

Evaluation of Anti Inflammatory Activity of Benazepril in Albino Rats

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Abstract: *Inflammation is a component of the biological response of the body to harmful stimuli like pathogens, damaged cells, irritants, etc¹. It plays a protective role by the process of innate defense of the body and indicate itself clinically by four cardinal signs such as redness, heat, pain, and edema.*

Keywords: Benazepril, Indomethacin, Carrageenan, Paw edema, Rats

1. Introduction

Inflammation is a component of the biological response of the body to harmful stimuli like pathogens, damaged cells, irritants, etc¹. It plays a protective role by the process of innate defense of the body and indicate itself clinically by four cardinal signs such as redness, heat, pain, and edema.

Treating inflammation with the analgesic, non steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), and corticosteroids leads to many adverse effects like gastric discomfort, gastric erosion, cardiovascular and renal effects precipitation of diabetes mellitus, and increased susceptibility to infection². Indomethacin was also particularly active in the carrageenan-induced rat paw model of inflammation³.

Indomethacin is a non steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and its mechanism of action is by inhibiting cyclooxygenase nonselectively. It also inhibits phospholipase A and C. It acts by reducing neutrophil migration and by decreasing T cell and B cell proliferation. NSAIDs are obviously known for their gastrointestinal and cardiovascular side effects⁴.

Benazepril is an ACE inhibitor and it inhibits angiotensin II molecule formation⁵. Evidence shows, there is an alteration in angiotensin II molecule is implied in the anti inflammatory effect of benazepril and it is found to be lack of the side effects of NSAIDs⁶. Benazepril exerts its anti inflammatory property by acting on intracellular ROS (reactive oxygen species) production in rats with LV hypertrophy by the downregulation of both NF- κ B and TGF - β signaling pathways⁷. Hence, it suggests that benazepril has an anti inflammatory effect.

2. Aim

To evaluate the anti-inflammatory activity of benazepril in adult albino rats, in comparison with the standard drug Indomethacin using carrageenan induced paw edema model.

3. Materials and Methods

Study Centre:

The study was carried out in the Central animal house, Institute of Pharmacology, Madurai Medical College after getting clearance from the Institutional Animal Ethical Committee.

Experimental design:

The study involves 30 inbred adult albino rats of either sex divided into 5 groups – each group containing 6 rats. Animals were kept in cages and allowed to acclimatize for a period of one week prior to the study. They were housed at an ambient temperature and kept on overnight fasting with access to water ad libitum.

Groups	Study	Treatment
1.	Control	Normal feed and water
2	Standard	Normal feed, water and Indomethacin 10mg/kg po
3	Test – 1	Normal feed, water and Tab Benazepril 5mg/kg p.o.
4	Test – 2	Normal feed, water and Tab Benazepril 10 mg/kg p.o.
5	Test – 3	Normal feed, water and Tab Benazepril 15 mg/kg p.o.

4. Methodology

1% Carrageenan induced paw edema in rats⁸.

Paw edema was induced by subplantar injection of 0.1ml of 1% sterile Carrageenan in saline into left hind paw. The standard drug and test drug were administered one hour prior to the carrageenan injection. The paw edema was measured (by marking it at the level of ankle joint) by using plethysmograph, immediately after 30 minutes, 1 hour, 2 hours and 3 hours of injecting carrageenan. The difference between the left and right paw edema volume was determined and the percentage reduction in edema was calculated in comparison to the control animals.

Percentage inhibition in edema $\frac{V_c - V_t \times 100}{V_c}$

V_c

V_c - Mean volume of paw edema in control group

V_t - Mean volume of paw edema in the drug treated groups

Statistical Analysis:

The statistical analysis was done by one way ANOVA. P values < 0.05 (95% confidence limit) was considered statistically significant and a Fisher's least significant difference post hoc test was done. Data analysis was done using SPSS software.

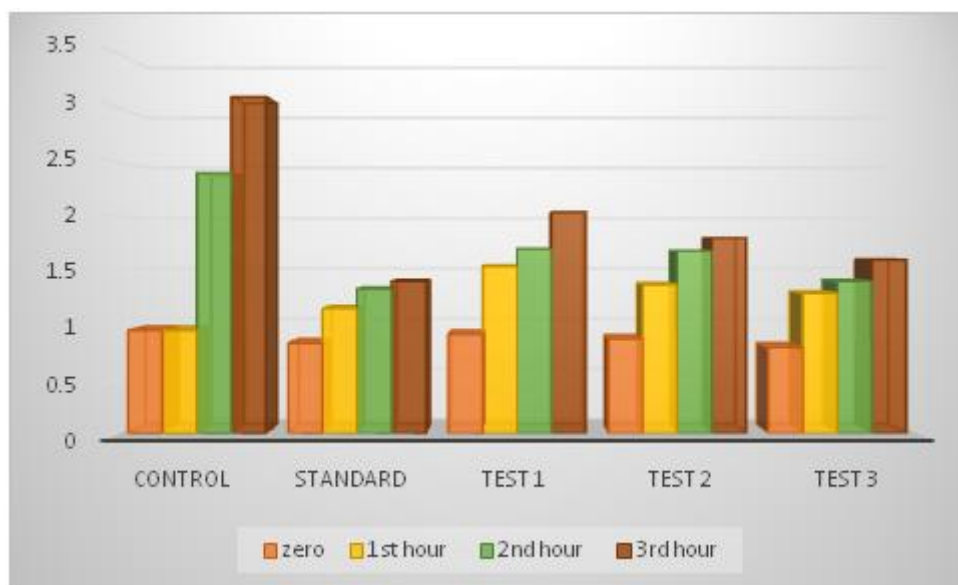
5. Results

The control group were provided with only food and water ad libitum. Standard group(Group II) received T.Indomethacin 10 mg/kg orally and Groups III, IV and V received 5, 10, 15 mg/kg doses of Tab Benazepril on the day of the experiment, 1 hour before carrageenan injection.

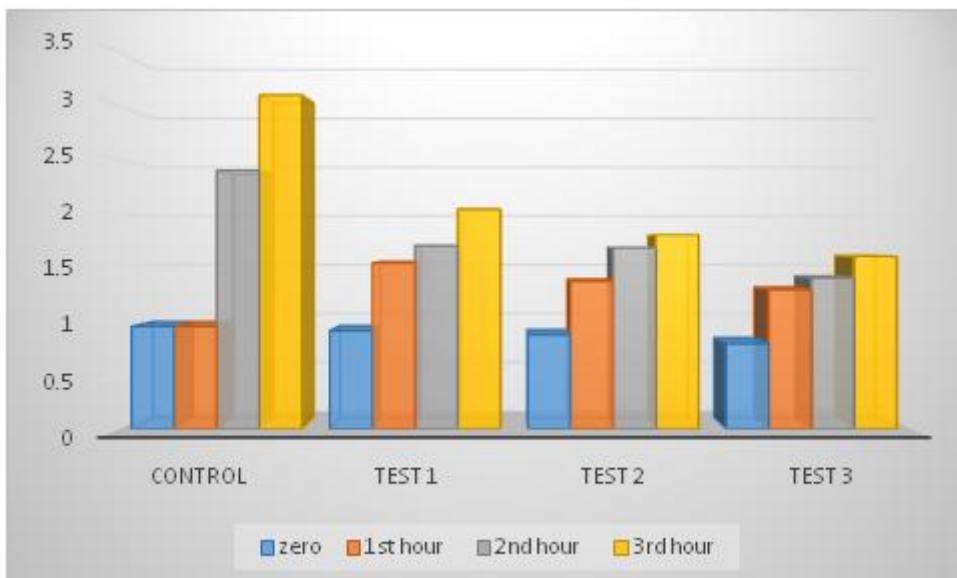
Paw volume was measured in all the groups at baseline, 1 hour, 2 hour and 3 hours of carageenan injection. All groups showed no significant difference at their corresponding baseline values. As given in table 1, the paw volume of control group increased from baseline (0.95+ 0.29) to the third hour (3.2+ 0.43). The standard group had a volume of 0.83+0.25 at baseline, and 1.4+ 0.20 at third hour. Similarly, test groups III, IV, V had a paw volume of 0.91+0.26, 0.87+0.26, 0.79+0.33 at baseline and 2.04+ 0.36, 1.8 +0.26, 1.6+ 0.33 at third hour respectively.

Table 1: Paw volume (ml) as Mean + S.D. among the groups

Groups \ Time	Zero hour	First hour	Second hour	Third hour
Control	0.95±0.29	0.95±0.29	2.4±0.46	3.2±0.43
Standard	0.83±0.25	1.15±0.12	1.33±0.12	1.4±0.20
Tab Benazepril 5mg/kg	0.91±0.26	1.54±0.18	1.7±0.27	2.04±0.36
Tab Benazepril 10mg/kg	0.87±0.26	1.37±0.13	1.68±0.21	1.8±0.26
Tab Benazepril 15mg/kg	0.79±0.33	1.29±0.24	1.4±0.33	1.6±0.33



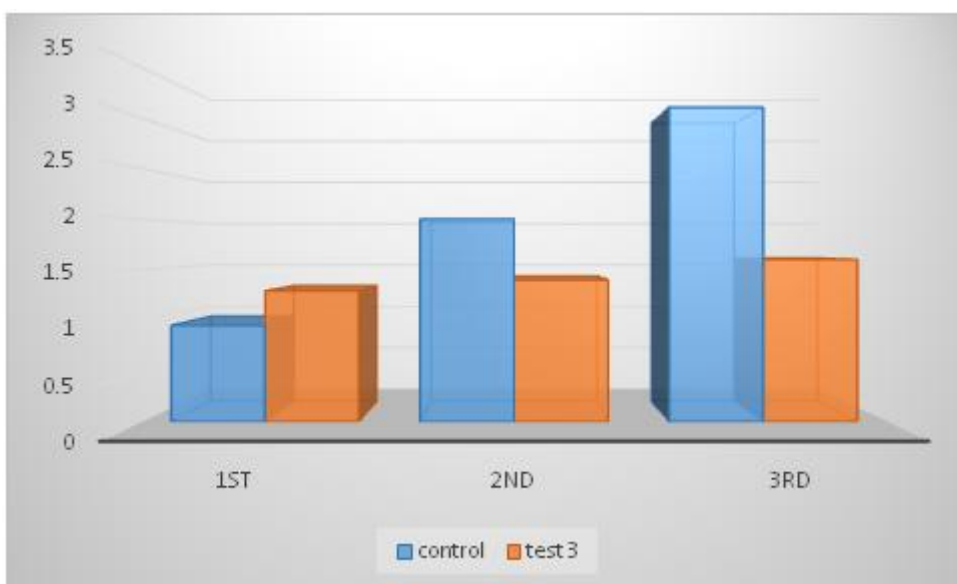
Graph 1: Paw volume in ml among the groups



Graph 2: Comparison between control and test groups



Graph 3: Comparison between test groups



Graph 4: Comparison between control and test group 3

Table 2: Percentage inhibition of paw edema between the groups Vs control.

GROUPS	% INHIBITION IN 1 ST HOUR	% INHIBITION IN 2 ND HOUR	% INHIBITION IN 3 RD HOUR
Indomethacin 10mg / kg p. o.	31.95	44.81	54.63
Tab Benazepril 5mg/kg p.o	8.87	26.97	34.36
Tab Benazepril 10mg/kg p.o.	18.63	30.15	39.67
Tab Benazepril 15mg/kg p.o.	23.66	38.45	46.91

*P value less than 0.05 is significant

The standard and test drug treated groups showed a statistically significant difference in their anti-inflammatory activity when compared with the control group. A following post hoc test showed that the anti-inflammatory activity for the test drug when compared to the control was in the order of Group V > Group IV > Group III > Control.

6. Discussion

In this present study anti inflammatory effect of Benazepril, an ACE inhibitor was evaluated in albino rats by using carrageenan induced paw edema model and it was found to be statistically significant.

Angiotensin II (Ang II) is a vasoconstrictor molecule. It acts by stimulating sympathetic nervous system and it increases aldosterone secretion. The other actions are induction of growth, cell migration, and mitosis of vascular smooth muscle cells, increased synthesis of collagen type I and III in fibroblasts, leading to thickening of the vascular wall and myocardium, and fibrosis⁹.

Ang II is a potent vasoconstrictor that magnifies endothelial dysfunction, decreases NO, and induces inflammatory states by enhancing release of interleukin (IL)-6 and other inflammatory markers. Nuclear factor- κ B (NF- κ B) is central to the inflammatory response, stimulating expression of tumor necrosis factor- α (TNF- α), IL-1, IL-6, and, via a feedback pathway, further NF- κ B production.

The central role of the renin-angiotensin system in the pathogenesis of cardiovascular disease is well established. Elevated levels of Ang II, a potent vasoconstrictor, combined with a reduction in NO levels, enhances vasoconstriction, inflammation, and the atherogenic process¹⁰. Blocking the formation of Ang II with an ACE inhibitor increases NO availability, improving flow-mediated vasodilation, blood flow, and cGMP production as well as reducing oxidant stress and inflammation in the endothelium.

Importance of ACE inhibition as a mechanism for restoring the balance in the NO-cGMP pathway to prevent inflammation, ischemia, and cardiac hypertrophy. The AT2 receptor is stimulated in left ventricular hypertrophy and is coupled to NO-cGMP signaling. The NO-cGMP pathway may, therefore, be an important protective mechanism to prevent left ventricular hypertrophy, ventricular dilatation, and heart failure. Benazepril alone

significantly improved CIF levels of NOX, cGMP, and inflammatory markers, and attenuated infarct expansion¹¹.

Clinical observations of ACEI/ARB and statin treatment combination among patients with heart failure can further improve ventricular remodeling and decline inflammatory factors, such as CRP¹².

Further elaborative studies are needed to potentiate this claim.

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