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Supplementation with Glutamine Enhances the Effects of Low FODMAP Diet in Management of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

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Background: Although irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) is one of the most common gastrointestinal disorders presenting to gastroenterologists, therapeutic strategies have not yet well established. Accordingly, we conducted a randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled, clinical trial to evaluate the possible superiority adding glutamine supplement to low fermentable oligo- di- mono-saccharides and polyols (FODMAP) diet in patients with IBS

Methods: Eligible adults were randomized to receive low FODMAP diet either with glutamine (15 gram/day) or placebo r 6 weeks. The primary end point was a reduction of \geq 50% on the IBS Severity Scoring System (IBS-SSS). Secondary endpoints were changes in IBS symptoms and quality of life.

Results: Fifty patients were enrolled in the study, while 22

participants completed the study protocol in each group. The glutamine group had significant changes in total IBSseverity score, dissatisfaction of bowel habit and interference with community function (58% reduction; p<0.001, 57% reduction; P <0.001, 51% reduction; p=.043, respectively). Improvement in IBS-severity score of more than 50% was observed in 18 of 22 participants (82%) in glutamine group, while it was only in 6 of 22 participants (27%) in control group. No serious adverse events were observed.

Conclusions: Our findings indicate the superiority of adding glutamine supplementation to low FODMAP diet in amelioration of IBS symptoms, while confirming the beneficial effects of low FODMAP diet in IBS management.

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