RESEARCH ARTICLE

ASSESSMENT OF ANTI-HYPERGLYCEMIC ACTIVITY OF A POLYHERBAL FORMULATION BS019

Sukumar D. and Brahma Srinivasa Rao Desu
Department of Pharmacology, Hindu college of Pharmacy, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, India.

Abstract
In present study, anti-hyperglycemic effect of polyherbal formulation BS019 was assessed using normal hypoglycemic model and Alloxan induced diabetic model. Oral administration of the BS019 at doses of 200 mg/kg and 400 mg/kg showed decreased levels of blood glucose. The effects of BS019 were in dose dependent manner. The results were similar to standard glibenclamide (10mg/kg, p.o). The observed anti-hyperglycemic activity was associated by the phytochemicals which were present in the BS019. The results indicated that BS019 possessed anti-hyperglycemic activity.

Introduction:
Diabetes is a group of chronic diseases characterized by high levels of blood glucose caused by body’s inability to produce or the body’s cells unresponsiveness to insulin. It can lead to blindness, kidney failure, nerve damage and blood vessels. It plays an important factor in accelerating the hardening and narrowing of arteries (atherosclerosis), leading to strokes, coronary heart disease 1.

Several classes of anti-diabetic drugs are used to treat hyperglycemia but they have side effects such as kidney failure, certain tumors, liver disease, hypothyroidism, starvation, inborn errors of metabolism. To reduce the impact of diabetes there is an urge to provide a cost effective treatment to the public. With the increased incidence of diabetes recently, natural herbs that have anti-diabetic effect have again more attention as alternative treatment for diabetes. Herbal drugs produces low toxicity and are cheaper in cost when compared to the synthetic drugs. As per traditional practitioners, a combination of several herbs exhibits augmented therapeutic efficacy than a single herb. The polyherbal formulation BS019 contains: Hibiscus rosa sinensis, Momordica charantia and Senna occidentalis had already been shown to exhibit anti-diabetic activity in experimental models in previous studies 2,3,4.

In the present study, an attempt has been made to investigate the anti-oxidant and anti-hyperglycemic activity of a poly herbal formulation BS019 in treating diabetic rats by employing Normal hypoglycemic model and Alloxan induced diabetic model. The standard drug, Glibenclamide which was used as a positive control to compare the efficacy of a polyherbal formulation BS019 as an anti-hyperglycemic agent.

Materials And Methods:
Collection and Authentication:
The plants Hibiscus rosa sinensis, Momordica charantia and Senna occidentalis were collected from Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, India. The plants were identified and authenticated by Dr.P.Sathya Narayana Raju, Plant Taxonomist,
Department of Botany and Microbiology, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Nagarjuna Nagar, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, India.

Preparation of Polyherbal formulation BS019
The dried flowers of Hibiscus rosa sinensis, leaves of Momordica charantia and roots of senna occidentalis were washed and cleaned separately. The powdered plant materials were used for the preparation of ethanolic extracts. 500 gms of each plant material was weighed and extracted with 95% ethanol by maceration process separately for 4 days and filtered with watchman filter paper. The extracts were concentrated under reduced pressure and stored in vacuum desiccators for complete removal of solvent. Each extract was weighed and percentage yield was calculated.

The polyherbal formulation which contains equal proportions of the ethanolic extract of Hibiscus rosa sinensis (flowers) Momordica charantia (leaves) and senna occidentalis (roots) was called as BS019.

Qualitative Phytochemical Analysis
Phytochemical analysis of Polyherbal formulation BS019 was carried out by using standard procedures to identify the presence of various phytoconstituents.

In-vivo studies:
Experimental animals:
Adult wistar albino rats (150-180 g) of either sex were procured from the laboratory animal house, Hindu College of Pharmacy, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, India and used in the study. The animals were kept under standard environmental conditions of room temperature (22± 2°C), relative humidity (50% ± 5%) and 12 h light and dark cycle. The animals were housed in the colony cages (three rats per cage) and provided feed (commercial pellets contain a balanced ration obtained from Mahaveera Enterprises, Hyderabad) and water ad libitum.

All the animals were acclimatized to the laboratory environment 5 days prior to experiment. The animals were fasted overnight just prior to the experiment but allowed free access to drinking water. All the experiments were carried out in accordance with the guidelines of Institutional Animal Ethics Committee. The study was conducted after obtaining ethical committee clearance from the Institutional Animal Ethics Committee No: HCOP/IAEC/PR-1 /2019.

Anti-hyperglycemic activity:
hypoglycaemic activity in normal rats
The overnight fasted albino wistar rats weighing (150-200 gm) were divided in to four groups of six animals in each group. All these agents were given by oral route. 1st group received only saline treatment, 2nd group received Glibenclamide (10 mg/kg, p.o.), 3rd and 4th groups received polyherbal formulation BS019 (200 mg/kg, p.o.) and (400 mg/kg, p.o.) respectively.

The treatment was as follows:
1. Group-I: Control (saline 10 ml/kg, p.o.)
2. Group-II: Glibenclamide (10 mg/kg, p.o.)
3. Group-III: Polyherbal formulation BS019 (200 mg/kg, p.o.)
4. Group IV: Polyherbal formulation BS019 (400 mg/kg, p.o.)

Sample collection:
Blood samples were collected from tail puncture of the rats at 0, 30, 60, 120 min respectively after oral administration. The blood glucose level was determined by electronic Glucometer (one touch glucometer-Nipro premier S).

Statistical values:
The values were expressed as Mean ± SEM. The data was analyzed by using one way ANOVA followed by Dunnett’s test and the values p < 0.05 were considered significant (Table 1).

| Group | Treatment                  | Dose (mg/kg), p.o | 0 min    | 30 min   | 60 min   | 120 min  |
|-------|----------------------------|------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1     | Control (Normal saline)    | 10 ml/kg         | 97.8 ± 2.2| 95.1 ± 1.7| 91.4 ± 1.3| 94.1 ± 2.5|

Table 1: Effect of polyherbal formulation (BS109) on blood glucose (mg/dl) level in normal rats.
II Glibenclamide 10 mg/kg 102.6 ± 1.7 99.8± 3.4 83.6± 0.9** 70.3± 0.7***
III Polyherbal formulation (BS109) 200 mg/kg 108.3 ± 3.3 103.5± 2.8 89.4 ± 1.1* 78.1 ± 2.8**
IV Polyherbal formulation (BS109) 400 mg/kg 105.5 ± 2.1 100.8± 1.6 85.3 ± 0.7** 73.8 ± 0.6***

Values are Mean ± SEM (n=6). One way ANOVA followed by Dunnets’s *p<0.05 , **p<0.01 , ***p<0.001, when compared to vehicle treated (control) animals.

Alloxan induced diabetic model:
Preparation of alloxan solution:
Alloxan was dissolved in saline and a single intra-peritontial injection was administered within five minutes to avoid degradation.

Alloxan induced diabetic model:
Alloxan monohydrate will be first weighed individually for each animal according to its weight and then solubilized in 0.2ml saline just prior to injection. Diabetes was induced by injecting alloxan at a dose of 150mg/kg body weight intra-peritoneally. After 1hr of alloxan administration, the animals were given feed and 5% dextrose solution was also given in feeding bottle for a day to overcome the early hypoglycemic phase. The animals were kept under observation for 48 hr. Blood glucose was measured by glucometer. The diabetic rats (glucose level > 300mg/dl) was separated and divided in to 5 different groups for experimental study, with each group contains 6 animals. 1st group received only saline, 2nd group was kept as diabetic control, 3rd group received glibenclamide (10mg/kg,p.o), 4th group received Polyherbal formulation-BS019 (200 mg/kg; p.o) and 5th group received Polyherbal formulation-BS019 (400 mg/kg; p.o) respectively for seven consecutive days.

1. Group I: Normal control (Saline 10 ml/kg, p.o)
2. Group II: Alloxan (Diabetic control)
3. Group III: Alloxan + Glibenclamide (10 mg/kg, p.o)
4. Group III: Alloxan + Polyherbal formulation-BS019 (200 mg/kg; p.o)
5. Group IV: Alloxan + Polyherbal formulation-BS019 (400 mg/kg; p.o)

Physical parameters:
Determination of body weight:
Body weight of the entire animal in each group was noted on the 0th and 7th day of the experimental period. The weight difference was calculated.

Estimation of biochemical parameters:
The blood glucose was determined by electronic Glucometer (one touch glucometer-Nipro premier S). Cholesterol, and Triglycerides were estimated using commercially available kits.

Statistical analysis:
The values were expressed as Mean ± SEM. The data was analyzed by using one way ANOVA followed by Dunnets’s test and the values p < 0.05 were considered significant (Table 2,3,4).

Table 2:- Effect of polyherbal formulation (BS019) on alloxan induced diabetic rats.

| Group | Treatment | Dose (mg/kg) | 0 hr | 1 hr | 3hr | 5hr | 3rd day | 5th day | 7th day |
|-------|-----------|--------------|------|------|-----|-----|---------|---------|---------|
| I     | Normal Control (saline) | 10ml/kg | 92.3±1.5 | 95.2±1.9 | 90.1±2.7 | 93.8±3.3 | 98.9±1.7 | 90.6±3.7 | 91.4±2.2 |
| II    | Diabetic Control | - | 380.1±4.4 | 392.6±8.5 | 395.2±6.1 | 407.3±8.9 | 415.4±3.4 | 424.2±1.1 | 445.8±7.8 |
| III   | Glibenclamide | 10 | 386.3±8.1 | 310.9±4.7 | 265.7±3.4 | 212.1±4.5 | 172.2±6.5 | 130.1±2.9 | 90.8±3.3* |
| IV    | BS019 | 200 | 384.6±3 | 381.5±1 | 339.2 | 280.4 | 217.9 | 174.6±1.8 | 107.9±4.7 |
Results & Discussion:-
Traditionally, herbs used for the treatment of disease and disorders. Among other disorders, Diabetic mellitus is a chronic disorder and is a major public health problem in the developed as well as developing countries caused by partial or complete insulin deficiency, resulting in hyperglycaemia leading to acute and chronic complications. Synthetic drugs produces serious side effects.

Preliminary phytochemical analysis revealed the presence of carbohydrates, alkaloids, tannins, phenolic compounds, volatile oils, flavonoids and glycosides in BS019. The Alloxan induced diabetic rat is one of the animal models of human diabetes mellitus. Diabetes arises from irreversible destruction of pancreatic β cells, causing reduction of insulin secretion. Glibenclamide, a standard hypoglycemic agent was taken for comparison of the glucose lowering effectiveness of the polyherbal formulation BS019. The present study showed that the polyherbal formulation BS019 (at doses 200mg/kg and 400 mg/kg p.o ) had potential anti-hyperglycemic activity when compared to control. At 400 mg/kg BS019 had higher hypoglycemic activity and were similar to the standard drug glibenclamide (10 mg/kg,p.o).The levels of total cholesterol and triglycerides are elevated in diabetes, this is due to uninhibited actions of lipolytic hormones on the fat depots. The oral administration of BS019 also reduced the total cholesterol and triglycerides.

The anti-hyperglycemic activity of BS019 may be due to the presence of alkaloids, tannins, phenolic compounds, volatile oils and flavonoid. However, further studies are necessary to find the exact mechanism of anti-hyperglycemic activity.

Conclusion:-
From the results of our studies, it can be concluded that Polyherbal formulation BS019 exhibited significant anti-hyperglycemic activity. The observed effects were nearly equal to the existed familiar standard drug Glibenclamide. However, further studies are necessary to find the exact mechanism of anti-hyperglycemic effect.

Acknowledgement:-
The authors are thankful to Dr. S.Madhusudana Rao,M.B.B.S, Secretary and Correspondent
and Sri. Jupudi Rangaraju B.com., B.L., Chairman, Hindu College of Pharmacy, Guntur for providing necessary facilities to carry out the present research work.

References:
1. Wikipedia the free encyclopedia. Diabetes. Available from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diabetes. [Accessed on 15th March 2019].
2. Mirunalini Sankaran, Arulmozhi Vadivel Antioxidant and Antidiabetic effect of Hibiscus rosasinensis flower extract on Streptozotocin induced experimental rats-a dose response study. Notulae Scientia Biologicae, 2011, 3(4):13-21. Available from https://doi.org/10.15835/nsb346348 [Accessed 24th April 2019].
3. Perumal V, Khoo WC, Abdul-Hamid, Ismail A, Saari K, Murugesu S, Abas F, Ismail IS, Lajis NH, Mushtaq MY and Khatib, A. Evaluation of anti-diabetic properties of Momordica charantia in streptozotocin induced diabetic rats using metabolomics approach. International Food Research Journal.2015;22(3): 1298-13. Available from http://www.ifrj.upm.edu.my/22(03)%202015/(58).pdf.[Accessed on 3rd May 2019].
4. Saurabh Arya, Jogender Saini and Sumer Singh Antidiabetic activities of Cassia occidentalis Recent Research in Science and Technology. 2013, 5(1): 51-53. Available from https://updatepublishing.com/journal/index.php/rrst/article/view/1007. [Accessed on 1st July 2019].
5. Mukherjee PK. Quality control of herbal drugs, an approach to evaluation of Botanicals. 1st Ed. New Delhi: Business horizons. 2002;379-401.
6. Khandelwal KR. Practical Pharmacognosy. Techniques and experiments. 19 th Ed. Pune: Nirali Prakashan. 2008;149-153.
7. Maithili V, Dhanabal SP, Mahendran S, Vadivelan R. Anti-diabetic activity of Ethanolic extract of tubers of Dioscorea alata in alloxan induced diabetic rats. Indian journal of pharmacology.2011, vol 43(4):455-9. Available from DOI: 10.4103/0253-7613.83121
8. Mukesh, S.Srikarwar, M.B.patil. Anti-diabetic activity of pongamia pinnata leaf extracts in alloxan –induced diabetic rats. International journal of ayurveda research 2010; vol 1(4): 19-204. Available from DOI: 10.4103/0974-7788.76780.