

Effects of Astaxanthin on Human Blood Rheology

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Accession number;05A0392807

Title;Effects of Astaxanthin on Human Blood Rheology

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Journal Title;Journal of Clinical Therapeutics & Medicines

Journal Code;Y0906A

ISSN;0910-8211

VOL.21;NO.4;PAGE.421-429(2005)

Figure&Table&Reference;FIG.1, TBL.6, REF.28

Pub. Country;Japan

Language;Japanese

Abstract;Effects of astaxanthin derived from *H. pluvialis* (AX) on human blood rheology were investigated in 20 adult men with a single-blind method. The experimental group was 57.5 \pm 9.8 y of age and placebo group was 50.8 \pm 13.1 y of age. Blood rheology test which measures whole blood passage time was carried out using heparinized blood of volunteer by a MC-FAN apparatus (microchannel array flow analyzer). After administration of AX 6mg/day for 10days, the values of experimental group were decreased from 52.8 \pm 4.9 sec to 47.6 \pm 4.2sec ($p < 0.01$) and the comparison of the values between the experimental (47.6 \pm 4.2 sec) and the placebo (54.2 \pm 6.7 sec) groups showed the significant difference ($p < 0.05$). There were no adverse effects according to the administration of AX 6mg/day for 10days. Informed consent was obtained from each subject. This study complied with the Declaration of Helsinki. (author abst.)