

Poster presentation

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The effects of a starch based carbohydrate alone or in combination with whey protein on a subsequent bout of exercise performance – preliminary findings

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Background

High-molecular weight, starch based carbohydrates have been shown to leave the stomach faster as well as replenish muscle glycogen more rapidly as compared to lower molecular weight, monomeric glucose and short-chain glucose oligomers (Leiper, et al. 2000 and Piehl Aulin et al. 2000). Furthermore, it has been shown that Vitargo® (a high molecular weight, low osmolality starch based carbohydrate) led to a greater work-output during a 15 minute time-trial 2 hours following cycling to exhaustion when compared to maltodextrin (a low molecular weight carbohydrate) (Stephens et al. 2008). The purpose of this study was to replace a portion of a high-molecular weight carbohydrate with whey protein to determine if it could enhance muscle glycogen re-synthesis following a heavy resistance training bout and/or enhance a subsequent bout of exercise (15 min cycle ergometer time trial) 2 hours later.

Methods

10 recreationally active, fasted males (21.5 years; 178.1 cm; 79.5 kg) performed 5 sets of hack squats, 5 sets of leg press, and 5 sets of leg extension at 80% of 1 RM to failure (in attempt to reduce muscle glycogen content). Rest periods between sets and exercises were 150 seconds. Immediately following the RT bout, participants were block-randomized to consume a 1 liter solution containing

either 1.0 g/kg of carbohydrate from Vitargo® S2 or 0.75 g/kg of carbohydrate from Vitargo® S2 + 0.25 g/kg of a commercially available whey protein product (whey protein isolate, whey protein concentrate, and whey protein hydrolysates). Both supplements were ~ isocaloric. Exactly one week later, the participants performed the same resistance training (RT) protocol, but consumed the second solution. After consuming the supplement, the subjects rested in a semi-supine position for 2 hours. Following the rest period, the participants performed a 15 minute time trial on a cycle ergometer. The time-trial was programmed in a pedaling dependent mode, in which an increase in pedaling rate increased the work rate. Total work (kJ) was recorded at 5, 10, and 15 minutes. A two-way (2 × 3 - supplement × time) ANOVA with repeated measures was utilized to analyze the data using SPSS 16.0.

Results

Data are reported as means ± SD at 5, 10, and 15 minutes during the time-trial. Total work was 53.4 ± 13.7, 102.7 ± 27.4, 150.8 ± 41.2 and 52.1 ± 13.6, 100.8 ± 28.1, 149.7 ± 42.5 for the Vitargo® S2 and Vitargo® S2 + whey protein groups, respectively. A significant main effect for time was observed ($p < 0.001$), but no significant main effect for treatment ($p = .550$) or significant treatment*time interaction ($p = 0.798$) was observed for total work (kJ).

Conclusion

Consuming 0.75 g/kg of carbohydrate from Vitargo® S2 + 0.25 g/kg of whey protein does not enhance a subsequent bout of exercise performance above that observed when 1 g/kg of carbohydrate from Vitargo® S2 alone was consumed.

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