

Protective Effect of Curcumin and Aqueous Extract of Onchengyeum on CCl₄-induced Hepatotoxicity

Keum Ran SEUNG and Ki Hwa JUNG*

Duksung Women's University, Seoul 132-714, Korea

(Received December 9, 2005; Accepted December 23, 2005)

Abstract – An aqueous extract of oriental herbal composition named Onchengyeum and curcumin, an antioxidant isolated from turmeric (*Curcuma longa* L.) reduced hepatotoxicity induced by carbon tetrachloride (CCl₄). Improved liver function was observed by measuring the activities of aspartate aminotransferase (AST), alanine aminotransferase (ALT), alkaline phosphatase (ALP), blood urea nitrogen (BUN), creatinine (CRE), total cholesterol (T-CHO), triglyceride (TG), low density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-CHO), high density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-CHO), total protein (TP), albumin (ALB) and total bilirubin (BIL) in serum. Hepatic parameters monitored were levels of cholesterol (CHO), triglyceride (TG), and malondialdehyde (MDA) and activities of cytochrome P450 (CYP), NADPH-CYP reductase, superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalase (CAT), glutathione (GSH), glutathione S-transferase (GST), glutathione reductase (GR), and glutathione peroxidase (GPx). The histopathological examination showed that the treatment of Onchengyeum and curcumin relieved the ballooning degeneration of hepatocytes which had been generated by CCl₄. The results suggested that hepatoprotective effects of Onchengyeum and curcumin possibly are due to their promising antioxidative activity.

Key words □ Onchengyeum, curcumin, CCl₄, free radical, lipid peroxidation, hepatotoxicity

INTRODUCTION

Carbon tetrachloride (CCl₄) is an extensively used xenobiotic to induce lipid peroxidation and toxicity. CCl₄ is metabolized by cytochrome P450 2E1 (CYP2E1) to the trichloromethyl radical (CCl₃·), which is assumed to initiate free radical-mediated lipid peroxidation leading to the accumulation of lipid-derived oxidation products that cause liver injury (Recknagel *et al.*, 1989; Poli *et al.*, 1987). Also, CCl₄ in large doses damages the endoplasmic reticulum (ER), induces accumulation of lipids, and reduces protein synthesis and mixed function oxidase activity (Recknagel, 1967). Polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs) in membrane lipids are especially susceptible to free radical-initiated peroxidation (Svingen *et al.*, 1979). PUFAs in phospholipids of the ER were decreased following in vivo CCl₄ administration (James *et al.*, 1982).

Aerobic organisms generate superoxide anion radical (O₂⁻·), hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) and hydroxyl radical (OH·) of which the latter initiates lipid peroxidation in tissues (Oruc *et al.*,

2000). The sensitivity of cells to oxidants can be prevented to some extent by antioxidant enzymes such as superoxide dismutase (SOD), glutathione peroxidase (GPx), catalase, glutathione reductase (GR) and glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase. These antioxidant enzymes allow only a relatively low rate of production and propagation of the reactive and harmful ·OH.

Pesticide and environmental chemicals have been reported to induce oxidative stress leading to generation of free radicals with alteration of the action of antioxidants or oxygen free radical (OFR) scavenging enzyme system (Ray *et al.*, 1998; Koner *et al.*, 1998; Ahmed *et al.*, 2000).

Onchengyeum, the extract of oriental herbal composition, first prescribed in manbunghoychun (Nong, 1986), is composed of Samultang and Whangryunhaedok-tang. In Lexicologic Doneuibogam, it was written as Haedoksamultang (Koo, 1997). It was reported that samultang was effects on blood deficiency, blood circulation (Park *et al.*, 1984) and that Whangryunhaedoktang was effects on clearing heat, draining fire, detoxicating, an promotion of immunity (Song, 1984).

It was reported that curcumin affects antiproliferative activity, antiinflammatory activity, antioxidant effect (Piper *et al.*, 1998), an inhibition of lipid peroxidation, NO, an oxidative stress (Leu *et al.*, 2002)

*Corresponding author

Tel: +82-2-901-8383, Fax: +82-2-901-8386

E-mail: khjung@duksung.ac.kr

The aim of this work was to determine if the action mechanism of Onchegyueum (On) and curcumin (Cur) on CCl₄-induced liver damage occurs by preventing lipid peroxidation.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

Curcumin (65%~70%, *C. longa*, turmeric), 1.1.3.3-tetraethoxypropane, cytochrome C, xanthine oxidase, NADPH, Na-K tartrate, GSH, 1-chloro-2,4-dinitrobenzene, glutathione reductase, cumene hydroperoxide, oxidized glutathione, 5.5'-Dithio-bis(2-nitrobenzoic acid), bovine serum albumin, hydrosulfite, phosphoric acid, thiobarbituric acid, tris acetate, tris base, tris HCl, EDTA, glycerol, foline ciocalteu's phenol reagent, xanthine, sodium dithionite, metaphosphoric acid, xylene, ALT kit, AST kit, ALP kit, BIL kit, ALB kit, TP kit, BUN kit, CRE kit. Above all chemicals were supplied by Sigma-Aldrich Co.(St. Louis, MO, USA) and di-Sodium hydrogen phosphate dihydrate was from Merck KGaA (Germany). Carbon tetrachloride was from Duksan Science Co. (Seoul Korea). All the chemicals used were of analytical reagent grade quality.

Onchegyueum herbal medicine is composed as followed:

Rehmanniae Radix-4 g
 Angelicae Radix-4 g
 Paeoniae Radix-4 g
 Cnidii Rhizoma-4 g
 Scutellariae Radix-4 g
 Coptidis Rhizoma-4 g
 Phellodendri Cortex-4 g
 Gardeniae Fructus-4 g

Animals and treatment

Male Sprague-Dawley rats weighing 150~250 g were divided into four groups of 6 animals each. The animals were housed in the temperature-and humidity-controlled room with a 12 hours (h)-light/dark cycle and with free access to Samtaco pellet diet and drinking water. Control group received the vehicle only. On+CCl₄ group and On+Cur+CCl₄ group were orally administrated Onchegyueum (2.4 g/kg/day) and Onchegyueum+ curcumin (50 mg/kg/day) for 7 days, respectively. CCl₄ (0.45 mL/kg/10 mL in olive oil) was injected intraperitoneally. Curcumin was dissolved in 0.25% methylcellulose.

At 18 h after the last treatment, the animals were sacrificed in ether anesthesia. The liver tissues were quickly excised, rinsed in PBS and used immediately or stored frozen at -70°C

until analysis.

Biochemical analysis

Blood samples were obtained from the cardiac puncture. AST, ALT, ALP, BUN, CRE, TCHO, TG, LDL-CHO, HDL-CHO, TP, ALB and BIL in serum were measured using commercially available kits.

Histological observation

Fresh liver tissues, previously trimmed to approximately 0.2 mm thickness, were placed in plastic cassettes and immersed in 10% formalin for 24 h. Fixed tissues were processed routinely, and then embedded in paraffin, sectioned, deparaffinized, and rehydrated using standard techniques. The extent of CCl₄-induced necrosis was evaluated by assessing morphological changes in liver sections stained with hematoxylin and eosin, using standard techniques.

Measurement of CHO and TG in liver tissue

Rats were sacrificed for the assay at 18 hours after CCl₄ treatment. Partial liver was put into phosphate buffer (pH 7.0) and was made into 10% liver homogenate. Then, CHO and TG in it were analyzed by kit.

Fractionation microsome and cytosol

The rat liver was homogenized in 3 volume of 0.1 M Tris-KCl buffer (0.1 M Tris acetate, 0.1 M KCl, 1 mM EDTA, pH 7.4 with Tris base) on ice. The homogenate was centrifuged at 10,000 g for 30 min. This supernatant was ultra-centrifuged at 100,000 g for 90 min to obtain the cytosol. The pellet was resuspended in 0.1 M sodium pyrophosphate buffer (0.1 M sodium pyrophosphate and 1 mM EDTA) and ultra centrifuged at 100,000 g for 60 min to obtain the microsome. The microsome was resuspended in 50 mM Tris acetate buffer (50 mM Tris acetate, 20% glycerol, pH 7.4 with Tris base) and till use the fraction was stored at -70°C. Above examination was performed under 4°C.

Measurement CYP

Microsome with (protein 1~2 mg/mL) was put into 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH 7.4). This solution was divided into two reference cells and sample cell. In semimicrocuvette, after adding sodium dithionite to 1 mL of the above solutions respectively, we set criteria at 400~500 nm. After gas bubbled in cell by 1 bubble/sec for 1 minute, we measured absorbance of CYP-CO binding complex spectrophotometrically at 400~

500 nm. CYP was calculated by differences of absorbance between 450 nm and 490 nm which CYP-CO complex formation was before or behind (molecular coefficient; $91 \text{ mM}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$) (Omura *et al.*, 1964).

Measurement NADPH-CYP reductase activity

To 300 μM potassium phosphate (pH 7.7) 1 mL with 40 nM cytochrome C, we added microsome 50 μL and mixed 0.1 μM NADPH 1 mL. Immediately, absorbance at 550 nm at 30°C for 5 mins was measured every minute. Molecular coefficient is $21 \text{ mM}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$ (Strobel *et al.*, 1978).

Measurement of lipid peroxidation, SOD and CAT

Lipid peroxidation (LPO) in the liver homogenate was measured as MDA production, and was assayed in the thiobarbituric acid reaction as described by Mihara and Uchiyama (1978), using the spectrophotometer (Agilent 89090 A, 8453). The results are expressed as "nmol" MDA/g tissue weight.

SOD activity was determined by an indirect method involving the inhibition of cytochrome c reduction. In this method, SOD competes with cytochrome c for O_2^- , generated by hypoxanthine and xanthine oxidase action. The reduction of cytochrome c by O_2^- was monitored by the absorbance increase at 550 nm (Fridovich, 1995)

CAT activity was measured by the decrease in absorbance at 240 nm due to H_2O_2 consumption (extinction coefficient; $43.6 \text{ mM}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$). The reaction volume was 1 mL, which contained 50 mM phosphate buffer, pH 7.0, 50 mM H_2O_2 (Aebi, 1974). The reaction was started by the addition of the sample.

Measurement of GSH content

We estimated GSH levels in the deproteinized supernatant fraction of liver homogenate using 5,5-dithiobis(2-nitrobenzoic acid), recording absorption at 412 nm (Ellman, 1959). Results are expressed as "mol" GSH/g tissue.

Measurement of GST activity

Spectrophotometric method was used to determine the activity of GST according to the method of Habig *et al.* (1974). The assay was performed in 0.1 M potassium phosphate buffer, pH 6.5, at 25°C using 100 μL GSH and 100 μL CDNB as substrates.

Measurement of GR activity

0.2 M potassium phosphate buffer (pH 7.5) 0.5 mL, 2 mM NADPH 50 μL , and 20 mM disulfide GSH 50 μL including

2.5 mM ethylene diamine tetraacetic acid were added to liver cytosol 50 μL including 100 μL protein and volume of final reaction was made 1 mL with distilled water. Immediately, the reaction showed the decrease in absorbance at 340 nm (Carlberg *et al.*, 1985).

Measurement of GPx activity

Cytosol 100 μL containing 1.0 mg/mL protein was incubated for 5 min at 37°C with stock solution (0.25 mM glutathione, 0.12 mM NADPH and 1 unit/mL glutathione reductase) in a final volume of 1.55 mL. 50 μL of cumene hydroperoxide (1.0 mg/mL) was added to start the reaction, and the absorbance at 340 nm was monitored for the rate of disappearance of NADPH in a thermostated spectrophotometer with a recorder (extinction coefficient; $6.22 \text{ mM}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$) (Tappl, 1978).

Protein quantitation

Microsomal and cytosolic protein were estimated by the method of Lowry *et al.* (1951), using bovine serum albumin as the standard.

Statistical analysis

All results are expressed as the means \pm S.D. Multiple group comparisons were performed by student's t-test; $p < 0.05$ was considered statistically significant.

RESULTS

The effectiveness of On and Cur was evaluated through the normalization of CCl_4 -induced biochemical parameters.

Biochemical analysis

Administration of CCl_4 serum significantly enhanced AST and ALT activities from 124.23 ± 7.09 unit/L to 1544.72 ± 765.42 unit/L and from 27.77 ± 2.75 unit/L to 465.37 ± 86.62 unit/L, respectively. AST and ALT activities were decreased by oral administration of On and Cur. Serum ALP activity was elevated from 161.08 ± 22.09 unit/L to 208.28 ± 37.10 unit/L in CCl_4 group. ALP was also decreased by oral administration of On and Cur.

Serum BUN and CRE levels were from 14.52 ± 1.05 mg/dL to 11.70 ± 0.83 mg/dL and from 0.40 ± 0.02 mg/dL to 0.41 ± 0.02 mg/dL, respectively in CCl_4 group.

Serum CHO and TG levels were showed from 75.93 ± 11.20 mg/dL to 50.74 ± 8.04 mg/dL and from 68.78 ± 32.79 mg/dL to 45.47 ± 5.69 mg/dL, respectively in CCl_4 group. CHO and

TG were protected by oral administration of On and Cur.

Serum LDL-CHO and HDL-CHO levels were showed in CCl₄ group from 15.57 ± 1.45 mg/dL to 16.94 ± 4.83 mg/dL and from 41.96 ± 5.91 mg/dL to 19.06 ± 3.32 mg/dL, respectively. LDL-CHO and HDL-CHO were protected by oral administration of On and Cur. HDL-CHO/T-CHO in CCl₄ group was showed from 41.96 ± 5.91/75.93 ± 11.20 to 19.06 ± 3.32/50.74 ± 8.04.

TP and ALB levels were showed in CCl₄ group from 5.06 ± 0.17 g/dL to 4.64 ± 4.83 g/dL and from 3.00 ± 0.11 g/dL to 2.78 ± 0.09 g/dL, respectively. They were protected by oral administration of On and Cur.

Serum BIL level was showed in CCl₄ group from 0.10 ± 0.01 unit/L to 0.15 ± 0.04 unit/L. BIL level was protected by oral administration of On and Cur (Table I).

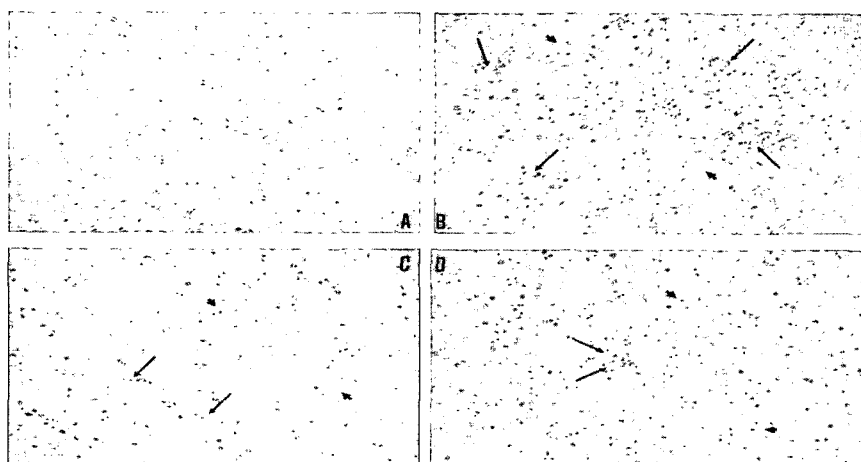


Fig. 1. Histologic effects of Onchengeyeum and curcumin treatment on CCl₄-induced hepatotoxic rats. Hematoxylin and eosin-stained agent treatment. Hematoxylin and eosin-stained sections were photographed at ×200; Well-preserved lobular architecture was observed in rat of control (A). Note moderate individual cell necrosis (arrows) and marked ballooning degeneration (arrowheads) and infiltration of inflammatory cells around the central vein in the CCl₄ treated rat (B). Ballooning degeneration of hepatocyte with necrosis was relived in the Onchengeyeum treated rat (C). Ballooning degeneration of hepatocyte with necrosis was relived in the Onchengeyeum and Curcumin treated rat (D).

Table I. Effects of Onchengeyeum and curcumin on serum in CCl₄ treated rats

Parameters	Treatment Dose(mg/kg, p.o.)	Control	CCl ₄	On+CCl ₄ 2,400	On+Cur+CCl ₄ 2,450
AST (unit/L)		124.23±7.09	1544.72±765.42	742.54±321.72*	684.18±193.25*
ALT (unit/L)		27.77±2.75	465.37±86.62	239.02±116.64**	213.51±100.48***
ALP (unit/L)		161.08±22.09	208.28±37.10	186.59±62.28	179.70±30.74
BUN (mg/dL)		14.52±1.05	11.70±0.83	14.17±0.24***	13.51±1.07**
CRE (mg/dL)		0.40±0.02	0.41±0.02	0.41±0.03	0.40±0.03
TG (mg/dL)		68.78±32.79	45.47±5.69	57.95±6.57*	68.08±7.49*
CHO (mg/dL)		75.93±11.20	50.74±8.04	62.79±3.86*	63.77±5.25*
LDL-CHO (mg/dL)		15.57±1.45	16.94±4.83	11.03±4.28*	10.74±1.76*
HDL-CHO (mg/dL)		41.96±5.91	19.06±3.32	26.89±3.30**	28.24±5.03**
HDL-CHO/T-CHO		0.55±0.04	0.38±0.04	0.42±0.05	0.45±0.10
PRO (g/dL)		5.06±0.17	4.64±4.83	5.21±0.24***	5.39±0.22***
ALB (g/dL)		3.00±0.11	2.78±0.09	3.04±0.15**	3.09±0.12***
T-BIL (unit/L)		0.10±0.01	0.15±0.04	0.10±0.08	0.11±0.06

On, Onchengeyeum; Cur, curcumin.

CCl₄(0.45 mL/kg) (i.p.)

Significantly different from CCl₄ treated group.

*p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001 (n=6)

Contents of CHO and TG

Hepatic CHO and TG levels were increased from 9.42 ± 0.46 mg/g Liver to 21.03 ± 0.53 mg/g Liver and from 21.45 ± 2.05 mg/g Liver to 33.74 ± 3.51 mg/g Liver in CCl_4 group compared with the control group, respectively. However, the CCl_4 -induced increase was prevented by oral administration of On and Cur (Fig. 2).

Change of oxidative damage

Activity of CYP was decreased to 0.11 ± 0.01 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{mg}$ protein in CCl_4 group compared with 0.22 ± 0.02 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{mg}$ protein in control group, and was increased in On and Cur group compared with CCl_4 group (Fig. 3).

Activity of NADPH-CYP reductase was decreased to 159.70 ± 16.39 nmol/min/mg protein in CCl_4 group compared with 280.30 ± 43.43 nmol/min/mg protein in control group, and

was increased in On and Cur group compared with CCl_4 group (Fig. 3).

CCl_4 increased the MDA content in liver microsome. The control group showed MDA basal values of 1.55 ± 0.08 nmol/mg protein. However, the CCl_4 -induced increase in liver MDA content was prevented by oral administration of On and Cur (Fig. 4).

Change of antioxidative activities

Activities of SOD and CAT were showed in control group as 5.58 ± 0.58 unit/mg protein and 18.20 ± 5.65 (decreased H_2O_2 nmol/mg protein/min). In CCl_4 group, activity of CAT was decreased from 18.20 ± 5.65 (decreased H_2O_2 nmol/mg protein/min) to 10.42 ± 1.55 (decreased H_2O_2 nmol/mg protein/min). Decreased activities were elevated by oral administration of On

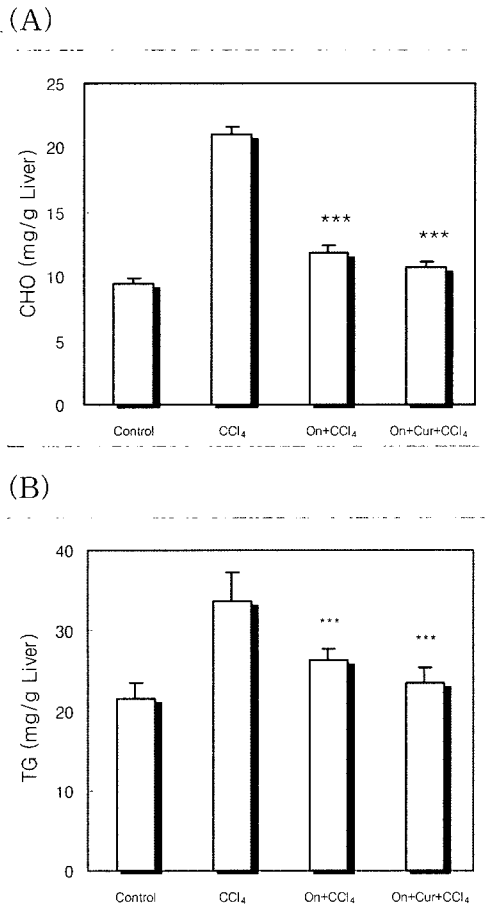


Fig. 2. Effects of Onchengeyeum and curcumin treatment on hepatic cholesterol (A) and triglyceride (B) levels in CCl_4 treated rats On, Onchengeyeum; Cur, curcumin. On (2.4 g/kg/day), Cur (50 mg/kg/day), CCl_4 (0.45 mL/kg). Significantly different from CCl_4 treated group. *** $p < 0.001$ (n=6)

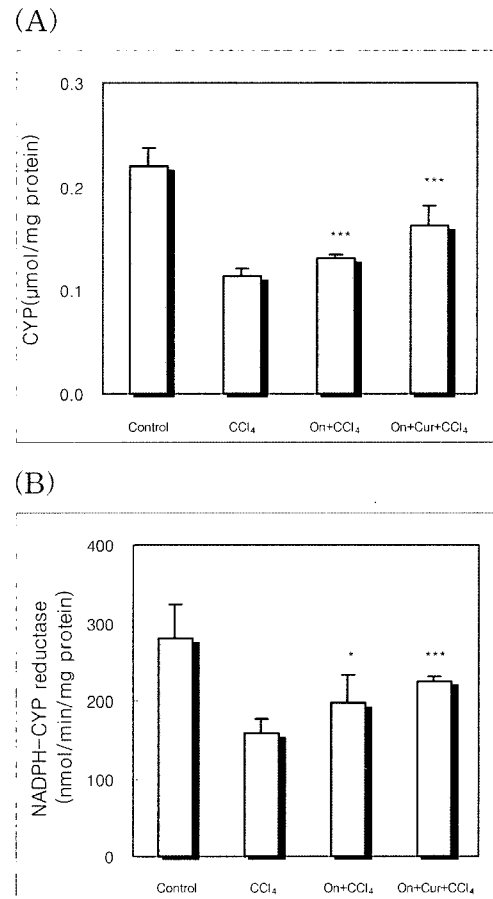


Fig. 3. Effects of Onchengeyeum and curcumin treatment on cytochrome P450 (A) and NADPH-cytochrome P450 (B) activities in microsomal liver of CCl_4 treated rats On, Onchengeyeum; Cur, curcumin. On (2.4 g/kg/day), Cur (50 mg/kg/day), CCl_4 (0.45 mL/kg). Significantly different from CCl_4 treated group. * $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.001$ (n=6)

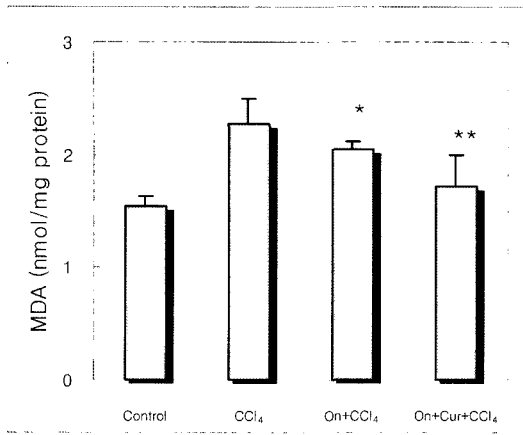


Fig. 4. Effect of Onchengeyeum and curcumin treatment on malonaldehyde level in liver of CCl₄ treated rats On, Onchengeyeum; Cur, curcumin. On (2.4 g/kg/day), Cur (50 mg/kg/day), CCl₄ (0.45 mL/kg). Significantly different from CCl₄ treated group. *p<0.05, **p<0.01 (n=6)

and Cur (Fig. 5).

Glutathione metabolizing enzymes

GSH is the major intracellular non-protein antioxidant and is present in virtually all mammalian tissues, where it plays a crucial role in the detoxification of free radicals.

GSH and GST in liver of CCl₄ group were decreased from 4.93±0.17 μmol/g liver to 3.58±0.15 μmol/g liver and from 1.92±0.23 nmol CDNB conjugated/min/mg protein to 0.67±0.17 nmol CDNB conjugated/min/mg protein compared with control group, respectively. Elevation of above two enzyme activities showed the protective effects of On and On+Cur (Fig. 6).

CCl₄ group decreased the activities of GR and GST in liver. The control groups showed 20.83±1.49 nmol NADPH oxidized/min/mg protein and 59.66±5.08 nmol NADPH oxidized/min/mg protein, respectively. However, the CCl₄-induced

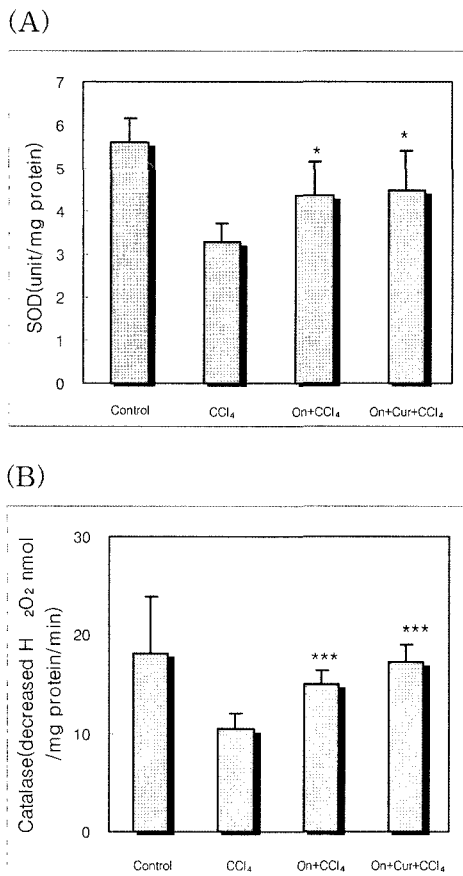


Fig. 5. Effects of Onchengeyeum and curcumin treatment on superoxide dismutase (A) and catalase (B) activities in liver of CCl₄ treated rats On, Onchengeyeum; Cur, curcumin. On (2.4 g/kg/day), Cur (50 mg/kg/day), CCl₄ (0.45 mL/kg). Significantly different from CCl₄ treated group. *p<0.05, ***p<0.001 (n=6)

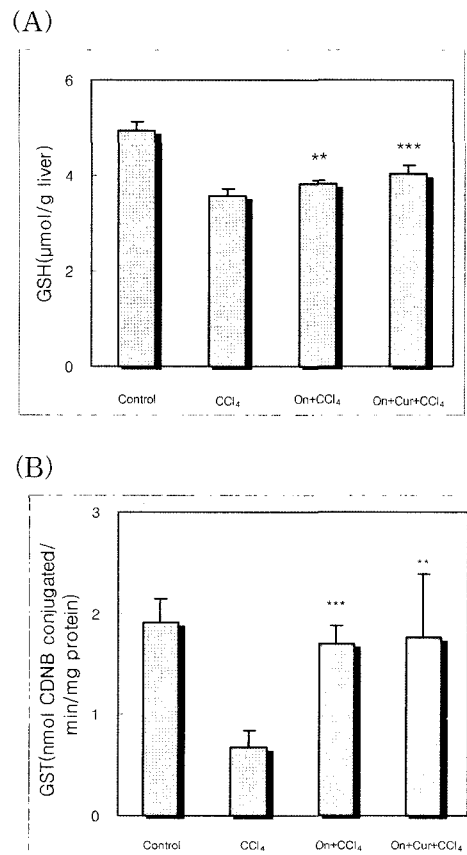


Fig. 6. Effects of Onchengeyeum and curcumin treatment on glutathione (A) and glutathione S-transferase (B) activities in liver of CCl₄ treated rats On, Onchengeyeum; Cur, curcumin. On (2.4 g/kg/day), Cur (50 mg/kg/day), CCl₄ (0.45 mL/kg). Significantly different from CCl₄ treated group. **p<0.01, ***p<0.001 (n=6)

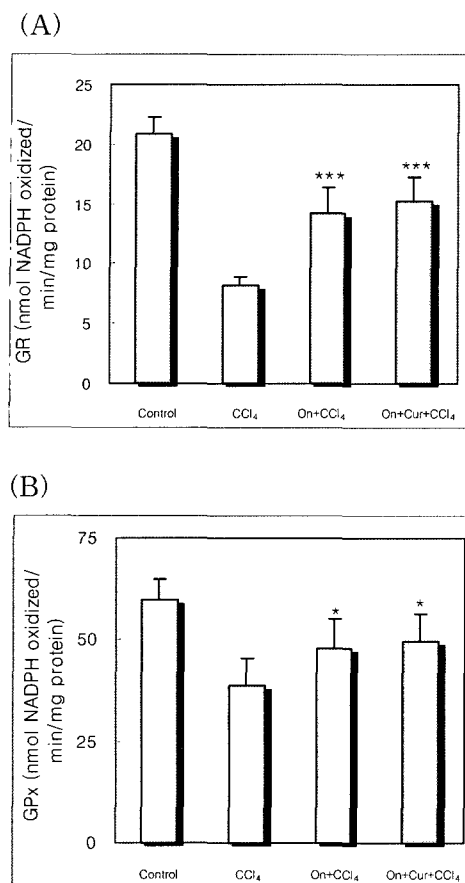


Fig. 7. Effects of Onchengeyeum and curcumin treatment on glutathione reductase (A) and glutathione peroxidase (B) activities in liver of CCl₄ treated rats On, Onchengeyeum; Cur, curcumin. On (2.4 g/kg/day), Cur (50 mg/kg/day), CCl₄ (0.45 mL/kg). Significantly different from CCl₄ treated group. * $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.001$ ($n=6$)

decreases in contents of liver GR and GST were alleviated by oral administration of On and Cur (Fig. 7).

DISCUSSION

Free radical may play an important role in the origin of life and biological evolution, implicating their beneficial effects on the organism (McCord, 2000). For example, oxygen radicals exert critical actions such as signal transduction, gene transcription, and regulation of soluble guanylate cyclase activity in cells. There are "Two faces" of free radicals in biology in that they serve as signaling and regulatory molecules at physiologic levels but as highly deleterious and cytotoxic oxidants at pathologic levels (Freidovich, 1999).

A wide variety of oxidizing molecules such as ROS and/or depleting agents can alter the glutathione redox state, which is

normally maintained by the activity of GSH-depleting (GPx) and replenishing enzymes (GR) (Sun, 1996).

The importance of glutathione and related enzymes has been poorly investigated in On and Cur.

This study investigated GSH content, the activities of GSH-dependent enzymes (GPx, GST, GR), SOD and CAT and MDA level in order to obtain antioxidant enzymes activities.

MDA level was significantly increased in CCl₄ group. Some studies reported increased MDA level CCl₄ hepatotoxicity (McCay *et al.*, 1984; Recknagel, 1967).

In the data reported in the literature on antioxidant system, SOD and CAT were acted as eliminating scavenger of free radical (Ho, 1988; Comporti, 1993). Our findings are consistent with those of theirs. GSH content and the activities of GST, GR and GPx are consistent with those of others. For instance, GSH (Antebi, 1984), GST (David, 1983), GR (Sies, 1984), and GPx (Niki, 1993), respectively.

Observed significant decrease in CAT and SOD activities in CCl₄ group may have been due to the response to increased ROS production, which with elapsing time may be inadequate to detoxify high level of ROS (Kaynar, 2005).

The aim was to determine scavenging action of free radical in On and Cur. In fact, it was observed that On and Cur prevented the increase in LPO produced by CCl₄ and the liver damage induced by this agent.

1. Level of serum AST, ALT, ALP, total bilirubin and LDL-CHO by CCl₄ was decreased in On and On+Cur groups. Decreased levels of serum alb, protein, BUN, CHO, TG and HDL-CHO by liver injury was increased in On and On+Cur groups.

2. On and On+Cur decreased levels of CHO and TG in tissue.

3. On and On+Cur increased content of cytochrome P450 and activity of NADPH-cytochrome P450 reductase decreased by CCl₄-induced injury to metabolism in liver.

4. On and On+Cur decreased level of MDA and increased activities of SOD and CAT against CCl₄-induced injury to antioxidant defence system in liver.

5. On and On+Cur increased the activities of GSH, GST, GR and GPx against CCl₄-induced change of glutathione metabolism system in liver.

6. In histopathologic examination, there were observative changes. Ballooning degeneration of hepatocyte with necrosis was relieved in On and On+Cur groups.

As a result one of the mechanisms of hepatoprotection, observing level of MDA decrease, activities of SOD and CAT increase, and activities of GSH metabolism system increase, it

is suggested that elimination is scavenger of free radical.

These findings suggested that On and On+Cur effect on hepatotoxicity. Especially, On and Cur had synergistic effects on protection of liver.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This research was supported in part by the fund 2005, from Duksung Women's University.

REFERENCES

- Aebi, H. (1974). Catalase Methods of Enzymatic analysis. 3rd ed, Verlag. Chemie. **2**, 673-684.
- Ahmed, R.S., Seth, V., Banerjee, B.D. (2000). Influence of dietary ginger (*Zingiber officinales* Rosc) on antioxidant defense system in rat: comparison with ascorbic acid. *Indian J Exp Biol* **38**, 604-606.
- Antebi, H., Ribiere, C., Sinaceur, J., Abu-Murad, C., Nordmann, R. (1984). Involvement of oxygen radicals in ethanol oxidation and in the ethanol-induced decrease in liver glutathion. in : Bors, W., Saranm, M., Tait, D., eds. *Oxygen Radicals in Chemistry and Biology*. New york., p.757-760.
- Carlberg, I., Mannervik, B. (1985). Glutathione reductase. *Methods Enzymol.* **113**, 484-490.
- Comporti, M. (1993). Lipid peroxidation : An overview. In : Free Radicals : From Basic Science to Medicine(Molecular and cell biology updates), Poli, G., Albano, E., Dianzani, M.U. eds. Birkhause Verlag, Basel. Switzerland. p.65-79.
- David, R.M., Nerland, D.E. (1983). Induction of mouse liver glutathione S-transferase by ethanol. *Biochem. Pharmacol.* **32**, 2809-2811.
- Ellman, G.L. (1959). Tissue sulfhydryl groups. *Arch. Biochem. Biophys.* **82**, 70-77.
- Freidovich, I. (1999). Fundamental aspects of reactive oxygen species, or what's the matter with oxygen? *Ann. NY. Acad. Sci.* **893**, 13-18.
- Fridovich, I. (1995). *Xanthine Oxidase*, CRC handbook of methods for oxygen radical research. CRC Press. New york.
- Habig, W.H., Pabst, M.J., Jakoby, W.B. (1974). Glutathione S-transferases. The first enzymatic step in mercapturic acid formation. *J. Biol. Chem.* **249**, 7130-7139.
- Ho, Y.S., Crapo, J.D. (1988). Isolation and characterization of complementary DNAs encoding human manganese-containing superoxide dismutase. *FEBS Lett.* **229**, 256-260.
- James, J.L., Moody, D.E., Chan, C.H., Smuckler, E.A. (1982). The phospholipids of the hepatic endoplasmic reticulum. Structural change in liver injury. *Biochem. J.* **206**, 203-210.
- Kaynar, H., Meral, M., Turhan, H., Keles, M., Celik, G., Akcay, F. (2005). Glutathione peroxidase, glutathione-S-transferase, catalase, xanthine oxidase, Cu-Zn superoxide dismutase activities, total glutathione, nitric oxide, and malondialdehyde levels in erythrocytes of patients with small cell and non-small cell lung cancer. *Cancer Lett.* **227**, 133-139..
- Koner, B.C., Banerjee, B.D., Ray, A. (1998). Organochlorine pesticide-induced oxidative stress and immune suppression in rats. *Indian J. Exp. Biol.* **36**, 395-398.
- Koo, B.H. (1997). Lexicologic Doneuibogam. Korean dictionary research p.187, 192.
- Leu, T.H., Su, S.L., Chuang, Y.C., Maa, M.C. (2002). Direct inhibitory-effect-of curcumin on Src and focal adhesion kinase activity. *Biochem. Pharmacol.* **66**, 2323-2331.
- Lowry, O.H., Rosebrough, N.J., Farr, A.L., Randall, R.J. (1951) Protein measurement with the folin phenol reagent. *J. Biol. Chem.* **193**, 265-275.
- McCay, P.B., Lai, E.K., Poyer, J. L. (1984). Oxygen-and carbon-centered free radical formation during carbon tetrachloride metabolism. *J. Biochem.* **254**, 2135-2143.
- McCord, J.M. (2000). The evolution of free radicals and oxidative stress. *Am. J. Med.* **108**, 652-659.
- Niki, E. (1993). Antioxidant defenses in eukariotic cells: An Overview. In: Free radicals: From Basic Science to Medicine (Molecular and cell biology update), Poli, G., Albano, E., Dianzani, M.U. eds. Birkhauser Verlag, Vasel. Switzerland., p. 365-368.
- Nong, J.H. (1986). Reprinting with additions of manbungghoychun. Jungkukkukwonsukongsa. last volume p.83.
- Omura, T., Sato, R. (1964). The carbon monoxide-binding pigment of liver microsomes. I. Evidence for its hemoprotein nature., II. Solubilization, purification, and properties. *J. Biol. Chem.* **239**, 2370-2378.
- Oruc, E.O., Uner, N. (2000) Combined effects of 2,4-D and azinphosmethyl on antioxidant enzymes and lipid peroxidation in liver of *Oreochromis niloticus*. *Comp Biochem Physiol C Toxicol Pharmacol.* **127**, 291-296.
- Park, S.S., Yeom, T.H., (1984). lecture of today's chinese(herb) medicine. Seoul Hanglim publishing company. p.185, 186, 204, 507, 518.
- Piper J.T., Singhal S.S., Salameh M.S., Torman R.T., Awasthi Y.C., Awasthi S. (1998) Mechanisms of anticarcinogenic properties of curcumin: the effect of curcumin on glutathione linked detoxification enzymes in rat liver. *Int. J. Biochem. Cell Biol.* **30**, 445-456.
- Poli, G., Albano, E., Dianzani, M.U. (1987). The role of lipid peroxidation in liver damage. *Chem. Phys. Lipids.* **45**, 117-142.
- Ray, A., Banerjee, B.D. (1998). Stress, free radicals and the immune response: modulation by drugs. *Arch. Pharmacol.* **358** (Suppl. 2), 739-744.
- Recknagel, R.O. (1967). Carbon tetrachloride hepatotoxicity. *Pharmacol Rev.* **19**, 145-208.
- Recknagel, R.O., Glende, Jr, E.A., Dolak, J.A., Waller, R.L. (1989). Mechanisms of carbon tetrachloride toxicity. *Pharmacol. Ther.* **43**, 139-154.
- Sies, H., Akerboom, T.P. (1984). Glutathione disulfide (GSSG) efflux from cells and tissues. *Methods Enzymol* **105**, 445-451.
- Song, H.J. (1984). The effect of Hwangryonhaedoktang on the immune response to sheep red blood cells. *Wonkwang Univ. Oriental Med. J.* **2**, 195-206.
- Strobel, H.W., Digman, J.D. (1978). Biological oxidations, microsomal, cytochrome P-450, and other hemoprotein systems, *Methods in Enzymology : biomembranes*, II. Academic press. New york p.89-96.
- Svingen, B.A., Buege, J.A., O'Neal, F.O., Aust, S.D. (1979). The mechanism of NADPH-dependent lipid peroxidation. The propagation of lipid peroxidation. *J Biol. Chem.* **254**, 5892-5899.
- Tappel, A.L. (1978). Glutathione peroxidase and hydroperoxides. *Methods Enzymol.* **52**, 506-513.
- Uchiyama, M., Mihara, M. (1978). Determination of malonaldehyde precursor in tissues by thiobarbituric acid test. *Analytical Biochemistry.* **86**, 271-278.
- Y. Sun. L. W. Oberley. (1996). Redox regulation of transcriptional activators. *Free Rad. Biol. Med.* **21**, 335-348.