

Fumonisin B1 neurotoxicity in young carp (*Cyprinus carpio* L.)

Kovačić, Sanja; Pepeljnjak, Stjepan; Pertinec, Zdravko; Šegvić Klarić, Maja

Source / Izvornik: *Arhiv za higijenu rada i toksikologiju*, 2009, 60, 419 - 426

Journal article, Published version

Rad u časopisu, Objavljena verzija rada (izdavačev PDF)

<https://doi.org/10.2478/10004-1254-60-2009-1974>

Permanent link / Trajna poveznica: <https://urn.nsk.hr/urn:nbn:hr:163:616878>

Rights / Prava: [In copyright](#) / [Zaštićeno autorskim pravom.](#)

Download date / Datum preuzimanja: **2024-07-24**



Repository / Repozitorij:

[Repository of Faculty of Pharmacy and Biochemistry University of Zagreb](#)



FUMONISIN B₁ NEUROTOXICITY IN YOUNG CARP (*CYPRINUS CARPIO* L.)*

Sanja KOVAČIĆ¹, Stjepan PEPELJNJK², Zdravko PETRINEC³, and Maja ŠEGVIĆ KLARIĆ²

Department of Neurology, General Hospital Zabok, Zabok¹, Department of Microbiology, School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, University of Zagreb², Department for Biology and Pathology of Fishes and Bees, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zagreb³, Zagreb, Croatia

Received in May 2009

Accepted in October 2009

For years scientists have suspected that the environment plays a role in neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and multiple sclerosis. Mycotoxin fumonisin B₁ (FB₁) is produced by several *Fusarium* species, mainly by *Fusarium verticillioides*, which is one of the most common fungi associated with corn worldwide. Fumonisin is known to cause equine leukoencephalomalacia, a disease associated with the consumption of corn-based feeds contaminated with FB₁. Here we have reported chronic experimental toxicosis in one-year-old carp (*Cyprinus carpio* L.) receiving feed containing 100 mg kg⁻¹ or 10 mg kg⁻¹ of added FB₁ for 42 days. We focused on fumonisin toxicity in the fish brain. After staining with hemalaun-eosin, histology of the fish brain revealed vacuolated, degenerate, or necrotic neural cells, scattered around damaged blood capillaries and in the periventricular area. These findings suggest that fumonisin, although it is a hydrophilic molecule, permeated the blood-brain barrier of young carp and had a toxic effect on neuronal cells.

KEY WORDS: *blood-brain barrier, environment, mycotoxins, neurodegenerative diseases*

The old hypothesis that neurotoxins may play a role in neurodegenerative disorders has recently been reintroduced into the focus of scientific interest. There is provocative evidence that environmental exposure to certain toxins may affect the development of neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, parkinsonian syndromes, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and multiple sclerosis. Recently published works support the cycad hypothesis for Guamanian amyotrophic lateral sclerosis/parkinsonism dementia complex (ALS/PDC), based on the detection of [beta]-methylaminoalanine (BMAA) of cyanobacterial origin in cycad tissue (1). Some environmental factors (e.g. cigarette smoking, high serum cholesterol levels, infections, metals,

industrial or other toxins) may trigger oxidation, inflammation, and disease processes, particularly in people with genetic susceptibility to Alzheimer disease (2-5). Administration of 1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine (MPTP) induces selective damage of the *substantia nigra* dopaminergic cells and causes the parkinsonian syndrome (6).

Mycotoxins are secondary fungal metabolites associated with severe toxic effects to vertebrates. They are produced by many phytopathogenic and food spoilage fungi including the *Aspergillus*, *Penicillium*, *Fusarium*, and *Alternaria* species. Food and feed contamination with mycotoxins is a worldwide problem. Beside their toxic effects on other organ systems, mycotoxins are neurotoxins that can produce a wide spectrum of behavioral and cognitive changes, ataxia, and convulsions. Systemic administration of harmaline and oxotremorine produces motor tremor

*The subject was presented at the 2nd Croatian Scientific Symposium with International Participation Fungi and Mycotoxins – Health Aspects and Prevention, held in Zagreb, Croatia on 5 December 2008.

in a variety of mammalian species (7, 8). Naturally occurring tremorogenic mycotoxins are synthesised by the *Aspergillus*, *Penicillium*, and *Claviceps* species.

Factors affecting the risk of toxin-induced neurodegenerative disorders include time and concentration in the organism, the ability to access the central nervous system, and the route by which a compound reaches the central nervous system or secondarily affects other organ systems leading to central nervous system disruption. The blood-brain barrier (BBB), which controls the passage of substances from the blood into the brain and spinal cord, lets essential metabolites, such as oxygen and glucose, pass from the blood to the brain and central nervous system (CNS), but blocks most molecules that are more massive than approximately 500 Da. BBB works as a filter, restricting access to many natural toxins, metals, antibodies, and biological complexes and, in many cases, actively removing these substances from the brain by energy-dependent efflux (9). Various factors and conditions can increase the permeability of BBB, including hypertension, hyperosmolarity, microwaves, radiation, infection, brain injury due to trauma, ischaemia, inflammation, pressure, and certain substances. Additionally, BBB is not fully formed at birth, which means that it is more permeable in young animals and humans (10, 11).

Fumonisin are toxins produced by the fungi *Fusarium verticilloides*, *Fusarium proliferatum*, and allied species under favourable conditions during infection of corn (12, 13). The most frequent and potent among them is fumonisin B₁ (FB₁). Fumonisin contained in grain disrupt the sphingolipid metabolism by inhibiting ceramide synthase, which in turn rapidly increases intracellular sphinganine concentration (14). The primary cause of toxicity seems to be the accumulation of sphingoid bases, but the effects also involve many other biochemical events (14, 15). In addition to naturally occurring toxicoses in several species such as leukoencephalomalacia in horses (16) or pulmonary oedema in swine (17), laboratory experiments have demonstrated sensitivity to FB₁ in all tested animals. FB₁ has a molecular weight of 705 Da and is a highly hydrophilic chemical. Following gavage administration, it poorly absorbs from the gastrointestinal tract; trace amounts were detected in urine, liver, kidney, and in red blood cells, whereas none was detected in plasma, heart, or brain. It does not appear to cross the placenta, and there is little evidence that it crosses BBB (18-20).

The only fish species tested so far, channel catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*), were exclusively fed on diet contaminated with FB₁ at concentrations of 35 mg kg⁻¹, 62 mg kg⁻¹, 170 mg kg⁻¹, or 313 mg kg⁻¹ for 5 weeks (21). Here we have reported chronic experimental neurotoxicosis in one-year-old carp (*Cyprinus carpio* L.) receiving feed containing 100 mg kg⁻¹ or 10 mg kg⁻¹ of added FB₁ for 42 days.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Fumonisin B₁

Fumonisin were biosynthesised in a liquid culture medium (yeast extract 20 g; sucrose 40 g; 1000 mL sterile water, pH 7.4) inoculated with a *F. verticilloides* isolate from a corn sample from Northern Croatia. One-millilitre suspension of conidia was inoculated into 1000 mL of the medium and incubated at 25 °C for 15 days. All chemicals (pro analysis) used for the extraction of FB₁ were purchased from Kemika (Croatia). The *F. verticilloides* liquid culture medium was homogenised with a 100-mL acetonitrile:distilled water mixture (9:1) in an electric homogeniser (3500 rpm) for 10 minutes and then filtered. The filtrate was extracted with *n*-hexane (2x25 mL) to remove lipids. The upper hexane phase of the filtrate was removed and the water-soluble phase, adjusted to pH value 8 to 9 with 25 mL NaHCO₃ (saturated solution) was then shaken with 2x25 mL of chloroform. The water-soluble phase was partially evaporated at 80 °C and then concentrated under vacuum by lyophilisation (Freeze dryer Alpha 1-4, Martin Chirst Osterode/Harz). The lyophilisate (100 mg) was dissolved in water (100 mL). The water solution of the sample (50 µL) and 10 µL of FB₁ standard (0.5 mg mL⁻¹) (Sigma Chemical Co., approx 98 %) were spotted on preparative GF254 silica plates (Sigma Aldrich Chemie GmbH) (20 cm x 20 cm), preheated for an hour to 110 °C. The plates were developed with acetonitrile:toluene:water (93:5:2) and subsequently dried in warm air. FB₁ was visualised under 366 nm UV light as bright blue zones and identified by its retention factor (Rf) of 0.75. It was purified by thin layer chromatography (TLC). Different amounts of the lyophilisate water solution were spotted on preparative GF254 silica plates and developed with acetonitrile:toluene:water (93:5:2). The fumonisin was scraped from the plates, dissolved in water, filtered to remove the silica gel, and the filtrate was

lyophilised. This procedure was repeated to collect the necessary amount of FB₁. A stock solution of FB₁ was prepared in distilled water (5 mg mL⁻¹) and kept refrigerated at 4 °C. This stock solution was further diluted with distilled water for uniform admixing to the experimental feed.

Carp

Healthy one-year-old common carp (*Cyprinus carpio* L.) were obtained from a pond of the Topličica company (Novi Marof, Croatia). No obvious diseases or abnormalities were found by routine analyses before the experiment. The fish were randomly divided into four groups (mean weight in each group: 127 g; range: 70 g to 131 g) of eight fish each and placed in four wire mesh cages (0.7 m x 0.7 m x 0.7 m) immersed in a pond. The experiment started after 4 weeks of conditioning to the new environment and training to take manually given feed at or near the water surface.

Feed

Pellets were prepared weekly. Equal parts of crushed commercial pellets (PVA and Pellets Co., UK) for trout (protein content 45 %), wheat flour and an adequate amount of distilled water (with or without FB₁) were mixed to obtain the dough. A household machine was modified to form pellets from the dough. After drying, the feed was stored in a refrigerator. The concentration of FB₁ in the feed given to the experimental group I was 100 mg kg⁻¹ of dry diet ingredients, and to group II 10 mg kg⁻¹.

Measurement of Evans blue dye (EBD) for BBB integrity

The permeability of Evans blue dye was evaluated for BBB integrity in accordance with a modified method by Rapoport et al. (22). BBB integrity was measured in eight control animals not treated with FB₁. The carp were anaesthetised with MS-222 (Sigma Aldrich Chemie GmbH), and 2 mL kg⁻¹ body weight of 2 % Evans blue dye saline (Sigma Aldrich Chemie GmbH) was injected intracardially and allowed to circulate for a couple of minutes. The pericardial cavity of the carp was opened and perfused with saline solution through bulbus arteriosus, and then by 4 % formaldehyde in PBS. After the experiment, the anaesthetised carp were bled by cutting the gill arches. Their brains were removed immediately and post-fixed in 4 % formaldehyde in PBS solution. All

brains were photographed (Fujifilm, FinePix A303, 2x) and the degree of Evans blue staining graded on a scale of 0 to 3, according to the modified method by Rapoport et al. (22). Zero denoted no stain uptake, 1 - light staining, 2 - darker staining, and 3 - deep blue staining.

Experimental procedure

The experiment started at the end of May and lasted 42 days. Mean water temperature during the experiment was (20±2.5) °C and the pH was 7 to 8. Three groups of fish were receiving appropriate pellets (control, 10 mg kg⁻¹ of FB₁, or 100 mg kg⁻¹ of FB₁) once a day in the amount equal to 5 % of their body weight. The fourth group was tested for BBB integrity with Evans blue dye. Once a week, the groups were examined visually by lifting the cages. We looked for dermal lesions, and followed fish behavior and vigilance.

Histopathology

At the end of the 42-day fumonisin B₁ administration, the animals were killed by overexposure to the anaesthetic MS-222 (Sigma Aldrich Chemie GmbH) and resected. Samples of the brain were fixed in 10 % neutral buffered formalin (Kemika Ltd., Croatia). After fixation, the samples were automatically dehydrated (Reichert-Jung, histokinette 2000) in a series of ethanol solutions of increasing concentrations, and then impregnated in paraffin (termed hell-paraffin). Paraffin blocks were cut to 5-µm thick slices using a microtome (Leitz 1512), and the slices were stained with haematoxylin and eosin according to the method of Lillie (23). Histological brain samples were examined under a light microscope (Olympus BH-2) at 200x to 700x magnification.

The degree of brain oedema was graded from 0 to 3, as follows: 0 - no oedema; 1 - slight oedema; 2 - moderate oedema; 3 - severe oedema. The grading was based on the generally accepted morphological criteria for cerebral oedema: pallor of myelin, distension of perivascular and pericellular spaces, a loose or sieve-like appearance of myelinated areas, rarefaction of subpial spaces, vacuolar appearance of the neuropil, and pools of protein-rich fluid (24, 25).

In the brain tissue, we determined the number of apoptotic cells, degenerative lesions, and the occurrence of inflammatory changes. The number of apoptotic cells was recorded in 10 randomly selected fields at 400x magnification. Degenerative lesions

(hyaline and/or vacuolar degeneration, necrosis) were counted in 10 randomly selected fields at 400x magnification. Inflammatory cells were counted in three randomly selected fields at 200x magnification and graded from 0 to 3, according to the number of fields affected.

Statistical analysis

The data were statistically analysed using SPSS® and Microsoft Excel® for Windows). The Kruskal-Wallis and Jonckheere Terpstra test were used for within-group comparisons of apoptotic cells, degenerative lesions, and inflammatory changes. Difference at $P < 0.05$ was considered significant.

RESULTS

Clinical signs

We have observed no mortality in either experimental group. The final examination revealed slower body-weight gain in both FB₁-exposed groups [(80±10) g per animal in the low-dose group and (81±5) g in the high-dose group] than in control (114±12) g. Furthermore, six of the eight fish in the high-dose fumonisin group had carp erythrodermatitis, and the group was markedly less vagile than other groups. However, no other clinical differences were observed among the three experimental groups.

BBB integrity testing

In the fourth group used exclusively for BBB integrity testing, the brains of six carps showed no Evans blue staining (Figure 1). In two carp, the spinal cord showed grade 1 staining (Figure 2), but the other parts of the brain were clear. Evans blue binds to albumin *in vivo*; its absence from the brain (with an exception of circumventricular organs) suggests that BBB is impermeable to proteins.

Histological examination

Five fish treated with higher FB₁ doses had a moderate (Figures 3 and 4), two a slight, and one severe brain oedema. The degree of brain edema differed significantly ($P > 0.05$) from the group treated with lower FB₁ doses and control group. In both four carp had a slight brain oedema, two moderate, and two none.

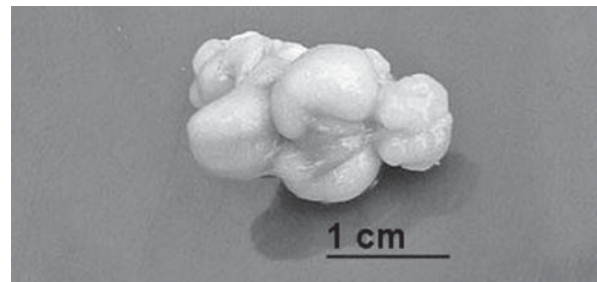


Figure 1 Brain of control carp shows no Evans blue staining.

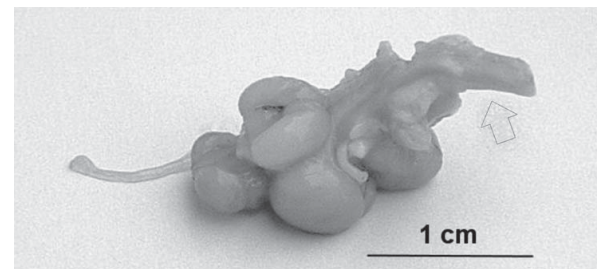


Figure 2 Evans blue staining of the circumventricular structure in the caudal neurosecretory system (transparent arrow) of control carp

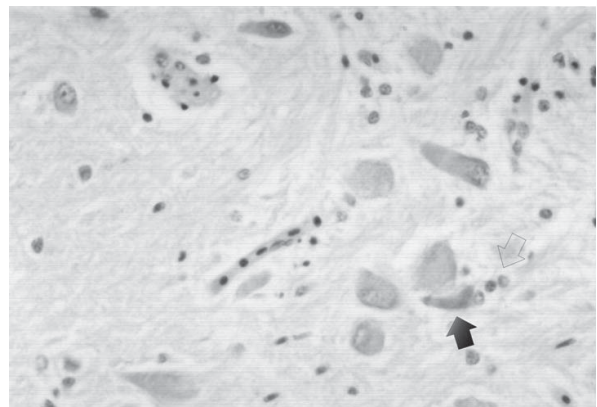


Figure 3 Brain tissue shows accumulation of glial cells (open arrow) and some degenerate neural cells (black arrow) with histological signs of perivascular oedema in carp receiving diet with 100 mg kg⁻¹ FB₁ (magnification 500x).

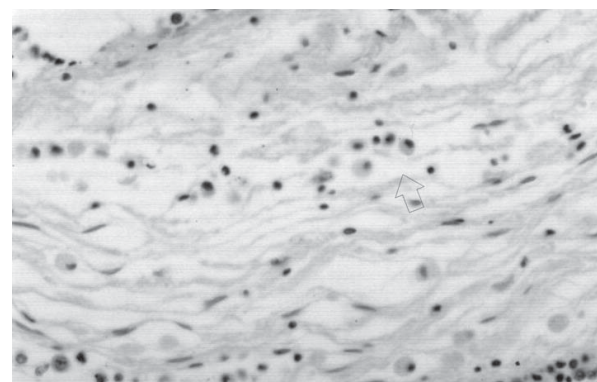


Figure 4 Meningeal congestion and oedema with lymphomononuclear cells (transparent arrow) in carp receiving diet with 100 mg kg⁻¹ FB₁ (magnification 400x).

Apoptoses (Figure 5) varied in morphology from cell shrinks and chromatin condensation to apoptotic bodies. The mean number of apoptoses was (1.00 ± 0.81) in the high-dose fumonisin group, (0.5 ± 0.52) in the low-dose fumonisin group, and (0.1 ± 0.31) in the control group. The difference between high-dose fumonisin group and low-dose fumonisin group and the difference between both treated groups and control was significant ($P < 0.05$).

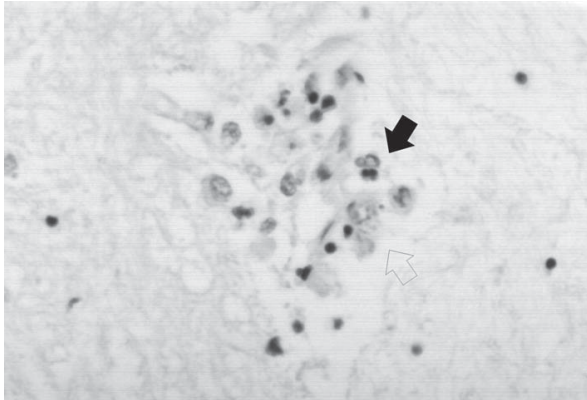


Figure 5 Detail of focal neuronal apoptosis (black arrow) and necrosis (transparent arrow) with glial reaction in carp receiving diet with $100 \text{ mg kg}^{-1} \text{ FB}_1$ (magnification 700x).

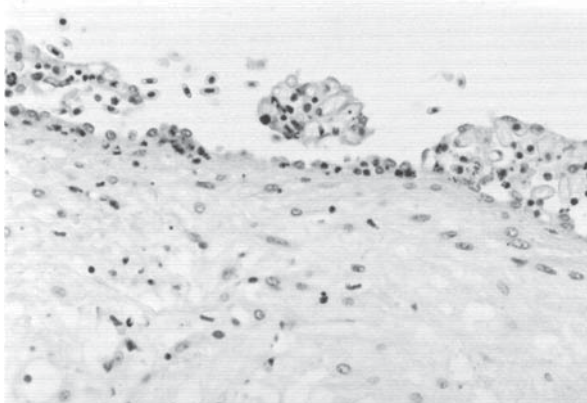


Figure 6 Haematoxylin-eosin staining of coronal brain sections shows damaged, irregular, and ruptured structure of the ependymal cell layer. Cerebrospinal fluid in these areas contains cell debris and lymphocytes. (Carp receiving diet with $100 \text{ mg kg}^{-1} \text{ FB}_1$; magnification 700x).

The mean number of degenerative cells was (1.7 ± 1.49) in the high-dose fumonisin group (Figures 3 and 6), (1.0 ± 0.66) in the low-dose fumonisin group, and (0.2 ± 0.42) in the control group ($P < 0.05$).

Most of the fish treated with higher fumonisin doses had a moderate accumulation of inflammatory cells, and one showed severe inflammation (Figures 4 and 6). Other animals from this group showed no obvious

signs of inflammation. The control group showed no inflammation. Accumulation of inflammatory cells differed significantly between the groups ($P < 0.05$).

DISCUSSION

Depending on animal species, FB_1 can cause neurotoxicity, hepatotoxicity, nephrotoxicity, immunosuppression, developmental abnormalities, liver tumours, and other disorders (26). It can cause equine leukoencephalomalacia (27) and porcine pulmonary edema (28). Although FB_1 is evidently neurotoxic for horses and ponies, only a few investigations confirm its neurotoxicity in other animal species (29, 30).

Our results have shown dose-dependent histopathological changes in the brain and brain vasculature of carp treated with FB_1 . They demonstrate the neurotoxicity of FB_1 , which got across BBB.

An earlier study of adult channel catfish has shown that fumonisin causes perivascular lymphocyte infiltration in the brain (31). Our investigation suggests that FB_1 passed BBB in young carp. Previous findings indicate that the molecular weight of the compound plays an important role in its capability of crossing BBB. For example, albumin, with molecular weight of about 69,000 Da (32) did not get across BBB. Evans blue staining has shown only trace amounts of albumin in the grey matter of spinal cord of two fish. This suggests that FB_1 can probably pass BBB to a minor degree in lower vertebrate species, which calls for further investigation. This level of permeation may be more probable in young animals.

Even though our results indicate the transport of FB_1 to carp brain, it still remains unclear which mechanisms are involved. However, results on mammals suggest that FB_1 transport to the brain does not depend on multidrug transport system, in which P-glycoprotein plays a major role. This is supported by the findings of Sharma et al. (33), who demonstrated that knockout mice deficient in P-glycoprotein did not exhibit greater sensitivity to FB_1 . Osuchovski et al. (34) reported that pre-treatment with lipopolysaccharides increased BBB permeability and allowed fumonisin to enter the brain of female BALB/c mice. Other studies showed that ochratoxin A (OTA) induced biochemical changes and cytotoxicity in rat brain (35, 36). Some *in vitro* studies suggest that ionophoric mycotoxin beauvericin (BEA) may be neurotoxic (37). In addition to fumonisins and

ochratoxin, *Fusarium* spp. can produce secondary toxic metabolites, the so-called emerging mycotoxins such as fusaproliferin, beauvericin, enniatins, and moniliformin (38). In other words, contamination with *Fusarium* mould could expose animals to several mycotoxin species at the same time.

Marcine et al. (39) showed that direct exposure of murine brain to FB₁ results in neurotoxicity, characterised by biochemical and pathological changes. Intraventricular injection of FB₁ in their study caused neurodegeneration, inhibition of *de novo* ceramide synthesis, stimulation of astrocytes, and upregulation of pro-inflammatory cytokines in the brain of BALB/C mice.

Kwon et al. (40) have shown that FB₁ alters sphinganine (Sa) levels and myelin synthesis in the central nervous system of developing rats. FB₁ seems to cause pathological changes in the brain function and morphology by impairing sphingolipid metabolism.

Studies of equine leukoencephalomalacia raise the question why horses are particularly susceptible to neurotoxic effects of fumonisin than other investigated animals. This is more likely due to lower BBB permeability to fumonisin-like molecules in these animals than due to greater fumonisin absorption from the gastrointestinal tract in horses. Further investigations should shed more light on this issue.

Our investigation also touches upon possible neurological consequences of fumonisin exposure early in life. Due to its specific mode of development, the central nervous system of a young animal is relatively unprotected and highly susceptible to damage, especially by environmental pollutants. Research conducted with several pollutants suggests that early-life exposure to chemicals, even at environmental levels can produce neurotoxic effects long after exposure (41). Our findings suggest that chronic environmental exposure in early life may play a major role in the development of neurodegenerative disorders later in life.

REFERENCES

- Ince PG, Codd GA. Return of the cycad hypothesis - does the amyotrophic lateral sclerosis/parkinsonism dementia complex (ALS/PDC) of Guam have new implications for global health? *Neuropath Appl Neurobiol* 2005;31:345-53.
- Sonnen JA, Larson EB, Gray SL, Wilson A, Kohama SG, Crane PK, Breitner JC, Montine TJ. Free radical damage to cerebral cortex in Alzheimer's disease, microvascular brain injury, and smoking. *Ann Neurol* 2009;65:226-9.
- Hirsch-Reinshagen V, Burgess BL, Wellington CL. Why lipids are important for Alzheimer disease? *Mol Cell Biochem* 2009;326:121-9.
- Letenneur L, Pérès K, Fleury H, Garrigue I, Barberger-Gateau P, Helmer C, Orgogozo JM, Gauthier S, Dartigues JF. Seropositivity to herpes simplex virus antibodies and risk of Alzheimer's disease: a population-based cohort study. *PLoS One* 2008;3:e3637.
- Brar S, Henderson D, Schenck J, Zimmerman EA. Iron accumulation in the substantia nigra of patients with Alzheimer disease and parkinsonism. *Arch Neurol* 2009;66:371-4.
- Luquin MR, Obeso JA, Herrero MT, Laguna J, Martínez-Lage J. Parkinsonismo inducido por MPTP como modelo experimental de enfermedad de Parkinson: Similitudes y diferencias [Parkinsonism induced by MPTP as an experimental model of Parkinson disease: Similarities and differences, in Spanish]. *Neurologia* 1991;6:287-94.
- Fuentes JA, Longo VG. An investigation on the central effects of harmine, harmaline and related beta-carbolines. *Neuropharmacology* 1971;10:15-23.
- Barragan LA, Delhay-Bouchaud N, Laget P. Drug-induced activation of the inferior olivary nucleus in young rabbits. Differential effects of harmaline and quipazine. *Neuropharmacology* 1985;24:645-54.
- Schinkel AH, Smit JJ, van Tellingen O, Beijnen JH, Wagenaar E, van Deemter L, Mol CAAM, van der Valk MA, Robanus-Maandag EC, te Riele HPJ, Berns AJM, Borst P. Disruption of the mouse *mdr1a* P-glycoprotein gene leads to a deficiency in the blood-brain barrier and to increased sensitivity to drugs. *Cell* 1994;77:491-502.
- Rubin LL, Staddon JM. The cell biology of the blood-brain barrier. *Annu Rev Neurosci* 1999;22:11-28.
- Bradbury MWB, editor. *The Concept of a Blood-Brain Barrier*. 1st ed. Chichester: John Wiley; 1979.
- Gelderblom WC, Jaskiewicz K, Marasas WF, Thiel PG, Horak RM, Vleggaar R, Kriek NP. Fumonisin - novel mycotoxins with cancer-promoting activity produced by *Fusarium moniliforme*. *Appl Environ Microbiol* 1988;54:1806-11.
- Miller JD. Factors that affect the occurrence of fumonisin. *Environ Health Perspect* 2001;109(Suppl 2):321-4.
- Merrill AH Jr, Sullards MC, Wang E, Voss KA, Riley RT. Sphingolipid metabolism: roles in signal transduction and disruption by fumonisins. *Environ Health Perspect* 2001;109(Suppl 2):283-9.
- Merrill AH Jr, Liotta DC, Riley RT. Fumonisin: fungal toxins that shed light on sphingolipid function. *Trends Cell Biol* 1996;6:218-23.
- Kellerman TS, Marasas WF, Thiel PG, Gelderblom WC, Cawood M, Coetzer JA. Leukoencephalomalacia in two horses induced by oral dosing of fumonisin B₁. *Onderstepoort J Vet Res* 1990;57:269-75.
- Colvin BM, Harrison LR. Fumonisin-induced pulmonary edema and hydrothorax in swine. *Mycopathologia* 1992;117:79-82.
- Dutton MF. Fumonisin, mycotoxins of increasing importance: their nature and their effects. *Pharmacol Ther* 1996;70:137-61.
- Shepherd GS, Thiel PG, Sydenham EW, Alberts JF, Gelderblom WC. Fate of a single dose of the ¹⁴C-labelled mycotoxin, fumonisin B₁, in rats. *Toxicol* 1992;30:768-70.

20. Voss KA, Bacon CW, Norred WP, Chapin RE, Chamberlain WJ, Plattner RD, Meredith FI. Studies on the reproductive effects of *Fusarium moniliforme* culture material in rats and the biodistribution of [¹⁴C] fumonisin B₁ in pregnant rats. *Nat Toxins* 1996;4:24-33.
21. Brown DW, McCoy CP, Rottinghaus GE. Experimental feeding of *Fusarium moniliforme* culture material containing fumonisin B₁ to channel catfish, *Ictalurus punctatus*. *J Vet Diagn Invest* 1994;6:123-4.
22. Rapoport SI, Matthews K, Thompson HK, Pettigrew KD. Osmotic opening of the blood-brain barrier in the rhesus monkey without measurable brain edema. *Brain Res* 1977;136:23-9.
23. Lillie RD, editor. *Histopathologic Technic and Practical Histochemistry*. 3rd ed. New York (NY): McGraw-Hill Book Co.; 1965.
24. Scheinker IM. Cerebral swelling: Histopathology, classification and clinical significance of brain edema. *J Neurosurg* 1947;4:255-75.
25. Long DM, Hartmann JF, French LA. The ultrastructure of human cerebral edema. *J Neuropathol Exp Neurol* 1966;25:373-95.
26. Riley RT, Wang E, Schroeder JJ, Smith ER, Plattner RD, Abbas H, Yoo HS, Merrill AH Jr. Evidence for disruption of sphingolipid metabolism as a contributing factor in the toxicity and carcinogenicity of fumonisins. *Nat Toxins* 1996;4:3-15.
27. Marasas WFO, Kellerman TS, Gelderblom WCA, Coetzer JAW, Thiel PG, van der Lugt JJ. Leukoencephalomalacia in a horse induced by fumonisin B₁ isolated from *Fusarium moniliforme*. *Onderstepoort J Vet Res* 1988;55:197-203.
28. Harrison LR, Colvin BM, Greene JT, Newman LE, Cole Jr, JR. Pulmonary edema and hydrothorax in swine produced by fumonisin B₁, a toxic metabolite of *Fusarium moniliforme*. *J Vet Diagn Invest* 1990;2:217-21.
29. Tsunoda M, Dugyala RR, Sharma RP. Fumonisin B₁-induced increases in neurotransmitter metabolite levels in different brain regions of BALB/c mice. *Comp Biochem Physiol C Pharmacol Toxicol Endocrinol* 1998;120(3):457-465.
30. Kwon OS, Sandberg JA, Slikker W, Jr. Effects of fumonisin B₁ treatment on blood-brain barrier transfer in developing rats. *Neurotoxicol Teratol* 1997;19(2):151-155.
31. Lumlertdacha S, Lovell RT, Shelby RA, Lenz SD, Kemppainen BW. Growth, hematology and histopathology of channel catfish, *Ictalurus punctatus*, fed toxins from *F. moniliforme*. *Aquaculture* 1995;130:201-18.
32. Marshall WJ, Bangert SK, editors. *Clinical Biochemistry: Metabolic and Clinical Aspects*. 2nd ed. Edinburgh: Elsevier Health Sciences; 2008.
33. Sharma RP, Bhandari N, Tsunoda M, Riley RT, Voss KA, Meredith FI. Fumonisin toxicity in a transgenic mouse model lacking the *mdr1a/1b* P-glycoprotein genes. *Environ Toxicol Pharmacol* 2000;8:173-82.
34. Osuchowski MF, He Q, Sharma RP. Endotoxin exposure alters brain and liver effects of fumonisin B₁ in BALB/c mice: implication of blood brain barrier. *Food Chem Toxicol* 2005;43:1389-97.
35. Zanic-Grubisic T, Santini A, Cepelak I, Barisic K, Juretic D, Pepeljnjak S. Influence of ochratoxin A treatment on the activity of membrane bound enzymes in rat brain regions. *Biol Chem Hoppe Seyler* 1996;377:121-7.
36. Belmadani A, Tramu G, Betbeder AM, Steyn PS, Creppy EE. Regional selectivity to ochratoxin A, distribution and cytotoxicity in rat brain. *Arch Toxicol* 1998;72:656-62.
37. Wu SN, Chen H, Liu YC, Chiang HT. Block of L-type Ca²⁺ current by beauvericin, a toxic cyclopeptide, in the NG108-15 neuronal cell line. *Chem Res Toxicol* 2002;15:854-60.
38. Jestoi M. Emerging fusarium-mycotoxins fusaproliferin, beauvericin, enniatins, and moniliformin: a review. *Crit Rev Food Sci Nutr* 2008;48:21-49.
39. Osuchowski MF, Edwards GL, Sharma RP. Fumonisin B₁-induced neurodegeneration in mice after intracerebroventricular infusion is concurrent with disruption of sphingolipid metabolism and activation of proinflammatory signaling. *Neurotoxicology* 2005;26:212-21.
40. Kwon OS, Schmued LC, Slikker W Jr. Fumonisin B₁ in developing rats alters brain sphinganine levels and myelination. *Neurotoxicology* 1997;18:571-9.
41. Sunyer J. The neurological effects of air pollution in children. *Eur Respir J* 2008;32:535-7.

SažetakNEUROTOKSIČNOST FUMONIZINA B₁ U ŠARANSKE MLADI (*Cyprinus carpio* L.)

Odavno je poznato da okoliš ima važnu ulogu u razvoju neurodegenerativnih bolesti kao što su Alzheimerova i Parkinsonova bolest te multipla skleroza. Mikotoksin fumonizin B₁ (FB₁) tvori nekoliko vrsta *Fusariuma*, najčešće *F. verticillioides*, koja je najučestaliji kontaminant kukuruza. Ovaj mikotoksin odgovoran je za leukoencefalomalaciju konja, mula i magaradi povezanu s konzumacijom kukuruza kontaminiranog s FB₁. U ovom su radu prikazani rezultati kronične eksperimentalne toksikoze mlađi šarana (*Cyprinus carpio* L.) koji su u hrani primali 100 mg kg⁻¹ i 10 mg kg⁻¹ FB₁ tijekom 42 dana. Nakon bojenja hemalaun-eozinom zabilježene su značajne histopatološke promjene na mozgu životinja uključujući vakuolizaciju, degeneraciju i nekrozu neurona, posebice u blizini oštećenih krvnih kapilara i u periventrikularnoj regiji. Ova saznanja pokazuju da FB₁, kao hidrofilna molekula, prolazi kroz krvno-moždanu barijeru mladih šarana uzrokujući oštećenje neurona.

KLJUČNE RIJEČI: *krvno-moždana barijera, mikotoksini, neurodegenerativne bolesti, okoliš*

CORRESPONDING AUTHOR:

Sanja Kovačić
Department of Neurology, General hospital Zabok
Bračak 6, 49210 Zabok, Croatia
E-mail: sanja.drca@kr.t-com.hr