JETIR.ORG ISSN: 2349-5162 | ESTD Year : 2014 | Monthly Issue
JOURNAL OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES AND INNOVATIVE RESEARCH (JETIR)
An International Scholarly Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTIONS AND DIFFERENT MECHANISMS OF ACTION OF ALLANTOIN: A REVIEW

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Abstract:

Allantoin, a natural compound present in many plants and organisms, has shown a wide spectrum of pharmacological activities, which is an attractive element for its use in medicine, both in the treatment and prevention of various diseases. This review aimed to be an introduction to the pharmacological properties and mechanisms of action of allantoin, based on the relevant research in cellular, animal, and plant studies. In different experimental models, allantoin has shown neuroprotection, including chemo-induced peripheral neuropathy (CIPN), with mechanisms related to the reduction of oxidative stress and inflammation evidenced in neuronal tissues. Secondly, allantoin has anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties, which also make it successful in reducing chronic inflammation and oxidative damage, which are common in many diseases.

Another intriguing aspect of those findings is the analgesic and anti-inflammatory properties that could increase therapeutic applications of GOLD technology in an even wider range of diseases where chronic pain and inflammation are present. In addition, previous research has noted the ability of allantoin to have antidiabetic and antihypertensive effects, which makes it a useful remedy for metabolic diseases and cardiovascular complications. The potential implications of its capability to repress protein aggregation make it more interesting for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases that are the result of protein misfolding and aggregation. In addition, studies in well-studied plant models demonstrate the promoting effect of allantoin on stress tolerance and the growth of plants in adverse environmental conditions. It is clear that allantoin has different promising therapeutic actions, including not only a neuroprotective effect but also analgesic, metabolic, and plant stress tolerance. Additional research and clinical trials are needed to fully investigate the landscape of the therapeutic benefits of allantoin and its applications in human health and agriculture.

Keywords:

Allantoin, Neuroprotection, Anti-inflammatory, Antioxidant, Analgesic, Antidiabetic.

Introduction

Allantion, a proven biogenic compound discovered in many plants and animal tissues, markedly stimulates wound healing, and demonstrates a valuable soothing effect on human skin(1). It is a urea derivative, which can be classified as an imidazolidine-2,4-dione, specifically a 5-aminohydantoin derivative and a carbamoyl group is attached to the exocyclic nitrogen(2 & 3). Allantoin is a useful and well-known biological active ingredient served

as a vulnerary (a medium promoting the healing of the wound(4) a human metabolite and a metabolite in other organisms including Saccharomyces cerevisiae and Escherichia coli. Allantoin is excreted in the urine of most mammals as a significant metabolic intermediate in purine metabolism(5). Uric acid is excreted in the human urine because humans do not have the enzyme uricase, which catalysis urate and metabolize it to allantoin. There can be oxidative stress when allantoin is found in the human urine because it can be formed non-enzymatic manner by reacting reactive oxygen species (6). Naturally allantoin is found in plants, such as comfrey, chamomile, wheat sprouts, in animal urine, such as cow urine. Particularly allantoin is commercially synthesized from uric acid oxidation. Since allantoin is beneficial and it is being used widely in many types of over-the-counter cosmetic products: anti-acne, sun care, and clarifying rinses. ln oral care products, such as toothpaste, mouthwash, and other products(7). Examples of other products that have allantoin are shampoos, lipstick, and many other cosmetic and pharmaceutical products. Therefore mean plasma concentration is about 2-3 mg/L in humans. If a person engages in exercise, the allantoin will also increase because urate will oxidize to allantoin in the muscle. For example, during short-term exhaustive cycling exercise, the allantoin concentration increased significantly rising above resting values. This means that it has a role in metabolic responses to physical stress(8).

This review aims to provide a comprehensive overview of effects of allantoin based on current scientific literature.

Table 1

Pharmacological Action	Findings	Mechanisms	Implications	References
Neuroprotective Effects	Allantoin restores motor nerve conduction velocity and improves behavioral parameters in cisplatin-induced neurotoxicity in rats.	- Reduces oxidative stress in neurons by scavenging ROS and upregulating antioxidant enzymes. - Inhibits neuroinflammatory responses by reducing microglia and astrocyte activation. - Promotes neuronal survival by enhancing neurotrophic factors.	Could be used as an adjuvant in cancer treatment regimens to alleviate CIPN, improving the quality of life for cancer patients.	9–14
Anti-inflammatory and Antioxidant Properties	Inhibits expression of pro-inflammatory cytokines (TNF-α, IL-1β, IL-6) and increases antioxidant enzyme activity.	- Free radical scavenging: Neutralizes ROS like superoxide anions, hydroxyl radicals, and hydrogen peroxide. - Enhances antioxidant enzyme activity (SOD, catalase, glutathione peroxidase). - Inhibits lipid peroxidation, reducing MDA levels. - Modulates cytokines and NF-κB pathway to reduce inflammation.	Potential therapeutic agent for conditions characterized by inflammation and oxidative damage.	18–37

		- Suppresses COX-2 expression, reducing prostaglandin production.		
Analgesic Effects	Decreases pain perception in models of mechanical allodynia and thermal hyperalgesia.	- Modulates pain pathways by inhibiting inflammatory mediators. - Inhibits TRPV1 receptors involved in pain perception.	Potential development into pain management therapies for conditions involving chronic pain and inflammation.	38–44
Anti-diabetic and Anti-hypertensive Effects	Improves glucose metabolism, enhances insulin sensitivity, reduces blood glucose levels, and improves endothelial function, lowering blood pressure.	- Improves glucose metabolism through AMPK pathway activation. - Reduces insulin resistance by decreasing oxidative stress and inflammation. - Enhances endothelial function by increasing NO production and reducing oxidative stress.	Potential therapeutic agent for managing diabetes and hypertension.	45–48
Protein Aggregation Suppression	Reduces aggregation of proteins like alpha-synuclein in neurodegenerative diseases.	- Inhibits protein misfolding and aggregation. - Promotes proteostasis through molecular chaperones and the proteasome system. - Protects against aggregation-induced toxicity.	Potential for therapeutic intervention in neurodegenerative diseases like Parkinson's, slowing disease progression.	49–53
Metabolic Regulation	Enhances insulin sensitivity and glucose uptake, reduces insulin resistance, and improves endothelial function.	- Improves glucose metabolism through AMPK pathway. - Reduces oxidative stress and inflammation to improve insulin signaling. - Enhances endothelial function by increasing NO production and reducing oxidative stress.	Beneficial for metabolic health in diabetes and hypertension management.	54–56

Effects on Gastritis	Shows significant histopathological improvements and reinforces the gastric mucosal barrier.	- Increases PGE2 levels, enhancing mucus and bicarbonate secretion. - Reinforces mucosal barrier with non-protein sulfhydryls (NP-SH). - Reduces inflammation and promotes tissue regeneration.	Promising alternative treatment for gastritis with fewer side effects than traditional treatments.	57–59
Reduction of Cell Death	Reduces apoptosis, particularly under stress conditions like oxidative stress or chemotherapy.	- Inhibits apoptotic pathways by reducing caspase-3 activation. - Modulates p53 activity to reduce apoptosis. - Enhances cell viability under chemotherapy.	Protects normal cells during chemotherapy and reduces excessive apoptosis in diseases.	60–62
Improvement of Metabolic Functions in Methionine-Choline Deficient Conditions	Reduces liver damage in NASH models.	- Reduces ER stress by downregulating GRP78 and ATF6. - Regulates lipid metabolism genes to reduce hepatic steatosis. - Exhibits anti-inflammatory effects. - Modulates apoptosis-related genes for hepatocyte protection.	Potential therapeutic benefits for NASH and liver health.	63–66
Allantoin in Cadmium-Treated Arabidopsis Roots	Mitigates oxidative damage, improves metabolism, and enhances growth under cadmium stress.	- Enhances antioxidant defense by reducing ROS levels and upregulating antioxidant enzymes. - Modulates metabolic pathways for better energy production and nutrient uptake. - Promotes root and shoot growth, and influences phytohormones.	Enhances plant stress tolerance and growth under heavy metal stress.	67–70
Allantoin in Experimentally Induced Gastric Ulcers	Prevents and heals gastric ulcers induced by various agents.	- Stimulates mucus and bicarbonate secretion. - Reduces pro-inflammatory cytokines and increases protective prostaglandins. - Exhibits antioxidant activity and promotes	Effective in treating gastric ulcers with protective and healing properties.	71–75

		cell proliferation and healing.		
Allantoin and Thermal Aggregation of Proteins	Prevents thermal aggregation of proteins like lysozyme.	- Acts as a molecular chaperone to stabilize proteins. - Maintains hydration shell around proteins. - Preserves enzyme activity and increases thermal tolerance. - Synergistic effects with DMSO for improved solubility and delivery.	Prevents protein aggregation in various diseases and biotechnological applications.	76–81

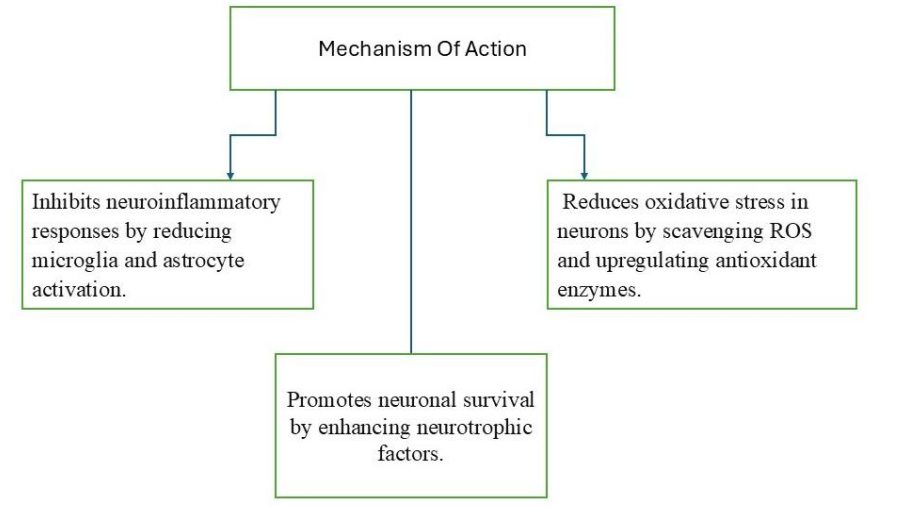
Pharmacological actions of allantoin

(a.) Neuroprotective Effects

Allantoin has been observed to possess neuroprotective effects, particularly in models of chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy(9). For instance, in a study of cisplatin-induced neurotoxicity in rats, allantoin treatment restored motor nerve conduction velocity and ameliorated various behavioural parameters, such as cold and thermal hyperalgesia, mechano-tactile allodynia, and mechanical hyperalgesia(10). According to the study, this neuroprotective effect was due to alleviation of oxidative stress and decreased inflammation in neuronal tissues(11). The researchers concluded that allantoin is useful as an adjuvant in cancer treatment therapies to minimize CIPN, thereby enhancing the quality of life for patients with cancer(12).

Mechanism of Action

Allantoin's neuroprotective effects are based on its antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties, which help preserve the functions of the neuronal cells and prevent neurodegeneration(13).



Mechanism of action of allantoin in Neuroprotective effect

Reduction of Oxidative Stress in Neurons: By scavenging reactive oxygen species and enhancing the expression of antioxidant enzymes, allantoin plays a crucial role in protection of the neurons against oxidative stress, which is a key contributor to neurodegenerative and neuropathies(14).

Inhibition of Neuroinflammatory Response: Neuroinflammation is pivotal in the progression of neurodegenerative diseases. An essential feature of allantoin in inhibition of neuroinflammatory process is its ability to reduce the activation of astrocytes and microglial cells, which are essential for neuroinflammation(15). Consequently, the components of these cells such as neurotoxic substances become inhibited and are unable to protect the neuronal cells(16).

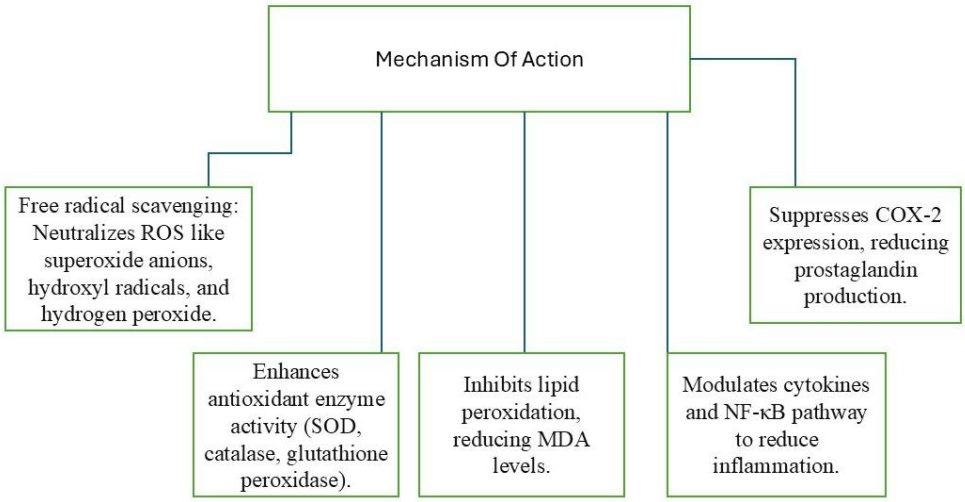
Promotion Of Neuronal Survival: Allantoin enhances the expression of neurotrophic factors, which enhance the production of neurons in the central and peripheral nervous systems that is essential for repairing of neuronal cell networks(17).

(b**.) Antioxidant and Anti-inflammatory Properties**: Allantoin's anti-inflammatory properties have been well established(18). It lowers swelling by modulating important pro-inflammatory mediators(19). For example, allantoin prevents the production of pro-inflammatory cytokines including TNF-α, IL-1β, and IL-6(20). Modulating these pro-inflammatory proteins helps to alleviate chronic inflammation and the accompanied tissue destruction(21). Usually, allantoin is also considered as a potent anti-oxidant agent(22). It neutralizes reactive oxygen species, scavenges ROS, and raises the levels of vital protective enzymes like SOD and CAT(23). These washout unwanted ROS and pampers the regular functioning of the cells and help in the synthesis of new tissues(24). Consequently, by acting both as anti-oxidant and anti-inflammatory agent, allantoin emerges as an effective agent for inflammation-related diseases(25).

Mechanism Of Action

Antioxidant properties

Allantoin's capability to merely act as an anti-oxidant agent emerges as a valid option and acts against oxidative stress(26).



Mechanism of action of allantoin as an Anti-inflammatory and Antioxidant agent.

Antioxidative properties: Allantion neutralizes the effects, by scavenging free radicals, in peroxide environment such as superoxide anions, hydroxyl radicals, and hydrogen peroxide(27). This has substantial actions in the cell compartments including lipid, protein, and DNA oxidative activities(28).

Enhancement of activities of endogenous antioxidants: Enzymes gets boosted including SOD and CAT assort the reactive oxidative compounds into less dangerous compounds and assist in the smooth functioning of cells(29).

Inhibition of Lipid Peroxidation: Allantoin prevents the cell peroxidation and inhibits the MDA formation(30). In other words all the lipid-based peroxidation agents are eliminated and the cells remain safe from oxidative attacking on the cell bodies(31).

Anti-inflammatory action

Allantoin's anti-inflammatory properties result from various mechanisms that play's a role in the body's inflammatory processes (32). They include:

Mutation of TNF-α, IL-1β, and IL-6

Allantoin has the ability to lower swelling in the cells. They are possible once the inflammatory levels of the cells are warned in the body(33).

NF-κB pathway

NF-κB pathway gets inhibited resulting in low levels of inflammatory transcription items. This is probably the root cause of low-incident inflammatory response: non synthesis of pro-inflammatory agents(34).

COX-2

COX-2 is inhibited in the cells resulting therefore in elution of prostaglandins which play a crucial role in inflammation response(35). The prostaglandins emerge and assist in protein and lipid decomposition(36).

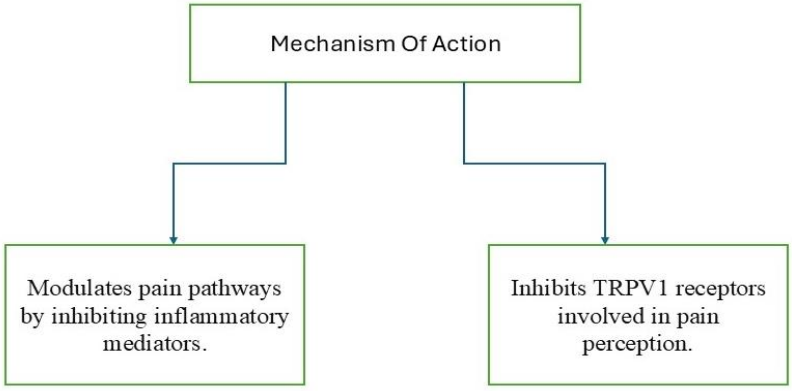
Conclusion. All in all, we appreciate the importance of Allantoin as a drug concerned with both anti-inflammatory and antioxidant effects(37).

(c.) Analgesic Effects

Allantoin is an ameliorator in experimental models of different varieties of pain(38). It relieves pain by modulation of inflammatory pathways, and reduction of pain perception by pain receptors(39). The amelioration of all stages of pain and the inhibition of types of mechanical allodynia and thermal hyperalgesia in models of these types of pains have shown that allantoin could be developed as effective analgesics, especially in conditions associated with chronic pains and inflammation pathways(40).

Mechanism Of Action

A close association exists between the analgesic properties and anti-inflammatory and antioxidant activities of allantoin; the drug reduces pain, and promotes comfort in varying conditions.



Mechanism of action of allantoin as an analgesic agent.

The mechanistic perspectives include:-

Modulation of Pain Pathways: Allantoin works by inhibiting the nociceptive pathway mediated by inflammation of the pain receptors(41). It reduces the levels of prostaglandins and pain sensitizers and, therefore, causes reduction of pain sensation when administered to a patient or a model(42).

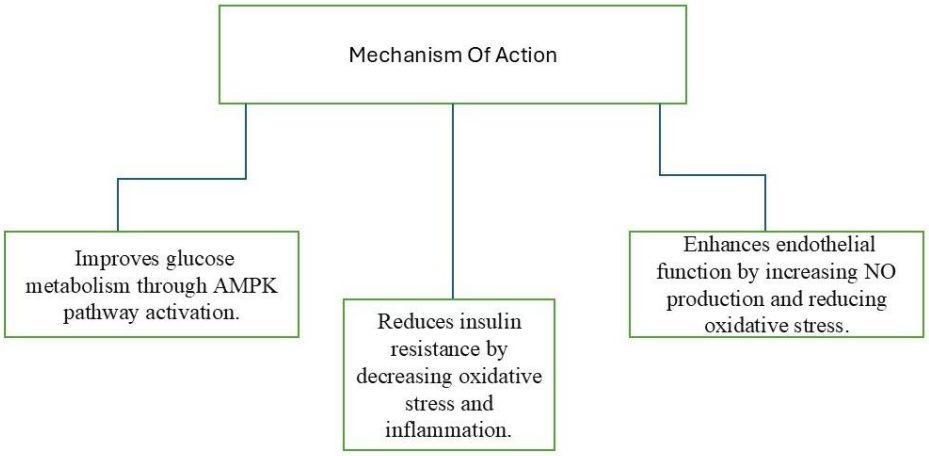
Inhibition of TRPV1 Receptors: Transient receptor potential vanilloid-1 receptors are activated by both heat and inflammatory mediators, thereby, make them involved in the pain response pathway(43). Allantoin modulates the pain receptors by inhibition of activation of TRPV1, under pain conditions such as thermal hyperalgesia(44).

(d.) Anti-diabetic and Anti-hypertensive Effects

Research into the metabolic effects of allantoin has shed a light on its use for the controlling of diabetes and hypertension.

In diabetic models, allantoin perfusion has shown signs of improving glucose metabolism, increasing insulin sensitivity, and reducing blood glucose levels(45). This is likely a product of its numerous antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties assisting with the maintenance of pancreatic functioning, as well as the work of insulin signal pathway(46).

As for its anti-hypertensive traits, allantoin shows an ability to improve endothelial function and reduce oxidative stress in the blood vessels(47). This has resulted in improved vascular compliance and lower pressure, making allantoin a useful thermostat for controlling hypertension and related cardiovascular difficulties(48).

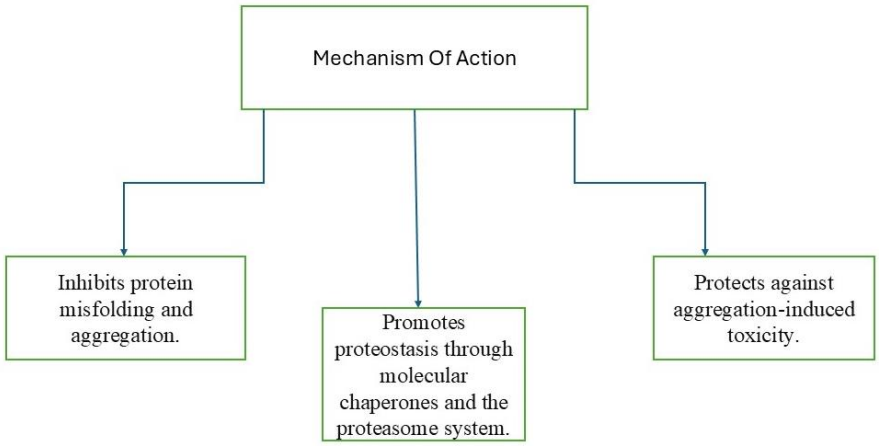


Mechanism of action of allantoin as an Anti-diabetic and Anti-hypertensive agent.

(e.) Protein Aggregation Suppression: Protein aggregation is the most common component in virtually all neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. Allantoin is a cheap and readily available protein aggregation suppressor. It was tested and became effective in reducing the aggregation of proteins such as alpha-synuclein found in the brains of patients with Parkinson's(49).

The mechanism of action takes advantage of the interaction between allantoin and the misfolded proteins preventing their aggregation into toxic oligomers and fibrils in the neuronal cells. Thus, by doing so allantoin affords protection to the cells to allow effective therapeutic intervention that can either reduce the rate of progression of the condition or reverses and improves the clinical manifestations of the condition(50).

Mechanism of Action Allantoin works by suppressing the aggregation of proteins into toxic oligomers and fibrils.



Mechanism of action of allantoin in Protein Aggregation Suppression.

Prevention of Protein Misfolding: Allantoin interacts with misfolded proteins to prevent their aggregation into toxic oligomers and fibrils. This is relevant to diseases like Parkinson's where there is a protein aggregate such as alpha-synuclein that affect the normal functions of the neurons(51).

Proteostasis Promotion: In the process of misfolded protein aggregation suppression, allantoin promotes the actions of the molecular chaperones and the proteasome system responsible for the folding and the degradation

of proteins respectively. This is effective in maintaining protein homeostasis to prevent the accumulation of misfolded proteins in the neurons(52).

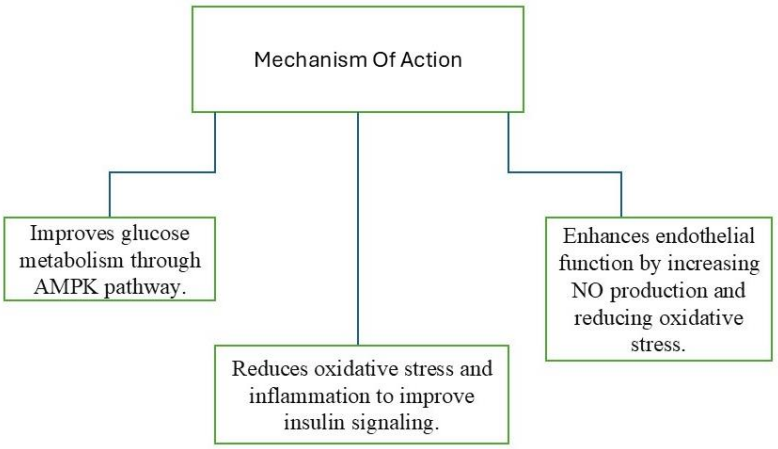
Aggregation-induced toxicity: By suppressing the aggregation of proteins, allantoin protects the cells from the toxic effects that comes as a result of allowing the proper interaction of proteins(53).

(f.) Metabolic Regulation

Allantoin makes better metabolic health. It is more evident under the example of diabetes and hypertension.

Mechanism of Action

Improvement of Glucose Metabolism: Allantoin enhances insulin sensitivity and glucose uptake of the cells. The mechanism of this function is through increasing signaling pathways such as AMP-activated protein kinase which is vital in cellular energy homeostasis and glucose metabolism. This will reduce the risk of indisposed protection called insulin resistance. AMPK is a master metabolic regulator, and when the amount of this kinase is increased, then the energy statement is amplified(54).



Mechanism of action of allantoin in Metabolic Regulation.

Reduction of Insulin Resistance: Through decreasing the production of reactive oxygen species and the severing of inflammatory condition, allantoin will facilitate the production of insulin signalling and therefore reducing insulin resistance. Through the designed reaction of allantoin, the level of glucose will change and therefore leading to the management of diabetes(55).

Endothelial Function: Increase in the availability of nitric oxide, an endothelium-derived relaxing factor, and the decrease in the production of reactive oxygen species near the wall of the vessel through allantoin will better the endothelial system in the case of hypertension. Vasodilation of veins due to increased availability of nitric oxide will increase blood flow and the pressure of blood will be reduced(56).

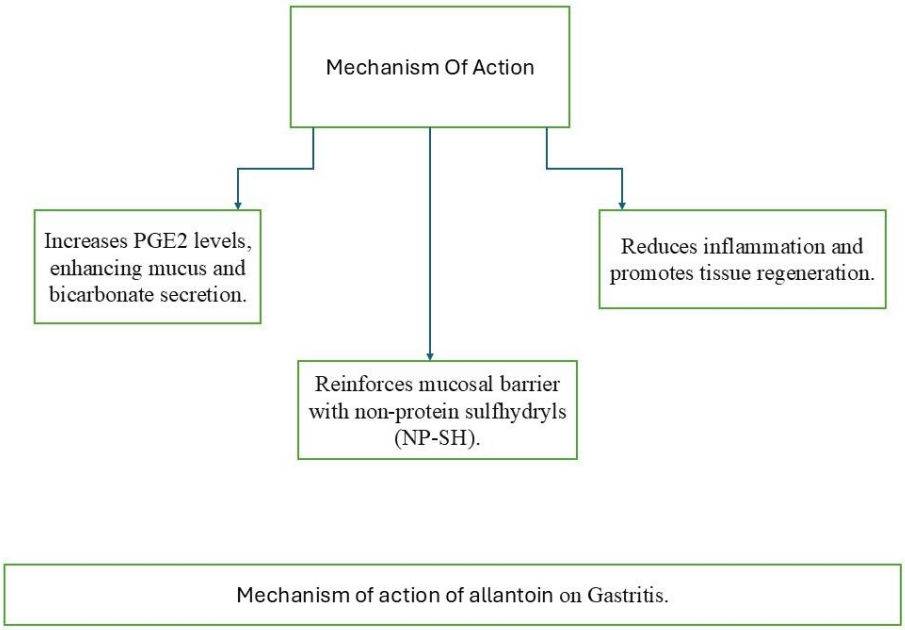
(g) Effects on Gastritis

Gastritis is an inflammation of the stomach lining that can be a result of multiple conditions such as excessive alcohol drinking, prolonged use of NSAID's, stress, and infection with Helicobacter pylori. Usual treatments for gastritis are often accompanied by different side effects, and their effects are limited in terms of avoiding frequent recurrence.

Mechanism of action:

Increased Synthesis of Prostaglandin E2 (PtE2): Allantoin increases the synthesis of prostaglandin E2. PtE2 is a potent mediator involved in preventing gastric mucosa disruptions. It promotes the secretion of mucus and bicarbonates which helps protect the gastric mucosa and suppresses the secretion of gastric acids thus lowering the risk of ulcer formation. An increased concentration of COX enzymes and particularly their subtype COX-1 along with an increase in the synthesis of prostaglandins leads to the observed gastroprotective effect(57).

Enhanced Synthesis of Non-Protein Sulfhydryl's: Allantoin increases the synthesis of non-protein sulfhydryl's that play's a major role in the maintenance of the gastric mucosal intestinal system. They work as antioxidants killing free radicals and protecting from oxidation. This, in turn, preserves the mucosal layers of the stomach lining during the influence of different negative agents mainly ethanol, which is the major component of alcoholic products. They also protect the mucosa from the influence of NSAID's which is often a reason for gastritis(58).



Mechanism of action of allantoin on Gastritis.

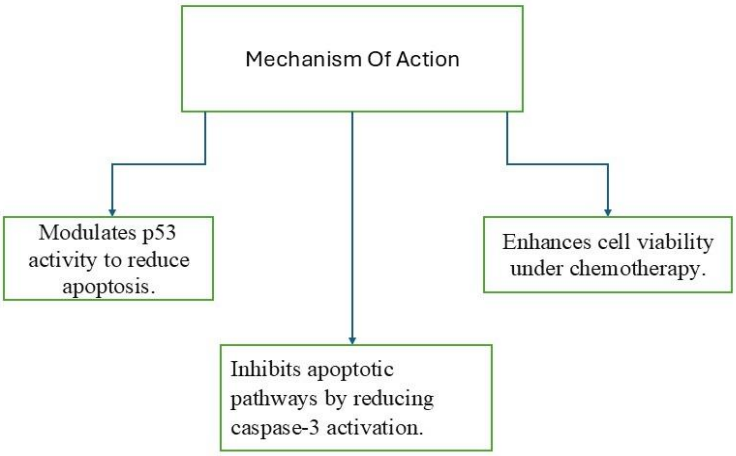
Maintenance of Gastric Tissue Integrity: Allantoin administration also maintains the integrity of the gastric tissue during the course of inflammation of the membrane of the stomach lining(59).

(h.) Reducing Cell Death:- Cell death, more importantly, apoptosis, is a vital process that helps maintain cellular homeostasis and counter various diseases, including cancer. Nonetheless, excessive or poorly-controlled apoptosis can lead to Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, and heart diseases, such as cardiomyopathy. Therefore, it is interesting to learn how allantoin can contribute to the process of lowering the levels of apoptosis, especially under stress, such as in the case of oxidative stress condition or chemotherapy.

1. Preventing Apoptosis: Allantoin is known to prevent the activation of the apoptotic pathway by reducing the activity of one of the primary executioner enzymes in apoptosis, namely, caspase-3. The enzyme dices and slices various cellular substrates, thus making the biochemical and morphological alterations in the cell typical of apoptosis, such as DNA fragmentation, possible. By blocking the activity of caspase-3, allantoin prevents the intended cell death, therefore, preserving the integrity of the cell structure and preventing its perishing(60).

2. Targeting the p53 Protein: p53 is also known as the "tumor suppressor protein", with the primary function of keeping the cell division and the process of apoptosis under close control. Specifically, when under stress, p53 can promote the expression of pro-apoptotic genes; by decreasing the activity of the specified enzyme, allantoin precludes the intended response to the shortage of glucose in the organism. The specified effect is particularly impressive since it has no adverse effect on a cell experiencing severe oxidative stress(61).

3. Cell's Resistance to Toxicology: Allantoin demonstrates a specific quality of making normal human lung cancer cells significantly less affected by cisplatin, which in particular shows that the substance in question can be used to render cisplatin's effect on cells that have been harmed during chemical therapy less damaging. In particular, the specified element helps preserve essential tissues from damage caused by excessive chemotherapy exposure while enhancing the effectiveness of the medicine in targeting malignant cells(62).



Mechanism of action of allantoin in reduction of cell death.

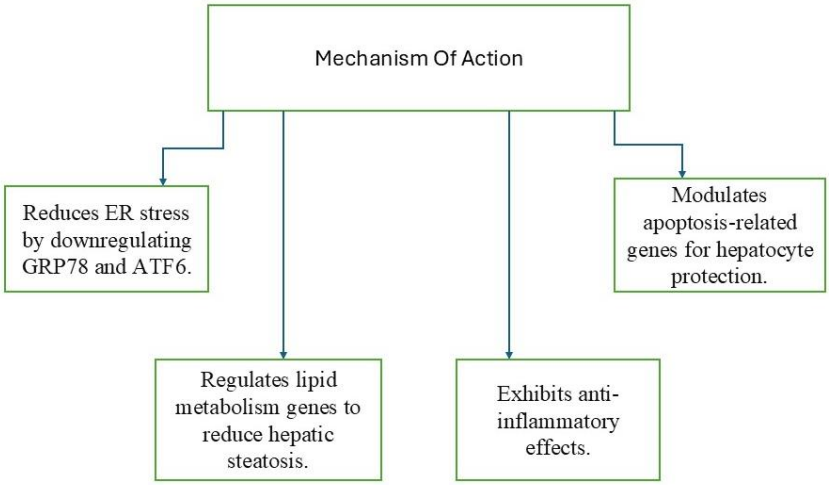
(i.) Improvement of Metabolic Functions: In Methionine-Choline Deficient Conditions like Non alcoholic steatohepatitis(NASH) treatment by allantoin arises in various ways:

1. Reduction of endoplasmic reticulum stress: Allantoin reduces the production of glucose-regulated protein 78 and lowers the level of activating transcription factor 6, both of which are involved in cell survival, differentiation, and apoptosis. By reducing ER stress, allantoin helps decrease lipid accumulation in hepatocytes and restores normal inflammatory responses(63).

2. Regulation of genes: Allantoin reduces the gene expression level of SREBP1c and FAS which are both involved in lipid synthesis. It increases to some extent the activity of PPARα and ACAT1 which are involved in lipid oxidation and hepatic steatosis reduction. The combined action on this range of genes is all about reducing the excessive amount of fat accumulated in the liver(64).

3. Anti inflammatory effects: The effect arises through the reduction of TNFα which is a proinflammatory marker. ant inflammatory effects in NASH are important since massive hepatic inflammation may lead to the worsening of liver disease conditions such as cirrhosis as well as HCC(65).

4. Apoptosis modulation: In the context of liver cell health allantoin only ensures the reduction of Bax while increasing that of Bcl2. The difference created in allantoin ratio leads to reducing the activity of caspase-3 in the liver preventing cell apoptosis event(66).



Mechanism of action of allantoin in Improvement of Metabolic Functions in Methionine-Choline Deficient Conditions.

(j.) Allantoin in Cadmium-Treated Arabidopsis Roots: Cadmium is known to be a hazardous heavy metal, and when present, it significantly stresses the plant material, causing the oxidative harm, disordered metabolism, and disruption of root growth.

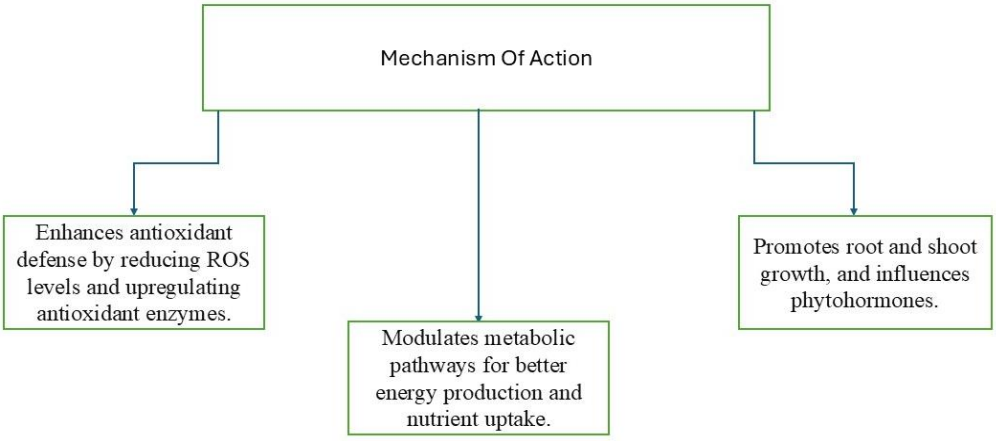
Mechanism of Action:

Antioxidant Defence Enhancement.

Reduction of ROS Levels: The effect of cadmium on plant growth leads to upregulated production of ROS, thus, irreversibly injuring polymer lipids, proteins, and DNA. Here, allantoin treatment of Arabidopsis root minimizes the ROS accumulation by enhancing the antioxidant defence of the plant. In particular, the antioxidant enzymes – superoxide dismutase SOD, peroxidase POD, and catalase CAT – are significantly increased in activity(67). Noteworthy, SOD may be primary responsible for alternating reduced transformations of free radicals, for instance, superoxide radicals, into more stable H_2O_2 which is then formed into water and oxygen due to CAT and POD reduction. Also, allantoin may affect the plant stress response via alteration of antioxidant and stress-responsive proteins' levels by regulating the gene expression(68).

Metabolic Pathway Modulation Energy Production: Allantoin treatment strongly stabilizes the transformations in the metabolic pathways of energy production and availability. Also, there is an improvement in N and P uptake and transport also responsible for the energy transformations(69).

Growth Promotion Cellular integrity and growth: allantoin results in the enhanced shoot and root growth, and the latter case is particularly important given the cadmium's detrimental effect. It may form roots as follows – if stimulated by allantoin, cells grow faster and divide more actively. Also, phytohormones, such as auxin, needed for the healthy growth and cytokinins are known to be controlled by allantoin(70).



Mechanism of action of Allantoin in Cadmium-Treated Arabidopsis Roots.

(h.) Allantoin in Experimentally Induced Gastric Ulcers

Mechanism of Action

1. Mucosal Protection:

i. Mucus Secretion: Allantoin stimulates the secretion of gastric mucus(71).

ii. Bicarbonate Production: Allantoin enhances bicarbonate secretion that helps in the neutralization of the acid and maintenance of stable pH(72).

2. Anti-inflammatory:

i. Cytokine Inhibition: Allantoin reduces the level of cytokines such as tumor necrosis factor-alpha, interleukins IL-1β, and IL-6. This alternation leads to prevention of the inflammatory processes that contribute to the causation of gastric ulcers(73).

ii. Prostaglandin Modulation: It increases the presence of the protective mucus (PGE2) that determine bicarbonate and mucus excretions(74).

iii. Antioxidant Activity: Allantoin effectively scavenges free radicals and reduces oxidative stress. At the mucosal level, it activates antioxidant enzymes as a reducing agent. In AGS-M cells treated with allantoin, there is an observed reduction in proliferative effects and subsequent migration across Matrigel, indicating a decrease in cell invasion. Additionally, there is a decrease in MMP-9 enzyme secretion and elevated levels of TGF-β1(75).

(l.) Allantoin and Thermal Aggregation of Proteins: Thermal Aggregation of Proteins is one of the major problems in several diseases and biotechnological applications. This Assay discusses the effects of allantoin and dimethyl sulfoxide DMSO on preventing thermal aggregation of lysozyme as a model protein. It begins with the mechanism of action of these compounds.

Mechanism of Action

Protein Stabilization Chaperone-like Activity: First, allantoin is a molecular chaperone. It stabilizes the proteins in their native conformation. This is vital as, under thermal stress, the proteins are at a risk of unfolding and aggregation(76).

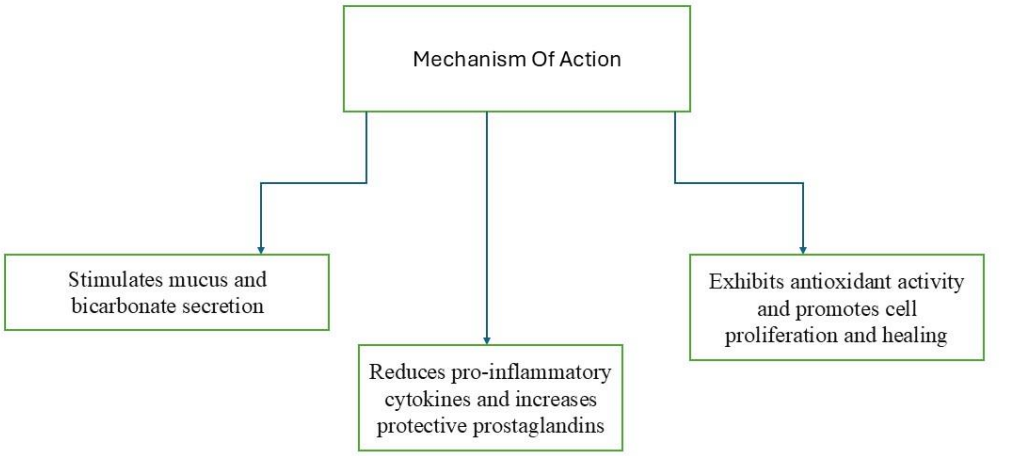
Hydration Shell Maintenance: Second, allantoin ensures that the hydration shell is maintained. This implies that proteins are still surrounded by the hydration shell, thus being soluble and very stable. The interaction of such a hydration layer ensures that hydrophobic regions in a given protein do not interact. Thus, the protein is protected from aggregation(77).

Enzyme Activity Preservation Active Site Protection: Allantoin is vital in that, after binding to the proteins, the proteins do not unfold. Their 3-D conformation in general, and that of their active site is maintained. Consequently, the enzyme activity is preserved(78).

Thermal Tolerance Enhancement: Allantoin is a very vital compound. The complex formed between a given protein and allantoin is very stable. There is a 25-50% difference in the temperature of denaturation(79).

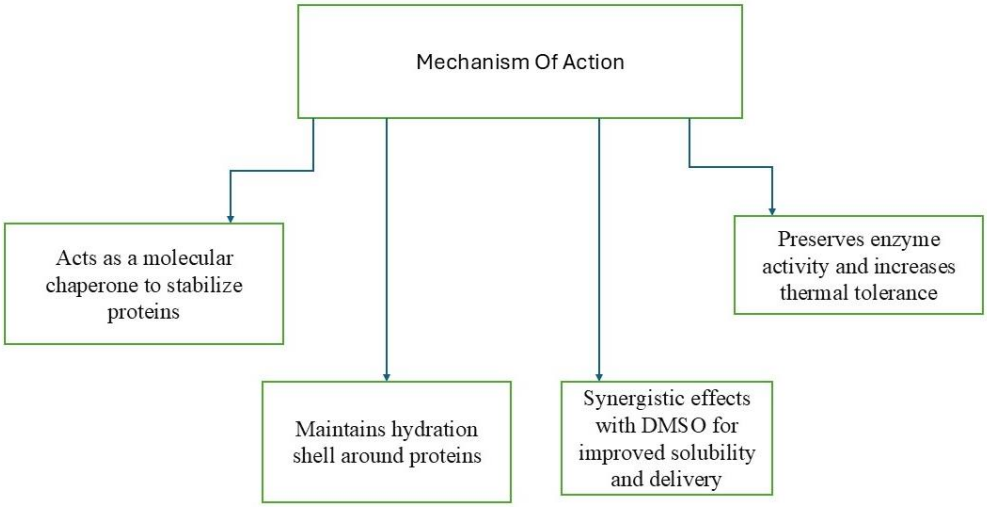
Synergistic Effects with DMSO Solubility Improvement: DMSO, or dimethyl sulfoxide, is a widely used solvent in biological and pharmaceutical research due to its ability to dissolve a wide range of substances. When DMSO is mixed with allantoin, it increases the solubility and thereby the effective concentration of allantoin in a solution. This is advantageous because it ensures that proteins or cells exposed to this solution receive a higher concentration of allantoin, potentially enhancing its biological effects or applications in experimental settings. DMSO's ability to increase solubility makes it a valuable tool in research for delivering substances like allantoin effectively to biological systems(80).

Delivery Enhancement: Also, DMSO helps in the delivery of allantoin directly to the protein(81).



Mechanism of action of allantoin in Gastric Ulcers.

(m.) Allantoin and Plant Stress Tolerance:-The research conducted by Liu et al. seeks to identify the effects of exogenous allantoin on the salt tolerance of sugar beet plants. The findings prove that allantoin can largely improve the salt stress by altering polyamine metabolism and increasing antioxidant activities. Summarized below are the results of allantoin treatment in significance of the tested treatments, control, and physiological changes.



Mechanism of action of allantoin in Thermal Aggregation of Proteins.

1**. Growth and Photosynthesis**:- The exogenous application of allantoin had the most significant impact on the overall growth parameters and net photosynthetic rate of sugar beet seedlings at a concentration of 0.1 mM. The net photosynthetic rate (Pn) in allantoin-treated plants was significantly higher compared to control treatments. This suggests that allantoin can enhance photosynthetic activity, leading to improved growth habits in plants. Similarly, the enhanced growth parameters observed in this study indicate that allantoin promotes better energy balance and supports the maintenance of cellular functions(82).

2. Oxidative Damage and Antioxidant Enzyme Activities: - Experiment data analysis implies that allantoin declined oxidative damage by increasing the activity rates of antioxidant SOD, CAT , and POD. ROS scavenging: The levels of MDA at 0.1 mM concentration were significantly higher in treated sugar beet seedlings due to low level of lipid Peroxidation and subsequent great reduction in cell damage to the plants. Enzyme activity: SOD, CAT, and POD activities in the same concentration was significantly increased. The mean activity difference of 6.41 for SOD is such indicative of the best antioxidant status of allantoin treated seedlings(83).

3. Polyamine Metabolism: -A high level of free catecholamines was detected in response to allantoin, contrasting with Putrescine 'Polyamine pathway analysis' revealed that allantoin, at a concentration of 0.1 mM, increased the activities of the ODC and SPDS enzymes. This suggests that allantoin promotes a greater conversion ratio of Put to the higher catecholamines spermine & spermidine, potentially enhancing stress tolerance(84).

4. Ion Homeostasis and Osmoregulation - The study implies that allantoin effects had the best impact on ion balance of Na+ and K+ levels and increased osmolytes like betaine and soluble sugars. Ion regulation: Na+ levels in treated sugar beet seedlings were significantly less unlike K+ that was maintained at higher levels. Data implies that ion balance led to the low ion toxicity on the growth habit of allantoin treated plants(85).

Osmolyte accumulation: The data further implicates increased levels of osmolytes including proline and betaine essential in the adjustment of osmosis pressure and for stability of cellular structures.

(n.) Thermal stability :

Allantoin was shown to stabilize ribonuclease, which is a well-known property of denaturation. At the same time, this effect is determined by the prevented thermal denaturation and associated aggregation. The evidence for this fact is provided by the Dx/Dt curves that indicate the preservation of the protein's native organization(86).

Protein Aggregation: The study claims that allantoin prevents the specific aggregation of the protein. Consequently, the additive was beneficial for stabilizing the protein's native conformation that resulted in gelling and precipitation(87).

Differential Scanning Calorimetry : DSC analysis data showed that allantoin increases the thermal transition temperature of proteins, indicating enhanced thermal stability. This suggests that allantoin affects protein structure under heat stress conditions(88).

Mechanism of action: The stabilizing effect of allantoin can be explained by the interaction with the protein surface. More specifically, the small size and ability to form hydrogen bonds enable the molecule to interact with specific sites and, thus, prevent hydrophobic interaction(89).

(o.) Allantoin in Parkinson's Disease

The therapeutic potential of allantoin lies in its ability to target multiple pathways involved in PD pathogenesis. By bolstering antioxidative defenses and supporting cellular stress adaptation, allantoin holds promise as a neuroprotective agent. Clinical studies and experimental models have shown encouraging results, suggesting that allantoin supplementation or pharmacological interventions could potentially mitigate PD symptoms and slow disease progression

Neuroprotective Effects : Allantoin reduced oxidative stress and inflammation in neuronal cells, which are the main pathological determinants of Parkinson's disease. As such, allantoin can potentially slow the degeneration of dopaminergic neurons that characterizes this condition(90).

Oxidative Stress Reduction: Neuronal cells experienced reduced ROS and lipid peroxidation levels following allantoin treatment in this study. Thus, allantoin is strongly antioxidative(91).

Minimization of Inflammation: The concentration of the pro-inflammatory cytokines was significantly reduced. Thus, allantoin has anti-inflammatory properties that play a role in its neuroprotective actions(92).

- Molecular Pathways

By reviewing this it is explained that allantoin's neuroprotective effects result from a stimulating effect on antioxidative pathways and the modulation of mitochondrial function, which increases cellular resistance to neurotoxic challenges in this manner. The exact mechanisms by which the antioxidative effects are borne are listed below(93).

– **Mitochondrial Stress**: Allantoin reduced mitochondrial dysfunction and apoptosis in neuronal cells by enhancing their normal function. As a result, cells continue to produce ATP and do not engage in necrosis or apoptosis. Nrf2 Pathway Activation: Allantoin's antioxidative effects achieved through the activation of the Nrf2 pathway(93-100).

Conclusion-

From the above review, it is evident that allantoin possesses a wide range of pharmacological actions and mechanisms across different biological systems. In the nervous system, it exhibits neuroprotection by attenuating the oxidative stress and inflammation of neuronal cells, thus enhancing neuronal survival and function. Furthermore, its antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties make it worthwhile for protection from inflammation, scavenging of ROS, and against the oxidative damage of cells. Allantoin also exhibits analgesic pharmacological effects where it inhibits the pathways of inflammation by which the inflammatory agents lead to pain. Besides, allantoin has a promising effect on the management of diabetes and hypertension. This is by the regulation of glucose metabolism, where it increases the rate and extent by which glucose is metabolized. In the cardiovascular system, it enhances glucose metabolism, therefore, increasing the rate of blood sugar utilization as a source of energy in the metabolic activities of the body. Furthermore, allantoin improves the sensitivity of the heart tissues to insulin which in turn promotes glucose utilization. In the gastrointestinal tract, allantoin inhibits the aggregation of proteins and other macromolecules by penetrating the outer layers of the neural proteins, thus improving its metabolic functions compared to when it is degraded by various proteins. Overall, this provides an effective strategy that could be used in the management of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. In plant physiology, it aids in the enhancement of the tolerance of various stresses such as ion homeostasis and osmoregulation.

Conflict of interest :-

All authors declare no conflict of interest.

Acknowledgement:- I wholeheartedly thank **Mr. Lalit Parihar** for his useful comments, which have helped me to improve this review paper. My gratitude also goes to **Ms. Twinkle Kumari**, **Mr. Shiv Kumar Sharma**, and **Ms. Mansi Goswami** for assisting me in the process of the literature review. Their support and inspiration have facilitated the completion of this work.

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