Tropical Journal of Natural Product Research

Available online at https://www.tjnpr.org

Original Research Article



LC-MS Based Phytochemical Perspective, ACE Inhibition Potential and Pharmacokinetics Study of Humulus lupulus Flower Extract

Tripti Singh and Ashwani Mathur

Department of Biotechnology, Jaypee Institute of Information Technology, Noida-201307, Uttar Pradesh, India

ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Article history: Received 22 June 2023	The growing burden of cardiovascular diseases (CV) has been a major cause of concern for the world, which has further aggravated during the Covid-19 pandemic, due to post-SARS-CoV-2

innere mistory.	The growing burden of cardiovascular diseases (CV) has been a major cause of concern for the
Received 22 June 2023	world, which has further aggravated during the Covid-19 pandemic, due to post-SARS-CoV-2
Revised 20 July 2023	mediated complications among recovered patients. The quest to explore new, and more
Accepted 03 August 2023	efficacious, safe alternative therapeutic products for cardiovascular diseases and their associated
Published online 01 October 2023	symptoms have been the thrust of scientific importance. Angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE
	plays a pivotal role in hypertension, a disease condition associated with cardiovascular diseases
	In the present study, Humulus lupulus was extracted in different solvents and quantified for tota
	flavonoid phenolic and ACE inhibition activity estimated using aluminium chloride. Folir

Copyright: © 2023 Singh and Mathur. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which unrestricted use, distribution, permits and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

flavonoid, phenolic and ACE inhibition activity estimated using aluminium chloride, Folin Ciocalteu reagent, and Cushman and Cheung methods respectively. Further, liquid chromatography mass spectrometry (LC-MS) profiling of the phytocompound followed by Pharmacokinetics, drug-likeness behavior, and toxicity prediction using SWISS-ADME and Protox-II were analyzed. Results revealed the mixture to be rich in sphingolipids, polyphenolics, terpenes, flavonoids, and others. The study suggests the synergistic role of the compounds on ACE inhibition activity shown by the extract. However, the study needs to be further extended to screen the responsible compound for the inhibition activity and mechanism of action. The evaluation of these compounds for their pharmacokinetics properties opens up avenues to explore new molecules for the purpose of drug designing.

Keywords: Humulus lupulus, Angiotensin-converting enzyme, Phytocompounds, Pharmacokinetics, Toxicity

Introduction

The growing global disease burden of cardiovascular (CV) diseases had been a major cause of concern for the world, and it had further aggravated during the Covid-19 pandemic, due to post-SARS-CoV-2 mediated complications among recovered patients.^{1,2,3,4} Limited but significant confirmatory studies exploring the possible association between CV diseases and Covid-19 revealed acute cardiac injury as one of the major complications manifested during cardiovascular disease.⁵ Further studies had indicated severe clinical outcomes of SARS-CoV-2 infection with pre-existing CV diseases.^{6,7} The existing studies and reports from World Health Organization (WHO) revealed an estimated 17.9 million global deaths due to CV diseases in 2019 accounting for 32% of the global death with around 85% of these deaths due to stroke and heart attack.⁸ Angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) is a bivalent dipeptidyl carboxy metallopeptidase, a membrane enzyme in the epithelial, neuro epithelial, and endothelial cells. It is also present in soluble form in numerous body fluids and blood.9 The enzyme ACE plays a significant role in fluid and electrolyte balancing and blood pressure regulation. The role of the enzyme has been explored in the development of the cardiovascular system and vascular remodelling. The enzyme is significant for catalyzing the hydrolysis of angiotensin I to angiotensin II, a well-known peptide.9 It further deactivates the vasodepressor peptide bradykinin.

*Corresponding author. E mail: ashwani.mathur@jiit.ac.in Tel: +91-120-2594371

Citation: Singh T and Mathur A. LC-MS Based Phytochemical Perspective, ACE Inhibition Potential and Pharmacokinetics Study of Humulus lupulus Flower Extract. Trop J Nat Prod Res. 2023; 7(9):3951-3959 http://www.doi.org/10.26538/tjnpr/v7i9.16

Official Journal of Natural Product Research Group, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria

Also, ACE is well explored for its role in blocking angiotensin II and increasing the bradykinin level in the body that further maintains blood pressure, and associated cardiac cells (myocytes and smooth muscle cells) remodelling.⁹ Different studies had shown an association between the SARS-CoV-2 virus and CV diseases, with ACE 2 being the receptor used by the virus to enter human tissues and cells.^{5,11} The ACE 2 (Angiotensin converting enzyme-2) is reported to be the homolog of ACE (Angiotensin converting enzyme), with both being involved in the synthesis of biomolecules involved in Renin-Angiotensin System (RAS).^{5,12,13} Existing studies have indicated that the increased activity of the ACE-2 linked receptor is triggered by ACE inhibitors.¹³ The quest to explore ACE inhibitors further increased after the Covid-19 pandemic focusing on exploring efficacious ACE inhibitors with minimum side effects. The phytocompounds are safe and efficacious alternatives to their synthetic counterpart. The recent era has explored secondary metabolites as a protective dietary constituent and increasing shreds of evidence have suggested that prolonged consumption of these constituents can have beneficial effects on the regulation of cancers and other chronic diseases including diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.¹

Polyphenols can be further divided into two categories namely flavonoids and non-flavonoids. The flavonoids fall under the category of aromatic compounds, comprising of 15 carbon which are arranged in two aromatic rings and are connected by a 3-carbon bridge.^{14,15,16} Recent in-vivo studies have reported the therapeutic benefits of the consumption of phytocompounds¹⁷. These studies further validate their role in suppressing and improving the endothelium dysfunction associated with hypertension.¹⁷ The therapeutic importance of polyphenol-rich natural sources has also been reported for improvement of the endothelial dysfunction in different types of cardiovascular diseases including (but not limited to) atherosclerosis and metabolic syndrome.¹⁸ The studies on atherosclerosis-induced Golden Syrian hamsters further indicate the role of polyphenols (derived from grape) ingestion on the inhibition of fatty streak lesions in the aortic arch of the animal.¹⁸ The plant is found to be a rich source of other phytocompounds like terpenes, chalcones, bitter acids, flavone glycosides, and catechins.¹⁹ Terpenes have been well studied to have antimicrobial, anti-cancer, anti-inflammatory, anti-oxidant, anti-depressant, ^{20,21} and neuroprotective potential.²² To the best of our knowledge, the ACE inhibition potential of the studied plant is not explored till date. This study sought to evaluate the ACE inhibition potential of the hop extract and its possible mechanism of inhibition.

Material and Methods

Plant material

The dried Hops (*Humulus lupulus*) powder was procured from Kshipra Biotech Pvt. Ltd., Madhya Pradesh, India. The solvent used for further extraction were hexane (99%), methanol (99%) and distilled water.

Extract preparation

For the study, Hop extract powder (10 g) was mixed with 100 mL of different solvents *viz.* methanol, hexane and distilled water. The choice of solvent was based on previous studies exploring phytocompounds yield in different solvents.²³ The solutions were incubated at 30 °C and 100 rpm for 48 h in a shaker incubator (Kuhner, Germany). Each sample was then centrifuged (REMI, India) for 30 minutes at 5,000 rpm at 4 - 6°C. The supernatants were collected and stored in glass bottles (Borosil, India) and stored at low temperatures for further analysis.

Quantitative Determination of Total Phenolic Content (TPC)

The TPC was estimated using Folin Ciocalteu reagent method.²⁴ Briefly, the 12.5 μ L of each sample (in different solvents *viz.* methanol, hexane, distilled water) were mixed with 625 μ L of Folin Ciocalteu's reagent adding 500 μ L (7.5%, w/v) of sodium carbonate. The samples were incubated at room temperature for 3 hrs. Absorbance was recorded at 765 nm using Jenway 6850 UV/Vis (United Kingdom) spectrophotometer. The assay method involves blue color complex formation. Gallic acid was used as the standard for the estimation of TPC. The varying concentrations (0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0 mg/mL) of gallic acid were used for quantification. The standard graph was plotted using gallic acid concentration *versus* absorbance (765 nm). The observations and results were expressed as mg gallic acid equivalent / mg hops extract. All the experiments were repeated in triplicates and average data were recorded.

Quantitative Determination of Total Flavonoid Content (TFC)

The TFC was estimated using the modified aluminium chloride method.²⁵ Briefly, 100 μ L varying concentrations (0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0 mg/mL) of quercetin (standard) were prepared in water and used for quantification of flavonoid. Further, 30 μ L sodium nitrite was added and the mixture was incubated for 5 minutes, followed by 30 μ L aluminium chloride. Finally, 200 μ L of sodium chloride was added. The volume was maintained at 1000 μ L. The absorbance was measured using Thermo Scientific ELISA reader (United States) at 510 nm. Graph of the concentration of quercetin *versus* absorbance was plotted and used as a standard graph for the quantification of flavonoid concentration in unknown samples (extracts of the plant).

Angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitory activity

There are catalogues of methods for determination of ACE activity. The current study involves the use of method proposed by Cushman and Cheung (1971) with modifications suggested by Schnaith *et al.*^{26,27} The HHL (Hippuryl-histidyl-leucine) is hydrolysed to HA (Hippuric acid) that was used to measure the ACE inhibitory action. The method analyzes the change in the catalytic efficiency of ACE on treatment with captopril and phytocompounds extract.²⁸

The assay mixture containing the Incubation Buffer-1 was prepared for the enzymes by dissolving 2.91 g of boric acid (188 mmol/L,) and 25.63 g of potassium chloride (1.375 mol/L), dissolved in 200 mL of distilled water. pH was adjusted to 8.3 with 10 M potassium hydroxide (28.05 g in 50 mL water) and the final solution was made to 250 mL by adding distilled water. A separate 10 mL of this solution was used to dissolve the enzyme. For the preparation of Buffer-2, (188 mmol/L) boric acid, pH 8.3, (1.375 mol/L) potassium chloride was dissolved in 200 mL distilled water and the solutions (Incubation Buffer-1) were made exactly as discussed above, and instead of the enzyme, NaCl was added. The remaining 240 ml of the previously described Incubation Buffer-1 were dissolved in 4.2 g of 300 mM NaCl. The substrate solution (3 mM) was prepared by weighing 12.88 mg HHL which was further dissolved in 10 mL of Buffer-2. Varying concentrations of HHL (0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5,3 mM) were prepared. For inhibitor studies (10 µM) captopril was prepared in 50 mL Buffer-2. A dark-brown glass bottle was used to store 0.5 g of (136 mM) cyanuric chloride that had been dissolved in 20 mL of 1,4-dioxane. Enzyme stock (25 x 10^{-3} U/mL) of 10 µL was added with 40 µL HHL (3.0 mM) in 230 µL of Buffer-2 and incubated for different time intervals, viz.0 min, 5 min, 10 min, and 15 min. Then, a 40 µL cyanuric chloride was added. Absorbance was taken at 405 nm. The point beyond which no change in absorbance was observed was considered the optimum time. For inhibitory studies, 10 µL enzyme stock (25 x 10^{-3} U/mL) was incubated with 40 μ L varying concentrations of HHL (1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0 mM) in 220 µL of Buffer-2, followed by 10 µL of inhibitors (10 µM captopril) and incubated for optimized time (5 min) followed by supplementation with 40 µL cyanuric chloride. The absorbance was measured at 405 nm. The same step was repeated with Humulus lupulus instead of an inhibitor. The samples were centrifuged at 3500 rpm at room temperature for 5 minutes and absorbance of the supernatant was measured at 405 nm (Jenway 6850 UV/Vis, United Kingdom). The activity of an enzyme corresponds to the amount of HHL degraded to Hippuric acid. The inhibition of ACE activity was estimated as % ACE inhibition (Equation1).

1 unit of the enzyme (25×10^{-3} U/mL) activity is the change of absorbance at 405 nm after 5 min incubation at room temperature ($22^{\circ}C - 25^{\circ}C$).

ACE Inhibition (%) =

Absorbance of Enzyme catalyzed Reaction – Reaction with inhibitor Absorbance of Enzyme catalyzed Reaction

100 (1)

The enzyme inhibition (%) is the percentage of inhibition required to decrease the Hippuric acid (HA) and was calculated using the above equation.

ACE Inhibition Kinetics

In the current study, the Michaelis Menten's constant (K_m) of the catalytic reactions was compared with and without inhibitors. The constant (K_m) is significant in explaining the substrate affinity to the enzyme towards the substrate.²⁹ The prerequisite knowledge of enzyme catalysis is required for designing the inhibitors. The inhibitors can compete for the catalytic active site or interact with the alternative site to hinder enzyme catalysis. Previous studies had indicated that for allosteric enzymes, the inhibitions can be competitive, non-competitive or uncompetitive.²⁹ The Linewaver Burk plot shows information pertaining to the kinetics of ACE inhibition. A calibration curve was plotted for the standard HA. The experiment was performed in duplicates. A graph between substrate concentration and standard inhibitor captopril was plotted to study the effect of inhibition as depicted in the graph (Figure 2B & 2C).

Qualitative determination of compounds in aqueous extract using Liquid chromatography mass spectrometry (LC-MS)

The LC-MS approaches have been used by researchers to explore phytocompounds profiling of plants. The setting of the Instrument (Dionex Ultimate 3000, Thermo Scientific) was as follows: Injection volume of sample; 15 μ L, Column Used; Hypersil Gold C18 (2.1mm x 100mm, 3.0 μ m) Column temperature; 25 °C, Flow rate; 0.350 mL/min (350 μ L/min) with duration; 55 mins, buffers used Buffer A; 0.1% Formic Acid in Water and Buffer B; 0.1% Formic Acid in Acetonitrile.

The LC-MS settings of Instrument (Q Exactive, Thermo Scientific) have been done as follows, Scan type; Full MS Polarity; Positive (+),

Negative (-), Scan Range; 120-800 m/z, Resolution; 70,000, AGC target; 1e6, Sheath Gas flow rate (arbitrary unit); 50, Aux Gas flow rate (arbitrary unit); 10, Sweep Gas flow rate; 1, Capillary voltage: (+) 3.5 kV, (-) 2.5 kV, Capillary Temperature; 325 °C, S-Lens RF Level; 55, Probe Heater Temp.; 350° C while MS2 settings were made as follows; Microscans 1, Resolution 35,000, AGC target 1e5, Maximum IT 50 ms, Loop count 5, MSX count 1, TopN 5, Isolation window 1.0 m/z, Isolation offset 0.3 m/z, Scan range 200 to 2000 m/z, (N) CE / stepped (N) CE; 15, 30, 45. The LC-MS data analysis was carried out using Thermo Fisher Scientific Compound Discoverer 3.3.

Statistical analysis

The experiments were performed in triplicates and the average values were used. Further standard deviation estimation was done to find variations in the phytocompound yield among different solvents (p<0.05) using R studio. The analysis of ACE inhibition activity was done using the average outcome of duplicate experiments and the standard deviations were plotted in the graphical data.

Pharmacokinetics study

Using the Swiss- ADME tool, the compounds were further evaluated for their Pharmacokinetics and drug-likeness behavior. Toxicity Prediction was carried out using Pro Tox-II, an online free tool available for predicting the toxicity of chemicals.

Results and Discussion

Extraction and Quantitative Determination of Phenolics and Flavonoids

Humulus lupulus has been reported to exhibit antiplatelet, antibacterial, antifungal, anti-collagenase, antioxidant, and anticancer activities.^{30,31,32,33,34} In this current study, the phytocompounds were extracted from the dried plant material using three different solvents, differing in polarity viz. water, methanol, hexane and were further analyzed for phenolics and flavonoids. The TPC in the sample was calculated using linear correlation plot (y = 0.144x; $R^2 = 0.997$) (Figure1A) and TFC was further analyzed using the linear correlation $(y = 0.2031x; R^2 = 0.885)$. The results are expressed as mg Quercetin equivalents / mg of hop extract (Figure1B). The results suggest that the TPC and TFC was highest in water with respect to other solvents (Table 1). The difference in solubility may be attributed to different chemical natures and solubility of phytocompounds present in the plant material. Similar results of high phenolic and flavonoid content have been observed with other phytocompound rich plant system.³⁵ The antimicrobial properties of the phenolic compounds have been well explored in plant-pathogen interactions and play a pivotal role in restricting the spread of a pathogen.³⁴ Different kinds of terpenoids,

phenolics, flavonoids, and chalcones have been well-reported in the plant $\mathit{Humulus}\ ^{36}$

ACE Inhibition activity

ACE enzyme is reported to be associated with hypertension.9,10 The ACE enzyme converts angiotensin I to angiotensin II and modulate vasodilation.^{9,10} Studies have shown Momordica charantia, Angelica keiskei, Prunus domestica, Peperomia pellucida and Muntingia calabura to possess ACE inhibitory activities.³⁷ Another study with Syzygium polyanthum have shown the ACE inhibition potential of aqueous extract exhibiting the ACE inhibitory activity of around 69.43 %.³⁸ ACE inhibition by reference standard and aqueous extract of the plant were analyzed by Lineweaver Burk's plot (Figure 2). Reciprocals of varying HHL concentrations on the x-axis were used as independent factors in the current study, and reciprocals of HA production were used as the dependent variable (y-axis), to create a linear regression. The (K_m) Michaelis Menten's constant which is a constant value that depicts the substrate specificity towards the enzyme was calculated to be 50 mM without any inhibitor with Vmax maximum velocity of 20 mM/min. Further addition of inhibition decreases the maximum velocity and Michaelis Menten's constant (K_m). The V_{max} and the K_m with captopril as inhibitor were 1.92 mM/min and 19.95 mM. (Table 2) Further, extract inhibition was compared with captopril and results showed that the inhibition in ACE activity with extract was higher (47.97%) than captopril (33.78%). (Figure 3) Further, the result suggests phytocompound-rich aqueous extract from Humulus lupulus as a potential ACE inhibiting agent, for their suggestive role in alleviating cardiovascular diseases.

LC-MS profiling

The LC-MS profiling of the extract revealed the hop extract to be rich in sphingolipids, polyphenolics, terpenes, flavonoids, and others. The LC-MS was performed in both positive (Table 3) and negative (Table 4) modes as reported previously.³⁹ The LC-MS profiling of the extract run in positive mode revealed the extract to be rich in phytocompounds such as safingol, 2-amino-1,3,4-octadecanetriol, integracin B, (+)-absinthin, ziyuglycoside I, baicalin, bis(2-ethylhexyl) acid, phthalate, skimmin, 1-aminocyclohexanecarboxylic 7methoxycoumarin-4-acetic acid, trimethadione, umbelliferone, lysolecithin, palmitoyl serinol, scoparone, kaempferol (Table 3). Other compounds like isocitric acid, apigenin 7-sulfate, oleanolic acid, (+)-[6]-gingerol, corchorifatty acid F, luteolin 7-sulfate, genistein, azelaic acid were identified in negative run (Table 4). Apart from this various other compound such as rutin, lupenone, coumarin, xanthine, quillaic acid, and others have also been found in the extract (Data not shown). The presence of polyphenols, particularly flavonoids, are frequent in ACE-inhibiting species, with quercetin being one particularly wellreported example.⁴⁰ The synergistic effect of these compounds on performing ACE inhibition activity cannot be ruled out. However, the role of such compounds on the inhibition activity of the Angiotensinconverting enzyme needs to be further explored.



© 2023 the authors. This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License

Figure 1: The standard plot for quantification of phytocompounds, viz. (A) Total Phenolic content; (B) Total Flavonoid content.

	1	51
Hops extract in different types of	Total Phenolic Content	Total Flavonoid Content
solvent	(mg gallic acid equivalent/mg of hop	(mg Quercetin equivalent/mg of hop extract)
	extract)	
Hexane	0.009 ± 0.001	0.221 ± 0.001
Methanol	0.038 ± 0.000	1.885 ± 0.000
Water	0.083 ± 0.001	2.511 ± 0.036

Table 1: Total Phenolic and Flavonoid contents in Humulus lupulus in different types of solvents



Figure 2: The Lineweaver Burk's plot for analyzing the kinetic parameters of ACE catalytic activity with (A) HHL as substrate (B) catalysis of HHL with Captopril as inhibitor (C) catalysis of HHL substrate with aqueous plant extract.



Figure 3: Percentage Inhibition of ACE Enzyme Activity

Samples	1/V _{max} (min/mM)	V _{max} (min/mM)	K _m (mM)
HHL	0.050	20	50
Captopril	0.520	1.92	19.95
Water	1.580	0.62	0.39

Pharmacokinetics study

The drug research and development heavily rely on the factors of chemical absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion, and toxicity. In addition to demonstrating enough efficacy against the therapeutic target at a therapeutic dose, a high-quality drug candidate should also have appropriate ADMET characteristics.⁴¹ The Swiss-ADME analysis revealed the majority of the compounds pass the Lipinski rule (Table 5). The compounds which have shown the potential to be used in drug-making were further screened for toxicity (Table 6). The analysis revealed that around 20 compounds were found to lie in the Toxicity class IV, suggesting the dose dependent harmful effects of some of these compounds ($300 < LD_{50} \leq 2000$).

The study is even more important amidst the global pandemic that the world is fighting, by suggesting an alternative plant extract with comparatively higher ACE inhibition than some of the other plants reported. The study will pave the way for further exploring the detailed mechanism of ACE inhibition, phytochemical profile and other biotherapeutic activities.

Conclusion

Current study is the first report on phytochemical associated ACE inhibitory property from the flower extract of *Humulus lupulus*. The aqueous extract of *Humulus lupulus* showed significantly higher inhibition than captopril. The diversity in the phytocompound available in the plant extract maybe pivotal and responsible for this property. However, the variations with other germplasms of *Humulus lupulus* cannot be ruled out. Also, the LC-MS profiling of the extract shows the synergistic role of these compounds responsible for ACE inhibition activity. Further ADMET analysis of these compounds paves the path to explore new molecules for drug designing. The study

opens an avenue for exploring the potential of plants with a possible role in preventing cardiovascular diseases such as hypertension and other associated diseases.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

 Table 3: Compounds in LC-MS (Positive mode) for aqueous plant extract

Compound	Formula	Molecular weight	m/z	Area	RT
Safingol	$C_{18}{\rm H}_{39}{\rm NO}_2$	301.29762	302.3049	2490302591.78086	12.024
2-Amino-1,3,4-octadecanetriol	$C_{18} H_{39} NO_3$	317.29268	318.29996	2214830943.58038	9.641
Integracin B	$C_{35} H_{54} O_7$	586.38615	587.39343	479264625.327622	8.492
Diethylpyrocarbonate	$C_{6}H_{10}O_{5}$	162.05259	347.09433	379387318.306787	0.853
(+)-absinthin	C ₃₀ H ₄₀ O ₆	496.28188	497.28915	324769236.004528	4.093
Ziyuglycoside I	$C_{41} \; H_{66}O_{13}$	766.44914	767.45642	312622270.173062	8.608
Baicalin	$C_{21}H_{18}O_{11}$	446.08468	447.09195	254243986.447954	1.311
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	$C_{24} H_{38} O_4$	390.27652	391.28378	247809496.816939	1.856
Skimmin	$C_{15} H_{16} O_8$	324.08409	325.09137	243361023.409473	1.051
1-Aminocyclohexanecarboxylic acid	$C_7H_{13}NO_2$	143.09444	144.10172	240253117.608486	0.854
7-Methoxycoumarin-4-acetic acid	$C_{12}H_{10}O_5$	234.0527	217.04945	236494752.766088	1.43
Trimethadione	$C_6H_9NO_3$	143.0583	127.03905	235960576.188552	1.003
Umbelliferone	C ₉ H ₆ O ₃	162.03157	163.03885	229799994.850596	1.086
Lysolecithin	$C_{24} H_{50} NO_7 P$	495.3322	496.33948	178922311.833466	15.387
Palmitoyl Serinol	$C_{19} H_{39} NO_3$	329.29259	330.29987	177614704.8178	12.384
Scoparone	$C_{11} \; H_{10} \; O_4$	206.05771	207.06499	174846110.08509	1.704
Kaempferol	$C_{15}H_{10}O_{6}$	286.04732	287.0546	156569469.345988	2.393

Table 4: Compounds in LC-MS (Negative mode) for aqueous plant extract

Compound	Formula	Molecular weight	m/z	Area	RT
Isocitric acid	$C_6H_8O_7$	192.02623	191.01895	672622179.399223	0.974
Apigenin 7-sulfate	$C_{15}H_{10}O_8S$	350.00957	349.00229	493844560.704445	2.227
Oleanolic acid	C ₃₀ H ₄₈ O ₃	456.3603	455.35303	408603118.280022	17.552
(+)- [6]-Gingerol	$C_{17} \; H_{26} \; O_4$	294.18305	293.17578	292681908.776929	10.037
Corchorifatty acid F	$C_{18}H_{32}O_5$	328.22502	327.21774	196575657.330169	3.704
Luteolin 7-sulfate	$C_{15} \: H_{10} \: O_9 \: S$	366.00465	364.99738	144461519.847906	1.7
Genistein	$C_{15}H_{10}O_5$	270.05287	269.04559	124081235.203285	3.783
Azelaic acid	$C_9 \operatorname{H}_{16}O_4$	188.10417	187.09689	97740853.9734879	1.634

Table 5:	ADME	analysis	of LC-MS	compounds
		~		

Groups	Compound Name	PubC hem ID	GI absor ption	BBB perm eant	P-gp subst rate	CYP 1A2 inhib itor	CYP2 C19 inhibi tor	CYP 2C9 inhib itor	CYP 2D6 inhib itor	CYP 3A4 inhib itor	Log K _p (skin permea tion)	Lipinski Rule	Bioavail ability Score
Sphingo	Safingol	30587	High	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	-4.02	Yes; 0	0.55
lipids		39									cm/s	violation	
Alcohol	2-Amino-1,3,4- octadecanetriol	24857 5	High	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	-4.94 cm/s	Yes; 0 violation	0.55
Benzoat	Integracin B	70678	Low	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	-2.19	No; 2	
e ester		748									cm/s	violation	0.17
												s:	
												MW>50	
												0,	

ISSN 2616-0684 (Print) ISSN 2616-0692 (Electronic)

												MLOGP	
												>4.15	
	Diethylpyrocarbo	3051	High	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	-6.30	Yes; 0	0.55
	nate										cm/s	violation	
Terpene	(+)-absinthin	44213	High	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	-7.74	Yes; 0	0.55
		8									cm/s	violation	
Glycosi	Ziyuglycoside I	71609	Low	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	-9.13	No; 3	0.17
des		288									cm/s	violation	
												s:	
												MW>50	
												0,	
												NorO>1	
												0,	
												NHorO	
												H>5	
	Baicalin	64982	Low	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	-8.23	No; 2	0.11
											cm/s	violation	
												S:	
												NorO>1	
												0, NHorO	
												H>5	
	Bis(2-ethylbexyl)	8343	High	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	-3 39	Yes: 1	0.55
	phthalate	0010	g.i	110	100	110	110	100	110	100	cm/s	violation	0.00
	F											:	
												MLOGP	
												>4.15	
	Skimmin	99693	High	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	-8.78	Yes; 0	0.55
											cm/s	violation	
	1-	1366	High	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	-8.50	Yes; 0	
	Aminocyclohexan										cm/s	violation	0.55
	ecarboxylic acid												
	7-	34222	High	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	-6.79	Yes; 0	0.56
	Methoxycoumarin	1									cm/s	violation	
	-4-acetic acid												
	Trimethadione	5576	High	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	-6.96	Yes; 0	0.55
		50014	¥¥: 1		N		N	N.		Ŋ	cm/s	violation	0.55
	Umbelliferone	52814	High	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	-6.17	Yes; 0	0.55
	Invalagithin	20	Law	Ne	Var	No	Var	Na	No	Var	cm/s	Violation	0.55
	Lysolecitinin	80334	LOW	INO	res	NO	res	INO	NO	res	-3.32	violation	0.33
	Palmitovl Serinol	98623	High	Ves	Ves	No	No	No	Ves	No	-4.36	Ves: 0	0.55
	r annitoyr Serinor	07	mgn	105	105	110	110	110	105	110	-=50 cm/s	violation	0.55
	Scoparone	8417	High	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	-6.34	Yes: 0	0.55
			8		- 10						cm/s	violation	
	Kaempferol	52808	High	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	-6.70	Yes; 0	0.55
	ī	63	U								cm/s	violation	

ISSN 2616-0684 (Print) ISSN 2616-0692 (Electronic)

Isocitric acid	1198	Low	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	-8.75	Yes; 0	0.56
										cm/s	violation	
Apigenin 7-sulfate	14016	Low	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	-6.71	Yes; 0	0.56
	776									cm/s	violation	
Oleanolic acid	10494	Low	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	-3.77	Yes; 1	0.85
										cm/s	violation	
											:	
											MLOGP	
											>4.15	
(+)- [6]-Gingerol	1079	Low	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	-11.21	Yes; 1	0.55
										cm/s	violation	
											:	
											NorO>1	
											0	
Luteolin 7-sulfate	14016	Low	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	-7.16	Yes; 0	0.11
	780									cm/s	violation	
Genistein	52809	High	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	-6.05	Yes; 0	0.55
	61									cm/s	violation	
Azelaic acid	2266	High	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	-6.33	Yes; 0	0.85
										cm/s	violation	

Table 6: Toxicity Prediction of Compounds

Compound	Toxicity Class	LD 50	Carcinogenicity	Cytotoxicity
Safingol	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
2-Amino-1,3,4-octadecanetriol	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Diethylpyrocarbonate	4	850 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
(+)-absinthin	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Skimmin	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
1-Aminocyclohexanecarboxylic acid	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
7-Methoxycoumarin-4-acetic acid	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Trimethadione	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Umbelliferone	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Lysolecithin	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Palmitoyl Serinol	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Scoparone	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Kaempferol	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Isocitric acid	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Apigenin 7-sulfate	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Oleanolic acid	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
(+)- [6]-Gingerol	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Luteolin 7-sulfate	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Genistein	4	1190 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive
Azelaic acid	4	900 mg/kg	Inactive	Inactive

Authors' Declaration

The authors hereby declare that the work presented in this article is original and that any liability for claims relating to the content of this article will be borne by them.

Acknowledgements

The authors acknowledge the Central Instrumentation Facility (CIF), University of Delhi, South Campus, Delhi for providing all the necessary support.

References

- Desai AD, Lavelle M, Boursiquot BC, Wan EY. Long-term complications of COVID-19. Am J Physiol Cell Physiol. 2022;322(1):C1-C11. doi:10.1152/ajpcell.00375.2021
- Djaharuddin I, Munawwarah S, Nurulita A, Ilyas M, Tabri NA, Lihawa N. Comorbidities and mortality in COVID-19 patients. Gac Sanit. 2021;35 Suppl 2: S530-S532. doi: 10.1016/j.gaceta.2021.10.085
- Wu L, O Kane AM, Peng H, Bi Y, Motriuk-Smith D, Ren J. SARS-CoV-2 and cardiovascular complications: From molecular mechanisms to pharmaceutical management. Biochem Pharmacol. 2020; 178:114114. doi: 10.1016/j.bcp.2020.114114
- Augustine R, Abhilash S, Nayeem A, Salam SA, Augustine P, Dan P, Monteiro P, Mraiche F, Gentile C, Hansbro PM, McClements L, Hasan A. Increased complications of COVID-19 in people with cardiovascular disease: Role of the renin–angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS) dysregulation. Chem. Biol. Interact. 2021; 351:1-13.
- Bansal M. Cardiovascular disease and COVID-19. Diabetes Metab Syndr. 2020; 14:247-250.
- Bo L, Jing Y, Faming Z, Lili Z, Xiqian W, Lin L, Zhaohui B, Zhao Y. Prevalence and impact of cardiovascular metabolic diseases on COVID-19 in China. Clin Res Cardiol.2 020;109:531-538.
- Allami RH, Hassoon AH, Abdulateef YM, Ghani AA, Al-Falahi SJ. Genetic Association of Angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 ACE-2 (rs2285666) Polymorphism with the Susceptibility of COVID-19 Disease in Iraqi Patients. Trop. J. Nat. Prod. Res. 2023;7(2):2346–2351.
- WHO Report CVD, 2020 (<u>https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/cardiovascular-diseases-(cvds)</u>
- 9. Hanif K, Bid HK, Konwar R. Reinventing the ACE inhibitors: some old and new implications of ACE inhibition. Hypertens. Res. 2010; 33:11-21.
- Zhao Y, Xu C. Structure and Function of Angiotensin Converting Enzyme and Its Inhibitors. Chin. J. Biotechnol. 2008; 24:171-176.
- Yang J, Petitjean SJL, Koehler M, Zhang Q, Dumitru AC, Chen W, Derclaye S, Vincent SP, Soumillion P, Alsteens D. Molecular interaction and inhibition of SARS-CoV-2 binding to the ACE2 receptor. Nat Commun. 2020; 11:4541.
- Gaddam RR, Chambers S, Bhatia M. ACE and ACE2 in Inflammation: A Tale of Two Enzymes. *Inflamm Allergy Drug Targets*. 2014; 13:224-234.
- 13. Silva ACS, Teixeira MM. ACE inhibition, ACE2 and angiotensin-(1-7) axis in kidney and cardiac inflammation and fibrosis. Pharmacol. Res. 2016; 107:154-162.
- Crozier A, Jaganath IB, Clifford MN. Phenols, Polyphenols and Tannins: An Overview. In: Crozier A, Clifford MN, Ashihara H (Eds.). Plant Secondary Metabolites: Occurrence, Structure and Role in the Human Diet, UK: Blackwell Publishing Ltd; 2006.
- 15. Kuznicka B, Dziak M. Herbs and their use. Panstwowe Zakłady Wydawnictw Lekarskich, Warsaw; 1992.
- Harborne JB. The flavonoids: advances in research since 1986. London: Chapman and Hall; <u>1994</u>

- Schini-Kerth VB, Etienne-Selloum N, Chataigneau T, Auger C. Vascular Protection by Natural Product-Derived Polyphenols: In Vitro and In Vivo Evidence. Planta Med. 2011; 77:1161–1167.
- Auger C, Rouanet JM, Vanderlinde R, Bornet Deacordea AL, Lequeux N, Cristol JP, Teissedre PL. Polyphenols-Enriched Chardonnay White Wine and Sparkling Pinot Noir Red Wine Identically Prevent Early Atherosclerosis in Hamsters. J. Agric. Food Chem. 2005; 53: 9823–9829.
- Olsovska J, Bostikova V, Dusek M, Jandovska V, Bogdanova K, Cermak P, Bostik P, Mikyska A, Kolar M. *Humulus lupulus* L. (hops) - a valuable source of compounds with bioactive effects for future therapies. Mil. Med. Sci. Lett. 2016; 85:19–30.
- Zanoli P, Zavatti M. Pharmacognostic and pharmacological profile of *Humulus lupulus* L. J. Ethnopharmacol. 2008; 116: 383–396.
- Zala K, Langerholc T, Hostnik G, Ocvirk M, Stumpf S, Pintaric M., Kosir IJ, Cerenak A, Garmut A, Bren U. Antimicrobial Properties of Different Hop (*Humulus lupulus*) Genotypes. *Plants.* 2023; 12:120.
- 22. Tarmo N. Medicinal properties of terpenes found in *Cannabis sativa* and *Humulus lupulus*. Eur. J. Med. Chem. 2018; 157:198-228.
- Abubakar AR, Haque M. Preparation of Medicinal Plants: Basic Extraction and Fractionation Procedures for Experimental Purposes. J. Pharm. Bioallied Sci. 2020; 12:1–10.
- Bhardwaj P, Jain CK, Mathur A. Comparative Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis of Phytochemicals in Five Different Herbal Formulations of *Bacopa monnieri*. Int. J. Pharmacogn. Phytochem. Res. 2016; 8(4): 675-682.
- Zhishen J, Mengcheng T, Jianming W. The determination of flavonoid contents in mulberry and their scavenging effects on superoxide radicals. Food Chem. 1999; 64: 555– 559.
- Khan MY, Kumar V. Mechanism & inhibition kinetics of bioassay-guided fractions of Indian medicinal plants and foods as ACE inhibitors. J. Tradit Complement Med. 2018; 9(1):73-84.
- 27. Schnaith E, Beyrau R, Buckner B, Klein RM, Rick W. Optimized determination of angiotensin I-converting enzyme activity with hippuryl-L-histidyl-L-leucine as substrate, Clin Chim Acta. 1994; 227:145-58.
- Odaka C, Mizuochi T. Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor captopril prevents activation-induced apoptosis by interfering with T cell activation signals, *Clin. Exp. Immunol.* 2000; 121:515-522.
- 29. M Dixon, EC Webb. In (Eds.) Enzymes. London: Longmans (1964).
- Cermak P, Olsovska J, Mikyska A, Dusek M, Kadleckova Z, Vanicek J, Nyc O, Sigler K, Bostikova V, Bostik P. Strong antimicrobial activity of xanthohumol and other derivatives from hops (*Humulus lupulus L.*) on gut anaerobic bacteria. Apmis. 2017; 125(11):1033–1038.
- 31. Evrendilek GA. Empirical prediction and validation of antibacterial inhibitory effects of various plant essential oils on common pathogenic bacteria. Int. J. Food Microbiol. 2015; 202: 35–41.
- Mizobuchi S, Sato Y. Antifungal activities of hop bitter resins and related-compounds. Chem. Biol. Technol. Agric. 1985; 49:399-403.
- Yamaguchi N, Yamaguchi KS, Ono M. In vitro evaluation of antibacterial, anticollagenase, and antioxidant activities of hop components (*Humulus lupulus*) addressing *acne vulgaris*, Phytomed. 2009;16(4): 369–376.
- Vermerris W, Nicholson R. The Role of Phenols in Plant Defense. In: Phenolic Compound Biochemistry. Dordrecht: Springer; 2008.
- 35. Knez Hrncic M, Spaninger E, Kosir IJ, Knez Z, Bren U. Hop Compounds: Extraction Techniques, Chemical

Analyses, Antioxidative, Antimicrobial, and Anticarcinogenic Effects. Nutrients. 2019;11(2):257. doi:10.3390/nu11020257

- Bocquet L, Sahpaz S, Hilbert JL, Rambaud C, Riviere C. *Humulus lupulus* L., a very popular beer ingredient and medicinal plant: overview of its phytochemistry, its bioactivity, and its biotechnology. Phytochem Rev. 2018;1047-1090.
- Chakraborty R, Roy S. Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors from plants: A review of their diversity, modes of action, prospects, and concerns in the management of diabetes-centric complications. J. Integr. Med. 2021;19(6): 478-492.
- Ismail A, Anuar TAFT, Suffian IFM, Abdul Hamid AA, Omar MN, Mustafa BE, Wan Ahmad W. Angiotensin Converting Enzyme (ACE) Inhibition Activity by *Syzygium polyanthum* Wight (Walp.) Leaves: Mechanism and Specificity. Pharmacogn J. 2022;14(1):76-84.
- Shah SMZ, Ramzan M, Khan MN, Shadab H, Usman M, Rahman S, Ali A, Uddin J, Asmari M, Musharraf SJ. Untargeted screening of plant metabolites based on dataindependent and data-dependent acquisition modes using LC-ESI-QTOF-MS: *Tribulus terrestris* L. as a case study. Arab. J. Chem. 2023;16(8):104978. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.arabjc.2023.104978.
- Braga CF, Serra CP, Junior NSV, Oliveira AB, Cortes SF, Lombardi JA. Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibition by Brazilian plants. Fitoterapia. 2007; 78(5): 353-358.
- Guan L, Yang H , Cai Y, Sun L, Di P, Li W, Liu G, Tang Y. ADMET-score - a comprehensive scoring function for evaluation of chemical drug likeness. Medchemcomm. 2018; 10(1):148-157.