



Interactive Effect of Seeds of *Coriandrum Sativum* L. With Glimepiride in Streptozotocin-Induced Diabetic Rats

Uppuluri Spandana^{*1,2}, Adikay Sreedevi¹ and Kaveripakam Sai Sruthi¹

¹ Institute of Pharmaceutical Technology, Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam, Tirupati, A.P, India.

² Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Nirmala College of Pharmacy, Atmakur, A.P, India.

Abstract: Diabetes mellitus is a serious and most prevailing glycemic disorder mainly managed by using allopathic medicines. Due to various side effects of allopathic drugs, till today medicinal plants were widely used in treating diabetes. Among them, spices like *Coriander sativum* L. play a prominent role in managing diabetes. Type-2 diabetic patients use oral hypoglycemic drugs and also follow herbal remedies. There is a probability of interactions when herb interferes with the drug action in the body. The aim of the present study was to assess the interaction of aqueous extract of seeds of *Coriandrum sativum* with oral hypoglycemic drug glimepiride in streptozotocin-induced diabetic rats. In the present study, animals were grouped into seven of six each. Group-I, Group-II, Group-III, Group-IV, Group-V, Group-VI, and Group-VII included normal control, glimepiride, *Coriandrum sativum*, diabetic control, diabetic animals treated with glimepiride, diabetic animals treated with *Coriandrum sativum*, and diabetic animals treated with glimepiride and *Coriandrum sativum*, respectively. Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic interactions were studied. The animals treated with both *Coriandrum sativum* and glimepiride showed significant activity in pharmacokinetic parameters by increasing the levels of the maximum serum concentration (C_{max}), Time taken to reach maximum serum concentration (T_{max}) and Volume of distribution (V_d). Further pharmacodynamic studies showed promising hypoglycemic effects by decreasing blood glucose levels and ameliorating lipid profile compared with monotherapy of glimepiride or *Coriandrum sativum* treated in diabetes rats. The observations revealed that a significant herb-drug interaction occurred between *Coriandrum sativum* and glimepiride. In conclusion, *Coriandrum sativum* can elevate the bioavailability of glimepiride which seems to be beneficial in diabetic patients receiving glimepiride.

Keywords: *Coriandrum Sativum*, Glimepiride, Hypoglycemic Activity, Herb-Drug Interaction, HPLC

*Corresponding Author

Uppuluri Spandana , Institute of Pharmaceutical Technology,
Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam, Tirupati, A.P, India.



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1. INTRODUCTION

The world population (approximately 70%) has been using medicinal herbs for chronic diseases, because of its active constituents. These herbs are becoming popular as alternative or complementary medicines worldwide.¹ Herb-drug interactions are a current topic of debate.² Herb-drug interaction studies have been described as a double-edged sword presenting both risks and benefits via unchanged therapeutic effect or reduced systemic exposure of the drug, resulting in lower side effects. Various herb-drug interaction studies have been carried out regarding antidiabetic activity.³ Diabetes mellitus (DM) is a serious lifelong condition, characterized by hyperglycemia resulting directly from insulin resistance, inadequate insulin secretion, or excessive glucagon secretion.⁴ Individuals with type 2 diabetes mellitus are helpless in the face of a variety of short- and long-term challenges, which can lead to death.⁵ Diabetes mellitus is managed by using anti-hyperglycemic agents.⁶ Glimepiride is a sulfonylurea agent; it stimulates release of insulin from pancreatic β -cells and may act via extra pancreatic mechanisms. It is administered to patients with type-2 Diabetes Mellitus in cases where glycemia is uncontrolled by diet and exercise alone, and used in combination with insulin in patients with secondary sulfonylurea failure⁷. The global use of complementary and alternative medicine for the management of diseases such as diabetes has rapidly increased day by day. Many reports revealed that up to 72.8% of people with diabetes used herbal medicines and dietary supplements (add reference). A large number of medicinal plants are believed to possess antidiabetic properties and have been utilized to manage diabetes. However, the concomitant usage of antidiabetic herbs and pharmaceutical medicines have raised safety concerns.² Unlike pharmaceutical medicines, where the ingredients are well defined and characterized, herbal medicine contains multiple bioactive components for which there is a lack of understanding of how these components interact with each other and with pharmaceutical medicines when taken in combination. There is a marked possibility of herbal components beneficially in enhancing or facilitating the action of antidiabetic pharmaceutical agents. Positive interactions between herbs and drugs may lead to enhanced effectiveness of the antidiabetic agents through additive or synergistic actions.³ Coriander (*Coriandrum sativum* L.) is an Indian traditional herb belonging to the Umbelliferous/Apiaceous family. It was one of the earliest spices used by mankind. All parts of this herb are used as flavoring agents and/or as traditional remedies for the treatment of different disorders in the folk medicine systems. The plant is a potential source of a multitude of bio-actives; a wide array of pharmacological activities has been ascribed to different parts of this herb. The seeds of *C. sativum* were reported for various pharmacological activities i.e., antioxidant activity, anticonvulsant activity, diuretic activity, cholesterol-lowering activity, anticancer activity, hepatoprotective activity, antimicrobial activity and antidiabetic activity.^{8,9} Co-administration of *Coriandrum sativum* either intentionally or unintentionally with diabetic drugs may have possible interactions in diabetic conditions. Hence the present study is aimed to assess the pharmacokinetics (pk) and pharmacodynamic interactions (PD) of aqueous extract of *C. sativum* seeds with co-administration of glimepiride an oral hypoglycemic drug in streptozotocin (STZ) induced diabetic rats.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Plant material

The *C. sativum* seeds were obtained from the local market of Mangalagiri, Guntur District, and authentication of Dr. P. Satyanarayana Raju, Department of Botany and Microbiology, Acharya Nagarjuna University.

2.2 Preparation of extract

C. sativum seeds were washed with water to remove the dust, after that these seeds were shade dried and were powdered using a mechanical grinder. The powder was subjected to aqueous extract by using the Soxhlet extraction method¹⁰

2.3 Phytochemical screening

The phytochemicals present in the aqueous extract of *C. sativum* were screened using standard qualitative tests.¹¹

2.4 Animals

Sprague Dawley (SD) rats weighing 150 to 200g were purchased from Mahaveer Enterprises, Hyderabad, India, and used for the studies after obtaining permission from the Institutional animal ethical committee (CPCSEA Reg.No.018/IAEC/2017). The animals were housed in standard polypropylene cages and maintained under standard laboratory conditions (12h light/dark cycle; at an ambient temperature of $25 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$). The animals were fed with a standard rat pellet diet and water *ad libitum*.

2.5 Treatment protocol

Animals were divided into seven groups (n=6). Group-I, II and III were normal rats and Group-IV, V, VI and VII were served as diabetic rats. Diabetes was induced in these groups by a single intraperitoneal injection of freshly prepared streptozotocin (60mg/kg b.w.) dissolved in 0.1 M citrate buffer (pH 4.5). After 72 h, blood glucose level >250 mg/dL was considered as diabetic and used for further study. To study the herb-drug interactions, the following treatment protocols were followed:

Group-I: Normal control

Group-II: Administered with Glimepiride (1 mg/k.b.w.)

Group-III: Administered with Aqueous extract of seeds of *C. sativum* (400mg/k. b. w)

Group-IV: Diabetic control

Group-V: Diabetic rats treated with Glimepiride (1mg/k. b. w)

Group-VI: Diabetic rats treated with *C. sativum* dose (400mg/k. b. w)

Group-VII: Diabetic rats treated with *C. sativum* (400mg/k.b. w) + Glimepiride (1mg/k. b. w)

2.6 Pharmacokinetic studies

HPLC-UV (cyber lab-Rx1600) system was used for the investigation of pharmacokinetic study for this study, the time intervals were selected with commonly used strategies. Blood samples were collected from the retro-orbital vein using heparinized capillary tubes at time intervals of 0,0.25,0.5,1,2,3,4,6,8, 12, 24 hours after dose administration. Blood samples were centrifuged at 7500 rpm. These samples were analyzed using HPLC -UV method (analytical column C18 section (250x4.6mm id, 5 μ). The flow rate was kept

constant at 1.5 ml/min, the run time was 7 mins, and the temperature was maintained at 50 °C. A mixer of phosphate buffer: acetonitrile: methanol (40:40:20) was used as the mobile phase with UV detection at 368 nm to detect glimepiride concentration. All concentrations were calculated from a standard curve of glimepiride.

2.7 Pharmacodynamic studies

Pharmacodynamic studies were carried out by collecting the blood samples of animals on the 1, 7, 14, and 21 days followed by estimation of blood glucose levels and body weight. Various other biochemical parameters such as TG, HDL, VLDL levels were also assessed using standard procedures.¹²

3. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

The data was expressed as mean \pm standard error. Mean values between the groups was considered statistically significant $p < 0.05$ after analyzing by one way ANOVA and

was compared using Tukey-Kramer multiple comparison tests

4. RESULTS

4.1 Preliminary phytochemical screening

The aqueous extract of seeds of *Coriandrum sativum* subjected to Preliminary phytochemical screening, it has disclosed the presence of flavonoids, carbohydrates, proteins, amino acids, fatty acids, alkaloids, tannins, saponins and terpenoids

4.2 Pharmacokinetic studies

The aqueous extract of *C. sativum* alters the pharmacokinetic parameters of glimepiride, by a significant increase of its AUC and C_{max} . The plasma GLM concentration versus time curve was plotted for calculation of PK parameters.

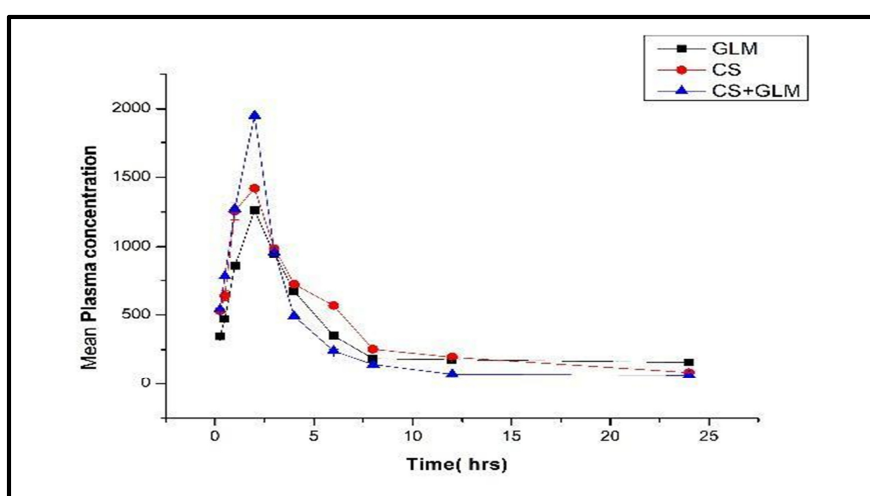


Fig 1: Mean serum concentration-time profile of Glimepiride, *C. sativum* and co-administration of Glimepiride + *C. sativum* in diabetic rats.

All the assessed pharmacokinetic parameters were presented in Table-I.

Table I: Pharmacokinetic studies of Glimepiride with <i>C. sativum</i> in diabetic rats			
Parameter	Glimepiride	<i>C. sativum</i>	Glimepiride with <i>C. sativum</i>
$C_{max}(ng/ml)$	1308.33 \pm 1.01	1938.33 \pm 0.01	1954.00 \pm 0.25*
$T_{max}(h)$	2	1	2
$AUC_{0 \text{ to } n}(ng/ml^*h)$	5147.63 \pm 0.22	4077.88 \pm 1.10	5377.3 \pm 0.45*
$AUC_{total}(ng/ml^*h)$	0.89 \pm 0.32	0.947864 \pm 0.25	0.654121 \pm 0.41*
AUMC	23576.85 \pm 0.21	12075.71 \pm 0.11	11470.12 \pm 0.11*
$t^{1/2}(h)$	2.25 \pm 0.21	2.36 \pm 1.12	2.98 \pm 0.45*
MRT _(h)	4.07 \pm 1.52	2.62 \pm 0.02	4.12 \pm 0.11*
$V_{d/F}(ng/ml)$	32.48 \pm 0.45	25.23 \pm 0.45	20.79 \pm 0.02*
Cl/F(mg/kg)/(ng/ml)/h	10.2 \pm 0.52	8.2 \pm 0.96	5.9 \pm 0.03*

All values are expressed as mean \pm SD (n=6)

* $p < 0.05$ considered as significant when compared with Glimepiride

4.3 Pharmacodynamic studies

In this pharmacodynamic study, various biochemical parameters were assessed on the day 1, 7, 14, and 21. Results have shown that, in diabetic control animals body weight was diminished significantly, whereas animals treated with standard and extract have exhibited a prominent

increase in body weight. For assessment of diabetes mellitus, estimation of blood glucose levels is an essential parameter. After induction of diabetes by streptozotocin, blood glucose levels were found elevated. In the treatment groups which were administered by glimepiride and *C. sativum* individually and also in combination, the blood glucose levels were found decreased when compared with the diabetic control (Figure

2). HDL levels were significantly increased in treated groups and decreased in diabetic control groups. TG and VLDL

were significantly decreased in treatment groups in comparison of diabetic control groups (Figure 3).

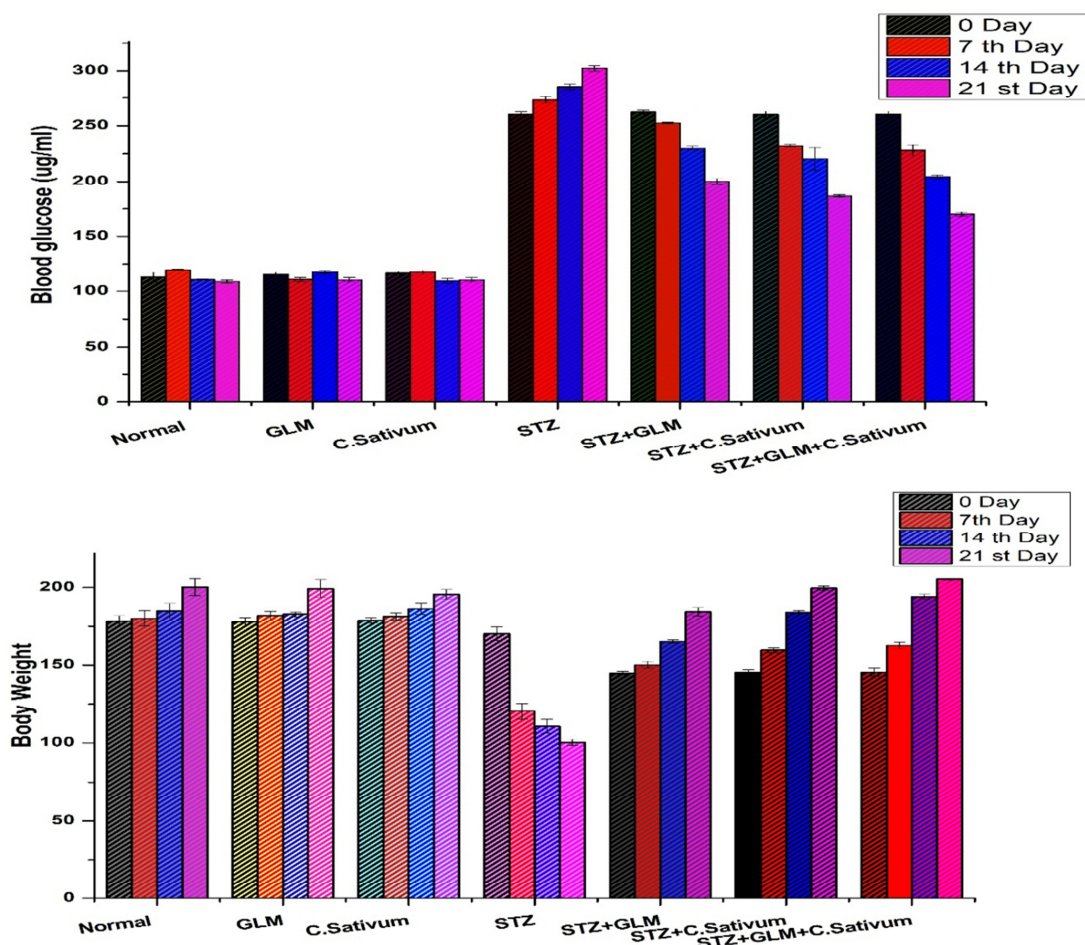
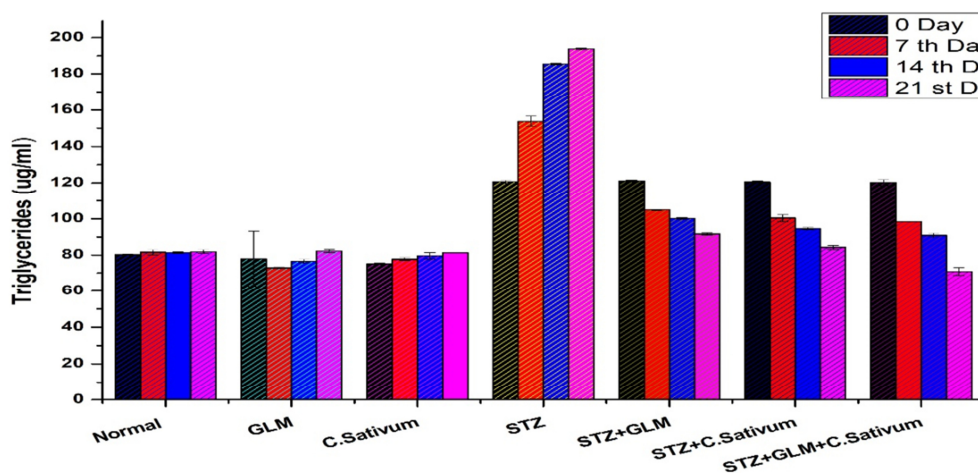


Fig 2: Effect on blood glucose and body weight



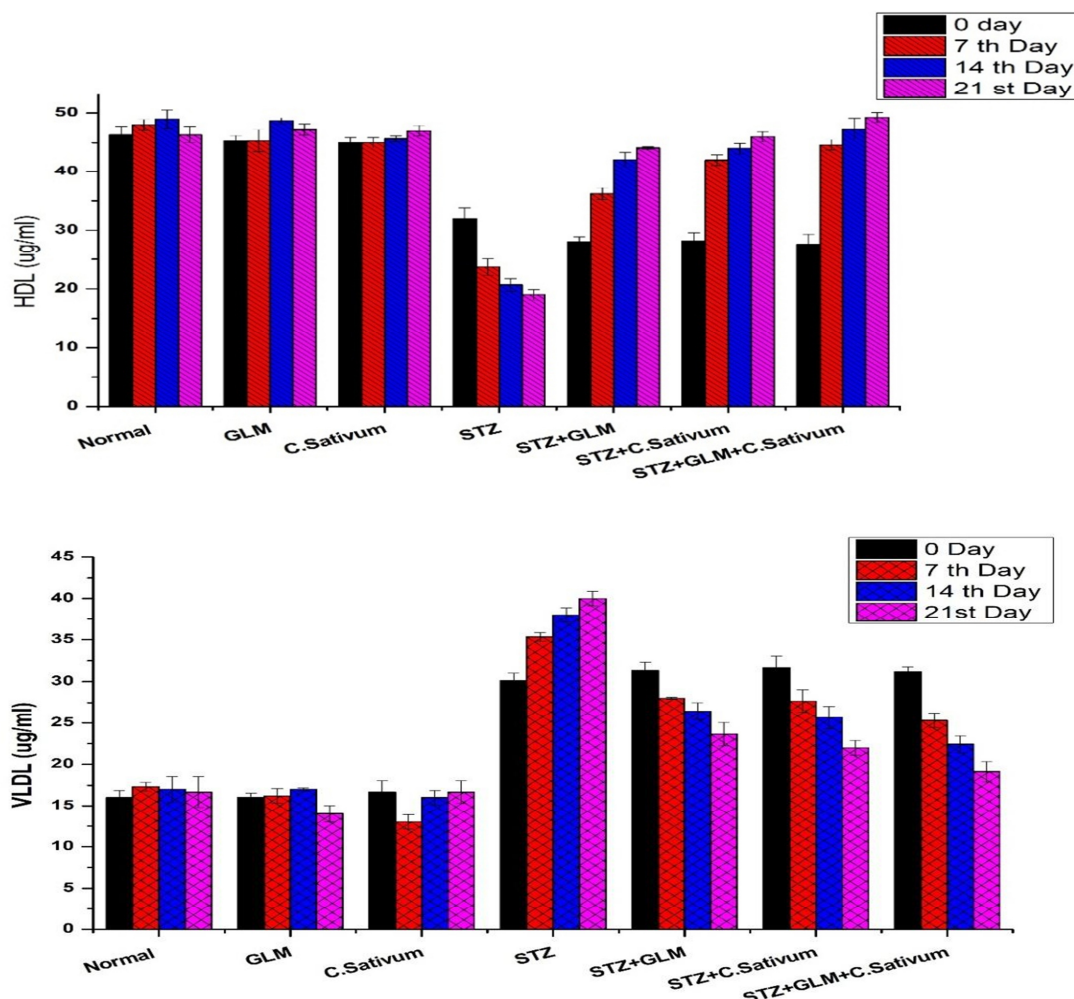


Fig 3: Effect on lipid profile

5. DISCUSSION

Diabetes is a group of metabolic disorders characterized by hyperglycemia resulting from deformities in insulin secretion, insulin action or both, this chronic disease is mainly managed by using oral hypoglycemics drugs.¹³ Prolonged use of these oral hypoglycemics leads to some adverse effects and also loss their effectiveness after long term.¹⁴ Many herbal plants of Indian origin like *Acacia arabica*, *Aegle marmelo*, *Allium cepa*, *Allium sativum*, *Caesalpinia bonducella*, and *Coriandrum sativum* have been reported for anti-diabetic activity.¹⁵ Among the wide range of medicinal herbs *Coriandrum sativum* found to possess promising anti-diabetic activity and wide number of patients use the seeds of this plant as a traditional therapy along with oral hypoglycemic drugs like metformin, glibenclamide, glimepiride etc.¹⁶ Hence, there is a need of evidence-based assessment of risk versus benefits when *Coriandrum sativum* is co-administered with conventional oral hypoglycemic drugs. The present study was designed to study the pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic interactions of the seeds of *C. sativum* with the selected conventional drug i.e., glimepiride. In Pharmacokinetic study the combined treatment of *C. sativum* and GLM shows a significant improvement in the pharmacokinetic parameters such as C_{max} , $AUC_{0 \text{ to } total}$, $t_{1/2}$ and MRT. This may be due to alteration in glimepiride's metabolism either by increasing absorption or inhibition by CYP450C9 responsible for glimepiride metabolism.¹⁷ The decreased volume of distribution was observed which may be due to the result of metabolic inhibition of glimepiride by *C. sativum*. These findings are in line with the previous reports on pharmacokinetic herb

interactions with oral hypoglycemic agents.^{18,19} In compatibility with pharmacokinetic studies further pharmacodynamic interactions of *C. sativum* with GLM were studied in STZ induced diabetic models by assessing various biochemical parameters. STZ was adopted to induce diabetes as it impairs glucose oxidation and leads to a reduction in insulin biosynthesis and secretion.²⁰ In the current investigation in concordance with prior examinations acceptance of STZ lead to the increase in blood glucose levels. Notably, the beneficial effect on glycemic control was observed for *C. sativum* and GLM combination when compared with treatment alone. This may be due to synergistic effect of use of seeds of coriander with GLM which may be due to additional potential of seeds apart from GLM in recovery of partially destroyed beta cells in the pancreas or displaying insulin-like properties or stimulation of insulin release by the β -cells of the pancreas.²¹ During the course of study, it was observed that diabetic rats (had) significantly lost weight as compared to normal ones which might be because of tissue protein breakdown, muscle degeneration and inclined muscle wasting.²² Interestingly the coadministration of GLM + *C. sativum* was found to be more potent in improving body weight than monotherapy with GLM in diabetic rats. This improved body weight in combined therapy may be due to the additional potential of coriander seeds in the activation of AMP-activated protein kinase system, increased GLUT4 transporter protein of muscles and ascended glucose consumption in liver and muscles.²³ It is well known that inadequate control of glucose in diabetes results in disturbance in the serum lipid profile.²⁴ Under normal conditions, insulin leads to lipoprotein lipase

activation and hydrolyzes lipoprotein bound triglycerides leading to free fatty acids production.²⁵ In diabetic conditions lipoprotein lipase is not because of insulin inadequacy, resulting in hypertriglyceridemia.²⁶ The findings of the current study indicated dyslipidemia in STZ induced diabetic rats evidenced by elevated serum Triglycerides (TG), and Very Low Density Lipoproteins (VLDL-C) coupled with reduced level of HDL-C compared to normal rats. These studies are consistent with the studies of earlier researchers which stated that increased level of serum triglycerides, VLDL-C may be attributed to reduced level of blood insulin and cholesterol-mediated downregulation of VLDL receptors respectively.²⁷ Further the declined levels of HDL may be owed to the inclination of apoA1 clearance from the plasma due to high cholesterol levels. In the current study GLM and *coriandrum*, seeds alone attenuated the changes in lipid profile in diabetic rats which might be related to their ability to reduce glucose levels. Interestingly the GLM plus *C. sativum* combination showed a superior effect in regulating serum lipid than individual GLM treatment which is the indicator of stronger antidiabetic role played by the combined therapy. This synergistic effect might be due to accelerated insulin secretion from pancreatic beta-cells that further stimulates fatty acid synthesis and incorporation of fatty acids into triglycerides in the liver and adipose tissues. Many researchers reported that this decline in serum lipids is considered to be beneficial in the long-term prognosis of diabetes.²⁸ In the present study, the combined therapy has shown improvement in diabetes than that produced by GLM or *C. sativum* alone, this might be due to the additional promising potential of seed extract in ameliorating glucose levels and lipid profile by modulating PPAR- α gene expression and increasing regeneration of pancreatic beta-cells and improved pharmacokinetic aspects like reduced metabolism of GLM. The Seed extract of *C. sativum* contain terpenoids, the terpene and terpenoids are well known for reducing

oxidative stress, hyperglycemia, hyper lipidemia, and for secreting insulin. So combination therapy shows significant effect than alone.²⁹ Moreover, the presence of various bioactive phytoconstituents like flavonoids, saponins and terpenoids may played a wide role in this contribution which comes in consistent with previous findings which stated that these phytochemicals are the potential insulin regenerators by various molecular mechanisms.^{30,31}

6. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, these results indicated that combining *Coriandrum sativum* with GLM therapy showed synergistic effect which may be beneficial by providing additional benefits in the form of reduced glucose levels and improvement in lipid profile. Further the findings revealed that *Coriandrum sativum* elevates the bioavailability of Glimepiride which seems to be beneficial in diabetic patients receiving Glimepiride. However, further study is defensible to apprehend the possible mechanism underlying in pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic interactions and interpretation of animal data to humans.

7. AUTHORS CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

The author's confirmed contribution to the paper is as follows: Spandana Uppuluri: Conceptualization, Performed the experiments, analysis and interpretation of results. Adikay Sreedevi: Provided the expertise, timely ideas and suggestions. Kaveripakam Sai Sruthi: Assisted in drafting the final manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflict of interest declared none.

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