



Brief Report

# The Effect of High-Flux Dialysis Combined with Hemoperfusion to Eliminate Indoxyl Sulfate in Dialysis Patients

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**Citation:** Liu P, Ma CY, Chen CW (2024) The Effect of High-Flux Dialysis Combined with Hemoperfusion to Eliminate Indoxyl Sulfate in Dialysis Patients J Urol Ren Dis 09: 1376. DOI: 10.29011/2575-7903.001376.

**Received Date:** 22 March 2024; **Accepted Date:** 25 March 2024; **Published Date:** 27 March 2024

## Abstract

Indoxyl sulfate is a protein binding urotoxin, which is discharged by the kidney through secreted in proximal tubule and accumulates in patients with renal failure, It can cause the endothelial dysfunction and cardiovascular disease. Due to has a high affinity for albumin, cannot effectively remove by hemodialysis and hemodiafiltration. Therefore, protein-bound urinary toxins have become a focus of renal replacement treatment. We used high flux dialysis combined with hemoperfusion for treatment, and found that the clearance of indoxyl sulfate was higher than high flux dialysis and hemodiafiltration, and 4 hours was better than 2 hours.

**Keywords:** Hemodiafiltration; Hemodialysis; Hemoperfusion; Indoxyl sulfate

## Introduction

Indoxyl sulfate which a protein-bound uremic toxins are excreted by the kidneys via proximal tubular secreti[1], Consequently, they accumulate in the blood of patients with impaired renal function [1,2] and affect endothelial barrier function, endothelial cell proliferation and wound repair also [3], the levels correlated with aortic calcification, and in addition also with vascular stiffness [4,5]. increasingly evidences suggests that protein-bound uremic toxins play an important role in complications, especially in cardiovascular disease [6,7]. Notably, protein-bound uremic toxins have emerged as focus targets of therapeutic removal [6]. Moreover, they cannot be efficiently removed by conventional haemodialysis and hemodiafiltration [8], due to their high binding affinity for albumin [1,2,9], which are poorly eliminated by the commonly used dialysis techniques; Studies had shown that protein binding uremic toxins can absorb in intestine by oral adsorbents and hemodialysis combine adsorbents in order to clear it out from blood. Therefore, we are eager to know the variation of the

clearance rates of water-soluble and protein bound uremic toxins by different blood purification methods, including High Flux Dialysis (HD), Hemodiafiltration (HDF), High Flux Dialysis Combine With Hemoperfusion (HD+HP).

## Materials and Methods

Five volunteers (4 male and 1 female) from Tangshan Likang Hospital received hemodialysis three times a week more than three years, body weight  $80.9 \pm 2.3$  Kg. All patients were sampled 10ml of blood, at 0 and 2 and 4 hrs during hemodialysis or hemodiafiltration or hemodialysis combined with perfusion, then immediately centrifuge at 3000rpm for 15min, and freeze the serum at  $-70^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Until detected for BUN, creatinine, phosphorus,  $\beta$  2-Microglobulin and indoxyl sulfate; All serum sample were assayed by Mindray 85-820M full-automatic biochemical analyzer (Mindray Medical International Co., Ltd, Shenzhen, China). And the Indoxyl sulfate was measured by HPLC using an Agilent 1100 Series system (Agilent Technologies Co. Ltd., Palo Alto, CA, USA). The results are expressed in Mean  $\pm$  SD, and this study has been approved by the Medical Ethics Committee of Tangshan Likang Hospital (No. 2022112301), all patient's age are more than 18 years old and informed consent. The patient's treatment schedule

is High flux Dialysis (HD) 290ml/min, HD+HP 240ml/min, Hemodiafiltration (post-dilution) 290ml/min, HD+HP 290ml/min. (The prescription was shown as Table 1).

Purification method	Dialyzer	perfusion device	Blood flow (ml/min)	Dialysate flow (ml/min)	exchange volume (L)	durations (hrs)
High flux Dialysis (HD)	OCI-HF200	--	290	500	--	4
Hemodiafiltration (post-dilution)	OCI-HF200	--	290	500	≥15L	4
HD+HP 240ml/min	OCI-HF200	OC-160	240	500	--	4
HD+HP 290ml/min	OCI-HF200	OC-160	290	500	--	4

**Table 1:** The blood purification prescription for volunteers: Dialysate/exchange solution compound: Na 140meq/L, Ca 1.5mmol/L, Dextrose 5.5mmol/L(100mg/dl), temperature 36°C, dialysate flow rate 500ml/min, treatment for 4 hours. OCI-160 used as perfusion device which containing 160 ml resin (OCI Medical Devices Co., Ltd, Chengdu, China) and all patients were used OCI-HF200 dialyzer (OCI Medical Devices Co., Ltd, Chengdu, China).

**Result**

All volunteers were followed the doctor’s instructions to control a weight gain of 3-4 kilograms (less than 5% BW) during the dialysis interval, their pre dialysis blood pressure was 130-150/80-90mmHg; and after dialysis 120~140/80mmHg; The clearance of water-soluble uremic toxins (BUN, Creatinine, Phosphorus β2-microglobulin) is HDF>HD and HD is equivalent to HD+HP; the clearance rate of indoxyl sulfate is HD+HP>HDF>HD. The clearance rate at 4 hours in all groups is greater than that at 2 hours. The clearance rate of uremic toxins by different blood purification methods are detailed in Table 2.

purification method (n=5)	Sampling		systolic pressure mmHg	Diastolic pressure mmHg	BUN mmol/l	BUN reduction rate %	Creatinine umol/l	Cr reduction rate %	Phosphate mmol/l	P reduction rate %	β 2-microglobulin mg/l	β 2-m reduction rate %	indoxyl sulfate (ng/ml)	IS reduction rate %
HD 290ml/min	0hrs	Mean	154	93	23.3	...	895.1	...	1.23	...	27.4	...	33418.4	...
		+SD	7	7	4.4	...	311.0	...	0.24	...	3.5	...	11457.1	...
	2hrs	Mean	137	87	11.8	49%	460.6	49%	0.61	50%	15.6	43%	29834.4	10.72%
		+SD	23	11	3.0	...	174.3	...	0.15	...	2.3	...	10639.9	...
	4hrs	Mean	137	81	7.4	68%	328.9	63%	0.60	51%	12.2	55%	27673.9	17.19%
		+SD	25	8	2.3	...	126.7	...	0.14	...	2.7	...	9944.4	...
HDF 290ml/min	0hrs	Mean	144	91	21.6	...	942.5	...	1.23	...	26.9	...	37602.3	...
		+SD	16	12	3.7	...	279.8	...	0.20	...	4.2	...	8284.8	...
	2hrs	Mean	136	83	10.5	51%	462.0	51%	0.58	53%	11.9	56%	31576.2	16.03%
		+SD	15	9	2.3	...	149.0	...	0.11	...	2.4	...	6729.3	...
	4hrs	Mean	126	79	6.3	71%	317.0	66%	0.50	59%	8.2	70%	29031.8	22.79%
		+SD	18	14	1.7	...	112.8	...	0.10	...	1.9	...	6913.5	...
HD+HP 240ml/min	0hrs	Mean	131	84	21.9	...	931.9	...	1.21	...	29.1	...	33751.7	...
		+SD	8	6	4.3	...	246.3	...	0.32	...	4.0	...	9068.1	...
	2hrs	Mean	127	79	11.5	48%	494.7	47%	0.58	52%	16.1	44%	24660.4	26.94%
		+SD	8	10	3.0	...	155.0	...	0.14	...	2.7	...	6266.4	...
	4hrs	Mean	120	79	7.4	66%	352.6	62%	0.58	52%	12.2	58%	19735.1	41.53%
		+SD	4	7	2.2	...	120.4	...	0.16	...	2.6	...	5203.4	...
HD+HP 290ml/min	0hrs	Mean	133.8	86.8	133.8	...	1020.1	...	1.4	...	30.5	...	37892.3	...
		+SD	14.5	15.4	14.5	...	243.0	...	0.4	...	3.4	...	11575.5	...
	2hrs	Mean	136.2	83.8	136.2	48%	528.1	47%	0.7	52%	19.3	44%	28963.2	23.56%
		+SD	18.8	10.4	18.8	...	154.3	...	0.1	...	2.3	...	8066.4	...
	4hrs	Mean	129.0	85.0	129.0	66%	360.3	62%	0.6	52%	15.2	58%	23502.7	37.98%
		+SD	10.8	6.3	10.8	...	114.4	...	0.2	...	3.2	...	6885.9	...

**Table 2:** The clearance rate of uremic toxins by different blood purification methods.

**Discussion**

Indoxyl Sulfate (IS) which a protein bound uremic toxin is derived from tryptophan and metabolized by bacteria in the gastrointestinal tract [10-13], More than 90% of IS in the blood binds to albumin. When kidney function is normal, Blood circulation of IS passes through the kidneys then excreted into urine [13-14]. Indoxyl sulfate is also widely recognized as an endoheliotoxin. The serum levels elevate in advanced stage of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) and related to the degree of reduction in glomerular filtration

rate. Therefore, accumulate in the serum of patients with CKD, they may have different clinical impacts in terms of cardiovascular disease and other complication [1,15]. Due to they can induce endothelial dysfunction and cardiovascular disease in CKD patients [11,16,17]. And there were plenty of evidences had pointed out indoxyl sulfate is an independent risk of the cardiovascular disease are correlated with cardiovascular mortality in the patients with renal insufficiency or dialysis patients [18,19]. The serum levels of indoxyl sulfate are approximately 54 times and cardiovascular death in dialysis patients is 10-20 times more than in healthy individuals [15]. Therefore, how to eliminate protein bound toxins is a new issue in the dialysis community, The current clinical direction is try to reduce the intestinal generation and absorption, and increasing elimination by kidney in order to reduce the serum level and attenuate the progression of cardiovascular disease [20,21]. The principle of well-known oral adsorbents (AST-120, KREMEZIN), protein bound toxins is adsorbed by adsorbents and excreted in the feces before into the bloodstream, thereby reducing the accumulation of IS in CKD patients [11]. However, since the oral binders only affect the intestinal duct, it cannot remove that had taken into the circulation. To eliminate the absorbed protein bound uremic toxins remains a thorny issue. Based on the protein bound uremic toxins are hydrophobic can be adsorbed by hydrophobic adsorbents and most hydrophobic uremic toxins are anionic. They have high binding affinity for albumin and cannot be efficiently removed by conventional haemodialysis and hemodiafiltration [8,22], new strategies for remove hydrophobic uremic toxins are needed. Therefore, use cationic adsorbents to remove protein bound hydrophobic uremic toxins is a new choice [8].

Nowadays, Hemoperfusion adsorbent mainly relies on adsorptive materials to remove protein binding uremic toxins, and cannot perform liquid balance and small-molecular and water-soluble uremic toxin clearance alone. Therefore, clinical treatment strategies are optimized by combining HP with HD [23]. Tiranathanagul K, et al. had compared the effects of high-flux dialyzer with 2 hours of hemofusion and high volume post-dilution online hemodiafiltration on uremic toxin clearance, it was found that HD+HP was not superior to HDF [24]. Here, the study found the high flux dialysis combined with hemoperfusion (HP cartridge containing 160 ml resin; OCI Medical Devices Co., Ltd, Chengdu, China) that the clearance of Indoxyl sulfate was higher than high flux dialysis and hemodiafiltration (41.53%, 17.19%, 22.79%), and 4 hours was better than 2 hours (45.53%, 26.94%). However, the clearance of small molecular and water soluble uremic toxins is not superior to high flux dialysis and hemodiafiltration. The clearance effect of HD+HP blood flow rate of 290ml/min is not higher than that of 240ml/min. This phenomenon is consistent with the thesis that too fast flow rate actually leads to decrease the adsorption capacity. Due to the small sample size and the Indoxyl sulfate was needed

measured by High Performance Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry (HPLC/MS) in the study limited [25,26]. Although HD+HP has a significant clearance effect on Indoxyl sulfate, but increase the cost and complexity of treatment.

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