

Measurements of paraoxonase and arylesterase activities;

Paraoxonase and arylesterase activities were measured using commercially available kits (Relassay, Turkey).

The rate of paraoxon hydrolysis (diethylp-nitrophenylphosphate) was measured by monitoring the increase of absorption at 412 nm at 37 °C. The amount of generated p-nitrophenol was calculated from the molar absorption coefficient at pH 8.5, which was 18.290 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹. Paraoxonase activity was expressed as U/L serum. Phenylacetate was used as a substrate to measure the arylesterase activity. Enzymatic activity was calculated from the molar absorption coefficient of the produced phenol, 1310 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹. One unit of arylesterase activity was defined as 1 μmol phenol generated per minute under the above conditions and expressed as U/L