hymenopterans generate a battery of toxic bactericidal or bacteriostatic molecules which are small multifunctional, linear peptides that cause pain, have antimicrobial effects, and inflammatory processes. The toxins under the experiment are active against gram-positive, gram-negative bacteria and fungi. The present <i>in silico</i> study aims to predict the physicochemical attributes like molecular weight, theoretical pI, amino acid composition, extinction co-efficient, estimated half-life, instability index, aliphatic index and grand average of hydropathy (gravy) of 11 wasps' (class: Insecta; order: Hymenoptera) venom allergens through ExPasy ProtParam &amp; Pepstat software tools. The secondary structures of the toxins were predicted using psi-Blast-based secondary structure prediction GOR4 tools revealing the % <math>\alpha</math> helix, extended <math>\beta</math> strand, random coil and ambiguous state reflecting a comparative picture of physicochemical parameters of these venom allergens. 3D Homology modelling of these toxins was accomplished through Swiss-model webserver tool and validated through various <i>in silico</i> tools like ANOLEA, ProSA-web, QMean4 determining Z score, PROCHEK establishing the 3D models of these toxins. Use of Inter Pro, CDD, PROSITE, Pfam, Tox DL, PrDOS software predicted the protein family, protein toxicity, protein disorder respectively. Scratch Protein Predictor software tools predicted cysteine – cysteine bonds. Docking of the eleven (11) wasp venom allergens individually with bacterial cell wall component N-acetylglucosamine was done by CB DOCK webserver resulting negative affinity scores reflecting towards the strong binding between the mentioned 11 toxins and N-acetylglucosamine indicating that the mentioned wasps' toxin molecules might be used as potential antibacterial therapeutic molecules binding to N-acetylglucosamine leading to an avenue to the probable bacterial drug discovery.</p>

<b>KEY WORDS:</b> Wasp, venom allergen toxin, in silico, Docking, Anti-bacterial
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## 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Various bioinformatic software tools that were employed for the *insilico* work are as follows:

- Sequences of the eleven wasps' toxins were retrieved from Uniprot database ([www.expasy.org/sprot](http://www.expasy.org/sprot)) [18].
- Expasy ProtParam tool and Pepstat tool to compute the physicochemical properties of wasp venom allergens [19].
- PSI-blast-based secondary structure prediction GOR4 software tool adopted to characterize and predict secondary structure of wasp venom allergens [20, 21].
- 3D Homology modelling of these Wasp Venom Allergens were computed through SWISS-MODEL tool [22].
- 3D Model Validation using ANOLEA, ProSA , QMEAN4 programs determining Z score and PROCHECK software tools [23-25].
- Cysteine Bonding state prediction through scratch protein predictor software tool [26,27].
- CDD, InterPro, Prosite, ToxDL, and PrDOS software were used for protein family prediction, protein toxicity prediction, protein disorder prediction respectively [28-31].
- The molecular structure of N-acetylglucosamine is being mined from the compound repository Pubchem [32].
- Docking of the said eleven (11) wasp venom allergens individually with bacterial cell wall component N-acetylglucosamine was done through CB DOCK docking webserver [33].
- Toxin Codes were obtained from Uniprot database ([www.expasy.org/sprot](http://www.expasy.org/sprot)) for each Uniprot ID for each of the eleven (11) wasp venom allergens (Table 1).

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

### 3.1. RESULTS:

**Table 1a. Sequences of eleven wasp venom allergens retrieved from Uniprot database ([www.expasy.org/sprot](http://www.expasy.org/sprot)).**

Sl. No.	Name of venom	Source	Uniprot Accession No.	Toxin Code	Peptide Sequence	Sequence length (No. of amino acid)
1.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen5) (Cysteine-rich venom protein)	<i>Microctonus hyperodae</i>	A9YME1	VA5_MICHY	MEQIKYLLIGIIFSSAISSSLQCAYE NCADWANPGQSQKHTMCLYPTT ALGNKCNEGRIQLTEADKQYILQ LHNELRAKVASGGESQGSNGPQP AGKIGPLKWDNEIAEIAQRWVNQ CTFEHDKCRNTKANSVGNLYM MGSSEKSENTHDILTASVNSWYSE VKDFDNRSVREYKFEFTTGHYSQ VWVGDTTHVGCGLVQYKDSGFY TTMVACNYSPAGNLIGGTVYPTL	232
2.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	Q2L6Z1	VAL5_VES MC	MEISGLVYLIIIVTIIDLPGKANNY CKIKCLKGGVHTACKYGSLKPNK GNKVVVSYGLTKQEKQDILKEHN DFRQKVARGLETRGNPGPQPPAKN MKNLVWNDELAYVAQVWANQCQ YGHDTCRDVAKYQVGQNVALTGS TAAKYENPVNLVKMWENEVKDY NPKKKFSENNFIKIGHYTQMVVA NTKEIGCGSMKYTENKWHYHYLV CNYGPSGNFGNEELYQTK	227
3.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves m V)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	P35760	VA5_VESM C	NNYCKIKCLKGGVHTACKYGSLK PNCGNKKVVSYGLTKQEKQDILK EHNDFRQKIARGLETRGNPGPQPP AKNMKNLVWSDELAYIAQVWAN QCQYGHDTCRDVAKYQVGQNV LTGSTAAVYNDPVKLVKMWEDV KDYNPKKKFSENNFLKIGHYTQM VWANTKEVGCOSIKYIQENWHKH YLCVNYGPSGNFGNEELYQTK	203

4.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	P86686	VA5_POLPI	NKYCNKCSKVAHTVCQTGESTKP SSKNCAKVSITSVGVTEEEKKLIV DEHNRFRQKVAQGLETRGNPGPQ PAASDMNNLVWDELAYIAQVWA SQCQFFVHDKCRNTAQYQVGQNI AYSASTAAYPGVVKLIVLWENEVK DFNYNTGITKENFAKVGHYTQVV WAKTKEVGCOSIKYIEKGMKSHY LVCNYGPAGNVLGAQIYEIK	207
5.	Venom allergen 52 (Antigen 5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	D4P2Y4	VA52_POLPI	NKYCNKCSKVAHTVCQYGESTK PSSKCNKVSITSVGVTEEEKKLIVD EHNFRFRQKVAQGLETRGNPGPQP AASDMNNLVWDELAYIAQVWA SQCQFFVHDKCRNTAQYQVGQNI AYSASTAAYPGIVSLIVLWENEVK DFNYSQGITKENFSKVGHYTQVV WAKTKEVGCOSIKYIEKGMKSHY LVCNYGPAGNYMGQPIYTKK	206
6.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol a V) (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polistes</i>	Q05109	VA5_POLAN	SSQGVVDYCKIKCPSGIHTVCQYGE STKPSKNCAGKVIKSVGPTEEEKK LIVSEHNRFRQKVAQGLETRGNPG PQPAASDMNDLVWDELAHIAQV WASQCQFLVHDKCRNTAKYPVGQ NIAYAGGSNLPDVVSLIKLWENEV KDFNYNTGITKQNFAGHYTQM VWGKTKEIGCGSLKYMENNMQN HYLICNYGPAGNYLQPLPYTKK	209
7.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves s V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula squamosa</i>	P35786	VA5_VESSQ	VDYCKIKCLKGGVHTACKYGTST KPNCGNMVVKSYGVTQAEKQEIL KIHNDFRNKVARGLETRGNPGPQP PAKNMNNLVWNNELANIAQIWAS QCKYGHDTCKDITKYNVGNQIAV SSSTAAYENVGNLVKAWENEVK DFNPTISWEQNEFKKIGHYTQMV WAKTKEIGCGSIKYVDNNWYTHY LVCNYGPAGNFGNQEVYERK	205
8.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol f V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Polistes fuscatus</i>	P35780	VA5_POLFU	VDYCKIKCSSGIHTVCQYGESTKP SKNCADKVIKSVGPTEEEKKLIVN EHNFRFRQKVAQGLETRGNPGPQP AASDMNNLVWDELAHIAQVWA SQCQILVHDKCRNTAKYQVGQNI AYAGGSKLPDVVSLIKLWENEVK DFNYNKGITKQNFVKVGHYTQMI WAKTKEIGCGSLKYMKNMQRHH YLICNYGPAGNYLQPLPYTKK	205
9.	Venom allergen 5	<i>Vespula flavopilosa</i>	P35783	VA5_VESFL	NNYCKIKCLKGGVHTACKYGSLLK PNCGNKVVVSYGLTKQEKQDILK EHNDFRQKIARGLE TRGNPGPQPPAKNMKNLVWDEL AYVAQVWANQCQYGHDTCRDIA KYQVGQNVALTGSTA AKYDDPVKLVKMWEDEVKDYNP KKKFSGNFLKTGHYTQMVWAN TKEVGCOSIKFIQEKW HKHYLVCNYGPSGNFQNEELYQT K	204
10.	Venom allergen 5		Q7Z156	VA5_POLSR	NKYCNKCSKVAHTVCQYGESTK PSSKCNKVSITSVGVTEEEKKLIV DEHNRFRQKVAQ GLETRGNPGPQPAASDMNNLVWN DELAYIAQVWANQCQFFVHDKCR NTAQYQVGQNIAYS ASTAAYPGIVSLIVLWENEVKDFN YSQGITKENFAKVGHYTQVVWAK TKEVGCOSIKYIE	207

		<i>Polybia scutellaris rioplatensis</i>			KGMKSHYLCVNYGPAGNYMGQP IYTKK	
11.	Venom allergen 3 homolog	<i>Dinoponera quadriceps</i>	P0DSI3	VA3_DINQU	NNYCKIKCRSGIHTLCKYGTSTKP NCGRSVVKASGLTKAEKLEILKQH NEFRQKVARGLE TRGNPGPQPPAKSMNTLVWDEL AQIAQVWASQCKYGHDCRNTA KYLVGONIAEQSTTA ASFEPVSNMVKMWSDEVKDYQY GSSKNKLNVDVGHYTMVWAKTK EIGCGNIKIYIENGWHH HYLVCVNYGPAGNIGNEPIYEKK	231

Table 1b. Structure of N-acetylglucosamine (<https://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>).



PubChem CID	Molecular Formula (Molecular weight)	2D Structure	3D Structure
24139	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>15</sub> NO <sub>6</sub> (221.21g/mol)		

Table 2. Physicochemical properties of eleven wasp venom allergens.

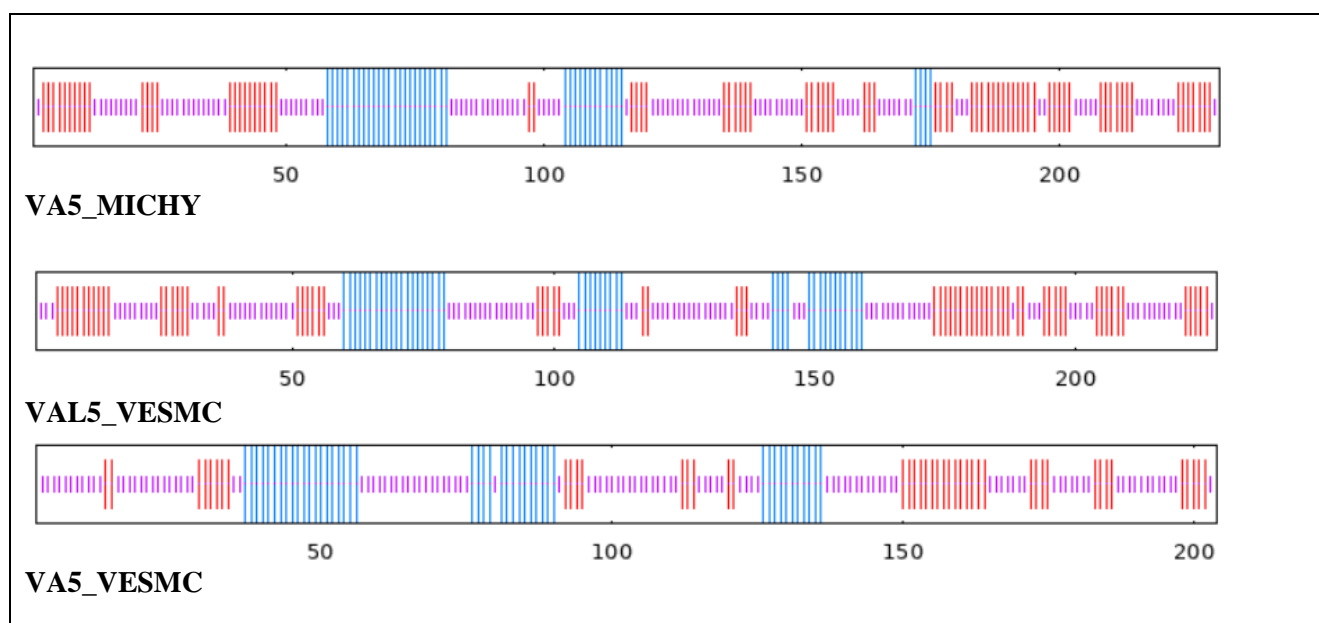
Sl. No.	Name of Toxin	Source	Toxin Code	Residues	Charge	Molecular weight	Isoelectric point	Extinction coefficient	Instability iIndex	Aliphatic Index	GRAVY
1.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen5) (Cysteine-rich venom protein)	<i>Microctonus hyperodae</i>	VA5_MICHY	232	-1	25764.8	6.2178	1.761	42.01	68.53	-0.473
2.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	VAL5_VESMC	227	12	25831.53	9.0579	1.987	22.80	71.23	-0.618
3.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves m V)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	VA5_VESMC	204	13	23332.51	9.2415	2.009	20.10	63.04	-0.828

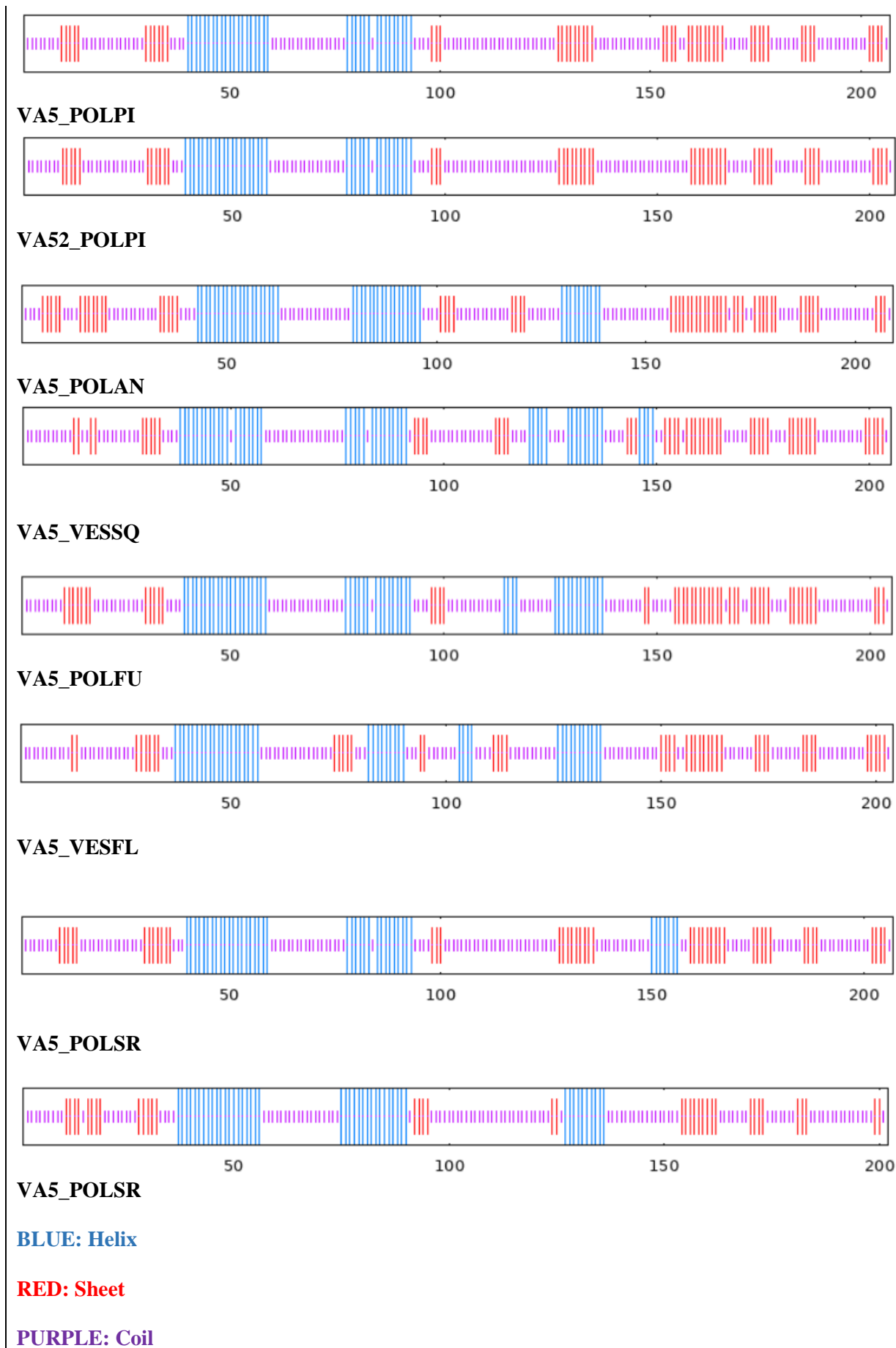
4.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	VA5_POLPI	207	8.5	23009.12	8.6328	1.668	17.94	73.43	-0.425
5.	Venom allergen 5 2 (Antigen 5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	VA52_POLPI	206	9.5	23084.17	8.7875	1.792	23.30	67.62	-0.515
6.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol a V) (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polistes annularis</i>	VA5_POLAN	209	9	23293.43	8.634	1.648	27.76	68.09	-0.608
7.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves s V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula squamosa</i>	VA5_VESSQ	205	9.5	23114.07	8.7936	2.201	18.24	62.73	-0.693
8.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol f V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Polistes fuscatus</i>	VA5_POLFU	205	13.5	23068.37	9.2865	1.664	23.84	71.32	-0.636
9.	Venom allergen 5	<i>Vespula flavopilosa</i>	VA5_VESFL	204	14	23274.47	9.3898	1.95	21.38	61.13	-0.833
10.	Venom allergen 5	<i>Polybia scutellaris rioplatensis</i>	VA5_POLSR	207	9.5	23209.3	8.7875	1.782	21.80	67.78	-0.53
11.	Venom allergen 3 homolog	<i>Dinoponera quadriceps</i>	VA3_DINQU	202	13.5	22717.74	9.2953	1.932	36.79	62.28	-0.765
<b>Mean</b>				209.81	21.13	230609.04	8.7385	1.854	25.08	67.01	-0.636
<b>Range</b>	<b>Min</b>			202	-1	22717.74	6.2178	1.668	17.94	61.13	-0.833
	<b>Max</b>			232	14	25831.53	9.3898	2.201	42.01	73.43	-0.425

**Table 3. Prediction of Secondary structures of eleven wasp venom allergens.**

Sl. No.	Name of venom	Source	Toxin Code	$\alpha$ -Helix (%)	Extended $\beta$ -strand (%)	Random coil (%)	Ambiguous state (%)
1.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen5) (Cysteine-rich venom protein)	<i>Microctonus hyperodae</i>	VA5_MICHY	17.24	34.05	48.71	0

2.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	VAL5_VESMC	19.38	29.96	50.66	0	
3.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves m V)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	VA5_VESMC	22.06	22.06	55.88	0	
4.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	VA5_POLPI	16.91	23.67	59.42	0	
5.	Venom allergen 5 2 (Antigen 5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	VA52_POLPI	16.99	21.84	61.17	0	
6.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol a V) (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polistes annularis</i>	VA5_POLAN	22.49	26.79	50.72	0	
7.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves s V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula squamosa</i>	VA5_VESSQ	24.88	24.39	50.73	0	
8.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol f V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Polistes fuscatus</i>	VA5_POLFU	24.88	23.41	51.71	0	
9.	Venom allergen 5	<i>Vespula flavopilosa</i>	VA5_VESFL	21.57	22.06	56.37	0	
10.	Venom allergen 5	<i>Polybia scutellaris rioplatensis</i>	VA5_POLSR	20.29	22.22	57.49	0	
11.	Venom allergen homolog 3	<i>Dinoponera quadriceps</i>	VA3_DINQU	22.77	18.32	58.91	0	
<b>Total</b>				229.46	268.77	601.77	0	
<b>Range</b>				<b>Min</b>	16.91	18.32	48.71	0
<b>Max</b>				24.88	34.05	61.17	0	





**Fig. 1. Secondary Structure (cartoon diagram) of eleven wasp venom allergens.**

**Table 4. Cysteine-Cysteine bonding state prediction of eleven wasp venom allergens.**

Sl. No.	Name of Toxins	Source	Toxin code	Cysteine sequence position	Predicted Bonds
1.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen5) (Cysteine-rich venom protein)	<i>Microctonus hyperodae</i>	VA5_MICHY	[198-215] [119-126] [23-28]	3
2.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	VAL5_VESMC	[193-210] [27-40] [117-124]	3
3.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves m V)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	VA5_VESMC	[170-187] [4-17] [94-101]	3
4.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	VA5_POLPI	[173-190] [97-105] [4-16]	3
5.	Venom allergen 5 2 (Antigen 5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	VA52_POLPI	[172-189] [96-104] [4-16]	3
6.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol a V) (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polistes annularis</i>	VA5_POLAN	[175-192] [100-108] [8-20]	3
7.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves s V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula squamosa</i>	VA5_VESSQ	[171-188] [4-17] [95-102]	3
8.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol f V) (Antigen 5)		VA5_POLFU	[171-188] [96-104] [4-16]	3



		<i>Polistes fuscatus</i>			
9.	Venom allergen 5	<i>Vespula flavopilosa</i>	VA5_VESFL	[170-187] [4-17] [94-101]	3
10.	Venom allergen 5	<i>Polybia scutellaris rioplatensis</i>	VA5_POLSR	[173-190] [97-105] [4-16]	3
11.	Venom allergen homolog 3	<i>Dinoponera quadriceps</i>	VA3_DINQU	[168-185] [4-16] [94-101]	3

**Table 5. Protein family prediction of eleven wasp venom allergens.**

Sl. No.	Toxin Code	CDD	InterPro	PROSITE	Pfam	Toxin family
1.	VA5_MICHY	cd05380	IPR018244 IPR014044 IPR035940 IPR001283 IPR002413	PS01009 PS01010	PF00188	Crisp family.Venom allergen 5 like sub-family.
2.	VAL5_VESMC	cd05380	IPR018244 IPR014044 IPR035940 IPR001283 IPR002413	PS01009 PS01010	PF00188	Crisp family.Venom allergen 5 like sub-family
3.	VA5_VESMC	cd05380	IPR018244 IPR014044 IPR035940 IPR001283 IPR002413	PS01009 PS01010	PF00188	Crisp family. Venom allergen 5 like sub-family
4.	VA5_POLPI	cd05380	IPR018244 IPR014044 IPR035940 IPR001283 IPR002413	PS01009 PS01010	PF00188	Crisp family.Venom allergen 5 like sub-family
5.	VA5_POLPI	cd05380	IPR018244 IPR014044 IPR035940 IPR001283	PS01009 PS01010	PF00188	Crisp family.Venom allergen 5 like sub-family

			IPR002413			
6.	VA5_POLAN	cd05380	IPR018244 IPR014044 IPR035940 IPR001283 IPR002413	PS01009 PS01010	PF00188	Crisp family.Venom allergen 5 like sub-family
7.	VA5_VESSQ	cd05380	IPR018244 IPR014044 IPR035940 IPR001283 IPR002413	PS01009 PS01010	PF00188	Crisp family.Venom allergen 5 like sub-family
8.	VA5_POLFU	cd05380	IPR018244 IPR014044 IPR035940 IPR001283 IPR002413	PS01009 PS01010	PF00188	Crisp family.Venom allergen 5 like sub-family
9.	VA5_VESFL	cd05380	IPR018244 IPR014044 IPR035940 IPR001283 IPR002413	PS01009 PS01010	PF00188	Crisp family.Venom allergen 5 like sub-family
10.	VA5_POLSR	cd05380	IPR018244 IPR014044 IPR035940 IPR001283 IPR002413	PS01009 PS01010	PF00188	Crisp family.Venom allergen 5 like sub-family
11.	VA3_DINQU	cd05380	IPR018244 IPR014044 IPR035940 IPR001283	PS01010	PF00188	Crisp family

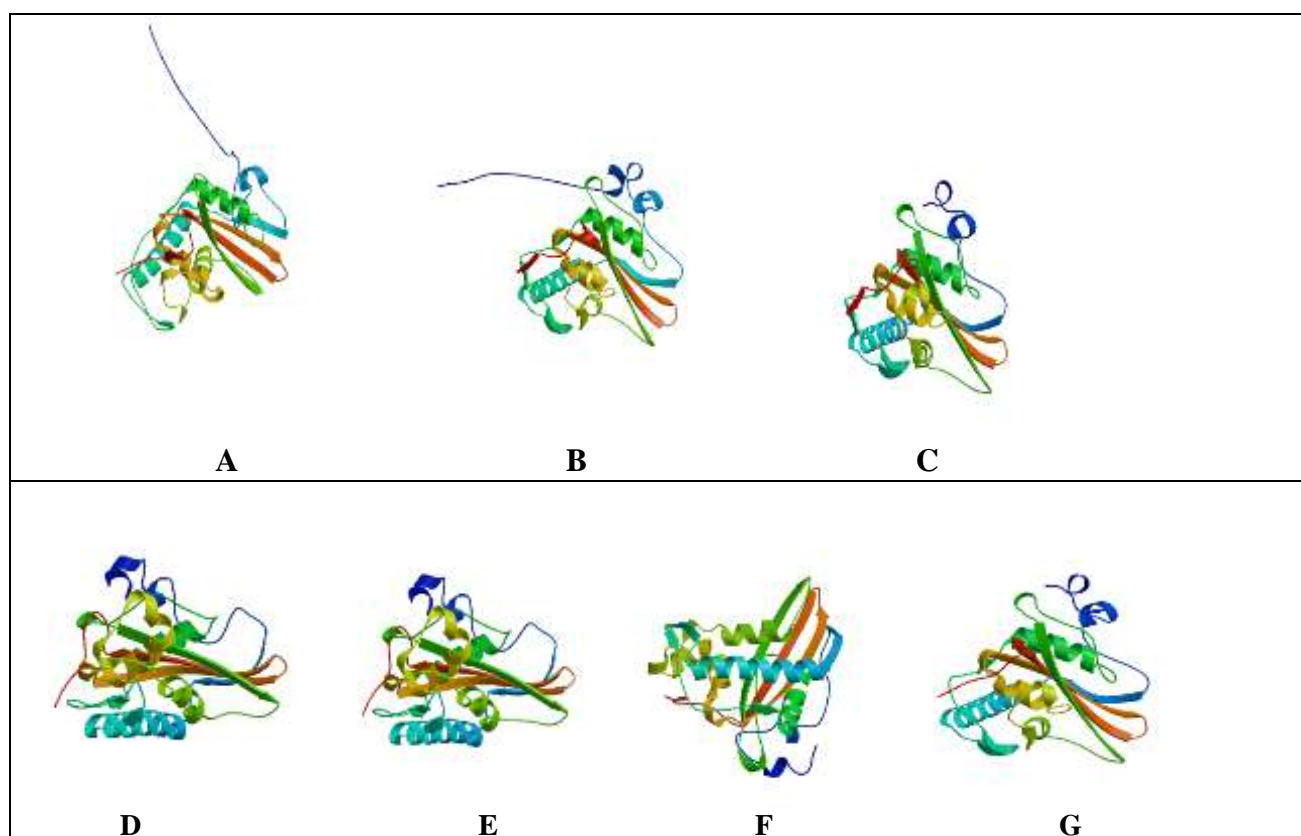
**Table 6. Protein Disorder Prediction of eleven wasp venom allergens.**

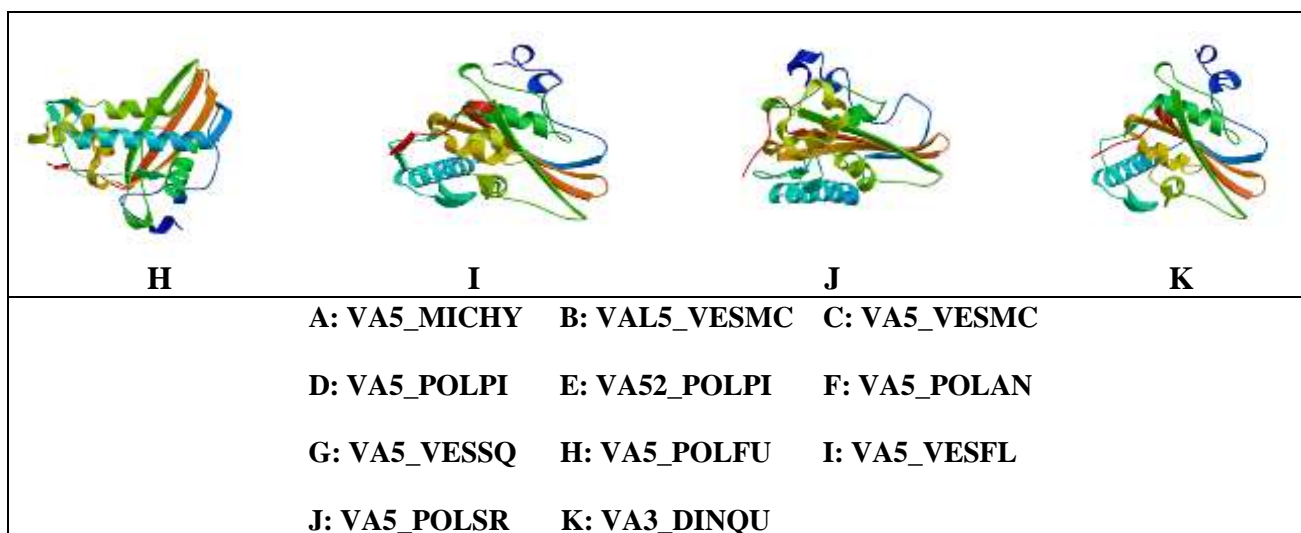
Sl. No	Name of Toxin	Toxin Code	No. of predicted residue	No. of residues disordered	Numbered Disordered region	Longest Disordered Region	Overall percent disorder	Prediction disordered segment
1.	M-ectatotoxin-Eb2a (M-ECTX-Eb2a)	VA5_MICHY	232	4	1	4	1.72	[1]-[4]
2.	M-ectatotoxin-Eb2b (M-ECTX-Eb2b)	VAL5_VESMC	227	4	1	4	1.76	[1]-[4]
3.	M-ectatotoxin-Eb2c (M-ECTX-Eb2c)	VA5_VESMC	204	0	0	0	0	0

4.	U1- poneritoxin -Na1a (U1- PONTX- Na1a)	VA5_POLPI	207	0	0	0	0	0
5.	U1- poneritoxin -Na1b (U1- PONTX- Na1b)	VA52_POLPI	206	0	0	0	0	0
6.	U1- poneritoxin -Na3a (U1- PONTX- Na3a)	VA5_POLAN	209	2	1	2	0.96	[1]-[2]
7.	U1- poneritoxin -Na3b (U1- PONTX- Na3b)	VA5_VESSQ	205	0	0	0	0	0
8.	M- poneritoxin -Ng1a (M- PONTX- Ng1a)	VA5_POLFU	205	0	0	0	0	0
9.	M- poneritoxin -Ng1c (M- PONTX- Ng1c)	VA5_VESFL	204	0	0	0	0	0
10.	M- poneritoxin -Ng1d (M- PONTX- Ng1d)	VA5_POLSR	207	0	0	0	0	0
11.	M- poneritoxin -Ng1e (M- PONTX- Ng1e)	VA3_DINQU	2	2	2	0.99	[201]- [202]	2

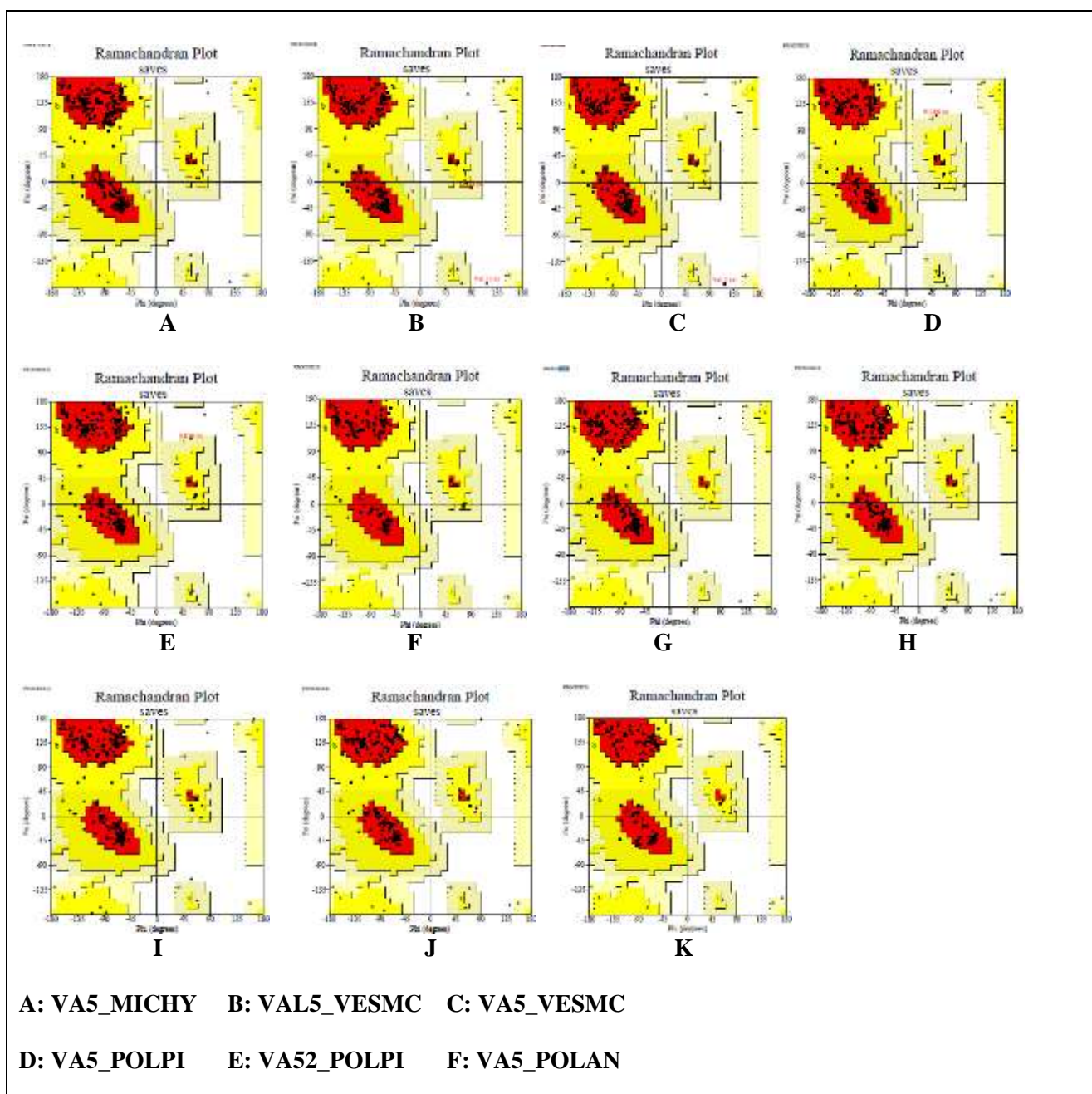
**Table 7. Protein Toxicity Prediction of eleven wasp venom allergens.**

Sl. No.	Toxin Code	Score	Toxic domain name	Toxic domain position	ToxDL remarks
1.	VA5_MICHY	0.016260436	No toxic domain is predicted	NA	Being toxic protein
2.	VAL5_VESMC	0.01084075	No toxic domain is predicted	NA	Being toxic protein
3.	VA5_VESMC	0.0054884884	No toxic domain is predicted	NA	Being toxic protein
4.	VA5_POLPI	0.0051484983	No toxic domain is predicted	NA	Being toxic protein
5.	VA5_POLPI	0.0039935564	No toxic domain is predicted	NA	Being toxic protein
6.	VA5_POLAN	0.006213264	No toxic domain is predicted	NA	Being toxic protein
7.	VA5_VESSQ	0.020850359	No toxic domain is predicted	NA	Being toxic protein
8.	VA5_POLFU	0.009197847	No toxic domain is predicted	NA	Being toxic protein
9.	VA5_VESFL	0.011403729	No toxic domain is predicted	NA	Being toxic protein
10.	VA5_POLSR	0.0043708426	No toxic domain is predicted	NA	Being toxic protein
11.	VA3_DINQU	0.0039935564	No toxic domain is predicted	NA	Being toxic protein





**Fig. 2. Homology Models of eleven wasp venom allergens.**



G: VA5\_VESSQ    H: VA5\_POLFU    I: VA5\_VESFL  
 J: VA5\_POLSR    K: VA3\_DINQU

Fig 3. Ramachandran plot of eleven wasp venom allergens.

Table 7a. Homology Model validation of eleven wasp venom allergens by ANOLEA, ProSA, QMEAN & VERIFY 3D

Sl. No.	Source	Name of Toxin	Toxin code	ANO LEA Z- Score	ProSA Z- Score	QMEAN Z- Score	VERIFY 3D	
							Percentage of residues had an average 3D- ID>=0.1	Verify Status
1.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen5) (Cysteine- rich venom protein)	<i>Microctonus hyperodae</i>	VA5_MICH Y	0.26	-6.07	-1.49	83.19	Pass
2.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	VAL5_VES MC	0.61	-6.46	-1.04	86.78	Pass
3.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves m V)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	VA5_VESM C	0.06	-6.86	-0.52	98.04	Pass
4.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	VA5_POLPI	0.61	-6.86	-0.75	81.64	Pass
5.	Venom allergen 5 2 (Antigen 5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	VA52_POL PI	0.61	-6.86	-0.75	81.64	Pass
6.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol a V) (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polistes annularis</i>	VA5_POLA N	0.19	-6.9	0.28	80.38	Pass

7.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves s V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula squamosa</i>	VA5_VESS Q	0.23	-6.48	-0.8	96.59	Pass
8.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol f V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Polistes fuscatus</i>	VA5_POLF U	0.29	-6.64	-0.17	80	Pass
9.	Venom allergen 5	<i>Vespula flavopilosa</i>	VA5_VESF L	0.01	-6.85	-0.7	97.55	Pass
10.	Venom allergen 5	<i>Polybia scutellaris rioplatensis</i>	VA5_POLS R	0.6	-6.94	-0.61	84.06	Pass
11.	Venom allergen 3 homolog	<i>Dinoponera quadriceps</i>	VA3_DINQ U	0.61	-6.73	-0.74	93.53	Pass

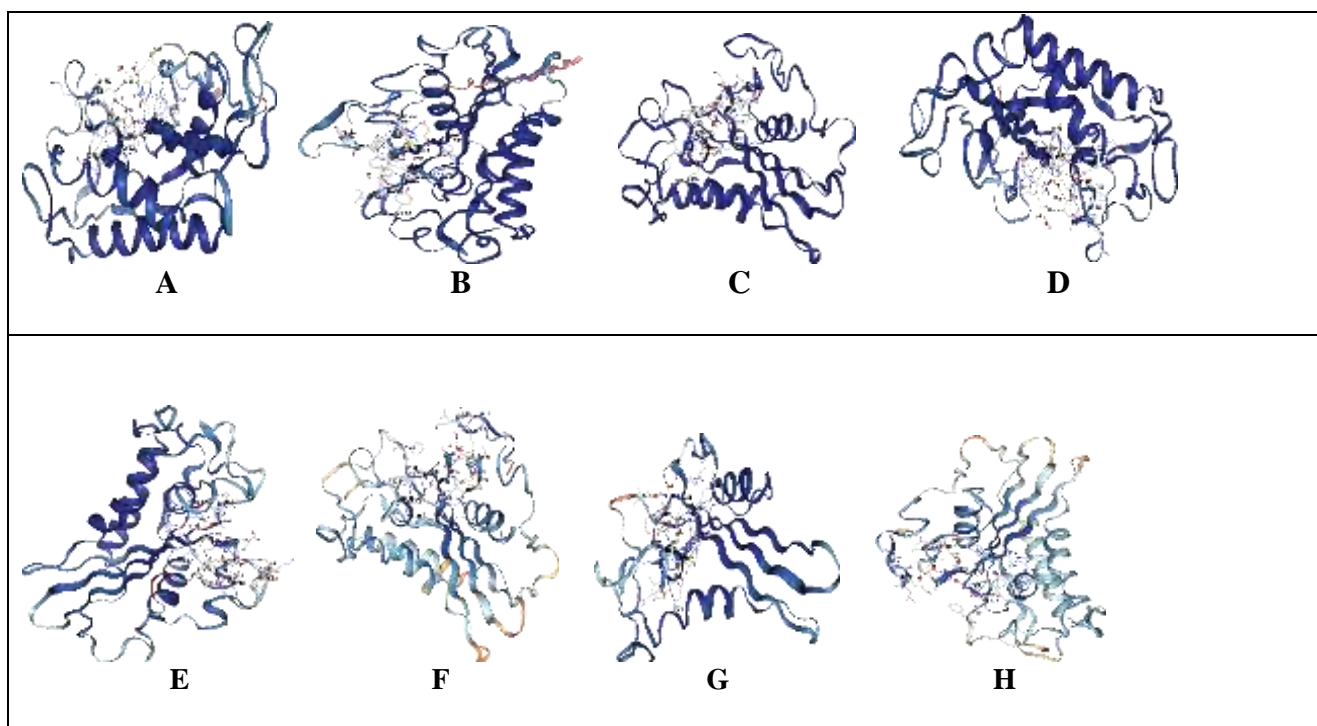
Table 7b. Homology Model validation of eleven wasp venom allergens by Ramachandran Plot.

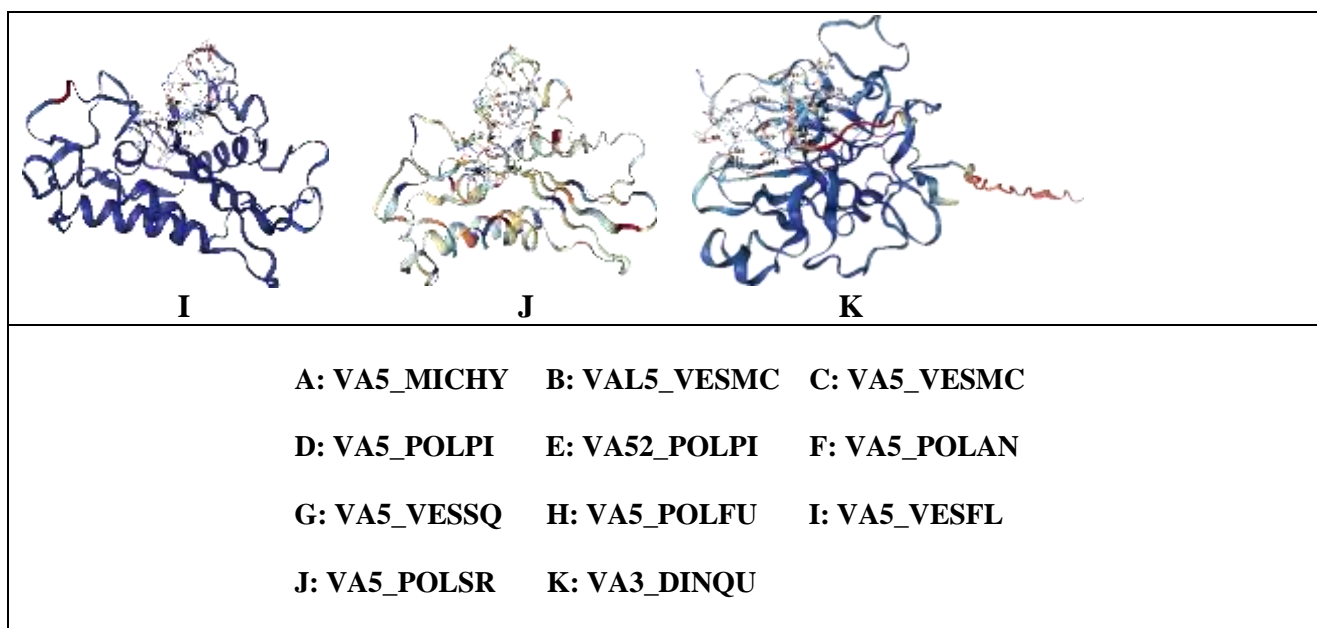
PROCHECK RESULTS								
Sl. No.	Source	Toxin name	Toxin code	Residues in most Favored Region (%)	Residues in additional allowed region (%)	Residues in generously allowed region (%)	Residues in disallowed region (%)	Model quality
1.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen5) (Cysteine-rich venom protein)	<i>Microctonus hyperodae</i>	VA5_MICH Y	89.2	10.8	0	0	Good
2.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	VAL5_VES MC	93.3	6.7	0	0	Very Good

3.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves m V)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	VA5_VES MC	94.0	5.5	0	0.5	Very Good
4.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	VA5_POLP I	91.6	8.4	0	0	Very Good
5.	Venom allergen 5 2 (Antigen 5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	VA52_POL PI	92.7	7.3	0	0	Very Good
6.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol a V) (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polistes annularis</i>	VA5_POLA N	90.3	9.7	0	0	Very Good
7.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves s V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula squamosa</i>	VA5_VESS Q	93.3	6.7	0	0	Very Good
8.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol f V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Polistes fuscatus</i>	VA5_POLF U	89.9	9.6	0	0.6	Good
9.	Venom allergen 5			90.1	9.6	0.3	0	Very Good

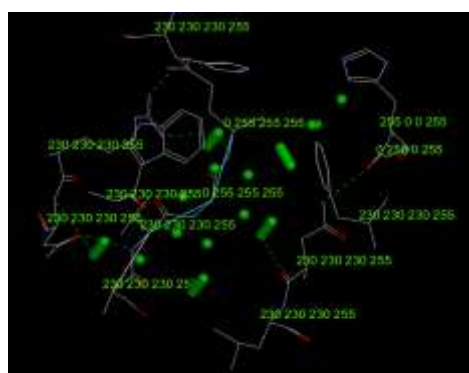


		<i>Vespula flavopilosa</i>	VA5_VESFL					
10.	Venom allergen 5	<i>Polybia scutellaris rioplatensis</i>	VA5_POLSR	90.2	9.2	0.6	0	Very Good
11.	Venom allergen 3 homolog	<i>Dinoponera quadricaps</i>	VA3_DINQU	81.8	16.9	0.8	0.4	Good

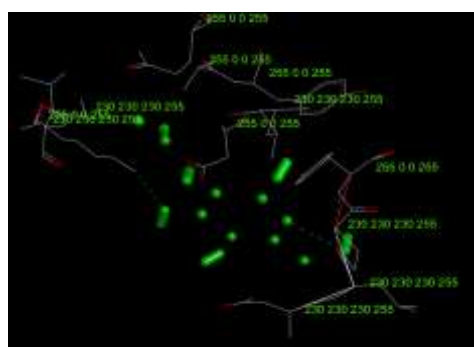




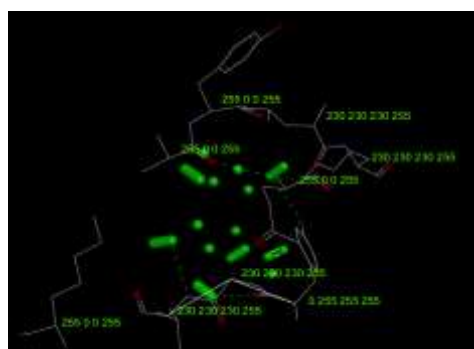
**Fig 4a. Docking Models of eleven wasp venom allergens with N-acetylglucosamine docked through CB DOCK software tool.**



**A**



**B**



C



D



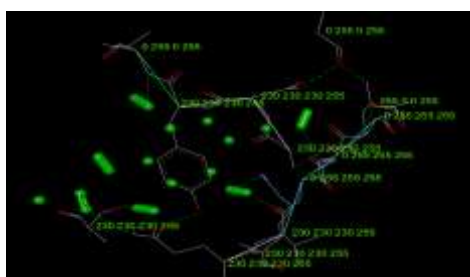
E

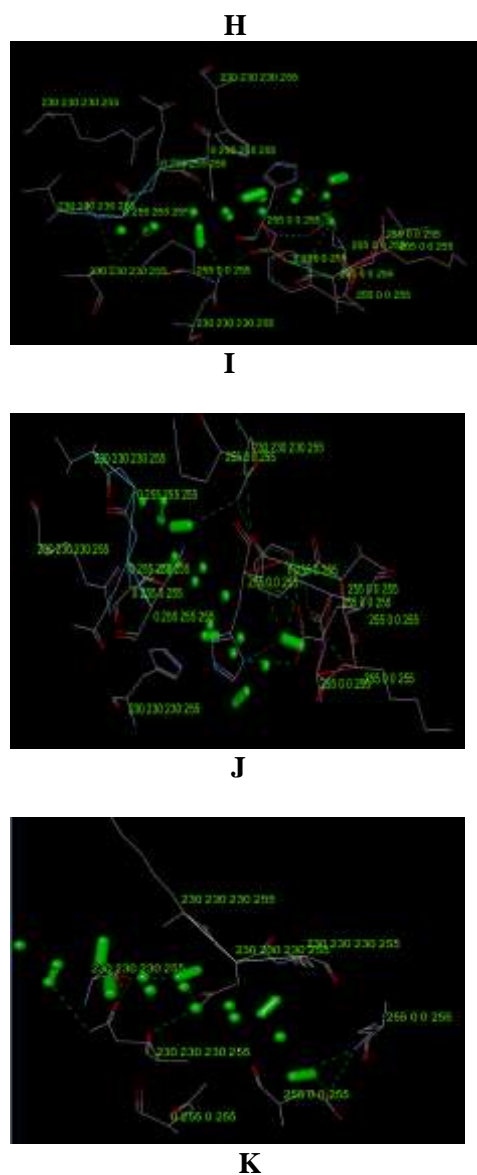


F



G





**A: VA5\_MICHY    B: VAL5\_VESMC    C: VA5\_VESMC**  
**D: VA5\_POLPI    E: VA52\_POLPI    F: VA5\_POLAN**  
**G: VA5\_VESSQ    H: VA5\_POLFU    I: VA5\_VESFL**  
**J: VA5\_POLSR    K: VA3\_DINQU**

**Fig 4b. Docking models visualised by Bio via Discovery Studio.**

**Table 8. Results of docking of eleven wasp venom allergens with N-acetylglucosamine by CB DOCK webserver.**

Sl. No.	Name of Toxin	Source	Toxin Code	Ligand	Vina Score	Cavity Size	Binding Affinity (kcal/mol)	Remarks
1.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen5) (Cysteine-rich venom protein)	<i>Microctonus hyperodae</i>	VA5_MICHY	N-acetylglucosamine	-8	596	-8	Docking Valid

2.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	VAL5_VESMC	N-acetylglucosamine	-7.6	245	-7.6	Docking Valid
3.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves m V)	<i>Vespula maculifrons</i>	VA5_VESMC	N-acetylglucosamine	-7.2	210	-7.2	Docking Valid
4.	Venom allergen 5 (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	VA5_POLPI	N-acetylglucosamine	-7.7	526	-7.7	Docking Valid
5.	Venom allergen 5 2 (Antigen 5)	<i>Polybia paulista</i>	VA52_POLPI	N-acetylglucosamine	-7.7	630	-7.7	Docking Valid
6.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol a V) (Antigen 5) (Ag5)	<i>Polistes annularis</i>	VA5_POLAN	N-acetylglucosamine	-7.3	202	-7.3	Docking Valid
7.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Ves s V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Vespula squamosa</i>	VA5_VESSQ	N-acetylglucosamine	-7.4	638	-7.4	Docking Valid
8.	Venom allergen 5 (Allergen Pol f V) (Antigen 5)	<i>Polistes fuscatus</i>	VA5_POLFU	N-acetylglucosamine	-7.4	207	-7.4	Docking Valid
9.	Venom allergen 5		VA5_VESFL	N-acetylglucosamine	-7.3	249	-7.3	Docking Valid

		<i>Vespula flavopilosa</i>						
10.	Venom allergen 5	<i>Polybia scutellaris rioplatensis</i>	VA5_POLSR	N-acetylglucosamine	-7.7	621	-7.7	Docking Valid
11.	Venom allergen 3 homolog	<i>Dinoponera quadriceps</i>	VA3_DINQU	N-acetylglucosamine	-7.4	418	-7.4	Docking Valid

### 3.2. DISCUSSION:

#### 3.2.1 Basic description of wasps' eleven venom allergens and bacterial cell wall component N-acetylglucosamine:

**Table 1a**, provides the details of different wasp venom allergen proteins, their source from various wasp species, primary sequences, Uniprot ID ([www.expasy.org/sprot](http://www.expasy.org/sprot)), a code for each venom allergen and peptide length. It is observed that, minimum peptide sequence length 203 was observed in VA5\_MICHY while maximum peptide sequence length 232 was observed for VA5\_VESMC. **Table 1b**, shows the 2D and 3D structures of N-acetylglucosamine (<https://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>).

#### 3.2.2 Physico-chemical parameters of wasps' eleven venom allergens:

**Table 2**, shows various physico-chemical data of these venom allergen molecules that are predicted through ProtParam tool. These properties include peptide sequence length, molecular weight, isoelectric point (pI), total number of negatively (-R) and positively charged residues (+R), Extinction coefficient, Instability Index (II), Aliphatic Index (AI) and Grand Average of Hydropathicity (GRAVY) for the 11 wasp species. Theoretical pI values range from 6.2178 to 9.3898 indicating that all the venom allergen molecules are on the basic side of the scale except VA5\_MICHY which is in the acidic side. Local subcellular formation, interaction and melting depends on the isoelectric zone and the number of well-charged and negatively charged residues [34]. PI is the pH value at which the protein is free or the amount of negative and positive costs are equal. Negatively charged residues are found in VA5\_MICHY while highly charged negative residues are found in VA5\_VESFL. Proteins with an index of instability (II) <40 are considered stable and those with a value of II > 40 are called unstable [35]. Here the Instability Index values range from 17.94 to 42.01 which means that all the proteins may be stable except VA5\_VESFL would be unstable in the test tube as a value of less than 40 is stable in the test tube. Here the low levels of coagulation in the extinction are indicators of the low absorption capacity of the protein under study. Almost all of the global proteins contain large numbers of  $\alpha$ -helices and  $\beta$ -sheets / fibres folded into a composite structure stabilized by both polar and lightweight interactions [36]. Aliphatic index plays a role in the thermal stability of proteins. Proteins having high Aliphatic index are stable in temperature. The Aliphatic index of cytotoxins in the range 61.13 to 73.43 showed that these proteins are stable in temperature. With the disruption of the biological membrane this is an important indicator of the molecule [37]. High values of Aliphatic index indicate that the protein is thermo-stable over a wide range of temperatures. Here it ranges from 61.13 to 73.43 indicating a wide range of temperature. Good GRAVY values refer to hydrophobicity; negative values refer to hydrophilicity. Here it ranges from -0.833 to -0.425, which means that decreasing negative points indicates the range of hydrophilicity of the proteins being studied.

**Table 3**, portrays *in silico* predictions of the secondary structures of 11 venom allergens from various wasp species with the help of GOR4 tools depicting the highest  $\alpha$ -helix, and random coils followed by  $\beta$ -strand displays limited amount of dynamic stability. Secondary structure predicts that approximately or more than 30% of the secondary structure is made up of alpha helix. This points to the fact that protein toxins are naturally occurring globular [38].

**Fig. 1**, reveals a cartoon diagram of the comparative secondary structure of 11 venom allergen molecules from wasp.  $\alpha$  helix extensions were found at the beginning of the venom allergen protein sequences. Homology modelling is useful when the model protein (in the known sequence and unknown structure) is related to at least one single protein with both known sequence and known structure [39].

**Fig. 2**, shows homology models predicted using SWISS-MODEL software tool. Z-score of all modelled proteins obtained within acceptable scores that point towards a native protein structure pointing towards a good model quality. In the QMEAN Z-score represents a measure of how the model can be compared to test-based structures of the same size (<https://tshi.page/ox/notes/techniques.html>). Ramachandran plots generated for all venom allergen molecules through PROCHECK tool also pointed towards a validated and acceptable Homology model produced through Swiss-Model tool.

### 3.2.3 Cysteine-Cysteine bond prediction of eleven wasp venom allergens:

**Table 4**, shows the cysteine-cysteine binding prediction using Scratch Protein Predictor webserver. This demonstrates the stability of the binding site with any ligand or other type of molecule, structural relationships - protein activity. The toxins under study, most of them carry 03 pairs of Cysteine in bonded cases, which is a signature of wasps' venom allergen.

### 3.2.4 Protein Family/Domain Prediction of eleven wasp venom allergens:

**Table 5**, showing 11 wasp venom allergen proteins family prediction using PROSITE, InterPro, Pfam and CDD software tools. Results reveals that all of the eleven wasp venom allergens. Protein intrinsic disorder is increasingly being identified in proteomics studies. While lack of structure, many disturbance regions have been associated with biological activity.

### 3.2.5 Protein Disorder Prediction of eleven wasp venom allergens:

**Table 6**, reveals the disordered regions predicted by the PrDos software tool for the 11 venom allergen molecules. Of the 11 wasp venom allergens the highest disorderedness is found in VA5\_MICHY & VA5\_VESSQ with 04 numbers of residues in the disordered state [40].

### 3.2.6 Predicted Protein Toxicity of eleven wasps venom allergens:

**Table 7**, represents Protein Toxicity of 11 wasp venom allergen proteins molecules Prediction by Tox DL Scores and Toxic domain positions obtained are as follows: Highest toxicity score is 0.20850359 in VA5\_VESSQ and lowest toxicity score is 0.0039935564 for VA52\_POLPI. All venom allergen molecules exhibit a predicted Toxicity score less than 01. This is indicative of low toxicity level. No toxic domain was predicted. Highest toxicity marked VA5\_VESSQ with 0.20850359 which is less than 01.

### 3.2.7 Homology models of eleven wasps' venom allergen toxins:

**Fig. 2**, shows Homology Models of 11 wasp venom allergen proteins by SWISS-MODEL webserver where the 3D protein model is automatically generated by first transferring conserved atom coordinates as defined by the target-template alignment [41].

**Table 8**, shows Homology model validation scores predicted through ANOLEA, Pro SA, QMEAN 4 and VERIFY 3D tools with Z-score analysis showing that 3D models are viable and acceptable.

**Fig. 3 (A-K)**, exhibits the Ramachandran plots of 11 wasps' venom allergen molecules generated through PROCHECK software. In Ramachandran plot core or allowed regions are the areas that show preferred regions for Ramachandran plot displays the  $\psi$  and  $\phi$  angle pairs for residues in the protein. PROCHECK results clearly showed that around 90 to 94 percent of the amino acid residues for 11 wasp venom allergen molecules are in the core i.e., mostly favoured regions. This confirmed the reliability of the model [42].

### 3.2.8 Docking results of 11 wasp venom allergen proteins with bacterial cell wall component N-acetylglucosamine:

**Fig. 4a & 4b** as well as **Table 9**, portrays Docking results reflecting Vina Score, Cavity Size, Binding Affinity generated through the CB DOCK webserver showing the docked models and the results of high negative affinity values obtained from docking of 11 wasp venom allergens with bacterial cell wall component N-

acetylglucosamine indicate strong binding interaction as well as stable target-venom allergen binding interaction. Highest negative affinity score of -8 and with lowest vina score -8 was observed with the venom allergen 5 with Toxin Code VA5\_MICHY.

#### 4. CONCLUSION:

*In silico* analysis of 11 wasp venom allergen proteins were carried out in details. The homology modelled venom allergen molecules docked with bacterial cell wall component N-acetylglucosamine strongly. These wasp venom allergens thus can have a potential use as an anti-bacterial agent.

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#### 6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT:

The authors declared that there is no conflict of any sort in relation to the paper.

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