Introduction

Epilepsy occurs due to periodic and spontaneous excessive electrical discharges of cerebral, cortical and subcortical neurons. Epilepsy affects about 1% of the global world population [1, 2]. Pentylenetetrazole (PTZ) is a GABA receptor blocker from chemical tetrazole. It is often used to model the occurrence of animal epilepsy and evaluate the efficacy of antiepileptic agents. It is one of the drugs commonly used in the formation of generalized tonic-clonic epileptic seizures [3]. In generalized epilepsy, the formation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) in the brain usually increases with recurrent seizures [4]. Increased oxidative stress due to increased free radical release has been associated with underlying pathogenesis in the onset and development of epileptic seizures. Therefore, it has been concluded that antioxidant treatment may provide neuroprotective effect by reducing oxidative stress in epilepsy treatment [5]. Increased oxidative stress in the central nervous system has been shown to increase in various experimental epilepsy models and electroshock models [6] such as the amygdala burning model [7], kainic acid model [8], PTZ model [9], sound stimulation (switching) model [10]. The liver is an organ that regulates different functions such as secretion, metabolism, detoxification and storage in the body and is sensitive to oxidative damage [11, 12]. The aim of this study was to evaluate the levels of oxidative injury in chronic and acute epilepsy model by measuring AST and ALT enzyme levels from serum samples and CAT, SOD and TBARS levels in liver tissues.

Materials and Methods

Subjects

Male, adult 200-250 g Wistar rats (n = 18) were used in the experiment. Ethics approval was obtained from Sivas Cumhuriyet University Faculty of Medicine Ethics Committee. Animals were divided into six groups:

a) Control Group (Control; n = 6); rats, single dose i.p. saline,
b) Acute Epileptic Model Group (n = 6); rats, single dose i.p. PTZ (45 mg / kg),
c) Chronic Epileptic Model Group (n = 6); rats, repeated i.p. doses PTZ (35 mg / kg) every other day for 15(fifteen) times.
Seizure Model

The chronic epilepsy model is induced by 15 injections of 35 mg/kg PTZ and the acute epilepsy model is induced by single dose PTZ (45 mg/kg). Rats were observed for epileptic seizures for 30 minutes after PTZ injection. The activity was performed as general epileptic seizures beginning with clonus of the forefoot and facial muscles and continuing with tail and neck extensions, tonic flexion-extension and loss of straightening reflex and generally extended clonic activity. Transport times and behavioral characteristics of epileptic activities were recorded. Animals were killed by guillotine 24 hours after saline administration or PTZ-induced seizures (single or final seizure).

Tissue Assessment and Methods

Blood was collected before sacrifice from the animals and centrifuged at 2000 rpm for 20 minutes. Serum samples were taken. AST and ALT levels were measured from serum samples using automatic analyzer in Sivas Cumhuriyet University Hospital. After the blood collection, the animals were sacrificed, and the liver tissues of the animals were removed for sampling. It was placed in PBS, which was five times higher than the extracted liver tissue. A manual homogenizer was used to prevent tissue degeneration and all extracted tissues were homogenized on ice in this PBS. Samples were centrifuged at 3000 rpm for 20 minutes and the supernatants were separated. SOD, CAT and TBARS levels in liver supernatants were measured using sandwich-ELISA method according to the manufacturer’s protocol and protein concentration was determined by Bradford protein assay kit.

Statistics

The mean ± SD was used for all data. The SPSS statistical package (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL) was used to perform statistical analyzes in our study. Statistical analysis was performed to compare changes between individual groups using variance analysis (ANOVA) followed by post ANOVA (Tukey’s HSD) test. The p value was accepted as <0.05 to accept statistically significant difference between the groups.

Results

Table 1 includes serum AST and ALT levels and Chart 1 includes SOD, TBARS and CAT levels in liver tissue in all (3) groups. There was no significant difference between the groups in terms of serum ALT and liver TBARS parameters (p> 0.05). There was no significant difference between chronic epileptic model group and control group (p> 0.05). Serum AST levels of the chronic epileptic model and control group were significantly lower than the acute epileptic model group (p <0.05). SOD levels of the chronic epileptic model group were significantly higher than the acute epileptic model group and the control group (p <0.05). CAT levels of the control group were significantly lower than those of the chronic epileptic model group (p <0.05) (Table 1) (Figure 1).

![Figure 1: Liver TBARS, SOD and CAT levels in control, acute epileptic model and chronic epileptic model groups. * significantly different from control group p<0.05.](image-url)
In previous studies, TBARS, the product of lipid oxidation, was used as an indicator of oxidative stress [22]. In our study there was no significant difference between the groups in terms of serum ALT and liver TBARS parameters (p> 0.05). There was no significant difference between chronic epileptic model group and control group (p> 0.05).

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, it causes increased oxidative damage and lipid peroxidation in PTZ-induced recurrent and single epileptic seizure models. In addition, antioxidant defense mechanisms have been decreased in these models. Increased oxidative stress, either recurrent or in a single epileptic seizure, causes damage to hepatocytes.

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**Table 1:** Serum AST and ALT levels in control, acute epileptic model and chronic epileptic model groups.

| Groups                  | AST (U/L)     | ALT (U/L)     |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Control (n=6)           | 114.70 ± 8.48 | 46.13 ± 2.88  |
| Acute epileptic model   | 197.11 ± 14.08*| 45.01 ± 3.68  |
| Chronic epileptic model | 112.07 ± 3.00 | 42.30 ± 2.58  |

*pSignificantly different from control group, p<0.05*
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