

Hypolipaedemic Activity of *Ciraka Cūranam* against Atherogenic Diet Induced Hyperlipaedemia in Wistar Albino Rats

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Abstract: Background: Hypercholesterolemia is a common in global clinical challenge. The high blood cholesterol level has more in coronary heart disease, peripheral vascular disease, diabetes related metabolic syndrome, stroke and hypertension. Hypolipaedemic activity of herbs may contribute to prevent and control of the disease. Aim: To evaluate the hypolipaedemic activity of hydroalcoholic extract of *Ciraka cūranam* against atherogenic diet induced hyperlipaedemia in wistar albino rats. Study design: Observational in-vivo study. Place and duration of study: Animal bred house, Dept. of Pharmacology, Arulmigu Kalasalingam College of Pharmacy, Krishnankoil, Srivilliputtur, Tamilnadu. Materials and methods: Adult male wistar albino rats considering weigh of 150-200gm and atherogenic diet induced animal were selected, and albino rats divided into five groups. After the completion of experimental study, the blood was taken from the rats under mild anesthetic state by retro orbital sinus puncture. The lipid extract was taken for the estimation of lipid parameters. The serum and liver were evaluated for serum total cholesterol, triglycerides, high-density lipoprotein (HDL), low-density lipoprotein (LDL), very low-density lipoprotein (VLDL) by standard enzymatic calorimetric methods. The data were statistically analyzed by one-way ANOVA followed by Dennett's t-test, and significant Pvalue was considered as < 0.05. Results: *Ciraka cūranam* has significantly reduced in hyperlipidemia state.

Keywords: Hypertension, Hypolipaedemic activity, *Ciraka cūranam*, Atherogenic diet, Wistar albino rats

1. Introduction

Human body needs cholesterol to build healthy cells, but high level of cholesterol can increase the risk of heart diseases. The heart has to strain much harder to pump blood due to atherosclerosis, as a result the blood pressure (BP) becomes abnormally high. ^[3]High cholesterol can be inherited, but often get from unhealthy diet and lifestyle patterns. ^[7, 12] The cumin seeds (*Cuminum cyminum* Linn.) is more contained in flavonoids which have anti-oxidant activity and oxidized level of LDL. ^[5, 11] It has significant inhibitory effects on lipid peroxidation. ^[2, 10] The present study was to evaluate the hypolipaedemic activity of *CC* (*Ciraka cūranam*) against atherogenic diet induced wistar albino rats.

2. Aim

To evaluate the hypolipaedemic activity of hydro alcoholic extract of *Ciraka cūranam* against atherogenic diet induced hyperlipaedemia in wistar albino rats.

3. Materials and Methods

3.1 Study population-30 Wistar Albino rats

3.2 Study design - In-vivo Observational Study

3.3 Study period - 27 days

3.4 Study place - Animal bred house, Dept. of Pharmacology, Arulmigu Kalasalingam College of Pharmacy, Krishnankoil, Srivilliputtur.

3.5 Study procedure

3.5.1 Animals

Wistar albino adult male rats considering weigh of 150-200gm were selected. The polypropylene cages maintained with temperature 27°C ±1°C and 12 hrs light and dark cycle. The animals were allowed to adapt to the atmosphere for seven days and supplied with a standard pellet diet (Sai Durga Foods, Bangalore) and water *ad libitum*. The experimental protocol possesses the approval IAEC bearing no: AKCP/ IEAC/33/20-21.

3.5.2 Chemicals

Atorvastatin was used in control study and diagnostic kits were purchased from Merck Diagnostics India Ltd, The anesthetic ether, ethyl acetate, and ethanol were purchased from SD Fine Chemicals, Mumbai.

3.5.3 Atherogenic diet

Experimental hyperlipidemic diet: Experimental diet contains of well-pulverized mixture of cholesterol - 400 mg/kg, cholic acid - 50 mg/kg, and coconut oil. This mixture is finished into paste-like molds and is fed to the rats.

3.5.4 Treatment with atherogenic diet

The prepared atherogenic diet was used in place of normal pellet diet to all the groups except control. Rats were exposed to atherogenic diet and water *ad libitum* for 20 days

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and were used to study the effect of CC against experimental hyperlipidemia.

3.5.5 Pharmacological evaluation

All animals were starved for 18 hours and provided water *ad libitum* before the experiment. The rats were divided into five groups and allocated six rats in each group.

Table 1: The study design of trial drug CC

Group	Treatment	Dose
I	Normal Control	2% CC
II	Hyperlipaemic Control group	Atherogenic diet
III	Standard group	Atorvastatin (10 mg/kg)
IV	Test group I	CC (200 mg/kg)
V	Test group II	CC (400 mg/kg)

As per table no: 01, all the groups except the normal control group administered received atherogenic diet. After inducing the hyperlipidemia, the particular treatment was continued for 7 days. The standard pellet diet and water *ad libitum* were given to the rats.

3.5.6 Collection of blood

The following day after the completion of experimental study, the blood was taken from the rats under mild anesthetic state by retro orbital sinus puncture. The blood samples were collected and centrifuged (2500 rpm) for 10

minutes. The separated serum samples were used for various biochemical analyses. Then animals were paralyzed and the liver, heart and kidney were taken for histopathological study.

3.5.7 Liver lipid extraction

The liver was standardized in cold 0.15M KCl and extracted with CHCl₃: CH₃OH (2% v/v). This lipid extract was taken for the estimation of lipid parameters.

3.5.8 Bio chemical analysis

The serum and liver were evaluated for serum total cholesterol, triglycerides, high-density lipoprotein (HDL), low-density lipoprotein (LDL), very low-density lipoprotein (VLDL) by standard enzymatic calorimetric methods.

3.5.9 Statistical analysis

All the values were stated as mean ± standard error of mean. The data were statistically analyzed by one-way ANOVA followed by Dennett’s t-test, and significant P value was considered as < 0.05.

4. Results

4.1 The effect of CC on Blood lipid profile of atherogenic induced hyperlipidemic rats.

Table 2: The effect of CC on Serum lipid profile

Group	Treatment	TC	TG	LDL	HDL	VLDL
I	Normal Control	83.86±1.02	78.01±1.01	26.00±1.06	36.11±1.08	19.32±1.12
II	Hyperlipaemic Control	169.17±1.10	154.10±1.01	55.10±1.10	20.07±1.02	39.62±1.11
III	CC 200mg/kg	86.32±1.38*	84.69±2.14*	36.05±1.20*	31.03±0.13*	21.03±0.62*
IV	CC400mg/kg	80.35±1.0 *	82.83±0.72*	28.33±1.16*	36.25±1.07*	17.07±1.12*
V	Atovastatin10mg/kg	79.5±1.16**	76.22±1.01**	24.63±2.40*	39.33±1.30*	16.19±1.02**

All the values were denoted as mean±SEM. All the data were statistically evaluated by one-way ANOVA followed

by Dunnett’s test and values *p*<0.5 were considered to the significant.**p*<0.001; and ***p*<0.01 for control.

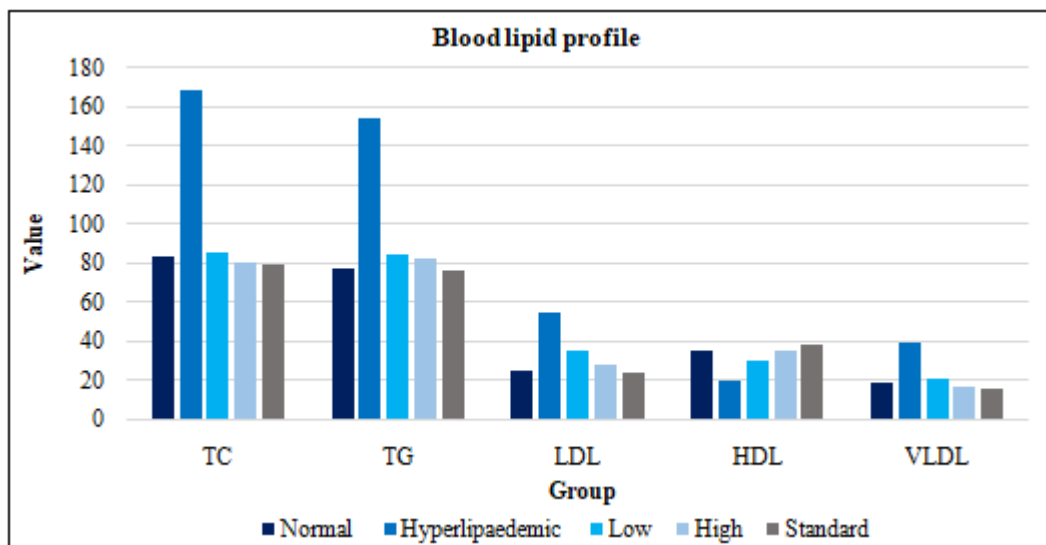


Figure 1: Effect of CC on Blood lipid profile

As per table no: 02 and figure no: 01, total cholesterol levels in the hyperlipidemia induced group have significantly increased compared to normal rats. The values have risen to 169.17 ± 1.10 mg/dl compared to Group I (normal rat

group), in which values lie in the range 83.86 ± 1.02 mg/dl. This indicates hypercholesterolemia. In the treatment group treated with CC (200 mg/kg) and CC(400 mg/kg), the values are reduced to 86.32 ± 1.38 (*P*<0.001) and 80.35 ± 1.0 mg/dl

($P < 0.01$), respectively. There is a significant reduction in total cholesterol values in CC treatment group. On the other hand, atorvastatin also has significantly reduced serum total cholesterol levels to 79.5 ± 1.16 mg/dl ($P < 0.001$).

The TG levels have reached as 154.10 ± 1.01 mg/dl in hyperlipidemia induced group compared to normal rats where the values are 78.01 ± 1.01 mg/dl. This indicates triglyceridemia. In the group treated with CC (200 mg/kg) and (400 mg/kg), the values are significantly reduced to 84.69 ± 2.14 mg/dl ($P < 0.01$) and 82.83 ± 0.72 mg/dl ($P < 0.01$), respectively. In the atorvastatin treated group, the values are reduced to 76.22 ± 1.01 mg/dl ($P < 0.001$) [Table No: 02 and Figure No: 01].

LDL-cholesterol in atherogenic induced group has significantly increased to 55.10 ± 1.10 mg/dl compared to normal rat group, 26.000 ± 1.06 mg/dl. In the group treated with CC (200 mg/kg) and (400 mg/kg), the values were reduced to 36.05 ± 1.20 and 28.33 ± 1.16 mg/dl ($P < 0.001$), respectively. There is a significant reduction in LDL-cholesterol values in CC treatment group. atorvastatin has significantly reduced LDL-cholesterol level to

24.63 ± 2.40 mg/dl ($P < 0.001$) [Table No: 02 and Figure No: 01].

HDL-cholesterol in atherogenic induced group has significantly decreased compared to normal rats. The values have reduced to 20.07 ± 1.02 mg/dl compared to normal rat group, 36.11 ± 1.08 mg/dl. In the group treated with CC (200 mg/kg) and (400 mg/kg), the values were 31.03 ± 0.13 ($P < 0.01$) and 36.25 ± 1.07 mg/dl ($P < 0.01$), respectively. In atorvastatin treated group, the values were 39.33 ± 1.30 mg/dl ($P < 0.001$) [Table No: 02 and Figure No: 01].

VLDL-cholesterol in atherogenic induced group has significantly increased to 39.62 ± 1.11 mg/dl compared to normal rat group, 19.32 ± 1.12 mg/dl. In the group treated with CC (200 mg/kg, 400 mg/kg), the values are reduced to 21.03 ± 0.62 ($P < 0.01$) and 17.07 ± 1.12 mg/dl ($P < 0.01$), respectively. There is a significant reduction in CC treatment group. Atorvastatin has significantly reduced VLDL-cholesterol level to 16.19 ± 1.02 mg/dl ($P < 0.001$) [Table No: 02 and Figure No: 01].

4.2 Effect of CC on liver lipid profile of atherogenic induced hyperlipidemic rats.

Table 3: The effect of CC on liver lipid profile

Group	Treatment	TC	TG	LDL	HDL	VLDL
I	Normal Control	83.70±0.12	91.70±1.27	24.17±1.24	40.07±0.10	19.99±1.18
II	Hypolipidaemic Control	184.10±1.12	184.02±1.10	53.25±2.16	21.10±1.2	41.01±0.17
III	CC200mg/kg	90.15±0.06*	99.15±1.21*	38.12±1.05*	32.9±0.9*	27.02±0.10*
IV	CC 400mg/kg	84.3±0.68*	82.12±1.12*	26.3±1.02*	36.05±1.4*	19.88±1.00*
V	Atorvastatin (10mg/kg/day)	82.05±1.60*	79.25±1.01*	24.90±1.15*	41.1±1.23*	18.78±0.05*

All the values were denoted as mean±SEM. All the data were statistically evaluated by one-way ANOVA followed

by Dunnett’s test and values $p < 0.5$ were considered to the significant. * $p < 0.001$; and ** $p < 0.01$ for control.

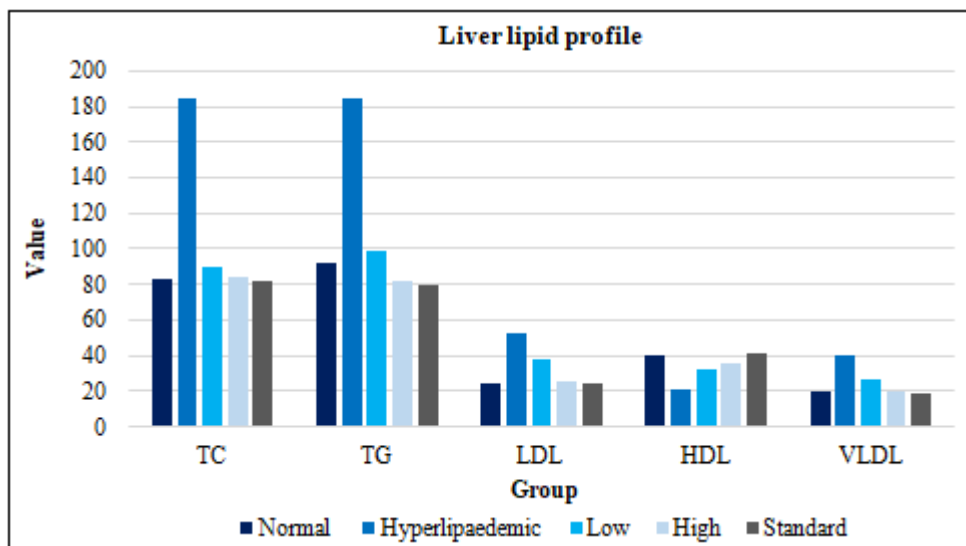


Figure 2: Effect of CC on liver lipid profile

As per table no: 03 and figure no: 02, total cholesterol levels in the hyperlipidemia induced group have significantly increased compared to normal rats. The values have risen to 184.10 ± 1.12 mg/dl compared to Group I (normal rat group), in which values lie in the range 83.70 ± 0.12 mg/dl. This indicates hypercholesterolemia. In the treatment group treated with CC (200 mg/kg) and CC(400 mg/kg), the values are reduced 90.15 ± 0.06 ($P < 0.001$) and 84.3 ± 0.68 mg/dl (P

< 0.01), respectively. There is a significant reduction in total cholesterol values in CC treatment group. On the other hand, atorvastatin also has significantly reduced serum total cholesterol levels to 82.05 ± 1.60 mg/dl ($P < 0.001$).

The TG levels have reached as 184.02 ± 1.10 mg/dl in hyperlipaemia induced group compared to normal rats where the values are 91.70 ± 1.27 mg/dl. This indicates

triglyceridaemia. In the group treated with CC (200 mg/kg) and (400 mg/kg), the values are significantly reduced to 99.15 ± 1.21 mg/dl ($P < 0.01$) and 82.12 ± 1.12 mg/dl ($P < 0.01$), respectively. In the atorvastatin treated group, the values are reduced to 79.25 ± 1.01 mg/dl ($P < 0.001$) [Table no: 03 and figure no: 02].

LDL-cholesterol in atherogenic induced group has significantly increased to 53.25 ± 2.16 mg/dl compared to normal rat group, 24.17 ± 1.24 mg/dl. In the group treated with CC (200 mg/kg) and (400 mg/kg), the values were reduced to 38.12 ± 1.05 and 26.3 ± 1.02 mg/dl ($P < 0.001$), respectively. There is a significant reduction in LDL-cholesterol values in CC treatment group. Atorvastatin has significantly reduced LDL-cholesterol level to 24.90 ± 1.15 mg/dl ($P < 0.001$) [Table no: 03 and figure no: 02].

HDL-cholesterol in atherogenic induced group has significantly decreased compared to normal rats. The values have reduced to 21.10 ± 1.2 mg/dl compared to normal rat group, 40.07 ± 0.10 mg/dl. In the group treated with CC (200 mg/kg) and (400 mg/kg), the values were 32.9 ± 0.90 ($P < 0.01$) and 36.05 ± 1.4 mg/dl ($P < 0.01$), respectively. In atorvastatin treated group, the values were 41.1 ± 1.23 mg/dl ($P < 0.001$) [Table no: 03 and figure no: 02].

VLDL-cholesterol in atherogenic induced group has significantly increased to 41.01 ± 0.17 mg/dl compared to normal rat group, 19.99 ± 1.18 mg/dl. In the group treated with CC (200 mg/kg) and (400 mg/kg), the values are reduced to 27.02 ± 0.10 ($P < 0.01$) and 19.88 ± 1.00 mg/dl ($P < 0.01$), respectively. There is a significant reduction in CC treatment group. Atorvastatin has significantly reduced VLDL-cholesterol level to 18.78 ± 0.05 mg/dl ($P < 0.001$) [Table no: 03 and figure no: 02].

5. Discussion

The reduction in cholesterol may show the increased oxidation of mobilized fatty acids by inhibition or lipolysis.^[1, 6, 7] The present investigation exhibited that all atherogenic induced rats displayed hyperlipidemia as shown by their elevated levels of serum and liver cholesterol, triglyceride, VLDL and LDL level. The strong association among the risk of coronary artery diseases (CAD), high levels of LDL-C and low levels of HDL-C has been well established.^[7, 12] Atherogenic has been widely used to block the clearance of triglyceride-rich lipoproteins to induce acute hyperlipidemia mostly in rats and it has been used for screening natural or chemical hypolipidaemic drugs.^[8, 9]

The results showed that, the CC produced a significant reduction in cholesterol level and also it reversed atherogenic induced hypolipidaemic in rats. [Table no:02, figure no:01] Similarly, CC at a dose of 200 and 400mg/kg significantly reduced both plasma triglycerides and cholesterol levels.[Table no: 02, figure no: 01] The reduction of total cholesterol by the CC at the dose level of 200 and 400 mg kg may be associated with a reduction of LDL level.

This study recommends that cholesterol-lowering activity of the CC may increase the fecal excretion of bile acids and neutral sterols with the consequent reduction of hepatic cholesterol because of its use in the biosynthesis of these bile acids. These fractions also slow down the rate of diffusion through the intestinal mucosa thereby decreasing the absorption of cholesterol and triglycerides.

6. Conclusion

The results obtained from the pharmacological screening have led to the conclusions that, CC has significant anti-hyperlipidaemic activity. Hence it can be exploited as anti-hyperlipidaemic therapeutic agent or adjuvant in existing therapy for the treatment of hyperlipidemia and hypertension.

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