

Synthesis, characterization and biological evaluation of some novel sulfonylurea derivatives

Fatih TOK¹ , Hümeýra CİHANGİR¹ , Kader ŞAN¹ , Cansel ÇAKIR² , Kübra TUNA² , Yusuf SICAK³ , Mehmet ÖZTÜRK² , Bedia KOÇYİĞİT-KAYMAKÇIOĞLU^{1*} 

¹ Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, Marmara University, Istanbul 34854, Türkiye.

² Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Sciences, Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University, Muğla 48000, Türkiye.

³ Department of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Köyceğiz Vocational School, Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University, Muğla 48800, Türkiye.

* Corresponding Author. E-mail: bkaymakcioglu@marmara.edu.tr (B.K.K.); Tel. +90-216-777 52 00.

Received: 8 August 2023 / Revised: 31 August 2023 / Accepted: 1 September 2023

ABSTRACT: In this study, some new sulfonylurea derivatives based on the sulfanilamide compound were synthesized. IR, ¹H-NMR, ¹³C-NMR spectroscopic methods and elemental analysis data were used to confirm the structures of the synthesized compounds. ABTS, DPPH, Cuprac and β-Carotene/linoleic acid assays were performed to evaluate the antioxidant activities of sulphonylurea derivatives. The activities of these compounds against some enzymes (acetylcholinesterase, butyrylcholinesterase, tyrosinase, α-amylase and α-glucosidase) were also investigated. Compounds **S7**, **S8**, **S13** and **S14** showed inhibitory activity against α-amylase enzyme with IC₅₀ values of 227.84±1.48-298.27±8.61 μM. In addition, the drug-likeness properties and solubility of the compounds were determined by computational programs.

KEYWORDS: Sulfonylurea; antioxidant; cholinesterase; tyrosinase; α-amylase; α-glucosidase.

1. INTRODUCTION

Sulfonylurea consists of a sulfonyl group (-S(=O)₂) with a sulfur atom attached to the nitrogen atom of a urea group [1]. Sulfonylurea group shows various pharmacological activities such as antibacterial, antimalarial, anticancer, antidiabetic and antiherbicide depending on the substituents it carries on sulfur and nitrogen atoms [2-5]. In fact, there is a class of antidiabetic drugs that carry the sulfonylurea group [6]. Sulfonylurea group antidiabetic agents such as tolbutamide, chlorpropamide, tolazamide, acetohexamide, glybenclamide and glipizide stimulate the beta cells of the pancreas to release insulin and thus lower blood sugar [7] (Figure 1). Idrees et al. synthesized sulfonylurea structures that can strongly inhibit carbonic anhydrase enzyme but do not show toxic effects on normal human cells [8]. In another study, Ceras et al. reported that the sulfonylurea compound bearing the naphthalene ring they synthesized was a potent histamine receptor inhibitor [9]. Nan et al. reported that 4-phenoxyquinoline structures bearing sulfonylurea structure showed strong tyrosine kinase inhibitory activity and antitumor activity on some cancer cells [10]. Studies on new sulfonylurea derivatives with both antidiabetic activity and molecules with different biological activity, such as Sulofenur (anticancer) and Chlorsulfuron (herbicide), are continuing [11].

The presence of donor and acceptor moieties in sulfonylurea groups facilitates their participation in various non-covalent interactions, in particular hydrogen bonding. Therefore, the synthesis and structural properties of sulfonylureas have attracted attention in recent years [12]. When comparing the solubility of urea compounds with that of sulfonylurea compounds, low solubility usually results in low systemic exposure and poor *in vivo* activity. Low solubility is a significant problem, and can be addressed at different stages of the drug discovery process [13]. Early-stage intervention is molecular design, later-stage formulation modification may be an option, but none of these have any guarantee of success [14,15]. Therefore, the structures of the molecules were designed based on the knowledge of the high solubility of sulfonylurea compounds compared to urea compounds.

In the light of the above information; starting from 4-aminobenzenesulfonamide, amide structure in the first step and sulfonylurea structures in the second step were synthesized. The structures of the synthesized

How to cite this article: Tok F, Cihangir H, Şan K, Çakır C, Tuna K, Sıcak Y, Öztürk M, Koçyiğit-Kaymakçioğlu B. Synthesis, characterization and biological evaluation of some novel sulfonylurea derivatives. J Res Pharm. 2023; 27(6): 2416-2424.

compounds were elucidated by spectroscopic methods and their antioxidant, anticholinesterase, antityrosinase and antidiabetic activities were investigated.

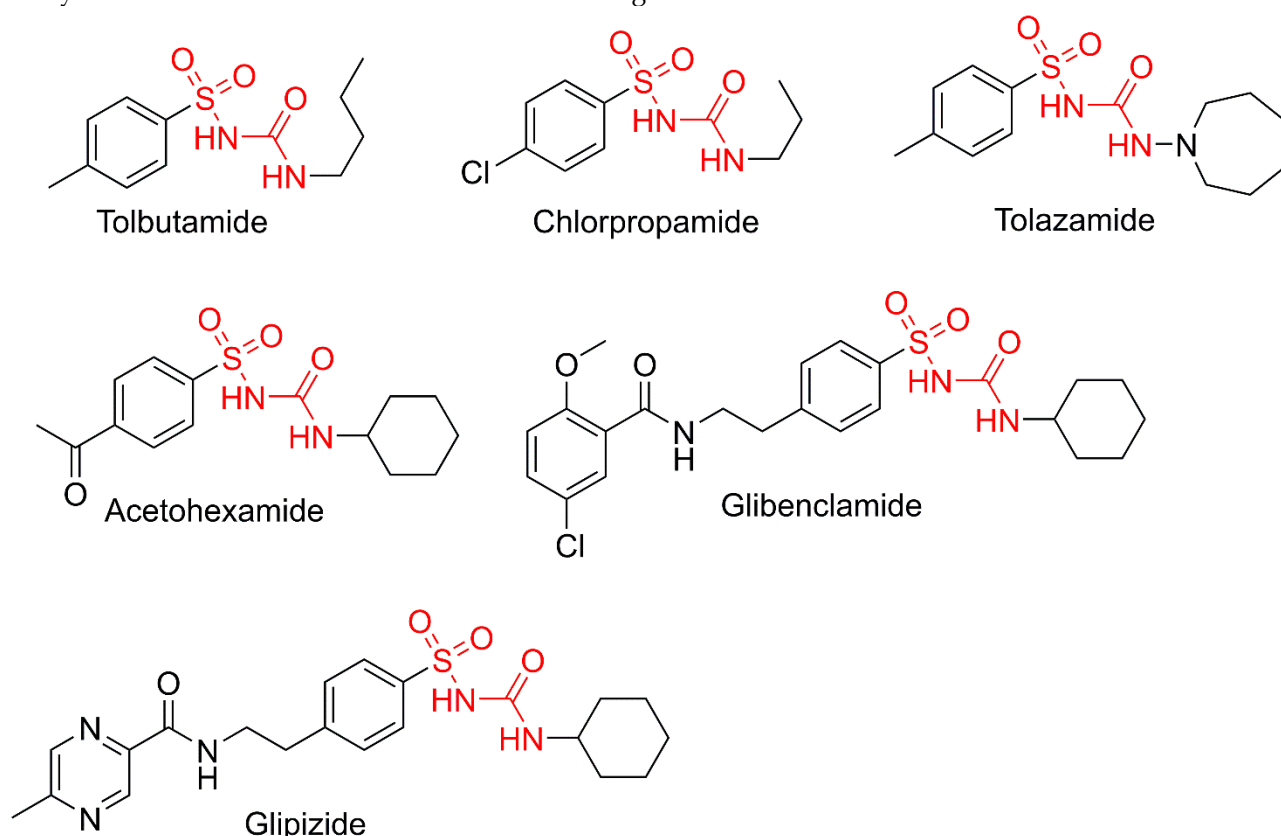
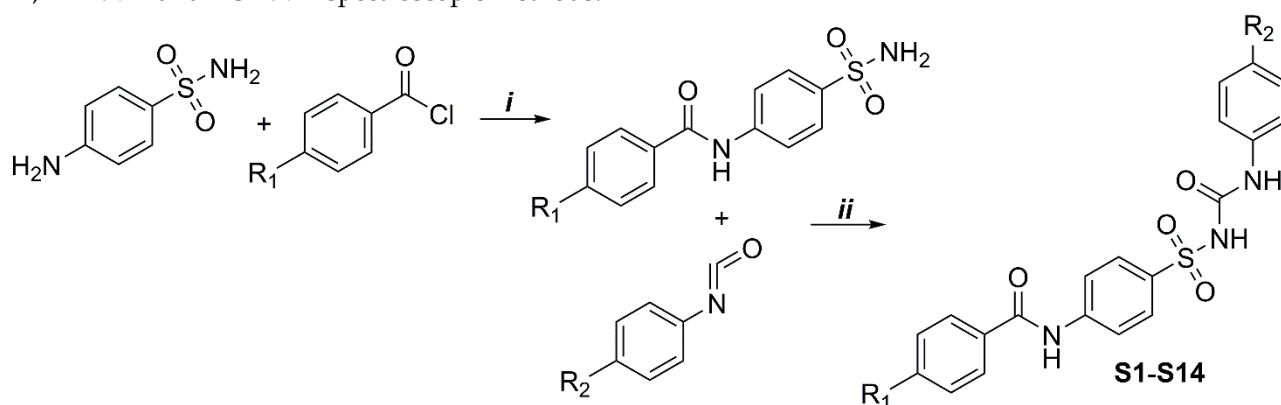


Figure 1. Some antidiabetics having sulfonylurea groups.

2. RESULTS

2.1. Chemistry

The amide structure was obtained by oxidation of 4-aminobenzamide molecule with various benzoyl chlorides in a basic medium. Subsequently, molecules with sulfonylurea structure (**S1-S14**) were synthesized by nucleophilic addition reaction of sulfonamide group with 4-chlorophenylisocyanate or 4-methylphenylisocyanate in a basic medium (Scheme 1). The purity of all compounds was confirmed by thin layer chromatography and elemental analysis. The structures of the synthesized compounds were proved by IR, $^1\text{H-NMR}$ and $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ spectroscopic methods.



Scheme 1. The synthetic pathway of target molecules. (i) pyridine, acetone (ii) potassium carbonate, DMF.

In the IR spectrum of the compounds with sulfonylurea structure, two sharp C=O bands in the range of $1649\text{-}1680\text{ cm}^{-1}$ and $1629\text{-}1639\text{ cm}^{-1}$ were found to be important for the proof of the structure. Apart from this, the characteristic NH stretching bands of the sulfonylurea structure were detected in the range of $3165\text{-}3377\text{ cm}^{-1}$.

When the ¹H-NMR spectrum of the sulfonylurea compounds was analyzed, the amide proton was detected in the lowest energy range between 10.41-10.89 ppm. Among the NH protons forming the sulfonylurea group, the one connected to the sulfone group resonated in the aromatic region and the one connected to the aromatic structure resonated at 8.49-8.88 ppm, respectively.

In the ¹³C-NMR spectrum of sulfonylurea compounds, amide and sulfonylurea carbonyls were observed in the range of 163.91-166.44 ppm and 150.08-153.11 ppm, respectively.

2.2. Biological activity

ABTS, DPPH, CUPRAC and β-carotene/linoleic acid assays were carried out to screen the antioxidant activity of the synthesized sulfonylurea derivatives. The antioxidant activity of the compounds could not be determined when compared with the standard drug BHA. Only compounds **S7** and **S13** showed IC₅₀ values of 387.14 μM and 335.10 μM in the CUPRAC assay, respectively (Table 1).

Table 1. Antioxidant activities of synthesized **S1-S14**^a

Compounds	R ₁	R ₂	Antioxidant activity			
			ABTS ⁺ Assay (IC ₅₀ μM)	DPPH Assay (IC ₅₀ μM)	CUPRAC (A _{0.5} μM)	β-Carotene/linoleic acid assay (IC ₅₀ μM)
S1	H	Cl	NA	NA	>400	NA
S2	H	CH ₃	NA	>400	>400	NA
S3	F	Cl	NA	NA	>400	NA
S4	F	CH ₃	NA	>400	>400	NA
S5	Cl	Cl	NA	NA	>400	NA
S6	Cl	CH ₃	NA	NA	NA	NA
S7	CH ₃	Cl	NA	NA	387.14±0.19	NA
S8	CH ₃	CH ₃	NA	NA	>400	NA
S9	NO ₂	Cl	NA	>400	>400	NA
S10	NO ₂	CH ₃	NA	NA	>400	NA
S11	OCH ₃	Cl	NA	>400	>400	NA
S12	OCH ₃	CH ₃	NA	>400	NA	NA
S13	Br	Cl	NA	>400	335.10±0.84	NA
S14	Br	CH ₃	NA	NA	>400	NA
BHA ^b			2.49±0.05	5.93±0.20	5.74±0.41	0.66±0.02

Abbreviation: BHA, 2-tert-Butyl-4-hydroxyanisole.

^a Values expressed herein are mean ± SEM of three parallel measurements. *p*<0.05.

NT: not tested. NA: not active. ^bReference compounds.

The activities of the synthesized compounds against acetylcholinesterase (AChE), butrylcholinesterase (BChE), tyrosinase, α-amylase and α-glucosidase enzymes were also investigated. Although compounds **S7**, **S8**, **S13** and **S14** showed a little inhibitory activity against the α-amylase enzyme, none of the remaining compounds showed significant inhibitor activity (Table 2).

Table 2. Enzyme inhibition activities of synthesized **S1-S14**^a

Compounds	Anticholinesterase activity		Tyrosinase Activity IC ₅₀ (mM)	Antidiabetic inhibitory activities	
	AChE (IC ₅₀ μM)	BChE (IC ₅₀ μM)		α-Amylase Inhibitory Activity (IC ₅₀ μM)	α-Glucosidase Inhibitory Activity (IC ₅₀ μM)
S1	NA	NA	NA	>400	NA
S2	NA	NA	NA	>400	NA
S3	NA	NA	NA	>400	NA
S4	NA	NA	NA	>400	NA
S5	NA	NA	NA	>400	NA
S6	NA	NA	NA	>400	NA
S7	NA	NA	NA	280.16±2.80	NA
S8	NA	NA	NA	298.27±8.61	NA

S9	NA	NA	NA	>400	NA
S10	NA	NA	NA	>400	NA
S11	NA	NA	NA	>400	NA
S12	NA	NA	NA	>400	NA
S13	NA	NA	NA	227.84±1.48	NA
S14	NA	NA	NA	267.67±2.76	NA
Galantamin^b	1.82±0.30	4.62±0.12	NT	NT	NT
Kojic acid^b	NT	NT	0.71±0.54	NT	NT
L-mimosine^b	NT	NT	0.79±0.09	NT	NT
Acarbose^b	NT	NT	NT	62.92 ± 1.84	201.07±0.55

^a Values expressed herein are mean ± SEM of three parallel measurements. $p < 0.05$.
NT: not tested. NA: not active. ^bReference compounds.

2.3. In silico studies

One of the prerequisites for synthesized compounds to be drug candidate compounds is drug-likeness properties [16]. Lipinski and Veber's rules, which are a result of the physicochemical properties of compounds, are one of the most important drug-like properties [17]. All of the compounds synthesized in this study are in full compliance with the Lipinski rule. Only **S9** and **S10**, which carry a nitro group on the aromatic ring, deviate from the Veber rule, but the other compounds are in full compliance with the Veber rule (Table 3).

Solubility is extremely important for oral absorption of the drug. Compounds with poor solubility cause poor oral absorption and poor oral bioavailability [15]. The solubility of the synthesized compounds can be estimated by theoretically calculated log S values. Only **S13** has poor solubility while all other compounds have moderate solubility.

Table 3. Drug-likeness properties of synthesized **S1-S14**^a

Compounds	Lipinski filter				Veber filter		Solubility class
	MW	clogP	num. H-bond acceptors	num. H-bond donors	<i>n</i> -ROTB	TPSA	Log S
S1	429.88	2.90	4	3	8	112.75	-5.24
S2	409.46	2.90	4	3	8	112.75	-4.80
S3	447.87	3.54	5	3	8	112.75	-5.40
S4	427.45	3.27	5	3	8	112.75	-4.96
S5	464.32	3.38	4	3	8	112.75	-5.83
S6	443.90	3.38	4	3	8	112.75	-5.39
S7	443.90	3.38	4	3	8	112.75	-5.39
S8	423.48	3.12	4	3	8	112.75	-5.10
S9	472.88	2.22	6	3	8	146.89	-5.72
S10	452.46	2.22	6	3	8	146.89	-5.28
S11	459.90	2.86	5	3	9	121.98	-5.31
S12	439.48	2.60	5	3	9	121.98	-4.87
S13	508.77	3.49	4	3	8	112.75	-6.15
S14	488.35	3.49	4	3	8	112.75	-5.71

MW: Molecular weight, clogP: partition coefficient, num. H-bond acceptors: number of hydrogen bond acceptors, num. H-bond donors: number of hydrogen bond donors, *n*-ROTB: number of rotatable bonds, TPSA: total polar surface area. MW≤500, clogP≤4.15, num. H-bond acceptors≤10 and num. H-bond donors≤5 for Lipinski filter. *n*-ROTB<10 and TPSA<140 for Veber filter. log S scale: Insoluble<-10<poorly<-6<moderately<-4<soluble<-2<very<0<highly.

3. CONCLUSION

Sulfonylurea derivatives are an important functional group considered in drug discovery processes. For this reason, some new compounds based on 4-aminobenzenesulfonamide compound have been synthesized and their structures have been elucidated. Antioxidant activity studies such as ABTS, DPPH, Cuprac and β-Carotene/linoleic acid assays were carried out to screen the biological activity of the synthesized compounds but no significant activity was observed. In addition, the activities of the synthesized compounds against enzymes responsible for different biological effects such as cholinesterase (AChE and BChE), tyrosinase, α-amylase and α-glucosidase were screened. Among these enzymes, only compounds **7** and **8** carrying methyl and compounds **13** and **14** carrying bromine substituents on the aromatic ring showed low activity against α-

amylase. All of the compounds were found to comply with Lipinski's rule, except **S9** and **S10** which were found to comply with Veber's rule. The solubility of the compounds, which is an important parameter for oral bioavailability, was found to be moderate except for compound **S13**.

4. MATERIALS AND METHODS

4.1. Chemistry

All chemicals used in this study were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Melting points were determined by Schmelzpunktbestimmer SMP II. IR spectra were recorded at FTIR-8400S Shimadzu. ¹H-NMR and ¹³C-NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance III HD 600 MHz instrument at 600 MHz for ¹H-NMR and 151 MHz for ¹³C-NMR (decoupled) in DMSO-*d*₆ with TMS as an internal standard for protons. The purity of the compounds was controlled by thin layer chromatography (TLC) and elemental analysis. Elemental analyses were obtained using Leco CHNS-932.

4.1.1. General synthesis procedure of target compounds (S1-S14)

1 mmol sulfanilamide and 2 mmol pyridine were dissolved in 15 ml acetone with stirring. The temperature of the mixture was lowered below 0 °C and substituted benzoyl chloride (1 mmol) was added dropwise to the solution. The mixture was stirred in a magnetic stirrer at room temperature for 5 hours. The excess solvent was evaporated under a vacuum. The resulting product was purified by column chromatography [18].

5.8 mmol sulfonamide derivative and 1.2 mmol potassium carbonate in 20 ml DMF stirred at 100 °C for 1 hour. Then 5.8 mmol 4-chlorophenylisocyanate or 4-methylphenylisocyanate was added to the mixture and stirred at 100 °C for 10 hours. After checking by thin layer chromatography, the mixture was poured on crushed ice and neutralized with conc.HCl. The precipitate obtained was dried and crystallized from ethanol [19].

N-(4-(*N*-((4-Chlorophenyl)carbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)benzamide (**S1**)

White solid, yield: 77%, m.p. = 280 °C. IR (ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3362, 3290, 3255, 1651, 1631, 1589, 1558, 1516, 1296, 1155, 829. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.58 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.86 (s, 1H, sulfonylurea NH), 7.98 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.84 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.29 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.44 (amide CO), 152.82 (sulfonylurea CO), 142.61, 139.20, 139.00, 134.95, 132.39, 129.10, 128.94, 128.25, 127.00, 126.00, 120.33, 120.32. Anal. calcd. for C₂₀H₁₆ClN₃O₄S: C 55.88, H 3.75, N 9.78, S 7.46. Found: C 58.54, H 4.52, N 10.57, S 7.36 %.

N-(4-(*N*-(*p*-Tolylcarbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)benzamide (**S2**)

White solid, yield: 80%, m.p. = 290 °C. IR (ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3360, 3290, 3255, 3032, 2916, 2856, 1651, 1639, 1591, 1564, 1514, 1296, 1155, 829. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.57 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.50 (s, 1H, sulfonylurea NH), 8.00 – 7.94 (m, 4H), 7.81 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.44 (amide CO), 153.10 (sulfonylurea CO), 142.61, 139.20, 137.67, 134.96, 132.39, 130.99, 129.62, 128.95, 128.26, 126.99, 120.31, 118.70, 20.80. Anal. calcd. for C₂₁H₁₉N₃O₄S: C 61.60, H 4.68, N 10.26, S 7.83. Found: C 58.35, H 4.50, N 10.47, S 7.23 %.

N-(4-(*N*-((4-Chlorophenyl)carbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)-4-fluorobenzamide (**S3**)

White solid, yield: 75%, m.p. = 262 °C. IR (ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3321, 3277, 3225, 3105, 1676, 1631, 1589, 1537, 1504, 1298, 1155, 845. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.59 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.86 (s, 1H, sulfonylurea NH), 8.07 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 5.5 Hz, 2H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 165.56, 165.31, 163.91 (amide CO), 152.82 (sulfonylurea CO), 150.06, 142.51, 139.27, 138.99, 136.61, 131.39, 131.37, 131.09, 131.02, 129.10, 127.01, 126.00, 124.38, 120.36, 120.33, 115.98, 115.84. Anal. calcd. for C₂₀H₁₅ClFN₃O₄S: C 53.64, H 3.38, N 9.38, S 7.16. Found: C 55.74, H 3.93, N 10.06, S 7.81 %.

4-Fluoro-*N*-(4-(*N*-(*p*-tolylcarbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)benzamide (**S4**)

White solid, yield: 81%, m.p. = 257 °C. IR (vmax, cm⁻¹): 3317, 3223, 3097, 2912, 1680, 1639, 1591, 1554, 1506, 1334, 1157, 845. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.58 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.50 (s, 1H, sulfonylurea NH), 8.09 – 8.04 (m, 2H), 7.97 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.84 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.40 (td, *J* = 8.7, 1.7 Hz, 3H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 165.56, 165.31, 163.91 (amide CO), 153.10 (sulfonylurea CO), 150.07, 142.50, 139.27, 137.66, 131.39, 131.37, 131.09, 131.03, 131.00, 129.62, 127.00, 124.39, 120.36, 118.71, 115.99, 115.85, 20.79. Anal. calcd. for C₂₁H₁₈FN₃O₄S: C 59.01, H 4.24, N 9.83, S 7.50. Found: C 61.71, H 4.68, N 10.34, S 7.28 %.

4-Chloro-*N*-(4-(*N*-((4-chlorophenyl)carbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)benzamide (S5)

White solid, yield: 70%, m.p. = 267 °C. IR (vmax, cm⁻¹): 3377, 3298, 3165, 3095, 1664, 1631, 1589, 1527, 1315, 1155, 831. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.64 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.86 (s, 1H, sulfonylurea NH), 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36 – 7.30 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 165.32 (amide CO), 152.82 (sulfonylurea CO), 150.06, 142.41, 139.37, 139.00, 137.26, 136.60, 133.63, 130.23, 129.09, 129.02, 127.02, 126.01, 124.37, 120.41, 120.33. Anal. calcd. for C₂₀H₁₅Cl₂N₃O₄S: C 51.74, H 3.26, N 9.05, S 6.90. Found: C 54.29, H 3.83, N 9.57, S 7.35 %.

4-Chloro-*N*-(4-(*N*-(*p*-tolylcarbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)benzamide (S6)

White solid, yield: 85%, m.p. = 282 °C. IR (vmax, cm⁻¹): 3377, 3304, 3171, 3076, 2914, 1664, 1639, 1591, 1527, 1315, 1155, 831. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.63 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.10 – 7.91 (m, 6H), 7.91 – 7.74 (m, 4H), 7.74 – 7.58 (m, 4H), 2.35 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 165.30 (amide CO), 150.08 (sulfonylurea CO), 142.41, 139.38, 137.25, 133.64, 130.24, 129.61, 129.03, 127.02, 124.38, 120.39, 118.69, 20.80. Anal. calcd. for C₂₁H₁₉N₃O₄S: C 61.60, H 4.68, N 10.26. Found: C 60.10, H 3.90, N 16.25 %. Anal. calcd. for C₂₁H₁₈ClN₃O₄S: C 56.82, H 4.09, N 9.47, S 7.22. Found: C 50.76, H 3.85, N 9.13, S 9.49 %.

N-(4-(*N*-((4-Chlorophenyl)carbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)-4-methylbenzamide (S7)

White solid, yield: 88%, m.p. = 275 °C. IR (vmax, cm⁻¹): 3358, 3306, 3255, 3032, 1649, 1633, 1591, 1519, 1296, 1157, 825. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.48 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.87 (s, 1H, sulfonylurea NH), 8.03 – 7.72 (m, 6H), 7.50 – 7.26 (m, 7H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.21 (amide CO), 152.82 (sulfonylurea CO), 142.70, 142.50, 139.08, 139.02, 132.05, 129.46, 129.10, 128.30, 126.97, 125.98, 120.32, 120.27, 21.51. Anal. calcd. for C₂₁H₁₈ClN₃O₄S: C 56.82, H 4.09, N 9.47, S 7.22. Found: C 59.22, H 4.63, N 9.96, S 6.30 %.

4-Methyl-*N*-(4-(*N*-(*p*-tolylcarbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)benzamide (S8)

White solid, yield: 70%, m.p. = 295 °C. IR (vmax, cm⁻¹): 3358, 3306, 3255, 3032, 1649, 1633, 1591, 1516, 1294, 1157, 827. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.48 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.50 (s, 1H, sulfonylurea NH), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.28 (m, 5H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.22 (amide CO), 153.11 (sulfonylurea CO), 142.71, 142.51, 139.08, 137.67, 132.05, 131.00, 129.62, 129.46, 128.30, 126.97, 120.28, 118.71, 21.50, 20.79. Anal. calcd. for C₂₂H₂₁N₃O₄S: C 62.40, H 5.00, N 9.92, S 7.57. Found: C 66.77, H 5.87, N 10.58, S 6.05 %.

N-(4-(*N*-((4-Chlorophenyl)carbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)-4-nitrobenzamide (S9)

White solid, yield: 77%, m.p. = 256 °C. IR (vmax, cm⁻¹): 3356, 3292, 3254, 3078, 1662, 1629, 1597, 1531, 1325, 1153, 827. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.89 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.86 (s, 1H, sulfonylurea NH), 8.44 – 8.37 (m, 2H), 8.21 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 7.84 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 7.52 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.30 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 164.80 (amide CO), 152.82 (sulfonylurea CO), 149.81, 142.11, 140.59, 139.73, 139.02, 129.84, 129.10, 127.08, 125.97, 124.08, 120.54, 120.31. Anal. calcd. for C₂₀H₁₅ClN₄O₆S: C 50.59, H 3.18, N 11.80, S 6.75. Found: C 52.48, H 3.41, N 12.26, S 6.57 %.

4-Nitro-*N*-(4-(*N*-(*p*-tolylcarbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)benzamide (S10)

White solid, yield: 72%, m.p. = 248 °C. IR (vmax, cm⁻¹): 3342, 3304, 3254, 3050, 2918, 1662, 1639, 1595, 1564, 1327, 1155, 827. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.88 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.49 (s, 2H, sulfonylurea NH), 8.42 – 8.37 (m, 1H), 8.26 – 8.19 (m, 2H), 7.99 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.90 – 7.82 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.30 (m, 3H), 7.12 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 164.82 (amide CO), 153.10 (sulfonylurea CO), 149.81, 142.10, 140.59,

139.73, 137.66, 131.00, 129.83, 129.62, 127.08, 124.08, 120.55, 118.70, 67.49, 20.79. Anal. calcd. for $C_{21}H_{18}N_4O_6S$: C 55.50, H 3.99, N 12.33, S 7.05. Found: C 61.59, H 5.08, N 12.67, S 5.16 %.

N-(4-(*N*-((4-Chlorophenyl)carbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**S11**)

White solid, yield: 70%, m.p. = 266 °C. IR (vmax, cm^{-1}): 3346, 3277, 3201, 3080, 2954, 1660, 1633, 1587, 1543, 1315, 1157, 825. 1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 10.41 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.88 (s, 1H, sulfonylurea NH), 7.97 (dd, J = 15.5, 8.7 Hz, 4H), 7.80 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 4H), 7.09 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 165.73 (amide CO), 162.65, 152.82 (sulfonylurea CO), 142.84, 139.02, 138.93, 130.27, 129.10, 126.96, 126.92, 125.98, 120.32, 120.21, 114.17, 55.95. Anal. calcd. for $C_{21}H_{18}ClN_3O_5S$: C 54.84, H 3.95, N 9.14, S 6.97. Found: C 56.38, H 4.49, N 9.49, S 7.82 %.

4-Methoxy-*N*-(4-(*N*-(*p*-tolylcarbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)benzamide (**S12**)

White solid, yield: 70%, m.p. = 288 °C. IR (vmax, cm^{-1}): 3346, 3277, 3203, 3066, 2956, 1660, 1633, 1587, 1566, 1315, 1157, 825. 1H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 10.41 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.50 (s, 1H, sulfonylurea NH), 7.98 (ddd, J = 19.8, 8.9, 2.0 Hz, 4H), 7.83 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.08 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 165.75 (amide CO), 162.66, 153.11 (sulfonylurea CO), 142.83, 138.93, 137.67, 131.00, 130.27, 129.62, 127.13, 126.96, 126.92, 120.22, 118.71, 114.17, 55.94, 20.79. Anal. calcd. for $C_{22}H_{21}N_3O_5S$: C 60.13, H 4.82, N 9.56, S 7.29. Found: C 62.11, H 5.06, N 10.09, S 6.53 %.

4-Bromo-*N*-(4-(*N*-((4-chlorophenyl)carbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)benzamide (**S13**)

White solid, yield: 80%, m.p. = 268 °C. IR (vmax, cm^{-1}): 3292, 3230, 3097, 2954, 1660, 1629, 1587, 1556, 1315, 1157, 825. 1H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 10.64 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.86 (s, 2H, sulfonylurea NH), 7.95 (dd, J = 11.2, 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.78 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.33 (dd, J = 10.5, 3.7 Hz, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 165.45 (amide CO), 152.82 (sulfonylurea CO), 142.40, 139.38, 139.00, 138.97, 134.00, 131.96, 130.39, 129.09, 127.02, 126.21, 126.00, 120.41, 120.33. Anal. calcd. for $C_{20}H_{15}BrClN_3O_4S$: C 47.42, H 2.97, N 8.26, S 6.30. Found: C 51.25, H 3.46, N 9.15, S 4.33 %.

4-Bromo-*N*-(4-(*N*-(*p*-tolylcarbamoyl)sulfamoyl)phenyl)benzamide (**S14**)

White solid, yield: 85%, m.p. = 253 °C. IR (vmax, cm^{-1}): 3302, 3050, 2914, 1650, 1637, 1593, 1564, 1307, 1157, 813. 1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 10.63 (s, 1H, amide NH), 8.50 (s, 1H, sulfonylurea NH), 7.94 (ddt, J = 6.5, 4.3, 2.1 Hz, 3H), 7.80 (ddd, J = 10.8, 8.8, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (dd, J = 9.1, 2.7 Hz, 4H), 7.16 – 7.00 (m, 4H), 2.24 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 165.43 (amide CO), 153.09 (sulfonylurea CO), 142.39, 139.38, 137.69, 134.00, 131.97, 130.96, 130.40, 129.62, 127.02, 126.21, 120.39, 118.69, 20.80. Anal. calcd. for $C_{21}H_{18}BrN_3O_4S$: C 51.65, H 3.72, N 8.60, S 6.56. Found: C 52.77, H 4.92, N 9.59, S 4.84 %.

4.2. Biological activity

4.2.1. *In vitro* antioxidant activities

The antioxidant activities of **S1-S14** derivatives were determined using four complimentary assays, namely, ABTS cation radical scavenging activity, DPPH free radical scavenging activity, cupric reducing antioxidant capacity (CUPRAC) and β -carotene bleaching method. The antioxidant activity methods were applied as reported in our previous research [20,21]. The 2-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyanisole (BHA) was used as the standard to compare the activity.

4.2.2. *In vitro* enzyme inhibitory activities

The AChE and BChE inhibitory activities of all obtained derivatives (**S1-S14**) were assessed using the modified Ellman method, as described in the our previous studies [22,23]. The tyrosinase enzyme inhibition procedure was applied using the modified Hearing method, as reported in our previous research papers [24,25]. The α -amylase and α -glucosidase inhibitory activities of synthesized compounds were also evaluated using the spectroscopic method with slight changes by Quan et al. and Kim et al. [26,27]. Galantamine for

anticholinesterase, kojic acid and L-mimosine tyrosinase, acarbose for α -amylase and α -glucosidase were used as a positive standard to compare the inhibitory activity.

4.3. *In silico* studies

SwissAdme online server was used to evaluate the drug-like properties of the synthesized compounds (<http://www.swissadme.ch/index.php>, access date: 29.07.2023). The theoretical values of the synthesized compounds such as molecular weight, partition coefficient, hydrogen donor and acceptor numbers, number of rotatable bonds and total polar surface area were calculated by the program.

This is an open access article which is publicly available on our journal's website under Institutional Repository at <http://dSPACE.marmara.edu.tr>.

Acknowledgements: This work was partly supported by a TUBITAK 2209-A Research Projects Program. (No: 1919B012219955).

Author contributions: Concept - F.T., B.K.K.; Design - F.T., Y.S., M.Ö., B.K.K.; Supervision - M.Ö., B.K.K.; Resources - F.T., Y.S., M.Ö., B.K.K.; Materials - F.T., Y.S., M.Ö., B.K.K.; Data Collection and/or Processing - F.T., H.C., K.Ş., C.Ç., K.T., Y.S., M.Ö., B.K.K.; Analysis and/or Interpretation - F.T., H.C., K.Ş., C.Ç., K.T., Y.S., M.Ö., B.K.K.; Literature Search - F.T., H.C., K.Ş., C.Ç., K.T., Y.S., M.Ö., B.K.K.; Writing - F.T., Y.S., M.Ö., B.K.K.; Critical Reviews - F.T., Y.S., M.Ö., B.K.K.

Conflict of interest statement: The authors declared no conflict of interest.

REFERENCES

- [1] Wang JG, Lee PKM, Dong YH, Pang SS, Duggleby RG, Li ZM, Guddat LW. Crystal structures of two novel sulfonylurea herbicides in complex with Arabidopsis thaliana acetohydroxyacid synthase. *FEBS J.* 2009; 276: 1282-1290. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1742-4658.2009.06863.x>
- [2] Leon C, Rodrigues J, Dominguez NG, Charris J, Gut J, Rosenthal PJ, Dominguez JN. Synthesis and evaluation of sulfonylurea derivatives as novel antimalarials. *Eur J Med Chem.* 2007; 42: 735-742. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejmech.2007.01.001>
- [3] Wei W, Zhou S, Cheng D, Li Y, Liu J, Xie Y, Li Y, Li Z. Design, synthesis and herbicidal activity study of aryl 2,6-disubstituted sulfonylureas as potent acetohydroxyacid synthase inhibitors. *Bioorg Med Chem Lett.* 2017; 27: 3365-3369. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.bmcl.2017.06.007>
- [4] El-Zahabi MA, Elbendary ER, Bamanie FH, Radwan MF, Ghareib SA, Eissa IH. Design, synthesis, molecular modeling and anti-hyperglycemic evaluation of phthalimide-sulfonylurea hybrids as PPAR γ and SUR agonists. *Bioorg Chem.* 2019; 91: 103115. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bioorg.2019.103115>
- [5] Meng F, Mi P, Yu Z, Wei W, Gao L, Ren J, Li Z, Dai H. Design, synthesis and biological evaluation of 5-substituted sulfonylureas as novel antifungal agents targeting acetohydroxyacid synthase. *J Mol Struct.* 2022; 1260: 132756. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.molstruc.2022.132756>
- [6] Basyouni WM, Abbas SY, El-Bayouki KAM, Younis EA, Ali SA, Aly HF. Synthesis and hyperglycemic, biochemical and histopathological evaluation of novel sulfonylbiguanide and sulfonylurea derivatives as potent anti-diabetic agents. *Bioorg Chem.* 2021; 117: 105418. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bioorg.2021.105418>
- [7] Sroor FM, Abbas SY, Basyouni WM, El-Bayouki KAM, El-Mansy MF, Aly HF, Ali SA, Arafa AF, Haroun AA. Synthesis, structural characterization and in vivo anti-diabetic evaluation of some new sulfonylurea derivatives in normal and silicate coated nanoparticle forms as anti-hyperglycemic agents. *Bioorg Chem.* 2019; 92: 103290. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bioorg.2019.103290>
- [8] Idrees D, Hadianawala M, Mahapatra AD, Datta B, Roy S, Ahamad S, Khan P, Hassan MI. Implication of sulfonylurea derivatives as prospective inhibitors of human carbonic anhydrase II. *Int J Biol Macromol.* 2018; 115: 961-969. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijbiomac.2018.04.131>
- [9] Ceras J, Cirauqui N, Perez-Silanes S, Aldana I, Monge A, Galiano S. Novel sulfonylurea derivatives as H3 receptor antagonists. Preliminary SAR studies. *Eur J Med Chem.* 2012; 52: 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejmech.2012.02.049>
- [10] Nan X, Jiang YF, Li HJ, Wang JH, Wu YC. Design, synthesis and evaluation of sulfonylurea-containing 4-phenoxyquinolines as highly selective c-Met kinase inhibitors. *Bioorg Med Chem.* 2019; 27: 2801-2812. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bmc.2019.05.007>

- [11] Rostom SAF. Synthesis and in vitro antitumor evaluation of some indeno[1,2-c]-pyrazol(in)es substituted with sulfonamide, sulfonylurea(-thiourea) pharmacophores, and some derived thiazole ring systems. *Bioorg Med Chem.* 2006; 14: 6475-6485. <https://doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.bmc.2006.06.020>
- [12] Mahapatra AD, Shaik A, Thiruvengatam V, Datta B. Supramolecular architecture in sulfonylurea, sulfonyldiurea and sulfonyltriurea drugs: Synthesis, X-ray structure and Hirshfeld surface analysis. *J Mol Struct.* 2021; 1233: 130158. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.molstruc.2021.130158>
- [13] Fink C, Sun D, Wagner K, Schneider M, Bauer H, Dolgos H, Mader K, Peters SA. Evaluating the role of solubility in oral absorption of poorly water-soluble drugs using physiologically-based pharmacokinetic modeling. *Clin Pharmacol Ther.* 2020; 107(3): 650-661. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cpt.1672>
- [14] Bach P, Boström J, Brickmann K, Giezen JJJ, Groneberg RD, Harvey DM, O'Sullivan M, Zetterberg F. Synthesis, structure-property relationships and pharmacokinetic evaluation of ethyl 6-aminonicotinate sulfonylureas as antagonists of the P2Y12 receptor. *Eur J Med Chem.* 2013; 65: 360-375. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ejmech.2013.04.007>
- [15] Di L, Fish PV, Mano T. Bridging solubility between drug discovery and development. *Drug Discov Today.* 2012; 17: 486-496. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drudis.2011.11.007>
- [16] Tok F, Koçyiğit-Kaymakçioğlu B, İlhan R, Yılmaz S, Ballar-Kırmızıbayrak P, Taşkın-Tok T. Design, synthesis, biological evaluation and molecular docking of novel molecules to PARP-1 enzyme. *Turk J Chem.* 2019; 43: 1290-1305. <https://doi.org/10.3906/kim-1905-15>
- [17] Tok F, Baltas N, Tatar G, Koçyiğit-Kaymakçioğlu B. Synthesis, Biological Evaluation and in Silico Studies of New Pyrazoline Derivatives Bearing Benzo[d]thiazol-2(3H)-one Moiety as Potential Urease Inhibitors. *Chem Biodivers.* 2022; 19(3): e202100826. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cbdv.202100826>
- [18] Liu Y, Chen C, Sun LY, Gao H, Zhen JB, Yang KW. meta-Substituted benzenesulfonamide: a potent scaffold for the development of metallo-β-lactamase ImiS inhibitors. *RSC Med. Chem.*, 2020, 11: 259-267. <https://doi.org/10.1039/c9md00455f>
- [19] Jawale DV, Pratap UR, Rahuja N, Srivastava AK, Mane RA. Synthesis and antihyperglycemic evaluation of new 2,4-thiazolidinediones having biodynamic aryl sulfonylurea moieties. *Bioorg Med Chem Lett.* 2012; 22: 436-439. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bmcl.2011.10.110>
- [20] Sıcak Y. Design and antiproliferative and antioxidant activities of furan-based thiosemicarbazides and 1,2,4-triazoles: their structure-activity relationship and SwissADME predictions. *Med Chem Res.* 2021; 30: 1557-1568. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00044-021-02756-z>
- [21] Tok F, Çakır C, Çam D, Kırpat MM, Sıcak Y. Synthesis, characterization and biological evaluation of novel thiourea derivatives. *Clin Exp Health Sci.* 2022; 12: 533-540. <https://doi.org/10.33808/clinexphealthsci.1062872>
- [22] Bozkurt E, Sıcak Y, Oruç-Emre EE, Karaküçük İyidoğan A, Öztürk M. Design and bioevaluation of novel hydrazide-hydrazones derived from 4-acetyl-N-substituted benzenesulfonamide. 2020; 46(5): 702-714. <https://doi.org/10.1134/S1068162020050052>
- [23] Sıcak Y. Synthesis, predictions of drug-likeness, and pharmacokinetic properties of some chiral thioureas as potent enzyme inhibition agents. *Turk J Chem.* 2022; 46: 665-676. <https://doi.org/10.55730/1300-0527.3358>
- [24] Hearing VJ. *Methods in enzymology.* 142nd ed. New York: Academic Press. 1987; p.154-165.
- [25] Kurşun Aktar BS, Sıcak Y, Tatar G, Oruç-Emre EE. Synthesis, antioxidant and some enzyme inhibition activities of new sulfonyl hydrazones and their molecular docking simulations. *Pharm Chem J.* 2022; 56(4): 559-569. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11094-022-02674-3>
- [26] Quan N, Xuan TD, Tran HD, Thuy NTD, Trang LT, Huong CT, Andriana Y, Tuyen PT. Antioxidant, α-amylase and α-glucosidase inhibitory activities and potential constituents of canarium tramdenum bark. *Molecules.* 2019; 24(3): 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules24030605>
- [27] Kim JS, Kwon CS, Son KH. Inhibition of alpha-glucosidase and amylase by luteolin, a flavonoid. *Biosci Biotechnol Biochem* 2000; 64(11): 2458-2461. <https://doi.org/10.1271/bbb.64.2458>