

## Cisplatin Alters Sodium Excretion and Renal Clearance in Rats: Gender and Drug Dose Related

### Abstract

**Background:** Nephrotoxicity is one of the side effects of cisplatin (CP) therapy which is gender related. CP disturbs renal function through glomerular filtration rate and electrolytes transport disturbances. This study was designed to compare some markers related to renal function in two protocols of CP treatment in rats. **Materials and Methods:** Male and female rats were subjected to receive single (treat 1; 7.5 mg/kg) and continuous doses (treat 2; 3 mg/kg/day for 5 days) of CP, and the measurements were compared with control animals. **Results:** The serum level of blood urea nitrogen (BUN) and creatinine (Cr), and Cr-clearance, kidney tissue damage score, kidney weight, body weight change, and Na excretion was altered significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) in animals treated with continuous dose of CP (treat 2), while alteration of BUN and Cr was gender related. The kidney levels of malondialdehyde and nitrite were significantly different between male and female in two protocols of treatments. **Conclusion:** Renal function after CP therapy alters in rats' gender dependently, and it is related to protocol of treatment.

**Keywords:** Cisplatin, gender, rats, renal function

### Introduction

Cisplatin (CP) is one of the most popular and potent drugs for solid tumor therapy.<sup>[1,2]</sup> CP kills cancer cells by destroying their DNA.<sup>[3]</sup> One of the side effects of CP is nephrotoxicity<sup>[4]</sup> which is related to platinum based<sup>[5]</sup> and CP accumulation in the kidney.<sup>[6]</sup> CP reduces the antioxidants levels,<sup>[7]</sup> and causes inflammation, endoplasmic reticulum stress, and oxidative stress<sup>[8,9]</sup> contribute to its induced kidney toxicity.<sup>[10]</sup> CP also increases lipid peroxidation,<sup>[11,12]</sup> and its side effects are gender related.<sup>[13-16]</sup> It is reported that CP enhanced urinary sodium excretion in male but not in female rats.<sup>[17-19]</sup> CP also decreases glomerular filtration rate and performs electrolyte disturbances largely due to the acute cytotoxic properties of CP on distal and proximal tubules.<sup>[1,20]</sup> This short study was designed to compare some renal markers in two protocols of CP treatment in male and female rats.

### Materials and Methods

Forty-four adult female ( $n = 22$ ,  $175.18 \pm 2.70$  g) and male ( $n = 22$ ,  $246.27 \pm 4.01$  g) Wistar rats (three groups

in each gender) were housed at the temperature of 23°C–25°C.

All experiments were approved by the Isfahan University of Medical Sciences Ethics Committee.

The male rats in Group 1 (vehicle,  $n = 6$ ), Group 2 (treat 1,  $n = 8$ ), and Group 3 (treat 2,  $n = 6$ ) respectively received saline, single dose of CP (7.5 mg/kg ip) at the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the experiment, and CP (3 mg/kg/day, ip) for 5 days. The female rats in the Groups 4, 5, and 6 received the same regimen as Groups 1, 2, and 3, respectively. At day 8, all rats were housed in metabolic cages to collect the output urine for 6 h. Then, the blood samples were obtained, and the animals were sacrificed. The kidney and uterus were excised and weighed immediately. The left kidney was used for histopathological investigations through hematoxylin and eosin staining. The kidney tissue damage score (KTDS) was graded by a pathologist from 1 to 4, while zero score was assigned to normal tissue without damage. The right kidney was homogenized and centrifuged. The serum levels of creatinine (Cr) and blood urea nitrogen (BUN) were determined using quantitative diagnostic

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kits (pars Azmoon, Iran) by autoanalyzer (Technicon, Ireland LTD). The serum and urine levels of sodium (Na) were measured by flame photometer, and the level of malondialdehyde (MDA) was measured manually.

### Statistical analysis

The data are presented as mean ± standard error of mean. The quantitative data were compared by ANOVA using LSD. The Mann–Whitney test was applied to compare the KTDS among the groups.  $P \leq 0.05$  was considered as statistically significant.

### Results

The data are presented in Figure 1. The results indicated the markers such as BUN, Cr, Cr-clearance, KTDS, kidney

weight (KW), body weight change, and Na excretion were altered significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) in animals treated with continuous dose of CP (3 mg/kg/day, ip) when compared with vehicle group. However, the responses of the above-mentioned makers to the single dose of CP were different [Figure 1]. The kidney levels of MDA and nitrite were significantly different between male and female in two protocols of treatments [Table 1]. The sample images of kidney tissues are shown in Figure 2.

### Discussion

Gender and CP usage doses are influenced CP-induced nephrotoxicity. The role of gender in CP-induced nephrotoxicity was reported before.<sup>[13-15,18,21-23]</sup> In addition,

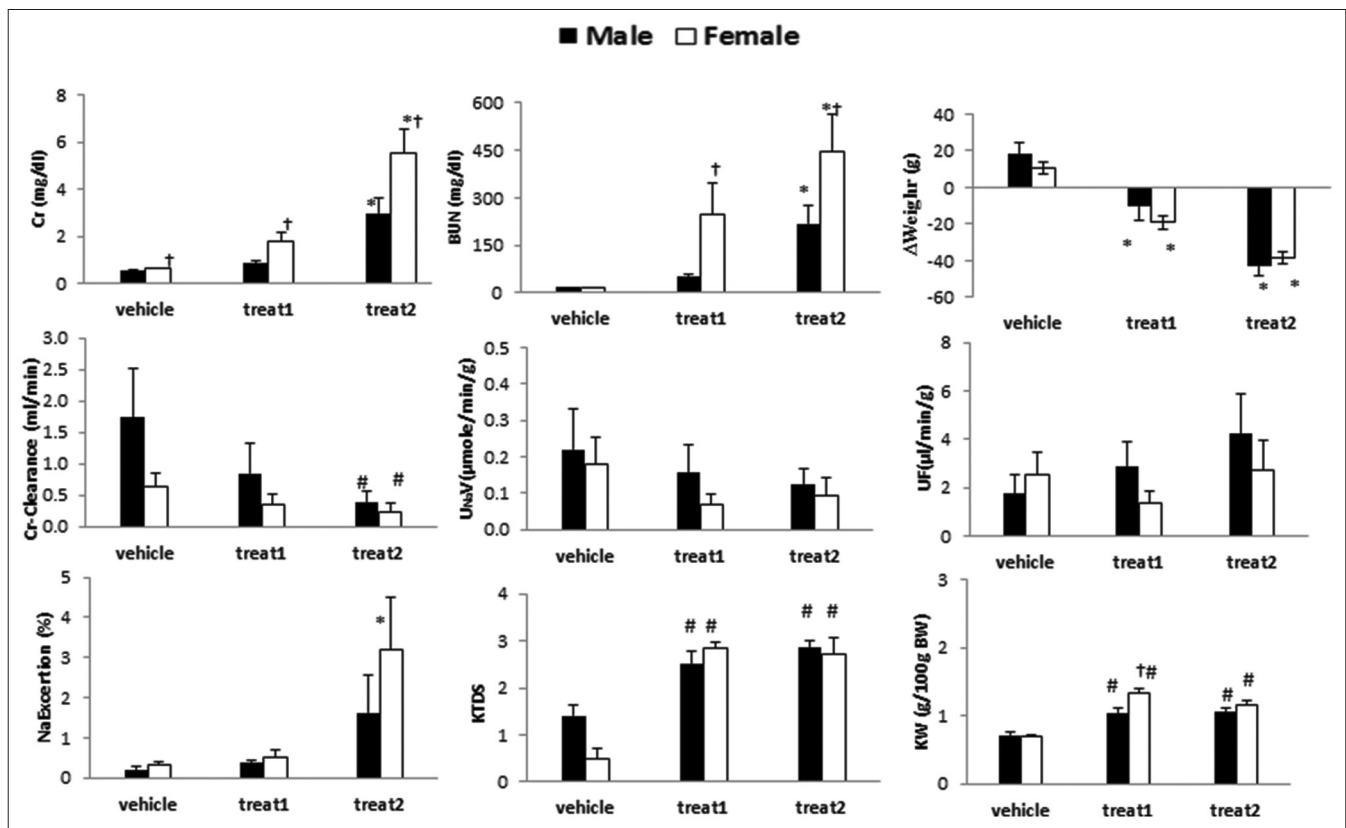


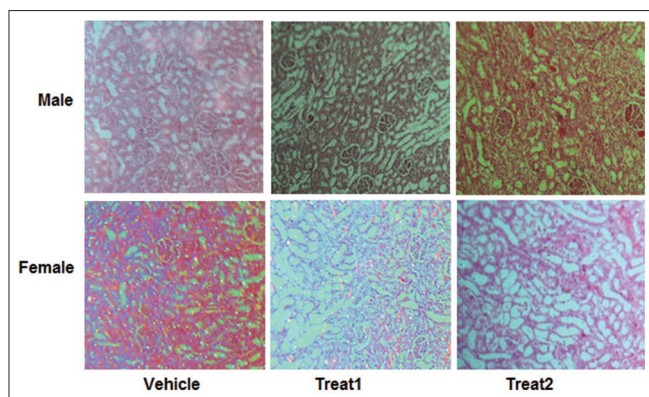
Figure 1: The serum level of creatinine and blood urea nitrogen, body weight change ( $\Delta$ weight) creatinine-clearance, sodium urine load ( $U_{Na}V$ ), urine flow, percentage of sodium excretion, kidney tissue damage score and kidney weight in male and female rats treated with vehicle, single dose (7.5 mg/kg) of cisplatin (treat 1), and continuous dose (3 mg/kg/day for 5 days) of cisplatin (treat 2). \*Significant difference from vehicle and treat1 in similar gender ( $P \leq 0.05$ ), #Significant difference from vehicle in similar gender ( $P \leq 0.05$ ), †Significant difference from male in same treated group ( $P \leq 0.05$ )

**Table 1: The serum and kidney levels of malondialdehyde and nitrite, and the weights of uterus and testis**

Group	SMDA (μmole/L)		KMDA (nmole/g tissue)		Serum nitrite (μmole/L)		Kidney nitrite (μmole/g tissue)		Uterus (g/100g BW)		Testis (g/100g BW)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Vehicle	3.03±0.88	1.88±0.19	11.9±2.5	20.2±3.12†	4.76±0.61	5.49±1.17	0.14±0.019*	0.077±0.015†	-	0.125±0.06	1.04±0.02	-
Treat1	2.71±0.10	2.10±0.46	8.86±1.73	4.87±0.34*†	4.60±0.64	5.94±1.52	0.08±0.014	0.039±0.014†	-	0.086±0.04	1.13±0.04	-
Treat2	3.52±0.58	1.40±0.27†	9.52±2.37	13.25±4.89	9.02±2.61	14.18±4.31	0.05±0.009	0.064±0.013	-	0.125±0.07	1.01±0.15	-
P	0.51	0.40	0.65	0.016	0.14	0.083	0.004	0.19	-	0.86	0.15	-

\*Significant difference from vehicle and treat 1 in similar gender ( $P \leq 0.05$ ), †Significant difference from male in same treated group ( $P \leq 0.05$ ).

SMDA: Serum malondialdehyde, KMDA: Kidney malondialdehyde, BW: Body weight



**Figure 2:** The samples images of kidney tissues in male and female rats treated with vehicle, single dose (7.5 mg/kg) of cisplatin (treat 1), and continuous dose (3 mg/kg/day for 5 days) of cisplatin (treat 2). More damage was seen in the “treat 1” and “treat 2” groups

Stakisaitis *et al.* reported that CP increases urinary Na excretion gender dependently in rats.<sup>[24]</sup> This short study indicated that the gender difference also depended on the protocol treatment. The result of this study showed that CP decreased body weight because CP causes gastrointestinal disturbance.<sup>[25,26]</sup> In addition, the alteration in KW by CP may be related to retention of water and salt.<sup>[27]</sup> Although the alteration of kidney damage and KW was not influenced by drug usage doses the markers related to kidney function was related to CP usage doses. It seems that is related to platinum based<sup>[5]</sup> and CP accumulation in the kidney.<sup>[6]</sup>

## Conclusion

Renal function after CP therapy alters in rats' gender dependently, and it is also related to protocol of CP administration.

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## Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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