Additive postprandial blood glucose–attenuating and satiety-enhancing effect of cinnamon and acetic acid

Projekt: 398

Dr. Samuel Mettler, I. Schwarz, P.C. Colombani Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences, ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

Background:

Cinnamon and vinegar or acetic acid were reported to reduce the postprandial blood glucose response. We hypothesized that the combination of these substances might result in an additive effect.

Methods:

We determined the two hour postprandial blood glucose and satiety response to a milk rice meal supplemented with either cinnamon or acetic acid on their own or in combination. Subjects (n=27) consumed the meal on four occasions as either pure (control trial), with 4 g cinnamon, 28 mmol acetic acid, or the combination of cinnamon + acetic acid. Blood glucose and satiety were assessed before eating and 15, 30, 45, 60, 90 and 120 min postprandially.

Results:

At 15 min, the combination of cinnamon + acetic acid resulted in a significantly reduced blood glucose concentration compared to the control meal (p=0.021). The incremental area under the blood glucose response curve (IAUC) over 120 min did, however, not differ between the trials (p=0.539). The satiety score of the cinnamon + acetic acid trial was significantly higher than in the control trial at 15 (p=0.024) and 30 min (p=0.024) but the IAUC of the satiety response did not differ (p=0.116) between the trials.

Conclusion:

The significant effect of the combination of cinnamon and acetic acid on blood glucose and satiety immediately after meal intake indicated an additive effect of the two sub-stances. Whether larger doses of cinnamon and acetic acid may result in a more substantial additive effect on blood glucose or satiety remains to be investigated.

Mettler S, Schwarz I and Colombani PC. Additive postprandial blood glucose-attenuating and satiety-enhancing effect of cinnamon and acetic acid. Nutr Res 29: 723-727, 2009