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Comparison of Biochemical effects of glibenclamide and some trace elements on experimental diabetic rats

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Abstract

The present work was done to elucidate the possible protective and antidiabetic effect of chromium chloride (Cr) (500 mg/k.g.), sodium selenite (Se) (1.5 mg/k.g.) and Zinc sulphate (Zn) (54 mg/k.g.) supplementation in streptozotocin induced diabetic rats. Oral administration of both Cr^{+3} and Zn^{+2} as well as intraperitoneal injection of Se⁻² at concentrations of 500, 1.5 and 54 mg/kg b.w. daily, respectively for 60 days showed a significant decrease in fasting blood. The treatment also resulted in a significant increase in plasma C-peptide and trace elements Cr^{+3} and Zn^{+2} and Se^{-2} . The trace elements exerted rapid protective effects against lipid peroxidation by scavenging of free radicals by reducing the risk of diabetic complications.

Key Words: Glucose, diabetic rats, Cr⁺³ and Zn⁺² and Se⁻², C-peptide.

Introduction

Trace elements have been identified for long time as potential candidates for improving metabolic disorders like pre diabetes [insulin resistance, metabolic syndrome] obesity. or diabetes (Devirgiliis, et al., 2007). In parallel with increasing comprehension of cellular and biochemical mechanisms leading aggravatingthese metabolic disorders, identifying the cellular targets and sites of action of trace elements has reactivated interest in their therapeutic potential (Rungby., 2010). Activation of insulin receptor signalling (chromium), antioxidant properties (selenium, zinc) thus appeared promising in view of the key importance of these processes in glucose homeostasis and insulin sensitivity. Insulin receptor/postreceptor signalling defects are considered to underlie glycemic dysregulation and insulin resistance (Abdul-Ghani and defronzo ., 2010).

Chromium is an essential element involved in the regulation of blood glucose levels within the body (**Guerrero and Rodríguez, 2005**). It is believed to interact with the low-molecular weight chromium

(LMWCr) binding substance to amplify the action of insulin. Today, the use of chromium as a dietary supplement for the treatment of diabetes mellitus type 2 (Cefalu and Hu, 2004).

Chromium acts as a potential regulator of glucose metabolism. The experimenters subjected the rats to a chromium deficient diet, and witnessed an inability of the organisms to respond effectively to increased levels of glucose within the blood (Lipko,*et al.*, 2002). They then included "acid-hydrolyzed porcine kidney and Brewer's yeast" in the diet of these rats, and found that the rats were now able to effectively metabolize glucose (Lewicki *et al.*, 2005). Both the porcine kidney and Brewer's yeast were rich in chromium, and so it was from these findings that began the study of chromium as a regulator of blood glucose (Balk,*et al.*, 2007).

Experimental evidence from animal models suggests that supplementation with low doses of the antioxidant selenium may exert beneficial effects on glucose metabolism, possibly through many insulin-like actions, and may delay

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complications of diabetes. Potential (Satyanarayana, et al., 2004 and 2006).

Some studies in patients with diabetes suggest that selenium supplementation may help to prevent vascular complications and that diabetic patients may be deficient in selenium relative to healthy persons (Faure, et al., 2004). Animal studies suggest that dietary selenium from inorganic or organic sources was toxic at concentrations exceeding 5 ppm (63.3 mol), inorganic forms are used sodium selenite and/or sodium selenate mainly as additives of microelement fertilizers applied on leaves or directly to the soil. In organisms selenium is mostly present in the organic form of seleno-methionine and/or seleno-cysteine. (Navarro and Cabrera., 2008). Abnormal zinc and lipid plasma levels occur more frequently in metabolically uncontrolled diabetic patients. Yet, zinc sulfate supplementation may be a therapeutical resource to recover some functioning and improve life span the effect of zinc sulfate on glucose and lipid profile of type 2 diabetes mellitus patients (Partida-Hernandez et al., 2006). Diabetic patients have tendency to use complementary and alternative medicine beside routine therapies. Zinc is one of the minerals used by diabetic patients, (Anderson et al. 2001a) study on 110 patients type 2 diabetes mellitus with HbA1C > 7.5% revealed that more than 30% of the patients may have been zinc deficient after 6 weeks zinc sulfate treatment in FBS, 2hpp, HbA1C, HDL, BMI and diastolic blood pressure, (Anderson, et al., 2001b).

Preventing and treating essential trace elements for life as Zinc and iron that are two essential trace elements for life, playing a central role in many metabolic processes. More than 300 zinc metalloenzymes occur in all six categories of enzyme systems (Salgueiro *et al.*, 2000; Jansen *et al.*, 2009). Proteins can form domains able to bind tetrahedral zinc atoms by coordination with histidine and cysteine to form folded structures that have become known as zinc fingers. These biologically active molecules have important roles in gene expression (Saper and Rash., 2009).

Zinc (Zn) is an essential micronutrient which has an important role in insulin metabolism and acts as an efficient antioxidant (Maret and Sandstead .,2006 and Prasad.,2008).

In streptozotocin (STZ)-treated diabetic rats, renal oxidative stress and kidney damage are increased by a dietary deficiency of the essential trace element selenium In contrast, selenium supplementation to rats or humans with diabetes reduces renal injury (**Reddi and Bollineni , 2001**). The present investigation was undertaken to assess the effect of hyperglycemia on the levels trace elements (Cr, Se and Zn) in streptozotocin (STZ) induced diabetic rats.

Materials and Methods

Materials

Chromium chloride, sodium selenite, Zinc sulphate, glibenclamide and streptozotocin were purchased from Sigma Aldrich (St. Louis, MO), USA.

Animals

A 225 Male albino rats (120-150 g) were obtained from animal house of Cancer Epidemiology, National Cancer Institute, Cairo University. Rats were fed on a standard diet and free access to tap water. They were kept for one week to be acclimatized to the environmental conditions.

Experimental Design

A 225 male albino rats were divided into 2 main groups the 1st group included the normal healthy rats comprised of 100 rats while the 2nd group was experimentally induced diabetic group and comprised of 125 rats (twenty five rats in each group).

The 1st group included the normal healthy rats were divided into 4 subgroups as follows:

Group 1: Given saline served as negative control.

Group 2: Normal healthy control rats; orally administered with Cr (500 mg/kg BW) for 60 days (**Zhongli, 2010**).

Group 3: Normal healthy control rats; i.p injected with Se (1.5 mg/kg b.w.) as for 60 days (Zhongli, 2010).

Group 4: Normal healthy control rats; orally administered with Zn (54 mg zinc/kg. b.w.) for 60 days. daily (**Zine et al., 2007**).

The 2nd group was experimentally induced diabetic group and comprised of 125 rats.

Diabetic group was experimentally induced by injection with streptozotocin (STZ) i.p. in dose of (65mg/kg b. wt). STZ was dissolved in 0.01 M citrate buffer (pH=4.6) immediately before use (Liu et al. 2008). After injection, animals had free access to food and water and were given 5% glucose solution to drink overnight to encounter hyperglycemic shock. Animals were checked daily for the presence of glycosuria. Fasting blood samples were obtained after 7 days of STZ injection to ensure the induction of Hyperglycemic fasting blood sugar was determined (>300 mg/dl).

Diabetic rats were classified into 5 groups (25 rats for each group) as follows:

Groups 5: Considered as a positive control for diabetic rats.

Group 6: diabetic rats orally administered with the anti-diabetic drug glibenclamide (5mg /kg body weight daily for to month).

Group7: Diabetic rats; orally administered with Cr (500 mg/kg BW) for 60 days.

Group 8: Diabetic animals; i.p. injected with Se (1.5 mg/kg b.w) for 60 days.

Group 9: Diabetic animals; orally administered with Zn (54 mg zinc/ mg/kg b.w. daily for 60 days

- Changes of body weight (gm) of rats in different groups were measured at 4th and 8th week.

- Sample Preparations

Blood samples were collected twice at the fourth week of experiment and at the end of experiment .heart tissue and liver were obtained after 60 days of administration. Blood samples were divided into 2 portions:-

1st portion containing blood samples left 10 minutes to clot and centrifuged at 3000 rpm for serum separation, to used for determination of trace elements. 2nd portion containing sodium citrate as anticoagulante for plasma separation to assayed blood glucose level according to the method of **Trinder (1969)** and plasma C-peptide according to the method of **Bonger, and Garcia-Webb, (1984)**.

Results

Table 1 shows the body weight of control and experimental groups of rats. A significant decrease in body weight was observed in streptozotocin induced diabetic rats (**Group II**) when compared to the control group of rats (**Group I**) ($P \le 0.05$). Trace elements (Se⁺² than Cr⁺² and Zn⁺²) and glibenclamide administered rats (**Groups III and VII-VIIII**) showed progressive increase in body weight ($P \le 0.05$).

Tables 2 and 3 shows the fasting plasma glucose and C-peptide levels in control and experimental groups of rats. There was a significant increase in plasma glucose and significant decrease in Cpeptide levels of diabetic control group compared with normal control rats ($P \le 0.05$). Administration of trace elements (Se^{+2} than Cr^{+2} and Zn^{+2}) and glibenclamide tends to bring down the blood glucose and increase significantly of plasma Cpeptide levels compared with untreated diabetic rats ($P \le 0.05$).

Table (4) shows the effect of trace elements (Se⁺² than Cr⁺² and Zn⁺²) and glibenclamide on lipid profile. In STZ-induced diabetic rats, TC, TG and LDL-C levels were increased and HDL-C level was decreased significantly (P<0.05) compared with normal control rats. In diabetic rats, administration of trace elements (Se⁺² than Cr⁺² and Zn⁺²) and glibenclamide showed significant reduction (P<0.05) of TC, TG and LDL-C levels compared with diabetic control rats. Also, a significant increase (P<0.05) level of HDL-C was observed in diabetic rats treated with both trace elements and glibenclamide compared with diabetic control rats.

Discussion

STZ induced diabetes is characterized by severe loss in body weight (Al-Shamaony *et al.*, 1994) and this was also seen in the present study trace elements (Se⁺² than Cr⁺² and Zn⁺²) and glibenclamide administration controlled this loss in body weight. However, it did not normalize the body weight completely as it remained lesser than normal control rats. The decrease in body weight observed in diabetic rats might be the result of protein wasting due to unavailability of carbohydrate for utilization as an energy source (Chen and Ianuzzo, 1982).

Chromium supplement increases protein synthesis. Thus, it is beneficial in building muscles. Moreover, Chromium supplementation has at best modest effects on body weight or composition in individuals with diabetes (**Hallmark** *et al.*, **1996**).

Mendez et al .,(2005) reported that non-enzymatic glycation of albumin was the potential to alter its biological structure and function. It is mainly due to the formation of a Schiff base between aminogroup of lysine (and sometimes arginine) residues and excess glucose molecules in blood to form glycoalbumin. Hypoalbuminemia is one of the factors responsible for the onset of ascites related to liver fibrosis (Horie et al., 1998).

The present results reveal the treatment of diabetic rats with trace elements (Se^{+2} , Cr^{+2} and Zn^{+2}) or glibenclamide strengthens the endogenous antioxidant defenses from ROS and restores the optimal balance by neutralizing the reactive species. They are gaining a great importance by virtue of their critical role in disease prevention. Many studies have addressed the importance of antioxidants for the control of the abnormalities in diabetic tissue (Kowluru et al., 2001 and Obrosova et al., 2001).

Trace elements; especially Cr⁺² works with insulin to regulate glucose and also lowered free fatty acid levels by 24%, blood urea by 33% and creatinine level by 25% and reduced the severity of glomerular sclerosis and confirmed by normal renal tubular appearance in a rat model of type 2 diabetes mellitus group treated with chromium (Sahin et al., 2007). The effect of trace elements on body weight noted in this study was suggested that chromium is important in the burning of carbohydrates and fats in the body. Chromium supplement is believed to reduce food cravings and appetite, thereby assisting weight loss (Lukaski et al., 2007). But these obtained results may be due to chromium helps maintained the efficiency of C-peptide and insulin, which then helps maintain the blood glucose level. These nutritional supplements permit the transmission of glucose to muscle cells instead of fat cells. Chromium supplement increases protein synthesis. Thus, it is beneficial in building muscles. Moreover, Chromium supplementation has at best modest effects on body weight or composition in individuals with diabetes (Hallmark et al., 1996).

Our data agree with **Tobia et al (1998)** who found that administration of zinc to streptozotocininduced diabetic rats was able to restore normoglycemia by enhancing glucose oxidation and stimulating glucose uptake by tissues. Zinc similarly exerts insulin-suppressive action by attenuating the hypersecretion of insulin associated with the prediabetic pancreas, thus "rest-"beta cells and preserving their structure and function (**Shisheva et al., 1994**). In conclusion, the present study demonstrates the antiglycemic, antioxidant effects of trace elements $(Se^{+2}, Cr^{+2} \text{ and } Zn^{+2})$ in comparison with glibenclamide antidiabetic drug. The present data reveal that trace elements-treatment to STZ-diabetic rats produce a remarkable amelioration of body weight, plasma glucose, C-peptide and trace elements. Thus, the safely promising therapeutic dose used in the current study, can be effective in treatment and enhanced levels of plasma trace elements may used as candidate antidiabetic drugs.

Table 1:	Statistical	analysis	(Mean, S	D) of body	weights of	f rats in different	t groups at 4 ⁿ	^{^{1d} and 8th week.}
		•	< / / /	· ·			8 1	

Main Groups	Groups	Groups			
Groups		4 st week	8 th week		
т	1)-Ve Control	149.16 ± 4.81^{aA}	153.66 ± 4.04 ^{abA}		
l- Main Haalth	2)- CrCl ₃	$148.83 \pm 1.64^{\mathrm{aA}}$	$150.83 \pm 1.05^{ m ~abA}$		
Main Health	3)- Na ₂ Se	147.66 ± 4.90^{aA}	$159.83 \pm 4.46^{\mathrm{aA}}$		
Group	4)- ZnSO ₄	149.00± 1.39 ^{aA}	157.00 ± 4.27 ^{aA}		
	5) + Ve Diabetic	123.83 ±3.18 ^{cA}	111.50 ± 4.70^{cA}		
	6) Glibenclamide	133.16 ± 3.74^{bcA}	145.16 ± 3.26^{abA}		
II- Main Diabatia	7)- CrCl ₃	141.66±19.29 ^{abA}	$140.16{\pm}~10.66^{\rm bA}$		
Group	8)- Na ₂ Se	132.33± 15.29 ^{bcA}	145.43 ± 4.64^{abA}		
	9)- ZnSO ₄	135.83 ± 15.84^{abcA}	156.50 ± 12.64^{abB}		

Data shown are mean \pm standard deviation of number of observations within each treatment. Data followed by the same letter are not significantly different at P \leq 0.05. Small letters are used for comparison between the means within the column. Capital letters are used to compare means within the row.

Table 2: Effect of trace elements treatments on plasma glucose level in diabetic and non-diabetic rats at 4^{th} and 8^{th} week.

Main Granna	Crearra	Weeks		
Main Groups	Groups	4 st week	8 th week	
	1)-Ve Control	105.50 ± 1.48^{eA}	98.50 ± 3.84 ^{dA}	
I- Main Health Group	2)- CrCl ₃	$107.00 \pm .2.94^{eA}$	94.83 ±2.12 ^{dA}	
	3)- Na ₂ Se	102.00 ± 4.65^{eA}	$104.41 \pm 1.56^{\text{ cdA}}$	
	4)- ZnSO ₄	96.66 ± 3.11^{Ea}	103.00 ± 1.15 ^{cdA}	
	5) + Ve Diabetic	365.50 ± 7.66^{aA}	362.33±15.22 ^{aA}	
	6) Glibenclamide	$155.00 \pm .6.77 ^{dA}$	$123.33 \pm 1.94^{\mathrm{bB}}$	
II- Main	7)- CrCl ₃	188.83 ± 38.59 bcA	$112.50 \pm 4.07 \ ^{bcB}$	
Diabetic Group	8)- Na ₂ Se	179.83± 46.64 ^{cA}	118.16 ± 5.53 bcB	
	9)- ZnSO ₄	198.33± 28.72 bA	125.00 ± 5.34^{bB}	

Data shown are mean ± standard deviation of number of observations within each treatment.

Data followed by the same letter are not significantly different at $P \le 0.05$. Small letters are used for comparison between the means within the column. Capital letters are used to compare means within the row.

Main Chaung	Channe	Weeks		
Main Groups	Groups	4 st week	8 th week	
	1)-Ve Control	1.48 ± 0.02^{bA}	$1.48 \pm 0.01^{\mathrm{aA}}$	
S. 2	2)- CrCl ₃	$1.53\pm0.01~^{\mathrm{aA}}$	$1.4083 \pm 0.01 \ ^{\mathrm{bcB}}$	
l th up	3)- Na ₂ Se	$1.44 \pm 0.01 \ ^{\mathrm{bA}}$	1.34 ± 0.008^{dB}	
I-N hea gro	4)- ZnSO ₄	1.48 ± 0.003 ^{bA}	1.37 ± 0.008^{eB}	
	5) + Ve Diabetic	0.53 ± 0.006 fA	$0.46 \pm 0.02 ^{eB}$	
	6)			
II	Glibenclamide	1.36 ± 0.006^{cB}	1.45 ± 0.01^{abA}	
Main diabetic group	7)- CrCl ₃	1.21 ± 0.05 dB	1.47 ± 0.02 ^{aA}	
	8)- Na ₂ Se	$1.09 \pm 0.02 ^{eB}$	1.44 ± 0.008^{abA}	
	9)- ZnSO ₄	1.13 ± 0.01^{eB}	1.45±0.009 ^{aA}	

Table (3):- effect of trace elements treatments on plasma C-peptide in diabetic and non diabetic rats at 4th and 8th week

Data shown are mean \pm standard deviation of number of observations within each treatment. Data followed by the same letter are not significantly different at P \leq 0.05. Small letters are used for comparison between the means within the column. Capital letters are used to compare means within the row.

Table (4):- Effect of trace elements treatments on serum chromium (Cr^{+2}) (ng/ml) in diabetic and non diabetic rats at 4th and 8th week.

Groups		Crowns	Weeks		
		Groups	4 st week	8 th week	
		1)–Ve Control	$0.75\pm0.02^{\mathrm{dB}}$	0.90 ± 0.004^{bA}	
I-Main	health	2)- CrCl ₃	0.88 ± 0.013^{aB}	$0.96 \pm 0.003^{\mathrm{aB}}$	
groups		3)- Na ₂ Se	0.82 ± 0.004 bB	0.90 ± 0.006^{bA}	
		4)- ZnSO ₄	0.83 ± 0.009 ^{bB}	0.90 ± 0.006 ^{bA}	
		5) + Ve Diabetic	0.57 ± 0.04 fA	$0.47 \pm 0.006^{\mathrm{dB}}$	
II Main di	diabetic	6) Glibenclamide	0.75 ± 0.02^{dB}	$0.88 \pm 0.007^{\mathrm{bA}}$	
II- Main di		7)- CrCl ₃	0.80 ± 0.004 ^{cB}	0.90 ± 0.005 ^{bA}	
groups		8)- Na ₂ Se	0.60 ± 0.004 eA	0.56 ± 0.006 ^{cB}	
		9)- ZnSO ₄	$0.58 \pm 0.01 efA$	0.47 ± 0.01^{dB}	

Data shown are mean \pm standard deviation of animal in each group. Data followed by the same letter are not significantly different at P \leq 0.05. Small letters are used for comparison between the means within the columns. Capital letters are used to compare means within the rows.

Table (5):-- Effect of trace elements treatments on serum Selenium Se^{-2} (ng/dl) in diabetic and non diabetic rats at 4^{th} and 8^{th} week.

Main Cuanna	Crosses	Weeks		
Main Groups	Groups	4 st week	8 th week	
	1)-Ve Control	2.74 ± 0.04^{bB}	2.81±0.004 ^{bA}	
I- Main	2)- CrCl ₃	$2.75 \pm 0.04^{\mathrm{bB}}$	2.82 ± 0.002 bA	
health groups	3)- Na ₂ Se	$2.87 \pm 0.008^{\mathrm{aA}}$	2.90 ± 0.005 ^{aA}	
	4)- ZnSO ₄	2.74±0.32 bB	2.82 ± 0.004 bA	
	5) + Ve Diabetic	1.33 ± 0.02^{fA}	$0.915 \pm 0.02^{ m gB}$	
II- Main	6) Glibenclamide	2.50 ±0.06 ^{cB}	$2.60 \pm 0.009^{\text{ dA}}$	
diabetic	7)- CrCl ₃	1.38±0 02 eA	1.10±0.01 ^{fB}	
groups	8)- Na ₂ Se	2.50±0.007 ^{cB}	2.70±0.01 ^{cA}	
	9)- ZnSO ₄	$1.48 \pm 0.02^{\text{ dB}}$	$1.63 \pm 0.02^{\text{ eA}}$	

Data shown are mean ± standard deviation of animal in each group.

Data followed by the same letter are not significantly different at $P \le 0.05$.

Small letters are used for comparison between the means within the columns.

Capital letters are used to compare means within the rows.

Table (6):	Effect of trace elements	treatments on serum Zn	⁺² in diabetic and non	۱ diabetic rats at 4 ^۱	ⁿ and 8
week.					

Main Groups	Groups	Weeks		
		4 st week	8 th week	
	1)-Ve Control	3.73±0.03 ^{cB}	$4.10 \pm 0.005^{\mathrm{bB}}$	
n r s	2)- CrCl ₃	3.85 ±0.02 ^{bB}	4.11 ± 0.005^{bA}	
Aai alth oup	3)- Na ₂ Se	3.82 ±0.04 ^{bB}	4.30 ± 0.006^{aA}	
I-N hea gr(4)- ZnSO ₄	$3.96 \pm 0.036 a^{B}$	$4.35{\pm}0.01^{\mathrm{aA}}$	
	5) + Ve Diabetic	2.23±0.03 eA	$2.03 \pm 0.03 \ ^{eB}$	
	6) Glibenclamide	$3.43 \pm 0.10^{\text{ dB}}$	3.89 ±0.1 ^{cA}	
tic s	7)- CrCl ₃	1.91 ± 0.009 ^{fB}	2.01±0.006 ^{eA}	
Ma	8)- Na ₂ Se	2.20±0.01 ^{eB}	2.41±0.01 ^{dA}	
lll- grc	9)- ZnSO ₄	3.38±0.55 ^{dB}	4.09 ± 0.01 bA	

Data shown are mean ± standard deviation of animal in each group.

Data followed by the same letter are not significantly different at $P \le 0.05$.

Small letters are used for comparison between the means within the columns.

Capital letters are used to compare means within the rows.

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