

Anti-oxidation action of Curcumin in two forms of bed rest: Oxidative stress Serum and salivary markers

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Abstract

Microgravity is associated with an increase of peroxidative damage. The effect is more pronounced after long-duration space flight and can even last for several weeks after landing. The extensive research is going on prevention of peroxidative damage due to microgravity. It has been evidenced that curcumin (diferuloylmethane), a yellow pigment in curry powder, exhibits antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and proapoptotic activities. To determine preventive effect of curcumin on peroxidative damage due to two bed rest conditions. 20 healthy male volunteers equally divided into two groups (10 with curcumin and 10 without curcumin) were studied in condition before, during, and just bed rest conditions -6° head-down-tilt (HDT) bed rest and bed rest position (BD) for 10 days. We measured the salivary and serum oxidative markers such as Malonaldehyde, 8-hydroxydeoxyguanosine, vitamin C and E just before HDT & BD, during HDT & BD experiment, and in recovery in with curcumin and without curcumin group. The value of serum and salivary Vitamin C & E showed statistically significant decrease in both bed rest conditions condition as compared to before and in recovery stage, however levels were decreased less in curcumin groups as compared to without curcumin groups (Table-1&2, P<0.05). MDA and 8-OHdG levels showed significant increase in simulating microgravity and Zero gravity condition as compared to before and in recovery stage, however levels were low in curcumin groups as compared to without curcumin groups (Table-1& 2, P<0.05). Serum and salivary correlation analysis revealed strong and highly significant correlation for MDA, Vitamin C & E and 8 dihydro-2 deoxyguanosine (8-OHdG) in before, during and recovery in both bed rest conditions. Since, saliva can be easily collected, non-invasive and measurement of salivary markers levels may prove to be useful in space research. Hence, curcumin prevents peroxidative damage in both bed rest conditions. Further study is required on antioxidant action of curcumin in space microgravity condition.

Key Words- Curcumin, Serum, Saliva, oxidative stress, two bed rest position, space microgravity.

Introduction

Current projects of missions to Mars, resulting in 2 years of microgravity conditions, demand the critical needs for the development of the optimal nutritional programs and physical countermeasures to prevent body mass and functional alterations. On long duration space flights such as Mars mission, astronauts undergo many physiological changes such as loss of bone mass, muscle strength, and cardiovascular

fitness, as a result of reduced metabolic activities and lower cellular and tissue oxygen demand 1-12. There is a balance in the body between oxidant production and antioxidant defence, with the balance shifted slightly in favour of oxidants 1-3. Mainly products of this "leakage" are the two ROS: superoxide radical (O₂⁻) and H₂O₂ 2. Other ROS include free radicals such as nitric oxide and compounds such as ozone and HOCl. ROS can attack and damage cellular constituents such as DNA, proteins, and membrane lipids. Oxidative damage from free radicals to DNA and lipids has been implicated in the etiology of a wide variety of chronic diseases and acute pathologic states 2-8. The

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chronic diseases range from oral disease such as periodontitis and oral cancer to cardiovascular disease and neurodegenerative disease including Alzheimer and Parkinson diseases.⁹⁻¹³ It has been observed that there is increased lipid peroxidation in human erythrocyte membranes and reductions in some blood antioxidants after long-duration space flight ¹³⁻¹⁵ It has been observed that there was urinary excretion of 8-iso-prostaglandin F₂- and 8-oxo-7,8 dihydro-2 deoxyguanosine (8-OHdG) in six subjects during and after long-duration space flight (90 to 180 d) ¹⁶⁻¹⁷. Isoprostane 8-isoprostaglandin F₂- and 8-OHdG are markers for oxidative damage to lipids and DNA, respectively ¹⁶⁻¹⁷. Most rodent studies showed increased production of lipid peroxidation products postflight and decreased antioxidant enzyme activity post-flight ¹⁸. It has been found space flight to simultaneously down regulate antioxidant defence capacity and elicit an oxidative stress in the liver. There was an approximately 50% increase in liver malondialdehyde concentration with space flight ¹⁹. Vitamin E is the primary chain-breaking antioxidant in cell membranes ^{9,20,21}. The protective role of vitamin C seems to lie in its ability to reduce the oxidized form of vitamin E, thereby making it reusable by the cell ^{9,23}.

Curcumin (diferuloylmethane), a dietary pigment responsible for the yellow color of turmeric, is used as a traditional medicine, well documented in Ayurveda for the treatment of numerous inflammatory conditions. Extensive research within the past half-decade has confirmed that curcumin mediates anti-inflammatory effects through the downregulation of transcription factor nuclear factor- κ B (NF- κ B), tumor necrosis factor (TNF) interleukin-6, interleukin-8, adhesion molecules, inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS), matrix metalloproteinase-9 (MMP-9), cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2), 5-lipoxygenase (5-LOX), and glutathione reversed the inhibition ²⁴⁻³⁴. It has been reported that Curcumin act as antioxidant agents ³⁰⁻³⁴. Curcumin have shown that agent can be administered safely at oral doses of up to 8 g/d. There was no dose-limiting toxicity; dosing was limited by the number of pills that patients could or would swallow daily ³⁵⁻³⁶. Hence, this study was planned the effect of curcumin on serum and salivary markers of

oxidative stress due to two forms of bed rest.

Materials and methods

The subjects of this investigation were 20 male volunteers aged (18-22 years, mean weight of 72.5 \pm 3.2 kg and mean height of 174.9 \pm 3.4 cm) participated in an 8-hour 6° HDT bed-rest exposure (18-21 years, mean weight of 71.8 \pm 2.3 kg and mean height of 174.8 \pm 3.3 cm) and bed rest position (18-24 years, mean weight of 73.6 \pm 3.4 kg and mean height of 175.1 \pm 4.1 cm), who had not participated in systemic endurance training for 10 days prior to study and each subject was given a detailed explanation of the experimental protocol and provided written and verbal consent. Each subject completed a medical and dental history questionnaire to determine the status of systemic diseases, smoking, alcoholic and drugs history as well as clinical examination for systemic diseases, chronic diseases and oral & dental diseases. Patients were excluded from study who had systemic diseases, chronic diseases, oral & dental disease, smoking, alcoholic and drugs history. Five volunteers of each HDT and BD were selected and gave a curcumin once a day and others five volunteers of each HDT and BD did not give anything.

Curcumin- 1 g caplet form Curcumin (900 mg curcumin, 80 mg desmethoxycurcumin, and 20 mg bisdesmethoxycurcumin) from Sabinsa was obtained.

Blood and saliva samples were taken just before HDT, throughout the time course of the HDT & BD experiment, and during recovery. Subjects were asked to awake at 6 A.M. on the day of the study and to remain seated or in standing position until arrival at research centre. Baseline control measurements were obtained during the hour before HDT & BD. At -9 A.M. the subjects were transferred supine to a gurney and tilted to 6° HDT & BD, where they remained for the next 8 h. At -5 P.M. till 10 days, after 10 days the subjects returned to a chair and stayed in seated position for the 4-h recovery period. Blood and saliva samples were prepared at the same time.

Whole unstimulated saliva was collected over a five-min period from subjects with directions to allow saliva to pool at the bottom of the mouth

and drain into a collection tube, when necessary. Unstimulated whole saliva produced in a 5-min period (about 3 mL) was collected, allowed to drain into a plastic container, and centrifuged at 3,000 ×g, in 4°C for 5 min to remove bacterial and cellular debris. Saliva samples were stored at -80°C until analysis. Blood samples were collected into Vacutainer tubes. The blood was centrifuged at 1,700 g for 10 min and the plasma was separated. Plasma was stored at -80°C until analysis. Serum and salivary levels were assessed for MDA using thiobarbituric acid (TBA) method of Buege and Aust 37 . Concentrations of both vitamins were measured using liquid chromatography 38 .Quantitative measurement of the oxidative DNA adduct 8-OHdG was performed according to the method described by Toyokuni et al.³⁹ Briefly, the saliva samples were centrifuged at 10,000g for 10 minutes and the supernatant was used to determine 8- OHdG levels with a competitive ELISA kit (Japan Institute for the Control of Aging, Shizuoka, Japan). The determination range was 0.5-200 ng/mL. Serum 8-OHdG levels were measured in duplicate by a competitive ELISA kit (OXIS, Portland, OR, USA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. The sensitivity of the method was 1 ng/ml. All data were statistically analyzed using SPSS statistical package (SPSS, version13, Chicago,IL,USA). Data are expressed as mean ± standard deviation. Differences between pre, during and after microgravity simulation were analyzed for significant, using one-way ANOVA test. Correlation assessment was performed using the Spearman correlation analysis. Statistical significance was defined as $p < 0.05$.

Results

The value of serum and salivary Vitamin C &E showed statistically significant decrease in simulating microgravity & zero gravity condition as compared to before and in recovery stage in with and without Curcumin groups , also lower in recovery stage as compared to before two bed rest conditions (Table-1&2, $P < 0.05$) , however decrease in curcumin group was low as compared to without curcumin group. MDA and 8-OH dG levels showed statistically significant increase in both condition as compared to before and in recovery stage ,

also relatively higher in without curcumin group as compared with curcumin group (Table-1&2, $P < 0.05$). Serum and salivary correlation analysis revealed strong and highly significant correlation for MDA, Vitamin C& E and 8 dihydro-2 deoxyguanosine (8-OHdG) in both bed rest condition in both groups ($r=0.86, r=0.67, r=0.76, P < 0.001$) & ($r=0.67, r=0.66, r=0.64, P < 0.001$) respectively

Discussion

In the present study, serum and salivary Vitamin C & E were significantly lowered in both conditions in both groups (Table-1&2, $P < 0.05$), which support the previous studies 40-42. Decreased antioxidant defence may be one of the reasons for increased levels of ROS and subsequent tissue damage in two bed rest conditions. MDA levels in both rest conditions environment were significantly elevated in both groups contrast to before and in recovery stage. This indicates that increased lipid peroxidation due to 'free radical'-mediated injury occurs in both rest conditions. Increased lipid peroxidation can occur if the rate of production of reactive oxygen species is higher or the antioxidant level is low which concur with previous studies 40-44 . The 8-OHdG levels were increased in both conditions as in previous studies 28, 30-33. Different aspects of oxidative stress are measured by 8-OHG namely DNA damage and cell membrane damage, respectively 44-48. The increased 8-OHG, MDA levels and decreased Vitamin C and E levels were low in curcumin groups as compared without curcumin group as in previous studies 34 . Several reports suggest that curcumin can induce ROS 47,48 . There are also reports which suggest that curcumin quenches ROS production and thus acts as an antioxidant 49. Other reports suggest that curcumin quenches ROS production at low concentrations and induces ROS production at high concentrations 50. It may due to curcumin, like vitamin C, acts as both a pro-oxidant and an antioxidant. Whereas the pro-oxidant mechanism mediates apoptotic effects, the antioxidant mechanism mediates NF- κ B-suppressive effects.

Hence, in both rest conditions have not only systemic but also oral antioxidant levels were reduced. Antioxidant defence (vitamin E and C)

Table-1 Salivary and serum MDA, Vitamin C& E and 8 dihydro-2 deoxyguanosine (8-OH dG) concentration in the plasma and saliva of 20 Normal healthy subject in before HDT without

Curcumin (A), throughout the time course of the HDT experiment (B), during recovery (C) and before HDT with Curcumin (AA), throughout the time course of the HDT experiment (BB), during recovery (CC).

Markers	Serum and saliva	A	AA €	B	BB £,€	C	CC £
MDA	Salivary (µmol/L)	0.24±0.06 a	0.22±0.13	0.34±0.12* ,a	0.25±0.14	0.25±0.13*	0.24±0.23
	Serum (µmol/L)	1.14 ±0.37 a	1.06 ±0.89	1.36 ±0.36*,a	1.01 ±0.68	1.18 ±0.24*	1.01 ±0.75
Vitamin C	Salivary (µg /L)	1.01±0.32 a	1.56±0.66	0.82±0.21* ,a	1.23±0.67	0.97±0.24*	1.29±0.68
	Serum (µg/L)	8.23±1.23 a	8.96±2.46	7.56±1.89* ,a	8.82±2.33	8.05±1.95*	8.88±2.86
Vitamin E	Salivary (µg/L)	0.43±0.12 a	0.56±0.46	0.31±0.14* ,a	0.48±0.45	0.41±0.16*	0.54±0.29
	Serum (µg/L)	8.01±1.12 a	8.46±2.32	7.32±1.21* ,a	8.23±3.34	7.90±1.12*	8.94±3.32
8-OH dG	Salivary (ng/ml)	0.32±0.04 a	0.22±0.13	0.45±0.07* ,a	0.24±0.11	0.38±0.08*	0.22±0.12
	Serum (ng/ml)	2.12 ± 1.24 a	1.45 ± 1.11	2.79 ± 1.23*,a	1.89 ± 1.36	2.32 ± 1.26*	1.77 ± 1.12

*p < 0.05, as compared to after condition (C)

ap < 0.05, as compared to Before condition (A).

fp < 0.05, as compared to after condition (CC)

•p < 0.05, as compared to Before condition (AA).

Table-2 Salivary and serum MDA, Vitamin C& E and 8 dihydro-2 deoxyguanosine (8-OHdG) concentration

in the plasma and saliva of 20 Normal healthy subject in before BD without Curcumin (A), throughout the time course of the BD experiment (B), during recovery (C) and before HDT with Curcumin (AA), throughout the time course of the HDT experiment (BB), during recovery (CC).

Markers	Serum and saliva	A	AA €	B	BB £,€	C	CC £
MDA	Salivary (µmol/L)	0.25±0.08 a	0.11±0.03	0.37±0.14*,a	0.15±0.13	0.28±0.19*	0.12±0.16
	Serum (µmol/L)	1.25 ±0.45 a	0.78 ±0.65	1.35 ±0.41*,a	0.76±0.65	1.23 ±0.78*	0.78 ±0.67
Vitamin C	Salivary (µg /L)	1.02±0.45 a	1.23±0.67	0.85±0.47*,a	1.08±0.76	.94±0.38*	1.09±0.69
	Serum (µg/L)	7.48±1.54 a	8.32±2.01	7.06±1.02*,a	8.00±2.01	7.41±1.84*	8.03±2.09
Vitamin E	Salivary (µg/L)	0.48±0.14 a	0.59±0.23	0.35±0.15*,a	0.51±0.23	0.47±0.19*	0.53±0.22
	Serum (µg/L)	8.11±1.08 a	8.88±2.13	7.54±1.09*,a	8.23±3.19	8.09±1.01*	8.56±2.56
8-OH dG	Salivary (ng/ml)	0.35±0.06 a	0.23±0.08	0.41±0.05*,a	0.26±0.08	0.34±0.02*	0.22±0.05
	Serum (ng/ml)	2.15 ± 1.26 a	1.89 ± 1.43	2.89 ± 1.25*,a	1.98 ± 1.13	2.14 ± 1.26*	1.78 ± 1.23

is compromised and oxidative stress was increased in both rest conditions. Curcumin act as antioxidant in both rest conditions. Hence, better formulations of curcumin may provide more antioxidant effect. Further study is required on the effect of curcumin as antioxidant agent in space microgravity & zero gravity condition.

Acknowledgment

We are thankful to all volunteers of this study. We are thankful to Dr.Harbhajan Singh and Mrs Ravinder Kaur (Parents of Jasdeep Kaur and Balwant Rai) for moral support and enchorage for study.

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