Effect of low power laser irradiation on the viscosity and the hydrogen ion concentration (pH) of bio liquids in vitro

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Abstract:
The effect of He-Ne laser irradiation at the wave length 632.8 nm on the viscosity and hydrogen ion concentration (pH) of normal blood and ringer solution were studied in vitro. The result of the study showed that 3mW laser irradiation of 5 mm spot diameter reduced the viscosity and increased the hydrogen ion concentration (pH) of irradiated blood and ringer solution samples as compared to the un irradiated control value and this change was obvious at 90 minutes of exposure. Thus, the effect of He-Ne laser irradiation depends on irradiation duration.

Introduction:
The fact that low-intensity red laser radiation produces a stimulating action on various biological objects and on a living organism as a whole has been undeniable for quite a long time. A variety of studies
both in vivo and in vitro have shown that low power laser irradiation have bio stimulating effect on human blood cells (Kruk et al., 1986). Earlier study (Arora et al., 1988) has found that laser irradiation at 3.5 W for 30 second induced stimulating of thromboxane A2 productive in platelet which occur without any noticeable damage in the cellular structure. Other study (Brill et al., 1998) reported that blood irradiation by He-Ne laser of 632.8 nm at 7 mW in power induced a decrease in platelet response to physiological agonist and increase in platelet cyclic. Iijima et al., 2000 has investigated the effect of the exposure to He-Ne laser (continuous wave, lambda= 632.8 nm, 8.5 mW in power) irradiation on human erythrocyte deformability. It was suggested that the irradiation of low-powered He-Ne lasers improved cytoskeletal protein activities in damaged erythrocytes.

Siposan and Adalbert, 2003 were studied the effect of a low level He-Ne laser with doses ranged between 0-54 J/cm² on the hemoreological constants of blood. The authors observed following irradiation a lowering of the erythrocytary aggregability (viscosity), BSR, and changes of some erythrocytary and leukocytary indices.

Further more study (Wasik et al., 2006) reported that human blood cell irradiation by 632.8 nm He-Ne laser of energy 0.6 J/cm² induced an increase in PO₂ and SaO₂ and no change in PCO₂ and pH of irradiated samples. Recent study (X.Q. et al., 2008), under the irradiation condition of 30 mW, the effect of 632.8 nm and 532 nm laser irradiation on rheological properties of blood were comparatively studied in vitro. It was found the laser irradiation reduced blood viscosities at different shear rates (10–110 S⁻¹) for the hyper-viscosity blood samples and suggested that 532 nm laser irradiation demonstrated more efficient effects on modulating rheological properties than 632.8 nm.

Although laser irradiation of power range 7 mW up to 3.5W has established, but effect of exposure to very low power laser irradiation are not established. In present study we focused on the effect of 632.8 nm He-Ne laser of 3mW on the viscosity and hydrogen ion concentration (pH) of both human blood and ringer solution.

Materials and methods:
Human blood and ringer solution being the samples of the study. 5 ml venous blood is taken from 10 healthy volunteers, which immediately placed in Ethylene Diamine Tetra acetic Acid tubes (EDTA) (anticoagulant) were kept in a refrigerator and used in less than 2 days. Each sample is divided into two tubes for laser irradiation and non-irradiated control.

Ringer's solution is the name given to a solution of several salts dissolved in water for the purpose of creating an isotonic solution relative to the bodily fluids of an animal. Ringer's solution typically contains
sodium chloride, potassium chloride, calcium chloride and sodium bicarbonate, with the latter used to balance the pH. Other additions can include chemical fuel sources for cells (Yazer et al, 2010).

The chemical composition (m mol/l) of the Ringer’s solution used in the present study was Na+ 147.1, K+ 4.02, Ca+ 2.25, Cl- 155.55. The above ion concentrations are similar to the concentrations of human body, so we used this solution as simulated body fluid and divided into laser irradiated and control samples. Because of the transparency of Ringer solution, a tint (red color) is added to the ringer solution to get maximum absorption of laser radiation.

Laser irradiation:

A 632.8 nm (red light) laser beam from a He-Ne laser was used in (college of Mosul medicine). The power of a laser on the samples was of 3 mW as measured by a power meter. During the experiments, the laser beam was directed to the tubes of bio liquid (2 ml) samples with an irradiation spot of a 5 mm diameter. The flounce rate was 0.15 mW/mm². Blood and ringer solution samples were irradiated at room temperature (17 ±2°C) at different time (15,30,45,60,75and 90 minute).

Measurement of viscosity and hydrogen ion concentration (PH):

The bioliquid viscosity was measured by a capillary tube viscometer in (Medical physics Lab/Mosul Medical College). The viscometer was filled until the bio-liquid reached the upper mark of the reservoir of the capillary tube (Barnes et al, 1989). Free-flow time was recorded (in seconds) until the bio-liquid reached the upper mark (E) of the reservoir. The kinematic viscosity of the sample was calculated from the following formula:

\[ \frac{\eta_1}{\eta_2} = \frac{t_1}{t_2} \]  

where : \( \eta_1 \) is the kinematic viscosity of bio liquid.  
\( \eta_2 \) is the kinematic viscosity of distilled water.  
\( t_1 \) : is free-flow time of bio liquid.  
\( t_2 \) : is free-flow time of distilled water.  
The kinematic viscosity of distilled water =1.25*10⁻³mm²/sec at 15 °C.  

For measuring hydrogen ion concentration (PH) of bio liquid Microprocessor-based (pH/mV/°C) Bench Meters (Medical physiology Lab / Mosul Medical College) was used before and after laser irradiation.  

pH is a measure of the acidity or basicity of an aqueous solution. A standard buffer solution (for pH =7.0) (Robinson and Stokes, 1968) was used to calibrate the glass electrode of the pH meter. After the calibration is confirmed, the pH electrode and the temperature probe was immersed into the bio liquids samples and allow time for the electrode to stabilize.
Calculation of viscosity:

Poiseuille’s law states that the flow through a given tube depends on the pressure difference from one end to the other ($P_1 - P_2$), the length $L$ of the tube, the radius $R$ of the tube (figure 1), and the viscosity $\eta$ of the fluid, (Cameron, and Skofronic, 1992).

The viscosity ($\eta$) can be calculated by using the following equation:

$$\eta = \pi R^4 \Delta P / 8LQ \quad --------------- \text{(2)}$$

Where $\eta$: is the viscosity of liquid
$R$: is the radius of the capillary tube
$\Delta P$: is the change in pressure at two points in capillary tube
$L$: is the high of liquid in capillary tube
$Q$: is the volume rate of flow which is equal volume of liquid (V)/ free-flow time of liquid (t)

Results and discussion:

Table (1) summarizes the results of viscosity and hydrogen ion concentration (pH) of blood irradiated to He-Ne laser. The results of 15 minutes blood irradiation demonstrated that no changed in viscosity and pH value of blood were observed as compared to the control sample. While at 90 minutes of laser irradiation, there was an increased in pH value of blood by 2% and decreased in the blood viscosities by 7.6% over a 90 minute of exposure.

| Table (1): effect of laser irradiation of blood on viscosity and pH values |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| **Before irradiation** | **Kinematic Viscosity** $\text{mm}^2\text{s}^{-1}\times 10^{-2}$ | **pH** |
|                  |                  |                 |
| 1.71± 0.012      | 7.4± 0.01        |
| **After irradiation** | **Time of irradiation/min** | **Kinematic Viscosity** $\text{mm}^2\text{s}^{-1}\times 10^{-2}$ | **pH** |
|                  |                  |                 |
| 15               | 1.71 ± 0.012     | 7.4 ± 0.01      |
| 30               | 1.68 ± 0.011     | 7.42 ± 0.01     |
| 45               | 1.66 ± 0.012     | 7.45 ± 0.01     |
| 60               | 1.62 ± 0.010     | 7.48 ± 0.01     |
| 75               | 1.6 ± 0.011      | 7.51 ± 0.01     |
| 90               | 1.58 ± 0.012     | 7.55 ± 0.01     |
Table (2) summarizes the results of viscosity and pH values of ringer solution irradiated to He-Ne laser. The results demonstrated that 60 min laser irradiations did not affect the viscosity and the value of pH of ringer solution as compared to the control sample. But at 90 minutes of laser irradiation there was decrease in the viscosity by 42% of the ringer solution as compared to the control sample, while the values of the effect of laser irradiation on pH value shows a slight increase 1.7% in pH value overall measurements time.

Combining the results of the effect of laser irradiation on the viscosity of blood and ringer solution is shown in figure (2), it demonstrated that irradiation to 632.8 nm of 3 mW laser can reduce the viscosities of both blood and ringer solution. This result is in agreement with other available studies on the effect of laser on the blood viscosity (Mi.Q. et al., 2008), and (Siposan and Adalbert, 2003), (see the introduction).

| Time of irradiation/min | Before irradiation | Kinematic Viscosity \( \text{mm}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \times 10^{-3} \) | pH  
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<td>90</td>
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Figure (3) show the pH values of irradiated blood and ringer solution, in which the pH values increases in all samples of blood and ringer solution. However, these changes were slight, and appeared at 60min and 75min of laser irradiation for blood and ringer solution respectively.

From above observation it was shown that a remarkable effect of laser irradiation on blood and ringer solution measurements were obtained at 90 minutes of irradiation. This means that the effect of He-Ne laser irradiation depends on exposure durations.

Comparing the results of He-Ne laser irradiation effect on blood and ringer solution, its obvious that the laser irradiation was more effective on the physical properties of blood. This means that the blood absorbed photon energy more than the ringer solution and in the blood, hemoglobin (Hb) molecules are dominating molecules, which can absorbed photons in the visible region with absorption coefficients being
Effect of low power laser irradiation on the viscosity and the hydrogen ion … high at 632.8 nm (Klebanov et al, 2004). Absorbing more photons would cause more response, which seems a reasonable explanation for the dynamic effect. The photo response of blood to red laser radiation shows that the stimulating therapeutic effect of laser radiation should be attributed to absorption of red light by macromolecules that enter in formal elements of blood.

Figure (2): effect of laser irradiation of blood and ringer solution on reduced viscosity

Figure (3): effect of laser irradiation of blood and ringer solution on the pH
Conclusion:
Summarizing the results obtained, we can conclude that He-Ne laser irradiation can modulate the physical properties of blood and ringer solution, including viscosity and hydrogen ion concentration (pH). The effect of laser irradiation on blood and ringer solution was cleared at 90 minutes of irradiation, also we expect to increase the effect of laser radiation after 90 minutes of exposure. Our results also demonstrated that the laser irradiation was faster effect on the blood than that on ringer solution. It is postulated that the hemoglobin molecules might be the target molecules under laser irradiation.

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