

REVIEW

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Biological potential of thiazolidinedione derivatives of synthetic origin

Sucheta, Sumit Tahlan and Prabhakar Kumar Verma*

Abstract

Thiazolidinediones are sulfur containing pentacyclic compounds that are widely found throughout nature in various forms. Thiazolidinedione nucleus is present in numerous biological compounds, e.g., anti-malarial, antimicrobial, anti-mycobacterium, anticonvulsant, antiviral, anticancer, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, anti-HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) and antitubercular agent. However, owing to the swift development of new molecules containing this nucleus, many research reports have been generated in a brief span of time. Therefore seems to be a requirement to collect recent information in order to understand the current status of the thiazolidinedione nucleus in medicinal chemistry research, focusing in particular on the numerous attempts to synthesize and investigate new structural prototypes with more effective antidiabetic, antimicrobial, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anticancer and antitubercular activity.

Keywords: Thiazolidinedione derivatives, Antidiabetic, Antimicrobial, Anti-inflammatory

Introduction

The number of antimicrobial drugs available in the market is vast, but there is a need to discover novel antimicrobial agents with better pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic properties with lesser or no side effects. Most of thiazolidinediones exhibit good bactericidal activity against various Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria. The bactericidal activity of thiazolidinediones derivatives depends on the substitution on the heterocyclic thiazolidine ring rather than the aromatic moiety.

Thiazolidinedione (Scheme 1) along with their derivatives draw attention as they have diverse biological as well as clinical use. Researchers focus on this moiety because it is involved in the control of various physiological activities. Heterocyclic moieties having Nitrogen and Sulfur are involved in a broad range of pharmacological processes. This created interest among researchers who have synthesized variety of thiazolidinediones derivatives and screened them for their various biological activities. In the present study, we have made an attempt to collect

biological properties of thiazolidinediones and its derivatives of synthetic origin.

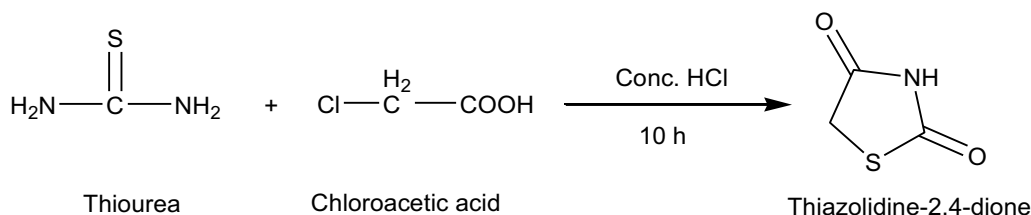
Biological activities of thiazolidinediones derivatives in the new millennium

Thiazolidinedione derivatives as antidiabetic agents

Diabetes mellitus (DM), also known as diabetes, is represented by the high blood sugar level over a period of prolonged time. There are three types of diabetes: (i) type 1 DM in which pancreas fails to produce insulin. Previously, it was referred as “insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus” or “juvenile diabetes”; (ii) type-2 DM a condition in which cells does not respond to insulin. Previously, it was referred as “non insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus”; (iii) gestational diabetes is the third main type and arises in pregnant women with no prior record of diabetes with high blood sugar levels [1].

The fundamental reasons of diabetes are a low production of insulin, the inability of the body to use it, or a combination of both (hormone which regulate carbohydrate, fat and protein metabolism). Normally it is a long-standing syndrome having different clinical revelation, with a number of problems such as cardiovascular, hypertension, renal, neurological. It is a disease in which pancreas does not secrete sufficient insulin or cells

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Scheme 1 Synthesis of Substituted thiazolidine-2,4-dione

prevent reacting toward secreted insulin, that's why cells cannot absorb blood glucose. Its symptoms are recurrent urination, tiredness, too much dehydration and hunger. It is cured by change in food habits, by regulation of proper diet; oral prescription and few situations include insulin injection [2, 3]. The thiazole moiety is a significant heterocyclic unit in drug invention. Literature survey shows that the wide-spread studies have been carried out on the production of thiazolidinediones. Thiazolidinediones compounds shows a number of pharmacological activities such as antimicrobial, antitubercular, anti-tumor, anti-viral, anti-HIV, anti-inflammatory and anti-diabetic effects [4–6].

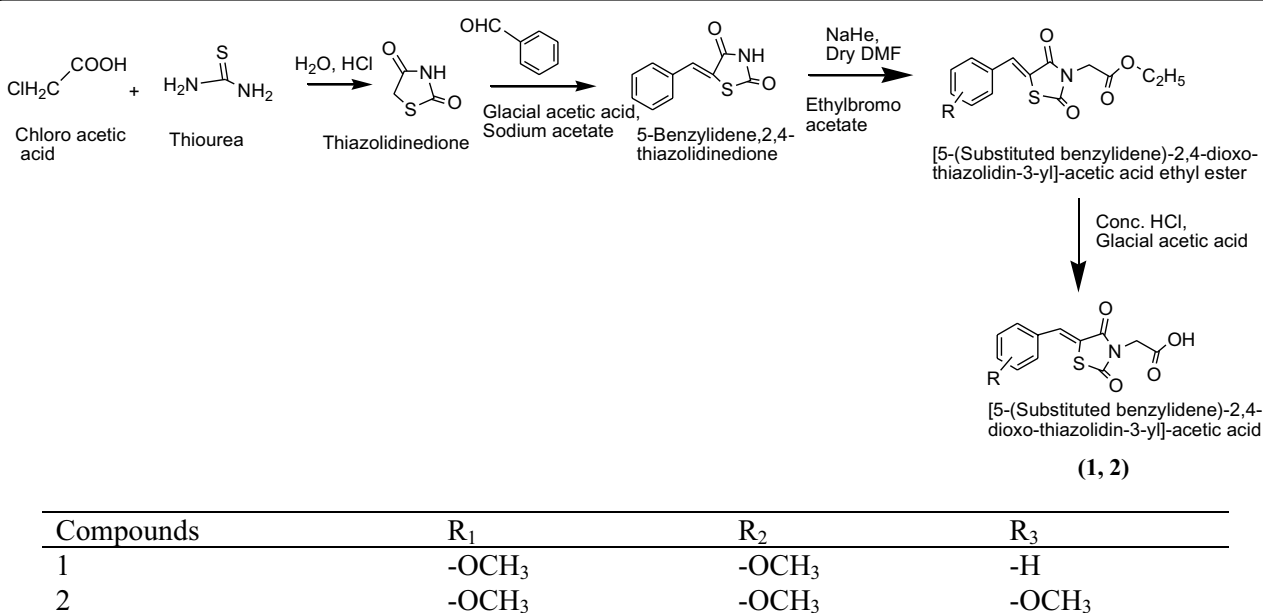
Datar et al. [7] synthesized a new series of thiazolidinediones by the reaction of thiazolidinedione with several benzaldehyde derivatives using Scheme 2. In vitro anti-diabetic activity of synthesized compound was performed by SLM model. In this series compounds 1 and 2 found to be most active [5-(3,4-dimethoxy)benzylidene-2,4-thiazolidinedione, 5-(3,4,5 trimethoxy)benzylidene-2,4-thiazolidinedione] due to presence of methoxy group

and comparable to standard drug pioglitazone studies. The results of the most active compound are indicated Tables 1 and 2 (Datar et al. [7]).

Swapna et al. [8] synthesized novel thiazolidinediones by using Scheme 3. In vitro antidiabetic activity performed by alloxan induced tail tipping method. From this series compound 3, 4, 5 showed highest activity as comparable to standard drug metformin because of presence of electron donating group. The results of most active derivatives showed in Table 3 (Swapna et al. [8]).

Pattan et al. [2] synthesized a new series of thiazolidinediones derivatives [5-(4-substitutedsulfonylbenzylidene)-2,4-thiazolidinedione] using Scheme 4. The In vitro antidiabetic activity performed by ANOVA and Dunnet's 't' test. From this series 6, 7 and 8 compound showed moderates activity and comparable to the standard drug glibenclamide. The results of active compound are given in Table 4 (Pattan et al. [2]).

Badiger et al. [9] synthesized novel thiazolidinediones derived from 4-fluorophenylacetic acid and thiosemicarbazide in phosphorous oxychloride using Scheme 5. The



Scheme 2 Synthesis of [5-(Substituted benzylidene)-2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-3-yl]-acetic acid

Table 1 Blood glucose level in experimental animals (mg/dl)

Compounds	Time (min)				
	0	30	60	90	120
DMSO	145	150	150	147	141
Pioglitazone	139	105	110	112	115
1	141	112	117	118	112
2	147	110	112	107	104

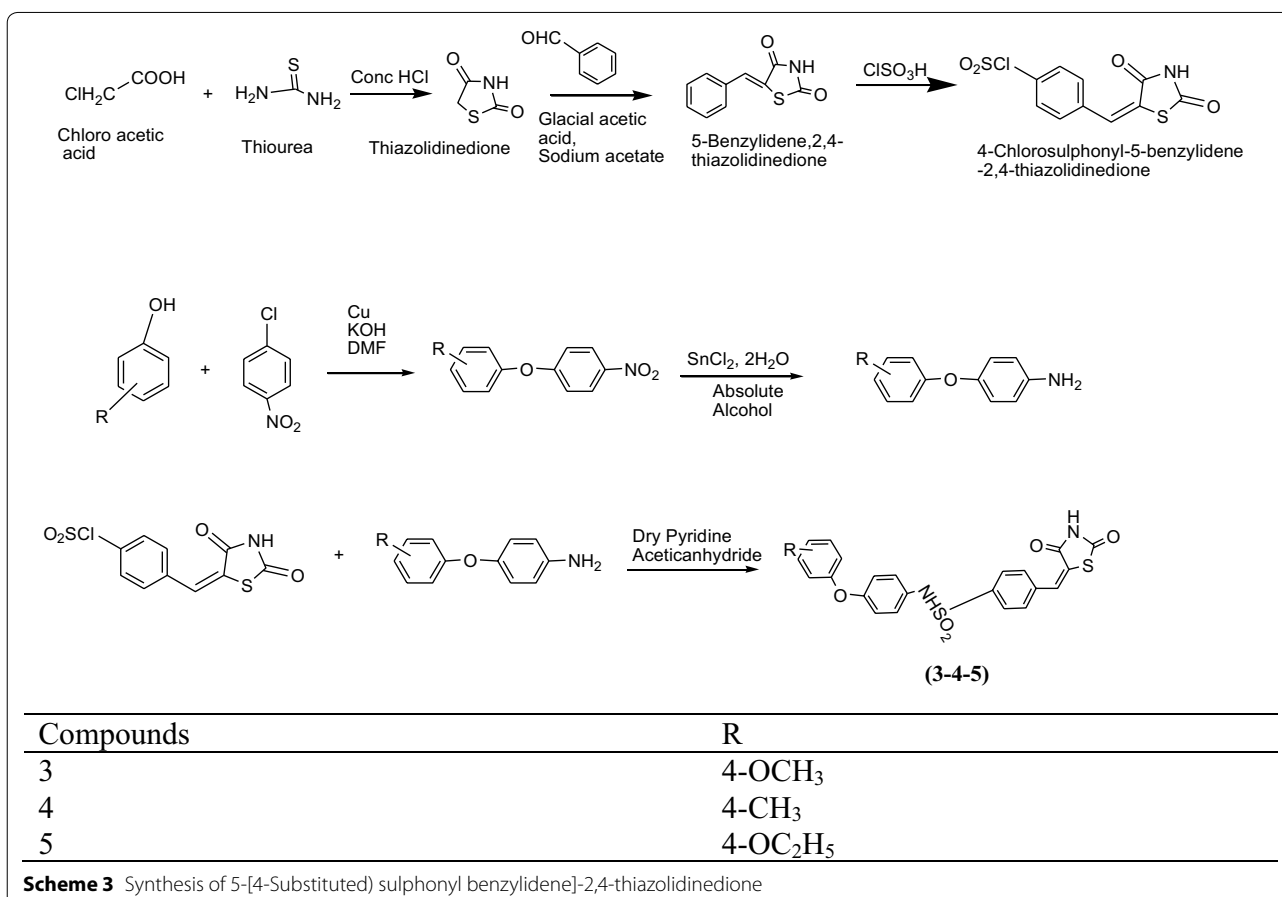
Table 2 Decrease in blood glucose levels by AUC method

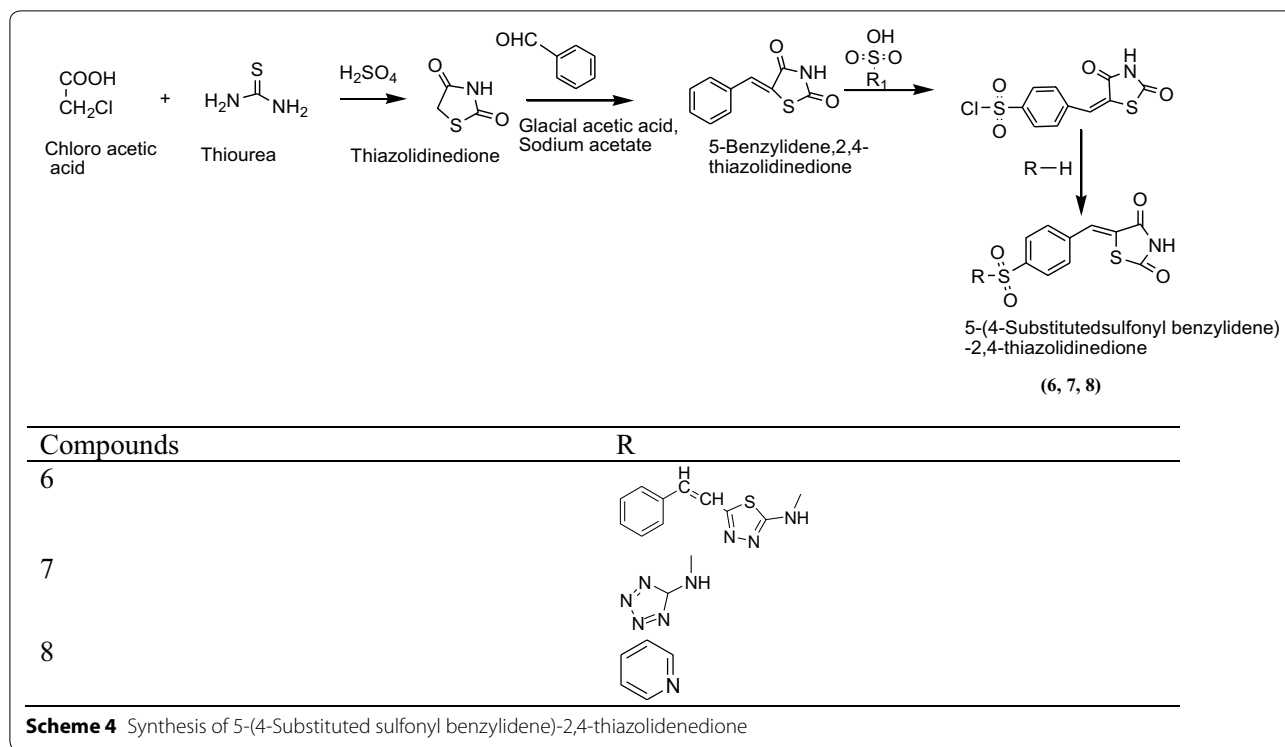
Compounds	Time (min)					% reduction in blood glucose level
	30	60	90	120		
DMSO	+ 11	+ 05	+ 02	- 04	+ 31	
Pioglitazone	- 34	- 39	- 29	- 26	- 23.07	
1	- 29	- 25	- 24	- 27	- 21.71	
2	- 37	- 35	- 28	- 24	- 22.84	

Table 3 Blood glucose level (mg/dl) of synthesized thiazolidinediones derivatives

Compounds	Blood glucose level (mean \pm SE)		
	0 h	3 h	6 h
3	343 \pm 5.797	313.8 \pm 9.411	303.2 \pm 9.827
4	341.5 \pm 6.158	320.5 \pm 6.737	313 \pm 9.500
5	353.7 \pm 6.026	315.8 \pm 8.109	311.2 \pm 9.297
Positive control	335.7 \pm 5.168	345.5 \pm 5.488	354 \pm 8.135
Normal control	125.0 \pm 4.497	126.3 \pm 4.047	127.7 \pm 3.703
Metformin	343.3 \pm 6.206	322.8 \pm 4.989	292.0 \pm 7.767

in vitro antidiabetic activity of synthesized compound [5-{[2-(4-alkyl/aryl)-6-arylimidazo[1,2][1,3,4]thiadiazol-5-yl]methylene}-1,3-thiazolidine-2,4-dione] were performed by alloxan induced tail tipping method. Among them, compounds **9** and **10** found to be most active due to presence of naphthyl and coumarinyl groups at C₅



**Table 4** Blood glucose level (mg/dl) in synthesized compounds

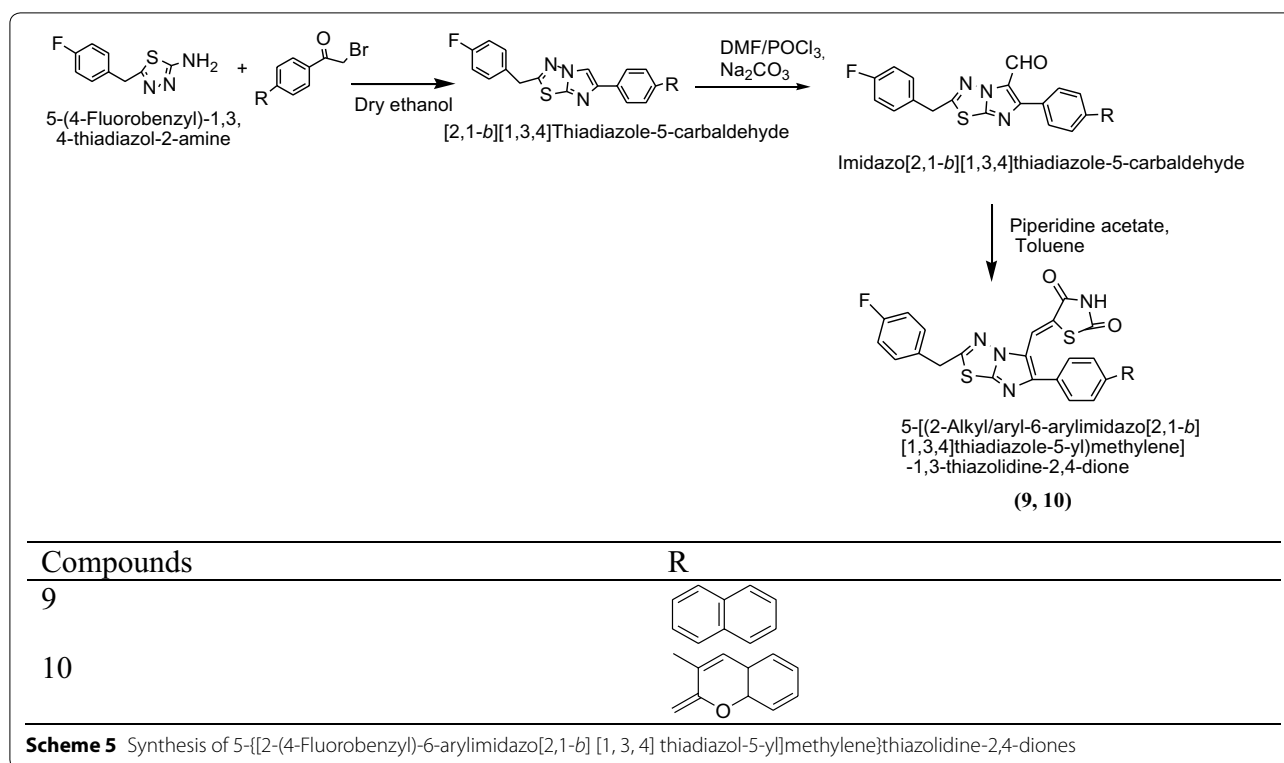
Compounds	Blood glucose level (mean \pm SE)			
	0 h	1 h	3 h	6 h
6	320.5 \pm 15.81	145.5 \pm 2.26	137.0 \pm 3.80	123.5 \pm 1.10
7	213.5 \pm 8.78	140.7 \pm 3.30	106.3 \pm 6.91	95.75 \pm 6.06
8	283.5 \pm 43.76	205.75 \pm 49.7	166.3 \pm 38.92	124.5 \pm 13.16
Standard	385.8 \pm 21.37	230.8 \pm 12.35	156.8 \pm 10.87	93.4 \pm 4.98

position as compared to standard drug pioglitazone. The results of synthesized compounds presented in Table 5 (Badiger et al. [9]).

Patil et al. [10] synthesized a new series of thiazolidinedione derivatives derived from thiourea and chloroacetic acid in ethanol/DMF as presented in Scheme 6. The In vitro antidiabetic activity of synthesized compounds was performed by alloxan induced tail tipping method. From these series compounds **11**, **12** and **13** showed better activities compared to pioglitazone and metformin

as standard drug. The results of most active derivatives showed in Table 6 (Patil et al. [10]).

Srikanth et al. [11] synthesized an innovative sequence of thiazolidinediones using 4-fluoroaniline, methyl acrylate and thiourea using proper solvent as showed in Scheme 7. The In vitro antidiabetic activities of synthesized compounds were confirmed by tail vein method and ANOVA method. In this series compounds **14**, **15**, **16** and **17** showed significant activity as compared to standard drug rosiglitazone. The results of synthesized compounds presented in Table 7 (Srikanth et al. [11]).

**Table 5** Plasma glucose level of 3–4 at various drug doses

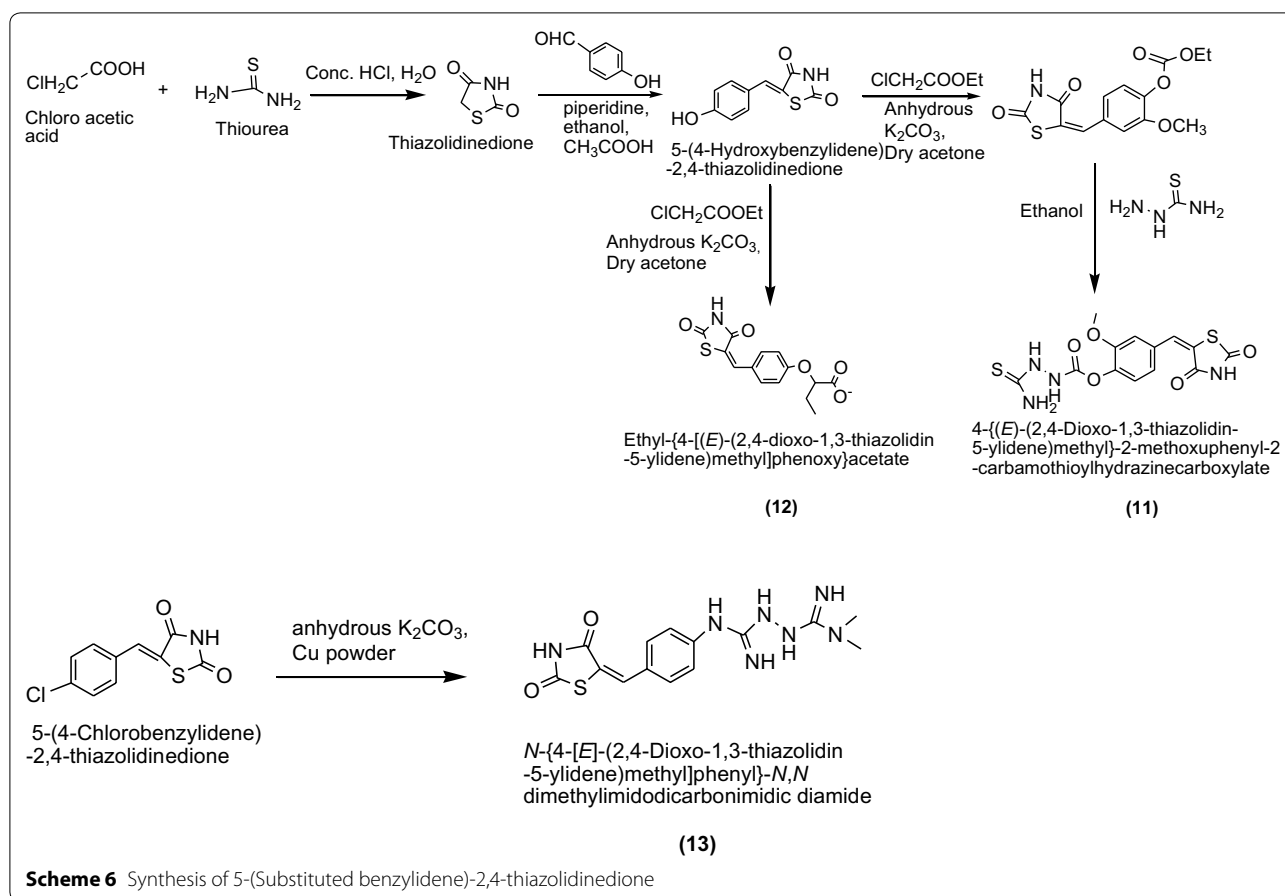
Compounds	% decrease in plasma glucose level (PG) at various drug doses (mg/kg bodyweight)		
	10 mg	30 mg	60 mg
9	42.48 + 3.25	62.24 + 3.42	70.35 + 3.14
10	45.42 + 1.25	58.36 + 2.36	68.42 + 2.16
Pioglitazone	47.25 + 5.50	64.59 + 5.42	75.43 + 3.40

Nikalje et al. [12] designed few thiazolidinediones derivatives from thiazolidindione via 4-hydroxy, 3-ethoxy benzaldehyde in ethanol, benzoic acid and piperidine using Scheme 8. The In vitro antidiabetic activity of synthesized compounds was confirmed by ANOVA, alloxan induced diabetic rat model and dunnet' t test. From this series compounds **18**, **19**, **20**, **21**, and **22** showed better activity as compared to standard drug rosiglitazone. The

results of synthesized compounds presented in Table 8 (Nikalje et al. [12]).

Jiwane et al. [13] synthesized a new series of thiazolidine-2,4-dione derivatives from 5-(benzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione with *N,N*-dimethylformamide in diethyl amino as presented in Scheme 9. The In vitro antidiabetic activity of synthesized compound [3-((diethyl amino)methyl)-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione] were confirmed by alloxan induced diabetic rat model. From this series, compounds **23** and **24** showed remarkable activity as that of the standard rosiglitazone, which indicates that the substitution of α -amino methyl group at position-3 show different hypoglycemic activity. The results of most active derivatives showed in Table 9 (Jiwane et al. [13]).

Grag et al. [14] designed novel thiazolidinediones derivative from 3-benzylthiazolidine-2,4-dione with selected various substituted aromatic aldehydes in ethanol, benzoic acid and piperidine using Scheme 10. In vitro antidiabetic activity of synthesized compound

**Table 6** Hypoglycemic effect of synthesized compounds

Compounds	Blood glucose level mg/dl (mean \pm SE)			
	0 h	3 h	6 h	24 h
11	376.4 \pm 21.00	342.8 \pm 21.58	315.2 \pm 21.66	276 \pm 21.79
12	326.2 \pm 25.32	300 \pm 25.03	278.2 \pm 25.76	245.2 \pm 25.91
13	355 \pm 24.59	322.8 \pm 24.10	253.8 \pm 23.45	231.4 \pm 23.48
Pioglitazone	402.2 \pm 28.7	363.4 \pm 26.08	302.4 \pm 26.87	232.2 \pm 20.53
Metformin	441.8 \pm 18.71	399.4 \pm 17.72	289.4 \pm 18.46	219.6 \pm 18.40
Vehicle control	304.2 \pm 36.81	308.2 \pm 36.85	309 \pm 37.92	310.4 \pm 39.57
Diabetic control	322.2 \pm 22.96	337 \pm 23.59	347 \pm 24.01	363.4 \pm 24.0
Normal control	120.33 \pm 7.76	125.66 \pm 2.08	126.66 \pm 3.05	129.33 \pm 1.52

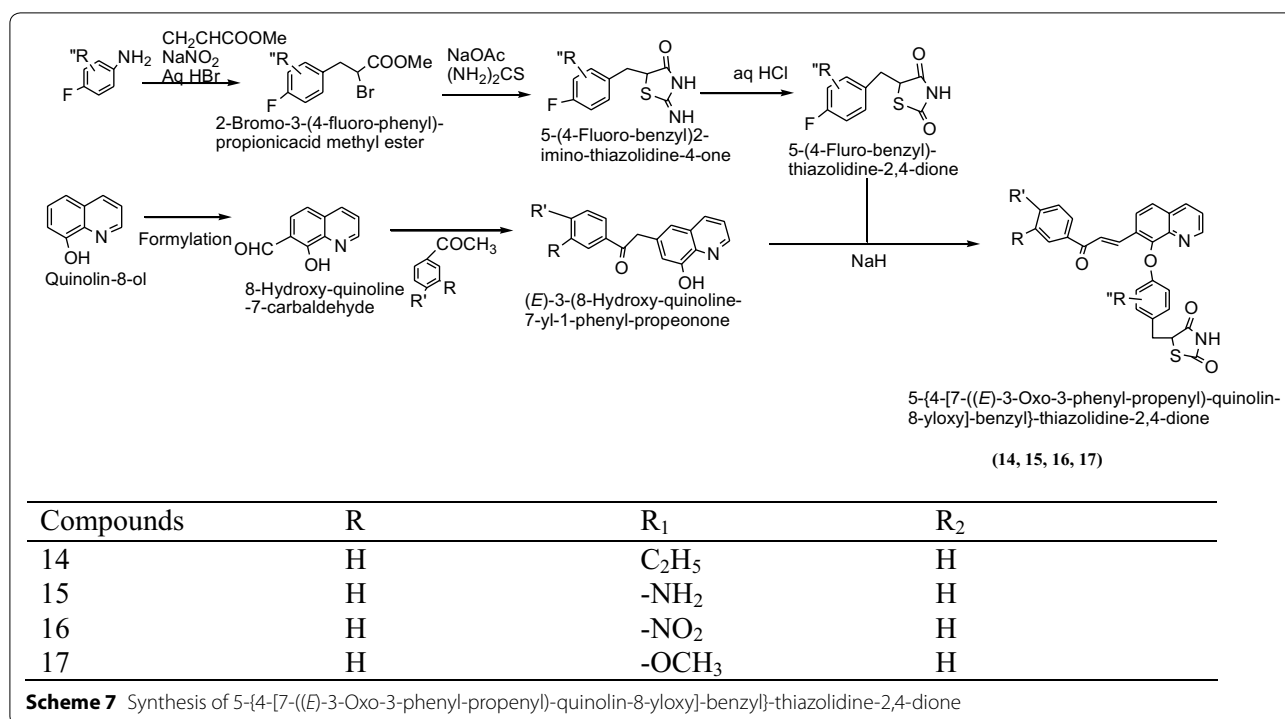


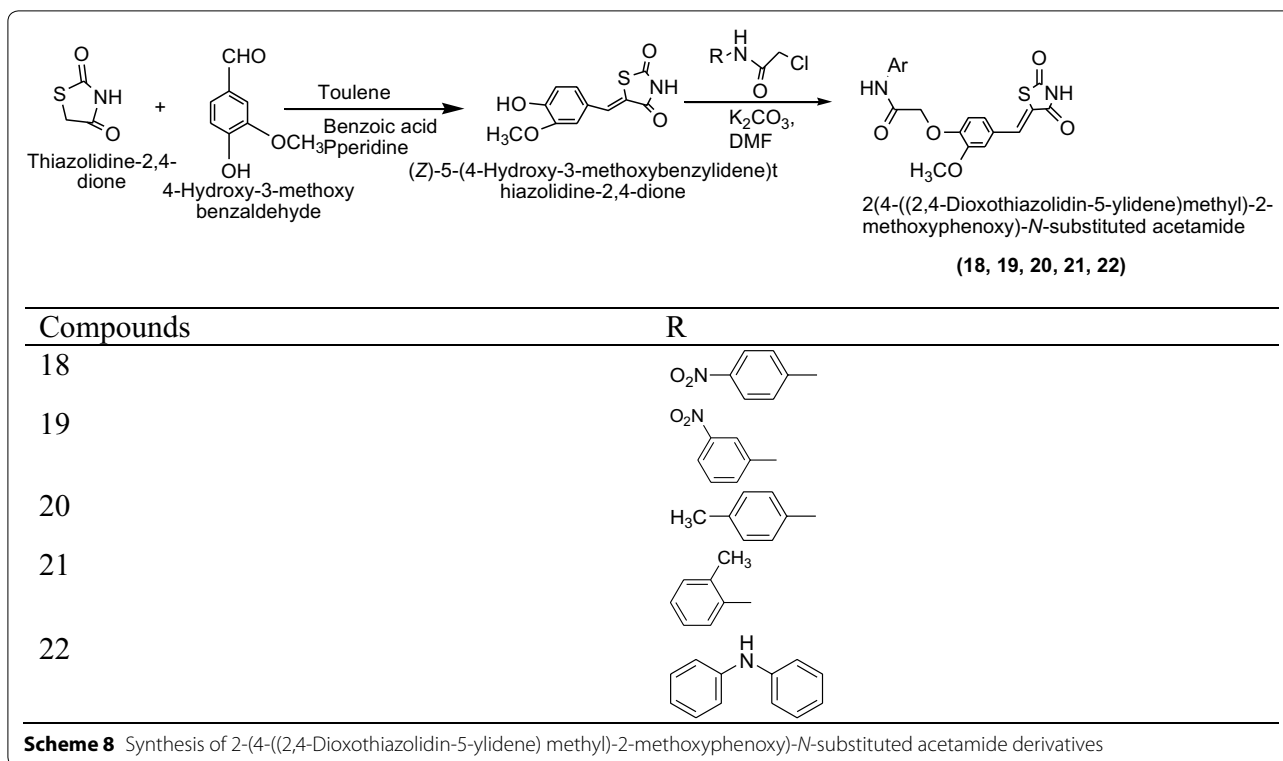
Table 7 Antidiabetic activities of synthesized compounds (mg/dl)

Compounds	Blood glucose level (mean ± SE)
14	82.81 ± 1.115
15	86.31 ± 0.993
16	87.21 ± 1.233
17	97.91 ± 1.870
Rosiglitazone	65.58 ± 1.013

[5-arylidene-3-benzyl-thiazolidine-2,4-diones] was confirmed by ANOVA, alloxan induced diabetic rat model and dunnet' t test. From this series compounds **25**, **26** and **27** showed highest activity because of methoxy group as compared to standard rosiglitazone. The results of synthesized compounds presented in Table 10 (Grag et al. [14]).

Bhat et al. [15] synthesized a new series of thiazolidinediones derivatives derived from 5-arylidene-2,4-thiazolidinedione using Scheme 11. The In vitro antidiabetic activity of synthesized compound [5-(4-methoxy-benzylidene)-2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-3-yl]-acetic acid] and [5-(substituted)-2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-3-yl]-acetic acid substituted ester were performed by alloxan induced tail tipping method and SLM. Among them compounds **28**, **29**, **30**, **31**, **32**, **33**, **34**, **35** and **36** found to be most active or higher than rosiglitazone and metformin using as standard drug. The results of most active derivatives showed in Table 11 (Bhat et al. [15]).

Jawale et al. [16] synthesized innovative chain of thiazolidinediones derived from maleic anhydride and thiourea was treated with water using Scheme 12. The In vitro antidiabetic activity of synthesized compounds was performed by alloxan induced tail tipping method using wister rat, dunnet' t test and SLM model. Among them compounds **37**, **38**, **39** and **40** found to be significant activity metformin using as standard drug. The

**Table 8 Evaluation of hypoglycemic activity: effect of compound on % decrease in blood glucose in diabetic mice**

Compounds	0 h	2 h	4 h	6 h	24 h
Control	252.53 ± 4.254	4.74 ± 0.68	7.9 ± 4.32	13.43 ± 2.68	3.18 ± 4.35
Piogiltazone	250.75 ± 5.21	31.07 ± 6.74	37.48 ± 5.37	45.41 ± 3.67	10.3 ± 6.53
18	252.79 ± 2.85	29.34 ± 4.53	36.52 ± 5.43	46.64 ± 4.52	6.70 ± 6.51
19	252.19 ± 4.35	24.7 ± 3.97	34.76 ± 6.51	37.89 ± 5.43	5.19 ± 7.74
20	254.38 ± 4.53	26.64 ± 5.28	34.26 ± 5.67	37.05 ± 4.62	4.19 ± 5.43
21	253.60 ± 5.64	22.9 ± 4.72	35.6 ± 5.53	40.41 ± 5.97	3.87 ± 6.53
22	252.73 ± 5.23	29.01 ± 6.54	36.47 ± 4.65	39.21 ± 5.74	3.0 ± 3.75

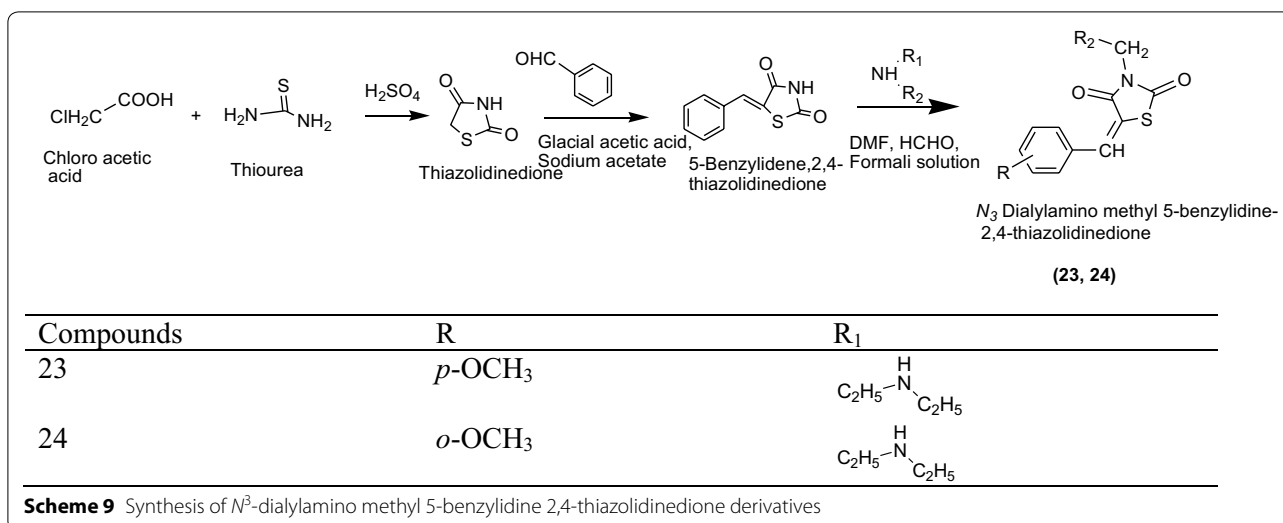
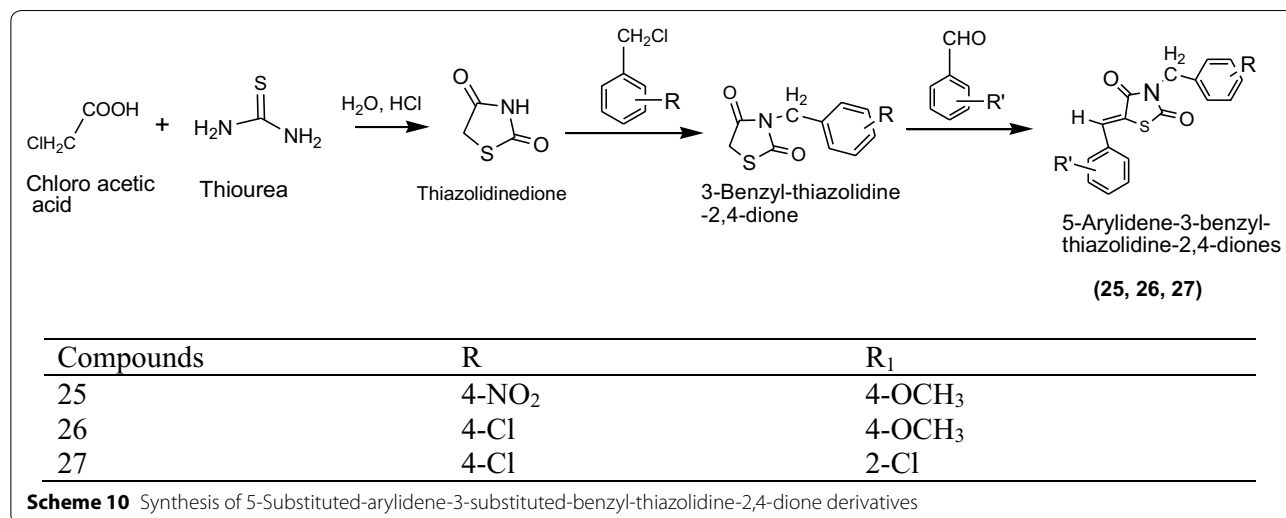


Table 9 Hypoglycemic activity of synthesized derivatives

Compounds	Dose (mg/kg)	Mean blood glucose level (mg/dl)			% reduction in blood glucose level	
		Before 1st dose	After 2 h	After 4 h	After 2 h	After 4 h
23	50	400	56	48	86	88
24	50	275	63	79	72	65
Rosiglitazone	50	400	56	48	86	88

**Table 10 Hypoglycemic activity of synthesized derivatives**

Treatment (mg/kg)	Blood glucose level (mg/dl)			
	0 day	3rd day	5th day	7th day
25	86.11 ± 0.98	85.67 ± 0.58	84.68 ± 0.54	86.23 ± 0.48
26	188.23 ± 1.14	189.56 ± 0.98	185 ± 0.86	182.36 ± 1.25*
27	189.35 ± 1.18	206.38 ± 0.86	192.30 ± 1.2	188.36 ± 1.23
Rosiglitazone	194.99 ± 1.70	207.45 ± 0.69	189.64 ± 1.33	172.38 ± 2.24

* indicates high reduction in glucose level after seven days

results of most active derivatives showed in Table 12 (Jawale et al. [16]).

Thiazolidinedione derivatives as antimicrobial agents

Long-ago, contagious diseases caused by multidrug-resistant microorganisms have become a serious issue, representing a growing threat to human health and being a major problem in many countries worldwide. There has been a significant increase in clinical drug resistance over the past few decades, owing to exploitation of antimicrobial agents, thus many infectious disease can no longer

be treated successfully with general anti-infective agents [17]. Modern therapies and management technique such as bone marrow or solid-organ transplants, and newer much aggressive chemotherapy have resulted in a rapidly inflating number of immune-suppressed patient. So, in order to meet above mentioned challenges, there is an urgent need for the development of novel antimicrobial agents [18].

In this study, Nawale et al. [19] synthesized a new series of 5-Substituted 2,4-thiazolidinedione derivatives (Scheme 13) and evaluated for in vitro antimicrobial

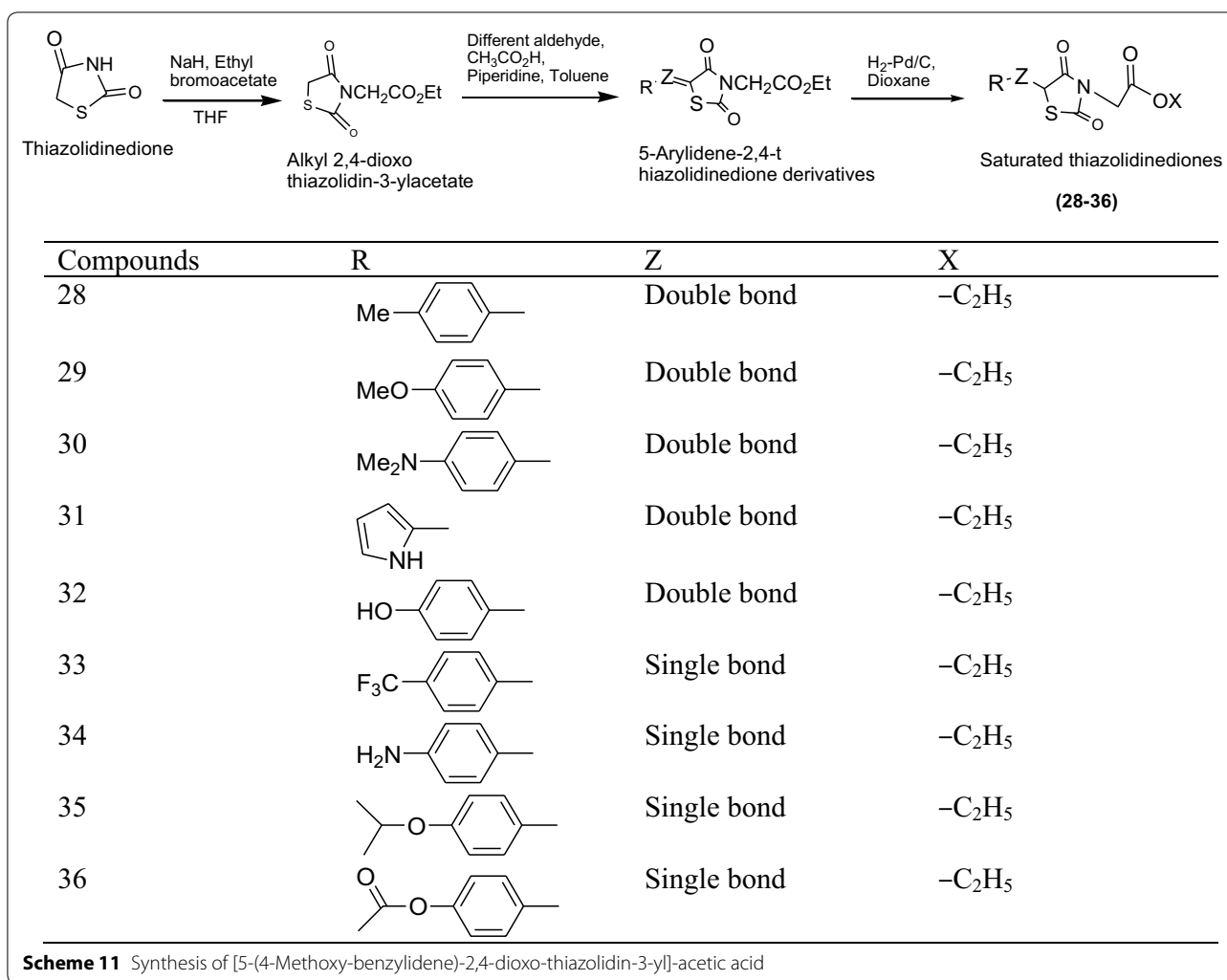


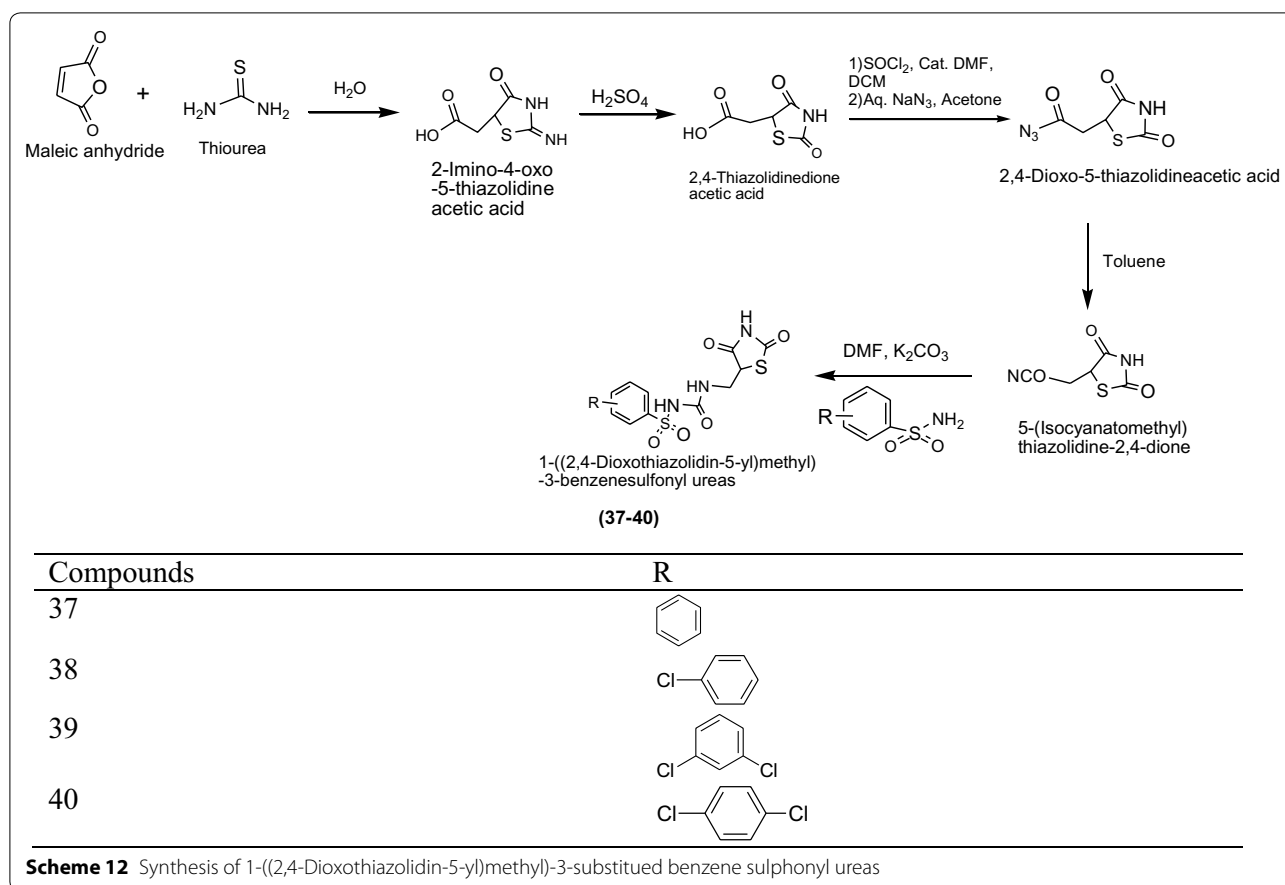
Table 11 Antihyperglycemic activity profile of title compounds thiazolidine-2,4-dione derivatives

Compounds	Antihyperglycemic activity, SLM	PPAR α	
		10 nmol	1000 nmol
28	- 22.1	9	9
29	- 22.2	7	8
30	- 15.8	-	-
31	+ 9.00	-	-
32	- 26.7	10	12
33	- 12.3	9	11
34	- 12.7	8	10
35	- 4.1	-	-
36	- 26.8	-	-
Rosiglitazone	11.6	92	248
Metformin	34.1	-	-

PPAR α , proxisome proliferator activated receptor

activity against two species of Gram-positive bacteria, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and Gram-negative bacteria, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* using broth dilution method. Among the synthesized derivatives, compounds 41, 42, 43 and 44 exhibited highest activity on all tested microorganisms. The results of synthesized compounds presented in Table 13 (Nawale et al. [19]).

Nastas et al. [20] synthesized a series of novel 5-(Chromene-3-yl)methylene-2,4-thiazolidinedione derivatives as presented in Scheme 14 and tested for its in vitro antimicrobial potency towards Gram-positive bacteria (*Listeria monocytogenes*, *Staphylococcus aureus*) and Gram-negative bacteria (*Escherichia coli*, *Salmonella typhi*) pathogenic bacteria and fungi (*Candida albicans*) using broth dilution method and the disk diffusion method. Among the synthesized derivatives, compounds 45, 46 and 47 antimicrobial activity against all tested

**Table 12** Antidiabetic activity of synthesized compounds

Compounds	Dose (mg/dl)	% activity	Significance
37	100	15.8	p < 0.01
38	100	17.2	p < 0.01
39	100	14.3	p < 0.05
40	100	16.5	p < 0.01
Metformin	100	27.0	p < 0.001

bacteria and fungi. The results of most active derivatives showed in Table 14 (Nastas et al. [20]).

Moorthy et al. [5] synthesized a series of novel imidazolyl thiazolidinedione derivatives (Scheme 15) and screened them for their in vitro antimicrobial activity towards Gram-positive (*S. aureus*, *S. epidermidis*, *M. luteus*, *B. cereus*) and Gram-negative (*E. coli*, *P.*

aeruginosa, *K. pneumonia*) bacteria and fungi (*A. niger*, *A. fumigates*). They were compared with standard drug ciprofloxacin and ketoconazole. Among the synthesized derivatives, compound 48 [Methyl-2-(4-((3-(2-methoxy-2-oxoethyl)-2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylidene)methyl)1*H*-Imidazol-1-yl)acetate] showed potent activities towards *S. aureus*, *S. epidermidis*, *E. coli*, *P. aeruginosa*, *A. niger* and *A. fumigates* and 49 [Methyl-2-(2-((2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylidene)methyl)-1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)acetate], 50 [Methyl-2-(2-((3-(2-methoxy-2-oxoethyl)2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylidene)methyl)1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)acetate] and 51 [5-(4-Bromobenzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione] showed good activity against all microorganism. The results of synthesized compounds presented in Table 15 (Moorthy et al. [5]).

Alagawadi et al. [21] designed some novel derivatives of imidazole fused with thiazolidine-2,4-dione and evaluated them for their antibacterial activity against

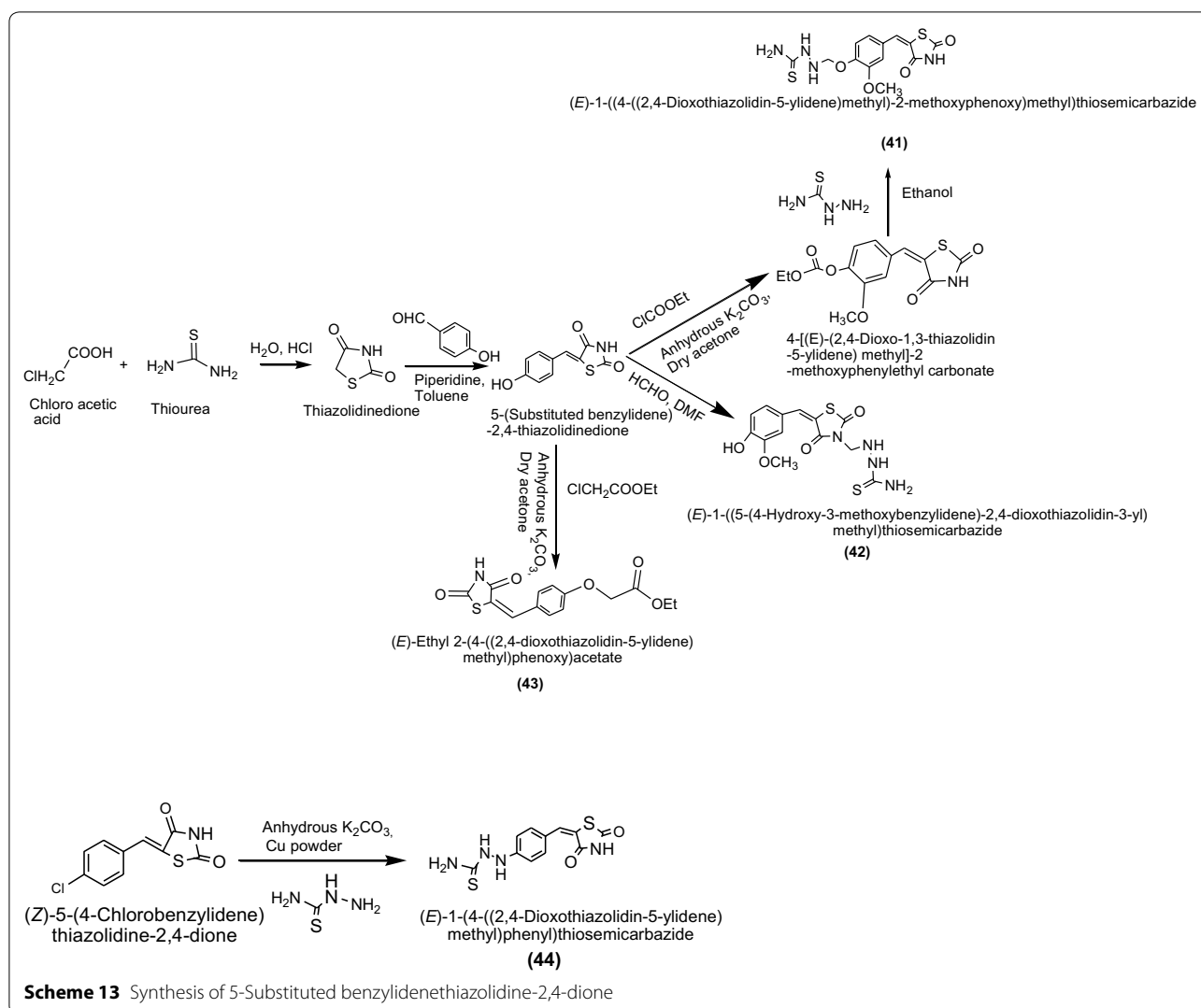


Table 13 MIC ($\mu\text{g/ml}$) values for the screened thiazolidinediones compounds

Compounds	Microorganisms		
	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>
41	31.25	31.25	31.25
42	31.25	31.25	31.25
43	62.5	125	62.5
44	31.25	62.5	125
Streptomycin	3.90	3.90	3.90

Gram-positive bacteria *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. a*), *Enterococcus faecalis* (*E. f*) Gram-negative bacteria *Escherichia coli* (*E. c*) *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (*P. a*) and antifungal activity *Candida albicans* (*C. a*) *Cryptococcus neoformans* (*C. n*) *Aspergillus flavus* (*A. f*) and *Aspergillus niger* (*A. n*) Among the screened compound the MIC value of compound **52** [5-{{2-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-6-(4-bromophenyl)imidazo[2,1-*b*][1,3,4]thiadiazol-5-yl}methylidene}-1,3-thiazolidine-2,4-dione], **53** [5-{{2-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-6-(4-chlorophenyl)imidazo[1-*b*][1,3,4]thiadiazol-5-yl}methylidene}-1,3-thiazolidine-2,4-dione] (Scheme 16), **54** [*N*-[(dimethylamino)

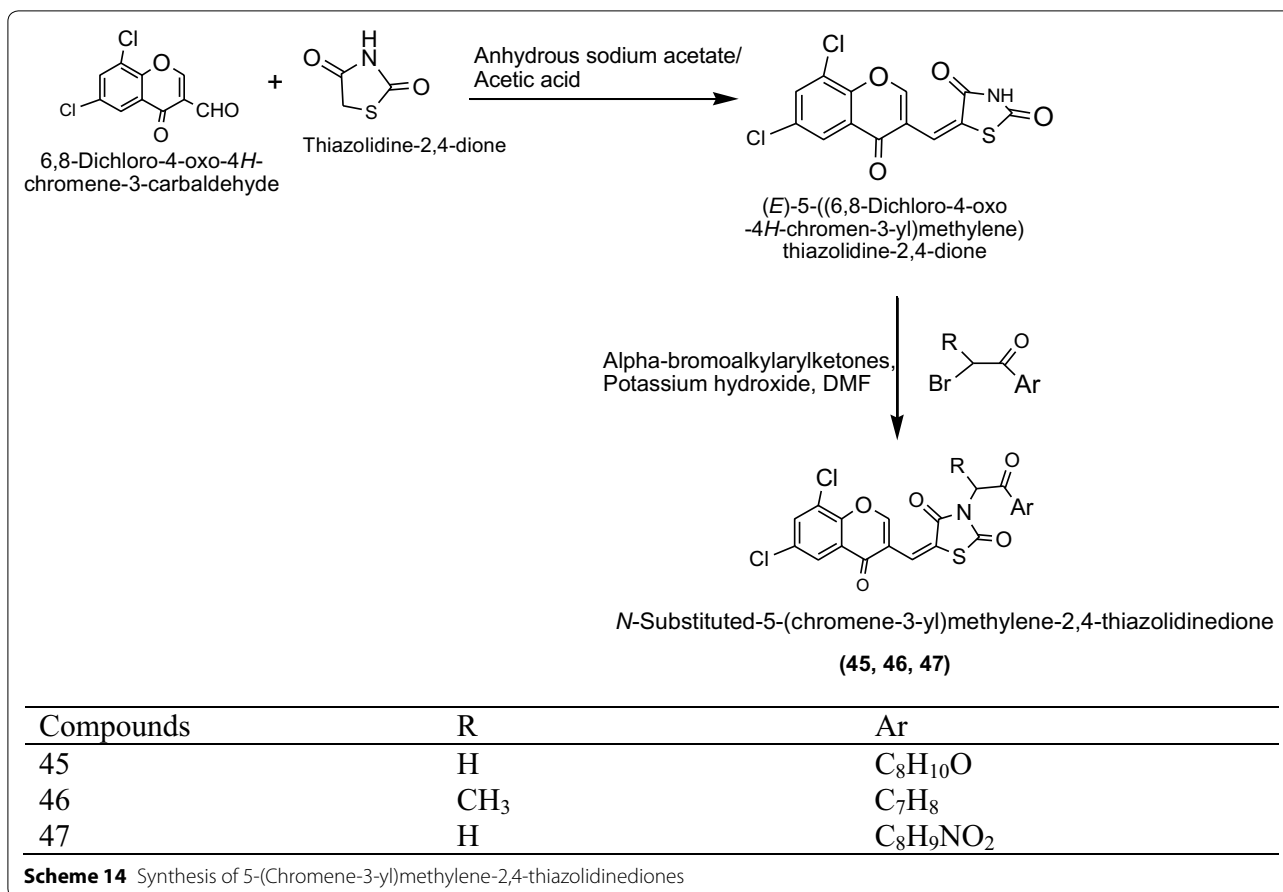


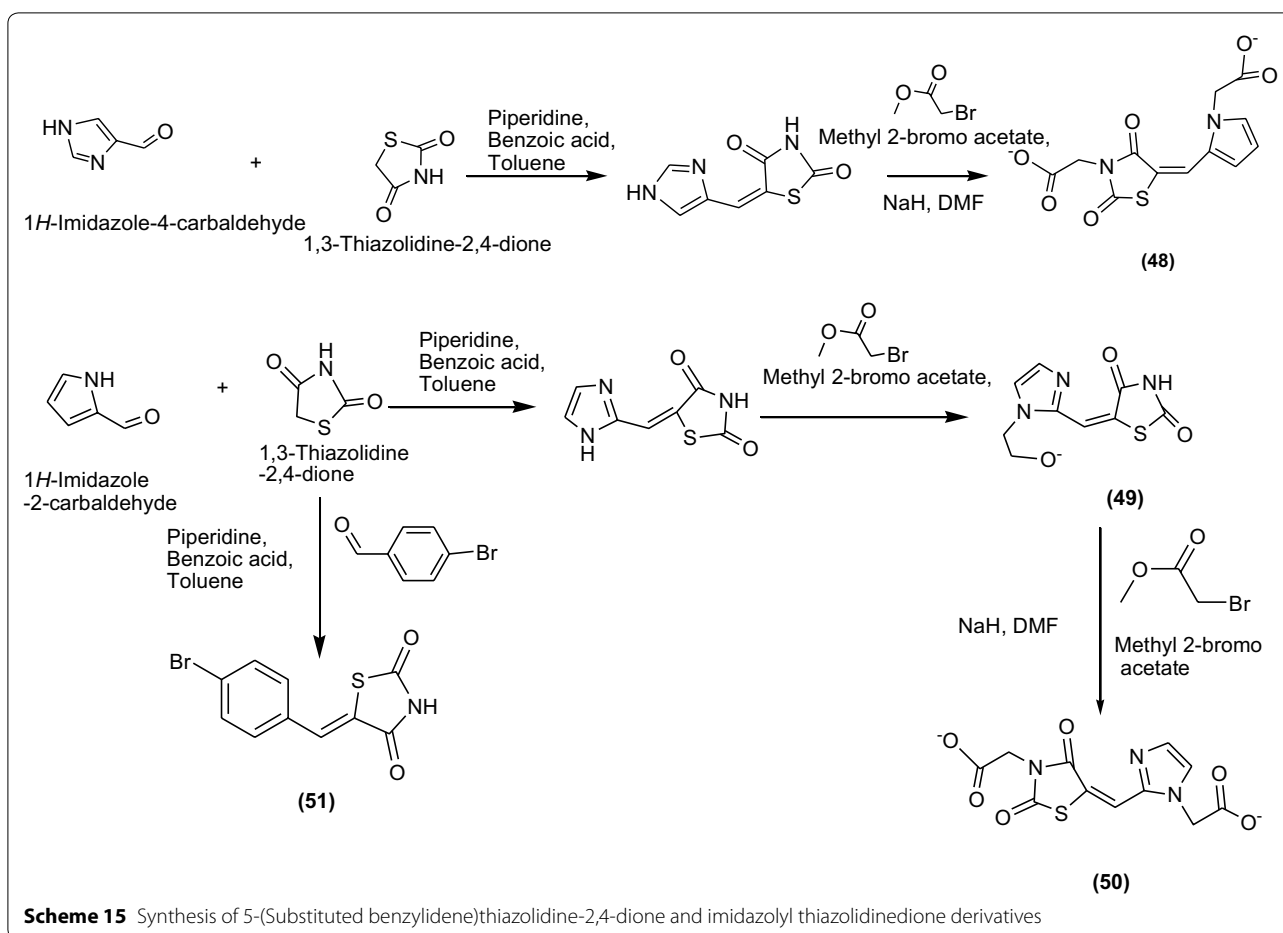
Table 14 Antimicrobial activity of 5-(chromene-3-yl)methylene-2,4-thiazolidinediones

C _p 10/5/1(mg/ ml)	Gram-positive		Gram-negative		Fungi
	<i>L. mono-cytogenes</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>S. typhi</i>	<i>C. albicans</i>
45	18/22/18	22/12/12	12/14/14	15/19/20	20/18/18
46	22/22/20	24/28/28	18/18/16	20/18/16	18/18/16
47	28/28/28	28/28/28	18/18/18	18/18/18	22/22/22
Gentamicin	18	19	22	18	NT
Fluconazole	NT	NT	NT	NT	28

NT not tested

methylidene]-5-[(2,4-dioxo-1,3-thiazolidin-5-ylidene)methyl]-6-phenylimidazo[2,1-*b*][1, 3, 4]thiazole-2-sulfonamide] and **55** [*N*-[(dimethylamino)methylidene]-5-[(2,4-dioxo-1,3-thiazolidin-5-ylidene)methyl]-6-(4-bromophenyl)-imidazo[2,1-*b*][1,3,4]thiazole-2-sulfonamide] (Scheme 17) were showed potent activity against Gram-positive, Gram-negative bacterial strain and fungal strains. The significant results of these compounds are presented in Table 16 (Alagawadi et al. [21]).

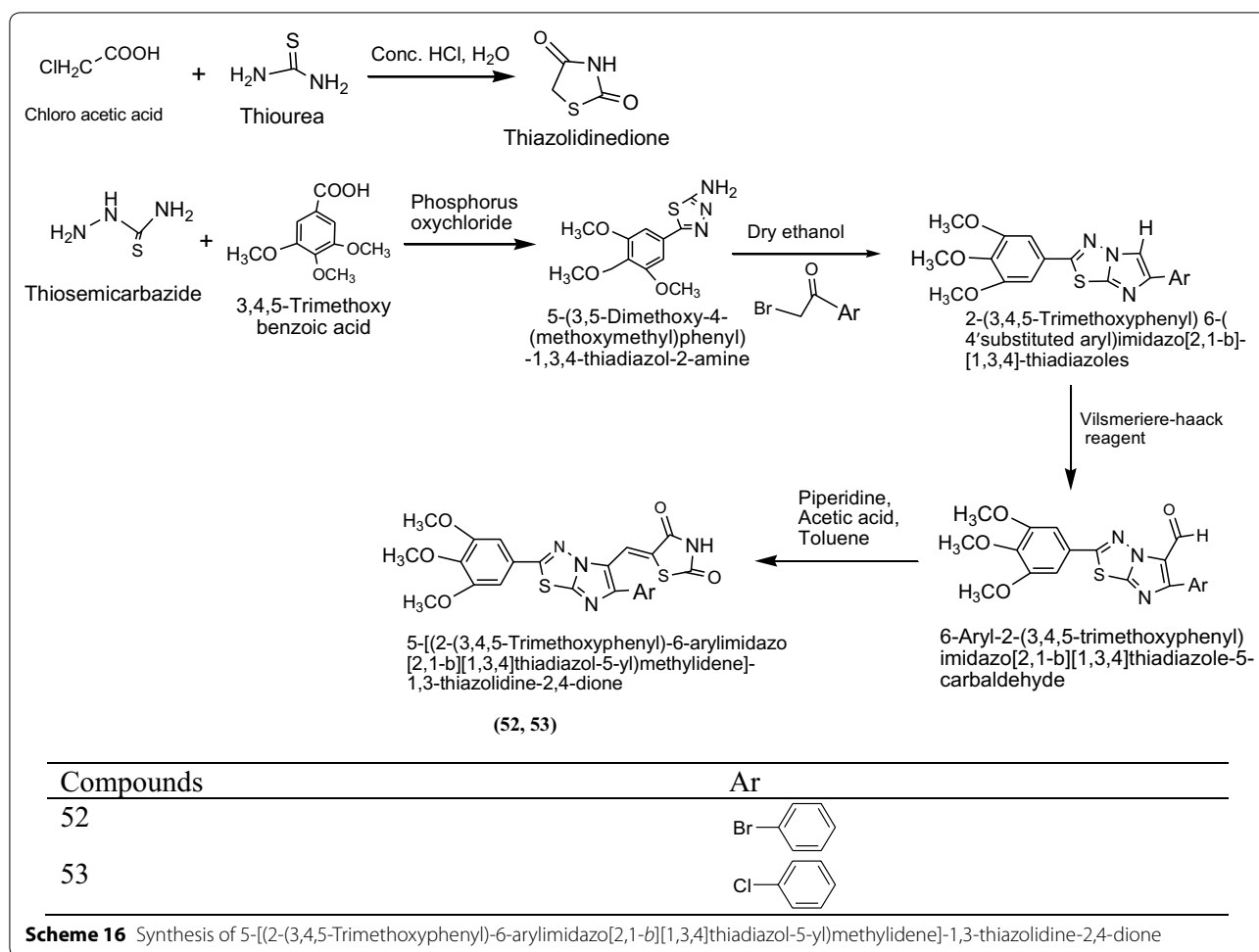
Khan et al. [22] designed some novel biphenyl tetrazole thiazolidinedione derivatives (Scheme 18) and evaluated for their antimicrobial activity against bacterial strain

**Table 15** *In vitro* activity zone of inhibition (mm) of compounds

Compounds	Gram-positive bacteria		Gram-negative bacteria		Fungi	
	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>S. epidermidis</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	<i>A. niger</i>	<i>A. fumigates</i>
48	18 (1.9)	16 (1.4)	28 (1.6)	28 (0.56)	20 (8.8)	26 (2.3)
49	21 (22.1)	27 (22.2)	27 (21.5)	21 (21.5)	24 (20.7)	20 (22.6)
50	16 (2.7)	18 (3.39)	22 (9.2)	16 (1.4)	22 (8.2)	26 (3.4)
51	21 (22.1)	25 (22.2)	25 (21.5)	21 (21.5)	28 (21.6)	25 (21.7)
Ciprofloxacin	29 (0.2)	31 (0.39)	32 (0.2)	33 (0.25)	–	–
Ketoconazole	–	–	–	–	26 (6.1)	24 (0.23)

(*Escherichia coli*, *Bacillus subtilis*). Antimicrobial activity result indicated that among the synthesized derivatives **56** [(*E*)-3-((20-(1*H*)-tetrazol-5-yl)biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-5-(4-chlorobenzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione], **57**

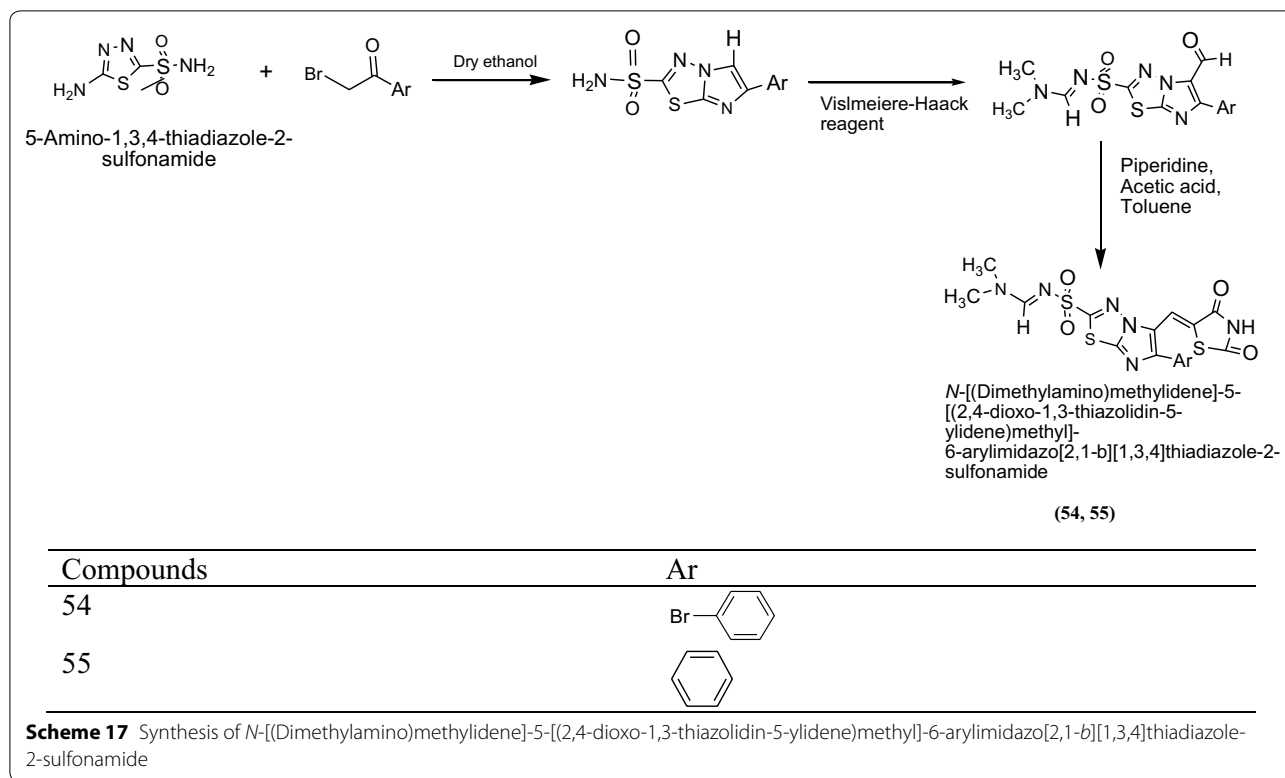
((*E*)-3-((20-(1*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)biphenyl-4-yl)methyl)-5-(2-chlorophenylbenzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione) and **58** [(*E*)-3-((20-(1*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)biphenyl-4-yl)methyl)-5-(2,6-dichlorobenzylidene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione]



showed potent in vitro antimicrobial activity. The results of most active derivatives showed in Table 17 (Khan et al. [22]).

Liu et al. [23] synthesized a series of new compound bearing 2,4-thiazolidinedione and benzoic moiety as presented in Scheme 19 and screened for their in vitro antimicrobial activity against bacterial strain (*Staphylococcus aureus* and *Escherichia coli*). Antimicrobial activity result indicated that among the synthesized derivatives, compounds 59, 60, 61, 62 and 63 showed highest in vitro growth of inhibition against bacterial strains. The results of synthesized compounds presented in Table 18 (Liu et al. [23]).

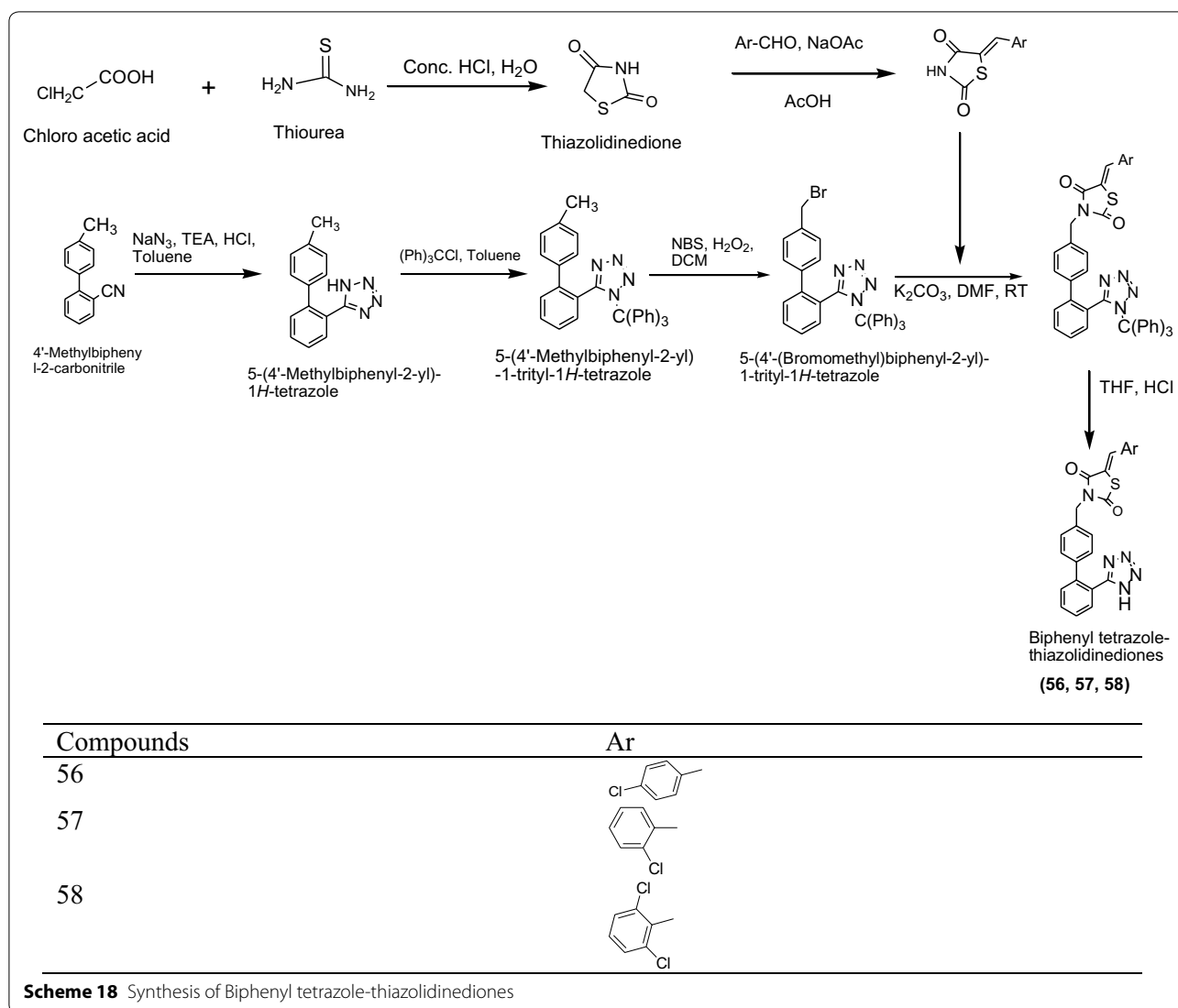
Purohit et al. [24] synthesized a series of novel 3,5-disubstituted thiazolidinediones derivatives (Scheme 20) and evaluated its antibacterial activity against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterococcus faecalis*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Escherichia coli* and antifungal activity was performed against *Candida albicans*, *Aspergillus niger*, *Aspergillus flavus*. The screening results were compared with ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin for antibacterial and fluconazole, griseofulvin for antifungal activity respectively. Among the synthesized compounds 64, 65, 66 and 67 showed highest antimicrobial potency and their structure were. The significant results of these compounds are presented in Table 19 (Purohit et al. [24]).

**Table 16** Antimicrobial activities of synthesized compounds

Compounds	Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) in µg/ml							
	<i>E. c</i>	<i>P. a</i>	<i>S. a</i>	<i>E. f</i>	<i>C. a</i>	<i>C. n</i>	<i>A. f</i>	<i>A. n</i>
52	256	256	32	32	4	8	4	4
53	128	64	32	32	4	8	32	32
54	128	32	8	4	1	2	4	4
55	64	64	8	8	4	8	4	4
Ampicillin	2	2	1	2	–	–	–	–
Ketoconazole	–	–	–	–	2	1	2	1

Sharma et al. [25] synthesized a series of novel *N*-(-5-arylidene-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-oxothiazolidin-3-yl)isonicotnamide derivatives by Knoevenagel condensation using Scheme 21 and assayed for antibacterial activity

against *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis* and antifungal activity against *Candida albicans*, *Aspergillus niger*, *Saccharomyces cerevisia* using turbidimetric method. Among the synthesized compounds **68**

**Table 17** Antibacterial activities of synthesized compounds

Compounds	MIC \pm SLM ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	
	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>B. subtilis</i>
56	20.75 \pm 1.55	35.41 \pm 2.41
57	19.41 \pm 1.27	26.00 \pm 1.96
58	8.58 \pm 0.42	8.42 \pm 0.51
Ciprofloxacin	25.00 \pm 0.95	50.00 \pm 1.75

(*N*-(5-benzylidene-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-oxothiazolidin-3-yl)isonicotinamide), **69** (*N*-(2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-(furan-2-ylmethylene)-4-oxothiazolidin-3-yl)isonicotinamide) and **70** (*N*-(5-(2-nitrobenzylidene)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-oxothiazolidin-3-yl)isonicotinamide) result in wide spectrum antimicrobial activity against all the test bacteria and fungi using ciprofloxacin and clotrimazole as a standard drug respectively. The results of synthesized compounds presented in Table 20 (Sharma et al. [25]).

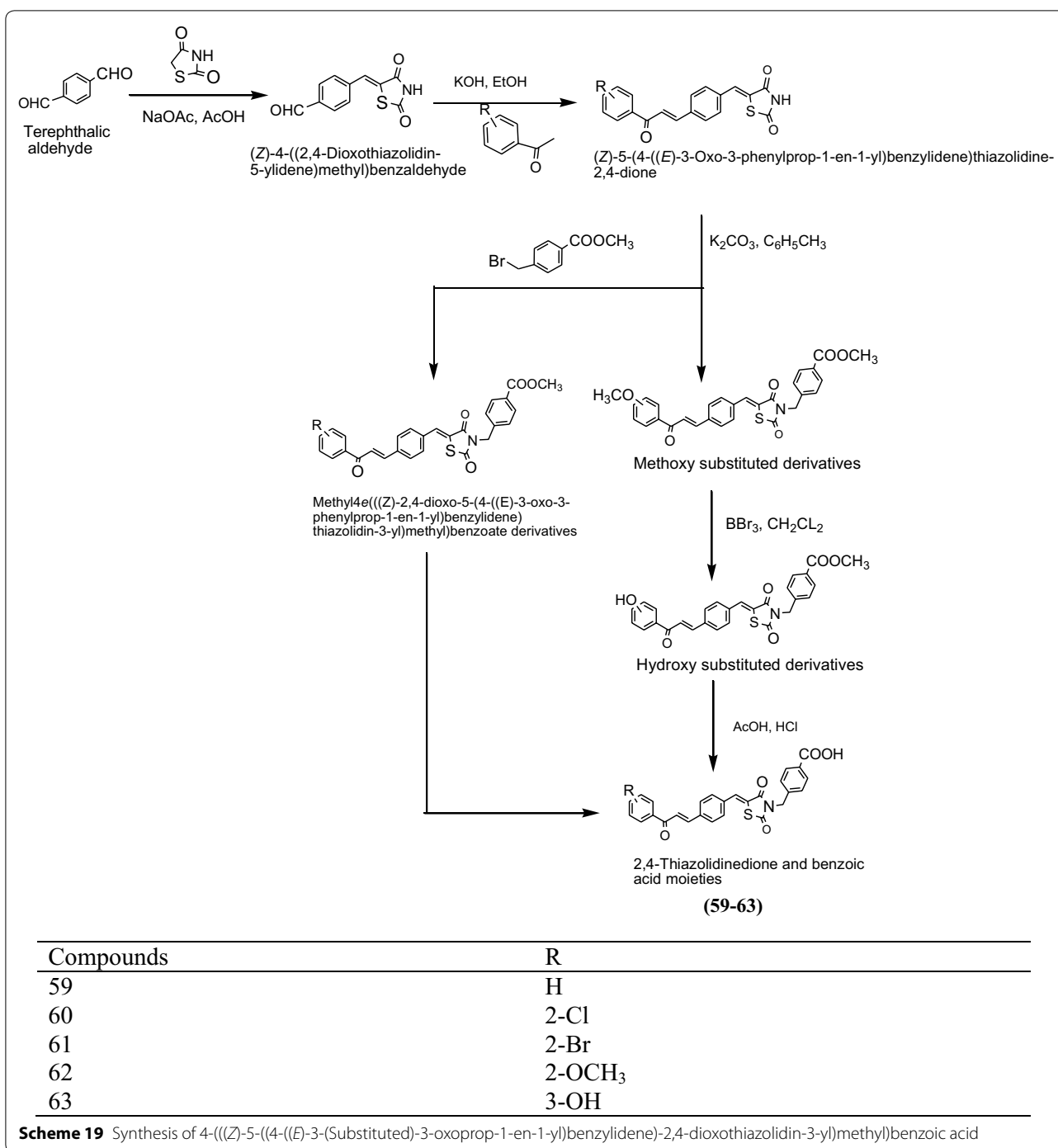
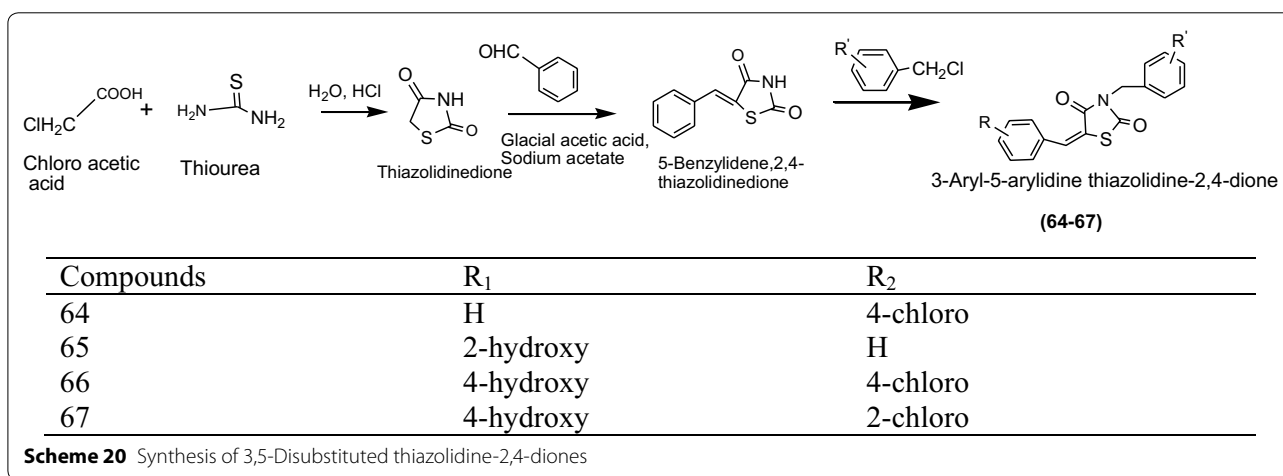


Table 18 Inhibitory activities of novel compounds against bacteria

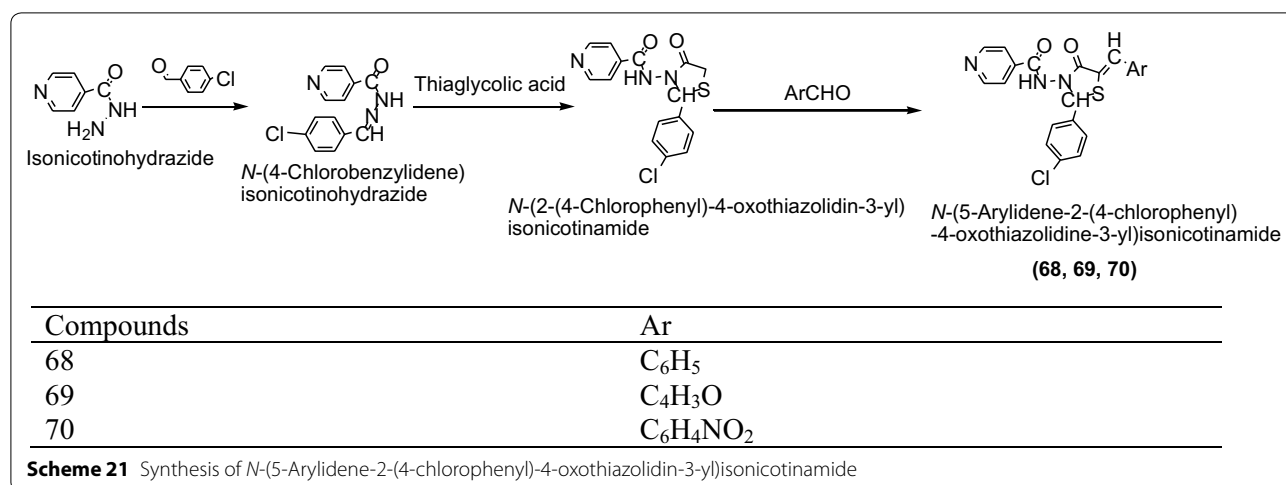
Compounds	<i>S. aureus</i>		<i>E. coli</i>	
	4220	530	1356	1682
59	1	2	> 64	> 64
60	1	2	> 64	> 64
61	2	4	> 64	> 64
62	2	4	> 64	> 64
63	2	4	> 64	> 64
Norfloracin	2	2	16	16
Oxacillin	1	1	> 64	> 64

Thiazolidine-2,4-dione derivatives as anti-inflammatory agents

The future of anti-inflammatory compound lies in the development of orally active drugs that decreases production or activities of pro-inflammatory cytokines. Anti-inflammatory compounds are normally used for curing of different infectious conditions. Therefore, the rate of incidence of disease limits its clinical use. Thus here is requirement of designing advance drugs with improved activity and long term relieve from chronic inflammatory condition [26]. The complete knowledge and understanding of the pivotal role of inflammation in seemingly untreated diseases has resulted in development of novel anti-inflammatory agents [27].

**Table 19 Antimicrobial activities of synthesized compounds**

Compounds	Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC µg/ml)						
	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>E. faecalis</i>	<i>K. pneumonia</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>C. albicans</i>	<i>A. niger</i>	<i>A. flavus</i>
64	4	4	250	500	16	16	8
65	4	31.25	62.5	62.5	31.5	1	8
66	2	4	> 500	> 500	4	8	8
67	1	1	62.5	62.5	4	4	2
Ciprofloxacin	2	2	1	2	–	–	–
Norfloracin	10	3.1	0.1	10	–	–	–
Fluconazole	–	–	–	–	16	8	8
Griseofulvin	–	–	–	–	500	100	7.5

**Table 20** Antimicrobial activities of synthesized compounds

Compounds	Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) in µg/ml					
	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>B. subtilis</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>A. niger</i>	<i>C. albicans</i>	<i>S. cerevisiae</i>
68	1.25	1.25	0.62	0.62	0.31	1.25
69	0.62	0.31	0.62	0.62	0.15	0.62
70	0.31	0.62	0.31	0.62	0.15	0.31
Ciprofloxacin	0.15	0.25	0.01	–	–	–
Clotrimazole	–	–	–	0.10	0.30	0.20

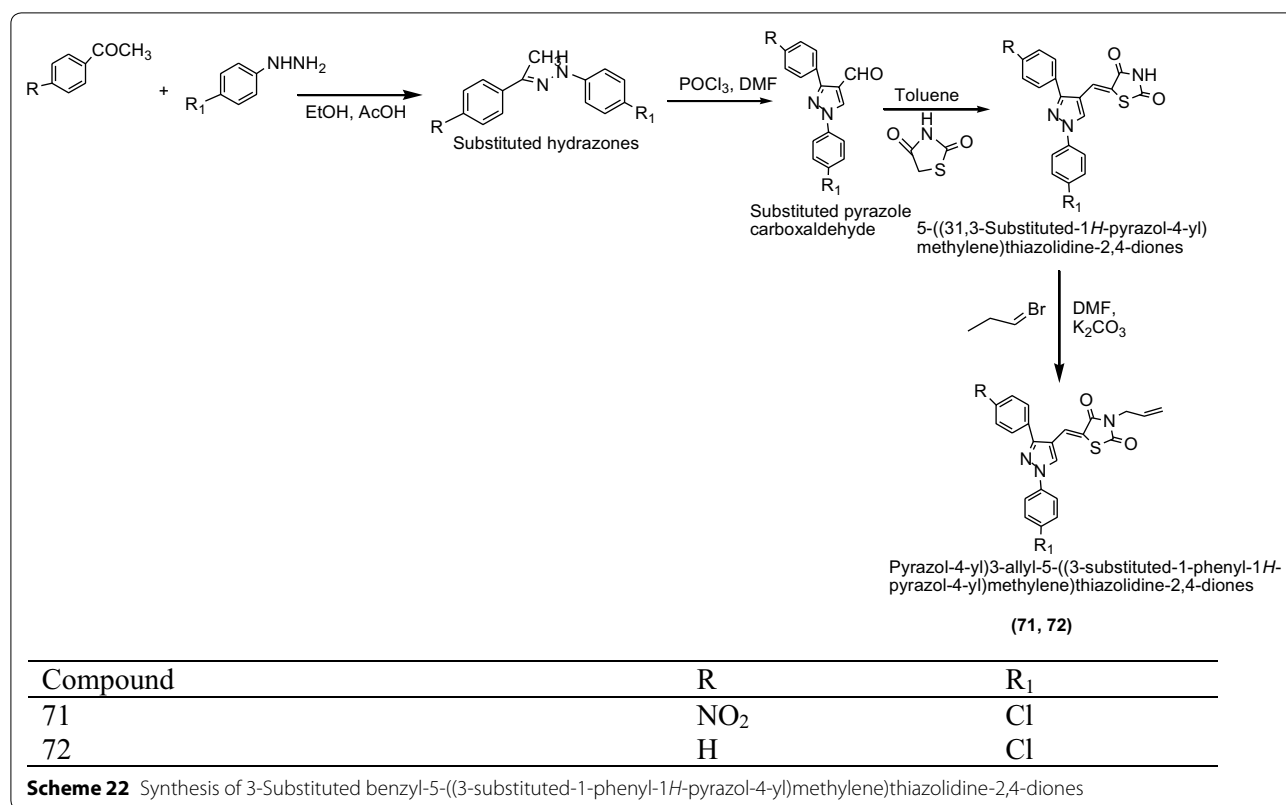
Youssef et al. [26] synthesized some novel active pyrazolyl-2,4-thiazolidinedione derivatives (Scheme 22) followed by their in vitro anti-inflammatory evaluation. Among them, compounds **71** and **72** [(*Z*)-3-allyl-5-((3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl(methylene)thiazolidine-2,4-dione)] showed moderate to good anti-inflammatory activity using celecoxib as standard and turpentine oil as control. The results of potent derivatives presented in Tables 21, 22 and 23 (Youssef et al. [26]).

Ma et al. [28] synthesized a series of novel 5-benzylidene thiazolidine-2,4-dione derivatives as presented in Scheme 23 and screened for in vitro inflammation reduction activity. Among the synthesized derivatives, compounds **73** [(*Z*)-2-(4-((2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylidene)methyl)

phenoxy)-*N*-(3-fluorophenyl)acetamide], **74** [(*Z*)-*N*-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-(4-((2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylidene)methyl)phenoxy)acetamide] and **75** [(*Z*)-2-(4-((2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylidene)methyl)phenoxy)-*N*-(naphthalene-1-yl)acetamide] were found to be most active anti-inflammatory agent compared to indomethacin as the standard. The results of potent compounds are accessible in Table 24 (Ma et al. [28]).

Thiazolidinedione derivatives as anticancer agents

Cancer is a genetic disorder that has always been a major threat all over the world and has been characterized by proliferation of abnormal cells and exhibiting an increasing mortality rate globally and being characterized by

**Table 21** Cyclooxygenase inhibition activity of synthesized compound

Compounds	Concentration (U _m) (no. of experiments)	COX-1 activity (% inhibition)	COX-2 activity (% inhibition)
71	10 (3)	28.4 ± 11.6	19.4 ± 8.2
72	10 (3)	26.5 ± 6	13.6 ± 1.1
Celecoxib	10 (3)	0.3 ± 2.5	30.8 ± 5.9

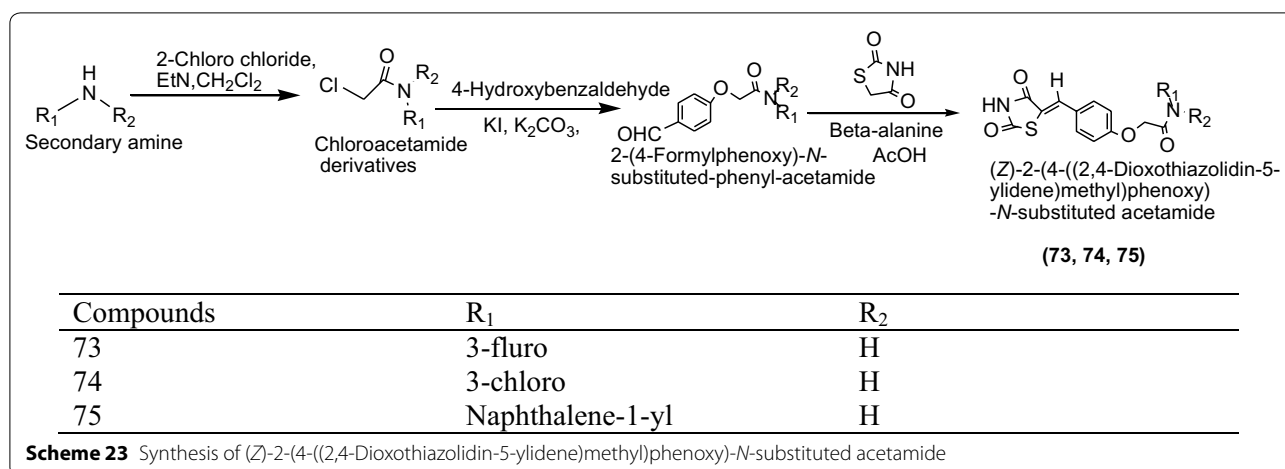
Table 22 Inflammation reduction results of synthesized compounds in Formalin induced rat paw edema bioassay

Compounds	Volume of edema (ml)				
	0 h	1 h	2 h	3 h	4 h
71	0.31 ± 0.001	0.44 ± 0.01 (24)	0.44 ± 0.01 (46)	0.46 ± 0.003 (68)	0.46 ± 0.02 (68)
72	0.33 ± 0.02	0.41 ± 0.01 (53)	0.42 ± 0.01 (63)	0.46 ± 0.01 (72)	0.49 ± 0.01 (66)
Control	0.31 ± 0.01	0.40 ± 0.01	0.55 ± 0.01	0.78 ± 0.01	0.78 ± 0.008
Celecoxib	0.31 ± 0.01	0.41 ± 0.005 (41)	0.43 ± 0.02 (50)	0.50 ± 0.005 (60)	0.48 ± 0.03 (68)

Table 23 Inflammation reduction results of synthesized compounds in turpentine oil induced granuloma pouch bioassay in rat

Compounds	Volume of exudates (ml)	% inhibition
71	1.12 ± 0.06	51
72	1.12 ± 0.06	50
Control	2.28 ± 0.07	–
Celecoxib	1.05 ± 0.10	54

rapid formation of abnormal cells and spreading through metastasis to different organs [29, 30]. Currently available treatment (chemotherapy and radiotherapy) for most types of cancer only provide temporary therapeutic benefits as well as being limited by a narrow therapeutic index, remarkable toxicity and acquired resistance [31]. In recent times, advance in clinical researches for anticancer agents have been increased and as neoplastic cells are the anomalous proliferation of cells in the body which cause cancer, various effective compounds derived

**Table 24** Anti-inflammatory activities of synthesized derivatives

Compounds	No inhibition (%) ± SD
73	41.5 ± 3.1
74	80.9 ± 5.0
75	70.9 ± 13.6
Indomethacin	63.2 ± 4.0

from natural products have been isolated and developed as anticancer agents. These chemical compounds are formulated with a view to create effective action with minimum side effects against cancer [32].

Patil et al. [33] developed a novel class of 5-benzylidene-2,4-thiazolidinediones using Scheme 24. The synthesized derivatives were screened for the anticancer activity against K-562 (human leukemia), MCF-7 (human breast cancer), HepG-2 (human hepatoma), PC-3 (human prostate cancer), GURAV (human oral cancer) and KB (human nasopharyngeal cancer) cell lines by SRB protein assay. Among this series, 76, 77, 78 and 79 displayed the most potent anticancer activity compared with doxorubicin. The results of synthesized compounds presented in Table 25 (Patil et al. [33]).

Anh et al. [34] designed a chain of novel chromony thiazolidinediones derived from Knoevenagel condensation reaction between 3-formyl-7-methoxy chromone with

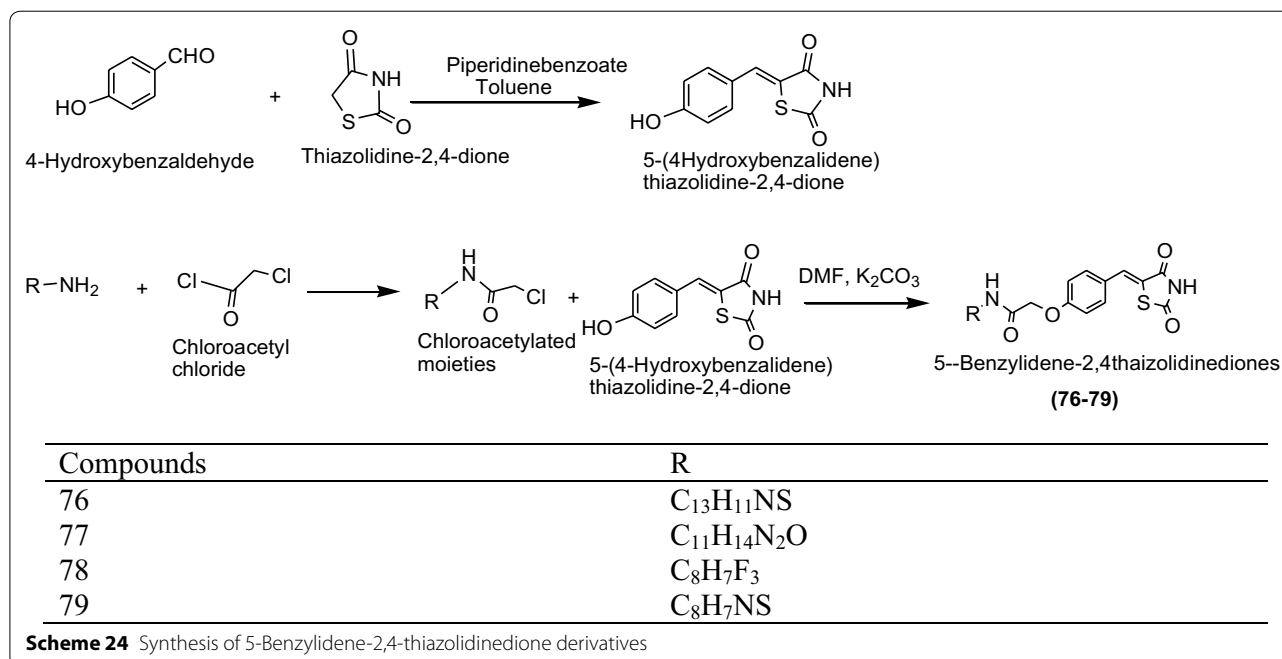


Table 25 Anti-tumor activities of synthesized derivatives in different cell lines

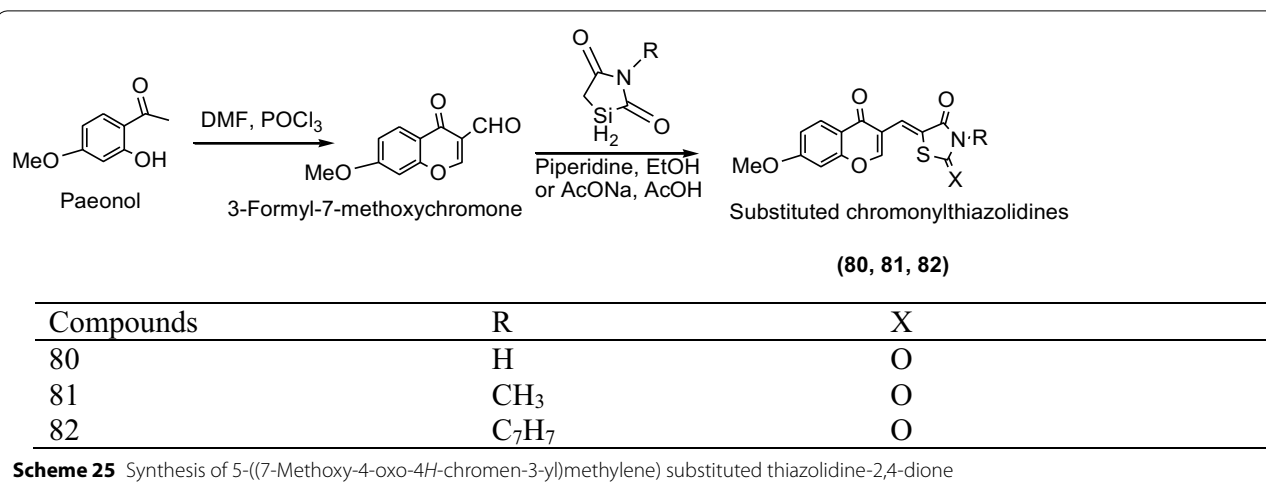
Compounds	Diseases	Cancer cell line	Log GI ₅₀ (μM)	Log ₁₀ TGI (μM)
76	Leukemia	K-562	> - 0.4	> - 4.0
	Breast cancer	MCF-7	- 4.53	> 4.0
	Hepatoma	HEPG-2	> - 4.0	> 4.0
	NSC lung cancer	HOP-62	- 6.72	- 4.54
	Prostate cancer	PC-3	- 4.53	> - 4.0
	Oral cancer	GURAV	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
	Nasopharyngeal cancer	KB	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
77	Leukemia	K-562	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
	Breast cancer	MCF-7	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
	Hepatoma	HEPG-2	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
	NSC lung cancer	HOP-62	- 6.73	> - 4.0
	Prostate cancer	PC-3	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
	Oral cancer	GURAV	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
	Nasopharyngeal cancer	KB	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
78	Leukemia	K-562	- 6.72	> - 4.0
	Breast cancer	MCF-7	- 6.71	- 4.52
	Hepatoma	HEPG-2	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
	NSC lung cancer	HOP-62	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
	Prostate cancer	PC-3	- 5.60	> - 4.0
	Oral cancer	GURAV	- 6.73	- 4.52
	Nasopharyngeal cancer	KB	- 5.65	> - 4.0
79	Leukemia	K-52	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
	Breast cancer	MCF-7-5	- 4.60	> - 4.0
	Hepatoma	HEPG-2	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
	NSC lung cancer	HOP-62	- 6.77	> - 4.0
	Prostate cancer	PC-3	- 4.55	- 4.54
	Oral cancer	GURAV	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
	Nasopharyngeal cancer	KB	> - 4.0	> - 4.0
Doxorubicin	Leukemia	K-562	- 5.59	> - 4.0
	Breast cancer	MCF-7	- 6.88	- 5.68
	Hepatoma	HEPG-2	> - 7.0	- 6.87
	NSC lung cancer	HOP-62	- 6.91	- 4.45
	Prostate cancer	PC-3	- 6.96	- 5.68
	Oral cancer	GURAV	- 6.97	- 6.80
	Nasopharyngeal cancer	KB	> - 7.0	- 6.85

different thiazolidinedione derivatives as presented in Scheme 25. These synthesized derivatives were screened for their cytotoxic activity against Hep-G₂ (hepatocellular carcinoma), HC-60 (acute promyeloid carcinoma), KB (epidermoid carcinoma), LLC (lewis lung carcinoma), LNCaP (hormone dependent prostate carcinoma), MCF-7 (breast cancer), SW-480 (colon adenocarcinoma) cell lines using the MTT [3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyl-2H-tetrazolium bromide] assay. In this series compounds **80**, **81** and **82** showed highest cytotoxic activity against cancer cell lines. The results of potent compounds are presented in Table 26 (Anh et al. [34]).

Kumar et al. [35] synthesized a series of novel 3-(substituted aryl)-1-phenyl-1H-pyrazolyl-2,4-thiazolidinedione derivatives using Scheme 26. These synthesized derivatives were screened for their cytotoxic activity against lung and breast cancer cell lines using standard doxil. In this series **83** and **84** showed highest cytotoxic activity against cancer cell lines. The results of potent compounds are presented in Table 27 (Kumar et al. [35]).

Thiazolidinedione derivatives as antioxidant agent

Free radicals produced in several biochemical reactions, cellular metabolism are negotiator for several infections

**Table 26** Cytotoxicity of synthesized thiazolidinediones

Compounds	IC ₅₀ (μg/ml)							
	HepG ₂	HC-60	KB	LLC	LNCaP	LU-1	MCF-7	SW-480
80	> 100	82.2 ± 4.5	44.1 ± 3.6	87.4 ± 6.3	77.4 ± 5.8	52.9 ± 3.4	66.0 ± 2.7	71.4 ± 3.6
81	86.3 ± 6.4	75.3 ± 3.9	84.6 ± 4.2	> 100	81.6 ± 6.3	> 100	32.8 ± 1.4	90.1 ± 4.8
82	78.4 ± 5.8	92.3 ± 5.3	74.1 ± 5.1	90.1 ± 7.7	84.2 ± 4.1	65.5 ± 4.1	52.7 ± 3.6	85.4 ± 7.4
Ellipticine	1.45 ± 0.08	0.56 ± 0.04	0.43 ± 0.05	0.98 ± 0.04	0.86 ± 0.06	1.29 ± 0.11	0.49 ± 0.04	0.64 ± 0.05

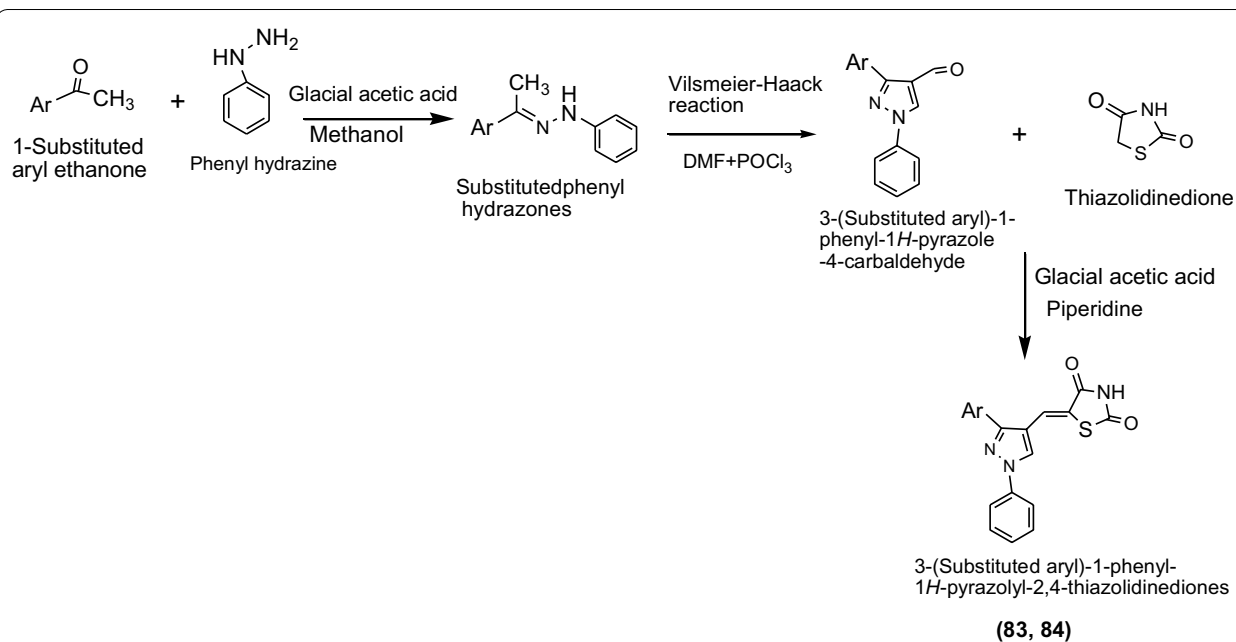
**Scheme 26** Synthesis of 3-(Substituted aryl)-1-phenyl-1H-pyrazolyl-2,4-thiazolidinediones

Table 27 IC₅₀ value of synthesized derivatives against cancer cell lines

Compounds	IC ₅₀ (μM)		
	A549	MCF-7	DU145
83	05.12	09.16	43.17
84	06.83	4.44	59.29
Doxil	07.92	08.12	07.22

and diseases like atherosclerosis, tumor as well as heart disease. Free radicals are not only formed by normal cellular processes but also produced by exposure of numerous chemical substances (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon, cadmium, lead, etc.), radiations, cigarette, smoke, and higher obese food. Usually free radical development is stopped by beneficial compounds known as antioxidant. Antioxidants deactivate free radicals before they attack the cell. Natural antioxidants are body detoxifiers and natural cleansers. They convert toxins of body to harmless waste products. They protect body from many diseases like cancer, heart attack and absorb bad cholesterol. Synthetic antioxidants such as BHT (butylated hydroxytoluene) and BHA (butylated hydroxyanisole), are effective as a antioxidants are also present and are used in several industries but their use has been limited because they can cause cancer as well as other side effects. So their use is decreased in food, cosmetic and pharmaceutical products. Thus, in present there is need for the oxidation inhibitor compounds [18, 36, 37].

Hossain et al. [37] synthesized a series of novel *O*-prenylated and *O*-geranylated derivatives of 5-benzylidene-2,4-thiazolidinedione by Knoevenagel condensation as shown in Scheme 27 and evaluated for their antioxidant activity. Among the synthesized derivatives, compounds **85**, **86**, **87**, **88** and **89** were found to be most active antioxidant agent. The significant results of potent compounds are given in Table 28 (Hossain et al. [37]).

Lupascu et al. [4] designed a chain of novel thiazolidinediones containing xanthine moiety (Scheme 28) and evaluated for antioxidant potential using in vitro models such as DPPH radical scavenging assay and ABTS [2,2-azino-bis-(3-ethyl benzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid)] radical scavenging assay method. Among the synthesized derivatives **90**, **91**, **92** and **93** showed highest antioxidant activity. The results of potent derivatives are given in Table 29 (Lupascu et al. [4]).

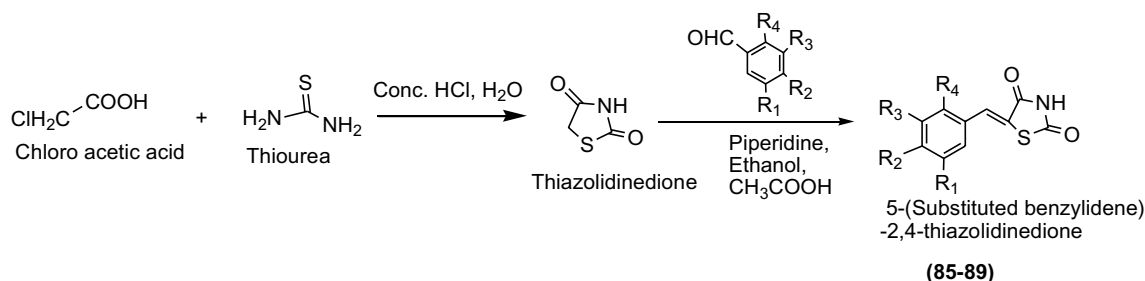
Thiazolidinedione derivatives as anti-tubercular agents

In present day, treatment of tuberculosis diseases (TB) is chief and challenging problem because of resistance to present regimen and also appearance of drug-resistance strains in tuberculosis like *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, is transmitted by air and can affect all organ of the body, especially the lungs [38]. The association of tuberculosis with HIV infection is so dramatic that in some cases, nearly two-third of the patients diagnosed with the tuberculosis is also HIV-1 seropositive [39]. The current drug therapy for TB is long and complex, involving multidrug combinations (usually isoniazid, rifampin, ethambutol, and pyrazinamide for the initial 2 months and rifampin and isoniazid for an additional 4 months) [40]. There is also an alarming increase in cases of TB caused by multidrug-resistant strains of *M. tuberculosis*. Thus,

Table 28 Inhibition of DPPH radical by synthesized compounds

Compounds	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	IC ₅₀ (μM)
α-Tocopherol	H	Hydroxyl	H	H	2.3
85	Methoxy	Hydroxyl	H	H	2.49
86	Methoxy	Hydroxyl	Methoxy	H	2.85
87	Methoxy	PRO	H	H	17.89
88	Methoxy	PRO	Methoxy	H	4.08
89	H	GRO	H	H	9.8

DPPH 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl

**Scheme 27** Synthesis of 5-Benzylidene-2,4-thiazolidinediones

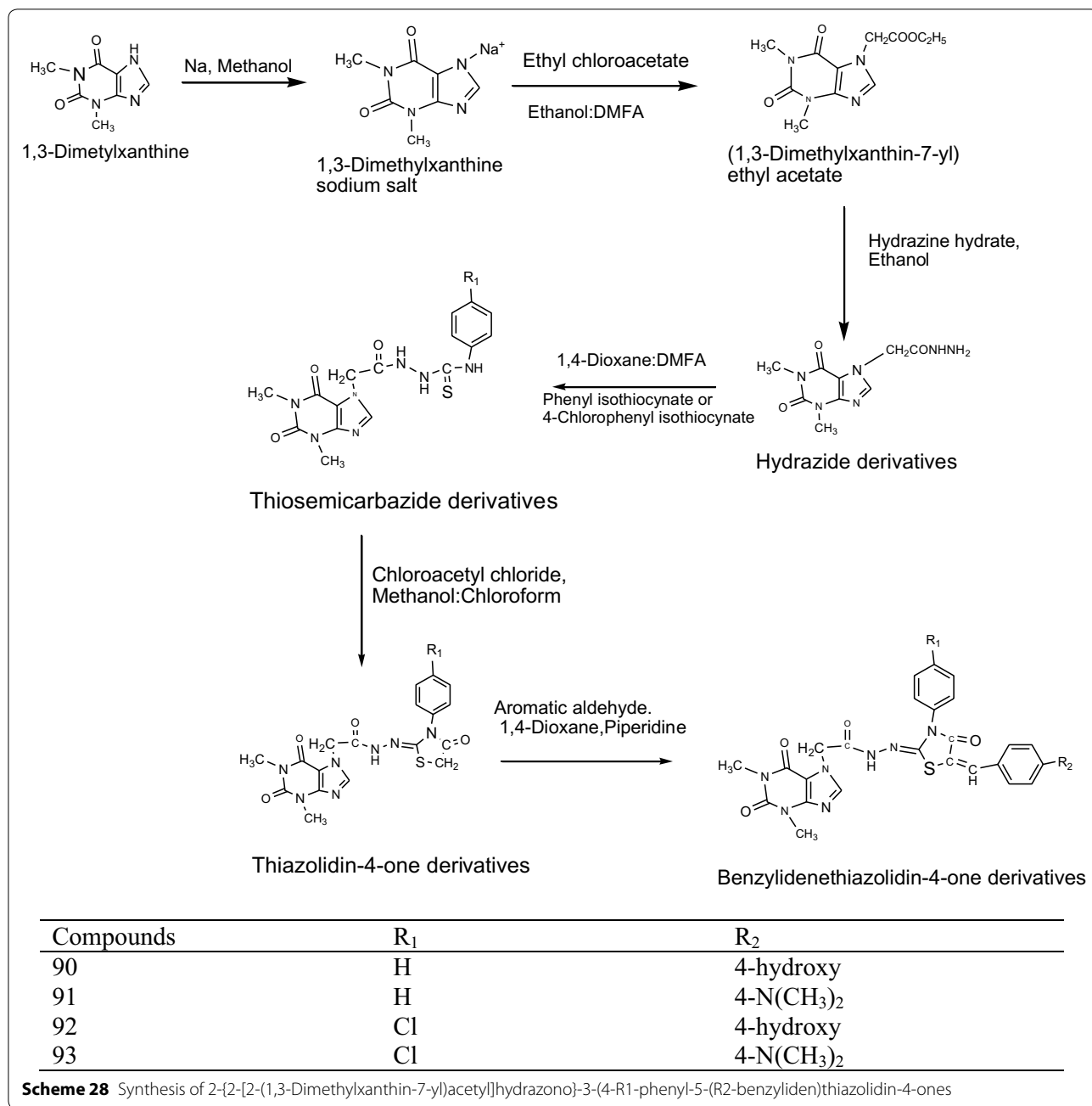
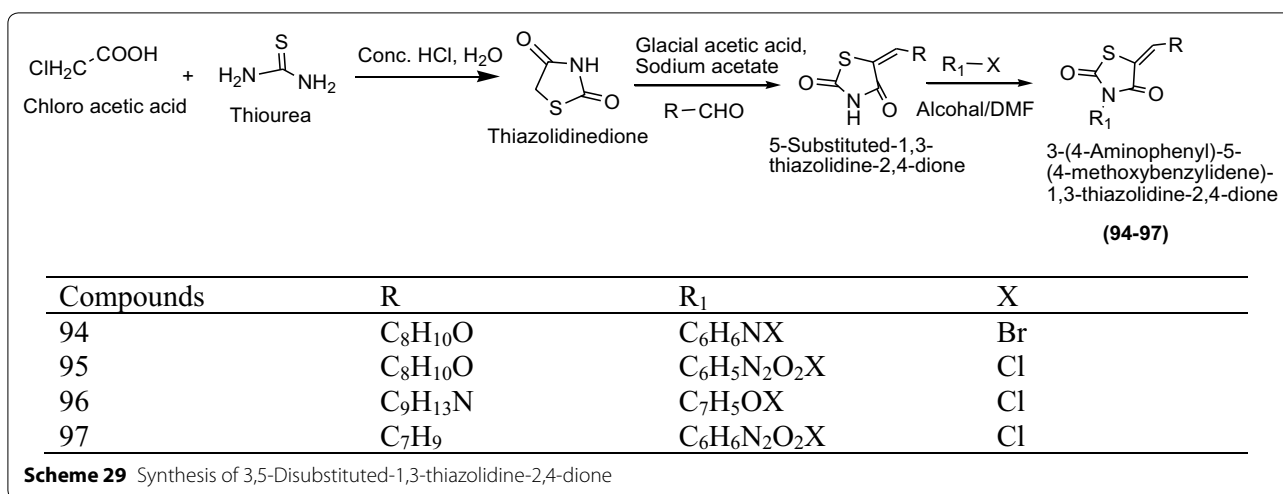


Table 29 Antioxidant activities of the synthesized derivatives

Compounds	EC ₅₀ mg/ml
90	0.025 ± 0.0012
91	0.022 ± 0.0013
92	0.033 ± 0.0014
93	0.026 ± 0.0028
Ascorbic acid	0.0067 ± 0.0003

there is a need for new drugs targeting enzymes essential to mycobacterium survival [41, 42].

Chilamakuru et al. [42] synthesized a series of novel 3,5-disubstituted-2,4-thiazolidinediones as presented in Scheme 29 and appraised for anti-tubercular activities with pyrazinamide and streptomycin as the standard drug. Among all the synthesized derivatives, compounds **94**, **95** [3-(2-amino-5-nitrophenyl)-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-1,3-thiazolidine-2,4-dione], **96**



[3-tert-butyl-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-1,3-thiazolidine-2,4-dione] and **97** showed the maximum antitubercular activity against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* H37Rv strain. The results of synthesized compounds presented in Table 30 (Chliamakuru et al. [42]).

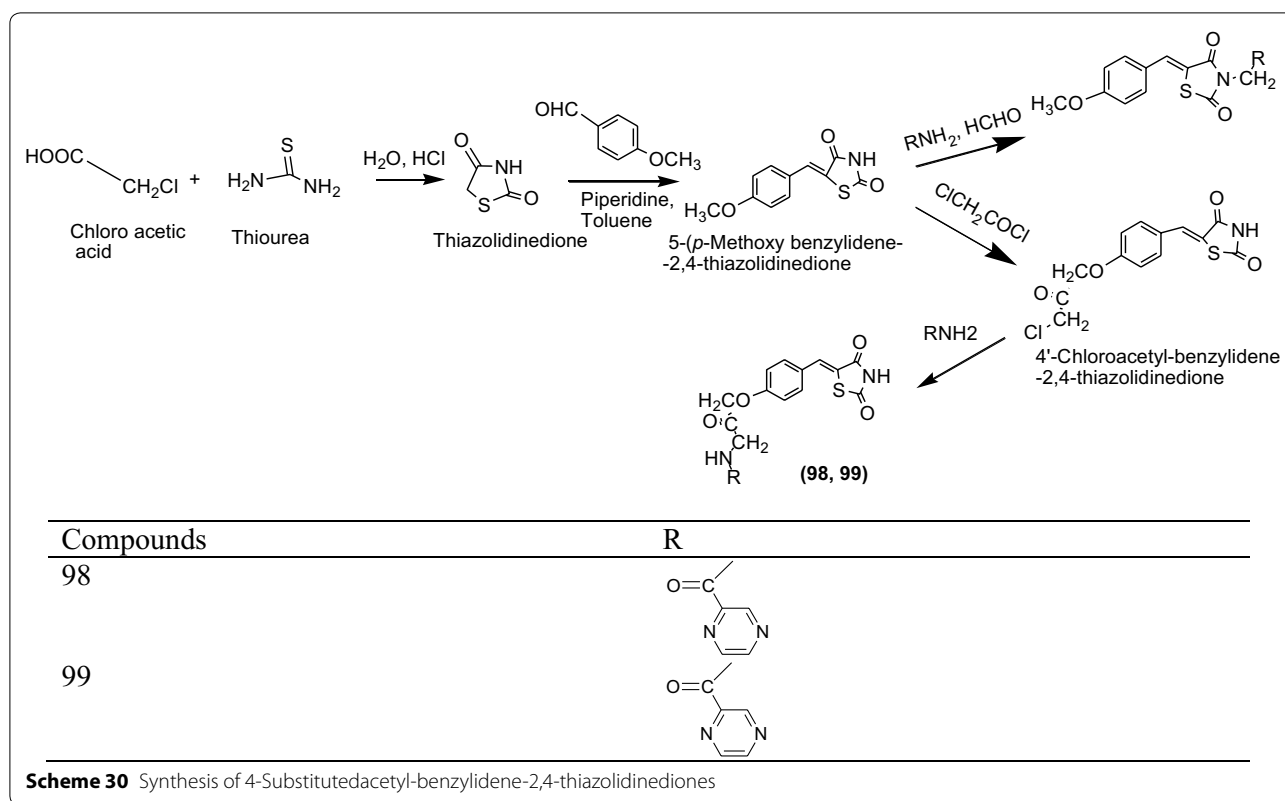
Pattan et al. [43] integrating a series of novel substituted thiazolidinediones via Knoevenagel condensation reaction as presented in Scheme 30 and evaluated for their antitubercular activities by middle brook 7H9 agar medium assay with streptomycin as the standard drug. Among all the synthesized derivatives, compounds **98** [(Z)-N-(3-(4-((2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylidene)methyl)phenoxy)-2-oxopropyl)pyrazin-2-carboxamide] and **99** [(Z)-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-3-(2-oxo-2-(pyrazin-2-yl)ethyl)thiazolidine-2,4-dione] showed the maximum antitubercular activity against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* H37Rv strain. The results of synthesized compounds presented in Table 31 (Pattan et al. [43]).

Table 30 Anti-tubercular activity of synthesized derivatives

Compounds	MIC µg/ml
94	12.5
95	12.5
96	12.5
97	12.5
Pyrazinamide	3.125
Streptomycin	6.25

Conclusion

Appraisal of literature reports reveals that thiazolidinediones and its derivatives represent an important class of compound in the medicinal field with various therapeutic potentials, i.e., antidiabetic, antimicrobial,

**Table 31** Antitubercular activity of synthesized derivatives

Compounds	25 µg/ml	50 µg/ml	100 µg/ml
98	Resistant	Resistant	Sensitive
99	Resistance	Resistance	Sensitive
Streptomycin	Sensitive	Sensitive	Sensitive

anti-inflammatory, anticancer, antioxidant and antitubercular, antiviral, anti-malarial, anti-HIV and anti-convulsant activities etc. which created immense interest among researchers to synthesized variety of thiazolidinediones. This review focuses especially on synthesized active compounds of thiazolidinediones having different pharmacological activities playing an important role in the medicinal field. These most active thiazolidinediones derivatives may be taken as leads to discover novel agents with therapeutic potential in the future.

Authors' contributions

PKV designed and finalized the scheme; SA performed review work and ST wrote the paper. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Ethics approval and consent to participate

Not applicable.

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