

Notice

Because of a lapse in government funding, the information on this website may not be up to date, transactions submitted via the website may not be processed, and the agency may not be able to respond to inquiries until appropriations are enacted. The NIH Clinical Center (the research hospital of NIH) is open. For more details about its operating status, please visit cc.nih.gov. Updates regarding government operating status and resumption of normal operations can be found at opm.gov.

 An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

Log in



Search

[Advanced](#)

[User Guide](#)

Save

Email

Send to

Display options

[Curr Top Med Chem](#). 2021;21(12):1067-1095. doi: 10.2174/1568026621666210509161059.

Bioactive Compounds Effective Against Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: A Systematic Review

Chukwuebuka Egbuna ¹, Chinaza G Awuchi ², Garima Kushwaha ³, Mithun Rudrapal ⁴, Kingsley C Patrick-Iwuanyanwu ¹, Omkar Singh ⁵, Uchenna E Odoh ⁶, Johra Khan ⁷, Jaison Jeevanandam ⁸, Suresh Kumarasamy ⁹, Vincent O Chukwube ⁶, Mathiyazhagan Narayanan ⁹, Santwana Palai ¹⁰, Mihnea-Alexandru Găman ¹¹, Chukwuemelie Z Uche ¹², Daprim S Ogaji ¹³, Nebechi J Ezeofor ¹⁴, Andrew G Mtewa ¹⁵, Chinyere C Patrick-Iwuanyanwu ¹⁶, Shyam S Kesh ¹⁷, Chandan Shivamallu ¹⁸, Kaliyaperumal Saravanan ¹⁹, Habibu Tijjani ²⁰, Muhammad Akram ²¹, Jonathan C Ifemeje ²², Michael C Olisah ²³, Chukwudi J Chikwendu ²²

Affiliations [expand](#)

PMID: 33966619 DOI: [10.2174/1568026621666210509161059](https://doi.org/10.2174/1568026621666210509161059)

[Full text links](#)

[Cite](#)

Abstract

Background: Type 2 diabetes (adult onset diabetes) is the most common type of diabetes, accounting for around 90% of all diabetes cases with insulin resistance and insulin secretion defect. The key goal of anti-diabetic therapy is to increase the development of insulin, immunity and/or decrease the amount of blood glucose. While many synthetic compounds have been produced as antidiabetic agents, due to their side effects and limited effectiveness, their usefulness has been hindered.

Methods: This systematic review investigated the bioactive compounds reported to possess activities against type 2 diabetes. Three (3) databases, PubMed, ScienceDirect and Google Scholar were searched for research articles published between January 2010 and October 2020. A total of 6464 articles were identified out of which 84 articles were identified to be eligible for the study.

Result and discussion: From the data extracted, it was found that quercetin, Kaempferol, Rosmarinic acid, Cyanidin, Rutin, Catechin, Luteolin and Ellagic acid were the most cited bioactive compounds which all falls within the class of polyphenolic compounds. The major sources of these bioactive compounds includes citrus fruits, grapes, onions, berries, cherries, broccoli, honey, apples, green tea, Ginkgo biloba, St. John's wort, green beans, cucumber, spinach, tea, Rosmarinus officinalis, Aloe vera, Moringa oleifera, tomatoes, potatoes, oregano, lemon balm, thyme, peppermint, Ocimum basilicum, red cabbage, pears, olive oil and walnut.

Keywords: (T2DM); Anti-diabetic agents; Bioactive compounds; Flavonoids.; Medicinal plants; Phytochemicals; Polyphenols; Type 2 diabetes.

Copyright© Bentham Science Publishers; For any queries, please email at epub@benthamscience.net.

[PubMed Disclaimer](#)

Similar articles

[A Review of Antidiabetic Medicinal Plants as a Novel Source of Phosphodiesterase Inhibitors: Future Perspective of New Challenges Against Diabetes Mellitus.](#)

Ouassou H, Elhouda Daoudi N, Bouknana S, Abdnim R, Bnouham M.

Med Chem. 2024;20(5):467-486. doi: 10.2174/0115734064255060231116192839.

PMID: 38265379 Review.

[Bioactive component analysis and investigation of antidiabetic effect of Jerusalem thorn \(*Paliurus spina-christi*\) fruits in diabetic rats induced by streptozotocin.](#)

Takim K.

J Ethnopharmacol. 2021 Jan 10;264:113263. doi: 10.1016/j.jep.2020.113263. Epub 2020 Aug 18.

PMID: 32818572

[Plumeria rubra L.- A review on its ethnopharmacological, morphological, phytochemical, pharmacological and toxicological studies.](#)

Bihani T.

J Ethnopharmacol. 2021 Jan 10;264:113291. doi: 10.1016/j.jep.2020.113291. Epub 2020 Aug 22.

PMID: 32841700 Review.

[In vitro antioxidant effects of Aloe barbadensis Miller extracts and the potential role of these extracts as antidiabetic and antilipidemic agents on streptozotocin-induced type 2 diabetic model rats.](#)

Moniruzzaman M, Rokeya B, Ahmed S, Bhowmik A, Khalil MI, Gan SH.

Molecules. 2012 Nov 1;17(11):12851-67. doi: 10.3390/molecules171112851.

PMID: 23117427 [Free PMC article.](#)

[Spice plant Allium cepa: dietary supplement for treatment of type 2 diabetes mellitus.](#)

Akash MS, Rehman K, Chen S.

Nutrition. 2014 Oct;30(10):1128-37. doi: 10.1016/j.nut.2014.02.011. Epub 2014 Mar 2.

PMID: 25194613 [Review.](#)

[See all similar articles](#)

Cited by

[The Pivotal Role of Oleuropein in the Anti-Diabetic Action of the Mediterranean Diet: A Concise Review.](#)

Da Porto A, Brosolo G, Casarsa V, Bulfone L, Scandolin L, Catena C, Sechi LA.

Pharmaceutics. 2021 Dec 25;14(1):40. doi: 10.3390/pharmaceutics14010040.

PMID: 35056936 [Free PMC article.](#) [Review.](#)

[Medicinal Values and Potential Risks Evaluation of *Ginkgo biloba* Leaf Extract \(GBE\) Drinks Made from the Leaves in Autumn as Dietary Supplements.](#)

Su X, Shi R, Hu H, Hu L, Wei Q, Guan Y, Chang J, Li C.

Molecules. 2022 Nov 2;27(21):7479. doi: 10.3390/molecules27217479.

PMID: 36364306 [Free PMC article.](#)

[Pioglitazone and Risk of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: A Retrospective Cohort Study.](#)

Tseng CH.

Int J Chron Obstruct Pulmon Dis. 2022 Feb 9;17:285-295. doi: 10.2147/COPD.S345796. eCollection 2022.

PMID: 35177899 [Free PMC article.](#)

[Quercetin: A Molecule of Great Biochemical and Clinical Value and Its Beneficial Effect on Diabetes and Cancer.](#)

Michala AS, Pritsa A.

Diseases. 2022 Jun 29;10(3):37. doi: 10.3390/diseases10030037.

PMID: 35892731 [Free PMC article.](#) [Review.](#)

[Antidiabetic, hypolipidemic, and antioxidative properties of aqueous and ethanolic extracts of Sage \(*Salvia officinalis* L.\) against streptozotocin-induced diabetes and oxidative stress in Wistar albino male rats.](#)

Alharbi YM, Aljalis RA, Barakat H.

Vet World. 2025 Feb;18(2):461-474. doi: 10.14202/vetworld.2025.461-474. Epub 2025 Feb 26.

PMID: 40182830 [Free PMC article.](#)

[See all "Cited by" articles](#)

Publication types

[Systematic Review](#)

MeSH terms

[Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2 / drug therapy*](#)

[Humans](#)

[Hypoglycemic Agents / chemistry](#)

[Hypoglycemic Agents / isolation & purification](#)

[Hypoglycemic Agents / therapeutic use*](#)

[Plant Extracts / chemistry](#)

[Plant Extracts / isolation & purification](#)

[Plant Extracts / therapeutic use*](#)

Substances

[Hypoglycemic Agents](#)

[Plant Extracts](#)

Related information

[MedGen](#)

LinkOut – more resources

Full Text Sources

[Bentham Science Publishers Ltd.](#)

[Ingenta plc](#)

Other Literature Sources

[scite Smart Citations](#)

Medical

[MedlinePlus Health Information](#)

[NCBI Literature Resources](#) [MeSH](#) [PMC](#) [Bookshelf](#) [Disclaimer](#)

The PubMed wordmark and PubMed logo are registered trademarks of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Unauthorized use of these marks is strictly prohibited.

FOLLOW NCBI



Connect with NLM



National Library of Medicine
8600 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20894

[Web Policies](#)

[FOIA](#)

[HHS Vulnerability Disclosure](#)

[Help](#)

[Accessibility](#)

[Careers](#)

[NLM](#) [NIH](#) [HHS](#) [USA.gov](#)