

Assessing Microplastic Toxicity with *Paramecium Bursaria*: A Practical Approach

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MPs, which are also referred to as microplastics, are typically tiny wastes of plastic with diameters ranging from one to five millimeters. This tiny plastic debris, which is common in aquatic systems, poses a serious threat to the aquatic biota. Even though metazoan animals possess eukaryotes, also known as protozoa, which are prevalent in nature and are also referred to as eukaryotes, can be utilized to evaluate the toxicity of MPs. Monocellular eukaryotes are also referred to as eukaryotes. These eukaryotic organisms are also known as eukaryotes. Monocellular eukaryotes are another name for eukaryotes. These eukaryotic organisms are also known as eukaryotes. We continued our investigation of the behavioral and molecular changes by employing *P. bursaria* as a protozoan model and MPs-exposed *Paramecium bursaria* (*P. bursaria*). Our findings indicate that *P. bursaria* underwent a number of modifications following the adoption of MPs. An increased level of oxidative stress, a slower speed, altered avoidance strategies, and the possibility of endosymbiotic disruption were among the changes. *P. bursaria* underwent significant and quantifiable changes in response to MP exposure. Overall, this study demonstrated that *P. bursaria* is a promising alternative for the toxicological evaluation of MPs and that it can be used to evaluate the toxicity of other environmental contaminants.

Keywords: Toxicological Tool; Protozoa; Unicellular Organisms; *Paramecium Bursaria*; Microplastics

Introduction

The size of the plastic debris is primarily what determines its negative effects on the local biota [1]. Aquatic ecosystems are gravely endangered by plastic contamination. Large pieces of plastic, like fishing lines and bottle caps, can physically entangle a wide range of aquatic organisms [2,3]. These enormous wastes of plastic can also be broken down into microplastics (MPs) through photo-oxidation, biodegradation, and physical abrasion [4]. Due to their small size, which typically ranges from one millimeter to five millimeters, MPs are emerging as a threat to aquatic biota. As a outcome, numerous aquatic species can get closer to them, most likely through direct ingestion or trophic transfer. Up to this point, numerous investigations have been conducted into the possibility of toxic MPs. Due to the elusive concentration of this novel contaminant in the aquatic system, various concentrations, ranging from 10² to 10¹⁰ particles/mL, were chosen to evaluate acute or chronic impacts on aquatic animals from various trophic positions in experimental settings. The metabolic functions of mysid shrimp (*Neomysis japonica*), hermit crabs (*Pagurus bernhardus*), zebra fish (*Danio rerio*), monogonont rotifers (*Brachionus koreanus*), and zebra fish (*Danio rerio*) as well as monogonont rotifers (*Brachionus koreanus*) were examined to see if they had changed or if it is essential to keep in mind that studies involving animals with multiple cells, such as metazoans, account for the majority of our knowledge of MPs. On the other hand, very little is known about how MP affects unicellular protozoans. Furthermore, there is currently a lack of awareness regarding alternative protozoan-based methods for assessing MP toxicity [5-7]. The broad group of single-celled organisms that can be found in nature are called protozoans. One of these microscopic animals, *Paramecium*, is of particular interest to the scientific community because it has served as a useful model organism in eukaryotic biology and biomedical research [8]. *Paramecium*, a genus of ciliates with short cilia arranged in rows on the membrane, was the first ciliate to be observed due to their relatively large size. Since their discovery, a number of culturing protocols have been developed

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Conclusions

MPs altered the behavior and molecular makeup of *P. bursaria*. Changes in the symbiotic relationships between the infected *P. bursaria*, decreased avoidance, and elevated oxidative stress were among the
