



Dose-Response effect of Garcinia Cambogia extracts on Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN) and Serum Creatinine levels among Alloxan Induced Diabetic Rats

¹Dr Majid Ali Hingoro, ²Dr Jawad Mumtaz Sodhar, ³Dr Shumaila Shaikh, ⁴Dr Sadia Tabbassum, ⁵Dr. Umair Azmat, ⁶Dr Umair Ali Soomro, ⁷Mehwish Jaweed, ⁸Prof. Dr Kashif Rasheed Shaikh, ⁹Prof Dr Muhammad Atif Ata

¹Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology, Mohi-ud-Din Islamic Medical College, Mirpur AJK, Pakistan

²Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology, Suleman Roshan Medical College, Tando Adam, Sindh, Pakistan

³Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Khairpur Medical College, Khairpur, Sindh, Pakistan

⁴Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Suleman Roshan Medical College, Tando Adam, Sindh, Pakistan

⁵Demonstrator, Department of Pathology, Shahida Islam Medical and Dental College, Lodhran, Pakistan

⁶Associate Professor, Department of Pathology, Indus Medical College Tando Muhammad Khan, Sindh, Pakistan

⁷Lecturer, Department of Management sciences, SZABIST University Hyderabad

⁸Department of Pharmacology, Suleman Roshan Medical College, Tando Adam, Sindh, Pakistan

⁹Department of Biochemistry, Suleman Roshan Medical College, Tando Adam, Sindh, Pakistan

Correspondence

Prof Dr Kashif Rasheed Shaikh, Suleman Roshan Medical College, Tando Adam, Sindh, Pakistan

Abstract

Introduction

As a possible medication for Diabetes Mellitus (DM) and its consequences, the natural supplement garcinia cambogia shows promise. In this respect, the goal of the current study is to examine the possible impacts of various Garcinia cambogia (GC) dosages on the levels of serum creatinine (SC) and blood urea nitrogen (BUN) in Alloxan-induced diabetic rats.

Methodology

Rats were kept in stainless steel cages with sawdust bedding, stainless steel feed containers, and plastic drinks with stainless nozzles. The light/dark cycle was kept at 12-hour intervals, and they were given access to lab food and water at will. The NIH Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals was followed for housing and handling the animals.

Results

The treated experimental groups, group C (19.28 ± 1.68 mg/dl), group D (18.48 ± 1.54 mg/dl), and group E (14.27 ± 2.43 mg/dl), all showed a notable decrease in blood urea nitrogen (BUN) levels. Contrastingly, the positive control group B showed a considerably higher BUN level of 23.63 ± 3.04 mg/ml compared to the negative control group A's BUN level of 8.43 ± 0.69 mg/ml. The statistical significance of this difference was unusually high (F-value = 158.3 and P = 0.0001).

Conclusion





The results show that the GcE-treated experimental groups (C, D, and E) had significantly lower blood urea nitrogen (BUN) levels than the positive control group (B) that was not given any treatment. The study also shows that these GcE-treated groups had significantly lower serum creatinine (SCr) levels, which supports the beneficial effects of GcE on renal function even further.

Keywords

Diabetes Mellitus, Serum Creatinine, Blood Urea Nitrogen

Introduction

Diabetes Mellitus (DM) is a common metabolic condition marked by persistently high blood glucose levels brought on by the improper metabolism of food elements such as carbs, lipids, and proteins¹. The main cause of this syndrome is either a whole or partial lack of insulin secretion or action, or a combination of these two causes². According to the World Health Organization (WHO), diabetes affects 422 million people worldwide, making it a serious public health issue not just in industrialized nations but also in developing countries like Pakistan³⁻⁴. About 43% of people who have diabetes die prematurely, especially those who are between the ages of 40 and 65, who are considered to be working age. Sedentary habits, a lack of exercise, and the consumption of poor diets, such as fast food heavy in fat and carbohydrates, all contribute to this worrying trend⁵. Due to these causes, it is predicted that the number of diabetes cases might quadruple by 2045, with developing nations alone seeing a significant increase from 26 million cases in 1990 to 65 million cases in 2016⁵⁻⁶. Blood urea nitrogen (BUN) and serum





creatinine are two crucial indications in the setting of diabetes that are crucial for diagnosing and treating the condition⁷⁻⁸. One of the most prevalent problems among older diabetes patients is diabetic nephropathy, which may be detected early with the use of these measures⁹. Diabetic nephropathy causes widespread scarring and entails gradual kidney injury that mostly affects the capillaries in the glomeruli. BUN, serum creatinine, creatinine clearance, urine albumin, and glomerular filtration rate (GFR) measures are frequently used to evaluate renal function in diabetics, albeit a biopsy may be necessary for a conclusive diagnosis¹⁰⁻¹¹. Notably, urine microalbuminuria (>300 mg/dL), a decrease in GFR, and a higher risk of cardiovascular morbidity and death are all signs of diabetic nephropathy¹²⁻¹³. When assessing the health of the kidneys in people with diabetes, BUN and serum creatinine levels are particularly important. These tests are easily accessible and may be used on a regular basis, making it possible to identify kidney involvement early and perhaps stop the course of end-stage renal disease by prompt therapies¹⁴. Higher insulin resistance and the inhibition of insulin production have been associated to higher urea levels, as measured by BUN. Furthermore, a greater risk of diabetes mellitus has been linked to BUN levels above 25 mg/dL. On the other hand, because of its relatively constant concentration and reflection of skeletal muscle mass, serum creatinine functions as a sensitive measure of renal involvement in diabetes¹⁵⁻¹⁶. Creatinine concentration is a sign of renal function as opposed to BUN, which involves reabsorption in the nephron tubules and less sensitive to variations in GFR. As a possible medication for Diabetes Mellitus (DM) and its consequences, the natural supplement garcinia cambogia shows promise. In this respect, the goal of the current study is to examine the possible impacts of various Garcinia cambogia (GC) dosages on the levels of serum creatinine (SC) and blood urea nitrogen (BUN) in Alloxan-induced diabetic rats.

Methodology

Study Design:

An animal experimentation design is used in this investigation.

Study Setting

The study was carried out at the Animal House in Karachi in association with the Basic Medical Sciences Institute at the Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC), Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics. A total on n=100 rats were recruited in the study.

Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Adult male albino Wistar rats weighing between 150 and 200 grams on average were included. Female and ill rats were excluded from the study.

Animal Housing and Feeding

Rats were kept in stainless steel cages with sawdust bedding, stainless steel feed containers, and plastic drinks with stainless nozzles. The light/dark cycle was kept at 12-hour intervals, and they were given access to lab food and water at will. The NIH Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals was followed for housing and handling the animals.

Administration of Alloxan

After an overnight fast, rats were given intraperitoneal injections of Alloxan monohydrate (Sigma Aldrich) to induce diabetes mellitus. Diabetes was induced with a single dosage of Alloxan (120 mg/kg body weight) dissolved in sterile saline.

Animal Grouping

Rats were group into five (n=20 rats in each group), as follows:

Group A

Rats in the control group were given a placebo of 0.9% normal saline.



Groups B

Rats with diabetes

Group C

Included diabetic rats that received Garcinia Cambogia Extract (GcE) treatment for eight weeks at a dose of 25 g/kg body weight per day.

Group D

Diabetic Rats received GcE treatment every day for eight weeks at a dosage of 50 g/kg body weight.

Group E

Consists of diabetic rats that received GcE treatment at a dosage of 75 g/kg daily for 8 weeks.

Outcome Measures

The levels of serum creatinine (SCr) and blood urea nitrogen (BUN) in the rats served as the study's main outcome indicators. Standard biochemical techniques were used to evaluate these characteristics. While SCr levels were assessed using a colorimetric assay based on Jaffe's reaction, BUN levels were calculated using the Urease-Glutamate Dehydrogenase (GDH) technique. Anesthesia was delivered 24 hours before the collection of serum samples, and the measurements were performed at the conclusion of the 8-week study period.

Results

The baseline body weights of both the control and experimental rats were diligently examined, and it was discovered that they were very stable across both groups. This remarkable consistency is supported by a miniscule P-value ($P = 0.57$), indicating unambiguously that there was no significant difference in the initial body weights across the four rat groups. The homogeneity in baseline body weights acts as a cornerstone in reducing any potential research bias, providing a setting favorable to rigorous and exact comparison and interpretation of the experimental data. (Table 1)

Table 1 Baseline Characteristics of rats in term of Weights measured in grams (between group comparison)

Variables	Average weights in grams \pm SD	F-Value	Level of Significance
Group A	177.05 \pm 11.73	0.726	0.57
Group B	175.05 \pm 14.23		
Group C	174.35 \pm 11.21		
Group D	177.70 \pm 5.77		
Group E	171.80 \pm 16.06		

Effects of different doses of Garcinia Cambogia Extract on the levels of BUN and SCr

The study's findings provide a convincing account of Garcinia Cambogia Extract (GcE) in improved kidney health. The treated experimental groups, group C (19.28 \pm 1.68 mg/dl), group D (18.48 \pm 1.54 mg/dl), and group E (14.27 \pm 2.43 mg/dl), all showed a notable decrease in blood urea nitrogen (BUN) levels.



Contrastingly, the positive control group B showed a considerably higher BUN level of 23.63 ± 3.04 mg/ml compared to the negative control group A's BUN level of 8.43 ± 0.69 mg/ml. The statistical significance of this difference was unusually high (F-value = 158.3 and P = 0.0001). Given that GcE significantly reduced BUN levels in the treated experimental groups as compared to the untreated positive control group B, these results highlight the substantial renal ameliorative effects of GcE (table 2). Further, the positive control group B had a serum creatinine (SCr) level of 5.06 ± 1.40 mg/ml. GcE-treated experimental groups, on the other hand, showed a significant drop in SCr levels: group C (4.84 ± 1.52 mg/dl), group D (3.47 ± 0.40 mg/dl), and group E (3.29 ± 0.52 mg/dl). The SCr level in negative control group A, on the other hand, was 0.91 ± 0.18 mg/ml. This remarkable change in SCr levels was followed by a statistically significant difference (F-value = 57.6 and P = 0.0001). These findings highlight the beneficial effect of GcE on renal function, as indicated by the significant reduction in blood creatinine levels in the treated experimental groups (table 2).

Table 2 Comparative analysis in BUN and SCr levels of rats (Between group Analyses)

Blood, Urea Nitrogen Levels (mg/dl)			
Variables	Mean levels \pm SD	F-Value	Level of Significance
Group A	8.43 ± 0.69	158.3	0.0001
Group B	23.63 ± 3.04		
Group C	19.28 ± 1.68		
Group D	18.48 ± 1.54		
Group E	14.27 ± 2.43		
Serum Creatinine Levels (SCr)			
Group A	0.91 ± 0.18	57.6	0.0001
Group B	5.06 ± 1.4		
Group C	4.84 ± 1.52		
Group D	3.47 ± 0.4		
Group E	3.29 ± 0.52		

Discussion

The results of the study offer strong proof of Garcinia Cambogia Extract's (GcE) beneficial effects on kidney function. Blood urea nitrogen (BUN) levels in the treated experimental groups (group C: 19.28 ± 1.68 mg/dl, group D: 18.48 ± 1.54 mg/dl, and group E: 14.27 ± 2.43 mg/dl) significantly dropped. This contrasts sharply with the significantly higher BUN level (23.63 ± 3.04 mg/ml) in the positive control group B compared to the BUN level of 8.43 ± 0.69 mg/ml in the negative control group A. This difference's was statistical significance (F-value = 158.3 and P = 0.0001). Notably, GcE considerably reduced BUN levels in the treated experimental groups as compared to the positive control group B that received no treatment, highlighting the substance's strong renal ameliorative effects. Serum creatinine (SCr) levels in the experimental groups that had received GcE treatment were significantly lower than those in the positive control group B (5.06 ± 1.40 mg/ml), group C (4.84 ± 1.52 mg/dl), group D (3.47 ± 0.40 mg/dl), and





group E (3.29 ± 0.52 mg/dl). The SCr level in group A's negative control, in comparison, was 0.91 ± 0.18 mg/ml. This striking change in SCr levels was followed by a statistical difference that was extremely significant (F-value = 57.6 and $P = 0.0001$). These results highlight the beneficial effects of GcE on renal function, with the treated experimental groups showing a significant decline in blood creatinine levels. A study was conducted with the purpose to look into the effects of *Garcinia cambogia* (G.C.) peel powder and extract (GCE) on obese rats¹⁶. A total of $n=25$ rats were separated into groups after being fed a high-fat diet to make them obese. One group served as a positive control, while the other four groups each received varied dosages of G.C. powder or GCE. Several variables were assessed after the treatment period of 28 days. The results showed that obesity produced a substantial drop in HDL cholesterol while increasing body weight gain, feed consumption, blood lipid levels, liver enzymes, uric acid, urea, creatinine, and glucose¹⁶. The injection of G.C. powder and GCE, however, successfully restored these negative effects. In the High-Fat Diet (HFD) generated obesity paradigm, the study examining the effect of *Garcinia cambogia* (*G. cambogia*) on reducing creatinine levels in rats¹⁷. Eight groups of rats were used in the investigation, and it was shown that HFD-induced obesity caused higher blood urea levels, which suggested nephrotoxicity. Nevertheless, after 42 days of therapy, the groups given Triphala, *Garcinia cambogia*, or both of them shown a substantial decrease in blood urea levels, thereby reducing the nephrotoxic effects brought on by the HFD¹⁷. Notably, co-treatment with Triphala and *G. cambogia* extracts showed a further reduction in blood urea levels, highlighting the potential of *G. cambogia* and Triphala to safeguard and enhance renal function in the setting of obesity-induced nephrotoxicity. Another study examined the impact of several therapies on Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN) levels in the setting of a high-fat diet (HFD)-induced obesity paradigm¹⁸. BUN values in the HFD control group were considerably higher than in the normal control group, indicating the possibility of nephrotoxicity brought on by obesity. Treatments with 250 mg/kgBW doses of Green Tea extract (GT), 250 mg/kgBW doses of *Garcinia atroviridis* extract (GA), or a combination of GT and GA at the same dosages, however, resulted in a significant decline in BUN levels. The combo therapy, in particular, showed a considerable decline in BUN levels, pointing to a synergistic impact in reducing nephrotoxicity brought on by the HFD¹⁸. These results demonstrate the potential of these therapies, particularly the GT and GA combination, to improve renal function in the setting of obesity-related nephrotoxicity¹⁸. The controlled animal experimental design, sufficient sample size, use of standardized measuring procedures, and respect to moral standards for animal care are the study's strong points. Recognizing its drawbacks, such as the absence of direct human data and the brief research period, is crucial. The potential effects of *Garcinia Cambogia* Extract (GcE) on kidney function in the context of diabetes mellitus should be better understood through additional research, including human clinical trials with longer follow-up periods. This will help close the gap between animal studies and clinical applicability.

Conclusion

The results show that the GcE-treated experimental groups (C, D, and E) had significantly lower blood urea nitrogen (BUN) levels than the positive control group (B) that was not given any treatment. The study also shows that these GcE-treated groups had significantly lower serum creatinine (SCr) levels, which supports the beneficial effects of GcE on renal function even further. These findings highlight the therapeutic potential of GcE in treating renal problems brought on by diabetes. However, more investigation—including clinical trials—is required to confirm these results and determine their applicability to human health.

References





1. Dong J, Li W, Du X, He X, Deng B, Zheng H, Tian Y, Sheng J, Fang C. Garcinia cambogia water extract alleviates insulin resistance and hepatic lipid accumulation in mice fed a high-fat diet. *Food & Nutrition Research*. 2023;67.
2. Bhatia K, Misra P, Singh A, Mukherjee B, Ambade VN. Study of blood urea nitrogen (bun), serum creatinine in diabetic and non-diabetic patients in a tertiary care hospital. *Int. J. Med Biomed. Stud*. 2019;3.
3. Thool AR, Dhande NK, Daigavane SV. Study of Correlation between Renal Function Test and Severity of Diabetic Retinopathy in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus. *Journal of Evolution of Medical and Dental Sciences*. 2021 May 17;10(20):1511-5.
4. Sabiullah M. Estimation of serum creatinine, blood urea nitrogen and urine analysis in patients with diabetes to assess the renal impairments. *International Journal of Advanced Biochemistry Research*. 2019;3(2):01-4.
5. Wardani G, Nugraha J, Mustafa M, Sudjarwo SA. Antioxidative stress and anti-inflammatory activity of fucoidan nanoparticles against nephropathy of streptozotocin-induced diabetes in rats. *Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine*. 2022 May 31;2022.
6. Khalid SH, Liaqat I, Mallhi TH, Khan AH, Ahmad J, Khan YH. Impact of diabetes mellitus on clinico-laboratory characteristics and in-hospital clinical outcomes among patients with myocardial infarction. *J Pak Med Assoc*. 2020 Dec 1.
7. Peng R, Liu K, Li W, Yuan Y, Niu R, Zhou L, Xiao Y, Gao H, Yang H, Zhang C, Zhang X. Blood urea nitrogen, blood urea nitrogen to creatinine ratio and incident stroke: the Dongfeng-Tongji cohort. *Atherosclerosis*. 2021 Sep 1;333:1-8.
8. Shi R, Niu Z, Wu B, Hu F. Study on the risk factors for hyperuricaemia and related vascular complications in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. *Risk Management and Healthcare Policy*. 2020 Sep 21:1661-75.
9. Luo Q, Cai Y, Zhao Q, Jiang Y, Tian L, Liu Y, Liu WJ. Renal protective effects of melatonin in animal models of diabetes mellitus-related kidney damage: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Journal of Diabetes Research*. 2022 Jun 14;2022.
10. Huang L, Shen X, Huang L, Yan S, Wu P. Identification of independent risk factors for diabetic neuropathy progression in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. *Journal of International Medical Research*. 2021 Sep;49(9):03000605211044366.
11. Santoso AP, Wulandari DD, Kardina RN, Wulansari DD, Meidiyanti B, Proborini KN. The Effectiveness of Alpha Mangostin on Kidney Physiology and Histopathology in Type II Diabetes Mellitus. *Biointerface Research in Applied Chemistry*. 2022 Dec 15;12(6):8335-42.
12. Mishra J, Srivastava SK, Pandey KB. Compromised renal and hepatic functions and unsteady cellular redox state during preeclampsia and gestational diabetes mellitus. *Archives of Medical Research*. 2021 Aug 1;52(6):635-40.
13. Husen SA, Ansori M, Nur A, Hayaza S, Susilo K, Joko R, Winarni D, Darmanto W. Renal Protective Effects of Gamma-Mangostin in Streptozotocin-Induced Diabetic Mice. *Indian Journal of Forensic Medicine & Toxicology*. 2020 Jul 1;14(3).
14. Offor U, Edwin CS, Ogedengbe OO, Jegede AI, Peter AI, Onyemaechi OA. Renal histopathological and biochemical changes following adjuvant intervention of Momordica charantia and antiretroviral therapy in diabetic rats. *Iranian Journal of Basic Medical Sciences*. 2019 Nov;22(11):1359.





15. Zhou XT, Zou JJ, Ao C, Gong DY, Chen X, Ma YR. Renal protective effects of astragaloside IV, in diabetes mellitus kidney damage animal models: A systematic review, meta-analysis. *Pharmacological research*. 2020 Oct 1;160:105192.
16. El-Shaer M, Diab L, El-Sharkawy S. Effect of Intake of Garcinia Cambogia Peels on Induced-Obesity Rats. *Journal of Home Economics-Menofia University*. 2022 Apr 1;32(2):131-43.
17. AN VK, Thawani V, Hingorani L. Effect of herbal combination of triphala and Garcinia cambogia extracts on liver function test and kidney function test in high fat diet induced obesity in rats. *International Journal of Basic & Clinical Pharmacology*. 2019 Dec;8(12):2713.
18. KONGCHIAN A, KEAWBOONLERT N, BOONRAK T, LOOKYEE S, BUASRI K, SURONGKUL N, TANGPONG J. Anti-hyperlipidemia and anti-obesity properties of Garcinia atroviridis and Camellia sinensis extracts in high-fat diet mice. *Walailak Journal of Science and Technology (WJST)*. 2020 Oct 17;17(10):1126-38.

