

Print ISSN : 0972-8813
e-ISSN : 2582-2780

[Vol. 23(2) May-August 2025]

Pantnagar Journal of Research

(Formerly International Journal of Basic and
Applied Agricultural Research ISSN : 2349-8765)



G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar



ADVISORY BOARD

Patron

Prof. Manmohan Singh Chauhan, Ph.D., Vice-Chancellor, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, India

Members

Prof. A.S. Nain, Ph.D., Director Research, G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech., Pantnagar, India

Prof. Jitendra Kwatra, Ph.D., Director, Extension Education, G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech., Pantnagar, India

Prof. S.S. Gupta, Ph.D., Dean, College of Technology, G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech., Pantnagar, India

Prof. A.H. Ahmad, Ph.D., Dean, College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech., Pantnagar, India

Prof. Alka Goel, Ph.D., Dean, College of Community Science, G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech., Pantnagar, India

Prof. R.S. Jadoun, Ph.D., Dean, College of Agribusiness Management, G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech., Pantnagar, India

Prof. Lokesh Varshney, Ph.D., Dean, College of Post Graduate Studies, G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech., Pantnagar, India

Prof. Avdhesh Kumar, Ph.D., Dean, College of Fisheries, G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech., Pantnagar, India

Prof. Subhash Chandra, Ph.D., Dean, College of Agriculture, G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech., Pantnagar, India

Prof. Ramesh Chandra Srivastava, Ph.D., Dean, College of Basic Sciences & Humanities, G.B.P.U.A.T., Pantnagar, India

EDITORIAL BOARD

Members

A.K. Misra, Ph.D., Ex-Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board, Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan I, New Delhi, India & Ex-Vice Chancellor, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar

Anand Shukla, Director, Reefberry Foodex Pvt. Ltd., Veraval, Gujarat, India

Anil Kumar, Ph.D., Director, Education, Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, India

Ashok K. Mishra, Ph.D., Kemper and Ethel Marley Foundation Chair, W.P. Carey Business School, Arizona State University, U.S.A

Binod Kumar Kanaujia, Ph.D., Professor, School of Computational and Integrative Sciences, Jawahar Lal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

D. Ratna Kumari, Ph.D., Associate Dean, College of Community / Home Science, PJTSAU, Hyderabad, India

Deepak Pant, Ph.D., Separation and Conversion Technology, Flemish Institute for Technological Research (VITO), Belgium

Desirazu N. Rao, Ph.D., Honorary Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India

G.K. Garg, Ph.D., Ex-Dean, College of Basic Sciences & Humanities, G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech., Pantnagar, India

Humnath Bhandari, Ph.D., IRRI Representative for Bangladesh, Agricultural Economist, Agrifood Policy Platform, Philippines

Indu S Sawant, Ph.D., Principal Scientist, ICAR National Research Centre for Grapes, Pune, India

Kuldeep Singh, Ph.D., Director, ICAR - National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi, India

M.P. Pandey, Ph.D., Ex. Vice Chancellor, BAU, Ranchi & IGKV, Raipur, Director General, IAT, Allahabad, India

Muneshwar Singh, Ph.D., Ex-Project Coordinator AICRP- LTFE, ICAR, Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal, India

Omkar, Ph.D., Professor (Retd.), Department of Zoology, University of Lucknow, India

P.C. Srivastav, Ph.D., Professor (Retd.), Department of Soil Science, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, India

Prashant Srivastava, Ph.D., Soil Contaminant Chemist, CSIRO, Australia

Puneet Srivastava, Ph.D., Director, Water Resources Center, Butler-Cunningham Eminent Scholar, Professor, Biosystems Engineering, Auburn University, United States

R.K. Singh, Ph.D., Ex-Director & Vice Chancellor, ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, U.P., India

Ramesh Kanwar, Ph.D., Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor of Water Resources Engineering, Iowa State University, U.S.A.

S.N. Maurya, Ph.D., Professor (Retired), Department of Gynaecology & Obstetrics, G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech., Pantnagar, India

Sham S. Goyal, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, University of California, Davis, U.S.A.

Umesh Varshney, Ph.D., Honorary Professor, Department of Microbiology and Cell Biology, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India

V.D. Sharma, Ph.D., Dean Life Sciences, SAI Group of Institutions, Dehradun, India

V.K. Singh, Ph.D., Director, ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad, India

Vijay P. Singh, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor, Caroline and William N. Lehrer Distinguished Chair in Water Engineering, Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Texas A & M University, U.S.A.

Editor-in-Chief

Manoranjan Dutta, Ph.D., Ex Head, Germplasm Evaluation Division, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi, India

Managing Editor

S.N. Tiwari, Ph.D., Professor (Retd.) & Ex-Director Research

G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, India

Assistant Managing Editor

Jyotsna Yadav, Ph.D., Research Editor, Directorate of Research, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, India

Technical Manager

S.D. Samantaray, Ph.D., Professor & Head, Department of Computer Engineering, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, India

Development

Dr. S.D. Samantaray, Professor & Head

Brijesh Dumka, Developer & Programmer

PANTNAGAR JOURNAL OF RESEARCH

Vol. 23(2)

May-August, 2025

CONTENTS

Bioaccumulation of heavy metals in soils and <i>Telfairia occidentalis</i> leaf grown around a river bank and dump site	139
ORHUE, E. R., EMOMU, A., JUDAH-ODIA, S. A., AIGBOGHAEBHOLO, O. P. and NWAEKE, I. S.	
Evaluation of maize cultivars for spring season in Indo-Gangetic plain of India	149
AMIT BHATNAGAR, N. K. SINGH and R. P. SINGH	
Weed management approaches for improving maize productivity in <i>Tarai</i> Belt of India	157
AKHILESH JUYAL and VINEETA RATHORE	
Effect of <i>Aloe vera</i> based composite edible coatings in retaining the postharvest quality of litchi fruits (<i>Litchi chinensis</i> Sonn.) cv. Rose Scented	163
GOPAL MANI, OMVEER SINGH and RATNA RAI	
Effect of chemical treatments on seed yield and quality in parthenocarpic cucumber (<i>Cucumis sativus</i> L.)	178
DHIRENDRA SINGH and UDIT JOSHI	
Assessment of chrysanthemum (<i>Dendranthema grandiflora</i> Tzvelev) varieties for their suitability for flower production under <i>Tarai</i> region of Uttarakhand	183
PALLAVI BHARATI and AJIT KUMAR KAPOOR	
Population dynamics of brown planthopper and mirid bug in relation to weather factors in the <i>Tarai</i> region	194
DEEPIKA JEENGAR and AJAY KUMAR PANDEY	
Influence of weather parameters on the population dynamics of Papaya mealybugs, <i>Paracoccus marginatus</i> and its natural enemies in Pantnagar, Uttarakhand	200
DIPTI JOSHI and POONAM SRIVASTAVA	
<i>In vitro</i> phosphate solubilizing and phyto stimulating potential of Rhizospheric <i>Trichoderma</i> from Hilly areas of Kumaun Region	208
DIVYA PANT and LAKSHMI TEWARI	
Economics of interventions and diversifications in existing farming systems in hills of Uttarakhand	221
DINESH KUMAR SINGH, AJEET PRATAP SINGH and ROHITASHAV SINGH	
Brucellosis surveillance and reproductive performance in an organized dairy herd of Uttarakhand: A seven-year retrospective analysis (2018–2024)	227
ATUL YADAV, SHIVANGI MAURYA, MAANSI and AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY	
Effects of nanosilver administration on immune responses in Wistar Rats	230
NEHA PANT, R. S. CHAUHAN and MUNISH BATRA	

Antibacterial activity of Clove bud extract on MDR bacteria KANISHK A. KAMBLE, B. V. BALLURKAR and M. K. PATIL	240
Effect of iron oxide and aluminium oxide nanoparticles on biochemical parameters in Wistar rats NISHA KOHLI and SEEMA AGARWAL	247
Comprehensive case report of a mast cell tumor in a dog: clinical, cytological and histopathological analysis SWASTI SHARMA, SONALI MISHRA and GAURAV JOSHI	257
Evaluation of <i>In vitro</i> digestibility, functional and sensory characteristics of pre-digested corn and mungbean composite flour MANISHA RANI and ANJU KUMARI	261
Prevalence and public health correlates of constipation among adults in U. S. Nagar, Uttarakhand AKANKSHA SINGH, RITA SINGH RAGHUVANSHI and APURVA	270
Formulation and quality assessment of cheeses enriched with sapota pulp DELGI JOSEPH C. and SHARON, C. L.	279
Application of RSM for optimizing 7-day fermentation conditions in rice wine production RIYA K ZACHARIA, ANEENA E. R and SEEJA THOMACHAN	289
Investigating the mechanical properties and water absorption behavior of hemp-based natural fiber-reinforced bio-composites for humidity-resistant applications DEEPA SINGH and NEERAJ BISHT	303
Evaluating the performance of a forced convection solar drying system for chhurpi: A comparative analysis with traditional drying techniques SYED NADEEM UDDIN, SANDEEP GM PRASAD and PRASHANT M. DSOUZA	317
Digitization of G. B. Pant University Herbarium (GBPUH) and development of Virtual Herbarium Pantnagar, Uttarakhand (INDIA) RUPALI SHARMA, DHARMENDRA SINGH RAWAT and SANGEETA JOSHI	326
Constraints grappled with by rural communities during the implementation of Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan 2025 in Udham Singh Nagar District ARPITA SHARMA KANDPAL, B. D. SINGH, AJAY PRABHAKAR, SWATI and MEENA AGNIHOTRI	332

Effect of iron oxide and aluminium oxide nanoparticles on biochemical parameters in Wistar rats

NISHA KOHLI and SEEMA AGARWAL*

Department of Veterinary Pathology, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Pantnagar-263145, (U. S. Nagar, Uttarakhand)

**Corresponding author's email id: dr. seemapatho@gmail. com*

ABSTRACT: The current research aimed to investigate the changes in biochemical characteristics induced by nano-iron oxide and nano-aluminium oxide particles in Wistar rats during a 90-day repeated dose study. A total of 35 Wistar rats were randomly divided into two groups: control (with 20 animals) and test (with 15 animals). Throughout the duration of 90 days of the experiment, the control group received standard feed and purified reverse osmosis water. The treatment group was administered with a mixture of nano-iron oxide and nano-aluminium oxide in distilled water at a dose 15mg/kg body weight for nano-iron oxide and 3mg/kg body weight for nano-aluminium oxide, along with standard feed and RO water. Blood samples were collected from both G1 and G2 on 30th, 60th and 90th DPT for biochemical studies. There was significant increase in aspartate aminotransferase (AST), alanine aminotransferase (ALT), creatine and BUN whereas there was decrease in serum total protein, serum albumin, serum globulin and serum gamma globulin in treated group as compared to the control group. Based on the above findings, it concluded that combination of iron and aluminium nano particles at the rate of half of their NOAEL dose causes ill effects on the health status of Wistar Rats. It induces alteration in various biochemical parameters and thus causes health hazards.

Key words: Aluminium oxide, biochemical, Iron oxide, nanoparticles, Wistar rats

A nanomaterial is defined as a particle that possesses at least one dimension within the nanometer scale, typically ranging from one to a few hundred nanometers (Cui and Gao, 2003). The primary goal of nanotechnology is to gain a profound understanding of nanoscale phenomena and materials. The term “nanotechnology” originates from the Greek word “nanos,” which means “dwarf.” It mainly focuses on creating structures, devices, and systems with unique properties and functions attributed to their incredibly small size. There is a need for a more thorough examination into the exposure concerns posed by engineered nanomaterials (ENMs) to people and other living things because of the rapid increase in nanotechnology application in consumer goods.

Iron is a crucial metal ion in the body, playing essential roles in various physiological processes, such as DNA synthesis, mitochondrial respiration, and oxygen transportation (Mounsey and Teismann, 2012). The body relies on iron for synthesizing oxygen transport proteins, particularly hemoglobin and

myoglobin, as well as for forming heme enzymes and other iron-containing enzymes involved in electron transfer and oxidation-reduction reactions (McDowell, 2003). Iron nanoparticles find application as food additives in Fe-fortified beverages and cereals for human consumption (Fidler *et al.*, 2004). Excessive intake of iron can harm the intestinal mucosa and increase its permeability (Nurmi *et al.*, 2005). Notably, nano-sized Zero-valent iron (Fe⁰) exhibits higher reactivity compared to micro-sized FeO particles (Nchito *et al.*, 2006). Additionally, Fe metal serves as an essential micronutrient vital for numerous crucial biological processes and ranks as the most abundant transition metal in the body. However, it can induce oxidative stress in aqueous solutions through the generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) (Puntarulo, 2005).

Aluminium (Al) is the world's third most abundant element and is widely recognized as a neurotoxin in the environment. Aluminium-based nanoparticles (NPs) have diverse applications in fields like fuel

cells, polymers, paints, coatings, textiles, and biomaterials. However, studies have indicated the toxic effects of aluminium oxide nanoparticles (Al_2O_3 -NPs) on cell viability, mitochondrial function, oxidative stress, and the expression of tight junction proteins in the blood-brain barrier (BBB) (Chen *et al.*, 2008).

The environmental and health implications of Al_2O_3 -NPs have garnered significant interest due to their common use in abrasive, wear-resistant coatings, solid rocket fuel, and drug delivery systems (Tyner *et al.*, 2004). With the increasing utilization of these nanoparticles, human and animal exposure is rising through various entry routes like ingestion, inhalation, and dermal penetration, prompting extensive research on their health effects.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted over a 90-day period using 35 Wistar rats, both male and female, aged 18 weeks. These rats were randomly divided into two groups: a control group consisting of 20 rats and a test group with 15 rats. Iron oxide and Aluminium Oxide (Boehmite) nano dispersion were used as the nanoparticles in this research.

The iron oxide and aluminium oxide (Boehmite) nanodispersion, procured from Sisco Research Laboratories Pvt. Ltd, was orally administered to the rats at a dose of 15mg/kg body weight and 3mg/kg body weight respectively per day, which is half of the NOAEL dose. The rats were provided with standard ration from the beginning of the experiment and had access to RO drinking water ad-libitum until the last day of the 90-day study.

Before commencing the experiment, all the rats were given a period of 7 days to acclimate to the experimental animal house.

Serum Biochemistry

Biochemical tests were performed using standard protocol given along with kits supplied by ERBA India limited (Koller, 1980).

Total Serum Protein

In serum of test and control rats, total serum protein was measured using standard protocol of Biurate method using Erba total protein kit. For this 1000 μl of the reagent provided in the kit was taken in three eppendorf and marked them control, standard and test. 20 μl of DW, standard mentioned in the kit and test serum sample was added in the control, standard and test eppendorfs, respectively. These eppendorfs were then incubated at 37°C for 10min and then absorbance of the standard and test was taken against the control at 546 nm.

Serum Albumin

In tests and control rats, serum albumin was measured using standard protocol of bromocresol green dye method using Erba albumin kit. For this 1000 μl of the reagent provided in the kit was taken in three eppendorf's and marked them control, standard and test. 10 μl of each i. e. DW, standard given in kit and test serum sample was added in the control, standard and test eppendorfs, respectively. These eppendorfs then incubated at 37°C for 1 min and then absorbance of the standard and test was taken against the control at 630 nm.

Serum Globulin

Concentration of the serum globulin was calculated by subtracting concentration of serum albumin from concentration of total serum protein.

Serum Gamma Globulin

Serum gamma globulin concentration was determined by mixing 5.7ml ammonium sulfate (19.5%) and sodium chloride (2.03%) solution and 0.3ml serum sample. After mixing, the solution was kept in ice bath for overnight and then it was centrifuged at 1250g for 10 min to separate the precipitate. Precipitate obtained was then dissolved in the 0.2 ml NSS and process of obtaining precipitate was repeated. Precipitate obtained was then dissolved in 2ml of NSS and mixed with 5ml of biurate reagent. Mixture was then incubated at room temperature for

10 minutes and optical density was read at 555 nm (Jager and Nickerson, 1948; Chauhan, 1998).

Serum Creatinine

In tests and control rats, serum creatinine was estimated using standard protocol of Jaffe's method using Erba creatinine kit. For this 1000 μ l of the reagent provided in the kit was taken in two eppendorf and marked them standard and test. 100 μ l of each i. e., standard given in kit and test serum sample was added and mixed in the standard and test eppendorf's, respectively. Initial and final absorbance of the standard and test was taken 20sec and 80sec after mixing, respectively at 505 nm. The difference of both the reading was presented as delta absorbance.

Serum Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN)

Serum blood urea nitrogen was determined by GLDH- Urease method, using a kit from Erba Diagnostics Mannheim Ltd. Baddi, Dist. Solan (HP), India. The standard and test were prepared as per the standard procedure given in the kit and the absorbance of the standard and each of the test were read at 340 nm at 20 (A1) and 80 (A2) seconds after mixing using UV-Vis spectrophotometer. The results were expressed as milligram per deciliter (mg/dl).

Aspartate Aminotransferase (AST)

In tests and control rats, serum AST was measured using standard protocol recommended by International Federation of Clinical Chemistry using Erba AST kit. For this 1000 μ l of the reagent provided in the kit was taken and mixed with 100 μ l of the test serum sample. Initial and final absorbance of the mixture was taken at lag time of 60 sec at 340nm.

Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT)

In tests and control rats, serum ALT was measured using standard protocol recommended by International Federation of Clinical Chemistry using Erba ALT kit for this 1000 μ l of the reagent provided in

the kit was taken and mixed with 100 μ l of the test serum sample. Initial and final absorbance of the mixture was taken at lag time of 60 sec at 340nm.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Total Serum Protein

The mean values of total serum protein in rats of control and treated group were determined at every 30-day interval during the course of experiment. The data of mean values of total serum protein are expressed in g/dl and are presented in Table 1 and Figure 1. The mean values of total serum protein in rats of control group were 5.42 ± 0.22 , 5.72 ± 0.30 , 6.08 ± 0.25 and 6.64 ± 0.17 g/dl and in rats of treated group were to 5.42 ± 0.22 , 5.55 ± 0.23 , 5.57 ± 0.21 and 5.60 ± 0.25 g/dl at day 0, 30, 60 and 90 of the experiment, respectively. Total serum protein for treated group was recorded decreased at day 30, 60 and 90 by 2.97%, 8.38% and 15.6%, respectively when compared with control group. Results of mean values of total serum protein showed significant difference between test and control group at 90 DPT. Significant difference in mean values of total serum protein level was observed in control group between 0-90 and 30-90 DPT and in treated group there was no statistically significant difference observed.

Serum Albumin

The values of mean serum albumin in rats of control and treated group were determined at every 30-day interval during the course of experiment. The data of mean serum albumin are expressed in g/dl and are presented in Table 2 and figure 2. The values of mean serum albumin in rats of control group were 2.68 ± 0.18 , 2.74 ± 0.26 , 2.73 ± 0.11 and 2.78 ± 0.15 g/dl and in rats of treated group were 2.68 ± 0.18 , 2.91 ± 0.18 , 2.61 ± 0.21 and 2.55 ± 0.17 g/dl at day 0, 30, 60 and 90 of the experiment, respectively. Mean serum albumin for treated group was recorded to increase at day 30 by 6.56% and then decreased at day 60 and 90 by 4.39% and 8.27%, respectively when compared with control group. There was no statistically significant difference recorded between the groups and within the groups.

Table 1: Total serum protein (g/dl) of experimental rats at different time intervals

Day Post-Treatment	Total Serum Protein (Mean \pm SE)		% increase or decrease than control
	Group I (Control)	Group II (Fe ₂ O ₃ +Al ₂ O ₃ NP)	
0	5.42 \pm 0.22 ^A	5.42 \pm 1.22	(0%)
30	5.72 \pm 0.30 ^A	5.55 \pm 0.23	(-2.97%)
60	6.08 \pm 0.25 ^{AB}	5.57 \pm 0.21	(-8.38%)
90	6.64 \pm 0.17 ^{aB}	5.60 \pm 0.25 ^b	(-15.6%)

Alphabetical letters (a and b) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference between group at a particular DPT whereas different alphabetical letters (A and B) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference within days in a particular group

Table 2: Serum Albumin (g/dl) of experimental rats at different time intervals

Day Post- Treatment	Serum Albumin Value (g/dl) (Mean \pm SE)		% increase or decrease than control
	Group I (Control)	Group II (Fe ₂ O ₃ +Al ₂ O ₃ NP)	
0	2.68 \pm 0.18	2.68 \pm 0.18	(0%)
30	2.74 \pm 0.26	2.91 \pm 0.18	(6.56%)
60	2.73 \pm 0.11	2.61 \pm 0.21	(-4.39%)
90	2.78 \pm 0.15	2.55 \pm 0.17	(-8.27%)

Table 3: Serum Globulin (g/dl) of experimental rats at different time intervals

Day Post- Treatment	Serum Globulin (g/dl) (Mean \pm SE)		% increase or decrease than control
	Group I (Control)	Group II (Fe ₂ O ₃ +Al ₂ O ₃ NP)	
0	2.95 \pm 0.06 ^A	2.95 \pm 0.06 ^{AB}	(0%)
30	2.60 \pm 0.14 ^A	2.94 \pm 0.08 ^{AB}	(43.75%)
60	4.52 \pm 0.31 ^B	3.48 \pm 0.18 ^B	(-15.78%)
90	5.01 \pm 0.11 ^{aC}	2.54 \pm 0.10 ^{aB}	(-36.36%)

Alphabetical letters (a & b) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference between groups at a particular DPT whereas different alphabetical letters (A, B and C) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference within days in a particular group

Table 4: Serum Gamma Globulin (g/dl) of experimental rats at different time intervals

Day Post- Treatment	Serum Gamma Globulin in (g/dl) (Mean \pm SE)		% increase or decrease than control
	Group I (Control)	Group II (Fe ₂ O ₃ +Al ₂ O ₃ NP)	
0	0.15 \pm 0.02	0.15 \pm 0.02 ^{AB}	(0%)
30	0.16 \pm 0.03	0.23 \pm 0.02 ^B	(43.75%)
60	0.19 \pm 0.01	0.16 \pm 0.03 ^{AB}	(-15.78%)
90	0.22 \pm 0.01 ^a	0.14 \pm 0.02 ^{bA}	(-36.36%)

*Alphabetical letters (a & b) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference between groups at a particular DPT whereas different alphabetical letters (A and B) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference within days in a particular group

Table 5: Serum Creatinine (mg/dl) of experimental rats at different time intervals of the experimental period

Day Post- Treatment	Serum Creatinine (mg/dl) (Mean \pm SE)		% increase or decrease than control
	Group I (Control)	Group II (Fe ₂ O ₃ +Al ₂ O ₃ NP)	
0	0.42 \pm 0.03 ^A	0.42 \pm 0.03 ^A	(0%)
30	0.47 \pm 0.05 ^{AB}	0.58 \pm 0.07 ^A	(23.4%)
60	0.55 \pm 0.08 ^{AB}	0.75 \pm 0.02 ^A	(36.36%)
90	0.67 \pm 0.11 ^{aB}	1.19 \pm 0.07 ^{bB}	(77.6%)

*Alphabetical letters (a & b) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference between groups at a particular DPT whereas different alphabetical letters (A and B) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference within days in a particular group

Table 6: Serum BUN (mg/dl) of experimental rats at different time intervals of the experimental period

Day Post- Treatment	Serum BUN Value (mg/dl) (Mean \pm SE)		% increase or decrease than control
	Group I (Control)	Group II (Fe ₂ O ₃ +Al ₂ O ₃ NP)	
0	20.97 \pm 1.39	20.97 \pm 1.39A	(0%)
30	21.35 \pm 1.39	23.32 \pm 0.07 ^A	(9.22%)
60	22.92 \pm 0.79 ^a	27.1 \pm 0.85bB	(18.25%)
90	22.62 \pm 0.85 ^a	31.61 \pm 0.60 ^{bc}	(39.74%)

*Alphabetical letters (a & b) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference between groups at a particular DPT whereas different alphabetical letters (A, B and C) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference within days in a particular group

Table 7: Mean Aspartate Aminotransferase (IU/L) of experimental rats at different time intervals

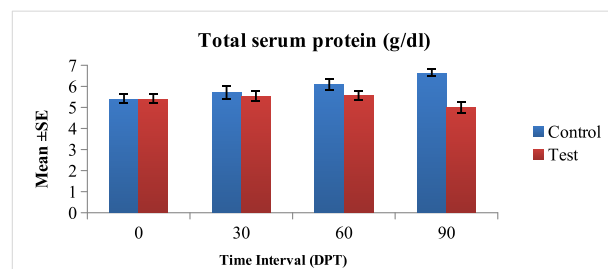
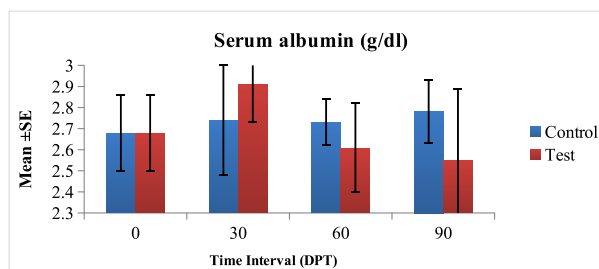
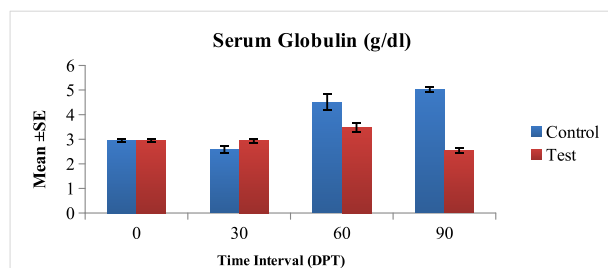
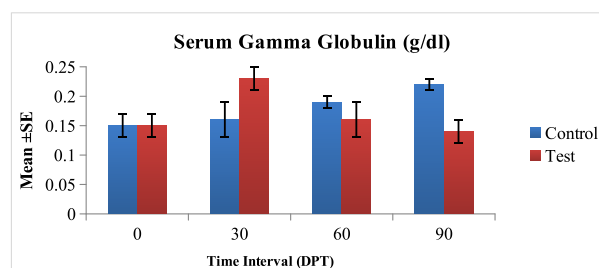
Day Post- Treatment	AST (IU/L) (Mean \pm SE)		% increase or decrease than control
	Group I (Control)	Group II (Fe ₂ O ₃ +Al ₂ O ₃ NP)	
0	39.98 \pm 1.44 ^A	39.98 \pm 1.44 ^A	(0%)
30	41.72 \pm 1.39 ^A	42.46 \pm 1.20 ^A	(1.79%)
60	44.76 \pm 1.76 ^{aAB}	57.81 \pm 2.11 ^{bB}	(29.12%)
90	47.93 \pm 1.47 ^{aB}	66.44 \pm 2.43 ^{bc}	(38.61%)

*Alphabetical letters (a & b) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference between groups at a particular DPT whereas different alphabetical letters (A, B and C) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference within days in a particular group

Table 8: Alanine Aminotransferase (IU/L) of experimental rats at different time intervals

Day Post- Treatment	ALT (IU/L) (Mean \pm SE)		% increase or decrease than control
	Group I (Control)	Group II (Fe ₂ O ₃ +Al ₂ O ₃ NP)	
0	24.43 \pm 2.24 ^A	24.43 \pm 2.24 ^A	(0%)
30	28.72 \pm 1.74 ^{AB}	31.62 \pm 0.94 ^B	(11.06%)
60	30.75 \pm 1.17 ^{aB}	37.75 \pm 1.32 ^{bc}	(22.76%)
90	33.16 \pm 1.20 ^{aB}	47.54 \pm 2.28 ^{bd}	(43.36%)

*Alphabetical letters (a & b) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference between groups at a particular DPT whereas different alphabetical letters (A, B and C) indicate significant (P<0.05) difference within days in a particular group

**Fig.1: Total Serum protein (g/dl) of experimental rats****Fig.2: Serum albumin in g/dl of experimental rats at different time intervals****Fig.3: Serum globulin in g/dl of experimental rats at different time intervals****Fig.4: Serum gamma globulin (g/dl) of experimental rats at different time intervals**

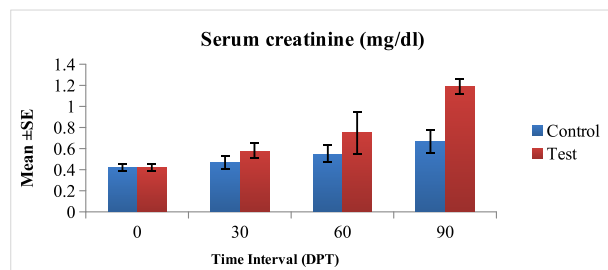


Fig.5:Serum creatinine (mg/dl) of experimental rats at different time intervals

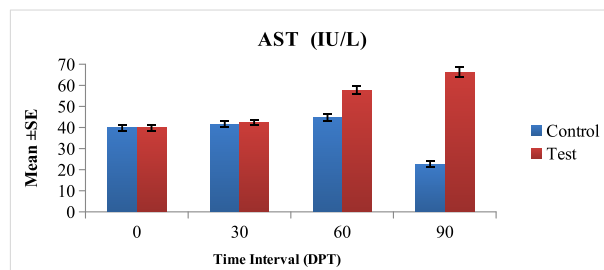


Fig.6:Serum BUN (mg/dl) of experimental rats at different time intervals

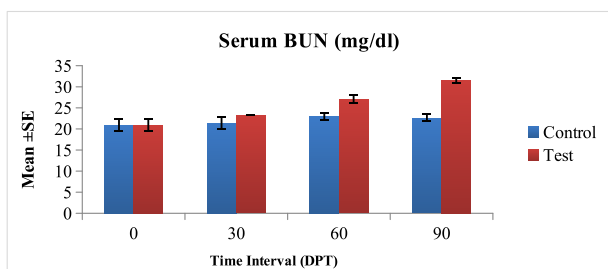


Fig.7:Aspartate Aminotransferase in IU/L of experimental rats at different time intervals

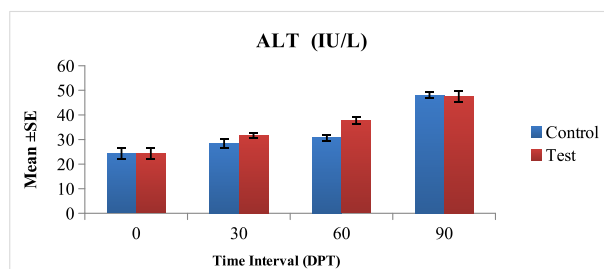


Fig.8:Alanine Aminotransferase in IU/L of experimental rats at different time intervals

Serum Globulin

The mean values of serum globulin in rats of control and treated groups were determined at every 30-day interval during the course of experiment. The data mean values of serum globulin are expressed in g/dl and are presented in Table 3 and figure 3. Mean serum globulin determined in rats of control group were 2.95 ± 0.06 , 2.60 ± 0.14 , 4.52 ± 0.19 and 5.01 ± 0.11 g/dl and in rats of treated group were 2.95 ± 0.06 , 2.94 ± 0.08 , 3.48 ± 0.18 and 2.54 ± 0.10 g/dl at day 0, 30, 60 and 90 of the experiment, respectively. Mean serum globulin for treated group was recorded to increase at day 30 by 13.07% and then decreased at day 60 and 90 by 23% and 49.3%, respectively when compared with control group. Results showed significant difference between mean values of serum globulin in the test and control group at 90 DPT. Significant difference in serum globulin level was also observed in control group between 0-60, 0-90, 30-60, 30-90 and 60-90.

Serum Gamma Globulin

The values of mean serum gamma globulin in rats

of control and treated group were determined at every 30 day interval during the course of experiment. The data obtained are expressed in g/dl and are presented in table 4 and figure 4. Mean serum gamma globulin obtained in rats of control group were 0.15 ± 0.02 , 0.16 ± 0.03 , 0.19 ± 0.01 and 0.22 ± 0.01 g/dl and in rats of treated group were 0.15 ± 0.02 , 0.23 ± 0.02 , 0.16 ± 0.03 and 0.14 ± 0.02 g/dl at 0, 30, 60 and 90 day of the experiment, respectively. Mean serum gamma globulin in treated group were recorded increased at day 30 by 43.75% and was recorded decreased at day 60 and 90 by 15.78% and 36.36%, respectively when compared with control group. Results showed significant difference between mean values of serum gamma globulin in the test and control group at 90 DPT. Significant difference in serum gamma globulin level was also observed in treated group between 30-90 DPT.

Serum Creatinine

The values of mean serum creatinine in rats of control and treated group were determined at every 30 day interval during the course of experiment. The values of mean serum creatinine in rats are expressed

in mg/dl and are presented in Table 5 and figure 5. Mean serum creatinine in rats of control group were 0.42 ± 0.03 , 0.47 ± 0.06 , 0.55 ± 0.08 and 0.67 ± 0.11 mg/dl and in rats of treated group were 0.42 ± 0.03 , 0.58 ± 0.07 , 0.75 ± 0.21 and 1.19 ± 0.07 mg/dl at 0, 30, 60 and 90 day of the experiment, respectively. Mean serum creatinine values in treated group were recorded increased at day 30, 60 and 90 by 23.4%, 36.36% and 77.6%, respectively when compared with control group. Results showed significant difference between test and control group at 90DPT. The Significant difference in mean serum creatinine levels were observed in control group between 0-90DPT and in treated group between 0-90, 30-90 and 60-90.

Serum BUN

The values of mean serum BUN in rats of control and treated group were determined at every 30 day interval during the course of experiment. The values of mean serum BUN in rats are expressed in mg/dl and are presented in table 6 and figure 6. Mean serum BUN in rats of control group were 20.97 ± 1.39 , 21.35 ± 1.39 , 22.92 ± 0.79 and 22.62 ± 0.85 mg/dl and in rats of treated group were 20.97 ± 1.39 , 23.32 ± 0.07 , 27.1 ± 0.85 and 31.61 ± 0.60 mg/dl at 0, 30, 60 and 90 day of the experiment, respectively. Mean serum BUN values in treated group were recorded increased at day 30, 60 and 90 by 9.22%, 18.25% and 39.74%, respectively when compared with control group. Results showed significant difference between test and control group at 60 and 90 DPT. Significant difference in mean serum BUN levels were observed in treated group between 0-60, 0-90, 30-60, 30-90 and 60-90 DPT.

Serum Aspartate Aminotransferase (AST)

Mean AST values in rats of control and treated group were determined at every 30-day interval during the course of experiment. The data obtained are expressed in IU/L and are presented in Table 7 and figure 7. Mean AST values in rats of control group were 39.98 ± 1.44 , 41.72 ± 1.39 , 44.76 ± 1.76 and 47.93 ± 1.47 IU/L and in rats of treated group were 39.98 ± 1.44 , 42.46 ± 1.20 , 57.81 ± 2.11 and 66.44 ± 2.43

IU/L at 0, 30, 60 and 90 day of the experiment, respectively. Mean serum AST values in treated group were recorded increased at 30, 60 and 90 day by 1.79%, 29.12% and 38.61%, respectively when compared with control group. Results showed significant increase between mean serum AST values of test and control group at 60 and 90 DPT. Significant difference in serum AST was observed in control group between 0-90 and 30-90 DPT and in treated group significant difference was observed in between 0-60, 0-90, 30-60, 30-90 and 60-90 DPT.

Serum Alanine Transaminase (ALT)

The mean ALT values in rats of control and treated group were determined at every 30-day interval, expressed in IU/L and are presented in Table 8 and figure 8. The values of mean ALT in rats of control group were 24.43 ± 2.24 , 28.47 ± 1.74 , 30.75 ± 1.17 and 33.16 ± 1.20 IU/L and in rats of treated group were 24.43 ± 2.24 , 31.62 ± 0.94 , 37.75 ± 1.32 and 47.54 ± 2.28 IU/L at 0, 30, 60 and 90 day of the experiment, respectively. Mean ALT values in rats of treated group were recorded increased at 30, 60 and 90day by 11.06%, 22.76% and 43.36%, respectively when compared with control group. Results showed significant increase between the values of mean serum ALT in test and control group at 60 and 90DPT. Significant difference in serum ALT was observed in control group between 0-60 and 0-90 and treated group between 0-30, 0-60, 0-90, 30-60, 30-90 and 60-90 DPT.

Decrease in serum protein, serum albumin, serum globulin and serum gamma globulin was observed in the treated rats when compared with the control rats. Albumin as an antioxidant and function as scavenger for free radicals to protect blood cells against oxidative damage (Tolia *et al.*, 2013). The free radicals produced by the nano iron and nano aluminium may lead to excessive utilization of albumin which may result into decreased level of serum albumin and also decrease in total serum protein. In addition, this decrease in total serum protein can be attributed to the damage of rough endoplasmic reticulum caused by the ROS (Kutlubay *et al.*, 2007).

There was an elevated serum level of liver function enzyme i. e., AST and ALT in nano iron and nano aluminium treated group as compared to that of control during the course of experiment. Alanine transaminase (ALT) and aspartate aminotransferase (AST) are two of the most reliable markers of hepatocellular injury or necrosis. Liver is an organ of the reticuloendothelial system that is highly sensitive to oxidative stress due to its high blood flow (Nel *et al.*, 2006). NPs are primarily readily taken up by hepatocytes and Kupffer cells specialized macrophages located in the liver (Novotna *et al.*, 2012). So, this might be due to increase in production of free radicals and beginning of reactive oxygen species (ROS) reactions, that causes damage to hepatocytes in liver and increase the level of liver enzymes due to tissue destruction and releasing these enzymes into the blood stream. As both nano-iron and nano-aluminium enhance the production of ROS and thus damage the hepatocytes (Sadeh *et al.*, 2015; Morsy *et al.*, 2016). This will lead to the necrosis as seen in our histopathological examination. Damage to the liver membrane is the reason for the release of liver enzymes in blood. This result is also in confirmation with the study by Wang *et al.*, (2010) and Sadeghi *et al.*, (2015), on Wistar rats given IONPs, study by (Morsy *et al.*, 2016) on nanoalumina fed rats, study by Shodhan, (2019) on Wistar rats administered nano-aluminum oxide and study by Babadi *et al.*, (2012) on rats given IONPSs.

Increase in the concentration of serum BUN and Creatinine level was observed in the experiment. The increase in the level of BUN and serum creatinine is a significant indicator of renal dysfunction (El-Demerdash, 2004). Significant reduction in total serum protein as seen in our experiment may suggest enhanced protein catabolism which may be also responsible for increased BUN level in blood stream (Mahieu *et al.*, 2009). Increase in the serum creatinine may be attributed to relation between serum creatinine and glomerulus filtration rate shows parabolic reaction and level of serum creatinine rises only after 50% loss in the renal function (Hosten, 1990) and it may be due to the abnormal glomerular filtration rate (Aziz and Zabut, 2011). The results are confirmed by the abnormal dilation of vascular glom-

eruli as observed under histopathological examination of the kidneys, in the present experiment. Also previous data presented that, in vitro studies, iron and aluminium NPs are able to disrupt the renal system by exerting cytotoxic effects on glomerular and tubular cell lines, while the in vivo studies showed that NPs might alter the normal structure of the nephron thus affecting the physiological functions of the kidney (Iavicoli, 2016).

CONCLUSION

Based on the above findings, it can be concluded that combination of iron and aluminium NPs at the rate of half of their NOAEL dose i. e., 15mg/kg BW and 3mg/kg BW confirm toxic effects on various parts of the body leading to hepatopathy and nephropathy that may result into the down regulation of immunity. The characteristics of these nanoparticles such as smaller particle size, higher surface reactivity and higher relative surface area along with the native characteristics of iron and aluminium can be attributed to the above changes in the body parameters. Further studies, should be carried out in different animal models using varied doses and increased duration of iron and aluminium nanoparticles to exactly find out the immunosuppressive effect of these particles. As immunosuppression is not an acute toxicity, which can be easily monitored; it affects function of the immune system, and assessing functional changes involves long-term, systematic, multi-parameter evaluating various aspects of immunity. Also it can be suggested that, defining safety limits should be set for the usage of these nanoparticles in biomedical applications.

REFERENCES

- Aziz, A. and Zabut, M. (2011). Effect on rat blood of aluminium chloride and vitamins E and C. *Egyptian Journal of Biology*, 13:1-7.
- Babadi, V. Y. (2012). Evaluation of iron oxide nanoparticles effects on tissue and enzymes of liver in rats. *Journal of Pharmacology and Biomedical Sciences*, 23 (23):1-4.
- Chauhan, R. S. (1998). Immunopathology: Modern trends in diagnosis and control. *In: Labora-*

- tory Manual of Immunopathology*, Unique Print Co. Pantnagar, Pp.19, 23, 29, 31-33, 34, 37, 51-52.
- Chen. L., Yokel. R.A., Hennig, B. and Toborek, M. (2008). Manufactured aluminium oxide nanoparticles decrease expression of tight junction proteins in brain vasculature. *Journal of Neuroimmuno Pharmacology*, 3 (4): 286-295.
- Cui, D and Gao, H. (2003). Advance and prospect of bionanomaterials. *Biotechnol. Prog.*, 19 (3):683–692.
- El-Demerdash, F. M. (2004). Antioxidant effect of vitamin E and selenium on lipid peroxidation, enzyme activities and biochemical parameters in rats exposed to aluminium. *Journal of Trace Elements in Medicine and Biology*, 18 (1): 113–121.
- Fidler, M. C., Walczyk, T., Davidson, L., Zeder, C., Sakaguchi, N., Juneja, L. R. and Hurrell, R. F. (2004). *British Journal of Nutrition*, 91:107.
- Hosten, A. O. (1990). BUN and creatinine. In: Walker, H. K., Hall, W. D. and Hurst, J. W. (eds). *Clinical Methods: The History, Physical and Laboratory Examinations*. 3rd edition. Boston: Butterworth publication.
- Iavicoli, I., Fontana, L. and Nordberg, G. (2016). The effects of nanoparticles on the renal system. *Critical Reviews in Toxicology*, 11: 1-72.
- Jager, B. V. and Nickerson, M. (1948). Clinical application of a simple method for estimating “gamma globulin”. *The Journal of Clinical Investigation*, 27 (2): 231-238.
- Koller, L. D. and Roan, J. G. (1980). Effects of lead, cadmium and methyl mercury on immunological memory. *J. Environ. Pathol. Toxicol.*, 4 (5-6):47-52.
- Kutlubay, R., Oguzm, E. O., Can, B., Gu “ven, M. C., Sinik, Z. and Tuncay, O. L. (2007). Vitamin E protection from testicular damage caused by intraperitoneal aluminium. *International Journal of Toxicology*, 26 (4): 297–306.
- Mahieu, S., Contini, M. C., Gonzalez, M. and Millen, N. (2009). Melatonin reduces oxidative damage induced by aluminium in rat kidney. *Toxicology Letters*, 190: 9–15.
- McDowell, L. R. (2003). 2nd ed. Amsterdam: Elsevier Science, Minerals in Animal and Human Nutrition, 660p.
- Morsy, G. M., Abou El-Ala, K. S. and Ali, A. A. (2016). Studies on fate and toxicity of nanoalumina in male albino rats: lethality, bioaccumulation and genotoxicity. *Toxicology and Industrial Health*, 32 (2):344–359.
- Mounsey, R. B and Teismann, P. (2012). Chelators in the treatment of iron accumulation in Parkinson’s disease. *International Journal of Cell Biology*, Pp 1-12.
- Nchito, M., Friis, H., Michaelsen, K. F., Mubila, L. and Olsen, A. (2006). Iron supplementation increases small intestine permeability in primary schoolchildren in Lusaka, Zambia. *Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*, 100:791.
- Nel, A., Xia, T., Madler, L. and Li, N. (2006). Toxic potential of materials at the nano level. *Science*, 311: 622–627.
- Novotna, B., Jendelova, P., Kapcalova, M., Rossner Jr, P., Turnovcova, K., Bagryantseva, Y. and Sykova, E. (2012). Oxidative Damage to Biological Macromolecules in Human Bone Marrow Mesenchymal Stromal Cells Labeled with Various Types of Iron Oxide Nanoparticles. *Toxicology Letters*, 210, 53-63.
- Nurmi, J. T., Tratnyek, P. G., Sarathy, V., Baer, D. R., Amonette, J. E., Pecher, K., Wang, C., Linehan, J. C., Matson, D. W., Penn, R. L and Driessen, M. D. (2005). Characterization and properties of metallic iron nanoparticles: spectroscopy, electrochemistry, and kinetics. *Environmental Science and Technology*, 39:1221.
- Puntarulo, S. (2005). Iron, oxidative stress and human health. *Molecular Aspects of Medicine*, 26:299.
- Sadeghi, L., YousefiBabadi, V. and Espanani, H. R. (2015). Toxic effects of the Fe₂O₃ nanoparticles on the liver and lung tissue. *Bratislava Medical Journal*, 116:373–378.
- Shodhan, K. V. (2019). Clinicopathological Studies of Nanoalumina in Wistar Rats, MVSc The-

- sis. G. B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar, Uttarakhand, India.
- Tolia, C., Papadopoulos, A. N., Raptopoulou, C. P., Psycharis, V., Garino, C., Salassa, L. and Psomas, G. (2013). Copper (II) interacting with the non-steroidal antiinflammatory drug flufenamic acid: Structure, antioxidant activity and binding to DNA and albumins. *Journal of Inorganic Biochemistry*, 123C: 53–65.
- Tyner, K. M., Schiffman, S. R and Gianneli, E. P. (2004). Nanobiohybrids as delivery vehicles for camptothecin. *Journal of Controlled Release*, 95 (3): 501–514.

Received: June 19, 2025

Accepted: July 30, 2025