

Review Article 

Synthesis and Biological Evaluation of Five- and Six-Membered Heterocycles as an Anti-Diabetic Agent: An Overview

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ABSTRACT

In medicinal chemistry, heterocycles represent a unique place as a valuable source of therapeutic drugs. Over 75% of pharmaceuticals that are presently on the market and have received FDA approval contain heterocyclic moieties of nitrogen and sulfur. A substantially higher proportion of novel medications based on nitrogen and sulfur is expected in the upcoming ten years. Novel N-heterocyclic moieties have important physiological characteristics and a growing variety of intriguing uses in medicinal chemistry. We have combined the in this review the recent advances on novel 5, 6 membered heterocycles containing nitrogen, sulphur atom, and their unique biological activities that have been documented in the last ten years. The trends in this review are highlighted about 5, 6 membered heterocycles like sulphonamide, pyrimidine based moieties in drug design.



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1. Introduction

Along with the advancement of organic chemistry, heterocyclic chemistry history began in the 1800s. There have been some notable advancements since alloxan (1) [1] was first created in 1818 by Luigi Valentino Brugnatelli. Hakimi, F., suggested that synthesized 2-arylbenzoxazoles derivatives were achieved by condensation reaction of aromatic aldehydes with 2-aminophenol at 50 °C without the use of solvent and by employing heterogeneous catalyst [2]. Baghernejad, B., synthesized 2-amino-4H-pyran derivatives [3-4], using a one-pot reaction between indole and isatin in reflux conditions, oxindole derivatives with good yield [5]. The discovery of many wide-ranging medicinal drugs is mostly due to the fact that pyridine-based ring structures have a significant influence on pharmacological activity and are utilized so frequently in the drug development process [6]. A heterocyclic compounds have great significance in medicinal chemistry. In organic chemistry, major class of organic compounds belongs in the heterocyclic compound. Heterocyclic compounds cyclic compounds contains a ring which has at least one hetero atom i.e. nitrogen along with carbon atoms [7]. Heterocyclic compounds are significantly used in medicinal chemistry, industrial application, and physiology. The bulk of pharmaceuticals, most biomass (cellulose and related materials), hormones, pheromones, marine creature products, vitamins, antibiotics like penicillin and cephalosporin, nucleic acids, and many natural and manufactured colours are examples of naturally occurring substances in heterocycles [8]. Heterocycles have been recognized as an important structural component in medicinal chemistry. Additionally, they are commonly found in biomolecules at high quantities including vitamins, enzymes, natural products, and biologically active compounds with properties such as antifungal, antibacterial, anticonvulsant, anti-allergic, enzyme inhibitors, herbicidal activity, antidiabetic, anti-HIV, and insecticidal agents [9].

Most of the synthetic heterocyclic compounds is are used as drug anticonvulsants (2a and 2b)

[10], Hypnotics (3a, 3b) [11], antineoplastics [12], anticancer activity (4)[13], antifungal [14], antibacterial (5) [15], anti-allergic (6,7,8) [16], enzyme inhibitors(10) [17], herbicidal activity (11,12) [18-19], anti-HIV [20], anti-inflammatory [21-22], antioxidant (13,14,15,16) [23-25], anti-diabetic (17,18,19,20) [26-31], and insecticidal agents (21,22,23,24) [32] (Figure 1).

2. Some Bio-Active Heterocyclic Compounds

Salve M. T. *et al.* analyzed a novel class of 1,3,4-oxadiazole derivative sulphonamide hybrid anti-diabetic drugs (25) [33], John B. Wright, *et al.* shows the anti-diabetic activity of 3,5-dimethylpyrazoles (26), were reported 41 pyrazole derivatives having excellent hypoglycemic activity which are comparable with STD drug molecule (Figure 2) [34]. New 2-thiouracil-5-sulphonamide derivatives were synthesised by Fathalla O. A. *et al.* [35] has antibacterial and antifungal activity. Sequences of substituted phosphonates containing the thiazolidinedione moiety were synthesized by Sujatha B. *et al.* yielded that the compounds showed an effective role in anti-diabetic activity [36].

Thiosemicarbazides (28), triazoles (29), oxadiazoles (30) and thiazolidinones (31) are heterocyclic derivatives of mono- and bis-dipicolinic acid that Maja Molnar *et al.* created as antifungal and antioxidant agents [37]. Mina Bolous *et al.* have been synthesized Spirooxindolo-pyrrolidine tethered indole/imidazole hybrid (32), and their antifungal activities against fungal strains were determined (Figure 3). The results show that spirooxindolo-pyrrolidine heterocyclic scaffolds potentially signify a comprehensive class of chemical agents with remarkable antifungal activity [38]. Heterocycles containing sulphur and or nitrogen plays a significant function in nature and are being thoroughly researched as therapeutic agents. Recently, increasing focus has been placed on the biological assessment of five- and six-membered heterocycles possessing sulphuryl urea and heteroaryl pharmacophore. In the

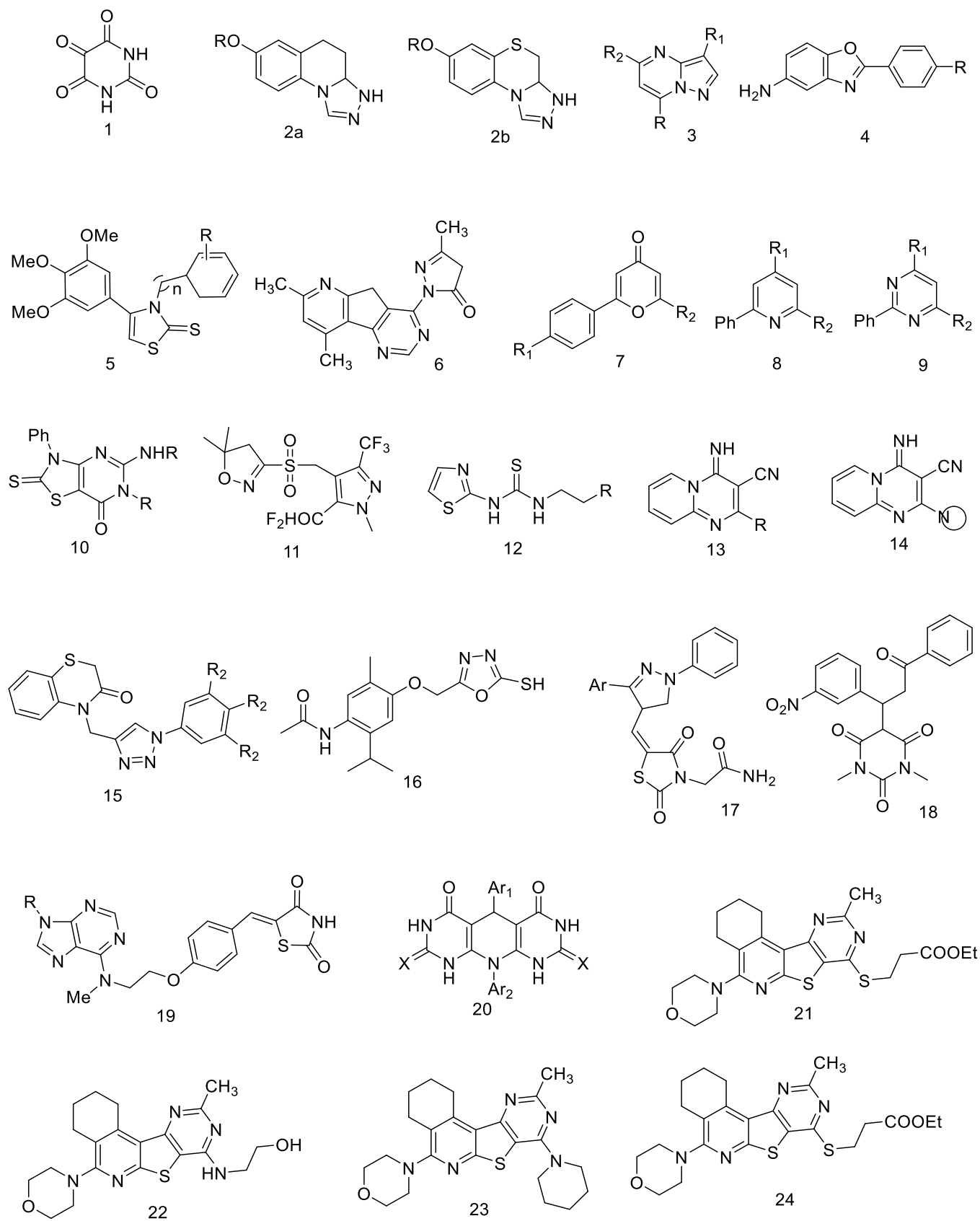


Figure 1. Some heterocyclic drug molecules

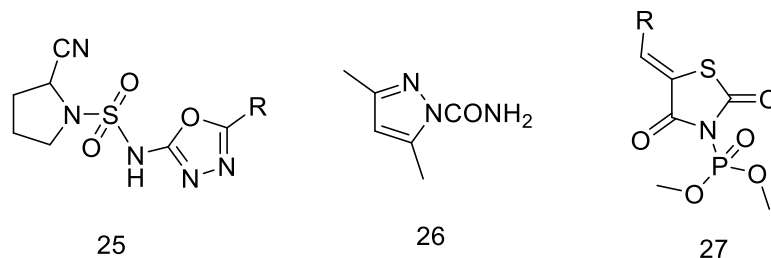


Figure 2. Biologically active 1,3,4-oxadiazole, dimethylpyrazoles, and phosphonated thiazolidinediones

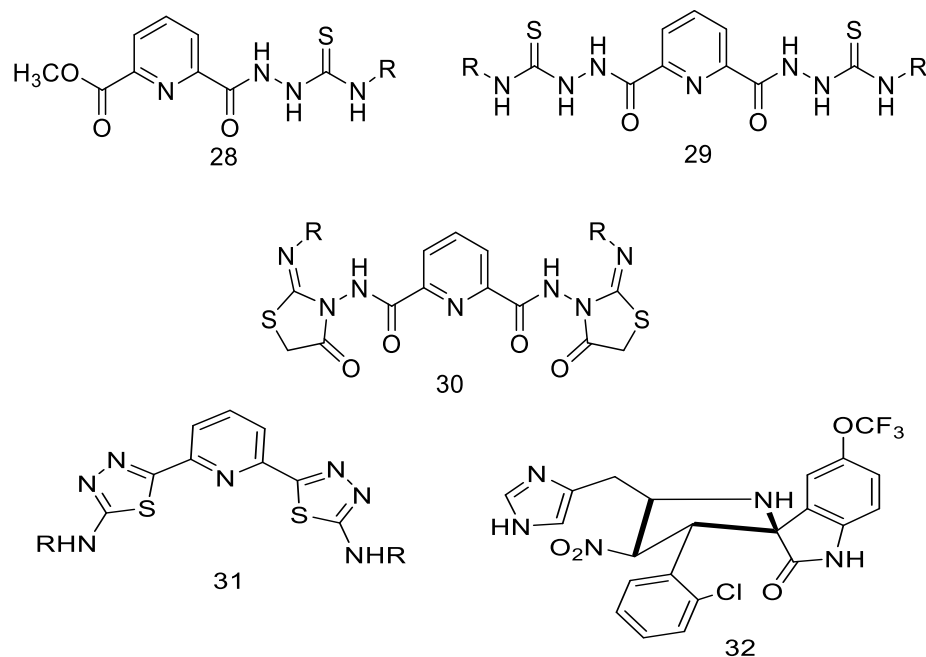


Figure 3. Biologically active thiosemicarbazides, triazoles, oxadiazoles, thiazolidinones, and spirooxindolo-pyrrolidine

modern world, DM is one of the most common degenerative diseases. With more than 171 million diabetics as of 2000, India has overtaken the rest of the world as the world's diabetic epicentre [39]. The estimated 5.8 million people with diabetes mellitus, of which 90% are classified as having non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, suffer from a complex, chronic, progressive condition that eventually might negatively impact the function of their kidneys, eyes, brain system, and vascular system (NIDDM) [40]. Obesity and peripheral insulin resistance are present in the majority of NIDDM patients. Diabetes mellitus is linked to poor glucose metabolism, which raises blood glucose levels and produces more free radicals. Unfortunately, no current

medicine is used to treat metabolic disorders completely. Sulphonylureas cause hypoglycemia, lactic acidosis is made more likely by the use of metformin, and bloating and flatulence are made worse by the use of acarbose [41].

The explorations of many classes of thiazolidinedione compounds have been receiving an intense research in recent years (33-37), and many of these compounds have a wide range of pharmacological actions (Figure 4). It is known that several of these compounds with pyridine nuclei have special anti-inflammatory, analgesic, antibacterial, anticancer, antifungal, anti-mycobacterial, anticonvulsant, anti-

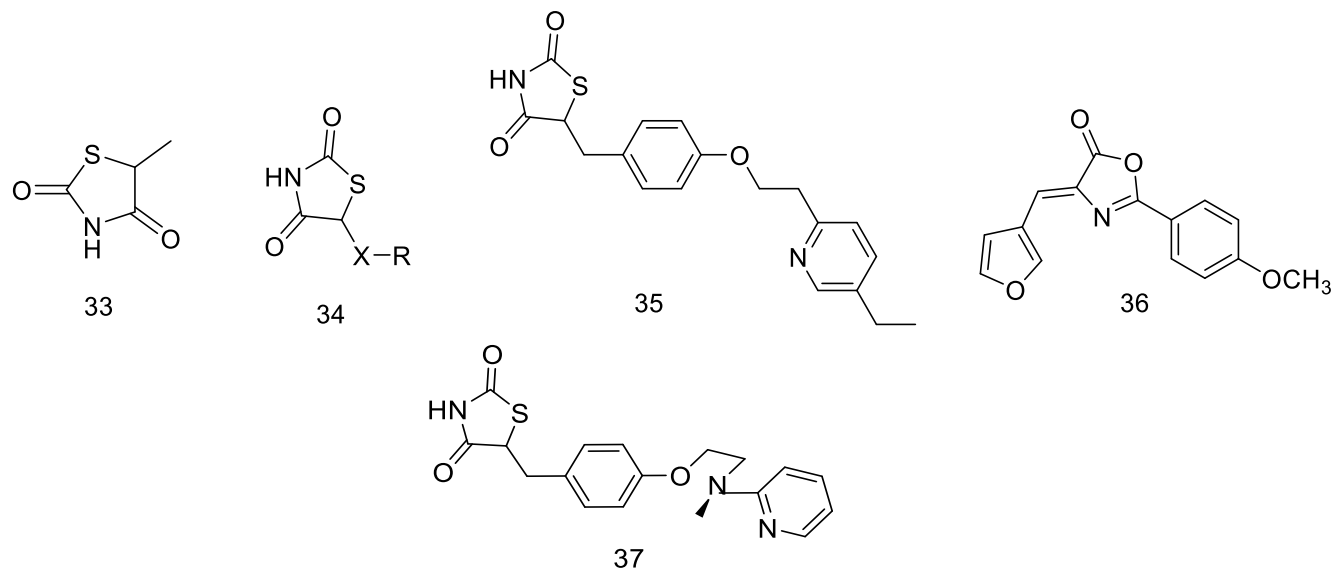


Figure 4. Biologically active thiazolidinediones

diabetic, and antiviral properties. The pyridine ring has so far been modified in a way that has boosted efficacy and decreased toxicity with a remarkable extent successfully.

3. Diabetes Drugs

Biguanides: Metformin typically the first medication that doctors advise take metformin to manage type 2 diabetes. It stimulates the body to utilize the insulin which lowers the blood sugar. Naturally, it reduces the production of sugar by the liver.

Sulfonylureas: Glipizide, glimepride, and glyburide. These medications increase insulin production from the pancreas, lowering blood sugar levels.

Meglitinides: nateglinide and repaglinide. These medicines help the pancreas to produce more insulin.

Thiazolidinediones (TZDs): Pioglitazone and rosiglitazone. These medicines improve insulin's physiological action.

Alpha-glucosidase inhibitors: Acarbose and miglitol. They hinder the process of breaking down of carbohydrates.

DPP-4 inhibitors: alogliptin, linagliptin, saxagliptin, and sitagliptin. It encourage human pancreas to produce more insulin after meals.

SGLT2 inhibitors: Canagliflozin, dapagliflozin, empagliflozin, and ertugliflozin. They instruct

the kidneys to eliminate excess blood sugar through urine [42].

4. Anti-Diabetic Heterocycles

For the evaluation of the anti-diabetic activity, Pattan *et al.* introduced the synthesis of a number of compounds (38a-38I). Among these, compound (38h) has demonstrated a significant level of anti-diabetic action, whereas compound (38a, 38b, 38e) has demonstrated a more moderate level of anti-diabetic activity (Figure 5) [43].

Rajput *et al.* reported new class of Diindolyl methanes (DIMs) derivatives (39a-39c) significant biological activities such as anticancer, antioxidant and α -amylase inhibitory activities. All the synthesized diindolyl methanes (DIMs)

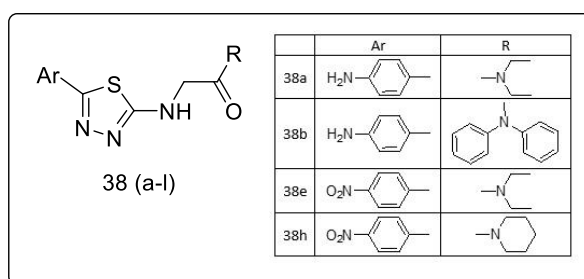


Figure 5. Anti-diabetic active 1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl)piperidine derivatives

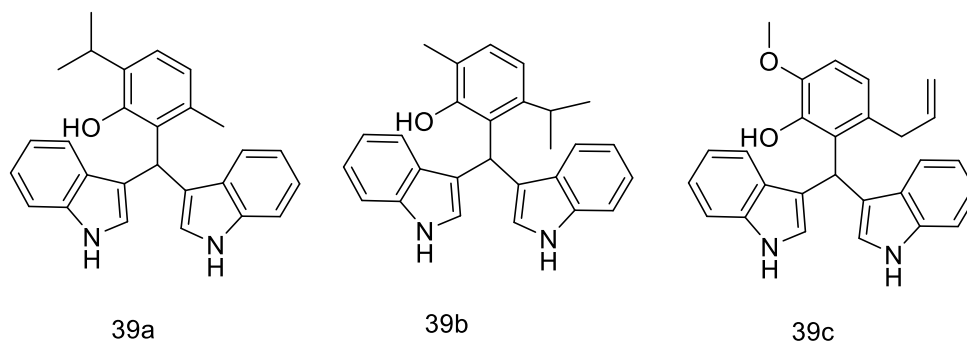


Figure 6. Anti-diabetic active diindolyl methanes (DIMs) derivatives

derivatives show excellent α -amylase inhibitory activity at lower to higher concentration (Figure 6) [44].

A series of chromonyl-2,4-thiazolidinediones/imidazolidinediones/2-thioxo-imidazolidine-4-ones (40a, 40b) was prepared by Meltem Ceylan-Ünlüsoy *et al.* and its insulinotropic activities tested in INS-1 cells (Figure 7) [45].

Novel oxazolone compounds were synthesized by Marippan G. *et al.* utilising 4-methoxy benzoyl chloride (41) divergence in the anti-diabetic action (Figure 8) [46].

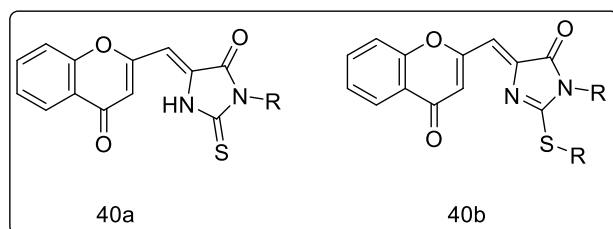


Figure 7. Anti-diabetic active thioxo-imidazolidine-4-ones derivatives



Figure 9. Anti-diabetic active 4-thiazolidinones 1,3,4-oxadiazoles derivatives

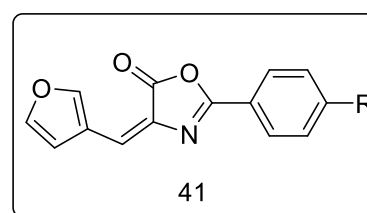


Figure 8. Anti-diabetic active oxazolone derivatives

Sridevi P. *et al.* extracted and synthesized the derivatives of 4-hydroxy isoleucine MI, EII, and BVII showed greater anti diabetic activity [47], Shingalpur R. V. *et al.* synthesized 4-thiazolidinones(42) and 1,3,4-oxadiazoles containing 2-mercapto benzimidazole(43) moiety screened for anticonvulsant and antidiabetic activity (Figure 9) [48].

Deepti Kini and Manjunath Ghate synthesized 3-[5'-methyl-2'-aryl-3'-(thiazol-2''-yl amino) thiazolidin-4'-one] coumarin products (44) has oral hypoglycemic activity (Figure 10) [49].

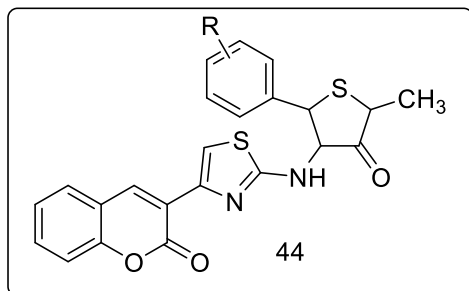


Figure 10. Anti-diabetic active thiazolidin-4'-one coumarin derivatives

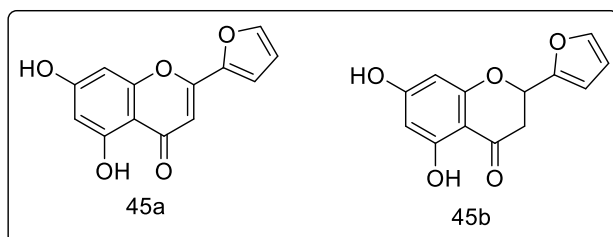


Figure 11. Anti-diabetic active dihydroxyflavones derivatives

After creating two series of flavonoids, 5,7-dihydroxyflavanones and 5,7-dihydroxyflavones (45a, 45b), and screening them for possible anti-diabetic activity, Liu-Shuan Chang *et al.* found that the majority of the flavonoids exhibited impressive *in vitro* activity (Figure 11) [50].

Mariappan, G. created and tested a novel series of benzothiazole (46) compounds *in vivo* to look into its hypoglycemic action using streptozotocin-induced diabetic (Figure 12) [51]. As proposed by Sonia Rocha *et al.*, chalcones are unquestionably effective on anti-diabetic medications that target a variety of therapeutic targets, including DPP-4, GLUT4, SGLT2, alpha-amylase, alpha-glucosidase, and ALR [52-53].

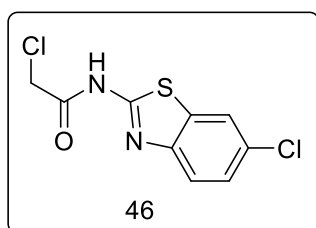


Figure 12. Anti-diabetic active chalcones derivatives

Farid M. S. *et al.* synthesized sulphanyl urea (47,48,49) [54], utilizing the common medication Gliclazide at a dosage of 200 mg/kg, which has the potential to be an anti-diabetic agent [55].

2, 4-disubstituted furan derivatives (50) were synthesized by Babu S. P. and Suresh Babu K. and their anti-diabetic properties were assessed [56]. Utilizing a microwave synthesiser, Lipika Pandey *et al.* synthesized oxazolan derivatives (51), the resulting molecules significantly lowered blood sugar levels in diabetic rats (Figure 13) [57].

A series of *N*-(4-phenylthiazol-2-yl)benzenesulfonamides (52) were synthesized by Nouraddin Hosseinzadeh *et al.* by reacting 2-amino thiazol with aromatic sulfonyl chloride. Using a streptozotocin-induced diabetic rat model, all the compounds were tested *in vivo* for their oral hypoglycemic efficacy [58]. Mahapatra S.P. *et al.* synthesized 3-phthalimidoethyl-4-acetyl substituted benzanilides (53), and they assessed their potential for lowering blood sugar levels using male Wistar albino rats (Figure 14) [59].

N-(6-chlorobenzothiazol-2-yl)-2-(substituted amino) acetamide was synthesized by Mariappan G. *et al.* and reported their anti-diabetic potential against drug molecules [60]. Sulfonylureas (55) have anti-diabetic properties which were synthesized by Ameya A. Chavan *et al.* According to Chetna Kharbanda *et al.*, the efficiency of all the synthetic compounds as oral anti-diabetic drugs have been principally evaluated by loading glucose into normal in rats (Figure 15).

It has been noted that seven substances considerably inhibited the rise in plasma glucose levels when compared to the usual medication glibenclamide [61]. Synthesized novel 3-trifluoro methyl pyrazolesulfonyl-urea and thiourea compounds were tested as antibacterial and anti-diabetic drugs by Faidallah H. M. *et al.* [62]. Somaye Karimiana designed series of dihydropyrimidinone derivatives having excellent β -glucuronidase inhibitory activity [63]. The new dibenzofuran carboxylic acids (56) were synthesized and evaluated by Lakshminarayana N. *et al.* potential anti-diabetic drugs [64]. A series of

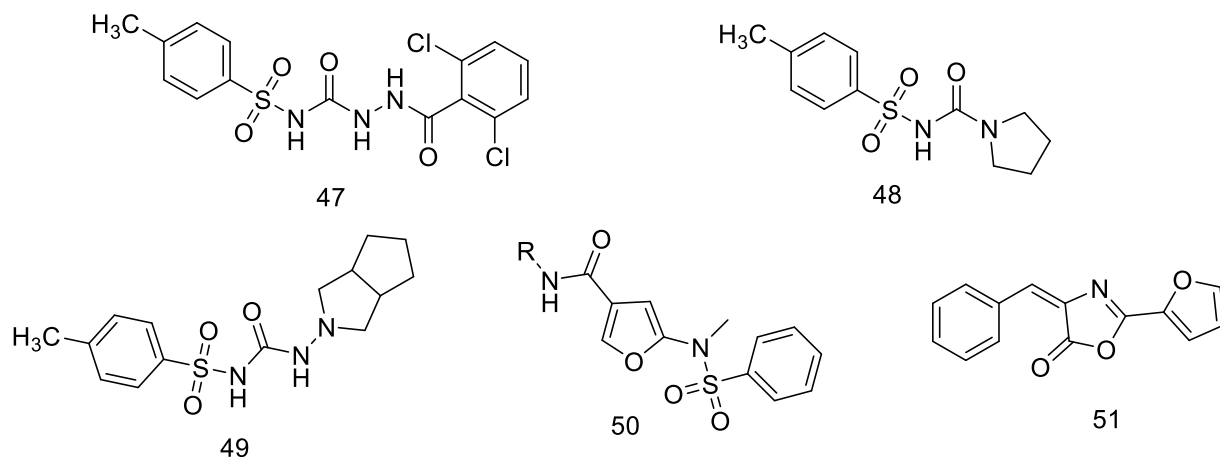


Figure 13. Anti-diabetic active sulphonyl urea derivatives

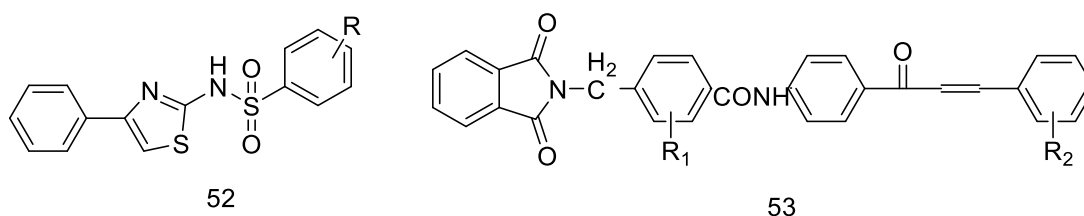


Figure 14. Anti-diabetic active benzenesulfonamides and benzenesulfonamides derivatives

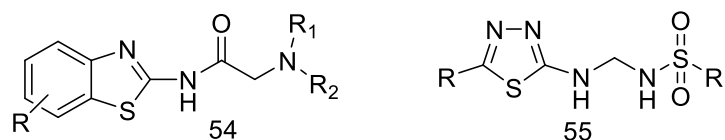


Figure 15. Anti-diabetic active acetamide derivatives

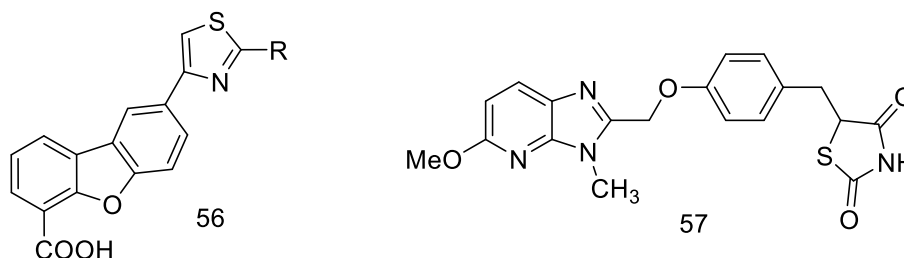


Figure 16. Anti-diabetic active dibenzofuran and imidazolopyridine thiazolidinediones derivatives

imidazolopyridine thiazolidinediones was reported by Oguchi *et al.* (57) starting from the pyridines, who created a series of conformationally constrained analogues of (Rosiglitazone) and 20 (Rivoglitazone) imidazolopyridine TZDs (Figure 16) [65]. Soylem *et al.* synthesized pyridinylmethanone, nicotinonitrile,

pyrazolopyridine, chromenopyridine, and *N*-butyrylpyrazolyl-1-butanone derivatives (58,59,60), which were then tested for their anti-diabetic activities at micro molar concentrations (Figure 17) [66]. New thiazolepyridine (61,62) derivatives were created by Suri Babu Patchipala *et al.* and compounds were then tested for their anti-diabetic activity

by Swiss albino mice housed *in vivo*, compared to glibenclamide, synthetic molecules show promise for lowering blood sugar levels (Figure 18) [67]. Dihydro-6*H*-chromeno[4,3-*b*]isoxazolo[4,5-*e*]pyridine heterocycles (63) were synthesized using a one-pot, three-component, eco-friendly technique, and their anti-diabetic action was tested against type 2 diabetes mellitus (Figure 19) [68].

Balakrishna Kalluraya *et al.* synthesized different 2-[3-(6-methylpyridinyl)]-5-aryl-[1,3,4]-oxadiazole (64), 2-[3-(6-methylpyridinyl)]-4-substitutedaminomethyl-[1,3,4]-oxadiazole-5-thione (65) and 2-[3-(6-methyl pyridinyl)]-5-substituted benzylthio-[1,3,4]-oxadiazole (66) were screened for their

antidiabetic and showing good α -amylase as well α -glucosidase inhibition activity (Figure 20) [69].

Mubeen A. *et al.* created a series of compounds (67), which contain an acetohydrazide moiety linked with 3-pyridine through a tetrazole ring (Figure 21). Molecular docking studies, the substances that is most effective at lowering blood sugar. An excellent pact was obtained since best docked poses displayed significant binding features based on interactions between oxygen and aromatic moieties [70]. Dhanraj Patidar *et al.* synthesized novel 3, 6-disubstituted-2-pyridinecarboxamide derivatives (68, 69) they noted that the anti-

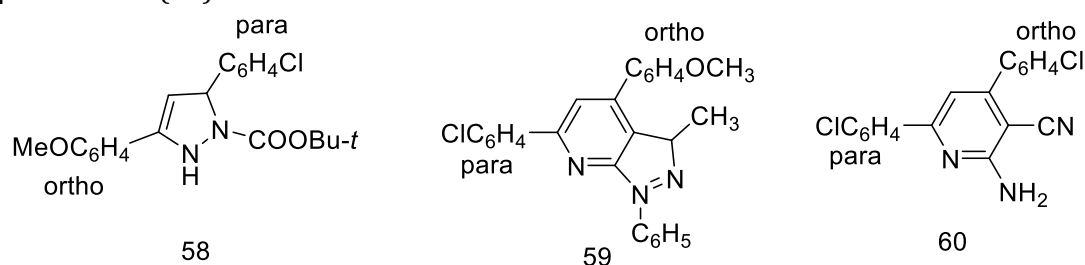


Figure 17. Anti-diabetic active pyridinylmethanone, nicotinonitrile, pyran-3-carbonitrile, pyrazolopyridine derivatives

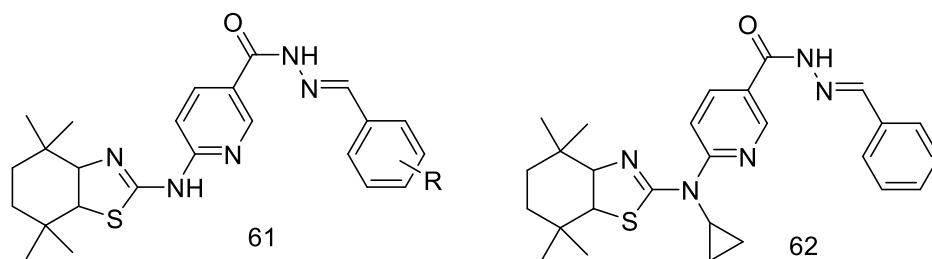


Figure 18. Anti-diabetic active thiazole-pyridine derivatives

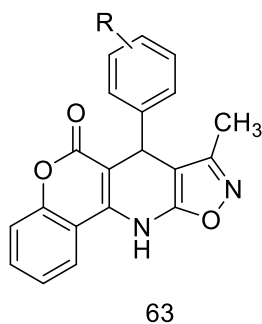


Figure 19. Anti-diabetic active pyridine heterocyclic derivatives

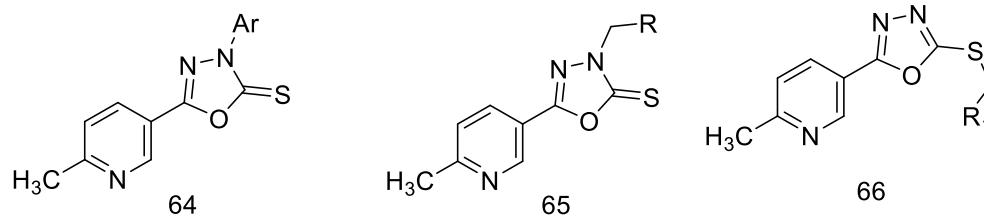


Figure 20. Anti-diabetic active oxadiazole derivatives

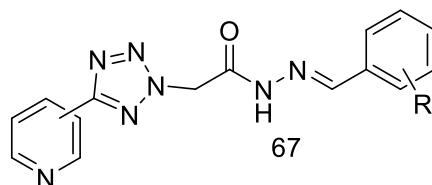


Figure 21. Anti-diabetic active acetohydrazide derivatives

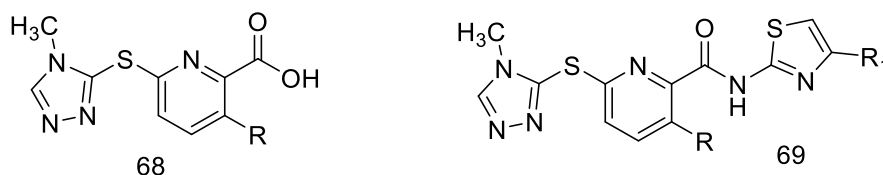


Figure 22. Anti-diabetic active disubstituted-2-pyridinecarboxamide derivatives

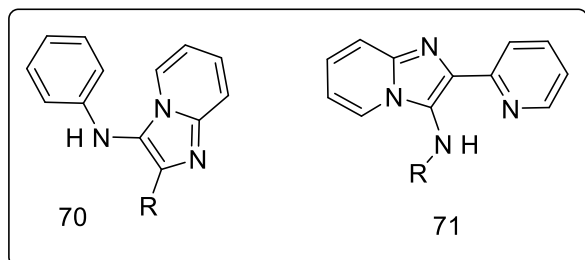


Figure 23. Anti-diabetic active substituted imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridin-3-amine derivatives

hypoglycemic activity was enhanced by the substitution of the pyridine ring at position 3 with a hydrophobic group like the methyl group (**Figure 22**) [71]. Different 2-substituted imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridin-3-amine were synthesised by T.V. Rao Kota *et al.* which display antidiabetic activity (**Figure 23**) [72].

In a study conducted by Khan, Z.A. *et al.*, the preclinical anti-diabetic effects of a novel synthesised drug, *N'*-2,*N'*-4,*N'*-6-tris(4-hydroxybenzylidene)pyridine-2,4,6-tricarbohydrazide, were examined in mice that had been given alloxan to induce diabetes

found that TPTH had strong anti-diabetic effects [73]. Two series of 2,5-disubstituted-3-imidazol-2-yl-pyrrolo[2,3-*b*]pyridines (72) and thieno[2,3-*b*]pyridines (73) were studied by Bahekar, R.H. *et al.* Using a RIN5F cell-based assay, the *in vitro* glucose-dependent insulinotropic activity of each test compound was assessed. All test compounds that demonstrated *in vivo* anti-diabetic activities of the most potent compounds from both series were evaluated (**Figure 24**) [74].

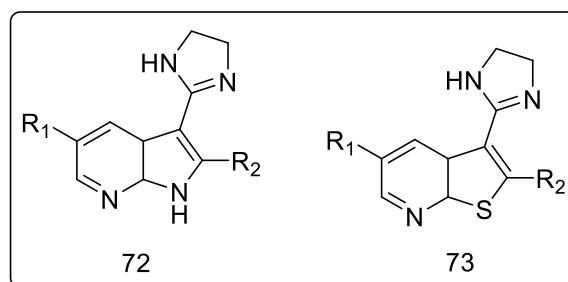


Figure 24. Anti-diabetic active substituted pyridines derivatives

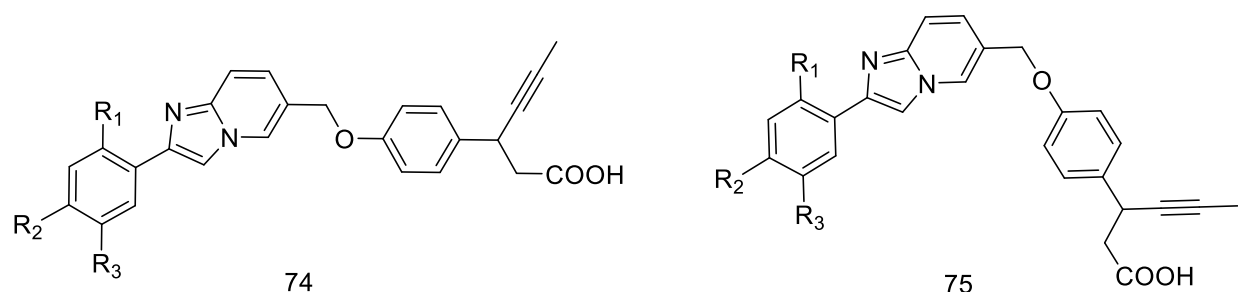


Figure 25. Anti-diabetic active imidazo [1, 2-*a*]pyridine derivatives

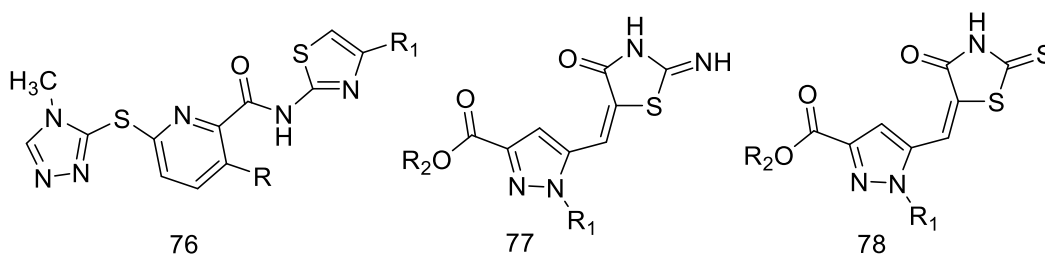


Figure 26. Anti-diabetic active pyrazole-3-carbonic derivatives

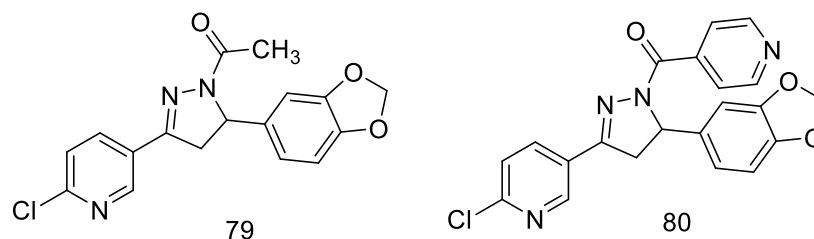


Figure 27. Anti-diabetic active chalcone-piperonal derivatives

A number of new compounds with imidazo [1,2-*a*]pyridine (74,75) skeletons were synthesised by Ye Z. *et al.* as GPR40. The evident drop in blood glucose in both normal and diabetic mice, that did not face any hepatotoxicity risk, indicates that this agonist is effective [75]. The 3, 6-disubstituted 2-pyridinecarboxamide derivatives [76] produced by Patidar D. *et al.* and tested for their anti-diabetic activity (Figure 25) [76].

Mykhaylo Bratenko and colleagues synthesized 4-(1, 3-thiazolidine-5-ylidene)pyrazole-3-carbonic acid (77,78) and its esters with hypoglycemic activity [77]. Chalcone-piperonal (79,80) were produced by Abdullah A. A. *et al.* using the Claisen-Schmidt reaction and demonstrated their *in vitro* anti-diabetic activity (Figure 26, 27) [78].

A straightforward, effective, and direct approach for converting carboxylic acids into thioamides in the presence of ammonium phosphorodithioates was described by Babak Kaboudin *et al.* [79]. Meng-Tian Zeng *et al.* synthesized thioamides derived from tetramethylthiuram and aryl aldehydes when di-*tert*-butyl peroxide disulfide and CuI are presented [80]. The styrenes phenylethanethioamides and benzothioamides were produced by Zhang P. *et al.* using a selective base-controlled method [81]. Endothiopeptides were transformed into thiazoles by Uli Kazmaier *et al.* utilising TMSCl-NaI under microwave irradiation [82]. Thioamides, a type of sulfur-containing heterocycle, serve as intermediates in the production of numerous different compounds

with uses in both synthetic and pharmaceutical chemistry[83], building blocks in pharmaceuticals [84-86], asymmetric synthesis [87], powerful inhibitors of the enzymes thyroid peroxidase and dihydroorotate dehydrogenase (DHODH)[88], hyperthyroidism, tuberculosis and leprosy[89-90], and nematodes[91].

The cyclic ketones 1*H*-indole-2,3-dione (isatin) and glycine methyl ester were produced *in situ* by Toumi A. *et al.* using a one-pot azomethine ylide synthesis. This was done in conjunction with (*Z*)-5-arylidine-2-thioxothiazolidin-4-ones, and it highlighted the effective high yield construction of rhodanine-fused spiro [pyrrolidine-2,3'-oxindoles](81) scaffolds with antidiabetic properties [92].

Afzal H. R. *et al.* were synthesized and characterized new Schiff bases of pioglitazone (82) and demonstrated the anti-diabetic inhibitory effects of alpha-amylase *in vitro* in a rat model of diabetes induced by streptozotocin and nicotinamide (Figure 28) [93].

By reacting different coumarinyl schiff bases with thioglycolic acid Bhat K. I. *et al.* were able to synthesize 4-thiazolidinone derivatives. Intermediate coumarinyl schiff bases were created by combining 4-hydroxyl coumarin with various substituted anilines newly created substances have antidiabetic action [94].

Dominic E. J. *et al.* examined the use of azomethines for the environmentally friendly and solvent-free synthesis of isatoic anhydride in a microwave oven [95].

The pyridine-based significant class of chemicals with pharmacological characteristics includes derivatives of nicotinic and isoniazid such as anti-tubercular for their antimicrobial activity against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis in vitro* [96-100], anticancer against to human

cancer cell with potent cytotoxicity[101], antifungal activities *in vitro* against the *var. capsulatum* and dimorphic fungus *Histoplasma capsulatum* [102], potential multi-target profiles for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease [103]. Anti-diabetic medications are prescribed globally, their mechanisms of action for reducing blood glucose vary, and they can have side effects that compromise the effectiveness and course of treatment. Globally, the incidence of diabetes is rising, and this is correlated with their expanding management. Although it's unclear if this is due to the effects of anti-diabetic medications or just diabetes itself, diabetes raises the risk of both cancer [104] and death from neoplasms [105].

Their research indicates that while a small number of anti-diabetic medications exhibit antitumor properties, the majority of them raise the risk of cancer.

Literature reveals that 2, 4-thiazolidinedione based amide derivatives, pyrimidine-fused derivatives, sulphonamide derivatives, sulphonyl urea, pyrazolesulfonyl-urea and thiourea derivatives, indole/imidazole/benzimidazole, thiadiazoles, oxazolone derivatives, coumarin derivatives, arylamidebiguanide hydrochloride salts, chalcone, furan derivatives, substituted benzanilides, benzothiazole derivatives pyrimidine-2,4,6-trione derivatives, synthesized pyridinylmethanone, nicotinonitrile, pyrazolopyridine, chromenopyridine, pyran-3-carbonitrile, *N*-butyrylpyrazolyl-1-butanone, 4-oxadiazole bearing 6-methyl pyridine moiety, acetohydrazides, 3,6-disubstituted-2-pyridinecarboxamide derivatives, Imidazo pyridin-3-amine derivatives, 3-imidazol-2-yl-pyrrolo pyridines and thienopyridines, imidazo

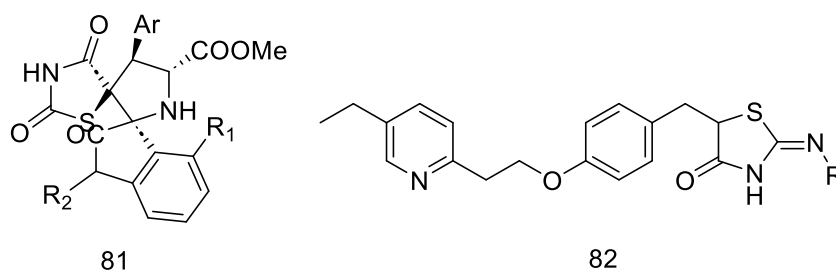


Figure 28. Anti-diabetic active Spiro and Schiff bases of pioglitazone derivatives

pyridine skeleton, 6-disubstituted 2-pyridinecarboxamide derivatives, 4-(1,3-thiazolidine-5-ylidene)pyrazole-3-carbonic acid and its esters, chalcone-piperonal derivatives, azomethine ylides, and pioglitazone having anti-diabetic activity.

5. Conclusion

The heterocyclic compounds have great significance in the medicinal chemistry. Due to the enormous applications of heterocycles which provides diverse biological activities such as anticancer, antimalarial, anti-bacterial, antifungal, antiviral, antihistamine, anti-HIV, etc. The heterocyclic compounds are utilised as an effective medicine for many diseases like malaria, cancer, diabetes, bacterial disease, inflammatory disease, etc. A five and six membered heterocyclic compounds plays an important role in medicinal chemistry. Many researchers have been reported a variety of 5 and 6 membered heterocycles showed a high biological activity. Here we have accounted the synthesis as well as applications of biologically active heterocycles containing 5 and 6 membered ring. Hence, 5 and 6 membered heterocycles like sulphonamide derivatives, pyrimidine-fused derivatives are important class of organic compounds for the new drug development. Because of the wide range of biological and pharmacological activities of 5 and 6 membered heterocycles, numerous synthetic routes have been developed for their synthesis.

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Authors' contributions

All authors contribute to the work.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declared that they have no conflict of interest.

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