Short term effects of low caffeine energy drinks on blood vessel and heart functions in healthy volunteers

Submission date 17/10/2021	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	Prospectively registered		
		☐ Protocol		
Registration date 19/10/2021	Overall study status Completed	Statistical analysis plan		
		Results		
Last Edited 19/10/2021	Condition category Circulatory System	Individual participant data		
		Record updated in last year		

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

Caffeine is a natural stimulant most commonly found in tea, coffee, and cacao plants. It works by stimulating the brain and central nervous system, helping you stay alert and prevent the onset of tiredness.

High caffeine content energy drinks are known to have adverse health effects. Turkish law restricts the caffeine and taurine content of energy drinks.

This study aims to investigate the short-term effects of energy drinks on heart and blood vessel function.

Who can participate?

The study is open to healthy volunteers 18-50 years of age who are not heavy smokers or heavy caffeine consumers.

What does the study involve?

The volunteers will be given a 355 ml can of Red Bull energy drink containing 53.25 mg of caffeine and their measurements will be recorded before and after the energy drink consumption. They will also be given a control drink (mixed fruit juice) in another session where their measurements will also be recorded.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

This study investigates the acute effects of commercially available limited caffeine energy drinks on heart and vessel functions. The results of the study might shed light on the potential benefits of restricting the caffeine and taurine content of commercially available energy drinks. The participants will drink only 355 ml of the study drinks once. There are no potential risks for participating in this study.

Where is the study run from?

Ankara University School of Medicine Cardiology Department (Turkey)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for? March 2014 to January 2021

Who is funding the study? Investigator initiated and funded

Who is the main contact?

Dr Cansin Tulunay Kaya, kayac@ankara.edu.tr

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

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Additional identifiers

Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)

Nil known

ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT)

Nil known

Protocol serial number

ED-0001

Study information

Scientific Title

Acute effects of low caffeine energy drinks on endothelial and myocardial functions in healthy volunteers

Study objectives

Restricted caffeine and taurine content energy drinks might effect the endothelial functions adversely. Myocardial functions can improve after energy drink consumption

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Approved 23/06/2014, Ankara University Clinical Trials Ethics Board (Ankara Universitesi Tip Fakultesi Morfoloji Binasi 06100 Sıhhiye/Ankara, Turkey; +90 312 595 8227; etik@medicine. ankara.edu.tr), ref: 11-484-14

Study design

Single center interventional randomized controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Other

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Determining the effect of energy drink consumption on heart and blood vessel function in healthy volunteers

Interventions

The volunteers are assigned to study drinks through online randomization (randomizer.org), they will be asked to drink 355 ml of one of the study drinks (commercially available energy drink containing 53.25 mg caffeine or control drink which is mixed fruit juice) and crossover to the other in two seperate sessions 7-10 days apart. The study ends after the second session.

Intervention Type

Other

Primary outcome(s)

The change in endothelial flow mediated dilation (FMD) is measured before and 60 minutes after energy drink consumption.

Key secondary outcome(s))

The change in myocardial strain levels is measured using Echocardiographic images for 2 dimensional speckle tracking echocardiography of left and right ventricles recorded before and 60 minutes after study drink consumption, which are then analyzed offline by an investigator blind to patient data.

Completion date

01/01/2021

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

Healthy volunteers giving informed consent

Participant type(s)

Healthy volunteer

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Sex

Αll

Total final enrolment

34

Key exclusion criteria

- 1. Any abnormalities in their baseline screening echocardiographic examination
- 2. Heavy caffeine consumers (>200 mg/day)
- 3. Smoke >5 cigarettes/day
- 4. Low BMI (<18.5 kg/m²) or obese individuals (BMI>30 kg/m²)
- 5. Acute infection

Date of first enrolment

01/08/2014

Date of final enrolment

01/04/2015

Locations

Countries of recruitment

Türkiye

Study participating centre

Ankara University School of Medicine Cardiology Department

Ibni Sina Hospital Samanpazari Ankara Türkiye 06100

Sponsor information

Organisation

Ankara University

ROR

https://ror.org/01wntqw50

Funder(s)

Funder type

Other

Funder Name

Investigator initiated and funded

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request from Dr Cansın Tulunay Kaya, kayac@ankara.edu.tr. The data will be anonymized before sharing.

IPD sharing plan summary

Available on request

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes