

AN INSIGHT INTO SESAMOL: PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES, AND FUTURE RESEARCH PROSPECTS

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Abstract

In the current review, most of the pharmacological effects (in vivo and in vitro) of sesamol are summarized as, hepatoprotective activity, anti-microbial, neuroprotective, cardio protective, anti-inflammatory, anticonvulsant, anti-anxiolytic, wound healing, cosmetic (skin whitening), anti-cancer, antioxidant, and other biological effects. Here compile the proposed mechanism behind these pharmacological effects. The present work summarizes the most interesting in vitro and in vivo studies on the biological effects of sesamol. Another Sesamol work summarizes data available from Pub med and Scopus databases.

Keyword: Medicinal uses of sesamol, Pharmacological properties of Sesamol, Bioavailability, Combination Therapy of Sesamol with Other Drugs, Doses, Metabolism and Excretion of Sesamol, The Important Role of Sesamol in the Treatment of osteoporosis Disease

Introduction

Sesame is an important traditional health food and has been used to improve nutritional as well as prevent various diseases. Sesame seeds are not only rich in oil and protein, but also rich in lignans like sesamin and sesamolin [1, 2]. Sesame (*Sesamum indicum* L.) seeds have been authenticated for their medicinal value in both Indian and Chinese other countries systems of medicine [3]. Its numerous potential nutritional benefits are attributed to its main bioactive constituents; sesamol [4]. Sesame seed also contains lignans like aglycones in oil and lignans like glucosides. Sesame seed is rich in oil, contains increased amounts of [83-90%], unsaturated fatty acids, mainly linoleic acid [37-47%], oleic acid [35-43%], palmitic [9-11%] and stearic acid [5-10%] with trace amount of linolenic acid. [5, 6]

Sesame seeds have been widely used in culinary as well as traditional medicines for their preventive, nutritive, and curative properties. Sesame seed is an important source of phytonutrients such as omega-6 fatty acids, flavonoid phenolic anti-oxidants, vitamins, and dietary fiber with potential anti-cancer, as well as health promoting properties. Sesame oil extracted from *Sesamum indicum* seeds has been employed in the food and pharmaceutical industries due to the high lipids and protein content and its flavor [7, 8].

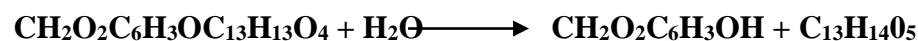
The active constituents of *Sesamum Indicum*

Sesame seed is nutritional components with beneficial effects along with health promotion for the humans. The bioactive components present in the seed like vital minerals, vitamins, phytosterols, polyunsaturated fatty acids, tocopherols, and others bioactive components like lignans such as sesamin and sesamolin [9].

These bioactive components enhance the stability and keeping quality of sesame oil along with numerous health benefits. Sesame seeds are considered valuable foods as they enhance the diet with the pleasing aroma and flavor and offer nutritional and physiological benefits. Recent studies on the antioxidant and anti-carcinogenic activities of sesame seed have greatly increased its applications in health food products that assert liver and heart protection and tumor prevention[10]. It has various pharmacological effects like anti-inflammatory, immunosuppressant, analgesic, anti-oxidant, hypolipidemic, wound healing, anti-hypertensive, ulcer protective, and anti-cancer [11-13].

Mechanism of action

Sesame oil is yellow non crystallizable oily substance obtained this color reaction was due to a phenolic compound. Although that substance name is sesamol. Synthesized sesamol by the reaction of piperonal with peracetic acid. Sesamol was obtained in the form of the acetate, combination with formic acid. The acetate was saponified with alkali, the alkaline solution acidified, and the sesamol recovered by vacuum distillation [14].



(Sesamolin)

(Sesamol)

(Samin)

Common Ethno botanical Use

Seeds are tonic, laxative, emollient, demulcent, diuretic, nourishing, galactagogue, and aphrodisiac; removes constipation, thus helpful in piles. Powdered seeds are used in applied to burns and scald. Oil is widely used in pharmaceutical products; believed to promote the growth of hair. Infusion of the leaves is much used as a demulcent, also given as a remedy for disease of the respiratory tract. Every part of the plant is used as a diuretic in Cambodia. In Madagascar, every part of the plant is considered emollient and laxative [15, 16, 17].

Sesame oil possesses excellent emollient properties. Sesame oil is a natural antibacterial, antiviral and anti-inflammatory agent, and for these reasons it has been used to treat acne [18, 19]. Other medicinal uses of sesamol in the present investigation, several pharmacological effects of sesamol are investigated like, antioxidant, anti-cancer, neuroprotective, cardio protective, anti-inflammatory, hypolipidemic, radio protective, anti-aging, anti-ulcer, anti-dementia, anti-depressant, antiplatelet, anticonvulsant, anti-anxiolytic, wound healing, cosmetic (skin whitening), anti-microbial, matrix metalloproteinase (MMPs) inhibition, hepatoprotective activity, and other biological effects[20].

Pharmacological properties of Sesamol

Antioxidative Activity

Other experiment confirmed the sesamin, sesamol and sesamol three sesame lignans prevent melanin synthesis through 2 stages: a) by blocking melanin-induction and b) by interrupting melanogenic enzyme production. To investigate that sesamol, sesamin and sesamol are potential for antimelanogenesis agents [24]. Other study confirmed the sesamol is able to alleviate cognitive impairments in (Chronic intermittent hypoxia) CIH-exposed rats, with its neuroprotective effects likely inhibiting oxidative stress and inflammation. A study was carried out to find the antioxidants effect with sesamol derivatives were computationally designed in a rational way, using a computer [25]. Other study demonstrates that the antioxidant effects of sesamol might inhibit cataract formation [26].

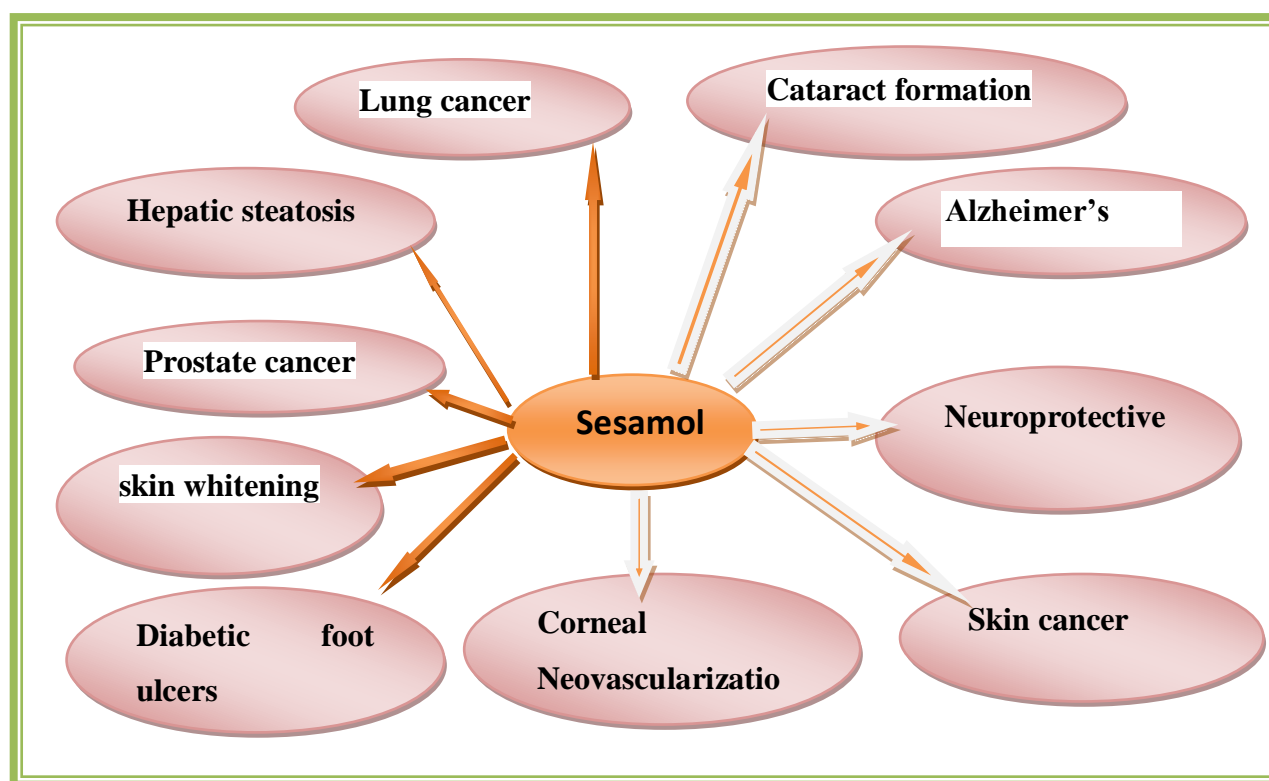


Fig.1

Neuroprotective

Another study confirmed the chronic intermittent hypoxia (CIH) could be a major feature of obstructive apnea, which may cause oxidative stress and inflammation which may further impair the system nervosum. Sesamol

improved learning and memory impairment in (CIH) Chronic intermittent hypoxia exposed rats. Additionally, sesamol also reduced the degree of TNF- α and IL-1 β within the hippocampus. Partly right that sesamol can alleviate cognitive impairments in (CIH) Chronic intermittent hypoxia exposed rats, with its neuroprotective effects likely inhibiting oxidative stress and inflammation [27]. Another study reported that sesamol as a protective agent from Alumina nanoparticles-induced (neurodegenerative disorders) neuroprotective activity [28]. Other studies demonstrate that Sesamol treatment (25, 50, and 100 mg/kg) significantly attenuated oxidative stress markers, augmented the protective mechanisms, prevented hippocampal CA1 neuron loss, and neuronal infarction in rats and it showed a neuroprotective effect of sesamol can be attributed to its antioxidative potential [29].

Alzheimer's diseases

Sesamol, an antioxidant lignan obtained from sesame oil and it possesses neuroprotective bioactivities. Cognitive deficits possible link between gut and brain sesamol shown the protective effects. Wild type and (ApoE) *apolipoprotein E* mice were treated with a high-fat diet and sesamol could only improve cognitive deficits and anxiety behaviors in wild type. Sesamol prevented dietary-induced gut barrier damages and systemic inflammation and inhibited A β accumulation in an (ApoE) *apolipoprotein E*-dependent beneficial effect on gut microbiota/metabolites could be translated into neurodegenerative diseases treatment [30].

Another study reported that black sesame pigment antioxidant and heavy metal-binding properties with potential as a food supplement. These properties open new perspectives toward the use of black sesame pigment as an ingredient of functional food or as a food supplement for the prevention of Alzheimer's diseases [31].

Anti-Cancer Activity

Anticancer nanoparticles were fabricated by linking the nanoparticles of two name anticancer agents, sesamol and selenium, using as polyethylene glycol. Sesamol- polyethylene glycol selenium nanoparticles effectively inhibited the human liver cancer cell line (HepG2 cells). Sesamol- polyethylene glycol -selenium nanoparticles indicated the synergistic inhibition between sesamol and selenium nanoparticles and Sesamol nanoparticles beneficial effects of anticancer agents [32].

Prostate cancer

Benign prostatic hypertrophy patients reflect an increased Glutathione S-transferases (GST) activity and malondialdehyde (MDA) levels. Sesamol and derivatives have manifest efficacy in protecting against

testosterone-induced BPH (Benign prostatic hypertrophy). The antioxidant potential of sesamol was claimed to be responsible for Prostate cancer [33].

Hepatic steatosis

Sesamol alleviated chronic high-fat diet HFD (Chronic high-fat diet) induced hepatic steatosis by reducing oxidative stress and inflammation in the liver. The positive effects mediated by Sesamol might be through the activation of nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2 (Nrf2 transcription). Sesame seed extract to obtained sesamol it developed into a new functional compound or even a potential therapeutic agent extracted from common food. In the future, human intervention studies or clinical trials may support the utilization of SEM to prevent the progression of (NAFLD) Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease [34].

Diabetes

Sesamol noticeably abate the body weight gain of obese mice and suppressed lipid accumulation in adipose tissue and liver. Sesamol also improved serum and hepatic lipid profiles and increased insulin sensitivity. Sesamol treatment decreases the level of ALT &AST significantly. Furthermore, after sesamol treatment, the hepatic sterol regulatory element-binding protein-1 decreased, while the phosphorylated hormone-sensitive lipase, the creatinine palmitoyltransferase 1 α , and the peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor coactivator-1 α increased, which were responsible for the fatty acid synthesis, lipolysis, and fatty acid β -oxidation, respectively. Sesamol might serve as a beneficial drug to treat obesity [35].

Obesity is the imbalance between energy intake and expenditure, and it is a serious risk factor of non-communicable diseases. Recently many studies have shown that browning of white adipose tissue to increase energy consumption has a great therapeutic potential for obesity. Sesame oil shown potential beneficial functions on obesity treatment. Sesamol promoted the browning of white adipocytes. This pre-clinical data promised the potential to consider sesamol as a metabolic modulator of HFD-induced obesity. Obesity is one of the global public health concerns. The current study found that sesamol treatment decreased the content of body fat and reduced serum TG and TC levels in HFD-induced mice [36].

Respiratory disorder

Fourier transform infrared microscopy (FTIR) novel technique in the field of cancer therapy can distinguish apoptosis induction by sesamol from cisplatin in the mimic physiological condition in the SK-LU-1 cell line.

Sesamol and cisplatin induce apoptosis in SK-LU-1 (Human lung adenocarcinoma cisplatin-sensitive) cells by causing DNA damage [37].

Lung cancer

Inhibition of COX2 expression enhanced the antitumor activity of sesamin via the (Akt-PI3K) intracellular signal transduction pathway and phosphorylated protein kinase B (pAkt) and phosphoinositide 3 kinase (PI3K) signaling pathway in lung cancer cells. Phosphoinositide 3 kinases (PI3K) expression was observed to be under the control of COX2, possibly forming a negative feedback loop. In addition, phosphoinositide 3 kinase (PI3K) depletion induced apoptosis and G1-phase arrest in human alveolar epithelial cells (A549) cells. Sesamin blocked the phosphorylated protein kinase- phosphoinositide 3 kinase (pAkt-PI3K) signaling pathway by down regulating the expression of COX2, therefore causes in cell cycle arrest and increased apoptosis in vitro. Sesamin and COX2 inhibitor may promote the development of potential treatment for lung cancer may be promoted for the development [38].

Diabetic foot ulcer

Reveal the SM-PLGA Sesamol poly (lactic-co-glycolic acid) nanosuspension is capable of controlled release of sesamol which significantly accelerated the healing process in foot ulcers. Evidence demonstrates that SM-PLGA nano-formulation is a promising healing agent for use in the treatment of non-healing chronic wounds. Sesamol-PLGA poly (lactic-co-glycolic acid) nanosuspension significantly boost the acceleration of wound healing in diabetic foot ulcers by restoring the altered wound healing process in diabetic condition[39].

Corneal Neovascularization

In this experimental and comparative study, the right eyes of 56 Wistar Albino rats were chemically cauterized to produce corneal neovascularization. When compared to the control group, all treatment groups demonstrated statistically significant differences ($P < 0.001$). When compared to subconjunctival sesamol, topical sesamol was shown to be more efficacious ($P = 0.003$). When compared to topical bevacizumab, topical sesamol+ bevacizumab was found to be more efficacious ($P = 0.018$). For the prevention of corneal neovascularization, topical sesamol monotherapy or sesamol coupled with bevacizumab may be an alternative. Sesamol stopped melanin production by inhibiting the melanocortin 1 receptor (MC1R)[40].

Radio protective effect

Ionizing radiations induce damage to the bone marrow and blood cell. comparison with the only-irradiated group, oral consumption of sesamol 2 h and 7 days as 54.5% and 70.4% ($P < 0.0001$), and micro-nucleated nucleated polychromatic erythrocytes (mnPCE) as 49% and 66% ($P < 0.001$). To investigate PCE/NCE polychromatic erythrocytes/ normochromic erythrocytes ratio increased as 47% and 83.6% ($P < 0.0001$) compared to the irradiated group. The percentage of DNA in the tail and apoptotic comets decreased significantly with oral consumption of sesamol (daily or single dose) compared to the irradiated group ($P < 0.005$). These variations were greater in the 7-day continuous pre-irradiation method. Sesamol as a radio protector can reduce the effects of gamma irradiation on mice bone marrow and blood cells [41].

Anti-tumor activity

Sesamol antitumor effect was studied in solid Ehrlich carcinoma (SEC) mice to check its ability to potentiate along with doxorubicin (DOX) [42].

Skin cancer

Sesamol was screened for its skin cancer properties and findings represent that the seeds possess Skin cancer activity using various administration (both in a free and encapsulated form) considerably decreased the tumor burden and lipid peroxidation level and increased anti-oxidant levels, down regulation of (B-cell lymphoma 2) BCL-2 and stimulation of bax (BCL2 Associated X, Apoptosis Regulator) (BAX BCL2 Associated X, Apoptosis Regulator is a Protein coding gene. Protein expression on treatment with both free and encapsulated sesamol was responsible for the induction of apoptosis in tumor cells [43].

Neuroprotective activity

Alumina nanoparticles (SNPs) are widely used causing neurobehavioral impairment in intoxicated animals and humans. The Concentrations of 8-hydroxydeoxyguanosine (8-OHdG) and malondialdehyde (MDA) were increased the level of lipid peroxidation and oxidative DNA damage. (GSH) Glutathione depletion with inhibited activities of Superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalase (CAT) was investigated. Serum levels of IL-1 β and IL-6 were increased. Finding Histopathologically, Alumina nanoparticles (AlNPs) induced hemorrhages, edema, neuronal necrosis, and/or apoptosis in the medulla oblongata. The cerebellum showed loss of Purkinje cells, and the cerebrum showed per vascular edema, neuronal degeneration, necrosis, and neuronal apoptosis. Sesamol (SML) with Alumina nanoparticles (AlNPs) consider as antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and anti-

apoptotic effects of Sesamol (SML). Since sesamol could be an assuring phytochemical with neuroprotective activity [44].

Cosmetic (skin whitening)

Sesamol inhibited melanin synthesis through the inhibition of the melanocortin 1 receptor (MC1R)/MITF/tyrosinase pathway in B16F10 cells. Sesamol is a potent depigmenting agent. Sesamol reduced the melanin and elevates the brightness of the mouse skin. Sesamol may be used in skin whitening products [45].

Anti-inflammatory

Sesamol is a redox inhibitor. It inhibits lipoxygenase through its radical scavenging activity and it shows a potential anti-inflammatory agent. [46].

Leishmanicidal effect

Visceral leishmaniasis caused by the protozoan parasite *Leishmania donovani* (*L. donovani*), is the most severe form of leishmaniasis its effect of sesamol was mediated by apoptosis-like cell death mechanism as evidenced by cell cycle arrest, and loss of mitochondrial membrane potential. Hence, sesamol was used as therapeutic herbal for the treatment of visceral leishmaniasis after further validations [47].

Atherosclerosis

Sesamol shows protective effects against nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH) and atherosclerosis [48].

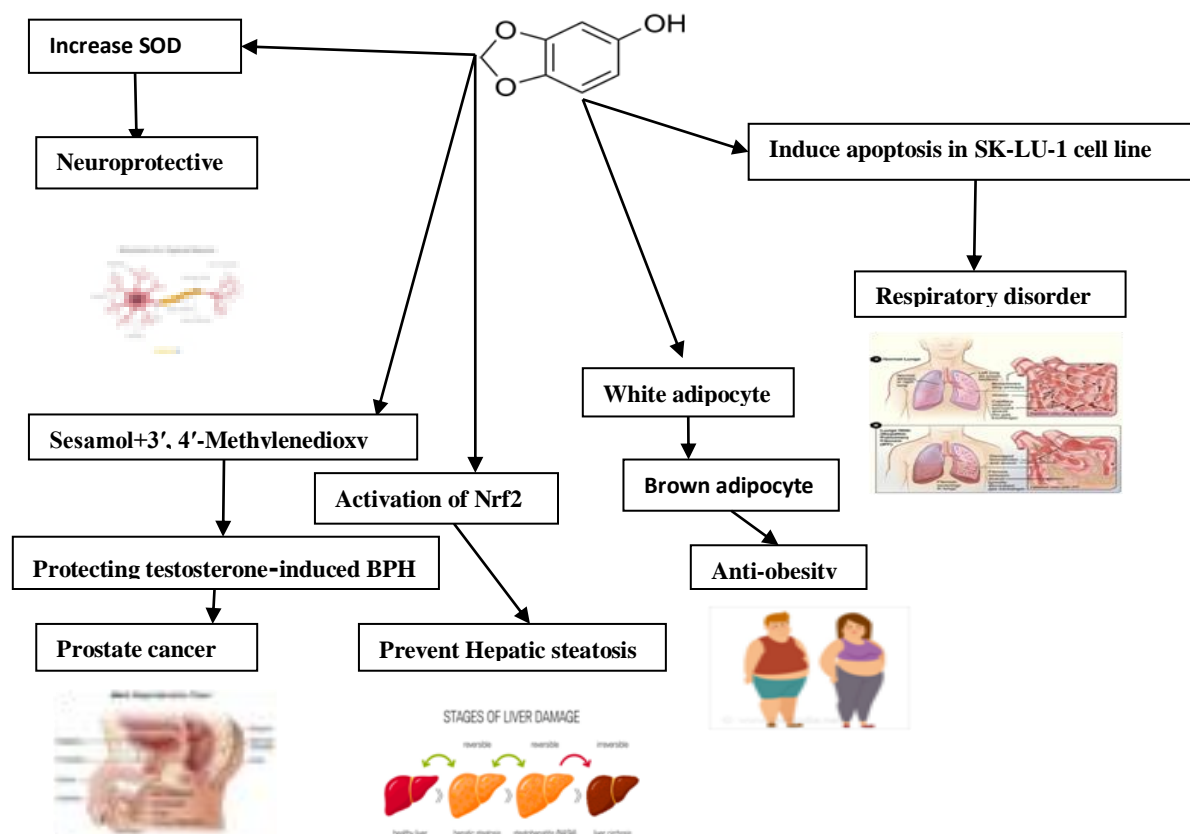


Fig.2

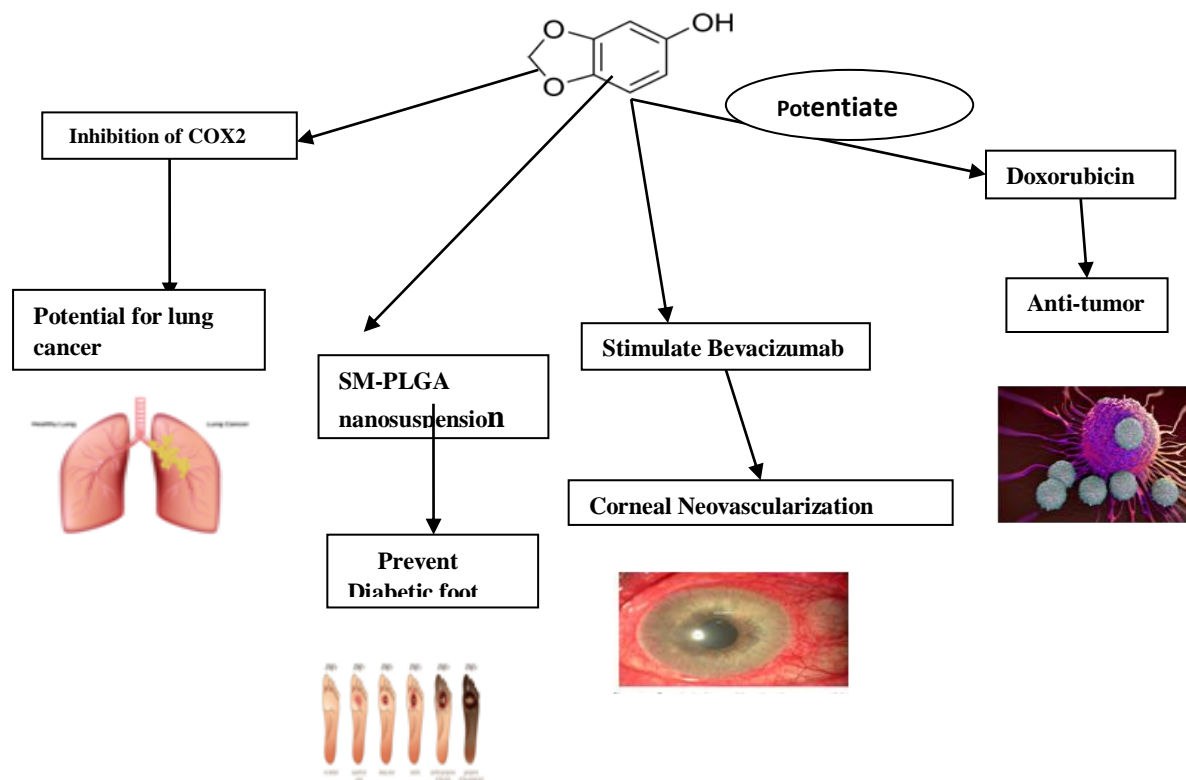


Fig.3

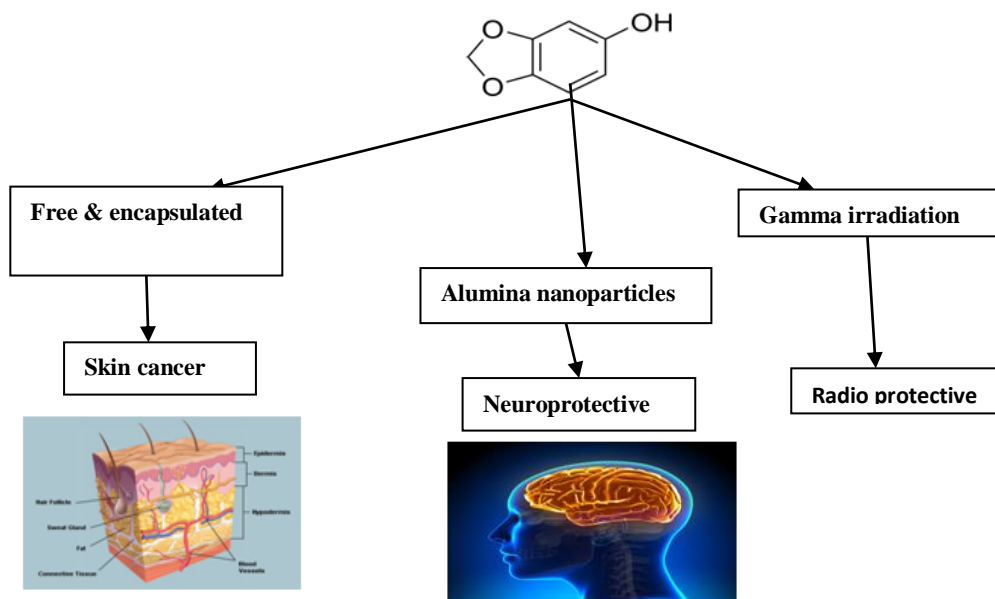


Fig.4

Bioavailability

Sesamol has low bioaccessibility, which could be enhanced by encapsulation in 425 phosphatidylcholine mixed micelles. Sesamol in phosphatidylcholine mixed micelles 426 showed enhanced bioavailability along with improved anti-inflammatory activity [49].

The oxidation stability and bioactivity of a nanoemulsion incorporating tocopherol and sesamol highly depended on the oil saturation. A nanoemulsion with a high degree of unsaturated oil (flaxseed oil) was more susceptible to oxidation, and the addition of tocopherol and sesamol could retard the lipid oxidation. Sesamol exhibited better in vitro and in vivo bioactivity in our experiment compared with tocopherol. The lipid-lowering effects of tocopherol and sesamol were superior in the low saturation oil (olive oil) group. The antioxidant activities of tocopherol and sesamol were better in the high saturation oil (flaxseed oil) group. Overall, this study could be used for the design and application of a specific nanoemulsion system fortified with lipophilic nutraceuticals [50].

Combination Therapy of Sesamol with Other Drugs

The combined effect of sesamol as an add-on drug along with the available therapy to control hyperlipidemia and ischemic heart diseases [51]. Sesamol has been documented to possess

Sesamol with crocin, an approach that could not only abolish the toxic effects of sesamol on platelets, but also enhance the quality of treatment due to their synergistic action, on the lines of combinatorial drug therapy [52]. Investigated the neuroprotective actions of dietary flavonoids (sesamol and naringenin) involve a number of effects within the brain, including a potential to protect neurons against injury induced by neurotoxins, rotenone. The flavonoids, inhibited caspase activation and reduced cell death in brain and muscle regions with their anti apoptotic property [53]. Notably, Sesamol has been documented to sesamol was successful where the cytotoxicity of this drug on MCF-7 breast cancer cell lines was not only maintained but also augmented due to the particles better uptake and internalization. These novel formulations in the treatment of the subcutaneous and the skin proximal solid tumors such as the breast cancer solid masses. Evaluating the developed formulations in animals or humans is thus warranted. [58]. Another study demonstrated the estrogen receptor (ER) is an important member of the nuclear receptor super family, including the ER α (ESR1 gene) and ER β (ESR2 gene) subtypes. Indeed, ER α takes part in the uncontrolled proliferation and invasion of breast carcinoma sesamol shows that this agent is helpful for the clinical adjuvant treatment of patients with ER α -negative breast cancer. Sesamol may not be immediately applied to clinical practice. Novel research direction and potential option for the adjuvant treatment of ER α -negative breast cancer [59]. Investigated the combination effect of sesamol, sesamin, and sesamolin in SK-MEL-2 cells. Intracellular uptake of sesamol,

sesamin, and sesamol compounds in SK-MEL-2 cells was higher than in Vero cells (sesamol < sesamin < sesamolin). Sesamol was able to reduce cell viability and tumor volume of SK-MEL-2 cells with less damage to Vero cells. Sesamol was able to induce late-stage apoptosis and necrosis cell death even at a relatively low intracellular concentration compared to sesamin and sesamolin [60]. Recently, sesamol has been documented to found that sesame phytoestrogen lignans can stimulate testosterone aromatization to estradiol, or convert it to Dihydrotestosterone. High level intake of liquorice root extract or sesame oil caused hormonal disturbance and decreases sperm count [61].

Dose use

Most clinical studies use Sesamol at 300 to 100 mg per day in divided doses [62]. Based in animal study of Cataract condition intraperitoneally administered 50 mg/kg/day saline solution and 50 mg/kg/day sesamol [63]. Based on animal studies of sesamol (50 mg/kg B.W) added into the circulation as a result of hepatocellular injury. In this study, level of AST in 300 mg/kg group was comparable to normal control, while ALT was insignificantly increased ($P > 0.05$), indicative of possibly low hepatotoxicity [64]. Sesamol reported dose 100 mg/kg or 200 mg/kg per day hepatocellular carcinoma *in vitro* and *in vivo* chemotherapeutic opportunities [65]. **Metabolism and Excretion of Sesamol**

Examined the Sesamol was able to reduce both triacylglycerol and cholesterol at both dosages (50 and 100 mg/kg), implying that it might reduce the absorption and increase the excretion of cholesterol as well. Sesamol treatment can be beneficial in preventing hyperlipidemia and related disorders [67]. Amin F et al. identified the Sesamol metabolites (glucuronides and sulfates) were detected in all tissues, with the highest concentrations in the plasma, lungs, and liver. It was concluded that sesamol is first incorporated and metabolized by the liver, and its metabolites are subsequently transported to other tissues, its metabolites were still detected in the intestines. The authors argued that organs of the gastrointestinal tract serve as the major metabolic pathway with enzymatic conversions (sulfation and/or glucuronoconjugation) of sesamol metabolites showed that sesamol-conjugated metabolites were excreted in urine after elimination from the plasma via the kidneys by active tubular secretion and sesamol-conjugated metabolites get rapidly eliminated in urine and feces within 4 h of sesamol administration [68].

The Important Role of Sesamol in the Treatment of osteoporosis Disease

Esculentoside A (EsA) inhibits cartilage inflammation, matrix catabolism and osteoclastogenesis by restraining the NF- κ B and MAPK signalling cascades, thereby reducing the degeneration of the cartilage and its matrix and osteoclast formation. Esculentoside A (EsA) may be a potential therapeutic agent for the treatment of osteoarthritis [71]. Another study conducted on components of sesame oil (SO) and rice bran oil (RBO)

possesses a significant degree of an anti-arthritis effect thus indicating a potential role for anti-arthritis [72]. The consumption of diets supplemented with soybean oil (SbO) or sesame oil (SO) might be useful for preventing bone loss caused by estrogen deficiency in ovariectomy status [73]. **Conclusion**

Sesamol is a non-toxic drug that inhibits the expression of inflammatory indicators such as cytokines, redox status, protein kinases, and enzymes that cause inflammation. Sesamol also activates caspase cascades and promotes apoptosis in cancer cells through mitochondrial and receptor-mediated mechanisms. Sesamol's pleiotropic biological effects have been described via several molecular pathways. It has been shown to have significant therapeutic effects in the treatment of oxidative and inflammatory diseases, metabolic syndrome, and mental disorders. Furthermore, significant data demonstrated sesamol's potential to limit inflammatory cell proliferation, invasion prevention, and angiogenesis by impacting several molecular targets and downstream processes. Sesamol has been studied for a variety of purposes and has been found to be effective in the majority of investigations. The pharmacological profile revealed that it is a powerful antioxidant, making it useful for diabetic complications, liver disorders, neuroprotection, and anticancer activity.

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