# EFFECT OF VANADIUM ON THE LEVELS OF NEUROTRANSMITTERS IN THE BRAIN AND MUSCLE TISSUES OF CHANNA PUNCTATUS

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## **ABSTRACT**

For thirty days, the fish are administered twenty-four parts per million of vanadium. Each of the three groups of five fish was put into its own tub. As an experiment, no compounds are put to Group 1. However, 20 and 40 ppm of substances are added to Groups 2 and 3, respectively. Every day, we eliminate chlorine by changing the water for these three fish species. The following methods will be used to assess 1. How to determine acetylcholine using the Histrin technique (1949) and 2. How to determine aspartate using the Marklegault and Roy method (1999). Two neurotransmitters, acetylcholine and aspartate, are declining with age, as shown in the study. In addition to a 30-day drop in these neurotransmitters, the study found behavioural changes in the fish, including very slow and listless movement, weak muscular tone, respiratory distress, overall mucus production, lacrimation, scale

detachment from the skin, and insufficient feeding. Following a comparison with the control, the data underwent statistical analysis. The data is shown by the average and standard deviation. The statistical investigations were carried out utilising one-way ANOVA analysis and the Microsoft Excel program. Data was subjected to statistical analysis after comparisons with the control group.

Key Words: Vanadium, Neurotransmitter, Acetylcholine, and Aspartate

## **INTRODUCTION**

Symbolised as "V" and assigned the atomic number 23, vanadium Their level of oxidation determines the hue of the complexes they display. Consider the following set of integers: +2, +3, +4, +5. Each of these has a unique colour: II for purple, III for green, IV for blue, and V for brown or yellow (R. Wesset al., 1984). Due to its corrosion resistance, vanadium is ideal for use in the building of tubes and pipes; it accounts for about 85% of vanadium's use as an additive in steel and iron (Karlsson-Norrgran and Runn 1985). Indian waterways continue to be polluted, even though the country is less industrialised than wealthier ones. A greater number of toxic compounds are now recognised to be present in waterways. Khare and Singh released their results in 2002.

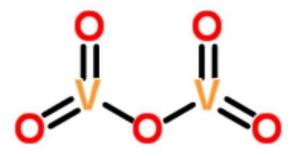


Fig.1.Structure of Vanadium

Companies' disposal of harmful chemicals and heavy metals into the environment is a major contributor to the degradation of aquatic ecosystems. (Woodling et al., 2001) and Gbem et al., 2001. Vanadium is not only not physiologically necessary but also persistent, non-biodegradable, and perhaps most toxic among heavy metals. The gills, the skin, and the intestinal wall are the three primary pathways whereby metals in food may be absorbed by freshwater fish. The authors Karlsson-Norrgran and Runn state that in 1985. Toxic

consequences, including tissue damage and death, are caused by heavy metal exposure in fish over time. A study conducted by Ferrard et al. (1983) is cited. This suggests that transition metals contribute to long-term skeletal muscles of the Channa punctatus fish.

#### **Neurotransmitters**

Synapses allow chemical messengers called neurotransmitters to go from neurones to other cells. (Berk et al., 2000) is the cited work.

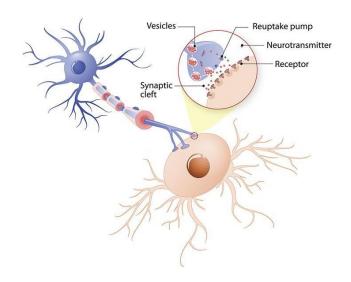


Fig.2.Structure of a typical chemical synapse

Among the over a hundred neurotransmitters in the brain, some of the most common are glutamate, glycine, acetylcholine, and GABA. (March 2019)—Cuevas et al. Neurotransmitters serve a variety of physiological purposes, including regulation of respiration and heart rate as well as learning, emotion regulation, fear management, pleasure perception, and happiness. They are crucial for maintaining brain function and for enhancing and balancing brain messages. (2021) (Guy-evnas et al.).

#### Chlorophyll (CH)

In 1921, a German researcher named Otto Loewi was the first to identify acetylcholine as a neurotransmitter. One kind of amine that is produced naturally is acetylcholine. Parasympathetic and central nervous system components are both capable of containing it. The principal function of this neurotransmitter is to facilitate learning, memory, and the activation of muscles via its association with motor neurones. This cholinergic system includes

two types of receptors namely **nicotinic receptors** that respond to the agonist nicotine and act as excitatory receptor that activates ligand-gated ion channel that opens a sodium channel causing depolarization of the cell membrane that increases the cell firing and **muscarinic receptors** that respond to muscarine, acts as an inhibitory receptor which activates G-protein that opens a potassium channel causing hyperpolarization of the cell membrane that reduces the cell firing. (**Knut Schmidt Neilsen et al., 1976**).

Low levels lead to paralysis and other symptoms include dry mouth, dry eyes, low muscle tone, memory problems, learning difficulties, depressed mood, Alzheimer's, and Parkinson's and high levels lead to cramps, increased salivation, lacrimation, paralysis, convulsions, blurred visions, and muscle weakening, muscular fasciculation, and diarrhea (Richard.W.Hill et al., 1976).

## **Aspartate**

Mammals are able to produce aspartate on their own, making it a non-essential amino acid. The ventral spinal cord is where it is most often found. These are found in high concentrations in the brain and have powerful excitatory effects on neurons (Edwin C Johnson et al., 2017).

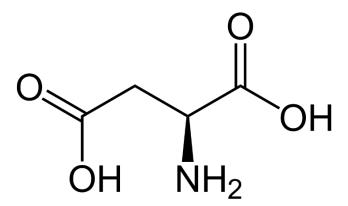


Fig.5. Structure of Aspartate

They help in strengthening Long-term potentiation (LTP), a neurological mechanism related to the creation of powerful memories, which occurs at synapses. (Evelyn F. and William L. et al., 2015). It must be synthesized in neurons in order to promote hormone synthesis, red blood cell production, immunological function, and tissue growth and repair (J Victor Nadler et al., 2010). When administered intravenously, certain types are

intended to lessen brain damage brought on by liver cirrhosis. (J Victor Nadler et al., 2010). Besides high levels have been linked to seizures and anxiety (Robert H. Edwards and Roger A. Nicoll et al., 2015).

Objectives for Study

- 1. To investigate how vanadium affects neurotransmitter levels in Channa punctatus brain and muscle tissues.
- 2. To compare the findings in brain and muscle tissues at the 1, 15, and 30 day marks.

## **DESIGN OF EXPERIMENT**

Maintenance and collection of fish: We will purchase live Channa punctatus from a nearby market, place them in a plastic bag, and transport them to the laboratory for analysis. The fish will spend 20 minutes submerged in a 0.05% KMnO<sub>4</sub> solution in the lab to prevent skin diseases. To ensure that the fish are free of any lingering effects from prior chemical exposure, they will be acclimated for one week before the experiment begins (Pandey et al.,2009; Nwani et al.,2010). There will be three groups of fish: one will act as a control, while the other two will undergo experiments with varying concentrations of vanadium (20 ppm and 40 ppm, respectively). Daily water changes will keep these three groups healthy. Chlorine in water stresses out fish, kills cells, damages skin and gills, and may even cause respiratory problems. The water will be allowed to sit in the open for 24 hours to lower the chemical levels, which will avoid these issues, before being used the following day. In addition to changing the water every day, the vanadium concentrations of 20 and 40 ppm will be supplied to the water on a regular basis until the experiment ends on the 30th day.

## **METHODOLOGY**

## Channa punctatus

Fig.6. Scientific Classification of Channa punctatus

Scientific Classification			
Kingdom	Animalia		
Phylum	Chordata		
Class	Actinopterygii		
Order	Anabantiformes		
Family	Channidae		
Genus	Channa		
Species	punctata		



Fig.7.Channa punctatus

*Channa punctatus* is a scientific name and is commonly called Spotted snakehead and locally called Murrel.

#### **Identification Characters**

Anatomically, it has a long, cylindrical body with a colour pattern that changes depending on its environment; the back is often yellowish to black while the underside is lighter. All around the body are many dark patches. The pectoral fin is located immediately above the pelvic fin, and the caudal fin is broad and rounded. There are huge scales and extremely tiny eyes positioned in front of the skull. The lower jaw protrudes somewhat.

Body length: Typically, it reaches a maximum of 15.0 cm, however, males have the potential to reach 31.0 cm (Pauly, Daniel et al., 2014). The natural environments in which it thrives include ponds, marshes, and brackish water systems. (Research conducted by Froese and

Rainer in 2014). These animals mostly consume carnivore prey, which includes insects, crustaceans, molluscs, and juvenile fish.

Spawning: The rainiest months of April through June are also good times to breed.

Evaluation In an effort to forestall any skin infections, fifteen fish were purchased and subjected to a twenty-minute treatment with KMnO4 solution. After that, the fish were left in fresh water for six days to become used to it. The fish were delivered into separate tubs in three groups of five. Two groups, one serving as a control and the other as an experimental set (20 and 40 ppm, respectively), are used in this study. Three intervals of one, fifteen, and thirty days after exposure to the Vanadium toxicant were used to conduct the toxicity analysis. Three groups had their brain and muscle tissue aspartate and acetylcholine concentrations measured to determine vanadium's impact. At each time point, one fish was sacrificed from each group, and the remaining six fish were utilised to observe behaviour.

#### **Quantitative Evaluation**

The average and standard deviation show the data. Statistical investigations were conducted using the Microsoft Excel program and one-way ANOVA analysis.

After comparing the outcomes to the control group, statistical analysis was performed on the data. The experiment will include dissecting the fish in order to get the necessary brain and muscle tissues for the assay of neurotransmitters, namely acetylcholine and aspartate. A mortar and pestle were used to homogenise the brain and muscle tissues in their respective solutions. Additional tests will be conducted on the control group. The experimental groups (20 and 40 ppm) will also undergo the same treatment.





Fig.8.Brain and Muscle tissue

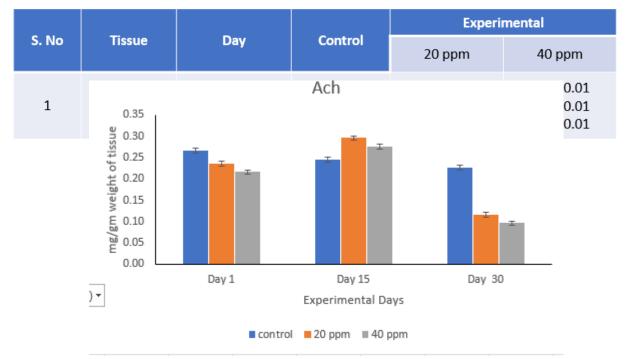
According to Hestrin (1949), acetylcholine levels in the brain and muscles may be estimated. Marklegault and Roy's (1999) approach is used to estimate aspartate in brain and muscle tissues. Histrin Method for the Determination of Acetylcholine Concentration (1949) 10 milligrammes of either brain or muscle tissue is weighed and homogenised with 1 millilitre of 3% perchloric acid before being spun at 1200 revolutions per minute for 10 minutes. Estimation was performed using the supernatant. Reagents 1 and 2 were mixed in equal quantities and left to incubate at room temperature for three hours to produce new hydroxylamine reagent. Prior to adding 1 ml of FeCl3 solution, 2 ml of alkaline hydroxylamine reagent was added to 1.0 ml of the supernatant. The pH was then corrected to 1.5 by adding 0.001 N HCl, and the mixture was well mixed by vortexing. We measured the optical density at 540 nm. To make a blank, combine 2 millilitres of hydroxylamine reagent with 1 millilitre of perchloric acid in a test tube. Add 1 millilitre of ferric chloride after adjusting the pH to 1.5 with a 0.001N HCl solution. Markle, Gault, and Roy's (1999) technique for estimating aspartate 10 milligrammes of brain or muscle tissue is weighed and homogenised with 1 millilitre of 3% perchloric acid. The mixture is then centrifuged at 1000 revolutions per minute for 10 minutes. The resulting supernatant is transferred to a new tube. To this, 2 millilitres of citrate buffer, 1 millilitre of 1% ninhydrin solution, and 1 millilitre of 1% SnC12 are added. The mixture is thoroughly mixed and then heated at 100 degrees Celsius for 15 minutes. Later, it is cooled on ice for 10 minutes in a dark room. Following

this, 6 millilitres of isobutyl alcohol was added, mixed well, and the alcohol layer was measured for optical density at 570 nanometres. The blank is prepared by taking 6 millilitres of isobutyl alcohol.

## **RESULTS**

Brain Acetylcholine Levels: On days 1, 15, and 30, the following amounts of acetylcholine were found in the brain tissue of fish that were exposed to doses of 20 ppm and 40 ppm of vanadium:

Mean and standard deviation are the measures of data representation.



We may deduce from the data in the table above that the levels of acetylcholine in the brain tissue rose on the fifteenth day compared to the control group, and then progressively declined on the thirtyth day. In other words, the order is 1 st < 15 th > 30 th day. What follows is a visual depiction of the data.

Fig.9.Graphical representation of Acetylcholine levels in the brain tissue

### In Muscle:

The amount of Acetylcholine present in the muscle tissue of a fish exposed to 20ppm and 40ppm vanadium concentrations for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> day is as follows:

The Data is represented by Mean and Standard Deviation.

Table.1.Acetylcholine levels in the muscle tissue

S. No	Tissue	Day	Control	Experimental	
3.110	113545	54,		20 ppm	40 ppm
1	Muscle Tissue	1 <sup>st</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup>	0.22±0.01 0.20±0.01 0.18±0.01	0.18±0.01 0.23±0.01 0.08±0.01	0.16±0.01 0.21±0.01 0.06±0.01

Based on the data shown in the table, it can be inferred that the levels of acetylcholine in the muscle tissue, as opposed to the control group, rose on the fifteenth day and then declined throughout the thirtyth day, in the following sequence: 1 st < 15 th > 30 th day. Below you may see the data graphically represented.

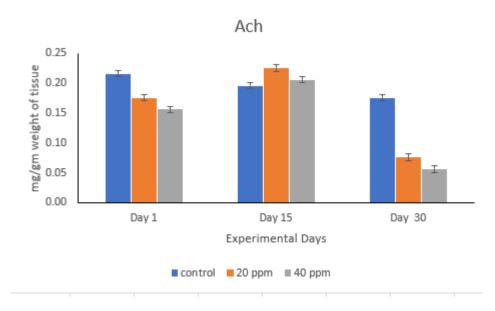


Fig. 10. Graphical representation of Acetylcholine levels in the muscle tissue

Inside the Mind:

Here is the quantity of Aspartate found in the brain tissue of a fish that was exposed to 20

S. No	Tissue	Day	Control	Experi	mental
				20 ppm	40 ppm
1	Brain	1 <sup>st</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup>	0.24±0.01 0.22±0.01 0.20±0.01	0.20±0.01 0.15±0.01 0.10±0.01	0.18±0.01 0.10±0.01 0.06±0.01

ppm and 40 ppm of vanadium on the first, fifteenth, and thirtyth day: Mean and standard deviation show the data. Table 2. Aspartate levels in the brain tissue

The data in the table show that starting on day 1, aspartate levels in brain tissue declined progressively compared to the control group, with the decline being most pronounced on days 15 and 30. Below you may see the data graphically represented.

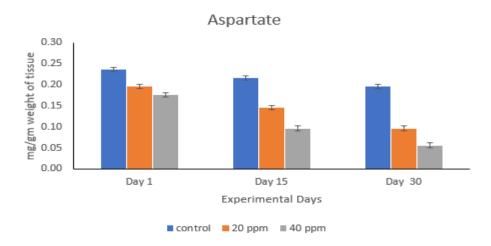


Fig.11. Graphical representation of Aspartate levels in the brain tissue

For the first, fifteenth, and thirtyth days after being exposed to 20 ppm and 40 ppm vanadium concentrations, the following amounts of aspartate were found in the fish's muscle tissue:

Mean and standard deviation show the data.

Table.3. Aspartate levels in the muscle tissue

	S. No	Tissue	Day	Control	Experimental	
					20 ppm	40 ppm
	1	Muscle Tissue	1 <sup>st</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup>	0.20±0.01 0.18±0.01 0.16±0.01	0.17±0.01 0.13±0.01 0.08±0.01	0.16±0.01 0.08±0.01 0.02±0.01
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The data in the table show that over the first, fifteenth, and thirtyth days, there was a progressive drop in aspartate levels in the muscle tissue compared to the control group. Below you may see the data graphically represented.

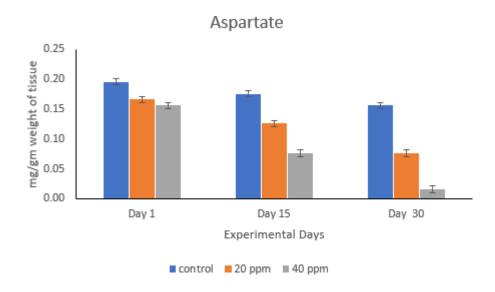


Fig.12. Graphical representation of Aspartate levels in the muscle tissue

## **DISCUSSION**

Compared to the control group on days one and thirty, levels of the neurotransmitter acetylcholine rose on day fifteen in the current research. Acetylcholine levels mostly rose and fell gradually. At high enough doses, acetylcholine may cause morphological issues, such as the development of glands all over the body, the release of saliva, sluggish swimming, and behavioural disturbances in fish. Heavy metal toxicants impede AChE, which causes these acetylcholine level fluctuations. Consistent with previous research, this study found that toxicant exposure caused an initial rise in Ach levels followed by a steady fall, with the same symptoms as previously described (R. W. Hill et al., 1976). From the first to the thirty-first day, there is a notable and steady decline in the aspartate levels in the brain and muscle tissues. There was a lack of response from the fish, which manifested as sluggish swimming and the loss of scales. Vanadium intoxication might be the cause of these symptoms and alterations in aspartate levels. These findings are in line with those of a prior research that shown the critical role of this neurotransmitter in regulating energy metabolism, brain function, and the development and maintenance of healthy tissues (J Victor Nadler et al.,

2010). Disruptions in the release of neurotransmitters may be caused by exposure to very toxic metals (Richard.W.Hill et al., 1976).

## **CONCLUSION**

Neurotransmitters acetylcholine and aspartate show a steady decline from day 1 through day 30, according to the research. Possible bioaccumulation of toxicants in fish tissues is responsible for these neurotransmitter release abnormalities. This changes the regular lives of fish, which has a lasting impact on them. In addition, the fish acts extremely clumsily and unresponsively, salivates excessively, produces mucus all over its body, causes respiratory distress, lacrimal discharge, weak muscles, poor eating, scale shedding, impaired tissue development and repair, and so on. A reduction in neurotransmitter levels and a possible association with neurodegenerative diseases are the pathophysiological consequences of vanadium that are being studied in this trial. More investigation, analysis, and assessment are required in this area.

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