

Expression of TNF- α and TGF- β after the Administration of Cacao Bean Extract on Alveolar Bone

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ABSTRACT

Background: Teeth that are given orthodontic forces can relapse because of excessive resorption on the pressure side. Cocoa bean extract enhances bone apposition during bone remodeling by increasing osteoblast proliferation. This research aimed to ascertain molecular mechanisms of alveolar bone during orthodontic tooth movement applied with cacao bean extract (*Theobroma cacao* L.) through TNF- α and TGF- β expressions.

Methods: This study utilized an experimental laboratory posttest-only control group design. The NiTi closed coil spring was braced between the right upper first molar and the upper incisor, a strength of 10gf was estimated utilizing a tension gauge to mesially move the upper molars. The total 36 were divided into six groups, Wistar rats were beheaded on days 7 and 14 of treatment. Immunohistochemical staining was utilized to show TNF- α and TGF- β expression. Results were assessed using the one-way ANOVA analysis.

Results: The immunohistochemistry findings in osteoclast cells that demonstrate positive results for TGF- β and TNF- α , expression by immunohistochemical staining calculated for each group (control, positive control, treatment). The treatment group (Q14) showed reduced expression (2 ± 0.957) of TNF- α in osteoclast cells. TGF- β , on the other hand, was found with diminished expression in osteoblast cells C-7 and C-14 (3.75 ± 0.816 , 3.25 ± 0.957) and increases in the treatment group (Q14) (11.25 ± 0.957): significantly ($p=0.000$).

Conclusion: The administration of cacao bean extract on days 7 and 14 could decrease the expression of TNF- α and increase TGF- β of the treatment group. Therefore, with an increased TNF- α apposition process, relapse after orthodontic treatment can be prevented to accelerate the orthodontic treatment.

Keywords: Osteoclast, Osteoblast, Estrogen, Epicatechin, Cytokine.

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INTRODUCTION

Orthodontic treatment is a way to move a malposition tooth to an appropriate position. Giving external mechanical forces in orthodontic tooth movement influences the remodeling of the periodontal ligament and alveolar bone^{1,2}. These external mechanical forces induce neurotransmitters, cytokines, and growth factors, which send signals to pressure-related osteoclasts, causing bone resorption³⁻⁵. When an external mechanical force is applied to the pressure area of the periodontal membrane, osteoclasts are induced to resorb the alveolar bone. As a result, the tooth moves⁶. Excessive bone resorption is an unwanted side effect of orthodontic treatment^{7,8}. The expression of the tumor necrosis factor (TNF) will be induced by mechanical force in orthodontic tooth movement along with IL-1 to stimulate the activity of mature osteoclasts and withdraw other monocytes⁹⁻¹¹. Additionally, lymphocyte and endothelial cell production of systemic RANKL are aided by TNF- α . Prostaglandin and TNF- α play a significant role in the maturation of osteoclasts¹²⁻¹⁴.

One of the most important factors in bone formation is the transforming growth factor beta TGF- β , which balances the dynamic processes of bone formation and resorption¹⁵. By limiting the lifespan of osteoclasts through the promotion of apoptosis mediated by TGF- β , estrogen replacement may prevent excessive bone loss⁷⁻¹⁶. Osteoblast and other cell production of TGF- β are effectively regulated by estrogen. By adjusting the levels of TGF- β in adults during OTM, natural remedies for the promotion of this mechanism could be a novel and useful therapeutic strategy for enhancing bone remodeling^{4,6,17}.

Phytoestrogen, a plant substrate with estrogen-like activity, is a form of estrogen replacement from plants^{18,19}. Epicatechin is one type of catechin, a polyphenolic compound in the flavonoid family²⁰⁻²¹. A few subsidiaries of cacao beans have been perceived to emphatically affect bone remodeling without promoting any side effects^{22,23}. It has previously been demonstrated that epicatechin improves osteoblast proliferation^{4,23}.

The aforementioned description raises a problem of whether cacao bean extract (*Theobroma cacao* L.) can affect the expression of TNF- α and TGF- β on orthodontic tooth movement at the pressure side of the alveolar bone. This study aims to determine the role of cacao bean extract (*Theobroma cacao* L.) on the expression of TNF- α and TGF- β on the movement of orthodontic teeth in the alveolar bone. The previously mentioned description raises an issue of whether cacao bean extract (*Theobroma cacao* L.) can influence the expression of TNF- α and TGF- β on orthodontic tooth movement

at the pressure side of the alveolar bone. This study expects to decide the role of cacao bean extract (*Theobroma cacao* L.) on the expression of TNF- α and TGF- β of orthodontic tooth movement in the alveolar bone.

METHODS

The sample size was 36 male Wistar rats aged 12-16 weeks and weights from 200-300 grams were partitioned into the experimental and control categories. Healthy rats without abnormalities were separated into six categories and marked with names and characteristics, as follows.

Group 1: a) Category with a 7-day control consisting of 6 rats (C7), which were forfeited following seven days, getting orthodontic movement or not, and not getting cacao bean extract administration. b) Category with a 14-day control consisting of 6 rats (C14), which were forfeited following seven days, getting orthodontic movement or not, and not getting cacao bean extract administration.

Group 2: a) Category with a 7-day control consisting of 6 rats (C-7), which were forfeited following seven days, getting orthodontic movement, and not getting cacao bean extract administration. b) Category with a 14-day control consisting of 6 rats (C-14), which were forfeited following seven days, getting orthodontic movement, and not getting cacao bean extract administration.

Group 3: a) Category with a 7-day control consisting of 6 rats (Q7), which were forfeited following seven days, getting orthodontic movement, and getting cacao bean extract administration. b) Category with a 14-day consisting of 6 rats (Q14), which were forfeited following fourteen days, getting orthodontic movement, and getting cacao bean extract administration.

A tension gauge was utilized to measure the distal heading of 10 grams of orthodontic power to the maxillary molar of male Wistar rats utilizing a prefabricated closed stainless steel coil spring (Ormco® Glendora, USA). The experiments were approved by the Research Ethics Committee (No.1728/UN25.8/KEPK/DL/2022).

The most common way of making cacao bean extract begins with unfermented mass (link) which is then extracted using the maceration method. A total of 1 kg of cocoa beans was extracted using 96% ethanol solvent with a ratio of 1:4 material and solvent which was carried out for 3 days and covered with aluminum foil with occasional stirring. The results of the macerate were concentrated using a rotary evaporator for 2 hours at a temperature of 40-50. The final result was 10.3 grams of cocoa bean extract. The dose of cocoa bean

extract given to each rat was 50 mg diluted in 2 ml of aqua.

The dose of gel from cacao bean extract is 80mg/ml. It was given in the sulcus gingiva of the Wistar rat.

Formalin was employed to fix the dissected maxillaries, and EDTA was employed to decalcify them. Paraffin-embedded and dehydrated samples were employed. TNF- α and TGF- β were stained on tissue areas under 180 μ m from the distal root's furcation of the upper molar. After dewaxing, the sections were treated with antigen retrieval and blocked for endogenous hydrogen peroxidase. Then, TNF- α and TGF- β of secondary antibodies were incubated.

The expression of TNF- α and TGF- β in the pressure side area was distinct from that of other groups. To

show that the data were normally distributed, the *Shapiro-Wilk* normality test was conducted ($p > 0.05$). Meanwhile, to demonstrate that the data were homogeneous, the *Levene* test was conducted. One-way ANOVA analysis was conducted to determine whether the expression was significantly affected; $p < 0.05$ indicates a significant result. This study was also examined immunohistochemically. Meantime, a digital camera (Optilab Advance Plus) was utilized to take photos of the area.

RESULTS

This experimental study observed 36 male Wistar rats aged 12-16. Their classification is as follows. (C) with an absence of treatment and movement of the maxillary molar tooth. (C-) with maxillary molar tooth movement however not getting treatment. (Q) with maxillary molar tooth movement and treatment utilizing cacao bean extract. On days 7 and 14, the results of each category were examined.

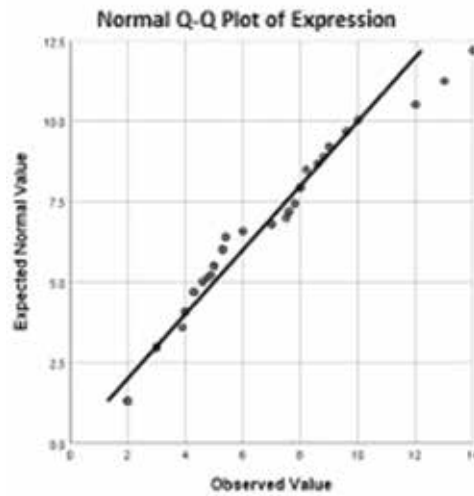


Figure 1: Plot Q-Q test results using normal distribution data.

The homogeneity of the tested data was initially assessed using the Levene Test. With a value of 0.08, the TGF- β and TNF- α expressions of groups met the premise of homogeneity. The data for each variable was then tested for normalcy. Figure 1 depicts the normal distribution using a QQ Plot for data analysis of TGF- β and TNF- α expressions from each variable,

with the scatterplot forming both a straight and diagonal line, indicating that the data assumption of TGF- β and TNF- α expression by immunohistochemical staining is normal. Following that, other statistical tests, such as the one-way ANOVA analysis, can be performed.

Table 1: TNF- α and TGF- β (C-), (C), and (Q) expressions after administration of cocoa bean extract.

Variables	Group Experiment	Expression of TNF- α (Mean \pm SD)	Expression of TGF- β (Mean \pm SD)	p-value
Positive Control Group 1	C-7	7 \pm 0.816	3.75 \pm 0.816	0.000*
	C-14	9 \pm 0.816	3.25 \pm 0.957	
Negative Control Group 2	C7	3 \pm 0.957	3 \pm 0.957	
	C14	2 \pm 0.957	2.5 \pm 0.957	
Treatment Group 3	Q7	5.5 \pm 1.290	8 \pm 0.816*	
	Q14	2 \pm 0.957	11.25 \pm 0.957*	

The One-Way Anova Test shows a significant difference between groups ($p < 0.05$).

Table 1 shows that applying cocoa bean extract to the pressure side region of Q14 (2 ± 0.957) may considerably reduce the mean expression of TNF- α in osteoclast cells, however, C-7 and C-14 do not. TGF- β , on the other hand, diminishes in osteoblast cells whereas C-7 and C-14 (3.75 ± 0.816 , 3.25 ± 0.957) ($p=0.000$), as compared to other groups, but

increases in treatment group Q14 (11.25 ± 0.957). The one-way ANOVA findings demonstrate a significant difference ($p < 0.05$) between the negative control group (C), positive control group (C-), and treatment group (Q). On the pressure side, immunohistochemistry revealed a good reactivity to TGF- β and TNF- α (Figure 2).

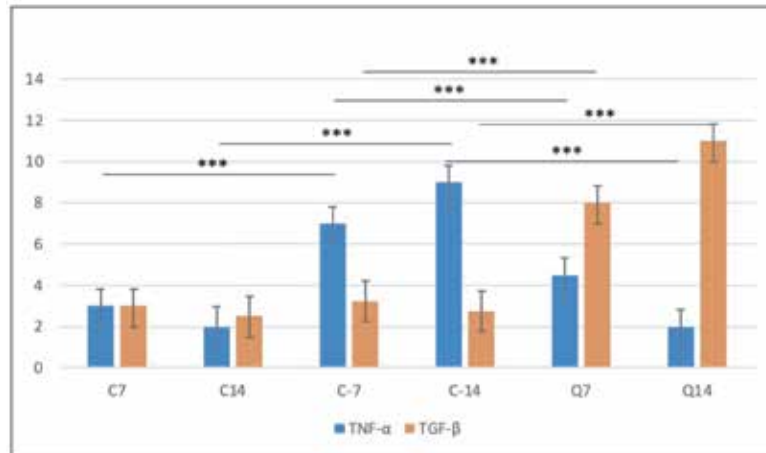


Figure 2: Mean expressions of TNF- α and TGF- β on days 7 and 14

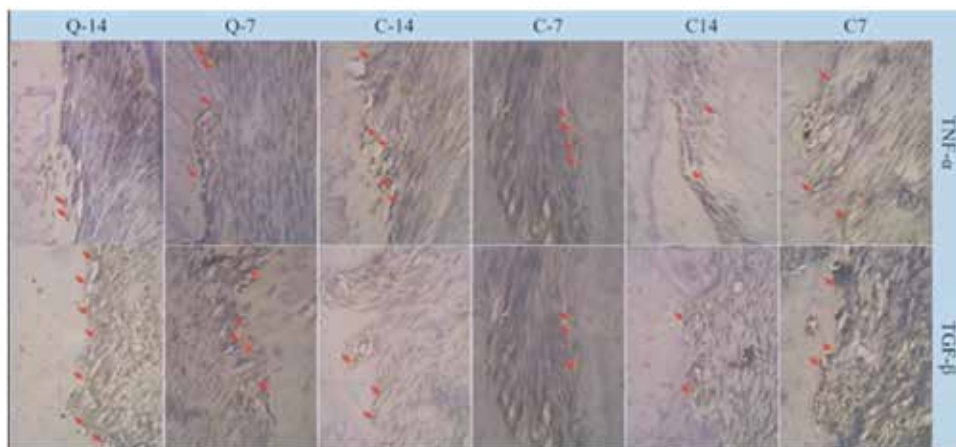


Figure 3: The expression of TNF- α and TGF- β stained with immunohistochemistry examination in the alveolar bone of each group with total magnification (400 \times). The red arrow shows the true positive of TNF- α and TGF- β expression.

The immunohistochemistry findings in osteoclast cells that demonstrate positive results for TGF- β and TNF- α , expression by immunohistochemical staining is calculated for each group in this study based on different test factors. A one-way ANOVA technique compares different variables between groups for TGF- β and TNF- α . Wilk's lambda is used to examine the data statistically based on the findings of the distribution normality test; a value of 0.000 ($p < 0.05$) is achieved. This suggests that the impacts of the groups differ.

DISCUSSION

The researchers used orthodontic tooth movement in

Wistar rats to explore how mechanical force loading induced the formation of osteoclast and odontoclast. TNF- α mediated osteoclast development during orthodontic tooth movement²⁴. The observation of osteoclast cells generated positive expression data of TNF- α and TGF- β by immunohistochemistry methods in the C7, C14, C-7, C-14, Q-7, and Q-14 represented in Figure 3.

TNF- α expression differs significantly between (C), (C-), and (Q) in Figure 1. On days 7 and 14, cocoa bean extract was seen to be used. TNF- α expression is reduced in this application. This finding implies that TNF- α plays a significant role in mediating

pressure-side osteoclast development during orthodontic tooth movement. Root resorption is an unfavorable side effect of orthodontic therapy that occurs on occasion. Too much pressure force might induce root resorption²⁵. In the Wistar rat, root resorption can occur when 10 g of force is applied, and odontoclasts are present on the pressure side during tooth movement. TNF- α forms osteoclast by directly inducing macrophage osteoclast differentiation and stimulating RANKL expression in stromal cells²⁶.

In contrast, the result signifies a significantly different TGF- β expression among (C), (C-), and (Q). The application of cocoa bean extract was observed on days 7 and 14. This application shows that TGF- β expression increases. TGF- β regulates both osteoblasts and osteoclasts, which helps with bone remodeling. TGF- β is non-covalently attached to latency-associated protein (LAP) in the bone matrix, where it remains latent by concealing TGF- β 's receptor-binding domain. As a result, TGF- β stays dormant in the bone matrix and is released in response to osteoclast bone resorption. TGF- β activates bone mesenchymal lineage cells, causing them to develop into osteogenic osteoblasts and resorb surfaces²⁷.

Alveolar bone resorption by osteoclasts on the pressure side and new bone creation by osteoblasts on the tension side govern this remodeling. TNF- α , which is expressed in the pressure side periodontal ligament, is critical in regulating distance tooth movement and osteoclastogenesis during OTM[4]. Epicatechin from cacao beans improves bone formation and inhibits bone resorption through cell signaling pathways that influence osteoblast differentiation. Epicatechin reduces osteoblast apoptosis and stimulates osteoblast cell proliferation and differentiation. The capacity of epicatechin to lower TNF- α production is connected with its ability to inhibit osteoblast apoptosis²⁸.

The implication of giving cocoa bean extract can increase the apposition process and reduce the excessive resorption process in the alveolar bone so the remodeling process can run in balance because of its polyphenol content. It is hoped that with an increased apposition process, relapse after orthodontic treatment can be prevented so that orthodontic treatment can be accelerated.

CONCLUSION

The administration of cacao bean extract could decrease TNF- α and increase TGF- β . TNF- α . Moreover, this administration plays a significant role in osteoclast formation at the pressure side during orthodontic tooth movement. TGF- β , on the other hand, is expressed more by myofibroblasts, which could be a target for controlling mechanical signal

transduction and tissue remodeling. The formation of bone and remodeled PDL fibers in this research has increased osteoblast and decreased osteoclast activities.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All the authors at this moment declare that there is no conflict of interest.

ETHICAL APPROVAL

This experimental study has received ethical approval from the Ethics Committee No.1765/UN25.8/KEPK/DL/2022.

AUTHORS CONTRIBUTIONS

DP did conceptualization, writing, review, and editing. RS did conceptualization, supervision, writing - review & editing. S also supervised and provided resources for the manuscript. AK has done data curation and formal analysis. DR supervision, investigation, and validation of data. DP provided the resources. RJ, SVF, FQAR, LN, SNF, and MM wrote the original draft and did data curation.

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