

UDK 615

YU ISSN 004-1963

# ARHIV ZA FARMACIJU

Godina 56

Broj 5

Beograd, 2006.

## ČASOPIS FARMACEUTSKOG DRUŠTVA SRBIJE

SPECIJALNI BROJ

IV KONGRES FARMACEUTA SRBIJE  
Sa međunarodnim učešćem

Savremena farmacija -  
unapređenje zdravlja i kvaliteta života

BEOGRAD, Sava Centar  
28. novembar - 2. decembar 2006 godine

5/2006

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ARH. FARM.    Godina 56    Br. 5    Strana 639- 1021    Beograd

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**SEKCIJA ZA LEKOVITO BILJE**

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**MEDICINAL PLANTS SECTION**

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## Genistein and Daidzein Reduces Level of Total Serum Cholesterol in Orchidectomized middle-aged rats

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Soybean consumption during menopause or andropause is associated with potential health benefits, such as prevention of atherosclerosis progression and bone preservation. In this study we examined the effects of chronic genistein and daidzein treatment on serum level of total cholesterol in orchidectomized middle-aged rats. Moreover, we compared the effects of soy isoflavones with corresponding chronic estradiol and testosterone treatments.

Male Wistar rats, 15 months old, were orchidectomized (Orx) under Ketamine anesthesia (15mg/kg b.w.). Two weeks after the surgery animals were divided into 5 groups (n = 8), which were subcutaneously treated with genistein (30mg/kg b.w.), daidzein (30mg/kg b.w./every day), estradiol dipropionate (0.625mg /kg b.w) or testosterone propionate (5mg/kg b.w.) every day for 3 weeks. The control Orx group received the vehicle (sterile olive oil) alone. The animals were sacrificed 24h after the last treatment; sera were separated from trunk blood after decapitation. The total cholesterol level was determined by CHOD-PAP method.

In comparison to control rats, soy isoflavones genistein and daidzein significantly decreased the level of serum cholesterol (by 23% and 15%,  $p < 0.05$ , respectively). However, this decrease was smaller in comparison to the effects of chronic testosterone treatment, which lowered the same parameter by 27%,  $p < 0.01$ . Interestingly, estradiol did not change the level of serum cholesterol in Orx males. These results indicate that soy isoflavones, genistein and daidzein have a positive effect on cholesterol status in middle-aged Orx rats. Genistein was more efficient than daidzein in decreasing the level of serum cholesterol.



## GENISTEIN I DAIDZEIN SNIŽAVAJU NIVO HOLESTEROLA U SERUMU STARIH ORHIDEKTOMISANIH PACOVA

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Povećano konzumiranje soje tokom menopauze ili andropauze ima potencijalno blagotvorno dejstvo u prevenciji arteroskleroze i osteoporoze. Cilj ovih istraživanja bio je ispitivanje uticaja hroničnih tretmana genisteinom i daidzeinom na nivo holesterola u serumu starih orhidektomisanih pacova. Efekat pomenutih fitoestrogena upoređivan je sa efektom estradiola i testosterona na koncentraciju holesterola.

Mušjaci pacova Wistar soja, stari 15 meseci su orhidektomisani (Orx) u Ketaminskoj anesteziji (15mg/kg t.m.). Dve nedelje nakon operacije, životinje su podeljene u 5 grupa (n = 8) i subkutano tretirane sa genisteinom (30mg/kg t.m.), daidzeinom (30mg/kg t.m.), estradiol dipropionatom (0.625mg /kg t.m) i testosteron propionatom (5mg/kg t.m.), svakodnevno tokom 3 nedelje. Kontrolna Orx grupa je injektirana sterilnim maslinovim uljem. Životinje su žrtvovane dekapitacijom 24h nakon poslednjeg tretmana, pri čemu je uzeta krv za analizu.

Nivo holesterola u serumu određen je CHOD-PAP metodom. Sojini izoflavoni genistein i daidzein značajno su snizili nivo holesterola u serumu (za 23% odnosno 15%,  $p < 0.05$ ), ali je ovaj efekat slabiji u odnosu na efekat tretmana testosteronom, koji je redukovao nivo holesterola u serumu za 27%,  $p < 0.01$ , u poređenju sa kontrolnim pacovima. Interesantno je da estradiol nije značajno uticao na nivo holesterola u serumu Orx mužjaka. Na osnovu dobijenih rezultata može se zaključiti da sojini izoflavoni genistein i daidzein pozitivno deluju na sniženje holesterola u krvi, pri čemu je genistein delotvorniji od daidzeina.

## Genistein Serum Cholesterol

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Soybean consumption has potential health benefits, particularly in the preservation of bone mass. In this study, we compared the effect of treatment on serum cholesterol level. Moreover, we compared the effect of estradiol and testosterone treatment on serum cholesterol level.

Male Wistar rats, after anesthesia (15mg/kg b.w), were divided into 5 groups (n = 8), which were treated with daidzein (30mg/kg b.w), testosterone propionate (5mg/kg b.w), or estradiol dipropionate (0.625mg/kg b.w) daily for 3 weeks. The control Orx group received the vehicle (sterile oil) at the last treatment; serum cholesterol level was determined.

In comparison with the control group, genistein and daidzein significantly decreased serum cholesterol level (23% and 15%, respectively). However, testosterone treatment significantly decreased serum cholesterol level (27%,  $p < 0.01$ ). Interestingly, estradiol treatment had no effect on serum cholesterol level. These results indicate that genistein and daidzein have a beneficial effect on cholesterol status in orchiectomized male rats, with genistein being more effective than daidzein in decreasing the