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Supplementation with athletic performance formula decreases lactate concentrations in trained athletes after exhausting incremental cycle ergometer test

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Introduction: Intense and prolonged physical exercise cause lactic acidosis via accumulation of intramuscular hydrogen ions [1]. Skeletal muscles "go acid", a condition which creates fatigue and decreased exercise performance [2]. Thus, a lot of sport nutrition supplements focus on buffering lactic acidosis but scientific evidence is still scarce. In this study we hypothesized that supplementation with a Nano Absorption Formula® (NAF, Extreme Endurance, Euronutrition BV, Netherlands) attenuates lactate concentration after exhaustive exercise.

Methods: 19 male athletes joined this placebo-controlled, double-blind, cross-over study and conducted incremental cycle ergometer step tests until individual exhaustion. The 1st ergometer test (day 0) was conducted to determine performance (P) data (VO2, lactate, Pmax). Then, subjects were randomly assigned to placebo or NAF tablets. After 10 days of NAF or placebo treatment the 2nd test was performed (day 10), followed by a 10 days wash-out. On day 20 the groups exchanged the treatments from the first 10 days. Finally, on day 30, the 3rd test was conducted. The provided dosage was 2 x 4 tablets for the 1st 2 days (load dosage) and then daily dosage was calibrated to subject’s body weight. The NAF tablets provided a.o. minerals, antioxidants and protease enzyme papain. To determine lactate, capillary blood from earlobe was collected before exercise, at every step of the incremental test, at the end of exercise (Pmax lactate) and 5 min post exercise (recovery lactate).

Results: We analyzed a significant difference in Pmax lactate concentrations between treatments (p < 0.05). With NAF, Pmax lactate was attenuated by a trend compared to placebo (p = 0.062). There were no differences between treatments concerning recovery lactate (p > 0.05).

Conclusion: The NAF treatment decreased lactate concentrations at exhaustion (Pmax) compared to placebo indicating a substantial buffer capacity of the applied nutraceutical at high intense exercise.

Reference(s)