

Investigating the comparative effect of 5-FU on the expression level of BAX and Bcl2 genes in high glucose and normal glucose mediums in human colorectal cancer cells (HT-29) under hypoxic conditions

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Introduction: Colorectal cancer (CRC) is the third most common cancer worldwide. Chemotherapy is a widely used treatment for CRC. 5-FU has been the most significant in treating CRC among the various chemotherapeutic agents available. However, many studies have investigated the antiproliferative effect of 5-FU in colorectal cancer, the comparative effect of 5-FU on the expression level of BAX and Bcl2 genes in high and normal glucose medium in human colorectal cancer cells (HT-29) under hypoxic conditions has not been studied.

Methods and Materials: HT-29 cells were cultured in DMEM medium supplemented with 10% FBS and 1% antibiotic. Then, cells were treated with different concentrations of 5-FU (3.125, 6.25, 12.5, 25, 50 μ M) and Cocl2 (50,100,150,200 μ M) in both high and normal glucose mediums for 72 hours. The MTT assay was used to investigate the cytotoxicity of the 5-FU and Cocl2 in both mediums. Furthermore, BAX and Bcl2 expressions were assessed by qRT-PCR.

Results: The MTT assay results demonstrated that the IC₅₀ value for cells treated with 150 μ M concentration of Cocl2 in high glucose medium was higher than normal glucose medium (IC₅₀ for high glucose and normal glucose; 28.4856 μ M, 20.5740 μ M). This study also revealed that IC₅₀ value in hypoxic conditions, in both high and normal glucose medium, was higher than in normoxic conditions. Additionally, the BAX/Bcl2 ratio in the normal glucose group was higher than in the high glucose group.

Conclusion: Glucose concentration may play a critical role in the cytotoxicity of 5-FU in CRC. These findings highlight the need for further research to explore the relationship between glucose concentration and the cytotoxicity of 5-FU. This could have significant consequences for the treatment of colorectal cancer.

Keywords: Colorectal Cancer, 5-FU, High and normal glucose, Cocl2, BAX, Bcl2

