

Effect on Stability of Ginseng Saponins by Various Physical and Chemical Treatments

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(Received Oct. 15, 1986)

물리화학적 처리가 인삼 Saponin 의 안정성에 미치는 영향

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(1986년 10월 15일 접수)

Abstract

To investigate the stability of ginseng saponin, various physical and chemical treatments for red ginseng alcohol extract (70% ethyl alcohol) were carried out, and then the variations of ginseng saponin in extract were investigated by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) method.

Irradiation of γ -ray, and ultraviolet ray, sonocatalysis by ultrasonicator, treatment of electronic range, catalytic ozonation did not or slightly affect degradation of ginseng saponins, but they were degraded by heat treatment.

Introduction

Korean ginseng (*Panax ginseng* C.A. Meyer) has many biological activities such as increasing stamina, having antipyretic, neurotonic, diuretic, antihemorrhagic, cardiogenic effects, preventing tuberculosis, controlling blood pressure, normalizing the gastrointestinal system, strengthening liver functions, treating tumors and diabetes, etc ¹⁾. Korea ginseng contains many kinds of saponins, these saponins also exhibit numerous biological and pharmacological effects. Up to the present, a total of 17 saponins have been identified; ginsenoside Ro, Ra₁, Ra₂, Ra₃, Rb₁, Rb₂, Rb₃, Rc, Rd, Re, Rf, Rg₁, Rg₂, Rg₃, Rh₁, Rh₂ and 20-gluco-Rf. Among various saponins, ginsenoside Rb₁ exhibits inhibitory effects on the central nervous system, analgesic and antipyretic effects, promotes synthesis of protein, nucleic acid and cholesterol, and inhibits neutral

lipid breakdown, ginsenoside Rb₂ exhibits inhibitory effects on the central nervous system, promotes synthesis of DNA, RNA and protein. Ginsenoside Rc exhibits inhibitory effects on the central nervous system, promotes DNA, RNA and serum protein synthesis, and ginsenoside Re exhibits inhibitory effects on the central nervous system, promotes DNA and RNA synthesis. Ginsenoside Rg₁ stimulates the central nervous system, promotes recovery from fatigue, and DNA, RNA synthesis, ginsenoside Rg₂ prevents platelet aggregation. Ginsenoside Rh₂ inhibits the proliferation of cancer cells, ginsenoside Ro exhibits anti-inflammatory effects, has detoxifying action and anti-thrombotic action, and also ginsenoside Ro, Rb₁, Rb₂, Rc, Re, Rg₁, Rg₂ stimulate plasmin activity²⁾. As above mentioned, ginseng saponins contained in ginseng are main compounds which exhibit the biological and pharmacological effects. These ginseng saponin could be degraded during manufacturing various ginseng products. Yang *et al.*³⁾ and Shoji⁴⁾ reported studies on effects of pH and heat treatment on the stability, and hydrolysis by dilute-hydrochloride solution of ginseng saponin. In this experiments, in order to protect the disintegration of ginseng saponin during manufacturing of various red ginseng products, after red ginseng alcohol extract were treated with various physical and chemical treatments, we investigated by HPLC whether ginseng saponins in extract were degraded or not degraded by treatments.

Materials and Methods

Red ginseng alcohol extract Red ginseng alcohol extract (extract manufactured by extraction and concentration with 70% ethyl alcohol) manufactured by Office of Monopoly in 1986 was used in this experiment⁵⁾.

Physical and chemical treatment γ -ray irradiation of red ginseng alcohol extract was carried out with ⁶⁰Co- γ -ray irradiation instrument in Korea Advanced Energy Research Institute, ultra-violet ray irradiation was carried out with ultra-violet lamp (15W, 2537Å) for sterilization.

Sonocatalysis was done with ultrasonicator(Brannsonic 1510 U.S.A., 50W, 20KHz), and ozonation was performed with ozone generator(1.5g/hr). Electronic range treatment was performed with Mitsubishi electronic range(580W, 2450MHz) and heat treatment was carried out with autoclave.

Analysis of ginseng saponin Saponins in red ginseng alcohol extract treated with various physical and chemical treatment were extracted by method of Namba and Shibata^{6,7)} and each ginsenoside was analyzed by high performance liquid chromatograph, and the conditions of HPLC for analysis of ginseng saponins were shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Conditions of HPLC for analysis of saponins in red ginseng alcohol extract

Model	; Waters Associate Model 244
Column	; μ -Bondapak carbohydrate analysis (4mm \times 30cm)
Solvent	; Acetonitril:H ₂ O:BuOH (80:20:15)
Detector	; Differential Refractometer (RI)
Sensitivity	; 8X
Flow rate	; 2.0 ml/min
Chart speed	; 1 cm/min
Injection vol.	; 10 μ l

Results and Discussion

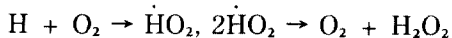
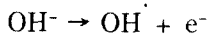
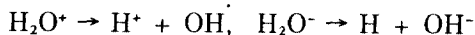
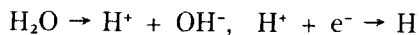
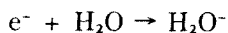
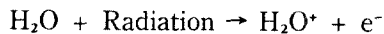
Effect of γ -ray irradiation To investigate the effect on stability of ginseng saponin by γ -ray irradiation, red ginseng alcohol extract was irradiated by ^{60}Co - γ -ray at a range of 0-50K Gy (1K Gy = 100Krad) and the results were summarized in Table 2. As shown

Table 2. Effect of γ -ray irradiation on stability of ginseng saponin

Irradiation dosage(KGy)*	Ginsenosides (Unit: $\mu\text{g}/10\mu\text{l}$)					
	Rg ₁	Re	Rd	Rc	Rb ₂	Rb ₁
0	47.8	68.6	49.0	111.1	130.3	227.1
10	48.3	70.4	48.6	113.7	124.9	225.1
15	47.5	68.3	50.8	112.9	118.7	213.2
50	48.0	70.0	49.2	112.4	115.1	208.9

* 1 KGy is equal to 100 Krad.

in Table 2, even irradiation dosage of 50 KGy did not affect the degradation of ginseng saponin. When water molecule is irradiated by γ -ray, various free radicals are formed by ionization⁸⁾.



Here, H formed from water molecule by the reaction of radiant ray is very powerful reductant, and OH $\dot{\cdot}$, $\dot{\text{H}}\text{O}_2$ and H₂O₂ is powerful oxidant. By the radiation, contents of triol group saponins in red ginseng extract did not change, but contents of diol group

saponins slightly decrease. It means that triol group saponins such as ginsenoside Rg₁, Re and Rd are very stable for radiation. In susceptibility of vitamins against for ionizing radiation, ascorbic acid, thiamin, pyridoxine, cyanocobalamin, β -carotene, vitamin A, E, K and nicotinic acid are sensitive to radient ray, but riboflavin, panthothenic acid, biotin, folic acid, choline and vitamin D are stable. And the sensitive vitamins for radient ray are apt to degrade by one factor of heat treatment, oxygen and light⁹⁾.

Effect of ultra-violet ray irradiation In order to investigate the effect on stability of ginseng saponin by the irradiation of ultra-violet ray, red ginseng alcohol extract (13° Bx) was irradiated by ultra-violet lamp for 0-50 hrs, and the results are shown in Table 3. As shown in Table 3, each ginsenoside was very stable for the irradiation of ultra-violet ray. The energy of ultra-violet ray is less than that of ionizing radiation, so its sterilizing power and transmittance are also feeble. And because ultra-violet ray is preterentially absorbed to nucleic acids, it changes the structure of DNA chain and forms thymin dimers in intracellular of microorganisms¹⁰⁾.

Table 3. Effect of UV-ray irradiation on stability of ginseng saponin

Irradiation time (hrs)	Ginsenosides (Unit: $\mu\text{g}/10\mu\text{l}$)					
	Rg ₁	Re	Rd	Rc	Rb ₂	Rb ₁
0	47.8	68.6	49.0	111.1	130.3	227.1
5	48.2	68.2	48.6	111.7	130.9	227.9
15	47.4	69.1	49.2	110.8	129.5	226.4
30	48.6	67.7	49.5	111.5	131.2	227.3
50	47.4	67.4	49.8	112.5	131.8	227.7

Effect of ultrasonic treatment Cell disintergration by ultrasound is caused by cavita-tional forces producing shock waves, chemical attack by free radicals, or cavita-tional microstreaming. Whatever the mechanism of disintergration, the ultrasonic treatment continues to be an effective means for rupturing bacterial cells¹¹⁾. During ultrasonica-tion, foaming can cause protein dematuration, and the cavitation phenomenon promotes oxidation of oxygen-sensitive enzymes and unsaturated lipids¹²⁾. There are no problems for the disintergration of large molecules, because red ginseng was heat-treated at 100°C for 2-3 hrs during manufacturing red ginseng. After sonication for red ginseng alcohol extract, the variations of ginsenoside contents in extracts were investigated, and the results are shown in Table 4. Ultrasonic treatment for 10 min did not affect the varia-tion of ginsenoside content or disintergration of ginseng saponin.

Effect of ozonation In order to investigate effect on ginseng saponin by ozona-tion, ozone bubblings for red ginseng alcohol extract were carried out with ozone generator for 0-20 min. Ozonation also did not affect the contents of triol group saponins,

Table 4. Effect of ultrasonic treatment on stability of ginseng saponin

Time (min)	Ginsenosides (Unit: $\mu\text{g}/10\mu\text{l}$)					
	Rg ₁	Re	Rd	Rc	Rb ₂	Rb ₁
0	47.8	68.6	49.0	111.1	130.3	227.1
2	47.0	68.0	47.4	109.3	131.2	226.0
5	46.2	67.6	49.3	112.3	132.6	228.4
10	47.7	69.2	50.7	112.6	131.8	229.5

Table 5. Effect of ozonation on stability of ginseng saponin

Time (min)	Ginsenosides (Unit: $\mu\text{g}/10\mu\text{l}$)					
	Rg ₁	Re	Rd	Rc	Rb ₂	Rb ₁
0	47.8	68.6	49.0	111.1	130.3	227.1
5	45.2	64.8	49.8	111.4	129.9	228.9
10	48.0	66.3	47.6	101.6	116.2	201.0
15	46.4	63.9	47.8	102.7	105.3	183.4
20	47.1	64.7	46.5	74.7	73.4	150.9

but diol group saponins in red ginseng alcohol extract were slightly disintergrated (Table 5).

Effect of electronic range Red ginseng alcohol extract was treated by electronic range, cooking utensil, at time intervals, and then contents of ginseng saponin in extract was investigated. As shown in Table 6, contents of all ginsenosides were not changed. In case of electromagnetic wave spectra, radio waves, radar waves ($10^7 - 10^9\text{Hz}$) and infrared rays ($10^{12} - 10^{14}\text{Hz}$), radient of low frequency, affect molecules by heat vibration of low proton energy, and then generally heat generated by heat vibration has sterilization reaction¹³⁾. But ginseng saponins(diol and triol group) were not affected by treatment of microwave, it means that ginseng saponin is very stable in its structure.

Table 6. Effect of electronic range treatment on stability of ginseng saponin

Time (sec)	Ginsenosides (Unit: $\mu\text{g}/10\mu\text{l}$)					
	Rg ₁	Re	Rd	Rc	Rb ₂	Rb ₁
0	47.8	68.6	49.0	111.1	130.3	227.1
10	47.9	69.2	46.8	112.5	131.3	227.1
20	46.9	67.4	47.1	113.0	133.1	225.3
40	44.6	64.9	46.3	109.6	133.1	226.2
60	46.9	64.8	46.0	110.3	132.5	224.8
90	48.5	64.9	46.5	109.7	131.4	220.5

Effect of heat treatment Heat treatments cause the structural change of organic substances such as proteins, nucleic acids, enzymes etc, and this reaction was almost irreversible. Red ginseng alcohol extract was heat-treated for 1 hr at 100, 110 and 120°C, and then the contents of ginsenosides were investigated. As shown in Table 7, content of each ginsenoside was not changed by heat treatment at 100°C for 1 hr, but by treatment at 110 and 120°C, the contents of ginsenoside Re, Rc, Rb₂ and Rb₁ was decreased with an increase of temperature except contents of ginsenoside Rg₁ and Rd. Ginsenoside Rd was heat-stable substance, because its content was no changed by heat treatment of 120°C. But content of ginsenoside Rg₁ was increased with an increase of temperature. We suppose that the increase of content of ginsenoside Rg₁ was caused by transforming ginsenoside Re and 20-gluco ginsenoside Rf into ginsenoside Rg₁ by heat degradation. In a structure of ginseng saponin, that is, if glucose-rhamnose or glucose-glucose in C-6 position of sugar moiety of ginsenoside Re or 20-gluco ginsenoside Rf was cloven by chemical and physical treatment, both ginsenoside Re and 20-gluco ginsenoside Rf can be transformed into ginsenoside Rg₁¹⁴⁾. From above results, we knew that ginseng saponin is very stable substance in structure, and that diol group saponin is more unstable substance than triol group saponin.

Table 7. Effect of heat treatment on stability of ginseng saponin

Temperature (°C)	Ginsenosides (Unit: µg/10µl)					
	Rg ₁	Re	Rd	Rc	Rb ₂	Rb ₁
No treatment	47.8	68.6	49.0	111.1	130.3	227.1
100	49.4	63.1	47.8	111.9	131.0	212.3
110	56.1	57.6	46.3	108.3	123.9	193.7
120	79.3	37.8	42.7	88.3	104.8	155.6

*Heat treatment of ginseng extract was carried out for 1 hr at given temperature.

요 약

인삼 엑기스 제품을 제조·가공할 때 여러가지 물리화학적 처리방법이 인삼의 주요성분인 사포닌의 안정유지에 미치는 영향을 조사하였다. 자외선 조사·전자렌지 및 초음파 처리에 의해서는 거의 모든 인삼의 사포닌이 분해되지 않았으나 ozone bubbling에 의해서는 ginsenoside Rc, Rb₂ 및 Rb₁이 상당히 분해되었고 감마선을 50 Kgy(5Mrad) 조사 하였을 때 ginsenoside Rg₁, Re, Rd의 함량은 변하지 않았으나 Rc, Rb₂, Rb₁은 조사 선량이 증가됨에 따라 약간씩 분해가 일어났다. 특히 열처리의 경우는 온도가 높을수록 거의 모든 사포닌에서 분해가 많이 일어났으나 ginsenoside Rg₁은 오히려 그 양이 증가하는 경향을 보였으며 이는 사포닌 구조상으로 볼 때 ginsenoside Re와 20—gluco

ginsenoside Rf의 glucose-rhamnose, glucose-glucose가 탈리되어 ginsenoside Rg₁으로 전환된 것으로 추정된다.

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