

## **ABSTRACT**

Ten pentacyclic triterpenes (1-10) were isolated from *Lavandula coronopifolia*. We evaluated their  $\alpha$ -glucosidase inhibitory activity, and found that the aglycones, 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 10 showed superior IC<sub>50</sub> values to the positive control. In order to explain the structural requirements for  $\alpha$ -glucosidase inhibitory activity, eleven derivatives were prepared, including one new compound, 2-formyl-(A) 1-19 $\alpha$ -hydroxy-1-norursane-2, 12-dien-28-oic acid 10c. The results demonstrated that a free hydroxyl at ring-A and a free carboxylic group at position 28 are key structural features for the  $\alpha$ -glucosidase inhibitory activity, also that an ursane skeleton is optimum for the activity. Additionally, enzyme kinetic analysis of pomolic acid 2, the most potent compound, revealed that it inhibited  $\alpha$ -glucosidase in a mixed-type manner. The molecular docking simulation validated this type of inhibition and highlighted the role of the C-3 hydroxyl and C-28 carboxylic groups in interaction with the enzyme in silico.

**Keywords:** Triterpene,  $\alpha$ -glucosidase, SAR, *Lavandula*, mixed inhibitor, catalytic, allosteric