

Original Article : Open Access

Screening of coumarin derivatives as membrane integrity agonist using cheminformatics approach

Sailakshmi, K. Sakshi Shetty, Royden Dsilva, Pratheek Sharma and Zeena Fernandes

Nitte (Deemed to be University), NGSM Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (NGSMIPS), Department of Pharmacology, Mangalore-575018, Karnataka, India

Article Info

Article history

Received 16 April 2023
Revised 6 June 2023
Accepted 6 June 2023
Published Online 30 June-2023

Keywords

Cheminformatics
Computational biology
Coumarin
Membrane integrity

Abstract

Investigation of oral bioavailability, absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion, toxicity profile, and pharmacological spectra of coumarin derivatives. Coumarin is an aromatic organic chemical compound whose molecule can be described as a benzene molecule with two adjacent hydrogen atoms replaced by a lactone-like chain, forming a second six membered heterocycle that shares two carbons with the benzene ring. Coumarins have a wide range of functions such as anticancer, anti-inflammatory, anticoagulant properties, etc. A total of 145 coumarin derivatives were recuperated from the ChEBI database. Information such as molecular weight, molecular mass, and molecular formula along with SMILES was recuperated. Among the 145 bioactive derivatives, 32 compounds were included which showed positive drug likeness scores, exclusive of 113 derivatives which showed negative drug-likeness scores considering the modified Lipinski rule of five using Molsoft. Further, the ADMET profile of the 32 compounds was speculated for absorption, distribution, metabolism, and AMES toxicity was excluded from the study leading to the exclusion of 26 compounds that showed positive AMES test, and the 6 compounds with negative AMES toxicity proceeded for the evaluation of biological spectra. Among the 6 ligands, the biological spectra of 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin, 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-propyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-one and phyllocoumarin were evaluated using PASS online. Finally, 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl coumarin showed the highest pharmacological spectra as CYP2C12 substrate with a pharmacological activity value of 0.944 and pharmacological inactivity value of 0.004, respectively.

1. Introduction

Coumarin or 2H-chromen-2-one is an aromatic organic chemical compound with the formula $C_9H_6O_2$. Its molecule can be described as a benzene molecule with two adjacent hydrogen atoms replaced by a lactone-like chain $(CH)=(CH)-(C-O)-O-$, forming a second six membered heterocycle that shares two carbons with the benzene ring (Fylaktakidou *et al.*, 2004). Coumarins have a wide variety of biological functions. It has anti-inflammatory properties and is used to treat edema (Cheng *et al.*, 2004; Geddawy *et al.*, 2023), antimicrobial properties (Basile *et al.*, 2009; Pragyandip *et al.*, 2023), anticancer properties (Küpeli Akkol *et al.*, 2020; Thakur *et al.*, 2015; Srivastava *et al.*, 2022) and antitubercular properties (Sridevi *et al.*, 2017; Kushwaha *et al.*, 2022). Due to their extensive biological and pharmacological activity, coumarin derivatives are drawing more and more interest. For both natural and synthesized coumarins, we outlined their anti-inflammatory, anticoagulant, and anticancer action, among other properties.

The rule of five (ROS), also known as Lipinski's rule of five, Pfizer rule of five, or simply the Rule of five (ROS), is a rule of thumb used

to assess how similar a chemical compound is to a given drug or to determine whether it possesses any properties that would make it likely to be an orally active drug in humans. As a result of a molecule's resemblance to medicine, the Lipinski rule of five forecasts a high likelihood of success or failure. In 1997, Christopher A. Lipinski developed this rule based on his observation that the majority of pharmaceuticals are made up of relatively small lipophilic molecules (Lipinski, 2004). In addition, computational approaches like molecular docking, molecular dynamics simulation, and network biology have played an important role in the identification of new lead hits that play an important role in the novel (Bhattacharya *et al.*, 2023; Khanal and Patil, 2021; Kanagali *et al.*, 2022).

Hence, this study aimed to identify the coumarin derivatives as membrane integrity agonists using the cheminformatics approach to predict molecules for a drug likeness score, blood brain barrier permeability, AMES toxicity, and membrane integrity agonist.

2. Materials and Methods

The flowline for screening coumarin derivatives for druglikeness, ADMET profile, and pharmacological spectra is presented in Figure 1.

2.1 Retrieval of coumarin derivatives and prediction of the drug likeness score

The reported coumarin derivatives were retrieved from the ChEBI database using the keyword "coumarin". All the basic information like molecular formula, molecular weight, and mass, including SMILES were retrieved (Matos, 2021). The drug-likeness score of each bioactive compound was calculated using the modified Lipinski rule

Corresponding author: Dr. Zeena Fernandes

Assistant Professor, Nitte (Deemed to be University), NGSM Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (NGSMIPS), Department of Pharmacology, Mangalore-575018, Karnataka, India

E-mail: zeena@nittte.edu.in

Tel.: +91-9845269403

Copyright © 2023 Ukaaz Publications. All rights reserved.

Email: ukaaz@yahoo.com; Website: www.ukaazpublications.com

of five using MolSoft (<https://molsoft.com/mprop/>). The calculation was based on molecular weight, number of hydrogen bond acceptors, number of hydrogen bond donors, and lipophilicity (MolLogP). The molecules with positive drug likeness scores were included in further steps whereas compounds with negative drug likeness scores were excluded from further steps (Abdizadeh *et al.*, 2022).

2.2 ADMET profiling of coumarin derivatives

The ADMET profiling of coumarin derivatives with the positive drug likeness score was predicted for absorption, distribution, metabolism, and AMES toxicity using the ADMETSAR (<http://lmm.d.ecust.edu.cn/admetsar1>) database (Gupta *et al.*, 2023). Drugs with negative AMES toxicity were excluded from the study and the rest were further queried for pharmacological spectra (Ghosh *et al.*, 2016).

2.3 Prediction of pharmacological spectra

The pharmacological spectra of the selected ligands were further evaluated using Pass online (<http://www.way2drug.com/passonline>) (Stepanchikova *et al.*, 2003).

3. Results

3.1 A drug likeness score of coumarin derivatives

From the 145 different coumarin derivatives, 113 molecules were excluded from the study as they scored negative drug likeness score. Hence, 32 compounds (scored positive drug likeness score) were assumed to possess human intestinal absorptivity. Among them, Novobiocin was predicted to possess the highest drug likeness score (1.11) with 612.23 molecular weight, 11 H-bond acceptors, 6 H-bond donors, and 3.1 MolLogP. CH5126766 was predicted to possess a drug likeness score (0.95) with 383.14 molecular weight, 6 H-bond acceptors, 2 H-bond donors, and 2.15 MolLogP. 6,8-Dihydroxy-5-methoxy-3-methylisocoumarin 6-O-(4-O-methyl- β -D-glucopyranoside) was predicted to possess a drug likeness score (0.85) with 398.12 molecular weight, 10 H-bond acceptors, 4 H-bond donors, and 0.24 MolLogP. 8-Caffeoyl-3,4-dihydro-5,7-dihydroxy-4-phenylcoumarin was predicted to possess a drug likeness score (0.76) with molecular weight 418.11, 7H-bond acceptors, 4 H-bond donors, and 3.67 MolLogP. 5,3',4'-Trihydroxy-7-methoxy-4-phenylcoumarin 5-O-xylosyl-(1 \rightarrow 6)-glucoside predicted for drug likeness score (0.71) with molecular weight 594.16, 15 H-bond acceptors, 8 H-bond donors, and -1.81 MolLogP. The details of each coumarin derivative with a positive drug likeness score concerning molecular formula, molecular weight, number of hydrogen bond acceptors/donors, and MolLogP are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: Molecular formula, molecular weight, number of hydrogen bond acceptors, number of hydrogen bond donors, MolLogP, and the drug likeness score of coumarin derivatives

Coumarin derivatives	MF	MW	NHBA	NHBD	MolLogP	DLS
6,8-Dihydroxy-5-methoxy-3-methylisocoumarin 6-O-(4-O-methyl- β -D-glucopyranoside)	C ₁₈ H ₂₂ O ₁₀	398.12	10	4	0.24	0.85
Phyllocoumarin	C ₁₈ H ₁₄ O ₇	342.07	7	4	0.8	0.61
5-Hydroxy-6-methoxycoumarin 7-glucoside	C ₁₆ H ₁₈ O ₁₀	370.09	10	5	-0.84	0.36
Isoglycycoumarin	C ₂ H ₂₀ O ₆	368.13	6	2	4.09	0.05
Isolicopyranocoumarin	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₇	384.12	7	3	3.38	0.23
Licopyranocoumarin	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₇	384.12	7	3	3.25	0.37
5,7,3',4'-Tetrahydroxy-4-phenylcoumarin 5-O-glucoside	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₁₁	448.1	11	7	-0.71	0.4
7',3',4'-Trihydroxy-5-methoxy-4-phenylcoumarin	C ₁₆ H ₁₂ O ₆	300.06	6	3	1.55	0.1
5,3',4'-Trihydroxy-7-methoxy-4-phenylcoumarin 5-O-glucoside	C ₂₂ H ₂₂ O ₁₁	462.12	11	6	-0.43	0.41
8-Caffeoyl-3,4-dihydro-5,7-dihydroxy-4-phenylcoumarin	C ₂₄ H ₁₈ O ₇	418.11	7	4	3.67	0.76
8-p-Coumaroyl-3,4-dihydro-5,7-dihydroxy-4-phenylcoumarin	C ₂₄ H ₁₈ O ₆	402.11	6	3	4.06	0.56
8-Cinnamoyl-3,4-dihydro-5,7-dihydroxy-4-phenylcoumarin	C ₂₄ H ₁₈ O ₅	386.12	5	2	4.63	0.19
8-Hydroxy-5,7,3',4'-tetramethoxy-4-phenylcoumarin	C ₁₉ H ₁₈ O ₇	358.11	7	1	2.1	0.09

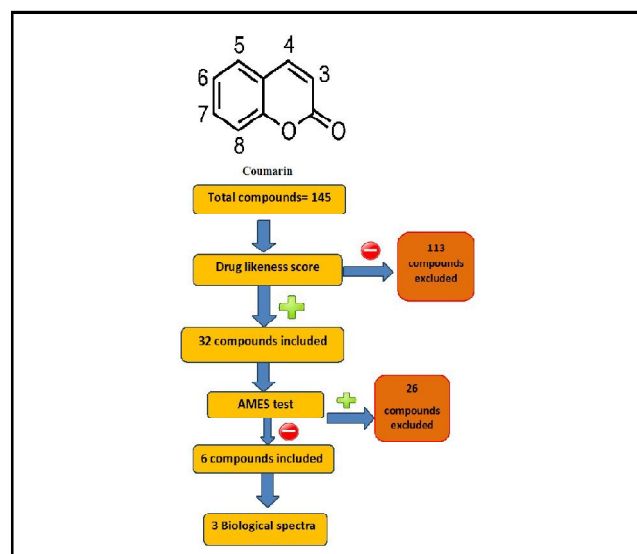


Figure 1: Flowline for screening coumarin derivatives for drug likeness, ADMET profile, and pharmacological spectra.

pyranoside) was predicted to possess a drug likeness score (0.85) with 398.12 molecular weight, 10 H-bond acceptors, 4 H-bond and 0.24 MolLogP. 8-Caffeoyl-3,4-dihydro-5,7-dihydroxy-4-phenylcoumarin was predicted to possess a drug likeness score (0.76) with molecular weight 418.11, 7H-bond acceptors, 4 H-bond donors, and 3.67 MolLogP. 5,3',4'-Trihydroxy-7-methoxy-4-phenylcoumarin 5-O-xylosyl-(1 \rightarrow 6)-glucoside predicted for drug likeness score (0.71) with molecular weight 594.16, 15 H-bond acceptors, 8 H-bond donors, and -1.81 MolLogP. The details of each coumarin derivative with a positive drug likeness score concerning molecular formula, molecular weight, number of hydrogen bond acceptors/donors, and MolLogP are summarized in Table 1.

5,4'-Dihydroxy-7-methoxy-4-phenylcoumarin 5-O-galactoside	C ₂₂ H ₂₂ O ₁₀	446.12	10	5	-0.04	0.27
5,3',4'-Trihydroxy-7-methoxy-4-phenylcoumarin 5-O-xylosyl-(1->6)-glucoside	C ₂₇ H ₃₀ O ₁₅	594.16	15	8	-1.81	0.71
5,2',4',5'-Tetrahydroxy-7-methoxy-4-phenylcoumarin 5-O-glucoside	C ₂₂ H ₂₂ O ₁₂	478.11	12	7	-0.36	0.4
4-ethyl-7-hydroxy-3-(p-methoxyphenyl)coumarin	C ₁₈ H ₁₆ O ₄	296.1	4	1	3.77	0.29
(2S*,3R*)-2,3-dihydro-7-methoxy-2,3-dimethyl-2-[4-methyl-5-(4-methyl-2-furyl)-3(E)-pentenyl]-furo[3,2-c]coumarin	C ₂₅ H ₂₈ O ₅	408.19	5	0	5.99	0.08
Fukane furomarin A	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ O ₅	396.19	5	1	5.17	0.3
Fukane furomarin B	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ O ₅	396.19	5	1	5.17	0.3
Fukane furomarin C	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ O ₅	396.19	5	1	5.17	0.3
Fukane furomarin D	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ O ₅	396.19	5	1	5.17	0.3
Fukane furomarin E	C ₂₅ H ₂₈ O ₅	408.19	5	0	5.95	0.25
Fukane furomarin F	C ₂₅ H ₂₈ O ₅	408.19	5	0	5.95	0.25
Fukane furomarin G	C ₂₅ H ₂₈ O ₅	408.19	5	0	5.99	0.08
7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin	C ₁₇ H ₁₄ O ₄	282.09	4	1	3.31	0.08
Glycy coumarin	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₆	368.13	6	3	4.75	0.32
Novobiocin	C ₃₁ H ₃₆ N ₂ O ₁₁	612.23	11	6	3.1	1.11
7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-propyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-one	C ₁₉ H ₁₈ O ₄	310.12	4	1	4.27	0.44
CH5126766	C ₂₁ H ₁₈ FN ₅ O ₃ S	471.1	9	2	2.15	0.95
Glycyrin	C ₂₂ H ₂₂ O ₆	383.14	6	2	5.08	0.28
Cacibiocin B	C ₁₅ H ₈ C ₁₂ N ₂ O ₇	397.97	7	5	2.2	0.48

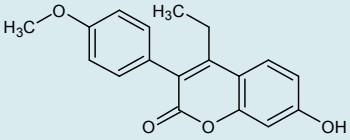
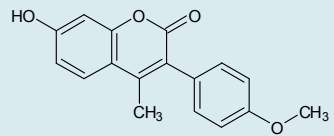
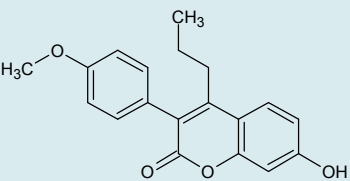
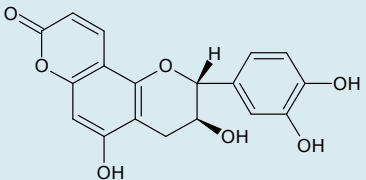
MF: Molecular formula, DLS: Drug-likeness model score, MW: Molecular weight, NHBD: Number of hydrogen bond donors, NHBA: Number of hydrogen bond acceptor.

3.2 ADMET profile and AMES toxicity

Among 32 compounds, 26 were predicted for Ames toxicity, hence they were excluded from the study. 4-ethyl-7hydroxy-3-(p-methoxyphenyl), 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin, 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-propyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-one, phyllocoumarin, 8-p-coumaroyl-3,4-dihydro-5,7-dihydroxy-4-phenylcoumarin, and 8-Cinnamoyl-3,4-dihydro-5,7-dihydroxy-4-phenyl coumarin were considered for further study as they had positive AMES toxicity. Among them, 4-ethyl-7hydroxy-3-(p-methoxyphenyl) scored 0.7144, 0.9854, 0.889 for bloodbrain barrier permeability, human intestinal absorption, and CaCO₂ permeability, respectively, to point to its absorptivity. In addition, it had the mitochondria as the subcellular location with 0.7498 probability, followed by high CYP inhibitory promiscuity ($p=0.7134$). Wise, the compound was non-AMES toxic ($p=0.9442$) and non-carcinogenic ($p=8916$). 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin scored 0.7004, 0.9793, 0.9289 for bloodbrain barrier permeability, human intestinal absorption, and CaCO₂ permeability, respectively, to point its absorptivity. In addition, it had the mitochondria as a subcellular location with 0.7674 probability, followed by high CYP inhibitory promiscuity ($p=0.5343$). Wise, the compound was non-AMES toxic ($p=0.9331$) and non-carcinogenic ($p=0.9198$). 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-propyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-one, scored 0.7451, 0.9863, 0.8584 for bloodbrain barrier permeability, human intestinal absorption, and

CaCO₂ permeability, respectively, to point its absorptivity. In addition, it had the mitochondria as a subcellular location with 0.667 probability, followed by high CYP inhibitory promiscuity ($p=0.5793$). Wise, the compound was non-AMES toxic ($p=0.9504$) and non-carcinogenic ($p=0.9199$). Phyllocoumarin scored 0.6198, 0.9651, 0.9014 for bloodbrain barrier permeability, human intestinal absorption, and CaCO₂ permeability, respectively, to point to its absorptivity. In addition, it had the mitochondria as a subcellular location with 0.7416 probability, followed by high CYP inhibitory promiscuity ($p=0.9703$). Wise, the compound was non-AMES toxic ($p=0.9411$) and non-carcinogenic ($p=0.96$). 8-p-coumaroyl-3, 4-dihydro-5, 7-dihydroxy-4-phenylcoumarin scored 0.9223, 0.6195, human intestinal absorption and CaCO₂ permeability, respectively, to point its absorptivity. In addition, it had the mitochondria as a subcellular location with 0.6911 probability, followed by high CYP inhibitory promiscuity ($p=0.5907$). Wise, the compound was non-AMES toxic ($p=0.9404$) and non-carcinogenic ($p=0.945$). 8-Cinnamoyl-3, 4-dihydro-5, 7-dihydroxy-4-phenylcoumarin scored 0.6413, 0.9223, 0.6195 for bloodbrain barrier permeability, human intestinal absorption, and CaCO₂ permeability, respectively, to point its absorptivity. In addition, it had the mitochondria as a subcellular location with 0.6911 probability, followed by high CYP inhibitory promiscuity ($p=0.5907$). Wise, the compound was non-AMES toxic ($p=0.9404$) and non-carcinogenic ($p=0.945$). The pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic profiles of coumarin derivatives are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2: Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic profile of coumarin derivatives

Compounds	Model	Result	Probability
 <p>4-ethyl-7-hydroxy-3-(p-methoxyphenyl) coumarin</p>	Blood brain barrier Human intestinal absorption Caco ₂ Permeability Subcellular localization CYP inhibitory promiscuity AMES toxicity Carcinogens	Absorption BBB ⁺ HIA ⁺ Caco ₂ ⁺ Distribution Mitochondria High CYP inhibitory promiscuity Toxicity Non-AMES toxic Non-carcinogens	0.7144 0.9854 0.889 0.7498 0.7134 0.9442 0.8916
 <p>7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin</p>	Blood brain barrier Human intestinal absorption Caco ₂ Permeability Subcellular localization CYP inhibitory promiscuity AMES toxicity Carcinogens	Absorption BBB ⁺ HIA ⁺ Caco ₂ ⁺ Distribution Mitochondria Metabolism High CYP inhibitory promiscuity Toxicity Non-AMES toxic Non-carcinogens	0.7004 0.9793 0.9289 0.7674 0.5343 0.9331 0.9198
 <p>7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-propyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-one</p>	Blood brain barrier Human intestinal absorption Caco ₂ Permeability Subcellular localization CYP inhibitory promiscuity AMES toxicity Carcinogens	Absorption BBB ⁺ HIA ⁺ Caco ₂ ⁺ Distribution Mitochondria Metabolism High CYP inhibitory promiscuity Toxicity Non-AMES toxic Non-carcinogens	0.7451 0.9863 0.8584 0.667 0.5793 0.9504 0.9199
 <p>Phyllocoumarin</p>	Blood,brain barrier Human intestinal absorption Caco ₂ Permeability Subcellular localization CYP inhibitory promiscuity	Absorption BBB ⁻ HIA ⁺ Caco ₂ ⁺ Distribution Mitochondria Metabolism Low CYP inhibitory promiscuity	0.6198 0.9651 0.9014 0.7416 0.9703

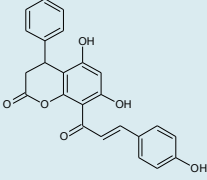
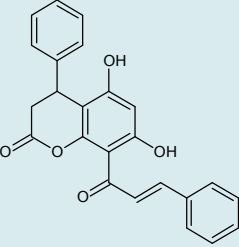
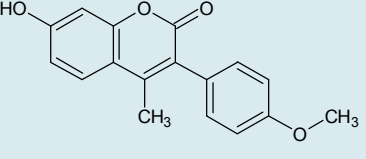
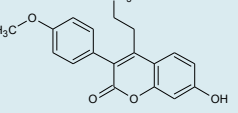
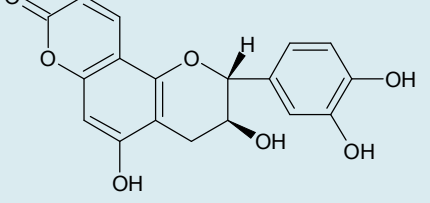
	AMES toxicity Carcinogens	Toxicity Non-AMES toxic Non-carcinogens	0.9411 0.96
 <p>8-p-Coumaroyl-3,4-dihydro-5,7-dihydroxy-4-phenylcoumarin</p>	Human intestinal absorption Caco ₂ Permeability Subcellular localization CYP inhibitory promiscuity	Absorption HIA [±] Caco ₂ ⁺ Distribution Mitochondria Metabolism Low CYP inhibitory promiscuity Toxicity Non-AMES toxic Non-carcinogens	0.9223 0.6195 0.6911 0.5907 0.9404 0.945
 <p>8-Cinnamoyl-3,4-dihydro-5,7-dihydroxy-4-phenylcoumarin</p>	Blood brain barrier Human intestinal absorption Caco ₂ Permeability Subcellular localization CYP inhibitory promiscuity	Absorption BBB ⁺ HIA ⁺ Caco ₂ ⁺ Distribution Mitochondria Metabolism Low CYP inhibitory promiscuity Toxicity Non-AMES toxic Non-carcinogens	0.6413 0.9223 0.6195 0.6911 0.5907 0.9404 0.945

Table 3: Pharmacological spectra of selected coumarin derivatives

Compounds	Pa	Pi	Pharmacological spectra
 <p>7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin</p>	0.950 0.944 0.909 0.902 0.900	0.003 0.004 0.009 0.004 0.005	Aspulinone dimethylallyl transferase inhibitor CYP2C12 substrate Membrane integrity agonist Aldehyde oxidase inhibitor Chlordecone reductase inhibitor
 <p>7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-propyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-one</p>	0.939 0.936	0.004 0.005	Aspulinone dimethylallyl transferase inhibitor CYP2C12 substrate
 <p>Phyllocoumarin</p>	0.965 0.952 0.950 0.946 0.934 0.932 0.931 0.919 0.915 0.908 0.901	0.003 0.002 0.001 0.003 0.002 0.001 0.006 0.004 0.001 0.004 0.002	Membrane integrity agonist UGT1A6 substrate Antimutagenic TP53 expression enhancer UGT1A substrate Free radical scavenger CYP2C12 substrate CYP1A1 substrate Pectate lyase inhibitor CYP1A substrate Sulfotransferase substrate

3.3 Pharmacological spectra of non-AMES toxic compounds

Among 6 compounds, 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin, 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-propyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-one and phyllocoumarin was predicted for 5 different pharmacological spectra. 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin, the scores were found to be, aspulvinone dimethylallyl transferase inhibitor ($P_a = 0.950$ and $P_i = 0.003$), CYP2C12 substrate ($P_a = 0.944$ and $P_i = 0.004$), membrane integrity agonist ($P_a = 0.909$ and $P_i = 0.009$), aldehyde oxidase inhibitor ($P_a = 0.902$ and $P_i = 0.004$) and chlordecone reductase inhibitor ($P_a = 0.900$ and $P_i = 0.005$). 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-propyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-one, the scores were found to be, aspulvinone dimethylallyl transferase inhibitor ($P_a = 0.939$ and $P_i = 0.004$), CYP2C12 substrate ($P_a = 0.936$ and $P_i = 0.005$). Phyllocoumarin, the scores were found to be, membrane integrity agonist ($P_a = 0.965$ and $P_i = 0.003$), UGT1A6 substrate ($P_a = 0.952$ and $P_i = 0.002$), antimutagenic ($P_a = 0.950$ and $P_i = 0.001$), TP53 expression enhancer ($P_a = 0.946$ and $P_i = 0.003$), UGT1A substrate ($P_a = 0.934$ and $P_i = 0.002$), free radical scavenger ($P_a = 0.932$ and $P_i = 0.001$), CYP2C12 substrate ($P_a = 0.931$ and $P_i = 0.006$), CYP1A1 substrate ($P_a = 0.919$ and $P_i = 0.004$), pectate lyase inhibitor ($P_a = 0.915$ and $P_i = 0.001$), CYP1A substrate ($P_a = 0.908$ and $P_i = 0.004$), sulfotransferase substrate ($P_a = 0.901$ and $P_i = 0.002$). Among them, 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin showed the highest pharmacological spectra as CYP2C12 substrate. Pharmacological spectra of selected coumarin derivatives in Table 3.

4. Discussion

The present study aimed to screen the ChEBI-recorded coumarin derivatives as membrane integrity agonists with human intestinal absorptivity and blood-brain barrier permeability. Previously, it has been reported that the coumarin derivative is a potential molecule in cognitive function and related activities. In addition, altered membrane integrity has been reported in the progression of neurological disorders (Dias *et al.*, 2021). This may occur due to the rapid infiltration of inflammatory mediators due to an increase in blood-brain barrier leakage (Kim *et al.*, 2012). This may occur due to instant cytokine-cytokine interactions in response to exogenous/endogenous infections. Previously coumarin derivatives have been reported for regulating cytokine signals followed by improvement in cognitive function, which may occur by maintaining the neuronal membrane integrity in response to high-magnitude cytokine signals. Membrane integrity plays an important role in response to metabolic disorders and cell survival. In the present study, among the top 3 lead hits for the pharmacological spectra, we identified two molecules, *i.e.*, 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin, 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-propyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-one, phyllocoumarin. These molecules were screened based on the Pfizer rule of five in which the molecules with positive drug likeness scores were considered for blood-brain barrier permeability. In this regard, 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin showed a drug-likeness score of 0.08 with 0.7004 blood-brain barrier permeability. Similarly, 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-propyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-one showed a drug likeness score of 0.44 with 0.7451 blood-brain barrier permeability. And phyllocoumarin showed a drug likeness score of 0.61 with 0.6198 blood-brain barrier permeability. The present study preliminary screens some coumarin derivatives with a positive drug likeness score, blood-brain barrier permeability,

and AMES toxicity, with the possibility as membrane integrity agonist which identified 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin and phyllocoumarin as a lead hit.

5. Conclusion

The present study identified 7-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylcoumarin and phyllocoumarin as membrane integrity agonist that needs to be further evaluated for neurological disorders. However, the study is based on 3 steps of preliminary competition prediction. The study needs to be further designed to evaluate their efficacy in targeting the proteins that are directly involved in neurological disorders. In addition, the findings of the present work will be evaluated using wet lab studies.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest relevant to this article.

References

- Abdizadeh, R.; Hadizadeh, F. and Abdizadeh, T. (2022). *In silico* analysis and identification of antiviral coumarin derivatives against 3-chymotrypsin-like main protease of the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. *Mol. Divers.*, **26**(2):1053-76. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11030-021-10230-6>
- Basile, A.; Sorbo, S.; Spadaro, V.; Bruno, M.; Maggio, A.; Faraone, N. and Rosselli S. (2009). Antimicrobial and antioxidant activities of coumarins from the roots of *Ferulago campestris* (Apiaceae). *Molecules*, **14**(3):939-52. <https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules14030939>
- Bhattacharya, K.; Khanal, P.; Patil, V.S.; Dwivedi, P.S.; Chanu, N. R.; Chaudhary, R.K.; Deka, S. and Chakraborty, A. (2023). Computational pharmacology profiling of borapetoside C against melanoma. *J. Biomol. Struct. Dyn.*, **1**(6). <https://doi.org/10.1080/07391102.2023.2213333>
- Cheng, J. F.; Chen, M.; Wallace, D.; Tith, S.; Arrhenius, T.; Kashiwagi, H.; Ono, Y.; Ishikawa, A.; Sato, H. and Kozono, T. (2004). Discovery and structure-activity relationship of coumarin derivatives as TNF- α inhibitors. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.*, **14**(10):2411-5. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bmcl.2004.03.022>
- Dheeraj, G.; Kumar, P.; Apte, K.; Ashtekar, H. and Dixit, S.R. (2023). Molecular docking, ADME analysis, and pharmacophore modelling of benzoxazole fused azetidinone derivatives as antibreast cancer agents. *Ann. Phytomed.*, **12**(1):1-7.
- Dias, C. and Nylandsted, J. (2021). Plasma membrane integrity in health and disease: Significance and therapeutic potential. *Cell Discov.*, **7**(1):4. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41421-020-00233-2>
- Fylaktakidou, K.C.; Hadjipavlou-Litina, D.J.; Litinas, K.E. and Nicolaidis, D.N. (2004). Natural and synthetic coumarin derivatives with anti-inflammatory/antioxidant activities. *Curr. Pharm. Des.*, **10**(30):3813-33. <https://doi.org/10.2174/1381612043382710>
- Geddawy, A.; Karukuvelraja; Shamna, K.P. and Musthafa Poyil, M. (2023). Antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and anti-neurodegenerative activities of *Jatropha integerrima* Jacq. floral methanolic extract. *Ann. Phytomed.*, **12**(1):1-9. <http://dx.doi.org/10.54085/ap.2023.12.1.32>.
- Ghosh, J.; Lawless, M.S.; Waldman, M.; Gombar, V. and Fraczkiewicz, R. (2016). Modeling and *in silico* methods for predicting drug toxicity, 10.1007/978-1-4939-3609-0_4.
- Kanagali, S.N.; Patil, B.M.; Khanal, P.; Unger, B.S. and Cyperusro-tundus L. (2022). Reverses the olanzapine-induced weight gain and metabolic changes-outcomes from network and experimental pharmacology. *Comput. Biol. Med.*, **141**:105035. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.combiomed.2021.105035>

- Khanal, P. and Patil, B.M. (2021).** Consolidation of network and experimental pharmacology to divulge the antidiabetic action of *Ficus benghalensis* L. bark. 3 Biotech., **11**(5):238. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13205-021-02788-7>
- Kim, S.Y.; Buckwalter, M.; Soreq, H.; Vezzani, A. and Kaufer, D. (2012).** Blood–brain barrier dysfunction-induced inflammatory signaling in brain pathology and epileptogenesis. *Epilepsia*, **53**:37-44. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1528-1167.2012.03701.x>
- Küpelı Akkol, E.; Genç, Y.; Karpuz, B.; Sobarzo-Sánchez, E. and Capasso, R. (2020).** Coumarins and coumarin-related compounds in pharmacotherapy of cancer. *Cancers*, **12**(7):1959. <https://doi.org/10.3390/cancers12071959>
- Kushwaha, R.K.; Singh, K.; Chandra, D. and Kumar, P. (2022).** Synthesis and *in vitro* antitubercular activity of some chroman derivatives. *Ann. Phytomed.*, **11**(2):378-384. <http://dx.doi.org/10.54085/ap.2022.11.2.45>
- Lipinski, C.A. (2004).** Lead-and drug-like compounds: The rule-of-five revolution. *Drug discovery today: Technologies*, **1**(4):337-41. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ddtec.2004.11.007>
- Matos, M.J. (2021).** Coumarin and its derivatives. *Molecules*, **26**(20):6320. <https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules26206320>
- Pragyandip, P.; Kumar, S.; Mishra, A. and Srivastava, S. (2023).** Antimicrobial activity of *Haldina cordifolia* (Roxb.) Ridsdale and *Thevetia peruviana* (Pers.) Schum. leaf extract against multidrug resistant microbes. *Ann. Phytomed.*, **12**(1):1-9. <http://dx.doi.org/10.54085/ap.2023.12.1.11>
- Sridevi, D.; Sudhakar, K.U.; Ananthathatmula, R.; Nankar, R.P. and Doble, M. (2017).** Mutation at G103 of MtbFtsZ altered their sensitivity to coumarins. *Front. Microbiol.*, **8**:578. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2017.00578>
- Srivastava, S.; Singh, K.; Kumar, S.; Kushwaha, S.; Kumar, A.; Kumar, P. and Kumar, P. (2022).** Recent advances in isatin-thiazole hybrids as potential anticancer agents. *Ann. Phytomed.*, **11**(2):33-41. <http://dx.doi.org/10.54085/ap.2022.11.2.4>
- Stepanchikova, A.V.; Lagunin, A.A.; Filimonov, D.A. and Poroikov, V.V. (2003).** Prediction of biological activity spectra for substances: Evaluation on the diverse sets of drug-like structures. *Curr. Med. Chem.*, **10**(3):225-33. <https://doi.org/10.2174/0929867033368510>
- Thakur, A.; Singla, R. and Jaitak, V. (2015).** Coumarins as anticancer agents: A review on synthetic strategies, mechanism of action and SAR studies. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.*, **101**:476-95. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejmech.2015.07.010>

Citation

Sailakshmi, K. Sakshi Shetty, Royden Dsilva, Pratheek Sharma and Zeena Fernandes (2023). Screening of coumarin derivatives as membrane integrity agonist using chem informatics approach. *Ann. Phytomed.*, **12**(1):736-742. <http://dx.doi.org/10.54085/ap.2023.12.1.84>.