

RESEARCH ARTICLE

***In vitro* Antiglycation Activity of Isorhamnetin on Bovine Serum Albumin with different sugars using Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate Polyacrylamide Gel Electrophoresis**

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ABSTRACT:

Advanced glycation end products (AGEs) resulting from glycation of proteins, lipids and nucleic acids has several pathophysiological manifestations by altering the structure and functions of molecular proteins. Isorhamnetin is a flavonoid with anti-inflammatory, anti-oxidant, anti-obesity, anticancer, antidiabetic and anti-atherosclerosis activity. Based on the structure activity relationship and our insilico antiglycation study of isorhamnetin, we hypothesised that isorhamnetin may have antiglycation activity by inhibiting protein glycation on sugar molecules due to its antioxidant and free radical scavenging activity. Hence our aim of the study was to determine the glycation level of bovine serum albumin (BSA) with varying sugar concentration of glucose, fructose and ribose on 14th and 21st day of incubation. Our second objective of the study was to determine the antiglycation activity of isorhamnetin on BSA using all the sugars at 14th and 21st day of incubation using SDS - PAGE. Our study showed that increase in concentration of glucose, fructose and ribose (0 – 50mM) showed a dose dependent decrease in migration of protein implying increased glycation of BSA. Isorhamnetin (100µM) exhibited antiglycation activity for fructose (30mM) at 14th day onwards and for glucose (30mM) was at 21st day onwards. But isorhamnetin did not exert antiglycation activity for ribose (30mM) on both 14th and 21st day of incubation. Our study establishes the antiglycation activity of isorhamnetin however further invivo studies are necessary to warrant this activity.

KEYWORDS: AGE, isorhamnetin, SDS – PAGE, glycation, sugars.

INTRODUCTION:

AGEs are formed when the reducing sugars are non-enzymatically glycated and oxidised to proteins, lipids or nucleic acids¹ at three different phases. Initially it leads to the formation of Schiff bases which undergo further oxidation, dehydration, polymerisation or oxidative breakdown forming amadori products at the propagation phase and moves on to the advanced phase by forming non cross linking, fluorescent and non fluorescent AGEs². AGE disturbs numerous molecular signalling cascades associated with inflammation and oxidative stress³ such as nuclear factor-kB (NF-kB), protein kinase B (Akt/PKB),

Janus kinase – signal transducer and activator of transcription (JAK-STAT), mitogen activated protein kinase (MAPK), c- Jun N- terminal kinase (JNK), cAMP response element-binding protein (CREB) and extracellular signal regulated kinase (ERK) pathways⁴. AGE and its derivatives serve as biomarker of various diseases such as diabetes mellitus^{5,6}, neurodegenerative disorders⁷, atherosclerosis⁸, cardiovascular diseases⁹, ageing and cancer^{10,11}.

There are several screening methods to detect AGEs to manage various pathological conditions. Recently, an increasing number of immunotechniques as well as bio-analytical techniques have been developed to efficiently measure the levels of AGEs qualitatively as well as quantitatively¹² such as spectrofluorimetry (for measuring amadori products), ELISA, western blotting and HPLC (for detecting anti –AGE antibodies against glycated proteins). In most of the methods, BSA is used

as a targeting protein, aminoguanidine (AG) is used as a standard inhibitor of AGE formation which was studied extensively for its antiglycation activity against AGE associated disease¹³ and sugars such as glucose, ribose and fructose are used as glycation agents¹⁴.

Therapeutic intervention of protein glycation plays an important role in the prevention of clinical complications. The currently available clinical options to reduce AGEs accumulation are AGE cross-link breakers, vitamins, tyrosin phosphorylation inhibitor and clinically approved anti-diabetic and anti-hypertensive drugs¹⁵. However, designing a new drug with anti-AGE activity is a challenge due to the complexity of reactions involved in AGE formation at different stages. But the above mentioned clinical drugs with anti-AGE effect including AG had failed in numerous clinical trials due to their side-effects, low safety and efficacy¹⁴. Therefore, discovering a new drug from natural origin with antiglycation property with maximum safety and efficacy is very much needed to ameliorate those chronic diseases and it was reported that the secondary metabolite, flavonoid (quercetin) may have antiglycation activity against AGEs and its derivatives due to its anti-oxidant effect^{16,17} by targeting signalling pathways¹⁸.

Isorhamnetin is a naturally occurring o- methylated flavonoid present in various parts of the plants such as Ginkgo biloba¹⁹, goldenrod, red turnip, sea buckthorn, true indigo and maidenhair tree^{20,21}. It is a versatile molecule with many pharmacological importance such as antimicrobial, anti-oxidant, anticancer, anti-inflammatory, anti-obesity, antidiabetic, anti-atherosclerosis, antituberculosis, anti-osteoporosis, anti-hypoxia, antiviral, anti-hyperuricemia, antivittiligo, cardio-cerebrovascular and nerve protection, lung protection and hepatoprotective activity^{20,22,23}. However the mode of action of isorhamnetin is poorly established. Structure activity studies of isorhamnetin reveals the presence of hydroxyl group in the B-ring of the isorhamnetin may contribute to antiglycation activity²⁴. Insilico docking studies of isorhamnetin done by us on 17 molecular proteins of AGE pathway (yet to be published) suggests antiglycation activity by modulating these proteins. Based on the structure activity and insilico docking studies, we proposed that isorhamnetin may exhibit anticancer, anti-obesity, antidiabetic, anti-atherosclerosis activity by modulating AGE pathway²⁵. Thus the objectives of the present study was to determine the level of glycation of BSA with different sugars in varying sugar concentration at 14th and 21st day of incubation using sodium dodecyl sulphate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) and to detect the antiglycation potential of isorhamnetin on sugar protein crosslinks due to its antioxidant activity¹⁹ using SDS-PAGE.

MATERIAL:

D-glucose, D-fructose, D-ribose and Aminoguanidine were procured from Avra (Hyderabad, India). BSA was purchased from SRL (Maharashtra, India) and isorhamnetin was from TCI (Tokyo, Japan). Na₂HPO₄, NaH₂PO₄, NaCl, KCl, Sodium azide.

METHODS:

The samples were prepared by mixing BSA (1mg/mL) with varying concentrations of three different sugars such as glucose, fructose and ribose (10-50mM) in phosphate buffer (PB) at pH 7.4 containing 0.02% sodium azide as a preservative to prevent microbial growth during incubation⁶. The protein sugar mixtures were incubated at 37°C for 21 days in the sealed glass tubes.

The effect of different sugars on protein glycation was studied by using AG (10µM) was used as a positive control. Corresponding blank was prepared in the absence of sugars containing BSA (1 mg/mL) in PB (pH 7.4). Isorhamnetin (100µM) was incubated with 30mM of D-glucose, D-fructose and D-ribose separately in BSA buffer (pH 7.4) solution containing 0.02% of Sodium azide. The test solutions were incubated at 37°C for 21 days in the closed glass tubes. Aliquots were collected at the end of 14th and 21th day and stored at -20 °C until further analysis by SDS-PAGE to identify the inhibitory potential of isorhamnetin against protein glycation of all the three sugars. SDS polyacrylamide gels (12%) were prepared according to the standard Laemmli procedure¹⁴. The collected aliquot mixtures were heated with the SDS buffer at 95°C for 3 min, before loading the samples to the SDS gel. The separation of protein crosslinks was done at pH 8.6 to obtain protein bands which were visualized by staining with Coomassie brilliant blue. At the end, the changes in the migration position and the intensity of the BSA bands for all the three different sugars were compared to conclude the results for its antiglycation activity against AGEs.

RESULT:

Our study showed that an increase in concentration of glucose, fructose and ribose (Figure 1) had decreased the migration of BSA. Also the BSA bands exhibited broader migration with increasing concentration of all three sugars on 21st day of incubation. To add on the colour intensity of glucose in later stages was high and this finding was consistent with the previous study¹⁴. Thus under non denaturing conditions, migration of BSA band (SDS-PAGE) towards the anode showed detectable variation but was not significant. Decrease in BSA migration seemed to be proportionate to the degree of protein glycation. The rate of BSA migration at 14th day of incubation was slower than that of 21st day of migration for all three sugars and did not show

detectable changes in migration.

In presence of isorhamnetin (100 μ M), the transit of BSA along with fructose increased on both 14th and 21st day of incubation (Figure 2) and this was comparable to that of AG. The migration of BSA with glucose was increased in presence of isorhamnetin only on 21st day of incubation and was similar to that of AG. Isorhamnetin (100 μ M) did not improve the migration of BSA with ribose. Thus isorhamnetin (100 μ M) exhibited invitro antiglycation activity at the concentration of 30mM for fructose and glucose on 14th and 21st day of incubation respectively and this inhibition was on par with AG.

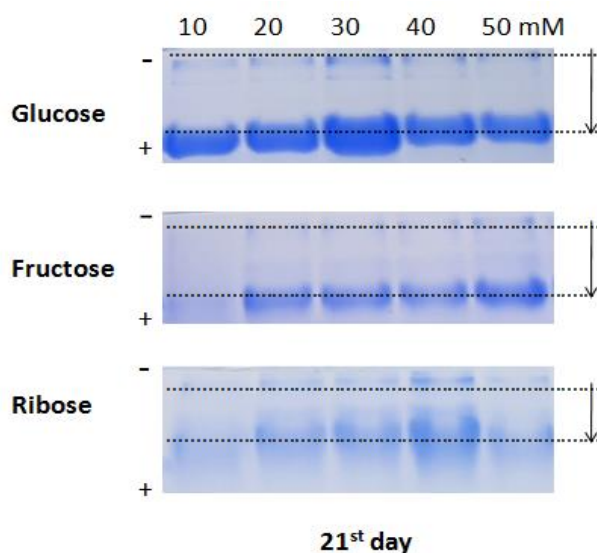


Figure 1: Effect of glucose, fructose and ribose in different concentrations (0 – 50 mM) on BSA migration on 21st day of incubation using SDS - PAGE.

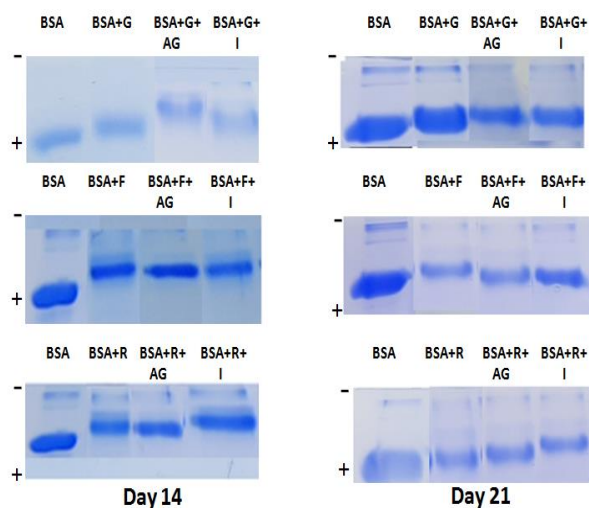


Figure 2: Effect of isorhamnetin on BSA migration on 14th and 21st day of incubation of BSA with all three sugars using SDS-PAGE (G – glucose, F – fructose, R- ribose, BSA – Bovine serum albumin, AG- aminoguanidine, I - isorhamnetin).

DISCUSSION:

Glycation^{26,27} is the key molecular mechanism for various ailments and hence targeting this will pave way for new therapeutic strategies for these ailments¹⁴. In our study, an increase in concentration of glucose, fructose and ribose (0 – 50mM) decreased the migration of BSA (Figure 1) implying glycation of these proteins. This effect was more profound on the 21st day of incubation but not on 14th day of incubation. This is consistent to the previous studies suggesting that the decrease in migration observed was due to the increase in molecular weight and net negative charge of BSA due to glycation²⁸.

Isorhamnetin (100 μ M) exhibited invitro antiglycation activity at the concentration of 30mM for fructose on 14th and 21st day and for glucose on 21st day of incubation. The antiglycation activity of isorhamnetin was on par to the antiglycation activity of AG (10 μ M) (Figure 2) when compared with glucose and fructose. AG exhibits antiglycation activity by inhibiting reactive carbonyl groups in glycation products²⁹. However isorhamnetin did not exhibit antiglycation activity of BSA in presence of ribose (30mM) on both 14th and 21st day of incubation. Fructose forms glycation products that are highly reactive and has different structure and reactivity when compared to the glycation products of glucose. Though tissue level of fructose does not rise, it can have a detrimental effect in tissues that operate by the polyol pathway such as ocular lens, peripheral nerves and erythrocytes^{6,9,30}. Thus isorhamnetin (100 μ M) is found to be efficient in arresting glycation by fructose on the 14th day itself suggesting its efficacy as an antiglycation agent. But isorhamnetin (100 μ M) exhibited antiglycation activity for glucose on 21st day of incubation and further studies on dose increment of isorhamnetin are necessary to get clear cut knowledge on this perspective. Isorhamnetin (100 μ M) did not shown antiglycation activity for ribose on 14th or 21st day of incubation hence further studies are required to cast light on this aspect of the study.

Based on our insilico study of isorhamnetin on molecular proteins of AGE pathway^{31,32,33,34} (yet to be published), we found that isorhamnetin exhibited antiglycation activity by modulating RAGE, PKB/Akt2, ATF4, CREB, ERK and STAT molecular proteins in this pathway. Isorhamnetin (3, 5, 7-Trihydroxy-2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-4H-1-benzopyran-4-one) is a quercetin derivative²¹ and consists of three carbon aromatic rings and many phenolic hydroxyl groups. Presence of ortho hydroxyl structure in B ring and a C2-C3 double bond in conjugation with a 4-oxo function²² in the C ring (benzopyran-4-one) are mandatory for free radical scavenging³⁵. The ortho-dihydroxy structures in the B ring provide stability for the flavonoid. Phenoxyl

radicals contribute hydrogen atom release³⁶, electron delocalization and hydrogen bonding ability. The C2-C3 structure in conjugation with a 4-oxo function in the C ring provides co-planarity of the hetero ring and increases radical stability by electron delocalization over all three-ring system. The hydroxyl groups at positions 3 and 5 in the A and C ring respectively, contributes to free radical scavenging activity by providing hydrogen bonding to the oxo-group³⁷. Presence of hydroxyl groups on B-ring of isorhamnetin may be one of the key factors for its antiglycation activity²⁴. Thus our study showed that all three sugars on increasing concentration exerted a decreased migration of protein depending on its dose due to increased glycation of BSA. Isorhamnetin exhibited antiglycation activity for fructose on 14th day itself whereas for glucose it was on 21st day. Isorhamnetin did not inhibit glycation for ribose on 14th or 21st day.

CONCLUSION:

In our study, we concluded that glucose, fructose and ribose on increasing concentration exhibited a dose dependent decrease in migration of protein implying increased glycation of BSA. Isorhamnetin exhibited AGE inhibition in presence of fructose and glucose but not for ribose.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

There is no conflict of interest.

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