



## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SELENIUM IN REDUCING THE RISK OF OXIDATIVE STRESS

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### Abstract:

The purpose of this study was to examine the potential protective effect of selenium against potassium dichromate toxicity and to evaluate the toxicity of selenium.

Potassium dichromate in male rats. One indicator of oxidative stress is the presence of statistically significant levels of mal in liver and kidney tissues as a result of the ability of potassium dichromate to produce stress-causing electrolytes. Increased oxidized fats, decreased high-density fats, and increased low-density fats have been observed in male rats. Liver and kidney cells are injured, as Decreased activity of catalase and glutathione enzymes in the liver and kidneys is observed. High levels of tbars were observed in the liver and kidneys, with histological changes in the kidneys and liver confirming enzymatic changes. On the other hand, histological sections of the kidneys of the treated group showed shrinkage of the renal glomeruli and dilatation of Bowman's cyst caused by potassium dichromate, congestion and hemorrhage of blood vessels close to the body of Malpighi, and increased thickness of its walls. The presence of protein casts in the lumen of renal tubules, intratubular bleeding, dilatation, leukocyte infiltration and 1. This study was behaved on adult male albino rats (24 mice), divided into 4 equal groups (6 mice) for each group. at the latest of the experiment. Blood was drawn from the ear vein of mice in all groups for evaluation.

Biochemical parameters were collected in blood scans and liver and kidney samples from mice for histological examination.

**Keywords:** Biochemical parameters, selenium, histological changes, the toxicity of potassium dichromate.





## Introduction

Leather tanning is considered a major environmental pollutant due to the quantity and quality of waste generated during its production. The raw materials such as chromium salts and other chemical compounds that can directly affect workers in the field. Continuous exposure to these mineral toxins, which accumulate in the tissues of workers' bodies, can lead to diseases, including some that are considered carcinogenic. Additionally, the tanning process can produce free radicals, which are derived from molecular oxygen and nitrogen oxides such as nitric oxide. These reactive oxygen species can damage biological compounds such as nucleic acids, proteins, and lipids. Reactive intermediates produced during the process usually remain tightly bound to the active site of the enzyme until the reaction is completed. However, they can escape from the active site of the enzyme, leading to a disturbing effect on cellular processes.

The main biological compounds that are damaged by free radicals (FR) include:

- Nucleic acids, which can lead to mutations.
- Proteins, which can cause cellular malfunction due to structural changes.
- Polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA).
- When a PUFA molecule reacts with a free radical, it produces a lipid free radical.

The lipid free radical ( $L\cdot$ ) rapidly reacts with molecular oxygen, forming a peroxy radical ( $LOO\cdot$ ) through Reaction 2. The  $LOO\cdot$  radical can then attack another polyunsaturated lipid molecule to produce a lipid hydroperoxide and another lipid free radical through Reaction 3. This new lipid radical can be converted into another lipid peroxy radical, continuing the lipid peroxidation process as a chain reaction. Reaction 1 shows the reaction of a lipid hydroperoxide with a hydroxyl radical ( $OH\cdot$ ) to form a lipid free radical and water. **(1)**

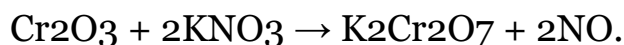
\***Chromium** is one of the most abundant elements in the earth's crust and exists in many oxidized forms, including zero-valent, trivalent, and hexavalent metals. The toxicity and carcinogenicity of chromium are mainly due to the oxidation state of chromium. Chromium is commonly used in the manufacture of metal alloys, paints, and inks, and in leather tanneries. Trivalent chromium salts are also used in cosmetics, glass manufacturing, and photography, where chromium is an essential element accounting for about 40% of hexavalent chromium depletion. The production of potassium dichromate occurs during the reaction of potassium nitrate with  $Cr_2O_3$  according to the following equation.

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chromium. Chromium is commonly used in the manufacture of metal alloys (2), paints and inks, and in leather tanneries, trivalent chromium salts are also used in cosmetics, glass manufacturing and photography, where chromium is an essential element accounting for about 40% of hexavalent chromium depletion (3). Potassium dichromate production occurs during the potassium nitrate reaction.



The compound hexavalent chromium is toxic even at concentrations below 14 mg/kg and is classified as a carcinogen due to its ability to produce oxidative stress that affects kidney and liver function in mammals (4). High exposure to hexavalent chromium can cause cancer, anemia, or gastrointestinal damage, and inhalation of this compound by workers has been shown to cause lung and stomach cancer (5).

\* **Selenium** plays an important role in cellular function when present in low concentrations and is necessary for the synthesis of many antioxidant enzymes. It is also involved in the synthesis of three iodine dehydrogenases that facilitate the conversion between thyroid hormones. (3)

### Materials and Method:

24 male Westar rats were used, and their weights ranged from  $150 \pm 10$  grams. The rats were left to acclimatize for a week before the experiments began. The rats were exposed to a temperature of 25.C and to 12 hours of light darkness. They were fed standard food and had free access to water. The animals were randomly divided into four groups (6 mice).

The protocol has been described for animal housing and care are described in the Laboratory Animal Care and Use Manual.

The duration of the experiment lasted (10) days and the treatment was as follows:

1. The first group (control) took saline solution by peritoneal injection at a dose of (1 ml / kg) daily for 10 days
2. The second group (selenium group) was treated by peritoneal injection with sodium selenite compound in saline solution at a dose of (1 ml / kg) in two doses, one on the first day and another on the sixth day of the experiment.
3. The third group (chromium group) was treated with potassium dichromate at a dose of (0.4%) for 10 days.
4. The fourth group (selenium group and potassium dichromate) was injected by peritoneal injection with potassium dichromate at a dose of (0.4%) for 10 days and was treated with two doses of soda selenate compound Its amount (1 ml / kg) on the first and second day on the sixth day of the experiment.





At the end of the experiment, the rats were weighed, and blood samples were taken to conduct various blood measurements and to define the effects on liver and kidney function. The rats were slaughtered to evaluate the percentage of oxidative signs in the kidneys and to collect and analyze the results.

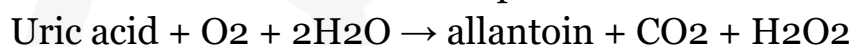
#### **\*Blood Measurement:**

One milliliter of blood collected in heparinized sample tubes can be analyzed to measure various blood parameters, including hemoglobin (Hb), total red blood cell count (RBC), mean cell size (MCV), mean intramuscular hemoglobin (MCH), mean body hemoglobin concentration (MCHC), total white blood cell count (WBC), hematocrit (HCT), and total platelet count. These measurements can be obtained using an automated blood test analyzer, such as the Advia 60 Hematology System.

#### **Biochemical Measurements**

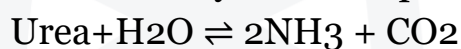
Uric acid reacts with oxygen and water to produce hydrogen peroxide. The generation of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> can be determined by measuring the catalytic activity of uric acid peroxidase. This reaction also generates 3,5-dichloro-2-hydroxybenzenesulfonic acid (DCHBS) and aminofenarone (PAP-4), react to form the pigment quinolone magenta (17).

The overall reaction can be represented as follows:



#### **Renal function measurement\***

The percentage of urea was determined from the following reaction using a commercially available panel



In an alkaline environment, ammonium ions react with salicylate and hypochlorite to form the green dicarboxylic acid indophenol (2,2).

#### **Measurement of creatinine\***

Creatinine was measured using a commercial kit based on the principle of the colored complex that creatinine forms with picric acid in an alkaline medium, and the rate of formation of this compound was measured. One volume of sodium hydroxide was diluted with four volumes of redistilled water and mixed with one volume of the dilute sodium hydroxide to make a reagent mixture.





### **Results and Discussion:**

Humans are in constant contact with toxic agents. Toxic substances in the food we eat, the water we drink, and the air we breathe. Toxic agents can be absorbed through the gastrointestinal tract, skin and lungs (7). The kidney is an important organ that is greatly affected to the Exposure to chromium compounds. administration of  $K_2Cr_2O_7$  is nephrotoxic and results in acute Renal failure (ARF). 5 an administration of  $K_2Cr_2O_7$  leads to an increase in urea and creatinine levels Blood plasma, urinary pH decreased, increased Urinary excretion of glucose and proteins Decreased excretion of sodium in the urine Doses of  $K_2Cr_2O_7$  lead to the development of the acute condition Tubular necrosis is largely located to the proximal small loop of henly (8). It was discovered in this experiment that the rats treated with potassium dichromate decreased their weight after 10 days, due to the lack of food intake and lack of activity, in contrast to the treatment with sodium selenite which led to an increase in the weights of those groups, indicating recovery from the effects.

### **Toxic potassium dichromate. (9)**

Results of rat blood, biochemical markers, plasma, and tissue markers in the group injected with potassium dichromate had lower red blood cell counts and increased levels of hemoglobin and hematocrit (MCH and MCV) compared to the control group and MCHC levels were higher than those???. In the control group, there was no change in the control group given doses of sodium selenite solution (10). High-density lipids were also reduced, low-density lipids increased, and their levels adjusted with sodium selenite. Cholesterol and triglyceride levels can also be elevated due to toxicosis. In the context of oxidative stress, we showed that treatment with potassium dichromate leads to increased activity of the liver function enzymes lactate dehydrogenase and glutamate transpeptidase. MDA increases. In kidney tissues, catalase activity and renal glutathione concentrations decreased and thiobarbituric acid (11). (TBARS) concentrations increased, which are indicators of renal oxidative stress. Due to the toxicity of potassium dichromate, exposure to potassium chromate has been shown to generate electrolytes that induce oxidative stress in many tissues. Its production leads to the oxidation of lipids in cell membranes and selenium exposed to the environment has been shown to act as an antioxidant against free radicals (18).

Histological sections are shown. Kidneys were detected in the potassium dichromate-treated group Renal glomeruli contraction, Bowman's capsule dilatation, congestion and hemorrhage Blood vessels near the Malpighian globules which increase their wall thickness was noted. Presence of cast protein in the lumen of the renal tubules,





bleeding and expansion, infiltration of white blood cells between the urinary tubules, as well as the presence of necrosis and secretions in the cytoplasm of the cells lining the urinary tubules, as well as the presence of edema in some places in the renal cortex was observed. It was also found that the group treated with sodium selenite + potassium dichromate was shown to improve liver and kidney tissue(19).

Table 1 Erythrocyte analysis

Se + k2cr207c	K2cr207	Se	Control	Changes in erythrocyte values
4.41 ± 0.32 <sup>a</sup>	3.93 ± 0.34 <sup>a</sup>	4.65 ± 0.33 <sup>b</sup>	4.60 ± 0.24	RBC (10 <sup>6</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> )
12.32 ± 0.81 <sup>b</sup>	10.20 ± 0.87 <sup>a</sup>	13.31 ± 0.91 <sup>b</sup>	13.11 ± 0.88	Hb(g/d L)
37.21 ± 4.79 <sup>ab</sup>	33.65 ± 4.70 <sup>a</sup>	45.41 ± 5.57 <sup>b</sup>	42.01 ± 5.77	Ht%
88.31 ± 12.13 <sup>a</sup>	85.22 ± 9.31 <sup>a</sup>	98.66 ± 9.88 <sup>ab</sup>	90.88 ± 8.44	MCV(F L)
26.98 ± 0.44	28.34 ± 0.65	28.60 ± 0.43	27.41 ± 0.54	MCH(Pg)
31.25 ± 4.90	31.45 ± 4.90	31.41 ± 3.79	31.51 ± 3.37	MCHC(g/d L)

Values represent the mean ± SE of 6 samples  
a means significantly different from the control group  
b means significantly different from the k2cr207 group  
p < 0.05

Table2. Kidney glutathione (U/g tissue) of rat treated control k2cr207 & Se & k2cr207 + Se

Group	Control	Se	k2cr207	k2cr207 + se
Mean	0.348	0.326	0.436	0.350
St Div	0.013	0.023	0.037	0.021
St Error	0.0116	0.020	0.034	0.019
	C	C	abd	C

Table3 (Experimental groups) Body, liver, and kidney weights (g) in the control k2cr207 & Se & k2cr207 + Se treated rats.

Parameters	Control	Se	K2Cr2O7	K2Cr2O7 + Se
BODY WEIGHT	159.20 ± 9.29	159.00 ± 8.95	160.00 ± 7.91	162.20 ± 8.56
INITIALT	170.0 ± 8.40	172.80 ± 10.21 b	165.45 ± 9.91 a	171.40 ± 9.42
FINAL	8.10 ± 1.55	8.67 ± 1.26 b	3.34 ± 1.76 a	5.67 ± 1.13
CHANGES				
LIVER WEIHT	6.69 ± 0.50	6.88 ± 1.26 b	6.16 ± 0.59	7.10 ± 0.84
KIDNEY WEIHT	1.15 ± 0.10	1.16 ± 0.09	1.11 ± 0.12	1.18 ± 0.09



\* (Kidney functional parameters)

Table 4. Serum urea and creatinine levels in the control

Parameters	Control	Se	K <sub>2</sub> Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> +Se
Urea (mg/dL)	33.24 ± 7.07	33.60 ± 7.6 <sup>b</sup>	70.03 ± 17.71 <sup>a</sup>	31.41 ± 6.7 <sup>b</sup>
Creatinine (mg/dL)	0.11 ± 0.05	0.27 ± 0.048 <sup>b</sup>	1.10 ± 0.33 <sup>a</sup>	0.33 ± 0.19 <sup>b</sup>

( Malondialdehyde (MDA) levels in kidney homogenate of the control)

Table5. k<sub>2</sub>cr<sub>2</sub>o<sub>7</sub> & Se & k<sub>2</sub>cr<sub>2</sub>o<sub>7</sub> + Se treated rats

Parameters	Control	Se	K <sub>2</sub> Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> +Se
MDA (nmol /mg kidney tissue)	84.41 ± 13.95	83.01 ± 26.75 <sup>b</sup>	156.21 ± 17.03 <sup>a</sup>	95.01 ± 12.00 <sup>b</sup>

Values represent the mean ± SE of 6 samples  
a means significantly different from the control group  
b means significantly different from the k<sub>2</sub>cr<sub>2</sub>o<sub>7</sub> group  
p<0.05

Table6. Total protein in kidney tissue

Parameters	Control	Se	K <sub>2</sub> Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> +Se
protein (nmol /mg kidney tissue)	85.41 ± 45.95	83.80 ± 43.75 <sup>b</sup>	.21 ± 33.03 <sup>a</sup> 85	88.01 ± 29.81 <sup>b</sup>

Values represent the mean ± SE of 6 samples  
a means significantly different from the control group  
b means significantly different from the k<sub>2</sub>cr<sub>2</sub>o<sub>7</sub> group  
p< 0.05

Table7. Kidney an oxidant enzymes activities of the control)

Parameters	Control	Se	K <sub>2</sub> Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> +Se
Superoxide dismutase (units/ng protein) (SOD)	58.21 ± 8.77	56.65 ± 9.28 <sup>b</sup>	30.21 ± 7.90 <sup>a</sup>	52.66 ± 9.33 <sup>b</sup>
Glutathione peroxiase (units/ng protein) (GPx)	33.40 ± 7.01	35.80 ± 8.25 <sup>b</sup>	15.55 ± 3.61 <sup>a</sup>	34.95 ± 7.65 <sup>b</sup>



Values represent the mean  $\pm$  SE of 6 samples  
a means significantly different from the control group  
b means significantly different from the k2cr2o7 group

$p < 0.05$

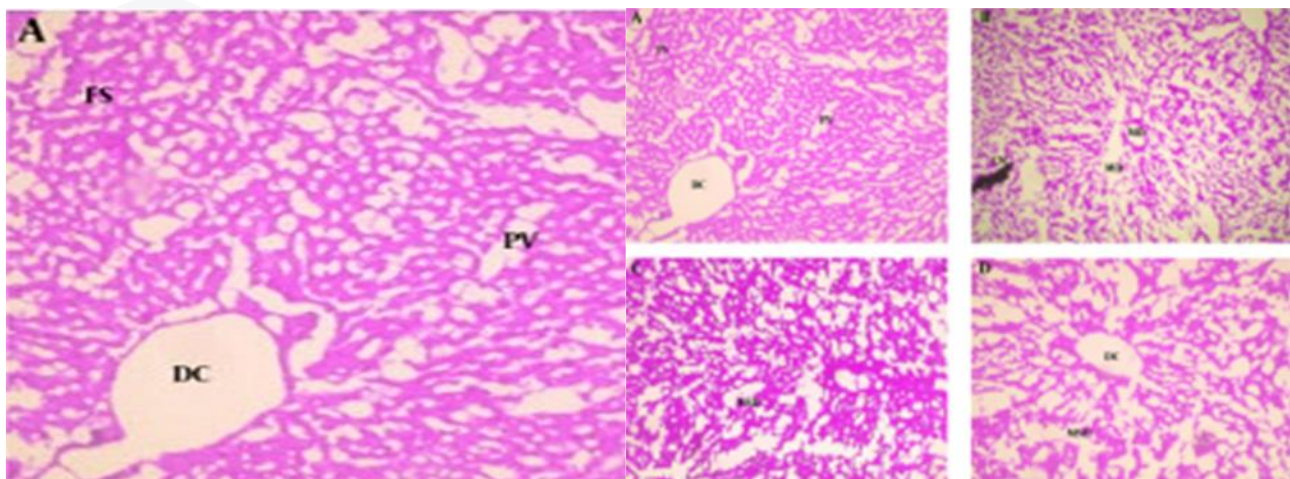
\*Kidney TBARS end catalase of rat treated with

Table8. k2cr2o7 & Se & k2cr2o7 + Se

Parameters	Control	se	K2cr2o7	Se + k2cr2o7
TBARS (mmol/mg protein)	23.65 $\pm$ 0.70	21.65 $\pm$ 0.74	31.1 $\pm$ 1.53	26.71 $\pm$ 1.01
Catalase (U/g tissue)	489.27 $\pm$ 41.42	499.43 $\pm$ 38.10	353.73 $\pm$ 25.31	416.00 $\pm$ 11.613

Values represent the mean  $\pm$  SE of 6 samples  
a means significantly different from the control group  
b means significantly different from the k2cr2o7 group

$p \leq 0.05$



**Figuer4:** Kidney catalase ( $\mu$ moles of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> consumed/min/mg protein) of rat treated with (se) and (k2cr2o7)

Significance at  $P < 0.05$ .

a Comparison of control and other groups

b Comparison of (se) and other groups

c Comparison of k2cr2o7 and other groups; d Comparison of se + k2cr2o7 and other groups

#### LIST OF ABBREVIATION

CAT – catalase

LDH: lactate dehydrogenase

MDA:malondialdhyde





MCH: mean corpuscular hemoglobin  
MCHC: mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration  
MCV: mean cell volume  
GPx: glutathione peroxidase  
GR: glutathione reductase  
GSH: reduced glutathione  
GST: glutathione-S-transferase  
Hb: hemoglobin  
Ht: haematocrit  
HDL: high density lipoproteins  
SOD: superoxide dismutase  
TBARS: thiobarbituric acid reactive substances  
WRC: red blood cell

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