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Clinical and metabolic response to probiotic administration in people with Parkinson's disease: A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial

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Abstract

Background & aims: The investigation was done to assess the impacts of probiotic supplementation on movement and metabolic parameters in individuals with Parkinson's disease (PD).

Methods: The study is randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial, which was done in sixty people with PD. Individuals were randomly divided into two groups in order to take either 8×10^9 CFU/day probiotic or placebo ($n = 30$ each group) that lasted 12 weeks. The Movement Disorders Society-Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale (MDS-UPDRS) was recorded at pre- and post-intervention.

Results: Compared with the placebo, consuming probiotic decreased MDS-UPDRS (-4.8 ± 12.5 vs. $+3.8 \pm 13.0$, $P = 0.01$). Probiotic supplementation also reduced high-sensitivity C-reactive protein (-1.6 ± 2.5 vs. $+0.1 \pm 0.3$ mg/L, $P < 0.001$) and malondialdehyde (-0.2 ± 0.3 vs. $+0.1 \pm 0.3$ μ mol/L, $P = 0.006$), and enhanced glutathione levels ($+40.1 \pm 81.5$ vs. -12.1 ± 41.7 μ mol/L, $P = 0.03$) in comparison with the placebo. Additionally, probiotic consumption resulted in a statistically significant reduction in insulin levels (-2.1 ± 3.4 vs. $+1.5 \pm 5.1$ μ U/mL, $P = 0.002$) and insulin resistance (-0.5 ± 0.9 vs. $+0.4 \pm 1.2$, $P = 0.002$), and a statistically significant rise in insulin sensitivity ($+0.01 \pm 0.02$ vs. -0.006 ± 0.02 , $P = 0.01$) in comparison with the placebo. Probiotic intake had no any significant impact on other metabolic profiles.

Conclusions: Our study evidenced that 12 weeks of probiotic consumption by individuals with PD had useful impacts on MDS-UPDRS and few metabolic profiles. Registered under ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier no. <http://www.irct.ir: IRCT2017082434497N4>.

Keywords: Inflammation; Movement disorders; Oxidative stress; Parkinson's disease; Probiotic.

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