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Hypolipidemic and hypoglycemic nature of lactobacillus strains in fermented vegetable and dairy products

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Fermented foods are functional foods with better nutritional and technological characteristics that prove numerous health benefits to the host as they harbor diverse group of microorganisms in them. There has been increased consumption of fermented vegetables, cereal based foods, dairy products, meat and fish products and rice based foods and beverages throughout the globe. Diseases like obesity, cardiovascular diseases and diabetes are the chief metabolic disorders that have become a leading concern of public health in the world. According to the World Health Organization statistics, approximately 422 million people, around the globe, suffer from diabetes, and about 2.6 million deaths, worldwide, have been caused due to raised cholesterol levels in humans. Although there is no doubt that low-fat and low-carbohydrate diets are an effective means of lowering blood cholesterol and managing blood sugar levels under experimental conditions, however, they appear to be less effective, owing to poor compliance, which can be linked to the diets' low palatability and acceptability by consumers. Therefore, there is a need for novel strategies to mitigate the effects of raised blood glucose and blood cholesterol levels, also keeping in mind the consumer acceptability. Probiotic lactic acid bacterial supplements have gathered much attention in the prevention of diet induced metabolic diseases. *Lactobacillus* is the largest genus falling under the group of Lactic acid bacteria which includes approximately 300 species of bacteria and innumerable strains. Further, they have a long history of use in food fermentation and has also procured the "generally recognized as safe" status. This genus is accredited as probiotics due to their countless health-promoting effects on the host. They have been suggested to facilitate positive contribution to the nutritional, physiological, microbiological and immunological effect on the host. This paper focuses on the *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies of *Lactobacillus* probiotics reported from fermented vegetable and milk products in the treatment of obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.

KEYWORDS

lactobacillus, hypolipidemic, hypoglycemic, GRAS, metabolic

Introduction

In recent times, people's inclination towards unhealthy lifestyle, intake of calorie-rich diet, low intake of fruits and vegetables have led to a drastic increase in obesity-related metabolic disorders such as hypertension, fatty liver disease, type 2 diabetes, and hyperlipidemia (Gomes et al., 2014; Albano et al., 2018; Kim et al., 2019; Chen et al., 2020). It is noteworthy that diabetes and raised total cholesterol is a prominent cause of disease prevalent among the people throughout the globe (Townsend et al., 2016; Ghatani et al., 2022). The World Health Organization (WHO) delineates Ischemic Heart Disease (IHD), stroke and Diabetes among the top 10 global cause of death in 2019 (WHO, 2022a). The major contributory factor for the global prevalence of cardiovascular disease (CVD) is hyperlipidemia (Guo et al., 2016). The danger of heart attack in people with hyperlipidemia is three times higher than in those with normal blood lipid profiles (Albano et al., 2018). As per the prediction of World Health Organization (WHO), cardiovascular disease shall become a prime reason for death by the year 2030 (Tang et al., 2022). Also, the WHO reports from the year 1980–2014 suggests that the prevalence of diabetes have risen from 108 to 422 million (WHO, 2022b). A 5% upsurge in premature death due to diabetes between the years 2000–2016 has also been recorded (WHO, 2022a).

Hyperlipidemia denotes a lipid metabolic disorder in which the blood contains abnormally elevated levels of triglycerides (TG), total cholesterol (TC), low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C), very low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (VLDL-C); and declined levels of high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C) (Chen et al., 2014). According to "The third Report of the Expert Panel on Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Cholesterol in Adults", optimum levels of LDL-C, total cholesterol, triglycerides are <100 mg/dl, <200 mg/dl and <150 mg/dl, respectively, while the favorable level of HDL-C is not below 40 mg/dl (Ali et al., 2022). The concentration of serum LDL has determined to bring forth utmost adverse cardio-metabolic effects, chiefly through the elevation of atherosclerosis (Skrypnik et al., 2018). Similarly, an elevated level of serum triglycerides (TG) is also related to cardiovascular risks. 1 mmol/L rise in serum TG concentration is accountable for 32% increased cardiovascular risks in males and 76% increased cardiovascular risks in females (Skrypnik et al., 2018). Reports have also suggested the relation of Hyperlipidemia to the activation of inflammation by the increased production of inflammatory cytokines (e.g., tumor necrosis factor alpha and interleukin 6). Cytokines can in-turn play vital roles in the pathophysiology of atherosclerosis (Reamtong et al., 2021).

Diabetes, often known as diabetes mellitus, is characterized by persistently high blood glucose levels inside the body. Diabetes has caused 6.7 million of deaths in 2021, despite of the pandemic COVID-19. According to projections, 783 million adults will

have diabetes by 2045, accounting for about 12% of the world's adult population (Algonaiman et al., 2022). It is classified into two categories: type 1 diabetes, in which the pancreas fails to produce the hormone insulin. Insulin resistance is thought to be the cause of Type 2 Diabetes, in which cells fail to respond properly to insulin. Type 2 diabetes affects more than 90% of people and is considered among the most common diseases. Another kind of diabetes is gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM), which occurs after or during pregnancy and is marked by the emergence of glucose intolerance (Malchoff, 1991; Cabello-Olmo et al., 2019). It can also be caused by a combination of poor insulin production and sensitivity, as well as hormonal imbalance during pregnancy (Gardner and Shoback, 2017). Thus, it is a complex disease that accounts for roughly 3.5 percent of non-communicable disease mortality (Gomes et al., 2014). Numerous metagenomic studies have shown that dysregulation in the gut microbiome (GM) has a direct influence on the development of T2DM by affecting gut permeability, inflammation, the immune system, and energy metabolism. As a result, modulation of the GM by bioactive substances has recently gained popularity in recent years in the search for suitable bioactive components or formulations with preventative or therapeutic potential for T2DM (Sharma et al., 2022). T2DM patients are at a much greater risk of life-threatening complications including cardiovascular disease, eye problems, and kidney damage (Wang et al., 2022). In fact, patients with hepatocellular disease are more susceptible to developing diabetes (Wang et al., 2022). Despite this there is no satisfactory cure has been discovered. But only option is to keep blood sugar levels as normal as possible, which requires the use of medicines. Nevertheless, lifestyle changes including a balanced diet, regular exercise and trying to maintain a normal body weight have now been reported as first-line monitoring for type 2 diabetes (Shen et al., 2016; Algonaiman et al., 2022).

Although various cholesterol-lowering drugs like statins and sugar-lowering drugs like sulfonylureas, have emerged, yet the long-term intake of drugs is not considered optimal because of the expense and the severe side effects associated with the drug therapy (Krentz and Bailey, 2005; Guo et al., 2016; Lu et al., 2017; Cabello-Olmo et al., 2019). Therefore, numerous non-pharmacological outlook towards lowering cholesterol and sugar levels have been mapped out and researched, dietary approaches like the use of probiotics being one among them (Guo et al., 2016). Various clinical research suggested that the consumption of fermented food containing probiotics have a significant correlation to bettering human health (Mallappa et al., 2022). It was observed that long-term yoghurt ingestion has been linked to a lower risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD), type 2 diabetes (T2D), and mortality risk (Marco et al., 2017; Baruah et al., 2022). It was also observed that Kimchi, a traditional Korean fermented vegetable food, has been linked to anti-obesity and anti-diabetic activity (An et al., 2013; Baruah et al., 2022). This review focuses on the *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies of

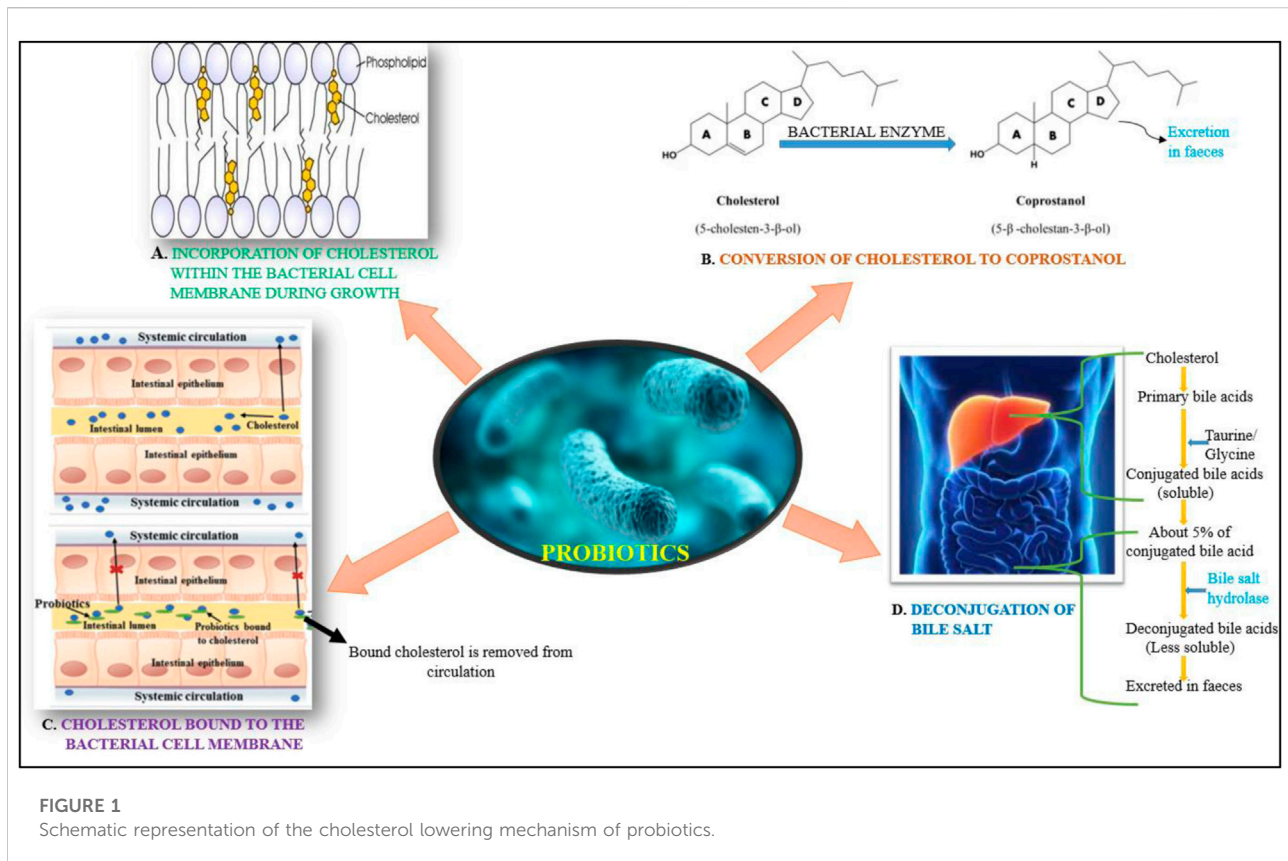


FIGURE 1
Schematic representation of the cholesterol lowering mechanism of probiotics.

Lactobacillus isolated from fermented vegetable and milk products in the treatment of hyperlipidemia and hyperglycemia.

Methodology

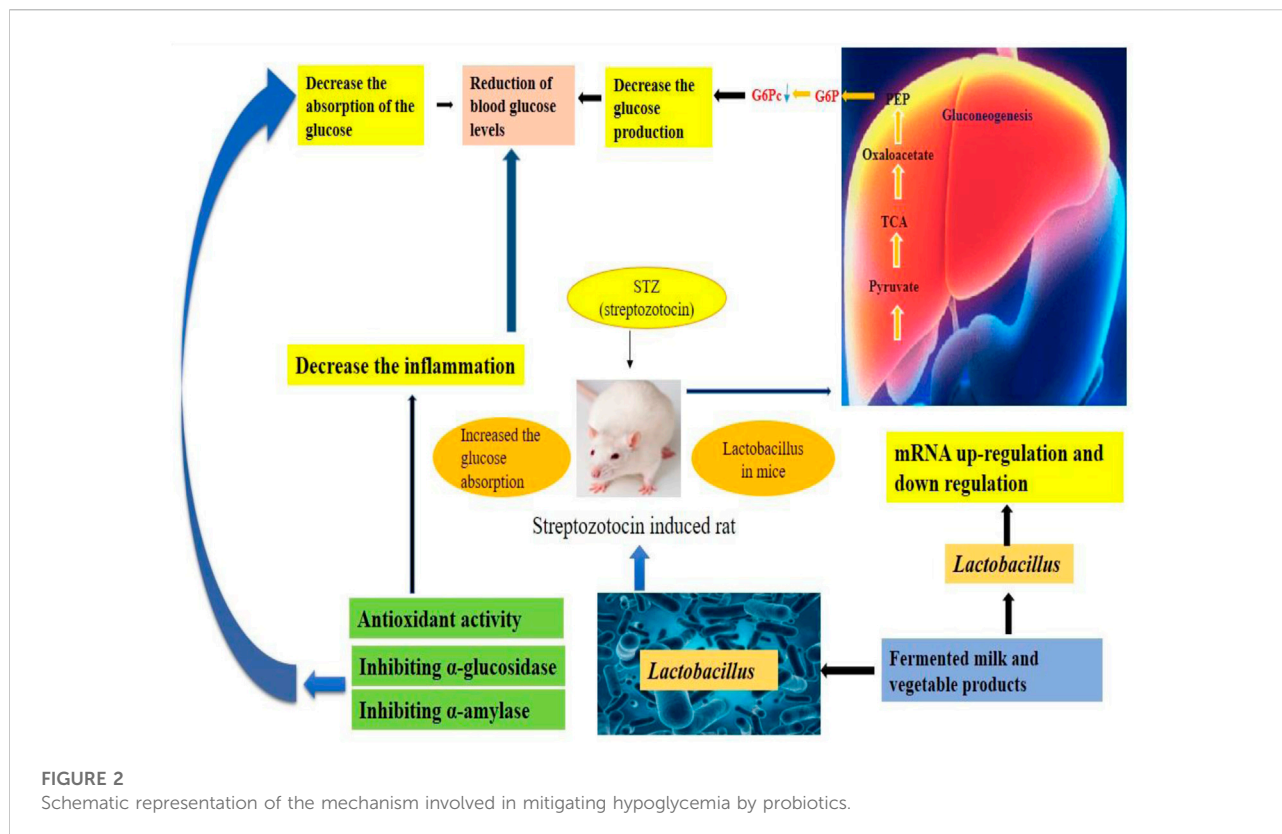
The articles included in the review were referred from Google scholar, PubMed and World Health Organization database. The period of the search was from the year 1991–2022.

Probiotics

Probiotics are the living microorganisms, whose intake (in adequate amount) has been reported to have numerous beneficial effects on the host in a variety of diseases, including oral diseases, gastrointestinal diseases, allergic diseases, prevention of cancer and autoimmune diseases, etc. (Aponte et al., 2020; Liang et al., 2021). They take part in promoting the host defense mechanisms and also help in stabilizing the gut microbiota (Hamouda et al., 2022). Furthermore, probiotics also have a high potential for survival in the intestine (acidic pH, enzymes, biliary salts, etc.) (Plaza-Diaz et al., 2019). Probiotics are regarded as the panacea of the 21st century due to their therapeutic potential in curing

various forms of illnesses (Aponte et al., 2020). In comparison to the traditional therapies, the bio-therapeutic role of probiotics has escalated their importance in food and medicine due to several competitive superiority over the traditional ones (Aponte et al., 2020). It is well known that diet has a direct influence on the composition of the gut microbiome, which in consequence affects one's well-being. It is believed that the intake of probiotic containing food may positively affect one's health (Raghuvanshi et al., 2019).

Numerous research shows a strong link between probiotic supplementation and chronic metabolic illnesses such as hyperglycemia, hyperlipidemia, and hypertension (Liang et al., 2021). Reports have suggested that there is a good association between probiotic consumption and metabolic profile in diabetic individuals (Everard et al., 2013). Also, the hypolipidemic activity of the probiotic lactic acid bacterial members is one of their most promising characteristics (Albano et al., 2018). The mechanisms involved in mitigating the effects of hyperglycemia and hyperlipidemia has been outlined in Figures 1, 2, respectively. Among the most commonly used probiotics, *Lactobacillus* spp. Are popular helping in mitigating hyperlipidemia (Chen et al., 2020). Various strains of *Lactobacillus* present in the traditional fermented foods indicate remarkable protective outcomes on hyperlipidemia (Chen et al., 2020). Several



clinical and pre-clinical trials have underlined the importance of probiotic *Lactobacillus* spp. In the prevention and treatment of hyperlipidemia and hyperglycemia. Furthermore, *Lactobacillus* has been considered as GRAS with approved implication of safeness (Liu et al., 2018).

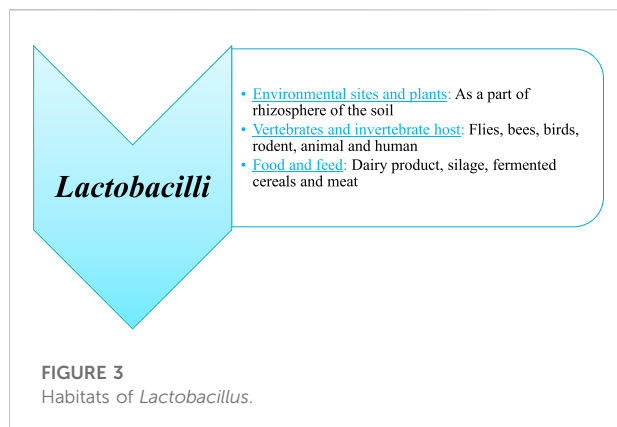
In recent years, the intake of fermented foods containing probiotics has unfolded as a prominent dietary strategy for boosting the human health. Generally, LAB from numerous genera *Lactobacillus*, *Streptococcus*, and *Leuconostoc*, are the most common reported bacteria found in fermented foods (Rezacc et al., 2018).

Fermented foods

Currently, the interest in fermented foods has re-newed due to its associated health benefits and its role as a carrier of probiotics (Laveffe et al., 2019). Fermented foods are defined as foods or beverages developed by the process of fermentation (Dimidi et al., 2019). Fermentation is a process by which the microorganisms bring about the preservation and enzymatic transformation of raw material into an organoleptically and nutritionally improved food (Sharma and Sarkar, 2015). A myriad of fermented food exists, depending on the variety of raw materials used, the fermentation procedures employed, the

variety of parameters involved in fermentation and the microorganisms involved in fermentation (Anal, 2019). Numerous raw materials have undergone fermentation, which includes fish and meat, dairy products and plant-based foods (vegetables, cereals, fruits, soybeans and other legumes) (Dimidi et al., 2019). Currently, about 5,000 varieties of fermented foods and beverages are consumed worldwide (Marco et al., 2021). Also, much research has been carried out in the dairy-based fermented food, while, the fermented plant-based foods are underexplored, except for some like *kimchi*, *sauerkraut*, etc (Wuyts et al., 2020).

Fermented foods are a promising source of the underexplored microorganisms (Wuyts et al., 2020). Generally, most fermented foods contain a minimum of 10^6 microbial cells per Gram, however, the microbial concentration vary depending on several variables like the product's origin, age and the time of consumption (Dimidi et al., 2019). Lactic acid bacteria and yeasts are the natural microbial population of vegetable fermentations (Medina-Pradas et al., 2017). Numerous Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacterial community, yeasts and molds compete for dominance during the vegetable-fermentation process but, usually the Lactic acid bacterial members predominate due to their potential of producing lactic acid, which lowers the pH and thereby inhibits the survival of other competing groups. Few



naturally present species of LAB involved in different vegetable fermentations are; *Leuconostoc mesenteroides*, *Pediococcus pentosaceus*, *Pediococcus acidilactici*, *Lactobacillus brevis*, *Lactobacillus plantarum* and *Lactobacillus pentosus* (Medina-Pradas et al., 2017).

Fermented vegetables

Fermented vegetables include fruits (edible part of a tree/plant) and vegetables (root/plant cultivated for food) (Medina-Pradas et al., 2017). While fruits are regarded as acidic foods, vegetables fall in the category of low acidic food. Nevertheless, the microorganisms involved in vegetable fermentation contribute to the acidity of the fermented product, irrespective of the raw material (Medina-Pradas et al., 2017). Fresh vegetables and fruits are liable to be spoiled by microorganisms and in few cases by pathogenic microorganisms contracted during their cultivation and harvest, thereby decreasing their shelf-life (Di Cagno et al., 2013; Di Cagno et al., 2015). Although various techniques like pasteurization, cooking, etc. may guarantee their safety yet, their long-term storage and escape from the unwanted change in the physical and chemical composition depends on the fermentation process (Di Cagno et al., 2013; Di Cagno et al., 2015). Lactic acid fermentation is one among the fermentation techniques to ensure safe fermented vegetables and fruits with extended shelf-life (Di Cagno et al., 2013; Di Cagno et al., 2015). Lactic acid-fermented vegetables like Sauerkraut, Kimchi and fermented cucumbers are the most studied owing to their commercial significance (Di Cagno et al., 2013; Di Cagno et al., 2015).

Lactobacillus spp. have multiple contributions in the fermentation process (Peng et al., 2018). They improve the nutritional aspect of the fermented vegetable by bringing about reduction in the nitrite and other harmful substance built-up and also inhibit the growth of harmful microorganisms (Peng et al., 2018). In addition to this, *Lactobacillus* contributes to the palatability of the fermented

food (Peng et al., 2018). They are crucial microorganisms having major physiological functions in animals and human beings (Peng et al., 2018). *Lactobacillus* is a highly salt tolerant genera (Peng et al., 2018). It can ferment the sugars present in the vegetables to produce acid thereby creating an acidic environment that inhibits the growth of other spoilage bacteria (Peng et al., 2018). Besides this, the metabolic by-products of *Lactobacillus* such as hydrogen peroxide, diacetyl, nisin, carbon dioxide, bacteriocin, etc. also add to their antimicrobial property (Peng et al., 2018). Further, the vegetables also contain particular chemicals like isothiocyanates and allyldisulphide that selectively favor *Lactobacillus* over the other microorganisms (Peng et al., 2018). Even though *Lactobacillus* spp. are found in lesser number in the plant's native microbiotic community, yet they predominate the vegetable fermentation process (Peng et al., 2018). Also, they represent the microbes having health-promoting effects (Peng et al., 2018). Apart from being a source of health-boosting compounds, plants also contain numerous anti-nutritional factors (Peng et al., 2018). However, the combined effects of plant enzymes and the metabolic activity of *Lactobacillus* increase the bioavailability and activity of phytochemicals, which in-turn results in a significant increase in the number of functional microbial metabolites, exerting beneficial health-promoting effects (Peng et al., 2018).

Currently, vegetable-based fermented foods gain much focus not only because of its health benefits, industrial applications, prebiotic property and as a source of probiotics/synbiotics, but also due to its use as a non-dairy alternative (Table 1) (Medina-Pradas et al., 2017; Wuyts et al., 2020). Unlike the dairy-based food products, vegetable-based fermented foods are favorable for the lactose-intolerant people, vegans, and people allergic to milk (Wuyts et al., 2020). Vegetable-based fermented foods may also find application in various industries. The food industry can thereby exploit these microbial strains to be used as starter cultures and their productions as enzymes, food additives and antibiotics, etc. For instance, the exopolysaccharides secreted may be used to enhance the texture of the food produced in the food industries. The pharmaceutical industry on the other hand can use these exopolysaccharides in reducing the viscosity of the blood (Wuyts et al., 2020). Thus, plant-based fermented foods contributes significantly to the human well-being by providing nourishment, vitamins, minerals, nutrients, etc. (Sivamaruthi et al., 2018). In anticipation, the future of fermented vegetable products are promising.

Fermented dairy products

Fermentation is a traditional method of food preservation that enhances the organoleptic, nutritional, and health-promoting qualities of foods while also improving their safety (Macori and Cotter, 2019). Fermented dairy products are made

TABLE 1 *Lactobacillus* isolated from some fermented vegetables and their functional attributes.

Microorganism	Isolated from	Functional attributes	References
<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> KLAB21	Kimchi	Antimutagenic activity MNNG (N-methyl-N -nitro-N-nitrosoguanidine), NQO (4-nitroquinoline-1-oxide), NPD (4- nitro-O-phenylenediamine) and aflatoxin B1	Park and Rhee, (2001)
<i>L. plantarum</i> CCFM47 <i>Lactobacillus acidophilus</i> CCFM137 and <i>Lactobacillus casei</i> Lc2w	Fermented Paocai	Immunomodulatory properties	Ai et al. (2016)
<i>L. farciminis</i> TY1	Tempoyak	Production of Bacteriocin which had an Inhibitory action against <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> ATCC13932	Jawan et al. (2019)
<i>L. plantarum</i> , <i>L. pentosus</i> and <i>L. brevis</i>	Fermented green olives	Antifungal activity against molds (<i>Aspergillusniger</i> , <i>Penicillium</i> spp, <i>Fusariumoxysporum</i> , <i>Rhizopus</i> spp.) and against yeasts (<i>Candida pelliculosa</i> and <i>Rhodotorula</i> spp.	Abouloifa et al. (2021)
<i>L. fermentum</i> SHY10	Fermented Chinese pickles	Antibacterial activityagainst <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Song et al. (2021)
<i>L.plantarum</i> LABP, <i>L. reuteri</i> LABR and <i>L.paracasei</i> LABC.	Pickled guava and papaya	Inhibitory activity against foodborne pathogens like <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> , <i>Escherichia coli</i> and <i>Salmonella enterica</i> serovar Typhimurium	Mohamad et al. (2022)
<i>L. plantarum</i> RB01-SO	Thai fermented vegetable products	<i>Inhibitory activity against Streptococcussuis</i> , an important food- borne pathogen which causes severe disease in pigs and its consumers	Showpanish et al. (2022)

TABLE 2 *Lactobacillus* isolated from some fermented dairy products and their functional attributes.

Microorganism	Isolated from	Functional attributes	References
<i>Lactobacillus acidophilus</i>	Fermented milk product of Saudi Arabia	Antagonistic activity against <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	Bin Masalam et al. (2018)
<i>Lactobacillus casei</i>	Traditional Fermented Dairy in Inner Mongolia	Formation of biofilm	Sun et al. (2020)
<i>Lactobacillus paracasei</i>	Traditional Fermented Dairy in Tibet	Formation of biofilm	Sun et al. (2020)
<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i>	Traditional Fermented Dairy in Inner Mongolia	Formation of biofilm	Sun et al. (2020)
<i>Lactobacillus reuteri</i>	Traditional Fermented Dairy in Tibet	Formation of biofilm	Sun et al. (2020)
<i>Lactobacillus fermentum</i>	Ghanaian indigenous fermented milk products	Inhibitory activities against pathogenic <i>Escherichia coli</i> and <i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	Motey et al. (2021)
<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i>	Ghanaian indigenous fermented milk products	Inhibitory activities against clinical isolates of <i>Escherichia coli</i> and <i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	Motey et al. (2021)
<i>Lactobacillus paracasei</i>	Goat cheese	β -galactosidase activity and GABA production	Rodríguez-Sánchez et al. (2021)
<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> and <i>Lactobacillus pentosus</i>	Iranian butter	Cholesterol reduction	Ostadzadeh et al. (2022)
<i>Lactobacillus delbrueckii</i> <i>Lactobacillus helveticus</i>	Iranian Yogurt	Show anti-diabetic anti-oxidant property	Shirkhan et al. (2022)
<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i>	Yogurt	Improvement of lipid profile	Tang et al. (2022)
<i>Lactobacillus paracasei</i> and <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i>	Traditional fermented dairy product of tibet	Prevent and alleviate T2D	Zhao et al. (2022)

by fermenting milk with different kinds of microorganisms which generally are regarded as safe (GRAS). During the fermentation process beneficial substances as well as bacterium-derived metabolites are produced. Fermented dairy products are an excellent matrix for the incorporation of additives and/or nutrients, which adds nutrition to the final

product, thereby making them actual functional foods that are intriguing in a balanced diet (García-Burgos et al., 2020). Fermented dairy products are gaining popularity among consumers due to their associated health benefits and nutritional benefits (Table 2). The impact of fermented dairy products on the intestinal microbiota is related to the

TABLE 3 *Lactobacillus* strains and their hypolipidemic and hypoglycemic effects *in-vitro/in-vivo*.

Fermented food type	Probiotic strain/(s)	Animal/Subjects	Effects	References
Fermented yak milk products	<i>L. plantarum</i> YD5S and YD9S, <i>L. pentosus</i> YD8S, <i>L. paraplantarum</i> YD11S, <i>Enterococcuslactis</i> YHC20 and <i>E.faecium</i> YY1	<i>In-vitro</i>	<i>In-vitro</i> cholesterol lowering properties. The percentage of cholesterol reduction were as follows; <i>L. plantarum</i> YD5S (85%) and YD9S (70%), <i>L. pentosus</i> YD8S (70%), <i>L. paraplantarum</i> YD11S (55%), <i>Enterococcuslactis</i> YHC20 (65%) and <i>E.faecium</i> YY1 (65%)	Ghatani and Tamang, (2017)
Fermented Dairy product	<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> strains KLDS1.0727 and KLDS1.0373	Male mice C57BL/6J	Produced sufficient GABA, reducing blood glucose and insulin levels	Abdelazez et al. (2018)
Fermented dairy product of Tibet	<i>Lactobacillus paracasei</i> TD062	Male mice C57BL/6J	Improvement in lipid and glucose metabolism, high -glucosidase inhibitory action	Dang et al. (2018)
Napa cabbage Kimchi	<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> Ln4	Male mice C57BL/6J	Alteration of the mRNA levels that is associated with glucose and lipid metabolism and insulin-responsive signaling pathway	Lee et al. (2018)
Fermented milk	Single probiotic (<i>Lactobacillus rhamnosus</i> LV108); Combined probiotics (<i>Lactobacillus rhamnosus</i> LV108, <i>L. casei</i> grx12 and <i>L. fermentum</i> grx08)	Male Sprague Dawley rats	Significant reduction in the levels of serum TC and TG. Increase in bile acids in the liver and the small intestine of the probiotic. Upregulation of transcription of LXR axis genes in the liver and small intestines	Wa et al. (2019)
Yoghurt	<i>L. plantarum</i> KFY02	Male and female C57BL/6J mice	Reduction in the levels of AKP, ALT, AST, TG, TC and LDL in the serum of high-fat-induced C57BL/6J mice. Upregulation of the mRNA expression of lipid-accumulation regulated enzymes like CYP7A1, LPL, PPAR- α , CPT1A in the liver and epididymal adipose tissues, while downregulating the mRNA expression of adipocyte differentiation factors like C/EBP- α and PPAR- γ	Mu et al. (2020)
Sichuan pickle	<i>L. fermentum</i> CQPC04	Male and female C57BL/6J mice	Reduction in abnormal weight gain and abnormal visceral index of mice caused by a high-fat diet. Lowering of TG, TC, LDL, AST, ALT and AKP levels, while increasing the HDL levels in the serum of high-fat diet fed mice. Decreasing the levels of inflammatory cytokines, like IL-6, IL-1 β , TNF- α , and IFN- γ in the serum of high-fat mice	Yi et al. (2020)
Thai pickles	<i>Lactobacillus paracasei</i> HII01	Thai human volunteers (male and female)/Clinical trial	Significant reduction in the TC, TG, LPS and TNF- α of the <i>Lactobacillus</i> treated group when compared to the placebo group. Comparatively, TAC, propionic acid, lactic acid, IL-10, IFN- γ and HDL also increased in the <i>lactobacillus</i> treated group	Chaiyasut et al. (2021)
Fermented beetroot	<i>Lactobacillus paracasei</i> and <i>Lactobacillus casei</i>	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibition of the α -glucosidase and α -amylase activity	Kumari et al. (2022)
Fermented dates	<i>L. pentosus</i> KAU001, <i>L. pentosus</i> KAU002, and <i>L. plantarum</i> KAU003	<i>In-vitro</i>	Inhibition of α -glucosidase, a key determinant factor of metabolic disorder by KAU001 and KAU002. Lowering of α -glucosidase indicating the potential of these strains in lowering intestinal sugar absorption and thereby reducing the risk of diabetes. In addition to this, both the strains significantly reduced cholesterol levels	Malki et al. (2022)
Fermented goat milk	<i>L. fermentum</i> CRL1446 <i>Lactiplantibacillusparaplantarum</i> CRL1472	Adult male C57BL/6 mice	Inhibition of the α -glucosidase <i>in-vitro</i> . Significant decrease in body weight and amelioration of hyperglycemia and hyperlipemia in obese mice	Marquez et al. (2022)
Soy yogurt	<i>Lactobacillus acidophilus</i>	Wistar rat	Improved intestinal permeability, Reduction of pro-inflammatory cytokines and the blood glucose level	Nawangsih et al. (2022)
Iranian butter	<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> IBRC-M 11044 and <i>L. pentosus</i> IBRC-M 11045	<i>In-vitro</i>	Significant reduction in the cholesterol levels during <i>in-vitro</i> tests	Ostadzadeh et al. (2022)
Yak yogurt	<i>L. plantarum</i> SHY130	Male mice C57BL/6J	Inhibition of the reduction in β -cell mass and α -cell proliferation in the pancreas and increased expression of the short-chain fatty acid (SCFA) receptors GPR43 and GPR41 in the colon and improvement of hyperglycemia	Wang et al. (2022)

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TABLE 3 (Continued) *Lactobacillus* strains and their hypolipidemic and hypoglycemic effects *in-vitro/in-vivo*.

Fermented food type	Probiotic strain/(s)	Animal/Subjects	Effects	References
Dairy products	<i>L. plantarum</i>	Male mice C57BL-6J 5 weeks	Improvement of the intestinal barrier function, stimulation of the release of the gut hormones peptide YY (PYY) and glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) and reduced inflammation by balancing pro-inflammatory factors IL-6, TNF, and anti-inflammatory factor IL-10	Zhao et al. (2022)

improvement of gut system leading to a healthy lifestyle and longer life expectancy (Chen et al., 2019). It was observed that *Lactobacillus brevis* and *Lactobacillus pentosus* isolated from the Iranian butter reduce the cholesterol (Ostadzadeh et al., 2022). *Lactobacillus paracasei* and *Lactobacillus plantarum* isolated from the traditional fermented dairy product of Tibet can prevent and alleviate T2D (Zhao et al., 2022). Specific lactic acid bacterial strains may be able to remove toxic or anti-nutritional components from fermented milks, and also alleviate the symptoms of lactose intolerance and galactose buildup (Shiby and Mishra, 2013). Many fermented dairy products, including yoghurt, kumys, skyr, sweetened probiotic milk, and kefir, which is the best studied fermented dairy product, include probiotics and prebiotics (Bourrie et al., 2016). *Lactobacillus*, *Lactococcus*, *Leuconostoc*, *Pediococcus*, *Bacillus*, *Propionibacterium*, and *Bifidobacterium* are among the bacteria found in fermented dairy products (Ghosh et al., 2019).

Lactobacillus

The genus *Lactobacillus* is a large heterogeneous group of Gram-positive, nonsporulating, facultative anaerobic bacteria which includes, *Lactobacillus plantarum*, *Lactobacillus fermentum*, *Lactobacillus paracasei*, *L. acidophilus*, *L. rhamnosus*, *L. bulgaricus*, *L. casei*, and *L. reuteri*. This genus plays a vital role in food fermentation and can also be found in the gastrointestinal (GI) system of humans and animals in variable amounts (Mu et al., 2018). The genus was proposed by Beijerinck in 1901 and the genus is classified in the phylum Firmicutes, class Bacilli, order Lactobacillales, family Lactobacillaceae (Schleifer, 2015). Lactobacilli were first classified based on phenotypic characteristics such as ideal growth temperature, sugar utilization, and the range of metabolites generated (Zheng et al., 2020). In the 20th century, genotypic and chemotaxonomic criteria such as DNA-DNA hybridization, GC content, and peptidoglycan chemical structure were studied to identify novel bacterial taxa. Since 1983, similarity of 16S rRNA genes have been utilized in bacterial taxonomy for classification and nomenclature (Zheng et al., 2020).

In the LPSN database (The List of Prokaryotic Names with Standing in Nomenclature, <http://www.bacterio.net>), the genus *Lactobacillus* currently has around 200 species. Lactobacilli can be found in a range of places, including milk and plant surfaces, as well as human and animal gastrointestinal tracts. Lactobacilli have been consumed safely by humans for centuries in fermented foods and beverages, as well as more recently in probiotic products (Zielińska, et al., 2019).

One of most effective research fields of lactic acid bacteria includes *Lactobacillus*, which possess antibacterial activity, anti-inflammatory, ACE-inhibitory, antioxidant, antidiarrheal, antiviral, immune-modulatory, hypercholesterolemic, anti-diabetic, and anti-cancer activities (Minj et al., 2021). *Lactobacillus* strains are commonly ingested as probiotics. One of the most promising areas of current research and applications is the use of *Lactobacillus* spp. For the production of functional meals. Individual bacterial species have distinct biological activities that differ from strain to strain and could be used in the development of alternative and therapeutic food products (Minj et al., 2021).

Habitats of *Lactobacillus*

Lactobacilli occupy nutrient-rich habitats such as fermented foods and animal feed, the environment, which includes the surface of plants, soil, and the bodies of invertebrate and vertebrate animals, and the environment (Duar et al., 2017) (Figure 3).

In-vitro and *in-vivo* studies of the effects of *lactobacillus* species on hypolipidemia and hypoglycemia

In-vivo studies including animal and human models have been in trend in recent times. Numerous studies on animal models (rats, hamsters, guinea pigs, mice and pigs) have been conducted owing to their similarities with humans in terms of lipid and bile metabolism, regulation of hepatic cholesterol

enzymes and plasma lipoprotein distribution. Further, the model animals used possess almost similar nutrient requirements, digestive anatomy and physiology and metabolic processes with humans, making them beneficial experimental representation for research purposes (Table 3). However, the *in-vitro* experiments has its own benefit as it provides a clue to whether the proposed *in-vivo* experiment may lead a fruitful result or not (Ooi and Liong, 2010).

The effects of *Lactobacillus* species on hypolipidemia

Gao et al. (2011) evaluated the antioxidant and hypolipidemic activity of LAB isolated from pickled Chinese cabbage. Out of the 28 LAB strains isolated, two strains namely, *L. plantarum* and *L. brevis*, having high tolerance to acid and bile salt were further screened for the antioxidant and hypolipidemic activity (Gao et al., 2011). Numerous studies have shown a link between an increase in free radicals and lipid peroxidation, LDL-C and blood glucose (Tanaka et al., 2002). Free radicals can trigger a cascade of detrimental metabolic reactions, resulting in a variety of illnesses such as cancer, diabetes, neurological disease, and cardiovascular disease. Also, Intracellular diffusion of free radicals is possible. This diffusion of free radicals leads to mitochondrial enzyme damage and DNA breaks, impairment of cellular function (Bonnefont-Rousselot et al., 2000). SOD and glutathione peroxidase (GSH-px) being an anti-oxidant (scavenger of free radicals) has the potency to control oxidation reactions in the body. In this study, when the SOD and glutathione peroxidase (GSH-px) concentration in the tissues of kidney and liver of the experimental rats were studied, Gao et al. (2011) observed the increase in SOD and GSH-px in *L. plantarum* and *L. brevis* fed animal groups when compared with the control groups. Thus, the results indicated that both the strains could become potent agents for anti-oxidation and hypocholesterolemia (Gao et al., 2011).

In an *in vivo* evaluation conducted by Costabile et al. (2017) the cholesterol-lowering ability of *Lactobacillusplantarum* ECGC 13110402, a dairy isolate possessing a high bile salt hydrolase activity was assessed in normal to mildly hypercholesterolaemic individuals. Males and females of age 18–50 years; BMI 18.5–29.9 kg/m²; TC ranging from 200 to 300 mg/dl were selected and randomly grouped into active group and placebo control group. The active group consumed 2×10^9 CFU of encapsulated *Lactobacillusplantarum* ECGC 13110402 twice daily. This daily intake of the probiotic bacteria led to a statistically significant lowering of the LDL-C (13.9%, $p = 0.030$) in the volunteers during a period of 0–12 weeks when compared to the placebo group. Also, the TC levels in the volunteers fed with the probiotic also decreased to a

significant value (36.7%, $p = 0.045$). In contrast, an increase in HDL-C (14.7%, $p = 0.007$) was observed in a period of 6–12 weeks. Thus, this study suggests that *Lactobacillusplantarum* ECGC 13110402 can be opted as a suitable candidate to be used in mitigating hypercholesterolaemia (Costabile et al., 2017).

Probiotic characteristics of LAB isolated from fermented yak milk products, which includes *Chhurpi*, *Shyow* and *Thara/Khachu* that are indigenous to the Dukpa and the Bhutia community of the Sikkim Himalayan regions were assessed by Ghatani and Tamang (2017). Out of the 170 LAB isolates screened for their probiotic properties, 70 isolates were found to lower cholesterol levels *in-vitro*. Moreover, six isolates were identified as the best strains for possessing cholesterol-reducing potential. Their cholesterol-reducing potential in terms of percentage were as follows; *L. plantarum* YD5S (85%) and YD9S (70%), *L. pentosus* YD8S (70%), *L. paraplantarum* YD11S (55%), *Enterococcuslactis* YHC20 (65%) and *Enterococcusfaecium* YY1 (65%) showed the best cholesterol-reducing potential. This finding highlights the cholesterol-reducing ability of the Lactic acid bacteria, especially the *Lactobacillus* species (Ghatani and Tamang, 2017).

In an *in-vitro* study conducted by Albano et al. (2018) on the activity of Lactic Acid bacterial members isolated from traditional Italian cheeses resulted a significant lowering of the cholesterol in broth. *L. casei* VC199, *L. paracasei* SE160 and VC213, *L. plantarum* VS.166 and VS.513, *Enterococcus faecium* VC223, and *E. lactis* BT161 resulted in a 42%–55% reduction of the cholesterol level in broth. When these strains were subjected to cheese manufacturing process, all the strains showed a decreased cholesterol content in the cheeses. However, *Lb. Paracasei* VC213 and *E. lactis* BT161 showed the best result i.e., a cholesterol reduction percent of upto 23%. Further, the sensory properties of the cheese were unaffected by these cultures (Albano et al., 2018).

Wa et al. (2019) evaluated the mechanism by which the single probiotic- and combined probiotic-fermented milk plays role in lipid metabolism. Numerous studies have revealed that farnesoid X receptor (FXR), 5'-AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK) and liver X receptors (LXRs) play vital role in the metabolism of lipids thus, this study investigated the gene transcriptions modulated by the FXR, AMPK and LXRs. In comparison to Sprague Dawley rats fed with high fat diet, the group of High-fat rats supplemented with a single probiotic (*L. rhamnosus* LV108) fermented milk and those fed with combined probiotics (*L. rhamnosus* LV108, *L. casei* grx12 and *L. fermentum* grx08) fermented milk showed significant reduction in the levels of serum TC and TG. Also, an increase in bile acids in the liver and the small intestine of the probiotic fed high-fat rats were observed. Further, the quantitative PCR (qPCR) investigation revealed the up-regulation of transcription of LXR axis genes in the liver and small intestines of high-fat rats fed with probiotic-fermented milk, thereby suggesting the pathway of cholesterol

balance. Although, the comparison of the upregulation of FXR gene transcription of probiotic fed high-fat rats were not significantly compared with the high-fat control rats but, a significant low upregulation of FXR genes in high-fat rats fed with mixed-probiotics fermented milk was observed. This observation suggested that the probiotics may not lower the TC *via* the FXR axis. Also, no significant differences in the transcription of AMPK genes of the high-fat rats and those groups fed with probiotics were noticed, which also suggested that probiotics may not directly activate AMPK. However, the conclusion drawn by [Wa et al. \(2019\)](#) through their findings suggested that the lipid-metabolism-related gene modulation of single probiotics was more efficacious in comparison to the combined probiotics ([Wa et al., 2019](#)).

[Yi et al. \(2020\)](#) evaluated the lipid reduction effects and mechanism of action of *L. fermentum* CQPC04, isolated from traditional naturally fermented vegetable, Sichuan pickle. In this *in-vivo* study conducted in 6-week-old C57BL/6J mice, the *Lactobacillus fermentum* CQPC04 showed reduction in abnormal weight gain and abnormal visceral index of mice caused by a high-fat diet. *Lactobacillusfermentum* CQPC04 could efficiently lower TG, TC, LDL-C, AST, ALT, and AKP (alkaline phosphatase) levels, while increasing the HDL-C levels in the serum of high-fat diet fed mice. Since abnormal levels of ALT, AST, AKP are markers of liver damage, their reduction in this finding suggested that *Lactobacillusfermentum* CQPC04 could prevent liver damage and as a result prevent obesity and obesity-related disorders. Further, this *Lactobacillus* strain could also decrease the levels of inflammatory cytokines, like IL-6 (interleukin-6), IL-1 β (interleukin-1 beta), TNF- α (tumor necrosis factor alpha), and IFN- γ (interferon gamma) in the serum of high-fat mice ([Yi et al., 2020](#)).

[Mu et al. \(2020\)](#) studied the *in-vivo* lipid-reducing property of *L. plantarum* KFY02 isolated from naturally fermented yogurt on C57BL/6J mice. They observed the reduction in the levels of AKP, ALT, AST, TG, TC and LDL-C in the serum of high-fat-induced C57BL/6J mice. Further, qPCR experiments revealed that *L. plantarum* KFY02 could significantly upregulate the mRNA expression of lipid-accumulation regulated enzymes like cholesterol 7 α -hydroxylase (CYP7A1), lipoprotein lipase (LPL), peroxisome proliferative-activating receptor α (PPAR- α), carnitinepalmitoyltransferase 1A (CPT1A) in the liver and epididymal adipose tissues, while downregulating the mRNA expression of adipocyte differentiation factors like CCAAT enhancer-binding proteins (C/EBP- α) and peroxisome proliferative-activating receptor γ (PPAR- γ). These results indicated that *L. plantarum* KFY02 possessed a significant regulatory potential for reducing hyperlipidemia and obesity ([Mu et al., 2020](#)).

In an investigation carried out by [Kim et al. \(2021\)](#), four strains of LAB (*Pediococcus pentosaceus* SMFM2017-GK1, *Lactobacillusfermentum* SMFM2017-NK3, *L. plantarum*

SMFM2017-NK2, and *L. fermentum* SMFM2017-NK4), isolated from Kimchi were selected and administered to differently grouped obesity-induced SPF C57BL/6J mice. The findings revealed that the total cholesterol (TC), triglycerides (TG), alanine aminotransferase (ALT) and aspartate transaminase (AST) levels in the serum of LFNK4 group (obesity-induced mice treated with *L. fermentum* SMFM2017-NK4) were lower than that in the control group (obesity-induced mice treated with phosphate buffer saline) as well as in those groups fed with probiotic strains other than *L. fermentum* SMFM2017-NK4. Furthermore, on the analysis of the lipid-metabolism associated genes (FAS and Cpt-2), low levels of FAS and high levels of carnitinepalmitoyltransferase (Cpt)-2 in the liver of LFNK4 group when compared with the control group was observed. Also, the levels of expression of anti-oxidant protein Superoxide dismutase (SOD) enzyme -2, CAT, and GPx-1 in the liver were found to be higher in the LFNK4 group, comparatively. This investigation thus indicated the superiority and potency of *L. fermentum* SMFM2017-NK4 over the other groups in regulating the lipid balance in the mice models ([Kim et al., 2021](#)).

L. paracasei HIII01, isolated from northern Thai pickles were assessed by [Chaiyasut et al. \(2021\)](#) for their effect on lipid- and carbohydrate-metabolism, inflammation, oxidative stress and digestion. For this purpose 52 hypercholesterolemic Thai human volunteers were randomly grouped into a placebo group and a group treated with *L. paracasei* HIII01 (1.25 \times 10¹⁰ CFU/ml/day). The outcome of the results revealed a significant reduction in the TC, TG, lipopolysaccharide (LPS) and tumor necrosis factor (TNF)- α of the *Lactobacillus* treated group when compared to the placebo group. Comparatively, the total antioxidant capacity (TAC), propionic acid, lactic acid, interleukin (IL-10), interferon (IFN- γ) and HDL-C also increased in the *lactobacillus* treated group. Thus, this double-blind placebo experiment thus explored the hypolipidemic potential of *L. paracasei* HIII01 ([Chaiyasut et al., 2021](#)).

The hypocholesterolemic property of *L. johnsonii* BFE6154, procured from Maasai traditional fermented milk was studied using high-fat high-cholesterol (HFHC) fed C57BL/6 J mice model. In comparison to the mice fed only with HFHC (control), those that were also supplemented with 5 \times 10⁹ CFU/day of *L. johnsonii* BFE6154 apart from receiving a HFHC diet, gained weight slowly upto 2 weeks. Unlike the control group no change in the weight of adipose tissue was observed in those groups supplemented with BFE6154. Moreover, lipid profile tests exhibited that the supplementation of BFE6154 could lower the TC and LDL-C levels while increasing the levels of HDL-C. For further understanding the molecular mechanism involved in the lowering of cholesterol levels *via* the administration of BFE6154 was analyzed. The results revealed that the BFE6154 supplementation significantly upregulated the gene expression of ATP-binding cassette transporter (ABC) G5,

which pumps the cholesterol from the enterocytes into the lumen of the intestine. Also, a decrease in the Intestinal Niemann-Pick C1-Like1 (NPC1L1) with BFE6154 supplementation suggested a suppression of cholesterol absorption in the intestine mediated by NPC1L1. Furthermore, increased cholesterol excretion in the feces of BFE6154 supplemented mice unlike to those of the HFHC control mice, confirmed the Lipid regulating potency of BFE6154 (Yoon et al., 2021).

The effects of *Lactobacillus* species on hypoglycemia

In an investigation carried out by Yadav et al. (2007) probiotic dahi containing *Lactobacillus acidophilus* and *Lactobacillus casei* supplemented diet significantly delayed the progression of high fructose-induced glucose intolerance, hyperglycemia, hyperinsulinemia, dyslipidemia, and oxidative stress in rats. White male Wistar rats aged 6–8 weeks (150–160 g body weight) were divided into three groups: a normal control group (NCG) supplemented with standard diet and normal drinking water, a high fructose-fed control group (HFHG) that supplemented with standard diet and 21% fructose solution along with drinking water, and a dahi- and high fructose-treated group (DHFG) that treated with standard diet supplemented with 15% dahi and 21% fructose (Yadav et al., 2007). The liver glycogen level was higher in the HFHG group in the current study due to the high load of fructose mobilized to the liver (Yadav et al., 2007). In general, glycogen in the liver is beneficial; however, presence of excess sugars may result in high levels of LDL and VLDL, which may contribute to the development of diabetic dyslipidemia. The DHFG group accumulated less glycogen than the HFHG group. *Lactobacillus casei* remarkably delayed the progression of high fructose-induced glucose intolerance, hyperglycemia, hyperinsulinemia (Yadav et al., 2007).

Experiment was conducted by Yadav et al. (2008) where Male Wistar rats aged 6–8 weeks and weighing 91 g were housed in a cage in a small animal house. The effect of oral administration and the impact of dahi comprising probiotic *Lactobacillus acidophilus* NCDC14 and *Lactobacillus casei* NCDC19 (73×10^8 cfu/g) on the progression of streptozotocin (STZ)-induced diabetes in rats (15 g/day/rat) was examined for 28 days (Yadav et al., 2008). Furthermore, probiotic dahi significantly reduced STZ-induced oxidative damage in pancreatic tissues by hindering lipid peroxidation and nitric oxide formation while maintaining antioxidant pools such as glutathione content and superoxide dismutase, catalase, and glutathione peroxidase activities (Yadav et al., 2008). The findings suggest that combining probiotic *L. acidophilus* and *L. casei* with dahi cultures increased dahi's ability to suppress STZ-induced diabetes in rats by inhibiting insulin depletion, preserving diabetic dyslipidemia, and inhibiting lipid peroxidation and nitrite formation which may strengthen the

antioxidant system of β -cells and slow the reduction of insulin and rise in blood glucose levels (Yadav et al., 2008).

Study revealed by Hsieh et al. (2013) *Lactobacilli* Lr 263 (2×10^9 CFU/rat) was orally administered to Male sprague–Dawley by an oral gavage on a daily basis for 14 weeks. This study found a reduction in PPAR-mRNA expression in the adipose tissue of High fat diet rats. Lr263 administration, on the other hand, restored the PPAR-mRNA expression that had been reduced by high fructose treatment. Furthermore, GLUT1 and GLUT4 mRNA expression in HFD rats' adipose tissue was lower than in the control group (Hsieh et al., 2013). While GLUT1 mRNA expression remained unchanged, Lr263 treatment significantly increased GLUT4 mRNA expression. These findings suggest that Lr263 may improve insulin resistance, enhance glycemic control, and maintain glucose homeostasis in adipose tissue by increasing PPAR- γ . Lr263 administration also significantly reduced adipose tissue TNF- and IL-6 production in HFD rats, implying that Lr263 improved insulin resistance by lowering oxidative stress and pro-inflammatory cytokine production and GLUT4 expression (Hsieh et al., 2013).

In an *in-vivo* study conducted by Li et al. (2014) where Male Wistar rats were randomly divided into four groups as follows: untreated diabetes mellitus (DM), DM treated with 10^9 CFU/mL *L. plantarum* NCU116 (NCU), DM treated with fermented carrot juice with *L. plantarum* NCU116 (FCJ), 10^9 CFU/ml), and DM treated with non-fermented carrot juice (NFCJ). The effect of fermented carrot juice with *Lactobacillus plantarum* NCU116 on high-fat and low-dose STZ-induced type 2 diabetes in rats was investigated. For 5 weeks, treatments of DM plus *L. plantarum* NCU116 (NCU) and DM plus fermented carrot juice with *L. plantarum* NCU116 (FCJ) were found to favorably control blood glucose, hormones, and lipid metabolism in diabetic rats, with an increase in short-chain fatty acid (SCFA) in the colon (Li et al., 2014). Furthermore, NCU and FCJ improved the antioxidant potential and morphological characteristics of the pancreas and kidney and also upregulated the mRNA of the low-density lipoprotein (LDL) receptor, cholesterol 7-hydroxylase (CYP7A1), glucose transporter-4 (GLUT-4), peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor- α (PPAR- α), and peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor- γ (PPAR- γ). These findings show that *L. plantarum* NCU116 and fermented carrot juice have the potential to alleviate type 2 diabetes in rats for the initial time (Li et al., 2014).

Lactobacillus is being used in fruit and vegetable fermentation to boost nutritional content, sensory properties, and lifespan. *L. plantarum* NCU116, isolated from Chinese sauerkraut brine, has been effectively used to boost carrot juice's anti-diabetic properties (Li et al., 2014). *Momordica charantia* also known as bitter melon, is a Cucurbitaceae plant that is green in colour and extremely bitter. It is said to have anti-diabetic properties and has long been used in traditional medicine to alleviate diabetic illnesses.

A prior analysis revealed that fermenting *Momordicacharantia* with *L. plantarum* improved the anti-diabetic activity *in vitro*, but further *in vivo* research is needed (Mazlan et al., 2015).

In a study Male C57BL/6J mice (3 weeks old, inbred-specific, pathogen-free) were grouped as follows; *L. plantarum* X1(X1) group: mice with T2DM and oral administration of 0.25 ml 2×10^9 *L. plantarum* X1; *L. plantarum* CCFM30 (CCFM30) group: mice with T2DM and oral administration of 0.25 ml 2×10^9 *L. plantarum* CCFM30. *In vitro*, the cell-free supernatant of *Lactobacillus plantarum* X1 demonstrated potential anti-diabetic activity by inhibiting α -glucosidase activity (Li et al., 2016). *L. plantarum* X1 was found to improve hyperglycemia, glucose tolerance, insulin resistance, hormone levels, and lipid metabolism when taken orally. In type 2 diabetic mice, *L. plantarum* X1 partially increased antioxidant capacity and improved cytokine secretion. Furthermore, *L. plantarum* X1 significantly increased the levels of butyric acid and recovered the levels of acetic acid in the faeces of diabetic mice (Li et al., 2016). Furthermore, oral administration of *L. plantarum* X1 significantly decreased TNF- and IL-6 levels while increasing IL-10 in T2DM mice, similar to the effect of pioglitazone (diabetes drug). TNF- and IL-6 levels decreased, while IL-10 levels increased, possibly due to SCFA production regulation from oral supplementation with *L. plantarum* X1. These findings showed that *L. plantarum* X1 had the potential to alleviate type 2 diabetes and the hypoglycemic ability was closely related to modifications in short-chain fatty acids and gut microbiota (Li et al., 2016).

In a study the mRNA expression levels of phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase (PI3K), protein kinase B (Akt), glycogen synthesis kinase-3 (GSK-3) and glycogen synthesis (GS) in the livers of mice were evaluated using RT-qPCR to further investigate the molecular mechanism of *L. casei* CCFM419 in alleviating insulin resistance. Three-week old male C57BL/6J mice were grouped into four groups according to body weight as follows: normal control (NC) Diabetic control (DC) group, pioglitazone (P) group, and *L. casei* CCFM419 (LC) group. The mRNA expression of PI3K and GS was clearly down-regulated in diabetic mice, whereas *L. casei* CCFM419 intake efficiently increased the expression of the two genes comparative to the DC (Diabetic control) group (Li et al., 2017). Simultaneously, a statistically significant decrease in GSK3 mRNA expression was observed after *L. casei* CCFM419 treatment compared to the DC (Diabetic control) group. There was no discernible difference in AKT mRNA expression between the four groups (Li et al., 2017).

Among hundreds of LABs isolated from fermented foods, researchers suggested that *L. plantarum* Ln4 isolates obtained from napa cabbage kimchi has the best ability to reduce diet-induced body weight and insulin resistance. The beneficial effect of the strain on obesity and insulin resistance leads to the recovery of the associated proteins that regulate glucose and lipid metabolism. Administration of Ln4 can alter the levels of mRNA that associated with the glucose and lipid metabolism, as well as the insulin-

responsive signaling pathway in *in-vitro* studies. As a result, Ln4 has the potential to be developed as a therapeutic probiotic for obesity and type 2 diabetes (Lee et al., 2018).

In a study the probiotics *L. rhamnosus* MTCC: 5957 and *L. rhamnosus* MTCC: 5897 were isolated from domestic curd and showing bile acid tolerance, hydrophobicity, adhesion, and immunomodulatory capabilities. Probiotic Fermented Milk (PFM) made with *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* MTCC: 5957, *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* MTCC: 5897, and their combination improved the health of diabetic male albino rats of Wistar strain (8 weeks old). Enhanced non-enzymatic glycation is one plausible hypothesis connecting high blood sugar and diabetic vascular complications. During diabetes, excess glucose in blood reacts with haemoglobin to form high levels of HbA1c compared to the normal rats, indicating poor glycemic control. According to this research diabetic rats treated with probiotics had significantly lower levels HbA1c which may be the result of improved glucose metabolism. Furthermore, it was also observed that the actions of reactive oxygen scavenging enzymes such as CAT, SOD, and GPx were disrupted in the liver and kidneys of diabetic rats, resulting in the generation of free radicals. Moreover, these free radicals caused lipid peroxidation, which was demonstrated by a significant increase in TBARS concentrations in the liver and kidney of untreated diabetic rats. The findings of this study demonstrated that probiotics improved the hepatic and renal antioxidative enzyme profiles, which can help to reduce the complications of type 1 diabetes over time. Probiotic fermented milks have indeed reported as dietary sources of natural antioxidants that increase the body's intrinsic antioxidant properties. In diabetic rats, feeding these PFM reduced blood glucose and HbA1c levels while increasing body weight, serum insulin, and HDL-C levels. (Yadav et al., 2018).

Lipid metabolism, oxidative stress, and glucose metabolism were all improved after the administration of oral dose of *L. paracasei* TD062, which had high α -glucosidase inhibitory action. In term of hypoglycemic processes it was observed that in diabetic mice produced by a combination of high-glucose-fat diets and STZ, genes involved in gluconeogenesis and the PI3K/Akt pathway were altered. These results suggested that *L. paracasei* TD062 might be useful in treating of T2DM (Dang et al., 2018; Feng et al., 2018). *L. paracasei* isolates have been tested *in vitro* for their α -glucosidase inhibiting properties. The anti-diabetic efficacy of *L. paracasei* TD062, which had a significant α -glucosidase inhibitory activity (31.9%) could persist in simulated gastrointestinal fluids (Dang et al., 2018).

L. brevis strains KLDS 1.0727 and KLDS 1.0373, isolated from dairy products proved to survive *in vitro* digesting models and had a high level of virulence against foodborne pathogenic microorganisms. Furthermore, the KLDS 1.0727 and KLDS 1.0373 strains produced sufficient GABA, demonstrating an excellent physiological effect in an *in vivo* testing and considerable impact on reducing blood glucose and insulin levels (Abdelazez et al., 2018).

Fermented foods, including Chinese sauerkraut (Dandong, China), pickled cabbage (Nanjing, China), kipper (Guiyang, China), milk curd (XilinGol League, China), and kefir yogurt (Tibet, China), are the local fermented foods of China. The findings revealed that *L. plantarum* EPS may effectively lower α -amylase activity and could be used as a possible functional food for hyperglycemia treatment (Huang et al., 2020). α -Amylase could efficiently hydrolyze α -1,4-O-glycosidic bonds in starch and produce glucose so, inhibition of α -amylase activity could reduce the blood glucose level. Insulin promotes glucose utilization and consumption in hepatocytes by causing GLUT-4 vesicles to translocate to the plasma membrane, and GLUT-4 translocation is involved in the PI3K/Akt pathway. As previously stated, the most common cause of T2DM is insulin resistance, which results from a failure in the translocation of GLUT-4 vesicles to the plasma membrane. Increases plasma membrane GLUT-4 expression and increases glucose consumption in an insulin-independent manner by upregulating the activity of the PI3K/Akt signalling pathway (Huang et al., 2020). *Lactobacillus plantarum* EPS inhibited α -amylase activity while increasing GLUT-4, Akt-2, and AMPK gene expression in insulin-resistant HepG2 cells in *in-vitro* study. However, this experiments were conducted *in vitro*, it is unknown whether it is applicable *in vivo* or whether this EPS can regulate other metabolic pathways (Huang et al., 2020).

The most common species is pomegranate, or *Punica granatum*, which originally belonged to the Punicaceae family. *Punica* is a small genus of deciduous fruits bearing shrubs and it is a nutrient-dense fruit that is high in phytochemicals. The findings were intriguing, especially the preparation technique for improving nutrient value of *P. granatum* juice by using *L. casei* as probiotics. The synthesis of quercetin-3-glucoside was linked with suppression of DPPH radicals and DPP4 by *L. casei* fermented juice (Mustafa et al., 2020). In the therapeutic mechanism of diabetes treatment, fermented *P. granatum* juice is expected to be an essential source of phytonutrients. The bacterial strain's capacity to use fruit sugars for fast development without the need for food supplements. *P. granatum* juice with *L. casei* might be used for candidates who are allergic to medicine (Mustafa et al., 2020).

α -Glucosidase is an enzyme that helps in carbohydrate metabolism found in the brush border membrane. Inhibiting α -glucosidase activity has been shown to prevent T2D by lowering glucose absorption and blood glucose levels. A study was conducted to find a strain with remarkable hypoglycemic ability and the effects of LAB strains on α -glucosidase activity was studied. It was observed that the rate of α -glucosidase inhibition varied when compared to the control from 19.8% to 72.3%. The α -glucosidase inhibition rates of *L. gasserii* MG4524, *L. rhamnosus* MG4502, and *L. reuteri* MG5149 were determined. Inhibition rates were found to be 63.8 1.1%, 63.4 4.7%, and 60.3 1.2% (Jeong et al., 2021).

L. paracasei NL41, which was isolated from a traditional Chinese dairy product in the Xinjiang area of China had the ability to alter the main species of gut microbiome that were linked to production of SCFA (short chain fatty acid) and have anti-inflammation mechanisms. As a consequence it was suggested that the anti-diabetic mechanism of *L. paracasei* NL41 was partly linked to the maintenance of the gut microbiome ecosystem, leading to an improvement in gut barrier function, reducing LPS permeation and inhibiting inflammation, and thus alleviating insulin resistance property (Zeng et al., 2021).

In another study isolated from dairy product were selected based on their potential probiotic properties that improved glucose and lipid profiles. *L. fermentum* MCC2760 applied to Wistar rats (female) were reduced pro-inflammatory cytokines in the liver, gut, MAT (Methionine adenosyltransferases), and muscle tissue, and improved gut barrier and expressions of GLUT4 (Glucose transporter type 4), GLP1 (Glucagon-like peptide 1) and adiponectin in HFD and type 2 diabetic rats. *L. fermentum* MCC2760 can elevated TNF-, IL-1, and IL-6 expression levels in the tissues of the HFD control group and diabetic control group. In both studies, however, groups treated with *L. fermentum* showed a decrease in TNF- while increasing the expression of the anti-inflammatory marker IL-10. (Archer et al., 2021).

Conclusion

Since the ancient period, fermented foods have been a part of the human diet and are consumed in a variety of forms worldwide. Fermented milk products like dahi can be consumed as a side-dish along with the main food course, while fermented vegetable products may be consumed in the form of pickles or curry in order to enhance flavor in the meals and also add to a healthy diet. Fermented foods are a rich source of microbial repository. Though numerous researches have explored the microbial community of the fermented foods, yet innumerable untapped microorganisms still exist in the fermented foods. Currently, fermented foods have gained much interest due to its associated health benefits and its role as a carrier of probiotics. One of the most promising areas of current research and applications is the use of probiotic *Lactobacillus* in the formulation of various functional meals owing to its health benefits. *Lactobacillus* possess various effects namely; antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, ACE-inhibitory, antioxidant, antidiarrheal, antiviral, immunomodulatory, hypoglycemic, hypolipidemic and anti-cancer activities. Apart from these health benefits, they are considered as safe probiotics. However, bacterial species have distinct biological activities that differ from strain to strain and could be used in the development of alternative and therapeutic food products. The ever-increasing risk of cardiovascular

diseases and diabetes is an alarming threat to the mankind. Though numerous pharmacological measures have been taken to curb the risk associated with hyperlipidemia and hyperglycemia yet, these drugs are either unsafe for long-term use or are very costly. Thus, non-pharmacological, dietary measures that prove to be a safer alternative to the expensive pharmacological means maybe adopted, probiotic *Lactobacillus* supplementation being one among the dietary means. Various studies have already highlighted the benefits of *Lactobacillus* species in regulating the lipid and sugar levels, yet there is scope for novel findings. Also, it is necessary to tap the lesser-known traditional fermented foods to explore their microbial community and their related health benefits. Future research on fermented foods should focus on the microbial community and metabolites of fermented foods using metagenomics, whole genome sequencing (WGS), and metabolomic techniques, with a focus on probiotic markers, as well as large-scale human trials to determine the holistic view of the therapeutic effects of the microorganism present in fermented foods.

Author contributions

KG has framed the hypothesis, corrected and finalized the manuscript. ST and PC has written and edited the manuscript.

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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