

Red tea and ginger formulation mediated silver nanoparticles and its antioxidant activity.

Reenu Joshy¹ Dr. R.V. Geetha² Dr Rajesh Kumar*³

¹Undergraduate student Saveetha Dental College and Hospitals,, Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Chennai-600077, E-mail: 152001030.sdc@saveetha.com

²Professor Department of Microbiology Saveetha Dental College and Hospitals, Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Chennai-600077

³*Professor Department of Pharmacology Saveetha Dental College and Hospitals, Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Chennai-600077, Email: rajeshkumars.sdc@saveetha.com

Corresponding author: Dr Rajesh Kumar

Professor Department of Pharmacology Saveetha Dental College and Hospitals
Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Chennai-600077

Email: rajeshkumars.sdc@saveetha.com

Abstract

Background: Poor solubility and bioavailability of herbal drugs, which are a barrier to their effective administration, can be resolved with the use of appropriate nanomaterials that will improve their pharmacokinetics. **Aim:** The aim of the current study is to analyse the synthesis of silver nanoparticles from red tea and ginger extract and to determine the antioxidant potential of it. **Materials and Methods:** DPPH free radical scavenging assay and hydroxyl radical scavenging assay was performed to determine the antioxidant potential of red tea and ginger formulation mediated silver nanoparticles. The percentage inhibition of DPPH radical scavenging activity and hydroxyl radical scavenging activity was calculated. The data was analysed statistically and the level of significance was considered at the level of $p < 0.05$. **Results:** There is a dose-dependent increase in the percentage of inhibition of DPPH free radical and hydroxyl free radical by red tea and ginger formulation mediated silver nanoparticles. The percentage of inhibition increases with increase in the concentration of the extract. **Conclusion:** The study concludes that red tea and ginger formulation mediated silver nanoparticles have potent antioxidant properties and can be used as an herbal antidote for the treatment of various diseases due to oxidative stress.

Keywords: Antioxidants, Ginger, oxidative stress, Red tea, silver nanoparticles.

Introduction

Nanotechnology is the synthesis, characterisation, manufacture, and manipulation of structures, devices, or materials with particle sizes ranging from 1 to 100 nm, or the handling of materials at the nanoscale. Particle sizes below this limit, produce materials whose physical and chemical characteristics are very different from those of macroscale materials made of the same constituent (1,2). A growing demand to create environmentally acceptable material synthesis methods, has drawn attention to the biosynthesis of nanoparticles. Poor solubility and bioavailability of herbal drugs, which limit their distribution, can be overcome with the use of appropriate nanomaterials that improve the pharmacokinetics and effectiveness of the drugs (3). Due to weak solubility, poor permeability, low bioavailability, instability in biological milieu, etc., the administration of plant/herbal medicinal compounds as drugs is challenging. By attaching or encapsulating herbal medications with appropriate nanomaterials, which can considerably increase pharmacokinetics and performance, it is possible to get around these limits of herbal medications (4). Silver nanoparticles (AgNPs) are of great importance due to the ease in preparation process and unique optical, electrical, and thermal properties which enhance electrical conductivity, near infrared absorption, and effective charge separation (5). It is widely used to treat cancer, degenerative Alzheimer's disease, and other oxidative stress-related illnesses because of its great antioxidant potential (6). Ginger is also a very popular plant with worldwide acceptance. It has found various uses as spices, nutraceutical and pleasure drinks. The health benefits of ginger are attributed to their polyphenols (7). Gingerols, shogaols, and catechins are among the polyphenols found in ginger. It has been determined that ginger is a medicinal herb with pharmacological effects. Ginger has antioxidant, antihypertensive, and anti-atherogenic effects (8–10). Red tea, or Rooibos tea, is distinct because it is primarily grown in Africa and contains polyphenols like aspalathin that are not present in other foods (11). It possess high antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties (12). Red Tea has been shown to possess several health benefits which could be attributed to its content of polyphenols (13). Tea polyphenols include catechins, myricetin, and quercetin. Tea catechins are efficient free radical scavengers due to their one-electron reduction potential (14). Catechins have antioxidative, anticarcinogenic, antimicrobial, antiviral, anti-inflammatory, and antidiabetic properties (15–19). The current study is done to determine the antioxidant property of red tea and ginger formulation mediated silver nanoparticles.

Materials and Methods

ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITY:

1. DPPH METHOD

Antioxidant activity

DPPH assay was used to test the antioxidant activity of biogenic synthesised silver nanoparticles. Diverse concentrations (10µL,20µL,30µL,40µL,50µL) of Red tea and ginger interceded silver nanoparticle was mixed with 1 ml of 0.1 mM DPPH in methanol and 450 µl of 50 mM Tris HCl buffer (pH 7.4) and incubated for 30 minutes. Later, the reduction in the quantity of DPPH free radicals was assessed dependent on the absorbance at 517 nm. Ascorbic acid was used as standard. The percentage of inhibition was determined from the following equation,

$$\% \text{ inhibition} = \frac{\text{Absorbance of control} - \text{Absorbance of test sample}}{\text{Absorbance of control}} \times 100$$

2. HYDROXYL RADICAL SCAVENGING ASSAY:

All solutions were prepared freshly. 1.0mL of the reaction mixture contained 100µL of 28mM of 2-deoxy-2-ribose (dissolved in phosphate buffer, pH 7.4), 500µL solution of various concentrations of the red tea and ginger (10µL,20µL,30µL,40µL,50µL, 200µL) of 200µM FeCl₃ and 1.04mM EDTA (1:1 v/v), 100µL H₂O₂(1.0mM) and 100µL ascorbic acid(1.0mM). After an incubation period of 1 hour at 37°C the extent of deoxyribose degradation at about 532nm against the blank solution. Vitamin E was used as a positive control.

Statistical analysis

The data was statistically analysed using one way analysis of variance (ONE-WAY ANOVA). Duncan Multiple range test was used to analyse the statistical significance between groups. The levels of significance was at the levels of p<0.05.

Results

The results show that there is a dose-dependent increase in the percentage of inhibition of DPPH free radicals and hydroxyl free radicals by the red tea and ginger formulation mediated silver nanoparticle extract, with an increase in concentration ranging from 10µL to 50µL of the extract. The percentage of inhibition increases with increase in the concentration of the extract. The antioxidant activity of red tea and ginger formulation mediated silver nanoparticles was similar to that of the standard.

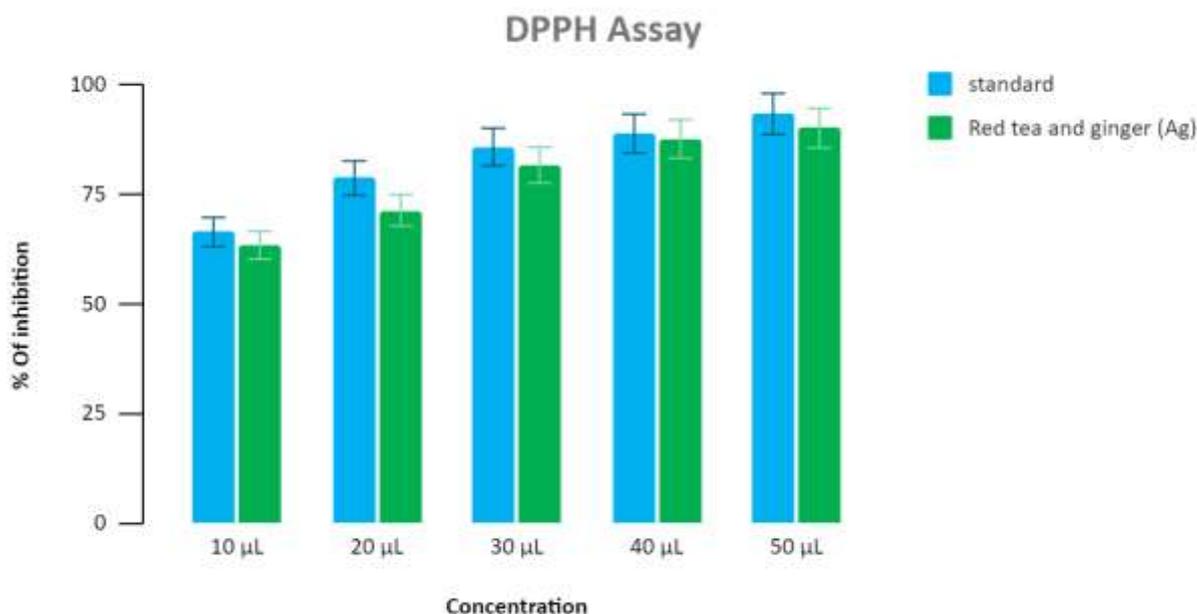


Figure 1: Represents bar graph showing DPPH inhibitory activity of red tea and ginger formulation mediated silver nanoparticle extract. Blue colour bar represents the percentage of inhibition of DPPH by the standard drug (Ascorbic acid) and the green colour bar represents the percentage of inhibition of DPPH by red tea and ginger silver nanoparticle extract. Each bar represents the mean ± SD of 5 observations. Significance at the levels of p< 0.05.

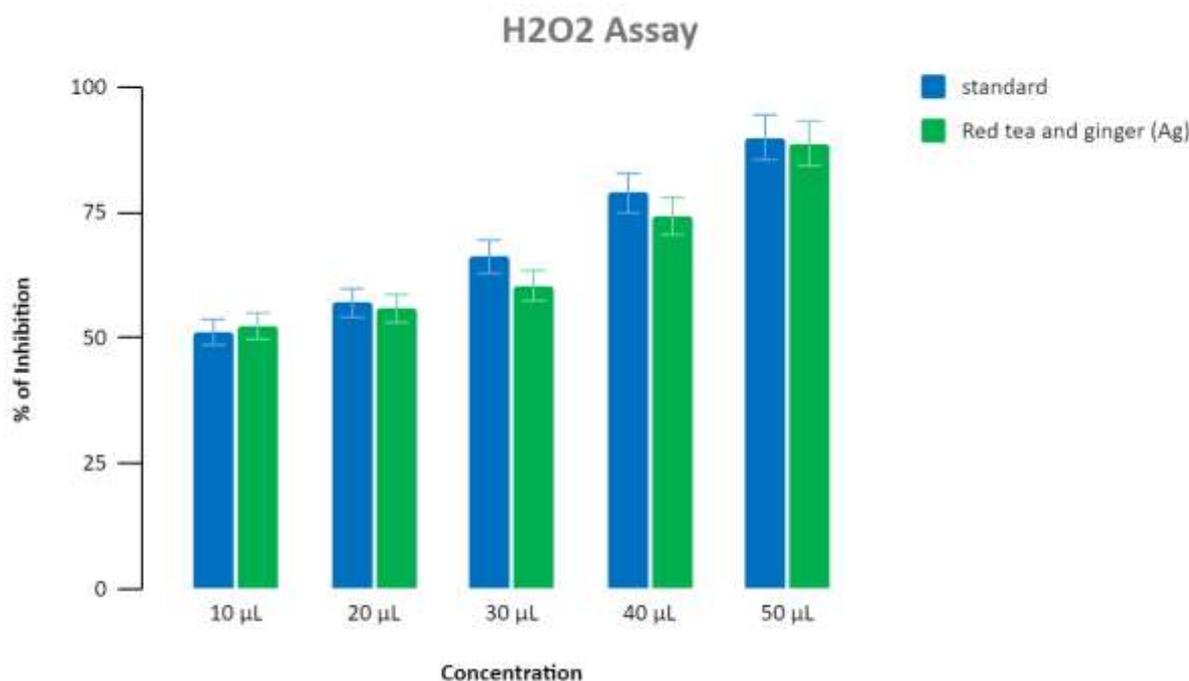


Figure 2: Represents bar graph depicting H₂O₂ inhibitory activity of red tea and ginger formulation mediated silver nanoparticle extract. Blue colour bar represents the percentage of inhibition of H₂O₂ by the standard (Vitamine E) and the green colour represents the percentage of inhibition of H₂O₂ by red tea and ginger silver nanoparticle extract. Each bar represents the mean \pm SD of 5 observations. Significance at the levels of $p < 0.05$.

Discussion

Free radicals are molecules with an unpaired electron in their outermost orbital that are capable of independent existence. Because of the unpaired electrons, it is unstable and extremely reactive (20). To achieve stability, they either strive to provide or take an electron. The hydroxyl radical, superoxide radical, anion radical, hydrogen peroxide, oxygen singlet, hypochlorite, nitric oxide radical, and peroxyxynitrite radical are a few examples of free radicals generated in the body(21). These extremely reactive chemicals destroy biologically important components including DNA, protein, carbohydrates, and lipids (22). They are produced as metabolic byproducts in the cell nucleus and membranes. The use of antioxidants can lower the chance of developing illnesses caused due to oxidative stress. Antioxidants are chemicals that shield the cell from free radicals and are also known as "free radical scavengers." By preventing the chain reaction, it neutralises the free radical. Antioxidants come from both organic and artificial sources. Exogenous dietary sources including vegetables, fruits, and other synthetic sources are among the sources of antioxidants in addition to endogenous antioxidants found naturally in the body. Vitamins A, C, E, beta-carotene, lycopene, lutein, selenium, manganese, and zeaxanthin are a few examples of antioxidants that originate from outside the body(23). The majority of antioxidants, including flavonoids, flavones, catechins, polyphenol, and phytoestrogen, are found in plant-based meals. Natural antioxidants are typically chosen over synthetic ones due to their natural origin, relative lack of adverse effects or complete absence of them, and cost effectiveness. Poor solubility and bioavailability of herbal drugs, which are a barrier to their effective administration, can be resolved with the use of appropriate nanomaterials that will improve their pharmacokinetics(24). The present study focused on the green synthesis of silver nanoparticles (AgNPs) from red tea and ginger extract and evaluated the antioxidant potential using DPPH assay and H₂O₂ assay. The results showed that there is a significant increase in the antioxidant potential of the extract with the increase in the concentration of the extract. Previous studies done on the phytochemical screening of ginger and red tea, determined the presence of polyphenols in red tea and ginger. The polyphenol aspalathin, was unique to red tea(12,25). The antioxidant property of these plant extracts are due to the presence of these phytochemicals.

Conclusions

The study concludes that red tea and ginger formulation mediated silver nanoparticles have potent antioxidant properties and can be used as an herbal antidote for the treatment of various diseases due to oxidative stress.

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