

Recent Developments in Coumarin Derivatives for Breast Cancer Therapy

Gauri alias Pooja M. Naik^{*1,2}, Omkar D. Paradkar³, Aarti M. Naik⁴, Shamali S. Rane⁵, Deepashree D. Dalvi⁶, Mohini T. Tawade⁶, Saili S. Gad⁶, Trupti S. Morajkar⁶

Assistant Professor; Yashwantrao Bhonsale College of Pharmacy, India¹

PhD. Research Scholar; Lovely Professional University, India²

Manager Regulatory Affairs; Covance Private Limited, India.³

Dentist; Goa Dental College, India⁴

M. Pharm Student; Bharti Vidyapith College of Pharmacy, India⁵.

B. Pharm Student; Yashwantrao Bhonsale College of Pharmacy, India⁶.

Corresponding Author: Gauri alias Pooja M. Naik (Ovi O. Paradkar)

Abstract: *The coumarin ring system (benzopyran-2-one, or chromen-2-one), gift in natural shown fascinating medical specialty properties, has intrigued chemists to explore the natural coumarins or artificial analogs for his or her relevance as medication. uncountable molecules supported the coumarin ring system are synthesized within the laboratories utilizing completely different artificial techniques. the variety orientating artificial routes have crystal rectifier to fascinating derivatives together with the furanocoumarins, pyranocoumarins, and coumarin sulfamates, that are found to be helpful in photochemotherapy, antitumour and anti-HIV medical care, and conjointly as stimulants for central systema nervosum, anti-inflammatory drug, anti-coagulants, medicament and dyes. In carcinoma therapy, some coumarins and their active matter 7-hydroxycoumarin derivatives have shown sulfatase and aromatase restrictive activities. Coumarin primarily based selective oestrogen receptor modulators (SERMs) and coumarin oestrogen conjugates have conjointly been expressed as an excellent potential antibreast cancer agent. carcinoma is leading reason behind death in ladies, there's a powerful focus to spot potential new drug treatments for carcinoma. Therefore, the most objective of this review is to specialise in vital coumarin analogs with antibreast cancer activities, highlight their mechanisms of action and structure-activity relationships on elect receptors in breast tissues.*

Keywords: Coumarin Derivatives, breast cancer, aromatase inhibitor, sulfatase inhibitor, docking.

I. INTRODUCTION

The breast tissue consists of lobules fashioned by the glands that produce milk, ducts that enable milk to be discharged and fat connective tissues. Lobes are formed by combination of the lobules, and every breast has 15–20 lobes. The lobules are connected to every alternative by milk ducts and milk ducts join towards the nipple. The development and physiological functions of the breast are regulated by hormones. The most important hormones that offer the development of breast tissue are sex hormones like estrogen and progesterone. Breast cancer could be a systemic disease that happens once the cells lining the mammary glands and milk ducts proliferate abnormally, unfold to numerous tissues and organs and still grow there. It's a complex disease that affects ladies physically, psychologically and socially [1], and ranks 1st among cancer varieties seen in women within the world, and additionally second most typical reason for death because of cancer following the lung cancer [2,3]. In medicine studies, the prevalence was found to be 22–26% and therefore the risk of breast cancer-related mortality was around 18% [4,5]. Risk factors concerning breast cancer development are summarized in table 1.

Because the breast consists of 2 main structures, there are two kinds of carcinomas, lobular cancer developing from

the milk secreting part and ductal cancer developing from the milk ducts. The foremost common sort of breast cancer is

ductal cancer, accounts for 75% of all breast cancers. Breast cancers are histologically divided into two main groups, in situ and invasive carcinomas. In in situ carcinoma, malign epithelial cells are restricted in ductus and acinus enclosed by basement membrane whereas in invasive (infiltrative) carcinoma, neoplastic cells cross the basement membrane and show invasion to the stroma. Whereas the malignant breast tumours are classified historically consistent with their histologic appearance, nowadays some subtypes have been outlined according to their molecular features [6-9]. The subtypes of breast cancers have been known according to the presence of estrogen receptor (ER) within the light of gene expression [10].

According to this classification, ER positive tumors contain gene expression similar to luminal cells of the mammary glands, cytokeratin profile and markers associated with other luminal cells. In contrast, some of the ER negative tumors are immunohistochemically positive for human epidermal growth factor receptor-2, *cerb-B2* (HER2) or HER2 gene amplification may be demonstrated in these tumor cells. This group is known as HER2 positive tumors. HER2 negative luminal non-group tumors show gene expression and immune reactivity similar to normal basal cells of mammary glands. Since ER and progesterone receptor (PR) are also negative in this type of tumors, this group is called basal like or triple negative tumor group [10-14]. It was determined that 75% of breast tumors ER and/or PR positive, that is, most tumors are in the luminal group [8]. However, tumors in the luminal group are divided into subtypes as luminal A and B because of their different behaviors. Tumors of luminal A group, which has the highest prevalence among breast cancers, consist of HER2 negative tumors with low proliferative activity, mitotic rate and histological grade. The prognosis of patients with luminal A tumor is good and metastases are often limited to bones. Luminal B tumors are more malignant and the most important difference of this group is that tumors have high proliferation rate. The limit value between luminal A and B is generally considered to be nuclear Ki67 expression immunohistochemically less than 14% of tumor cells. In addition, approximately 30% of HER2 positive tumors are immunohistochemically in the luminal B phenotype [15-22].

Table 1: Risk Factors Concerning Breast Cancer Development

Sr. no	Demographic Features	Gender, Age, Race/Ethnicity
1	Reproductive story	The age of menarche, number of births, first full-term pregnancy age, menopause age, lactation, infertility, miscarriage
2	Familial/genetic factors	Family history, known or suspected BRCA1/2, p53, PTEN, or other gene mutations related to breast cancer risk
3	Environmental factors	Radiation therapy to the thorax before 30 years of age, hormone replacement therapy, alcohol use, socioeconomic level, etc
4	Other factors	Personal history of breast cancer, number of breast biopsies, atypical hyperplasia or lobular carcinoma in situ, dense breast structure, body mass index (BMI)

Coumarin (1,2-Benzopyrone or 2H-1-benzopyran-2-one, or phenylpropanoids, **1**) and its derivatives are mostly distributed throughout nature and most of them exhibit useful and variety of biological activities [23,24]. Coumarins exist as secondary metabolites in the seeds, roots and leaves of many plant species and in high concentration in the tonka bean, thus a French word, coumarou, is from the tonka bean. Some naturally existing coumarin derivatives include warfarin (**2**), umbelliferon (7-hydroxycoumarin, **3**), aesculetin (6,7-dihydroxy coumarin, **4**), herniarin (7-methoxycoumarin, **5**), imperatorin (**7**) and psoralen (**6**) and etc. The variety of coumarin derivatives of both natural and synthetic are divided into several subclasses. Coumarins also can be classified as simple coumarins (e.g., coumarin, **1** and limettin, **8**), angular furanocoumarins (e.g., angelicin, **10**), linear furanocoumarins (e.g., imperatorin, **7** and isopimpinellin, **9**), linear pyranocoumarins (e.g., xanthyletin, **11**) or angular pyranocoumarins (e.g., seselin, **12**) [25]. Coumarin derivatives have photochemotherapy, anti-HIV therapy and antitumor [26,27] and as central nervous system (CNS) stimulants [28], antibacterial [29, 30] anti-inflammatory [31], anti-coagulants [32] and dyes activity [33].

Lipid lowering agents with moderate triglyceride lowering activity [34], hydroxycoumarins, powerful chain-breaking antioxidants and can prevent free radical injury by scavenging reactive oxygen species [35]. But, recent discovery and

study of coumarins having weak estrogenic activity showed that the use of such derivatives as therapeutic agents in stopping the emergence of menopause related diseases, for an example osteoporosis, increased risk for cardiovascular disease and cognitive deficiencies [36]. The fashion of substitutions on the basic chemical structure is influencing both the coumarin's pharmacological and biochemical properties including the therapeutic applications, and can beneficially affect toxicity (Table 2) [37-39]. For an example, introduction of a 3-methyl-2-butenyl group at the 8-position of osthol (13a methoxy group at the 7- position and) led to inhibition of caspase 3 and activation a strong reduction of plasma alkaline transferase (ALT) level in hepatitis [40]. Some coumarins have cytostatic properties (growth-inhibitory) while the others have cytotoxic too [41]. Like coumarin and its active metabolite, 7- hydroxycoumarin, demonstrated growth-inhibitory cytostatic activity in human cancer cell lines, such as A549 (lung), ACHN (renal), H727 (lung), HL-60 (leukemia), MCF-7 (breast) have also been reported to demonstrate activity against prostate cancer, metastatic renal cell carcinoma and malignant melanoma in clinical trials [42-45]. The substituted benzopyranobenzothiazinones shows estrogenic activity on MCF-7 breast carcinoma cells [46].

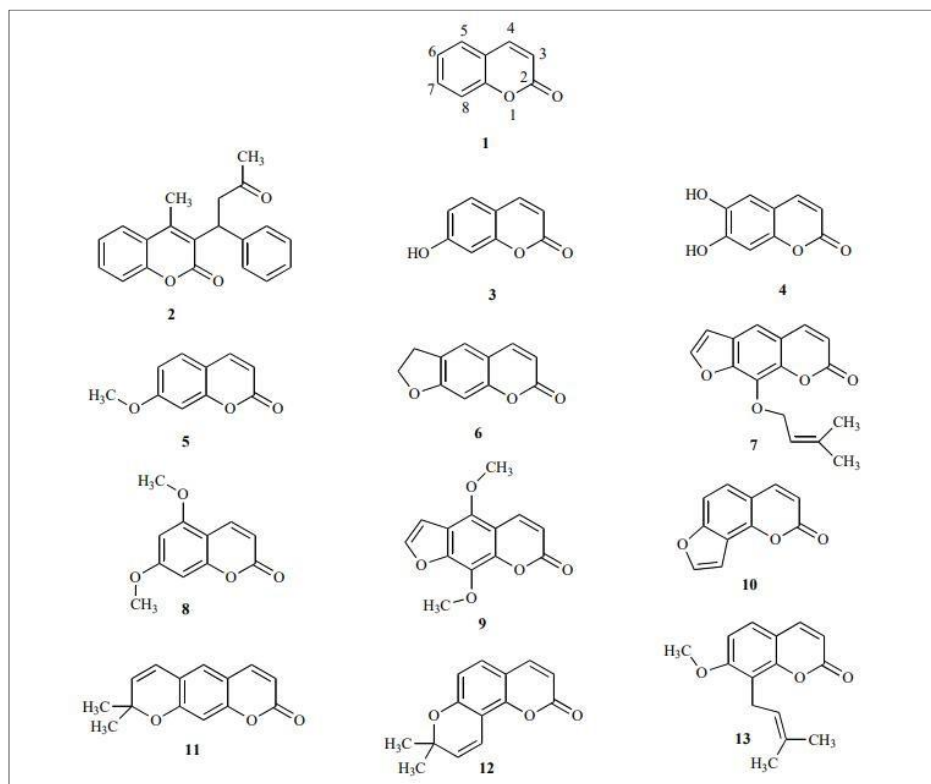


Figure 1: Structures of some naturally occurring coumarins.

III. COUMARINS AND BREAST CANCER

Despite the development of early identification methods and associated advances in treatments, breast cancer continues to be a vital reason of mortality and morbidity. Prognostic factors well-known in breast cancer are lymph node involvement, tumour size, distant metastasis status, tumour cellular differentiation degree, patient's age, state of hormone receptors in tumour, HER2 over expression, tumour proliferation index, lymphovascular invasion, tumour histology, response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy and hormonotherapy and p53 mutation. In premenopausal women, high levels of androstenedione content with aromatase inhibitors within the protein advanced in cases that estrogen synthesis can't be fully blocked, and an initial lowering of the estrogen level causes a rise within the level of gonadotropin [47].

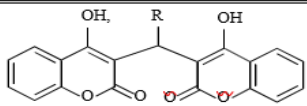
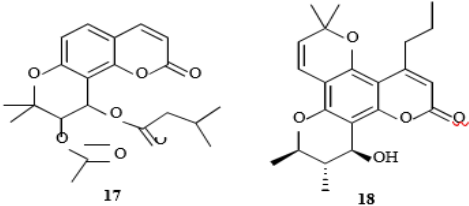
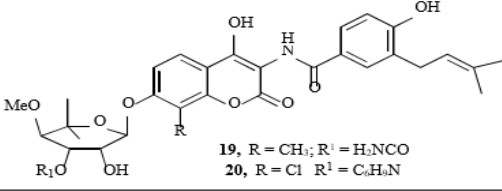
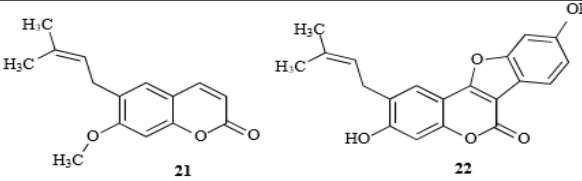
Biologically Active Coumarins	Biological Properties
 <p>14, R = H 15, R = CH₃ 16, R = CO₂Et</p>	Anticoagulant
 <p>17 18</p>	Anti-HIV (Reverse transcriptase inhibitors)
 <p>19, R = CH₃; R¹ = H₂NCO 20, R = Cl R¹ = C₆H₅N</p>	Antibiotic and Antibacterial (DNA gyrase inhibitors)
 <p>21 22</p>	Anticancer (Breast cancer, Stomach cancer, Colon cancer and Renal cancer)

Table 2: Some Biologically active Coumarins

Breast cancer is a major cause of death and it has been reported that about one-third of postmenopausal breast cancer patients have hormone dependent tumours and involving the stimulation of estrogen receptor [48]. Clinical studies focusing on the use of therapeutic agents that stop the synthesis and action of estrogens (ER antagonists) and are very successful in the treatment of breast cancer [49]. The current strategy is to develop ER antagonists as a new approach for the treatment of postmenopausal women with hormone-dependent breast tumours. As a result of its the high levels of estrogen in situ synthesis are associated with the growth of tumours in endocrine-dependent tissues. Estrogens are formed in peripheral tissues and there are two pathways for their synthesis in such tissues, the aromatase and sulfatase pathways. (Fig. 2).

The aromatase pathway is the conversion of androgen precursor, androstenedione, secreted by the adrenal cortex, to estrone by the aromatase (AR) enzyme complex, and the estrone sulfatase pathways (E1-STS) involves the conversion of estrone formed through the aromatase route to estrone sulfate (E1S) by the enzyme called sulfotransferase [50]. In the breast tumours, activity of the latter enzyme is higher than that of the former, causing poor prognosis [51-54]. The endocrine therapy involves the inhibition of enzymes within the steroid biosynthetic cascade may be one route to controlling the disease. This approach has led to the development of novel coumarins as STS [55] and AR inhibitors [54]. The E1-STS pathway is the major source causing to estrogen formation, resulting low response rate in ER+ breast tumour patients to highly potent AR inhibitor [57-60].

The most source of estrogen in postmenopausal ladies is that the conversion of androstenedione discharged from the endocrine gland into estrogen through the aromatase protein in the peripheral tissues [47]. The aromatase inhibitors (AI) used at this stage lower the plasma estrogen level by inactivating or inhibiting the aromatase [61]. The presence of hormone-induced tumours, as well as stimulation of the estrogen receptor, has been according in concerning simple fraction of postmenopausal carcinoma patients [62]. In recent diagnosis and clinical studies, the synthesis of estrogen receptor agonists/antagonists has gained importance in the prevention and treatment of carcinoma [63]. ER antagonists

are normally utilized in the treatment of postmenopausal ladies and hormone-induced breast tumours. Aromatase and sulfatase pathways play a job within the synthesis of estrogens shaped only in peripheral tissues. The aromatase pathway ensures that the androgen precursor androstenedione, that is principally secreted by the adrenal cortex, is converted into estrogen by the aromatase (AR) enzyme complex, whereas the estrone sulfatase pathway (E1-STS) provides the conversion of the aromatase-induced estrone to estrone sulphate (E1S) by sulfotransferase enzymes [64]. In breast tumours, the activity of the sulfatase enzyme is higher and leads to poor prognosis [65-68]. The E1-STS pathway is taken into account the most source of estrogen formation, that causes a reasonably sturdy response in patients with ER + breast tumours [69-71]. This approach led to the invention of latest coumarins as STS [72-75] and area unit inhibitors [76]. AI provides lowering within the level of estrogen and therefore prevents breast cancer by reducing cell proliferation, which incorporates the inhibition of the formation of genotoxic metabolites of estrogen. [77-80].

Aromatase inhibitors are the standard choice in postmenopausal breast cancer [80]. Previous studies have discovered that benzopyranone substrates, similar to 4-benzyl-3-(4'-chlorophenyl)-7-methoxy-coumarin, are stronger competitive AI than aminogluthethimide. it's been according that the precise interaction of this compound with area unit shows a bigger decrease in binding to the situation of area unit and suppressed the proliferation of area unit and ER positive MCF-7 breast cancer cells [76,81,82]. There's an over-expressed ER within the breast tumour cell at associate early stage of cancer and through secretion medical aid [83,84]. several growth agents utilized in treatment have non-selective impact and acute toxicity therefore use of those agents within the treatment is restricted [85]. Conjugation of cytotoxic drug elements to a carrier with selective activity to tumour tissues is an efficient strategy in the development of effective antitumor medication with a high therapeutic index [86-91]. Studies have shown that combining the cytotoxic agent with steroid hormones provides target property of the conjugate and permit conjugates to accumulate in ER-rich cells as a result of up antitumor activity and binding to ER [92-96]. The antiproliferative efficacy of latest bioconjugates containing 3-substituted coumarins and estradiol, extremely antiproliferative activity of compounds on noninvasive and invasive breast cancer cell lines (MDA-MB-231/ATCC and NCI/ADR-RES MDA-MB-435) has been discovered [97]. The antineoplastic effects of 3 synthesized coumarins derived from triphenylethylene (TCHs), occurring through the inhibition of growth on breast cancer cell lines. Compound TCH-5c inhibited proliferation, resulted in cell death, hyperbolic p21 macromolecule expression to induce G0/G1 arrest and altered epithelium cell cytoskeleton organization and migration in EAhy926 endothelial cells. In addition, this compound inhibited breast cancer cell line derived VEGF secretion, reduced breast neoplastic cell-induced endothelial cell tube formation in vitro and suppressed SK-BR-3 breast cancer cell-initiated tumour formation in vivo. These results have potential implications in developing new approaches against breast cancer [98].

A. Coumarins as Sulfatase Inhibitor

As shown in Fig. (2), the cleavage of sulfated steroid hormone precursors, an example estrone sulfate, to the active hormones by STS represents the first step in the local production of estrogen and androgens. Therefore, the inhibition of this enzyme (STS), which should decrease the biosynthesis of active hormones is now a new therapeutic option in the treatment for hormone-dependent diseases [106-109] such as endometrial, breast and prostate cancers also acne and androgenic alopecia [104, 110-112]. STS catalyses the hydrolysis of sulfate monoester bonds in a range of physiological substrates, therefore incorporation of a sulfamate ester group linked to an aryl ring is considered to be important strategy in the development of potent STS inhibitors [49, 112-116]. Further to identify non-steroidal STS inhibitors led to the development of various bicyclic and tricyclic coumarin sulfamates, which are active both in vitro and in vivo (Fig. 3) [117-121]. Many potential STS inhibitors are in preclinical phases of development and only 667 COUMATE (30) [122] set to enter clinical trials for the treatment of hormone-dependent breast cancer in postmenopausal women. It is found that chemically, bicyclic and tricyclic COUMATES (37-51) and their close derivative the 676 OXEPINs (e.g. 38) are arylsulfamates (Ar-SO₂NH₂), which are supposed to be an irreversible inhibitors of STS enzyme. The crystal structures of the soluble enzymes arylsulfatase A (ASA) and arylsulfatase B (ASB) have provided an insight in the mechanism through which sulfamate group irreversibly inactivates steroid

STS[123,124]. The mechanisms for irreversible inhibitors of STS activity by COUMATES and its congeners (Fig. 4-6) involve: 1) the aldehyde hydrate (gem-diol residue) 2) the L-C-formylglycine (FGly), and 3) random specific or nonspecific sulfamoylation of amino acid residues in the active site [113,114,125-129].

Specific or nonspecific sulfamoylation occur through two mechanisms that first is a direct nucleophilic attack by the amino residue at the sulphur atom and elimination of sulfamic acid by an E1cB mechanism, which is governed by the extended conjugation present in the coumarin ring [114,130]. Structure-activity relationship (SAR) studies of the “locking effect” of the lactone ring of the COUMATE confirmed that conformational restriction of the conjugated C=C bond plays an important role in the potency inhibitory activity displayed by coumarin based compounds, in addition to the overall size of the inhibitors [131].

Since the pKa value of compound **30** is 9.1 in methanol/water (1:1) it causes to exist in monoanionic form under physiological condition [114]. Compound **30** (Fig. 3) is a non-steroidal irreversible STS inhibitor also it is the most potent of a series of tricyclic COUMATE developed **4** with a very acceptable toxicological profile [48,112, 119]. Structure activity relationship studies involving bicyclic COUMATES revealed that compound **25** (Fig. 3) displays stronger binding affinity for the enzyme active site through a hydrophobic interaction provided by the methyl groups at the 3- and 4- positions, thereby mimicking the A/B ring of EMATE [132, 133,134]. It has an equipotent in vivo STS activity compared to estrone-3-O-sulfamate (EMATE), a potent, active sitedirected, irreversible steroidal STS inhibitor [132]. Compound **30** is reported to be active both in vitro and in vivo [118] in causing significant regression of E1S-stimulated tumour growth without any sign for estrogenic effect [133].

The substitution of the oxygen functionality groups at position 7 of the coumarin core structure also mimics the A/B ring of EMATE structure. Previous docking study has shown that the seven-membered ring (third ring) of COUMATE (**45**) could not be described as closely mimicking the C/D ring regions of EMATE showed the chair conformation form which is very similar to the cycloheptene ring structure (Fig. 7) [114,135]. The third ring appears to be mostly in the boat conformation rather than chair conformation based on electron density map results and temperature factors (B-factors) [130]. The conformation of the 7-membered ring on compound **30** it can now be explained that its higher potency (IC₅₀ value of 8 nM and K_i value of 40 nM) than EMATE (IC₅₀ = 25 nM and K_i = 670 nM) is shown to the tendency to mimic the steroidal CD-ring but, have shown better hydrophobic interactions due to favourable binding to the active site of the enzyme are in play [112, 135]. Benzocoumarin sulfamates (**39** and **40**) another group of aryl sulfamates closely related to compound **30**, which mimics the ABC-ring of the steroidal skeleton. On the contrary, an extension of the coumarin conjugation core structure and the relocation of the sulfamate group to the 6-position of the ring resulted in lower potency exhibited by the COUMATE analogues [49]. The extended conjugation present in the coumarin ring structure assists in the S-O-Ar bond breakage during E1-STS catalysed sulfamoylation by improving the leaving ability of the coumarin compound as a result of lower pKa value of the phenol [113]. These sulfamates show high inhibitory potency due to strong binding of the benzocoumarin core structure to the enzyme, although they are less active than EMATE. Removal or disruption of the coumarin ring conjugation results in lower potency because of the resulting higher pKa value for the parent phenol [49, 119, 137].

B. Coumarins as Aromatase inhibitor (AIs)

SAR of the Aromatase Inhibitor- These embody medicine that are presently used for the treatment of hormone-dependent breast cancer, that involves obstruction the estrogen action on tumour cells by stopping the biogenesis of estrogen [169]. Reduction of cell proliferation, involves reduction of estrogen level and therefore hindrance of the formation of genotoxic metabolites of estrogen thus AI prevents breast cancer. The genotoxic estrogen metabolites include i) catechol estrogens bind covalently to deoxyribonucleic acid and induce mutations that initiate cancer; ii) 2-hydroxyl-estradiol forms stable DNA adduct; and iii) 4-hydroxy-estradiol may be a potential carcinogenic metabolite forming depurinating estrogen-DNA adducts with G base that are unstable and are speedily lost from the deoxyribonucleic acid [140-141]. Clinical test results have shown AIs to be of superior effectiveness to tamoxifen as anti-estrogenic compounds with additional favourable toxicity [143-145]. In postmenopausal women, AIs have the potential to suppress circulating estrogen levels by close to >96.7-98.9% and additionally abolish autocrine and

paracrine estrogen production by peri-tumoral stromal cells set in each primary and pathologic process sites of the neoplasm [146-151]. Variety of AIs, e.g., anastrozole (Arimidex), exemestana (Femara) and letrozole (Aromasin) as first-line agents for the treatment of postmenopausal ladies with hormone receptor positive breast cancer approved by Food and Drug Administration bureau [102-106]. In postmenopausal women, AIs used solely as monotherapy are terribly effective in treating estrogen dependent and aromatase-mediated diseases as well as breast cancer [107]. But, in premenopausal women there's an incomplete blockade of estrogen synthesis leading to a reflux rise in gonadotrophin level, that successively can stimulate ovarian aromatase and overcome the estrogen suppression [108]. Many coumarin derivatives are reported to be steroid STS inhibitors and evaluated for breast cancer medical aid however, clear proof of AIs as antibreast cancer agent has not been incontestable nevertheless [53, 109]. Benzopyran one substrates similar to 4-benzyl-3-(4'-chlorophenyl)-7-methoxy-coumarin (**41**) may be a tougher competitive AI than many notable AIs like aminoglutethimide with regard to the androgen substrate. the precise interaction of compound forty-one with the area unit shows reduction by several mutations in binding at the active site region of area unit. Proliferation of AR and ER positive MCF-7 breast cancer cells was suppressed by Compound **41**. It's neither cytotoxic at concentrations up to forty μM nor an inhibitor of steroid 5-reductase and is also not a ligand of ERs, ER and ER, or androgen receptor. Thus, coumarin derivatives, that are potent inhibitors of aromatase, might not be cytotoxic nevertheless are often helpful within the suppression of area unit and ER-positive breast tumours. The alkyl radical at the C-19 of the androgen substrate, (where the primary and second hydroxylation reactions take place) points toward the haem group of area unit [110]. Compound **41** coumarin rings mimic the A and B rings, whereas the 3-(4-chlorophenyl) group mimics the D ring of the androgen (**42**) (Fig. 8) [54]. The 4-benzyl group of the coumarin showed that it's aligned terribly closely to the methyl group at the C-19 position of the substrate shown by spatial orientation. This behaviour is attributed to the bending of the benzyl group (through the group group), leading to overlay of the ring on prime of the 3-(4-chlorophenyl) group. The 7-methoxyl group of coumarin (**41**) additionally aligns terribly closely with the C-3 keto oxygen of the substrate. These teams- 3-(4-chlorophenyl), 7-methoxyl and 4-benzyl- share a similar physicochemical feature that's being hydrogen bond donor groups and are superimposable. Result has shown that the replacement of the 7-methoxyl group with 7-hydroxyl group on the coumarin ablated the restrictive activity against AR. A recent study has demonstrated that the presence of an electron-withdrawing cluster within the phenyl group, example 3-(4-chlorophenyl) group, increase activity as a result of such group alignment that mimics the C-17 keto oxygen of estrogen [54]. it's urged that 7- methoxyl, 3-(4-chlorophenyl) and 4-benzyl functional groups are vital for the anti-AR activity of the coumarin by-product [54, 111, 112]. For example, the IC50 price of 4-benzyl-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-7-methoxycoumarin is eighty nM and therefore the replacements of any of the 3 mentioned functional groups resulted in reduction in potency. For example, 4-benzyl-3-(4'-chlorophenyl)-7-hydroxycoumarin (IC50 three hundred nM). A pharmacophore hypothesis indicated that the methoxy group would possibly act as hydrogen bonding acceptor looking on its spatial position relative to the nitrogen atom coordinating the iron (II) though there are kinds of doable binding modes, which can dissent from those of the unsubstituted coumarin derivatives [112]. The carbonyl group of the coumarin lactone ring is for area unit repressive activity. A favourable interaction at the 7-position of the coumarin ring is thanks to the formation of a hydrogen bond by the 7-oxygen atom and therefore the lipophilic or stacking interaction of the phenoxy or benzyloxy group.

C. Coumarinbased SERMs

Selective estrogen receptor modulators (SERMs) are a brand-new class of therapeutic agents that are used for the hindrance and within the treatment of diseases similar to osteoporosis and womb and breast cancers [113, 114]. they're illustrious to possess high affinity for ER, however no specific affinity for the other internal secretion receptors. In addition, SERMs are known to stimulate estrogenic actions (ER agonist) in tissues, such as the bone, liver, and cardiovascular system but block estrogen action at other sites (ER antagonist) wherever stimulation is taken into account undesirable, such as the breast and uterus [115-119]. This agonistic or antagonistic activity causes different conformational changes of the receptors notably at the helix12 [119-121], leading to activation (transactivation) or repression (transrepression) of the estrogen target genes [120]. Samples of medicine classified as SERMs are: estrogen

metabolites, clomiphene, tamoxifen, toremifene, idoxifene and droloxifene [121-123]. tamoxifen is that the most generally used hormonal therapy for breast cancer today. Compound forty-three (Fig. 9) belongs to a brand-new class of SERM known as benzopyranone molecules or coumarin-based SERM, manufacturing similar effects as different SERMs indicated higher than [124, 125]. However, it possesses a distinct structural feature from those of a perfect SERM akin to tamoxifen therefore might induce a distinct conformational modification to the ER, leading to different chemical compound accomplishment [126-128]. Compound **43** doesn't activate genes through estrogen response part (ERE). it's illustrious to bind with high affinity through ER, effectively antagonize estrogen action in ER-expressing breast cancer cells by inhibiting IL-6 and GM-CSF gene expression and thus functions as potent antiestrogen in each in vitro and in vivo models of breast cancer [125, 129]. Previous studies have incontestable that compound **43** acts as an antiestrogen within the breast and powerfully inhibits estrogen-dependent MCF-7 proliferation with similar IC50 price to tamoxifen [129]. Furthermore, compound **43** is firmer than estrogen, behaved as an estrogen agonist within the bone cells in vivo, as effective as raloxifene in decreasing the formation of osteoclast-like cells and part protected animals against ovariectomy-induced osteopenia [124]. In vitro U2OS/IL-6 and MCF-7 assays discovered that i) movement of the essential amine facet chain on the phenyl cluster at C-4 to the C-3 in the 4-phenyl of the benzopyranone series provided a largedevlopment in antiproliferative activity; ii) manipulation of the side chain was effective in mimicking the hinge substituent found in the benzopyranone 4-benzyl series and iii) an extension of the side-chain length improved receptor-binding affinity (Fig. 10) [130]. Tetracyclic benzopyranone ring system like benzopyranobenzopyran (44, n=1), benzopyranobenzoxa pane (45, n=2) and benzopyranobenzoxacane (46, n=3) are wonderful in mimicking natural ligands as estrogen receptor modulators [131]. These molecules take issue from ideal SERMs therein they are doing not contain the essential side-chain cluster crucial for providing selective tissue antagonist properties as seen with antagonist and raloxifene [132]. Study geared toward the event of newer SERMs unconcealed that 3-substituted coumarin (**47**) [133] and coumestrol (**48**) [134] possess sex hormone activity. Compound 48, a plant derived tetracyclic coumarin, bears similar chemical options as steroid attributed to its apparently crude mimicry of the steroid skeleton, therefore creating it doable for the coumarin structure of the molecule to mimic the A/B ring of estrogen. SAR studies of the structure and relative binding affinities (RBAs) of varied three-substituted coumarins unconcealed that substituents at positions 3 and seven resulted to a rise in RBA for the ER [135-137]. As compared to estradiol 3-phenyl-4-ethyl-7-hydroxycoumarins and 3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-4,7-dihydroxycoumarin showed weak RBA and lack of selectivity toward each ERs. Furthermore, substitution with a second phenyl cluster at position four resulted in 3,4-diphenyl-7-hydroxycoumarin showing an increase in RBA to each ERs however with additional selectivity for ER than ER [138].

D. Coumarin-Estrogen Conjugates

There's an over-expressed ER in breast neoplasm cell within the earlier stage and during secretion treatment [139, 140]. The non-selectivity and acute toxicity of the many antineoplastic agents are the key deterrent in their usage for treating human cancer [141]. Among the present cancer medical aid specializing in the advance of drug selectivity, conjugation of cytotoxic drug parts to a carrier with selectivity toward the tumour tissues has established to be an efficient strategy in the development of efficient antitumor medicine with high therapeutic indices [142-147]. Coupling of cytotoxic agents with steroid hormones ends up in improvement of antineoplastic activity and within the target selectivity of the conjugate because the results of adequate binding to the ER, permitting selective accumulation of the conjugates in ER-rich cells [148-153]. We have recently extended this novel idea of bio conjugation involving 3-substituted coumarins and estradiol (**49- 51**) (Fig.11) to indicate antiproliferative activity in NCI-7 human breast cancer cell lines. Comparisons of the GI50 values among the conjugates showed that conjugate forty-nine has the highest antiproliferation activity against MDA-MB-435 breast cancer cell lines whereas conjugates (**50-51**) displayed the best antiproliferative activities against MDA-MB231/ATCC. As way because the distinction between non-invasive and invasive breast cancer cell lines, overall conjugate fifty seems to move against each variety while conjugate forty-nine has the smallest amount repressing activities against non-invasive MDAMB-231/ATCC and NCI/ADR-RES cell lines among the conjugates. Conjugate **49** was astonishingly inactive against the oestrogen receptor enriched MCF-7. In

general, it had been shown that toxicity occurred at around a hundred μ M for all of the conjugates. It had been conjointly determined that conjugate **50** displayed the most cytostatic properties based mostly upon TGI values being not up to LC50 values [154].

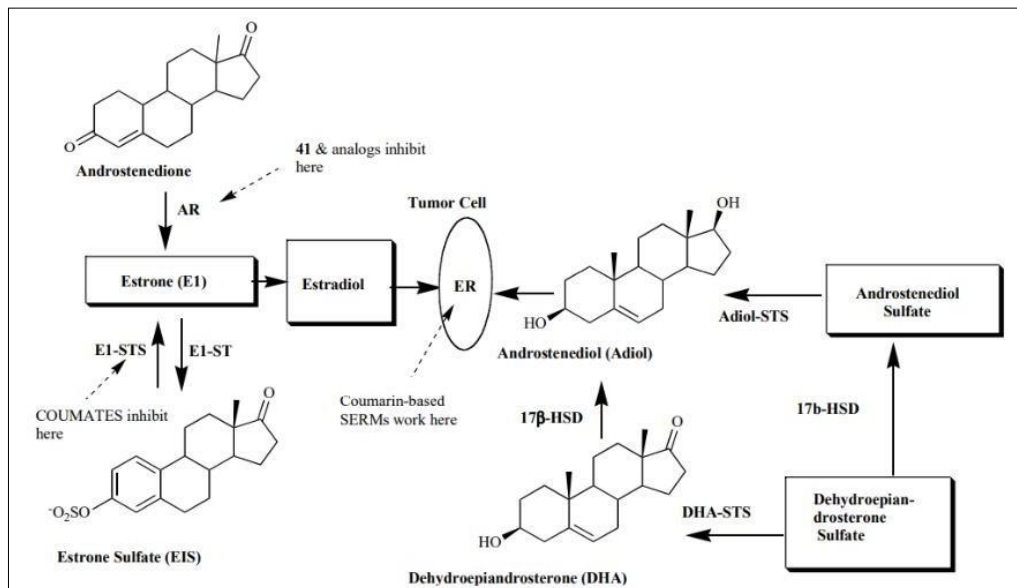


Figure 2: Estrogenic steroid origins showing the sites of action of coumarins (AR, aromatase; ST, sulfotransferase; STS, sulfatase; 17 β -HSD, 17 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase; ER, estrogen receptor) [155].

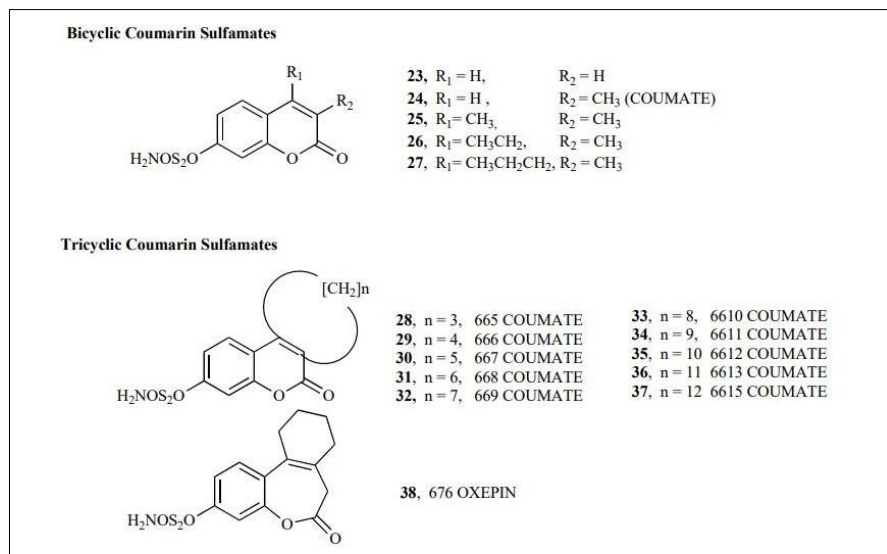


Figure (3): Structures of coumarin sulfamates and tricyclic coumarinsulfamates [154]

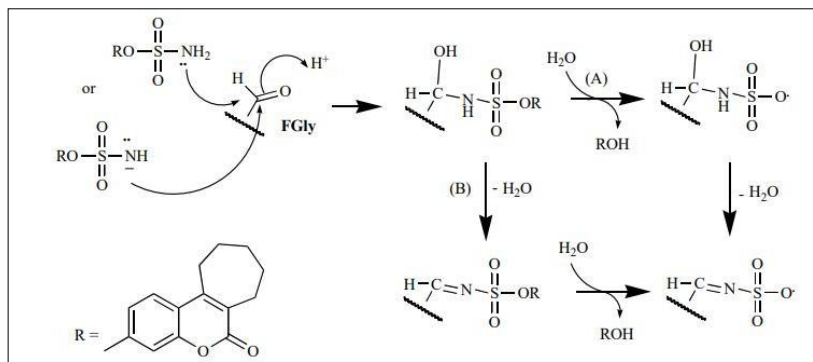


Figure (4): The proposed mechanism of STS inhibition by (30) involving Fgly in the enzyme active site [114].

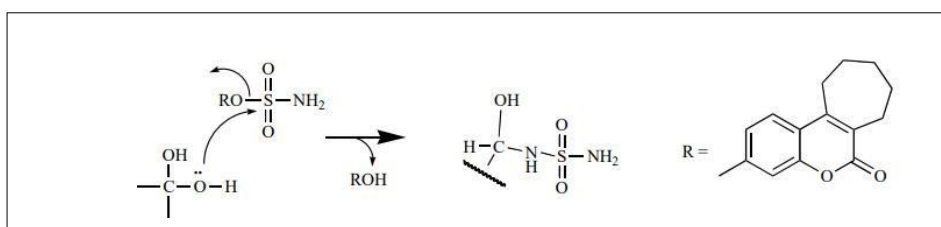


Figure (5): Proposed mechanism of STS inhibition by (30) involving the aldehyde hydrate in the enzyme active site [114].

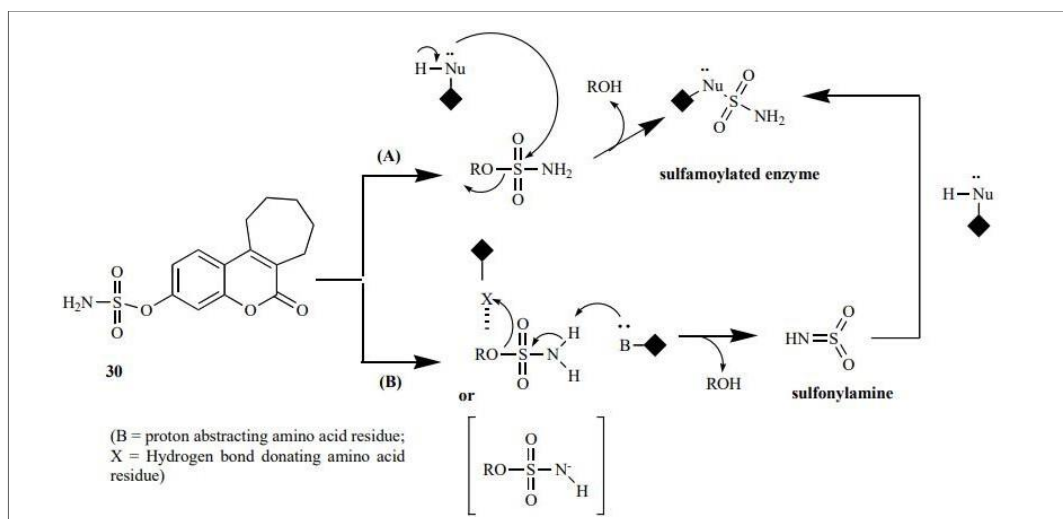


Figure (6): The proposed random specific or non-specific sulfamoylation by (30). Path A: a direct nucleophilic attack by the amino acid residue at the sulfur atom. Path B: elimination of sulfamic acid by an E1cB mechanism [114,154].

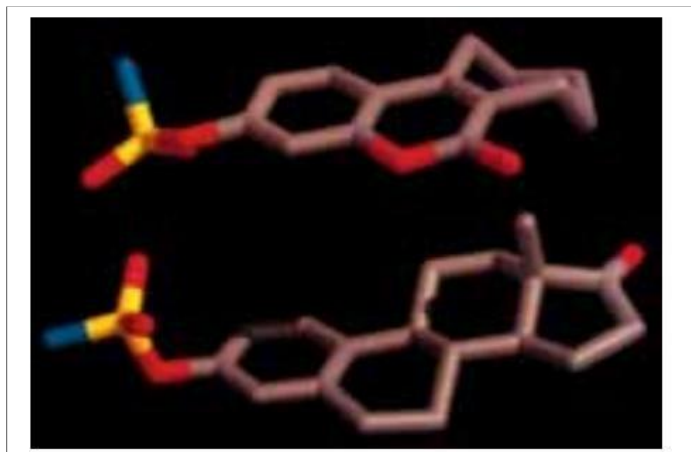


Figure (7): Molecular modelling of 667 COUMATE (top) and EMATE (bottom) [114,154]

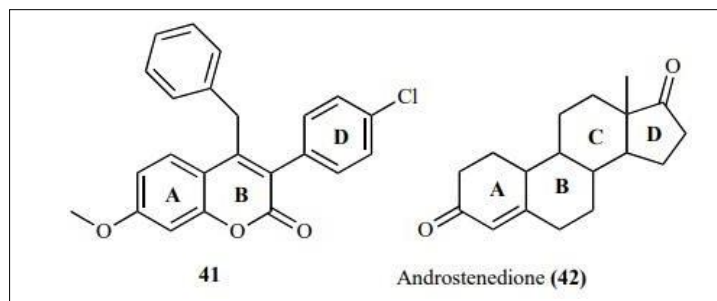


Figure (8): Proposed pharmacophores of AR inhibiting coumarins [54,105].

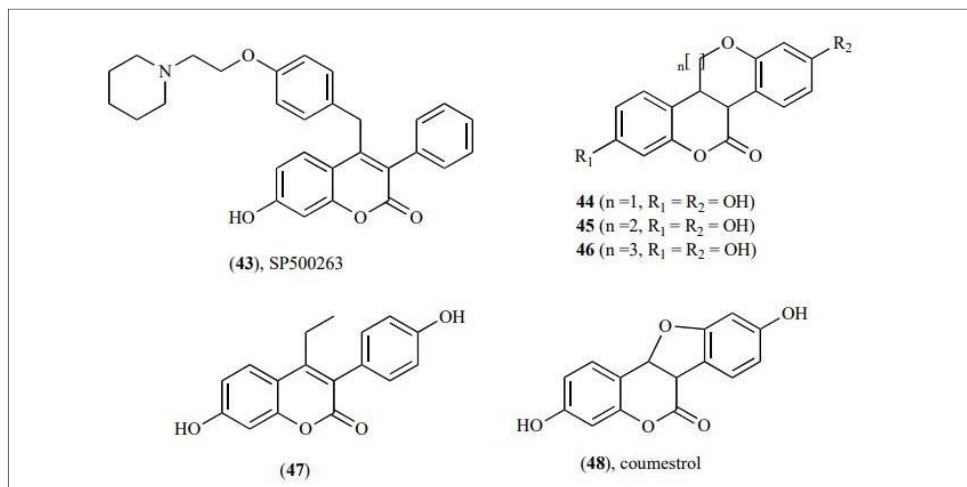


Figure (9): Structures of coumarin-based SERMs.[114]

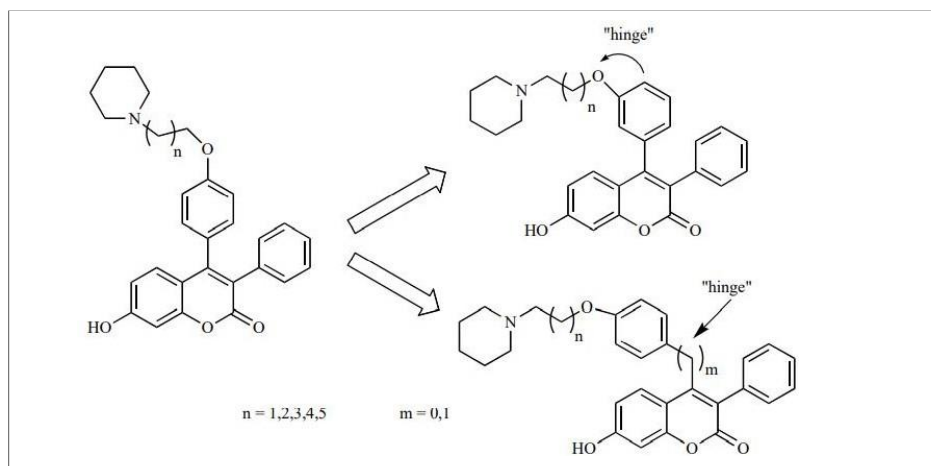


Figure (10): SARs of the benzopyranone series (43) incorporating the critical hinge feature 79].

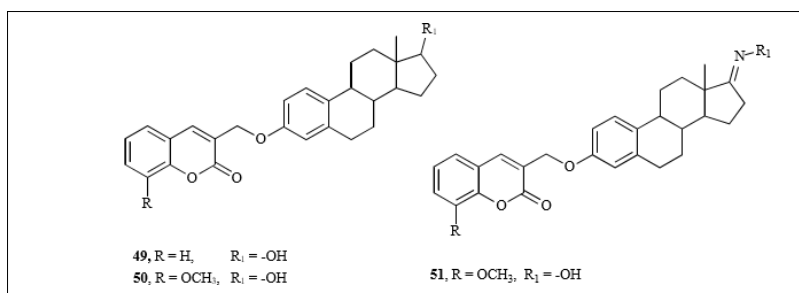


Figure (10): Structures of coumarin-estradiol conjugates.[154]

IV. CONCLUSION

Though there are important limitations in use of most natural coumarins because of their toxic impact, comparatively safe analogues with higher potency and so higher therapeutic index are obtained by molecular manipulations. within the structure-activity studies on coumarins, important positive results were obtained in anticancer activity screening with the addition of substituents at completely different positions of the coumarin core. Therefore, the development of recent anticancer molecules by attaching acceptable functional groups to different positions round the coumarin core is a crucial analysis area. However, considerably positive results were obtained in anticancer effect studies for numerous cancer varieties by targeting natural and synthetic coumarins to specific signalling pathways. Coumarin and coumarin-derived compounds are a possible supply of anti-cancer medication that require additional analyses, and it's obvious that they're going to be a vital cluster within the development of latest malignant tumour drugs. The widespread distribution and various bioactivities of coumarins have intrigued scientists for many years to conduct research involving this ring system. This review has made public such research approaches before that specialize in the coumarins with antibreast cancer activity. Though coumarins have large pharmacological significance, their antibreast cancer potential are the most focus of this review. The coumarin-based SERMs and last coumarin-estrogen conjugates have additionally shown to be reason- ready approaches in the development of antibreast cancer agents. though most natural coumarins exhibited major limitations thanks to hepatotoxicity, molecular manipulations afforded comparatively safer analogues with higher efficiency and so higher therapeutic index. A number of these derivatives are in clinical trial, which could emerge as new therapeutic choice for the treatment of carcinoma. Interestingly, altogether these approaches coumarins are viewed to be anti- estrogenic thanks to the structural similarity with natural feminine sex hormone estrogen, that is believed to stimulate breast cancer growth.

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