

Antidiabetic activity of methanolic extracts of *Globba marantia* in Streptozotocin induced diabetic rats

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Abstract

Globba marantia, a broadly practiced plant species in India, has tremendous nutritional value as it has vital food ingredients having therapeutic potential to combat rheumatism, snake bites, and disorders caused due to microbial infection. In current investigation, we studied the antidiabetic potential of methanol extracts of leaves of *G. marantia* in streptozotocin (STZ)-stimulated diabetic albino rats. Rats were administered with streptozotocin to induce diabetes and further treated with 300 mg/kg plant extract for 3 weeks to observe the reduction in diabetes by observing variations in biochemical parameters in the serum and pancreatic tissue. Phytochemical screening revealed the presence of various metabolites. The succession of diabetes was tremendously decreased after administration of plant extracts. In rats administered with plant dose, there was noteworthy decrease in serum glucose and nitric oxide, with simultaneous enhance in serum insulin and protein concentrations. Furthermore, plant extracts enhanced free radical scavenging potential in pancreatic tissue, with simultaneous reduction in concentration of thiobarbituric acid-reactive molecules. Histological observation of the pancreas from diabetic rats revealed degenerative variations in β -cells. In mice treated with plant extracts showed the histoarchitectural rejuvenation in islets cells. Thus we assumed that *G. marantia* possessed tremendous antidiabetic and antioxidant potential and some phytochemical may be isolated for analysis in future clinical trials.

Keywords: Antidiabetic; histopathology; *Globa marantia*; Streptozotocin.

INTRODUCTION

Diabetes mellitus is a chronic disease that has occurred severe effects at global level. A huge population suffering from diabetes globally (Lin and Sun 2010). Many researches elucidated the role of metals in glucose metabolism and their deficiency with diabetes. Diabetes is continuously elevating at rapid rate and leading in mortality of around 5.3 million by the year of 2021 in North Africa, South East Asia,

Europe, Middle East, Caribbean, North America, South and Central America and Western Pacific countries (Cho et al., 2018)

Around 91% diabetes are noninsulin-dependent (NIDDM), thus recommended as type-2 diabetes (T2D). The key root cause of this disease is living and eating habits including food supplements including drinking of alcohol, no physical exercise, smoking, and no consumption of fruits, salads vegetables and herbal products (Kuruppu et al., 2019).

NIDDM is also intricately by insulin deficiencies, leads in discharge of insulin and reduced glucose absorption and consumption (Shori, 2015). Therefore several cumulative results in diabetes which is a global threat and needs keen attention based on phytochemicals isolated from medicinal plants to fight against this disorder. The ratio of glucose intake reduces by inhibiting α -amylase and α -glucosidase activity and causing reduction in the rate of augmentation of postprandial blood glucose concentrations (Wild et al., 2004). Therefore inhibition of the mode of action of α -amylase and α -glucosidase through any kind of inhibitors is one of the prominent factors to combat NIDDM (Matsui et al., 2001). Various drugs used to combat diabetes, like miglitol, acarbose, voglibose, may minimize the ingestion tempo of glucose by resisting processing of carbohydrates, resulting in reduction in postprandial serum glucose (DiNicolantonio et al., 2015).

However, a prominent quantity and variety of artificial drugs based on chemistry are having toxicity and side effects (Chaudhary et al., 2017). So the main drawback of these synthetic drugs results in inflammation of gastrointestinal disorder of stomach, and slackness of the bowels and tooting (Fatima and Nazir et al., 2018). Another substitute protocol like the addition of natural foods in the diet have different inhibitory mode against α -glucosidase and α -amylase with reduced toxicity. Different medicinal plants have been found potent to the hindrance of starch handling catalysts (Quan et al., 2019).

Globba L. is one of the prominent genus of the Zingiberaceae. *Globba marantia* are cosmopolitan throughout tropical Asia, spreading from India to southern China, south and east to the Philippines and New Guinea. The plant contains some phyto-chemicals like sterols, flavonoids and also bears some antimicrobial activities. Tuber paste has been recommended on scalp to decrease high temperatures for refrigerant and fever.

Materials and Methods

The investigations were carried to observe the antidiabetic potential of methanolic extract of *G. marantia*. The present investigation was approved by ethical committee of the Department of Zoology, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India. Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi recommendations were kept for sustaining and application of animal models. Colony bred, adult, male albino rats of 'wistar strain' (200±30 g) were sheltered in polypropylene cages and sustained under optimum temperature (25±3°C), 12 h light/12 h dark cycle and 35-60% relative humidity. They were provided with standard rat feed in form of pellets procured from Hindustan Lever Ltd, Mumbai and water were given *ad libitum*. Only healthy rats were kept for experiments. All the investigations were conducted in late winters and early spring to avoid seasonal variation, if any.

Drug Preparation

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Leaves of *G. marantia* were cleaned, air dried, powdered.. Dried powder (3 kg) was extracted with methanol at room temperature for 48 h, with stirring several times throughout the process. The extract was filtered, concentrated and dried *in vacuo* (25.7 g w/w) to prepare final residue for further process.

Experimental Design

Diabetes was triggered intraperitoneally in rats deprived of food and water were administered with freshly equipped 0.2 ml of streptozotocin to induce diabetes (50mg/kg b. wt. dissolved in 0.1mM sodium citrate buffer) and pH sustained at 4.5. After 3 days of streptozotocin administration, blood glucose was calculated and animals having fasting glucose levels above 250 mg/dl were recommended as diabetic. The group of animals without any doses were injected with 0.1mM sodium citrate buffer only. The hyperglycemic rats consumed 2% glucose solution for the night to trounce the hypoglycemia triggered by streptozotocin. Rats were categorized into 4 groups of 7 rats in each and experiments were as set as prescribed protocol.

Group I (Control group): Rats orally administrated 0.5 ml distill water.

Group II Diabetic group given streptozotocin intraperitonially.

Group III Diabetic rats administrated with methanolic extracts of *G. marantia* which were dissolved in millique water (300 mg/kg b. wt./day) for 28 days.

Group IV Glibenclamide (0.3mg/kg b. wt. /day) dissolved in 0.5 ml distilled water orally administrated to diabetic rats with for 4 weeks.

Biochemical Studies

Biochemical analysis were carried out in adult (6-8 weeks old) mice pancreatic tissue. Following methods were applied for the estimation of various parameters.

Serum Glucose (Trinder 1969; Kaplan 1984; Kaplan and Lavernel, 1983), **Protein** (Bradford 1976), **Glutathione (GSH)** (Moron et al, 1979), **Peroxidase Assay (POXA)**, (Chance and Maehly 1955), **Serum Glutamic Oxaloacetic Transaminase (SGOT)**, **Serum Glutamate Pyruvate Transaminase (SGPT)** (Thefeld et al.,1974; Wallnofer et al.,1974; Bergmeyer, 1980), **Lipid Peroxidation** (Buege and Aust, 1978). The LPO has been expressed as MDA in n mole/ gm tissue (Ohkawa et al, 1979), **Superoxide Dismutase (SOD)** (Marklund and Marklund., 1974) **Serum urea** (Varley, 1980) **Albumin** (Corcoran and Duran, 1977) **Creatinine** (Varley 1980)

Results

Protein, SOD and GSH contents significantly decreased (37.29, 54.49 and 36.23%) while LPO contents increased (277.17%) in kidneys of diabetic rats in contrast to control (**Table-1**). Oral administration of methanolic extracts of selected plants at 300 mg/kg b. wt/day concentration for 21 days revealed perfection in protein, SOD and GSH contents (38.46, 45.56 and 59.35%) whereas LPO content declined significantly (44.34%, 42.34% and 48/89% respectively). Parallel trend was observed in glibenclamide (0.3 mg/kg b. wt/day) administered rats wherein, protein, SOD and GSH levels (33.71, 81.60 & 70.95%, respectively) increased and LPO (53.21, 54.23 and 57.34 %) level decreased significantly as compared to the control. When compared with antidiabetic drug treatment using glibenclamide, the levels of GSH and LPO were at par with that of the methanolic extracts *in* treated rats.

In diabetic rats (Gr II), serum urea as well as glucose levels increased (60.23 & 218.49% respectively) significantly as compared to control (**Table-1**). Oral administration of methanolic extracts of selected

plants extract at 300 mg/kg b. wt/day dose for 21 days reduced extensively the serum urea 27.03, 31.25 and 37.76% and serum glucose levels (38.00, 39.71 and 41.23 % respectively). In comparison to diabetic rats, glibenclamide (0.3 mg/kg b. wt/day) administration results in tremendous reduction in serum urea and serum glucose levels (36.07 & 46.52%, respectively;), which was little better than the plant drug treatment.

Diabetes induction results in enhancement ($p \leq 0.001$) in serum creatinine (411.52%), Serum Glutamic Oxaloacetic Transaminase (SGOT/ AST; 165.74%) and Serum Glutamate Pyruvate Transaminase (SGPT/ALT; 78.20%) while reduction ($p \leq 0.001$) in serum protein and albumin levels (44.88 & 40.22%, respectively) when compared with diabetic group II. Administration of methanolic extracts of selected plants (Gr. III) for 21 days caused extensive decrease in serum creatinine, SGOT (34, 38 and 41 %) and SGPT (34, 32.45 and 37 % respectively) and increase in protein and albumin levels ($p \leq 0.01$; 35.19 & 30.48%, respectively). Glibenclamide (0.3 mg/kg b. wt/day dose) showed extremely vigorous decrease in serum AST and ALT level (58.33 & 41.68%, respectively) and increase in protein and albumin levels (45.12 & 48.36%, respectively; **Table - 2**) in contrast to diabetic rats. The levels of SGPT in glibenclamide treated rats were found to be at par with plant drug treated rats.

Pancreas histopathology

In present study the pancreatic cells were destroyed with the help of streptozotocin. (**Fig.1a to d**). β cells were partially disrupted and the histopathological analysis of stained β cells proved this. Histopathological study of diabetic control rats showed almost complete destruction of β cells, which was due to the intake of adequate quantity streptozotocin used in current investigation. Pancreatic β cells stimulated by streptozotocin induced variations thus working as NO[•] action, i.e. elevated potential of guanylyl cyclase and increased synthesis of cGMP (Turk *et al*, 1993). Methanolic extract administration caused marked regeneration in pancreatic islets. The hypoglycemic effect of plants may be due to the presence of insulin-like substances in plant, stimulation of β cells to produce more insulin and high level of fiber which interferes with carbohydrate absorption.

Discussion

Consumption of medicinal plants is almost equal to mankind origin. The correlation among man and his discovery for novel antidiabetic agents in nature is long lasting, which has been proved by various mentioned documents, conserved monuments, and even pure bioactive compounds originated from medicinal plants. Wakefulness of their consumption has been outcome by years of drawbacks to combat many disorders which forced the living community for search of drugs in different plant parts like fruit bodies, seeds, barks and other parts of the plants. Modern science has recognized their potent application, and which has placed its value in modern pharmacotherapy which includes broad variety of medicinal plants, since ancient era and applied in millennia. Streptozotocin diabetes stimulation results in reduced β cells quantity and thus stimulates hyperglycemia (Brenna *et al*, 2003). In our present study, it was observed that methanolic extracts of *G. marantia* reduces serum glucose in diabetic rats. The mechanism by which these extracts brings about its hyperglycemic action is possibly due to insulin secretion caused by enhanced pancreatic insulin discharge from the regenerated β cells or its secretion from bound insulin. So there are many scanty reports on antidiabetic activity of medicinal plants (Gupta & Gupta, 2009).

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The concentration of serum albumin in diabetic rats reduced due to extravasations in to urine (Scalia *et al*, 2007). Elevated permeability for albumin is a negative prognostic aspect of vascular disorders. Oral extracts of these plant extracts treatment was significant in improving the serum albumin concentration because of reduced membrane integrity.

Diabetes induced anomalous protein metabolism ultimately resulting in different metabolic diseases and complexities (Goldstein *et al*, 2004). Extracts of plants administration in diabetic rats enhanced serum protein level. This phenomena is related to enhanced insulin production, which assists amino acid uptake, increases protein synthesis and also reduces protein squalor (Rosen *et al*, 1981).

Hsu *et al* (2020) reported antidiabetic potential *Chamaecyparis obtusa* var. *formosana* in streptozotocin induced diabetic rats. They reported that after 90 days of administration of plant extracts, both LCO and HCO were having improved glucose metabolism in oral glucose tolerance and postprandial blood glucose tests. Reduction in HOMA-IR, leptin and adiponectin amount of the HCO group showed amelioration of insulin and leptin resistance. These therapeutic potential is due to inhibition of intestinal digested enzymes and protein tyrosine phosphatases (PTPases). Wu *et al* (2021) reported antidiabetic potential of *S. pastorianus* study its molecular mechanisms. Phytochemical analysis of extract revealed the presence of proteins and carbohydrates including other phenolic compounds. In diabetic rats, oral administration of *S. pastorianus* extract extensively reduced the concentration of plasma glucose and increased the mode of action of hepatic glucose-6-phosphatase dehydrogenase. Further administration with *S. pastorianus* extract enhanced the localization of type 4 glucose transporter (GLUT4), PTP, and insulin receptor at 3T3-L1 cell membranes and increased the levels of P38 MAPK, PI3K, and AKT in the cytosol. Finally a 54 kDa protein having prominent antidiabetic potential was analysed and found to be major factor in induction of this antidiabetic potential. Sai *et al* (2021) antidiabetic potential of *Spondias pinnata* (L.f.) Kurz. They reported that *S. pinnata* (500 mg/kg) and metformin (100 mg/kg) possessed tremendous ($p < 0.05$) reduction in concentration of blood glucose at 1, 2, and 3 h in normal rats in contrast to the control group. The group administrated with Metformin- (100 mg/kg)- and *S. pinnata*- (500 mg/kg)- rapid decrease in the blood glucose level at 3 h when observed by oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT). These properties of plant is due to the presence of bioactive compounds that contribute to its antidiabetic potential. Steroids presence in this plant was one of the key constituent responsible for antidiabetic potential by decrease in high blood glucose concentration and restoring insulin levels in streptozotocin-induced diabetic rats (Daisy *et al.*, 2009, Kumar *et al.*, 2011). Further, it has excellent antioxidant potential and partially α -amylase inhibitory activities. α -Amylase is an enzyme assist in digestion of carbohydrates. It hydrolyses α -linked polysaccharides such as starch and glycogen and converts them into simple sugars such as glucose and maltose (Thilagam *et al.*, 2013). Inactivation of this enzyme delays glucose absorption which is decisive therapeutic potential for decreasing postprandial hyperglycemia. Es safi *et al* (2020) proved antidiabetic potential of hydroethanolic extract of *Ammodaucus leucotrichus* Cosson which was free from fat soluble molecules. They observed that after 30 days the extract improved blood glucose level. Further they showed that HPLC analysis confirmed presence of certain bioactive compounds like gallic acid, luteolin, chlorogenic acid, ferulic acid 3-p-coumaroylquinic acid, myricetin and quercetin which were found to be responsible for this activity Hyun *et al* (2018) reported antioxidant, antimicrobial, and antidiabetic potential of Crowberry fruits.. The crude 70 % extracts of ethanol, ethyl acetate and butanol possessed strong free radical scavenging assay. Further, the ethyl acetate fraction showed extensive inhibition of α -glucosidase and α -amylase activities. Widiastuti *et al* (2021) reported antidiabetic potency of ethanol extract and taurine from Jeruju (*Acanthus*

ilicifolius L.) on histopathological effects on kidney induced by alloxan. They reported that leaves and taurine of plant possessed significant free radical scavenging assay including antidiabetic potential. Further they observed that there was regeneration in kidney organs damaged by alloxan.

The results showed that the administration of jeruju extract and taurine affected the bodyweight of mice, and have potential to decrease blood glucose concentration by 69.39% , 67.06% , 73.77% able to rejuvenate kidney damage when administrated by alloxan. The intra-pancreatic mechanism having bioactive compounds like alkaloids and flavonoids were able to rejuvenate the disrupted pancreatic β cells to enhance insulin secretion through sympathetic nerve triggering and protect destroyed nerves pancreatic cells from free radicals . In the extra-pancreatic mechanism, alkaloids and saponins reduced blood glucose by inhibiting glucose absorption in the intestine so that glucose entering the bloodstream decreases, triggering glycogen synthesis and inactivating the enzyme α -glucosidase. The treatment with taurine at 15.6 mg/bw/day results in reduction in the highest glucose level of 73.77%. This compound was having extensive role in the tolerance of blood glucose to control its metabolic processes. High free radical scavenging potential of taurine most probably restrain free radicals from alloxan to reduce blood glucose concentrations. Several reports showed that administration of taurine was able to reduce the blood glucose of alloxan-induced mice (Widiastuti et al., 2017). The main mechanism was that it able to control glucose metabolism through the regulation of gene expression that assists in insulin secretion and enhance peripheral insulin sensitivity. It was also was able to change the factors which results in susceptibility to toxic chemicals and could protect the body from toxicity.

Conclusion

The current investigation outcomes clearly mentions the prospect to synthesize a potent antidiabetic medicines from methanolic extracts of *G. marantia* .

Acknowledgement

The authors are thankful to Heads, Mewar University and Department of Zoology and Seminal applied Sciences for assisting the experimental facilities to carry out the research work including animal models and their kits for biochemical tests.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Authors declared that there are no conflicts of interests

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Table – 1 Effect of methanolic extract of selected plants on Protein, GSH, SOD and LPO levels in Streptozotocin induced diabetic Rat kidney

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| Treatment | Protein (mg g ⁻¹) | GSH (n mol g ⁻¹ tissue) | SOD (μmol mg ⁻¹ protein) | LPO (nmol MDA mg ⁻¹ protein) |
|----------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Group-I (C) | 213.32±13.93 | 4.25±0.15 | 10.13±0.59 | 2.76±0.81 |
| Group-II (D) | 133.77** ±8.89 | 2.71** ±0.26 | 4.61** ±0.66 | 10.41** ±0.79 |
| Group-III | 183.27 ±17.33 | 4.29 ^{nsa++} ±0.19 | 6.88 ^{nsa++} ±0.81 | 5.45 ^{nsa+a} ±0.61 |
| Group-IV (D+G) | 179.82 ^{nsa} ±11.21 | 4.66 ^{nsa++} ±0.18 | 8.28 ^{nsa+} ±0.57 | 4.87 ^{nsa+} ±0.31 |

Each value is mean of seven replicates ± SE; Diabetic group is compared with normal group; experimental groups are compared with normal and diabetic group; values are statistically significant at * P < 0.05; ** P ≤ 0.001, as compared with the normal control; ^a P < 0.05; ^{a+} P ≤ 0.01; ^{ns} non-significant.

Where - **Group-I** - Control (vehicle treated); **Group-II** - Diabetic group; **Group-III** - Diabetic + *G. marantia* (300mg/kg b.wt./day); **Group-IV** - Diabetic + Glibenclamide (0.3mg/kg b.wt./day)

Table – 2 Effect of methanolic extract of selected plant parts on biochemical levels and Serum SGOT, SGPT levels after 21 days treatment in Streptozotocin induced diabetic Rats

| Treatment | Serum urea (mg/dl) | Creatinine (mg/dl) | Glucose (mg/dl) | Total protein (mg/dl) | Albumin (mg/100ml) | SGOT (IU L ⁻¹) | SGPT (IU L ⁻¹) |
|-----------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Group-I | 27.22 ±1.43 | 0.84 ±.024 | 81.78 ±12.84 | 6.84 ±0.32 | 3.53 ±0.19 | 11.21 ± 2.12 | 14.87 ± 0.77 |
| Group-II | 43.55** ±1.37 | 4.28** ±0.19 | 261.28** ±3.2 | 3.77** ±0.17 | 2.11** ±0.10 | 29.23** ± 2.02 | 25.31** ± 1.01 |
| Group-III | 33.56 ^{a++} ±0.78 | 2.00 ^{a+} ±0.22 | 158.37 ^{a++} ±32.78 | 5.18 ^{a+} ±0.21 | 2.43 ^{nsa+} ±0.08 | 16.28 ^{a++} ± 0.91 | 16.99 ^{nsa++} ± 0.88 |
| Group-IV | 28.28 ^{a+} ±0.76 | 0.93 ^{nsa++} ±0.48 | 141.54 ^{nsa++} ±14.61 | 5.43 ^{a++} ±0.24 | 3.11 ^{nsa} ±0.24 | 12.18 ^{a++} ± 0.78 | 14.76 ^{a++} ± 0.81 |

Each value is mean of seven replicates ± SE; As compared with control rats (* P ≤ 0.01; ** P ≤ 0.001), as compared with hyperglycemic rats (^a P < 0.01); ^{ns} non-significant.

Where - **Group-I** - Control (vehicle treated); **Group-II** - Diabetic group; **Group-III** - Diabetic + *G. marantia* (300mg/kg b.wt./day); **Group-IV** - Diabetic + Glibenclamide (0.3mg/kg b.wt./day); SGOT- Serum Glutamic Oxaloacetic Transaminase, SGPT - Serum Glutamate Pyruvate Transaminase.

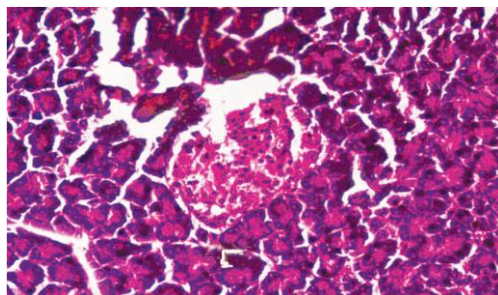


Fig 1 Control - Rat pancreas section (21 days) showing normal histoarchitecture with prominent cytoplasm, islet cells in pancreatic islet with centroacinar cells containing serous acini (X 400)

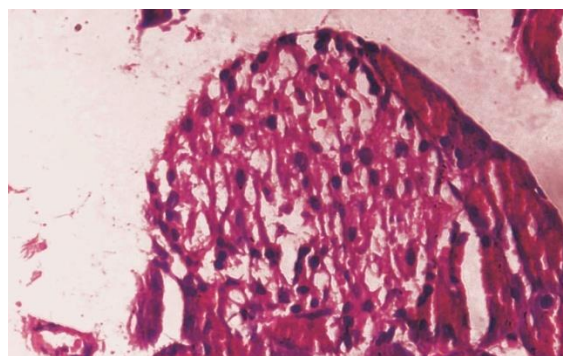


Fig. 2 Diabetic Control or Streptozotocin Treated - Rat pancreas section (21 days) showing ruptured pancreatic islet with degenerated pancreatic cells. Disintegrated centroacinar cells contain increased intercellular space and cellular debris (X 400).

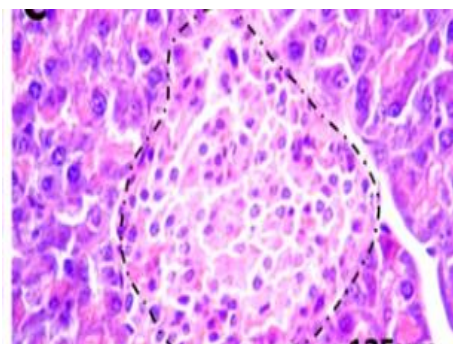


Fig. 3 Diabetic Rats Orally Treated MF of leaves of *G. marantia* – Pancreas section (21 days) showing markedly rejuvenated cytoplasm with normal pancreatic islet. Increased number of islet cells is clearly visible. Centroacinar cells in serous acini are also present (X 400).

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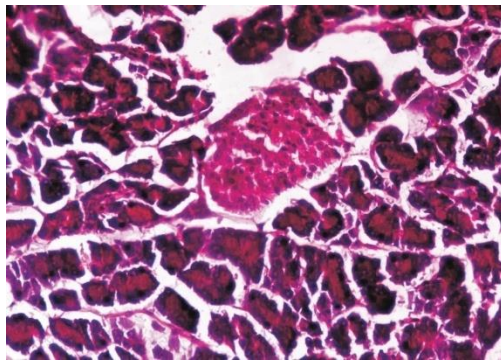


Fig. 4 Diabetic Rats Orally Treated with Glibenclamide- Pancreas section (21 days) showing normal islet histoarchitecture with increased number of islet cells though with cytoplasmic lesion, centroacinar cells in serous acini (X 400).