

S-Allyl-Cysteines Reduce Amelioration of Aluminum Induced Toxicity in Rats

Sadhana Shrivastava

Reproductive Biology and Toxicology Laboratory,
School of Studies in Zoology, Jiwaji University, Gwalior-474011, India

Abstract: Problem statement: Aluminum (Al) is a trivalent cation found in its ionic form in most kinds of animal tissues and in natural waters everywhere. **Approach:** It is a potent neurotoxin and has been associated in the pathogenesis of several clinical disorders including Alzheimer's disease. **Results:** The aim of the study was to demonstrate the protective effect of S-Allyl-Cysteines (SAC) against Al-induced toxicity in rat model on certain biochemical parameters, lipid peroxidation and oxidative stress enzymes of white albino rats. Six rats per group were divided into various treatment groups. Group one rats were given normal saline and served as control group. Group two animals received Al as aluminum nitrate 32.5 mg (i.p.) for the induction of toxicity. Group three to five received different doses of SAC (25, 50 and 100 mg kg⁻¹) for 3 days after 24 h of Al toxicity. Rats were orally administered their respective doses every day for 3 days. Evaluations were made in blood and tissues. The activity of Acetylcholinesterase (AChE) was inhibited in all the parts of brain after Al intoxication. Significant rise were observed the Activities of Serum Transaminases (AST and ALT) after toxicant exposure. The activity of δ -Aminolevulinic acid Dehydratase (ALAD) in blood and δ -Aminolevulinic Acid Synthetase (ALAS) in brain was decreased after Al exposure. Al significant increased cholesterol, triglyceride, creatinine and urea level in serum. TBARS level was significantly higher and GSH content were significantly lower during toxicity. Total and esterified cholesterol in liver, kidney and brain were increased after Al exposure. Histopathological changes in liver, kidney and brain were also recouped with the therapy. **Conclusion/Recommendations:** Our data proved that SAC which is a bioactive and bioavailable component of garlic has organosulfur compounds which regulates the thiol status of the cell and scavenges free radicals and work as an antioxidant. Thus SAC effectively reduces cognitive dysfunction and oxidative damage induced by Al.

Key words: S-Allyl-Cysteines (SAC), aluminum, oxidative stress, liver, kidney and brain

INTRODUCTION

Recent trends in controlling and treating diseases tend to favor natural antioxidant compounds rather than synthetic ones. Garlic (*Allium sativum*) is a commonly worldwide used food and its medical properties have been well recognized since the ancient times (Craig and Beck, 1999). Many beneficial health properties of garlic are attributed to organosulfur compounds, particularly to sulfur-bearing compounds such as allicin, S-Allyl-Cysteines (SAC), Diallyl-Di-Sulfide (DADS) and Diallyl-Sulfide (DAS). The protective actions of SAC in the basal memory responses, ischemic brain, brain edema, on learning defects (Nishiyama *et al.*, 2001) and neurons against TM-induced neurotoxicity is reported (Kosuge *et al.*, 2006). It also protects the Abeta-induced neuronal cell death (Ishige *et al.*, 2007). Garlic is also one of the well known plants with multiple beneficial effects such as antimicrobial (Johnson and Vaughn, 1969), antithrombotic, hypolipidemic (Bordia *et al.*,

1975), antiarthritic, hypoglycemic (Jain and Vjas, 1975) anticarcinogenic (Hussain *et al.*, 1990), antifungal (Amer *et al.*, 1980), anti-atherosclerotic (Bordia and Verma, 1980) an antioxidant against free radicals (Moriyama *et al.*, 2006; Banerjee *et al.*, 2003). It has been shown to be significantly effective against lead, cadmium, nickel, chromium, arsenic and mercury poisoning (Senapati *et al.*, 2001; Tandon *et al.*, 2001; Das *et al.*, 2009; 2008; Kalayarasan *et al.*, 2008; Lee *et al.*, 1999; Metwally *et al.*, 2009).

Aluminium (Al) is a ubiquitous element and has been proposed as an environmental factor that may contribute to some neurodegenerative diseases and affects several enzymes and other biomolecules relevant to Alzheimer's disease. It is present in many manufactured foods, medicines, cheese, tea, cosmetics and is also added to drinking water during purification purposes (Al-Hashem, 2009a; 2009b; Newairy *et al.*, 2009; Yousef and Salama, 2009). Different forms of Al are environmental xenobiotics that induce free radical-

mediated cytotoxicity and neurotoxicity (Yousef and Salama, 2009; Prakash and Kumar, 2009; Kan *et al.*, 2010; Bihagi *et al.*, 2009). Also, increased aluminium burdens, can cause neurological symptoms, biochemical responses leading to unhealthy bone metabolism and learning disabilities in children (Isaacson and Jensen, 1994). The high aluminium diet led to increased central nervous system aluminium concentration and altered concentrations of the essential trace elements iron and manganese (Goulb *et al.*, 1995), neutrophilic inflammation and oxidative stress in welders of aircraft plant (Stark *et al.*, 2009), deregulation of cell signaling thus impairment of neurotransmission (Verstraeten *et al.*, 2008). Aluminum may have a direct effect on iron metabolism; it influences absorption of iron via the intestine, it hinders iron's transport in the serum and it displaces iron's binding to transferrin (Mostaghie and Skillen, 1986). The aim of the study was to evaluate the anti-oxidant potential of S-Allyl-Cysteines (SAC) against aluminium-induced toxicity in rat model by evaluating antioxidant enzymes activities, markers of haem synthesis, acetylcholinesterase in brain, LFT's and KFT's. The changes were substantiated by histopathological findings.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Experimental animals: *Sprague Dawley* female albino rats weighing 160 ± 10 g from department animal facility were selected. They received a standard pellet diet (Pranav Agro Industries, New Delhi, India having metal contents in ppm dry weight Cu, 10; Mn, 33; Zn, 45; and Co, 5) and drinking water *ad libitum*. Animals used in this study were treated and cared for in accordance with the guidelines recommended by the Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA), Government of India, Ministry of Culture, Chennai.

Chemicals: Aluminium nitrate (Qualigens), other analytical grade laboratory reagents were procured from Merck (Germany) HiMedia and Glaxo chemical (India) and SAC was procured from Prof Xiong.

Experimental design:

- Group 1: Were control rats received a single daily dose of normal saline orally.
- Group 2: Were rats given a daily single dose of aluminum nitrate at 32.5 mg kg^{-1} ($1/2LD_{50}$ i.p. once only) and name Al treated rats.

Group 3-5: Were rats given a dose of SAC at 25, 50 and 100 mg Kg^{-1} , p.o. for 3 days

Animals of all the groups were sacrificed after 48 hours of last treatment and different biochemical analyses were performed.

Biochemical assays: Blood was collected directly from the heart by puncturing the retro-orbital venous sinus (Riley, 1960) and serum was isolated for the estimation of AST and ALT (Reitman and Frankel, 1957) and δ -Aminolevulinic Acid Dehydratase (ALAD) (Berlin and Schaller, 1974). Serum cholesterol, Triglyceride (TG), creatinine and urea (kit method) were estimated by autoanalyser. The activity of Acetylcholinesterase (AChE) was determined in different parts of brain (Ellman *et al.*, 1961). Homogenate in an isotonic solution was processed for total and esterified cholesterol (Zlatkis *et al.*, 1953). Hepatic, renal and cerebral LPO (Sharma and Krishna Murthy, 1968) and GSH (Brehe and Burch, 1976) was also estimated. The activity of δ -Aminolevulinic Acid Synthetase (ALAS) was also determined in brain (Maines, 1980).

Histopathological assays: Liver, kidney and brain were dissected out washed in saline and fixed in Bouin's fluid, embedded in paraffin, sectioned at $6\mu\text{m}$ and stained with haematoxylin and eosin for examination by light microscopy.

Statistical analysis: P values at the level of ≤ 0.05 were evaluated by student's t test. Significance of the difference among various groups was evaluated by one way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) [®] $F=P \leq 0.05$ (Snedecor and Cochran, 1989).

RESULTS

Biochemical observations: The results demonstrates that the toxicity produced by Al was associated with a variety of biochemical abnormalities and these could usually be attributed to the release of intracellular constituents in to the circulation, following loss of integrity of the cell membrane or interference with normal metabolism and function. Table 1 and 2 depicts that administration of Al elevated the activity of serum AST, ALT and LDH where as serum protein was found to be depleted. These results indicate a protective effect of S-allylcysteine ($P \leq 0.05$) on the membrane by virtue of its antioxidant property. Toxicant induced depletion in the activity of ALAD and serum proteins. SAC therapy showed recovery pattern, this was significant at

higher doses. The serum profile of Al exposed rats reveals significant rise in triglyceride, cholesterol, creatinine and urea as kidney markers ($P \leq 0.05$). SAC therapy showed values near to the control at higher doses (Table 2). Al is highly neurotoxic element and has been suggested to play a role in degeneration of nerve cells in the brain of human and experimental animals. It reduced the AChE activity of cerebellum (hind brain) when compared to controls. At the same time the mid-brain and cortex (for brain) enzyme activity was also reduced ($p \leq 0.05$). Toxicant also caused depletion in ALAS in brain. Treatment of SAC significantly restored these parameters (Table 3).

Further, we assessed oxidative stress parameters and antioxidant activity in the liver and the kidney and the results are summarized in table 4. Hepatic, renal and cerebral (brain) LPO was significantly increased after Al exposure whereas hepatic, renal and cerebral GSH was significantly decreased. However, combination of garlic extract reduced TBARS concentration and restored the levels of GSH. Results show that total cholesterol and esterified cholesterol in the liver, kidney and brain was increased after toxicant administration. These results show that, SAC has a protective effect on the Al induced changes in the lipid levels (Table 5). Control rats had extremely small amount of Al in liver, kidney and brain. Exposure led to a pronounced increase in Al body burden ($P \leq 0.05$) in all the organs. The accumulation of Al was in the order liver>kidney>brain. Therapy of SAC was significantly effective ($P \leq 0.05$) in removing Al from all the organs significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) (Table 6). An overview of the effect of extract treatment in aluminium intoxicated rats reveals that higher dose were significantly effective when compared with other doses.

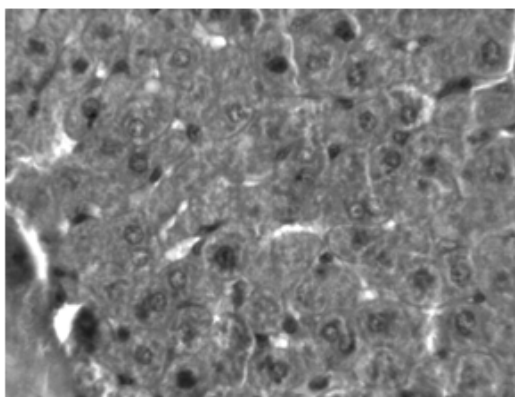


Fig. 1: Hypertrophy of hepatocytes, hyperchromatic nuclei with fluid filled sinus, was seen in liver after Al exposure (X400)

Histopathological observations: Aluminum exposure showed, disturbed chord arrangement, enlargement in sinusoidal spaces, hypertrophy of hepatocytes with hyperchromatic nuclei. Kupffer cells were increased in number (Fig. 1). At places bile duct proliferation and inflammatory cells were seen. At low doses therapy showed mild cytoplasmic vacuolation and granulation in hepatocytes. However the highest dose showed hexagonal hepatocytes with clear nucleus (Fig. 2). Al treatment showed higher degree of degeneration in cortex and medullary region. Bowman's capsules showed hypertrophy, disturbed endothelial lining and cytoplasmic vacuolation was observed (Fig. 3). At low dose therapy improvement was seen, however at the highest dose endothelial lining was maintained, Bowman's capsules was recouped (Fig. 4).

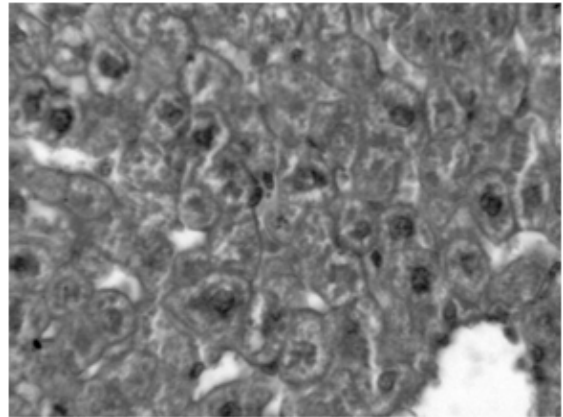


Fig. 2: Al (NO_3)₃ + SAC₁₀₀ showed hexagonal hepatocytes and clear sinus (X400)

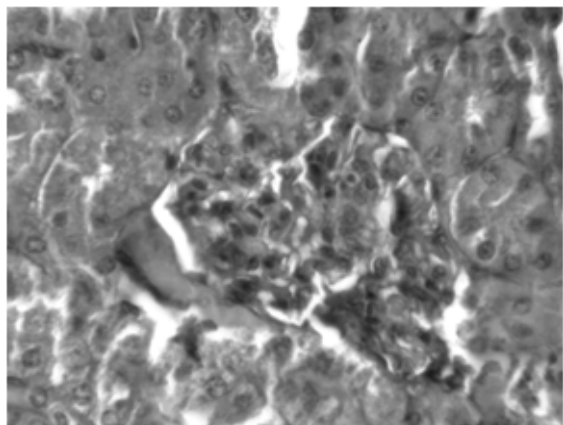


Fig. 3: Al exposure increased cellularity in glomeruli and distorted endothelial lining (X400)

Table1: Effect of SAC against Al treated rats in ALAD and serum transaminases

Treatments	ALAD (n mol min ⁻¹ mL ⁻¹ erythrocytes)	AST (IU L ⁻¹)	ALT (IU L ⁻¹)
Control	7.80±0.43	67.3±3.72	41.2±2.27
Al	3.20±0.17 [#]	157.0±8.67 [#]	127.0±7.02 [#]
Al + SAC ₂₅	4.23±0.23*	122.0± 6.74*	66.9±3.69*
Al + SAC ₅₀	4.91±0.27*	116.0±6.41*	66.0±3.64*
Al + SAC ₁₀₀	5.96±0.32*	116.0±6.41*	55.6±3.07*
Anova (F-Value)	40.80 [@]	28.2 [@]	70.9 [@]

Values are mean ± S.E., N = 6. #: p≤0.05 vs control group; *: p≤0.05 Vs Al administered group. ANOVA (F-values) @: Significant at 5 % level

Table 2: Effect of SAC against Al treated rats in urea, creatinine, triglycerides & cholesterol in serum

Treatments	Urea (mg dL ⁻¹)	Creatinine (mg dL ⁻¹)	Triglycerides (mg dL ⁻¹)	Cholesterol (mg dL ⁻¹)
Control	19.8±1.09	0.43±0.02	68.80±3.80	46.9±2.59
Al	55.8±3.08 [#]	0.50±0.02 [#]	94.20±5.20 [#]	75.0±4.14 [#]
Al + SAC ₂₅	42.6±2.35*	0.45±0.02*	84.40±4.66*	53.2±2.94*
Al + SAC ₅₀	42.0±2.32*	0.44±0.02*	77.00±4.25*	51.8±2.86*
Al + SAC ₁₀₀	41.3±2.28*	0.44±0.02*	72.30±3.99*	48.1±2.65*
Anova (F-Value)	37.3 [@]	1.47 ^{ns}	6.350 [@]	16.6 [@]

Values are mean ± SE, N = 6. #: p≤0.05 Vs control group; *: p≤0.05 Vs Al administered group; ANOVA (F-values) @: Significant, ns: Non significant at 5% level

Table 3: Effect of SAC against aluminium treated animals in Acetyl Cholinesterase in brain

Treatments	Acetyl Cholinesterase (μ mole min ⁻¹ mg ⁻¹ protein)		ALAS (n mol min ⁻¹ mg ⁻¹ protein)	
	Fore brain	Mid brain	Hind brain	Fore brain
Control	40.0±2.21	20.40±1.12	39.0±2.15	11.80±0.65
Al	17.6±0.97 [#]	9.44±0.52 [#]	20.3±1.22 [#]	4.00±0.22 [#]
Al + SAC ₂₅	27.6±1.53*	11.90±0.65*	26.2±1.44*	9.46±0.52*
Al + SAC ₅₀	29.6± 1.63*	12.70±0.70*	28.3±1.56*	9.93±0.54*
Al + SAC ₁₀₀	30.6±1.69*	15.30±0.84*	30.5±1.68*	10.20±0.56*
Anova	27.9 [@]	32.70 [@]	21.0 [@]	38.70 [@]

(F-Value) Values are mean ± SE, N = 6. #: p≤0.05 Vs control group, *: p≤0.05 Vs Al administered group; ANOVA (F-values) @: Significant at 5 % level

Table 4: Effectiveness of SAC against aluminium treated rats in LPO and GSH in tissues

Treatments	Lipid Peroxidation (n mole MDA mg ⁻¹ protein)			Glutathione (μ mole g ⁻¹)		
	Liver	Kidney	Brain	Liver	Kidney	Brain
Control	0.45±0.02	0.66±0.03	1.08±0.05	7.20±0.39	7.13±0.39	7.02±0.38
Al	1.31±0.07 [#]	1.88±0.10 [#]	2.18±0.12 [#]	5.02±0.27 [#]	4.81±0.26 [#]	4.76±0.26 [#]
Al + SAC ₂₅	0.67±0.03*	1.62±0.08*	1.47±0.08*	6.50±0.35*	6.90±0.38*	6.78±0.37*
Al + SAC ₅₀	0.63±0.03*	1.50±0.08*	1.35±0.07*	6.70±0.37*	6.90±0.38*	6.80±0.37*
Al + SAC ₁₀₀	0.59±0.03*	1.40±0.07*	1.34±0.07*	6.70±0.37*	7.10±0.39*	6.98±0.38*
Anova	70.60 [@]	37.90 [@]	28.80 [@]	6.41 [@]	8.73 [@]	8.51 [@]

(F-Value) Values are mean ± SE, N = 6. #: p≤0.05 Vs control group, *: p≤0.05 Vs Al administered group. ANOVA (F-values) @: Significant at 5% level

Table 5: Effect of SAC extract against aluminium treated rats in total and esterified cholesterol in tissues

Treatments	Total Cholesterol (mg/100 mg)			Esterified Cholesterol (mg/100 mg)		
	Liver	Kidney	Brain	Liver	Kidney	Brain
Control	0.12±0.006	0.11±0.006	0.98±0.05	0.06±0.003	0.03±0.002	0.16±0.008
Al	1.21±0.066 [#]	0.75±0.041 [#]	2.95±0.16 [#]	0.20±0.011 [#]	0.15±0.008 [#]	0.65± 0.036 [#]
Al + SAC ₂₅	0.49±0.027*	0.51±0.028*	2.40±0.13*	0.15±0.008*	0.10±0.005*	0.55± 0.030*
Al + SAC ₅₀	0.47±0.025*	0.44±0.024*	2.33±0.12*	0.14±0.008*	0.10±0.005*	0.48±0.026*
Al + SAC ₁₀₀	0.43±0.023*	0.44±0.024*	2.21±0.12*	0.11±0.006*	0.09±0.004	0.47± 0.026*
Anova	148.00 [@]	83.50 [@]	41.10 [@]	53.30 [@]	63.40 [@]	55.10 [@]

(F-Value): Values are mean ± SE, N = 6. #: p≤0.05 Vs control group, *: p≤0.05 Vs Al administered group. ANOVA (F-values) @: Significant at 5 % level

Table 6 Effectiveness of SAC against aluminum treated rats in Metal concentration ($\mu\text{g/g}$) in tissues

Treatments	Liver	Kidney	Brain
Control	12.50 \pm 91	16.40 \pm 0.90	13.20 \pm 0.71
Al	34.10 \pm 1.88 [#]	42.20 \pm 2.32 [#]	37.61 \pm 2.07 [#]
Al+SAC ₂₅	21.76 \pm 1.20 [*]	38.62 \pm 2.13	36.42 \pm 2.01
Al+SAC ₅₀	19.51 \pm 1.07 [*]	29.76 \pm 1.64 [*]	30.00 \pm 1.65 [*]
Al+SAC ₁₀₀	13.90 \pm 0.76 [*]	20.91 \pm 1.15 [*]	28.76 \pm 1.58 [*]
Anova (F Value)	61.1 [@]	49.4 [@]	40.1 [@]

Values are mean \pm S.E., N = 6. [#] P \leq 0.05 vs control group, ^{*} P \leq 0.05 vs Al administered group. ANOVA (F values) [@] = Significant at 5 % level

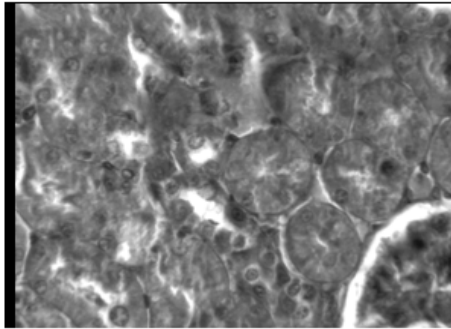


Fig. 4: Al (NO₃)₃ + SAC₁₀₀ showed compact glomeruli and well formed renal tubules(X400)

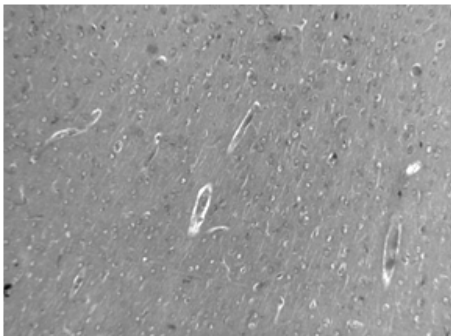


Fig. 5: Al exposure caused neurofibrillary tangles with vacuolation (X100)

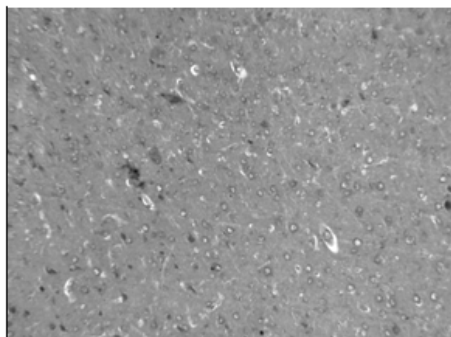


Fig. 6: Al (NO₃)₃ + SAC₁₀₀ showed well formed layers, epineurium, perineurium and endoneurium (X100)

After Al exposure neuronal degeneration and glial cell (microglia) proliferation was observed in brain, pyknotic neurons were noticed. Cerebellar atrophy was also observed (Fig. 5). Lower dosed showed mild improvement in Purkinje cells. Astrocytes led to scattered neurons with reduced vacuolation in granule cell layer. The oligodendrites were reduced in size. Treatment with highest dose resulted in almost normal histoarchitecture depicting all the normal layers and Purkinje neurons. There was significant loss of vacuolization in neurons. Prominent nuclei were seen in Schwann cells. Fibroblasts and glial cells showed more or less normal structure (Fig. 6).

DISCUSSION

The present study was undertaken to determine whether SAC can prevent and/or reduce Al-induced oxidative stress by examining different biochemical parameters of oxidative damage in the serum, the liver, kidney and brain in rats.

Our results clearly showed that there was a significant biochemical and histopathological changes suggesting strong prooxidant activity inspite of its non-redox status (Exley, 2004). Its toxicity may be mediated by free radical generation and alterations in antioxidant enzymes *in vivo* and *in vitro* (Tabaldi *et al.*, 2009), which caused neurotoxicity (Kumar *et al.*, 2009; Rodella *et al.*, 2008), nephrotoxicity (Mahieu *et al.*, 2009) and hepatotoxicity (Kutlubay *et al.*, 2007).

Activities of serum AST, ALT, LDH, urea and creatinine were increased after toxicant administration. Changes in these enzymatic activities may be due to the leakage of these enzymes from the liver cytosol into the blood stream and/or liver dysfunction. These abnormalities were prevented by supplementation of SAC, perhaps due to its role in stabilizing the cell membrane and protect the liver from free radical-mediated liver cell toxicity various authors (Al-Hashem, 2009a; Yousef, 2004; Nayak *et al.*, 2006). Mohamed and Awad (2008) reported similar findings after Al exposure. LDH is a hydrogen transfer enzyme is used in the diagnosis of liver damage. Other metals like cadmium also increased the serum transaminases (Al-Hashem *et al.*, 2009; Amin1 *et al.*, 2006). Results

of the present study clearly depicted that Al administration enhanced concentration of this soluble enzyme significantly. The activity of this enzyme is also increased by feedback mechanism as it is involved in glucose metabolism. It is used as marker of Al toxicity. Similar finding was noted by El-Demerdash (2004); Yousef (2004) and Anane and Creppy (2001). These values were restored near to control after SAC treatment. SAC restored the values of AST, ALT, LDH in serum along with improved histological and transmission electron microscopic structure against chromium and acetaminophen induced toxicity (Kalayarasan *et al.*, 2008; Hsu *et al.*, 2006).

Cholesterol, TG and creatinine were increased after toxicant exposure. The increase in serum TG is possibly due to hypoactivity of lipoprotein lipase in blood vessels which breaks up TG. High serum cholesterol level may be due to hepatic dysfunction (Al-Hashem, 2009a; Kojima *et al.*, 2004; Kantola *et al.*, 1998). The cholesterol content in brain was higher in Al fed rats (Pandya *et al.*, 2004). The decreased value of lipid levels on the administration of SAC may be due to hypolipidemic effect (Chang and Johnson, 1980). The elevation in creatinine and urea levels in Al treated rats in the present study reveals significant damage in kidney. These findings are supported by various authors (Afifi, 2010; Mahieu *et al.*, 2009; Al-Hashem *et al.*, 2009; Rudenko *et al.*, 1998). Toxicant administration enhanced the LPO in liver, kidney and brain but caused a significant decline in the GSH level. Elevation of LPO in liver, brain and kidney was evident by the increased production of TBARS, which suggests participation of free-radical induced oxidative cell injury in mediating the toxicity of Al (Al-Hashem, 2009a; Newairy *et al.*, 2009; Anane and Creppy, 2001). GSH play an important role in the detoxification and metabolism of many xenobiotic compounds. Several pathologies that affect the nervous system involve oxidative stress, possibly associated with the decrease in glutathione content. The decrease in SH group of GSH content was also found in the studies of Dua and Gill (2001). GSH is the brain masters antioxidant and protect neurons from the harmful effects of free radicals. Al caused significant decrease in the GSH in brain and liver. Metals like as Cadmium, Cisplatin, lead and mercury induced oxidative stress by depleting the major intracellular antioxidant, glutathione in liver, kidney and brain (Afifi, 2010; Al-Hashem *et al.*, 2009; Amin *et al.*, 2006) therapy SAC provoked considerable recovery. SAC restored activities of enzymic antioxidants (SOD, CAT, GPx), non-enzymic antioxidants (vitamin C and vitamin E), GSH, LPO and reactive oxygen species in liver and serum of against

chromium, alcohol and acetaminophen induced group (Kalayarasan *et al.*, 2008; Yan and Yin 2007; Hsu *et al.*, 2006).

Aluminum neurotoxicity is due to the contribution of the Al³⁺ ion to iron-induced neuronal oxidative damage. The two metals are expected to act synergistically, aluminum coordination to the neuronal membrane facilitating attacks by iron-induced free radicals, whereas membrane oxidation in turn increases aluminum binding, thus, aggravating oxidation (Berthon, 2002). Brain membranes are not only based on the presence of polyunsaturated fatty acids and phospholipids components, but also that of molecules with a high content of lipid/protein ratio (like e.g., myelin) supporting the fact that ions without redox capacity can stimulate lipid peroxidation by promoting phase separation and membrane rigidification (Christen, 2000).

A significant decrease was observed in the AchE of fore, mid and hind brain after Al exposure which may interfere with either synthesis of AchE or inhibit choline uptake by synaptosomes. The higher reduction in AchE activity of brain may suggest that this part of brain is much more susceptible to metal intoxication. Al also may bind with the active site of AchE hence, decreases the activity of AchE in all parts of the brain. When this enzyme is inhibited Ach is not hydrolyzed and accumulates in cholinergic sites causing alteration in the normal nervous system function (Moshtaghi *et al.*, 1999). Kumar *et al.* (2009) reported a significant decrease in the AchE activity in brain of rats after Al exposure. Treatment with extract showed neuroprotection by enhancing AchE in all parts of brain.

Activity of ALAD in blood and ALAS in brain was significantly decreased after Al exposure. The ALAS, is first and the rate-limiting enzyme of heme biosynthesis which is localized in mitochondria. The enzyme requires glycine and succinyl Coenzyme A (CoA) as substrates and pyridoxal 5'-phosphate as a cofactor. ALAD activity is second enzyme of the haem biosynthesis pathway. The reduced level of Hb can be associated with hemolysis or disturbances in heme biosynthesis as a result of inhibit linking of iron with heme and drop in activity of ALAD and ALAS taking part in heme biosynthesis. Lead and mercury also inhibited ALAD and cause neurotoxicity (Rose *et al.*, 2008). SAC therapy improved the activity of ALAD blood and ALAS by protecting dysfunction of mitochondria, ER, disruption of calcium homeostasis and preventing its accumulation in macrophages in hepatocyte organelles such as lysosomes vesicles (Bogdanovic *et al.*, 2008).

The efficiency of SAC was perhaps due to the presence of these sulfur-containing biologically active lipophilic compounds, which might have chelated Al by the formation of ionic bonds between sulfur containing compounds and enhanced its excretion from the body. These easily permeate through phospholipid membranes (Miron *et al.*, 2000) and reduce intracellular Al thus enhancing the endogenous antioxidant defenses thereby preventing reactive oxygen species formation and lipid peroxidation. It also protects histological structure thereby depleting functional improvement to some extent. The present study indicates that SAC extracted from garlic has antioxidant and hypolipidemic effects., Sallylcysteine, such as its high water solubility and stability, suggest a broad spectrum of potential therapeutic actions in different experimental models of systemic and central diseases, this aged garlic extract compound is a promising candidate to be clinically and experimentally tested in neurological degenerative events with oxidative components.

CONCLUSION

Aluminum has adverse effects on human health. Our results demonstrate that Al alters biochemical parameters induces oxidative stress and histopathological alterations. Consequently, attention should be paid to the sources of aluminum in food, water and medical drugs. SAC therapy after Al exposure, minimized Al-associated hazards. Therefore, SAC could be beneficial for reducing aluminum toxicity. Further studies are required using a human population, to confirm these protective effects.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This study was supported by DST, New Delhi for financial assistance (SR/WOS-A/LS-153/2007). The author is thankful to Prof. Sangeeta Shukla, Dr. Monika Bhadauria, Jiwaji University, Gwalior (MP) for lab facility.

REFERENCES

Afifi, M.E.M., 2010. Effect of camel's milk on cisplatin-induced nephrotoxicity in Swiss Albino Mice. *Am. J. Biochem. Biotechnol.*, 6: 141-147. DOI: 10.3844/ajbbsp.2010.141.147

Al-Hashem, F., M. Dallak, N. Bashir, M. Abbas and R. Elessa *et al.*, 2009. Camel's milk protects against cadmium chloride induced toxicity in white albino rats. *Am. J. Pharmacol. Toxicol.*, 4: 107-117. DOI: 10.3844/ajptsp.2009.107.117

Al-Hashem, F.H., 2009a. Camel's milk protects against aluminum chloride-induced toxicity in the liver and kidney of white albino rats. *Am. J. Biochem. Biotechnol.*, 5: 98-108. DOI: 10.3844/ajbbsp.2009.98.108

Al-Hashem, F.H., 2009b. Camel's milk alleviates oxidative stress and lipid peroxidation induced by chronic aluminum chloride exposure in rat's testes. *Am. J. Applied Sci.*, 6: 1868-1875. DOI: 10.3844/ajassp.2009.1868.1875

Amer, M., M. Taha and Z. Tosson, 1980. The effect of aqueous garlic extract on the growth of dermatophytes. *Int. J. Dermatol.*, 19: 285-287. PMID: 7390694

Amin, A., A.A. Hamza, S. Daoud and W. Hamza, 2006. Spirulina protects against cadmium-induced hepatotoxicity in rats. *Am. J. Pharmacol. Toxicol.*, 1: 21-25. DOI: 10.3844/ajptsp.2006.21.25

Anane, R. and E.E. Creppy, 2001. Lipid peroxidation as pathway of aluminum cytotoxicity in human skin fibroblast cultures: Prevention by superoxide dismutase + catalase and vitamins E and C. *Hum. Exp. Toxicol.*, 20: 477-481. PMID: 11776410

Banerjee, S.K., P.K. Mukherjee and S.K. Maulik, 2003. Garlic as an antioxidant: The good, the bad and the ugly. *Phytother. Res.*, 17: 97-106. PMID: 12601669

Berlin, A. and A.H. Schaller, 1974. European standardized method for the determination of δ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase activity in blood. *Zeitschrift für Klinische Chemie Klinische Biochemie.*, 12: 389-390. PMID: 4428852

Berthon, G., 2002. Aluminum speciation in relation to aluminum bioavailability, metabolism and toxicity. *Coord Chem. Rev.*, 228: 319-341. DOI: 10.1016/S0010-8545(02)00021-8

Bihagi, S.W., M. Sharma, A.P. Singh and M. Tiwari, 2009. Neuroprotective role of *Convolvulus pluricaulis* on aluminium induced neurotoxicity in rat brain. *J. Ethnopharmacol.*, 124: 409-415. PMID: 19505562

Bogdanovic, M., A.B. Janeva and P. Bulat, 2008. Histopathological changes in rat liver after a single high dose of aluminium. *Arch. Ind. Hyg. Toxicol.*, 59: 97-101. PMID: 18573746

Bordia, A. and S.K. Verma, 1980. Effect of garlic feeding on regression of experimental atherosclerosis in rabbits. *Artery*, 7: 428-437. PMID: 7213027

Bordia, A., H.C. Bansal, S.K. Arora and S.V. Singh, 1975. Effect of the essential oils of garlic and onion on alimentary hyperlipemia. *Atherosclerosis*, 21: 15-19. PMID: 1131298

- Brehe, J.E. and H.B. Bruch, 1976. Enzymatic assay for glutathione. *Anal. Biochem.*, 74: 189-197. PMID: 962073
- Chang, M.L. and M.A. Johnson, 1980. Effect of garlic on carbohydrate metabolism and lipid synthesis in rats. *J. Nutr.*, 110: 931-936. PMID: 6989965
- Christen, Y., 2000. Oxidative stress and Alzheimer disease. *Am. J. Clin. Nutr.*, 71: 621S-9S. PMID: 10681270
- Craig, W. and L. Beck, 1999. Phytochemicals: Health protective effects. *Can. J. Diet. Pract. Res.*, 60: 78-84. PMID: 11551345
- Das, G.A., P.C. Dhara, S.A. Dhundasi and K.K. Das, 2009. Effect of garlic (*Allium sativum*) on nickel II or chromium VI induced alterations of glucose homeostasis and hepatic antioxidant status under sub-chronic exposure conditions. *J. Basic. Clin. Physiol. Pharmacol.*, 20: 1-14. PMID: 19601391
- Das, G.A., S.N. Das, S.A. Dhundasi and K.K. Das, 2008. Effect of garlic (*Allium sativum*) on heavy metal (nickel II and chromium VI) induced alteration of serum lipid profile in male albino rats. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health*, 5: 147-151. PMID: 19139532
- Dua, R. and K.D. Gill, 2001. Aluminium phosphide exposure: implications on rat brain lipid peroxidation and antioxidant defence system. *J. Pharmacol. Toxicol.*, 189: 315-319. PMID: 11903958
- El-Demerdash, F.M., 2004. Antioxidant effect of vitamin E and selenium on lipid peroxidation, enzyme activities and biochemical parameters in rats exposed to aluminium. *J. Trace. Elem. Med. Biol.*, 18: 113-121. PMID: 15487771
- Ellman, G.L., K.D. Courtney, V. Anders, R.M. Feather-Stone, 1961. A new and rapid colorimetric determination of acetylcholinesterase activity. *Biochem. Pharmacol.*, 7: 88-95. PMID: 13726518
- Exley, C., 2004. The pro-oxidant activity of aluminum. *Free Radic. Biol. Med.*, 36: 380-387. PMID: 15036357
- Goulb, M.S., B. Han, C.L. Keen and M.E. Gershwin, 1995. Effects of dietary aluminum excess and manganese deficiency on neurobehavioral endpoints in adult mice. *Toxicol. Applied Pharmacol.*, 112: 154-160. PMID: 1733044
- Hsu, C.C., C.C. Lin, T.S. Liao and M.C. Yin, 2006. Protective effect of s-allyl cysteine and s-propyl cysteine on acetaminophen-induced hepatotoxicity in mice. *Food Chem. Toxicol.*, 44: 393-397. PMID: 16181716
- Hussain, S.P., L.N. Jannu and A.R. Roa, 1990. Chemopreventive action of garlic on methylcholanthrene-induced carcinogenesis in the uterine cervix of mice. *Cancer Lett.*, 49: 175-180. PMID: 2306712
- Isaacson, R.L. and K.F. Jensen, 1994. *The Vulnerable Brain and Environmental Risks: Toxins in Air and Water*. 1st Edn., Plenum Press, New York, London, ISBN: 0306446111, pp: 384.
- Ishige, K., N. Takagi, T. Imai, W.D. Rausch and Y. Kosuge *et al.*, 2007. Role of caspase-12 in amyloid beta-peptide-induced toxicity in organotypic hippocampal slices cultured for long periods. *J. Pharmacol. Sci.*, 104: 46-55. DOI: 0.1254/jphs.FP0061533
- Jain, R.C. and C.R. Vjas, 1975. Garlic in alloxan-induced diabetic rabbits. *Am. J. Clin. Nutr.*, 28: 684-685. PMID: 1146717
- Johnson, M.G. and R.H. Vaughn, 1969. Death of *Salmonella typhimurium* and *Escherichia coli* in the presence of freshly reconstituted dehydrated garlic and onion. *Applied Microbiol.*, 17: 903-905. PMID: 4894725
- Kalayarasan, S., N. Sriram, A. Sureshkumar and G. Sudhandiran, 2008. Chromium (VI)-induced oxidative stress and apoptosis is reduced by garlic and its derivative S-allylcysteine through the activation of Nrf2 in the hepatocytes of Wistar rats. *J. Applied Toxicol.*, 28: 908-919. PMID: 18548744
- Kan, W.C., C.C. Chien, C.C. Wu, S.B. Su and J.C. Hwang *et al.*, 2010. Comparison of low-dose deferoxamine versus standard-dose deferoxamine for treatment of aluminium overload among haemodialysis patients. *Nephrol. Dial. Transplant.*, 25: 1604-1608. PMID: 19948879
- Kantola, T., K.T. Kivisto and P.J. Neuvonen, 1998. Grapefruit juice greatly increases serum concentrations of lovastatin and lovastatin acid. *Clin. Pharmacol. Therapeut.*, 63: 397-402. PMID: 9585793
- Kojima, M., T. Mause, K. Nemoto and M. Degawa, 2004. Lead nitrate-induced development of hypercholesterolemia in rats: sterol-independent gene regulation of hepatic enzymes responsible for cholesterol homeostasis. *Toxicol. Lett.*, 154: 35-44. PMID: 15475176
- Kosuge, Y., T. Sakikubo, K. Ishige and Y. Ito, 2006. Comparative study of endoplasmic reticulum stress-induced neuronal death in rat cultured hippocampal and cerebellar granule neurons. *Neurochem. Int.*, 49: 285-93. PMID: 16545889
- Kumar, A., S. Dogra and A. Prakash, 2009. Protective effect of curcumin (*Curcuma longa*), against aluminium toxicity: Possible behavioral and biochemical alterations in rats. *Behav. Brain Res.*, 205: 384-390. PMID: 19616038

- Kutlubay, R., E.O. Oguz, C. Guven, B. Can and Z. Sinik *et al.*, 2007. Histological and ultrastructural evidence for protective effects on aluminium-induced kidney damage by intraperitoneal administration of alpha-tocopherol. *Int. J. Toxicol.*, 26: 95-101. PMID: 17454249
- Lee, J.H., H.S. Kang and J. Roh, 1999. Protective effects of garlic juice against embryotoxicity of methylmercuric chloride administered to pregnant Fischer 344 rats. *Yonsei Med. J.*, 40: 483-489. PMID: 10565261
- Mahieu, S., M.C. Contini, M. Gonzalez and N. Millen, 2009. Melatonin reduces oxidative damage induced by aluminium in rat kidney. *Toxicol. Lett.*, 190: 9-15. PMID: 19539013
- Maines, M.D., 1980. Regional distribution of the enzymes of haem biosynthesis and the inhibition of 5-aminolaevulinic synthase by manganese in the rat brain. *J. Biochem.*, 190: 315-321. PMID: 6894089
- Metwally, M.A.A., 2009. Effect of Garlic (*Allium sativum*) on Some Heavy Metal (Copper and Zinc) Induced Alteration in Serum Lipid Profile of *Oreochromis niloticus*. *World J. Fish Marine Sci.*, 1: 01-06. <http://idosi.org/wjfm/wjfm1%281%2909/1.pdf>
- Miron, T., A. Rabinkov, D. Mirelman, M. Wilchek and L. Weiner, 2000. The mode of action of allicin: Its ready permeability through phospholipid membranes may contribute to its biological activity. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta*, 1463: 20-30. PMID: 10631291
- Mohamed, M.A. and S.M. Awad, 2008. Effect of Nigella Sativa Oil on Some Hematological values in Aluminium -treated rats. *Australian J. Basic Applied Sci.*, 2: 115-1164. <http://insipub.net/ajbas/2008/1157-1164.pdf>
- Morihara, N., I. Sumioka, N. Ide, T. Moriguchi and N. Uda *et al.*, 2006. Aged garlic extract maintains cardiovascular homeostasis in mice and rats. *J. Nutr.*, 136: 777S-781. PMID: 16484562
- Moshtaghi, A.A., S. Rahimi and M. Messripour, 1999. Aluminium administration on acetylcholinesterase activity of different regions of rat brain. *Med. J. Islamic Acad. Sci.*, 12: 105-108. www.medicaljournal-ias.org/.../Belge/MoshtaghiePUENSCHDMQ66454.pdf
- Mostaghie, A.A. and A.W. Skillen, 1986. Binding of aluminum to transferrin and lactoferrin. *Biochem. Soc. Trans.*, 14: 916-917. <http://www.medicaljournal-ias.org/Belgelerim/Belge/MoshtaghieIEJSCHQVR B99054.pdf>
- Nayak, P., S.K. Das and D.N. Vasudavan, 2006. Role of ethanol on aluminum induced biochemical changes on rat brain. *Indian J. Clin. Biochem.*, 21: 53-57. DOI: 10.1007/BF02912912
- Newairy, A.S., A.F. Salama, H.M. Hussien and M.I. Yousef, 2009. Propolis alleviates aluminium-induced lipid peroxidation and biochemical parameters in male rats. *Food. Chem. Toxicol.*, 47: 1093-1098. PMID: 19425229
- Nishiyama, N., T. Moriguchi, N. Morihara and H.Saito, 2001. Ameliorative effect of S-allylcysteine, a major thioallyl constituent in aged garlic extract, on learning deficits in senescence-accelerated mice. *J. Nutr.*, 131: 1093S-1095S. PMID: 11238823
- Pandya, J.D., K.R. Dave and S.S. Katyare, 2004. Effect of long-term aluminum feeding on lipid/phospholipid profiles of rat brain myelin. *Lipids Health Dis.*, 3: 13-13. DOI: 10.1186/1476-511X-3-13
- Prakash, A. and A. Kumar, 2009. Effect of N-acetyl cysteine against aluminium-induced cognitive dysfunction and oxidative damage in rats. *Basic Clin. Pharmacol. Toxicol.*, 105: 98-104. PMID: 19389043
- Reitman, S. and A.S. Frankel, 1957. A colorimetric method for the determination of serum glutamic oxalacetic and glutamic pyruvic transaminases. *Am. J. Clin. Pathol.*, 28: 56-63. PMID: 13458125
- Riley, V., 1960. Adaptation of orbital bleeding technic to rapid serial blood studies. *Proc. Soc. Exp. Biol. Med.*, 104: 5154. PMID: 13741689
- Rodella, L.F., F. Ricci, E. Borsani, A. Stacchiotti and E. Foglio *et al.*, 2008. Aluminium exposure induces Alzheimer's disease-like histopathological alterations in mouse brain. *Histol. Histopathol.*, 23: 433-439. PMID: 18228200
- Rose, S., S. Melnyk, A. Savenka, A. Hubanks and S. Jernigan *et al.*, 2008. The frequency of polymorphisms affecting lead and mercury toxicity among children with autism. *Am. J. Biochem. Biotechnol.*, 4: 85-94. DOI: 10.3844/ajbbsp.2008.85.94
- Rudenko, S.S., B.M. Bodnar, O.L. Kukharchuk, V.M. Mahalias and M.M. Rybshchka *et al.*, 1998. Effect of selenium on the functional state of white rat kidney in aluminum-cadmium poisoning. *Ukr. Biokhim. Zh. J.*, 70: 98-105. PMID: 10402657
- Senapati, S.K., S. Dey, S.K. Dwivedi and D. Swarup, 2001. Effect of garlic (*Allium sativum* L.) extract on tissue lead level in rats. *J. Ethnopharmacol.*, 76: 229-232. PMID: 11448543

- Sharma, S.K. and C.R. Krishna Murthy, 1968. Production of lipid peroxides by brain. *J. Neurochem.*, 15: 147-149. PMID: 5637724
- Snedecor, G.W. and W.G. Cochran, 1989. *Statistical Method*. 8th Edn., Wiley-Blackwell, Iowa State University Press, Ames, ISBN: 0813815614, pp: 503.
- Stark, M., J. Zubareb, R. Jacovovitz, Y. Schwartz and Y. Lerman *et al.*, 2009. HO-1 and VEGF gene expressions are time dependant during exposure to welding fumes. *Cytokine*, 46: 290-295. PMID: 19303319
- Tabaldi, L.A., D. Cargnelutti, J.F. Goncalves, L.B. Pereira and G.Y. Castro *et al.*, 2009. Oxidative stress is an early symptom triggered by aluminum in Al-sensitive potato plantlets. *Chemosphere*, 76: 1402-1409. PMID: 19570563
- Tandon, S.K., S. Singh and S. Prasad, 2001. Influence of garlic on the disposition and toxicity of lead and cadmium in the rat. *Pharmaceut. Biol.*, 39: 450-454. DOI: 10.1076/phbi.39.6.450.5887
- Verstraeten, S.V., L. Aimo, P.I. Oteiza, 2008. Aluminium and lead: molecular mechanisms of brain toxicity. *Arch. Toxicol.*, 82: 789-802. PMID: 18668223
- Yan, S.L. and M.C. Yin, 2007. Protective and alleviative effects from 4 cysteine-containing compounds on ethanol-induced acute liver injury through suppression of oxidation and inflammation. *J. Food Sci.*, 72: 511-515. PMID: 17995665
- Yousef, M.I. and A.F. Salama, 2009. Propolis protection from reproductive toxicity caused by aluminium chloride in male rats. *Food Chem. Toxicol.*, 47: 1168-1175. PMID: 19425234
- Yousef, M.I., 2004. Aluminium-induced changes in hemato-biochemical parameters, lipid peroxidation and enzyme activities of male rabbits: Protective role of ascorbic acid. *Toxicology*, 199: 47-57. PMID: 15125998
- Zlatkis, A., B. Zak and A.J. Boyle, 1953. A new method for the direct determination of serum cholesterol. *J. Lab. Clin. Med.*, 41: 486-492. PMID: 13035283