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A single session of aerobic exercise influences paraoxonase 1 activity and concentration

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Abstract. Our purpose was to examine changes in paraoxonase 1 (PON1) concentration and activity following a single aerobic exercise session. Sixteen men (32 ± 8 yrs; BMI = 29.4 ± 6.8 kg/m²; % fat = 29 ± 13; VO²max = 38.3 ± 11.9 ml/min/kg; waist circumference = 93.7 ± 16.0 cm; HDL-C = 1.19 ± 0.21 and triglycerides = 1.22 ± 1.04 mmol/l; direct LDL = 2.69 ± 0.73 mmol/l) expended 400 kcals by treadmill walking at 65% of VO²max. Fasting blood samples were collected before (PRE), immediately post-exercise (IPE), 24 hours post-exercise, and 48 hours post-exercise. PON1 concentration, PON1 activity, lipids, apolipoprotein A1 (Apo A1), apolipoprotein B (Apo B), and thiobarbituric acid reactive substances (TBARS) were analyzed for each time point. The men were divided into two groups based on their body mass index (BMI): Normal weight (NW) and Obese Group. At baseline, PON1 concentration and activity were significantly higher in the NW group as compared to the obese group. In addition, PON1 activity was significantly increased in the Obese Group compared to the Obese Group for all time points. Furthermore, PON1 concentration and activity were significantly increased in the combined group immediately post-exercise and returned to baseline levels within 24 hours. PON1 activity was significantly increased in the Obese Group IPE and this was observed with increases in HDLc, Apo A1, and TBARS.

Key words. PON1 activity, Exercise, Lipids, Lipoproteins.

Introduction

Over 32% of U.S. adults do not participate in leisure time physical activity and women were reportedly less active than their male counterparts (Go et al., 2013). Physical activity guidelines provided by the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) and American Heart Association (AHA) state that adults between the ages of 18-65 years should accumulate at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic exercise on 5 days per week (Haskell et al., 2007). This weekly volume has been shown to be the minimum level of physical activity needed to prevent hypokinetic diseases (Haskell et al., 2007). However, according to the ACSM and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), nearly half of all adults do not meet the ACSM and AHA guidelines mentioned above—United States, 2001 and 2003—to 2005; Haskell et al., 2007).

Health benefits of regular exercise include decrease blood pressure (BP), improved insulin sensitivity, improved glucose regulation, decreased body weight, improved antioxidant defenses, and improved dyslipidemias (Dufaux, Order, Muller, & Hoffmann, 1986; Durstine et al., 2001; Grandjean, Crouse, & Rohack, 2000; Lesgards et al., 2002; Miller et al., 1979; Nakamura, Uzawa, Maeda, & Inomoto, 1983; Szostak & Laurant, 2011). Aerobic exercise improves lipid profiles by increasing plasma high-density lipoprotein (HDL) concentrations (Dufaux et al., 1986; Durstine et al., 2001; Grandjean et al., 2000; Miller et al., 1979; Nakamura et al., 1983) and lowering plasma TG levels (Grandjean et al., 2000; Kantor, Cullinane, Herbert, & Thompson, 1984). Even though regular exercise has many benefits, an acute bout of exercise generates free radicals leading to increased oxidative stress (Ji, 1995).

Oxidation of low-density lipoprotein (LDL) and HDL can be attenuated by an important enzyme, PON1 (Aviram et al., 1998; M. I. Mackness, Arrol, Abbott, & Durrington, 1993; M. I. Mackness & Durrington, 1995; Sorenson et al., 1999; Watson et al., 1995), which protects LDL and HDL by hydrolyzing the oxidized phospholipids formed on LDL and HDL particles (Aviram et al., 1998; M. I. Mackness, Arrol, & Durrington, 1991). PON1 is a calcium-dependent enzyme and is the most abundant of the PON family of enzymes that circulate exclusively with the HDL particle (Aviram & Rosenblat, 2004; Barna, 1980; Deakin et al., 2002; Khersonsky & Tawfik, 2005; La Du, 1996; Mackness, Durrington, & Mackness, 2004; Primo-Parno, Sorenson, Teiber, & La Du, 1996). PON1 was first recognized for the ability to detoxify organophosphate compounds and its name was derived from a commonly used substrate, paraoxon (Aldridge, 1953a, 1953b; Mazur, 1946). Recently, two meta-analyses observed an increased risk of coronary heart disease (CHD) in subjects with low PON1 activity regardless of age (Wang et al., 2012; Zhao et al., 2012).

The limited research determining the influence of a single session of aerobic exercise on PON1 concentration and activity have yielded conflicting results (Benitez et al., 2002; Ibora et al., 2008; Otocka-Kniecik et al., 2010; Tomasz et al., 2002). For instance, PON1 activity was significantly higher immediately following a single session of aerobic exercise (Otocka-Kniecik et al., 2010; Tomasz et al., 2002). In contrast, PON1 activity was not altered following a single session of aerobic exercise (Benitez et al., 2002; Ibora et al., 2008). In each of the studies above, the investigators did not report concentration of PON1 or caloric expenditure. Increases in PON1 activity have been reported to counter the free radicals produced on lipoproteins associated with exercise (Otocka-Kniecik et al., 2010; Tomasz et al., 2002), but exercise may influence the concentration of PON1 leading to changes in activity.
Furthermore, a single session of aerobic exercise is well documented to improve lipoprotein profiles and increases in HDLc have been seen with caloric expenditures as low as 350 kcals (Crouse et al., 1995). Since PON1 is an HDL-associated enzyme, it may be important to examine if caloric expenditure plays a role in altering PON1.

Therefore, the purpose of this study was to examine the changes in the concentration and activity of PON1 following a single session of aerobic exercise on a treadmill expending 400 kcals of energy at an intensity of 60 to 70%VO2max.

Methods

Subjects

Sixteen apparently healthy adult male volunteers participated in this study. They were recruited by email and flyers that were posted around campus. Participants were screened and risk stratified by the use of a health history questionnaire. They were excluded if they were smokers or on lipid-altering medications. The subjects that met inclusion criteria were equally assigned to one of two groups based on their body mass index (BMI). A subject with a BMI of < 25 kg/m² would be assigned to the NW group and a BMI ≥ 30 kg/m² would be assigned to Obese group. The Auburn University at Montgomery Institutional Review Board approved the protocol and all participants voluntarily signed an informed consent.

Maximal Graded Exercise

Each participant was asked to complete a maximal graded exercise test (GXT) on a treadmill (Trackmaster, Newton, KS). The Bruce Protocol was employed to determine maximal oxygen consumption (VO2max). Expired gas (oxygen and carbon dioxide) fractions were sampled continuously using a pneumotach, mixing chamber, and gas analyzers through a Parvo Medics Cart (Sandy, UT). Heart rate and blood pressure was assessed throughout the GXT.

Intervention

A schematic is presented in Figure 1. All participants underwent testing on four separate days. The participants were asked to avoid strenuous activity 24 hours prior to coming into the laboratory. The initial testing (Day 1) included preliminary screening of subjects and collection of anthropometric variables. The participants reported to the Human Performance Laboratory at Auburn University at Montgomery seven days following the initial GXT (Day 2).

Figure 1. Schematic for Exercise and Blood Collection.

A fasting blood sample was collected prior to beginning the exercise session. Each participant completed a single session of aerobic exercise on a treadmill at an intensity of 60 to 70%VO2max to expend 400 kcals. The participant’s expired gases were measured until 400 kcals of energy was expended. Immediately post-exercise a blood sample was collected (Day 2). The participants reported back to the laboratory 24 (Day 3) and 48 hours post-exercise (Day 4) for fasting blood draws.

Blood Sampling

Blood samples were drawn 10 to 12 hours following an overnight fast. Blood samples were drawn prior to the exercise session (PRE), immediately post-exercise (IPE), 24 hours post-exercise (24), and 48 hours post-exercise (48) under fasting conditions. Blood samples were centrifuged at 3000 rpm for 15 minutes. An aliquot of serum was prepared and placed into a -80°C ultralow freezer until testing.

Laboratory Testing

Lipids and Lipoproteins. Lipid profiles, Apo A1, and Apo B were determined by an automated analyzer in a Siemens ADVIA chemistry platform (Malvern, PA). The coefficient of variation for these variables was less than 2%.

PON1 concentration. Enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) was used to determine the PON1 concentration in serum. PON1 was determined using commercially available ELISA kit (USCN Life Science Inc.; Wuhan, China). The samples and standards were analyzed in duplicate. A 96 well plate washer and plate reader (Biotek Instruments Inc.; Winooski, VT) was used and programmed according to manufacturer’s instructions. The PON1 concentration was reported in ng/mL. The coefficient of variation was 5.3%.

PON1 activity. PON1 activity was determined by using a commercially available enzymatic kit (Zeptometrix Corporation; Buffalo, NY). The samples and standards were analyzed in duplicate. The absorbance was measured at 270 nm using a Spectronic UV1 spectrophotometer by Thermo Scientific. The PON1 activity was reported in kU/L. The inter-assay and intra-assay variation was 2.3% and 2.6%, respectively.

TBARS. Thiobarbituric acid reactive substances (TBARS) were determined by using a commercially available enzymatic kit (Zeptometrix Corporation; Buffalo, NY). TBARS were used as a marker of lipid peroxidation. The samples and standards were analyzed in duplicate. The absorbance was measured at 532 nm using a Spectronic UV1 spectrophotometer by Thermo Scientific. TBARS is expressed as malondialdehyde equivalents and reported in nmol/mL. The inter-assay and intra-assay variation was 5.9% and 5.1%, respectively.

Results

The descriptive characteristics of the subjects are presented in Table 1. There were no significant group differences in age and height. Weight, BMI, and waist circumference were significantly lower in the Normal Weight (NW) versus Obese group (p < 0.001, for all). NW group showed significantly higher VO2max values compared to the Obese group (p < 0.001).

Table 1. Descriptive Characteristics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Normal Weight (n = 8)</th>
<th>Obese (n = 8)</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>yrs</td>
<td>24.8 ± 3.8</td>
<td>29.0 ± 7.9</td>
<td>0.170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>kg</td>
<td>77.0 ± 11.1</td>
<td>102.9 ± 16.1</td>
<td>&lt;0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI</td>
<td>kg/m²</td>
<td>25.5 ± 1.9</td>
<td>31.1 ± 4.0</td>
<td>&lt;0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist Circumference</td>
<td>cm</td>
<td>106.8 ± 9.1</td>
<td>106.3 ± 9.0</td>
<td>&lt;0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximal Oxygen Uptake</td>
<td>mL·kg⁻¹·min⁻¹</td>
<td>45.6 ± 11.0</td>
<td>31.1 ± 4.0</td>
<td>&lt;0.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Triglycerides    | mg/dL | 90.4 ± 32.3           | 134.5 ± 69.6  | 0.031*
| Total Cholesterol | mg/dL | 170.8 ± 34.2         | 213.0 ± 45.8  | <0.000*
| HDLc             | mg/dL | 45.6 ± 11.0           | 31.1 ± 4.0    | <0.000*
| Apo A1           | mg/dL | 1.53 ± 0.58           | 1.53 ± 0.58   | 0.982*
| Apo B            | mg/dL | 1.80 ± 0.22           | 1.80 ± 0.22   | 0.982*
| PON1 activity    | kU/L  | 10.6 ± 3.4            | 10.6 ± 3.4    | 0.982*
| PON1 concentration | ng/ml | 10.6 ± 3.4           | 10.6 ± 3.4    | 0.982*

Values are presented in mean ± standard deviation. BMI, Body Mass Index. Statistical significance (p < 0.05), *between groups.

Table 2. Baseline values for blood lipids and lipoprotein markers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Normal Weight (n = 8)</th>
<th>Obese (n = 8)</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| TG               | mg/dL | 154.0 ± 68.6          | 154.0 ± 68.6  | 0.982*
| HDLc             | mg/dL | 57.8 ± 1.71           | 58.2 ± 1.55   | 0.969*|
| LDLc             | mg/dL | 130.0 ± 44.0          | 130.0 ± 44.0  | 0.969*|
| Apo A1           | g/L   | 1.18 ± 0.11           | 1.15 ± 0.15   | 0.692*|
| Apo B            | g/L   | 0.90 ± 0.18           | 0.93 ± 0.20   | 0.765*|
| PON1 activity    | kU/L  | 103.6 ± 26.9          | 103.6 ± 26.9  | 0.031*
| PON1 concentration | ng/ml | 222.4 ± 74.8         | 222.4 ± 74.8  | 0.048*

Values are presented in mean ± standard deviation. TG, Total cholesterol; HDLc, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDLc, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; Apo A1, Apolipoprotein A1; Apo B, Apolipoprotein B; HDLc, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; PON1, Paraoxonase 1 activity; PON1c, Paraoxonase 1 concentration; TBARS, Thiobarbituric acid reactive substances. Statistical significance (p < 0.05), *between groups.

Figure 1. Schematic for Exercise and Blood Collection.
Lipids, lipoproteins, PON1, and TBARS were measured at baseline for NW and Obese group and results are presented in Table 2. There were no differences for lipids, lipoproteins, and TBARS at baseline between groups (p > 0.05). However, PON1 concentration and activity were both significantly higher at baseline in the NW group compared to the Obese group (p = 0.031 and p = 0.048).

A single session of aerobic exercise on a treadmill expending 400 kcal at an intensity of 60 to 70% VO2max was performed by the NW and Obese groups. The results for lipids, lipoproteins, PON1, and TBARS are presented in Table 3. Total cholesterol (TC), triglycerides (TG), direct low density lipoprotein (dLDL), low density lipoprotein (LDLc), and Apo B were significantly increased IPE as compared to PRE (p < 0.05). However, in the Obese group Apo A1 were significantly increased (p = 0.028) and Obese groups (p < 0.05) as compared to Obese group. However, TG were significantly reduced 24 hours post exercise as compared to PRE in the NW group (p < 0.05). HDLc were significantly increased in the Obese group IPE (p = 0.032), but not in the NW group (p > 0.05).

Table 3. Genomic Biochemical Characteristics before and After Exercise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Baseline, before exercise</th>
<th>IPE, immediately post-exercise</th>
<th>24 Post, 24 hours post-exercise</th>
<th>48 Post, 48 hours post-exercise</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HDLc (mg/dl)</td>
<td>NW</td>
<td>37.2 ± 3.7</td>
<td>41.6 ± 3.7</td>
<td>39.1 ± 3.7</td>
<td>36.3 ± 3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Obese</td>
<td>31.0 ± 3.1</td>
<td>35.8 ± 3.3</td>
<td>33.7 ± 3.2</td>
<td>30.9 ± 3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apo A1 (g/l)</td>
<td>NW</td>
<td>0.24 ± 0.01</td>
<td>0.29 ± 0.01</td>
<td>0.27 ± 0.01</td>
<td>0.25 ± 0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Obese</td>
<td>0.25 ± 0.01</td>
<td>0.29 ± 0.01</td>
<td>0.27 ± 0.01</td>
<td>0.25 ± 0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBARS (nmol/ml)</td>
<td>NW</td>
<td>0.17 ± 0.04</td>
<td>0.51 ± 0.04</td>
<td>0.49 ± 0.04</td>
<td>0.50 ± 0.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Obese</td>
<td>0.20 ± 0.05</td>
<td>0.52 ± 0.05</td>
<td>0.49 ± 0.05</td>
<td>0.50 ± 0.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PON1 concentration was significantly higher in NW than Obese for all time points (p < 0.05). In the NW group, PON1 concentration was not altered by a single session of exercise immediately post-exercise (Figure 2) (p > 0.05). This was similar in the Obese group.

In the NW group, PON1 activity was not altered following a single session exercise of Obese group. In the Obese group, PON1 activity was significantly higher IPE as compared to PRE (p = 0.002) following a single session of exercise (Figure 3).

Apo A1 was not altered in the NW group following the exercise session. However, in the Obese group Apo A1 were significantly increased IPE as compared to PRE (p = 0.021). In the NW and Obese groups, Apo B were significantly increased IPE as compared to PRE (p = 0.041 and p = 0.049). TBARS were significantly increased in NW (p = 0.028) and Obese groups (p < 0.001) IPE and returned to pre-exercise levels within 24 hours (Figure 4).

The NW and Obese groups were combined and the data is presented in Table 4. TC were significantly increased following a single session of exercise immediately post-exercise as compared to PRE (p = 0.002).

Figure 4. TBARS Concentration

Pearson-Product Moment Correlations were performed to evaluate relationships following exercise-induced changes between PON1 activity, HDLc, Apo A1, and TBARS. In the NW group, HDLc and Apo A1 were significantly correlated with one another following a single session of aerobic exercise (r = 0.919, p = 0.001). In the Obese group, HDLc and Apo A1 were significantly correlated following the exercise session (r = 0.991, p < 0.001). In the Obese group, exercise-induced changes in TBARS were significantly correlated with exercise-induced changes in HDLc in the same group (r = 0.730, p = 0.003). PON1 activity had a positive correlation with HDLc (r = 0.782, p = 0.024) and Apo A1 (r = 0.458, p = 0.254) following the bout of exercise, but they were not significant. In the combined group, exercise-induced changes HDLc and Apo A1 were significantly correlated (r = 0.917, p < 0.001).

Discussion

Aerobic exercise is generally prescribed to control weight and improve overall health. There is limited research on the influence of aerobic exercise on PON1 status (concentration and activity) as previously described. Mackness et al. (B. Mackness et al., 2001) suggests that determining the concentration and activity of PON1 are critical in determining the status of PON1. This study examined changes in the concentration and activity of PON1 following a single session of aerobic exercise in NW and Obese men.
Acute bouts of aerobic exercise have been previously shown to increase PON1 activity (Ottocka-Kmiecik, Bartnik, Szkudlarek, Nowak, & Orłowska-Majdak, 2013; Ottocka-Kmiecik et al., 2010; Tomas et al., 2002). In contrast, two additional investigators did not find an increase in PON1 activity following a single session of aerobic exercise (Benitez et al., 2002; Ibrahoma et al., 2008). In this current study, PON1 activity was only significantly increased in the obese group IPE, but not in the NW group. This significant increase in PON1 activity was seen along with increases in HDLc in the obese group. These HDLc findings are consistent with other studies (Crouse et al., 1995; Grandjean et al., 2000). HDLc was not altered in the NW group. The increases in PON1 activity and HDLc in the obese group may suggest that these individuals may benefit more from a single session of aerobic exercise than men who are NW. In the combined groups, PON1 activity was significantly higher immediately post exercise and returned to baseline levels within 24 hours as we and other investigators have reported (Ibrahoma et al., 2008; Ottocka-Kmiecik et al., 2010; Tomas et al., 2002). This is the first study to examine changes in PON1 activity following a single session of aerobic exercise changes expending 400 kcals of energy.

Apo A1, a key HDL-associated lipoprotein, is not necessary for the attachment of PON1 with HDL or phospholipids (Sorenson et al., 1999). However, the stability and activity of PON1 is enhanced in the presence of Apo A1 as compared to without Apo A1 (Sorenson et al., 1999). Investigators have suggested that Apo A1 be determined along with PON1 activity (Ottocka-Kmiecik et al., 2010). In our study, a single session of exercise significantly increased Apo A1 in the Obese group IPE, but not in the NW group. Correlations between Apo A1 and PON1 activity exhibited a modest positive association in the Obese group. When the Obese and NW groups were combined the Apo A1 was significantly increased IPE. Our results are similar to investigators who reported an increase in Apo A1 following exercise (Rector et al., 2007).

TBARS was analyzed to determine lipid peroxidation following a single session of aerobic exercise. In our cohort, TBARS was significantly higher at baseline in the Obese group as compared to the NW group, which is consistent with other published data (D’Archivio et al., 2012). TBARS was significantly increased in the both groups IPE indicating an increase production of free radicals from the exercise session. The TBARS was significantly increased IPE indicating in the overall antioxidant capacity of body habitus. Environ Health Perspect, 119(9), 1081-1093.


