

## Anti-biofilm, Antioxidant and Haemolysis Effect of Silver, Chitosan and Curcumin Nanoparticles on Antibiotics Resistance *Klebsiella pneumoniae* Isolates From Urinary Tract Infection

Ali Adil AL-Hatemi\* and Baydaa A. Hassan

University of Kufa-Faculty of Science-Department of Biology

\*Corresponding author E-mail: Aliadil78h@gmail.com

### Abstract

This study was completed in laboratories of Biology Department in Faculty of Science. It explains the anti-biofilm, antioxidant and haemolysis effect of silver, chitosan and curcumin nanoparticles on antibiotics resistance *Klebsiella pneumoniae* that isolated from urinary tract infection patients in the province of Thi Qar. A total number of (200) samples were collected from patients with urinary tract infection from AL-Hussein Teaching Hospital and AL-Shatrah General Hospital in Thi-Qar Governorate, the capacity of some *K. pneumoniae* isolates to biofilm formation was detected by phenotypic method which included Congo Red Agar method (CRA), from the 65 (100%) isolates of *K. pneumoniae* 58 (89.23 %) were biofilm producers when that appearance of black dry crystalline colonies on the CRA plates and 7 (10.77 %) were non-biofilm producers when the colonies of *K. pneumoniae* remained pink or red colored. The results showed that silver, chitosan and curcumin NPs expressed high anti-biofilm activity via plate method against *K. pneumoniae* isolates with increasing concentrations of silver, chitosan and curcumin NPs (100, 200, 300 and 400) µg/ml. Silver, chitosan and curcumin nanoparticles with four concentrations of (100, 200, 300, 400) µg/ml showed antioxidant activity using DPPH methods. DPPH reducing activity of nanoparticles increased with the increase in the concentration of nanoparticles, also DPPH reducing activity of nanoparticles increased with the mix (silver, chitosan and curcumin) NPs compared with the presence of silver, chitosan and curcumin nanoparticles alone. It was 48%, 54%, 57%, and 59% in (100, 200, 300 and 400 µg/ml) respectively for silver NPs, also, 39%, 42%, 46%, and 48% in (100, 200, 300 and 400 µg/ml) respectively for chitosan NPs, and 42%, 48%, 53%, and 55% in (100, 200, 300 and 400 µg/ml) respectively for curcumin NPs. It was 52%, 63%, 71% and 80% in (100, 200, 300 and 400 µg/ml) respectively for the mix (silver, chitosan and curcumin) NPs. Silver, chitosan and curcumin nanoparticles with all concentration (100, 200, 300, 400) µg/ml also, the mix (silver, chitosan and curcumin) NPs together did not show any hemolysis for the tested whole blood.

**Keywords:** Anti-biofilm, Antioxidant activity, Haemolysis, Nanoparticles,

### 1. Introduction

Urinary tract infection is one of the widespread diseases, as well as it is characterized by multiple causes of bacterial pathogens and both sexes and all ages (1). UTIs are categorized as uncomplicated or complicated. Uncomplicated UTIs typically affect individuals who are otherwise healthy and have no structural or neurological urinary tract abnormalities, these infections are differentiated into lower UTIs (cystitis) and upper UTIs (pyelonephritis), several risk factors are associated with cystitis, including female gender, a prior UTI, sexual activity, vaginal infection, diabetes, obesity and genetic susceptibility (2). Complicated UTIs are defined as UTIs associated with factors that compromise the urinary tract or host defense, including urinary obstruction, urinary retention caused by neurological disease, immunosuppression, renal failure, renal transplantation, pregnancy and the presence of foreign bodies such as calculi, indwelling catheters or other drainage devices (3). Antibiotic resistance was informed to occur when a drug loses its capability to inhibit bacterial growing efficiently, bacteria change resistant and remain 'to grow in the occurrence of therapeutic levels of the antibiotics, bacteria, when duplicates even in the presence of the antibiotics are called resistant, bacteria, antibiotics become are typically active against them, but when the microbes fewer sensitive or

resistant, it needs a greater than the normal concentration of the identical drug to have an influence (4).

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1: Samples collection and bacterial identification

A total number of 200 (urine samples) were collected from patients with urinary tract infection (UTI) from AL-Shatrah General Hospital and AL-Hussein Teaching Hospital in Thi-Qar Governorate during the period from (January, 2022 to April, 2022). The mid-stream urine specimens were collected from patients in sterilized screw-cap container and transported to advanced Microbiology laboratory of Science College in Kufa University and culturing on diverse media for 24 hours at cultivate 37°C for bacterial diagnosis.

### 2.2: Silver, chitosan and curcumin NPs as anti-biofilm, antioxidant and haemolysis agent

**2.2.1: Preparation of silver, chitosan and curcumin nanoparticles:** according of (5), (6) and (7) respectively.

**2.2.2: Preparation of Congo Red Agar:** according of (8)

### 2.3: Detection of biofilm formation for *Klebsiella pneumoniae* isolates

Biofilm production by isolated from UTI pathogens in our study was detected by phenotypic method which included Congo Red Agar Method (CRA), prepared CRA plates were inoculated with the *Klebsiella pneumoniae* isolates and aerobically incubated at 37°C for 48 h, appearance of black dry crystalline colonies on the CRA plates indicated positive biofilm production while the colonies of biofilm no producer remained pink or red colored negative (9).

### 2.4: Anti-biofilm formation of the silver NPs against *K. pneumoniae* isolates

Microtiter plate method was used for in vitro anti-biofilm activity, four concentrations 100, 200, 300 and 400 µg/ml of silver NPs, 0.1ml of cell suspension having 0.5 O.D at 630 nm have been inoculated in 1.9 ml BHIB medium, 150ul of the cultured BHIB then transferred into each well of 96-well microtiter plate in use, an amount of 50ul of each 4X concentration was added to the corresponding wells to obtain the final concentrations, an amount of 50ul of BHIB was added one well corresponding to *K. pneumoniae* isolate used as control to confirm production of biofilm by bacteria and inhibition of biofilm formation by silver NPs, an amount of 200µl of autoclaved distilled water was added in peripheral wells (to reduce the water loss), microtiter plate was incubated for 16 h at 37°C, planktonic cells then aspirated, and fixed with 99% methanol, plates then washed twice with phosphate buffer saline or sterile saline water and air-dried, about 200µl of crystal violet solution (0.2%) then added to all wells, after 5 min, excess crystal violet was removed and washed twice, after that the plate was air dried and the cell bound crystal violet was dissolved in 33% acetic acid, the optical density (O.D.) at 630nm was recorded (10).

### 2.5: Anti-biofilm formation of the chitosan and curcumin NPs against *K. pneumoniae* isolates

This test is agreed in the same manner described in paragraph (2.4) excluding the use of chitosan and curcumin NPs.

### 2.6: Anti-biofilm formation of mix the NPs against *K. pneumoniae* isolates

This test is agreed in the same manner described in paragraph (2.4) excluding the use of mix the (silver, chitosan and curcumin) NPs.

### 2.7: Antioxidant activity of silver, chitosan and curcumin NPs

DPPH was used to determine the extracts free radical scavenging capability, the DPPH solution (0.006 % w/v) was prepared in 95% methanol, freshly prepared DPPH solution was placed in test tubes, and NPs (100, 200, 300, 400 µg/ml) were applied to each test tube until the final volume was 2 ml, and discoloration was calculated at 517 nm (UV visible spectrophotometer) after 30 minutes in the dark incubation. DPPH solution was used as a control, and 95% methanol was utilized as a blank. Percentage of DPPH free radical scavenging was calculated using the following equation:

DPPH scavenging impact (%) =  $(A_0 - A_1) / A_0 \times 100$ , where  $A_0$  was the absorbance of the control and  $A_1$  was the absorbance in the presence of the nanoparticles (11).

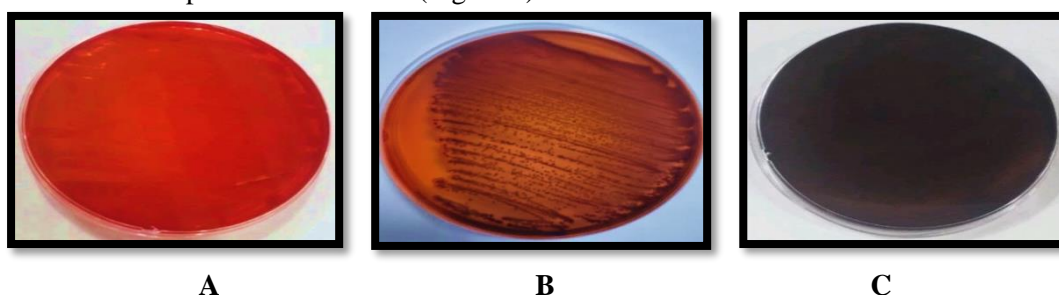
### 2.8: Haemolysis effect of silver, chitosan and curcumin NPs

The haemolytic toxicity of silver, chitosan and curcumin NPs was calculated by measuring the percentage of haemolysis, blood was taken from a normal unmedicated human donor and collected in anticoagulant EDTA, 2 mL blood was applied to each tube with NP concentrations of (100, 200, 300, 400 µg/ml), 2 mL blood was immediately drawn for initial examination, and the remaining 2 mL blood was incubated for 30 minutes with NPs (12). Triton X-100 1% was used as indicator of positive control. In each sample, the amount of free Hb released into the plasma following exposure to the samples was measured (13). The percentage of haemolysis was determined using the formula: percent Haemolysis = Free Hb / Total Hb 100.

**3. Results and Discussion**

**3.1: The ability of *K. pneumoniae* isolates to form biofilm**

The results showed that the capacity of some *K. pneumoniae* isolates to biofilm formation was detected by phenotypic method which included Congo Red Agar Method (CRA), from the 65 (100%) isolates of *K. pneumoniae* 58 (89.23 %) were biofilm producers when that appearance of black dry crystalline colonies on the CRA plates and 7 (10.77 %) were non - biofilm producers when the colonies of *K. pneumoniae* remained pink or red colored (Figure 1).



**Figure 1: Biofilm formation by some *K. pneumoniae* isolates A: without Biofilm formation B & C: Biofilm formation**

**3-2: Anti-biofilm activity of different concentrations of silver, chitosan and curcumin NPs of MDR *K. pneumoniae* isolates**

The results showed that silver, chitosan and curcumin NP expressed high anti-biofilm activity via plate method against *K. pneumoniae* isolates with increasing concentrations of silver, chitosan and curcumin NPs (100, 200, 300 and 400) µg/ml (Table 1-4).

**Table 1: Anti-biofilm activity of silver NPs at four concentrations against *K. pneumoniae* isolates**

No. of <i>K. pneumoniae</i> isolates	Absorbance of silver NPs (µg/ml)			
	100	200	300	400
<i>K.P 1</i>	0.398	0.274	0.179	0.080
<i>K.P 2</i>	0.265	0.213	0.158	0.069
<i>K.P 3</i>	0.297	0.258	0.159	0.030
<i>K.P 4</i>	0.395	0.328	0.152	0.048
<i>K.P 5</i>	0.369	0.286	0.133	0.082
<i>K.P 6</i>	0.336	0.273	0.113	0.092
<i>K.P 7</i>	0.299	0.256	0.124	0.082
<i>K.P 8</i>	0.373	0.297	0.169	0.070
<i>K.P 9</i>	0.394	0.267	0.178	0.069
<i>K.P 10</i>	0.374	0.299	0.142	0.029
<i>K.P 11</i>	0.319	0.255	0.139	0.044
<i>K.P 12</i>	0.395	0.317	0.130	0.046
<i>K.P 13</i>	0.288	0.230	0.124	0.057
<i>K.P 14</i>	0.325	0.300	0.135	0.072
<i>K.P 15</i>	0.282	0.251	0.118	0.067

<i>K.P 16</i>	0.342	0.271	0.199	0.086
<i>K.P 17</i>	0.367	0.328	0.145	0.034
<i>K.P 18</i>	0.289	0.219	0.127	0.044
<i>K.P 19</i>	0.317	0.293	0.126	0.089
<i>K.P 20</i>	0.280	0.229	0.118	0.064
<i>K.P 21</i>	0.380	0.249	0.128	0.100
<i>K.P 22</i>	0.306	0.289	0.136	0.070
<i>K.P 23</i>	0.394	0.319	0.185	0.079
<i>K.P 24</i>	0.299	0.219	0.154	0.014
<i>K.P 25</i>	0.350	0.215	0.192	0.038
<i>K.P 26</i>	0.377	0.242	0.110	0.086
<i>K.P 27</i>	0.349	0.221	0.109	0.081
<i>K.P 28</i>	0.299	0.215	0.143	0.012
<i>K.P 29</i>	0.314	0.286	0.163	0.036
<i>K.P 30</i>	0.359	0.218	0.173	0.042
<i>K.P 31</i>	0.296	0.258	0.129	0.084
<i>K.P 32</i>	0.375	0.297	0.169	0.073
<i>K.P 33</i>	0.397	0.269	0.174	0.062
<i>K.P 34</i>	0.370	0.295	0.140	0.025
<i>K.P 35</i>	0.319	0.258	0.135	0.045
<i>K.P 36</i>	0.399	0.317	0.133	0.041
<i>K.P 37</i>	0.288	0.234	0.127	0.050
<i>K.P 38</i>	0.328	0.303	0.133	0.079
<i>K.P 39</i>	0.285	0.254	0.110	0.067
<i>K.P 40</i>	0.348	0.270	0.194	0.081

**Table 2: Anti-biofilm activity of chitosan NPs at four concentrations against *K. pneumoniae* isolates**

No. of <i>K. pneumoniae</i> isolates	Absorbance of chitosan NPs (µg/ml)			
	100	200	300	400
<i>K.P 1</i>	0.397	0.270	0.177	0.088
<i>K.P 2</i>	0.246	0.219	0.154	0.062
<i>K.P 3</i>	0.291	0.256	0.153	0.037
<i>K.P 4</i>	0.386	0.329	0.155	0.043
<i>K.P 5</i>	0.369	0.283	0.130	0.089
<i>K.P 6</i>	0.339	0.272	0.118	0.092
<i>K.P 7</i>	0.299	0.257	0.123	0.081
<i>K.P 8</i>	0.379	0.298	0.166	0.070
<i>K.P 9</i>	0.394	0.269	0.175	0.068
<i>K.P 10</i>	0.374	0.298	0.142	0.021
<i>K.P 11</i>	0.319	0.255	0.133	0.048
<i>K.P 12</i>	0.390	0.316	0.139	0.044
<i>K.P 13</i>	0.289	0.237	0.124	0.050
<i>K.P 14</i>	0.327	0.309	0.134	0.079
<i>K.P 15</i>	0.282	0.250	0.117	0.066
<i>K.P 16</i>	0.342	0.271	0.199	0.084

<i>K.P 17</i>	0.367	0.329	0.143	0.038
<i>K.P 18</i>	0.280	0.218	0.122	0.039
<i>K.P 19</i>	0.313	0.229	0.160	0.087
<i>K.P 20</i>	0.288	0.213	0.110	0.066
<i>K.P 21</i>	0.284	0.248	0.115	0.028
<i>K.P 22</i>	0.301	0.287	0.135	0.077
<i>K.P 23</i>	0.349	0.310	0.183	0.079
<i>K.P 24</i>	0.399	0.277	0.152	0.019
<i>K.P 25</i>	0.357	0.319	0.193	0.031
<i>K.P 26</i>	0.279	0.216	0.118	0.084
<i>K.P 27</i>	0.343	0.229	0.105	0.081
<i>K.P 28</i>	0.298	0.200	0.142	0.011
<i>K.P 29</i>	0.310	0.284	0.169	0.035
<i>K.P 30</i>	0.358	0.319	0.177	0.041
<i>K.P 31</i>	0.369	0.289	0.133	0.088
<i>K.P 32</i>	0.338	0.273	0.112	0.099
<i>K.P 33</i>	0.297	0.219	0.129	0.083
<i>K.P 34</i>	0.378	0.299	0.166	0.078
<i>K.P 35</i>	0.399	0.325	0.178	0.064
<i>K.P 36</i>	0.377	0.299	0.146	0.028
<i>K.P 37</i>	0.314	0.258	0.137	0.046
<i>K.P 38</i>	0.391	0.315	0.138	0.047
<i>K.P 39</i>	0.284	0.236	0.124	0.055
<i>K.P 40</i>	0.323	0.308	0.139	0.073

Table 3: Anti-biofilm activity of Curcumin NPs at four concentrations against *K. pneumoniae* isolates

No. of <i>K. pneumoniae</i> isolates	Absorbance of Curcumin NPs (µg/ml)			
	100	200	300	400
<i>K.P 1</i>	0.386	0.288	0.198	0.067
<i>K.P 2</i>	0.299	0.231	0.151	0.095
<i>K.P 3</i>	0.292	0.264	0.198	0.061
<i>K.P 4</i>	0.362	0.333	0.198	0.042
<i>K.P 5</i>	0.383	0.252	0.218	0.045
<i>K.P 6</i>	0.379	0.297	0.107	0.088
<i>K.P 7</i>	0.258	0.211	0.196	0.077
<i>K.P 8</i>	0.379	0.278	0.155	0.087
<i>K.P 9</i>	0.386	0.302	0.185	0.084
<i>K.P 10</i>	0.387	0.281	0.155	0.093
<i>K.P 11</i>	0.319	0.257	0.138	0.049
<i>K.P 12</i>	0.399	0.316	0.139	0.048
<i>K.P 13</i>	0.286	0.239	0.125	0.053
<i>K.P 14</i>	0.322	0.308	0.131	0.072

<i>K.P 15</i>	0.289	0.258	0.116	0.068
<i>K.P 16</i>	0.347	0.270	0.195	0.086
<i>K.P 17</i>	0.365	0.328	0.149	0.091
<i>K.P 18</i>	0.288	0.216	0.129	0.033
<i>K.P 19</i>	0.318	0.297	0.169	0.085
<i>K.P 20</i>	0.289	0.200	0.115	0.066
<i>K.P 21</i>	0.289	0.247	0.118	0.045
<i>K.P 22</i>	0.308	0.287	0.136	0.075
<i>K.P 23</i>	0.349	0.317	0.186	0.079
<i>K.P 24</i>	0.290	0.277	0.158	0.016
<i>K.P 25</i>	0.355	0.318	0.295	0.039
<i>K.P 26</i>	0.274	0.218	0.110	0.087
<i>K.P 27</i>	0.340	0.327	0.206	0.109
<i>K.P 28</i>	0.297	0.220	0.146	0.016
<i>K.P 29</i>	0.318	0.288	0.165	0.100
<i>K.P 30</i>	0.358	0.319	0.274	0.116
<i>K.P 31</i>	0.297	0.259	0.126	0.089
<i>K.P 32</i>	0.377	0.299	0.164	0.075
<i>K.P 33</i>	0.393	0.368	0.172	0.061
<i>K.P 34</i>	0.379	0.299	0.144	0.022
<i>K.P 35</i>	0.316	0.256	0.130	0.043
<i>K.P 36</i>	0.392	0.311	0.139	0.040
<i>K.P 37</i>	0.285	0.238	0.126	0.055
<i>K.P 38</i>	0.323	0.308	0.134	0.079
<i>K.P 39</i>	0.282	0.259	0.110	0.066
<i>K.P 40</i>	0.349	0.272	0.199	0.081

**3-3: Antioxidant Activity of Silver, Chitosan and Curcumin NPs**

The results revealed the ability of NPs to scavenge DPPH free radicals, indicated by observing the colour change, DPPH reducing activity of nanoparticles increased with the increase in the concentration of biogenic nanoparticles, also DPPH reducing activity of nanoparticles increased with the mix (silver, chitosan and curcumin) NPs compared with the presence of silver, chitosan and curcumin nanoparticles alone. It was 48%, 54%, 57%, and 59% in (100, 200, 300 and 400 µg/ml) respectively for silver NPs, also, 39%, 42%, 46%, and 48% in (100, 200, 300 and 400 µg/ml) respectively for chitosan NPs, and 42%, 48%, 53%, and 55% in (100, 200, 300 and 400 µg/ml) respectively for curcumin NPs. It was 52%, 63%, 71% and 80% in (100, 200, 300 and 400 µg/ml) respectively for the mix (silver, chitosan and curcumin) NPs (Figures 2-4).

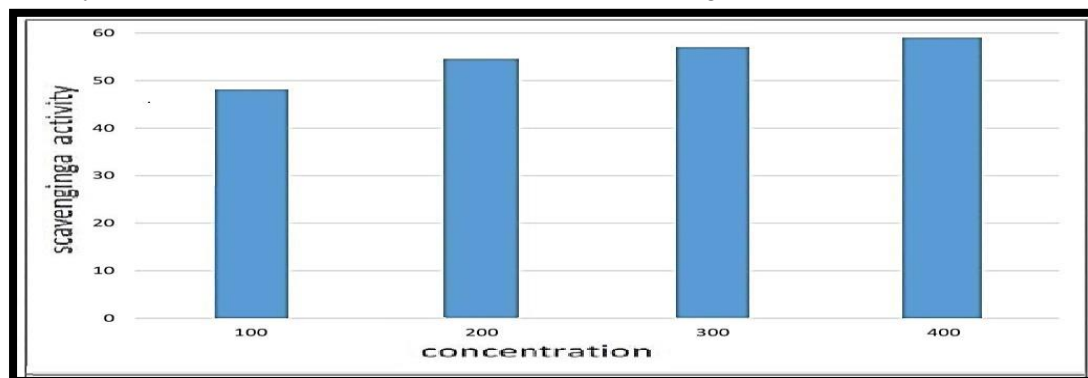


Figure 2: Antioxidant activity of silver NPs by DPPH assay

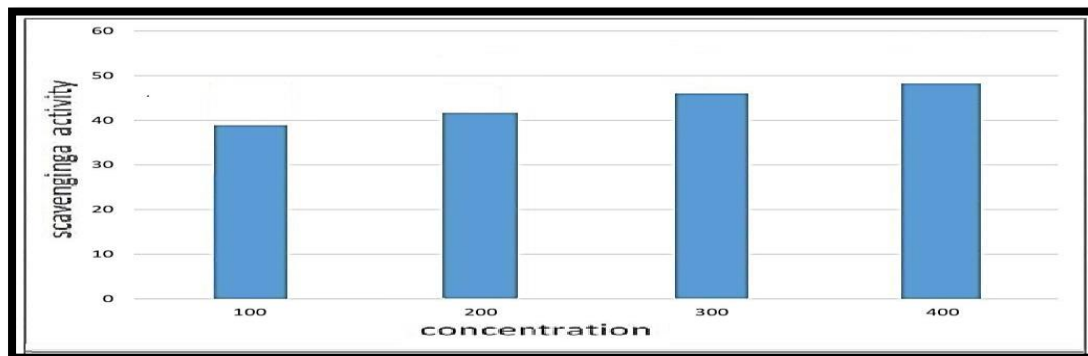


Figure 3: Antioxidant activity of chitosan NPs by DPPH assay

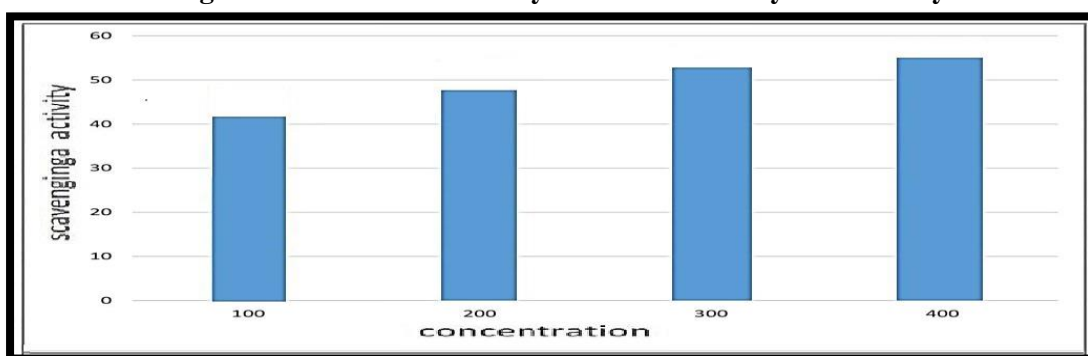


Figure 4: Antioxidant activity of curcumin NPs by DPPH assay

3-4: Haemolysis activity of nanoparticles

Haemolysis was detected by using Triton X-100 as indicators of positive control, sterile solution of phosphate buffer saline was used as a negative control that could store the stock solution at room temperature, Silver, chitosan and curcumin NPs with all concentration (100, 200, 300 and 400 µg/ml) also, the mix (silver, chitosan and curcumin) NPs together did not show any haemolysis for the tested whole blood table (3-4).

Table 4: Haemolysis activity of nanoparticles

Sample	Haemolysis %
Triton X-100 (positive control)	100
PBS (negative control)	0
Blood with Silver NPs 100, 200, 300, 400 µg/ml	0
Blood with Chitosan NPs 100, 200, 300, 400 µg/ml	0
Blood with Curcumin NPs 100, 200, 300, 400 µg/ml	0
Blood with (Silver, Chitosan and Curcumin) NPs 100, 200, 300, 400 µg/ml	0

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