

### Short Communication

# Citrus, rutin and on their vein permeability effects

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Accepted 29 January, 2014

**Rutin is one of a class of flavonoids that also includes hesperidin, quercetin, eriodictyl and citron and is necessary for the absorption of vitamin C. Bioflavonoids may be found in herbal plants, fruits and fruit rinds (especially citrus fruits: orange, grapefruit, lemon, lime and contained mainly in the edible pulp of the fruits, rather than in the strained juices), vegetables and nuts, etc.; and because they cannot be manufactured by the body, they must be supplied through the diet.**

**Key words:** Citrus, rutin, vein, permeability.

## INTRODUCTION

Rutin normally found in highly nutritious foods, such as citrus, red apples, teas, broccoli and onions, etc., you can easily take it in supplement form; and because the human body cannot produce bioflavonoids, they must be supplied through the diet .

Bioflavonoids are a class of flavonoids that includes Rutin, Hesperidin, Quercetin, Eriodictyl and Citron, and they are essential for the absorption of vitamin C, which should be taken simultaneously, so they may act synergistically for maximum benefit. Glycoside of the flavonol rutin is available as dietary supplements without a prescription in the U.S. Other names for rutin include rutinose, quercetin-3-rutinose, and sophorin (Hendler and Rorvik, 2001).

## THE MECHANISMS OF ACTION

Rutin is found in many plants, especially the buckwheat plant *Fagopyrum esculentum* Moench, Family Polygonoaceae (Kreft, Knapp and Kreft, 1999). Extraction of rutin from buckwheat (*Fagopyrum esculentum* Moench) seeds can be determined by capillary electrophoresis (Kreft et al., 1999). Rutin inhibits platelet aggregation, as well as decreasing capillary permeability, making the blood thinner and improving circulation. There is also some evidence that rutin can be used to treat hemorrhoids, varicosis, and microangiopathy (Heather et al., 1995).

Several key studies have shown that the anti-inflammatory properties of Citrus flavonoids are due to its

inhibition of the synthesis and biological activities of different pro-inflammatory mediators, mainly the arachidonic acid derivatives, prostaglandins E<sub>2</sub>, F<sub>2</sub>, and thromboxane A<sub>2</sub>. The most abundant Citrus flavonoids are flavanones, such as hesperidin, naringin, or neohesperidin. However, generally, the flavones, such as diosmin, apigenin, or luteolin, exhibit higher biological activity, even though they occur in much lower concentrations. Diosmin and rutin have a demonstrated activity as a venotonic agent and are present in several pharmaceutical products (Benavente-García and Castillo, 2008).

To date four main potassium channels have been identified in vascular smooth muscle cells including calcium activated potassium channels [BK<sub>Ca</sub>], ATP-sensitive potassium channels [K<sub>ATP</sub>], voltage-gated potassium channels [K<sub>V</sub>], and inward rectifier channels [K<sub>r</sub>]. Activation of any type of potassium current in vascular smooth muscle cells leads to membrane hyperpolarization thereby inducing vasodilation (Ko et al., 2008).

Contradicting its reported vasodilatory effect, activation of vascular calcium channels has been reported for quercetin and its rutinose rutin, however, this obvious discrepancy seems to be explained by a second hierarchically prevailing vascular target of quercetin that might be represented by protein kinase C (Saponara et al., 2002; Fusi et al., 2003; Saponara et al., 2008). Quercetin and rutin have been used as effective constituents of several pharmaceuticals used for

treatment of capillary fragility and phleboscrosis.

The flavonoids O-[ $\beta$ -hydroxyethyl] rutoside, [+]-catechol, trihydroxyethylrutoside increased the negative charge density of the blood vessel wall *in vitro* and were markedly antithrombogenic (Griffith and Ballow, 1972). Other antiaggregatory flavonoids reported were 3-methyl quercetin, toxerutin, fisetin, dihydroquercetin and flavone. Nobeletin and sinensetin decreased erythrocyte aggregation and sedimentation *in vitro* and might be useful in dietary control of high blood viscosity syndrome (Felicia et al., 1996).

Rutin protected the intracellular GSH antioxidant system and prevented H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-induced apoptosis of HUVECs through regulating reactive oxygen species mediated mitochondrial dysfunction pathway (Gonga et al., 2010). In conclusion, rat peritoneal microvascular permeability was strongly increased by reactive oxygen species, an effect that was significantly reduced by intraperitoneal, intravenous and oral calcium dobesilate. These results support the hypothesis that the antioxidant properties of calcium dobesilate could play a role in its angioprotective properties *in vivo* (Bruneta et al., 1998).

## CONCLUSION

Rutin is especially helpful in the prevention of recurrent bleeding arising from weakened blood vessels and in the treatment of varicose veins, haemorrhoids and other circulatory problems. Their capillary strengthening action makes them important for declining sight or blindness in diabetics. Furthermore, they have an anti-allergy action, may aid in reducing blood pressure and may help prevent miscarriage.

Rutin, an active flavonoid compound, is well known to possess potent antioxidant properties against oxidative stress insults through undefined mechanism. Substances with Vitamin P activity have been reported to influence capillary permeability and fragility. Rutin treatment could be useful for preventing oxidative damage.

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