

Anti-allergic effect of probiotic Dahi containing *Lactobacillus acidophilus* and *Bifidobacterium* in whey proteins-induced allergy mouse model

Umesh Kumar Shandilya*, Rajeev Kapila, S. Kapila and V. K. Kansal

Animal Biochemistry Division, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana, India

The present study was carried out to evaluate the effect of feeding probiotic Dahi on whey proteins (WP) allergenicity in mice. Probiotic Dahi were prepared by co-culturing in buffalo milk (3% fat) Dahi bacteria (*Lactococcus lactis* ssp. *cremoris* NCDC-86 and *Lactococcus lactis* ssp. *lactis* biovar *diacetylactis* NCDC-60) along with selected strain of *Lactobacillus acidophilus* LaVK2 (La-Dahi) or combined *L. acidophilus* and *Bifidobacterium bifidum* BbVK3 (LaBb-Dahi). Four groups of mice (8 each) were fed with the supplements (5 g/day) of buffalo milk (3% fat), Dahi, La-Dahi and LaBb-Dahi from 7 days before sensitization with WP (20 µg/200 µl PBS), respectively, in addition to milk protein-free basal diet, and a fifth group that received no supplements served as control. Feeding of probiotic Dahi suppressed the elevation of whey proteins-specific IgE and IgG response in serum of WP-sensitized mice. In addition, sIgA levels were significantly ($p < 0.001$) increased in intestinal fluid collected from mice fed with La-Dahi or LaBb-Dahi. Production of T helper (Th)-1 cell-specific cytokines, i.e. interferon- γ (IFN- γ), interleukin (IL)-12, and IL-10 increased, while Th2-specific cytokines, i.e. IL-4 decreased in the supernatant of cultured splenocytes collected from mice fed with probiotic Dahi compared to the other groups. Moreover, the splenic mRNA levels of IFN- γ , interleukin-10 were found to be significantly increased, while that of IL-4 decreased significantly in La-Dahi or LaBb-Dahi groups, as compared to control groups. Taken together, these results indicate that administration of La-Dahi and LaBb-Dahi might be useful for prevention of milk proteins allergy.

ukshandilya@gmail.com