

Research Article

Effect of alcoholic and nano-extract of red radish, *Raphanus sativua* on liver and kidney function in rats induced jaundiced

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Abstract

This study was conducted to investigate the effect of the alcoholic and nano-extract of red radish (*Raphanus sativua*) on the function of the liver and kidneys in rats that had experimentally induced jaundice. Forty-eight white rats were divided into six groups: the control group dosed with physiological solution (0.9% NaCl), the T1 in which jaundice was induced, T2, the group of animals that treated with 200mg/kg of plant extract, T3, the group that dosed the nanocomposite of the plant extract at a dose of 200mg/kg daily, T4, the group that jaundice was induced and dosed with the normal extract of the plant, T5, the group that jaundice was developed and the plant extract nanocomposite was dosed at a dose of 200mg/kg daily. After the 21-day experiment, the animals were sacrificed, and the measurements were performed on the liver and kidney. The results showed that the induced of jaundice in the T1 caused a significant ($P<0.05$) decrease in the average weight of the liver and kidney, while there was a significant increase Liverl enzyme (ALK, LST, AST, urea and creatinine concentrations). The results also showed that the treatment of rats with hyperbilirubinemia with radish leaf extract group (T2) led to a significant ($P<0.05$) increase in liver and kidney weight and a significant decrease in liver enzymes (ALK, ALT, and AST,) and urea and creatinine concentration, compared with the T1. In the group treated with the red radish leaf nano-extract, the results showed improvements in the studied parameters. The histopathological changes were as hemorrhage, necrosis, rupture of liver tissue, glomerular atrophy, necrosis, disintegration and some inflammatory cells in the kidney tissue. It was concluded that the red radish leaf nanocomposite effectively improves the negative changes associated with hyperbilirubinemia.

Keywords: Nano-extract, red radish, liver, kidney, Rats, jaundice.

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Introduction

In many societies, jaundice is the most common disease of neonates and adults, which remains a major cause of brain damage, physical and mental disability, and premature death among newborns, and neonatal morbidity and mortality is still high in developing countries (Jabbar et al. 2019). Jaundice is the most common liver disorder, which means yellow discoloration of the skin and mucous membranes due to the high level of bilirubin in the blood (Sharma et al. 2012). It is observed during the first week after

birth in about 60% of infants and 80% of premature infants (Jardn & Woodgate 2012). Jaundice is mainly seen in neonates and is uncommon in adults. However, it indicates a serious condition when it is present in adults (Memon et al. 2016).

Neonatal jaundice appears on the third day, and it reaches its peak on the 5-7th day and disappears by the 14th day, known as physiological jaundice. It is considered a normal physiological condition that passes undiagnosed, but the problem is because of the high level of unconjugated bilirubin, which is a

neurotoxic substance, that its accumulation in a child's brain leads to a serious condition called kernicterus. It may cross the blood-fibrous barrier, causing damage to the auditory nerve and the basal ganglia. Consequently, the child will develop cerebral palsy and mental retardation (AAP 2004). Also, the high levels of bilirubin in adults is a problem that can cause many physiological changes that would cause many damages to the health of the individual.

One of the medically important plants is radish, *Raphanus sativus* L, which belongs to the family Brassicaceae, and genus *Brassica*. This family includes more than 330 genera and approximately 3,700 species (Wolfaging 2009). Egypt is considered the origin of its cultivation (Jan & Bader 2012). It is widespread in Japan and Southeast Asia (Agarwel & Varma 2014), and grows in temperate regions, mountainous areas, and northern plains (Arauna et al. 2012).

The radish is a multi-use plant, as its different parts are used in many foods, therapeutic and industrial fields. It has high economic importance, as the leaves are used as a food material because it contains a high percentage of proteins, amino acids, carbohydrates, and minerals such as calcium, potassium, magnesium, copper, and iron (Ibrahim et al. 2016). Thus it is used to treat malnutrition diseases related to digestive pain and various stomach diseases. It is also used as a diuretic to treat various urinary system problems (Alqasoumi et al. 2008). The radish plant is a good source of vitamin C, so it has a role in detoxifying the liver, jaundice and treating gynecological disorders and high blood pressure (Agarwel & Varma 2014; Mohammed & Qasim 2021).

The development of nanotechnology in the twentieth century, which is considered one of the latest technologies, had an important role in overcoming many of the difficulties facing medicines in reaching their target, through improving absorption and solubility, increasing stability and therapeutic efficiency, as well as delivering

medicines to the target sites as well as mitigating its side effect caused by medications (Ochekpe et al. 2009). The current study aimed to study the alcoholic and nano-extract of red radish on the function of the liver and kidneys in rats that had experimentally induced jaundice.

Materials and Methods

The plant leaves were used after being washed with water to remove dirt and dust stuck and left in the shade at room temperature to dry. The extraction was carried out in the Molecular Research Laboratory of the College of Education, University of Al-Qadisiyah. After grinding the leaves using an electric mill and the obtained fine powder was used for the extraction, according to Gebrehiwot et al. (2019). The modified method of Kolekar et al. (2011) was used to prepare the hybrid nano-drug by adding 50ml of alcoholic extract of radish leaves drop by drop to 50ml of zinc oxide solution. The results were confirmed by Infrared (FTIR), X-ray diffraction (XRD), atomic force microscopy (AFM) and scanning electron microscopy (SEM).

Experimental animals: Natural albino rats weighing 170-190g were obtained from the College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Al-Qadisiyah, ranging from 6-8 weeks. The animal used in the experiment (48) were divided into eight groups, i.e. each treatment with eight animals, as follows (1) control group: the normal saline physiological solution was used for the 21-day experiment, (2) T1: the group induced jaundice by Phenylhydrazine hydrochloride at a dose of 75mg/kg (Mejia et al. 2008) for two days, (3) T2: a group of animals that dosed the alcoholic extract of red radish leaves at a concentration of 200mg/kg of body weight (Anwar et al. 2018), (4) T3: the group of animals that dosed the alcoholic extract of nano-loaded red radish leaves at a dose of 200mg/kg of body weight for 21 days, (5) T4: the group of animals in which jaundice was induced and dosed with the usual extract of red radish leaves at a dose of 200mg/kg of body weight for 21 days, and (6) T5: The group of animals in which

Table 1. The effect of the alcoholic extract and the red radish leaf nanocomposite on the rate of the liver and kidneys in jaundice induced rats.

Parameters	Liver weight ratio	Average total weight ratio
C	5.73±0.56 ^b	0.49±0.03 ^b
T1	4.08±0.55 ^c	0.36±0.04 ^b
T2	6.76±0.2 ^a	0.42±0.01 ^a
T3	7.06±0.94 ^a	0.44±0.02 ^a
T4	4.99±0.29 ^b	0.42±0.02 ^a
T5	5.62±0.32 ^b	0.46±0.04 ^a
LSD	0.89	0.07

The numbers indicate the mean \pm standard error, C: The control group that dosed the physiological saline solution for the duration of the experiment (21 days), T1: The first treatment represents the group of rats in which jaundice was induced by being dosed with phenylhydrazine, T2: The second treatment represents the group of rats that were dosed with alcoholic extract of red radish leaves for the duration of the experiment, T3: The third treatment represents the group of rats that were dosed with a nano-alcoholic extract of radish leaves for the duration of the experiment, T4: The fourth treatment represents the group of rats in which jaundice was induced and dosed with alcoholic extract of red radish leaves for the duration of the experiment, T5: The fifth treatment represents the group of rats in which jaundice was developed and dosed with red radish leaf nano extract for the duration of the experiment. The different letters indicate a significant difference between the groups ($P<0.05$). - Similar letters indicate that there are no significant differences between groups ($P>0.05$).

jaundice was induced and dosed with alcoholic extract of nano-loaded red radish leaves at a dose of 200mg/kg of body weight for 21 days.

Sacrifice animals and draw blood: At the end of the experiment, the animals were weighed and then sacrificed by anesthetizing with chloroform. The blood samples were drawn from all groups, and placed in sterile 10ml tubes free of anticoagulant to obtain serum. After that, serum was obtained by centrifugation at 2500rpm for 15min, then the serum was placed in special tubes and kept at -20°C for the measuring biochemical parameters.

Laboratory tests: The aminotransferase enzymes AST and ALT activity was measured by the colorimetric method based on Reitman & Franke (1957). The enzyme activity is measured according to Belfeld & Goldberg (1971), and functional tests of the kidney were done according to Henry (1974) and Pation & Crpuch (1977).

Histological preparations: Autopsy of the samples were done from the liver and kidneys in different groups and fixed in 10% formalin. Then, histological slides were prepared based on Presnell & Schreibman (1997).

Statistical analysis: The statistical analysis was done by SPSS V.25. The data treatments were compared using the one-way ANOVA test. The means of the trial groups were compared when the

differences between them were significant using the Least Significant Difference (LSD) at the 0.05 level of significance.

Results and Discussion

Liver weight ratio: A significant decrease ($P<0.05$) in the mean percentage of liver weight in the T1 and T4 compared to other treatments was observed in agreement with the findings of Matsumoto et al. (2016) and Allahmoradi et al. (2019). The phenylhydrazine is a toxic substance that causes cell damage, and hepatotoxicity (Valenzuela et al. 1987) and also hyperbilirubinemia (Nawaz et al. 2016) and oxidative stress also lead to hepatotoxicity, which is formed due to the accumulation of iron entering liver cells as a result of high levels of ROS, causing damage to hepatic membranes lipids, proteins and DNA (Basu et al. 2018). Phenylhydrazine causes liver tissue damage and causes oxidative stress in the liver and elevated liver enzymes (Ibrahim et al. 2010), and liver damage that may explain the low liver weight ratio in this study.

In T2 and T3, which dosed the alcoholic extract of the leaves of the regular and nano-radish plant, a significant increase in the average weight of the liver were observed, and these results agreed with the findings of the Kalantari et al. (2009), Sadeek (2011) and Dash et al. (2013). This can be explained by the

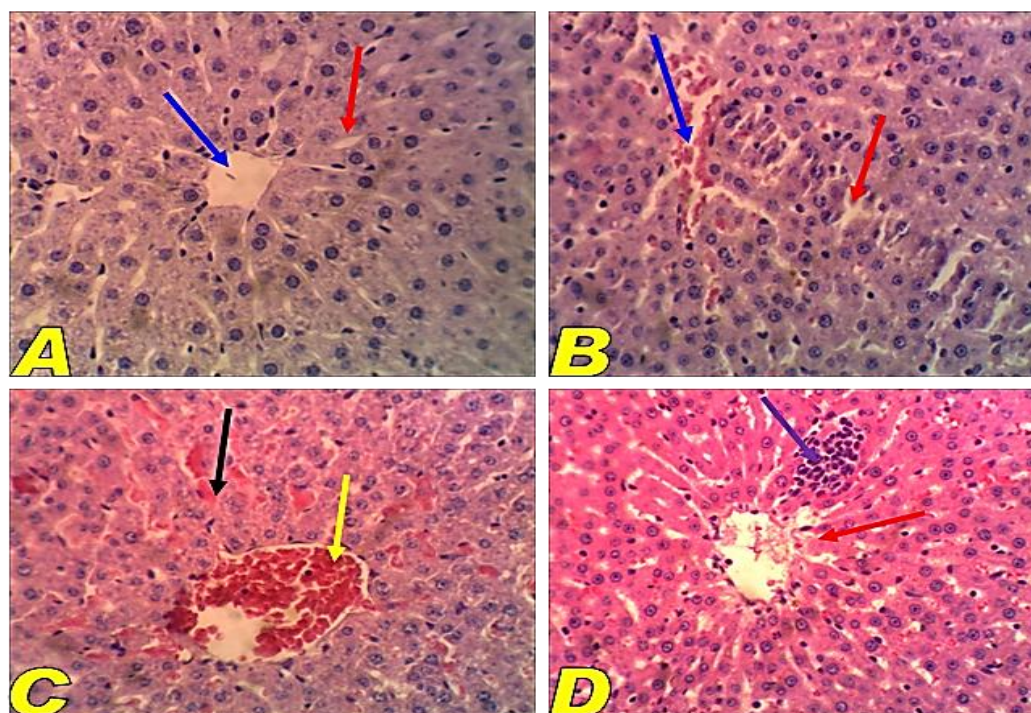


Fig.1. Cross sections of rat liver tissue: (A) represent the control group showing liver tissue is normal and retains the hexagonal geometric structure, including the blood sinusoids (red arrow) and the central vein (blue arrow), (B,C and D) a section of the liver tissue of a rat from the first treatment group (T1) showing hemorrhage (blue arrow) and disintegration and necrosis of the liver tissue (red arrow), and congestion in the central vein (yellow arrow) and blood sinuses (black arrow). Some inflammatory cells are collected (blue arrow). (H&E) (X40).

fact that the red radish extract prevented the depletion of the level of glutathione (Singh et al. 2009), and increased the production of an adequate amount of glutathione, which detoxifies phenylhydrazine through the interference of glutathione peroxides (GPX). This indicates that the radish extract works to stabilize the hepatocyte membrane, repair damaged tissue cells, and combat lipid peroxidation (Aniya & Anders, 1985), and also radish contains glucosinolates and isothiocyanates that activate antioxidants and detoxify the liver (Scholl et al. 2011).

For aggregates of the nano-extracts, the results showed an increase in liver weight; these results were consistent with the finding of Yang et al. (2019). The red radish leaf nanocomposite improved liver function, rehabilitated the structure of the liver, protected it from inflammation and necrosis, and improved the concentration of enzymes. The liver effectively reduces the increase in ROS inside the liver, which is a potent activating factor in inhibiting

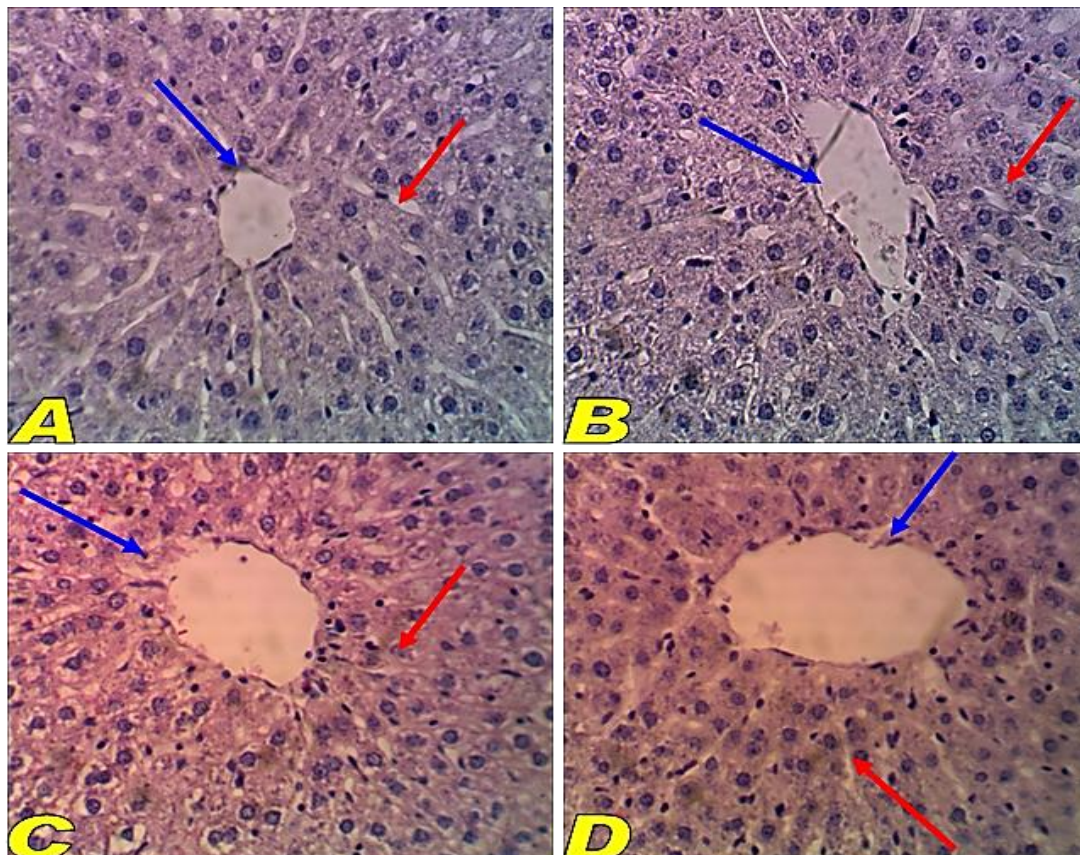
liver fibrosis in rats and can deliver other therapeutic drugs within the different hepatocyte slits (Lin et al. 2016).

Kidney weight ratio: Significant decrease in kidney weight in the T1 compared to other treatments, which is caused by the toxic effect of phenylhydrazine, which is consistent with the study results of Anbara et al. (2018) and Zangeneh et al. (2019) which showed the toxic effect of phenylhydrazine. Hydrazine on the kidney tissue led to necrosis and degeneration, explains for the low weight of the kidney for this treatment, as well as the cause of deformation in the kidney tissue, congestion of glomeruli and blood vessels, and inflammatory infiltration of stem cells, which is a sign of acute tubular necrosis. Histological and functional impairment such as high urea and creatinine concentrations and electrolyte disturbances maybe the reason for the low weight ratio of the kidneys (Musyoka et al. 2016).

For other treatments that were dosed with the

Table 2. Shows the effect of alcoholic extract and the nanocomposite of red radish leaves on liver enzymes in rats with experimentally induced jaundice.

Parameters	ALK(IU/L)	AST (IU/L)	ALT (IU/L)
C	253±22.53 ^b	151.33±15.88 ^c	49.66±1.2 ^c
T1	357±13 ^a	243.66±51.89 ^a	72.66±19.18 ^a
T2	259.66±11.4 ^b	156.29±83.81 ^c	43.74±29.44 ^d
T3	277.33±71.23 ^b	158.66±24.18 ^c	48±1.33 ^c
T4	201.11±14.71 ^c	195.5±0.57 ^b	50.33±17.67 ^a
T5	280.88±13.13 ^b	191±37.5 ^b	58.08±21.42 ^b
LSD	52.77	6.76	2.21

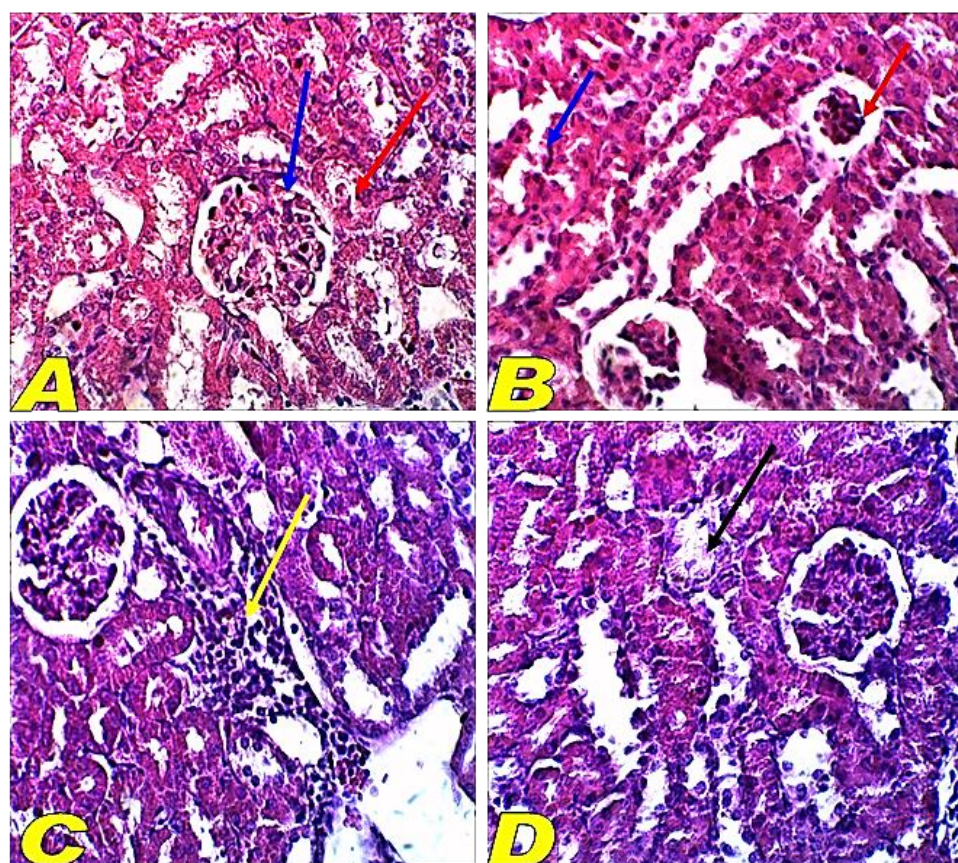
**Fig.2.** Cross sections of rat liver tissue: Images (A) represent the second treatment group (T2) liver tissue is normal and retains the hexagonal geometry, the blood sinusoids (red arrow) and the central vein (blue arrow). (B) liver tissue from the third treatment group (T3), showing normal liver tissue that retains the hexagonal geometry, between the blood pockets (red arrow) and central vein (blue arrow), (C) rat liver tissue from group The fourth treatment (T4) with normal liver tissue and retains its approximately hexagonal geometry with simple necrosis (blue arrow) and normal blood pockets (red arrow), (D) liver tissue from the fifth treatment group (T5) showing tissue The liver is normal and retains the hexagonal structure, between the blood sinusoids (red arrow) and the central vein (blue arrow) (H&E) (X40).

alcoholic extract of the leaves as the regular and nano radish, the results showed a significant increase ($P<0.05$) compared to T1, but these treatments revealed a convergence in the average weight of the kidney with the control and there was no significant ($P>0.05$). These results agreed with the findings of Aziz & Hassan (2020) and Ushakiran et al. (2017)

showed that the radish extract reduces and prevents the formation of urinary stones. This mechanism is related to its diuretic effect and reduces urinary concentrations and thus prevents the formation of urinary stones (Aziz & Hassan (2020; Ushakiran et al. 2017). The radish may contribute and preventively against lipid peroxide in removing kidney damage.

Table 3. Shows the effect of the alcoholic extract and the nanocomposite of red radish leaves on kidney functions in rats that had experimentally induced jaundice.

Parameters	Serum creatinine concentration (gm/100ml)	The concentration of urea in the blood serum (gm/100ml)
C	0.29±0.005 ^b	51.60±2.83 ^b
T1	1.365±0.005 ^b	56.36±0.08 ^a
T2	0.288±0.051 ^b	47.53±3.77 ^c
T3	0.286±0.001 ^b	48.23±5.45 ^c
T4	0.243±0.003 ^b	44.23±3.28 ^d
T5	0.265±0.011 ^b	0.96±0.08 ^c
LSD	0.058	2.11

**Fig.3.** Cross section of the kidney tissue in rats: (A) control group showing the kidney tissue is normal and the glomerulus retains its normal structure (blue arrow) and the proximal tubules (red arrow). (B, C and D) kidney tissue from the first treatment group showing the disintegration of kidney tissue (blue arrow) and glomerular atrophy (red arrow), the accumulation of some inflammatory cells (yellow arrow) and necrosis in renal tubules (black arrow. (H&E) (X40).

Also, because the chemical components of radish leaves had a role, it is significant in protecting the kidneys and having an antioxidant activity (Mahjoubi-Samet et al. 2008).

In the treatments fed the nanocomposite, they showed an improvement in the weight of the kidney.

This may be attributed to the role of the nanocarriers in enhancing the therapeutic index of the nanocomposite by increasing the bioavailability and biological efficacy while decreasing the side effects of phenylhydrazine (Zhang et al. 2010; Chavhan et al. 2013), and the enzyme activity was restored

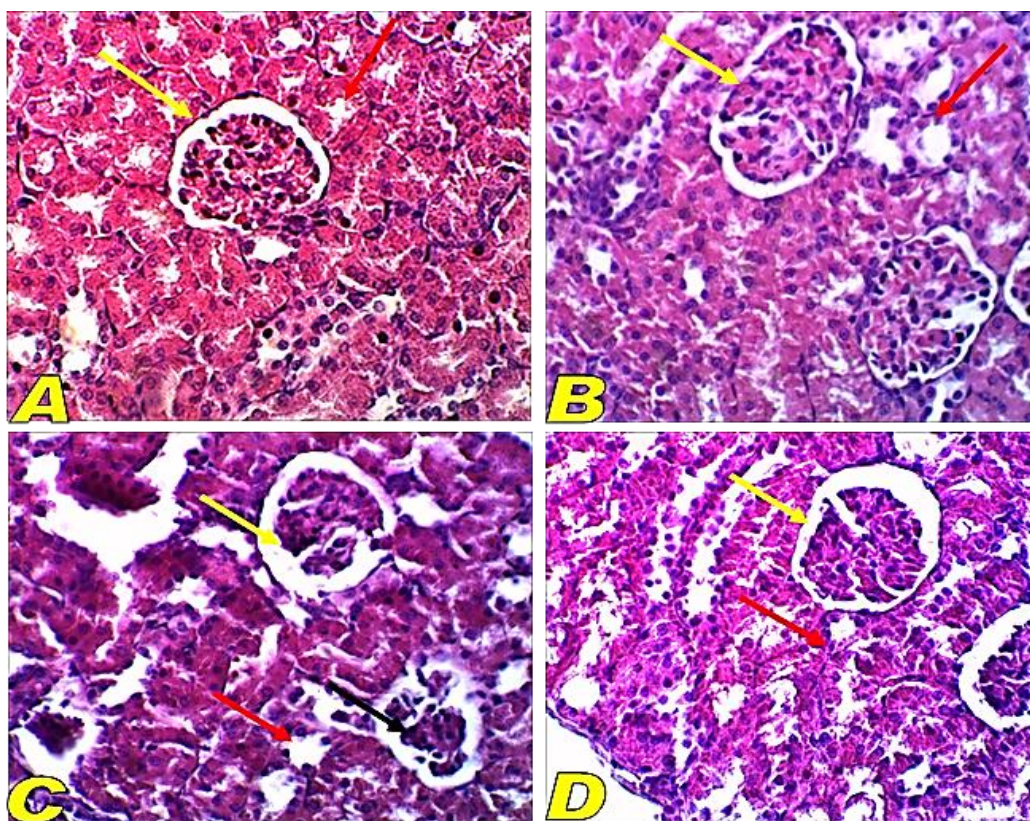


Fig.4. Cross section of rat kidney tissue: (A) the second treatment (T2) showing normal kidney tissue, normal glomerular (yellow arrow) and proximal tubules (red arrow). (B) the tissue of kidney from the third treatment (T3) showing normal kidney tissue, in which the glomeruli retain their normal shape (yellow arrow) and the proximal tubules (red arrow). (C) tissue from the fourth treatment (T4) showing atrophy of some glomeruli (black arrow) and slight necrosis of nearby tubules (red arrow). (D) liver tissue of a rat from the fifth treatment (T5) showing normal kidney tissue, the glomeruli (yellow arrow) and nearby tubules (blue arrow). (H&E) (X10).

through the action of nanoparticles on the regeneration of kidney and liver cells (Patrick-Iwuanyanwu et al. 2010).

Liver enzyme concentrations: Based on the results, a significant increase ($P < 0.05$) in T1 about AST and ALT was observed (Table 2). These results agreed with Allahmoradi et al. 2019) and Antai et al. (2009). The phenylhydrazine acts as a strong oxidant (Fibach & Rachmilewitz 2008), and the increase in these enzymes damage liver cells (John et al. 2012). When the cell membrane is broken in liver tissue, these enzymes, which are usually present in the cytosol, leak into the bloodstream (AL-Rawi & Maisaa 2007). The results can also be attributed to the increased production of free radicals, which leads to lipid peroxidation, causing cell damage, as a result of stimulating cytochrome P-450 in the liver to produce

the highly reactive trichloromethyl free radical, which in the presence of oxygen generated by metabolic leakage from mitochondria, peroxidation of membrane lipids. Leading to a loss of integrity of cell membranes and damage to liver tissue with a subsequent increase in the level of ALT and AST enzymes (Arhan et al. 2009; Saki et al. 2011). Liver cells, leading to the destruction of these cells and the release of their contents, including ALT and AST enzymes, into the bloodstream.

In the T4 that dosed the alcoholic extract of the leaves of the regular radish, a significant decrease in the enzyme concentration rate was observed. These results agreed with the study of Chaturvedi (2008) and Vivarelli et al. (2016). Free radicals have demonstrated that polyphenols such as cinnamic acid and ferulic acid and flavonoids such as kaempferol

present in radish leaf extract have antioxidant properties (Takaya et al. 2003), and this may be due to its hepatoprotective and anti-inflammatory effect (Beevi et al. 2010). The increase in the concentration of alkaline phosphatase enzyme ALP for the first treatment (T1) compared with the control and treatments agree with the study of Antai et al. (2009) and Zangeneh et al. (2019). Exposure to phenylhydrazine leads to significant damage to liver cells, and thus leakage of this enzyme from tissues to serum, due to oxidative damage to their membranes, which leads to membrane permeability (Appidi et al. 2009). In the T4 also a decrease was found in the concentration of the enzyme. The antioxidant property of phenols is due to the formation of the benzene ring, which is characterized by its ability to donate gamma electrons. The red radish has antioxidant properties containing higher levels of anthocyanins, dominated by pelargonidine derivative. This compound found in radish extract cleans the roots of phenols. 2,2-azino-bis(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulphonic acid) (ABTS+) and exercised the activity of removing free radicals, the chelation process hinders the formation of reactive oxygen species (Mazza 2018).

Histological changes in the liver: The results of examining the histological tissues of the liver in T1 showed histopathological changes as bleeding, necrosis and rupture, and congestion and accumulation of some inflammatory cells (Fig. 1B, C, D). This result agreed with the findings of Ashraf (2011) that indicated the appearance of bile duct obstruction, mild enlargement of Kupffer cells and a small number of hepatocytes showing a degenerative condition, and the reason could be that phenylhydrazine causes damage to liver tissue and causes oxidative stress in the liver and high enzymes (Ibrahim et al. 2010)

The results T2 and T3 groups showed normal liver tissue compared to the control group (Fig. 2C, B) and these results agreed with the findings of Syed et al. (2014) and Youns et al. (2019) that showed an improvement in liver tissue after using the radish

extract and repairing the damage caused by phenylhydrazine treatment. The reason can be attributed to the radish extract's ability to protect the liver. This effect is related to the antioxidant property present in the alcoholic extract of radish and that the radish extract works to protect the liver.

The improvement in the tissue sections of the T4 and T5 dosed with the regular and nano-extract of radish is inconsistent with the study of Abed-Al-Azeez et al. (2015). The use of radish extract reduces the hepatotoxicity caused by phenylhydrazine in albino rats by blocking lipid peroxidation that replenishes the levels of the non-protein sulfhydryl fraction (NP-SH) and enhances the detoxification system of the liver due to its sulfur and phenolic compounds that prevent the accumulation of free radicals (Rafatullah et al. 2008). The tissue sections dosed with the plant extract nano-loaded were less damaged than the other treatments affected by phenylhydrazine. It effectively improves the concentration of liver enzymes and reduces the increase in ROS inside the liver (Hassan et al. 2020; Kumar 2020; Bokov et al. 2022).

Histological changes in the kidney: The results of the histological study showed the histopathological changes represented by glomerular atrophy, necrosis, disintegration, and some inflammatory cells in the T1 (Fig. 3D, C, B). This result agreed with the study of Elaby & Ali (2018) and Henneh et al. (2021). The exposure of the kidney to a toxic substance leads to an increase in oxidative stress and thus an increase in ROS, which leads to functional impairment Glomerulosclerosis, tubular damage in the glomeruli, decreased renal filtration rate, and elevated urea and creatinine enzymes are evidence of nephrotoxicity (Hamman et al. 2016; El-Damaty et al. 2012). In addition, the results showed normal kidney tissue in the T2 and T3 (Fig. 4). The result agreed with the study of Sadeek et al. (2018). The group treated with radish extract showed a moderate gap in the epithelial lining of the renal tubules, and this can be attributed to the presence of a phenolic compound in the radish extract, especially folic acid, which is a strong

antioxidant and is known for its positive effect on human health (Srinivasan et al. 2007). The T4 and T5 also showed an improvement in kidney tissue, which is consistent with the study of Al-Timimi et al. (2019) that showed the ability to resist oxidative stress, improve kidney tissue, and prevent nephrotoxicity caused by Gentamicin in laboratory animals.

Kidney function test: An increase in the kidney functions was observed in the T4 compared to (Table 3) other treatments that were consistent with studies of Kutshik et al. (2020) and Goorani et al. (2020). The phenylhydrazine The reason for the increase in reactive oxygen species and thus the increase of oxidative stress in the kidney tissues, which led to a change in kidney function that is associated with decreased blood circulation and the inability to excrete as a result of oxidative damage to the kidneys resulting from muscle cell damage (Debebe et al. 2017). Renal induced by phenylhydrazine resulted in impaired glomerular function, distension of Bowman's capsule, tubular damage to the kidneys, decreased glomerular filtration rate, lymphocytic infiltration of the renal cortex and cortical hemorrhage (Arthur et al. 2012).

The improvement in urea concentration in the T4 that was fed regular and nano radish leaf extract was consistent with the study of Al-Timimi et al. (2019). The radish containing vitamin C that protects against nephrotoxicity caused by Gentamicin and Vitamin C reduces cytoplasmic changes. Also, it decreased coagulation in renal tubules (Rehman et al. 2012), as it acts as a powerful antioxidant capable of absorbing reactive oxygen species and thus prevents kidney cell damage (Moreira et al. 2014). The extract of the leaves of the radish plant reduces and prevents the formation of kidney stones, as the mechanism is related to its effect as a diuretic and a decrease in urinary concentrations that form stones (Ushaliran et al. 2017).

For the creatinine concentration, all groups showed a significant decrease ($P < 0.05$) compared to T1, but these treatments showed a convergence in creatinine concentration with the control and there

was no significant difference ($P > 0.05$) between them. This result was consistent with the study of Bojan et al. (2016). The radish extract has a protective effect on the kidneys because it contains a group of polyphenol compounds such as catechin, syringic acid, and cinnamic acid (Nowack et al. 2011), where this mechanism is associated with protecting the urinary system by reducing the activity of creatinine enzyme and increasing the activity of antioxidants SOD and CAT (Ozcan et al. 2007; Sindhu et al. 2015). In treatments fed the nanocomposite and the improvement occurred, it may be due to the nanocomposition. The extract of horseradish enhanced the drug targeting to the kidneys. It decreased the level of its enzymes (Petyaev 2015) by reducing the size of particles from the micro-scale to the nanometer scale and increasing the surface area (Patel et al. 2011), as the size of the designed particles has tremendous power in enhancing the availability district and the effectiveness of the nanocomposite in returning the concentrations of kidney enzymes to the normal level by changing the physicochemical properties of the nanocomposite that is less soluble in water (Chavhan et al. 2013).

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