



Novel eugenol bearing oxypropanolamines: Synthesis, characterization, antibacterial, antidiabetic, and anticholinergic potentials

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ABSTRACT

Five oxypropanol amine derivatives that four of them are novel have been synthesized with high yields and practical methods. *in vitro* antibacterial susceptibility of *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Escherichia coli* and *Staphylococcus aureus* strains to synthesized substances were evaluated with agar well-diffusion method by comparison with commercially available drugs. Most of the bacteria were multidrug resistant. It was concluded that these compounds are much more effective than reference drugs. These eugenol bearing oxypropanolamine derivatives were also effective inhibitors against α -glycosidase, cytosolic carbonic anhydrase I and II isoforms (hCA I and II), and acetylcholinesterase (AChE) enzymes with K_i values in the range of 0.80 ± 0.24 – 3.52 ± 1.01 μ M for hCA I, 1.08 ± 0.15 – 3.64 ± 0.92 μ M for hCA II, 5.18 ± 0.84 – 12.46 ± 2.08 μ M for α -glycosidase, and 11.33 ± 2.83 – 32.81 ± 9.73 μ M for AChE, respectively.

1. Introduction

Eugenol (4-Allyl-2-methoxyphenol) which is inexpensive, easily affordable and pharmacologically active a natural monoterpene compound is the main component of clove buds, (*Syzygium aromaticum*) and it is also found in nutmeg (*Myristic afragrans*), basil (*Ocimum basilicum L.*) and cinnamon (*Cinnamomum zeylanicum*) [1]. Since ancient times this essential oil is also well known for antibacterial, antimicrobial and antioxidant properties. Numerous studies on the antimicrobial effect of eugenol for certain agents are available in the literature [2]. Many molecules having oxypropanol amine moiety are marketed commercially as β -adrenoceptors [3]. They used in especially cardiovascular disease, and also used in the treatment of many diseases such as hypertension, thyrotoxicosis, angina pectoris, chronic pulmonary diseases [4], skin inflammation [5] and diuretic [6]. We have had many previous studies on antibacterial [7] and enzyme activity [8–12]. These experiences have shown us that, natural products having therapeutic properties, and core structures already proven having biological activity are great sources of inspiration for discovering new drugs. Hence, compounds containing eugenol and oxypropanolamine core structures have been studied by considering that they have biological activities.

α -Glycosidase is the key enzyme involved in the digestion of the carbohydrate. The α -Amylase enzyme hydrolyzes the α -linked polysaccharide molecules into oligosaccharide molecules, and α -glycosidase enzymes, membrane-bound enzymes which are located in the brush border of the small intestine, catalyze the final stage in the digestive mechanism of carbohydrate molecule to release absorbable monosaccharides like glucose [13,14]. Thus, inhibitor compounds of α -glycosidase can reduce range the liberation of absorbable monosaccharide molecules from dietary complex carbohydrates, delaying the absorption of glucose molecule into the bloodstream and so prevent any sudden rise in meal-induced blood glucose level [15].

Acetylcholinesterase (AChE, E.C. 3.1.1.7) as neural enzyme performs a key role in the functioning of cholinergic neuronal pathways [16]. This enzyme finishes nerve transmission at cholinergic synapses by hydrolysis of the acetylcholine (ACh), which is involved in both learning and memory [17,18]. Conforming to the cholinergic hypothesis, impairment of the cholinergic pathways plays an important role in the development of neurodegenerative diseases such as depression, schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease (AD) problems with the regulation of traumatic brain injury and sleep [19–21]. The AD is the main reason for dementia disease, and mild to moderate cases are generally treated

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with AChE inhibitors (AChEIs) [22,23]. For example, in Japan, three ChEI (rivastigmine, galantamine, and donepezil) are now available; the effect of these drugs on Japanese AD patients has been reported in previous studies. Thus, AD patients sometimes discontinue ChEI treatment or have to switch to another ChEI because of side effects, a rapid reduction in hospitalization or cognitive function unrelated to AD [24–27].

Conversion of water (H₂O) and carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the proton (H⁺) and bicarbonate (HCO₃⁻) is an important reaction catalyzed by a superfamily of zinc-containing metalloenzymes, called carbonic anhydrase (CA, E.C.4.2.1.1) isoenzymes [28,29]. Human CA inhibitor compounds clinically use for more than seventy years as antiglaucoma and diuretics drugs [30–33]. Glaucoma is a multifactorial optical illness determined by optical nerve degeneration mainly relevant to high intraocular pressure (IOP), which can give rise to blindness. hCA inhibitor compounds such as acetazolamide, brinzolamide, and dorzolamide are efficient in decreasing IOP after topical administration; Hence, these drugs have the various side effect, new therapeutic factors are needed [34]. The CA IV and CA II isoenzymes commonly involved in aqueous humor secretion. Topical and oral CA inhibitor compounds are also utilized in other ocular diseases, among which cystoid macular oedema [35,36].

In the present study we explain the design, synthesis and evaluation of some of novel eugenol oxypropanolamine derivatives (**2**, **3a-e**) as effective α -glycosidase, AChE, hCA inhibitor agents. Another main goal of this study, is compared their inhibitory effects with standard compounds like acetazolamide, tacrine, and acarbose.

2. Materials and methods

2.1. Synthesis of 2-((4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)methyl)oxirane (**2**)

The route followed for the synthesis of **3a-e** is given in Scheme 1. Sodium hydroxide (0.24 g, 6.6 mmol) in water (10 mL) was added

dropwise to a solution of eugenol (1.084 g, 6.6 mmol) and epichlorohydrin (10 mL) in 85 °C over a period of 0.5 h under vigorous stirring. The reaction mixture was kept at the same temperature till the eugenol completely consumed. Then the reaction mixture was solved in ethyl acetate (20 mL) and washed with brine (2x15 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered. Organic phase was removed under reduced pressure and oily residue was obtained **2** (1.45 g, 92%).

2.2. General synthesis of propan-2-ol amine derivatives (**3a-e**)

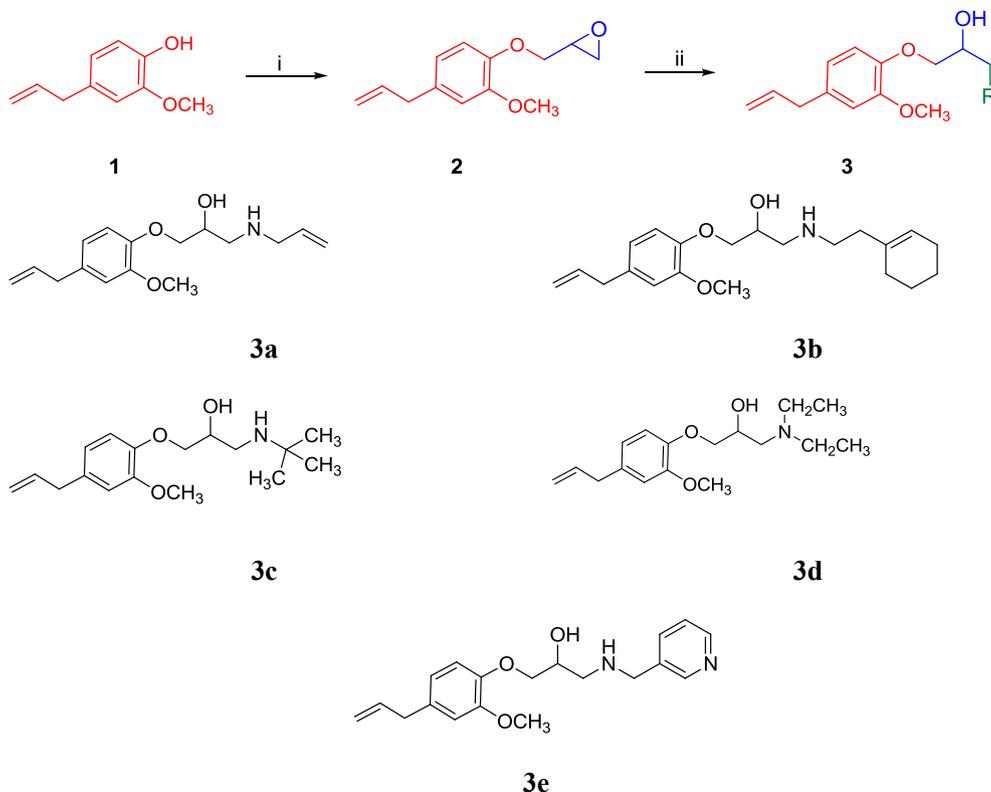
To a solution of **2** (1 mmol) and aqueous saturated solution of K₂CO₃ (2 mL) was added related amine (3 mmol) at room temperature. The mixture was vigorously stirring for 5–24 h until the reaction was completed according to TLC. Then the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (10 mL) and water (2x10 mL). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄ and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. After recrystallization from ether and hexane mixture the product was analyzed by ¹H and ¹³C NMR.

2.2.1. 1-(4-Allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-(allylamino)propan-2-ol (**3a**)

Yield 0.26 g, 95%; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ_{H} 2.70–2.83(dd, 2H, *J* 11.95–4.23 Hz), 3.24–3.26 (d, 1H, *J* 6.63 Hz), 3.29–3.31(d, 2H, *J* 5.68 Hz), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.94–3.98 (dd, 2H, *J* 6.68 Hz), 4.04–4.11(m, 1H), 5.03–5.05(d, 2H, *J* 8.51 Hz), 5.13–5.19 (d, 2H, *J* 9.18 Hz), 5.83–5.95(m, 2H), 6.66–6.68 (d, 1H, *J* 6.65 Hz), 6.68 (s, 1H), 6.80–6.83 (d, 1H, *J* 8.57 Hz); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ_{C} 40.04, 51.61, 52.53, 55.96, 68.67, 73.14, 112.54, 114.66, 115.89, 116.33, 120.88, 133.80, 136.83, 137.81, 146.78, 149.74.

2.2.2. 1-(4-Allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-((cyclohex-1-en-1-yl)methyl)amino)propan-2-ol (**3b**)

Yield 0.31 g, 78%; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ_{H} 1.49–1.64 (m, 4H), 1.89–1.97 (dd, 4H, *J* 10.31, 7.23), 2.04–2.13 (t, 2H, 7.81, 5.86 Hz), 2.66–2.83 (m, 3H), 3.30–3.33 (d, 1H, *J* 6.65 Hz), 3.82 (s, 3H),



Scheme 1. Synthesis procedure for **2** and **3a-e**. (i) epichlorohydrin, NaOH/water, 85 °C, 0.5 h; (ii) Amine compound, saturated K₂CO₃ solution, room temperature, 5–24 h.

3.94–3.98 (dd, 2H *J* 6.68 Hz), 4.04–4.11 (m, 1H), 5.03–5.05 (d, 2H, *J* 8.51 Hz) 5.43 (s, 1H), 5.83–5.95 (m, 2H), 6.66–6.68 (m, 1H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 6.80–6.83 (d, 1H, *J* 8.57 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ_c 25.46, 28.28, 38.62, 39.97, 42.35, 47.99, 52.08, 56.01, 68.47, 73.17, 112.57, 114.86, 115.89, 120.86, 122.88, 133.89, 135.23, 137.79, 146.81, 149.83.

2.2.3. 1-(4-Allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-(tert-butylamino)propan-2-ol (3c)

Yield 0.28 g, 98%; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ_H 1.10 (s, 9H), 2.66–2.83 (dd, 2H, *J* 12.4–3.75 Hz), 3.30–3.33 (d, 1H, *J* 6.65 Hz), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.94–3.98 (dd, 2H *J* 6.68 Hz), 4.04–4.11 (m, 1H), 5.03–5.05 (d, 2H, *J* 8.51 Hz) 5.83–5.95 (m, 2H), 6.66–6.68 (m, 1H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 6.80–6.83 (d, 1H, *J* 8.57 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ_c 29.29, 29.29, 29.29, 40.06, 44.96, 50.37, 56.00, 68.77, 73.32, 112.58, 114.73, 115.89, 120.86, 133.82, 137.81, 146.86, 149.83.

2.2.4. 1-(4-Allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-(diethylamino)propan-2-ol (3d)

Yield 0.25 g, 80%; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ_H 1.00–1.05 (t, 6H, *J* 7.12 Hz), 2.52–2.65 (q, 4H, *J* 7.12 Hz), 2.61–2.66 (m, 3H), 3.30–3.33 (d, 1H, *J* 6.65 Hz), 3.82 (s, 3H), 4.00 (s, 1H), 4.00–4.01 (d, 2H *J* 8.97 Hz) 5.03–5.05 (d, 2H, *J* 8.51 Hz), 5.90–5.99 (m, 2H), 6.66–6.68 (m, 1H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 6.80–6.83 (d, 1H, *J* 8.57 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ_c 12.19, 12.19, 40.05, 47.45, 56.09, 56.17, 66.40, 72.75, 112.71, 114.66, 115.85, 120.78, 133.68, 137.86, 147.03, 149.87.

2.2.5. 1-(4-Allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-((pyridin-3-ylmethyl)amino)propan-2-ol (3e)

Yield 0.27 g, 82%; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ_H 2.74–2.78 (dd, 2H, *J* 10.83, 6.53 Hz), 3.26–3.28 (d, 1H, *J* 6.25 Hz), 3.71–3.76 (d, 2H, *J* 7.85 Hz), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.94–3.98 (dd, 2H *J* 6.68 Hz), 4.04–4.11 (m, 1H), 5.03–5.05 (d, 2H, *J* 8.51 Hz), 5.13–5.19 (d, 2H, *J* 9.18 Hz), 5.83–5.95 (m, 2H), 6.66–6.68 (d, 1H, *J* 6.65 Hz), 6.68 (s, 1H), 6.80–6.83 (d, 1H, *J* 8.57 Hz). 7.64 (s, 1H), 8.41–8.49 (d, 2H, *J* 4.81 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ_c 40.01, 51.36, 51.79, 55.91, 68.69, 73.06, 112.51, 112.56, 114.48, 115.92, 120.89, 123.68, 133.83, 135.76, 136.21, 137.76, 146.66, 148.49, 149.61, 149.73.

2.3. Strains and growth conditions

20 strains from each bacteria which were *A. baumannii*, *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli* and *S. aureus* were obtained from stocks of Sakarya University Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology Laboratory. The source of these stocks strains were isolated from laboratory specimens such as urine, blood and pus, which are taken by various clinics for diagnosis from clinics' hospitalized patients'. All of *A. baumannii*, *P. aeruginosa* and *S. aureus* strains and some *E. coli* strains were identified as multidrug resistant (MDR) [37]. Antibiotic susceptibility profiles of all isolates were evaluated by Kirby Bauer's disk diffusion method according to the recommendations of the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) [38].

After obtained the isolates were stored at -20°C in skimmed milk. Each strain was sub cultured on 5% blood agar at 37°C for two consecutive days prior to the study. From strains obtained in the second passage, bacterial suspensions were prepared in tryptone soya broth (TSB) (Oxoid, Basingstoke, UK), and adjusted to a turbidity equal to McFarland 0.5 (1.5×10^8 cfu/ml) (DIN EN 1040, 2005). All strains were studied with an agar well-diffusion method [39].

2.4. Agar well-diffusion method

Each Mueller-Hinton agar plate was inoculated with microorganism by swabbing throughout the entire surface of the sterile agar. This procedure was repeated by streaking 2 more times, rotating the plate approximately 60°C each time to ensure even distribution of the inoculum. As a final step, the rim of the agar was also swabbed. Once the agar was solidified, it was punched with eight-millimeter diameter

wells and filled with 50 μL of the test material. The concentration of the employed chemical compound extracts was 10 mg/ml in DMSO. They are incubated at 37°C for 18 to 24 h. Subsequently, the plates were examined for bacterial growth inhibition and the inhibition zone diameter (IZD) was measured with a ruler to the nearest millimeter.

2.5. Biochemical studies

CA inhibitory effects of novel eugenol oxypropanolamine derivatives (**2** and **3a-e**) was measured according to Verpoorte et al. [40] and conforming to previous studies [41–43] and measured at 348 nm spectrophotometrically using p-nitrophenylacetate substrate.

AChE inhibitory effect of novel eugenol oxypropanolamine derivatives (**2** and **3a-e**) was measured according to Ellman et al. [44] and conforming to previous studies [45–48] and measured at 412 nm spectrophotometrically using acetylthiocholine iodide as a substrate for the enzymatic reaction. 5,5'-Dithio-bis(2-nitro-benzoic) acid compound was used for the measurement of the AChE activity [49].

Inhibitory effect of novel eugenol oxypropanolamine derivatives (**2** and **3a-e**) on α -glycosidase enzyme activity was performed using p-nitrophenyl-D-glycopyranoside (*p*-NPG) as the substrate, conforming to the method of Tao et al. [50] (Tao et al., 2013). Firstly, 200 μL of phosphate buffer was mixed with 40 μL of the homogenate solution in phosphate buffer (0.15 U/mL, pH 7.4). Also, 50 μL of *p*-NPG in phosphate buffer (5 mM, pH 7.4) after preincubation was added and again incubated at 30°C . The absorbances were spectrophotometrically measured at 405 nm, according to previous studies [51,52].

3. Results and discussion

Oxypropanolamines containing eugenol structure have been designed, synthesized and their biological activities were explored. The compounds **3a**, **3b**, **3d** and **3e** have been synthesized for the first time and **3c** [53] has been already known as β -adrenergic blocking agent drug. Methoxyphenoxy methyl oxirane derivative **2** was synthesized with a high yield by the reaction between eugenol and epichlorohydrin. Then, to obtain target oxypropanolamine derivatives (**3a-e**), the oxirane ring of **2** was opened with different amine compounds. Some biological activities such as enzyme inhibition and antibacterial activities of synthesized compounds **2** and **3a-e** were examined.

Antibacterial susceptibilities of 20 each of *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Escherichia coli*, and *Staphylococcus aureus* strains against **2** and **3a-e** were examined. Most strains were MDR (except some of *E. coli* strains). The antibacterial effects of oxypropanolamines against these strains were given in Tables 1–4.

Against *A. baumannii* isolates all compounds had greater than an average of 15 mm IZD, except **2**. Mean IZDs of **3a-e** compounds were determined as in the range of 18–21 mm.

The mean zones of inhibition ranged between 14 mm and 24 mm for *P. aeruginosa* except the intermediates **2** and bearing pyridine derivative **3e**. While **2** had not antibacterial activity against *P. aeruginosa* strains, **3e** were found to be effective for only 5 (20%) them (Table 2).

Against *E. coli* **3a-e** have in the range of 18 – 26 mm inhibition zone. The similar poor antibacterial activity of the intermediate **2** and pyridine bearing derivative **3e** also determined here. On the other hand **3a** and **3c** have ≥ 20 mm IZD in all tested *E. coli* stains (Table 3).

The average IZD of **3a-e** on *S. aureus* is ≥ 20 mm. Three phenoxypopropanolamine derivatives having the strongest antibacterial effects on *S. aureus* with 26.8 mm, 25.9 mm and 24.4 mm IZD are **3b**, **3a**, and **3d** respectively (Table 4).

Five eugenol oxypropanolamine derivatives (**2**, **3a-e**) were tested to evaluate their inhibitory effects towards the hCA I and II isoenzymes, AChE, and α -glycosidase enzymes. CA isoforms play important roles in a diversity of physiological mechanisms including electrolyte secretion in a diversity of organs and tissues, calcification, biosynthetic reactions (ureagenesis, lipogenesis, and gluconeogenesis are among them), pH

Table 1The results of the disk sensitivity test and the inhibition zone of compounds **3a-e** against *A. baumannii*.

Strains	2	3a	3b	3c	3d	3e	CAZ	AK	CIP	IPM	CN	SAM	TZP
1	10	21	21	25	17	15	0	10	0	0	20	0	0
2	10	22	17	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	20	0	0
3	0	20	21	20	20	20	0	0	0	15	0	0	0
4	0	20	20	20	20	20	0	0	0	15	0	0	0
5	17	20	20	20	20	15	0	0	0	16	0	0	0
6	16	17	20	21	17	20	0	0	0	14	0	0	0
7	15	25	22	30	23	20	0	20	0	15	15	0	0
8	24	20	20	20	20	20	0	0	0	10	0	0	0
9	10	22	25	21	20	15	0	10	0	0	20	0	0
10	0	22	25	20	20	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	25	22	20	20	22	15	0	10	0	0	20	0	0
12	0	22	20	22	17	17	0	0	0	0	15	0	0
13	0	20	20	22	20	15	0	0	0	0	20	0	0
14	10	20	20	17	20	21	0	0	0	0	17	0	0
15	15	21	20	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	15	0	0
16	0	25	22	17	20	17	0	0	0	0	20	0	0
17	15	20	25	25	19	20	0	0	0	0	10	0	0
18	20	22	20	15	17	18	0	10	0	0	25	0	0
19	15	25	20	22	20	22	0	0	0	0	20	0	0
20	15	22	22	25	20	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Average	11	21	21	21	20	18	0	3	0	4, 3	12	0	0

CAZ: ceftazidime, CIP: ciprofloxacin, IPM:Imipenem, AK:Amikacin, CN: Gentamicin TZP: Piperacillin/Tazobactam, SAM: Ampicillin/sulbactam.

Table 2The results of the disk sensitivity test and the inhibition zone of compounds **3a-e** against *P. aeruginosa*.

Strains	2	3a	3b	3c	3d	3e	CAZ	AK	CIP	IPM	CN	SAM	TZP
1	0	15	20	12	15	0	0	0	0	10	0	20	0
2	0	25	15	15	12	0	0	0	0	10	0	10	0
3	0	17	10	17	17	0	0	0	0	10	0	12	0
4	0	23	20	10	15	0	0	0	0	10	0	18	0
5	0	12	18	16	15	10	0	0	0	0	0	16	0
6	0	17	17	16	20	0	0	10	0	15	0	20	0
7	0	15	21	17	17	0	0	15	0	15	0	20	0
8	0	13	20	15	0	0	0	10	0	15	0	20	0
9	0	12	21	18	18	0	0	12	0	15	0	20	0
10	0	10	21	17	16	0	0	15	0	15	0	20	0
11	0	15	20	30	16	0	0	12	0	15	0	20	0
12	0	16	16	10	10	0	0	12	0	12	0	20	0
13	0	15	20	16	11	15	0	0	0	10	0	17	0
14	0	10	24	12	20	12	0	12	0	12	0	20	0
15	0	10	22	15	20	12	0	10	0	15	0	20	0
16	0	15	25	25	15	0	0	14	0	16	0	20	0
17	0	15	22	16	15	0	0	15	0	15	0	15	0
18	0	12	15	0	10	0	0	10	0	16	0	20	0
19	0	12	17	19	17	0	0	16	0	16	0	20	0
20	0	17	17	18	11	20	0	8	0	0	0	20	0
Average	0	15	19	16	15	3	0	9	0	13	0	18	0

CAZ: ceftazidime, CIP: ciprofloxacin, IPM:Imipenem, AK:Amikacin, CN: Gentamicin TZP: Piperacillin/Tazobactam, SAM: Ampicillin/sulbactam.

and CO₂ homeostasis, tumorigenicity, and bone resorption and many others [54]. Inhibition effect of CAs is becoming increasingly popular as a research subject, which is due to their abnormal levels associated with different diseases such as osteoporosis, cancer, glaucoma, and some neurological disturbances [55]. The chemical structure of these eugenol oxypropanolamine derivatives (**2** and **3a-e**) is given in Scheme 1 and their AChE, α -glycosidase, and CA I and II isoforms inhibition data are summarized in Table 5. The following results are presented in Table 1. The hCA I isoenzyme was inhibited by these compounds; with Ki values were found between 0.80 ± 0.24 and $4.17 \pm 0.94 \mu\text{M}$. In addition, 1-(4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-(diethylamino)propan-2-ol (**3d**), and 1-(4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-(allylamino)propan-2-ol (**3a**) recorded the most powerful hCA I isoform inhibition properties with Ki values of 0.80 ± 0.24 and $0.88 \pm 0.18 \mu\text{M}$, respectively. The control and

Table 3The results of the disk sensitivity test and the inhibition zone of compounds **3a-e** against *E. coli*.

Strains	2	3a	3b	3c	3d	3e	CAZ	AK	CIP	IPM	CN	SAM	TZP
1	0	23	18	22	16	15	8	15	0	20	0	8	15
2	0	25	20	26	20	16	20	15	12	25	12	0	20
3	0	25	23	25	17	15	15	12	20	18	10	0	15
4	0	19	18	19	20	10	20	15	15	22	8	15	22
5	0	21	19	22	20	16	12	17	0	35	15	0	25
6	0	20	20	25	20	15	17	15	16	20	12	0	20
7	0	25	20	22	21	15	16	12	0	22	15	0	17
8	0	20	22	22	18	10	18	15	0	30	12	16	25
9	0	15	22	20	15	0	15	17	0	30	15	12	20
10	0	20	17	18	15	0	0	14	0	20	0	8	18
11	0	20	22	24	22	12	17	22	25	27	17	0	25
12	0	22	20	32	20	15	17	17	25	20	15	0	17
13	0	25	22	25	16	12	0	15	0	20	0	0	17
14	0	21	20	20	17	0	25	15	17	25	15	0	22
15	0	17	0	21	17	0	0	17	0	30	17	0	25
16	0	20	20	25	20	15	0	15	0	30	12	0	25
17	0	25	18	30	20	12	18	15	25	20	14	0	20
18	0	22	17	25	17	15	0	17	0	25	0	0	20
19	15	22	18	21	17	15	20	20	22	25	15	0	25
20	20	18	17	22	16	15	25	25	30	30	17	0	28
Average	2	21	19	23	18	11	13	16	10	25	11	3	21

CAZ: ceftazidime, CIP: ciprofloxacin, IPM:Imipenem, AK:Amikacin, CN: Gentamicin TZP: Piperacillin/Tazobactam, SAM: Ampicillin/sulbactam.

Table 4The results of the disk sensitivity test and the inhibition zone of compounds **3a-e** against *S. aureus*.

Strains	2	3a	3b	3c	3d	3e	VA	TEC	CIP	OX	E	CN	SXT
1	15	22	25	27	20	19	16	14	17	12	20	16	20
2	15	23	21	21	19	20	16	15	20	10	0	15	0
3	10	20	26	23	17	21	15	15	22	10	20	17	25
4	12	21	25	21	20	21	17	15	20	10	25	18	20
5	12	22	26	22	20	15	18	15	20	8	24	20	20
6	12	20	24	22	20	21	18	15	22	0	20	15	12
7	17	23	27	25	20	25	18	18	25	10	0	20	25
8	15	25	22	25	20	18	18	18	20	12	20	18	22
9	10	27	25	22	17	22	15	15	10	12	20	20	15
10	15	21	25	25	30	20	15	15	23	0	20	17	22
11	10	21	25	14	20	20	17	17	27	0	22	20	20
12	15	21	25	22	18	21	15	15	20	0	20	15	10
13	12	22	22	15	23	20	15	15	22	0	20	15	20
14	10	20	21	22	17	18	15	17	22	0	20	17	20
15	14	20	22	25	20	17	16	15	22	10	20	15	20
16	20	25	20	25	30	19	15	16	25	0	25	18	20
17	15	22	21	25	21	19	20	15	10	0	0	20	25
18	10	23	31	15	20	20	18	17	20	0	22	17	20
19	20	22	25	25	20	20	17	15	0	0	0	12	0
20	10	20	25	25	20	16	16	15	22	0	24	20	24
Average	13	22	24	22	21	20	17	16	19	5	17	17	18

VA: Vancomycin, TEC: Teicoplanin, CIP: ciprofloxacin, OX: Oxacillin, E: Erythromycin, P: Penicillin, SAM: Ampicillin/sulbactam, CN: Gentamicin, CRO: Ceftriaxone, SXT: Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole.

clinically used drug acetazolamide (AZA) demonstrated a Ki value of $4.17 \pm 0.94 \mu\text{M}$. Hence, the investigated novel molecules showed better inhibitory profiles when compared to AZA molecule (Table 5 and Fig. 1).

Inhibition of the diverse CA isoforms involved in drug development, mainly with sulfonamide compounds, the most extensively utilized class of CA inhibitor compounds, has significant physiological results which motivate their use as pharmacological factors as mentioned earlier [56]. But the use of CA inhibitors (CAIs) as antiglaucoma and diuretics factors has been well-established for decades, their applications as antiobesity and antiepileptics drugs are more recent, and only the last decade has seen important advances which have validated CAs as antitumor drug aims [57]. The results clearly showed that hCA II was

Table 5

The enzyme inhibition results of novel eugenol oxypropanolamine derivatives (**2**, **3a-e**) against human carbonic anhydrase isoenzymes I and II (hCA I and II), acetylcholinesterase (AChE) and α -glycosidase (α -Gly) enzymes.

Compounds	IC_{50} (μ M)				K_i (μ M)							
	hCA I	r^2	hCA II	r^2	AChE	r^2	α -Gly	r^2	hCA I	hCA II	AChE	α -Gly
2	1.08	0.9827	3.62	0.9743	15.94	0.9481	12.84	0.9804	0.93 ± 0.12	3.27 ± 0.86	11.33 ± 2.83	10.52 ± 3.04
3a	0.98	0.9911	1.83	0.9682	22.05	0.9105	8.73	0.9649	0.88 ± 0.18	2.21 ± 0.17	16.73 ± 4.03	9.03 ± 2.15
3b	2.04	0.9690	3.84	0.9802	48.20	0.9690	9.34	0.9812	2.87 ± 0.42	3.02 ± 0.32	32.81 ± 9.73	7.92 ± 1.05
3c	3.84	0.9852	4.08	0.9527	31.93	0.9738	4.71	0.9280	3.52 ± 1.01	3.64 ± 0.92	24.05 ± 5.16	5.18 ± 0.84
3d	0.81	0.9730	1.04	0.9810	29.94	0.9884	11.73	0.9832	0.80 ± 0.24	1.08 ± 0.15	20.66 ± 8.10	11.04 ± 3.41
3e	0.90	0.9478	1.72	0.9791	34.04	0.9625	16.20	0.9424	0.98 ± 0.20	2.27 ± 0.48	27.41 ± 3.62	12.46 ± 2.08
AZA*	4.81	0.9943	5.22	0.9158	-	-	-	-	4.17 ± 0.94	5.15 ± 1.01	-	-
TAC**	-	-	-	-	51.20	0.9054	-	-	-	-	34.12 ± 10.83	-
ACR***	-	-	-	-	-	-	22.80	-	-	-	-	12.60 ± 0.78

* Acetazolamide (AZA) was used as a control for hCA I and II.

** Tacrine (TAC) was used as a control for AChE enzyme.

*** Acarbose (ACR) was used as a control for α -glycosidase enzyme.[63,64].

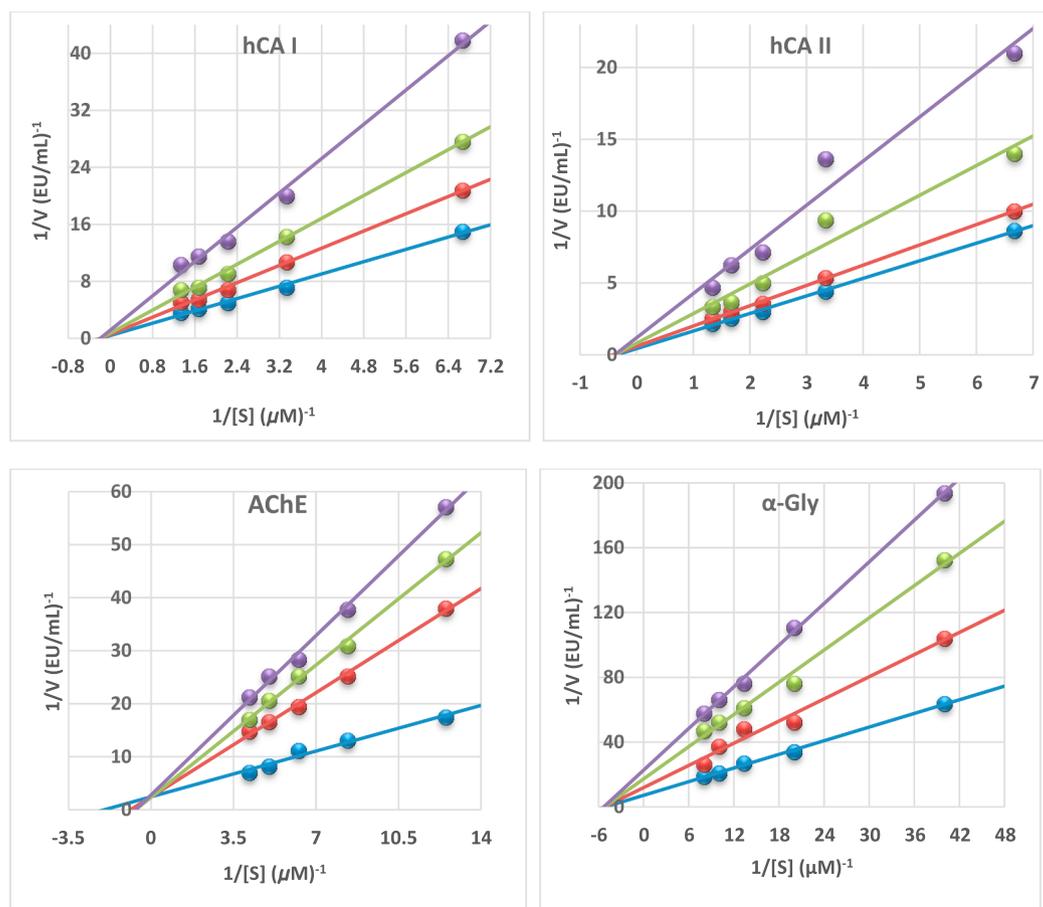


Fig. 1. Determination of Lineweaver-Burk graphs for excellent inhibitors of hCA I (1-(4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-(diethylamino)propan-2-ol (**3d**)) and hCA II (1-(4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-(diethylamino)propan-2-ol (**3d**)) isoenzymes, acetylcholinesterase (AChE) (phenoxymethyl oxirane derivatives (**2**)) and α -glycosidase (α -Gly) (1-(4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-(*tert*-butylamino)propan-2-ol (**3c**)) enzymes.

impressively inhibited by the novel eugenol oxypropanolamine derivatives (**2** and **3a-e**). These compounds had strong hCA II inhibition with K_i values ranging from $1.08 \pm 0.15 \mu\text{M}$ to $3.64 \pm 0.92 \mu\text{M}$. K_i values of novel molecules are better than those of the standard used drug AZA (K_i : $5.15 \pm 1.01 \mu\text{M}$). All the evaluated novel molecules showed potent inhibition against hCA II, but the compounds of 1-(4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-(diethylamino)propan-2-ol (**3d**), and 1-(4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-(allylamino)propan-2-ol (**3a**) showed significant inhibition profile against hCA II with K_i values of 1.08 ± 0.15 and $2.21 \pm 0.17 \mu\text{M}$ (Table 5 and Fig. 1).

An extensive level of evidence shows that AChEI can improve cognitive function and interfere with the advance of the AD, and recently these inhibitor compounds such as rivastigmine, tacrine, galantamine, donepezil, and huperzine A, have been used as first-line drugs in clinical practice [58]. Thus, modulation of cholinergic function by AChEIs is used as a pharmacological strategy for therapy of other disturbances such as glaucoma and Myasthenia Gravis [59–61]. The inhibitory effects of these compounds on AChE enzyme are shown in Table 5. The AChE inhibition profiles of the molecules investigated here were really interesting. Overall, these compounds had excellent inhibitory activity

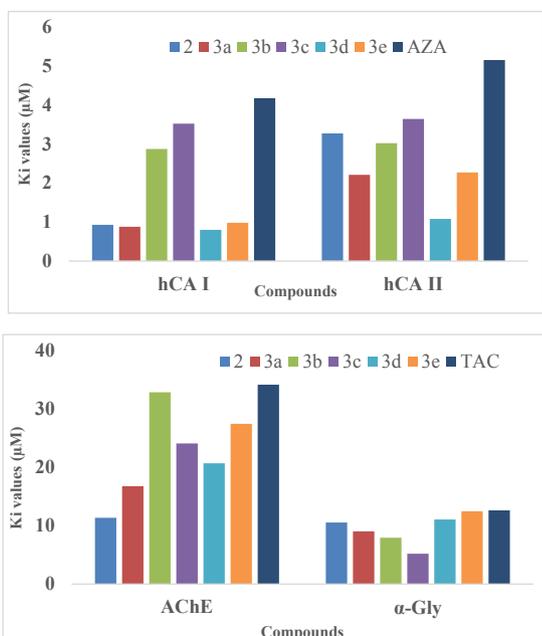


Fig. 2. Ki values of hCA I and II, AChE, and α -glycosidase enzymes.

with Ki values ranging from $11.33 \pm 2.83 \mu\text{M}$ to $32.81 \pm 9.73 \mu\text{M}$. Additionally, tacrine, utilized as a control AChEI in this paper, demonstrated Ki value of $34.12 \pm 10.83 \mu\text{M}$ toward AChE. The inhibition of AChE of novel eugenol bearing oxypropanolamine derivatives (2 and 3a-e) is much better than standard drugs. The compounds of phenoxymethyl oxirane derivatives (2), 1-(4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-(allylamino)propan-2-ol (3a) showed excellent inhibition profile against AChE with Ki values of 11.33 ± 2.83 and $16.73 \pm 4.03 \mu\text{M}$, respectively (Table 5 and Fig. 1).

The inhibitor compounds of α -glycosidase have wide-ranging applications in illuminating the α -glycosidase mechanism of action at in evolving chemotherapeutic agents and molecular levels for the cure of carbohydrate-mediated diseases like cancer, diabetes, hepatitis, obesity, HIV, and cardiovascular diseases [62]. The process of inhibition action of this enzyme is based on their capability to bind competitively to the carbohydrate-binding area of this enzyme. For this metabolic enzyme, the novel eugenol oxypropanolamine derivatives (2 and 3a-e) had IC_{50} values in the range of 4.71–16.20 and Ki values in the range of 5.18 ± 0.84 – $12.46 \pm 2.08 \mu\text{M}$ (Table 5 and Fig. 1). The results clearly showed that all novel derivatives (2 and 3a-e) recorded efficient α -glycosidase inhibitory effects than that of acarbose (IC_{50} : $22.80 \mu\text{M}$) [63,64] as a control α -glycosidase inhibitor. However, the most effective Ki values were obtained by 1-(4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-(tert-butylamino)propan-2-ol (3c) and 1-(4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy)-3-((cyclohex-1-en-1-ylmethyl)amino)propan-2-ol (3b), with Ki values of 5.18 ± 0.84 and $7.92 \pm 1.05 \mu\text{M}$, respectively. (See Fig. 2).

4. Conclusions

Five oxypropanolamine derivatives that four of them are novel have been synthesized, isolated and characterized by ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR and some biological properties of them like antibacterial and enzyme activity have been investigated. They have shown powerful antibacterial effects on some MDR Gram-negative (*A. baumannii*, *P. aeruginosa*, and *E. coli*) and Gram-positive (*S. aureus*) bacteria. The intermediate 2 and the having pyridine side chain 3e generally exhibit lower antibacterial activity while other compounds 3a, 3b, 3c and 3d have similar and higher antibacterial activities.

Today, bacterial infections due to antibiotics are a serious threat to humanity. There are very few alternative therapies available for such

bacterial infections. For this reason, every new alternative to be developed against multiple drug resistant bacteria (MDR) bacteria is required. We believe that these newly developed products can be used as antiseptic agents in skin and soft tissue infections. However, this study was conducted with *in vitro* tests. Therefore, *in vivo* and toxicity tests are required. Bacteria used in this study are MDR bacteria. Therefore, the antibiotics that can be used in these bacteria are very limited. For this reason, we think that these results obtained with oxypropanolamine derivatives are very important. However, our results need to be continued with *in vitro* tests.

As we recorded above, novel compounds studied in the work can be acceptable candidate drugs, the same as CAIs, for therapy of some diseases like epilepsy, gastric and duodenal ulcers, glaucoma, mountain sickness, osteoporosis, or neurological disturbances. All novel above compounds effectively inhibited some metabolic enzymes like α -glycosidase, hCA I, hCA II, and AChE enzymes at the micromolar levels. On the other hand, T2DM is a metabolic difficulty created by high blood glucose content and can reason other health disturbances, such as weakness, high blood pressure, neuropathy, nephropathy retinopathy, cardiovascular disease, gangrene, and other dysfunctions.

Appendix A. Supplementary material

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bioorg.2019.102931>.

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