

Effect of calcium supplementation on iron status in children aged 6 to 8 years old supplemented with iron

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		<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 29/06/2011	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 19/02/2016	Condition category Nutritional, Metabolic, Endocrine	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data
		<input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

Iron is an essential mineral for humans, and is involved in many body processes such as the production of red blood cells. A lack of iron in the diet (iron deficiency) can lead to a reduction in the number of red blood cells (anemia). In Bolivia, iron deficiency is the most common nutritional disorder and the leading cause of anemia. Calcium is another mineral that is needed in humans, especially in growth periods. The aim of this study is to find out whether the supplementation of calcium and iron for 3 months has the same effect on iron status in children aged 6 to 8 years old compared with iron supplementation alone.

Who can participate?

Healthy children aged 6 to 8 years old

What does the study involve?

Participants are randomly allocated to receive a chewable pill containing either both calcium and iron or iron alone. Daily delivery of the supplements is carried out by a nutritionist or physician from the study team who monitors the risk of stomach upset. At the beginning and end of the study participants provide blood samples to allow us to determine their iron status.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

Not provided at time of registration

Where is the study run from?

It was conducted in a school in the Municipality of Sucre, Department of Chuquisaca, Bolivia

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

August 2010 to November 2010

Who is funding the study?

Chilean Science Council

Who is the main contact?

Prof. Fernando Pizarro

fpizarro@inta.uchile.cl

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

Prof Fernando Pizarro

Contact details

El Libano 5540

Santiago

Chile

7830489

-

fpizarro@inta.uchile.cl

Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number

Secondary identifying numbers

N/A

Study information

Scientific Title

A randomized controlled trial investigating the effect of calcium supplementation on iron status in children aged 6 to 8 years old supplemented with iron in Sucre, Bolivia

Study objectives

Daily supplementation of 700mg of calcium plus 30mg of iron during 3 month has the same effect on iron status in children aged 6 to 8 years old compared with the supplementation of 30mg of iron.

This study was conducted in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration and the Nuremberg Code. Moreover, this study was approved by the health and educational authorities of the municipality of Sucre, Bolivia. Participation was voluntary, no remuneration was provided, and all subjects were free to withdraw at any stage of the study. Proceedings were done after parents read and signed the written informed consent and children assent.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Ethics Committee, Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology (INTA), University of Chile, 11/08/2010, ref: 17/2010

Study design

Randomized controlled double-blind clinical trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Secondary study design

Randomised controlled trial

Study setting(s)

School

Study type(s)

Prevention

Participant information sheet

Not available in web format, please use the contact details below to request a patient information sheet

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Iron deficiency anemia, iron-calcium interaction

Interventions

1. This study was conducted in a school located in a low middle socio-economic sector in the Municipality of Sucre, Department of Chuquisaca, Bolivia
2. Age criteria (6 to 8 years) was based on the international consensus on the health benefits of early delivery of iron supplementation in vulnerable population groups
3. Subjects belonged the first two years of primary education. Moreover, the school allowed ensuring the daily delivery of the supplements
4. It was conformed two groups that were randomly assigned to receive 700mg of calcium as calcium carbonate and 30 mg of iron as ferrous sulfate
5. The second group received 30 mg of single iron as ferrous sulfate
6. In both cases supplementation consisted of one chewable pill with the same appearance
7. Daily delivery (11:00 am monday to friday) of the supplements was done personally by nutritionist or physician who were part of the study team
8. Follow up had a duration of 3 months
9. Minerals doses used and the time of follow up were based on the criteria proposed by FAO /WHO for population assistance in supplementation programs in school age
10. High amounts of both micronutrients were used due the high prevalence of anemia in Bolivia (National Health Survey 2009) and low intake of milk (FAO)
11. Sample size calculation was 88 school children per group based on an estimated prevalence of anemia of 15%, with an alpha level at 0.05 and a power of 80%
12. Considering a possible loss of 10%, the number of subjects in each group was 97, which correspond to a total of 194
13. At the beginning and end of the study were obtained ≈ 3 ml of venous blood in order to determine iron status. Moreover, it was measured anthropometry and feeding patterns

14. Iron status: In the Laboratory of Biochemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, University of San Francisco Xavier de Chuquisaca it was measured hemoglobin (Hb) (CELL-DYN 1700, ABBOTT Diagnostics, Abbott Park, IL CELL Dyn) and serum was separated and frozen at -22°C

15. In the Laboratory of Micronutrients at the Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology, University of Chile it was measured serum ferritin (SF) by an enzyme immuno assay of double sandwich (INACG), transferrin receptor (sTrF) by ELISA (Human sTrF, BioVendor, Laboratorní Medicína AS, Modrice, Czech Republic) and C-Reactive Protein (CRP) (Array Protein System, Beckman Instruments)

16. Lower-normal limit for Hb used was 13.4 g/dL (equivalent to 12 g/dL adjusted by altitude), SF 15 µg/L and upper-normal limit for sTrF 8.3 µg (INAGG)

17. Anemia was defined with Hb below normal and IDA as hemoglobin below normal plus abnormal SF or sTrF; depleted iron stores were defined as normal Hb and SF below normal

18. Iron status was considered to be normal when all of these laboratory indexes were within the reference range. Additionally inflammatory processes were identified considering CRP >20mg/L.

19. Anthropometry: Weight and height were measured and compared with the patterns of child growth elaborated by CDC

20. Weight was measured on a digital scale Camry ® with 120 Kg of maximum capacity and an accuracy of 10 grams, and length was measured with a stadiometer

21. Measurement techniques were performed according to the guidelines for measuring anthropometric indicators of the FANTA project of the American Academy for Educational Development

22. Dietary pattern: two 24 hour recall were administered each time, on different days, before and after measuring food intake

23. Diet nutrients calculation was performed according to the RDA for school children (Food and Nutrition Board)

Intervention Type

Supplement

Primary outcome measure

Iron status:

1. Hemoglobin
2. Serum ferritin
3. Transferrin Receptor

Secondary outcome measures

1. C-Reactive Protein
2. Nutritional state by anthropometry
3. Macronutrient and micronutrient daily intake
4. Total body iron

Overall study start date

12/08/2010

Completion date

12/11/2010

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Apparently healthy
2. 6 to 8 years old
3. Not participating in other clinical studies
4. Public education

Participant type(s)

Patient

Age group

Child

Lower age limit

6 Years

Upper age limit

8 Years

Sex

Both

Target number of participants

194 children aged 6 to 8 years old

Key exclusion criteria

1. Severe anemia: hemoglobin below 8.3 g/dL (equivalent to <7g/dL adjusted by altitude, Sucre is located at 2700 m.a.s.l, INACG)
2. C-Reactive Protein >20 mg/L
3. Illiterate parents
4. Children with micronutrient treatment in the past 6 months

Date of first enrolment

12/08/2010

Date of final enrolment

12/11/2010

Locations**Countries of recruitment**

Bolivia

Chile

Study participating centre

El Libano 5540

Santiago

Chile

7830489

Sponsor information

Organisation

University of Chile (Chile)

Sponsor details

Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology (INTA)

El Libano 5540

Santiago

Chile

7830489

-

fpizarro@inta.uchile.cl

Sponsor type

University/education

Website

<http://www.inta.cl>

ROR

<https://ror.org/04teye511>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Research council

Funder Name

Chilean Science Council (Fondo de Desarrollo Científico y Tecnológico) ref: FONDECYT N° 1095038

Results and Publications

Publication and dissemination plan

Not provided at time of registration

Intention to publish date

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration