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## Cardioprotective Effects of Rutin and Mesenchymal Stem Cells on Acetaminophen Induced Cardiac Enzymatic Damage in Rats

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### Abstract:

The aims of study to determine the cardioprotective effects of rutin and mesenchymal stem cells on acetaminophen induced cardiac enzymatic damage in rats. seventy male rats were divided into two studies. One: twenty young male rats were used as a source of bone marrow-derived MSCs. Two: fifty adult male rats were divided into five groups: G1: control group; G2: rats were given of PARA (750 mg/kg b.w.) every 72h orally for 21 days, then left for 30 and 60 days without any treatment; G3: rats were given of PARA then, administrated of rutin (25mg/kg b.w/d) for 30 and 60 days; G4: rats were given of PARA then, injected by BM-MSCs ( $1.5 \times 10^6$  cells in 0.5 PBS) in the tail vein for 30 and 60 days, and G5: rats were given of PARA then, injected by BM-MSCs in the tail vein, and then administrated of rutin orally for 30 and 60 days. Treated by the PARA showed, a significant increased the CK-MB and LDH levels when compared with normal rats at 30 and 60 days. While, the PARA+MSCs+RTN group showed, a significant decrease in the CK-MB and LDH levels as compared with other groups rats at 30 and 60 days. Rats treated with both MSCs and RTN after treated by PARA showed, a markedly improved in cardiac enzymes activity.

**Keywords:** rutin; heart; stem cells; acetaminophen; rats.

التأثيرات الوقائية القلبية للروتين والخلايا الجذعية المتوسطة على الأسييتامينوفين المحدث للضرر الأنزيمي القلبي في الجرذان  
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### المستخلص:

تهدف الدراسة إلى تحديد التأثيرات الوقائية للروتين والخلايا الجذعية المتوسطة على الضرر الأنزيمي القلبي الناجم عن الأسييتامينوفين في الجرذان. تم تقسيم سبعين من 1 كور الجرذان إلى دراستين. الأولى: تم فيها استخدام عشرين من ذكور الجرذان كمصدر للخلايا الجذعية المتوسطة المشتقة من نخاع العظم. الثانية: تم فيها تقسيم خمسين من ذكور الجرذان البالغين إلى خمسة مجاميع: المجموعة الأولى: المجموعة الضابطة، المجموعة الثانية: أعطيت الجرذان الأسييتامينوفين (750 ملغم/كغم من وزن الجسم) كل 72 ساعة عن طريق الفم لمدة 21 يوماً، ثم تركت لمدة 30 و60 يوماً دون أي معاملة، المجموعة الثالثة: تم إعطاء الجرذان الأسييتامينوفين، ثم تم إعطاؤها الروتين (25 ملغم/كغم من وزن الجسم/اليوم) لمدة 30 و60 يوماً، المجموعة الرابعة: تم إعطاء الجرذان الأسييتامينوفين

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بعد ذلك، تم حقنها بواسطة الخلايا الجذعية المتوسطة ( $1.5 \times 106$  خلية في 0.5 محلول فوسفات البوتاسيوم) في الوريد الذيلي لمدة 30 و60 يوماً، والمجموعة الخامسة: تم إعطاء الجرذان الأستيامينوفين بعد ذلك، تم حقنها بواسطة الخلايا الجذعية المتوسطة في الوريد الذيلي، ثم أعطيت الروتين عن طريق الفم لمدة 30 و60 يوماً. أظهرت المعاملة بالأستيامينوفين زيادة كبيرة في مستويات الكرياتين كيناز القلبي واللاكتات ديهيدروجينيز بالمقارنة مع الجرذان الطبيعية لمدة 30 و60 يوماً. بينما أظهرت مجموعة المعاملات الثلاثة للمجموعة الخامسة انخفاضاً ملحوظاً في مستويات الانزيمات مقارنة بالجرذان في المجموعات الأخرى عند 30 و60 يوماً. أظهرت الجرذان التي عولجت بكل من الخلايا الجذعية المتوسطة والروتين معا بعد معاملة بالأستيامينوفين، تحسناً ملحوظاً في نشاط إنزيمات القلب.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** روتين؛ قلب؛ الخلايا الجذعية؛ أستيامينوفين؛ الجرذان.

## Introduction:

The heart, as the pump organ, plays a key role in the pathophysiology of septic shock [1]. Acetaminophen (N-acetyl-para-amino-phenol) (PARA) is sparingly soluble in water, freely soluble in alcohol, very slightly soluble in ether and in methylene chloride [2]. However, it is a commonly used analgesic and antipyretic drug and is safe at therapeutic levels, but overdose can lead to potentially damage of organs [3]. Moreover, at overdose APAP is metabolized in the liver by cytochrome P450 (CYP) into reactive metabolite N-acetyl-p-benzoquinone imine (NAPQI) [4, 5]. NAPQI is normally rapidly conjugated with reduced glutathione (GSH) and is excreted eventually as the cysteinyl conjugate or the corresponding mercapturic acid [6]. Furthermore, as long as the rate of formation of this toxin is not greater than the maximal rate of synthesis of GSH there will be no damage to the cell or organ [2, 7]. When more NAPQI is formed than can be conjugated to GSH, the unbound NAPQI becomes toxic by binding to macromolecules, including cellular proteins [8, 2]. The production of various free radicals and successive oxidative stress leads to adverse effect on cellular level of an organ [3].

The citrus flavonoid, rutin is made up of disaccharide flavonol and rutinose quercetin with potent pharmacological capabilities and strong antioxidant including, antiviral, anti-angiogenic, immunomodulatory, antidiarrheal, anti-mutagenic, and anti-inflammatory attributes [9, 10]. Rutin are the flavonoids most abundantly found in foods [11]. Rutin (RTN) also called as quercetin-3-O-rutinoside, vitamin P, rutoside, rutinum, and sophorin [12]. Moreover, RTN as a bioflavonoid compound (a glycoside derivative of quercetin) [13]. RTN has a wide range of beneficial health properties in multiple organs owing to its various pharmacological effects. Also, it can reduce the level of oxidative stress via reactive oxygen species (ROS)-scavenging mechanisms and protect neurons against severe oxidative stress and attack by ROS [1]. Besides, RTN has been shown in many studies to be able to reduce cardiac hypertrophy and then cardiac remodeling [12]. Furthermore, the RTN has an antioxidant effect, inhibits pro-inflammatory cytokine productions and maintains vascular barrier integrity [14].

Mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) are the most widely used stem cells due to their easy accessibility in tissues, such as bone marrow aspirate and fat tissue [15]. Moreover, MSCs are pluripotent adult stem cells residing within the bone marrow microenvironment [16]. In

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contrast to their hematopoietic counterparts, MSCs have an adherent nature and are expandable in culture [17]. On the other hand, MSCs directly injected into the infarcted heart caused to induce myocardial regeneration and improve cardiac function, which prevents apoptosis of native cardiomyocytes, and regeneration of lost cardiomyocytes [16]. These bone marrow-derived MSCs were later shown to be able to self-renew, form colonies and differentiate into a multitude of mesodermal cell types in vitro [18].

Thus, the purpose of this study was to investigate the cardioprotective effects of rutin and mesenchymal stem cells on acetaminophen induced cardiac enzymatic damage in rats.

### Materials and Methods:

#### Chemicals:

- Acetaminophen (PARA) ( $C_8H_9NO_2$ ) was used. It was purchased from Sigma chemical Company (USA) [19, 20], and was given to rats orally by gavage.
- Rutin (RTN) ( $C_{27}H_{30}O_{16}$ ) the natural antioxidant was purchased from Sigma chemical Company (USA) [21], and was given to rats orally by gavage.
- Bone marrow derived stem cells, one important source of mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) [22], have been isolated and cultured in Medical Research Center, Aleibbasiuh, Ain shams University. Rats were injected by BM-MSCs in the tail vein.

#### Experimental animals and procedures:

70 male albino rats (*Rattus norvegicus*) were divided into two studies:

- Study one: 20 young male albino rats' weight 100 g were used as a source of bone marrow-derived MSCs.
- Study two: 50 adult male albino rats' weight of (150-160g) were divided into five groups. Rats were obtained from Animal House of El-Salam Farm, Giza-Cairo, Egypt and were acclimatized to the laboratory conditions for 14 days prior to the start of the experiment. They were housed in metabolic cages at temperature of 24-27 °C (12 hours dark/ light cycle), and received standard food and water ad-libitum with fresh daily supplies. The experimental procedures complied with guidelines of the Committee on Care and use of Experimental Animal Resources, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt.

### **Examination of Bone Marrow Mesenchymal Stem Cells (MSCs):**

Young male rats (n = 20) weight 100 g were used as a source of bone marrow-derived MSCs [16]. The rats were injected by BM-MSCs ( $1.5 \times 10^6$  cells in 0.5 PBS) [23] in the tail vein [24]. The cultured BM-MSCs were characterized by using NAVIOS flow cytometer by BECKMAN COULTER in Medical Research Center of Ain Shams University [25].

### **Experimental Design:**

Healthy adult male rats (n = 50) were randomized into five groups (10 rats in each):

Group I- Normal control group (NC), animals were left as normal control rats, and given food and water ad lib.

Group II- Acetaminophen (PARA), rats were orally given of PARP at a dose of (750 mg/kg b.w.) every 72h for 21 days, then left for 30 and 60 days without any treatment.

Group III: Acetaminophen + rutin group (PARA+ RTN), rats were given PARA (750 mg/kg b.w.) every 72h orally for 21 days. Then, administrated of RTN orally at a dose of (25mg/kg b.w/d) for 30 and 60 days.

Group IV: Acetaminophen + mesenchymal stem cells group (PARA+MSCs), rats were received of PARA (750 mg/kg b. w.) every 72h for 21 days. Then, injected by BM-MSCs ( $1.5 \times 10^6$  cells in 0.5 PBS) in the tail vein for 30 and 60 days.

Group V: Acetaminophen + mesenchymal stem cells + rutin group (PARA+ MSCs+RTN), rats were received of PARA (750 mg/kg b. w.) every 72h for 21 days. Then, injected by BM-MSCs ( $1.5 \times 10^6$  cells in 0.5 PBS) in the tail vein, and orally treated by RTN at a dose of (25mg/kg b.w/d) for 30 and 60 days.

### **Biochemical analysis of serum:**

At the end of the experimental period, the rats were overnight fasted after the last dose and blood samples were collected. Blood samples were taken into clean and dry screw capped centrifuge tubes then centrifuged at 3000rpm for 15 minutes in order to separate clear serum samples. They were then stored at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  until used for determination of different biochemical parameters such as lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) and creatine Kinase-myocardial (CK-MB) band of the control group and the experimental groups were performed by the methods of [26].

### Statistics analysis:

All the data are presented as (mean  $\pm$  SEM). The parameters were analyzed using significance by one way ANOVA. Statistical significance of the differences between the treatment's groups were using the Tukey's test at  $P < 0.05$  by using (Minitab version 17).

### Results: -

#### Preparation of the creatine kinase-myocardial band (CK-MB):

The mean values of CK-MB level of control and experimental animals were presented in Table (1), it is showed a significant increase ( $P < 0.05$ ) in the mean value of the CK-MB levels in the PARA groups ( $13.400 \pm 0.513$  &  $28.160 \pm 0.803$ ) as compared to the NC groups ( $1.900 \pm 0.114$  &  $1.90 \pm 0.110$ ) after 30 and 60 days. Whereas, there were the PARA+RTN groups showed a significant decrease ( $P < 0.05$ ) in the mean value of the CK-MB levels ( $8.100 \pm 0.433$  &  $17.460 \pm 0.964$ ) after 30 and 60 days when compared to PARA groups. Also, the mean values of the CK-MB levels after 30 and 60 days showed a significant decrease in treated group with the PARA+MSCs groups ( $5.880 \pm 0.116$  &  $12.520 \pm 0.213$ ) when compared with the PARA groups. Moreover, the treated groups by PARA+MSCs+RTN ( $3.820 \pm 0.150$  &  $5.180 \pm 1.616$ ) in the mean value of the CK-MB levels after 30 and 60 days showed a lower significance when compared with PARA, PARA+RTN, and PARA+MSCs groups.

#### Preparation of the lactate dehydrogenase (LDH):

The mean values of the LDH level of control and experimental rats were presented in Table (1). The data showed a significant elevation ( $P < 0.05$ ) occurred in the mean value of LDH levels after 30 and 60 days in the PARA groups ( $186.00 \pm 4.022$  &  $345.4 \pm 16.41$ ) as compared to the NC groups ( $28.80 \pm 1.466$  &  $29.0 \pm 1.50$ ). While, there was a significant decline ( $P < 0.05$ ) in the PARA+RTN groups ( $151.80 \pm 3.286$  &  $189.8 \pm 11.97$ ) and PARA+MSCs groups ( $118.2 \pm 10.04$  &  $147.06 \pm 3.973$ ) as compared to the PARA groups in the mean value of LDH levels after 30 and 60 days. In addition, the mean values of the LDH levels after 30 and 60 days showed a lower significance ( $P < 0.05$ ) in the PARA+MSCs+RTN groups ( $71.40 \pm 3.394$  &  $95.60 \pm 2.605$ ) when compared with PARA, PARA+RTN, and PARA+MSCs group.

**Table 1:** Average of mean values of CK-MB and LDH levels in control and experimental groups.

Duratio n	Paramete r	NC	PARA	PCM + RTN	PARA + MSCs	PARA+ MSCs+ RTN
30 days	CK-MB (U/L)	1.900± 0.114 <sup>E</sup>	13.400± 0.513 <sup>A</sup>	8.100± 0.433 <sup>B</sup>	5.880± 0.116 <sup>C</sup>	3.820± 0.150 <sup>D</sup>
	LDH (U/L)	28.80± 1.466 <sup>E</sup>	186.00± 4.022 <sup>A</sup>	151.80± 3.286 <sup>B</sup>	118.2± 10.04 <sup>C</sup>	71.40± 3.394 <sup>D</sup>
days 60	CK-MB (U/L)	1.90± 0.110 <sup>E</sup>	28.160± 0.803 <sup>A</sup>	17.460± 0.964 <sup>B</sup>	12.520± 0.213 <sup>C</sup>	5.180± 1.616 <sup>D</sup>
	LDH (U/L)	29.0± 1.50 <sup>E</sup>	345.4± 16.41 <sup>A</sup>	189.8± 11.97 <sup>B</sup>	147.06± 3.973 <sup>C</sup>	95.60± 2.605 <sup>D</sup>

Data are expressed as mean ± SE of rat within each row, means with different superscript (A, B, C, D & E) were significantly different at  $P < 0.05$ , were means superscripts with the same letters mean that there is no significant difference ( $P < 0.05$ ).

\*NC= Normal control, PARA= Acetaminophen treated group, PARA+RTN= Acetaminophen with rutin group, PARA + MSCs =Acetaminophen with mesenchymal stem cells group, and PARA+MSCs+RTN = Acetaminophen with mesenchymal stem cells and rutin group.

### Discussion:

PARA passes through many organs through the circulatory system and causes toxic effects by reacting with DNA and various enzymes [27]. The results in this work showed that PARA caused a highly significant increase ( $P < 0.05$ ) found in CK-MB and LDH levels in treated rats that given PARA at a dose of (750 mg/kg b.w.) every 72h for 21 days and left without any treatment for 30 and 60 days as compared to NC group. Similar findings were achieved by [2, 28, 29, 27]. The increase in cystolic LDH activity by PARA may be because of the intracellular collection of  $Ca^{2+}$ , which results in initiation of phosphofructo-kinase and anaerobic glycolysis prompting lactate formation [29]. Besides, [30] suggested that the increased of the LDH activity may be due to a cellular damage and leaked of the enzyme from the tissues into the blood. In addition, increased significantly in the CK-MB and LDH levels markers of cardiac damage for the damaged heart tissue [27]. Also, [31] said the serum LDH considered as a prognostic marker for the investigation of tissues injury.

On the other hand, the mean values of the LDH and CK-MB levels after 30 and 60 days showed, a lower significance ( $P < 0.05$ ) in the PARA+MSCs+RTN groups when compared with PARA, PARA+RTN, and PARA+MSCs group. These decreases in the enzyme levels

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may be due to RTN is able to balance autophagic response to enhance cardiac cell survival which plays an essential role in cardiac remodeling process [32, 12]. Moreover, [33], [1] suggested that RTN has possesses anti-inflammatory properties. Additionally, [12] found that the treatment with RTN improves cardiac functions. Also, they reported on the cardioprotective mechanisms of RTN, particularly in cardiac hypertrophy. On the other hand, treated with RTN caused inhibiting the apoptosis of cardiomyocytes and improving cardiac function and related to the restoration of the structure and function of myocardial mitochondria [1], reduce cardiomyocyte damage [34], and it may be protecting cardiac tissue from oxidative damage due to the anti-inflammatory effect associated with the inhibition of interleukin-1 $\beta$  (IL-1 $\beta$ ) and tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  (TNF- $\alpha$ ) [14].

The significant decrease of serum CK-MB, and LDH after MSCs injection suggested regression of damage, improvement of heart function and proliferative and anti-apoptotic properties [35]. Broekman et al. [36] said that the MSCs is beneficial for the immune response and increases healing of epithelial cells. Moreover, [37] found a significant decrease in the levels of heart enzymes due to immunomodulatory properties of the MB-MSCs. The MSCs caused improvement in myocardial performance by differentiation into cardiomyocytes and restoring damaged cardiac tissue [16, 38], and it improved cardiac function after acute myocardial infarction through enhancement of angiogenesis and myogenesis [16]. In addition, [39] suggesting an anti-inflammatory effect of MSCs because treated of MSCs improved inflammatory changes and cardiac function in rats with acute myocarditis.

### **Conclusion:**

In the present study, animals treated with both MSCs and RTN after treated by PARA showed, a markedly improved in cardiac enzymes activity by the role of MSCs and rutin in the regeneration and the remodeling of damaged myocardium.

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