



# Novel glitazone attenuates rotenone-induced toxicity in mouse model of Parkinson's disease

Ankith B. Shetty<sup>1</sup>, Kamsagara Linganna Krishna<sup>1\*</sup>, Bommenahally Ravanappa Prashantha Kumar<sup>2</sup>, Hittanahalli Shivakumar Nandini<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Pharmacology, JSS College of Pharmacy, JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research, Mysuru, India.

<sup>2</sup>Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, JSS College of Pharmacy, JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research, Mysuru, India.

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## ABSTRACT

Parkinson's disease (PD) is the second most common neurodegenerative disorder, and there are no drugs that will directly tackle the inflammatory component of PD. In the present study, we assessed the novel glitazone for reversal of rotenone-induced toxicity in experimental mouse model. The 14 virtual glitazone compounds were subjected to molecular docking study for target protein 3CS8; among these, compound **C25** and **C34** have shown better binding activity. Pharmacokinetics studies were conducted for the above compounds in rat model to choose best one for further toxicity and efficacy studies. The compound **C25** showed better kinetic profile when compared to **C34** and better  $t_{1/2}$  when compared to the standard pioglitazone. Compound **C25** then tested for acute toxicity by OECD guideline 423 and evaluated for its neuroprotective activity in mouse model. The activity of the compound was assessed by the behavioral parameters on weekly intervals during the study period and estimated the antioxidant level in the brain homogenate. The compound has shown good activity dose-dependently; however, further research is required to confirm its activity and to support our hypothesis.

## INTRODUCTION

Parkinson's disease (PD) is the second most common neurodegenerative disorder characterized by the progressive death of dopaminergic neurons. PD is found in all ethnic groups; however, geographical differences are observed. Early onset of sporadic Alzheimers disease is rare and about 4% patients develop clinical sign before the age of 50 years. About 1%–2% of the age group of 65 years develops PD and this increases to 3%–5% in the age group of 85 years (Alves *et al.*, 2008). Clinical features of PD will appear when striatal dopaminergic levels are largely reduced or lost. Abnormal cellular components like oxidative stress, impaired protein disposal system, and *chronic inflammation* may be responsible for pathogenesis underlying neurodegeneration (Schintu *et al.*, 2009). Peroxisome Proliferative Activated Receptor-gama (PPAR- $\gamma$ )

present in large variety of cells and maximum level of expression is in adipose tissue, peripheral and *central nervous system cells*. The regulation of glucose and lipid metabolism by PPAR- $\gamma$  depends on its distribution patterns (Straus and Glass, 2007). The presence of PPAR- $\gamma$  in basal ganglia and areas expressing dopamine receptor with high concentration supports the hypothesis of involvement of PPAR- $\gamma$  in pathogenesis of PD. This increases the interest for PPAR- $\gamma$  agonists in PD management (Moreno *et al.*, 2004). Neuroinflammation and microglia activation plays an important role in PD pathogenesis (Hirsch and Hunot, 2009), but currently there are no drugs that will directly tackle the inflammatory component of PD. There is a need for the development of new therapeutics which acts via novel target(s) (may be like neuroinflammation) and gives more benefits than the existing drugs. PPAR- $\gamma$  found to have a prominent role in the biogenesis of mitochondria (Hu and Wang, 2016), and it can be a powerful target in the treatment of many neurodegenerative diseases including PD. It was also reported to have anti-inflammatory and anti-oxidant activity but the mechanism is not yet established (Amin *et al.*, 2017; Corona and Duchon, 2015). Based on the above hypothesis, the present study was conceived to evaluate novel PPAR- $\gamma$  agonists for their protective effect against rotenone-induced toxicity in mouse model of PD.

### \*Corresponding Author

Kamsagara Linganna Krishna, Department of Pharmacology, JSS College of Pharmacy, JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research, Sri Shivarathreeshwara Nagara, Mysuru, India.  
E-mail: [klkrishna@jssuni.edu.in](mailto:klkrishna@jssuni.edu.in)

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Novel glitazone compounds were obtained as gift samples from Dr. Prashanth Kumar B R, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, JSS College of Pharmacy, Mysore. The experiments were carried out on Wister Albino Rats and Balb/c mice. The studies conducted were approved by the Institutional Animal Ethics Committee of JSS College of Pharmacy, Mysore, Karnataka. (Approval no: IAEC/JSSCPM/296/2018).

### Molecular docking studies

The docking studies were performed by using the SYBYL X 2.1.1 (Licensed software) software package platform for 14 virtual glitazones (Table 1). The selected glitazones for the present study from docking results are as shown in the Figure 1. The proteins were downloaded from the protein data bank and prepared by using BIOPOLYMER PREPARATION wizard. Proteins were prepared by joining the missing loops and by adding the hydrogen and deleting water molecules; then energy minimization was performed by adding the charges. All these processes were done to bring the protein to its naturally existing state (Naim *et al.*, 2018).

The ligands were prepared by using the LIGAND PREPARATION wizard in which the ligands were converted to their 3D conformation and by minimizing the energy they had bought to the stable form and finally, the charges were added. The docking operation was performed on DOCK LIGAND wizard by using the SYBYL X 2.1.1 software package platform wherein the prepared ligand and proteins were taken for further study. By using the PROTOMAL GENERATION wizard, the active site of the protein was identified and the ligands were docked along with the co-crystallized ligand which was present within the crystal structure of protein molecule. Finally, the binding poses were observed, and the docking score was obtained by using the SYBYL X 2.1.1 scoring function (Amin *et al.*, 2017).

### Pharmacokinetic study of selected glitazones

The kinetic study was carried out for the two test compounds (C25 and C34) and one standard pioglitazone (Fujita *et al.*, 2003; Pandit *et al.*, 2012). The study was conducted in Wister rats weighing between 200– and 250 g. All test substances were given as Sod CMC suspension orally at 10 mg/kg. The blood samples were collected in the ethylene diamine tetraacetic acid containing tubes by tail vein method (Rangaraj *et al.*, 2014) at different time intervals of 0, 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, and 24-hour. The blood samples were centrifuged by using the cooling centrifuge and stored in the freezer at –20°C until analysis. The blood samples were analyzed using the high-performance liquid chromatography method.

### Acute oral toxicity study

The acute oral toxicity study was done by OECD 423 guideline for newly derived novel glitazone compounds C25 and C34 (OECD guideline 423, 2018).

### Anti-Parkinson's activity of novel glitazone

After acclimatization the animals were weighed and based on the bodyweight of the animals, they were grouped by randomization ( $n = 6$ ) (Cannon *et al.*, 2009). The study duration

was 21 days, and at the end of the study the animals were sacrificed and the brain of the animals was used for estimation of endogenous antioxidant activity. The behavioral activities of the animals were carried out on day 0, day 7, day 14, and day 21 of the study. The study protocol is given in Table 2.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Molecular docking study

The docking studies revealed the binding ability of novel compounds C25 and C34, which showed better interaction with PPAR $\gamma$  receptors than the other compounds when compared with the reference ligand (rosiglitazone). The standard levodopa has shown the less binding activity when compared with reference ligand because of its less binding activity with the target protein 3CS8 (Table 3 and Fig. 2). It was observed from docking that without ligand binding to the legend binding domain (LBD) of PPAR- $\gamma$  the structure of the adjacent helix, C-terminal helix and PGC-1 $\alpha$  does not show any structural variation. On the other hand, any agonist binding to the PPAR- $\gamma$  LBD, such as compound C25, compound C34, and rosiglitazone shows the transformation of the secondary structure of the protein. Therefore, docking has clearly demonstrated the usefulness of these glitazones in neurodegenerative disorders especially in PD

### Pharmacokinetic study

The pharmacokinetic study was conducted to know the pharmacokinetic behavior of the novel glitazones derivatives. The two compounds C25 and C34 were taken based on the best results from molecular docking study, and the kinetic study was done for these compounds. The compound C25 has shown good kinetic profile over C34 (Table 4 and Fig. 3).

### Acute toxicity study

Acute toxicity studies were carried out based on OECD guideline 423. The acute toxicity of 2 compounds, C25 and C34 was tested at the dose of 300 mg/kg. Both the compounds have not shown any clinical signs of toxicity. No mortality was observed by the test substance at the dose tested and found to be safer. Based on this result the novel compound C25 was used at 10 and 20 mg/kg dose for *in vivo* efficacy evaluation.

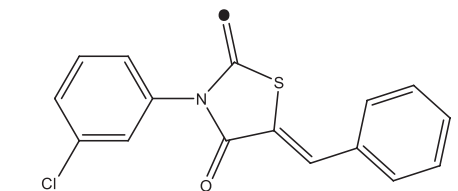
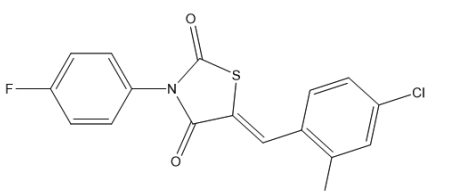
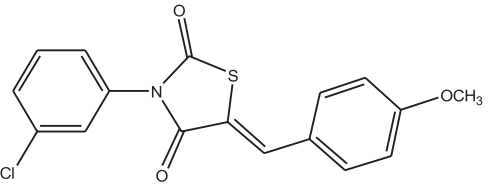
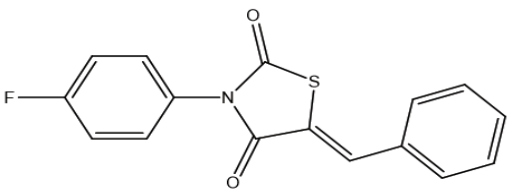
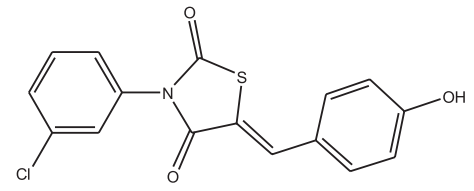
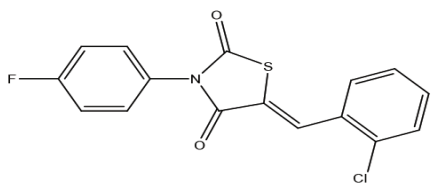
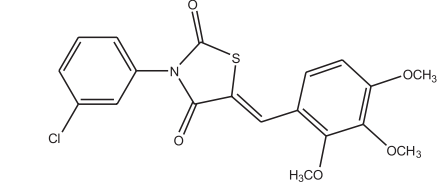
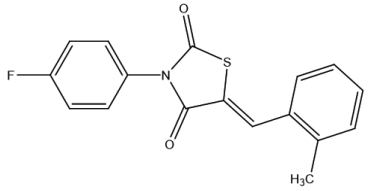
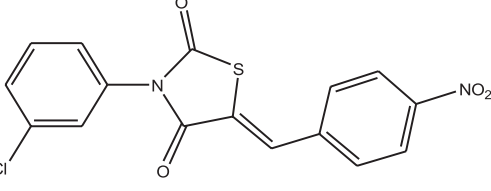
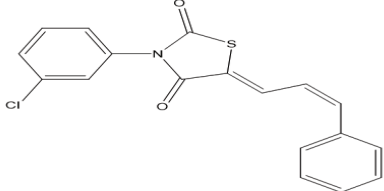
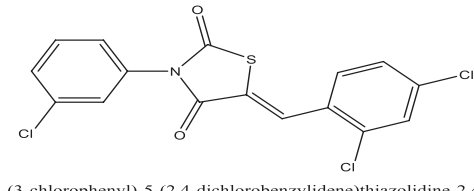
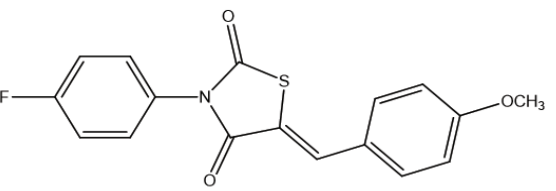
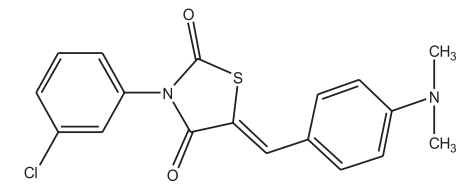
### Protective effect of novel glitazone compound C25

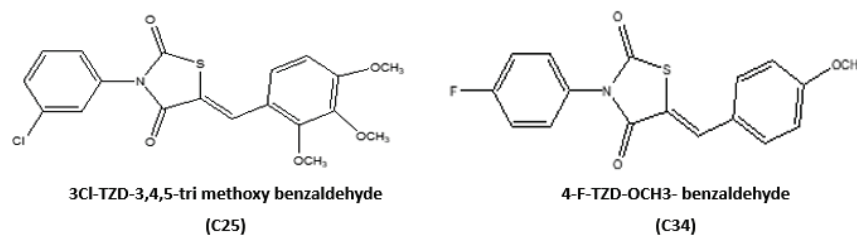
Results of the pharmacokinetic activity revealed that C25 has better kinetic activity when compared to C34. Hence, the C25 was taken for evaluation of anti-Parkinsonism activity on rotenone-induced PD mouse model at two different dose levels.

Parkinsonism was induced successfully in the mice by giving rotenone intraperitoneally for 21 days (2 mg/kg BW). As shown in Table 5, the control group animals have shown decreased locomotor activity significantly on days 14 and 21. The treatment with C25 has reversed the activity dose-dependently and similar to that of standard.

The same was observed in the rotarod behavioral studies (Table 6) done by employing a rotarod apparatus. There was a significant decrease in the time spent by the control group of animals on rotarod when compared with normal group animals, which signifies the induction of motor

**Table 1.** Structure of novel and virtual glitazones taken for docking studies.

SL. No.	Structure	SL. No.	Structure
1		8	
(Z)-5-benzylidene-3-(3-chlorophenyl)thiazolidine-2,4-dione		(Z)-5-(2,4-dichlorobenzylidene)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)thiazolidine-2,4-dione	
2		9	
(Z)-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione		(Z)-5-benzylidene-3-(4-fluorophenyl)thiazolidine-2,4-dione	
3		10	
(Z)-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-(4-hydroxybenzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione		(Z)-5-(2-chlorobenzylidene)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)thiazolidine-2,4-dione	
4		11	
(Z)-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-(2,3,4-trimethoxybenzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione		(Z)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(2-methylbenzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione	
5		12	
(Z)-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-(4-nitrobenzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione		(Z)-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-((Z)-3-phenylallylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione	
6		13	
(Z)-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-(2,4-dichlorobenzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione		(Z)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione	
7			
(Z)-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-(4-(dimethylamino)benzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione			



**Figure 1.** Structure of glitazones C25 and C34 selected from docking studies.

**Table 2.** Evaluation of anti-Parkinson's activity in rotenone induced animal model of Parkinson disease.

Groups	Treatment protocol	Evaluation
Normal	1 ml of 0.5% sodium CMC (vehicle) was given orally for 21 days	<b>Behavioral parameter</b>
Control	Vehicle for 21 days orally and rotenone 2 mg/kg (i.p) at the interval of 1 hour.	Rotarod (Brooks <i>et al.</i> , 2012), actophotometer (Thomas <i>et al.</i> , 2011)
Standard	Levodopa-carbidopa (30 mg/kg BW, p.o) + rotenone 2 mg/kg (i.p) at the interval of 1 hour	Bar test (Deacon, 2013)
C 25 LD	10 mg/kg BW prepared in 0.5% sodium CMC p.o + rotenone 2 mg/kg (i.p) at the interval of 1 hour.	<b>Biochemical parameter</b>
C 25 HD	20 mg/kg BW prepared in 0.5% sodium CMC p.o + rotenone 2 mg/kg (i.p) at the interval of 1 hour.	sodium dismutase (SOD) (Weydert and Cullen, 2010), Reduced glutathione (Tipple and Rogers, 2012) and TBARS (Weydert and Cullen, 2010).

LD, Low dose; HD, High dose; *n* = 6.

**Table 3.** Results of molecular docking of novel virtual glitazone compounds.

Name	Total score	Crash	Polar
Reference ligand	7.758	-2.3965	0.2074
Levodopa	4.7553	-2.0953	1.6198
C22	5.3008	-1.6883	1.2182
C23	5.5109	-2.7262	0.0001
C24	5.3293	-1.3917	1.1827
<b>C25</b>	<b>6.6677</b>	<b>-1.3881</b>	<b>0.0239</b>
C26	5.6537	-1.9939	0.0016
C27	4.5987	-0.6822	0.8561
C28	4.9133	-1.1379	0.8812
C29	4.948	-2.0451	0.0037
C30	5.0016	-2.2624	0
C31	5.2817	-2.6846	0
C32	3.8036	-1.9866	0
C33	3.8303	-1.2304	0.0167
<b>C34</b>	<b>5.9715</b>	<b>-1.4564</b>	<b>0.9369</b>
C35	3.8623	-1.2304	0.0167

Bolded mean, the legend has more binding affinity to the target protein during docking studies.

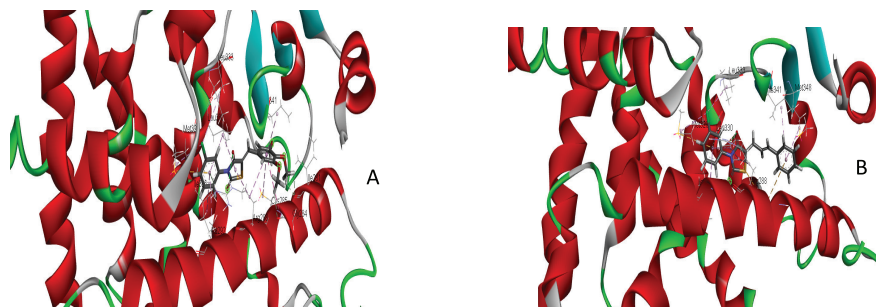
dysfunction by rotenone. When the **C25** was administered alone with rotenone, the fall of time in rotarod was increased dose-dependently and was found as significant as that of standard drug.

Bar strength was the one more behavioral parameter employed to assess the activity of novel glitazone compound **C25**. As observed in the above parameters, control group showed a significant increase in the cataleptic activity on day 14 and day 21 when compared to the normal group which showed significant induction of PD by rotenone. There was a significant

decrease in the cataleptic activity of treatment groups than the control group, which can be comparable with that of the standard group (Table 7).

#### Endogenous antioxidant enzymes

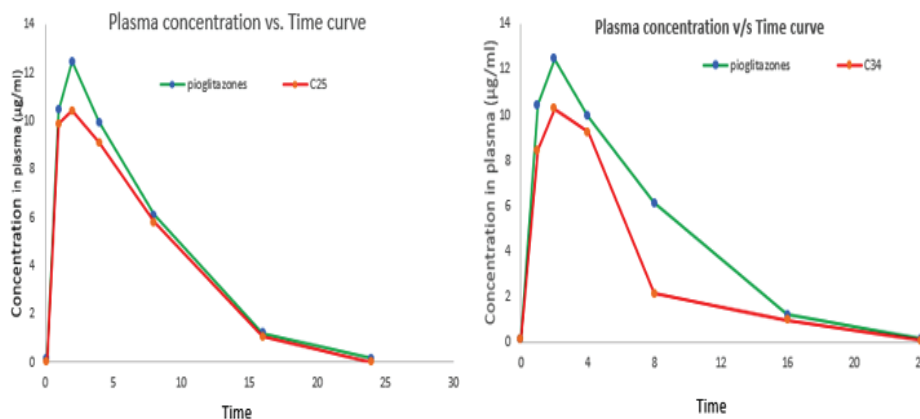
Rotenone induces PD mainly by increasing oxidative stress and causes mitochondrial complex I inhibition which leads to a decrease in the biogenesis of mitochondria and increases the level of reactive oxygen species that induced oxidases stress (Jollow *et al.*, 1974).



**Figure 2.** Binding interaction of novel glitazone compound with the protein 3CS8 in 3D (after docking). A) C25 and B) C34.

**Table 4.** Pharmacokinetic data of the compounds C25 and C34.

Parameters	Pioglitazone	C25	C34
$C_{max}$ ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )	12.45	10.98	10.25
$T_{max}$ (hour)	2.70	3.25	4.20
$T_{1/2}$ (hour)	3.20	3.60	2.90
$AUC_{0-\infty}$ ( $\mu\text{g hour/ml}$ )	145.70	128.25	98.54
$K_e$ ( $\text{hour}^{-1}$ )	0.280	0.315	0.394



**Figure 3.** Plasma concentration of C25 versus time and C34 versus time.

**Table 5.** Anti-parkinsonism activity of novel glitazones derivatives on rotenone induced Parkinson activity in mice (locomotor activity).

Groups	Day 0	Day 7	Day 14	Day 21
Normal	511.50 $\pm$ 8.04	516.16 $\pm$ 6.24	512.16 $\pm$ 5.71	518.50 $\pm$ 4.53
Control	534.80 $\pm$ 15.34	503.50 $\pm$ 12.33	451.10 $\pm$ 14.7*	198.66 $\pm$ 5.35*
Standard	533.01 $\pm$ 12.01	522.24 $\pm$ 11.02 <sup>#</sup>	519.50 $\pm$ 11.13 <sup>#</sup>	508.24 $\pm$ 10.81 <sup>#</sup>
C25 LD	521.50 $\pm$ 8.63	507.24 $\pm$ 9.46	502.01 $\pm$ 9.84 <sup>#</sup>	401.55 $\pm$ 8.24 <sup>#*</sup>
C25 HD	528.25 $\pm$ 10.06	514.85 $\pm$ 8.24	510.50 $\pm$ 8.45 <sup>#</sup>	484.20 $\pm$ 8.739 <sup>#*</sup>

All the values are expressed as mean  $\pm$  SEM  $n = 6$ . The data was analyzed by two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed Bonferroni post-test. \*Significant when compared to normal group ( $p < 0.01$ ). #Significant when compared to control group ( $p < 0.01$ ). +Significant when compared to standard group ( $p < 0.01$ ).



**Table 6.** Anti-parkinsonism activity of novel glitazones derivatives on rotenone induced Parkinson activity in mice (grip strength by rotarod).

Groups	Day 0	Day 7	Day 14	Day 21
Normal	154.83 ± 8.63	150.83 ± 9.02	149.33 ± 8.26	149.83 ± 6.86
Control	150.16 ± 5.05	131.62 ± 4.79	124.60 ± 4.95*	68.66 ± 5.37*
Standard	146.33 ± 5.05	143.66 ± 4.79	142.04 ± 4.95	139.14 ± 5.37#
C25 LD	149.53 ± 6.15	139.80 ± 5.99	137.16 ± 6.37	131.24 ± 6.51#
C25 HD	146.33 ± 4.53	141.54 ± 4.17	139.04 ± 3.95	135.24 ± 4.35#

All the values are expressed as mean ± SEM; *n* = 6. The data was analyzed by two-way ANOVA followed Bonferroni post-test.

\*Significant when compared to normal group (*p* < 0.01).

#Significant when compared to control group (*p* < 0.01).

+Significant when compared to standard group (*p* < 0.01).

**Table 7.** Anti-parkinsonism activity of novel glitazones derivatives on rotenone induced Parkinson activity in mice (catalepsy by bar test).

Groups	Day 0	Day 7	Day 14	Day 21
Normal	1.16 ± 0.16	1.00 ± 0.00	1.33 ± 0.21	1.33 ± 0.21
Control	1.00 ± 0.00	2.16 ± 0.47	5.00 ± 1.03*	7.83 ± 1.01*
Standard	1.16 ± 0.16	1.50 ± 0.34	2.16 ± 0.30#	2.51 ± 0.22#
C25 LD	1.00 ± 0.00	1.83 ± 0.30	2.66 ± 0.33#	3.16 ± 0.54*#
C25 HD	1.16 ± 0.16	1.50 ± 0.34	2.33 ± 0.33#	3.86 ± 0.30*#

All the values are expressed as mean ± SEM; *n* = 6. The data was analyzed by two-way ANOVA followed Bonferroni post-test.

\*Significant when compared to normal group (*p* < 0.01).

#Significant when compared to control group (*p* < 0.01).

+Significant when compared to standard group (*p* < 0.01).

**Table 8.** Anti-parkinsonism activity of novel glitazones derivatives on rotenone induced Parkinson activity in mice [SOD, Glutathione (GSH) and lipid peroxidation (LPO)].

Groups	SOD (U/mg of brain protein)	GSH (μM/mg of brain)	LPO (MDA mole/mg of brain)
Normal	4.68 ± 0.27	3.25 ± 0.07	3.14 ± 0.07
Control	0.51 ± 0.08*	0.52 ± 0.08*	3.64 ± 0.03*
Standard	1.88 ± 0.15*#	1.95 ± 0.08*#	1.38 ± 0.05*#
C25 LD	0.73 ± 0.1*##	0.97 ± 0.06*##	2.54 ± 0.10*##
C25 HD	1.63 ± 0.09*##	1.12 ± 0.07*##	2.05 ± 0.12*##

All the values are expressed as mean ± SEM; *n* = 6.

The data was analyzed by two-way ANOVA followed Bonferroni post-test.

\*Significant when compared to normal group (*p* < 0.01).

#Significant when compared to control group (*p* < 0.01).

+Significant when compared to standard group (*p* < 0.01).

The effects of novel glitazone on endogenous antioxidant enzymes are given in Table 8. The animals treated alone with rotenone have shown decreased anti-oxidant enzymes, which suggests rotenone may induce oxidative stress. Novel glitazone compound has reversed the oxidative stress induced by rotenone.

## DISCUSSION

The bioenergetics defects in neurodegeneration could be compensated by increased neuronal mitochondrial content. The important regulator of mitochondrial function in central nervous

system is believed to be PPAR-γ co activator 1α (PGC-1α) which up regulates the biogenesis of mitochondria through Sirtuin 1 (Mahajan *et al.*, 2016). PPAR-γ agonists like rosiglitazone, pioglitazone, and troglitazones which are commonly used for the management of diabetes were reported to increase mitochondrial biogenesis (Howitz *et al.*, 2003). In another study, it was found that the PGC-1α agonist, like resveratrol and bezafibrate, have shown the protective effect against 6-hydroxydopamine in animal models (Khan *et al.*, 2010). Studies conducted at our laboratory have shown that the novel glitazones have promising action against

PD induced experimental animal model (Suma *et al.*, 2019). In the present study, the novel glitazones were docked virtually with PGC-1  $\alpha$  protein to get best ligands and optimized legends were further tested in experimental animal model of PD.

The docking studies on novel glitazones (14 virtual ligands) to protein active sites were performed by an advanced molecular docking program SYBYL X 2.1.1. Scoring functions were used for determining the binding affinities of the ligands with the target receptors. The designed analogues were docked toward 3CS8 (target PGC-1 $\alpha$  bound to PPAR-gamma receptor protein) in order to ascertain their binding ability to PPAR-gamma which in turn activity PGC-1  $\alpha$  protein (Justin *et al.*, 2020).

The result had showed that the compounds **C25** and **C34** were having better binding activity with the target protein and were shown good polarity score and crash score than the other compounds when compared with the reference ligand (Mandal *et al.*, 2018). The total score should be more for ligand to possess better binding affinity with the target receptor and crash score should be less. The compound **C25** showed better binding affinity when compared to the compound **C34** in the docking studies.

To assess the bioavailability of novel glitazones, a kinetic study was performed by single oral administration and the kinetic data were determined by the one compartment model. The experimental animals (Wistar Albino Rats) were administered a single oral dose of the compounds **C25** and **C34** and the kinetic data of the compounds are compared with the data of standard pioglitazone drug. The results showed that the **C25** have better plasma concentration than **C34** when compared with the standard pioglitazone compound. The plasma concentration of **C25** was higher because the elimination rate of compound **C34** was higher than the **C25**. The  $T_{max}$  of the **C25** was less than the **C34** it signifies that **C25** have the better absorption than the **C34**. The elimination rate of the **C34** is more than the **C25**, so the plasma concentration is less than **C25**. The compound **C25** shown better  $T_{1/2}$  than the **C34** it signifies the duration of action of **C25** is more than **C34**, it will retain in the plasma for more time and produce better action. The **C25** also showed better  $T_{1/2}$  when compared to the standard pioglitazone. Based on the above studies **C25** was chosen for further toxicity and efficacy studies in experimental animal model.

OECD guideline 423 was applied to know the acute toxicity studies of novel glitazone derivative **C25**, which comprises a 14-day observation studies (OECD guideline 423, 2001). Our findings indicate that the novel glitazone **C25** has shown no mortality at 300 mg/kg dose tested for 14 days period. Then we considered this dose as tolerable dose and taken 10 and 20 mg/kg as test doses for efficacy study.

In the present study, we tried to examine the anti parkinsonian activity of novel glitazone on rotenone induced neurotoxicity in mice. The results of the study clearly demonstrate the beneficial role of novel glitazone **C25** in attenuating the damage of dopaminergic neurons in PD induced mice. As discussed above, the PD is characterized by selective degeneration of dopaminergic neurons in substantia nigra. Pathogenesis of PD may not be known completely, the role of mitochondrial dysfunction, oxidative damage, and apoptosis are major contributing factors (Erbaş *et al.*, 2016). Rotenone induced neurotoxicity has been extensively employed as an animal model for PD. Since it is lipophilic in

nature, it can enter organs like mitochondria and inhibits complex I activity of mitochondrial electron transport chain. This leads to development of ROS, adenosine tri phosphate reduction, and finally cell death in the neuron. Even the treatment with rotenone has demonstrated the histopathological changes as similar to PD (Cannon and Greenamyre, 2011; Xiong *et al.*, 2009).

The results of the present study clearly indicate that rotenone administration could successfully develop PD like motor and behavioral features in rats such as hyperkinesias, flexed posture, and freezing. The compound **C25** was assessed for its anti-parkinsonian activity at two different doses low dose (10 mg/kg) and high dose (20 mg/kg) and the activity was evaluated by behavioral parameters, like rotarod, spontaneous locomotor activity and cataleptic behavior by bar test.

Locomotor activity was assessed on day 7, 14, and 21, and the control group showed decrease in locomotor activity which confirms the induction of disease. The test drug increases the locomotor activity to the maximum of 95% and causes reversal rotenone neurotoxicity.

We observed decrease in fall of time by control group animals when tested by rotarod method, whereas the treatment with **C25** has increased the fall of time dose dependently and maximum at higher doses. This demonstrates the loss of muscle coordination and muscular contraction in rotenone alone administered group animals and the same was attenuated by **C25** administration.

We also found that **C25** treated animals have shown decrease in the cataleptic activity when compared to control group animals dose dependently. Rotenone alone administered animals have taken more time to come back to the normal posture, which confirms the development of PD like symptom. This symptom was attenuated by administration of **C25** and maximum effect was observed at higher dose tested.

As discussed above, rotenone induces PD mainly by increasing the oxidative stress, which causes mitochondrial complex I inhibition, leads to decrease in biogenesis of mitochondria. We observed elevated level of lipid peroxidation, decreased level of antioxidant enzymes SOD and GSH in brain tissues. Treatment with **C25** lessened the level of lipid peroxidation and elevated the level of SOD and GSH.

Oxidative stress is one of the major reasons in many neurodegenerative diseases for the damage of nerve cells. In PD, oxidation of dopamine by mono amino oxidase-B and aldehyde dehydrogenase generates free radicals (OH) in presence of ferrous ions (basal ganglia rich in iron). Thus, the synthetic compounds possessing antioxidant activities appear to be the potential targets for developing new remedies in neuroprotection as the intake of antioxidants appears to be benefit in conditions of oxidative stress by maintaining the balance between the generation and scavenging of free radicals. The glitazone derivatives have a potent antioxidant and anti-PD activities.

## CONCLUSION

The data obtained from this study reveals that novel glitazone compound **C25** has protective effects on a rotenone-induced PD mouse model. The activity was dose-dependent and significant to the standard at higher dose tested. It is also exhibited significant antioxidant activity, which may additional advantages.

But further studies are required to support the present assumption and elucidate the detailed neuroprotective mechanism.

#### AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors are contributed equally to the research work present in the manuscript.

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#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors have no conflict of interest.

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