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## Exploring the Anticancer Potential of Novel Benzofuran-Substituted Chalcones

Alok Kumar<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Anuja P. Bhosale<sup>2</sup>, Dr. Jyoti Pandey<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Vinay Hiralal Singh<sup>4</sup>,  
Dr. Gajanan Chandrakant Upadhye<sup>5</sup>, Dr. Supriya Gupta<sup>6</sup>, Rokade Gaurav Gahininath<sup>7</sup>,  
Dr. Udaybhan Yadav<sup>8</sup>, Annanya Gangopadhyay<sup>9\*</sup>, Suraj Mandal<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Principal, Lalita College of Pharmacy, Ahirauli Baghel, Deoria (U.P) 274702

<sup>2</sup>Assistant Professor, M.G.V'S Pharmacy College Panchavati Nasik

<sup>3</sup>Assistant Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy, Medi-Caps University, Pigdamber, Rau, Indore (M.P.), India, PIN-453331

<sup>4,5</sup>Assistant Professor, Konkan Gyanpeeth Karjat College of ASC Karjat Raigad Maharashtra India 410201

<sup>6</sup>Assistant Professor, School of Agriculture Graphic Era Hill University Clement Town Dehradun Uttarakhand  
Pincode - 248002

<sup>7</sup>Scholar, Amrutvahini College of Pharmacy, Sangamner

<sup>8</sup>Head, Department of Botany, Thakur Shyamnarayan Degree College, University of Mumbai

<sup>9</sup>Assistant Professor, Centurion University of Technology and Management, Odisha, India

<sup>10</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacy, IIMT College of Pharmacy, IIMT University, O-Pocket,  
Ganganagar, Meerut, 250001, U.P., India

### Corresponding Author Details:

Annanya Gangopadhyay, Assistant Professor, Centurion University of Technology and Management, Odisha,  
India

**Email:** [annanya.gangopadhyay@gmail.com](mailto:annanya.gangopadhyay@gmail.com)

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### Abstract

Benzofuran is highly significant for further investigation because of its unique pharmacological profile, which includes an anticancer development. Another great option for property showcasing are chalcones, which are the restricted names for a few of natural mixes that belong to the flavonoid class. The material was shown as a specific sequence of chalcones. Recently coordinated and mixed chalcones were tested for their anticancer effects in vitro using prostate cancer cell lines. When determining if an excess of chemicals possess anticancer characteristics, the diphenyltetrazolium bromide test is an invaluable tool. The suggested chalcone compounds were subjected to a cell responsiveness test and their potential was increased after a 24-hour treatment period. Our data shows that the attempted chalcone improves anticancer effects against cell lines, with a p-value less than 0.04.

**Keyword:** Anticancer, Unique Pharmacological Profile, Benzofuran, anticancer development

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The undifferentiated clustered mass of cells is the end result of cancer, which is characterized by unchecked, unrestrained, and progressive cell division. This happens when key proteins and

compounds that manage cell division and expansion are dysregulated [1]. Among the right around 200 malignancies recognized, the most continuous were those of the bosom, lungs, prostate, colon, and rectum. After cardiovascular sicknesses, disease keeps on being the main source of death and inability worldwide [2]. As per information from the World Wellbeing Association (WHO), this sickness was answerable for right around 10 million fatalities in 2020, or around one out of each and every six passings universally. The earnest requirement for more examination, further developed treatments, and safeguard measures is highlighted by the extended leap in the quantity of disease patients, from 17 million of every 2018 to 29.4 billion by 2040 [3]. Cancer is mostly caused by alterations in DNA that occur during cell division, damage to DNA from environmental carcinogens, unhealthy lifestyle choices (such as smoking and eating poorly), and changes in genes passed down through generations. Sunlight and other air and water contaminants are commonly believed to be contributing factors to the alarmingly high cancer rates in today's society [4]. Recognizing and addressing these variables is crucial for reducing cancer risk and improving general health.

When it comes to cancer prevention and therapy, there is a veritable treasure trove of anticancer medications on the market [5]. The chemical make-up, action mechanism, or therapeutic use of these medications determine their classification. Nitrogen mustards are an example of a kind that falls within this category. Cyclophosphamide, chlorambucil, mechlorethamine, and other similar compounds are examples of nitrogen mustards. Compounds containing platinum atoms, such as cisplatin, carboplatin, and oxaliplatin, can also function as alkylating agents. As antimetabolites, purine and pyrimidine analogues imitate the molecular structures of these two classes of compounds [6]. An example of a pyrimidine analogue would be 5-fluorouracil, whereas 6-mercaptopurine and 6-thioguanine are examples of purine analogues. Similarly, vinca alkaloids impede the development of microtubules, which are essential for cell division. Vinblastine, vincristine, and vinorelbine are alkaloids that come from the periwinkle plant that grows in Madagascar [7]. Paclitaxel and docetaxel are examples of Texans; they inhibit cell division by stabilizing microtubules. One mechanism by which camptothecins like irinotecan and topotecan fight cancer is by blocking the enzyme topoisomerase. Streptomyces bacteria anthracyclines are anticancer agents that intercalate into DNA and impede DNA synthesis. Epirubicin, doxorubicin, and daunorubicin are three of the most well-known anthracyclines.

An essential structural scaffold in the flavonoid family, chalcone (or benzylidene acetophenone or benzal-acetophenone) has several desirable properties, such as being easily synthesized, being abundant in nature, and having a wide range of biological functions [8]. "Chalcone" is a phrase that Kostanecki and Tambor came up with; it means "bronze" in Greek. A three-carbon  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -unsaturated carbonyl framework joins two sweet-smelling rings (An and B) in the 1,3-diphenylprop-2-en-1-one that makes up the chalcone system. The cis (Z) conformer of chalcone is the more unsound of the two isomers, due to the steric impacts of the carbonyl gathering that is available in ring A, yet the two isomers exist [9]. The  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  unsaturated carbonyl utilitarian gathering in chalcone can communicate with thiol bunches like cysteine buildup since it is a potential Michael acceptor. It is imagined that this contact is vital for the organic activities that chalcone particles do.

Due to its high degree of convertibility into a number of heterocyclic scaffolds with therapeutic activity, it is often considered to be among the most advantageous scaffolds in medicinal chemistry [10]. Chalcone derivatives have a wide range of medicinal uses, including those

against bacteria, fungi, malaria, viruses, inflammation, leishmania, and tumors. Clinical uses of several chalcone-based compounds have been made possible by chalcone's outstanding promise as shown in preclinical investigations. The choleric medication metochalcone and the vascular protecting qualities of hesperidin methyl chalcone are noteworthy. Also, sofalcone's mucoprotective and antiulcer properties have been well-documented [11]. There are two main types of chalcones: hybrid chalcones and simple/classical chalcones. Ficus are a couple of the genera whose species contain these synthetics in their foundations, buds, rhizomes, seeds, heartwood, blossoms, and leaves. The monomeric structure is the most well-known for normally happening chalcones, and there is an extensive variety of underlying variety relying upon the amount and position of substituents. Some regular chalcones have shown guarantee as anticancer specialists; three such models are isoliquiritigenin, butein, and isobavachalcone. The production of new manufactured chalcones with further developed anticancer abilities has been persuaded by the outstanding adequacy of normally happening chalcones as conceivable anticancer medications [12]. These endeavors are aimed at finding novel mixtures with improved remedial properties by soundly planning and blending chalcone subsidiaries to boost their anticancer potential. It is feasible to change chalcones in various ways, for example, by changing the heteroaryls in rings An and B, adding utilitarian gatherings to the phenyl ring (like hydroxyl, methoxy, incandescent lamp, and amines), or joining ring A with the  $\alpha$ -carbon, among other possible mixes. The Claisen-Schmidt buildup is the most generally involved method for incorporating chalcones, however other corrosive or base-catalyzed buildup cycles can likewise be utilized. Substituents can some of the time make this response produce an uncommon mix of isomers and results. Effective blend of chalcones has been accomplished by the enhancement of many known responses, including Suzuki coupling, Friedel-Specialties acylation, and the Wittig response [13]. These advancements have opened up new engineered roads for chalcone planning, furnishing more choices with better selectivity and yields. Our objective recorded as a hard copy this distribution was to give perusers a higher perspective of what has occurred in the past five years to the extent that disease medicines utilizing chalcone and comparative mixtures are concerned. We have separated the chalcone subordinates into two primary gatherings: those that are heterocyclic and those that are homocyclic. The heterocyclic class has been additionally partitioned into its constituent parts, with the principal text after each part's short presentation [14]. We have gone over the multiple manners by which these synthetics can target different disease cell lines. In particular, we checked out at the substance series' underlying action relationships. A visual portrayal of the discoveries is given by the associations, which are unequivocally addressed in figures. Moreover, any in vivo and in silico examinations that have been completed regarding the matter are likewise definite [15]. Chasing after creating chalcone subordinates as specific and very viable anticancer medications, we trust that this survey will be of incredible help.

## 1. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

### 1.1. Materials

Mixtures utilized in the ongoing evaluation by the substance professionals included dimethyl sulfoxide, penicillin-streptomycin, fetal cow-like serum (FBS), and DMEM (Dulbecco's Changed Bird of prey Medium). Throughout the priming processes, double refined water was used. Chaconone compounds were sent for testing at concentrations of 1, 5, 25, 50, and 100  $\mu$ M.

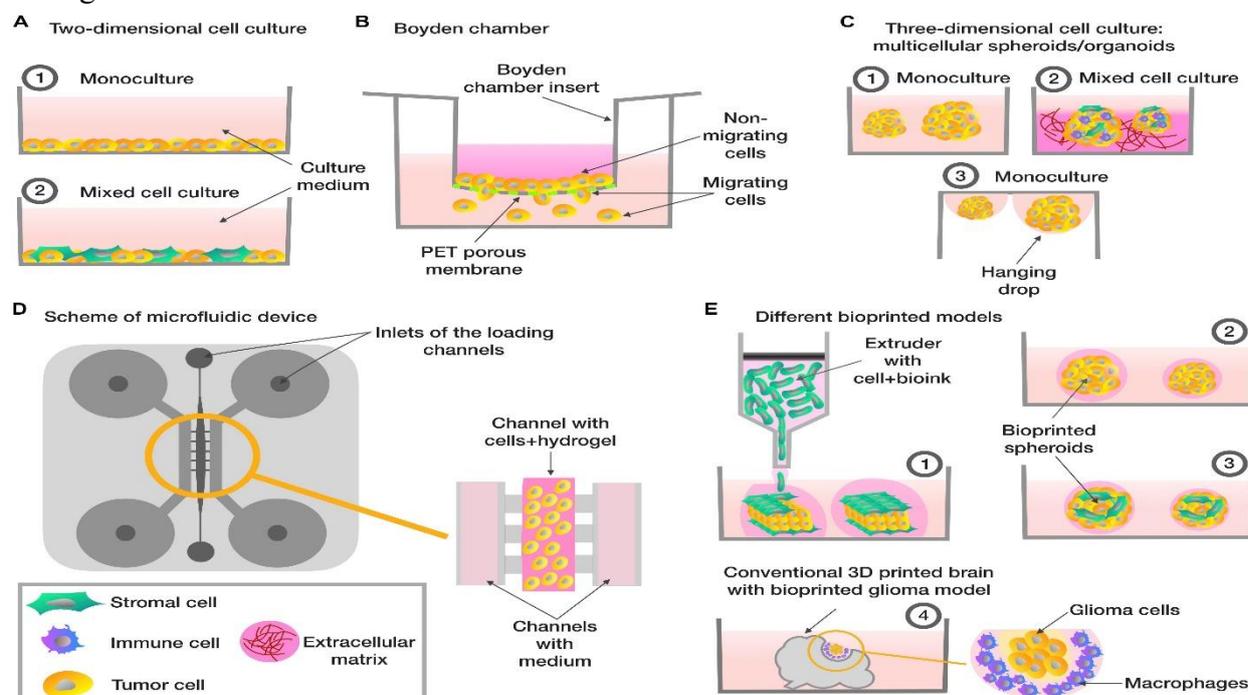
## 2.2. Approaches to Portrayal

Using a Shimadzu DSC-50 differential separating calorimeter, we calculated the uncorrected relaxing foci. For nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), tetramethylsilane was used as the internal standard in a Bruker AC 400 spectrometer. An appearance by Perkin-Elmer at The KBr pellets' FT-IR spectra were examined using a single spectrometer. combination that includes ethenone. After the potassium carbonate and 4-bromo salicylaldehyde components were combined, the mixture was left to integrate at 25°C for one hour. The reaction mixture was refluxed after being mixed at room temperature for 10 minutes. One may observe the enhancement in the answer after giving it some thought. After all the necessary steps were taken, the response mix was applied to the crushed ice. Isolated, rinsed with water, and left to air dry, the components with optimal strength were removed. It is still uncertain whether or not the use of ethanol will result in 1.08 grams with a 91% strength level. Cooled to 0-5°C in 10 mL of MeOH, the Wide Plan for Chalcone Mixing was added. The next step was to add 6 mL of watered-down NaOH (1 mol/L) and mix the mixture for three hours at room temperature. The reaction mixture also included crushed ice. The quickly solid was separated and dried after two water flushes after being corrected with weak hydrochloric acid. The remarkable component, ethanol, was separated and placed into valuable gems.

## 2.3. Antitumor Movement in Vitro

### 2.3.1: Cell Research

The PC-3 arrived from the American Sort Culture mix. Autologous cell sorting was performed in 75 cm<sup>2</sup> culture containers using DMEM and RPMI-1640 fluid. A cell viability assay using 0.4% trypan blue was conducted prior to the introduction of chalcone compounds. Since we couldn't accept that the achievability degrees were lower than 90%, we postponed starting the testing.



**Figure 1:** Cell Culture Situated in vitro Test Frameworks for Anticancer Medication Screening

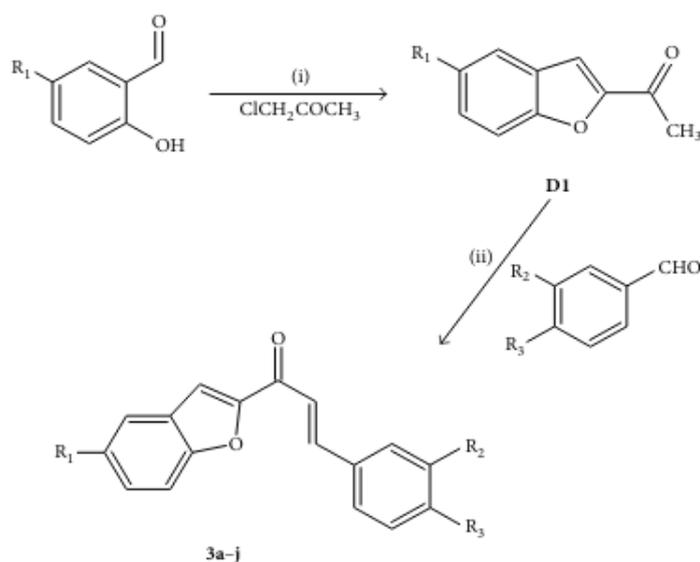
### 2.3.2. MTT Measure

The anticancer effects of the suggested chalcone cofactors were evaluated in two different types of cancerous cell lines, PC-3 and MCF-7, by transforming the slightly yellow tetrazolium salt (MTT) into a slightly blue formazan that was undetectable to a microplate reader using mitochondria with specific abilities. For non-radioactively examining live and growing cells, the MTT method provides an essential technique.

After that, they were further improved in 96-well plates that had a cell thickness of  $15 \times 10^3$  cells per well. For one whole day, the plates were subjected to an anguishing system operating at 37°C. Following the administration of DMSO. The plates containing chalcone compounds were brooded for 24 hours. Then, using cleaned PBS, MTT stock solution (0.5 mg/mL) was applied to each well. The plates continued to be treated for an additional three hours after that. An ELISA reader. Looking at the control wells, which were assumed to be at 100%, allowed us to observe the midpoints of the absorbance estimates. In comparison to the control values, the absorbance from chalcone blends and separated (DMSO) development wells increased, while there was some weakness regarding the cell rates.

### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

By reacting 5-bromosalicylaldehyde with 1-chloroacetone, the novel 1-(5-bromo-1-benzofuran-2-yl) ethenone was included. The combination of a series of chalcones (3a-f) was studied in the enhancement of a few aromatic aldehydes. The gold standard for chalcone coupling is the bespectacled Claisen-Schmidt reaction, which involves forming a benzaldehyde partner and an acetophenone subordinate in methanol using a sodium hydroxide catalyst. Extensive analysis, including  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR,  $^1\text{H}$ , and FT-IR spectroscopy, revealed the chalcone partners (3a-f) substituted with benzofuran. The intended chalcones (3a-f) and the set chalcone partners (3g-j) were evaluated for their potential to enhance anticancer activity against PC-3 and MCF-7.



**Figure 2:** Blend of chalcone adjuncts (3a-j) and benzofuran ketone (D1) from a broad viewpoint. Controls over organic components (I). Ii) the response includes  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ ,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CO}$ , and the reflex. sodium hydroxide, methyl ethanol, and rt.

### 3.1. Research on Cancer Prevention

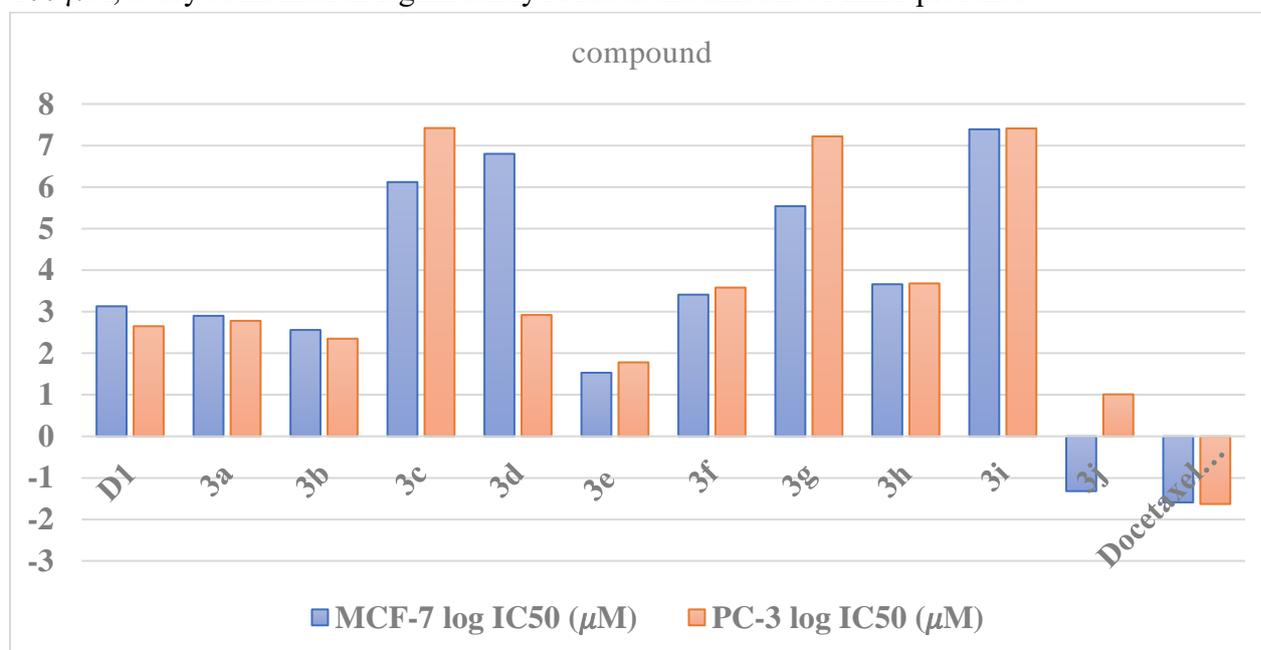
The anticipated chalcone compounds substituted with benzofuran were tested in vitro using MTT assays in two cancer cell lines, MCF-7 and PC-3, at five different concentrations (1, 5, 25, 50, and 100  $\mu\text{M}$ ). Benzofuran was used in place of the chalcone intensifiers, and the rates of cell similarity were

**Table 1.** The cytotoxicity and log IC<sub>50</sub> values ( $\mu\text{M}$ ) of two disease cell lines were examined with docetaxel (the standard chemotherapeutic prescription) and chalcone. log The 50% IC<sub>50</sub> is the concentration at which a drug significantly inhibits cell proliferation.

Compound	MCF-7 log IC <sub>50</sub> ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	PC-3 log IC <sub>50</sub> ( $\mu\text{M}$ )
D1	3.13	2.65
3a	2.90	2.78
3b	2.56	2.35
3c	6.12	7.42
3d	6.80	2.92
3e	1.53	1.78
3f	3.41	3.58
3g	5.54	7.22
3h	3.66	3.68
3i	7.39	7.41
3j	-1.32	1.01
Docetaxel (reference drug)	-1.59	-1.63

seen in Figures 2 and 3 to a sufficient degree to be considered persuasive. Based on the limited rate data presented by the GraphPad Pearl 6 PC gadget, the anticipated benefits of mixes 3a remain unclear when it comes to log IC<sub>50</sub>. Table 1 displays the results of the compound's IC<sub>50</sub> testing.

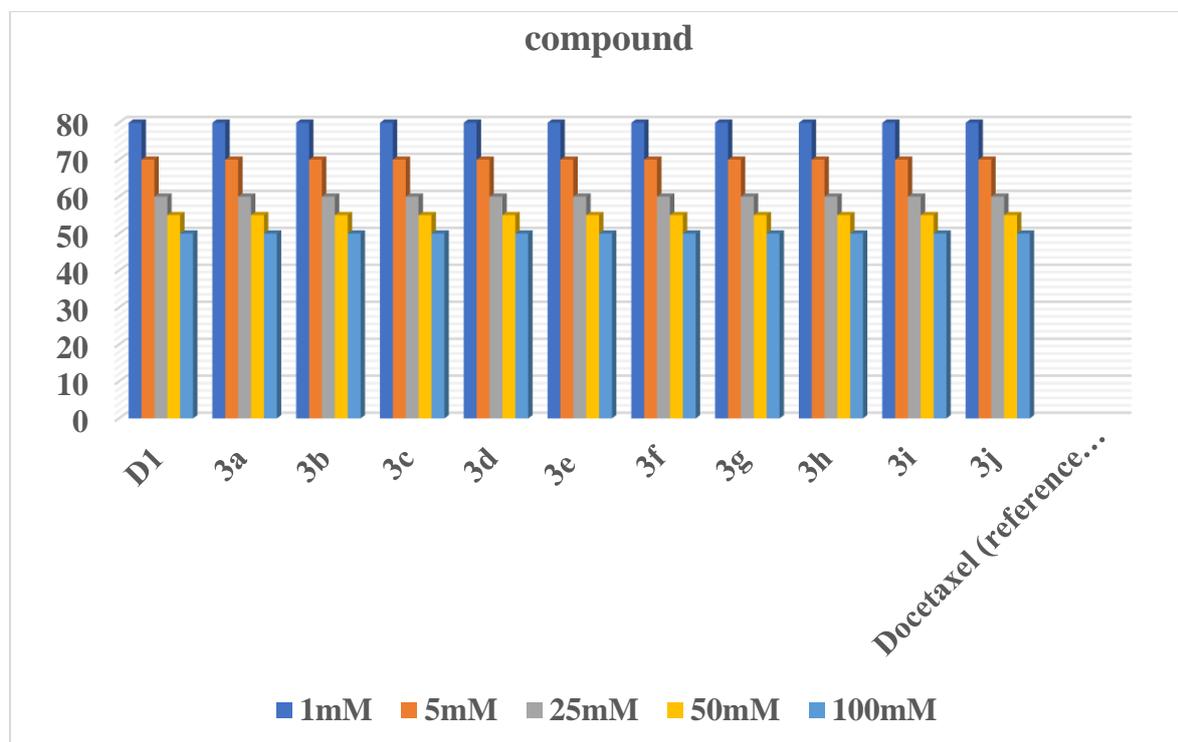
There was antitumor development in the benzofuran subbed chalcones group ( $k < 0.05$ ). At 100  $\mu\text{M}$ , every combination significantly reduced the amount of mind presence.



**Figure 2:** The overall cell feasibility was determined to be less than 0.05 and less than 0.001 after exposing MCF-7 cells to a few mixes (D1 and 3a-j) and an untreated control group for 24 hours.

Undeniably, the fundamental activity connections with the starting material were more developed in the chalcone subordinates with benzofuran subbed than in the beginning material with only an unsubstituted benzofuran ring (D1).

In terms of the effects on cell lines caused by the intended chalcones, compounds 3a, 3h, and 3i stood out. Anticancer effects are demonstrated by chalcone derivatives. Unfortunately, to the best of our knowledge, no dispersed research has shown that the benzofuran ring chalcone enhances have any mix or anticancer characteristics. Crucial to our investigation is the fact that we have included the benzofuran ring in the chalcone molecules. Since then, our attention has been primarily focused on the anticancer characteristics of these mixes. The only cell types examined so far are PC-3 and MCF-7. Based on these findings, innovative and potent anticancer treatments may be possible using lead combinations that include chalcone-substituted benzofuran.



**Figure 3:** Following 24 hours of exposure to several mixtures (D1 and 3a-j) and an untreated control group, the PC-3 cells' full responsiveness was measured as a rate ( $\square\square k < 0.05$ ;  $\square\square\square k < 0.001$ ).

#### 4. CONCLUSION

In vitro evaluation of the combined benzofuran chalcone compounds' antitumor progress was conducted using the MTT assay. There was a significant increase in anticancer efficacy against MCF-7 and PC-3 cell lines ( $P < 0.001$ ) when benzofuran was used instead of chalcone aids. The findings highlight the potential significance of chalcone assistants having benzofuran rings for the advancement of anticancer drugs in the near future.

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