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# Studies on *In-Vitro* Antiglycation Potential of Some Indigenous Antidiabetic Plants



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#### Abstract

The *in vitro* antiglycation activity of extracts of some traditional antidiabetic plants was studied by determining the degree of nonenzymatic hemoglobin glycosylation. The best concentration and time required to incubate glucose with hemoglobin was estimated. Thereafter, the glycosylation degree of hemoglobin in the presence of plant extracts under study at different concentrations and in their absence was measured calorimetrically. The inhibitory affect on glycosylation of hemoglobin at the four concentrations namely 250µg/ml, 500µg/ml, 750µg/ml and 1000µg/ml were determined as follows: for *A. lebbeck* 19.08%, 29.22%, 37.86% and 48.55%, *B. aristata*; 29.66%, 37.05%, 49.0%, 56.17%, *M. pruriens*; 45.83%, 58.73%, 70.14%, and 75.60% respectively. The studies demonstrated that non-enzymatic nature of hemoglobin glycosylation could be effectively inhibited by the extracts of *M. pruriens*, *B. aristata* and *A. lebbeck* at a desirable concentration.

Keywords: Antiglycation, Hemoglobin, Inhibition, Non-enzymatic

Abbreviations: AGEs: Advanced Glycation End products; BSS: British Standard Sieve.

#### Introduction

Diabetes mellitus is a complex chronic metabolic disorder that is a major source of ill health worldwide. It is characterized by hyperglycemia and disturbances of carbohydrate, protein and fat metabolisms secondary to an absolute or relative lack of hormone insulin [1]. The elevated blood glucose level is considered the principal cause of complications in diabetes mellitus [2]. Diabetic complications usually arise as a result of non-enzymatic protein glycation, which leads to the formation of heterogeneous, toxic and antigenic advanced glycation end products (AGEs) [3]. The accumulation of AGEs in vivo has been considered to play a major role in the pathogenic process of diabetes and its complications, including neuropathy, nephropathy, retinopathy, cataract and in other health disorder such as Alzheimer's disease and aging [4, 5,6]. Thus, the investigation of compounds with an AGEs inhibitor activity, would certainly offer a potential therapeutic approach for the prevention of diabetes or other pathogenic complications. As currently, there is growing interest in herbal remedies due to the side effects associated with the oral hypoglycemic agents for the treatment of diabetes mellitus; it was decided to study the effect of extracts of some indigenous plants known for their antidiabetic activity namely A. lebbeck, B. aristata and M.

*pruriens* on non-enzymatic glycosylation of hemoglobin. *Albizzia lebbeck Benth*. (Family: *Leguminosae*) is a deciduous tree with compound leaves, flat oblong fruits, round cream colored seeds, grows wild. Barks are used in toothache and diseases of the gum.

Decoction of the leaves and barks are protective against bronchial asthma and other allergic disorders. Barks and seeds are astringent and are given in piles and diarrhea. Ethanolic extract of pods possesses antiprotozoal, hypoglycemic and anticancer properties [7]. *Berberis aristata* DC. (Family: *Berberidaceae*) is used in Ayurveda medicines from very long time. This plant has been considered as a valuable medicine for the treatment of remittent fevers, oxidative stress and used as a cooling laxative to children and as a tonic remedy for liver and heart.

It exhibits febrifugal, hypotensive, immuno-stimulating, anti-inflammatory, antidiabetic, antimicrobial, antiprotozoal, anticholinergic and antiarrhythmic activities [8]. *Mucuna pruriens Linn*. (Family: *Fabaceae*) is one of the popular drug in Ayurvedic system of medicine [9]. Various preparations from the seeds of this plant are used for the management of several free radical mediated diseases such as ageing, rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes, atherosclerosis, male infertility and nervous disorders [10,11].

# **Materials and Methods**

# **Plant material**

The bark of *A. lebbeck* and seeds of *M. pruriens* were collected from local areas of Karad, whereas the roots of *B. aristata* were purchased from local market. The plant material was further identified and authenticated by the Department of Botany, Science College, Karad. The bark of *A. lebbeck*, roots of *B. aristata* and the seeds of *M. pruriens* were cleaned, dried in a hot air oven (50 °C), powdered, passed through 60 mesh sieve (BSS) and stored in an airtight container at 4 °C till further use.

## Chemicals

Hemoglobin was purchased from Sigma Aldrich, USA. All the chemicals used in the study were of extra pure analytical grade.

#### **Preparation of plant extracts**

Aqueous extracts were prepared by extracting the powders of bark of *A. lebbeck*, roots of *B. aristata* and the seeds of *M. pruriens* with hot water (70 °C) in a mechanical shaker (24h), filtered and freeze dried.

#### Determining the best condition for hemoglobin glycosylation

To find the best glucose concentration, hemoglobin 5g/100ml in 0.01 M phosphate buffer, pH 7.4 was incubated with different concentrations of glucose [12]. The extent of glycosylation was measured by colorimetric method. Thereafter, to find the most useful time for glycosylation, hemoglobin 5g/100ml with the best concentration of glucose was incubated at different times and the amount of glycosylation was measured.

#### Assay

1ml of hemoglobin solution 5g/100ml and 1ml of the solution containing glucose 2g/100ml and Gentamycin 20mg/100ml in 0.01M phosphate buffer, pH 7.4 were incubated in the dark at room temperature. Then, the glycosylation degree of hemoglobin in the presence of different concentration of plant extracts and their absences were measured by the colorimetric method.

#### **Results and Discussion**

To find the inhibitory effects of selected plant extracts on glycosylation of hemoglobin, initially hemoglobin 5g/100ml was incubated in the presence of different concentrations of glucose and then the degree of glycosylation was measured by the colorimetric method. It was observed that up to the concentration of 2g/100ml stock solution of glucose, the amount of glycosylation increased linearly (Figure 1). So as to find the suitable time for incubation in this study, hemoglobin 5g/100ml was incubated in the presence of glucose 2g/100ml at different times and the degree of glycosylation was measured by the colorimetric method.

The results showed that glycosylation increased up to the time of 72h linearly and therefore, 72h was chosen as the best time for this study (Figure 1). Different concentrations of the plant extracts were used in the study viz.  $250\mu$ g/ml,  $500\mu$ g/ml,  $750\mu$ g/ml and  $1000\mu$ g/ml. The inhibitory effects on glycosylation of hemoglobin at these concentrations were estimated as 19.08%, 29.22%, 37.86% and 48.55%, for *A. lebbeck* extracts. For *B. aristata* it was observed as 29.66%, 37.05%, 49.0%, 56.17%, whereas for *M. pruriens* extract the inhibitory effects on hemoglobin glycosylation were observed as 45.83%, 58.73%, 70.14%, and 75.60% at a concentration of  $250\mu$ g/ml,  $500\mu$ g/ml,  $750\mu$ g/ml and  $1000\mu$ g/ml respectively.





Increased concentration of glucose in the blood as observed in diabetes mellitus leads to its binding to hemoglobin and other plasma proteins which may result in the formation of the reactive oxygen species. Plant extracts may play an important role in the inhibition of the glycosylation end products. Our studies revealed that glycosylation of hemoglobin increases markedly on its incubation with the increasing concentration of the glucose (2mg, 4mg,8mg 10mg and 20mg) over a period of 72hrs (Figure 1). However, the plant extracts promisingly inhibited the glycosylation of hemoglobin as shown in (Figure 2).

The results of the studies clearly demonstrated that non-enzymatic nature of hemoglobin glycosylation could be effectively inhibited by the extracts of M. pruriens, *B. aristata* and *A. lebbeck* at a desirable concentration. Amongst the plant extracts studied, *M. pruriens* exhibited higher inhibition of glycosylation indicating that the extract of *M. pruriens* decreases the formation of the glucose- hemoglobin complex and thus amount of free hemoglobin increases. The vivo effect should be investigated so that it can be utilized to prevent or treat complication associated with diabetes.

#### **Conflict of Interest Statement**

We declare that we have no conflict of interest.

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