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Ginkgolic acid exerts an anti-inflammatory effect in human umbilical vein endothelial cells induced by ox-LDL

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This present investigation examined the mitigating impact of Ginkgolic acid in the organization on oxidized low-density lipoprotein-ox-LDL (ox-LDL) animated in HUVECs, and to clear up its fundamental molecular components. The levels of nitric oxide (NO), prostaglandin E2 (PGE2), and pro-inflammatory cytokines were measured by Griess examine and catalyst connected immunosorbent test. The declarations of inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS), cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2), mitogen-initiated protein kinases (MAPKs), and Akt were measured utilizing Western smearing. ox-LDL-instigated was utilized as the HUVECs cell model of inflammation. Ginkgolic acid significantly inhibited the production of NO, PGE2, and pro-inflammatory cytokines in a dose-dependent manner and suppressed the expression of iNOS and COX-2 in ox-LDL-stimulated HUVECs cells. Ginkgolic acid strongly suppressed NF- κ B by preventing degradation of inhibitor of κ B- α as well as by inhibiting phosphorylation of Akt and MAPKs. Ginkgolic acid reduced LDL-stimulated inflammation in endothelial cells. These outcomes suggest that the anti-inflammatory properties of Ginkgolic acid are related to a down-control of iNOS, COX-2, and master provocative cytokines through the restraint of NF- κ B pathway in ox-LDL-animated endothelial cells.

1. Introduction

Inflammation is a perplexing reaction of host safeguard against microbial contamination, endotoxin presentation, or cell harm, and eventually prompts to the rebuilding of typical cell structure and capacity. Endothelial cells are key controllers of the fiery reaction. Lining veins, they give in the enduring state a anti-inflammatory, anticoagulatory surface. Be that as it may, on account of harm or disease, endothelial cells control the adhesion and movement of inflammatory cells, and additionally the trading of liquid from the circulatory system into the harmed tissue (Chatterjee et al. 2014). Enacted endothelial cells assume an essential part in inflammatory infections by exorbitant generation of proinflammatory cytokines, including tumor necrosis factor (TNF)- α , interleukin (IL)-1 β , and IL-6, and incendiary go between, for example, nitric oxide (NO) and prostaglandin E2 (PGE2) (Hafner et al. 2017; Roessler et al. 2017; Xu et al. 2017). Articulations of these cytokines and go between are directed by the actuation of NF- κ B, which is fundamentally required in the pathogenesis of ailment and other endless inflammatory sicknesses. Under unstimulated conditions, NF- κ B is situated in the cytoplasm as an inert complex bound to inhibitor of κ B- α (I κ B)- α (Bozinovski et al. 2002; Komine et al. 2000; Tsou et al. 2008). Treatment of ox-LDL actuates the I κ B- α kinase (IKK) complex, bringing about the phosphorylation, ubiquitination, and debasement of I κ B- α , actuating the translocation of NF- κ B into the core for transcriptional enactment. The actuation of NF- κ B is additionally directed by cell kinases, for example, mitogen-enacted protein kinases (MAPKs) and Akt. Henceforth, substances which restrain the enactment of NF- κ B are considered as potential calming specialists (Scazzocho et al. 2009; Yurdagul et al. 2016; Zhang et al. 2015). Regardless of the innovative headways of late years, the usage of natural pharmaceuticals is an option for the treatment of inflam-

matory disorders. This is because of issues including resistance, symptoms and the utilization of negative weight wound gadgets, which influence the recuperating result (Hou et al. 2016). Ginkgolic corrosive (GA) is a herbal medication separated from the seed layer of *Ginkgo biloba* L. with an extensive variety of bioactive properties, including against tumor impact (Hua et al. 2017). The products of the soil of *Ginkgo* have moderately high financial and therapeutic qualities. In any case, its sarcotestas is generally disposed of, bringing about auxiliary contamination of the earth (van Beek and Montoro 2009). GA, which is in abnormal state in sarcotestas, is a characteristic plant-inferred dynamic substance contained in *Ginkgo*, and it has a place with long-chain phenolic intensifies that are subsidiaries of sumac corrosive (van Beek and Montoro 2009). Critical constituents in *G. biloba* leaves incorporate flavonol glycosides, terpene lactones, biflavones, proanthocyanidins, and ginkgolic acids, of which the flavonol glycosides, terpene lactones, and proanthocyanidins are thought to be the primary segments for their advantageous impacts. These compound classes received the greatest attention (Hasler et al. 1990; van Beek 2002; van Beek and Montoro 2009). Flavonol glycosides are broadly known for their cell reinforcement and free radical rummaging movement. Ginkgolides are strong and particular platelet-actuating component adversaries, and as of late there has been significant enthusiasm concerning the opposing impact of ginkgolides on the glycine receptor (Heads et al. 2008; Ivic et al. 2003; Jaracz et al. 2004). Proanthocyanidins have generous cell reinforcement movement and may tweak a few responses required in tumor forms. Likewise, most Gymnospermae plants were portrayed chiefly by the event of biflavonoids, while ginkgolic acids were considered as conceivably perilous constituents in *G. biloba* leaves since they had conceivably mutagenic and cancer-causing movement (Fuzzati et al. 2003). In this study we

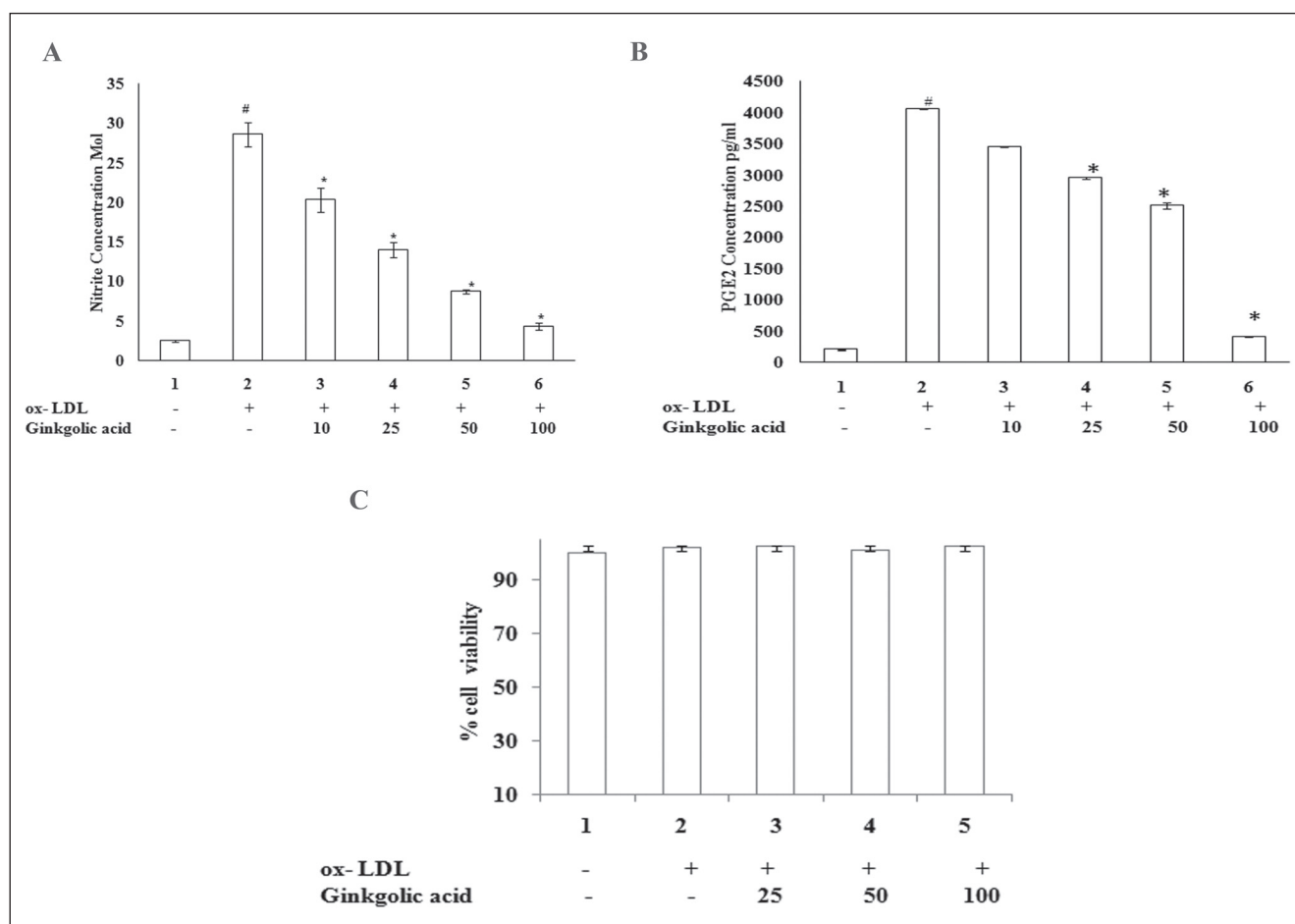


Fig. 1: Effect of ginkgolic acid on ox-LDL induced NO and PGE2 production in HUVEC cells. Cells pretreated with different concentrations of ginkgolic acid for 1 h were stimulated with ox-LDL (1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$) for 24 h. The treated culture media were used to measure the amount of NO production (A) and PGE2 production (B). Cytotoxic effect of ginkgolic acid was measured by MTS assay (C). Values are the means \pm SDs of three independent experiments. $p < 0.05$ indicates significant differences compared to the control group. $p < 0.05$ indicates significant differences compared to the ox-LDL only treated group.

investigated the anti-inflammatory properties of ginkgolic acid and its underlying mechanisms using cultured HUVECs cells.

2. Investigations and results

2.1. Effect of ginkgolic acid on ox-LDL induced NO and PGE2 production

The impact of ginkgolic acid on ox-LDL initiated NO and PGE2 generation NO creation, measured as nitrite, was expanded by ox-LDL treatment; be that as it may, ginkgolic acid altogether lessened NO levels in ox-LDL-activated cells in a dosage subordinate way ($p < 0.05$, Fig. 1B). Expanded PGE2 generation by ox-LDL was likewise altogether stifled by 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ ginkgolic acid in HUVECs cells (Fig. 1A). To reject the likelihood that the diminished NO and PGE2 levels were because of cell passing, cytotoxicity of ginkgolic acid was controlled by MTS test. The outcome exhibited that ox-LDL demonstrated no cytotoxicity in HUVECs cells up to 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ (Fig. 1C). Subsequently, the inhibitory impacts of ginkgolic acid on NO and PGE2 creation were not because of cytotoxicity.

2.2. Effect of ginkgolic acid on ox-LDL-induced pro-inflammatory cytokines

Increased levels of TNF- α (Fig. 2A), IL-1 β (Fig. 2B), and IL-6 (Fig. 2C) in HUVECs cells by ox-LDL stimulation were dramatically reduced in a dose dependent manner by exposure to ginkgolic acid ($p < 0.05$). This result indicates that ginkgolic acid efficiently suppressed ox-LDL induced IL-1 β , IL-6, and TNF- α release, which

supports the hypothesis that ginkgolic acid inhibits the initial phase of the ox-LDL stimulated inflammatory response.

2.3. Effect of ginkgolic acid on ox-LDL-induced activation and translocation of NF- κB

ox-LDL treatment brought about expanded IKK β phosphorylation and I κB - α corruption contrasted with non-treated control bunch, and ginkgolic corrosive treatment smothered IKK β phosphorylation and I κB - α debasement, recuperated the control level of cytosolic I κB - α in a measurement subordinate way in the cytosol (Fig. 3A). Thus of I κB - α debasement, the expanded NF- κB level in core after ox-LDL incitement was diminished by ginkgolic corrosive treatment in a measurements subordinate way. However in the core, phosphorylation of c-Jun, a part of translation variable AP-1, was not diminished by ginkgolic corrosive treatment. These outcomes show that the ginkgolic corrosive interceded restraint of iNOS, COX-2, and master incendiary cytokines generation was for the most part controlled by the interpretation calculate NF- κB ox-LDL-activated HUVECs (Fig. 3B).

2.4. Effect of ginkgolic acid on ox-LDL-induced phosphorylation of MAPKs and Akt

As shown in Fig. 4, ginkgolic acid inhibited phosphorylation of JNK, p38 MAPK, ERK, and Akt induced by ox-LDL in HUVECs cells, suggesting the additional characteristics of ginkgolic acid to regulate NF- κB pathway via blocking the phosphorylation of MAPKs and Akt proteins in response to ox-LDL signal.

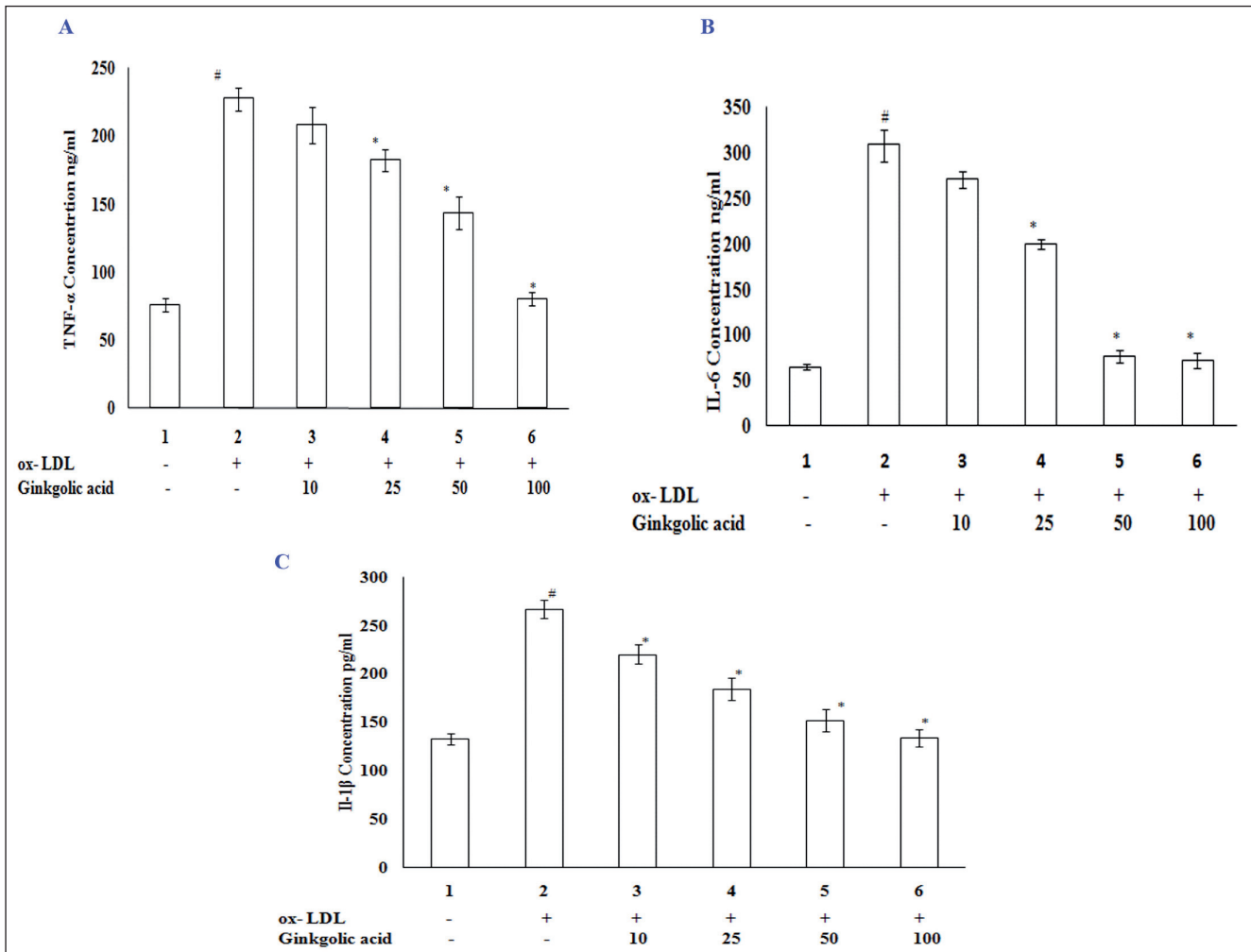


Fig. 2: Effects of ginkgolic acid on pro-inflammatory cytokine productions in ox-LDL induced HUVECs cells. Cells were treated with various concentrations of ginkgolic acid for 1 h, and then stimulated with ox-LDL for 24 h. TNF- α (A), IL-6 (B), and IL-1 β (C) in the cultured media were measured by ELISA. Data are means \pm SDs of three independent experiments. * $p < 0.05$ indicates significant differences compared to the control group. # $p < 0.05$ indicates significant differences compared to the ox-LDL-only treated group.

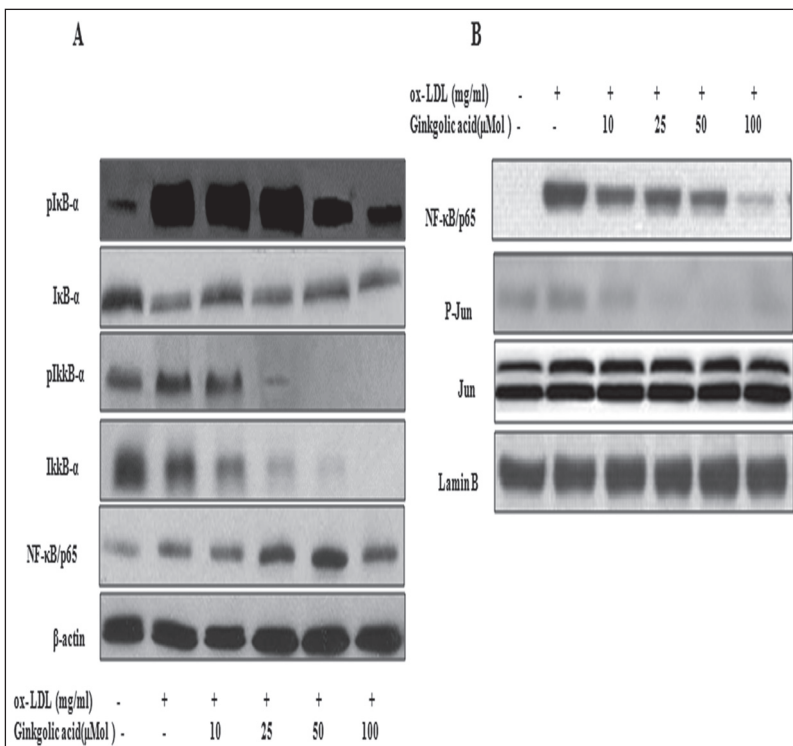


Fig. 3: Inhibitory effect of ginkgolic acid on the degradation of I κ B- α and the activation of NF- κ B in ox-LDL induced HUVECs cells. Cells were incubated with various concentrations of ginkgolic acid for 1 h, and then stimulated with ox-LDL (1 μ g/mL) for 30 min. Cytosolic and nuclear fractions were prepared and analyzed by Western blotting using corresponding antibodies. The results presented are representative of three independent experiments. $p < 0.05$ indicates significant differences compared to the control group. * $p < 0.05$ indicates significant differences compared to the ox-LDL only treated group.

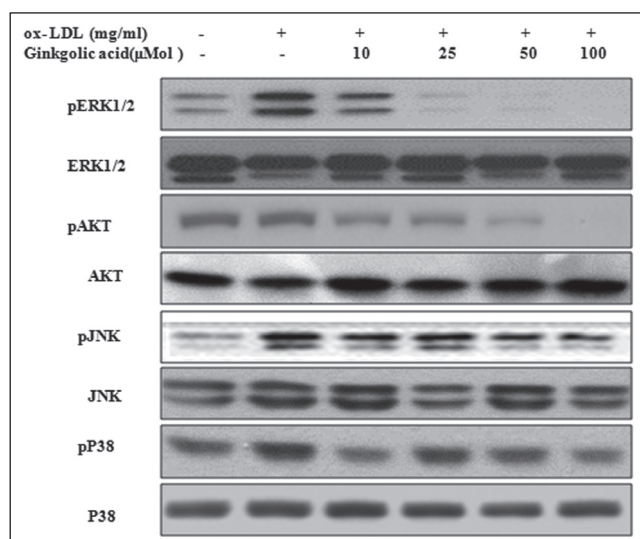


Fig. 4: Effect of ginkgolic acid on the phosphorylations of MAPKs and Akt in HUVECs cells. Cells pretreated with indicated concentrations of ginkgolic acid for 1 h were stimulated with ox-LDL (1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$) for 30 min. The results presented are representative of three independent experiments. * $p < 0.05$ indicates significant differences compared to the control group. $^{b}p < 0.05$ indicates significant differences compared to theox-LDL-only treated group.

3. Discussion

The present study was attempted to look at the anti-inflammatory impact of ginkgolic acid on ox-LDL empowered HUVECs cells. To additionally comprehend the molecular mechanism of ginkgolic acid, we examined the impacts of ginkgolic acid on the emission of NO, PGE2, TNF- α , IL-1 β , what's more, IL-6, the outflow of iNOS and COX-2, and the enactment of NF- κ B. Our outcomes showed that ginkgolic acid adequately repressed the discharge of NO, PGE2, TNF- α , IL-1 β , what's more, IL-6 through a barricade of the NF- κ B and MAPK pathways in ox-LDL invigorated endothelial cells. The inhibitory impact of ginkgolic acid on the declaration of provocative middle people recommended one of the instruments in charge of its calming activity and its potential for use as a helpful specialist for treating inflammatory illnesses. Under obsessive conditions, over the top inflammatory mediators and pro-inflammatory cytokines delivered by enacted macrophages cause incendiary process and act synergistically with other inflammatory mediators (Fadok et al. 1998; Watkins et al. 1995). Active compounds to decrease NO or PGE2 creation might be appealing as mitigating specialists and, for this reason, the inhibitory impacts of natural active compounds on NO or PGE2 preparations have been thoroughly examined to create restorative operator against inflammatory sicknesses (Du et al. 2017; He et al. 2017; Kumar et al. 2017; Shailaja et al. 2017; Yu et al. 2017).

Likewise, unnecessary generation of pro inflammatory cytokines assumes a basic part in intense inflammatory reactions and also incessant inflammatory illnesses. Later considers have demonstrated that *in-vivo* or *in-vitro* medications of active compounds are successful in diminishing aggravation by the concealment of ace inflammatory cytokines, which may enhance inflamed related maladies, including atherosclerosis, cancer, and inflammatory joint pain (Acevedo et al. 2017; Kooltheat et al. 2014; Rajendran et al. 2014; Ratanavaraporn et al. 2017). Along these lines, the direction of those atoms is essential to the restraint of inflammatory reaction. Our outcomes demonstrate that the restraint of NO and PGE2 creation by ginkgolic acid in ox-LDL-animated HUVECs cells is related with downregulation of iNOS and COX-2 qualities, which appears the primary tending to transcriptional hindrance of iNOS and COX-2 by ginkgolic acid. NF- κ B is a transcription factor effectively included the transcriptional acceptance of iNOS and COX-2 quality (Al-Harbi et al. 2016; Seong et al. 2016). Like NO and PGE2 created by iNOS and COX-2, individually, the arrival of pro-inflammatory cytokines is controlled by NF- κ B pathway

and assumes an essential part in the acceptance of the intrinsic resistant reaction of the procured immune reaction. It has been all around concentrated that the restraint of NF- κ B actuation by dark tea concentrate is related with the phosphorylation, ubiquitination, and ensuing debasement of I κ B by means of ubiquitin-proteasome pathway (Liao et al. 2016; Won et al. 2016; Yang et al. 2016). Albeit biochemical activities of ginkgolic acid on NF- κ B controls stay obscure, the present review demonstrated that ginkgolic acid conceivably represses the proteolytic debasement of I κ B- α and the NF- κ B promoter-driven blot expression incited by ox-LDL in HUVECs cells. In this manner, these comes about exhibit the capacity of ginkgolic acid to hinder NF- κ B initiation because of ox-LDL flag in HUVECS cells. Thus it is likely that decreases of iNOS, COX-2, and proinflammatory cytokine expression in HUVECs cells are to a great extent connected with initiation/deactivation of NF- κ B pathway. This report is, to our best learning, the novel discoveries to address the elements of ginkgolic acid through NF- κ B pathway because of ox-LDL treatment. NF- κ B is likewise managed by different flagging kinases including MAPKs (ERK, JNK, and p38) and Akt, which are gatherings of flagging particles to assume enter parts in NF- κ B enactment (Jiang et al. 2017; Qin et al. 2014). MAPKs have been recommended to be included in pro inflammatory flagging falls and in the enactment of NF- κ B in ox-LDL-fortified immune cells (Xue et al. 2017; Yurdagul et al. 2016). In this way, anti-inflammatory mechanisms are firmly related with hindrance of MAPKs in enacted HUVECs cells. In this review, we found that phosphorylation of MAPKs in light of ox-LDL was restrained by ginkgolic acid treatment. Intriguing finding of this study is that the initiation of Akt, a downstream controller of PI3K, was additionally restrained by ginkgolic acid because of ox-LDL motion in HUVECs cells.

In conclusion, we exhibited that ginkgolic acid repressed the discharge of inflammatory arbiters, for example, NO and PGE2, and pro inflammatory cytokines, including TNF- α , IL-1 β , furthermore, IL-6, in ox-LDL invigorated HUVECs endothelial cells. Besides, the inhibitory impact of ginkgolic acid was related with inactivation of the NF- κ B pathway through obstructing the phosphorylation of MAPKs and Akt. Also, the after effects of *in vivo* think about demonstrated that ginkgolic acid can be appropriate to a topical anti inflammatory agent.

4. Experimental

4.1. Chemicals

Ginkgolic acid with a purity of 95.8% by HPLC was purchased from Chromadex and dissolved in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) to a final concentration of 10 mM. Chemicals were obtained from the following companies: M200 and low-serum growth supplement (LSGS) kit from Cascade Biologics; antibiotics (5000 U/mL penicillin and 5000 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ streptomycin), amphotericin B (0.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$), fetal bovine serum (FBS), Roswell Park Memorial Institute medium (RPMI)-1640, and Dulbecco's modified Eagle medium (DMEM) were from Hyclone; phosphate buffered saline (PBS), bovine serum albumin (BSA), trypsin/EDTA solution, were purchased from Abcam (Cambridge, UK). Primary antibodies and secondary antibodies were purchased from Santa Cruz Biotechnology (Santa Cruz, CA, USA). Enhanced chemiluminescence (ECL) detection kit was obtained from GE Healthcare Bio- Science (Piscataway, NJ, USA).

4.2. Cell culture

Human umbilical vein endothelial cells (HUVECs) from Cascade Biologics were grown in collagen type-1 coated flasks in M200 medium supplemented with a low-serum growth supplement (LSGS) kit consisting of 2% fetal bovine serum, hydrocortisone, human epidermal growth factor, basic fibroblast growth factor, and heparin. Cells were harvested at a confluency of 90% or more. Cells at passages two to six were used in all experiments. U937 monocytic cells from American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) were cultured in RPMI-1640 supplemented with 10% FBS, 4.5 g/L glucose, sodium pyruvate (1 mmol/L), L-glutamine (2 mmol/L), amphotericin B, streptomycin (50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$), and penicillin (50 U/ml), and at 80–90% confluency were split and used in experiments.

4.3. Measurement of TNF- α , IL-1 α , IL-6 NO and PGE2

HUVECs cells were plated in a 12-well plate at a thickness of 1×10^6 cells/well and hatched for 24 h. Refined cells were treated with different convergences of asiaticoside for 1 h, and after that invigorated with ox-LDL100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ for 24 h. Refined media were gathered after centrifugation at 2,000 \times g for 10 min and put away at -70°C until tried. The nitrite focus in the refined media was measured as a marker of NO gener-

ation, as indicated by the Griess response. Levels of TNF- α , IL-1 β , IL-6, and PGE2 in refined media were quantitated by compound connected immunosorbent measure (ELISA, R&D Systems, Minneapolis, MN, USA) as per the producer's guidelines. Planning of cytosolic and atomic concentrates HUVECs cells (5 \times 106 cells/well) pretreated with asiaticoside for 1 h were fortified with ox-LDL for 0.5 h. Cells were washed twice with icy PBS and gathered. Cell pellets were resuspended in 300 μ L of hypotonic support (10 mM HEPES/KOH, 10 mM KCl, 2 mM MgCl₂, 0.1 mM EDTA, 1 mM DTT, and 0.5 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF), pH 7.9) and brooded on ice for 15 min. In the wake of vortexing for 10 s, homogenates were isolated into supernatants (cytoplasmic compartments) and pellets (atomic segments) by centrifugation at 13,000 \times g for 10 min. The pellet was tenderly resuspended in 40 μ L finish lysis support (50 mM HEPES/KOH, 50 mM KCl, 1 mM DTT, 300 mM NaCl, 1% IGEPAL CA-630, 0.1 mM EDTA, 10% glycerol, and 0.5 mM PMSF, pH 7.9) and centrifuged at 13,000g for 20 min at 4°C. The supernatant was utilized as the atomic concentrate.

4.4. Western immunoblot analysis

HUVECs cells were brooded with different convergences of asiaticoside for 1 h and fortified with ox-LDL (100 μ g/mL) for 30 min. HUVECs cells were washed twice with chilly PBS and lysed with lysis support (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 1% IGEPAL CA-630, 1% Tween 20, 0.1% SDS, 1 mM Na₃VO₄, 10 μ g/mL leupeptin, 50 mM NaF, and 1 mM PMSF) on ice for 1 h. After centrifugation at 18,000 \times g for 10 min, the protein fixations in the supernatants were resolved, and aliquots of the protein (40 μ g) were isolated by sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) and exchanged onto a nitrocellulose film. The layer was obstructed with 5% nonfat dry drain in Tris buffered saline with 0.1% Tween 20 (TBST) for 1 h, trailed by the brooding for 2 h with essential counter acting agent in TBST containing 5% nonfat dry drain. The blotches were treated with horseradish peroxidase-conjugated optional immunizer in TBST containing 5% nonfat dry drain for 1 h, and insusceptible buildings were distinguished utilizing an ECL identification pack. Densitometric investigation of the information got from no less than three free trials was performed utilizing cooled CCD camera framework EZ-Capture II and CS analyzer ver. 3.00 programming.

4.5. Statistical analysis

Data were expressed as the means \pm standard deviations (SDs) from at least three separate experiments unless otherwise indicated. Data were analyzed using one-way analysis of variance. Differences were considered significant at values of $p < 0.05$.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

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