

## Involvement of Multi-Drug Resistance Protein (Mrp) 3 in Resveratrol Protection against Methotrexate-Induced Testicular Damage

**Authors :** Mohamed A. Morsy, Azza A. K. El-Sheikh, Abdulla Y. Al-Taher

**Abstract :** The aim of the present study is to investigate the effect of resveratrol (RES) on methotrexate (MTX)-induced testicular damage. RES (10 mg/kg/day) was given for 8 days orally and MTX (20 mg/kg i.p.) was given at day 4 of experiment, with or without RES in rats. MTX decreased serum testosterone, induced histopathological testicular damage, increased testicular tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  level and expression of nuclear factor- $\kappa$ B and cyclooxygenase-2. In MTX/RES group, significant reversal of these parameters was noticed, compared to MTX group. Testicular expression of multidrug resistance protein (Mrp) 3 was three- and five-folds higher in RES- and MTX/RES-treated groups, respectively. In vitro, using prostate cancer cells, each of MTX and RES alone induced cytotoxicity with IC<sub>50</sub>  $0.18 \pm 0.08$  and  $20.5 \pm 3.6$   $\mu$ M, respectively. RES also significantly enhanced cytotoxicity of MTX. In conclusion, RES appears to have dual beneficial effect, as it promotes MTX tumor cytotoxicity, while protecting the testes, probably via up-regulation of testicular Mrp3 as a novel mechanism.

**Keywords :** resveratrol, methotrexate, multidrug resistance protein 3, tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$ , nuclear factor- $\kappa$ B, cyclooxygenase-2

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