

عنوان مقاله:

Crocicn protects the renal tubular epithelial cells against high glucose-induced injury and oxidative stress via regulation of the SIRT1/Nrf2 pathway

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تعداد صفحات اصل مقاله: 5

نویسندگان:

Jichen Zhang - *Department of Endocrinology, Shanghai Pudong New District Gongli Hospital, Second Military Medical University, Shanghai 200135, P. R China*

Xuemei Zhao - *Department of Endocrinology, Shanghai Pudong New District Gongli Hospital, Second Military Medical University, Shanghai 200135, P. R China*

Hongling Zhu - *Department of Endocrinology, Shanghai Pudong New District Gongli Hospital, Second Military Medical University, Shanghai 200135, P. R China*

Jingnan Wang - *Department of Endocrinology, Shanghai Pudong New District Gongli Hospital, Second Military Medical University, Shanghai 200135, P. R China*

Junhua Ma - *Department of Endocrinology, Shanghai Pudong New District Gongli Hospital, Second Military Medical University, Shanghai 200135, P. R China*

Mingjun Gu - *Department of Endocrinology, Shanghai Pudong New District Gongli Hospital, Second Military Medical University, Shanghai 200135, P. R China*

خلاصه مقاله:

Objective(s): Renal tubular damage is critical pathological features of diabetic nephropathy (DN). This study aimed to explore the protective activity and related mechanisms of crocin in renal epithelial cell injury induced by high glucose. **Materials and Methods:** Renal tubular epithelial HK-2 cells were cultured with D-glucose to establish an in vitro DN model. Cell viability was evaluated by CCK-8 assay. Apoptosis was detected by Annexin V-FITC kit. Oxidative stress was evaluated by colorimetry. RT-qPCR was carried out to determine the mRNA expressions of NF-E2-related factor 2 (Nrf2) and its pathway genes. Western blot was applied to determine the protein expressions of Nrf2 and related proteins. **Results:** High glucose (5.5, 30, and 50 mM D-glucose) decreased cell viability at 24 hr, which was attenuated by crocin (25 and 50 μM). Crocin also attenuated the high glucose (30 mM D-glucose) induced apoptosis of HK-2 cells, decreased MDA content, and increased SOD activity in culture media. Crocin increased mRNA levels of Nrf2, HO-1, and NQO1. Moreover, crocin increased protein expressions of Nrf2, Sirtuin 1 (SIRT1), and p-Akt (Ser473). Inhibition of Nrf2 using siRNA, and inhibitors of SIRT1 (nicotinamide, NAM, 20 μM) and PI3K/Akt (LY294002, 50 μM) all attenuated the protective effect of crocin. Nrf2 siRNA and NAM also partially attenuated the inhibitory effect on oxidative stress and increase in the Nrf2 protein by crocin treatment. **Conclusion:** Crocin protects renal epithelial cells against injury induced by high glucose, and the mechanism is associated with partial activation of the SIRT1-Nrf2 pathway.

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