

CONTENTS

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>xvi</i>
<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>xx</i>
<i>Preface</i>	<i>xxii</i>
Chapter 1. Introduction	1
1.1. An overview of the research problem	1
1.2. Thesis Objectives	6
1.3. Thesis Contribution	7
1.4. Thesis Organization	7
References	10
Chapter 2. Review of literature	15
2.1. Pathophysiology of Cerebral ischemia	15
2.2. Therapeutics in cerebral ischemia	18
2.2.1. Treatment with Thrombolytic Drugs	19
2.2.2. Endovascular Thrombectomy Strategy	19
2.2.3. Antiplatelets and Anticoagulants	20
2.2.4. Neuroprotective Strategies	20
2.3. Withanolide A as a neuroprotectant	24
2.4. Endogenous hormones and Neuroprotection	25
2.5. Cerebral Ischemic Models in Rodents	28
2.6. Molecular Docking Simulation in Drug Designing	31
References	34

Chapter 3. In-silico identification of withanolide a as a neuroprotectant	45
3.1. Introduction	46
3.2. Materials and Method	48
3.2.1. Selection and preparation of inhibitors	48
3.2.2. Retrieval of PARP-1 Enzyme Structure	50
3.2.3. Preparation of Enzyme for Docking	50
3.2.4. Simulating Molecular Docking Studies	50
3.3. Results	51
3.3.1. Analyzing inhibition potential of <i>W. somnifera</i> phytochemicals against PARP-1	51
3.3.2. Analysis of Binding Mechanism of Inhibitors with PARP-1	54
3.3.3. Analysis of off-target interaction of the high-affinity phytochemicals	57
3.4. Discussion	60
3.5. Conclusion	65
References	66
Chapter 4. Brain penetration and neuroprotection by Withanolide A	71
4.1. Introduction	72
4.2. Materials and Methods	74
4.2.1. Preparation of Withanolide A solutions	74
4.2.2. Administration of Withanolide A for brain penetration	75
4.2.3. Determination of WA concentration in rat brain	75
4.2.4. Global Cerebral ischemia induction	75
4.2.5. Post-treatment by different doses of WA	76

4.2.6. Determination of cerebral infarction	77
4.2.7. Quantification of blood brain barrier (BBB) damage	77
4.2.8. Measurement of cerebral edema	78
4.2.9. Evaluation of neurotransmitters	78
4.2.10. Calcium Concentration Estimation	79
4.2.11. Nitrate Estimation	79
4.2.12. Histopathological studies	80
4.2.13. Tissue damage evaluation with Annexin-FITC/PI	80
4.2.14. Statistical Analysis	80
4.3. Results	80
4.3.1. Brain penetration of WA	80
4.3.2. Effect of WA on cerebral infarction	81
4.3.3. WA post-treatment restores BBB breakdown	82
4.3.4. Effect of WA post-treatment on brain water content	83
4.3.5. WA post-treatment restores neurotransmitter level in brain	84
4.3.6. WA restores cerebral calcium concentration	85
4.3.7. Effect of WA on cerebral nitrate level	86
4.3.8. Effect of WA on brain histopathology	86
4.3.9. WA post-treatment reduces apoptotic and necrotic cell death	87
4.4. Discussion	88
4.5. Conclusion	92
References	93
Chapter 5. <i>In-silico</i> screening of Estetrol as a possible neurotherapeutic	97

5.1.	Introduction	98
5.2.	Methods	101
	5.2.1. Selection and preparation of inhibitors	101
	5.2.2. Study of drug like properties of inhibitors	101
	5.2.3. Retrieval and preparation of RIPK1 Enzyme Structure	102
	5.2.4. Simulating Molecular Docking Studies	102
5.3.	Results	103
	5.3.1. Analyses of drug-like properties of estrogen molecules	103
	5.3.2. Analyzing the inhibition efficacy of the estrogen hormones	104
	5.3.3. Analysis of enzyme-ligand interaction	106
5.4.	Discussion	108
5.5.	Conclusion	112
	References	114
Chapter 6. <i>In-vivo</i> evaluation of neuroprotective efficacy of Estetrol		117
6.1.	Introduction	118
6.2.	Materials and Methods	119
	6.2.1. Induction of Global Cerebral Ischemia	120
	6.2.2. Preparation of E4 solutions and Dosage	121
	6.2.3. Cerebral Infarction Determination	121
	6.2.4. Blood Brain Barrier (BBB) Disruption	122
	6.2.5. Cerebral Edema	122
	6.2.6. Determination of Glutamate γ -Aminobutyric acid (GABA) concentration	123

6.2.7.	Calcium Concentration Estimation	123
6.2.8.	Nitrate Estimation	123
6.2.9.	CBF Analysis	123
6.2.10.	Histopathological study	124
6.2.11.	Statistical Analysis	124
6.3.	Results	124
6.3.1.	Dose dependent effect of E4 on cerebral infarction	124
6.3.2.	Restoration of BBB with E4 post-treatment	126
6.3.3.	Post-treatment of E4 reduces brain swelling	127
6.3.4.	Effect of E4 post-treatment on glutamate concentration	127
6.3.5.	E4 post-treatment reduces GABA concentration in brain compartments	128
6.3.6.	Effect of E4 concentrations on cerebral calcium level	129
6.3.7.	E4 attenuates nitrate level in brain	130
6.3.8.	E4 partially restores CBF	131
6.3.9.	Estetrol treatment ameliorates morphological changes in brain cortical region	132
6.4.	Discussion	133
6.5.	Conclusion	137
	References	138
Chapter 7.	<i>In-vivo evaluation of neuroprotective potential of Prolactin</i>	141
7.1	Introduction	142
7.2.	Materials and Methods	143
7.2.1.	Dose preparation of Prolactin and administration	143

7.2.2. Inducing Global Cerebral Ischemia by BCCAO	143
7.2.3. Evaluation of physiological parameters	144
7.2.4. Biochemical parameter Estimation	145
7.2.4.1 Estimation of Glutamate and γ - Aminobutyric acid (GABA) concentrations	145
7.2.4.2. Determination of Calcium concentration	145
7.2.4.3. Nitrate concentration Estimation	146
7.2.5. Analysis of Brain Parameters	146
7.2.5.1. Infarction volume Estimation	146
7.2.5.2. Study of Brain Edema	146
7.2.6. Cell death analysis by Annexin-FITC/PI staining	146
7.2.7. Statistical analysis	146
7.3. Results	147
7.3.1. Higher doses of PRL restores physiological conditions	147
7.3.2. Restoration of neurotransmitter levels by PRL	148
7.3.3. PRL restores brain calcium concentration	149
7.3.4. Cerebral nitrate levels were significantly reduced by PRL treatment	150
7.3.5. PRL Treatment decreases infarction volume	151
7.3.6. Cerebral edema was reduced due to PRL treatment	152
7.3.7. PRL treatment ameliorates cell death in cortical region	153
7.4. Discussion	154
7.5. Conclusion	158

References	159
Chapter 8. Conclusions and Future Studies	163
Publications	167