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## Cinnamic acid derivatives: An ERA

**Nitish Kumar and Amrita Parle**

### Abstract

Cinnamic acid and its derivatives are a class of unsaturated compounds containing carboxyl group. Cinnamic acids are present almost in all green plants even though in minute quantities. They are obtained from natural sources and some are synthesized chemically as well as enzymatically. Cinnamic acid and its derivatives possess pharmacological actions like: anti-oxidant, antiviral, anti-diabetic, CNS depressant, hepatoprotective etc. Currently they are attaining considerable importance for their anti-microbial activity. Current marketed preparations containing cinnamic acid as core moiety and ongoing clinical trials of cinnamic acid derivatives are also included in this review.

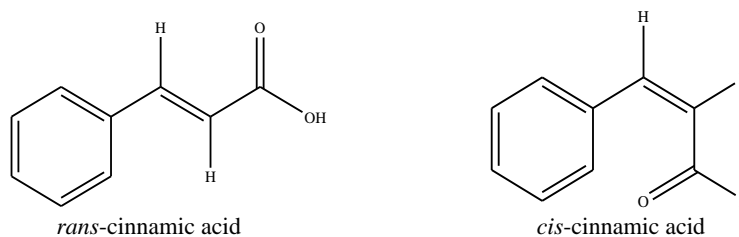
**Keywords:** Cinnamic acid, antimicrobial, anti-diabetic, marketed preparations, clinical trials

### Introduction

Cinnamic acid is an unsaturated carboxylic acid having formula  $C_6H_5CH=CHCOOH$ . Properties of cinnamic acid are described in Table 1.

**Table 1:** Properties of cinnamic acid.

S. No.	Cinnamic Acid	
1.	Physical state	Crystalline Compound
2.	Colour	White
3.	Odour	Honey like Odour
4.	Solubility	Slightly soluble in water, and freely soluble in many organic solvents <sup>[1]</sup> .
5.	Melting Point	133°C
6.	Boling Point	300°C
7.	Acidity[pKa]	4.44
8.	Geometric Isomerism	It exists as both a <i>cis</i> and a <i>trans</i> isomer <sup>[2]</sup> in which <i>trans</i> isomer is more common [Figure 1].



**Fig 1:** Structure of cinnamic acid

### Sources of cinnamic acid and its derivatives

Cinnamic acid and its derivatives are found in natural sources or can be synthesized in laboratory.

### Natural sources

Cinnamic acid is present almost in all green plants even though in minute quantities <sup>[3]</sup>. The term cinnamic is derived from the spice cinnamon [*Cinnamomum zeylanicum*] <sup>[4]</sup>. Cinnamic acid is found in free form or as an ester, amide, alcohol or aldehydic derivative. They are obtained from oil of Cinnamon, balsam of Peru, balsam of Tolu, Storax and Benzoin <sup>[5]</sup>. Some other plants like coffee beans, tea, mate, cocoa, apples and pears, berries, citrus, grape, brassicas vegetables, spinach, beetroot, artichoke, potato, tomato, celery, faba beans, and cereals also contain cinnamic acid and/or its derivatives <sup>[6]</sup>.

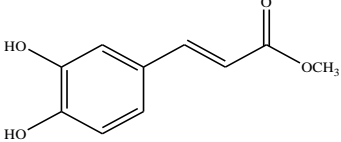
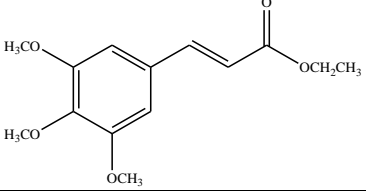
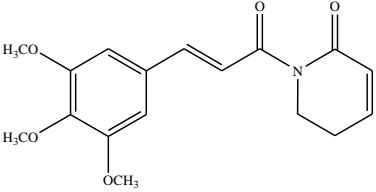
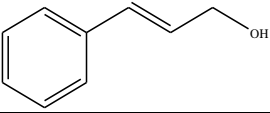
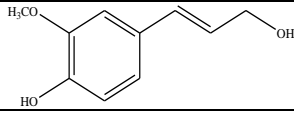
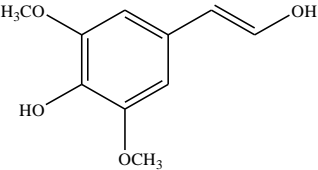
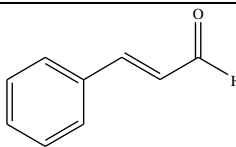
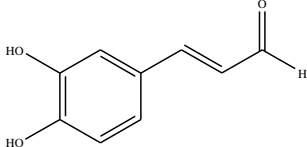
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In biological chemistry, Cinnamic acid is a key intermediate in biosynthetic pathways such as shikimate and phenylpropanoid pathway in green plants, algae, fungi, and even in some prokaryotes and leads to the formation of secondary metabolites such as lignin, isoflavonoids, flavonoids, anthocyanins, coumarin etc. These secondary metabolites play significant roles in physiological change in plants

[anthocyanins for pigmentation, flavonoids protect against UV photodamage] [7,8].

Since ancient times they are used for flavouring the food preparations. Medicinally it is used as stimulant, carminative, antiseptic and insecticide [9]. Cinnamic acid derivatives found in plants, their structure, source and pharmacological actions are depicted in Table 2.

**Table 2:** Cinnamic acid derivatives found in plants.

S. No.	Cinnamic acid derivative	Structure	Source	Pharmalogical activity	Reference
<b>Cinnamic Esters</b>					
1.	Methyl caffeate		<i>Solanum torvum</i> Swartz.	Anti-diabetic activity against streptozotocin induced diabetic rats	[10].
2.	Ethyl 3,4,5-trimethoxy cinnamate		<i>Piper longum</i>	Anti-inflammatory	[11].
<b>Cinnamic amide</b>					
3.	Piplartine		<i>Piper longum</i>	Anticancer	[12].
<b>Cinnamic alcohol</b>					
4.	Cinnamyl alcohol		<i>Cinnamomum</i> species	Perfumes, tonics and other hair grooming aid	[13].
5.	Coniferyl alcohol		Gum Benzoin	fungal growth inhibitor	[14].
6.	Sinapyl alcohol		Bio-synthesized via phenylpropanoid	Anti-inflammatory and anti-nociceptive effects	[15].
<b>Cinnamic aldehyde</b>					
7.	Cinnamaldehyde		Oil of Cinnamon	Flavouring agent, Attenuates pressure overload-induced cardiac hypertrophy, Anti-diabetic.	[16]. [17]. [18].
8.	Caffeic aldehyde		<i>Piper taiwanense</i> ,	antitubercular	[19].

### Synthesis of cinnamic acid and its derivatives

Different synthetic methods used for preparation of cinnamic acid and its derivatives are:

#### 1. Perkin reaction

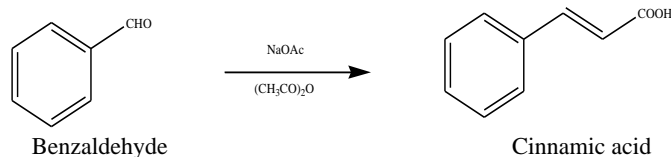
Perkin reaction is an organic reaction named after William Henry Perkin. It is a primary method for the synthesis of

cinnamic acid and its derivatives.

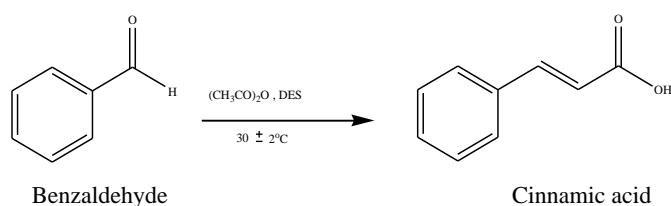
Condensation of an aromatic aldehyde and acid anhydride takes place in this reaction, in the presence of an alkali salt [Sodium acetate] of the acid, which acts as a base catalyst and gives  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -unsaturated aromatic acid [20]. Perkin reaction is not possible with simple aliphatic aldehyde or aromatic ketones.

**Scheme 1a**

In presence of anhydrous sodium acetate, benzaldehyde and acetic anhydride is condensed to form cinnamic acid [21]. Aldehyde leads to the formation of unwanted side product like alcohols in presence of bases which is main disadvantage of this method.

**Scheme 1b**

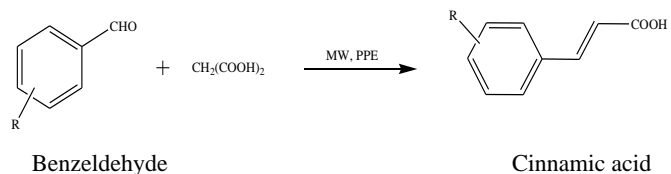
Benzaldehyde converts into cinnamic acid via perkin reaction in presence of acetic anhydride and biodegradable deep eutectic solvent [DES] based on choline chloride and urea, in 4 hours at  $30 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ . The yield obtained is 92% yield [22].

**2. Knoevenagel condensation**

The Knoevenagel condensation reaction is an organic reaction developed by Emil Knoevenagel. Malonic acid undergoes Knoevenagel condensation with almost every type of aldehyde and very reactive ketones. Methylene malonic acids are usually obtained, if condensation [with malonic acid] is performed in ethanolic ammonia below  $70^\circ\text{C}$ . If, however, basic solvents like pyridine and piperidine [Doebner modification] are used in place of ethanolic ammonia, decarboxylation normally takes place and acrylic or cinnamic acid is formed [23].

**Scheme 2a**

Aryl aldehyde reacts with malonic acid under microwave irradiation in presence of polyphosphate ester which acts as catalyst and reaction mediator gives cinnamic acid and its derivatives as the product [24]. There is advantage of this method over Perkin reaction is that electron donor substituent like 2, 6-dimethylbenzaldehyde can be used for synthesis of cinnamic acid. Long reaction time is disadvantage of this method.

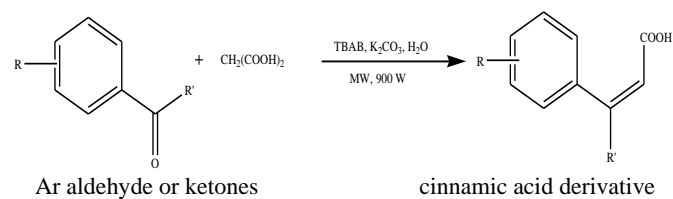


$\text{R} = 4\text{-Br}; 3, 4\text{-di [OMe]}; 4\text{-OH}; 4\text{-NO}_2; 2, 5\text{-di [OMe]}; \text{OMe}; 4\text{-Me}; 3\text{-Cl}; \text{H}$ .

**Scheme 2b**

Aromatic aldehyde or ketone and malonic acid undergo Knoevenagel condensation in presence of tetra butyl ammoniumbromide [TBAB] and potassium carbonate [ $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ ] under microwave irradiation in presence of water to

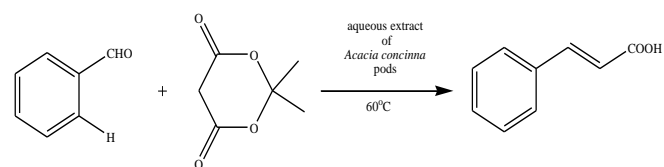
produce cinnamic acids [25]. It is simple and eco-friendly procedure for the synthesis of cinnamic acid. Excellent yield and high purity of product are obtained.



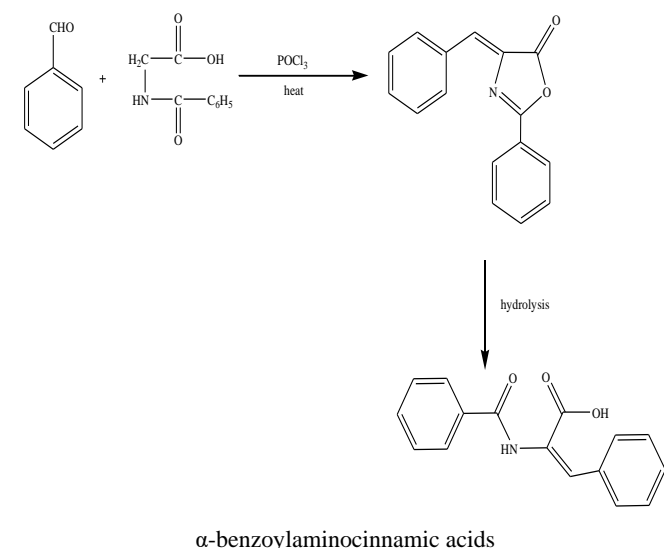
$\text{R/R}' = \text{H/H}; 4\text{-OMe/H}; 4\text{-NO}_2\text{/H}; 3\text{-Br/H}; 2, 4\text{-Cl/H}; 4\text{-OH/H}; \text{H/CH}_3; 4\text{-Br/CH}_3; 4\text{-NO}_2\text{/CH}_3$

**Scheme 2c**

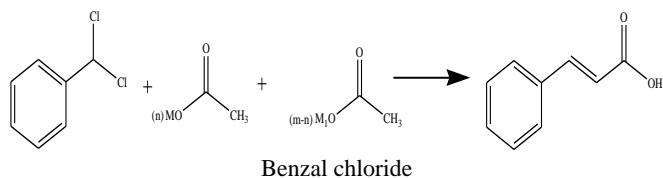
Under mild condition, aqueous extract of *Acacia concinna* pods catalyze the condensation of Meldrum's acid with aromatic aldehyde to yield cinnamic acids via Knoevenagel condensation [26]. Excellent yield [95%], eco-friendly, easy availability of catalyst and simple reaction procedure are the advantages of this method.

**3. Phosphorous oxychloride method****Scheme 3a**

Aromatic aldehydes condensed with N-arylglycine by heating in phosphorus oxychloride leads to 4-benzylideneoxazol-5-one derivative in high yield. On hydrolysis of 4-benzylideneoxazol-5-one derivative,  $\alpha$ -benzoylamino cinnamic acid is formed [27]. This procedure is somewhat lengthy and energy consuming.

**4. From benzal chloride****Scheme 4a**

Benzal chloride and anhydrous acetate is heated at  $180^\circ$  to  $200^\circ\text{C}$  for 10 hours to get the desired product cinnamic acid [28]. This procedure is also being used for commercial preparations. Benzal chloride used in this reaction is cheaper than benzaldehyde.



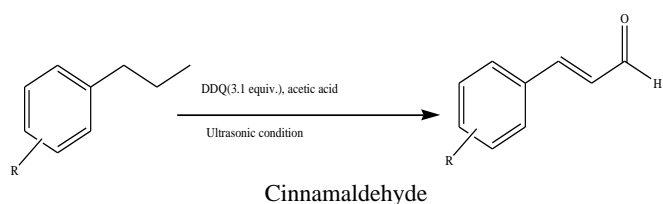
Wherein

- M and M1 are the same or different and are alkali metals.
- M and N are integers from 0-3.

## 5. Under ultrasonication method

### Scheme 5a

Arylpropene is used to synthesize cinnamaldehyde [*trans*] by using DDQ [2, 3-Dichloro-5, 6-dicyano-1, 4-benzoquinone] and few drops of acetic acid [29]. Economical substrates, 100% [*E*]-selectivity of cinnamaldehyde and atom economy are merits of this process.

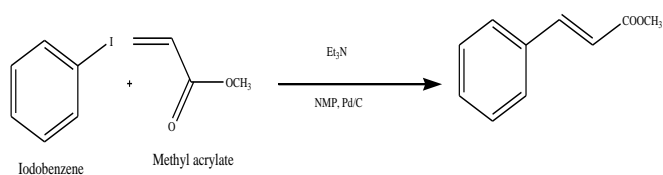


## 6. Heck coupling reaction

When Aryl halide is coupled with alkene in presence of a base and palladium as catalyst, the reaction is referred as Heck coupling reaction. This process is also used to synthesize cinnamic acid using iodobenzene & methyl acrylate as reactant and palladium catalyst under different conditions.

### Scheme 6a

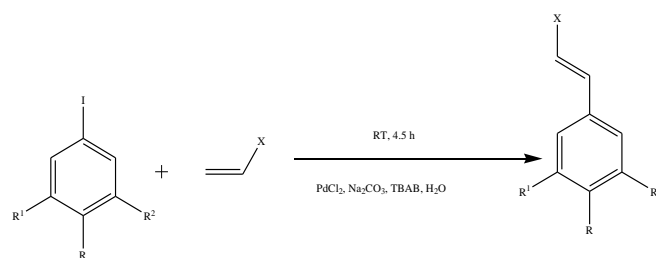
Ambulgekar and co-worker worked on synthesis of cinnamic acid, they synthesized methyl ester of cinnamic acid under ultrasonic condition from iodobenzene and methyl acrylate using catalyst [Pd/C], NMP [N-methyl pyrrolidine] as a solvent and triethyl-amine [30]. Triethyl-amine promotes the redeposition of palladium on charcoal.



### Scheme 6b

Different aryl halides can be used to prepare cinnamic acid esters [when X = COOMe] under ultrasonic condition in presence of a catalyst palladium chloride [PdCl<sub>2</sub>], a phase transfer catalyst i.e. TBAB [tetra butyl ammonium bromide] and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. Acceptable yield [i.e. 43-93%] of corresponding

products can be obtained in aqueous solution at ambient temperature using this method [31]. It is also well accepted method for commercial preparations.



R = H, OMe, Cl, Br, NHCOMe, or NO<sub>2</sub>

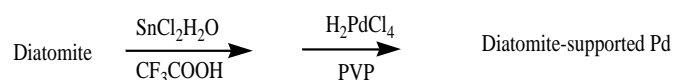
R<sup>1</sup> = I, CHO, H

R<sup>2</sup> = I or H

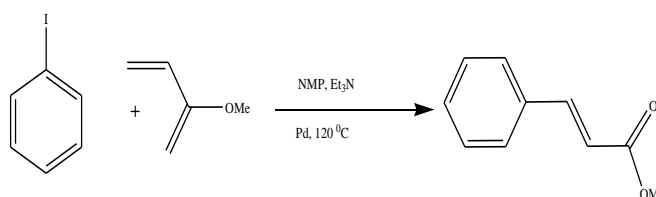
X = CO<sub>2</sub>Me, COOH, CN or Ph

### Scheme 6c

Diatomite-supported palladium nanoparticles have been prepared by following way



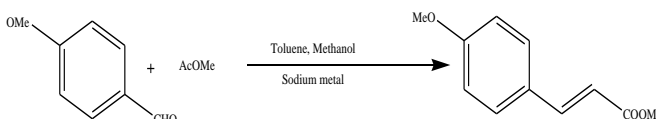
Prepared Pd-nanoparticle is used in the reaction of aryl halide and methyl acrylate which gives cinnamic acid derivatives as product in presence of a solvent NMP [N-Methyl pyrrolidine] and a base i.e. triethylamine [32]. Excellent yield [i.e. 96%] is obtained within 25 minute.



## 7. Claisen-Schmidt condensations

### Scheme 7a

By using this method, Cinnamic acid derivatives having [*E*] configuration are prepared by condensation reaction between aromatic aldehyde and methyl acetate in presence of sodium metal and methanol with toluene in a catalytic amount as co-solvent [33].



Patents [34] have been granted for this process for different reaction conditions which are covered in Table 3.

**Table 3:** Patents have been granted for this process.

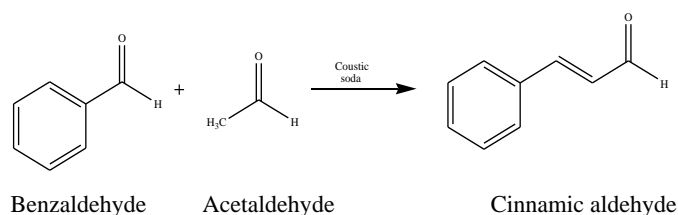
S. No.	Patent no.	Reactant used	Reaction condition	Final product	Disadvantage
1.	US – 6054607 A	Benzaldehyde and acetic acid ester	Reaction occurs in presence of a base	Cinnamic acid ester	2 step process
2.	German Patent DE709227	Benzaldehyde and ethyl or methyl acetate	Reaction occurs in presence of Sodium hydride as base	Ethyl cinnamate or methyl cinnamate	Sodium hydride is not easy to handle and is expensive
3.	Japanese Patent	Benzaldehyde and an	Reaction occurs in	Cinnamic acid ester and	This procedure requires specific

	Application Kokai Sho 61-7236	acetic acid ester.	presence of alcoholic solution of a metal alkoxide as a base	3-methoxy-3-phenylpropionic acid formed as by product.	purification step[distillation] to isolate cinnamic acid ester from reaction mixture and has low yield.
4.	U.S. Pat. No. 4618698	Optionally substituted benzaldehyde and optionally substituted acetic acid ester.	Reaction occurs in presence of alcoholate	Cinnamic acid ester	Long procedure followed by hydrolysis of reaction mixture and then esterification is done to obtain product.
5.	U.S. Pat. No. 5359122	Dialkyl acetal of an aromatic aldehyde and ketene	Reaction occurs in presence of a catalytic amount of a protic or Lewis acid	Cinnamic acid or ester	2 step process.

## 8. Liquid-phase oxidation of cinnamic aldehyde

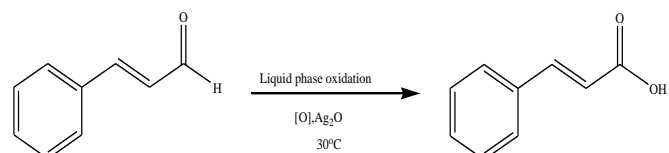
### Scheme 8a

Cinnamic aldehyde is prepared by the condensation reaction of benzaldehyde with acetaldehyde in caustic soda solution.



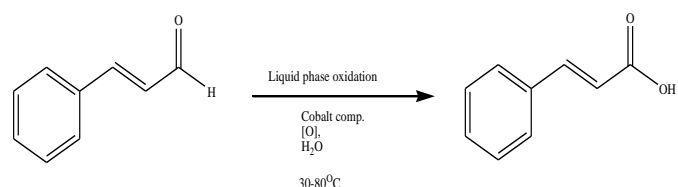
### Scheme 8b

Cinnamic aldehyde is oxidized in the liquid phase using molecular oxygen in the presence of silver oxide as catalyst. This process publicly disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 3162682 and in British Pat. No. 782430. Silver oxide which is used in this reaction is very expensive and requires the reaction temperature to be maintained at 30° C or lower because a silver mirror reaction occurs at higher temperature which is main disadvantage of this process.



### Scheme 8c

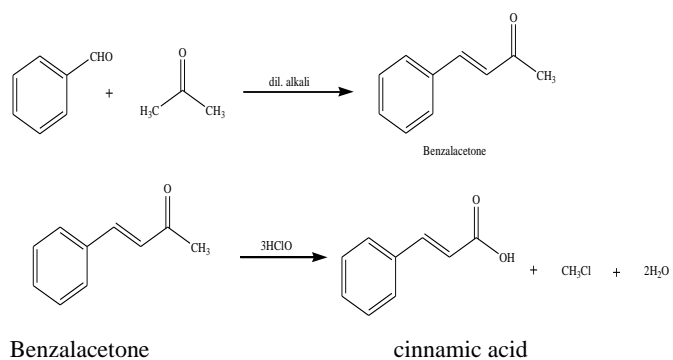
The above process was modified to overcome the drawbacks. In the modified method cinnamic aldehyde is dissolved in an aromatic hydrocarbon which is oxidized in the liquid phase with molecular oxygen at a temperature in the range of 30°-80° C, in presence of cobalt compound[e.g.-cobalt acetate, cobalt benzoate or cobalt stearate] and water, which leads to the formation of cinnamic acid [35].



## 9. From benzaldehyde and acetone

### Scheme 9a

Benzaldehyde and acetone are condensed in presence of dilute alkali to produce benzalacetone which is further oxidized by hypochlorous acid to give cinnamic acid.

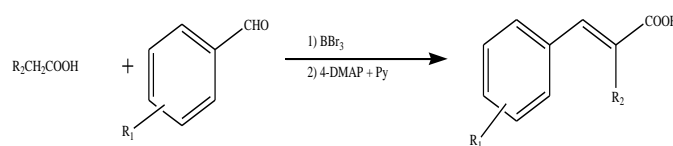


This method is modified by Lewinshon to increase the yield [i.e. 88.2%]. He used sodium hypochlorite or hypobromite as oxidizing agent instead of hypochlorous acid to produce cinnamic acid [36].

## 10. Direct synthesis of cinnamic acids from aromatic aldehydes and aliphatic carboxylic acids

### Scheme 10a

This is new direct synthetic method to synthesize cinnamic acids in high yield. The reaction occurs between aromatic aldehydes and aliphatic carboxylic acids, in the presence of boron tribromide as reagent, dimethylaminopyridine [4-DMAP] and pyridine [Py] as bases and N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone [NMP] as solvent, at reflux [180-190°C] for 8-12 hours. Yield up to 81% is obtained using this approach [37].

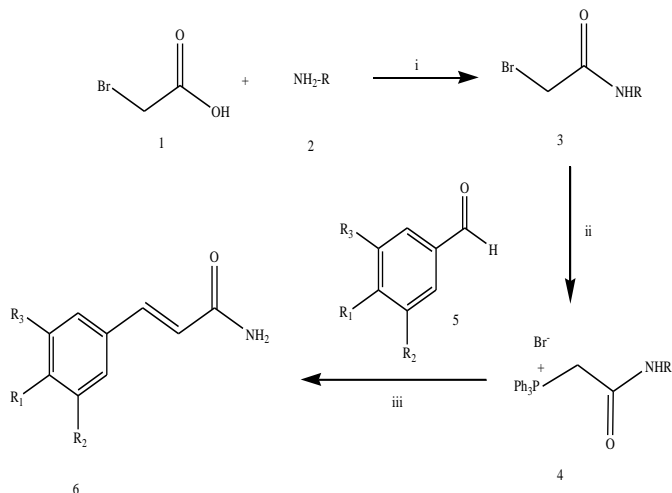


$R_1/R_2 = p\text{-Cl/H, } m\text{-Cl/H, } p\text{-H/H, } p\text{-CH}_3\text{O/H, } m\text{-NO}_2\text{/H, } m\text{-Cl/CH}_3, m\text{-NO}_2\text{/CH}_3.$

## 11. Microwave-accelerated synthesis of amides of substituted cinnamic acids by Wittig reaction

### Scheme 11a

Initially bromoacetamides [3] are synthesized from the corresponding bromoacetic acid [1] and heptyl- or butylamines [2] using peptide methods then phosphonium salts are prepared from triphenyl-phosphonium [Ph<sub>3</sub>P] and the corresponding amides of bromoacetic acid [38]. Then substituted cinnamic acid amides [6] were synthesized from general. Aromatic aldehydes with a free OH group in *p*-position react with phosphonium salts results in poor yield and a byproduct [triphenylphosphine oxide], separation of which is quite difficult [39].



Here in,

i] IBCF [isobutyl chloroformate]/ NMM [N-methyl morpholine], THF [tetra-hydrofuran],  $-15^\circ\text{C}$ .

ii]  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{-CH}_3$ , RT.

iii]  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ , DMSO [dimethyl sulfoxide], microwave power-500W, T-  $150^\circ\text{C}$ .

$\text{R} = [\text{CH}_2]_6\text{CH}_3$  or  $[\text{CH}_2]_3\text{CH}_3$   
 $\text{R}_1 = \text{OH}$ ,  $\text{OCH}_3$  or  $\text{H}$ .  
 $\text{R}_2 = \text{OH}$ ,  $\text{OCH}_3$  or  $\text{H}$ .  
 $\text{R}_3 = \text{OH}$ ,  $\text{OCH}_3$  or  $\text{H}$ .

## 12. By biological engineering

As cinnamic acids are present in plants in very low concentration<sup>3</sup>, extraction of these products from plants is very difficult. It involves tedious process. An alternative method for the production of these aromatic acids is based on the use of microbial strains [*E. coli* strains] modified by metabolic engineering [40]. These biotechnological processes are usually based on the use of simple sugars like glucose as a raw material. The process is described in figure 2.

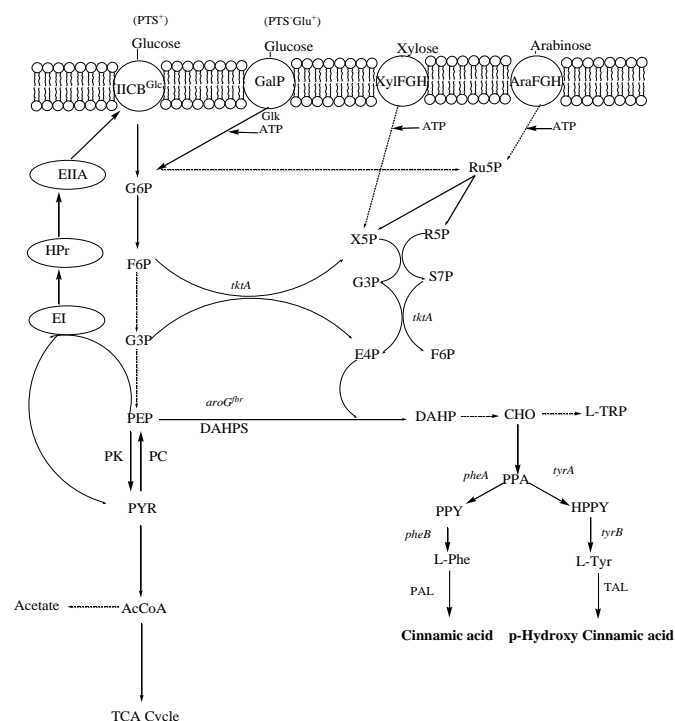
The phenylpropanoid pathway is a natural source for secondary metabolites like cinnamic acid [CA] and *p*-hydroxy cinnamic acid [pHCA].

The strategy is initiated as the microbial strains with the capacity to synthesize CA or pHCA is selected. A genetic modification is performed on it to increase the carbon flow to the L-phenylalanine [L-phe] or L-tyrosine [L-tyr] biosynthetic pathway. Phospho-enol-pyruvate [PEP] and erythrose-4-phosphate [E4P] condensation starts the common aromatic pathway in bacteria & plants and forms 3-deoxy-D-arabino-heptulosonate-7-phosphate [DAHPS]. In this PEP is produced via glycolysis process [41] and E4P is produced via condensation of glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate [G3P] & sedoheptulose-7-phosphate [S7P] and also via condensation of glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate [G3P] & fructose-6-phosphate [F6P]. DAHP [3-deoxy-D-arabino-heptulosonate-7-phosphate] converts into chorismate [CHO] after seven enzymatic reactions. A frequent strategy is used an expression of feedback-inhibition-resistant [fbr] mutant version of enzyme DAHP synthase [DAHPS] to increase the carbon flow from central metabolism to the common aromatic pathway. Rate of chorismate synthesis is increased by this modification. Chorismate is a common precursor for L-phe, L-tyr and L-tryptophan [L-TRP]. An expression of feedback-inhibition-resistant version of enzyme CHO mutase-prephenate dehydratase [CM-PDT] employed to increase carbon flow from chorismate to L-phe biosynthesis and an expression of

feedback-inhibition-resistant version of CHO mutase-prephenate dehydrogenase [CM-PDH] is employed for increasing L-Tyr synthesis from chorismate [CHO].

Production of L-Phe and L-Tyr can be improved by increasing availability of precursors, phospho-enol-pyruvate [PEP] and erythrose-4-phosphate [E4P]. Availability of phospho-enol-pyruvate [PEP] can be increased by generation of *E. coli* strains lacking the PEP: sugar phosphotransferase system [PTS] activity and further modified to display a high growth rate on glucose [PTS- glucose+ phenotype]. Transport by galactose permease [GalP] and ATP-dependent phosphorylation by glucokinase is necessary for growth of this type of mutant strains. During glucose import, PEP is not consumed, these PTS- glucose+ strains display a higher aromatics yield from glucose when compared to a wild type PTS+ strain.

Deamination of L-Phe by phenylalanine ammonia-lyase [PAL] and deamination of L-Tyr by tyrosine ammonia-lyase [TAL] gives cinnamic acid and *p*-hydroxy cinnamic acid respectively.



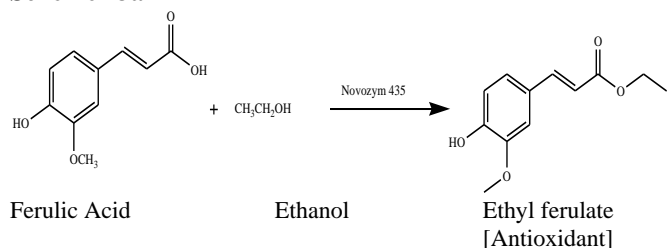
**Fig 2:** Central metabolism, sugar import routes and aromatics biosynthetic pathways: Dashed arrows indicate multiple enzyme reactions; EI- enzyme I; HPr- phosphohistidine carrier protein; EIIA- glucose-specific enzyme II; IICBGlc- integral membrane glucose permease; GalP- galactose permease; XylFGH- xylose transport proteins; AraFGH- arabinose transport proteins; G6P- glucose-6-phosphate; F6P- fructose-6-phosphate; G3P- glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate; PEP- phosphoenolpyruvate; R5P- ribose-5-phosphate; Ru5P- ribulose-5-phosphate; S7P- sedoheptulose-7-phosphate; X5P- xylulose-5-phosphate; PK- pyruvate kinase; PC- pyruvate carboxylase; PYR- pyruvate; AcCoA- acetyl-CoA; TCA- tricarboxylic acid; *aroG<sup>fbr</sup>*- gene encoding a feedback-inhibition-resistant version of 3-deoxy-D-arabino-heptulosonate-7-phosphate synthase [DAHPS]; *tktA*- transketolase; CHO- chorismate; PPA- prephenate; PPY- phenylpyruvate; HPPY- *p*-hydroxy phenylpyruvate; *tyrB*- tyrosine aminotransferase gene; PAL- phenylalanine ammonia lyase; TAL- tyrosine ammonia lyase.

## 13. Enzymatic method

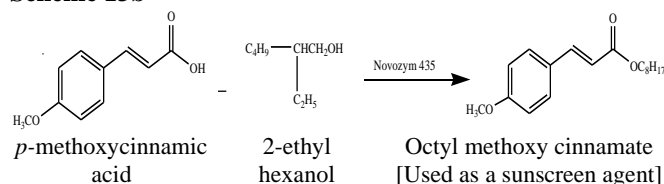
Lee *et al.* has carried out synthesis of two derivatives of cinnamic acid by enzymatic method using Novozym 435 as a

catalyst. Novozym 435 is *Candida antarctica* lipase B immobilized on acrylic resin and has a specific activity of 7 PLU [propyl laurate units]/mg based on ester synthesis. Two derivatives of cinnamic acid i.e. ethyl ferulate and octyl methoxy cinnamate are synthesized using Novozym 435 as a catalyst. In scheme 13a, ethyl ferulate [EF] is synthesized from ferulic acid [4-hydroxy 3-methoxy cinnamic acid] and ethanol while in scheme 13b, octyl methoxy cinnamate [OMC] is synthesized from *p*-methoxy cinnamic acid and 2-ethyl hexanol [42]. The yield obtained is 85%-90% which is higher as compared to other methods. Enzyme can be reused without any loss of activity. Ethanol distorts the water layer around enzyme which is necessary for its activity.

#### Scheme 13a



#### Scheme 13b



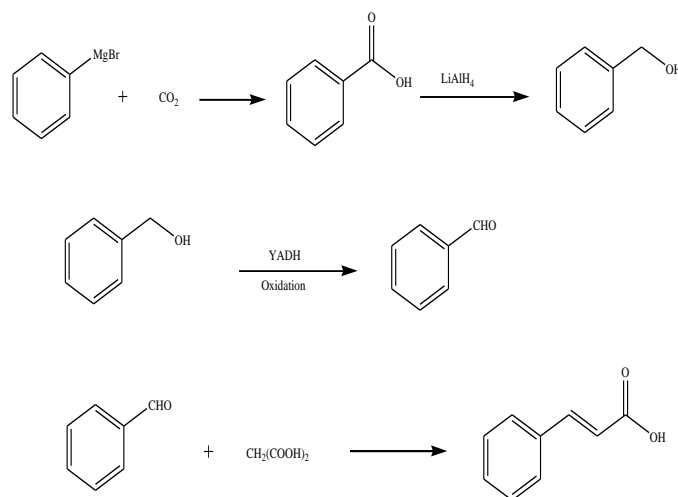
### 14. Combined chemical and enzymatic method

#### Scheme 14a

Radiolabeled cinnamic acid is synthesized using this method.

Initially, radiolabeled [1-<sup>14</sup>C] benzoic acid is prepared by carbonation of Grignard reagent with radiolabeled [<sup>14</sup>C] carbon dioxide. Prepared benzoic acid is reduced in presence of lithium aluminium hydride [LiAlH<sub>4</sub>] to give radiolabeled [1-<sup>14</sup>C] benzyl alcohol. Benzyl alcohol is enzymatically oxidized using YADH [yeast alcohol dehydrogenase] to radiolabeled [1-<sup>14</sup>C] benzaldehyde. Prepared benzaldehyde is immediately condensed with malonic acid to give radiolabeled [3-<sup>14</sup>C] cinnamic acid [43].

This combined chemical and enzymatic approach allows to obtain radiolabeled [3-<sup>14</sup>C] cinnamic acid with radiochemical yield higher than 50% in respect to the starting alcohol.

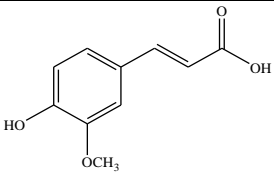
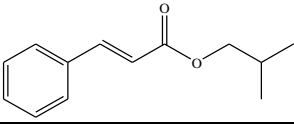
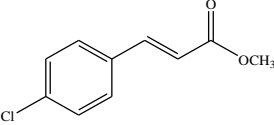
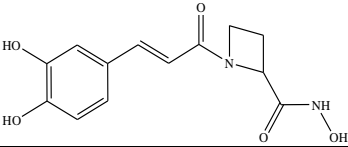
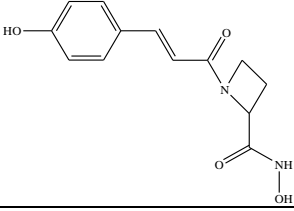
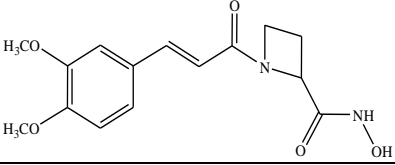
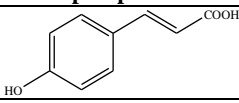
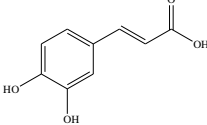
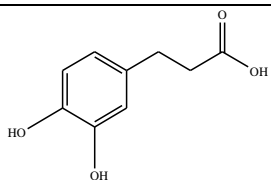
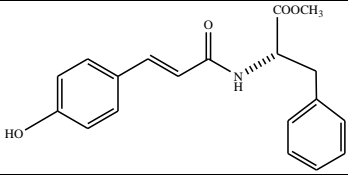
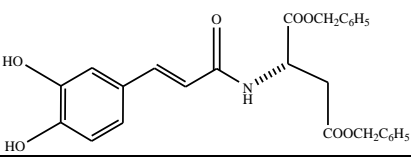
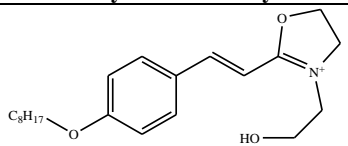


#### Pharmacological action

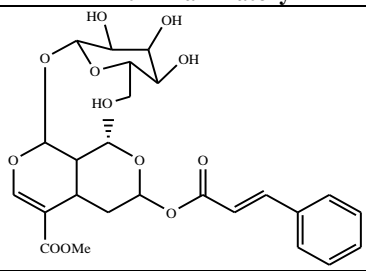
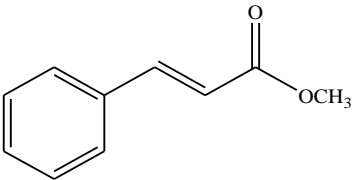
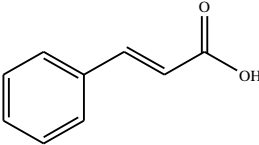
Cinnamic acid and its derivatives are extremely versatile and exhibit wide range of pharmacological activity.

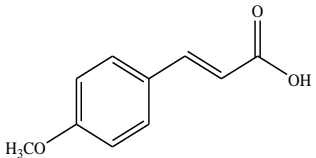
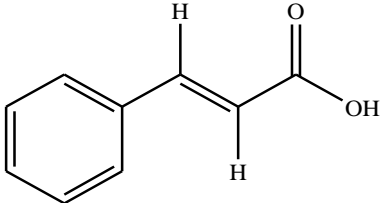
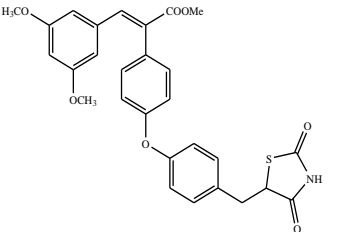
Table 4: Pharmacological activity of cinnamic acid derivatives

S. No.	Cinnamic acid derivatives	Structure	Mechanism of action	Reference
<b>Antidiabetic activity</b>				
1.	<i>m</i> -Hydroxy cinnamic acid		Stimulating peripheral glucose uptake	[44].
2.	Ferulic acid [4-hydroxy-3-methoxy cinnamic acid]		PPAR agonistic activity	[44].
<b>Antioxidant</b>				
3.	<i>p</i> -Coumaric acid [4-hydroxycinnamic acid]		Inhibits LDL- oxidation	[45].
4.	Caffeic acid [3,4-dihydroxy cinnamic acid]		Inhibits, membrane lipid peroxidation	[46].
5.	Sinapic acid [3,5-dimethoxy-4-hydroxy cinnamic acid]		GABA receptors and potentiating Cl <sup>-</sup> currents	[47].

6.	Ferulic acid [4-hydroxy- 3-methoxy cinnamic acid]		Inhibits LDL- oxidation	[48].
<b>Antimicrobial</b>				
7.	Isobutyl cinnamate		Interaction on protein thiol groups [Related to the hydrophobic character of the molecule]	[49].
8.	Methyl-4-chlorocinnamate [Antifungal]		Alteration in permeability of fungal cell membrane	[50].
9.	N-hydroxy-1-[[2E]-3-[3,4-dihydroxyphenyl]prop-2-enoyl]azetidine-2-carboxamide		Inhibition of NDM-1	[51].
10.	N-hydroxy-1-[[2E]-3-[4-hydroxyphenyl]prop-2-enoyl]azetidine-2-carboxamide		Inhibition of NDM-1	[51].
11.	N-hydroxy-1-[[2E]-3-[3,4-dimethoxyphenyl]prop-2-enoyl]azetidine-2-carboxamide		Inhibition of NDM-1	[51].
<b>Hepatoprotective</b>				
12.	4-hydroxy cinnamic acid		5-lipoxygenase inhibition Activity	[52].
13.	Caffeic acid [3,4-dihydroxy-cinnamic acid]		Not Defined	
<b>Anticholesterolemic</b>				
14.	3, 4-Di[OH]-hydrocinnamate		Hepatic HMG-CoA reductase activity	[53, 54].
15.	4-Hydroxy cinnamic acid [L-phenylalanine methyl ester] Amide		Inhibit human acyl-CoA: cholesterol acyltransferase-1 and -2	[53, 54].
16.	3,4-Dihydroxyhydro cinammic acid [L-aspartic acid dibenzyl ester] amide		Inhibit human acyl-CoA: cholesterol acyltransferase-1 and -2	[53, 54].
<b>Cytotoxic activity</b>				
17.	Cinnamic acid derived oxazolinium ions		Act as alkylating agents	[55].



Anti-inflammatory					
18.	7-O-cinnamoyl Morroniside		Inhibitor of TNF- $\alpha$ -induced E-selectin expression	[56].	
Cosmetology & flavouring agent					
20.	Methyl cinnamate		-	[57].	
20.	Cinnamaldehyde		-	[58].	

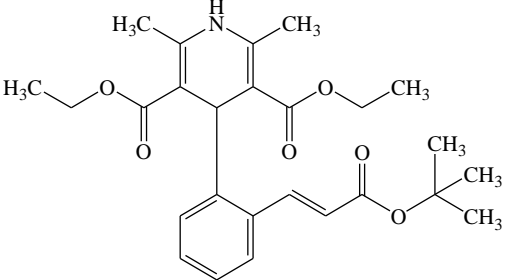
Miscellaneous					
S. No.	Cinnamic acid derivatives	Structure	Pharmacological activity	Mechanism of action	Reference
1.	<i>p</i> -Methoxy cinnamic acid		Antidiabetic, Hepatoprotective, Sunscreen agent	PPAR agonistic activity	[59].
2.	<i>Trans</i> -Cinnamic acid		Anti TB, Antiviral	I] Inhibits the transfer of mycolic acid II] Inhibited the viral replication cycle	[60].
3.	Thiazolidine 1,4-dione substituted-phenyl cinnamic acid derivatives		Anti-hyperglycemic Activity	PPAR-agonist activity	[59].

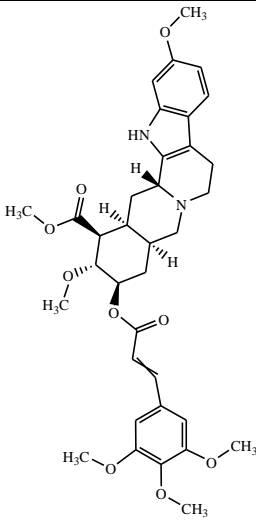
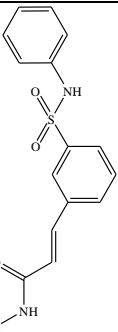
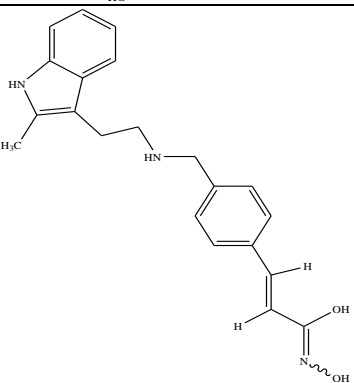
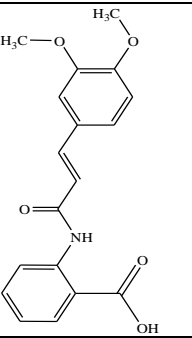
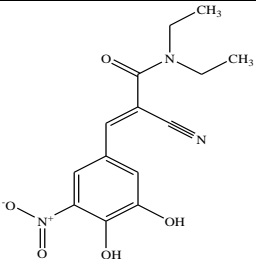
**Currently marketed cinnamic acid derivatives**

Table 5 summarizes the currently available marketed

preparations with their name, structure, pharmacological activity, mechanism of action and manufacturer.

**Table 5:** Current marketed preparations of cinnamic acid derivatives

S. No.	Drug	Structure	Pharmacological Activity	Mechanism of Action	Company	Reference
1.	Lacidipine		Antihypertensive	Calcium channel blocker	Sunpharma, GSK	[61].

2.	Rescinnamine		Antihypertensive	Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor	Pfizer	[62].
3.	Belinostat		Developed as orphan drug to target hematological malignancies and solid tumors by Topo Target and it is used as therapeutic agent for refractory peripheral T-cell lymphoma.	It inhibits the enzyme histone deacetylase [HDAC]	Ikris Pharma	[63].
4.	Panobinostat		Used in the treatment of multiple myeloma.	Oral deacetylase [DAC] inhibitor	Novartis	[64].
5.	Tranilast		Antiallergic.	Selective target of hematopoietic prostaglandin D synthase	Kissei Pharmaceutical	[65, 66].
6.	Entacapone		Used for the treatment of parkinson's disease.	Selective, reversible catechol-O-methyl transferase[COMT] inhibitor	Novartis	[67].

7.	Octinoxate		Used in skin care products to minimize DNA photodamage.	It absorbs UV rays from sun	Palsons, Cipla, Fulford, Wockhardt, Glenmark	[68].
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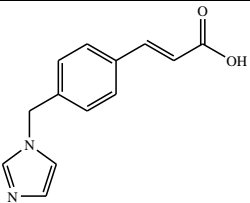
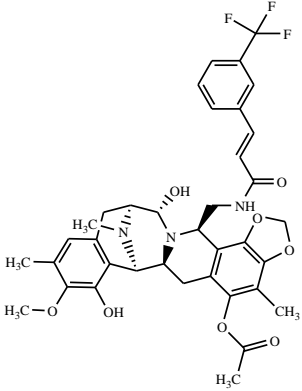
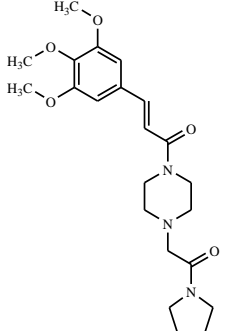
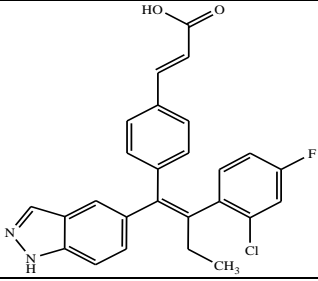
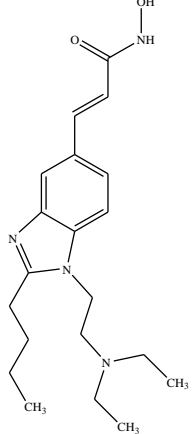
**Cinnamic acid derivatives undergoing clinical trial studies:**

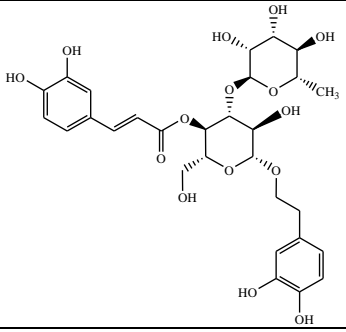
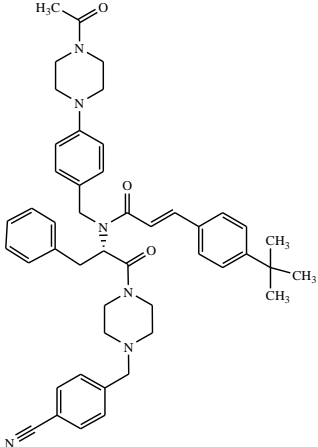
Table 6 covers the ongoing clinical trials of cinnamic acid

derivatives with their name, structure, study, phase status and mechanism of action

**Table 6:** Ongoing clinical trials of cinnamic acid

S. No.	Drug	Structure	Study	Status	Mechanism of Action	Reference
1.	Beloranid		Obesity	Clinical trial Phase II [completed]	Inhibitor of the enzyme METAP2 [73]	[69].
			Obesity + Anti-diabetic	Phase II [Terminated]		[70].
			Obesity + Prader-Willi Syndrome	Phase III [Terminated]		[71].
			Obesity + Hypothalamic Injury + Craniopharyngioma	Phase II [completed]		[72].
2.	Lusutrombopag		Thrombo-cytenias in patients with chronic liver disease	Clinical Trail Phase III	It acts selectively on the human TPO receptor and activates signal transduction pathways [75]	[74].
3.	Chlorogenic Acid		Glioblastoma	Clinical Trail Phase I	-	[76].
			Advanced Cancer			[77].
			Impaired Glucose Tolerance	Phase II		[78].

4.	Ozagrel		Acute ischemic stroke	Clinical Trail Phase IV [completed]	Thromboxane A2 synthesis inhibition [80]	[79].
5.	Zalypsis		Uterine Cervical Cancer + Endometrial Cancer	Clinical trial Phase II [Terminated]	Alkylating agent [84]	[81].
			Ewing's Sarcoma + Primitive Neuroectodermal Tumor [PNET]	Clinical trial Phase II [Completed]		[82].
			Solid Tumors + Lymphoma	Clinical trial Phase I [Terminated]		[83].
6.	Cinepazide		Treatment of Ischemic Stroke	Clinical trial Phase II	Neuro-protective [86]	[85].
7.	GDC-0810		Treatment of Breast Cancer	Clinical trial Phase II	Antagonism of ERα [88]	[87].
8.	Pracinostat		Acute Myeloid Leukemia	Clinical trial Phase III	HDAC Inhibitor [90]	[89].
9.	Acteoside		Treatment of IgA Nephropathy	Clinical trial Phase II & Phase III	-	[91].

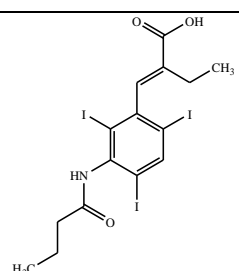
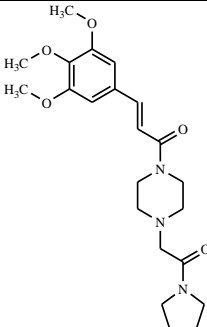
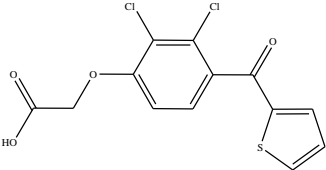
						
10.	ACT-451840		Antimalarial	Clinical trial Phase I [Completed]	Blocks transmission [93].	[92].

### Cinnamic acid derivative withdrawn from the market

Table 7 covers the cinnamic acid derivative that are withdrawn from the market with its name, structure,

pharmacological activity, cause of withdrawal and markets from where it is withdrawn.

**Table 7:** Cinnamic acid derivative that are withdrawn from the market

S. No.	Drug	Structure	Pharmacological activity	Cause	Status	Reference
1.	Bunamiodyl		Used in the examination of the biliary tract	Due to nephropathy	Withdrawn from Canadian, US and UK markets in 1963 & Worldwide in 1984	[94].
2.	Cinepazide		Vasodilator	Agranulocytosis	Withdrawn from Spain in 1988	[95, 96].
3.	Ticrynafen		Uricosuric diuretic	Liver toxicity	Withdrawn from Germany, France, UK and US markets in 1980	[97, 98].

### Conclusion

Cinnamic acid & its derivatives are important class of drugs with wide range of pharmacological activity. The review covers various methods of their synthesis, Perkin reaction

being one of the simplest and commonest method of synthesis while biological engineering is modern tool for their preparation. Preparation via Knoevenagel condensation of Meldrum's acid with aromatic aldehyde using aqueous extract

of *Acacia concinna* pods as catalyst under mild condition, have least drawbacks and it has better future scope. The review has concisely depicted in tabular form, plant derivatives, pharmacological activity, currently marketed preparations, ongoing clinical trials, withdrawn preparation of cinnamic acid derivatives for use of researchers working in this field.

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