

Impact of Collared Dove Pigeons (*Streptopelia decaocto*) Age on some Hematological and Biochemical Parameters in Mosul City

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ABSTRACT

The study conducted to determine the effect of differences of age on hematological and biochemical values of collared dove pigeons (*Streptopelia decaocto*) in Mosul city, Iraq. 28 healthy collared dove of 4 different age groups (7 birds of each group) 1 month, 3month, 6 months old as immature and 12 months old as mature pigeons were collected from local areas of Mosul city during May to August 2018. Total red blood cells (TES), packed cell volume (PCV), hemoglobin concentration (Hb), differential of white blood cells, serum total protein, cholesterol, triglycerides, uric acid and glucose were determined. The results showed fluctuations in parameters with different age groups. Mature birds had a significant increase ($P \leq 0.05$) in PCV, Hb, Basophils, Monocytes, Lymphocytes, total protein and uric acid compared to immature birds. In the mature birds, there was a decrease in both heterophils, H / L ratio, total cholesterol, triglycerides and glucose when compared to immature birds. The conclusion from this study there is differences in blood parameters in collared dove pigeons according to the age advanced.

Keywords: collared dove, Haematological parameters, immature, mature pigeons.

تأثير عمر الحمام الفاخت في بعض الصفات الدموية والكيموحيوية في مدينة الموصل

الملخص

هدفت الدراسة إلى تحديد المعايير الدموية والكيمياء الحيوية بحسب الاختلافات العمرية في الحمام الفاخت (*Streptopelia decaocto*) في مدينة الموصل، العراق. اختيرت 28 حمامة سليمة وقسمت الى 4 مجموعات عمرية مختلفة (7 طيور لكل مجموعة) 1 شهر، 3 شهر، 6 شهر غير ناضج و 12 شهر من العمر الناضج لهذه الدراسة. تم قياس كل من العدد الكلي لكريات الدم الحمر (TES)، حجم الخلايا المرصوصة (PCV)، النسبة المئوية للهيموجلوبين (Hb)، العدد التفريقي لخلايا الدم البيض، البروتين الكلي، الكوليسترول الكلي، الدهون الثلاثية، حمض اليوريك و الجلوكوز. أظهرت النتائج أن الدم والمتغيرات البيوكيميائية اختلفت مع تقدم العمر. كان للطيور الناضجة زيادة معنوية ($P \geq 0.05$) في كل من PCV و Hb وأعداد Basophils و Monocytes و Lymphocytes والبروتين الكلي وحمض اليوريك مقارنة بالطيور غير الناضجة. في الطيور الناضجة كان هناك انخفاض في كل من الهيتروفيل، نسبة H / L ، الكوليسترول الكلي، الدهون الثلاثية والجلوكوز بالمقارنة مع الطيور غير الناضجة. استنتج من هذه الدراسة أن هناك اختلافاً في المعايير الدموية للحمام الفاخت باختلاف المراحل العمرية.

الكلمات الدالة: الحمام الفاخت، الصفات الدموية، الحمام البالغ والصغير.

INTRODUCTION

The collared dove pigeons are a bird species that has the ability to adapt and live in different parts of the world where the construction of nests on different and high areas (Moudhafer *et al.*, 2006). The examination of blood and serology of local birds provides diagnostic information to detect the state of health and natural knowledge of the conditions that can cause a change in these values (Hauptmanova *et al.*, 2002). Hematological parameters are used extensively in avian medicine and provide valuable information on the immune status (Kral and Suchy, 2000). Hematological value of healthy birds are affected by factors including physiological and environmental conditions, age, fasting and dietary content (Seiser *et al.*, 2000). The measurement of blood standards in local conditions is very important in the management, prevention and treatment of diseases at the level of individual or herd (Lashev *et al.*, 2009; Tras *et al.*, 2000). The biochemical parameters could be an important source of information with valuable diagnostic meaning in both domestic and wild birds (Miller *et al.*, 2001). Clinical blood chemistry is useful diagnostic tools and has motivated the publication of a large number of scientific reports in various free living or captured avian species (Palvak *et al.*, 2005). Blood biochemistry from serum samples may provide necessary information for evaluation of health status of pigeons and reflect the metabolic alterations of all types of organs and tissues (Schalm *et al.*, 1975). Plasma protein consists of hundreds of proteins with a wide range of functions and structures including nutrition, maintenance of osmotic pressure, buffering, transport of small ions and molecules, haemostasis and protective effect of the immune proteins (Harr, 2002a). Uric acid is the primary catabolic production of protein and non protein nitrogen in birds, it is synthesized in the kidneys and liver of fowl and it is excreted by the kidney by filtration and tubular secretion (Hames and Hooper, 2002). Glucose is the source of energy that is transported in the plasma delivered to all cells of the body (Chandler *et al.*, 1979). The lipid profile concentration of triglycerides, total cholesterol, HDL and LDL lipoprotein fractions in blood serum are the main caloric reserve in the organism (Kasprzak and Hetmanski, 2004). Cholesterol is an important constituent of cell membranes modulating their fluidity; it is also a precursor of steroid hormones (Hames and Hooper, 2002).

The current study was conducted to investigate the age effect on some blood parameters in the collared dove model under the conditions of the city of Mosul, because it is necessary to know it to assess the nutritional status and monitor health and disease (Payne *et al.*, 1970).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Experimental birds

28 Collared Dove pigeons (both sexes) were used in the research and tested at age of (1 month, 3 months, 6 months old as immature and 12 months old as mature pigeons (Fransson *et al.*, 2010). Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) was collected from market in Mosul, Iraq in august 2018 and had free access to feed and water (*ad libitum*). The suitable environmental conditions like temperature, lighting (continues), ventilation, well humidity percentage were recorded daily throughout experiment period (dry temperature 28.07 ± 0.29 °C, wet temperature 25.90 ± 0.30 °C and relative humidity of 82.15 ± 2.01 %) (17). During experimental period a photoperiod of 14 L: 10 D was performed, all the conditions are recommended by NRC (NRC, 1984).

Sample of blood

The blood samples were collected from fasted birds overnight from jugular vein using capillary (heparinized) tubes. During two hours of blood collection, the hematological studies were performed in same time of all groups. Total erythrocyte count (TEC), white blood cell count (WBC) were obtained with haemocytometer method. The different types of WBC counts were determined on blood smears by use of (Wright-Giemsa) stain (shen and Patterson, 1983). Packed cell volume

(PVC %) and Hemoglobin (Hb) concentration (g/dl) were determined by microhaematocrit and sahli haemometer methods respectively.

Serum protein, total cholesterol, triglycerides, uric acid and glucose were performed by Reflotron plus 2011 (Roche, Germany) (Grunenberg *et al.*, 1995).

Statistical analysis

Analyses of data were performed using analysis of variance ANOVA test by SPSS software program package (version 17). Also, significant differences among means \pm S.E. between groups at $P \leq 0.05$ were determined by Duncan's multiple range test (Steel and Torrie, 1980).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table (1) showed that the TEC, PCV and Hb were significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) decreased in immature pigeons compared to the mature. However, TEC, PCV and Hb values increased with the advancement of age, being lowest in the immature and highest in the mature pigeons. These results agree with (Schmidt *et al.*, 2007; Islam *et al.*, 2004), who mentioned that the TEC, PCV and Hb are increased in the advanced aged chicken. The increases of these values with the differences of ages may be due to the greater oxygen demand for activity. The significantly decrease in TEC, values of PCV and Hb in immature birds compared to the mature may be due to the normal lower of iron concentration in immature birds causing physiological anemia, and the increase of TEC, PCV and Hb values in the mature pigeons are consistent with their greater flight ability (Gayathri and Hegde, 1994). The TEC, PCV and hemoglobin values are affecting by changes in the important factors like temperature and photoperiod (Rewkiewicz-Dziarska, 1975).

Table 1: Effect of age on some hematological parameters of Collared Dove pigeons (*Streptopelia decaocto*).

Parameters	Ages			
	1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months
TEC ($10^6/\text{mm}^3$)	1.77 \pm 0.01 c	1.99 \pm 0.54 c	2.89 \pm 0.32 b	4.89 \pm 1.18 a
Hb (g/dl)	2.66 \pm 0.23 d	4.22 \pm 1.45 c	7.59 \pm 1.76 b	12.45 \pm 1.18 a
PCV (%)	9.99 \pm 1.25 d	15.65 \pm 0.77 c	26.76 \pm 1.65 b	39.34 \pm 0.18 a

Values represent Mean \pm S.E.

Different letters in each row mean significant differences ($p \leq 0.05$).

Table (2) showed that the blood Eosinophils, Heterophils and H/L ratio values were significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) higher in immature pigeons compared to mature. The count of monocytes and basophiles were significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) increased with advancing of age but a heterophils and H / L ratio were significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) decreased. These results are in agreement with (Pavlac *et al.*, 2005), who found that differential leukocytes in immature pigeons showed a smaller percentage of lymphocytes ($P \leq 0.05$) than that found in the mature. The smaller the age, the lower the proportion of lymphocytes (Harr, 2002 b). In addition, the differences in the lymphocytes (%) may be attributed to the difference between the ages.

Table 2: Effect of age on leukocytes parameters of Collared Dove pigeons (*Streptopelia decaocto*)

Parameters	Ages			
	1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months
TLC($10^3/mm^3$)	7.89 ±1.45 d	12.90 ± 0.65 c	20.43 ± 1.69 b	26.50±0.54 a
Heterophil (%)	47.49±0.50 a	41.65±1.67 b	35.11±0.23 c	31.55±2.54 d
Eosinophil (%)	4.43±1.50 a	3.96±0.15 b	2.86±1.65 c	1.98±1.10 d
Basophil (%)	0.33±1.52 d	0.89±1.43 c	1.22 ±1.20 b	2.15±0.10 a
Lymphocyte (%)	12.39±0.44 d	22.49±0.23 c	37.86±0.34 b	47.43±0.86 a
Monocyte (%)	0.29±1.43 d	0.77±0.82 c	1.10±0.28 b	1.96±0.54 a
H/L ratio	3.83±2.92 a	1.84±0.85 b	0.92±0.73 c	0.66±0.51 d

Values represent Mean ± S.E.

Different letters in each row mean significant differences ($p \leq 0.05$).

Table 3: Effect of age on biochemical parameters of Collared Dove pigeons (*Streptopelia decaocto*)

Parameters	Ages			
	1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months
Total protein (g/dl)	1.97±3.03 d	2.11±7.06 c	2.24±1.32 b	2.45± 4.67 a
Total cholesterol (mg/dl)	80.70±1.49 a	89.21±0.32 a	86.33±2.89 a	64.67±1.21 b
Triglycerides (mg/dl)	112.43±0.22 b	139.60±0.78 a	135.88±4.30 a	100.35±0.20 c
Uric acid (mg/dl)	5.89±3.00 b	6.11±0.33 b	9.01±0.10 a	8.79±0.56 a
Glucose (mg/dl)	184.12±3.10 a	191.019±2.90 b	200.070±1.43 c	210.12±2.c

Values represent Mean ± S.E.

Different letters in each row mean significant differences ($p \leq 0.05$)

In Table (3), the values of total protein were significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) advanced as the age of pigeons increase, it is due to the necessity of protein for growth in different ages of birds. These results may be attributed to their greater demand for proteins and amino acid during growth for the immature avian species (Palomeque *et al.*, 1991). It is believed that increasing of total protein may reflect that rate of anabolism was higher than the rate of catabolism in avian bodies. There is increasing in plasma total cholesterol and triglycerides in immature birds compared to the mature, it is due to the energy reserves required for growth and maturation (Palomeque *et al.*, 1991).

The (Kececi and Col, 2011) showed that the increase of cholesterol in juveniles when compared with adult. Uric acid levels of the adult were significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) higher than those of the young ($P \leq 0.05$), it is may be due to high protein content in the feed.

The plasma glucose in Table (3) offered that the immature pigeons had significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) lower plasma glucose values than mature birds. Also, the plasma glucose was rise gradually which mean that the mature birds had significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) higher plasma glucose than the immature. The obtained results may reflect that the young pigeons (squabs) are still depend on their parents in the feeding and their activities are lower compared to the adult pigeons that are self feeding, have more activities and look after their offspring and this may be the reason that young pigeons had lower glucose than the adult.

These results are in agreement with (Ritchie *et al.*, 1994) they discovered that plasma glucose reached the maximum level in mature birds.

CONCLUSIONS

We can conclude from this study that these findings may be useful as a diagnostic tool in the physiological knowledge of blood at different ages to help the authors in development and production.

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