

# **A dose-dependent pharmacokinetic study on caffeic acid in rabbits after intravenous administration.**

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## **Abstract**

The dose-dependent pharmacokinetics of caffeic acid (CA) were studied in rabbits. Three different doses (5, 10, and 25 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>) were administered intravenously to six rabbits each. The concentration-time profiles for CA could be fitted by a two-compartment model for each dose. The results showed that total-body clearance and elimination rate constant from the central compartment ( $k_{10}$ ) after a 5 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> dose were greater than those after the other two doses. Furthermore, the terminal elimination half-life (beta half-life) and mean residence time (MRT) after a 5 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> dose were less than after the other doses. The AUC value increased linearly with dose within the range of 10-25 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>. Most of the unchanged caffeic acid was excreted in the urine within 2 h. The percentage of unchanged caffeic acid excreted in the urine was 63.4, 60.0, and 55.4% after doses of 5, 10, and 25 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, which was not significantly different. However, significant differences in the renal clearances and renal excretion rate constants were observed with a 5 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> dose compared to the other doses. On the other hand, nonrenal clearances and nonrenal excretion rate constants showed no dose-related differences. The differences observed in total-body clearance,  $k_{10}$ , beta half-life, and MRT between a 5 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> dose and the other doses can be explained on the basis of the differences in renal clearance and renal excretion rate constants.