DERLEME REVIEW

Prebiotic Effect of D-Allulose (D-Psicose): Traditional Review

D-Allulozun (D-Psikoz) Prebiyotik Etkisi: Geleneksel Derleme

¹⁰ Mustafa ÖZGÜR^a, ¹⁰ Elif Büşra ÖZGÜR^b, ¹⁰ Ahmet Hulusi DİNÇOĞLU^a

^aDepartment of Nutrition and Dietetics, Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University Faculty of Health Science, Burdur, Türkiye ^bDepartment of Food Hygiene and Technology, Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University Institute of Health Science, Burdur, Türkiye

ABSTRACT Healthy nutrition is to consume the nutrients that people need in an adequate and balanced way according to their requirement. Also, it is also crucial to consume biologically active compounds and phytochemicals which are not nutrients but have a beneficial effect. Many vegetables and fruits contain prebiotics, which are dietary compounds that are contained in the carbohydrate structure and have a beneficial effect. Prebiotics are used and converted into short-chain fatty acids by probiotic bacteria, as well as improving sensory properties like taste and smell. D-allulose is a simple carbohydrate defined as a natural sweetener with no energy (0.2 kcal/g). The effects of regulating energy metabolism and health effects have been investigated in recent years. Because of its resistance to digestive enzymes, it was thought that it might have prebiotic effects and researches on this subject have also begun. Studies have shown that D-allulose is used by certain probiotic bacteria and increases short-chain fatty acids. Therefore, it has been shown to have prebiotic effects. However, the number of studies using it as a prebiotic is very few. As a result, further research into the health effects of prebiotics in combination with various foods is needed.

Keywords: D-allulose; D-psicose; prebiotic; functional food

ÖZET Sağlıklı beslenme, kişinin gereksinimlerine göre besin ögelerini yeterli ve dengeli olarak tüketmesidir. Bunun yanında, besin ögesi olmayan ancak sağlıklı etki gösteren biyolojik aktif bileşiklerin ve fitokimyasalların alınması da önemlidir. Prebiyotikler birçok sebze ve meyvede karbonhidrat yapısında bulunan ve önemli sağlık etkileri gösteren fonksivonel besin bilesimleri olarak kabul edilmektedir. Prebiyotikler, tat ve koku gibi duyusal özellikleri geliştirmenin yanında probiyotik bakteriler tarafından kullanılmakta ve kısa zincirli yağ asitlerine dönüşmektedir. D-alluloz, enerji içermeyen (0,2 kkal/g) doğal tatlandırıcı olarak tanımlanan bir basit karbonhidrattır. Enerji metabolizmasını düzenleyen etkileri ile son yıllarda sağlık etkileri araştırılmaya başlamıştır. Sindirim enzimlerine direnç göstermesinden dolayı prebiyotik etkileri olabileceği düsünülmüs ve bu konuda da arastırmalar başlamıştır. Yapılan çalışmalarda, D-allulozun bazı probiyotik bakteriler tarafından kullanıldığı ve kısa zincirli yağ asitlerini artırdığı belirtilmiş, bu nedenle de prebiyotik etkilerinin olduğu gösterilmiştir. Ancak prebiyotik olarak kullanıldığı çalışmaların sayısı oldukça azdır. Bu nedenle farklı besinlerle prebiyotik olarak kullanıldığında, sağlık üzerine göstereceği etkiler ile ilgili daha fazla çalışmaya ihtiyaç vardır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: D-alluloz; D-psikoz; prebiyotik; fonksiyonel besin

Today, to reach the quality of a long and healthy life, it is recommended that healthy nutrition should be a lifestyle with the nutritional awareness of the society and individuals. The basis for the protection, improvement and development of the health of the society and the individual throughout life should be adequate and balanced nutrition.¹ In addition to satisfying hunger and meeting the need for nutrients, foods are consumed today for the prevention and treatment of diseases associated with nutrition.² The word "functional foods" was coined in the 1980s to describe foods that contain components that have significant physical effects.³

The terms "foods for a healthy life" in Japan, "special nutritional foods and dietary foods" in the European Union and Canada, "healthy foods" in China all refer to functional foods.⁴ Functional foods can be found naturally in foods, as well as foods that have been fortified with compounds that have a beneficial impact on health or foods that have had harmful components decreased or eliminated.⁵ Adding compounds including phenolic substances, antioxidants, dietary

Correspondence: Mustafa ÖZGÜR
Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University Faculty of Health Science, Burdur, Türkiye
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pulp, oligosaccharides, prebiotics, probiotics, certain vitamins or minerals, and plant sterols to different foods provides functionality at the same time.⁶

Prebiotics are carbohydrates that can be fermented selectively by moving from the small intestine to the colon without being digested, making them available to probiotic bacteria but not to other bacteria throughout the gut.⁷ Prebiotics in the human diet include galactooligosaccharides, fructooligosaccharides, maltooligosaccharides, resistant starch, inulin (and inulin hydrolyzates), and lactulose.⁸ Many foods, such as onion, garlic, chicory, asparagus, artichoke, leek, banana, and tomato, contain oligosaccharides, which are classified as combinations of sugar with different polymerization degrees.⁹ The key end components of carbohydrate metabolism, shortchain fatty acids, such as acetic acid, propionic acid, and butyric acid, are used as an energy source, especially by the host organism.¹⁰ Prebiotics can be made in three ways: Isolation from plant sources, microbiological production, or enzymatic synthesis.^{11,12}

Synbiotics, which are probiotics and prebiotics combined, are present in a variety of foods, including vogurt, cheese, and certain fermented products, and have been shown to help with diseases including dyslipidemia, non-alcoholic fatty liver, and obesity.¹³⁻¹⁶ The discovery and development of new synbiotics, with their promising results in disease prevention and treatment, benefit both consumer health and the food industry's growth. In recent years, D-allulose has been used as a prebiotic in the development of new synbiotic products to avoid excessive fat accumulation in the body and to control diet-induced obesity.¹⁷ We investigated the effects of D-allulose as a prebiotic in the food industry, as well as its beneficial effects on carbohydrate and fat metabolism and high antioxidant properties.

OVERVIEW OF D-ALLULOSE

D-allulose, also known as D-Psicose, is the C-3 epimer of fructose and is classified as 'rare sugars' because it is rarely found in nature.¹⁸ A very small amount of D-allulose can be produced from the hydrolysis of sugar cane and sugar beet.¹⁹ In addition, enzymatic and non-enzymatic fructose hydrolysis,

ion (molybdenum) catalysis from fructopyranose, and D-Psicose 3-epimerase enzyme from certain bacteria are also examples.²⁰⁻²² Catalysis may also be used to obtain it. In the United States of America, commercially obtained D-allulose has begun to be used.²³ As compared to sucrose, D-allulose has 95 percent less energy (0.2 kcal/g) and 70 percent less relative sweetness.²⁴ The US Food and Drug Administration approved D-allulose, which has also been used as a dietary supplement, in 2014, and it was widely accepted as safe.²⁵ (GRAS Notification Number: GRN 418).²⁶

D-allulose has anti-hyperglycemic, anti-hyperlipidemic, anti-inflammatory, and neuroprotective properties.²⁷⁻²⁹ Furthermore, due to its scavenging function and therapeutic effects against atherosclerosis, reactive oxygen species is a pharmaceutical in clinical applications such as the treatment of D-allulose, obesity, diabetes, hypertension, and atherosclerotic diseases.^{30,31}

Since it contains relatively little energy and is considered a natural sweetener, D-allulose has been viewed as a new area of research for the food industry.³² D-allulose, which produces a more crunchy structure in confectionery when used as a sucrose replacement, also has a higher antioxidant effect.³³ When sucrose was used as a pudding replacement, it was discovered that it had higher breaking strength and viscoelasticity than sucrose.³⁴ It has also been documented that when compared to sucrose and fructose, it produces a more balanced form in egg whites.35 Another research discovered that formulations containing D-allulose had less starch-induced retrogradation.³⁶ D-allulose also plays a role in improving the gelling properties of food, enhancing its taste, and reducing the amount of oxidation that occurs during meals.37,38

D-allulose is used in soft drinks, ice cream, dairy products, salty meals (soups, sauces, salads, and pickles), drugs as a gelling agent, baking products, and other foods, in addition to its energy-saving properties. It is used as a thickening agent and stabilizing agent in cakes made of bread, biscuits and rye flour.³⁹ Because of these properties, it was hypothesized that they may have an effect on meat production, and research into this field has begun.³²

USE OF D-ALLULOSE AS A PREBIOTIC

To regulate lipid and carbohydrate metabolism and obesity, D-allulose can be used as a prebiotic in synbiotics.⁴⁰ Owing to its strong gastrointestinal resistance, gelling reaction, and stronger Maillard reaction, D-allulose has more beneficial effects than other substitute sugars.⁴¹⁻⁴³ According to Sharma et al., the conversion of sugar cane molasses to D-fructose by the enzyme dextran sucrase and D-fructose to D-allulose by the enzyme epimerase is a C atom donor for the formation of Leuconostoc mesenteroides, and the bioprocessed portion becomes a prebiotic and functionally effective product.⁴⁴ Sharma et al. also investigated into the prebiotic effect of D-allulose on banana pseudostem extracts and found that D-allulose obtained by biotransformation of banana fiber extracts can be used as a functional fruit juice.⁴⁵ D-allulose suppresses the acid released by lactic acid bacteria, D-allulose added soy yogurt significantly increases the number of lactic acid bacteria, and has better sensory properties than other sugar products, according to a study investigating the impact of Dallulose on soy yoghurt fermentation.⁴⁶ Lactic acid bacteriae suppress excess acid production in the first stage of fermentation without disrupting their probiotic activities, according to a study using D-allulose as a prebiotic source in dairy products. It has been reported that D-allulose may be useful in the development of new dairy products, especially with probiotic strains such as *Lactococcus lactis* H61.47

In a study conducted in a diet-induced obese experimental animal model, the synbiotic effects of *Lactobacillus sakei* LS03 and *Leuconostoc kimchii* GJ2 probiotic bacteria and D-allulose were investigated, and it was revealed that the synbiotic mixture of these two probiotics and D-allulose was the most effective model in suppressing obesity and obesity-related complications. In diet-induced obese mouse models, synbiotic products containing D-allulose have been shown to be more efficient than probiotic use alone in controlling lipid metabolism.⁴⁸ Short-chain fatty acids formed as a result of a complex interaction between diet and intestinal microbiota are thought to have therapeutic potential in the treatment of diet-induced obesity by controlling energy bal-

ance.^{49,50} A study found that a D-allulose-rich diet boosts the development of short-chain fatty acids as compared to a high-fat diet. D-allulose has also been shown to increase the presence of *Coprococcus*, which produces butyrate and propionate, as well as *Lactobacillus*, which maintains intestinal integrity.⁵¹

CONCLUSION

Prebiotics are carbohydrate substances that cannot be digested by human digestive enzymes and increase the function of some beneficial bacterial groups selectively. Probiotic bacteriae use prebiotics to generate short-chain fatty acids in the intestine. The use of D-allulose has increased in recent years in research on simple carbohydrates known as rare sugars. Studies have shown that D-allulose, a C-3 epimeric carbohydrate of fructose that is rarely found in nature, has regulatory effects on energy metabolism. Due to these consequences, D-allulose, which has received a lot of attention in the food industry, was thought to have prebiotic properties due to its resistance to digestive enzymes, and scientific studies proved it. When used as a sugar substitute, it is also considered to maintain the rheological properties of foods. Such positive effects of Dallulose give rise to the possibility of acquiring new functional nutrients as a result of mixing this carbohydrate with foods in a novel way, and show promising results in order to benefit from the potential positive effects on obesity and find solutions to society's health problems in this direction.

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Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest between the authors and / or family members of the scientific and medical committee members or members of the potential conflicts of interest, counseling, expertise, working conditions, share holding and similar situations in any firm.

Authorship Contributions

All authors contributed equally while this study preparing.

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