



## Research Article

# Effects of carazolol on electrocardiographic and trace element status in sheep

Remzi Gonul<sup>1</sup>, Lora Koenhemsı<sup>1</sup>, Handan Aydın Vural<sup>2\*</sup>, Tevfik Gulyasar<sup>3</sup>, Hasret Demırcan Yardıbı<sup>4</sup>, Erman OR<sup>1</sup> and Bora Barutcu<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Istanbul University, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Turkey

<sup>2</sup>Istanbul University, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Turkey

<sup>3</sup>Trakya University, Medical School, Department of Biophysic, Turkey

<sup>4</sup>Istanbul University, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Biochemistry, Turkey

<sup>5</sup>Istanbul University, Cerrahpasa Medical School, Department of Biophysic, Turkey

**\*Address for Correspondence:** Handan Aydın Vural, Istanbul University, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Turkey, Email: haydin@istanbul.edu.tr

**Submitted:** 27 March 2018

**Approved:** 06 April 2018

**Published:** 09 April 2018

**Copyright:** © 2018 Gonul R, et al. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

**Keywords:** Carazolol; Sheep; Ecg; Trace elements

## Abstract

Carazolol is a non-specific  $\beta$ -adrenergic reseptor blocking agent. It is structurally analogous to catecholamins, in that, when administered, it forms reversible bonds with  $\beta$ -adrenergic, however, induce adrenergic effects, and it inhibits the actions of the catecholamins in times of stres by saturating their sites of operation. The purpose of the research was to investigate the effects of carazolol on some serum enzymes, trace elements and cardiovascular status in sheep. Seven sheep (age 6 months,  $35 \pm 10$  kg) were used in this study. Carazolol administered by the intramuscular route at the dose of 0.01 mg/kg. Serum levels of urea, creatinin, ALT, AST, G-GT, LDH, T. protein, Ca, P, Mg, Cu, Fe, Zn, Se were investigated. Although all serum enzymes did not show any difference, serum Fe and Zn levels were decreased. Important results were obtained in electrocardiography (abnormal T wave and ST segment depression).

These results suggest that carazolol may increase incidence rate of myocardial ischemia risk in sheep and it investigated by new researches.

## Introduction

$\beta$ -adrenergic receptor blockers have been used in the treatment of cardiovascular diseases such as arterial hypertension, coronary heart disease, supraventricular and ventricular tachyarrhythmias. Currently, there are many  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptor blockers for clinical use that differ with respect to pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic properties [1].

One of these, Carazolol, is a non-specific  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptor blocker agent having 1-(carbazol-4-yloxy)-3-isopropylamino-2-propanolol chemical structure [2]. It is a strong analogous of catecholamine (adrenalin-noradrenalin). It can bind to  $\beta$  receptors irreversibly. It is binding to  $\beta$ -adrenoreceptors are inhibited by the endogenous catecholamine secretion in stressed conditions [3]. Consequently, carazolol is used in the treatment of circulatory disorders caused by stress in many animals species including particularly pigs, also against neonatal mortality caused by weak uterine contractions, to reduce neonatal deaths by shortening the parturition time, milk withdrawal, semen collection in males, artificial insemination of females, in the treatment and prevention of retentio secundinarium caused by dystocia and in the treatment of endometritis in combination with other drugs in cattles [2].

However there is lack of studies performed for the acute effects of carazolol in the organism. Therefore, in this study we planned to investigate the effects of carazolol on electrocardiography, tension, oxygen saturation and some biochemical parameters in acute period in sheep.

## Material and Method

The study was carried on 7 Kivircik sheep that were between 25-45 kg, non-pregnant, determined to be healthy after clinical examination, obtained from İ.Ü. Research and Application Farm. For this study, 0.01 mg/kg Carazolol was injected intramuscularly to each sheep. ECG, SpO<sub>2</sub> ve blood pressure changes were investigated before and ½ hours after the administration of drug and changes on blood parameters and trace element levels were investigated after 2 hours.

10cc blood without anticoagulant was taken from V. Jugularis for the serum blood analysis of sheep. Biochemical blood parameters (ALT, ALP, GGT, Urea, Creatinin, LDH, T. Protein, Ca and P) were determined spectrophotometrically. Trace element calculations were made with atomic absorption device (Shimadzu AA-6800). Se calculations were performed with graphite furnace (Shimadzu Graphite Furnace Atomizer GFA-EX7).

Electrocardiographic records were taken as appropriate to technique with PETAS Kardiyopet 300 device. Blood pressure and oxygen saturation was measured with EDAN M9B bed-side monitor. For this purpose, non invasive blood pressure (diastolic, sistolic and mean) was taken from femoral or metatarsal artery depending on the size of animal. Oxygen saturation (SpO<sub>2</sub>), was determined from ear tip arterial blood of animals by measuring the hemoglobin oxygen saturation in arterial blood with plethysmogram by the device.

The mean values, standard deviations and statistical differences were performed by Student t test.

## Results

No clinical difference was determined in the general conditions of animals 2 hours after the administration of drug.

No statistical difference was determined in biochemical parameters in blood analysis performed 2 hours after carazolol injection. The decrease in Fe and Zn was found statistically significant at  $p < 0.05$  level (Table 1).

SpO<sub>2</sub> and blood pressure measurements performed 1/2 hour after the carazolol injection were found to increase, however these changes were not found statistically significant (Table 2).

**Table 1:** Changes in some blood parameters in sheep 2 hours after carazolol administration

	0. Hour X± Sx	2. Hour X± Sx
Urea (mg/dl)	6,3±2,4	5,7±2,4
Creatinin (mg/dl)	63±21,5	89,1±37,3
ALT (IU/L)	72,4±33,7	10,9±3,4
ALP (IU/L)	276,9±79,6	248,1±48,5
G-GT (IU/L)	12,4±4,1	15,1±6,7
LDH (IU/L)	61,7±15	61,2±12,8
T.protein (g/dl)	10,2±1,5	8,8±1
Ca (mg/dl)	11,4±3,4	5,8±1,4
P (mg/dl)	5,6±1,1	3,3±0,6
Mg (mg/dl)	1±0,04	1±0,02
Cu (µg/dl)	94,4±2,9	98,8±5,4
Fe (µg/dl)	348±26,2	194±28,9*
Zn (µg/dl)	114,9±4,2	84,2±3,9*

\* $p < 0.05$

Although no significant differences were observed in the measurements carried on electrocardiographic traces of ECG records obtained ½ hours after injection (Table 3), abnormal T wave and ST segment depression changes were observed in two animals (Figure 1).

**Table 2:** Blood pressure and oxygen saturation changes in sheep ½ hours after carazolol administration.

	0.Hour	½ Hour
	X± Sx	X± Sx
Systolic (mmHg)	93,7±4,8	100,6±11,1
Mean (mmHg)	74,3±6,6	80,1±8,4
Diastolik (mmHg)	63,7±7	69±9,2
SpO <sub>2</sub> (%)	84,3±4,5	94±2,5

**Table 3:** Changes in II derivation of electrocardiographic parameters in sheep ½ hours after carazolol administration.

	O. Saat	½ Saat Sonra
	X± Sx	X± Sx
P Amplitude (mV)	0,1±0	0,1±0
P period (mm/sn)	0,04±0	0,04±0
PR interval(mm/sn)	0,09±0,02	0,1±0,04
QRS period (mm/sn)	0,04±0,004	0,05±0,006
R Amplitude (mV)	0,2±0,03	0,2±0,02
Q Amplitude (mV)	0,5±0,1	0,4±0,08
QT Interval (mV)	0,3±0,02	0,3±0,02
T Amplitude (mV)	0,2±0,06	0,3±0,07
T Period (mm/sn)	0,04±0,008	0,05±0,01



**Figure 1:** Changes in T wave and ST segment in ECG II. Derivation in sheep, ½ hours after carazolol administration.

## Discussion

In veterinary medicine, carazolol has been used to decrease cardiovascular responses arising from catecholamine usage, in stress related disorders, in the area of veterinary artificial insemination and gynecology [3].

No studies were found regarding to side effects however the drug has been used widely recently. In our study, urea, creatinin, ALT, ALP, GGT, LDH, Ca, P, T.Protein, Mg, Cu levels in blood serum parameters were found to be in normal level however statistical decrease in  $p < 0.5$  level on serum Fe, Zn levels was determined after Carazolol injection. Moreover, all other values were reported to be within reference values.

Some behavioural, physiological, haematologic and neurohormonal changes can occur in animal body depending on the stress [4-8]. Most of the trace elements were known to be function as a part of enzyme, hormone and vitamins [4,9]. For this reason, we think that stress factors must be taken into consideration in the evaluation of changes observed in sheep after carazolol injection and new studies should be done relating to this subject.

Researchers [5,7,9] have also reported that several hormones that play role in stress cause elevation in cardiac rhythm and blood pressure, increase in plasma catecholamine and behavioral changes. In our study, elevation in systolic, mean and diastolic arterial blood pressure were not found statistically significant after carazolol

injection to sheep. Nevertheless, this condition is thought to be result of stress that was created during administration as well as the detection of changes in the second controls after injection suggesting the stress and side effects of drug.

When the acute effects of drug to the heart were evaluated no findings were observed except abnormal T wave and depression in ST segment formed in two animals. We have observed that the drug may cause some biochemical and cardiovascular effects, although the drug has been used more recently. We think that these should also be taken into consideration when using the drug and the side effects of the drug must be further investigated.

## References

1. Borchard U. Pharmacological properties of  $\beta$ -adrenoreceptor blocking drugs. *J Clin Bas Cardiol.* 1998; 1-5.
2. Bademkiran S, Horozkaya H. İneklerde güç doğuma bağlı şekillenen retensiyonun engellenmesinde beta blokörlerin (carazolol) ve PGF<sub>2</sub>'nin etkilerinin karşılaştırılması. 2016. [Ref.: https://goo.gl/WZzSrd](https://goo.gl/WZzSrd)
3. Aydın H, Gündüz MC, Yardibi H. Effects of carazolol on plasma malondialdehyde, superoxide dismutase and catalase in sheep. *J Animal Veterinary Advances.* 2009; 8: 771-773. [Ref.: https://goo.gl/UzsKR5](https://goo.gl/UzsKR5)
4. Carlson GP. Clinical Chemistry Tests. In: *Large Animal Internal Medicine.* Edit by Smith B.P. Third ed. Part IV. Mosby Company. 1990; 389-412. [Ref.: https://goo.gl/C5F5F2](https://goo.gl/C5F5F2)
5. Cook CJ. Glucocorticoid feedback increases the sensitivity of the limbic system to stress. *Physiology Behavior.* 2002; 75: 455-464. [Ref.: https://goo.gl/3TbN2c](https://goo.gl/3TbN2c)
6. Dakka AA, Abdel-Aal TS. Studies on minerals picture in the blood sera of Egyptian Sheep. *Assiut Veterinary Medicine J.* 1992; 28: 242-249.
7. Fazio E, Ferlazzo A. Evaluation of stress during transport. *Vet Res Commun.* 2003; 27: 519-524. [Ref.: https://goo.gl/Vd3yuc](https://goo.gl/Vd3yuc)
8. Sharma MC, Chinmay J, Pathak NN, Kaur H. Copper status and enzyme, hormone, vitamin and immune functions in heifers. *Res Vet Sci.* 2005; 79: 113-123. [Ref.: https://goo.gl/ZmwH7S](https://goo.gl/ZmwH7S)
9. Weisinger RS, Blair-West JR, Burs P, Denton DA, Purcell B, et al. Cardiovascular effects of long-term central and peripheral administration of urocortin, corticotropin-releasing factor, and adrenocorticotropin in sheep. *Endocrinology.* 2004; 145: 5598-5604. [Ref.: https://goo.gl/1p736h](https://goo.gl/1p736h)