

# Effect of pegylated nano niosomal 2, 4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid on intracellular taxol production

Dariusht Norouzan (✉ [dnsa@pasteur.ac.ir](mailto:dnsa@pasteur.ac.ir))

Nano-Biotechnology Dept., Pasteur Institute of Iran

**Leila jabbari**

1Department of Biotechnology and Plant Breeding, Faculty of Agriculture, Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

**Sepideh Torabi**

1Department of Biotechnology and Plant Breeding, Faculty of Agriculture, Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

**Afshin Peirovi**

2Pilot Nano-Biotechnology Department, Pasteur Institute of Iran (IPI), Tehran13164, Iran

**Mohsen Chiani**

2Pilot Nano-Biotechnology Department, Pasteur Institute of Iran (IPI), Tehran13164, Iran

**Farhad Masoomi-Aladizgeh**

Department of Tissue Culture and Gene Transformation, Agricultural Biotechnology Institute of Iran (ABRII), AREEO, 3135933151 Karaj, Iran

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## Method Article

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# Abstract

Nowadays, studies about yew tree as a main source of taxol (anticancer drugs) is being expanded rapidly. In the last few years, taxol is being isolated from the bark of *Taxus brevifolia* as the species of yew tree, containing very low amount (approximately 0.01%). Taxol is diterpenoid amide and can be produced by different approaches, suspended cell culture is a method through which taxol can be produced. In this study, 2,4-dichlorophenoxy acetic acid (2,4-D) was nano niosomated in order to deliver the plant hormone to the cells under cultivation. The result demonstrated that the amount of taxol was significantly increased when the cell culture was exposed to pegylated nano niosomal 2,4-dichlorophenoxy acetic acid (2,4-D).

## Introduction

Taxol is an important anticancer drug. It is a plant derived compound and being used for the treatment of breast, ovary and many other cancers. In cells, taxol fixes the microtubules and prevents its depolymerization, leading to stop the cell cycle and leading to the death of cells<sup>1</sup>. There are numerous approaches to produce taxol such as semi synthesis<sup>3</sup>, chemical synthesis<sup>4-7</sup>, fungal biosynthesis<sup>8-10</sup>, and plant cell culture technology<sup>11</sup>. Taxol is a diterpene amide and its isolation from natural sources is impractical since it gives low yields and leads to extinction of *Taxus* species<sup>12,13</sup>. Production of taxol through semi synthesis is performed by employing 10-deacetyl baccatin III (10-DABIII)<sup>14</sup> from the needles of wild or cultivated *T. baccata* (European yew) and *T. yunnanensis* (Himalayan yew)<sup>15</sup>. This procedure is less destructive as compared to extraction of Taxol from the bark of *T. brevifolia*<sup>16</sup>. The chemical synthesis is another way to produce taxol as non-dependent on natural resources. The high cost for its achievement<sup>5,17</sup>, the lower yield, limit the production of taxol by this method<sup>18</sup> are the draw backs. Production of taxol by microbial fermentation can be another approach to obtain this medicinally and commercially important drug. It is produced by many genera of fungi isolated from yew trees<sup>19-24</sup>. But fungi produce taxol in low quantity. Research is in progress to increase the yield of taxol by fungal fermentation, unfortunately, the results are very poor so far. This is could be due to reaction between fungi and higher level of taxol which prevents fungal growth and development<sup>25</sup>. Undeniably, none of these fungi have successfully produced high amount of taxol. Thus, plant cell cultures represent an alternative, environmentally sustainable source of taxol production that can provide a stable supply of taxol for commercial production. Due to above advantages, numerous investigations on the production of taxol and related compound are being conducted through cell suspended culture by using several *Taxus* species<sup>26-31</sup>. In this study attempts are made to use pegylated nano niosome as a carrier of plant hormone in cell culture of *Taxus* species. This technology led to supply the essential hormones whenever it was required for improving and growing the plant tissues and therefore causing an increase in taxol production in short period of time.

## Reagents

- Activated charcoal GR • Agar Powder \ (Duchefa, cat. no. p1001) • Ammonium sulphate \ (Duchefa, cat. no. A502) • Benzylamino purine \ (BAP, Duchefa, cat. no. B0904) • Boric acid \ (Duchefa, cat. no. B0503) • Calcium chloride \ (Duchefa, cat. no. C0504) • Cholesterol \ (Sigma, cat. no. C8667) • Copper sulphate.5H<sub>2</sub>O \ (Duchefa, cat. no. C0508) • Cobalt chloride.6H<sub>2</sub>O \ (Duchefa, cat. no. C0507) • 2,4-Dichlorophenoxy acetic acid \ (Duchefa, cat. no. D019) • Ethanol Local Market • Fe.EDTA \ (Duchefa, cat. No. F0570) • Ferrous sulphate.7H<sub>2</sub>O \ (Duchefa, cat. No. F512) • Magnesium sulphate \ (Merck, cat. no. 105882) • Manganese sulphate.H<sub>2</sub>O \ (Duchefa, cat. no. M0504) • Molybdic acid \ (sodium salt).2H<sub>2</sub>O • Myo-Inositol \ (Duchefa, cat. No. I0609) • Naphthylacetic acid \ (NAA, Duchefa, cat. no. N0903) • Nicotinic acid \ (Free acid) \ (Duchefa, cat. No. N0611) • Polyethyleneglycol, PEG 3000 local Market • Potassium nitrate \ (Duchefa, cat. no. P0509) • Pyridoxin HCl \ (Duchefa, cat. No. P0612) • Sodium hypochloride, Merck • Sodium phosphate monobasic \ (Duchefa, cat. no. S0522) • Span20 \ (Sigma, cat. no. S6635) • Sucrose \ (Duchefa, cat. No. S0809) • Thiamine HCl \ (Duchefa, cat. No. N0610) • Tween20 \ (Sigma, cat. no. P4780) • Zinc sulphate.7H<sub>2</sub>O \ (Duchefa, cat. no. Z0526)

## Equipment

- Bench top centrifuge and Microfuge \ (Eppendorf, cat. nos. 5415D and 5415R, respectively) • High speed refrigerated centrifuge • HPLC system, Kranuer • Magnetite stirrer, Medpip • Metal \ (aluminum cooling) rack \ (LabScientific, cat. no. 2073) • Microscope \ (Olympus, cat. no. BX-41) • Oven \ (Fisher Scientific, cat. no. 13-247-625G) • Parafilm M \ (Laboratory film, cat. no. 01851-AB) • Petri dishes \ (Fisher, cat. no. 08-757-12) • Reciprocating shaker, Kranuer, • Rotary evaporator, Hiedolph • Scalpel blades \ (Cincinnati Surgical, cat. no. 01SM24) • Scalpel \ (Cincinnati Surgical, cat. no. 074S) • Shaker incubator, LabTech., Korea • Solvent-resistant marker \ (Fisher, cat. no. 14-905-30) • Sonicator, Mizinix ultra sound liquid processor • Vial top label for 2-ml tubes \ (Labxpert, cat. no. X-83-499)

## Procedure

**\*\*Reagent Setup\*\*** **\*\*B5 cell culture media\*\*** Add 4 mg l<sup>-1</sup> 2,4-D, 2 mg l<sup>-1</sup> kin, 2 gr l<sup>-1</sup> activated charcoal, 30 mg l<sup>-1</sup> sucrose, and 7 gr l<sup>-1</sup> of agar into B5 media and adjust the PH to 5.8-6. **\*\*Cell suspension media\*\*** Add 4 mg l<sup>-1</sup> 2,4-D, 0.5 mg l<sup>-1</sup> kin, and 30 mg l<sup>-1</sup> sucrose into B5 media. **\*\*Ethanol\ (70%)\*\*** Mix absolute ethanol and H<sub>2</sub>O at a ratio of 70 ethanol:30 H<sub>2</sub>O \ (v/v). **\*\*Sodium hypochloride\ (2.5 %v/v)\*\*** Mix sodium hypochloride \ (5%) and H<sub>2</sub>O at a ratio of 50 sodium hypochlorite \ (5%): 50 H<sub>2</sub>O ml \ (v/v). **\*\*Preparation of pegylated nano niosomal 2,4-D\*\*** SECTION 1 Dissolve 30 mg cholesterol in 30 ml ethanol. Then add span20, tween20, and PEG3000, respectively according to the Table 1. Add 5 mg 2,4-D to the above solution. The reactants were allowed to react for 30 minutes at room temperature on magnetite stirrer at 120 rpm. The solvent was evaporated by rotary evaporator. SECTION 2 Add 50 ml sterilized distilled water to the gel containing 2,4-D. The obtained suspension containing 2,4-D was subjected to sonication by ultra sonic sonicator. This was further passed through filter 0.22µm in order to obtain uniform niosomes. **\*\*Extraction medium\*\*** Mix methanol and hydrochloric acid at a ratio of 75 methanol:25 hydrochloric acid \ (v/v). Preparation of mobile phases Mix methanol, H<sub>2</sub>O, and acetonitrile at a ratio of 5 methanol :

35 H<sub>2</sub>O: 60 acetonitrile (v/v).CRITICAL It is important that the solution should be filtered before use.

**TABLE 1. Composition of pegylated niosomal 2,4-D particle**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Noisome</b> (mg 50m l <sup>-1</sup> )	<b>2,4-DNoisome</b> (mg 50m l <sup>-1</sup> )
Cholesterol	30	30
Span20	50	50
Tween20	30	30
PEG3000	7	7
Cholesterol	0	5

**PROCEDURE**

**Tissues sterilization** TIMING 2 hours

1. Soak the samples in the water containing dish washing liquid for sterilization and then place them under running water for 20 minutes
2. Wash the explants with 70 % ethanol for 1 minute
3. Transfer the samples to 2.5 % sodium hypochlorite containing two drops of tween 20 for 15 minutes
4. Wash the samples with the sterilized distilled water for 3 times, and each time for 15 minutes

**Tissue culture proliferation** TIMING 60 days

5. Dry the explants on filter paper, and then transfer the lateral meristem into B5 media, including 2,4-D (4 mg.l<sup>-1</sup>), Kin (0.5 mg.l<sup>-1</sup>), and activated charcoal (2 gr.l<sup>-1</sup>)
6. Incubate the samples at 25° C ,completely dark condition for a month
7. Subculture the explants into B5 media containing 2,4-D (4 mg.l<sup>-1</sup>), Kin (0.5 mg.l<sup>-1</sup>), and activated charcoal (2 grl<sup>-1</sup>) and incubate the explants at 25°C ,completely dark condition for a month

**CRITICALSTEP** Measure different traits of callus for determination of :

- 1.Dry weight
- 2.Fresh weight
- 3.Callus surface
- 4.Callus mass and
- 5.Percentage of surviving

**Cell suspension growth in presence of nano niosomal 2,4 D** TIMING 25 days

8. Add 2 g callus (biomass) to 50 ml cell suspension medium and then incubate them at 25°C , 130 rpm , completely dark condition
9. Add nanoparticles into cell suspension growth media at logarithmic phase, (21 days)

**CRITICALSTEP** To determine the logarithmic growth phase, take 1 ml cell suspension every day, centrifuge at 13000 rpm for 10 min, wash the cells with sterile distilled water thrice and then weigh out the cells.

10. After 96 h, remove the cells by centrifugation at 13000 rpm for 10 min
12. Discard the supernatant and transfer the precipitated cells to a 2 ml tube.

**Extraction of crud Taxol from the cells** TIMING 2hours

13. Homogenate 1 g of samples with 1 ml extraction buffer
14. Place the homogenate at room temperature for 1 h and vortex it each 5 min
15. Remove the cell debris by centrifugation at 12000 rpm for 10 min
16. Transfer the supernatant to a new tube, and then filter through filter paper 0.22 µm, the extract was used to determine Taxol content by HPLC method.

Figure 1 shows a schematic model of all steps in Taxol extraction procedure. Figure 2 shows a schematic model of all steps in pegylated nano niosomal 2,4 D- preparation. .

## Timing

Tissues sterilization, Steps 1-4: 2 hours Tissue culture proliferation, Steps 5-7: 60 days Cell suspension subjected to nanoparticle, Steps 8-12: 25 days Extraction of Taxol, Steps 13-16: 2 hours

# Troubleshooting

TROUBLESHOOTING Trouble shootings can be found in Table 2. TABLE 2 Troubleshooting table.

<b>**Problems**</b>	<b>**Possible reason**</b>	<b>**Solution**</b>
brown callus	phenol increase	Subculture should be changed immediately
poor fragile state of callus	inappropriate compounds of medium	activated charcoal must be added
visible insoluble substances at the time of making nanoparticle	incomplete dissolving compounds	vortex must be done a long time vigorously
sample peak is different from standard peak	impure materials	increase the time of HPLC column washing
additional peak is detected during HPLC analysis	indicating the insoluble material in HPLC buffer	it should be filtered and bubble checked
callus growth is slow	the medium is not suitable	-
precipitation of components	set the components	increase the shaker speed from 110 rpm to 130 rpm

## Anticipated Results

The attempts made to evaluate the efficacy of pegylated nano niosomal 2,4-D on production of taxol by cell suspension technology employing callus of *Taxus* species. The obtained cells were suspended in extracting buffer which were subjected to homogenization using mortar and pestle. The obtained suspension was centrifuged and the clear supernatant was passed through 0.22 µm filter paper. The clear solution containing taxol was subjected to HPLC analysis in order to estimate the amount of taxol produced by *Taxus* species in media with pegylated nano niosomal 2,4-D and devoid of pegylated nano niosomal 2,4-D (Fig. 4). The commercial taxol was used as a standard. As it is depicted from Fig. 4, the amount of Taxol produced in medium containing pegylated nano niosomal 2, 4-D is higher than that produced in medium containing free 2,4-D. The higher production of taxol by incorporation of pegylated nano niosomal 2, 4-D into the culture medium could be due to slow release of 2,4 D into the medium as compared to free 2,4-D.

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