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**IN VITRO ANTIDIABETIC, ANTICANCER AND HYPOLIPIDIMIC ACTIVITY OF *COSTUS IGNEUS* N.E.Br**

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**Abstract**

Diabetes mellitus is a common and very prevalent disease affecting the citizens of both developed and developing countries. In the present study to investigate the *in vitro* antidiabetic, anticancer and hypolipidimic activity of *Costus igneus*. *In vitro* antidiabetic assays such as inhibitory activity of  $\alpha$  – amylase, glucose adsorption, glucose diffusion was studied in the ethanol extract of *Costus igneus*. The results obtained revealed that the plant extracts showed significant inhibitory activity on carbohydrate metabolizing enzymes to reduce the postprandial blood sugar level. *In vitro* anticancer activity on trypan blue dye exclusion and MTT assay and LDH assays were carried out ethanol extract against EAC cell line. The result revealed that the ethanol extract of *Costus igneus* showed pronounced activity against the tested cell line. *In vitro* hypolipidimic activity on pancreatic lipase inhibitory was studied in the ethanol extract. Thus the result revealed that the ethanol extract showed significant inhibitory activity

**Keywords:** *Costus igneus*, Diabetes mellitus, Anticancer activity, Hypolipidimic activity

**Introduction**

Diabetes mellitus is a common and very prevalent disease affecting the citizens of both developed and developing countries. It is estimated that 25% of the world population is affected by this disease. Diabetes mellitus is caused by the abnormality of carbohydrate metabolism which is linked to low blood insulin level or insensitivity of target organs to insulin (Maiti R *et al.*, 2004). Despite considerable progress in the treatment of diabetes by oral hypoglycemic agents, search for newer drugs continues because the existing synthetic drugs have several limitations. The herbal drugs with anti diabetic activity are yet to be commercially formulated as modern Medicines, even though they have been acclaimed for their therapeutic properties in the traditional systems of medicine (Wadkar *et al.*, 2008).

Cancer is a group of diseases caused by loss of cell cycle control. Cancer is associated with abnormal uncontrolled cell growth (Rishnamurthi, 2007). Cancer is caused by both external factors (tobacco, chemicals, radiation and infectious organisms) and internal factors (inherited mutations, hormones, immune conditions, and mutations that occur from metabolism). Cancer is a significant worldwide health problem generally due to the lack of widespread and comprehensive early detection methods, the associated poor prognosis of patients diagnosed in later stages of the disease and its increasing incidence on a global scale. Indeed, the struggle to combat cancer is one of the greatest challenges of mankind (Divisi D, *et al.*, 2006).

The major causes of cancer are smoking, dietary imbalances, hormones and chronic infections leading to chronic inflammation. Age is also a primary risk factor for most cancers, with about 77% of all cancers diagnosed among people aged 55 or older. Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women worldwide. According to an estimate, 50% of breast cancer and 37% of prostate cancer patients use herbal products. Several chemo preventive agents are used to treat cancer, but they cause toxicity that prevents their usage. In this context, the natural products derived from medicinal plants have gained significance in the treatment of cancer. (Engel *et al.*, 2011).

Diabetes has become one of the devastating disease afflicting health of many people, in recent times, and has accounted for a high proportion of health problems worldwide.(Williams *et al.*, 2000). Hyperlipidemia is considered as a risk factor involved in the development of cardiovascular disease (Frishman, 1998). High lipid le Diabetes mellitus is a chronic metabolic disorder characterized by abnormalities in carbohydrate, lipid, and lipoprotein metabolism, which not only lead to hyperglycemia but also cause many complications, such as hyperlipidemia, hyperinsulinemia, hypertension, and atherosclerosis (Alberti *et al.*,1997). Control of diabetes mellitus normally involves exercise, diet and chemotherapy. Development and utilization of antidiabetic plants have attracted increasing interest. (Alarcon-Aguilar *et al.*, 1997). The plant kingdom is a wide field to search for natural effective oral hypoglycemic or hypolipidemic agents that have slight or no side effects can harden the arteries or speed up the process of atherosclerosis. Nowadays, there are numerous hypolipidemic drugs for clinical use; however, the pharmacologists and chemists have been perplexing by the characteristic profiles of toxic side effects including numerous harmful syndromes (Kameswara Rao,B *et al.*,2000). The present study is aimed to examine the *in vitro* antidiabetic, anticancer And hypolipidemic effect of the ethanol extract of *Costus igneus* (EECI).

**Materials and Method*****In vitro* antidiabetic studies**

*In vitro*  $\alpha$ -amylase inhibition assay was carried out by the method of Apostolidis (2007). The  $\alpha$ -glucosidase inhibitory activity was determined according to the method described by Apostolidis *et al.*, (2007). Yeast cells were prepared according to the method of Gupta daksha *et al.*, (2013).

***In-vitro* cytotoxicity assay carried out by Scudiero DA *et al.*, 1988****Trypan Blue (Sheeja KR *et al.*, 1997)**

Short- term *In-Vitro* cytotoxicity was assessed using Ehrlich Ascites Carcinoma cell lines and Daltons Lymphoma Ascites cells by incubating different concentrations of the ethanolic extract of *Costus igneus*.at 37°C for 3 hours. The tumor cells were aspirated from peritoneal cavity of tumor bearing mice using an insulin syringe and transferred to a test tube containing isotonic saline. The cells were then washed in normal saline and the cell number was determined using a haemocytometer and adjusted to  $1 \times 10^6$  cells/ml. For the cytotoxicity assay, different concentrations of the extracts (50-1000  $\mu$ g/ml) were added to each tube and the final volume was adjusted to one ml with normal saline. Control tubes were maintained with the saline and tumor cells but without the plant extract. All the tubes were incubated at 37°C for 3 hours. After incubation 0.1ml of 0.2% tryphan blue dye in isotonic saline was added to a watch glass along with 0.1ml of test sample and the number of viable (unstained) and non-viable (stained) cells were counted using haemocytometer.

$$\% \text{ Dead cells} = \frac{\text{Total cells counted} - \text{total viable cells}}{\text{Total cells counted}} \times 100$$

**MTT ASSAY(Scudiero *et al.*, 1988)**

Increasing concentrations of WECEB were added to the cells and incubated at 37°C for 24 hrs in CO<sub>2</sub> incubator with 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. The media was replaced with a fresh growth medium along with 20  $\mu$ l of 3-(4, 5-dimethyl thiazol-2-yl) 2, 5 di phenyl tetrazolium bromide (MTT, sigma) MTT reagent was added to it. Again it was incubated for 4 hrs at 37°C. After incubation purple precipitate was clearly visible under the inverted microscope then the growth medium was removed and 200 $\mu$ l of 0.1% 0.1N acidic isopropyl alcohol was added to the cells to dissolve the Formazan crystals. Then the covered plates were kept in the dark at 18-24° per overnight. The samples were drawn every 2 hrs and observed the

reading at 570nm. If the reading is low returned the plate for incubation. Each experiment was conducted in triplicate form. The average was calculated, and compared with the control test samples. The percentage growth inhibition was calculated using the following formula.

$$\% \text{ Growth Inhibition} = \frac{\text{Control OD} - \text{Treated OD}}{\text{Control OD}} \times 100$$

### **In Vitro Cytotoxic Assay of EECI Against EAC**

#### **Cell Line (LDH ASSAY) (Russo *et al.*, 2016)**

Lactic dehydrogenase activity is spectrophotometrically measured in the culture medium and in the cellular lysates at 340 nm by analyzing NADH reduction during the pyruvate lactate transformation. Cells are lysed with 50 mM 0.1 ml Tris-HCl buffer, (pH 7.4) + 0.1ml 20mM EDTA + 0.1 of 0.5% Sodium Dodecyl Sulfate (SDS), further disrupted by sonication and centrifuged at 13,000 X g for 15min. The precipitate obtained was added with 33  $\mu$ l of the plant extract (31.5-250  $\mu$ g/ml in 4mM PBS), 0.2ml of 1Mm Pyruvate and 0.2ml of 0.2mM NADH. After 15 minutes incubation reduction in OD of NADH was observed at 340 nm in UV-Spectrophotometer.

#### **Measurement of *In-vitro* Pancreatic Lipase Activity**

A suspension of triolein (80 mg), phosphatidylcholine (10 mg), and taurocholic acid (5 mg) in 9 ml of 0.1 M *N*-tris-(hydroxymethyl)-methyl-2-aminoethanesulfonic acid (TES) buffer (pH 7.0) containing 0.1 M NaCl was sonicated for 5 min. This sonicated substrate suspension (0.1 ml) was incubated with 0.05 ml (10 U) of pancreatic lipase and 0.1 ml of various concentration of sample solutions (50, 100, 200, 300, 400 and 500  $\mu$ g/ml) for 30 min at 37 °C in a final volume of 0.25 ml. The amount of release of oleic acid produced was determined based on the method described by **Zapf** with a minor modification. The incubation mixtures were added to 3 ml aliquots of a 1:1 (v/v) mixture of chloroform and *n*-heptane containing 2% (v/v) methanol and extracted by shaking the tubes horizontally for 10 min in a shaker. The mixture was centrifuged at 2,000 g for 10 min, and the upper aqueous phase was removed by suction. Copper reagent (1 ml) was then added to the lower organic phase. The tube was shaken for 10 min, the mixture was centrifuged at 2,000 g for 10 min, and 0.5 ml of the upper organic phase, which contained copper salts of the extracted free fatty acids (FFA),

was treated with 0.5 ml of 0.1% (v/v) bathocuproine in chloroform containing 0.05% (w/v) 3-(2)-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-anisol. The absorbance was then measured at 480 nm. Pancreatic Lipase inhibition was expressed in percentage (%).

## Result and Discussion

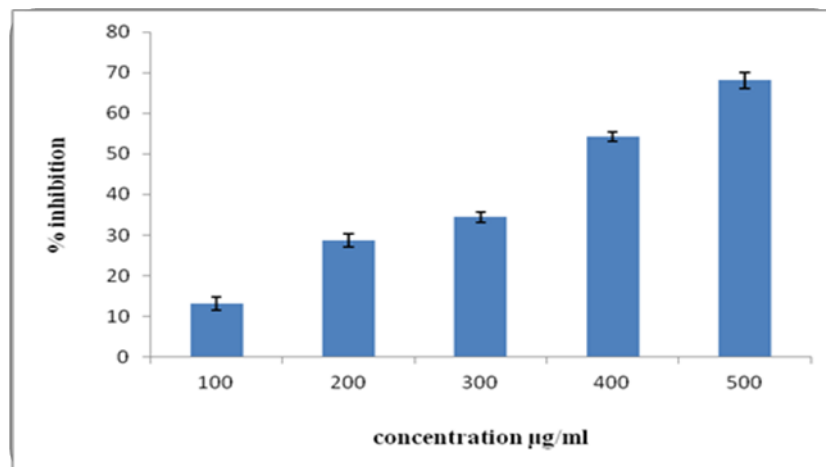
**Table-1: Effect of *Costus igneus* on Alpha Amylase activity.**

S.NO	CONCENTRATION( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )	% INHIBITION
1	100	13.24 $\pm$ 1.62
2	200	28.72 $\pm$ 1.68
3	300	34.41 $\pm$ 1.32
4	400	54.21 $\pm$ 1.22
5	500	68.12 $\pm$ 1.92

**IC<sub>50</sub> = 368.9 $\mu\text{g/m}$**

The inhibitory effect of *Costus igneus* on  $\alpha$  – amylase enzyme was given in the **Table 1** and **Figure 1**. From the results it is clear that the ethanol extract of plant were found to exhibit highest inhibition on  $\alpha$  – amylase enzyme with increased concentration and maximum activity at 500  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ . The IC<sub>50</sub> value was found to be **368.9  $\mu\text{g/ml}$** .

**Figure 1- Effect of *Costus igneus*. on alpha amylase inhibitory activity.**



$\alpha$  – amylases play an important role in starch breakdown by hydrolysing alpha – bonds of large alpha linked polysaccharide such as glycogen and starch to yield glucose and maltose. The  $\alpha$  – amylase inhibitors act as an anti-nutrient that obstructs the digestion and absorption of carbohydrates. The carbohydrate metabolizing inhibitors such as  $\alpha$ -amylase,  $\alpha$ -glucosidase and sucrase delay carbohydrate digestion causing a reduction in the rate of glucose absorption and consequently blunting the postprandial plasma glucose rise hence, play an important role in controlling postprandial blood glucose levels.

**Table-2: Effect of *Costus igneus* on Glucose Diffusion.**

SAMPLES	GLUCOSE CONTENT IN DIALYSATE			
	60 Minutes	120 Minutes	180 Minutes	240 Minutes
CONTROLE	0.11	0.81	1.12	1.42
PLANT values	0.04±0.01	0.18±0.04	0.21±0.03	0.28±0.02
GDMI values	33.42%	21.14%	16.31%	9.37%

The effect of the plant extract on retarding glucose diffusion across the dialysis membrane is shown in **Table 2**. The rate of glucose diffusion was found to increase with time from 60 to 240 min. In the present study, the movement of glucose across the dialysis membrane was monitored once in 60 min till 240 min and it was found that, the sample of plant extract demonstrated significant inhibitory effect on movement of glucose into external solution across dialysis membrane compared to control. The retardation of glucose diffusion by *Costus igneus*. These effect was reflected with increasing order of GDMI values.

**Table-3: Effect of *Costus igneus* on Glucose Adsorption.**

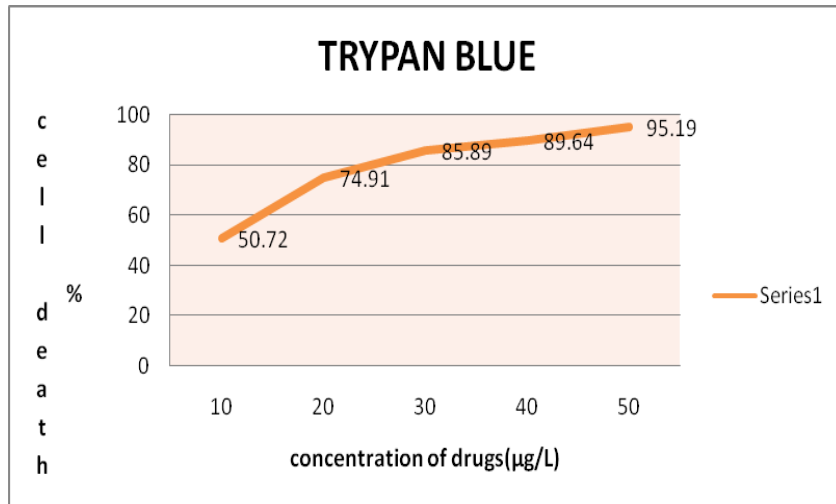
SAMPLE	GLUCOSE CONCENTRATION (mMole/L)			
	5mM	10mM	50mM	100mM
PLANT EXTRACT ADSORPTION CAPACITY	8±0.57	12.33±1.20	33±0.57	66.3±1.20

A series of different concentrations of glucose (5-100mmole/l) were used to study glucose adsorption capacity of plant extract. As seen in **TABLE-3**, adsorption capacities of *Costus igneus* at a different glucose concentration. At high glucose concentration (100mMole/l) adsorption capacity of *Costus igneus* (66.3±1.20). When low glucose concentration used (5mMole/l) the glucose-adsorption capacity extract was found to be (8±0.57). Thus, the results indicated that the fibers could effectively bind to glucose even at low concentrations of glucose thereby reducing the amount of accessible glucose in small intestinal. It is observed that the glucose adsorption capacity of fibers is directly related to available

glucose concentration. Thus the plant extract may be beneficial with respect to reducing amount of accessible glucose in

the small intestine.

**Figure -2: Effect of *Costus igneus* on Trypan Blue Dye Method.**



**Table-4: Anti cancer effect of ethanol extract on EAC cells (Trypan blue method).**

S.No	CONCENTRATION (µg/mL)	VIABLE CELLS(%)	DEAD CELLS(%)
1.	control	96.15	3.80
2.	10	49.28	50.72
3.	20	25.09	74.91
4.	30	14.11	85.89
5.	40	10.36	89.64
6.	50	4.81	95.19

Dead cell = stained with Trypan blue dye

Viable cell = Not stained with trypan blue dye

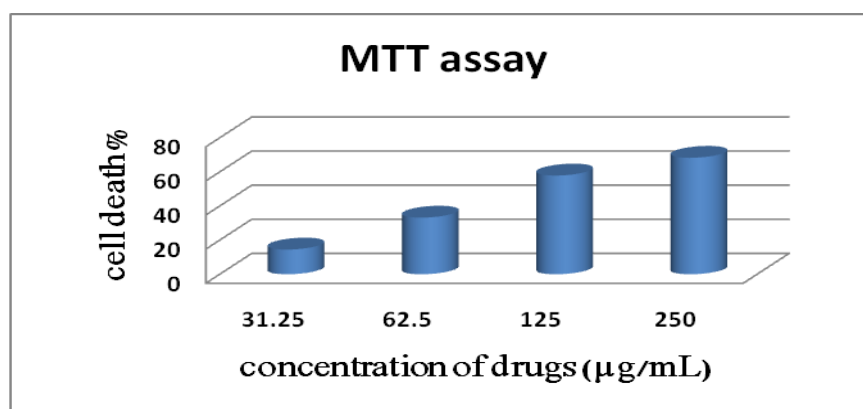
**Figure-2 and Table-4** The ethanolic extract of leaves of *Costus igneus* was tested against EAC cell lines. Different concentration of plant extract was inoculated with selected cell line and the cytotoxicity was assessed using trypan blue dye exclusive. The test based on the principle that the dead cell accepts dye and stain with blue color. The plant drug may disturb the membrane integrity and caused the cell death, which is one of the hall marks of apoptosis. The ethanol extract showed 95.19% of cytotoxicity (1000 µL) against EAC cell line.

**Table-5: Anticancer effect of Ethanol extract against EAC cell line (MTT assay)**

S.No	CONCENTRATION ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	VIABLE CELLS (%)	DEAD CELLS (%)
1.	Control	97.00	3.00
2.	31.25	85.52	14.48
3.	62.5	66.98	33.02
4.	125	42.91	57.09
5.	250	31.97	68.03

IC 50 values of ethanol extract = 95  $\mu\text{g/mL}$

**TABLE-5** and **FIGURE -3** represent the result of anticancer evaluation of ethanol extract of *costus igneus* was examined by MTT assay using EAC cell line. The extend of cytotoxicity can be measured by MTT dye reduction assay. The percentage viability was analyzed by MTT assay after treatment of ethanol extract of *Costus igneus* at 31.25  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , 62.5  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , 125  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , and 250  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  concentration.

**Figure-3: Anticancer effect of Ethanol extract against EAC cell line (MTT assay).****Table- 6: Anticancer effect of Ethanol extract on LDH Assay.**

S.No	CONCENTRATION( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	VIABLE CELLS	DEAD CELLS
1.	Control	96.00	4.00
2.	31.25	93.86	6.14
3.	62.05	69.16	30.84
4.	125	52.69	47.31
5.	250	33.88	66.12

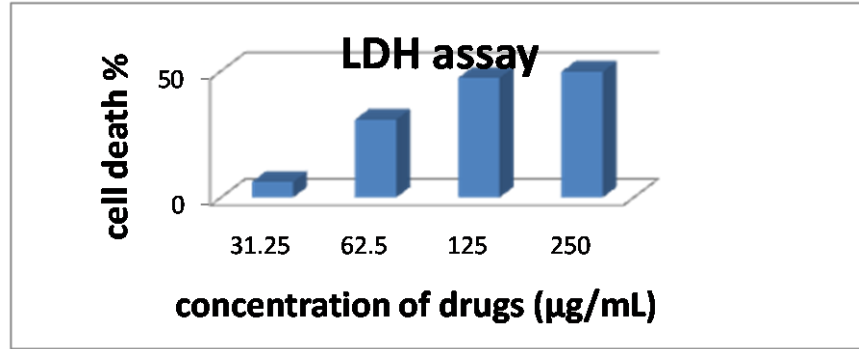
IC 50 value of ethanol extract =140  $\mu\text{g/ml}$



LDH Leakage (%) Related To Control Wells Containing Cell Culture Medium Without Extracts Was Calculated By

$[A] \text{ Test} / [A] \text{ Control} \times 100$ . Where [A] Test Is The Absorbance Of The Test Sample And [A] Control Is The Absorbance Of The Control Sample. The percentage viability was analyzed by LDH assay after treatment of ethanol extract of *Costus igneus* at 31.25  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , 62.5  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , 125  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , and 250  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  concentration.

**Figure-4: Anticancer effect of Ethanol extract on LDH Assay.**



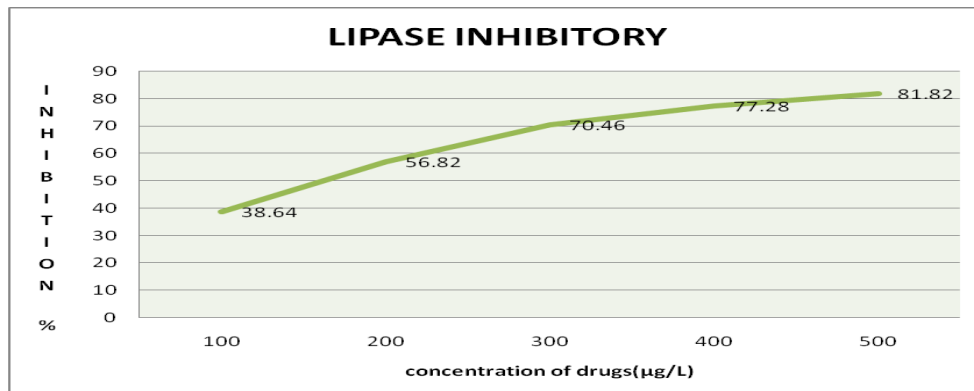
**Table-7: Effect of *IN VITRO* pancreatic Lipase Activity.**

S.No	CONCENTRATION( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	INHIBITION%
1.	100	38.64 $\pm$ 1.23
2.	200	56.82 $\pm$ 1.28
3.	300	70.46 $\pm$ 1.37
4.	400	77.28 $\pm$ 1.29
5.	500	81.82 $\pm$ 1.76

IC 50 VALUES=180.05 $\mu\text{g/mL}$

The inhibitory activity of ethanol extract of *Costus igneus* against pancreatic lipase are shown in TABLE-7. The *Costus igneus* extract inhibited pancreatic lipase activity by 38.64, 56.82, 70.46, 77.28, and 81.82% at concentrations of 100, 200, 300, 400 and 500 mg/ml *in vitro*, respectively.

**Figure-5: Effect of *in vitro* pancreatic lipase activity.**



## Conclusion

In the present study, research has been carried out to investigate the antidiabetic potential of the ethanol extract of *Costus igneus*. *In vitro* antidiabetic assays such as inhibitory activity of  $\alpha$  – amylase, glucose adsorption, glucose diffusion was studied in the ethanol extract of *Costus igneus*. The results obtained revealed that the plant extracts showed significant inhibitory activity on carbohydrate metabolizing enzymes to reduce the postprandial blood sugar level. *In vitro* anticancer activity on trypan blue dye exclusion and MTT assay and LDH assays were carried out ethanol extract against EAC cell line. The result revealed that the ethanol extract of *Costus igneus*. showed pronounced activity against the tested cell line. *In vitro* hypolipidemic activity on pancreatic lipase inhibitory was studied in the ethanol extract. Thus the result revealed that the ethanol extract showed significant inhibitory activity.

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