

¹ Effect of Diallyl Disulphide on Protein and Lipid Glycation, and ² Lipid Peroxidation in Brain of Alloxan Diabetic Rats

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⁷ **Abstract**

⁸ Non enzymatic glycosylation of proteins and lipids is the main initiating factor for the
⁹ pathophysiology of chronic diabetic complications. This glycation is more prevalent in insulin
¹⁰ independent tissues like brain, kidney, RBCs, etc. Diallyl disulphide (DADS), the principle
¹¹ compound of garlic oil, is well known for its antihyperglycemic, antihyperlipidemic,
¹² anticarcinogenic and antibiotic properties. Hence a study was undertaken to assess the
¹³ anti-glycation properties of DADS, in alloxan diabetic brain tissue, thereby to establish any
¹⁴ usefulness of DADS in prevention of central nervous system complications in diabetes mellitus
¹⁵ like diabetic dementia or diabetic encephalopathy. The current study showed a significant
¹⁶ decrease ($p<0.001$) in glycated proteins, glycated lipids and total TBARS levels in brain
¹⁷ tissue of DADS treated diabetic rats as compared to diabetic control rats. Hence it can be
¹⁸ concluded that DADS helps in reducing glycation of brain proteins and lipids as well as lipid
¹⁹ peroxidation and thus may be useful in prevention of CNS diabetic complications like diabetic
²⁰ encephalopathy.

²¹

²² **Index terms**— diallyl disulphide, protein glycation, lipid glycation, diabetic encephalopathy.

²³ **1 Introduction**

²⁴ on enzymatic glycosylation of proteins and lipids will be normally proportional to available free glucose in the
²⁵ tissues. It can be expected that a consistent hyperglycemia in diabetic subjects may induce hyperglycation of
²⁶ tissue proteins and lipids, and this is high in tissues which are not dependent on insulin for glucose transport like
²⁷ kidney, brain, RBCs, optic lens, etc [1][2][3]. It is shown that the main initiating factor for the pathophysiology
²⁸ of chronic diabetic complications like diabetic nephropathy is non-enzymatic glycosylation of kidney proteins and
²⁹ lipids 4 . There are evidences for glycation to occurs in brain tissue of diabetic animals like studies of Miyazawa
³⁰ A 5 have established increased lipid glycation in neurons of diabetic animals whereas studies of Jingsheng H 6
³¹ have similarly established protein glycation in brain of diabetic rats. Few studies have shown that lipid glycation
³² occurs faster than protein glycation 7 . Since brain has rich content of lipids, lipid glycation is of significance
³³ in diabetes induced CNS complications. Glycation of proteins and lipids probably results in increased formation
³⁴ of advanced glycation end products (AGEPs) and advanced glycated lipid products (AGLPs), which leads to
³⁵ formation of various oxidants (like lipid peroxidation products, example Malonaldehyde, etc) resulting in tissue
³⁶ damage [8][9][10][11][12] . These AGEPs and AGLPs are indicated in late diabetic CNS complications like
³⁷ Alzheimers disease 13 , diabetic dementia 5 and diabetic encephalopathy 14 .

³⁸ Among the various biological activities of the medicinal plants, the hypoglycaemic and hypolipidemic activities
³⁹ have been the most commonly studied. Garlic, (*Allium sativum Linn*) is well known for its antidiabetic,
⁴⁰ antihyperlipidemic, antiatherogenic as well as anticarcinogenic properties [15][16][17][18] . DADS, the principle
⁴¹ sulphur compound of garlic is probably responsible for the above mentioned beneficial functions of garlic. Studies
⁴² have shown that DADS crosses blood brain barrier 19,20 and its use in various neurological disorders have been
⁴³ established 21,22 .

5 DISCUSSION

44 Hence a study was undertaken to assess the anti-glycation properties of DADS on brain proteins and lipids in
45 alloxan diabetic rats, thereby to establish the usefulness of DADS in prevention of CNS complications in diabetes
46 mellitus like diabetic encephalopathy.

47 2 II.

48 3 Materials and Methods

49 Alloxan and Diallyl disulphide (DADS) were procured from Sigma Chemical Company. All other chemicals
50 employed were of analytical grade.

51 Albino rats of both sexes, weighing 300-350g were randomly selected from Central Animal House, BMCH,
52 Chitradurga and were used for the present investigation. The animals were maintained on a standard rat
53 feed supplied from Amrut rat feeds, Bangalore. The experiments were conducted according to the norms
54 approved by Ministry of Social Justice and empowerment, Government of India, and Institutional Animal
55 Ethics Committee (IAEC) guidelines. The animals were fasted overnight and Diabetes was induced by a single
56 intraperitoneal injection of freshly prepared alloxan (150mg/kg body wt.) 23 , in sterile normal saline. The
57 animals were considered diabetic if their blood glucose were consistently above 300mg/dl and urine showed
58 consistent glucosuria. The treatment was started on 5 th day after alloxan injection and was considered as first
59 day of treatment. The rats were divided into three groups comprising six rats in each group as follows:

60 Group I: Normal rats -which were fed on 30 ml of normal saline per kg body weight, through gastric intubation,
61 daily for 90 days.

62 Group II: Diabetic Control rats -which were fed on normal saline 30ml / kg body weight, through gastric
63 intubation, daily for 90 days.

64 Group III: Diallyl disulphide (DADS) treated Diabetic rats -which were fed on DADS (100mg/ kg body weight)
65 prepared in normal saline, given as 30ml / kg body weight suspension, through gastric intubation, daily for 90
66 days.

67 On completion of the stipulated period, the rats were anaesthetized by anaesthetic ether and were sacrificed
68 by cervical dislocation. Blood was collected in heparinized tubes from internal jugular vein. Whole brain was
69 dissected and net weight was noted. Immediately the brain was processed as follows. One part of whole brain
70 was homogenized with 9 parts of cold Phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) using Potter Elvehjam homogeniser and the
71 extract was used for estimation of total proteins 24 and carbohydrate content of these protein [Glycated protein]
72 25 . A second part of brain was homogenized with 9 parts of Chloroform methanol (1:1 v/v) mixture using
73 Potter Elvehjam homogeniser and the extract was used for total lipids 26 and carbohydrate content of this lipids
74 [Glycated lipids] 25 . And another part of whole brain was homogenized with 9 parts of trichloroacetic acid
75 (10%) and extract was used for the estimation of thiobarbituric acid reactive substances (TBARS) levels 27 .
76 Whole blood was employed for glycated hemoglobin estimation 25 . A part of whole blood was centrifuged at
77 3500 rpm for 6-8mins and the free separated plasma was used for glucose estimation 28 . The free sugar content
78 of phosphate buffer extract was estimated by Folin Wu method 29 and the value obtained was deducted from
79 the total carbohydrate content of phosphate buffer protein to calculate glycated protein content.

80 The results were expressed as mean + SD. Statistical analysis was done by using student ' t' test.

81 III.

82 4 Results

83 The results obtained are given in table 1 and 2. Table 1 gives the glycated Hb levels, plasma glucose levels, body
84 weight and ratio of brain to body weight in normal rats (group 1), alloxan diabetic rats (group II), as well as in
85 DADS treated alloxan diabetic rats (group III).

86 As seen from the table, there is a significant increase in plasma glucose levels ($p<0.001$), glycated hemoglobin
87 levels ($p<0.001$) body weight and ratio of brain to body weight ($p<0.001$) in group II as compared to group I
88 rats. A significant decrease is seen in the above parameters ($p<0.001$) in group III rats as compared to group II
89 rats. Further no significant alteration is observed in plasma glucose levels in group III rats as compared to group
90 II rats.

91 Tables 2 shows the levels of brain tissue total proteins, glycated brain proteins, brain tissue total lipids and
92 glycated brain lipids in group I, group II and group III rats. A significant raise in glycated brain proteins
93 ($p<0.001$), glycated brain lipids ($p<0.001$) and brain total lipids ($p<0.001$) were observed in group II rats as
94 compared to group I rats whereas a significant decrease in brain total proteins ($p<0.05$) was observed in group
95 II as compared to group I. A significant decrease in glycated brain proteins ($p<0.001$), glycated brain lipids
96 ($p<0.001$) and brain total lipids ($p<0.001$) is observed in DADS treated diabetic rats (group III) as compared
97 to diabetic control rats (group II).

98 IV.

99 5 Discussion

100 In the present study, administration of alloxan (150mg/kg body weight) induced hyperglycemia in the albino rats
101 as evidenced by elevated plasma glucose levels and glycated hemoglobin levels in group II rats (refer table 1).

102 The levels of glycated hemoglobin have been shown to be an important parameter of chronic glycemic control
103 in diabetes. The decrease in body weight of diabetic rats is due to increase in the protein catabolism mainly
104 in skeletal muscles that helps to channel amino acids for gluconeogenesis, decrease in protein uptake as well as
105 insulin deficiency induced lipolysis 30 .

106 There is substantial epidemiological evidence that, besides the long-term complications of diabetes mellitus,
107 which include accelerated atherosclerosis, retinal microvascular damage, renal failure caused by glomerular injury,
108 and peripheral neuropathy, the disease also has multiple effects on the central nervous system. Diabetic patients
109 have at least twice the risk of stroke 31 and may show performance deficits in a wide range of cognitive domains
110 32 . The mechanisms underlying this gradually developing end-organ damage, known as diabetic encephalopathy,
111 are only partially understood and can involve vascular changes and direct damage to neuronal cells by glucose
112 33,34 . Although the high level of glucose in the brain cortex of diabetic rats has been questioned 35 , it has
113 recently been reported that glucose levels increase by up to three times in the hippocampus of diabetic rats
114 compared with controls 36 . Emerging evidence suggests that increased glycation leads to the overproduction of
115 superoxide by the respiratory chain and consequent oxidative stress play a role in the pathogenesis of diabetes
116 complications 14 .

117 Many studies have shown that garlic and its compounds exhibit diverse biological activities like anti-
118 tumorigenic, anti-atherosclerosis, detoxification, antiinflammatory, antioxidant etc. 21,37,38 . Also, garlic
119 oilderived organosulfur compounds such as diallyl trisulphide, diallyl disulphide, and diallyl sulphide provide
120 significant protection against carcinogenesis, and this protection is likely related with their antioxidant properties
121 39 . Moreover, the lipophilic characteristics of these compounds allow crossing the blood-brain barrier as follows:
122 dialyl sulfide crosses the blood-brain barrier easier than diallyl disulphide > diallyl trisulfide > Sallylcysteine
123 20,22 .

124 DADS, the principle sulphur compound of garlic oil is well known to possess hypoglycemic, hypolipidemic
125 action 15,16 as well as anti-glycation activity 4,40 . It is known that DADS may enhance the half life of insulin
126 probably by decreasing the activity of insulinase enzyme by a sulphhydryl exchange reaction 41 . The results given
127 in table 2 indicates, the glycated protein and lipid levels in brain are significantly decreased in DADS treated
128 diabetic rats as compared to diabetic control rats suggesting that DADS may interfere in the non-enzymatic
129 glycation process. This in part may be due to increased glucose oxidation or due to decreased gluconeogenesis,
130 hence resulting in lesser availability of glucose, thus lowering glycation, as DADS has been suggested to possess
131 hypoglycaemic action. DADS is a disulphide, may be involved in sulphhydryl exchange reactions with proteins
132 or enzymes 42, ??3 similar to any other disulphide as follows: R1-S-S-R1 + R2 -SH ——> R1-S-S-SR2 +
133 R1-SH Such non-enzymatic glycation in tissue proteins and probably in tissue lipids may induce an alteration in
134 three dimensional structure of tissue proteins and thereby making the protein thiol (-SH) groups vulnerable for
135 oxidative damage ??4 . DADS decreases tissue protein glycation as well as tissue lipid glycation, thereby may
136 decrease sulphhydryl protein/lipid oxidation and hence preventing the possible tissue damage. This is evidenced
137 by a decrease in brain tissue TBARS levels in DADS treated diabetic rats as compared to alloxan diabetic control
138 rats (refer table ??I).

139 V.

140 6 Conclusion

141 The present study suggests that DADS reduces glycation of brain protein and lipids as well as lipid peroxidation
142 in alloxan diabetic brain tissue thus may be effective in prevention of CNS complications in diabetes mellitus like
diabetic encephalopathy, diabetic dementia, etc. 43. Augusti ^{1 2 3 4}

1

	Plasma glucose (mg/dl)	Glycated Hb (%)	Body weight (Gms)	Brain wt / body weight ratio
Group I (n=6)	112.26 19.6 +		3.9 1.2 +	323.81 55.65 +
Group II (n=6)	623.66*** 102.08 +		16.2*** 1.5 +	217.85**** 31.40 +
Group III (n=6)	565.00 135.01 +		12.5*** 1.9 +	210.16 50.32 +

Note: 1.

Figure 1: Table 1 :

6 CONCLUSION

2

	Brain Total Proteins (mg/g)	Brain Glycated Protein (%)	Brain Total Lipids (mg/g)	Brain Glycated Lipids (%)	Brain Tissue TBARS (μ mol/g)
Group I (n=6)	85 21.21 +	8.26 0.98 +	62.18 4.09 +	6.49 2.22 +	7.12 1.67 +
Group II (n=6)	75 + 15.43 75 + 15.43	9.97**** + 0.98 9.12** + 1.37	78.30**** + 12.66 77.57 + 6.54	27.98**** + 5.06 17.66**** + 1.59	13.17**** + 2.13 9.34**** + 1.88

Note:

1.

Figure 2: Table 2 :

¹() B Effect of Diallyl Disulphide on Protein and Lipid Glycation, and Lipid Peroxidation in Brain of Alloxan Diabetic Rats

²() B Effect of Diallyl Disulphide on Protein and Lipid Glycation, and Lipid Peroxidation in Brain of Alloxan Diabetic Rats

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