



**The Comparison Effects of Autologous Serum and
Autologous Serum with Doxycycline Peak in the Blood on
Treatment for Acne Vulgaris**

Journal:	<i>Dermatologic Therapy</i>
Manuscript ID	Draft
Wiley - Manuscript type:	Original Article
Keywords:	Acne Vulgaris, Autologous Serum, Doxycycline
Abstract:	<p>Introduction: Acne vulgaris is a chronic inflammatory disease that occurs with a variety of factors, both intrinsic and extrinsic. Treatment is topical, systemic or a combination of both depending on degree severity. Recently, treatment using products from human blood has been widely studied, including the field of dermatology because it has a unique composition.</p> <p>Objective: Researchers want to see the effect of autologous serum and doxycycline in autologous serum in the treatment of acne vulgaris</p> <p>Material and Methode : Clinical trials pre and post treatment using autologous serum in 2 treatment groups, each group totaly 10 people suffering from acne vulgaris based on the type of lesion and photography.</p> <p>Result: The Wilcoxon test, treatment of the both groups were found to be significant with a p value <0.01.</p> <p>Conclusion: Clinical manifestations of acne vulgaris were not significantly different from the both groups, but in the autologous serum group given doxycycline 200 mg orally a single dose gave more improvement in inflammatory acne lesions.</p> <p>Keywords: Acne Vulgaris, Autologous Serum, Doxycycline</p>

SCHOLARONE™
Manuscripts

The Comparison Effects of Autologous Serum And Autologous Serum with Doxycycline Peak in the Blood On Treatment For Acne Vulgaris

Muhlis Yunus MD¹ Muh. Nasrum Massi MD,PhD², Anis Irawan Anwar MD,PhD¹, Khairuddin Djawad MD,PhD¹, Siswanto Wahab MD,PhD¹, Rahmawati Minhajat MD,PhD³, Uleng Bahrin MD,PhD⁴, Ilhamjaya Patellongi MD,PhD⁵, Gemini Alam PharmD, Ph.D⁶, Ni Nyoman Sri Budayanti MD,PhD⁷

¹Dermatology and Venereology Department, Faculty of Medicine, Hasanuddin University, Makassar. Indonesia

²Clinical Microbiology Department, Faculty of Medicine, Hasanuddin University, Makassar. Indonesia

³Internal Medicine Department, Faculty of Medicine, Hasanuddin University, Makassar. Indonesia

⁴Clinical Pathology Department, Faculty of Medicine, Hasanuddin University, Makassar. Indonesia

⁵Physiology Department, Faculty of Medicine, Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia

⁶Pharmacy Department, Faculty of Pharmacy, Hasanuddin University, Makassar. Indonesia

⁷Clinical Microbiology Department, Faculty of Medicine, Udayana University, Denpasar, Bali. Indonesia

Abstract

Introduction: Acne vulgaris is a chronic inflammatory disease that occurs with a variety of factors, both intrinsic and extrinsic. Treatment is topical, systemic or a combination of both depending on degree severity. Recently, treatment using products from human blood has been widely studied, including the field of dermatology because it has a unique composition.

Objective: Researchers want to see the effect of autologous serum and doxycycline in autologous serum in the treatment of acne vulgaris

Material and Methode : Clinical trials pre and post treatment using autologous serum in 2 treatment groups, each group totaly 10 people suffering from acne vulgaris based on the type of lesion and photography.

Result: The Wilcoxon test, treatment of the both groups were found to be significant with a p value <0.01.

Conclusion: Clinical manifestations of acne vulgaris were not significantly different from the both groups, but in the autologous serum group given doxycycline 200 mg orally a single dose gave more improvement in inflammatory acne lesions.

Keywords: Acne Vulgaris, Autologous Serum, Doxycycline

Introduction

Acne vulgaris is a chronic inflammatory disease that occurs with the multifactorial etiology. Treatment can be topical, systemic or a combination of both depending on the degree of severity.¹ Acne vulgaris is disease of the

1
2
3 polisebaceous unit, the sebaceous glands are found throughout of the human
4 skin and in greater concentration on the face and scalp and absent on the
5 palms and soles. These glands deposit sebum in the hair, and carry it to the
6 surface along the hair shaft. Sebum provides lubrication, hydration, consists
7 of triglycerides and free fatty acids, aliphatic hydrocarbons found in human
8 sebum.²
9

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17 Acne Vulgaris cause the interaction of four major pathogenic factors,
18 hyperproliferation of sebaceous glands, hyperproliferation of keratinocytes,
19 colonization of p.acnes and inflammation. These pathogenic factors influence
20 each other and should not be looked at individually. Although the interaction
21 of pathogenic factors is known etiology of the acne, certain trigger factors can
22 worsen or cause acne to appear, for example premenstual, cosmetic use, etc.
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
3 The Treatment can be topical, systemic or a combination of both depending
on the degree of severity. Recently, treatment using products from human
blood has been widely studied, including in the field of dermatology because
of its unique composition.

Objective

The therapeutic modalities used to treat acne vulgaris are topical therapy and systemic therapy. Topical therapy includes the use of topical antibiotics, vitamin A derivatives, as well as systemic therapy such as oral antibiotics, vitamin A derivatives and the use of hormonal drugs. Based on the pathomechanism of acne vulgaris, the current therapeutic modality can be given topical, systemic or a combination of both.⁵ However, in certain cases these drug preparations cannot be administered, for example, allergies,

1
2
3 causing side effects.⁶ Researchers want to see the effect of autologous serum
4
5 doxycycline in autologous serum in the treatment for acne vulgaris.
6
7
8
9

10 **Material and Methode**

11
12 Clinical trials Pre and post treatment using autologous serum in 2
13
14 treatment groups, each group totaly 10 people suffering from acne vulgaris
15
16 based on the type of lesion and photography. The method of taking
17
18 autologous serum is by taking 50 cc of blood from the vein and then inserting
19
20 it into a tube without a coagulant which is then carried out by the centrifuge
21
22 process for 10-15 minutes at a speed of 3000 rpm. The clear blood will be
23
24 separated by the blood clot that has formed. While the other group was given
25
26 doxycycline oral 200 mg single dose after 2 hours, 50 cc of venous blood was
27
28 taken and the same centifuge process was performed. Serum obtained from
29
30 the centrifuge process is put into a small bottle containing 1-2 cc for one
31
32 application. The serum is stored in a refrigerator at 0 degrees and is applied
33
34 every night to areas of the face that have acne lesions for 28 days. Before
35
36 being applied, patients are asked to wash their face without using soap and
37
38 not using other cosmetic products. To see the changes that occur, the
39
40 calculation of lesions (comedos, papules, pustules) is carried out using a
41
42 comparison of photography before and after application.
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

51 **Result**

52
53 In the autologous serum application group after 28 days gave
54
55 improvement of comedones lesions, when compared to before and after
56
57 application there was a decrease in lesions by 15%, papules 8%, pustules
58
59
60

5%. In the table below, you can see the results of the Wilcoxon test for the number of comedos, papules, pustules between the results of day-1 and day-28 observations. This shows that there is a significant decrease ($p < 0.05$).

Tabel 1. Group Autologous Serum Application

Variabel	D1 – D 28	
	Mean (SD)	p*
Decreased Number of Comedones (%)	60,2 (11,7 %)	<0,001
Decreased Number of Papules (%)	54,4 (15,0 %)	<0.001
Decreased Number of Pustules (%)	78,9 (15,4 %)	<0,001

Superscripts Different on the same line showed significantly different Wilcoxon test results ($p < 0.05$); if the same means not significantly different ($p > 0.05$)



Figure 1. Before and after 28 days of autologous serum application

Tabel 2. The Autologous Serum with Doxycycline Peak in The Blood Application Group

Variabel	D1 – D 28	
	Mean (SD)	p*
Decreased Number of Comedones (%)	98 (18,8 %)	<0,001
Decreased Number of Papules (%)	37(26,6 %)	<0.001
Decreased Number of Pustules (%)	18 (56,0 %)	<0,001

Superscripts Different on the same line showed significantly different Wilcoxon test results ($p < 0.05$); if the same means not significantly different ($p > 0.05$)



Figure 2. Before and after 28 days of autologous serum had been given doxycycline 100 mg oral single dose application

Discussion

In patients with acne vulgaris, hyperproliferation of keratinocytes occurs with a buildup of desquamated abnormal corneocytes along the

1
2
3 sebaceous follicles with lipids and monofilaments, a phenomenon that results
4 in comedogenesis. *P. acne* is an anaerobic bacteria, colonizing gram-negative
5 pathogens in sebaceous follicles. Blood draws were taken 2 hours after oral
6 doxycycline administration, it is based on the pharmacokinetics of
7 doxycycline, it is known that doxycycline reaches peak plasma concentrations
8 reported 2 hours after oral administration of 200 mg. Doxycycline is an oral
9 antibiotic drug that is very effective for inflammatory acne so it can be used as
10 an acne therapy because it effectively inhibits the growth of *P. acne* and has
11 anti-inflammatory properties. The use of oral antibiotics is generally indicated
12 for moderate-severe inflammatory acne, resistant to previous topical
13 therapies. Oral antibiotics such as macrolides, tetracyclines (doxycycline,
14 minocycline and limesycline). These antibiotics are agents that inhibit the
15 recovery of *P. acnes* and synthesize inflammatory mediators from *P. acnes*
16 tetracyclines groups are used frequently because they are effective and
17 cheap.⁷

18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38 Doxycycline and minocycline are preferred because of their low
39 gastrointestinal irritation effect, and they are fat soluble, and their penetration
40 of the polysebaceous follicles is more efficient. In addition, lower resistance to
41 *P. acnes* was reported compared to the macrolides group. Androgen
42 hormones increase sebum production and follicular keratosis which are the
43 main keys of acne vulgaris etiology.⁸ Androgen hormones stimulate increased
44 production and secretion of sebum. Increased sebum production is directly
45 related to the incidence of severe acne lesions. The hormone estrogen has a
46 mechanism of opposition to androgens in the sebaceous glands. One of the
47 ingredients in autologous serum is the hormone estrogen. The most important
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 natural estrogens are estradiol, estrone, and estriol. Biologically, estradiol is
4 the most active. Oral contraceptives used to treat acne vulgaris contain
5 estradiol with a mechanism of action of reducing 5- α reductase activity,
6 reducing sebaceous gland activity. High levels of estradiol have been shown
7 to be used as a treatment for acne vulgaris.⁹

8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15 Some of the unique ingredients of serum include growth factor, platelet
16 rich plasma (PRP), vitamin A, estrogen hormone and many more. As we know
17 that topical acne vulgaris treatment uses topical vitamin A derivatives
18 (tretinoin) which works as an anti-inflammatory, suppresses sebum
19 production, increases skin turnover.¹⁰ In this study measuring serum vitamin A
20 and Estradiol content using the ELISA (Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay)
21 test found serum vitamin A levels between 0.16-0.72ug / dl. In this study, the
22 higher the level of vitamin A in serum, the better the reduction in inflammatory
23 and non-inflammatory lesions.

24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36 In this study, menstrual estradiol levels (follicular phase) were obtained
37 levels ranging from 20.8 to 200.5 pg / mL. The concentration of estradiol
38 levels is lowest during the menstrual phase with serum concentrations around
39 40 to 200pg / mL. Meanwhile, the level of estradiol during preovulation was
40 around 250 to 500 pg / mL, so it was concluded that the estrogen levels in the
41 menstrual phase were lower than that of the preovulatory phase. Low
42 estrogen levels are associated with the severity of acne. Androgen hormone
43 increases sebum production, so that the sebum level in patients with acne
44 vulgaris is higher than in normal people.^{9,10} There is a relationship between
45 sebum excretion and the severity of acne vulgaris because the sebum level in
46 patients with severe acne vulgaris is found to be higher. The hormone

1
2
3 estradiol can inhibit sebum production so that it can reduce sebum levels. The
4
5 use of oral contraceptives to treat acne vulgaris contains estradiol.¹¹
6
7

8 Platelet Rich Plasma works through alpha-granule degranulation in
9
10 platelets containing growth factors. It is ideal for collecting blood PRP in a
11
12 tube containing sodium citrate as an anticoagulant to keep growth factor
13
14 active. Biologically active cellular components such as preserved growth
15
16 factors, when the platelets are held in an inactive state so that premature
17
18 degranulation does not occur, therefore the cellular components are held in a
19
20 container that can protect the platelets. After platelet activation, the granules
21
22 then fuse into the cell membrane by a degranulation process, activating
23
24 growth factors, which bind to target cell transmembrane receptors, such as
25
26 mesenchymal stem cells, fibroblasts, endothelial cells, and epidermal cells.
27
28 This binding activates intracellular signaling proteins that express gene
29
30 sequences resulting in cell proliferation, collagen synthesis, cell extracellular
31
32 formation, and many other pathways to promote healing and repair
33
34 processes. Platelets are damaged with degraded cellular components or are
35
36 unable to induce this response.^{12,13}
37
38
39
40
41

42 Platelet Rich Plasma can be used for skin rejuvenation because it can
43
44 activate growth factors that result in cell proliferation, collagen synthesis which
45
46 can lead to healing and repair processes. In addition, PRP is reported to be
47
48 associated with collagen expression, hyaluronic acid production, and
49
50 fibroblast proliferation, which are the main mechanisms of skin rejuvenation.
51
52 The mechanism may be Insulin-like growth factor, Epiderma growth factor
53
54 which binds to the outer surface of the fibroblast cell membrane to activate
55
56 signal proteins to realize extracellular matrix synthesis and collagen
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 repackaging. Transforming Growth Factor b1 (TGF-b1) and PDGF were able
4
5 to increase hyaluronic acid synthesis by increasing regulation of hyaluronic
6
7 synthase expression. Hyaluronic acid can draw water into the space between
8
9 cells and retain intracellular water so as to achieve skin elasticity.^{14,15}
10
11

12 The improvement of acne lesions in this study was thought to be due to
13
14 the involvement of growth factors, platelet rich plasma, vitamin A, estradiol.
15
16 Vitamin A works as an anti-inflammatory, reduces sebum production, and
17
18 increases skin turnover, estradiol works to inhibit androgens so that it can
19
20 control reducing sebum production, growth factor works as an anti-
21
22 inflammatory. Based on these contents it is assumed that in the autologous
23
24 serum that works together according to the pathogenesis of acne vulgaris.
25
26
27
28
29

30 31 **Conclusion**

32
33 Autologous serum has many components including growth factors,
34
35 platelet rich plasma, vitamin A, and estradiol which work together to inhibit the
36
37 pathomechanism of acne vulgaris. the addition of doxycycline 100 mg orally as
38
39 a single dose provided an improvement in the manifestation of inflammatory
40
41 lesions in acne vulgaris compared to autologous serum alone but did not have
42
43 a significant difference.
44
45
46
47
48

49 50 **References**

- 51
52 1. Engler D. Acne. *S Afr Pharm J*. 2016; 83(10) : 27-34
53
54 2. Fox L et al. Treatment Modalities for Acne. *Molecules*. 2016; 21, 1063 : 1-

- 1
2
3 3. Bhat Yasmeen J et al. Update on Etiopathogenesis and Treatment of Ane.
4
5 *Indian Journal of Dermatology, Venereology, and Leprosy*. 2017; 83(3) :
6
7 298-302
8
9
- 10 4. Thielitz A et al. Update in Retinoid Therapy of Acne. *Dermatologic Therapy*.
11
12 2006; 19: 272-279
13
- 14 5. Lynn Darren D et al. The Epidemiology of Acne Vulgaris in Late
15
16 Adolescence. *Adolescent Health, Medicine and Therapeutics*. 2016 ; 7 : 13-
17
18 25
19
- 20 6. Pugashetti R et al. Treatment of Acne Vulgaris in Pregnant Patients.
21
22 *Dermatologic Therapy*. 2013 ; 26 : 302-311
23
- 24 7. Tan A.U et al. A Review of Diagnosis and Treatment of Acne in Adult
25
26 Female Patients. *International Journal of Women's Dermatology*. 2018; 4 :
27
28 56-71
29
- 30 8. Tan Hiok-Hee. Topical Antibacterial Treatments ForAcne Vulgaris. *Am J*
31
32 *Clin Dermatol*. 2004; 5(2): 79-84
33
- 34 9. Shaw James C. Acne Effect of Hormones on Phatogenesis and
35
36 Management. *Am J Clin Dermatol*. 2002; 3(8): 571-578
37
- 38 10. Langer C and Mahajan V. Platelet-Rich Plasma in Dermatology.
39
40 *Jkscience*. 2014; 16(3): 147 – 149
41
- 42 11. Sexton S. Acne Vulgaris : Treatment Guidelines From The AAD. *J AM*
43
44 *Acad Dermatol*. 2016; 74(5): 945—973
45
- 46 12. Kumar S et al. Autologous Therapies In Dermatology. *J Clin Aesthet*
47
48 *Dermatol*. 2014; 7(12): 38-45
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

- 1
2
3 13. Rina D et al. Effects of Autologous Platelet-Rich Plasma Injection on
4 Facial Skin Rejuvenation. *Experimental and Therapeutic Medicine*. 2020;
5 19: 3024-3030
6
7
8
9
10 14. Draelos Zoe D et al. Autologous Platelet Rich Plasma used in a topical
11 cream for facial Rejuvenation. *J Cosmet Dermatol*. 2019; 18 : 1348-1352
12
13
14 15. Amable Paola R et al. Platelet-Rich Plasma Preparation For
15 Regenerative Medicine: Optimization And Quantification Of Cytokines And
16 Growth Factors. *Stem cell Research & Therapy*. 2013; 67(4): 1-13
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60