POSSIBLE PROTECTIVE ROLE OF GRAPE SEED PROANTHOCYANIDIN ON FLUORIDE INDUCED TESTICULAR TOXICITY IN ADULT AND YOUNG ALBINO RATS

BY

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ABSTRACT

Increasing infertility, has become a serious issue. Sodium fluoride (NaF) is a wide spread natural pollutant and large number of the world population is exposed to high doses of fluoride. Grape seed proanthocyanidins (GSP), exerts a novel spectrum of biological, pharmacological, and therapeutic properties against oxidative stress, so it was of special concern to investigate the role of the naturally occurring antioxidant GSP on effect of fluoride on male reproduction. The study included 72 male rats, 36 adult and 36 young rats were divided into six groups (n =12, 6 adult & 6 young ). Group I: negative control. Group II: was given distilled water. Group III: was given GSP 75 mg / kg. Group IV: was given NaF 18 mg / kg. Group V: was given NaF 18 mg /kg and GSP 75 mg /kg. Group VI: was given NaF 18 mg /kg then it was stopped and rats were examined 30 days after its discontinuation. All treatments were given daily by oral gavage for 30 days. At the end of experimental and follow up periods, serum levels of testosterone, follicle stimulating (FSH) and Luteinizing (LH) hormones in addition to serum levels of malondialdehyde (MDA) and plasma nitrite were determined. Absolute and relative testes weights and histopathological examination of testes of all rats also performed. The results revealed that, fluoride induced significant decrease in plasma testosterone, FSH and LH levels in adult rats and non significant change of these hormones in young rats as compared to control groups. It also induced significant increase in serum MDA and nitrite levels in adult and young rats as compared to control groups. Absolute and relative testes weights of the adult and young rats of NaF group were significantly reduced compared to control groups. Section of adult rats testes of NaF treated group revealed arrest of spermatogenesis, sloughing of spermatogenic cells and disorganization of the epithelial lining of seminiferous tubules. While, testes of young rats revealed total spermatogenic atrophy and degeneration with thickening of the basement membrane of seminiferous tubules and interstitial fibrosis. Co-administration of NaF and GSP showed significant increase of plasma testosterone, FSH and LH levels in adult rats and decrease in serum MDA and nitrite levels compared to NaF alone or follow up group in adult and young rats. Also,
nearly normal testicular weights and structure were recorded in NaF and GSP group. Follow up group of adult and young rats showed slight reversibility of NaF toxicity. It was concluded that short term administration of fluoride induced testicular toxicity, and lipid peroxidation which may be a molecular mechanism involved in fluoride induced toxicity in both adult and young rats. Furthermore, these effects was reversed by the use of antioxidant grape seed proanthocyanidins combination. It is recommended to use dietary antioxidant supplements for amelioration of toxic manifestations of fluoride in exposed population.

INTRODUCTION

Fluoride is found in the atmosphere, water, soil, coal, food, dental and industrial uses (Matsui et al., 2007).

Fluoride is a naturally occurring toxic mineral present in drinking water. Fluorspar, Cryolite and Fluorapatite are the naturally occurring minerals, from which fluoride finds its path to ground water through infiltration (Shailaja and Johnson, 2007).

In the human population, increasing fluoride intake may arise from fluoridation of water, dental caries prevention, paediatric supplements (Hortova et al., 2007).

Universal use of fluorine compounds in dentistry, as well as industrial and civilization-related exposures may produce undesirable effects of fluorine action. The effects of fluoride ions depend on the dose and exposure time. Some may be positive, in caries prevention, while others are harmful when optimal prophylactic or therapeutic doses have been surpassed (Dabrowska et al., 2006a).

Effect of fluorides on various metabolic levels in hard and soft tissues, namely respiration as well as carbohydrate, protein, enzymatic and vascular metabolism, can disturb detoxication of fluorine compounds administered orally (Dabrowska et al., 2006b).

High concentration of fluorine is noxious to the health of humans and animals (Shanthakumari et al., 2007).

Fluoride is an essential trace element that has protective effects against bone mineral loss. However, it becomes toxic at higher doses and induces some adverse effects on a number of physiological functions, including reproduction (Guney et al., 2007).

Fluorosis caused by long-term intake of high fluoride levels is characterized by clinical bone, tooth and soft tissues manifestations. Young children are at risk of fluorosis if they regularly swallow large
amounts of toothpaste. So, children under age 2 years should brush without toothpaste and those between ages 2-5 should be given toothpaste no larger than a pea (Kao et al., 2004).

Although fluorosis is irreversible it could be prevented by appropriate and timely interventions through the understanding of the process at biochemical and molecular levels. Increased production of reactive oxygen forms and lipid peroxidation are considered to play an important role in the pathogenesis of chronic fluoride toxicity (Gavriliuk et al., 2007).

Joshi et al. (2004) reported that toxic metal ions have been implicated in the generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and nitric oxide (NO) and plant flavonoids could protect against oxidative damage.

In recent years, a considerable emphasis has been focused on the importance of the naturally available botanicals that can be consumed in an individual's everyday diet because of their antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties (Nandakumar et al., 2008).

Also, antioxidants from plants were known to reduce the oxidative stress by scavenging free radicals, chelating metal ions and reducing inflammation (Datla et al., 2007).

Flavonoids are important secondary metabolites in many fruits, hydroxylated flavonols and proanthocyanidins are accumulated in grapes (Bogs et al., 2006).

Grape seed extract (GSE) is a commonly available dietary supplement taken for the anti-oxidant activity that's attributed to its proanthocyanidin content (Kim et al., 2006).

The aim of the present work was to investigate the protective role of the naturally occurring GSP on the toxic effect of fluoride on the testes of adult and young rats.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Material:

1- Drugs

Sodium fluoride (NaF): It is supplied by Sigma Chemical Co. (USA), for pharmaceutical-chemical Industries in the form of white crystalline powder. Sodium fluoride was used as the source of fluoride. It was given in a dose of 1/10 of LD50 of NaF (18 mg / kg).

N.B. LD50 of NaF orally in rats = 0.18 gm/kg (Budavari et al., 2001).

Grape seeds proanthocyanidin (GSP): Noxy life capsules is produced by The Arab Co. under licence of Nulife international U.S.A. It was given in a dose of 75 mg / kg (Devi et al., 2006).
Distilled water was always used to prepare the sodium fluoride and GSP solutions.

Animal design:
The study was conducted on 72 male albino rats. Thirty six adult rats (2-4 month) (Krüger et al., 2006), having body weight 150 ± 10 g and 36 young rats (28 days) (Boroushaki, 2003), their weights ranged from 60 - 70 gm each. The rats were obtained from the breeding animal house, faculty of medicine, Zagazig University. All rats were housed under similar conditions. They were acclimated in the animal facility for 3-5 days before use. The rats were fed commercial rodent pellets and given water ad libitum throughout the experiment.

The rats were divided into numerically six equal groups, each of 12 rats:
Each group involved 6 adult rats and 6 young rats.
Dosing for all test compounds was delivered by oral intubation in 1 ml distilled water.

Group 1 (Negative control):
The animals of this group didn’t receive any medication and were used to determine the basic values of the tested parameters.

Group 2 (Distilled water group):
The rats in this group was given two ml distilled water by gastric gavage, which is the vehicle of sodium fluoride and GSP.

Group 3 (GSP group):
The rats in this group was given GSP 75 mg/kg dissolved in distilled water by gastric gavage for 30 days.

Group 4 (NaF group):
The rats of this group received NaF (18 mg/kg) dissolved in distilled water by gastric gavage daily for 30 days.

Group 5 (NaF and GSP group):
The rats of this group was given NaF (18 mg/kg) and GSP 75 mg/kg dissolved in distilled water by gastric gavage daily for 30 days.

Group 6 (Follow up group):
The rats of this group received NaF (18 mg/kg) dissolved in distilled water by gastric gavage daily for 30 days then it was stopped. Rats were examined 30 days after its discontinuation.

Methods:
1- Body weight:
At the end of the experimental period and follow up period, the rats of all control and tested groups were weighed and their weights were recorded.

2- Biochemical study:
After light anesthesia with ether inhalation, the blood was collected from the
retro-orbital plexus in a test tube and left to clot then centrifuged. After centrifugation at 3000 rpm for 15 minutes the clear sera were separated for determination of serum levels of testosterone hormone, follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) and Luteinizing hormone (LH) by method of Teitz (1995).

Also serum malondialdehyde (MDA) level was measured based on the reaction of thiobarbituric acid with MDA according to the method of Cheng et al. (1984) and plasma nitrite as an indicator of NO production was determined by using Griess reagent according to the method of Torre et al. (1996).

3- Testes weight:
After taking the blood samples rats were sacrificed and both testes of each rat were excised and grossly inspected and then were weighed and the mean weight of both testes was estimated also the weight was recorded in relation to the body weight (relative testes weight) for all studied groups.

4- Histopathological study:
The testes were fixed in Bouin's fixative for 24 hours. Then the specimens were processed for preparation of 5μm thickness paraffin sections which were stained with Hematoxylin and Eosin (H & E) stain (Horobin and Bancroft, 1998) and examined under light microscope for histopathological changes.

Statistical analysis:
All the grouped data were statistically evaluated with SPSS, version 10 software (Norusis, 1997). Testing methods included one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) for comparisons between more than two groups followed by least significant difference (LSD) test for comparison between two groups. P-values of ≤ 0.05 were considered to indicate statistical significance. All the results were expressed as mean ± S.D.

RESULTS

No statistically significant changes were observed in the studied parameters between negative control (group 1), distilled water (group 2) and GSP extract (group 3) of both adult and young rats (Tables 1&2).

Body weight:
There was no significant alteration in body weight gain across the experiment in all tested groups of both adult and young rats (Tables 1&2).

Biochemical results:
Plasma testosterone, FSH and LH levels were decreased significantly in fluoride treated group of adult rats. While co-administration of GSP to fluoride treated rats showed significant increase of plasma
testosterone, FSH and LH levels but not to control levels. Follow up group of adult rats showed non significant increase of testosterone, FSH and LH levels compared to fluoride treated group (Table 1). Plasma testosterone, FSH and LH levels were nearly similar to control levels in either NaF, NaF and GSP or follow up group of young rats (Table 2). Serum MDA and nitrite levels (indicator of NO production) were significantly elevated in NaF treated group and follow up group compared to control groups. While combined NaF and GSP extract administration showed that serum MDA and nitrite levels were non significantly differ from the control values (Tables 1&2).

**Testes weight:**

Both absolute and relative testes weight of the rats of NaF and follow up groups of adult and young rats were significantly reduced compared to control groups, however in combined NaF and GSP extract group of adult and young rats they were near control levels (Tables 1 & 2).

**Histopathological results of the testes:**

Microscopic examination of sections of the testes of control rats (both negative and positive groups) revealed normal structure of the testis. Adult rat’s testis is formed of seminiferous tubules with active spermatogenesis with interstitial tissue between tubules containing Leydig cells (testosterone secreting cells). Each tubule is lined by cells formed of Sertoli cells and various stages of spermatogenic cells up to mature sperms and is surrounded by thin membrane (Plate 1, Figure 1). Young rat’s testis is formed of seminiferous tubules which lined with Sertoli cells and spermatogonia only with the absence of Leydig cells and active spermatogenesis (Plate 2, Figure 1).

Section of adult rat’s testis of NaF treated group revealed arrest of spermatogenesis and seminiferous tubules lined with 1ry and 2ry spermatocytes only with fibrous thickening of the wall of tubules. Also most of seminiferous tubules showed degeneration, sloughing of spermatogenic cells and disorganization of the epithelial lining (Plate 1, Figure 2). While adult rat’s testis of combined NaF and GSP extract treated group revealed nearly normal testicular structure (Plate 1, Figure 3). After 30 days of NaF discontinuation, testis of adult rats showed arrest of spermatogenesis of most of the seminiferous tubules and one of the seminiferous tubules showed few spermatooza (Plate 1, Figure 4). Young rat’s testis after NaF treatment revealed that seminiferous tubules showed total spermatogenic atrophy and degeneration with thickening of the basement membrane of tubules and interstitial fibrosis (Plate 2, Figure 2). The same picture was seen after 30 days of NaF discontinuation (follow up) with
slight improvement (Plate 2, Figure 4). While combined NaF and GSP extract treated group revealed nearly normal testicular structure (Plate 2, Figure 3).

**DISCUSSION**

The human population is being exposed to an enormous variety of factors contributing to growing infertility. One of the potential candidates to affect fertility is fluoride ion (Hortova et al., 2007). Fluoride ion is protoplasmic poison and only a small amount can be tolerated by any living cell and known to cause several biochemical alterations (Chatterjea and Shinde, 2002).

The results of the present study revealed that NaF administration to both adult and young rats induced testicular damage, which represented in adult rats group by decrease in plasma testosterone level, this may be due to low levels of plasma FSH and LH hormones observed in this study, since both hormones are important regulators of testicular androgenesis. These findings are consistent with previous reports (Ghosh et al., 2002; Sarkar et al., 2006; Reddy et al., 2007).

The hormonal affection was obvious in adult rats, while in young rats the hormonal levels were nearly similar in both treated and control groups but were lower than the levels of adult rats. This hormonal affection explained by Mayne (1996), who reported that during childhood the rate of secretion of gonadotrophins (FSH & LH) from anterior pituitary gland is low. As puberty approaches, the amplitude and frequency of FSH and LH increase. Furthermore, Bhagavan (2002) reported that at puberty, testosterone hormone produced by testicular interstitial Leydig cells under LH stimulation, and assists FSH to bring about spermatogenesis in the seminiferous tubules. Also, before puberty Leydig cells and active spermatogenesis are absent (Berne et al., 2004).

Moreover, the present study showed that NaF administration resulted in significant increase in serum MDA and nitrite levels in the group of adult and young rats treated with NaF. These result suggest that fluoride induced increase in the activity of ROS, which indicates oxidative stress. These findings are consistent with the results of other investigators (Shivarajashankara and Shivashankara, 2002; Shanthakumari et al., 2004)

The increased serum nitrite level induced by NaF administration, which indicates increased NO production is supported by the results of Oguro et al. (2003), they reported that NaF intoxication increased cellular production of NO in rats and in vitro studies. Furthermore, Kawase et al. (1996) postulated that NaF increased...
NO production due to increased expression of inducible nitric oxide synthase.

Also, the results of Shivarajashankara et al. (2003) revealed that long-term high-fluoride intake at the early developing stages of life enhances oxidative stress in the blood, thereby disturbing the antioxidant defense of rats. They suggested that increased oxidative stress could be one of the mediating factors in the pathogenesis of toxic manifestations of fluoride in young rats.

Reactive oxygen species (ROS) are implicated as important pathologic mediators in many disorders. Increased generation of ROS and enhanced lipid peroxidation are considered responsible for the toxicity of a wide range of compounds (Vani and Reddy, 2000).

The results of the present study suggested that lipid peroxidation and oxidative stress could be one of the mediating factors in the pathogenesis of reproductive toxicity induced by fluoride.

The mechanisms by which fluoride causes its deleterious effects have not been exactly determined yet. However a variety of mechanisms have been proposed to explain fluoride-induced toxicity, including oxidative stress. Oxidative stress has been observed in soft tissues such as the liver, kidney, brain, and testes in animals (Mittal and Flora, 2007), and in people living in areas of endemic fluorosis (Shivarajashankara et al., 2001).

Also, oxidative stress as an important component to the mechanism of fluoride toxicity was reported by Shivarajashankara and Shivashankara (2002), Guo et al. (2003) and Guney et al. (2004).

Moreover, Wang et al. (2000) attributed the pathogenesis of chronic fluorosis and functional disorders of cells and organs to modification of membrane lipids and lipid peroxidation. While, Guan et al. (1998) suggested that excessive amounts of fluoride can influence the metabolism in different organs.

Furthermore, the results revealed reduction in both relative and absolute testes weight in both adult and young rats which may be due to the atrophic and fibrotic changes that noticed by microscopic examination of testes. Also adult rat’s testis revealed arrest of spermatogenesis which could be correlated with the hormonal changes. Histopathologic changes in the testes of adult rats were also observed by Sprando et al. (1998) and Krasowska et al. (2004).

Co-administration of NaF and GSP to both adult and young rats induced significant recovery which was noticed in the increase in the hormonal levels in adult
rats and decrease in LPO products MDA and NO in adult and young rats. Also, histopathological changes of the testes were restored nearly to control findings in both adult and young rats.

El-Ashmawy et al. (2007) reported that natural dietary antioxidants are extensively studied for their ability to protect cells from miscellaneous damages and grape seed extract is a potent antioxidant and useful herbal remedy, especially for controlling oxidative damages. It resulted in minimizing the hazardous effects of ethanol toxicity on male fertility.

Also, Devi et al. (2006) found that intake of proanthocyanidin which is a naturally occurring antioxidant from grape seed extract in moderately low quantity is effective in up-regulating the antioxidant defense mechanism by attenuating LPO. Moreover, Sehirli et al. (2008), reported that GSE could reduce organ injury through its ability to balance the oxidant-antioxidant status, and to regulate the release of inflammatory mediators.

However, upon withdrawal of NaF administration, partial recovery was achieved in the testes of adult and young rats and non significant recovery of the hormonal affection, indicated that the deleterious effect of fluoride on the testes may be irreversible.

Gavriliuk et al. (2007), found that fluoride induced testicular toxicity may be irreversible, but it could be prevented by appropriate and timely interventions through the understanding of the process at biochemical and molecular levels.

The results of the present study suggested that reproduction toxicity induced by fluoride may be direct effect on testicular tissue, indirect effect of fluoride on testis by the modulation of pituitary-testicular axis or oxidative stress imposed by fluoride in testicular tissue and free radical generation during oxidative stress.

CONCLUSION

From the results of the present study it is concluded that short term administration of fluoride induced reproductive toxicity and lipid peroxidation which may be a molecular mechanism involved in fluoride induced toxicity in both adult and young rats. Furthermore, these effects were reversed by the use of antioxidant GSP combination. So, it is recommended to use dietary antioxidant supplements for amelioration of toxic manifestations in exposed population. Also, presence of fluoride in the environment and drinking water should be monitored regularly.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Great thanks for Dr. Hala Elwey, lecturer of histology, Faculty of Medicine, Zagazig University for her effort in the histopathological examination.
Table (1): Effects on the tested parameters in negative control, distilled water, GSP, NaF, NaF & GSP and follow up groups of adult rats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>Groups (n=6)</th>
<th>Negative Control</th>
<th>Distilled water</th>
<th>GSP</th>
<th>NaF</th>
<th>NaF &amp; GSP</th>
<th>Follow up</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Body weight (gm)</td>
<td>150±50</td>
<td>151±60</td>
<td>148±40</td>
<td>145±50</td>
<td>150±50</td>
<td>149±50</td>
<td>&gt;0.05</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean testes weight (gm)</td>
<td>1.73±0.5</td>
<td>1.720±0.5</td>
<td>1.64±0.4</td>
<td>1.16±0.3</td>
<td>1.612±0.54</td>
<td>1.35±0.45</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relative testes weight (gm/B.W)</td>
<td>1.2±0.2</td>
<td>1.1±0.1</td>
<td>1.2±0.2</td>
<td>0.8±0.2</td>
<td>1.0±0.1</td>
<td>0.9±0.1</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testosterone (ng/ml)</td>
<td>1.79±0.3</td>
<td>1.77±0.3</td>
<td>1.85±0.6</td>
<td>0.95±0.27</td>
<td>1.72±0.6</td>
<td>1.12±0.5</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>FSH (μIU/ml)</td>
<td>3.25±1.5</td>
<td>3.27±1.5</td>
<td>3.15±1.3</td>
<td>1.25±0.54</td>
<td>1.75±0.6</td>
<td>2.54±0.9</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
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<tr>
<td>LH (μIU/ml)</td>
<td>18.41±6.1</td>
<td>18.24±6.0</td>
<td>18.35±6.0</td>
<td>12.6±4.0</td>
<td>15.3±5.4</td>
<td>13.5±5.0</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malondialdehyde (nmol/l)</td>
<td>3.56±1.5</td>
<td>3.66±1.5</td>
<td>2.35±1.2</td>
<td>9.48±4.0</td>
<td>5.31±2.0</td>
<td>7.12±3.0</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrite(NO) (nmol/l)</td>
<td>13.95±7.0</td>
<td>14.75±8.0</td>
<td>13.75±7.0</td>
<td>28.12±9.0</td>
<td>16.22±6.0</td>
<td>15.56±5.0</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are expressed as mean ± S.D.
Values are statistically significant at (P ≤ 0.05).
- a = significant compared with control groups.
- b = significant compared with NaF treated group.
- c = significant compared with NaF & GSP treated group.

Table (2): Effects on the tested parameters in negative control, distilled water, GSP, NaF, NaF & GSP and follow up groups of young rats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>Groups (n=6)</th>
<th>Negative Control</th>
<th>Distilled water</th>
<th>GSP</th>
<th>NaF</th>
<th>NaF &amp; GSP</th>
<th>Follow up</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Body weight (gm)</td>
<td>70±10</td>
<td>70±11</td>
<td>67±13</td>
<td>65±12</td>
<td>67±13</td>
<td>65±10</td>
<td>&gt;0.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mean testes weight (gm)</td>
<td>0.45±0.05</td>
<td>0.520±0.04</td>
<td>0.52±0.04</td>
<td>0.125±0.02</td>
<td>0.415±0.04</td>
<td>0.220±0.02</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relative testes weight (gm/B.W)</td>
<td>0.64±1.3</td>
<td>0.74±1.4</td>
<td>0.64±1.3</td>
<td>0.19±0.6</td>
<td>0.62±1.1</td>
<td>0.34abc±0.5</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testosterone (ng/ml)</td>
<td>0.23±0.05</td>
<td>0.25±0.04</td>
<td>0.25±0.04</td>
<td>0.345±0.07</td>
<td>0.358±0.08</td>
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<tr>
<td>FSH (μIU/ml)</td>
<td>0.521±0.15</td>
<td>0.521±0.15</td>
<td>0.495±0.14</td>
<td>0.451±0.2</td>
<td>0.612±0.3</td>
<td>0.535±0.2</td>
<td>&gt;0.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>LH (μIU/ml)</td>
<td>2.14±1.1</td>
<td>2.12±1.1</td>
<td>2.28±1.2</td>
<td>3.41±1.3</td>
<td>2.45±1.2</td>
<td>2.85±1.5</td>
<td>&gt;0.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malondialdehyde (nmol/l)</td>
<td>2.58±1.4</td>
<td>2.56±1.4</td>
<td>2.17±1.1</td>
<td>8.42±3.0</td>
<td>5.13±2.0</td>
<td>6.15±2.0abc</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nitrite(NO) (nmol/l)</td>
<td>12.25±6.1</td>
<td>12.21±6.1</td>
<td>10.13±5.1</td>
<td>20.25±9.0a</td>
<td>14.56±8.0a</td>
<td>15.24±7.0aabc</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are expressed as mean ± S.D.
Values are statistically significant at (P ≤ 0.05).
- a = significant compared with control groups.
- b = significant compared with NaF treated group.
- c = significant compared with NaF & GSP treated group.
Plate (1): Photomicrographs of sections of testes of adult rats showing:

Fig. (1): Normal seminiferous tubules with active spermatogenesis (control group).  
\( (H&E \times 200) \)

Fig. (2): Arrest of spermatogenesis and seminiferous tubules lined with 1ry and 2ry spermatocytes only \( \rightarrow \) with fibrous thinking of the wall of tubules (F) (NaF group). \( (H&E \times 200) \)

Fig. (3): Incomplete spermatogenic arrest, some tubules show active spermatogenesis \( \rightarrow \) and others show arrest of spermatogenesis (A) (NaF&GSP group).  
\( (H&E \times 200) \)

Fig. (4): Arrest of spermatogenesis and one seminiferous tubules show few spermatozoa  
\( \rightarrow \) (follow up group). \( (H&E \times 200) \)
Plate (2): Photomicrographs of sections of testes of young rats showing:

**Fig. (1):** Normal seminiferous tubules lined with sertoli cells and spermatogonia only, there is no Leydig cells and no active spermatogenesis (control group).  
*(H&E x200)*

**Fig. (2):** Early atrophic changes of the seminiferous tubules (NaF group). *(H&E x200)*

**Fig. (3):** Nearly normal seminiferous tubules with slight distortion (NaF & GSP group).  
*(H&E x200)*

**Fig. (4):** Atrophic changes of most of the seminiferous tubules few tubules are lined with sertoli cells only (→) (follow up group). *(H&E x200)*
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احتمالية دور الوقاية لمضافة البذرة الجربى على سمية الفلوريد على الخصية في الجربان البضاء والبالغة والصغيرة

الناشرين في البحث

د. محسن الهمدانية
د. محسن الدوام
د. أسامة الرحمن
د. سحر أبوالنجم

من أقسام الطب الشرعي والسموم الإكلينيكية، طب المجتمع والبيئة وطب الصناعات والكيمياء، الحيوية الطبية.

كلية الطب البشري - جامعة الزقاق.

يعتبر الفلوريد من العناصر واسعة الانتشار في الطبيعة ويتعرض عدد كبير من سكان العالم إلى نسبة عالية منه وتؤثر على مختلف أجزاء الجسم والعملات الجلدية، استهدفت هذا البحث دراسة التأثير السام لعدس الفلوريد على الخصية وقياس دور الوقاية لمضافة البذرة في الحماية من هذا التأثير في جربان البضاء والبالغة والصغيرة.

استعمل البذرة على 72 جرذ (33 جردة بالغة، 39 جردة صغيرة)، تم تقسيمهم إلى 6 مجموعات متساوية، 12 جرذ في كل مجموعة (6 جرذان بالغة و6 جرذان صغيرة) على النحو التالي:

1- المجموعة الأولى: مجموعة ضابطة سلبية لم يتم حقنها بأي مادة لقياس المؤشرات الأساسية وتم ذبحها بعد 30 يوماً من بداية التجربة.

2- المجموعة الثانية: مجموعة ضابطة إيجابية تم حقنها بالماء المغلي لمدة 30 يوماً ثم ذبح.

3- المجموعة الثالثة: مجموعة تم حقنها بلازاكس بذور النبات (160 مجم/كجم من وزن الجسم) مذاب في الماء المغلي عن طريق الفم يومياً لمدة 30 يوماً ثم ذبح.

4- المجموعة الرابعة: مجموعة تم حقنها عصر الفلوريد (18 مجم/كجم من وزن الجسم) مذاب في الماء المغلي عن طريق الفم يومياً لمدة 30 يوماً ثم ذبح.

5- المجموعة الخامسة: مجموعة تم حقنها عصر الفلوريد (18 مجم/كجم من وزن الجسم) مذاب في الماء المغلي وخلاصة بذور النبات (160 مجم/كجم من وزن الجسم) يومياً لمدة 30 يوماً ثم ذبح.

6- المجموعة السادسة: مجموعة تم حقنها عصر الفلوريد (18 مجم/كجم من وزن الجسم) مذاب في الماء المغلي عن طريق الفم يومياً لمدة 30 يوماً ثم ذبح.

تم أخذ عينات الدم من الجربان في كل مجموعة عند نهاية الدراسة المفتوحة لإجراء الدراسة الكيميائية، كما تم وزن الجربان ووزن البذور لكل الجربان وأخذ متوسط الوزن وتعيين الوزن النصبي مقارنة بوزن الجسم، كما تم إعداد الخصبة لإجراء الدراسة الوراثية بالبيكروباصوتينين.

وقد أوضحنا الدراسة أن عنصر الفلوريد له تأثير سام بالغ على الخصية في الجرذان البالغة والصغيرة، فهو بصورة واضحة في نقص ذر دالة إحصائية معنوية في نسبة هرمونات التستوستيرون، (إف إس أتش) في الدم، وهذا التغير في نسبة هرمونات كان واضحًا في مجموعة الجرذان البالغة ولم يكن هناك تغيير في نسبة هرمونات في مجموعة الجرذان الصغيرة مقارنة بالمجموعات الضبطة، كما أنه نقص ذو دالة إحصائية معنوية في مستوي الوزن والرطوبة النسبية للخصيتين في الجرذان البالغة والصغيرة، وكانت التغييرات الهيستوپاتولوجية في نسيج الخصية في صورة توقف في مراحل تكوين الخلايا المنوية في الجرذان البالغة وأيضاً موت وضرر وتلف خلايا الخصية كان أكثر وضوحًا في مجموعة الجرذان الصغيرة في حالة زيادة ذات دالة إحصائية في نسبة مالونديإف الدهيد وختان في مصل الدم كمؤشر لتأثيرات المخثر في أكسدة الدهون وزيادة شرود الأكسجين المجاورة ونقص نشاط مواد الأكسدة، وأظهرت النتائج أن إعطاء خلاصة بذر الجربوع مع مركب فلوريد الصوديوم قد أحدث تأثيراً وقائياً من التغيرات الناجية عن التعرض لمركب فلوريد الصوديوم، وبالنسبة لمجموعة المتابعة فقد ظهر تحسن طفيف في التغييرات الناجية عن التعرض لمركب فلوريد الصوديوم، وذلك في الجرذان البالغة والصغيرة، من النتائج السابقة نستطيع أن عنصر الفلوريد له تأثير سام على نسيج الخصية في الجرذان البالغة والصغيرة وكان أكثر وضوحًا في مجموعة الجرذان الصغيرة، وإيقافه أدى إلى تحسن طفيف في نسبة هرمونات في الجرذان البالغة ونسبة الخصية في الجرذان الكبيرة والصغيرة وأيضاً خلصة بذر الجربوع قد أظهر تأثيراً وقائياً ملحوظاً، لذلك ينصح بإعطاء مضادات الأكسدة للأطفال والكبار الذين يتعرضون لنسبة عالية من الفلوريد ومراقبة نسبة الفلوريد في الميا في المناطق المجاورة على نسبة عالية منه.
