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## Iron overload induces damage of global DNA and TP 53 in human lymphocytes

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High iron consumption is associated with an increased risk of cancer possibly via production of reactive oxygen species (ROS) which in turn induces oxidative damage to lipids, proteins and DNA. The aim of the study was to determine whether Fe-NTA causes DNA damage and targets TP 53 in human peripheral lymphocytes. Human lymphocytes were treated with Fe-NTA (1-500  $\mu$ M) for 30 min at 37 °C. Global DNA damage and oxidised bases were measured using the comet assay. Specific migration of TP53 was detected after fluorescence in situ hybridization (comet FISH). The comet assay experiments showed that Fe-NTA was clearly dose-dependent genotoxic effect in lymphocytes without cytotoxicity. For 500  $\mu$ M Fe-NTA, tail intensity of 34.1  $\pm$  7.4 % was scored (negative control 9.8  $\pm$  3.2 %). Higher concentration of Fe-NTA led to an enhanced migration of TP53 signal into the comet tail in lymphocytes (500  $\mu$ M Fe-NTA 24.9  $\pm$  5.5 %, negative control 6.9  $\pm$  2.5 %). In conclusion, Fe-NTA can induce global DNA damage and enhance the migration of the tumor suppressor gene TP53 in human lymphocytes.