

Unveiling the Medicinal and Ayurvedic Marvels and Mysteries of Cinnamon

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Abstract- Cinnamon is a perennial plant deeply rooted in the world of ethnopharmacology. It is one of the most ubiquitous spices revered globally. Its historical use as a traditional phytomedicine spans several centuries. Cinnamon is a medicinal plant with different compounds in its bark, leaves, fruits, and roots, like cinnamaldehyde, cinnamate, and cinnamic acid. Research on animals, in-vivo and in-vitro, showed that cinnamon has many health benefits as per Ayurveda and medical. These benefits include its ability to fight against various bacteria and fungi, and even some viruses. Similarly, It helps to reduce swelling and also works as an antioxidant. Cinnamon shows promising results in managing conditions like diabetes and cardiovascular health, and it also has effects as an antidepressant and even the potential to inhibit cancer progression. Additionally, its perceived efficacy as an analgesic underscores its multifaceted role in promoting human health. While this review comprehensively illuminates the medicinal and Ayurvedic attributes of cinnamon in both preclinical and clinical studies, its widespread utilisation in everyday life underscores its cultural and practical significance. Nevertheless, given the complex nature of its effects, this review highlights the imperative need for further research to establish comprehensive and conclusive recommendations regarding its optimal usage and potential therapeutic benefits.

Keywords- Cinnamon, Antibacterial, Antioxidant, Antidiabetic, Antiviral.

I. INTRODUCTION

Cinnamon comes from the bark of different trees in the *Cinnamomum* genus, belonging to the Lauraceae family, which has around 250 different types of plants. It is native to Sri Lanka and India, two-thirds are grown in Indonesia, and it is also cultivated in China, Burma, Vietnam, South America and the West Indies. There are four main species of commercially produced cinnamon, including *Cinnamomum verum* (*C. verum*), *Cinnamomum burmannii* (*C. burmannii*), *Cinnamomum cassia* (*C. cassia*), and *Cinnamomum loureiroi* (*C. loureiroi*). It is not only used as a spice for cooking but also encompasses applications in both traditional and contemporary medicine. These pharmacological properties of cinnamon include antibacterial (Gholamiveisi et al., 2023), antifungal (Özakar et al., 2023), antidiabetic (Mutlu et al., 2023), and antioxidant properties of cinnamon (Mutlu et al., 2023). Cinnamon has been employed as an anti-ulcer, anti-inflammatory (Ju et al., 2023), and anticancer agent (Banerjee and Banerjee, 2023). Cinnamon is generally utilized in the scent and essence sectors because of its fragrance and flavour, which may be used in a variety of foods, cosmetics,

and pharmaceuticals (Rao and Gan, 2014). The cinnamon plant contains different bioactive compounds and essential oils in its leaves, bark, and root, as shown (Błaszczuk et al., 2021).

Cinnamaldehyde and trans-cinnamaldehyde are the major compounds of cinnamon which are found in essential oil and contribute not only to its fragrance but also to the numerous biological effects associated with cinnamon (Błaszczuk et al., 2021). Research on *Cinnamomum osmophloeum* (*C. osmophloeum*) has proved that the cinnamon leaves essential oil encompasses a high concentration of trans-cinnamaldehyde. Therefore, *C. osmophloeum* is also used as a substitute spice for *C. cassia* in the spice industry (Ullah and Hassan, 2022).

Cinnamon (*C. zeylanicum*) is said to be one of the oldest medicinal plants. Cinnamon is a valuable spice enjoyed worldwide (Shivani and Chaudhary, 2020). E-cinnamaldehyde, found in the essential oil of *C. zeylanicum*, can counteract tyrosinase (Yu et al., 2022). Moreover, the antioxidants in cinnamon bark, called procyanidins, have different types known as A and B-type linkages (de Souza et al., 2021). People often use *C. cassia* in medicines because it has many therapeutic properties (Zaidi et al., 2015). The therapeutic roles of *C. cassia* include improved immunity and blood circulation along with its analgesic properties. Recent studies have also revealed that *C. cassia* treats oxidative stress, tumour formation, and mitochondrial dysfunction. In Alzheimer's disease, *C. cassia* plays a key role in preventing the aggregation of tau protein (Sharma et al., 2018). The significant component in the *C. cassia* extract is the cinnamaldehyde, which is described as an aromatic aldehyde and acts as an antipyretic agent by limiting the production of prostaglandin E₂ and interleukin-1 β (Das et al., 2022; Gunawardena et al., 2014).

Methods:

The current review was designed using an exhaustive and systematic search of the literature about various medicinal and health benefits of Spice cinnamon between 2010 and 2023. The explorations were performed using databanks, including Google Scholar (<http://www.scholar.google.com/> (accessed on 18 October 2023)), Science Direct (<http://www.sciencedirect.com/> (accessed on 19 October 2023)) Scirus (<http://www.scirus.com/>

(accessed on 20 October 2023)) and PubMed (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed> (accessed on 21 October 2023)). In our literature review, we concentrated on the latest research papers using the keywords: "cinnamon extract," "cinnamon's medicinal and Ayurvedic applications," "cinnamaldehyde," "bioactive compounds," and "medicinal properties of natural plants."

Bioactive Compounds and Essential Oils in Different Parts of the Cinnamon Plant:

The cinnamon plant contains different bioactive compounds and essential oils in its leaves, bark, and root. Cinnamyl acetate and coumarin are found in the fruit of cinnamon. Eugenol, cinnamaldehyde, and eucalyptol are predominantly found in the leaf oil, while trans-cinnamaldehyde, camphor, linalool, and benzoic acid, is the primary or fundamental compound present in the cinnamon bark or root bark oil as shown in Table 1 (Błaszczuk et al., 2021).

Typical Applications:

Cinnamon is very important as a spice but its essential oils and other components also have significant health benefits shown in Table 3. These benefits include the antibacterial (Gholamiveisi et al., 2023), antifungal (Özakar et al., 2023), antidiabetic (Mutlu et al., 2023), and antioxidant properties of cinnamon (Mutlu et al., 2023). Cinnamon has been employed as an anti-ulcer, anti-inflammatory (Ju et al., 2023), and anticancer agent (Banerjee and Banerjee, 2023). The risk of colon cancer can be decreased by cinnamon by enhancing colon health (Nile et al., 2023). Cinnamon acts as a coagulant to stop bleeding. Additionally, cinnamon promotes tissue regeneration and improves uterine blood circulation (Mahdavi Shahri, 2019). Cinnamon is a spice and flavouring ingredient that is also used to treat oral bacteria, bad breath, toothaches, and other dental issues (Nabavi et al., 2015).

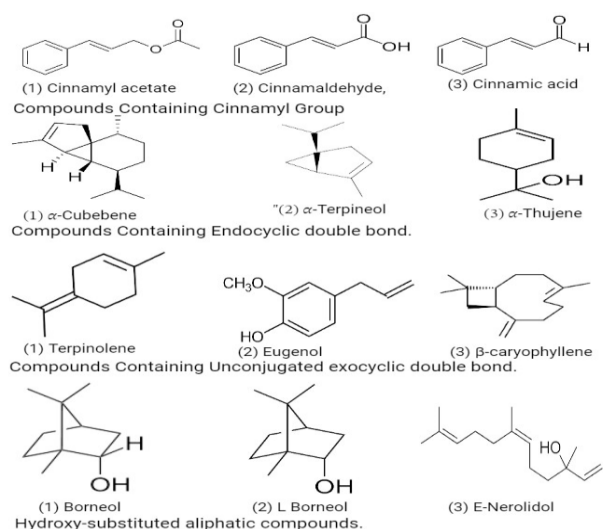
Chemical Composition of Cinnamon:

Cinnamon is comprised of numerous biologically active compounds including cinnamaldehyde, (E)-Cinnamyl acetate, Trans- α - Bergamotene, Caryophyllene oxide, α -Bergamotene, α -Copaene, Trans-Cinnamyl acetate, cinnamic acid, cinnamate and several other essential oils that regulate its medical and Ayurvedic properties and have varying health effects (Table 2) (Hassan et al.,

2017). According to Hariri and Ghiasvand, cinnamaldehyde presents a fragrance and spicy taste due to the absorption of oxygen (Hariri and Ghiasvand, 2016). Researchers have reported the existence of a broad spectrum of essential oils, such as trans-cinnamaldehyde, eugenol, caryophyllene oxide, L-borneyl acetate, cinnamyl acetate, L-borneol, β -caryophyllene, E-nerolidol, α -thujene, α -cubebene, α -terpineol, and terpinolene as shown in Figure 1 (Kowalska et al., 2021; Rao and Gan, 2014).

Table 1: Chemical Components of Different Parts of cinnamon.

Figure 1: Cinnamon Compounds Containing Cinnamyl, Endocyclic Double Bond, Unconjugated Exocyclic Double Bond, Hydroxy-Substituted Aliphatic Compound.



Cinnamon's key Ayurvedic Medicinal Applications:

Cinnamon is a helpful Ayurvedic phytomedicine plant for various health problems, as shown in Table 2. It is used as an expectorant and has anti-tubercular effects (Badnale et al., 2022; Thakur et al., 2021). Moreover, cinnamon is commonly used to treat sore throats, influenza, common colds, and headaches (Pathak and Sharma, 2021). Additionally, it helps to decrease cholesterol and strengthen the cardiac muscles (Shang et al., 2021). Its natural qualities make it an efficient rheumatoid arthritis therapy (Miraghajani and Ghiasvand, 2019) Furthermore, it can also aid in reducing menstrual discomfort. Recent research suggests that drinking warm cinnamon water regularly might temporarily alleviate menstrual pain (Irshad et al., 2022).

Table 2: Ayurvedic Benefits of Health Promoting Cinnamon.

Compound	Parts of plant	Properties	References
(E)-Cinnamyl acetate	Flowers of <i>C. zeylanicum</i>	Pesticide, fragrance	(Ashfaq et al., 2021)
Trans- α - Bergamotene	Flowers of <i>C. zeylanicum</i>	Medical properties and fragrance	(Adarsh et al., 2020)
Caryophyllene oxide	Flowers of <i>C. zeylanicum</i>	Medical properties insecticidal	(Apiaceae et al., 2011)
Terpene hydrocarbons	Buds of <i>C. zeylanicum</i>	Fragrances and flavouring agents	(Nair et al., 2022)
α -Bergamotene	Buds of <i>C. zeylanicum</i>	Medical properties and fragrance	(Jayaprakasha and Rao, 2011)
α -Copaene	Buds of <i>C. zeylanicum</i>	Natural fragrance and insect repellent	(Yassin et al., 2020)
Oxygenated terpenoids	Buds of <i>C. zeylanicum</i>	Anti-cancer properties.	(Tosya and Bolek, 2021)
Trans-Cinnamyl acetate	Fruits of cinnamon	Fragrance, Medical Properties	(Ribeiro-Santos et al., 2017)
Caryophyllene	Fruits of cinnamon	Anti-arthritic, anti-anxiety, and antidepressant.	(Zhang et al., 2019)
Cinnamaldehyde	Leaves of cinnamon Barks of cinnamon	Anti-diabetic, anti-cancer,	(Ribeiro-Santos et al., 2017)
Eugenol	Leaves of cinnamon Barks of cinnamon	Analgesic and is commonly used in dentistry.	(Nabavi et al., 2015).
Camphor	Root barks of cinnamon	Antiseptic, analgesic, used in vaporizers to aid cough suppression.	(Nabavi et al., 2015)

Health Benefits	Use	Recommended Method	References	Digestion	flatulence, abdominal pain, and diarrhoea	powdered bark with warm water and honey, or consume cinnamon tea daily	2021)
Relieves Cough and Cold	Acts as an expectorant and expels mucus	Consume cinnamon stick soaked in warm water with honey and ginger juice multiple times a day	(Badnale et al., 2022)	Alleviates Cardiac Ailments	Acts as a natural blood thinner, reduces blood coagulation	Add a small bark of cinnamon to tea or food regularly	(Shang et al., 2021)
Manages Diabetes	Regulates insulin production, reduces insulin resistance	Incorporate cinnamon supplements or a pinch of cinnamon in the diet regularly	(Shatwan et al., 2012)	Enhances Skin Health	Fights acne, increases collagen production	Apply a paste of cinnamon powder and honey on affected areas,	(De Silva, 2020)
Improves	Relieves	Infuse	(Grogan,				

		wash off after 10 minutes	
Remedies Arthritis	Reduces inflammation, offers pain relief	Apply cinnamon oil on affected areas or consume it regularly	(Vetal et al., 2013) (Miraghajani and Ghiasvand, 2019)
Uplifts Tooth And Gum Health	Prevents bad breath, tooth decay, and cavities	Try oil pulling with a drop of cinnamon oil in coconut oil or consume cinnamon tea regularly	(Nabavi et al., 2015).
Treats Candidiasis	prevents microbial infections like candida	Consume cinnamon tea to boost immunity or apply diluted cinnamon essential oil on affected areas for wound healing.	(Almeida et al., 2016; de Araújo et al., 2021)

E. coli, *P. aeruginosa*, *P. fluorescens*, *S. dysenteriae*, *S. Typhimurium*) (Lucas-Gonzalez et al., 2023). (Goñi et al., 2009) described that the combined therapy of cinnamon and clove oils has been shown to have antibacterial properties against Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria (Goñi et al., 2009). A recent research highlighted the antibacterial mechanism of action of cinnamon and its components. They emphasized several effects observed when cinnamon or its constituents interact with bacteria, including changes in the cell membrane and its lipid composition, suppression of ATPase, cell division, membrane protein, motility, and the formation of biofilms as shown in Figure 2 (Vasconcelos et al., 2018). Therefore, understanding the antibacterial mechanism of these derived compounds will aid in the development of new antibacterial substances. The in-vitro antibacterial activity of cinnamon extract (cinnamaldehyde) has been evaluated previously against *Salmonella enterica* (Ebani et al., 2019). Cinnamon and its oils have been linked to several antibacterial effects, according to investigations conducted by (Nabavi et al., 2015; Vasconcelos et al., 2018). A previous study revealed the effectiveness of cinnamon and other plant extracts against oral microflora. Overall, the Cinnamon bark essential oil (CBEO) is more effective than examined plant extracts like *Syzygium aromaticum* and *Azadirachta indica* (Salam et al., 2015). (Wei et al., 2018) evaluated the cinnamaldehyde to check their antibacterial activity, against *B. subtilis* and *E. coli*. In previous studies, different concentrations of cinnamaldehyde have been utilized and the inhibition zone diameters for *E. coli* and *B. subtilis* were noted (Wei et al., 2018). After this study, (Wang et al., 2016) tested the effectiveness of these analogues in preventing the growth of *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*) and *E. coli*. The findings showed that all these compounds inhibited the growth of *S. aureus* and *E. coli*, and the best antibacterial activity was shown against *E. coli*. When comparing the inhibition zone diameters, Wang found that the diameters of these analogues were much greater than that of cinnamon oil and that of ciprofloxacin. In the same study, Wang also tested two mould fungi and treated them with cinnamaldehyde analogues. The results showed more sensitivity of these fungi towards the cinnamaldehyde analogues when compared to the test bacteria: *S. aureus* and *E. coli* (Wang et

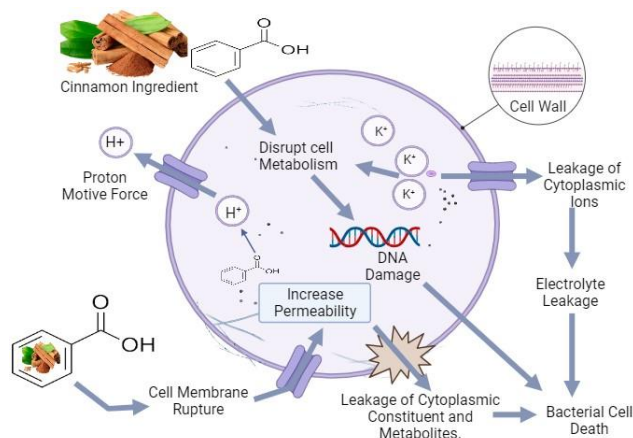
Medical properties of cinnamon:

Antimicrobial properties:

Cinnamon has been utilised in many studies and has shown significant antimicrobial properties. The antimicrobial activity of cinnamon was found to be more efficient when compared with commonly used antibiotics (El Atki et al., 2019). Cinnamaldehyde is the main component of cinnamon barks, widely known as "dar cheeni دار چینی", an aromatic aldehyde reported to have antibacterial activity against a variety of foodborne pathogens. Among the spoilage and foodborne pathogens, cinnamon essential oil has displayed antibacterial properties against various gram-positive bacteria (such as Bacillus species, *B. cereus*, *E. faecalis*, *Leuconostoc species*, *M. luteus*, *S. aureus*, *Streptococcus species*, *L. monocytogenes*, *L. grayi*) and gram-negative bacteria (including

al., 2016). So, various derivatives of cinnamon can be used as natural antimicrobial agents against a variety of microorganisms in a cost-efficient manner. In recent studies, *Trans*-cinnamaldehyde has been used for further development of its various derivatives. Apart from the mechanism of action, many studies have been carried out to test the antibacterial properties of *trans*-cinnamaldehyde and its derivative compounds (Doyle and Stephens, 2019).

Figure 2: Cinnamon Mechanism of Action as Antibacterial Agent.

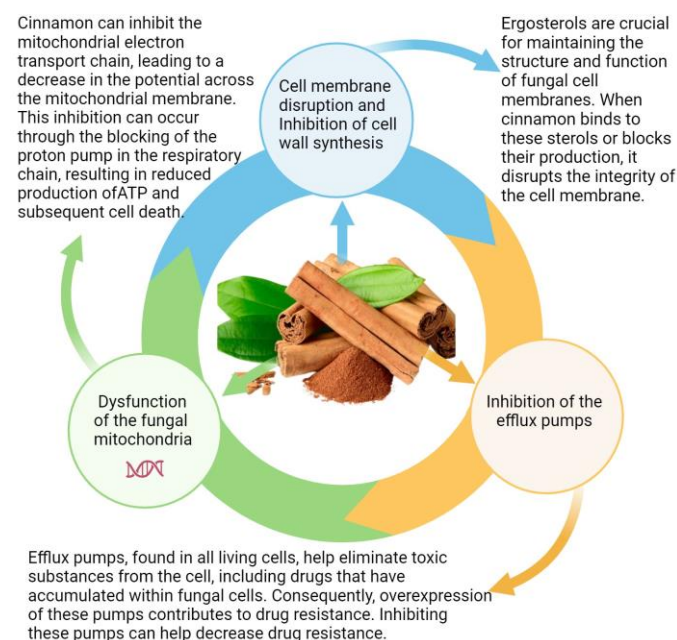


Antifungal Properties:

Cinnamon essential oil exhibits antifungal properties against various yeast and spoilage fungi, including *Aspergillus flavus*, *Mucor plumbeus*, *Penicillium expansum*, *Pediococcus halophilus*, *Aspergillus niger*, *Mucor circinelloides*, *Penicillium chrysogenum*, *Penicillium roqueforti*, *Penicillium citrinum*, and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (Doudi et al., 2016) (Lai et al., 2021). A study from (Hili et al., 1997) indicated that cinnamon oils have potential action against various yeast species, including *Pichia membranaefaciens*, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, *Torulopsis utilize*, *Candida lipolytica*, *Debaryomyces hansenii*, *Candida albicans*, *Zygosaccharomyces rouxii*, and *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* (Hili et al., 1997). Its antifungal efficacy is often superior to other essential oils like garlic, oregano, rosemary clove, Carvacrol, ginger, and eucalyptus (Begum et al., 2022; Ebrahimzadeh et al., 2021; Radi et al., 2022). Furthermore, (Xie et al., 2017) investigated the relationship between the chemical structure of phenylpropene compounds in cinnamon essential oil and their

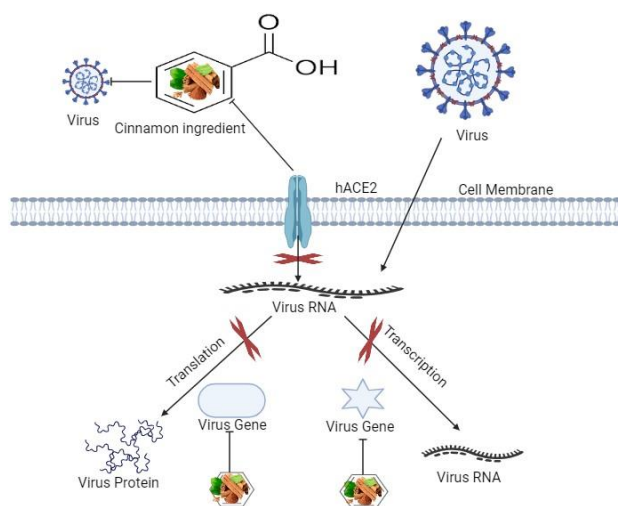
antifungal effects. They found that the presence of a conjugated double bond, the length of the carbohydrate chain outside the ring, and the level of lipophilicity are critical determinants influencing the oil's antifungal properties (Xie et al., 2017). Cinnamon can inhibit fungal growth by various mechanisms, including cell membrane disruption, inhibition of cell wall synthesis, Dysfunction of the fungal mitochondria and Inhibition of the efflux pumps as shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3: Cinnamon Mechanism of Action as Antifungal Agent.



Antiviral Properties:

Cinnamaldehyde produced from cinnamon bark inhibits the development of influenza A/PR/8 virus in vitro (Madin-Darby canine kidney cells) and in vivo (mice infected with the lung-adapted PR-8 virus (Hayashi et al., 2007)). The bark extract of cinnamon (*C. cassia*) inhibits the virus-induced cytopathogenicity in HIV-infected MT-4 cells (Diksha et al., 2019). In vitro findings show that the bark oil of *C. cassia*, as well as aqueous and ethanolic extracts, exhibit significant antiviral activity against HI- and influenza virus (Akram et al., 2018). Although the two cinnamon species contain comparable components, these qualities have not been recorded for *C. zeylanicum*. More in vivo and in vitro study, in addition to human data, is required to prove cinnamon's antibacterial capabilities in free-living persons. Cinnamon can stop virus replication by inhibiting its transcription and translation process as shown in the figure in Figure 4 (Yakhchali et al., 2021).

Figure 4: Cinnamon Mechanism of Action as Antiviral Agent.**Anti- Inflammation properties:**

Several researches on medicinal plants and their constituents have demonstrated that cinnamon has anti-inflammatory properties. CBEQ from *C. zeylanicum* tree has been relied used for centuries, in Ayurvedic medicine to relieve joint pain and reduce inflammation (Rani et al., 2023). In India, it's still used today for these purposes, likely because of its strong anti-inflammatory properties. CBEQ was found to significantly lower the release of inflammatory cytokines and adhesion molecules, including those involved in tissue remodelling (Tanwar, 2019). It was seen to dramatically decrease a specific immune-controlling protein known as macrophage colony-stimulating factor. These discoveries suggest that CBEQ can help reduce inflammation and potentially speed up the healing of wounds. Earlier studies have also hinted that both CBEQ and its main active element, cinnamaldehyde, might be able to reduce inflammation (Chen et al., 2016; Mendes et al., 2016; Wang et al., 2015). To date, various flavonoid compounds including hesperidin, quercetin, gossypin, hypoplastic encephalin, and hibifolin have been identified and shown to have anti-inflammatory properties (Niranjani and Bhuvanewari, 2022). A recent study revealed that *C. cassia* bark contains two hydroxy cinnamaldehyde, effectively inhibiting the

production of nitric oxide by blocking the activation of the nuclear factor kappa-light-chain-enhancer of activated B cells (NF- κ B) (Banu and Lunghar, 2023). This finding suggests that the compound could serve as an anti-inflammatory agent. The *C. cassia* ethanolic extract demonstrated significant anti-inflammatory properties by decreasing the stimulation of Src/spleen-tyrosine-kinase- (Src/Syk-) mediated NF- κ B (Hariri and Ghiasvand, 2016). Certain compounds in *C. ramulus* can reduce inflammation in the central nervous system by controlling the production of specific enzymes and chemicals. They were seen to decrease the activity of certain enzymes like inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) and cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2), and they also reduce the production of nitric oxide (NO) (Rao and Gan, 2014). By using this mechanism, *C. ramulus* may be used for the treatment or prevention of neurodegenerative disorders caused by inflammation (Hariri and Ghiasvand, 2016).

Antioxidant properties:

Antioxidants are chemicals that interact with free radicals, slowing their oxidative process and protecting cells from damage. Antioxidant compounds present in natural foodstuffs maintain human health, which is essential to survival. Antioxidants are chemicals that interact with free radicals, slowing their oxidative process and protecting cells from damage. Antioxidant compounds present in natural foodstuffs maintain human health, which is essential to survival. Besides this antioxidants are also one of the main additives in the food industry utilized in fats and oils to prevent deterioration (Gulcin, 2020). Cinnamon and medicinal herbs have quickly gained popularity as sources of advantageous antioxidants that can affect various diseases. Marta et al. demonstrated that cinnamon bark infusion exhibits potent antioxidant properties owing to the presence of polyphenols and volatile oil compounds (Marta et al., 2016). A simple extraction procedure may be used to create a high-antioxidant solution (Yashin et al., 2017). Cinnamon (*C. zeylanicum* and *C. cassia*) is the highest potential source of antioxidants that are thought to be critical in addressing free radical reactions and minimizing damage in metabolic diseases and age-related illnesses in humans and animals (Rao and Gan, 2014).

Several cinnamon extracts contain biologically active compounds including trans-cinnamaldehyde, linalool, and eugenol. Abeysekera et al. confirmed that fully grown cinnamon leaves are very efficient in dealing with oxidative stress associated with chronic illnesses (Abeysekera et al., 2022). Cinnamaldehyde and its derivatives are the key components that contribute to natural therapeutic qualities. However, their study included two novel compounds: the lignan pinoresinol (PRO) and the flavonol (-)-(2R,3R)-5,7-dimethoxy-3',4'-methylenedioxy-flavan-3-ol (MFO), both of which have natural medicine applications by acting as oxidative stress inhibitors (Abeysekera et al., 2019; Li et al., 2019).

The ethanolic extract from *C. cassia* demonstrated notable inhibition (96.3%), surpassing the natural antioxidant α -tocopherol (93.74%). In general, cinnamon displayed superior antioxidant properties in comparison to other commonly used spices (Abhay et al., 2021).

Cinnamon contains tannins, which are nonvolatile bioactive chemicals that have antioxidant effects and may have medicinal benefits. It includes both condensed tannins (proanthocyanidins) and hydrolyzable tannins both of which are known to be helpful (Ghosh, 2015). Tannins are known for their advantageous pharmacological effects, with their hydrolysis in a microbial environment leading to the generation of bioavailable metabolites responsible for systemic benefits (Sallam et al., 2021). The amount of tannins is commonly measured in percentages and varies according to the cinnamon species (Al-Numair et al., 2007). For example, the amount of tannins in *C. zeylanicum* was found to be 2.18% and 0.65%, measured in terms of catechins. In another study using LC-MS, it was discovered that *C. burmannii* extract has significant levels of condensed tannins, with 23.2% being proanthocyanidins and 3.6% being (epi)catechins (Shan et al., 2007). According to a rat study, using *C. verum* bark powder (10%) for 90 days resulted in antioxidant activities as shown by glutathione (Khanikar et al.), lipid conjugate dienes, and cardiac and hepatic antioxidant enzymes. According to a study, cinnamon oil may have superoxide-dismutase- (SOD-) like action as evidenced by the inhibition of pyrogallol autoxidation inhibition. Cinnamon's aqueous and alcoholic extract (1: 1) can greatly

reduce lipid peroxidation and fatty acid oxidation in vitro (Dhuley, 1999).

Anti-diabetic properties:

Diabetes is highly prevalence and has become a significant public health concern. Due to the limitations of current glucose-lowering therapies, it is critical to explore and develop natural anti-diabetic alternatives (Sharma et al., 2020). Among the various varieties of cinnamon, *C. zeylanicum* is recognized for its efficacy as an alternative to diabetes (Ranasinghe et al., 2012). Cinnamaldehyde, constituting a significant component (65-80%) of the bark oil extracted from *C. zeylanicum*, demonstrates greater effectiveness in reducing plasma glucose levels in comparison to metformin. It enhances the expression of proteins linked to glucose transport and insulin signaling, while also regulating dyslipidemia. A molecule from cinnamon has been identified as "insulin-potentiating factor" (IPF) (Niranjani and Bhuvanawari, 2022).

Cinnamon bark has been shown to have properties that can help with diabetes in rats induced with streptozotocin. (Hassan et al., 2012). Furthermore, Many studies have indicated that extracts from cinnamon can lower both cholesterol and blood sugar levels (Silva et al., 2022). In a research study, investigating the effects of different spices, the aqueous extract of cinnamon demonstrated an insulin-potentiating effect 20 times greater than that of the other spices (Rao and Gan, 2014). The pure hydroxychalcone polymer, also known as methylhydroxychalcone polymer (MHCP) can promote glucose oxidation (Senevirathne et al., 2022). Following this characterization, a novel substance called naphthalene methyl ester was created from hydroxycinnamic acid derivatives which have blood glucose-lowering effects, further confirming the anti-diabetic effects of cinnamon (Senevirathne et al., 2022).

Antiplatelet and antithrombotic properties and cardiovascular properties:

Studies have shown that cinnamaldehyde has properties that can prevent blood platelets from sticking together and forming clots. (Mehrpour et al., 2020; Radice et al., 2017). Studies on anaesthetised rats have shown that it can also affect the heart and blood vessels by reducing blood pressure and relaxing the arteries. When the arteries were stimulated to contract, cinnamaldehyde helped to relax arteries (Yang et al., 2015). These studies suggest

that cinnamaldehyde shows cardiovascular effects as it carries out signals beyond the receptors. In the studies by (Xue et al., 2011) cinnamaldehyde was found to cause vasodilation in aorta rings that were isolated from rats (Xue et al., 2011). An active component of *C. cassia*, known as 2-methoxycinnamaldehyde (2-MCA), reduces the expression of vascular cell adhesion molecule-1 (VCAM1) in TNF α -activated endothelial cells, suggesting a potential mitigation of ischemia/reperfusion (I/R) injury through the induction of hemeoxygenase (HO) 1 (Pandey et al., 2020). A recent study indicates that the two compounds derived from *C. cassia*, namely cinnamaldehyde and cinnamic acid, may possess protective properties against myocardial ischemia, highlighting cinnamon's potential in treating cardiovascular disorders (Das et al., 2022). Cinnamaldehyde has been shown to have beneficial effects on the cardiovascular system in various studies (Mohammed, 2020; Shang et al., 2021; Yang et al., 2015). Additionally, a notable significant lignan known as (Cinnamophilin) derived from *C. philippinensis*, has exhibited inhibition of the thromboxane A2 (TXA2) receptor in rats and guinea pigs (Nagaty, 2019). Cinnamophilin is considered a significant inhibitor of thromboxane synthase and a TXA2 receptor antagonist, and potentially beneficial in treating conditions associated with TXA2-related disorders, such as platelet aggregation and malignancies or cancer (Anand et al., 2016; Mollazadeh and Hosseinzadeh, 2016; Rao and Gan, 2014). Cinnamophilin could potentially help prevent vascular disorders and atherosclerosis by stopping the growth of vascular smooth muscle cells through the thromboxane receptor (Asgary et al., 2018; Rao and Gan, 2014). Cinnamaldehyde might widen blood vessels by blocking the entry and release of calcium. Along with its insulinotropic effects in insulin insufficiency, cinnamaldehyde delays the development of hypertension in people with types 1 and 2 diabetes by abridging vascular contractility (Nagaty, 2019)

Analgesic and Antipyretic properties:

C. cassia has been widely utilized in pharmaceutical preparations due to its various medicinal properties. The therapeutic roles of *C. cassia* include analgesic and antipyretic properties along with improving immunity and blood circulation (Hariri and Ghiasvand, 2016). Cinnamaldehyde is the main component in *C. cassia*

extract. (Jardim et al., 2018). It helps reduce fever by stopping the body from making sure things like prostaglandin E2 and interleukin-1 β . Scientists found that this happens because it affects some parts of the cells of mice that help in this process (Lu et al., 2022).

Anticancer properties:

In an in-vitro investigation, the water-soluble polysaccharide and different cinnamon extracts were tested for anticancer properties utilizing a cell proliferation assay on macrophage cell lines (Goyal et al., 2018). The study showed that a specific part of cinnamon helps the immune system more than other parts they tested. Also, the watery cinnamon extract could make mouth cancer grow slower, as they found out (Krauze et al., 2021).

Wound healing properties:

Cinnamon ethanolic extract has wound-healing effects in mice. The mice were administered 1.5 per cent or 3 per cent cinnamon extract for 14 days. The results demonstrated that 3 per cent of cinnamon extract has significant wound-healing capabilities (Pathak and Sharma, 2021).

Antidepressant and antianxiety properties:

Researchers have discovered that cinnamon essential oil can help with anxiety and depression (Sohrabi et al., 2017). They used tests like the forced swim test and the tail suspension test to check the antidepressant effects of Cinnamon essential oil (Sohrabi et al., 2017).

The elevated plus maze test (EPM) and the open field test were utilized by researchers to explore the CEO's anti-anxiety action (Han et al., 2018). In the FST test, Cinnamon significantly reduced the immobility time delay and extended the overall length of immobility whereas the EPM test showed a substantial reduction in entries into the open arms (Pathak and Sharma, 2021). As a result, these findings support that cinnamon extract possesses both anti-anxiety and anti-depressive effects.

Table3: Cinnamon's Miscellaneous Health Benefits: A Comprehensive Overview of its Impact on Human Well-being.

Health Benefits	Plant Source	Compound	Mechanism of Action	References
Antimicrobial	Cinnamon	Cinnamaldehyde	Inhibits the growth of bacteria.	(Vasconcelos et al., 2018)
	Cinnamon	Cinnamaldehyde	Inhibit the growth of <i>S. aureus</i> and <i>E. coli</i> , and the best antibacterial activity was shown against <i>E. coli</i>	(Wang et al., 2016).
Antidiabetic	Cinnamon Extract	Polyphenols and Cinnamaldehyde	Enhances insulin sensitivity and reduces cholesterol synthesis, helping to lower blood sugar and cholesterol levels.	(Sivaranjani et al., 2021)
	<i>C. zeylanicum</i>	Cinnamaldehyde	Demonstrates greater effectiveness in reducing plasma glucose levels and also enhances the expression of proteins linked to glucose transport and insulin signalling	(Niranjani and Bhuvanewari, 2022)
Antioxidant	Cinnamon	Cinnamaldehyde	Acts as an antioxidant, protecting the body from harmful substances.	(Ranasinghe et al., 2012)
	<i>C.zeylanicum and C cassia</i>	Cinnamaldehyde	Highest potential source of antioxidants that are thought to be critical in addressing free radical	(Rao and Gan, 2014)

			reactions and minimizing damage in metabolic diseases and age-related illnesses in humans and animals	
Neuroprotective	Cinnamon Oil	Cinnamaldehyde	Enhances antioxidant defense mechanisms, reduces oxidative stress, and modulates gene expression to protect the brain from pesticide-induced damage.	(Ahmed et al., 2021)
	Cinnamomum species	Essential oils mainly cinnamaldehyde and sodium benzoate	Mainly protect against oxidative stress-induced cell death, reactive oxygen species generation, and autophagy dysregulation, thus acting in a potentially neuroprotective manner	(Angelopoulou et al., 2021)
Antiviral treatment	Cinnamon Extract	Polyphenols	Modulates immune responses, preventing excessive immune reactions in COVID-19.	(Yakhchali et al., 2021)
	<i>C. cassia</i>	Cinnamaldehyde	Inhibits the virus-induced cytopathogenicity in HIV-infected MT-4 cells.	(Diksha et al., 2019).
Anticancer	Cinnamaldehyde and Cinnamon Essential Oil	Cinnamaldehyde	Inhibits the proliferation of colon cancer cells and induces apoptosis, potentially suppressing colon cancer development.	(Kosari et al., 2020; Kumar et al., 2019)
	Cinnamon	Cinnamaldehyde	Interaction of its molecules in different pathways involved in the proliferation, survival, spread and programmed	(Alsayadi et al., 2022)

			death of cells	
Lipid-lowering	Cinnamon Extract	Polyphenols	Inhibits enzymes involved in cholesterol synthesis, leading to a decrease in cholesterol and triglyceride levels in the body.	(Alsoodeeri et al., 2020) (El Sayed and Moustafa, 2016)
	Cinnamon	polyphenol	Decrease body weight, visceral fat, and lipid profile.	(Tuzcu et al., 2017)

Limitations:

Cinnamon bark oil and cinnamaldehyde have irritating properties. It can irritate dosages larger than 0.2 grams per day which is equivalent to approximately 15-20 grams of crude drug (Pathak and Sharma, 2021). These findings were documented by the European Scientific Cooperative on Phototherapy in 2003 (ESCAP, 2003).

Conclusion:

Cinnamon, a well-known phytomedicine plant used in many Ayurvedic and medical systems worldwide, has various parts with different significant effects. Its bark, oils, and compounds have been well studied. Cinnamon, used as a spice for a long time, has not shown any adverse effects. Research has shown it can help with diabetes, inflammation, and maybe even cancer. It also prevents bacteria and harmful other microbes. Different types of cinnamon have been looked at for health benefits, but we need more research, especially for its traditional use against cancer and conditions like heart problems and brain issues, to have better proof from tests.

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