

Protective effect of bradykinin potentiating factor on haematological parameters of diabetic male albino rats

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Abstract: The aim of the study was to evaluate the protective effect of bradykinin potentiating factor extracted from honey bee venom, *Apis mellifera* on hematological parameters in diabetic rats. Forty adult male albino rats classified into five groups, control group (G1), STZ diabetic group (G2), BPF group (G3), pre-treatment group BPF+STZ (G4) and post-treatment group STZ+BPF (G5). After 30 days from treatment, rats were sacrificed and dissected and the blood were collected from heart. In blood samples, RBCs, HGB, HCT, PLTs, MCV, MCH, WBCs and differential leucocyte count were examined. In the study, STZ diabetic group (G2) showed a significant ($P < 0.05$) and highly significant ($p < 0.001$) decrease in all tested haematological parameters except MCV and MCH, which showed non-significant change ($P > 0.05$) compared to control value. These parameters showed improvement in pre- and post- treated groups as compared to diabetic group. In conclusion our results revealed a Protective effect of bradykinin potentiating factor on haematological parameters of diabetic male rats

Keywords: Diabetes Mellitus – Bradykinin Potentiating Factor – Haematological parameters – Streptozotocin

1 Introduction

Diabetes mellitus (DM) is a metabolic disorder of the endocrine system. It has been recognized as a clinical syndrome since ancient times and remains a crippling global health problem today. The disease is found in all parts of the world. It is a common chronic disease affecting up to 6 % of the world population. According to World Health Organization (WHO) projections, the number of people with DM is rapidly increasing worldwide and has become of major public health concern [1].

Since ancient times, many natural products have played and continue to play a valuable role in the treatment of various diseases and in drug discovery processes. It has remained a source of new compounds with diversified structural arrangement possessing interesting biological activities for various disease treatments [2]. The using of natural products has been focused in recent years as honey bee venom for treatment of different diseases in traditional medicine [3], it contains several biochemical or pharmacologically active substances including polypeptides, enzymes, amines, lipids and amino acids [4-6] that express its potency and medical efficacy. Bee venom was revealed to be effective in treat a variety of diseases and complications such as arthritis, rheumatism, back pain, cancerous tumors and skin disease [7-9]. Also, bee venom has a curative effect on oxidative stress induced by γ –

irradiation [10] and protective effect against acute pancreatitis [11], hepatoprotective characteristics [12] and anticancer and radioprotective characteristics [13,14]. Moreover it increases coronary and peripheral blood circulation regulates pro-inflammatory cytokines in hepatocyte, liver fibrosis and renal tubular injury and decrease in the complications of diabetes and multiple sclerosis [4,6,14,15].

Animal venom mostly contains characteristically small bioactive peptides which referred to as bradykinin potentiating factors (BPFs). These factors have been implicated in multiple physiological processes such as potentiate the pharmacological effect of bradykinin both in *vivo* and in *vitro* [16], promote vasodilation, reduce blood pressures and increase vascular permeability and vascular exchange [17-19], induce cell division and cell differentiation [20,21], induce prostaglandin biosynthesis and act as a cytoprotective regulatory substances [22].

Diabetes mellitus (DM) characterized by hyperglycemia [23]. Sustained hyperglycemia has been shown to progress the pathology of cardiac damage through haematological changes which include haemolysis of erythrocytes consequent decrease in red blood cell (RBC) count and haemoglobin (Hb) concentrations which is associated with the development of diabetic anaemia and

increase the risk of cardiovascular complications if left untreated [24]. The erythrocyte membrane plays as essential role in the regulation of surface deformability and flexibility [25,26]. Hyperglycemia has been shown to induce modifications and impairment of the erythrocyte membrane via increased production of reactive oxygen species (ROS). ROS causes nonenzymatic glycosylation of the RBC membrane proteins resulting in the non-specific aggregation of protein molecules and alters the protein-protein and protein-lipid interaction leading to the modification and disrupts the integrity /and symmetry of the erythrocyte membrane[27,28]. A loss of membrane symmetry increases erythrocyte aggregation, decreases mobility of the RBCs and increases blood viscosity, which consequently elevates arterial pressure, thus increasing cardiovascular complications [29,30]. Furthermore, chronic hyperglycemia induced ROS production such as hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) crosses the erythrocyte membrane and oxidizes heme proteins, which have been shown to lead to the progressive loss of deformability and increased osmotic fragility of RBCs [31]. Consequently, diabetic patients with cardiovascular complications present with a decrease in Hb concentrations[32]. In addition, these changes induce the rapid initiation of apoptosis in damaged erythrocytes, decreasing the oxygen-carrying capacity of erythrocyte due to the increased haemolysis rate thereby significantly decreasing their lifespan [33]. Moreover, diabetic nephropathy caused by ongoing hyperglycaemia results in the destruction of the renal interstitium which is composed of interstitial peritubular fibroblasts, further causing the impairment in erythropoietin (EPO) production [34,35] which associated with a decrease in the production of RBC by the bone marrow and consequently diabetic anaemia [36].

Streptozotocin is a well known chemical that suppresses the immune system by damaging WBC and certain organs in the body[37]. The intraperitoneal injection of STZ in to rats significantly reduced the WBC count and its differentials such as basophils, eosinophils, neutrophils, monocytes and lymphocytes. This reduction could be linked to suppression of leucytosis from the bone marrow which may account for poor defensive mechanism against infection[38]. Consequently, they might have effects on the immune system and phagocytic activity of the animals[39].

Platelets aggregation ability has been shown in diabetic patient with long term poor glycaemic control due to lack or deficiency of insulin [40].

Consequently, the study aims to investigate the protective effect of bradykinin potentiating factor on the induced complications of haematological parameters of diabetic animals.

2 Results and Discussion

The results indicated that, STZ diabetic group (G2)

showed a significant ($P<0.05$) and highly significant ($p<0.001$) decrease in all tested haematological parameters except MCV and MCH, which showed non-significant change ($P>0.05$) compared to control value. In contrast to that, BPF treated group (G3) showed a significant and highly significant increase in WBCs, lymphocytes, granulocytes, monocytes and platelets and a non-significant change in all other tested hematological parameters (RBCs, Hgb, HCT, MCV and MCH) compared to control group. while the results showed that, pre-treatment group BPF plus STZ (G4) induced a significant increase in WBCs and PLT and highly significant increase in lymphocytes, but a non-significant change were detected in other tested haematological parameters compared to control group. Also, the post-treatment group STZ plus BPF (G5), showed a significant increase in WBCs, granulocytes, MCH and a highly significant increase in monocytes, and a non-significant change were observed in all of the other haematological parameters compared to control value. In addition, the result revealed that, the treated and co-treated (G3, G4 and G5) showed a significant and highly significant increase in tested haematological parameters except MCV and MCH which decreased significantly compared to STZ diabetic group (G2). These data revealed that, a highly significant improvement in all tested parameters in treated and co-treated groups compared to STZ diabetic group. These data observed in tables (1, 2, 3 and 4) and figures (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10).

Table 1: Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on WBCs, Lymphocytes and granulocytes count of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg b.w) for 30 days in different groups.

parameters	Control	STZ	BPF	BPF+STZ	STZ+BPF
Mean ±SE	7.275±0.78	3.1 ^{***} ± 0.37	11.725 ^{ab**} ± 2.45	9.375 ^{ab**} ±1.7	9.35 ^{ab**} ±1.19
% of change (1)		-57.38	+61.16	+28.86	+28.52
% of change (2)			+278.22	202.4	+201.6
Mean ±SE	3.2±0.08	1.825 ^{***} ±0.34	5.775 ^{ab**} ±1.03	4.6 ^{ab**} ±0.9	3.75 ^{ab**} ±0.37
% of change (1)		-42.96	+80.46	+43.75	+17.18
% of change (2)			+216.43	+152.05	+105.47
Mean ±SE	1.9±0.37	0.475 ^{***} ±0.04	2.525 ^{ab**} ±0.32	2.275 ^{ab**} ±0.26	2.425 ^{ab**} ±0.55
% of change (1)		-75	+32.89	+19.73	+27.63
% of change (2)			+431.57	+378.94	+410.52

Significant difference between control and different groups. N=8.

* = $P<0.05$ Significant. ** = $P<0.001$ Highly Significant. Non-Significant $P>0.05$

% of change (1) different from normal control group G1.
 % of change (2) different from Streptozotocin group G2.
 a=significant different from control group.
 b= significant different from Streptozotocin group.

Figure3: Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on granulocytes count of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg b.w) for 30 days in different groups.

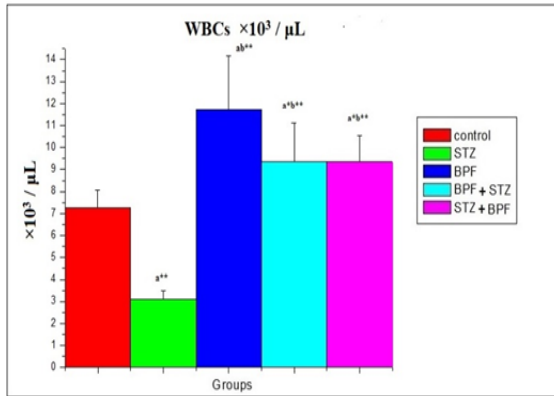


Figure 1: Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on WBCs count of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg b.w) for 30 days in different groups.

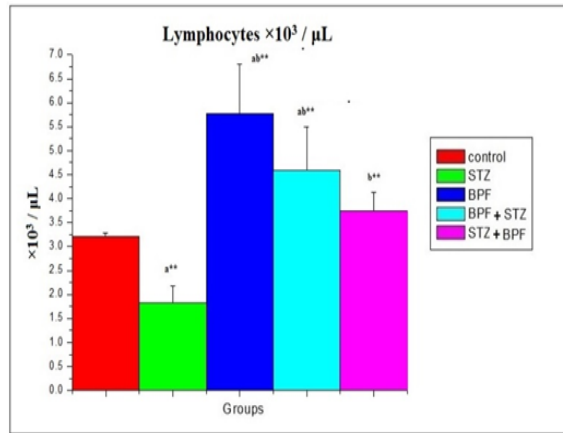


Figure 2: Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on lymphocytes count of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg b.w) for 30 days in different groups.

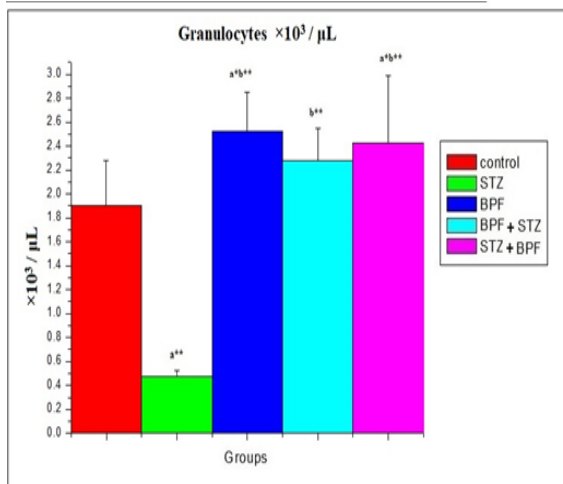


Table 2: Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on Monocytes, RBCs count and Hgb level of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg b.w) for 30 days in different groups.

parameters		Control	STZ	BPF	BPF+STZ	STZ+BPF
Monocytes ×10 ³ / μL	Mean ±SE	2.175±0.70	0.8 ^{a*} ±0.09	3.425 ^{ab**} ±0.58	2.5 ^{b**} ±0.54	3.125 ^{ab**} ±0.56
	% of change (1)		-63.21	+57.47	+14.94	+43.67
	% of change (2)			+328.12	+212.5	+290.62
RBCs ×10 ⁶ / μL	Mean ±SE	5.825±0.8	3.64 ^{a*} ±0.2	6.85 ^{b**} ±0.7	5.925 ^{b**} ±0.8	6.325 ^{b**} ±0.4
	% of change (1)		-37.5	+17.59	+1.716	+8.58
	% of change (2)			+88.18	+62.77	+73.76
Hgb g / dL	Mean ±SE	13.05 ±1.5	8.55 ^{a*} ±0.4	13.4 ^{b**} ±1.06	11.53 ^{b*} ±0.9	10.925 ^{b*} ±0.5
	% of change (1)		-34.48	+2.68	-11.6	-16.28
	% of change (2)			+56.72	+34.85	+27.77

Significant difference between control and different groups. N=8.

* = P<0.05 Significant. ** = P<0.001 Highly Significant. Non-Significant P>0.05

% of change (1) different from normal control group G1.
 % of change (2) different from Streptozotocin group G2.
 a=significant different from control group.
 b= significant different from Streptozotocin group.

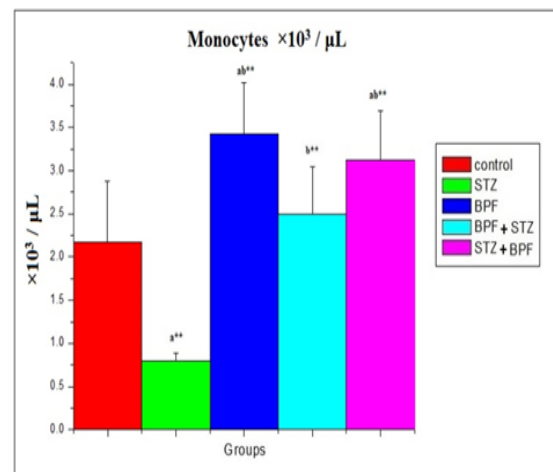


Figure 4 : Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on monocytes count of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg b.w) for 30 days in different groups.

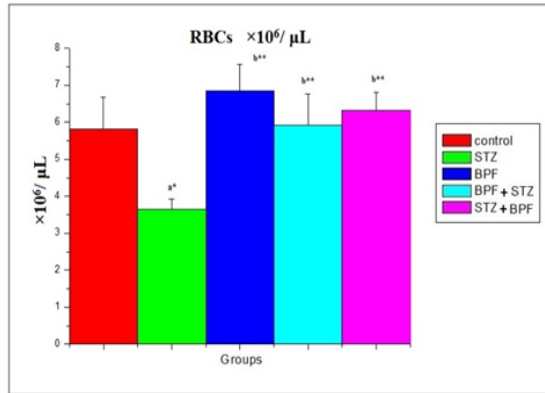


Figure 5: Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on RBCs count of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg b.w) for 30 days in different groups.

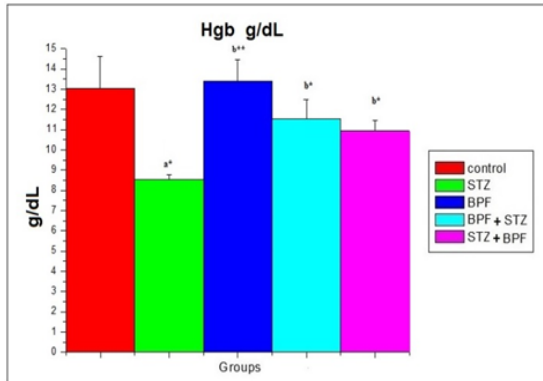


Figure 6 : Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on Hgb level of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg b.w) for 30 days in different groups.

Table 3 : Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on HCT and MCV values of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg.bw) for 30 days in different groups.

Parameters	Control	STZ	BPF	BPF+STZ	STZ+BPF
Mean ±SE	39.85±4.28	27.5 ^a ±1.17	40.825 ^{b**} ±3.08	38.36 ^{b**} ±2.89	32.5 ^b ±1.54
HCT %	% of change (1)	-30.99	+2.44	-3.73	-18.44
	% of change (2)		+48.45	+39.49	+18.18
Mean ±SE	64.5±6.19	70.457.94	57.15 ^{b*} ±7.66	51 ^{b*} ±6.69	50.52 ^{b*} ±5.58
MCV fI	% of change (1)	+9.22	-11.39	-20.9	-21.67
	% of change (2)		-18.87	-27.60	-28.28

Significant difference between control and different groups. N=8.

* = P<0.05 Significant. ** = P<0.001 Highly Significant. Non-SignificantP>0.05

% of change (1) different from normal control group G1. % of change (2) different from Streptozotocin group G2. a=significant different from control group. b= significant different from Streptozotocin group.

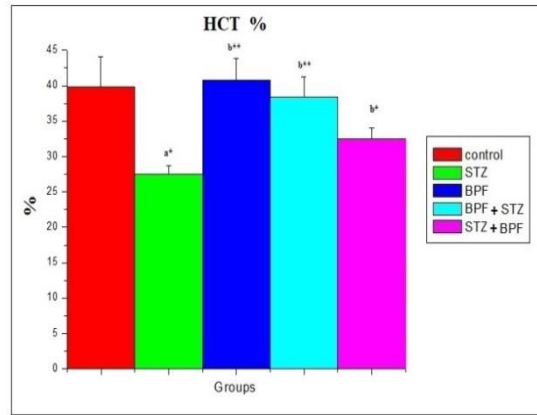


Figure 7: Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on HCT value of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg.bw) for 30 days in different groups.

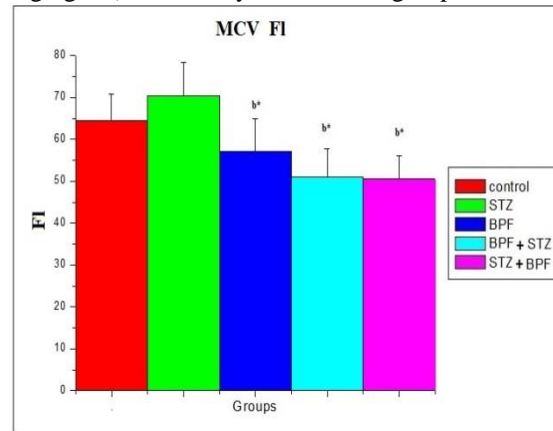


Figure 8: Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on MCV value of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg.bw) for 30 days in different groups.

Table 4 : Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on MCH value and PLTs count of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg.bw)for 30 days in different groups.

Parameters	Control	STZ	BPF	BPF+STZ	STZ+BPF	
MCH Pg	Mean ±SE	23.5±2.62	25.97±2.73	20 ^{b†} ±3.30	20.54 ^{b†} ±5.57	17.8 ^{ab†} ±1.73
	% of change (1)		+10.51	-14.89	-12.57	-24.25
	% of change (2)			-22.98	-20.88	-31.45
PLT×10 ³ /μL	Mean ±SE	246.75±42.17	172.5 [†] ±15.5	318.75 ^{ab††} ±19.37	302 ^{ab††} ±1.95	245.75 ^{b††} ±14.4
	% of change (1)		-30.09	+29.17	+22.39	-0.4
	% of change (2)			+84.78	+75.07	+42.46

Significant difference between control and different groups. N=8.

* = P<0.05 Significant. ** = P<0.001 Highly Significant. Non-Significant P>0.05

% of change (1) different from normal control group G1.

% of change (2) different from Streptozotocin group G2.

a=significant different from control group.

b= significant different from Streptozotocin group.

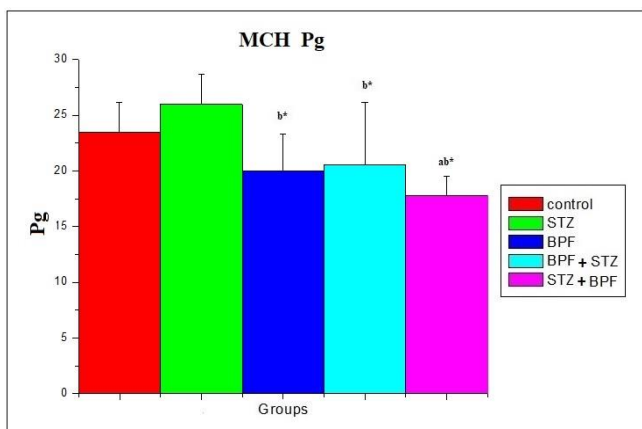


Figure 9 : Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on MCH value of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg.bw)for 30 days in different groups.

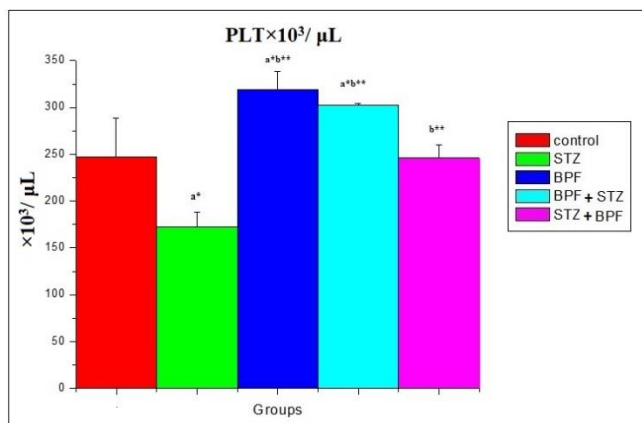


Figure 10 : Effect of BPF (2.314 mg/kg b.w) on PLTs count of male albino rats induced by Streptozotocin (45 mg/kg.bw)for 30 days in different groups.

The data obtained from the present investigation revealed a significant decrease in red blood cells (RBCs) count, hemoglobin (Hb) and hematocrit (HCT) values, white blood cells (WBCs) count and its differentials (basophils, eosinophils, neutrophils, monocytes and lymphocytes) and platelets count in the positive control group as compared to the negative control group.

The significant decrease in RBCs count and its related indices in the STZ induced diabetic group is similar to the result observed by many investigators which reported that, hyperglycaemia through the increased formation of ROS has been shown to impair RBCs deformability, further causing an increase in RBCs haemolysis [41,42]. The impairment in RBCs deformability is correlated with haematological changes which include reduced RBCs count, Hb concentration, HCT levels, MCV, MCHC and RDW concentration as demonstrated by the hyperglycaemic STZ -induced diabetic animals in our study [43,44]. Increased ROS formation causes nonenzymatic glycosylation of proteins on the erythrocyte membrane , cross-linking of membrane lipids and inactivation of RBCs antioxidant enzymes [44]. Furthermore , hyperglycemia results in the development of diabetic anaemia [35] which causes a reduction in RBCs viscosity and increases aggregation and agglutination within the blood vessels, which consequently increases the formation of atherosclerosis plaque[34]. In addition, diabetic nephropathy caused by ongoing hyperglycemia results in the destruction of the renal interstitium causing the impairment in the erythropoietin (EPO) production [34,35], this is associated with a decrease in the production of RBCs by the bone marrow and consequently diabetic anaemia [36]. In addition , this effect may be related to the inhibition of mitochondrial protein synthesis or DNA damage that occurs in the haemopoietic stem cells leading to a severe reduction in proliferation which in turn inhibits erythropoiesis[45,46].

The significant decrease in the WBCs count and its differentials such as basophils, eosinophils, neutrophils, monocytes and lymphocytes in the STZ- induced diabetic groups may be attributed to the effect of streptozotocin which is well known chemical that suppresses the immune system by damaging WBCs and certain organs in the body [47] . This is in agreement with Oyedemi *et al.*,[38] who reported that the reduction of these parameters could be linked to suppression of leukocytosis from the bone marrow which may account for poor defensive mechanisms against infection. Consequently, they might have effects on the immune system and phagocytic activity of the animals[39].

In this study platelets count significantly decreased in the diabetic group. This reduction indicates suppression of

haemopoiesis as a result of STZ application and hyperglycemia[48].

In contrast, the results illustrated that the post or pretreatment of positive control group with BPF extracted from the bee venom showed a significant alteration in all the above haematological parameters. This improvement in haematological parameters may be due to the effect of this factor which has the potential of ameliorating the toxic effects of STZ possibly by acting as an anti-inflammatory agent. In support of this, several compounds or natural products extracted from marine organisms were recognized to exert an activity against human pathologies[49,50]. Also, it has influenced on some diseases and to be anti-inflammatory, antiplatelet and antitumor as reported [51-53].

Moreover, the improvement of the erythrocyte count accompanied with an improvement in the Hb and HCT may be related to the ability of this factor to potentiate the effects of bradykinin (BK) in the mammalian cells. Because BK is considered as an important mediator of the inflammatory response in many organs and it can activate the kinin B1 receptor (bradykinin receptor B1) which expressed only as a result of tissue injury. The B1 receptor plays an important role in chronic pain and inflammation [54]. In addition, Chihara *et al.*, ; Enjalbert *et al.*, ; Frawley and Neill, and Vijayan *et al.*, [55-58] demonstrated that BK and classical hormonal transmitters stimulate the synthesis or release of prolactin and growth hormones, which in turn increase protein synthesis [59,60], stimulate the proliferation of mammalian cells [61] and differentiation of bone marrow hematopoietic cells [62] leading to the erythrocyte formation and improvement. Furthermore, BK stimulates prostaglandin release and synthesis [22] which may be promote the observed effects through the stimulation of kidney erythropoietin leading to enhanced erythropoiesis [63] and consequently improving Hb and HCT values [64].

Furthermore, the increase and improvement in the leucocytes and its different cells may be due to a direct effect of factor extracted from bee venom which stimulates and enhanced the lymphoid organs leading to an increase of lymphocytes count[65]. On the other hand, the endogenous BK which potentiating by this factor enhances prostaglandin synthesis [66] which have a regulatory role in myelopoiesis[67] leading to an increase and improvement in the granulocytes and monocytes counts as observed in the present study[68].

The improvement of platelet count may be due to the effect of prostaglandins which are intimately involved in the control of platelet aggregation [69,70]. This control seems to be exercised via modulation of the levels of cyclic adenosine monophosphate within the platelet[71].

3 Experimental

Chemicals

Streptozotocin $\geq 75\%$ α -anomer basis, $\geq 98\%$ (HPLC) powder (Sigma-Aldrich), Bee venom of *Apis mellifera* was obtained from commercial wild bee culture (Tanta government), north Egypt. Bradykinin potentiating factor (BPF) was isolated from bee venom according to the chemical methods of Ferreira,[72].

Animals groups

Forty adult male albino rats (*Rattus rattus*), weighing approximately 180–200 gm. Animals were kept in the laboratory under normal conditions of light, temperature, and humidity with the access of food and water. Animals were classified into five groups (G1-G5) with eight animals for each group. A control represented (G1) was injected with citrate buffer. The animals were made diabetic (G2, G4 and G5) by an i. p injection of STZ (45 mg/Kg b.w) dissolved in citrate buffer (pH 4.5) to overnight fasted animals [73]. Animals with glucose level 200 mg/dL or more were considered as diabetic animals. STZ diabetic group (G2) injected i.p one time (45 mg/Kg b.w) to induce hyperglycemia according to Festa *et al.*, [73], this group was used as a positive control group. BPF group (G3) was represented by animals treated with BPF (i.p 2.314 mg/ Kg b.w/ day after the other). The fourth group (G4) was treated with BPF for 15 days and injected with STZ as the same as G3 and G2 respectively, while, the fifth group (G5) was injected with BPF for 15th day, after the dose of STZ as the same as G2 and G3 respectively. G5 G3, G4 and G5 continued with BPF injection for a period of the experiment. After 30 days from treatment, the animals were sacrificed and dissected. The blood samples were collected from the heart. They were taken in heparinized tubes as an anticoagulant for haematological parameters.

Haematological assays

Haematological investigations included white blood cells count (WBCs), lymphocytes count (Ly), granulocytes count (Gr), monocytes count (Mon), RBCs count, haemoglobin concentration (Hb), HCT%, MCV, MCH and PLTs. These parameters were measured using cell counter HA-Vet Automatic Hematology Analyzer, Belgium; S/N HA3DM004.

Statistical analysis

Results are presented as means \pm SE for comparison of different experimental animal groups and control ones. Student's t-test was used and the results were calculated by using origin program (version 6). Significance difference between control and treated groups of the studied parameters n= 8.

4 Conclusion

The results showed an observable protective effect of BPF on the haematological parameters of diabetic male rats due to its antioxidant properties.

5 References

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