



Lipid lowering effect of synthetic phenolic compound in a high- fat diet (HFD) induced hyperlipidemic mice

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ARTICLE DETAILS

Article history:

Received 22 January 2017

Accepted 03 February 2017

Available online 05 February 2017

Keywords:

ABSTRACT

Hyperlipidemia is the major risk factor of arteriosclerosis, coronary heart diseases and death. Phenolic compounds have been shown to offer the protection against cardiovascular complications. In the present study, we studied the effect of semisynthetic phenolic compounds on the hyperlipidemic mice fed with high fat diet (cholesterol, cholic acid and peanut oil). Phenolic compounds were mixed with HFD and the dose of the test compounds were 10mg/kg for 6 weeks. After 6 weeks, the average body weight of lab diet, HFD, standard and test compounds were evaluated. Average body weight of test compound 1, test compound 2 and test compound 3 showed insignificant results ($P>1$) as compared to the standard drug (Atorvastatin in this study). The liver weight of mice increased ($P>1$) in all treatment groups relative to standard drug fed group. The plasma lipids such as triglyceride and LDL-cholesterol were found to be increased ($P>1$) in Test compound 1, test compound 2, test compound 3 and HFD fed mice when compared to that of standard drug (Atorvastatin) fed mice. But high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol increased in standard when compared to that of lab diet fed mice, HFD and test compounds. In conclusion, the supplementation of semi synthetic phenolic compounds may have a weak potential of hypolipidemic effect on mice fed high-fat diet.

1. Introduction

It is seen that most of the deaths are occurring due to diseases of cardiovascular system. There is a significant impact of lifestyle changes on the quality of health. Utilization of food highly rich with saturated fat and having low fiber content is one of the factors of disarray in energy balance. It is now evinced that hyperlipidemia is depicted as a major risk factor for the premature development of atherosclerosis and its cardiovascular complications. The prevalence of obesity has doubled in the past 25 years; today, two-thirds of adults are overweight in the United State [1]. Hyperlipidemia is a disorder characterized by the increase in blood low-density lipoprotein (LDL), total cholesterol (TC) and triglycerides (TG). More than 3 million people have this genetic disorder in the United States and Europe. This condition is an indicator of both coronary artery disease and atherosclerosis and is the main cause of cardiovascular disease worldwide. An accepted mean of treating the patients with hyperlipoproteinemia and atherosclerosis is lowering the serum triglycerides (TG) and increasing high-density lipoproteins (HDL) [2].

2. Material and Method

2.1. Materials

Normal lab diet, high fat diet including cholesterol, cholic acid, peanut oil, standard drug (Atorvastatin in this study), test compound 1, test compound 2 and test compound 3.

2.2. Methods

2.2.1. Animals

36 mice (5-week-old female) were obtained, kept in National Institute of Health and left to be acclimatized for 1 week before the experiment started. A total of 36 mice were divided into 6 experimental groups with each 6 mice per treatment group. Animals were kept in normal laboratory conditions of temperature 23 ± 1 °C and ambient humidity $55 \pm 5\%$. Mice were housed in stainless steel cages individually and kept in an isolated room. Lights were maintained on an artificial 12h light-dark cycle. All mice were weighed weekly during 6 weeks of experimental period. Animal care was in accordance to the guidelines established and approved by the National Institute of Health.

2.2.2. Diets

All diets were based on National Institute of Health (NIH) recommendations. Mice were fed with high fat diet containing cholesterol, cholic acid, peanut oil and normal laboratory diet for 6 weeks. Standard drug (Atorvastatin in

this study), Test compound 1, test compound 2 and test compound 3 was mixed with high-fat diet (HFD) and the composition of the test compounds was 10mg/kg.

2.2.3. Procedure for Antihyperlipidemic activity

A total of 36 mice were divided into 6 experimental groups with each 6 mice per treatment group. Test compound 1, test compound 2 and test compound 3 was mixed with high-fat diet (HFD) and the dose of the test compounds were 10mg/kg. Group I received Normal laboratory diet, Group II received high-fat diet, Group III received standard drug (atorvastatin in this study) along with high-fat diet, Group IV received test compound 1 along with high-fat diet, Group V received test compound 2 along with high fat diet and Group VI received test compound 3 along with high fat diet. Mice had free access to feed and water throughout the study. The specified quantity of test compound and standard was dissolved in 1mL of DMSO and mixed with water supplied to mice. All mice were weighed weekly during 6 weeks of experimental period. The activity was continued for 6 weeks under controlled laboratory conditions (temperature 23 ± 1 °C and ambient humidity $55 \pm 5\%$).

2.2.4. Blood collection and analysis

At the end of the experimental period, the animals were anesthetized. Blood samples were collected from the retro orbital vein. The serum was separated by centrifugation at $2500 \times g$ for 15min at 4 °C. The amount of serum triglyceride, total cholesterol, HDL-cholesterol, and LDL-cholesterol were assayed automatically using an ADVIA 1650 lipid analyzer (Bayer, Wuppertal, Germany).

2.2.5. Statistical analysis

For determination of change of body weight, liver weight, plasma lipids, HDL and LDL cholesterol, individual mouse was considered as an experimental unit. All data were analyzed by SPSS software. General linear model procedure was performed and mean values and standard error were reported.

2.2.6. Results and discussion

Hyperlipidemia is one of the greatest risks of developing cardiovascular disorders and complications. It is characterized by increase in low density lipoprotein, total cholesterol and triglycerides. Natural phenolic compounds have been reported to show protection against atherosclerosis and metabolic disorders like hyperlipidemia, hyperglycaemia, and hypercholesterolemia. A study was conducted on catechin compounds derived from green tea; mice were fed a diet high in cholesterol and fat, after 4 weeks of treatment

the rate of cholesterol absorption, total cholesterol low-density lipoprotein plasma levels were measured. Catechin compounds have been shown to reduce plasma cholesterol levels significantly in the group fed with these compounds. This study showed significant results [3] The present study is aimed to check the lipid lowering effect of synthetic phenolic compound in a high-fat diet (HFD) induced hyperlipidemic mice. Effect of phenolic compounds on biochemical parameters including serum total cholesterol (TC), triglycerides (TG), high-density lipoprotein (HDL), and low-density lipoprotein (LDL) will be estimated in HFD induced hyperlipidemic mice. The results obtained are then compared with the effects of marketed product Atorvastatin. 36 mice (5-week-old female) were obtained and left to be acclimatized for 1 week before the experiment started. A total of 36 mice were divided into 6 experimental groups with each 6 mice per treatment group. Animals were kept in normal laboratory conditions of temperature $23 \pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$ and ambient humidity $55 \pm 5\%$. Lights were maintained on an artificial 12h light-dark cycle. All mice were weighed weekly during 6 weeks of experimental period. Mice were fed with high fat diet containing cholesterol, cholic acid, peanut oil and normal laboratory diet for 6 weeks. Test compound 1, test compound 2 and test compound 3 was mixed with high-fat diet (HFD) and the composition of the test compounds was 10mg/kg. Group I received Normal laboratory diet, Group II received high fat diet, Group III received standard drug (Atorvastatin in this study) along with high fat diet, Group IV received test compound 1 along received with high fat diet, Group V received diet test compound 2 along with high fat diet and Group VI received test compound 3 along with high fat diet.

2.2.7. Body weight

Weights of the mice were taken after every week. Every group showed increase in weight Table 4.1 shows the weight of the animals in all six cages, each containing six mice at the start of experiment (zero week). These animals have received lab diet, high fat diet, standard drug, test compound 1, test compound 2 and test compound 3 respectively. The average weight of the animals receiving lab diet was 22.2g, the average weight of the animals receiving high fat diet was 21.9g, the average weight of the animals receiving standard drug (atorvastatin in our study) was 22.36g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 1 was 22.43, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 2 was 21.13g and the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 3 was 20.81g.

Weight of animals at the start of experiment (g) (zero week)						
	Lab diet	High fat diet	Standard	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3
1	22.5	19.3	22.4	23.9	26.9	22.9
2	21.9	23.6	25.4	24.4	21.9	28
3	22.1	23.2	24.1	23.1	13.9	19.1
4	23.8	22.9	19.5	20.3	20.6	16.3
5	24.5	20.7	20.9	20.5	18	21.3
6	18.4	21.9	21.9	22.4	25.5	17.3
Total	133.2	131.4	134.2	134.6	126.8	124.9
Average	22.2	21.9	22.36	22.43	21.13	20.81

Table 4.2 shows the weight of the animals after 1 week. The average weight of the animals receiving lab diet was 22.85g, the average weight of the animals receiving high fat diet was 22.98g, the average weight of the animals receiving standard drug (Atorvastatin in this study) was 22.66 g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 1 was 23.25g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 2 was 21.65g and the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 3 was 21.01g. The increases in weight of the animals have been shown after first week as compared to zero week.

Table 4.2 Table representing weights of the animals after first week

Weight of animals after first week (g)						
	Lab diet	High fat diet	Standard	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3
1	23.1	22.4	22.6	21.6	27.2	23.1
2	21.9	28.5	25.7	25.3	22.9	28.2
3	27.5	23.2	24.3	23.1	14.2	19.2
4	21.2	20.2	19.8	20.8	21.2	18.6
5	25	22.4	21.2	26.7	18.2	21.6
6	18.4	21.2	22.4	22	26.2	17.4
Total	137.1	137.9	136	139.5	129.9	128.1
Average	22.85	22.98	22.66	23.25	21.65	21.01

Table 4.3 shows the weight of the animals after second week. The average

weight of the animals receiving lab diet was 25.33g, the average weight of the animals receiving high fat diet was 28.5g, the average weight of the animals receiving standard drug (Atorvastatin in this study) was 24.96g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 1 was 28.75g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 2 was 27.36g and the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 3 was 25.6g. The increases in weight of the animals have been shown after second week as compared to zero and first week.

Table 4.3 Table representing weights of the animals after second week

Weights of animals after two weeks (g)						
	Lab diet	High fat diet	standard	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3
1	32.7	29.5	24.3	26.9	31.5	25
2	21	25.7	27	29.6	33.2	30
3	26.9	31.8	26.9	25.5	27.5	26.3
4	19.2	27.9	21.8	30.2	23.7	25.1
5	27.4	29.8	24	31.3	29.8	27.6
6	24.8	26.3	25.8	29	18.5	20
Total	152	171	149.8	172.5	164.2	154
Average	25.33	28.5	24.96	28.75	27.36	25.6

Table 4.4 shows the weight of the animals after third week. The average weight of the animals receiving lab diet was 26.91g, the average weight of the animals receiving high fat diet was 29.23g, the average weight of the animals receiving standard drug (Atorvastatin in this study) was 26.45g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 1 was 29.81g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 2 was 28.34g and the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 3 was 27.03g. The increases in weight of the animals have been shown after third week as compared to zero, first and second week.

Table 4.4 Table representing weights of the animals after third week

Weights of animals after third week (g)						
	Lab diet	Fat diet	standard	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3
1	33.3	29.4	26.7	29	31.9	27.5
2	22.7	27.9	28.8	29.8	33.3	30.3
3	29.1	30.9	27.6	27.7	27.8	27.4
4	22.1	29.1	23.4	29.4	27.3	27.2
5	28.5	30.2	25.6	32.6	29.75	27.7
6	25.8	27.6	26.6	30.4	20	22.1
Total	161.5	175.1	158.7	178.9	170.05	162.2
Average	26.91	29.23	26.45	29.81	28.34	27.03

Table 4.5 shows the weight of the animals after fourth week. The average weight of the animals receiving lab diet was 28.58g, the average weight of the animals receiving high fat diet was 30.03g, the average weight of the animals receiving standard drug (Atorvastatin in this study) was 28g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 1 was 31.1g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 2 was 29.46g and the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 3 was 28.65g. The increases in weight of the animals have been shown after fourth week as compared to zero, first, second and third week.

Table 4.5 Table representing weights of the animals after fourth week

Weights of animals after fourth weeks (g)						
	Lab diet	Fat diet	standard	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3
1	33.9	27.3	27.4	31.1	33.1	31
2	24.5	30	29.3	31.1	34.7	30.7
3	31.4	34.3	29.9	30	30.6	28.65
4	25.1	30.2	25.6	28.6	27.4	29.4
5	29.7	30.4	27.4	34	29.7	27.9
6	26.9	28	28.4	31.8	21.3	24.3
Total	171.5	180.2	168	186.6	176.8	171.95
Average	28.58	30.03	28	31.1	29.46	28.65

Table 4.6 shows the weight of the animals after fifth week. The average weight of the animals receiving lab diet was 30.69g, the average weight of the animals receiving high fat diet was 32.95g, the average weight of the animals receiving standard drug (Atorvastatin in this study) was 28.5g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 1 was 32.26g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 2 was 30.54g and the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 3 was 30.14g. The increases in weight of the animals have been shown after fifth week as compared to zero, first, second, third, fourth and fifth week.

Table 4.6 Table representing weights of the animals after fifth week

Weights of animals after fifth week (g)						
	Lab test	Fat diet	Standard	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3
1	34.5	25	28.9	33.2	33.9	34
2	29.2	32	29.8	31.8	35.5	31.1
3	33.7	34.1	27.6	32.3	32.2	29.8
4	28.05	35	26.4	27.8	29.3	31.5
5	30.8	35.6	29.6	35.3	29.65	28.05
6	27.9	36	28.7	33.2	22.7	26.4
Total	184.15	197.7	171	193.6	183.25	180.85
Average	30.69	32.95	28.5	32.26	30.54	30.14

Table 4.7 shows the weight of the animals after sixth week. The average weight of the animals receiving lab diet was 31.85g, the average weight of the animals receiving high fat diet was 33.85g, the average weight of the animals receiving standard drug (Atorvastatin in this study) was 29.76g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 1 was 33.46g, the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 2 was 31.65g and the average weight of the animals receiving test compound 3 was 31.66g. The increases in weight of the animals have been shown after sixth week as compared to zero, first, second, third, fourth, and fifth week.

Table 4.7 Table representing weights of the animals after sixth week

Weights of animals after sixth week(g)						
	Lab test	Fat diet	standard	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3
1	35.1	31	29.8	35.3	34.7	37
2	28	31.6	29.9	32.6	36.3	31.5
3	36	33.2	29.4	34.6	33.8	31
4	31	35.2	29.9	27	31.2	33.7
5	32	36	29.8	36.7	29.6	28.2
6	29	36.1	29.8	34.6	24.2	28.6
Total	191.1	203.1	178.6	200.8	189.8	190
Average	31.85	33.85	29.76	33.46	31.65	31.66



Fig.4.2 line graph representing body weight of animals receiving lab diet

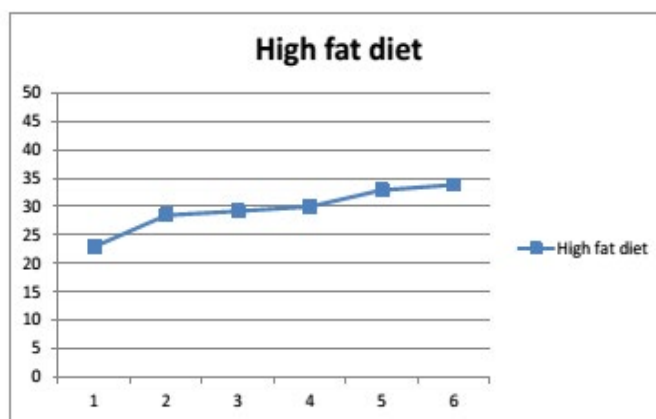


Fig.4.3 line graph representing body weight of animals receiving high fat diet

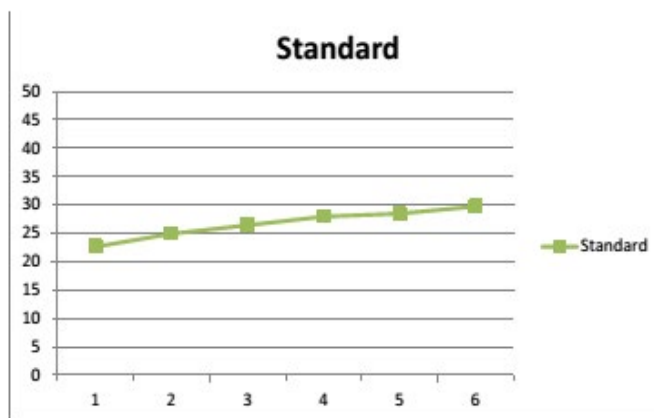


Fig.4.4 line graph representing body weight of animals receiving standard

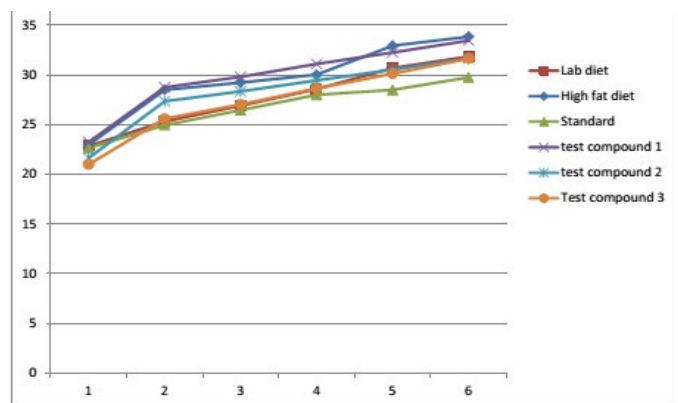
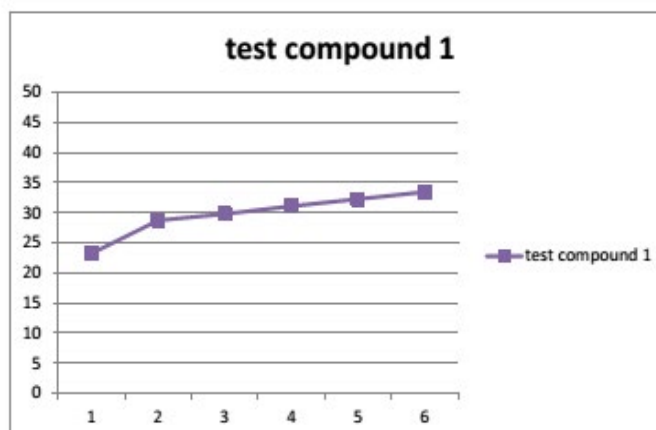


Fig 4.1: line graph representing average weight of animals of different groups

There is a steady increase in the average weight of the animals receiving lab diet from week 1 to week 6 as shown in fig.4.2. In case of high fat diet receiving animals there is a rapid increase in the average weight of animals from week 1 to week 2, then steady increase is seen from week 2 to week 6 as shown in fig.4.3. Steady increase is seen in animals receiving standard drug (Atorvastatin in our study) from week 1 to week 6 as shown in fig.4.4. Abrupt increase in average weight of animals is also seen in group receiving test compound 1, 2 and 3 from week 1 to week 2 then consistent increase of average weight is seen in 2 to week 6 as shown in fig. 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7 respectively.

Fig.4.5 line graph representing body weight of animals receiving test compound 1

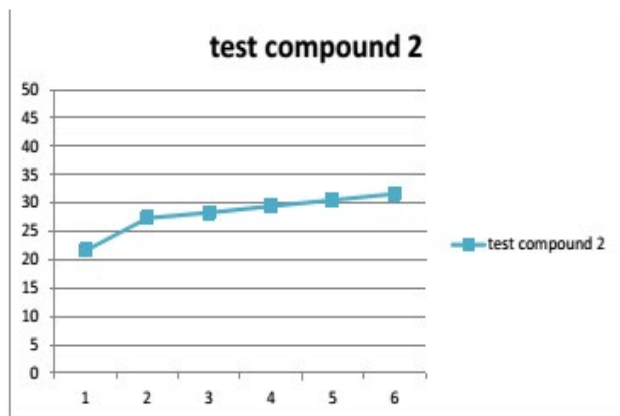


Fig.4.6 line graph representing body weight of animals receiving test compound 2

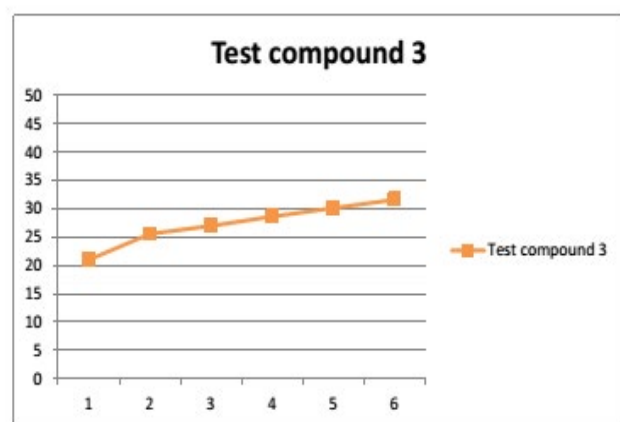


Fig.4.7 line graph representing body weight of animals receiving test compound 3

2.2.8. Increase in percentage body weight

The average body weight of all experimental animals was increased in corresponding increase in experimental schedule as shown in table 4.8. At the end of 6 weeks the HFD group showed the highest percent increase in average body weight which was found to be 54.56%. Test compound 1 showed 49.17% increase in average body weight, test compound 2 showed 49.78% increase in average body weight and test compound 3 showed 52.13% increase in average body weight. Test compounds nearly similar patterns in percent increase of body weight as that of HFD group. The group receiving standard drug showed 33.09% increase in average body weight as shown in fig.4.8.

Table 4.8 Table representing average weights of the animals of different groups from week 1 to week 6 (g)

Week	Lab diet	High fat diet	Standard	test compound 1	test compound 2	Test compound 3
0	22.2	21.9	22.36	22.43	21.13	20.81
1	22.85	22.98	22.66	23.25	21.65	21.01
2	25.33	28.5	24.96	28.75	27.36	25.6
3	26.91	29.23	26.45	29.81	28.34	27.03
4	28.58	30.03	28	31.1	29.46	28.65
5	30.69	32.95	28.5	32.26	30.54	30.14
6	31.85	33.85	29.76	33.46	31.65	31.66

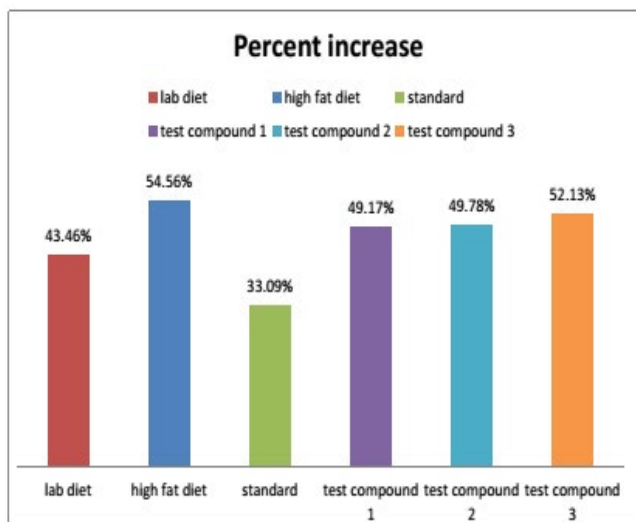


Fig 4.8 Bar graph showing percent increase in the average weight of the animals of different group. These results suggested that the newly semi synthesized phenolic compounds show insignificant results when compared with the positive and negative control.

2.2.9. Liver weight

Liver weight of the mice was determined after supplementation of high fat diet with test compound 1, test compound 2, test compound 3 and standard drug (Atorvastatin in this study) for 6 weeks as shown in table 4.9. Average liver weight of the mice group fed with high fat diet (1.23g) was significantly similar as compared to that of test compound 1 (1.13g), test compound 2 (1.17g) and test compound 3 (1.21g). There was an increase in the liver weight of the experimental animals group supplemented with high fat diet. Standard drug (Atorvastatin in this study) supplemented mice (1.03g) showed the lowest liver weight as compared to experimental groups supplemented with test compound 1, test compound 2 and test compound 3 as shown in fig.4.9

Table 4.9 Table representing average liver weight of experimental animals at the end of sixth week

Group	Liver weight (g)
Lab diet	0.9
High fat diet	1.23
Standard	1.03
Test compound 1	1.13
Test compound 2	1.17
Test compound 3	1.21

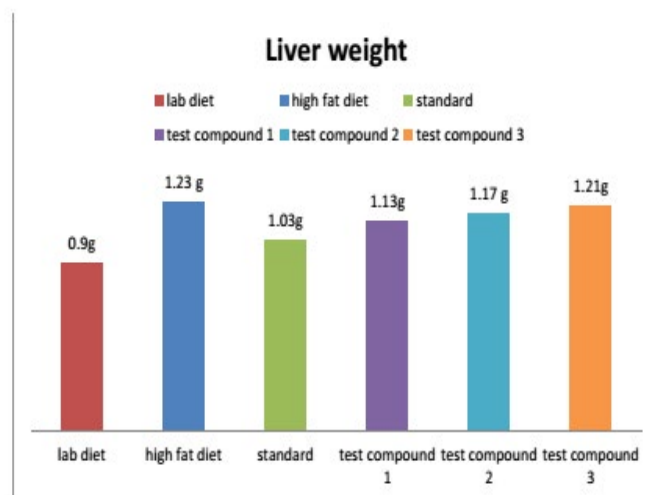


Fig. 4.9 Bar graph showing average liver weight of the animals of different groups

2.2.9. Plasma lipid profile

Plasma lipid profile that includes cholesterol, triglycerides, high-density lipoprotein, and low-density lipoprotein was evaluated as showed in table 4.10. Supplementation of the high fat diet (HFD) significantly increased total cholesterol, HDL and LDL compared with lab diet fed mice. Standard drug showed decreased total cholesterol, triglycerides, LDL and increased HDL as compared to HFD group as the activity of the standard drug Atorvastatin is proven. Test compound 1, test compound 2 and test compound 3 showed nearly similar results of lipid profile as that of high fat diet fed mice as shown in fig.4.10.

Table 4.10 representing plasma lipid profile of mice fed high fat diet with standard, test compound 1, test compound 2 and test compound 3 (mg/dl)

Groups	Total cholesterol	Triglycerides	High-density lipoprotein (HDL)	Low-density lipoprotein (LDL)
Lab diet	92.8	86.6	33.4	41.6
High fat diet	386.2	162	36.2	317.4
Standard	165.4	114.4	49	89
Test compound 1	369.7	160.8	32.6	309.1
Test compound 2	375.1	162.8	34.4	311.3
Test compound 3	377.4	159.9	30.4	313.4

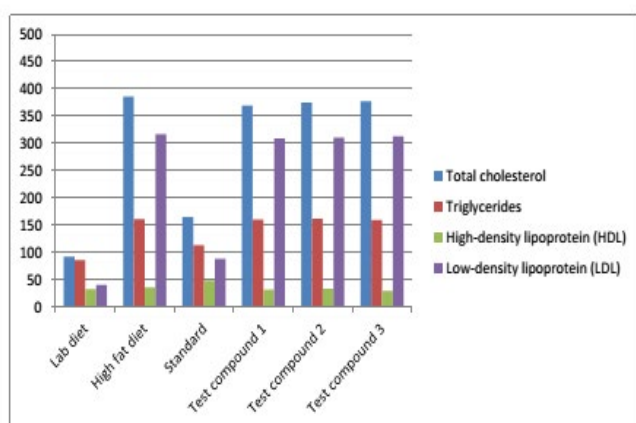


Fig.4.10 Bar graph showing plasma lipid profile of different experimental groups

Conclusion

In the present study antihyperlipidemic activity was performed in high fat diet induced hyperlipidemic mice models. It was indicated that there is insignificant difference in the average body weight, liver weight and plasma lipid profile of the phenolic test compound 1, test compound 2 and test compound 3 as compared with the standard drug (Atorvastatin in this study). Although the antihyperlipidemic activity of these phenolic compounds is not strong but literature showed that phenolic compounds show cardiac potential so that these compounds should be evaluated for their cardiovascular potential like cyclooxygenase inhibition, antithrombotic and vasodilator activity.

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