DETECTION OF IRINOTECAN USING TITANIUM NANOPARTICLES MODIFIED ELECTRODE

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ABSTRACT. A tool has been developed in this study to estimate one of the Irinotecan (INR) cancer drugs used in the treatment of lung cancer by using square wave voltammetry (SWV) techniques, on surface of electrode graphite (GrE) and through of study the optimal condition that enhance the work of this electrode. The measurements are also enhanced by the electro-polymerization process of the neutral red pigment (NR) and using when presence of titanium nanoparticles (TiO₂NPs) to be greatly enhanced by measuring of LOD, LOQ and applied to human serum samples.

KEY WORDS: Irinotecan, Lung cancer, Square wave voltammetry, Titanium nanoparticles, Serum

INTRODUCTION

Irinotecan (INR) is (7-ethyl-10-[4-(1-piperidino)-1-piperidino]-carbonyloxyccamp-tothecine) (Figure 1). It is a semi-synthetic derivative of cambotoxin that have an alkaline character which occurs naturally. It is used as a chemotherapeutic agent in a treatment of cancer specially in colorectal [1, 2]. INR It is one of the main drugs for anti-cancer chemotherapy [3].

The mechanism action of INR the inhibition of topoisomerase I, an enzyme essential to organize an important DNA processes, guaranty repair and transcription resulting DNA damage. Activity of topoisomerase I inhibits DNA transcription and replication, and ultimately leads to cell death [4, 7]. In addition, the activity of INR is enhanced when photocatalytic activation [8].

INR determination for general method is (HPLC) [9], this method used was time consuming and expensive. Methods of electrochemistry open a new direction in pharmaceuticals estimation. Many research groups give drugs estimation in different electrochemical methods for in biological fluids and pharmaceutical formulations [10-21]. Electrochemical estimation has been used for electroactive species determination in body fluids and pharmaceuticals because low cost and simplicity. Only one study investigated the electrochemical behavior of oxidation, reduction and interference with dsDNA (double stranded RNA) with INR using the hanging drop mercury electrode [22]. The production of measurements using PNR as an electrolysis polymer is very important in improving the functioning of the biosensors. Various supports have been designed to improve NR polymerization conditions, such as indium tin oxide (ITO) platinum electrodes and glass carbon electrodes. In addition to the electropolymerization process there are other methods like immobilization techniques. It was explored to produce a strong medium by promoting electronic transport such as covalent direct bonding or direct chemical absorption of a polymer carrying functional groups of oxidation reduction cells mixed with carbon paste [23]. The aim of this study is to develop biosensors to measure the smallest possible amounts of biological models for patients with cancer who use a treatment.
EXPERIMENTAL

Apparatus

Measurements were made using the study’s SWV technique and to estimate INR concentrations in human serum samples using an electrochemical analyzer stand 797VA (Metrohm AG, CH-9101 Herisav). A traditional three-electrode device comprised of three electrode cells, including a reference electrode (RE), an auxiliary electrode a Pt electrode, a (3.0 mm) bare graphite electrode (Homemade, Germany) and a modified electrode as a working electrode were performed. The graphite rods were designed using epoxy glue (UHU plus endfest 300) to seal industrial graphite rods (diameter 3.05 mm; SGL Carbon, Bonn, Germany) in glass tubes (outer diameter 5 mm). All tests were performed under room temperature (25.0±0.5 °C). pH measurements were performed using a digital pH meter (HANNA, Portugal). Ultrasonic cleaner (model CD-4820, China), centrifuge (HERMLE-Z200A, Germany) used to separate the serum, scanning electron microscope (SEM) (model: VEGA Tescan 3 SB, Czech).

Reagents and chemicals

Koçak Farma Inc. (Istanbul, Turkey) provided the dosage type for the medication and INR. Nanol TiO$_2$ particles (Anhui Elite Industrial Co., Ltd. (China) was used. Phosphate buffers was used as electrolyte supports. The remaining materials used in the study were supplied by Fluka and BDH and used without further washing. To avoid oxidation, the solutions were prepared and used for 24 hours, and kept away from light.

Collection of serum samples

The Nuclear Medicine and Oncology Hospital in Mosul City has obtained samples of patients with lung cancer who were taking chemotherapy doses containing INR. The blood serum was isolated after the samples were obtained, and the measurements were re-examined separately.

Cleaning and polishing electrode

The polishing and cleaning of electrodes is performed using emery paper and alumina oxide with various minutes (3, 1.0, 0.3, 0.05 μM) and regularly well washing with double distilled water. We should be careful to wash by distilled water after using each amount of alumina volumes and sonicate in distilled water (DSW) for 15 min to achieve a mirror-like surface and dry in the air before being used for modulation [24].

Electropolymerization of NR on TiO$_2$NPs/GrE

NR electrochemical polymerization was performed on the surface of the Gr electrode using the technique of cyclic voltammetry (CV) within the range of (0.2-1.2 V) versus reference electrode (Ag/AgCl) before being used with acetone and distilled water (DSW) sonicated for 15 min, respectively [25]. After refining the geo-graphite electrode with various sizes of alumina oxide and then applying a suitable amount of TiO$_2$NPs on the surface of the electrode by means of a pre-suspended suspension solution and drying it at the room temperature (referred to as: TiO$_2$NPs/GrE). At pH (pH = 6.0) of the phosphate solution buffer containing 0.05 mM of NR and 0.2 M (KNO$_3$), the NR oxidation-reduction current is increased by increasing the number of cycles until it is stabilized at 11 cycles at a scan rate of 50 mV/s (Scheme 1). After the electrochemical polymerization process the electrode was treated by distilled water (DSW), then left to dry in the air.
INR voltammetric study

INR is considered to be an effective electrochemical pharmaceutical compound, a study of electrochemical behavior on various electrodes, such as graphite electrodes (GrE), as well as modified electrodes in the various modulations which will be gradually mentioned. The voltage approximation for INR using the SWV techniques was tested at 0.05 μM. Measurements were carried out at pH 4.0-10.0 in the phosphate solution buffer. Ag/AgCl has been swept off the promise. Figure 1 displays the square-wave voltammogram obtained on a bare graphite electrode for 0.05 μM of INR. This is the related current of the electrochemical operation of the product from the redox mechanism of the compound which gave this current for this potential value.

Figure 1. SWV of INR in 0.2 M PBS at pH 7.0.

Optimal conditions for INR measurement

A series of experiments were performed using SWV technique by adding the daily INR solution to the phosphate solution buffer at 0.05 μM concentration at pH 7.0. By continuously adjusting the device's initial conditions and obtaining the best results, the highest values of the measured current and the best form of the resulting voltammogram were provided with the survival of the static peak potential as indicated in Table 1.

Table 1. Optimum conditions for detection of 0.05 μM INR in PBS at pH 7.0 to give optimum highest current.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optimum parameters</th>
<th>Assess</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start potential</td>
<td>0.0 V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End potential</td>
<td>0.8 V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voltage step</td>
<td>0.0075 V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equilibration time</td>
<td>30 s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>50 Hz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposition potential</td>
<td>-0.9 V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposition time</td>
<td>35 s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amplitude</td>
<td>0.035 V</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Effect of pH

INR's SW voltammetry was measured using the graphite electrode (GrE) at different potential. The voltammetry estimation was analyzed at pH = 4.0-10.0 in 0.2 M PBS at concentration 0.05 μM INR using SWV as shown in Figure 2A using the optimum conditions described in Table 1.

Figure 2. A: SWV for pH range 4.0-10.0 PBS for INR estimation. B, C: pH effect on INR currents and potentials peak.

The effects of the peak potential (Ep) and peak current (Ip) reversed to pH are shown in (Figure 2C) and through the linear equation that connects the pH shift relation with (Ep) expressed as follows: \( E_{pa} = -60.0 \, pH + 0.9713 \) (Ep in mV, \( r = 0.9957 \)). The slop value is

closer to the theoretical 59.8 mV/pH value. It can be concluded that the INR process of oxidation and reduction requires the transfer of one electron.

**Effect of amount of TiO\textsubscript{2}NPs for INR determination**

The effect of quantity TiO\textsubscript{2}NPs on the INR measurement electrode surface was studied after a series of experiments to pick the best amount as shown in Figure 3.

**Figure 3.** The relationship between the amount of TiO\textsubscript{2}NPs and the current return to INR.

**Figure 4.** Cyclic voltograms of electrochemical polymerization (1.0 x 10\textsuperscript{-4} M) of NR.

**NR Electro-polymerization on TiO\textsubscript{2}NPs/GrE**

The NR electropolymerisation process is conducted on the graphite surface using the CV method. Figure 4 shows voltammogram within the range of -1.2-0.2 V (Ag/AgCl) for a series of successive cycles using the GrE electrode. At pH 6.0 in 0.2 M phosphate that contains NR 1.0 x10\textsuperscript{-5} M and 0.2 M KNO\textsubscript{3}. Due to the growth and stability of the oxidation wave value due to
PNR these conditions are the optimal conditions for NR polymerisation. The resulting wave-current is stable after 11 cycles. Hence the number of cycles is chosen as the best geo-geometric transformation effect. The effect is a coating of NR on the graphite GrE surface, which in turn demonstrates the highest electro-polymerisation on the surface of PNR/Gr.

**Study the optimum conditions for NR polymerization on TiO\textsubscript{2}NPS/GrE**

A number of conditions were studied enhancing electropolymerisation of NR on the electrode surface. These conditions include potential deposition, time of deposition and number of cycles. The NR electropolymerization at -100 mV and 150 s which was chosen as a perfect deposition time as shown in Figure 5 was chosen for deposition potential as a first parameter for enhanced. To study the impact of the number of cycles on polymer layer formation using Figure 5, which shows that the current output of the INR measurement was given on the current at 11 cycles and this sum decreased with the increase in the number of cycles indicating the poisoning of the electrode and the blocking of the polymer layer, the communication needed to measure the low INR concentrations.

![Graphs showing the effect of deposition potential and time, current results by the oxidative and reduction after peak 12 cycles, relation between current and the number of cycles.](image)

**Surface analysis**

PNR/TiO\textsubscript{2}NPS/GrE SEM images (Figure 6) were taken under vacuum at a controlled temperature that was obtained to estimate content element concentrations. Via visualization of the electrode surface, which shows the shape of the electrode surface crystals back to the PNR where the images display the order of crystals resulting from process of electrochemical polymerisation.

Sample micrographs were obtained from the scanning electron microscope, Model Tescan VEGA 3 SB with Instrumental Conditions: 5 HV (Tescan VEGA 3 SB SEM).

Figure 6. SEM for PNR/TiO$_{2NPS}$/GrE.

Figure 7. A: SWV for INR on PNR/TiO$_{2NPS}$/GrE and B: calibration plots of INR.

**Analytical characteristics of INR estimation**

The importance of determining the calibration curve and determining the least possible concentration on the PNR/TiO$_{2NPS}$/GrE surface is determined by the relationship between the INR concentration and the peak current resulting from a set of experiments measured by SWV using different INR concentrations within the range 0.05 $\mu$M INR at 0.2 M phosphate buffer solution at pH 7. A more sensitive method of (SWV) technique is preferable for estimating the minimum detection limit. Figure 7A shows the PNR/TiO$_{2NPS}$/GrE electrode with different INR concentrations at a deposition potential of -0.9 V versus the reference (Ag/AgCl) electrode. These results suggest a stable and efficient of PNR/TiO$_{2NPS}$/GrE. The functional relationship was $I_p(A) = 1.0 \times 10^{-4}[\text{INR}] M + 3.0 \times 10^5$ ($R^2 = 0.993$).

TiO$_{2NPS}$ was instrumental in improving the INR signal through improved surface electrode efficiency adsorption. To assess the sensor's susceptibility to analyzes, SWV was used to estimate INR, curve INR with added INR concentrations within linear response range 0.5 - 11.5
× 10⁻⁸ M. It is possible to determine the utilization of the voltamogram through the calibration curve shown in Figure 7B. LOD (limit of detection) estimated with following equation [26]:

\[
\text{LOD} = 3.3 \times \frac{S_y}{x/b}
\]

where \(S_y/x\) the standard deviation and \(b\) is a slope of plot calibration. INR LOD of about on PNR/TiO₂NPS/GrE was 8.08 x10⁻⁸ M for SWV as shown in Table 2 for \(n = 10\) sensors and LOQ (limit of quantification) calculating by following equation:

\[
\text{LOQ} = 10 \times \frac{S_y}{x/b}
\]

with resulting 2.76 x10⁻⁷ M for SWV. The results obtained from Table 2, as well as from the LOD values, LOQ, using 10 different sensors, showing the high stability of the sensor. The 10 sensors gave an average readout of current of 1.37 x10⁻⁵ A with SD 5.3 x10⁻⁷.

![Figure 8. Stability of INR for 150 min.](image)

Table 2. INR determination in serum samples, using PNR/TiO₂NPS/GrE electrochemical sensor (\(n = 3\)).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Serum sample</th>
<th>Concentration added (µM)</th>
<th>Concentration found in a cell (µM)</th>
<th>Concentration found in a serum (mM)</th>
<th>Recovery (%)</th>
<th>RSD%</th>
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</table>
Detection of Irinotecan using titanium nanoparticles modified electrode

Repeatability and stability of INR estimation on PNR/TiO$_{2NPS}$/GrE

The frequency of PNR/TiO$_{2NPS}$/GrE voltammetric readings was checked for a buffer (PBS 0.2 M, pH = 7.0, RSD 3.9%). Stability of the sensor storage was measured after 150 min of storage and measurements Figure 8. The sensor retained about 94.9% of the original response. The results indicate good frequency and stability for the INR estimate. These results, which are due to high stability can be exploited and turned into workable through the exploitation of this study.

Estimation of INR in human serum samples

Using the SWV technique and the addition process, the INR concentration was calculated using PNR/TiO$_{2NPS}$/GrE, using the biosensor to measure the INR concentration in 25 serum sample samples for age group (20-40 years) female chemotherapy patients with lung cancer. Table 2 shows the apparent results of the human serum INR assay suggesting the practical application of such sensors to measure INR in the individual samples.

CONCLUSION

In this work, an electrochemical sensor was designed to measure and determine INR in human serum samples after the sensor's characteristics were determined, the electrode gave high and stable stability and 94.9 percent of the first reading after a measurement period. In addition to the high stability of serum model measurements by using three vital sensors and the distinctive measurements shown in LOD, LOQ, SD and RSD percentage. All of this is achieved by modified TiO$_{2NPS}$ electrode and NR electropolymerisation.

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